



OLD GREY NEWSLETTER

The latest news and updates from the Old Greys' Union



From the Old Grey President

To all Old Greys,

It feels so strange that the entire world is fighting a pandemic that by all accounts is devastating to all. It seems unbelievable that everything has almost come to a standstill. The restart of business worldwide will be interesting, to say the least.

One has to feel for the Grey boys, who are so used to being active and pushing through the academic day to get to that awesome game of sport in the afternoon. In particular, one thinks of the matrices and Grade 7's

(Standard 5). It is their last year in their school, missing all the important derby days, the Trooping the Colour, and welcoming all the past Old Greys to their Reunion weekend and dinner. There are obviously more important things at the moment but they have spent the past few years gearing up for that final match and partaking in these activities as the now seniors of their schools.

Our thoughts apply to all across the globe, especially those the Old Boys returning for their now postponed Reunion in May 2020 - many wanting to re-ignite friendships that have been solid, some for 60 years.

It has been unanimously decided that Reunion will be postponed til 2021. The Union is committed to hosting a spectacular Reunion in 2021 that will accommodate the celebrating groups of 2020 and 2021 together.

The entire OGU wishes everyone a speedy return to normality. May we all help, wherever possible, those that are less fortunate in health and hunger. Warm wishes to all and please stay safe.

Regards,

Dave Hurr

National President, Old Greys' Union

From The Grey Foundation Chairman



Dear Old Greys

The COVID-19 pandemic will have a lasting economic impact on everyone. We will all have to think innovatively, restructure our lives and businesses in order to survive. It is no different for The Grey.

At this point it is impossible to say exactly what the full impact of the pandemic will be on Grey. There is still uncertainty about returning to school. We await the instruction from the Presidency and Department of Education. We continue to work through the dynamics of our new abnormal. Some of this includes extra cleaning of the school, PPE for teachers and pupils when they return and social distancing within the school environment to ensure everyone's safety. The normal timetable will need to be restructured to enable fewer boys in each classroom, as well as to enable teachers to teach remotely and boys to learn remotely in instances where they or their family members are at risk.

In the interim, what the Grey schools have done is simply phenomenal. At lockdown, immediate, proactive and effective steps were taken to introduce online teaching. A supposed Easter holiday, the lack of technological resources and infrastructure has not prevented Grey's determination to move the schools' entire academic programme online. This was done in days. We are indebted to the staff, led by the Rector and Headmaster. They have been innovative and tireless to ensure that there has been virtually no loss of academic time. They have also put mechanisms in place to support and assist the boys and parents through this time. We can be incredibly proud of what has been accomplished to date.



What action is The Grey Foundation taking now to support The Grey schools?

The practical implications of remote learning is vast and costly. Access and connectivity through Wi-Fi, data and devices is not a given for all boys of the Grey. Some homes only have one shared laptop or computer for the entire family. Others have none at all, or can only access online learning through a single mobile phone in the family. The cost of data and devices is unaffordable to many.

We are therefore embarking on a drive to raise additional funds. There are two main areas we are focussing on. Firstly, the intention is for the Foundation to fund the schools to purchase laptops that would remain the property of the school. These laptops will be given on loan to the boys or teachers that need them. This ensures that one device can support a number of boys or teachers over time. To comprehensively and completely support a pupil with a laptop, data and connectivity for the next few months would be in the region of R20 000 per child. [Read More..](#)

Old Greys in the News



Source: <https://www.msnbc.com/>

Henry Schein CEO: 'Plans in place' to manufacture millions of coronavirus antibody tests

Henry Schein CEO Stan Bergman '68 speaks to MSNBC's Ali Velshi about the company's antibody test, which would determine within 15 minutes whether the person has had COVID-19 and developed immunity.

