THE HILTONIAN



EDITION 159 JUNE 2024

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and expand your professional network
and grow your brand.

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Ours is a vast and unique network
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Many Hiltonians, including entrepreneurs,
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HILTON COLLEGE





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Governance

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Two thousand and twenty-three was another outstanding year in the history of our school.

Not only did our boys do us proud on the playing fields in various sporting codes, but they also achieved the best matric results in more than 20 years.

It is my belief that when one manages to instil the correct culture in an organisation, the results one aims at seem to come more naturally. I believe this is true for us as a school, and the proof is in our varied successes across all our disciplines.

There were a greater number of retirements and emigrations at the end of 2023, than is normally the case year on year, and with these comes the opportunity to find people who will fill the gap with new energy and new ideas. A mark of a healthy organisation must be the ability to attract good new staff when required and I am delighted to report that this is indeed the case.

I trust that you will enjoy reading about Hilton College's exploits in the pages that follow and hope that you will agree with me, that our school continues to be a beacon of hope in our province, our country and into the world. Here, boys are nurtured, challenged and encouraged to live life to the full. My thanks to all my staff who make this the great school that it is.

Sincerely,



George Harris | Headmaster

Governors

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE HILTONIAN SOCIETY 2023

Andrew Johnston | **CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF GOVERNORS**
Thabo Seopa | **DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF GOVERNORS**
Jonathan Clark | **CHAIRPERSON, FINANCE COMMITTEE**
Bruce Falcon | Doug Gain
Guy Hancock | **CHAIRPERSON, BUILDINGS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE**
Carl Jankowitz | Sizo Jali
Anton Jooste | **EX-OFFICIO, CHAIRPERSON, ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE; CHAIRPERSON, OLD HILTONIAN CLUB**
Mzamo Khuzwayo | **CHAIRPERSON, ESTATE COMMITTEE**
Belinda Mapongwana
Simon Reid | **APPOINTED NOVEMBER 2023**
Fundiswa Sithebe | **CHAIRPERSON, REMUNERATION COMMITTEE** (Resigned September 2023)
Susan Tasker
Dale ten Hope | **CHAIRPERSON, COMMUNITY PROJECTS COMMITTEE**
David Wingfield

Attending Executives

George Harris | **HEADMASTER**
Brett South | **COMPANY SECRETARY** (Retired September 2023)

BUILDINGS AND SERVICES

Guy Hancock | **CHAIRPERSON**
George Harris | **HEADMASTER**
Andrew Johnston | **CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF GOVERNORS**
Brett South | **COMPANY SECRETARY** (Retired September 2023)
Kim Martin | **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE** (by invitation)
Sean Lindsay | **FACILITIES AND ESTATE MANAGER** (by invitation)
Neels Grobler | **BROLL FACILITIES MANAGEMENT REPRESENTATIVE** (by invitation)
Mike Miller | **SPECTRUM SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE** (by invitation)



We do our very best to ensure the accuracy of the magazine and it goes through many checks. However, we are human and errors occasionally creep in.

Please let us know if you pick something up, in which case we will correct the digital edition, which is archived.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Dale ten Hope | **CHAIRPERSON**
Andrew Johnston | **EX-OFFICIO, CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF GOVERNORS**
Ashleigh Askew | **Appointed January 2023**
Anne Chamberlain | **DONOR REPRESENTATIVE**
Mike Green | **Appointed October 2023**
George Harris | **HEADMASTER**
Anton Jooste | **BOARD REPRESENTATIVE**
Bheki Kunene
Kim Martin | **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**
Sean McGuigan | **CHAPLAIN**
Phila Mnyandu
Penny Mullan | **Appointed January 2023**
Noel Robert | **RESIGNED SEPTEMBER 2023**
Lloyd Smuts | **DIRECTOR OF VULA PROGRAMME**
Sue Southwood
Rekesh Somchand | **MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT**
Peter Storrar | **DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT**
Teresa Whitfield | **Resigned September 2023**
Bhekani Zulu | **Appointed January 2023**

ADVANCEMENT

Anton Jooste | **CHAIRPERSON**
Brett Armstrong | **REPRESENTATIVE, OLD HILTONIAN CLUB**
George Harris | **HEADMASTER**
Pete Storrar | **DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT**
Maralyn Atkins | **MARKETING MANAGER**
Darryn Gallagher | **DIRECTOR OF SPORT** (by invitation)
Kim Martin | **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE** (by invitation)

REMUNERATION

Fundiswa Sithebe | **CHAIRPERSON** (Resigned March 2023)
Bruce Falcon | **CHAIRPERSON** (Appointed March 2023)
Jonathan Clark | **CHAIRPERSON OF FINANCE**
Arlene Brown | **INDEPENDENT** (by invitation)
Laurence Grubb | **INDEPENDENT**
George Harris | **HEADMASTER** (by invitation)
Kim Martin | **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE** (by invitation)

ESTATE

Mzamo Khuzwayo | **CHAIRPERSON**
John Patrick Eustace | Tim Gibson
George Harris | **HEADMASTER**
Sean Lindsay | **FACILITIES AND ESTATE COMMITTEE**
Iain McMillan | **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GWENS STREAM ESTATES**
Murray Moxham | Justin Platt
Rowan Welsford | **ESTATE GENERAL MANAGER**

FINANCE

Jonathan Clark | **CHAIRPERSON**
Andrew Johnston | **EX-OFFICIO, CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF GOVERNORS**
Mzamo Khuzwayo | **Appointed June 2023**
Thabo Seopa | **GOVERNOR**
James Pinnell | **INDEPENDENT**
George Harris | **HEADMASTER** (by invitation)
Kim Martin | **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE** (by invitation)

FLEUR-DE-LYS CLUB

Derek Chaplin | **CHAIRPERSON**
Ralph Tiaden | **CLUB SECRETARY**
Andrew Beveridge | **CLUB ACCOUNTANT**
Dean Harding | **TREASURER, RETIRED JULY 2023**
Brett Armstrong | **OLD HILTONIAN NOMINEE**
Roger Don-Wauchope | **BOARD NOMINEE**
George Harris | **HEADMASTER (EX-OFFICIO)**
Robby de Gouveia | **FINANCE DEPARTMENT**
Kim Martin | **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**
Roy Mottram | **BOARD NOMINEE**
Peter Storrer | **DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT**
Sanele Zondi

HILTON COLLEGE ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION

Guy Hayward | **CHAIRPERSON, INDEPENDENT TRUSTEE**
Yann LeClezio | **BOARD NOMINATED TRUSTEE**
Thabo Seopa | **BOARD NOMINATED TRUSTEE**
Chris Tod | **BOARD NOMINATED TRUSTEE** (Resigned May 2023)
Anton Jooste | **BOARD NOMINATED TRUSTEE** (Appointed May 2023)
Sean Segar | **INDEPENDENT TRUSTEE**
Robert Taylor | **INDEPENDENT TRUSTEE**
Derek Chaplin | **INDEPENDENT TRUSTEE**
Iain McMillan | **SECRETARY**

NOMINATIONS

Andrew Johnston | **CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF GOVERNORS**
Thabo Seopa | **DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF GOVERNORS**





ACADEMIC STAFF 2023

Row 6: *Jeremy Piater, Nick Holtzhauzen, William Donkin, Chris Kingsley, Burger Nel, Michael Pitchford, Andrew Duncan, Michael Werth, Graeme Roberts, Mike Mill, Mike Green, Cameron Fraser, Jaco van Dyk, Tienie van Wyk*

Row 5: *Leana Steenkamp, Rodney Zondi, Orateng Motsoe, Lara Rogers, Ernie Steenkamp, Graeme Evans, Craig Wilkinson, Brett Udal, James Robey, Joshua Boudan, Chris Carey, Jenine Warren, Wilbert Tenga, Brendan Grey, Coco Mamabolo*

Row 4: *Debbie Veenstra, Samuel Hines, Matthew Fairweather, Pamela Nel, Charles Ncobeni, Sipho Moniwa, Lionel Julius, Liezl Scholtz, Richard Garrett, Moira Gundu, Carl Schmidt, Kuthula Ntshontsho, Lindokuhle Xulu, Damian Kimfley*

Row 3: *Juliet Morulane, Mandy Durnford, Ghyslaine Dye, Claudia Plunkett, Kaloso Tsoaeli, Swelihle Mkhwanazi, Jean van Heeswijk, Tarryn Daly, Anze Goodwin, Thembile Zuma, Noel Robert, Charissa Steenkamp, Juliette Hunter, James Webb, Xolile Mazibuko*

Row 2: *Simone van Niekerk, Budrunnisaa Halliday, Pamela Neethling, Nelson Hlophe, Kwanda Sibiya, Karen Koopman, Tracey MacKenzie, Teresa Whitfield, Angela Salamon, Lara Wulfsohn, Francois Morgan, Msizi Mchunu, Emma Bray, Ashleigh Askew*

Row 1: *De Wet Wentzel, Sean McGuigan, Paul Venter, Gary Holder, David Look, Janna de Gouveia, Tony Shuttleworth, George Harris, Kgomotso Motlogeloa, Hanlie Dry, Alexei du Bois, James Bullough, Darryn Gallagher, Tania Hurley, Bruce MacLachlan*

Staff

HEADMASTER'S OFFICE

George Harris	BA (Pretoria) BA Hons (Wits)
Sally Moon	Comp TIA N+, A+

EXECUTIVE

James Bullough	**SENIOR HOUSEMASTER**
Alexei du Bois	**DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL LEARNING**
Janna de Gouveia	**DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SUPPORT**
Hanlie Dry	**DIRECTOR OF ACADEMICS**
Darryn Gallagher	**DIRECTOR OF SPORT**
Gary Holder	**DIRECTOR OF IT**
Luke Holder	**DIRECTOR OF CREATIVE AND PERFORMING ARTS**
Tania Hurley	**DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ACADEMICS**
Sean Lindsay	**FACILITIES AND ESTATE MANAGER**
David Look	**DIRECTOR OF SCHOOL DISCIPLINE**
Kim Martin	**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**
Sean McGuigan	**CHAPLAIN**
Kgomotso Motlogeloa	**DEPUTY HEADMASTER**
Tony Shuttleworth	**SECOND MASTER**
Peter Storrar	**DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT**
Paul Venter	**DIRECTOR OF BELONGING**

ACADEMIC

Kathy Acutt	**ACADEMIC SECRETARY**
Ashleigh Askew	BA, PGCE (Unisa) Spec needs Ed (London)
Joshua Boudan	MMus (UP)
James Bullough	BEd (Unisa)
Chris Carey	BSc HMS (NMMU), PGCE (Unisa)
Tarryn Daly	BA (UKZN), PGCE (Unisa)
William Donkin	BCom, BEd Hons (UCT), PGCE (Rhodes)
Hanlie Dry	BA Ed (UFS) BBA SBS
Alexei du Bois	BA (UCT), PGCE (Unisa) MSc DPhil (Oxon)
Andrew Duncan	BSocSc (Rhodes), PGGCE (Unisa)
Ghyslaine Dye	BA Hons (Unisa) MA (UKZN)
Graeme Evans	BSc Hons (Bristol), PGCE (B'ham)
Cameron Fraser	BEd (Unisa)
Richard Garrett	BSc (Wits), PGCE (Unisa)
Anze Goodwin	BEng (UP), PGCE (Unisa)
Mike Green	BSc, HDE (UCT)
Luke Holder	BA, BEd (UKZN) LTCL piano, ATCL organ (Trinity College of Music, London)
Nick Holtzhauzen	BA Hons HDE (Natal)
Juliette Hunter	BEd Hons (KU)
Tania Hurley	BSocSc (UKZN), HDE (UP)
Lionel Julius	BSc (UWC), BEd Hons (Unisa)
Chris Kingsley	BA (Rhodes), BEd (UP), PGCE (NMMU)
Karen Koopman	BSc Hons (Natal), PGCE (Unisa)
David Look	BSocSc (UKZN), PGCE (UKZN) BEd Hons (Unisa)
Tracey MacKenzie	BSc, HDE (Natal)
Bruce MacLachlan	BCom, HDE (Natal) MIITPSA
Coco Mamabolo	BEd Senior & FET (Unisa)
Sean McGuigan	BSc, MSc (Natal), BTh (TEEC)
Msizi Mchunu	BEd (UKZN)
Mike Mill	BA Hons, HDE (Natal)
Sipho Moniwa	BADA, PGCE (Wits)
Francois Morgan	BA, HDE (Natal)
Juliet Morulane	BEd FET Wits
Kgomotso Motlogeloa	BEd Hons (Wits), PGDip (UCT)
Orateng Motsoe	BSc (Wits)
Penny Mullan	BSc (Rhodes)
Charles Ncobeni	BA HDE (Natal)
Pamela Neethling	BA, H Dip Ed (UKZN)
Burger Nel	BEd Senior & FET (Unisa)
Pam Nel	BCom (UKZN), PG Dip Fin Plan (UFS), PGCE (Stadio)
Jeremy Piater	BEd (UKZN)
Claude Pitout	BEd Senior & FET (Unisa)
Claudia Plunkett	MAFA (Natal)
Noel Robert	BEd (UKZN)
Graeme Roberts	BA Hons (Natal), HDE FDE
James Robey	BSc (UCT) Hons (Rhodes), MSc (UKZN), PGCE (Unisa)
Angela Salamon	Dipl Graphic Design (London)
Tony Shuttleworth	BSc (Stell), HDE (Stell), BEd Hons (UP)
Charissa Steenkamp	BEd Hons (NWU)
Ernie Steenkamp	BSc Hons, MSc (UP)
Leana Steenkamp	BA (RAU), PGCE (Unisa)
Wilbert Tenga	BCom Hons, PGCE (Unisa), BSc (Fort Hare)
Brett Udal	BMus (UP), HDE (Unisa)
Jaco van Dyk	BCom Hons, PGCE (UJ)
Jean van Heeswijk	HDE, BA (Unisa)
Tienie van Wyk	BSc PGCE (NWU), BEd Hons (Unisa)
Chevonne van Wyk	**PA TO DEPUTY HEADMASTERS** Dipl Marketing (TVET)
Debbie Veenstra	BA, HDE (Natal)
Paul Venter	BA Hons HDE (Natal)
Jenine Warren	BA Hons (AFDA), PGCE (Stadio)
James Webb	BCom (Stell), PGCE (Unisa)
De Wet Wentzel	BA Ed Hons (RAU)
Michael Werth	BSc (UPE), BEd (Unisa), HDE (UCT) PDE
Teresa Whitfield	B HDE (UKZN)
Craig Wilkinson	BA, PDEM (Rhodes), PGCE (Unisa), CELTA (Cambridge)
Lara Wulfsohn	BA Hons, MA (UKZN), PGCE (Unisa)
Thembile Zuma	BEd Senior & FET (Unisa)



ADMINISTRATION STAFF

Row 5: *Angelique Ardé, Maralyn Atkins, Lindeni Phungula, Brett Armstrong*
Row 4: *Jabulani Kunene, Chevonne van Wyk, Charlotte Cliff, Robby de Gouveia, Herbert Mncwabe, Ian McFarlane, Dwayne Clayton, Sbonelo Hlophe, Brayden Wynn, Denise Venter*
Row 3: *Kamini Sindraj, Thandeka Ndlela, Priscilla Tenga, Allan Fryer, Bheki Kunene, Adele Wentzel, Kerry Pepworth, Emma Aldridge*
Row 2: *Diane Pillay, Wendy Allen, Charlene Ragubeer, Chantel Ngubane, Inga Rautenbach, Kathy Acutt, Andrea Ridderhof, Yvette McDonald, Vuyi Gwala, Zanele Ngubane*
Row 1: *Peter Storrar, Luke Holder, Sally Moon, Brett South, George Harris, Kim Martin, Rekesh Somchand, Gary Holder, Christine Barker*



HOUSEMASTERS

Back row: *Kwanda Sibiya, Matthew Fairweather, Msizi Mchunu*
Front row: *Lionel Julius, George Harris, James Bullough, Burger Nel*

WELLNESS

Janna de Gouveia	**EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST** BA, BEd Hons, MEd, PhD Ed Psych (UP)
Michael Pitchford	**CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST** BSocSc Hons (UKZN) MA (UKZN)
Adéle Wentzel	**STUDENT SUPPORT ADMINISTRATOR** Dip Nursing
Emma Bray	**ACADEMIC SUPPORT INTERN** BSocSci (Rhodes) PDEM (Rhodes)

HOUSES

Devon van der Merwe	**CHURCHILL HOUSEMASTER**
Wilbert Tenga	**CHURCHILL DEPUTY HOUSEMASTER**
Nomfundo Nzimande	**CHURCHILL HOUSE MANAGER**
Mbali Shelembe	**CHURCHILL HOUSEKEEPER**
Burger Nel	**ELLIS HOUSEMASTER**
Sipho Moniwa	**ELLIS DEPUTY HOUSEMASTER**
Keshni Peters	**ELLIS HOUSE MANAGER**
Bongi Mthalane	**ELLIS HOUSEKEEPER**
Kwanda Sibiya	**FALCON HOUSEMASTER**
Warren Kirsten	**FALCON DEPUTY HOUSEMASTER**
Vanessa Wedderburn	**FALCON HOUSE MANAGER**
Mandy Nene	**FALCON HOUSEKEEPER**
Msizi Mchunu	**LUCAS HOUSEMASTER**
Cameron Fraser	**LUCAS DEPUTY HOUSEMASTER**
Inga Rautenbach	**LUCAS HOUSE MANAGER**
Rosemary Mwelase	**LUCAS HOUSEKEEPER**
Lionel Julius	**MCKENZIE HOUSEMASTER**
Carl Schmidt	**MCKENZIE DEPUTY HOUSEMASTER**
Rosey Kalipersad	**MCKENZIE HOUSE MANAGER**
Matholi Mthalane	**MCKENZIE HOUSEKEEPER**
Chris Carey	**NEWNHAM HOUSEMASTER**
James Robey	**NEWNHAM DEPUTY HOUSEMASTER**
Reshmee Mohanlal	**NEWNHAM HOUSE MANAGER**
Doris Ngcobo	**NEWNHAM HOUSEKEEPER**
James Bullough	**PEARCE HOUSEMASTER**
Andrew Duncan	**PEARCE DEPUTY HOUSEMASTER**
Nonhlanhla Majola	**PEARCE HOUSE MANAGER**
Precious Mwelase	**PEARCE HOUSEKEEPER**

SECRETARIAT

Brett South	BCom (Rhodes) MSc (Leicester) FCMA CGMA

ADMINISTRATION

Kim Martin	**DIRECTOR OF FINANCE** BCom (UKZN) BComp Hons (Unisa) CA (SA)
Christine Barker	**PA TO DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**
Rekesh Somchand	**SOCIETY ACCOUNTANT** BCompt (Unisa) AGA (SA)
Dwayne Clayton	**ACCOUNTS CONTROLLER / BOOKROOM MANAGER** Dip Bkp Dip Proj Man (Varsity Coll)
Charlotte Cliff	**PAYROLL ADMINISTRATOR**
Kamini Sindraj	**ACCOUNTS CONTROLLER**
Diana Pillay	**CASH & BANK ADMINISTRATOR** Bkp to T/B, Bus Lit and Pastel Acc V12 (Varsity College)
Sheryl Govender	**CREDITORS CONTROLLER**
Margie South	**SPECIALIST BOOKKEEPER** BCom (Natal)
Robby de Gouveia	**ACCOUNTANT** BCom (UP)
Priscilla Tenga	**DEBTORS MANAGER** BCom (Fort Hare), PG internal auditing (Unisa)
Nerusha Mangalparsad	**DEBTORS CONTROLLER** N.Cert -Fin Man. (UTVET) N.Cert Bus Man. (UTVET)
Kgalalelo Modise	**CREDITORS CONTROLLER** BCom (Unisa)

ADVANCEMENT

Peter Storrar	**DIRECTOR** BBusSc (UCT)
Angelique Ardé	**COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER** Dipl Journ (Natal Technikon)
Maralyn Atkins	**MARKETING MANAGER**
Thuthukile Jili	**ENROLMENT PARTNER** MA Marketing (UKZN)
Trish Davidson	**ENROLMENT ADMINISTRATOR**
Amanda Pistorius	**ALUMNI RELATIONS MANAGER** BA Hons (NWU) BCom (NWU)
Brett Armstrong	**AMBASSADOR**
Vuyi Gwala	**RECEPTIONIST**

FARM/ESTATE

Rowan Welsford	**ESTATE GENERAL MANAGER** B Agric Man (UKZN) BCom (Unisa)
Constance Ngubane	**ESTATE CLERK**
Thandeka Lipheyana	**ESTATE ADMINISTRATOR** BTech (DUT) PGCE (UKZN)

FLEUR-DE-LYS CLUB

Ralph Tiaden	**MANAGER**
Andrew Beveridge	**CLUB ACCOUNTANT** BA Hons (Natal), Dip Fin Acc (Varsity College)

GWENS STREAM ESTATES

Iain McMillan	**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR** BA Hons HDE (Natal)
Denise Venter	**OPERATIONS MANAGER** BSocSc (Natal)

INTERNS

Emma Bray	Nelson Hlophe
Ayibongwe Dube	Xolile Mazibuko
Brendan Grey	Kaloso Tsoaeli
Budrunnisaa Halliday	Lindokuhle Xulu
Samuel Hines	



SPORTS DEPARTMENT

Back row: *Jason Wulfsohn, Ayanda Shange, James Bullough, Brad Macleod-Henderson, Andrew Duncan, James Robey, Jason Sileno*
Middle row: *Mhlengi Shezi, Damian Kimfley, Orateng Motsoe, Graeme Evans, David Griffiths, Ernie Steenkamp, De Wet Wentzel, Celo Mbanjwa*
Front row: *Warren Kirsten, Carl Schmidt, Andrea Ridderhof, Darryn Gallagher, Matthew Fairweather, Greg Miller, Wilbert Tenga*



INTERNS

Back row: *Nelson Hlophe, Ayibongwe Dube, Samuel Hines, Brendan Grey, Lindokuhle Xulu, Kaloso Tsoaeli*
Front row: *Mr Noel Robert, Budrunnisaa Halliday, Mr George Harris, Emma Bray, Xolile Mazibuko*

IT DEPARTMENT

Gary Holder	**DIRECTOR OF IT** High Dipl Ed (Edgewood), CAN, ICDL
Ian McFarlane	**TECHNICAL MANAGER** A+, N+, IT Systems App
Allan Fryer	**IT TECHNICIAN (ACADEMIC)** **IT SKILLS TEACHER** CompTIA A+
Sbonelo Hlophe	**IT/NETWORK TECHNICIAN (TECHNICAL)** A+, N+, CISCO CCNA
Brayden Wynn	**IT/LAPTOP TECHNICIAN** A+

LIBRARY

Mandy Durnford	**HEAD LIBRARIAN** BA HDLS (Natal)
Moira Gundu	**LIBRARIAN** M. Bibl (Fort Hare), PGCE (Unisa)

MUSEUM/ARCHIVES

Bruce MacLachlan	**HERITAGE CURATOR** BCom, HDE (Natal) MIITPSA

MUSIC

Joshua Boudan	**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC** MMus (UP)
Luke Holder	BA, BEd (UKZN) LTCL piano, ATCL organ (Trinity College of Music, London)
Brett Udal	BMus (UP), HDE (Unisa)
Simone van Niekerk	**MUSIC TEACHER**
Bheki Kunene	**MUSIC ADMINISTRATOR**

ASSISTANT MUSIC TEACHERS

Jenny du Plessis	**CLARINET/SAXOPHONE**
Curt Lawrence	**BASS GUITAR/KEYBOARDS**
Lendle Lewis	**DRUMKIT**
Ronel Perks	**CLASSICAL VOICE/CELLO**
Richard Rheeder	**PIANO AND ACCOMPANIMENT**
Chris Smith	**GUITAR**
David Solomon	**TROMBONE/TRUMPET**

PRINTER

Atin Sindraj	**PRINT MANAGER**

SANATORIUM

Emma Aldridge	R/N, R/M, CHN
Wendy Allen	Dip Nursing Sc (Community, Psychiatry) and Midwifery, BA Psych Counselling, Hons BSc Psych
Yvette McDonald	Dip. Nursing CHN, Psych. & Mid, Cert. OHN, BTech Nursing Sc.
Lauren Richmond	R/N, R/M (Greys) OHNP (DUT) Advanced wound care (UFS)
Bianca Smith	R/N, R/M, CHN

SCHOOL DOCTOR

Dr Dale Thomas	MB Chb (Stell) DA (SA)

SPORT

Darryn Gallagher	**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: SPORT**
Matt Fairweather	**SPORTS ADMINISTRATOR**
Andrea Ridderhof	**SPORT SECRETARY**
Burger Nel	**VIDEO ANALYST**
Carl Schmidt	**SPORT SCIENTIST**
Mel Carey	**BIOKINETISIST**
Nick Pereira	**PHYSIOTHERAPIST**
Jason Wulfsohn	**SPORTS CONDITIONING SPECIALIST**
Chris Carey	**SPORTS CONDITIONING SPECIALIST**
De Wet Wentzel	**HEAD OF ATHLETICS**
Ayanda Shange	**DIRECTOR OF BASKETBALL**
James Robey	**HEAD OF CANOEING**
Warren Kirsten	**DIRECTOR OF CRICKET**
David Griffiths	**1ST XI CRICKET COACH**
Graeme Evans	**HEAD OF GOLF**
Devon van der Merwe	**DIRECTOR OF HOCKEY**
Damian Kimfley	**1ST XI HOCKEY COACH**
Greg Miller	**DIRECTOR OF RUGBY**
Brad Macleod-Henderson	**1ST XV RUGBY COACH**
Ernie Steenkamp	**HEAD OF ROWING**
Celo Mbanjwa	**DIRECTOR OF SOCCER**
Mhlengi Shezi	**1ST XI SOCCER COACH**
James Bullough	**HEAD OF SQUASH**
Andrea Ridderhof	**HEAD OF SWIMMING**
Wilbert Tenga	**HEAD OF TENNIS**
Andrew Duncan	**DIRECTOR OF WATER POLO**
Jason Sileno	**1ST TEAM WATER POLO COACH**

STOCK EXCHANGE

Kerry Pepworth	**MANAGER**
Thandeka Ndlela	**ASSISTANT**
Chantal Ngubane	**ASSISTANT**

TECHNICIANS (LIFE & PHYSICAL SCIENCE)

Charlene Ragubeer	**SENIOR LAB TECHNICIAN** BSc Biol Sc Hons and Masters (UKZN)
Jabulani Kunene	**ASSISTANT LAB TECHNICIAN**
Zanele Ngubane	**ASSISTANT LAB TECHNICIAN**

THEATRE

Luke Holder	**THEATRE MANAGER**

TRANSPORT

Vuyi Gwala	**TRANSPORT CO-ORDINATOR**
Bheki Shange	**DRIVER**
Siphiwe Kunene	**DRIVER**



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VULA PROGRAMME

Lloyd Smuts	**DIRECTOR** BA Hons HDE (UPE)
Michael Bennett	**SCIENCE PROJECT CO-ORD.** BSc Hons UED (Natal)
Sue Southwood	**MATHS PROJECT CO-ORD.** BSc (Natal) HDE
Bheki Kunene	**VULA ADMINISTRATOR**

CONTRACTORS

CATERING	Bidvest
CLEANING: Grounds **Laundry**	Spectrum Services Marina Miller (Site Manager)
MAINTENANCE	Broll Facilities Management Basil Kundalram (Site Manager)
SECURITY	Red Alert David Hunter (Site Manager)
TRANSPORT	Metro Taxis, Kalamazoo, Kenyona Group

ACTIVITIES/RESPONSIBILITIES

Other than games and societies

ACADEMIC EXTENSION	Alexei du Bois
ART GALLERY	Angela Salamon
ART TECHNICIAN	Herbert Mncwabe
ENGLISH ADVANCED PROGRAMME	Pamela Neethling
ENGLISH OLYMPIAD TRAINING	Pamela Neethling
ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND ESTATE	Mike Mill
EXCHANGE PROGRAMME	Craig Wilkinson Inga Rautenbach
FESTIVAL DIRECTOR	Sue Clarence
MATHS ADVANCED PROGRAMME	Graeme Evans
MATHS OLYMPIAD TRAINING	Graeme Evans
MATRIC DANCE	Pamela Nel
OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE	Teresa Whitfield
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS	Chris Kingsley
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BOOK CLUB	Mandy Durnford
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Middle row: *Vhuthi Siwada, Jack Hampson, Liso Nqogo, Ruben Marx, RD Engelbrecht, Matthew Hayes, Ben Kok, Michael Sara*
Front row: *Nkululeko Ngcobo, Khanya Mhlongo, Mr Tony Shuttleworth, Matthew Stewart, Mr Kgomotso Motlogeloa, Minenhle Makhathini, Jehan Thipanyane-Said*

Benefactors



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The Roll of Benefactors of The Hiltonian Society was established by the Board of Governors in 1991 and records the names of persons whose contribution to The Society, or associated entities, has equalled or exceeded a year's school fee (at current rate).

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CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HILTON COLLEGE ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION

The Hilton College Endowment Foundation was established in 1959 and exists to support Hilton College in a variety of ways but particularly in providing funding for bursaries.

The foundation welcomes all contributions, and donors in South Africa receive a section 18A certificate. Hiltonians are encouraged to make regular contributions by debit order.

We are thankful to the following donors for their contributions in 2023:

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OUR ENDOWMENT FUND

For 150 years, generations of Hiltonians have selflessly contributed to building a legacy. Without this legacy of benefaction, our school would not be what it is today.

As custodians of this legacy, it's our responsibility to continue building our great school for current and future generations. The need to preserve and enhance centres of excellence such as Hilton College is perhaps more important than ever.

Like leading schools the world over, Hilton relies on endowment funding to thrive. We're also a not-for-profit organisation, which does not generate any significant financial surplus.

Furthermore, education inflation is typically higher than normal inflation and providing a high-quality education is costly.

Endowment funding helps to subsidise the school's expenses and fund the fees of learners who can't afford a Hilton College education. This is especially important given our imperative to be a school that is truly representative. Endowment funding also helps to pay for bursaries for the sons of Old Hiltonians.

For 62 years, from its inception in 1958, the Hilton College Endowment Foundation, the custodian of the school's endowments, acted as a general-purpose fund. In 2020, we launched four separate funds to cater for stakeholders with differing interests.

Some people prefer to support a human-capital-focused endowment, others a building-infrastructure endowment, while others may choose to support environmental or social causes.

However, it goes without saying that Hilton will gratefully accept endowments that don't specifically fit any of these categories.

We also established the 1872 Society for benefactors who have contributed substantially to Hilton College. Admission to the prestigious group is by invitation of the chairman of the Board of Governors of the Hiltonian Society NPC.

There are a number of ways you can contribute to Hilton's endowment, from regular or once-off donations to bequests in your will. Supporting the highly successful Cattle Project is another way of giving.

All contributions to the four funds are managed by the Hilton College Endowment Foundation – a trust managed by seven trustees, four of whom are independent of the Hilton College Board of Governors. The portfolio is conservatively invested in terms of its equity exposure and has about 67% of total funds invested in offshore assets including rand-hedge shares.

Any financial contribution to the Hilton College Endowment Foundation qualifies for a section 18A tax certificate under the South African Income Tax Act, subject to certain legislative conditions.

If you require more information or would like to make a donation, please contact the Advancement Office by emailing **advancement@hiltoncollege.com**

THE FOUR FUNDS IN NEED OF ENDOWMENT

THE LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS FUND – a Human Capital / Bursary / Scholarship Fund

The purpose of this fund is to provide financial assistance to boys from families who don't have the means to send their sons to Hilton.

THE PINNACLES FUND – an Infrastructure Fund

The purpose of this fund is to provide funding for the ongoing maintenance of the Hilton campus and to fund new infrastructure projects.

THE UMNGENI FUND – an Environmental / Estate Fund

The purpose of this fund is to provide funding for environmental and conservation projects linked to the Hilton Estate.

THE VULA FUND – a Community Outreach Fund

The purpose of this fund is to provide funding for community outreach projects that are linked to the school, such as the highly acclaimed Vula Programme.









HILTON COLLEGE VULA PROGRAMME

The Vula Programme uses up-to-date technologies, innovative teaching methods and experienced facilitators to upskill high school mathematics and physical science teachers from under-resourced schools in KwaZulu-Natal.

We are grateful to the following donors for their support in 2023:

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The Oppenheimer Memorial Trust

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World Relief Australia – Victor Daitz Foundation

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THE CATTLE PROJECT

We couldn't have asked for more in the 2023 season in terms of cattle quality, rain and grass growth.

As always, Rowan Welsford and his team on the farm did a magnificent job of running our herd of oxen. By December 2022, nearly a third of the herd went to market and sold for excellent prices. Unfortunately, the foot and mouth outbreak at the beginning of 2023, across several feedlots, "jammed the system" and the congestion pressure pushed back on oxen prices which resulted in us receiving lower-than-expected prices for our January and February parcels.

The oxen all performed well, but the outstanding performer, with an average daily gain of 1.1kg, was "Mampintsha" owned by Jonathan and William Clark. Jonathan, affectionately known as Joby, and William have been wonderful supporters of the cattle project and have their own herd of four within the herd.

Well done to Mampintsha and congratulations, Jono and William. We look forward to handing over the trophy (and biltong) to you from the previous title holder Mark Hawthorne.

As always, thank you to everyone who is a part of this initiative, we really value your support.

Take care and keep eating beef!

Tim Gibson | On behalf of the cattle team

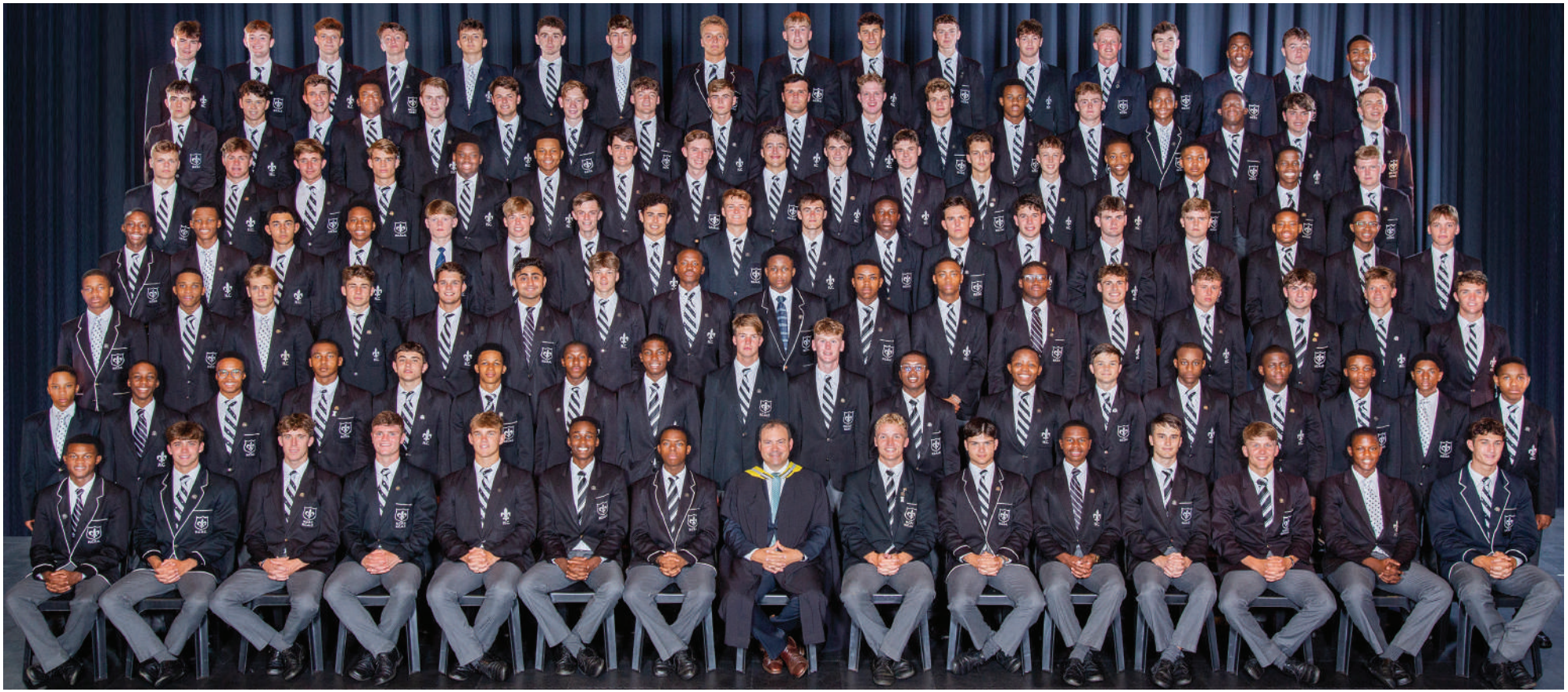
The Hilton College cattle for bursaries project was initiated approximately a decade ago by the Hilton College Old Boys. The aim of the project is to help facilitate the purchasing and running of oxen on the Hilton College Estate. The funds generated from this project are directed towards bursaries.

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MATRICS 2023

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Row 6: *Daniel Holtzhauzen, James Cole, Alex Hayward, Tayedza Jaravaza, Ronan Keogh, James Campbell, Josh Black, Christopher Horak, James Morrison, Jordan Hein, Matthew Diemont, Ivan Lockem, Akhona Kunene, Greg Braithwaite, Saphiwa Nzimande, Matipa Denenga, Campbell McKenzie, Joel Kitshoff*

Row 5: *Benjamin McGuigan, Murray Brink, Jono Bregman-Frangos, Jon Braithwaite, Thabelo Letjama, Modupe Ogunronbi, Andrew Harding, Benjamin Guimaraens, PJ van der Walt, Robert James, Oliver Mann, Tristan Hockly, Luke Marshall, Hlumelo Conjwa, Bandile Shabalala, Senathi Makola, Nick Chantler*

Row 4: *Akha Mda, Reneiloe Seopa, Noah Ravalomanana, Ethan Smith, Victor Compton, Luke Hancock, Adam Cole, Jarod du Plessis, Jason Sasse, Kieran Griffin, Tawanda Kugotsi, Guy Harcourt, Stuart Baker, Jordan Benians, Tom Peattie, Ntuma Moagi, Mathuba Xaba, Luke Watt*

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Absent: *Caleb Mc Donald*



GRADE 8

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Matthew Bastard
Rhett Beaumont
Andrew Bernstein
Kelso Bolton
Sean Burman
Nothani Buthelezi
Jamie Byres
Rosco Campbell
Dougal Carr
Liam Casey
Olerato Chitanga
Aiden Clubb
Jowi Cole
Anthony Crossley
Max Dalrymple
James Dellis
Gabriel Dube
Raphael Dube
Sean Erasmus
William Eustace
Nicholas Eyres
Adam Fitzsimons
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Cameron Hargroves
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Phemelo Joel
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Ayanda Kunene
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Kayson Holtzhauzen

GRADE 11

Kieran Hunter
Rukudzo Madinga





2

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Speech Day

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Good morning and on behalf of the headmaster and the board welcome to Hilton College.



Speech Day is always such a pivotal occasion in the school's calendar as we recognise and celebrate the achievements of those boys who have applied themselves diligently and conscientiously towards their studies throughout the year and which hopefully motivates the remainder of the school to emulate their colleagues by pushing themselves a little harder to do their best and rise to the occasion as the year end examinations approach.

As such, it is a great privilege for me to be able to welcome our guest speaker this morning, Justice Angus Stewart, who has flown out from Sydney in Australia to be with us today. Khanya Mhlongo, our deputy head of school, will formally introduce Justice Stewart later, but I thought I would mention that today is a first for Hilton in that never before in the school's 151-year history, have both the chairman of the board and the guest speaker been Old Hiltonians who were in the same house and in the same year at Hilton and both studied law together at the same university. I would hasten to add that since then Justice Stewart has enjoyed a meteoric rise in the legal profession and has the extraordinary distinction and honour of having been appointed as a judge of the High Court in both South Africa and more recently Australia.

As lawyers we have an uncanny ability to discover documents. So, I thought it appropriate to give you some insight into Justice Stewart not from his school mates but rather from his esteemed colleagues on the bench in Australia. Tucked deep in the records of the Federal Court of Australia is a report entitled "Ceremonial Sitting of the Full Court to Welcome the Honourable Justice Stewart". This makes for interesting reading! In this report eminent members of the legal profession in Australia remark that, among others: "It has been observed that you are a loyal adviser, arbiter and friend to many and that you will bring your well-known qualities of intellect, precision and a keen sense of justice and balance to this court".

But it is one characteristic which stood out for me reading this report and which perhaps you may want to give some context to this audience later today and that is the comments by Advocate Moses SC who mentioned that your Honour has many commendable traits not least of all your grace and humility but that perhaps your greatest trait is that you are regarded as the "sexiest intellect in the southern hemisphere"!

I was reminded this morning that Speech Day is all that stands between the end of the third term and a well-deserved break for all present here today, so have warned Justice Stewart that whereas he will be familiar with completing time sheets when he was an advocate, the only timing which counts today is the brevity of the speeches.

I distinctly recall from last year's Speech Day hearing the precision of "one click" as both staff and boys activated their stop watches when I started my speech, no doubt to monitor and take bets on how long the chairman droned on for.

It is fair to state that going into 2023 there was some degree of trepidation in terms of how Hilton could possibly emulate the feats of 2022 which, aside from being the 150th anniversary of the school, produced some of the most excellent and consistent results across all spheres of activity. I am however delighted to report that 2023 has not disappointed and all indications are that the school has maintained and in certain cases exceeded the cadence of last year.

In January we were informed that Hilton had been ranked as the second top all-boys private school in SA in terms of its matric results in 2022, achieving a 100% pass rate with 99% of matriculants eligible for university entrance.

Aside from the increase in the number of "A" symbols achieved across the board, what was particularly pleasing to note was the significant increase in symbols achieved by the lower quartile of the matric class between their trial examinations and finals. In addition, 26 boys elected to write A-Levels as opposed to the IEB exams with 80% of the A-Level symbols achieved being between "Cs" and "As" and the boys scoring in the top 10% globally. Furthermore, this year Hilton entered the greatest number of boys in the Maths Olympiad in SA and William Kitching, following on from Ben Kok in 2022, was selected to join a NASA programme in Houston, USA.

Undoubtedly, the focus on "a plan for every boy" and the dedication of Hanlie Dry and her academic team are paying dividends and we look forward to them taking the 2023 matriculants to even greater heights. No pressure, chaps!

Which brings me to the teaching and support staff at Hilton. To my mind you are the unsung heroes and the primary reason Hilton is in the good space which it finds itself in at present. Whether it is in the classroom, on the sports field or on the performing stage, your enthusiasm, commitment to go the extra mile and investment in every boy is infectious, admirable, and commendable.

It is often said a good teacher is like a candle – it consumes itself to light the way for others and I have absolutely no doubt in my mind that you create the closest home-from-home environment in which our boys are able to survive and thrive in becoming the next generation of leaders in this country.

A few months ago, I had the privilege of taking one of the matric economic classes and what was evident to me and a huge shift from when I was at Hilton is that good teaching is more about a giving of the right questions rather than giving the right answers. Our boys are taught to think independently, to question and probe the status quo and to solve problems, all of which are valuable life skills in the 21st century.

On the sporting front, Hilton has not disappointed either, with the sports department, under Darren Gallagher, delivering some superb results during the year. Our national and provincial rankings in each of the six core sports at Hilton bear testimony to this fact and despite Hilton only having 600 boys, it punches

well above its weight in all core sports. In cricket, Ben Hockly and Liyema Nela were selected for the SA U17A camp, while Akha Mda and Kearabetswe Khoele made the SA U18A hockey side and Nicholas Chantler and Nkosi Shozi the SA U18B side. In addition to these achievements, no less than seven other boys were selected for SA hockey teams in the various age groups, which is an extraordinary achievement.

While our 1st XV rugby team did not have anyone selected for the SA schools team compared to 2022, seven boys were selected for the Craven Week and Academy sides, including the captain of the Craven Week side Christopher Horak and a further six boys selected for the U16 Grant Khomo week. The depth in our top rugby sides was evident throughout the season with the 1st team only losing once against Michaelhouse in the local domestic fixtures, while the U16A side was unbeaten in KZN.

Several other boys represented KZN in numerous other sporting codes and disciplines and our sincere congratulations are extended to each of them.

Culturally, our boys have also excelled and been busy this year benefitting from, among others, the new music centre which was opened late last year. In June, Hilton combined with Michaelhouse to put on a memorable two schools in concert performance which included renditions from vocalists, marimba bands and various string and wind ensembles from both schools. This last month, Hilton once again hosted an extremely successful arts festival on the campus with the show "Five Guys Named Moe," performed by the boys, being a sell-out.

As board members, we hear the word "busyness" used often to explain the daily lives of the boys and it is this broad spectrum of activities which Hilton offers and encourages its boys to participate in which is one of the key differentiators and a significant competitive advantage in Hilton providing a holistic education to its pupils.

On the buildings and facilities side of things, I can report on the following since last year's Speech Day:

- A pilot solar project installed in 2022 to mitigate against the effects of load shedding produces on average 80 KWh per day of which 10 KWh are used by the music centre with the balance feeding into the school's network. Recently the school was gifted with a further 200 solar panels which will add approximately a further 100 KWh of electricity per day; and
- There has been encouraging progress achieved in resolving certain of the administrative red tape and water use licences associated with the development of the old dairy site. It is hoped that construction on this site can commence within the coming year which will significantly bolster Hilton's endowment in the long term.

In pulling all of these activities together and ensuring that Hilton continues to deliver a world-class product is the matter of leadership. Leadership is key in any school and Hilton has been blessed in having a great headmaster.

Mr George Harris has distinguished himself as a deep intellectual, innovative thinker, thought leader, man of principle and respected leader of the college. From a board perspective, George makes our lives easy and his steady hand and unflappable nature allows us to focus on the big strategic issues rather than becoming bogged down in the day-to-day operational issues and challenges facing the school.

In his role as headmaster George has been ably assisted by his executive team and by Matthew Stewart and Khanya Mhlongo, the head boy and deputy head boy respectively. To each of these persons I extend my thanks and those of the board for the exemplary manner in which you have led the school during 2023.

Running an organisation, the size and complexity of Hilton College is also dependant on having a diversified, dedicated and trusted board of governors, each of whom give unconditionally and selflessly to the affairs of the college. Hilton is indeed fortunate to have the calibre of men and women who serve on the board and I would like to take this opportunity of thanking each of them for their wise counsel, measured advice and support which they demonstrate towards both Hilton and myself.

In particular, I wish to single out and thank Ms Sue Tasker, who stepped off the board earlier this year after serving thereon for close on a decade. As a headmistress of a prominent high school in Maritzburg, Sue was invaluable when it came to seeking advice and bouncing ideas off regarding sensitive matters and challenges facing high schools across South Africa.

As a board, our focus continues to be directed at ensuring that Hilton remains a going concern and that it operates in a sustainable manner for future generations of Hiltonians. In recent months this has included revisiting the strategy of "a plan for every boy" and ensuring that this remains relevant and contemporary.

Part of this strategy entails acknowledging that while we have a full school, we remain reliant on benefaction if we are to truly future proof Hilton. In this regard, one of the board's priorities remains to significantly grow the endowment to be able to meaningfully subsidise school fees and be able to offer bursaries and scholarships to deserving boys who otherwise would not be able to afford Hilton's school fees.

Perhaps and with this in mind, now is the appropriate time for me to start wrapping up my address by saying a few words to the matric class of 2023. At the outset, let me congratulate each and every one of you for your contributions to Hilton over the past five years and for your leadership and mentorship this year in among others upholding the ethos and values of Hilton.

When Hilton turned 100 years in 1972, its then headmaster Raymond Slater defined his ideal Hilton boy as someone not necessarily academic or sporting, but rather someone who has compassion, humility, sensitivity, imagination and a concern for others.

As we begin Hilton's next 100-year journey, perhaps we need to add a further characteristic to the list enunciated by Slater and that is of those to whom much is given much will be required. With privilege comes responsibility and it is a truism that Hilton boys are taught that it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Winston Churchill, the great British statesman, once remarked that, **"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give".**

Reflecting on this quote from Churchill periodically will give your life purpose. Leading a purposeful life isn't about being perfect or ticking off a checklist of achievements.

It's about living in a way that aligns with your values and passions, making a positive difference to yourself and others and moving from merely surviving to truly thriving. I implore each of you sitting here today to take this with you into the world when you leave Hilton and to live purposeful lives.

I hope you all have a great holiday and look forward to welcoming you back next term as we look to cap off another great year.

Thank you.

Andrew Johnston | Chairman of the Board

HEADMASTER'S ADDRESS

Mr Andrew Johnston, Justice Angus Stewart, the Mayor of uMngeni Mr Chris Pappas, parents, fellow heads of schools, invited guests, benefactors, Class of 2023, staff and young men of Hilton: Welcome.

This year, several members of staff retire after many years of service to Hilton College.

MRS MANDY DURNFORD began at Hilton in April of 2007, serving for close to 17 years. Mandy has been the driving force behind several initiatives in the past few years at Hilton, in particular the Extended Essay and as the strong and passionate advocate of our library and of reading.

Several reading projects have been undertaken over the years and, whilst boys could and should read more, our Hilton College library is a haven for many boys on many an afternoon or evening.

Mandy is passionate, determined, innovative and a professional through and through. We will miss her in the library next year and as an academic staff, we will miss her constant reminders for the EE, and thank Mrs Durnford for pushing us forward in our collective learning journey. This is also the last time Mrs Durnford will be managing our book prizes and so, a little gift to say thank you.

MR FRANCOIS MORGAN began in April of 2006, serving Hilton College for close on 18 years. Mr Morgan has fulfilled several roles in the time he has been at Hilton. Perhaps few younger or more recent staff may not know the incredible life challenge Mr Morgan faced in losing his beloved wife Colleen to cancer, almost 12 years ago. I believe Hilton has been more than merely a place of work to Francois and his commitment to this place has been immense. Francois, as you embrace your next chapter, we wish you godspeed and great favour. Thank you for being the rock of the Geography Department for so many years.

MR MIKE MILL began in January of 2002, serving Hilton College for 22 years. Mr Mill is one of those school masters who has left an indelible mark on many young men who have passed through his boarding house, his classroom or on the estate. Mike is the epitome of a gentleman and a colleague who gets on with what needs to be done. Armed with a wicked sense of humour, and a calm demeanour, Mike has served this college to great acclaim. He and James Cole even conjured up the picture of the leopard this year to get everyone talking... Mike, our thanks for your sterling service over the years.

MR BRETT SOUTH began in July of 2003, serving Hilton College for 21 years. Mr South has served both as bursar and as company secretary. His management of our compliance during Covid was nothing short of extraordinary. Brett too, has a dry, wry sense of humour and has a penchant for detail. As bursar, one gets to understand the belly of the beast, so to say, and Brett succeeded in guiding Hilton's finances for many years. I wish Brett everything of the best for his next chapter and thank him for all the work he has done over the years, often behind the scenes.

Alongside these colleagues, are some who have chosen to teach in other schools and in other parts of the world:

MRS PAM NEL left us at the end of the second term as her family emigrated to Australia.

MR MIKE PITCHFORD, our psychologist, and his family emigrated to the UK where his mother and sister already live.

MS TERESA WHITFIELD has been at Hilton College for 13 and a half years. Teresa has also served in various capacities from HOD of Accounting to coordinating The President's Award, to pioneering



the Grade 10 Journey and coordinating all the other Grades OLEs. Ms Whitfield is a superbly organized person, she has a list for every task she needs to do and if she could she'd give every staff member a list to complete. Ms Whitfield is joining the staff at Somerset College in the Western Cape and their gain is our loss. I'd like to thank Teresa for establishing so much here at Hilton – this school is definitely the richer for your contribution.

MR NOEL ROBERT is married to Ms Whitfield. He too is leaving! Mr Robert, however, is joining the staff of Bridgehouse in Franschoek, where he will escape Teresa's lists. Mr Robert is a man of much activity and of few words. He has served Hilton for the past 18 and a half years as science teacher, paddling coach, Vula science teacher, intern coordinator and Grade 10 camp conductor extraordinaire. Noel has made a significant contribution to the fabric of Hilton and he also leaves our school a richer place. Go well, Noel.

MRS LARA WULFSOHN, our French teacher extraordinaire, is winging her way to Marlborough College in the UK to begin in January 2024, after two years at Hilton but after five and a half years in total. Mrs Wulfsohn, together with her colleagues in the French Department, has invigorated the French Department at Hilton such that we have 14 boys in Grade 9 this year who have elected French as a subject for matric. Nothing was ever too difficult for Lara, her energy and professionalism is inspiring and her commitment to the boys in her class and in her connect group, alongside the various activities she has involved herself in has been simply superb. We trust that the weather on the soggy island will be awful, that trying to get Jason to braai in the rain will be just as awful and that you will soon return to the sunny African, KZN and Hilton skies. We will miss you but do wish you well.

With Lara's departure, we also lose **MR JASON WULFSOHN**. Jason joined our Sports Department two years ago and quickly established himself as a no-nonsense training specialist. Boys know where they stand with Mr Wulfsohn, excuses are hard to manufacture and his professionalism and attention to detail are strong traits of his person. Jason is also a loss to our staffing and, hopefully he too will return (with Lara) in due course.

MR CHRIS CAREY and **MRS MEL CAREY** are also off on an adventure – to New Zealand. Chris takes up the position of housemaster at Whanganui Collegiate School in Whanganui, which is in the south of the North Island, near a sheep farm.

Chris has served Hilton College for 12 years in various roles but most importantly and recently as Newnham and senior housemaster. Chris hails from the south of Joburg and has been an invaluable voice in our regular discussions around what boys may conjure up to bypass the rules and the consequences of not following them. Chris is a man of much resource, enjoying working with his hands, speed boating on Midmar, camping and finding ways to live life to the full. We will miss his energy and his contribution in so many areas of college life.

MRS MEL CAREY has nursed many boys back to fitness after various injuries. Mel is also calm, professional, unassuming and extremely competent at what she does. Mel's commitment to Chris and to their family, alongside her achieving of her own professional goals are standout trademarks of her person. Many boys have been able to enjoy ongoing sporting success through the professional assistance of Mrs Carey. Mel, you too will be missed.

MR KWANDA SIBIYA, our current housemaster of Falcon, is leaving us after five years of service, to take up the position of deputy principal at Lebone II. Mr Sibiya is a ball of energy. As a science teacher I think his actual goal is to use his body as an experiment – his exploits of running and running and running, are legendary. Mr Sibiya has a strong relational approach to his person and this has been evident in Falcon over the past few years. We wish Kwanda, Lihle and their little ones all the very best in this new chapter in their careers.

A tumultuous year

2023 has been another tumultuous year for our country and, indeed, the world. Most recently, floods and dam collapses in Libya, fires in Greece, the ongoing war in the Ukraine, concern over inflation even in the US...the UK has had 14 straight interest rate hikes since December 2021. It's a tough place for many at the moment.

South Africans are, however, a resilient people. We bounce back, we bounce backwards, we bounce forwards, we bounce! To illustrate this point, parents and guests, if you reach below your seat, you will find a stress ball – please grab it – it is my teaching aid.

Fortunately, as a nation, we have been blessed with a great sense of humour. We can laugh at ourselves, at our woes, at our fractures and at our current realities. Without this, life would be somewhat grim...

When you and I hear a loud thunderclap that reminds us of a gunshot, we are ready to respond... we live on the edge... so, the other day in response to my suggestion that boys spend more time on the estate, two entrepreneurial farmer matrics decided to practise their herding skills on an unsuspecting herd of wildebeest in the nature reserve. The "gunshots" were the clap of a whip, quite impressive actually, and at this crack of the whip the herd of wildebeest would run up the hill, only to find Greg at the top of the hill cracking his whip and causing the herd to turn around quickly and race to the bottom of the hill where Victor was waiting with his cracking whip and as such the herd turned again... I have looked through the history books to find whether there is a hidden trophy for herding, but to no avail. So, herewith the "herding trophy" which goes to Greg Braithwaite and Victor Compton! Will Greg please come forward and collect this award; Victor is unfortunately away today.

Truth be told, gunshots are dramatic; and living in South Africa can be just as dramatic. As a young democracy the birthing pains of this country remain acute. America, when it was young, also had birthing pains: crises of confidence, crises of governance, crises of fragility... Various countries in Europe also grappled with chapters in their history that can be described as shaky, probably violent and even somewhat disastrous for many living there at that time.

So, as you think about our country today – squeeze that stress ball – and your collective part therein both as young men and as engaged families in our country, I would implore you to take the long view!

Although I know I am an optimist and I choose to continue to be a peddler of hope, I believe in the ongoing promise of Africa and of South Africa in particular. This is because I believe in our youth.

Although, like many other countries, we face crises of collective leadership, fragile and crumbling infrastructure, falling standards and possibly shattered dreams; our history remains tumultuous, and our wounds run deep. It makes for a disturbing and unsettling picture.

Yet it is important to remember that many nations are battling with social struggles: the number of homeless people who sleep on the streets in San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York, London, Paris remain high and problematic. The number of people who struggle to pay their bills around the world, especially in cities, continues to grow. Various countries are experiencing challenges with their energy supply, especially through the winter months, and the cost of this supply keeps rising.

Furthermore, the truth is that a utopian life is a questionable ambition, especially when this utopia is devoid of an enduring purpose. An enduring purpose will always contain an element of stretch and we are all aware that growth and development moves us from our comfort zone into that awkward, somewhat scary, place of challenge.

South Africa then, provides a perfect backdrop of challenge! This is where you may still actualise your purpose. Squeeze that stress ball!

Tenacity is such an important aspect of a strong character; it is the ability and practise of trying again and again, of getting up with renewed vigour day after day, again and again. The daily rigour of living with our multiple challenges can be testing, taxing and deflating. But if, for a moment, we can use a different lens and see that these lived challenges are offering us multiple opportunities to develop a resilience and a strength to live in uncertain and inconvenient times, then we frame our struggles and our challenges as a part of our collective journey, an uphill part of our road to travel. It won't always be uphill. Squeeze that stressball!

