

OLD MUIRITE UNION NEWSLETTER

4th Quarter, 2021



Don't forget to
diarise the dates:
3 – 9 August 2022



200-YEAR CELEBRATIONS

We are moving fast with the planning and logistics of the 200 Year celebrations during the 2022 Founders' Week.

All bookings for the OMU organised 200-year activities will be done via an online system which we are currently developing and will go live in February. It will be similar to online shopping, so if you're not familiar with these types of systems, please do ask a family member for some help.

The OMU Golf Day is taking place on Wednesday 3 August at the Kariega (Uitenhage) Golf Club. 4-ball Bookings can be done via the online system from February next year. Perhaps some of you would like to start practicing your golf in advance.

We are inviting schools from various countries to participate in the International Rugby Festival which will take place on Saturday 6 August and Monday 8 August. The aim is to have local South African schools play against the internationals. Countries that have been invited include the UK, USA, Australia, New Zealand, Argentina, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Russia.

The prestigious Gala Dinner will take place on Saturday evening, 6 August, at The Boardwalk Hotel and Convention Centre in Gqeberha (PE). Partners/spouses are welcome to attend too, should you so wish.

More information on the week will be featured in the next edition of the OMU Newsletter.



200 YEAR COMMEMORATIVE BOOK



The bicentenary commemorative coffee table style book, "Shout till the Rafter's Ring", is finally complete and going to print.

Thank you to the author, Charles van Renen (Class of 1963 and previous teacher at Muir College), and to his team on finalising this book, which covers the history of Muir College over two centuries.

From school corridors to the playing fields, it explores every aspect of life at Muir College: sport, culture, hostel life, clubs and more. With historic images and anecdotes from Old Muirites and teachers, this book is a keepsake for everyone who has proudly worn the Muir colours.

It is hard cover with 300 pages, full colour and is selling at the early bird price of R550 for the first 200 orders received, whereafter it will be sold at R650 per book.

Get your copy now as a Christmas gift to yourself.

Courier Costs :

Within South Africa – R99 postnet to postnet

Outside of South Africa :

Zone 1: Sub Saharan Africa R1197

Zone 2: Middle East & Europ R1692

Zone 3: Canada, Mexico & USA R1773

Zone 4: Rest of the world R2043

Prices include VAT and are valid until 31 May 2022.

How to Order :

Account Name: Muir College

Bank : Standard Bank

Account No. : 080773451

Branch Code : 050416

Reference for Old Muirites : 200 + name and surname

Send proof of payment along with your details and Postnet address to Thoriso M-Afrika:

marketing@muircollege.co.za

Alternatively – pay for the book now and collect it when you come to Uitenhage (Kariega) for the 200-year celebrations in August 2022 – let Thoriso know about this.



OMU President's Message

Greetings to all Old Muirites as well as the broader Muir family.

It has been yet another busy quarter for the Old Muirite Union and I'd like to take this opportunity of thanking the various Class Representatives who have put up their hands to be a contact individual (or in the case of some classes, individuals). Welcome to the Leadership Team of the OMU and thank you for being willing to assist in organising Class Reunions, tracking down missing old boys, disseminating information from the OMU to classmates and for sharing relevant and interesting news of classmates with the OMU. More on Class Representatives in this Q4 OMU Newsletter.

Planning for the Founder's Week 200- year celebrations in August 2022 continues full steam ahead. The OMU would like to thank the many internationally-based old boys for completing the recent questionnaire – which will assist us in our planning. The fact that so many old boys are planning to travel to South Africa next year is most encouraging and gives all those involved in the planning the positive reinforcement that is required to stay positive and to keep going. Old Muirites from far and wide – including amongst others Canada, USA, UK, Germany, China, Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand and the UAE – have indicated that they will not miss the 200- year celebrations for the world! The OMU would like to include the opportunity for all these old boys to be part of the international Procession – so please bring your country of residence flag with you.

Another exciting aspect of the 200- year Celebrations – and it's a key objective of the OMU – is to assist in raising the profile of Muir College. To this effect we will be approaching various old boys to feature in radio and social media clips highlighting their involvement with the School / OMU. We have also approached

103 primary and high schools to share a short video message of congratulations. These have already been received from many schools including Victoria Park, Westering, Grey High School, Curro Westbrook, Pretoria Boys, Glenwood Boys and Queens College. And then taking this one step further the OMU is requesting well known celebrities (non- Old Muirites) to also share a short message of congratulations. We are appealing to Old Muirities who are in contact with any well-known personalities, in any discipline, to assist with this process. Please contact OMU Manager Wendy for further information if you are willing and able to assist with this exciting project.

All bookings for the August Founder's Week will be online and will go live on **Wednesday 2 February**. More information will be shared before this but this is the date that old boys will be able to book seats for the Gala Dinner, School Assembly, Teacher's Function, Remembrance Service etc. Also, to be launched on this date will be the brand-new clothing range and memorabilia items celebrating the Muir College 200 years.

And finally ... why wait until next year – the 200-year Commemorative Book entitled "Shout till the Rafters Ring" is already available to purchase with the first 200 copies selling at R550 each. Contact Thoriso M'Afrika at marketing@muircollege.co.za to purchase your copy.

See you in 2022!

Nec Pluribus Impar

Andrew Binning
Old Muirite Union President



Headmaster's Message

The term started on a high note with some exciting activities, after the restrictions imposed by Covid 19. Our First cricket XI took part in the Pearson Cricket Festival at the end of Term 3 and had notable wins against Grey (Pro 20 match) and Victoria Park. We also beat Dale College and lost to St Andrew's and Woodridge.

A huge highlight was our Valedictory Service, where the OMU was present. Mr Joel Katz delivered an inspiring message and OMU Ties were presented to the young men as they left the school.

Our exams are underway at the moment. We are also working hard to prepare for 2022. I ask for some understanding regarding the issuing of the official programme, as there are some matters that are beyond our control for example, the Drakensberg Boys' Choir have indicated that they will be joining us, but the date needs to be confirmed. The delay is due to the Covid situation.

Sadly, Mrs Baby Ferreira passed away recently. She was a valuable member of the Administration Staff at Muir for 35 years. Thanks to Mr Crawford and Mr Hopley for attending the Memorial Service.

Our thanks to Mark Sims for donating a picnic bench which is positioned next to the new tuckshop. Also, thanks to Mr Claude Smith and the Class of 2001 for sponsoring a bench as well as the new garden near the Muirite.

We have also received news that Mrs Mandy Tuck will not be continuing at the Tuckshop. This, after 20 years of work in that environment. We thank Mandy sincerely for the manner in which she has worked with our Muirites and wish her and Donald all the best.

On behalf of the school, I wish all our "Old Muirites" a blessed Christmas and a good time with their families.

