

THE OLD DIOCESAN

VOL. 1

MARCH 2018



Influencer economist
Haroon Bhorat
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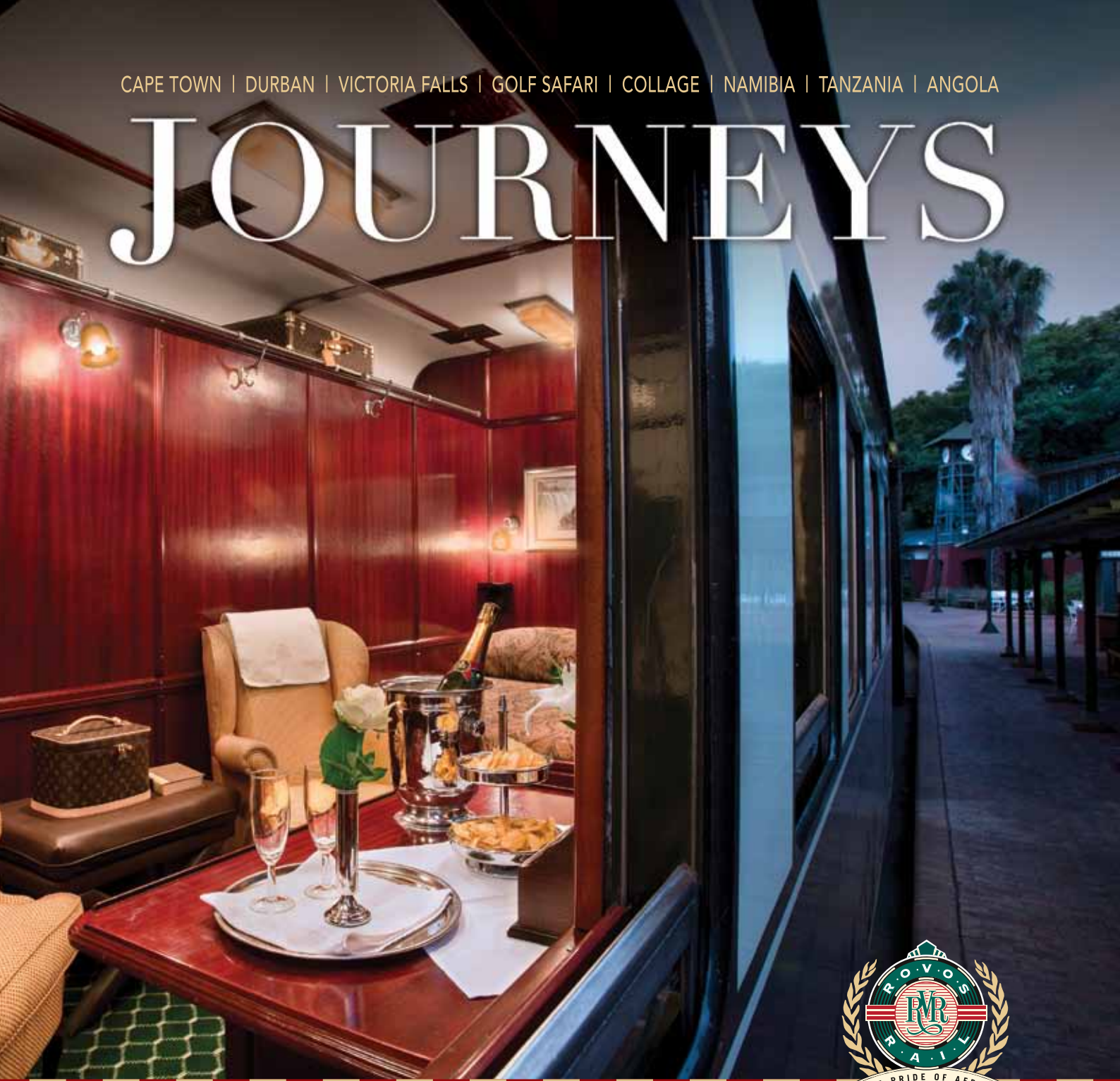
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Council Simon Peile
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here's Simon Draper!
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Christian Eedes on
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CAPE TOWN | DURBAN | VICTORIA FALLS | GOLF SAFARI | COLLAGE | NAMIBIA | TANZANIA | ANGOLA

JOURNEYS



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The Mitre Home of the OD Union

Welcome to the new OD magazine

This is indeed an historic milestone. Historic because, as Churchill noted, the further back you look, the further forward you can see. A year ago, in March 2017, we witnessed a poignant milestone for the school: delivery of the final issue of *The Diocesan College Magazine*, a publication that dates back to 1886 and which served such a vital role in recording the history and tradition of the school. No longer would the school and ODU present their news together in the same publication – now there would be separate magazines for each.

It was a bold decision, and the correct one: the format was dated, the audiences increasingly

divergent, our needs evolved. The time was ripe for change.

The new OD magazine, *The Old Diocesan*, is thus not simply a standalone version of what we have put together for the past century. There is little need for it to carry current affairs, given the reach and immediacy of our weekly newsletters, our (newly updated) website and our social-media platforms.

Rather, in seeing an opportunity to be grasped, the OD Committee put out the call for a strongly editorial publication to share stories of a more in-depth nature. Stories to keep ODs interested and emotionally invested in their school and their union. Stories

revealing the significant impact our ODs are making in this world. Stories that might inspire fellow ODs to follow suit.

With the opening in 2015 of The Mitre, our new headquarters, the ODU has taken a more prominent role at the school. We hope the publication of *The Old Diocesan* will carry this role forward, honouring the history and tradition of the school and those who attended it, while embracing innovation and change to safeguard its future.

My great gratitude to all involved. History will never forget your sacrifice!

WP van Zyl
ODU Secretary

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ON THE COVER As a nod to the past, our inaugural cover layout is adapted from the design of *The Diocesan College Magazine*, with a painting of The Mitre by **Richie Ryall (1977F)** in place of the classic sketch looking to Founders by Joseph Solomon. Richie's painting is featured in his book *A Brush With Bishops* and, appropriately, hangs in The Mitre. www.richieryall.com



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The Mitre photographed by **Freddie Child-Villiers (2008S)**, February 2018. Freddie, a freelance photographer based between Cape Town and London, started his photographic career while at Bishops and has pursued it ever since. His photographs appear elsewhere in the magazine, and he contributed to our OD photographers' page – see p9.
www.fcvphotography.com @fcvphoto



Principal of Bishops Guy Pearson.

Message from the principal

With a review of the year at Bishops in 2017. By **Guy Pearson**

It is a pleasure for me to provide a report for this OD magazine, the first in this current format. I am pleased to report that Bishops is in good shape and the boys continue to produce fantastic results across a range of activities in which every boy can find his niche.

From an academic perspective the school achieved outstanding matric results at the end of 2017, the highlights being the following:

- 150 boys wrote the exam, of whom 148 (98.7%) achieved a Bachelors pass and two a Diploma pass;
- There were 525 subject distinctions (3.5 per candidate);
- 15.2% of all subject results were above 90%;

- 48.6% of all subject results were above 80%;
- There were 62 A aggregates (41% of the class), with 14 boys achieving an aggregate of 90% and above;
- The top student was Christopher Aubin with an aggregate of 96.7%, followed by Kwangbem Ko with 94.7%;
- 9 distinctions were achieved by Christopher Aubin;
- 8 distinctions were achieved by Felix Burt, Nicholas Featherstone, Kwangbem Ko, Stephane Pienaar and Angus Thring;
- 36% of the class achieved 5 distinctions or more.

At the Western Cape Education Department awards ceremony

Chris Aubin received the award for the top English student in the province and he, Kwangbem Ko and Felix Burt received certificates of merit for coming in the top 20 in the province overall.

These superb results were, however, not the academic highlight of the year: that came from Angus Thring, who won both the National Science and National Physics Olympiads – this from a cohort of 40,000 entrants. Truly fantastic! Angus has been nominated for the Mary Gray Scholarship to study as an undergraduate at Cambridge next year, a brilliant achievement.

While we celebrate these academic results, we need to take cognisance of the fact that

the world around us is rapidly changing. Automation and artificial intelligence are reshaping the world of work. We need to focus on 21st century skills of collaboration and teamwork, creativity and imagination, critical thinking and problem solving.

At Bishops I believe that many 21st century skills are learnt outside the classroom in events such as the annual Eisteddfod, the Epic, in Community Service projects, in the leadership programme and much more.

It has been a stellar year on the cultural front: from the outstanding drama production, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, to the Eisteddfod and the superb Classic Pops, we have been royally entertained. We also congratulate Nicholas Peile, who is the National Public Speaking Champion in South Africa.

On the sports fields Bishops remains competitive while we continue to emphasise that sport is an important part of educating the whole man. There have been some wonderful individual and team performances. The stand-out team in the 2017 year was undoubtedly the 1st XI hockey, who showed the true meaning of the saying that "there is no 'I' in team"! While there were many great individual performances, the courage and determination shown by Stephane Pienaar in setting a world record by rowing 267km in 24 hours on an erg was truly special.

At Bishops we are committed to a process of engaging boys, staff, parents and ODs on matters regarding the future sustainability of the school. This involves the "future fitting" of Bishops for a sustainable future. Our vision is to address global issues, including the sustainability of the environment, economy and society, both as



Chris Aubin receives his WCED award from Western Cape Premier Helen Zille and Debbie Shafer, MEC for Education.

part of the curriculum and as demonstrated in school operations. The severe drought we are experiencing in the Western Cape has shown how important it is that we have plans in place to ensure that Bishops survives in the face of such challenges.

This year we have started conversations with various interest groups of boys and staff regarding the fundamental question of whether Bishops is a welcoming environment for all our boys and staff, irrespective of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation. These conversations have already been useful in exposing subliminal bias in the Bishops environment and will be extended to include parents and ODs in due course. Transformation and diversity at Bishops is vital to ensure that we

are relevant in the future.

Recent times have not been without their challenges, with several deaths of parents and staff in our Bishops community. In early 2017 our Head Boy Christian Rohrer was diagnosed with osteosarcoma. He proved an amazing example of courage, determination and optimism throughout his treatment and recovery. He continued to be our leader despite many days away from school and a debilitating chemo regime. He was with his peers in body and spirit throughout the year and despite missing substantial academic time he sat his final exams and achieved six distinctions – remarkable!

I am proud of the boys of Bishops. They continue to produce excellent results in all spheres of school life, and they are happy, engaged, loyal and proud of their school. We are fortunate to have highly competent staff, both academic and support, who contribute so much to ensuring the success of our boys. Most importantly, we are committed to producing "good men" at Bishops, boys who will become good boyfriends, good husbands, good fathers and good citizens of South Africa.

Pro Fide et Patria.



Mike Bosman and Christian Rohrer.

Past vs present, 1903

01 William Yeoman was, with Frank Reid, the first of the Rhodes Scholars elected for the pre-war pilot scheme. He played cricket for Western Province.

02 Walter Dickson played rugby for Oxford, Scotland and the Barbarians. He was killed in action in 1915.

03 Cecil Boyes won the Currie Cup playing for Western Province in 1908.

04 Noel Howe-Browne won Blues at Oxford for football and swimming, and played rugby for South Africa in 1910.

05 Archie Difford played cricket for Western Province and Transvaal. He was killed in action in 1918.

06 Sir Murray Bissett captained the South African cricket team (top score: 184 against Derbyshire) and became Chief Justice of Southern Rhodesia, also acting as Governor.

07 HJC Walcott represented Griqualand West at cricket and tennis, and Eastern Province at tennis.

08 'Paddy' Carolin captained the Springboks, is credited with inventing the 3-4-1 scrum formation and

coining the nickname Springboks, and took 30 wickets at an average of 21.60 and hit three 50s for Western Province.



This is the historic photograph, taken on Founders Day in 1903, that visitors to The Mitre encounter when they step through the museum entrance, reproduced life-size on the facing wall. It depicts those involved in the ODs v First XI cricket match during a break in play – note the pipes going strong. As a 1964 edition of the

school magazine observed, “what an attractive picture it is, with both teams mingling together, as members of a family should”. Today we marvel at the collection of potential talent it represents, including nine internationals, three of whom were captain, and thus the potential that the school still offers to this day.



09 Stanley Horwood played cricket for South Africa in England in 1904.

10 PF Smith practised as a barrister in South Africa and England and co-authored *A Digest of SA Case Law*.

11 Frank Reid, the man for whom the school's First XI field is named, played cricket for Western Province and was a national selector.

12 Frank Porter played cricket for Border, Eastern Province and Transvaal.

13 Percy Twentyman Jones played three rugby Tests for South Africa, in 1896, scoring the country's first international try and appearing in our first international victory. He also played one cricket Test. He later became Judge President of the Cape.

14 Allan Reid, Frank's eldest brother, played cricket for South Africa in 1901.

15 Reginald Davis became Judge President of the Cape Division of the Supreme Court.

16 Arthur Bissett played cricket for South Africa in England in 1901.

17 'Biddy' Anderson captained the South African cricket team and played alongside Twentyman Jones in our first international rugby victory.



Been around the world

We asked for photographs from ODs on their travels. These were the pics of the bunch

Andre Gie (19990) sent in shots from Leuven, “the Belgian equivalent of Stellenbosch”, where he’s doing his PhD. He evidently spends a lot of time up mountains taking photos, such as this one on the Arête du Table on the Aiguille du Tour, Chamonix Valley, France. @andregie



In February, **Freddie Child-Villiers (2008S)** returned from a three-month, 10-country, 20,000km road trip with his wife Tegan to photograph the Masai, Samburu and Turkana tribes of northern Tanzania and Kenya. Here they are crossing the equator in Kenya. [@fcvphoto](#)



Safari operator **Alastair Kilpin (1992F)** took this shot of travel writer **Scott Ramsay (1993F)** with locals coming in from harvest on the slopes of the Virungas in the Democratic Republic of Congo, in 2017. Find Alastair and Scott's wildlife photography: [@mammothsafaris](#) and [@lovewildafrica](#)



Royston Ballard (1992B), currently living in London, spent several years trying to catch a shot of the Little Owls he often heard in Richmond Park. His patience paid off: he took this photograph in December 2017.



Chris Leggat (1989K) runs Eden Adventures in Wilderness, which allows him to spend a lot of time travelling. This photo (*above*) from AfrikaBurn 2017 was his most popular on Instagram last year, with more than 8,000 views on the Burning Man feed. [@chriscrossingsa](#)

Tim Rideout (1978W), lives in Scotland, but proves you don't have to go far from Cape Town for a piece of heaven. He took this picture (*left*) of the Disa Falls on the Witels River in the Hex River Mountains last year.

Rob Graaf (1992F) sent in this pic of him kite-surfing at an altitude of 4,328m on Laguna Verde, in the northern Andes, on the Bolivia-Chile border, December 2015. (Note the large kite needed to compensate for the thin air.) Rob was travelling in support of a Madswimmer Expedition at the time, in which the world record for the highest ever swim was set at 5,915m on lake Tres Cruces Norte. For info on their next major expedition, to Antarctica in November 2018, see www.madswimmer.com





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News Snippets

ODs have been – or will be –
making waves in various spheres
of endeavour around the world



The Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge is a premier ocean-rowing event – not for the faint-hearted.

Inset (from left): Cole Barnard, Lee Gordon, Grant Soll and Matthew Boynton.



Four youngsters taking on the Atlantic

MAD 4 Waves is a team of four ODs who are taking on one of the toughest endurance challenges on the planet: rowing unaided across the Atlantic Ocean.

Cole Barnard (2014B), Grant Soll (2014W), Lee Gordon (2014M) and **Matthew Boynton (2014W)** are hoping to raise funds through their participation in the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge. They have partnered with the Make

A Difference (MAD) Leadership Foundation to raise funds to sponsor a boy through high school, so as to give him the “same incredible opportunities that we have all had the fortune of experiencing at Bishops”. They also hope to raise enough money to provide desks for 1,000 learners throughout the country.

The arduous journey, which will cover some 5,500km from the

Canary Islands to the Caribbean, will begin in December 2018.

Unsurprisingly, it's a massively expensive undertaking and the team needs a considerable amount of funding – approximately R2.1 million. They hope, through the generosity of ODs and others, to adorn their boat with the Bishops Mitre. For more information and to make a donation, visit www.mad4waves.com

Prodigious success

We were suitably impressed to read in August last year that London-based Prodigy Finance, headed up by **Cameron Stevens (1995K)**, had raised \$240 million in debt and equity funding, and we made a note to follow up for the magazine. Cameron, unsurprisingly, is a difficult man to get hold of these days, but we did manage to get this short report from his almost-as-busy head of marketing, **Guy Shand (1995K)**.

"Three years ago, I joined Prodigy Finance and it has changed my perspective on what it is to work at a fast-growing company that is ethically motivated. Cameron started the company in 2007 with the aim of solving a problem experienced by the world's brightest students wanting to attend the world's top business schools: access to finance. In response, Cameron and his co-founders developed a proprietary risk model that considers a range of variables, including future earnings of international students.

"Our loans are funded by investors, both qualified private and institutional, who want the opportunity to invest in something that provides a financial and social return. We work with the likes of Oxford and Cambridge, London Business School, INSEAD, Stanford, Wharton and Harvard, and to date we've lent more than \$480 million to over 9,900 students on a global scale.

"I'm incredibly proud to work with Cameron and others in an organisation that is disrupting the fintech space while simultaneously mobilising talent around the world."

For ODs interested in Prodigy Finance's student loans or their investment opportunities, or if you'd like to see what positions they have available (in Cape Town, London and New York), visit www.prodigyfinance.com. We are hoping to track down Cameron for a more in-depth interview next issue.



Cameron Stevens



Guy Shand



Life-saver

Andrew Willis (1987B)

reports from the UK that he completed his Sergeant's training in May 2017, and became a substantive officer in the London Metropolitan Police. "Nothing beats the adrenaline rush of travelling at speed on blue lights through busy London busy streets to respond to a 999 call," he writes. Remarkably, Andrew has saved two lives in two separate incidents in the last year: he arrived in the nick of time to cut down a woman who was in the process of hanging herself, and he saved a man who was trapped beneath a car and about to be crushed.

Building a legacy

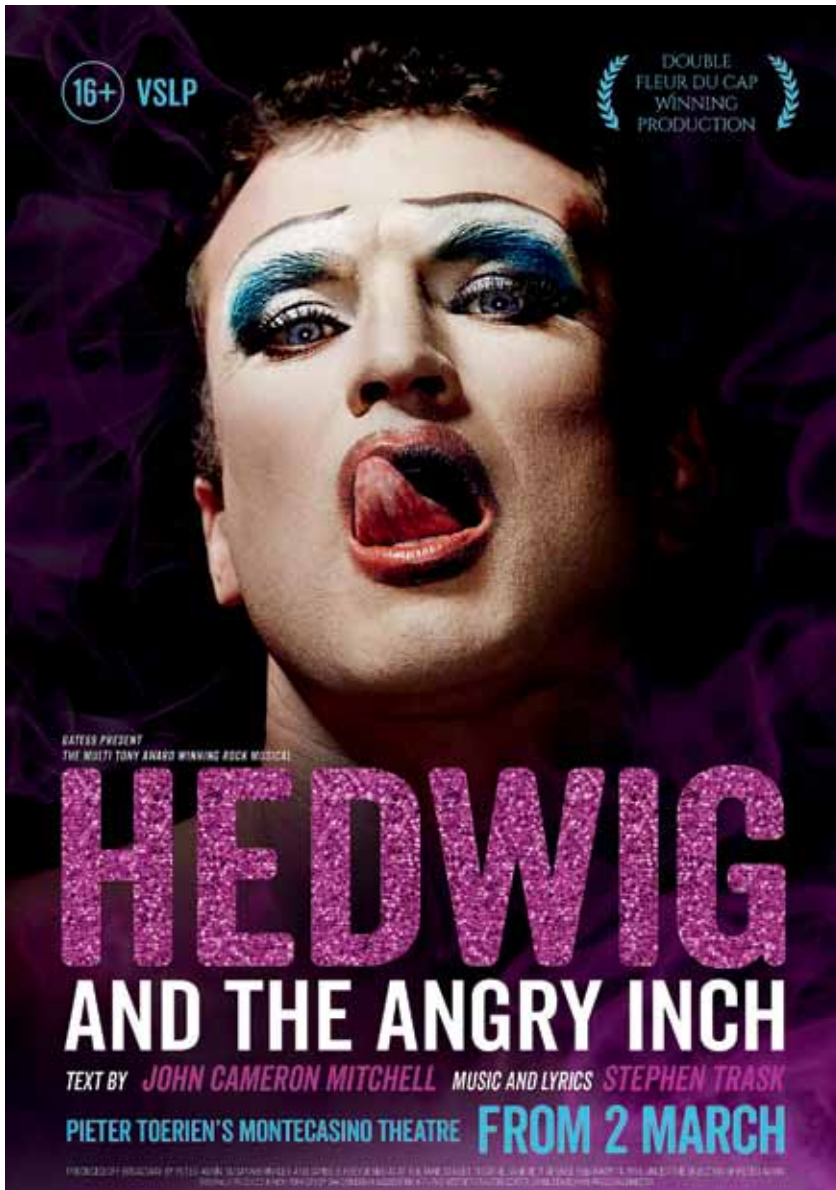
An august gathering took place at the Vineyard Hotel in Newlands on 8 December 2017: 16 Past Presidents of the Master Builders Association Western Cape attended a lunch hosted by **John Slingsby**, the newly appointed president. Pictured are the four of those Past Presidents who are ODs.

From left: Stephen Jones (1948O) of Stephen Jones Roofing, **John Slingsby (1989O)** of Slingsby & Gaidien Construction, **Barry Van Breda (1962S)** of Scheltema, and **Dave Hofmeyr (1969O)** of West Cape Joinery.



Hedwig, Tali and the entertainers

A review of ODs on the entertainment circuit



“Strutting onto stage as if he’s been a gender-bending glam rocker all his life is the vocal powerhouse that is Paul du Toit” – *Cape Times*

Give him an inch...

The last 12 months have been good for **Paul du Toit (1992W)**. Most notably, he won a hat-trick of awards: the Fleur du Cap for best performance in a musical for playing the title role in *Hedwig And The Angry Inch*, as well as two for his performance in Marthinus Basson’s *Melk en Vleis*, awarded by the Aardklop Festival and the Kyknet Fiesta panel. Terrifyingly, he landed a starring role in the Universal Pictures horror *Tremors: Cold Day In Hell*, and he’s lined up to present a South African reality show on VIA.

Paul also appeared in the 2017 local film *Beyond The River*, set against the Dusi Canoe marathon, and we’re impressed to hear that he completed his sixth Dusi in February this year, in the colours of the recently formed Stanford Canoe Club.

Hedwig And The Angry Inch opened in Johannesburg on 4 March at Pieter Toerien’s Theatre at Montecasino. For more information see www.pietertoerien.co.za.



Not the usual musician

One of our more influential musical sons, **James Stewart** (see right) reports that in 2017 his company MUSICalchemy expanded its offering from music supervision and composition to include licensing, administration and high-end studio production: it now offers a complete music service for film, TV and commercials, elevating it to world-leading levels. For more see www.music-alchemy.com.

What the actual...

Readers with a Showmax subscription will no doubt have heard of *Tali's Wedding Diary*, the much-punted mockumentary starring Julia Anastasopoulos, once SuzelleDIY, now playing an Insta-obsessed Sandton princess. Released in December 2017, it turns out the hype was well warranted, with *Tali* receiving critical praise and knocking *Game of Thrones* off the online-streaming channel's most-watched perch. Its success was thanks in no small measure to a trio who cut their acting teeth in the Memorial Theatre: lead actor **Anton Taylor (2005B)** plays Darren Nudelman, Tali Shapiro's fiancé; **Glen Biderman-Pam (2007F)** stars as Darren's best friend and business partner Rael Rosen; and **Oli Booth (2007K)** appears as Marc Seleibowitz, their business rival and enemy.

