



COLLEGE



*EARLY MORNING ON THE PILEY REES
(Photograph: Matthew Derman, Gr 9, Gray)*

CONTENTS

COLLEGE NEWS

COLLEGE NEWS	2
FAREWELL TO STAFF	7
MUSIC	9
RANGER COURSE	11
WORLD FLY FISHING	14
BISHOPS IN BOTSWANA	15

COLLEGE CULTURE

BISHOPS SOCIETIES	17
BISHOPS EISTEDDFOD	30
HISTORY TOUR	34
SIMPLY BLUE	40

COLLEGE SPORT

FENCING TOUR	42
GOLF	43
HOCKEY	44
ROAD AND TRAIL RUNNING	45
ROWING	46
RUGBY	47
SQUASH	48
UK TENNIS TOUR	48

PREPARATORY NEWS

<u>PRE-PREPARATORY NEWS</u>	74
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OD NEWS

80

COLLEGE NEWS

STAFF NEWS

Cheryl Douglas, Warwick Richter, Burgert Maree, Sean Henchie, and Trevor Pasquallie were away on long leave at various intervals during the term.

We bade a sad farewell to **Vernon Wood**, our Deputy Principal, at the end of the term. He has decided to pursue personal interests and we wish **Vernon**, Betty-Anne and their family all the very best for their future endeavours.

Peter Westwood assumes the role of Deputy Principal as of October 2016.

Dr **Stephen Sproule** has been appointed to succeed **Marcus Bizony** as Deputy Head Academics at the College with effect January 2017. Dr Sproule is currently Deputy Head Academics at Penryn College in Nelspruit. **Leon Glanvill** has been appointed to the position of House Director of School House, and **Mark Mitchell** has been appointed to the position of Deputy Head Culture, both with effect January 2017.

Jannie de Villiers has been appointed Head of Oakhill School in Knysna with effect 1 January 2017.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Callam Tait had his English creative work, *The invisible man*, published in the 2016 edition of *English Alive*. This is an excellent achievement as *English Alive* is an annual anthology of the best

writing from high schools and colleges all over Southern Africa.

The 2016 UCT Maths Competition had over 7000 entries from 150 schools. The overall result for each school is based on the scores of the top 30 students. This year Bishops was placed second overall. At the Prize Giving for Gold Award winners, Bishops had two pairs and four individuals receive awards: Grade 8: **William Vine-Morris** (4th); Grade 9: **Thomas Warner** (4th) and **Liam Foxcroft** (10th), **Andrew Williams** and **Kenau Vith** (1st as a pair); Grade 10: **Tristan Smith** and **Mark Bergh** (2nd as a pair); Grade 11: **Nicholas Featherstone** (4th). Round 2 of the UCT Mathematics Competition, the UCT Mathematics Challenge, is an invitation to the top 30 individuals and top 10 pairs in each grade. The following boys were invited to participate: Grade 8: **Jonathan Bateman, Steven Du, Robert Dugmore** and **William Vine-Morris**; Grade 9: **Jack Beare, Francois Breitenbach, Liam Foxcroft, Hamish McKenzie, Tomas Slaven, David Straughan, Kenau Vith, Thomas Warner** and **Andrew Williams**; Grade 10: **Mark Bergh, Thomas Janisch, Chris Kotze, Alaric McGregor, Okuhle Minyi, Nivar Rajoo** and **Tristan Smith**; Grade 11: **Christopher Aubin** and **Nicholas Featherstone**; Grade 12: **Nicholas Janisch, Robert Lancefield, Alexander Peile** and **Francois Stassen**. Of these, the following boys qualified to write Round 3, the UCT Mathematics Olympiad: their rankings after

Round 3 are: Grade 8: **Steven Du** (Participation 22nd), **Robert Dugmore** (Participation 15th), **William Vine-Morris** (Participation 20th); Grade 9: **Liam Foxcroft** (Bronze Award 11th), **Thomas Warner** (Participation 16th); Grade 10: **Okuhle Minyi** (Participation 20th); Grade 12: **Alexander Peile** (Participation 23rd).

Ahmed Dhansay, Nicholas Janisch and **Nabeel Goolam-Mohamed** represented the College at the Annual Minquiz, which is a science and maths related quiz held under the auspices of Mintek – the Council for Minerals and Technology in South Africa. They were entered in the Platinum section of the competition, which is the top tier of a two-tier structured competition and came second overall in the final oral quiz. **Nicholas Janisch** was awarded a Certificate of Distinction for achieving between 70% and 79% in the written section, while **Ahmed Dhansay** was awarded one of only three Certificates of Excellence for achieving over 80% in the written section. Bishops was also awarded a cash prize for the second place achievement of these young men.

Ahmed Dhansay, Nicholas Janisch, Andrew Mc Adam and **Angus Thring** were invited to the 52nd Youth Science Focus Week in Pretoria. This event hosts the awards ceremony for the National Science Olympiad. **Angus Thring** was placed 1st overall, with a score of 86%, beating the runner up who scored 79% by a significant margin. **Ahmed Dhansay** was placed 3rd, and **Andrew McAdam** and **Nicholas Janisch** were placed in the Top 50.

Kwangbem Ko won 3rd prize in the 2016 School Science Essay Competition, hosted by

the Royal Society of South Africa. His essay was in the category 'What advances in robotics and artificial intelligence could impact on youth employment in South Africa'.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Jack Belcher, Arthur Fisher, KB Ko, Stephane Pienaar, Daniel Tate and **Alexandros Vavatzanidis** were awarded Full Music Colours. **Cameron Braun, Terry Kim, Jeff Malherbe, Theodore Psillos, Kamal Sacranie** and **Nikolaos Tapanlis** were awarded Half Colours. The following boys did exceptionally well in the piano section of the Cape Town Eisteddfod achieving Gold diplomas: **John Steyn, Miles Boeddinghaus** (2), **Michael Wilson-Trollip** (2) and **KB Ko** (4). Also at the Cape Town Eisteddfod, **Michael Wilson-Trollip** was awarded the Burgess Simpson Cup for Best Performance (16 years and over); **Miles Boeddinghaus** was awarded the Burgess Simpson Cup for Best Performance (14 years and under); **Leo Gevisser** was awarded the Cape Town Eisteddfod Award for Most Diplomas (14 years and under); and **KB Ko** was awarded the Victoria League Prize for Best All-round entrant, the Nine Club Award for the Best Performer (16 years and over), the S.A.S.M.T. Trophy for Best Violin Recital (13 to 18 years), and the Cape Town Eisteddfod Award for Most Diplomas. **Jack Belcher** made it through to the Senior Final of the Johann Vos Music Competition. He will compete against three other musicians for the prize at the Hugo Lambrechts Music Centre. **Leo Gevisser** has also been invited to play the violin in the Hugo Lambrechts Concerto Festival following an audition. He will perform the first movement of

Kabalevsky's Violin Concerto in C major with the Festival Orchestra.

Sebastian Prevost and **Joshua Gray** have been appointed as Molteno Resource Centre monitors.

Boyd Kane, James Wilson, Philip Morkel-Brink and **Davis Her** were awarded Full Visual Arts Colours. **Luca Powell** was awarded Half Colours.

SPORTING AFFAIRS

Liam Foxcroft and **David Naude** were awarded Full Climbing Colours by the Western Cape Provincial Sport Confederation (WCPSP). Both competed in the U15 Boys' Category at the National Bouldering Championships, with **Liam** achieving a Bronze medal, and **David** achieving a Gold medal.

At the Western Province Fencing (FWP) Ranking Three Competition, **Mark Bergh** won bronze in U20 epee, **Alaric McGregor** won gold in cadet foil, and **Mark Bergh** won silver in the same event. **Garry Christian** won silver in minims epee and **Matthew Bradley** won bronze in the same event. The fencing tour to Germany during the holidays was a great success. Nine fencers accompanied **Jacky Withers** to Tauberhofsheim Olympic Fencing Centre, in Germany, where they experienced world class private coaching and training with members of the German national team. At the Bishops Club Championships, **Terry Kim** won the cup for Best Epeeist, **Jamie Diggle** won the Best Swordsman Cup for foil, and **Carl Philip Lehmann** won the Service Cup. Ogilvie

narrowly beat Mallet in the Inter House final. **Alaric McGregor** was awarded Full Fencing Colours. **Terry Kim** and **Carl Philip Lehmann** were awarded Half Colours. The Captain for Fencing in 2017 is **Jamie Diggle** and the Vice-Captain, **Finbarr Lebona**.

The following hockey players were selected to represent Western Province at Inter Provincial and Regional Tournaments: U18A: **Malachy Barbour, Dayaan Cassiem, Wesley Gardener** and **Christian Rohrer**; U18B: **Simon Kilpin** and **Tyla Scarles**; Disas: **Bulelani Ngqukuvana**; Disas U16A: **Idrees Abdulla** and **Daniel Nelson**; U16B: **James Price**; U16 Disas: **Joshua Elliott, Murray Gordon** and **Okuhle Minyi**; U14: **Ben Cheminais, Conor Dempers, Matthew Guy, Liam Hoffman** and **Conor White**. After these IPTs, **Dayaan Cassiem** was selected to represent SA U18A; **Wesley Gardener** to represent SA U18B, and **Idrees Abdulla** to represent SA U16A. **Dayaan Cassiem** was awarded a Distinction Tie after competing for South Africa in a three match test series against Australia. **Malachy Barbour, Dylan Burke, Dayaan Cassiem** (re-award), **Wesley Gardener** (re-award), **Simon Kilpin, Christian Rohrer** and **Tyla Scarles** were awarded Full Hockey Colours. **Michael Burton, George Meadows, Max Newbury, Bulelani Ngqukuvana** and **Chris Rhode** were awarded Half Colours.

Max Wolfson came 1st in the Western Cape Downhill Mountain Biking Series, and 1st in the SA Series. He went on to win the Western Cape Championships, All-Africa Championships, and the prestigious SA Championships.

The following rugby players were selected for Western Province: Craven Week A:

Lubello Scott; Academy: **Seb Prentice**; U16 **William Rose** and **Justin Muller**.

The Independent Schools Rugby Festival was held at Bishops during the holidays where 20 independent schools from across South Africa participated. Perfect weather conditions, super support and some stunning running rugby contributed to a very successful event. Bishops 1st XV played three matches beating Eton 62-12 and Hilton College 35-31 and losing to arguably the strongest side at the festival, Kingswood 24-34, in a very exciting match. **Christopher Mewett** was chosen to represent Bermuda (his country of birth) at the U19 level in rugby. He played in the North American/Caribbean tournament in Miami and has been asked to make himself available for future tournaments.

