

The DHS Herald

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Durban High School
Head Master : Mr A D Pinheiro



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Senior Prize-Giving Ceremony

The Durban High School annual Senior Prize-Giving Ceremony was held on Friday 23 October. The guest speaker for the event was DHS Old Boy, Mr Roger Horrocks (Class of 1986).

The audience was welcomed to the ceremony by HOD, Mr Sunil Bodasing, and then addressed by the Head Master, Mr A D Pinheiro, who began by thanking those who had contributed to the DHS journey of 2020, which had been a difficult year. His message to the boys was to celebrate not only their academic successes but also to ensure that their successes were directed to a more worthy purpose - to influencing society in a more positive and transcendent way. To recognise the true role models and real heroes in life, icons with purpose and deep meaning who made a real difference in people's lives. People such as Dennis Goldberg and Andrew Mlangeni, who have contributed to society; and their parents, their teachers, who have made real sacrifices for them and made a real difference in their lives.

He said that internal factors are more important in assessing one's development, not social position or wealth.

"Matrics, may you all one day find such courage. Not to necessarily sacrifice your freedom or life, but rather to fulfil your purpose in life. You have been provided with all the tools that you need, now go out there and make a difference with what you've been given, fulfil your purpose and through it may you become a good father and may you become a great man. God speed and good luck."

Mr Pinheiro's address was followed by that of Mr Horrocks, who was introduced by HOD, Mr Ian Lewis. Mr Horrocks was Head Boy at DHS in his Matric year. He is an award winning underwater wildlife cinematographer best known for his work on the hugely popular documentary "My Octopus Teacher", and "Our Planet" and "Blue Planet 2".

Mr Horrocks said that being a cinematographer was about telling stories and that there were only types of stories - Hero's journey and love story. His powerful message to the boys was based on the following learnings:

Dream Big - visualisation is important, aim for the stars, be world class;
Learn to love the hard times - learn to deal with pressure, don't be afraid to fail, see each day as a Hero's journey;
Seek out the best mentors - we are influenced by the four people closest to us so choose wisely;
Be likeable - be helpful, be on time, even when grumpy be nice;
Ritualise your day - break it down into daily habits and routines, small daily insignificant improvements done consistently over time lead to stunning results;
Find a higher purpose - something to serve beyond yourself;
Wounds of the heart - in life you will get hurt, along your Hero's journey you are going to get wounded, work on healing your wounds, don't neglect your heart;
Above all - have fun!

Mr Horrocks was then invited to hand over the awards to the prize winners.

The major award for the day, the CG Hands Memorial Prize for Dux was awarded to **Talon Sewnath**. Apart from Dux, Talon also achieved the Bill Payn Prize for English Home Language, Transvaal Old Boys' Prize for English Essay, the Prize for Business Studies, the Prize for Life Orientation, the W I Knight Prize for Mathematics and a Merit Certificate for achieving an "A" aggregate in 2020.

The GB Lapinsky Prize for Dux Proxime Accessit (Dux runner up) was awarded to **Thiyashan Pillay**, who also received Niekie Gerber Prize for Afrikaans First Additional Language, the Prize for Engineering Graphics and Design, the G J Armstrong Prize for Physical Sciences and a merit certificate.

(cont'd on Page 2)

Upcoming Events

- ◆ NSC Exams & November Control Tests Continue
- ◆ Final Assembly : Announcement of Leadership Positions for 2021
- ◆ Sport HP Camp
- ◆ Academic HP Programme
- ◆ Bell Ringing Ceremony for Matrics
- ◆ Report Collection
- ◆ School Closes for 2020
- ◆ School Becomes Marking Centre



Dux for 2020

**Talon Sewnath (L) School Dux
Adam Mohamed (R) Cambridge Dux**



Head Prefect 2020

**Quincy Hitler, Head Prefect, Head
Prefect Blackmore House &
RCL Chairman**



Subject Prize Winners



Guest Speaker, Roger Horrocks

Senior Prize-Giving Ceremony cont'd

The Kessel Feinstein prize for third in Grade 12 was awarded to **Mas'ood Bassa**, who also received a merit certificate.

