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OLD GREY NEWSLETTER

The latest news and updates from Old Greys' Union



From the Old Grey Desk ...

It has certainly been an incredibly busy few months, and I must apologise for only getting this Newsletter out to you now! I promise I won't keep you waiting quite as long next time!

September and October were particularly busy on the events front, with no fewer than eight events taking place during this time!

A new addition was Drinks in Baltimore, held ahead of the Springbok game. A big thank you to Tim Whitehead (Class of 2006) for getting in touch and helping make this happen. It was a great opportunity to bring Old Greys together at a venue situated close to the stadium for a few pre-match drinks before kick-off.

If the Boks are playing near you and you'd like to organise something similar, all you need to do is find a suitable venue and I'll take care of the rest! It's a wonderful way to reconnect and celebrate your shared Grey spirit, wherever you may be.

I thoroughly enjoyed putting this Newsletter together and hope you enjoy reading it! Please keep the news and stories coming. I love hearing what our Old Greys are up to!

Warm regards
Heather

REUNION SAVE THE DATE : 5 - 8 MAY 2027

News from The Grey



Rector's Newsletter | Term 2

Term 2 has been both eventful and, in many ways, a powerful reminder of what makes the Grey community so special. Alongside the excitement of the winter sporting season, our derby fixtures, and the reunion weekend, the term also presented a number of unexpected challenges. A significant cybersecurity attack temporarily took all our systems offline. While access has since been restored, a portion of our data remains encrypted. In addition, severe weather disruptions resulted in the loss of five school days, requiring us to adapt quickly and respond with purpose. Throughout these challenges, the Grey community responded with characteristic spirit and resilience .....

READ MORE



Headmaster's Newsletter | Term 2

A twelve-week term was always going to test us, and we knew from the outset that it would be jam-packed with activity, starting with our mass exodus to Wynberg and the Band Tour, before culminating in a hugely successful Golf Day and Fun Day. Yet few could have predicted that we would be forced to close the school over Reunion Weekend and cancel all sport against Queens because of torrential rain and widespread flooding. As we skid over the finish line of Term 2, our Under 9A rugby side are playing in the Pirtek Rugby Tournament at Sunridge and our U13 Bulldogs head off to the Union Festival in Graaff Reinet. The plaque in the Memorial Quad reads: "A place of .....

READ MORE



Save the Date | Reunion 2027

Mark your calendars!

Reunion 2027 takes place from 5–8 May 2027, and we look forward to welcoming Old Greys back to their alma mater for a memorable few days of reconnecting with old friends, reminiscing and celebrating the Grey brotherhood.

More details to follow.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Grey Connect Business Networking

Our final Networking session for the year takes place on Wednesday, 25 November 2027.

If you're based in PE and haven't attended a session yet, we'd love to see you there! These sessions are all about creating opportunities for Old Greys to connect, share ideas and build valuable business relationships.

Join fellow Old Boys for a focused hour of meaningful conversation, with emphasis on connecting and collaborating.

BOOK HERE

The Mayhem Golf Tour



In early 1994, a handful of Old Greys gathered at Old Grey Club for a few drinks. Somewhere amongst the laughter and bar-room banter, an idea was born: an annual golf tour dedicated to friendship, camaraderie, and a healthy dose of competitive rivalry.

Thirty-two years later, the Mayhem Golf Tour is still going strong. The most recent tour took place in early June 2026. While the tours may be a little more subdued than they were in the early years, the spirit remains unchanged. The friendships have endured, the rivalry remains friendly, and the enjoyment is as great as ever.

Over the years, 32 different Old Greys have participated in the tour. Remarkably, three stalwarts have attended every single one, while many others have chalked up more than twenty appearances. Unsurprisingly, after a round of golf and a drink or two, the school song is often sung with enthusiasm and more passion than musical talent.

Although we matriculated in different years, the Grey bond remains as strong as ever. Our tours have taken us throughout the Eastern and Western Cape, with memorable destinations including Fancourt/George, Knysna/Plett, St Francis Bay, Port Alfred and Fish River.