To be absolutely certain, things must change in South Africa. We are living in a world of challenge with many a system broken or breaking. We cannot pretend that it's business as usual. But equally, we may not pretend that we have dealt with all the ghosts of our past. Our journey remains an uphill one, but there is no alternative, we need to press on. So, young men of our tomorrow – you hold ours and your future in your hands. When I think about who you are and the multiple talents you exhibit, I remain hopeful. South Africa's greatest resource is her people and an influential part of the future is in this room. We cannot and may not have gone through the past 30 years of democracy and now give up!

Each of you, young men, can wield your influence in your circles. As young men thinking about your futures, you may want to travel, to experience another culture, a first world experience. Please do so – it's important.

Then, and at the risk of sounding clichéd, come back, plough back, South Africa needs you and your skill. The next 50 years will have challenge, adversity, struggle, discomfort, hardship and suffering. But it will also bring dramatic opportunity, incredible promise, raw experiences that cannot be emulated on any other continent, combined with a sense of purpose that all octogenarians crave.

But...

This won't happen without a strong citizenry who are prepared to roll up their sleeves and effect change; Mr Pappas is our role model here. I'm not going to launch into any political posturing, but rather suggest that for too long all around the world, we hand over our agency to others to carve out our future and do not own our own trajectory. Young men, you have been given a lot – you are among the most privileged young people the world over – this should not be a heavy burden but rather a significant platform from which to enact a life of purpose.

The spirit of service

Richard Eyers, currently in Grade 11, has been nursing an injury and unable to play sport. He has dedicated about three afternoons a week to coaching a hockey team from Thembelihle Primary school in Howick. Richard hops on a bus at 14:00; coaches for about an hour and is back at school at 15:30 – about three times a week. No one forced Richard to do this. He was joined by other boys, including boys in his dorm. His injury forced him to look at life differently. He has recognised his privilege, his resource, and the need to build community beyond the bubble of Hilton. This is outstanding. There are others like Richard, but I thought his story captured the spirit of true service well.

In a country struggling with so many challenges, Hilton College is a good news story. An even greater good news story may be told in 50 years' time, when many of us will no longer be around, but when you, young men, will be entering the twilight of your careers, and this country we love so much is celebrated across the world for its lived experience of justice, its shared wealth, its innovation, its unity, its place on the world stage as an equal and as an example. This will not happen without you rolling up your sleeves, choosing to dig the trenches, opting for a life of purpose and promise.

Ladies and gentlemen, young men, at the risk of being labelled naïve and delusional, I still believe. I still believe because the young people whom we teach are exceptional. Whether it's:

An Ayanda Ninela on stage;
An Akhona Kunene seizing his opportunity;
A Ben Kok observing the planets;
A Chris Horak taking late hits on the field;
A Connor Woods leading without title;
A James Cole overcoming adversity;
A Liso Ngoqo keeping us on the straight and narrow;
A Samuel Strydom fighting on;
A Tristan Hockly owning the JSE;
A Minenhle Makhathini serving others;
An Andrew Harding finding courage;
A Zakhele Khumalo refereeing a game of soccer;
A Luke Hancock solving a Maths problem...

You are all the future – make it a better place. Let's be enablers and encouragers. Take the long view and squeeze that stressball – it bounces back!

Leaders of 2024

On to 2024 and the class of 2024's leadership group:

Head of Churchill House – Six Nyangiwe
Head of Ellis House – Ross Brown
Head of Falcon House – Jack Weavind
Head of Lucas House – Ben Le Roux
Head of McKenzie House – Richard Eyers
Head of Newnham House – Retief Malherbe
Head of Pearce House – Josh Julius
Portfolio Head of Academics for the IEB stream – Shailen Naidoo
Portfolio Head of Academics for A-Levels – James McGregor
Head of Sport – Jared Kitto
Portfolio Head of Sustainability – Uthando Gumede
Portfolio Head of Pastoral – Munashe Musora
Portfolio Head of Conservation – Jarred Maltby
Portfolio Head of Spirituality – Siyamkela Maphumulo
Portfolio Head of Culture – Ntando Ngcobo
Portfolio Head of Belonging – Reabetswe Motlhaloga
Portfolio Head of Community – Luke Spear
Deputy Head of School for 2024 – Daniel Sweeney
Head of School for 2024 – Kigen Chepkonga

Finally, my thanks to everyone who makes this school the great school that it is. Mr Chairman, thank you for your sacrifice in guiding the governance of this great school – it is no small task. To the Board of Governors, thank you for being the custodians you are. To Matt and Khanya, I hope our weekly chats didn't bore you too much. You have led with integrity, with passion, with wisdom and with sensitivity – you leave our school a better place. Thank you.

To the class of 2023, and to the parents of the class of 2023, thank you. It's been a great ride, through Covid, through Maths paper 2, through the next two months. I wish I could hear your stories and those of South Africa in 50 years' time.

Thank you.

George Harris | Headmaster





GUEST OF HONOUR'S ADDRESS

Mr Johnston and members of the Board of Governors, Mr Harris and faculty, parents and carers, students, and alumni, including Mayor Pappas – in the spirit of acknowledging our rich South African traditions, I greet you with the utmost respect, all protocols observed.



It is a great honour to be back at this wonderful school, and in particular to have the opportunity to speak to you on this important day in the school year. Congratulations to all of you who will be awarded prizes today, and also to all of you who will not and who gave of your best.

My theme today is the importance of tolerance, and respecting and embracing diversity and difference, and of being prepared to stand up and defend these core values when they are under threat. I am going to develop my theme by telling you, in this most formal ceremony, a very personal story. A story that I have not previously spoken about publicly. But before I get to that, I will cover a bit of background for the purpose of context.

I grew up on a dairy farm in the Boston district, not too far from here – my mother, Iona, who is here today, was the principal farmer. The farm is, broadly speaking, in that part of the country so evocatively described by Alan Paton in the opening paragraphs of Cry the Beloved Country: "These hills are grass-covered and rolling, and they are lovely beyond any singing of it." If you look out in a south westerly direction from behind the Memorial Hall, you can almost see the farm in the distance beneath the Elandskop.

For the most part, I loved it here and I thrived. In particular, I loved the opportunity to learn, to read, to learn to think critically, to engage, to argue, to write, to play, to compete – all important things contributing to the living of a rewarding and purposeful life.

It was 1979 when I arrived at Hilton. Still 11 years before Nelson Mandela would be released from prison, and 15 years before the first democratic election. It was during the height of apartheid, including state control of education in support of the ruling party's racist vision. Private schools like Hilton offered an opportunity to do something at least a little different; there was space to be a little more open and a little challenging to the dominant white ideas of the time.

There were black students here. Not many, but a few. Racially mixed education did not occur in government schools for at least another decade.

I am not sure that it can be said that it was a deliberate intention of the school in those days to particularly utilise that space. Science, engineering and business skills and interests seemed to be prioritised over arts and humanities, and in my experience when leadership was discussed and valued it was business leadership that was the principal emphasis, not leadership for societal change – for the most part, the ethos of the school seemed to me to be to perpetuate the existing structures of privilege and inequality, although without the overtly racist foundation that the apartheid system propounded.

But whatever the formal intention of the school, or the subject of policy discussions amongst its leadership, which as a student I had no insight into, there were remarkable teachers who deliberately utilised the space they had and who made all the difference to me and so many of my peers. Key amongst them for me, and present today, was Ant Lovell who taught me English and was my housemaster at McKenzie House for four years, now retired from Hilton College. I pay tribute to them all. They stood up to make a difference when it mattered.

These teachers introduced me to literature that showed me different ways of seeing the world. It was through reading that I came to a deeper understanding of the terrible inequality in South Africa and the immorality of apartheid; and also of the enormous privilege of our position at Hilton, and the responsibility that came with it. I am thinking of Paton, Nadine Gordimer, JM Coetzee, Chinua Achebe, Sol Plaatje, Olive Schreiner, Athol Fugard and many others.

On a trip to Zimbabwe in 1983, I acquired some banned books by Nelson Mandela, Hugh Lewin and others. I was learning about the world and absorbing many different perspectives on it, despite the apartheid government's attempt to stop that through censorship and propaganda.

In 1984, I accompanied Ant Lovell to my first extra-Parliamentary political rally – a rally of the newly formed United Democratic Front (UDF) in opposition to the tricameral parliamentary system that was designed to give whites, Indians and Coloureds each their own Parliament but to keep black Africans to their so-called self-governing tribal homelands. It was a particularly rare opportunity for a privileged white student like me to see the prevailing Black perspective on the apartheid government's proposed reforms.

By the time I went to university it was inevitable that I would be active in the National Union of South African Students (NUSAS) – an organisation that was part of the extra-Parliamentary anti-apartheid movement. We were earnest and dedicated. We read voraciously, and argued amongst ourselves, exploring all sorts of ideas that were new to us given our sheltered backgrounds demanded by the insular education system we came from: feminism, Marxism, theories of social change and revolution. We also organised and participated in protest meetings and marches, and most weekends attended political funerals in Black townships; we supported trade unions organising, and in their industrial action. We campaigned for the historically white universities to be more accommodating for all South Africans, not only their traditional white base.

Occasionally we were arrested, and we were followed and harassed by the Security Police.

To be sure, the contribution that we made to the struggle was tiny, but the contribution the struggle made in forming us was huge: being actively involved in anti-apartheid work played a crucial role in fostering our personal growth and a deeper understanding of the value of equality and justice, ultimately making all of us better human beings.

At that time, as a white male, I was subject to compulsory military service. The inevitable call-up could be delayed pending completion of studies. I delayed my call-up in that way. The consequences of failing or refusing to report for service were severe – up to six years in military detention. Many inspiringly brave young men served long sentences. One was a Hiltonian, Charles Yeats, whose objections were religious based. Others had non-religious moral and political objections to serving in apartheid's military. They made a great sacrifice as a matter of high principle and served as role models.

In 1988, I was one of 143 young men who publicly declared that we would not serve in the South African Defence Force (SADF), as the SANDF was then called, because of the role that it played in maintaining apartheid.

To be clear, it was not part of my plan to go to jail. I saw myself as having to leave the country when my time as a student ran out and I couldn't delay my call-up any longer. It was partly because of that awareness that I applied for overseas scholarships.

I have told you about these parts of my back story to make good the proposition that through the influence of others, I became a person who was open to new ideas and to new challenges, and to thinking critically about the dominant ideas of the day. But the biggest challenge to my thinking and to my experience was yet to come.

Six years before I moved with my family to Australia, my partner, Lyndsay, and I had twins. We took them both to be boys, as indeed that was their biological sex. But it was also the gender in which we raised them. We knew nothing different. It became apparent from about age 10 that the one, whom I shall for now refer to as "O", was struggling with serious mental health issues.

We gave O all the support that we could. Lyndsay is a psychologist so we did not lack expertise in the family. We are also involved and engaged parents – we obtained ongoing and varied professional assistance for O. Yet somehow neither we nor the professionals could get to the bottom of what the issue was. It was extremely worrying. Here was an intelligent adolescent with a stable home life, a stimulating school environment and many opportunities for growing and learning – but who was deeply troubled and clinically depressed.

It was late in O's first year of high school – in October – that Lyndsay pieced together a series of comments that O had made and began to wonder if the reason for O's depression was that O was perhaps struggling with gender dysphoria. When asked directly, O confirmed this.

Gender dysphoria is the distress suffered by people whose gender identity differs from their sex assigned at birth – people who are transgender or gender questioning. "I am a girl and not a boy", our 13-year-old child said to us. Gender dysphoria is not something that is made up, or invented, or chosen, as some would have it. It is recognised by the medical profession as being very real and inherent in those who suffer it.

A recent large, evidence-based study shows that between 3 and 4 percent of Australians in Year 8 at school are gender questioning. That is to say, they are at least unsure about whether their biological sex matches their gender identity. That is a small percentage, but it is a lot of people, each having the same worth and deserving of as much dignity and respect as the next person.

O's actual name is Olivia. She chose that name herself in December of that year. Her previous name is known as a deadname. Using a transgender person's deadname is usually regarded by them as disrespectful and it can be harmful – it disregards their identity, revisits their past struggles, and invalidates their true self.

Before I continue, I would like to make it clear that I have Olivia's full permission to discuss her journey with you.

Olivia had gradually over a number of years come to realise what the source of her internal struggles was. On her own, she had read and researched extensively, but felt unable to tell anyone, not even her treating professionals. Such is society's lack of understanding, and often hostility, to transgender people. Even though we are a close family and, we are, we think, open and accepting parents, Olivia felt unable to tell even us. But once she did, everything changed.

Olivia had started high school at an all-boys academically selective school. When she had been deeply depressed and we didn't yet know why, she had asked if she could move to her brother's co-educational school. It was in her first few weeks at this school that we learnt that she is transgender. But it was only in the end-of-year holidays that Olivia changed her name and decided that she would socially transition, that is, she would present and live as herself, as a girl, when she returned to school the following year, when Year 9 began.

We advised the school principal of the church-owned school of this impending change but he and the chair of the board, had other ideas. They presented various spurious obstacles to Olivia returning as a girl.

In short, the school's ultra-conservative and exclusionary version of Christianity, not the loving and accepting version that I had learnt about at Hilton, meant that they could not see their way clear to allowing Olivia back to the school.

We had heard of a public school near the city which was said to be very open and accepting of difference amongst its students, and to be sensitive to the needs of transgender students. So Olivia started her second year of high school there, slowly and bravely socially transitioning, wearing the girls' school uniform and growing her hair in her journey to becoming herself. Every day that she went to school in these early days of her transitioning, my heart would ache at her courage and commitment to engage with the world as her authentic self.

Unfortunately, the school's laudable approach did not extend to all its students. There was a small and vocal group of students who lived near where we lived who gave Olivia hell. They picked on her and bullied her, in school and on the way to and from school. They taunted her and threatened her and the school leadership did not seem able – or resourced enough – to find ways to protect Olivia at school.

Despite her incredible resolve and bravery going to school every day to endure this barrage, it became intolerable for her to stay in such a physically and psychologically threatening place. She became even more depressed, and we became even more desperate in our quest to find her a school where she could live and learn safely and happily as herself.

So after one term we found Olivia her fourth high school in less than a year. It was the wonderful International Grammar School, an inner-city school that prides itself not only on being accepting of difference, but on encouraging and valuing difference as a way of making our world a more interesting and vibrant place to be able to live authentically and honestly. Olivia gradually settled in and came to feel safe and welcome at this school, and to find her friends.

Olivia has become an advocate for societal change on these issues. She is regularly invited to speak at different events and on different platforms about her experience, and about how the health system can better cater for transgender people.

After some very difficult times personally, she is now thriving too. She graduated from school with good enough results to secure a scholarship for her first year at university where she is now studying computer science. She also works as a junior software engineer at a leading software development company. She has had gender confirmation surgery. She lives her life as a young woman. She is confident and articulate and building a social life of her own in the college, or residence, where she lives. She is a young woman happily going about the business of growing and learning and becoming.

I have learnt so much over the five years since Olivia came out. Despite being a person interested in the world, who reads a lot, follows topical issues and debates, and who is sensitive to discrimination and to the marginalised, I was totally ignorant of issues around being transgender. I had not knowingly come across any transgender person. I had not paid particular attention to emerging public controversies about transgender issues, particularly in the US where they are increasingly weaponised for political ends.

So, Olivia's situation came as a massive shock and a challenge for me. Was it just a phase? Was she sure? Was she perhaps confused? Had someone put this into her young head? These were all questions that I had to work through. But perhaps most of all, I was afraid for her. Afraid for her safety because I learnt that trans young people are at very high risk of poor mental health, self-harming and suicide.

Around three in every four trans young person has experienced anxiety or depression; four out of five have engaged in self-harm, and almost one in two has attempted suicide (48%). And I was afraid for her future. I worried whether, in our ignorant and prejudiced world, she would be able to live a fulfilled, happy and rewarding life. Would she be accepted as an equal and valued member of society?

I have been fundamentally changed by the experience of being the parent of a trans child. I have learnt so much from Olivia. I have learnt the importance of being open to new things and new experiences; of realising there is so much that I do not know; of tempering my opinions until I have heard the perspectives and lived experience of others. And I am, on the whole, no longer afraid for her safety and her future.

I have learnt too from Olivia that people do not choose to be transgender. As she has explained, nobody would make such a hard choice for themselves. It is how they are born. It is who they are. But I have also learnt that it is not all that they are. As we have been taught by the Nigerian author Chimamanda Adichie, like countries, people have many stories; Olivia is not just transgender.

She is that, and that is part of her identity, but she is also so many other things: a daughter, a sister, a gamer, a martial arts enthusiast, a coder, a dog-lover, an enthusiast of anime literature and art, and so much more. The lesson for me is to see and to understand people in all their complexity and not only through the lens through which I first saw them; not only by the most controversial or unusual aspect of their identity.

And I learnt, really learnt, that although so many forces in our world steer us towards conformity and sameness, embracing difference and diversity not only allows us to accept others, it also allows us to live authentically while allowing and encouraging others to do the same. Olivia's journey, our journey with her, has undoubtedly been a powerful transformation for me too: it has made me more empathic, and more adaptable and open-minded, qualities that serve me well in my personal and professional life.

In a world that continues to struggle with issues of inequality and prejudice, it is our duty, as the torchbearers of the future, to take a stand for a more just society. Passivity in the face of discrimination perpetuates the status quo and allows injustice to persist. By actively intervening when we witness discrimination, we not only help the victim but also contribute to the broader transformation of our communities. We have the power to challenge stereotypes, dismantle prejudice, de-stigmatise, and promote a culture of inclusivity. Our voices and actions can inspire change and reshape the world into a more equitable place for all.

But be warned, along the way, this may require that you find the courage and strength to fight for those who are discriminated against because they are different and/or marginalised. We each have this opportunity and responsibility to make things different; better for all.

The French intellectual and feminist Simone de Beauvoir is generally credited with having said that "the right to equality means the right to be the same and the right to be different." Thus, the right to equality encompasses both the idea that everyone should be treated equally and the idea that everyone has the right to embrace and express their individuality and differences. Let us embrace and defend difference, both to enrich ourselves and to enrich the world. That is the challenge that I pose to you today.

Angus Stewart | Guest Speaker





HEAD BOY'S ADDRESS

Friends, families, staff and boys of Hilton College, thank you for joining us on this auspicious occasion as we highlight some key moments and celebrate our successes from the past year.



A word of thanks to our guest of honour, Justice Stewart. For those who may be wondering, no, we are not related, though I am very proud to share a name with someone who has achieved as much as he has. Sir, thank you for spending your valuable time today sharing with us something of your journey. It is a truly impressive feat to be a judge in one country, but to do it again in another country in the time that it took you is nothing short of incredible. I'm certain that your message today will live long in the memories of everyone present, so on behalf of us all, thank you.

At the end of last year, I think many were questioning what was to come after our 150th, because for so long, that was what we had built towards. It was our vision and our goal. I vividly remember the anticipation, the buzz around the school, the crowds of people that flocked to watch the first Hilton Michaelhouse which represented the peak of our celebrations. All of that left us, those who were left behind, with a problem. At least that's what I thought it was at the time. Later I came to the realisation that I couldn't have been further from the truth, but I'll get there in a bit. The problem that I thought facing us was: what now? What do you do to match a year like that? When I posed the question to Mr Harris, he had a very simple solution. Instead of seeing it as a problem, view it as an opportunity. An opportunity to have an impact on the direction that we take for the next 150 years. This message is part of what I expressed in my first speech to the school, nearly a year ago. In that time, it has been fantastic to see the vast majority of boys embrace this mentality and continue Hilton's 151-year streak of excellence.

It certainly has been a special year. As is the Hilton way, we picked up right where we left off and hit the ground running. Furiously competitive sporting fixtures coupled with a rigorous academic and cultural calendar meant that there was scarcely a second to stop and breathe. The second term brought with it more of the same, and still our boys stood true to the test, with both our rugby and hockey departments achieving great success. Third term carried on in the same fashion as the first two terms, with a highly competitive football lineup, a challenging trials period for the matrics and various OLEs for the younger grades. Throughout this all, the boys remained enthusiastic and eager. It is these exact characteristics that define us as Hilton boys. Always up for anything, willing to contribute, wanting to make a difference. It is something truly special.

At Speech Day last year, Tom Roy read a poem called I am a Hilton Boy. I thought it fitting to share it again.

I am a Hilton Boy.

The spirit of the Hilton College community lives within me.

I will forever smell the summer storms, the misty winter chills and the smelly shoes of the dorm.

I come of those who have spent 151 years forging a path that we have now also journeyed along, adding to it our own legacy.

My being has been shaped by the values and traditions of our school which are entrenched in our rich 151-year history.

In my veins course the war cries, the connection, the camaraderie that we share. The goosebumps felt when captains speak on Friday nights before the local derby, and the thrill of running onto playing fields wearing the black and white.

Engrained in my memory is "Lift Up Your Hearts" resounding off the walls of the chapel. "O boys of Hilton" echoing down the valley and the silence of the exam hall ringing in my ears.

At times I have found comfort from the stability of the buildings which appear to be protecting me in a world where much is unstable. The beauty of this magnificent place is enough to stir the hearts of even young teenage boys.

I am formed by lessons taught by passionate teachers, the buzz of the banter in the corridors of the Crookes Block and the broad smiles of friendly service staff.

I have run between the towering wattle trees, snaked my way down the Umgeni on tubes, descended into hidden caves, stood under Gwens, watched the sun rise from Beacons and the sun set while sitting on top of Pinnacles.

I have seen the concrete expression of diversity, trust, friendship and solidarity.

I am of a brotherhood, a cohesive unit of young men.
A brotherhood that recognises and celebrates the talents unique to each of us, and uplifts each other in tough times.
A brotherhood that creates the environment in which all of us can feel a sense of belonging.

It provides us with the opportunity for one and all to state their views and feel comfortable doing so.

All this I know, and know to be true, because I am a Hilton Boy.



Left to right: *Khanya Mhlongo, Matthew Stewart, Mr Andrew Johnston, Justice Angus Stewart, Mr George Harris, Kigen Chepkonga, Daniel Sweeney*

We as Hilton boys are fortunate enough to be moulded by these whitewashed walls that surround us. Our journey is similar to the process of building a house. The junior years are all about laying the foundations. You are taught how to fit into the larger Hilton College system. Manners, responsibility, how to manage social interactions and respect are taught. It is on these lessons that everything else is built. In Grades 10 and 11 the exterior of the house starts to take shape. The product is further refined, as more freedom is given, but as a token of that, more is expected. By this stage we effectively have a functional house with four walls and a roof, but it is still far from complete. Matric is when those much-needed last touches are added, resulting in our finished product. This is where true responsibility, discipline and leadership are taught. With that, the house is complete.

The beauty is that no one's house will look the same as another's. Boys would have built at various speeds, with many different materials, in a manner of ways. What is common between each finished house though, is that they are all valuable beyond measure, each in its own ways. That is the gift that Hilton College gives us.

Lastly, I would like to share some words to a few specific groups of people. Firstly, Mom and Dad. All that I can say to you both is thank you. Thank you for affording me the opportunity to attend a school like this, thank you for the many sacrifices you have made on my behalf. Above all, thank you for always being in my corner. Your constant support has been my rock and although your every instinct screamed at you to bring me closer and hold me tight, you afforded me the space I needed to grow. That last piece is aimed at you, Mom, more than it is at Dad, if you hadn't realised. For everything, thank you.

To my little sister, Chloe, thank you for your unwavering support. Although we sometimes butt heads, your smile and enthusiasm never fail to lighten my mood. You too have made your mark on this place, and I'm certain that your various cakes throughout the cricket and rugby seasons will not soon be forgotten.

A great thanks must be given to the staff. Your outstanding skillsets and professionalism are the reason that Hilton College is such a highly regarded institution, in the academic, cultural and sporting spheres. Above that is the humanity and respect you show us. We don't always make it easy for you, but I am certain in saying that everyone wholeheartedly appreciates all the long hours and the hard work you put in to help us on our journey. Thank you for the roles you have played in our lives.

To Mr Harris and the deputies, Mr Shuttleworth and Mr Motlogeloa, thank you for putting your faith in me and the rest of the matric group. Your guidance and encouragement helped us through difficult times, and you were never too proud to listen and genuinely consider our inputs, so for that a massive thank you.

To the matric class of 2023, a brotherhood bound not by blood but by spirit. Boys, it's been a journey to get to where we are today. We've shared lots of laughs, some tears, celebrated many good times together and been there in support during the bad. It is my hope that we continue to help the school on its journey of growth and that we have left a legacy to be proud of. I appeal to each matric to not slow down right at the finish line. Two months is all we have left. In that time, we can either maintain our momentum and finish strong, or we can undo all the good work we've done this year and leave a tainted image of ourselves to be remembered. The option we choose is completely up to us. So, let's finish strong, but more importantly, let's finish together.

Finally, to those who will follow. Grade 11s, your journey has been an interesting one, having both of your junior years stolen from you by Covid. Still, we have watched you grow exponentially, going from strength to strength. We have the utmost faith in your morals and your ability to lead. Best of luck to all of you next year. We trust in you to take Hilton to heights it has never known.

Thank you to everyone who has been a part of making this such a special year. I hope that these holidays provide everyone with much-needed rest, especially with the looming threat of exams in the fourth term.

May God bless you all. Thank you.

Matthew Stewart | Head Boy 2023



Top left to bottom right: *Ross Boast; Nicholas Thorburn; Jihan Thipanyane-Said; Khanya Mhlongo; Tanner Bailey; Gabriel Njonjo; Henry and Kigen Chepkonga; Daniel, Louise and Shawn Sweeney*

Prize List 2023

A LEVEL

GRADE 12

ACCOUNTING | Tristan Hockly
CHEMISTRY | Senathi Makola
DRAMA | Ayanda Ninela
ECONOMICS | Gabriel Njonjo
FRENCH | Joaquim Ozoux
GEOGRAPHY | Jason Dix
HISTORY | Daniel Hathorn | Connor Woods
LITERATURE IN ENGLISH | Connor Woods
MATHEMATICS | Gabriel Njonjo
PHYSICS | Gabriel Njonjo

GRADE 11 AS LEVEL

ACCOUNTING | William Chien
ART AND DESIGN | Charlie Short
BIOLOGY | James McGregor
CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL PROJECT QUALIFICATION | Wim Ebersöhn
CHEMISTRY | Rhydian Evans
ECONOMICS | Wim Ebersöhn
ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE | William Chien
ENGLISH LITERATURE | Wim Ebersöhn
FRENCH | Jack Weavind
GEOGRAPHY | Ivan Jjuuko
HISTORY | Wim Ebersöhn
MATHEMATICS | William Chien
PHYSICAL EDUCATION | Joshua Mapp
PHYSICS | Charlie Short
PSYCHOLOGY | Wim Ebersöhn

COMMENDATION PRIZES

GRADE 11

William Chien, Wim Ebersöhn,
Rhydian Evans, Jack Weavind

IEB

GRADE 12

JOHN LEWIS PRIZE FOR ACCOUNTING | Stèfan Swart
PAUL BESTEL MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR FRENCH | James Ogilvie
RAHMANI PRIZE FOR COMMITMENT TO FRENCH | Minenhle Makhathini
PRAV IYER AWARD FOR FURTHER STUDIES MATHEMATICS | Nicholas Thorburn
R F J HAYWARD VC MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR GEOGRAPHY | Joel Kitshoff
J E NISBET PRIZE FOR HISTORY | Khanya Mhlongo
THE EVAN BROWN PRIZE FOR ISIZULU | Nkosi Shozi
MERVYN LLOYD PRIZE FOR LIFE SCIENCES | Luke Hancock | Nicholas Thorburn
NICHOLAS ARTHUR MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR MATHEMATICS | Zimele Khumalo
D V DUCASSE PRIZE FOR PHYSICAL SCIENCE | Benjamin McGuigan
KENNETH BEGHIN MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR VISUAL ARTS | THEORY | Daniel Holtzhauzen
PRACTICAL | Daniel Holtzhauzen
AFRIKAANS | Stèfan Swart
DRAMATIC ARTS | Caleb Venter
ECONOMICS | Khanya Mhlongo
ENGINEERING GRAPHICS AND DESIGN | PJ van der Walt
ENGLISH | Khanya Mhlongo
FURTHER STUDIES ENGLISH | Caleb Venter
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | Matthew Peters
LIFE ORIENTATION | Matthew Peters
MATHEMATICAL LITERACY | Jehan Thipanyane-Said
MUSIC | Kieran Griffin

GRADE 11

RAHMANI PRIZE FOR COMMITMENT TO FRENCH | Thuto Phakisi
ACCOUNTING | Didier Rey
AFRIKAANS | Ben le Roux
DRAMATIC ARTS | Siyamkela Maphumulo
ECONOMICS | Kigen Chepkonga
ENGINEERING GRAPHICS AND DESIGN | Connor Sawyer
ENGLISH | Shailen Naidoo
EXTENDED ESSAY | Kigen Chepkonga
FRENCH | Katlego Moncho
FURTHER STUDIES MATHEMATICS | Connor Sawyer
GEOGRAPHY | William Kitching
HISTORY | Shailen Naidoo
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | Ben le Roux
ISIZULU | Siyamkela Maphumulo
LIFE SCIENCES | William Kitching
MATHEMATICAL LITERACY | Daniel Lyon
MATHEMATICS | Didier Rey
MUSIC | Kigen Chepkonga
PHYSICAL SCIENCES | Connor Sawyer
VISUAL ARTS PRACTICAL | Ben Ferguson
VISUAL ARTS THEORY | Ben Ferguson

GRADE 10

RAHMANI PRIZE FOR COMMITMENT TO FRENCH | Rupert Wright
ACCOUNTING | Neil Grobbelaar
AFRIKAANS | André Boshoff
DRAMATIC ARTS | Tochi Ezenwugo
ECONOMICS | Ben Erasmus
ENGINEERING GRAPHICS AND DESIGN | Jake van Zuydam
ENGLISH | Neil Grobbelaar
FRENCH | Reinard Wagner
GEOGRAPHY | Josh Grant
HISTORY | André Boshoff
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | Kenyu Chiang
ISIZULU | Shaka Buthelezi
LIFE SCIENCES | André Boshoff
MATHEMATICS | David Hill
MUSIC | Ndalo Ngewu
PHYSICAL SCIENCES | Robbie Hayward
VISUAL ARTS PRACTICAL | James Youens
VISUAL ARTS THEORY | Alex Wesselink

GRADE 9

GRIFFIN MEMORIAL PRIZE | William Segar

TOP PUPILS IN GRADE 9
Khalane Moletsane, Evan Moloseni, Luke Wilson, Matthew Wilson

GRADE 8

A J COOK PRIZE | Raphael Dube

TOP PUPILS IN GRADE 8
Jack O'Brien, Layton Stokes, Bradley van Loggerenberg, Arjun Wadhwani

SPECIAL PRIZES

L A B SHARPE MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR ENGLISH
Richard Eyres (Durban Preparatory High School)

THE DEREK VEENSTRA PRIZE FOR CREATIVE WRITING
Neil Grobbelaar (Jan Celliers Primary)

SENIOR VERSE PRIZE
Benjamin Guimaraens (Cordwalles Preparatory)

JUNIOR WRITER'S PRIZE
William Segar (Clifton Nottingham Road)
Matthew Wilson (St David's Marist Inanda)

EP CHAPMAN MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR DEBATING
Khanya Mhlongo (Reddam House Umhlanga)

VERA BURKE MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR DRAMATIC ARTS
Ayanda Ninela (Drakensberg Boys Choir School)

RICHARD HAINES MEMORIAL PRIZE
Raheel Mottiar (The Ridge School)

FREDERIC TATHAM MEMORIAL ESSAY PRIZE FOR HISTORY
Khanya Mhlongo (Reddam House Umhlanga)

BASSETT-SMITH MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR SCIENCE
William Kitching (Howick Preparatory School)

NORMAND DUNN PRIZE FOR VISUAL ARTS
Ruben Marx (Cordwalles Preparatory)

BAND PRIZE
Siya Mpofu (Drakensberg Boys Choir School)

CHORAL PRIZE
Siya Mpofu (Drakensberg Boys Choir School)

CHAPLAIN'S PRIZE
Liso Ngoqo (The Ridge School)

SIR HENRY STRAKOSCH SCHOLARSHIP (FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE)
Neil Grobbelaar (Jan Celliers Primary)

DEREK VEENSTRA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Joshua Julius (Laddsworth Primary School)

THE DRIMIE SCHOLARSHIP
Richard Eyres (Durban Preparatory High School)

D'URBAN ARMSTRONG MEMORIAL PRIZE (BEST 2022 IEB RESULTS)
Tanner Bailey (Clifton School, Durban)

DORIS ESSERY MEMORIAL PRIZE (TRADITIONALLY TO THE HEAD OF SCHOOL)
Matthew Stewart (Westville Boys' High School)

RICHARD JOHNSTON MEMORIAL PRIZE
James Cole (Scottburgh Primary)

PHILIA PRIZE IN RECOGNITION OF INTEGRITY AND MORAL COURAGE
Guy Harcourt (Highbury Preparatory School)

NOEL FREEBODY MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR FELLOWSHIP
Ross Brown (Highbury Preparatory School)

THE KARABO CHÉ MOKOAPE PRIZE
Jehan Thipanyane-Said (Crawford Preparatory, Sandton)

1942 MATRIC CLASS AWARD
Ross Boast (St Charles College)

CHAIRMAN'S PRIZE (TO A TOP ACADEMIC WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY)
Nicholas Thorburn (Clifton Nottingham Road)

DICK GRAHAM MEMORIAL PRIZE (BEST TRIALS RESULTS)
Khanya Mhlongo (Reddam House Umhlanga)

PAUL HARRISON SCHOLAR
Daniel Sweeney

ROSS OSBORN SCHOLAR
Kigen Chepkonga

COMMENDATION PRIZES

GRADE 11

Grant Bridgeford, Kieran Hunter, Joshua Julius, Siyamkela Maphumulo

GRADE 10

André Boshoff, Shaka Buthelezi, Ben Erasmus, Stewart Falconer, Josh Grant, Jake Hockly, Rupert Wright

GRADE 9

Joshua Chibwe, Jack Kitching, Lance Kitto, Kagiso Magasa, Zenande Mahlangu, Evan Moloseni, James Peattie, William Segar

GRADE 8

Kelso Bolton, Jowi Cole, Raphael Dube, Ryan Grobler, Jack O'Brien, Layton Stokes, Zhaun Swart, Bradley van Loggerenberg, Ben Wilson

ADVANCEMENT

The objective of the Hilton College Advancement Department in 2023 was to build on the momentum of the 150th celebrations to continue to foster community, support student success, and secure the future of the college.

For the second year in a row more than 600 boys were enrolled at the school, highlighting the significant demand for places. Given the school's official capacity of 590, special plans had to be made to accommodate extra boys. Over the past decade, applications for Grade 8 spaces have grown by over 75%, a good endorsement of the growing reputation and appeal of Hilton College.

Alongside this growth, the Advancement Department remain vigilant of economic challenges. Applications for financial assistance rose in tandem with the rise in the application rate, while education inflation and school fees have continued to outpace CPI. Moreover, many traditional feeder schools, particularly in Gauteng, have faced under-subscription, amplifying competition across high schools for a shrinking pool of students.

To counter these threats and sustain Hilton's growth, the department's strategy has centred on these four focus areas:

- **An experiential enrolment process:** Emphasising the importance of experiencing our setting and meeting our people, the department has made the enrolment process as experiential and relational as possible. Through campus tours, meetings with staff and students, and targeted events, families were given a taste of the Hilton experience, encouraging their commitment despite economic challenges.
- **International recruitment:** Recognising the need for diversification, efforts to attract international students were intensified to provide a buffer against local economic volatility.
- **Hiltonian community engagement:** Strengthening ties with the wider community of Old Hiltonians and parents remained a priority, leveraging their involvement and support to bolster the school's standing and resilience.
- **Fundraising and endowment growth:** The department redoubled efforts to fundraise and grow the endowment, ensuring long-term sustainability and financial security for Hilton College.

Enrolment Activities in 2023 included:

- Six targeted and tailored boarding house sleepovers for small groups of boys from key feeder schools and the sons of Old Hiltonians;
- Ten "Meet the Headmaster" events across various locations in southern Africa;
- Ten visits to schools in southern and east Africa;
- Four "Welcome Days", with tours conducted by Hilton boys;
- Six high school expo visits to various locations across southern and east Africa;
- Our flagship "New Boys' Weekend" in March for Grade 7 boys and their parents to give a 360-degree perspective of the modern Hilton; and
- A "MasterClass" weekend in October for more than 100 Grade 6 boys giving them an experience of learning the Hilton way.

These initiatives, along with the organisation involved in processing and reviewing 350 applicants for 118 Grade 8 places in 2024, underscored the dedication of the enrolment team led by Ms Thutu Jili, Mrs Trish Davidson, and Mrs Maralyn Atkins.

The headmaster attended Old Hiltonian gatherings in Auckland, Cape Town, London, Sydney, Underberg and Zululand. Other Old Hiltonian events were held in Brisbane and Durban.



There were fewer reunion events than normal on campus in 2023 as many of the groups had brought their reunions forward to 2022 to coincide with the 150th celebrations.

A special event was held in September in Johannesburg for the chairman of the Hiltonian Society and the Old Hiltonian Club, together with the headmaster, to thank Hilton's benefactors and former board members for their generous contributions to the school over the years. In this and other events, the passion and enthusiasm of Mr Brett Armstrong was a major factor in driving attendance and enjoyment.

The launch of **Hiltonties.com** in 2023 has provided a platform for mentoring, networking, and community building among Old Hiltonians, parents, and senior students, thanks to the efforts of Mrs Amanda Pistorius. There are now more than 2000 members on the platform. Social media engagement led by Ms Angelique Ardé saw significant growth of 25% for the year, amplifying Hilton's positive stories and goodwill.

Over the past five years, more than R100 million has been donated to Hilton College for various projects, with Mr Andrew Dunn's significant contributions and advocacy playing a pivotal role.

Our ongoing goal is to grow the Hilton College Endowment so that the school can look forward confidently, knowing that the long-term sustainability of the school can be secured. For that, we need to significantly grow the number of monthly and annual donors who give to our endowment fund which is ably guided and managed by Mr Guy Hayward.

The department extends its gratitude to Mr Anton Jooste, the chairman of the Old Hiltonian Club and a governor of the Hiltonian Society, for his invaluable contribution of time and guidance. We look forward to continued collaboration with the community in 2024, striving for integration, connection, and generosity in advancing Hilton College's mission.

Pete Storrar | Director of Advancement





BELONGING

The Deputy Director of Belonging Mr Sipho Moniwa and I were ably assisted by Jehan Thipanyane-Said, who led the Transformation and Belonging committee with empathy and distinction.

We believe that boys and staff are aided in their journey of belonging when they encounter a person's lived experience of exclusion. To that end it was wonderful that the school premiered Cuba Ikaneng's new work Where Do Rainbows Hide on Human Rights Day. Ikaneng's work prompted the audience to engage with their own feelings towards poverty, the LGBTQ community and the way we may use social media to hide from the reality of modern day society. On Women's Day the school was privileged to watch Neil Coppen's new work Isidlamlilo, which deals with poverty, gender-based violence and the enormous cost of the HIV/Aids and Covid pandemics that were largely borne by women. Both productions invoked much discussion amongst the boys.

In chapel on Freedom Day, Mr Moniwa spoke on the events of our first democratic election in April 1994 and what freedom means today. On the 1st of May, I addressed the school on issues pertaining to Worker's Day and workers' rights. On the same day the Grade 12s and members of the Transformation Committee braaied lunch for all of our service providers, staff and boys.

The Transformation and Belonging committee held a number of Hard Talks through the year, including one that was co-hosted by St Anne's. We addressed a number of Grade assemblies about the connection of the school to the Freedom Charter and the importance of being an upstander for those who are being excluded. We were grateful to Newnham House for inviting us to address them during house prayers on the topic of belonging.

Paul Venter | Director of Belonging

CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

> Uthando uthando
> Lwakho lwakho
> Luyaphila luyaphila
> Umbuso umbuso
> Wakho wakho
> Uyaphila, uyaphila

Our boys love singing "Come Holy Spirit" (chorus above). For days after, it's not uncommon to hear the tune hummed in a corridor or the chorus sung on Circular Drive. "Come Holy Spirit" was written by Old Hiltonian Langelihle Mbonambi. How fitting it was for him to visit on Pentecost Sunday to lead the song with our band and to preach. His visit excited the wider network of Old Hiltonians and one of them covered Mr Mbonambi's travel expenses.

This initiative was the fruit of our first Spirituality Committee meeting in January, inspired by the vision of Head of Spirituality Liso Ngoqo that we set apart a weekend for Christian mission.

On the Friday before Pentecost, we hosted the African Enterprise Foxfire mission team in the theatre. They presented a programme of drama, dance, testimony and preaching to communicate the Gospel in a lively and compelling way. We were blessed to enjoy the company of St Anne's, Epworth and GHS at this event.

Mr Luke Holder, our Director of Creative and Performing Acts, Mr Josh Boudan, our Director of Music, and music teacher Miss Simone van Niekerk spent many hours working with our band, setting up sound and lighting and generally working wherever needed with great enthusiasm.

Inward Bound

"Uthando" was also sung with passion at the Grade 10 Inward Bound camp. Once again, an Old Hiltonian made it possible for us to host headline guest speaker Mr Terran Williams. We also enjoyed the wisdom of guest speakers Miss Morongua Selepi of the Jesuit Institute, Prof Dr Reitze Rodseth (a local anaesthesiologist and apologist), Mr Sizwe Sithole (of the NGO iThemba, which is one of our Community Partnership partners). A Hilton parent's generous gift made it possible for each of our boys to receive Mr Williams' book "What's So Amazing About Scripture".

I'm grateful for the generous commitment of staff members Mr Chris Kingsley, Mr Pete Storrar, Ms Simone van Niekerk, Mr Sipho Moniwa, Mr Tony Shuttleworth, Mr Wilbert Tenga, and interns Mr Ayibongwa Dube and Mr Lindo Xulu. They helped organise, facilitate and lead, but most importantly shared their own journey with great vulnerability and honesty.

The "X-factor" of Inward Bound was the surprise visit by Mr Nhlaka Mntambo, who was the Deputy Head of School in 2021. In future camps we hope to invite both recent Old Hiltonians and those who can share a lifetime of wisdom.

The Journey

God's Spirit is also wonderfully at work on the Grade 10 Journey. A day walking, chatting over a campfire, ziplining through the canopy, paddling a canoe or setting up camp offers opportunities for conversations that are not possible within the normal routine of school. On the journey, I am also afforded the opportunity to visit boys individually after their 24 hours of solitude. The goal is simply to listen in a way that helps them discover for themselves what has been most transformative for them.

Gilfillan – Beyond the Rugby Field

Our most memorable weekday service involved a visit by Old Hiltonian Mr Berin Gilfillan who expounded on "I am fearfully and wonderfully made", a verse in Psalm 139. He did this by unveiling for us some of the miraculous wonders of DNA.

The celebration of Feast Days and the highlight of special guests is important. However, we are nourished and formed by our weekly rhythm of life:

- Sunday evening and Tuesday morning services;
- Divinity, which is taught to Grade 8 and Grade 9 boys;
- The Eucharist, which is celebrated on the first Sunday of every month (where a morning service has been re-introduced);
- Christian Fellowship on Friday nights;
- Scripture Union "unity" events each term; and
- Confirmation classes. Joshua Julius, Katlego, Moncho, Ntando Ngcobo, Tumelo Mosetlhe, Jarred Kitto, Richard Roxburgh and Amahle Seima were confirmed in October; and
- Catechism for Catholic boys. This is facilitated by Mr Paul Venter (see Catholic Society).

Rev Sean McGuigan | Chaplain

CATHOLIC SOCIETY

A number of boys regularly attended catechism classes at St Jospeh's Cedara on Wednesday evenings. The senior boys followed a two-year instruction programme in preparation for confirmation.

Miguel Teixeira, Dylan Neill, Kamogelo Seopa, Gcina Gqwaaru and Daniel Sweeney were confirmed on 24 September at St Jospeh's by Archbishop Siegfried Mandla Jwara and Qhama Ngwenya was confirmed in his parish in Johannesburg.

The school commends the boys on the commitment they showed to their faith and is deeply grateful to Father Dlamini and Brother Patrick who invested so heavily in the spiritual formation of these young men.

Paul Venter | Master in Charge



CONSERVATION

The Conservation Department had a resurgence in interest amongst the Grade 8 boys in 2023. In total 11 boys were awarded Estate Certificates. These certificates were awarded to boys who showed an interest in conservation and a willingness to assist with various projects on the estate. This is a new certificate intended to encourage greater participation on the estate.

The boys awarded with an Estate Certificate in 2023 were: Rhett Beaumont, Jamie Dunn, William Eustace, Adam Fitzsimons, Ryan Grobler, Rex Holdsworth, Thomas Leathern, Murray Meyer, Jack O'Brien, Max Sclanders and Matthew Stott.

Estate Tie

Josh Aitkin was awarded an Estate Tie for his assistance with various estate activities over the past three years, particularly his photographic skills.

Estate Adventure Series

Churchill won three out of four events in the Estate Adventure Series. Congratulations to their conservation representative, Victor Compton, who co-ordinated the house teams.

Projects

Early in the year, Grade 8 boys helped renovate the picnic sites at Beacons and later in the year they helped restore the Finfoot bird hide on the Umgeni River.

Jamie Dunn in Grade 10 designed and built a floating jetty for the fishermen to use at the farm dam, which has been very useful.

Dave White Conservation Centre

In an effort to keep out egg-eating snakes, we have had to attach shade cloth to the wire mesh which has worked as a deterrent and the birds have bred well. Unfortunately, it is unsightly so a better plan will have to be developed.

Recycling

A special thanks to Conservation Assistant Victor Mchunu who has worked extremely hard managing recycling on campus. It's an ongoing task which he has done very efficiently. We recognise the need for a more concerted recycling effort when our school hosts major events, and plan to work on this in 2024.

Mike Mill | Wildlife Centre Manager



ESTATE

The estate was used extensively in 2023. We received more than 200 bookings for use of the Henley Lapa, picnic sites and Derek's camp, accounting for more than 2000 person-days.

At least five schools in the Midlands contributed to these numbers. St Johns, Wykeham Collegiate, St Anne's, Laddsworth Primary, iThemba and Michaelhouse School's Wildlife Society made use of the estate for group activities, along with hiking clubs, candidates for Presidents Awards, groups from LIV Village orphanage, researchers from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Hilton College staff and Old Hiltonians.

Two KZN Trail Running events took place on our campus with routes criss-crossing the estate. The Grade 8 boys used the lapa for their estate orientation, while the Grade 9 boys were based there for Camp Ubuntu. It was during Camp Ubuntu, on 30 January, while returning to campus with Mr Carl Schmidt, that James Cole pulled off the sighting of the century, spotting a male leopard, which was widely reported in the media.

Later in the year, a camera trap recorded a male leopard feeding on a dead wildebeest along the fence of the reserve above the Teapots stream. Many questions remain about this incident as it is an unusually large prey for a leopard to kill. Did the leopard trap the wildebeest against the fence or had the wildebeest become trapped before being opportunistically seized upon by the leopard?

The estate was also used during the Hilton Arts Festival by Rockjumper Tours, which offered birding walks and drives into the reserve. Some people drove from as far as Durban to go on a birding walk or drive through our reserve.

The clearing of alien vegetation is an ongoing, seemingly never-ending task. The primary invasive plants targeted are bugweed and Lantana. The work of clearing alien vegetation is done by a small group of young people from the YES programme. They form the core of the alien plant control team, which is supplemented by farm staff as the seasonal workload permits.

The shower facilities at the lapa were upgraded to make provision for permanent hot water. A gas geyser was installed to replace the old donkey boiler, which was a real art to get going. The scullery also benefits from this upgrade.

Mr Mike Mill and Mr Francois Morgan, aided by some boys, replaced the lathes over the picnic bench at Beacons and have done some repair work to the Finfoot bird hide on the bank of the Umgeni.

Under the guidance of Mr Mill, a group of boys have been trying their hand at using the camera traps.

Throughout the year camera traps have revealed the presence of a wide range of mammals on the estate which we would otherwise not know occurred here. These include aardvark, serval, caracal, mongoose, brown hyaena, black-backed jackal, porcupine, monitor lizard, and large-spotted genet.

The estimated carrying capacity of the reserve for wildebeest is 50 animals with a male: female ratio of between 1:6 and 1:10. In August, 14 wildebeest were captured by darting from a helicopter or vehicle and nine male impala were also captured and relocated to improve the sex ratio of the herd.

Sean Lindsay | Facilities and Estate Manager

FACILITIES

It was another busy year on the facilities front. Our maintenance contractors, Broll, received around 300 calls a month for minor repairs and maintenance work. In addition, various project work was undertaken throughout the year.

In December, a few staff houses were renovated. The wet weather made it difficult to get plaster to dry sufficiently to be painted, but the contractors managed to complete the work in time for new residents to move in.

Pre-paid electricity meters were installed in all the staff houses, greatly reducing the administration around electricity accounts.

The Centenary Centre and Theatre exteriors were repainted, as well as Vula Lodge 2.

The library received some glass-fronted display cases built into one of the walls and the computer room was reorganised and refurbished. New tables were installed in a more functional layout and new computers were installed.

An office downstairs in the Campbell block was converted into a meeting room with a beautiful glass-top oak table. The room is now referred to as the Indaba room and can accommodate the entire board of governors.

The ladies' restroom and kitchen used by the finance department were upgraded.

All the tennis courts were refurbished and painted in a fresh blue colour. One tennis court was converted into a basketball court and one additional new basketball court was built.

The resurfacing of the Beckingham hockey Astro commenced in December 2023 and is expected to be completed in February 2024.

The middle supply dam was given a new clay core to address a seep that had developed on the lower slopes of the wall. The spillway was increased significantly. Stabilisation of the embankments was undertaken by farm staff. A mix of indigenous grass seed was planted and has established well.

Erosion control barriers were constructed out of wattle branches that would otherwise have become firewood. The pump station that was flooded when the bottom dam filled had to be removed. New toe drains were installed and a new outlet pipe was installed along with a trickle flow pipe to preserve the spillway.

Sean Lindsay | Facilities and Estate Manager



FARM

Our cattle and timber continue to provide revenue streams for our school.

In 2023 we purchased 550 weaners – 200 fewer than the previous year – due to our losing 30 hectares of pasture to the Dairy development. Most of the weaners purchased were a Red Angus cross, which are easy to sell as they are favoured by the feedlot industry. Cattle prices settled in the year and we enjoyed favourable returns.

Our timber enterprise is sustained by a 320-hectare expanse of wattle trees. Each year, 32 hectares are harvested, yielding an average of 110 tons of pulpwood per hectare. Additionally, we harvest an average of 19 tons of bark per hectare, a valuable resource with diverse applications. Committed to responsible forestry practices, we prioritise silviculture, carried out by our team. While harvesting is entrusted to experienced contractors, we maintain strict oversight to ensure sustainable and ethical practices. This allows us to provide premium timber products while preserving the delicate balance of our ecosystem.

The wattle cycle is a decade long. It begins with the inspection of seedlings for health and uniformity. Three years after being planted, the seedlings grow into small trees, which are nurtured by eradicating competing weeds. The leaves and stems are continually inspected for insect and environmental damage and undesirable branches are removed. At year four, the trees are thinned to a desirable population and then left to grow. They are inspected periodically for bag worm infestation. In year nine, dead and thin trees are removed and sold for firewood. In the October of year 10, harvesting begins, and trees are felled, the bark is manually removed and transported to Dalton, where it is processed into tannin and then exported to India. The timber is left to dry for four weeks before it is transported to a chipping plant at Durban Harbour and then exported to Japan and China.

Rowan Welsford | Estate General Manager

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Significant changes in personnel, including the departure of Ms Lindeni Phungula, the promotion of Mrs Priscilla Tenga, and the appointments of Mrs Nerusha Mangalparsad and Ms Kgalalelo Modise, influenced the department's dynamics and objectives in 2023. Additionally, preparations for the migration to a new accounting system in 2024 have been a focal point. Mrs Tenga has strengthened the functioning of the debtor's department after Ms Phungula left in April. She was joined by Mrs Mangalparsad in July, and they have proven to be an able and competent team.

Ms Modise, or Lelo as she is better known, joined us late in the year to assist initially with database integrity and preparation for migration to a new system in mid-2024. Mrs Sheryl Govender, our creditors controller, is preparing for retirement at the end of the first term in 2024, and so Lelo will begin shadowing Mrs Govender in early 2024 to facilitate a smooth transition.

Several internal financial policies were reviewed and updated during the year, through the Finance and Remuneration Committees of the Board. These policies have been amended to build financial sustainability for the future.

Kim Martin | Director of Finance

GWENS STREAM ESTATES

Gwens Stream Estates (GSE) is a proprietary limited company established in 2008, with the express purpose of executing the board's intention to introduce limited residential accommodation on appropriate areas of the Hilton College estate. The process was designed to convert relatively low-value agricultural land into high-value residential property, the proceeds to be directed to the Hilton College Endowment Foundation, the sole shareholder in GSE.

The GSE permanent team consists of an executive director and an operations manager. We work in a delightful little office located beside the Dave White Conservation Centre with a wonderful view over the estate. We work closely with directors Chris Tod (chairman) and Carl Jankowitz, managing the first GSE development, The Gates at Hilton, and pursuing the rollout of our next two projects, The Dairy at Hilton and The Oaks at Hilton.

The Gates has proved to be an extraordinary success, enjoying a deserved reputation as an estate of choice. It has helped establish GSE's credentials as a reputable developer, which is confirmed by the enthusiastic reservation of sites at The Dairy.

The bureaucratic processes associated with new developments have been extraordinarily frustrating with The Dairy and The Oaks, but there is clear light at the end of the tunnel now.

Only the issuing of the Water Use Licence, now anticipated early in 2024, stands in the way of commencement of the installation of the infrastructure on The Dairy. The year 2023 saw steady progress with getting to that point: the property on which the development will emerge has been transferred to GSE and the Township Register, reflecting the individual sub-divisions, has been opened in the Deeds Office. As soon as the water licence arrives, we will proceed swiftly with the infrastructure. The aim remains to transfer some sites by the end of the year.

The Oaks development is making its way through the processes, a little behind but not significantly so. We hope that we will be able to announce real progress on that front soon.

Iain McMillan | Executive Director





HILTON ARTS FESTIVAL

The annual arts festival was held from 10 to 12 August with some trepidation. This was for two reasons: first, the date was a major change from the traditional mid-September weekend; and second, 2022 was the first post-Covid festival and had only just worked. How wrong we were to have been apprehensive.

The event was a huge success! The August dates delivered perfect festival weather and the public returned in droves. We garnered great acclaim for the Phoenix-type revival!

The festival youth programme, Jongosi, was supported by many schools. The aim of the programme is to nurture minds through the arts, stimulate debate and expose young audiences to the plight of humanity and to ideas relevant to life on our fragile and changing planet.

The theatre offering was varied, ranging from Empatheatre's internationally acclaimed Isidlamlilo to Hansard, starring SA's own Fiona Ramsey and Graham Hopkins (an Old Hiltonian). An expansion of the music offering, spearheaded by the Hilton College Music Department in conjunction with the festival, resulted in huge growth of this aspect of the event. Crowds arrived in their number to watch the comedy, with Marc Lottering being a huge drawcard. The full programme from the 2023 festival can be viewed on **hiltonfestival.co.za**

By changing the configuration of the visual art exhibition, both artists and the public were able to better enjoy the work on offer. All the work was of a high standard and the exhibitions in the foyer of the Centenary Centre were especially dramatic.

What is a festival without live music, good food and a refreshing drink! All this was in abundance and enjoyed by all. Smokeless fire pits added to the evening ambiance and the "beer tent" rocked until late.

The festival would like to acknowledge all sponsors, especially Hilton College, a true ally in boosting the vital role of the arts.

The 2024 festival will be from 2 to 4 August.

Sue Clarence | Festival Director







IT

Cyber security has become a massive challenge, globally, with some large companies being held "ransom" for their data. We have been working hard to implement measures that will protect the school against any possible ransomware attacks. While our security measures meet the required legislative standards for POPIA and cyber security, we have to keep abreast of evolving cyber threats and challenges. As a department, we attend webinars and conferences on the topic and make changes or enhancements to our systems as required and as budgets allow.

During the year under review, the department worked closely with the deputy headmasters to improve the lightning alarm system. In a bid to get boys and staff to take heed of the alarm, we have designed add-ons to the system, including red flashing strobes and more warning sirens.

To address issues relating to the type of device prescribed by the school, the IT Steering Committee was re-established. Made up of representatives from the academic and IT departments, it will focus on the academic purpose of devices in the classroom. During the first meeting, in May 2023, consensus was reached that an academic IT policy needed to be developed by Director of Academics Hanlie Dry and Director of International Learning Dr Alexei du Bois together with the Director of IT. This will outline the purpose of IT in the classroom, the IT needs in the classroom and the IT vision of each subject department.

This policy will also address cybersecurity measures to protect the school, the device and the boy; and levels of access, access to apps and how much time boys will be allowed access to devices.

The IT Steering Committee decided during the course of the year that:

- Grade 8 boys would not receive a laptop for, at least, the first three terms of 2024. But they would receive IT lessons.
- The make, model and specifications for the laptop that parents are to purchase would be reviewed in 2024.
- A more robust device was essential to prevent the number of breakages that the IT department processes in a year.
- After assessing all options, the committee would decide what device is the most suitable to present to parents early in 2024.
- IT would then negotiate with suppliers to establish pricing and supply dates for laptops for Grade 8 boys.
- Once this process was completed, the IT Steering Committee would be downsized to a smaller group of key members focused on IT classroom innovation and integration.

