

Mr Abdul Razzaq (Dullah) ABASS:-

Mr AR Abass was born in Kimberley on 10 December 1922, a true man from Kimberley. Mr Abass represented his province at rugby, cricket, soccer, hockey, swimming and tennis. In 1956 he represented the then SA Cricket Union against Kenya. He was of steady build with a high knee running action with enough speed to burn the opposition away. It was said that Mr Abass had the temperament of an Irishman on the rugby field, as those who experienced his ferocious tackling could testify. Mr Abass played for Arabian College Rugby Football Club and was a regular selection for the GWRFU team. If he was a boxer, he would have punched way beyond his weight category.



This talented son of Kimberley was best known for his talents, vision, strategies and achievements as an administrator. It was while he was still at school that it became evident that he possessed outstanding leadership qualities and a talent for sport equalled by few. In 1970 he was elected to the board of SACOS - the South African Council on Sport. SACOS was formed to look after sport for people who were unable to join white clubs due to the apartheid laws, and later developed into an instrument that voiced the frustrations of thousands of young South Africans who were not allowed to represent their country of birth. Mr Abass was a man of principle and even when the SARB offered him tickets to sit in the VIP seats, he refused to attend games at the De Beers Stadium while his people were fenced in on the stands behind the goal posts. In 1977 he did exactly that, he refused when he was offered VIP tickets for the Lions Tours led by Willie John McBride.

The contributions of Mr Abass to Arabian college was invaluable in that he introduced standards of excellence in sports administration which set the trend for the future of all sports organizations including GWRFU, SACOS and SARU. Mr Abass was a man whose presence radiantly shone on any occasion or gathering in which he was involved.

In the late 1970's he was honoured as Honorary Life President of ACRFC in recognition of his contributions to the club. Mr Abass was a well-spoken gentleman and prominent businessman who earned and commanded the respect of those who interacted with him. For many years Mr AR Abass provided a venue for ACRFC to hold weekly meetings of the club. He led the GWRFU administration for many years and did not hesitate to commit his personal resources to secure the Union Grounds which was later renamed the AR Abass Stadium for the 'coloured' community of Kimberley. In total, Mr Abass represented GWRFU at least 67 times and preferred to play on the wing. Mr Abass was coached by Willie Barnes and used to tuck the ball under his left arm and then tore into the opposition with hard running and a right hand which he used to fend off would be defenders by pushing at their foreheads.

In 1943 Mr Abass represented GW at football (soccer), in 1945 he captained Griquas in the Sam China Cup Tournament at Johannesburg, and again captained Griquas in the quadrangular football tournament in the Cape for Mani Sam's Cup. He served as Secretary and Treasurer of GWRFU. In 1947 Mr Abass was the founder and organizer of Griqualand Hockey Union and was elected as its first Vice-Chairman.

Mr Abass as President of SARU:-

The late Dullah Abass served as Secretary to the SARU from 1947 to 1965, and as President from 1966 to 1983. It was while serving as President of SARU that he had many discussions with the President of the SARB Dr Danie Craven. Mr Abass insisted that the South African Government of then accept non-racial sport at all levels - 'No normal sport in an abnormal society'. With the late Danie Craven, Mr Abass was instrumental in shaping the status of South African sport to what it is today. In 1983, the year in which Mr AR Abass passed on, Kimberley witnessed its greatest gathering of people at a single funeral, which was also attended by many dignitaries including Dr Danie Craven.



Mr Abass and the Rhodes Cup Tournament:- The South African Coloured Rugby Football Board was formed in 1897 and in 1898 the first mass tournament was staged in Kimberley. The 'Rhodes trophy' tournament attracted thousands of people who were often treated to heights of feverish excitement and enthusiasm. Spectators and players witnessed many great games of rugby with players who sparkled with the brilliance of their talents. Mr Abass was one of these brilliant players, and In 1946, 1947 and 1948 he represented GWRFU in the Rhodes Tournament.

Many of GWRFU's great players participated in the Rhodes Trophy tournament and included 'giants' such as PM Jampies, the Oliver Brothers, Dirkie Warley, H Daniels, Bill Van Heerden, Jan Brown, Moliat Davids, the Barnes Brothers, the Musson Brothers, Bunny Hermanus, Jackie Lewis, Freddy Fredericks, Alwie Aysen, Dennis Jacobs to name but a few.



TOP CRICKETERS: The Griqualand West Crickell Board team which played against the Kenya Asians at the De Beers Stadium in the early 1950s. was (from left, back) E Masiza, N Richards, J Kotwal, J Ebdon, B Leenderitz (official), AR Abass (captain), Z Mzondoki and A Palek, (front) I Cojese, I Patel, A H Jeenah, L Herman and E M Jeenah.



Mr AR Abass & Mr Noortjie Khan

Mr Abdul Razzaq 'Dullah' ABASS Honoured;

In 1999 President Thabo Mbeki awarded Mr Abass (posthumously) with the Northern Cape Premier's Sport Achievement Award as well as the Presidential Sports Merit Award. In March 2009, this sporting legend was inducted into the South African Sport Hall of Fame, honouring and recognising the monumental contributions of the late Mr Dullah Abass.



Ms Hawa Abass, Mr Shreef Abass, Ms Saeeda Abass

The Union Grounds – AR ABASS STADIUM:-

On the 6th September 1986, the GWRFU renamed the 'Union Grounds' to the AR ABASS Stadium which was baptized in the spirit of nonracialism. Fittingly the first match which was played on the renamed AR Abass Stadium was played by a SARY XV against a North Zone XV and culminated into a banquet where the SA rugby community congregated to pay tribute to Mr AR Abass. Mr Abass contributed selflessly to the current status which SA Rugby enjoys through personal sacrifices, dedication and leadership.

SARU executive left to right, G N Khan, E S Patel, S Nkanuna and J S Bailey unveiling the plaque at the A R Abass Stadium in Kimberley



2015 ACRFC REUNION – Ms Hawa Abass, Mrs & Mr Shreef Abass, Ms Saeeda Abas

Janodien 'Mann' and Doesie Adams

The Adams families:

Growing up in Kimberley, one realizes that the Adams name was well known in sporting circles. 'Mann' is the eldest son of the late Boeta Doesie Adams and Freda Adams Ebden (daughter of the great Mr A.H. 'Patan' Ebden). The combination of the Adams and Ebden families is one which historically produced sportsmen and women of great skills and caliber.

Their Dad, brothers and cousins were stalwarts for their clubs and regular selections in GWRFU. His favoured position was Eighth-man but he was comfortable in most positions. Boeta Doesie played for ACRFC and Young Lions and he was a perfectionist when it came to training and the technical disciplines of rugby. After retiring he assisted in coaching ACRFC and used to train with the team. In the late 70's, his perfectly conditioned body and his commitment to the team and coaching led to a comeback with the late Gesant Jardine and Fatty Behardien, all three in their mid 50's.

Their Grand Father the late Patan Ebden performed at the highest level and after being recognized at a Rhodes Tournament, he was selected for the SARU team. Their Mom was also very active and was involved and represented GW at hockey, also playing well into her years and later taking on coaching and refereeing. Aunty Frieda Adams also represented GW at swimming.

If one takes the history of the Adams / Ebden families into consideration, it was only obvious that 'Mann' and his siblings would be as competitive as can be. The Adams brothers included - Mann, Faisel and the youngest brother Sedick, all of them represented GWRFU, Faisel kept the Adams / Ebden flag flying high with selection in the North Zone XV, as captain of the SARU Junior Team and also inclusion in the SARU Team. Sedick represented GW at Schools and Junior levels and opted to play hockey and was the regular goalkeeper for the GW Mens Hockey Union.

His sisters Meena, Mymoena (Poppy) and Riyana excelled at hockey from primary school to provincial and national levels. The trio went on to captain GW Women Hockey teams and Riyana reached the top with selection into the SA Womens Hockey squad, she captained the SA Colleges teams SASSA and SA Universities. Meena also achieved GW Colours in netball.

Profile of Boeta Doesie Adams:-

Boeta Doesie Adams was a roving flanker / No.8 and first played for ACRFC and then later for Young Lions RFC. Boeta Doesie was a founder member of Young Lions and served on the executive as well as captained the side. He represented GWRFU for a long period of time from 1953 to 1964, and he also captained the GWRFU team for a number of years. His sons Janodien and Faizel represented ACRFC and GWRFU for a number of years through the 1970's and 1980's. Boeta Doesie gained selection to a SARU Invitation Team and Faizel went on to represent the North Zone XV, captain the SARU Junior XV and was selected for the SARU XV.

Over the years Boeta Doesie was an ACRFC stalwart and served as coach for many years. Club functions and events were always hosted by his family home in Gemdene. Such was the commitment of Boeta Doesie that in the mid 70's he made a comeback and played for ACRFC in 3 cup finals, of course ending up on the winning side.

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Profile of Janodien 'Mann' Adams:

Janodien's rugby career started at Olympic Primary School. He then went on to Floors High School and while still at school he started playing rugby for Young Lions RFC, a club which his Dad was a founder member of. In 1976, he joined ACRFC and by 1978 he was a regular part of the first team. The club celebrated its 75th Anniversary in 1978, the same year in which he served as caretaker Treasurer of the club. At a players level 'Mann' also served as captain or vicecaptain at various stages of my career. He used to pride himself on fitness and technical execution and always ensured that he performed in the top few. The club used to run 10km early on Sunday mornings and he set one of the quickest times over the distance. His physical condition allowed him to loop around as flyhalf up to six times in one phase of play.

At ACRFC he settled in as regular flyhalf after Alwee Alexander retired and this was followed by regular selection for the GWRFU teams.

Many memorable moments in his life was provided by rugby and the great games contested. ACRFC tours were always the best and set the standard in travelling style, uniform and discipline.

Talents and skills:

Mann was a fitness fanatic and enjoyed running even if it was just for the fun of it. He was a great middle distance runner and had great stamina. At school he represented GW at athletics and in his prime set one of the fastest times over 10km with the ACRFC early Sunday morning runs. It was never easy to keep pace with Mann as he was always at the front at team training sessions.

The greatest Influence on Mann's rugby career:

The people who had the greatest influence on his rugby career was his family, from late Grandfather 'Patan' Ebden, late Dad Doesie Adams, the support of his Mom and siblings. Mann and Faizel played together in many games for ACRFC and GWRFU and always tried to encourage and motivate each other.

Memorable rugby moments of Mann:

Most of the games he played for the ACRFC first team have a special memory. He particularly enjoyed the inter-provincials against Eastern Province whom GWRFU beat narrowly in Kimberley.

Life After Rugby:

The 'age thing' happened and after retiring from rugby he focused my energies on competitive cycling. A few ex-rugby players including Sharfy Alexander, Feyzal Mahri and Alton Kruger formed a formidable combination with Mann and they started to dominate after cycling for only two years. Sharfy and Feyzal were powerful sprinters and Mann and Alton were endurance specialist. They all went on to represent GW Cycling Federation for a number of years. Mann enjoyed the grand tours and SA Road Champs and travelled across the country to compete in the major tours in South Africa. He was privileged to rub shoulders with top professional cyclists like Alan Van Heerden, Robbie

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McIntosh, Mark and Gary Beneke, Ertjies Bezuidenhout and Willie Engelbrecht in major events while racing under the sponsorship of Pit Stop Cycling.

Some ACRFC players turned to golf, cycling, squash, indoor cricket and coaching. It is actually very sad to see that others stopped being active, and even worse to see that coloured rugby has died in a placed where it all started.



Grandfather Mr A.H. Ebden - 1st player from ACRFC & GW to represent the South African Coloured Rugby Football Board - Grandson Fazel Adams was the last player from ACRFC & GW to represent SARU.



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The SACRFB badge which was presented to players in 1939



Mrs Cheryl & Mr Mann Adams ; Mrs Marlene McLean & Mrs Miena Mohammed



Mr & Mrs Reyana Motlekar ; Mr Fazel & Mrs Lameez Adams

Profile of Fuad Aysen:

Fuad is the eldest son of well-known GW and SARU sports personality Alwie Aysen. He attributes his involvement with rugby to the influence and association the Aysen family played in rugby and various other sporting codes in Kimberley.

He first started playing rugby at scrum half and flank position while he was attending Transvaal Road Primary School. At the time he played in the Arabian College 3rd team on



Saturdays and on Wednesdays represented Transvaal Road Primary School. The teacher's that coached at Transvaal Road Primary School was Messrs H. (Herbie) Rose and D. (Des) Summers. Arabian College meetings were held at the Chairman, the late Boeta Sallie Adams's house in Stamford Street.

He attended Floors High School and was coached by Mr. M. (Martin) Visagie and Mr. E. Strauss. During his school years he still played on the scrum half and flank position. It was then when he started playing for Arabian College in the Second Team, but not on a regular basis. During his high school years Arabian College were coached by the likes of his father, Alwie Aysen, Boeta Doesie Adams and Gesant Jardine to name some of the great players who coached the club.

It was only after his high school years and with the persuasion of the Executive at the time namely Alwie Alexander (Chairman and Coach), Frikkie Norman (Vice Chairman), Boy Alexander (Trustee) that Fuad really became more involved in rugby and started playing in the second team on a regular basis, it was also during this time when he started playing in the front row as a "prop" (Front Ranker). It was also at about this time when under the Chairpersonship of Alwie Alexander when he was elected as Secretary of the club, a position he held for 4 years. He was later elected treasurer of

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the club in 1989. In 1987 Russel Brooker was elected as captain and Fuad the vice captain of the second team.

As the older first team players started to hang up their boots, Fuad found his way into the Arabian College First Team where he played in the row under, whom he consider great captains, the likes of Roley Hermanus, Sharfy Alexander, Faisal Adams, and obviously coached by one of the best rugby coaches in Alwie "Doc" Alexander. His most memorable first league match was when they played in the final against Universals, the day they played the Rocky theme song "The eye of the tiger" when they ran onto the field. It was and still is a great pleasure for Fuad to be associated with the Arabian College Rugby Football Club both as a player and as an administrator.

Positions Fuad held on the Executive of the Griqualand West RFU.

He first represented Arabian College at the Griqualand West Rugby Union meetings and also at the Griqualand West Referee's Association meetings as a delegate in about 1985, and was later elected Secretary of the Griqualand West Rugby Union, and in the following year he was elected Secretary and Match Recording Secretary of the Griqualand West Referee's Association. He served as Secretary of both the Griqualand West Rugby Union and also the Griqualand West Referee's Association until the amalgamation in 1993.

Fuad's Father - Alwie Aysen

His Father, Alwie Aysen, more affectionately known as Mr "A", started playing rugby at school level. In 1950, Alwie was selected to represent Griquas under 16 at fullback. In the same year he was selected for the Griqua under 16 soccer team to play in Cape Town. A true all-rounder, from cricket, rugby, swimming, boxing, diving to soccer, his father was top class in all codes of sport he chose to participate in. Mr 'A' was a disciplined administrator, player, manager and coach and he demanded no less from his players.

In 1959 Alwie Aysen and Boeta Doesie Adams were the two Arabian College members who was part of the Griqualand West team who were runners up in the Rhodes Tournament. It was also in 1959 according to his father that they, Griqualand West rugby team (South African Rugby Union) played against the De Beers team (South African Rugby Board) on the KAC rugby ground. During the time the bulk of the Griqualand West (South African Rugby Board) players came from the De Beers Team.

In 1978/79 his father coached the Homevale Secondary School rugby team who were victorious in beating Arabian College in the final for the Abass Trophy in the GWRFU 2nd League. He also at one stage coached Universals Rugby Football Club who beat Arabian College First Team 18 - 13 in a GWRFU League match. The Sunday after the club meeting the entire Executive of Arabian College Club appealed to Mr 'A' to rather coach Arabian College and not our opponents. After retiring from rugby his Dad became the coach of Spades Soccer Club. In 1984 Spades became the first Kimberley soccer club to play in the SASF Knock Out Cup final where they lost to Batswood of Cape Town.

Kimberley Celtic later approached Mr 'A' to coach them. During his term as their coach Kimberley Celtic won the local league trophy and also went on to play in the Champs of Champs tournament in East London.

With the revival of Mens Hockey in Kimberley, and because his brother Yassiem excelled in the sport his father became interested and started coaching Hockey. Yassiem was selected for the national SASSA team in 1989. Mr 'A' started off coaching Diamond Spurs and went on to Diamond Park Hockey Team. He also coached the Griqualand West Hockey team who lost 2 - 0 to Western Province in the final at the Athlone Stadium in 1998. He served either the Griqualand West Hockey Manager or coach after the unification of Hockey.

Other family members who played for Arabian College.

Boeta Jaynie and Boeta Maai Aysen.

The two brothers were uncles of Mr 'A' and also played for Arabian College.

Boeta Jaynie played rugby for Arabian College and also Captained the Goodehope Cricket club who won the 1st league trophy as well as the NK Pillay trophy in 1948- 1949. He also served as the treasurer of Arabian College.

Boeta Maai played rugby for Arabian College and it is said that Boeta Maai was a very good rugby player and represented Griqualand West on many occasions including in 1947 when Griquas was the holders of the Triple Rhodes Cup.

Moosa Aysen the son of Boeta Jaynie, played and was also manager of Arabian College, he also played cricket and represented the Griqualand West Indian Cricket team in 1953 under the captaincy of Mr. AR Abass. He represented the Kimberley Soccer team together with Noel Aysen in June 1951 when they played a Vryburg team.

The brothers Noel and Eric Aysen also played rugby for Arabian College, while Noel played and preferred to play soccer for TrojansClub. Sallie Aysen, Mr 'A' brother, first played for Arabian College and later was one of the 13 Arabian College players who broke ranks with Arabian College and formed Young Lions Rugby Football Club.

Egsaan Aysen his father's baby brother played second team rugby for Arabian College but preferred to play in his grandmother's band as a drummer.

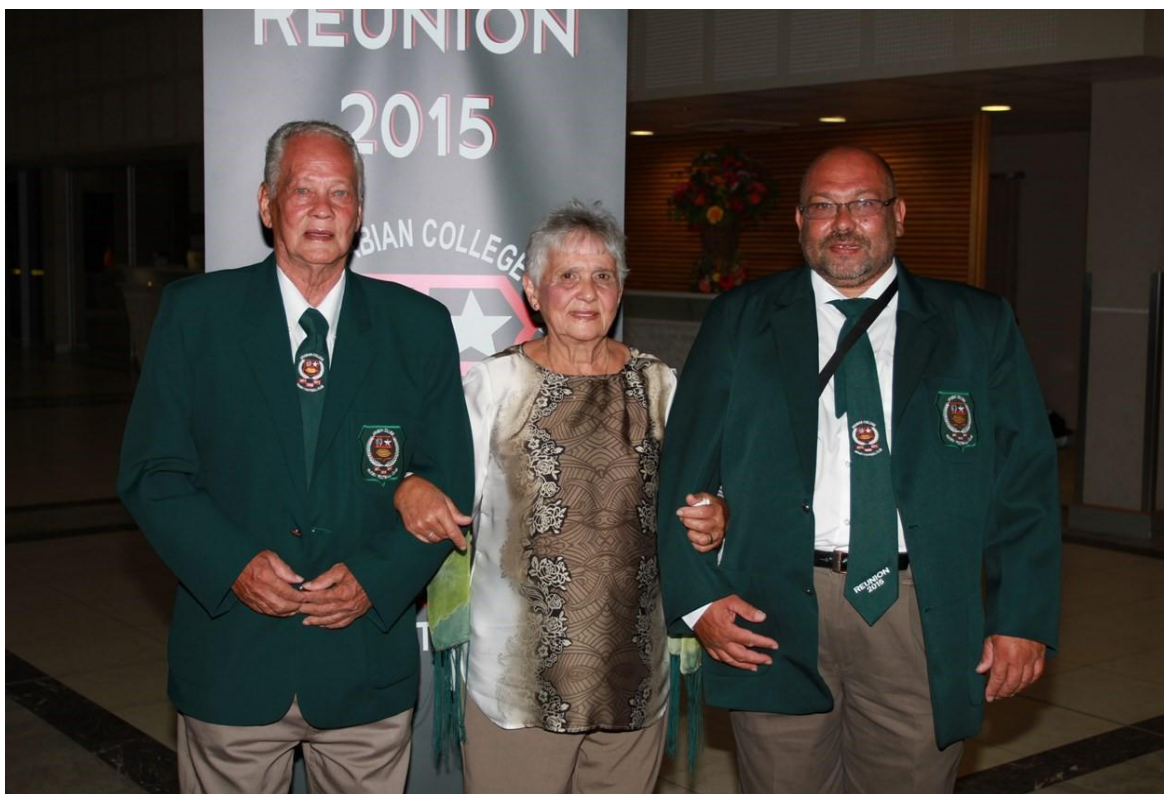
Quinton Aysen the son of Salie, represented William Pescod Rugby team while at high school and was also selected to the Griqualand West schools teams that played in the SASSA tournament. Quinton also excelled in athletics, beating the 100m sprint record which was held by Faisal Adams at the time. After he matriculated he joined Arabian College and was also selected for the Griqualand West Rugby team until he moved to Johannesburg.

Moosa Aysen Junior and Amien Aysen, cousins of Mr 'A' played rugby for Arabian College but was very active on the administrative side of the club. Moosa Junior was active within the club until he moved to Cape Town.

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Fuad's cousins Faisal Aysen son of Boeta Moosa Snr Aysen and Saligh Aysen son of Boeta Amien both joined and played for Arabian College after they matriculated. His mother's brother Rodney Boy Williams played in the first team at the time when Mr 'A' was still playing.

Mr & Mrs Alwie Aysen, Mr Fuad Aysen at ACRFC Reunion 2015



2015 ACRF REUNION - Father In-Law, wife Mrs Chantel, Mom In Law, Mr Fuad Aysen

Profile of Eugene Jacobs:

"My entire being... who I am, what I believe in and the values that I hold so closely in my personal and work life, were as a result of the institutions I was a part of", quoted by Eugene Jacobs. Eugene is an educator, leader, all-round sportsman and brilliant administrator.

Of these, Eugene started off at Floors High School, his alma mater, where he matriculated. Then came Perseverance Training College, where he did his training and finally, William Pescod High School where he taught for 16 and a half years. During this time too he was a member of the Arabian College Rugby and the Diamond Park Cricket Clubs.

You may ask if there is a common denominator in all of these institutions, and to this he would respond with a resounding "YES"! It is there where he learnt discipline, team values, respect and most importantly, the value of community...for he believes that he was nothing if not a community man. It was due to this strong sense of community that he started his cricket administration career while he was still at school at Floors High.

His one regret was that he was never chosen to play first team rugby at Floors High, yet the following year, during his first year at Perseverance Training College, he made his debut for the Senior Griqua Rugby team, and at the end of that year he was selected for the South African Colleges team in Oudtshoorn. He had the honour of playing as fly-half at all these levels with Pieter De Villiers (former Springbok coach) as his scrumhalf and captain.

This piece, however, is all about his time at Arabian College.

He grew up in dusty Cosmos Street, where he played rugby, soccer and other sports with the Paulse brothers and others, so it was a fait accompli that he would play for Arabian College once he had finished his studies at Perseverance Training College. This was a given since the eldest Paulse brother Henry (Boy) was the captain and an executive member of this club.

It was there that they were taught, sometimes in a very harsh way, about administration, finances, budgeting and most of all, dress code. It was standard practice to wear your college team blazer to every meeting. Proper attire was the order of the day. He can recall many a player being excused from a meeting because they had worn another jacket, and it did not matter whether it was a Pierre Cardin suit. Eugene recalls how the late Alwee Alexander explained that the wearing of a uniform identifies you a member of a group and the uniform introduces all at the same level of stature and class.

When he played for "Percy" he copped some big verbal attacks from Ma Tima Alexander, yet when he'd come off the field she would just wink and smile at him. He clearly remember a day when one of the other teams wanted to do him serious bodily harm, he heard her say "Tas (Riyaard's father, a great friend and father figure to him) help vir Eugene, hy is ons kind". That was the spirit at the Union grounds, and looking back he appreciated aunty Tima Alexander, Mrs Martin, Mrs Faith Everson, Mr Vogt and the like who were loyal supporters to their clubs.

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Before he joined Arabian College he had already played in the Griqua team with so many of those guys. However, when he started there he met a group of men, friends, sportsmen, and an entire community of families.

This was a team of very talented and hard working rugby players, who practiced hard and played hard. There was also no shame in being dropped to the second side, since all those guys could hold their own in the first division. It was there that they were forced to value the history of the club, the game, and those who were the legends of the game. It was also there that they were told the stories of the Barnes brothers, the Alexander's, the Aysen's, the Jardines, the Hermanus's and all the other family greats. It was there that you were taught to work hard for what you wanted. One has to acknowledge that there were so many great players who were very talented. Some were average and were coached to being great, and then there were those who did not make it, but in his time, the man responsible for all of this was Al Alexander.

As a school boy he watched Al play rugby and he was a great footballer. He later coached Eugene as a player, and even later they coached together. Al had a rugby brain second to none. It was Al who brought in the ideas on high fitness levels, from the weights to the famous Jane Fonda training, and his coaching technique was way ahead of his time. Eugene was a teacher by profession and achieved SA colours in rugby after gaining selection to the SA Colleges team at flyhalf.

Another person he'd like to single out is Al's brother, Boy Mick Alexander, who was the heartbeat of the club. He was the club captain, the washer of our jerseys, and he saw to the First Aid, albeit sometimes to the detriment of the players. He would verbally abuse a player when he thought you were faking an injury. He would use his "council bakkie" to transport us, especially on the 10 km runs on a Sunday morning. Mick is a man who today still has my respect. 'He has a heart of gold, and I salute and honour you, Sir Boy Alexander, met al jou sê dinge'.

Today he pays tribute to all those men and women who had the vision to keep Arabian College flying, and he also pay tribute to all the great rugby players he had the privilege of playing with.

Affectionately known as 'Mr J', Eugene was an integral part of the organising committee of the 2015 ACRFC Reunion. Unfortunately after months of hard work, Mr J was unable to attend due to ill health. However, Mr J was able to address the occasion via a pre-recorded video message from his hospital bed.

EUGENE JACOBS

CEO : GRIQUA CRICKET

[MR JACOBS.mp4](#)

The Cader Rugby Story

The Cader family comes from a lineage of pioneers and rugby fanatics who refuses to settle for the least.

Their, great grandfather, Abdul Cader Safoodien Motlekar arrived on South Africa shores in the mid 1870's to work primarily on the sugar fields of Natal.

Being an entrepreneur, his stint on the sugar fields did not last long. Apart from the treacherous snakes and humidity, he had drive and ambition and was not happy with the mundane life of "a labourer" who had to do as told. His flair to venture got the better of him and he moved to Port Elizabeth to seek greener pastures.

It was in Port Elizabeth where he met Rukia Hendricks whom he married and settled for a number of years. It was on the registration of the birth of the couple's first child, which brought about a name change. The government official who was doing the registration decided on a whim that the name Abdul Cader Safoodien Motlekar was too tedious to spell and pronounce and instructed that a name change be effected immediately. Indeed the official's whim and apathy effectively robbed Abdul Cader Safoodien Motlekar of his true identify, as the family had to settle for a shortened version which pronounced him only as Abdul Cader.

The alteration to his very identity did not deter this tenacious man as he decided to blaze the trail further and walked on foot along the railway line from Port Elizabeth to seek his fortune on the dusty diamond fields of Kimberley.

Rukia Hendricks on the other hand came from a family who were the pioneers of rugby and cricket in the Eastern and Western Cape. Through her family's interest in rugby and cricket, she introduced all five her sons to the sport. Given that the boys were immersed into rich discussions, coaching and practising both games all the time, they eased into becoming masters in playing the game in their own right.

Their eldest son Allie, who had a very strong physique, played at full back in the 1910 Arabian College Team. The most famous of the sons though, was Ebrahim (Babes) Cader who played for Arabian College in the mid 1920's and was later catapulted into both the Griqualand West Provincial rugby team and later the Western Province team whilst he was indentured as a tailor in the Cape. Babes who played as a flanker was renowned for his ferocious tackling. He introduced the game of rugby to the next generation of sons in the family. These included his brothers Boy and Saphoo, as well as Ebrahim Cader, Billy Cader, Cecil Cader, Roland Cader, Abdul Kader Richards, Naaim Samaai, Gesant Richards and Allie Motlekar. All of these men played rugby at the most senior level, as they were all awarded provincial rugby colours, representing the Griqualand West Rugby Union teams which spanned from the early 1950's to the 1960's.

It must be mentioned too that the legendary Danie Craven who was stationed in Kimberley at the time, visited Ebrahim's (Babes) tailor shop on a regular basis. Danie Craven's visit were not only for tailoring purposes He found great pleasure in engaging in discussions on the style of rugby played by the Arabian College Team. On a particular occasion Danie Craven acknowledged that South

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African rugby could benefit from that which he learnt from Arabian College. In the mid 1960's, Ebrahim Babes Cader continued his love for the game by mentoring his nephews Phaldie, Faried and Fahmy Cader. His protégés were mesmerised by his insatiable appetite for practising, ball handling skills, tackling and kicking. Stories are told that he was totally enthralled by the young Fahmy who was only 5 years old at the time, as he watched Fahmy kicking the rugby ball for hours on end, constantly coersing and spurring him on.

Phaldie, Faried and Fahmy too were further inspired by their father Billy Cader and their mother Dawn Rose who is a descendent from the famous Kester Family. Apart from having the natural flair, ability and interest in the game, the boys were further advantaged as they were socialised into the world of rugby by their uncle Johnny Kester who became the president of the South African Rugby Board. Rugby flowed deeply in the Cader Boys veins.

Many marvelled at the deep insight and passion the boys displayed for the game of rugby, on and off the playing field. Phaldie in particular is remembered for his innovation and creativity using space on the rugby field and many believed he played futuristic rugby which was way before his time.

His uncle Charles Kester who was the brother to Johnny Kester, was unapologetic when he proclaimed that he did not support Arabian College, but was an ardent supporter of Phaldie Cader. This was not surprising given that the Kester family played for Thistles Rugby Club. The tenaciousness of Abdul Cader and the daring spirit of Rukia Hendricks who provided the opportunity for her sons to play rugby. The future of the majority of Cader sons. They played the game, loved the game, shaped the game and will be remembered for living the great game of rugby.