The U15A and B squash teams are first and second respectively in the WP U15A league, at this stage, and at the recent Western Province Closed Tournament, **Glenn Yates** and **Greg Medcalf** won the U19 and U14 events respectively. Squash players selected for Western Province teams: U14: **Greg Medcalf**, **Adam Morkel**, **Luke Shuttleworth**; U16: **Jonathan Greyling**, **Charlie Yates**, **Nick Gleeson**; U19: **Glenn Yates**, **Ibrahim Kerbelker**, **Calven Wilson**. **Glenn Yates** played at No. 1 for Western Province at the squash IPT and was selected as one of the top five players in the country at U19 level. He represent the SA Schools' team on their tour to Malaysia. He was awarded his Distinction Tie. **Greg Medcalf** and **Adam Morkel** were selected to the SA Schools' U14 team.

Michael Houlie was selected to join the South African Olympic Swimming Team on their Italian Training Camp, and went on to participate in the Treviso Competition in Italy. Here he won three Gold Medals in each of his events and set New Championship Records in his age group. In the 50m Breaststroke, his time of 28.57 seconds was a new South African Age Group Record, for boys aged 16. As a result of these achievements, Swimming South Africa selected him to represent South Africa at the Africa Under 20 Youth Games in Angola in December.

Malachy Barbour, **Lloyd Wood**, **James Mitchell**, **Chris Mitchell** and **James Murray** were awarded Full Tennis Colours. **Francois van der Merwe**, **Ben Nel**, **Luca Powell** and **Michael Viana** were awarded Half Colours.

Tom Lee (U16A), **Robert Young** (U16B), **David Nivison** (U16B) and **Bingo Ivanisevic** (U16B) were awarded Half Colours for Waterpolo. They represented South Africa at an U16 level at a tournament in Malta. **David Nivison** captained the U16B team. **Brandon Burke** was awarded a Distinction Tie for his outstanding achievements. His international South African representation began in June 2015 when he represented SA U16A Waterpolo at the inaugural four nation tournament in Malta. He then represented SA U17 at the 2nd CANA zone Youth Waterpolo Championships versus Zimbabwe in March 2016. He went on to represent South Africa Waterpolo at the EU Nations Junior Men's

Waterpolo Tournament in Vienna in March 2016. The team lost narrowly to Malta by one goal to claim a Silver medal out of 12

European countries. **Brandon** was named Most Valuable Player of the tournament ahead of all the European players.

AWARDS

JERSEYS

Academic

Dylan Burke (Grade 12) and **Stuart Mesham** (Grade 12), **Nicholas Bowden** (Grade 11), **Felix Burt** (Grade 11), **Jamie Diggle** (Grade 11), **Kwangbem Ko** (Grade 11), **Gregory Schoeman** (in absentia) and **Nikolaos Tapanlis** (Grade 11), **Ryan Labberte** (Grade 10), **Joshua Elliott** (Grade 9)

TIES

Distinction

Dayaan Cassiem (Hockey), **Glenn Yates** (Squash), **Brandon Burke** (Waterpolo)

Academic

Marcus Knight (Grade 12), **Warwick Reid** (Grade 12) and **Jason van der Linden** (Grade 12), **Zola Baird** (Grade 11), **Marcus Craig** (Grade 11) and **Andrew McAdam** (Grade 11), **Nivar Rajoo** (Grade 10), **Kamal Sacranie** (Grade 10) and **Logan Tait** (Grade 10), **Francois Breytenbach** (Grade 9), **Jack Clayton** (Grade 9), **Matthew Derman** (Grade 9), **Liam Foxcroft** (Grade 9), **Murray Gordon** (Grade 9), **Jakob Holm** (Grade 9), **Tom Liefeldt** (Grade 9), **Euan Musselwhite** (Grade 9), **Reece Oellermann** (Grade 9), **Tomas Slaven** (Grade 9), **David Straughan** (Grade 9), **Max Tedder** (Grade 9), **Tristan Turner** (Grade 9), **Kenau Vith** (Grade 9) and **Andrew Williams** (Grade 9)

Accelerated Art

Thomas Mudge

All Rounder

James Aron, **David Court**, **Jonathan Pletts** and **John van Niekerk**

Ensemble

Jack Belcher, **Arthur Fisher**, **Giuseppe Guerandi**, **Chris Gruber**, **Andrew Hodgson**, **KB Ko**, **Julian Mort**, **Ben Nel**, **Jack Newman**, **Stephane Pienaar**, **Jonathan Rossouw**, **Nikolaos Tapanis**, **Angus Thring**, **Alexandros Vavatzanidis** and **Alex Williams**

Service

Gunther Cloete (Fencing)

A FAREWELL TO STAFF



VERNON WOOD

From the beginning of his time at Bishops, which was at the start of 2009, Vernon was clearly, in Peter Westwood's words, "a dignified, wise, caring and humble person with a wonderful understanding of education and what was really important about people". He joined the school in a new position, that of Headmaster of the College, which meant that he had responsibility for the day-to-day affairs of the College as distinct from the things that run across all three schools, which continued to be the Principal's business. This put Vernon at the head of the Executive Committee consisting of Deputy Heads in charge of Sport, Discipline and Culture, Pastoral, Academic so his first task was to understand the Bishops systems and customs. Coming from a large state school to our environment required some major adjustments, and it was remarkable how quickly Vernon was able to adapt. He spent much of his first week listening, talking and asking, but all too soon

there came situations which required real action and we saw some of the leadership qualities that we became used to: he consulted widely and at length, he ensured that everyone had their say and was able to give their opinion without any hindrance or pressure, and while clearly wanting to consider all the advice given to him, he was equally clearly going to make decisions himself and not simply try to negotiate a majority response. While certainly espousing the notion of collective responsibility, Vernon is not a person who would ever want to hide behind it. Despite his experience, he is much more subtle than just a user of established processes: he frequently encourages or initiates a new way of looking at things, his argument being that whatever has worked in the past will not necessarily be the best solution, and each situation has its own individual particularities. That said, process is important, and Vernon is quick to learn lessons and make sure they get applied going forward.

Vernon has always held that a teacher's first responsibility is to their classroom teaching, and he has devoted an enormous amount of energy and time to furthering that philosophy. He has spent many, many periods in classrooms observing and then giving full and constructive feedback to the teacher. He has developed the appraisal system in the school, again consulting widely and ensuring a full conversation rather than decreeing, and always sensitive to the needs of the individual as well as of the organisation. Appraisal is a hard thing to get buy-in for, and it is tribute to the esteem in which Vernon is held that the process is viewed so much more positively nowadays.



Betty-Anne and Vernon Wood

“The needs of the organisation” is a key phrase in Vernon’s thinking, but he is also quite clear that our responsibility as a school is unequivocally for the pupils in it, both collectively and individually, and the organisation must always work undeviatingly towards that. In fact quality assurance, not just of teaching but in all aspects of the school, was a huge thing that Vernon was asked to look after, and he managed that superbly. He also earned great praise for the way he organised the International Boys’ School Coalition conference when it came to Cape Town – that involved managing a large team of people from various schools and was a huge undertaking that resulted in what many felt was the best IBSC conference ever.

Vernon’s courage has always been appreciated in doing what was right even when he knew boys (and probably some parents and ODs) would react negatively – the school’s quest for a more friendly and useful junior-senior relationship is one example. In fact there are so many committees and groupings that have benefited from Vernon’s clarity of purpose and wisdom; there are many well-defined tasks that he has had to perform, and there are therefore many areas of the school where things have improved,

or tightened up, because of his inclusion. But where Vernon has been so very successful is in the less measurable but nevertheless real and critical issue of communication. Time and time again a tense situation became resolved because of Vernon’s gentle involvement; so many people (and this includes staff, boys and parents) have had conversations with him in which problems once deemed insuperable have become either insignificant or solvable. He is the one they turn to, and he is the one they trust.

This is a man who is completely without any sense of entitlement and whose decisions are so much more respected because of that: they never come across as from a person exercising power, but always as the considered response of someone who cares. Many parents have found this, feeling after their meeting with him that they got good advice that was designed specifically for them and had their interests at heart. Everyone has been charmed at some time by Vernon’s ability to draw alongside, hear the concerns, share a story, suggest a possible solution ... and, being a true friend and caring for you rather than himself, he would never take offence if you chose to ignore his advice.

There have been pressured times for Vernon, some of them related to his job and some more personal, but he has always managed those with grace and dignity. Something that has earned him the respect of all who have had dealings with him is the way he can be relied on to stick to the real issues and not be distracted by his own personal agendas.

And Vernon has never let anything interfere with our joy in his companionship. Lots of laughs, anecdotes, teasing he is great company, and his sense of humour never deserts him. We are certainly going to miss his presence

at our lunch tables. He is, first and foremost, in private and at work, a people person.

So the image that Vernon leaves behind is of a genial, sensitive, endlessly energetic and available man who softened all the edges of the school while also strengthening its internal structure and focus. I think everyone believes that things just 'work' more smoothly than ever, that the relationships between people in all the various areas of the school are much better and freer

than they were, and in many areas we are all much clearer about who is supposed to do what. Processes have been clarified, and in many cases streamlined; but above all, as he leaves us, we feel that our school is much stronger and better than it ever was, and better equipped for the future - and that, simple as it may be to put into words, is a significant legacy, a real testament to the work and personality that Vernon brought to Bishops.

Marcus Bizony

MUSIC

MUSIC

2016 began with an intensive 10-week period of rehearsals for the College musical, "All Shook Up". This very successful production certainly kept everyone extremely busy. Once the run was over, however, there was no breather as we launched straight into our usual extended performance programme.

Term two started off with the Bishops Grade 10 Rock Band participating in the V&A Waterfront *Band Slam* competition. The audience was most appreciative of the band's spectacular playing performed in spectacular weather as well!

A week later we hosted a concert of Music for Strings and Harpsichord in the Brooke Chapel, given by Prof Shirley Gie and two of our staff members, Barbara Kennedy (Cello) and Lucia di Blasio Scott (Violin).

The following week saw the first lunchtime concert of the year which was presented by the Bishops Rock Bands. The energy associated with the rock band music performed by the two grade 10 bands, (*Yes and No* and *Amplified*) and the grade 9 band (*No Name*) was

phenomenal. What was particularly satisfying was to hear bands that had been properly trained and who were focusing not only on the traditional energetic crash and bash, but also on a sophisticated sense of musicality.

A week later, on the eve of the long weekend in April, the Orchestra and String Ensemble hosted one of our "Rough & Refined" concerts for the parents. These concerts are held at the end of a practice; the aim behind them being to increase the opportunities for ensembles to perform, even though some of the pieces played are not yet up to the usual performance standard (there is always the one exception though, i.e. the Refined part of the programme).