Robin Stephenson

Muir College Headmaster



THE MUIR FOUNDATION SOLAR PANEL INITIATIVE

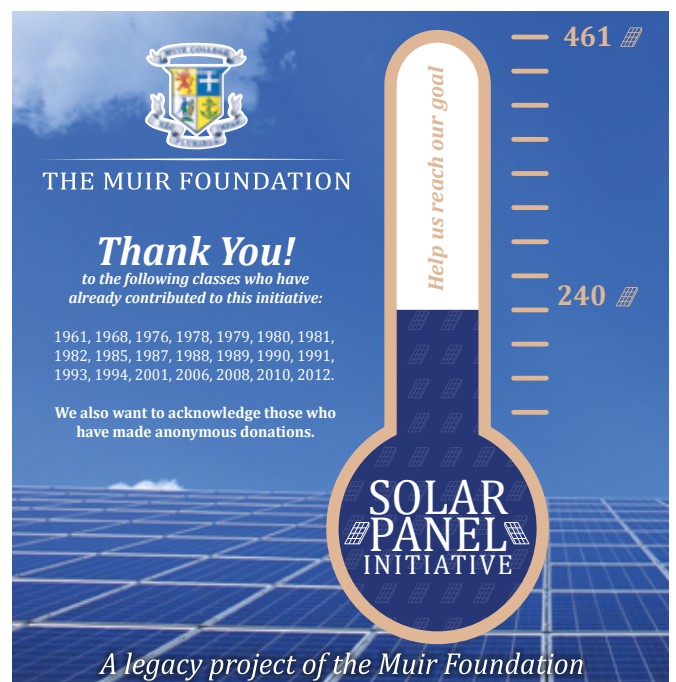


The first legacy project of the Muir Foundation, the Solar Panel Project, has been running successfully since April 2021. These panels are being sold at a cost of R10 000-00 per panel, and the profits thereof will go towards bursaries for the next 20 to 25 years for Muir College.

Don't forget that all purchasers are entitled to an 18A Tax Certificate as well as a BBBEE Compliant Letter.

The "Golden Oldies" (Classes of 1958 to 1966) have decided to contribute what suits each individual's pocket best towards a panel. This is a very creative way to make up the cost of a panel (or a few panels). Keep up the good work gents.

Please contact Wendy Knott-Craig (oldmuiriteunion@gmail.com) for more information and to book your panel.



OLD MUIRITES EXCELLING

The Old Muirite Union would like to acknowledge and congratulate the following old boys who have achieved

Michael Joseph, Class of 1962

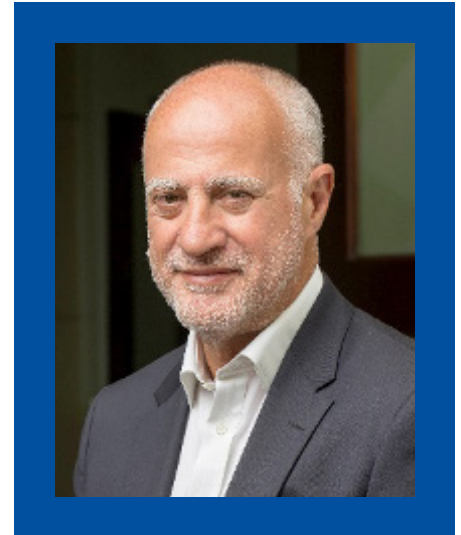
Michael Joseph, Class of 1962, is currently Chairman of Kenya Airways, a position he's held since 2016. Michael was previously the CEO of Safaricom Limited and is currently also the Chairman of the Safaricom Board, effective 2020.

Other positions that he has held include non-executive Director of the Board of Safaricom Limited, Chairman of the M-Pesa Foundation and Chairman of the M-Pesa Academy. Director of Mobile Money and was responsible for leading the growth and development of M-Pesa proposition across the Vodafone footprint.

As the founding CEO of Safaricom Limited, he steered the company from a subscriber base of less than 18 000 in 2000 to over 17 million subscribers by November 2010, making it the most successful company in East Africa.

Michael has been the recipient of many awards, including CEO of the Year awarded by the Kenya Institute of Management and the Elder of the Order of the Burning Spear Award, which is given by the President of Kenya to those who have made a positive impact on the country.

He is also a keen conservationist and serves as Chairman of the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, a leading conservancy in Northern Kenya. (www.lewa.org)



OLD MUIRITES EXCELLING

Warwick Ofsowitz, Class of 1962

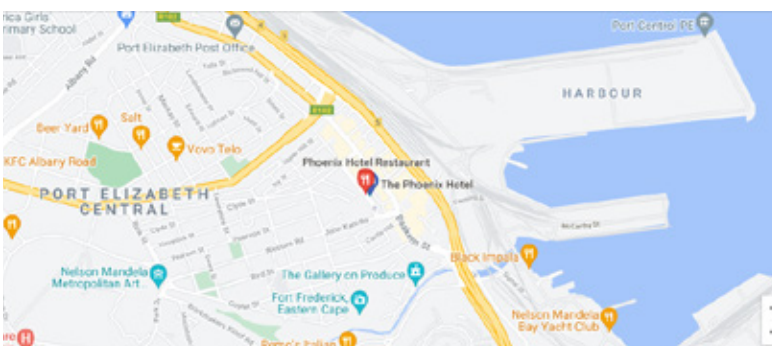
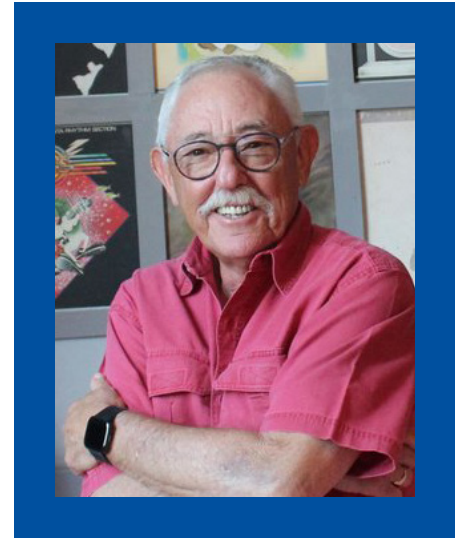
Who remembers the Phoenix Hotel in Port Elizabeth (Gqeberha), which is located in the historic district of the city, around the corner from the Opera House? Did you know that this hotel was a meeting place for over two centuries?

Warwick Ofsowitz, Class of 1962, was the proud owner of this hotel for many decades and he started The Stage Door pub in the 1960s. Sadly, the hotel was closed in 2020 due to Covid.

It is said that in the 1960s the hotel sold the most beer per square foot of any establishment in the city.

Besides owning this hotel, Warwick was the proud owner of 5 other establishments, but sold these 5 when he was offered a job in the USA.

Thanks Warwick for the many memories in a great establishment.



OLD MUIRITES EXCELLING

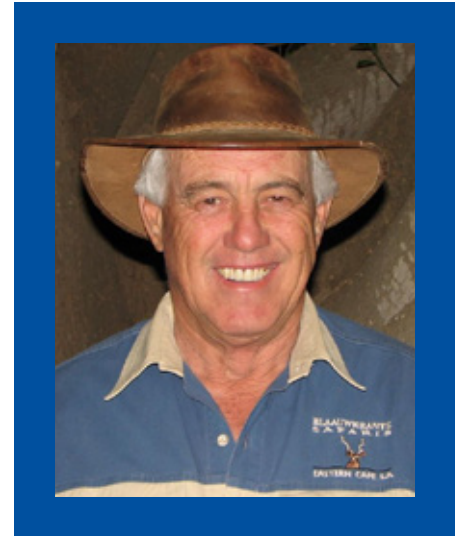
Arthur Rudman, Class of 1962

Arthur Rudman (Class of 1962) and his family farm at Blaauwkrantz in the Uitenhage district. Arthur was born and raised on Blaauwkrantz, which his grandfather purchased in 1936 for £1 per morgan. Arthur opened the batting for Eastern Province cricket in the early 1970's and played for Uitenhage Cricket Club for many years, he was Eastern Cape Farmer of the year in 1981. He was a member of Uitenhage Round Table and served as area Chairman in 1985. Arthur and his wife, Trinette have 2 sons, Eardley (1990) & Francois (1992) and both matriculated at Muir College and daughter, Suzanne (1994) at Riebeeck College.

