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OLD GREY NEWSLETTER

The latest news and updates from the Old Greys' Union



UPCOMING EVENTS 2023

INVITATIONS ARE SENT BASED ON YOUR REGION. KINDLY NOTIFY THE UNION OFFICE IF YOUR PHYSICAL ADDRESS HAS CHANGED - OGU@THEGREY.COM

- **THE GREY BEDFORD** 22 FEBRUARY
- **OLD BOYS VS PAUL ROOS GOLF CHALLENGE** 14 APRIL
- **JOHANNESBURG GREY FOUNDATION GOLF DAY** 9 MAY
- **LONDON GOLF DAY** 13 MAY
- **OLD GREY REUNION** 3-6 MAY
- **LONDON GOLF DAY** 13 MAY
- **LONDON DINNER** 29 JUNE
- **CAPE TOWN FOUNDATION GOLF DAY** 21 SEPTEMBER
- **NIGHT WITH THE CLASSICS** 4 NOVEMBER
- **REMEMBRANCE DAY** 11 NOVEMBER

From the Old Grey desk

Welcome to the February 2023 edition of the Old Grey Newsletter. We encourage Old Boys to connect, contribute and share their news, accomplishments, and old-school memories. Please let us know what interests you so that we can keep you informed and connected to the greater Grey community.

REUNION 2023

The date for Reunion has been set. Please diarise Wednesday 03 - Saturday 06 May. Class leaders have been contacted and we are working on updating your contact details so that all Old boys receive updates and invitations.

The celebrating classes returning in 2023 are: 1953, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1978, 1983, 1988, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2008, 2013 and 2018.

Please remember that Reunion is open to all Old Greys and not only the returning classes.

Old Grey is proud of



Academic Honours - Kian Claassen '22 and Daniel Ristow '22 were awarded Academic Honours for achieving first and second place in the Eastern Cape for the 2022 Matric final examinations. We congratulate them both on this achievement! Pictured in the middle is Rector Chris Erasmus. Congratulations must also be awarded to Devin Moolman '22, not seen above, who achieved first place in Cluster B.



Images: autrojans.com/sports/mgolf/2022-23/

Reece Coleman '18 Wins Georgia Southwestern's Hurricane Invitational. Behind the sixth-lowest three-round score in program history, Anderson senior Reece Coleman claimed his first outright individual tournament championship.



Source: <https://www.heraldlive.co.za/>

Congratulations to Old Greys Daniel Wolf '19 and Leo Wolf '19 on representing the Federal Republic of Germany vs Georgia in the Rugby Europe Championship 2023.

J-Bay wave ace eyes Olympic qualification as he tackles Hawaii event. As Matthew McGillivray '15 enters the waters of Hawaii for the Billabong Pro Pipeline this week, Jeffreys Bay professional surfer Matthew McGillivray knows he needs to put in a top performance as the prospect of qualification for the Olympic Games beckons.

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Chatterboard



Farewell Ian Pringle

We had an excellent farewell tea with Ian Pringle '67, former manager of the Old Greys' Union, who is relocating to Cape Town. Ian, you will be missed but we look forward to seeing you at all the Old Grey WC events. Wishing you all the best with your move.

From left: Karin Ivings, Bev McCarthy, Lauren McClelland and Ian Pringle



CAMERON BOOTH '09 | Old Greys New York

Thank you to New York Old boys Kevin Stapp '92 and Stephen Marriner '86 for taking the time to meet up with Cameron Booth '09 who is visiting the city from Bahrain.

From left: Stephen, Cameron and Kevin



50-YEAR TIME CAPSULE

The Class of 1972 returned to place their time capsule, alongside prized items from the Class of 2022, in the Matric Quad. And so continuing the 50-year tradition for the Class of 2072 to inherit.

Representing the Class of 1972 are Dave Simpson (left) and Charles Marais.