Another major award winner on the day was **Quincy Hitler** who received the George Armstrong Award for Head Prefect of the School, the Transvaal Old Boys' Award for Head Prefect of Blackmore House, the Patel Family Award for the RCL Chairman and the Richard Salmon Award for Exceptional Contribution in the Field of Music.

Once the prizes had all been awarded, Head Prefect, Quincy Hitler, took to the podium. He thanked Mr Horrocks and presented him with a gift from the school. He then addressed the audience. Below is an excerpt from his address (read his full speech on Page 4):

"To the Matrics of 2020, Wow! I am in awe of our resilience, our fortitude and our tenacity. There's a quote by Doe Zantamata that says: "It is only in our darkest hours that we may discover the true strength of the brilliant light within ourselves that can never, ever be dimmed" and I can safely say that the light within each and every one of us shines through more brilliantly than 1000 suns, basking those around us in it and effectively letting them share our spirits during these times. The fact that we have already come so far has proven that we are capable of overcoming difficult situations and making the best of them despite the odds."

The National Anthem was sung by all to end off the ceremony. The full list of other learners who received awards, subject prizes and merit certificates awards is as follows:

Awards:

Cecil Renaud Award for being, in the opinion of his peers, the Most Memorable Character in Grade 12:

Bakithi Msomi

Devi Rajab Award for Cultural Involvement:

Sachen Pather

Rotary Award in Memory of Geoff

Mace for Outstanding Involvement in Extra-Mural Drama:

Sihle Dladla

Chris Seabrooke Music Award for Involvement and Contribution to the Chris Seabrooke Music Centre:

Obakhe Delubom

L C W Theobald Award (Captain of Cricket):

Joshua Stride

Ernie Theunissen Award (Captain of Rugby):

Nqobani Dlamini

Shaun Gray Leadership Award:

Mu'aaz Bassa

Merit Certificate Winners (received A aggregates in 2019):

Mu'aaz Bassa, Usama Ghuman, Mchyle Govender, Sithembiso Kubheka, Shukvir Mothilall, Ntando Mpuqa, Eyami Ndima, Awande Ndlovu, Thandolwenkosi Ngxongo, Sachem Pather, Deshlan Pillay, Ayanda Yengwa

Subject Prizes:

Transvaal Old Boys' Prize for English Essay:

Sithembiso Kubheka

Innocent Chamane Prize for IsiZulu

First Additional Language:

Ayanda Yengwa

Allan Turton Prize for Visual Arts:

Kavishan Govender

Ladies Committee Prize for Visual Arts Practical:

Kavishan Govender

Ntando Mpuqa,

Minenhle Mhlongo,

Salmaan Hussain

Tim Wells Prize for Dramatic Arts:

Swelihle May

Eddie Corlett Prize for Accounting:

Usama Ghuman

Buxton Family Prize for Economics:

Usama Ghuman

'SAS' Nourse Prize for Geography:

Ayanda Yengwa

A W Mclver Prize for History:

Mahomed Essop

D C & E V Thompson Prize for Life Sciences:

Sithembiso Kubheka

Prize for Mathematical Literacy:

Benjamin Hulett

Prize for Music:

Obakhe Delubom

The full Senior Prize-Giving Ceremony can be viewed on DigiTV on the following link:

<https://digitv.co.za/#/school/events/6>

Farewell - Mrs Lynne Worth



Mrs Lynne Worth

Mrs Lynne Worth joined Durban High School in January 2010. Initially, she was employed as a Librarian in the Media Centre until the incumbent Senior Librarian retired and, within a year, had taken over as the Head of the Centre. As Head she introduced a number of new measures, including a new library software application, modernizing the area and systems, implementing an e-library platform and taking over the Textbook procurement and administration, including dealing with the Department of Education in this regard.

Mrs Worth co-chaired and hosted the South African National School Librarians' Conference in July 2017. A hugely successful conference which attracted Media Centre Managers and Librarians from all over the country as well as from neighbouring countries, it attracted some of the best local speakers and an international keynote speaker from the UK.

