AMDG

ST GEORGE'S COLLEGE

One of the World's Leading Independent Schools

ST GEORGE'S COLLEGE 130 YEARS

HEADS-UP! October 2026 Newsletter - Volume 13: Issue 8

FROM THE HEAD'S DESK



At the conclusion of the month of September we lost Kupakwashe Machawira (U6) after his long battle with cancer. He had shown tremendous fortitude and resilience and was an inspiration to his peers and staff who had the privilege to work with him over the years. May his soul rest in eternal peace.



Kupakwashe Machawira (centre) with friends after the Leavers' Mass.

The Cambridge public examinations started in earnest at the beginning of October and the school settled into a rhythm of examinations for seniors, whilst lessons and co-curricular activities continued as usual for students in F1-F3.

There have been some notable sporting results in the last few weeks from Basketball, Volleyball, Water-Polo, Squash, Tennis and Badminton.



Scene from our Under 16 Boys and Girls Invitational Volleyball Tournament.



Our Under 14 Waterpolo Team took 3rd Place in the Kesson & Hammond Tournament.



Action scene from our Under 16 Basketball Tournament.

Refurbishment of the F4 dormitories continues, with completion anticipated for the beginning of December.



Commencement of the refurbishment of the Form 4 dormitories.

Phase 2 of the new Multi-purpose Sports Centre also continues apace and should be completed by the start of the annual shut-down in December.



Phase 2 of the new Multi-purpose Sports Centre.

It is anticipated that we will have use (limited) of this amazing school facility by the beginning of January 2027. Final completion of this major project will be in 2027.

J. Farrelly
Headmaster

SGC@ 130 years

In this issue:

- The Cambridge public examinations.
- Sporting Results.
- Dormitory Refurbishments.
- Phase 2 of the new Multi-purpose Sports Centre.



Our U20 Boys' Volleyball Team won the 2026 ATS League Championship!



HISTORY ARTICLE:

Annual Prize Giving ceremonies – some historical reflections

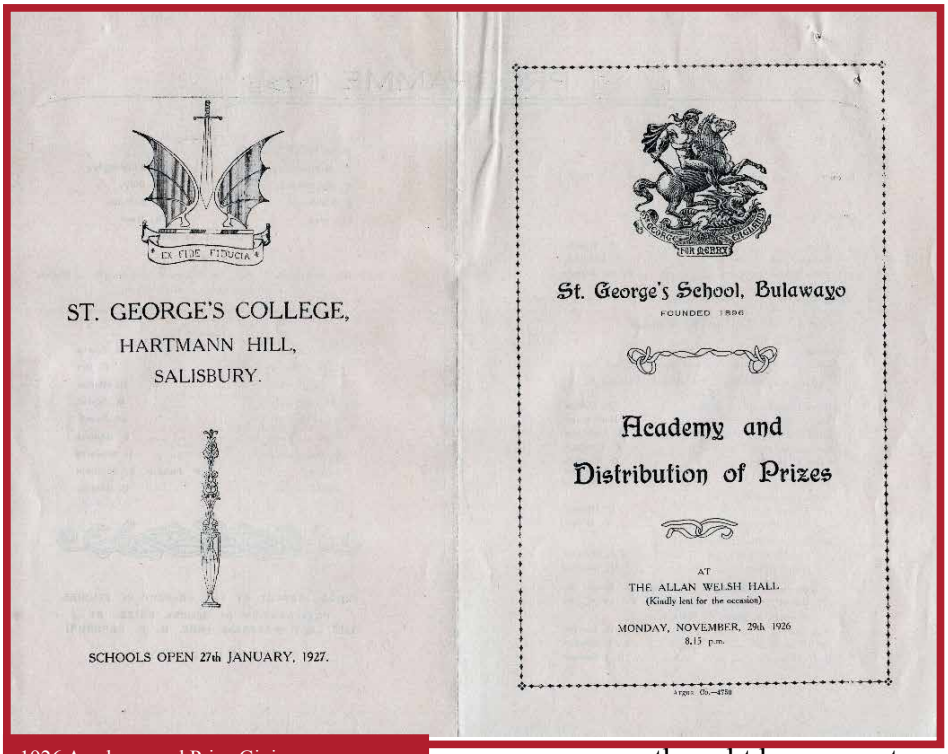
Just under 100 years ago, on 29 November 1926, the then St. George' School held its last Academy and Distribution of Prizes in Bulawayo, before the school relocated, 'lock, stock, and barrel' to Harare. At the time there were about 130 pupils.....