Sadly, over the years we have lost four valued members of our touring fraternity - Rob Stear (1978), Cecil Beyleveld (1975), Peter Moir (1974) and Norman Schroeder (1981). They remain very much part of the Mayhem story and are fondly remembered by all who shared fairways, friendships and good times with them.

Looking back over 32 years, one thing stands out above all else: not a single tour has passed without The Grey occupying a significant part of the conversation. The school, with *"Its front to the southern seas"*, provided us with lifelong friendships and helped shape the men we became.

The Mayhem Golf Tour has been a wonderful example of Old Greys coming together year after year for camaraderie, banter, reminiscing, and occasionally, some respectable golf.

It has been one hell of a ride - and long may it continue!

"Mayhem Tour Participants (1994–2026)"

See photo for 2026 edition

Back Row (L-R): David Stear (1976), Ashley Parker (1976), John Badenhorst (1978), Kurt Friskin (1976), Brett Parker (1978), Keith Simpson (1975), Mike Attkinson (not Grey), Tim Seaman (1978), Andrea Puggia (Not Grey), Dave Truter (1978), Andy Vogel (1976), Tim Mason (1975), Dave Offerman (1978).

Kneeling: Ian Moir (1978), Derek Helm (1978), Mike Rishworth (1978)
Insets: Dave Simpson (1972), Richard Moir (1977), Ryan Graham (1988).

Over the Years: Werner Strauss (1978), Norman Schroeder (1981), Bert Halbert (1976), Tony Futter (1972), Peter King (1978), Ed Murray (1981), Christopher Halbert (1978), Andrew Mackay (1978), Sean Billson (1981), Mike Neubert (1982), Colin Broadly (1975), Peter Moir (1974), Cecil Beyleveld (1975), Rob Stear (1978).

Everyday's a Miracle

Written by Anton Calitz (Class of 1986)

I wasn't alone in being tearful the week following my 40th Reunion weekend earlier this year.

Remarkably, for me it was a total blast, quite unlike previous Reunions after which I would be utterly miserable, in my being consumed by anger and regret at my existential shortcomings.

At all class Reunions, at the main Friday "bring partners" social event, the evening inevitably becomes an alcohol fueled regression of grown men into the adolescent versions of themselves. Even twenty, thirty years out of school, I could never escape the shadow of the misfit, unhappy teenage version of myself. My bitter enviousness of others. Regrets and unsettled scores.

Over the years and decades of playing gigs, in the small hours when lips are loose and the music's over, I've listened to fellow "outsider" types of Old Greys across different decades of classes share the same frustration.

But not this time for me. This time I was able to close a circle in my life, in being able to join a circle I realise now I've kept myself out of.

Perhaps it's because something in me has changed in somewhat recently having lost my soulmate of 30 years.

But I'm not alone in feeling that something has changed in the Class of 86. No caustic comments. The sincerest of exchanges. Perhaps we've all finally grown up. Most admittedly, I certainly have. Its taken me forty years, but still. For me, much lies ahead.

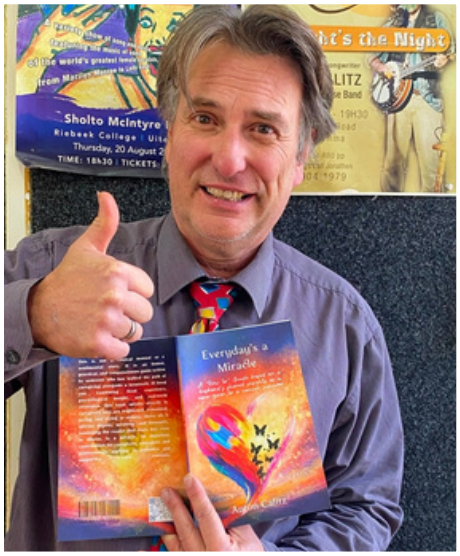
I left high school without the social, cognitive and emotional foundation most Grey boys have. The small talent of being able to write songs and poems is not much of a skill set to see one through one's "national service" and university studies, let alone the world of work.

Nevertheless, it's that very ability which began at school which has been my saving grace in life. In my battle to accept the world the way it is, and not the way it could be or perhaps should be, it's being able to write with clarity, if only for myself which has made all the difference.