Outside of the show, both Oli and Glen are successful stand-up comedians, with Glen appearing every Wednesday in #WTFTumi on SABC3. Anton works as a rugby commentator for SuperSport, and can be heard calling Varsity Cup, SuperSport Challenge and Currie Cup games.



THE ROUNDUP

Emmy-nominated, multiple SAMA-award winning musician **James Stewart (1992B)** and singer/songwriter (and Springbok windsurfer) **Cameron Bruce (1987G)** were popular performers, along with Cameron's daughter Rosie, at The Mitre in June 2017. With his first band The Usual, James achieved fame with hits like *The Shape That I'm In* and is a regular performer throughout the country. Cameron has been performing for audiences since the late '80s, singing original folk songs and popular covers.

Mike Hardy (1992O), alumnus of the popular Sons of Trout, launched his successful band Bed on Bricks in early 2003. Three studio albums and numerous live performances followed, and most recently they opened for Canadian rock group Crash Test Dummies at the Hillcrest Quarry in Durbanville in February 2018.

One of the busiest and most popular live performers in South Africa, **Conrad Koch (1995K)** will appear, along with his alter ego Chester Missing, in *Puppet Guy* at Cape Town's Baxter Theatre in April 2018.

TV and film actor **Charlie Keegan (2004F)** appeared in the local sci-fi movie short *About Time*, released in September 2017, while singing, dancing and stripping were all part of the show when **David Wilke (2011O)** appeared in the Pinelands Players' musical *The Full Monty* at Grand West's Roxy Revue Bar in November.

Singer-actor **Jaydon Farao (2013W)** took the starring role in *Snoopy - The Musical* at Artscape in February 2018, with **Simon Thompson (2014K)** playing Linus and Bishops marketing manager **Rosemary Wilke** working as assistant stage manager for the well-received production.

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The Economist: Haroon Bhorat

With the Zuma years having come to an end (just two weeks before this magazine went to print), the age of Ramaphosa is upon us. Haroon Bhorat, the influencer economist who would not have been allowed to attend Bishops a generation earlier than he did, is perfectly placed to dissect the paradoxes of South African inequality. By **Richard Poplak**



The term “star academic” can seem like an oxymoron – no-one tacks a poster of a professor on their bedroom wall, alongside images of Lionel Messi and Bryan Habana. But Haroon Bhorat (1986G), professor of economics at the University of Cape Town, has over the course of his career become a poster-worthy academic. On leaving Bishops, he

earned a PhD in Economics at Stellenbosch University, did hard time at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and also served as a Cornell University research fellow. Indeed, he has collected fellowships at a variety of major international institutions, and consulted widely for the likes of the World Bank and the International Labour Organization.

But it is perhaps as a policy advisor to former South African presidents and finance ministers that Bhorat has made the most impact. His bailiwick is the labour market, and his academic approach has been remarkably holistic. For instance, how do historical factors, policy decisions, regulations, collective bargaining, micro- and macro-economic

context conspire to create, well, jobs – or, more to the point in the aftermath of Zuma-era South Africa, joblessness?

In pursuit of answers to these questions, Bhorat inhabits a large, light-dappled office at UCT's School of Economics. The room is suitably boffin-worthy, with inscrutable sigils scribbled on the white board, and books with lengthy titles stuffed into shelves. Large and garrulous, Bhorat has a way of making complex problems seem simple – or, rather, of rendering complexity understandable.

"For someone with a specialty in labour policy, I've only ever had one employer – UCT," he tells me. The university has served as his academic locus for his entire career. He kicked off here in 1994 by doing "way too much teaching" in the undergraduate programme, heavily invested in the transformation initiatives that morphed into the benchmark tests that have integrated the previously disadvantaged into the university's education stream. He then moved to the Development Policy Research Unit (DPRU), which he now runs, as the head of research on the "Presidential Labour Market Commission".

"That then got me front and centre and involved in labour market issues," he says. For

the next decade, that became his focus.

The notion of work – who should work; where they should work – was central to both the colonial and apartheid projects. Labour was the mechanism by which a racial underclass was engineered; cheap labour was the regime's rocket fuel. Addressing these issues was integral to transforming South Africa into a fair and reasonable state that benefited the majority of its citizens.

But it hasn't been easy. "Why do we have such an unequal growth path?" Bhorat asks me. He then urges me to look outside his window at the parking lot below. "There are no people," he points out, "and there is no-one selling anything. If this were Delhi or Jakarta, there'd be hundreds of informal-sector traders trying to sell you something. We have what we describe as a 'path dependency', which is defined by keeping the informal sector – low-end workers trying to find a piece of the economic pie – far away from the consumers, from the cities. Our path-dependent notion of economic development, such as shopping malls in Soweto, leads to the dirty footnote that we've kicked out the informal traders."

In other words, this ain't Germany or Belgium, and our economic policy should reflect that

fact. "We've managed to create wealth by benefiting listed entities by building shopping malls in Soweto." While this observation would hardly thrill Shoprite's board, it is an undeniable feature of post-apartheid economic policy, and it hasn't worked as a wealth-distribution mechanism. Inequality has become an ingrained feature of South African life.

According to Bhorat, the DPRU has three interlocking mandates. The first is to produce "applied policy work" for South Africa, such as producing for the Department of Labour a report on the national minimum wage. Secondly, the DPRU has been branching out into the rest of the continent, trying to get to the bottom of the optimism behind African growth. And the third is as an outgrowth of the first two: "We try to engage in the policy discourse." This means inserting the DPRU into sometimes controversial debates around the economic future of South Africa and its neighbours – which has won Bhorat a measure of fame, if not notoriety.

Regarding the current political realignment in South African politics, and the ascension of Cyril Ramaphosa to the presidency of both the African National Congress and the country, Bhorat is bullish: "There is certainly a realisation of the horror show we've been through in terms of state capture; in terms of the destructive nature of institutionalised corruption." Bhorat knows precisely how well the state was ceded to the Zuma mafia – he was a key member of the inter-university team that compiled the *Betrayal Of The Promise* report released in May 2017 – and he



"We can't revert to business as usual [under Ramaphosa] because we won't have addressed the underlying dynamic of our economy. If we don't change, we'll be back to where we started in ten years from now." – HAROON BHORAT



Haroon Bhorat speaking at the Brookings Institution in Washington DC. He is, among other positions, a Non-resident Senior Fellow at the Institution.

believes the experience has shaken the ANC deeply. But a return to the Thabo Mbeki-era mindset, he argues, will limit the potential for change. "We can't revert to business as usual," he says, "because we won't have addressed the underlying dynamic of our economy, which isn't sufficiently redistributive and employment-generating." If we don't change, says Bhorat, "we'll be back to where we started in ten years from now."

But this will require a reformulation of and more creative thinking around growth policy, and it will mean South Africa will look very different from what it does right now – an ersatz European country with a hidden underclass pushed to the fringes. Not everyone will find this change salutary, but the current environment of low economic growth coupled with high levels of

social instability is not sustainable.

A half-decent shrink would insist that much of Bhorat's obsession with flattening inequality comes from his experience at Bishops, which he characterises as a very positive one. (His son Taahir followed in his footsteps.) As the scion of a first-generation doctor whose parents were born in India, Bhorat attending the school served as the ultimate testament to upwardly mobile success. "He just wanted the best for me," says Bhorat. As the only private school that took black kids in 1977, Bishops was both the best and the only option.

His nickname at school was Karl Marx – "Being young during the 1980s, I was quite strongly radical," he notes. He lived straddled between two societies – apartheid at home in Rylands, and an elitist education when at school in Rondebosch. The phase

that followed was anger, and what followed that was acceptance.

"Bishops, in my view, is a key part of a historical legacy that can be, and in parts has been, very good. There's not only an astonishing amount of capital wealth, but also knowledge wealth – a tremendous amount of history, of networks, of individuals who do good at the school. Because the society has changed, the right values have been imbibed by the school and I remain indebted to the school as well as confident that it will be a key component of our future as a country."

Without question, the Karl Marx of Bishops has put it all to good use. But the challenges are significant, and there are more ahead of us. Are the robots about to take over? Bhorat believes that once again, the threat is unevenly distributed. "The robots' reach into the labour market is in the middle of the distribution," he explains. In other words, they pose a threat to the middle class.

Presumably, Professor Haroon Bhorat will be there with a policy paper to help the government ward off the bots. Who knows – but under Cyril Ramaphosa, there may be a chance that they'll listen.

Richard Poplak, best known in South Africa for his work at *The Daily Maverick*, is an award-winning journalist who contributes to publications around the world. His most recent book is *Continental Shift: A Journey Into Africa's Changing Fortunes*. [@poplak](#)

Professor Bhorat has co-edited four books and written more than 150 journal articles, book chapters and papers. For a listing of his recent publications, find his biography at www.dpru.uct.ac.za.

The investor: Simon Peile

Together with his wife Magda Wierzycka, Simon Peile is the majority shareholder of the Sygnia Group. He is also a formidable opponent of corruption, a committed birder and new Chairman of the Bishops Council.

Tim Richman steps into his office to discuss Twitter, cryptocurrency and how to future-proof your children

Simon Peile (1979F) is, though he may be reluctant to admit it, one half of one of the most influential couples in South Africa.

His wife Magda Wierzycka at first made her reputation as the no-nonsense face of the Sygnia Group, the JSE-listed fintech company that has disrupted the South African investment landscape with some flair; now she brandishes that reputation as a weapon to fight political corruption and corporate maladministration. If you've followed Magda on Twitter you may have seen her, for example, challenging Mmusi Maimane about the DA's mismanagement of desalination tenders in Cape Town, or (more likely) taking Zuma's henchmen to task for their usual trough-guzzling and racketeering. When the Guptas went on the run she tweeted offers totalling almost R1 million for information leading to their arrests.

Simon, an actuary by training, is the lower-profile, deep-thinking ballast in the ship. Or, as he puts it, the brake to his wife's accelerator.

In early 2017 Simon stepped down as head of investments at Sygnia, and he's been in supposed semi-retirement ever since – but when you're head of the Bishops Council and you're doing your best to help save South Africa, this doesn't mean working less. While in Cape Town, he hasn't taken an afternoon off in that time.

We meet at Sygnia's Green Point office the day after Malusi Gigaba has delivered his (first and last) budget. Turns out Sygnia assisted the Finance Ministry in its preparation (with the definitions of cryptocurrencies); and that Simon and Magda are on first-name terms with Pravin and other heavyweights; and that they spend a fair deal on bodyguards – the price of their vocal position against

the other face of government. (The push and pull of our oppugnant government can hardly be better illustrated.)

The facebrick Sygnia headquarters are contemporary and airy, adorned with bright modern art and eye-catching installations. In Simon's office I spot a one-of-a-kind illustration, not yet hung: a collaboration of several dozen of the world's great cartoonists – there's Hagar the Horrible, Dagwood, the Wizard of Id. Behind his desk is a small Banksy, which Simon points out to me: it depicts a heart, a greater-than sign and a dollar symbol.

The view from the window to the MyCiTi bus depot includes buses adorned with Sygnia advertising – good for staff morale. I haven't yet started the interview, but signs are good that Bishops has chosen an effective, thoughtful Chairman of Council.

Sygnia, with your wife Magda at the fore, has played a very vocal corporate-activism role in recent times. Is this a calculated strategy?

No, it's not. Magda's never been shy, and she's been vocal on issues all through her working career. So her critics claim it's just a way of achieving publicity, and she says to them, well, there's a very big stage here, there's room for everyone who wants to be involved. There may well have been some positive spin-offs for the business, but this is driven from the heart. It's her personality, and it's my influence as well. These are our values.

Do you sometimes wake up in the morning, look at Twitter and think, did you just say that?

Yes! Well, no... When Magda first started on Twitter, I suggested we take a step back and think about how Twitter should be used. Effectively, it is marketing for the company. So, as a duo, we had a chat about that, and I think she's done an excellent job in managing her profile. Every now and then we can see we might not want to go in a certain direction, so we leave that area alone.

It's all basically about governance and corruption. We see the damage that has been done, but we realised that people weren't doing anything about it, they weren't speaking up. A lot of corporates were conflicted because of their government contracts and the risks involved. Sygnia might be a publicly listed company, but Magda and I are the majority shareholders, and the story to investors has always been, we'll run this business as well as we can and we'll hopefully grow it and we have provisions for it, but if you don't like what we're doing, take the money elsewhere. Because we will



Husband and wife Simon Peile and Magda Wierzycka are the majority shareholders of Sygnia Group. Magda remains the face of and driving force behind the company, while Simon has stepped back to find time to, among other things, chair the Bishops Council.

ruffle a few feathers. That's the deal. I don't think it's ever been expressed that way but it is implied.

To touch on the actual politics, what do you think was the tipping point for the Zuma administration?

The Big Four banks pulling out was very important but, on a slightly more personal level, I'd say it was, very significantly, the leaked emails.

Do you have safety concerns as a result of your public positions?

You have to. With the change in tide in December, we're a little more comfortable, but last year Magda would have up to four bodyguards at a time, and our children wouldn't be without them.

So we have government corruption on one side, and Steinhoff on another – was that also corruption?

I'm pretty sure it was. But there's a difference between private-sector and public-sector corruption, and this isn't an excuse to the people who say you only criticise the government, you don't criticise business. Of course we criticise business, but state capture and government corruption was structural, it was pervasive throughout, it was carefully planned as a strategy, whereas Steinhoff is a specific situation. It's not necessarily reflective of the private sector as a whole.

The other side of it is that we are more confident that the wheels of justice will turn at a more reasonable rate for private-sector corruption than for public-sector corruption. Where there are people who must go to jail, they go to jail.

Let's talk about a more reputable business. Sygnia built its reputation as a fintech disruptor specialising in passive investment. How do you define fintech?

Well, it's the convergence of the finance industry and technology. What's interesting for Sygnia is that as an asset-management company we employ more systems developers than we do people in the investment team. We've always built our own systems so that we can control the process, and the timing of when we started the company, in the early 2000s, was ideal. We started in that sweet spot of new technologies. We didn't have legacy problems that others have with old systems.

Ultimately, we are trying to use technology to provide products that are more efficient, lower cost, more accessible, easier to use, easier to access. We are innovative and we can do things quickly.

Part of your success has been shifting emphasis away from active investment to passive investment; for example, offering index trackers with low management costs that follow the market. Was this a gap in the investment market?

To a degree, yes. There should be a symbiosis between active and passive. In South Africa the equilibrium is wrong: there's probably not enough passive and too much active.

Your active managers will argue that they do the hard yards, they analyse companies and, through their research, skill and hard work, they find the right stocks to put in their portfolios. And that passive investors are parasites who sit on the back of that. But you also need to remember that every trade done by an active investment manager is typically with another active manager. So one of them is saying this thing is too expensive, the other one is saying it's too cheap. So, almost by definition, one of them is always wrong. Ultimately, if there are only active managers in the market, investors will, on

average, get the average market return less cost of these active managers. Passive management is more consistent, and the main advantage is the lower costs.

The other side of that equation is that active managers go through ups and downs. What typically happens to the average investor is they fire the guy who has been doing badly and they hire the guy who has just done well, when the two graphs are going in the wrong directions. So they're paying higher fees and getting their timing wrong. I've spent most of my career trying to pick managers, and it's a very difficult game.

Tell us about some specific innovative products Sygnia offers.

About a year and a half ago we launched a passive fund called the Sygnia 4th Industrial Revolution Fund. It's passive because it tracks an index, but it's an attractive index for several reasons. It's constructed by a Big Data company in the US, and it includes over 200 US-listed companies, all of which are exposed to tech – the 4th Industrial Revolution. It's an offshore fund, it's an equity fund, it's a US-domiciled fund – those are some of the decision-making layers.

Then the final one is: it's exposed to broadly diversified new technologies. It's an innovative product, and no-one else in South Africa is doing this sort of thing.

And then the hot-off-the-press news is that we're launching an Exchange-Traded Fund, the first in the world, linked to Bitcoin.

On to Bitcoin, then... What's your take on cryptocurrency?

I have a slightly different take to my wife's... There is obviously convergence but I'm a little old-school on a lot of things.

Are you worried that there's no inherent value in it?

I am worried to an extent, but then you have to say, where's the value in gold? That's the analogy you need to use. Bitcoin has become more of a commodity than a currency, so it's an asset that's held as a store of value. It's still an immature market so it's very volatile, but I think the volatility will stabilise over time. It's going to go through a few more years of high-level volatility, very newsflow-driven; for example, when there's talk of a country wanting to regulate or ban cryptocurrencies. I'm also wary of speculation. The prices are too volatile, and there's a lot of talking up the market by the crypto-evangelists when prices rise and then a lot of schadenfreude from detractors when prices crash. There are also too many cryptocurrencies. A few will come to the top, probably the original ones, particularly Ether and Bitcoin.

What we're offering as an ETF is just a safer way of accessing, in this case, Bitcoin. When you have what is effectively a unit trust, you don't need to have wallets and encryptions – all that sort of stuff is looked after from our side.

Bitcoin is, of course, a favourite topic of ODs everywhere, which brings us neatly back to your new position on the Council. Did you take a step back at Sygnia because you were asked to fill the position?

No, the timing coincided. I decided I wanted a more plural lifestyle. And I knew Magda was on this trajectory to drive Sygnia to a new level. The invitation to chair Council is not something you accept lightly. It's a great opportunity to give back to the community, and I think you can make a significant difference. The funny thing is, when I left school

in '79, I didn't have particularly favourable feelings for the school. I wasn't even a house prefect and I wasn't involved with any major sports. I was more the academic, which wasn't considered cool in those days. In the lingo of the time, the dreaded term "conch" would have applied to me. I spent a number of years away from South Africa, travelling extensively, so missed the earlier class reunions that were held. I first returned to the school for our 20th anniversary reunion. It was only once I became a parent and sent my own sons to the school that I started coming back and became involved again.

Times have changed. Bishops seems to put less emphasis on sporting or even academic success and is more about encouraging boys to find their niche – their spike that they can focus on. Do you agree?

It's interesting talking about spikes. My oldest son got in to Columbia University, where he intends to major in creative writing and computer science, and when he was being advised about the application process to Ivy League universities, the advice was, you've got to find your spike and demonstrate that spike to the admissions board.

If you ask me, my vision and intention as chairman is to build on this evolution at Bishops, and make sure there is room for each boy's spike to be identified and nurtured, so that they come out of the school with that self-confidence that comes from having a skill that's acknowledged. The world is changing rapidly, and we need to ensure that our children are properly equipped and future-proofed, with the right skills to deal with the post 4th Industrial Revolution world.

How do you see the role of Council?

It's very important to understand that the school is run by the executive – the headmaster and his team – and they do an absolutely brilliant job. The role of the council generally is a governance and oversight role. It's to provide guidance where necessary. There are also a lot of functions that go into the running of the school that are of a specialist nature for which the skills are not in the executive. Those are typically dealt with in the council sub-committees, and the members of the sub-committees are more important than the council at some level because a lot of the work is done in the sub-committees and there's a lot of expertise in there. A critical sub-committee is Finance, and we're privileged to draw on parents and old boys with significant experience in that area. Buildings and grounds is another important aspect, where we can draw on architects and building experts from our parents and old boys. The amount of goodwill contributed by experts, often from competing businesses, coming together for the good of the school is amazing.

This sounds like the way the Bishops network should work, and perhaps the OD Union hasn't used it to its fullest advantage in the past. Would you agree with that?

I was on the OD committee for several years before giving up my spot when I became Council chairman, so I have some experience, and yes, I feel the traditional old-school network of the past failed in many ways. But when you take the same concept and just reimagine it, you realise how powerful it can be. Many alumni of other schools and associations have seen this, and the ODU has made, and is

now making, massive steps in that direction. The mentoring initiative, I think, is such a powerful one. I was asked to mentor a couple of guys and in both cases it was only one or two meetings but I was able, in that short period of time, to hopefully give them some good advice. In one instance, it needed a ten-minute conversation to help an OD at a crossroads in his career – he's in his late 20s – to make a key decision. And it worked. He got what he was after.

You know money. A lot of the old boys look at the school, and think, where does all the money go?

This is a very important topic, one I feel strongly about, as I'm also a trustee of the Bishops Trust. Our school fees by Cape Town standards are very high, but by international standards they're low. And we're graduating boys at an international standard. We could raise the fees significantly, and still easily fill the school, and then afford all the projects we want to do. But then we'd have a more homogeneous group of learners at the school, whereas the diverse student community that we have is what we want – it's what we need to thrive. We recognise that for some parents the school fees aren't that much but there is a significant group who are making huge personal sacrifices to send their kids to Bishops. And so we've got to set the fees at a level where, with bursaries and scholarships, we can get that spectrum of talented pupils into the school.

This all means that our school operates on a breakeven basis from a fees point of view. There's a little left over for maintenance, but there's nothing for future building. And so we need to raise money from the Bishops community, from people who believe in the



Simon with his Indonesian guides shortly after achieving great birding success: a half-second sighting of a Sulawesi Pitta. There was no chance of photographing the bird itself, so this shot is the trophy.

Bishops story. Which is where the Bishops Trust and the 175 goals come in. We know that glossy brochures with pictures of new buildings don't work. We need to inspire people to give to something meaningful, with real legacy. And hopefully that's the message that we're getting across.

I can assure you, as a parent of a boy now studying in the US, the major US institutions are far more aggressive at canvassing for donations and testimonials.

An important point to finish on – you like birds...

Yes! And it's important to get the terminology right. I'm not an ornithologist, which is a scientist, or a twitcher, which is a box ticker. I'm a birder, which is about getting out there and getting dirty and seeking out the birds. I ran adventure trips in my twenties so I'm very happy roughing it, sleeping out, crawling through the jungle of Panama or wherever.

So, birding is really an excuse to visit strange parts of the world, where few other people go, because birds are everywhere. It also satisfies my hunting (only to

see or photograph) and collecting instinct as I can spend many days focussing on finding a single tricky or iconic species. One family of birds I actively seek out is the pittas, found mostly in south-east Asia. Pittas are colourful birds mostly found on the forest floor. Despite being extremely colourful they are masters of disguise. Only another birder would understand the sheer delight that I experienced earlier this year when I managed a half-second sighting of a Sulawesi Pitta after three days of looking for it. It was nesting season and the birds weren't calling, but on the third day one did call and we scrambled through the rain forest trying to locate it from its call. Eventually, it popped out from behind a fallen tree, looked at me and disappeared. Success!

Tim Richman is a publisher and author, and editor of *The Old Diocesan*.

This is an edited version of Simon's interview. Visit www.odunion.com for a fuller version.



What do Bishops, a pheasant from the Philippines and Johnny Rotten have in common? Turns out, it's a guy called Simon... By **Brandon de Kock**

Google Simon Draper (1967F) and there's a good chance you'll stumble across a headline reading, "Simon Draper: A man with the world's best collection of Aston Martins and the force behind the Palawan press." All of which is true, but fails to define the career of a Bishops boy who can genuinely claim to have dented the world as we know it.

Indeed, though our alma mater lays claim to its fair share of local pop stars from the past few decades, the reach and impact of Mr Draper is, shall we say, next level.