Ears and hearing (and protecting it) are of major concern to most musicians. To this end, we (and the Herschel music students) were privileged to have a visit by Cape Town audiologist Susan Swart. Her hugely successful talk certainly made the pupils acutely aware of the danger of exposure to prolonged loud noise. Many students also realised that, in most cases, audio loss is something that cannot be

repaired. We spent the last part of the talk measuring the decibel levels of instruments as they were played (both solo and combined into ensembles), which certainly gave the musicians a better idea of the (unrealised) sound levels associated with their instruments.

During June a number of boys played in the Cape Eisteddfod; many of them excelled and the following prizes were awarded to Bishops boys:

Michael Wilson-Trollip: the Burgess Simpson Cup for Best Performance (16 years and over);

Miles Boeddinghaus: the Burgess Simpson Cup for Best Performance (14 years and under);

Leo Gevisser: the Cape Town Eisteddfod Award for Most Diplomas (14 years and under);

KB Ko: the Victoria League Prize for Best All-round entrant, the Nine Club Award for the Best Performer (16 years and over), the S.A.S.M.T. Trophy for Best Violin Recital (13 to 18 years), and the Cape Town Eisteddfod Award for Most Diplomas.

In April, **Michael Wilson-Trollip** was awarded second place in the Rustenburg Girls High School Piano Festival.

In June the parents and pupils of Bishops were treated to a concert by the music staff of the Pre-Prep, Prep and College. The variety of genres, works and standard of performance was exceptional. One parent even asked what it would cost to put on a concert with this number of professional musicians playing - the mind boggles! Thank you so much to all the staff for their willingness to give up their time to create such a special evening.

The third term launched with the Bishops

Society Music Concert in the Memorial Chapel given by the Big Five Brass Quintet, which includes two of the Bishops Brass teachers. The evening was attended also by a number of the Bishops boys who are currently taking brass lessons – they could not have left this performance without being totally inspired.

At the beginning of the term we collaborated with the orchestras and choirs of both Westerford and Rustenburg in an evening of music making where we explored the music behind films. One of these films was a documentary called *Ocean Voyagers*, with music composed by Grant McLachlan (OD). Grant very kindly gained rights to the film and some assistance with re-editing in order to remove all the music from the original soundtrack, and then he rearranged it for choir and orchestra. The Mallett Centre was transformed into a movie house with the audience sitting, in some places, less than 30cm from the orchestra. We explored film soundtracks from Charlie Chaplin, *Tom and Jerry*, *The Mission* and *Avatar* as well. Both performances were sold out.

A week later we hosted the first ever Vocalist Concert in the newly renovated Hyslop Hall. This evening has been established to give boys who are currently having voice lessons, but who are not subject students, a chance to perform in public. The evening was presented under the title of “Singing in the Rain”, with the boys as the comperes for each part of the evening. Thank you to the vocal teachers for this amazing new initiative.

Each year the Hugo Lambrechts Music Centre holds a Concert Festival. Following an audition process, **Leo Gevisser** was invited to play the violin. He will perform the first

movement of Kabalevsky's Violin Concerto in C major with the Festival Orchestra on 28 August.

Jack Belcher (saxophone) made it through to the Finals of the Johann Vos Music Competition. He will compete against three other musicians on the 30th August at the Hugo Lambrechts Music Centre.

We had a number of boys enter the Pieter Kooij Music Competition and two of our musicians, **Leo Gevisser** (Violin) and **KB Ko** (Violin) have made it to the finals.

Over the August long weekend Simply Blue spent the weekend entertaining the

communities of Franschhoek and Hermanus and, in their usual fashion, wowed them.

In the next week we begin the ABRSM practical examinations. This year we have 104 boys being examined over five full school days – this is the largest entry we have had in the history of the Music Department.

The term continues apace as we also host the annual Matric Recital and are in the rehearsal period for the yearly Bishops Composers' Concert, which takes place on 18 October ... and the music-making continues into the fourth term.

Mark Mitchell

RANGER COURSE



Bishops is a great school for many reasons. One thing that helps this school stand out from the crowd is the ability to do activities

far beyond the bounds of the classroom and campus. The Ranger Course is one such activity. It started in 2105 as an educational



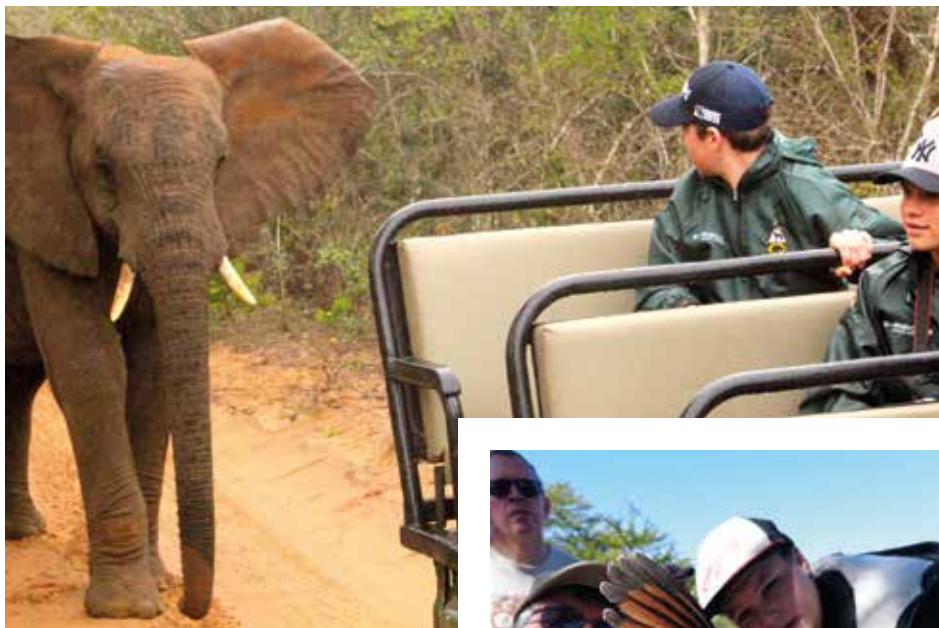
bush adventure for Grade 9 moms and sons. A very important component of this educational adventure is the inclusion of a community project.

2016 saw a total of 11 boys and 10 moms travel to KZN to complete the Ranger Course. The course is equally divided between two venues: Bayete camp in Phinda and Somkhanda Game Reserve. The Phinda portion focused on geology, archeology and game management, with a number of game drives and talks included. The group ended the stay with a cook-off between moms and sons. The Somkhanda focus was on tracking, bird-ringing, staying at a rather rustic bush camp for one night and community work. The latter was amazing. The group, led by the moms, managed to raise R70 000,00 towards building a pre-school classroom at a very rural primary school called Cotlands. It is a most



inspiring feat and demonstrates the power of the Bishops family in making change happen. Many of the stories and hard work are shared on the following Facebook site: Bishops/Somkhanda rural school fundraiser.

The group that went on the course were: Amanda Graham and **Aiden Murphy**, Gina and **Cameron Good**, Candice and **Isaiah Wharton**, Jo and **Finlay Casey-Smith**, Tersia and **Jordan Velosa**, Claudia and **Berkley Hollingum**, Belinda and **Murray Gordon**, Alison and **Thomas Warner**, Shelley and **Ross Hyne** as well as Samantha, **Tyr** and **Tane Krauss**. One of the aspects of the course was completing discussion topics (between moms and sons). Megan de Beyer gave input on how this should work. Special thanks must also go to the Godfrey family. Simone Godfrey helped initiate the first Ranger Course and was gracious in



assisting with the logistics on this course. The middle day of the course was the day the groups swapped. Both groups were witness to rhino tagging. The boys who raised money towards rhino conservation were present for the tagging of two rhino calves. The boys helped in the actual tagging process and then went on to Thula Thula Game Reserve. They donated R30 000,00 towards the feeding of a rhino calf that hopefully will be released into the wild in January 2017. Jack van Essen made a video of this. The link is: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5JIlfYQ4rI&sns=em>. Megan Carr was very kind to help the cyclists to get to and from Nkonka. Her commitment to conservation is appreciated.

The dates for the 2017 Ranger Course have been booked. The programme will follow a very similar approach: conservation,



community and the mom/son relationship. By exposing boys of different grades to the natural environment and providing opportunities for self-discovery, this course, the EPIC and White Rhino trail focus on the boys in grades 9 to 11. Eventually we hope to extend various programmes to also include grades 8 and 12.

Leon Glanvill

WORLD FLY FISHING



Murray Gordon, Anton Volkel and the SA Team

Spain was the host country of the 2016 World Youth Fly Fishing Championship. The tournament was held in the Galicia region, which is situated in the north-west corner of the country. The South African team, comprising six anglers, arrived a week in advance to practise on the Galician waters. We stayed in a local hotel in the middle of Santiago de Compostela. The competition consisted of five sessions. Each session was three hours

long and fished on a new river. The river was divided into 10 sectors, one for each competitor. Competitors aimed to catch as many fish as possible. Size was also important as competitors got 100 points per fish and then 10 points per centimetre after that.

After our practice sessions we had a rest day to tie flies and prepare for our sessions. The team had a parade through the town that finished with an opening ceremony in



the town centre. The competition started on Wednesday. Our team did very well even though we had some tough beat draws. On Thursday we only fished one session. Friday was our best day as we won the final session. The team finished 6th overall. It

was an educational experience. We were fortunate to experience a new culture, new food and a new lifestyle. It was also great to fish with our Spanish guides and learn new techniques from them.

Murray Gordon

BISHOPS IN BOTSWANA

In the mid-year holiday Phil Court, **Ethan Ellis**, **James Howard**, **Derick Reissenzahn** and **Andre Truter** along with parents Bronwyn Howard and George Reissenzahn set off for a week of camping out under the stars and exploring the Okavango Delta (Chief's Island in the Moremi Game

Reserve). We were transported along the waterways of the delta in mokoros - a most peaceful and tranquil form of transport. We had close encounters with elephant, buffalo, hippo, crocodile, lechwe and reedbeek on the water along with the ubiquitous fish eagle, saddlebilled stork, African jacana and the like.



We went on game walks on the islands, even tracking lions at times! We took turns to keep a fire burning throughout the night and checking that no wild animals strayed into camp: we were

visited by hyena and elephant. The Delta is an extraordinary wilderness area teeming with game and bird life - a very special place to visit.

Phil Court

COLLEGE CULTURE



Boyd Kane and James Wilson



The Accelerated Art Programme hard at work

BISHOPS SOCIETIES



ACCELERATED ART

Chairperson: James Wilson

Teacher-in-Charge:

Katherine Spindler

The Accelerated Art

Programme (AAP) takes place from 2:45pm to 5pm every Friday afternoon, and is open to students of all grades – even if they don't take Visual Arts as a subject. We aim to enrich students with exposure to new mediums, methods and ideas that go much further than general classwork. The class (currently 25 boys) is a profusely productive bunch, thanks to the lively and energetic atmosphere that surrounds every Friday session.

