

THE CASBAH

GREY STREET CASBAH & SURROUNDINGS NEWS

Dedicated to the Casbah spirit of Aziz Hassim
greystreetcasbah@gmail.com

Edition 41 - Vol 5

01 May 2017

Stories and adverts from The Leader - year 1986

Poser for lawyer in rent battle

An interesting moral issue has been raised by the chairman of the Durban Central Residents Mr Sayed Iqbal, in an open letter to some of the lawyers who are acting on behalf of landlords who have taken advantage of the "administrative bungle", which resulted in rent control for Indians and Coloureds being scrapped.

A number of prominent community and political figures are among the legal representatives acting on behalf of landlords who are increasing rentals and threatening to eject tenants if they do not pay the higher amounts.

In an open letter sent to lawyers who are closely linked with progressive political and religious bodies, Mr Mohamed, questioned how they could reconcile their beliefs with the stand taken by exploitative landlords.

For instance in one case he questioned a leading Muslim lawyer about how he could reconcile his decision to seek huge rent increases from poor people with his vast knowledge of Islamic law.

Suffering

Pointing out the kind of suffering that tenants have had to undergo because of the scrapping of rent control and the action of landlords like the one this particular lawyer was representing, Mr Mohamed said, "In fact, an old pensioner (from Woodstock) died as a result of a notice she received from a landlord, increasing her rent from R65 to R350".

The DCRA chairman added that since the "Islamic Shariah" called on Muslims to assist the poor and the needy, the lawyers concerned ought to use Islamic guidelines regarding housing.

Referring to others in legal fraternity who as members of certain political groupings have been vociferous in their championing of the oppressed, Mr Mohamed asked how such people could act against poor, defenceless tenants living in miserable conditions.

The lawyers addressed by Mr Mohamed in his open letter may well argue that they have a duty to act on behalf of anyone who comes to them for their services, that everyone has a right to legal representation and may well point out that if they are to follow his logic no murderer, rapist or their would ever be able to get legal help.

This, they could go on, would be grossly unfair because there may have been extenuating or provocative circumstances, and the murderer, rapist of their has a right for these to be brought to light through a legal representative.

Carrying such an argument to its logical conclusion the lawyers may point out that landlords may actually be justified in increasing their rentals and, therefore, acting on their behalf is the right thing to do.

The answer to their argument, is that in a society where there is a surplus of 57 000 houses for Whites and thousands of homeless Black people because of the laws of the country the normal arguments do not hold water.

That in such a society the person's own declared political and religious beliefs must be put into concrete action.

Phoenix Football Association



The Phoenix Football Association held a thank you dinner for sponsors at a Durban Restaurant last week. Seen in the picture is Dan Manicom president of the Association with the sponsors from left: Mr "Red" Redman, Dennis Pillay, Soam Seebran, Mohamed Shaikh and Les Salton.

WEEKEND SALE

WE'VE GOT

MARKDOWN MANIA

WITH THE BIGGEST VALUES EVER ON FAMOUS BRAND MENSWEAR

WITH OUR RED PENCIL WE'VE SLASHED PRICES ...THE MARKDOWNS ARE FANTASTIC...

SAVINGS THAT ARE UNBELIEVABLE

WHILE STOCKS LAST	WERE	NOW
SKIPPERS	21 ⁹⁹	9⁹⁹
TROUSERS	39 ⁹⁹	19⁹⁹
SUITS	159 ⁹⁹	99⁹⁵
JEANS COTTON	39 ⁹⁹	19⁹⁹
SHIRTS	23 ⁹⁹	11⁹⁹
DENIM JACKETS	49 ⁹⁹	29⁹⁹
SHOES	79 ⁹⁹	39⁹⁵

GREY STREET CLAIRWOOD PINETOWN PMB ISIPINGO PH. 318296

IDEAL'S

CHANGING SKYLINE



For years the Grey Street complex has truly lived up to its name with its “grey” drab and unexciting buildings.

But a transformation is taking place. Today, the area which had for years been “frozen” by the government edict, is taking up a refreshing new look.