Having passed through our hallowed halls and graduated with a very useful degree in English and Politics from the University of Natal (as it was then known), the 20-year-old Draper arrived

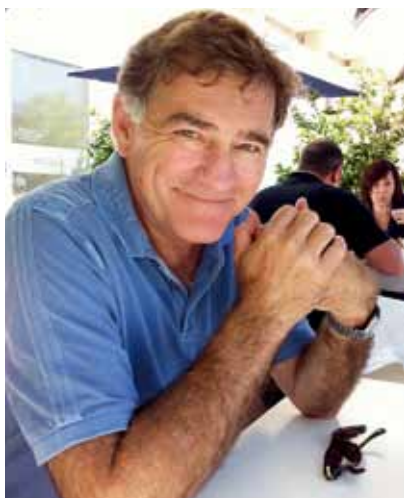
in London in 1971 looking for something to do before going back to study more – so he contacted one of the few connections he had in the UK, a second cousin called Richard Branson. Now the thing about Branson, as anyone who's worked near the Virgin brand factory will tell you, is that his greatest talent is spotting and surrounding himself with talent.

In the case of Simon Draper, he nailed it. Without much thought, he hired the young South African to manage Virgin Mail Order and set in motion a career that would last twenty long, fruitful and formative years.

By all accounts, Branson is overtly and surprisingly non-musical. “You have to understand, Richard knew zilch about music,” said Draper, reflecting on his career in 2017. “When he did Desert Island Discs we had to tell him what records he liked!”

The same could not be said for Draper, who was both passionate about and driven by the business. And from the very beginning, hanging out at the first Virgin Records store and getting his hands dirty, he developed a keen sense of where the gaps were and how an independent label could carve its own path in an increasingly saturated market.

Virgin Records was catapulted into the mainstream in 1973 on the back of one of its first four albums, Mike Oldfield’s *Tubular Bells*. Quite unlike anything before (and maybe since!), it was an instrumental epic and a blockbuster hit. Its commercial success allowed Draper and his team the freedom they needed to pursue an aggressive and adventurous signing policy – one that would define the label. And from the early



Branson’s real skill? Getting people like Simon Draper to work for him.

’70s to the early ’80s, few would argue that Virgin was the coolest record label in the UK – maybe on the planet. And, although Branson could lay claim to many things, that image was undoubtedly thanks to Simon Draper.

If the first five or six years were manic, they were nothing compared with what was to come, mainly thanks to a band called the Sex Pistols and the punk revolution they led. Although the signing process was clumsy, Virgin finally released the band’s first, and only, studio album in 1977. *Never Mind The Bollocks: Here’s The Sex Pistols* remains not only

an iconic record, but a pivotal moment in music history. Love ’em or hate ’em, Johnny Rotten, Sid Vicious and their supposed friends changed the world.

As the decade drew to a close, Branson was itchy to expand his empire and left Virgin Music in Draper’s hands; he ditched his A&R cards, took over the MD’s office and embarked on an astounding ten-year roller-coaster ride of excitement and success. Virgin became home to acts like OMD, Human League, Simple Minds and Culture Club and, through acquisition, Phil Collins and Peter Gabriel. Groundbreaking, stadium-filling, mega-acts.

In 1991, with Draper officially a director of Virgin and chairman of Virgin Records, and “mega-music-deals” defining the pecking order of the music industry, Virgin landed a twin coup. First, they signed Janet Jackson to a three-album deal worth a reported \$40 million, and then they pulled off the ultimate move: signing the Rolling Stones and their entire back catalogue from 1971. Although the details were secret, \$50 million was floated around and it was clear that Virgin, the tiny little company started by two young cousins who didn’t even know each other, had become a major player in the music business.

Deals like that change the rules and a year later EMI made Branson



Virgin released the Sex Pistols’ first, and only, studio album in 1977. *Never Mind The Bollocks: Here Come The Sex Pistols* remains not only an iconic record, but a pivotal moment in music history.

an offer he couldn't refuse for the Virgin Music Group: somewhere near \$1 billion. Thanks to his generally good education – we presume – Simon Draper had had the good sense to pry 20 percent of the shares in the company from Branson's grasp prior to the sale and, after helping EMI through the transition, the buyout allowed him to cash out and move on.

Which brings us back to the Aston Martins. In 1993, freed from anything resembling a recording studio and able to pursue passions such as modern art and exotic cars, Draper started a publishing house named after a Filipino peacock. In the words of the website, "Through Palawan Press, Simon set out to publish books of unsurpassed quality – in design, binding, illustration and authorship – of interest to lovers of beautiful things."

It's an appropriate second act for a man whose contribution to the modern age has been extraordinary, not least because much of what he achieved was done in the shadow of one of the world's greatest commercial showmen. And one senses that Draper wouldn't have it any other way.

In a magazine interview for Red Bull Academy in 2017, he is quoted as never being tempted to return to the music business, saying that, "So many aspects of it aren't... great." And that is certainly not how you could ever describe the career and contribution of Simon Draper to the world of contemporary music.

Brandon de Kock (1986K) is a partner at the consumer insights consultancy WhyFive. A former creative director at RamsayMedia, he has "been telling stories with words, pictures and microphones since Chappies were 1c a piece".



Simon's father instilled in him a love of motor racing while growing up, and he developed a particular affinity for Aston Martins after he saw a fellow pupil arriving at school in a DB4 like the one below. Today he has one of the finest Aston Martin collections in the world, and high-end leather-bound books on race cars are the speciality of Palawan Press, his publishing house. Recent and upcoming releases include *Aston Martin DB4GT* (above), *Porsche 918 Spyder* and *Bristol Aeroplane Company Car Division*. See www.palawan.co.uk.



Magazine men

Publishing warhorse Alan Ramsay took charge of his first magazine in 1964. Tudor Caradoc-Davies started his first 52 years later. **Tim Richman**, editor of these pages, sat down with them at The Mitre to compare notes

On the subject of magazine publishing, Alan Ramsay (1960F) isn't shy to speak his mind. Having spent half a century in the business – building *Car* magazine into a 150,000-copies-a-month golden goose, creating from scratch the almost-as-successful *Getaway* magazine, and managing a host of other influential titles at Ramsay


Media – it's fair to say he's earned the right. His grandfather was in publishing, his father was in publishing, and he took over Ramsay, Son & Parker, as it was then known, at the age of 34.

In mid-2017, when the idea of a dedicated OD magazine was mooted, Alan and I were asked to sit on the sub-committee (along with Anton Taylor and WP van Zyl).

The resulting magazine you read today is not entirely what Alan had in mind. ("More advertising! Bolder cover!") It has, however, been hugely influenced by his input. A half-hour's conversation or an email exchange with a veteran of Alan's standing is priceless, and it highlights, for me, the potential of the ODU Mentorship programme.

The idea for a regular feature seemed preordained: Then & Now, the old hand passes the torch to a young apprentice. For future editions we might ask Anthony Hamilton Russell to sit down with Justin van Wyk and discuss winemaking, or Guy Kebble to talk rugby with Dillyn Leyds. For now, with the first edition of *The Old Diocesan* in production, Alan chatted to Tudor Caradoc-Davies (1998B).

Tudor is no magazine novice; he's been "an editor-writer guy" for 15 years, having walked the hard yards at *GQ* and *Men's Health* (and, less obviously, as Shadrack Malimbo, Tanzania's first restaurant reviewer, working for *The Citizen* newspaper in Dar Es Salaam...). But now he's taken the step into publishing: in December 2016 he and two partners put out their first magazine, *The Mission*, dedicated to "the cult of fly fishing". He was keen to hear what Alan had to say.



Alan Ramsay, the publishing don: "I had ink in my blood."

ON THE IDEA FOR A MAGAZINE

Alan claims he only launched one magazine successfully in his career: *Getaway*. (We're sceptical.)

"I was enthusiastic about *Getaway* because we had an idea that people love going off the beaten track, and we used research to prove it," he says. "In those days most of the travel articles in South Africa were into the 'froth', so it was all around the glamour and the sunshine, with very little practical information. We wanted to sell the sizzle but also give them the steak, so that they knew when to go, what it cost, what to take, where to book, what books to read, who to make contact with."

It was a subject close to his heart, so much so that he pictured his own family as the typical readership. But it wasn't a magazine based solely on emotion.

"I had tough colleagues, so I wasn't going to get away with just the passion. I think we worked on it for more than a year before we launched. It was a hard-nosed business decision."

The formula for success at Ramsay, Son & Parker meant only exploring subjects they were interested in. Cars, golf, wine, travel – yes. Computers – no. But no matter the subject, publishing decisions had to be based on market-researched business terms.

Tudor's decision was more instinctive. "For me it was definitely passion-based," he says. "I'll be the first to admit it wasn't entirely thought through."



Is passion enough to make a magazine viable? Alan Ramsay, Tim Richman and Tudor Caradoc-Davies confer.

Frustrated with the fly-fishing magazines available, he came up with the idea with two like-minded fly-fishing fanatics, the illustrator Conrad Botes and Brendan Body, who cut his teeth on *Session* skateboarding magazine.

"In the brand of service journalism I work in, and especially with magazines like *Men's Health*, everything is 'How to'. Our competitor fly-fishing magazines are also very 'how to'. We took a view that you can't learn to fly fish through the pages of a magazine. If you really want instructions, you can click on a YouTube video, but you're really going to learn by standing out in the water. You have to make mistakes, you have to get knots in your line. And that's a big part of the mag: we celebrate the failures."

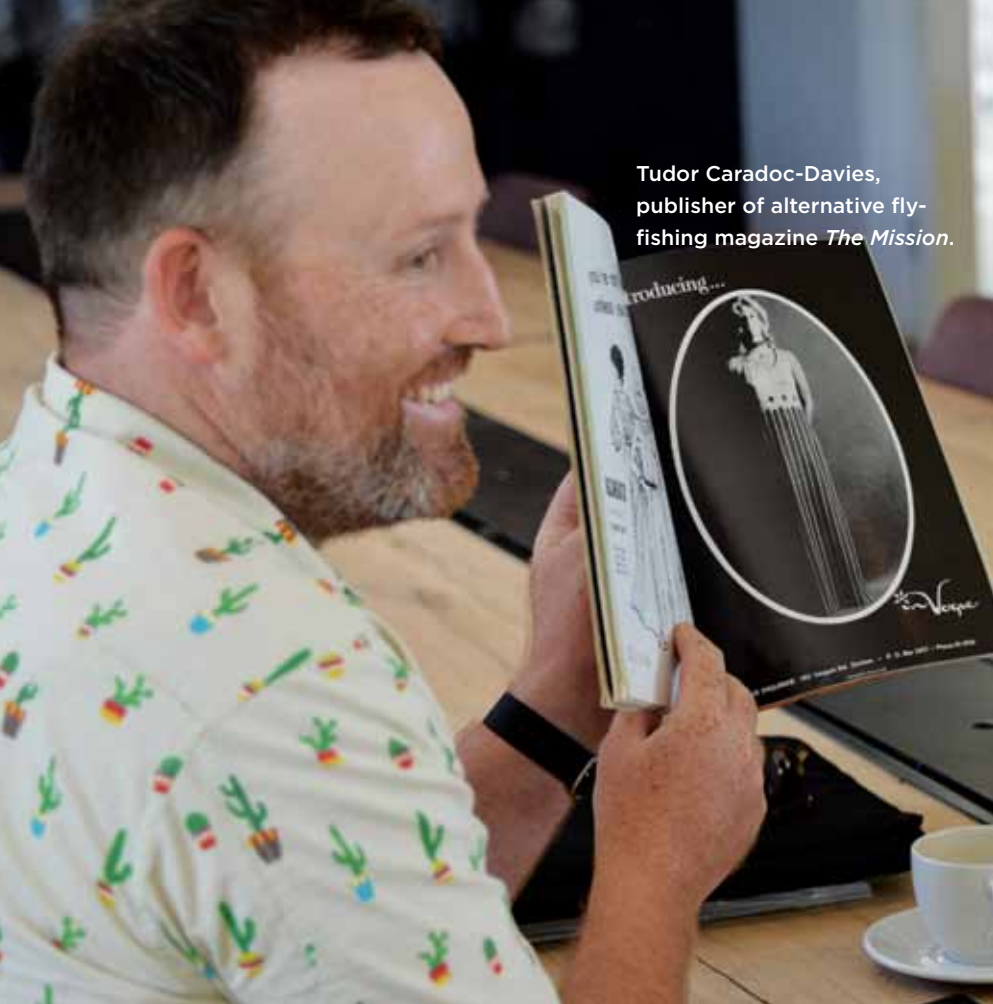
Without the luxury of a stable of successful magazines to fund the market research, Tudor's decision boiled down to whether he had the time and cash reserves to press pause on his day job and work out how to make, print and distribute a magazine. So it was essentially a case of *If I build it, they will come*. Or, more accurately, *Because I go (fishing) I should build it*.

In 1989, when *Getaway* first appeared and easy desktop publishing was still several Apple Mac iterations away, this business approach would have been unthinkable. But eight issues in, *The Mission* is just about covering costs. Tudor feels the addition of a full time ad-salesman to their team has been a decisive step. Alan, meanwhile, reckons it took five years before *Getaway* made decent profit. Does a young start-up have that much time to play with?

"After school I worked on an English weekly newspaper. I learned shorthand and typing and then I worked there for a year, without being paid a salary – six months of reporting and six months of subbing." – **Alan Ramsay**

ON MAKING MONEY

The Mission has no cover price. A couple of hundred copies go off to Natal Fly Fishers, the Cape Piscatorial Society gets a batch, and specialist fishing shops get their supplies.



Tudor Caradoc-Davies, publisher of alternative fly-fishing magazine *The Mission*.

“For us, story-telling is coming back. We’re getting such a great reaction from readers who’re thanking us for saving them from the endless advertorials and how-to’s. For being real.” – **Tudor Caradoc-Davies**

“People don’t have to think twice, they just take one,” says Tudor, who took a while to get his head around the business model.

Alan is cautiously approving: “The essence of a freebie is to make sure you can prove to the advertisers that the magazine is being read, which means lots of reader surveys. It’s a difficult one.”

One place to track readership is online, where reader engagement can be comprehensively monitored. The magazine is attracting international attention

through its digital platform, with unambiguous data for advertisers, and as a result is appealing to more international brands. But Tudor hasn’t been entirely seduced by the convenience and economies of digital: “I know for a fact that we wouldn’t be taken as seriously if we didn’t have a print product. Especially in a niche like this.”

If the trends in book publishing – my area of speciality – are anything to go by, I would imagine he’s right to be wary. International e-book sales have been in decline

for several years now (in contrast to the rapid rise of audio books) – most likely a response to global screen fatigue.

Alan, meanwhile, is very much from the copy-in-your-hand era, but he is more interested in Tudor’s integrated plan. Digital must be considered, but long before that particular threat emerged, he was alive to the potential – and even necessity – of expanding a published magazine into areas of income generation beyond cover price and advertising. He uses the enormous valuation of *The Economist* as an example: the magazine sells “a reasonable amount of advertising, but they’ve made their money out of conferences, research and services. And that’s the route to go.”

“In my view,” he tells Tudor, “to really grow the business, you need to develop these other platforms – annual fishing events, conferences, videos, training courses...”

Once again with my book-publishing hat on, I agree. In recent years a gap has emerged for book publishers to pursue business strategists, adventurers and celebrities on the public-speaking circuit. When speaking to your own captive market the potential to sell your book, by itself, is exponentially higher than the potential it has to sell itself when competing mutely on a crowded bookshelf. More to the point, the book then becomes the means for the speaker to find more work. The events sell the book, and the book sells more events.

Tudor is on board. His team have started looking into stocking a limited range of merchandise, and he thinks there may be value in hosting travel trips with readers.

ON MARKETING

How you market a trade magazine from a well-established

publishing company is relatively straightforward: aggressively, with a load of consumer advertising. Or, as Alan puts it, “like you market toothpaste”. But how do you market a niche fly-fishing magazine with little budget?

The zero cover price is a start. And it helps that Tudor is vice-chairman of the Cape Piscatorial Society, with membership having doubled to 1,500 in the last two years. There is also some exposure to be had from his freelance bylines in other publications, but otherwise he takes what opportunities arise.

Alan suggests the power of celebrity appeal and word of mouth. “We’ve actually taken that approach,” says Tudor. “We did a lifer profile with Marco Pierre White, the famous UK chef. I managed to get an interview with him in Cape Town. He thought we were going to be talking about food and *Men’s Health*, and I wrapped up that part of the interview in five minutes. Then I said, I know you love fishing and this is our magazine. I was meant to have a 15-minute slot, but he just went wild about that.”

ON SUCCESS

Tudor and his partners have just wrapped the eighth issue of *The Mission*. They’re still being driven by the energy of working on a project they love, fishing in exotic places like Gabon or the Seychelles or chasing stories into the smelliest reaches of the Berg River as it flows through Paarl industria. But what will success mean?

“What I’d like from it is profitability, travel, preferably with my wife, and to keep the creative outlet going because I love putting this together.”

Not too much to ask. Alan knows – he got all that in his heyday. Now he’s off to play golf.

JUDGING BY YOUR COVERS

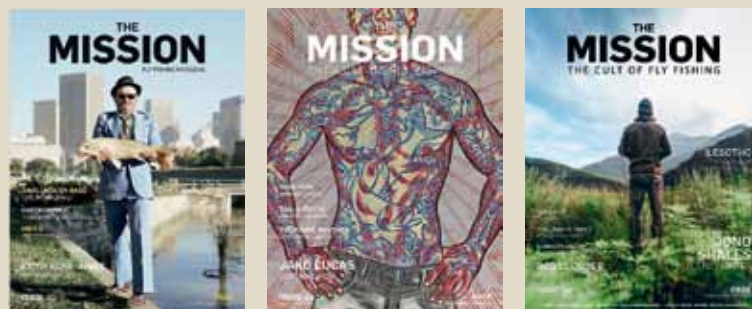
THEN: *The Buyer*, *Getaway*, *Car*

“A cover has three-and-a-half seconds to catch a reader’s attention,” explains Alan. When he pulls out a copy of his grandfather’s trade journal *The Buyer*, it is more historical document than magazine – it’s priced at threepence and dated March 1933, so fair enough. But the inaugural April 1989 edition of *Getaway* follows his advice with an “off the beaten track” travel image and clear cover lines. Today, *Getaway* follows the same format, updated – minus the serif fonts, framed cover shots and inset images, it is still crammed with know-how that offers value for money. Similarly, the high-impact covers of *Car* magazine (February 2017 shown) need only be tweaked down the years.



NOW: *The Mission*

Covers of *The Mission* are intentionally at odds with fishing-magazine tradition: man holding trophy fish on boat. For Tudor, having illustrator Conrad Botes as a partner is exciting and opens up (cost-effective) ways to be different. Minimised cover lines leave the image to convey the passion and sense of story. Alan isn’t quite sold. “Why would a fly-fisherman pick it up?” he says of an illustrated cover that shows no clear connection to fishing. “You do have to differentiate, but you’ve gone too far.” In this instance, Tudor respectfully disagrees: “People are tired of the obvious.” But does *The Mission* have sufficient loyalty and brand awareness to assume buy-in from potential readers? One thing we all agree on: the guy in the baby-blue suit holding his prize catch – a carp caught in the Castle moat on a stompie fly – works.



Man From. Atlantis

As our drought drags on, Cape Town seems awash with dinner-table water experts.

Kristian Gerstner, someone who knows what he's talking about when it comes to water management, explains his role in saving the city



I am an environmental consultant for Umvoto, an earth-sciences consultancy commissioned by the City to advise on the groundwater development for three major aquifers in the Western Cape. As of February 2018 the City was aiming to limit consumption of potable water to 450 million litres a day. The groundwater development project will be able to inject a sizeable daily allowance to contribute to that allowance, though exactly how much won't be known for some time.

Aquifer king crash course

An aquifer is an underground water storage body that occurs in a layer of saturated permeable rock, rock fractures, or unconsolidated gravels/sand/silt, from which water can be abstracted via a borehole. Borehole drilling is taking place along the Table Mountain Group Aquifer, the Cape Flats Aquifer and the Atlantis Silverstroom Aquifer. There are numerous boreholes sunk per aquifer, some for abstraction, some for monitoring. The abstraction pipes are typically around 450mm in diameter, larger than a standard garden borehole, with yields of up to 20 L/sec – though long-term sustainability is all about managing how much water each

borehole and aquifer delivers.

Atlantis has been operational for years and is essentially an expansion project. Cape Flats is due to come on line by the end of May, whereas Table Mountain is a longer-term project in a more sensitive area, not for immediate drought relief. Umvoto's role is to monitor, model and manage the process to ensure sustainable abstraction over the long term.

Aquifer recharging

Aquifers are replenished primarily from rainfall, and also from surface water sources seeping into them. Umvoto is exploring the process of Managed Aquifer Recharge, in which treated effluent water is pumped into a wetland and allowed to seep into the groundwater. While recharging the aquifer, the process of filtration through various layers of sediment also purifies the water to an extent, allowing the groundwater quality to improve over time. This also reduces the impact of groundwater abstraction on other surface-water bodies and ecosystems.

The bigger picture

Our aquifers have been an under-used source of supplementary water, but they are not a magic bullet for Cape Town. An approach combining aspects of surface

water, desalination, waste-water treatment and groundwater is the best way to sustainably manage the City's water needs. A successful current example of such a conjunctive-use approach is Hermanus, where Umvoto developed groundwater abstraction that was integrated with surface water to create a resilient system.

It is important for Capetonians to adapt their thinking: we are a growing population living in a semi-arid climate, and climate predictions paint a bleak picture for future rainfall in our area. Water-saving measures must continue regardless of whether or not things go "back to normal".

While it is good for homeowners to build up their own resilience, it's important to understand that individual borehole and well-point use needs to be controlled to limit the risk of overuse, lowering the water table, and causing harm to the environment. The City has released guidelines on borehole registration and management, and I believe these should be followed closely. We are in a new era: it's time for us to embrace water-wise gardens and find other ways to save water.

Kristian Gerstner (2007K) has an M.Phil in Climate Change and Sustainable Development.

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The Winemakers

The phrase “ODs in wine” may, in the broadest sense, account for the majority of Old Diocesans, but Bishops produces more than just world-class wine drinkers. South

[Africa's pre-eminent wine journalist **Christian Eedes** reviews some of our most distinguished winemakers](#)



Jordan Wine Estate near Stellenbosch, owned by one-time Gray House boy Gary Jordan.

While Bishops (37) runs Paul Roos (48) and Grey College (45) close when it comes to the most Springbok rugby players ever produced, you might think it fanciful to suggest that the school has had quite the same impact when it comes to South African wine. After all, it's an English-medium place of learning and the industry, traditionally centred on Stellenbosch and surrounds, has always been largely Afrikaans...

But as South African fine wine has enjoyed its golden era since political transformation occurred in the early 1990s, with quality levels on a steep and seemingly endless upward curve, it's incontrovertible that Old Diocesans have played a prominent role in bringing this about.

There have been few more innovative figures in the local industry over the last twenty years or so than Bruce Jack (1987G). Bruce is chairman of the ODU, but that's not why he gets first mention here... After acquiring a Masters in Literature at St Andrews, Scotland, he then set off to Roseworthy, Australia's finest oenology faculty, before starting Flagstone Winery in 1998, at its original location in Cape Town's V&A Waterfront. Ten



Silverthorn winemaker John Loubser, once of Steenberg, walks the vineyards at his Breede River farm.



Villiera's
Jeff Grier.



Chardonnay grapes on their way to becoming Silverthorn's The Green Man.



ALHEIT

Winemaker **Chris Alheit (1999O)** is the man behind the premium Alheit Vineyards label, rated a First Growth by the likes of Tim Atkin and Neal Martin.

Cartology 2016

Chenin-Semillon

Tim Atkin: 95/100

Platter: 4.5 stars

R305/bottle

www.alheitvineyards.co.za



ALTYDGEDACHT

Winemaker **Oliver Parker (1968W)** has continued the family wine-growing tradition in Durbanville with a range of quality reds, among them an outstanding Pinotage.