AAP – About Pets: We are already into the third term of the school year, and our first termly project of the year went very well. Having been informed prior to the first session of term 1 of

our theme, we were well prepared to get going as soon as possible. The theme for the term was “Pets” and the group responded excellently to the task at hand. The project involved the studying of photographs of each individual's pet (or any other domestic animal) and making a set of monotypes (a single print taken from a design created in printing-ink on glass or metal) of their specific animal. The project was certainly a success; the boys handled the medium very well, and a staggering number of works were produced in the short duration of the project – they were displayed in the Molteno Library.

There were other exciting and ambitious projects: the second term involved animation in drawing, an eye-opening experience for the Accelerated Art members who worked to create their own short animated pieces as well as a collaborative work.

‘Last Thursday’ was an art exhibit on

25 February 2016, held in the Molteno Library. The artworks exhibited were all created by the boys of Bishops, and the exhibit itself was organised by a Bishops matric boy, **Boyd Kane**. Approximately 35 artworks were on display and many were for sale through a silent auction (similar to that used by the Michaelis art students in their final exhibit). The artists displayed works largely made out of class time, and according to whatever discipline or medium they enjoyed using. Artists who exhibited were, **Matthew McKirby, Michael Beckurts, Tristan Turner, Boyd Kane, James Wilson, Rayhaan Ahmed, Davis Her and Thomas Mudge**. It was a great success and a testament to the quality and diversity of art at Bishops.

Luca Powell and Boyd Kane



AFRICAN RELATIONS SOCIETY

Chairperson:Akha Manjezi
Teacher-in-Charge:

Ms A. Kritzinger

The society

focuses on the African continent, African economics and social development as well as African politics. The society met twice a month and attended cultural evenings hosted by Springfield Convent and Rustenburg. We also invited speakers to address the society – a highlight would be Craig Charnock's (OD) outstanding talk on the importance of speaking Xhosa, and cultural appropriation versus appreciation. Unfortunately,

due to various planning mishaps, we were unable to host our own cultural evening. I would like to thank **Musa Nyangiwe** (Deputy Chairperson) and **Yazini Dube** (Secretary) for aiding me in leading the society, as well as the other matrics for their efforts. We will soon have an end-of-year function and I wish the incoming matrics the best of luck with their year in charge of the society.

Akha Manjezi



ASTRONOMY

Chairperson:Lloyd Jones

Teacher-in-Charge:

Mr G. Robertson

In April this year, the society toured to Sutherland. This was a much anticipated trip. Twenty-two boys and an exchange student, Chad Palmer, whose host parent, Darryl Vine, brought him through, and Mr and Mrs Robertson, driven by Tony Noon, left on Saturday morning and, four hours later, arrived at SALT, the largest optical telescope in the southern hemisphere. We spent a few hours exploring the gigantic telescope and our



The Astronomy Society at Sutherland



guide made the whole experience extremely informative and worthwhile. That evening we enjoyed a braai at the hotel followed by star-gazing, led by local Sutherlander, Jurg Wagenaar. This was a unique experience for the group as we saw the night sky through professional equipment in one of the most renowned star-gazing sites in the southern hemisphere. We could clearly see the red spot of Jupiter. On our return we stopped over for lunch at the historic Matjiesfontein. The tour was a great success and the society hopes that it will become an annual tradition.

Lloyd Jones



BEE SOCIETY

Teacher-in-Charge:

Mr K. Kruger

As a group of passionate apiarists, we introduced a bee hive to the Bishops campus

in late 2015, and formed a bee society.

The vegetation that makes our school so

picturesque provides a perfect foraging ground for our bees, as well as the many wild swarms that call Bishops their home. We aim to educate Bishops boys about the importance of bees in the environment, as well as to allow boys the opportunity to take part in the fascinating and inspiring experience of tending to bees. Although we have had a few minor issues with the hive, like a hive beetle outbreak, the bees have been resilient and have provided a great learning experience to the society members. Bringing bees to Bishops has been a rewarding experience. We are all now excited to harvest our first batch of honey. We are also planning to present relevant topics to the school, in conjunction with the GIN society.

Callam Tait



DANCE

Teachers-in-Charge:

Mr and Mrs P. Court

We have had a most enjoyable 'Dance Society year' this year.



*A night to remember at the
Woodlands Pavilion*

The group of boys and girls enjoyed one another's company and made good progress in their dancing. The final evening was a formal event in the Woodlands Pavilion with dance cards and various dance competitions. All too soon we were dancing the 'last waltz'.

Phil Court



DEMOCRITUS

Chairperson: Boyd Kane

Teacher-in-Charge:

Mr K. Warne

The third quarter of 2016 has been a good one on the whole

for Democritus. Recently we received the last component needed for the construction of the quadcopter and so what is left is to pull the parts together into one single flying machine. Also, with regard to the projects' side of Democritus, many of the juniors are showing a renewed enthusiasm in the hovercraft project which will, with some planning, result in more drive for that project and innovation from

the boys in developing and continuing the hovercraft project. The interest sessions which make up the majority of our meeting time have also been successful, with the members of Democritus contributing towards video links which are viewed and discussed in the meetings. We have been amazed and inspired by videos and discussions around: 'How to crash into the sun', 'The most dangerous stretch of water in the world', 'Creating artificial intelligence', and 'Prince Rupert's Drop'. At the end of the third term I step down from the position of Chairperson of Democritus. My successor is yet to be elected. It has been a privilege to lead the members of Democritus and I wish the society all the best for years to come.

Boyd Kane



DRAMA

Chairperson: Mitchell Christy

Teacher-in-Charge:

Mr W. Tucker

Our society members were treated to five animated, and

dynamic, workshops over the past two terms. We thank Sunette Strydom and Alastair Kingon (Vice Principal and teacher of the Helen O' Grady Drama Academy respectively) for facilitating three of these workshops and sharing their energy, expertise and passion for their craft with the boys. Theatre sports, improvisation, vocal techniques, monologues and characterisation formed the core of these workshops. We also thank Physical Theatre artist extraordinaire, Richard Antrobus, for sharing his immense talent and words of wisdom in two extraordinary workshops: Character Chaos, and Mime over Matter

— great fun was had by all and a boisterous and sweaty group devoured the Cokes and cupcakes after these exhausting session.

Once again, both the Eisteddfod Drama and Movement sections were of a high standard. Both events had the Memorial Theatre bursting at the seams as everyone crowded in to see the different Houses perform. The topic for the 2016 Drama category was: 'Life is not about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself.' G.B. Shaw. The Drama was adjudicated by Melissa Sanderson, Lesley Boxall and Alastair Kingon – all extremely well-versed in the nuances of performance and the dramatic arts. Once again the directors were given a comprehensive list of dos and don'ts by the adjudicators, before the event, and this certainly helped the quality of the final product. The Movement Section was adjudicated by Caely-Jo Levy and Anni Goedhals. We were indeed very privileged to have adjudicators of such high quality again this year.

Kidd House won the Drama Section and Birt House won the Movement Section. The overall Performance Owl winner for 2016 was Kidd House. **Alexander Peile** (Kidd) was named 'Best Actor' and Gray House was awarded 'Best Director'. The 'Best Script' award was won by Ogilvie House. Another excellent year for Drama at Bishops!

Wayne Tucker



FORUM

Chairperson: Taahir Bhorat
Teacher-in-Charge:

Dr P. Murray

The meeting featured Adam Fine, Founder and CEO of

Fives Futbol who addressed the society on his experiences in this emerging company, in an ever changing South African market. Mr Fine provided valuable insights into transitioning an established model of five-a-side football, from Britain to South Africa and his experiences with the South African private sector. The focus on social development through his company gave a valuable side to the talk as it alerted the members of the potential for social responsibility. A further point of inspiration was that he started his company at the tender age of 17! The second meeting was not yet held at the time of writing up this report. The planned meeting is for a visiting Senior Mathematics Lecturer employed at Cambridge University, Dr Matthias Dörrzapf, to address the society to share something about the life of a university student at St John's College, Cambridge. It is felt that it would be of interest to boys at Bishops to know something about university life, not least, at such a historic academic institution.

Taahir Bhorat



GLOBAL ISSUES NETWORK (GIN)

Teacher-in-Charge:

Mrs C. Douglas

The GIN Meeting, held on

17 May, was an extra special

occasion. Bishops hosted the Rock Girls, and delegates from Herschel, Springfield and Reddam. Michelle India Baird is a human rights lawyer and activist who has worked on women's and children's rights for over twenty years. She is also the Rock Girl founder. The Rock Girl Facebook page says the following about the group: 'Rock Girl connects girls and



The Rock Girls and Michelle India Baird meet Guy Pearson



women to champions in government, business, the media, sports, fashion, and the arts who can help them design, implement, and fund their projects. Rock Girl seeks to reduce violence against women and girls through the creation of safe places. It empowers girls to stay in school and encourages women to become economically independent so that they

can live healthy and risk-free lives. Through Rock Girl's initiatives, women and girls gain the self-confidence and skills needed to become agents of social change in their own lives. Rock Girl engages boys and men in our efforts to create a safer South Africa.'

In an email to the Principal after the meeting, Michelle India Baird wrote, 'The discussion with the boys and other girls from Herschel, Springfield, and Reddam was lively – and there are plans to have a second session to continue talking and perhaps find some common solutions. For me, it was truly ground-breaking to have teenagers from so many different communities together, boys and girls, talking about some of the biggest challenges facing South Africa. Huge kudos to the boys of the Global Issues Network, to Cheryl Douglas, and to Bishops for making this possible.'



HISTORICAL BENCH

Chairperson: Joseph Linley
Teacher-in-Charge: Dr P. Murray

Joseph Linley presented the topic for the Historical

Bench meeting in Term 2 of 2016, which was "Brexit. Should Britain leave the EU?" He wrote as follows: "The topic was chosen due to the referendum being held in Britain in July of this year on whether it/they should leave the EU or not. My aim for the talk was to make sure the whole society was aware of a huge event which was about to take place, and which would go down in all the history records. A brief history and introduction of the topic was given to the members of the society, before it was opened up for debate.

Both sides of the argument were thoroughly covered, and there were strong opinions from many of the members on whether Britain should stay or leave the EU. It was my most enjoyable meeting of the year, and everyone enjoyed their Cokes and doughnuts at the end of the meeting.” The second meeting had not yet been held at the time of writing up this report. The planned meeting is for a visiting Senior Mathematics Lecturer employed at Cambridge University, Dr Matthias Dörrzapf, to address the society to share something about the life of a university student at St John’s College, Cambridge. It is felt that it would be of interest to boys at Bishops to know something about university life, not least, at such a historic academic institution.