Mr & Mrs Cader & Grandson - Mr Imraan Cader

PHALDIE CADER: RUGBY PROFILE

Phaldie Cader's rugby education started as early as 1962. He recalls, attending his first rugby match with his dad and granddad who clearly instructed him to support Arabian College, whilst giving him a lecture on the ethics of the club and why all who were associated with the club, were bound by it.

Come 1964, the Rhodes rugby tournament was held in Kimberley and Phaldie was given the same lecture, but this time, he was instructed to support Griquas.

This indoctrination by his father and granddad must have had a definite effect on Phaldie, as he vividly remembers the year, 1964, as a good year for Arabian College.

Phaldie describes wild exuberance players and supporters, in great detail, when the Arabian college team won the League, as if it was yesterday. He further remembers his father's discussions on the great Cliff Morgan who was the British Lions fly half in 1955, as well as Barry John and Mike Gibson who both played in the fly half position in 1968. Phaldie says that it was because of these rich discussions that the seed was planted, and he was bent on copying their play.

Although these international players stood out as icons in Phaldie's rugby world, he asserts that he believes that Piet Visagie and Dennis Jacobs are the greatest fly halves the Griqualand West Rugby Union and South Africa, ever produced. He says that they were always on his radar as a child and he fiercely admired them. He speaks about his obsession with studying their movements and constantly analysing why they made certain decisions on the field.

Given that it is evident that sport and particularly rugby is in the very fibre of the Cader household, it is not surprising that, because of the lack of good reading material on rugby, locally, Phaldie's dad resorted to buying the British Newspapers, namely the Daily Mirror, Daily Sun and Daily Mail. The sports section would then provide, the much needed rugby fix for his sons.

Phaldie is of the opinion that it is because of these resources that he accumulated a wealth of rugby knowledge, which in turn boosted his confidence. He says that he developed his own game, which included a formula of, speed off the mark and side-steps, running at the gaps and playing close to the advantage line with ball in hand, which later became the hallmark of his career. This kind of play was not conventional as fly halves at the time, stood far back, waiting to kick the ball for position.

He explains, that this unconventional play, was to move the team forward, giving them greater advantage to score tries. It was this "unconventional" play, which brought him into conflict with coaches. Almost forty years later, the very same play is being propagated in the modern game, and Phaldie feels that he is now vindicated.

His immersion into the world of playing rugby started in 1964, when he played his first match for New Main Street Primary School and in 1965 when he went on his first rugby tournament in Queenstown and East London.

He was now fully entrenched and relates how he and his brother Faried attended every rugby match, at the then Union Grounds. He says that they lived three kilometres away from the Grounds and turned down lifts, so that they could run home, whilst practising their passing. He furthermore attests that his enthusiasm for the game held no boundaries, as he accompanied his brothers into the Arabian college dressing room and felt privileged to carry the bags of the Arabian College players. The discussions in the dressing room made him aware of the Arabian College, drive to be the best, to play the game hard and to practice repeatedly. What remains upper most in Phaldie's mind however, is the discussion on the thinking game, which involved strategy and the team's ability to implement.

The Cader family also had a very prominent friend at the time, who visited his grandfather boy who was the President of the South African Cricket Union in 1946. Phaldie recalls how this friend of their grandfather, Rober Sobukwe visited at the most awkward of times. He recalls their impatiens as they wanted to travel to the Union Grounds, to listen to the discussions, carry the bags and watch the ruby. Little did they know what influence this friend of their grandfather had, in changing the lives of all South Africans.

Phaldie's formative years as a rugby player were indeed happy and his voice breaks into tenderness when he speaks about the singing before the game. He recalls the melodious sounds of Boeta Dirkie Wally, who was renowned for singing tunes such as "Daar kom die Alabama", "Rosa" and "The song of joy, Kana", sang by the Malay slaves many years ago.

These tunes did not only inspire him to be part of this great collective, who at all times exuded cameradie and brotherhood amongst one another, but was also a significant character trait of his mother, who sang the same songs at home, particularly when she was happy.

Phaldie remembers the 1968 Arabian College team for their majestic presence on the rugby field. He speaks fondly of rugby greats such as Zane Masoet, Yogin Lingam, Noor Mosajee, Hansie Oliphant, Aliwee Aysen, Ismail Mills, Shorty Adams Gesant Jardien Tasliem Alexander, Bud Alexander, Boy Williams, Starlin King, and Karel Oliphant. These men will be remembered for their fighting spirit and endurance. He also speaks fondly about the supporters, those who stand out were, the audacious Aunty Tima Alexander and Sheila Wally, who he believes won many a tight match for the Club.

Given the depth of Phaldie's early experiences in the rugby world, it must be acknowledged that a solid foundation had been laid. Confidence indeed was abound, as Phaldie, players and supporters revelled in the Arabian College Team winning the league in 1968. At this point Phaldie's energy, work ethic and leadership abilities, was recognised, and he was chosen to captain the Perseance Primary School team, which amalgamated with New Main Street Primary School.

He was chosen to play in the fly half position, for the under 85 pound team, and was also victorious in claiming the league trophy, for this division.

After primary school, Phaldie wanted to be registered at William Pescod High School, as the school was recognised for academic and sporting excellence.

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Much to his disappointment, his elders once more directed that he be registered at Floors High School. Although he was disappointed, he found solace in being mentored and coached by Noor Mosajee, whom he greatly admired.

In 1971, Phaldie officially registered himself as an Arabian College player. At that time the club was at its lowest ebb, as most of the best players of the 1968 era had retired. The club had to start a process of rebuilding which proved to be very challenging at times.

Salie Mahri took up the reins as captain on the rugby field, and sometimes secretary, as well as chairman in club meetings. Once again, the Arabian College grit and tenacity was witnessed, as Salie, soldiered on to ensure that the team returned to its former glory.

Transition had its own peculiar dynamics, but according to Phaldie, Salie Mahri's fierce commitment to the club, prevailed.

Club meetings were moved from the Adams home to Ebrahim Mahri's home in Stamford Street, and at the best of times, Salie went as far as sacrificing his family's weekly food stipend, to fund the expenses of the club.

Phaldie remembers club meetings on a Sunday Morning, and comments on the infectious laughter and fun they enjoyed when minutes of the previous meeting were read.

He relays how Salie at times was forced to admit that he could not pronounce or recognise some of the words in the minutes and rendered the excuse that he was a working man with very little time at his disposal. He would however rope his wife in to rewrite that which had originally been captured and only became aware of the much better phrasing and wording in the meeting.

Amidst the glitches and playfulness of team members, Phaldie believes that Salie Mahri steered the team out of the doldrums and profusely thanks him for living the Arabian College dream, albeit under very difficult circumstances.

Salie Mahri and his family undoubtedly deserve the recognition and appreciation for their generosity and goodwill and in Phaldie's book, should be allowed to take a bow.

In 1972, Phaldie mentions his selection into the Griqualand West School team, together with his brother Faried, and although Phaldie concedes that he was selected as a reserve, he points out that he ended the tournament, on a high as he was selected as fly half for the South African Schools B team. The Cader household was overjoyed as two sons Phaldie and his brother Faried, were both selected for the SA Schools B Team.

The Arabian College Rugby Club, were ecstatic as two of their very own, were on their way to great heights and Phaldie in particular was treading in the pathway of Alwee Alexander who was the fly half of the 1970 South African School team.

Phaldie, made his debut for the Arabian College B-team, in 1972, when he played on the wing against the flamboyant All Black Team, who were formed from the 1970, Griqualand West School team.

Arabian College lost this game, but Phaldie believes the loss turned, the club around. After the game, the captain, Alwee Alexander addressed the team and vowed that it would be the last indignity the team suffer.

The mood of players, and administrators changed to that of seriousness and intent. Practising became more intense and Senior Players took on the roll of supporting Salie Mahri with the administration of the club. Too name but a few, recognition must be given to AB Jardine, Shorty Adams and Roger Henderson.

Alwee Alexander led from the front, by doubling up as coach and captain for the B-team. According to Phaldie, Alwee recognised his talent and played him at scrumhalf. The mood indeed lifted as the team went unbeaten for the rest of 1972. The flamboyant All Black team was beaten in the second round of the league, as well as the knock-out stages.

Although the Griqualand West Senior Team, made the final of the South African Cup in 1973, implying that the quality of local rugby was very good, it must be mentioned that the quality of rugby of the B-teams in the league was exceptional and of a very high standard, as local administrators considered moving B-team matchers to the A Ground. Every week memorable, high quality clashes took place. Phaldie remembers the titanic clashes against William Pescod, Perseverance, and All Blacks. He contends that their 1972 loss was the turning point and their resolve to succeed, resulted in the Arabian College B-team, remaining unbeaten for a very long time.

Characteristic of the Arabian College play at the time was Phaldie and Alwee now interchanging their roles as fly half and scrumhalf. This totally confused the opposition and could be recognised as one of the reasons for the success of the team, not forgetting the commitment, grit and competency of all players.

In 1974, Phaldie was elected as the vice-captain of the Arabian College B-team. His brief was to assist in nurturing, developing and leading the younger players. This Phaldie recalls, he did with fervour, but at this same time, he missed the camaraderie, he enjoyed with the older players, who now became senior players for the Ateam.

Before long, Phaldie found himself playing scrum half or full back for the A-team whilst also fulfilling his role as vice-captain for the B-team in the fly half position, as well as for the Floors High Schools Rugby Team.

This is where he was permitted to display his talents at fly half, by drawing the opposition towards himself and punting the ball into open space, for the wings to score the tries. If not tackled, he would score the tries himself. Phaldie was able to orchestrate a "concertina attack", which implies lining the backline in depth and creating gaps in the oppositions' defence. This strategy, was one

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which his grandfather advocated, and whilst playing at fly half he could steer the game to create the subtle

variations, which left the team unbeaten, with many tries scored. This futuristic style of play, was played at the Union Grounds 40 years ago, a style which Danie Graven and his grandfather discussed in great detail.

Phaldie's commitment to the game did not go unnoticed and in the same year, he was rewarded with the South African Senior Schools (SASSA) colours.

In 1975, Phaldie's relentless love and commitment to rugby continued and he was promoted to play for the Senior Team on a full time basis. This resulted in him being selected to play at full back for the Griqualand West Rugby Union.

With a glint in his eyes he sketches a counter attacking rugby scene, which has now become familiar in modern rugby. At this point, one cannot but become nostalgic, as one remembers the electric atmosphere on a Saturday afternoon at the Union Grounds, as huge crowds enthusiastically supported their own rugby heroes.

Phaldie conscientiously continued to lift his game to higher levels and he passionately speaks of the opportunity Arabian College granted him, when he was selected to play in the fly half position, against the Tygerberg Champion Team, Tigers. He relished the move and viewed it as an opportunity of a lifetime, as he would play against rugby giants such as Pieter Jooste. At the same time, it would allow him to once again showcase his ability and skill as fly half. The drive, energy and foresight, which the Arabian College team exuded on this particular day, proved to be too much for Tigers. Phaldie relays how Tigers were totally out played, resulting in Arabian College leading them by twenty points at half time. Much to Arabian College's disappointment, Tigers were so frustrated, at their lack lustre performance, that they walked off the field, just before half time.

The euphoria and ecstasy which the team enjoyed after the game, Phaldie believes is, indescribable. He does however elaborate on the celebrations which lasted well into the night.

Later he brokered a deal to play at centre and was partnered by Alwee Alexander. This formidable partnership later proved to be devastating as their game improved tremendously, playing both for Arabian College and Griqualand West in 1977. The hallmark of their game was Alwee's ability to pass the ball into the gap, whilst Phaldie ran on to the ball, scoring many a try.

In 1978, Phaldie was selected to play in the South African Rugby Union (SARU) trials, but unfortunately, was injured in a league match, and suffered a depressed cheek bone, a week before the trials.

Phaldie however continued to work at his game and reminisces on the extra-ordinary good game he played against Western Province in 1979. This resulting in Cassim Jabaar, presenting him with his Western Province rugby jersey and socks. He remembers the pride and elation he felt, when Cassim commented that he had the ability and skill to represent the South African Rugby Union (SARU). An accolade which he would treasure for a lifetime.

In the same year, Phaldie was chosen as Sportsman of the year. His hard work, commitment and dedication to the game of rugby, was once more rewarded.

In 1980 and 1981, Phaldie believes that he was playing at his very best. He was settling well into the centre position, and had terrific form.

Overall Phaldie, played 31 games at provincial level, scoring 44 tries, as a centre. He clearly was en-route to fulfilling his dream of playing for the South African Rugby Union (SARU).

Many a rugby enthusiast remembers Phaldie's exhilarating Side-step, used with or without the ball, his electric speed off the mark, his foresight in reading the game to counter the opposition's defence and agree that he definitely was a complete rugby player. This dedicated servant to the game had what many say the "X factor".

At the time, it must be remembered that the country was in turmoil and the South African Rugby Union (SARU), did not select a team, and Phaldie was left like many other in limbo.

When asking Phaldie if he was disappointed, that his dream was not fulfilled, he emphatically states that the country's liberation was more important than his personal ambition.

He however believes that now that liberation has been attained, all youth should be encouraged to play the great game, given the advantages the game has to offer, mentally, physically and emotionally.

In conclusion, Phaldie acknowledges the role his grandfather, parents and family played. He sincerely thanks them for planting the rugby seed, as well as for the huge support and confidence they had in him.

He also thanks all his Arabian College team mates for their friendship camaraderie and brotherhood, but most of all for providing him with some of the most memorable and joyous moments in his life.

Phaldie gives special praise and honour to his beloved friend, the late Alwee Alexander, who assisted in shaping and moulding him as a rugby player.

He extends a sincere appreciation to the coaches who impacted his rugby career, as well as the Griqualand West Rugby Union.

And finally, he thanks the Almighty, for making all things possible.

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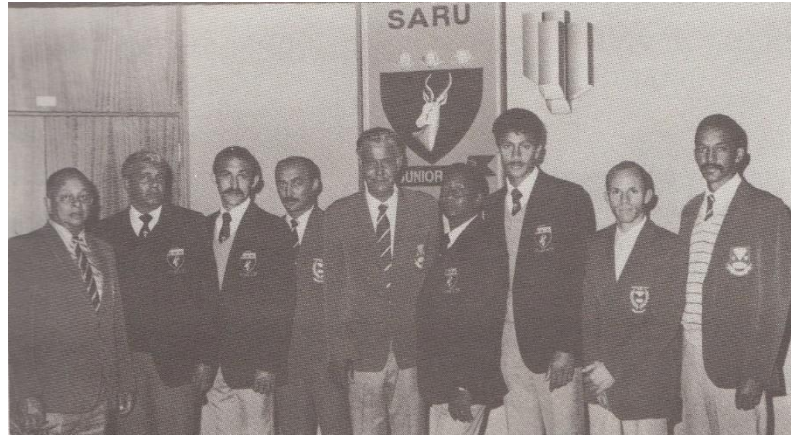
In 2015 Phaldie still displayed the same commitment to ACRFC and the promotion of sport and was a very generous sponsor, contributor and provider for the historic Reunion of the club which was a phenomenal success for a bunch of local ex-players, families and supporters from Kimberley. His team mates by way of recognising the mercurial talents of Phaldie, gave him the honour of scoring the final try in the 'mock' rugby match, converted by Charles Hermanus.



Gym Alexander, Ambrose Fillis, Phaldie Cader



Phaldie Cader - 1978 ACRFC 75th Anniversary Vs SARU Inv



4th from Left:- Phaldie Cader - Coach GWRFU Centenary Vs SARU Jnrs - at UWC



Dr M Ishmael and Mr Phaldi Cader - 2015 ACRF REUNION

Profile of Henry John Paulse:

Henry John Paulse grew up in Square Hill Park, a well known coloured suburb in Kimberley. Being a young Christian boy with strong family bonds to one of the oldest rugby teams namely, Universals, which his grandfather was an official of.

The other rugby club which had its roots in Square Hill Park was Young Collegians, and it would make sense that Henry would play for Collegians. From a marital status point he should have played for Thistles RFC as his in-laws had great ties with this club. But instead, Henry chose to play for ACRFC who accepted him with warmth and brother ship even though he was a Christian, and they developed a bond that still exists to this day. Henry was a role model to many of the young ACRFC players and his conduct was always of the best. He brought along with him to ACRFC his brothers Don and Pat and Eugene Jacobs.

Skills and talents:

Affectionately known as 'Boy' to those close to him, Henry was a great physical specimen with good speed and upper body strength. As a loose forward he was able to run with the backs in attack and offer cover defence to either tackle the opponent or arrive first at the breakdown. He was a team player and would at times move from his regular flanker position to 8th man or on occasion slot into the lock position for the sake of his team.

Henry the Administrator:

According to Henry, he was honoured with being the deputy to one of the most outstanding characters namely, Alwee Alexander, for many years on the field of play. He was an official of the club serving as Secretary and as union delicate which he represented with pride and honour. Club members who were part of the club at the time that he served as Secretary will recall the high standard of correspondence and minutes which he always read in a proud voice.

Representing GWRFU:

Henry was honoured to represent GWRFU thanks to his team mates he says, who made this possible as they played their sport under the auspices of the SACOS. However, his rugby career was then later cut short due to his son attending a white school.

Being Roman Catholic had given him the advantage of being able to attend the Christian Brothers College. He repudiated to the idea of having to remove his son from the college which then resulted with him being suspended for life from entering or partaking in any sport affiliated to SACOS.

Each and every member however defended and stood by him which he is still grateful for up to this day. This proves how unique this club is. He is honoured to have been part of such great human beings. At the 2015 reunion, Henry presented Ó Powers.

Profile of Don Paulse:

Don was a young 18 year old when he completed school and eager to be living back home after being away at boarding school for three years. During that time he went to visit his eldest brother Henry

and coincidentally he had a visitor at his home, Alwie Alexander. He was introduced to Al and at that moment he became a member of the greatest rugby club. The Paulse brothers grew up in Square Hill Park and by virtue of demographics they were supposed to play for Young Collegians and historically they were supposed to play for Universals because that's who their uncles played for. But as he says, sometimes one decides one's own destiny and sometimes destiny chooses one. Arabian College was their destiny, three brothers, Henry, Pat and himself Don. One common goal one common love for the game called rugby and the absolute pride that they could play this beautiful game with a white, red and green rugby jersey, a jersey that belonged to Arabian College.

Playing for and against ACRFC:

"The Union grounds will be edged in our memories forever, Saturday mornings, shining our boots, packing our green sport bag, making sure the deep heat was packed in. Anticipation filled the air, and I'm only running out for the B team. Once our game is done we then settle down on our stand to watch the A team taking on one of our rivals. The excitement, the anxiety, the jubilation or despair at either winning or losing, just another wonderful day in the life of an Arabian college player".

Don had to attend Perseverance college for four years where he had to play against Arabian College, this was indeed a different experience, playing against your old team mates and your own brothers. He has included a photo that captures the moment, Arabian College versus Persies, all three Paulse brothers are in the photo, Henna and Pat in the white, red and green and Don in the white and blue. The 'Bye' always created so much fear among the Persie players and that was one side of the "Bye" that was not always pretty. During his time at Persies, Don rubbed shoulders with former SA Rugby Springboks coach Peter De Villiers, who bears testimony of the challenges which the 'Bye' posed when having to face them.

He says that he was the least talented of the three brothers, and never achieved anything spectacular but if he had to live a million times over he would not change a thing, he would still run out boldly with his white, red and green jersey to represent Arabian College.

ACRFC, a team like no other:

He did play a few games for the A team and he clearly remember his first game, it was against Universals and he recalls it as if it was yesterday how Marcus Limburgh came to his rescue when Mickey Leon wanted to 'intimidate' him, he knew then as he knows now that he belonged to a team of extraordinary men that would defend each other to the bitter end.

Don's finest moment came when he was selected for the A team with both his brothers to play against Sckotches Kloof in Cape Town, a hard tough game but absolutely memorable.

The pride that is ACRFC:

Arabian College allowed both his two older brothers to represent our province, Griqualand West. Don sat in the stands glowing with pride as he watched his brothers playing as the great players they were and all the other college players in the team.

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The one regret that he had was that his own children never saw him running out with that beautiful white, red and green jersey, but he tells them the stories of a team that created men from boys, his son asked if he could also get a jersey to share in his Dad's pride.

Don the administrator:

All three of the Paulse brothers also served on the executive of Arabian College which helped them develop other skills and also a sense of community. As with elder brothers Henry and Pat, Don was a very good Secretary and followed in their footsteps Don was the MC at the 2015 ACRFC Reunion.

"To all our ' brothers' that have gone to their final resting place may the wind always be against their backs and the sunshine in their faces and may God hold them safe in the palm of his hand until we meet again".

PATRICK 'PAT' PAULSE

Patrick Paulse is part of the trio of Paulse brothers who played for and contributed much for ACRFC. He grew up in Square Hill Park and like his brothers, defied history and demographics to join ACRFC.

How did your interest in rugby evolve:

Pat started playing at school level at Olympic Primary School and was captain of all the weight divisions he played in. He found himself joining ACRFC having followed his eldest brother Henry, who was himself a very dynamic rugby player and good administrator.

When did you join ACRFC, what position did you play, did you serve as captain / vice captain?

He started off as flank forward and 8th man and through the influence of club coach Alwee Alexander he moved to the hooker position. Pat made a rapid move from 2nd to 1st team and was soon playing alongside eldest brother Henry. Due to his mobility and the structured play of ACRFC and support of team members, Pat was able to play as a fourth loose forward and linked up very well with the backs. He was a rugged and robust player and always gave 200%, prepared to put his body on the line for his beloved club. In a way Pat evolved the way in which hookers played their rugby, and brought a different dimension to the games. He matched loose forwards in getting to the break down and secured many a possession for his team at ruck-and- maul time. He was also a good ball carrier with good speed with the ability to keep possession when tackled.

Talking about tackling, he was ferocious in this discipline and cut down big men stopping them in their tracks. The hooker position is much more technical than most people realize, and Pat also worked hard on his scrumming technique, hooking the ball, putting pressure on the opposition feed, and also putting the ball into the lineout. He connected very well with ACRFC lineout specialists in bosom buddy the late Sharty Jardine at number 2, Winston Du Plessis at number 5

and of course captain Roland Hermanus at number 8 in the lineout. In the ACRFC front row he was partnered for most of his games by front rankers Feysal Mahri and Koubie Snyders.

What is your proudest moment / achievement with ACRFC?

One the ACRFC highlights for Pat and many of his team mates is definitely the tour of Europe in 1983. They visited countries like British Isles (England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland), Switzerland, France, Holland and West Germany. The cities which they experiences included Cardiff (Wales), London (England), Amsterdam (Holland), Paris (France) and stopped at Twickenham where they watch the 4 Nations match between England and France, Trafalgar Square, Madame Toussards Wax Museum, BMW, Eiffel Tower and made extensive use of the underground trains. During this period Pat was also the Correspondence Secretary keeping track of the arrangements for the tour.

In terms of rugby games all the games which he was on the winning side stands out for him as, and in 1984 when he was captain, he led the team with a clean sheet with not a single try scored against ACRFC.

Like all of his team mates Pat also liked travelling, and the experiences that he shared with his club members.

When did you first play for GWRFU, did you serve as captain / vice captain?

Pat gained his first cap for GWRFU around 1984/85 against Transvaal as hooker. He was a regular choice for the hooking position for a number of years. His most memorable games for his province was GWRFU against EP in Kimberley, the game SWD in Heidelberg and in Cape Town against Cities which GW won.

Who had the biggest influence on your rugby career, and why?

He passionately mentions that the individual who made the biggest impressions on him was the late Alwee Alexander, who was more than a rugby coach to him. The many talks and administrative leadership and just the normal family involvement and life skills which he shared still remain with him. Pat believes that he was ahead of his time in terms of coaching and a visionary in terms of where he wanted to take this great club.

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Henna & Pat (ACRFC) vs Don (Persies)

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Mr & Mrs Henry Paulse : Mr Don Paulse & Son



Ms Joan Paulse : Mr & Mrs Pat Paulse & family

MOOSA AYSEN 's TIME WITH ARABIAN COLLEGE R.F.C.

Moosa's grandfather and his brother was part of the group that formed Arabian College R.F.C. back in 1903. All of his family played for the club. He is married to Geyroniesa who is the second eldest daughter of the late Aunty Tima Alexander.



He started playing at the age of 15. Arabian College was going through a lean period as most of the senior players were getting on in years and stopped playing.

When he turned 16, six or seven second team players and Moosa had to play both second team and first team games on a Saturday. He also used to referee two junior matches on a Saturday morning. Rugby kept most of the youth busy during their teenage years and some into their 30's.

They used to practice after 5pm Mondays to Thursdays and sometimes the whole of Sunday.

He was a well known sports administrator and ACRFC stalwart, a courageous flanker and above average player who played for ACRFC, Griqua Colts and GWRFU. Boeta Moosa excelled as an administrator and like his uncle Jaynie Aysen, he represented ACRFC at GW union meetings. Moosa served the club for many years on the executive as Secretary, Chairman, Vice Chairman and Treasurer.

Moosa left Kimberley at the age of 25. By this time there was a big group of youngsters ready to take over and they did us proud for the next 15 to 20 years. His home in Mitchell's Plain became the headquarters of ACRFC on all their tours to Cape Town.

It was no big deal to host a bus load of players and with the assistance of neighbours and cousins Tima and Faried Barnes, no one was ever left hungry. ACRFC players will remember how the bus stopped at the flats in the Bo Kaap and how Tima and her family fed the entire ACRFC groups.

It's a pity that 3 of the clubs stopped playing. He believe that the state our youths finds themselves in is partly due to the demise of those clubs.

MOOSA AYSEN - THE AMBASSADOR (29.03.1945 - 11.06.2022)

PLAINSMAN (Community Newspaper - Mitchells Plain)

Home News Looking back at Islamic society's early days - Looking back at Islamic society's early days

By Fouzia Van Der Fort Sep 25, 2019

Moosa Aysen, president of Mitchells Plain Islamic Society, and Abdurahgiem Hermans, burial society administrator.

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Even though some sponsors and donors were uncertain whether the goal to build Mitchell's Plain's first mosque would be realised, they helped to establish the Mitchell's Plain Islamic Society (MPIS).

And six years after the society's first meeting at the Visitors' Centre, on the corner of Dagbreek Avenue and Koornhoop Road, in Westridge, on Sunday September 5 1976, Masjidul Jumu'ah, in Shepherd Way Westridge, was completed.

This milestone was marked about a year before the launch of the United Democratic Front (UDF), a stone's throw away at the Rocklands civic centre in 1983 - and just in time for launch event delegates and participants to sleep over.

In celebration of their twentieth anniversary in 1996, the society produced a prospectus, which highlighted its sacrifices and achievements related to building five masajid (mosques), three education centres, a burial society and a beitul maal - catering facility - for the poor and a relief fund.

Today 43 years later, they have more than doubled the number of mosques, added another learning institution, and continued to serve an ever growing population.

Moosa Aysen, president of the society at the time, told the Plainsman how they had travelled across the country with photographs, plans and proposals to attract financial support "to build up our Islamic infrastructure in the area of Mitchell's Plain".

"People gave, mostly those from the Transvaal and Natal, and we had to be sure we delivered," he said.

Their first port of call had been the 41 families in Westridge to establish a "solid Islamic foundation".

Mr Aysen said while the society built the build mosques, they handed over the responsibility for their maintenance to the communities they served.

"They would take ownership of the day-to-day running of the place and the properties would be kept in a trust," he said.

Later that year it was agreed that each family would be taxed R2 a month and by the end of the year members would also establish a burial society.

An education board was established on July 3 1977, to see to the religious needs of the community.

Board member at the time Abdurahgiem Hermans and now an administrator for the society said they were proactive in procuring the plot in Shepherd Way, Westridge, which was the second biggest plot, initially earmarked for a church.

The society engaged directly with the Council of Cape Town at the time, to acquire four additional plots — in Eastridge, Portland, Rocklands and Lentegeur — at a cost of R2 each.

"We told them we were men of honour and that we would do what was agreed upon," he said.

The late Sheikh Nazeen Mohamed, President of the Muslim Judicial Council wrote in their prospectus: "This society gave every impression of having foresight and have proved themselves to know exactly what they envisaged to be beneficial to the Muslims and people of the area."

He added: "The MPIS is regarded as one of the most progressive organisations of the Cape."

Masjidul Jumu'ah, in Westridge, will hold its annual food fair at the mosque's complex from after jumu'ah on Friday November 1 and Saturday November 2, from 10am until late

Moosa Aysen - Mitchell's Plain Cape Town



Mr Mohammed & Mrs Saeeda Sulliman ; Mr Moosa & Mrs Nies Aysen



Friend & Mr Dean Aysen

Profile of Mr Thomas Jossie

At the age of 16 Mr Thomas Jossie's introduction to sport administration started when he became Secretary of the GW Indian Football Association, under the guidance of the doyen of sportsman - Mr Paul Augustine. During his term the union competed in two Sam China Tournaments (in those days soccer was played on racial lines - soccer for "Indians", "Coloureds", "Africans and Whites").

As time progressed he served as recording Secretary and General Secretary in many sporting organizations:- These included - Mintonians Football Club, The GW Coloured Soccer Association - under the chairmanship of Mr Henry Hopley; Gladiators Cricket Club; Burma Lads Cricket Club and GW Cricket Board (often referred to as the Malay Union). It is not his intention to often refer to racial terms, but the crux of the matter, it was reality in those days. Mr Jossie also enjoyed serving in this capacity in the Kimberley Primary Schools Sports Association under the chairmanship of the late Christiaan September and soon he was involved with Kimberley Senior Schools Sports Union, with Mr Robert Burgess as his mentor.

Rugby became part of his administrative role.

The members of the Arabian College RFC honoured Mr Jossie with the Secretarial post. A highlight here was when ACRFC celebrated the 75th Anniversary of the club. Players were invited from all over South Africa, which included Mr Cheeky Watson - then the only "white" player to play among our ranks and current President of Eastern Province RU; Mr Peter Jooste - the current National Selector and many other great players to our celebrations. He then became a delegate of ACRFC to union meetings - there was a vacancy for a Secretary and he was duly elected as Secretary to the GYRFU (SACOS).



