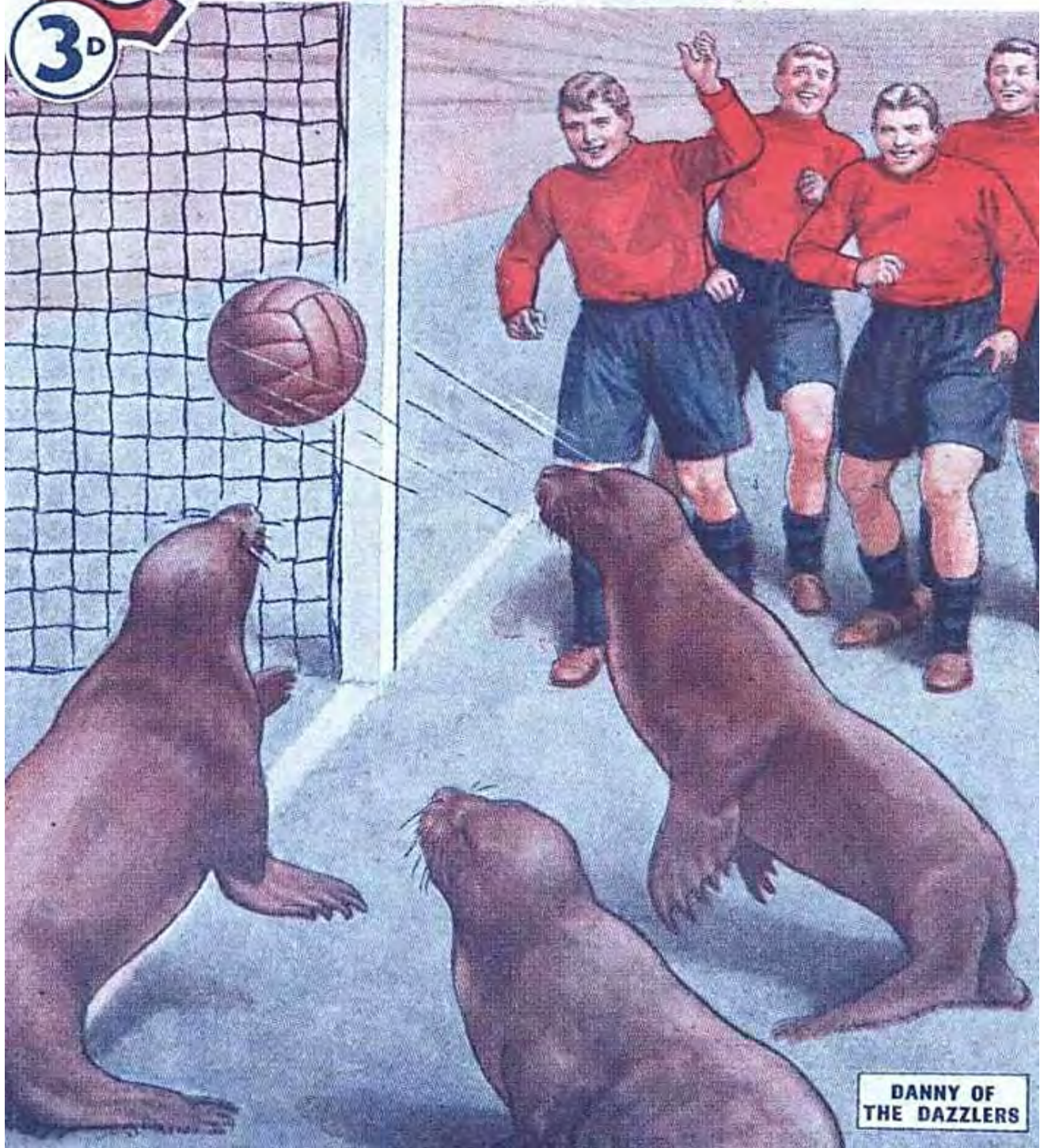


ROCKFIST ROGAN IN A SUPER FLYING THRILLER



THE CHAMPION

3^D



DANNY OF THE DAZZLERS

CHAPTER FOUR

DAZZLERS IN THE NINETEEN SIXTIES

INTRODUCTION

The nineteen sixties was one of the most tumultuous decades of the twentieth century on virtually every front. In South Africa, the Apartheid Regime flexed its muscles and banned the ANC, PAC and SA Communist Party on the 8th April 1960. Shortly after that major leaders such as Nelson Mandela; Ahmed Katradha and Walter Sisal were imprisoned on Robben Island for what the regime thought would be for life.