Other Projects

Other projects that were started but not completed in 2023 included:

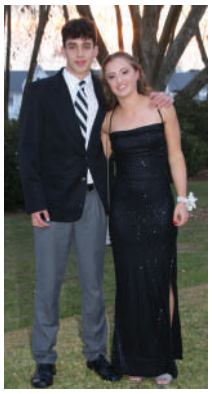
- The implementation and rollout of the new PABX (switchboard)
- The campus-wide lightning alarm system
- Installation of additional security cameras across campus; and
- An agreement with MetroFibre for the installation of a new internet fibre optic line along the Hilton College Road. This will bring a much faster and more stable internet connection to the school. The new fibre optic cable will be trenched underground. Lines installed on both sides of the road will link to two separate nodes of the MetroFibre network. This will allow for redundancy should one line fail or be damaged. Automatic failover will prevent any internet outages, which leaves the school vulnerable without telephonic or email communication. The trenching is set to begin in early 2024.

Gary Holder | Director of IT

GRADE 11 FORMAL

The Grade 11 class of 2023 initiated a new Hilton College tradition by being the first boys to attend the Black and White Grade 11 Formal in the Memorial Hall on August 4, 2023. Boys wore their Number Ones and girls attended the event in elegant black formal wear. The formal was a great success, with girls entering into the spirit of the theme by wearing beautiful black gowns and the boys looking their smartest in their school uniforms. The Memorial Hall shimmered with gold and candlelight and everyone had a memorable evening. Thank you to Mrs Anze Goodwin and Ms Juliet Morulane, assisted by Mrs Pamela Neethling and various staff members at the event. Hilton College looks forward to many Black and White Formals in the years to come.







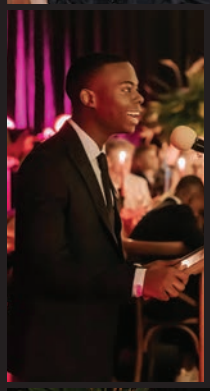













MATRIC FAREWELL

On a beautifully warm evening in March, the matric boys were treated to an incredible night, celebrating the "Allure of Africa". With the help of a team of willing moms, the sports centre was transformed into a jungle, filled with tropical plants, wild animals and pops of neon pink and orange. The tables were expertly laid atop leopard and zebra print, brought together with tortoiseshell and gold candleholders, parrots and the most gorgeous floral masterpieces. Zebra skins, large wall prints and hanging floral arrangements over the dance floor all assisted to pull together the look, creating an unforgettably glam night.

Our caterers provided a delicious meal of fillet with a green peppercorn sauce which was mouth-watering. The traditional sweets table provided by the moms also did not disappoint and not a crumb was left. Thanks to the Grade 11 boys who waited on the tables with such efficiency.

After the formalities, the boys and their dates took to the dance floor and danced the night away; a sure sign of a successful event!

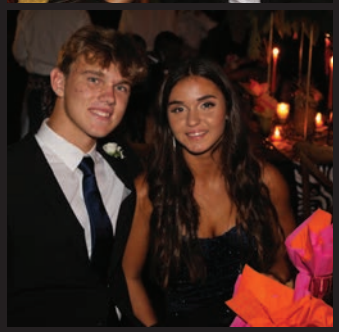
Pam Nel



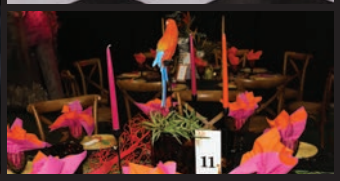














MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

The remainder of the renovations anticipated for 2022 unfortunately did not come to fruition during 2023, so several proposed changes have remained on hold for another 12 months. It is hoped that these will eventually take place early in 2024. The entire museum space has, however, remained busy throughout the 2023 year.

The main displays for 2023 focused on some of the Old Hiltonians who played a major role in bringing about change in South Africa. Three main areas of focus were:

- Justice Didcott
- Rusty Bernstein
- The Border War and the End Conscription Campaign

Detailed research and interesting displays were curated around each of these, which proved to be of great interest to museum visitors during the year. Thanks are extended to the History Department who brought some Grade 12 pupils to see the displays as these link directly with the teaching programme in that grade.

Many visitors have taken advantage of the "open door" policy described in last year's report, and it is pleasing to see a steady stream of boys and other visitors coming through the museum.

We retained the very popular events for staff this year, as follows:

- Teatime coffee breaks in the museum;
- Two evening events, allowing staff to visit the museum while enjoying a glass of wine and a snack; and
- An extremely popular (sold out in a few days!) wine-tasting evening hosted in conjunction with Abingdon Wine Estate.

Several academic departments have continued to make use of the museum as a meeting venue throughout the year, including departmental indabas near the end of the year. Although not as glamorous as some off-campus venues, the museum is a hospitable space for such meetings, and certainly comes in at a far lower cost point!

Once again, we have been very fortunate to receive many donations during the year from Old Hiltonians as well as the public. We have also been able to purchase some interesting items on auction, including two more additions to the Normand Dunn art collection. I constantly scan auction catalogues from around the country in this regard. An appeal is made to the entire Hilton family to consider the museum and archives before discarding or selling items to the general public. We will always be interested in that special something with a link to the school. For example, an extraordinary collection of letters written back home from the front of the 1906 war found a resting place in the museum this year. Two beautiful Hilton College medallions were rescued on a local auction and now are safely kept in the archives room. The donation of the Raptor Journals, widely reported via the school's social media channels, remains high on the list of exciting events in the year.

I was fortunate to attend a digitization conference during the year, at which I gained a lot of knowledge in terms of the way forward with our digital archives. The platform on which this is hosted was also changed and improved during the year. Further improvements and upgrades are due in 2024. We urgently need to take on a full digitization project, so that all items in the archives are searchable in digital format but are also safeguarded in the event of disaster.

It is hoped that 2024 will bring with it further improvements to our ageing facilities. Being housed in the second oldest building on the campus suits the archives and museum, but also brings with it a need for ongoing repairs and upgrades. A great pipedream is to reinstate the upper story of the Lords and Commons building and to make the entire space available to the museum and archives. For those who are not aware, this building was originally more than one storey, as depicted in the image of the original building. I believe this would be a most imposing building, fully restored, opposite the Crookes Block.

Bruce MacLachlan | Heritage Curator





SANATORIUM

As of 2023, each of the San sisters has a portfolio to manage.

First aid fell under Lauren Richmond. Boys who do first aid can earn hours for their President's Award, community service and a Service Tie. Thirty-two boys received training in first aid in 2023. They received character references and their service contributed 10% towards their university entrance requirements.

Our first aider of the year was Michael Sara who did a Level 3 first-aid course and gave invaluable service. This is what he said about his first aid experience: "First aid has allowed me to give back to the school and help my fellow Hiltonians. Being on the side line of a game, be that U14D team hockey or 1st team rugby, helped me make friends that I would not have otherwise made. My favourite memory of first aid is running on to Gilfillan, not to help with injuries but to chat with the team and find out how they were feeling about the game."

Gabriel Njonjo, a dedicated first aider, said: "I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as a first aider at Hilton. First aid is not just a skill, but a responsibility. We owe it to ourselves and to those around us to be prepared. First aid has given me confidence to act swiftly and effectively in emergencies. I urge others to learn first aid to be empowered to save lives."

Buthulwazi Buthelezi, who wants to study medicine, said: "First aid at Hilton College is an opportunity not to be missed. Not only do you get cool merchandise and incredible dinner after you complete your term of service, but you get experience of helping injured people and learn skills that can save lives. Engraved on my heart are memories of running on to the hockey and rugby fields to help friends and foes."

Bianca Smith managed the blood donation clinics in what was a very successful year with many boys donating blood for the first time. Boys are encouraged to donate regularly and our blood donation evenings create much enthusiasm amongst the boys because the boarding house with the most donations wins pizzas. Our boys also donate out of a desire to serve the greater community. Pearce House gave the most donations in the year with Newnham House hot on their heels!

During the Hilton Arts Festival, members of the public and staff supported a blood donation drive.

As the South African National Blood Service say, "Donations give patients the gift money cannot buy, or science cannot create." One unit can save up to three lives.

In 2023 Wendy Allen kept our concussion protocol aligned with legislation and scheduled SWAY baseline testing.

In recent years there has been great advancement in the management of a person who has sustained a concussion. This is due to the findings related to the short and long-term effects a brain injury has on the individual.

Hilton College's concussion programme includes a computerized test to assess cognitive functioning after a pupil has had a concussion. The results are examined by a neuropsychologist. Baseline SWAY tests must be done each year as cognitive development changes. Sign up is at the end of the third term and via the school app.

Emma Aldridge managed the issuing of medicine from the San. She revamped the system for storing meds and invented new ways of issuing and keeping checks on meds issued. She has been a breath of fresh air and has fitted into our team like a glove to a hand.

It was a busy year. Three of our sisters attended a nurses' conference and brought back valuable information that will improve our services. One thing we learned was the importance of making our automated external defibrillator (AED) accessible. It has since been placed in a medical box with a break glass key holder attached to the wall outside the San. We are motivating for the installation of a second AED at the sports fields.

We continue to update our policies and procedures so that we can keep offering up-to-date care and treatment. Sr Smith and Sr Allen completed the International Trauma Life Support Course in Emergency Management and all four sisters updated their American Basic Life Support Course.

Sr Yvette McDonald | Sanatorium Senior Sister



THEATRE

The management of the Hilton College Theatre as an educational performance space holds paramount importance. Beyond nurturing artistic talents, it serves as a cultural hub for the Midlands, offering a platform for quality professional and community theatre. This dual role ensures a dynamic synergy, enriching both the educational and broader community spheres.

The year began with ThinkTheatre's Othello and Hamlet productions, which continue to achieve resounding success, captivating thousands of local matric learners in Pietermaritzburg and surrounding areas. These productions, integral to the Grade 12 curriculum, contribute significantly to academic engagement and cultural enrichment.

The theatre work Where Do Rainbows Hide? by Midlands artist Makhubalo The Storyteller Ikaneng was commissioned by Hilton College to commemorate Human Rights Day. Ikaneng's multifaceted role as writer, director, and performer illuminates the poignant narrative, centred on a man reflecting on friendship during apartheid, addressing the challenges of his companion's sexuality. This production, with its meaningful cultural resonance, contributes to challenging stereotypes, fostering awareness, and promoting dialogue on crucial societal issues.

Performances of Estilo España and Robin van Wyk's Coppelia stood as triumphant performance milestones, captivating diverse audiences. Estilo España offered a sensory extravaganza, seamlessly blending flamenco instrumentals and dance, paying homage to the profound history of the flamenco guitar and its influence in music. This Spanish Flamenco production, featuring solo classical and flamenco guitar, alongside flamenco dance, created an enthralling experience. Meanwhile, Coppelia, executed by the KZN Midlands Youth Ballet Company, is an enchanting tale of love overcoming mistaken identity. The comedic narrative unfolded with Swanilda and her friends discovering a doll brought to life by Dr Coppélius, leading to a joyful celebration of love's triumph. Both productions showcased artistic excellence, leaving an indelible mark on the cultural landscape.

In 2023, the Hilton College Theatre presented Shakespearean productions that garnered acclaim for their innovative interpretations. The staged reading of The Tempest provided a captivating experience, engaging the audience with the sheer brilliance of Shakespearean language and narrative. This rendering, while eschewing elaborate sets, showcased the timeless potency of the play's themes. Concurrently, the uproarious commedia dell'arte reimagining of Hamlet named Hamlet! brought a fresh perspective. Crafted by the creative vision of Jenine Warren, this rendition ingeniously transported the classic tragedy to a ship adrift in Scandinavian waters. The resulting amalgamation of Shakespearean wit and the lively commedia dell'arte style not only provided laughter but also offered a unique lens through which the audience could appreciate the universality of Shakespeare's works. These productions underscored the Hilton College Theatre's commitment to presenting Shakespearean classics in a manner that resonates with contemporary audiences.

The Hilton Arts Festival made a triumphant return from the challenges of the Covid era. Notably, Hilton College seized the stage with the musical cabaret Five Guys Named Moe. Directed by Luke Holder and choreographed by Fiona Barnes, it attracted enthusiastic, capacity crowds over five stellar performances. This marked the return to the festival of the boys as professional performers, and they earned acclaim for their charming, witty, and musically splendid renditions. The FreeFest component of the festival introduced a new dimension to the performing arts programme, which is poised for expansion in 2024 with the inclusion of more schools on the public performance platform. More about this festival appears elsewhere in this edition.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude for your support in 2023. Anticipate an exceptional 2024, filled with outstanding theatrical experiences and performances.

Luke Holder | Director of Creative and Performing Arts / Theatre Manager



VULA

It is a pleasure to report that 2023 was an excellent year for the Vula Programme, with the number of beneficiaries attending our training and development projects exceeding pre-Covid numbers.

Maths Project

Since it was established in 2007, the aim of the Vula Maths Project is to improve the teaching and learning of maths in schools in under-privileged communities in our province.

Our impact is measured by the latest available Grade 12 results obtained by teachers who have worked with the project – these showing the extent to which Vula has made a difference:

2022:

Average mathematics pass rate of the 63 schools in the Umgungundlovu district where there is or was at least one VuMA trained teacher over the past four years	**58.3%**
Average mathematics pass rate of the 58 schools in the Umgungundlovu district where there is no VuMA teacher	**44.7%**
Differential	**13.6%**

The flagship component of the project, the **Vula Mathematics Academy (VuMA)**, was kept busy with intakes of teachers in the first and second terms of the year: 18 in term one and 11 in term two. Each group spent 11 weeks in residence in the Vula lodges, attending the mathematical enrichment programme every school day for a full term. The teachers who attended in 2023 were from the Umgungundlovu, Pinetown and Harry Gwala districts. This was the first time that teachers from the Harry Gwala district (Ixopo, Kokstad, Bulwer, Underberg) had participated. Since 2012, a total of 231 teachers have attended VuMA. Together these 231 teachers teach maths to an estimated 40 000 pupils.

During the third and fourth terms, the project offered residential workshops for GET teachers from the Umgungundlovu, Pinetown, King Cetshwayo, Ilembe and Harry Gwala districts. These workshops, called Mini VuMAs, focused on teaching Grade 8 and 9 mathematics in more interactive and interesting ways. Each Mini VuMA comprised a two-week stay. The 65 teachers who took part in these were from the King Cetshwayo, Pinetown, Ilembe and Harry Gwala districts and together they teach an estimated 75 000 pupils.

In January, the project appointed Mr Phila Mnyandu, a retired maths specialist previously with the KZN Department of Education, as its project facilitator and field worker. In this important role, Mr Mnyandu keeps in touch with teachers from previous intakes to support and encourage them, particularly those who have recently returned to their schools after spending a term at VuMA. During the year Mr Mnyandu travelled 5 484km visiting 95 teachers at 78 schools.

In addition, further residential workshops were held for 44 teachers during the winter school holidays and at the end of November for the nine members of the Vula Laptop Group.

Also falling under this project is the Vula Maths Club – an enrichment initiative for 10 carefully selected Grade 11 pupils from schools in the Edendale valley. This group, which is under the care of Mr Graeme Evans (Hilton College's Director of Mathematics) and Ms Coco Mamobolo (Hilton College maths teacher), met regularly on Saturdays.

Vula Science Project

The project, which came into being in 2005, supports and assists teachers of physical science through the provision of laptop computers loaded with appropriate teaching resources and the loaning of relevant laboratory equipment. The 62 schools assisted in these ways interact in cluster groups in and around Wartburg, Edendale, Sweetwaters, Mpendle, Wembezi, Loskop, Bergville, and Camperdown.

The project also makes regular visits to schools to assist with teaching and practicals. In 2023 visits were made to schools in Wartburg, Sweetwaters, Mpendle and Wembezi. Pupils from three schools attended Saturday morning classes in the Hilton College laboratories, these being taught by Hilton College science teacher Mr Noel Robert.

For the past two years, the project has also been active in supporting the 11 technical science subject advisers from all educational districts in KZN, as well as 46 teachers of the subject.



Other activities during the year included the distribution of 800 Grade 12 study and revision guides and the hosting of a space rocket focus day with I-innovate.

School holiday workshops during the year were attended by 81 teachers of physical science and technical science. A revision week for the Grade 12 group from PROTEC Pietermaritzburg took place during the winter school holidays, with the tuition provided by Hilton College teachers Messrs Lionel Julius, Mike Werth, Tienie van Wyk and Kwanda Sibiya.

Vula Grade 12 Careers Day

Since 2002 the Vula Programme has presented a day annually during which selected Grade 12 pupils from affiliated schools can focus on career and training opportunities which require excellent maths and science results. In 2023, the event was held on 17 February – the first Careers Day since 2020. The day was attended by 440 Grades 12s, 25 teachers and 35 exhibiting organisations.

School Holiday Activities

The Vula Programme is fortunate in that it can hold comprehensive residential training workshops during the school holidays, using the accommodation available in the 47-bedder Vula lodges. During 2023 accommodation was provided during the April, July, and October school holidays for 178 maths and science teachers and principals.

Vula and Hilton College Teacher Internship Project

Hilton College took in its first two intern teachers in 2002, and in each year since then it has continued to provide a year for aspiring teachers to immerse themselves fully in a highly demanding educational environment, while at the same time completing their studies. In 2019 the intern project was restructured to include time at local township and rural schools affiliated to the Vula Programme. In 2023 seven interns benefitted from being part of the project.

Vula Principals' Leadership Project

This, the newest of the Vula component projects, commenced in 2022 with the aim of creating a leadership forum and support group for principals from Vula-affiliated schools. The first meeting of the group took place in October 2022, with a follow up taking place in October 2023. The group's discussions were led by our headmaster Mr George Harris, with input from Second Master Mr Tony Shuttleworth and Director of Student Support Dr Janna de Gouveia. Time was set aside for the group to attend a chapel service, the start of term assembly and a staff meeting. A game drive and supper at the river added a further dimension to the project. According to the feedback received, the forum provides an invaluable opportunity for principals to discuss issues of common interest and concern.

We pay tribute to everyone who walked this journey with us, and we honour the contributions of the donors who make all this possible. Sadly, several donors gave notice during the year of their intention to end their funding, mostly as their strategic focuses had shifted to other areas of need, including early childhood development and climate change. While accepting that these are also areas of great need, we are concerned about the maths and science educational needs of our country.

Lloyd Smuts | Vula Director







Top to bottom: *Inside Vula Lodge 2; teachers Bomikazi Mtangayi and Nosisa Sosibo, who have worked with us since 2007 and now are facilitators during school holiday workshops; and Nkululeko Simphiwe and Majula Mthiyane at the Vula Science teachers' winter school holidays workshop for teachers, June 2023*

Remembrance Day Homily – 12 November 2023

I greet you in the spirit of vrede, shalom, uxolo, salam, peace.

Sixty-two years ago a Baptist minister stood in front of the marble memorial to Abraham Lincoln, the great emancipator, and began to speak. A while into his speech, in front of some 250 000 people, a noted gospel singer, Mahalia Jackson, standing close to the lectern cried out, "Tell them about the dream, Martin". And so, in the next few minutes Martin Luther King, in what is now regarded as one of the most famous pieces of 20th century oratory, proclaimed the dream of peace, unity and hope.



It may have been Dr King's words but the vision he prophesised was rooted in a song sung since the dawn of creation, one that Isaiah proclaimed when he said, "They shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation shall not lift up sword against nation and never again will they learn war". A vision of God's dream that St Francis constantly pointed to by recognizing that peace is never simply a human achievement but always depends on God as its source, one he extolled in the opening lines of his freedom charter, his constitution, his bedrock, his prayer, "Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred let me sow love". And from the one that our faith teaches us was consubstantial with the father, begotten not made, through whom all things were made, God with flesh on we hear in the opening lines of the Sermon on the Mount which is the creator's dream for all of creation: "Blessed are the peacemakers for they are the sons and daughters of God."

Note our Lord said, blessed are "the peacemakers". He did not say blessed are the fearmongers or those who use religion to wage war. Wherever there is peace being made, the children of God are at work. "Peacemaking doesn't mean passivity. It is the act of interrupting injustice without mirroring injustice, the act of disarming evil without destroying the evildoer, it is the arduous pursuit of reconciliation and justice. It is about a revolution of love that is big enough to set both the oppressed and the oppressors free." (Common Prayer – A liturgy of ordinary radicals)

This evening we gather in this chapel of peace, a chapel first dedicated as a memorial to the Hiltonians who fell in World War I. We are a country with a myriad of problems and challenges and yet a country that has not been at war since the SANDF withdrew from Angola and Namibia in 1988; we are a people who chose to lay down weapons and to use the ballot box rather than the bullet in April 1994, a people who chose to see Christ in the eyes of those who were once demonized as the enemy; people who said no to violence and built a wall of reconciliation as a symbol of hope.

We are gathered here today united with people all across the world to commemorate those who have given their last full measure of devotion on all sides of all conflicts since the terrible carnage of World War I. We are gathered here in a service that was first held on 11 November 1919. It is good that we have gathered, it is good that we remember, and it is good that we mourn. Yet in our gathering, and in our remembrance and in our mourning we must never forget the truth that the scourge of war with its death and destruction, suffering and grief, orphaned and widowed was never, is never and shall never be part of the dream of the Kingdom of God. The gospels teach us that it is the creator's wish that we have life and live it to its fullest. Tonight we remember those whose lives were so cruelly cut short.

Tonight, it would appear that peace is a far-off thing for as we know, bombs and rockets are raining down in Gaza and Israel, in Ukraine, in Ethiopia and in far too many other places of our world. Yet now is not the time for despair. To paraphrase the author James Baldwin, now may be the time for anger at the death merchants of the world but not despair, for to despair is not to hope and we are collectively the people of the resurrection. We are the people who imagined a new country, we are a people of hope and in that hope we know that as our moral icon Desmond Tutu once said, "God created us for fellowship, God created us so that we should form a human family, existing together because we are made for one another". We may be crying right now of the pain of the past and the peril of the present but remember that God is crying with us and further to that God is also smiling through the tears of those peacemakers who with every part of their being oppose the madness of war.

You may ask, "But what can we do in this small green quiet place at the tip of Africa? How can we honour the fallen and free those surrounded by war? How do we support those who are working for peace? It is simple: we need to constantly remind ourselves that we are dream keepers. We are keepers of the dream of the kingdom of God and in our everyday acts of kindness we are working with God as fellow agents of transfiguration. We work so that war can be transfigured into peace so that, to quote Tutu again, "there will be more compassion and caring, more laughter and joy, more togetherness in God's world".

Someone recently wrote, "We may not be able to stop tanks from roaring down roads or turn a guided missile into a bouquet of flowers... The only thing we can do is love the next people we encounter without any conditions or strings, to love our neighbours so fearlessly that it starts a ripple that stretches from one horizon to the next. We can't force peace on the world, but we can become a force of peace in the world. Sometimes all it takes is a single lit candle in the darkness to start a movement." There are more than 600 of us in this school. Come, let us be candles.

Paul Venter

Leavers' Service






> "Thank you to the Reverend for giving me the opportunity to talk this evening. I would also like to thank my matric class this year for introducing me to the wonders of Chat GPT. Those of you who sit in the back row of the class can relax. You have nothing to worry about. I rewrote your essays and put them in your own words."





I am sure that when I left school, we had a similar ceremony. I went to a good school with excellent staff. It was an all-boys school, and it was all white. I never gave much thought to the fact that there were no boys of colour in my school. The youngsters from other race groups went to other schools, certainly not as good as ours, but it was just the way it was. We were too different to go to the same schools, or so I was told.

Life was good for a young white boy in South Africa. We were made to feel special because we were white, and we were boys. This privileged way of life, we were told, came at a price, and we were told we would have to fight to preserve it. It was instilled in me that we could never share our resources and our position with the vast majority of South Africans. It would never work as our ways of life were simply too different. The idea of one-man one-vote was viewed as treasonous, and feminism, which might have been growing elsewhere in the world, was not discussed in polite company.

A month after leaving school I started a two-year stint in the South African Defence Force. It was a lousy experience, but it was just the way it was. It was tough but had to be done.

In those days I struggled to understand that the African people who we interacted with in our homes and elsewhere were the enemy. As a national serviceman, I was sent to the then South-West African border with Angola. It was our task, so I was told, to protect southern Africa from the communist onslaught. Possibly the most meaningful thing that I did in my time on the Border was grow a moustache.

Why I believed that Black South Africans would fight to live under a communist system, I do not know, but I suppose deep down I realised they would side with any group who might help free them from apartheid. I was easily influenced by the National Party misinformation of the day.

In the early 1980s I went to university. I have often told my pupils that I never went to university, but I did. This was the first time that I began to take note of the growing number of people who believed South Africa needed to change and that there was in fact a workable solution. This is not to say that there had not always been people prepared to question and speak out against

South Africa's racist policies. The truth is, I lacked the courage to really listen to what was being said because it was uncomfortable. I discounted a lot of what I heard because I did not want to hear it. When I was in Grade 11, I heard a sermon by Desmond Tutu in Pietermaritzburg where he referred to how the South African government was intent on "clobbering" the black majority of the country. Many good people I knew left the church because of comments such as these. It was too easy to be swayed by those who were intent on keeping the status quo.

The mid-1980s came and I started teaching at an all-white boy's school in Pietermaritzburg. Another great school with good teachers. I had to spend my December holidays in the army because that was the way it was. We were told we were facing a total onslaught from the communists who lurked behind every bush. Again, there were dissenting voices speaking out about the situation in the country. I had a colleague who was not allowed to park her car at the school because she had an End Conscription Campaign sticker on her car. Despite the fact that I thought she was right, I never backed her.

The late 1980s we began to start feeling the strain. There were bombings, bomb scares, people were searched when they went into shopping centres. We were living under a State of Emergency. I remember an English rebel cricket team coming to South Africa to play and saw a large group of black youth toyi-toying all the way from the township in Maritzburg, past the cricket field and back home. It was a very intense experience. I realized they had a mission and were determined.

I got married in 1986 on a teacher's salary, which certainly added to the tension but not quite as much as retiring on a teacher's salary in 2023 does. That is a sermon for another day.

Then quite suddenly for me things began to change. Boys of colour were allowed to attend the school where I taught. Initially it was only a few, but it worked. It indicated clearly that what we had accepted as being true in the past was wrong, children of different races could and should attend the same schools.

In 1991 Clive Rice took the South African team to India to play cricket and in 1992 we were at the World Cup. This for me was unbelievable. I had grown up in an era where I had never seen the South Africa national cricket, rugby or hockey teams play in a full international. The rest of the world had refused to play against us because of apartheid. It was just the way it was. I realized how we had accepted this situation far too readily. Why did I allow myself to be convinced that we were right and the rest of the world wrong?

Things were changing, it was understandably tense but because of the approach of the ANC under the leadership of Nelson Mandela, the pragmatism of FW De Klerk, and a lot of prayer, a civil war was averted. South Africa got a second chance. I, who had done nothing to deserve the opportunity, got a second chance. For me to live as I do in the new South Africa is remarkable. I will never take what we have in this country for granted. When I look at the situation in the Middle East or Eastern Europe, I appreciate what did not happen in South Africa.

The sense of relief in South Africa was huge. Perhaps the closest some of you boys might have come to this sort of a feeling is when you failed to own up to having tobacco paraphernalia in your locker and then hearing that the sniffer dog was not on form and had not detected anything untoward in your study. You knew you had got away with one.

What am I trying to say to you young men? Firstly, you need to listen to those small voices of reason which might be different to public opinion. You need to be careful of simply accepting everything that other people, including the older generations, tell you is right. We do have experience, but we do not know everything. Things change.

A lot has been said about climate change and not everything is necessarily correct, however, it is important for you to appreciate that we, your teachers and parents, have not got this one. It is going to be up to you. You are the ones who are going to have to motivate us to change the way we do things.

South Africa got a second chance. My concern for you guys and for all young people is that when it comes to environmental matters, especially climate change, we may not get a second chance. Unlike the Springboks who did have a Plan B, we do not have a Planet B.

We will have to adopt a more sustainable way of life. We cannot continue to use as much single-use plastic or emit as much CO_2 simply because of the way it has always been. There must be a better way. You need to listen and hear what some of the people on the periphery are saying. Climate change activist Greta Thunberg may be on to something. We cannot disregard what she is saying just because it might make us uncomfortable and require a downscaling of our lifestyle. I am confident that with technology in the right hands (your hands) we can save the day. But you have to first accept that we need to do things differently.

I mentioned I was given a second chance in South Africa. Conflict was averted and all South Africans looked forward to a better life in our country. Unfortunately, that has not materialised for most South Africans. I hope that you boys listen to the voices of the marginalised in our country and become involved in developing systems to improve their lives. It is said that we are the most unequal country in the world, and we accept this criticism much more readily than we accept that Bongi might have sworn at Tom Curry in the World Cup semi-final. We cannot afford to take the goodwill of the majority of South Africans for granted for much longer. South Africa is rich in resources. There is more than enough to go around, and you need to find a way to do this.

I am not an economist, but I know that with more honesty and less self-centredness we could develop a kinder, more equitable society. You need to find a way to raise the standard of living of others.

If Jesus was a young man in South Africa, I know he would be motivating for a more equitable distribution of the country's resources. Would we listen to him? Would we invite him to be our guest speaker? Or would he make us feel too uncomfortable?

The task ahead of you is massive, and it is unlikely that any of us can achieve anything without the help of God. I have no doubt that without the power of prayer, the miracle of 1994 would not have occurred. And if we open our minds to the word of God, we can make the changes.

In 1994 the country once again had hope and it was a great time to be a South African. The rest of the world looked up to us. We were an example of tolerance and forgiveness. I think that we have lost some of this hope. We are counting on you guys to give us hope once again. I am confident that if you take the time to listen and then consider all of what is being said you will bring about the changes that we wish for all South Africans.

I wish the matrics all the best for the future and I look forward to living through the changes which you young Hiltonians are going to bring about in society.

Mike Mill

Tie Ceremony























Boarding



The late Tony Richter once said, "It starts with making your bed in the morning." This simple act marks the beginning of the day in the life of a boarder. While seemingly insignificant, it is one of many small disciplines, practised daily over a five-year period, that help to form good habits in our boys; habits that will set them up for success in life.

In a changing world where attention to detail is diminishing, Hilton boys are required to get the "small things" right. While some boys naturally embrace this, for others it's a process of understanding how boarding affords them many great opportunities that will distinguish them later in life.

Reflecting on 2023, I'm encouraged that many boys overcame fears and challenges, relying on the strong support of house staff and housemates who they have come to trust.

We continue to depend on our matric boys to lead their houses with maturity and compassion, looking out for those who may be struggling and in need of support. The capacity developed in a senior boy at Hilton is remarkable, with many excelling in various spheres, while investing time in people.

I am grateful to the dormitory leaders for their efforts in leading and guiding the next generation of Hiltonians.

The growth in our Grade 8 boys has been pleasing. They come from diverse backgrounds. Getting them on the same page and instilling in them Hilton values remains a challenge. However, it has paid off to have sessions with these boys, emphasising the importance of our values. Witnessing boys form tight bonds that last a lifetime is a personal highlight.

In a busy world, we must learn to slow down and appreciate what we have at Hilton. Our challenge is to utilise our magnificent campus to the fullest, recognising that education happens not only in the classroom or on the sports field but also in communal spaces where boys learn about life, relationships, and people.

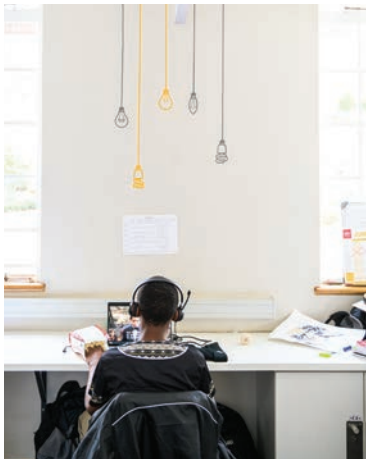
My heartfelt thanks to our housemasters, deputy housemasters, house managers, and housekeepers for their commitment to making Hilton College a great boarding school. Their personal sacrifices ensure that each boy is cared for as an individual, and their willingness to go the extra mile is a blessing to us and our boys.

I eagerly anticipate 2024.

James Bullough | Senior Housemaster










Est. 1905





CHURCHILL HOUSE

Row 6: *Tino Nyabonda, Jake Van Zydam, Oliver Mattison, Greg Braithwaite, Josh Black, Andre' Boshoff, Oscar Bredenkamp, Etienne Smith, Riley Ross, Chisha Mulenga, Ronan Keogh, Sixolile Nyangiwe, Efe Ozcan, Ryn Jellis, Tawanda Kugotsi, Jordan Byres*

Row 5: *Kego Maseko, Adam Essay, Neil Bararugurika, Hylton Lötter, Kwanele Gumbi, Reabetswe Motlhaloga, Adam Cole, Umi Gwala, Victor Compton, Harry Jarvie, JD Van Wyk, Luke Hancock, Matt Watts, James Pettie, Liyema Zondi, Lebo Legodi*

Row 4: *Brynn Valentine, Axolile Nyangiwe, Xander Schlebusch, Daniel Sweeney, Ndalo Ngewu, Darryn Bridgeford, Bentley Stoffels, Travis De Bryn, Daniel Lyon, Sizwe Pwele, Ben Ferguson, James Dent, Mbuyelo Mbokota, Grant Bridgeford, Oliver Jarvie, David Hill*

Row 3: *James Lyon, Phemelo Joel, Seko Maseko, Hlonie Lethole, Liyema Gazi, Akani Nxumalo, Zizwe Digangoane, Lwanda Chitha, Didier Rey, Nghwazi Mkansi, Mihle Gazi, Monaheng Machabe, Phelele Cele, Sean Kamau, Khumo Lebelo*

Row 2: *Rourke Schwegmann, Carter Van den Burg, Daniel Urquhart, Luke Ramlakan, Ross Hill, Benoit Rey, Oliver Crowe, Linda Mphephu, Camerone Hargroves, Tsebo Mokhathi, Matt Mattison, Thandwa Monyae, Ramotse Matime, Imran Mohamed, Ziyanda Mnyandu, Makwe Motsepe*

Row 1: *Mrs Leana Steenkamp, Mr Damien Kimfley, Mrs Anze Goodwin, Ms Moira Gundu, Mr Jason Wulfsohn, Mr Jaco Van Dyk, Ruben Marx, Mr Wilbert Tenga, Khanya Mhlongo, Ms Nomfundo Nzimande, Ms Mbali Shelembe, Mr Nick Holtzhauzen, Ms Simone van Niekerk, Mr Darryn Gallagher, Mr Kaloso Tsoaeli*

It was a year that could so easily have been overshadowed by the successes of 2022. But from the start of 2023, matric leaders in the house inspired the boys to realise their potential. The boys of Churchill rose to the occasion, determined to add to Churchill's success and legacy.

Our motto was "one step at a time" on the road to individual and house success. The highlights of 2023 were numerous, including winning the Estate Adventure Series which got our boys more involved with the estate and striving to make use of all that Hilton has to offer.

Churchill excelled academically, producing four honours students and numerous full and half-colours achievers in Grade 11 and Grade 12.

Our boys also responded to the call to give back, taking part in outreach efforts and other opportunities to give back to our surrounding communities.

Many Churchill boys were selected to play sport at provincial level, and Grant Bridgeford made national selection for hockey.

The Form 1 boys started their Hilton journey as 16 individuals, only to realise that the Hilton College journey is impossible to do alone. Slowly, the boys grew into a team, developing friendships and bonds that will last a lifetime. Our Form 2s and 3s continue to strengthen the bonds within their dorms and are walking their paths to success. The Form 4s have started their transition into leadership of the house and school and have shown maturity in taking up the challenge.

The matrics of Churchill have come to the end of their road, having grown from insecure, shy and uncertain boys into men ready to make their mark in the world.

Mr Devon van der Merwe, Mr Wilbert Tenga, Miss Nomfundo Nzimande and Miss Mbali Shelembe, along with the rest of the house team, have made Churchill feel like a second home to us, giving us the space to cultivate strengths and achieve excellence in our own ways. We have benefitted from great leadership, which has set us up for success in life.

I encourage Churchill boys: do not be afraid to make mistakes but learn from them. I encourage you to help and keep giving to those around you. Lastly, may you appreciate just how special Churchill House is. For more than 100 years it has cultivated excellence and shown that whenever you think you have reached your peak, there is still so much untapped potential within you. Boys, make the most of what you have been given and give your best in whatever you do.

All the best in 2024!

Ruben Marx | Head of House

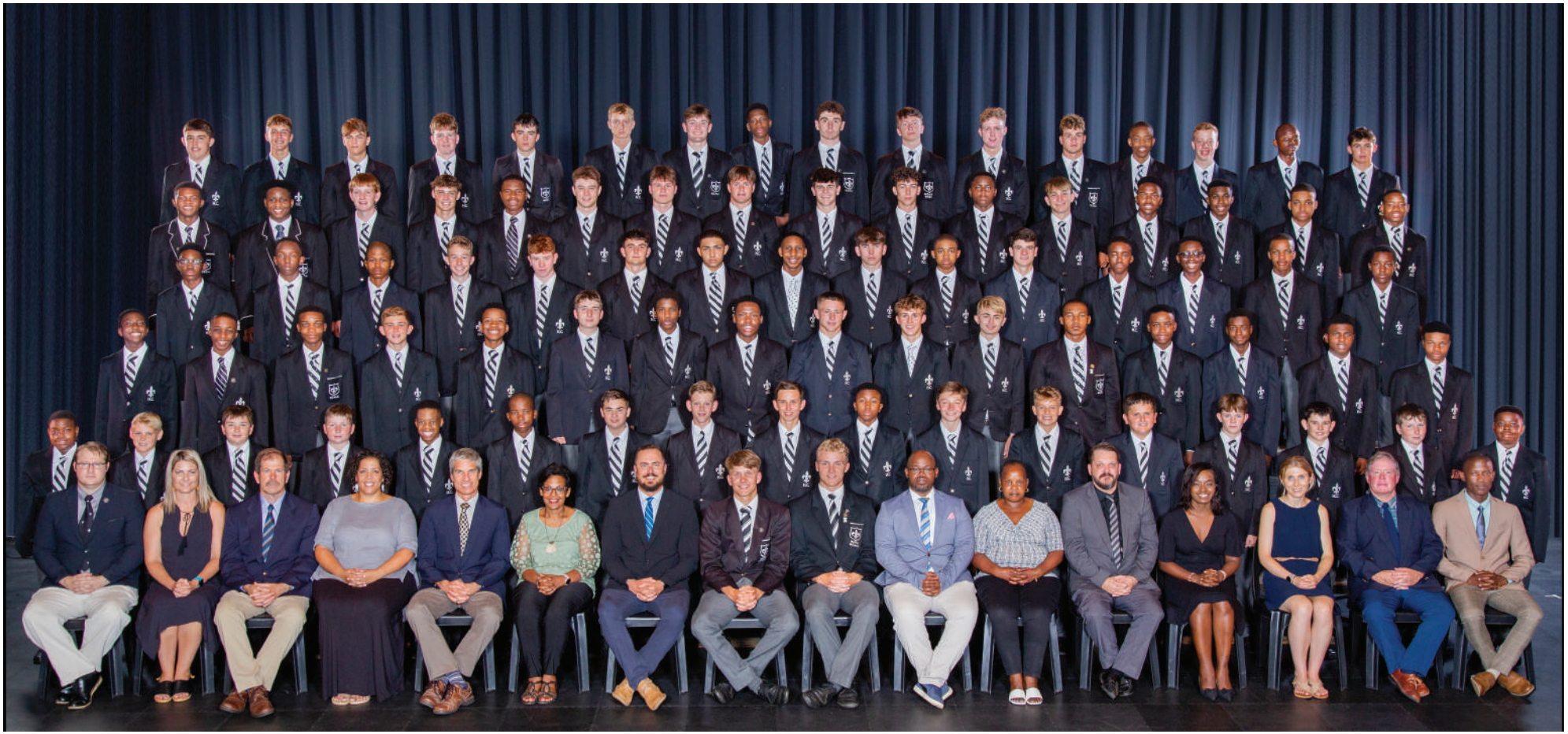












ELLIS HOUSE

Row 6: *Jack Holtzhauzen, Andrew Schnell, Charles Fawcett, William Leathern, Daniel Holtzhauzen, Oliver Chapple, Daniel Hathorn, Olufemi Oyeka, Matthew Emmott, Nicholas Thorburn, Matthew Diemont, Ivan Lockhem, Hulmelo Conjwa, William Lingenfelder, Lwango Ntantla, Griffin Barnes*

Row 5: *Vhuthihi Siwada, Siya Mpofu, Thomas Leathern, Thomas Taylor, Minenhle Makhathini, William Kitching, Troy Bailey, Murray Brink, Charlie Short, Jason Webster, Tochi Ezenwugo, Alex Hathorn, Senzo Mngomezulu, Ty Kalayamotho, Ndabenhle Sithole, Ntuma Moagi*

Row 4: *Risima Mashaba, Tele Sitoyo, Sigcobe Magwentshu, Jack Kitching, Garrick Phillips, Ross Brown, Siyanda McClain; Zipho Mpofu, Tristan Grant, Dzunisani Mboweni, John Grubb, Josh Chibwe, Oreoluwatobi Ogunfowora, Tumelo Gopane, Kihara Waithaka*

Row 3: *Nyiko Mabunda, Zakhele Khumalo, Zimele Khumalo, Ruan Mulder, Atlegang Ramutla, Josh Aitken, Ntando Mhlongo, Liyema Mndela, Zander Voster, Jarred Maltby, Joshua McGhee, Bunono Jabavu, Kgosi Sekgobela, Raymond Muleso, Uthando Gumede, Ntando Mchunu*

Row 2: *Leago Moagi, Matthew Stott, Mathew McGhee, Ethan Aitken, Karabelo Morojele, Olerato Chitanga, Mitchell McGhee, Murray Meyer, Adam Fitzsimons, Kopano Lekeka, Jack O' Brien, Sebastian Laudenberg, Rex Holdsworth, Ethan Maltby, William Eustace, James Aitken, Larona Mampane*

Row 1: *Mr David Look, Mrs Pam Nel, Mr Mike Mill, Mrs Tania Hurley, Mr Mike Green, Mrs Keshni Peters, Mr Burger Nel, Ross Boast, Matthew Stewart, Mr Sipho Moniwa, Mrs Bongi Mthalane, Mr Richard Garrett, Mrs Juliette Hunter, Mrs Lara Wulfsohn, Mr Francois Morgan, Mr Lindokuhle Xulu*

Ellis House grew from strength to strength in 2023. This growth would not have been possible without the advice and guidance of our housemasters Mr Burger Nel and Mr Sipho Moniwa. House mothers Mrs Keshni Peters and Mrs Bongi Mthalane have been instrumental this year. Their organisational skills and genuine warmth are appreciated by all.

As a house, we strive to set an example to the rest of the school by practicing the ethics of an ideal Hilton boy each day. Through the strong leadership of our matric group, this vision was successfully accomplished over the course of the year.

Ellis achieved a great deal in 2023, including winning the inter-house senior cricket, singing performance and the highly desired Spirit Cup. Numerous Ellis boys received colours and honours for their various achievements in academics, sport, and culture. This recognition is highly deserved; the result of the hard work and dedication that goes into achieving at this level. Along with these highlights, one of our matric boys, Mini Makhathini, continued the incredible Run for Richter campaign. This was very well supported by Hilton boys and staff, resulting in a great donation towards Singakwenza. We are extremely proud of this campaign as it is giving back to an organisation that the late Tony Richter loved so much.

Our Form 1 boys have made the most of the Hilton experience so far, as they continue to grow and mature. It has been impressive to see them bonding as a dormitory through the rocky patches of their first year. Our Form 2s and 3s have flourished in all aspects of Hilton life as they continue to form strong relationships that will hold them in good stead for the years to come. The notion of growth as a unit is mirrored by our Form 4 dormitory. These boys have grown into young men who are able to make a large impact on Hilton in the final year of their schooling. The Ellis matrics of 2023 have served as intentional leaders contributing significantly to our successes as a house this year.

Ellis is a special place. Ours is a culture of trust, integrity, and brotherhood. The homelike atmosphere in the house is thanks to the welcoming attitude of all Ellis boys. Long may it last.

I wish Ellis all the best for 2024 and many years to come.

Ross Boast | Head of House

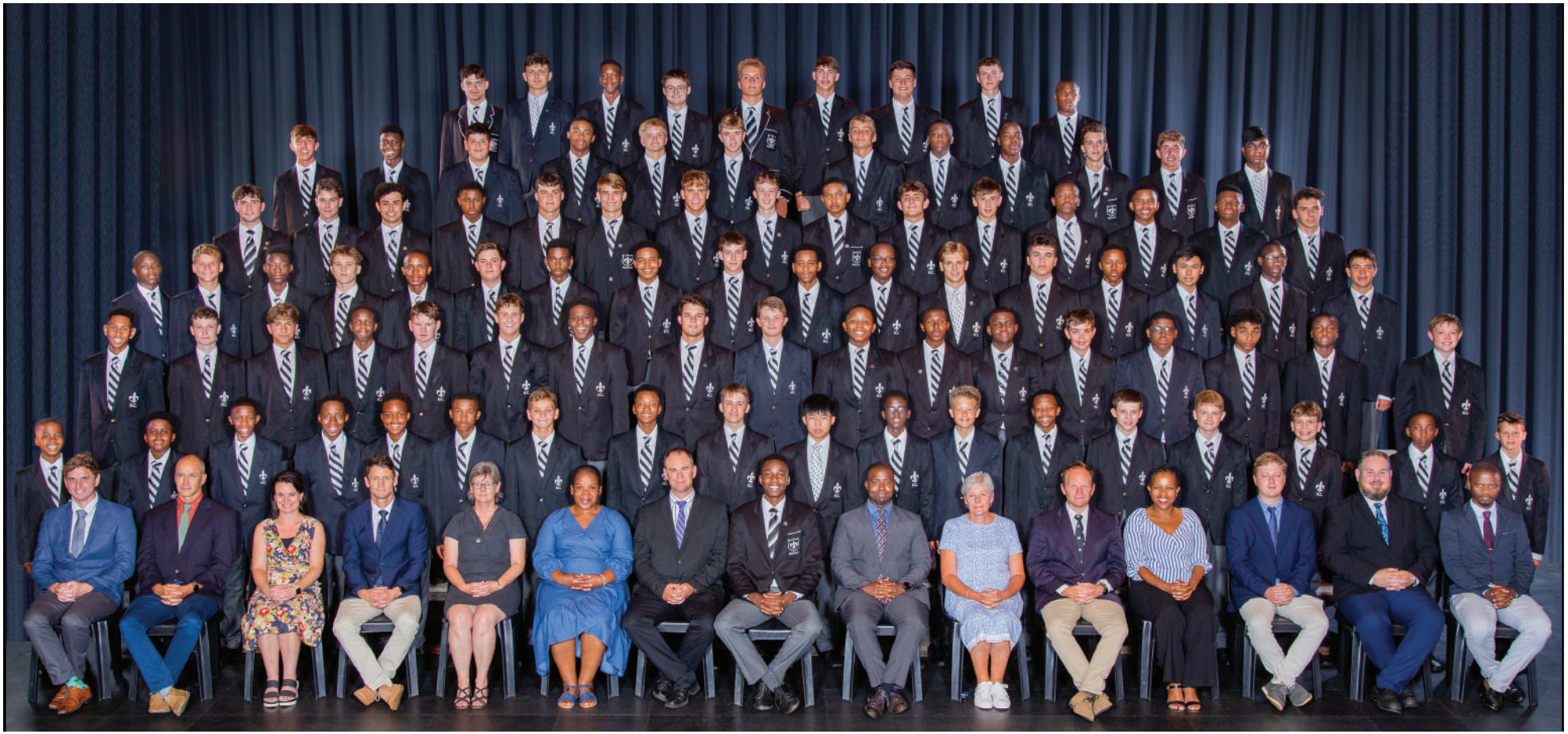












FALCON HOUSE

Row 7: *Ben Kok, Natan Joubert-Bouwer, Simba Chidakwa, Rupert Wright, Stefan Swart, Chris Snijman, Joshua Lord, Brain Thomson*

Row 6: *Connor Thomson, Nelwang Letsoalo, Dimo Zigiriadis, Karabo Lephema, Oliver Proudfoot, Lyle Clubb, James Swart, Munashe Musora, Namisi Opai Tetteh, Tristan Hockly, Jono Bregman-Frangos, Shailen Naidoo*

Row 5: *Michael Capes, Jake Hockly, Jarod Du Plessis, Langa Dlamini, Joshua Snyman, Jon Braithwaite, Kieran Janse van Rensburg, Luke Marshall, Bandile Shabalala, Nic Bregman-Frangos, Kai Dreyer, Nkosi Shozi, Sandiso Zondi, Dom van Aardt, Miguel Teixeira*

Row 4: *Rudukzo Madinga, Bradley van Loggerenberg, Nthato Mpakati, Callan Kenmuir, Kgosi Modise, Matthew Bezuidenhout, Andiswa Mahlase, Katlego Moncho. Ben Hockly, Goodson Chirwa, Omohau Mbileni, Jordan Udal, Ethan McCabe, Shaka Buthelezi, Hanlin Shi, Chris Gundu, James Murray*

Row 3: *Tsepo Tsike, Chris Lindsay, Joshua Kok, Dante Sigei, Jamie Dunn, Jacques Olivier, Liyema Nela, Connor Woods, Rosco Campbell, Buthulwazi Buthelezi, Zukhanye Fatyi, Nkosi Msiza, Aiden Clubb, Sbusiso Nhlapo, Lee Singh, Silwa Wafula, Chris Weavind*

Row 2: *Luthando Mbada, Liqhayiya Ngcese, Mahlatji Koma, Olebogeng Segale, Charles Ngunyi, Lehumo Modise, Griffon Le Meme, Khaya Nouse, Michael Bird, William Bird, Taji Sigei, Kelso Bolton, Karl Senanu, Daniel Evans, Samuel Bird, Riley Lindsay, Kabelo Lephema, Daniel Marshall*

Row 1: *Mr Joshua Boudan, Mr Ernie Steenkamp, Mrs Ashleigh Askew, Mr Tony Shuttleworth, Mrs Mandy Durnford, Mrs Mandy Nene, Mr Warren Kirsten, Gabriel Njonjo, Mr Kwanda Sibiya, Ms Vanessa Wedderburn, Mr James Webb, Mrs Thembile Zuma, Samuel Hines, Mr Luke Holder, Mr Kuthula Ntshontsho*

It was a year of challenges, from academic pressures to personal ones, and yet we showed resilience, determination, and a spirit that refuses to give in. Rising to the expectations to perform in academics, sport, and culture, we developed as a house, taking the opportunities to grow and finding solutions to our predicaments.

In 2023, Falcon reached unprecedented heights, dominating in various fields. We: defended our Spirit Cup for a sixth consecutive year; won junior and senior inter-house basketball; won junior water polo and were finalists in the senior category; won the school quiz; were swimming relay cup champs; and were runners-up in senior football and debating. We collected the most trophies since the historic 1992 year. All these achievements were due to the grit and determination of our house.

While accolades are great, it's the environment in our house that we ought to celebrate. It was great to be able to loosen up a bit and spend quality time together, having our Falcon Family Fun Day and Falcon's Got Talent. The boys have been conscientious and deliberate with everything they have done, be it representing the house in inter-house competitions, or fighting for a greater cause. It has been a huge honour and privilege to lead this group of champions. The support we have received from all quarters has been overwhelming and has driven us to achieve so much this year.

I am thankful for our teachers and tutors who, with endless patience and commitment, have shaped our minds, beliefs, and lives. Your lessons have transcended textbooks and taught us the meaning of life, kindness, perseverance, and the importance of dreams. Your belief in us, even when we doubted ourselves, has been a guiding light.

To the boys, thank you for representing our house with passion. Continue helping each other to grow. We, the matrics, will miss Falcon's vibrance.

Finally, to our parents, thank you for your unwavering commitment to ensuring we receive the best educational experience the world has to offer. Being afforded the opportunity to learn at this prestigious place is an honour.

With future Proteas, doctors, engineers and all sorts blossoming within our purple walls, Falcon House is on an impressive trajectory.

God bless you all, and all the best for next year!

Gabriel Njonjo | Head of House





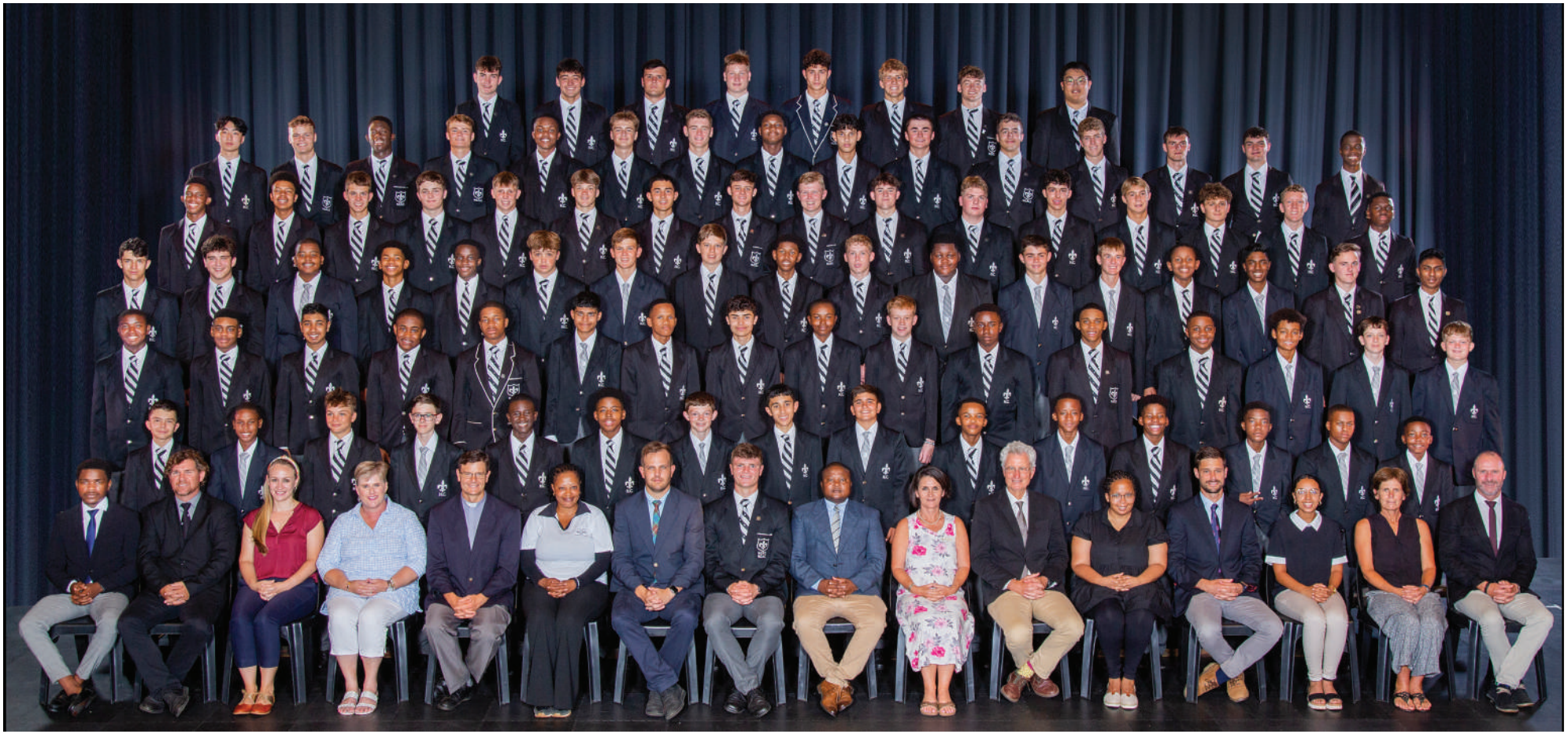












LUCAS HOUSE

Row 7: *James Daniels, Ben Le Roux, Jordan Hein, Kieran Hunter, Caine Letschert, Hanu Pieterse, Chris Horak, Justin Du*

Row 6: *Yu Lie Wang, Ben McGuigan, Matipa Denenga, Jason Sasse, Zach Mphosi, Ralfe Wilmot, Morné Engelbrecht, Nicholas Wenyika, Chuhal Pillay, Ross Steyn, PJ van der Walt, Chris Wagner, Kieran Griffin, Sebastien Gaboreau, Senathi Makola*

Row 5: *Natenzi Denenga, Yonah Pollman, Ben Erasmus, Dominic Richards, Mitchel Garreau, Samuel Strydom, Noah Ravalomanana, Brett Cutting, Nicholas Chantler, Oliver Gaboreau, Caleb Mc Donald, Calum Bryson, Tristan Uys, Brendan Nieuwstad, Neil Grobbelaar, Unami Zungu*

Row 4: *Francois Odendaal, Thomas Harilaou, Joseph Gichuru, Tito Chonco, Zenande Mahlangu, Ben Coetzee, Karl-Werner Lüderitz, Stephen Pech, Thando Shongwe, Reinard Wagner, Banele Masilela, Zhaun Swart, Sean Erasmus, Ndyebo Manci, Nicandro Padayachee, Wim Ebersöhn, Trey Padayachee*

Row 3: *Banele Phoswa, Lwandle Gabuza, Deepen Kooverjee, Qhama Ngwenya, Kukhanya Mahlangu, Abdullah Mussa, Tumelo Makgeru, Rhydian Evans, Sechaba Gude, Alex Engelbrecht, Musa Mponda, Sakhiwo Moilwa, Wonga Masina, Max Asamoah, Duncan Van Niekerk, Liam Hoffman*

Row 2: *Alessandro Valente, Obakeng Motsepa, Alex Pitman, Layton Stokes, Reagan Mudau, Iviwe Mnconywa, Reece Johnson-Watts, Nathan Ravalomanana, Gabriel Landzanakis, Baile Makhakhe, Sbonokuhle Sithebe, Boleng Seoe, Kamohelo Mashale, Ntuthuko Mahlangu, Nothani Buthelezi*

Row 1: *Mr Ayibongwe Dube, Mr Greg Miller, Dr Janna De Gouveia, Mrs Debbie Veenstra, Rev Sean McGuigan, Ms Pamela Sokhela, Mr Cameron Fraser, RD Engelbrecht, Mr Msizi Mchunu, Mrs Inga Rautenbach, Mr Graeme Roberts, Ms Juliet Morulane, Mr William Donkin, Ms Budrunnisaa Halliday, Mrs Karen Koopman, Mr Jason Sileno*

LUCAS HOUSE

In 2023, Lucas House turned 25 in what was an extraordinary year. Inspired by strong leaders in our matric group, we strived to live up to the values that we hold so dearly, including passion and respect. We encouraged every single boy to use every single opportunity this school has to offer and to do everything to the best of his ability.

