

# DAGBREEK

MEN'S RESIDENCE



STELLENBOSCH

1921 **100** 2021

## THE EIFFEL

NEWCOMER EDITION

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# ETHOS

**Dagbreek** is the **House of Renown and Fame** with a proud and prestigious history.

In Dagbreek we produce role models for the future to serve the Republic of South Africa on all terrains. Dagbrekers strive towards service to their fellow citizen and their fellow Dagbrekers. We aim to look after unity, tradition, and South-African culture; without excluding any opinions or beliefs. The strength of Dagbreek, with its unique character, lies in its diversity as it creates endless opportunities for every individual.

Dagbreek's objective as men's residence is to strive towards excellence with self discipline and a sense of responsibility towards:

- academics,
- culture,
- sport,
- citizenship, and
- leadership

Dagbreek is a sense of belonging that is woven like a golden thread through the lives of every current and former resident, who aims to live with the following lifestyle:

- The outright acknowledgment of a mutual respect and interest towards his fellow man;
- The forging of friendships and establishing timeless cameraderie;
- Gentlemanship towards all;
- A unique jealousy of that what is our own to ensure an ongoing existence of our mistery;
- The protection and preservation of our House at all costs.

As Dagbrekers we are convinced that if we strive towards this ethos it will lead to the forming and establishing of values and traditions that all Dagbrekers will be proud of, now and in times to come, just as it was for the last century.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRIMARIUS



Dear Newcomer,

I would like to begin by providing some clarity: As a newcomer, I remember reading a letter from the Primarius, just like this, not knowing what the Primarius was and why he was writing a letter to us newcomers. Therefore, let me provide an explanation. It is my honour as the 'head boy' of this illustrious institution to address you newcomers, welcoming you and giving you a little bit of an idea as to what lies ahead.

It is my greatest honour as Primarius, along with each member on my House Committee, to welcome you into this new season of your life. You are starting your journey with this University and more specifically with Dagbreek Men's Residence, and we would like to wish you the very best for this journey ahead.

Firstly, congratulations are in order - being accepted into Dagbreek Men's Residence is no small feat. It has taken dedication and hard work to get through this past year, and for that I would like to honour you. Placement in Dagbreek, and the environment which exists in the residence, grants you several opportunities in which to grow holistically such that you leave Dagbreek as a well-rounded individual.

Dagbrekers are known to uphold a standard of excellence. Dagbrekers are known to be front runners in their respective fields. Dagbrekers are known to not grow comfortable and complacent but to press on into a brighter future. We, as Dagbreek, would like to welcome you into this culture.

In the past hundred years of Dagbreek's existence, there have been men that have come out of our residence that we are immensely proud of, but in the same breath there have also been those whose actions have warranted apologies from Dagbreek. We as a residence are consciously dealing with the past and choose to reference it as a guide as to where we are needing to grow. We as Dagbreek need to be intentional with our unity between races and cultures. This residence is a home for every skin colour and we aim to celebrate this diversity.

Meeting people, making memories, and building lasting friendships is the basic recipe for your first year in University. However, you as Dagbrekers have such a special opportunity to do something much greater than yourselves, you have the opportunity to set the standard of unity for the next century. I urge you to not let judgement of other cultures get in the way of forming friendships. I have friends from different backgrounds who have since become family. You gentlemen have the opportunity to play your part in changing the face of Dagbreek, campus and the entire country. Let us press on towards a better future for us all.

Even though we have been presented with difficult circumstances given the Covid-19 pandemic, and a lot seems unclear right now, I want to assure that we want to see you succeed this year no matter the circumstances. Even if this year happens to be completely online, we will still choose to make the most of it. Your health and safety will remain our main concern.

I am looking forward to welcoming you all to the place I call home, and I hope that after some time that you will be able to call it home as well. I trust that you will enjoy your holiday, prepare for what lies ahead, and most importantly stay safe amidst these difficult times.

Kind regards,  
David Rosselli









# The History of Dagbreek

The “Huis van Roem en Faam” has developed into a world of its own over a period of 100 years. When you enter the front door and move through the porch you will see the big square known as the Quad. This forms the centre of Dagbreek’s activities and existence. The first thing you will notice is the well-known symbol which stands in the middle of the Quad:

In 1958, under the guidance of Willie Esterhuyse, then Primarius, the model was replaced with a replica. The previous Eiffel was built in 1962 by Roelf Hollenbach and Jan du Preez. In 2004, after years of service on the Quad and in our hearts, a new Eiffel (designed and built by Fanie en Abie Nel) was constructed to celebrate the original one’s 50th anniversary.

