



## BISHOPS ODU NEWS

### ODU NEWSLETTER 10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2017

#### **TECHNICAL CHALLENGES**

The ODU would like to acknowledge that the weekly Newsletter has not been reaching many ODs due to a technical difficulty. Our understanding at this stage is MWEB/iafrica.com automatically interprets e-mails with the word 'Newsletter' in the subject line as spam, and prevents them from reaching the reader. We are currently working on a solution.

ODs are welcome to view the Newsletter on the OD Website. The address is:

[www.odu.co.za](http://www.odu.co.za) . Search the bar at the top of the page for "News", and scroll down to "ODU Newsletters".

We generally strive to have the Newsletter released, and posted on the website, just after midday on Fridays.

#### **EARLIER NEWSLETTER NEXT WEEK**

The ODU staff will be support the Grade 10 boys on the Bishops Epic (previously Adventure Course) in the Cederberg next week. WP will be away from Tuesday next week, and Nicole from Thursday.

We are aiming to bring out a shortened Newsletter around Wednesday which will include a comprehensive update on The Trust. We thank you for your understanding, and trust that we'll be able to bring back exciting news.

#### **BOOKS BY ODs**

##### **Peter Steyn (1955O): *Kingdom of Daylight: Memories of a Birdwatcher***

On Thursday 26 October, Peter Steyn held a launch of his new book *Kingdom of Daylight: Memories of a Birdwatcher*, at Kalk Bay Books. The launch consisted of a conversation with **Vernon Head (1984O)**, who has himself produced books relating to ornithology himself.

An advert to the event read:

*“Steyn’s passion for birds began at an early age and saw him develop into both an expert bird photographer and an author of nine books and numerous popular and scientific articles on the subject.*

*His published research on birds of prey has been widely acclaimed. He has received the prestigious Gil Memorial Medal ‘for an outstanding lifetime contribution to the knowledge of southern African birds; and the Steven Piper Lifetime Achievement Award for his contribution to raptor conservation and research.’”*

To read the publisher’s report on Peter’s book click [here](#).

Thank you to Peter for donating a copy of his book to the ODU.

We are currently working on an event featuring these two authors in the new year.

### **Timothy Noakes (1966W): Lore of Nutrition**

Prof Tim Noakes, together with co-author and investigative journalist Marika Sboros, launched his latest book at the Ballroom, Kelvin Grove, on Tuesday 7 November.

Many ODs were present, including: **Colin Boyes (1965G)** and his wife Judy; **Adam Pike (1992O)** and his wife Lisa; Tim’s wife, Marilyn, and his family; **Dr Neville Wellington (current parent)**; **Jonathan Shaw (1997G)**; **Christopher Twycross (1997F)**; **John Smuts (1969S)**; **John Waller (1966W)**; **Prof. Alastair Millar (1965W)**; and **Dr WP van Zyl (1997K)**.

OD Committee Member Adam Pike assisted Tim during his HPCSA hearing, and is often referred to in the book. Tim described Adam, together with his family, as “literally saving my life”. Co-author Marika further called Adam a “legal angel”. Some very appreciative comments about those serving you on your ODU Committee!

For further comments about the exciting book click here, and some pictures [here](#).

### **Western Front Commemorative Tour Booklet, 3-5 October 2017**

Our sincere thanks to **Nicky Bicket (1973F)**; **Dr Paul Murray (current staff)**; **David Walsh (past staff Tonbridge School)**; **Rev Canon Michael Bands (past staff)**; and **John Gardener (1947G)** for their knowledgeable contributions to a unique Bishops Booklet. The OD union has received a copy from the recently held tour, and it is with our collection of other books by, or about, ODs.

For photos from the *OD Tour of the Western Front* please click [here](#).

## **MEMORIALS & CONDOLENCES**

### **Derrick Ferrandi (1943F)**

Derrick passed away peacefully at his home in Somerset West, on Saturday, 4 November 2017. A memorial service was held yesterday in the Memorial Chapel followed by a gathering at The Mitre. Please see photo [here](#) of Derrick's son, **Chris (1976F)** and his grandson, **Dean (2011F)**. Dean is currently the Bishops Rhodes Scholar at Oxford and came back especially for the memorial service. An obituary will follow soon.

