



BISHOPS
ODU NEWS

Dear ODs

Last week we held a **Business Breakfast** at the Woodlands Pavilion. Our guest speaker was Gareth Penny (1980F). Gareth is non-Executive Chairman of Norilsk Nickel, the world's largest producer of nickel and palladium and one of the leading producers of platinum and copper. Gareth is also Executive Chairman of New World Resources plc., one of Europe's largest hard coal producers, listed on the London, Prague and Warsaw stock exchanges. He is a non-Executive Director and RemCo Chairman of Julius Bär Holding Limited, Switzerland's leading, dedicated wealth manager. Gareth also serves on the Senior Advisory Board of TowerBrook Capital Partners (TCP), a successful New York and London based investment firm. Please see Aide Memoire attached with discussion points presented by Gareth on 7 March 2016.

Again, I urge ODs to get involved in our mentoring system and to sign up on our LinkedIn page <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/7421444>

Founders Day 2016 photos can be viewed at:

<http://community.odu.co.za/photo/albums/founders-day-2016-part-1>

<http://community.odu.co.za/photo/albums/founders-day-2016-part-2>

The OD Union Annual Dinner photos will be up on our website Community page shortly.

Gauteng Easter Rugby Festival – 24 to 30 March 2016

Bishops are playing at St Stithians together with other top schools including Clifton, Graeme College, St Andrews, St Albans, Grey PE, Pretoria Boys High, Michaelhouse, Wynberg, Westville and DHS.

The fixtures can be found on <http://blog.schoolboyrugby.co.za/?p=12959#VIEW>

Hockey fixtures can be viewed at <http://events.stithian.com/events/easter2016/teams/entry/team-hockey-bishops-diocesan-college>

For all other upcoming College sports fixtures please go to <http://college.bishops.org.za/sport/Fixtures.aspx> and http://www.mycomlink.co.za/fixture_commentary.php?i=7097

Our **March 2016 online magazine** is up on our website <http://www.bishops.org.za/magazine/>

Hard copies will be posted shortly. On this note, I encourage ODs to please opt to receive the magazine digitally. Hard copy magazines cost the ODU just under R100 000 a year on postage. If you do receive a hard copy magazine, please e-mail me if your postal address has changed.

"We must use time wisely and forever realize that the time is always ripe to do right" – Nelson Mandela

Enjoy the long weekend.

Best regards

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AIDE MEMOIRE

Breakfast Business Meeting with Bishops ODs

Discussion points presented by Gareth Penny on 7th March 2016

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FACING SOUTH AFRICAN BUSINESSMEN

The challenges can be summarised by 8 “**C**”s. These challenges are relevant not just for South Africa, but most developing economies.

A.

1. **C**onfidence (especially political)
2. **C**orruption
3. **C**rime
4. **C**hina (its changing role)
5. **C**ommodities (price decline)
6. **C**redit Rating (under pressure)
7. **C**urrencies (volatility)
8. **C**limate **C**hange

Unless properly managed, these challenges could lead to **CRISIS**. The Chinese character for crisis is **Danger + Opportunity!**

So, what are the opportunities to grow our businesses and the South African economy?

B.

1. **C**larity of purpose (all businesses need the focus to succeed. Examples used were SAB Miller v. Anglo American)
2. **C**ompetitive advantage (example used was Norilsk Nickel)
3. **C**reativity (willingness to take risk)

4. **C**ompliance / **C**orporate governance. (Example – conflict diamonds and the need for sustainability)
5. **C**oncentration (the best ideas are ones where there is scale)
6. **C**ontinent (the African continent offers extensive opportunities. Example – Christo Wiese and PEP stores)
7. **C**apital (human and financial)
8. **C**ontacts (example used was Etonpreneurs programme and the desirability to introduce this at Bishops).