Paul Murray



HISTORY

Teacher-in-Charge:

Dr Rodney Warwick

Military History Tour To France And Belgium Commemorating The

1st South African Infantry Brigade's Epic Stand At Delville Wood

During two weeks of the past holidays, 15 grade 9s and four grade 10s, together with Dr Rodney Warwick and Mr Warwick Richter, formed the Bishops Military History tour complement which toured predominantly military historically-related sites in France and Belgium. Our chief aim was participating in a centenary commemoration marking the battle of Delville Wood, but also to remember all South Africans who died during the First World War and particularly the 112 OD fatalities. We were visiting northern France

during the numerous other Somme battle commemorations marking 100 years since this massive campaign by British Empire forces to defeat the Germans.

The first part of our tour was orientated towards the Second World War; after landing at Paris we headed for the Normandy region and were located for the next five nights at a basic, but comfortable hotel in Caen. We visited the Caen Peace Memorial Museum, this being the boys' first introduction to the outstanding museum services available in France where every effort is made to curate for visitors of all ages. Static exhibits and technology usage are meticulously combined for effective remembrance and education. French official preservation and remembrance of their past through their heritage industry could teach much to their South African counterparts.

During World War Two directly after the June 1944 Allied D-Day landings, Caen and the surrounding region were at the centre of heavy fighting between German, British and Canadian forces. Other memorable locations visited in this region included the Normandy Beaches of which the highlight was arguably Omaha Beach with its enormous and poignant American military cemetery. Our party was also struck by the American Ranger Monument at Pointe-du-Hov, which after more than seven decades is still vividly pock-marked with craters from Allied aerial bombing and naval shelling. Besides the historical significance, Pointe-du-Hov, like many of the sites we visited, ensured there was plenty of walking that was often rewarded with spectacular views. Throughout the tour boys and staff were on a very full



The group next to the Tommy statue at the Somme Trench Museum. Because of the historical context the boys were asked not to smile.



Kyle Deans and James Frankenfeld mount the Thiepval Memorial during the Delville Wood Battle Centenary Commemoration to lay a wreath of behalf of all ODs killed during the First World War



The 2016 Bishops Military History Tour group in front of the Delville Wood Memorial



Bishops and Pretoria Boys' High students line up to lay crosses at the Thiepval Memorial during the Delville Wood Battle Centenary Commemoration to commemorate their respective school's First World War dead

programme and we always returned to our hotel well exercised in both mind and body.

Besides military historical sites our group had many opportunities to reflect upon history connected to Medieval and Dark Ages France. Two related highlights during our time in the Normandy region were

visits to Bayeux where we viewed the 11th Century tapestry of the Norman Conquest of England; an historical epic that any educated mother-tongue English-speaker should know about. The other was our visit to the magnificent, but haunting, Mont-St-Michel, founded as a 6th century Gallo-Roman



The 2016 Bishops Military History Tour group at the Thiepval Memoria

commune, later a French fortress during the One Hundred Years War against the English, and later still a French Revolutionary prison. Not least were our explorations to several magnificent Cathedrals, in Bayeux, Laon, Reims and elsewhere; extraordinary places of worship exhibiting the acute piety of medieval men determined to reach God through buildings of enormous size and Gothic architectural beauty. What a pity our boys and South African students generally, in properly understanding World History, do not get more lesson exposure to the indisputable significance of European historical culture.

At the beginning of the second tour week, we relocated further north to Amiens where we were lodged at a friendly, well-equipped Holiday Inn. En route to Amiens we made an important stop at the Arques-la-Bataille military

cemetery, for here are buried dozens of the men from the South African Native Labour Corps, who felled trees and did other vital war-related labouring work during 1917-18. Like all Commonwealth War Graves Commission sites, this is a beautifully tended resting place for Sotho, Zulu and Xhosa-speaking men who travelled thousands of miles from their African home to serve in a European war in which many perished from illness or drowning during the troopship SS Mendi's sinking in the English Channel. The boys and staff had the opportunity to write messages in the cemetery's Book of Condolence.

During our first foray from Amiens we explored the massive French military cemetery at Notre-Dame-de-Lorette with its thousands of graves and several ossuaries; a sombre testimony to the First World War

human cost regarding the French military. During the afternoon we visited Vimy Ridge, the site of an epic stand by Canadian troops during 1917. Other locations included the Somme Trench Museum and the enormous Lochnagar Crater – the result of a huge mine detonation by Royal Engineers tunneling under the German front on the eve of the first day of the Somme campaign.

We made an important trip into Belgium and to Ypres; a name that echoes the epic and costly fighting by British Empire and German soldiers in this region nearly a century ago. The South African 1st Infantry Brigade are specifically commemorated on the 9th Scottish Division Memorial located on the Frezenburg Ridge about six kilometres north-east of Ypres – this division being commanded by a South African, Major-General Tim Lukin whose statue is located next to the Delville Wood Memorial in the Cape Town Gardens. A kind Belgium tourist official drove me to this point where I was able to locate the approximate site of my great-uncle's serious wounding at the 3rd Battle of Ypres in September 1917 – Lance-Corporal George William Warwick of the South African Scottish – 4th Battalion of the 1st SA Brigade. At the enormous Thiepval Memorial to 72246 British Empire troops recorded as missing with no known graves, Mr Richter viewed the name of a relative who served with the British Army. The boys' official tour tie includes the badge of the 1st SA Infantry Brigade with its Springbok head insignia.

We travelled twice to Delville Wood, this being the place of an enormous South African military sacrifice in mid-July 1916, when the 1st SA Brigade in its first action

against the enemy held out against continual German infantry attacks and artillery bombardments, losing 2682 dead or wounded from the Brigade's original strength of 3432. During our visit to this site, known as one of the most beautiful of all World War One Western Front battlefields, we held a short service during which the tour party solemnly read out each name of the 112 ODs killed during the Great War while serving in South African or other British Empire forces. Only around 60 of the Brigade's dead have graves in the Delville Wood cemetery; for most of the South African fatal casualty remains from the battle were lost, buried and disintegrated by shellfire amidst the hell of six days and nights of continual fighting; their grave is effectively the Thiepval Memorial mentioned above.

Thiepval was therefore the appropriate location for a Delville Wood centenary commemoration on Sunday, 10 July; a service organized to accommodate most of the South Africans who had travelled to France for this purpose. This was undoubtedly the high-point of our tour, as alongside various South African veteran and regimental associations, our Bishops boys laid a wreath on behalf of our OD fallen, while other tour parties of boys from Pretoria Boys High and Maritzburg College did likewise. The presence of so many uniformed South African school boys at the commemoration was very well received by the organizers and others in attendance.

Kyle Deans and **James Frankenfeld** laid the wreath on behalf of Bishops, followed by each member of our group placing a small cross. Kyle's great-grandfather had been at the Delville Wood battle while James had

earlier during the tour visited the grave of a relative killed on the Western Front.

The following day during our return to Paris's Charles De Gaulle airport we noted the presence of fully armed French Army personnel on duty amidst the crowds – the great-grandsons of the First World War veterans – a reminder of the omnipresent war against Islamist terrorism and testimony to the global reality that during this First World War centenary which prompted our tour, mankind is not done with armed aggression and the need to defend against it. That said, the 2016 Bishops Military History Tour to France was an important, interesting and highly recommended experience for all, students and staff; well done to Mr Richter who put much of the tour organisation together. Our tour hopefully will be followed by other such intended military history excursions for our students.

Rodney Warwick



IMPACT

Teacher-in-Charge:

Mr K. Warne

Impact is one of Bishops' two Christian Unions (CUs) currently active in the school,

and over the past year has put a big emphasis on growth, both spiritually and numerically, of the society. The group meets up once a week, on Wednesdays at open period, with every week offering something different. Often, invited guest speakers come to give talks on various pertinent topics, and thought-provoking discussions around these topics then follow. Occasionally, we spend the meeting time making sandwiches for

underprivileged schoolchildren as an element of outreach, and the 'sport sessions' have become increasingly popular among the members. Overall, the meetings are always enjoyable, with a great group of boys all united in faith and helping each other to grow closer to God.

In addition to internal activities, Impact has also focused on extending to other CUs around the southern suburbs, and the termly Schools United event is one of such methods. This term's Schools United, hosted at Bishops, provided a meeting point for multiple CUs, where we enjoyed establishing bonds with other people of the same faith outside Bishops, and some powerful worship and discussions surrounding the topic 'Monday to Saturday' Christians. The event also proved to be a fantastic opportunity to give back to the community as members brought unused pairs of socks to help people in need.

A few of the guys from Impact also participated in the 'Not What You Think' CU camp run by the Rustenburg and Rondebosch CUs. The camp ran over the weekend of 10 June at the Simonsberg Christian Centre, and from inspiring talks to passionate worship to relaxed socialising and bonding time, the camp provided a rejuvenating break from busy school life and a renewed urge to continue making a difference in our school and society.

Impact, along with the spirituality committee, has also been working hard during term two and three on a project to place Bibles in the Memorial Chapel. The project involves giving boys and their families the opportunity to sponsor Bibles and in turn

get their names written in their donated Bible. These Bibles will remain in the Memorial Chapel for generations to come. This will allow boys who donate to leave a lasting legacy at Bishops but also all Bishops boys will now be able to refer directly to scripture verses during weekly chapel services.

The current committee has been running Impact for two years, and now the time has come when the younger grades will be taking over the roles in the committee as the Matrics leave us. The committee selection and handover process will take place at our Annual General Meeting later this term. We look forward to seeing Impact continuing to grow in leaps and bounds over the upcoming years under the new committee.

Keith Warne



INTERNATIONAL Teacher-in-Charge:

Mr P. Court

Our first speaker of the year was Simon Everingham (OD). Simon spent three

months backpacking on his own through Central America. He started off in Panama City and made his way through Panama, Costa Rica (briefly - because it is the most expensive country in Central America), Nicaragua, Honduras and El Salvador (also briefly because of the relative crime there), Guatemala and finally Belize. He experienced many highs (stunning scenery, amazing history and artefacts, the good company of fellow travellers, to name a few) and lows (bed bugs, long cold bus journeys, dengue, nasty sand flies, to name a few). It was a most interesting, informative and 'enlightening' evening.

Unfortunately our second speaker for the term let us down at the last minute and so rather than cancel the meeting I gave a talk to the society on Israel. I led a tour to Israel in 2012 and shared photographs and experiences from that visit and previous visits to Israel.

With the US elections taking place this year, we invited Ronald Rock from the US Embassy to speak to us about the whole election process: it is a lengthy, complicated and costly process!