Pinotage

Platter: 4 stars

R155/bottle

www.altydgedacht.co.za



ARABELLA

Owners **Stephen de Wet (1964W)** and **Jamie de Wet (1996W)** have built a reputation for delivering consistent good-value wines from their Robertson farm.

Sauvignon Blanc

R45/bottle

www.arbellawines.com

Constantia Glen on a half-decent day.

years later, he would sell Flagstone to Constellation Brands, then the world's largest wine company (later to become Accolade Wines).

Bruce's pet project now is making wines at The Drift, the family farm situated in the Akkedisberg between Caledon and Napier, where he works with a number of varietals that are somewhat unusual for South Africa. Wines to look out for include Gift Horse Barbera and the exotic red blend under the

Moveable Feast label.

Another great success story of the modern era is that of Jordan Wine Estate in Stellenbosch, where Gary Jordan (1978G) and wife Kathy celebrated their 25th consecutive harvest last year. Two of their wines that arguably attract the most attention are the Nine Yards Chardonnay and the Cobblers Hill red blend, but all bottlings in the range are accomplished to a greater or lesser degree. In addition, the

Jordans have proved themselves shrewd operators when it comes to the wine tourism business: the property boasts a celebrated restaurant, The Jordan Restaurant with George Jardine, a bakery, luxury suites and conference facilities. In addition, they own High Timber restaurant in London, an important showcase for South African wine.

"We were encouraged to think and analyse rather than just regurgitate information," Gary

AVONDALE

Sustainability is the keyword for co-owner **Johnathan Grieve (1995S)**, who prioritises a "healthy balanced vineyard ecosystem".

La Luna 2011

Classic Bordeaux blend
R440/bottle

www.avondalewine.co.za



BEAU CONSTANTIA

Beau Constantia is home to one of Constantia's finest restaurants, Chef's Kitchen, where **Justin van Wyk (2003S)** provides the wine.

Cecily 2016

Viognier
Tim Atkin: 91/100
R210/bottle

www.beauconstantia.com



BONFIRE HILL

The Bonfire range, available in Checkers, is a value range from winemaker **Bruce Jack (1987G)**.

Extreme Vineyards White

Chenin-Grenache-Roussane
R85/bottle

www.bonfirehill.com



says, reflecting on how his Bishops education affected his approach to winemaking. “This is one of the reasons why I have never subscribed to ‘recipe winemaking’ – to make great wines, you can’t take a standardised approach. Every vintage is different, with its own particular challenges – none more so than 2018!”

Anthony Hamilton Russell (1979F) is also firmly established as an industry leader. His late father Tim made a break with the viticultural establishment when he founded the family farm Hamilton Russell Vineyards in the Hemel-en-Aarde Valley outside Hermanus in 1975, then the most southerly site in the country and one of the coolest. Anthony took over in 1991 and then bought the concern in 1994. Today the estate’s Chardonnays and Pinot Noirs are among the most highly regarded in the country, and are well respected overseas. He also makes wine on two other properties in the valley, Ashbourne and Southern Right.

“As a top school, Bishops inevitably engendered higher expectations for further study and success in general,” he says. “My ultimate attainment of three degrees may have something to

do with having been to Bishops. At least one of these degrees – an MBA from Wharton in the US – has been useful in helping us remain profitable in a challenging industry. Being profitable enables one to carry on in that industry. And being regularly profitable enables a greater degree of purism and a stronger ability to pursue quality.”

The epitome of “boutique”, and with a deserved reputation for excellence, is De Trafford in Stellenbosch, owned by David Trafford (1981W) and wife Rita. This mountain property was acquired by the family in 1976 but it was only in 1992, after quota restrictions were lifted, that the cultivation of vineyards began in earnest, with David giving up a career in architecture to pursue winemaking. The house style has tended to the big and bold in recent times, but the wines succeed in retaining balance and are particularly long-lived, the Cabernet Sauvignon perhaps being the wine for which he is best known.

More recently, David established vineyards on the Sijnn property at the mouth of the Breede River near Swellendam. In reflecting on his time at Bishops, he suggests that the school inculcated in him

“a quiet confidence, discipline (and a resistance to discipline) and an ability to think out the box despite a rather conservative environment” – all, it would appear, qualities that bode well for winemaking.



Anthony Hamilton Russell doing the family name proud in Hemel-en-Aarde.



CONSTANTIA GLEN

With neighbour Beau Constantia, Constantia Glen is one of Cape Town’s most visitable estates.

Justin van Wyk (2003S) makes the wine at both.

Five 2013

Bordeaux-style blend

Tim Atkin: 94/100

Platter: 4.5 stars

R325/bottle

www.constantiaglen.com



CONSTANTIA ROYALE

Lynn and **Don Rowand (1955F)** have converted Nova Zonnestraal Estate, at the entrance to the Constantia Valley, into a specialist producer of Sauvignon Blanc.

Sauvignon Blanc 2017

Platter: 4.5 stars.

R100/bottle

www.constantiaroyale.co.za



DE GRENDDEL

With family-owned vineyards in the Tygerberg Hills, Somerset West and the Ceres Plateau, **Sir De Villiers Graaff (1988F)** has an abundant source of quality grapes.

Op Die Berg Pinot Noir

Platter: 4.5 stars

R170/bottle

www.degrendel.co.za

“At Bishops we were encouraged to think and analyse rather than just regurgitate information. This is one of the reasons why I have never subscribed to ‘recipe winemaking’ – to make great wines, you can’t take a standardised approach.” – Gary Jordan

Aerial shot of Hamilton Russell Vineyards, with Hermanus in the background.

DE TRAFFORD

Owner-winemaker **David Trafford (1981W)** brings dedication as well as expertise to the family farm Mont Fleur in Stellenbosch. The Cabernet Sauvignon is particularly lauded.

Cabernet Sauvignon 2014
Platter: 4.5 stars
R290/bottle
www.detrafford.co.za



EXCELSIOR

Father and son **Freddie de Wet (1966W)** and **Peter de Wet (1995W)** are the personalities behind this consistent family-run estate.

Sauvignon Blanc
R55/bottle
www.excelsior.co.za



GROOTE POST

From their historic estate in Darling, **Nicholas Pentz (1986S)**, son of owner-founder Peter, safeguards the family reputation.

Darling Hills Sauvignon Blanc NV
Platter: 4.5 stars
R85/bottle
www.grootepost.co.za



Bruce Jack, of The Drift and other wine ventures, in his natural environment.



Villiera is renowned for making some of the best-valued wine in South Africa.

Villiera, started by cousins Jeff and Simon Grier (both 1975S) in 1983, emphatically demonstrates that it is possible to be both commercially successful and ethically sound, with their property incorporating a 220ha wildlife sanctuary and a solar energy installation that provides much of its energy requirements. Villiera makes many wines, all respectable and some excellent, and is known in particular for offering good value. The speciality is its Méthode Cap Classique and

the top of the range Monro Brut is well worth seeking out.

Jeff, who continues to oversee winemaking, says of his time at Bishops: "While at school, I had no idea I would become a winemaker, but the broad education I received and the people I met there sparked a general curiosity to acquire knowledge about more than just my own country. I had a desire to travel even when it was difficult for South Africans to travel. My father also played a role in this wanderlust, but then again he was

also educated at Bishops. When I did graduate as a winemaker, all I wanted was to visit other wine regions, discover other styles and meet different people with different ideas. This had a massive impact on my approach to wine and winemaking."

These are just some of the OD stalwarts of the industry, all of them mentioned – barring industry statesman Anthony Hamilton Russell – still active winemakers. Limitations of space preclude us from mentioning the established



HAMILTON RUSSELL VINEYARDS

Anthony Hamilton Russell (1979F) focuses his winemaking skills on Chardonnay and the highest-quality Pinot Noir in South Africa.

Pinot Noir 2016
Tim Atkin: 95/100
R440/bottle

www.hamiltonrussellvineyards.com



JORDAN

Champion winemaker **Gary Jordan (1978G)** doesn't just have a beautiful estate; he took home the Chardonnay Trophy from the 2017 IWSC Awards.

Nine Yards Chardonnay 2015
IWSC Trophy
R400/bottle

www.jordanwines.com



KEERMONT

Winemaker **Alex Starey (1997W)** is producing wines of ever-growing renown at Keermont, a First Growth estate as rated by Tim Atkin.

Terrasse 2015
White blend
Tim Atkin: 93/100
R170/bottle

www.keermont.co.za



David Trafford's Sijnn winery, where all the vineyards are low-yield bush vines.

estate owners, such as De Villiers Graaf at De Grendel, Anthony Rawbone Viljoen at Oak Valley and Peter and Jamie de Wet at Excelsior and Arabella respectively – where do we stop? – and all those playing their part in other parts of the industry. (See sidebars for more.)

In any event, it is not necessarily how many ODs have chosen a career path in wine but rather the weight of their contribution. And if the select few mentioned above provide an impressive insight into the country's recent

winemaking past, the influence of Bishops on South African wine appears only set to continue, as a new generation of younger ODs start to assert themselves, gaining accolades and producing exciting, world-class wines. If you are a non-professional OD in wine, look out for the likes of Chris 'Butch' Alheit of Alheit Vineyards, James Downes of Shannon Vineyards in Elgin, Alex Starey of Keermont, John Loubser of Silverthorn, and Justin van Wyk of Beau Constantia and Constantia Glen. Justin is in a



IN MEMORY OF DAVID ARTHUR

The Frater family have been in residence on their farm De Zoete Inval near Paarl since 1878, with fifth-generation winemaker **Jerry Frater (1992F)** launching his premium range Frater Family Wines in 2017. In February this year he released a new and particularly heartfelt wine: the David Arthur Shiraz Reserve, in honour of his "good times mate" and unforgettable Bishops personality **David Arthur Finch (1992K)**. David, better known as Shifty, died of cancer in 2011. "His kind nature, eccentric crazy-fun vibe and compassion for his fellow man still inspires me every day," says Jerry.

Tasting notes: ripe, dark berry fruit with juicy core and white pepper spice set against voluptuous texture and sleek tannins. R150/ bottle includes free delivery in Cape Town, with 10 percent going to Paarl Hospice. www.fraterfamilywines.co.za

KERSHAW

Oenologist **Dudley Wilson (1978S)** has helped establish Kershaw Wines as one of SA's premier wineries, another Tim Atkin First Growth.

Clonal Selection Chardonnay 2016
Platter: 5 stars
R810/bottle

www.richardkershawwines.co.za



MARY LE BOW

A joint venture between the **Jack and Frater** families (both OD families), this is a well-crafted blend of Cabernet, Petit Verdot and Shiraz that "almost trembles with power".

Mary le Bow
R260/bottle
www.thedrift.co.za



MATTHEW KRONE WINES

Matthew Krone (1995F) owns and makes his own range of boutique wines and MCCs.

Alexandra de la Marque MCC 2010 (named for his firstborn)
R320/bottle
www.matthewkronewines.co.za



perfectly balanced Old Diocesan embrace: the beautiful, visitor-friendly Constantias Beau and Glen adjoin each other just below the Nek, share a winery and are both owned by alumni: Pierre du Preez and Gus Allen respectively. Our ODs in wine may not always be that well positioned, but long may their influence continue, wherever they may be.

Christian Eedes (1988B) is co-owner and editor of **Winemag.co.za**, freelance contributor to *Decanter* and other titles, and one of the most respected voices and judges in the South African wine industry.



Christian Eedes

THE BROADER PICTURE

For this feature, Christian was uniquely positioned to provide an overview of the more renowned OD winemakers in South Africa, while we've done our best to source a bottle shot from as many of our established producers as possible. We suspect there are a dozen or more, including the likes of Arumdale, Beaulieu, Clive Torr, De Meye, Douglas Green, Eikenhof, Elgin Vintners, Marklew, Ormonde and Waarburg, who we couldn't track down in time.

We must, however, point out that the Bishops wine influence extends beyond the fermenting of grape. **Brian Cluver (1999S)** advised that no story of Bishops wine personalities would be complete without mention of the late **Tim Rands**, our "most successful wine personality over the last 100 years". A visionary in the industry, Tim was not only instrumental in the success of Boekenhoutskloof, The Chocolate Block, The Wolftrap, Porcupine Ridge, Robertson Winery, Krone, Reyneke and Porseleinberg, but in 1985 he founded Vinimark, now the largest independent wine

distribution company in SA.

Today **Mike Bosman (1978O)**, former chairman of the Bishops Council, is Vinimark's non-executive chairman. At a more niche level, **David Nel (1999F)** owns and runs Publik Distribution, which represents two dozen wine farms (and a gin distillery), including Alheit, Silvermist and Usana, all run by ODs.

Elsewhere, we understand that **Pierre van der Merwe (1986F)** of Merwida is one of the top five grape growers in the Western Cape; **David Rawbone (1964S)** owns and manages Target Rigging, which installs wine tanks, presses, separators and the like; and there are plenty of ODs in the restaurant trade who are doing their best to sell the stuff. Meanwhile, **Simon von Witt (1994G)** runs Woodstock Gin Co, **Warren Harries-Jones (1994B)** brews Dragon Fiery Ginger Beer; and **Bruce Jack** (of course) makes Cluver & Jack cider, which is managed by **Bulelani Calana (2000W)**. And that's probably just the tip of the iceberg. Look out for more OD fermenters, distillers and brewers in future issues.



OAK VALLEY

Oak Valley Wine Estate, co-owned by **Chris Rawbone-Viljoen (2001F)** is one of the stalwart wineries of Elgin.

Groenlandberg Pinot Noir 2016

Platter: 5 stars

R250/bottle

www.oakvalley.co.za



POST HOUSE

Nic Gebers (1982W) wears multiple hats – those of Post House owner, cellar master and winemaker.

Missing Virgin

Pinotage-Petit Verdot

Platter 2018: 4 stars

R175/bottle

www.posthousewines.co.za



SIJNN

Founded and co-owned by De Trafford's **David Trafford (1981W)**, the Breede River property specialises in fine, rare varietals.

Red 2012

Four-varietal blend

Tim Atkin: 91/100

R250/bottle

www.sijnn.co.za

SILVERTHORN

Winemaker **John Loubser (1985F)**, his wife Karen and brother **Steven (1995O)** launched MCC-specialist Silverthorn from their Breede River farm in 2004.

The Green Man 2015
Previous vintage winner of 6 Nations Best Wine in Show
R240/bottle
www.silverthornwines.co.za

**SPOOKFONTEIN**

OD **Mike Davis (2001F)** is the owner of this Upper Hemel-en-Aarde property, which benefits from the region's cooler climate.

Phantom
Bordeaux-style blend
Platter: 4 stars
R145/bottle
www.spookfontein.co.za

**THE DRIFT**

ODU chairman and drinksmaker extraordinaire **Bruce Jack** saves a lot of his best work for The Drift, the family label.

Moveable Feast 2014
Platter: 4.5 stars
R350/bottle
www.thedrift.co.za

**USANA**

Owned by brothers **JP Winshaw (2001F)** and **Pierre Winshaw**, Usana produces a range of boutique wines as well as grass-fed beef and pasture-reared chicken eggs in Stellenbosch.

The Fox Cabernet Sauvignon 2014
Platter 4 stars & Michelangelo gold
R140/bottle
www.usana.co.za

**VELVET ROPE**

Matthew Krone (1995F) of Matthew Krone Vinters and **Alistair Wilson (1995S)** of La Bottega Restaurant in Woodstock have "combined forces and broken the mould" with the launch of their new MCC label Velvet Rope.

Velvet Rope 2015
available at
www.screwit.co.za and
La Bottega R250/bottle

**VILAFONTÉ**

At this Paarl property, co-owner **Mike Ratcliffe (1990W)**, of Warwick renown, has collaborated with US winemakers to create a sensational brace of red wines: Series M and Series C.

Series M 2015
Merlot-Malbec-Cabernet
Platter: 4.5 stars
R500/bottle
www.vilafonte.com

**VILLIERA**

Villiera has been a smartly run part of the Stellenbosch scene for decades now, and cousins **Jeff and Simon Grier (both 1975S)** are still producing some of the best-value wines around.

Monro Merlot 2016
Michelangelo Gold
R220/bottle
www.villiera.co.za

**WARWICK**

Mike Ratcliffe (1990W) owns Warwick, one of the Cape's most popular visiting estates, while **Brian Cluver (1999S)** clearly does a stellar job heading up sales and marketing.

Trilogy 2014
Bordeaux-style red
Platter: 4.5 stars
R370/bottle
www.warwickwine.com

**WITHINGTON**

Charles Withington (1968W) makes wine from Darling by the motto "Family name. Family values." He's particularly proud of his bestselling Roan Ranger and Malbec wines.

Malbec 2015
R90/bottle
www.withington.co.za





Award-winning artisanal mezcal-making: a horse called Payaso (clown) pulls a volcanic stone called a *tahona* to mill agave.

Master of Mezcal

ODs may be thick on the ground in the local drinks industry but our alcoholic ambition is not limited to the Western Cape. **Tudor Caradoc-Davies** speaks to our agave expert in London

Leaving Bishops as headboy shouldn't limit you to a career as an astronaut or captain of finance – David Shepherd (1998S) is living proof.

David was born in Singapore of British parents, was educated in South Africa and Scotland, and has lived around the world, but it was his formative years in Mexico that inspired his recent success. He lived there for seven years as a boy, and his first memories are

of Mexico, including its food and flavours. His parents loved the place enough to eventually retire there.

After a decade in the marketing industry, David started Black Sheep Spirits, and he's struck gold, quite literally, with the recent launch of Corte Vetusto, a brand of mezcal from Oaxaca state. In its first entry into the International Wine & Spirits Competition (IWSC), in 2017, Corte Vetusto won gold in

a category in which only tequilas had won in previous years. The IWSC has been running since 1969 and is well regarded, so this was no mean feat.

I got hold of David in London, where he lives, to find out more. Turns out my old classmate has a wealth of knowledge on the making and marketing of mezcal, so this could well have been a chapter of a book – perhaps there will be one some day.

What was your career path before launching Corte Vetusto?

I completed an MA in Business and Finance at Heriot-Watt in Edinburgh and a Post Graduate in Strategic Advertising and Marketing Communications at Red & Yellow in Cape Town. I have always worked in marketing either in brand management or Innovation. I did that for 10 years and my highlight would have been working on the Le Creuset brand. However, I had a desire to start my own thing and see what I could do on my own terms.

Now, the obvious question for beginners: mezcal and tequila – what's the difference?

Any spirit derived from the agave plant is a mezcal, so tequila is a mezcal by definition. Tequila, though, has its own Denomination of Origin and regulator, who have their own rules. By law, tequila should only be made from the Blue Agave, but some unscrupulous brands have flaunted this. Tequila also only needs to be made of 51 percent agave-derived sugars, with the balance from cane or grain. Additives like colourants and flavourants are also permitted. Remember those horrendous hangovers you used to get from drinking tequila? Now you know why. That said, there are some exceptional artisanal tequilas and

there are some mass-produced mezcals too. I would urge retailers, bartenders and consumers to look behind the label. There is a lot of marketing BS these days.

What should first-time drinkers of mezcal expect?

Expect an eye-opening journey. Mezcal has a vast array of aroma and flavour nuances, arguably making it the most diverse and complex spirit in the world. For novices I like to frame it as offering the best of whisky and tequila, but I also compare it to wine to give consumers a more familiar reference. Imagine how different Cabernet Sauvignon can be from one winemaker to another. These differences are based on aspects like terroir, grape selection, harvesting methods and production methods – the hand of the maker. Then you also get different grape varieties. How different is a Cabernet Sauvignon from a Pinot Noir or Shiraz? When you consider that there are around thirty different varieties of agave from which you can make mezcal, and these are growing in different regions with varying soil and climatic conditions, you start to appreciate mezcal. There is a sort of ethereal feeling you get when you drink mezcal. It's sort of a natural high that some suggest comes from the

energy of the plant. It is the most rewarding drink I've experienced and I am yet to have a hangover on it, despite my best efforts!

How do you drink your mezcal?

Straight and out of a clay jicara. Traditional jicaras are natural gourds (seed pods), but I find that they can influence the taste and have a habit of absorbing the precious contents. I have found a potter who makes wonderful clay versions – no imparting of flavour and crucially no loss. No jicara? Opt for a whisky tumbler or Old Fashioned glass – something with a wide opening so that the alcohol isn't channelled up your nose to dominate the experience.

Your favourite mezcal cocktail?

I'm a sucker for spirit-forward classics. A mezcal Negroni, Martinez and Old Fashioned are my favourites, but I feel mezcal elevates a Margarita and Paloma to the next level. For a simple serve at home you can't go wrong with a mezcal and tonic.

How did the name Corte Vetusto come about?

Corte Vetusto means "Ancient Cut". Corte (cut) comes from the fact that distillers, or Maestro Mezcaleros in our case, have to decide when to 'cut' the spirit to separate the heads and tails from the heart of the spirit. In most spirits this process is done with the aid of modern technology, but artisanal mezcal production is still done by eye, smell and taste. I also discovered that mezcal is the oldest spirit in the Americas. Vetusto (ancient) is an old Spanish word, not commonplace today.

What, in your opinion, sets Corte Vetusto apart?

I think it came down to balance and complexity. The problem with



David Shepherd: using South African education and Mexican know-how to take over the world – starting with London.

most tequila is that it is mass produced and highly homogenised and therefore lacks character. My view is that many mezcals are too smoky – the smoke masks the incredible array of flavours in the agave. Depending on the species, an agave will take 7–30 years to reach maturity. Why on earth would you want to mask that? The first challenge was to find a mezcalero who shared that belief. Then it was a matter of working together to produce something that showcases the agave and delivers flavoursome smokiness that provides structure but doesn't dominate. Since we do not add additives or accelerants, we are entirely reliant on the naturally occurring yeasts for fermentation. These change depending on the climate and time of year, meaning no batch of our mezcal will ever be identical. It's why I have fallen head over heels with mezcal and the people who make it.

Tell us about Juan Carlos Gonzalez Diaz, the Maestro Mezcalero at Corte Vetusto.

Don Juan Carlos is the great grandson of Don Mauro, making him the fourth Maestro Mezcaleo in this family. He's an incredible character. He worked as an archaeologist in his twenties on a number of sites in the Central Valleys of Oaxaca, and he loves history. However, the draw of mezcal-making was too great and he returned to the family business. His father made and sold mezcal to other villages and would take a young Juan Carlos with him on his trips. This is how he learned about clay-pot distilling, and when he built his palenque (tiny distillery), he decided he would fuse his family tradition of copper-pot distillation with clay-pot distilling. The result is a truly unique and exceptional mezcal. So while he

makes mezcal traditionally, we consider him a bit of an innovator.

Your win at the IWSC is serious news. Were you confident going into the competition?

These competitions are expensive for a start-up, so I wouldn't have done it if I wasn't confident. We selected the IWSC because of its International reputation, calibre of judges and robust judging process, which is based entirely on a blind tasting process. That said, I certainly didn't expect to take top honours. To have achieved Gold Outstanding and the Mezcal Trophy was a huge surprise and tremendous honour.

Where is Corte Vetusto available?

The UK was our first market, because it's my current home. It's been available here since September 2017; I believe some of our stockists, such as Master of Malt, The Whiskey Exchange and Harvey Nichols, ship internationally. We will launch in the US in the first quarter of 2018 and are having promising conversations with European and South African importers. The key will be ensuring we don't spread ourselves too thin. This is an artisanal product in the truest

sense of the word, and I am not willing to compromise on the quality of my product.

After the success of Corte Vetusto at 2017's IWSC, do you see mezcal expanding its 2 percent share in an agave market that's dominated by tequila?

Growth is inevitable, especially now that Diageo, Bacardi and Pernod Ricard all have brands in the category. The current area under the Denomination of Origin for mezcal is about five times the size of tequila's and seven times the size of Scotch Whisky's, so there is certainly room to develop the market, but that has to be managed carefully.