### **Colin Fisher (1958)**

We also recently learnt of the passing of **Colin Fisher (1958)**. Colin passed on three weeks ago at his home in Tokai, having been ill for some time. An obituary will follow soon.

### **Ian Brown (1954G)**

A wonderful gathering was held in The Oaks Room, Newlands Cricket Ground, to celebrate the life of Ian. Many ODs attended, including: **Justice Craig Howie (1956G)**; **Peter Sauerman (1954W)**; **Ed Milne (past staff)**; **Richard Burton (1981G)**; **Paul Burton (1984K)**; **Geoffrey Burton (1953G)**; **Simon Peile (1979F)**; **John Charlton (1954G)**; **Guy Harris (1970F)**; **Neil Brown (1984S)**; **Alexander "Sandy" Bean (1955F)**; **Brian de Kock (1952O)**; **Hugo Leggatt (1956F)**; **Peter Steyn (1955O)**; **Peter Newton (1954O)**; **Robin McKellar (1954O)**; **Grant Challis (1982S)**; and also Rosemary Donnelly, whose father, husband, sons, and grandson all went to Bishops! Please see photos [here](#).

### **Michael "Spike" Cloete (1952F) Memorial Service, Gardens Presbyterian Church**

ODs attending this celebratory service on Saturday 4 November included **Brian de Kock (1952O)**; **Oliver Purcell (1952O)**; **Alan Bramwell (1952G)**; and **Sonia Worthington-Smith**. Please see photos [here](#).

## **NEWS FROM ODs**

### **UK - ODU Year-end party.**

**Nicky Bicket (1973F)**: "Please join us at the UK ODU year-end party on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December from 6:30 pm – midnight, come and go as you please. No entry cost, but a cash bar. Food provided by the ODU. For admission and catering purposes, and for the venue details, please RSVP by clicking [here](#)."

To read the action-packed October UK Newsletter please click [here](#).

## **OD Lunch in Oxford**

**Nicky Bicket (1973F):** “Three years ago, when we held our first pub lunch for ODs in the Oxford area, nine of us attended. Last year it was 15 and at this, the third lunch (Saturday 4th November 2017), we were up to 22, which pretty much now ensures that this will be an annual fixture in the UK ODU calendar.

The Bell at Hampton Poole, about a ten-minute drive from the centre of Oxford is a charming and lively - and quite upmarket - pub. I think they are starting to grow fond of the ODs; the ratio of staff to ODs seems higher than at other tables.

As usual, we collected at the bar for some pre-lunch drinks before sitting down to a splendid meal washed down by some good Cape wine....” read more [here](#).

## **Philip Lloyd (1953)**

Philip sent in an article about his retirement after 65 years of service to chemical engineering. “MechChem Africa talks to Philip Lloyd, whose chemical career began some 65 years ago and he continues to find new directions today...” Please read full article [here](#).

## **Van Breda Family**

On the 8<sup>th</sup> October 2017, the van Breda family celebrated the 200-year anniversary of the farm, Zoetendals Vallei, being in the family.

This historic occasion was combined with the christening of William Michael van Breda, son of **Michael van Breda (1991S)** who is the eighth generation to be born into the family at Zoetendals Vallei farm, Bredasdorp.

The family hosted a lunch at the farm for family, friends and members of the community.

Michael writes: “The family have a long history with the school with the first van Breda, Senator Michael Jacob van Breda attending Bishops. This proud family tradition has descended through the last four generations and we look forward to William continuing in his family’s footsteps.

We were honoured to have **Rev. Bob Commin (Bishops chaplain 1970-1975)** officiate the ceremony at the farm for this occasion.

In the picture linked [here](#), are three generations of van Bredas who all attended Bishops.”

## Visitor to the Mitre

**Robbie Weich (1992B)** is visiting from the UK. His brother, Paul had brought him in to view The Mitre and Bishops. Please see photo [here](#).

