All Saint’s Guild AGM held on Saturday, 3 June 2017, in the DSG Victoria library

1. **Welcome**

Sandy Maree welcomed all present, especially the reunion old girls and all those who travelled from far. She commended the record return of 98 DSG Old Girls for the 2017 Big Reunion.

2. **Present**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ms</th>
<th>Shelley</th>
<th>Frayne</th>
<th>Mrs</th>
<th>Angie</th>
<th>Marriner (nee Henderson)</th>
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<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Victoria</td>
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<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Margie</td>
<td>Keeton (nee Henderson)</td>
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<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Sandy</td>
<td>Maree (nee Reynolds)</td>
<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>Ross (nee Mullins)</td>
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<td>Ms</td>
<td>Bronwen</td>
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<td>Ms</td>
<td>Vanessa</td>
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<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Sylvia</td>
<td>Birrell (nee Fowlds)</td>
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<td>Debbie</td>
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<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Jocelyn</td>
<td>Wortley (nee Mullins)</td>
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<td>Pam</td>
<td>Millar (nee Noerr)</td>
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<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Andrea</td>
<td>Rundle (nee Hart)</td>
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<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Anne</td>
<td>Hutchings (nee Buchanan)</td>
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<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Joan</td>
<td>Davis (nee Tanton)</td>
<td>Ms</td>
<td>Shirley</td>
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<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Wendy</td>
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<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Lisa</td>
<td>van der Linde (nee Amm)</td>
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<td>Emma</td>
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<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Sheila</td>
<td>Harloe (nee Couch)</td>
<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Sue</td>
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<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Bridget</td>
<td>Swift (nee Walters)</td>
<td>Dr</td>
<td>Sandy</td>
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<td>Ms</td>
<td>Kelly</td>
<td>Parker-Muzzell (nee Muzzell)</td>
<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Fiona</td>
<td>Gill (nee Wynne-Jones)</td>
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<td>Ms</td>
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<td>Mrs</td>
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<td>Camille</td>
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<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Briggie</td>
<td>Duk (nee Kirchmann)</td>
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<td>Sacha</td>
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<td>Caroline</td>
<td>Scott (nee Sanders)</td>
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<td>Natalie</td>
<td>Gordon (nee Morgan)</td>
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<td>Gird (nee Price)</td>
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<td>Miles (nee Turner)</td>
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<td>Dominique</td>
<td>Landrey (nee Bassingthwaighe)</td>
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<td>Hicks (nee Karis)</td>
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<td>Mrs</td>
<td>Angie</td>
<td>Creaven (nee Whyte)</td>
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3. **Apologies**

Lisa Micklewright (nee Pringle)  
Colleen Bunyard (nee McWilliams)  
Julia Smuts  
Jilly Lester  
Dee Macdonald (nee Van Vuren)  
Janet Meyer (nee Nunn)  
Mary Wylie (nee Wentworth)  
Jeanne de Rosemond (nee Carter)  
Sarah-Jane Cloete (Noddy)  
Liz Cooper (nee Stone)  
Pamela Webber (nee Selwyn-Brown)  
Eppity van Zyl (nee Carmichael)  
Biddy Greene (nee Ewer)  
Fay Welsh (nee Phillips)  
Jeanne de Rosemond (nee Carter)  
Biffy Hutton  
Sandy Hird (nee Ross)  
Sue McNaughton  
Lin Andrew (nee White)  
Debbie Lowe (nee Hobson)  

Justine Pringle  
Louise Duys (nee Denison Clarke)  
Sam Niven  
Jenny Shepherd (nee Clogg)  
Eleanor Kew (nee Southey)  
Wendy Rippon (nee Ford)  
Jane Deacon (nee Kannemeyer)  
Lindy Kruuse (nee Mullins)  
Christine King (nee Chubb)  
Holly Hutchinson-Keip (nee Hutchinson)  
Kathy Hutton (nee O’Grady)  
Glenda Williams-Wynn (nee Anderson)  
Elsbeth Busse (nee Dawson-Douglas)  
Jenny Patrick (nee Wylie)  
Jean Baker (nee Antrobus)  
Natalie Rogers  
Nan Hyslop (nee Murray)  
Lu Dowell (nee Rance)  
Crankie Bomela  
Nicole Whyte (nee Bowker)

