



OLD GREY NEWSLETTER

The latest news and updates from the Old Greys' Union



**WISHING ALL
OLD GREYS A
HAPPY AND
HEALTHY 2021**

From the Old Grey Desk

Welcome to the February 2021 edition of the Old Grey Newsletter. We encourage Old Boys to write-in 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.

Today marks the beginning of the new school year and we look forward to having the young Men of The Grey back on campus. As the schools once again implement a blended learning system, the technology challenges of last year remain. We continue to be humbled by the passion and generosity of the many Old Boys who have contributed to the [Technology Appeal](#) and participated in the Class Challenges thus far.

OLD GREYS REUNION 2021

Due to the ongoing National State of Disaster, and its associated restrictions, the Reunion will be deferred to a later date. Whilst this decision is made with a heavy heart, it would be irresponsible not to put the health and safety of our Old Boys and all at The Grey first.

Once it is permitted, we look forward to welcoming all celebrating class groups for 2020 and 2021 back to The Grey!

Chatterboard

The input from Glen Maskell in the May OGU Newsletter regarding the impressive Way House results in 1951 and his comments that “they have not been repeated since 1951 nor will they be repeated or beaten in the years of the future” and the subsequent unrelated Looking Back with Ian Pringle got me locating a 1966 school magazine. Whilst it was a different era, I think Glen will agree, that the Way House results from 56 boys in 1966 compares very favourably with that of 1951!

Bear in mind that the year did not end, as it began, after the Graeme College rugby incident as explained by Ian. As an aside one of the six boys who was defrocked and banned from playing for the rest of the season drank a coke.

Way House produced 5 of the 13 prefects including head and deputy head boys. Captains of cricket, rugby, and athletics were Way boys as were the senior student officer and adjutant plus a further 9 of the 22 student officers.

On the sports field the results were as follows:

- Won athletics by 49 points and cross country by 30 points
- Joint first in cricket
- Second in senior and U16 tennis, gymnastics, and shooting
- 15 boys also represented first XV

Way boys were very competitive – you decide!

Regards,

Syd Lippstreu '66

Missing Old Greys

Help us find missing Old Greys from your Class



**CLICK
HERE**



THE GREY FOUNDATION

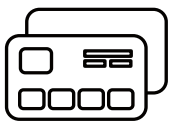


TAX BENEFITS

DID YOU KNOW ?

The Grey Foundation Trust is registered as a Section 18A Non-Profit Organisation (NPO). South African taxpayers are eligible for a tax deduction of up to 10% of annual taxable income in terms of Section 18A (1) (a) of the Income Tax Act No 58 of 1962 as amended.

THE FOLLOWING PAYMENT METHODS ARE AVAILABLE:



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If you haven't yet made use of your 10% donation tax benefit, you can do so for the current tax year by making a donation before 28 February 2021.

For any queries please contact Bev McCarthy - fundraising@thegrey.com

Looking Back with Ian Pringle

It was a surreal and rather odd start to the year for the Matriculation Class of 1967 on their first day of term. The Class had been slashed to 86 in number and more than 30 one time members had been kept behind to repeat Std 9 (Grade 11). Rector Stan Edkins had decided to take no prisoners and was out to improve his Matric results for the new year so he slashed the deadwood!

The 1967 Woodworking Class had been decimated and there were only 11 present from the previous year. By a quirk of unknown fate, they inherited John (Butch) Grewar who was taking Commercial Bookkeeping and Steve Vorster of the Class of 1966 who had returned for a postponed Matric! Butch, being the odd one out, is said to have walked into the wrong class on the first day, recognised a lot of old friends and simply decided to stay!

The XD Form Master was Dr. Fritz Hayward who must have looked rather woefully upon his allotted wayward bunch with initial concern. He took Afrikaans and only allowed Afrikaans to be spoken in class. He was actually a large landowner in the Aberdeen district but teaching was his first love and how fortunate XD was to have him. Fritz would despite his initial reservations become aware that virtually his entire class had heaps of talent except that of any academic nature! There was an abundance of leaders, excellent sportsmen, even a musician and dare we say the Class had far more than their so-called share of "standout" guys.

We had for instance the Deputy Headboy, another school prefect, two house prefects, the Senior Student Officer plus Adjutant, Student Officers and NCOs plus a plethora of First Team rugby players, cricketers, athletes, swimmers, the school gym champion and even Musketry was represented. Jon (Sakkie) Green played the large B-Flat Bass in Bob Selley's Brass Band and Iain Judd played the side drums in the Cadet Band. A mish-mash that was thrown into the deep end but who eventually all completed Matric!