In 1970, Arthur had the vision to conserve the dwindling population of the Eastern Cape kudu on their farm. Numbers were reduced by 95% due to the Rinderpest in 1897 and the subsequent 1950 government policy were again reduced game numbers for economic reasons.

Today the farm is home to 40+ species of wild animals, including subspecies, with approximately 10 000 head of free roaming game on 43000 ha of land. This includes the largest privately owned herd of Kudu in the world. Besides game, the Rudman's farm with mohair producing Angora goats and Boer goats.

Arthur has received numerous awards including the Professional Hunters' Association of South Africa Wildlife Utilisation Award in 2010, the 2016 Southern Africa Wildlife Rancher of the Year award and served on the national executive committees of Wildlife ranchers South Africa and the Professional Hunters Association of South Africa.



OLD MUIRITES EXCELLING

Tony Robertson, Class of 1975

Tony Robertson (Class of 1975) and his wife, Jean-Marie, started the Educare Non Profit Company in the little rural village of Mpame on the Wild Coast in South Africa.

In 2015 Tony & Jean-Marie enjoyed a holiday along the Wild Coast and decided to retire there, but they had to sort out their construction company in Cape Town. Three years later they made the move and decided to stay in the rural village of Mpame, which is one of the most beautiful areas Tony has seen but is exceptionally poor. Jean-Marie was going to teach English at the Junior School and he would make himself useful by fishing, etc.

In January 2021 Tony met an Australian who was in the area on holiday who had asked if they could sponsor a child's education. One of the local ladies suggested that they open a creche as there wasn't one in the area. Funding was received from the Australian couple who offered to send Aus\$100 a month, which soon became Aus\$400 monthly. The 2 creches cater for 50 children with a teacher for each creche, as well as an assistant who cooks lunch. They are currently raising funds to build 2 new premises as the current ones are too small.

Tony has subsequently given up fishing and runs the Admin side of Educare.

Keep up the good work Tony & Jean-Marie

www.Edu-careMpame.com



OLD MUIRITES EXCELLING

Mike McNaughton, Class of 1976

Mike McNaughton (Class of 1976) started his career in the fitment industry (tyres and exhausts) in 1979. In 1996 he purchased the motor dealership "Kelly Volkswagen" together with 2 partners, one of which is an empowerment partner and the other a farmer. With this purchase, Market Square Volkswagen Uitenhage was born. Over the years more dealerships were bought and in 2000 the Kelston Motor Group was formed, with branches throughout the Eastern Cape as well as South Africa. Currently, Kelston Motor Group employs about 550 people with 10 brands and 20 dealerships. In 2021 the company is expecting to deliver approximately 6000 vehicles.

Over the years, they have won "Club of Excellence" seven times, as well as the overall "Dealer of the Year" award in 2003. In 2005 Mike was awarded the Golden Pin Award, which is the second highest award for an individual's contribution to VW Worldwide, and in November 2009, he received the Diamond Pin Award in Germany. Mike also won the Alumni of the Year in 2013 from the Nelson Mandela University's Business School.

Besides this, Mike has lectured in the field of marketing and sales and serves as an external examiner and moderator.



Siba (in the white shirt) with his twin brother, Khanyolwethu, at the Mr South Africa final.

Siba Phillip, Class of 2016

Congratulations to Siba Phillip, Class of 2016, on making it to the Top 5 of Mr South Africa 2021. The competition took place over a few months with the competitors marketing their brands on social media, their followers voting for them, being involved in charity work and forming partnerships with local companies.

Hard work pays off....

Keep the momentum going Siba.



MR SOUTH AFRICA

ONLINE AUCTION

The Old Muirite Union held a very successful inaugural online auction in September 2021, with the bidding taking place right up until the last second as the auction closed.

We'd like to thank all Old Muirites who bid and supported this activity – whether you sponsored a prize or bid for an item.

Our sincere thanks to all the sponsors for making this possible.



OMU ONLINE AUCTION THANK YOU

Thanks to all who participated in the Auction. Funds raised will go towards the running costs of the OMU.

A special thanks to our sponsors:

- Cape St Francis Resort
- NB Golf Academy
- Craig Cockcroft
- PE Hotel Group
- Crema & Roasmaster
- Rudman Family
- Katberg Eco Golf Estate
- Shane Gates
- MyOwn Internet Service Provider
- Walmer Golf Course
- Wayne Bellingan



SUPPORT THE OLD MUIRITE UNION

Calling all Old Muirites to support the running costs of the Union.

As you know the OMU does not charge a membership fee to belong to the Union, but does request an annual voluntary contribution of ZAR600 per old boy, and for pensioners and students ZAR300.

Annual expenses of the OMU are around ZAR250k and includes the following items, amongst others:

- OMU Manager salary
- Website hosting & updating costs
- Alumnet Portal costs
- Get together expenses
- Muirite Clubhouse expenses - cleaning costs, insurance, maintenance and liquor license
- Ties for Matrics at the Valedictory service

On behalf of the OMU Leadership Team I would like to sincerely thank all those who made this contribution in 2021 and we now invite all Old Muirites to consider committing to a contribution to cover running costs in 2022.

Please complete the Commitment Form on the following link, save it return it to Wendy Knott-Craig before end of December 2021 (<https://muircollege.co.za/omu/latest-newsletters/>). An invoice will be generated with the request to then please settle before the end of February 2022. Many old boys contributed a lot more than the requested amount and some requested a monthly / quarterly contribution – please speak to OMU Manager Wendy re all opportunities. The OMU values every contribution and ALL contributions are acknowledged and recorded and the OMU Books are available at its AGM for transparency and good corporate governance.

Please note that an email to this effect will be distributed shortly to the entire database, which will include the form that needs to be completed.





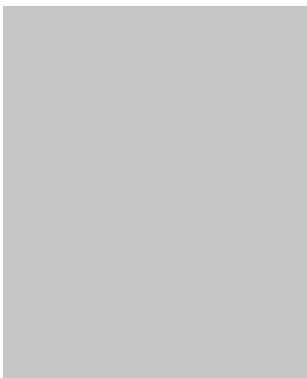
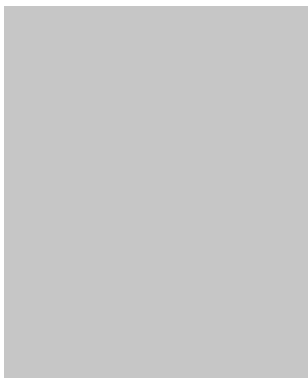
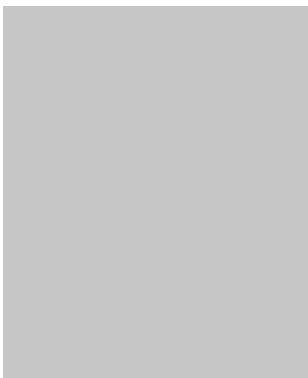

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

The OMU has been working hard at identifying and requesting Old Muirites to kindly step up and / or continue being their class's representative. We have over 80 reps, from the year 1959 to 2021.... With some years missing and some years having more than one rep.