4. **Condolences**

Mrs Rose-Marie Nel (nee Van Niekerk), 1957  
Mrs Jacqueline Jooste (nee Tawse), 1982  
Dr Joan Enraght-Moony (nee Kohlberg), 1943  
Mrs Claire Laubscher (nee Ryan), 1962  
Mrs Ursula Du Toit (nee Hall), 1945  

Mrs Jean Emmott (nee Ford), 1956  
Ms Frances Bullock, 1957  
Ms Eleanor Barker, 1950  
Mrs Rosalind Duthie (nee Pringle), 1957

Sandy Maree read the list of deceased Old Girls and held a minutes silence in their honour.

5. **Minutes of the 2016 AGM**

Sandy Maree proposed that the minutes be accepted, Vanessa Bowes seconded the decision.

6. **Matters arising from the 2016 Minutes**

There were no matters arising from these minutes
7. **Report from the President of the Guild - Andrea Rutherford (nee Price)**

Andrea Rutherford’s report, read by Sandy Maree in Andrea’s absence, was as follows:

*First off – I am so sorry that I could not be with you all today. Sandy Maree has very kindly offered to step in for me. Thank you very much Sandy.*

The last two years have shown me very clearly that the nature of the Guild has shifted from Fundraising to more of a Networking focus. The Girls love getting together and reminiscing about the happy and not so happy days at The DSG. Fortunately for us we have the extremely effective Angie Marriner and her team who attend to the Fundraising function. I would like to extend my thanks to the Foundation Office for the help and support they extend to The Guild and Old girls in general. It is a never-ending task and in the current economic climate, not an easy one. So, thank you Angie and your whole office.

Jilly Lester has been my deputy and has been a great support and integral to the funds raised at the annual DSG Golf Day in Johannesburg where a great deal of money is raised each year. Thanks Jilly and I am so glad we have had this time to cement a truly great friendship.

The Guild has an Investment account, which is currently administered by Melville Douglas. I urge the new President and her Deputy to follow the lead of the Investment Committee of the DSG Council should the Investments be moved to any other firm.

The Income into the account is from four major sources – Affiliation fees paid by each girl at DSG, MySchool allocation, Johannesburg Golf Day and any donations. We took the decision 6 years ago to build the fund up in order to be able to give a bursary to the daughter of an Old Girl. I think we are at a level now where this could be considered but I will leave that to Jan and her team to decide. The intention of the fund is for it to be sustainable for many years to come and so caution against the over commitment to bursaries.

It is heartening to hear all the stories of lunches and impromptu get-togethers of DSG Old Girls – young and old. The laughter and love for each other is tangible at these events.

Thank you Jan for accepting the role of President of the Guild. It really is fantastic to have such a committed Old Girl in this position.

Thank you all for coming to the AGM and trust you will all have a fantastic time back at this special school of ours.

*Andrea Rutherford*

June 2017

8. **Report from the Gauteng Branch - Jilly Lester**

Jilly Lester’s report, read by Sandy Maree in Jilly’s absence, was as follows:

*Ideas to replace the DSG Golf Day were cast aside when it became apparent that this annual event has in fact become an indispensable stalwart in the DSG and Andrean Community’s diaries. The field for the Golf Day held in late May 2015 was quickly filled, with the added attraction of the ladies joining the men’s field in the afternoon, rather than separate competitions as in previous years. It proved to be a hugely successful day with much fun, laughter and of course (some) competitive golf. After a hotly contested auction following the golf,*
with the inimitable Dave Mullins in charge, an impressive R206 000 was raised on the day. This money is invested to benefit bursaries awarded by the school. Enormous thanks are due to the organizing committee of Old Girls and current DSG mothers who put their shoulders to the wheel in ensuring that the Golf Day turned out to be the success it was.