In 1971 he was part of the Perseverance Training College which took part in the Inter College at Hewitt Training College in Cape Town.

Together with Mr Eric Gossman he served as a Secretariat of the amalgamation talks with Diamond Fields Cricket Union and GW Cricket Board (Malay), at that time the African Cricket Union was nonexistent. This was an historic meeting under the chairmanship of Mr Rashied Variawa. This marriage was short lived and then "real" unity talks started with the dawn of Mr Hassan Howa, who fought for nonracial cricket. Today we can salute the efforts of Mr Hassan Howa. In the late eighties and early nineties there was a rebirth of nonracial sport. School sport had to change and a meeting of all rugby schools was convened. A joint committee was elected to administrate school rugby in the Kimberley region. At this meeting together with Daan Du Toit he served as the secretariat under the chairmanship of Mr Benna Koertzen and Martin Visagie. Mr Jossie served in this capacity for two seasons - frustrations within the system made him quit, for reasons he would rather not expand.

In the days of Management Committees, he had the opportunity to serve as Secretary of the Municipality's Indian Management Committee.

Even in church he was able to share his expertise as a Secretary of the Assumption Church's working Committee.

Before Pro Sano Medical Aid Scheme joined hands with Bonitas, Mr Jossie duly served in the Northern Cape / Free State Regional Committee of the scheme as a Secretary.

His interest moved to Finances as was growing tired of all the writing and typing. First as Treasurer of the Cape Professional Teacher's Association (Kimberley Branch) and when the National Conference was held in Kimberley he served as the Treasurer of the Conference. Then Mr Jossie served on the Parish Council of the Church of Assumption for two years, declining re-election.

Thomas Jossie's desire to become involved in other fields -

As a rookie in the field of welfare, Thomas and Conrad Jampies and the late Don Miller were elected to serve on the Committee of Resthaven Old Age Home. They were young and inexperienced but people like Albert Miller, Adrian Daniels, Isgaak Jarodien, Alfred Hicks and Mr Borraine guided them until politicians had agreed to take over.

New Challenges Awaiting me: -

Convenor for the rugby code of SA Primary Schools Sports Association for its winter tournament which was held in Kimberley. He was also Convenor of the selection panel for GWRFU (SACOS). For two bi-annual school tournaments Mr Jossie managed the Provincial Schools Team in Worcester in 1976 and in Mossel Bay in 1978 and at the same time served on the selection panel of the SA Senior Schools Sports Association National Team. His administrative role continued when he became Deputy President of the GWRFU (SARU) and in so doing he also represented the Union at various SARU meetings. On one occasion Mr Jossie managed the provincial team when they played Tygerberg in an SA Cup fixture. In order to compete in the strong school's league after unity, the AR Abass Junior Club was established to promote the game among "so called under performing schools". For two years he chaired the meetings of the Club and then family commitments put an end to this chairmanship.

In the religious field there was a need to care for the needy and in our church, the St Vincent de Paul Society presented him an opportunity to serve on this organization. Having served for nearly a year, an amputation put an end to many of his administrative roles. But he thanks his creator his God that he could use his talents and to serve the sporting, welfare, education and religious organizations which he was involved in. As he ends the chapter of his administrative role in Society, he want to pay tribute to two persons, Lionel Kow and Brian Lenders who got him involved in the work of the Church of Assumption, first as an Altar Server, then a Proclaimer, a Eucharistic Minister and Community Service Leader.

Coaching Rugby :

Thomas Jossie was involved in various forms of rugby coaching. Bulfontein / Homevale Secondary School and Progress Primary School. In 1978 he was fortunate to be part of the SARU coaching clinic which was held at the University of the Western Cape in Belville. Five Colleges participated - Perseverance, Hewat, Rand and Bechet South Cape.

As A Rugby Player:

Mr Jossie achieved much as a player. In 1969 Floors High School did not have a second team to play in the school's league but Martin "Chooks" Visagie forced him into playing rugby. He could not play at

ACRFC PROFILES

primary school and the earlier years at high school because there was discrimination against boys who were "overweight". In 1970 a team from the University of Western Cape toured Kimberley and he was chosen to anchor the combined Kimberley team. He wants to pay tribute to Mr Visagie for his role in the love for rugby, as coach, manager, and administrator.

From 1973 to 1975 he played for Thistle Rugby Football Club and then joined Arabian College RFC in 1976. Thomas went on to represent GWRFU while at ACRFC and my highlight was the 75th Anniversary Celebrations in 1978 where he gained selection to the AR Abass SARU Invitation Team to play against an ACRFC Invitation Team, captained by the great Peter Jooste from Tygerberg.

As Educator:-

Primary schools were well organized in the late fifties and sixties. Some of the schools who participated on Wednesday afternoons included Perseverance, St Francis Xavier, New Main Street, Pan, St Sylvesters, Floors North and Endeavour. Some of these schools no longer exist.

As Scholar:-

Although he was a learner at St Francis Xavier, he was never afforded the opportunity to play in the colours of SFX due to some sort of discrimination against heavier kids. He therefore never experienced our school's rugby. Thomas is certain that it was at Perseverance Primary School that the rugby career of the late Alwee Alexander started. When he thinks of him he must have played in the weight division of 50 to 60 pounds. The teachers at the school must have observed his talents as a rugby player and as time progressed Alwee developed a genuine flair for the game.

Having entered high school Mr Jossie had to wait until he was in standard 9 to play rugby. Being exposed to rugby by Mr Martin Visagie, he made his first encounter with the likes of Alwee Alexander and Chris Ludick who played for the unbeatable and well drilled William Pescod High School. In many of these hard fought matches, Alwee impressed him with his diminutive size and his exceptional skills on the field. Alwee was a gentleman of the game and he often recall despite his size, he loved tackling those who outsized him, Thomas being one of the bigger who felt his ferocious tackling. The success of William Pescod in the school's league was truly because of Alwee's leadership.

Senior Rugby:-

After high school Thomas Jossie played for Thistles for about three seasons and then joined Arabian College. Alwee continued to rise to another level when he started playing for Arabian College First Team. He was a true gentleman of the game especially after each match, first to applaud his opponents and also encourage his own team mates when things did not go the way of the team. What a sight to have 7 Alexander brothers playing with Alwee. This must have pleased their mother Mrs Tima Alexander, who occupied a seat at the end of the stand, cheering and making it known when Arabian College were playing below par. Even Alwee and Thomas were subjected to her anger.

As he progressed into the executive of the club, Alwee started coaching the club's junior team and later he coached the first and second teams. He proved beyond doubt that he had skills to coach and impart his knowledge. Alwee became a respected person within the club and by a wide spectrum of the community. This was evident by the many people who made their last respects at his Janazha (funeral).

As one gets older the legs cannot stand firm anymore, and as I went through leg amputation, so Alwee was affected by suffering 3 strokes.

Secretary to ACRFC:-

Thomas was afforded the opportunity to serve as Secretary of Arabian College under the chairmanship of Alwee Alexander. It was in the administration that this well -liked friend and colleague proved his mettle, he became chairman of the club when matter in the club degenerated but he engineered the lifting of the club to its former glory. They worked together very well and Alwee was a hands-on in the affairs of the club. Very seldom did Alwee delegate to be done by others during his reign when the club celebrated its 75th anniversary and the success of these celebrations was due to his hard work and dedication. Thomas Jossie believes that Alwee changed the mode of travelling of his players. The Arabian College players used the 'iron bird' to travel to Cape Town, Johannesburg, Durban and the famed tour of Europe. This trip caught the eye of the media and was headlined as "SACOS RUGBY CLUB SLIPS OUT OF COUNTRY".

In conclusion Thomas Jossie wants to leave the younger generation with this quotation by the great Indian Cricketer "Ranjith Singh" which Alwee introduced to the club - he surely based his involvement in the game of rugby on this;

"O powers, make me to observe
And keep the rules of the game;
Help me neither to offer
Nor to welcome cheap praise;
Give me always to be a good
comrade; Help me to win, If I
may;
But - and this, O Powers, especially -
If I may not win;
Make me a good loser."



Mr T Jossie & Son @ ACRF Reunion 2015

**FLOORS HIGH SCHOOL
CLASS OF 1970/71 REUNION
12 February 2022. Horseshoe Inn.**



Profile of Faried "Frikkie" Norman:

Frikkie Norman was born in Kimberley in 1953, is married to Miena who is the sister of the great Salie Mahri, long time stalwart of ACRFC. He joined Arabian College in 1969, and started off in the 2nd team as a utility back and could play at fullback, fly-half, center and on the wing. He was part of the ACRFC 2nd team in the golden era from 1971 with almost full domination for quite a few years. He fondly speaks about the great rivalry with All Blacks RFC especially in 1972. This 2nd team was so good as a unit that most of them preferred to play together and almost refused to play for the 1st team. They would first finish playing a 2nd team match and immediately thereafter play a 1st team match.

It was only in 1976 that this great 2nd team almost as a unit moved to the first team. And just like they did in the second league, this team changed the face of ACRFC first league rugby. The team went on to dominate GWRFU league competitions for more that a decade until 1987. During the same period another generation of 2nd team talents emerged from players who had just finished high school, and showed the same type of domination. Frikkie played at fullback, center and wing for the ACRFC first team.

Skills and talents:

Frikkie's height at almost 1,92 metres always offered additional options to ACRFC captains and coaches. He gladly played at lock or loose forward and even had quite a few games at number 8 to assist his team. He was never a bulky player, but through the influence of Phaldi Cader, he resorted to weight training to improve his body strength. Frikkie was able to break tackles and hand-off tacklers and had the ability to keep possession of the ball until the loose forwards arrived to secure possession. This he attributed to the hard work of weight training and practice. He proudly speaks of the coaching of the late Boeta Doesie Adams who taught the ACRFC teams all the tactics in the book, and also mentions Boeta Alwie Aysen who coached with his sjambok in hand.

He was also a regular referee in the GWRFU leagues and was also part of the coaching structures of the ACRFC teams. Frikkie also played cricket, hockey and enjoyed playing social squash and golf. He was part of the group of ACRFC players who formed the backbone of the revival of GW Mens Hockey.

Club Administration:

In 1972 he was elected as club Secretary, in 1978 as Vice Chairman and in 1979 as Chairman of ACRFC. Frikkie also represented ACRFC at GWRFU Union meetings and Referees delegate from 1971 for many years and was even nicknamed "Petrocelli" after the famed television series lawyer. He was part of the club executive during the vibrant 70's and 80's where the club was taken to new heights on and off the field. He speaks with passion of how the club executive operated and how their wives used to ensure that something nice is served. Then his speaks nostalgically of how he sometimes gets the smell of sweet black coffee and how it takes him back to the time when the entire ACRFC teams would frequent the late Tima Alexander's place where the flasks were always filled with 'see thru' and ready for the guys to enjoy after gym session.

GWRFU Administration:

Frikkie was always a very good administrator and in 1975 he was elected as Assistant Secretary to the union. And in 1986 he was elected Treasurer of the Union.

ACRFC Highlights:

1. According to Frikkie the highlight of his time at ACRFC was most definitely the 75th Anniversary Celebrations of the club in 1978. He believes that no other club could have achieved and pulled off such a brilliant event with hard work, blood sweat and tears and no major sponsorship. The club flew players from all over the country to Kimberley, to represent a SARU Invitation Team to play against an ACRFC Invitation Team. What made this event unique was that the SARU players lived in the homes of the ACRFC players and included the great Cheeky Watson.

2. He was also part of the executive who arranged the tour of Europe, something which was unheard of at the time, more especially for an amateur coloured club from GW. He is also convinced that even today, without major sponsors, no amateur club would have the drive and ingenuity to organize and pull off something so dynamic.

3. The ACRFC executive set the standards so high that travelling far distances had the expectation of players to fly to destinations in South Africa. He remembers the late Sharty Jardine saying that there is only one way for the club to travel, and that is by air. The club flew to Cape Town, to Johannesburg and to Durban honouring invitations from other SARU affiliated clubs who heard of the ACRFC achievements and who wanted to associate with the club. The beauty of it all was that ACRFC did not leave any player behind because of financial constraints.

4. Participating in the City and Suburban annual Top Eight Tournament, where only the best performing clubs in South Africa were invited to participate over the Easter Weekend where the best club in SARU is crowned. ACRFC was the first and only club from GWRFU to ever be invited to participate in this prestigious competition.

5. Being with the boys week-in and week-out was just so special, it was part of living. He acknowledges that there were so many characters in the club, too numerous to mention.

To those whom we have lost:

Frikkie sadly but proudly pays homage to all ACRFC colleagues who have passed on -

"Oh ALLAH, Grant them Jannah (Paradise)". He expresses his thanks and appreciation for their company and their contributions towards the club. He also believes that the successes that we can reflect on today, where as a result of the presence of our dearly departed during their time with this great club.



Mrs & Mr F Norman - 2015 ACRFC Reunion



Mr & Mrs B Mahri

Profile of Keith Radley 'Scott' Connor:

Keith Radley 'Scott' Connor is a well-known Kimberley sports personality and now Senior Citizen (2015). Keith Connor is married to Denise and they are blessed with 2 children, Nerina and Radley. The family home is situated in the closely knit suburb of Utility, which is centrally situated between William Pescod High School and the then Transvaal Road Primary School. An electrician by trade, 'Scott' was employed for many years at the Kimberley Municipality, enjoying the company of colleagues such as Alwie Aysen, Boy Alexander and Ronnie Engelbrecht, who in their own right were very accomplished sportsmen. His wife Denise was a most accomplished sportswoman, participating in hockey at provincial level and golf in her later years.

Where it all started:

Keith Connor was born with very good sporting genes. His Mom Juweyer Barnes was the sister of the great Barnes Brothers, Malie, Salie, Edrees and Pierie, who were very well known for the endless sporting talents which they were blessed with. The Barnes families moved to Johannesburg where Keith and his Mom lived during his early childhood. He started participating in sport at a very young age, but it was really at William Pescod High School where his prowess was uncovered. He was absolutely spoilt for choice, be it rugby, cricket, soccer, hockey or golf and squash (which he embraced later in his sporting career). His late Dad - also a fantastic all round sportsman, was always the prime motivating force behind shaping his sporting talent.

ACRFC & GWRFU:

Keith Connor was still at high school when he started playing for the 2nd league team of Arabian College. ACRFC had very good players and as a youngster he was able to step up to the 1st league team as utility back. 'Scott' was captain of the 2nd league team and vice-captain of the 1st team during his tenure with ACRF.

His favourite position was at FlyHalf, with the safest pair of hands you could find at the time. 'Scott' was what you could call the ideal stand-off, able to kick out of hand with both left and right boot, able to read the game and know exactly how to explore the weakness in the opposition, and also able to stop the biggest of attackers dead in their tracks with some very solid tackling. I recall as a youngster Boeta 'Scott' telling the story of how two of an opponent's teeth was stuck in the palm of his hand after a desperate tackle to stop and attacker from scoring a try.

'Scott' was a very dependable goal kicker, having scored many winning points for his beloved ACRFC during his playing days. He was a very versatile player and sometimes had to fill the center and fullback positions, being so cool and calm under the high ball. He seemed to have a lot of time when executing moves on the field.

Keith Connor was always a good team player, as he showed with supporting club functions with the 2015 ACRFC reunion. He represented GWRFU on many occasions and was a regular choice as flyhalf from the early to mid 70's.

At the ACRFC gatherings, it was always a pleasure listening to the stories of our living and forgotten heroes, and Boeta 'Scott' was one of them. I remember the recalling of his favourite rugby match in the early 70's against Assmang Mines, the toughest encounter as he recalls. ACRFC was trailing with minutes to go, his lifelong friend Boy Alexander scored a try, which 'Scott' converted to give ACRFC the win.

'Scott' loved to travel with his teammates, and he was part of the contingency on the historical ACRFC tour of Europe and West Germany. The trip had to be scheduled as an educational tour due to the apartheid restriction of non-white teams not allowed to travel abroad. He enjoyed dressing up in his ACRC kit and uniform, and proudly received winning trophies on behalf of his club mates.

Keith Connor was part of the Grand Slam winning ACRFC Teams which showed domination through the 70's and 80's.

As a cricket player, 'Scott' was identified by the talent scouts along with names like Yasien Snyders, Alwie Aysen, Devereaux Visser, Ronnie Engelbrecht, the late Keith Hartzenberg and Mervyn Wentworth, to name a few. This decision was not easy for Boeta Scott, when he had to make a decision to join a sporting association not affiliated to SACOS. The genes of his Mom's family (Barnes) flowed strongly through Keith, with his uncles Malie, Salie, Edrees and Pierie, and cousins Alwie and especially Tiefie all sharing a great flair for the game of cricket. Late Uncle Marlie believed that a batsman should limit the opportunities for bowlers to get you out, by trying not to hit the ball into the air. This strategy was passed onto the cousins and especially Keith and Tiefie were very disciplined and rarely lost their wickets through being caught in the field.

He was also a very good hockey player, and in his later years after retiring from competitive cricket, 'Scott' enjoyed more time on the golf course and on the squash court.

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Ms Juweyer Barnes - Scott Connor's Mom



2015 ACRFC REUNION - Denise and Keith 'Scott' Connor

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Kimberley Friday January 14 1985



PART of the Arabian College tour party which left B. J. Vorster for Johannesburg yesterday en route to London: Rashaad Jardine, Stafford Jacobs, Charles Hermannus, Yusuf Alexander, Veeoh Snyders, Keith Connor, Genodien Adams, Roy Alexander and (front) Alwie Alexander.

MYSTERY DEPARTURE OF SACOS CLUB

ACRFC PROFILES



PART of the Arabian College tour party which left B. J. Vorster for Johannesburg yesterday en route to London: Rashaad Jardine, Stafford Jacobs, Charles Hermanus, Ysef Alexander, Ycoob Snyders, Keith Connor, Genodien Adams, Boy Alexander and (front) Alwis Alexander. JAN 1983





Goerie Gordon, Scott Connor the cricketer, Desmond Barnes

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THE PRESENT ARABIAN COLLEGE FIRST TEAM



Back Row: A. Thomas, S. Mahri, G. Jardine, F. Norman, E. Mahri, P. Cader, T. Alexander.
Second Row: A. Alexander, D. Ross, A. Osman, K. Connor, F. Cader, S. King, T. Jossie, B. Alexander, M. Gool.
Seated: R. Jacobs, M. A. Alexander, C. Osman, H. Paulse, J. Samson.



Front Row 3rd from left, Scott Connor

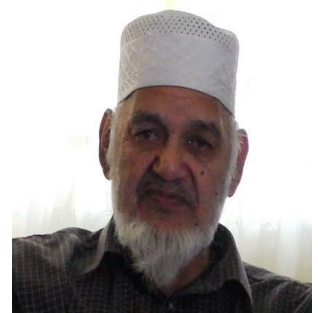
Profile of Rashart Alexander:

Well-known Kimberley sports personality and Muslin Senior Citizen Rashart Alexander is married to Sabera and blessed with five children viz. Shaheed, Shahiema, Faizel, Ishaam and Mariam. The family home is situated in Aster Rd right next to the AR Abass stadium.

Where it all started:

Boeta Rashart or 'Dada' as he is affectionately known, started playing rugby at a very young age and the interest began when he watched the seniors practice and fetched the balls that was kicked out of the field. The youngsters actually fought and ran to get the ball and kick it back. They were not attached to

any club and when he was old enough to play primary and high school rugby, he played for the love of the game. He started playing rugby in primary school when Mr Klaasen the Physical Education teacher recruited him to play for the school. Boeta Rashart was the only one who could not play under 40kg/50kg and he was called "Fatty". He had to play against the Perseverance student teachers.



ACRFC:

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That is when his second league rugby started because there were no weight restrictions. Later on, at the age of 15, he started playing in second and third team. There was only one team to play for in the areas or Malay Camp and that was Arabian College. Arabian College had very, very good players and as a youngster he could not participate in discussions and had to do what he was told. Discipline was the driving force in the club and they developed into a very strong rugby unit. Most of the second team players, including Boeta Rashart, were selected in the Griqua u19 team and later represented the senior provincial team. When he became captain of the second team, he recalls Boeta Doesie telling him that the first player you select is the eighthman because he sees everything on the field and can advise or instruct you what to do.

ACRFC's favoured no 8 was Archie Fredericks whose family played for Universals. The coach and senior players gave them useful advice and they were a proud group. He also recalls his first club meeting where they had to sit on the floor, legs folded and just listen and not talk.

ACRFC Administration:

ACRFC had very good administrators with the likes of the late Messrs AR Abass, Boeta Jaynie Aysen, Boeta Salie Adams to name a few. In his view, Mr Abbass was a very good administrator. He proudly recalls SARU had a meeting in Kimberley and all officials from different provinces were in attendance. Mr AR Abass was displeased with them because they were not dressed appropriately for that important meeting. He then took them to another room at the Kemo Hotel where Arabian College was having a meeting. He showed these SARU officials how the members of ACRFC were dressed in blazers, ties and silver grey trousers to a meeting. Rashart always remember Mr Abass saying to the SARU officials, "These are my boys, Look how smart they are dressed for a meeting with no noise and well attended." AR Abass (SARU President) also had talks with Danie Craven on many occasions and Mr Abbass convinced his white counterparts that there must be no segregation in rugby as it is a sport that belongs to all South Africans. Boeta Jaynie Aysen was the first treasurer that he saw that did not do books and when they said that money is short, he would put his hand in his pocket and paid in the money and said his books is always up to date. Boeta Jaynie never argued with anybody and was a very good man. Mr Amsterdam, an official was a very good player in his day and in his 70's/80's was still an official of Arabian College. Mr Pitt was an administrator for many years serving as secretary and chairman. What made the players very proud was that the administrators and officials respected them because they recognized the talent of Arabian College players, a team your family had the right to decide you must play for. His father, uncles, brothers, sons and nephews played for Arabian College and if you did not play for Arabian College it was like a funeral and the senior administrators and players would go to that house and convince the family that there was only one club to play for. Later Rashart also served on the ACRFC executive and assisted with coaching scrumming techniques.

Teammates:

Players who played with Boeta Rashart in the first team included Baby Richards, Windsor Pitt, Dulla Richards, Salie Aysen, Moosa Aysen, Noor Moosajee, Zoaks Bhyat, Bobby Erasmus, his brother Saan Alexander and he apologies if he forgot to mention other team mates. Deero Daya (hooker) was the first Indian to play for Griquas, Alwie Aysen (fullback) and Gasant Jardine (prop) represented South Africa, Boeta Salie Adams who still played rugby at an old age, best rugby brains and a gentleman to

have captained ACRFC. Doesie Adams in his mind was the best no 8 that South Africa could have produced during that time. Balie Richards was a brilliant centre who could side step and penetrate opposition defences and score tries.

His brothers Saan, Tasliem and Allie also played for ACRFC. Saan was a very good lock, Tasliem (front ranker) and Allie also played later on as a hooker. They all represented Griquas on many occasions. The reputation that ACRFC played dirty was a misconception. They used that to their advantage to motivate players by just playing the ball and winning games. There were times that when a team runs onto the field and they saw Saan, Gesant and himself, they refused to play and would rather pay in the fine at the meeting. There were fights on the field, but not off the field because everyone was friends. Rugby was hard and enjoyable and ACRFC attire was immaculate and when College ran on to the field you could see that it was a team that played their rugby together.

GWRFU career:

Boeta Rashart's provincial career started when he was selected as captain of the GW u19 team. As a 19 year old, he also made his debut for the senior GW rugby team as a prop. In those years you could not distinguish between loose-head or tight-head and according to him, he was a tight-head. They were very robust and they not only played for the love of the game, but to win the game. The majority of players who represented Griquas were from Arabian College. They were a big family who supported and helped each other, not only on the field but off the field as well. It was an honour and privilege to play for ACRFC. In those days the provincial fixtures were not like today where you play home and away.

In those days they had mass tournaments where you played every day for a week against quality opposition. It was a very intense week and he says that Griquas performed admirably against the bigger and powerful provinces such as Transvaal, Western Province, Eastern Province etc. These bigger provinces had respect for Griquas because when they met them at the station, they would ask if Gesant or Jaap or Piet was in the team. At the tournaments great friendships were made and it was very enjoyable.

This modest giant omits to mention how well he performed at the Rhodes Cup Tournaments playing against the best of SARU. Boeta Rashart was as strong as an Ox, and even at the tender age of 15 he had the ability to steady the scrum and left many a seasoned frontrower red-faced. His talents were noticed at national level and there were talks that he would be drafted into the SARU team, only to be denied by one of our own GW representatives who claimed that he was too young. At ACRFC he would always assist and advise the younger generation of players, and also share the technicalities of the scrumming technique which resulted in never giving an inch and allowing his hooker to strike the ball freely.

Retiring from playing rugby:

After his retirement from rugby, he was still involved in the ACRFC family. If you were not actively involved as a player anymore, you felt obliged to assist in cash or kind whenever an official of ACRFC asked for your patronage. ACRFC members never shied away to assist when ACRFC or the Union needed assistance with regard to accommodation for visiting teams. The Muslim visitors normally stayed at the Muslim members of Arabian College. Boeta Rashart also remembers Shaheed, without consulting with him or his wife, bringing visiting players home and telling his mother that they are

ACRFC PROFILES

staying at our home for three days. He always said that when he went on rugby, cricket or hockey tours, there were strangers who were willing to accommodate him.

After his playing days, there was a new breed of ACRFC players. They had a very good team with sound administrators. They watched these youngsters and followed their development and progress. The ACRFC 75th Anniversary was a very big event. A buffet supper was served at his house for all the players participating in the celebrations. The ACRFC Invitation team included Cheeky Watson who defied the apartheid regime by playing his rugby in the township in PE and the great SARU player Cassiem Jabaar, was the scrumhalf. The quality of rugby played in the game at ACRFC 75th Anniversary was of a very high standard that was not seen for a very long time. Now with the Super 15, our people played that type of rugby long before because if you were not fast enough you would die with the ball and get hurt. The ball had to move and like the old players always said, "Laat die bal praat, laat die bal praat". That game was "Fast and Furious" and a very entertaining game. My respect for all involved in organizing a very successful anniversary and who also did not forget to invite anybody. He also had a 21 seater bus and transported players to and fro. Curry feeds were also held at his home.

Their house was used by the Griqualand West Rugby Football Union for team talks prior to provincial rugby games. The GW rugby team met at their home on game day for a team talk and afterwards walked across the road. He heard on occasions how the late Messrs Abass, or Bunny Hermanus advised the players. The Union need not ask us for permission to use the house for team talks as they were always welcome. Boeta Rashart also assisted coaching rugby and also cricket at primary schools together with Tommy Jossie and Connie Jampies after my sport days. He also played cricket for Burma lads and Griquas.



Boeta Rashaad & Mrs S Alexander

Profile of Abubacker 'Baby' Richards:-



Abubacker 'Baby' Richards is a well-known Kimberley businessman, sports personality and Muslim Senior citizen. The Richards families are rooted into the history of Arabian College RFC and non-racial sport in general. He is married to Sadia, daughter of ACRFC icon the late Nasirien Alexander, and sister to the late Igsaan, the late Tasliem, Rashart and Dr Ali Alexander.

He was an all-round fantastic sportsman and excelled in tennis, rugby, swimming, rugby as well as body building, the latter of which won him various provincial and the Jnr Mr South Africa title. Richards family rugby players include - Baby, Doella, Ballie, Gani, Gesant & Ficky & Ashraf & Shaheen (sons), Jimmy, Riyaan.

Uncle 'Baby' Richards played scrumhalf for Arabian College where the Griqua selectors showed an early interest in his ability to read the game well. His interest in rugby started in Morris Street in Malay Camp and he was encouraged by the late Latief Barnes. When he joined ACRFC he was the youngest member of the team. Uncle 'Baby' served ACRFC as captain, vice captain, Secretary and Chairman over a period of time. Uncle 'Baby' was honoured as Honorary Life Vice-President by ACRFC in the late 1970's. He is a prominent Kimberley businessman, highly respected community member

and senior citizen of the Kimberley Muslim community. Uncle 'Baby'served ACRFC with distinction and followed in the footsteps of the great late Mr Dullah Abass. He was Chairman of the GW Referees Association for many years and put GWRFU on the map by serving as President of the SARU Referees Association for many years.

He was a very good athlete who spent time working on his fitness and physique, and he represented Griquas from 1953 to 1968. In the Griqua team he was noted for his controlled variation and tactical kicking as scrum-half. He served GWRFU as captain and vice captain for several games.

'Baby' was invited to the trials at national level but was unfortunate not to make the SARU team. He was part of the historical ACRFC touring group who travelled by train from Kimberley to Cape Town, and then from Cape Town to Durban by boat in the 1960's.

He left an indelible mark on the administration of Arabian College RFC, and GWRFU as Secretary, Referee, President and Chairman. He also served on the Executive of SA Referees Association and as President of the Unified GWRB. Uncle Baby Richards was also honoured by ACRFC as Life Vice-President. He conducted the ceremony of the official opening of the AR Abass Rugby Stadium in Kimberley.




Uncle Baby Richards - Standing - Far Right



Aunty Sadia and Uncle Baby Richards - ACRFC REUNION 2015





Message from the President of GWRU Mr AB Richards

AS President of the Griqualand West Rugby Union it gives me great pleasure to extend a message of goodwill to this centre — GRIQUALAND WEST — on the celebration of their centenary.

The contribution made by Griqualand West to non-racial rugby in South Africa is one that would be very difficult to emulate and to try and express it in words would only do an injustice to the materialism put in by Messrs Kester, Abass, Calvert, Barnes and various other persons.

May I also take this opportunity of thanking Mr ES Patel who has thought of this idea of paying Griqualand West the honour of celebrating the Centenary in Cape Town and thus showing the same unselfishness as his predecessors.

GWRFU Centenary Celebrations @ UWC Sports Grounds

1965 ARABIAN COLLEGE FIRST TEAM



Back Row: I. Alexander, D. Daya, A. Richards, B. Erasmus, N. Moosajee, A. R. Fredericks.
Second Row: S. Aysen, M. Aysen, Z. Bhayat, R. Alexander, W. Pitt.
Third Row: C. Amsterdam, A. B. Richards, A. R. Abass, S. Adams, V. Pitt, A. Adams, J. Aysen.
Front Row: A. Aysen, Starr.