The role of the Class Rep includes:

- Setting up a WhatsApp or Email group for their class
- Optional is to set up a Facebook page should you so wish
- Communicating any urgent info from the OMU to the class
- Informing the OMU Manager of any changes to their database, i.e. email address changes etc.
- Assisting the OMU Manager to search for contact details for those without any on our database
- Informing the OMU Manager if anyone in their class has done something newsworthy and unique – excelled in their field, attempted a record, etc. etc.

You can find the list of Class Reps on the website: <https://muircollege.co.za/omu/omu-committee-members/>

Class of 2021	Class of 2020	Class of 2019	Class of 2018
 <p>Ntsika Mzalazala mntsika25@gmail.com</p>	 <p>Sonwabile Mbini sonwabilembini123@gmail.com</p>	 <p>Lyden Human lydenhuman28@gmail.com</p>	 <p>Duncan McFarlane duncswmcfarlane@gmail.com</p>
Class of 2017	Class of 2016	Class of 2015	Class of 2014
 <p>Name oldmuiriteunion@gmail.com</p>	 <p>Name oldmuiriteunion@gmail.com</p>	 <p>Name oldmuiriteunion@gmail.com</p>	 <p>Joel Wates joelwates9@gmail.com</p>

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

Class of 2013



Brent Vermaak
brentvermaak@gmail.com

Class of 2012



Nathan Dennis
ndennis16@gmail.com

Class of 2011



Kevin Flanagan
kevinh.flanagan@gmail.com

Class of 2011



Liam Bekker
lbekker@live.com

Class of 2010



Ayabonga Jonas
ayajonas3@gmail.com

Class of 2009



Buchule Sibaca
buchule@smtax.co.za

Class of 2008



Phakamani Nesi
pax.nesi25@gmail.com

Class of 2007



Vuyolwethu Dyan
vdyanzo@gmail.com

Class of 2006



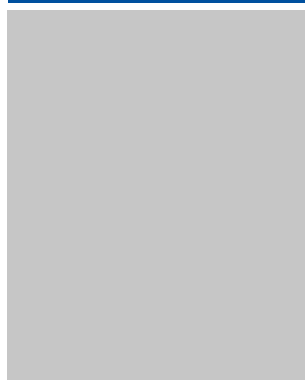
Damian Dennis
ddennis002.dd@gmail.com

Class of 2005



Clayton Du Plooy
claytonduplooy@gmail.com

Class of 2004



Name
oldmuiriteunion@gmail.com

Class of 2003



Craig Ross
craig@savoa.co.za

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

Class of 2002



Runeshan Moodley
runesh10@gmail.com

Class of 2001



Jonathan Niemand
jonathanniemand1@gmail.com

Class of 2000



Brent Botha
brent.botha@nortonrosefulbright.com

Class of 1999



Asanda Singata
asanda.singata@yahoo.co.uk

Class of 1998



Lyntin Gouws
lmgouws.muircollege@gmail.com

Class of 1998



Robbie Scheepers
robbiescheepers@hotmail.com

Class of 1997



Guy Wates
guywates@gmail.com

Class of 1996



Vincent Raepsaet
registrar@muircollege.co.za

Class of 1996



Geoffrey Hoppner
ghoppner@pg.co.za

Class of 1995



Warren Knott
wknott@data-afrique.com

Class of 1994



Chris Lategan
lateganc@selborneprimary.co.za

Class of 1994



Jason Zehmke
jason.zehmke@hotmail.com

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

Class of 1993



Patrick Cawood
patrickcawood@gmail.com

Class of 1992



Zarrin Zehmke
zarrin@expressplz.co.za

Class of 1991



Glen Elferink
elferin@vwsa.co.za

Class of 1990



Patrick McCarthy
pmccarthy@toyfin.co.za

Class of 1989



Scott Irving
scottirving72@gmail.com

Class of 1988



Andrew Binning
andrew@inkanyezi.co.za

Class of 1988



Mark Bakker
markbakker@bmi.za.net

Class of 1988



Joel Katz
jkatz@buco.co.za

Class of 1987



George Yerolemou
gyerolemou@ilithpe.com

Class of 1986



Frank McFarlane
themcfarlanes@telkomsa.net

Class of 1985



Laurie Wiid
LaurieW@nfb.co.za

Class of 1985



Justin Brennan
jbrenn14@ford.com

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

Class of 1984



Antonie van der Hoek
vanderhoek@mweb.co.za

Class of 1983



Jurie Swart
jswart@gigajoule.co.za

Class of 1983



Robert Meihuizen
robm@topfruit.co.za

Class of 1982



Dave Snuggs
davesnuggs@gmail.com

Class of 1981



Shaun Ruth
shaun.ruth@sanlam.co.za

Class of 1980



Dave King
daveking30051963@gmail.com

Class of 1979



Wayne Lightfoot
wayne@sharwoods.co.za

Class of 1978



Pindy (Keith) van Deemter
pindy@igen.co.za

Class of 1978



Dave Hudson-Lamb
lambclan@lantic.net

Class of 1977



John Astbury
johnwastbury@gmail.com

Class of 1977



Robert Blignaut
mwrwb@mweb.co.za

Class of 1976



Delvin Vermaak
delvinandeve@kingsley.co.za

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

Class of 1975

**Clive Bosman**

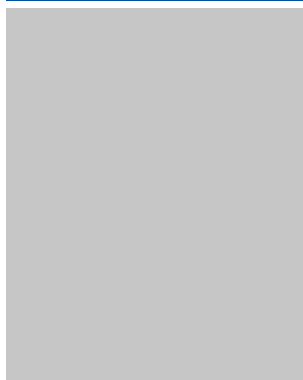
clive.bosman1@gmail.com

Class of 1975

**Eric Tuck**

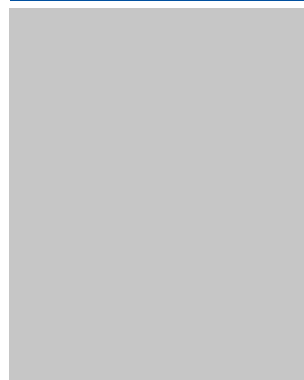
ectuck@gmail.com

Class of 1974

**Name**

oldmuiriteunion@gmail.com

Class of 1973

**Name**

oldmuiriteunion@gmail.com

Class of 1972

**Nigel Fox**

nigel@oilcentrep.co.za

Class of 1972

**Keith Clarke**

keithclark.kc.kc@gmail.com

Class of 1971

**Robert Sharman**

rvsharman53@gmail.com

Class of 1970

**Ronnie Kingwill**

kingwillr@mweb.co.za

Class of 1969

**Bill Stephens**

stephens.willie@gmail.com

Class of 1968

**Lloyd Thomson**

lloydthomson50@gmail.com

Class of 1967

**Howard Beckley**

fburg@breede.co.za

Class of 1966

**Alan Giese**

alan.giese@telkomsa.net