The first duty of the term was to appoint a Class Captain and the shoo-in candidate was Deputy Headboy John Featherstone but Fritz turned around and said, "Stedman – I think you are the ideal candidate". Bob Stedman was a small guy and tried to duck under his desk but the class stood up and gave him a standing welcoming ovation despite his violent objection! The process was to be repeated at the beginning of the next three terms and it was always a no contest. Bob Stedman had arrived and ruled!

Bob could have been one of those guys who in his time at Grey would have merely been found in a class photograph but in the 1967- XD photograph he is seen proudly seated next to Fritz Hayward. Fritz's psychology had worked. Bob, in the midst of all his classmates, had been recognised and was no longer set to be merely an individual in a photograph. Bob was by his own acknowledgment had little sporting ambition and only took part in Cross Country because he had to and he knew all the short cuts across the Port Elizabeth Golf Course. However, by 1980 and perhaps recalling his previous efforts, Bob took to road running and has built up an amazing record over the last 40 years.

He has completed 30 Two Ocean Ultra marathons, 15 Comrades, 20 Knysna Standard marathons, 3 Rhodes Ultra marathons and 15 Kowie Strider runs and holds a permanent number for each event. Added to this tally are two more recent 44 km long Addo Trail runs and the last of which was completed in 2019 saw it being held of temperatures 55 degrees C. Bob states that this run eclipses all his Comrade efforts!

A phenomenal effort where he has over the period meticulously recorded himself covering a total of 83,590km! During the Covid lockdown period of 2020, he still managed to cover 1747km despite being knocked down by a car while crossing a suburban road in Charlo, Port Elizabeth. He says that he will continue as long as his old body parts hold together! The Class of 1967 is very proud of its old Class Captain and we wonder if any Old Grey could emulate his efforts?

This Class was besides Fritz blessed to have been taught by masters who will be remembered by many. A then young Neil Anderson has always rated them as his most memorable woodwork class and Stan Edwards (Porky) continually tried to impart Algebra and Geometry to some blank faces. Who could forget the inimitable Bob Hart who made Science a great subject even if you spent half the period talking about rugby and likewise John Earle whose subject Geography was looked forward to and in which we all thankfully excelled. The Maths marks had to be made up somehow to get to a 40% average pass! Alan Powell made English more than the language that we spoke and his wry sense of humour is fondly recalled.

We conclude it is not what you achieve at school as there is a life after which one has the opportunity to develop one's highest aspirations. Many grab the opportunity and others who showed all the earlier promise and talent sometimes fall by the wayside. That one has the support of peers and others especially at a young age is important and we would like to believe that Grey has that caring spirit. It made Bob Stedman the Marathon Man!

In Memory

We extend our sympathies to the family and friends of the following Old Greys who have passed on:

Phillip Loock – Class of 1970

Philip passed away suddenly more than a year ago on 3 December 2019 in Windhoek. We have only recently learnt of his sad passing from a relative in Graaff-Reinet. He came to Grey, as did his father, from Namibia and was a popular and well-liked boarder. His companion from this country was Wilfred Schmidt whose English on arrival at Grey initially required Philip's assistance to be understood! Both were in Way House and will be both remembered by an extra-ordinary number of fellow Old Greys. He, together with Teddy Ferreira, Keith Wainright, Richard Quin and Les Paton made up Way's shooting team that shared the cup with Vipan House. The year 1970 was an extra-ordinary one for Way House as only four had made it through to matric from the contingent that had all arrived together in Std 6 – the rest had fallen by the wayside! Phillip played for South West Africa in the SA Country Districts Cricket Championships between 1973 and 1982. He was a left-arm spinner and lived for the game that he had learnt at Grey. In life, he was involved in a wild game and hunting operation which he successfully ran South of Windhoek. He was delighted to be present for his 40th Reunion in 2010 and his visit to the Union office on the occasion recalled many memories.

Anthony Niland – Class of 1963

Tony died in the United States where he had emigrated a number of years ago and become a successful tennis coach. He hailed from Fort Beaufort and did not complete his final year as his father had fallen ill and Tony had to return to look after the family farming interests. Tony had earlier been Head Boy at Grey Junior and was both an excellent tennis player and cricketer. In later years he played tennis for both Border and EP Country Districts cricket. Together with his brother John, he educated at St. Andrews College, they built up and ran a large and successful farming operation near Kroomie in the Fort Beaufort district. He married Bonty and had five daughters before the brothers decided to dispose of the family properties and he emigrated. We understand that he died of kidney failure.

David Le Roux- Class of 1959

It is with sadness that we have only learned now of the passing of Dave. He died at St. Francis to where he had retired a number of years ago. He came to Grey from Somerset East and was in the Boarding House. He was to spend a lifetime on the family farm called "Dirko" farming initially with his father and in later years for his own account. Remembered as a quiet yet friendly guy he was a bachelor for most of his life and only married in later life. We extend our sympathies to his family.