ACRFC PROFILES



Front - 4th from Left: - Uncle Baby Richards - Historical Tour by Train, Road and Ship

ARABIAN COLLEGE RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB -- 1987



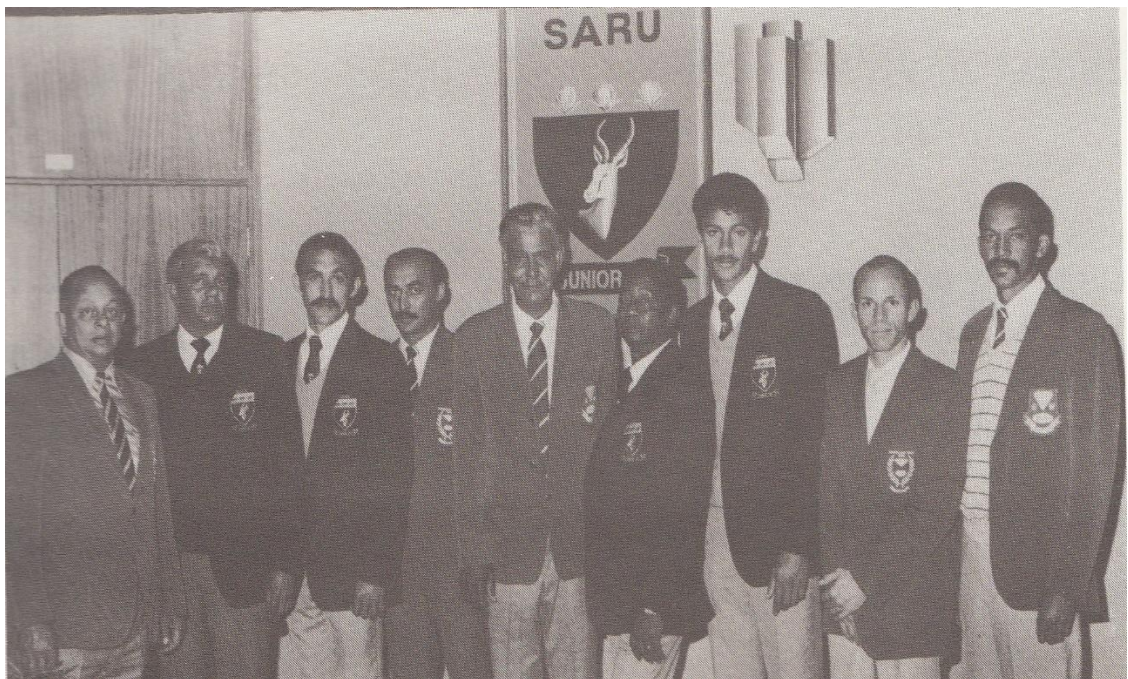
FIRST LEAGUE CHAMPIONS 1978-1987

*Winners of Wilfred Orr League;
Blacklaws Shield; Kim-by-Nite
Knockout Trophy; Triangular Trophy.*



KIMBERLEY PHOTO SERVICES TEL. (051) 21712

- Front Row: Y. ALEXANDER; A. ALEXANDER (Trustee); A. ALEXANDER; F. THOMAS (Treasurer); P. PAULSE.
 Second Row: G. MILLS; A. ALEXANDER; M.A. ALEXANDER (Chairman); S. ALEXANDER (Captain); A.B. RICHARDS (Vice-President);
 C. HERMANUS (Vice-Captain); F. AYSEN.
 Third Row: S. MAHRI; Y. GOOL; F. NORMAN; M. KENNY; J. ADAMS; F. ADAMS; T. WILKINSON.
 Fourth Row: F. MAHRI; E. OBARAY; W DU PLESSIS; R. JARDINE; F. HUNTER; Y. SNYDERS.



Uncle Baby Richards - Far Left - GWRFU 100 Years Celebration

ACRFC PROFILES



L-R 2nd Mr M Visagie, 3rd Mr Babay Richards



Uncle Baby Richards - Jnr Mr South Africa

Profile of Gesant Jardine:-



Gesant played front-ranker for Arabian College and Griqualand West. He was also selected to represent SARU Invitation and SARU National sides.

He was a rugged prop with expert scrumming skills, and did not know of taking a step backwards. If there was heat in the oven, Gesant was there to face it. He was also interested in body building and won many competitions for his superb physique. Well known educator and sports administrator Mr Solomon Hunter shares the stories of how Gesant used to jog to the training grounds, runs five laps of the field before training, and then run all the way home after training.

After his playing days he coached GWRFU and ACRFC. In the mid 1970's at the age of 52 he made a comeback as coach and player to ACRFC and gained selection in the ACRFC Invitation XV who played against a SARU Invitation XV.

Gesant was posthumously honoured with a Springbok Blazer in 2000.

Profile of Moosa Aysen:-

Boeta Moosa, son of the late Boeta Jaynie Aysen who was himself a great administrator and executive member of ACRF. His cousins include Boeta Alwee, Amien, Mokes, Noel and Salie Aysen and the great Boeta Mai Aysen was his uncle. He was an ACRFC stalwart and a regular selection in the GWRFU teams during his time.

His interest in rugby is a family thing, from grandfather, father, uncles and cousins who all played rugby. Boeta Moosa used to watch them play and enjoyed it so much that he could not imagine himself not playing rugby. He joined ACRFC in 1947 and today in 2015, Boeta Moosa and Boeta Billy Cader are the longest surviving members of ACRFC. He started off as fullback, then fly-half and later he moved to flank forward as his physique and solid frame developed. Boeta Moosa was always steadily built and had a 'big boot' with the ability to kick the rugby football very far. He smartly reflects how he kicked the ball at KAC grounds from Kimberley right into Cape Town station. You see, he says, 'the ball landed on the train which was on route to Cape Town'.

He passionately shares memories of how the business of ACRFC was part of his life growing in the Aysen home. His Dad was a long standing Executive member and coach of ACRFC and used to apply ingenious methods to raise funds for the club and community members. Boeta Moosa speaks of how his Dad was able to make a plan to pay the wages of a few aspirant cricketers who were

ACRFC PROFILES

hospitalized as a result of an accident while they were travelling from a cricket match outside of Kimberley. With Boeta Salie Adams his Dad used to quickly organize and sell raffle tickets to generate funds for ACRFC. In times of desperation, Boeta Jaynie even did the 'Farfie thing' all in aid of ACRFC fundraising. His Dad, Boeta Jaynie Aysen was the Events Manager and Treasurer of ACRFC, who was always busy planning events and raising funds for the club and the needy. Boeta Jaynie was instrumental in running the club and its activities.

His late Uncle Ishmael (Mi) Aysen was a brilliant forward and represented GWRFU every tournament in his prime. In 1947 they were joint holders of the Rhodes Cup. Uncle Mi captained ACRFC on many occasions. Cousin Eric was very fast, he played on the wing and also represented GWRFU. His late cousin Noel Aysen was a brilliant scrumhalf and represented GWRFU, he died suddenly which was also a great loss to rugby.

In his time Boeta Moosa, Uncle Ishmael, Noel, Eric and Alwie were of the Aysen clan who regularly represented GWRFU. Ebrahim Aysen, Boeta Mickie Aysen, Braim Aysen and all his uncles played for ACRFC. His proudest moment was when ACRFC played against Thistles and beat them, and they walked off the field. At the time there was only a few coloured teams, and Thistles went to join the Bantu Union. His most memorable moment was an ACRFC trip to Cape Town when they played against Roslins Rugby Club.

Boeta Moosa was inspired by the late Mr AR Abass and his Dad who were always there to encourage him.

As a retired player and administrator, he always supported the club at meetings, matches, functions and on tours.

Boeta Moosa participated with pride in the 2015 ACRFC Reunion, and sadly passed on in 2016.

Boeta Moosa & Mrs Aysen

; Mr & Mrs F Aysen



Ms Rozanna Aysen, Mrs Geyria Aysen,
& Friend



Mrs Tahzier & Mrs Nazlev

Profile of Dirkie 'Oubaas' Warley:-

Dirkie Warley started his rugby career at Young Collegians and by sheer determination he fought himself into the GWRFU side as 8th man.

After retiring as a player he assisted with coaching the GWRFU side and was also a provincial selector.

'Oubaas' was also a handy first aider and operated for many years as a 'one man St. Johns'.

Profile of Sharty Jardine:-

Rashard Jardine grew up in a family full of talent, with Dirkie 'Oubaas' Warley as his grandfather, Dennis 'Eier' Jacobs as his Dad,

Gesant and Boetie Jardine as his Uncles, Abdulla Jardine as his Grand -mothers Dad, and the Alexander and Hermanus Brothers as his cousins. He was a motor mechanic by profession therefore he had great body strength. He was really a man who could hold his own in the toughest of company. Sharty was as tough as teak and as robust a player as you will ever find. He could really take the heat and boy could he dish it out. Sharty played school rugby at William Pescod High and joined ACRFC while still at school.

Sharty could play as a loose forward but his physical strength cemented his place as lock forward for ACRFC and GWRFU which he captained on various occasions. As number two jumper Sharty developed a technique which robbed much taller opponents from line out possession on a regular basis. His robust play gave him the well earned reputation as a 'hit man' even at provincial level. Sharty was one of the guys who always used to put his body on the line for the smaller backline players in tackle, ruck and maul situations.

He was talented enough to hold his own on the tennis court, in the swimming pool, on the golf course and on the cricket pitch as a lefthanded batsman. He was a very talented motor racer and competed regularly with great success in his famed 'Le Mans' Mini Cooper. Sharty was one of the characters of ACRFC and always made an impact at club events and especially on tour. As with his ACRFC team mates, he loved to travel and always added a special dimension to many of the clubs trips. We were shocked and sad to hear of his untimely passing in 2014.

Profile of Amien Aysen:-

Boeta Amien Aysen joined ACRFC in the late 60's as the Brother of Moosa and nephew of Boeta Jaynie Aysen and cousin of Alwie Aysen. He married into the Alexander family in his union with Shariefafa, eldest daughter of Tima Alexander. Shariefafa assisted ACRFC with club events from baking, cooking, designing outfits, sashes and banners to designing crowns for beauty pageants.

Boeta Amien played on the wing and was a disciplined member of the club. As a colleague and mentor of Alwee Alexander in the printing business, Boeta Amien was responsible for much of the ACRFC printing of raffles, dance tickets, brochures, letterheads, envelopes and programs. Even after he retired from active rugby, he still supported club activities and even trained with the team.

Boeta Amien is a high standing member of the Kimberley Muslim Community and was instrumental in arranging a trip to Mecca and Medina for about 65 Senior Muslim Citizens of Kimberley in 2013. He served as Secretary and Treasurer of the club under the chairmanship of Mr Deeru Diya.

Profile of Saligh Aysen:-

Saligh is the eldest son of Boeta Amien and Shariffafa Aysen. He joined ACRFC in the early to mid 80's. As the eldest grandson of Tima Alexander, it was inevitable that Saligh would prosper on the rugby field with his seven Alexander uncles.

His preferred position was lock forward as an understudy of the late Sharty Jardine, who helped hone his skills as number two line out jumper. A mechanic by profession, just like his uncle Sharfy Alexander and second cousin Sharty Jardine, Saligh was quite strong and very effective in the tight-loose and mauls.

He was a no frills forward who played his rugby hard and with no fuss. Saligh loved to tackle and did so with much vigour. As a lock forward he was talented enough to drop-kick a ball accurately at any given time. Playing with his uncles, Saligh grew up as the youngest brother to the Alexander's. He served the club as second team vice captain for some time. He loved touring with the club and still enjoys a good game of rugby. Today as a retired player he is an avid All Blacks, Crusaders and Hurricanes supporter and his favourite player is Cory Jane.



Mr Amien & Mrs Sharief Aysen



Mrs Badia & Mr Saligh Aysen



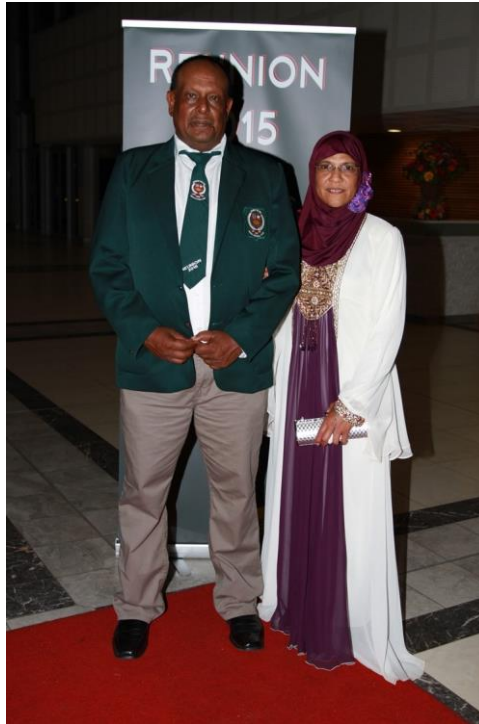
Mrs Yazneen & Mr Shahied AYSEN

Profile of Ebrahim 'Japie' Mobara:-

Ebrahim, more affectionately known as Japie, joined ACRFC in 1980 and also served as vice-captain of the second team in the mid 80's. He was a lanky lock forward and silently went about doing his business on the field and at practices. He is the son of well known Kimberley Muslim Citizens Mr & Mrs Soerie MOBARA fo the building industry fame.

Japie recalls how the late Sharfy Alexander gave him a badge and told him to get a green blazer so he could look decent. He remembers how ACRFC won all their games at the time and 'hoe dit in daai coloured koerant, die Rapport Ekstra geskryf was'

Japie's most memorable moments was the team spirit and the times when the late Ma Tima Alexander, Imaam Yusuf, the current Imaam Sadrodien and the other ACRFC fans were always there to support the team. He was always a down to earth type of guy and made a very effective lock forward partnership with Saligh Aysen, rough and tough as you like.



Mr & Mrs Japie Mobarra

Profile of Rashaad Adams:-

Rashaad, more affectionately known as Shorty, joined ACRFC just after leaving school. He is a well known and respected Kimberley businessman and a member of the Muslim Senior Citizens of Kimberley. He is involved in many efforts to raise funds for the community and serves as Chairman of the Pniel Road Masjied.



He is the eldest son of the late Boeta Salie and Aunty Ragma Adams and the grandson of the late Ouma Dita Adams who was a staunch ACRFC supporter. It is said that Ouma Dita was the renowned announcer of 'maak toe die hekke' after heated rugby games at the Union Grounds. He comes from a family with a very rich rugby history. His younger siblings Majiedt, Faried, and Raouff all played rugby at a provincial level. His Dad served as Secretary, Treasurer and Chairman and Captain and represented GWRFU.

Boeta Rashaad was an excellent scrumhalf and captain of ACRFC. He followed in his father's footsteps and became a stalwart for ACRFC, captaining and serving as Chairman of the ACRFC for many years. His proudest moments include being elected as Chairman of the club. He was the first choice scum-half for GWRFU from 1962 when he made his debut and represented his province with pride for many years including the SA Cup tournament. A proud moment was when his name was announced to represent GWRFU, and also when GWRFU beat Boland in the semi-final of the SA Cup in 1973. Boeta Rashaad Adams was also elected as Vice-Chairman of GWRFU during his time. He fondly speaks of the inter-provincial challenges and remarks that Western Province was the only provinces which GWRFU could not win.

The person who had the most influence on his rugby career was the late Boeta Doesie Adams. Today, as a retired senior citizen of the game in 2015, Boeta Rashaad Adams is still an ardent ACRFC supporter and enjoys sharing his wisdom and memories of the game and club with the younger generations.



Mrs & Mr Rashaad Adams

Profile of Salie Mahri:

Salie Mahri started his rugby career in 1967 at Floors High School (F.H.S.) and never played 2nd division rugby at school, he was always in the first team. While at high school he was selected to represent GWRFU in the B team.

Talent and Skills:

Salie played in the backline and was quite fast. He could play anywhere in the backs from flyhalf, in the centers and on the wings. He was always fearless in his approach to rugby and has no problem running into a tackle to ensure that the team keeps possession of the ball. Salie was rarely seen actually kicking the rugby ball and preferred to beat the opposition with ball in hand. Team mates will remember how they used to shout, "Salie pass die ball". He took many knocks for his team and

was dogged by injury at the most inopportune times. Salie Mahri also represented GW Mens Hockey for many years as a founder member of the revival of the sport in Kimberley.

Rugby at ACRFC:

In 1970 Salie joined AC with the likes of Gesant Jardine, 'Shorty' Adams, Pat Steyn, 'Boetie' Jardine, Rashaad Alexander, Tasliem Alexander, Scott Connor, Ronnie Engelbrecht, Ishie Mills to name but a few. The following year he was elected as captain of the ACRFC first team. Being Captain he had to motivate and drill the players to report for matches. Salie had to shuffle his family commitments around so that he could pick up the guys and make sure they have at least 15 players for the match on the Saturdays. In some cases he had to disrupt the players' social lives as many of them would be at the movies - here Drox Alexander was the culprit and Salie had to fetch him at the Lyric Cinema at the times when the first team needed to play. He even sponsored match fees for the Mahri twins because their father did not want them to play rugby. All his friends Frikkie Norman, Al Alexander, Attie Thomas and Joey Samson played for the 2nd team of ACRFC.

He even sponsored match fees for the Mahri twins because their father did not want them to play rugby. All his friends Frikkie Norman, Al Alexander, Attie Thomas and Joey Samson played for the 2nd team of ACRFC. The 2nd team played better rugby than the 1st team or rather they had better team spirit. The 1st team's lack of commitment drove Salie to be even more committed to make the team work as Rugby became his life. ACRFC survived and later most of the 2nd team's players were promoted to the 1st team which made it a team to be reckoned with.

Serving ACRFC:

His commitment to AC even included him being secretary, which is something he had very little knowledge of, his wife assisted him by writing my minutes and he does admit, 'they were done just before the meeting while he got dressed'. AC meetings were another "mickey mouse" game. There were General meetings and Executive meetings, but more members attended the executive meetings, 'you know "coloureds" like food' he says jokingly. The Executive meetings were held by player's homes where their wives/partners had to prepare the eats. Exactly why there were more members at the Executive Meetings, for the 'lekka kos'.

The Executive had organised a trip to Cape Town and Salie was one of the organisers. Some members could not afford it, so they collected money every end of the month, they sold curry and rice and had raffles just to make up the cost for the trip. They collected enough money and in the end they were the first and only coloured team to fly as a club to Cape Town. What an awesome achievement!

GWRFU representation:

Salie first played for the GWRFU in 1979 in the B-Team while still a learner at Floors High School. Since starting off at ACRFC he was a regular selection choice in the GWRFU team and played at center and on the wing. In 1971 he was selected to represent GW in the last SA cup tournament.

Salie the Pioneer:

In the late 70s Salie Mahri was instrumental in revival of men's hockey in Kimberley. This historical move came when ACRFC played hockey against Athenians ladies every Sunday to assist each other with fitness training. He was approached by Dr Marajh about the possibility of forming a mens hockey club having witnessed the hive of activity between Athenians and ACRFC every Sunday.

Hellenic Mens Hockey Club came into being and the rest is history. The first GW Mens hockey team consisted of about 8 AC rugby members.

Salie the 'Joster':

In the early 80s Salie and his family moved to JHB and he played rugby for Jaguars in the Transvaal Rugby Football Union, where he played until he retired.

Proudest moment:

In 1978 he was elected to represent AC invitational team to play against a star studded SARU invitational but withdrew due to shoulder injuries. The game was organised at AC 75th Anniversary.

He commends members who gave their all for AC and proudly mentions Alwee, Boy, Attie and Frikkie to name a few. Salie himself was a stalwart of ACRFC and those who were involved with the club fondly acknowledge his 'one man' efforts in a time when the ship could so easily have sunk.

"The ACRFC had its fair share of 'ups and downs' but we survived. In the end, unification in rugby resulted in breaking up Arabian College (AC) at the cost of merging with a white club".

ACRFC owes a lot to this man who refused to give up the battle when the club was at an all-time low. It is through his dedication that he kept the club going to enable the new generations to enjoy the magic of 'the Red - the White and - the Green'.

Profile of Roland Robert Hermanus

Roland Robert Hermanus is the son of the late rugby great Uncle 'Buns' Hermanus and grandson of rugby icon the late Janathal Hermanus. His late Mom is Koelsum Hermanus, who is the daughter of ACRFC founder member and one of the all-time greats of GWRFU and the South African Coloured Rugby Board, the late Abdulla Jardine. The sports blood flows deep in the veins of Roland and his family, so deep that it almost seems like an unfair advantage. His Mom was a fantastic athlete and excelled especially at hockey, being a GW stalwart for many years. His Dad was an ACRFC, GWRFU and SARU representative and the best of administrators.



Talents and skills:

Born from a family rich in sporting history, Roland was an excellent swimmer and represented GW Swimming at provincial galas. He was also a very good cricketer with the ability to bowl a mean ball using his height to generate extra bounce, and also represented his province in this sporting discipline from 1977 to 1987. As an avid cricketer Roland believed in bowling a stringent line and length that earned him a place in the history of GW Cricket Union where he played with legends like

Gama Jinnah, Dennis Jacobs, Abe Williams, Yasien Snyders, Ahmed Jinnah, Tommy Gertze to name but a few.

Roland was part of the historic group of ACRFC players who were the main catalysts for the revival of GW Mens hockey, and he was selected in the first ever GW Mens hockey team after its revival. He played for Diamond Spurs and was selected for the GW

Mens hockey side on a number of occasions. The problem for excellent all-round sportsmen and women is that they have to make choices, and in Roland's case the winner was always going to be the game of rugby.

At school he excelled as an athlete and was selected in the GW Schools Athletics teams for javelin, triple-jump, high-jump and sometime he did the 800 meters when he was in the mood. He had great strength and stamina and was good at middle distance running as well.

Where Roland started playing rugby:

More affectionately known as 'Rola' or 'Cappie' (short for captain, Roland always led his teams by example and showers his team mates with inspiration to give their all. Roland started playing rugby at Transvaal Road Primary School and was coached by the late Mr Herby Rose and Mr Des Summers and he displayed his early talents which he honed with his brother Charles and his cousins on the front lawn of his late Aunty Tima Alexander. As a captain, this is where it all started.

When he moved to Floors High School, Roland was already known as a player with above average talent and a mind who could read the game and rally his troupes. He became captain of the senior Floors High team and throughout his high schooling, the captain of the GW Senior Schools rugby teams. He was noticed by the selectors at the South African Senior Schools Sports Association tournaments, and although he was already told by the convener of selectors that he was in the national side, he had to withdraw as a result of a damning knee injury in the final game. Roland also took to refereeing and provided his services to GWRFU for many years, in a time when it was difficult to referee while being an active rugby player.

Roland at senior rugby level:

Roland stands about 1,92 meters tall and never carried big bulk, but he was always heavy-boned. He joined ACRFC while still at Floor High School in the mid 1970's and captained the second and first teams for many years. At the time when GWRFU was still in the big leagues, Roland's captaincy and style of play earned him the respect of players from Western Province, Tygerberg, Cities and Eastern Province. These include SARU greats Clive Thomas, Peter Jooste, Riyaad Najar, Aslam Toufie, Allistair Coetzee, Desmond Booyesen, Desmond Kramer and Charles Kleinbooi. Roland was selected for the SARU Invitation team to play at the SACOS Games in 1981, . but unfortunately the team selections had to accommodate local player from the Western and Eastern Cape to curtail costs. He served ACRFC with distinction as captain for many years, and is hailed as one of the best captains by many of his team mates.

"Fondest Memory":

His fondest memory was playing his first game against Unies and securing good lineout ball at number 2 with his second team coach and hooker 'Boy' Alexander whom he saw as being instrumental with the late Gesant Jardine and Tasliem Alexander on his flanks.

"Proudest Moments":

- Receiving his 1st Griqua Cap from his Father the late Uncle Buns Hermanus.
- Being honoured by Arabian College RFC with a commemorative neck tie.
- Playing rugby with younger brother 'Charlie Hermanus' who was the youngest ever GWRFU player at the tender age of 16.
- His nomination as GWRFU Sportsman of the year to represent rugby for the ACRFC Sportsman of the Year awards.
- Honoured at ACRFC 2015 Reunion as the 'Best Captain' ever.

"Most Fulfilling Moments:

- Playing provincial rugby with his life-long friend Ganief 'Beatle' Mills and his hero Eric 'Buks' Damons.
- Scoring a try in a game against Eastern Province at the Union Grounds against a star studded EP side which won the '81 SA Cup.
- Winning a game against WP Board in Gugulethu.

"Disappointments":

Not being recognised by the present GWRU as a player and captain of the so called previously disadvantaged GWRFU.

Not attaining his SARU colours, but also proud that he was ousted by SARU greats like Clive Thomas and Charles Kleinbooi whom he greatly respected as players. He proudly reflects how much he had enjoyed his journey in trying to achieve this goal.

Roland's long time friend and team mate Eugene Jacobs once told a story of how the GW Cricket team played a junior league tournament in Kwazulu Natal, how the youngsters found the going tough, and how this gentle giant named 'Roland Hermanus' came up to them and inspired them to such great heights. One cannot deny the presence of greatness, of a man who always led by example, who walked the talk, who earned the respect of those who had the privilege to walk with him.

"Saddest Moment":

ACRFC merging with Hoffe Park, losing our identity as a great community based club with a strong Muslim background, losing over 90 years of history dating back to 1903. It is only natural to wonder what the multi-talented sportsmen would have achieved in all codes of sport were it not for the 'Apartheid Laws' who deprived so many great athletes. Roland also pays tribute to the dearly departed souls of so many great sportsmen and women whom he was able to rub shoulders with.

Roland's Inspiration:

"O POWERS MAKE ME TO OBSERVE
AND KEEP THE RULES OF THE GAME;

HELP ME NEITHER TO OFFER
NOR TO WELCOME CHEAP PRAISE;

GIVE ME ALWAYS TO BE A GOOD COMRADE;

HELP ME TO
WIN, IF I MAY;

BUT....AND THIS, O POWERS, ESPECIALLY....
IF I MAY NOT WIN;

MAKE ME A GOOD LOSER"
(RANJITH SINGH)

"THESE WORDS WERE INSTILLED IN ME BY MY MENTOR
AND CONFIDANT ALWEE ALEXANDER"



Mr Roland, Mrs Mercia & Mr Charles Hermanus



Mr Charl & Ms Nadia Hermanus



Mrs Amanda & Mr Charles Hermanus

Profile of Charles Hermanus

Charles Hermanus is the grandson of the late great Janathal Hermanus and the youngest son of the late Arthur Robert 'Buns' Hermanus. Like his elder brother Roland, Charles has been blessed with a multitude of sporting talent. He is a soft spoken gentle person who seems oblivious of the amazing talents and achievements which his 'blood stream' has produced. Charles is more affectionately known as 'Birdie' by his ACRFC team mates, a nickname bestowed upon him by his late Aunty Tima Alexander due to his ability to swoop across the field to safely catch the ball.



Talent and Skills:

Charles literally possessed a 'wheel barrow' full of talent. Any type of sport or game which came on the market would have Charles as the best performer. Back in the day growing up in Utility with brother Roland and his cousins, he was a champion at Yoyo, Dingbat, kenetjie, cricket, swimming or just running for the fun of it. Charles excelled at rugby, swimming, cricket, athletics, karate, hockey and soccer. He gained provincial colours in every sports discipline which he competed. He also represented GW Schools at cricket and was selected with Khaya Majola in the SASSA Cricket team.

Introduction

During his childhood years Charles stayed in Utility just off the main road (Transvaal Road) and school was three minutes' walk away. Utility was one of the so called elite Coloured areas build in a circle with a big opening in the middle and this was the place where the youth came together to play after school and during the school holidays. They used to play all the games you could think of and to name just a few, block, kenietjie, marbles, top and of course rugby. At this early stage every game they played was seen as a competition and everybody wanted to win or be part of the winning team or side and this is where his passion for winning started.

Utility back then could also be known as the heart of Arabian College Rugby Football Club where the majority of the Arabian College families lived namely: **the Alexander, Asyen, Samson, Thomas, Mahri, Connor, Engelbrecht, Mills, Snyders, Jacobs, King and Hermanus Families.**

Elementary School Years

Transvaal Road Primary School

School Coaches :Mr. Rose, Mr. Summers

Teams played for: Transvaal road Primary School under 35, 45,

55,60Kg. And the South African Primary School Association

Wednesdays @ Union grounds. Saturdays (Curtin Raiser for league matches)

School Jersey Colours: Green & Gold

Back then teams where selected according to your weight and Charles being skinny and light outplayed the players in the under 35 kg team and it later became the norm that he had to play three games the same day as long as you are not overweight being under 35.45 and 55kg's and his elder brother Roland Hermanus played for the under 60kg's. Later when he was in Standard 4 he played for the

under 55's and 65's , in that same year he was selected for the (S.A.P.S.A) South African Primary School Association where he played against an under 65kg Invitation Team in Uitenhage Eastern Cape at the end of the tournament.

High School Years

Floors High School

School coaches: Mr. Visagie, Mr. Strause Mr. Lewis

Teams played for: Floors High School UNDER 60,65,75& 85Kg. And the South African Senior Secondary School Association.

Thursdays @ Union grounds.

Saturdays (Curtin Raiser for league matches)

Blue & Peacock White

From a Rugby perspective being a regular in all team selections, he again had to play two games on a Thursday afternoon. In 1976 he was selected to play for the G.W. Senior School Team in Worcester (High School Tournament) and he recalls the day the National Selectors noticed his talents and ability of scoring points that they arranged a special meeting with him to inform him that he was voted to be in the SASSA team but unfortunately my weight was against me. Fortunately he had the opportunity and second chance in 1978 the same year of ACRFC's 75th Anniversary to play in the SASSA tournament in Mosselbay. He was then the only Griqua player that was selected for the SASSA team and it was in this tournament that he became friends with **Gerald Majola** who was also selected in the SASSA Team.