More importantly, as a teacher and as a singer songwriter, as well as telling stories from the heart, I've learned to tell them to the heart.

My first full published book "Everyday's a Miracle" is my insight in being a home caregiver to a terminally ill life partner. It's a "how to" for male caregivers and younger caregivers.

It's also the basis of my new original music show of the same name, intended to become an online wellbeing initiative.





"Everyday's a Miracle" by Anton Calitz available on Amazon & Takealot.

Thank you for agreeing to write the article Anton. This is what it's all about! - Ed.

Your details may change, but your connection to The Grey shouldn't. Update your contact information ahead of Reunion 2027.

CLICK HERE TO UPDATE NOW

GREY HIGH SCHOOL
— Tria Juncta in Uno —




STATE OF THE ART GYM

HIGH PERFORMANCE CENTRE

A legacy for generations

Your support will help create a world-class fitness gym and indoor hockey centre that will inspire Grey boys today and for future generations to come. Invest in our future and leave your legacy for future generations.



FOYER & VIEWING AREA


YEAR ROUND INDOOR HOCKEY COURT


AMENITIES & COMMUNITY CLUBROOM

Be Part of the Legacy: Grey High Performance Centre Update

Dear Old Boys,

Once in a generation, a project comes along that shapes a school for decades. The Grey High Performance Centre is that project. This R10.5 million capital development will give generations of Grey Boys a state-of-the-art gym, a year-round indoor hockey Astro court, a foyer and viewing area, and a community clubroom. It will be a home for the boys who wear the Grey colours long after we've hung up our own.

Phase 1 is under way. Our seed project, the upgrade of the current gym, is progressing well, thanks to the first donations. Every contribution is already making a visible difference for our boys, and the equipment will move into the new Centre once it is built. This is how legacies begin: one gift, one step, one Old Boy at a time.

Here's your chance to double it. We've been given **R50,000**, on the condition that another Old Boy matches it. Imagine the message it sends if that match is met, and then met again. Imagine two, three, even more of you stepping forward. That's the Grey spirit in action.

Every match doubles the impact of the original gift and shows the next generation what the Grey family can do together.

Body, Mind and Spirit, built under one roof. We were raised on Tria Juncta in Uno, and this Centre is that motto in bricks and mortar. It is where the body is trained, the mind is sharpened and the spirit is forged, for every Grey boy who comes after us.

We need you! Will you stand up and be counted? Whether you want to take up the matching challenge, give at another level, or learn about naming and recognition opportunities, we'd love to hear from you. Email me at hpc@thegrey.com

Let's build something our sons, grandsons and the boys we've never met will thank us for.

Yours in Grey,

Danielle Horn
High Performance Centre Fundraiser

Become a Grey Foundation Donor and secure Grey's future.

Signing up for a monthly debit order / once-off payment is easy.

Receive complimentary OGU Membership with an annual donation of R1,200 or more.
Section 18A Certificates issued for all donations received.

CLICK HERE TO DONATE

THE GREY REWARDS PROGRAMME

BlueCLUB.
Powered by: ZeroPay

CHECK IT OUT

Join for R99/month & receive the following:
Cashback at Affiliate Partners, complimentary OGU Membership, free access onto campus on Derby Days, plus a free Union Dinner Ticket at Reunion 2027.

Open the camera on your cellphone and scan this QR code to explore all the benefits and register.

Keen to register, but you live out-of-town?
No problem, we've got you covered!
Use BlueClub to shop at ZeroPay partners.

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Or visit the website: www.blueclub.co.za

- For a list of ZeroPay partners: select WHERE TO SHOP
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- Online: simply select ZeroPay at checkout.
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CONNECTING THE GREY THROUGH COMMERCE

Upcoming Events



Wednesday, 11h00

PE | Grey Connect

Presidents Room, Old Grey Club

Final Networking session for the year. ***Lucky Draw up for grabs:*** 2 nights for 4 people at the Harbour Club Penthouse in St Francis on a self-catering basis.