## PAST EVENTS

### 1960 Reunion Lunch Report

The Class of 60 held their annual lunch at the V&A Waterfront early in November preceding it with a tour of the new Zeitz Museum of Contemporary African Art, a stunning experience quite different from what one would expect. In the group (click [here](#) for picture) are left to right **Chris Saunders** - emeritus history professor at UCT; MOCAA Art guide **Sven Christian**; **Richard Eastwick**, who as an architect, is involved in the museum and other projects at the Waterfront, and who organized the visit and provided an explanation of the exceptional architecture; **Lionel Goetz** - just back from the USA for his annual sojourn in Cape Town, and **Dave Evans** - fruit farmer from Houw Hoek. In [picture two](#) are, left to right, **Alan Ramsay**, who kindly donated the wine for the lunch and is helping with the plans for the proposed OD magazine; **John Winshaw**, from Stellenbosch, who has recently had a hip op while his sons develop the family wine brand Usana; **Mac Bisset**, former curator of the Simonstown Naval Museum; **Geoff Caradoc-Davies**, who has moved to Helderberg Village, Somerset West, and is in the business of commercial property; and **Dave Kilpin**, who, like several ODs, has moved to the new Tokai Estate. Despite all the class being in their 70's, several sent apologies with the explanation that their diaries were just too full! Sadly, lunch organizer **Syd Cullis** was struck down with illness on the day, having just returned from his annual Tour de Kranz cycle tour.

### Staff and Patron 'Thank You' Function

The final OD Committee meeting for 2017 took place on Monday 06 November. This was followed by a 'Thank You' function in honour of the Bishops Staff and OD Patron, President and Vice Presidents for their support, guidance, and encouragement over the past year. Nicole Du Rand made her maiden OD-related speech, and quoted Canon Birt's famous view on Bishops Old Boys (see McIntyre's *A Century of Bishops*, p. 54).

Guests included **James Swift (1987W and staff)**; **Simon Peile (1979F and New Chairman of College Council)**; **Mike Bosman (1978O and outgoing Chairman of Council)**; **Guy Pearson (Current Principal)**; **Sharleen Groom (Head of Pre-Prep)**; **Chris Groom (Deputy Headmaster of Prep)**; **Greg Brown (Headmaster of Prep)**; **Dr Paul Murray (staff)**; **Barry Emms (staff)**; **Peter Hyslop (staff)**; **Raymond Ackerman (President ODU)**; **Michael Watermeyer (Patron of the ODU)**; **Clive van Ryneveld (Vice-President) Brian**

**de Kock (Vice-President); Alan Ramsay (Vice-President); Unathi Diniso (1999W); Rashied Goliath (security); Graeme Robertson (staff); Mukesh Govan (Financial Manager); Sean King (Business Manager);** and OD Committee Members.

Please see photos [here](#).

### **'Thank-You' Function for support staff: Tuesday 07 November**

Nicole Du Rand followed up her maiden speech with another sincere delivery of thanks to all the staff that help with functions relating to The Mitre. A good time was had by all!

Please see [here](#) for pictures.

### **Landmarks Half Marathon, Sunday 05 November**

This half marathon takes runners past 25 famous landmarks around Cape Town. This includes Bishops! Some ODs taking part included: **Martin Bey (1990B); William Greig (1998W); A-J Spannenberg (past staff); Hans Hoefnagels (past staff); Duncan De Groot (1989G marshalling), Peter Wrensch (1976F),** handing water to runners, and **Patrick Hardy's (1997 Head of Ogilvie) wife, Michelle and daughters; Emma and Sarah**

Please see pictures [here](#).

### **Jeremy Lawrence (1952F) Presentation on Jan Smuts: Saturday 4 November**

Jeremy delivered a very personal and sincere lecture on Jan Smuts, at Casa Labia Café, Muizenberg, on Saturday 4 November. Jeremy told of both his personal, and his family's interactions with the man who opened the Science Block (04 February 1932), and later unveiled the Roll of Honour above the Memorial Chapel doorway.

Also in attendance was Judge Ian Farlam and his wife Carol. They are **Paul (1983K)** and **Peter's (1987K)** parents.

Please see photos [here](#).

### **Remembrance Day Service 2018**

The Annual Remembrance Day Service was held on Thursday 9 November in the War Memorial Chapel. The speaker was the 14<sup>th</sup> and current Principal of Bishops, Guy Pearson. Guy relayed powerful and touching stories from the recent OD Tour of the Western Front. ODs attending the service were **Paul Weich (1990B), Rupert Hill (1978G), David Burton (1979G) and Lourens van Zyl (2000K).**

Please see pictures [here](#).