Mr Jannie De Villiers came to tell us about his recent school trip to Russia. The main focus of the trip was to climb Mount Elbrus (5642m) in the Caucasus. It is a beautiful snow-covered twin peak mountain from which you can see both the Black and Caspian Seas. Their itinerary included visits to Moscow and St Petersburg: we were able to get a glimpse into the beauty and grandeur of these two cities through his slide show.

Phil Court



LINGUA FRANCA Teacher-in-Charge:

Dr P. Murray

This term's meeting was addressed jointly by Dr Paul Murray and Mr Iain

Buchanan, OD, and proprietor of the farm Mount Camdeboo in the Graaff-Reinet/Pearston area, situated in the Sneeuwerge. Dr Murray presented a PowerPoint presentation on a Karoo farm showing its several dimensions and features, ranging from the way the geology, palaeontology, archaeology, flora, fauna, and human agency, synchronise. Mr Iain Buchanan as an owner

of a game farm explained his vision for the farm. It was to conserve and protect the environment for future generations. He outlined some of the challenges that the environment faces today such as the slaughtering of white rhinos. The second meeting was not yet held at the time of writing up this report. The planned meeting is for a visiting Senior Mathematics Lecturer employed at Cambridge University, Dr Matthias Dörrzapf to address the society to share something about the life of a university student at St John's College Cambridge. It is felt that it would be of interest to boys at Bishops to know something about university life, not least, at such a historic academic institution.

Paul Murray



TEN CLUB

Secretary: Redwald Aspinall

President: Mr V. Wood

The Ten Club of 2016's meetings have proven to be filled with St Elmo's Pizzas,

a wide variety of desserts and incredibly intellectual 'banter'. Not only this but, in typical Ten Club style, presentations that have been unique, informative, and thought provoking, have been given by each member, leading to lively discussions and debates after each presentation, often extending far beyond the meetings themselves and into the classrooms.

The first meeting was an exciting affair, with **Ahmed Dhansay's** presentation on the future of energy, revolving mainly around nuclear energy. The evening was brought to a close by **Akha Manjezi** with 'The History

of Rap', Mr Wood's personal favourite.

Redwald Aspinall began the next meeting with a talk about the life of his grandfather, including his successes in the UK gambling industry, and his involvement in wildlife conservation. **Ziyaad Bawa** continued the trend of ending the meeting off on a 'lighter' note, with his fascinating presentation on the Sneaker Market. **Francois Stassen's** presentation, a few weeks later, was on the changes that the automotive industry faces in the future, and was both enlightening and entertaining. Later that same evening, **Nick Janisch** tried to answer whether or not there is other intelligence in the universe, as he touched on numerous statistics regarding the possibility of us actually coming into contact with them in our lifetimes. The penultimate meeting began with a suspiciously informative presentation on Ponzi Schemes by **Luke Baker**, while **Jonathan Rossouw** set the benchmark for the final meeting of the year, with his in-depth presentation on the internet.

Excitement for the final meeting was palpable as parents arrived eagerly hoping for the quintessential Ten Club experience via presentations by **Daniel Tate** and **Alex Peile**. Dan began the evening on a high with a captivating presentation on how powerful the mind truly is. To end a fine year in the Ten Club, Alex took us on a journey through the history of virtual reality and what exactly the future holds with regards to this exciting topic.

It has been a great year in the Ten Club for all involved, and will be a particularly fond memory of our time at Bishops for the rest of our lives.

Redwald Aspinall



BISHOPS

EIDFOD



inspire
The **freedom** to create

RESHOPS **EISTECDFOD**

BISHOPS EISTEDDFOD 2016



'Creativity is intelligence having FUN' – Albert Einstein. How often do we human beings ask ourselves to be truly creative? How often, when facing a challenge, do we ask ourselves to dig deep into ourselves to find a truly creative solution, a solution that clears the path to a possible new way of being? Or do we just go with the accepted, comfortable 'for now' solution and, in this process of accepting, do we end up losing out on future opportunities and relationships simply because we have just been too lazy to ask for the 'new' from our intelligence? If this option is chosen we obviously lose out on the potential fun and stimulation of creating new possibilities?

The more I work with the Bishops Eisteddfod the more I realise that it is actually a living organism, a 'being'. As soon as we

think we have solved all the potential problems it seems to present us all with new challenges and learnings – 2016 has been no different.

The level of time and energy put into this yearly celebration by both the staff and boys of Bishops is beyond substantial and the degree of passion shown towards the various activities is truly inspiring. I often wonder if there is any other House activity that unites and challenges the House as the Eisteddfod does. When watching the Inter House Singing one clearly sees 100% involvement; every boy and every choir director has put his entire being into each performance. The sense of commitment is unquestionable: all aim at the same goal – winning the Owl which everyone wants!

A few years ago, one House decided to get creative and make their entrance just a bit



different by making a walk-on video. When this happened people were totally blown away, but it ended up setting the 'new standard'. A new level of ground-breaking, bar-setting, creativity was presented this year at the Inter House Singing when Birt House including astoundingly sophisticated movement in their performances. This year also saw the closest set of results ever in the history of the Bishops Eisteddfod, especially in the Inter House Singing competition where there was only a one-mark difference between the first two Houses and two marks between the first and third House.

Winning is always the goal, but I hope that we, as a community, can always try to focus on the process and what we all gain from it: the memories of great time rehearsing the singing, the amazing laughs we had putting the plays and movements together, the fact that emotions can be a catalyst for unity,

that we need to celebrate that fact that we gave everything to it – something that is a differentiating factor in the work place today – and, most importantly, that we as a school had fun, as fun is the fertilizer that is going to be the energy that will allow the Eisteddfod to expand and grow in relevance.

After all was practised and performed the following were the final results of the 2016 Bishops Eisteddfod:

Visual Arts Owl

Performance Owl

Drama

Movement

Speech Owl

Music Owl

Inter House Singing Owl

Prelim Owl

Boarding Owl

Overall Eisteddfod Owl

Mark Mitchell

Kidd House

Kidd House

Kidd House

Birt House

Gray House

Birt House

Gray House

Gray House

School House

Gray House

MILITARY HISTORY TOUR TO FRANCE



Wreaths of Thiepval

During the recent winter vacation, 19 schoolboys from the College set off on a Military History tour to France; for almost two weeks between June and July, the young men were accompanied by Mr Warwick Richter (of the French Department) and Dr Rodney Warwick (of the History Department) as they travelled about amongst the many places of historical and cultural interest which can be found in Normandy and Picardy ... they even ventured into Belgium for a day's exploring, too!

The town of Caen was the group's first base. En route to the hotel from Charles de Gaulle airport, the boys had the opportunity to visit the beautiful gardens of Giverny, which provided such rich inspiration for the painter Claude Monet. After the long haul from Cape Town via Dubai, and then the bus-ride to Caen from Paris, there were not many amongst the tour party who lingered at the dinner table, with most lads enjoying a decidedly early night at the close of that first day!



The military cemetery at Delville Wood

Then followed a busy programme of visits which ensured that the boys were constantly on the move; even our wonderful coach driver, a Mr Alan Taylor, was later to express amazement at all that had been arranged for the group ... and he has been transporting tours like this one around Europe for almost 30 years now!

Not far from the hotel, the Peace Memorial certainly lived up to its reputation as one of the finest museums in France, clearly defining the role that Normandy had played in the final stages of the Second World War. After taking in all of the many exhibits and watching a number of excellent films about the D-Day invasion, the boys then visited the American Cemetery which overlooks Omaha Beach and the brooding English Channel. Other visits in this neighbourhood involved spending time at the memorial to the American Rangers who, against all odds, secured an important



The American Cemetery at Colleville

promontory at Pointe du Hoc in the summer of 1944; the boys visited the German cemetery in La Cambe, and the town of Arromanches, where the Allied forces had managed to create an artificial harbour to facilitate the landing of troops, vehicles and equipment on French soil. An afternoon was also spent in the charming provincial village of Bayeux, home to the famous tapestry which depicts the defeat of the English during the battle of Hastings in 1066.

The tour focused on more than just cemeteries, military battles and history, however. Highlights of the first weekend included a visit to the bustling morning market in the beautiful port town of Honfleur; from there, the boys travelled south towards the region known as “La Suisse Normande”, visiting the timbered village of Beuvron-sur-Auge before arriving in Camembert for a tour of a “cr  merie”, which produces the famous



Jack Beare tries frogs' legs for the first time



Camembert

cheese that has brought world renown to these parts! There were interesting reactions from the young men during their “*dégustation*”, as they tasted the local produce, especially when it came to some of the more aged cheeses that were on offer! This was not to be the only gastronomic discovery for the young men: some of the more adventurous lads also showed great determination to try out other classic dishes amongst all that is proposed by traditional French cuisine, ordering snails and

“*foie gras*” and even frogs’ legs at meal-times!

The boys also had the opportunity to visit a number of historic places of worship as, along the way, the itinerary included stops at the cathedrals of Amiens and Rouen, Reims and Laon. When visiting the Mont Saint-Michel, just twenty-four hours after the start of this year’s Tour de France, the young men were lucky enough to attend a service in the thousand-year-old abbey that sits at the very top of the rock, a service which was led by the singing of the local monks and nuns.

After five nights in Caen, the bus drove the boys towards the north and over the impressive Pont de Normandie, which so gracefully spans the mouth of the river Seine. A lunch-stop was made in Etretat, a sea-side town which handsomely rewards those who climb her chalky cliffs to the north and the south with spectacular views of the sea, the village and the pebble-stone beach. The tour party was headed to its next base in Amiens, the capital of the Somme “*département*” in the Picardy region. En route, there was time to visit the tiny cemetery at Arques-la-Bataille, where all could pay their respects to the fallen of the South African Native Labour Corps who had performed important auxiliary functions during the latter stages of the First World War and who now lie in rest very far from our shores in a quite beautiful valley that overlooks a sleepy hamlet not too far from Dieppe.

The first excursion from Amiens was to the Champagne region to the east. After a stop in Laon, the young tourists arrived in Reims for a fascinating tour of the underground “caves” of the house of Pommery whose founder, Madame Louise, is said to have invented (at Queen Victoria’s request) the world’s first



The grave of Vincent van Gogh in Auvers

ever brut champagne. Then it was into town to discover the magnificent cathedral with its beautiful stained-glass windows, including some which had been designed by the artist Marc Chagall.