What's next for Black Sheep Spirits?

I don't believe mezcal can be scaled up significantly without compromising on quality. I'm also concerned about the pressure the big corporates are going to put on agave stocks and pricing. I'm exploring mezcal from outside Oaxaca as well as spirits that are easier to scale up and made from ingredients that don't take as long to reach maturity. Wherever I travel I keep my eyes, ears and mouth open.

www.cortevetusto.com





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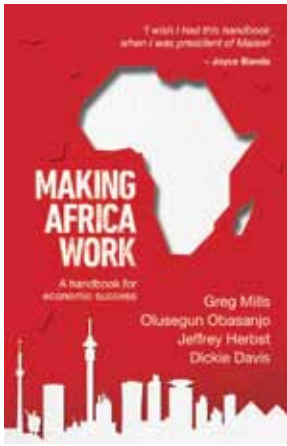


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THE OD BOOKSHELF

A selection of books released by our prolific authors in the last year



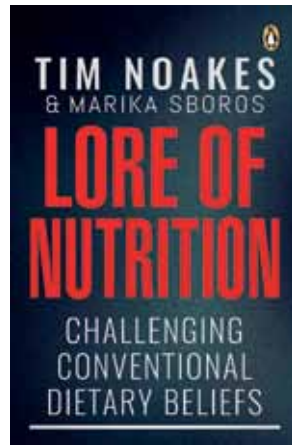
Making Africa Work
by Greg Mills (1979O),
Olusegun Obasanjo
and Dickie Davis
Published in SABY
Tafelberg, internationally
by Hurst Publishers

This widely acclaimed analysis of the state of Africa is a riveting read. A first-hand account of one of the most dynamic regions in the world, it offers a blueprint on how to achieve growth and create jobs across the continent.

Greg directs the Brenthurst Foundation and acts as adviser to several African presidents and to COMISAF in Afghanistan.

"I wish I had this handbook when I was president of Malawi. It not only offers convincing arguments on what to do, but practical examples and steps on how to get things done."

– Joyce Banda



Lore of Nutrition
by Tim Noakes (1966W)
with Marika Sboros
Published by Penguin
Random House

The ODU's – and possibly country's – most famous scientist has had an interesting few years...

Few books – or writers – have stirred as much controversy as Professor Tim Noakes. Here, he explains the science behind the low-carb, high-fat/Banting diet, and why he champions this lifestyle despite the efforts to silence him.

"Invigorating and exciting, because finally a scientist has found a real, simple solution to a number of ailments... Sad because it lays bare the duplicity, greed and downright evil intentions of the administrative bodies that are supposedly in charge of our health."

– Amazon review

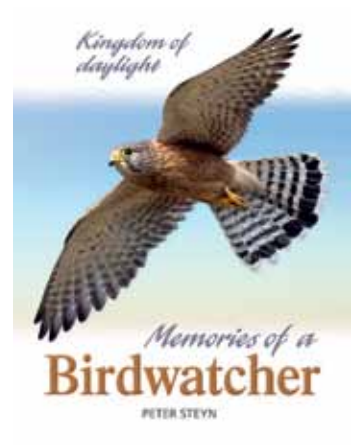


Featherings: True Stories In Search Of Birds edited by Vernon RL Head (1984O)
Published by Jacana Media

Who better to edit this remarkable collection of tales of birds and birdwatchers than Vernon Head, past chairman of BirdLife South Africa and author of the real-life epic *The Search For The Rarest Bird In The World?* Designed for ornithologists, both experienced and fledgling, this wealth of birding curiosities is written by some of South Africa's most dedicated bird observers.

"A delightful collection of writings about birds by birders, some passionate, some discursive. Some are barely about birds at all but more about what birds have done for individuals or communities..."

– TheBookspage.co.za



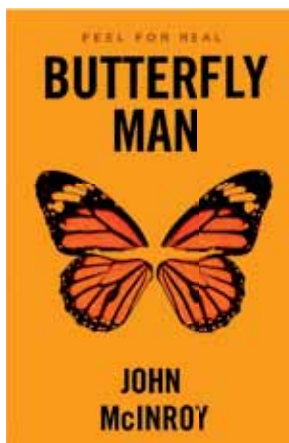
Kingdom Of Daylight: Memories Of A Birdwatcher
by Peter Steyn (1955O)
Published by Struik Nature

In this beautifully illustrated book, which doubles as a geography lesson – covering bird-rich spots from the Galapagos to Australia – Peter Steyn shares his extensive knowledge and unexpected discoveries.

High praise (and the foreword) comes from South Africa's current bird-watching scribe, (see *Featherings*, left):

"Peter Steyn has dedicated himself to sharing the wonder of birds in so many diverse and fascinating destinations."

– Vernon Head



Butterfly Man

by John McInroy (1999S)
Self-published

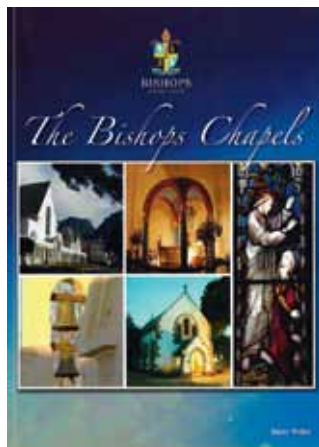
This is the true story of John McInroy, a South African ultra-endurance athlete and change-agent, who “had it all” but then lost everything.

Ultimately a journey from suffering to healing, it's a companion piece for John's global initiative, *Feel for Real*, which aims to help individuals turn setbacks into creative social and personal change. The book was launched in Langa in February 2018.

“Butterfly Man is one of those wonderful books that is both deeply personal and yet shines a light on the collective story of our times.”

“Much-needed medicine for a world calling out for a new approach to masculinity.”

– Pre-publication reader reviews



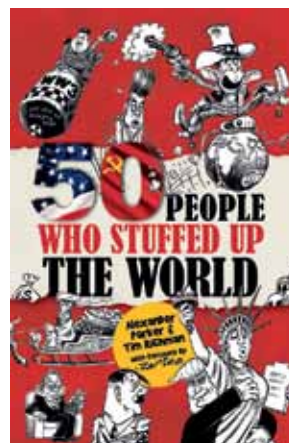
The Bishops Chapels

by Rev Terry Wilke
(past Chaplain)
Published by Diocesan College

This is a comprehensive and engaging account of the school's chapels, written by the man who was best placed to trace their history and share their stories. Terry Wilke died in February 2018, but lives on through this generously illustrated and richly detailed work, which highlights the central role of the chapels in the ethos of the school and beyond.

“Prayer and communion take many forms... This is a reminder of the past and an inspiration for the future.”

– John Gardener



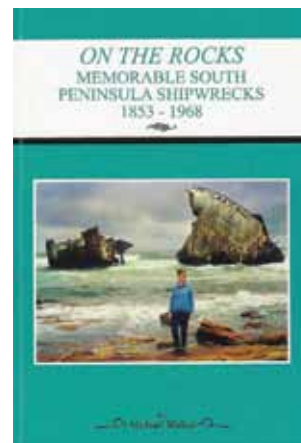
50 People Who Stuffed Up The World

by Alexander Parker
(Bishops parent) and
Tim Richman (1995B)
Published in SA by Burnet Media, and internationally by Little, Brown

Three years in the making, this is an irreverent look at the modern world, seen through the life and times of 50 of its most damaging inhabitants from the 20th century and beyond. Alex and Tim plan to take talks on the book to schools and corporates later in the year.

“Brilliant. Do you remember Meg Ryan's ‘orgasm’ in When Harry Met Sally? No, I didn't have an orgasm (sadly) reading the book, but I did yell Yes, Yes, Yes! The research and the writing and the fun that went into this book, sjoe.”

– Gorrie Bowes Taylor



On the Rocks: Memorable South Peninsula Shipwrecks

by Michael Walker (1964F)
Self-published

The Cape coastline is as dangerous as it is dramatic, as evidenced by these accounts of the ships that have foundered there. Updated and illustrated with photographs and maps.

Other recent releases that we know of:

A Journey With The Architects Of The World by Vassilis (Basil) Sgoutas (1951G)
Published by Jovis

Exploding The Myth by John Wyatt (1963W)
Self-published

The Wild Olive Bowl by Michael King
(past staff)
Self-published

An aerial photograph showing a landscape severely affected by a wildfire. The foreground and middle ground are covered in dark, charred vegetation and ash. Several houses with red-tiled roofs are visible, some appearing to be in better condition than others. In the background, a large body of water (a lake or reservoir) is visible, surrounded by hills and a small town or village. The sky is a pale blue with some light clouds.

Fighting fire

After 20 years as a commercial photographer, **Patrick Ryan** has combined his eye for a good shot with a new career in wildfire management

Aerial shot of Eastford Country Estate, Knysna, taken on 13 June 2017, while the fires were still being contained.

Having spent two decades taking photographs for the advertising industry, in both Cape Town and London, Patrick Ryan (19850) joined the Volunteer Wildfire Services in 2011 and discovered he had a passion for wildfire management. Shifting careers, he co-founded Vulcan Wildfire Management, and he has also been capturing images on the fireline for the last five years.

As of March 2018, Vulcan was compiling a report for the Western Cape government on the fires that overwhelmed Knysna and Plettenberg Bay in June 2017. The Elandsdraal Fire that burned into Knysna from the northwest is believed to have begun when a smouldering fire, sparked by lightning in April, was whipped into an unstoppable conflagration by gale force winds on 7 June 2017. The Kruisfontein Fire that burned into Plettenberg Bay was likely started by lightning or “accidental man-made ignition”. The widespread devastation of both was the result of severe environmental conditions, including the drought affecting the area. Seven lives were lost, along with more than a thousand homes.

Patrick is working on a book about his fire-management experience, which he hopes to have published in 2019.

See www.vulcanwildfire.co.za and www.patrickryanimages.com.



The power of ART

To do what we can to celebrate and safeguard the arts at Bishops, the ODU has introduced the Sophy Gray Old Diocesan Union Art Prize in 2017, named for one of the more influential and talented women in our school's history. By **Peter Hyslop**



1st Prize: Christopher Aubin (hanging in The Mitre).

The awarding of the inaugural Sophy Gray Old Diocesan Union Art Prize at the opening of the Grade 12 exhibition on Friday 27 October 2017 represents a major milestone in the cultural life of our college.

The prize is named for the dynamic and under-celebrated artist-designer wife of Bishop Robert Gray, who officially opened the school in March 1849 while the good bishop was away on St Helena. (20 February 2018 marked the 170th anniversary of the Grays'

arrival at the Cape.) It is intended to recognise outstanding work by boys in the Grade 12 class of each year, and provides a vitally important way of recognising the hard work and exceptional achievement in the visual arts that in the past has often gone unrecognised and undervalued.

For the members of the Grade 12 class to be acknowledged in public goes a long way to encouraging them, and helping them to understand that creativity and the arts are truly prized by the College

community and ultimately the wider world. For the younger boys, the Sophy Gray Prize provides a significant goal for them to work towards.

In 2005 American Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Marilynne Robinson wrote:

"I miss civilisation, and I want it back. [We must] invest our care and hope in civilisation since to do otherwise risks repeating the terrible pattern of enmity against ourselves."

THE PRIZEWINNERS FOR 2017 WERE:

1st Prize: Christopher Aubin – *Self Portrait* (mixed-media drawing)

2nd Prize: Luca Powell – *Self Portrait* (graphite drawing)

3rd Prize: Harry Wixley – *The Story of Mr Blue* (mixed-media drawing)

Commendation: Bulelani Ngqukuvana *Self Portrait* (oil paint on canvas)

Commendation: David Laubscher *Reinterpretation Of Wanderer Above The Mist* (chalk pastel drawing)

Commendation: Nicholas Bowden *Study after Rubens* (chalk pastel drawing)

Commendation: Thomas Mudge: *Self Portrait* (graphite drawing)



With the introduction of this prize, the OD community has added its voice to those who insist that we at Bishops do indeed “invest our care and hope in civilisation”. It is through the arts in particular that the core achievements and values of the civilised and enlightened in the past – in the best, and most catholic sense of these words – are prized so highly in our calling to educate the boys at Bishops.

Peter Hyslop is Head of Visual Arts at Bishops, where he has taught Art since 1984.

THE PHILOSOPHY BEHIND THE SOPHY GRAY ART PRIZE

By Bruce Jack, ODU Chairman

I believe the arts are more than magical; they are essential.

Visual art represents the oldest evidence of human cognitive thinking – the elemental thing that separates us from other animals. The arts allow us to see the world differently; to observe ourselves – our desires and fears – in an encompassing light, as part of a fluid system of life.

By engaging with art we are enticed, on a deeply instinctual level, to investigate the human condition. As Shakespeare often illustrated, art has the unique ability to interpret and lay bare the motivations that drive us. Statistics can plot incentives retrogressively, but never expose motivation. When we commit to making visual art, the parts of our brain that are the cornerstones of imagination, inquisitiveness and critique – essential for problem-solving and out-of-the-box, strategic thinking – are, by design, fired up.

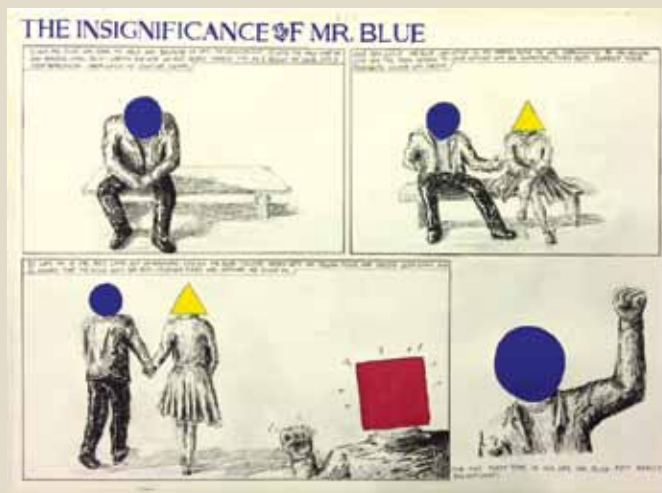
Unequivocal scientific rigour is important for compartmentalising our existence, but imagination builds that reality and creativity joins the dots between those compartments, creating the patterns of life.

That’s why we are so powerfully and easily swayed by stories and left cold by mere facts. The survival skills we require to drive enlightenment, strengthen democratic principles and out-manoeuvre the forces of bigotry, tribalism, selfishness and darkness are taught through the arts. These survival skills are needed more than ever before.

Bishops boys have the rare privilege to immerse themselves in art, and it is our responsibility as custodians of this great school to help elevate the interaction with art to a crucial part of the Bishops experience.

We ODs want Bishops to continue producing balanced Renaissance men of valour, integrity and purpose. That is why we celebrate the boy who scores a try or a goal on Saturday morning and consciously applies paint to canvas that afternoon with similar enjoyment and intent.

In this light, the winning Sophy Gray Art Prize work each year will remain in The Mitre as part of a curated, perpetual exhibition.



3rd prize: Harry Wixley.

Dillyn Leyds in action for the Springboks against Wales, 2 December 2017.

Rugby rules

The past year has seen much of our ODs' noteworthy sporting success taking place on the rugby field. Our roundup begins with the impressive exceptions



In September 2017, **Chris Rhode (2016W)**, **Wesley Gardener (2016O)**, and **Tom Richardson (2015G)**, represented Western Province in the National U21 Hockey Tournament in Potchefstroom. Earlier in the year, **James Johnston (2012G)** was selected to represent Great Britain in their U23 Rowing squad. It was his third consecutive year with the team. Now to rugby...

The ODU saw accomplishments not only by players, but also by coaches. Starting at Bishops, **Gareth Hayden (2000K)** and **Wesley Chetty (2006O)** coached the 1st XV alongside Richard

Smith, and went on to see Bishops crowned as champions of the Villagers Sevens Tournament, beating Paarl Gym 35-31 in the final. **Mike Bayly (1983S)** left Bishops to take up the position of Director of Rugby at Rugby School. **John Dobson (1985K)** coached Western Province to an emphatic Currie Cup victory in Durban, overcoming the Sharks (see p56), while **Robbie Fleck (1993O)** entered his third year in charge of the Stormers.

Both the Western Province and Stormers sides were buoyed by the presence and performances of **Nizaam Carr (2009M)** and **Dillyn**

Leyds (2010S). During the South African off-season, Carr played for the Coventry-based Wasps RFC. For Leyds, 2017 was a standout year: he came back from a knee injury to make his Springbok debut in South Africa's 37-14 defeat of France. He was invaluable for his home union, and at the end-of-season awards was named the Most Valuable Player and Senior Player of the Year, and he took the Composure and Capability Award. Leyds played for the Boks alongside **Francois Louw (2003W)**, the first time that two ODs have played for the Springboks together since **Selborne Boome (1992S)** and

Fleck turned out against England in 2000. Louw continues to play for Bath in the UK.

Former Stormer **Jonny Kotze (2011S)** moved north to play for the Bulls in Super Rugby. And further north **Nick Koster (2007F)**, who is reading for a Master's degree in Social Innovation at Queens' College, earned his Cambridge Blue in a victory against Oxford. He went on to captain Cambridge. **Nick Fenton-Wells (2004F)** continued with his fine form playing for Bristol.

In age-group rugby, **Lubello Scott (2016F)** represented Western Province U19, while **Keenan Alexander (2015K)** played for Valke U20. **Cornel Smit (2015W)** helped Western Province win the U21 Currie Cup, beating the much-favoured Blue Bulls in the final.

In the Maccabiah Games, **Paul Cohen (2009F)**, **Sean Paterson (2009F)**, **Josh Pinn (2009B)**, **Jesse Wilensky (2014G)** and **William Day (2015F)** represented South Africa in 15-man rugby, reaching the final where they lost to the US. Pinn, Wilensky and Cohen also played for the winning 7s side.

In club rugby, **Graham Knoop (2005O)** led False Bay to a Gold Cup triumph, thus earning the title of top club side in the country. Club chairman is **Kevin Lennett (1984O)** and the team doctor **James Burger (2007M)**. Even more newsworthy: the UCT Internal League was won by the OD side, the Cobras.

Further abroad, international caps were awarded to **Dasch Barber (2006M)**, who represented Germany, and **Sean Paterson (2009F)**, who debuted for Israel.

Finally, an honourable mention goes to **Huw Jones**, stooge at Bishops Prep in 2013, who scored two tries in Scotland's historic 25-13 defeat of England in the Calcutta Cup match during the Six Nations in February 2018.

COOL RUNNINGS

Having earned his school colours in athletics and represented Bishops as a sprinter at Triangular and provincial levels, it's perhaps fitting that Thobile Ndzube is now the chairman of the RCS Gugulethu Athletics Club. We caught up with him to find out more about the club's annual Run for Unity race.



RCS Gugulethu runners after a successful 2017 Race for Unity.

"It is good that our new president seems to enjoy a healthy lifestyle. Who knows, maybe we can invite him." **Thobile Ndzube (1988W)** is referring to the now-trademark 5.30am walks President Ramaphosa uses to promote a healthy lifestyle. It's a regimen he started, appearing both in Sea Point and Gugulethu, while he was in the process of crowbarring his predecessor out of the top job in February.

A computer programmer by profession – ex Foschini Group and Truworths – Ndzube now keeps busy by working to uplift his community through the RCS Gugulethu Athletics Club, and specifically the annual Race for Unity, held annually on Reconciliation Day.

"As part of the Western Province Athletics Association, we decided 17 years ago to bring a race to the streets of Gugulethu to give runners a first-hand, unguided-experience look at the lifestyle of people in the township. The route takes them past historical monuments that helped to carve Gugs as a township from shack dwellings – the Gugulethu Seven Memorial, the Amy Biehl remembrance tombstone and others."

Since Ndzube became chairman in 2007, the club has enjoyed booming growth. "The idea was to get our kids off the street corners and to mould them into international stars. We have produced some top athletes and continue to be on podiums at every race we take part in. We participate in famous races like the Two Oceans and Comrades marathons and sometimes compete overseas. This year more than 300 of our members will take part in the Two Oceans Marathon races. When I took over we had 47 active members with no sponsor. Retail Credit Services has been our sponsor since 2008 and our club now boasts more than 900 members across the colour spectrum. We are a much loved, family-oriented club. My goal is to continue networking with institutions like Bishops so that we can give more people a chance."

See www.gugulethuathletics.com for more.

His (Currie) cup is full

Renaissance man John Dobson took Western Province to Currie Cup glory against the odds in October 2017. **Matthew Pearce** chats to one of the more enlightened, if unlikely, coaches in the business

When a few shrill blasts of Jaco Peyper's whistle brought an end to the 2017 Currie Cup final at King's Park in Durban, the score read 33-21 in Western Province's favour. It signalled the end of an extraordinary season of achievement for victorious coach John Dobson (1985K).

Just over two weeks earlier, he and his team had faced a high-pressure situation in the final round of pool matches in the competition. They were away to the Sharks, who were unbeaten since the first round and building momentum towards their already guaranteed home semi-final and final, should they have qualified for the latter.

Western Province enjoyed no such comfort; the competition for the other three semi-final spots was such that they had to win in Durban to achieve a home semi-final and faced the statistical possibility of not even qualifying for the playoffs if they lost.

Many observers perceived little in the game for the Sharks, but they were acutely aware of the dangers of facing an on-form Province in the final, so there appeared to be a worthwhile incentive to make life difficult for their visitors heading into the playoffs, apart from the obvious psychological benefit of extending their lengthy unbeaten run.

"Home play-off games in any competition are important for the union," says Dobson, "as they generate significant additional revenue and some of our financial challenges had been made public through the media. We were certainly feeling the pressure of securing that home semi."

The response to that pressure was emphatic; despite some frustratingly patchy and inconsistent form through the pool stages, that victory in Durban began a run of three games to the title that Dobson believes very few

teams, if any, would have been able to curtail.

"You get that with teams," he says, "a moment in which they go to another level and are able to sustain it. I call it a state of 'flow'. We got it over those three weeks and I'm not sure there's a provincial team that could have lived with us over that period. The sense of belief just continued to grow week by week and with it the ability to execute under pressure."

And so "Dobbo" – as he is universally known – added a second trophy for the season, with



John Dobson, professional rugby coach. Educated in law and a published author (*Year Of The Gherkin*, *Year Of The Turnip*), this was not the career he expected.

Western Province also having won the inaugural Supersport Rugby Challenge earlier in the year, a competition in which John saw a number of those he had previously coached at under-21 level make a pleasing step up to senior rugby.

These two senior level trophies represented a similar step up for John, who had previously achieved much in the Varsity Cup and provincial age-group competitions.

It is thus with a sense of both amusement and bemusement that John reflects on these triumphs and a coaching career that began almost by default and was very nearly over before it had begun.

"As most who know me will confirm," he says in a typically self-deprecating manner, "I was not a particularly good player and although I played the odd game for the first XV at UCT, it was mostly seconds and then down through the ranks to the MC Marais XV, which was the UCT fourth team – enormous fun, as much off the field as on it.

"I am not really even sure who asked me, but I agreed to be the player-coach, a role which mainly entailed phoning people and begging them to pitch up on time on Saturday with the promise of hugely enjoyable post-match revelry if they did. Formal practice sessions were few and far between but we seemed to do OK!"

Starting the 2004 season in this player-coach role, very little would have prepared Dobbo for what was to happen over the course of the next few months. With the university's first XV performing poorly and the coach making an exit early in the season, John took on the role perhaps, he says, because there was simply no-one more naïve (or crazy) to accept it under the circumstances.

His effect on the team, however, was immediate and tangible.

His Ikey Tigers won the annual intervarsity, the first UCT team to win the fixture in Stellenbosch since 1961, when a team led by Bishops rugby coaching icon Basil Bey had prevailed.

