



OLD WETPUPS

The official Newsletter of the Old WPPS Association, incorporating past pupils, parents & staff

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News from our older boys...

Andy Quinan (1956-60) recalls 'the dreaded supper pudding that we used to call 'cardboard and glue' and which he reckons was a fair description. Does anyone remember it?

Ed: Comments on WPPS food in those days are legion and not complimentary. It is very different now, believe me!

The privilege on one's birthday, of eating an 'edible' meal of one's choice, at 'high table' with one or two of one's friends, was a major event.

Andy also recalls all the boarders crowding the dormer windows of the dormitory to watch the first Sputnik going over.

*Ed: For those young OWs who don't know what a sputnik is, it was the first satellite to orbit the Earth. But then you probably watched OW **Mark Shuttleworth** (1980-86) in the International Space Station – far more exciting!*

Andy has been living in Johannesburg since 1970, and does research and consulting in the direct marketing and call centre industries.

After reading Newsletter 14, **Peter McMorland** (1956-59) contacted his old school friend Andy Quinan and recalled days spent on the Quinan farm near Somerset West, and also the fact that he thought Andy's mother looked just like Brigitte Bardot...!

Apologies for errors in Newsletter 14:

- Andrew and Brian Chaplin, who we referred to as Chapman.
- David Grier, whose photograph was captioned 'Simon' Grier (who is David's brother. (see update on page 9)
- Andy Quinan who reminds us that his father was David, not Storm (who was his uncle).

Peter, in Scotland, has also been in touch with **Gordon Denby** (1956-59), in Seattle, and they are hoping to get together for a round of golf sometime. When and where TBA! *Ed: Perhaps in Cape Town?*

All a direct spin off from Hugh Childers (1953-59) photo – see Newsletter No 13.

A fascinating 12-page extract from **David Richardson's** (1954-57 Head Boy) draft 300-page memoirs, makes very interesting reading. It is briefly summarised below, but those of you who remember Dave and would like to read it all, please contact me, Carey Neill, (see contact details on Page 1) and I will forward it.

David's early years were spent in Geraldton, a small town in Ontario, Canada. His father, a metallurgist, was keen to move abroad to gain experience, and after examining several options, accepted a job at the O'Okiep Copper Company in Namaqualand.

David describes the journey to South Africa: the overnight train journey from Toronto to New York, then the three week sea voyage to Cape Town, followed by the 800 km gravel road trip to O'Okiep, which itself was clearly a culture shock. He and his sister were sent to the local Afrikaans school, totally unaccustomed to the regimented nature of the education, and to having to wear a school uniform – something unknown to them. Of course, they could not understand a word of Afrikaans and were teased and scorned as a result. They were very unhappy, but knuckled down, learnt Afrikaans, and with David's natural sporting abilities, he was soon in the school teams, and accepted. But it was soon time for an English education and WPPS was selected for 10-year old Dave: culture shock No 2; even more uniforms and regimentation. It seemed a very long way from the little red school house in the woods back home. He talks of Sauer's deep bass voice welcoming and greeting all the boys and their parents by name "If Sauer was in charge, then like the presence of the Headmaster, JI Stansbury,

all seemed right with the world", he says.

Like many 10-year old new boy boarders, Dave was lonely, unhappy and confused. With a singleness of purpose surprising in one so young, he told himself that if he could 'crack' O'Okiep, he could do the same at WPPS. He recalls John Stansbury gently educating him in the 'correct' (British) way to handle a knife and fork. After that, he began to appreciate JIS's educational and personal concern for the boys "he did more for me and my leadership confidence than he might have realised when he chose me as Head Boy". Blessed with that natural sporting ability, he began to excel in all sports and was awarded colours for swimming, boxing, athletics, rugby and cricket. He remembers the highlight of his WPPS career as being appointed Head Boy in 1957.

Nick Taylor (1950-57) and **John Grayling** (1955-57) were his particular friends that year. He remembers with gratitude his time at WPPS of one of fine education, mentoring and training; particularly from John Stansbury and his gentle wife Anne.

David went on to WBHS where, again, he excelled in sport and became a school prefect, then to UCT to study Human Resources Management. After nearly 10 years with Metal Box in Cape Town and Gauteng, he joined a textile firm in Natal, as head of HR and in 1976, joined Anglo American as head of HR for a group of companies.

A committed Christian since UCT days, he was very involved with the student YMCA. After some involvement with Michael Cassidy's Africa Enterprise, David had a deep vocational calling to join AE full time. After travelling widely in Africa, he at last returned 'home' to Canada in 1992, where he is director of AE Canada and AE International – a Christian international multi-cultural ministry.

David lives in Vancouver, is married with two daughters and has eight grandchildren.

drichardson@africanenterprise.com
David mentioned "the brilliant **Freddie Holroyd** (1955-57)", whom he remembered from the Wetzpups days and whom he tracked down as Dr Fred C Holroyd, Senior Lecturer in Mathematics and Statistics at the Open University in UK.

Ed: We hope to hear from you soon Fred. (f.c.holroyd@open.ac.uk).

David recalls, among Freddie's many other academic achievements, the thrilling 'science fiction' stories that he wrote, and which he would share, on payment of a piece of 'tuck' from the other boarders.