[DOUBLE CLICK IMAGE TO VIEW VIDEO](#)



Source: <https://www.autrojans.com/sports/mgolf/>

Reece Coleman '18 in first place following the opening-round action at the Anderson University Invitational

ANDERSON, S.C. – Paced by freshman Reece Coleman's 4-under-par 68, the Anderson University men's golf team is in first place following opening-round action at the AU Invitational Monday, which is being hosted at the 6,922 yard, par-72 Cobb's Glen Country Club layout.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)



Source: <https://www.therep.co.za/2020/05/03/siya-kolisi-proud-to-be-a-knitwit/>

Siya Kolisi proud to be a 'knitwit'

Proving once again that no task is too big — or too small — for the 1.8m tall flanker with a heart of gold, he was back in the Bay at the weekend, his place of birth, to hand out about 600 food parcels to the less fortunate.

[READ FULL ARTICLE](#)



Source: <https://www.pressreader.com/south-africa/weekend-post-south-africa/>

Byron Schmidt '04 finds new home with German rugby team

Capturing and keeping young rugby talent in Germany will be high on the agenda for former Grey High rugby player Byron Schmidt.

[READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)

COVID-19 is a global challenge and the number of those struggling is growing daily, even within our Grey community. As we go in to winter, this is going to become more difficult.

Lockdown might be eased, but the economic and social trauma will be lasting.

As a Grey Community we can make a difference !

We are proud to announce that

Grey High School & the Kolisi Foundation

have officially partnered to supply Care Packages and essentials to Siya's Primary School and Grey families in need.



KOLISI
FOUNDATION



HOW DOES IT WORK ?

Grey High School will receive and box the content of staple foods, cleaning detergents, toiletries and face masks. The Kolisi Foundation manages logistics, legal requirements and distribution of the boxes.

HOW CAN YOU HELP ?

Adopt a Family at Siya's Primary School or donate to Grey families in need for a period of 3 months at R600 per month

PAYMENT OPTIONS

(1) R600 per month (2) R1800 upfront (3) Split the cost with another family or families. The same **Reference** to be used by all families. (4) If you are unable to commit for the 3 month period, any donation is welcome. These amounts will be grouped in to R600 amounts.

BANKING DETAILS

Grey Foundation
Standard Bank, Branch 051001
Account 080-2900-86

Reference :

Option 1, 2, 3 or 4 + SURNAME

For international transfers:

Swift Code : SBZA ZA JJ

SECTION 18(A) TAX CERTIFICATES can be obtained from bursar@greyhighschool.com

The Kolisi Foundation will continue to also donate Care Packages

For more information marketing@thegrey.com

Chatterboard

I attended a family wedding in Cape Town a few weeks back and before leaving PE had arranged a class of '57 lunch in Mouille Point. Those who attended are in the photograph below. Unfortunately Claude Kirkman, Mike Paterson and Mick Whitehead were unable to attend but we had an absolutely delightful time with everyone enjoying each other's company. Needless to say the lunch which commenced at 12.30 continued for quite a number of hours with many yarns and chats about matters of common interest.



From Left: Tippy (Elrica) Luttig, Arnie Katz, Stathie Christie, Paul Bezuidenhout and Ed Bailey

Kind regards, Arnie Katz '57

I am one of the older Old Greys but I want to tell our story of our House, Way, before Meriway came into being. I was Head prefect of Way in 1951 when we had the sporting results which have not been repeated since 1951 nor will they be repeated or beaten in the years of the future. The following are Way's sporting results from my notes in 1951 and from The Grey magazine of that year :

1. We won both the Senior and Junior Inter-House competitions.
2. We won both the Senior and Junior tennis House competitions.
3. We won the Inter-House athletics.
4. Way won the Cross Country

That is my story but I do think it is worth telling. I very much doubt whether a house in the future will beat the Way House achievement of 1951!

I am still a great admirer of my old school and have sent all 3 of my sons Gavin, Dean and Craig to matriculate there.