### **Gray House Grade 9 Dinner: Wednesday 1 November**

WP van Zyl was kindly invited by Gray House to present to the Grade 9's at their first formal Dinner. One of the grade 9 boys is the grandson of James Morris, who was the architect of the **Dacre Haddon (1939)** Gates in 1946

Please see photo [here](#).

### **1959 Reunion Lunch**

A lively lunch was held at The Mitre on Friday 03 November.

Please see photo [here](#).

### **Micklefield School Grade 3 and 4 Father-Daughter Campout: Friday 03 November**

ODs seen at this special event included: **De Villiers Graaff (1988F)**; **Duncan De Groot (1989G)**; **James Swift (1987W)**; **Colin de La Harpe (1984F)**; **Zameer Harnekar (1998O)**; **Sean Henchie (current staff)**; **Sandile Myeki (current parent)**; **Hugo Nelson (current parent)**; and **Ross Kennedy (current parent)**.

Please see pictures [here](#).

### **Marsh Memorial Home, Rondebosch, Fete**

Marsh Memorial Homes nurtures children and transforms lives, by providing short term care for children who have experienced abuse, neglect or abandonment.

Seen at their fundraising fete on Saturday 04 November was **Mac Bisset (1960G)**, looking for book bargains; and **Keith Warne (current staff)** providing free music entertainment.

Please see [here](#) for pictures.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

**Kevin Smuts (Matric 2004/5)**, is part of an *a cappella* group known as AnecNote. The group also includes **Daniel Nambassi**, who is currently a percussion teacher at Bishops. After performing well during the auditions of "SA's Got Talent" at the Baxter Theatre, DJ Fresh (one of the judges on the show), decided to award them his "Golden Buzzer", one of only 3 that could be awarded by the judges for the whole show! This sent AnecNote straight through to the semi-finals that took place in the Soweto Theatre on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November. From there, the group performed a musical rendition of "We Dance Again" by the well-known DJ and music producer, Black Coffee. Their performance grabbed the public's attention as they were voted as the best semi-finalist of the night, sending them straight through to finals that will take place next week. They are the only Cape Town act/performance to make it through to the final 6. The final will be aired on eTV between 6 & 7 pm on Sun 12 Nov. The final winner will be decided by sms voting from the general public on the night of the finals. If

ODs get to watch the show and enjoy their performance, please send an sms (or more than one, as there are no limits!) to the respective number for their act, which will be made known on the night.

The group also performed in the Mitre last year, at a concert featuring ODs in various musical groups.

### **Committee Member Anton Taylor (2005B) Amateur Boxing Debut**

On Saturday 4 November Anton defeated Melumzi Hebe in a technical knock-out to win his maiden amateur boxing match. ODs in support included **Alan Ramsey (1960F); Mike Ledwidge (2005M)**, Committee Member **John Macey (1979O)**, **Wesley Chetty (2006O)**, **Andrew Nel (2005M)**, and many more.

Please see pictures [here](#).

### **THE ODU MENTORING PROGRAMME**

**Nicky Bicket (1973F)** reports: "The Mentoring Programme is one of, if not *the* most important initiative the ODU has implemented since the OD Rolodex in 1904. It has been and continues to be a great success, valuable and valued by younger ODs looking for advice and guidance as they make their way in the world. The feedback from OD mentors is also overwhelmingly positive. I received a gratifying endorsement of the programme from one of our mentees - see [here](#)."

More details on the progress and future of the programme can be read [here](#).

### **RELATIONSHIP BUILDING: ALUMNI ORGANISATIONS**

The process of building relationships with other schools' Alumni organisations continues. This past week Liezel Coetzee (Alumni Relations Officer) and Bridget Fourie (PR & Events Co-Ordinator) from St. Andrew's College, Grahamstown, paid a visit to The Mitre. Bridget is the daughter of Mel Wallis-Brown (past staff), and had wonderful recollections of growing up on the Bishops estate.

