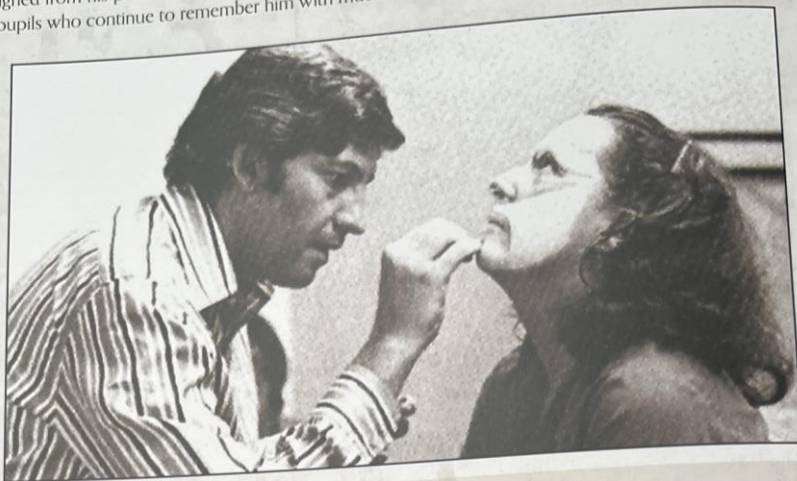


In 1976 **Mr Joseph Sherman**, a graduate of King David High School, Linksfield, was appointed vice-principal and head of the English Department. He resigned from his position in 1979 to lecture in the English Department at the University of the Witwatersrand. He made a great impact on his pupils who continue to remember him with much affection and admiration.



"Stupid, stupid boy!" said Mr Sherman. "I've told you before that if anything annoys me more than your face, it's your voice!"

Two years ago this apparently mortal insult would have been greeted with stony-faced disapproval and indignant hisses. Now it is greeted with laughter. The 'psycopath on the loose' has not only been tamed, he has been mellowed. We regard him affectionately now.

Orenna Krut 1977

Whenever I think of Mr Sherman's lessons, I think of all his witty sayings and expressions, which of course reflect various facets of his character. We remember his great humility - "Once again the brilliance of the teacher is lost in the ineptitude of the scholars".....his unparalleled generosity in giving compliments "Onder die blindes is een oog koning" or "With hair like David Kahn's, baldness is a blessing." It was his perfectionist attitude and pride in his work that made everything he did most successful: his English lessons, the annual school play, the Kolbe debating and public speaking. Goodbye, Mr Sherman

Howard Treisman and David Kahn 1977

Mr Sherman, according to Kahil Gibran, you have proved to be a true teacher and have not bidden us enter your house of wisdom, but rather have led us to the thresholds of our own minds

Ilana Hurwitz 1977



Mr Sherman married another much admired teacher, **Mrs Karen Durbach**, who had joined the staff in 1975 to head the French Department on the retirement of Mrs Riva Borowsky. Sadly Mr Sherman passed away in 2009 in England where he had been appointed Woolf Corob Fellow in Yiddish Studies at the Oxford Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies at Oxford University.