Chatting to **John Bettison** (1937-41), and a member of the Board of Governors (1963-73), we were musing about the surprising fact of the success of so many OWs in their later lives, in spite of rather than because of their early education at WPPS. The standard of teaching and some of the teachers, particularly during the war years, left a lot to be desired. John remembers Mr Bagshaw, who managed to blow up the science cupboard during a chemistry experiment (that went very wrong), and his wife who taught history with pictorial cigarette cards (which came, one per packet of cigarettes), as her main resource material.

Craig Stacey (1935-41) sent us a fascinating account of his seven week journey in Australia. He and Marjory covered a great deal of territory and saw some fascinating country, including a 400km stretch on a dead straight railway line!

Ed: It is always interesting to hear what our enterprising and energetic Wetzpups get up to. Thank you, Craig!

We were delighted to receive from **Don Ball** (1949-52) a list of all the GK questions that Dorothy St Hill expected her pupils to know in Forms 4, 5 and 6. Any boy absorbing that amount of knowledge would be well equipped to hold his own in erudite company! Such material is valuable for us as we set up our archives. If you have any old exercise books, reports, projects or other material from your days at Wetzpups we would be very grateful to receive it for copying. I think our present pupils would be fascinated to see what their predecessors studied! PP

It was great to make contact with **Hugh Tucker** (1957-64) who owns Aquatrails in Fish Hoek and who employs past staff member, Brian Clements!

Hugh is a long distance swimmer of great renown. Among his many achievements are:

1972: Simonstown to Muizenberg in 2hrs 41, a record which stood for 29 years, Three Anchor Bay to Robben Island in 2hrs 45, a record which stood for seven years.

Robben Island to Woodstock in 4hrs 10, a record which still stands.

In 1973, he took part in a relay team that did a double crossing of the English Channel which set a world record that stood for many years. In August 2004, Hugh swam the English Channel solo at the age of 53!

Hugh has been involved in the sport of long distance swimming for 31 years and has assisted in 150 swims to Robben Island.

Keep up the good work, Hugh!



Somehow **Harry Hands** (1929-35) fascinating letter of 24th August last year was filed before being shared in the newsletter. (Apologies for that, Harry.) Among many memories of WPPS, Harry recalls the 'one and only St Hill' (that's Wyndle, not his much better-known, much-loved sister Dorothy---Ed) "I will never forget St Hill-Sainty, we used to call him, and his very quick temper. Whenever a pupil upset Sainty, he used to hurl his pocket watch at him, invariably missing, but hitting the wall at the back of the classroom. Believe it or not, the cheap old watch kept going!"

Harry was at UCT in 1939 when war broke out. He joined the 2nd Light Anti-Aircraft unit, along with WPPS friends **Ken** (1925-30) and **Colin** (1927-33) **Payne** and served in the Western Desert campaign. He was 'fortunate' enough to have contracted malaria and was in hospital in Alexandria at the time of the fall of Tobruk, where Ken and Colin were taken prisoner. Harry went on an officers' course, was commissioned and posted to the 1st Light AA Regiment, which saw action in the battle of El Alamein. Thereafter, he spent the rest of the war in Italy and is now living in Stellenbosch.

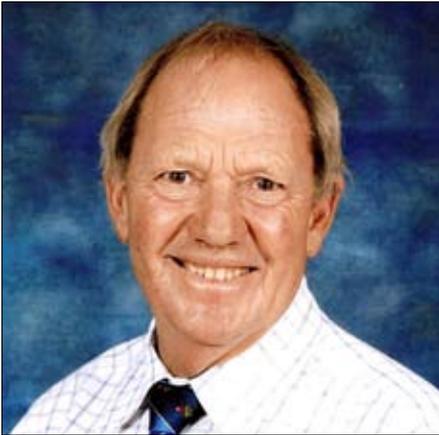
The WPPS Meccano Grand Prix 1939

Denis Taylor (1936-39) sent us this photo taken by an Argus photographer. Grand Prix fever was high, with races having been run on the Pollsmoor circuit and at East London. The Wetzpups Meccano Club staged their own races on the playground.

Ed: Can anyone identify the 'drivers' and the spectators?



Past Staff



Roly Cooke (headmaster 1987-1997) is to retire at the end of this year after 20 years of head mastering!

After leaving WPPS, Roly spent a year in Pretoria teaching Grade 5. In 1999 he became head of Morula Primary, an independent school in Selebi Phikwe in Northern Botswana. While there, he started the first senior school in the town, extending the school to Form Four, following the Cambridge System. He remained very active on the cricket front and managed the Northern U13 side. While at Morula Primary, Roly did a lot of fund raising for the school, sitting atop a 10m structure for 24 hours and cycling 150kms. *Ed: Not on the 10m structure!* While pursuing his passion for fly fishing, he also became hooked on camping and wildlife.

In 2002, he was offered the headship of the International School of SA in Mafikeng. Again, 'Roly the Builder' expanded the primary school (Grades 000 to 6). He persuaded the Board to give him money to build a number of badly needed senior primary classrooms, and in 2009, the buildings were completed and the new Senior Primary block opened its doors.

