



# OLD GREY NEWSLETTER

*The latest news and updates from the Old Greys' Union*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

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### • NOV 20 - 27: THE GREY FOUNDATION ONLINE AUCTION

SUPPORT THE GREY SCHOOLS AND  
HAVE A LOOK AT THE WONDERFUL  
ITEMS UP FOR GRABS

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### • NOV 27: THE GREY GOLF DAY

OPEN TO OLD BOYS, PAST & PRESENT  
PARENTS. FRIDAY 27 NOVEMBER AT  
PE GOLF CLUB

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### • DEC 11: TOMMO & FRIENDS CONCERT

LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE. PLEASE  
CONTACT THE OLD GREY CLUB 041  
373 8325

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### • 5-8 MAY 2021: THE OLD GREYS' UNION REUNION

A BUMPER REUNION FOR THE  
CELEBRATING YEARS OF 2020 AND 2021

## From the Old Grey desk

It has been a long and difficult year and we have sorely missed our usual calendar of events that connects us to Old Greys globally.

We have a few events remaining on the calendar and we ask that you continue to support and participate where possible. We have been so humbled by the passion and generosity of the many Old Boys who have contributed to the Technology Appeal and participated in the Class Challenges. Thank you.

### Reunion 2021: May 5 - 8

We now look ahead to May of next year. *We are preparing for the best-case scenario which is the opening of international travel and minimal lockdown restrictions.* The Union is committed to hosting a spectacular Reunion that will accommodate the celebrating groups of 2020 and 2021 together. We have begun communicating with Class leaders and would like to request nominations for Class leaders from the following years. Please contact [ogu@thegrey.com](mailto:ogu@thegrey.com)

- Class of 1991
- Class of 2001
- Class of 2005
- Class of 2006

## Old Greys in the News

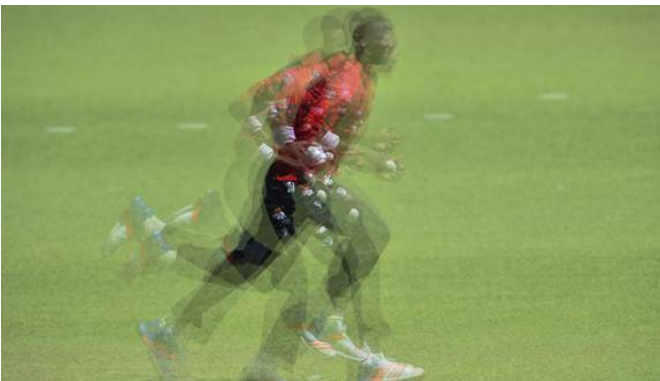


Source: <https://www.businesslive.co.za/>

### **PROFILE: Guy Richards '71, critical-care professor at Wits University**

He played a critical role writing guidelines (or, in medical speak, "treatment protocols") for Covid-19 ICU patients within just two weeks of SA's first documented coronavirus case. They were so life-saving that Richards was mentioned in a Discovery Health presentation when it unveiled its data on declining hospital ICU mortality rates.

[DOUBLE CLICK IMAGE TO READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)



Source: [www.newframe.com](http://www.newframe.com)

### **Long Read | Solomzi Nqweni '11 learns to walk again**

"I've always wanted to be a professional cricketer," Nqweni says, speaking most of his words with a beaming smile. The inflections and pauses carry a rhythmic quality to them, interspersing a quick tempo. He's enjoying himself. Telling this tale is not a burden. It's a gift.

[DOUBLE CLICK IMAGE TO READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)



Source: [www.rphresearchfoundation.org.au](http://www.rphresearchfoundation.org.au)

### **Dr Andrew Ford '90 collaborates on a world-first, Western Australian study**

A world-first, Western Australian study investigating whether treating hearing loss sooner can stave off or slow down dementia, loneliness, anxiety and depression, has received a \$600,000 funding boost from Royal Perth Hospital Research Foundation.

[DOUBLE CLICK IMAGE TO READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)



Source: [www.heraldlive.co.za/](http://www.heraldlive.co.za/)

### **Grey alumnus, Kyle White '05, revels in 'Jerusalema' success**

A former Grey High School pupil is the music video director of the globally celebrated hit song, Jerusalema, by Master KG and Nomcebo. Kyle White, 33, said the success of the song, which has garnered more than 170-million views on YouTube, was proof that Africa's time to be celebrated for its talent had arrived.

[DOUBLE CLICK IMAGE TO READ THE FULL ARTICLE](#)



## ONE NIGHT ONLY - TOMMO & FRIENDS

Join Neil Thomson, Roger Gilson, Rob Palmer and a special guest appearance from the Bogapani Tea Company on Friday 11 December.