Mrs Worth had previously run her own IT company and it was in this area that she had the most impact at Durban High School. Her expertise and experience in IT proved invaluable. Initially her knowledge was put to good use as management and staff began turning to her for assistance with IT issues. She was instrumental in forming an IT Committee at the school and it was not long before she became the Head of IT, in addition to

being Head of the Media Centre. Under her guidance and leadership, a number of initiatives were introduced to the School: new server and network infrastructure; laptops for every educator; new desktops for office based employees; iPads for the learners and staff, which included sourcing and introducing e-text books and upgrading the WiFi.

Mrs Worth also project-managed a number of substantial upgrades and projects at the School. After an extensive tender process the Information Communication Technology upgrade, labelled Project Pegasus, took flight and included the following: latest IP PABX system (telephones); modern IP intercom system; state of the art biometric system (fingerprint), extensive CCTV camera security system and to facilitate and compliment all of the above, a new IT cabling and network infrastructure upgrade.

Once that project was completed, Mrs Worth then oversaw the next renovation which involved the upgrading and revamping of the Media Centre, the Museum (Archives) and Seabrooke Theatre. The Archives are proudly on display in the Media Centre, which is now a magnificent entrance way into our school, thanks to her hard work and supervision.

An extremely competent person, Mrs Worth is always willing to assist and she displayed a high level of knowledge, understanding and ability in her areas. She is a person of incredible commitment and her positive approach to everything she does is commendable.

Mrs Worth was well liked by the boys and a popular member of staff; her colleagues knew she could always be relied upon and she always had a smile and an empathetic ear. Her fierce loyalty earned her many friends. She also had an excellent relationship with members of

Congratulations!

- ◆ **Sabian Singh** in Grade 11 has been selected for the KwaZulu Natal Youth Orchestra!
- ◆ **Kaid O'Neill**, Grade 12, 1st XV tighthead prop has been offered a 3-year contract at Ospreys Rugby in Swansea, Wales, with the opportunity to study at Swansea University.
- ◆ **Athabile Jojo**, Head Boy of School & Blackmore House in 2003, was honoured with the naming of the common room in the BE after him. "Jojo" was the first head boy of colour to be appointed at School.
- ◆ **Siya Sibiya**, 1st XV Rugby player in 1997, 1998 and 1999, was honoured and remembered with naming of the 1st Team Changeroom. In his matric year, Siya, scored 23 tries for the 1st XV, the most amount of tries scored by a 1st team player and a record that still stands today. Siya passed away in 2018.
- ◆ **Elphas Nxumalo** joined the Staff at DHS in the 90's and was honoured with a 25 year Long Service Award from Head Master Mr AD Pinheiro.



Mr Pinheiro presents Mr Nxumalo with his 25 year service award

management, and there is no doubt that she gave a tremendous amount to this school.

All in all, Mrs Worth was an outstanding member of the DHS staff and we miss her enormously.

We wish her all the best in her new venture where she has already begun the revitalisation and modernisation of another Media Centre.

Senior Prize-Giving : Head Prefect Quincy Hitler's Address

Good day Members of the Governing Body, Guest of honour Mr Horrocks, Mr Pinheiro, special guests, parents, staff and students.

Matrics of DHS, today is the day we have all been awaiting for the past 12 years: our very last day at school. It's a day that has taken a lifetime to reach, yet it feels like just yesterday we donned our oversized blazers and ridiculously heavy bags as we walked through the gate on St. Thomas road for our first day as Durban High School boys with terrified looks on our faces. I recall just how daunting yet simultaneously impressive school looked to me the first time I saw it and walked through its corridors. I was in a completely new world. Yet now, 5 years later, it all seems much, much smaller and familiar. These past 5 years have been a rollercoaster journey with particularly more twists and turns than those of previous matric bodies and it wouldn't be right for me to make a speech without thanking the people responsible for getting us through this journey and helping to mould us into the gentlemen that we are today with all of the invaluable lessons they taught us over the years; our teachers. I can't imagine life at DHS without Mr Bodasing's daily dose of motivational insults, as I like to call them, or without Mrs Girodo's digressions from the lesson into discussions about anything from The Girodo Family to current topics. It's these little things that make us appreciate having you as our teachers and we are extremely grateful for all the time and effort you all invested into ensuring that we achieve the best results possible.