Sophisticated high rise buildings, glossy new supermarkets, and trendy medical centres are slowly but surely transforming the face of Grey Street.

Whilst some of the older people may bemoan the lose of the old and familiar look, most people will welcome the fact that the Grey Street area is at last catching up with the times.

Among the impressive new buildings recently completed or now under construction was (from left to right) the M.L. Sultan building an ultra modern red and beige structure in Victoria Street, the two new medical centres in Beatrice Street and Lorne Street, the Khatani Centre which extends from Prince Edward Street to Victoria Street, a superb structure of Aluminium and glass, Randeree Center in Derby Street and (bottom left) the Narandas building at the corner of Victoria and Field Streets.



CARPETLAND

WHOLESALE TO THE PUBLIC

C/R SYDNEY & MOORE RD. DURBAN

Academy Award **R28,72 sq.m**
Manhattan Connection **R16,05 sq.m.**

Manhattan **R10,45 sq.m.**
Highlights..... **R21,84 sq.m.**
Oscar Imperial . **R42,42 sq.m.**
Residensie **R30,12 sq.m.**
Classicord **R16,30 sq.m.**
Conductor **R14,00 sq.m.**

Illusions **R29,23 sq.m.**
Tonal Touches . **R26,75 sq.m.**
Lucerne **R27,35 sq.m.**
Colorcord **R15,10 sq.m.**
Glendale **R10,25 sq.m.**
Ferndale **R9,38 sq.m.**
Haawii..... **R23,95 sq.m.**
Match Point..... **R11,95 sq.m.**
Magic Moments **R26,65 sq.m.**

PHONE 3014301

CURRENT ADVERTS AND NEWS

710343



DRIVEN TO SERVE.

THE BALLITO AUTOHAUS DIFFERENCE.



At Ballito Autohaus we strive to serve. As tangible proof of the consistency of our service excellence, we have received numerous accolades over the years, including BMW Dealer of the Year and After Sales Excellence Awards. Our Sales Executives have all passed internationally recognised exams and are continually updating their product knowledge. We offer a comprehensive range of new BMWs, as well as BMW Approved Used Cars and we are an official M dealer.

What sets us apart:

- We collect and return your vehicle for service or repairs.
- We can service or repair and keep your vehicle when you fly out of King Shaka International and collect you on your arrival.
- We supply and fit BMW approved tyres at highly competitive prices, including wheel balancing and alignment.
- Have your car serviced or repaired and stored while you fly out of King Shaka International airport. We will drop you off at the airport and collect you on arrival.
- We are an official BMW M and BMW i dealer.

For further information or to book a test drive, contact us on the details below. And experience the Ballito Autohaus difference.

Ballito Autohaus

5 Moffat Dr, Ballito Business Park, Ballito
Dolphin Coast
Tel. 032 946 5300
www.bmw-ballitoautohaus.co.za

La'Fays Events & Caterers

Gauteng

Catering for Weddings,
Birthday and Coporates

Breyani, Masala chicken,
Steak dishes, Pastas,
Vegetable dishes,
Savouries, Cakes & desserts.
You name it, we make it.

Contact:
Leila on 071 872 7726

STAY WARM THIS WINTER

Residential & Commercial



021 510 8509 / 510 7262 | www.flowtidetrading.co.za



FlowTide Trading
Air Conditioning & Ventilation

THE LEADERS IN CLIMATE CONTROL

Night Spots around Durban



Contestants for the September heat in the 1986 Girl of the Year contest to be held at the Gaysands Restaurant (from Left) M. Premall, Savithree Chetty and L. Premall.



Kogie Reddy, Rita Reddy and Shireen Lutchman (above) seen at the Debs' Ball of the Asoka Secondary School held recently.



Two East London visitors, Gall Jimmy and Eleanor Poovan, who were Photographed at Club Images last week.



Charm and Richard Pillay who were among the patrons who had a sparkling time at the Savera Hotel's Club Images last weekend.

SPECIALS ALL NOW ONLY
R8,95 (LIMITED PERIOD)

OUR USUAL PORTIONS...