Due to COVID 19 regulations seating is very limited. Book now! The cover charge secures your seat and will help support the Old Grey Club after a trying year.

### How to purchase your tickets

1. Download the Kekambas app <https://www.kekambas.mobi/>
2. Sign Up and add your address to find the event
3. Select the TOMMO & FRIENDS Concert
4. Select your tickets and pay online
5. Optional: pre-order your meals when purchasing your tickets
6. If you are having difficulty with payment please call 041 373 8325



**TOMMO & FRIENDS**  
**ROGER GILSON, ROB PALMER**  
**& THE BOGAPANI TEA COMPANY**

**OLD GREY CLUB**  
**PORT ELIZABETH**  
**BOOKINGS ONLY**

Friday 11 Dec, 2020  
18:30 PM

*There is a surprise for guests who wear something 'Grey'*

**OLD GREY CLUB**  
**OLD GREYS' UNION**  
TRIA JUNCTA IN UNO

**LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE**



## Headmaster's Newsletter: Term 3, 2020

[CLICK HERE TO READ](#)



## Rector's Newsletter: Term 3, 2020

[CLICK HERE TO READ](#)

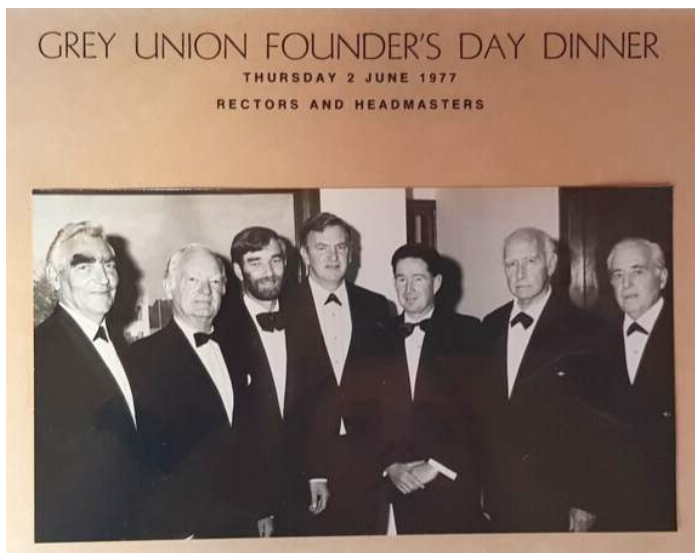
## APPEAL: FORMER RECTOR MEMORIES

Grey High is putting together a biography for each former Rector as remembered by the Old Boys and staff who worked under them.

Things like:

- What is your fondest memory of the Rector you had?
- What did he bring to The Grey?
- What type of man was he?
- Do you have a meaningful anecdote to share about your old Rector?
- Do you have funny story relating to your Rector?

Your contributions will be very much appreciated. Please email responses to [sksonderup@greyhighschool.com](mailto:sksonderup@greyhighschool.com)



**GREY UNION FOUNDER'S DAY DINNER**  
Thursday 2 June 1977  
**Rectors and Headmasters**

From Left: S.E.Edkins ; O.B.Taylor,  
G.D.Pakendorf, R.W.Jardine, R.C. Davies,  
B.C.Gordon; S.F.Edwards

# Looking Back with Ian Pringle

## The Grey Rugby XV of 1966 – the one that never was!

In 1966 two photographs were taken of the First XV. One was taken officially for the school magazine and the other was termed the original from which follows this saga that was to play itself out over a period of more than 50 years. A few years ago Syd Lippstreu who was a member of the 1966 First XV donated the two framed pictures in question to The School Shop and they are suitably displayed. The writer later saw them and being aware of their significance felt the story should be told of why two First XV photographs were taken in one year!

The First XV was a fine side. In that year they played Graeme College in Grahamstown (now Makhanda) and won 13-11. The local side was considered both big and powerful, and newspaper reports had it that the exchanges were both hard and tough which was probably an understatement. Grey had their minds on the game and not so much on the fight which in any event will always rank second in terms of the final result! We dare say, however, that the victory was a bit unexpected especially as Grey were down 8-11 with minutes to go before they scored in the corner after a great backline movement initiated by fullback Paul van den Berg. Sibley McAdam converted with a fine kick and Grey held on to take the game.

The return transport after the game was delayed and with time on their hands, six players went off and enjoyed a quiet beer in solitude at a local hotel. But they were seen by a very disgruntled local supporter and the matter was reported to the Rector on the following Monday morning. Disciplinary measures took place and all six were banned from further rugby participation for the rest of the season and were stripped of their colours with the Head Boy among the six demoted. It was felt that the measures taken were draconian and the issue rankled not only then but for many years to come.

