



## BISHOPS ODU NEWS

14<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Dear ODs

### **Becoming an OD**

Yesterday the grade 12 boys were handed their OD ties, in assembly, by our Executive Manager, WP van Zyl (1997K) and committee member, Michael Mynhardt (2013F). The boys were welcomed to the ODU by our Ex-Chairman, Brian Robertson (1979W), as Bruce Jack was unavailable, along with committee members, Dugald Robertson (2010F) and Anton Taylor (2005B). Brian made clear that it matters not how you begin, but how strongly you finish and as they step out to make their mark on the world, the ODU is here to offer them support. Brian told them to wear their OD tie with pride and to always keep these words close to their heart, "May the road rise high up to meet you, May the wind be always at your back, May the sun shine warm upon your face, And the rain fall softly on your fields. And until we meet again, May God hold you in the palm of his hands." Afterwards tea and eats were enjoyed at The Mitre and shirt signing began. Photos will be posted on our website and Facebook page shortly.

### **Visitors**

On Tuesday, John Lawrence (Staff) led a tour of 22 teachers from Norway around the Pre-Prep, Prep and College. Afterwards they had a most delightful lunch at The Mitre. Please see photo attached. John is standing on the far right hand side.

### **Contact**

Our Executive Manager, WP van Zyl (1997K), now has a direct telephone number 021 659 1995, should you wish to get hold of him.

### **Work Opportunity - Intern**

The ODU requires an intern (student), who is looking for part-time work, to help update the OD Database. The hours will be 9 to 5 at the ODU offices, with reasonable remuneration. To start ASAP. Please e-mail [dorourke@bishops.org.za](mailto:dorourke@bishops.org.za)

### **Web Designers**

We are planning a redesign of the ODU Website. If there are any ODs that have skills in website design, please get in touch with Nicholas Durrant (1992G) [nick@bluegrassdigital.com](mailto:nick@bluegrassdigital.com)

### **New Branch**

Thomas van Poucke (1999O) has shown interest in starting up an ODU branch in

Mauritius. Any ODs living in Mauritius, please e-mail your details to [dorourke@bishops.org.za](mailto:dorourke@bishops.org.za)

### **The Mentoring Programme**

OD Mentoring continues apace and the number of young ODs all over the world who are benefiting from the generous encouragement, advice and support of their Mentors is growing. If you would like to volunteer as a Mentor or if you are looking for one, please click on <https://form.jotformeu.com/61863512428356>

### **UK Newsletter**

The UK newsletter can now be viewed at <http://us6.campaign-archive1.com/?u=7b5bd99f91896bec2e1ae7f9d&id=be641a44d6> If you want to subscribe to the newsletter which comes out monthly, please register here: <https://form.jotformeu.com/62625993969376>

### **Lunch with Tony Little**

53 ODs and their guests attended the lunch with Tony Little, former Head Master of Eton, on Tuesday. Tony spoke on his experiences as a Head Master generally and Eton in particular and also his views on the state and future of British education. For the full report, pictures and guest list, click on [www.ukodu.blogspot.com](http://www.ukodu.blogspot.com)

### **End-of-Year Drinks**

Hamish Sinclair (1992S) is hosting the UK ODs end-of-year drinks party at his Company (Stonehage Fleming) headquarters in London on Thursday 1st December. Any OD (sadly no partners) who would like to attend should RSVP here: <https://form.jotformeu.com/62702030344341> The cost is £10pp which includes all drinks and canapes.

