



BISHOPS
ODU NEWS

ODU NEWSLETTER 30th NOVEMBER 2017

UPDATE FROM THE BISHOPS TRUST

“Add years to your life and life to your years”

Dr Michael Mol, medical doctor, executive producer, TV presenter, international speaker, business consultant, founding member of Hello Doctor and Bishops Parent has volunteered his time to the Bishops Trust. He will provide a breakfast presentation on the 31 January 2018 where he asks, “So you’re healthy right... how do you know?” To find out, please book now as tickets are limited. Please see [here](#) for more information.

A light healthy breakfast will be included and ticket prices start at R250. All proceeds will be donated to the **Hamilton Mvelase Bursary Fund (HMBF)**.

We still have four unfunded boys for next year’s HMBF Extra Term Initiative. This is a wonderful initiative which sees benefactors contributing one terms school fees to support a deserving boy from an impoverished community. It is a five year commitment as this special programme offers the beneficiaries support beyond pure financial means. Mentorship opportunities are available between donor and beneficiary and benefactors will be able to follow the progress of the boy throughout his Bishops journey. For more information please contact [Nikki Matthews](#)

Thank you again to everyone who has supported the Campaign in 2017. We wish you all a safe and wonderful festive period.

LAST NEWSLETTER FOR 2017 AND CLOSURE OF ODU OFFICES

The ODU works closely in conjunction with the school in publishing our weekly Newsletter. With the school closing this week, our support structures are closing too. The result is that this will be the last Newsletter for 2017.

The ODU would like to thank the school for its wonderful support, all the after-hour and last-minute assistance.

As the school closes for 2017, all the staff take leave, buildings are locked, and the estate really comes to a standstill. The ODU will still be going full steam up until the Richard Cock Carols on 15 December. Thereafter we'll be available by appointment up to Friday 22 December, when the offices close for 2017. We will re-open in 2018 for appointments from Wednesday 3 January, and will be in full swing from Wednesday 17 January, when all the various staff components return to Bishops.

For appointments, please contact Nicole at odu@bishops.org.za

The ODU would also like to thank all ODs for their support, engagement, and encouragement over this past eventful year.

May we wish you a special time with your family over this festive period, and a courageous attitude for 2018.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

“Dear Bishops Community

As you are all aware, Fr Terry Wilke, our school Chaplain, is not well. Following the diagnosis of cancer in 2013, he has undergone extensive medical treatment over the past few years including hospitalisation in 2016 for brain surgery. Sadly this has taken its toll on Terry, to the extent that we have been advised by his doctors that it is in his best interests to retire on medical grounds. This decision has been taken in consultation with Terry and Rosemary.

Terry has been very courageous and endeavoured throughout to continue with as many of his responsibilities as possible, often to the detriment of his own health. Right up to the present, he is still serving the Bishops community, officiating at weddings and funerals. Terry will continue to be our Chaplain until the end of this term.

Please be assured that as a school we have Terry's best interests at heart and we are treating this matter in a sensitive and professional manner. This is a challenging time for Terry and Rosemary and I am sure that as a community they will have our full support.

Yours sincerely

Guy Pearson

PRINCIPAL”

CONDOLENCES

A memorial service was held for **Richard Todd (1956G)** last Saturday, 25th November in the Memorial Chapel at Bishops. An insightful obituary of Richard was published in the last edition of the Cape Times. To read it click [here](#).

OD BOOKS

Books For Sale at OD Offices

With the Festive Season coming up, ODs are kindly reminded of books that are for sale at the OD Offices:

By **Raymond Ackerman (1948S)**:

A Sprat to Catch a Mackerel: Key Principles to Build Your Business

Hearing Grasshoppers Jump: The Story of Raymond Ackerman

The Four Legs of the Table: Raymond Ackerman's simple, straight-forward formula for success

By **Paul Dobson (Past staff)**: *Bishops Rugby – A History*

By **Garth Hockly (1955S)**: *Half-Forgotten Things*

By Beatrice Law: *Building the Mother City: Cape Town 1880-1930 (In the steps of A.B. Reid, Master Builder and City Councillor)*

By **Jeremy Lawrence (1952F)**: *Buccaneer: a biography of Sir Joseph Benjamin Robinson, 1st Baronet*