The highlights of our year were winning the gala, senior water polo and rugby. Lucas is known for its sporting ability.

Our boys were also involved in a 24-hour swim and in the Tennis for Lives campaign, both of which were enormously successful.

Lucas is home to boys who are talented in all spheres and so many of our boys achieved honours in academics, sports, and culture. Several boys also achieved national and provincial colours in a variety of sporting codes, and many featured in musical and theatrical productions.

It has been great to see the Form 1 boys, having just begun their Hilton journey, grow a great deal in one year. The Form 2 boys continue to develop as they find their way. We saw a sudden change in maturity from the Form 3s when they returned from their OLE journey. The Form 4 boys have really risen to the occasion this year in support of the matric body and started to hone their leadership style.

Mr Msizi Mchunu, Mr Cameron Fraser, Mrs Inga Rautenbach and Mrs Rosey Kalipersad provide a great mixture of nurture and freedom in the house, allowing boys to grow. Throughout the year, the boys of Lucas have enjoyed the encouragement and support of the matric body and the house staff.

In 2023, the boys of Lucas raised the bar, demonstrating their ability and potential. I encourage boys to continue in this vein. I also encourage you to make mistakes and learn from them. Cherish the incredible privilege it is to be in at Hilton College, remembering that whatever you give to Hilton, it will give back to you. And never forget that God is with you always.

Wishing Lucas all of the best in 2024!

RD Engelbrecht | Head of House



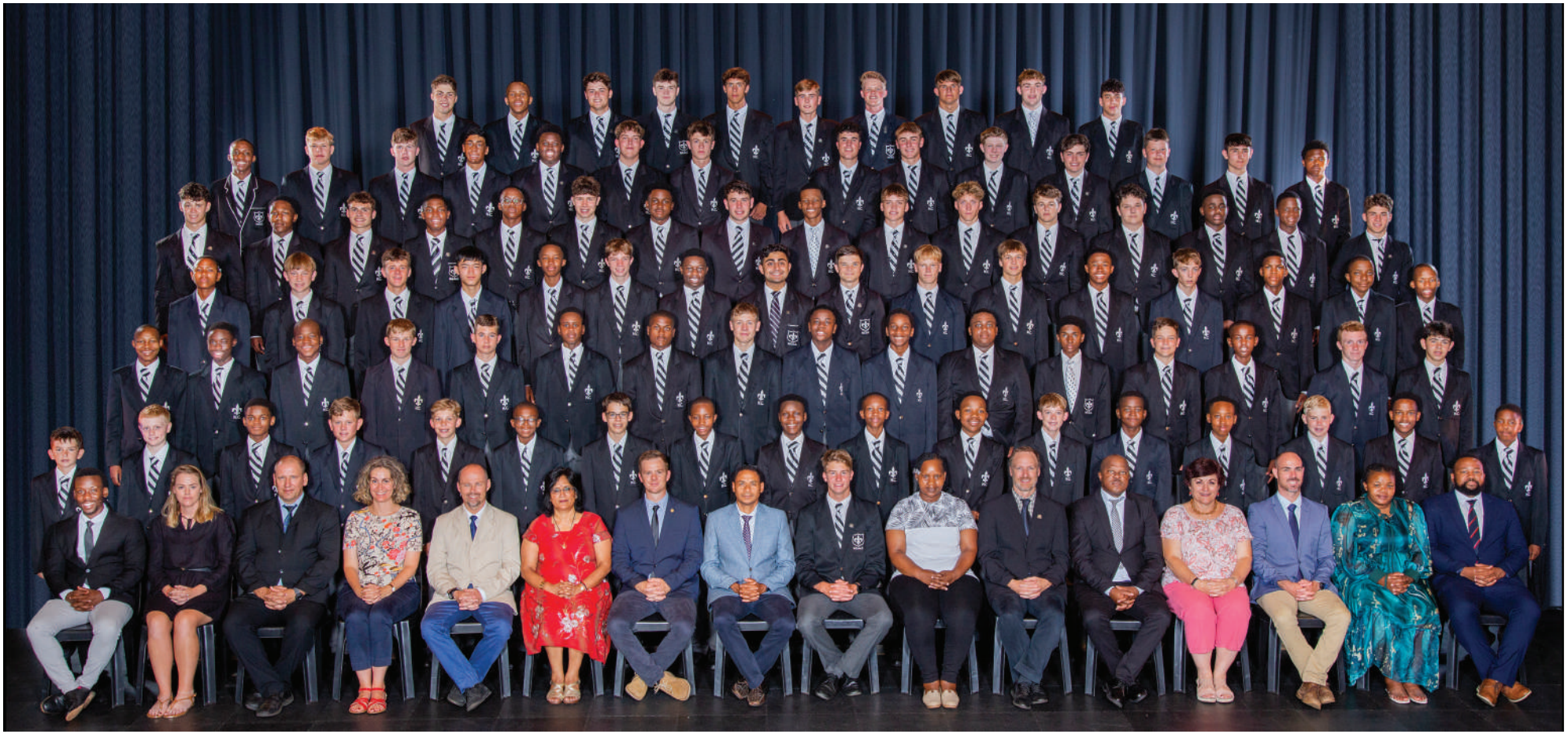












MCKENZIE HOUSE

Row 7: *Ethan van Heerden, Ntando Ngcobo, James Campbell, James Ogilvie, Meyer Malherbe, James Morrison, Nic McLeod, Trent Chubb, Rowan Cox, Joshua Hurley*

Row 6: *Akha Mda, Guy Fender, Richard Eyres, Aahil Girdhuparsadh, Thabelo Letjama, Nathan Daniels, Christopher Morrison, Marc Isabelle, Luke Campbell, Richard Roxburgh, Campbell McKenzie, Nicholas Eyres, Max Gilson, Amandla Khawe*

Row 5: *James Cole, Amahle Seima, Chris Wanless, Jehan Thipanyane-Said, Nqubeko Majozi, Nick Dalrymple, Matome Manthata, Stuart Baker, Reneiloe Seopa, Luke Watt, Sean Ritchie, James Fender, Adam Wingfield, Linathi Dabula, Mpande Myeza, Jason Dix*

Row 4: *Lefa Matswiri, Miles Cox, Robert Burman, Benjamin Shen-Yu, Tumisho Manaka, Oscar Steiner, Tino Hove, Raheel Mottiar, Dale Herbert, Sam Wingfield, Xavier Enslin, Katleho Motaung, James Dellis, Unami Nxasana, Evan Moloseni, Tiisano Tisane*

Row 3: *Kagiso Magasa, Tadi Hove, Hokhanguy Langa, Ben Scorgie, Liam Firth, Fanaka Mworia, Xola Bakana, Daniel Day, Sazi Sigodi, Zvashe Mhlanga, Nthekgo Phasha, Ayanda Ninela, Oscar Franco, Nkosi Fuyana, James Robertson, Jack Davenport*

Row 2: *Caleb Kinvig, Andrew Bernstein, Tumelo Mosetlhe, Sean Burman, Victor Viljoen, Ntsika Kleinbooi, Michael Vivier, Pheto Kgafela, Unqweru Ziba, Akhumzi Mtshungwana, Luphelele Shange, Daniel Vivier, Kwandumusa Mtshali, Ludvonga Mtshungwana, Matthew Bastard, Kamogelo Seopa, Vidal Analo*

Row 1: *Nelson Hlophe, Ms Tarryn Daly, Mr Jeremy Piater, Mrs Jenine Warren, Mr De Wet Wenzel, Mrs Rosey Kalipersad, Mr Carl Schmidt, Mr Lionel Julius, Oliver Joyner, Ms Matholi Mthalane, Mr Craig Wilkinson, Mr Charles Ngcobeni, Mrs Angela Salamon, Mr Chris Carey, Xolile Mazibuko, Mr Kgomotso Motlogeloa*

In 2022, we celebrated 150 years of Hilton College, not only as an outstanding school but as an institution that over the generations has created communities of lifelong friends.

Building on that heritage, the leaders of McKenzie made it our goal to encourage our boys to build friendships with boys from all houses. I believe we achieved this goal and I can confidently say there is a happy, organised, calm and safe atmosphere in the house.

Many McKenzie boys have shone in 2023. To name a few: Akha Mda was selected for the U18 South African hockey side; Luke Watt made the Craven Week rugby side; Ayanda Ninela and Raheel Mottiar starred in productions of Five Guys Named Moe and Hamlet. And James Cole spotted a leopard on the estate!

The matric group organized the building of a new braai outside the front of McKenzie. Thanks to the parents of matric boys for giving generously to this project. This is our legacy and gesture of gratitude for everything McKenzie has given to us as a group. We hope it will become a place for McKenzie boys to enjoy braais, bond and tell stories.

I am delighted that the future of the house is in good hands.

For 2024, Meyer Malherbe has been appointed captain of water polo; Ethan van Heerden has been appointed captain of cricket; Oscar Steiner captain of squash, and Ntando Ngcobo has been appointed the portfolio leader of culture. I wish you everything of the best and I have no doubt that the class of 2024 will excel.

Finally, a message to my brothers in McKenzie. Ever since we gelled as a dorm in Grade 8, we have been known throughout the school as one of the closest band of brothers. Thank you for the most amazing, life-changing five years. I will always look back on our time together with nostalgia, gratitude, and pride.

As you go out into the world, grasp every opportunity that comes your way and remain true to our friendship. Our bond is for life. Never forget that a lion sleeps in the heart of every McKenzie man.

I now hand the baton into the capable hands of Richard Eyres. I wish you everything of the best and I have no doubt that you will be an outstanding leader.

Oliver Joyner | Head of House



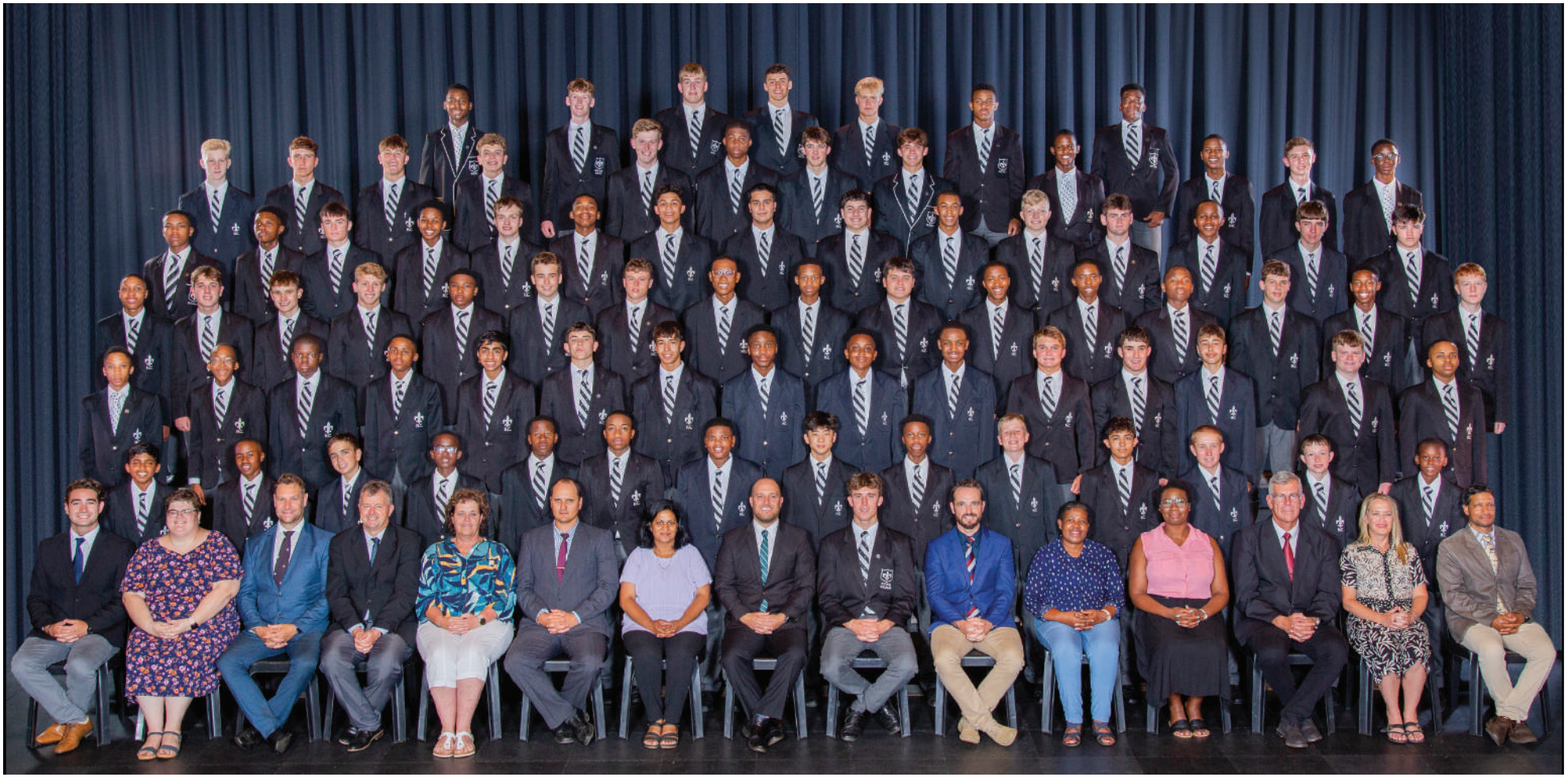












NEWNHAM HOUSE

Row 7: *Saphiwa Nzimande, Michael Sara, Dean Macleod-Henderson, Luke Warren, Connor Jerome, Akhona Kunene, Tayedza Jaravaza*

Row 6: *Eric De Chasteauneuf, Retief Malherbe, Charles Swart, Connor Sawyer, Jared Wilson, Jowi Cole, France Ebert, Matthew Hayes, Liso Ngoqo, Liphapang Mokoena, Benjamin Guimaraens, Kigen Chepkonga*

Row 5: *Teboho Pakkies, Bayanda Ncobeni, Ward Miles, Mpumelelo Mdhluli, Jack Warwick, Siba Dlamini, Kyle Lewis, AbuBakr Mussa, Alex Wesselink, Requilme Adonis, Tom Twiss, Jordan Benians, Joshua Dube, Iggy Friedman, Ewan Miskin*

Row 4: *Atang Mphati, Daniel Friend, Jack Henderson, Matthew Thomas, Robby De Beer, Jack Hermon, Joaquim Ozoux, Tinyiko Khosa, Nwagbo Chika, David Sutton, Luntu Ncube, Thabo Mngomezulu, Bakuena Lekitla, Sebastian Ozouux, Kaelo Taukobong, Ethan Hornby*

Row 3: *Similo Mkhungo, Thuto Phakisi, Lefa Motsumi, Khalane Moletsane, Arjun Wadhwani, Devon Thomson, Daniel Barradas, Lesipho Ndlovu, Kelechi Nwobi, Chuma Luswazi, Mitchel Wilson, Zac Sweidan, Christopher Job, Daniel Carver, Moeletsi Moletsane*

Row 2: *Dougal Carr, Oyena Zulu, William Thompson, Seriti Bannalotlhe, Wanga Zulu, Patrick Mosimakoko, Makobane Thema, Kenyu Chiang, Nthando Nyabonda, Rhett Beaumont, Caleb Barradas, Ben Wilson, Max Sclanders, Raphael Dube*

Row 1: *Mr Brendon Gray, Ms Charissa Steenkamp, Mr Brett Udal, Mr Paul Venter, Mrs Tracey MacKenzie, Mr Tienie Van Wyk, Mrs Reshmee Mohanlal, Mr Matthew Fairweather, Matthew Peters, Mr James Robey, Mrs Doris Ngcobo, Ms Coco Mamabolo, Mr Mike Werth, Ms Claudia Plunkett, Mr Noel Robert*

The men in green enjoyed a remarkable year in 2023. Under the leadership of Mr Matthew Fairweather as housemaster, Newnham has benefitted from numerous improvements from the upgraded prep room to the addition of the new Grade 10 prep room and the new bike shed. Newnham continues to strive to provide its boys with a work-conducive, family-oriented environment.

While we pulled off some outstanding achievements – such as winning the Circular Drive Relay and the inter-house athletics, Newnham has grown in other, more important aspects. With the Form 3s successfully completing The Journey and the Form 2s enjoying their Camp uBuntu, it has been a pleasure to watch each dorm grow in the strengthening of their relationships. The Form 4s had their horizons expanded during their Johannesburg work experience tour and were challenged and stretched during their leadership camp. We wish them the best of luck as they embark on their matric year and respond to the call to lead. A special congratulations to Kigen Chepkonga on being awarded the position of Head of School for 2023.

The Form 1s got off to a rough start with one of their dorm mates leaving them in the first few weeks. I am proud of them for pushing through and making a strong recovery, for that is what it means to be a true Hiltonian. With the guidance of their dorm cops, they have successfully navigated their first year in Newnham House.

The Newnham matric body of 2023 set high standards for the house, intent on developing each boy on a personal level and extracting their full potential. Creating a place that encourages and nurtures ambition, the house has continued its forward momentum. I have confidence that Newnham will continue to thrive, transforming boys into men.

Boy, may you appreciate every day at this special place and make the most of every opportunity that comes your way because you will never live the same moment twice.

I wish Newnham the best of luck for 2024!

Matthew Peters | Head of House





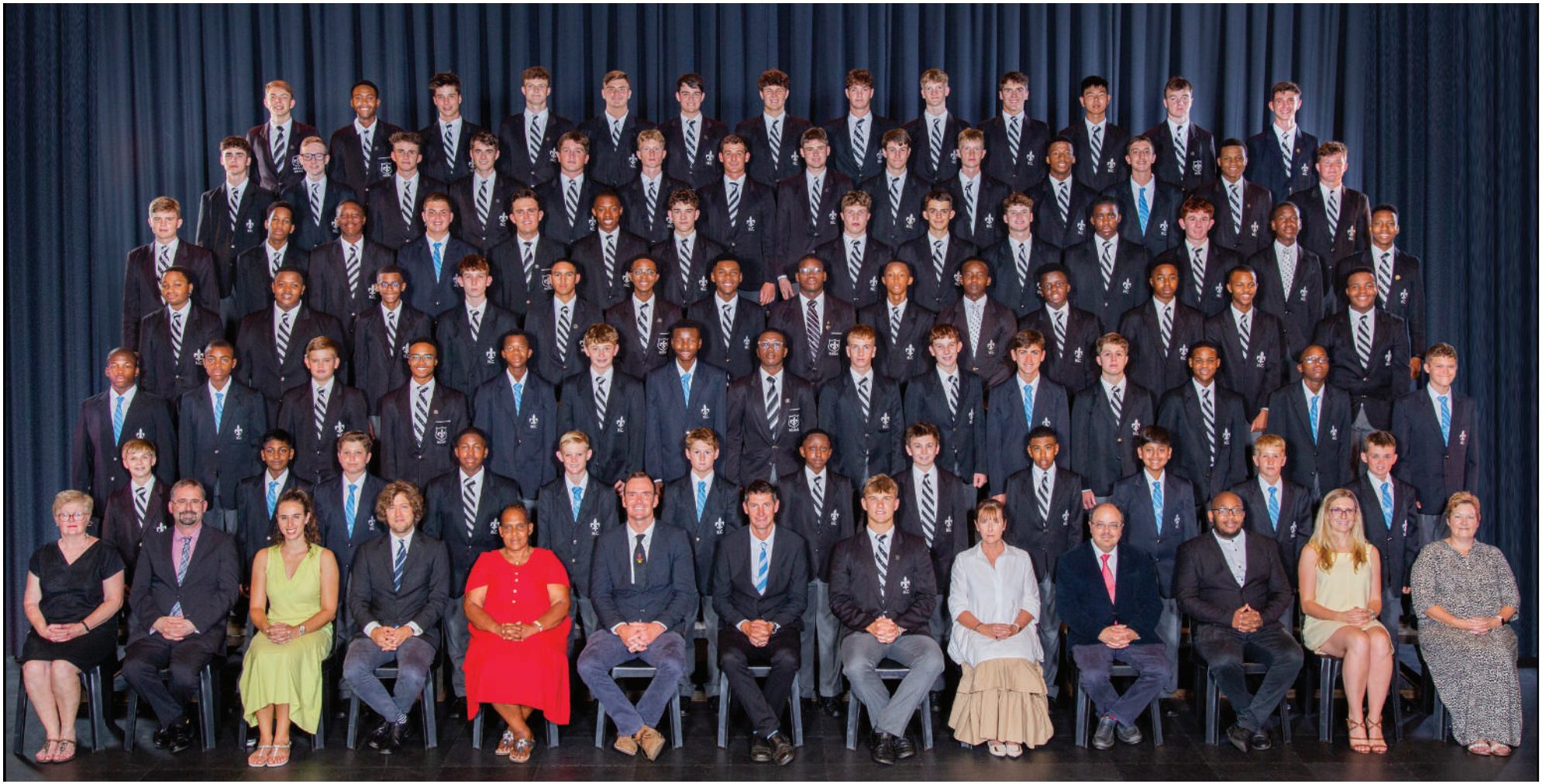












PEARCE HOUSE

Row 7: *Joel Kitshoff, Rorisang Nkosi, Stewart Falconer, Wian Liebenberg, Kean Lourens, Llewellyn Lourens, Andrew Harding, James McGregor, Luke Rowe, Chad Swanepoel, Murray Loughor-Clarke, Nicholas Yu, Caleb Venter, Alex Hayward*

Row 6: *Joshua Mapp, Fin Dalrymple, Nic Harcourt, James Robert, Robbie Hayward, Johnson Bryce, Luke Spear, Oliver Mann, Byron Chandler, Johnson Chris, Lesedi Mangwale, Liam Casey, Modupe Ogunronbi, Dylan Neill*

Row 5: *Tom Peattie, Khetsa Motsa, Barack Munawa, Llewellyn Lourens, Guy Harcourt, Siyamkela Maphumulo, James Youens, James Ogilby, James Dingley, Jack Guye, Uyapo Ndwapi, Josh Grant, Masud Dakile, Ethan Smith*

Row 4: *Thamsanqa Ncube, Mholi Khuzwayo, Tshiamo Mashishi, Luke Wilson, Joshua Julius, Mathubamahle Xaba, Sabelo Skosana, Onke Kweyama, Sedise Moseneke, Ivan Jjuuko, Mpho Makulana, Ofentse Mamojele, Gcina Gqwaaru, Andiswa Thwala*

Row 3: *Olothando Mqashane, Gabriel Dube, Benn Mann, Kearabetswe Khoele, Ayanda Kunene, James Voller, Litha Madinda, Nkululeko Xaba, William Segar, Matthew Wilson, Rex Schoeman, Jarred Kitto, Ndalo Moyo, Shee' Sebeo, Ryan Grobler*

Row 2: *Lance Kitto, Aryan Pillay, Zachery Ichikowitz, Mvila Ncongwane, Max Dalrymple, Knox Rutherfoord, Erin Kihara, Daniel Askew, Fernando Ebineng, Zayd Kidy, Anthony Crossley, Sam Neill*

Row 1: *Mrs Jean van Heeswijk, Mr Graeme Evans, Ms Liezl Scholtz, Dr Alexei du Bois, Mrs Precious Mwelase, Mr Andrew Duncan, Mr James Bullough, Jack Hampson, Mrs Pamela Neethling, Mr Bruce MacLachlan, Mr Orateng Motsoe, Ms Lara Rogers, Mrs Teresa Whitfield*

Pearce House enjoyed great success in 2023. We achieved six inter-house wins and won both the junior and senior soccer trophies. These wins revealed that not only is there talent in our ranks, but good teamwork which is the result of strong bonds and brotherhood.

Without the matric leaders and their dedication to our house, these results could not have been achieved. Every Pearce boy can be proud of how we conducted ourselves on and off the field and represented our house with distinction.

Pearce also made memories this year. One of my best memories is when the house came together and played dodgeball. Another highlight of the year for me was our talent show, which brought much laughter to the house.

We owe a debt of gratitude to our amazing housemaster, Mr James Bullough, and deputy housemaster, Mr Andrew Duncan, for their constant guidance and support. Their approachability and their advice have created a space for Pearce boys to grow and excel.

We are also very grateful to both Mrs Nonhlanhla Majola, our house manager, and Ms Precious Mwelase, our housekeeper, for always greeting us with a smile and making our lives easier. We truly are grateful.

To my dorm, this special journey will forever be engraved on my heart and the brotherhood and bonds that we have formed will stay with me forever. We arrived here as strangers, and we will leave here as brothers. You boys truly are special, and I wish you the best of luck for the future.

I wish Joshua Julius and his fellow matrics the best of luck for next year. I know you boys will continue to fly the Pearce flag high. To the rest of the house, cherish every moment of your time here, it goes by in the blink of an eye. Pearce House is a special place. Some of your best days will be had here and some of your best memories will be made here. Look after Pearce House.

Jack Hampson | Head of House












David Hill
Reabetswe Motlhaloga
Xander Schlebusch
Zizwe Dlgangoaine
Luke Ramlakan
Greg Braatvedt
Andre Boshoff
Sean Kamau
Carter Van den berg
Brynn Valentine
Axcille Nyangiwe
Jake van Zyldam
Mbuyelo Mbokota
JD van Wyk
Josh Black
Akani Nkumalo
Ramotse Matime
Daniel Lyon
Machabe Monaheng
Travis de Bruyn
Tsebo Mokhathi
Victor Compton
Thandwa Monyae
Phelele Cele
James Dent
Rourke Schwegmann
Kego Maseko
Seko Maseko
Phemelo Joel
Kwanele Gumbi
Liyema Gazi
Ryan Jellis
Ben Ferguson
Six Nyangiwe
Ndalo Ngewu
Jordan Byres
Nyiko Mabunda
Ore Ogunfowora
Oliver Chapple
Daniel Hathorn
Jack O'Brien
Ethan Aitken
Rex Holdsworth
John Grubb
Jarred Maltby
Jack Kitching
Olufemi Oyeka
Garrick Phillips



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ANIMAL
ANIMAL FAMILIES
MARINE ANIMALS
Astronomy
HUMAN ANATOMY

3

Our students can take pride in their results, which reflect their diligence and dedication.

These achievements stand as a testament to their readiness for the next phase of their lives, whether pursuing higher education, embarking on a gap year, or entering the world of work.

Hilton College 2023 NSC Matric Results

I am delighted to present the IEB Senior Certificate examination outcomes for the Matric class of 2023.

I am honoured to acknowledge the remarkable team with whom I have the privilege to collaborate. Their unwavering support and inspiration have played a pivotal role in nurturing our students' growth and success. I extend my gratitude and congratulations to each of my colleagues for their exceptional contributions.

Hilton College has, once again, maintained a 100% pass rate. Out of the 102 Hilton College candidates who participated in the NSC 2023 November examinations, 96% successfully met the criteria for Bachelor's degree studies. Additionally, 4% qualified for diploma studies. The class of 2023 achieved 2.79 distinctions per candidate.

These achievements underscore the unwavering commitment and professionalism of our faculty and staff. As we celebrate these accomplishments, we also look forward to continuing our journey of excellence and innovation in education, empowering our students to thrive in an ever-evolving world.

Scholar of the Year and Top Achievers

Our Scholar of the Year was Khanya Mhlongo, whose outstanding performance included seven distinctions and an impressive average of 91%. Following closely was Proxime Accessit Matthew Stewart, who achieved seven distinctions with an average of 89%.

Also, among the school's top-achieving IEB candidates were Nic Thorburn, who achieved nine distinctions, and Ben Kok and Nkululeko Ngcobo, who achieved eight distinctions each.

Distinctions

As illustrated in the table below, a total of 285 distinctions (2.79 As per student) were achieved. Eighty-two of the 102 boys achieved one or more distinctions. Out of the 102 students who undertook the NSC Examinations, 98 attained matric exemption. Notably, 85.52% of all their symbols were a C or higher, compared to 84% in 2022.

Year	As per student	% A	% B	% C	% D	% E	% F	% G
2020	2.70	36.0	26.0	20.0	10.4	4.84	1.8	0.38
2021	1.95	26.94	29.2	24.3	9.8	6.27	2.9	0.63
2022	2.40	34.0	27.0	23.0	11.0	4.0	1.0	0.01
2023	**2.79**	**38.57**	**27.74**	**19.22**	**8.66**	**3.52**	**1.49**	**0.8**

The excellence of our all-round education was highlighted by the exceptional results across subject disciplines.

SUBJECT AVERAGES 70% AND ABOVE:

ACCOUNTING | 79.92%
DRAMATIC ARTS | 74.46%
ECONOMICS | 76.96%
EGAD | 71.21%
ENGLISH | 71.91%
GEOGRAPHY | 71.07%
HISTORY | 77.91%
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | 80.78%
ISIZULU | 74%
LIFE SCIENCES | 72.80%
MATHEMATICAL LITERACY | 76.25%
MATHEMATICS CORE | 70.20%
MUSIC | 74.17%
PHYSICAL SCIENCES | 72.77%
VISUAL ARTS | 82.14%
FURTHER STUDIES ENGLISH | 70.0%
FURTHER STUDIES MATHEMATICS | 76.50%

IEB COMMENDABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

Three Hilton College boys achieved Commendable Achievements for obtaining marks placing them in the top 5% in five subjects and achieving a rating level of 7 in Life Orientation nationally. They are:

Luke Hancock
Guy Harcourt
Matthew Stewart

SUMMARY OF DISTINCTIONS

*****Denotes 90% or higher

~Denotes that the candidate achieved in the top 1% in the country

HL stands for Home Language;
FS for Further Studies;
FAL for First Additional Language

NINE DISTINCTIONS

Nic Thorburn (English HL, *History, *Life Orientation, Life Sciences, *Mathematics, FS: Mathematics Statistics, *FS: Mathematics Standard (Calculus & Algebra); FS: Physics; Physical Sciences)

EIGHT DISTINCTIONS

Ben Kok (Afrikaans FAL, *Economics, English HL, Geography, Life Orientation, Mathematics, FS: Mathematics Standard (Calculus & Algebra); Physical Sciences)

Nkululeko Ngcobo (*Accounting, *Economics, English HL, isiZulu FAL, Life Orientation, Mathematics, FS: Mathematics Standard (Calculus & Algebra), Physical Sciences)

SEVEN DISTINCTIONS

Luke Hancock (*Economics, English HL, *Life Orientation, Life Sciences, *Mathematics, FS: Mathematics Standard (Calculus & Algebra), Physical Sciences)

Khanya Mhlongo (*~Economics, *~English HL, *~History, *~Life Orientation, *Mathematics, FS: Mathematics Standard (Calculus & Algebra), Physical Sciences)

Bandile Shabalala (Accounting, Economics, English HL, isiZulu FAL, Life Orientation, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

Matthew Stewart (Afrikaans FAL, *Economics, English HL, Geography, *Life Orientation, *Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

SIX DISTINCTIONS

Jonathan Braithwaite (English HL, *Information Technology, *Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

Michael Capes (*Accounting, *Economics, English HL, Life Orientation, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

Guy Harcourt (*~Economics, English HL, ~Geography, *~History, *Life Orientation, *Mathematical Literacy)

Zimele Khumalo (*Accounting, *Economics, Life Orientation, *~Mathematics, FS: Mathematics Standard (Calculus & Algebra), *Physical Sciences)

Benjamin McGuigan (Accounting, English HL, History, Life Orientation, *Mathematics, *Physical Sciences)

Teboho Pakkies (Geography, Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Mathematics, FS: Mathematics Standard (Calculus & Algebra), Physical Sciences)

Jason Sasse (*~Economics, English HL, Geography, *Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Mathematics)

Stèfan Swart (*Accounting, Afrikaans FAL, *Economics, Life Orientation, *Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

Jehan Thipanyane-Said (Economics, English HL, Geography, *~History, *Life Orientation, *Mathematical Literacy)

FIVE DISTINCTIONS

Ross Boast (*Economics, English HL, Geography, *Life Orientation, Mathematics)

Jonathan Bregman-Frangos (English HL, Geography, *Life Orientation, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

Matthew Hayes (Accounting, *Economics, Geography, Life Orientation, Mathematics)

Daniel Holtzhauzen (English HL, Geography, Life Orientation, Life Sciences, *Visual Arts)

Oliver Joyner (Economics, English HL, Geography, Life Orientation, Mathematics)

Joel Kitshoff (Geography, *Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

Molebogeng Legodi (*Economics, Information Technology, *Life Orientation, *Mathematics, FS Mathematics)

Ruben Marx (Afrikaans FAL, English HL, Life Orientation, Life Sciences, *Visual Arts)

Thomas Peattie (Economics, Geography, History, Life Orientation, Mathematical Literacy)

Caleb Venter (*Dramatic Arts, English HL, *History, *~Life Orientation, Mathematical Literacy)

Mathubamahle Xaba (Economics, History, isiZulu FAL, *Life Orientation, Mathematical Literacy)

FOUR DISTINCTIONS

Joshua Black (Geography, Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Mathematics)

Murray Brink (Economics, History, Life Orientation, Mathematical Literacy)

Benjamin Guimaraens (*Engineering Graphics and Design, English HL, Information Technology, *~Life Orientation)

Kearabetswe Khoele (Economics, Life Orientation, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

Tawanda Kugotsi (Accounting, Economics, Life Orientation, Mathematics)

Nicholas McLeod (Economics, Geography, History, Life Orientation)

Matthew Peters (Accounting, Economics, Information Technology, *~Life Orientation)

Michael Sara (English HL, Geography, Life Orientation, Life Sciences)

PJ van der Walt (Afrikaans FAL, *Engineering Graphics and Design, Life Orientation, Mathematics)

Christopher Wanless (*Accounting, Economics, Geography, Life Orientation)

Luke Watt (Accounting, Economics, Life Orientation, Mathematics)

THREE DISTINCTIONS

Adam Cole (*Engineering Graphics and Design, isiZulu FAL, Life Orientation)

Brett Cutting (Economics, History, Life Orientation)

Kwanele Gumbi (Dramatic Arts, isiZulu FAL, Life Orientation)

Jack Hampson (Economics, Geography, Life Orientation)

Dale Herbert (Economics, History, Mathematical Literacy)

Ronan Keogh (*Engineering Graphics and Design, Information Technology, Life Orientation)

Caine Letschert (English HL, History, Life Orientation)

Hylton Lötter (Economics, *History, Life Orientation)

James Morrison (History, Life Orientation, Mathematical Literacy)

Rorisang Nkosi (Accounting, Economics, Life Orientation)

Nkosiyethu Shozi (Dramatic Arts, History, isiZulu FAL)

TWO DISTINCTIONS

Stuart Baker (Economics, Life Orientation)

Hlumelo Conjwa (isiZulu FAL, *Life Orientation)

James Daniels (History, Mathematical Literacy)

Nathan Denenga (Life Orientation, Mathematical Literacy)

Zukhanye Fatyi (Life Orientation, Visual Arts)

Kieran Griffin (Accounting, Life Orientation)

Luke Horak (Afrikaans FAL, Life Orientation)

Onke Kweyama (isiZulu FAL, Life Orientation)

Lehlohonolo Lethole (Life Orientation, Visual Arts)

Minenhle Makhathini (Economics, isiZulu FAL)

Saphiwa Nzimande (Life Orientation, Mathematical Literacy)

James Ogilvie (Engineering Graphics and Design, Life Orientation)

Luke Rowe (Geography, Life Orientation)

Reneiloe Seopa (Economics, Life Orientation)

Brian Thomson (*~Life Orientation, Life Sciences)

Jordan Udal (Life Orientation, Life Sciences)

ONE DISTINCTION

Jordan Benians (Mathematical Literacy)

Gregory Braithwaite (Life Orientation)

Oscar Bredenkamp (Life Orientation)

Roelof Engelbrecht (Afrikaans FAL)

Mihle Gazi (Life Orientation)

Andrew Harding (Life Orientation)

Tayedza Jaravaza (Life Orientation)

Natan Joubert-Bouwer (Afrikaans FAL)

Zakhele Khumalo (Accounting)

Akhona Kunene (Life Orientation)

Thabelo Letjama (Life Orientation)

Ivan Lockem (Life Orientation)

Oliver Mann (Life Orientation)

Similo Mkhungo (Mathematical Literacy)

Ntuma Moagi (Economics)

Liso Ngoqo (Life Orientation)

Luke Warren (Economics)

CANDIDATES IN THE TOP 1% PER SUBJECT

Nine of our boys achieved marks placing them in the top 1% of candidates in their subjects in the country. They are:

Khanya Mhlongo | Economics, English, History, Life Orientation

Guy Harcourt | Economics, Geography, History

Zimele Khumalo | Mathematics

Jason Sasse | Economics

Jehan Thipanyane-Said | History

Benjamin Guimaraens | Life Orientation

Brian Thomson | Life Orientation

Matthew Peters | Life Orientation

Caleb Venter | Life Orientation

I would like to thank Mrs Tania Hurley (Deputy Director of Academics), Mr De Wet Wentzel, (Director of Academic Administration), and Mrs Kathy Acutt (Academic Secretary) for the professional way in which they support and embrace our collective academic aspirations.

Hanlie Dry | Director Academics

MATRIC RESULTS 2023

100% PASS RATE

96% BD PASS

210 A SYMBOLS

38.6% A SYMBOLS

85.5% of symbols achieved were a C or higher

DISTINCTIONS

9 1 Candidate | 8 2 Candidates | 7 4 Candidates | 6 9 Candidates | 5 11 Candidates | 4 11 Candidates | 3 11 Candidates | 2 16 Candidates

An average of **2.8** distinctions per candidate

A-LEVEL PATHWAY

The A-Level pathway is now well recognised as a core feature of Hilton's academic offering with IGCSE, AS and A-Level qualifications being pursued by Hilton boys as early as Grade 9.

The pathway is structured to grant students the flexibility to pursue their interests, all while supplying the essential structure and support for their academic success. Some exciting outcomes of this approach have empowered our boys to pursue subjects not formally offered at Hilton, including Mandarin, Computer Science, Law and Psychology in 2024.

Another significant advantage of the A-Level programme lies in its emphasis on independent learning periods, enabling students to explore additional academic pursuits at their own pace at a time of their choosing.

In 2023, a group of Hilton College boys collaborated with St Anne's girls to complete the AS Level Cambridge International Project Qualification research essay, culminating in essays focusing on a range of topics, from the role of AI in art to the use of CRISPR to cure malaria. These essays are marked externally by Cambridge Assessment International and can be used to support university applications.

We have also introduced a new IGCSE, AS and A-Level examination board, Pearson Edexcel, that gives our pupils access to a broader range of subjects and more flexibility in terms of resit examinations. Ultimately, our aim is for all boys on the A-Level pathway to undertake a university-style education, including challenging academic content and expectations thereof, with the support of a group of expert teachers who work with each boy to achieve his university aspirations.

From 2024, Mr James Webb will take over the management of the A-Level pathway as the incoming Director of International Learning.

In 2023, Hilton College produced its second cohort of Grade 12 A-Level graduates. With results that exceeded expectations, more than 87% of the symbols achieved by the candidates ranged from a C to an A, showcasing their dedication and hard work over the past two years. This is a remarkable achievement, given the rigorous and challenging nature of the A-Level programme, combined with the demands of Hilton's busy extracurricular programme.

More than 20% of subject results were an A symbol, where our candidates demonstrated their exceptional abilities and mastery of their chosen fields of study. This is a testament to the high-quality education they received at Hilton, where they were supported by dedicated teachers who encouraged them to reach their full potential, including during a range of evening and weekend classes.

The success of these matriculants has created many exciting opportunities for them as they embark on the next chapter of their lives. All candidates who have chosen to go straight into tertiary education secured a place at either a top South African university or an international university, offering them a range of possibilities for further study and future career possibilities.

We are extremely proud of our A-Level graduates and their impressive achievements. Their hard work and dedication have paid off.

In conclusion, the success of Hilton's first cohort of A-Level graduates is a celebration of their individual and collective efforts, and a testament to the exceptional quality of education and support provided by the school. We wish them all the best as they embark on the next exciting phase of their lives.

A-LEVELS SCHOLAR OF THE YEAR

The A-Levels Scholar of the Year for 2023 award is shared between Gabriel Njonjo and Connor Woods who both achieved AAA for their full A-Levels.

TOP ACHIEVERS IN A-LEVELS

Gabriel Njonjo | Economics (A), Mathematics (A), Physics (A)

Connor Woods | Economics (A), English Literature (A), History (A)

Senathi Makola | Chemistry (A), Physics (A), Mathematics (B)

Daniel Hathorn | Economics (A), History (B), Mathematics (C)

Chisha Mulenga | Economics (B), Mathematics (B), Physics (B)

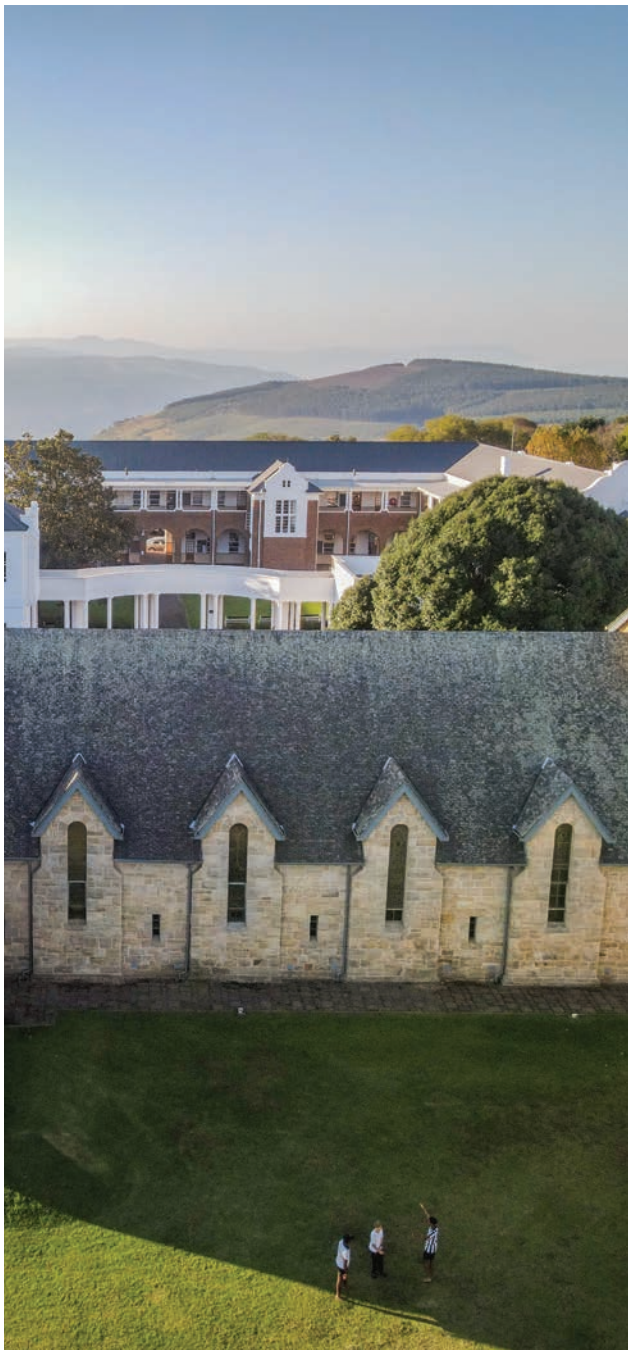
According to the Stellenbosch University benchmark test:

An **A-Level A** is equal to 90% in the same subject at IEB;

An **A-Level B** is equal to 85% in the same subject at IEB;

An **A-Level C** is equal to 80% in the same subject at IEB.

Dr Alexei du Bois | Director of International Learning





JUNIOR PHASE ACADEMICS

Grade 8 and 9 Collaborative Project

Central to the Grade 8 and 9 curricula are the concepts of exploration and understanding. Within this framework we try to create additional spaces for collaboration and problem-based learning outside of the traditional syllabus to focus on addressing environmental and economic issues on both national and international scales. Additionally, technology plays a pivotal role in shaping future-focused learners and empowering them to contribute meaningfully to solving global problems.

In light of this, in 2023 we partnered with Inspire Africa to create a unique programme for the Grades 8s and 9s to use coding and drones to address real-world problems. With rhino poaching on the rise in South Africa, conservationists continue efforts to relocate rhino in an attempt to keep them safe. The mission was to relocate a rhino using coding and drones. The groups comprised Grade 8 and 9 students who worked together on completing the missions. It offered a collaboration opportunity between the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (the STEAM) subjects. The excitement was palpable as they tested their drones that they had programmed to lift off with the origami rhino and deposit it at its new location and return.

The second mission was to examine the area in KwaZulu-Natal affected by the 2022 floods and, using Pythagoras, code the drones to deliver supplies to people in affected areas. This activity presented an opportunity for students to use their knowledge of current local events, together with Tello drones to engage in a learning experience where they had to use critical thinking skills by redefining the problems and create a new understanding of complex situations. With more than 40 000 people displaced as a result of the floods a National State of Disaster was declared. The mission was to plan and execute a drone flight to deliver relief supplies to three points in the Umdloti area.

One of our Grade 8 boys offered this feedback: "My best part was flying the drones. I never thought I would be able to do the coding. It was pretty hard, but I did it. I also enjoyed working with some of the older boys. We live on a farm, and I want to try and see how I can use what I learnt to help my dad on the farm."

Grade 8 and 9 Elective Offering

The elective programme stands as a distinctive feature within our junior curriculum. By presenting a diverse array of subjects, it not only offers boys the chance to explore the breadth of offerings at Hilton College but also equips Grade 9 students with valuable insights for selecting their subject packages in Grade 10. This allows boys the opportunity to explore subjects they may not have encountered before and grow an understanding of their own interests and the world around them.

In 2023, boys could select from the following subjects:
An Introduction to French, An Introduction is IsiZulu, Music Exploration, An Introduction to Engineering Graphics and Design, An Introduction to Sports Science, An Introduction to Agricultural Science, Advanced Mathematics, a Literacy Development Programme, and a Mathematics Development Programme.

Outstanding Academic Achievers

In 2023, William Segar received the Griffin Memorial Prize for being placed first in Grade 9 and Raphael Dube received the AJ Cook Prize for being placed first in Grade 8. Congratulations to both boys on their outstanding results as well as to the following boys on receiving commendation prizes.

Grade 9

Khalane Moletsane, Evan Moloseni, Luke Wilson, Matthew Wilson

Grade 8

Jack O'Brien, Layton Stokes, Bradley van Loggerenberg, Arjun Wadhwani

Tania Hurley | Deputy Director of Academics

ACCOUNTING

We are proud of the excellent results produced by the class of 2023; 64% of our Grade 12 boys who took accounting earned an A for the subject and many in this cohort plan to pursue a career in accounting.

The year 2023 began with Miss Juliet Morulane joining our department. She adapted with ease and quickly became an integral part of our team.

As part of Heartbeat Day, our Grade 10 pupils went on an outing to McDonald's where they learned about inventory management and internal controls. The boys thoroughly enjoyed the trip, especially the bonus burger!

In the classroom, we do our best to make accounting relevant. Our Grade 9 learners completed a project entitled "All the King's Horses" where they learned about internal controls and prevention of fraud in the sphere of a municipality. During the year, we continued to see the benefit of using Color Accounting for the Grade 8 learners, and our team completed an online Color Accounting Course, which was immensely beneficial.

At the end of the third term our head of department, Mrs Teresa Whitfield, left Hilton College to continue her career at Somerset College in Cape Town. We are deeply grateful for all that she contributed to our department and to the school over her many years at Hilton College.

Mr Jaco van Dyk and Miss Morulane managed the department in the fourth term, ensuring that the boys were ready for their year-end examinations.

Teresa Whitfield | Head of Department

AFRIKAANS



The Afrikaans department thrived in 2023, driven by innovative teaching and the success of our students. Positive feedback from students demonstrated the department's commitment to excellence.

Our focus is to create a love for Afrikaans through enriching experiences. Interactive methods, technology, and real-life examples make learning enjoyable and effective, fostering a vibrant classroom environment.

We go beyond the textbook by integrating cultural events, braais, language games, and writing workshops to promote camaraderie, language skills, and cultural appreciation. Engaging experiences and activities contribute significantly to the boys' overall development and not just their proficiency in Afrikaans.

Our boys produced outstanding results in the 2023 final IEB examinations. In fact, our matric students achieved impressive results consistently throughout the year, including in the challenging new set book. Tailoring teaching to individual needs played a key role in this success.

A highlight of the year was Mr Pitout's seamless integration. His enthusiasm, commitment, and fresh perspective make him an asset to our department. His dedication to our students and passion for Afrikaans resonate with the team, solidifying his place as a vital member.

Our teachers are committed to ongoing improvement and regular collaboration, including the sharing of insights and refining of teaching methods. Additionally, participating in IEB marking enhances the quality of education we offer.

The 2023 academic year was marked by success, enthusiasm, and a commitment to excellence. Effective teaching, engaging activities, Mr Pitout's addition, and a dedication to continuous improvement resulted in remarkable achievements and a strong foundation for future success. The teachers' collaboration and passion continue to inspire, making the Afrikaans department a shining example of educational excellence.

Leana Steenkamp | Head of Department

DRAMATIC ARTS

The Dramatic Arts programme kicked off with an immersive dance and movement workshop led by Musa Hlatshwayo, the esteemed 2018 Standard Bank Young Artist Award recipient for dance. This week-long endeavour culminated in a mesmerising performance by the Grade 10s and 11s, showcasing their newfound skills. Witnessing our young men craft such captivating visuals was not only a privilege for us as educators but also for the boys themselves, as they surpassed their own expectations, often venturing well beyond their comfort zones. Challenging the boys to step out of their comfort zones and embrace calculated risks remains a fundamental aspect of our approach in Dramatic Arts.

Across Grades 10, 11, 12 and A Levels, we delved into a diverse selection of plays, both local and international. To keep the coursework engaging and relevant, and where possible, we introduced new text this year which proved successful.

During the Grade 12 final practical examination, the external examiner commended the overall standard of the work. She commended Nkosi Shozi and Caleb Venter for their outstanding performances. In the final theory examination, we achieved three A symbols, with Caleb Venter earning an impressive A+. Our inaugural A-Level pathway graduates excelled, particularly in the practical performances.

I am thrilled with the academic achievements of this year and extend my congratulations to Mr Sipho Moniwa, who successfully guided the Grade 12 students to their final examinations. Anticipating the possibilities of 2024, we are eager to push the boundaries of what we believe is achievable in our ongoing exploration of Dramatic Arts.

Jenine Warren | Head of Department

ECONOMICS



The Economics Department takes great pride in the academic achievements of the Economics students in the 2023 IEB Final Examinations. They achieved an average of 76.96% (the national average was 63.8%). More than 90% of the 72 Hilton College candidates who wrote the IEB Economics paper achieved an A, B or C symbol; of which 35 boys achieved a distinction. A significant number of boys showed improvement and many of those boys achieved their best results in Economics since being at Hilton.

Notably, we had three boys – Guy Harcourt, Khanya Mhlongo and Jason Sasse – who were in the top 1%, or top 6 of the country. We are exceptionally pleased with their outstanding achievements and commend them for their consistent diligence.

We had our second full set of A-Level results and are very proud of our boys who followed the CIE pathway. Three boys achieved an A, 91% of the boys achieved A – C for their Economics A-Level. These marks do not include remarks that we are awaiting.

It was a special year for us as a department, as 2023 marked 10 years of Economics at Hilton.

During April, the Grade 10 year group (118 boys) attended an investment workshop presented by people who are leaders in their sectors. These included Michael Porter (the chief investment officer at Harvard House), Mark Robertson (the principal at Genesis Analytics), Kathryn Main (an author and the CEO of the Money Savvy brands), Justin Pearse (VP Partner Operations at the Purple Group) and Michael Jordaan (CEO at Montegray Capital). The workshop provided a unique opportunity for the boys to engage with experts, learn more about the economy and even to open an Easy Equities trading account and learn more about investing.

Many boys have risen to the challenge to read a variety of economics books that go far beyond the curriculum. These books, from our library, cover a wide range of topics and branches of economics, extending way beyond capitalism and finance.

We continue to see a significant number of boys opting for careers in or related to economics. Boys who matriculated in 2023 and in the recent past have been accepted at top local and international universities. It is encouraging for the department to hear how complimentary they are about the foundation they received at Hilton College on both the IEB and Cambridge A-Level pathway.

Mrs Hanlie Dry, Mr Msizi Mchunu and Mr William Donkin have continued to provide excellent tuition and support to the Hilton boys in the Economics Department. We were sad to bid farewell to Mrs Pam Nel who emigrated with her family to Australia at the end of Term 2. She played a vital role, which she fulfilled with aplomb, as the Grade 8 and 9 lead. We miss her calm and organised way with the boys.

Mr William Donkin will assume the role of Head of Department from January 2024, and I am confident that he will take the department to new heights as a passionate Economics educator who has had teaching experience in both Singapore and the UK on top of teaching in South Africa. He's also a new father, making him an even greater asset to us.

James Webb | Head of Department

ENGINEERING GRAPHICS AND DESIGN



The Engineering Graphics and Design (EGAD) department had a successful year in 2023 with the subject now being offered to all grades. Two groups of Grade 8 boys were exposed to the subject and a Grade 9 class elected to take the subject for the entire year. Boys appeared enthusiastic about learning how to draw using instruments although some still found producing neat and accurate drawings a challenge. However, the skills they have learnt in this subject will prove useful later, even if they have not opted to continue with EGAD.

A highlight of this year was the first outing our Grade 10 EGAD class went on to explore a steel fabrication workshop and an 18m long catamaran being constructed out of aluminium by Jake van Zuydam's father. The outing was informative, and the boys had the opportunity to see some of the tools and machines they usually only hear about or see in pictures. We are very thankful to Mr Van Zuydam for allowing us the opportunity to visit his workshop and for his explanation of his operation. We look forward to seeing the completion of his catamaran.

Each year some boys manage to excel in EGAD through hard work and dedication. A special mention must be made of the EGAD subject prize winners for 2023. They were PJ van der Walt in Grade 12, Connor Sawyer in Grade 11 and Jake van Zuydam in Grade 10. Well done to these boys for always producing drawings that are neat and accurate and for your commitment to the subject. I would also like to thank the rest of the boys, who, although not subject prize winners, each contribute to the classroom in their own unique way, by simply getting on with their work, persevering even when they find a drawing challenging and helping to create a classroom environment that is pleasant for everyone.

Jeremy Piater | Head of Department

ENGLISH

Our English Department enjoyed a pleasant start to the year with nearly everyone present, with partners, at a start-of-year function. We welcomed Lara Rogers as a full-time, permanent teacher and we congratulated Tania Hurley on her appointment as the new Deputy Director of Academics and Chris Kingsley on his appointment as head of the new Community Partnerships portfolio. There were lots of exciting "firsts" this year after the hype of the 150th last year.

Yet again, Hilton College participated in the national English Olympiad with 48 candidates signed up for the programme and the examination. Mrs Pat Fanucci joined us in February to lead a Masterclass for the English Olympiad programme at which pupils from Grace College, TWC, St Anne's and St John's DSG joined the boys from Hilton College in our Theatre. It was an enriching and valuable extension session. We were proud of, and delighted for, Khanya Mhlongo (Grade 12) and Fin Dalrymple (Grade 11) who came sixth and 96th nationally out of approximately 5 000 candidates. It is a significant achievement to be included in the Top 100 of this prestigious examination.

Pamela Neethling attended a three-day accredited Brené Brown Dare to Lead training, bringing back exciting ideas on self-knowledge and leadership for everyone in the department to share and to implement. At our November Planning Day, Craig Carolan, Round Square's Professional Development Director, joined us to present on Observations on Global Collaborations in English Teaching. On the same day, our own Ashleigh Askew, who is currently reading for her Masters through Wits University, shared her valuable research on Fostering Curiosity, and Dr Janna de Gouveia gave an outstanding presentation helping us, as teachers, to understand the lived experience of boys who present with barriers to learning. During the year, several of us attended St John's DSG's Impact Conference where we enjoyed the expertise and passion of a number of speakers on strategies and ideas that work in the classroom, including Ashleigh talking again on curiosity.

The IEB National English Conference was held online on February 11, giving matric teachers and Lara Rogers, as a newly qualified colleague, a chance to interact remotely with the examiners and to be challenged by various presenters on what it means to be an English teacher, teaching film, teaching Othello (the Shakespeare text from 2024) in a woke classroom as well as classroom life in a time of AI and apps like ChatGPT.

The year ended on a high note with the matric class, both IEB and A Levels, achieving significant results to reward their motivation and diligence over the years of preparation. Connor Woods earned an A symbol for Cambridge English Literature and 22 boys, too many to mention by name, earned an A symbol in the IEB pathway. We are very proud of our boys and congratulate both them and their teachers.

The English Department continues to flourish at Hilton College and we are looking forward to a stimulating and positive 2024.

Pamela Neethling | Head of Department

FRENCH

Our department enjoyed a year of excellence, camaraderie, and milestones. Hilton College serves as the Pietermaritzburg exam centre for DELF, which is an internationally recognized and benchmarked test of French proficiency. A large number of Hilton boys formed part of the cohort that wrote the exam in KwaZulu-Natal, and we are incredibly proud of their results.