Plett's Ashford Oval hosts The Grey Bill McAdam Annual T20 Shield

The Grey Bill McAdam Annual T20 Shield took place on Wednesday 25 January 2023 in Plettenberg Bay. This annual cricket fixture is in memory of the late Bill McAdam (Old Grey Class of 1962), hosted by the McAdam family at the beautiful Ashford Oval. The turnout of spectators, family and friends was most pleasing and the weather made for a lovely day in the sun around the boundary line.

Ashford Oval is Bill's heartfelt contribution to his family, the people, the community, the sport and the country he loved. Cricket held a special place in Bill's heart and Ashford Oval honours the greats of the game; the vital part cricket plays in the moulding of 'a few good men' and the bountiful joys that flow from a field of green where friendships are born and nurtured.

The Cricket fixtures for the day started with the Grey High School's U14 team vs the U13 SWD team in a T20 match. It was, sadly, a little one-sided but this match was enjoyed by all.

After lunch, the much-awaited T20 match between the Grey Old Boys team vs the Grey High School 1st XI lived up to expectations. The First XI needed 6 off the final ball but only managed a 4.

Final score: Grey First XI vs Grey Old Boys

Old Boys: 139 for 9

Grey 1st XI: 138 for 8

David Masterson 46 and Jordan Strydom 53 were the top scorers for each team.

Congratulations to the Old Boys who won by 1 run!

Bill's wife, Penny McAdam, and Bill's grandson, Nick Barlow, addressed the spectators and guests after the matches. They shared their heartfelt memories of Bill and the significance of this fixture to his legacy and love of the game. The Grey community wishes to thank Penny, Katherine, Tyrone and Nick for a spectacular day of Cricket, and for generously maintaining Bill's legacy in such a meaningful way.



In 1960, during his Grade 10 year at Grey, Bill was selected for the 1st XI & EP Nuffield teams. Under his captaincy, Grey won the PE Men's League for the first and only time in the school's history. He went on to captain both sides for the following two years.

This was during the time of SA Cricket legends such as the Pollock brothers, Barry Richards & Mike Procter.

At UCT, he was appointed Captain of the 1st XI in his first year and led the team to League Honours for successive years. In 1965, he was elected Captain of the SA Universities tour to England - the last official cricket tour before South Africa was banned from international fixtures.

In 1967 he became the youngest ever Western Province cricket captain, and later went on to play for EP.



Thanks to Tavcor Commercial for the continued support of The Grey and for ensuring the Grey boys and supporting staff reached our destinations safely.



Above: The Grey Old Boys and The Grey First XI pictured with Mrs Penny McAdam (seated in centre) at the Ashford Oval.

Photos by: Nicholas Dyer (Grey Sight & Sound Society)

News from The Grey

GREY HIGH CONVOCATION AND GRADE 8 TIE CEREMONY

On the morning of Monday 23 January, the Matrics put on their matric ties. They then assisted the new Grade 8s in putting on their tie for the first time. And finally, the Grade 8s entered 'Neath the Tower' and rang the Hope Bell, marking their arrival at The Grey. They will ring this bell next at Valedictory in October 2027 when they leave the school, and once more, as a returning Old Grey.



Source: www.facebook.com/greyboyshighschool
 Photos by Judith Parfitt and Nicholas Dyer

The Hope Bell, which represents the Old Greys, is hung below the Tower on the Northern side of the Memorial Quad. Old Greys are then allowed to ring the Hope Bell ONCE on their return to The Grey for their first Reunion. When they do so, they announce their continued commitment to their alma mater and express their hope for future generations of Grey Men. It also serves as a reminder of the historic roots of the school and as an acknowledgement of the role that each Old Grey has played in shaping our school – a reminder to Old Greys that they are part of a brotherhood and to the boys still at school that their journey as a Grey Man continues for the rest of their lives.

Looking Back with Ian Pringle

“URS ZSCHOKKE – A RARE PERFORMER “

Urs came to Grey in 1955 from the then South West Africa and was a boarder. His phenomenal exploits and achievements at Grey plus one or two other dubious credits are spoken of to this day. It was during the delayed 60th Reunion of the Class of 1960 in 2022 that his exploits were spoken of, and for the sake of posterity, we thought they should be recorded.

