

24/8/85-

TOAST TO RHODES MUSIC RADIO (RMR), FIFTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION,

SATURDAY AUGUST 24, 1985

A GREAT MANY STUDENTS PASS THROUGH MY OFFICE ANNUALLY, SO MUCH SO THAT THE CARPETS HAVE TO BE REPLACED REGULARLY. I HAVE OFTEN SAID THAT IT IS THE BAD STUDENTS AND THE GOOD STUDENTS WHOM I REMEMBER. BUT THERE IS ONE NOTABLE EXCEPTION. I REMEMBER VERY CLEARLY MY FIRST ENCOUNTER WITH A STOCKY, DARK, AND EXTREMELY FORCEFUL STUDENT NAMED BYRON XYPTERAS. ONCE HE HAD DEPARTED I WAS LEFT WITH THE DISTINCT IMPRESSION THAT HE WOULD ONE DAY BE A VERY SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSMAN! MR XYPTERAS HAD COME TO 'SELL' ME THE IDEA OF A STUDENT RADIO STATION AT RHODES, AND SELL IT HE DID! THE UNIVERSITY GRANTED THE VENTURE SOME FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND A ROOM IN THE UNION BUILDING AND RHODES MUSIC RADIO (RMR), WAS BORN IN AUGUST 1980.

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SINCE ITS BEGINNING WITH A FIVE-MEMBER COMMITTEE AND A SECOND HAND HI-FI SET PLAYING MUSIC IN AIF, RMR HAS GROWN INTO A MOST SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY RADIO STATION. IN THIS REGARD IT IS A PLEASURE TO HAVE WITH US ON THIS OCCASION, MANY OF THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RMR. TO YOU ALL, ADVERTISERS, SPONSORS, RADIO STATIONS, RECORD COMPANIES, EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS AND MANY OTHERS, ON BEHALF OF RHODES UNIVERSITY AND RHODES MUSIC RADIO, I EXTEND OUR VERY SINCERE THANKS FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE.

IN 1983 LINES WERE LAID TO ALLOW TRANSMISSION TO THE COMMON ROOMS OF THE CENTRAL RESIDENCES AND HOPEFULLY LINKS WILL BE MADE WITH THE REMAINING HOUSES IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE STATION RENDERS AN IMPORTANT SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY, NOT ONLY ENTERTAINING US, BUT KEEPING US INFORMED OF IMPORTANT EVENTS AND ISSUES ON CAMPUS AND IN TOWN.



RMR'S INVOLVEMENT IN MANY SPHERES OF UNIVERSITY LIFE IS TO BE COMMENDED HIGHLY. ANNUAL EVENTS INVOLVING A RUGBY MATCH AND A MUSIC CONCERT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WITWATERSRAND AND THE UNIVERSITY OF NATAL, DURBAN, WERE INTRODUCED IN 1982 AND 1983 RESPECTIVELY. THE TROPHIES FOR WHICH THE RUGBY TEAMS COMPETE WERE ALSO DONATED BY RMR.

ORIENTATION WEEK WOULD NOT RUN AS SMOOTHLY AS IT DOES WERE IT NOT FOR THE STUDENT RADIO ANNOUNCERS WHOSE ASSISTANCE TO THE UNIVERSITY'S ADMINISTRATORS IS INVALUABLE.

IN CONGRATULATING RHODES MUSIC RADIO ON ITS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY, I SHOULD ALSO LIKE TO ASSURE THE CHAIRMAN, MR JEREMY MANSFIELD AND HIS COLLEAGUES OF OUR THANKS FOR ALL THEY HAVE DONE FOR THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY AND OUR VERY BEST WISHES FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS. THOUGH

SOME OF THE WARDENS MIGHT DISAGREE WITH ME WHEN IT COMES TO VOLUME, I SHOULD LIKE TO SAY: MAY RMR GO FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH. AND I WOULD REMIND THOSE WARDENS OF WILLIAM CONGREVE, AN ENGLISH WRITER OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY WHO BELIEVED THAT 'MUSIC HAS CHARMS TO SOOTH A SAVAGE BREAST'. I GIVE YOU A TOAST THEN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, TO RHODES MUSIC RADIO, LONG MAY IT CONTINUE TO SOOTHE THE SAVAGE BREASTS OF THE STUDENTS AT RHODES.

D S HENDERSON  
VICE-CHANCELLOR