- ★ Prawn Feast (20 pink prawns) ★ Surf 'n Turf
- ★ Juicy Sirloin
- ★ Salad Bar ★ Free Parking ★ Fully licensed

PINK PANTHER STEAKHOUSE
 81 GILLESPIE STREET
 All items may now be taken away suitably packed
 FOUR SEASONS HOTEL ★ TTYT



Night Spots around Durban



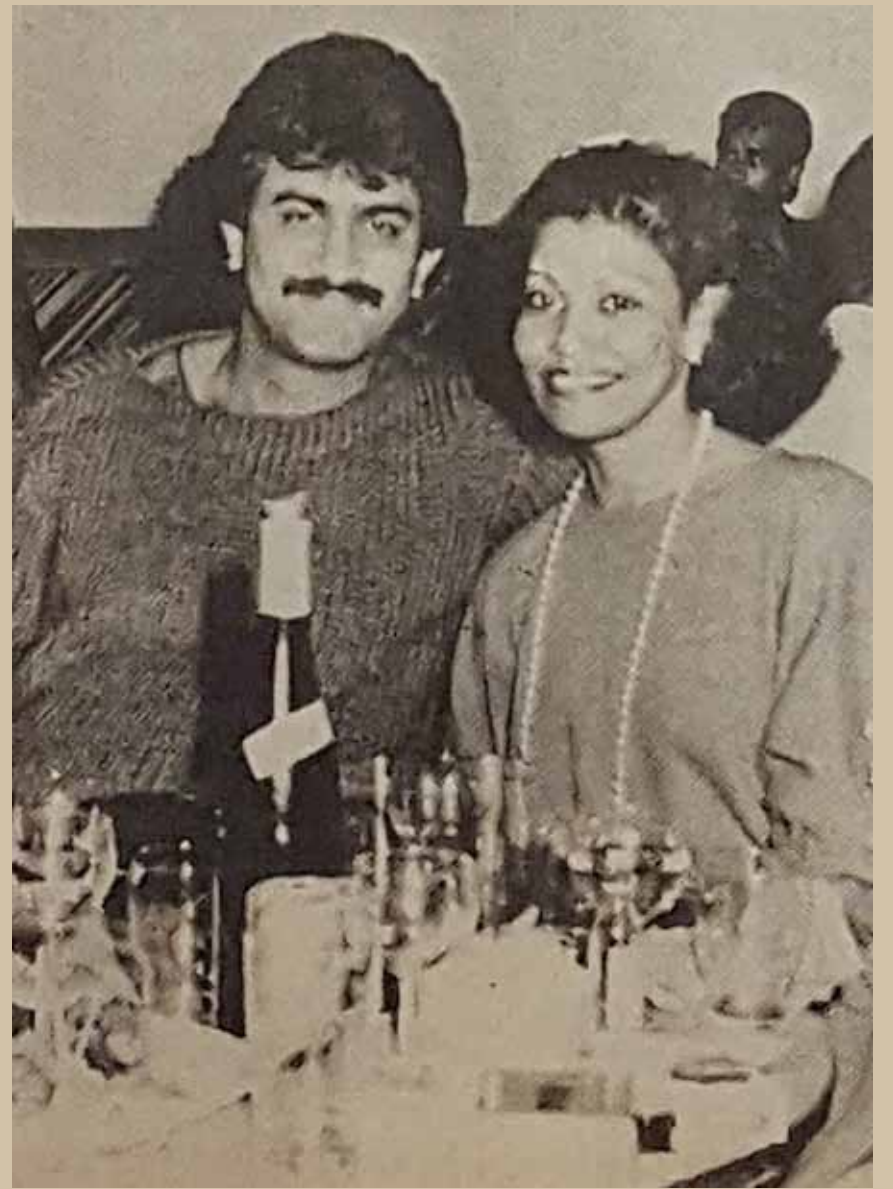
Seen at the Belgica Hotel last weekend were (back row) Justin Pillay, Ralph Singh and Peter Chris (front) Rosie Naidoo, Sharon Singh and Kay Veerasamy.



A group of patrons savour the fare at the Admiral Hotel's Starboard Deck supper club recently.