CLASS REPRESENTATIVES

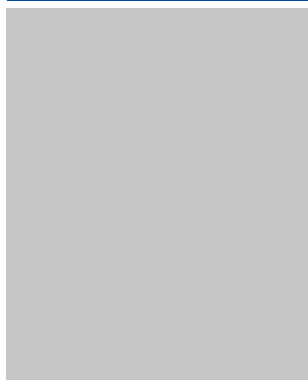
Class of 1965



Ian Krain

eagleworkwear@intekom.co.za

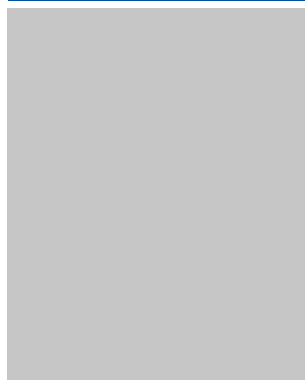
Class of 1965



Alan Whitehead

allan.zs2r@yahoo.com

Class of 1964



Name

oldmuiriteunion@gmail.com

Class of 1963



Dave Cooper

davril.cooper@gmail.com

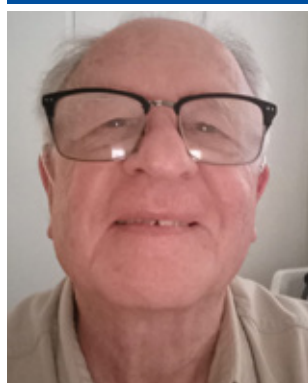
Class of 1962



Warwick Owen

warwick@isat.co.za

Class of 1961



Athol Pratt

atholp@yebo.co.za

Class of 1960



David Geard

geard@iafrica.com

Class of 1959



Andries (Dutch) van Westenbrugge

dutchnades@gmail.com

Class of 1937 to 1958



Wendy Knott-Craig

oldmuiriteunion@gmail.com

VALEDICTORY SERVICE 2021

Valedictory Service

This year's Valedictory Service took place in October at Muir College's Hall and was very well supported by parents and families of the Class of 2021.

Mr Dave Francis, Deputy Headmaster of Muir College, hosted the evening with many fun anecdotes and digs at the young men. The incoming headboy for 2022, Oyinthanda Gqomo, gave an address and thanked the class of 2021 for their contribution to the school. This was followed by Mr Robin Stephenson, headmaster, addressing the outgoing class and reminding them of their roots and what life has to bring going forward. Ntsika Mzalazala, current headboy, gave a very humorous and touching presentation which was greeted with cheers and laughs by his classmates.

Thanks to Joel Katz, OMU committee member, for addressing the Class of 2021 and informing them of the OMU and welcoming them to this chapter of their lives.

The evening ended by the Class ringing the bell at the gate and symbolically walking through the gate and receiving an OMU tie.

All the best to the Class of 2021 and welcome to the Old Muirite Union.



BUSINESS PORTAL

The OMU Business Portal is an online portal where Old Muirites and Friends of Muir can search for products suppliers and service providers. At the same time, Old Muirites and Friends of Muir can list their companies on this portal as part of their marketing strategy.

We have 2 listing options, namely a Free business listing, or a Premium listing at R1500 per year.

One old Muirite, Martin du Plessis (Class of 1989) and owner of Crema Café and Coffee Roastery in Walmer, Port Elizabeth (Gqeberha) listed his company as a Premium Lister on the Portal. When asked how easy it was to list his business, upload his logos and branding, include information on his business and do payment, his answer was “very very easy indeed”.

From listing his business on this portal, he recently had a booking for approximately 25 people to have a breakfast event at the Restaurant.

For more information please visit:

<https://muircollege.co.za/omu/business-listing-management/>



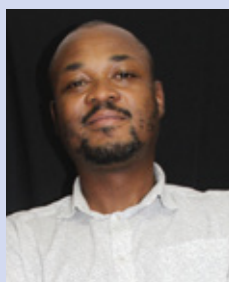
The OMU Business Portal Advisory Board



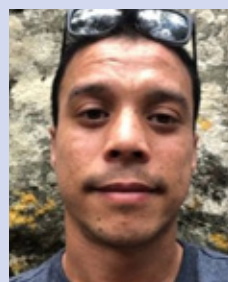
Scott Irving
Class of 1989



Akhona Maqwazima
Class of 2000
Emazweni ICT



Thabisile Mgwali
Class of 2002
Senior Journalist
with Caxton Local Media



Faheem Abrahams
Class of 2003



Nathan Thomas
Class of 2005
Global Sales Director
for Superside



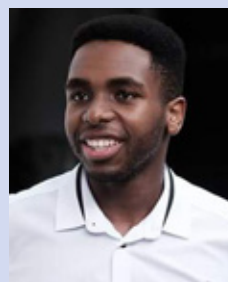
Peter Myburg
Class of 2008
Entrepreneur



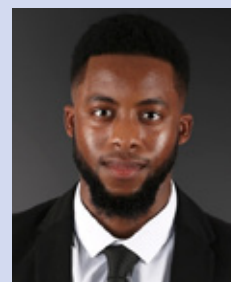
Nceba Mafa
Class of 2009
Associate Attorney



Donovan Kretschmer
Class of 2010
Director of a Sports Agency
called Tridon Sports Management



Asanele Mfengu
Class of 2012
Data Analyst for Toyota SA



Siba Phillip
Class of 2016
Owner of PhillipFitness

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



Congratulations to **Reece Ludeke** who came first in the junior handler 2 class at the 2021 SABBS International Boerboel Show



Flags flying at half mast on Remembrance Day, 11 November 2021



Top Achiever - Grade 4 - **Zechariah Vinqi-de Bruin**



Top Achiever - Grade 5 - **Kellan Reed**



Top Achiever - Grade 6 - **Ethan Goeda**



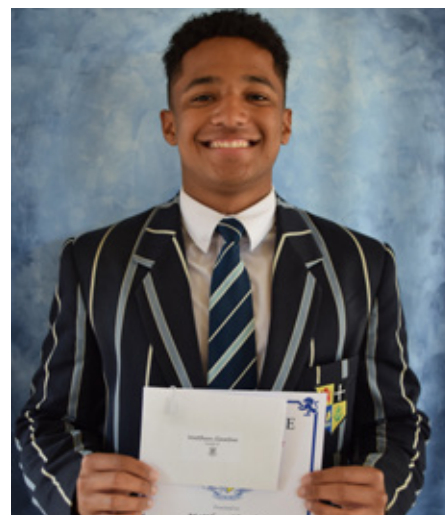
Top Achiever - Grade 7 - **Moosa Vawda**



Top Achiever - Grade 8 - **Franco Voges**



Top Achiever - Grade 9 - **Divine Donkor**



Top Achiever - Grade 10 - **Matthan Slambee**

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



Top Achiever - Grade 11 -
Alddin Siebritz



Top Achiever - Grade 12 -
Tristan de Kock



Congratulations to **Joshua Seifert** on receiving various gold medals at the SA Metallic Silhouette Shooting Association National Championship 2021



Congratulations to **Siphamandla Bashe** and **Zipho Ruiters** who have been selected for the Eastern Province U19 Cricket Team 1



Congratulations to **Siphamandla Bashe** and **Zipho Ruiters** who have been selected for the Eastern Province U19 Cricket Team 2

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



Congratulations to **Mrs Zondani** who has served in the hostel for 30 years.