There is much of what John learned as a schoolboy player under Basil – and through the latter's lifelong friendship and time at Bishops with John's father, Paul – that he did and continues to bring to his coaching philosophy.

"Even though he was dealing with schoolboys who one might have thought needed strict boundaries and discipline, Basil treated people in his teams with empathy and respect," says John. "His were stimulating environments, where things like independence of thought, questioning and humour were encouraged and celebrated. I have certainly brought this to bear on my coaching philosophy, from my junior teams right through to Currie Cup."

Yet for all the lightness in some aspects of his approach there has been a dogged determination to Dobbo's path as well, fuelled mainly by a self-confessed desire to prove someone wrong.

A year after that famous Intervarsity win, results went the wrong way in 2005 and he was relieved of 1st XV coaching duties to be replaced by Alan Solomons. But the coaching bug had bitten and he took up a role with the UCT under-20s, guiding them to an unbeaten season in 2007 before assuming the 1st XV head-coaching role again in 2008.

That team topped the Varsity Cup log before losing narrowly in the final and it was the consistency of performances from his team over the three-year period between 2008 and 2010 that led to Western Province Director of Rugby Rassie



WP champions Nizaam Carr (2009M) and Dillyn Leyds (2010S) flank the current voice of SA rugby commentary Matthew Pearce (1987G) after WP's Currie Cup victory, 28 October 2017. Leyds scored a try in the 33-21 win.

Erasmus bringing him on board to coach the provincial under-21s.

His progress through the provincial ranks has seen many successes and the elevation of some incredible young talents through his tutelage to higher representative honours. They take with them on their journeys valuable lessons learned from their mentor.

"Almost anyone can get to a similar level in terms of technical know-how and execution," says John. "Often it's what you do away from the field that differentiates you. Being decent people, well mannered, the things that your players choose to do voluntarily as a group, respect for each other in the environment. That's what will set you apart."

Sound advice, in rugby and in life itself.

Matthew Pearce is the highest-profile OD broadcaster in South Africa today. He is a speaker, journalist and, most recognisably, head rugby commentator at SuperSport. [@MattP555](#)

Honouring a century of silence

The remarkable OD Reg Hands died in action a century ago this year. His death saw the establishment of one of the great gestures of respect of the modern age. By **Anton Taylor**

This year, 2018, marks one hundred years since the end of The Great War, an event of such magnitude that it fundamentally altered the course of human history. World War I, as it came to be known, brought about the deaths of more than 15 million people, injuries to perhaps 20 million more, and it ended the Ottoman, Austro-Hungarian, German and Russian empires. Out of its ashes came the horrors of communism and fascism and, of course, its rematch, World War II.

At Bishops, the War Memorial Chapel was built to honour the 112 Bishops old boys who died during World War I, one of whom was the remarkable Captain Reg Hands. This year also marks the centenary of his death and, with it, a revered tradition practised around the world, and one of the more poignant by-products of the war: a minute's silence.

Reginald Harry Myburgh Hands was born in Claremont in 1888. His father was Sir Harry Hands, eventually to become mayor of Cape Town and KBE, and his mother was Lady Aletta Hands (née Myburgh) OBE.

Hands arrived at Bishops in 1899 and matriculated in 1907, a talented young man with the world at his feet. He left the next year as a Rhodes scholar to attend

University College at Oxford, where he studied law. Hands was not merely a scholar; he holds the rare achievement of being capped internationally in two different sporting codes. After earning his rugby Blue for Oxford in 1908 and again in 1909, he played for England the following year against France and Scotland. Then, having returned to South Africa, he played against England, for the South African cricket team in the 5th test of the England tour, in Port Elizabeth in 1914.

By then, Hands had been practising law in Cape Town for three years. When the war broke out he left to fight in the German South West African Campaign, and thereafter in France. It was here, after a gruelling ten days of continued fighting, that Captain Hands was killed, on 20 April 1918. He died as the result of poison-gas bombardment while off-duty and seemingly safe behind Allied lines.

An account of his death was provided to the ODU by a fellow OD, HB Stephens, who had



This watch and image of Reg Hands are displayed in the Bishops Museum. The watch was given to Reg by his father, Sir Harry Hands, when he was awarded the 1907 Bishops Rhodes Scholarship. Note the Bishops crest.



In the Lloyd's Building, London, workers and guests mark the two-minute silence for Armistice Day, a tradition initiated after the death of Reg Hands, by his father, then Mayor of Cape Town, 11 November 2016.

tracked down Hands's batman. In summary, he wrote, "I need hardly tell you how grieved all of us members of the 73rd battery were, at the loss of an officer for whom we had the utmost admiration and respect, and how we sympathise with his relatives in their loss."

Hands was awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War Medal and the Victory Medal. Devastated by the loss of his son, Mayor of Cape Town Harry Hands implemented a daily two-minute pause in the city commencing on 14 May 1918, adapting into public observance a gesture that had been practised sporadically across city churches since 1916.

Signalled by the firing of the Noon Gun, this came to be known

as the Two-Minute Silence: one minute of silence was to indicate gratitude for those who had returned alive, the second to remember the fallen.

Capetonians embraced the practice – traffic would stop, trams would come to a halt and throngs of citizens would bow their heads wherever they stood – and it had a profound effect upon Sir Percy Fitzpatrick, author of *Jock Of The Bushveld*, who also had lost his oldest son, Nugent, in France. Fitzpatrick wrote to Lord Milner, describing the silence that befell Cape Town, and subsequently suggested to King George V that the practice become an annual one on Armistice Day. The king assented, and according to

historian JA Abrahams, on the 11th of the 11th 1919, across the British Empire "from the Indian Jungles to Alaska, on the trains, on the ships at sea, in every part of the globe where a few British were gathered together, the Two-Minute pause was observed".

The practice spread from the Commonwealth to other countries, and is now frequently observed at major sports events, where it is often marked as "a moment's silence". The enduring power of the longer pause returns, however, each year on Armistice Day. Today, a plaque in front of the Standard Bank building in Adderley Street commemorates the Two Minute Silence, and every year a Bishops boy is awarded the Hands

Memorial Essay Prize.

When considering the contributions that Bishops has made to South Africa and the achievements of ODs on a global scale, one might do well to remember, quietly, the life and death of an exceptional OD, Reg Hands, whose ultimate sacrifice bought about a universal show of

respect for the fallen. At Bishops, we remember Reginald Hands a hundred years after he died, and we honour all of those who fell while protecting and preserving our freedoms, through dedicated buildings at the school – the Brooke Chapel, the Memorial Chapel, the Memorial Theatre – and events and publications.

Our silences are in the words of Fitzpatrick (writing to Milner): *due to those who gave their all, sought no recompense, and with whom we can never re-pay – our Glorious and Immortal Dead.*

A ceremony commemorating the centenary of the Two Minute Silence is due to be held on Signal Hill on 14 May 2018 on the firing on the Noon Gun.

The OD War Record

ODs who died on service in wars before 1914 are commemorated in the Brooke Chapel. Those who died in the First World War are commemorated by the War Memorial Chapel. And those who died in the Second World War are commemorated in the War Memorial Theatre (formerly Hall).

WORLD WAR I

On active service	800+
Killed or died	112
Wounded	160
Honours and awards	190
Commissions held	500

WORLD WAR II

On active service	1,532
Killed or died	146
Wounded	120
Prisoners of War	138
(37 escaped)	
Missing, including POWs	204
Honours and awards	284
Commissions held	887

DEATHS ON SERVICE SINCE WORLD WAR II

Four deaths on service in this time.

Information taken from *Bishops 150: A History Of The Diocesan College* by John Gardener. The full OD Roll of Honour appears at www.odunion.com

Menin Gate in Ypres photographed by Allan Gasson (1973S) on the OD Tour to the Western Front battlefields, October 2017.

We Remember Them

We acknowledge and list here all deaths reported to us or that have come to our notice over the past year. They are grouped by year of leaving the school, with house and month of death (when known). A selection of obituary notices follows

1938

HANDS Harry (G) in September 2017

1943

FERRANDI Derek (F) in November 2017

WATSON Philip (S) in February 2018

1945

GORDON Ian, MBE (F) in May 2017

MOLTENO Victor (F) in October 2017

MONTGOMERY Geoffrey (G)

VAN RYNEVELD Clive (G) in January 2018

1946

HUDSON James (Jim) in July 2017

1948

BLAKE Robert (O)

GOLDSCHMIDT Reith (F), former head boy, in June 2017

JACKSON Andrew (F)

1950

ARENHOLD John (O) in September 2017

1951

MUSSON Frank (S) in February 2017

1952

CLOETE Michael (F) in October 2017

1953

BORDEN Richard (F) in June 2017

1954

BROWN Ian (G) in November 2017

1956

TODD Richard (G) in November 2017

1958

FISHER Colin (G) in October 2017

HOBDAY Simon (S) in March 2017

FRATER Charles (O) in June 2017

1961

HAWKS Francis (G) in August 2017

1963

HILL Bruce (S) in September 2017

1964

WELLS Laurence (G) in July 2017

1970

GRIFFITHS Geoff (S) in October 2017

1976

GIRD Howard (F) in October 2017

1991

MACDONALD Ian (O) in February 2018

2000

SILBERBAUER Jonathon (Jono) (F) in July 2017

STAFF

BEER Jan

CURREY Anne – ‘Founding Head’ of Bishops Pre-Preparatory School

LIGHTFOOT William

LE MESURIER Betty (age 101)

LISTER Myrtle

PENNINGTON Rex

SPREETH Mandy – Administration staff payroll

WILKE Terry – Chaplain



**REX
PENNINGTON**
(1923-2017)

An enlightened and dedicated educator in a lifetime of service to education, Rex was noted as a “Christian, a leader, a teacher and a sportsman.”

He was the son of Ken Pennington (known as “KMP”), who himself was

one of five brothers mentioned in a widely published article in the 1980s entitled “The Famous Five”. “The Pennington brothers made an enormous contribution to the fields of education and sport, and to the Anglican Church in Natal

– a contribution that extended over 50 years of sustained effort.”

Rex was educated at Michaelhouse, Rhodes and Oxford University, and served in World War II in Italy and Egypt. Back in South Africa, he taught at Bishops from 1953 to 1968; he was a housemaster and eventually deputy principal.

Rex won the WP Squash Championship for five consecutive years, narrowly missing selection for South Africa in 1956. He continued his squash playing, and helped Western Province win the Jarvis Cup in Durban for the first time in 1963.

From Bishops, he moved to Michaelhouse, where he was rector from 1969 to 1977. He then moved to Johannesburg where he taught at St Peter’s Prep. He was also the founding headmaster of the Pace School in Soweto, where he encouraged the building of the first squash court in Soweto.

In 2004 he was awarded The Bishops’ Medal by the Bishop of Johannesburg “in honour of a man who has given his life in the service of others, in education, in transformation, and in the life of St George’s Parish; a man of humility, courage, vision, and with a profound sense of the presence of God; a man who, in spite of disappointment and adversity, has always stood for what is right.”

He is survived by his wife Sarah, and five children and their families.

SIMON HOBDAV (1940-2017)

One of the great personalities of South African and world golf, Simon was born in Mafikeng, but spent part of his life in Zambia, representing that country in the 1966 Eisenhower Trophy. He also lived in Rhodesia, as it was then known.

He turned professional in 1969 and went on to play and win tournaments on the European circuit in the 1970s.



JOHN ARENHOLD (1931-2018)

Cape Town-born John was a Rhodes Scholar and Oxford Blue, and the only South African to represent what was then Ceylon, now Sri Lanka, at sport.

After graduating from Oxford, he worked in Ceylon from 1956 to 1958 as a management trainee for Shell. Playing cricket for Colombo Cricket Club and rugby union for Dimbulla Athletic and Cricket Club, he represented Ceylon at both sports. On the cricket field, he

was a fast-medium opening bowler, on the rugby field a flyhalf, having played prop at school. Playing for Ceylon in the Gopalan Trophy against the Tamil Nadu cricket team, he took 6/17 and 5/26 to help Ceylon to a five-wicket victory at Colombo Oval. His match figures of 11/43 are a record for Sri Lanka in Gopalan Trophy matches.

Returning to South Africa, he played a season for Orange Free State in the Currie Cup, opening the bowling with Sydney Burke and taking 16 wickets at an average of 20.56 in five matches.

John was a loyal and longstanding servant of Bishops. He served on the ODU Committee in the 1980s, assuming the role of Chairman in 1992, and subsequently becoming President in 2004. His ten-year tenure ended in March 2014.

He is survived by Marian, his wife of 54 years, his daughter Fiona, sons **Justin (1985O)** and **Simon (1991O)**, and their families.

Known as Scruffy, for his general appearance, he was always referred to as “a real character”. He was, as *The New York Times* noted, “famously irreverent in a pro sport not exactly known for unconventional types”.

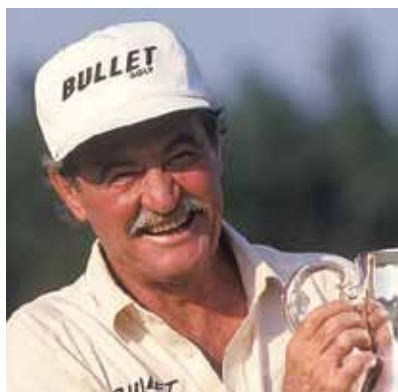
Bishops biology teacher Ewen Syfret (1928-58) loved Simon, though readily admitted he was not the brightest of pupils. In one exam Simon, with limited knowledge of the

subject, did not take long to finish the paper. He expected 20 percent but to his amazement received 40. When the result was queried, Ewen told him it was for “neatness”.

Simon won 17 professional events in his career, including the 1971 South African Open, the 1976 German Open and the 1979 Madrid Open. As a senior, he played mainly in the United States on the Senior PGA Tour (now the Champions Tour), where he claimed five titles between 1993 and 1995, including the 1994 US Senior Open. His final tournament win came at the 1995 Brickyard Crossing Championship in Indianapolis.

“We may well never see another character in professional golf like Simon,” wrote Dale Hayes on his death. “He quite simply made golf a better game.”

He is survived by a son, Simon, two daughters, Jaqui and Karen, and their families.



CLIVE VAN RYNEVELD

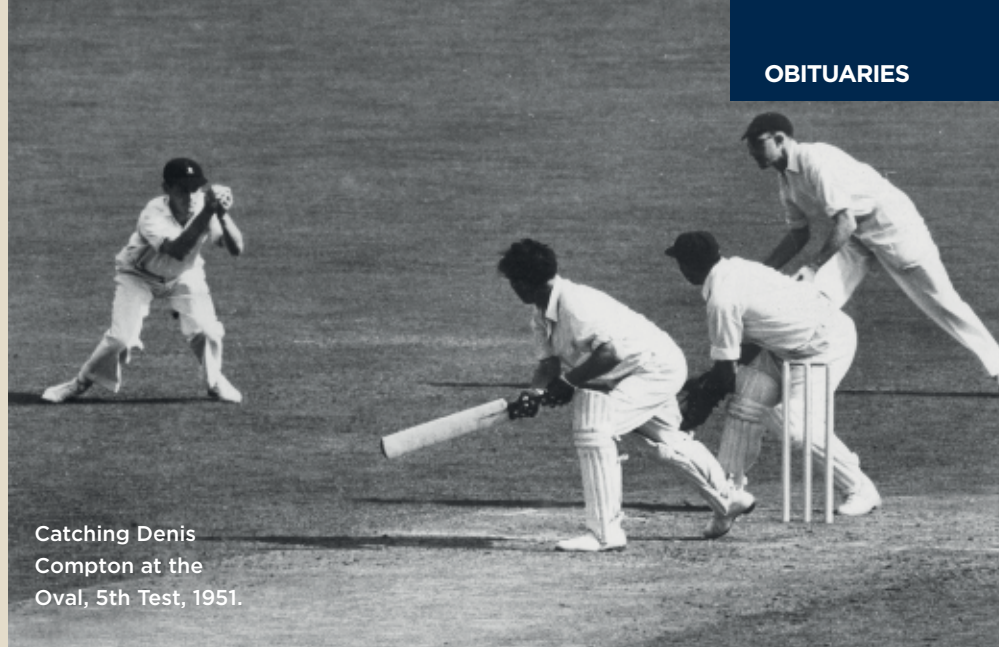
Rhodes Scholar, double international, noted barrister and truly honourable MP, Clive van Ryneveld was, as one OD wrote after his death in January 2018, “arguably the last great all-rounder (in the truest sense of the word) to come out of Bishops”.

Clive initially followed in his brother Tony’s footsteps; Tony won the Rhodes Scholarship first, in 1946, going up to Trinity College. Clive found his place at University College a year later, where he studied Law and excelled at sport. He would go on to play rugby for England and cricket for South Africa, captaining the Springboks in his last season.

From his obituary in *The Telegraph*:

“Tall and willowy, van Ryneveld used his long reach to drive superbly, especially against slow bowling. His leg breaks and googlies were sometimes erratic but occasionally unplayable, while his quick reflexes and natural athleticism made him a superb fielder in any position.

“On the rugby pitch his ability to run elusively with dash, swerve and speed left defences floundering, and won him a reputation as one of the best centre-three quarters of the postwar years...”



Catching Denis Compton at the Oval, 5th Test, 1951.

“Later, as a lawyer and politician, he played an honourable role in the struggle against the apartheid policies of Dr Verwoerd. In both sport and life the principle of fair play was burnt deeply into his character.

“At a tense moment in a Test against Australia at Durban, in 1958, van Ryneveld, as captain, irritated home supporters when he deliberately refused an opportunity to run out Neil Harvey, the best Australian batsman...”

“In 1989 he became chairman of the John Passmore Trust, which supported and encouraged black cricketers. In 1995 he received the Queen and Duke

of Edinburgh at the Langa Stadium in Cape Town.”

Clive was a staunch supporter of Bishops and the ODU, and a regular visitor, with Tony, to The Mitre. In recent years, he encouraged making the books of OD authors, including his own memoir *20th Century All-rounder*, available to visiting ODs to read and buy.



In action, Calcutta Cup, 1949. Clive scored two tries in the match and, for his “elegant play and classic passing of the ball”, was awarded a red cap, now on display in the Bishops Museum (right).



The Mitre at night, photographed
from the Woodlands Pavilion looking
towards the entertainment area
above and Bishops Museum below.

122nd ODU Chairman's Annual Report 2018

Bruce Jack ODU Chairman

As indicated at last year's AGM, the Chairman's role at your Union is slowly becoming less operational and more strategic. This annual Chairman's Report reflects that by looking forward. Your committee is agreed that your Chairman is there to help guide the ship, not ensnare himself in the rigging.

The tweaking of our Constitution not only recognises this change, but also curtails the Chairman's length of tenure to better suit the new, somewhat intense focus required for these strategic responsibilities.

Your ODU Secretary's Report (available online) will cover the activities of the previous year. I have asked WP to keep it short. If he were to cover in detail everything this office achieved since his last report, it would run into hundreds of pages and take about twelve hours to read.

Anyone who has had contact with the Mitre Team of Dr WP van Zyl and Nicole Du Rand over the last twelve months will attest to the superhuman efforts and inspiring energy that drive this machine. The fact that they are able to achieve what they do with a smile and a skip in their step is simply amazing. We should be making a documentary about the phenomenon that is The Mitre Team. Similar organisations and even commercial businesses could learn so much from their 'can-do' attitude, work ethic, passion, organisation and perhaps most importantly, their ability to execute efficiently and effectively.

If I didn't love this school so much I would attempt to entice them away with higher salaries than we can afford to pay them. All ODs everywhere should know how lucky we are to have such inspiring people lead this Union.

This time a year ago we outlined some seriously ambitious goals and, in hindsight, set ourselves some improbable targets. But that proved motivational in itself and I am very glad to say we have achieved almost all of them, as WP will outline.

It was a difficult report to write at the time, not because it was ambitious – all of us here know ambition is a natural by-product of a Bishops education – but because we were still getting into a rhythm and establishing our ways of working, both within the OD community and within the school.

The challenges now are different. The few outstanding initiatives from that Report are still unsettled because they were always going to take longer to implement. I am referring specifically to our ODU Entrepreneurial Club and ODU Benevolent Society.

We held an initial ODU Entrepreneurial Club launch, but creating real momentum has proved difficult without our interactive website up and running. However, we have now ticked that box, so I don't see that being a problem going forward.

More drawn-out has been our Benevolent Society initiative, and I must admit to an itch of frustration that we haven't moved further down the track with this. For an outline of our Benevolent Society vision, please refer to last year's Chairman's Report.

It was always going to be a massive project with many iterations and far-reaching consequences. Because of this we have had to move slowly. We can't afford to get this wrong. I would hope, however, that by this time next year, we would have made significant progress on Benevolent structures, mandate, scope and ways of working.

The above initiatives aside, the challenges we face are also different because our environment is so dynamic and has changed so much from a year ago.

Physically, our city is facing the unprecedented crisis of no water.

Psychologically, we have been battered by nine years of corrupt, obsequiously self-serving mob rule at government level, and scandal after scandal affecting almost all political parties.

To add insult to this abuse we are forced to pay higher levies and taxes. I believe it was Winston Churchill who said: "For a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle". So we are not only compelled to shower in buckets, but simultaneously also forced to lift ourselves up by the handle.

Emotionally, we have been rocked by the passing of cornerstone leaders within our OD ranks and within the school.

But while the challenges are different, and sometimes seem overwhelming, so too is our collective resolve.

We discover within ourselves and our community reserves of fortitude we didn't know existed. The result of this dynamic, difficult environment is a renewal of spiritual resilience. And with that comes courageous action. I see it everywhere, but no more so than within our local OD community. There is a clarity and a fierce determination when ODs outline their vision for the future of our school, our community and our country.

It may come as a surprise to learn that a number of ODs contributed significantly to the toppling of the Zuma mafia. The story behind that will become OD lore in good time. Our OD

community has also been very active in the search for the absconded Ajay Gupta and has been able to provide the Hawks with valuable information on his whereabouts. ODs working behind the scenes have changed the trajectory of this country for the better once again.

We have seen the tireless work of ODs such as Greg Mills and Haroon Bhorat publish ground-breaking books and influential reports offering both critical insight into the challenges and real, workable solutions for Africa. (Both appear in the Old Diocesan magazine.)

And we continue to witness the hugely significant, selfless upliftment and charity work initiated and actioned by ODs on an almost weekly basis and across a sprawling social landscape.

While ODs are involved in saving this country from the grassroots all the way through to the highest office, there is also a call to action to save your school. I am not being melodramatic, but neither am I panicking, because fortunately we have a robust vehicle to focus your galvanised efforts. It is called the Bishops Trust, and it is chaired by an inspirational woman, dynamo Bishops parent Samantha Petersen. Supporting Sam and the Bishops Trust will be your committee's primary focus this coming year.

If the Bishops Trust is here to save this school, the challenging environment demands that we move fast to support it.

The school is in dire need of three main things:

- 1 a robust and substantial endowment;
- 2 funding for deserving boys of colour;
- 3 funds for new buildings and facilities.

All the above have far-reaching,

meaningful consequences.

Even compared to other private boys' schools in South Africa, our endowment is in poor shape. Compared to private boys' schools overseas, our endowment is, quite frankly, an embarrassment.

A robust endowment provides the shock absorber, the insurance policy and the confidence to weather the inevitable storms that lie ahead. Currently we have no real shock absorber.

While the school is working hard to transform and normalise the make-up of the student body, we are still a long way from sustainability in this regard. We can only do this by attracting the best of the best. To do that we need more bursary and scholarship funds to give deserving boys of colour the Bishops experience – boys not only with the ability to shine at Bishops, but with the attitude to thrive here and contribute positively – at school and as proud ODs.