Nov 25 2026



Friday, 18h00

London Dinner

Brasserie Blanc, Southbank

Invitations have been sent out to Old Boys residing in the UK. If you are in London during this time and would like to attend please email connect@thegrey.com

Nov 27 2026

Post Event Write-up



Cape Town Legacy Lunch

Our 4th Annual Lunch was held in the Member's Pavilion at the Newlands Cricket Ground. It is an ideal venue with a panoramic view and was attended by 40 Old Greys. In attendance was Rector Chris Erasmus and Grey Foundation Chairman Chris Dowley, who brought us fully up to date on the affairs at our old school and with the good works being undertaken by the Grey Foundation. It was an occasion of camaraderie and good fellowship and our thanks is expressed to Old Grey Keith Clark and **O'Connell's Fine Wines** for providing the table wines. A real added bonus to the meal!

The oldest Old Grey present was Bill Sewell (1952) and there was a table representing those from the late 1950s era. The last of Flash Gordons' boys – the legendary Rector Bruce Gordon who is recalled to this day. It was indeed good to see them ever hale and hearty! Old Greys travelled from afar to be present from places such as Pringle Bay, Hermanus, Stanford and Langebaan. We raffled what has now become our traditional **Mastertons** Coffee Hamper – a brand known to all us and we raised R2500. The proceeds are used to award a deserving Grey boy a Colours blazer. It is an expensive item of clothing and may be a financial outlay for a hard pressed parent, hence our feelings for a good cause. We have no wish to know who may have received the blazer and it is awarded at the Rector's discretion. There are more than 25 selection categories and this past year it was awarded to a rugby player in Grade 11.

We had a large number of apologies and missed the familiar faces. Please attend and support us next year and bring an old friend with you. We are ever conscious of costs and with the generous support of our host Western Province Cricket Club and other sponsors we do believe we provide a pretty good bargain!

Written by Ian Pringle

Connect and Celebrate



Andrew Bradley (Class of 1981), Keith Clark and Nigel Cones (both Class of 1972) photographed at the Heads Must Roll event hosted by the Cape Town Committee ahead of the Wynberg Derby weekend.



The late Keith Richardson, former Headmaster of Wynberg Boys' High School, former Rector Neil Crawford, and Jannie De Waal, also from Wynberg, formed part of the panel at the Heads Must Roll event.



The Rector, Chris Erasmus and Luca Gallarelli (Class of 1995) photographed together at the Old Greys and Wynberg Old Boys Golf Day at King David Mowbray Golf Club in Cape Town.



Wynberg Old Boys on left: Victor Boyd and Arno Erasmus. Old Greys on right: JM Erasmus (1995) and Ian Norden (2000). Old Greys claimed a 7-5 victory and retained the Clark Trophy.



Former Rector, Neil Crawford photographed with the current Rector, Chris Erasmus and David Maynier (Class of 1986), South Africa's Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, at the Wynberg Derby in Cape Town.



Kevin de Klerk (Class of 2000), Adam Wilson (2001), Ian Mackenzie (2000) and Iain Masson (2000) played in the Old Greys Golf Day held at Hampton Court Palace Golf Club in Kingston upon Thames in London in July.

The best part of this newsletter is you.

Connect and Celebrate



Ismaaeel Van Der Schaff, Johan Cronjé, Juan Coetzer and Michael Curran all from Class of 2004 also participated in the Old Greys Golf Day at Hampton Court Palace Golf Club in London.



We are incredibly proud of Darren Green (Class of 1995), who had the honour of singing the National Anthem at Cape Town Stadium ahead of the opening match of the All Blacks' South African tour against the Stormers.



In celebration of Women's Month, The Grey Foundation hosted a special Rugby Clinic bringing together the School's 1st XV Boys and Coaching Staff with the talented Women from Motherwell RFC Jaguars.



More than just a coaching session, the clinic was an opportunity to share knowledge, sharpen skills and learn from one another, while celebrating the talent, passion and growing presence of women in rugby.



A big thank you to **Southsure Brokers** and **Amathuba Youth Trust** for their generous support in making the clinic possible, and to Tiger Brands for coming on board as our drinks sponsor. We all thoroughly enjoyed the event!