Achieving an A1 level were: Aiden Clubb (with distinction), Zayd Kidy (with distinction), Reinard Wagner (with distinction), Tele Sitoyo, Rupert Wright (with distinction), Kieran Janse Van Rensburg, Adam Wingfield, Jowi Cole (with distinction), Efe Ozcan, Dominic Richards, James Dent, Jamie Dunn, and Daniel Askew (with distinction).

Achieving an A2 level were: Katlego Moncho (with distinction), Travis de Bruyn, Oscar Steiner, Jack Weavind (with distinction), Sean Kamau, Daniel Friend, Kingsley Thompson, and Kieran Hunter (with distinction).

Achieving a B1 level were: Katlego Moncho (with distinction), Minenhle Makhathini, Thuto Phakisi, and Zimele Khumalo. Achieving a B2 was Minenhle Makhathini.

Mrs Lara Wulfsohn and I achieved the DALF C2 proficiency level, which is the highest accolade attainable for non-native French speakers, raising the bar for our students.

The accomplishment of our staff and boys underscores our dedication to linguistic mastery and positions Hilton College as a hub for linguistic excellence.

Throughout the year, we organized and participated in a myriad of events aimed at enhancing our boys' proficiency in French. From captivating career information sessions led by a sciences Po graduate and translator to lively pétanque games by the bell and exhilarating chasse au trésor activities around the school, our commitment to providing immersive and diverse experiences remains unwavering.

The culmination of our cultural endeavours was the annual Matric French Dinner hosted at the Fleur-De-Lys Club. This event welcomed schools from across KwaZulu-Natal, creating a culinary feast that celebrated our shared passion for the French language and culture. It was an evening of joy, camaraderie, and a testament to the cultural richness fostered by our department.

We extend heartfelt congratulations to achievers across the grades, with a special emphasis on the remarkable accomplishments of the matric class of 2023. Furthermore, we take a moment to joyously celebrate every learner who was honoured with prizes at Speech Day and grade prize-giving days throughout the year. Equally deserving of commendation are those individuals who exhibited unwavering commitment and dedication, even in the absence of awards. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed, and we applaud your dedication to excellence.

At the end of 2023, we bid a sad farewell to Mrs Lara Wulfsohn, whose leadership propelled the department to unprecedented heights.

I extend my utmost gratitude to our seasoned in-house star teacher, Mrs Ghyslaine Dye, for her unwavering consistency and impeccable teaching skills. Operating as the Louvre, our department stands as a masterpiece of collaboration, expertise, and enthusiasm. The triangular metaphor aptly captures our structure – three visible sides, yet a multifaceted gem that is a beacon of excellence. In closing, merci mille fois to all the Francophiles at Hilton College. Thank you for sharing our dedication to linguistic mastery and cultural enrichment. Vive le français!

Juliette Hunter | Head of Department

GEOGRAPHY

The department has, once again, had a successful year. I am pleased to report that we have embraced new ideas and learning opportunities to stay relevant and to embrace the learning process. We introduced a Grade 10 Geographic Information Systems workshop introducing the boys to the basics of this powerful mapping tool. We have achieved a good deal which we can be proud of in the department. It certainly has been a busy and productive year.

As with the previous years, we continued to focus on the development of relevant skills, but at the same time, imparting knowledge and understanding in geography. Problem solving, thinking skills, enquiry, values and decision making, flexible thinking, spatial understanding and social, environmental and economic awareness are but some of the focus areas this past year.

Our 2023 matric results were very pleasing at both the top end and the lower end. Those boys who attended the revision sessions that were on offer clearly benefited from these. We are very proud of our top student Guy Harcourt who achieved 89% and was listed in the top 1% for the subject. We also celebrate the successes of the weaker candidates – some of them improving by a symbol.

The following is a summary of the NSC results:

SCHOOL AVERAGE | **69.8%** (IEB average: 62.8%)
SYMBOLS | **A** = 19 | **B** = 14 | **C** = 12 | **D** = 3 | **E** = 3 | **below E** = 2 |
85% of our boys achieved an A, B or C.
We had one boy take Geography at A-Levels, and he received a B.

This year we went on a few field trips giving our boys the benefit of experiential learning associated with out-of-classroom activity. The Grade 11s visited the Markets of Warwick [Triangle] in Durban to explore how the informal sector operates, and the Grade 12s did a drive through tour of Pietermaritzburg as part of the matric settlement section. Experiential learning is a key component of our subject and seeing and experiencing geography firsthand helps the boys to make sense of concepts covered in the classroom. Geography develops critical skills that are, ever increasingly, in demand in the workplace and tertiary institutions. It is our hope that more and more parents and boys will see the importance and value of this in the future.

The success of any department depends entirely on the dedication and professionalism of its teachers. This has certainly been the case in our department. At the end of 2023 we said goodbye to two experienced and dedicated Geography teachers: Mr Mike Mill, who served this department since 2001, and Mr Francois Morgan, who has served us since 2006. Both teachers have given their all to serving the school, the boys and the department and they will be sorely missed by boys and staff.

Karen Koopman | Head of Department

> “Geography develops critical skills that are, ever increasingly, in demand in the workplace and tertiary institutions.”

HISTORY









The History Department is very proud of the 2023 IEB National Senior Certificate results produced by our boys, 17 of which achieved an A Symbol and 91% of them got a Level 5 and above. Khanya Mhlongo excelled with a 99% NSC result and he, along with Guy Harcourt and Jehan Thipanyane-Said, were placed in the IEB top 1% for History. The A-Level results were also very pleasing and Connor Woods is to be commended on his outstanding A symbol.

In early February, the annual History Dinner was held. This year’s one commemorated the German 6th Army surrender at Stalingrad, which was a turning point in the Second World War. After a break of several years, the Grade 10 trip to Babanango took place and the boys had a wonderful time visiting the battle fields of the 1879 Anglo Zulu War. The Grade 9s visited the Holocaust Center in Durban and were incredibly fortunate to see the world-renowned exhibition “Seeing Auschwitz”.

At the end of the year the department said farewell to Ms Simone Van Niekerk and Mrs Mandy Durnford. Ms Van Niekerk did sterling work in the Grade 8 classes and we wish her well in her new adventures. As the librarian, Mrs Durnford was integral to the growth and success of our subject. We will be forever indebted to her for lessons in research methodology as well as her passionate defence of reading and ensuring that staff and boys always had access to the very latest history resources. We wish Mrs Durnford all of the very best in retirement.

Paul Venter | Head of Department

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

A lively and enjoyable group to teach, the class of 2023 worked incredibly hard over a three-year period. Working with such a responsive, committed group of pupils makes each lesson so worthwhile!

Once again, we used a tried-and-tested teaching method to ensure that virtually the entire matric syllabus was complete by about half term in the second term, leaving a lot of time for project work and detailed revision.

Out of a class of eight, we achieved five As, one B and two C symbols at the end of the year. These outstanding marks are the result of dedicated hard work by the pupils and they are to be congratulated in this regard.

The Grade 8 and 9 Computer Skills programme continued during 2023, giving the junior pupils some feel for the use of technology in education, as well as raising awareness of the dangers of certain technology, especially in the social media arena. I am particularly pleased that in 2024, the course will be allocated dedicated lessons in Grade 9, rather than having to "borrow" from other subjects on a random basis.

Once again, the contribution Mr Allan Fryer makes in terms of teaching in this area is appreciated. He is a dedicated member of the IT Support Team who takes on this teaching load in addition to his support work, and this is most commendable.

Bruce MacLachlan | Head of Department

ISIZULU

In 2023 we saw an increase in the number of students taking isiZulu in Grades 8 to 10. IsiZulu continues to be offered in the Cambridge IGCSE and as an elective in Grades 8 and 9. At the beginning of the year, we welcomed Mr Siphesihle Rodney Zondi as a temporary addition to the department. He made a valuable contribution to the department, and it was with regret that we bid him farewell at the end of the term. In the second term, we welcomed Mr Swelihle Mkhwanazi from Maritzburg College as a full-time member of staff and our department.

Our matric results once again reflected excellence. Out of a group of 30 boys, 27 achieved C and above (eight boys earned an A; 14 earned a B; and five got a C). We aim to improve on these results in 2024.

In preparation for the Trial examinations, our Grade 12 class attended a production based on the set book, hosted by Michaelhouse. This annual event provides valuable subject support, and we plan to continue sending our boys.

On the staff development front, Mrs Thembile Zuma attended the isiZulu National Teachers Annual Workshop in Pinetown. This workshop provided a valuable learning experience, where delegates shared experiences on various pertinent classroom issues, including teaching methods, classroom management, diverse teaching strategies, growing isiZulu departments in schools, integrating technology in isiZulu teaching, creating strong working relationships across phases, and other interesting topics.

On the traditional and cultural side of the language, we participated in two key events. The isiZulu History Tour took the Grade 10 students on a journey to Babanango for a historical and cultural experience. The combination of history and the isiZulu language enriched the experience, providing deeper cultural insights and fostering a greater appreciation for the customs and traditions of the Zulu people. The boys learned about the Battle of Isandlwana, Zulu traditional homesteads, the history of Shaka Zulu, Zulu medicine, and Zulu food. The tour will take place annually, and we are grateful to the History Department for including us in it.

The second big event of the year was a workshop on Zulu heritage and culture for the Grade 9 Zulu elective class, to deepen their understanding of the rich history, traditions, and ceremonies of the Zulu people in South Africa. We also wanted to foster cultural appreciation and promote a sense of pride and identity among the students. The workshop explored the importance of rituals and ceremonies, including Umemulo (the coming-of-age ceremony), Umabo (the marriage ceremony), and the famous Reed Dance. The facilitator highlighted the significance of these ceremonies in preserving cultural values, fostering community bonds, and celebrating milestones within the Zulu community.

We are looking forward to 2024 and hope to reach all our goals in the new year.

Charles Ncobeni | Head of Department

LIFE ORIENTATION



The year 2023 was marked by notable achievements and impactful learning experiences. Our matrics achieved outstanding results – 71 A symbols – our best to date. Showcasing dedication and academic excellence, five of our young men were placed in the top 1% in the country for Life Orientation.

A significant component of the Grade 12 programme centered on essential life skills, such as budgeting and financial planning, to prepare our learners for post matric. Lessons in cooking, changing a tyre, and presentation skills were also taught in a bid to equip our boys for life after school. They need to leave school with a solid foundation in managing their finances responsibly, and the skills necessary for independence and self-sufficiency. This programme was met with enthusiasm and positive feedback from both the learners and teachers.

Hilton College has developed a comprehensive career development programme and leadership programme for Grade 11 students.

The focus is on equipping students with crucial skills for entering the working world. Among other things, they are taught how to create a CV and interviewing skills, as well as critical thinking skills and interpersonal skills. The boys also enjoyed lively discussion and debate with their peers from St Anne's during a gender workshop.

Our focus in Grade 10 is on the development and exploration of emotional intelligence. The curriculum includes goal setting and long-term planning, critical thinking and interpersonal skills, healthy masculinity, and issues around gender, as well as mental wellness and coping strategies. The introduction of the sign language workshop proved to be transformative. Students not only gained an insight into sign language but also developed a deeper understanding and appreciation for the deaf community. Our programme aims to promote inclusivity and diversity, fostering a more compassionate and empathetic environment.

Our Grade 9 boys started the year with goal setting, the dangers of social media, sex education, online pornography, community responsibility, etiquette and cultural exploration. The latter resulted in a range of excellent group presentations by the boys. These created meaningful awareness for everyone involved.

In Grade 8 we focus on the social aspects of a boy's life at Hilton College as well as outside school. We look at identity and relationships, social media awareness, pornography (with Christy Herselman from The Chat), general etiquette, cultural exploration and awareness, and presentation skills. Creative problem-solving skills and collaborative learning are also encouraged as important 21st century skills.

Building on the achievements of 2023, the Life Orientation Department at Hilton College is committed to further enhancing the curriculum and exploring innovative ways to engage students in meaningful learning experiences.

Claudia Plunkett | Head of Department

LIFE SCIENCES



Our 2023 matriculants are to be congratulated on their excellent results. Thirty percent achieved an A symbol and 89.7% obtained either an A, B or C.

Over the year we continued to develop amongst other skills, those of inquiry, problem solving and critical thinking. Our aim each year is to equip our pupils with the ability to use the Life Sciences concepts they have learnt and to apply this in their personal lives and as responsible citizens. This will hopefully contribute to them living healthy lifestyles and finding solutions to sustainable management of our resources in the future.

We always try to extend our pupils and this year they were fortunate enough to be able to listen to Dr Janine Scholefield, a CSIR geneticist who is involved in cutting-edge precision medicine in South Africa, and Professor Jeremy Simpson, who is Full Professor of Cell Biology at University College Dublin (UCD). Thank you to Ms Claudia Plunkett for arranging Dr Scholefield's visit and to Ms Heidi Sulcas for organising Prof Simpson as part of a programme to international high schools through the School of Science at UCD.

Our Grade 9s were fortunate enough to be part of a collaborative STEAM rocket-building launch with Vula. It was an incredible opportunity to connect with other learners. Specifics of this are covered in the Vula report. We thank Ms Trisha Crookes and her team from I-Innovate and the ASRI team for facilitating this day. We are deeply appreciative to Old Hiltonian Mr Keith Rosenbaum, whose generous sponsorship made this event possible.

As always, we as a department strive to work as a team and try to use any opportunity to collaboratively team teach, share resources and come up with new and innovative ways of teaching and assessing.

We said goodbye to Ms Liezl Scholtz, who moved to Holland. I would like to thank her for her contribution to the department and wish her all the best for her future.

I would also like to thank our laboratory assistants Ms Charlene Ragubeer, Mr Jabulani Kunene, Mrs Zanele Ngubane and my teaching colleagues Mr James Robey, Mr Tony Shuttleworth and Mr Ernie Steenkamp, for all their hard work, dedication, and support throughout the year.

Lastly, I would also like to thank Ms Colleen Raciborska for teaching my classes whilst I was away in term 2.

Tracey MacKenzie | Head of Department

MATHEMATICS

At the conclusion of 2022, we bid farewell to Mr Lesego Mokoka, who relocated to Johannesburg to work at Crawford Lonehill, and Ms Margie Mackechnie, who experienced a slight change in her career path, securing a position at UCT in the Actuarial Science Department. However, we were delighted to welcome, in their respective places, Mrs Anze Goodwin from Ashton International School and Ms Coco Mamabolo, who transitioned from an internship into a full-time teaching position. We also borrowed Ms Juliet Morulane from the Accounting Department to teach matric Mathematical Literacy. Additionally, we welcomed back Mrs Jean van Heeswijk, who joined us in a part-time capacity in 2022, following the departure of Mrs Charmaine Padayachee to St Anne's as Deputy Head. Furthermore, we had the services of Mr Brendan Gray as a Mathematics intern.

The department comprised myself, Mr Michael Werth, Mrs Van Heeswijk, Mr Lionel Julius, Mr Wilbert Tenga, Mr James Bullough, Mr Orateng Motsoe, Mrs Goodwin, Mr Richard Garrett, Ms Mamabolo, and Ms Morulane.

While we had a strong top group of matrics, the number of students opting for Mathematical Literacy increased during the year. This shift was reflected in having two classes in both Grade 11 and Grade 12. Fortunately, we had flexible teachers who could step into the gap at short notice. This trend is indicative of a national shift, with about 57% of students writing Mathematics and 43% opting for Mathematical Literacy. At Hilton, within the IEB cohort, 70% of students write Maths and 30% write Mathematical Literacy. While we encourage all students to write Mathematics, the ultimate

decision lies with students and parents, guided by our career counsellors. In a small number of borderline cases, boys can register for both Mathematics and Mathematical Literacy and then choose the most advantageous result, with Mathematical Literacy often yielding more points for university entrance. Another factor is that the IEB maintains a very high standard in Mathematics exams, and our department needs to align with this standard. We were pleased with the results of the 2023 matrics, who achieved 25 A symbols with an average of 70% for Mathematics and 13 A symbols at an average of 76% for Mathematical Literacy, continuing a recent upward trend in performance.

At the start of Grade 11, we encourage students in the top set of Mathematics to pursue Further Studies Mathematics as an additional subject, and in Grade 12, we make it optional. Thirteen students wrote, and we were delighted with seven distinctions.

Our A-level programme continues to gain momentum, with Mathematics being a popular yet challenging subject choice. This course requires boys to delve deeper and spend more time at their desks, and we were delighted with the results of those boys whose commitment was rewarded.

Annually, we request the entire school to participate in the Mathematics Olympiad. This presents an enormous logistical challenge, but the boys did themselves proud, with 194 making it through to the second round. The South African Mathematics Foundation recognised Hilton College as one of the country's top participants in the competition.

As part of our offering, we continue to partner with the Vula programme, working with a small group of Grade 11 students from township schools on a bi-weekly basis on Saturday mornings.

We eagerly anticipate the challenges and successes that the Hilton College Mathematics Department will encounter in 2024.

Graeme Evans | Director of Mathematics

MUSIC

It was a year of convergence and synergy with all of our events and functions relating to these themes setting the stage for future growth. Music at Hilton College saw increased reciprocity and interest from our boys and surrounding schools. This was due to a concerted effort by staff to instil in our pupils a passion for music.

Chamberlain Music Centre

Enjoying a successful launch towards the end of 2022, the new Chamberlain Music Centre saw its first full calendar year of use. The facility was used to its full potential, resulting in a holistic music experience for pupils and staff.

Peripatetic drumkit teacher Mr Lendle Lewis had this to say about the music centre's impact on our young musicians:

> "My pupils arrive keen for their lessons, and well-prepared as they have ample equipment to hone their craft. But the greatest feature of the new building is the vibe and energy. It is infectious, inspiring boys who have never played an instrument to sign up to learn one so that they can be a part of the culture that is being created."















The successful integration of the organ, positioned in the Margot Chamberlain Recital Hall, into regular concert curation was a highlight, as was the recognition of this instrument in the region.

In 2023, we adopted a hybrid approach to teaching, incorporating digital technology into the syllabus. The Hilton College Recording Studio and Music Tech Lab were integral to our academic and co-curricular programmes. These facilities enable our pupils to create their own music and record live instruments or vocals.

Performances

An area of focus in 2023 was department output and regular concert curation across all ensembles. Outside of the school's internal programme, Hilton College took part in 43 music events throughout the year. These included workshops, concerts with other schools, album recording sessions, international competitions, video performances, performances alongside industry professionals, national tours, and community events. **Some of the highlights included:**

- Masterclasses by members of the Royal Opera House in London, performing at Hilton College. These included: dance soloists Miss Ashley Dean and Mr Benjamin Ella; Head of Music Mr Robert Clarke; and principal trumpeter Mr Dan Newell. The Hilton College Vocal Ensemble and soloist Vhuthihi Siwada shared the stage with these performers in an evening of ballet and music.
- Sunday Soirée Concerts. These concerts, which take place monthly in the Margot Chamberlain Recital Hall, are aimed at exposing our pupils to professional musicians by way of masterclasses and the opportunity to perform with them. In 2023 the line up included Mr Christopher Duigan, Mrs Nafas Frenzel and Hilton peripatetic teacher Mrs Jenny Du Plessis, to name a few.
- Our Jazz Band's participation in the Maritzburg College Jazz Evening. This was a celebration of jazz, performed by youth in the Midlands and surrounds.
- The return of inter-house music at Hilton College, which saw all houses participate in an evening of competition and music of the highest standard. Each house had to enter the following categories: Solo, Band and Choral. Local vocalist Mrs Audrey Mbuyazi adjudicated the proceedings, having to choose the winning house. Well done, Ellis!
- A masterclass by Old Hiltonian Jono Smithers. This took the form of a jam session with boys collaborating and improvising a piece with Jono.
- A Mother's Day concert at La Popote with local vocal artist Mrs Audrey Mbuyazi. Audiences were treated to an eclectic mix of music along with a three-course meal.
- The annual Two Schools in Concert with Michaelhouse. The event was a celebration of brotherhood and the best that schoolboy music has to offer, from solo works, jazz bands and marimbas to choral pieces, full orchestras and smaller ensembles.
- Hilton College boys Rowan Cox and Thabo Mngomezulu attended the National Youth Jazz Festival in Grahamstown during the Term 2 holidays. Accompanied by Miss Simone van Niekerk, the boys engaged with musicians from around the country and industry professionals. On his return, Rowan had this to say: "Hilton College enjoys great privilege and therefore has a role to play in supporting underprivileged communities. I believe we can use jazz for social change, by performing for the community in the Tea Pots Valley or for a local school, where we could teach [less privileged] pupils how to play a musical instrument. It could be very impactful if we could provide music lessons for free; not many families can afford music education."
- A collaboration with award-winning artist Nipho Mkhize and his band Sophiatown. Our choir had the opportunity to collaborate with Mkhize and his band in recording his track Khaya Lami. The recording took place inside The Margot Chamberlain Recital Hall, and was led by Grammy-winning recording artist Cedric Samson. It was later released and playlisted on radio stations in Europe and America.
- Our annual Carol Service. Last year it was open to the public and held outside the school's chapel. The choir, vocal ensemble, solo acts and small ensembles presented a service of nine lessons and traditional Christmas carols. The evening was enjoyed by all, bringing the year to a joyful close.

Academics

The continuation of the school's Music for All programme gained ground in 2023. The incorporation of the Grade 9 AC programme meant that all students in Grade 8 and 9 had the opportunity to experience djembe drumming, guitar, contemporary dance, violin, marimbas and music production. The culmination of this programme, every term, resulted in a group performance.

Achievements

The Hilton College Competition Marimba Band toured, once again, to the Education Africa International Marimba and Steelpan Competition in Johannesburg. **They were placed in the following categories:**

High School Large – Prestige | 2nd place

High School Large – In the Mix | 3rd place

Hilton College was also awarded the uBuntu prize for congeniality and virtuous conduct.

The annual Pietermaritzburg SASMT Eisteddfod was held in the third term of 2023. Hilton College entered students across multiple instruments including voice, saxophone, clarinet and piano. Three boys – James Dingley, Ndalo Ngewu and Ntando Ngcobo – achieved best in their category; tenor saxophone, clarinet and classical voice respectively. As a reward for their achievements, they were invited to perform at the Best of Eisteddfod concert.



The IEB matric class of 2023 achieved commendable results for subject music:

Vhuthihi Siwada | 79%

Siyabonga Mpofu | 77%

Kieran Griffin | 72%

Natan Joubert-Bouwer | 69%

Awards for music were made to the following boys:

HONOURS | Siyabonga Mpofu, Masud Dakile, Shailen Naidoo, Sabelo Skosana

FULL COLOURS | Zipho Mpofu, Sabelo Skosana, Ivan Jjuuko, Jordan Udal, Similo Mkhungo

HALF COLOURS | Hlumelo Conjwa, Senathi Makola, Jarred Maltby, Thuto Phakisi, Zakhele Khumalo

Hilton College entered many pupils into external ABRSM, Trinity College and Rock School examinations during 2023. Instruments included Drumkit, Voice, Saxophone, Clarinet, Piano, Organ, Bass Guitar, Violin and Music Theory. The Hilton College boys achieved outstanding results across all disciplines, and this is testament to the highly qualified and passionate music staff providing these lessons at the school. **The pupils that achieved merit or higher for these examinations are as follows:**

Iviwe Mnconywa	Saxophone	Grade 1	Distinction
James Lyon	Saxophone	Grade 2	Merit
Ndalo Ngewu	Clarinet	Grade 3	Distinction
James Dingley	Saxophone	Grade 3	Distinction
Erin Kihara	Drumkit	Grade 4	Merit
Taji Sigei	Drumkit	Grade 4	Merit
Dante Sigei	Drumkit	Grade 4	Merit
Fin Dalrymple	Music Theory	Grade 5	Distinction
Thabo Mngomezulu	Classical Piano	Grade 7	Distinction
Sabelo Skosana	Classical Voice	Grade 8	Distinction

Staffing News

There were notable staffing changes in 2023. After the departure of Mr David Orr, who took up a position at Somerset College in Cape Town, I joined as Director of Music in January. I am the former head of music at St John's DSG and I specialise in concert curation, composition, music technology and woodwind teaching.

Mr Richard Rheeder joined as new peripatetic piano teacher and the school's accompanist. Mr Rheeder has been playing and performing piano from a young age. His accolades include winning the Unisa National Music Competition, the ATKV Muzik Competition on multiple occasions and the Philip H. Moore Competition. He has also performed as a soloist with the Bloemfontein City Orchestra and KwaZulu-Natal Philharmonic Orchestra, to name a few.

We were disheartened to lose Mr David Solomon, Miss Simone van Niekerk and Mrs Ronel Perks at the end of 2023. These teachers imparted to their boys a love for learning music. Their expertise and years of service have impacted our pupils for life. We wish them well in their new ventures.

Joshua Boudan | Director of Music

PHYSICAL SCIENCE



It brings us immense joy to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our Physical Sciences Matric class of 2023. They have surpassed expectations with a remarkable 10.27% difference in their aggregate compared to the national average.

Our dedicated science staff deserves commendation for their continuous efforts in guiding and supporting the boys to improve their results year after year. Out of a class of 46 boys, 16 achieved an overall A, while 13 boys were rewarded with a B symbol. This means that an impressive 63% of candidates secured an A or B symbol, a percentage that rises to 80.4% when including students achieving a C symbol. Truly impressive!

Benjamin McGuigan's hard work was recognized with the prestigious Ducasse Prize for achieving the highest result in Grade 12 Science throughout the year. Zimele Khumalo emerged as the top achiever in the Final Examinations with an outstanding 91%.

In the Further Studies Physics examinations, Nic Thorburn scored an impressive 79%. Combining Nic's and Matthew Stewart's final marks for this examination, they averaged 13% above the national average.

The second class of A-Level Physics pupils and the first class of A-Level Chemistry students completed their Cambridge course in November 2023. Gabriel Njonjo won the Physics prize and achieving an A-symbol, while Senathi Makola won the Chemistry Prize and earned A-symbols in both A-Level Physics and Chemistry. Additionally, there were 2Bs and 2Cs for Physics and a D for Chemistry.

William Kitching represented the school proudly as one of only two South African pupils selected to attend the 2023 United Space School at NASA in Houston. William, along with Kigen Chepkonga and Namisi Opai-Tetteh, attended the MIT conference during the Christmas holidays at St John's in Houghton, delivering exceptional talks to the Hilton College boys that we hope will inspire them to follow in their footsteps.

Dr Reitze Rodseth delivered the Basil Crews Science lecture, emphasizing the impact of research findings' validity and the importance of ethics and morality in research. Mr Gerrit Visse discussed relevant projects like the N3 upgrade and addressed Grade 8 boys on bridge-building.

The Grade 8 Science club continued, meeting regularly on Thursday evenings to explore science experiments beyond the syllabus. We will continue to offer the opportunity to those who want to broaden their Science knowledge.

On the staffing front, Mr Kwanda Sibiya embarks on a new chapter as a Deputy at Lebone College in Rustenburg from 2024. We extend our best wishes to him.

Mr Noel Robert, a key contributor to the success of Hilton College Science boys over the past 19 years, will begin a new role as a senior science and outdoor teacher at Bridgehouse in Franschoek in 2024. We wish him and his wife happiness in their new challenge.

Ms Penny Mullan joined us in Term 2, 2023, with a wealth of experience and has already made a positive contribution to the department.

Mr Kwanele Mgolozeli, who joined us at the start of 2024 from Selborne College in the Eastern Cape, brings years of experience teaching science to boys, and we look forward to his contributions.

Mrs Katy McNeil, our new A-Level Chemistry expert, joined us from St John's College in Johannesburg at the start of 2024. Her expertise in overseeing the AS Chemistry program will undoubtedly benefit our boys.

A heartfelt thanks go to our academic and laboratory staff, without whom these remarkable results and achievements would not be possible.

Tienie van Wyk | Head of Department

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

The Student Development Centre (SDC) operated at full capacity for the first time in 2023. Along with Mrs Adele Wentzel and Miss Emma Bray, we ran a number of initiatives providing academic support to boys across the spectrum – from very high-performing pupils to those at serious risk.

The introduction of important talks on memory, study skills and active learning by Oxford-graduate Paul Tosio was one of the highlights of 2023.

The SDC is exceedingly proud to have played a significant role in the outstanding results achieved by our Grade 12 pupils in 2023.

With academic support offered by the SDC now being a well-established, comprehensive programme, priority has been given to assessing, intervening and maintaining the well-being of all boys at Hilton College.

While the emigration of clinical psychologist Mr Michael Pitchford was a loss to the SDC and the boys, the employment of a second educational psychology, Mr Luke Bartholomew, has breathed a breath of fresh into the SDC.

In 2024, Mr Bartholomew and I plan to introduce a number of new initiatives aimed at keeping track of student well-being, including the launch of the Vive Teens app, which provides boys with an online, interactive platform through which they can keep track of their mood, read up on important mental health topics and seek support.

Dr Janna de Gouveia | Head of Department



VISUAL ARTS



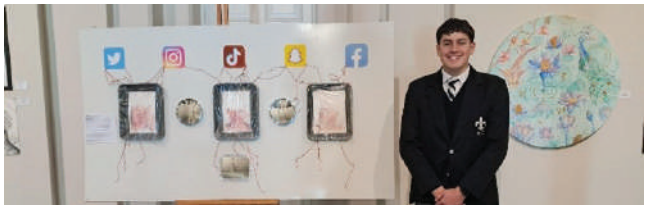
The department had an exciting and thriving year. Our subject comprises practical and theoretical components. At the start of the first term, we organised a Grade 12 Artist in the Classroom Workshop Programme featuring four well-known contemporary South African artists whose work is studied by IEB schools. Working artists Nandipha Mntambo (photographer and sculptor), Blessing Ngobeni (collage artist), Bambo Sibiya (printmaking, acrylic and charcoal artist) and Mbali Tshabalala (mixed media artist) presented their practice to approximately 160 Grade 11 and 12 pupils and teachers from 12 Pietermaritzburg and Midlands-based IEB schools. The artists each presented for 90 minutes, discussing their art and demonstrating how they create their works. Participants found the presentations informative and inspiring and asked good questions during Q&A sessions.

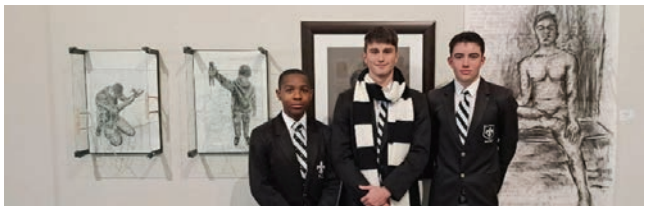
In the latter half of the term, we hosted renowned South African sculptor Sandro Trapani, who offered art lovers a two-day bust sculpture workshop at Hilton College. The Grade 11 art boys took part in this workshop and created magnificent portraits (busts) and got to grips with 3D work. Mr Trapani also shared his expertise with our Grades 8 to Grade 11 boys when he was our Artist in Residence for three days. The studios were abuzz with activity and every junior boy was exposed to mould-making and created tiles from clay and plaster of Paris.















In the second term our annual exhibition with the St Anne's matric art pupils was hosted by St Anne's. The guest speaker was well-known local sculptor Sarah Richards. These combined exhibitions are a wonderful opportunity for pupils to see their work in a gallery setting, be inspired by the creations of their peers and interact with a viewing public. There was a wide variety of work displayed and the pupils did themselves and their schools proud.

Early in the third term, the Grade 10, 11 and 12 Visual Arts pupils visited the Tatham Art Gallery in Pietermaritzburg for an exhibition of artwork by matric pupils from independent and government schools in and around Pietermaritzburg. The work of four of our 2022 matric boys – Henry Fawcett, Campbell Ivins, Flynn Newell and Adam Wesselink – was exhibited. This is great recognition of the high standard of work they produced.

One of the highlights in the third term is our Grade 8 –11 art exhibition which coincides with Grandparents' Day. It was held in the Normand Dunn Gallery and Theatre foyer. The theme, "Awesome Animals", was enthusiastically embraced by the boys and works ranged from drawing with string to sculptures made from bottles and found objects. It is our objective to expose our boys to different mediums and modes of artmaking for them to find their own artistic voice. Many grandparents and families visited the exhibition, which was encouraging.

There are very few opportunities locally for schools to collaborate artistically and so our department has partnered with Panda Paints to launch and host a high schools art competition. The following schools submitted work: St Anne's Diocesan College, Epworth High School, Treverton College, Russell High School, and Westville Girls High School. There were two age group categories of the art competition, Grades 8 and 9 and Grades 10, 11 and 12. The theme was "Botanical" and art educator Joy Priess was the judge. Joy was impressed by the quality of entries, the variety of media used and the interesting interpretations of the theme.

Hilton College was delighted to have prize winners in both categories. The recipients were also awarded cash prizes for their work. Andrea Demetriou, who took first place in Grades 8 and 9 category, won R2000, and Ben Ferguson took third place in the Grades 10, 11 and 12 category and won R500! We are hopeful that this initiative will grow, and that high school art will become more accessible to a viewing public.

As part of our service to the Visual Arts teaching community, we hosted Debbie Morgan from Panda Paints who ran a workshop. The teachers explored cyno printing (using the sun to expose dye) on fabric. They were also introduced to creating organic stains on paper and ceramic tiles with alcohol inks. It was a fabulous morning of comradery and creativity.

In the fourth term, the Matric Art Exhibition was held. Our guest speaker was Debbie Morgan, who addressed us on soft skills and their importance. These are interpersonal attributes that affect our ability to work and interact effectively with others. These soft skills include communication, creativity and innovation, adaptability and flexibility, critical thinking, attention to detail, emotional intelligence, resilience, and cultural competence. She then elaborated on how our pupils had responded to the IEB matric art theme "Resonance" and how encouraging it was seeing soft skills in practice in the varied and honest bodies of work displayed. It was a special evening for boys and guests.

The recipients of art prizes at Speech Day were:

Daniel Holtzhausen | Grade 12 Practical Prize
Daniel Holtzhausen | Grade 12 Theory Prize
Ruben Marx | Normand Dunn Special Prize
Ben Ferguson | Grade 11 Practical
Ben Ferguson | Grade 11 Theory Prize
Charlie Short | AS Level Art and Design
James Youens | Grade 10 Practical Prize
Alex Wesselink | Grade 10 Theory Prize

It has been an exciting year, with several successes and achievements. I commend the boys for their willingness to explore their creative abilities, and hone and fine-tune the skills acquired. And my thanks go to Mrs Debbie Veenstra and Mr Herbert Mncwabe for their continued support and assistance throughout the year.

Angela Salamon | Head of Department



GRADE 8 –11 ART EXHIBITION









MATRIC ART EXHIBITION









Top to bottom: *Zukhanya Fatyi; Ruben Marx; Daniel Holtzhauzen; Bunono Jabavu*

MATRIC ART EXHIBITION



Thank you for inviting me to this incredible exhibition. The raw talent seen in these works is encouraging and bodes well for the future of visual arts in South Africa and abroad.

This evening I would like to talk to you about your future. From here, many of you will go on to study engineering, accounting, sports management, etc and will be snapped up by industries for the hard skills you will learn in your tertiary studies.

But, it's the soft skills that will keep you in work and advance your careers.

I commend every parent who encouraged or allowed their son to take art for matric. You have gifted your children with the soft skills they need to grow in work and indeed life. So, what are the soft skills that art has given you here at Hilton?

Firstly, **communication.** Art involves expressing ideas, emotions and messages, visually. Through creating and discussing art, you enhance your ability to communicate effectively, both visually and verbally. This skill is valuable in many professional settings, where clear communication is essential for collaboration, presenting ideas and conveying information.

Creativity and innovation. Art nurtures your creative thinking and encourages you to explore new ideas and find unique solutions. In the job market, employers value individuals who can think creatively and bring innovative approaches to problem solving and decision making.

Adaptability and flexibility. Creating art often involves experimenting with different material, techniques and styles. This fosters adaptability and flexibility, as you learn to embrace change, adapt your approach and explore new possibilities. These skills are crucial in today's rapidly changing work environments.

Critical thinking. Art encourages you to think critically and analyse the elements and principles of design. You learn to evaluate compositions, colour schemes and visual narratives, developing a discerning eye. This ability to think critically and analyse visual information can be applied to various professional contexts such as graphic design, marketing and user experience.

Attention to detail. In art, paying attention to detail is crucial to achieving desired outcomes. This skill translates into improved attention to detail in other areas of life such as project management, quality control and organisation.

Emotional intelligence. Art often involves exploring and expressing emotions. Through art you can develop emotional intelligence by gaining a deeper understanding of your own emotions and empathising with the emotions conveyed by other artists' works. Emotional intelligence is highly valued in the workplace as it helps build positive relationships, manage conflicts and understand and respond to the needs of others.

Resilience. Art teaches you to embrace mistakes and setbacks as part of the creative process. It fosters resilience and the ability to bounce back from challenges which is beneficial in navigating career obstacles and adapting to changes in the workplace.

Cultural competence. Art exposes you to diverse artistic expressions and cultural perspectives. Studying art helps develop cultural competence enabling you to appreciate and understand different cultures, viewpoints and aesthetics in an increasingly globalised world where cross-cultural collaboration and understanding are essential.

These are just a few examples of how art can contribute to your soft skills development in the job market. By cultivating these skills through art, you can enhance your employability and stand out as a well-rounded and adapted professional.

Thank you for your time and congratulations again on your outstanding work, which I know took many hours of deep introspection.

Well done too to Ms Angela Salamon and Mrs Debbie Veenstra for the time, energy and mentorship that went into each of these students producing outstanding work and for encouraging them in all of the soft skills.

Debbie Morgan





LIBRARY



In 2023, the renovation of the library continued. The breakaway room was fully enclosed in glass and was well used by small classes, working groups of boys and private tutors. The computer room was upgraded, accommodating both desktops and laptops and allowing for a much better flow from the library into the IT room, with the entrance moved away from the entrance to the library. Finally, the display windows were installed in the wall, linking the library and the classroom. These will be used to display various items from the school museum, with the model of the ship 'Surprise', built and donated by Old Hiltonian Bruce Joubert (Falcon and Ellis,1955) being on permanent display.

Hilton boys are as prone as any teenagers to being distracted by the dopamine pull of technology. In addition, their free time is very limited. The mindful protection of both time for reading and promoting the importance of reading was compromised with the cancellation of the reading period this year, and it is hoped that this might be reintroduced. Research shows that teenage boys, in particular, need reading role models, both space and active encouragement to read as well as access to relevant, exciting reading material. The school library is a well-stocked, friendly and supportive environment, and many teachers are keen to play an active role in their students' reading lives.

Despite the often-repeated maxim that boys don't read, the increase in reading leading up to 2010 has been significant. In recent years, the library, in conjunction with the English Department, has actively promoted reading through various reading projects. Some projects have been more successful than others, all heavily dependent on teacher involvement.

The Grade 8 Reading Challenge was undertaken by some classes much more enthusiastically than others. However, I would like to give credit to Benjamin Guimaerans. As the Newnham dormitory leader, Benjamin made a real effort to encourage his Grade 8s to read, and, as a result, and with the enthusiastic contribution of Raphael Dube, they easily outdid all other boarding houses.

The Grade 9 READ programme aimed to foster critical reading skills and ignite a love for literature. Participants were required to read at least five books from a curated list, analysing them based on various literary elements. Group discussions and individual assessments were key components of the programme, allowing students to delve deeper into their understanding of the texts.

Special recognition was awarded to McKenzie House for their exceptional involvement, as well as standout students Ty Kylamoto, James Peattie and Evan Moleseni. Despite the challenges of finding dedicated reading time in a busy school schedule, ongoing efforts aim to nurture a vibrant reading culture within the school community.

The advent of AI was a significant challenge during 2023. Many boys felt that ChatGPT was their new best friend. The Extended Essay, in particular, was closely monitored and some boys fell into the trap of relying too heavily on AI. As a result, this essay will undergo significant changes in 2024 and it is hoped that this research task will continue to teach boys significant skills. The use of Turnitin should be routine for both creative and research work as an effort to guard against plagiarism and AI writing.

At the end of 2023, I retire as school librarian after joining the Hilton staff in April 2007. It has been a wonderful privilege to serve the school and the boys, in particular. Mrs Moira Gundu will take over as head of department. She will be assisted by Ms Ndumiso Langa, a psychologist, who brings a fresh perspective to the library.

Special thanks go to our dedicated library monitors and representatives, particularly the Matric Library reps Raheel Mottiar, Ayanda Ninela, Zimele Khumalo, Bandile Shabalala, Kieran Griffin, and Adam Cole. Their commitment has been pivotal in ensuring the library's extended availability and timely return of borrowed items. We wish them every success with their tertiary studies.

Mandy Durnford | Head of Department

DEBATING

> "This house believes that courts in emerging democracies should break up persistently dominant political parties.
>
> This house regrets the monarchy in the 21st century.
>
> This house regrets the decline of the family as the dominant unit of social organization.
>
> This house would abolish body-building competitions."

Do topics like these leave you dumbfounded? Our speakers take them in their stride, regularly arguing the "big issues" in life in the most subtle and particular detail. The level of research and argumentation at school league level is impressive to say the least.

Debating is unique among school activities as it demands that learners move beyond their areas of comfortable competence like nothing else at school does. Participants must research and prepare tightly structured arguments, either proposing or opposing topics which stimulate controversy or provoke reactions. Debaters must become conversant and convincing in subjects like politics, human rights and justice, economics, and environmental matters. Teams are required to prepare arguments for both sides of the "house" and are only informed of their positions minutes before the debates begin. Debating is daunting even to adults, yet our boys rise to the challenge each year. We are so proud of the debaters of 2023 who have given us one of our most successful years.

Senior Debating

The senior debating age group includes speakers from Grades 11 and 12.

The senior debating team had a fantastic season filled with challenges and triumphs. Hilton 1, led by Khanya Mhlongo, became a team to be reckoned with as they clawed their way to the finals of the Pietermaritzburg Debating League to meet Maritzburg College in a tense final. Our team proved victorious and was able to bring home the trophy, and Shailen Naidoo, Hilton 1's second speaker, was named the best speaker of the day. Khanya Mhlongo reached the end of his illustrious school debating career in the finals, turning in a memorable performance – one of his best and a league-winner! Khanya has been one of our most impressive and memorable speakers. His value as a role model and inspiring presence will be missed.

Shailen also represented Hilton College at the KZN Regional Debating Competition, where he was selected for the KZN team. We are proud of the achievements and commitment that our boys showed throughout the season. Regular debaters in the age-group were: Troy Bailey, Andre Boshoff, Wim Ebersohn, Zakhele Khumalo, Senathi Makola, Khanya Mhlongo, Munashe Musora, Shailen Naidoo, Olufemi Oyeka and Jack Weavind.

Junior Debating

The Junior Debating age group includes speakers in Grades 9 and 10.

The junior debating teams enjoyed a successful season. Our Hilton 1 team, comprising of Siba Dlamini, Joshua Lord, Nyiko Mabunda, Karabelo Morojele and Karl Senanu, reached the quarterfinals before losing to Pietermaritzburg Girls' High, who later went on to win the division. Most of the boys won a best speaker award in different debates throughout the season.

The Hilton 2 team saw many new faces join, several of whom had no prior debating experience or knowledge, and thus our focus was on understanding the basics of debating, unpacking individual speaker roles as well as learning the basic strategies used in various debating formats.

This team had some favourable debates and comprised of newcomer, Joshua Dube, who worked alongside more seasoned speakers Joshua Chibwe, Senzo Mngomezulu and Christopher Weavind. Senzo put in a standout performance this season, winning several best speaker awards and being selected to represent the Pietermaritzburg Debating League at the KZN trials.

It was an enjoyable season and we look forward to next year when we can continue to develop and refine our skills and hopefully improve our position within the Junior League.

Grade 8 Debating

The speakers enjoyed a highly successful and worthwhile year of debating. The boys learned the crucial skills of research, argument building, speech writing and presenting, evaluating evidence, thinking on one's feet, flexibility, assertiveness, listening skills and teamwork, not to mention the vast number of terms and jargon which can seem like a new language sometimes!

Hilton 1 was unbeaten in the league rounds once they found their feet after round two. It certainly was a benefit to be able to research and prepare using personal laptops which are indispensable for the modern debater.

The Grade 8 speakers are to be commended for their perseverance in juggling their academic, sporting, house and debating obligations, especially in term one while adapting to a new environment.

Our teams turned up well-prepared in every round and I am certain that this fortitude was as important as the debating skills in the lead up to the league finals, which were won this year in fine style by the Hilton 1 team who reached a high point of performance in the hotly-contested debate against Maritzburg College, opposing the motion that "This house would allow companies to pay higher wages to employees who agree not to have children during their time of employment." Layton Stokes was named the best speaker.

During the season many of our speakers were nominated as best speaker at least once. Top-performing debaters in the age group were Layton Stokes and Raphael Dube of Hilton 1 who set the debates up well and argued thoroughly and clearly every round in their roles as speakers one and two. I am excited to watch these young speakers develop as they rise through the ranks. Regular speakers in the age group were: Vidal Analo, Olerato Chitanga, Raphael Dube, Joseph Gichuru, Ntsika Kleinbooi, Hokhanguy Langa and Layton Stokes.

I am grateful for the tireless efforts of Ms Tarryn Daly and Ms Coco Mamabolo in facilitating and adjudicating this year. Adjudicating is demanding and can leave one feeling exposed and vulnerable – it is not for the faint-hearted. My colleagues were brave and astute in their adjudications and their teams have benefitted from their coaching and support.

Graeme Roberts | Head of Debating

THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD

The President's Award is a youth award that is affiliated with the Duke of Edinburgh award in the United Kingdom. It is a prestigious award that is of great value to our boys because the certificate is internationally recognised and is useful for university and scholarship applicants. The programme helps our boys develop skills, including good time management, and to value their health, and the value of giving back to the community.

The programme has four aspects to it, namely service, skills, physical recreation, and an adventurous journey (plus an additional activity for gold called the residential project). There are also three levels, which the boys can move through progressively, namely bronze, silver, and gold. The starting age for bronze is 14; 15 for silver; and 16 for gold. Boys can start at any level provided they are of the minimum age.

It was pleasing to see so many boys completing the programme, particularly at the silver and gold levels. **The following boys were awarded certificates and badges in 2023:**

BRONZE | Grant Bridgeford, Mhloli Khuzwayo, William Segar

SILVER | Kenyu Chiang, Senzokuhle Mngomezulu

GOLD | Murray Brink, Matthew Hayes, Aayan Jakhura, Joshua Julius, William Kitching, Wiam Liebenberg, Angus Loughor-Clarke, Dean Macleod-Henderson, Nkululeko Ngcobo, Liso Ngoqo, Namisi Opai-Tetteh, Matthew Peters, Micheal Sara, Luke Watt

To complete the different levels, the boys must meet the requirements of a certain number of hours spent learning skills, playing sports, doing service, and participating in an adventurous journey. At the gold level, an additional activity is required: a residential project. For this, the boys spend five days and four nights living in an unfamiliar community, engaged in purposeful and meaningful activities. This year our boys spent a week in Costa Rica doing various community projects.

Juliet Morulane | Award Leader

GRADE 8 OLE

On Saturday, 16 September 2023, the Grade 8 boys initiated their outdoor venture within our scenic nature reserve. The excitement among the boys was tangible, as they eagerly anticipated spending five nights in tents and immersing themselves in the challenges of "the wild". During this period, the groups consisted of approximately 13 boys each from different houses strategically grouped together to cultivate new connections.

A notable highlight for the boys was the chance to prepare their own meals. From cooking breakfast and baking bread to making potjiekos, the activity left every boy content, contributing to a sense of achievement. This feature of the journey has proved most effective.

The two-day hike presented both physical and mental challenges for the boys. Groups rotated to embark on a hike to campsites at Beacons, Clumps, or in the Henderson Grassland. Exploring the perimeter of the school, including the area below the cell towers, allowed the boys to traverse approximately 20 kilometres on the Hilton College estate, underscoring the privilege of access.

One of their favourite activities of the day was the opportunity to shower and wash up. Most boys kept to their two-minute allotted time whilst others enjoyed the comfort of the warm water, which made for a very impatient queue outside. Swimming in the river was another popular activity – thanks the favourable weather. The boys cooled off in the river and attempted to construct impromptu dams with river rocks.

Promoting exploration of the estate is one of the aims of the journey; another is raising our pupils' level of awareness of conservation. To this end, the boys were treated to engaging talks by a couple of guest speakers. Mr Dave White, after whom the Conservation Centre is named, spoke to the boys about his experiences at Hilton and in particular about the establishment of the nature reserve and the role that schoolboys played in this, helping erect the original game fence. He also spoke about how Grade 8s had helped construct the paths in the Gwen's valley.

Mr Nhlanhla Shelembe briefly spoke to the boys about growing up in the valley village and his relationships with Hilton boys and how he had gone on to study conservation. Nhlanhla works with Deren Coetzer at Conservation Management Solutions.

Dr Dave Cooper, a retired Ezemvelo veterinarian who has been involved in the monitoring and relocation of more than 2000 rhino in his career, is involved in a number of rhino relocation programmes in Africa. He spoke to the boys about various conservation-related matters, notably the scale of rhino poaching in South Africa and issues around logistics of transporting rhino by air.

Each group of boys was guided by staff members who assumed the roles of group leaders, guiding the boys through a variety of tasks and activities. The primary aim of this experience was for the boys to intimately acquaint themselves with our nature reserve, acquire proficiency in hiking and camp setup, and detach from the pervasive allure of screens.

In addition to engaging speakers and structured activities, the boys developed a newfound appreciation for wildlife through interactions with animals. Mr Pat McKrill imparted vital information on snakes, conducting demonstrations and allowing the boys to handle snakes safely.

A noteworthy activity was the "Poachers and Rangers" game led by Mr Deren Coetzer, who also demonstrated the culling process by shooting a wildebeest on the final morning. This provided an opportunity for discussions on the importance of culling, veld management, and the anatomy of the animal.

The boys showed perseverance and resilience throughout their expedition in an unfamiliar environment. They gained useful survival skills and returned to school better equipped to lead themselves and others with a greater sense of confidence and capability.

Tienie van Wyk | Grade 8 OLE Co-ordinator







GRADE 9 OLE

We tend to learn the most about ourselves when we are in difficult situations and out of our comfort zones. The focus this year was to learn how our wants impact the needs of others and to prepare the boys for the Grade 10 Journey.

We were privileged to be hosted by the Spirit of Adventure team at Nyala Pans and the Roselands Nature Reserve, being blessed with stunning scenery, indigenous bush and the beautiful Umkomaas river.

On the first day, the boys were dropped off eight kilometres from the camp. They were given a map, from which they had to find certain points. Once they had found the points, they earned currency with which they were able to purchase ingredients for their dinner. This was the first lesson in putting the needs of others above their wants and realizing that there are consequences for our actions. There were a very few disgruntled boys when they reached the campsite, but upon reflection they realized that decisions made, though not in their own (perhaps selfish) interests, were better for the group. After being taught how to make a potjie, the boys set up camp along the banks of the Umkomaas River and it can be safely said that the potjies were a success.

On the second day, the boys completed a swift water course. Activities ranged from kayaking in inflatables, crossing a fast-flowing river, negotiating rapids and how to successfully do a shallow dive from various heights.

On the third day, the boys embarked on their "Boys to Men" hike of 22km which included 9kms of uphill, carrying their own equipment. The focus of the day was grit, not giving up and helping others. After a stirring rendition of "Boys of Hilton" the boys set off. It was heartwarming to see the number of boys who had conquered the "Boys to Men" climb, drop their bags and go down to assist and encourage others who were battling or just needed some encouragement. All the boys can attest to the fact that the mac-and-cheese for lunch was the best that they have had. The evening was spent at Roselands where an outdoor shower was indeed a novelty for many.

We had to strike camp early on the fourth day as we had to get back to school to welcome the Grade 10 boys returning from their journey. The conversation of lessons learnt, new friendships made and overcoming difficulties were most encouraging, indicators that the camp served its purpose.

A great deal of thanks to the Spirit of Adventure staff and the Hilton College staff who attended the camp and went above and beyond the call of duty.

Michael Werth | Grade 9 OLE Co-ordinator



GRADE 10 – ISIVIVANE

Now well established and into its fifth year, Isivivane is truly part and parcel of the Hilton College experience. And what a privilege it is for our young men to have this rite of passage as they move into their senior years. Stepping into the unknown, living simply day to day, problem-solving, sharing experiences, and adventure is what the journey provides our boys. In so doing, this allows them to begin grappling with larger questions of who they really are and where they fit in the world.

The positioning of our school gives us a unique and privileged advantage to be able to access the Umgeni Valley and the Karkloof by simply walking off campus. A mosaic of farmlands, nature reserves, dams, and wilderness become our playground for 15 days. We are very grateful to those landowners and stakeholders who allow us to traverse this amazing landscape. Together with a dedicated Hilton College staff team and a partnership with WESSA, our boys can safely explore this area and be guided to a better understanding of their depth of connection to the environment and those around them. The lessons learned here are not always apparent to teenagers but will certainly come to the forefront of their minds in years to come when they reflect on this time spent living simply outdoors with their friends.

During this time even tighter relationships and bonds are established within their dormitory as well as with their housemaster and deputy housemaster. This provides a more robust emergence of leadership within that microcosm and, by extension, across the school's spectrum. The journey is but a chapter in a broader saga of relationship-building opportunities afforded to the boys, shaping a more genuine leadership selection process within our community. In the rawness of nature – stripped of comfort, battling fatigue, and the elements – authentic selves are unveiled. It has also been great to speak to parents in the months after the journey and hear of the positive impact it has had on their sons and their families too.

I would like to thank Teresa Whitfield and Noel Robert for laying the foundations for the journey. I look forward to building upon these and continuing to challenge our boys in the years to come. Along with the other Outdoor Leadership Experiences (OLEs), Isivivane is now integral to our school's culture and identity. In an era where passive consumption is the norm, our young men must experience these adventures to enable them to craft their own narratives, rather than passively absorbing those of others.

James Robey | OLE Co-ordinator



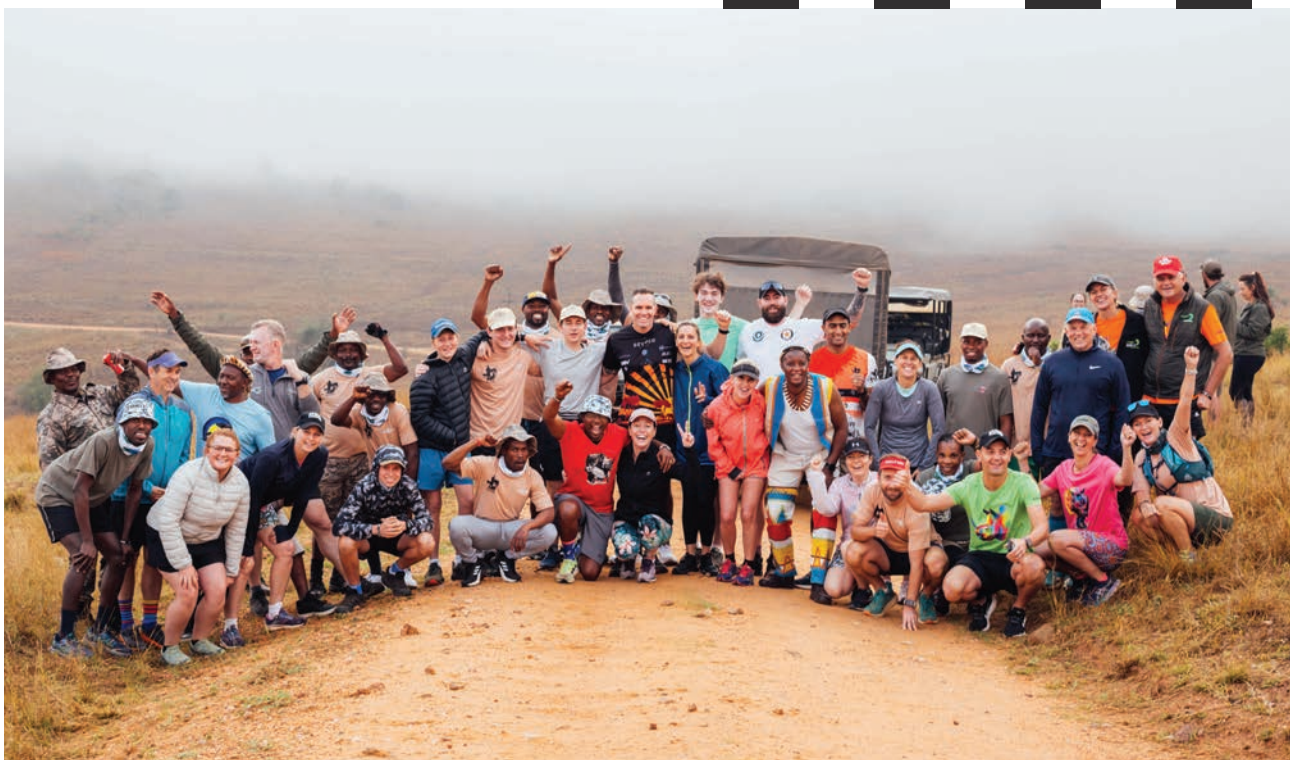








Community Partnerships



The establishment of Community Partnerships at Hilton College represents a commitment to fostering authentic relationships between us and those in the broader community. The goal is to provide continuous and enduring opportunities for our pupils, from Grade 8 to Grade 12, to connect meaningfully with people from difficult backgrounds.

We believe in education and experience. With community engagement integrated into the curriculum, we hope our boys will gain understanding and empathy, and learn responsible giving. Experience emphasizes authentic, collaborative interactions, creating lasting positive impacts on both our boys and the community.