Thank you and Congratulations to **Mrs Tuck** who has served in the school tuck shop for 20 years



Muir College First Cricket team 2021 - well done on your efforts this year



The **u11A cricket team** have had a fantastic season and are becoming a very promising cricket team



Kwakuhle Mfama (Grade 4) participated in the NMBJ District Championship and won a gold medal for Judo. Well done!



Well done to **Ethan Constable** (u11 cricket) who scored 73 against Clarendon Primary and 70 against Handaaf. Keep up the excellent work

MEET THE TEACHERS

Caryn Evert

Caryn Evert has been at Muir College for 14 years and teaches English, Natural Sciences and Technology and Mathematics. Both Caryn's husband and brothers attended Muir.

The best advice that Caryn received re: teaching with children was "Be firm, fair and kind". She likes to set boundaries and is consistent in her discipline. Children feel safe and work well in a structured environment.

Her fondest memory at Muir is when she was teaching class, a Duiker runs past the classroom and into the next door classroom. It was met with shrieks and promptly left, seeking refuge in the hostel. Explaining to others about a buck in the classroom was hard to believe.



Lutho Pohlongo

Meet Lutho Pohlongo, the 1st team Cricket Coach, who has been with Muir College for 5 years now.

Lutho is the first generation of his family to be involved with Muir College as his family is from East London.

The best advice that he has received re: working with children is that every child has a different background so take your time to get to know them better.

Lutho strives to always set an environment that is of high quality and professionalism. He believes that children should always be stretched out of their comfort zones – if the environment is challenging, then the children are more disciplined.

His funniest moment at Muir is the staff relay at athletics day with Mr Sias finds "creative" ways to make sure the staff always win.



MEET THE TEACHERS

Tarryn-Lee Warner

Tarryn-Lee Warner is currently in her 2nd year of teaching at Muir College, where she teaches FET History and Senior Phase Social Science.

Tarryn-Lee says none of her family members are Old Muirites, but every second person she meets seems to have a brother / uncle / father / grandfather who has attended the school.

When her friends found out that she was going to become a teacher, the advice she was given was “Don’t smile till Easter”. This lasted a good 20 minutes into her first lesson with the Muir boys. She says this bit of advice has taught her that you don’t always have to be hard with the learners. Sometimes the best thing you can do is allow them to see your friendly side to get the best out of them.

When asked how she approaches discipline and what role it plays in learning, Tarryn-Lee responded: ‘For anyone who has ever spent time with a teenager you’ll probably agree that being anti-establishment is part of their DNA at this stage. In my own classroom I approach discipline as a general life lesson. Not so much as a punishment, but I use discipline to teach concepts of respect, diligence and understanding the importance of building a good work acumen.’ She goes on to say that discipline plays an important role in the classroom from a logistical standpoint, but it plays a much greater role in shaping students’ work ethics beyond the classroom.

Tarryn’s funniest moment at Muir was when she was asked, by a learner, how old she was. Taking it as a joke, she answered that she was 40 years old and to her horror, the boys believed her and nodded in unison that the age makes complete sense. She also says that she has great joy on a daily basis with the banter between herself and the students, and the witty teenage remarks are comedic gold on their own.



MEET THE OLD MUIRITES

Mandla Busakwe, Class of 1996



Mandla Busakwe is from the Class of 1996 and is also Muir's inaugural post matric in 1997. He grew up in Kwa Magxaki in Port Elizabeth (Gqeberha) and enjoyed his time at a boarder in the hostel.

Mandla really enjoyed playing sport and represented EP Schools from 1994 to 1997 and the SA Academy in 1996 in Rugby. He received Honours for Rugby and School Colours for Athletics. On top of this, Mandla was active in Interact, the Dance Committee, the School Choir (EP Youth Choir 1996-1997) and he was a school and hostel Prefect. But what he enjoyed the most were the socials with Muir's "sister" school, i.e. the discos.



In 1997 Mandla was Muir's Post Matric, studying Public Administration and Psychology and from 1998 to 2002 he completed a BSc in Audiology at the University of Cape Town. Mandla is currently based at the Uitenhage Hospital and lives in Port Elizabeth with his wife and children (and a four-legged adopted son).

For fun, he spends time outdoors and indoors with family and friends, being it a braai, game nights, visiting restaurants and beaches or walking the dog. The music that is currently on the top of his play list includes pop, gospel, R&B, hip hop, house and amapiano,

When asked what his favourite memory of being a Muir Boy is, this is how he responded:

"As 2nd in charge in Standard 9 (Grade 11), carrying a 'very present' (+100kg) Wayne Kallis on my back for close to 2 kms or so through the meandering and treacherous terrain at the Rudman's farm during our school camp!!"

Another memory: "At my table when I was in matric, I would religiously make my 'fag/Standard 6 mentee' sit next to me on my right and dish up his food straight after me. Tradition was, according to the pecking order in dishing up and sitting, it was first the matric, then the Standard 9s, and so forth with the Standard 6 boys being last. The Standard 9s at my table absolutely loved me. LOL!"

To end off, Mandla says God 1st, your spouse 2nd, children 3rd, 4th are the 'Rents, 5th extended family, 6th are his brothers and sisters in Christ and the rest must take a number a fall in line.

"The quickest way to going far is going slowly"

"Every mountain top is the valley of another... Keep Climbing"

MEET THE OLD MUIRITES

Rob Sharman, Class of 1971

Rob arrived at Muir in April '69, joining his cousin, Mike Rumsey, at NC Dugmore House. He and Ian Milton were the two Std 9 hostel prefects in 1970, and became Head Boy and Deputy of the school in the following year. Rob participated fully in school life, winning an academic blazer in his first year, playing rugby and badminton, serving as a student officer in the Muir Cadet Corps, chairing the Debating Society for two years, appearing in nine stage productions, including Muir's first musical, Paint Your Wagon, which also featured Mike Strohman and most of the first rugby team.

After seven years at Rhodes, he taught English at Westering High School in PE for five years, alongside former Muir teacher Trevor O'Riordan and Old Muirites Alan Hosking and Rob Minné. In 1983 he joined the University of the Witwatersrand where he spent the next 36 years in management positions, the last 18 as Director of Campus Housing and Residence Life.

He was a member of the Wits Senate, chaired the Wits Staff Medical Aid Fund for many years, was a Transvaal (later Gauteng) premier league umpire and chaired the Wits Cricket Club for 13 seasons.

In 1984 Rob joined the Council of the English Academy of Southern Africa, later serving as Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, and in 2018 was awarded an Honorary Life Fellowship of the Academy.

Since his retirement to Port Elizabeth at the end of 2018, Rob has been 'recycled', becoming chairperson of the English National Language Committee of the Pan South African Language Board, and National Academic Coordinator of the English Olympiad (established in 1975 by Malcolm Venter). He also serves on the Central Management Committee and the Finance Committee of the SA Council for English Education, and has assisted Charles van Renen with the editing of Muir's bicentenary commemorative book.