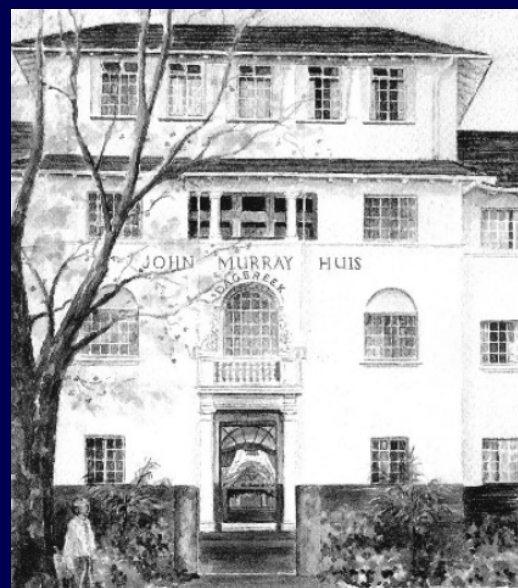
## The Eiffel

All over Dagbreek is associated with the Eiffel and the Eiffel with Dagbreek. It is our official symbol and forms part of our House emblem. This symbol also serves as the name of the House’s official publications (The Eiffel), the third rugby side (The Eiffels) and our highly acclaimed serenade group (The Eiffel choir).

The Eiffel had meaning for the “Huis van Roem en Faam” before the 70’s already. The original Eiffel was built by Koos du Pisani as a part of the float procession of 1954.

This presentation of the French Department was judged as the best entry. After the procession the Eiffel received an honorary place in the centre of the Quad.

On the emblem of Dagbreek the Eiffel stands in front of a rising sun. The sun is not only symbolic of Dagbreek’s name, but as a symbol of light it is a sign of hope and trust Dabrekers have in each other and in others.



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# The House

The residence is built in the form of a square and consists of 17 occupied sections. Sections 1 to 7 make up the Senior House where students stay from their third year. The Junior House consists of Section 8 to 18 (Section 16 is the current dining hall).

The first and second years stay in double rooms in the Junior house. Dagbreek differs from other residences, because it is built with different sections consisting of four rooms and a bathroom for each floor. This style of building resulted in every section having their own unique character and traditions. The competition between sections is a characteristic of the House's daily activities.

Wynand Louw is the architect of Dagbreek. Building started in 1920 and was completed in 1921, but the residence only consisted of Section 1 to 7. The residents and students of Stellenbosch were astonished by the sheer size of the three story building. JD Conradie was the very first occupant and in the first year of the House's existence there were only 27 residents. Initially every resident had to prepare his own food.

This system did not work very well and in 1925 they began building Section 8 to 18. The new sections included a dining hall and a recreation hall.



This hall, Visholpark, was named after two previous residents, Visser and Hollenbach, who constructed the badminton court. Other areas include those of the House Committee room, prayer room, snooker room, washing room, post room, Dagbreek Club and the Archive. For the fitness fanatics there is also a well equipped gymnasium.

## More than just Academics...

The residents of Dagbreek are given various opportunities to develop themselves in diverse fields. Therefore various committees, which focuses on a wide range of activities, are in place to ensure that there is an opportunity for each individual to express himself.





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# From the Archive

"The year is 1918. The Victoria College's status has just been increased to that of a university and was from then on known as the University of Stellenbosch. An acute housing shortage was quickly identified as prospective students from all over the South Africa came rushing to Stellenbosch for higher academic teaching. In 1920 the building process of the first seven sections of Dagbreek started which if viewed from above would have looked like the shape of the letter L, known to students as 'The New Residence' (Die Nuwe Koshuis). Students started moving into the residence even before the construction of the building had finished at the end of 1921.



*Aerial Photo of Dagbreek in the 1900's*

Initially the university did not provide any food; and catering services, as we know them today, were few and far between. The first residents had to cook and provide every single meal for themselves. They received the nickname 'the starving men' (die hongerly). A representation of these challenging times can be seen in the form of pots and pans on the first Dagbreek Shield. Before long, the first 27 residents of 'The New Residence' under the leadership of the first primarius, Eben Greyling, decided on Dagbreek as the new name for the residence. It was symbolic of the new day or new period issued in, in the history of the University of Stellenbosch as Dagbreek was the first modern residence in Stellenbosch. Some might then ask where the double designation of The John Murray House and Dagbreek comes from.

The university was adamant on naming it after John Murray. Born in Graaff-Reinet John moved with his family at age 12 to Aberdeen, Scotland. In 1845 he and his brother travelled to the Netherlands to further their studies in theology. On arrival in South Africa in 1849 they quickly became well known for their biblical work in communities across South Africa.