In the first term, we visited Michaelhouse and St Anne's to gain insights into successful and well-established community engagements by these schools. At the same time, we continued to nurture our partnerships with iThemba Projects and Thembelihle School, with a focus on long-term collaboration with these organisations. We ran a successful pilot project with Grade 8 and 9 dormitories – lessons in kindness – which allowed for some meaningful discussion around effective community engagement.

In the second term, a pilot project with Pearce House involved engaging Grade 8s and 9s with iThemba Projects. Boys were given the opportunity to immerse themselves in the Sweetwaters community, through a "Crazy Chicken Hunt" experience, followed by a debrief. Some of the feedback from the boys was encouraging. Valuable insights were gleaned from their responses to the experience. **Their responses included:**

- I learnt that I take things for granted, like having wi-fi.
- I learned that I could discover a new community and that I'm interested in finding out about how other people live.
- I was reminded how privileged I am.
- I don't want to complain about my food and my schooling.
- Be more appreciative of my environment.
- People from rural areas can be very humble; more humble than city folk.
- I had illusions of how it is there, but when I got there everyone was welcoming.

Our Grade 10 boys joined pupils from Thembelihle School on a valley walk and community clean-up. They also got involved in coaching various sports and helping with after-school programmes.

In the third term, we continued the educational and experiential pilot with Pearce House, delving into effective community engagement. This was facilitated excellently through group discussions and several poignant questions were asked. The boys participated in workshops, creating personal budgets and comparing them with those living off government grants, fostering a deep appreciation for their privileges.

Our collaboration with Thembelihle School expanded, incorporating soccer and hockey coaching, after-school programmes, and an art mural project. A Staff Development Day and a joint coaching session further strengthened the bonds between our schools. Our involvement with Angel's Care saw our boys contributing to cricket and soccer coaching, as well as assisting with after-school care.

As part of this year's leadership camp, our Grade 11 boys put into practice what they are learning about servant leadership and got their hands dirty fixing potholes, tending gardens, picking up litter, painting, and cleaning chicken coops at several partner non-profit organizations in our area, including a new partnership with Love Howick.

As the year ended, our boys engaged in distributing Christmas goodie bags to children at our partner organizations. Looking ahead to 2024, the school-wide offering will provide a structured approach to community engagement through each house, supplemented by weekly trips, Heartbeat Days, and programmes linked to the OLE programme.

A special word of thanks to Mrs Karen Koopman who continues to serve tirelessly behind the scenes. We could not do what we do without her. Our unique context and the enthusiasm of our boys position us to make a significant difference in our area.

This report reflects a successful inaugural year, laying the foundations for growth and impact in years to come.

Sport For Lives campaigns in 2023

Our boys initiated or participated in a number of Sport for Lives campaigns, including:

- **RUN FOR RICHTER.** This annual event was an enormous success again, and we are proud that it is boy-driven. The boys were able to pay tribute to and honour the late Tony Richter by running for Tony and his daughter, Alice, in support of Singakwenza Foundation, which is close to their family's heart. The boys raised more than R15 000 which will go towards the school fees of children attending ECDs in our community – which cost R180 per month.
- **SWIM FOR LIVES.** Matt Hayes (head of sport) and his team swam the Midmar Mile for CHOC and raised enough money to upgrade the entertainment area of the children's care facility at CHOC House.
- **RUN FOR RANGERS.** Old Hiltonian Harry Bailey (2022, Ellis) hosted his second Run for Rangers campaign, and our boys were invited to join him at Babanango Game Reserve. Wim Ebersöhn, Josh Aitken, Adam Fitzsimons and Rhett Beaumont collectively ran an impressive 260km over two days and raised R67,900 in support of rangers and Project Rhino.
- **TENNIS FOR LIVES.** Jason Sasse displayed incredible leadership by initiating a 24-hour tennis marathon to raise money for Bibles for the Chichewa people of Malawi who have almost no access to Bibles in their own language. Jason partnered with non-profit organization Footprints in Africa to get the Bibles delivered. He raised around R70 000 – or about 250 Bibles. Jason even slept on a mattress next to a tennis court to ensure that play continued. We are certain there has never been a 24-hour tennis fundraising campaign for Bibles in South Africa before.
- **A 24-HOUR SWIMATHON.** Following his water polo team's campaign in 2020 in support of Thandi House, Stefan Swart (captain of the 1st team water polo) and his team pulled it off again. Collectively, they swam 4,448 lengths, which is 111kms (roughly the distance from Hilton to Umhlanga) in 24 hours and raised more than R44 000 for a JoJo tank and water pump for the children of Thandi House. Stef's determination to help the children of Thandi House over the years has been inspirational. The 1st and 2nd water polo teams deserve credit as they all contributed to this mammoth task. Lastly, special mention and a word of thanks to Caine Letschert for leading the awareness of and raising funds for Josh at Thandi House who needed a new motorized wheelchair. Josh recently got his new wheelchair and he and Caine have built a wonderful relationship.

Chris Kingsley | Head of Community Partnerships








Staff Leavers

MANDY DURNFORD

Farewell by Ashleigh Askew



I feel incredibly privileged to have the opportunity to speak about my friend, colleague, and a woman I greatly admire, Mandy.

Mandy has been involved in Hilton College for over 36 years. During that time she has been many things to many people.

For many years, Mandy and Ant served as housemasters – this in itself was a full-time role for the wife of a housemaster and she managed the catering, hosting, and comforting of the boys while also raising their children and pursuing her career as a librarian.

Today, however, I want to focus on the significant impact that Mandy has had in her 16 years as the librarian at Hilton.

Mandy is more than just the librarian of Hilton College. She is a personal librarian to each one of us. Mandy knows what each one of us likes to read, she reserves books for us, ensures that our favourite authors are stocked, and provides us with personalized book recommendations. This not only keeps us reading but makes us feel seen and valued.

Mandy is an exceptional academic who has displayed unwavering determination over many years to incorporate the teaching of vital skills into the curriculum. Her efforts have taken various shapes in Grades 8 and 9, to get our boys to read, research, think critically, and write effectively. Mandy is an advocate for these crucial skills and has ensured that we have the necessary systems, platforms, and resources to foster and develop them in our boys.

The extended essay (EE) provides boys the opportunity to demonstrate these skills. This task is no easy feat as it requires coordination between an entire grade and a large staff group to produce a piece of work that meets rigorous academic standards. However, Mandy never compromised on the quality of this task and meticulously planned and executed each component of it. She is the person we turn to for Turnitin, she's the master of Moodle and she's the expert of the EE. Mandy, you take with you such a wealth of knowledge and experience.

It matters to Mandy that our boys read. It matters that they know and care about the world around them and it matters to her that they are exposed to a world other than the very small one that they inhabit. The initiatives to get the boys reading more and reading widely are a testament to this. Mandy thinks creatively about how to maximise interest in reading and has worked very hard to provide a space where this can happen.

The library renovations that recently took place demonstrate Mandy's passion for and focus on creating a purposeful, interesting, warm and inviting space. The library is many people's favourite place to go – boys and staff. Perhaps not all boys are walking out laden with literature but they are there as it is a space that is calm, quiet and peaceful and that is a result of the environment that Mandy has created.

One of my favourite times of the year, in the past, has been Grade 8 OLEs with Mandy in charge of the kitchen. She (hardly) ever lost her sense of humour, despite us hardly ever getting what the menu stated; she took pleasure in making sure the boys and the staff were well fed. Not only that, she delivered relevant and interesting lessons whilst there and still managed to promote a culture of reading amongst the boys whilst they lounged by the river. Most importantly, we had lots of fun, lots of laughs and made many memories.

Mandy has fiercely advocated for the boys in her care in her connect group. She knows her boys, she knows what matters to them and she does everything in her power to support them. Falcon House will deeply miss her warmth, expertise and knowledge.

Mandy is brave, she is willing to say the things that others are hesitant to voice. She is passionate about the things that matter. She is intelligent and wise and a woman whose wisdom I trust. She is kind, considerate and witty.

Mandy, you have added such value to Hilton in so many ways. You will be so missed by so many and we wish you every happiness in your new ventures. St Anne's will gain much from you in your role there and I hope that life post-Hilton brings more opportunities for travel, relaxation and time with friends and family. Go well, my friend.

MIKE MILL AND FRANCOIS MORGAN

Farewell by Karen Koopman



Leana, I don't know what you did to get a department full of young, trendy, handsome men. I think I must have drawn the short straw on that one.

It is an honour for me to speak about two very special colleagues, with whom I have had the privilege of sharing the geography department for the past 18 years.



Some may think it boring to work with the same colleagues for so long, but not a day has gone by when I have felt that way. Every day working alongside you, Mike and Francois, has been an absolute pleasure. I came into the department as a fairly inexperienced teacher, and I have learnt so much from both of you over the years. Not just geography subject material but how to manage teenage boys and other important life lessons.

As a team, we have collaborated, we have played to each other's strengths, we have helped each other, we have given each other advice, we have travelled, we have walked the streets of Bulwer and Babanango, we have laughed, we have cried, we have given each other space and most importantly we have respected each other.

At the beginning of this term when we had the HOD Indaba, one of the topics that was presented was dealing with conflict within your department. What really struck me was that in the 18 years we have worked together, we have never really had to deal with conflict. We have disagreed on a few things, but we have all been willing to accommodate one another's opinions, compromise and move on. Everyone is given the opportunity to talk and be heard. I think that stability has been the strength of our department.

Mike, the quiz master

Mike, the quiz master of our department, always willing to share his quizzes, which have saved me several times on Fridays in lesson 6. You are one of the most patient, calm, most genuine, unassuming, and humble people I have ever met. I have never seen you lose your cool.

You have a wicked, dry sense of humour, which works magic in the classroom, and you have this amazing ability to get the weaker boys learning without them even realizing it. You make geography relevant, and the boys genuinely have fun in your classroom. You are an expert when it comes to dealing with teenage boys. You know what makes them tick, when they tick, how to get them ticking, why they tick, and how to stop them ticking.

You always have time for people and are always willing to share and help where you can. I really admire the way that you have embraced technology in your classroom. I know it is not always an easy thing for an old man to do! You have impacted and touched the lives of so many boys. Boys who have become CEOs, boys who are now farmers, boys who are Springbok sportsmen, boys who have become teachers, boys who are now politicians, boys who are businessmen and boys who are now dads themselves.

If I look at the school tradition of naming buildings after staff members, it would be very difficult to name one building in honour of you, Mike, as your contribution to this school has been huge, and in so many different areas – from the sports fields, to the classrooms, to the boarding houses, to the OLEs, to the estate and to the Wildlife Centre. There are not many areas left untouched by you. Time is running out and you only have a couple of days left to make your mark in the cultural space. I have it on good authority that you do a great rendition of Queen's Bohemian Rapsody.

I happened to be walking behind a group of Ellis House Grade 11 boys a couple of weeks ago and I heard one boy say to another, "I really don't know what we are going to do without Mr Mill in the house. It's not going to be the same without him."

I echo those words. Mike, the geography dept is not going to be the same without you but I feel privileged to have had this time working with you.

Small in stature but big in heart

Now to the other important person in our department, Francois, small in stature but big in heart. Your leadership in our department over the years has been a true example of servant leadership. You have always put our needs before yours and you always led with consideration and kindness. You have always stressed that health and family come first and for me, as a mother of young children, I so appreciated your understanding.

You wear your feelings on your sleeve and so often you have taken on other people's problems, which is not always a good thing but helping and caring for others is just in your DNA. You have been there for your friends and colleagues through thick and thin and you have always had our backs in the geography dept.

For those of you that do not know, Francois is known as the Lord of Laundry Lane. My family and dogs have so enjoyed having you living just down the road. My daughter Jess has said on a number of occasions that she wishes you could be her Grandpa. They just love you. We have a five-week holiday coming up, so we may just send your "surrogate granddaughter" to you for the holidays.

My family will cherish the memories of the happy holidays that we have had together at Manteku and Zingela and we hope that once you get your dream vehicle there will be many more adventures to share.

When you started at Hilton College in 2006, your wife Colleen was battling with cancer and soon after your arrival she passed away.

You have been the most remarkable father bringing up two young boys on your own. Brett is here tonight but Gareth unfortunately could not make it down from Pretoria. I know that it has not been easy doing it on your own, but you never once moaned or felt sorry for yourself; you just got on and did what two parents would normally do – that is love, encourage, nurture, motivate and support your kids.

Like all of us teachers, you have faced some challenges in the classroom, but you have always been professional in the way you have dealt with them. You have always had the best interests of the institution and boys at heart and unfortunately it is often only at the end of Grade12 that the boys realize this.

Your contribution to this school has been so much more than just in the academic and geography space. You have spent hours on the sports field, on the estate and in the boarding houses. You have given 100% to all that you have done. One of my fondest memories is tackling the first Grade 10 Journey with you and the Lucas boys.

So, Francois, the next chapter of your life is going to begin soon and although the unknown might be rather daunting, I know that we will see you – I have a whole Grade 12 class that I am signing up for extra lessons next year.

Mike and Francois, thank you. You will both be sorely missed.

As poetry seems to be the flavour of the day at Hilton College, I will finish with a poem. This poem was written by a well-known, popular but controversial poet, you may have heard of him, he goes by the name ChatGPT (thought I had better start embracing AI).

In the golden light of memories past,
You tread upon a path, retiring at last.
With every step, echoes of triumphs resound,
A career's legacy in every footprint found.

Your dedication, a beacon bright,
Guided many through the darkest night.
In the labyrinth of challenges, you led the way,
Fostering growth, nurturing each day.

Now as you bid your workplace adieu,
Know that your impact will forever ensue.
The seeds you sowed in hearts and minds,
Blossom as legacies, threaded through time.

Embrace the serenity of days yet to unfold,
Where horizons beckon, new stories to be told.
With wisdom as your compass, and laughter as your guide,
May retirement's embrace be a joyous stride.

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WILD COOLERS

MEL CAREY

Farewell by Leana Steenkamp



I am so incredibly honoured to speak about Mel tonight.

This is going to be very hard for me so please bear with me. It is not easy to say goodbye to a sister.

Mel started as the school biokineticist in 2012 and from her first day here she gained the trust of boys and staff. She has treated thousands of boys in her 12 years at Hilton College and if you were to ask every boy she has ever worked with, they would all gladly tell you that she is excellent at her job. She is also the most caring and selfless person you will ever meet. In her time here, Mel has also helped in the Life Sciences department, teaching when they needed her, and has worked as a scribe and reader during exam times. Saturdays Mel spent next to the sports fields, strapping and tending to boys.

MELANIE. Each letter in her name represents a quality she possesses.

Mother. Mel is not only an outstanding professional and biokineticist, but she is also a caring and loving mother. Both Payton and Connor were born during Chris and Mel's tenure at Hilton College and Mel hardly took a week off work, juggling being a professional and a mother. I am honoured to say that I was the first to hold Payton and Connor (after Chris) on the day they were born. Mel is like a mom to my kids – hugging and loving and supporting them as if they are her own.

Encourager. Mel is an encourager. When I close my eyes, I can see her running ahead of me up a hill in Zinkwazi, but always looking back to see that I am still trying. And encouraging me to lengthen my stride because I have long legs and no reason to fall behind her.
Loving. Mel makes time to check up on the people she loves, to make sure her friends are okay. During Covid she checked up on everyone who was sick.

Admirable. We can all admire how extremely hard Mel works and how she cheers us on. She never downplays our storms or dreams and always holds our hearts with respect.

Nothing is ever too much to ask. Mel will give you the shirt off her back (T-shirt; not a dress). I'm surprised she's not wearing a T-shirt tonight. She is a no-nonsense person, but not a plain Jane, as she would call herself. She is extraordinary and beautiful – to have her as a friend is a blessing.

Inspiring. If every person she has touched were a light on a map, it would create the most beautiful network you could imagine, all over the world. Throw in some strangers she's been kind to, the people she has treated or helped in the gym, or inspired along the way, and that network would be a sight to behold.

Empath. Mel genuinely cares about people. There is nothing fake about her. She is an example to all of us. An example of a true friend and good human being.

Tjom, you are much more than you realise. You have done much more than you can ever imagine. You are trailing a bright pathway that you don't see. What a beautiful thing.

We will all miss you. Be blessed in New Zealand. And know that we can get another bio. But we can never replace you. You are extraordinary.

CHRIS CAREY

Farewell by James Robey



If there is one thing I have learnt in the time that I've known Chris, it's that if you can do whatever you're trying to do with a beer in your hand, you should definitely have a beer in your hand! Cheers!

I was told that a speech should make you laugh and cry. The crying part won't be too difficult because we are dealing with Chris here!

I've known Chris and worked closely with him for the past seven years, so I feel very honoured to have this opportunity to say a formal farewell to you, my friend.

During his time as Newnham housemaster, Chris put up a motivational poster that I am going to base my speech on. I think it sums up Chris perfectly and what makes him the person he is.

"ZERO TALENT"
As per the poster, the following things require "zero talent".

1. On Time
Chris is always on time, a skill that not everyone has mastered. This applies across the board but especially to the many adventures we shared together. Riding motorbikes up Sani Pass, fishing in the Berg, departing on time for our annual Newnham Indaba to Nyala Pans. No matter what's on the agenda, he always honours his commitments.

2. Work Ethic
Second to none. Chris's work ethic is exceptional. If you want something done and done right, he's the man. He'll get the job done and ask you why you didn't think to include X, Y and Z and then go ahead and do that for you too.

It didn't matter if the task was school related or a personal DIY project, the job would get done to a very high standard!

3. Attitude
I think if you had to ask any of the boys who have passed through Newnham over the past 10 years, they would speak of his attitude. Positive, caring, motivated, encouraging. The boys taught by you and staff who have worked closely with you appreciate your attitude.

4. Passion
First and foremost, for his family Mel, P and Connor. We all know you guys come first and give Chris a strong sense of purpose and fulfilment. Then passion for his friends and his job. Chris, your enthusiasm and dedication have added depth to all of our lives.

5. Teachable
He has always listened to the expert advice I have given him about fishing, off-road 4 x 4, boats, motorbikes and, most importantly, how to fix all of the above. Sadly, he did not take my advice about moving to New Zealand. Jokes aside, you have always been open to feedback, guidance, and continuous learning and this is how you find yourself in the position you are today.

6. Prepared
Always ready for anything! Tools, gadgets, and skills to match. Chris, you are prepared for anything and that is how I know that this new and exciting adventure for you and the family will be an epic one!

We will all miss you. I will miss you.


ORANDO ET LABORANDO
HILTON COLLEGE



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SA Schools

Our sportsmen continue to excel, particularly on the rugby and hockey fields. In 2023, nine of our boys were selected to represent SA Schools hockey teams. And in 2022, we had six boys represent SA in schoolboy rugby and hockey.

The following Hilton hockey players were selected to SA Schools sides in 2023:

- Akha Mda and Kearabetswe Khoele were selected to represent the SA Schools U18A team.
- Nkosi Shozi and Nicholas Chantler were selected to represent the SA U18B team.
- Grant Bridgeford and Jarred Kitto were selected to represent the SA U17A team at the Dato Mirnawan Cup in Malaysia.
- Xavier Enslin was selected into the SA U16A team.
- Matthew Thomas and Reagan Mudau were selected into the SA U16B team.

The year 2023 was also a great year for Old Hiltonian sportsmen. David Tshebi (2022, McKenzie) was selected for the SA U21 Men's Junior World Cup team and participated in the Men's FIH Hockey Junior World Cup in Kuala Lumpur. And Jannes Potgieter (2021, Lucas) was selected for the SA U20 rugby team that participated in the World Rugby U20 Championship in Stellenbosch.

In 2022, Hilton College boys were selected for leadership positions in their SA Schools teams. Matt Rout was vice-captain of the SA U18A hockey team, and Thomas Dyer was stand-in captain of the SA U18 rugby team for most of the series. Joining Rout in the SA U18A hockey team were Akha Mda and Daniel den Bakker, while Nicolas Snyman and Jack Waterhouse also played for the SA U18 rugby side.

Both Waterhouse and Dyer are sons of Old Hiltonians. In his day, Rory Dyer captained the 1st XV in 1987 in his final year at Hilton College.

Also in 2022, Jake Carstens was selected for the SA Schools cricket team and golfer Chris Bagnall won the SA Schools Inter-Provincial Strokeplay Competition – by 17 strokes – before making off for the USA where he has joined the golf programme at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana.

Our athletes are just as impressive in the water! In 2022, Stefan Swart, Caine Letschert and Matthew Hayes formed part of the SA U17 team at the EU Nations Cup water polo tournament in Czech Republic. Swart went on to be selected for the SA Schools Water Polo Team in 2023.



Top left to bottom right: *Matt Rout, Akha Mda and Daniel den Bakker; Nicolas Snyman, Thomas Dyer and Jack Waterhouse; Jake Carstens; Stef Swart; Jannes Potgieter; David Tshebi; Chris Bagnall; Xavier Enslin, Matthew Thomas and Reagan Mudau; Jarred Kitto, Kearabetswe Khoele, Nkosi Shozi, Grant Bridgeford, Nicholas Chantler and Akha Mda; Grant Bridgeford, Daiyaan Solomons and Jarred Kitto*

4

In the year following our 150th celebrations and successes, there were many people who thought our sporting programme would struggle to reach the heights achieved in 2022.

Despite this, we had a successful year all round with several of our teams performing well at the highest level.

Our water polo programme had an outstanding year with the first team finishing in the top four on four occasions at tournaments boasting the top teams in the country. As a club, they won the KZN Top 10 overall winner trophy with our first team achieving second place, U15A first place and the U14A first place in their tournaments.

Our first team hockey ended an outstanding season ranked second in the country after another successful year.

The first team basketball produced several strong performances culminating in our first win over Michaelhouse in nine years. Our U14A team had an outstanding year, remaining undefeated as well as winning the Michaelhouse U14 tournament.

The first team rugby lost only one match in KZN whilst our U16A team went undefeated.

Our golf team qualified and attended the annual SA champs tournament for the second consecutive year after winning the KZN School Championship.

Our rowers competed at the SA champs with Brian Thomson winning a bronze medal in the single scull whilst Matthew Emmott and Matthew Peters won bronze in the double skull.

We celebrated some individual achievements during the year:

- Akha Mda and Kearabetswe Khoele were selected to represent the South African Schools U18A hockey team.
- Nkosi Shozi and Nicholas Chantler were selected to represent the South African U18B hockey team.
- Grant Bridgeford and Jarred Kitto were selected to represent the South African U17A team at the Dato Mirnawan Cup in Malaysia.
- Xavier Enslin was selected into the South African U16A hockey team.
- Matthew Thomas and Reagan Mudau were selected into the South African U16B hockey team.

As a result of the outstanding performances of our six major sports codes, we were ranked as the number one school in the combined schools' rankings on the SA School Sports website for the second consecutive year. Whilst we do not subscribe to the rankings, they are a good indicator that our sports programme and offering are in a strong place.

Our coaches are key to our success. Their dedication and efforts in laying the foundation for success contribute significantly to the overall achievements of the teams and the sports programme as a whole.

Darryn Gallagher | Executive Director: Sport

Athletics







Top from left: *Morne Engelbrecht, Tayedza Jaravaza*
Bottom from left: *Dante Sigei, Andre Boshoff (on track and in the pit)*

The 2023 athletics season was a great success marked by significant achievements and sportsmanship.

The season opened with the introduction of the aQuelle series, a platform that provides our athletes with opportunities to compete at various levels.

One of the highlights of the season was the outstanding performance of Morne Engelbrecht. Engelbrecht's dedication and hard work were truly commendable and culminated in a remarkable achievement – a silver medal at the SA Schools Athletics Championship for the 110m hurdles. His accomplishment not only brings pride to our athletic programme but also serves as an inspiration to aspiring athletes in our community.

Additionally, Tayedza Jaravaza was awarded honours for athletics, a testament to his exceptional skills and commitment to the sport. Jaravaza has demonstrated remarkable perseverance and dedication, and we are excited to see what the future holds for him. Furthermore, his invitation to represent Zimbabwe at the African Junior Championships in Zambia is well-deserved recognition of his talent on the international stage.

As we celebrate the accomplishments of Engelbrecht and Jaravaza, we are equally proud of all the athletes who participated in the season. Your hard work, determination, and sportsmanship have made this season memorable.

None of this would have been possible without the tireless efforts of our dedicated coaches and officials. Their commitment to nurturing talent, providing guidance, and ensuring the smooth execution of events has been pivotal to the success of the season. We extend our sincere appreciation to each coach and official who played a role in making this season possible.

> "In conclusion, we look back on the 2023 season with a sense of pride and gratitude. The achievements of our athletes, the establishment of the aQuelle series, and the recognition of Engelbrecht and Jaravaza on the national and international stages are testaments to the collective effort and passion within our athletics community."

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of the season, particularly Mrs Anze Goodwin and Mrs Juliette Hunter. We eagerly anticipate an even more remarkable and exciting athletics journey in the upcoming year.

De Wet Wentzel | MIC Athletics

Basketball



The club has solidified its reputation as a powerhouse, maintaining an impressive 50 percent win rate. While our style of play has become more aggressive, intense and gritty, we are more committed than ever to our continued success.

At the heart of the club are our core values: family, togetherness, and a supportive structure. These values create a foundation for a positive and cohesive team spirit, which fosters camaraderie among players and coaches alike.

The club has experienced significant growth, both in terms of player participation and facilities. In the year under review, we revamped our courts and added two new outdoor courts, providing sufficient space for training and competitions.

Thanks to our exceptional coaches, we have developed our players in leaps and bounds. Their commitment to nurturing talent and honing skills has contributed to the overall growth and success of individual players and our teams.

> “The importance of support cannot be overstated. We are ever grateful to our leaders and parents for their faithful support, which has been instrumental in overcoming challenges and achieving milestones this year.”

Highlights of the year include a historic victory for the 1st team, which beat Michaelhouse, breaking their nine-year winning streak. The U14 team won the Michaelhouse tournament, securing victories over strong opponents such as St John’s College and St Stithian’s College. Similarly, our U16 team dominated the Michaelhouse tournament with memorable wins against Maritzburg College, St Charles College, Northwood, and Michaelhouse.

Excellent performances resonated across the club, with our B, C, D and E teams showcasing their talent and determination.

The club is committed to the well-being of its athletes and has taken proactive measures to ensure player safety, including the addition of wall padding.

This year we introduced scholarships at the U14 level, opening doors for young athletes to pursue their passion and excel in the sport.

As the club reflects on a successful year, the message to the boys is to be humble and to work harder than ever. With a strong foundation, supportive community, and a dedication to improvement, the club can look forward to achieving even greater heights.

Ayanda Shange | Director of Basketball



1ST TEAM

Regular players: *Simba Chidakwa, Rowan Cox, Langa Dlamini, Tino Hove, Connor Jerome, Karabo Lephema, Joshua Lord, Lesedi Mangwale, Thabo Mngomezulu, Mpande Myeza, Sixolile Nyangiwe, Namisi Oppai-Tetteh, Connor Thomson (captain), Nicholas Thorburn, Tiisano Tisane, Yu Lie Wang*

The 2023 1st team's season was one of challenges, victories, and unforgettable moments.

During the first term, I took to the helm, inheriting a squad that included key players such as Chisha Mulenga (captain) and Nicholas Thorburn (vice-captain), among others. The team adapted to their new coach, new strategies, and new styles.

Despite some early losses, including a close match against Durban High School and an intense game against Kearsney College, the team displayed determination. The turning point came in a home fixture against Clifton College, where a memorable dunk by Sixolile Nyangiwe boosted the team's morale, resulting in a victory.

The showdown against Michaelhouse, though ending in a narrow loss, showcased the team's spirit and skill, setting the stage for a promising term four.

We went into the fourth term with a refined roster and a reinvigorated team, including players Connor Jerome, Connor Thomson (captain), Rowan Cox and Tiisano Tisane (vice-captain). The season kicked off with the Stayers Tournament at Kearsney, where meticulous preparation and intense training sessions paid off.

Despite a narrow loss in the knockout game against Michaelhouse, the team rebounded in subsequent games.

The St David's Basketball Hoops Invitational Tournament in Johannesburg provided invaluable learning experiences, with notable victories and a nineth place finish out of 16 teams.

> "The highlight of the season was the rematch against Michaelhouse, ending a decade-long victory drought at their home ground. The team's improved chemistry and tactics, along with the leadership of Thomson and Tisane, were key to this historic win."

I'm grateful to the Director of Basketball Mr Ayanda Shange, the Director of Sports Mr Darryn Gallagher, and to the school for supporting the team in tournaments and elevating the standard of basketball.

My heartfelt thanks to the parents for their unconditional support and the players for their unwavering commitment. Thomson and Tisane have been exemplary leaders and have set the standard for the club's culture.

The 2023 season has been a testament to our club's resilience and our victories have set the stage for future triumphs.



1ST TEAM

Back row: *Six Nyangiwe, Connor Jerome, Gabriele Njonjo, Rowan Cox*
Middle row: *Tiisano Tisane, Connor Thomson, Tawanda Kugotsi, Saphiwa Nzimande, Mpande Myeza, Tino Hove*
Front row: *Mr Msizi Mntungwa, Nicholas Thorburn, Mr Orateng Motsoe, Chisha Mulenga, Mr Philani Sondzaba*

SIMBA CHIDAKWA: Our promising forward, Simba plays a crucial role in protecting the rim and contributing to both offensive and defensive rebounds. His lanky frame adds versatility to his game, making him an asset on both ends of the court.

Simba is consistently refining his skills, with a particular focus on improving his post-up play and mid-range shooting game. This dedication to development reflects his determination to contribute in various facets of the game. As Simba continues to progress, he is sure to become integral to the team's success.

ROWAN COX: Our indispensable and astute centre/power forward, Rowan serves as the glue that holds our team together. He consistently leads the team in points and rebounds. With an impressive streak of double-digit scoring in every game, Rowan's contribution is remarkable. But what sets him apart is his continuous improvement across all facets of the game. This dedication makes him an incredible asset. Rowan's a leader and a game-changer.

LANGA DLAMINI: Our dynamic rookie point guard, Langa has been on a steep learning curve this season. His basketball IQ shines through as he grasps the intricacies of our team's structure. On offense, he stands out as an incredible ball-handler and a masterful passer, consistently making intelligent decisions. Langa's exceptional ability to move the ball strategically elevates the entire team, placing his passes where they can have the most impact. Defensively, Langa's lanky size is an asset, allowing him to excel both on the perimeter and inside the paint. His versatility on both ends of the court showcases not only his individual skills but also his ability to contribute to the team's overall success. We anticipate great things from Langa.

TINO HOVE: Tino has progressed steadily and significantly this year, particularly in his role as a lock-down perimeter player. His ability to shut down opposing players has been a consistent asset, making crucial stops when the team needed them most. Tino's reliability on the defensive end has been a key factor in our performance. With dedication and focus on his shooting ability, Tino has the potential to further enhance his impact on both ends of the court.

CONNOR JEROME: A versatile player, Connor excels as a forward on offense and showcases his prowess as a centre and rim-protector on defence. His remarkable progress in shot deterrence and blocking reflects his dedication to defensive excellence. Notably, Connor's mid-range jumpshot has become a reliable scoring weapon, contributing to his increased offensive efficiency. Furthermore, his significant improvement in offensive rebounding adds a dynamic element to his game, making him an asset on both ends of the court.

KARABO LEPHEMA: Our dynamic left-handed forward, Karabo's playing style as a slash-and-attack specialist has been a game-changer. As a key contributor coming off the bench, he brings a quick and aggressive approach that results in valuable baskets and points. His ability to create scoring opportunities not only adds depth to our offense but also plays a crucial role in keeping the team competitive when starters take a breather. Karabo's quick and decisive playstyle is a significant asset, enhancing our team's overall competitiveness and ensuring a relentless offensive threat throughout the game.

JOSHUA LORD: One of the team's youngest players, Joshua is our promising centre who has demonstrated remarkable growth, particularly in his post-up game. He leverages his substantial frame effectively, creating space for his offense and showcasing a burgeoning skill set. Joshua's proficiency in rebounding has proven invaluable on the defensive end. May his trajectory be one of continuous growth and success.

LESEDI MANGWALE: Lesedi's exceptional athleticism and aggressive playing style make him a formidable force on the court. He specializes in slashing, consistently challenging defences and creating opportunities for the team. His speed and agility make him a challenging player to defend against. Lesedi is also able to draw fouls, earning crucial opportunities at the free-throw line. This added dimension to his game adds value to the team's offensive strategy. An asset to any team.

THABO MNGOMEZULU: Our young and promising combo guard, Thabo is a player with a bright future. As he continues to develop and integrate into the team, his versatility as a combo guard will undoubtedly add an exciting dimension to our gameplay.

MPANDE MYEZA: A quick learner, Mpande is evolving into an essential player. His vision and basketball IQ have earned him valuable minutes on the court, and he handles the point guard role with confidence and skill. Not only does he contribute to scoring, but he has also displayed a consistent ability to hit 3-pointers, adding a valuable dimension to our offense. Mpande's continued growth and development are promising indicators of a bright future in basketball.

SIXOLILE NYANGIWE: Our dedicated guard, Sixolile has elevated his game in all facets. His determination to contribute and his dedication to honing his skills suggests that he will be a player to watch, and his continued improvement bodes well for both his individual performance and the team's overall success.

NAMISI OPPAI-TETTEH: Our formidable power forward, Namisi embodies the essence of a slash-and-attack player. His robust and tenacious style has made him a solid and impactful force. He utilizes his strength to secure rebounds and execute swift attacks, providing a powerful presence in offense and defence. Namisi's unyielding approach make him an invaluable asset.

CONNOR THOMSON: Captain extraordinaire, Connor's leadership extends beyond the court, significantly influencing our team culture. Our primary shooting guard, his exceptional three-point shooting not only adds valuable points but also opens up the floor, providing strategic advantages in our offensive approach. Connor's a formidable force on both ends. Additionally, his slashing skills, driving to the rim, add a dynamic dimension to his game.

NICHOLAS THORBURN: Nicholas is an outstanding player and a true team player. His energy and unwavering commitment to both offense and defence make him an asset to any team. He is fearless, always willing to put his body on the line and dive for loose balls. Furthermore, his ability to drive the ball to the rim and score when the team needs it most makes him an essential component of any team.

TIISANO TISANE: Tiisano swiftly emerged as the team's top point guard. His brilliance lies in his ability to dictate key moments, utilizing his speed to break down opposing defences with ease. His strong play at the point guard position became a linchpin for the team. Tiisano's bounce back from injury and ascent to a top-performing point guard exemplifies not only his skill but also his resilience and dedication to the game. He has contributed significantly to the team's success.

YU LIE WANG: Yu Lie's adaptability and commitment to the team shone brightly this year as he changed roles, transitioning to a shifty and skilful scorer. Coming off the bench, Yu Lie quickly evolved into the team's ultimate weapon. His ability to enter the game and make an impact in critical moments proved essential to the team's success. Yu Lie's willingness to embrace a new role was a demonstration of his dedication to the team. He epitomises the ultimate team player.

Orateng Motsoe | Coach











1st basketball team – top left to bottom right: *Connor Thomson and Rowan Cox; Sixolile Nyangiwe; Yu Lie Wang; Nicholas Thorburn, Tawanda Kugotsi, Chisa Mulenga and Rowan Cox; 1st team; Connor Thomson and Connor Jerome; Chisa Mulenga; Nicholas Thorburn; Chisa Mulenga*

2ND TEAM

Regular players: *Zimele Khumalo, Matome Manthatha, Smilo Mkungo, Bayanda Ncobeni, Ntando Ngcobo, Jehan Thipanyane-Said*

Our team, including fresh talent from the 2022 U16 squad, put up a robust defence and a relentless offensive drive in our first game of the season against Durban High School (DHS). The match reached a thrilling climax in overtime, with Smilo Mkungo delivering a buzzer-beater, in the sweltering heat at DHS. We won the game 23-22.

We went on to suffer a series of defeats – against Westville Boys' High (22-14), Maritzburg College (23-22) and Kearsney (22-21) – before beating Clifton 56-6 in a home game before the mid-term break.

Our match against Michaelhouse was tightly contested up until midway through the fourth quarter, when we succumbed to them.

The fourth term commenced with a triangular tournament. Despite a challenging encounter against St Charles, ending 39-29, and a closely contested game against the Saints that slipped away in the dying seconds at 43-38, the team showed resilience and determination.

In our game against Glenwood, the team secured a 20-12 victory after a tough third quarter. In a spirited build-up to Northwood, our boys engaged in another closely contested game, narrowly losing 29-26 in the final minutes of the game.

Returning to basics for the DHS encounter, the team engaged in a close game with multiple lead changes. The boys emerged victorious with a hard-fought 44-39 win, leading into the mid-term break. In the final game of the year, we played our arch-rivals on their home turf. Despite a closely contested game, Michaelhouse emerged triumphant with a strong third quarter, securing a 44-25 win.

Over the course of the year, the lads showed remarkable improvement, honing their skills, and elevating their playing abilities. The season, with its highs and lows, contributed to the growth and resilience of the team's players.

Milesh Lambert | Coach

3RD TEAM

Regular players: *Ross Brown, Jack Davenport, Mark Isobel, Thabelo Letjama (captain), Kukanya Mahlangu, Wonga Masina, Akha Mda, Ntuma Moagi, Sakhiwo Moilwa, Sedise Moseneke, Siya Mpofu, Luntu Ncube, Thuto Phakisi, Connor Sawyer, Nkosi Shozi, Mathuba Xaba, Unami Zungu*

In the first term, we focused on skills and role playing. As most of my players were seniors, they wanted to enjoy what might be their last season of basketball.

The first fixture against DHS was our weakest performance – a loss by six points. This was followed by a win against Westville.

In the run up to the Maritzburg College away fixture, we worked on our defensive press, which paid off against a fast break orientated team. The Hilton boys played with hunger and didn't give up, but unfortunately the game ended in a loss by one point.

Drive and determination flowed into our next away fixture against Kearsney and after a hard-fought battle, we won the game by six points.

After the mid-term break the boys had Michaelhouse in their sights, and unfortunately overlooked a very capable Clifton team which they lost to.

When it came to facing an unbeaten Michaelhouse, our boys played with intensity, confidence and passion, taking the win by two points.

Our first game in the fourth term was a tough one against Kearsney, which we lost. We used that loss to fuel our next fixture – a comfortable win against Linpark's 1st team.

Our next game, against Northwood, was an arduous battle. We lacked energy on both sides of the court and struggled to play with intensity until it was too late, which led to a loss by 30 points.

This was followed by a win over DHS, thanks to the help of a few matric players who ensured we held the lead throughout the fixture.

The most emotional game of the season was our last game which was against Michaelhouse. The Hilton boys refused to give up against what was clearly a better team than ours, with a few U16B players helping us maintain the fight from start to end. We managed to come back in the last quarter, but we missed the opportunity to equalise the game and lost by only four points.

I'm proud of the players for facing their adversities head on and for showing respect to one another and commitment to the team.

Bradford Jasson | Coach

4TH TEAM

Regular players: *Neil Bararugurika, William Chien, Adam Essey, Max Gilson, Lebo Legodi, Rukudzo Madinga, Oliver Mann, Siyanda McClain, Munashe Musora, Teboho Pakkies, Oliver Proudfoot, Ethan Smith, Miguel Teixeira, Jack Weavind, Nick Yu, Sandiso Zondi*

The team had an outstanding season winning seven of their 12 games, from a strong start against Kearsney College to a thrilling finale against Michaelhouse.

In the first term, the team showcased their skill and flair in victories over Maritzburg College, Northwood and Michaelhouse. In the latter game, we made a comeback from a six-point deficit, which made for a memorable and intense experience for both players and supporters.

The leadership skills of Jack Weavind, Sandiso Zondi, Oliver Proudfoot, and Miguel Teixeira were key to the success of the team in the first season. Teamwork, support, and encouragement were hallmarks of the team, on and off the court.

The fourth term was no less memorable than the first. Five players from the starting line-up were promoted to the 2nd and 3rd teams, which is indicative of the talent in the team.

While every player in every game showed commitment and determination in the second season, special mention must be made of Oliver Mann, Sandiso Zondi, and Teboho Pakkies for their strong leadership of the team.

While the team suffered some losses, these were not a true reflection of their capabilities.

Best wishes to the players and the team in their future endeavours.

Herbert Mncwabe | Coach



5TH TEAM

Regular players: *Adam Cole, Travis De Bruyn, Adam Essey, Benjamin Guimaraens, Sean Kamau, Ntando Mchunu, Reabetswe Motlogoa, Luntu Ncube, Thamisanqa Ncube, Liso Ngoqo, Mhlongo Ntando, Maphumulo Siyamukela, Ethan Smith, Nicholas Yu*

The team played nine games, of which they lost six and drew two. Nevertheless, they completed the season in high spirits.

The team faced numerous challenges, including having to balance a large number of players. The boys displayed a positive attitude and high levels of energy on and off the court. When players learn to work as a team to overcome challenges and maintain unity within the team, such valuable life lessons will serve them in all areas of life.

It was also wonderful to see players develop leadership skills and senior players act as role models and mentors, passing on their knowledge and skills to younger players.

I wish all the players the best of luck in their future endeavours, and congratulate them on a season filled with resilience, teamwork, and personal growth!

Nontuthuko Hlela | Coach

U16A

Regular players: *Simba Chidakwa, Tito Chonco, Robby De Beer, Alex Engelbrecht, Gcina Gqwaaru, Josh Lord, Nqubeko Majozi, Thabo Mngomezulu, Katleho Motaung, Zach Mphosi, Regan Mudau, Nicholas Wenyika*

In a year marked by trials, growth, and great achievements, the team won 12 of their 18 games.

Our main objective was to help each player realise and maximise his full potential.

The St Stithians tournament kicked off on a high note, with the team dominating in the group stages, securing victories against St Charles, St Alban's, and the American International School. Despite a commendable performance, they were knocked out in the semifinals against St Benedicts. Undeterred, the team drew on the lessons learned at St Stithians and emerged victorious in the Michaelhouse tournament. Securing for the club its first tournament trophy, this historic win included triumphs against Northwood, Michaelhouse, St Charles, and a talented Maritzburg College side in the finals.

A noteworthy feature of the team was the absence of superstars; each player contributed by playing his designated role, resulting in consistently satisfying performances.

Sadly, after the triumphant Michaelhouse tournament, overconfidence crept in, and we lost a league game to Michaelhouse in term one. The team faced additional challenges when five players were promoted to the 1st team squad, which meant players had to adapt to new roles. The team adjusted and continued to dominate in term four, securing victories against St Charles, Northwood, and a memorable grudge match against Michaelhouse, concluding 21-18 in favour of Hilton.

Many players in the U16A team have the potential to play for the 1st team in their senior year. This group of players is capable of great things, as long as they continue to believe in the strength of the team and maintain their determination and commitment to hard work.

Ayanda Shange | Coach

U16B

Regular players: *Shaka Buthelezi, Linathi Dabula, Josh Dube, Lwandle Gabuza, Ridge Houge, Kyle Lewis, Tumisho Manaka, Katleho Motaung, Ndalo Ngewu, Ntando Nyabonda, Tino Nyabonda, Efe Ozcan, Boleng Seoe, Thando Shongwe*

From the start of the season, the boys demonstrated enthusiasm and a commitment to learning and enhancing their basketball skills.

The first weekend, featuring a triangular fixture against St Charles and Kearsney College, set the tone for the season. Both matches were marked by high energy and support, resulting in convincing victories. Commitment and chemistry between players were standout features of the team, and this made for an enjoyable coaching experience.

The age group enjoyed a wealth of talent, including a skilled exchange student who added a unique dynamic to the team.

Following the triangular, the winning streak continued with a triumph over a resilient Glenwood team. This victory prepared the team for a close and highly competitive match against Northwood, which ended in a two-point victory.

The team's resilience and mental fortitude were tested in the fixture against a talented Durban High School team, but they stood their ground and secured a win.

In their final game of the season, our boys kept Michaelhouse on their toes, but the result did not go our way.

The team can be proud of themselves, winning eight of their 11 games. I wish the players success in the seasons to come.

Swelihle Mkhwanazi | Coach

U16C

Regular players: *Tochi Ezenwungo, Neil Grobbelaar, Jack Kitching (captain), Mpho Makulana, Omohau Mbileni, Kgosi Modise, Tsebo Mokhathi, Nthekgo Phasha, Rubert Wright, Ungweru Ziba*

The season began with trials, during which the team formed a cohesive unit thanks to camaraderie among players.

Our first fixture, which was against Durban High School, was a resounding 34-5 victory. However, we went on to suffer two narrow losses, against Westville Boys High School (17-15) and then Maritzburg College (13-12). In our fixture against Kearsney College, our strategy worked for us and we won 26-24.
After a short break, we triumphed over St Charles College with a 16-10 win, showing our ability to adapt our strategy. We lost our last match of the first term to Michaelhouse in a game that was cancelled due to bad weather.

The fourth term kicked off with a triangular against St Charles College and Kearsney College. Despite a slow start against St Charles, we secured a well-deserved 31-9 victory followed by a 42-12 win against Kearsney.

In the highly anticipated match against Northwood we focused on fast breaks and transitional play, for which we were rewarded a 46-5 win. Our winning streak continued in games against Durban High School (25-9) and Michaelhouse (26-5).

Credit must go to captain Jack Kitching and his vice-captain Ziba Ungweru for their leadership of the team.

Lindokuhle Sibisi | Coach

U16D

Regular players: *Daniel Askew, Micheal Bird, Bakuan Likihla, Tumelo Makgeru, Tshiamo Mashishi, Omohau Mbileni, Mbuyelo Mbokota, Ziyanda Mnyandu, Chu Pillay, Sizwe Pwele, Richard Roxburgh, Jameel Said*

The season began with the team suffering a loss against Westville and a win against Maritzburg College.

With many of the boys having played together last year, there was great chemistry in the team, as well as a healthy spirit of competition. During practice sessions, we focused on spacing on the court in motion offence, which requires strong communication between players.

The team played Kearsney next but lost even though we played better basketball. This seemed to motivate the boys in their next game, against St Charles, which they won.

We went on to secure a victory against Clifton, but never got to play Michaelhouse after our game was cancelled due to rain.

Term four began with a triangular against St Charles and Kearsney. After losing to St Charles, we enjoyed a satisfying win against Kearsney, with the team showing resilience and determination.

Unfortunately, the following week Northwood forfeited the game. We then suffered a loss to DHS in a close game.

Our final fixture was against Michaelhouse – their team being made up of players drawn mostly from higher teams. Our boys put in a great effort and lost by only four points.

Overall, it was a good season. The boys had fun learning to play and they built relationships. It has been my privilege to guide them through the season.

Lindani Shoba | Coach

U15A

Regular featured players: *Miles Cox, Nathan Daniel, Liyema Gazi, Tadi Hove, Amandla Khawe, Nelwang Letsoalo, Machabe Monaheng, Riley Ross, Karl Senanu, Kaelo Taukobong, Ralfe Wilmot, Liyema Zondi*

We started the term on a high, winning our first fixture against DHS (32-22). But this was followed by a big loss to Westville Boys' High School (57-17). A narrow loss to St Charles College (22-19) only added to our misery. Things seemed to be going downhill from there as the boys suffered yet another big defeat to Kearsney College (45-14). However, in the build up to our final fixture of term one, the players chose to learn from their losses and played their hearts out against Michaelhouse. Unfortunately, they lost this game, too (51-27).

The first term proved to be a steep learning curve for the boys, who played well even though the results did not show it.

They would go on to have an amazing fourth term, which started with the preseason tournament at Northwood High School. The boys held their own and reached the quarter-finals where they were knocked out by the hosts. Their team effort was consistent.

In the fourth term the team would change things around, winning most of the games that they had lost in term one, including against St Charles and Michaelhouse.

In total they played 12 games, winning six and losing six.

Msizi Mntungwa | Coach

U15B

Regular players: *Mholi Khuzwayo, Kopano Lekeka, Nyiko Mabunda, Zenande Mahlangu, Ofentse Mamojele, Ndyebo Manci, Khalane Moletsane, Machabe Monaheng, Axolile Nyangiwe, Nathan Ravalomanana, Luphelele Shange, Dante Sige, Taji Sigei, Tsepo Tsike (captain)*

The team can take pride in their performance this year. Of their 12 games played, they lost only three, showing their skill and teamwork. It was pleasing to see hard work bridge the gap between our team and the A team, which goes to show the success of our developmental approach.

In term four, formations and strategic plays were incorporated, which contributed significantly to the team's competitive edge and dominance in most of their games.

Emphasising skill development for the junior players was a priority, as was the exploration of different roles. The team faced minimal challenges and unity prevailed even when they suffered losses.

The team demonstrated dedication and an understanding of the game and made great progress this year. I am confident these boys will continue to improve.

Bradford Jasson | Coach

U15C

Regular players: *Seriti Bannalotlhe, Daniel Day, Zizwe Digangoane, Liam Firth, Andiswa Mahlase, Baile Makhakhe, Iviwe Mconywana, Karabelo Morojele, Akhumzi Mtshungwara, Fanaka Mworia, Khaya Nouse (captain), Nathan Ravalomanana*

In term one, we suffered losses to Durban High School (12-7), Westville Boys' High School (17-16), Maritzburg College (21-1) and Kearsney College (33-23). Our first victory was against Clifton College (41-0) followed by a win against Michaelhouse (20-9).

The team entered term four with energy, despite some players recovering from injuries. In the triangular against St Charles College and Kearsney College, the team was hungry to win, and enjoyed a notable victory against the former (21-14) and the later (17-10). Our game against Northwood proved disappointing with a 22-7 loss, prompting the team to regroup and refocus. A crucial fixture against Durban High School saw a determined effort, resulting in a satisfying 29-18 win.

The final game against Michaelhouse ended in a 14-6 loss, marked by early struggles and defensive lapses. Despite the disappointment, the team reflected on their remarkable growth over the season, highlighting their transition from individual to team players.

Lindokuhle Sibisi | Coach

U15D

Regular players: *Joshua Chibwe, Kgosi Fuyana, Ty Kalayamotho, Koma Mahlatji, Baile Makhakhe, Ben Mann, Mvila Ncongwane, Kgosi Sekgobela*

The team commenced the season with a victorious filler fixture against Maritzburg College (17-14). Unfortunately, it was all downhill from there with losses against Westville Boys' High (53-12), Maritzburg College (31-9) and Kearsney (38-4). After the mid-term break, we narrowly lost to St Charles (27-26) and then to our archrivals Michaelhouse (31-29). Despite these losses, we improved our play and several boys earned promotions to higher teams in term four.

In the opening game of term four, the team came out fighting winning their match against St Charles 16-1. But this was followed by a series of narrow losses to Kearsney (20-16), Maritzburg College (26-25), and Northwood (18-15).

Facing Durban High School after a week of intense practices, the team exhibited exceptional man-on-man defence and tenacious rebounding, securing a convincing 35-12 win.

In the perennial battle with Michaelhouse, the team claimed a resounding 37-13 victory.

Milesh Lambert | Coach

U15E

Regular players: *Lwanda Chitha, Fernando Ebineng, Jack Hermon, Pheto Kgafela, Lefa Matswiri, Atlegang Ramutla*

The team had two distinct seasons this year, each presenting unique challenges. In the first season (term one), we enjoyed considerable success, primarily due to the abundance of players. The competition for positions within the team fostered a healthy environment, with boys pushing each other to excel. Additionally, due to injuries in higher-ranked teams, several players were deserving of and received promotions.

However, in the second season (term four) we had a shortage of players and limited depth. External factors, including challenging weather conditions, frequently disrupted our practice sessions.

The team played 12 games, of which they won five. Despite their losses, they exhibited commendable resilience, facing obstacles head-on, and demonstrating spirit and determination at all times.

Msizi Mchunu | Coach

U14A

Regular players: *Max Asamoah, Jowi Cole, Liam Hoffman, Phemelo Joel, Chuma Luswazi, Litha Madinda (captain), Nthuthuko Mahlangu, Imran Mohomed, Lesiphosethu Ndlovu, Kihara Waithaka*

The team had an outstanding first term, characterized by great teamwork, strategic play, and the exceptional leadership of Litha Madinda. Key to the team's success were teamwork and good communication among the players. The players demonstrated a high level of cohesion on the court, working together seamlessly to execute plays and defend against opponents.

A highlight of the season was the team's triumphant performance at the Michaelhouse tournament. The players showcased their skills and determination, securing victory in a highly competitive field. This achievement not only added to the team's reputation but also demonstrated their ability to excel under pressure.

The team's undefeated run through term four is a testament to their excellence. They faced their opponents with skill and resilience, showcasing their dominance in the league. This accomplishment reflects the team's commitment to hard work, discipline, and a winning mindset.

The year will be remembered as a remarkable one, with the team winning 13 of their 15 games.

Thabiso Mkhize | Coach

U14B

Regular players: *Iggy Friedman, Zayd Kidy, Ayanda Kunene, Sigcobe Magwentshu, Ruan Mulder, Raymond Muleso, Lesiphosethu Ndlovu, Kelechi Nwobi, Ore Ongunfowora, Nicandro Padayachee, Olebogeng Segale, Sazi Sigodi (captain), Sbonokuhle Sithebe, Dimo Zigiriadis*

The team had an impressive first term, winning all but one of their games – their only loss being to Kearsney College.

However, the fourth term of the season did not go as smoothly. This was largely due to the loss of key players. This created a void that proved challenging to fill. The boys also battled to adjust to new teammates, and effective communication on the court was a struggle.

Despite these challenges, I am immensely proud of the heart and effort the team invested in this season. Their resilience and commitment reflect positively on their character, and I look forward to seeing how they can build upon these experiences for future success.

Sipho Moniwa | Coach

U14C | No Report

U14D

Regular players: *Joseph Gichuru, Uminathi Gwala, Tinyiko Khosa, Ramotse Matime, Lefa Matswiri, Lehumo Modise, Liqhayiya Ngcese, Sbusiso Nhlapo*

The team played 11 games over the course of the year, winning nine and losing only two. The boys improved their skills, technique, and overall performance to the extent that two players were promoted to the U14B and U14C teams.

Our only two defeats – to Northwood (9-10) and Michaelhouse (18-20) – were narrow and in both games, the boys showed resilience and maintained a positive mindset. A highlight of the season was our impressive 22-5 victory against St Charles.

Scoring the most points for the team in the season, Sbusiso Nhlapo's performance was outstanding. Joseph Gichuru also deserves mention. A source of inspiration to the team, he was the most improved and valuable player this season. I commend him for his hard work and great attitude, which held our team together.

Nontuthuko Hlela | Coach

U14E

Regular players: *Vidal Analo, Reece Johnson-Watts, Kabelo Lephema, Kamohelo Mashale, Leago Moagi, Nthato Mpakati, Ludvonga Mtshungwana, Abdulla Mussa, Aryan Pillay, Shee' Sebeo, Benjamin Shen-Yu, Luke Troger, Duncan Van Niekerk*

A return of two wins from 10 matches does not begin to tell the story of the season for the team. The season started with a series of heavy defeats to Westville, Durban High School, Maritzburg College and Kearsney with the team managing just nine points across the first four games. The turnaround was spectacular. In the week leading up to the first Michaelhouse fixture something clicked in the team and the game ended in an exhilarating 24-18 win for Hilton.

The boys carried this momentum into the fourth term and recorded an impressive home win against DHS to whom they had lost by 14 points in the first term. The season ended with a thrilling game against Michaelhouse away, in which the hosts managed to hang on for a 22-18 win.

William Donkin | Coach

Canoeing



Back row: *Knox Rutherfoord, Adam Fitzsimons, Nicolas Eyres, Luke Wilson, Ryan Grobler, Rhett Beaumont*
Middle row: *Rex Holdsworth, Matthew Bastard, Andrew Bernstein, William Thompson, Jamie Byres, Max Sclanders*
Front row: *Matthew Wilson, James Dingley, Mr James Robey, Richard Eyres (captain), Mr Sean McGuigan, Jordan Byres, Jamie Dunn*

The 2023 canoeing year was another successful one for the Kayak Club. We had a resurgence in numbers of boys paddling, as well as representation at several of the top events this year. The rivers held good water in the early part of the season, although water quality is still a real issue. The KZN schools league was also well attended.

The first major race of the season is the Drak Challenge, held in Underberg on the Umzimkulu River. This year James Dingley and Jordan Byres took on the challenge in K1s with Richard Eyres paddling a K2 with me. Everyone did exceptionally well and with the boys beginning to learn this section of river, I am looking forward to the event next year. Unfortunately, we did not have any boys take on the Dusi this year. However, with the experience they have gained this season, I have no doubt that a number of our paddlers will be doing it in 2024.

There were numerous school league races and events throughout the year. These included river races, flat water events as well as canoe polo. Boys are able to earn points in all these events. This year James Dingley finished second place and Jordan Byres in fourth, both in the U16 age group. Both these young men have paddled exceptionally well this year.

The growth in the club this year was amazing to see. We had as many as 11 Grade 8s joining the team. Mostly paddling as a second sport. However, all of them managed to complete their river proficiencies in the third term, as well as participate in the KZN K1 river champs, held over two days on the Tugela River. They have all learnt some valuable life lessons and had a great deal of fun.

Jordan Byres made the KZN Canoe Polo team this year. He took part in the SA Canoe Polo Championships, in Knysna in March, and did very well, paving the way for more of our boys to participate in canoe polo events.

For the first time in many years, we took a team of boys to the Fish River Canoe Marathon in Cradock in the Eastern Cape. The event is held over two days and more than 80km of big water and technical paddling. Dingley and Byres paddled in a K2 and managed to finish second overall in the U16 category. They had a fantastic race and can be very proud of their result. Matthew Wilson paddled a K2 with me, and we also had a good race. Jamie Dunn took on the short course event in his K1, and although it is shorter, it is no less challenging. He had a great race, managing to finish second. It was a fantastic week in Cradock and we plan to keep going back with more boys to this event.

The club had a great year taking on many rivers and races. Keeping true to our values we also did lots of tripping when there were no races on the calendar. Byres was awarded a trophy for the Kayak Club Paddler of The Year, which is awarded to the boy who upholds the spirit of the club and actively competes, giving of his best at all times. Thanks also to Mr Sean McGuigan and our coach Mr Kyle Friedenstein for their ongoing support and commitment to canoeing at Hilton.