There is a massive, untapped pool of talent out there. We need to find the money to give them this chance, while at the same time creating the environment that allows these scholarship boys the space to improve Bishops.

My predecessor, Brian Roberston and Moshe Apleni (now a member of Council) came up with the idea of reinvigorated the Hamilton Mvelase Bursary Fund for this very reason. We successfully launched this last year, but much more support is needed to have the far-reaching effect we need.

I can now announce the establishment of the Russell Adams Scholarship. This is a legacy initiative of the matric year of 1987 and their “newboy” counterparts, the brilliant class of 1991. Our combined goal is to contribute R7 million to the Hamilton Mvelase Bursary Fund

in order to create this boarder scholarship scheme in perpetuity.

We will be launching this initiative in April and aim to have our first scholar admitted to the school in 2020 at the latest.

I would like to challenge other year groups to set up similar scholarship schemes. While I guess the '91 and '87 years are perhaps a few notches above most (!), there may be other classes who want to establish similar scholarships.

For as little as R4 million, a year group could establish a perpetual dayboy scholarship scheme. I look forward to seeing who will rise and challenge the legendary '87s and '91s...

The third urgent and similarly critical requirement is for new facilities. Education that produces leaders and thinkers is continuously adapting to keep up with the rapid changes in our increasingly fluid global village.

Bishops has an enviable reputation for producing leaders. To continue to do so, the best possible education is required. This means adapting to new educational philosophies and techniques, but also providing the best possible facilities. For this vision, Bishops need funds. It's not rocket science to know that without this investment we won't be producing any rocket scientists.

I have heard murmurings of frustration that overseas-based ODs have generally not rushed to our school's aid. This frustration is both unfair and unfounded. Overseas-based ODs are just as passionate about Bishops. In the UK we have established a team of trustees to support the Trust initiatives and help attract funding; funding that is already trickling in and which, I have no doubt, will grow in time. We are grateful to that group of UK ODs for their support and generosity so

far. Similarly Canada-based ODs, small in number, but big in heart, have already funded students from disadvantaged communities through Bishops.

But overseas-based ODs live in a different reality, with very different challenges of their own. The urgent needs of Bishops can sometimes seem a world away, and we understand that.

It is clearly up to South African-based ODs to rise to the challenge of our own situation on a national, community and, by extension, school level. Those embroiled directly in this fight for South Africa's salvation are better positioned to provide the energy and financial support needed to transform our school and so contribute to a bright future.

Locally-based ODs should not be looking any further than their own pockets for solutions to our school's current needs. As our country groans under incompetence, mismanagement and corruption, we need beacons of hope to spark belief and inspire us. Bishops is one such beacon of hope and schools like Bishops must thrive for South Africa to survive. Seldom before has it been so crucial that we contribute as ODs to our school, because never before has it been so crucial to this country that Bishops produces good men of valour, integrity and leadership.

I would like to thank my committee for another full-on, challenging year. You can be proud of your achievements and Bishops owes you so much for your loyalty, dedication, hard work and passion.

Our Young OD team of Mnotho Makhoba and Michael Mynhardt helped build the bridge for those who've recently left Bishops. They have exciting plans for the rest of this year. It has been invigorating having served alongside you.



The Bishops Museum in The Mitre, curated by archivist Dr Paul Murray (staff).

Nick Durrant has been immense! His persistence and hard work to get the new interactive ODU website up and running is awe-inspiring. His experience and knowledge in this field means we have one of the best, if not the best, alumni sites around.

Arthur Mngxekeza sat on the committee as a representative of the BODs when I took over as Chairman. However, it soon became clear to me that Arthur contributes so much more to your committee than this important, but narrow agenda. As such we agree that we have probably moved beyond a specific BOD role requirement. I have experienced first-hand that transformation starts working when one doesn't necessarily have to keep referring to it. Arthur has also been invited by Guy Pearson to assist Bishops drive sustainable transformation at school level.

Anton Taylor took on the mammoth and rather terrifying challenge of running the new OD Magazine sub-committee. He has done an amazing job. I am continuously in awe of Anton's vast array of talents. His contributions in committee have

always been carefully considered, offering subtle, insightful, clear perspectives on complex, difficult matters. Anton is one of those clichés – a natural leader. I intend keeping him as involved in Bishops as possible.

John Macey, like Guy Lanfear, is busy beyond belief, but finds the time to serve this Union with his incredible intelligence and vast accounting experience. John, with Guy, was instrumental in drawing up our Five Year Business plan and presenting it to the school.

Adam Pike replaced Jonathan Steytler on the committee a year ago as our legal mind. Working with Dugald Robertson he has spent many hours carefully reviewing our Constitution and tweaking it where necessary to bring it up to speed – a big job. In our first meeting of 2018 he was voted in as our first Vice-Chairman.

During the last year Simon Peile left the committee to take on the responsibility of Chairman of Bishops Council. Simon is more than just a classic Bishops Renaissance man; he is also a wise head and a steady hand. But that's not really unique among ODs. What

allows Simon to stand apart is his almost egoless, fierce determination – a very reassuring characteristic when he’s on your side. During Simon’s time on the committee he revolutionised our investment strategy and ensured that we differentiated between the general funds under management and those specifically earmarked for supporting sons of ODs at school. He has left our OD funds in very good shape, as one would expect from an investment genius. As soon as he left, we felt his absence. His presence of mind and character will be transferred to Council. Bishops is indeed fortunate.

I would like to thank Phil Calothi who is stepping down from the committee. Without Phil, we would not have The Mitre in the shape it is. Phil is also the guy who always reads the minutes and statements and asks the hard questions. He is that guy committees must have to be effective and make balanced decisions. Phil has agreed to remain on the Founder’s Week sub-committee, for which I am very grateful. Now we need to find another questioning sort to replace him! Big shoes indeed.

I would also like to pay huge homage to Guy Lanfear who steps down as Honorary Treasurer after serving his allotted term with grace, humility, insight and an unusual level of prescience. He is incredibly busy, but manages to find the time to serve on many committees and do so with enthusiastic dedication to the greater cause. It was during Guy’s tenure that we successfully

transformed our day-to-day financial management and instituted our rolling 5-year Business Strategy, driven by an agreed Business Plan with the school. Today we have proper oversight procedures and the superb support of Sean King and Mukesh Govan and their team at the school. Guy is now available to serve on the committee.

Dugald Robertson has also stepped down from the committee to concentrate on his flourishing legal career. Dugald’s natural inclination to serve and his talent of looking at problems from all angles means he contributed massively to the strategic thinking of your committee. He joined as a Young OD and was instrumental in bringing younger ODs back to Bishops. Young he may be, but Dugald has a wise old head on those shoulders. His unusual combination of energy and thoroughness will stand him in good stead and I have no doubt he will be a brilliant lawyer. My wish is that, in time, he will return to serve once more on your committee. Until then we hope to keep him involved with the Benevolent Society sub-committee.

Thank you to all our branch secretaries, especially Nicky Bicket in the UK, who runs an impeccable operation. Besides a passion-fuelled branch, brimming with exciting events and happenings, Nicky has done outstanding work on the Mentoring Programme (see p74). He has ensured this is a world-class initiative – one many schools would love to emulate.

To our Patron, Michael Watermeyer, thank you for your wonderful support and calming presence. Besides Michael’s long list of achievements in the business world, in golf administration and at Round Table, he has served Bishops with distinction on the ODU Committee, The Bishops Trust and College Council.

To our President, Raymond Ackerman, thank you once again for the great privilege of working closely with you. We are so fortunate to have an interested and active OD of your stature serve in such an important role in this Union. I have revelled in the opportunity to spend time with you and have learnt so much. Your unwavering commitment to Bishops is inspirational.

To our Vice-Presidents – what a wonderful resource to call on. Thank you for being available when I have needed advice or guidance. I especially want to mention Brian de Kock. BDK, as we affectionately refer to him, has helped us refine and edit the weekly newsletters, and has been an invaluable support.

A big thank you must also go to Guy Pearson. Guy was warned about the ODs before he arrived! Instead of keeping us at arm’s length, he has encouraged an environment of collaboration. This has made all the difference to a strong and supportive relationship between the school and the ODU.

A huge thank you to all the school staff that help out at The Mitre on a daily basis, including The Origin catering crew, Donovan Murray and Rashied Golliath.

Finally, thank you to all of you ODs who continue to support this magnificent school.

Pro Fide et Patria.

This is an edited draft of the report.

“Seldom before has it been so crucial that we contribute as ODs to our school, because never before has it been so crucial to this country that Bishops produces good men of valour, integrity and leadership.”

Who's Who in the ODU

The Union aims to connect ODs, with each other and the school, through events, mentoring, scholarships, and other initiatives. This is the committee under whom this magazine was produced

The Dignitaries

Raymond Ackerman (1948S), of Pick n Pay renown, is a captain of industry and philanthropist, and an actively involved **President** of the ODU. His sons and grandsons are ODs.

Michael Watermeyer (1945O) is another senior statesman of business and society. He joined the College Council in 1968, served as Chairman of the ODU, and is our current **Patron**.



ODU contact details:

☎ 021 685 1829
✉ ODU@bishops.org.za
🌐 www.odunion.com

VICE PRESIDENTS

Brian Barends, David Carter, John Charlton, Brian de Kock, John Gardener, Judge Craig Howie, John Hueton, John Langford, Les Masterson, Tim Noakes, Alan Ramsay, Peter Sauerman, Tony van Ryneveld

The Committee

Bruce Jack (1987G), **Chairman** of the ODU, is an active and much-lauded contributor to the South African wine industry. He is a parent at the school and has previously served on the Parents' Association.

Adam Pike (1992O), recently appointed **Vice-Chairman**, heads the HR, governance and legal sub-committee. He runs his own legal practice.

WP Van Zyl (1997K) is our **Secretary**, a remunerated position. He was head boy, played 1st XV rugby and gave up a multi-awarded dental career for the ODU.

Nicole Du Rand, granddaughter of Brian de Kock (1953O) serves as the ODU **Administrator**, also remunerated. She is studying part-time at CPUT.

Phil Calothi (1968W), a veteran civil engineer, was largely responsible for the building of The Mitre. His three sons are ODs.

Nick Durrant (1991G), MD of Bluegrass Digital, contributes in areas of IT, communication and general strategy.

Guy Lanfear (1979G), our honorary Treasurer, is an accountant, director of

Private Client Financial, and a Bishops parent.

John Macey (1979O) oversees the finances of the ODU. He sits on the board and audit committees of three listed groups.

Mnotho Makhoba (2013S) serves on the Young ODs sub-committee. He studies Finance at UCT, where he leads an active campus life.

Arthur Mngxekeza (1997F), a recipient of the Hamilton Mvelase Bursary fund, is convener of the Black ODs (BODs) sub-committee. He works in telecoms.

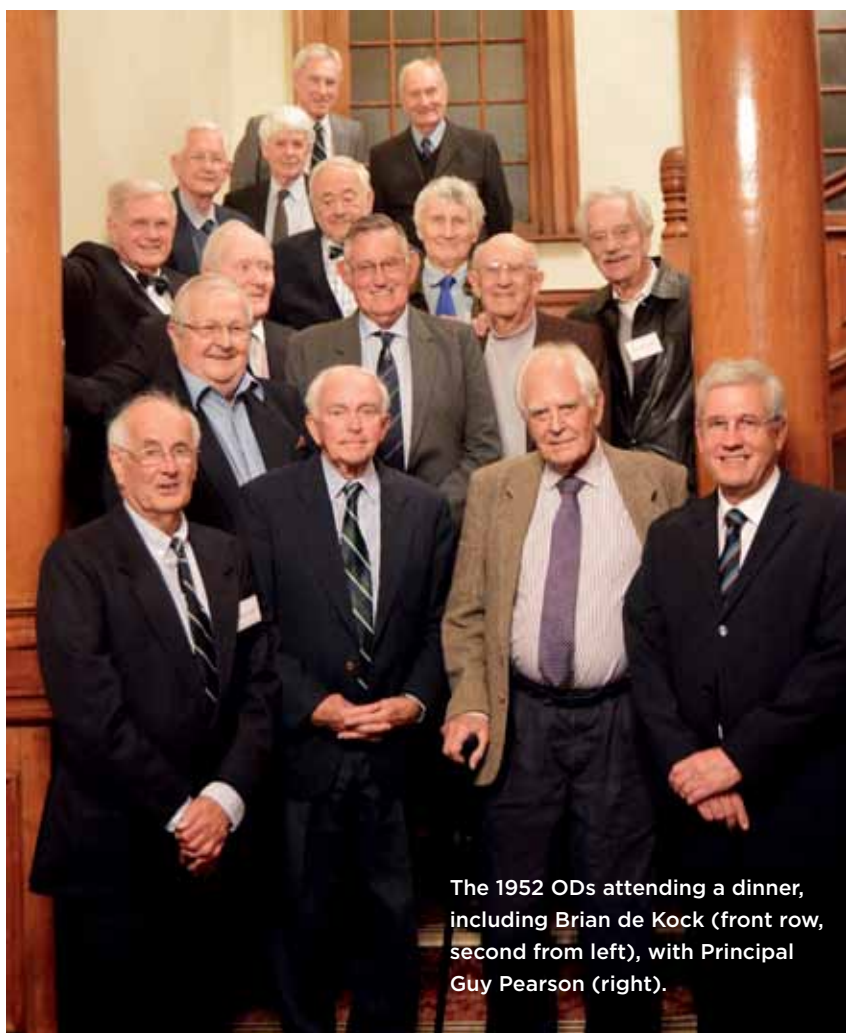
Michael Mynhardt (2013F), one-time recipient of the Doug Todd Trophy for Sport, works in finance and serves on the Young ODs sub-committee.

Dugald Robertson (2010F), attorney in the litigation department at Smith Tabata Buchanan Boyes, assists the ODU with legal and constitutional matters.

Anton Taylor (2005B), a past editor of UCT's *Sax Appeal*, oversees the OD magazine. An actor and rugby commentator, he completed his Masters in Creative Writing in 2018.

What's going on

Not all OD events take place at The Mitre, but our HQ has become a focus of camaraderie and intellectual debate, hosting reunions, book launches and more. Select events from the past year



The 1952 ODs attending a dinner, including Brian de Kock (front row, second from left), with Principal Guy Pearson (right).

1952 REUNION

The class of 1952 hosted their 65th reunion over the weekend of 21-23 September 2017, starting with a meet-and-greet on the Thursday at The Mitre followed by a lunch on the Friday and a splendid dinner at Kelvin Grove on the Saturday. Eighteen ODs attended, with wives or partners, and Guy Pearson was the guest speaker. The year have already scheduled a first meeting for the organising committee on 22 January 2022 for their 70th reunion!

1967 REUNION

Marking 50 years since they left Bishops, 17 ODs gathered on 28 September 2017 for three days of festivities. A tour of the school, a visit to Altydgedacht, and a fine dinner at The Mitre hosted by the ODU's WP van Zyl culminated in a relaxed Sunday afternoon braai – a memorable weekend indeed.



John Hayward (1967F) and Fred Smith-Symms (1968F)

RICHARD COCK CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Richard Cock (1966O) conducted another special memorable Christmas Carols Evening at the War Memorial Chapel on 15 December 2017, attended by many ODs and their families. A heartfelt thank you to Richard for making a wonderful contribution towards this annual event, which raises money for the OD Bursary Fund – a cause that's close to Richard's heart.

ENTREPRENEURS EVENING

On 24 August 2017 The Mitre was buzzing with business as entrepreneurial ODs gathered for an evening of networking and inspirational advice from **Stephen Larkin (1990F)**, **Mike Bosman (1978O)** and **Tim Loughton (1993G)**. Special thanks to **Gus Allen (1982F)** for the beautiful flowers he donated for the function.



Clockwise from top left: Entrepreneur ODs awaiting the presentation; one of the speakers, Tim Loughton; speaker Mike Bosman; participants found plenty to discuss; presenter Stephen Larkin

HAMILTON MVELASE BURSARY LAUNCH

On 13 September 2017, the Bishops Trust celebrated the legacy of a courageous young man, Hamilton Mvelase, who died tragically while at Bishops in 1991. The Hamilton Mvelase Bursary Fund will once again provide an opportunity for talented young boys from previously disadvantaged communities to receive a Bishops education.

The launch evening was attended by members from all the Bishops constituencies. We were honoured to have the Mvelase family present, with Mrs Mvelase expressing her gratitude that Hamilton's memory

would live on through this worthy cause.

We were particularly pleased to welcome back **John Gardener (1947G)**, Principal at the time of Hamilton's death, who spoke about what was unquestionably a devastating time for the Bishops community. **Moshe Apleni (1997F)**, in true Bishops form, was inspiring as he recounted how being awarded the Hamilton Mvelase Scholarship in 1993 changed his life, and how his Bishops education contributed to his success. It is for this reason that Moshe has played an integral role in reviving the Hamilton Mvelase Bursary Fund.



Moshe Apleni with Mike Bosman.

Branching out

The ODU is spread across five continents. We encourage ODs abroad to keep the union flag flying



FRANCE

The village of Ménerbes, which found fame in Peter Mayle's *A Year In Provence*, is home to **Simon Burrow (1968F)** and his wife Lovonne. Simon tells us that in typically French fashion his branch doesn't hold many organised events, but he frequently welcomes international part-time OD residents and visitors passing through.

ODU Branch Secretaries contact information

SOUTH AFRICA	Central Karoo	Jay Hayward	jayhay1950@gmail.com
	Eastern Cape	Hugh Brathwaite	highbid@telkomsa.net
	Graaff-Reinet	David Luscombe	d Luscombe@live.co.za
	Free State	Mark Webber	law@markwebber.co.za
	Northern Province	Simon Grose	simon@graphica.co.za
	KwaZulu-Natal	Crispian Stanford	crispian@victoriapnp.co.za
	Boland	Martin Versveld	martin@rowancapital.co.za
	Garden Route	Blyth Thompson	blyth@computerbird.co.za
	Langeberg /Overberg	Patrick Henderson	patrick.henderson@afrihost.co.za
AUSTRALIA	New South Wales	Jonathan Jackson	jonathan.jackson@outlook.com
	Queensland	Stuart Rodney	stuartrodney@gmail.com
	South Australia	Paul Raynham	paul.raynham@bigpond.com
	Victoria	Pip Faure	rpfaure@gmail.com
	Western Australia	Eric Emmett	eric.emmett@bigpond.com

MAURITIUS

The launch of the Mauritius ODU last year was the epitome of what the ODU is all about, says its chairman

Thomas van Poucke (1990O): news of the launch reunited two ODs, who did their post-matric together in 1957 but now live on different continents, for the first time in some 60 years.

UK

Nicky Bicket (1973F) reported in detail in the October UK newsletter that the OD Tour to the Western Front battlefields of World War I was one of the highlights in a busy ODU year. The group of some 44 ODs and friends from around the world included Council Chairman **Mike Bosman (1978O)**, Principal **Guy Pearson** and Head of History and School Archivist **Paul Murray**. Importantly, the ODs dedicated

a plaque to the memory of the 112 ODs who died in the war, in the St George's Chapel in Ypres, a service that was conducted by **Michael Bands**, much-loved Bishops Chaplain from 1985 to 1992.

CANADA

John Hueton (1947G), retiring branch Secretary for Eastern Canada, reports on their meeting:

"We were delighted to welcome **Mark Vincent (1970S)** with his wife Lynda. Mark is an extremely busy research nephrologist at the London Health Science Centre. **David Hurst (1961F)** composed and read an ode to John for his years of service. The Skipper (Hubert Kidd, Principal 1943-1963) would surely have preferred it in Latin! Present with their wives were: **David Hurst (1961F)**, **John Hueton (1947G)**, **Nicholas Searle**

(1980O), **Richard Townsend (1958G)** and **Erik Jurriaans (1973G)**. The gathering was at Erik's beachfront, factory-built home on a narrow strip of land between Hamilton Harbour and Lake Ontario.

"On the Saturday I handed over the torch (the mitre?) to Nicholas Searle after 42 years, first as Canadian Branch Secretary, and then as Eastern Secretary after the Western Branch was formed to cover Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia."

Many thanks to John for his decades of service. We wish Nicholas well following in his footsteps.

Branch secretaries from Boland, Northern Provinces, KwaZulu-Natal and Zimbabwe all noted activities throughout 2017. We hope to have more news from the branches in future issues.

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	Western	Neil Philcox	nphilcox@gmail.com
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NAMIBIA		Charles Loots	cloots@b2gold.com
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	South	Howard Grant	howardgrant@gmail.com
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SCOTLAND		Robert Murray	robert.eyedoc@doctors.org.uk
UNITED STATES	Eastern	Matthew Douglas	matthew.s.douglas@accenture.com
	South-Western	Steve Bick	steve@cottinghammanagementco.com
ZIMBABWE		Leonard Thomas	lenandange24@gmail.com

THE ODU MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME

In 2015 the OD Union launched its mentorship programme, an important and symbolic step towards keeping the ODU relevant and useful. Driving force behind the programme

Nicky Bicket explains what it's all about

As you walk down the Avenue and through the school gates for the last time, you might think your relationship with Bishops is ending. That's not true. In fact, in many ways it's the moment when that relationship really begins.

Generally, boys spend an average of seven years at Bishops. On leaving the school, most become members of the Old Diocesans Union, where, also generally, they will be members for some 50 years.

So what does this mean in practice? Why does the ODU exist, and what are the connections

between it and the school?

When the ODU was launched in 1896, its purpose was to keep ODs in touch with one another and the school. If you wanted to contact a fellow OD, the ODU could make that happen. If you wanted to know what was going on at Bishops, the ODU had that information too.

But that was then. Today, technology has made the ODU Rolodex – as a way of keeping ODs in touch with one another – virtually obsolete. Through Facebook, LinkedIn, emails and a host of other platforms,

communication between ODs has never been easier, faster or more efficient. In real time, the Bishops website tells ODs everything they need to know about the school.

In response to changing times, therefore, the ODU has redefined its purpose: today, we are “ODs helping ODs”. While still providing the nexus between ODs and Bishops, the ODU has become more focused on practical and relevant reasons for membership. A primary focus is mentoring.

Bishops gates, February 2018.





Bishops trivia: The Avenue gates, officially the Haddan Gates, were installed in 1946, three years after the epic storm that blew over the Avenue's stone pines on the night that Hubert Kidd replaced Canon Birt as principal. For the damage done, compare the pre-gates painting by Mary Kidd to the photograph in the December 1946 issue of the school magazine.

Mentoring, as we define it, is the act of guiding, supporting and challenging younger ODs to make appropriate choices when faced with obstacles or challenges. These could be related to their university studies, career options or moving countries – or their after-school life in general.

To date, 325 ODs representing more than 90 professions and disciplines have volunteered as mentors to help younger ODs understand and deal with the world beyond the Avenue gates.

The mentorship programme has a wide reach, with mentors and mentees spread across the world. They can connect in different ways: face to face, via Skype or email or simply on the phone. Depending on what's required, a mentoring relationship can consist

of a one-off meeting or it may last for a year or longer.

Although each set of circumstances is different, mentors have only one goal for mentees: that by building on what they've learnt at Bishops, they go on to achieve their potential. Mentoring, in short, is the avuncular arm around the shoulder. It is the passing on of experience, tempered by interest in and concern for one of our own, so that the world is not as intimidating or perplexing as it might otherwise be.

Boys and ODs are encouraged to take advantage of the experience and knowledge of ODs. In this way, the purpose of the ODU is fulfilled, the relationship between the school and ODs is strengthened, and Bishops boys, as ODs, are empowered to be the best they can be as they set out to make a positive contribution to the world we live in.

To register as a mentor or mentee, please visit the ODU website: www.odunion.com.