The annual sporting team photographs taken then, as is now, were done on a specific afternoon towards the end of the school year. Each team took its place at an allotted time in the Memorial Quadrangle accompanied by the coach and the picture recorded for posterity. The First XV photograph was duly taken and the players then assembled decided that another photograph should be taken of the so-called original team. Quick preparations were then put in place, the coach stood aside and there was no interference with the proposal. The photograph that accompanies this article is that of the original team accompanied by an insert and other comments.

The unfortunate incident was not forgotten and it did not simply go away. Over reunions and especially those that brought together the Class of 1966 discussion always arose. It must be remembered as well that this influential Class was instrumental in the establishment and funding of an office for the Old Greys' Union on the Grey campus. This took place following their 40th Reunion in 2006 at which it was felt that the Union should for the benefit of Old Greys globally, reside on campus rather than at the Old Grey Club. The move has never been regretted.



In 2017 The Old Greys' Union raised the contentious issue with Rector Neil Crawford saying that it was now appropriate this incident that had taken place all those years ago should be revisited and the slate be cleaned. The hurt, anger, and sadness of the years needed to be dealt with and put aside. To his great credit, empathy, and vision the Rector agreed.

The Head Boy then had also earlier been Head Boy of Grey Junior. He was Captain of both Rugby and Cricket and the Senior Student Officer. He was an excellent hurdler and only bettered by Alan Read who was the SA Schools Champion. And had he had the time he could have cheerfully taken up both tennis and squash and also topped those respective logs! There have been few, if any, boys who have been through Grey who could be considered his equal. A true and highly popular leader, Sibley McAdam's name was then after 50 years finally included on the Honours Board for 1966 as Head Boy alongside that of his good friend Neville Schonegevel who had taken over the post from him when he was demoted. *Lustitiae servitium est.*



# In Memory

## **Derek Blumberg- Class of 1966**

Derek attended Grey High School from Std 6 to Matric from 1962 – 1966 during which time he represented the school and Province at tennis and also played 1st team rugby. After matriculating he was exempted from national service as he explained that his initials were D.R and his papers were addressed to DR Blumberg. He then went to UCT for a year to try his hand at medicine but this was not his calling and the following year he was back a UPE from where he graduated with a BbJuris LLb. After completing his articles in Cape Town, he returned to PE and joined a law firm, Kaplan, Bernstein & Solomons where he became a partner, and that partnership evolved into Kaplan Blumberg, which is still a leading practice in the city. It was while practicing law that his love for property grew and eventually he eased out of law to manage the property portfolio of Bluekap Properties. Derek was a keen lifesaver and past captain of Summerstrand Surf Lifesaving Club, and an avid runner (7 Comrades, including a silver, and 3 Two Oceans silvers). I am sure that some of his running friends would be quite surprised to learn, that with his slender frame, he played prop for the 1st XV. Whatever Derek tackled he did with Determination, Discipline & Dedication and he will be sadly missed by his wife Judy, son Matthew (1995), daughter Chloe & 5 grandchildren

## **Michael (Mick) John - Class of 1969**

During his time at Grey, Mick was a keen cricketer and hockey player. After completing his schooling, Mick did his National Service in Bloemfontein where he served in the Armoured Corp and then joined the Prince Alfred Guards unit in Port Elizabeth where he served with enthusiasm doing numerous camps on the border. On completion of his National Service Mick joined Standard Bank and after a number of years moved up to Johannesburg where he spent most of his working life. On retiring from the bank Mick joined his brother-in-law in a medical business before retiring two years ago.

Mick's health deteriorated rapidly this year and he passed away peacefully at home with his loving family on 27 September 2020. A kind and gentle soul and a supportive and much-loved brother. He is survived by his wife Lindy, children Megan, Matthew and Robyn and brothers Peter and Gerald.

## **Saul Levitan - Class of 1957**

Saul was an avid reader with a love of languages and linguistics. He also had memory for poetry both in Afrikaans and English, which on occasion he would sprout, to the delight of his two daughters. After attaining a Bachelor of Laws, Saul went to the side bar in Cape Town, first having served articles and then on marrying his wife, Brenda, he worked as a junior attorney in Port Elizabeth for a while. A stint in Israel after the outbreak of the 6 Days War saw the Levitans working on a Kibbutz followed by a period learning Hebrew and Jewish History in the then desert development town, Arad. In 2003 the Levitans emigrated to Perth, Western Australia, where semi-retired, he honed his outstanding culinary skills, used his green fingers to cultivate a garden, and indulged in reading his Kindle. He entertained friends with his dry wit and lateral thinking that often went against the norm. Sadly, he was cut down by illness which he confronted valiantly.

## **Douglas Searle - Class of 1951**

Doug passed away on 19/05/2020, in Port Macquarie, NSW, Australia. After matriculating from The Grey, he joined the airforce and flew Harvards and Impalas at 6th Squadron in Port Elizabeth. He later joined the family business, and became Chairman / CEO of Edward Searle & Co, until his retirement.