Club League Years

Arabian College Rugby Football Club Second Team

In 1974 he joined the Arabian College Rugby Football Club and he immediately fell in love with the ACRFC jersey's being white with a red and green strip across the chest and was so impressed with the club for the simple reason that they were strict with their dress code, track suits as casual, silver grey pants tie and blazers for Dances, before a match and during meetings. While playing for the second team he recalls that the majority of the spectators moved over to the B grounds just to enjoy the type of rugby they played. Here they were groomed to be tough because some patches on the field had thorns and if you were tackled out of the touch line you would land into thorn bushes. After a few matches he was selected for the first team and that did not mean that it is the end of second team rugby, he still had to play two matches in one day first for the second team and later for the first team.

Arabian College Rugby Club First Team

First team rugby was tougher, faster and most players looked like giants against him at that time, therefore he had to use his skills and tactics strategically to outplay his opponents. Luckily he had coaches like Alwie Alexander who taught him the fundamentals of basic rugby and fitness, when you score a try using the special move they practiced during the week he would smile and give the thumbs up. Boeta Alwie Aysen who taught Charles that striking a rugby ball from different angles and points, will perform exactly the way you want it to. He even joined a Karate Club to better his performance on the rugby field by conditioning his body and to be disciplined.

He also spent hours practising kicking to the poles not only to score points but to use it as an advantage to be selected every week. Using his talents and passion to win there was times that he scored all the points in a match.

Provincial League

Griqualand West Rugby Union

In 1976 while practicing at ACRFC a few members of the Griqualand West selectors came to the ACRFC practice ground to inform him that he had been selected to represent the Griqualand West Team against Transvaal. The ACRFC Coach Alwie Alexander was in shock and told them not to joke because Charles was only 15 turning 16 in July that year. Playing for the GWRU was a privilege and a great achievement and Charles had the chance to play against great names such as Cassiem Jabaar of Western Province near to his retirement, Peter Jooste from Tygerburg, Alistair Coetzee, Desmond Booyesen and Charles Kleinbooie from Eastern Province, Cheeky Watson, Peter Makata, Temba Ludwaba and the Majola's from KWARU.

Sports Profile of Brian Van Rooyen:-

Brian Van Rooyen is a son of Kimberley born parents the late Ikey and Aunt Rose Van Rooyen. He grew up to reach the heights most people in his community could only dream of. He was always a determined young man and those who knew him then would not be surprised at the success which he has achieved in sport and life in general.



Brian Van Rooyen or 'Bones' as he is affectionately known to those closest to him, discovered and became interested in the sport of rugby through his frequent interaction with his other mother, the late Tima Alexander and her rugby crazy sons. His first taste of sports administration came at Homevale Senior Secondary School when he was nominated with Azies Alexander to attend GW rugby Union Meetings, and Gordon Brookstein having to attend GW Referees meetings. Brian stands over six foot tall and was an ideal candidate as lock-forward for Homevale under the captaincy of Yusef Alexander. With his lanky solid build, he soon became a regular feature in the GW Senior Schools and GW Colts rugby teams. After completing his matric year, Brian moved to Johannesburg, became involved in Transvaal Rugby, and the rest is history.

Former President Tata Nelson Mandela, Brian Van Rooyen at Ellis Park

Mr Van Rooyen a former Provincial Rugby Player was instrumental in the unification of the Gauteng Rugby bodies and was involved in the national unification process. He was a provincial referee and held various positions in Rugby structures including that of President of The South African Rugby Union, Deputy President of the Golden Lions Rugby Union. He also campaigned vigorously for the transformation of rugby especially amongst the black communities. He served as both a council and executive member of the International Rugby Board as well as the Confederation of African Rugby. He was a director of SANZAR based in Australia as well as a director on the IRB Limited in Dublin he is still actively involved in the development of the game at grassroots level and has recently be involved in the investigation of racism and gangsterism in the sport.

Sports & Cultural Appointments:

President - South African Rugby Union
Deputy/Acting President Golden Lions Rugby Union
President- Transvaal Rugby Union(SARU)
Executive International Rugby Board Director IRB (Pty)(Ltd)
Chairman SANZAR Tri Nations
Chairman Eldoradopark Sports Trust
Chairman South African Rugby Bid Committee
Chairman Eastern Province Rugby(Pty) (Ltd)
Chairman Arthur Matthews Primary School Governing Body

Community involvement and awards:

Mr Van Rooyen is the CEO of LABAT Holdings and has retained his strong cultural links and is actively involved with the culture group Bruin Belange Inisiatief BBI under the leadership of Professor Danny Titus. It is important that these groups are supported and sustained in order to assist with the development of the respective communities.

Mr Van Rooyen has recently been a speaker at various Provincial launches on the topic of local economic development. Coupled with that Mr Van Rooyen serve as a member of Study Trust Bursary Fund. A member of the Investment Committee of the Synod of the United Congregational Church of Southern Africa(UCCSA). He has received numerous awards for his support to sport and culture in South African among the Sol Plaatjie award, Counterpoint Award, the Advice Bureau for Teachers Award, Confederation of African Rugby (CAR) sports award.

At the 2015 ACRF Reunion, in honour of his achievements, Brain Van Rooyen was invited to present the Key Note Address.



Mr Brian Van Rooyen



Red Carpet - extreme Right - Mr Brian Van Rooyen

Arabian College Rugby Football Club



REUNION GALA DINNER PROGRAMME - 26 September 2015 @ MSCC

19h00	Opening by Mr Don Paulse	<i>PROGRAMME DIRECTOR</i>
	Mr Thomas Jossie	<i>PRAYER, BLESSING</i>
	Imaam S Motlekar	<i>PRAYER, BLESSING</i>
	Mr Faisal Aysen	<i>OFFICAL WELCOME</i>
	Mr H Paulse	<i>O' Powers</i>
	Mr Brian Van Rooyen	<i>KEY NOTE ADDRESS</i>
	Mr Eugene Jacobs	<i>AWARDS CEREMONY</i>
	Azies Alexander	<i>VOTE OF THANKS...</i>
	Mr Don Paulse - Set The Tone	<i>- CANDLE CEREMONY</i>
	Mr Don Paulse	<i>TOAST</i>
	Mr T Jossie	<i>MEAL AND SERVING PLAN</i>

ENTERTAINMENT

DINNER IS SERVED - BUFFET

Main Meal

Desert

DANCE FLOOR IS OPEN

**Click the link below to view the ACRFC 2015 Reunion
flighted on SuperSport**



ARABIAN COLLAGE FRC_x264.mp4

High School Rugby:-

Brian started at William Pescod High School and finished off at Homevale Senior Secondary School and represented the schools side with such distinction that he was chosen for the GW Colts Team in the lock position whilst playing in the GWRFU second league, which Homevale won. Proudly the Homevale Senior Secondary School second league team was one of only a few teams to beat the ACRFC in the GWRFU 2nd League of 1979 under Yusie's captaincy, managed by Mr Allie Alexander, coached by the great Mr Alwie Aysen, the late Mr Keith Hartzenberg and Mr Tommy Jones (fitness) and Mr Tommy Jossie.

The HSSS 'All Blacks' team included Yusef Alexander (Captain No.8), Ebrahim Obaray (Prop), Faez Patel (Hooker), Raymond Kok (Prop), Avril Snyders (Flank), Alistair Noah (Flank), Gavin Jacobs (Lock), Brian 'Bones' Van Rooyen (Lock), Gerrit Zaal (lock), Azies Alexander (Flank), Mark King (Scrumhalf), Gerrit Van Schalkwyk (Flyhalf), Richard Sauls (Center), Gordon Brookstein (Center), the late Enver Swanepoel (Wing), Ashraf Richards (Wing), the late Gareth Petersen (Wing) and Ambrose Stevens (Fullback).

A favourite moment from HSSS 'All Blacks' was in a schools game on the A-field at the Union Grounds where we played against Floors High School, when the late Enver Swanepoel was tearing down the right side touch line with only a lanky lock-forward Earl Damons in his path towards the try-line. Enver did the Maori side-step, dropped his right shoulder and smashed into the opposition defender on the 22 yard line, leaving the huge lock-forward flying over the touch line and Enver scoring the winning try, beautifully converted by Richard Sauls. It is a pity though that some very talented rugby players with great potential stopped playing rugby after high school.



HSSS Vs William Pescod:- Enver Swanepoel and Yusef Alexander
in defence



Easter Tournament in Kimberley:- Brain Van Rooyen
(Black & White striped)



Brian Van Rooyen: - front row center

Profile of Igsaan Alexander:

Igsaan 'Saan' Alexander was the son of the late Nasirodien Alexander, himself a very well known ACRFC official and member. He is also the brother of the late Tasliem, Rashaad and the youngest Allie Alexander.

Saan was a rough and tough guy and would randomly challenge an opponent to take the ball', which some guys chose not to take. He was a guy for the 'coldron' and would not take a step backward if his team was in trouble. With his height he was able to slot into the lock forward or loose trio positions.

He was also a very successful businessman and generously assisted ACRFC with donations and during fund raisers. ACRFC members used to go for a swim at his home in West End after jogging 10km in the summer heat on Sunday mornings. Quite a few functions were hosted at his family home and most cases he would donate 'the pot'. With the ACRFC Sportsman of the year event he also donated the "Nasirien Alexander' floating trophy for one of the runners up positions. Saan was married to the late Fagma who also contributed greatly to ACRFC events. He was always a smart guy and enjoyed dressing up in his ACRFC uniform.

After he retired he continued to support the club and was also a popular member on the various tours which ACRFC undertook. He had a generous heart and would not hesitate to sponsor rugby boots or clothing for a struggling team member. His eldest son Nadeem played hooker for ACRFC and also represented GWRFU in this position just like his uncle Allie Alexander.

Profile of the late Tasliem 'Tas' Alexander:

Tasliem was younger than Saan but older than Allie. He was very well built and as strong as a bull. Tas played in the front ranker position and partnered Boy Alexander and Gesant Jardine in the front row. He had the guts to defy the opposition and displayed great strength at scrum time.

Tas was a regular choice in the ACRFC team and his skills and great scrumming ability earned him his rightful place in the GWRFU team. He played many games and tournaments for GWRFU and always ensured good ball for his team and made bad ball for the opposition. Teammates speak proudly of how skilled and tough this rugged man was, and what a pleasure it was to travel with him.

Like his elder brother Saan, he too was a kind heart and a successful businessman, shop owner and taxi owner. With his wife Shamilla they too made great contributions to ACRFC events.

His eldest son Riyaad was also a member of ACRFC and a very good allround sportsman, ably participating at cricket and rugby. He is a teacher by profession, played for Perseverance Teachers College and Inter-College and also coached learners at this level. He represented his province at primary

school, high school, junior and at senior levels. Riyaad could play anywhere in the backline but his favoured position was fullback, where he also represented GWRFU. After he retired from rugby, Riyaad also played indoor cricket.

Profile of Dr Allie Alexander:

Allie is the youngest of Boeta Nasirien Alexander's sons. He is an educator by profession and holds a Doctrate in Education. Allie was a hooker who changed the dynamics of the play in his position. He could strike the ball on both sides of the scrum, was very mobile and operated as a forth loose forward. He was part of the Junior GWRFU which was selected to play in a tournament in Cape Town in 1970.

Allie moved to Cape Town for a few years while he pursued his career as an educator. On his return to Kimberley he was selected as hooker for GWRFU for a few seasons. He was part of the ACRFC Grand Slam winning team in the 70's and 80's and served the club as Secretary and Union delegate.



Mr Nadeem & Mrs Nadia Gool ; Mrs Nadia & Mr Junaid Alexander

22 Profile of Ganief Mills:-

Ganief comes from a family of richly talented sports people. The Mills, Snyders and Mahri families are directly related so the sport flows in their blood. He is the son of the late Mack Mills who was himself a very good rugby player.

Ganief is from the William Pescod stock and comes from the hand of the great Mr Robbie Burgess, who was a well known icon in Kimberley sport. Ganief had dynamic off the mark speed and was built close to the ground. He could play at center but his preferred position was always at scrum half. With his sturdy physique and gutsy attitude Ganief was able to prosper around the set pieces and was always willing to carry the ball with his loose trio and tight forwards. He could read the game and opposition and he could really marshal his troupes to release the ball to the backs at just the right time.

Ganief was a ferocious tackler, just like his cousins Yasien, Salie and Koubie Snyders. He had the ability to get below the ball and impale the rib cage of many a player much bigger than himself. His temperament made him fight tooth and nail to stop his opponents and very rarely would he be beaten

by an attacker. He had a strong pass and could kick a very good up-and-under. Ganief served as captain and vice -captain at ACRFC and his combination with Roland Hermanus at 8th man proved to be most successful for many years.

He represented GW at School, Colts and Senior levels. Ganief was a definite choice for GWRFU for many years and on occasion was vice captain of the team.

Ganief was always a staunch ACRFC member and through his Mom Aunty Mona Mills and his family unit provided great support to all club activities. Like all other ACRFC members, Ganief also loved to travel and rarely missed out on any GWRFU and ACRFC trips.

One of his proudest moments came when he was selected as scrum half for the ACRFC Invitation team to play a SARU Invitation Team at the 75th Anniversary celebrations of the club. Ganief was opposed by Cassiem Jabaar from Western Province who was the unheralded king of scrumhalves at the time. As a youngster Ganief took this challenge as an opportunity and truly justified his selection with a sparkling display which made Jabaar look quite ordinary.

During our rugby trips it just so happened that the late Alwee and Ganief was placed in a room together every time. So says Ganief, "He was a role model to me and taught me many things I still remember today. During my rugby career when I was demoralized, he was always there to boost my morale and motivate me to carry on".



Mr & Mrs G Mills @ ACRFC REUNION - 2015

The Snyders Family:

Profile of Charles 'Meester' Snyders:-

Charles 'Meester' Snyders was an educator by profession and retired as a school principle. 'Meester' played at center for ACRFC and he also had a short stint at Young Collegians.



There are many who believe that he would have been the best centers ever in the country were it not for a lack of quality opposition where he true qualities could be displayed. He was the reliable and dependable center of the GWRFU team and often the saviour of the team with his complete defence.

It was also said that he could dive straight over an opponent if close enough to score a try. 'Meester' Snyders was most unfortunate not to have gained selection to the SARU XV, as he definitely had the measure of most of the inter-provincial centers. His sons Yaseen, Salie and Koubie were all stalwarts of ACRFC and GWRFU.

Profile of Yasien Snyders:-

Yasien was an all-round sporting great with so much talent that it seemed unfair for one person to be so blessed. The eldest son of Charles 'Meester' Snyders, Yasien was a superb athlete and excelled at soccer, cricket and rugby and represented the GW province in all of these codes. He most certainly would have been top class no matter what sports discipline he chose.



At an early age Yasien was selected for the senior teams at rugby, soccer and cricket. Like his Father the late Charles 'Meester' Snyders, Yasien was a brilliant center. He had great off the mark speed and had a jink which would baffle most opposing players. What made his perceptive was the way that he carried the ball and the dangerous handoff with which he unbalanced would be tacklers. Above all of this, Yasien was also a ferocious tackler with the ability to tackle his opponents back or tackle very low to cut the bigger men down to size.

He was a regular selection in the GWRFU team and presented Kimberley crowds with his breathtaking skills. His talents as a cricketer were identified by scouts and he had to decide between cricket or rugby. Unfortunately rugby was the loser and the cricket community enjoyed his world class exploits for many years.

Profile of Salie Snyders:-

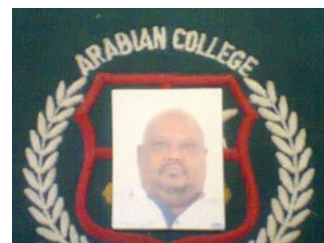
Salie is the second eldest of the Snyders Brothers, after Yasien and ahead of Koubie. His skill set was no different to his Dad and Yasien. Salie had an eye for a gap and was fearless on the defence. His tackling skills were synonomous to the 'stiek hom' code of the 'Bees', as he had the ability to launch himself horizontally into the ribcage of his opponents.



He was equally talented at soccer, cricket or rugby. Salie played at center for Floors High School and ACRFC and represented GW Schools and GWRFU Colts on a regular basis. Salie retired at a very young age while still in the prime of his life.

Profile of Koubie Snyders:-

The youngest of the Snyders Brothers, Koubie was no different, inheriting all of the skills which made his Dad such a great player. Koubie played schools rugby for Floors High and filled the center position as did his Father and Brothers Yasien and Salie and also represented GW High Schools rugby.



After finishing high school in the late 70's, Koubie joined ACRFC playing at center and later moving to prop forward due to his physical size and strength. He was a regular choice for the second team as vice captain and was soon promoted to the first team. He adapted well to the front row discipline and had the ability to assist the hooker to strike for the ball come scrum time. Koubie was a good ball carrier and lost none of his skills which he honed as a center. Alwee used to say that Koubie is the only prop forward who can 'swaai his gat' as he passes the ball.

On the defensive side he was as ferocious a tackler as any of his Brothers and his Father. In the early to mid 80's Koubie was a regular selection choice in the GWRFU Colts and Senior Teams and held this position for a number of years. He was always very mobile for his size and build and used to run the 10km distance in under 50 minutes every Sunday morning.

Koubie served as Assistant Trustee to Boy Alexander for a number of years, selflessly offering his own time to ensure that the ACRFC kit and first aid supplies were in order and available for practices and games.

The proudest day of his rugby career was when the club undertook a tour to England watching, at that time a five nation game of England against France at Twickenham.

Koubie was 17 years old when Boeta Doessie phoned him to tell him that he was picked for the GWRFU 15 to play Natal in Durban. Achievements in his Rugby life was playing every week for ACRFC, Represent GWRFU, Be part of a champion rugby side for years, went on tour every year flying to our destinations and stay in 5 star hotels.

His contribution to the club was to be loyal and prepared to do anything what was expected of him as a player and executive member. There were so many good games he played in but his best game was when ACRFC played the final against Thistles for the Black law shield. College went to the grounds with their complete ACRFC uniform and thrashed them with the ball playing French and All Black rugby combined. 'Oh, what a Match' he says.

People who were an influence in his rugby years was definitely the Alexander brothers where he grew up. His hero was Alwee for his knowledge of the game and also for the management of the club

along with his executive members. Alwee and Boeta Doessie Adams were the best coaches under which he played his rugby.



Mrs, Mr Yakhoub & Ms Mishka Snyders



Mr Yassiem Snyders & Partners

Profile of James Johannes "Hansie" Oliphant:-

Hansie Oliphant came to live in Kimberley in 1968 after leaving his native Richmond in few years earlier. This rugby-crazy young man did however not know anybody in rugby also he also did not exactly go out of his way looking for anyone either.



One of his younger brothers Willie, moved to Kimberley with Hansie and it was completely coincidental that Willie discovered rugby posts from afar. Upon closer inspection he learnt that this was the Union Grounds, today known as the AR Abass Stadium, which was the fortress of non-white rugby. Willie told those whom he met there that his brother was an excellent rugby player and also later told Hansie about his discovery. This led to the meeting of Alwie Aysen, Zane Masoet, Boy Alexander also outstanding players in their own right who all played for Arabian College RFC.

After attending a team meeting at the Kemo Hotel, Hansie and Willie became members of Arabian College. These two brothers were later joined by baby brother Carel who was also a good rugby player. During this period ACRFC had not won a cup for about nine years with their last cup glory in 1958. This led to the forming of a formidable center pairing of Hansie and his baby brother Careltjie which greatly contributed to ACRFC making a clean sweep by winning every cup and trophy in 1968.

ACRFC was now well and truly home for these three Karoo boys and the bond established then still exists to this day. Hansie was of short and stocky build, quick off the mark, had an eye for a gap and could anticipate when to pass the ball. He was particularly deceptive especially when he carried the ball in both hands. In terms of defensive skill he could tackle above his weight and could force opponents to an inside line which enabled the loose forward cover defense to stop them in their tracks.

Being 73 years old today in 2015, Hansie fondly remembers and pays homage to his late brother Carel, Alwie Alexander, Balla Balla Gesant Jardine, Rashard Alexander, Tasliem Alexander, "Lang

Zane" Panker, Shorty dams, Alwie Aysen, Zane Masoet, "Klein en Groot" Moosa Aysen, Fish Taite, Boetie Jardine, Boeta Abass "Kemo", Boeta Bunny Hermanus and Baby Richards.

It was the comeraderie and sense of family with these outstanding players that both Hansie and Careltjie were awarded Griqua colours and played Griqua rugby. Reiloon, the son of Oom Hansie, also played ofr ACRFC in the second division along with Fuad Aysen, Yusie and Aziz Alexander and the rest of the guys. Reiloon was a multi-talented personality and also excelled at soccer, which took up much of his time. He represented GW Rugby at Schools, Colts and U/21 level.

Sadly, Oom Hansie Oliphant passed on in September 2021, honoured by the presence of Saligh Aysen and Drox Alexander, the latter paying tribute at the memorial service.



Oom Hansie & Mrs Oliphant

Alexander Brothers:

Profile of the late Alwee Alexander:

The late Mogamet Alwee Alexander (born 4 March 1951) was a disciplined individual in his personal life, a leader and mentor in his professional life in the printing industry, and in his life as a sportsman he was a visionary, a player par-excellence and a true scholar of the game of rugby football which he loved so dearly. He was simply gifted when it came to sports, from purely running for the pleasure of it, to cricket, table tennis, squash and any sport he chose to attempt. But he was all of that and so much more. He was the type of person who would fill another position to present someone else an opportunity to play in their favoured position, to the point of giving up a position in the GWRFU for a team mate. Alwee was invited to the SARU trials, an opportunity which he turned down as he felt it unfair that of his Griqua teammates were excluded from the list, another opportunity was lost due to injury. Well known Kimberlite and educator Mr Solomon Hunter shared his knowledge of the game and remembers how Alwee's style of play and reading of the game can be compared to his Grandfather (Abdulla Jardine), who in his time was rated the best fly-half in South Africa and it

was said 'ran among a field of daisies without damaging a single one'. In his youth, Alwee was a drummer in the Kimberley Muslim Brigade.

Alwee the Administrator:

As an Administrator, he was top class, proficient language use, unique and professional hand writing and at the forefront of the evolution of meeting procedures and recording into the digital age. Alwee rubbed shoulders with the likes of the late Mr Doella Abbass, Mr Ebrahim Patel, the late Uncle Buns Hermanus and Mr Baby Richards all of whom served at SARU level. Alwee carried the legacy of the late Mr Abass by implementing the highest levels of discipline and dress codes at club meetings, events and functions.

Alwee the Coach:

As a coach the late Alwee always lead by example, fitter than most players, focussed and ahead of his time. In the late 70's Alwee consulted with professors from UCT with regard to fitness and strength training and with the head coach of New Zealand Rugby with regard to set play and defence techniques. Today, when I view some of the rugby games on television, I still see the top teams attempting to execute moves and techniques which he implemented at Arabian College in the late 1970's and through the 80's.

A typical week as an ACRFC player was as follows:

- Sunday morning at 05:30 players are collected at their homes with the 'council truck' for a 10km run, which starts at the Fruit Stall on the JHB road and finishes at the Community Centre shops in Transvaal Road. The session is topped off with hot koesisters and black coffee courtesy of the late Mama Tima Alexander. Club meetings started at 11:00 am after church services.
- Monday afternoon after work players face a gruelling session of aerobics and stretching for 1h30 minutes with Anunsha Alexander as instructor at the Assembly Hotel basement followed by a 20 minutes sauna.
- Tuesday start with a 3km warm-up run, weight training circuit, followed by a ball running and physical training session, total 2 hours.
- Wednesday start with a 3km warm-up run, weight training circuit, followed by a ball running and physical training session, total 2 hours.
- Thursday start with an 8km warm-up run, followed by a ball running and game tactics session, and of course the much anticipated team announcements for Saturday.
- Friday is Jumuah prayers and rest day.
- Saturday is game day, team talk and motivation starts off with players sporting club tracksuits, T-shirts or chosen uniform and players congregating in the CNA arcade in Jones Street, home for lunch and then off to the Union Grounds in chosen uniform.

Some senior players will testify that ACRFC players were so committed that they would jog at 4am in the morning and try to hide when they see others players also jogging, thinking that it may be some of the opposing teams players, only to find that it was in fact their own team mates.

ACRFC players participated in middle distance and half marathons, and even ran a relay from Warrenton to Kimberley after an overnight at a resort.

Alwee the Rugby Player-:

Alwee was one of those rare breed of rugby brains who was always years ahead of his time when it came to all aspects of rugby. From player, captain, coach, administrator to leading by example we were all richer from the influence and wisdom which he shared with us. Al started playing rugby at Perseverance Primary School, and already displayed qualities of a rugby great. He captained the famous William Pescod High School grand slam champion team with Chris Ludick as his vice-captain, and was responsible for much of the success of this great team. He was selected for the SASSA team in 1970 and received his cap although he was injured and unable to play the final game. As a high school player he was selected as captain for the GWRFU U/23 team along with Chris Ludick, Dries Botha, Joey Sampson, Lionel Marthinus and others. He joined ACRFC in 1971 where he will always be a legend and he has earned great respect in GWRFU and SARU circles. Alwee played many games for GWRFU and he rated Peter Makata as the best fly-half he played against. Alwee formed a formidable combination with Phaldi Cader as scrumhalf and himself at fly-half. The other great combination was with Alwee at fly-half and Joey Samson, Chris Ludick or Lionel Marthinus at center. And then Phaldi Cader could also be counted as one of the best of centers you could find. He rated the late Tommy Gertze as a great all rounder and regarded Bucks Damons and Yasien Snyders as the best in their time. He also captained the GWRFU side and served as President, Coach, Selector, Manager and Secretary. The late Kimberley Icon and Educator, Mr Solomon Hunter once wrote that when he first saw Alwee playing for William Pescod High School under the eagle eye of the late Mr R Burgess, he immediately noticed the resemblance to the late great Abdullah Jardine (Alwee's Grandfather). It is written that Abdullah Jardine was so good that he could run among a field of lillies without damaging a single flower. Alwee was blessed with the same skills and talents, able to read the play and fleet-footedly jink his way over the field of play. Alwee passed on 19 August 2014.

The Alexander and Jardine Families:

From Achmat 'Boy' Alexander, Abdullah 'Drox' Alexander, the Late Mogamet Alwee Alexander, Aduragiem 'Gym' Alexander, the late Sharfy Alexander and Yusef Alexander to Azies, we were all supported and driven by our late Mama Fatima 'Tima' Alexander (12 April 1927 - 14 June 2004) , who in her own right was an icon in GWRFU and ACRFC circles. Those who frequented the Union Grounds which later became the AR Abass Rugby Stadium will know how our late Mama sat on the stands and shared the contents of her flasks and cake tins week after week. Her voice used to echo from the stands, cheering the players. To my knowledge, one of the first club houses of ACRFC was at Mama's parent home in Kimberley.

The Jardine families were ably represented by Abdullah Jardine, Gesant Jardine, Boetie Jardine, Sharty Jardine, and Boeta 'Darra' Warley. From the descendents of Boeta Nasirien Alexander rugby greats included Boeta Hassim Nassiep, Rashard Alexander, Igsaan, Tasliem and Allie Alexander. The next generation was their sons Riyaad, Nadeem, Shaheed and Ishaam Alexander. Our Dad Gadrodien Alexander (born 2 September 1918), is the son of legend Boeta Nasirien Alexander from his first marriage. Better known as Geyer to his family and friends, our Dad was a multi-talented artisan as a builder and a qualified motor mechanic, who used to start an engine on a wheelbarrow in the kitchen in front of the coal stove. In his own right, Boeta Geyer was a registered judo instructor with a 3rd dan black-belt. He was frequently joined on the judo mat by legends like Mr Hopley and Oom Bushy Oliver. Judo was literally a form of discipline in the family as we knew what to expect if the judo mat was rolled out. Boeta Geyer passed 29 May 1968.



Profile of Achmat 'Boy' -:

Eldest of the brothers, Boy (born 26 January 1948) joined ACRFC in 1963 and through dedication and selfless hard work, became a club and GWRFU stalwart for a number of years. He was a pure hard-core hooker in the time when they actually had to strike to win scrum possession. In his era I know of no other hooker who won more strikes on opposition ball. Boy certainly holds some record for consecutive games for the club, and also served as captain and vice captain for a number of years. At the time of unification in 1992, Boy was the longest serving active member of ACRFC.



Gym, Sharfy, Alwee, Azies, Yusef, Boy (Absent: Drox)

He represented GWRFU as hooker for a number of years, playing in the front row with legends such as Gesant Jardine, and as a youngster opposing greats like Jim Summers. Boy is a 'what you see is what you get guy' and he 'says what need to be said'. You will have to search very far and wide to get a more 'rough and ready' guy who is always available and willing to help anyone, no matter who you are. In any institution you need a backbone or a foundation, and in the case of ACRFC, Boy was and will always be that.

Boy served on the ACRFC Executive as Trustee for countless of years until the merger with Hoffe Park in 1992. He was and still is our go-to guy, always able to make a plan to assist. He also served on the GWRFU Executive as Trustee and Grounds-man with Alwie Aysen for almost 20 years, utilising connections at city council to benefit GWRFU.

As an organiser, Boy can work tirelessly as he did with club functions to raise funds for the benefit of the group. Recently as a retired pensioner he took a leading role in assisting a group of 60 Muslim Senior Citizens of Kimberley to undertake a pilgrimage to the holy cities of Mecca, Medina and Jedda. Boy assured the rugby community of a neatly prepared Union Grounds, seating, dressing rooms and functional ablution facilities with Shorty Albertus and his wife. Boy was renowned for the major role which he played as base drummer in the exploits of the Kimberley Muslim Brigade, under the great leadership of legends like Haji Dagelaan Davids, Boeta Jaynie Aysen and Boeta Sampie Fredericks to name a few.

Boy's proudest moment was in scoring the winning try for the ACRFC Invitation team against the SARU Invitation team at the ACRFC 75th Anniversary celebrations in 1978.

The toughest club game in which he was involved was ACRFC versus Asmang Mine RC. He recalls that Scott Connor was the hero of the day as he prevented Swartland from scoring a try with a match saving tackle. Boy also makes special mention of the Universal front row of Warren 'Ambie' Adamson, Roger Williams and Willa Popham which he rates among the best which he has faced. The best and most dynamic coach which he has served under was his late brother Alwee without a doubt. Boy also mentions executive members like Sonny Kahaar, Salie Mahri, Roger Henderson, the late Alwee Alexander, Frikkie Norman, Attie Thomas and the late Miley Beckman as a group who contributed greatly to ACRFC. In 2015, Boy was eventually recognised for his tireless contribution with 2 awards at the club reunion. Sadly, Boy passed after a short illness on 31 January 2020.