Foibles: Ruthless Rhymes for the Modern Age

Past Imperfect

By **Peter le Mesurier**: *Bishops Prep: A History of the Diocesan College Preparatory School*

By **Donald McIntyre**: *A Century of 'Bishops'*

By **Greg Mills (1979O)**: *Why States recover*

How South Africa Works: And Must Do Better

Agriculture, Furniture & Marmalade: Southern African Motorsport Heroes

Africa's Third Liberation: The New Search For Prosperity & Jobs

Why Africa is Poor: and what Africans can do about it

By **Richie Ryall (1977F)**, and **Dr Paul Murray (staff)**: *A Brush with Bishops: An artistic view of an educational landmark*

By **Tim Richman (1995B)**: *50 People who Stuffed up the World* (This was launched at The Mitre last week. See photos [here](#)).

By **Clive van Ryneveld (1945G)**: *20th Century All-Rounder: Reminiscences and Reflections of Clive van Ryneveld*.

We would like to encourage ODs who would like to sell their books at the OD offices to please send us some of their copies.

Children's Book Sale

The Book People, founded by ODs **Don (1957G)** and **Russell (1991G) Nelson** are hosting a Children's Book Sale at the Lea Road Scout Hall in Rondebosch from Tuesday the 19th to Friday 22nd December 11h00 to 19h00. They will also be open on Saturday morning 23 December from 9h00 until 13h00. Never before has reading been more important in the development of our children and it is the responsibility of both parents and educators to provide that opportunity.

They invite all ODs who live in the area to visit the book sale and purchase books for their children.

Book Launch – Pathways for Connections

Kenneth Lukuko (1988W) wrote in to invite ODs to an upcoming book launch: "Please click [here](#) for your invitations to the coming Book Launch and Conference which have been organised by the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation. Your attendance will be much appreciated as the events promise to provide a space for some very useful reflection, creativity as well as a re-commitment to make our work more impactful in the communities where we all work."

One Year Celebration for Fly-Fishing Magazine

Congratulations to **Tudor Caradoc-Davies (1998B)** whose publication, *The Mission: The Cult of Fly Fishing*, celebrated its one year birthday with the November/ December 2017 Issue.

The Mission is a quality, exciting, and free publication. Please visit www.themissionflymag.com, and enjoy!

BISHOPS MUSEUM TEA

On Monday 27 November 2017 there was a Tea held in the Museum. Mr Pearson the school's 14th Principal, introduced the hon. guests: **Prof Chris Saunders (1960O)**, Professor Basil le Cordeur, Basil Arendse, **Jeremy Lawrence (1952F)**, **Tony van Ryneveld (1942G)**, Professor Mike Bruton, Dr Keith Gottschalk, The Reverend Alan Lindhorst, **Jeremy Wiley (1970F)**, Dennis Elliott, **Donald Bett (1966F)**, **Brian Robertson (1979W)**, and Staff from the College and ODU (**Dr Syd Cullis (1960F)** gave his apologies). Dr Paul Murray spoke to a number of donations among others from **Richard Wellman (1986G)**, **Brian de Kock (1952/30)**, **Donald Fraser Bett (1966F)** and **Bruce Jack (1987G)**. Then Paul asked Mike Bruton to address us. He presented a short talk on one of Bishops' greatest scientists, **Prof J L B Smith**, the person who identified the coelacanth. In his talk Mike illustrated how JLB had become interested in natural history, whilst he was still a boy at Bishops. There was a small museum somewhere in the South Wing in Founders; his curiosity was stimulated and from this his intrigue with the specimen grew. Mike has challenged us

to continue in this vein, through stimulating our learners for Science. In this way, we will be able to load important information of Bishops' past, including the great achievements of Bishops students who studied here at school, such as Sir James Greathead who built the London Underground, and astronaut Mark Shuttleworth, onto a touch-apparatus. What on earth does this mean? Should you be interested in learning more about this exciting project, please contact Paul Murray pmurray@bishops.org.za. Please see photos [here](#).

ODs IN THE NEWS

Gareth Ackerman (1975S), chairman of Pick n Pay Stores, discussed the beginnings of the second largest supermarket chain in South Africa in an interview with CNN last week.

To view the interview please click [here](#).