Inventions which are taken for granted in the Third Millennium were invented such as the computer mouse; the video disc; computer games; fuel injected cars and the bar code scanner. On the entertainment front a few of the most enduring bands in musical history such as The Beatles and The Rolling Stones took to the airwaves. Drugs and free love became cool, the purveyors of which had no idea that their licentiousness would lead to the AIDS pandemic and the destruction of the social fabric world-wide by the Third Millennium.

THE BECKETT BROTHERS

Dazzlers players, from co-founder Clifford Jousten, down to the present twenty fourteen generation of players, are unanimous about the pivotal role the Beckett brothers played in Dazzlers surviving the move from its original home in Tram Street in Albertville to Bosmont at the beginning of the nineteen sixties and remaining a strong community based team at the time of its Blue Sapphire Anniversary.

Neil Beckett was born on the 10th June 1939 and Errol 'Chockie' Beckett was born on the 26th June 1945. They spent their formative years in Albertville where they came to know the founders and original players of Dazzlers and would later grow their legacy into the Third Millennium.

Neil started playing football for Floranians when he was twelve years old. He was encouraged to play for the Club by his neighbour Reggie Thomas. The Thomas's are connected to Willie Mooi and Clifford Jousten through a mutual ancestor, Bertie Thomas. The Founders grandfather, Wangon, arrived in Johannesburg as an immigrant from Canton Province in China in the eighteen nineties. Legend has it that he was standing at the train station waving money around in order to get transport. Bertie Thomas—the Founder of Floranians, who drove a taxi, befriended the Chinaman, and took him home. He introduced him to his wife, Maggie, and her sister Francis. After a protracted courtship Wangon and Francis got married, linking the Mooi and Thomas families through blood and football.

Shortly after joining Floranians, Neil was persuaded by his friend Clifford Lewis to join Dazzlers. He played in the second division and was, at twelve, the youngest player. Football

matches were played mainly on Saturdays. Although there was an age gap of about six years between him and Clifford Jousten, they bonded and Clifford Jousten took him under his wing and included him in the team's socializing. Clifford Jousten paid for his movie tickets at the Lyric and Majestic bioscopes in Fordsburg on Fridays. The bioscope featured prominently in the team's socializing as television, which made its debut in South Africa in nineteen seventy eight, was non-existent in the nineteen fifties.

The highlight for Neil in those formative years was touring with Dazzlers to different Provinces. As most people did not have cars people tended to be confined to the environment where they grew up. The tournaments Dazzlers played in other provinces were an ideal opportunity to visit other parts of South Africa. Neil played tournaments in Mafikeng and Bloemfontein. Teams from Pietmaritzburg travelled to Johannesburg one year to play and Dazzlers went back to their hometown in alternative years. Later Neil became a junior coach and he worked closely with Jakes May, who was a player and senior coach.

Chockie Beckett started playing for Dazzlers when he was six years old, even though he could not tie his own laces at the time. He played goalie. He and his friends whose fathers owned bicycles would borrow their bikes and whiz around the largely quiet streets of Albertville. After that they would join one of the numerous street football games constantly in progress throughout the suburb.

There were few tarred roads in Albertville in the nineteen fifties and the sand roads were pock marked by mud holes after the inevitably Highveld afternoon summer storm. Most youngsters were attired in short black pants and white shirts when they played in the streets. During one robust game in a muddy road Errol was liberally plastered in brown mud. His mother walked past, shook her head and said: 'Look what you look like! What should I call you?'

One of Errol's mates quickly quipped: 'You look like a chocolate pigeon!' Neil had a pigeon. Brown pigeons were known as a chocolate. His team mates instantly christened him 'Chockie', short for chocolate.

In the nineteen fifties Dazzlers did not have formal coaches. Jakes May ran the juniors, although he was not a proper coach. Senior players took charge of the juniors and gave them guidance. When Chockie was thirteen years old, Jakes instructed Chockie to run a meeting for him. From then on Chockie played football as well as chaired the meetings where he advised the players how to play and also gave them match reports.

Mrs Kearns had a dilapidated garage in her yard. She allowed Chockie and his team mates to take it over. They painted it white inside. On one wall they painted the Dazzlers monogram and the team's name. On another wall they stuck photographs of overseas players such as Danny Blanchflower and Jimmy Greaves, who played for Leeds. This Club House was used for weekly meetings. When teams visited from other Provinces, Dazzlers players would lay mattresses on

the floor for the visitors to sleep on and then take them to their houses in the morning for breakfast.