James Robey | MIC Canoeing



Well done to our canoeing club for making a splash at the inter-schools Canoe Polo Tournament at UKZN Pietermaritzburg!

Cricket



The 2023 season was the first full season with David Griffiths in charge of the 1st team and academy at Hilton College. He has brought a more inclusive approach to cricket at our school and increased the pool of players who are included in the 1st team. Coach Travis Pieters has also become more involved with the senior teams, rotating between the U16A team in the first term and 2nd team in fourth term, giving Mr Griffiths much-needed support in the senior phase of our programme.

A great deal of work, dedication and commitment goes into a cricket season at Hilton College and we greatly appreciate the passion and professionalism of those involved in our unique system. From the coaching team led by Mr Griffiths and Mark Handman to our external coaches, including Mr Pieters, Will Naish and the professionals from Gloucestershire, to the teachers who give of their time and energy to teams and players when few are watching, all have done us proud.

The success of the programme rests in the passion of the players and the equally passionate people who coach our sport. We were blessed to have been able to resurrect the ever-popular Hilton Premier League, which allowed the senior players to work with the junior players in the system allowing us to be a more homogeneous club in the future.

Luke Campbell, David Hill, Ben Hockly and Liyema Nela made the U16 KZN Inland team, which ended fourth out of 16 teams. Campbell and Hockly were standout players in their team.

We are also honoured to have had Ross Boast, Matipa Denenga, Natenzi Denenga and Ivan Lockem in the KZN Inland U19 team.

After their performances at the Coca-Cola Khaya Majola [U19] Cricket Week, Boast and Lockem were selected into the SA Schools Colts cricket team. It was a remarkable achievement to have both boys included in the team; both were deserving having put in man-of-the-match performances in the week.

> “On behalf of the coaches and players, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to Hilton College parents for their continued support and encouragement of our boys throughout the season. Your presence and positive reinforcement of our cricketing philosophies go a long way.”

The professionalism and guidance of Mr Darryn Gallagher as well as the continued support of all in the sports department, especially Mr Carl Schmidt and Mr Burger Nel, have enabled the Hilton College Cricket Club to continue to compete against the very best in South Africa.

We were fortunate that a number of our boys were selected for the KZN Inland and SA Colts Representative teams.

KZN Inland U19: Ross Boast, Matipa Denenga, Natenzi Denenga, Ivan Lockem

KZN Inland U16: Luke Campbell, David Hill (non-traveling reserve), Ben Hockly, Liyema Nela

Dolphins Cubs: Ross Boast

SA Schools Colts: Ross Boast and Ivan Lockem.

Warren Kirsten | Director of Cricket

1ST XI

Regular players: *Ross Boast (captain), Nicholas Chantler, Kyle Christie, Brett Cutting, Matipa Denenga, Natenzi Denenga, Ben Hockly, Jarred Kitto, Wian Liebenberg, Ivan Lockem, Murray Lougher-Clarke, Liyema Nela, James Ogilby, Matthew Stewart, Sam Strydom, Charles Swart, Ethan van Heerden, Luke Watt*

After another thrilling season of cricket, the Hilton College 1st XI is leaving a memorable mark on the pitch with a series of outstanding performances, displaying skill, sportsmanship, and unwavering dedication.

The 2023 season was a journey of challenges, triumphs, and camaraderie showcasing the spirit of Hilton's cricketing excellence. The batting order demonstrated resilience and flair throughout the season. Captain Ross Boast led by example amassing an impressive run tally with consistent contributions. Vice-captain Ivan Lockem also emerged as a standout performer, demonstrating exceptional stroke play and tenacity under pressure.

The middle order, anchored by seasoned players and talented newcomers, provided crucial partnerships when needed. Notable performances from Brett Cutting and Matipa Denenga in the game against Maritzburg College on Goldstones as well as centuries from Charles Swart and Ben Hockly ensured that Hilton College remained a formidable force.

The bowling attack was the cornerstone of Hilton's success, with a pace battery that struck fear into opposition ranks. The "spin twins" Nicholas Chantler and Brett Cutting consistently troubled batsmen, earning them both accolades as some of the season's top wicket-takers.

Hilton's commitment to excellence extended to the fielding department, where runs were fiercely contested. Diving saves, athletic catches, and sharp throws demonstrated the team's dedication to turning opportunities into moments of brilliance, one of which being Ben Hockly's five catches in the same game he scored a century.

Boast's leadership was pivotal in fostering a positive and cohesive team culture and the collective spirit was palpable, evident in their celebrations after every wicket and run scored.

As we close the curtain on the 2023 cricket season, Hilton College extends gratitude to the coaching staff, parents, and supporters whose unwavering commitment contributed significantly to the team's success.

> "The memories forged on the field and the lessons learned will undoubtedly shape the character of these young cricketers as they continue their journey in the sport."



1ST XI

Back row: *Matipa Denenga, Charles Swart, Kyle Christie, Murray Loughor-Clarke, Ethan van Heerden*
Middle row: *Brett Cutting, Natenzi Denenga, Nicholas Chantler, Luke Watt, Ben Hockly*
Front row: *Ivan Lockem, Mr Carl Schmidt, Ross Boast, Mr David Griffiths, Mr Warren Kirsten, Matthew Stewart*

ROSS BOAST: Boasty's captaincy has been nothing short of outstanding, exemplifying the qualities of an international player. His aggressive approach with the new ball and consistent all-round performances have set the team on a path to success. Whether leading from the front with the bat or orchestrating crucial breakthroughs, Ross has proven to be one of the best school captains in recent memory.

NICHOLAS CHANTLER: Chantler's growth throughout the year has been remarkable, shouldering increased responsibility with both bat and ball. With over 24 wickets and vital runs in the middle order, Nic has been a consistent match-winner. His contributions have often been the deciding factor getting the team over the line, showcasing his role as a key player in the squad. I am still going to hold you to a race one day.

KYLE CHRISTIE: Kyle has embraced numerous lessons throughout the year, emerging as a player with exceptional potential. His performances with the ball have been noteworthy, troubling batters with his pace and skill. With Kyle's relentless approach, always running in hard and bowling quickly, we are likely to see him positioned in a significant role as an all-rounder in the upcoming year.

BRETT CUTTING: Cutting, better known as the best number 9 in the country, has been a calming presence with both bat and ball. His ability to have fun while knowing how to switch on and win games is an art. Wickets and banter from Brett will be sorely missed next year, leaving a void that will be hard to fill.

MATIPA DENENGA: Teeps will be greatly missed, especially his insights about cricket and sports in general. Matipa's commitment to improvement, constantly seeking ways to enhance his game, is commendable. His unparalleled work ethic is reflected in his impressive tally of 27 wickets this year, demonstrating his dedication to continuous growth. Matipa embraced his role in the team and Hart Davis will undoubtedly feel the absence of this exceptional player and best number 10 in the country.

NATENZI DENENGA: Natenzi, aptly known as the energy room, brings a unique spark to the team. His pace with the ball has not only turned heads but also changed the course of games for the team. As a dynamic player, Natenzi has been a game-changer, injecting energy and enthusiasm into critical moments. With a big year ahead, we anticipate significant contributions with both bat and ball, and the prospect of five-fors on the horizon is undoubtedly an exciting prospect for the team.

BEN HOCKLY: In his debut season for the 1st XI, Ben made an indelible mark by scoring his first 1st-team century against Northwood and securing a crucial win with five catches. His calm and composed approach to opening the batting is set to be a critical factor in the team's success in 2024. Ben's glovemanship is of the highest standard, solidifying his role as a key player in the squad.

JARRED KITTO: Kitto had a breakthrough season, establishing his place in the team and finding his own spot in the line-up. Known for his leadership in the hockey space, Jarred's influence translated well on to the cricket field. His performances at the top of the order, coupled with his growing confidence, set the stage for Jarred to make significant contributions with the bat in the upcoming season. We can expect lots of runs and leadership from Jarred in the season to come.

WIAN LIEBENBERG: Wian's journey from the 2nd team to playing a pivotal role in the 1st XI is a testament to his growth and adaptability. It has been impressive to witness how he seamlessly merged into the 1st team, playing a major role in crucial moments. Wian's understanding of his role, coupled with his readiness to take on challenges, has been a highlight for his season. His contributions have not only added depth to the team but also showcased his potential.

IVAN LOCKEM: Lockem had a brilliant season with the bat, kicking off the season with a magnificent hundred in Cape Town against Affies that secured a crucial victory. As the vice-captain supporting Boast, Ivan's unflustered nature and exceptional ball-striking ability have been instrumental. His absence next year will undoubtedly leave a void, and his contributions will be sorely missed.

MURRAY LOUGHER-CLARKE: Murray has seamlessly integrated into the team this year, making his spot his own with remarkable skill and dedication. Always running into the wind and uphill, his commitment to the game is unparalleled. Murray's performances showcase not only his bowling prowess but also his potential for numerous match-winning displays. With unwavering belief, many more wickets and memorable performances are on the horizon for this rising star.

LIYEMA NELA: Nela provided thrilling moments with his pace bowling in the two games he played this year. His skill in changing the games against both Northwood and Michaelhouse with the ball did not go unnoticed. Nela's phenomenal energy has been a significant asset to the team, injecting enthusiasm and determination. With the raw pace and potential for game-changing five-fors, we eagerly anticipate watching Nela continue to evolve and make a significant impact next season.

JAMES OGILBY: James made his mark with stellar performances in the two games he played this year, showcasing a blend of natural talent and hard work. Batting at 3, James formed crucial partnerships at the top of the order, demonstrating his ability to anchor the innings. The remarkable 130 not out against Maritzburg College in the 2nd team is a testament to his batting prowess. With promising signs, we anticipate seeing James rack up many more runs and hopefully some more hundreds next season.

MATTHEW STEWART: Stewy has played a massive role in the team this year, bringing his leadership skills as head boy into critical moments. His versatility in batting and bowling, stepping up whenever and wherever needed, has been remarkable. As a leading run scorer at the top of the innings and with left-arm swinging deliveries that have consistently taken wickets, Stewy was an invaluable asset to the team's success.

SAM STRYDOM: Sam showcased exceptional wicket-keeping skills throughout the season, often standing up to the seam bowlers, creating immense pressure for the opposition. His ability to keep well under challenging conditions contributed significantly to the team's success. Beyond his prowess behind the stumps, Sam added immense value with the bat in the middle order, scoring crucial runs when needed. His departure leaves a void not just in skill but also in character, and Sam will be dearly missed around the team.

CHARLES SWART: A senior player with two seasons under his belt, Charles brings invaluable knowledge and skill to the team. An early hundred against Durban High School got his season off to a great start. His experience is set to be a massive asset, providing a steady foundation for the upcoming season. As a player who understands the nuances of the game, Charles will undoubtedly contribute significantly to the team's success in the challenges that lie ahead.

ETHAN VAN HEERDEN: Ethan has had a stellar year with the ball, consistently delivering top-notch performances. While the wickets may not always reflect his true impact, the formidable partnership formed with Boasty has been a driving force for the team.
As the incoming captain for 2024, we anticipate even greater feats from Ethan, both with the ball and as a leader. His valuable runs and exceptional leadership qualities are sure to set the tone for another successful season.

LUKE WATT: Luke had a phenomenal year with the bat, showcasing his class with many big scores. Despite a tough start, his resilience shone through and his runs played a pivotal role in securing victories. Alongside his excellent fielding skills, Luke's character has been a positive influence in the team, contributing to many successful outcomes.

David Griffiths | Coach



1st XI – top left to bottom right: *Ross Boast; Nicholas Chantler; Luke Watt; Charles Swart; Matthew Stewart; Ethan van Heerden; Wian Liebenberg congratulated by Ross Boast; Brett Cutting; Ben Hockly; Ivan Lockem*



U16 AND U19 PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVES

Back row: *Liyema Nela, Luke Campbell, Ben Hockly, David Hill*
Front row: *Natenzi Denenga, Ivan Lockem, Mr David Griffiths, Matipa Denenga, Ross Boast*

2ND XI

Regular players: *Rob Burman, James Campbell, Luke Campbell, Kyle Christie, Matipa Denenga, Natenzi Denenga, Matt Diemont, Ben Erasmus, Stewart Falconer, Nic Harcourt, David Hill, Jarred Kitto (captain), Onke Kweyama, Hylton Lötter (c), James McGregor, Nic McLeod, Liyema Nela, James Ogilby, Didier Rey, Daniel Sweeney, Ethan van Heerden, Chris Wagner, Luke Watt*

The year started well with some great 50-over cricket being played, winning all completed fixtures, with two matches ending early due to rain. This success was largely due to the positive nature in which the team played, and the way they backed themselves to get over the line.

Nic McLeod, James Campbell, Ethan van Heerden, Didier Rey and Onke Kweyama were all regular wicket takers, whilst Hylton Lötter, Chris Wagner, Jarred Kitto, Matt Diemont and James McGregor were the most consistent batsmen.

The team had a rollercoaster of a fourth term, finishing unbeaten at the Michaelhouse U17 Cricket Festival winning all four of their games, and unfortunately losing their last two fixtures of the term against Northwood and Michaelhouse.

Kitto, James Ogilby, Liyema Nela, Natenzi Denenga and Kyle Christie were regulars in the 1st XI this term while Rey and Wagner made their 1st XI débuts.

Rob Burman and Wagner did an excellent job at the top of the order, setting a good foundation for our middle order batsman, Ben Erasmus, Stewart Falconer and Nic Harcourt, to do their jobs. Our all-rounders, David Hill, Christie and Luke Campbell, were exceptional with both bat and ball. Jacques Olivier, Natenzi Denenga and Liyema Nela were our impressive fast bowlers.

Wagner finished the fourth term as the highest run scorer, scoring 190 runs with a high score of 80 not out as well as taking six wickets for 72 runs.

Hill finished as the leading wicket taker, taking 12 wickets for 199 runs and scoring 60 runs.

Noticeable results came against Maritzburg College. Hilton bowled College out for 258. Hilton won the game by two wickets with Ogilby getting 132 not out. And again, against Pretoria Boys High School (PBHS). Hilton bowled PBHS out for 96. Ivan Jjuuko claiming figures of 6 for 10. Hilton won by seven wickets with Wagner getting 45 not out.

Travis Pieters | Coach

3RD XI

Regular players: *Stuart Baker, Grant Bridgeford, James Campbell, Byron Chandler, Lyle Clubb, Jason Dix, Sebastien Gaboreau, Mihle Gazi, Josh Grant, Dale Herbert, Tristan Hockly, Chris Johnson, Deepen Kooverjee, Onke Kweyama , Jarred Maltby, Ben McGuigan, Nic McLeod, Christopher Morrison, Michael Sara, Benjamin Scorgie, Reneiloe Seopa, Chris Snijman, Daniel Sweeney, Kingsley Thompson*

The first term was a successful one, achieved through good application and positive batting. The team showed depth in both the batting and bowling departments. The quality of cricket played was of a high standard with each match planned and well executed.

In the fourth term our approach was to have fun whilst remaining committed to doing things properly. This was achieved, resulting in an enjoyable time out in the middle and some good cricket played. The Hilton weather unfortunately deprived us of many practice opportunities, which showed on occasion with some mediocre fielding and poor catching.

Chris Morrison was the standout bowler, with some magnificent bowling spells taking important wickets when needed.
Daniel Sweeney, Grant Bridgeford and Josh Grant were the most consistent batsmen.

After two losses early in the fourth term, the team started to play positive cricket and won all their remaining games.

The highlight was the last game of the season at Michaelhouse. Chasing 214 in our allotted 30 overs was never going to be easy, especially after losing both opening batsmen very early in our innings. Sweeney (68 runs off 34 balls) and Josh Grant (46 runs off 23 balls) showed some real grit and built a great partnership, including no fewer than seven towering sixes between them. Both were dismissed within a few balls of each other with 30 runs still required, and less than four overs remaining. All seven of our top batsmen were back in the hut, with the target now looking like it was out of reach. Our "bowling all-rounders" continued to improvise with the bat and edge us closer to the required total, coming down to the wire with nine runs required to win off the last over, with Morrison and Byron Chandler at the crease. The over started with a square cut over point for a four, followed by three nerve-racking dot balls. The penultimate ball caught an inside edge to fine leg for another boundary. A leg-bye off the last ball saw the team winning in an extraordinary over and a most memorable game to end an enjoyable season.

My thanks to the boys for the way they represented the school and team in 2023. Thanks must also go to the parents who supported their sons, our opponents, and the club's coaches. A special thanks to the team that maintains our wonderful grounds.

Brett Armstrong | Coach

4TH XI

Regular players: *Requilme Adonis, Dan Carver, Byron Chandler, Lyle Clubb, Rhydian Evans, Ben Ferguson, Sebastien Gaboreau, Andrew Harding, Jack Hockly, Robert James, Deepen Kooverjee, William Leathern, Joshua Mapp, Mitchell McGhee, Campbell McKenzie, Benjamin Scorgie, Chris Snijman, Kingsley Thompson, Tom Twiss, Caleb Venter, Jason Webster*

In terms of results, the 2023 squad was the most successful 4th XI of the past five years, winning six of their 10 games. Highlights included a victory over Maritzburg College, as well as our first foray into the 100-ball format. Yet results do not tell the story of the infectious spirit of the squad. This group of young men approached both practices and matches with humour and passion.

Credit must be given to the matrics, some of whom had represented the 4th XI since September 2021. Such commitment is the rock upon which our great school is built. Thanks are also due to Campbell McKenzie and Deepen Kooverjee who captained the side with maturity and fairness. They set the benchmark for the behaviour that the side was often commended on.

As I will not be coaching cricket in 2024, I will take this opportunity to thank the many wonderful coaches who have supported and guided me since I joined the club in September 2008. Specific mention must be made of Director of Cricket Warren Kirsten, our ever-supportive 1st XI coach David Griffith, as well as Nick Holtzhauzen, Francois Morgan and Brett Armstrong, with whom I have coached at this level over the past few years. It has indeed been a wonder to coach such a wonderful game upon the hallowed fields of Hilton, and a game that instils such important life skills.

Paul Venter | Coach

U16A

Regular players: *Rob Burman, Luke Campbell, Ben Erasmus, Stewart Falconer, Josh Grant, Nic Harcourt, David Hill, Ben Hockly, Chris Morrison, Liyema Nela, James Ogilby (captain), Jacques Olivier, Alex Pitman*

The team had an excellent first term. They put in some great performances, losing only one game, which came against Durban High School.

The team was a very tight-knit group and worked extremely hard, bettering themselves each week. The group had a great work ethic and played as a team every time they walked out on to the field. This group can be proud of what they have achieved this season.

Captain James Ogilby was instrumental at the top of the order with fellow opening batsman Alex Pitman. The pair often put the team into a good position with their opening partnership. Ben Erasmus, Stewart Falconer and Ben Hockly made up our middle order positions. David Hill, Nic Harcourt and Luke Campbell were exceptional with both bat and ball, and Liyema Nela and Jacques Olivier were destructive opening bowlers. Rob Burman, Josh Grant and Chris Morrison played a handful of games throughout the term as well.

Hockly got the opportunity to debut for the 1st XI in the first term and is now a valuable wicket keeper batsman.

Nela finished the first term as the highest wicket taker, taking 15 wickets with the best bowling figures of 4 for 33.

Ogilby finished the first term as the highest run scorer, scoring 181 runs with a highest score of 87.

Noticeable results came against Kearsney College. We scored 322 for 6 in 45 overs thanks to Ogilby (87) and Harcourt (55), who did most of the damage with the bat. Kearsney College were bowled out for 67, thanks to Olivier claiming figures of 7 for 14 as well has five wickets in five balls.

In the fourth term, the U16 age group moved up to play senior cricket, where Ogilby and Nela made their 1st XI débuts.

I thoroughly enjoyed working with this talented group and cannot wait to see what they achieve in the upcoming cricket season.

Travis Pieters | Coach



U15A

Regular players: *Matthew Bezuidenhout, Benjamin Coetzee, John Grubb, Sechaba Gude, Ethan Maltby, Barack Munawa, Takunda Ntonyo, Francois Odendaal, James Peattie, Benoit Rey, Ross Steyn, Luke Wilson (captain), Matthew Wilson, Oyena Zulu, Wanga Zulu*

Our U15A side had a 2023 season to remember. The team showed great character throughout the season and grew as cricketers and as individuals. I believe the team grew in stature throughout the season and are now better players and people because of their hard work and determination.

The season started with a tough tour of Cape Town with mixed results, but the team went from strength to strength, playing better cricket as the season progressed.

Although all of the boys contributed, the outstanding players of the season with the bat were Benjamin Coetzee, Matthew Bezuidenhout, Ethan Maltby and John Grubb. James Peattie was outstanding behind the wickets, and he showed a fighting spirit next to none. While Benoit Rey, Sechaba Gude, Ross Steyn, Takunda Ntonyo, Oyena Zulu, Matthew Wilson and Wanga Zulu all contributed with the ball.

Francois Odendaal was the one fielder everyone aspired to be in the field, while Barack Munawa took some astounding catches. Luke Wilson was, by a mile, the best captain I have worked with as a coach.

Jaco van Dyk | Coach

U15B

Regular players: *Nwagbo Chika, Daniel Evans, Oscar Franco, Hartman Fourie, Lance Kitto, Christopher Lindsay, Khumo Lobelo, Atang Mphati, Barack Munawa, Victor Viljoen, James Voller, Matthew Wilson, Christopher Weavind, Wanga Zulu*

Throughout the year, the players demonstrated not only their cricketing skills but also resilience, sportsmanship, and the ability to transform challenges into opportunities.

One of the defining features of this team was the emphasis on a happy and healthy team spirit. Players and coaches collaborated to create a supportive atmosphere that encouraged growth, learning, and friendship. The bonds formed within the team contributed significantly to the overall positive tone of the season, creating an environment where every player felt valued and motivated to give their best on the field.

The year began with some closely contested matches that did not go our way, but the boys showed remarkable resilience, learning from each defeat and using it as a stepping-stone for improvement.

In the latter part of the season we won some close games, with the players displaying exceptional cricketing skills, teamwork, and a never-give-up attitude. It was heartening to witness each member of the team contributing to these victories, highlighting the depth and talent within the squad.

The season will be remembered not just for the results but for the terrific cricket played by all members of the team. From batting prowess to bowling excellence and exceptional fielding, the players showcased a holistic approach to the game. The players' dedication to continuous improvement was evident in the high-quality cricket displayed on the field.

The team is to be commended for their achievements, growth, and the spirit that defined their journey.

Graeme Roberts, Craig Wilkinson, Rodney Zondi | Coaches

U14A

Regular players: *Matt Bastard, Sean Burman, Aiden Clubb, Anthony Crossley, Max Dalrymple, James Dellis, Sean Erasmus, Cameron Hargroves, Ross Hill, Ryan Jellis, Murray Meyer, Obakeng Motsepa, Arjun Wahdwani, Ben Wilson (captain)*

The team played 19 fixtures of which they won nine, lost five and five of their games were called off due to bad weather.

This season was marked by some exceptional performances by one of the most balanced cricket teams I have had the privilege to coach. Under the commendable leadership of Ben Wilson, they achieved some notable results and displayed a high level of skill and teamwork.

The team managed to dominate our traditional rivals Michaelhouse by being on top of three of the four fixtures against them. Sadly, two of those games were unable to be completed and the last game we fell victim to the vagaries of the traditional Michaelhouse conditions.

Our win against St Stithians was a hard-fought contest against a very talented team. To post 280 on the massive Etheridge field with contributions with the bat from Cameron Hargroves, Sean Erasmus and Obakeng Motsepa and then defend the total under some sweltering conditions was an incredible achievement and really showcased what this team is capable of.

Once again, the festival held every year at Hilton was an outstanding four days for boys and parents alike. Some tough cricket was played on the magnificent Hart Davis Oval, which will most likely be the last time any of these players do until they don the White Cap for the 1st XI.

The most notable aspect of this team is the balance within it. We were able to bat all the way to number 11 and nearly everyone was capable of bowling on a regular basis. This made selection a tough assignment on a weekly basis and a couple of boys had to miss out on playing for the "A" team. This shows that Hilton College is a force to be reckoned with in school cricket. This team is capable of outstanding results and will add incredible value to the school's cricket club.

In all it was a privilege to coach this team. Their dedication to the game stands the school in good stead for the years to come.

Mark Handman | Coach

U14B

Regular players: *Matthew Bastard, Andrew Bernstein, Aiden Clubb, James Dellis, William Eustace (captain), Ross Hill, Devonde Hoff, Zachery Ichikowitz, Thomas Leathern, Daniel Marshall, Murray Meyer, Sam Neill, Max Sclanders, Rourke Schwegmann, Daniel Urquhart, Carter van den Berg*

The team had a successful season, one that they can rightly take pride in. While the journey was not without challenges, the collective effort of the team saw them clinch victories in closely contested matches.

Highlights from the first term include triumphs over Durban High School by seven wickets, Maritzburg College by two wickets, and Kearsney College by eight wickets. The promising start against Michaelhouse was unfortunately curtailed by inclement weather. However, the team rebounded in the final term, initiating proceedings with a midweek 20-over match win against Michaelhouse by four wickets and following it up with a convincing nine-wicket victory over Glenwood.

As is the nature of sports, there were setbacks, most notably in the losses against Northwood High School and, ultimately, Michaelhouse. These underscore the importance of seeing matches through to their conclusion. While our bowling unit has exhibited commendable prowess, we need to improve on our batting.

It has been satisfying to see both new and seasoned players grow over the course of the year. My thanks go to Mr James Webb for his invaluable assistance during the first term and to Mr Claude Pitout for his substantial contributions in the fourth term. Their support has been instrumental to the team's success.

Tienie van Wyk | Coach

U14C

Regular players: *Rett Beaumont, Dougal Carr, Olerato Chitanga, Reece Johnson-Watts, Caleb Kinvig, Makwe Motsepe, Tristan Pillinger, Luke Ramlakan, Rourke Schwegmann, Layton Stokes, Will Thompson, Duncan van Niekerk*

I will remember this team for having made such a significant improvement during the season. In the first term, our focus was on coaching some of the basic skills required in cricket. In the fourth term it has been most pleasing to see the players having significantly developed these skills. As a result, our performances in matches improved and I am confident these players will continue to make positive strides in their cricketing technique.

The season started with 100-ball games against Kearsney and St Charles on the same day. This format was tricky due to the additional runs awarded for any wides. We bowled tidily enough and restricted Kearsney to 125. In the run chase we started brightly with an excellent partnership between Caleb Kinvig (28) and Reece Johnson-Watts (27). In the end we passed the target with only three wickets down, securing a comfortable victory. Having scored 107 for 5 in our game against St Charles we gave away too many extras (fewer than St Charles) and went down by four wickets to a stronger team on the day.

Our next fixture was against Glenwood. Unfortunately, a batting collapse saw us in deep trouble before an unbroken partnership of 43 between Layton Stokes and Makwe Motsepe helped us to a total of 105 for 8. Dropped catches cost us dearly and Glenwood got across the line with four wickets remaining.

A home game to Northwood caught us napping, and we lost badly, despite having looked good in practice. All too soon we were playing our final game of the season against Michaelhouse. We posted a respectable 126 for 5 after a 62-run opening partnership between Kinvig and Tristan Pillinger. Michaelhouse looked well on top in the chase, when Dougal Carr took two key wickets resulting in a nail-biting finish. Michaelhouse managed to win the game on the very last ball!

All in all, it was a highly successful season with all players making significant contributions at various stages. Many thanks go to Ms Budrunnisaa Halliday for her encouragement of the boys, her management from the side of the field and the significant value she added to all practices.

I thank the parents for their support, and I encourage the boys to continue playing this great game.

Mike Green | Coach





Golf



1ST TEAM

Regular players: *Ross Boast, James Campbell, Byron Chandler, Brett Cutting, Guy Harcourt (captain), Nic Harcourt, Daniel Lyon, Nic McLeod, Chris Snijman, Chad Swanepoel, Ethan van Heerden, Ben Wilson*

2ND TEAM

Regular players: *Calum Bryson, Luke Campbell, James Dellis, Cameron Hargroves, William Kitching, Tawanda Kugotsi, Reneiloe Seopa, Jehan Thipanyane-Said*

In 2023, the club's numbers swelled to over 70 in the third term. We have continued to improve the facilities for hitting off the tee and chipping, and we have also revamped and extended the "mashie" course. The hut received new life with the addition of a roof, a lick of paint on the inside, and the installation of a wi-fi connection. In the coming year, we hope to add facilities for improved coaching and swing analysis.

> "We continue to take boys to play at the magnificent Victoria Country Club twice a week, giving them the vital experience of playing a top-quality course."

The first term saw us play our annual league against Michaelhouse, St Charles College and Maritzburg College. We managed to beat Michaelhouse and St Charles, home and away, but we lost one of our matches to Maritzburg College. The league was heading for a draw but Michaelhouse obligingly beat College in the final game, meaning that we took the league by a narrow margin.

Also in the first term, we competed in the Nomads KZN High School Championship at Kloof Country Club. Our 1st team, consisting of Brett Cutting, Guy Harcourt, Rorisang Nkosi and Ethan van Heerden, came first overall, with Cutting finishing second on individual score and Harcourt third. This qualified us to participate in the national event at Reading Country Club and Cutting, Harcourt, Van Heerden and Ben Wilson represented us. The boys struggled this time, although there were some commendable individual rounds recorded.

During the Easter break we travelled up to Pretoria for the annual Affies tournament. The boys played at some superb courses, including Serengeti, Woodhill, Wingate and the Royal Johannesburg East course.

Wilson had an outstanding year and represented the KZN A team in the SA Schools' Inter Provincial Championship at Irene Country Club.





1ST TEAM

Left to right: *Daniel Lyon, Nic Harcourt, Nic McLeod, Brett Cutting, Ross Boast, James Campbell, Guy Harcourt, Mr Jacques Nel (coach), Chris Snijman, Chad Swanepoel, Ethan van Heerden, Ben Wilson, Byron Chandler*

Having held the Douglas Cup for seven years, we finally yielded to Michaelhouse in a typically hard-fought encounter at Bosch Hoek Golf Club in October. This was followed by our annual Golf Dinner at which the following awards were made:

Captain 2024	Chris Snijman
Vice-captains 2024	Byron Chandler and Chad Swanepoel
Top Junior Award	James Dellis
Emerging Golfer Award	James Campbell
Attitude, Belief and Commitment Award	Chris Snijman
Inter-house Longest Drive (Junior)	James Lyon (Churchill)
Inter-house Longest Drive (Senior)	Chad Swanepoel (Pearce)
Order of Merit Award (Dean Shillaw Trophy)	Ben Wilson
Sportsmanship award (Geyser Cup)	Nic McLeod
Douglas Cup Most Valuable Player (Harvey Douglas Shield)	Ethan van Heerden
Matchplay Champion (Gordon Grieve Cup)	Guy Harcourt
Senior Stroke Play Champion (Murray Grindrod Trophy)	Brett Cutting
Golfer of the Year (John Andrew Memorial Trophy)	Ben Wilson

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our captain, Guy Harcourt, and vice-captain, James Campbell, for their excellent leadership this year and we wish them both well, together with all the matrics, in their future endeavours.

Lastly, my sincere thanks to our coach Jacques Nel, for his expertise and enthusiasm in raising the standards and bringing the Hilton Golf Club facilities to where they are today.

Graeme Evans | MIC Golf



2ND TEAM

Left to right: *Luke Campbell, Calum Bryson, William Kitching, Mr Jacques Nel (coach), Jehan Thipanyane-Said, Tawanda Kugotsi, Reneiloe Seopa, Cameron Hargroves, James Dellis*



Left to right: *Guy Harcourt and Michael Thornton*

Hockey



Our players were at a critical juncture after our school's 150th-year celebrations. Would they succumb to pressure to perform, or would they seize the opportunity to keep rising?

I am proud they chose the higher imperative, to seize the opportunity set before them, and in doing so exceeded all expectations. They understood that success is the sum of consistent effort.

United by camaraderie and passion, our boys have forged bonds that extend beyond the playing field. They have not just played a sport; they have developed a culture of commitment and belief in themselves and in one another.

In 2023, we fielded 16 teams. These teams played 154 matches, of which they won 73, lost 55 and drew 25.

But their journey is defined by more than wins and losses; it has been about a fraternity that cares, and a brotherhood that thrives on mutual respect and shared dreams.

They have been a source of pride and joy.

> "Rising Beyond 150" is a tale of grit and grace, trials and triumphs, and above all, the enduring power of a group of individuals who came together to script a story that will resonate for generations to come.

The club is immensely proud to have produced several provincial and national representatives:

U14

KZN Inland A: Max Asamoa, Anthony Crossley, Imran Mohamed, Nicandro Padayachee, Rourke Schwegmann, Ben Wlison

KZN Inland B: Max Dalrymple, Arjun Wadhwani

Non-travelling reserves: Aiden Clubb, Sazi Sigodi

U16

KZN Inland A: Xavier Enslin, Sebastian Laudenberg, Reagan Madau, Chase Smith, Matthew Thomas

KZN Inland B: Robert Burman, Ethan Maltby

SA U16A: Xavier Enslin

SA U16B: Reagan Madau, Matthew Thomas

U17

SA U17A: Grant Bridgeford, Jarred Kitto

U18

KZN Inland A: Grant Bridgeford, Nicholas Chantler, Dale Herbert, Kearabetswe Khoele, Jarred Kitto, Wian Liebenberg (captain), Akha Mda, Michael Sara, Nkosiyethu Shozi

KZN Inland B: Murray Loughor-Clarke, Masud Dakile, Tino Hove

Non-travelling reserves: Joshua Julius, Oscar Steiner, Jordan Udal

SA U18A: Kearabetswe Khoele, Akha Mda

SA U18B: Nicholas Chantler, Nkosiyethu Shozi

Devon van der Merwe | Director of Hockey

1ST TEAM

Regular players: *Grant Bridgeford, Nicholas Chantler, Masud Dakile, Xavier Enslin, Dale Herbert, Kearabetswe Khoele, Joel Kitshoff, Jarred Kitto, Wian Liebenberg (captain), Murray Lougher-Clarke, Jarred Maltby, Benjamin McGuigan, Akha Mda, Michael Sara, Nkosiyethu Shozi, Oscar Steiner, Connor Thomson*

The 2023 Hilton hockey season was always going to be a major challenge after last year's successes and our number-one ranking in the country. Beholding their goals, the team took part in a vigorous off-season programme, with an emphasis on conditioning and prioritizing team goals over individual ones. The fruits of their labour were evident in two touring festivals: at Grey PE in our traditional Nomads Festival and at the St Stithian's Easter festival, where we played 10 games in seven days. Thanks to our off-season conditioning programme, the team faced their fixtures with confidence and managed to win six, draw two, and lose two.

There were two games that stood out from these festivals. The first was against Pretoria Boys in a game in which we executed our tactical plan to perfection, resulting in a 3-1 victory. The second was against St Stithians, witnessed by their entire school. Our boys showed fighting spirit and determination until the last whistle. Even though the game went against us (2-1), it showed that we were heading in the right direction for the upcoming Saturday fixtures.

Our goals for all Saturday fixtures were to win every game and remain undefeated on our home Astro. Our Saturday games consisted of matches against Michaelhouse (two), Northwood, Maritzburg College, Pretoria Boys, Glenwood, Durban High School (DHS), Kearsney, and St Charles College. Our boys won all their games barring one disappointing loss to Kearsney, where we went down 0-1 away from home. But we won 4-3 against the highly rated DHS team and 3-0 against Maritzburg College. Doing the double against Michaelhouse is always special; we scored seven goals to their three in total over the two games played.

This year we celebrated another milestone when our captain Wian Liebenberg achieved his 51st appearance for the 1st team and Akha Mda achieved his 50th. These achievements are all the more significant considering we play only 19 games in a season. Wian and Akha, you two have served the White Jersey well.

We have had good representation at provincial and national levels this year. Kearabetswe Khoele and, for the second consecutive year, Akha Mda, were selected for the SA U18A team, playing against the SA U21 side, which included Old Hiltonian David Tshebi in a series of matches. Furthermore, another two players were selected for the SA U18B team: Nkosi Shozi and Nicholas Chantler. Lastly, Jarred Kitto and Grant Bridgeford continued with their great development by being included in the SA U17A team, and Xavier Enslin was selected for the SA U16A team. Provincially, we had eight KZN Inland U18A and three KZN Inland U18B players, with two on the non-traveling reserve list and one player from the 1st XI in the U16A Inland Team.

The success of a team does not happen without key people in the background who put in the time to upskill and improve each player's development. Mr Devon van der Merwe, Mr Matt Fairweather, Mr Darryn Gallagher, Mr Jason Wulfsohn, Mr Chris Carey, and Mr Daiyaan Solomons have been instrumental in this year's processes, and we are very grateful for the work they have done.

This season we say farewell to 10 boys: Nicholas Chantler, Dale Herbert, Kearabetswe Khoele, Joel Kitshoff, Wian Liebenberg, Benjamin McGuigan, Akha Mda, Michael Sara, Nkosiyethu Shozi, and Jordan Udal. These individuals have continued a proud legacy of representing the 1st XI well and can leave confident they have set new standards of hard work and dedication for the White Jersey and served it with distinction.



1ST TEAM

Back row: *Nkosi Shozi, Oscar Steiner, Murray Loughor-Clarke, Joel Kitshoff, Michael Sara, Masud Dakile and Xavier Enslin*
Middle row: *Jarred Kitto, Grant Bridgeford, Joshua Julius, Dale Herbert, Jarred Maltby and Kearabetswe Khoele*
Front row: *Mr Chris Carey, Nicholas Chantler, Mr Damian Kimfley, Wian Liebenberg, Mr Devon van der Merwe, Akha Mda and Mr Jason Wulfsohn*

GRANT BRIDGEFORD: Grant seamlessly integrated into the 1st team this year, particularly notable given the challenge of stepping into the starting centre-back role. His maturity and solid displays throughout the season have been impressive. We eagerly anticipate his expanded senior role in the backline, leading by example. Furthermore, congratulations are in order for his selection in the SA U17 team.

NICHOLAS CHANTLER: With 33 appearances and now in his second year with the team, Nicholas deserves accolades for his seamless transition to centre back from left back. His leadership from the back and remarkable goal contributions from penalty corners highlight his dedication. Ending the season as the top scorer with nine goals, he continues to shine, earning his spot in the SA U18B team.

MASUD DAKILE: Masud's energetic and eager to learn. His patience this year, seizing opportunities when they arose, is commendable. With the upcoming senior role, next year holds significance for him. I encourage Masud to step up his development, setting high standards for himself. I eagerly anticipate working with him next year.

XAVIER ENSLIN: Xavier's remarkable journey, from the U16A team to the 1st team's starting 11 for the past six games, along with his selection in the SA U16A team, is a tremendous achievement. I encourage him to build on this success, dominate the midfield, and play with freedom in the upcoming year.

DALE HERBERT: With 29 appearances, Dale's remarkable transformation from midfielder to defender is all the more impressive considering he only began playing there last year. His patience and trust in our system are commendable, and his selection into the KZN Inland U18A team reflects his hard work.

KEARABETSWE KHOELE: Kearabetswe is to be congratulated for his selection in the SA U18A team. His hard work and impressive skills have not gone unnoticed. It has been a great pleasure watching him evolve into an all-round forward capable of scoring and eliminating opponents. I encourage him to continue pushing himself and to consider pursuing hockey beyond school.

JOEL KITSHOFF: Joel deserves high praise for his hard work and commitment. I urge him to carry his dedication to university hockey next year while maintaining high standards. Working with Joel over the past two years has been a joy.

JARRED KITTO: Jarred continued to shine this year with consistent performances, energy, and exceptional control, building on his Grade 10 accomplishments. As he enters his 3rd year, I urge him to set higher standards for himself in terms of both performance and leadership within the team. Additionally, his selection in the SA U17 team deserves recognition.

WIAN LIEBENBERG: In his third year with the 1st team, Wian led admirably as captain with strong leadership skills. Reaching the milestone of 50 appearances is a remarkable accomplishment, and his performance in crucial matches proved invaluable. It has been a privilege to witness his progress and coach him over the past three years.

MURRAY LOUGHER-CLARKE: Murray seamlessly integrated into the team, making the left-back position his own. His development holds promise, and I eagerly anticipate his growth, which will elevate the back four even further next year.

JARRED MALTBY: In his debut year with the 1st team, Jarred's impressive work rate and energy has not gone unnoticed. Looking ahead, I encourage him to further his development and make the midfield position his stronghold as he steps into a senior role next year.

BENJAMIN MCGUIGAN: Benjamin's journey exemplifies hard work and dedication. Transitioning from lower teams last year to the 1st team this year is a remarkable achievement. His energy and humour will be missed next year, and his progress serves as an inspiration to the team.

AKHA MDA: In his third year with the 1st team, Akha's unmatched skill has been an absolute pleasure to coach. I encourage him to continually challenge himself and reach for the stars. Congratulations on securing a spot in the SA U18A team for the second consecutive year.

MICHAEL SARA: With 28 appearances, Michael epitomizes hard work, dedication, and patience in our 1st team. His selflessness has seen him evolve from a non-1st wave runner to one of the province's finest and even among the best at IPT. His significant improvement has earned him a place in the Inland U18A team and coaching him has been a pleasure.

NKOSI SHOZI: Nkosi has amassed an impressive 37 appearances for our 1st team, and in his second year, we extend our congratulations on his selection for SA U18B. Building on last year's outstanding performances, he stands as a commendable senior leader, both on and off the field.

OSCAR STEINER: Oscar's perseverance and hard work to secure his place in the 1st team squad are commendable. I encourage him to continue his efforts and solidify a spot in the starting 11 for the upcoming season. He has demonstrated promising moments, and I look forward to his continued development.

CONNOR THOMSON: Connor displayed his talent in glimpses this year, and I am confident that with focused pre-season work, he can contend for a spot in the starting 11 next year.

Damian Kimfley | Coach



Wian Liebenberg playing in his 50th match for the 1st hockey team



1st hockey team – top left to bottom right: *Xavier Enslin; Jarred Kitto; Wian Liebenberg; Kearabetswe Khoele; Akha Mda and Kearabetswe Khoele; Nicholas Chantler and Nkosi Shozi; Akha Mda; Akha Mda playing in his 50th match for the 1st hockey team; Wian Liebenberg; 1st hockey team; Nkosi Shozi and Akha Mda; Matthew Thomas and Akha Mda*

2ND TEAM

Regular players: *Josh Black, Buthulwazi Buthelezi, Franz Ebert, Daniel Holtzhauzen, Tino Hove, Josh Julius, Matome Manthatha, Nic McCleod (captain), Benjamin McGuigan, Oscar Steiner, Connor Thomson, Jordan Udal, Mathuba Xaba*

In the first week of practices in March, I was excited by the squad's energy and enthusiasm, which was matched by superb skill and spatial awareness on the field.

Our first match against Northwood, played on a very warm Durban afternoon, ended in a respectable 2-2 draw, considering the circumstances. It was more than a month before we played again due to the end of first term holiday. Although we had some injuries, we did well and started the second term with a 2-1 away win over rivals St Charles.

The team's ability to adapt to playing different structures of hockey was impressive and they were able to slip in and out of various formations with aplomb. I was feeling quietly confident and hopeful the week ahead of our first match against Michaelhouse.

Regrettably, we lost to Michaelhouse 1-2, which was not an accurate reflection of the dynamics of a game in which we enjoyed significant territory, possession, and numerous scoring opportunities. To my satisfaction, the opposing coach acknowledged that a draw would have better reflected the game's competitiveness. This was the only loss of the season.

Our first home game of the season was a hard-fought 3-3 draw against Durban High School. However, our second home game against Pretoria Boys High School was far better and we won 2-1, followed by an excellent win against Glenwood down in Durban, where the team played with excellent structure and took many of their opportunities to win convincingly.

One of the best matches of the season, for me, was against Maritzburg College at home where the quality of the hockey was superb from both teams. It took two remarkable goals by our boys to secure a 2-0 win. The following weekend, we travelled down to Kearsney, where the team played their best match of the season, winning 3-1.

The season's closing match took place at home against Michaelhouse, where our team showcased incredible defence, holding our opponents to a 1-1 draw.

The quality and depth of 2nd team hockey has improved significantly and it has been a pleasure coaching a group of gentlemen who have played excellent hockey. Tino Hove must be commended on his selection to the KZN Midlands u18B team this year.

The Grade 12s modelled a good culture which will hopefully be adopted by next year's players. I am confident that most of the Grade 11s will represent the 1st XI in 2024, and I wish them well.

The team benefitted from a lot of support and additional coaching from Mr Devon van der Merwe and Mr Damian Kimfley. Their energy and expertise were second to none, and I am very grateful for their contributions.

James Webb | Coach

3RD TEAM

Regular players: *Stuart Baker, Nic Bregman-Francos, Rhydian Evans, Max Gilson, Luke Hancock, Jack Henderson, Zakhele Khumalo (captain), Zimele Khumalo, William Kitching, Hlonie Lethole, Devon Thomson, Matt Watts, Sam Wingfield*

The 2023 season was a mix of highs and lows, with the team recording four wins, two draws, and three losses. Despite the losses, the boys played exceptionally well and showed commitment and tenacity, reflecting some of our school's core values. As the season progressed, there was a noticeable improvement in their ability to handle pressure.

A highlight of the season was a stellar display against Kearsney College, where the team outplayed their opponents throughout the game, securing a 4-0 victory. However, our last game against Michaelhouse resulted in a painful 3-2 loss, serving as motivation for the boys to dig deeper. They had given their all, only to concede goals due to our own mistakes. Additionally, the loss of two key players to injuries proved to be a setback in our pursuit of an undefeated season.

The victories of 6-0 against Glenwood, 4-0 against Durban High School, and 3-0 against St Charles were hugely inspiring, and showed the team's true potential and ability.

I would like to express my gratitude to Mr Devon van der Merwe for his invaluable input and insight throughout the season. The boys highly valued his advice and made an effort to incorporate it into their play. Furthermore, I want to give special recognition to our dedicated captain, Zakhele Khumalo, who led his team with pride and honour.

In summary, the team enjoyed a successful season. The players demonstrated a strong commitment to both individual growth and collective improvement. The boys were united in their commitment, discipline, and respect for one another, during practices and on match days, and this enabled them to execute their game plan.

Wilbert Tenga | Coach

4TH TEAM

Regular players: *Josh Aitken, Kyle Christie, Lyle Clubb, Kieran Griffin, Kwanele Gumbi, Andrew Harding, Lebo Legodi, Oliver Mann, Ntando Mchunu, Ntando Mhlongo, Gabriel Njonjo (captain), Trey Padayachee, Jason Sasse, Jehan Thipanyane-Said, Jack Warwick, Sandosi Zondi*

The 4th team boys had an incredible season and proved to be the strongest and most consistent group of 4ths I have had the opportunity to coach. Comprising senior players, this team displayed not only a high level of individual skill but also an ability to fulfill their roles within the team effectively. Their self-motivation, positive team spirit, and good sportsmanship towards their opponents were evident throughout the season.

A highlight of the season was our victories over Michaelhouse, both at the start and end of the season, with identical scores of 3-1. In both matches, the boys played hockey of a high standard and managed to dominate the game with their skill and effective communication. The season's overall results were outstanding, with five wins, one loss, and three draws.

I would like to thank all the boys for a great season. They were a pleasure to coach and their enthusiasm for the game was appreciated. As we bid farewell to several matric boys this year, we wish them the very best for the future.

Jeremy Piater | Coach

5TH TEAM

Regular players: *Fin Dalrymple, Aahil Girdhurparsadh, Tumelo Gopane, Uthando Gumede, Connor Jerome, Deepen Kooverjee, Gumbi Kwanele, Kukhanya Mahlangu, Similo Mkhungo, Tumelo Mosetlhe, Nkululeko Ngcobo, Rorisang Nkosi, Saphiwa Nzimande (captain), James Ogilvie, Ethan Smith*

The season started well with an away game against Northwood. The boys put on a great show, with a convincing 4-0 win. Saphiwa Nzimande scored two goals, while Kukhanya Mahlangu and Jason Sasse shared one each. The spirit from this game propelled us when we faced St Charles in our second fixture, beating them 6-0. Nzimande and Mahlangu proved their consistency in goal-scoring as they found the back of the net in this game.

In our third game, we faced Howick High School. Arriving on the grass pitch, I thought the team would face a tough battle, but I was wrong. We played exceptionally well, winning 3-0.

Our fourth encounter was against Wembley High, the strongest opponents we had faced yet. We started promisingly, leading 2-1 at half-time. However, they proved to be the better side, beating us 5-3. The following game against Pretoria Boys was also an upset for the team, as we lost 1-0 after conceding a goal in the first 10 minutes and failing to stage a comeback. The last two games saw us making a comeback, but we were only able to secure draws – against Grace College (2-2) and Westville (1-1).

Congratulations to the team on their performance. We put in tremendous effort and I am incredibly proud of their commitment and resilience.

Farewell and good luck to the eight boys in their final year at Hilton. And to the boys in Grade 11, we will meet again next season.

Charles Ncobeni | Coach

6TH TEAM

Regular players: *Adam Cole, Daniel Friend, Tristan Grant, Benjamin Guimaraens, Joshua Hurley, Luke Marshall, Wonga Masina, Mpumelelo Mdhluli, Moeletsi Moletsane, James Morrison, Bayanda Ncobeni, Thuto Pakisi, Kamogelo Seopa, Sung So, Tiisano Tisane, Kingsley Thompson, Nicholas Yu, Yu Lie Wang*

Ours was a season of ups and downs. We encountered both victories and losses, sometimes competing against opponents who were clearly not our match. However, our primary objective was to have a fun and fulfilling season rather than an obsessive pursuit of winning.

In many of the games, our boys performed exceptionally well, even in unfamiliar conditions like playing on grass. Their level of play often surpassed what one would typically expect from a 6th team, and it was enjoyable to watch them in action.

Among our highlights, we secured victories against the Westville Boys U16F team with a score of 4-2, triumphed over the U16G team from St. Charles with a score of 4-0, and won convincingly against Northwood with a score of 5-0. Of course, we also faced some setbacks, including a 0-2 loss to the Carter 1st team and a 0-5 defeat against Wembley College. However, the boys demonstrated resilience and maintained a positive attitude throughout the season. Matches were often characterized by mutual encouragement and light-hearted banter, even with our opponents.

Coaching these boys was a pleasure and I believe we achieved our objective to enjoy the season.

Brendan Gray | Coach

U16A

Regular players: *Darryn Bridgeford, Robert Burman, Xavier Enslin (captain), Sechaba Gude, Nic Harcourt, Tadi Hove, Lance Kitto, Sebastian Laudenberg, Ethan Maltby, Reagan Mudau, Chase Smith, Matthew Thomas, Jason Webster, Oyena Zulu, Wanga Zulu*

I was unsure how the season would go after a very frustrating and limited pre-season with the squad. Trying to implement a new training ethic and coaching philosophy was never going to be easy with a group that had limited preparation. However, the team rose to the occasion and were hungry to learn and achieve. As a team we had an outstanding season winning 11, drawing two and losing only one match throughout the season.

The team was led well by Xavier Enslin before his promotion to the 1st team and then Matthew Thomas stepped up to replace him and did an outstanding job.

There were a few highlights during the season. Beating a strong Maritzburg College team 3-2 was testament to a great team performance. Maritzburg College had dominated the provincial selections which made this victory special. The other fantastic achievement was completing the double against Michaelhouse, both with 3-1 victories.

The group was a pleasure to coach. I admire their ability to work as a team and drive to fight to the end in every fixture.

Darryn Gallagher | Coach

U16B

Regular players: *Ethan Aitken, James Aitken, Darryn Bridgeford, Sechaba Gude, Jack Holtzhauzen (captain), Khumo Lobelo, Kagiso Magasa, Risima Mashaba, Atang Mphati, Barack Munawa, Xander Schlebusch, Alex Wesselink, Wanga Zulu*

The season started on a promising note with hard-fought victories against Northwood (1-0) and St Charles (4-2). In these fixtures the boys showed determination and grit and played a well-structured game. Regrettably, we lost our way in the subsequent three encounters against Michaelhouse (1-3), Durban High School (1-2), and Pretoria Boys High (1-3). These teams simply played at a faster pace and exhibited more discipline than we could match. Nevertheless, we did have opportunities in all three games but lacked efficiency and urgency in front of the goal.

The second half of the season marked a return to our winning ways with a comfortable victory over Glenwood (3-0). But we went on to face a series of challenging fixtures. Our encounter with Maritzburg College (1-6) was a tale of two halves. We managed to hold them off in the first half, but they elevated their performance in the second half, leaving us with no response.

Following this we had an evenly matched game against Kearsney (1-0). This set the stage for the final home game against Michaelhouse (1-3). While we played better hockey, we just could not find the back of the net despite numerous chances. It was a somewhat disappointing end to the season.

On the whole, I am pleased with the character displayed by the team. They worked hard at every practice and held their heads high at the end of every game. They can be pleased with their efforts. Every player in this group has potential, and I have seen an improvement in every one of them since the start of the season. I look forward to their progress in the years to come.

James Robey | Coach

U16C

Regular players: *Jordan Byres, Dan Carver, Daniel Evans, Liam Firth, Gcina Gqwaaru, Erin Kihara, Christopher Lindsay, Mpho Makulana, Barak Munawa, Efe Ozcan (captain), Xander Schlebusch, Luphelele Shange*

The season started with a tightly contested match against St Charles College, resulting in a goalless draw. In our second match, we faced Michaelhouse, and suffered a 1-4 loss. Despite the defeat, the team demonstrated perseverance and a fighting spirit throughout the game.

We bounced back with a convincing 2-0 victory against Durban High School. Continuing our winning streak, the boys secured a narrow 1-0 victory against Pretoria Boys High.

Our strong form continued as the team recorded an impressive 3-0 win against Glenwood High School. The players showcased their attacking ability and solid defence to secure a comfortable victory. In a closely contested match, we emerged victorious with a narrow 1-0 win against Maritzburg College, and in our match against Kearsney College the team displayed remarkable determination and skill, earning a hard-fought 1-0 victory.

In a rematch against Michaelhouse, the team put up a spirited fight but ultimately fell short with a 1-2 loss.

The team was captained by Efe Ozcan, whose leadership skills, dedication, and positive attitude played a pivotal role in motivating and inspiring his teammates.

It was an impressive season, marked by several victories against formidable opponents. The boys can take great pride in their accomplishments.

Badrunnisaa Halliday | Coach

U16D

Regular players: *Josh Chibwe, James Dingley, Alex Engelbrecht, Lwandle Gabuza, Matthew Mattison, Mbuyelo Mbokota, Mitchell McGhee, Axolile Nyangiwe, Dominic Richards, Boleng Seoe, Dante Sigei, Taji Sigei, Tele Sitoyo*

The U16D team did not have the most auspicious of starts to the season, losing to both St Charles and Northwood. Thereafter, however, as the team evolved into a selection of regular players, practices were more focused, and the results started to emerge with only one loss (to Maritzburg College) for the rest of the season.

A notable highlight was the 2-0 victory over a decent Pretoria Boys High School side. It was during this game that the team displayed some of their finest hockey of the season.

In my view, the true gauge of a successful hockey season lies in the growth of the players' knowledge and skills over the course of two months. I am proud to say that every single player on this team has shown improvement in some aspect of their hockey game.

I have thoroughly enjoyed coaching the U16Ds this year and I look forward to their progress on the Astro next year.

Nick Holtzhauzen | Coach

U16E AND F

Regular players: *Lwanda Chitha, Zizwe Digangeone, Joshua Dube, Fernando Ebineng, Nkosi Fuyana, Ethan Hornby, Mahlatji Koma, Nyiko Mabunda, Ofentse Mamojele, Ben Mann, Tshiamo Mashishi, Ziyanda Mnyandu, Karabelo Morojele (captain), Akhumzi Mtshungwana, Fanaka Mworia, Unami Nxasana, Stephen Pech, Chuhal Pillay, Yonah Pollman, Thando Shongwe*

The season presented both challenges and rewards. One of our challenges was a lack of fitness at the start of the season. We lost two of our first three games, including a narrow 0-1 loss to Michaelhouse, which was particularly frustrating.

However, the team persevered and diligently worked on improving their skills. What followed was a mixed bag of results, including losses to schools like St Charles and wins against formidable opponents like Kearsney College and Durban Boys High School.

One of the most anticipated moments of the season was the rematch against Michaelhouse. The team had put in continuous effort throughout the season, with our goalkeeper Stephen Pech making a triumphant return from injury. This bolstered the team's confidence heading into the season's final game.

The team's progress became evident as they achieved a commanding 2-0 victory over Michaelhouse. A special mention goes to our captain, Karabelo Morojele, who delivered an outstanding defensive performance.

The boys can be proud of themselves for putting in a determined and consistent effort.

Kaloso Tsoaeli and Richard Garrett | Coaches





U14A

Regular players: *Max Asamoah, Aiden Clubb, Anthony Crossley, Max Dalrymple, Ross Hill, Andrew Meyer, Imran Mahomed, Nicandro Padayachee, Rourke Schwegmann, Sazi Sigodi, Carter van den Berg, Arjun Wadhwani, Ben Wilson (captain)*

The team faced a challenging start to the year during the Nomads tour. However, as we progressed into the second-term fixtures, we witnessed a remarkable improvement in their performance. The team ended the term on a high note, particularly in their matches against Michaelhouse.

One of the standout moments for the team was their first fixture against Michaelhouse. The players displayed exceptional skill, determination, and teamwork, showcasing their true potential on the field. The game against Glenwood was another highlight, where the team demonstrated resilience and played with great intensity. Lastly, in their match against Maritzburg College they showcased their talent and fought hard until the final whistle.

I would like to extend my congratulations to all the players who were selected for provincial teams. This achievement is a testament to their hard work, dedication, and talent. I am proud of each and every player in the squad for their commitment and contribution throughout the season. Their effort and perseverance have not gone unnoticed.