Shireen Norman, of Umkomaas, enjoying the dancing scene at the popular Khayyam discotheque. Photo: Ravi D. Kumaran.



Shirish and Ruweida Soni seen at Q's, Durban's newest nitespot.



Sally Reddy, Reena Ishwar and Dhanas Jagernath who were chosen last weekend to take part in the next round of the '86 Miss Personality contest at Airport 3.

Lifeguard's life is not all fun

If you thought that the life of a lifeguard is glamorous, exciting and fun then you are right! And if the bronzed and athletic figure of senior Durban lifeguard, Farouk Omarjee is anything to go by the job also affords the opportunity to get the body into peak physical condition.

“Yes, for some reason or other, women seem to be attracted to lifeguards and lifesavers. I suppose it has to do with the fact that lifeguards have well developed bodies and are exotically tanned.

“I know of cases where some lifeguards take advantage of the situation and flirt with girls but I certainly don't because i have been happily married for the past five years.

“In any case there are rules and regulations attached to our behaviour with members of the public and lifeguards would generally not break these regulations wilfully” said Farouk in his soft spoken and easy going manner.

LIFESTYLE

According to Farouk the public is largely misinformed about the lifestyle of the lifeguard.

“People might think that we just laze about in the sun all day long and do very little else. This is far removed from the reality of the situation.

“During peak periods like school holidays’, public holidays and the Christmas period we are really pushed to the limit. The beaches are packed and we have to keep our eyes open to any irregular activity.

“Our first and foremost function is to save lives and inexperienced lifesavers can find themselves in serious trouble when rescuing somebody experiencing difficulty in the water and they are not equipped to handle it.

“When a person is drowning and you rush to their assistance their only concern is to try and stay alive. Many drowning people panic and in their state of panic grab at anybody whose head is above water.

“I have had instances when I was grabbed around the throat and pulled under, but due to my extensive training I knew how to deal with the situation.

“Lifeguards also serve as confidence boosters to the swimming public. The public feels safe when it knows that we are around”.

However, Farouk pointed out that the lifeguards’ duties do not end with saving lives.

“We have to ensure that swimmers are contained in the safer parts of the beach, sometimes people refuse to listen to us when we ask them to swim within the beacons. Our duty is to inform Them of the dangers. The rest is up to them.

“During the peak periods there are times when we have to deal with unruly elements, stop fights, control the traffic and, one of the major problems on our beaches, babysit lost infants.

Although we are faced with these responsibilities we are greatly assisted by bathers and picnickers who are generally co-operative”.

“The busy periods take a lot out of us and during the quieter periods we train regularly. Very often we train five sessions a day. These sessions include jogging up and down from South Beach to Addington Beach, swim-

ming the same distance, surfing, paddle skiing, paddle relays and related events.