A Derby Day was held in the Ville. Dazzler's opponents were the Municipal Police Team, known as the Zebras. The Compound Grounds were always packed when the two teams clashed. One of the players for the Zebras drew Chockie's attention. He was greatly admired by his fans, not just for his football skills, but for the way he was kitted out. Not a hair was out of place. His corks gleamed; his top and pants were ironed to perfection and his socks were adjusted to precision. His impeccable turnout earned him the nick name 'Ice Cream'.

On another occasion the Eagles Municipal team asked Chockie to be their goalie. He joined the team for training on a Thursday preceding the match. Richard Moses also played for the team. He was an extremely tough defender who could kick the heavy leather ball with his big toes, without wearing boots. He eventually ended up playing for Orlando Pirates. As the team went through its paces Moses crashed into Chockie, standing in goal, seriously injuring his knee.

As a result of his knee injury, for two months Chockie had to take a bus from Albertville to Town and then take another bus from town to Coronationville Hospital. The doctors treated his knee with an opium dressing. When his knee was better Chockie decided to give up being a goalie and he played as a wing instead.

One evening Neil, who was the Captain of the First Division side, selected Chockie for promotion from the juniors. Chockie refused the promotion as he wanted to continue playing with his buddies. Neil later approached him again and gave him an ultimatum: 'refuse my offer again and you can forget playing for the seniors!' The next week Chockie accepted his selection for the First Division side. It was a wise decision.

His first game was against the Sherylleens. Playing conditions were appalling as the pitch black sky unleashed a snowy sleet on the shivering players. Sherylleens scored the first goal. The referee asked the two captains if they wanted to continue playing in the dangerous conditions. As Sherylleens were leading, Neil insisted that the game continue as he did not want to award the opposition a victory without a fight. Despite slipping and sliding on the muddy pitch Chockie managed to dribble his way through the opposition and score two goals to win the match.

Chockie was selected to play for the First Team when he was fifteen years old. Most of the other players were older than him and some of the players were already married. He arrived at the grounds wearing short pants. His new team mates were embarrassed by his school boy type attire. Chockie's mother refused to buy him long pants, so when one of the players, Tommy Ally, offered him a pair of old jeans to wear. Chockie accepted the gift with gratitude.

Chockie became a referee at a very young age, while he still attended school. He attended referee meetings in Natalspruit, where he was accompanied by Nelson Buys, who had already started working. Chockie started out as a junior referee while Nelson was a senior referee.

One of the perks of playing for Dazzlers was that it offered players the chance to visit other Provinces. Shortly after his arrival in Pietermaritzburg on his first trip to the City, an opposition player went to his room in Boom Street and returned with a bottle of brandy. He tried his utmost to persuade Chockie, a rare life time non-drinking Dazzlers player, to imbibe the drink with him. Chockie politely refused the persistent offer. Eventually the Maritzburg player shook his head sadly and confessed that Chockie had caused him to lose a bet that he could persuade him to have a drink.

Drama ensued at the end of Chockie's first Maritzburg trip. He and Jakes May arrived at the pick up spot to find that all the players and the combi transporting them back to Johannesburg had left without them. They persuaded one of their hosts to drive them in his Dodge in pursuit of the combi. The host set off at a great speed, tyres screeching as he zig-zagged around the numerous bends in the road. Unfortunately the combi had to give a huge head start on them and they could not catch up with it.

Jakes May said that he was in no rush to get home so they returned to Maritzburg. The players from Maritzburg Hearts then clubbed together to buy the two stranded players train tickets back to Johannesburg. On the train Jakes got into a fight over a compartment with one of the commuters. They settled the matter and became such fast friends that they virtually ignored Chockie for the entire trip. Chockie went straight from the train station to school. His mother could not understand why somebody so sensible could be left behind.

The Beckett brothers moved from the Ville to Bosmont in nineteen sixty four. The close knit Dazzlers community in Albertville, which had steadily been pressurized by the Apartheid Regime since the nineteen fifties, had finally and irrevocably been shattered. Players moved to Townships such as Riverlea, Noordgesig, Newclare and Coronationville.

Dazzlers and football in general was in a state of flux. TIFA, the umbrella body for largely Coloured players, was forced to close its doors. Neville Choonara approached Neil to open a Union in Coronationville. They formed the Coronationville Independent Football Association. There were not enough senior players to make a team and junior players were roped in to play for the seniors. Support for the team was lukewarm and the Union died a natural death.

Shortly after that the Bosmont Football Association was formed and Dazzlers joined immediately. The Beckett brothers became involved with the Association from its formative year in nineteen sixty five. The formation of the BFA acted as a catalyst for the renewed growth of Dazzlers in its new home in Bosmont. The team did not have a Club House and held meetings at the house of the mother of the Beckett brothers in Maraisburg Road.

