



ODU NEWSLETTER 29th SEPTEMBER 2017

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Please note that due to the school closure next week for the school holidays, there will be no ODU newsletter next Friday but it will be sent out the following Monday (9th October). We wish everyone a lovely holiday.

ODs OUT AND ABOUT

This week we spotted our Ireland Branch Secretary, **Allan Versfeld (1998K)**, shopping for baby wipes at the Silwood Centre! Please see photo [here](#).

GREG MILLS

Greg Mills (1979O) addressed Forum, Lingua Franca and The Historical Bench, on Tuesday 26 September 2017 in the Memorial Theatre at Bishops. Parents and others interested were invited and approximately 25 attended, over and above the boys. Greg's latest text 'Making Africa Work' was the centre focus of the talk, accompanied by live music (with South African song-writer Robin Auld) and a Power Point Presentation (PPT). Greg nicely put across that solving the continent's issues principally lies in formulating practical ideas about how to create jobs. Greg is the director at the Johannesburg-based Brenthurst Foundation. Others who co-wrote are former Nigerian president Olusegun Obasanjo, Jeffrey Herbst, president and chief executive officer of the Newseum in Washington, DC, and Dickie Davis, a special adviser at the Brenthurst Foundation and managing director of Nant Enterprises. It was clear from the PPT that the authors employed valuable statistical analysis and case studies to describe Africa's challenges.

DONATIONS

Robert Carmichael (1987K) – *When Clouds Fell From The Sky*

Robert Carmichael (1987K) generously donated his very own novel with a lovely note inscribed: "On the occasion of the 30th reunion of the class of 1987. With best wishes, Robert Carmichael."

“In 1977 the **lives of five people** collided to catastrophic effect as Cambodians toiled under Pol Pot’s revolutionary Khmer Rouge regime.

When Clouds Fell from the Sky: A Disappearance, A Daughter’s Search and Cambodia’s First War Criminal tells the stories of those lives and, in doing so, explains the causes and consequences of the Khmer Rouge’s rule, which cost the lives of two million people...”

Read more [here](#).

Please see photos [here](#).

Brian de Kock (1952O)

We had a wonderful visit from **Brian de Kock (1952O)** this week who came in to donate some of his memories at Bishops to the OD Union. Among the various items were the Founders House photo of 1973 and 1977, a film of the Bishops 125 event, the staff photo from 1995 and various international school tour books, to name a few. Please see photos [here](#).

Walk Home With Us

Warren Handley (2010G) and **Tom David (2011B)** report: “Our 'Walk With Us' journey was one of adventure, overcoming challenges and extreme kindness. Having now completed the experience, we are left feeling blessed, humbled and overwhelmed with gratitude. Grateful for the opportunity to have made a commitment to the incredible work being done by Aluwani for the children of our country, grateful for the support we received and especially grateful for the kindness we encountered along the way.

On Sunday 24 September, we reached the finish line in Sandton, Johannesburg to a welcome of friends and family. As we all walked the last 1 km together we were surrounded by loved ones from all parts of the world. We had friends and many ODs traveling from all over, including London, Zambia, Durban and Cape Town. It was a truly special occasion and we would like to say a very big thank you to all who made it.

We now feel we have both an opportunity and a responsibility to tell this story. It is a story much bigger than ourselves and one that we have just played a part in, but hopefully in doing so we can encourage, motivate and inspire people to be more conscious in building towards a better South Africa and particularly one that protects its children. We are not asking people to walk 6000km but rather to decide what they can do to contribute to a better society.

6000km, six countries, six months, two full hearts, one mission accomplished. But now the journey continues.”

OD Blazer

Great news! ODs wishing to tailor their own blazers can purchase a “Blazer starter kit” from the OD Union Office. The kit includes 2.2mx3m material, 4 large buttons, 6 small buttons and an OD badge and will cost R500. OD Blazers are in production and samples are due to arrive within the next few weeks

ODs AROUND THE WORLD

UK Newsletter

A MUST READ - To read the typically dynamic and exciting UK OD newsletter please click [here](#). Thank you, **Nicky Bickett (1973F)**, for all your sterling work!

THE ODU MENTORING PROGRAMME

Nicky Bickett (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 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](#).

CONDOLENCES

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of **Mike Young (1964)** this week. A memorial service will be held on Friday 29 September at 14:00 in the Brooke Chapel. More information will follow soon. Our deepest condolences are with his family and friends during this time.