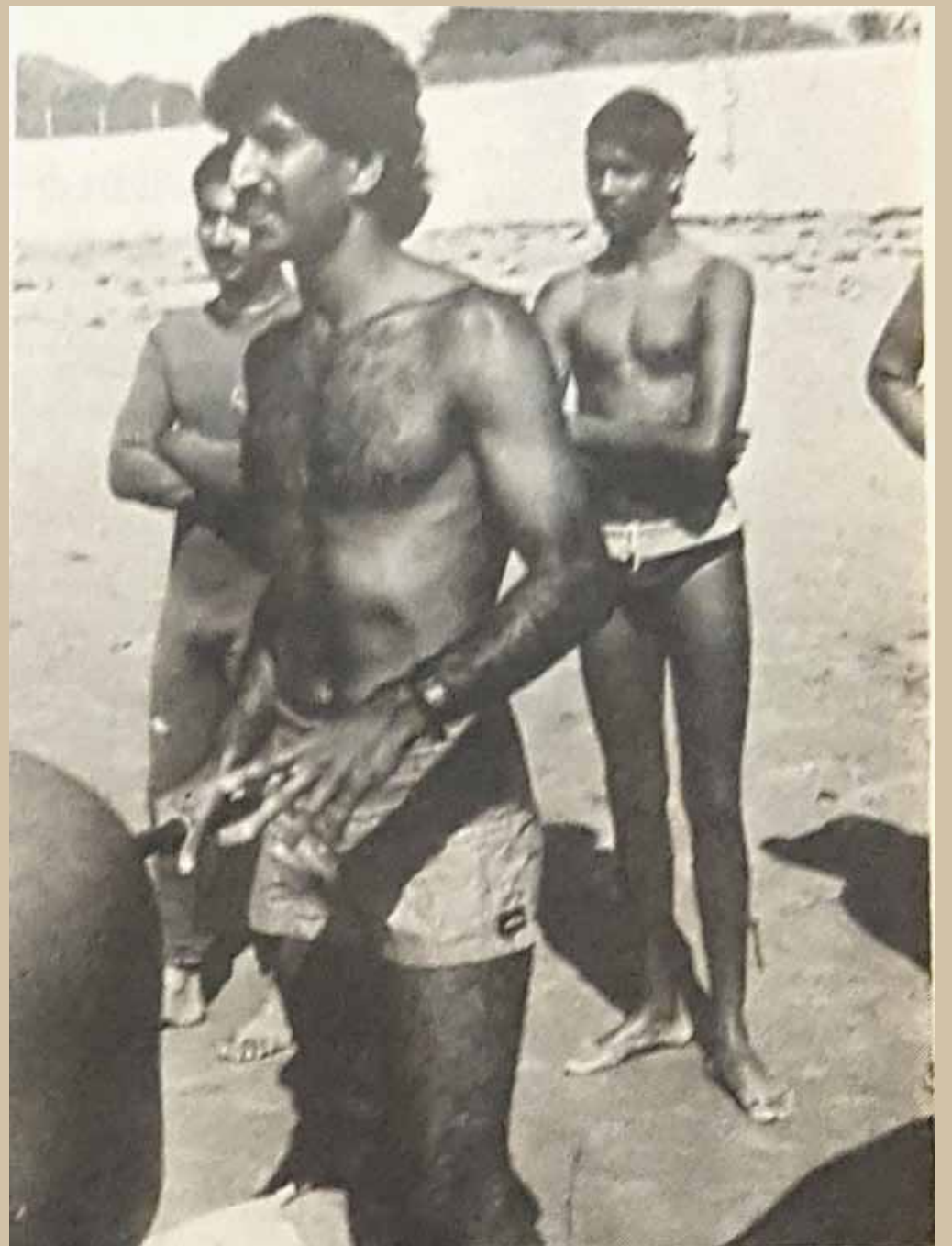
“our lifestyle is not ordinary. We have to maintain odd hours, have early nights and work on Saturdays and Sundays.

“However, we work according to a rotational cycle which ensures that we get two days off in the week and have a long weekend once a month. We also get our annual leave but this cannot be taken during the school holidays”.

Farouk encourages young persons to take up the job of a lifeguard but warns that it requires a lot of energy, dedication and commitment.

“You have to be prepared to work hard and have a love for serving your fellow man” he said.

Asked to explain what happens to lifeguards when they age and are unable to maintain their fitness peak, he said, “they normally take jobs at swimming pools which are less strenuous but requires more responsibilities”.



Farouk Omarjee, Lifesaving involves committment and dedication

BIG BEN’S MAGIC NIGHT

AND THEN IT’S BACK TO STRUMMING IN THE STREETS



Big Ben Wilson plays his banjo with junk as a background and his only listener this time is his dog Rover.

Life in Durban can be tough when there are a few jobs going and when the pay is bad. A man with a growing family needs some kind of sideline to keep the hunger away.

Big Ben Wilson is such a man.

He works in a rubber factory by day. By night he picks up his three stringed banjo and trots to the beachfront to play music for anybody who cares to listen.

Those who care to listen are expected to show their appreciation with a few coins.

One night, way back in 1972 Big Ben was strumming his banjo. A block away and six floors up, a Yank jazzman, a top clarinetist, Kenny Davern, was chatting with buddies. Then he heard the sound.

“Man,” he said, “who is blowin’ them trumpets. Man, it’s sure way out. I am gonna go get mahself these cats. I sure dig their kind of music.”