If our focus in Normandy had understandably fallen on the Second World War, here in the Somme Valley the group concentrated more on the Great War, visiting the Lochnagar Crater (all that remains from a massive underground bomb which was detonated early on the first of July 1916, the opening day of hostilities in the Battle of the Somme) and many museums and memorials, which gave the boys deeper understanding

about life in the trenches (at Vimy Ridge and at the Passchendaele Museum, visitors are able to explore life-size recreations of the trenches which were dug in on both sides of No Man's Land). Many cemeteries were visited too, from Tyne Cot (the resting place of almost twelve thousand Commonwealth soldiers) to the enormous French cemetery at Notre Dame de Lorette with its 20 000 graves. Given the age of the boys on the tour, it was especially poignant to find the grave of a young English rifleman who had lost his life at the tender age of 15 during the fighting near Ypres in Belgium; the Essex Farm cemetery where his body lies also contains the grave of



The Mont St-Michel

Lieutenant-Colonel John McCrae who had written the famous poem “In Flanders Fields” in a nearby dressing station, following the death of a dear friend. The end of our day in Belgium deserves special mention, too, as the boys attended a particularly moving ceremony: the daily sounding of the Last Post at Menin Gate, a tradition which goes back to the 1920s and one which has only ever been interrupted by four years of German occupation during World War Two.

The chief aim of the tour had been to ensure that our school was represented at the centennial commemorations of the Battle of Delville Wood which were to take place on

Sunday 10 July; many South Africans had died here during six days of fierce fighting in July 1916, with a number of pupils and teachers from Bishops amongst those who had made the ultimate sacrifice in defending the Wood against the enemy. It was decided to visit the battlefield a few days before the official ceremony in order to get a “feel” for the area away from the inevitable cameras and crowds which were expected on the weekend in question. During our visit, a short but moving service was conducted by Dr Warwick, during which the young men read out the names of all 112 ODs who had lost their lives in the First World War. Delville Wood is today



The French military cemetery at Notre Dame de Lorette

a place of great beauty and calm: lush grass, shady trees and birdsong mask the horrors of what this patch of land had to endure 100 years ago. The boys appeared to be deeply touched by the afternoon that was spent here, quietly exploring the cemetery and following the easily-distinguishable lines of former trenches deep into the forest.

For a number of different reasons, the official ceremony was not held in the Wood on the Sunday that had long been ear-marked for this important gathering. Instead, courtesy of the input and assistance of the Royal British Legion of Veterans, the venue was shifted to the nearby Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme Battlefields, a striking monument which bears the names of over



Honfleur

70 000 officers and men of the British and South African forces. That morning, some 400 South Africans arrived at Thiepval for the service, including representatives from a number of South African schools and pupils from Pretoria Boys High, Maritzburg College and Bishops. All schoolboys present were afforded the honour of taking part in proceedings as they laid small wooden crosses on the memorial during the service, while two of our young men, **Kyle Deans** and **James Frankenfeld**, laid a wreath on behalf of all associated with the College (a wreath that had kindly been sponsored by our OD Union back in Rondebosch). It all made for a very poignant and stirring service which was led by visiting school chaplains and veterans.

All that then remained on the itinerary was the return of the tour party to the airport in Paris for the flight back to Cape Town. The short journey from Amiens to Charles de Gaulle was broken at Auvers-sur-Oise, to the north-west of the capital, so boys could discover the town where Vincent van Gogh had spent his last few days in a frenzy of painting; the group visited some of the very places where the Dutch painter had set up his easel, also taking in the hotel where he had rented a room and his simple grave (alongside

his brother's) in the village cemetery.

In closing, the boys are complimented on their fine cooperation and great enthusiasm at all times during the fortnight in France! We are grateful to the office bearers of the OD Union for their involvement and interest in this project from the start. Our thanks also go to Mr Alan Taylor for his many hours behind the steering-wheel of the coach that so comfortably carried us through north-western France.

Warwick Richter

SIMPLY BLUE

This term has been a very busy one for Simply Blue, as the group concluded its year of singing with many great successes. The highlight of the term was the recent tour to Franschhoek, Hermanus and Somerset West. The tour consisted of three very enjoyable performances, and provided a weekend in which the boys could bond and grow closer while making music. The audiences were always appreciative and made our time with them very worthwhile. We'd like to thank all the organizers, hosts and audience members for an awesome weekend! The positive impression made by the group is summed up in extracts from a letter from Michael Matthews (OD): *As you may know Simply Blue performed a concert in Hermanus on Sunday for the benefit of the Overstrand Hospice. It was an occasion that will long be remembered for its spontaneity and joie de vivre and we are most grateful to Bishops for bringing us this special experience. Some 250 happy people were treated to an enthralling and polished performance which will have brought great credit to the school. The singing was amazing and the discipline professional. The boys*

were natural, modest, obviously enjoyed every minute and must have been pleased with the sometimes ecstatic response from the appreciative audience. Bishops can be justly proud of this enthusiastic, committed and very personable group of boys.'

On Saturday 20 August at the Handover Supper Show, we sadly had to say goodbye to the matrics in the group. The evening was a lively and entertaining one, filled with music and dancing. Near the end of the evening was the ceremonial handover of the blue waistcoats from the leavers to the new members of Simply Blue 2017. We would like to congratulate the following boys on their selection and welcome them to the new group: **Jack Belcher, Simmele Mashwama, Adam Stonestreet, Charlie Yates, Dean Jacobs, Joshua Mol, Kamal Sacranie, Junho Ko, James Aron, Matthew van Westenbrugge, Jody Williams, Okuhle Minyi and Terry Kim.**

The new group has already had the exciting experience of performing live with Carl Wastie on Good Hope FM on Thursday 25th August.



On behalf of the leaving matrics, I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Bradley, Mr Carletti and Anni Goedhals for all the time and effort that went into making our time in this

amazing group so special. We have made some awesome memories with Simply Blue, and we will miss it immensely!

Joe Linley and Nicholas Janisch

COLLEGE SPORT

FENCING



Fencing in Wurzburg

During the June holidays, nine members of the Bishops Fencing Club went on fencing training tour to Germany. The tour was based in Tauberischofsheim, a small town a few hours out of Frankfurt, with a population of little under 13 000 people. We started at the Olympic centre and Fencing club, which is world famous for its brilliant facilities, coaches and hospitality. The club is the most successful fencing club in the world based on its medal successes in international fencing events, like the Olympics.

An average day at the club consisted of an early breakfast, 30 minutes of gruelling private lessons, followed by lunch. Free time after lunch was spent going to the local “Rewe”, getting ice cream, exploring the town’s various attractions or just chatting. On weekdays the evening was spent in group training with the club fencers. One major highlight was the Altstadtfest (Old Town Festival). The event started with all the town’s guilds marching though the main street of the old town; fencers, war veterans, marching bands, breweries, gymnasts, ballet dancers and



Outing to Wurzburg

many more all made their way from the bottom to the very top of the hill, where the festival was officially started by the brewery, DistelHauser, cracking open a keg of beer. The festival ran over three days, with live music, good food and lots of fun.

During the last week of our stay, many Olympic fencers from various countries started to arrive, Japan, Poland, Venezuela and many others, for a training camp prior to the Rio Olympics. We had the privilege of fencing against a few of these Olympian hopefuls and we were all thoroughly whipped by them.

The trip was a great success and we all grew in mind, body, spirit and skill, some of us even gaining a guitar!

Angus Longmore and Jack Withers

GOLF



Matthew McKirby lining up to putt

The 2016 school golf season was a good one. As always, whether for the first or third team, the boys showed incredible determination and attitude that made the teachers proud. The willingness to do their best for every single shot was inspiring and it truly showed that the future of Bishops' golf is bright. The season started with the top four golfers heading to Dainfern College in Johannesburg

for the annual Dainfern Challenge under the supervision of Mr Gibbon. The course was in impeccable condition; however, due to weather issues, the three-round tournament was reduced to only two rounds with the second being finished on the third day. After much friendly debate as to who was going to be the best from Bishops, it turned out that all four golfers ended on the same total for the tournament. Watching a river form across the 18th green in under an hour was something we had never seen before and, along with this, many other memories were made. Although looking strong on paper, the 1st team had a slightly disappointing year and it was evident that **Cole Cruickshank** was dearly missed. After months of planning and organization, the Bishops Championships and Inter House competition was postponed due to incredible amounts of rain. The actions of Mr Walsh and Mr Gibbon were highly commendable as it was decided to postpone the competition as opposed to just choosing a winner since all players had completed nine holes. Mentions have to go out to **Andre de Decker** who is now playing on the Web.com Tour and **Cole Cruickshank** who began his career at Columbia State University after earning a golf scholarship. These are extremely high achievements from both gentlemen. Congratulations! Special mentions must go out to Mr Mervin Walsh (1st team), Mr Glen Gibbon (2nd team) and Mr Joc Wensch (3rd team) for their leadership, support and encouragement throughout the season. It is truly appreciated by all of the boys involved!

Anton Volkel

HOCKEY

Bishops Hockey has had yet another very successful season. We entered 15 sides into the local Cape Town league (five U19 sides, six U16 sides and four U14 sides), the most we have ever fielded. At the stage of writing, Bishops teams have played 221 games, winning 129 and scoring 625 goals in the process.

Our A and B sides across all age groups have been particularly successful with a combined 76% win ratio. This has meant that Bishops has retained the U18 league cup and won the U16 league cup for the first time. In addition, the 1st team, U16A and U14A sides are all through to the semi-finals of the Knock Out Cup. Due to our strong performance this year we have had an unprecedented number of WP and SA representatives selected.

There were a number of pre- and early-season tours: the 1st team travelled to Johannesburg for the St Stithians' Easter Festival and then competed in the Nomads Festival hosted by Wynberg Boys' High; the U16As travelled to York in George for the Independent Schools' Festival; the U16Bs also travelled to George for the York Festival; the U14s played in two festivals – the first was held at Somerset College and the second at the U14 Independent Schools' Festival hosted by St Albans.

There have been a number of new coaching appointments this year: Mr Cassa Cassiem has coached a hard-running and competitive U16A side; Mr Kyle Lottering has very capably coached the U16B side and the school's drag flickers; Mrs Jillian Walsh has coached the U14Bs who have had a wonderful

season and are the only undefeated side in the school; and Messrs Michael Hanley and James Dry, both of whom are ODs, returned to coach the U14 C and D teams respectively. I would like to thank all the staff involved in coaching and managing Bishops Hockey teams (27 people in total!) and who have made my job so easy. My particular thanks to Mr Graeme Klerck who so ably stood in for me whilst I was away on long leave.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents for their wonderful support this year, and in particular the Parents' Committee who have worked so hard to raise money for Bishops Hockey by providing refreshments at all our home games.

2017 looks to be another exciting year with an overseas hockey tour planned for the 1st team squad, as well, and a 'Colts' team. In addition, Bishops will be hosting the U16 Independent Schools' Festival.