Although Roly intended retiring at the end of this year, he has been asked to stay on at the school for the first term of next year.

Roly has plans of running a B&B in Wolseley, once he retires!

We all wish him a peaceful, happy retirement in the Western Cape.

He would love to hear from his past pupils with their memories of WPPS and with details of what they are up to now.

Please email any messages to rolbar@intekom.co.za



Duncan Todd's 2010 Graduation

Duncan Todd, ex-stooge, staff member and deputy head)

Duncan has got his masters degree (true Todd style - 3 months early) and is now preparing for his new job as Deputy at a Christian school. Baby Joseph is also just over a year old and big sister Anita is four years old. The family is now happily settled in Canada.
djetodd@gmail.com

Basha Rick returned from Israel for a holiday to visit family and friends. There was an animated reunion with some of her ex-colleagues and she was also able to attend the 2005 Leavers' Reunion.
basilric@gmail.com



Current and past staff members with Basha at the 2005 Leavers' Reunion'



From l-r: Christine Satchel, Jane Bird, Heather Masterson, Deirbhle Mannion, Jackie Wilter, Megan McDonald, Adèle McNaughton, Sally Bresler, Sue Cooke, Christa van Ryneveld

CLASS OF 1980 - 30-year Reunion



From l-r: William Frater, Adèle McNaughton, Mauro Fioravanti, Spencer Johnson, Marcus Bidoli, Tim Judge, Rob Coombe, Giles Pohl, Gail Tonneson, Thelma Raath, Russell Clegg, Andrew Wilkinson, James Ricketts, Steve Burningham in the front

After several months of organising, Rob Coombe (1973-80) succeeded in contacting the majority of this

year group and the staff who taught the boys. Everyone was invited to a 'bring and braai' at the Werpups pavilion. The evening

started off with the hype of the eager young cricketers who had their first game of 'stump' cricket of the term.

St Andrew's

Exchange Students:

Greg Slack (2000-2007) and Marcel Bovijn (2003-2007) were chosen to go to Cranbrooke in Sydney and Canberra Grammar School, Canberra, respectively, in Australia. They departed in July and will return in September.

Martha Salomo on tour ...

Martha (who has worked at WPPS for 19 years in both the kitchen, and managing the lost property) joined the tour to Grahamstown as a supporter for the WPPS First XV team. Her son, Brandon, is the captain. She met with some of 'her boys' at College and they were equally thrilled to see her.

Martha is one of the staff characters, stay on the right side of her, she will feed you if you're hungry and she will make a plan with kit from lost property if a boy has left something at home. With her effervescent and down-to-earth demeanour, she has become a legend in the eyes of many boys who pass through WPPS.



Martha with her OW Andreans

From l-r: Jason Baggott, Lwandile Mseleku, Matt Anot, Stefan Zimmerman, Martha Salomo, Nick Rouessart, Myles Crossland, Richard Simpson



The WPPS boys of 2010 at St Andrew's

Leadership:

PREFECTS 2011:



William Cahill (1999-2006) – Head Boy and Upper Head of House



Buddy Kebble (1999-2006) – Mullins House Prefect.

The Proficiency Tie:

This was introduced by the 10th headmaster, Ronald Currey, in his report at Speech Day in 1942 in the following words: "It is to be the mark of an all-round balanced proficiency; something which no one can obtain without effort and yet something which effort can put well within the average boy's reach".
Matt Kebble (1999-2005) and John Perrott (1996-2005) were awarded the tie in 2010.

Academic:

Academic Honours: **Matt Kebble**

Regional Science Expo:

Matt Arnot (2001-2008) and Chris Brown, with their project "Single Sex vs. Co-ed Classes", were awarded a Gold Award and judged the 3rd best project overall.

Junior Mathematics Olympiad, July 2010:

Jono Gibbs (2001-2008) got through to the third and final round of the junior mathematics Olympiads. The junior Olympiads were considered very challenging this year and only 87 grade 8 and 9 students from across South Africa will go through to the final round this year.

Grade 9 international benchmarking tests:

All Grade 9s write International Benchmarking tests in English and Mathematics in September every year. These are world-wide tests and they give us a good indication of how we compare globally. The results were received at the beginning of this year and **Greg Slack** (2000-2007) achieved Distinctions in both English and Maths. This is a remarkable achievement and places him amongst the top pupils in the world in these disciplines.

Sport:

Water Polo Awards:

After an outstanding season for the 1st Team Water Polo, the following waterpolo awards were made:

A waterpolo team jersey was awarded to **Buddy Kebble**.

Colours were re-awarded to:

Jonty Arnot (1997-2005)

Matt Kebble

Angus Macdonald (1996-2005)

Lachlan Macdonald (1996-2005)

Water Polo Border Mens' Team 2010:

Angus Macdonald and **Lachlan Macdonald** were selected to represent the Border Mens' waterpolo team at the National Championships in Durban in April.

Rowing Club Committee for 2010/2011:

Captain: **William Cahill**

Secretary: **Marcel Bovijn** (2003-2007)

William, Marcel and Greg Slack are all in the 1st VIII and 1st IV teams respectively.