(Story continued on page 2...)

History Article

Annual Prize Giving ceremonies – some historical reflections

Just under 100 years ago, on 29 November 1926, the then St. George' School held its last Academy and Distribution of Prizes in Bulawayo, before the school relocated, 'lock, stock, and barrel' to Harare.[1] At the time there were about 130 pupils, and, as may be seen from the programme, the proceedings were very different to those of the Prize Giving held here on 23 September.



ST. GEORGE'S COLLEGE,
HARTMANN HILL,
SALISBURY.

SCHOOLS OPEN 27th JANUARY, 1927.

St. George's School, Bulawayo
FOUNDED 1896

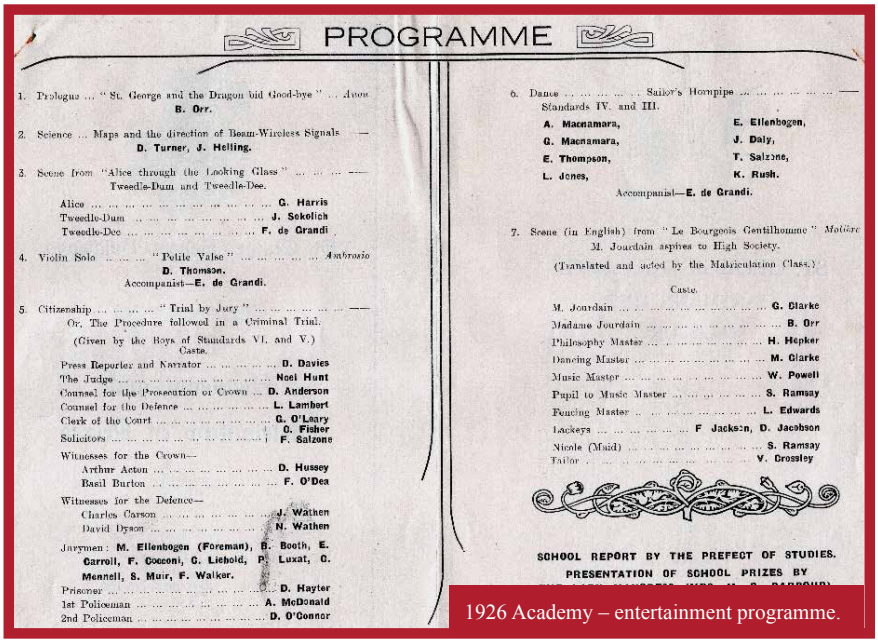
Academy and
Distribution of Prizes

AT
THE ALLAN WELSH HALL
(Kindly lent for the occasion)

MONDAY, NOVEMBER, 29th 1926
8.15 p.m.

1926 Academy and Prize Giving – cover page.

For a start, a large part of the proceedings on that earlier occasion were taken up by a series of performances and displays given by the boys, followed almost as an after-thought by a report on the school and then the presentation of prizes. Back then, of course, with the school being only in its 30th year, there would have been far fewer prizes to be awarded, as well as a smaller number of recipients, but the tradition of providing additional entertainment continued until 1975. Nowadays, of course, with a myriad of prizes to be presented to so many more recipients, and speeches of varying lengths by the Rector,



PROGRAMME

1. Prologue ... "St. George and the Dragon bid Good-bye" ... Avon
B. Orr.

2. Science ... Maps and the direction of Beam-Wireless Signals —
D. Turner, J. Helling.

3. Scene from "Alice through the Looking Glass" ... ... ——
Tweedle-Dum and Tweedle-Dee.
Alice ... G. Harris
Tweedle-Dum ... J. Sekelich
Tweedle-Dee ... F. de Grandi

