

# Endurance Athletes from all over South Africa will participate in the Quarter century Challenge to do FIVE daring events IN ONE YEAR!



*Midmar, Dusi,*

## “Millennium Big 5 Challenge 2025”



*Cape Town Cycle Tour, Comrades, Mt. Kilimanjaro*

### St. Vincent School for the Deaf

Educating the Deaf in South Africa began in King William's Town in 1888 with the opening of the King William's Town Convent School for the Education of the Deaf.

In the early part of last century Johannesburg had only one small school for Deaf children while the Cape had three. With the help of the Minister of Education, it was decided to pool resources between the provinces. The Congregation of the Dominican Sisters of St Catherine of Siena, King William's Town, bought a ten acre property in Melrose, Johannesburg, called "The Haven", and transferred the existing smaller school's staff and children to the new premises. The school was named St Vincent School for the Deaf after St Vincent Ferrer, a 14th century Dominican preacher who was renowned for restoring hearing to Deaf people. Ingrid Parkin BA, BEd (Hons) is the current Principal for St. Vincent School for the Deaf, having herself been a previous pupil at the School. She is the first deaf Principal of a School for the Deaf in the whole developing world and Europe. Ingrid is Terence Parkin's wife.

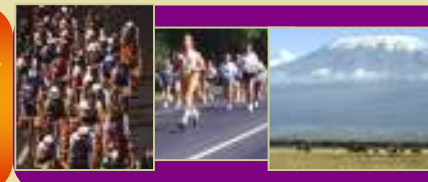
- Audiology Equipment (Hearing Aids) and extra staff.
- Training Centre Programmes.
- Support Staff (classroom assistants, administration staff, extra teachers to maintain small classes).
- Sport Equipments
- General Maintenance
- V F Clive Smith Trust
- Norman Wevell Trust
- The Little Tew Charitable Trust
- Kathleen Bush Bell Foundation
- G S Elkin Residuary Trust
- George Elkin Charity Trust
- St Vincent Charitable Trust is a registered Section 18A company.
- Bursary scheme for indigent families.
- More support staff, including Speech and Occupational Therapists and Psychologists.
- Computers, Smartboards, AutoCAD.
- Assistance with transport.

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### **Funding**

The St Vincent property is owned by the Dominican Sisters and the rental which St Vincent pays the Dominican Sisters each year will be taken over by the Department of Education from next year.

The Department allocates a yearly subsidy to St Vincent and prescribes that it should be used as follows:

55% towards LTSM [Learning, Teaching and Support Material],

33% towards Municipal costs,

12% towards Maintenance

There are many costs which are not covered by the Departmental subsidy, the most important of which are:

### **St Vincent Charitable Trust**

The St Vincent Charitable Trust was set up 15 years ago to supplement government funding to the school. It has relied primarily on donations from deceased estates, and is limited by its memorandum and articles to educational aids and the employment of extra specialist and support staff and their training. The Trust is a registered PBO and has complied with all legal and financial requirements since its establishment. It receives ongoing support from the following Trusts:

### **Community Outreach**

St Vincent runs fund-raising events during the year to assist their more needy learners. The School's Signing Choir gives presentations at various organizations and schools. St Vincent tries to share its facilities with others and welcomes Gauteng's only Deaf Christian Mission (lead by a Deaf pastor) to their Chapel, the Gauteng Deaf Cricket team uses the Joint Campus cricket pitch and the Total Soccer Club uses the Joint Campus soccer field. The School Hall is frequently used by other companies, deaf organizations and the Department of Education. Wits students are welcomed to the school to do research on various social issues.

### **Pridwin**

Pridwin Preparatory School, a private boys junior school, adjoins St Vincent School and both schools share sporting facilities and an auditorium on what is called the Joint Campus. Opportunities for learners of both schools to interact are exploited as much as possible, with St Vincent learners teaching Sign Language to the Pridwin boys, sport matches being played between the two schools and staff collaborating on celebrations such as the World Cup and the St Vincent School-leaver's Dance. Pridwin parents assist with food donations during the year and especially at Easter and Christmas time.

*More can be obtained online at St. Vincents School for the Deaf.. we urge you to be an integral help to Schools for the Deaf - and make their lives less stressful.*

