



## BISHOPS ODU NEWS

30<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Dear ODs

### **“The First World Champions”**

OD rugger fans and their guests gathered at The Mitre for drinks and pizza last night, before moving across to the Woodlands, where Michael Charton presented “The First World Champions” - The Untold Story of The Legendary 1937 Springboks in New Zealand.

On an amusing note, it was a Bish Bosch affair. ODs had contacted me, to sheepishly ask if they could bring a guest? And not only a guest, but a Rondebosch Old Boy! The coincidence is that Michael is a Rondebosch Old Boy!

The event was sold out and some ODs remarked that they had not been back to Bishops for years and that there is still a great core of ODs.

Attached are very short bios for the three ODs on the team.

### **Keeping with Rugby**

Mark Kendall (Staff), now living in Suffolk, UK, could not attend the talk but wrote to tell me about one of our very own rugby legends, Basil Bey.

Mark states, “While Basil ran the rugby, I ran the hockey at Bishops. Hockey was ascending at that time and far more lads were playing, although always the secondary sport. Some took the rise of hockey badly, but Basil, to his enormous credit, said nothing to criticise, even if he felt very strongly the other way. I used to do a lot of early morning running and often saw him out with his faithful dog on the playing field in and around School House when I stopped to do my stretch routine. We lived in one of the new houses, as they were then, on the left of the main avenue as you came into the school. He always had a white shirt on, tieless. I don't think I ever saw him in anything but a white shirt, in fact, and there was always something re-assuring in this about him, certainly not a man to favour the passing fashions of others. I never liked the physicality of rugby particularly, but I did love the way Basil's teams avoided much of it in playing non-stop running rugby, so fast, hands so quick and skilful. Those guys would 'run the ball' from anywhere on the park, even from their own back line, which was so exciting to see. The huge crowds which turned up every week to raucously support: that was just fantastic after English rugby, with just a handful of spectators on school touchlines. In England it was so much more of a pedestrian affair, with numerous scrum downs and comparatively little open play flair, dash and pace. I had played at Sale Grammar, once a direct feeder to Sale R.C., now 'Sale Sharks'. I played touch rugby in P.E. lessons with senior lads at Bishops and loved the experience. The guys were so keen! I have 'waxed lyrical' here about the sort of rugby I saw in the 'fairest Cape' for many years, especially at Bishops, since my return - a tribute to Basil and what he achieved at Bishops. I was in awe of the man, as many others no doubt were. Masters in Charge of Rugby are not always known for their charm, even temper and affability; whether in victory or defeat. Basil Bey broke the mould.”

## **Retort**

I received another anecdote, this time from Richard von Hoesslin (1964S), on the late Tim Rands.

I met Tim on the cricket field in 1986 at the Groot Drakenstein Games Club where Tim spent many a Saturday and Sunday playing. He was a super cricketer, being a great batsman, a talented bowler and a fielder who never missed a ball and always threw it straight over the stumps. Tim made Franschoek his home soon after leaving corporate life, living initially in the cottage on his parents-in-law's home, Champagne Estate, and later purchasing and redeveloping a further portion of Champagne Estate. One of my first recollections of Tim's foresight was having a braai with him and his wife, Linda, on the farm outside Franschoek after a game of cricket. He discussed the strategy he was using to become not only a successful wine merchant, but to become the most respected. Today his legacy carries on in his operation Vinimark. The second was his dream to develop a Private school in the Valley. Once again his legacy precedes him in the very successful Bridge House College and Prep. I remember too, Tim telling the story after he had just started up his wine business, arriving home having had a long meeting at Pick 'n Pay. During the meeting, having been told that they needed somebody to develop a House-Brand for them, he was introduced to Raymond Ackerman. When replying to Raymond's question on which school he had attended, Tim said he knew he had the contract when Raymond's face lit up on hearing that he had been to Bishops."

## **Mentoring Programme**

If you would like to sign up as a Mentor or Mentee, please do so by clicking <https://form.jotformeu.com/61863512428356>

## **Magazine**

The September 2016 magazine can now be viewed online at <http://www.bishops.org.za/magazine/> Hard copies will be posted shortly.

## **ODU Birding Club**

On Tuesday 11 October Peter Steyn (1955O) will be leading a Cape Bird Club walk of about two hours duration around Kirstenbosch. Any interested ODs are invited to join him. Please e-mail Peter on [peregrine@mweb.co.za](mailto:peregrine@mweb.co.za)

The walk starts from the Information Centre at Gate 1 at 8am. There is free entry for pensioners (Please bring your ID). Botsoc members are free. Depending on the response, an ODU Bird Club may be viable for other meetings or outings

## **ODU GIN Club**

Cheryl Douglas (Staff) is starting up an ODU Global Issues Network group. If you were a member of the GIN group and are interested in being part of this group please email Cheryl at [cdouglas@bishops.org.za](mailto:cdouglas@bishops.org.za)

## **ODU Drinks Professionals Club**

De Villiers Graaff (1988F) and Brian Robertson (1979W) are forming a Drinks Professional's Club. If this is your niche, please e-mail me [dorourke@bishops.org.za](mailto:dorourke@bishops.org.za)

## **ODU Hiking Club**

Any ODs who would like to start an ODU Hiking Club, please e-mail me at

[dorourke@bishops.org.za](mailto:dorourke@bishops.org.za)

## **Sport**

Six ODs who play for the False Bay Rugby Football Club, travelled to Harare last weekend, where they took on the Zimbabwe Club Champions Old Georgians in The Gold Cup (SA National Club Championships). This year was the first time that a Zimbabwe side was invited to participate in the tournament. Our Harare Secretary, Leonard Thomas (1957S), along with a crowd of around 1500 spectators was there in support. On a typically warm Zimbabwe day False Bay, captained by Graham Knoop (2005O), managed to secure the win 38 - 25 in an extremely entertaining match. Len shared some memories of his Bishops days where he was a boarder at School House. Most notably being, that in those days, there were 40 boarders from Zimbabwe, and they only went home twice a year! Seen in the photo attached from left to right are: Dasch Barber (2006M), Josh Pinn (2008B), Len Thomas (1957S), Graham Knoop (2005O), Wesley Chetty (2006O) and Kevin Lennett (1984O).

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

This *not to be missed* event takes place in the Memorial Chapel on Friday 16 December at 6pm. Bookings at Computicket will open up next week. 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)

## **Delville Wood Memorial Service**

The entire ceremony that took place in Delville Wood can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yxw0BeAw1N0>

A short movie of the history tour can be watched at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1X0FpoN2Jol>

## **UK News**

If you travel to the UK frequently, please subscribe to the UK newsletter at <https://form.jotformeu.com/62625993969376> to keep up to date with what is happening in town.

## **Respects**

It came as very sad news to hear about the passing of Brandon Matley (2005G) on 27 September, after a four-year struggle with cancer. We extend our heartfelt condolences to his father Philip, his mother Terry-Ann, his brother Justin (2003G), and the rest of the Matley family. His life will be celebrated in the Memorial Chapel at Bishops today at 4pm.

*"Feeling gratitude and not expressing it, is like wrapping a present and not giving it away"*  
– William Arthur Ward

If you are going away for the holidays, enjoy, and safe travels.

Best regards

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