Regards,

GLENN MASKELL '51

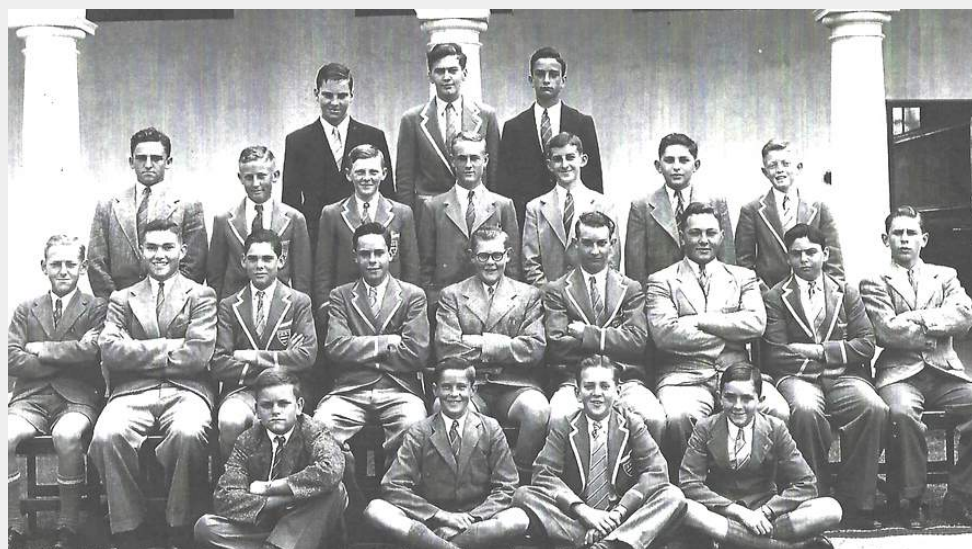
Thank you for routinely sending me electronic copies of the Old Grey Newsletter, I thoroughly enjoy reading the news from The Grey and keeping in touch with old school friends.

Since arriving in New Zealand six months ago, we have learned that as much as there was a great legacy left by Sir George Grey in South Africa, there was an even greater legacy left by him in New Zealand – a historical fact which I (and probably most past and present Grey men) was not fully aware of.

For those who may be interested, I have attached a short historical summary of Sir George Grey's tenure in New Zealand, including a photo taken of my son and me in December at what was Sir George's private Mansion House on Kawau Island – located close to Warkworth, the small tourist town which is now our home.

Kind regards, **Willo Stear '65**

**CLICK
HERE
TO
READ**



GREY HIGH SCHOOL PORT ELIZABETH - 9B Class of 1949
Class photo shared by Mike Darlison '50

Top Row: Derek Staples, Hymie Strimling, Arthur Willis
3rd Row: Athok Mckinnon, Peter Eales, Donald Smith, Pierre Steenkamp, Joe Baise, Jackie Meyers, Norman Van Buuren,
2nd Row: Kenny Bradford, Jackie Abraham, Bunny Reid, Rob Hawke, Rupert Mizon, Ronald Corcoran, Mike Cooke, Arthur Bennun, Mike Darlison
Front: Johan Ehmke, Vernon Vincent, Donald Foster, Geoff Tonkin
Class Master: Tienie Krige
Absent: Wilf Rosenburg (future Springbok)

The piece from Malcolm Finn (February 2020) reminds me of an incident on the athletic track in 1953 of which Malcolm may or may not be aware (or, maybe he wasn't involved - see below). It was the trials for the inter-house relays and I lined up for the Vipian under 16's. 100 yards. As the starter sent us off, I got a "flyer", straight into the lead. Natural ability took over at about 40 yards out and I saw Malcolm next to me about to overtake. I thought "no! I can run faster" and the thought translated into me falling flat on my face with a pulled muscle.

No one cared so I dragged myself back to the changing room pondering alternatively how to ride my bike home and how to get my clothes on. My thoughts were rudely disturbed by some well meaning soul shouting " Oompie - Mr F A Sieborger, Vipian housemaster - says you must come for the high jump trials"

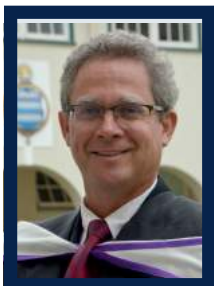
I may have this wrong - if Malcolm Finn was not in Vipian, then it was the other partner in the Fish Finn combination, Malcolm (?) Fish . Who can assist?