CONGRATULATIONS

Bryan Gibson (1966G)

“This year’s MOST Awards’ Media Agency Legend is Bryan Gibson, whose long and distinguished career in media has encompassed major changes in the sector. Gibson runs media planning agency, *Third Wave Media*, in Cape Town...” Please read more [here](#).

REUNIONS

1967 50 Year Reunion Weekend

The class of 1967 will be hosting their 50th Reunion weekend at Bishops, kicking off yesterday with a cocktail evening in the Heatlie Pavilion, this will be followed by a dinner in The Mitre on the Saturday (30th September) and finishing off with a casual braai at the Frank Reid on the Sunday (1st October). Please contact **Ross Kelly** for more information.

1957 60 Year Reunion Weekend

The class of 1957 will have their 60th reunion over the weekend of 20th and 21st October starting with a drinks evening on the Friday and a dinner on the Saturday.

1952 65 Year Reunion Weekend (report back)

The class of 1952 hosted their 65th reunion over the weekend of 21st to 23rd September 2017. The weekend started with a meet and greet on Thursday the 21st at The Mitre followed by a lunch on the Friday and ended off with a luxurious dinner at Kelvin on the Saturday. 18 ODs attended, with wives or partners, and Guy Pearson was the guest speaker. They have already planned the first meeting for the organising committee on 22nd January 2022 for the 70th reunion weekend! Please see photos [here](#).

1987 30 Year Reunion Weekend (report back)

The year of 1987 celebrated their 30th reunion in this last weekend. They enjoyed various activities including sailing, yoga, a hike up Table Mountain and a music concert on the Sunday. The main reunion dinner took place on Saturday which was held at the Woodlands Pavilion. Please see photos [here](#).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Life Healthcare Medical 10 - 26 November

The Life Healthcare Medical 10 is a 10 kilometre fun-run/walk for health professionals. It started in 1978 - with the idea of showing that they practiced what they preached to their patients about a healthy life style. For the past 12 years the venue has been the Western Province Cricket Club Sports Complex off Avenue de Mist, with the route going round the Common and then a loop up the Bishops Avenue - from where there are usually spectacular views of Devil's Peak reflecting the early morning sunshine. The field usually includes a few ODs such as **Bob Baigrie (1974F)**, **Tim Noakes (1966W)** and **Sydney Cullis (1961F)**. As it is run on a handicap basis with half a minute allowed for each year of age over 40, the "old toppies" often manage to finish towards the top of the field.

Thanks to multiple sponsors the proceeds are donated to a charity - last year the Grootte Schuur Hospital Newborn Trust received over R40 000 and this year the Paediatric Department at Victoria Hospital will be supported.

This year's event will be at 0630 on Sunday 26th November and is open to all health professionals. Please see entry forms are [here](#).

Young OD Evening (report back)

The Mitre was a hub of youth on Wednesday evening as Young ODs gathered for an evening of insightful discussions about entrepreneurship. The Young ODs felt inspired and motivated to venture into the world of business, thanks to the advice shared by the panel consisting of **Adam Pike (1992O)** and founder of Pike Law) and **Rob Wilkinson (1987K)** and founder of Butlers Pizza). Guest appearances by **Bruce Jack (1987G)** and **Simon Peile (1979F)** further enhanced the evening with their insights on their trials and tribulations before their own businesses took flight.

Please see photos [here](#).

Christmas Carols with Richard Cock (1966O) 15 December

The annual Christmas Carol performance with **Richard Cock (1966O)** will be held on Friday 15th December 2017 at 6pm in the Bishops Memorial Chapel - Diocesan College. Please find more information and to book tickets [here](#).

UK Dates

Lunch with Roland Rudd

Friday 27 October 2017

The Carlton Club

[RSVP HERE](#)

Oxford Pub Lunch

Sat. 4th November 2017

The Bell, Kidlington

[RSVP HERE](#)

BUILDING LINKS

Micklefield School are hosting a Mountain Bike fundraiser to upgrade their library. It will be held on the 14th October at De Grendel Estate.

Please see [here](#) for their flyer.

Click Here To Book Now! [Www.Quicket.Co.Za](http://www.Quicket.Co.Za)

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

This week's quote is taken from the December 1946 DC Magazine VOL. XXXI., NO.4 pg. 2 under "Editorial"

"...We cannot remain unmoved spectators of the changing scene and, if the outcome proves other than we wish, the fault will lie not within our stars but within ourselves..."

Warm regards,

WP and Nicole

The Mitre, Bishops, Cape Town

[Contact the OD Union](#)