



FROM THE HEAD'S DESK

November is examination month. Our Public Examination candidates complete their examinations. For those in U6, this is the end of their time at the College. The Leavers Dance was held on the 14th of the month.



Scenes from the 2025 Leavers Dance.

Our L6 students returned to the College on the 17th and started their Leadership and Service programme. This is a major part of formation of young men and women in the sixth form and concludes on the last day of term.

It involves a week at Far and Wide in the Eastern Highlands, where students are able to bond as a year group and engage in a variety of experiences that they would not ordinarily encounter at school.



Our junior students completed their end of year examinations and are now able to reflect on their



Lower 6 Leadership and Service programme.

performances across all their activities at school and look forward to the year ahead.

Mr John Farrelly
(Headmaster)

SGC@ 129 years

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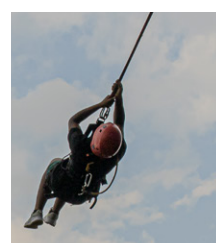
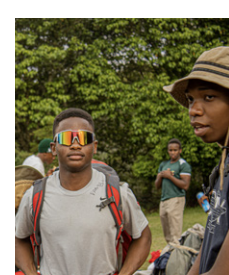


HISTORY ARTICLE: One Hundred Years ago!

Just over 100 years ago on 1 November 1925, one of the 'Founding Fathers', Fr. Francis Johanny made the following entry in a College diary –
“Hartmann Hill is taken over today by St. George's School, under an agreement entered into by the 'Superior Missionis' SJ (Fr. R.S. Brown) and the Rector of St. George's (Fr. W.R. Brand) on or about 19th & 20th Oct. The following are the members of the Community: Fr. Johanny, Superior; Fr. Leboeuf, architect of.....

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Far & Wide Camp Photo Collage



History Article continued:

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Jesuit Community and visitors at Hartmann Hill, circa mid-1926. Included were Br. Biermann, (standing left), Fr. Johanny and Br Mellon (standing right), Frs. Leboeuf and Brown (seated 2nd and 3rd), and Fr. Hartmann (seated 2nd from right).

He then went on to record what, by today's standards, was a very regimented daily programme for the Community members, especially the Jesuit Brothers – "The following order of the day is put up – to be observed at once & during summer months: 5.10 Rise. 5.30 Meditation. 6.30 Community Mass. Brothers may receive Holy Communion before Mass. 7.15 Breakfast (for Brothers), so that they may start work not later than 7.45 o'clock.² Fathers' breakfast as convenient to them & depending upon the time of their Mass.³

12.45 Examen.⁴ 1pm Dinner. 2 or 2.15pm end of recreation (i.e. so that Brothers can resume work). 4pm Tea. 7pm Litanies (on Sundays 6.50pm Benediction & likewise on feast days). 7.15 Supper. Brothers allowed recreation from the end of supper, but bell rings at 8 for the Fathers. 8.30pm Points. 8.45pm Examen. 9pm Visit, retire to rest. Lights out for Brothers, except on Saturday – 10pm, as Sunday's rise is at 5.30am."

A retrospective entry on the same date was as follows –

"Work on the St. George's School that is to be was begun in August: terracing, levelling, digging the trenches for the concrete foundations, laying down the two or three narrow gauge railway lines from the stone crusher,⁵ the cement shed etc. to bring the material up to the site, occupied the men during August & September. By October the concrete foundations had been laid; and on 13th of

¹ Latin word meaning 'old'. He was then 74.

² Note that the Jesuit Brothers in those days were treated almost as 2nd class citizens within the Jesuit hierarchy!

³ Then, as now, Jesuit Priests were expected to say, or attend Mass once a day and, in later years, to facilitate this obligation, there were several small chapels dotted around the College and boarders were rostered to serve their Masses. Fr. Thomas Crehan was rumoured to hold the record – a 15-minute Mass! Two of the altars from these chapels are now located in the Chapel.

⁴ The Jesuit Examen tradition is also an essential part of the St. George's daily classroom timetable.

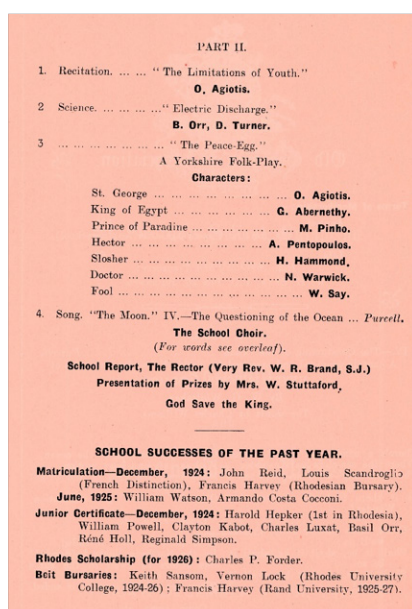
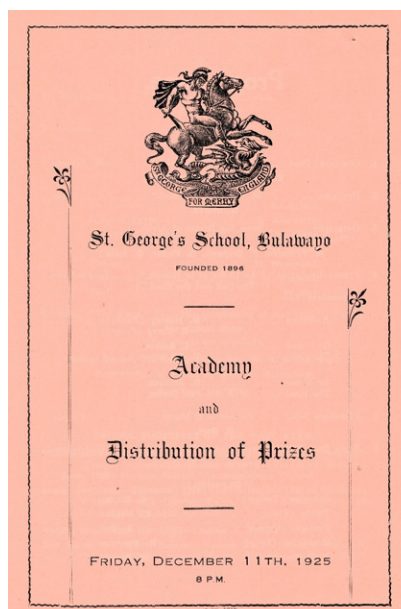
⁵ The base of this crusher can still be seen on the left side of the main drive. In later years an elephant's skull was placed upon it, but has since crumbled away.

that month, a Tuesday, Bishop Fleischer R.M.M.⁶ who happened to be passing through on his way from his visit “ad limina”⁷ back to Marianhill, and had been invited to dinner at Hartmann Hill, laid the first brick, a second being laid by Fr. Johanny, a third by Fr. Hartmann, and a fourth by Fr. Emmanuel Hanish R.M.M., the Bishop’s Socius. Fr. Leboeuf supervised.”

Meanwhile, school life continued at St. George’s School in Bulawayo, with the annual Academy and Distribution of Prizes ceremony following on 11 December. As may be seen from the accompanying illustrations, in addition to the actual report by the Rector on the school’s activities and performance that year, as well as the presentation of prizes, there was a full programme of entertainment that included songs and drama performances. Nowadays, with a senior school population of over 800 students, as compared with around 100 in 1925, and many more prizes to be awarded, there is no longer the time for such varied entertainment.



1925 stone crusher plinth – edge of main drive.



1925 Academy and Prizegiving programme.

⁶ R.M.M. – He was the Superior General of the Religious Missionaries of Marianhill (now C.M.M. – Congregation of the Missionaries of Marianhill)

⁷ ‘Ad limina’ – loosely applied to mean visits to the RMM mission sites in the country.