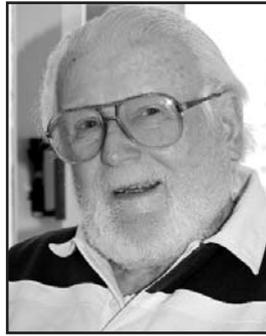


FLEABAG aka PRINCE



From the 1961 Annual: A well known identity at Rostrevor



Bill Harrison



From the 1968 Annual - 4th Grade

Front Row: M Blackwell, P Wright, L Liverton, D Manuel, F Dalle-Nogare, M Bartlett, S Collins, E Maher, T Sawyer, B Kunhegyesy, Mr I K Lindus – class teacher.

Second Row: E Morena, T Stanley, F Trabilis, T Jordan, P Sands, P Fisher, G Othen, S Navakas, J Peiker, A Fitzsimons.

Third Row: S Evans, G Basso, M Bourgeois, J Hardy, M Lelli, N Warming, M Covino, S Boland, A Johnson, J Gardner, A Sommariva.

Back Row: C Grabczewski, B McConnell, K Brewer, P Gava, D Ellis, R De Ieso, D hunt, B Brewer, R Dunn, M Wilson.

To the Right: Fleabag

Rostrevor students of the 1960's and 70s would need little introduction to an unheralded icon of Rostrevor College in that era.

Fleabag, the border collie X, was in residence at Rostrevor from the late 50s until 1973.

What was little known at that time was that Fleabag lived a double life as he was the family pet of the Harrison family in Durant Ave Rostrevor.

Bill Harrison, now of Jenkins Ave Rostrevor and grandfather of old scholars Josh and Sam Neeft, was happy to catch up with Red&Black recently to fill in the 'unkown' elements of Fleabag's life.

Fleabags association with Rostrevor is well documented in the College

Annuals as evidenced in the accompanying photos. There was no major event at the College which was not attended by Fleabag. Students of that era possibly can still hear his bark echoing through the Valley as he lead the Cadet Corps on parade or the 1stVXIII into battle against the enemy.

The Brothers and the boarders of that era were his surrogate family but each school holiday he would return home to Durant Ave and take up with the Harrison family as if he had simply been for a walk around the block.

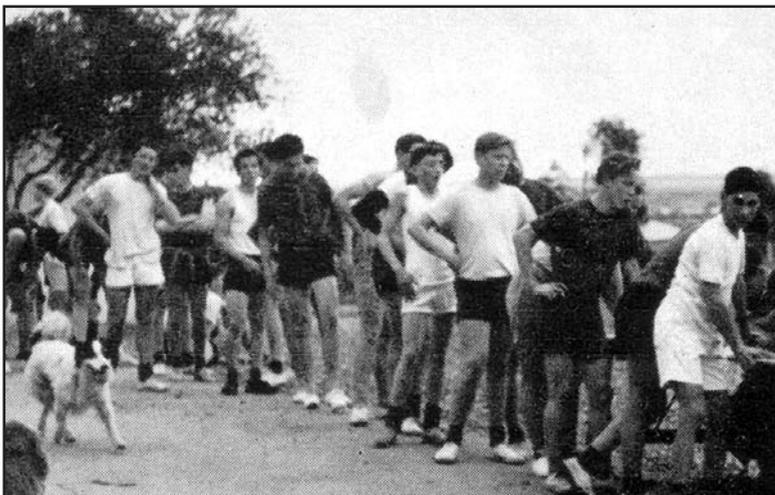
Bill informs that before Fleabag's association with Rostrevor he was a regular attendee at Hectorville Primary where Bill and Nancy's children Sue, Peter and Tim Harrison attended. He

would walk with the children to school, stay the day and then return home with them at night. It was not long before the Hectorville administration showed Fleabag the gate but as he was used to the company and attention, soon it was the lure of the school yard voices wafting down the hill from the College that beckoned.

At first Fleabag was a day scrag, returning home each night. He then

became a weekly boarder and then a fully fledged boarder returning home only for school holidays. His return home was heralded with a scratch at the door and the expectation of a warm welcome for the 'prodigal'.

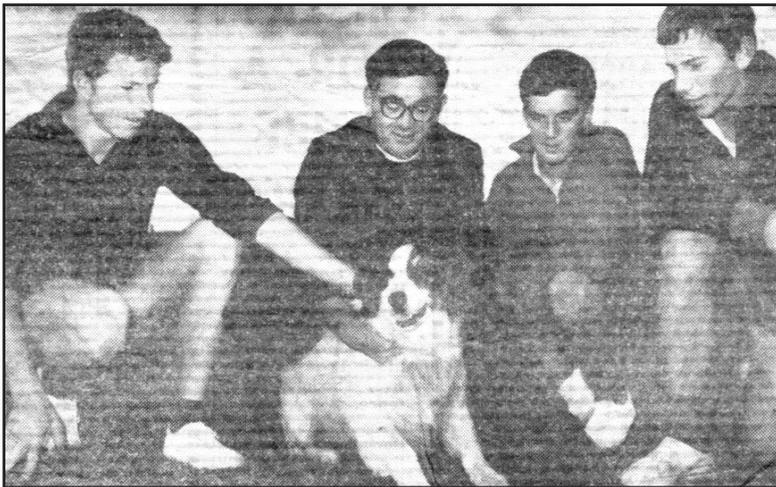
No doubt the 250 plus boarding contingent and the Brothers provided Fleabag with an array of tit-bits which the Harrison family could not compete with. Although well fed, Fleabag



From the 1962 Annual: Fleabag crosses the line in the 1962 Cross Country



From the 1964 Annual: Team and supporter give Warcy



From the 1969 'News': Itching to Get Going. Fleabag the dog who 'barracks' for the Rostrevor College football team gets a rewarding pat from team members and supporters from Left: Greg Fox, coach Br Dan McMahon, Mark Irwin and Paul Leockes



From the 1968 Annual: Andrew Pritchard at St Paul's College during the 1968 Walkathon to raise money for the new Hall. (Purton Hall)



From the 1968 Annual: First Aid at the 18 Mile Checkpoint



From the 1968 Annual: Lunch break at St Paul's. From Left: Fleabag, Eddie Hofmeyer, Julian McNeil, Carl Moll



From the 1972 Annual: Cross Country Running Can Be Enjoyable



From the 1968 Annual: Mark Blackwell and Fleabag at the end of the 20 mile walk.

remained relatively lean as he involved himself in most training sessions, cross countries, sports days and the like. His greatest feat was possibly his completion of the twenty mile 1968 Walkathon when he was around 10 years old.

(The relationship between Rostrevor and the Harrison family became a two

way thing when a few stray boarders would occasionally visit the Harrison household for lunch on weekends. Bill seems to recall a couple of guys by the name of Steve Casey and Paul Anson.) On the day before he died, Fleabag returned home to Durant Ave and scratched on the front door for the last time.

Bill believes Fleabag (or Prince as he was known to the Harrison's) was purchased in 1956 and he was buried with ceremony in 1974, beneath the statue of the Sacred Heart which at that time overlooked the Big Memorial Oval.

Many thanks to Bill Harrison for contacting Red&Black