John Mirkin - Class of 1961

John was a kind and extremely generous human being. A fond memory to our matric dance, Johnny who had a driver's license insisted to drive 9 couples to and from the dance. He started at 6.30 pm and he only sat down at 8.45 pm. Johnny qualified as a pharmacist and worked in PE, Durban, and eventually settled in Swaziland. He was married twice and had no children of his own. However, he adopted 3 children and fostered a further 8 children. May his memory be a blessing to all who knew him

Edward Trent – Class of 1959

Eddie was of farming stock and came to Grey from the Steytleville district. He was a school prefect and played for the First Rugby XV. Upon matriculating he attended Grootfontein Agricultural College for two years before returning to farming life and to later marry Elizabeth Cillie.

He was soon however to follow a path in politics where it could be said was so designated. His father-in-law Van Zyl Cillie was the MP for Port Elizabeth Central and a former Mayor and Eddie was later elected to represent the same constituency in Parliament. Both he and his family were staunch opponents of the then regime and following the elections of 1994 and the advent of the new dispensation he found himself as the sole Democratic Party member in the Bisho Assembly. It was to his credit and acknowledgment of the respect in which he was held he was offered the Chair of The Public Accounts Committee. It was a position he carried with honour and under his stewardship, he fought a battle against corruption and for good governance.

The Democratic Party with other opposition parties devolved into the present Democratic Alliance. He worked hard and successfully to put the party on the map and ever mindful of his high principles he never stood back in his fight to ensure a free and just society for all. He believed in the philosophy of working together to bring about the bigger goal in not only addressing past injustices but in dealing with those of the present. He did his best to ensure service delivery, expose corruption, encourage development and always strove to keep the governing party accountable. His passing at the age of 80 has removed a personality who will be remembered by many from all sectors of society – and across the cultural and racial divides which he himself always sought to unite.

Rabbi Desmond Maizels – Class of 1967

In his time at the Grey, Desmond was the Co-Editor Editor of Grey Matter, a school prefect and a leader of the SJA. At school, he was successful in persuading Rector Stan Edkins to allow Jewish boys to wear yarmulkes in the school building where head coverings were not usually permitted. Upon matriculating, Des completed three years of Medicine at UCT before deciding to follow his calling. After completing his studies in Israel he became Rabbi of the Camps Bay congregation where served for 30 years. In announcing his death, Temple Israel declared him to be “One of the important voices of tolerant and open Judaism in Cape Town”.

To use the Yiddish expression, Desmond was in all respects a *shayne mensch*. He was buried in Israel. Our sympathies are extended to his wife and family on their very sad loss.

Submitted by Michael Britten-Kelly who together with Des were Editors of Grey Matter in their Std 9 year.



THE GREY FOUNDATION

Projects and news at a Glance

INEX DEVELOPMENTS TO TAKE TRANSFER OF THE JOHN DUNNE FIELD

INEX Developments has, at last, got it right at Port Elizabeth city council and Pagdens Attorneys (Brett Weddell 86') will be attending to the transfer within the next month or so from The Grey Foundation.

The internal roads, perimeter walls, entrance guardhouse and civils are now complete. The site has water and electricity and the 2,2m boundary wall has eight strand electrified fencing which stretches roughly 685m with CCTV cameras at 37m intervals.



View of the Mill Park Estate entrance

The landscaping has started taking shape. The design emulates the natural subtropical Albany biome which includes Albany tree forests, thickets and grass plains to be enjoyed at leisure. The natural design is alluring and sparks an inquisitive feeling, enticing one to enter the estate. All security components are on-site and are operational.

We are excited to announce that the construction of The Grey Foundation House will begin soon after transfer along with the first four residences for new homeowners.



Aerial view of the Mill Park Estate

Even with the tough economic climate, INEX has persevered and continued to maintain a steady upward trend in terms of product development, staff retention and acquisition.

At present, we have 14 confirmed sales and a strong pipeline of sales in progress with our agent Craig Fensham 82' and Kay Beatie of Remax.

Due to the fluctuating lockdown levels, we have created virtual tours for you to view in your own time or arrange a con-call virtual tour with one of our agents to walk through the various developments.

● Take a [Virtual Tour of Mill Park Private Estate here](#)

For more information on Millpark Private Estate and our other developments, please contact Craig Fensham - 082 219 1284 or email craig@remaxind.co.za.

INEX DEVELOPMENTS wishes you a successful and blessed 2021. We'll be back to provide our next update in the upcoming newsletter.