Mr Boy Alexander & Mr Thomas Jossie

Profile of Abdulla 'Drox' -:

The second eldest after Boy and older than Alwee, Drox (born 10 December 1949) is one of the unique ACRFC characters. As a qualified Construction Carpenter, his job took him out of Kimberley so he was not able to participate regularly in club activities. In 2015 Drox was a prominent supporter of all activities in organising the historical ACRFC Reunion, always present at curry feeds, braai functions, bingo as well as meetings.

Drox started playing rugby at Floors High School with players like Yasien Snyders, Lionel Marthinus, Tubby Jacobs and Salie Mahri. He was an all-rounder who fitted into any position for the sake of the team. Just ask Salie Mahri who was a captain of ACRFC, how he used to drag Drox out of the Lyric cinema to help field a first team on Saturday afternoons.

During these times the ACRFC battled to field a first team as most of the younger players were focussed on securing the second league trophy competitions. Drox speaks passionately about how Salie Mahri had to stand in as Chairman, Secretary, Treasury, Coach and Captain in those challenging times. Most of the younger brothers inherited ACRFC blazers while Drox worked in the country and he would simply just buy himself another blazer. Drox would support and defend his team at all costs and you always knew that you could depend on him.

After rugby there was mens hockey of which ACRFC was the main catalyst during its revival, and along with Dickie Adams, Drox was chosen as goalkeeper for the first ever GWMH team after the

revival of mens hockey in Kimberley. His eldest son Aadiel also played rugby, and represented GW at Junior High School level.

In his youth, Drox was an active member of the Usonian Youth Club, and participated as a bugler in the Kimberley Muslim Brigade.

Today as a retired pensioner, Drox is still a dedicated ACRFC member and a staunch NZ All Blacks supporter. He still proudly preserves his ACRFC membership card and attire. Those who know him well have heard the stories of the De Beers Stadium and the oppression of non-whites at Griqua international games.

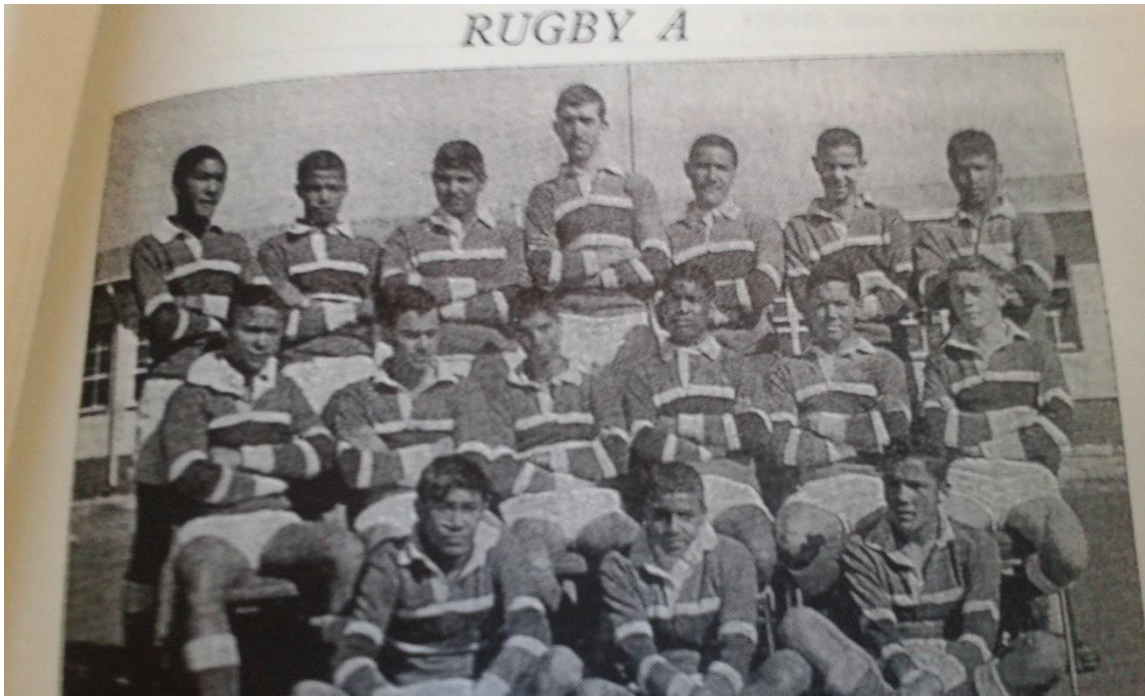


ACRFC 1982 TOUR CAPE TOWN . L-R Giemie, Alwee, Yusef, Sharfy, Drox, Boy



**Back Row: L-R : Gym Alexander ; Middel Row: 3rd from L-R: Sharfy Alexander
Front Row: 2nd L-R: Drox Alexander - GW Mens Hockey Team**

Floors High School A team competed in the GWRU 2nd League on Saturdays and the High school league on Wednesdays during the 1968 rugby season.



From back Left:

Mickey Le Grange, Dawie Kruger, Thomas Jossie, Jimmy Kinnear, Vincent Pieterse, Cecil Abrahams, D Fredericks.

From Left Middle:

Lesley Abrahams, Stephen Delpont, Lionel Marthinus, **Abdullah Alexander**, Warren Adamson, Mark Job.

From Left Front:

Sallie Mahri, Joseph Samson, Eddie Hicks. (Captain)

Profile of Abduragiem 'Gym' -:

Gym (born 20 May 1957) started playing rugby at Transvaal Road Primary School under the coaching of Mr Des Summers and Mr Herby Rose. The skills he picked up while playing in the yard at 2 Orange Street in Utility is what put him ahead of his opponents. He was a regular in the GW schools side while playing for Floors High with cousins Roland and Charles Hermanus and brother Sharfy.

He progressed to senior rugby at ACRFC and represented GWRFU at all levels. Gym was an accomplished goal kicker and was at his best at 1st center. Alwee always used to say that Gym can break a line cleaner than most centers, he only needed to put on some weight. To hold your own alongside great players like Phaldi Cader, Joey Samson and Alwee, you needed to be at a really good level.

Not a one for stats, he played a number of games for GWRFU in the time when the province competed against the top provinces like WP, Cities, EP, KWARU, and Tygerberg. He was a first choice in the GWRFU team and represented his province with pride for a number of years in the 1st center position

and later also on the wing. Gym played most of his rugby with his brothers Alwee, Sharfy Alexander, cousins Roland and Charles Hermanus and Sharty Jardine.

Gym commended opposition players like 'Bucs' Damons, Mark Samuels, Wilfred Popham, Warren Adamson and especially Godfrey Erlank, the latter whom he felt was a definite prospect for SARU selection.

He fondly spoke about the great games and memorable moments which he enjoyed on and off the field of play ; WRFU against Namakwaland in Springbok under extremely cold conditions, snow falling and the field covered in ice, playing with gloves and eventually nailing a penalty and conversion to clinch the game ; GWRFU against EP in Port Elizabeth, where his younger brother Sharfy scored a try from the with Desmond Kramer on his back, carrying him for 10 meters to score a try (Sharfy had teeth marks on his shoulder as Kramer tried to stop him), this match GW lost narrowly after Desmond Booysen scored a try in injury time in poor light, having crossed the try line around the corner flag ; GW against a star studded WPRFU at Greenpoint Track in CT - a play-off match which was a very tough and rough encounter, with WP resorting to the 'rough stuff' to unsettle GW, a match which WP won by 5 points to 3.

In recognition of his talents, he was rewarded with selection in the 75th Anniversary SARU Invitation Team alongside greats like Desmond Kramer and Cheeky Watson. A memorable moment in the match was when Gym received the ball on the wing, he jinked inside and then changed direction outside his opponent and ran around his opponent to setup a try for the SARU Invitation Team.

The ACRFC involvement in the revitalisation of GW mens hockey saw Gym being selected for the GW team, but alas, rugby won the race. Life after rugby included cycling and the promotion of sport to youngsters in the community.

He was awarded top points scorer in the GWRFU first and second leagues on a few occasions. Gym worked with Alwee and Amien Aysen for many years at the Northern Cape Printers and the DFA. Sadly, Gym passed on 7 June 2015, only 2 months before the club reunion.



Mr GYM ALEXANDER, Mr AMBROSE FILLIS (GWRFU President) , Mr PHALDI CADER



GWRFU Vs WPRFU:- Irfaan Sydow (SARU Center) tackling Gym Alexander



SHARFY ALEXANDER (ACRFC Captain), MRS MOSES



GWCF Team - Back L-R:- Tyrone Palm, Mann Adams, Bevan Jennecke, .. Sharfy Alexander, Alton Kruger

Profile of Sharfy - :

Sharfy (born 16 September 1959) was as tough as any rugby player could be, never giving an inch in the face of adversity. When the going gets tough, Sharfy, Roland Hermanus and Sharty Jardine would be nowhere else but in the middle. Sharfy also started playing rugby at Transvaal Road Primary School under the coaching of Mr Des Summers and Mr Herby Rose. As with all the Alexander brothers, our home at 2 Orange Street in Utility was our foundation where we honed our rugby skills. He played for Floors High School for a few years and soon progressed to senior rugby at ACRFC.

Sharfy was very well built and started off as outside center alongside Fagme Cader, a formidable combination who haunted opposition backlines. Due to his physical stature he was drafted into the first team as scrumhalf by the late Boeta 'Doesie' Adams at the age of 16. He had a commanding presence and demanded the respect of players much more senior than himself. Sharfy was a true team player, always willing to sacrifice and protect his team mate and never looking for glory. His preferred position was number 6 flank with a thirst for the ball and able to graft in the tight, whilst also having the ability to flourish in the loose.

The most dynamic and dangerous ACRFC loose trio combination was with either Henry Paulse, Allan Africa, Faizel Adams, Sharfy and Roland Hermanus. When Sharfy tackled you, boy you knew you were tackled. He was equally accurate kicking out of hand with both left and right boot, with above average power. He was an accomplished goal kicker and long range efforts from just outside his own half was no bother. With Roland and Sharty they played within the same mould, allowing others to run free while they did the hard yards. He was captain and vice captain of the second and first teams

of ACRFC for a number of years. Like Alwee, Drox and Gym, Sharfy too was involved in the revitalisation of GW mens hockey and was selected for the GW mens hockey team.

Sharfy made his debut for GWRFU at center with Faizel Adams as his partner, and he later moved to his preferred position of number 6 flank where he represented GWRFU for many years. Most certainly with Wilfred Popham, Bucs Damons, Charles & Roland Hermanus and Godfrey Erlank, he was one of the unfortunate GWRFU players not to receive the nod for a SARU cap. Sharfy retired from rugby as a result of an Achilles tendon injury, he took up cycling with Mann Adams and emerged as a champion sprinter in GW Cycling. In major tour events Sharfy would not think twice to turn around from the leading bunch and go back to assist a team mate. One thing for sure, Sharfy was a team player and you would never ever hear him talk of his exploits, achievements and successes on any level. Sharfy passed 25 February 2007 after a fatal accident when he was bumped off his bicycle by a Provincial Traffic Officer while training for the Cape Argus Cycle Tour.



The Griqua forwards breaking loose against Boland



The Griqua backline on attack against Eastern Province



Fazel Adams, Sharfy Alexander

Profile of Yusef - :

As second youngest of the seven Alexander brothers, Yusie (born 26 May 1961) always had a special feel and flair for the game of rugby. He started playing at Endeavour Primary School as No.8 under the coaching of the late Mr Van Rooi and Mr Brian Du Plessis. Yusie was selected as captain of the GW Primary Schools rugby team and toured to the Eastern and Western Cape for the Inter-Provincial Schools Rugby tournament. He was unlucky not to be selected for the SA Schools team but he was rewarded with a place in the SA School B-team.

Yusef schooled at Homevale Senior Secondary School and commanded the schools side to such great heights that Mr Allie Alexander registered the school team to play in the GWRFU second league, which we won. Proudly the Homevale Senior Secondary School second league team was one of only a few teams to beat the ACRFC in the GWRFU 2nd League of 1979 under Yusie's captaincy, managed by Uncle Allie Alexander, coached by Boeta Alwie Aysen, the late Mr Keith Hartzenberg and Mr Tommy Jones (fitness) and Mr Tommy Jossie.

The Abass Trophy was presented to Yusef by the late Mr Doela Abass at the annual presentation ball which was held at the Assembly Hotel. The HSSS 'All Blacks' team included Yusef Alexander (Captain No.8), Ebrahim Obaray (Prop), Faez Patel (Hooker), Raymond Kok (Prop), Avril Snyders (Flank), Alistair Noah (Flank), Gavin Jacobs (Lock), Brian 'Bones' Van Rooyen (Lock), Gerrit Zaal (lock), Azies Alexander (Flank), Mark King (Scrumhalf), Gerrit Van Schalkwyk (Flyhalf), Richard Sauls (Center), Gordon Brookstein (Center), the late Enver Swanepoel (Wing), Ashraf Richards (Wing), the late Gareth Petersen (Wing) and Ambrose Stevens (Fullback).

A favourite moment from HSSS 'All Blacks' was in a schools game on the A-field at the Union Grounds where we played against Floors High School, when the late Enver Swanepoel was tearing down the right side touch line with only a lanky lock-forward Earl Damons in his path towards the try-line. Enver did the Maori side-step, dropped his right shoulder and smashed into the opposition defender on the 22 yard line, leaving the huge lock-forward flying over the touch line and Enver scoring the winning try, beautifully converted by Richard Sauls. It is a pity though that some very talented rugby players with great potential stopped playing rugby after high school.

Yusie's proudest moment was in 1980 when he was nominated for sportsman of the year at the age of 19 representing the sport of rugby. It was the same year when the late Brian Hermanus took glory as ACRFC Sportsman of the year representing the sport of swimming.

During his high school years, he was selected as captain for every GW Schools Rugby game which he played. He represented GWRFU at various levels as captain and 8th man.

Yusef was a brilliant reader of the game of rugby, he always led by example and was one of the best captains around. Yusef has captained every single GW Schools Team which he was selected for. He was fearless in attack and defence and ensured that his team mates were always protected. There was always a healthy competition among the Alexander siblings and Yusef was no exception, as with cousin Charles Hermanus, he too was an accomplished kicker of the ball.

He was part of the ACRFC contingent who toured Europe but were not allowed to play abroad under the apartheid regime.



ACRFC Vs Young Collegians :- Ganief Mills, Yusie Alexander

ACRFC to the Alexander Bro's:-

The Alexander Bros were all part of the victorious ACRFC teams during the late 70's through the 80's in an era of almost total domination in GWRFU. During this period the players from the 2nd league team was capable of stepping up to the first league without disrupting the game plan or the strength of the team. They were blessed to be in the company of these many great players and human beings who all had this determined desire to succeed at this game which we all love so dearly. The talent and skills which surrounded the ACRFC club was endless, and could only lead to success with the necessary co-ordination, management, consideration and discipline which the leadership and executive provided. They believed that success comes in the form of a balanced life where respect, discipline, education, appreciation, health, religion and most of all mutual recognition and acceptance were the key factors. As fly-half Azies had great scrum-half partners in Ganief Mills and Mark King, who had this fantastic long pass and all he needed to do was get his finger-tips to the ball to make the catch. Such was the talent within ACRFC that the youngest brother Azies, and Eugene Jacobs (flyhalf, center, fullback) used to alternate the flyhalf position whilst the other could fill the center position. Talented goal-kickers where in abundance, and at least five players were able to take a shot at a conversion or penalty at any time.

Profile of Azies:

As the last born of the seven Alexander brothers, Azies (born 29 March 1963) was most inspired by his Mom, his brothers, cousins and ACRFC teammates. One can imagine the tremendous pressures from having to live up to the ACRFC, Alexander and Jardine name. His interest in rugby began at 2 Orange Street in Utility, where we played 'yard rugby' as brothers, cousins and friends. If anyone had an issue with someone they would invite you to join the game and tackle the 'hell out of you'. It is easy to imagine that plants could never survive in their yard. As kids they used to place the rugby ball across the road in the veld, and practice goal-kicking with their front-gate as the rugby poles. This practice made them accurate and accomplished goal-kickers, with quite a few windows sacrificed for the course.

He started playing rugby as open side flank at the age of 10 years at Transvaal Road Primary School under the coaching of Mr Des Summers and the late Mr H Rose, with Mr Rhoda as the principal. He represented Kimberley Primary and Secondary Schools at different weight divisions, mostly under the captaincy of brother Yusef. Azies rates himself as an average athlete who was inspired by the legends around him.

In 1976 he moved to Bultfontein High School which then became Homevale Senior Secondary School with the late Mr F Ferris as principal. Throughout his high school years most of my inspiration came from Mr Aubrey Everson who taught the lessons of life up to matric. While at school he was chosen to represent GW schools at different age group and weight divisions.

He makes special mention must be made of Brian Van Rooyen, who started his rugby administration as representative of Homevale Senior Secondary School at the weekly Griqualand West Rugby Union

meetings. When Brian moved to Johannesburg to pursue his professional career he was involved in Transvaal Rugby and soon escalated to rugby administration at the highest level, when he was elected as the President of the unified South African RFU.

During the 1980's he changed position to flyhalf and center and represented GWRFU at Junior, Colts, Under 21 and Senior levels. Players whom he rated very highly at my school age group was of course Yusef Alexander (a captain like no other) and the Homevale SSS team of 1978/79, the extremely talented Godfrey Erlank, Kingsley Erlank, Ralph Hannie, Alexander Hannie, Earl 'Nicky' Mills, John Barnes, Mark King, Miley Tait, Koubie Snyders, Ian Jacobs, Dean Snyders, Shariff Mahri, and Mark Samuels to mention a few.

"The best players are the guys I trained with, played with and lived rugby together, the ACRFC teams". As a youngster he enjoyed great guidance and protection in the GWRFU team from senior players like Hilary Ferris, Faried Adams, Charles and Roland Hermanus and of course Sharfy Alexander. His favourite GWRFU memory was a game against Eastern Province where Desmond Booyesen missed his touch kick which was collected by Roland Hermanus, who faked to the right and then stepped to the left almost stumbling and was tearing through almost the entire EP team to score what was a winning try which was converted by Gym Alexander.

"The greatest impact in terms of rugby was most definitely Alwee, our Mom, brothers, cousins and team mates". His brother Yusef was the best captain he played with as a result of the understanding he had of the game and his organising of the resources and talents available. Yusef could sum up the opposition and direct our play and he always led by example. The overall greatest captain that he was honoured to play with was cousin Roland Hermanus, hard as a rock and nervy enough to stare even Aslam Tofey in the eye and smart-mouth him.

At an administrative level he was privileged to have served as Secretary and Treasurer to ACRFC under the Chairmanship of the late Alwee and Mr Frikkie Norman and was proud to be applying those disciplines in his personal and professional life. In his time at ACRFC top administrators also included Henry Paulse, Attie Thomas, Roger Henderson, Baby Richards, Alwee Alexander, Fuad Aysen, Don Paulse, Eugene Jacobs, Yunos Gool, Koubie Snyders and Boy Alexander. Azies was also inspired by the likes the late Mr AR Abass, the late Alwee Alexander, Uncle Baby Richards, Henry Paulse, Frikkie Norman, Mr Phaldi Cader, the late Uncle Buns Hermanus and the late Mr Jaap Kruger. He was also fortunate to experience and share in the knowledge of the game through club involvement by rugby greats like Gesant Jardine, Boeta 'Doesie' Adams, Fattie Behardien (WP), Uncle Buns Hermanus, Tasliem Alexander - all deceased - , Boeta Alwie Aysen, Boeta Moosa Aysen, Boeta Amien Aysen, Hansie Olifant, Yusef Davids, Boeta Zane Panker (tall & short), Boeta Rashard Alexander, Allan Africa, Attie Thomas, Joe Samson, Scott Connor and others.

Saddest Moment:

"The saddest moment to me in GWRFU was the injury to Ian Jacobs, a young talented all round sportsman in the prime of his sports career". A very sad moment for Alwee was the injury to Willa Popham, which impacted heavily on Universals and GWRFU as a whole.



AZIES ALEXANDER, MRS PIKWANE - GWRFU PRESENTATION BALL

Unification:

And then came unification with one-person one-vote and normalisation of sport in a normal society. In this area we made one huge mistake in simply accepting the high standard facilities of the then 'white unions' at the expense of the then 'coloured unions' sub-standard facilities. He says this because the epicentre of our communities was always the Union Grounds, the Hockey Grounds, the Oval, Tennis Courts, Civic Centre, the Floors Swimming Pool, the Kemo Hotel, the Assembly Hotel, the Sunarama Hall, the Tips Tavern and the sports fields in our areas. All sporting codes supported each other in this epicentre. Our focus was then on the facilities and not on the logistics and the location of these new facilities. He clearly remembers one of the last school games he attended at the Union Grounds on a Thursday afternoon and the comment of a teenage boy in the stands, "***Nooit my broer, ek gaan maar iets anders try, hoe gaan my Ouma by Hoffe Park of De Beers Country Club kom om my te sien speel?***". You see the key is, our transport network from Roodepan, Homevale, Homestead, Santa Center, Colville, Floors, Square Hill Park, Rainbow Valley, Mint Village and Utility to our town center flows past the Union Grounds AR Abass area.

Life after Rugby:-

As expected quite a few of the old ACRFC guys were always very active and took to jogging, squash, golf, hockey and indoor cricket. Azies, Gym, Sharfy, Mann Adams, Alton Kruger and a few other ex-rugby players took to cycling in a serious way. Needless to say, as competitive as can be most of the guys cycled for 20 + years. Cycling is a true family sports which took us to all corners of South Africa where we competed in most major events.

Azies also became involved in cycling administration with George Joseph, Andy Du Toit, Frikkie & Karen Moller, Annette Roodt, Hilary Ferris, Robert Thomas, Dr & Mrs B Bavasah, Robert & Anthea Thomas, Russell Brooker, Mario Marthinus, Gavin and Alexia Robertson, Wayne Malgas assisted Diamond Wheelers to reach number one status of development clubs in South African Cycling Federation. The administration was ably supported by the parents of the young cyclists. He also developed their constitution, created the club logo which was designed by George Joseph, letter

heads and the development programme with the assistance of the New South Wales Cycling Academy in Australia. His son Faheem, Sharfy's son Wazeer, Alton Kruger's son Jamie, Russel Brooker's son Grayson, Gym's son Phaldi, Yusef's son Shiraz, and Robert Thomas's son Michael represented GW Cycling at school and age group levels. In a personal capacity he is still an active cyclist heading for the completion of his 21st Cape Argus Cycle Tour in 2015. He believes that it is important to stay healthy and keep fit with a balance between health, work, education, family and religion.

Thanks:

Please accept our thanks and gratitude to all who contributed so selflessly to this publication. Thank you for your time, effort and commitment towards the success of this project which was started by the late Alwee Alexander. Our Apologies to those whose names and feats have been omitted, we assure you that it is purely unintentional. To those who did not submit their profiles, your contributions to ACRFC and your achievements will always be remembered.

2015 ACRFC REUNION AT MITA SEPEREPERE CONVENTION CENTER



Mr Dorhea & Mr Boy Alexander



Mrs Murieda & Mr Drox Alexander



Mrs Geyro & Mr Yusie Alexander



Mrs Leela & Mr Turhaan Alexander



Lameez & Diddles



Mr Wazeer & Mrs Alexander



Mrs Beba & Mrs Diela Alexander



Ms Mischka & Mr Faheem Alexander



Mrs Nies Aysen, Mrs Riffa Aysen, Mrs Waydie Randall



Mrs Anunsha & Mr Azies Alexander



Boy, Drox, Yusef, Azies



Mrs Amanda Share & Mr Michael Hassen



AR Abass Stadium:- Drox, Nies, Azies, Tima, Yusef, Boy, Riffa, Boeta Amien



**2015:- Boy, Faisal, Tash, Roland, Winna, Fuad, Saligh, Azies, Bully, Avril
Visiting Mr Eugene Jacobs at Gariep Mediclinic**



KBLY Muslim Brigade - Boy (base drum), Drox (bugel)



Muslim Brigade Rally - Shariffa Aysen (far right)



KIMBERLEY MUSLIM BRIGADE: Drox, Boy, Amien, Boeta Jaynie Aysen (who can spot them)



Ms Shanawaaz, Mr Waleed, Ms Nadia Pegram Mrs Shouneez & Mr Biggs Chaka



Mr Gary, Mrs Waydie & Mr Jeff Randall



Mr Patty Hassen & Mr Robin Chaka

Mr Junaide & Mrs Camillah Pegram



*Top Pic :- Daddy Gadrodien & Mama Fatima Alexander;
Bottom Pic :- Waydie, Alwee, Drox, Boy, Nies Riffa
Azies, Yusie, Sharfy, Giemie*

PROFILE OF Haji HUSSEIN 'TEACHER' KARRIEM



When one speaks of Legends, then the name of Haji Hussein 'Teacher' Karriem ranks high up there with the best of the best. 'Teacher' Karriem was born in Cape Town on 19 December 1916. When he moved to Kimberley, he was in the care of his Godfather the late Boeta Dirkie Oubaas Warley.

'Teacher' Karriem married his wife Fatiema (born 28 April 1919) in October 1944 and the marriage yielded 5 children; Moegammad Ganief (passed on as a baby), Abasia, Fuad (Archie), Zainunisha and Riethewaan. Archie was a carpenter by profession and a well known drummer and vocalist for various bands. Abasia and Zainunisha worked at Barclays / FNB as professional bankers for many years. The youngest son Riethewaan is a mechanical engineer and was well known across the country for his speedy antics on motorcycles and fast cars. 'Archie' and Zainu were drummers in the Kimberley Muslim Brigade and Abasia was a section leader.

Teacher Karriem schooled at William Pescod High and later progressed to University of Cape Town, but unfortunately had to drop out due to the accidental death of his Dad. Haji Hussein then started working to support his family and he persevered to eventually qualify as a teacher. Haji Hussein Karriem was appointed as Principal of the Griqualand Moslem School in the 1960's. When the school closed, he started teaching at Progress Primary School. Haji Hussein Karriem was also an influential religious leader, and was a Madressa Teacher with the late legend Imaam Yusuf Galant at the Pniel Road Masjid. Teacher' Karriem also later gave Madressa classes to the communities of Homevale, Homestead and Colville with another Legend, the late Haji Abdulla 'Boytjie' Mahri. Meneer Karriem regularly assisted Imaam Yusuf in leading prayers at the Masjid and at Islamic Religious events and Gaajat /

Gadaat. Haji Hussein Karriem had a beautiful melodious voice and his voice echoed in the Masjid when rendering Duahs and Quran recitals.

Haji Hussein Karriem was very fond of birds, and he used to spend hours listening and recording different bird 'calls' whenever the opportunity presented itself. He was probably most well known as a swimmer and for the great successes achieved through the exploits of the swimmers whom he coached as a registered professional swimming instructor. 'Teacher' Karriem contributed to the successes of a long list of swimmers including names like Sheila Walley, Brian Hermanus, Shreef Abass, Ferosa and Faried Joseph, the Jacobs family of swimmers, the Joseph family of swimmers, the Hermanus family of swimmers, the Keyser family of swimmers, the Davis family of swimmers, the Daniels family of swimmers, the Ferris family of swimmers to name but a few. Meneer Karriem used to float on his back in the swimming pool and was able to read a newspaper while doing so.

Another Kimberley Legend and educator, Mr Solomon Hunter wrote:-

"As for swimming, Kimberley swimmers dominated interprovincial meetings for many years and when the SA Swimming Federation was formed, the founder members included three from GW, three former Kimberley residents, a Kimberley teacher from Port Elizabeth and representatives from the Western Cape. Practically half of them were from GW. One fails to understand how the likes of GW and SA coach Mr 'Teacher' Karriem was never bestowed the honours for his contribution to the development of swimming in SA.

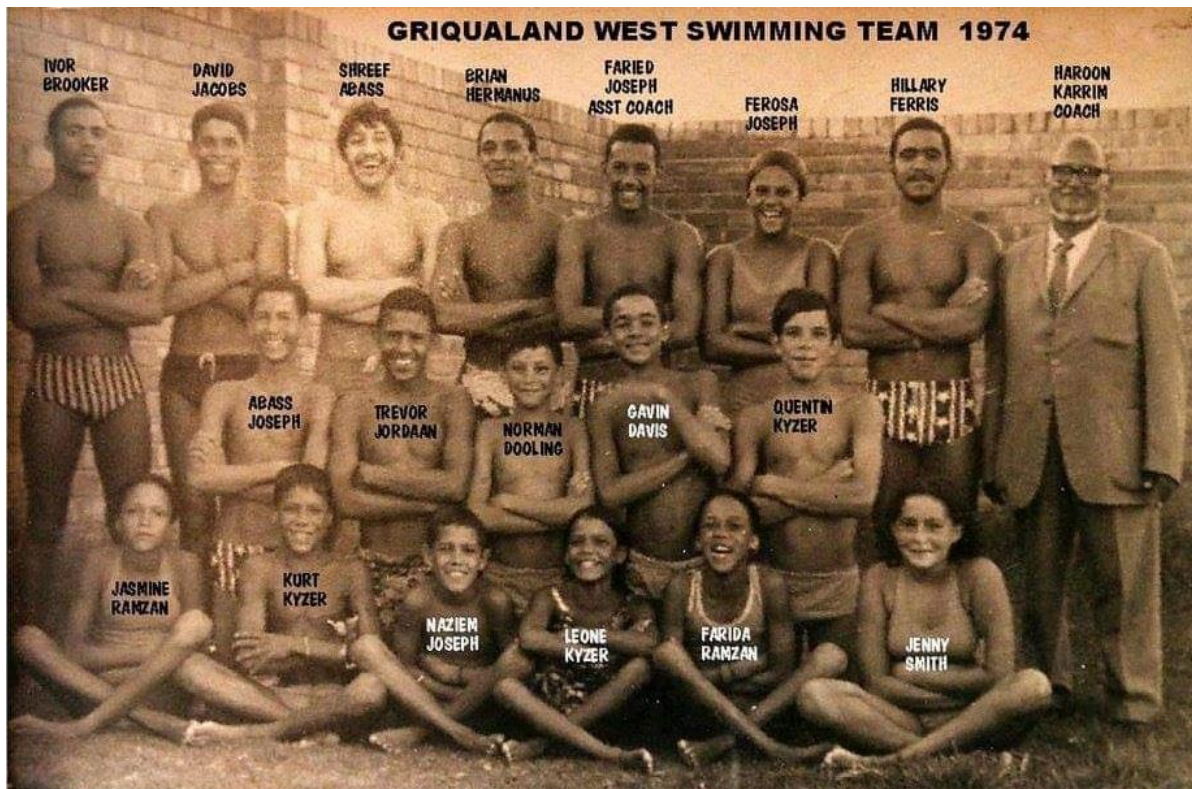
Meneer Karriem also served as an executive member of the GW / NC & SA Swimming Federation under the SACOS banner in various capacities.