**Ronald Kirkwood Wynter - Class of 1950**

Ronald (Ronnie) Kirkwood Wynter died on 28 Aug 2020 in Brisbane after a long battle with cancer. His wife Joy, and daughter Shayne were able to comfort him at the end. Born in Port Elizabeth, Ron was a Grey scholar for his entire school career where he excelled at tennis, representing the then Eastern Province. He spent most of his professional life as an executive at Stannic, retiring in 1993. Post retirement he was instrumental in starting CLM for Malbak before retiring fully in 2003. Finance was a passion only surpassed by his love of sailing 'Sandra-of-Kip'. He was affectionately known as 'Captain Ron' even after he finally parted with Sandra in 2017.

A loving husband of 60 years to Joy Wynter, father to Clyde, Warde and Shayne, and father-in-law to Mike, Erica and Karen. "Gi-pa" also leaves behind 5 granddaughters, Catherine, Simone, Elizabeth, Reia, and Sarah. He will always be remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather and friend, and will be sorely missed, but leaves a wonderful legacy of love.

**Rodney Gibson - Class of 1963**

Rodney passed away Saturday, 12th September at the Houghton Hospice in Johannesburg. He finally succumbed to cancer after being diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer of the lungs and liver about a year ago. Our condolences to his wife, Caroline and family.





# THE GREY FOUNDATION

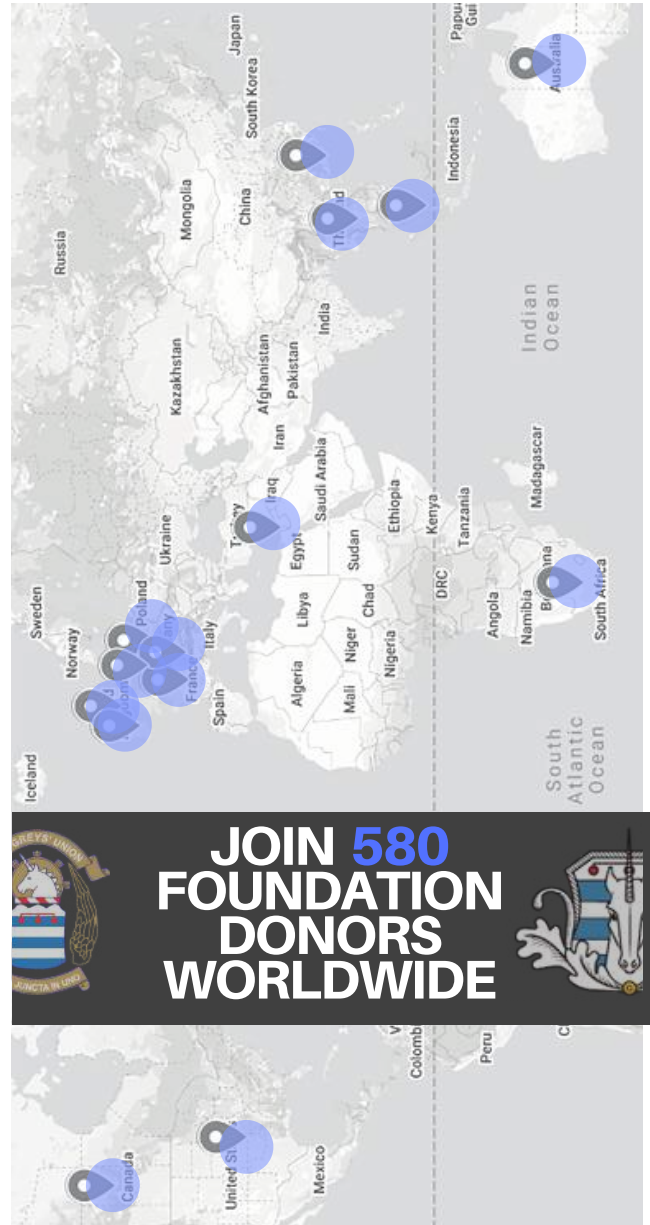
Projects and news at a Glance

## CELEBRATING YOUR REUNION IN 2021?

Become a Grey Foundation Donor today. Donors contributing R250 or more per month / R3000 per annum receive a **complimentary Reunion Dinner ticket**

## Why become a Foundation Donor?

- Allocate your contribution to the Pillar / Project of your choice.
- Your annual Old Greys' Union fees are added as a benefit if you sign up for R100 or more per month.
- Receive a Section 18A Tax certificate for submitting to SARS to claim tax benefit. South African donors are able to claim for donations of up to 10% of annual taxable income.



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WORLDWIDE

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