The Golf Day this year will be held on Thursday 4 August at Parkview Golf Course.

A new generation of support was in evidence at the Gauteng Guild lunch held at Jenny Watson’s home in October 2015. A strong turnout (70 plus) of mostly younger Old Girls confirmed suspicions that many of the “older” generation have moved away from Johannesburg but it was wonderful to witness the enthusiasm that still exists across the generations for getting together for this annual event. It is always very emotional to hear the DSG girls sing grace, and no less so at this wonderful annual lunch, led by former headmistress Margaret Edwards who graces us with her attendance every year. If the noise levels in the room were anything to go by, much fun was had by all.

David Wright gave us a wonderful update on the school and Grahamstown in general, followed by Judy Martin who with 2 daughters currently at DSG could speak knowingly as both a parent and as a very involved Old Girl. Judy deserves our collective unbridled thanks for her enormous efforts in leading the Gauteng Guild as Chairperson for the past 2 years. Her shoes will be very hard to fill.

The Gauteng Guild fills a critically important role in keeping Gauteng Old Girls in touch with our old school, entrenching and reinforcing the fondness for DSG spawned in our school years. Fundraising is a minor part of the intention in rallying together, but the real value lies in renewing old bonds and friendships and keeping the spirit and pride associated with being a DSG girl alive in each of us. I can only encourage all Old Girls resident in Gauteng to get involved and participate at any level possible in this enviable sorority of friends.

Jilly Lester
May 2016

9. **Election of New President**

Andrea Rutherford and Jilly Lester have resigned as President and Vice-President of the Guild. It was proposed that Jan Ross and Glenda Williams-Wynne be elected as President and Vice-President of the Guild, respectively. Vanessa Bowes seconded the decisions.

10. **Report from President elect – Jan Ross (nee Mullins)**

Sandy Maree introduced Jan Ross to all in attendance and welcomed her into her new role in the Guild. Jan Ross presented her report as follows:

Welcome again everyone and, Reunion Girls, I hope you are having a wonderful time reconnecting with friends and DSG. As I have only recently been asked to take on this job I do not really have anything that I can report back on but I would like to take a few minutes to look forward a bit.

Reading through the past minutes it appears that there have been many discussions about the role of the Guild. My gut tells me, and the message I am getting from all over, is that it should be to keep contact with old girls, have regular get-togethers in as many areas as possible, assist the [Foundation] Office with reunions and
generally keep old girls in touch with each other and the school. I would like it to be that girls don’t run a mile as soon as they see correspondence from The Guild because they believe the only time they hear from the school is when they are asking for money. For me Guild means unity and fellowship.

I have also just re-read the Constitution. Well, I must confess that with all the changes and the opening of the Foundation Office, the Constitution is now almost entirely irrelevant and is going to need lots of work. I will make this a priority to work on so it can be brought to the AGM this time next year for discussion and hopefully approval. Some of you past presidents – get ready to for comment please.

The Foundation Office and I have discussed the regeneration of some of the branches. It is clearly impossible to try and spread ourselves too far and wide so we have decided to concentrate on the Western Cape. It appears that the cost of functions is often an issue and as we would like to do something in Stellenbosch as well as Cape Town and attract the students we are going to have to be really creative with function ideas and venues. Any brilliant suggestions will be gratefully received.

I have had a brief meeting with Mark Cotton – the chairman of the OA Club - to chat about the best way that we can co-operate with functions so the girls do not feel that it is an OA function to which they can also tag along to.

The Guild Finances appear now to consist entirely of the Bursary Fund as the Foundation office has taken over the other running expenses. Andrea mentioned the four sources of income so I would just like to concentrate on one for now.