Rob has travelled extensively on foot in South Africa, Tuscany and the Himalayas (twice), and in 2006 he reached the summit of Kilimanjaro - a mountain to which he longs to return for a break from the pressures of retired life!



Phakamani Nesi, Class of 2008

Phakamani matriculated in 2008 from Muir College. He loved playing sport, in particular rugby and cricket and was also involved in the Quiz group as well as the Roar Fax school magazine club.

He completed his Bachelor's Degree in Human Movement Science at the Nelson Mandela University in Port Elizabeth (Gqeberha) and is currently completing his IMM – BA Marketing Management

Phakamani is a medical representative for Abbott Laboratories, focused on infant, paediatric and adult nutrition.

Gqeberha is his hometown and his family consists of a young son of 4 years old. He enjoys spending time along the Garden Route in the Western Cape when the opportunity presents itself. Phakamani is currently reading "What they teach at Harvard Business School" by Philip Delves Broughton and his favourite song on his playlist is "The Off Season" by J. Cole.

One of his favourite memories of being a Muir Boy is playing in his first u/11 rugby game in grade 4.

"Mistakes are just an apprenticeship to achievement" – life lesson by Phakamani Nesi



MEET THE OLD MUIRITES

ROSS CANDIDO, Class of 2003



Ross Candido grew up in Uitenhage (Kariega) and was Headboy in 2003. He enjoyed playing rugby and waterpolo and was also on the Town Council during his time at Muir College.

Ross has studied extensively in various countries and has received an International Business Degree from the University of Bremen in Germany, a Web 3.0 Knowledge Certificate in Financial Services from the National University of Singapore, as well as completing the Oxford Meltwater Leadership Programme from Said Business School Oxford University in England.



He's been fortunate to lead SaaS teams in South Africa, the Middle East, China and now across Southeast Asia.

His current role is Director at Meltwater Southeast Asia, which is a SaaS Media Intelligence solution that monitors verified Media Data types, ie social media, traditional media, hiring data, etc. This information helps their customers to make more informed decisions. Ross's main responsibilities include creating a culture, leading operations, scale/expansion strategies as well as Sales and Customer Service teams.

Ross lives in Singapore with his wife and two children and likes to spend as much time in nature as possible, including trips to Game Parks when he visits South Africa as well as time spent on the beach in St Francis Bay.

Currently, Ross is reading a few books namely High Performance Habits by Brendon Burchard, Janus Strategy by Loizos Heracleous and Lead and Disrupt by Charles O'Reilly III, Michael L Tushman.

Ross says that his time at Muir College provided him with an incredible foundation and things that stood out for him are Brotherhood, Diversity, Support, Under-dog Mentality, Humility.

Ross's closing bit of advice is: "Take and proactively seek out a challenge, resilience is a powerful learned behaviour. Hard paths offer lessons, reflect and equip yourself. It's not supposed to be easy. Dream big and be curious. The works is in a constant state of change. Curiosity means you'll learn quicker and explore opportunities others might dismiss. Then whatever you do, do it with conviction and intention otherwise the only person who loses out is you."

In conversation with ... **Paul Ellis**

Muir Headmaster 1976 to 1992



Paul Ellis was born in Oudtshoorn and educated at Queens College Junior and Grey High School. He was Head Boy of Grey in 1959, captain of the First XI cricket team, played First XV rugby and participated in drama, debating and chess. He was also a server at St Hugh's Anglican Church and was the lead singer and a guitarist for The Silhouettes, a schoolboy band that, according to Paul, 'didn't knock Elvis Presley off the charts!'

At Rhodes University he played rugby, including four games for EP U19 which he captained in 1961, and participated fully in student life while studying for a BA degree (with majors in English and History) and a University Education Diploma.

Paul took up his first teaching post in January 1964, at Otto du Plessis High School in Port Elizabeth, where he taught English and Latin, coached rugby and the first cricket team, and developed a reputation as a firm but fair disciplinarian with a strong arm! While at 'Otto', he married Marian Martin and they started a family.

In 1968 he joined Alexander Road High School, where he taught English and History, coached cricket and rugby, and was involved in the debating society. From 1971 to 1973 he was Vice-Principal of Plumstead High School in Cape Town and was awarded a SACEE travelling fellowship that enabled him to teach English for a term at Magdalen College Grammar School in Oxford. He then returned to PE for 'three very fruitful years' as Deputy Principal of Grey – good preparation for the important role that he was to play in the future of Muir College.

In January 1976 Paul Ellis became Headmaster of Muir College Boys' High School, and for the next 17 years provided the necessary leadership that saw enrolments grow to record levels while the school thrived on the sports field, in the classroom and in many spheres of cultural activity.

In addition to his duties as Principal, Paul taught English and Latin, and was superintendent of NC Dugmore House for several years. It was predictable that he would not be a sedentary head: he not only coached rugby and cricket, but also played as a member of the First XI when the team was facing adult competition in the EP open leagues, and, like many of his predecessors, took a keen interest in debating and drama, even appearing on stage as the Rabbi in the Muir/Riebeeck musical *Fiddler on the Roof*, directed by Neill Hoare. He also took up road running 'as a means of keeping fit and controlling stress', and completed ten Two Oceans marathons and five Comrades ultra-marathons, and in his last year as Headmaster he participated in Muir's 1000km Run for Peace from Johannesburg to Uitenhage – a memory that he cherishes together with recollections of rugby and hockey victories over Grey!

Muir was numerically the smallest school at which Paul worked, but, he says, 'Despite its size, it was able to compete at the highest level in all areas of endeavour. This ability to punch above its weight and live up to its *Nec Pluribus Impar* motto impressed me enormously.'

Asked about memorable staff, Paul responds that Tom Ferreira and his wife 'Baby' were wonderfully supportive in their different roles. 'Tom's loyalty, wisdom, understanding and commitment, and Baby's efficiency, dependability and discretion were sources of great assurance. It would be wrong to single out any other member of staff, all of whom were committed to upholding "the good name of the Muir".'

He recalls that, 'The greatest challenge was undoubtedly the relocation from Park Avenue to Vanes Estate. Repeated delays and cutbacks by provincial authorities in bringing the school to fruition were the most frustrating aspect, though filling of vacant posts in "scarce" subjects ranks high up there as well. (I want every teacher who resigned on my watch to feel really bad about the stress they put me through!)

Paul considers transplanting the ethos and traditions of the old school to a new campus as possibly his greatest achievement. With typical modesty, he stresses that it would never have been possible without the help of excellent staff, loyal parents, and the Old Muirite Union – and, of course, the enthusiastic cooperation of the boys.

Other challenges that Paul Ellis faced during his tenure as Headmaster were of Muir's transitions to 'Model B' and 'Model C' status. He steered the school through the turbulent years of the '80s and the rapid changes in the early '90s that saw Muir choose to become a 'Model B' school, admitting pupils of all races, and then move on to semi-private 'Model C' status in 1992 with its attendant financial pressures.

After nearly two decades at Muir, Paul was appointed to the inspectorate and he and Marian moved to East London where he took up wide-ranging duties as Superintendent of Education in the Border area, before finally retiring to Port Elizabeth in 1996.