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### *The Evolution of the Dagbreek Shield*

In 1859 John opened the theological seminary (kweekskool) at the University of Stellenbosch and devoted 24 years of his life to serving the institution. John Murray furthermore played influential roles in the infant years of both Paul Roos Gymnasium and Bloemhof Hoërskool located in Stellenbosch.

This left the residents of Dagbreek with a dilemma as the university would not budge on the new name. For seven years the residents of Dagbreek were persistent in their efforts and soon after they settled on the double designation, both with extra-ordinary meaning and value.

Over the last century however the four walls of Dagbreek served its purpose as onslaughts from several campus residences and even Ikeys's (University of Cape Town) residences came close to intimidating our residents, all of course in great university student spirit.

The history of Dagbreek is filled with tradition and memorable events. This should serve as a quick introduction to what many consider their favourite home. Dagbreek's silent renown lies in the achievements still to be accomplished as our intrinsic values drive us to lead with passion and integrity in order to produce well educated members of society that contribute to the improvement of South Africa."



*Dagbreek Archive*

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# Former Residents

During the past 100 years many Dagbrekers had a great influence in South Africa and became world renowned in their field.

One of the best known Old-Dagbrekers is the deceased Oom Koos Meyer who entertained many people with stories from his student life.

Dagbreek also delivered many Springbok rugby players such as Dawie Snyman (player and later coach), Jan Boland Coetzee, Kobus Burger, Faffa Knoetze, Colin Beck, Louis Koen, Kat Myburgh, Gaffie du Toit, Gio Aplon and Charl McCleod.

Other exceptional sportsmen include Tony Leon (Springbok-gymnast), Danie Malan (previous record holder in the 800m and 1500m) and De Villiers Lampbrecht (the first SA athlete to run the dream mile).

Dagbreek has delivered more than just sport stars. Various writers and famous singers lived in Dagbreek. WA de Klerk, FA Venter, Ettienne le Roux, Uys Krige and Ernest van Heerden (all acclaimed writers) and Bun Booyens (renowned academic).

In the business sector, Dagbreek boasts various entrepreneurs and leaders. For example, Louw Barnardt, who was named the 2018 Sanlam Emerging Business Entrepreneur of the Year.

Great emphasis is placed on tradition and so it is no surprise that several generations of families return to Dagbreek and choose this residence as their home.

Probably one of the biggest Dagbrekers is the late Bethuel Sibuta who worked as part of the kitchen staff for 47 years and lived here with many legends of his time. It is for this very reason that the dining hall is named after Bethuel himself, in order to celebrate his life and his contributions to the residence.

## Sport and Culture



Dagbreek offers the following:

Soccer, Rugby, Hockey, Cricket, Tennis, Waterpolo, Golf, Athletics, Cross-country Running, Tabletennis, Squash, Swimming, Chess, Eiffelchoir, Molassesêr, Drama, Debating, Basketball



*Bethuel Sibuta Dining Hall*

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# HOUSE COMMITTEE 2021



**David Rosselli**  
**Primarius**  
Section 6  
Constitution  
PGCert in Education  
Durbanville



**Marais Cloete**  
**Vice-Primarius**  
Section 6  
Bloubakkie, 1st & 2nd Years,  
IBN, Safety, Discipline  
PGDip in Accounting  
Kuilsriver



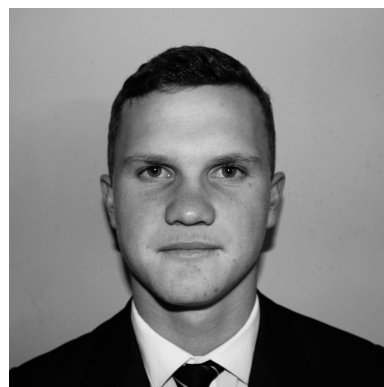
**George van Dyk**  
Section 1  
Critical Engagement,  
Sustainability  
BEng (Chemical) IV  
Hermanus



**Jaco Marais**  
Section 2  
Cluster, Sound  
PGDip in Accounting  
Stellenbosch



**Russell Pratt**  
Section 3  
Mentors, Practical  
Development  
PGDip in Accounting  
Bredasdorp



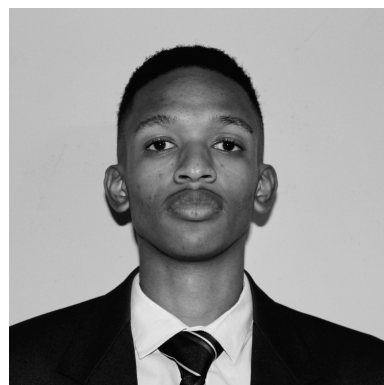
**Dewald Fourie**  
Section 4  
Secretary, Centenary  
BEng (Industrial) IV  
Pretoria