Down the lift and into the street and around the corner and Kenny Davern stood still. All he saw was Big Ben Wilson Strumming away at his banjo.

“Man,” he said, “dat is cool. But tell me man’ you only got three strings on them banjo, where is the fourth one.”

“Waddayamean,” asked Big Ben Wilson. “There ain’t no fourth string. I only play with three.”

This blew Kenny’s mind. He dipped into his pocket and fished out Rand note after Rand note and stuck it into Big Ben’s hat.

Kenny jetted back to America and Big Ben carried on, moving from street to street.

Three years later, Kenny returned to Durban with two other buddies, Bob Wilber, saxophone, and Marty Gross, guitarist and singer. Together they

made up the Soprano Summit Jazz Group and toured the country.

But Kenny could not get Ben Wilson out of his mind. He made inquiries and one day Big Ben Wilson pitched up at the beachfront hotel.

“Man,” said Kenny, “was I pleased to see Big Ben Wilson again. We jammed a little together, then we made two lunch time concerts which went down well. Then we planned one show – we shared the stage. Man, we just blew the joint.

What happened at the show is best told by Big Ben Wilson:

“I took y man Twice with me,” said Big Ben. “Twice plays the guitar and me the banjo which I have been playing for 10 years. There ain’t nobody that taught me to play. My pas was a good musician and I kind of just took over. Now back to the show.

“Me and Twice would start, the Kenny, Bob and Marty would come in and man, the sounds we made were fast, red hot, pulsating and in no time we had the cats clapping, then stomping their feet and there were a few guys and dolls who actually did a jig.

“Things were so good that I felt I was giving what I was born to give – happiness. My life is to make people go. It was then that Kenny asked us about cutting a disc together. But that never came right,” said Big Ben Wilson.

Kenny and his buddies were thrilled at the result and this is the way the Yanks saw it:

“We respected each other as musicians,” said Kenny. “We did our thing and they did their’s. Then we joined in together. Man them guys are talented. I hope to come back to South Africa and team up with these cats. Man they are just cool.”

The Yanks went home and Big Ben Wilson lifted himself from the bed in his R12 a month shack and spoke to DRUM about that magic night.

“It was super,” he said. “But now I am back where I started. No cats around to dig us, no boodle coming in, nothing. Man, if we only get the chance, we would be ok. Say, like someone giving us a break we will be on our way. But it seems that I got to pick up my banjo and play in the streets.”

While Kenny Davern and his boys play to fashionable audiences around America, Big Ben Wilson will be walking around the streets of Durban. But he has sweet memories of that night when he was a star, when the cats socked it to him, when the joint was jumping and the R10 he collected for his services in a show that gave jazz fans a new sound.



The Yank jazz trio, Bob, Marty and Kenny at the airport unforgettable night on stage with Big Ben Wilson.

AWESOME EDDIE WINS “MR NATAL” TITLE



“Mr Natal” Eddie Wilson and proud wife, Rani with trophies.

By Rafiq Rohan

NEWCOMER to the body building arena, Eddie Wilson, pumped up his muscles to walk off with the prestigious “Mr Natal” title at the 46th annual contest last weekend.

It was the first time the Natal Amateur Weightlifting and Physical Culture Association held the competition in Pietermaritzburg.

The Wildly enthusiastic audience in the Northdale Civic Centre gave him a standing ovation when the final results were announced. Crowed favourite, Naiem Ally, was simply no match for the awesome might and spectacularly built Wilson and had to be content with the Senior Lightweight Mr Natal title.