Neil was in charge of the juniors while the Club was still in Albertville but soon handed the reigns over to Chockie, who continued coaching the juniors in Bosmont while Mr Van took charge of the seniors. Chockie was a disciplinarian who believed that the youngsters should focus on their education. He kept a broom stick with him during training at the Bosmont Childrens Park and meted out a hiding to any player who misbehaved. This action had the full support of the players' parents.

If a hiding did not help with discipline, suspension from the team was used to drive the point home. Beauty was a very talented player. When he was twelve years old Chockie suspended him for smoking. Beauty's mother was upset as he was the team's best player. Chockie was adamant that discipline had to be enforced.

To encourage his players to excel on and off the field Chockie awarded trophies for the best improved player, best sportsman and best achiever at school. He also checked with parents to see who was not performing so that he could take remedial action. Noel Goodall was one of the players who received both the best improved player and the best sportsman floating trophies.

The disciplinarian approach bore fruit as players in their forties and fifties in twenty fourteen, such as Avril Ardendorff, expressed their gratitude that they were encouraged to focus on their school work as good Matric results opened up job opportunities and decent career paths.

The disciplinary approach also instilled respect in even the naughtiest players. In the nineteen sixties Ebrahim Schroder, who was very naughty, started calling Chockie 'Mr Chairman' a respectful form of address he continued using until his death in the second decade of the third millennium. Other players such as Yusaf Lawrence followed suit.

Ebrahim also started a tradition at the Club's Friday evening meetings. As the Muslim Holy day is Friday, Ebrahim announced one evening in the nineteen sixties that the meeting would end with a prayer. The closing Friday prayer became a Dazzlers tradition.

From the nineteen sixties there was a cross-pollination of players between Dazzlers and other teams. Curley Rusdien approached Chockie about forming his own Junior Team. The main road in Bosmont was lined by a large number of trees. This was a perfect hideout for muggers and a number of players were robbed when dusk fell. After consulting with the players' parents, Chockie agreed to let Curley recruit the players from the bottom part of Bosmont. These players became the back bone of Rangers.

The former goal keeper of Pirates, Mannie Davids, had a fall out with the officials of the Union. One evening he handed over his players from Bosmont Pirates to Chockie with the admonition that they must only play for Dazzlers. As a result Dazzlers had such a large number of juniors that they dominated the other teams resulting in Dazzlers A side competing against Dazzlers B side in the Finals. Dazzlers had sufficient players to also supply Aston Villa and Wolves.

In order to bond the team and to develop character, Chockie arranged for the players to go camping and hiking. Parents dropped the team off in on a farm in Lonehill, a long distance from Bosmont. Peter De Nation proved the validity of Chockie's character building philosophy. Peter told Chockie that his mother did not want him to go camping. Chockie approached his mother who said that Peter had a heart problem. Chockie assured her that he would give Peter his personal attention, and ensure that he did not over-exert himself. Once they arrived at camp Peter was the first to dive into the water and the first to chase a snake. Chockie realized that there was nothing wrong with him.

At the end of the weekend, the team had to walk home from Lonehill to Bosmont. Chockie realized that he had over-estimated the youngsters' ability to cover the distance. The Faker brothers were small and he ended up carrying on one his shoulder and one on his back. As he usually kept a supply of oranges with him he handed the fruit out to his charges to keep up their energy.

A truck approached and parked some distance from Chockie. The youngsters ahead of him quickly jumped onto the back of the truck. Chockie shouted for them to climb off and rushed to the truck. When he arrived at the truck he realized that Mrs Hartley, one of the parents, was encouraging the team to climb aboard. She explained that she had come to the farm to picnic and when she inquired of the youngsters how they were going to get home they replied that they did not know. She then decided to go home and hire a truck for the team.

Some Dazzlers players achieved fame on the pitch. Some achieved fame off the pitch on the international stage. Ian Herman played for Dazzlers and was the captain of such players as Denzil 'Boere' Renecke from the Under 8 to the Under 14 sides. Boere considered him to be an excellent centre midfielder and a very straight forward person.

Chockie was not only Ian's coach but also took him to the Bantuman's Social Center in Eloff Street for drum lessons, together with his own son Shaun, who played the trumpet. Ian was a disciplined student. His discipline paid off and in nineteen eighty seven he formed the band Tananas together with guitar wizard Steve Newman and bass guitarist and vocalist Gito Baloi. The band was immensely popular and produced a number of excellent records such as 'Spiral' and 'Time'. Eventually Ian moved to the United States of America to further his career.