Cedric Harris '54



Headmaster's Newsletter: Term 1, 2020

[CLICK HERE TO READ](#)



Rector's Newsletter: Term 1, 2020

[CLICK HERE TO READ](#)

Looking Back with Ian Pringle

With what would have been the start of the school rugby season, we delve into the past and recall not only the game itself but some side issues that have added to and possibly been debated over the years and dare we say found to be amusing.

Andre Schoombee '84 had an extraordinary day when he played for the 3rd Team against Grey College and his team won 18-9 on the Philip Field. He was then asked to sit on the bench for the 2nd Team game and came on at one stage where the team drew 22 all in a riveting match. Not done yet, he was asked to sit on the bench for the First XV game and he was again called up. This time Grey won a memorable game 18-10! Who can say that they have played three times, undefeated, against Grey Bloem on one day? Grey had one of its best-ever sides in 1984 only losing 9-16 to Queens College.

In 1966 **Alan Read '67** and **Jon Green '67** were kicking a ball about on the Pyott Field. Alan could kick phenomenally well, especially when barefoot. Jon was standing under the poles when Read indicated that he was going to drop from the halfway line to which Green yelled back, "You have not got a hope in hell". The ball flew high and straight and landed on the crossbar which then broke free from the uprights and landed on Jon's head! He was knocked senseless and carted off to Matron Wilmot's sickbay where he duly recovered. An interesting upshot of this was that his Mother forever believed that this was the reason for his poor Maths marks!

Grey First XV linesmen have over the years always been larger than life characters and remembered long after having left school. Names that readily come to mind are **Michael Barnett '65** (Barnacle), **Anton Burger '68** (Big Wave), **Rory Stear '77** and **Neil McLaggan '64**. Rory was always, through his tall height and build, looked upon as a fearsome lock instead of being merely the linesman but Neil had it all. He always took an extra two meters on the line in Grey's favour and if howled down by the opposition supporters would backtrack a step and charmingly apologise for his oversight!

The First XV jerseys and kit are now sponsored by well-known sporting brands. Fifty years ago if selected for the First XV you acquired and paid for your own new jersey at either Birch's or Croft Magill & Watson. It was before the days of The School Shop. Grey provided your number and First XV badge! You kept your jersey and never replaced it. It was a sign of seniority in the First XV that the more faded your jersey became you were probably at least into your second year of representing the team! Transport to away games took the form of hired municipal buses or trains and Pioneer Ford generously provided used cars for the first two teams which parents drove.

Gordon Jordaan '44 is looked upon as Grey's finest rugby player. He played three years for the First XV and was equally at home in any position in the backline. He was brilliant but like those who are maybe too brilliant was a maverick. Against Kingswood, on one occasion he broke through to run almost the length of the field only to pause in front of Kingwood's poles and to attempt a drop goal.. and he missed it! Coach Tienie Krige was livid! Gordon later played for EP and Northern Rhodesia (Zambia). His loss to EP rugby was felt when EP was once badly beaten but none the less this did not contain a loud and enthusiastic evangelical type from berating disappointed spectators outside the Crusader Ground. This was before the days of the Boet Erasmus Stadium and provincial games were played at Crusaders. "Who is going to save us if not Jesus?" the evangelist implored, to which one wag then yelled back, "Only Gordon Jordaan can save EP!"

Grey's first unbeaten side was in 1924 and was coached by the legendary Boetie Gamble. At about the same time, in 1921, the Grey U16 side amassed 431 points and had none scored against them! A record that still stands in EP schoolboy rugby! Our last unbeaten side was that of 1976 and who would forget our first victory over Grey College at home on the Philip Field? It was **Robbie Logan's** penalty kick 35 meters out on the hostel side touchline that put Grey ahead with minutes to spare and to win 13-11.