Rowing Award:

The ergo trophy is awarded to an oarsman who shows very high commitment to his fitness training on the Concept II indoor rower and is usually given to a top level rower who achieves the best time during a 5000m time trial. With a 5000m time of 17min.57 sec, William Cahill was the winner of this trophy for the 2009/10 season.

Rowing Colours:

William Cahill (re-award), **Marcel Bovijn**

Rugby:

The following boys were awarded rugby team blazers:

Jonty Arnot

John Perrott (1996-2005)

The following boys were awarded rugby colours:

Buddy Kebble

Geoffrey Toplis (1998-2005)

Swimming:

Lachlan Macdonald was re-awarded swimming colours and was the captain for 2010

Cycling:

Richard Simpson (2001-2008)

was selected to represent the EP MTB B team at the National event in George in May.

Inter-House Athletic Events

Standards - Seniors: 3rd place:

Jonty Arnot

Cross Country - Juniors: 3rd place:

Richard Simpson

Golf:

At the Fish River Junior Open, a Border Junior Golf Foundation Tournament held in July, **Bryce Bosman** (1999-2007) won the B Division. At the conclusion of the tournament it was announced that **Jason Baggott** (2001-2008) had been selected for the Border U16 and U18 sides respectively to take part in an Inter-provincial tournament to be held at the end of September in Somerset West. Jason Baggott and Bryce Bosman were also selected for the Border U16 Golf side to take part in an Inter-Provincial tournament at Katberg Eco-Golf Estate over half term.

Clubs:

Debating Committee 2010:
Jonty Arnot and **Matt Kebble**

Culture:

CEMA (Culture and Extra Mural Awards) awards for 2010:

Music: Merit

Jono Gibbs

Drama: Merit

Lachlan Macdonald

Debating: Merit

Myles Crossland

Jono Gibbs

Greg Slack

The following boys passed their Trinity College of London music exams during the first session of this year:

Jono Gibbs - Grade 7 Violin with Merit

Community Engagement:

Presidents Award recipients 2010:

Bronze Awards: **Bryce Bosman, Greg Slack, Jonty Arnot, William Cahill, Myles Crossland**

The First Aid Club office bearers for 2010:

Vice Captain: **Lachlan Macdonald**

Ed: To those of you who received prizes this year, well done – keep it up!

Bishops

SCHOOL	HEAD OF HOUSE	DEPUTY
	Che Prins	
OGILVIE		Bradley Bolus
KIDD	Darren Smith	

Exchange Students:

Congratulations to the following boys on being selected to represent their school and country at these various schools around the world:

Rowing:

Dane Wilson (2000-2006) was appointed captain for the 2010/11 season and **Bill Chen** (2000-2006) as boatman. Best wishes for a good season.



Ethan	Gray	Rijnlands Lyceum Wassenaar, Wassenaar, Holland
Kishan	Chagan	The Lawrence School, Sanawar, India
Timothy	Olds	Pembroke, Adelaide, Australia
Gregg	Christy	New England School, Bogota, Colombia
Jordant	Artus	Geelong Grammar School, Corio, Australia
Luke	Kuhn	Llandovery College, Carmarthenshire, Wales
James	Goddard	Dulwich College, London, England
Karl	Steinhagen	The Scots School, Sydney, Australia
Nicholas	Bijl	King William's College, Castletown, Isle of Man

for Brevan his third.

The Lipton Cup which took place in Table Bay on 20 – 27 August. L26 keelboats representing clubs from all over the country took part in this fiercely contested regatta. Bishops had a youth team taking part and

a number of the team are WPPS old boys – **Brevan Thompson, Callum Kilpin and Ian Douglass** (2001-2008). They won the Youth Trophy (worked out on a formula based on average age of crew and the results)

Sailing:

Congratulations to **Brevan Thompson** (1999-2006) and **Callum Kilpin** (1998-2006), who sailed in the Youth World Championships in Turkey during the holidays. They came ninth out of a fleet of 18 and in their 10 races; their best result was a third place. A distinction tie is normally awarded for National representation, but as this was awarded to them last year, this is a re-award - for Callum his second and



The boys in action ...

Debating:

We were thrilled to learn that the following boys have all achieved notable success in various debating competitions:

Daniel Mesham
Scott Maslin
Nicholas Marine
Oliver Marr
Ishtiyaak Rawoot
Ismail Rawoot
Joshua van Niekerk
Francesco de Caboli Paulucci
Thomas van Zahn

President's Award - on Tuesday 21st September 2010, **Mark Austin** (1997-2006) was one of 6 boys who made history for Bishops. They are the first recipients of a Gold Award for their involvement in the President's Award. At that level, the boys have had to complete at least 72 hours of service, follow a skill and a sport, and undertake an expedition and a residential project. It took them one and a half years to finish all the requirements of the Award and they have been challenged in a variety of ways.

Ed: Congratulations to all our boys who received prizes in this year's prize giving – you have done us proud, again.

Woodridge:

Anthony Haralambous (2000-2007) left for Australia at the end of September for Australia on an exchange programme with the Armidale School in New South Wales.