Mrs Fatiema Karriem passed on 5 April 1996 and Haji Hussein Karriem sadly passed on 30 October 1997.

Sincere thanks and appreciation to Mrs Zainunisha Collins (daughter of Teacher Karriem) and Mrs Shariefa Aysen for sharing their archives.



Mrs Fatiema Karriem - far right

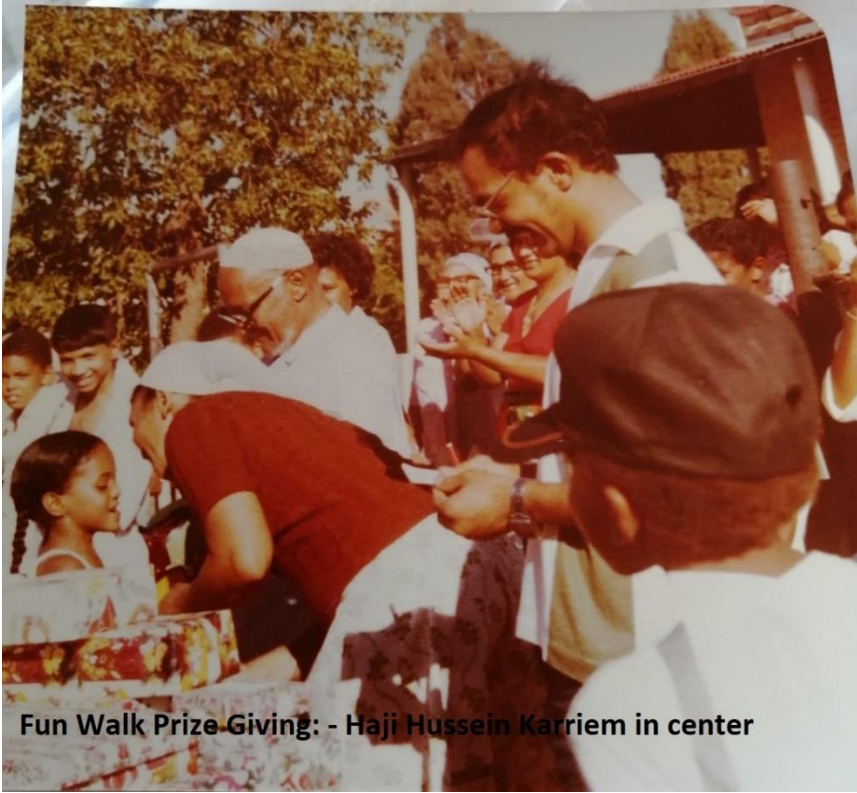




Carol Jacobs receiving trophy from Mrs Karriem, Meneer Karriem in background



Imaam Yusuf Galant & Haji Teacher Karriem at Pniel Rd Masjid Madressa Recital



Fun Walk Prize Giving: - Haji Hussein Karriem in center



Mrs Fatiema Karriem



Back - L-R:- Ismael Mills, Drox Alexander, .. Zane Masoet, Zain, Penker, Abe Jardine,
..
Front:- Fuad 'Archie'Karriem, Agmat 'Boy'Alexander

Archie Fredericks (Australia):



I joined Arabian college R.F.C. in 1961 when Mr Victor Pitt was the chairman. Our practices were in Malay Camp, behind Selby Street (Deport's house). The warm-up lap was via Lyndhurst road, Hospital Road and back. I remember how many of us used to dress up in our silver-grey pants and green blazers proudly showing off our badge on a Saturday morning in town. I remember playing with guys like "Doesie" Adams, Alwie Aysen, Diroo Daya, Rashaad Alexander, to name but a few. I recall "Boeta Darra", a one man St. Johns First Aid who provided his services gratis to the sporting community for decades. Teams like Roslyns, Rangers, Stars from Cape Town who we entertained and who in turn entertained us over the years, building friendships not only on the rugby field but socially as well. Our famous Dinner Dances with music provided by bands like Eldorados and Mascots. We along with the other sports clubs provided a vital input into the social fabric of the community in Kimberley, creating memories that have endured for over 100 years.

I sincerely hope that someday our sporting community will revive and again reach the heights of the past so that the young people in the future will be able to enjoy memories similar to the ones that has sustained me over my lifetime and build on the proud legacy of our rich sporting heritage.

Archie Fredericks. - 'Down Under' Australia

Profile Fuad 'Attie' Thomas:

Attie joined ACRFC in 1971. Having grown up in Utility Attie was an avid rugby enthusiast and inseparable friends of Joey Samson and Alwee Alexander. As a trio, these 3 friends were dynamic rugby players in their own right. Attie could play center but he preferred to play on the wing, Joey at center and Alwee at flyhalf.

In his time Attie was very athletic and had pace to burn, he was also a ferocious and feared tackler. Attie prided himself on fitness and always ensured that he maintained his exceptional physique. He was a product of Floors High School where he played with Joey, he represented Griqua Schools, Griqualand West Barbarians, and Griqua Colts. Attie served vice captain and captain of the ACRFC team. Attie, Al and Joey lived on the same street in Utility and obviously shared many crazy moments together.

Contribution as Administrator:

Attie was part of the famed ACRFC Executive who was instrumental in the arrangements of the ACRFC 75th Anniversary Celebrations as well as the historical tour of Europe. Attie was always a loyal ACRFC member and even after retiring from rugby, he took time off from his hockey commitments to support club players and functions.

He served as Treasurer and other portfolios for a number of years on the club executive and also assisted Boy Alexander as First Aider. Together with Alwee and the executive, Attie and Boy were always in the pound seats to collect sponsors for the club from local and national companies.

Attie the innovator:

A major contribution to ACRFC by Attie include the negotiation of the Kim-By-Night trophies and sponsorship for the first ever night league in GWRFU history. In this night league competition, ACRFC remained unbeaten. He also arranged for ACRFC to be the first club ever to host a formal function at the beautifully renovated Kim-By-Night venue. In addition, he also secured the facility where ACRFC held their weekly meetings. And it does not stop there. Attie also ensured that the club had a venue to do their 'Jane Fonda' aerobic sessions which included sauna facilities .

Attie the hockey player:

He was part of the group who revived GW Men's Hockey which started with the club assisting Athenians Ladies Hockey Club with practice matches and fitness training on Sundays. Attie was a regular member of the Hellenic and GW Mens Hockey Teams and played in many Inter -provincial hockey tournaments. He played his hockey as he played his rugby, hard uncompromising and merciless. Just ask the famed Gregory Knipp who was one of the top players in SA Mens Hockey. Attie did not just earn the respect of other players, he demanded it.

Attie the organizer:

Together with Boy Alexander, Attie formed a duo who could organize anything at short notice. Attie used to contest the 10km Sunday morning runs to keep in shape and motivate players even while he was retired from rugby. He also recruited many players for ACRFC, here Russell Brooker and Robert Thomas immediately comes to mind.

As with all other ACRFC members, Attie loved to travel and interact with his team mates. He was always one of the best dressed and most well groomed members of the club, whatever the occasion.

He was always closely involved in club functions and was ably supported by his late wife Malam, his Mom Mymoena Thomas and mother-inlaw Aunt Saria.



Mr Attie Thomas & partner @ ACRFC REUNION 2015

Profile of Faried Cader: -

Faried or 'Bucks' as he was affectionately known, is the eldest of Boeta 'Billy' Cader's sons and also the twin to his sister Farieda. Faried is a builder by profession which contributed to his enormous bodily strength. He joined Arabian College in the early 70's and was the first choice lock forward in his prime. He had the ability to secure the set pieces and was very solid at scrum time. Faried was excellent in the line outs and his robust presence made him potent as number 2 jumper.

'Bucks' was always a guy of little words and went about his business always giving optimum performance for whichever team he played in. He played in the second team at the time when senior players diminished and soon found himself and some of his teammates having to play for the first team after just finishing their second team games. At school Faried was selected for the SASSA B team with his brother Phaldi. Faried progressed from the GWRFU Colts team to the senior side. He virtually 'cemented' his place in the first team and in his time also became a regular choice in the GWRFU senior team.

Fariel was part of the organizing committee for the ACRFC 75th anniversary celebrations and also gained selection in the SARU Invitation XV alongside rugby greats like Clive Thomas and Peter Jooste. As a staunch ACRFC member one would often see 'Bucks' proudly sporting his club colours.

Profile of Mugsien Gool:

Moegsien is an electrician by trade and a prominent businessman in Kimberley. He grew up in the Florianville on the same street with the Fredericks, Toffar and his Gool brothers. Moegsien, Yunus and Yusef all played for Arabian College RFC.

Where it all started for Mugsien:

He was first noticed while at William Pescod High School as a member of the Grand Slam Champion team of 1970. Mugsien played at scrumhalf and partnered the late Alwie Alexander as his flyhalf for many years. He was of stocky build and very aggressive in the tight loose play.

This team of 1970 is legendary as the only school to make a clean sweep in the GW Second league, winning the Abass, Flag and League Trophies. He went on to represent GW Schools as scrumhalf and enjoyed great rivalry with Andries Botha who was the Floors High School scrumhalf at the time.

Mugsien at ACRFC and GWRFU:

It was the year 1971 that Mugsien joined ACRFC and played in the second league, partnering the late Alwie as his flyhalf. During this period Phaldi Cader also played at scrumhalf and Moegsien sometimes played in the loose trio. He was one of the first group from the second team who moved to the first team.

During the mid seventies he was selected to play in the provincial team and played quite a few games for GWRFU. Here his rivalry with Andies Botha and Tubby Jacobs continued. He was a regular member of the ACRFC first team and created a new partnership with Scott Connor as the flyhalf and was part of the Grand Slam ACRFC First Team who dominated GWRFU competitions for over 10 years. During those years the tackling laws were very different to the 2015 laws and Mugsien was a dangerous tackler in his own right. He was a no quarter given type of guy and was always in the action when things got tough. With Boy Alexander as his hooker, they ensured that many hooks against the head went in ACRFC's favour.

In the early 1980's Mugsien retired from active rugby and took to playing hockey for Hellenic and gained his provincial colours. He carried his toughness onto the hockey field and was a feared defender on a local and provincial level.

Mugsien was a very good friend to the late Alwie Alexander and regarded him as a real brother. Today in 2015, he speaks with such passion and emotion when he relates to his late friend.

He remained a member of ACRFC, continued to support and assist the club, and was a member of most of the touring groups.

Profile of Yunos Gool:-

Yunos Gool was born and bred in Kimberley opposite the De Beers (the Big Hole) Diamond Mine and now lives in Johannesburg since 1981. He attended New Main Street School. After their house burned down in George Street they moved to Selby Street and were thereafter relocated to Beech Road in Florianville. His education continued at Progress Primary School where his overall love for sport was developed. The late Jackie Lewis was his biggest inspiration. He met Basil de Oliveira during their cricket training session at Colville mine dumps cricket and soccer grounds. He remembers that Mr Lewis gave him money as reward for scoring over 50 runs against another school. At Floors High school he participated in rugby, cricket and athletics and went on numerous trips with the GW school teams. He is a soft-spoken guy and you would search very far to find a more humble human being.

The start of his rugby career:

Older brothers Moegsien and Gesant inspired him to enjoy rugby and cricket. He joined Arabian College after entering Floors High School. Yunos was a regular selection the GW Schools rugby side. He was selected for the SA schools B team at a tournament in Worcester. He toured with ACRFC to Cape Town by bus. His eldest brother Mohammed Amien was already playing for ACRFC at that time. His younger brother Yusuf also joined later.

Playing at ACRFC:

Rugby icons at that time were Mr AR Abass, Alwie Aysen and Bunny Hermanus and many others. Aunty Tiema Alexander was our most avid supporter every weekend at the Rugby. His Dad, Abdurahgman and mother Asma, keenly waited for reports after the games. All matches between the teams 1st, 2nd and 3rd were keenly contested. The ACRFC 2nd team 'Die Bye' "The Bees" were magnificent during this period. These guys were later the stalwarts of 1st team. Yunos was a sprinter and a good athlete and was deceptive in that he could accelerate in an instance to beat his opponents.

Our executive members Uncle Baby Richards, Shorty Adams, Roger Henderson, Kader Osman, Henry Paulse, 'Mick' 'Boy' Alexander, Alwie Alexander and others were all dedicated and loyal to the club. Yunos served as vice captain and Secretary to ACRFC.

Alwie Alexander and Boeta Doesie Adams were his inspirational coaches. Yunos flew with the ACRFC team to Cape Town and played played at fly-half against Roslyns. Most of my matches at AC he played on the right wing, however he also played at outside centre. Interestingly all the matches he played for Griquas was on the left wing.

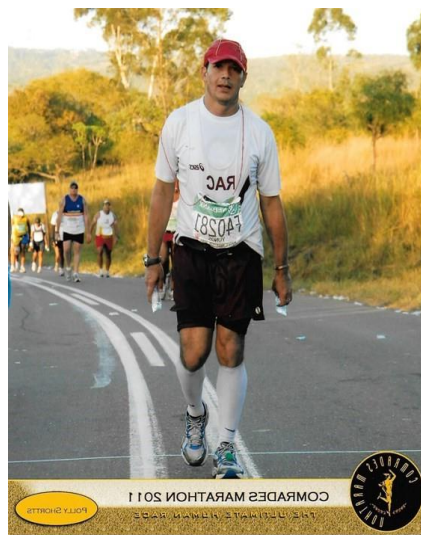
His proudest moment:

He is happy to say that he played next to Chris Ludick against the SARU Invitational during the ACRFC 75th year Anniversary. He also cherished the fact that GWRFU had put their trust in him by selecting him while he was working in Welkom and Johannesburg. He had to train on his own to keep fit. Yunos is chuffed to say that he also represented Transvaal at Rugby and Cricket although it was only one game for each discipline. He recalls that he played over 20 matches for Griquas. His brother Mugsien also played for Griquas at scrumhalf.

His inspiration and support:

Yunos tributes a great vote of thanks to the families of his teammates who contributed to making Arabian College such a wonderful Club. He proudly says that they were and are still one happy family. He further offers prayers to our beloved and deceased - "May Allah grant all our deceased Jannatul-Firdous, Ameen".

Yunos is married to Aneesa from 1990, his eldest son Mugammad Mas'ood is 24 years old, youngest son Mughtaar Aghmad is 20 years old. He has run two 2Oceans marathons, completed 4 Comrades Marathon runs after 8 starts and Insha-Allah hope to finish his 5th one this year in 2015. He conveys his thanks to everybody who has contributed to making the Re-Union of ACRFC possible, and a special thanks to Azies for completing this brochure (book) which his dearly be-loved brother Alwie had so passionately started.



Yunos the Comrades Runner



Mrs Feroza & Mr Mugsien Gool



Mr & Mrs Yunos Gool & Family

Profile of the Fredericks Bros:

The FREDERICKS brothers grew up in Kimberley's 'coloured' suburb of Florianville. All four brothers were active members of Arabian College RFC and included ABDUL MU TALIB, ABDUL AZIZ, EBRAHIM and ABDURAGHMAAN. All four started their rugby careers at ENDEVOUR PRIMARY SCHOOL in Florianville.

ABDUL MU TALIB :

More commonly known as Talib or Talai, the late Abdul went on to play rugby for WILLIAM PESCOD HIGH SCHOOL, as well as in the sport of cricket. Talib was very tall in stature and also deceptively quick for his length. His favourite position was fullback where he had the ability to cover acres of space with his long strides, and then he would calmly place himself in a good position to catch the ball cleanly from the air. He was also prepared to serve the club in any other position where his services were required. Talib slotted in as a utility back when called on to do so, and he even played a few games at lock in the first team. He was left footed and enjoyed carrying the ball forward and launching the 'up and under' for the rest of his team mates to contest.

Together with his brother ADBUL AZIZ (WIELE), THE SCHOEDER COUSINS and the TOFFAR COUSINS, they were the first group to join the ARABIAN COLLEGE THIRD TEAM with HADJI BOY ALEXANDER as the main organizer, manager and coach. TALIB was always a very committed and loyal person and he later went on to represent ACRF at the weekly GW Referees meeting where he was encouraged to become a referee. Like his late brother WIELE, Talib also played soccer for Diamond City FC.

Talib was a builder by trade and a person of high standing character within the Muslim Community of Kimberley. The extension on the Malike Mosque in Barkly Road forms part of the handiwork of the late Talib Fredericks and a true testimony of his legacy.

Abdul Aziz (Wiele) Fredericks:

More commonly known as WIELE to his team mates and friends, ABDU AZIZ was a sturdily built athlete with tremendous strength and good off the mark speed. WIELE represented ARABIAN COLLEGE First and SECOND

Teams with great distinction. He was GOAL KEEPER for

Diamond City FC and also represented the GRIQUALAND WEST SOCCER TEAM.

His soccer skills contributed towards making him a prolific goal kicker and he scored many a winning point for ACRFC. WIELE preferred the fullback and wing position and was very safe under the high ball, and then he added the advantage of being able to punt the ball off both left and right foot. He was also very good defensively and flattened many an opponent with his solid tackling.

WIELE was quiet by nature, as were his brothers, and a real team player. His talents were recognized by the late Alwee Alexander who drafted him into the first team of ACRFC where he was a stalwart at prop forward and even played a few games at number 8. The GWRFU selectors selected him in the GW Colts team on a number of occasions.

Sadly he passed on in 1996 after a friendly match between ACRFC Old Crocks and UNIVERSAL Old Crocks at the A.R ABBAS STADIUM. Today, many years after his passing, the ACRFC guys speak fondly of WIELE and also how he did not like the 6am Sunday morning 10km runs in winter.

Ebrahim (Braima) Fredericks:

Braima went on to play for WILLIAM PESCOD HIGH SCHOOL after moving on from Endeavour Primary School. He later joined ARABIAN COLLEGE RFC where he played in the second team. He was a good and reliable utility back but was most at home in the fly-half or center position. On a number of occasions he was partnered by his younger brother Boera at center.

Braima was always slightly built and had a good side-step to evade would be tacklers. He regularly broke through the defensive line and enable his team mates to score many tries. In 2015 he participated in the ACRFC reunion in Kimberley and contributed towards fundraising activities in aid of this historical event. Braima started off his professional career as a banker, and after many years of service, he left the banking world to partner his wife in a flourishing business. He was always a man of high integrity and he is respected in the Kimberley community as a man of his word.



Mrs & Mr Braima Fredericks ; Mr Junaide Fredericks & Ms Nadia Adams

Abduraghmaan (Boera) Fredericks:

BOERA, like his elder brother Braima, also went on to play for WILLIAM PESCOD HIGH SCHOOL. His favoured position is at center where he had the ability to stand tall and brake tackles to enable his loose forwards to retain possession. He was a strong runner and a good defender, and was able to slot into any of the backline positions.

He studied at PERSERVERANCE TEACHERS TRAINING COLLEGE, where he participated in the INTER COLLEGE FOR RUGBY AND CRICKET. After finishing his studies he joined ARABIAN COLLEGE RFC where he played in the Second and First Teams. He was a regular choice in the second team at center and he made the left wing position his own in the First Team. He further progressed with inclusion in the GW RFU Colts Team and was selected in the ACRFC team who contested the

annual Top Eight Easter Club Championships at City Park in 1986. Boera moved to Bloemfontein where he is a Deputy Principal.



Mr Boera Fredericks & Partners

Profile of Mr Solomon Hunter:

My interest in sport started at a very young age as already stated. When I matriculated in 1946 I took up a position as bookkeeper and salesman with Y.C. Meer in Beaufort West. I attended a meeting of the Kismet Cricket Club in December 1946 and was later voted in as Secretary. A few days later at the AGM of the Union I became Chairman of the Union (nobody knew I was only seventeen).

In 1947 I decide to attend College and became secretary of the Young Stars Rugby Club and a member of the Executive of the Western Province Rugby Union. Meneer Adams, a top name in Western Province Rugby got me to assist him in arranging a tour to Cape Town by Perseverance Rugby Club under the captaincy of Mr Rose (Brother of Herby Rose) that included Walter Mallett, Charles Frances etc.

When I became a teacher I accepted a post in Ixopo, Natal and was part organizer of the Southern Natal Cricket Union which included teams from Ixopo-Umzimkulu, Harding, Kokstad and Port Shepstone. I was also joint-organiser of the first inter-school athletic tournament.

On my return to Kimberley four years later, I was put in charge of all school rugby and athletics - a post I held for seventeen years.

I also became chairman of the Barnato Cricket Union with Mr H Karriem as our Secretary. I was a founder member of the Kimberley Muslim Brigade and became Chairman of the Kimberley Youth Rally Committee and arranged athletics competitions between the five brigades at the De Beers

Stadium for four years running. When I resigned due to political commitments with the ANC, the whole brigade movement in Kimberley came to an abrupt end.

I continued to serve rugby as Secretary for a number of years and became President of the GW Swimming Union when Bill Rhoda, a classmate and comrade of Oliver Tambo was expelled from South Africa due to his political activities. Together with Mr Karriem we kept swimming at a high level.

I regard Mr H Karriem as the greatest coach-administrator of any sport in the history of sport in South Africa. He spent over thirty years coaching swimmers in Kimberley and Cape Town and produced more champions under the South African Swimming Federation than any other coach in any sport. But he received no recognition for his outstanding services.

Mr Hunter's Political Background:

My first political act started in 1937. I was a 9 year old pupil at a primary school in Goodwood, Cape Town. The centenary of the Great Trek of 1836-1837 was coming to an end. After trekking for a year they would reach Cape Town. The Lower Main Road would be renamed 'Voortrekker Road' and all non-whites would be banished from Goodwood, Vasco and Parow to Elsie's River and the Cape Flats. Five of us in standard 3 decided to stone the mile-long procession. We arrived at the road where thousands of spectators were already waiting. Our pockets were bulging with stones. As soon as the first group passed, we stoned them but had to run when the police arrived. We ran among the ladies who hid us under their skirts (fortunately long dresses were the fashion). As soon as the police left we bombarded them from another area, and again other ladies hid us. This continued until our pockets were empty.

Briefly the following are some of my later activities:

I became the first scholar political activist in Kimberley. Directly taking instructions from Yusuf Dadoo - Chairman of the Communist Party of South Africa, Moses Kotane - Secretary and Danie Du Plessis an Afrikaner member from Bloemfontein. I was put in charge of correspondence received via bedding boys on trains as all our correspondence was tampered with. We distributed pamphlets, newspapers, including 'The Guardian', 'The Standard', 'Indian Views' and 'Indian Opinion'.

In 1948 while at Hewat College, I attended meetings on top of Signal Hill where we were addressed by Sam Khan of the Communist Party and others. We also met in District Six, Walmer Estate and Salt River on a regular basis. At these meetings plans were laid for the formation of SACOS and the United Democratic Fund. When arrested it was quite common to be called a cockroach or gogga at Caledon Square Police Station.

When I returned to Kimberley from teaching in Natal for four years, I became Treasurer of the Anti-Coloured Affairs which had joint meetings with the Anti-Bantu Affairs and the Teachers League of South Africa (GW Branch). I was also Chairman of the Kimberley Education Fellowship, which arranged talks by visiting our local professionals monthly.

These organizations were infiltrated by spies from the special branch after which we had meetings of loyal members around camp fires in the veld. Since our post was intercepted by the special

branch, all our post was brought by bedding boys on trains and since our telephones were tapped, we used code names over the telephone.

When the school boycotts began, as Chairman of the Principals Association of the ANC and Labour Party, together we raised funds to assist those scholars who were prosecuted for their boycott activities.

After the banning of political parties was lifted I was appointed Chairman of the 'Northern Cape Committee for the Return of Refugees' at a public meeting. We later became the 'United Nations High Commission For Refugees' and had to see to the return of "Freedom Fighters" from Africa and overseas. A number of those returnees became top officials, MP's, MPL's, MEC's and Ambassadors of all those from the Northern Cape. The only paid official was our clerk Mpo Peters who provided them with grants from the United Nations until they were re-established.

I was also Chairman of a committee to negotiate better working and living conditions for miners between the Mine Management and the Trade Unions.

As a member of the Northern Cape Housing Board I represented the NC in the study of low-cost housing in India, and also represented the NC in the study of Governance in Sweden.

When President Nelson Mandella paid his last official visit to the NC, the Premier appointed me to pay tribute to 'Madiba' for his inspirational leadership on behalf of the government and people of the NC.

And now back to Rugby:

Two years after the Second World War, all teams had their period of domination.

The Universal Second Team of this era was considered to be the best second team ever and provided many Griqua players. Later, Thistles were almost unbeatable in the competition. With Piet Van Wyk and Jaap Kruger at lock and Jim Summers at Hooker they formed a trio of international standard with top backs like 'Doggie' Barnes, Chris Ludick, Eddie Geduld, Aubrey Everson, Bernie Bennett and others to score the tries.

Collegians were really champions when Dennis Jacobs at fly-half had two Griqua centres next to him in Freddie Fredericks and Hennie Adams, and the best loose forward of his time 'Bucks Damons' in support.

The SAR also had an astounding back line of four provincial players in Gerald Jampies and Johnny Niekerk (Centres), Puggie Calvert at wing and Les Herman at Full Back.

So all clubs shared the glory of a great rugby province.

It was also while I was in charge of school rugby that I took the William Pescod Team on tour to Cape Town. The first one in 1959 when Baby Richards was the school scrum half and Roy Burgess and Agie Patel were two of our forwards with Tyrone Burgess on the wing.

In the second tour Alwee Alexander and Chris Ludick were two of our start players.

It was delightful for spectators to watch the keen competition at the Union Grounds (later the AR Abass Stadium) because all the teams had turns in dominating.

Kimberley's TOP Rugby Administrators:

Earlier I mentioned how Griquas was responsible for inter-provincial rugby. In this regard I must mention the role of three Player Administrators who together must be ranked as the greatest contributors to the success of South African Rugby.

Firstly there was John Kester who was President of SARU for seventeen years with Abdulla Abass as his Secretary. They expanded the game of rugby to include NW Cape - Upington Region, Natal and KWAR of the Eastern Cape. There was even a Northern Transvaal in the 1948 Rhodes Tournament in Cape Town.

When John Kester left for Canada and AR Abass took over, Jim Summers became Secretary of SARU. All three were harassed constantly for trying to expand rugby as a truly South African Sport, against the wishes of the government of the day and without any support from top businesses who supported only white sport.

I rate them in order as follows:

- 1. Abdulla Abass - for his long service as both Secretary and President of SARU
- 2. John Kester - as SARU President for seventeen years
- 3. Jim Summers - as SARU Secretary for so many years

Not only were players coaches and administrators in the past, but born to blush unseen, a man like Cecil Jacobs would have become the greatest commentator in rugby, cricket and tennis in SA sport had he been allowed to do so. Not only because of his talent, but because he excelled in all of those sports.

Why are they our greatest contributors to South African Rugby?

The greatest name in South African 'white rugby' is of course Danie Craven, a star player and longest serving President of White South African Rugby Union. When asked about the Springbok Emblem his reply was: "The Springbok is a white man's emblem and if other races are allowed to play for South Africa they must choose their own emblem". Hence in the history of South African Rugby Danie Craven can only be remembered as a White South African Rugby Player and Administrator, so he does not feature in our history of South African Rugby.

The Centenary of South African Rugby celebrations held in Durban some years ago were history of 'white' South African Rugby.

Sadly, Mr Hunter passed on in 2015, prior to the ACRFC reunion.

Profile of Tashreeq Wilkinson:

Tashreeq started his rugby career at Endeavour Primary School. He then went on to play for Arabian College RFC Junior Division in 1982. His first trip with the club was as Third Team player to Cape Town. That was the year in which he learnt to know a great man and the best coach in his rugby career. The Juniors all respected the elders and addressed them as Sir Alexander and Sir Adams. During one of the practice sessions for the trip to Cape Town, one of the elder members Boeta Doesie Adams shared some tackling techniques with him.

'Tash' is the son of the late Oom Pienie Wilkinson and the grandson of the late Oom Jan Snyders. The Wilkinson's are a great sporting family especially among the soccer community. Tashreeq was a great all round sportsman and also played soccer as goalkeeper. He had good speed and could kick with both feet equally out of hand. He played at scrumhalf, flyhalf, center, wing and in his favoured fullback position. Learning from the great Charles Hermanus he could kick the ball accurately into touch or open space and he also mastered the art of catching the rugby ball.

In 1983 'Tash' started playing for the second team and he recalls his first match and going to town on the Saturday morning before the game with his best friend and team mate Sharfy Alexander to buy his first black rugby shorts to play for ACRFC. The team was like one big family always together, win or lose. They used to meet every day at 2 Orange Street, Utility, before attending practice.

'Tash' says that he will never forget his first game for the ACRFC 1st Team. It was a game against Universal RFC, and they played the theme of Rocky, "Eye of the Tiger" as the players ran out onto the field. By half time of the game Universal were ahead on the score board. Going into the dressing room the team captain Sharfy Alexander was not happy, and he told us what he would do to us if we should lose the game. We went back onto the field so motivated and played attacking rugby, ran Universal off their feet and won the game and trophy. 'Tash' also recalls being the victorious captain of the 2nd team against the 1st Team players of Thistle RFC in the year that they only contested the 2nd League.