**Pierre Taljaard**  
Section 5  
Culture, JDB  
BAcc III  
Nelspruit



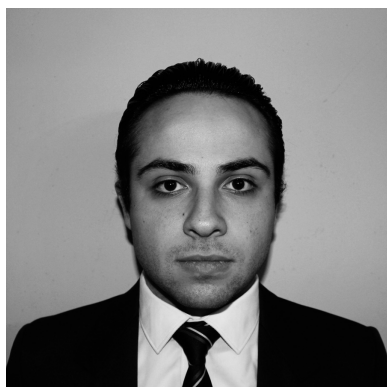
**Dawie Fourie**  
Section 7  
Leadership Development,  
Room Allocations  
PGDip in Accounting  
Windhoek



**Neo Masipa**  
Section 8  
Relevance, Honorary  
Awards, Staff & Maintenance  
BAcc III  
Parow



# HOUSE COMMITTEE 2021



**Xenocratis Chavaranis**

Section 9

Archive & Heritage, Clothing,  
Website & Multimedia  
BComm Actuarial Science III  
Johannesburg



**Francois de Vos**

Section 10

House Dance, Media  
BAcc LLB III  
Pretoria



**Eric le Roux**

Section 11

Treasurer  
BAcc III  
Bethlehem



**Rudi Claassen**

Section 12

Student Affairs,  
Vensters, Sport II  
BComm Law III  
Somerset West



**Charles Marais**

Section 13

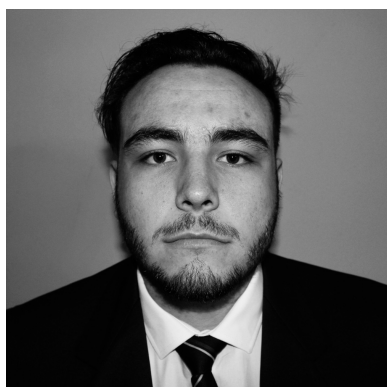
Sport I, Huisdinee  
BEng (Electrical &  
Electronic) IV  
Hartenbos



**JD West**

Section 14

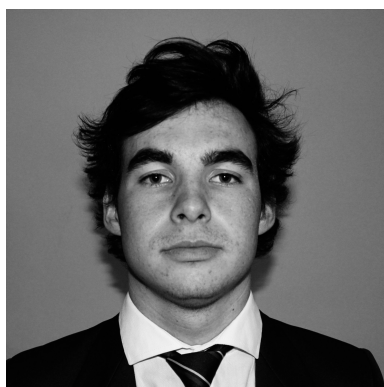
ODB, KGB External  
BAcc III  
Stellenbosch



**Franco Rheeder**

Section 15

Spiritual, Boxing, Social  
Impact  
LLB III  
Malmesbury



**JC Bence**

Section 17

Gym, Tours, Straatmyl  
BComm Actuarial  
Science III  
Paarl



**Neill Jandrell**

Section 18

Club, KGB Internal, Jnr/Snr  
House Week  
BEng (Mechatronic) III  
Windhoek

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# SONGS

## House Song

Ken jy die Huis van Roem en  
Faam  
Op vaste rots gebou  
Daar is geen Huis met beter naam  
Standvastig en getrou.

Kom Dagbreek laat jou strale  
skitter  
In lig van volle dag

Kom Dagbreek laat jou strale  
skitter  
In lig van volle dag!  
Kom almal saam  
Sprei uit jul faam  
Hou hoog jul glorieryke naam!



*Dagbreek Eiffel Choir in Action*

## Sangers

Ons is sangers van ou Dagbreek  
Huis van wêreld Roem en Faam  
Van die Kaap tot aan Zambezi  
Is geen Huis met beter naam.

Dagbreek, o Dagbreek  
Huis van Roem en Faam  
Dagbreek, o Dagbreek  
Ons hou hoog jou naam!

As die rooidag in die Ooste  
Breek met helder reënboogkleur  
Sing die skepping van ons tuiste  
Bring die naam van Dagbreek eer.

Dagbreek, o Dagbreek  
Huis van Roem en Faam  
Dagbreek, o Dagbreek  
Ons hou hoog jou naam!

Teen die skemer van ons lewe  
In die nag van dood en smart  
Breek die son van ons verlede  
Dagbreek-vreugde in ons hart!

Dagbreek, o Dagbreek  
Huis van Roem en Faam  
Dagbreek, o Dagbreek  
Ons hou hoog jou naam!

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"We may not pride ourselves in the  
achievements which have already been  
accomplished. Our silent fame lies in the  
achievements that must still be  
accomplished."

- Die Eiffel, October 1963

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