Wynberg:

Marco Titus (2003-2005)

After his WPPS performance of "Tom Sawyer" in 2005, Marco continued his singing and sang in the "Mozart's Magic Flute" in spring 2007. This was followed by a rousing performance in the WBHS Broadway Celebrations in 2008, with songs from Miss Saigon. Marco decided to take music as an extra subject from mid-2009 year with voice as his instrument. With the help of his music teachers at WBHS and under the teaching of Professor Virginia Davids from UCT Music School, his voice has matured and he has achieved a distinction in music.

He also achieved top honours in the

Eisteddfod in 2009 and 2010. Marco continues to play clarinet in the school band, and this year also occasionally performed in a Jazz band, called "Twilight Jazz", made up of a group of Wynberg Boys.

Marco plans to study Commerce at university next year, and in parallel continue his vocal training.



Marco Titus

Ed: Marco very kindly gave up some of his studying time to come and sing at this year's Evening of the Arts as a surprise for Sue Cooke. We received this from Marco's father, Emilio ...

It was a wonderful honour for Marco to sing at WPPS last evening, and pay tribute to Sue Cooke, Pauline Pearce and all the teachers at Wetpups, for the impact and role they played in his development.

What I saw of the early part of the programme last evening once again reinforced my faith and belief in Wetpups as a school which nurtures the Arts & Music as an integral part of our boys' development.

Please convey our congratulations to Arts & Music team, and we hope to join you on Friday evening to enjoy the whole programme.

Marco is very proud of his WPPS pen which Carey gave him last evening, and it provided some inspiration for his 2 exams he wrote today and 2 more tomorrow.

*Kind Regards,
Emilio*

Kearsney College

Robert Landon (2004-2008) wrote to Craig Verdal-Austin ...

Dear Sir

I left Wetpups and you told me three words that I must not forget "Don't lose contact". Well, me being me, I did, but I was just looking on the Wetpups website and I saw pictures of me in the boarding house and I realized how much I miss Wetpups and causing trouble every night.

I just wanted to know how the boys are doing in the boarding house and how is being the house master going? I don't board any more - actually I don't even live in Cape Town anymore. I am at Kearsney College in Durban and I'm living with my dad but every holiday I go back to Cape Town and visit the family.

If Malcolm is still in the boarding house, please tell him I say hello

and I hope he's head boy of the house (if that has still continued) because he was a great boy and I think over the years he's helped a lot of the other boys out when they feeling down or unhappy.

Please tell the staff I say hello and I hope to come back and visit soon.

Regards

Robert Landon

robertlandon967@gmail.com

What's News...

John Ross (1992-96) hit the headlines recently as he was involved in the demolition of the iconic Athlone cooling towers. He followed his father, Robbie, into the family business, Ross Demolition and is the fourth generation to work in the firm. He enjoys his work; "It's satisfying to see a building being imploded using scientific methods and working with other engineers. It is also hugely satisfying to demolish old, unsafe buildings that give way to modern structures designed for optimal use of space and light."



John Ross

It was good to hear from **Etienne Cassuto** (1999 -2000). After graduating from UCT in 2008 with a PPE, he went to Geneva on an internship with the International Trade Centre of United Nations. After three months "thrown in at the deep end" he became the youngest consultant at ITC, being only 22. His work involves preparing all the analyses and documents regarding the organization's performance, past, present and future. He attended various UN meetings including one on nuclear non-proliferation, headed by Ban Ki Moon and Mikhael Gorbachev. He took a break from work in Geneva to assist his father on the production of the 2010 FIFA World Cup for French TV, where he headed the project and managed the logistics and technical production, based in Knysna. He is now back at UN in Geneva.

Ed: What a full and interesting life you lead, Etienne. Please keep in touch. Etienne.cassuto@gmail.com

Grant McLachlan (1966-69)

Talking about the World Cup, Grant and a colleague wrote the music for City Profiles, commissioned by Fifa. They produced 33 promotional films which showcased each of the 10 cities with stadia. The films were shown on networks worldwide. In the last 10 minutes before each match was screened, two 30-second profiles were shown. The last thing heard before the match started was their music.

*Grant McLachlan
grantmcl@iafrica.com
www.grantmclachlan.com*

Nick Bennett (1997)

Look at what Nick Bennett has been up to since he was Head Boy at WPPS.



Nick, third from left is shown on day 14 of a month long quest to survive on a remote island in South East Asia.

Ed: He will have to settle down after his marriage at the end of the year!

Edward Sellier (1998-2000) writes ...

I am a fledgling sports journalist and part of the sports editorial team for the VARSITY Newspaper, the official Newspaper of the University of Cape Town (UCT). I am currently doing a stint for Supersport Blitz as a journalist and can be heard reporting on DSTV channel 200.

Edward's blog has been selected as a top ten finalist in the Sport's category for Best SA Blog for 2010. It is supported by News 24. Please have a look and vote for him if you so wish. Follow the link to Evox Advanced Nutrition Best Sport's Blog to edwardsellier.blogspot.com



Edward and Chester Williams

Justin Von Bonde (1997-2000) is currently second Engineer, aboard a Super Yacht called Exuma in the Med.



Alex McClarty – Perfect Score

Byrom (2000) is studying at Varsity College and **Tyson** (1998-2000), his youngest brother, also holds the position of second Engineer, (one of the youngest in the industry to hold such a position) aboard a Super Yacht called Selene also in the Med. They sail for the Caribbean in a few months time.