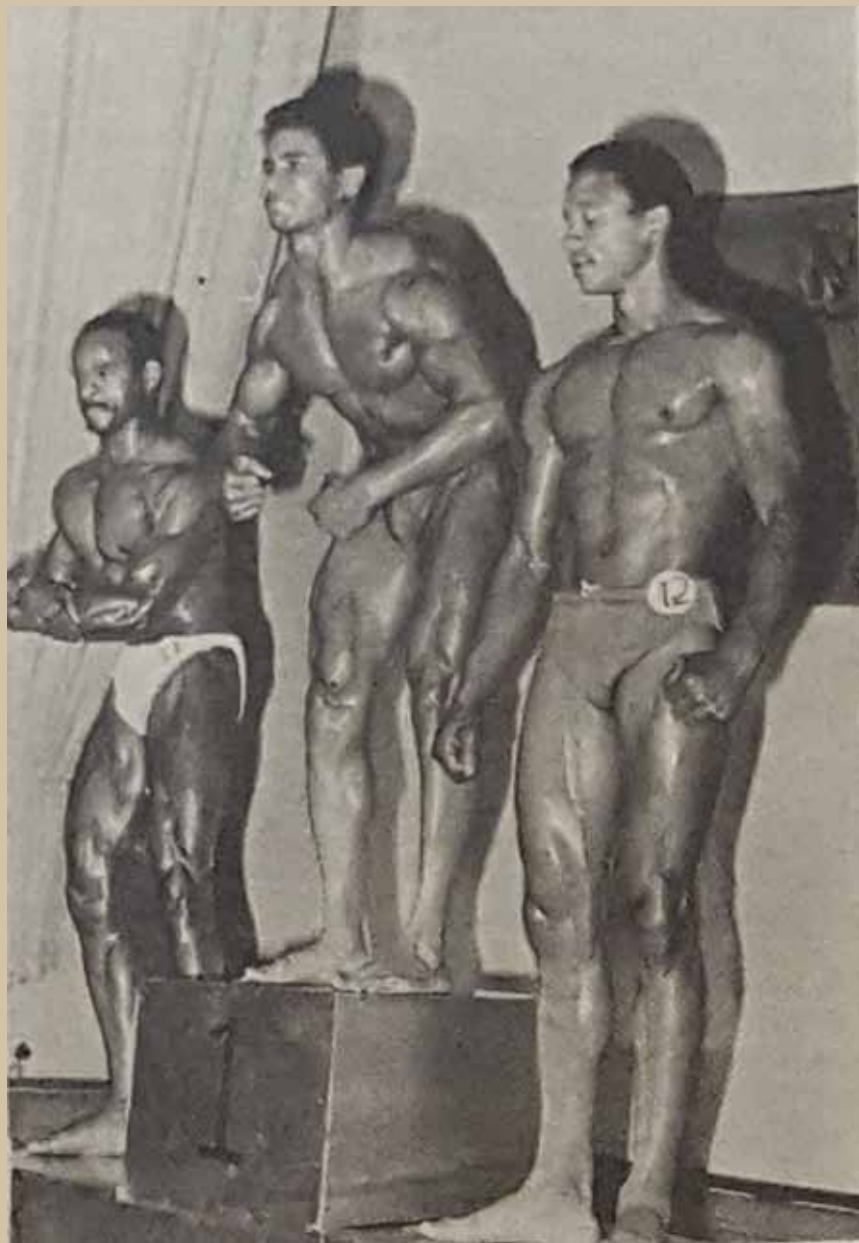
In fact, the thunder was stolen from Naiem by younger brother and rising star in the bodybuilding world, Shaffick Ally. Not only did Shaffick win the Junior Mr Natal title, he also walked off with the overall medals for Best Poser and Best Biceps.

However, although Shaffick won the Best Poser prize it was popularly felt by many, including this writer that it was a prize that should have went to Naiem whose posing technique and presentation overshadowed his competitors.