Nicky Bicket (1973F) is secretary of the UK branch of the OD Union. After a long career in supermarketing and financial services, he now consults in the areas of strategy and organisational effectiveness.

EDITED TESTIMONIALS FROM MENTEES AND MENTORS

"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." – **Mentee (2011O)**

"I find this activity extremely meaningful and rewarding, and I would in fact be interested in increasing my 'case-load'. This is an exceptional initiative."

– **Mentor (1972G)**

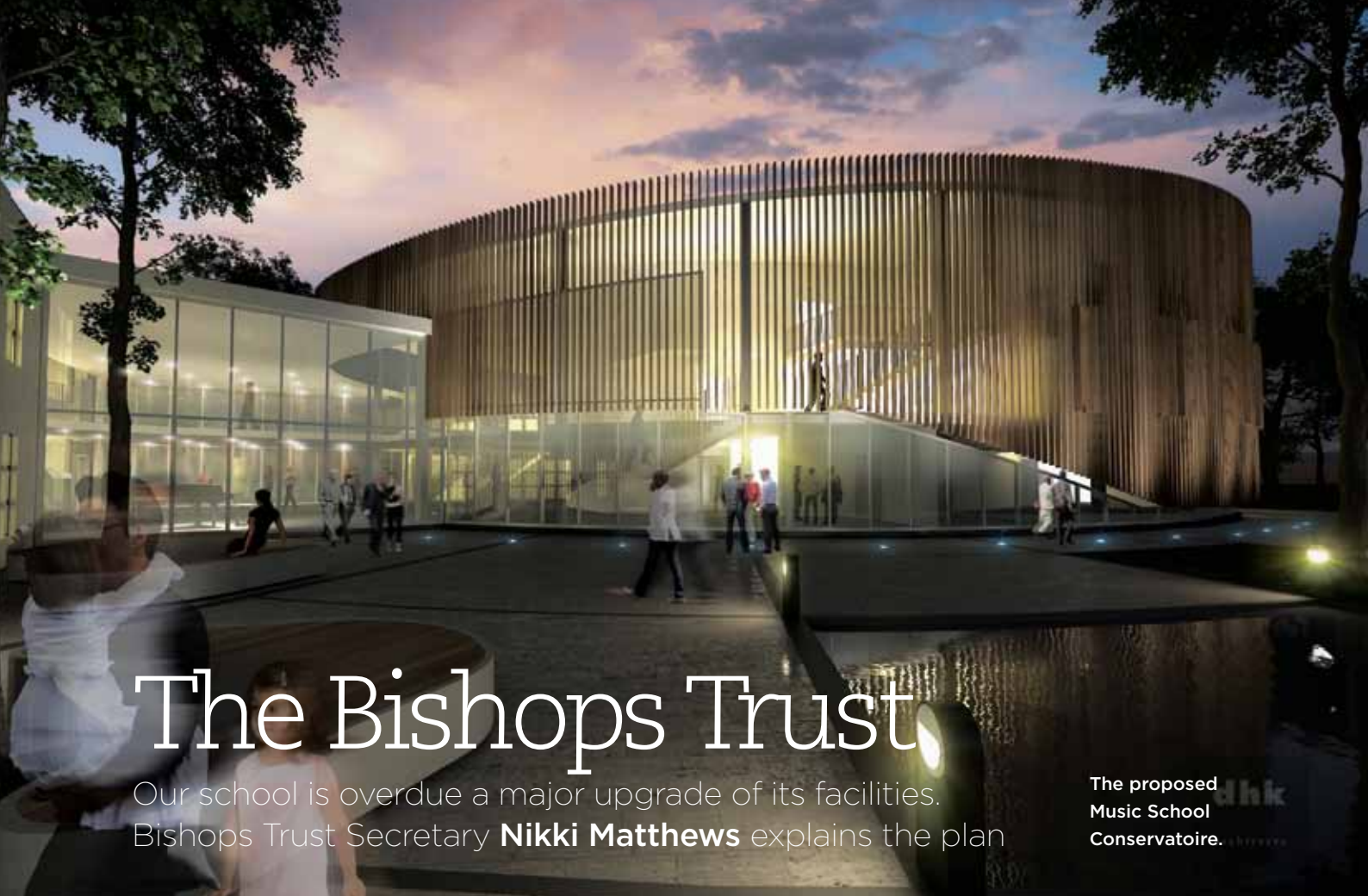
"Our talks around overseas experience, lifestyles and opportunities allowed me to really focus my thought on initial career options. This focus helped me create a targeted job hunt that, in the end, paid dividends. Thank you."

– **Mentee (2008G)**

"I have enjoyed engaging with and meeting L. Always happy to help out in any way, so if there are other Mentees interested in similar fields, let me know."

– **Mentor (1989S)**

"I certainly won't forget my experience and my only hope is that one day I can pay it forward (or back) by teaching or helping others."
– **Mentee (2008G)**



The Bishops Trust

Our school is overdue a major upgrade of its facilities.
Bishops Trust Secretary **Nikki Matthews** explains the plan

The proposed
Music School
Conservatoire.

In 1981, the Bishops Trust, the brainchild of Council member John Newman, was formed, with OD John Selfe as its first director. The Trust was created to help provide a constant flow of funding for the school. In 2016, after several years of inactivity, the Trust has been revived and is now headed by Chairperson Samantha Petersen.

Bishops has been at its strongest and most prosperous when the ODs, parents, past parents and the School have worked together with a common focus: that of ensuring its long-term success and sustainability.

South African education is facing an existential crisis. The children in the system are our future leaders, and the system is failing. A Bishops education

can be life-changing and it is our hope that, through the Hamilton Mvelase Bursary Fund, we will be able to offer a Bishops education, mentorship and support to an additional 10 boys from disadvantaged backgrounds each year.

Although to the naked eye the Bishops campus is magnificent, preservation of its historic buildings is ongoing, and in order to remain current and progressive new facilities are required. It is up to us to extend and enhance this beautiful school, ensuring it remains a world-class institution for future generations.

The Trust thus warmly invites everyone associated with Bishops to join us in helping preserve its history, ensure its sustainability and develop the future leaders of a transformed society.

The 175 Campaign

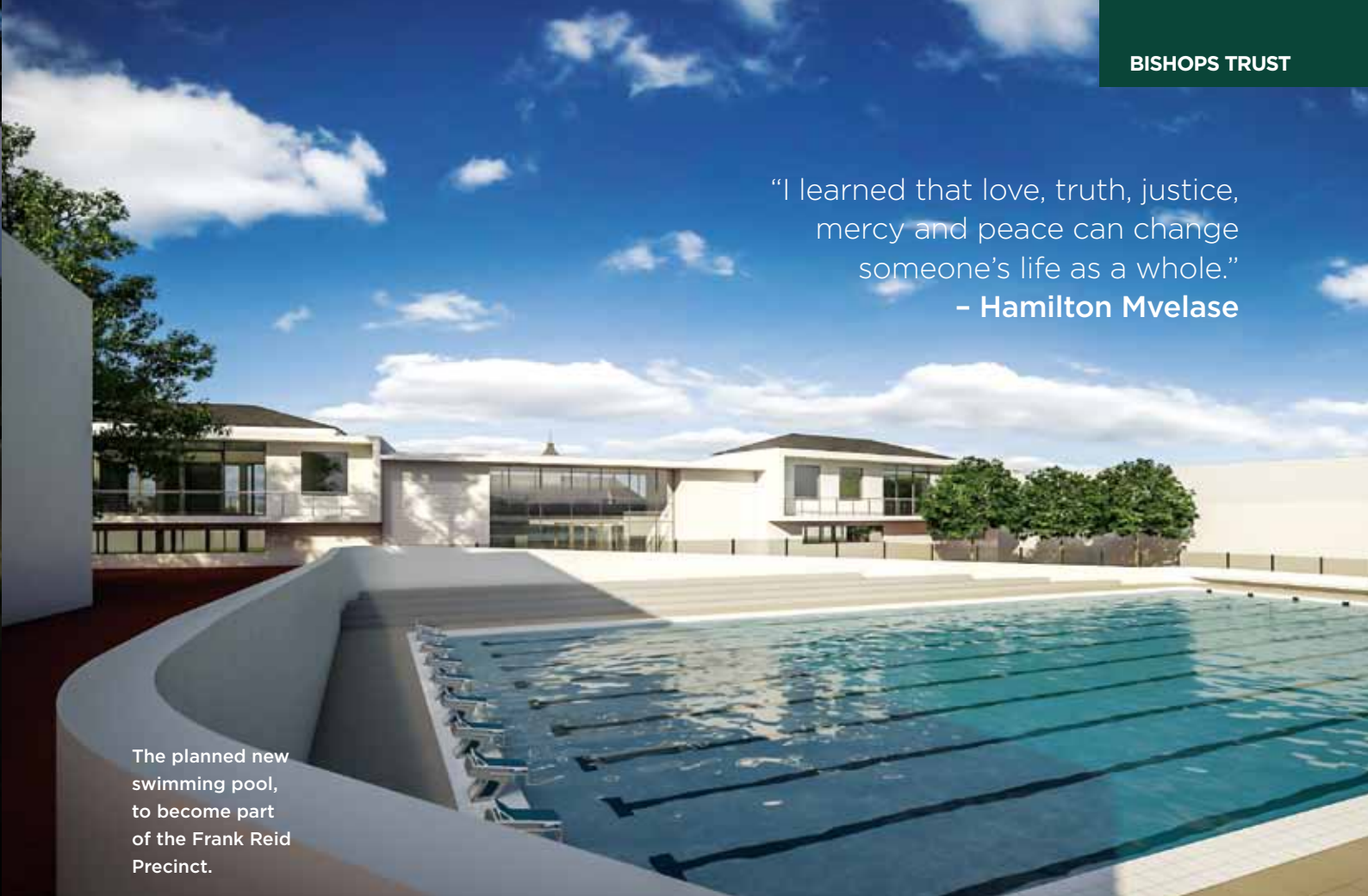
In 2016 The Bishops Trust launched the 175 Campaign. Our vision is to safeguard the long-term sustainability of the school and ensure that it continues to be recognised as a leading school for boys.

The objectives are threefold:

- To provide capital to build world-class facilities;
- To provide bursaries, through The Hamilton Mvelase Bursary Fund, for skilled individuals who would otherwise not be able to afford the opportunity of attending Bishops;
- To increase annual donations for The General Endowment Fund to ensure the future sustainability of Bishops.

"I learned that love, truth, justice, mercy and peace can change someone's life as a whole."

– **Hamilton Mvelase**



The planned new swimming pool, to become part of the Frank Reid Precinct.

It is due to the support of the Bishops community that we remain a great school, rather than just a good school. These donations, legacies and sponsorships will assume ever greater importance as Bishops prepares for the many challenges of modern education, not least of which is financial viability.

The Hamilton Mvelase Bursary Fund

In September 2017, The Bishops Trust relaunched the Hamilton Mvelase Bursary Fund with the aim of directing funds towards bursary opportunities for talented young boys from disadvantaged communities. Hamilton Mvelase was a bursary beneficiary (1988 – 1991) and a Bishops hero. In 1991, tragedy struck: one weekend,



Multifunctional sports centre.

Hamilton and a friend made an impromptu decision to take a day pass home to Gugulethu. They caught a bus and were walking across a field when they were attacked. Hamilton initially escaped but on seeing that his friend was in trouble, he returned to assist him. He saved his friend but was fatally stabbed in the process. On that fateful day he lost his life, his dreams never to be realised.

Hamilton epitomised the Bishops ethos of *inspiring individuals* both

in life and in death. It is our hope that, in honour of this remarkable boy, we can raise funds to give the opportunity of a Bishops education to talented boys from impoverished communities.

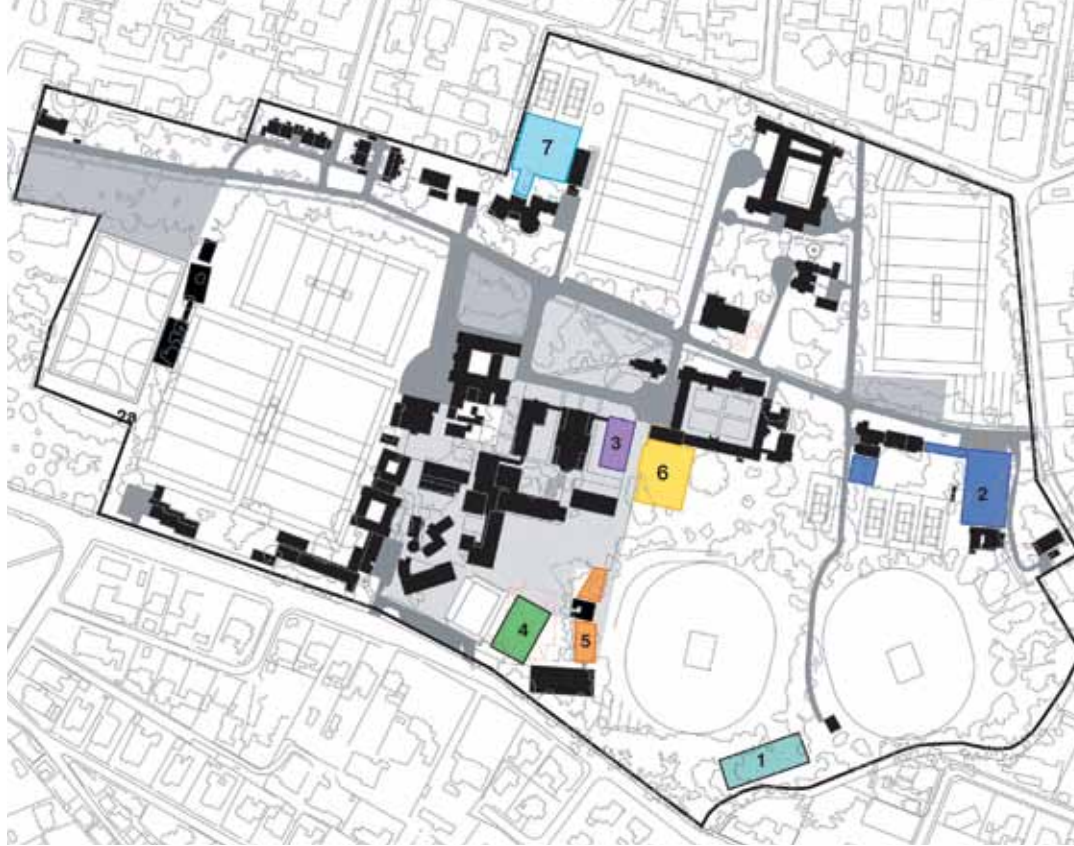
Celebrating The Bishops Culture Of Giving Back: The Pippa Frater Scholarship

Earlier this year we were contacted by OD and world-renowned cardiac surgeon **Dr Robert Frater (19460)**, who wished to make a contribution to support Bishops Bursaries.

He humbly spoke of his contributions to the field of cardiac surgery and with great pride about his company, Glycar SA, which produces biological patches used by cardiac surgeons on the repair of diseased or congenitally

PROPOSED CAPITAL PROJECTS

- 1 Maintenance yard
- 2 Multifunctional sports centre
- 3 New Science & Biology block
- 4 New swimming pool to replace Mallett Centre
- 5 Frank Reid Aquatic and Cricket Precinct
- 6 Memorial Theatre upgrade
- 7 Music School Conservatoire
- 8 Preparatory School resource centre and library not pictured



abnormal hearts and blood vessels.

Dr Frater has had an astonishing life and career. Like many successful ODs, Dr Frater attributes much of his strength, determination and tenacity to his years at Bishops – and to one of his teachers in particular. He confessed to not always taking his studies seriously and remembers the exact moment when one of his teachers told him he was a bright boy and could be successful if he only applied himself. Thousands of lives have been saved thanks to this astute teacher's advice; the teacher's belief in him translated into a belief in himself.

It is Dr Frater's hope to make a contribution to the Trust to ensure that a boy who cannot afford a Bishops education may one day reap the same benefits that he did. The Fraters have generously established the *Pippa Frater Scholarship Fund* in honour of their late daughter, a legacy in perpetuity that will secure a Bishops education for a deserving boy.

Capital Development

The school has recently undergone an extensive review of the current facilities. A spatial planning exercise was performed by urban specialists, who held workshops with us to establish what facilities are required if it is to remain a leading centre of modern learning and a global centre of excellence.

In a fast-changing world, with new technologies evolving at an exponential pace, the educational practices of the past need to be adapted to prepare our students for the future. Many of the school's facilities have become run-down and are facing obsolescence. One of the priority projects of the 175 Campaign is to raise funds to finance a number of much-needed capital projects. Some of the key capital projects are indicated in the diagram above.

By contributing to the 175 Campaign ODs will ensure Bishops remains relevant and inspirational to the students of today and the leaders of tomorrow.

The General Endowment Fund

The third arm of this campaign is the General Endowment Fund. The Bishops endowment is pitifully small in comparison with comparable schools. We hope to grow the capital, which will remain invested, with the income generated providing the school with a predictable source of additional revenue, as well as long-term financial stability.

Please contact Nikki Matthews at the Bishops Trust office to discuss the many ways in which you may want to be involved.

✉ trust@bishops.org.za
 ☎ 021 6891038
 🌐 www.trust.bishops.org.za
 📘 [bishopstrust](https://www.facebook.com/bishopstrust)

The Bishops Trust is a registered PBO. Donations qualify for a Section 18A receipt.

The OD business registry

A new initiative, this small business registry is the start of a resource that we hope to grow substantially, and which we will make available online for ODs to network beyond their more familiar connections

BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION				
Carpet & Flooring Services Cape Town	Bradley Brown (1998W)	Flooring	Family-run business specialising in commercial and domestic carpeting, vinyl, timber and laminated products.	www.carpetlib.co.za admin@carpetlib.co.za
Eldo Energy Cape Town, Johannesburg	Tim Ohlsen (2004K), Simon Richman (1992W)	Renewable energy	Renewable energy company offering bespoke solutions to utilities, industry and private individuals. Specialises in power metering, power management, energy reduction and solar PV energy production systems.	www.eldo.energy Simon@eldoenergy.com
Frost International Muizenberg	Mike Frost (1980S)	Construction	Specialist contractor in the construction industry, provider of the Frost Automatic sliding door operator, Acoustic Operable Walls, pedestrian speed lanes and high-security doors.	www.frostint.com mike@frostint.com
Lighting Revolution Cape Town	Chris Warncke (1995B)	Lighting	Designs, supplies and installs energy-efficient lighting systems for businesses. Services encompass lighting design, project management as well as installation and ethical disposal of replaced infrastructure.	www.lightingrevolution.co.za chris@lightingrevolution.co.za
MWLF Architects Cape Town, Johannesburg	James Green (1978O)	Architecture	Architects specialising in commercial, hospitality and luxury residential.	www.mwlf.co.za mwlf@iafrica.com
Slingsby & Gaidien Cape Town	John Slingsby (1989O)	Construction	Construction firm undertaking public and private work, encompassing residential, commercial and industrial projects, renovations and new builds.	www.sgconstruction.co.za 021 703 2840
Universal Equipment Chicago, USA	Alastair Robertson (1967F)	Aerial lift equipment	Family-run business specialising in aerial work platforms.	www.universalequipment.com sales@universalequipment.net
ENTERTAINMENT				
amaAmbush Marimbas Cape Town	Ross Johnson (2002B)	Band	Professional African Marimba Band that has performed for Richard Branson, Jamie Oliver and Barack Obama. Available for conferences, private functions, weddings, corporate events.	www.marimbas.co.za ross@marimbas.co.za
GENERAL				
Omnivision Security Cape Town	Gareth Cowan (1996K)	Security systems	Supplies event-based CCTV monitoring for secure estates, private residential and commercial properties.	www.omnivisionsecurity.co.za
Vulcan Wildfire Management Cape Town	Patrick Ryan (1985O)	Firefighting management	Carries out the assessment of wildfire risk to all properties, advising on ways to reduce risk.	www.vulcanwildfire.co.za

HEALTH, BEAUTY & FITNESS				
Bodytec Steenberg Cape Town	Andrew Collins (1985O)	Fitness	Fitness studio, catering for both individual workouts and class sessions.	www.bodytec.co.za
Absolute Cosmetic Essentials UK	Jos Cunningham (2003F)	Cosmo-ceuticals	Provider of lean supply-chain solutions for essential and vegetable oils to the cosmetic and aromatherapy industries.	jos@aceoil.co.uk
Heilfontein Protea Farm Caledon	Lindsay Madden (1970G)	Flowers, guest lodge	Working protea farm open to visitors wanting to participate in a variety of outdoor activities.	www.heilfontein.co.za
Mammoth Safaris Africa, Asia, South America	Alastair Kilpin (1992F)	Safari tour operator	Tour operator that runs safaris to wilderness locations across Africa and beyond to Asia and South America.	www.mammothsafaris.com
FOOD & WINE				
Douglas Green Wines Paarl	Douglas Green (1947O)	Wine	Family-run business known for “good wine at a good price that people enjoy”	www.douglasgreenwines.com
Publik Distribution Cape Town	David Nel (1999F)	Wine distribution	Wine distributor supplying niche wines to select restaurants and wine shops. Also takes on private clients.	www.publik.co.za steele@publik.co.za
Target Rigging Cape Town	David Rawbone (1964S)	Wine tank installation	Medium-sized company supplying crane trucks of all sizes, mechanical horses, trailers and forklifts.	www.targetrigging.co.za
FINANCIAL & LEGAL SERVICES				
Consequence Private Wealth Cape Town	Michael Furter (1993G), Jeff Middelman (1995G)	Wealth management	Independent wealth-management practice based in Newlands.	www.consequence.co.za info@consequence.co.za
DKA De Kock & Associates Cape Town	Francis Clerke (1969W)	Attorney	Specialist in complex commercial and local government cases and litigation.	www.dkalaw.co.za
Infynnite Solutions Cape Town	Hugh Fynn (staff 1978-1999)	Mediation	Activities focus on civil and commercial mediation and restorative justice in schools, NGOs and corporates.	tuggfynn@gmail.com
MEDIA & PUBLISHING				
Kima Global Books Cape Town	Robin Beck (1959F)	Publishing	Independent publisher and distributor, specialising in body, mind and spirit books.	www.kimabooks.com
Patrick Ryan Images Cape Town	Patrick Ryan (1985O)	Photography	Professional photographer.	www.patrickryanimages.com
Shumani Mills Cape Town	Ronald Mason Wouldge (1961O)	Printing	Well-established printer with a one-stop portal of convenience for high-value services.	www.shumanimills.com
XYZ Maps Scotland	Tim Rideout (1978W)	Map services	Publishers of world, regional and business maps. Providers of map data, mapping software and training.	www.xyzmaps.com
IT				
Curious Lion Inc New York, USA	Andrew Barry (2000O)	Online training	Specialist in online training of customers and/or employees, using visual storytelling in the form of eye-catching, creative videos.	www.curiouslionlearning.com
Bluegrass Digital Cape Town, Johannesburg	Nicholas Durrant (1991G)	Software	Software engineering company assisting clients to drive business growth through insight-led user experiences, innovation and technology built to scale.	www.bluegrassdigital.com

To be added to the Business Registry, please contact the ODU

YOUR MOVE

At BDO, our clients range from owner-managed businesses to large private companies, public companies and non-profit and government organisations. We offer sound, strategic financial advice to our clients, and our reputation is built on developing strong relationships, excelling at client service, and providing relevant industry sector expertise.



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FAST FACTS: INTERNATIONAL

Fee Income: US\$8.1BN • Partners and Staff: 73 854 • Offices: 1 500 • Countries and Territories: 162

We take it personally. For further information please contact our Cape Town Office or any of our 30 Partners and Directors, 350 staff members or Ian Scott, iscott@bdo.co.za, 021 417 8192

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