To Mrs Rungan: I just want to thank you for being not just a teacher to me, but for being my mentor, my councillor, my advisor and my voice of reason. I appreciate all the hours and hours you spent either advising me or simply being there to listen to me when I needed to get something off of my chest. Thank you for the exposure to the music world that you've given not just me, but all of the DHS music boys. It has immensely helped to grow us as musicians and ignite within us the passion for music that you so fiercely possess and that we

will carry within us for the rest of our lives.

In the beginning of my tenure I had a vision in my mind of what my matric year as Headboy ought to be and I can safely say I was sorely mistaken. Unfortunately, we as prefects were deprived of the best part of our year and were unable to execute most of the things that we had envisioned. It's the energy of the school during rugby season that we were deprived of. It's the sound of the school song filling your ear drums until it's the only thing that you can hear while you bind up with your brothers in blue and gold as you celebrate a hard-earned win and pure adrenaline runs through your veins not because you physically won that match, but because that blood that it runs through, is blue. It's in that moment that you are one not only with every other boy standing on those stands donning the blue and gold, but with the team standing in front of you and every other DHS boy that ever stood in your position that the words written on the inscription above me saying: "may each and every one of them ever remember that as he is, so is his school" have the most meaning. These are things that make up the spirit of the school and we have been deprived of them. I think it's safe to say that this feeling of deprivation is a largely widespread one.

I understand why it's easy to feel this way but I ask you to look at this year in a different light. At the start of the year we all spoke of 20Plenty and all that it promises, and now, exactly 7 months into lockdown, we feel as though we were dealt with the complete opposite. This, however, isn't true. One thing we did have plenty of this year was time. Time to rediscover ourselves, time to strengthen our relationships with our families, time to find new hobbies and time for introspection. So I hope that this time was utilised wisely and that we don't grow despondent, instead we realise and appreciate the things that we have for another thing that this pandemic has taught a lot of us is just how easy it is to lose something we always thought was immovable, infallible even.

To the Matrics of 2020, Wow! I am in awe of our resilience, our fortitude and our tenacity. There's a quote by Doe Zantamata that says: "It is only in our darkest hours that we may discover the true strength of the brilliant light within ourselves that can never, ever be dimmed" and I can safely say that the light within each and every one of us shines through more brilliantly than 1000 suns, basking those around us in it and effectively letting them share our spirits during these times. The fact that we have already come so far has proven that we are capable of overcoming difficult situations and making the best of them despite the odds.

When we first started here in 2016 we were told stories of old boys that walked down the same corridors that we did and all that they accomplished in life. My request to you today is to be the next generation of old boys that new boys will hear magnificent stories of accomplishment about and strive to be like one day. Reach for the stars and never be afraid to take risks, as the risks not taken are the only ones that are certain to not pay off. So may the odds ever be in our favour and may we always remember that no matter where we go in the world or what we do, our blood will always be blue and our spirits will always be gold.

Finally, I just would like to once again thank the DHS Community for trusting me to lead this school and even though I was unable to properly fulfil this, I will forever be grateful for the opportunity.

Good Luck to the Matric body of 2021 and may we, the body of 2020, never forget this year and all the lessons it has taught us.

Thank you.

