



What does the year 1977, alumni Rudi Löwe and the Oktoberfest have in common?

Born in the same year as the Oktoberfest started, Rudi Löwe, was destined to be part of this festival. Little did he know, when he started his school career that he would remain an integral part of the school community and its proud Oktoberfest tradition.

“The fact that I am a part of the DSP is no coincidence. My grandmother was enrolled at the DSP in 1912, followed by my father and then me in 1982. My wife Sonja and I are very proud, that our two children Nadia and Emil are the fourth generation to join the DSP”, says Rudi who attended the DSP from pre-school in 1982 to the seventh grade in 1990.



“It was a good foundation for me and formed me as a young person. I had wonderful years with many good memories, especially our Oktoberfest! Spring arrived, the first tents were pitched and the band from Germany was always there. The big truck from *Southwest-Africa* (Namibia) with the beer barrels was



always a distinct characteristic of the festival. Finally, the time had come! As a child the Oktoberfest meant go-carting in the dust at the water tower, a ghost train, delicious food, pretzels to nibble on and much more. The atmosphere was always great! I can't help but wonder, if it is just a coincidence that I was born in 1977, the year of the first Oktoberfest. Who knows?” he adds with a wink of the eye.

In 1995 Rudi graduated from Hoërskool Silverton and decided to become a butcher. He started his demanding and extensive apprenticeship at Späth and then later at Reinhardts in Germany. Here he realised, that he had found his passion and calling in life.



In 2003, the same year he married his wife Sonja, they had the opportunity to take over Späth Cold Meat from Fritz and Gisela Späth. A strong foundation was laid for them. In 2009 they moved into their newly built factory in Silverton. Today the company consists of 34 employees and is HACCP (SANS 10330:2007) certified.

For many years Späth has been delivering to the Tuckshop at the DSP on a weekly basis. They have also supplied the school for various events of which the Oktoberfest is one. Späth Thüringer Bratwurst, Bockwurst, Wiener, Fleischkäse and cold cuts have

always been part of the Oktoberfest menu. The Bratwurst has even been described as the "*boerewors on steroids*" in a local well-known newspaper. It is certainly a firm favourite which delights many Oktoberfest visitors' taste buds.

"I feel extremely privileged to be associated with the Oktoberfest and the DSP! As a business manager and a former learner of the DSP I am grateful for what has been and I wish the school every success for the future, because even COVID-19 will pass. We, for that matter, are already looking forward to the next Oktoberfest." concludes Rudi.



More about the Oktoberfest: www.oktoberfest-pretoria.co.za

We welcome alumni who share their experience, successes and knowledge with us.

If you are interested, please contact alumni@dsp.gp.school.za