Some players found fame on the field. Lee Roy Fortune was fourteen years old when he spent some time with his Uncle in England. There he was, excuse the pun, fortunate to partake in training sessions with Chelsea. Ironically, when he returned to Bosmont his first game was against Bosmont Chelsea. Chockie could see that Lee Roy's experience in England had moulded him into a first class player and that he no longer had anything to teach him. Dazzlers beat Bosmont Chelsea one nil. After the game Chockie encouraged Dazzlers to select Lee Roy for the senior team, where Lee Roy became the Captain. Chockie, who was still playing in the nineteen seventies as well as coaching, then played under Lee Roy.

Chockie took his players to tournaments in different Provinces, where the trips were never without a degree of drama. The team left Johannesburg for Durban at one o'clock in the morning. One of the players alerted Chockie that the driver was drinking while driving. To safeguard the team Chockie commandeered the combi. When they arrived in Durban the team played their first game. The inebriated driver then insisted that Chockie drive him to his family.

After a late night, in which he did not get much sleep, the players woke Chockie up at dawn as they had never seen the ocean and they were raring to hit the beach. That afternoon the team played its second game. Shortly after the game the team headed back to Johannesburg with Chockie behind the wheel again. Having hardly slept for most of the trip Chockie was exhausted and fell asleep behind the wheel. Fortunately one of the players realized the danger in time and shook him awake. Chockie vowed never to put himself under such pressure again and to ensure that he hired a responsible driver in future.

Apartheid reared its ugly head on the way to a tournament in Mafikeng. For the trip Chockie purchased beanies for the team in the red and white colours of Dazzlers. As the trip progressed he handed out oranges to the team. Shortly after that Len Thomas, who was driving, remarked that a police car was making a u-turn in front of them. They were pulled over to the side of the road. Chockie said that he would talk to the Afrikaaner policeman.

The policeman came to the car window and demanded to know who threw an orange out of the combi. There was dead silence amongst the players. Then Basil Thomas put up his hand. Basil's legs had been damaged by polio and he wore irons to help him walk. Chockie told the policeman that Basil was disabled. The policeman did not believe him and swore at him. The policeman arrogantly announced in an angry tone that he did not give a damn if the boy was a cripple and that he would smack him and give the driver a ticket.

Basil was sitting next to the sliding door of the combi as there was more space for his legs. The policeman angrily pulled the door open. He then saw the irons on Basil's legs and realized that Chockie had not been lying. Never before had Chockie seen a grown man shrink so small from shame. The policeman stammered that the boys had to be careful not to cause an accident and he let them go without issuing a ticket. The policeman thought that as the entire team wore red and white beanies that they were all disabled.

On another trip to Mafikeng Chockie warned his players not to swim in the river as the swift flowing waters posed a danger. He then left to meet Tony Thomas who played for Floranians. When he returned he discovered that the youngsters had disobeyed him and were frolicking in the fast flowing stream. He stripped a branch from a willow tree to make a swish and walloped all the players who were wet. It was such a legendary hiding that the players related this story decades later.

Chockie then discovered that Reginald De Bruyn had put the combi in reverse and damaged a tail light. Tony Thomas informed Chockie that the team had earlier called a meeting where

they made fun of Chockie. Chockie called a meeting of the same players and advised them that as they were buddies of Reginald they had the responsibility to discipline him for damaging the combi. The team decided to suspend Reginald for the whole tournament. Tony was angry at the sanction but Chockie pointed out that the disciplinary committee had made its decision. Tony was amazed that the youngsters could run a meeting and make such important decisions.

When the team returned to Bosmont, Warren Keston's mother summonsed Chockie to her house. She was angry and demanded an explanation for the welts on Warren's bum. When Chockie explained that Warren and his team mates had disobeyed his instruction not to swim in the river, Mrs Keston turned her wrath on her son instead and gave him another hiding.

After a tournament in Kimberley, the driver—who had spent the evening at a dance— asked Chockie to drive the combi as he was exhausted. Vernon Fortune drove the second combi. Steam suddenly poured from the engine of Chockie's combi. The head gasket had blown. A few youngsters walked to a nearby farm and returned with bottles of water to fill the radiator. They slowly drove in the direction of Johannesburg. After a pit stop to pour more water into the radiator, Chockie looked up and saw two of the youngsters climbing into a blue Ford. Before he could stop them they were heading back to Kimberley.

Chockie then instructed Peter Dryer and two other youngsters to hitch a lift to Johannesburg to ask Reggie Thomas to fetch the rest of the team. The trio got safely back to Johannesburg. Despite the damage to the gasket the combi managed to transport the team back to Johannesburg.

