

NEWSLETTER: VOLUME 26 ISSUE 1

APRIL 2023



### FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

It is an honour and privilege to be writing to you from the Editor's Desk, a channel to share news that Vyvienne Ball began 23 years ago. 2023 promises to be a celebratory one as we emerge from 'Covid Fog', more schools are once again holding live festivals, and most exciting of all, SADASA will celebrate its 80th birthday.

*Rosanne*



### VYVIENNE LOOKS BACK

In October 1999, Volume 1, issue 1, of The Speech and Drama Association's black and white publication, known simply as "Newsletter" was photocopied page by page, stapled together and posted to 150 members.

In that issue, Chairman, Bruce Piper wrote: "The aim of the 'Newsletter' is to keep parties aware of the activities of, and developments within the Association, and of other happenings in the world of communication and arts. It is our intention to highlight successes and other matters of general interest related to the Festival. We see the 'Newsletter' as being a powerful instrument for conveying information to our clients, prospective clients, adjudicators, friends and sponsors..."

In that first issue we asked for suggestions for a name for our newsletter in exchange for a 'super prize'. I forget what the prize was, but recall that it was won by Lynn Ellis for her brilliant suggestion of "THE PLATFORM".

Now in its 24th year The Platform has evolved into a slick, colourful, online publication which, hopefully, is still fulfilling its original purpose, despite being reduced from a quarterly publication to the twice a year publication you now receive.

I have been immensely grateful for assistance from Eleanor Stewart, whose immaculate proof-reading of each issue ensured that few, if any, gremlins remained on the final pages, and, when Fenella Rivalland of Loud Crowd Media, introduced us to Campaign Monitor, The Platform moved into the tech age, becoming even more relevant and accessible to today's readers.

As I hand over the editorial reins to Rosanne, I echo the following wishes of Bruce Piper and the 1999 Executive Committee... "we trust that you will interact with us, and pass on ideas and thoughts to us, so that our "Newsletter" develops into a really constructive and worthwhile means of promoting Speech and Drama on the widest scale possible."

**Vyvienne Ball**

April 2023

# newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

October 1999

- HONORARY LIFE PRESIDENT
- Professor Elizabeth Sneddon
- HONORARY LIFE VICE-PRESIDENT
- Professor Pieter Scholtz
- EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
- Bruce Piper (Chairman)
- Prof. Maryn McMurtry (Vice-Chairman)
- Sue Brewer
- Jeanette Gurdorp
- Noreen Harris
- Adèle Janina
- Geoff Mace
- Dennis Rubin
- David Spitzer
- Eime Stokes
- FESTIVAL CONVENOR
- Vyvienne Ball
- SECRETARY
- Heather Thomson

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## Chairman's Message

It is with considerable pleasure and a sense of pride that I pen this note for the first of what we, in the Association, hope will be a quarterly "Newsletter". It is our intention to distribute this as widely as possible to sponsors and others who share our passion and commitment to the promotion of Speech and Drama. The most important recipients of our "Newsletter", however, will be our clients – those schools which participate in our annual Festival, and which have offered us such wonderful support and loyalty over the last fifty-six years.

At the outset I should like to compliment our Festival Convenor, Mrs. Vyvienne Ball, whose brainchild this "Newsletter" is. The project

has the full support of the Executive Committee, and I sincerely hope that this initiative will enable us to develop even stronger links with our clients, and that it will make the aims and objectives of the Association more widely known to a far broader spectrum of society. The Association has always prided itself on its image and its professionalism and we trust that our "Newsletter" will advertise these qualities even more.

The aim of the "Newsletter" is to keep interested parties aware of the activities of, and developments within, the Association, and of other happenings in the world of communication and the arts. It is our intention to highlight successes and other matters of general interest

related to the Festival. We see the "Newsletter" as being a powerful instrument for conveying information to our clients, prospective clients, adjudicators, friends and sponsors, and we trust that you will interact with us, and pass on ideas and thoughts to us, so that our "Newsletter" develops into a really constructive and worthwhile means of promoting Speech and Drama on the widest scale possible.

I offer my best wishes for the immediate and continuing success of our "publication."

B. H. PIPER  
CHAIRMAN

## 1999 Sponsors

*We acknowledge with gratitude donations received from the*  
**NBS**  
*and Durban Arts Association*

*which have enabled us to produce our new syllabus, offer bursaries, and subsidise pupils who would not have been able to enter the Festival without financial assistance.*

"Thank You"





## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This was held on 22 March 2023 at The Sharks Business Centre, Hollywood Bets Meeting Room. The Minutes of the meeting, and the Chairman's Report, have been circulated to all members. In his report Dr McMurtry pays tribute to SADASA's founder, Professor Elizabeth Sneddon. The report can be [read here](#).

The committee will continue to serve for 2023 as follows:

**Dr Mervyn McMurtry (Chairman)**

**Mrs Margie Marnewick (Vice Chairman)**

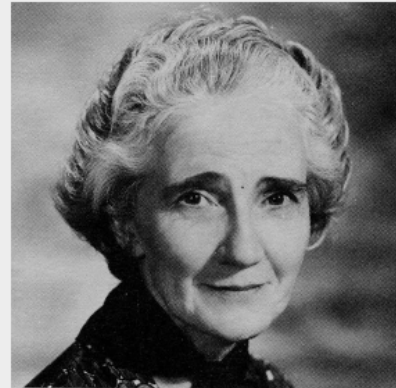
**Mr Brett Beiles**

**Ms Mbali Nguse**

**Ms Philippa Savage**

**Mr David Spiteri**

**Mrs Jean Van Elden**



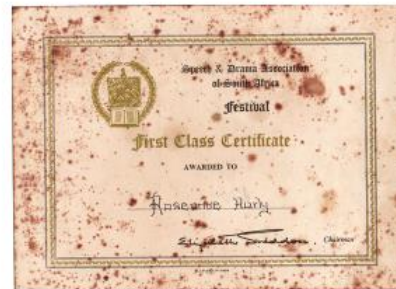
*Professor Elizabeth Sneddon*



## A SADASA 80TH BIRTHDAY CHALLENGE...

Many of us have been fortunate enough to have worn many SADASA hats, first as festival entrants, then teachers, convenors, adjudicators and parents involved in SADASA festivals.

Please share your carefully stored, and precious SADASA certificates and reports. Tell us your story. We'd love to hear them. Email: [rosanne@sadasa.co.za](mailto:rosanne@sadasa.co.za)



*Have you got one of these?*



## CELEBRATING VYVIENNE BALL'S OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO SADASA

The SADASA committee, adjudicators, friends and family celebrated Vyvienne Ball's 23 outstanding years of service to SADASA at The Presidential Suite, Hollywood Bets King's Park Stadium, on 10 March 2023. Thank you, Vyvienne!



SADASA friends and family



## SYLLABUS 2024-2026

The Syllabus committee will be meeting in the next few months to begin working on the new publication. In an effort to keep it current, and exciting, please send any poems you might have written, or feel are relevant and interesting to young people from Pre-school to Grade 12.

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