Old Greys at the Blue Bulls Awards Dinner: Sergeal Petersen (Class of 2012), Junior Pokomela (2014) and Curwin Bosch (2015). Huge Congrats to Junior, for being named Blue Bulls Forward of the Year for their Currie Cup campaign!

Stay connected to the Grey community and keep the brotherhood thriving.

Connect and Celebrate



Rod Philip (1955), Arnie Katz (1957) & Bertie Kommel (1952) photographed together at the PE Legacy Lunch held at Old Grey Club at the end of August.



David Browne (1956), Edward Hurr (1958), George Stewart (1957) & James Powell (1958) photographed together at the Legacy Lunch held in PE for Old Boys aged 60 years and over.



Social Drinks were recently hosted in London. Thank you to all the Old Greys that attended and to Mark Molyneux for organising. It was a good opportunity to connect and celebrate their Grey roots.



Gavin Cowley (Class of 1971) and Chris Dowley (2000), Chairman of The Grey Foundation, at the recent Cape Town Legacy Lunch held at Newlands Cricket Grounds.



Keith Allardice (Class of 1969), Eban Tucker (1966) and Tim Pienaar (1970) also attended the Cape Town Legacy Lunch held in September. It was a special afternoon connecting and celebrating with fellow Old Greys.



Clive "Buckie" Buchanan (1958), Claude Kirkman (1957) and Roy Melville (1960) from Bruce "Flash" Gordon's era. Lunch was held in the Member's Pavilion at Newlands Cricket Ground with 40 Old Greys in attendance.

Help us celebrate the achievements of Old Greys by submitting news to connect@thegrey.com

Cape Town Old Greys

The camaraderie continues!

Ahead of the Wynberg Derby Weekend the local branch organised two events which were well supported and enjoyed. The Old Boys gathering on the Thursday evening under the theme of "Heads Must Roll!" was held at the WPCC Bowling Club and it was a great evening of much fellowship and meeting up with old friends. It was good to see the younger Old Greys being well represented! Platters of snacks were on hand kindly donated by Machiel Van Olst from King Pie (Class of 1995) followed by delicious lamb rolls and to end the evening finally boerewors rolls for the still hungry!

Chairman, Chris Hofmeyr welcomed all and thanked our very supportive sponsors. We had a number of raffles and lucky draws on offer and Jonny Hill found himself a new career by auctioneering off two items! One was for a unique bottle of Avante brandy and the other for a week at Beacon Isle which included 18 holes of golf! The bidding, as to be expected keen!

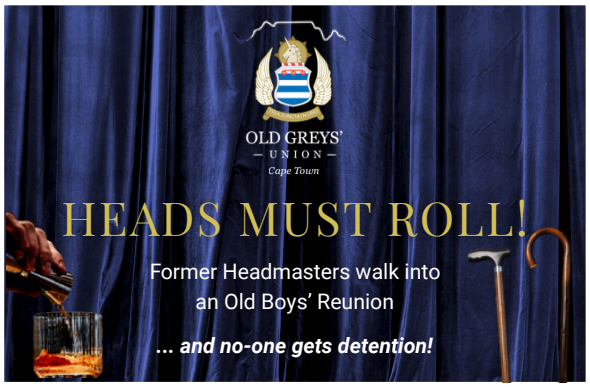
A panel discussion followed which included former Rector Neil Crawford and former Head of Wynberg Boys High, Keith Richardson. Another former Head of Wynberg, Jannie De Waal led this discussion. It was all in good spirit as the two shared their experiences – both of a comical and at times interesting periods over their tenure. Jannie at the onset forbade, for the sake of decorum, all phones and like devices! Probing questions followed from the audience and dare we say gave us food for thought!

On the Friday the indefatigable Keith Clark organised our bi-annual Golf Day against Wynberg Old Boys at the King David Mowbray Golf Course. The weather was ideal and we thrashed Wynberg 7-5 thereby retaining the floating trophy! There was a field of 28 players from either side proving that this is indeed a popular event. The large display of sponsored prizes made for a fun prizing giving event and our thanks is extended to Jannie De Waal for the part he played in rallying his Old Boys and adding substantially to the prize giving table. The Club is to be thanked for their hospitality. Their attentive staff and bar service, along with tasty and ample snacks made it a great day for all who took part.