Chockie was filled with trepidation as he now had to explain to the parents of the errant youngsters who had hitched a lift back to Kimberley that he had lost their children. He knocked on the door of Gesant Lourens. Before he could explain what had happened Mrs Lourens thanked him profusely for the good time her son had in Kimberley. Gesant and his friend had arrived back in Johannesburg before the rest of their team mates as they had seen a sign indicating that they were two hundred kilometres from Kimberley so they jumped out of the Ford and hitched a lift with a car going in the direction of Johannesburg.

Shortly before he stopped assisting the juniors in two thousand, Chockie was involved in a sad incident involving Lawrence Bennett. Every Thursday Lawrence begged Chockie to let him play in the forward line. Chockie refused as Lawrence was a good defender with a lot of heart. Lawrence kept begging to play in the forward line. Eventually one Thursday Chockie relented and said that Lawrence could play in his dream position the following Saturday. Chockie promised to buy him a hamburger if he scored a goal. Lawrence was very excited.

Shortly after that, while Neil Beckett was chairing a Club meeting in his garage, he received a call from Mrs Bennett asking if he had seen Lawrence as he had gone missing. Neil informed her that Lawrence was not in the meeting. He then went to the Bennett house in Horseshoe but

he could not find the boy. When Neil arrived back home Mrs Bennett kept telephoning him. Eventually he returned to Horseshoe. Neil then looked through a window in the house and saw Lawrence lying on the floor. He had been attacked at home with a hammer and was in a coma. Chockie visited him in hospital and said a few words to him and prayed. Shortly after that Lawrence passed away. He was fourteen years old.

Chockie gave a tearful eulogy at his funeral where he expressed the wish that Lawrence's sportsmanship, loyalty and discipline would rub off onto the other players. As Lawrence was attacked on Friday, he never got to play in the forward position on the Saturday.

In September 2014, Neil Beckett, aged seventy five, was still taking an active role in Dazzlers. He was active, not just in the sense of helping out the Team, but in actually jogging between his house and the grounds to collect a banner to place in a Team photograph.

His house across from the Bosmont grounds was used for players to meet and change into their kit before the game. He continued to inspire former players, like Derrick Eastwood, who was a coach in twenty fourteen, by his total commitment to the team and his passion for the development of the youngsters in his care. He continued to acknowledge the contribution the youngsters made during the year by insisting that they have an annual bust up and buying them trophies to encourage their ongoing achievements.

MR VAN

Clifford Van der Haer, known in later life as Mr Van, was born on the 19th July 1935 in Doornfontein. He started playing football at the age of ten in the streets with his friends. He played barefoot as he was not allowed to use his shoe schools, which he normally received at Christmas, as they had to last the entire school year. He learned the hard way the value of his school shoes when he played football in them, causing them to break. He had to go to school barefoot until the end of the year.

At the age of ten he became formally involved in football at the Suburban Primary School. He was mentored by a few older school children who played for the under fourteen side and who represented TIFA. David Julius and Freddy Hiebner played for Yorkshires in TIFA while Manny David's played for Rovers. They were such brilliant football players that some of them eventually had international careers.

Manny Davids played for Blackpool (SA) in the professional league while David Julies plied his trade in Portugal where he represented Portugal internationally on six occasions. Unfortunately, due to injury, he was excluded from the nineteen seventy FIFA World Cup in Mexico where the legendary Pele was declared the best player of the tournament leading Brazil to their third title.

At High School, Mr Van played friendly games with other schools. The highlight of his school career was organized tours to Kimberley and Mafikeng. There was such a great sense of school spirit that even when he did not play the Wednesday afternoon fixtures he wanted to be in the stands. He never played for Dazzlers although he briefly played for Hearts where he got injured early in his stint with the seniors. His football career ended when he completed his High School education.

Dazzlers formally moved house from Albertville, where it was founded in the back rooms of the Big House in Tram Street, to Bosmont in nineteen sixty five. It was kept alive by the Beckett brothers. Most of the new generation of players were recruited from Bosmont youngsters, although a few players from the surrounding Coloured Townships of Westbury, Riverlea and Coronationville also joined the team.

With the disbandment of TIFA in nineteen sixty five Mr Van no longer had a job as Secretary to the organization. Although he had not played for Dazzlers, he socialized frequently with the team on Saturday evenings when it was based in Albertville. Edward Jousten, the co-founder of Dazzler's, whose football career was reaching its nadir, invited Mr Van to a meeting in nineteen sixty six. He explained that they were looking for a Chairman to run the Club. Given the vast experience he had accumulated as Secretary of TIFA, Mr Van was the natural choice for Chairman. He accepted the honour and was Chairman of Dazzlers from nineteen sixty six until nineteen ninety two.