Since his retirement, Paul has done 'several stints of relief teaching, travelling abroad, home renovation, gardening, road running, playing bowls, reading, shopping socialising and relaxing with friends and family', and in mid-2021 he and Marian moved to Seavale near Kidds Beach where they live near their daughter Dee and her family.

Written by Rob Sharman – Class of '71

(For more detail on the Ellis era and Paul's contributions to the development of Muir, see Charles van Renen's bicentenary commemorative book, *Shout Till the Rafters Ring*, to be published in February 2022.)



THE CHARLES VAN RENEN HISTORY PAGE

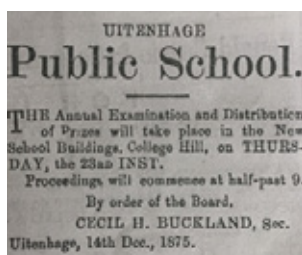
DID YOU KNOW?

Twenty exciting years: from Undenominational Public School to Muir Academy

In the space of just twenty years, the Uitenhage Government School (a continuation of the Free School begun in 1822) evolved into an Undenominational Public School (UPS) and thereafter the Muir Academy. During this time the school also made an historic move to new premises in town.



On 1 January 1873 the Government School amalgamated with the Proprietary School, thus forming the UPS. Mr F Brice, formerly of the Proprietary School, was appointed head of the UPS. On the opening day, forty-four boys were packed into two classrooms, showing that accommodation was limited from the beginning. Dr Langham Dale, Superintendent-General of Education (SGE), was therefore approached to provide the school with a more spacious site. A 1.3 hectare area of land, later known as College Hill, was made available for a new building adjoining Park Avenue. The rest of the land was sold off to finance the building operations. (In hindsight, this was bound to limit opportunities for future expansion, thus creating a problem which dogged the school for many decades to come.)

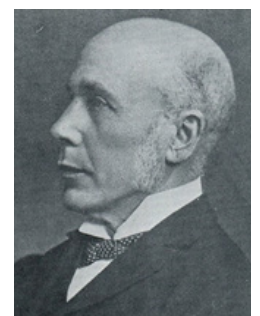


The buildings, bordered by Cannon Street and Park Avenue, and comprising three classrooms and a headmaster's residence, cost £3000, and were taken into use in 1875. (The school building was later used solely as a hostel once the new red brick school buildings were completed almost thirty years later.) Among the subjects offered were Mathematics, Book-keeping, Latin, Greek and French. The first prize giving at the Park Avenue site on 23 December 1875 was an historic event and was publicised in the Uitenhage Times of 17 December.

The school ran into financial difficulties in the 1880s, eventually resulting in the dismissal of Brice and his replacement by Revd GY Jeffreys in 1886. A kindergarten department had been established in 1881, and when the Kerkskool of Dr Steytler closed in 1886, its pupils were transferred to the UPS, but from July 1887 no more girls were admitted. 1888 was another significant year for the UPS: after it had been saved from closure when the Divisional Council took over its liabilities, it was reopened on 1 July as a First Class Public School for Boys. In the same year John Mitchell was chosen as the new head of the school, and boarders were admitted to the UPS for the first time – both of these events being significant steps in the progress of the school.

Public perceptions of the school improved: boys were seen to take their studies more seriously and the first prize giving during Mitchell's tenure, which included a programme of entertainment, was impressive. By 1889 enrolment had reached almost 100.

1892 was a year of special historical significance: the UPS was renamed Muir Academy in honour of the new SGE, Dr Thomas Muir. In that year pupils numbered 168, and Mitchell's regimen of hard work and sound discipline were paying dividends. When Dr Muir visited the school on 22 November 1892, he let the pupils know that if he could take them with him, he would be able to show a number of schools in the Cape some worthy representatives of healthy school life!



MEET THE OMU COMMITTEE



Andrew Binning
President



George Yerolemou
Vice President



Mark Bakker
Secretary



Joel Katz
Treasurer



Clayton du Plooy
Committee Member



Justin Fourie
Committee Member



Leo Doria
Committee Member



Lyntin Gouws
Committee Member



Ricky Wedderburn
Committee Member



Robin Stephenson
Committee Member



Ross Heynes
Committee Member



Thomas Terblanche
Committee Member



Mark Manlee
Committee Member



Riaan Claassen
Committee Member



Vuyolwethu Dyan
Committee Member

The Old Muirite Union Committee members welcome your input and feedback.
Please feel free to make contact with any of the committee members.

Contact details are available on the website:

<https://muircollege.co.za/omu/omu-committee-members/>

THE OLD MUIRITE UNION NATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

The OMU has National Representatives in the main centres in South Africa. Make contact with them to extend your networking portfolio and to find out more about the Old Muirite Union.



THE OLD MUIRITE UNION INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Our International Representatives are based around the globe in strategic positions. Get in touch with the Rep closest to you to discuss future plans and perhaps even a get together.



All names and contact details of National and International OMU Representatives are available on the OMU Website:

<https://muircollege.co.za/omu/omu-committee-members/>

Our sincere thanks to all the Representatives for their support and commitment to the OMU.

PORT ELIZABETH (GQEBERHA) GETS SOCIAL

Old Muirites based in Port Elizabeth (Gqeberha) and Uitenhage (Kariega) met for a social get together in November.

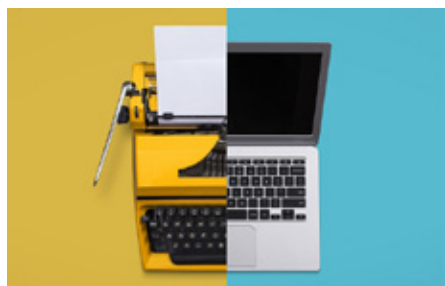
OMU President, Andrew Binning, gave an update on the OMU and the 200-year celebrations, and Robin Stephenson, Muir College Principal, updated the guests on what has been happening at the school as well as planned events for the 1st quarter of 2022 to celebrate the school's milestone.

As per tradition, all Old Boys sang the school song with much passion and gusto. The evening commenced with a lot of networking, laughing and reminiscing.



ANECDOTES

If you think you are smarter than the previous generation...50 years ago the owners manual of a car showed you how to adjust the valves. Today it warns you not to drink the contents of the battery.



CONTACT US

A visit.....

OMU President, Andrew Binning, recently popped in at Clive Shamley (Class of 1968) who now resides in St Francis Bay.

Clive handed over some photos to Andrew from his schooling career at Muir and the 2 had a great catch up sharing their memories.



Clive Shamley

CONTACT DETAILS:

For any queries, please contact

Old Muirite Union Manager:

Wendy Knott-Craig

Email: oldmuiriteunion@gmail.com

Cell : +27 (0)73 201 8699

Old Muirite Union President:

Andrew Binning

Email: andrew@inkanyezi.co.za

Cell : +27 (0)82 372 9247

International Secretary:





Mark Bakker

Email: markbakker@bmiza.com

Cell : +27 (0)83 227 3496

SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow the Old Muirite Union on social media platforms:

-  Thomas Muir
-  Old Muirite Union
-  Old Muirite Union
-  Old Muirite Union



Typesetting and Design proudly sponsored by:

Driving Force Advertising, Dubai, UAE | www.d4rce.com