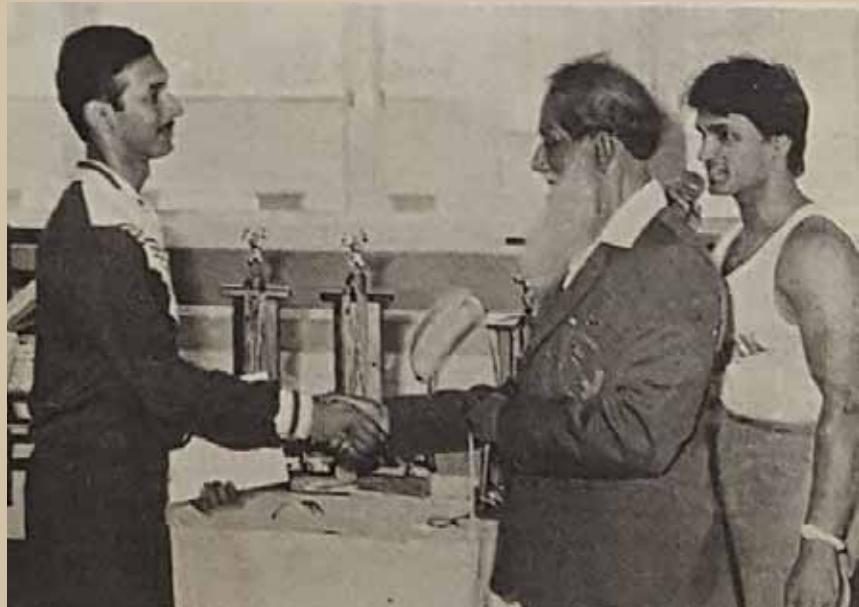
Another newcomer and cousin of the Ally's, Lee Haigh also served mention. It was also a mismatch in his division, the Novice Mr Natal, which proved easy pickings for the first time entrant. His Most Muscular pose was a sight not to be forgotten.



Novice section lineup, Winner, Lee Haigh, extreme left, with C. Joseph and K. Sewcharan.



Senior light-weight Mr Natal, Naiem Ally flanked by runners up David Coetzee and J. Hollenberg.



Shaffick Ally, winner in the Junior Middleweight category, receiving his awards from Mr R. D. Naidoo while Bodytique's Sharwin (Pele) Ramdhani looks on.

R55 500

DUPLIX HOMES

IN RESERVOIR HILLS
80% BUILDING SOCIETY BOND

LAMSEN HOMES (PTY) LTD

126 FULHAM RD. RESERVOIR HILLS

For occupation
September '86.

PHONE
825847

JOIN OUR CASBAH GROUPS ON FACEBOOK



Wanting back copies of our publications?

Please join Grey Street Casbah Publications on Facebook. There you will find all the back copies of our publication, The Casbah, Grey Street Recipes and Grey Street Sounds. Just click and download them.



The administrators of the 'Grey Street Casbah & Surrounds' FaceBook Group and founders of the 'The Casbah' eNewspaper, Ishaan Blunden (082 561 8730) and Buddy Govender (083 560 1213).

- Thank you all for sending on 'The Casbah' to your work colleagues, and friends and family around the world. Please do ask them to send us an email (greystreetcasbah@gmail.com) so that we can place them on our mailing list for future editions of 'The Casbah'.

- If you have any family photo's, memorabilia etc. that you would like to have featured on 'The Casbah', please contact us via email and we will arrange to collect, scan and return to you once done! If you keep your family's treasure hidden away, your history will disappear but if you allow us to share it with the world, it will live forever!

- If you would like to place any Classified ads and/or company adverts on future editions of 'The Casbah', contact us via email on greystreetcasbah@gmail.com for further details.

- Note that all articles are sourced and is not necessary the views supported by the Owners of 'The Casbah'.....

Grey Street Casbah on FaceBook
Join us now!!!

Please join and encourage your family, friends and colleagues to become a member of the Grey Street Casbah family on FaceBook.

We also have other related pages on FaceBook that we encourage you to join as well

'Grey Street Hits' – music and music videos from back in the day ...come have a party with us!

'The History of Non-Racial Soccer in South Africa' – Historical photos etc from the glory days

'Non Racial Sport in South Africa' – Acknowledging non-racial sports and personalities in SA

MEMBERSHIP TO ALL THE SITES ABOVE ARE FREE.....



City Granite

Imagination Becomes Reality

Established 1997

Lynelle 083 411 2240
Gregory 083 578 6873

KITCHENS • VANITIES • BAR TOPS • STAIRCASES

Suppliers of: Granite, Marble, Quartz Stone Products

Address: Unit 2, Bay 4 & 5
144 Peter Road
Springfield Park

Tel:
031 5773420/70

info@citygranite.co.za
www.citygranite.co.za