Urs was a brilliant diver and on the opening of the new school swimming bath at the time of the Centenary celebrations in 1956 was given the honour of being the first to officially dive into the pool. Don Robertson '60 in his recollections of that time says that of course the baths had been in use for some time before being officially opened and during those Centenary celebrations the boarders were given the week off as visiting Old Greys took over the hostel. I am indebted to Don as being the fact finder and for his input.

Don added though only in Grade 10, Urs was selected for the senior EP Men's team and took part in the SA Championships where he achieved third place in the diving division. He was later to gain Colours for Swimming and also Gymnastics. He captained the Grey gym team and was also the EP Captain – the first time a Grey boy had achieved this position. Older Old Greys will recall the ropes that hung from the ceiling in the De Waal Hall which were used for gym classes. It was an achievement to scale the ropes and bravely touch the ceiling but Urs used to do so three times in succession (such was his agility). It was not surprising then that he held the senior pole vault record and excelled both in the hurdles and sprint events which brought him his third Colours award.

And then there follows a mystery. Urs is shown in the 1958 Grey First XV photograph – where he played scrumhalf but he does not then appear in the 1959 picture. He is, instead, in 1959 found to be captaining the Second XV! By 1960 he was back in favour in the First XV but only gained a Merit Award for rugby. Did he have a clash of personalities with the rugby coach? Who knows? But it is amazing that he was sidelined for a year. Then it then appears that all was forgiven for he was made a school prefect in his last year!

It is a fact that Urs was described as having a mischievous nature and some will say that is an understatement. In his Grade 11 year, he received two sets of six of the best on the same day. A thrashing of six lashes was considered a serious offence but two and executed on the same day was totally abnormal. It is not clear who stepped in but from that day the practice was never to be repeated at the same level.

In later life, Urs founded the first courier company that ran between Port Elizabeth and Cape Town and later the bigger centres. It was a novel idea and he prospered but sadly he lost his young son in a skiing accident on the Kromme River and was never the same man again. To the older Old Greys “Zschokkie” as he was known remains a legend of an exceptional sportsman and character.

In Memory

Fred Bebington - Class of 1961

Fred was born in Port Elizabeth, went to Grey's Junior and High School where he played prop forward, going on to play for Crusaders Rugby Club in P.E. He then joined the South African Defence Force, rose to Captain and later became a Tank Commander. Fred worked for Ford Motor Company in P E before moving to Kloof displaying newly imported Mustangs, Galaxies and other luxury vehicles to branches throughout South Africa, He could keep you awake all night with his stories.

He will be remembered by the aviation community as someone with a huge passion for aviation and he passionately served this country on committees of the Soaring Society of SA and others. Our sincere condolences to his wife Anne, children and other family.

Brian Collier - Class of 1957

Sadly Brian passed away after a long and very hard-fought illness. On leaving Grey he spent a couple of his years in finance and then moved to Cadburys where he was with them for just over 30 years involved in Logistics Management. Brian leaves behind his two children Neale and Alison.

Timothy White - Class of 1986

Timothy passed away on 21.02.2023 after suffering a heart attack. This sadly followed a one-month stay in the hospital as a result of a tooth infection that was untreated and spread throughout his body. Our sincere condolences to his friends and family.

Michael ("Mike") David Groch - Class of 1964

Mike passed away in Johannesburg on Friday, 13 January 2023. He was the 1964 First XV Captain until he sustained a knee injury and was also well-known throughout his school career – and beyond. Mike was a Director in St Mungo's United Church NGO, in Diepsloot, a skills development initiative whose mandate is "to create hope where there is hopelessness and self-worth where there is despair". He was also a Director of Mayday-SA, Mike volunteered his leadership, time, and love, and, in the end, led Mayday-SA diligently as chairperson. Mike leaves behind his five daughters and sons-in-law and many grandchildren whom he treasured dearly.