My School – all funds raised by My School get paid across to the Guild Bursary Fund. I was pleasantly surprised when I learnt that this comes to an amount of about R75000.00/annum and although this is not huge money is better than what I imagined. This has got to be the easiest way to fundraise. It does not cost anything and all one has to do is swipe a card at participating stores – Woolies being the most well used. If you do not yet have a card I encourage you all to pick up an application form from Bronwen and get swiping. There is a school in Jo’burg that raises over R300 000.00 a year. I am going to really push this one and get as many Old Girls and parents using My School. Money for jam!

I have also picked up that there is a certain amount of discussion about how to go about selecting recipients for the Guild Bursaries - a fund for which so many of you have worked so hard at building up. Once again I have not had many discussions on this topic but my personal feeling is the following.... The school has a very strict selection process for bursaries with parents having to declare very detailed financial statuses. I think there should be very close co-operation between the Guild and the School Bursary Committee on this one. A few options have been put forward and this needs to be discussed and completely sorted out before we go ahead. Due to the fact that Gauteng is the only branch contributing to the fund, they MUST be involved in the decision making and it would please me if there is a Gauteng recipient when there is a suitable applicant.

Thank you all for your support today and I am looking forward to being involved again with this incredible school and Old Girl family. En evant!

Jan Ross
June 2017

Sandy Maree thanked Jan Ross for her report.
11. Report from the Director of the Foundation Office – Angie Marriner (nee Henderson)

Angie Marriner welcomed and thanked all in attendance. She thought it important to inform every one of who the Foundation Office is and what their role is within the Guild.

The core focus of the Foundation Office is to nurture the life-long relationships with DSG Old Girls, past and current parents, donors, and friends of the school, and to encourage their continued association with the Diocesan School for Girls. As a combined office, the Foundation Office also offers these services to the St Andrew’s College and Prep communities.

The office manages communications sent out to Old Girls, which includes, amongst others, birthday cards, events invitations, newsletters, and the Girdle. The DSG Guild Facebook page and the DSG Foundation website are also regularly updated. All reunion and alumni events are planned by the Foundation Office, in addition to openings of new or refurbished buildings and anniversaries of existing buildings and facilities. An example of such is the 90th anniversary of Crewe House to be held on the 14th July 2017.

The Foundation Office fundraises for the school. Successful campaigns have included the refurbishment of the Honours Boards in the Lilla Strong Hall, and the Nonie Mullins Dining Hall extension and upgrade. Subsequently, the office also manages the relationships with stakeholders, donors and corporate sponsors, by sending thank you letters, issuing tax certificates and reporting on progress.

Angie mentioned smaller initiatives, such as the 500 Club and the MySchool project. These are small but effective ways of giving back to DSG, and she encouraged everyone to sign up.

The Foundation Office is supported by an effective team:

- Beverley McCarthy – Campaign Co-ordinator
- Bridget Fourie – Events Co-ordinator.
- Liezel Coetzee – Alumni Relations Officer
- Bronwen May – Donor Administrator
- Anthony Maccario – Database Administrator

Angie Marriner closed with saying that it is a privilege to serve DSG, not only because it is her alma mater, but because it is a special and unique community, which is evident from this wonderful weekend that is the Big Reunion.

12. Message from the Headmistress – Shelley Frayne

Shelley Frayne thanked everyone for attending this year’s Guild AGM. She emphasised the importance of heritage and legacy at DSG. DSG is a family and so the support exhibited at the Guild AGM by reunion and non-reunion attendees was greatly appreciated.

Shelley said she is in her 10th year as Headmistress at DSG, and over the past 8 years DSG has embarked on a modernisation process. To ensure the school does not fall behind, DSG is in preparation to teach and mentor 21st century women, maintain up-to-date infrastructures and ensure transformation is met. Shelley emphasized that it is important to produce young women who will be productive in society, with a depth of thinking. She highlighted that the co-instructive model that was introduced in 1973 is working well. It allows the schools to share resources and to prepare students for a world that is co-ed. DSG is a unique school, because of this model.
Shelley presented two videos that effectively show what DSG has to offer.

13. **General**

The system of nominating and approving Honorary Old Girls needs to be revised and put into action again.

The meeting adjourned at 10h50