Events of this nature do not simply take place. It takes a lot of organisation and time which is given freely by the Committee. Meetings need to be attended and reaching a suitable meeting venue in the late afternoon is not an easy task as the Cape Town traffic is horrific. We are fortunate however to have Candy Bubb who is an Events Manager in her own right and all her assistance and advice is much appreciated. But then again we would not have expected anything else from an Old Collegiate Girl! Thanks Candy.

Wynberg may have beaten us in both rugby and hockey at first team level but overall we had the better outcome and long may the relationship continue with our opposition. Many Old Boys were in attendance on the Wynberg campus and there were a large number of young Old Greys in support, all wearing their old school ties!

Written by Ian Pringle





Ian Pringle (1967), Candy Bubb (CGHS 1988) & John Featherstone (1967)



Colin Dix-Peek (1984) & Chris Hofmeyr (1987)



Joel Harrison & Pranesh Raga both from Class of 2020.

Bulletin Board



Steve Marriner (Class of 1986)

After many years of dedicated service as a Trustee of The Grey Foundation Americas, Steve Marriner has stepped down from his finance responsibilities on the Board.

We extend our sincere gratitude to Steve for his commitment, stewardship and support of The Grey over the years and are pleased that he will continue to serve as a Trustee. His contribution has played an important role in supporting the Foundation's work and strengthening the connection between Grey and its supporters in the Americas.



Class of 1976

We extend our sincere gratitude to Roger Neale-May and the Class of '76 for their generosity and commitment to The Grey. In their celebrating year, Roger and Rory Stear successfully rallied their classmates to support the Classroom Upgrade Project, resulting in the sponsorship of the second classroom refurbishment that will be facilitated through The Grey Foundation.

Their collective contribution will enhance the learning environment for Grey boys, leaving a tangible and lasting impact on the school. It is a wonderful example of Old Greys coming together in support of the institution that played such an important role in their own journeys.



Grey High School First Rugby Team 1969

Where are these school boy ruggers now?

The recent passing of a Grey High School Old Boy, Graham Read, has the Class of 1969 remembering a talented student and uncompromising athlete. A fellow team mate in the GHS 1st XV, Graham was a power center and wing in the Ma'a Nonu (All Blacks) mould.

Condolences to his Eastern Cape family.

Taking this opportunity to wish health and longevity to all my surviving peers in this star-studded team.

Donovan Neale-May

OGU Membership Options

We offer four flexible ways to pay your OGU membership subscription, allowing you to choose the option that best suits you:

1. **Join BlueClub - R99 per month**
   Sign up for BlueClub, The Grey's Rewards Programme, which includes OGU membership and gives you cashback rewards when shopping at participating Affiliate Partners. **Click here** if you'd like to join BlueClub.
2. **Set up a monthly debit order payment - R99 per month**
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3. **Pay annually - R1,188 per year**
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4. **Support The Grey Foundation - R1,200 or more per annum**
   By donating R1,200 or more annually to The Grey Foundation, you will receive a Section 18A tax certificate and *complimentary* OGU membership. **Click here** to select a project of your choice from the drop down menu.

> Pay your OGU membership subscription and receive a free Union Dinner Ticket at Reunion 2027.

In Loving Memory of ...

Nigel Bands (Class of 1968)

Old Greys' Union and The Grey Foundation mourn the passing of Nigel Bands, a truly remarkable Old Grey whose legacy has left an indelible mark on The Grey community. Our heartfelt condolences to Nigel's family and friends during this time of profound loss.

Please **click here** to read a tribute celebrating Nigel's life.

Martin de Bruyn (Class of 1964)

Loving husband to Liz, proud father to Angela, Pauline, Douglas, and sons-in-law Dean and Justin, and a local businessman, passed away peacefully on Wednesday 23 September. A Scout always, gone home to his heavenly father.