50 YEARS SINCE FIRST HEART TRANSPLANT

Sunday 3 December 2017 will be exactly 50 years since the first heart transplant was performed at Cape Town's Groote Schuur Hospital. The operation, led by Professor Christiaan Barnard, also occurred in the early hours of a Sunday morning back in 1967. **Rodney Hewitson** was a Senior Surgeon who assisted Barnard that night. Hewitson was the one who physically placed the donor's heart into the recipient's empty chest.

At the *Heart of Cape Town Museum* the actual operating theatres have been restored. 90% of the display involves equipment used during the procedure. Hewitson can be seen standing next to Professor Barnard. He has what the tour guide describes as a characteristic stare.

Please see photos [here](#).

UK NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

The final UK 2017 Newsletter is out! This month's edition includes a report on the recent OD Oxfordshire Lunch, a historic account of Bishops and Tobacco, various UK based event invitations and much more. To read it, click [here](#).

UK OD Christmas Drinks

Nicky Bicket (1973F): "The UK OD Christmas drinks are this Friday in the Blanchard Room which is upstairs in the Hollywood Arms (see [here](#) for map and address). Come any time from 6.30pm. We get kicked out at midnight. Dress is casual.

To remind you, there is a cash bar. Food will be provided by the ODU.

If you can no longer make it, please let me know so I can adjust the catering (and costs) accordingly. If you know any ODs who might still want to come, please forward this email to them and ask them to RSVP as soon as possible (Thursday lunchtime latest) by clicking [here](#).

Click [here](#) to see the guest list (alphabetical and by year).

Looking forward to a good end to a good year.”

THE OD MENTORING PROGRAMME – A REVIEW AND LOOK TO THE FUTURE

Nicky Bicket (1973F): “150 ODs have had access to a panel of 322 mentors covering 95 disciplines/professions. Mentors and mentees live around the globe and one of the benefits of modern communications is that advice and support are not confined within geographic borders.

The programme is the envy of the schools we have contact with and I am constantly invited to UK schools to talk about it.

But we can't stand still; while firmly-established as a valued and valuable service provided by the ODU, the programme is now ready to move into a new phase which will extend and improve what we have recognised - that the skills and experience of our mentors can be deployed in other, related areas.

There are five elements to this vision:

- More efficient matching of mentors and mentees through the website
- A series of very short high-impact videos which deal with various aspects of mentoring, from both the mentor and mentee perspective. Budget permitting, these will be available on the ODU website towards the end of the second quarter of 2018
- Recruiting mentors beyond the OD network to include parents and retired staff
- Introducing the Mentoring Programme to boys and their parents while still at Bishops for them to be able to leverage what it has to offer earlier – and when it matters
- Introducing a “buddy” system for Bishops boys in the first year at university. This follows what the best schools in the UK are doing, having recognised the massive gap between school and university and the value of a helping hand in making the transition.

So keep an eye out for these developments as they unfold and feel free to contribute your ideas, suggestions and even criticisms, all of which add to the richness of what we are trying to achieve (my email address is nbicket@katale.co.uk)

Finally, a huge thank you to all our mentors for being prepared to give back in such a meaningful way. Space limits the effusive and grateful comments I have received from mentees worldwide, but to end, here are a few:

- *“We had a great conversation and he encouraged me ... to take the leap into entrepreneurship. It was a very valuable conversation and one I wouldn't have been able to have without your help. Thank you.”*
- *“I got the job! They were very impressed with my interview, so thank you so much for helping me with my interviewing technique! Your input really made such a big difference and I really appreciate the time that you took.”*
- *“From the onset, my mentor showed a sincere interest in me. He listened to my challenges and helped me to gain clarity on what I could only see as a murky sea of uncertainty. I was encouraged to display the strength of character to stand up for what I was really aiming for in a manner that expressed my personal values. Navigating turbulent waters as a novice is challenging so the expert guidance of a veteran is tremendously useful. Personal access to a virtuoso that boasts exceptional interpersonal skills and masterful strategic insight is an experience that money cannot buy. From the mentoring exposure, I could not help but enjoy an experience woven from the unique fabric that is Bishops. It reminded me of what it is to have gone to Bishops; what it is to be an OD. An adventure beyond education. And in this specific instance, another lesson in camaraderie and pride - a privilege. But most importantly an active and relevant way in which being an OD adds immense benefit beyond my thirteen years on the campus. I am ecstatic to report that over the last year of mentorship, my business not only survived but has grown significantly. I have achieved the business goals I set out to; my personal growth as an innovative entrepreneur and more skilled business owner has begun to come to fruition and for the first time in a while, the sand is beginning to settle. It is with absolute confidence that I prompt any OD seeking growth, mentorship, guidance or simply a sounding board, to become a part of this program. I think it's important to point out that mentorship is not necessarily a cry for help but a tool that can optimise and hone performance. An experience that lives on!”*