Ernie Brown, a Dazzler's player also joined the Board as Secretary in the mid nineteen sixties. He was absolutely meticulous in keeping records. Boy Swartz became the Treasurer. Dazzlers did not have a Club House and the initial meetings were held at Boy Swartz's house. Later the meetings moved to Mr Van's house.

Mr Van did not face any major challenges while he was the Chairman as he did not feel the need to rule the Board. Issues were decided by debate where everyone had the chance to contribute. Once a matter had been thoroughly debated it was put to the vote. After a decision were made all members actively participated in achieving the outcome.

As Dazzlers was always more than a Football Club as it provided the opportunity for members of the community and the Club to interact and bond with each other, a great deal of socializing took place.

The love Dazzlers members had for socializing inevitably led to confrontation with outsiders. In nineteen seventy eight Mr Van was driving around Town to different venues with Ley Naidoo who owned a blue combi known as the Blou Leeuw. At midnight they entered the Blue Danube in Anderson Street and ordered a few drinks.

Mr Van spotted a man who worked for the Labour Department, Coloured Affairs Department in Bree Street. Women were entitled to three months maternity pay, which they collected at

Coloured Affairs. He disliked the man as he abused his authority by always giving the women an unnecessarily hard time when they approached the Department.

Just before the dance ended, Mr Van confronted the man on the dance floor. Within seconds Mr Van's fist collided with the man's jaw, forcing him to pay homage to the floor. Almost instantaneously, the man's friend attacked Mr Van from behind and he too took up the prayer position. Mr Van staggered to his feet and hit the Coloured Affairs man again. As the man again worshipped the floor, his friend again hit Mr Van. During the scuffle the friend tore Mr Van's jacket, which he still possessed in two thousand and fourteen. A blood spot, containing someone's DNA from that night, still decorates the jacket.

When Mr Van took over the chairmanship of Dazzlers, the Club was in the process of re-building as the careers' of the first generation of players was coming to an end. Furthermore, with the move from Albertville to Bosmont a brand new community was introduced to Dazzlers.

Jakes May played for Dazzlers in nineteen sixty five. He was a star player who liked to party. One day he turned up on the grounds for the one o'clock match feeling very happy. After deciding that he was too happy it was suggested to him that maybe he should sit the game out. He was absolutely furious. He loved to play and he decided that he would play no matter what anyone said. He warned his would be guardians: 'You can burn this jersey off me, but you not getting it off me'.

As many parents could not afford to buy their children football jerseys Mr Van and his committee raised money each year. One year they raised a few thousand rand and purchased kit from overseas based upon the United Kingdom Westham kit, but in the colour red. They kitted out everyone from Under Ten to the First Division.

LEN PAUL THOMAS

Len Paul Thomas was born on the 7th July 1949, the same Winter that Dazzlers was founded by his second cousins Willie Mooi and Clifford Jousten. His grandfather, Bertie Thomas, the founder of Floranians, married Maggie Milton whose sister Francis married Wangon, the grandfather of Willie and Clifford. Len started his association with football by being selected as the mascot of Floranians.

In nineteen sixty, at the age of ten, Len started his career at Dazzlers in the juniors'. He was recruited by Chockie. In order to be registered by TIFA, players had to attend upon the offices in Natalspruit to be 'scrutinized'. No one explained to him in advance what it meant to be 'scrutinized'. Chockie took Len and Peter Malan to TIFA for this rather bizarre initiation.

Upon their arrival at the TIFA headquarters, the boys discovered that to be 'scrutinized' meant that the Union officials would look at their features and the hue of their skin. Certain elements

of TIFA had similar racial attitudes to Black people that the Apartheid regime had and wanted to ensure that only Coloureds played for the Union. If a player did not look 'Coloured' enough their registration was declined. As Len was light skinned he passed with flying colours. As Peter was of a darker hue the Union was hesitant to register him. Chockie then had to vouch for his 'Colouredness' by indicating that he knew Peter from Albertville and Bosmont. Finally Peter was registered and the two players commenced their football careers at Dazzlers.

After playing only one season under TIFA the Union's existence came to an end. Chockie insisted that the only way to prevent the youngsters getting bored was to continue with the team in Bosmont. Len played with Lance Mooi; goalie Peter Malan; Faizel Hendricks; Sam Cupido, Steven Scholz; Vernie Van Rensburg; Eunice Anthony and Kaarjie Hartley in the Under Twelve side where he was selected as Captain. For five years running his side won the Bosmont Football Association League.

Bill
in Society

DAZZLERS F.C.