Derek Staples (Class of 1951)

It is with sadness that we announce the recent passing of Derek Staples. Derek was a legendary sportsman, having been Grey's first Springbok waterpolo player. He also played rugby for Eastern Province and was part of the outstanding EP rugby team that beat the 1955 British Lions team by 20 points to nil on the Crusader field.

David Kolnick (Class of 1963)

Phyllis Kolnick informed us that David passed away in Houston Texas on 26th of June this year. He leaves behind his wife, three children and 5 grandchildren.

Geoff Robertson (Class of 1959)

Our Dad was always immensely proud of having been a Grey boy. Throughout our lives he would tell us stories of his school days, particularly of rugby and cricket, of the famous Pollock brothers, and of many of the characters and moments that had stayed with him over the years. He was always excited by the prospect of a Reunion or any opportunity to reconnect with old Grey friends.

One memory feels especially poignant now. Many years ago, he asked me to take a photograph of him outside my office, in front of the flowers, because, in his words, he needed "a good one" to send to the Old Grey guys for a newsletter or Reunion. That photograph remained his chosen profile picture for the rest of his life. In a small way, I think that says a great deal about how much Grey, and the friendships and memories from those years, continued to mean to him.

We all miss him dearly.
Steve and Shelley, his son and daughter.

Wayne "Plankies" Rudman (Class of 1982)

Formidable hockey player. Two years first team on the left wing. Tough nut and would have been a recce but was disqualified eventually due to his eyesight. Ran his own business for the past 30 or so years - Davies Engine Reconditioning. Was a licensed professional hunter and prolific fisherman. Also excelled at crossbow hunting. Years as chairman of the PE Rifle and Pistol club with multiple achievements in the sport. For a long time he wrote articles for various fishing and hunting publications. As Charles said, he made the most incredible hunting knives with many international clients.

Plankies was not afraid to dish out a klap or two. If memory serves me, Kevin Mcray flew across the desk in science class on one occasion.

Wayne would play daily skolop cricket in our street for years. He used to hang out at Mark Whitakers house waiting for his parents to pick him up after work. Wayne was a good mate, but for many years fought his personal demons. He suffered from the long term side effects of medication he received in the army that impacted his knees and hips and needed several replacement surgeries. His hunting career and quality of life was severely affected.

Wayne could put away the beers and many a good evening were spent drinking with him in earlier years at the Uitenhage Club where he also served. Wayne was a formally appointed compliance officer on the Swartkops River. His stories of chasing and arresting pearlies in the river and out at sea were legendary.

You were an officer and true gentleman of the Grey. Condolences to Esther, his partner for the past two decades or so and his children. Wayne had a son, and one day out the blue he was informed he had a daughter he never knew about and was united with her when she was 17, and was a wonderful blessing to him.

Sorry for maybe over sharing, but I don't think many knew how much he cared and gave back to society and contributed to others.

RIP Wayne love you my brother.

Written by Bruce Pocock

Michael Bortz (Class of 1962)

Mike passed away quietly in the evening of Thursday 6th August at the Park Drive Retirement Village. Brother to Joel and David.

Brett Abraham (Class of 2002)

It is with deep sadness that the Abraham family announce Brett's passing on 16 June 2026.

In Loving Memory of ...

Ronnie Kaplan (Class of 1949)

The oldest, much loved and respected Grey School alumnus, Ronnie Kaplan, passed away peacefully on Thursday 02 July 2026 at almost 94 years old. Born on the 24th August 1932, he was the son of Harry and Sybil Kaplan and the elder brother of the late Michael Kaplan. Ronnie matriculated from Grey in 1949 and was honoured to have been made a prefect.

He remained deeply loyal to his beloved hometown throughout his life apart from a brief time in Cape Town where he studied law at UCT and met his future wife, June, to whom he was happily married for 71 years. An immeasurably kind and compassionate gentleman, he was deeply loved by his family. A proud Grey Old Boy, he embodied the school's ethos with him always. The strong leadership, integrity and moral principals that were instilled in him during his years at Grey, stood him in good stead throughout his personal and professional life.

Guided by a deep sense of justice, he was a committed advocate for change during the Apartheid era for a more equitable South Africa. He served his community such as his beloved Rotary and Toastmasters with utmost dedication and earned the respect of all who knew him. Beyond his public life and the many committees he facilitated, he was an exceptionally caring and respected man whose kindness, wit and unwavering support left a lasting impression on all.