Alex McClarty (1995-2001) writes ...

Stuart Nolan (1993-2001) and I sing in an a'cappella group called Perfect Score. We started the group about 2 years ago because at Bishops, we all enjoyed the a'cappella group experience in Simply Blue enormously and decided to continue. Six of the seven members all attended Bishops and the final one comes from Durban. We are all currently students at UCT and we decided to enter South Africa's Got Talent (SAGT) for the adventure and the possibility of promoting Perfect Score on a national stage. We made it through to the top 100 but unfortunately did not make it to the top 21 (semi-finals).

We have enjoyed frequent corporate and private gigs all around Cape Town, including hotels such as The One&Only, The Cape Grace and Vineyard Hotel. We also sang at the Waterfront Amphitheatre for Patriots day two years in a row and graced the stages of the Masque Theatre and Fogeys as well as Kelvin Grove and many other public venues.

We have an upcoming show at "On Broadway" on the 22 November 2010 and would love to increase our fan base. So please do book your tickets at www.onbroadway.co.za and come see Perfect Score live. We promise that it will be a night to remember. If you are interested in hiring our group or learning more about us, check out the Facebook page or www.perfectscore.co.za.

David Grier Update...

Bringing new smiles to Madagascar!

It's been nearly six months since David Grier's Madagascar challenge - a gruelling 500 km paddle across the Mozambique Channel from Africa to Madagascar; and then a 2700km run traversing the length of Madagascar. On completion of this epic challenge, David weighed only 69kg and was riddled with Bilharzia and Dengi fever, which nearly cost him his life. But the journey was not in vain, for David had

set out to raise awareness and funds for the correction of facial deformity in children born with cleft lips and palates, all part of the Cipla 'Miles for Smiles' Foundation initiative.

This objective was achieved and David has now returned to Madagascar to join the Operation Smile surgical mission where surgery will be performed on nearly 200 children. David, together with Nick Heygate,

who was media and logistics manager as well as cameraman on the challenge, has been documenting the two week surgical mission. They both witnessed the joy and heartache at the announcement of the candidates for surgery. 200 lives were about to be changed for the better. Please follow the mission Live on www.milesforsmiles.co.za. Please pledge and help to make a difference yourself.

Where Are You Now?

We are going to include group photographs of different year groups in each issue from now on, hoping that this will evoke some response from the OWs in the photographs.

Boxing Team 1945



Back: P Gasson, J Wallace, H Lipscomb, V Staegemann
Front: N Payne, J Taylor, K Saywood (Capt.) P Nicholson, P Gordon

First VX Rugby 1979



Visitors

Tim Douglas (1996-97) writes:

Thank you so much for your timely email. I had a very safe and smooth trip home. I think I looked a bit odd to Americans with three vuvuzelas sticking out of my backpack! Again, thank you for your time during my visit. It was such a nice way to bring things full circle after a full month in SA. With a fresh pair of eyes, my Wetspups memories are now that more embedded. Also, I have forwarded my brother, Edward, the e-mail and will send the completed forms back to you. I have about two weeks before I head to Haiti. I am very excited to start working again, and it should be a challenge.

Tim
timothystuckendouglas@gmail.com

Stephen Berrisford (1978-84), his wife and son came for a tour of the school as his son will be coming here within the next year or so. Stephen and family have been living in the UK and are looking forward to returning to sunny South Africa.

Scraps Abbott (1985-90) was spotted by Mrs Mac at the WPPS/Bishops rugby match at home. Scraps was a member of the victorious 2003 England World Cup rugby squad. He has now retired from rugby and has settled back in Cape Town.

Ameen Solomon (2000-2006) popped in whilst on holiday from Saudi Arabia. He is currently in his final year of school.

Cook Book:

This magnificent book was launched at this year's Wetspups Christmas Market, comprising a wonderful read of quotes, snippets from Old Wetspups and staff and of course, a huge array of recipes. There are also lovely white cotton aprons for R130. The book and apron are sold for R300 and the books are R180 and make a fabulous gift. Should you wish to order, go to www.wetspups.org.za for details.

What's been happening @ WPPS...?

World Cup at WPPS:

What an incredible vibe was created around both school campuses during the second term. We had flags flying outdoors; classrooms were decorated with all sorts of paraphernalia and Fridays became a sea of yellow with a touch of green, as we celebrated Bafana Fridays.

Boys had outings to the new Green Point stadium and the Grade 3s made



World Cup Boys

some fantastic replicas of the stadium were on display in the Old Library. The highlight had to be the Laduma Draw which was a raffle fundraiser for the upgrade of the kitchen. There was huge hype over the helicopter ride which was generously sponsored by one of our parents. The lucky winner, Noah de Villiers in Grade 5, was flown from Cape Town airport, accompanied by a few staff members and landed on the Mt. Royal field with a net full



Mt Royal Flage

of mini soccer balls. The whole school watched in awe as the helicopter landed, which was branded with the 'Laduma' name and a picture of a vuvuzela.



