

Hodgson's love keeps them content

Sanelisiwe Tsinde

ASSAGAY couple, Ernest and Pat Hodgson, celebrated their 60th anniversary on Thursday, 8 June. At the age of 20, Ernest Hodgson did not have a girlfriend and was not interested in dating but that situation changed when he first laid eyes on Pat.

Ernest had joined the army at the age of 18 and after two years returned and was at home for a week when he was invited to a friend's party where he spotted the love of his life. The love birds, who were born and raised in Britain, dated for three years before they got married. They have two children and four grandchildren.

The *Highway Mail* visited the Hodgsons to hear about their journey:

What was your impression of each other when you first met?

Ernest: I did not really want to go to the party and I never had a girlfriend but when I saw Pat, I could not believe her beauty and had to ask my friends about her.

Pat: I did not know that he was at the party as he was hiding behind a newspaper. I met him after a week when he saw me in a bus. He and his friend were coming from the cinema and he stopped the bus and offered me sweets and asked if we could meet the following weekend.



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Exclusive to print



Pat and Ernest Pat Hodgson on their wedding day.

What do you like about each other?

Ernest: In the years we have

been together, she still looks the same, she has not changed a bit. We think the same and she always makes me think that I am in charge. She makes me feel like a king and I never imagined myself with anyone.

Pat: He makes me laugh and happy and from that first date, we had that compatible feeling. Ernest has always been there for me and turns my dreams into a reality.

What has kept your love strong for all these years?

Ernest: We do everything together. When we were younger we use to play a lot of sport but now we enjoy going out to dinner and visiting our family. But all in all, I am always happy with my wife's presence.

Pat: Ernest has always been there for me, he supports me and knows me too well.

Advice for young couples?

Ernest: For me the most important thing is to be loved. If someone loves you the same way you love them, then you can make your relationship work. They should work through their differences together.

Pat: Life has its ups and downs and along the way you will go through some challenges and things you never imagined.

Young people give up too easily and move on forgetting that life is not always greener on the other side.

Highway dancers have the moves for UK comp

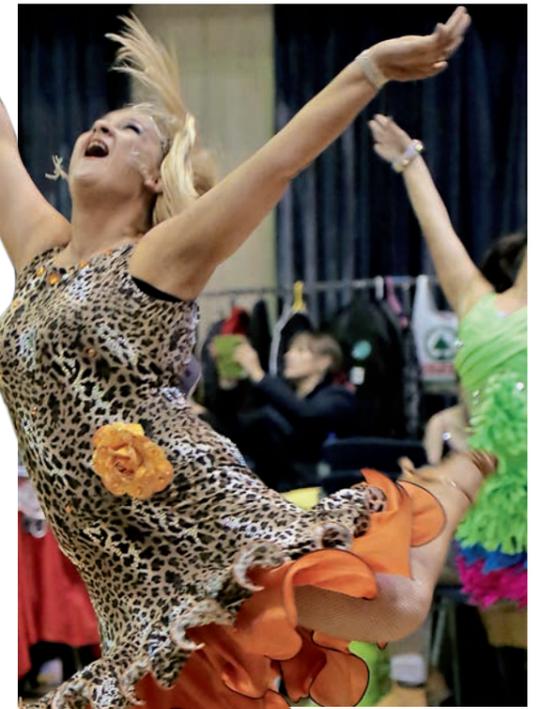
TALENTED dancers from KZN Rhythm and Dance twirled their way to a top set of results at the SA Masters in Johannesburg recently.

Round after round during the two-day tourney, the dancers continued to wow the crowds as they raked in medals at the prestigious event.

Zaeden de Koning (4) took first place in tiny tots, Tara Venter (10) was first in the junior newcomer section, Ashley Venter (13) claimed the top spot in teens newcomer while Jessica Meyer (25) won young adult novice.

Wendy Watson (47) won silver starter, Gail Byng (56) took third in silver advanced, Charmaine Kelly (42) was second in the intermediate opens and Victoria Thompson (34) took third place in open novice.

Sara de Koning claimed first place in advanced open as well as the top position with Jessica Meyer in showcase duo. Charmaine Kelly and Jessica Meyer then claimed another first place in the open duo section.



Charmaine Kelly PHOTO: Jean-Marc George Photography

"We all qualify to represent SA at the World Championships in England in August," said Sara de Koning.

The club will host a fund-raiser golf day at the

Kloof Country Club on Tuesday, 4 July to send its dancers to compete in the competition.

To book a spot at the sporting event, contact Sara on 072 394 5847 or e-mail blingqueen99@gmail.com.

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