### **Bishops Trust – ‘Extra Term’**

As many of you will know, the Bishops Trust is being reignited under the leadership of our principal, Guy Pearson. More details will be forthcoming in future newsletters, but in the meantime, please feel free to learn more about what the Trust does and in particular, their current bursary fundraising focus in the attached document. If you have any queries, please contact Nikki Matthews at the Bishops Trust Office [nmatthews@bishops.org.za](mailto:nmatthews@bishops.org.za)

### **REMINDERS**

#### **UAE OD Get-Together**

ODs will be getting together on 3 November at 7pm at the Lakeview Restaurant at the Dubai Creek Yacht and Golf Club. Please RSVP by no later than 20 October to Dirk van Doorn (1988W) at [dirk\\_van\\_doorn@yahoo.com](mailto:dirk_van_doorn@yahoo.com)

#### **Christmas Carols with Richard Cock (1967O)**

Bookings at Computicket are now open for this *not to be missed* event which takes place in the Memorial Chapel on Friday 16 December at 6pm. Drinks and Christmas mince pies will be served. ODs who would like to sing in the choir, please e-mail Hennie van der

Merwe at [hennie@inknet.co.za](mailto:hennie@inknet.co.za)

### **Wickedly Funny**

The brilliantly innovative, iconic rock musical, Hedwig and the Angry Inch, is on at Gate69 until 27th November. Paul du Toit (1992W) plays Hedwig and Niall Griffin (2001B) is the brilliance behind the set and costume design. Book at [www.gate69.co.za](http://www.gate69.co.za)

### **Upcoming event at The mitre**

On Wednesday 2nd November Scott Ramsay (1993F) will be presenting "South Africa's Wildest Places." Please see invitation attached for more information.

The **Mid Term Eucharist** takes place on Wednesday 26th October from 07:50 to 08:45.

### **Calling all 'Foodies'**

ODs in the culinary industry interested in catering at our events, please e-mail me your details [dorourke@bishops.org.za](mailto:dorourke@bishops.org.za)

### **ODU Clubs**

#### Birding

3 keen birding ODs joined Peter Steyn (1955O) on Tuesday on a Cape Bird Club walk around Kirstenbosch, whilst Simon Peile (1979F) had a rare sighting of 2 Harpy Eagles in the Darien, Panama. After a drive to the Chuchunaque River, he took a two and a half hour trip on a motorised dugout and then a sixty minute hike into the forest to see the nest. The female was sitting on the nest high up in Canopy. The male visited to drop off food while he was observing the nest. If you would like to join Peter on his next outing, please e-mail him at [peregrine@mweb.co.za](mailto:peregrine@mweb.co.za)

#### GIN

The OD GIN group has taken off with a bang! A number of ODs are on board. If you are interested in joining this club please e-mail Cheryl Douglas (Staff) [cdouglas@bishops.org.za](mailto:cdouglas@bishops.org.za)

#### Drinks Professionals Club

Any ODs who wish to join this club please e-mail [dorourke@bishops.org.za](mailto:dorourke@bishops.org.za) De Villiers Graaff (1988F) and Brian Robertson (1979W) will be arranging a meeting shortly.

### **Sport**

The rowing team depart today for the Knysna Regatta. See more info at <http://www.rowsa.co.za/Events/Rowing-Calendar/ListView/SimpleList>

### **Magazine**

One of our biggest expenses and one which we are determined to minimise is the postage of our hard copy magazine. There has been much discussion at the school about the format of the magazine and while these discussions are ongoing, the likelihood is that this format will change in the future. More news will follow for comment. If you would like to

switch from a hard copy magazine to the electronic version, please let me know.

**Please send me all your news for our December magazine. Deadline is 28th October.**

### **Felicitations**

We would like to congratulate our President Mr Raymond Ackerman (1948S) and his wife, on celebrating their 60th (Diamond) wedding anniversary on the 4th September. A Diamond has many facets, its wealth is beyond compare, it sparkles in the sunlight and glistens everywhere.

### **Significant Days**

A belated L'Shana Tovah and Happy Rosh Hashana for the 3rd and 4th October. As you pray and atone may you be blessed with all good things on Yom Kippur on the 12th October, Gemar Chatimah Tovah. And Happy Sukkot, may you have a joyous Feast of Tabernacles on the 17th and 18th October.

*"The secret of getting ahead is getting started" – Mark Twain*

Have a lovely weekend.

Best regards

Delre