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Cover Picture

This photograph has scribbled on it 'George Bell's team, Kokstad, 1903. George Bell was the senior driver for Strachan and Co. at that time. His trap seems well-laden with post-bags. And is his team made up of horses or mules? At any rate, the white team was reserved for the glorious entrance into Kokstad itself.

(Photograph: Ken Strachan collection)

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Contents

| | <i>Page</i> |
|--|-------------|
| EDITORIAL | 5 |
| UNPUBLISHED PIECE | |
| By Post Cart to Harding | |
| <i>Bill Bizley</i> | 7 |
| INTERVIEW | |
| A Trip to see the Prince of Wales | |
| <i>Bill Bizley</i> | 21 |
| ARTICLES | |
| Racist Attitudes and Prison Reform in George Webb Hardy's <i>The Prince</i> and <i>The Black Peril</i> | |
| <i>Frederick Hale</i> | 26 |
| Bertram Mitford and the Bambatha Rebellion | |
| <i>J.A. Kearney</i> | 43 |
| The Horticulturalists, Freedom Radio and the Erase Erasmus Society: Pietermaritzburg-based protest against the Nationalist Government in the 1950s and early 1960s | |
| <i>Mark Coghlan</i> | 54 |
| Comrades of a Particular Type: an alternative history of the marathon, 1921–1983 | |
| <i>Christopher Merrett</i> | 65 |
| The Natal Society Library, 1975 to 1995 | |
| <i>David Buckley</i> | 77 |
| More About the U-Boats | |
| <i>Bill Bizley</i> | 81 |
| OBITUARIES | |
| Noel Desmond Clarence | 84 |
| Gordon Robert de Carle | 86 |
| Themba Harry Gwala | 88 |
| Kenneth Hallows | 91 |
| Eileen Jensen Krige | 92 |
| Alexander Nixon Montgomery | 95 |
| Reginald Oliver Pearse | 97 |
| Maria Katharina Schmidt-Ihms | 100 |
| Gordon Small | 101 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| NOTES AND QUERIES | |
| <i>John Deane</i> | 105 |
| BOOK REVIEWS AND NOTICES | 115 |
| SELECT LIST OF RECENT NATAL PUBLICATIONS | 127 |
| NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS | 129 |

Editorial

This year marks *Natalia*'s quarter-century and as editor I wish to pay tribute to my predecessors. The inspiration for *Natalia* came from Mr Ron Brown, then University Librarian on the Pietermaritzburg campus of the University of Natal, who in 1969 produced four editions of a cyclostyled newsletter entitled 'Natal Notes and News'. This grew in popularity and in 1971 it was replaced by a fully-fledged journal entitled *Natalia*, edited by one of Natal's most illustrious historians, Professor Colin Webb. He edited five editions before his departure to take up the King George V Chair of History at the University of Cape Town at the end of 1975. His place was taken by Dr John Clark, the author of *Natal settler agent* (Cape Town, 1972), who edited the journal in 1976 and 1977. The editorship returned to the university with the appointment of Mr John Sellers, senior lecturer in economic history, who edited three editions between 1978 and 1980, including the classic *Natalia* No.8, which commemorated the centenary of the Anglo-Zulu War and which has become a sought-after Africana item. His successor was Mr T.B. ('Jack') Frost of the Natal Education Department who remained at the editorial coal-face for a record eleven years! I succeeded Jack Frost in 1992, as the first museum-based editor. My task has been considerably lightened by the work of Mr John Deane who assisted with the editing of *Natalia* 23 and 24, and with this edition, No.25, and by the continued presence of Jack Frost on the committee.

In addition to the editors, *Natalia* has been well served by three other people who deserve special mention. June Farrer, Secretary to the editorial committee until her retirement as Deputy Chief Librarian of the Natal Society Library in 1990, is still proof-reader *extraordinaire*; Margery Moberly, whose expertise as a publisher has contributed enormously to the technical quality of our journal; and Shelagh Spencer, the doyenne of Natal settler biographical historians, who has assisted both editors and authors with the most detailed biographical information at all times. The other members of the editorial committee have all devoted knowledge, skills and hours of time out of their busy lives to ensure the accuracy and technical quality of this journal. Most of all, *Natalia* would not have been a success had it not been for the support of contributors and readers alike. Without a sustained interest in the past, the people, the environment and the culture of the province, *Natalia* would have been neither produced nor read.