*Quincy Hitler
Head Prefect 2020*



Durban High School
255 St Thomas Road
Musgrave
4001

Phone:
(031) 277 1500

Fax:
(031) 277 1555

E-mail:
sdrew@durbanhighschool.co.za

*Inspired by our past,
Committed to our future*

We're on the Web!
www.durbanhighschool.co.za

Weeks Ahead

Friday 20 October

Exams & Control Tests Continue

Friday 27 November

Last Day of Control Tests : Grade 8-11

Grade 8 & 9 Boys Dismissed After

Assembly : 10h15

Grade 10 & 11 Boys Dismissed After

Assembly : 11h00

Naming of Leadership Positions and
Head Boy for 2021

Final Date for Grade 8 to 11 Boys to

Return All Books to the Media

Centre

Monday 30 November - Friday 4 December

Grade 12 NSC Exams Continue

Sports High Performance Camp

Academic High Performance

Programme

Wednesday 9 December

Bell Ringing Ceremony for Matrics

Saturday 12 December

Kit & Coffee Uniform Shop Closes

Monday 14 December

Collection of Year End Reports : 08h00-
12h00 : Reception

Tuesday 15 December

Collection of Year End Reports : 08h00-
12h00 : Reception

NSC - Final Matric Exam

School Closes for the Year

Monday 4 January

DHS Become a NSC Marking Centre

Tuesday 5 January

Kit & Coffee Uniform Shop Opens

DHS Old Boy - Sir Arron Klug Remembered

*Sir Aaron Klug OM FRS FMedSci
HonFRMS
1926-2018*

One of Durban High School's most distinguished alumni was biophysicist, Sir Aaron Klug - a Lithuanian-born, South African-educated, British biophysicist, and winner of the 1982 Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

Friday, 20 November, marks the second anniversary of his passing - he died when he was 92!

This year, in a world ravaged by a virus, it is appropriate that we acknowledge one of our school's forefathers who dedicated his career to the study of macromolecules such as viruses which helped inform our global research of viruses, even today.

In his obituary honouring Klug, his close friend and author of *Aaron Klug: A Long Way from Durban*, Kenneth Holmes wrote: "His invention of electron tomography, in which a 3D image of a virus is obtained from many electron micrographs, won him the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1982. He discovered proteins called zinc fingers that recognize DNA sequences and initiate the transcription of RNA - work that became the basis of gene therapy."

A child prodigy, Klug was reading the newspaper aged three-and-a-half. At 15, he won a scholarship to study medicine at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. Klug switched after a year to natural science and graduated with first-class honours in physics, chemistry and mathematics.

He had a prolific, brilliant, and much awarded career in research and discovery. Arguably he is the only South African matriculant to be awarded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry. DHS is proud to be associated with him.

Not only did Sir Aaron Klug personify the DHS spirit of educational curiosity, intrepid tenacity and constant collaboration, but his approach to life and the sciences also underpins the three pillars of the new educational institution being birthed by DHS: Swales Online Academy. As part of the multi-nodal education campus that DHS has become, Swales is named after another respected alumnus, Major Edwin (Ted) Swales VC - a South African pilot and World War II hero. To encourage learners in the ways of academic alumni such as Sir Aaron Klug, the motto of the academy is Explore, Think, Engage.



*DHS Old Boys, Sir Aaron Klug:
Crystallographer who won a Nobel
prize for 3D imaging of viruses.
Photo Credit: Anne-Katrin Purkiss*

"As a mathematician his love of numbers and patterns may have aroused a degree of amusement to him observing that the second anniversary of his passing would bear the date of 20.11.2020 – there is poetry in numbers!" muses Winston Owen, Director of Swales Online Academy and Old Boy of DHS.

Swales is receiving applications for the 2021 academic year for boys and girls from Grade 4 to Grade 9.

For more info:
info@swalesonlineacademy.co.za /
031 277 1556



SCHOOL UNIFORM DONATION

3 - 15 DECEMBER 2020



Please would all boys who intend leaving DHS at the end of 2020 consider donating school and sports uniforms to the School second-hand shop. In addition, boys who have outgrown their current uniforms are asked to participate. Your gesture would assist certain boys in meeting the financial challenges associated with the acquisition of school/sports uniforms. Should you be able to assist, containers will be placed outside the DHS Foundation/Marketing office from Thursday 3 December to Tuesday 15 December 2020. Families supporting this initiative are asked to place such items in the appropriately labelled boxes. Your support of this initiative would be greatly appreciated by the DHS Marketing Department.