Laduma Helicopter

parents and staff learnt about a number of hitherto undisclosed pranks and practices! His speech was punctuated by roars of laughter as he spoke about the nicknames they had and the incidents in the classroom. From there he predicted where some of the group might be in five years time. Although his aim was certainly to recall the humorous memories, Daniel acknowledged the important role that WPPS had played in all their lives.

A few of his memorable quotes:

"A great thing about Wetpups was that although success was encouraged, you didn't have to excel in mainstream activities to feel part of the family.

There is a spirit of friendship that we all seem to have, something I believe was gained right here: at Wetpups. It is the relationships we have that truly define us as people. And friends made at prep school tend to be more meaningful and lasting than those made anywhere else."

After thanking the staff for the role that they played in moulding them, not only academically but into fine young men, he paid a special tribute to Mrs Cooke, who is retiring at the end of the year, calling her "one of the truly great servants of the school".

He concluded: *"We can be proud of where we have come from, and we must be proud, but that alone is not enough. For it is up to us to determine where we are going.*

Ed: Thank you, Daniel; we are very proud of you.

As has become tradition, a WPPS rugby ball was signed by all present. A name was drawn out of the hat and this year the ball went to **Lachlan Macdonald** (1996-2005).

New Flagpole for Eden Road:

Thanks to the Sellier family for their generous donation of a flag pole for the Eden Road campus. This is in appreciation of the education that the four Sellier boys had at WPPS.

Outreach:

As usual, WPPS has contributed enormously to various outreach programmes; principally our two big annual projects - One-to-One and Blisters for Bread which raised over R152 000.

As it is **Sue Cooke's** final year as a teacher at WPPS, the boys paid tribute to her at the last home rugby match by making a flag tunnel. Sue has always been a constant supporter of all our sports teams.



Sue Cooke being escorted by the First XV Captain, Brandon Salomo.

2005 Mothers' Lunch

In May, we invited the mothers from the Class of 2005 to join us for lunch at Caveau Restaurant in Newlands. 20 moms attended and we had a wonderful afternoon of catching up as to what their sons had been up to the last five years and what they were all planning once they left school.



2005 Leavers' Reunion

Daniel Linegar, head boy of 2005, held the packed pavilion enthralled with his entertaining and witty speech, during which he managed to mention every boy in the grade. He started by recalling the 'bliss life' on the other side of the subway and the confusing transition to life in Grade 3 which saw the beginning of the 'Being Naughty in Class' era. He regaled us with stories of the often banned playground games and other mischief that their group got up to. The

Some of the boys and parents then ...



and the boys now...



*Here are some
comments received
from the parents*

Thank you so much for a wonderful evening. We so enjoyed seeing all the boys and staff again. We did enjoy Daniel's speech - learnt a few things from it too!! Look forward to the next reunion!!

Doug and Sue Fitz-Gerald

Thank you for a really nice evening last night. It was fun to see all the boys with their teachers.

Jennifer (Michael Higgins mum)

Thanks for a lovely evening for the reunion last night - I m sure it is loads of work for you! Great to see all the old faces again and to think about those early school days.

Margi Linegar

Thank you all so much for hosting such a wonderful evening for the 2005 leavers. It was great to 'be back' but most importantly for the boys to re-unite and have a chance to fan the flames of loyalty to their old prep school.

As always, it's fantastic to know that Wet Pups is thriving and I do admit to bias, but the success of marketing and the growth of the Old Boys network are clear to see.

Once again, a huge thank you to you all.

Katie Macdonald

Thank you for a great evening. I know that both the boys and parents really enjoyed themselves. Although we know how quickly our boys grow up, it is still always quite astounding to see the change after five years. Well done Mike and please thank the staff involved for the wonderful reunion. It was good to see many of them again.

Harry Curtis

From Johann van Zyl (father of Louis)

A snippet that may interest you is that three of the 2005 class have gained U19A selection for their respective provinces in waterpolo. The Macdonald twins, Angus and Lachlan, for Border and our son Louis, for Western Province. Subsequently all three were selected to be part of the SA U18 Elite squad from which a team will be selected to take part in an International Triangular Tournament in New Zealand at the end of the year.

Grades 8-11s Touch

We were blessed with wonderful weather on Friday, 27 August and 25 boys turned up to play touch. There were two games played simultaneously on the Mt Royal field and we even had the pleasure of two past parents playing! There was a bit of a derby between Bishops and the rest - St Andrew's, SACS and Reddam. There were also some boys there who didn't even play rugby - they just came to see their mates.



Touch Rugby 2010

Vetpups Luncheon:

Everyone enjoyed a well-attended and lively get-together of Vetpups in the Pavilion on November 3. Before lunch, there was a short tour of the main building and all the new facilities were an eye-opener for them. They especially admired the new Archives Room, dedicated to the memory of Martin Simpson, and the new computer lab. It is always fascinating to walk around the school with men who were there in the 30s, 40s and 50s as they remember what was where in their day! Back at the Pavilion, Michael Hosty welcomed everybody, stressing the importance of keeping in touch with a school that "you never really leave". Pauline Pearce thanked those who had already contributed

their memories of their WPPS days for the Centenary book and asked for memorabilia and photographs to keep coming. There were team and other photos for the OWs to peruse. Dudley Harris recognised himself as Portia in 'Merchant of Venice' performed in St Thomas Church hall in 1939. He was able to identify the rest of the cast, too! Dudley was the boxing captain in 1939. During the delicious lunch, (thank you Fiona and your team) the memories flowed. There were some Old Boys who had not seen each other since school days so there was a lot of catching up to be done. We really missed one or two of our regulars who were not able to attend but hope to see them at the next event.