The next twenty-five years will bring huge challenges as KwaZulu-Natal grapples with its great political and socio-economic problems. We firmly believe that there is a place for a journal of this type to maintain a record, stimulate debate and bring the highways and byways of human experience to the attention of the readers of all backgrounds. *Natalia* needs to reflect the changing conditions in the province and in the country as a whole. We look

forward to contributions which help to illuminate the history and culture of all our region's inhabitants.

Natalia often publishes the Natal Society's Annual Lecture. The 1995 lecture was delivered by Dr Brian Stuckenberg, recently retired Director of the Natal Museum, on the subject of Portuguese shipwrecks on the African coast and particularly in the Mozambique Channel. As its focus was far broader than Natal and as Dr Stuckenberg relied extensively on illustrative material, it has not been published in this issue.

Our previously unpublished piece this year is contributed by Bill Bizley and is an extract from Mary Moore's account of a post cart trip to Harding nearly a century ago. Its companion piece is an interview by Bill Bizley with his mother and aunt about a trip a few decades later to Eshowe to see the Prince of Wales in 1925. We thought it appropriate to publish it in this, the year of the first British royal visit since 1947. Bill Bizley also writes follow-up in 'Notes and Queries' on his article last year on 'U-Boats off Natal'.

In this issue we feature two articles on Natal-related writers and journalists: Frederick Hale's piece on the controversial turn-of-the-century Durban journalist George Hardy Webb; and John Kearney's article on Bertram Mitford and the Bambatha Rebellion. The editorial committee is pleased to offer these articles that explore the connection between history and literature, after several issues in which we have not had much literary input.

We also offer two historical articles on subjects where apartheid had a strong bearing. Mark Coghlan's piece on the so-called Horticultural League and the clandestine anti-Nationalist Freedom Radio of the 1950s and 1960s is an excursion into an unexplored field, but one which may be of considerable interest to readers with memories of those years. Christopher Merrett has provided us with a critical look at the social impact of the Comrades Marathon on Natal society and particularly at the impact of racist ideology on the organisation of sport.

We have our usual offerings of 'Notes and Queries', book reviews and several tributes to prominent Natalians.

GRAHAM DOMINY

Select List of Recent Natal Publications

- ALEXANDER, Peter F. Alan Paton: a biography. Cape Town: Oxford University Press, 1995.
- ARDINGTON, Elisabeth. Quantitative analysis of socio-economic data from five thousand households in KwaZulu: a secondary analysis of data from an income and expenditure survey conducted in KwaZulu in 1992 by Data Research Africa. Durban: University of Natal, Centre for Social and Development Studies, 1994.
- BERGHAMMER, Corda. Special libraries and information sources in KwaZulu-Natal. 2nd ed. Durban: SAILIS, Natal Branch, 1994.
- BERNING, Gillian. Gandhi letters: from Upper House to Lower House, 1906–1914. Durban: Local History Museum, (n.d.) [Letters to Herman Kallenbach]
- BRIJLAL, P. and HADEBE, P. KwaZulu-Natal. Durban: University of Durban-Westville, Department of Economics, 1994. (Project for statistics on living standards and development: regional poverty profiles)
- CHATTERIS, Chris. Between a rock and a hard place: discernment in the search for justice: some concrete issues. Pietermaritzburg: Cluster Publications, 1995. [Deals with the role of the church during times of conflict, based on Chatteris' experiences as a priest at Elandskop]
- COBBLEDICK, J. and SHARRATT, M. A profile of poverty in the Durban region. Durban: University of Natal, Economic Research Unit, 1993. (Project for statistics on living standards and development: regional poverty profiles)
- COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE AFFAIRS OF THE PIETERMARITZBURG CITY COUNCIL. Report to the Premier of the Province of KwaZulu-Natal by Advocate C. Rees on an enquiry conducted into the affairs of the Pietermaritzburg City Council. (Pietermaritzburg: the Commission?), 1995.
- DAIRYING in KwaZulu-Natal; compiled and published by the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture on behalf of the Co-ordinated Extension Committee of KwaZulu-Natal. Pietermaritzburg: KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture, 1995.
- EILERSEN, Gillian Stead. Bessie Head: thunder behind her ears: her life and writing. Cape Town: David Philip, 1995.
- ENGLISH, Miles A. English: a history of the descendants of Daniel English (1816–1892), with a genealogy from 1600–1992. Sandton: the Author, 1993.