Charles Phillips, representing Old Michaelhousians in Cape Town, also came for a viewing of The Mitre. He said the building was very impressive, and really enjoyed the Museum too. On Thursday, we hosted Ian Claassens from Worcester Gymnasium. Ian was very interested in our mentorship program, museum, and archives.

The ODU will be represented at an Alumni Lunch in the coming week. Initiated by the ODU, these lunches give an opportunity for Southern Suburb Schools to meet and learn from each other. SACS is hosting, and Rondebosch, Wynberg (Boys and Girls), Herschel, Springfield, Rustenburg, St. Cyprians, and even Bloemhof representatives have been invited.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **Founders Day 2018**

The ODU was represented at the school's Calendar Review Meeting, relating to the first term of 2018.

We can now confirm that Founders Day takes place on Friday 16 March 2018.

We urge ODs to please consider taking leave for that day, and join in the festivities held at Bishops.

We will be meeting with the school to plan the program, and relay it to ODs in the near future.

### **Life Healthcare Medical 10 - 26 November**

The Life Healthcare Medical 10 is a 10 kilometre fun-run/walk for health professionals.

This year's event will start at 06h30 on Sunday 26th November and is open to all health professionals. Please see entry forms are here.

### **Christmas Carols with Richard Cock (1966O) 15 December**

The annual Christmas Carol performance with **Richard Cock (1966O)** will be held on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at 18h00 in the Bishops Memorial Chapel - Diocesan College. If anyone wants to join the choir they can contact Hennie van der Merwe at [emsie@pixie.co.za](mailto:emsie@pixie.co.za). Please find more information and to book tickets here.

## **UK Dates**

### **The Thames Hare & Hounds Alumni Cross Country**

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 17 – 14.30pm, Wimbledon Common

The UK ODs are competing for a top ten place this year (last year 14/33) in this the oldest alumni cross-country event in England.

To run, please email James Deane (B, 1990), please [click here](#).

### **UK OD Year-End Party**

Friday 1st December 2017

In the Blanchard Room at The Hollywood Arms (SW10 9HX) from 6.30pm.

Dress is casual and partners are most welcome. **There is no cost to attend**, but drinks are via a cash bar. Food will be provided by the ODU. For catering and admission purposes, please RSVP .

## **OD SPORT**

### **SA Rugby Magazine: November 2017 Edition**

Congratulations to **Francois Louw (2003W)**, who graces the front cover of this magazine with a circulation of over 24 000 readers.

The featured article about Francois relates to his comeback to the national team.

For some pictures, and the article, please click [here](#).

### **Wynberg Old Boys Union presents: Open Mic-Night with Vincent van der Bijl (1965F) and Denys Hobson (past staff)**

**Venue:** Bill Bowden Pavilion

**Date:** Wednesday, 15 November 2017 at 7.00 pm

As 2017 comes to an end, *Open Microphone* in conjunction with our title sponsors, *Remax Premier-Claremont*, have secured two cricketing legends, both the victims of sports isolation – **Vincent van der Bijl (1965F)** and **Denys Hobson (past staff)**. This will be a fun-filled evening with **Keith Richardson (1968O)** as MC. We will hear about the amateur days of cricket, when there was fun and laughter, and where the love of the game was the most important thing, besides a good party and friendship. Please email Paul Barichievy (<mailto:paulcheryl@cybersmart.co.za>) and Carol Ramsay (<mailto:cramsay@wbhs.org.za>) to book your ticket! **Closing date for ticket sales: Friday, 10 November 2017.**

### **1997 Cricket**

The class of 1997 will be taking on their Rondebosch counterparts in a day-night T20 from 6pm on Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> of November at the Frank Reid field. All are welcome to come and support. The OD captain is **J-P du Plessis (1997F)** and the vice-captain is **J-P Pharo (1997K)**.

### **QUOTE FOR THE WEEK**

This week's quote is taken from Donald McIntyre's *A Century of Bishops*, p. 54:

*"This kind of loyalty and self-sacrifice among Old Boys was something quite new to me. Its quality and intensity were beyond anything I had seen in any other school. So I was convinced. I decided to hold on and ever since that day I have been increasingly thankful that I did so..."*

Warm regards,

WP and Nicole  
The Mitre, Bishops, Cape Town

Contact the OD Union