



## BISHOPS ODU NEWS

### ODU NEWSLETTER 2 JUNE 2017

#### WELCOME TO JUSTICE CRAIG HOWIE (1956G)

At this year's AGM (the full minutes and Chairman's address will be published in the next ODU Magazine), Justice Craig Howie was nominated for, and unanimously approved, as our latest Vice President. Craig was the Judge President of the South African Supreme Court of Appeal and is sure to continue being a great asset to the OD Union. Please see tribute to Justice Howie [here](#).

#### RAYMOND ACKERMAN PRECINCT SIGNAGE

The signage for the complex of buildings and sports facilities incorporating the ODU offices and museum (The Mitre) and The Woodlands hockey pavilion and field, has gone up this week. As announced at the recent annual OD dinner this precinct will henceforth be known as The Raymond Ackerman Centre.

See photo attached.

#### THE GLOBAL ODU MENTORING PROGRAMME REMINDER

The Global ODU Mentoring Programme keeps on growing. Older ODs (and not all that old) have volunteered their services to younger (and not that young) ODs who are looking for advice and guidance in their chosen fields, or where that choice is proving more elusive. Mentors are also helping mentees facing career choices, personal difficulties, relocation or any problem which they feel a Mentor would be able to advise and counsel them on (it's not a job-seeking forum).

If you'd like to get in touch with a Mentor - or become a Mentor - please click [here](#).

#### ODS AROUND THE WORLD

OD Union chairman, **Bruce Jack (1987G)** met up with former Eastern Canada branch secretary **John Hueton (1947G)** and newly appointed branch secretary, **Nic Searle (1987O/W)** on his recent trip to Toronto, Canada. Please see photo's attached.

**Mark Kendall (staff 1983-1989)** wrote in from Suffolk, UK to say: "Thanks for the Newsletter. Rain here didn't affect the local village early Saturday morning cricket practice, but it did water all the vegetables, thankfully. GCSE exam season here, and everyone has their heads down in this coming month before the long summer break. We attended a formal dinner last night at Framlingham College for a colleague leaving the school this year after 43 years of teaching (Latin and History). Quite a career!"

**John D H Bell (1962F)** wrote in from Australia: "Thanks OD Union for your continued info/emails and quotes. Perhaps Bishops might be interested in this Perth, Western Australia, school signage." Please see attached photo.

## **CONDOLENCES**

It is with heavy hearts that we say goodbye to **Judge John Foxcroft**.

The memorial service will be held on Friday, 2 June 2017 at Rondebosch United Church, Belmont Road (adjacent to Stanmore field, Bishops Prep) at 3pm.

His son, **Simon Foxcroft (1985B)** wrote in to say:

"He passed away peacefully on Friday, 26 May 2017 at the age of 77 after a long, brave and dignified battle with cancer.

My father's involvement with Bishops, he himself being a proud Grey PE old boy, began when he enrolled me at the school in 1973 in Sub A. He was always a very active, supportive and, I imagine, exhausted parent throughout my time at Bishops, whether it be travelling to and from sports fields (and quite often hospitals, as a consequence of these sporting activities) or music concerts all over the country. The extraordinary and unusual concert venues arranged by the Late Graham Coote for the school brass band and driving the school choir in his microbus (together with his good friend, Judge Ian Farlam) largely successfully, I might add, to very remote destinations in Namibia, particularly come to mind.

As far as I can recall, he served on the college council during the 1980's for a full 10 year term at the time the Late John Peake had arrived at the school as headmaster. I remember him having many conversations late into the night on the telephone with the headmaster about the wellbeing of the school. He was an advocate at the Cape Bar at the time and recounted to me how he took great delight in parking his old and battered Renault in the school parking lot alongside the fancy Mercedes Benz's and BMW's (his words) on occasion of the council meetings. He was not a man of material needs. His relationship with Bishops continued long after his term on council had ended and after my brother, **James (1991K)**, and **I (1985B)** had matriculated. My son, **Michael (2011W)**, also attended Bishops and James' sons, **Liam** and **Oliver**, are currently at the college. He loved being back at the school supporting them.

At the young age of 46, if I am not mistaken, he was appointed a Judge of the Western Cape High Court and served his tenure of 20 years with great distinction, particularly whilst dealing with some very high profile matters such as the well-publicised Boesak and Pagad trials. Thereafter, he served for many years on both the Swaziland and Botswana Courts of Appeal, right up and until January 2017.

'Blessed is the memory of the just', truly encapsulate my beloved father."