In the mid 80's he was selected for the GWRFU team on account of his excellent performances for ACRFC. He had the opportunity to play against Allister Coetzee - former Wallabies, EP and SARU Captain and current WP / Stormers coach - from EP in his debut game for GWRFU. Like his team mates, he also enjoyed the many tours which ACRFC undertook and recalls how hard the guys worked to achieve their goals. It is still a pleasure for him to have the best family of team mates to share his thoughts. According to 'Tash' the best non-playing ACRFC member was the late Mrs Fatima Alexander, and he regards the late Alwee Alexander as the best man within ACRFC ranks.



Tashreeq & the ACRFC Guys - On tour in Durban



Profile of Winston Du Plessis:-

Winston Du Plessis more affectionately known as 'Winna', was born in Kimberley on 30 November 1964 and is the son of Jenny Du Plessis. Winna is the grandson of former Arabian College stalwart the late Oom 'Dingetjie' Du Plessis. His uncles Brian and Speedy Du Plessis was also members of the ACRFC. The Du Plessis family were also very well known in the soccer community. Winston is a professional driver and overseer by trade and has been in full employ of the City Of Kimberley for many years.



Winston's rugby, cricket and football skills:

Winston is almost 2m tall and was always very athletic for his height. His off the mark speed was good and in full stride he covered a lot of ground. Winna was an obvious selection at lock forward but he was able to fit in the loose trio positions due to his mobility. He was virtually unbeaten in the line outs as number or number 2 jumper. Winston first played soccer for Diamond City FC and was drafted into the first team at a very young age. He preferred the goalkeeper position and was selected for the GW Soccer team, having played in many interprovincial tournaments. He was a great kicker of the football and able to get much distance with both left and right boot. Especially as a lock forward, this is a particularly rare skill to kick the rugby ball out of hand and from the tee.

Winston was also a very good cricketer and played for Burma Lads Cricket Club and also gained GW colours in this sport. He could hold a bat and generated great pace with his high bowling action. He also served as Chairman of Burma Lads and also enjoyed a game of squash with his friends. Winston played hockey for a while and was as competitive as expected, although his 2m height was not really structured for this game. Into retirement he decided to grab a set of golf clubs and also plays golf on a regular basis.

Winston as player for ACRFC and GWRFU:

His rugby career started in 1975 at Floors High School and he then went on to play for ACRFC. He started off in the second team and quickly progressed to the first team. It was always his childhood ambition to represent SARU and to lead the team as captain. Winston played as lock forward for ACRFC and also enjoyed a few games on the loose trio. He soon received the nod from the GWRFU selectors in the lock position and he filled this position with distinction for almost 10 years.

During his time at ACRFC Winston received many awards of which he was very proud and always attested his achievements to the support and assistance of his club, team mates and coaches. He rates Gary Boshoff as his favourite player and Roland Hermanus as his favourite captain. He fancies the way Tygerberg RFU played and rates the AR Abass Stadium as the best grounds. His favourite rugby moments include GWRFU against Tygerberg in 1984 and the match of GW versus WP in 1984 as the worst. The man who had the biggest influence on his rugby career was the late Alwee Alexander.

Winston played many games for ACRFC and was partnered in the lock position by the late Sharty Jardine. The pair formed a very effective duo as number 2 and number 5 jumpers. He contributed to a few nailbiting victories with long range penalty conversions from within his own half. Winna was elected as Captain and Vice Captain of ACRFC and was also a referee.

Winna's greatest rugby achievement:

In 1986 Winston caught the eye of the national selectors and gained selection to the first ever SARU Junior XV in the centenary year of GWRFU which was celebrated at the University of the Western Cape. The following year 1987 he was again chosen to represent the SARU Junior XV under the captancy of ACRFC team mate Faizel Adams.

What is Winston doing after retiring from rugby:

ACRFC PROFILES

Winston Du Plessis will always be a sports loving individual and it makes a lot of sense that he would stay within the sporting circles. After retiring from active rugby, he turned to coaching rugby and refereeing. He served on the RB as well as representing Burma Lads at the GW Cricket Board. Winston is very good at arranging and events management, especially in the sporting environment. He has assisted many sports and community organizations to raise funds. His daughter Jessica is a promising netball and tennis player and has represented GW Schools in both disciplines. She was also selected for the South African Schools netball team who toured abroad and played in Portugal and Spain. As a matric learner in 2015 Jessica has great prospects to be drafted by UFS and WITS universities. Winston is ably supported by his wife Nita and son Matthew. Nita is an aspirant runner and has completed the Two Oceans marathon on a few occasions. He also plays golf and has competed at a few courses in the country. Sports fanatics by choice, Winston and Nita have equipped their home with a 'Sports Club' facility complete with flat screen facilities, pool table and proudly decorated with rugby memorabilia which he has collected over the years.

Achievements with ACRFC

SARU GW 51 Games 1984-1992

SARU North Zone 1986

SARU Junior XV 1987 / 1988

GW Competition

1983- Top Try Scorer 2nd Team

1984- Player of the Year

Winston also at some stage received an award for top points-scorer in the 1st league due to his ability to take kicks at the posts.

Verbatim quotes from Winston:

"I am writing this with a tear in my eye, I must confirm that since 1983, when I joined this great club, that this was my best rugby playing days with ACRFC. Need I say more, I think each and every player I played with will agree, that if it was not for our own LEGEND and MENTOR, the GREAT AL Alexander, what we have achieved, would never have been possible. Thanx once again for being and will always be part of my life. MYDSRIP.

If Al was like a father figure to us, then Sis TIMA ALEXANDER (Believe me if I say this, there wasn't one rugby player or supporter in our time, that didn't know her) was DEFINITELY OUR Mother.

A LEGEND in her own right, that to my mind, knew her rugby very well (LOL). We were lucky that she never coached us. She treated us like her own children and especially when I joined College, I was welcomed into a warm-hearted family. She was really an inspiration to all of us. I can still clearly remember how she always used to tell that how bad (teasing) I had played and what I should do. I would rather not say what all she told me, but that was her way of motivating me. We still miss her very much. MHDSRIP.

And then there was one, well what can we say, Boy Alexander, a true Ambassador, you could ask him for the smallest thing and he would give you the world. He loved the sport so much that he could

just about do everything he was ever asked. Will I ever forget how he broke my finger. We played against Collegians when someone tramped on my hand and fractured my finger, up came the first-aid and who will it be, Boy, he then broke my finger and said, oh @#\$\$%, sit still , I will take you to hospital after the game. We all knew him the way he was. I suppose I could write 1000 pages, but the above mentioned people were truly the most influential persons in MY life with ARABIAN COLLEGE RFC.

It will be selfish of me if I did not mention my DREAM TEAM IN A DREAM ERA of the CLUB and how each and every rugby player outside the club, would have just love to be a part of this magnificent club.

15 Charles Hermanus

14 Quentin Aysen

13 Aziz Alexander

12 Man Adams

11 Yunus Gool

10 Al Alexander

9 Ganief Mills

8 Rola Hermanus

7 Faizel Adams

6 Sharfy Alexander

5 Winston Du Plessis

4 Sharty Jardine

3 Koubie Snyders

2 Pat Paulse

1 Faisel Mahri

Life After ACRFC:

Playing

1994-2001

Played for GW Second Team from 1994-2001 and played 2 games for the Senior team.

Toured the British Isles and Ireland in 1995 with Griquas

Played club rugby for Kim Police

Prov Coaching

GW Sub Union Team, 2003-2006

GW U/19 TEAM 2006-2011 (Played 4 semis and 2 finals)

GW Amateur Team 2012 to current (2015)

ADMINISTRATION:

Kim Rugby Region

Secretary-2007-2012

Vice-Chair-2013- Coaching Ass Chairman 2013- GW Board Member-2008

CONCLUSION:

I truly trust that each and every one in their autobiography will dedicate their memories and the type of rugby we played to a TRULY GREAT SERVANT of the GAME. AL ALEXANDER, you were our pillar of strength.

SO, TO A TRUE LENGEND, MAY YOUR DIVINE RUGBY SOUL LIVE ON WITHIN US.

In 2015, Winston served on the ACRFC Reunion Committee and played the most vital role in the successful hosting of Kimberley's most prestigious and talked about social event in many a year.



Mrs Nita & Mr Winston Du Plessis



SARU North Zone Invitation Team :-

STandind L-R :- Mark Samuels, Naaim Samaai, 6th Mike Leon, 7th Winston Du Plessis

Middel Row L-R:- 3rd Fazel Adams (Capt), Mr E Patel (SARU President), 6th Phaldi Cader (Coach)

Front L-R:- 2nd Fazel Mahri, Kingsley Erlank,



Mr Matthew Du Plessis & Partner

The gem of ACRFC - by Russell Brooker:-

The Diamond City, as Kimberley is known made history in many other ways besides just the discovery and mining of this precious gem (Diamond). This city was also known for being the first to install electric street lighting, the first in South Africa to have an electric tram, just to mention a few. Not only was all of the above a first for the city, but this great city also gave birth to excellent sportsmen and women in all sporting codes. Sadly, these talented athletes were restricted to achieve the highest honour and that was to represent our country as a result of Apartheid. The game of rugby was no exception. Another interesting fact, while mentioning the game of rugby was that the dummy pass was another first for this city in 1919 and the rest followed, believe it or not. Leading and the rest just followed ...

Skills and talents:

This is the contribution of Kimberley born athlete and sportsman Russell Brooker, son of the late Boetie Brooker (famous saxophonist) and Sylvia Brooker, nephew of Attie Thomas and he is married to Gina. Just like his late Dad, Russell too has music in his blood, and is an accomplished guitarist. He is a respected member of the community and serves at church. Russell was a great athlete with good speed for sprinting and good stamina for middle distance running. He was also a very good cyclist and competed across the country having completed several Cape Argus Cycle Tours. While cycling he displayed the same grit, discipline and positive attitude which made him such a successful player. He also continued running and competed in quite a few marathons and half marathons. His son Grayson was a professional cyclist and his younger son Matthew gained GW provincial cycling colours at school and age group level.

Russell at ACRFC:

As a youngster Russell always dreamt of playing rugby for one of the local teams, Arabian College. The communities in Kimberley were closely knitted and he basically grew up in the area, named Utility near to the practice grounds of the club. He recalls watching the old boys practice and would hang out at the Alexander residence. He regarded this house as the headquarters of ACRFC as everybody would gather there, be it before or after a game or just socialising. He could not wait for the opportunity to play for the club and eventually a third team was established. Russell was groomed and made my debut for the club in the second team and occasionally represented the first team. That is when he started playing and enjoying the best rugby of his short career, influenced by ACRFC coach Al Alexander. As a youngster at ACRFC, Russell displayed maturity and responsibility beyond his tender years when he took over the captaincy of the second team. He had big boots to fill and he did this with distinction, setting the example for his team and leading from the front.

He could actually feel his dream materializing as his rugby developed just being around some of the most talented senior

His proudest moments include;

- Flying with the club to Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg.
- Receiving the winners trophies at GWRFU presentation Balls
- Receiving the Seven-A-Side winners trophies at GWRFU

Being selected as captain of the second team

Being part of the ARFC Teams in an era of domination

Who had the most influence on his rugby career:-

Despite the guidance that he received while growing up in his parent's home, Al influenced it further by instilling positive attributes in Russell and the team that moulded him into the young adult and player that he was. RESPECT, COMMITMENT and DEDICATION was certainly at the forefront. At ACRFC Russell learnt the different aspects of the game and the knowledge was just so very vast. Al's defensive and attacking systems could be compared to what we witness in today's Super rugby competition. One thing that Russell learnt from him was to tackle. His words were "you cannot run without legs" so the guess is that was his way of telling us to tackle a player around the legs and with the technique he taught the team. Russell gladly mastered the art not even allowing the biggest player to pass him. He started out as an open side flanker and was kind of moulded (with his experience and knowledge) into a winger where he represented the Griqualand West under- 21 team, as he said in the beginning, a short and memorable career. Russell captained the ACRFC second Team for a few years and won most of the games in which he represented ACRFC. He later became a first choice winger in the first team. To those stalwarts of the game, players of ACRFC who has passed on over the years, Russell salutes them for sharing their talents and efforts displayed over the years. In conclusion, as he had mentioned in the beginning, Kimberley is known as the Diamond City and he will remember and regard the ACRFC stalwarts as diamonds too.

Russell is a born leader and a true team-player, this he once again proved as a pivotal member of the 2015 ACRFC Reunion Committee.



Mrs Gina & Mr Russell Brooker ; Mrs & Mrs Brooker



Mr & Mrs Brooker ; Mrs & Mr Amien Mahri

Profile of Avril Snyders :

Avril is the eldest son of well know Kimberley businessman Mr Russell Snyders. For as long as he can recall rugby has been in the Snyders family even before he was born. He remembers the Saturdays sitting around a radio listening to commentary of various games be it provincial or test rugby sitting with his grandfather "Basie" Snyders with his PM10 battery operated radio sometimes moving around just to get a good signal. He was the first person to introduce Avril to rugby taking him along to the then Union Grounds as it was known to sell peanuts and sweets moving between stands.

As far as he can recall it then became a regular outing to the AR ABASS Stadium as it is known today. Avril's first introduction to club rugby in Kimberley was when he accompanied his Dad (Russell) his brother Basil, Vernon and Junie Joshua, Gerald Jampies to the field as they represented Universals Rugby club this all while he was at the age of five years. Sunday nights was always argumentative evenings at their home as the family and friends would gather on who played the best game. It was like some huge debate with the Hartzenbergs who represented Thistles, and Cuan being at Collegians and Keith playing for Perseverance Training College and later for Thistles.

His Advent into rugby came at Beacon Primary School at the age of eight when he started Standard One with Raymond Reid as the coach for what was known as the under 60 pound players makes one laugh just thinking about it as he was always a skinny guy. Mr Raymond Reid was the coach of their team at Beacon until he emigrated to Australia, he was then succeeded by Desmond Barnes who followed suit to the greener pastures of Australia.

One always looked forward to Wednesdays and especially if you were scheduled to play the last game of the afternoon as this was although misconstrued by the players as the main game as then parents returning from work to pick up the scholars from other schools would stay and watch the game.

a good game the previous Saturday as she would in no uncertain terms make it known what she thought. A very knowledgeable woman regarding the game and a real terror to opposing teams fan

base as one woman could out scream a whole stand of opponents. She made her mark in rugby in Kimberley and was the unseen mother to most of us advising us in her own tone on rugby, working and social issues. If ever there was an Iron Lady, he thinks she was cut from the same cloth as the great Margaret Thatcher.

At ARCFC he had quite a few coaches the likes of the late Boeta Doesie, Mr Alwie Aysen (Mr A as he was known) and Phaldie Cader but then came the man himself Mr Alwee Alexander a great player but an even greater coach. He moulded ARCFC into a great team and kept their feet on the ground as they swept opposition aside never satisfied with mediocrity. Here was the same man he met whilst befriending Azies barking orders and putting them through their paces to become the best. Al as he was known was never afraid to ask any player what he thought, he was always open to advice and even criticism. He used to study international team moves bring it to practice and drill it in the team till they perfected it. He can still just see in his mind's eye the smile or smirk when one of the moves came to fruition on the field of play. Al introduced a rarity in ARCFC during the fasting period by introducing them to aerobics which we done in the basement at Kim by Nite. Here one could again see the comradie amongst the players as even though it started late it was always well attended. He then introduced off season training starting with a 4km and 8 km run and then the famous Sunday 10KM run.

It is here where Gavin Jacobs, "Man" Adams and Avril would scrap every Sunday to see who the victor is. What he admired most of Al was that he would move position to make place for the younger players always nurturing the more inexperienced players. He thinks of players such as "Gym" Alexander and "Man" Adams. Alwee was a real inspiration to us and his advice was always sound, showed us how humility should be practiced as he was named as Griqua coach he never changed and remained committed to ARCFC and its players.

Under his (Alwee) leadership Avril became captain of the second team in 1983 and this is where they communicated even more and where he learnt much more through his guidance. The same year he was selected to represent the Griqualand west Colts team to play the then North Western Districts only to be coached by another ARCFC player the great Mr Phaldie Cader.

ARCFC AS A FAMILY:

As a player you were always reminded that we were brothers in arms on and off the field. To have played with the likes of the late "Sharty" Jardien, Sharfy Alexander, "Wiele" , Marcus "Manjack" Limburg and his deceased brother Dean was a real honour. Dean went on to represent the Griqualand West Senior Rugby team at front ranker, aid it makes him laugh when he think he was the 100m sprinting champ at Homevale School during his time there.

Then to the living legends of his era at the club the likes of "Boy" Alexander, the Hermanus brothers Roland and Charles. Faizel and Janodien Adams, Ganief Mills was a real honour. Team mates Winston Du Plessis who achieved high accolades in both rugby and soccer, Gavin Jacobs, Mark King, Yacob Snyders, Yusef and Azies Alexander to name but a few all brought joy and their own flair to the club. Can one ever forget finishing a 10km run and whilst waiting for the other guys to finish downing

a litre of orange juice bought at Mr PADDY'S shop he must have been smiling seeing us every Sunday as we were like cash cows to him.

Then there were the closet ARCFC fans and here the Late Mr Louis Koen comes to mind who use to give me a lift to practice on many occasions just to enquire about the club its well-being and the results of the week gone by. Who will forget players like Ivor Johnson, Sharty Jardien and "Boy" Alexander who never once complained and gave us a lift home in the evenings? Sunday mornings been awoken early by "Boy" to go for a 10km run a man who looked after us giving out water on the route a stalwart who never complained, a first aider for the second team and also one who never minced his words. Who will forget the Saturday mornings before the game meeting up at the arcade then off to chilli tree for a bunny chow, the late Sunday Avril's dad and his brother Basil represented Universals rugby club. From an early age they were introduced to attending rugby at the Union Grounds. During this time he used to watch the likes of Abe Williams , Mr "Eier" Jacobs , Gesant Jardien , Mr Visagie and the Barnes brothers. When he reflects back sport has been in their blood for a long time. He recalls the Sunday afternoon soccer watching Spades an Wanderers do battle on the dusty sand fields of Homevale. Saturdays were spent with the Joshua families and Jampies families.

High school Rugby:

He started high school at Bultfontein high school out in town before being evicted by the apartheid regime and they had to move en masse to Homevale Senior Secondary School. At high school he befriended Azies Alexander and Ashraf Richards guys who excelled both athletically and on the rugby fields of Kimberley. Whilst attending Homevale senior Secondary Azies lived with his brother Alwee and wife Leela in Twelfth Street. For almost seven years he used to go to Alwee's home in the morning and with Azies would then walk from there to school, never in his wildest dreams did he ever think Alwee would have such an influence on their lives in later years. This man whom he would at times serve tea in his room, and he remembers how he use to knock on his door with the tea Azies made and he use to invite him in to put the tea on the bedside table also enquiring from him in general how he was. Will be discussing him and his influences later.

At Homevale school we played rugby where Mr Allie Alexander was our coach and Messrs Tom Jones and Keith Hartzenberg our fitness "inbrekers as they were known by the team" coaches. Before playing first team and he might add in that team he was more of a fringe player due to his weight where he got the nickname "Boney" they played for the second team and progressed to the first team from Standard 8.

Avril recalls the games at school then playing on a Thursday afternoon between Pescod and Homevale this game was known as Springboks (Pescod in Green) and All Blacks(Homevale in Black) being epic battles. Even Floors High rugby had a very good team led by Tony Jacobs and his clan but the real rivalry at that time was between Pescod and Homevale. He was privileged to play with the likes of Azies And Yusef Alexander(Captain), Mark King, Ambrose Stevens, Gavin Jacobs, "Vleis" Obaray, Bones Van Rooyen who later became SARU President, Gerritt Van Rooyen, Alistair Noah to name but

a few. A great bunch of guys and who will forget playing in the second league of Griqualand West rugby being drawn to play Arabian College in our first game. With former team mates the likes of Yusef and Gavin Jacobs playing for college second team, who swept all and everybody under their feet. The tension and the talks and banter was just too much. But they met up with a determined bunch of players in Homevale on a Saturday afternoon that is etched in his memory forever seeing the late Enver Swanepoel tearing down the line to dot down in the corner they beat them 19 points to 10 points and we could walk around like peacocks for weeks on end. They left quite a legacy at Homevale which was subsequently taken up by the next generation of players consisting of his brother Dean Snyders and Ricky Baartman a team which also included the likes of Greg Spadonie. All of whom made Giant strides in their respective sporting codes. Another sporting code which featured promisingly whilst they were playing rugby was the mens hockey where his brother Neil was a prominent member who went on to make the SACOS and SA mens hockey team being presented with Springbok colours in 2011.

At the beginning of 1981 after finishing Matric he went onto join ARCFC where the journey began joining a band of players who made one feel part of a family and who always wanted each player to excel. He remembers the days starting with some of them meeting at "Aunty Tima" house for tea which was always on the stove then it was off to practice. At Mrs Alexander's house one would easily know if you had a good game the previous Saturday as she would in no uncertain terms make it known what she thought. A very knowledgeable woman regarding the game and a real terror to opposing teams fan base as one woman could out scream a whole stand of opponents. She made her mark in rugby in Kimberley and was the unseen mother to most of us advising us in her own tone on rugby, working and social issues. If ever there was an Iron Lady, he thinks she was cut from the same cloth as the great Margaret Thatcher.

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The first time we boarded a plane as a team to Johannesburg to play against Swallows having to spend the night with Sharfy who had lost some teeth in that game and so one can go on and on about the brotherhood in this ARFC family.

Looking back in retrospect College taught him things subtly which he still adhere in his life to this day e.g. being properly attired, always being punctual, respecting ones opponent never under estimate anybody and to always do your best for that he is eternally thankful.



Mr Avril & Mrs Snyder ; Mr Kyle, Ms Lauren & Dr Loreal Snyder . sister Ms Myrna Snyders

Profile of Ishaam Alexander:

Ishaam Alexander was born in Kimberley into a family with a fantastic sporting history. He is the youngest son of respected Kimberley Muslim Senior Citizen Boeta Rashart Alexander who served as executive member for many years, so sport is definitely in his blood. Ishaam is also an avid cricketer and has captained local side Burma Lads to cup glory on a few occasions.

How Ishaam's interest in rugby began?

It all started at a very young age because his family was sport orientated. His father (Rashart) and two brothers (Shaheed and Feizal) were great sportsman and as the youngest he always wanted to follow in their footsteps.

Ishaam at ACRFC and GWRFU:

He joined ACRFC in 1987 but he can say that he was part of ACRFC since he was born (it was in my blood). Ishaam played at scrumhalf for ACRFC and started off in the 2 nd team, and after a season he was promoted to the 1 st team. The same year he was selected for the GWRFU team to

ACRFC PROFILES

play WP in Cape Town. He unfortunately had to withdraw from the team due to school commitments.

In 1989 he was selected to play for GWRFU U/23 team to play curtain raiser against Tranvaal Invational team in Johannesburg to celebrate their centenary.

In 1990 he was selected to play for GWRFU against North Western Cape in Upington.

In 1991 Ishaam represented GWRFU B team(Kudus) 3 times. In 1992 he stopped playing rugby because ACRFC merged with Hoffe Park and was non-existent.

His proudest moment:

His proudest moments for ACRFU was when both 1st league and 2nd league teams won the league and being selected to play for ACRFC 1st team at the age of 15. In terms of GWRFU he was proud to play in the last game for GWRFU under SARU.

Ishaam's most memorable rugby match:

To be honest he says, 'I have a few great memories on the rugby field but what stands out for me was playing scrumhalf alongside my brother Shaheed (flyhalf)'.

Who had the most influence on his rugby career:

Ishaam proudly says that the person who had the most influence on his rugby career was Undoubtedly his FATHER.



Mrs & Mr Ishaam Alexander

PROFILE OF MILEY TAIT:



Miley Tait was born and bred in Kimberley where he lived with his family. He completed his schooling at FLOORS SENIOR SCHOOL and started his apprenticeship in 1980 with ACRFC team mates Mann and Faizel Adams and later with Roland Hermanus who joined them. He grew up in Florianville and later moved to Homevale to their family home.

Miley at ACRFC:

Miley played rugby at school and joined up with Arabian College while still at school in 1979. He was of strong and stocky build and started off with ACRFC in the second team with Koubie Snyders as his Prop partner and Pat Paulse at hooker. When Pat moved on to the first team, Miley settled in his favoured hooking position. He is left handed and was always very active, had great stamina with the ability to run strongly over middle to long distance. The weekly early Sunday morning 10km runs always delivered Miley to the finish line in the top 3 places at the Transvaal Road shops, memories which he well remembers and still enjoys chatting about. Miley is still as neat a guy in 2015 as he was in his playing days, always very proud to sport his team colours. In fact, he was an excellent team player and used to do the hard graft for the ball in the tight-loose with upper body strength to compliment his stocky physique. He is of modest and quiet disposition and always leaves a good impression with people with whom he interacts.

In the early 80's Miley served as second team vice-captain and captain of ACRF. During the mid-80's Miley progressed to the first team and fitted into this role with ease. The beauty about ACRFC was that the first and second teams were so closely matched and well drilled that any of the second team players could move up to the first team without disrupting the game plan.

His proudest moment was when ACRFC made a clean sweep of all trophies on offer with almost total domination of GW club rugby in the late 70's to late 80's where he contributed in both the second team and first team.

As with all of his ACRFC team mates, Miley obviously enjoyed travelling, especially with the boys, and attributes some his best memories to the time spent with the boys.

Miley at GWRFU level:

Throughout the 80's Miley was selected for the GWRFC COLTS and U/23 sides, and also served as vice-captain of these teams.

Who had the biggest influence on his rugby career:

He mentions that Alwie and Boy Alexander had the biggest influence on his rugby career and most of the ACRFC senior players always encouraged him to do his best. Miley also rates the spirit of brotherhood, the support of the ACRFC families, player and executive commitment, discipline and sober habits as the key to the success of ACRFC.

What is Miley Tait doing now, and where does he find himself ?

Miley finds himself working in Rustenburg although his home is still in Kimberley. He still enjoys the company of his ACRFC team mates in 2015 and thoroughly enjoys the chat groups which put him in touch with some of his long lost friends leading up to the Reunion.

Sadly Miley succumbed as result of an horrific motor vehicle accident.



Mrs Malam & Mr Miley Tait

Profile of Shaheed Alexander:-

Shaheed is the eldest son of the great ACRFC and GWRFU front ranker Boeta Rashart Alexander. His first memory of rugby was sitting on his Dad's neck as a 4 year old while he was jogging to warm up at an Arabian College practice session. He remembers Starlin King with scrum cap chatting next to him. Together with his brothers Feizal and Ishaam they played with boys in the neighbourhood and had their own test matches in their front yard or on Lord's



(the park in front of their house) and were always involved in their own rugby game behind the ACRFC stands at the Union Grounds, now known as the AR Abass Stadium. Since he can remember, he always wanted to play rugby for ACRFC. Shaheed was also an accomplished hockey and cricket player. He played cricket for Burma Lads and represented GW for a number of games. He is an educator by professions and is currently in charge of GW Amateur Cricket Development.

Joining ACRFC:-

Shaheed joined ACRFC in 1984, but was always involved in the club as a youngster as he grew up in the club. He was in matric and remembers the late principal, Mr Burgess of William Pescod High reprimanding him and saying that if you want to play for ACRFC then let them teach you academically as well. Shaheed's preferred position was Flyhalf or Center.

His Father, Rashart was captain of CARFC and continued serving the club after his playing days. His brothers Ishaam and Feizal also played for ACRFC. He remembers during the club's 75th Anniversary celebrations in 1978, a buffet lunch or supper was served at their homes for all the participating players. The family always accommodated players from visiting clubs (Silvertree, Schotches Kloof) or provinces at their home. His Father had a 21 seater bus and transported players to and fro. Curry feeds were also held at their home.

GWRFU Career:-

Shaheed was still in matric when he made his debut for the GWRFU B -side, and in 1987 he gained selection for GWRFU against Boland in Kimberley. He was selected at Center and scored a try on debut. He recalls the late Mr Jaap Kruger fetching him at home on the morning of the match and they drove to the home of the late Mr Bunny Hermanus in Utility. The two gentlemen gave him a pep talk on what it meant to play for Griquas. It was very motivational, inspirational and emotional experience but also one he will always remember.

His Father represented GWRFU during his playing days and his Brother, Ishaam also represented GWRFU. Provincial players were also accommodated at their home. GWRFU meetings were held at their home prior to games.

He played against Tygerberg, Cities & Suburban, Transvaal, EP and was selected for Griquas in their Centenary celebrations in Cape Town. He stopped playing in 1992 as ACRFC was no more, having merged with Hoffe Park.

His proudest moments include the following:-

- * For ACRFC when they won the Second League against a strong Thistle Team loaded with first team players;
- * The Late Aunty Tima Alexander presenting him with his first red woollen ACRFC tracksuit when he started playing for ACRFC while still at school;
- * Wearing the ACRFC Jersey, black shorts and socks for the first time;

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- * Playing alongside extremely talented and very good ACRFC first team players during his debut match (Sharfy, Roly, Fay, Koubie, Pat, Sharty, Fou, Man, Gym, Azies, Charly, Lighty, Winna);
 - * Touring with ACRFC to Durban;
 - * Wearing the ACRFC Blazer and Tie to meetings;
- Playing with College players in the Griqua team.

Shaheed's most memorable rugby matches include;

*His ACRFC first team debut as a teenager against Universals which College won stands out most. He played wing and remembers playing on the wing and taking an up-and-under for the first time in the match. He ran and was tackled, Sharfy Alexander and Roland Hermanus laid over him on the ground to protect him from any knocks or injury. He recalls that was something about College players that they always looked out for each other on the field of play.

*Scoring the winning try for ACRFC against Thistles to clinch the second league title. He remembers it like yesterday. His scrumhalf Tashreeq, passed the ball to him from a scrum, 40m from the opposition try line. Shaheed dummied his first center Paul Simons, then he took the gap. As the fullback was about to tackle him, he passed the ball to his cousin Ashraf Richards, who almost dropped the ball. Ashie passed the ball to the late Abdur Mohamed (MalayCamp), who almost fumbled the ball 8m from the try line, he regained control and dove over for a brilliant cup winning try.

Shaheed says without a doubt that his Dad, Rashart Alexander had the greatest influence on his rugby and sporting career.



Mr Shaheed & Mrs Alexander & Family