And from a mentor:

- *“I would be more than happy to mentor mentee 1 and assist him in his career, ambitions and personal development where possible. I met up with mentee 2 over lunch last week - he is currently in Joburg meeting relevant industry experts and exploring opportunities He is a very impressive individual!”*

To join the panel of mentors or to request mentoring, please click [here](#).”

MY SCHOOL – HAPPY GIVING

My School are giving away a R10 000 festive gift hamper. See [here](#) for details.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Bishops Christmas Day Service

The annual Christmas Day service will be held in the Memorial Chapel at 08:30 on Christmas morning and all ODs and family are encouraged to attend. Please note that this will be Father Wilke's last service as chaplain of the school.

Garden Route OD Party!

The end of year Garden Route O.D. party will take the form of a cash bar and snacks at the York High School Pub (Corner of Cradock & Union) at 5 p.m. on Friday 1st December. R.S.V.P. please to Blyth Thompson (blyth@computerbird.co.za) Tel: 083 288 7288 and 044 873 5254. Wives and sweethearts welcome.

Founders Day 2018

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

We urge ODs please to consider taking leave for that day, and joining 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.

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 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. Please find more information and how to book tickets [here](#).

Walker Cup Golf

The annual golf match for the Walker Cup takes place at the Rondebosch Golf Club on Friday 3rd March 2018. ODs wishing to play are asked to contact either Brian de Kock (bdekock@iafrica.com) or John Smuts (westbury@iafrica.com) as soon as possible.

UK Dates

The Thames Hare & Hounds Alumni Cross Country

Saturday 16th 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

LIFE HEALTHCARE 10KM

This run for Medical Professionals is organised by **Sydney Cullis (1960F)**, and took place last Sunday. In beautiful Cape Town weather, with the “Cape Doctor” blowing slightly, runners circumnavigated the Rondebosch Common, and also ran up and down the Stone-pined Bishops Avenue, as part of the route. ODs were represented by **Syd Cullis, Tim Noakes (1966W)**, and **WP van Zyl (1997K)**. ODs will recall that **Duncan de Groot (1989G)** and **Peter Wrensch (1976F)** sacrificed their Sunday mornings to marshal athletes along the route during the Landmarks Half Marathon in early November. Well, these two stalwarts were at it again, and displayed the true Bishops spirit of “Service”, by facing the ferocious wind whilst guiding the runners along the route with shining smiles. Please see photo [here](#).

Run for Unity – 16 December

Gladwell Ndzube (1988W) is a dedicated runner who has completed four Comrades marathons and more than 30 marathons. He is the man behind the Gugulethu Reconciliation Race, now in its 17th year. It is a 10km race around Gugulethu, passing historic monuments like the Gugulethu Seven and the Amy Beihl memorial. This year's theme is "Run for Unity." The race takes place on Friday 16th December. Take a look at the Gugs Athletics Club Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/gugulethuathleticsclub>. ODs are invited to participate in the Run for Unity Race in Gugulethu. Please see flyer [here](#).

QUOTE FOR THE WEEK

This week's quote is taken from DC Magazine March 1915, VOL. XII., No 14. Pg. 12 from Henry Newbolt's *Clifton Chapel*:

*“This is the Chapel: here, my son,
Your father thought the thoughts of youth,*

*And heard the words that one by one
The touch of Life has turned to truth.
Here in a day that is not far
You too may speak with noble ghosts,
Of manhood and the vows of war
You made before the lord of Hosts..."*

Warm regards

WP and Nicole

The Mitre, Bishops, Cape Town

Contact the OD Union