- GORDON-GRAY, K.D. Cyperaceae in Natal. Pretoria: National Botanical Institute, 1995. (*Strelitzia* 2)
- HAW, Simon. Taking stock: the Natal Education Department looks back. Pietermaritzburg: Natal Education Department, 1995. [Published to mark the Department's centenary in 1994]
- HINDSON, Doug. and McCARTHY, Jeff., eds. Here to stay: informal settlements in KwaZulu-Natal. Durban: Indicator Press, 1994.
- HOCKING, Anthony. Durnacol: the story of the Durban Navigation Collieries. Bethulie: Hollards Corporate, 1995.
- KNIGHT, Ian. The sun turned black: Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift, 1879. Rivonia: William Waterman, 1995. [Paperback version of 'Zulu, Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift, 22/23 January 1879', published by Windrow and Greene in 1992]
- KOTZE, D.C., HUGHES, J.C., BREEN, C.M. and KLUG, J.R. The development of a wetland soils classification system for KwaZulu-Natal: report to the Water Research Commission. Pretoria: Water Research Commission, 1994. (WRC Report No.501/4/94)
- KOTZE, D.C., BREEN, C.M. and KLUG, J.R. A project to improve the management of wetlands in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands: an overview: report to the Water Research Commission. Pretoria: Water Research Commission, 1994. (WRC Report No.501/1/94)
- KOTZE, D.C., BREEN, C.M. and KLUG, J.R. Wetland use: a wetland management decision support system for the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands: report to the Water Research Commission. Pretoria: Water Research Commission, 1994. (WRC Report No.501/2/94)
- KUHN, Rosemary. A guide to the literature on Pietermaritzburg and surroundings. Pietermaritzburg: University of Natal, Library, 1994.
- LAMBERT, Ann. The palm collection of the Durban Botanic Gardens, with notes on palm cultivation and identification. Durban: City Parks Department, 1994.
- LINSCOTT, Graham. Last outpost. Durban: Tekweni Press, 1994.
- LOCK, Ron. Blood on the Painted Mountain: Zulu victory and defeat, Hlobane and Kambula, 1879. London: Greenhill Books, 1995.
- LUNDIE, Ruth. Victor. Howick: Brevitas, 1995. [Life and death of Revd. Victor Afrikander]
- McCORD, Margaret. The calling of Katie Makanya. Cape Town: David Philip, 1995.
- POOLEY, Tony and PLAYER, Ian. KwaZulu-Natal wildlife destinations: a guide to the game reserves, resorts, private nature reserves, ranches and wildlife areas of KwaZulu-Natal. Halfway House: Southern Book Publishers, 1995.
- PROPOSALS for the restructuring of education and training in KwaZulu-Natal. Durban: Indicator Press for the Education Policy Unit, University of Natal, 1994.
- SASOL Durban-Pietermaritzburg gas pipeline: briefing document. Pietermaritzburg: Knight Piesold, 1995.
- TAYLOR, Stephen. Shaka's children: a history of the Zulu people. London: Harper Collins, 1994.
- THEMBELA, Alex J. and RADEBE, Edmund P.M. The life and works of Joseph Shabalala and the Ladysmith Black Mambazo. Pietermaritzburg: Reach Out Publishers, 1993.