4. Violin Solo ... "Petite Valse" ... Ambrosio
D. Thomson.
Accompanist—E. de Grandi.

5. Citizenship ... "Trial by Jury" ... ——
Or, The Procedure followed in a Criminal Trial.
(Given by the Boys of Standards VI. and V.)
Caste.
Press Reporter and Narrator ... D. Davies
The Judge ... Noel Hunt
Counsel for the Prosecution or Crown ... D. Anderson
Counsel for the Defence ... L. Lambert
Clerk of the Court ... G. O'Leary
Solicitors ... O. Fisher, F. Salzone
Witnesses for the Crown—
Arthur Acton ... D. Hussey
Basil Burton ... F. O'Dea
Witnesses for the Defence—
Charles Carson ... J. Wathen
David Dyson ... N. Wathen
Jurymen: M. Ellenbogen (Foreman), B. Booth, E. Carroll, F. Cocconi, C. Liebold, P. Luxat, C. Mennell, S. Muir, F. Walker.
Prisoner ... D. Hayter
1st Policeman ... A. McDonald
2nd Policeman ... D. O'Connor

6. Dance ... Sailor's Hornpipe ... ——
Standards IV. and III.
A. Macnamara, E. Ellenbogen,
G. Macnamara, J. Daly,
E. Thompson, T. Salzone,
L. Jones, K. Rush.
Accompanist—E. de Grandi.

7. Scene (in English) from "Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme" Molière
M. Jourdain aspires to High Society.
(Translated and acted by the Matriculation Class.)
Caste.
M. Jourdain ... G. Clarke
Madame Jourdain ... B. Orr
Philosophy Master ... H. Hepker
Dancing Master ... M. Clarke
Music Master ... W. Powell
Pupil to Music Master ... S. Ramsay
Fencing Master ... L. Edwards
Lackeys ... F. Jackson, D. Jacobson
Nicole (Maid) ... S. Ramsay
Tailor ... V. Crossley

SCHOOL REPORT BY THE PREFECT OF STUDIES.
PRESENTATION OF SCHOOL PRIZES BY

1926 Academy – entertainment programme.

[1] *'lock, stock, and barrel'* – meaning bringing everything. In the fullness of time the Jesuits left only the building behind, having stripped out the two copper plaques, commemorating the slaying of the dragon by St. George, as well as the stained-glass windows from the classrooms!

History Article

the Headmaster, the Guest of Honour[2], and the Head Boy, there simply isn't time for additional entertainment, other than a brief choir performance.

Associated with the prize-giving, there is also the use of the rather unusual term 'Academy'. Quite why, or how this term came to be introduced in the context of this annual event has, as yet, to be ascertained, but the programme for the 1921 occasion was headed 'Grand Academy and Distribution of Prizes', whereas the programme for the 1900 event promised an evening of 'Dramatic Entertainment and Distribution of Prizes'.



St George's School Hall, c1907 – a multipurpose venue.

As far as we know, the very early prize giving ceremonies were held in the hall built in 1907, whereas, according to the 1926 programme, the event took place in a hall that is now part of Eveline High School. From 1927, until the completion of the Beit Hall in 1935, the Loyola Hall was used, and after it the Beit Hall until 1995. Since then, of course, Neptune's Lawn, has served as a very practical and colourful venue, and doubtless, next year, 2007 – our 100th year on the Hartmann Hill site, will see it being held in the new multipurpose hall.

From 1949, if not earlier, to 1993, the event was held in March or April, which meant that the Upper 6 prize winners from the previous year were usually unable to attend. Also, from 1978 to 1983, as part of an Open Day weekend that was introduced, the ceremonies were held in the mornings. Thereafter, with the exception of 1994, prize-giving reverted to being an evening affair.



Academy & Prize Giving 2026.

On a final note, the 1926 programme is particularly notable for the fact that on the front cover it depicts the earlier St. George for Merry England logo, whereas, on the reverse, it points both to a new crest and inscription for 1927 - "Ex Fide Fiducia", as well as a new location, Hartmann Hill.

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[2] In the early 1980s a Guest of Honour regaled the gathering with a speech timed at well over an hour!