**Justice Craig Howie (1956G)** wrote in response to the news:

"When I joined the Bishops Council in 1986 John had already served as a member for some years. Council membership was not then limited in time. John and I wrote a joint memorandum with Herb McKenzie recommending, with a view to greater turnover and fresh insights, a maximum limit of ten years - thus compelling our own departure in 1996. John was a pleasure to work with – an experience I was privileged to have as a colleague of his not only on Council but also on the Western Cape High Court and, until his death, on the Court of Appeal of Botswana. He was diligent, fair-minded, blessed with sound common

sense and committed to the pursuit of the equitable solution. Bishops was fortunate to have had him as a Counselor.”

## **EVENTS AT THE MITRE**

### **LIVE at The MITRE: Thursday 15 June (Reminder)**

James Stewart, Rosemary & Cameron Bruce  
Thursday 15 June 2017 at 7pm

Book tickets [here](#).

### **OD Power Hour Reunions**

This Saturday marks the first “OD Power-Hour” Reunion. All ODs are welcome to the Mitre for drinks and snacks after the 1<sup>st</sup> XV game for an hour. We would especially like to invite ODs from a specific decade. Young ODs from 2000-2016 are invited to the first OD Power Hour right after the game. A cash bar and snacks will be available.

Next week (10 June) 1<sup>st</sup> XV play against Paarl Boys High School and ODs from 1980 – 1989 are invited to the OD Power Hour after the game

## **WALK WITH US UPDATE**

### **Tom David (2011B) and Warren Handley (2010) report:**

“...We met him (Gift) while walking from Senga Bay to Lilongwe. Turns out he was on the same two day journey. Walking in sandals with nothing but a spare shirt in his hand and a small packet of food, he decided to join us. As one of 10 siblings, he is the only Rastafarian in his family. In response to us admiring his dreads, he replied with "It is not my dreads that make me Rasta but the heart's conception of peace, love and harmony". We may be from worlds apart but we were able to relate through our journey. Talk about 'walking with us'.”

Follow their journey and support the worthy cause [here](#).

## **UNOGWAJA CHALLENGE UPDATE**

If you find yourself in Pietermaritzburg and surrounds on Saturday, 3 June, then be sure to welcome the Unogwajas as they complete their journey after cycling from Cape Town to Pietermaritzburg in 10 days. Then, join us for a procession to the City Hall and help us celebrate South Africa's resilience, diversity and united future.

Apologies for the omission of OD's **Rob Coombe (1985K)** and **Oscar Foulkes (1983W)**, with their sons (Grade 11 Kidd) **Thomas Coombe** and **Aeden Foulkes** who also took part in the group riding to Franschoek on the first morning.

If you'd like to follow them on Facebook click [here](#).

## **SPORT FIXTURES**

The Bishops 1<sup>st</sup> X1 Hockey result against Wynberg Boys High School last week was a close one of 2-1 to Wynberg. They go up against Paarl Gymnasium this Friday at 18:15 (home).

The Bishops 1<sup>st</sup> XV defeated Wynberg Boys High School in a thrilling 24-20 win last week that demonstrated the depth of character of this team. They will be playing Paarl Gymnasium this Saturday at 11:30 (Home).

Please see below LIVE Stream link for the game on Saturday please feel free to pass on to anyone who may be interested in watching, or who cannot make it down to the Piley.

**Bishops 1st XV vs Paarl Gym 1st XV, 03 June 2017:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c4E1JGDyrsc>

For all other sports results and fixtures [click here](#).

**REMARKABLE OD**

**Howard Cooke (1972G)** made contact with the OD office recently, to share his enthusiasm about the wonderful role that women have played in the long history of Bishops. His enthusiasm was encouraged by reading the wonderful book on **Sophie Gray** called *The Bishop's Lady*, by Thelma Gutsche (Timmins 1970).

Hanging in the OD Office is a picture of the Bishops class of 1910. Visitors will notice quite a few ladies in the class. 1910 was the last year Bishops still offered University classes.

Sitting in the front row is a young lady called **Marie Mellish (1909-10) (later Mrs Grant)**. Click [here](#) to read more.

**QUOTE FOR THE WEEK**

Our quote this week is taken from the September 1974 DC Magazine in support of the Bishops 125 campaign. The echo rings down the years:

*“The perpetuation of excellence in education, and the determination that Bishops shall not rest upon achievements but will go forward enhanced with confidence in its future.”*

*~Mr A. W. H. Mallet (former college principal 1974).*

Warm regards,

WP and Nicole  
The Mitre, Bishops, Cape Town

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