Bishops WP and SA representatives:

SA U18A: **Dayaan Cassiem**

SA U18B: **Wesley Gardener**

SA U16A: **Idrees Abdulla**

WP U18A: **Malachy Barbour, Dayaan Cassiem, Wesley Gardener and Christian Rohrer.**

WP U18B: **Simon Kilpin and Tyla Scarles**

WP U16A: **Idrees Abdulla and Daniel Nelson**

WP U16B: **James Price**

WC U14A: **Mustapha Cassiem and Caleb Oliphant**

WP Disa U18: **Andrew Hodgeson and**

Bulelani Ngqukuvana

WP Disa U16: **Joshua Elliott, Murray**

Gordon and Okuhle Minyi

WP Disa U14: **Ben Cheminais, Conor Dempers, Matthew Guy, Liam Hoffman** and **Conor White**

Colours Awards:

The following 1st Team hockey players were awarded their hockey colours:

Half Colours: **Michael Burton, George Meadows, Max Newbury, Bulelani Ngqukuvana,** and **Chris Rhode**

Full Colours: **Malachy Barbour, Dylan**

Burke, Dayaan Cassiem (re-award), **Wesley Gardener** (re-award), **Simon Kilpin, Christian Rohrer,** and **Tyla Scarles**

Distinction Tie:

Dayaan Cassiem was awarded a Distinction Tie for his selection to the SA U18A side (for the second year running) and competing in a winning three match test series against Australia.

Sean Henchie

ROAD AND TRAIL RUNNING

The Road and Trail group meets throughout the year to provide an opportunity for boys to train for a variety of sports, to gain the benefits of fitness or simply to enjoy the delight of running in some of the most spectacular scenery in the world. We have run many beautiful routes from Constantia through to the promenade, with Table Mountain being one of our favourite playgrounds. In addition to the regular group of runners, we have welcomed visits from out-of-season rowers and other sportsmen, young men recovering from injury or those preparing for the Epic. It is always a joy to watch novices enter the group, very nervous of their ability to keep up, and see them flourish as they move into the 'express bus', which runs at the front of the group and leads the way on the routes. At least one practice a week is dedicated to HIIT training or strength/technique drills.

Three juniors take part in the schools' cross country league. **Oliver Stewart** and **Shaun o' Brien** are to be congratulated

on earning their WP colours. They compete in the Western Cape Championships in Worcester at the end of the month. We wish them every success.

I am deeply grateful to Mr Peter Hyslop who led the group single-handedly while I was away on extended sick leave. He is an outstanding role model for the boys for sportsmanship, running etiquette and determination. His contribution is deeply respected. We have recently gained the help of Mr Pumlanzi Tshabalala, an elite runner in not only the marathon, but many other distances. His irrepressible enthusiasm and impressive skill challenge the boys to give of their best, and we look forward to a long association with him.

As the winter season ends, we bid farewell to our matrics. It is always a joy to see them on the road, trail or competing in events around the peninsula in the years after they leave school. We look forward to adding the summer runners now to our core group.

Bev Kemble

ROWING



Frank Nagel (SACS), Sven Wellman, Samuel Wells, Stephane Pienaar and James Faure

Three Bishops rowers, **James Faure**, **Sven Wellmann** and **Stephane Pienaar**, along with Frank Nagel from SACS, made up the coxless four team that represented South Africa at the Junior World Championships that took place in Rotterdam from 24-28 August. Congratulations on your fantastic achievement!

The BRC recently bade farewell to **Samuel Wells**, who has been the Director of Rowing at Bishops for the past five years. Sam played a key role in taking rowing at Bishops to a whole new level. As a testament to his accomplishments:

- The Club is at full capacity, with more than 70 boys actively involved.
- We have a keen and talented coaching staff, who will be staying on after his departure.
- Our fleet has been almost completely rejuvenated and upgraded.
- Our crews achieved excellent results across all age groups last season with all our 8s and octuples rowing in the finals at SA Champs this year.

■ The Opens, in particular, had a superb season with five gold medals at the Selborne Sprints and Buffalo Regatta and three silver medals at SA Champs.

Sam is moving to England in September to head up the lightweight rowing programme at Oxford University. This is truly an exceptional opportunity for Samuel – we congratulate him and wish him, and his new wife, Susan, well with this exciting new chapter in their lives. The Club is in the process of recruiting a replacement for Sam.

UPDATE:



Land-based High Performance Centre

We have raised R600 000 towards the building of our new Centre – huge thanks to everyone who has supported us to date. Building is due to start any day now, so if you'd like to make a contribution to the new centre please email sue@truucc.co.za for details. Any donations welcome!

Leon Glanville

RUGBY

The temptation, at the end of a season, is to base the success of the school on our results. Yes, results are important and of course we play to win, but this does not always give a true reflection of the state of rugby at Bishops. A team can win a rugby match playing terrible rugby and they can lose a game by playing brilliantly.

In a world of 'instant gratification', we focus on the end result rather than the whole journey. So, for me it is about how the teams have played. Have we as coaches empowered our players to play the Bishops' way? Has each coach provided the platform for our players to improve their skills to be able to play better rugby? Have the boys developed as people and learnt valuable lessons in their journey and have they enjoyed the experience?

From a technical point of view, we have focused on the following areas this season: handling, tackling technique, evasion and contact skills and breakdown. We have tweaked our defensive folding strategy slightly to obtain more width and line speed on defense. We have, in the second half of the season, worked on some alternative strategies when carrying the ball in contact to improve our breakdown, especially for the smaller players.

Our double round matches against our Southern Suburb counterparts are always very competitive. We are relatively evenly matched, although SACS, if one has to look at wins and losses, have the slight upper hand at the moment. It is, however, interesting to note that over the last three years our win ratio against our Northern rivals (Paarl Gym and Boys, Boland and Paul Roos) has been 15.3% in 2014, 11% in 2015 and then a huge improvement to

25% in 2016. To put this into perspective, the average wins for the Southern Suburbs against Northern Schools was only 11% for 2016.

Our average scores have also steadily increased from -31.06 in 2014 to -21.09 in 2016, the best performing Southern Suburb School in this regard.

As far as our team performances go, we have had some extraordinary matches. We are blessed with a good U14 group, although we might lack depth in numbers. The 'A' side has pulled off some magnificent wins against Paarl Gym away, Boland and Paul Roos, at home to mention just a few. The U15 age group has an incredible amount of depth and we could almost fill an 'E' team if we were injury free. The 'A' side has had some really unlucky narrow losses against very strong opposition and I must mention our U15D side, which has also produced some exciting rugby this year. Who could forget our U16A victory away at Paarl Gym? This team has punched way above its weight and produced some exciting rugby. The Open teams have been very good with some great performances and the First XV, although at times inconsistent, has also produced some scintillating rugby – SACS and Hilton being the highlights so far.

We have regularly produced 18 teams on Saturdays, all of which have had some measure of success, however, I think that most importantly they have learnt valuable lessons on their journey and have enjoyed themselves. A huge thank you to all our coaches and managers for their massive input into the lives of their players and their teams.

Michael Bayly

Professional Support Coach in-charge of coaching at Bishops

SQUASH

I doubt that the health of the sport of squash has ever been better at Bishops. This is in distinct contrast to the state of the courts, however, which have been flooded on occasion by heavy downpours before and during the much needed repair work on the roof was being conducted. There has been no point in upgrading the floors and walls until the roofing is 100% effective! We are hoping that all the necessary work on the courts, inside and out, will be completed by the start of next season as the 2017 season promises to be a most successful one.

Record numbers of boys are playing squash at the College and during the past few months we had more entrants into the WP competitions and squadding sessions than ever before. The senior teams played with great enthusiasm and yet probably underachieved as far as league positions goes due to the rotational policy in all but the 1st V. Our top junior teams have enjoyed unbeaten seasons and at C, D and E level Bishops only lost matches against

other school A and B teams.

With a 1st V in the Super League and four other senior teams, Bishops was well represented in the WPYS U19 league while we also entered five U15 teams – more than any other school. The 1st V lost narrowly to Rondebosch in the Top Schools Final this year but have higher hopes for next season.

The players owe much to the tireless efforts of several members of staff and a couple of outside coaches - to whom we are most grateful. Mr. Lanser and Dr. Murray were responsible for the four senior league teams and Messers Russell, Theron and Kerbelker organized and coached the junior teams. Mrs. van Selm organized the 5 o'clock group who became experts at "king" if nothing else!

I would also like to thank Caroline Pekeur and her cleaning staff for all the hard work in trying to keep the courts playable in trying circumstances and for generally keeping the facility clean and tidy. Their hard work is much appreciated.

John Knight

UK TENNIS TOUR

In the June/July holidays, ten boys accompanied by Mr Theron and Tony Fawcett travelled to the UK where they enjoyed a successful tour both on and off the court, having the privilege to play against some of the top schools in the UK: King's Canterbury, Abingdon, Hailebury, Kingswood Bath, Bryanston, The Perse School, Tonbridge, Sherborne and Wellington College. The team enjoyed success on the court, winning eight of its nine fixtures with the boys playing

some outstanding tennis throughout. The standard of the schools that the boys played against was extremely high and the boys enjoyed playing on different surfaces, such as grass, astro turf and artificial clay, where they had to quickly adjust to the different surfaces. The courts in Bryanston were a highlight for the boys, as the team was fortunate enough to play on beautiful and immaculate grass courts. They enjoyed a mixture of being hosted in the boarding houses and being hosted by families and will



'The Lion King' at the Lyceum Theatre



The Team at Tonbridge

never forget the hospitality shown to them, with new friendships formed. Wellington College and Tonbridge in particular were exemplary. Tonbridge's sport facilities and artificial clay courts, along with the hospitality of the boys, made it a time to remember. The weather was typically English on most days and the boys have now learnt to appreciate the South African summer even more.

The time off the court was equally fruitful with the boys enjoying time off in London where they stayed for three days and had some free time. A highlight of the tour was *The Lion King*, which was an incredible production thoroughly enjoyed by the entire group. There was also the London Eye, Madame Tussaud's and the infamous burger joint, Five Guys, where the group enjoyed the best burgers they had ever had. We enjoyed



Bryanston School

exploring the towns that we visited and enjoyed shopping along Oxford Street. The group also enjoyed playing Real Tennis at Cambridge where they had a great time adjusting and playing a new type of tennis.

Overall the tour was a success: the boys were great ambassadors for Bishops. They worked well together and there was a great sense of "gees" and togetherness shown throughout the tour. The boys will have learnt from this tour and grown in their own personal capacity as well as a team, which bodes well for the upcoming years. Team: 1. **Lloyd Wood**, 2. **James Mitchell**, 3. **Chris Mitchell**, 4. **Francois van der Merwe**, 5. **Luca Powell**, 6. **Brandon Snider**, 7. **Richard Wellington**, 8. **Michael de Kock**, 9. **Robbie Lennett**, 10. **Ivan Stassen**.

Chris and James Mitchell