Grey remained close to his heart and his connection to the school was one of his greatest and most enduring sources of pride. He is survived by his wife June, his children and his grandchildren.

May his memory be a blessing.

Written by Arnie Katz

Pip Kauffman (Class of 1962)

Pip Kauffman passed away on 16 June 2025.

Pip moved from Summerwood Primary to Grey Junior in Standard 4 and subsequently became a High School Boarder in Std 7, probably due to his love for the sea which left little time for schoolwork when he was a Dayboy. He was a very successful sportsman and while at school he excelled at rugby, swimming, athletics and lifesaving. In addition, he was a prefect, student officer and house captain.

In his first year out of school he was a member of the league-winning U19 Crusader Rugby Club team. Subsequently he played for their first XV and was a regular in the EP team.

Pip and his close friend Ant Foster spent a year travelling overseas. This included lifesaving in Cornwall and playing for the London Springboks as well as surfing in France. Pip returned to PE and joined Carborundum Universal as a representative. However, the company soon moved him to Johannesburg where he was head-hunted by a rival company. He joined Wanderers Rugby club in Johannesburg and became close friends with Syd Nomis and Hugh Bladen and played very successfully for Transvaal also alongside Old Grey Springbok, Mickey Gerber. Pip later switched clubs due to opening what later became a very successful business, dealing mostly with the mining industry.

Eventually the call of the ocean saw him and his long-term partner, Bernie Watson, relocate to St Francis Bay, living in a unit at the Port, overlooking the sea, Pip opened a new company, operating in PE and Johannesburg. Ill health caused a return to PE with Pip and Bernie enjoying a good few years on the beachfront.

Pip is survived by Bernie, daughter Samantha and his brother Barry (Banjo), who matriculated in 1958.

Pip is sorely missed by those who enjoyed his company, including at our regular Class lunches at Old Grey, and especially in front of the TV set when the Boks were playing.

Graham Read (Class of 1969)

It is with sadness that we report on the passing of Graham Read in Keurboomstrand at the age of 74 years. Graham who joined his brother, Alan (1966) in Way House hailed from Cradock. The two brothers were legends in their time in being both outstanding rugby players and athletes. Graham played First XV Rugby and was selected for Craven Week. Alan, when Grey won the Hirsch Shield in 1966, won the Long Jump, High Jump and Hurdles all within a short period of time on the day! Graham went onto Stellenbosch to pursue his passion of rugby and later qualified in Civil Engineering Technology from the Cape Town Technicon. He was to spend a number of years in the Industry employed by Murray & Roberts. He became involved in major projects throughout the country before returning to take over the family owned Arch Rock Caravan Park & Chalets in Keurbooms. A concern acquired by the family in the mid-1960s after his father, Vernon (1939) had died as a relatively young man

He married Sandy and they had three children. Jason (1995) and Ryan (1996) followed the traditional family path to Grey and sister Taryn matriculated from Collegiate in 1999. Jason was tragically killed in 2009 in Cape Town having qualified as an architect. The couple travelled extensively over the last 30 years making regular trips to Europe and the United States where they revelled by making the most of rail travel. Sadly he passed on a week prior of an intended visit to see his daughter and her family in Italy. There was also another side to Graham so his daughter wrote. He loved to paint and draw, was fond of music, read a lot, liked doing puzzles and always enjoyed social company. A far cry from the intensity of competing at the highest levels over his school career.

To conclude, and this yarn relates to a locker search in 1966 that was conducted by the prefects in the Grey Hostel. Graham got wind of it and had a near full packet of cigarettes hidden under his shirts. A price of 20 cigarettes back then was 20c and Graham in a quick move sold the contraband to his mate Kenny Lovemore for 10c. Kenny thought he had got a bargain but was caught out! We are sure that the two continue to reflect on the incident and to ever enjoy the kind of friendships that are built up in boarding house life!

We honour the memory of Old Greys' no longer with us.

Their spirit is forever woven into the fabric of The Grey.