(ESTABLISHED 1949)

Constitution

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8. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** : This meeting shall be held the Second week in February of each year. The following shall be the Agenda :-
1. Reading of the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.
 2. Correspondence.
 3. Chairman's Report.
 4. Secretary's Report.
 5. Financial Statement of previous season.
 6. Trustee's Report.
 7. Roll Call.
 8. Election of Officials.
 9. Amendments to Constitution.
 10. General.
- CLAUSE A** : Any member absenting himself from an Annual General Meeting without a written reasonable excuse, shall be liable to a fine of not less than 50c (fifty cents).
9. All Amendments and Additions to the Constitution shall be made in writing.
10. **FEEs** : Every member shall be required to pay an annual subscription of not less than R1.25c (One Rand and Twenty Five Cents), payable over a period stipulated by the Chairman.
11. **ACCOUNTS AND MONEYS** : The Treasurer shall not discharge money unless so authorised by a General or an Executive Meeting.
- CLAUSE A** : The funds of the club shall be deposited in the name of the club at any authorised Building Society or Bank.
- CLAUSE B** : The Treasurer shall not be permitted to have more than R5.00 (Five Rands) in his possession as Petty Cash.
- CLAUSE C** : The Treasurer shall be required to give a financial report at every fourth meeting.
- CLAUSE D** : The signatures of the Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be appended to the withdrawal of any money from the Building Society or Bank.
12. **PENALTIES AND FINES** : If at any time any member is fined by the Chairman and the said member does not pay the fine within two weeks, such a member shall be debarred from participating in any further matches until such a fine has been paid.
- CLAUSE A** : The Chairman shall have power to lay a fine upon any member when he finds (accidental) out of order. The amount

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8. **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** : This meeting shall be held the Second week in February of each year. The following shall be the Agenda :-
1. Reading of the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.
 2. Correspondence.
 3. Chairman's Report.
 4. Secretary's Report.
 5. Financial Statement of previous season.
 6. Trustee's Report.
 7. Roll Call.
 8. Election of Officials.
 9. Amendments to Constitution.
 10. General.
- CLAUSE A** : Any member absenting himself from an Annual General Meeting without a written reasonable excuse, shall be liable to a fine of not less than 50c (fifty cents).
9. All Amendments and Additions to the Constitution shall be made in writing.
10. **FEEs** : Every member shall be required to pay an annual subscription of not less than R1.25c (One Rand and Twenty Five Cents), payable over a period stipulated by the Chairman.
11. **ACCOUNTS AND MONEYS** : The Treasurer shall not discharge money unless so authorised by a General or an Executive Meeting.
- CLAUSE A** : The funds of the club shall be deposited in the name of the club at any authorised Building Society or Bank.
- CLAUSE B** : The Treasurer shall not be permitted to have more than R5.00 (Five Rands) in his possession as Petty Cash.
- CLAUSE C** : The Treasurer shall be required to give a financial report at every fourth meeting.
- CLAUSE D** : The signatures of the Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be appended to the withdrawal of any money from the Building Society or Bank.
12. **PENALTIES AND FINES** : If at any time any member is fined by the Chairman and the said member does not pay the fine within two weeks, such a member shall be debarred from participating in any further matches until such a fine has been paid.
- CLAUSE A** : The Chairman shall have power to lay a fine upon any member when he finds (accidental) out of order. The amount

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- CLAUSE B** : Any selected member who fails to participate in a match, or who fails to notify his Captain/Vice Captain of his inability to participate in the match concerned, 24 (twenty four) hours before such a match is to commence, shall render himself liable to a fine of not less than R1.05c (One rands and five cents) unless for reasons of serious illness on his part, he finds it difficult in either case to do so.
- CLAUSE C (1)** : It shall be the duty of the Captain (or Vice-Captain, in the absence of the Captain on the field of play) to bring to the notice of the meeting any discrepancy on the part of any member selected to play, or whose behaviour, or is under the influence of liquor in the time of playing, would in his opinion bring disgrace upon the Club, in which case the Chairman shall summon an Executive meeting for such members to be dealt with as the Executive may deem fit.
- (11) : Any member who is reported to the club for disgraceful conduct shall be dealt with in the same manner as mentioned in Clause C (1).
- CLAUSE D** : Any member improperly attired on the field of play will be liable to a fine of not less than 10c (ten cents) and 25c (twenty five cents) for reporting late.
13. **BYE-LAWS** : **CLAUSE A** : Should this club dissolve, its assets shall then be changed into SPERLING and together with any money in the treasury shall be given to an approved BENEFIT INSTITUTION.
- CLAUSE B** : Should this club go defunct or is insolvent, every bona-fide member shall be held liable to debts incurred by the club during its existence.

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