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SPECIAL TRIBUTE 40 YEARS LATER

Our 40th Year Celebration - Dr LAPA Munnik School of Radiography, Somerset Hospital, Cape Town.

On the 8th April 2008, the inaugural class of the Dr LAPA Munnik School of Radiography based at Somerset Hospital, Cape Town will celebrate 40 years since commencement of their training. They wish to pay special tribute to their tutors and the radiographers who were responsible for setting the high academic standards that they strive to uphold. They have managed to contact the following staff members who were responsible for their training:

Professor R Kottler, the radiologist in charge of the radiology department at the time, is still working part time in the radiology department, Groote Schuur Hospital. His main interest these days is breast imaging.

Miss Evelyn Tyrer, the Head of the School is retired and living in the United Kingdom. According to correspondence received in October 2007, she retired in 1967 and visited Helsinki, Swaziland, Geneva and Hawaii. She became a volunteer for the Conservative Party in the UK. In 2005 she moved into an Abbeyfied Home where she is involved in helping staff and volunteers with many activities. She is thankful for having had a hospital background as this has assisted in her being able to offer her experience when needed. She is delighted that we have decided to publish our story.

Miss Patricia Wilson, the clinical tutor in charge of practical training is retired and living in Cape Town.

Mr Solly Rodsell (not in the photograph), the chief radiographer in charge of the x-ray department at the time and a playwright in his spare time, spends most of his time in Canada with his children.

Of the five trainees, four are still actively involved in radiography.

Galima Lalkhen (née Petersen) married Dr Kader Lalkhen and they have three children all attached to the health profession. She traveled extensively in her personal capacity and has been on a pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca. Galima did not pursue her career in radiography instead she developed her gourmet and decorating skills.



Nazeema Ebrahim (née Adhikari), continued to work at Somerset Hospital and in 1973 was promoted to senior radiographer in charge of neurology and angiography. In 1974 she took 7 months leave to travel with her parents to India where she visited 13 cities and spent time with her relatives in a village close to Bombay - a trip that equipped her for the years to come. Shortly after marrying Hoosain Ebrahim in 1975, she traveled with him to the United Kingdom so that he could pursue his studies in medical photography. She worked under the headship of Dr Marion Frank and subsequently Mrs Jean Harvey, at the Middlesex Hospital, Mortimer Street, London, where Evelyn Tyrer trained as a radiographer. During her stay in the UK, she completed her further education certificate and was promoted to superintendent III in charge of the whole body CT scanner. In 1982, she returned to South Africa and after setting up the whole body CT scanner at Ga-Rankuwa Hospital. She joined the Medical University of Southern Africa, now the University of Limpopo, Nazeema served on the Pretoria Branch of the Society of Radiographers and was also a Council Member of the Society of Radiographers. She served as deputy dean for

allied health and nursing science for four years, during this time, obtained her MSc in diagnostic radiography at the Anglia Polytechnic University in Cambridge, UK and her post graduate diploma in international research ethics at the University of Cape Town. She is currently an associate professor in the Department of Radiography and serves on the Medunsa Campus Research Ethics Committee as bioethicist. In April 2008, she will have completed 25 years of service at the university. She has traveled to Malaysia, Singapore, Birmingham (UK), Turkey, Russia, America and parts of Europe both for work and pleasure and is very appreciative of Dr Marion Frank's interest in both her and her husband's academic life.

Brenda Daniels, on leaving Somerset Hospital worked at the London Jewish Hospital in the East End of London. She has worked at the Royal Marsden Hospital in Sutton, Surrey and worked very closely with Dr Janet Husband in the field of CT mainly applied to oncology for 8 years. She traveled overland to Katmandu, Singapore and Bali and made her way to Australia after working for months in various rural hospitals. She made her way to the tropics and landed in North Queensland, where she was offered a post in setting up a CT scanner in a private practice. After 2 years, she made her way to India, Sri Lanka, and then traveled to London via China on the Transmongolian train. She went back to the Royal Marsden, but this time at the city branch in Kensington. She then met her husband Alan Dalton and traveled with him to Melbourne, Australia. She has worked in mainly in CT at the Eye and Ear Hospital; in oncology; sports medicine and more recently in mammography. She now works 4 days a week and on her off days does gardening, Tai Chi and goes to the movies and concerts.

Kalavati Vallabh (née Lalloo) left Somerset Hospital in 1971 and emigrated to Toronto with her husband and son in 1974. She soon found a post at York Finch Hospital and found herself working 'on the exact same x-ray machines we had at Somerset Hospital (Siemens)! She later moved to Toronto and worked at Etobicoke General Hospital from 1975-1980. Following the birth of her daughter she worked part time for 2 years and from 1983-2000 worked in a full time capacity at Richmond Gardens X-ray department. She subsequently wrote the mammography I and II examinations and obtained a certificate of achievement with the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists - the didactic component to the breast imaging specialty certificate. She is presently employed as head mammographer at the Dixie X-ray Department in Mississauga and holds the certificate in breast imaging. This certificate provides a mechanism for technologists to achieve recognition for demonstrating knowledge and clinical competence in the field of breast imaging. One of her duties is also to obtain the mammography accreditation for the clinic where she works and this process takes place every 3 years. Kalavati wishes to extend her special thanks to Ms Evelyn Tyrer who was responsible for obtaining reciprocity between CAMRT and the South African Society of Radiographers in the 1980s. She is also extremely grateful to serve so many women and make a difference in their lives.

Irma Hendricks (née Luttig) left Somerset Hospital and worked at a number of provincial hospitals in the Cape Peninsula including Tygerberg Hospital where she was a senior radiographer in charge of a specific unit and involved in practical training of student radiographers. At the end of November 1989 she and her husband relocated to Kinross near Secunda, where she worked as a part time radiographer for a radiologist in Trichardt and the provincial hospital in Evander. At the end of 1992 they moved to Gauteng, and was employed in a part time capacity at a private practice in Harmelia, Edenvale. She is still at the same private practice, however, there was a 2 year period in between where she served as a part time employee at the Technikon Witwatersrand and assisted in the training of chiropractic students. In 1979, Irma had the privilege of attending the 3rd Asian and Australasian Conference of the International Society of Radiological and Radiographic Technicians in Singapore. She still keeps in contact with many of her colleagues and friends, many of whom are out of the country and has visited them in Switzerland and London. She has two children and a four-year-old grandson.

I wish to thank Irma for promulgating the publication of our story. I had lost touch with all of my South African colleagues after leaving to work in the United Kingdom and subsequently renewed ties with Irma. Due to space constraints, I have had to edit the profiles and apologise to them if I left out anything that they felt should have appeared in the journal. If there are radiographers out there who wish to contact any of us, please be free to contact me - we would be delighted to pass your addresses on to anyone that you have been associated with.

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