The most vociferous supporters that Grey has had, and there have been many, were probably brothers **George and Norman Pohl** who farmed in the Grahamstown (Makhana) district and who played for Grey in the 1920s. For decades they never missed any game in that City and wearing their Old Grey blazers would be heard very loudly when Grey was in a tight situation shouting, "*Gooi wal Grey, gooi wal* "

And the most capped Grey player? This is **Terry McGee '67** who played 72 games over four years for the First XV of which he captained the side for three years in the period 1965/68. A tall, powerful and fast flank who led by example and who was also the EP 100 and 220 yards athletics champion. He later captained EP and it is said that had he played for one of the more fancied and prominent unions he would have gained national honours.

One could write a book on rugby memories and we hope that we have given you an idea of rugby back in the day!

In Memory

Ulrich Landman – Class of 1948

"Chooks Landman was the sort of Old Grey who made one especially proud to be an Old Grey. He had an acute mind, a great sense of humour and was simply a wholesome person through and through. He was a day boy, I was a boarder, which meant - in the 1940's perhaps more than today - that we only met in the classroom and the sports field. We were in Class 9A and 10A together - very happy classes, presided over by C.J. Van der Merle whose great love was serious music. Chooks was an excellent hurdler, just kept out of the school's first place by the multi-talented Ian Melvin but I was very proud to be with him in the Triangular hurdles team which won in 1948. He was a fast and gutsy wing on the rugby field, again kept out of the first XV positions by Melvin and Phil Abraham, but was the respected captain of seconds. Our post-school lives were lived very far apart, so that I cannot speak of his working career, but Year Reunions were much enhanced in 1998, 2008, and 2018 by Chooks' presence. In the intervening years he delighted in sending through the post, to wherever I was, the texts of thought-provoking or humorous speeches or articles. It was typical of him that - although by then quite seriously disabled so that he had to be carried up the pavilion stairs to attend it - he was a warm presence at our 70th Reunion of May 2018. I am so glad to have counted him a friend."

With, as always, warmest good wishes, Andrew Lang '48

Melvin Baker – Class of 1936

Mel passed away in Bedford at the age of 100 years having lived a varied and exceptional life. It was only a few weeks ago that he celebrated his 100th birthday. Mel was born in 1920 and was our oldest Old Grey. He was at Grey in the time of Rector James Lang and was probably one of a handful of remaining Old Greys who date to this period of Grey history. Upon the outbreak of WW2 Mel enlisted and was assigned to HMS Gloucester that was based in Simon's Town to patrol our coastline on the lookout for German raiders. She was later stationed in the Mediterranean acting as an escort for convoys on route to Malta but on 22 May 1940 she was sunk by German bombers in the Battle of Crete. She was downed with a loss of 722 men and Mel was one of 85 survivors. What a tale he must have had to tell in later life! Our sympathies are extended to his family

Colin Robertson – Class of 1951

Colin has passed away at the age of 85. He was the father of Howard and Craig and all three had the distinction of playing loose head prop for the First XV. Howard is a member of that marvellous unbeaten Grey XV of 1976 – the last unbeaten side that we have had at Grey. He was a keen Old Grey and together with the late Tom Chambers organised the class reunions of his year. A task in which undertook with enthusiasm. The rugby coach at Grey in the 1950s was MC Marais who is recalled with fondness by many who he had coached and Colin had a close relationship with this exceptional gentleman. Colin had a most successful career and retired as the Managing Director of Algoa Toyota and was well known in the automotive industry. He was a lifelong supporter of the old Olympics Rugby Club (Blues) and served two terms as President of the Club. In later years Colin was a keen bowler and became a member of the Walmer Bowling Club. His claim to fame over 22 years of playing the game was in an All Cape Tournament he skipped his side to beat another captained by the SA National Champion and Captain. Colin and his "No Hoppers" had achieved the near impossible! We will miss Colin and our condolences to his family.



THE OLD GREY CLUB

The latest updates from The Old Grey Club

Delivery service now on offer from your favourite neighborhood restaurant...Old Grey Sports Club! We will operate from Wednesday, 6th May and trading hours will be between 11h00 and 19h00 as per the new Covid-19 guidelines. Download the delivery app called KEKAMBAS, enter your address and view our menu.



Delivering a world of convenience to your doorstep