From l-r: Dick Ratcliffe, Gordon Pringle, John Stansbury, Ken Stuart-Findlay, Newton Phillips, Ian Brown, Dudley Harris, Brian du Toit, Peter Heddon, John Bettison, Denis Taylor, Peter Steyn, Stephen Goodson, Christopher Steytler, Donald Ball, Nigel Murphy, John Williams

Ed: **Nigel Murphy** told us how he used to smoke behind the pavilion.

A couple of thank yous ...

Just a quick thank-you for the fascinating school tour and we were especially impressed with the archives room. Scrumptious lunch, as usual, wonderful memories and good old friends.

If we did not praise you the very stones would cry out.

Many thanks, Peter and Jenny Steyn

Lovely cold meats, lovely salads, lovely strawberries, lovely wine. All 5 stars! Many thanks to you all for all you did for us yesterday. Will certainly be back next year if you invite me!!

Gordon Pringle

Sporting achievements:

Rugby: **Paul Cohen, Stuart Commins, Greg Mallet, Douglas Mallett, Pete Haw, Nick Fenton-Wells, Zandy MacDonald** on representing the IKey Tigers during the 2010 Varsity Cup. Nick and Stuart captained at various times.

Justin Bijl, Leigh Bruinders, Nic Vanlierde on representing the UCT Nadoes in the 2010 Varsity Cup Koshuis league.

Matthew Turner (1998-2001) represented the English Sevens in the IRB English Sevens against Roddy Grant (1999) who represented Scotland.

Cricket: **Chris Cooke** on representing the Nashua Cape Cobras Emerging

squad in the inaugural Emirates 20/20 and 40/40 competitions and was awarded a county contract with Glamorgan.

Chris played this English summer for Bournemouth in the Hampshire league (and skipper Craig de Weymarn described Chris maiden century for Bournemouth as "pure quality").

Cycling: **Oliver Munnik** came 2nd for the Mr Price GT team.

Congratulations to **Raymond Ackermann** (1938-44) who published his third book, "A Sprat to Catch a Mackerel" and also on his first hang gliding flight, in Switzerland!

Ed: A tick off your Bucket List!

Centenary

THE CENTENARY BOOK

Reminiscences and impressions of WPPS continue to be received from old boys BUT these are largely from those who left in the 40s 50s and early 60s. These have been hugely valuable and informative and THANKS to all who have contributed so far. To achieve some balance we really need input from those who were there from the late 60s to the present. We know that you are probably far too busy to have time to think about those days or develop nostalgia for them but we need your help. Tell us about what the school meant to you, about your experiences and about the staff who taught you: we know that there were some unforgettable

characters!

Pauline and Malcolm Pearce

URGENTLY NEEDED

- Any accounts of post WW II military service, awards and decorations
- From those at school in the 60s, 70s and 80s: anecdotes about highlights of your time at WPPS, about your teachers and your schoolmates and about your present careers.
- Details of any publications by OWs
- Recent marriages and births.

Date to Diarise
Founders' Day – Friday, 4 February 2011

Congratulations:

Engagements:

Congratulations to **Douglas De Jager** (1984-90) on his engagement to Lady Eliza Pelham (England)

Michael Charton (1984-90) on his engagement to **Lauren Ponting**

Marriages:

- **Stuart Abbott** (1985-90) to Megan Young in April
- **Jamie Boyes** (1982-88) to Carla Schneider in April
- **Brandon Joscelyne** (1982-87) to Joanne Clague in January
- **Sandy Leslie** (1993) and Leah Schwebach in April
- **Jeffrey Clements** (1986-92) and Jen married in a typically colourful and original Clements style.



Jeffrey and Jen Clements

Archives Room:

We are thoroughly excited about our new 'museum' where we can show off our books which have been donated by our very own authors. Also on show is the current school memorabilia and a few items of memorabilia from the past. If anyone has any article of clothing, cups, etc that they would like to donate, we would appreciate your contribution.

The idea is for Old Wetpups to be able to come and visit the museum and look at magazines, photographs, etc from their year group.

When visiting the school in future, you will be able to identify the various fields, buildings and rooms by the newly hung photo frames explaining who and why they were so named.

Wetpups Bizsite:

Our Wetpups BizSite is an online directory service catering exclusively to the WPPS Family, Old Boys, Parents (past and current) and Staff. Businesses listed have exposure to an ideal target market and are linked with our School Communicator. Enter your details into our business directory and enjoy the benefits OR search the site for a trusted supplier and do business with someone you know. Get listed today! It's easy – for only R100 per month. Be part of the Wetpups Business Community by visiting

<http://www.wetpupsbiz.co.za>

For more information contact Zena Payne 083 7926477 email : wetpupsbiz@wetpups.org.za