Well done, boys, and best of luck for the upcoming challenges.

Matt Fairweather | Coach

U14B

Regular players: *Rhett Beaumont, Kelso Bolton, Liam Casey, Adam Fitzsimons, Ross Hill, Christopher Job, Phemelo Joel, Ntsika Kleinbooi, Gabriel Landzanakis, Luthando Mbada, Lehumo Modise, Obakeng Motsepa, Raymond Muleso, Max Sclanders*

The team had a season that can best be described as balanced: four wins, four losses and four draws. Regardless of the scoreboard, the team made a concerted effort to learn from their successes and failures and behaved like gentlemen, both on and off the pitch. As it was the first time this group had played hockey together, it was hugely encouraging to see their camaraderie and teamwork evolve as the season unfolded. They worked well together and supported and encouraged one another, particularly in times of adversity.

After the disappointing loss of our first match of the season to Northwood (1-5), the boys knew they had their work cut out for the term. We got off to a slow start, drawing 1-1 to St Charles and losing the next two matches to Michaelhouse (4-3) and Durban High School (6-1). The team persevered and made a significant comeback over the next few weekends, convincingly beating Pretoria Boys High School (4-0), Glenwood High School (2-0) and, most significantly, Maritzburg College (3-0). The boys narrowly lost to a very strong Kearsney College team (2-1) on the penultimate weekend of the season and despite their exceptional efforts the following week in their second match against Michaelhouse, victory eluded us, with a final score of 1-2.

To nurture leadership qualities in every player, a different captain was selected to lead the team each week. This opportunity provided the boys a chance to demonstrate their leadership style, communication skills and served to mature them as men and sportsmen.

I thoroughly enjoyed coaching this team; 2023 was memorable for me and I hope that each of the boys enjoyed themselves throughout the season.

Lara Rogers | Coach

U14C AND D

Regular players: *Dougal Carr, Olerato Chitanga, Ryan Grobler, Kabelo Lephema, Thandwa Monyae, Aryan Pillay, Luke Ramkalan, Will Thompson*

This season, we had a combined squad of 19 players, most of whom played for both the C and D teams.

While the C team enjoyed a 2-0 triumph against Glenwood and the D team a 3-0 win against Michaelhouse, these were their only wins of the season.

What is more important, however, is the squad's remarkable journey. At the start of the season, we did not have a goalkeeper. Kabelo Lephema is to be commended for his courage in stepping up to try out for the position, and ultimately making it his own despite never having played hockey.

It was heartening to witness the group's growth and the development of their hockey skills. As coaches, we were consistently impressed by their positive attitude and eagerness to learn. Their resilience and temperament will undoubtedly serve as a strong foundation for their future in hockey.

Throughout the season, we relished our time with this outstanding group. We are proud of the progress they have made as individuals and as a cohesive team. We believe their camaraderie will stand them in excellent stead for their future at Hilton College.

Travis Pieters and Kwanda Sibiya | Coaches



Rowing



Back row: *Daniel Lyon*
Middle row: *Dan Carver, Aahil Girdhurparsadh, Kigen Chepkonga, Josh McGhee*
Front row: *Matthew Emmott, Matthew Peters, Mr Ernie Steenkamp, Brian Thomson, Greg Braithwaite*

In the intricate dance of rowing, where the elegance of ballet meets the might of a rugby forward, the stamina of a marathon runner, and the strategic finesse of a chess grandmaster, Hilton College Boat Club wrapped up yet another season characterised by outstanding accomplishments and a strong sense of camaraderie.

Throughout the season, the 1st team, composed of Matthew Peters, Matthew Emmott, Greg Braithwaite, Brian Thomson, and Josh McGhee, showcased unwavering dedication and skill, accumulating a commendable array of medals.

The pinnacle of their success unfolded at the South African Schools National Championship, where Thomson's exceptional performance earned him a well-deserved bronze medal in the single scull category. Simultaneously, the dynamic pairing of Peters and Emmott demonstrated seamless coordination, securing another bronze in the double sculls event.

Thomson and Emmott's achievements transcended the podium, as their performances earned them their KZN colours for the second time. Their inclusion among the elite 12 boys invited to the national trials underscores their commitment and the calibre of their rowing prowess.

The Senior SA Championships witnessed the continued dominance of Hilton College Boat Club's athletes. The 1st team, displaying an impressive blend of teamwork and tenacity, clinched gold in the quadruple sculls event, further solidifying the club's reputation as a force to be reckoned with in South African rowing circles.

Beyond tangible successes, the ethos of our club is defined by sportsmanship and unity. The bonds formed on the water extend far beyond the competitive arena, creating a familial support system that celebrates each other's victories.

As we bid adieu to this season, the club extends heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated coaching team of Liezl Scholtz and Declan Williams. Their enthusiasm and passion are going to be sorely missed. Thanks to our incredibly supportive parents who played pivotal roles in our journey. Hilton College Boat Club remains resolute in fostering excellence, discipline, and a genuine passion for the sport, ensuring a lasting legacy in South African rowing.

We anticipate fresh challenges and triumphs in the seasons ahead. With oars in hand and hearts brimming with determination, the club stands ready for a future where the echoes of victory resonate with every stroke.

> "In conclusion, we celebrate not only the medals and championships but also the shared moments, the friendships forged, and the indomitable spirit that defines Hilton College Boat Club."

As we navigate the currents of change, our commitment to excellence remains steadfast, ensuring our legacy continues to flourish in the expansive waters of South African rowing.

Ernie Steenkamp | MIC Rowing

Rugby



In our 151st year, all eyes were on us, particularly our 1st team, which was under intense scrutiny as the weight of the hugely successful 150th-year bore down on them. The milestone anniversary and the success that came with it seemed to place a target on their backs, with our rival teams lining up to try defeat them. And how our boys rose to the occasion!

The pressure on all of our players was immense. The achievements of the previous year only added to the lofty standards they were expected to meet. I don't think we will ever realise the mammoth task these boys faced, and we should never underestimate the unbelievable "mountains" they climbed to reach the success they did in 2023.

To prepare for the demanding season, the team embarked on their customary pre-season camp. This intensive period allowed the coaches to forge close bonds with their respective squads and refine the finer aspects of their game. The dedication to detail during this period would prove to be instrumental in shaping their performance both during the preseason games and going into the season.

The team's mettle was tested early on as they faced off against Secunda in a series of games. These matches provided a valuable litmus test, offering insights into what the teams had to offer.

We then headed into a great first fixture against Northwood. The boys rose to the occasion, delivering an exceptional display of rugby prowess across most age groups and produced an impressive set of results, setting a formidable precedent for the remainder of the season.

As the season unfolded, it became evident that the pressure and expectations had ignited a fire within the young players. They embraced the challenge, channelling their energy and determination into each match.

During the holidays, teams across various age groups went on tour: the U14s journeyed to Outeniqua in George, while the U15s headed to Affies in Pretoria. The U16s had their tour to Paarl Gimnasium, and the 1st team ventured to Grahamstown for two matches before participating in the St John's festival.

The festivals yielded exhilarating matches and victories across the different age groups. The U15As, however, experienced a series of ups and downs, which prompted us to pause and reflect. We assessed the group's standing, identified areas for improvement, and reset the course. The impact was profound. The team experienced a remarkable turnaround, finishing their rugby season strong. Their exceptional results during the 7s season in the third term was a demonstration of this.

The second term rugby season kicked off with a series of matches against St Charles, serving as a perfect warm-up for the challenging encounter against Michaelhouse. We produced a resounding set of results against St Charles as expected. Arriving at Michaelhouse, we realised we were perceived as the underdogs and had to brace ourselves for demanding contests and some heated battles. While our lower teams encountered difficulties and learned valuable lessons, our A sides and senior teams got stuck into their old foe. The highlight of the day will no doubt be the final eight minutes of the 1st XV game when Michaelhouse attacked our line and the more they threw at us, the better we defended. O' Boys of Hilton echoed across the Midlands as our boys sang in celebration of a magnificent victory.

> "Once again, this extraordinary defensive exhibition by the 1st XV brought out a new attitude and drive in all the boys and the younger players started to dream about one day wearing the white jersey."

In another intense fixture the following weekend, we faced a fiercely hostile encounter with DHS, where our boys fearlessly engaged and elevated their performance. The A teams showcased remarkable displays, reaffirming their prowess on the field. In a thrilling climax, the 1st XV once more demonstrated their resilience, managing to secure victory against a formidable DHS 1st team in the final moments of the game.

As the season progressed, this became the story of our boys. Week in and week out, they improved and worked harder. As we neared the end of the season, the teams gained an awareness of their resilience in the face of tough opposition. This was indicative of maturity and was also evident in the way the boys acquitted themselves. Our rugby club had become a place of pride and commitment.

It is always hard to single out teams, coaches, players, and performances, but special mention must be made of the 3rd and 4th teams losing only one game each this season. The transformation of the U15A was immense and a great learning curve for all involved. The U14 group that suffered numerous injuries and yet produced some great performances that will stand them in great stead in years to come. Our coaches deserve special mention: they are an amazing group with expertise second to none and a zest and passion to shape lives through rugby.

We take great pride in celebrating the exceptional achievements of our players who have the honour of representing their province. Their commitment to the sport and their relentless pursuit of excellence have earned them well-deserved recognition at the provincial level. Our heartfelt congratulations to the following players who have made us immensely proud:

Rugby Provincial Representatives for 2023

Craven Week XV: Chris Horak, Akhona Kunene, Hanu Pieterse, Luke Watt

Academy Week XV: RD Engelbrecht, Bunono Jabavu, Ben le Roux

Grant Khomo: Andre Boshoff, Trent Chubb, Emmanuel Danquah, Josh Grant, Khazimla Makali, Liyema Nela, Zander Voster

U16B: Requilme Adonis, Morne Engelbrecht, Jacques Olivier

U15A: Ben Coetzee, John Grubb, Mholi Khuzwayo

U15B: Ward Miles

We also celebrate Mr Burger Nel's selection as coach of the U15 Sharks XV, and Mr Cameron Fraser's selection as the Grant Khomo XV coach.

It was once again a great honour to collect the trophy for the top 1st team in the province for 2023.

We also celebrate our 7s teams' participation in six weeks of festivals and tournaments. We entered two senior teams and two junior teams each week and had some wonderful success.

The U15B team lost in the Hillcrest Bowl Final, but managed to pull off a win in the St Charles bowl event.

The U15A and 1st teams won the Hillcrest Cup events and then the U15A side went on to win the St Charles Cup event. It was a marvellous few weeks of 7s rugby and a great opportunity for the boys to have some fun, work on their skills and grow as players.

A massive thank you to all involved in making the club the success that it is. I look forward to 2024 and what it will bring.

Greg Miller | Director of Rugby



1ST XV

Back row: *Akhona Kunene, Luke Rowe, Luke Warren, Hanu Pieterse, Ben le Roux, RD Engelbrecht*
Third row: *Tayedza Jaravaza, Ivan Lockem, Luke Watt, Ivan Jjuuko*
Second row: *Xola Makongolo, Rukudzo Madinga, Ross Brown, Michael Capes, Jason Dix, Bunono Jabavu*
Front row: *Mr Carl Schmidt, Matthew Stewart, Mr Brad Macleod-Henderson, Christopher Horak, Mr Cameron Fraser, Murray Brink, Mr Greg Miller*

1ST XV

Regular players: *Murray Brink, Ross Brown, Michael Capes, Jason Dix, RD Engelbrecht, Chris Horak (captain), Bunono Jabavu, Tayedza Jaravaza, Ivan Jjuuko, Akhona Kunene, Ben Le Roux, Ivan Lockem, Rukudzo Madinga, Xola Makongolo, Hanu Pieterse, Luke Rowe, Luke Warren, Luke Watt*

Hilton's 2023 rugby season was a highly anticipated one, following our impressive performance in our 150th year. Many wondered if Hilton could sustain the same level of excellence, and the boys did not disappoint, winning 12 out of 14 games. Their first game was an away match against Northwood, who had home advantage and were well prepared. We stuck to the plan and matched Northwood physically, taking the lead and not relinquishing it. Chris Horak and Bunono Jabavu crossed over from close range, before Rukudzo Madinga finished off a beautiful backline try for a convincing 29-10 Hilton victory. The only downside of the game was a late tackle on captain Horak, which sadly became a recurring issue throughout the season.

We then travelled to Makhanda for Graeme College's 150th rugby festival, where we faced Brandwag on a wet and windy day. Hilton proved to be too strong and skillful for their opponents. Backs Michael Capes, RD Engelbrecht and Jason Dix all scored tries as did Ivan Jjuuko and Tayedza Jaravaza. Dylan Neill was the only forward to score in a big 48-3 win.

Hilton's second and final game at Graeme was against Framesby on an extremely windy day. Hilton secured a 19-3 win, with Matt Stewart displaying his class and Ivan Lockem and RD Engelbrecht showing there was no way through our centre's defence. All our tries were scored by the forwards, with Jabavu, Murray Brink and Dylan Neill crossing the tryline.

The St John's festival in Johannesburg over the Easter weekend started with a game against Noordheuwel. Sadly, our captain Horak was ruled out of the festival due to another late tackle, so Luke Watt donned the number 10 jersey. Hilton played some beautiful rugby, combining backs and forwards. Engelbrecht was dominant in the number 13 jersey, scoring two tries, and Jabavu and Ben Le Roux also scored for the forwards. Noordheuwel had SA schools' players at number 10 and 15 and threatened Hilton's line at the end of the game, but a crucial lineout steal by Luke Warren secured a 32-30 win for Hilton. Lockem deserves a special mention for kicking a late penalty to give us the lead.

A large crowd gathered at St John's to watch our next game, which was against Jeppe High. We had a slow start and found ourselves 19-0 down after 15 minutes, due to some brilliant Jeppe play and some sloppy Hilton play. Hilton managed to gain some momentum and a clever lineout drive reduced the gap to 19-12 at half-time. The second half belonged to Hilton, as they dominated the game and took the lead 20-19, before a quick strike by Jeppe restored their advantage to 24-20. Hilton spent the last few minutes in Jeppe's 22, but could not score, ending the game with a 24-20 loss.

The final game of the festival was against Graeme College. Lockem led the team as Horak and both vice-captains were injured. He did a great job of kicking four penalties and leading the team, but the try of the tour went to Jaravaza, who scored a stunning 60-meter try, adding to his earlier 40-meter effort. Engelbrecht and Michael Capes completed the scoring, for a comprehensive 36-10 Hilton victory.

The second term began with a game against St Charles, and Horak back in the team at 10 and Luke Watt at 9. Hilton overwhelmed a large St Charles team, with the backs (Madinga, Engelbrecht, Jjuuko and Jaravaza) scoring all six tries, leading to a 39-10 victory.

Next up was an away game against Michaelhouse. In the first half, we played some of our best rugby, dominating the game with tries by Jjuuko and Hanu Pieterse. In the second half, our opponent's big forwards started to get into the game, but Pieterse was outstanding at the breakdown and we were brave in defence, holding off Michaelhouse for a tense 20-17 Hilton win.

We then faced DHS, who had invested a lot of time and effort in their rugby and had a very strong team. However, Hilton were at home and eager to play on their beloved Gilfillan. The Hilton forwards – led by Akhona Kunene with two tries and supported by Pieterse, Jabavu and Brink – edged Hilton over the line in a 34-33 win. Xola Makongolo kicked a crucial late conversion, as many of Hilton's other kickers were cramping.

In our game against Pretoria Boys High, Hilton delivered a complete performance, with Ross Brown and Luke Warren scoring their first tries of the season and Brink scoring twice, along with tries by Madinga and Jabavu, for a comprehensive 39-15 win.

Our next fixture was an away game against Glenwood on their Old Boys' Day. A very physical Glenwood dominated the first 15 minutes, taking a 12-0 lead. But Hilton increased their physicality and fought their way back into the game with tries by Lockem, Brink and Kunene. Horak kicked a late penalty for a 25-19 Hilton win.

By the time we faced Maritzburg College, we were unbeaten in KZN and College had won nine of their last 10 games. Hilton put on a clinical display, dispatching College 29-14 with tries by Lockem, Horak, Madinga and Brink.

Hilton's second last game of the season was against Kearsney, and Hilton dominated the first half and last 10 minutes of the game, winning 30-12 with Kunene again leading the way with two tries.

Our last game of the season, as usual, was against Michaelhouse and with both sides having done well in KZN, a massive crowd pitched up at Gilfillan. An intense battle ensued, with Michaelhouse edging Hilton 18-15, reversing the result of the first fixture.

That concluded the 2023 season, in which Hilton won 12 of their 14 games. Although the team was physically small, the size of their hearts and their fantastic team spirit enabled them to outplay much bigger sides. I wish all the boys the best for their futures and thank them for their hard work this season. Thanks to my fellow coaches and support staff, the parents and the wider Hilton College rugby community for all their support throughout the year.

In the June/July holidays, Hilton took a "stayers" team to St Andrew's in Bloemfontein, under the captaincy of Luke Warren and the vice-captaincy of Oli Gaboreau and Michael Capes. Hilton secured large wins over St Stithians 43-5, St Albans 64-3 and St David's 38-14.

MURRAY BRINK: Muzza was the team's vice-captain and was always at the front of everything that we did. His lineout throwing was top notch and he ensured that the boys were always primed for battle. He was the team's leading try-scorer with nine tries, most of these coming off our maul or the opposition trying to stop Muzza five metres from the tryline.

ROSS BROWN: Ross was probably the find of the season where he used his fitness and extraordinary commitment and bravery to benefit the team. He weighed a "light" 70 kgs but defensively

was always one of our leading tacklers and could run for the full 70 minutes. He struggled with a shoulder issue that needed to be repaired at the end of the season, but he will be back in 2024 and we are expecting big things from him.

MICHAEL CAPES: Michael had a great season coming from the 5th team in 2022. He covered the team at wing and centre and was always rock solid. He ran hard for the team in attack, and on defence he always got stuck in and communicated well. He scored two great tries against Brandwag.

JASON DIX: Dixie was a tough nuggety 9 who never shied away from anything. His box kicks were of the highest standard and his competitive spirit was always on display for the team. He scored two tries against Brandwag and brought positive energy to the team whenever he came on.

RD ENGELBRECHT: RD is a powerful athlete, who played 13 for the team. He used his pace and power to score seven tries, the second most in the team. He formed a formidable partnership with Ivan Lockem in the center's where they often cut the opposition to pieces on attack and hardly conceded any line breaks in defence. He was probably a little unlucky not to make the Craven Week side but was rewarded with selection for the KZN Academy XV team.

CHRIS HORAK: Chris was the team's captain and he played in the crucial flyhalf position. Chris is competitive and this rubbed off on the team where he never asked the boys to do anything that he wasn't already doing. He has a great boot that got the team out of trouble and has the ability to pull the right strings on attack. He struggled a bit with a shoulder niggle but always led from the front. He was selected as captain of the KZN Craven Week side.

BUNONO JABAVU: With his outgoing and boisterous personality, Bunono made sure that the boys were always pumped up for action, especially at Friday's captain's practices. Bunono did an outstanding job in getting us off the line and knocking over the opposition in defence. And, in attack, he was one of our go-to players in securing us gainline where he managed to score five tries for the team. He was rewarded with selection for the KZN Academy XV team.

TAYEDZA JARAVAZA: Playing in the number 11 jersey, Tayedza used his exceptional speed for the benefit of the team. He was brilliant at chasing kick offs, outpacing most of his opponents. His two tries against Graeme College were memorable, especially the second one, where he sprinted 65 meters for an impressive score.

IVAN JJUUKO: Ivan was the team's fullback and he improved in leaps and bounds during the season. His positional play was top notch, and he was brave in defence, making a crucial tackle for us in our first fixture against Michaelhouse. He was always keen to counter-attack, where he used his pace and step to beat defenders. Ivan will be a vital part of the 2024 team where his experience will be greatly needed.

AKHONA KUNENE: Akhona was a fantastic ball carrier who always got the team on to the front foot. He also developed his breakdown work and put pressure on the opposition kickers. He scored seven tries for the team and was rewarded with selection to the KZN Craven Week side. More importantly, he played pretty much every minute of every game for us in the number 8 jersey.

BEN LE ROUX: Ben made the move to the tight head side of the scrum, and he acquitted himself admirably. Ben's defence and work rate were always of the top order, and he was pivotal in ensuring that we had a powerful maul. He is back next year and the experience that he gained this year will be vital to us in 2024. He was rewarded with selection to the KZN Academy XV team.

IVAN LOCKEM: Ivan played 12 for the team and used his silky skills to great effect on attack, often putting Engelbrecht through gaps or pulling the ball back to Horak. Ivan was a leader in the team, keeping the boys focused on the positives and working hard. He did a great job in leading the team against Graeme when there were a few injuries on tour. His strong communication skills and work rate were crucial for us on our exits.

RUKUDZO MADINGA: Rukudzo is a tough rugby player who tackles and runs hard, he also likes to sell the odd outrageous dummy. This made him very popular with his teammates and allowed him to score six tries. His communication is an area of the game that he can continue to work on, but he will be a vital part of the 2024 team.

XOLA MAKONGOLO: Xola played at fullback and always gave of his best. He has a deadly sidestep and a nice right boot. He kicked a crucial conversion against DHS and will be a vital part of the 2024 team.

HANU PIETERSE: Hanu was a popular member of the team and has the ability to play many positions, but he mainly played number-four lock, where he carried and tackled hard. He also led the team with regards to turnovers at the breakdown. He needs to continue working on his carrying height and lineout work, but he has a big role to play in the 2024 season. He was also rewarded with selection to the KZN Craven Week side.

LUKE ROWE: Luke could always be relied on to give his best for the team and he chased and tackled everything that moved. He covered us in all three loose forward positions where he used his skills and was a breakdown threat.

MATT STEWART: Stewie was our vice-captain and he ensured that we stayed calm and focused on the job at hand. He has an enormous engine that allowed him to do loads of chasing and harassing of the opposition. He was also an effective ball carrier for us and was particularly good at chasing our kick offs. He unfortunately injured his shoulder early in the season but bravely continued to put in top performances for his team.

LUKE WARREN: Playing number-five lock, Luke was extremely determined. He started his Hilton rugby career in the U14Cs in 2019 and played almost every minute of every game for the 1st team this year. He was the third Warren brother to play in the White jersey and will not easily forget his game against Pretoria Boys High, where he scored a try and was arguably our man of the match in front of his two brothers. He has a massive heart and became a lineout and kick-off specialist, securing us loads of ball and putting plenty of pressure on the opposition.

LUKE WATT: Luke mainly played 9 for the team but did a great job in also playing 10 when there were injuries. Luke is an exceptionally competitive person, and this ensured that he was always up for the battle. He has a massive boot, and this was used to great effect in transferring pressure onto the opposition. He was very brave and had a decent pass that allowed our attack to function. He was rewarded with selection to the KZN Craven Week side.

Boys who also represented the 1st XV in 2023 include James Fender, Oli Gaboreau, Jack Hampson, Onke Kweyama, Caine Letschert, Dylan Neill, Matt Peters, Ollie Proudfoot, Stefan Swart and Mitchel Wilson.

Brad Macleod-Henderson | Coach



1st XV – top left to bottom right: *Luke Warren, Bunono Jabavu, Ross Brown and Matthew Stewart; Murray Brink, Ben le Roux, Bunono Jabavu and Akhona Kunene; Ben le Roux and Hanu Pieterse; Christopher Horak; Rukudzo Madinga and Tayedza Jaravaza; Hanu Pieterse, Akhona Kunene, Bunono Jabavu and Tristan Warren; 1st XV; Luke Warren, Ivan Lockem and Ivan Jjuuko; Tayedza Jaravaza and Luke Rowe; Murray Brink; Akhona Kunene and Ben le Roux; Christopher Horak and RD Engelbrecht*

2ND XV

Regular players: *Michael Capes, Matipa Denenga, Jason Dix, James Fender, Oli Gaboreau, Mihle Gazi, Jack Hampson, Daniel Hathorn, Onke Kweyama, Caine Letschert, Dean Macleod-Henderson, Xola Makongolo, Dylan Neill, Matthew Peters (captain), Oliver Proudfoot, Luke Rowe, Daniel Sweeney*

Over the course of an eventful season, our 2nd XV displayed unwavering determination and skill. Their journey kicked off with a nail-biting encounter against Northwood. The match was a true test of grit, where Jason Dix's try emerged as the lone beacon of success amidst the relentless contest. His artful dive over a ruck to score showcased Hilton's never-say-die attitude. Bentley Stoffels' precise kicking played a pivotal role, securing an 11-8 victory that left the Hoop and Badge faithful elated.

When pitted against St Charles, Hilton's prowess was on full display. Their physicality stood out, as they expertly converted their visits to the 22 into a series of thrilling tries. Xola Makongolo, a standout player, demonstrated his scoring prowess with a brilliant brace. Alongside him, Khanya Jekwa, James Fender, Daniel Hathorn, Dean Macleod-Henderson and Zukhanye Fatyi etched their names onto the score sheet, underscoring Hilton's multi-faceted attack strategy.

The battle against Michaelhouse was marked by dramatic twists and turns. A potential early penalty try was thwarted, setting the stage for an intense showdown. Hilton's defence initially faltered, but a rejuvenated second-half performance reignited the fight. Dix's audacious dummy and subsequent try injected new life into the game, while Jack Hampson's powerful surge over the try line shifted the momentum further. Despite their valiant efforts, a heart-wrenching skew throw during a lineout in the dying moments resulted in a narrow 24-19 defeat.

Stepping up against Durban High School (DHS), Hilton faced formidable odds with much of their dominant U16 team from the previous year now part of the 2nd XV. In the face of early DHS tries, Hilton's forwards demonstrated resilience, orchestrating rumbling drives that paved the way for Makongolo to exploit a gap and weave through for another inspiring try. Michael Capes joined the scoring ranks, capitalizing on Matipa Denenga's exceptional offload. Makongolo scored another try for Hilton off a well-thought-out scrum move, but unfortunately it was all a little too late. Although Hilton's spirited comeback fell short, their spirit left a lasting impression. DHS ran out victors on the day 19 points to 17.

A clash against Pretoria Boys High emphasised Hilton's versatility. Initially conceding early tries due to ill-discipline, they swiftly regrouped. James Fender powered over for Hilton's first try, signalling a change in momentum. In the second half our style was dynamic and expansive, and our maul a potent weapon. Dylan Neill and Mihle Gazi added to the try count, showcasing Hilton's prowess as we triumphed 26-17.

Facing Glenwood on a scorching day, our dynamic play was evident from the get-go. Caine Letschert and Dix orchestrated a finely tuned interplay that led to the opening score. Denenga's mesmerizing sprint off a box kick added to the tally, even as Glenwood launched a comeback. With the score tied at 12 all, Hilton secured a penalty under the poles and opted for a scrum, showcasing determination. Letschert's steady pick and go ultimately sealed the 19-12 victory, cementing Hilton's reputation as fighters.

The encounter against Maritzburg College bore witness to Hilton's early dominance. A well-executed counter-attack culminated in Denenga's try, but College retaliated before half-time. Captain Matt Peters exhibited remarkable leadership, breaking through defenders to score a memorable try. Hilton's unrelenting maul prowess, personified by Luke Rowe's try, secured a triumphant win 19-18.

Meeting Kearsney College, Hilton found themselves in a high-octane contest. Letschert's early try signalled intent, but the first half was a battle of wills. Ollie Proudfoot slotted home a penalty to keep the scoreboard ticking over in Hilton's favour. The second half saw Hilton keeping it tight, resulting in Macleod-Henderson crossing the line for a crucial score. Moments later, after some resolute defence, Denenga toed through a loose ball to clinch another try, sealing the 22-16 victory with Hilton's signature flair.

In the season's final showdown against Michaelhouse, Hilton roared into action. Makongolo's brilliance set the tone, his well-executed dummy and electrifying pace securing the opening try. Neill's well-worked maul try further solidified Hilton's lead. Yet, the relentless fight from Michaelhouse saw them draw level. Hilton rallied, showcasing exceptional physicality, and Letschert bulldozed through defenders to regain the lead. Battling with a player down due to a yellow card, Hilton defended but ultimately succumbed to a last-gasp Michaelhouse try, concluding the season with a narrow 21-19 defeat that reflected their never-say-die spirit.

The team won six of the nine game they played. With three very narrow losses, the reality is that nine points in Hilton's favour transforms this season into a hypothetical unbeaten one, nonetheless important lessons were learnt along the way which will stand the players in good stead in the future. Throughout the season, the 2nd XV exhibited courage, skill, and an indomitable spirit that left a lasting impression on players and supporters alike.

Cameron Fraser | Coach







3RD XV

Regular players: *Matipa Denenga, Richard Eyers, Zukhanya Fatyi, James Fender, Daniel Hathorn, Kieran Hunter, Khanya Jekwa, Tawanda Kugotsi, Thabelo Letjama (captain), Meyer Malherbe, Oliver Mattison, Ethan McCabe, James McGregor, Dean Mcleod Henderson, Chisha Mulenga, Dylan Neil, Amahle Seima, Daniel Sweeney, Ethan van Heerden, Christopher Wagner, Chris Wanless, Jack Weavind, Mitchel Wilson*

The team had a great season, winning eight of the nine games they played. It was also gratifying to have seven players move up to the 2nd team.

In the first fixture of the season, which was against Northwood, we battled to keep possession of the ball and there were a lot of handling errors. Luckily the Northwood side also made a lot of mistakes, and we won the game.

We went on to take part in the Glenwood festival, where we won all three of our games. It was great to see the 2nd, 3rd and 4th teams integrate well and play good rugby.

The momentum did not stop there, with us improving with each week. We worked hard on continuity and rucking to ensure that we were always slightly better than the opposition.

About mid-way through the season, we changed our strategy to give ourselves three phases of play. That was a game-changer. As a team we seemed to be peaking at the right time; we were the only open side to win the last game against Michaelhouse at home.

Captain Thabelo Letjama led the team with a good balance of discipline and vulnerability, and the team became like a second family. There were only four matrics in the team, which bodes well for next year and the depth of talent we have in this age group.

Sipho Moniwa | Coach

4TH XV

Regular players: *Greg Braithwaite, Jarod du Plessis, Sebastien Gaboreau, Matthew Hayes (captain) Tristan Hockly, Kieran Hunter, Ben Kok, Hylton Lötter, Daniel Lyon, Minenhle Makhathini, Meyer Malherbe, Joshua Mapp, Nkosi Msiza, Liso Ngoqo, Teboho Pakkies, Tom Peattie, Nicholas Thorburn, Ethan van Heerden, Jared Wilson*

The 2023 4th team won admirers for their tenacity, spirit and style of play. They were one of the most special groups that I have had the privilege to coach.

The first fixture against Northwood was a scrappy affair but the boys managed a win. Many in the squad went on to play in the highly successful 3rd XV tour to the Glenwood festival, gaining invaluable experience.

The second term began with an away victory over St Charles' 3rd XV and then a draw against Michaelhouse in Balgowan. It was clear that the structure and game plan was working but the team was struggling to score points. It was therefore a joy to watch them score a number of excellent tries when we hosted DHS. The home fixture against Pretoria Boys High was less than impressive, yet we managed to prevail.

After the mid-term break, the boys faced essentially four test matches in a row. The away fixture against Glenwood saw them put in probably their best performance of the season, owing to a combination of team and individual brilliance. The wonderfully historic annual fixture against Maritzburg College followed and it was the highlight of the season to emerge victorious. It is never easy to win on Kearsney's Stott Field but patience prevailed and the boys were able to approach the return fixture against Michaelhouse with confidence. Unfortunately, the dream of an unbeaten season was not to be and whilst the team stormed back after a poor first half, they left themselves with too much to do.

In summary, they played nine games, of which they won seven, drew one and lost one.

Teboho Pakkies and Liso Ngoqo captained the side before their injuries, and both made a considerable contribution. Matthew Hayes took over the captaincy, growing in stature as a leader and a fly half. The other Grade 12s served the team and gave of their best, with some of them playing their second season in the Fighting Fourths.

Special mention must be made of Tom Peattie who managed the side, giving selflessly of his time. It was most pleasing to see a number of the Grade 11 team members being included in the 1st XV Stayer's tour to St Andrew's in Bloemfontein at the end of the season. I will be watching their progress with interest in 2024.

Thanks to Director of Rugby Greg Miller for his outstanding contribution to the 3rds and 4ths over the course of the season. It was a joy to coach with Mr Sipho Moniwa, Old Hiltonian Mr Brett Armstrong and Mr Brad Macdonald. All three gentlemen gave their all to the squad.

Paul Venter | Coach

5TH XV

Regular players: *Jon Braithwaite (captain), Travis de Bruyn, Ben Ferguson, Tristan Hockly, Harry Jarvie, Oliver Joyner, Khanya Mhlongo, Nghwazi Mkansi, Nkosi Msiza, Six Nyangiwe, Namisi Opah-Tetti, Joaquim Ozoux, Didier Rey, Reniloe Seopcxa, Charlie Short, Etienne Smith, Chris Snijman, Joshua Snyman, Chad Swanepoel, Jake van Zuydam, Caleb Venter, Jared Wilson*

The 5th team's season was marked by spirited performances and commendable teamwork. The team won five of their nine games, losing three and drawing one.

The boys enjoyed themselves, not only due to their wins, but also because of the camaraderie and sportsmanship in the team. Players demonstrated a strong sense of unity, contributing to a positive and engaging atmosphere throughout the season.

Matches that stand out were our victories against College and Pretoria Boys High School. In both, the boys defended courageously, withstanding intense pressure from formidable opponents.

The team owes much of its success to the commitment of individual members. Players consistently attended practices, demonstrating their willingness to learn and embrace their roles in the team.

Our two matches against Michaelhouse proved challenging. Despite putting up a valiant effort, we were unable to secure victories in either encounter. These matches highlighted the importance of maintaining composure under pressure and remaining committed to developing rugby skills.

I was impressed by the boys' resilience and know that this season they learned valuable lessons, not only as rugby players, but as young men.

De Wet Wentzel | Coach

6TH XV

Regular players: *Troy Bailey, Neil Bararugurika, Oscar Bredenkamp, Hlumelo Conjwa, Travis de Bruin, Marc Isabelle, Sean Kamau, Karabo Lephema, Siya Maphumulo, Seko Maseko, Siyanda McClain, Josh McGhee, Ntando Mchunu, Campbell McKenzie, Katlego Moncho, Siya Mpofu, Munashe Musora, Luntu Ncube, Brendan Nieuwstad, Sean Ritchie, Connor Sawyer (captain), Sabelo Skosana, Bandile Shabalala, Miguel Teixeira*

The season began with a focus on improving skills and match fitness.

The season opener came sooner than anyone anticipated, but the boys were ready and flung themselves wholeheartedly at the opposition, our old rival Maritzburg College. And although we lost the game, the boys played with heart and determination, characteristics which they exhibited throughout the season.

While we won only two of our nine games, the players grew in skill and stature throughout the season and showed the kind of spirit that makes a coach proud.

Jaco van Dyk | Coach

U16A

Regular players: *Requilme Adonis, Andre Boshoff, Trent Chubb, Emmanuel Dankwah, Morne Engelbrecht, Stuart Falconer, Josh Grant (captain), Kieran Janse van Rensburg, Bryce Johnson, Joshua Kok, Joshua Lord, Khazimla Makali, Kego Maseko, Ewin Miskin, Liyema Nela, James Ogilby, Jacques Olivier, Tristan Uys, Zander Voster*

The U16A team had an outstanding season, winning every match and securing for themselves a spot among the top teams countrywide in their age group.

The season began with a spirited clash against Northwood. Their dominant 23-0 victory showcased their strength and determination – and left no doubts about their abilities.

In preparation for a tour, the team engaged in a friendly fixture against Sarel Cilliers from Glencoe in Northern KwaZulu-Natal. They won decisively with a score of 60-7, learning valuable lessons for future games.

For the first time, Hilton College sent an U16 team to the prestigious Jean de Villiers Rugby Festival hosted by Paarl Gimnasium in the picturesque town of Paarl in the Western Cape. This festival is attended by the top rugby-playing schools in the country. Our first fixture was a nail-biting match against Hoërskool Durbanville. Both teams showcased expansive rugby skills, but we clinched a 26-24 victory. The tour continued with a monumental clash against Hoërskool Outeniqua from George. Displaying excellent game management and physicality, we secured a 28-22 win, solidifying our position as a formidable force. In the last game of the tour, against Hoërskool Framesby from Port Elizabeth, we secured an easy 45-23 win, capping off a successful outing that enriched the team's understanding of the game.

Back home, the team claimed a dominant 51-0 victory against St Charles in a game marked by sublime running rugby. In the first fixture of the year against Michaelhouse, we got off to a slow start but surged to a 28-5 win, demonstrating resilience. Durban High School presented a formidable challenge in the first home fixture, but we managed a 19-12 win. The team's exceptional teamwork led to a comfortable 48-5 win against Pretoria Boys High and our game against Glenwood was a display of scintillating rugby in which we secured an emphatic 55-0 victory. Maritzburg College provided a tough battle, yet we triumphed with a score of 31-10.

Despite negative play in our game against Kearsney, we overcame them with a 41-10 win. While our second encounter against Michaelhouse revealed our vulnerability, we clinched a 17-5 victory to conclude the season on a victorious note.

Given the team's stellar performance, an unprecedented number of boys earned call ups to represent the province. The following boys were selected to represent The Sharks at the national U16 Grant Khomo Week: Requilme Adonis, Andre Boshoff, Trent Chubb, Emmanuel Dankwah, Josh Grant, Khazimla Makali, Liyema Nela and Zander Voster. Furthermore, Morne Engelbrecht and Jacques Olivier were selected for The Sharks U16B side that played friendly matches against the Pumas and the Griffons.

The U16A team has demonstrated immense potential, scoring a total of 510 points while conceding only 133. With 107 points to his name, Vorster was the top point-scorer. And he and Adonis ended the season as the top try-scorers with 16 tries each.

I will be following this team's progress and expect them to achieve even greater things in years to come.

Thanks to our Director of Rugby Mr Greg Miller for his guidance and mentoring throughout the season. Special thanks to assistant coaches Mr Jason Wulfsohn and Mr Michael Werth for their contribution and support throughout the season. At Hilton College, we're privileged to have expert medical support staff in the form of the San Sisters, biokineticist Mrs Mel Carey, physiotherapists Mr Nick Pereira and Mr Daiyaan Solomons, and strength and conditioning coaches Mr Jason Wulfsohn and Mr Carl Schmidt. The work they do behind the scenes keeps our boys fit and on form.

Burger Nel | Coach

U16B

Regular players: *Griffin Barnes, Luke Campbell, Linathi Dabula, James Dent, Langa Dlamini, Charles Fawcett, Jack Guye, Kieran Janse van Rensburg, Bryce Johnson, Chris Johnson, Liyema Mndela, Ndalo Ngewu, Tino Nyabonda, Lee Singh, Ndabenhle Sithole, Alex Pitman, David Sutton, Thomas Taylor, Dominic van Aardt, Reinard Wagner, Tristan Uys*

At the beginning of the season, the team made it their goals to play an attractive brand of rugby, improve on their previous year's record and bring honour to our school's name. They achieved all this and more.

The season started with a hard-fought 3-0 victory against Northwood followed by a further four victories. The boys were level-headed in their fixture against DHS which they won by a single point. The last fixture before the mid-term break was against Pretoria Boys High School. Unfortunately, the victory took its toll on the team and five boys were injured and unable to finish the season.

Upon our return from the midterm break, the team battled. Practises were difficult due to injuries and illness, and many of the boys had to learn new positions in a short time. This has its advantages and will stand players in good stead as they move into the senior ranks.

If a season is judged on improvement in player ability, skill enhancement, and understanding of the game, then the 2023 season was a great success.

Every member of the team did Hilton College proud. When they were not on the field, they could be found along the touchlines encouraging their peers.

A special thanks to Mr Burger Nel and Mr Jason Wulfsohn for their input and patience at practices, and to parents who supported the boys during the season.

Michael Werth | Coach

U16C

Regular players: *Oliver Chapple, Simba Chidakwa, Linathi Dabula, Nick Dalrymple, Justin Du, Jamie Dunn, Ben Erasmus, Tochi Ezenwugo, Mitchel Garreau, David Hill, Ben Hockly, Jake Hockly, Jack Kitching, Bakuena Lekitla, Kyle Lewis, Nqubeko Majozi, Lesedi Mangwale, Omohau Mbileni, Liyema Mndela, Christopher Morrison, Mpande Myeza, Ntando Nyabonda, Tino Nyabonda, Nthekgo Phasha, Lee Singh, Zac Sweiden, Thomas Taylor (captain), Andiswa Thwala, Reinard Wagner, Adam Wingfield, Rupert Wright*

The team began the season on an optimistic and enthusiastic note. They worked hard towards a structured game that would enable them to showcase their skills throughout the season.

This was immediately evident in wins against Linpark, Northwood and St Charles. Sadly, they lost to Michaelhouse, but bounced back emphatically to beat Durban High School in a delightful display of expansive rugby. This was followed by a narrow loss to Pretoria Boys in a gutsy encounter a week later.

In the second half of the season, the depth of the squad was tested as injuries began to stack up. The team showed true grit by fighting to the end to beat Glenwood and facing Maritzburg College head-on to improve on their performance of the previous year. The final two matches of the season were against Kearsney and Michaelhouse. The former was an immaculate display, the latter a gutsy loss.

A highlight of the season was the nail-biting win at Glenwood where the lads defended their territory like men possessed and won in overtime. This display illustrated the togetherness and passion within the group.

The other highlight was our scintillating win against Kearsney. The team played with the structure and flare that was characteristic of the "ballers" all season.

Special thanks to the coaches and team leaders for all their hard work, and to the entire team for the "gees" that made the season so memorable.

May these boys continue to play with passion for the game and their school for years to come.

Jason Sileno | Coach





U16D

Regular players: *Daniel Askew, Michael Bird, Shaka Buthelezi (captain), Kenyu Chiang, Simba Chidakwa, Goodson Chirwa, Tito Chonco, Nick Dalrymple, Justin Du, Neil Grobbelaar, Alex Hathorn, Jack Kitching, William Leathern, Riley Lindsay, Nqubeko Majozi, Tumelo Makgeru, Senzo Mngomezulu, Thabo Mngomezulu, Kgosi Modise, Khayalethu Nouse, Richard Roxburgh, Tom Twiss, Silwa Wafula, Nicholas Wenyika, James Youens*

The team was made up of hard-working young athletes determined to improve.

Their season got off to a great start with a convincing 14-0 win over Northwood. After the mid-term break, they travelled to Balgowan, where they faced a spirited Michaelhouse. After two halves of clinical rugby, the U16Ds walked off with a staggering 30-0 victory. The results continued to flow in our favour with a 22-7 win over DHS and a 14-10 win over Pretoria Boys High School.

Next up was an away game against Glenwood. After 50 minutes of competitive rugby in the Durban heat, a winner could not be decided. Some late, gritty defence by the Hilton boys on our try line managed to stop the Glenwood forwards in their tracks until an error was forced, concluding the game at 10 points apiece.

Unfortunately, we were not able to continue our unbeaten run when we hosted a highly energetic Maritzburg College. The boys showed tremendous heart and determination throughout the game but were unable to overcome their well-drilled opponent.

Our fixture against Michaelhouse at home started poorly and we found ourselves 21 points down in the first half. Despite some tries early in the second half, time was not on our side and we went down 24-17. That concluded a season in which the team won four out of seven games, displaying a never-say-die attitude throughout.

Special thanks to Shaka Buthelezi and his vice-captain Jack Kitching for their leadership of the team, uniting the boys in a common goal.

I look forward to what lies ahead for this group of players in the 2024 season and beyond.

Cameron Wiid | Coach

U15A

Regular players: *Benjamin Coetzee, Guy Fender, Hartman Fourie, Liyema Gazi, John Grubb (captain), Oliver Jarvie, Callan Kenmuir, Mholi Khuzwayo, Ward Miles, Musawenkosi Mponda, Takunda Ntonyo, James Peattie, Garrick Phillips, Banele Phoswa, Milo Powell, Benoit Rey, Andrew Schnell, Ross Steyn, Liyema Zondi*

The U15A team had a memorable season in which they won six of their 12 games. A preseason match against Secunda prepared them for the challenges that lay ahead, including a tough tour to Affies, where they tried different combinations. Despite facing strong opponents, they ended the tour with a satisfying win against Voortrekker Bethlehem, which set the stage for a successful season.

The regular season got off to a slow start before a hard-fought win against St Charles. Unfortunately, this was followed by a loss to Michaelhouse, in Balgowan, prompting us to regroup and restrategise.

The turning point of the season arrived with a home triumph against DHS, igniting a sequence of victories against formidable opponents such as Pretoria Boys High School and Glenwood. This stretch of successes was an example of the team's progress and growth.

The season's highlight emerged in the much-anticipated clash against arch-rivals Michaelhouse. We showed incredible resolve by rebounding from an early 0-14 deficit. Weathering the storm, we orchestrated a stunning comeback, stringing together 19 unanswered points. The pivotal moment arrived in the form of a rolling maul try in the dying moments, clinching a thrilling 19-14 victory. It was a defining win revealing the team's character, unity, and determination.

Thank you to Messrs Greg Miller, Lwazi Mvovo and William Donkin, whose support was key to the team's success.

Congratulations to Benjamin Coetzee, John Grubb, Mholi Khuzwayo and Ward Miles for making KZN Schools representative sides.

Andrew Duncan | Coach

U15B

Regular players: *Caleb Barradas, Daniel Barradas, Nathan Daniel, Oscar Franco, Callan Kenmuir, Kopano Lekeka, Iviwe Mnconywa, Machabe Monaheng, Patrick Mosimakoko, Khetsa Motsa, Ndalo Moyo, Musawenkosi Mponda, Mvila Ncongwane, Takunda Ntonyo, Francois Odendaal, Sebastian Ozoux, Banele Phoswa, William Segar, Brynn Valentine, Christopher Weavind, Ralfe Wilmot, Luke Wilson, Matthew Wilson, Liyema Zondi*

The 2023 season was a tough one for the U15B team. While the win-loss ratio was underwhelming, the skills and character that the boys developed over the course of the season are what really matter, not to mention the fun that was had and the relationships that were formed.

The season began with a good win over Howick U15A, but this was followed by a tough loss to Northwood at the end of the first term. The second term started with a good win against St Charles away. The first Michaelhouse game was a nail-biter. Having dominated the first half, the team had no answer to Michaelhouse's kicking game when they had the wind behind them and ended up going down by 20 points to 12. This was followed by tough losses to DHS, Pretoria Boys High, Glenwood and Maritzburg College before an excellent away win against Kearsney characterised by determined defence and some wonderful long-range tries. The season ended with a narrow defeat to Michaelhouse at home.

A few players deserve special mention: Matthew and Luke Wilson, who ensured that the morale in the team never wavered; Banele Phoswa and Calan Kenmuir, whose determination and bravery were an inspiration to the team and led in their promotion to the A team; and Machabe Monaheng and Sebastian Ozoux, who played every game of the season.

William Donkin | Coach

U15C

Regular players: *Seriti Bannalotlhe, Samuel Bird, Rosco Campbell, Nwagbo Chika, Miles Cox, Oliver Crowe, Daniel Day, Kai Dreyer, Oscar Franco, Pheto Kgafela, Sekgobela Kgosi, Mpletsane Khalane, Lekeka Kopano, Nelwang Letsoalo, James Lyon, Zenande Mahlangu, Baile Makhakhe, Ndyebo Manci, Lefa Matsumi, Iviwe Mnconywa, James Murray, Sbusiso Nhlapho, Atlegang Ramutla, Riley Ross, William Segar, Allesandro Valente, Victor Viljoen, Ralfe Wilmott*

The U15C squad was a big one, because we were just a few players shy of a D team. The boys came into the season showing great commitment and eagerness to learn and improve their skills.

After suffering a few losses at the start of the season, the team improved with each game they played. Having not scored any tries in our first few games, we managed a hard-fought 36-17 win against Kearsney College, which lifted the team's spirit and prepared us for a tough final fixture. Having lost to Michaelhouse without scoring a try in the first leg, the boys were eager to redeem themselves. They fought back stronger than ever, scoring three tries against their opponents. Although we lost the game, there were a lot of positives to take from it. We ended the season with our heads held high and with some players showing great potential to do well in their U16 season.

We look forward to seeing what the future holds for these boys and wish them well for the coming seasons.

Swelihle Mkhwanazi | Coach

U14A

Regular players: *Matthew Bastard, Jowi Cole, James Dellis, Nicholas Eyres, Iggy Friedman, Devonde Hoff, Ryan Jellis, Ayanda Kunene, Griffon le Meme, Karl-Werner Lüderitz, Sigcobe Magwentshu, Olothando Mqashane, Ruan Mulder (captain), Lesiphosethu Ndlovu, Lwango Ntantala, James obertson, James Swart, Zhaun Swart, Bradley van Loggerenberg, JD van Wyk, Dimo Zigiriadis*

The U14A's season began with a successful warm-up match against Secunda High School followed by wins against Northwood High School (10-7) and Clifton College (26-7).

We took part in the Outeniqua Rugby festival for U14s and U15s, where the team displayed impressive rugby skills, although this didn't always show on the scoreboard. The team narrowly lost to Rondebosch (22-24) and had a tough match against Paarl Gymnasium (5-12). However, they ended the festival on a high with a resounding win against Pearson High School (66-12).

Upon their return, the boys were motivated and hungry for the upcoming term. Notable victories included a convincing 32-0 win against St Charles and a close win against Glenwood High School with a penalty, ending the match 20-19. There were, however, some disappointments, including losses against Maritzburg College (12-19) and Kearsney College (10-17), as well as a draw against Pretoria Boys High School.

Our wins against Michaelhouse were the highlights of the season, with the team playing physical and well-executed rugby to emerge as victors in both matches. The first match took place on our opponent's field, where we secured a 22-7 win, while the second match on our home ground ended in a 22-13 victory. These wins showcased the team's growth and determination.

I am thankful to the players for putting their trust in me, especially when called on to adapt to new positions; to parents for their support; and to the B and C team coaches for providing players when we needed them. Special thanks to Mike Horak, who has been an inspiring coach and mentor to the boys and me.

I look forward to watching these players grow from strength to strength.

Tienie van Wyk | Coach





U14B

Regular players: *Matthew Bastard, Sean Burman, James Dellis, William Eustace, Iggy Friedman, Umi Gwala, Zachery Ichikowitz, Thomas Leatern, Karl-Werner Lüderitz, Linda Mphephu, Kwandumusa Mtshali, Sikhanyiso Myeza, Lesiphosethu Ndlovu, Kelechi Nwobi, Jack O'Brien, Ore Ogunfowora, James Robertson, Knox Rutherfoord, Kihara Waithaka*

The team showed determination and resilience from the start of the season when they applied themselves to a structured game plan and adapted to a new coach.

The first two games of the second term were against St Charles and Michaelhouse. With a fully fledged line-up and a hunger for victory, the team secured impressive wins. They dominated St Charles 55-0 and their encounter with Michaelhouse was a thrilling spectacle that culminated in a nail-biting finish. The Hiltonians emerged victorious with a tight score of 14-12.

From concussions to broken fingers and torn muscles, injuries took their toll on the team as the season progressed. This was a test of the team's depth and resilience, which the boys passed with flying colours.

Throughout the season, the U14Bs demonstrated exceptional spirit and camaraderie. Their commitment to practises, particularly the Thursday 6am skill sessions, revealed their dedication to improve. The bond between players was evident as was their unwavering support for one another. This sense of unity contributed significantly to the team's successes.

Winning only two of the nine games they played, the team also experienced some humbling lows. These and other setbacks build character and provide invaluable lessons for individual players and the team as a whole.

The team can be proud of their accomplishments this season. The lessons learned on the field will contribute to their growth as athletes and individuals, preparing them for the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. With a strong foundation established, the team is poised to build upon their achievements and embrace the promise of the upcoming year.

Claude Pitout and Kgomotso Motlegeloa | Coaches

U14C

Regular players: *Gabriel Dube, Sean Erasmus, Joseph Gichuru, Liam Hoffman, Rex Holdsworth, Zachery Ichikowitz, Ntuthuko Mahlangu, Daniel Marshall, Ramotse Matime, Lefa Matswiri, Kwandumusa Mtshali, Sam Neill, Charles Ngunyi, Kelechi Nwobi, Rex Schoeman, Matthew Stott, Makhobane Thema*

The season was a challenging one for the U14C rugby team with many results not going the team's way. However, the boys consistently showed resilience and determination that they can be exceptionally proud of.

A highlight of the season was taking the win over Michaelhouse with a 29-22 victory. The game saw exciting tries on both ends of the fields and the U14Cs displayed strong defence and impressive pace on the attack leading to their triumph.

Throughout the season, the team morale was wonderful, despite the multiple team changes due to losing members to higher teams and to injuries. Many of the boys started the season without having scrummed before and ended the season with skill as a result of their commitment to training.

Coaching this group of boys has been one of the most enjoyable seasons. It has been a joy to watch them progress and grow in their love for the game.

David Griffiths and Mark Handman | Coaches

U14D

Regular players: *Viadal Analo, Joseph Guchuru, Rex Holdsworth (captain), Tinyiko Khosa, Zayd Kidy, Hokhanguy Langa, Josh Lord, Danny Marshall, Panashe Matinyadza, Lefa Matswiri, Zvashe Mhlanga, Makwe Motsepe, Linda Mphephu, Shee Sabeo, Matthew Stott, Duncan van Niekerk, Kihara Waithaka, Ben Shen Yu*

The U14Ds faced a challenging season marked by unexpected setbacks including injuries and sickness in the higher teams and in their own ranks. Consequently, their season ended prematurely, and the players were assimilated into a larger C team.

Despite these challenges, the team pushed through, achieving positive results against notable opponents.

The team enjoyed a remarkable victory against Michaelhouse, which boosted the team's morale and demonstrated their ability to perform under pressure.

Another noteworthy win was the team's victory against the St Charles C team. This underscored the team's consistent progress and their ability to capitalize on their strengths against larger opponents.

Players deserving of special mention include Rex Holdsworth and Shee Sabeo who, despite all the injuries going on around them, attended every practice and game throughout the season. Well done to them.

Despite all the disruptions to this team, the victories they managed to achieve demonstrated their potential and showcased their resilience, sportsmanship and teamwork, setting a positive foundation for their future endeavours on the rugby field at Hilton College.

Mark Handman | Coach



Soccer



The year after the 150th celebratory year came with its challenges. We had to manage expectations and guide the boys carefully, guarding against over-confidence and at the same time maintaining momentum.

As preparations kicked off in the second term, the mood in the camp was exceptional. Yet I was nervous: would the boys be complacent? Or would they play with the same hunger as last season? The time of truth had arrived.

In our pre-season, we shifted our focus from a tactical to a more technical and possession-based approach. This was due to the type of players in the programme.

We also made changes to our coaching staff, with Mr William Donkin coaching our U14A team; Mr Thabiso Mkhize heading our U15A and Mr Sbonelo Hlophe coaching our U16A team. We also welcomed interns Mr Lindokuhle Xulu, Ms Buddy Halliday, Mr Kaloso Tsoaeli, Mr Cebo Mthethwa, Ms Xolile Mazibuko and Mr Ayibongwe Dube. These coaches did a great job, adding value to the programme.

The third term started with our first home game against Kearsney College, one of the toughest of the season. This game was important for it would set the tone for the season. Unfortunately, we lost 2-1, which was a sign of the work we needed to do.

Hilton College hosted two soccer tournaments again in 2023: the Big 10 schools soccer tournament and the PMB/Midlands FA Cup. The latter attracted government and independent schools and half of the teams that took part were from girls' schools, which was refreshing. We also enjoyed the privilege of giving neighbouring schools access to our facilities. This is an important part of our programme, which includes serving the wider community.

During the season, the U14s played in a tournament; and the U15s went to the St David's tournament with the 1st team. All our teams did exceptionally well, which bodes well for the future of our club.

We are anticipating that the next four years will be exceptional.

> "The 2023 soccer season was a tough one in which we built strength for 2024 and beyond. We appreciate the massive support we received from our parents and Sports Director Mr Darryn Gallagher."

Thanks to all the boys who came out to support us, the academic staff and, most importantly, our coaches who were integral to our success in 2023. I know that we will reap the fruits of our labour.

Celo Mbanjwa | Director of Soccer







1ST TEAM

Regular players: *Travis De Bryn, Matipa Denenga (captain), Natenzi Denenga, Daniel Hathorn, Jack Henderson, Daniel Holtzhauzen, Tino Hove, Tumisho Manaka, Lesedi Mangwale, Akha Mda, Ntuma Moagi, Sakhiwo Moilwa, Chisha Mulenga, Qhama Ngwenya, James Ogilby, Tissano Tisane, Jack Weavind, Mathubamahle Xaba*

Our season started with a game against Kearsney College in which they owned the first half. In the second half Matipa Denenga stepped up with a beautiful free kick to bring the score to 1-1 but a mistake at the back cost us the game and Kearsney won 2-1.

In our fixture against Westville, they set out to dominate us on all fronts, and we found ourselves down 3-0 at half-time. In the second half, Chisha Mulenga scored a quick goal from a corner, but sadly we never managed to score again, losing to Westville 5-1.

The team put in a solid performance against Northwood and thanks to an awesome free kick from Matipa Denenga, we won the game 1-0.

In our final fixture of the season, against Michaelhouse, the boys delivered. At half-time the score was 0-0 and with 20 minutes to play, something needed to give. Hylton Lötter came on as a substitute for Sakhiwo Moilwa, and full of energy and zeal Lötter did not disappoint, passing a throw ball to Mathubamahle Xaba for the first goal of the game. A few minutes later a wonder strike from Matipa Denenga closed off the game for us and we won 2-0. There is nothing like a win against your biggest rival to end off the season.

> “A big thank you to the boys for making this season great and to parents and staff for coming out in numbers to support the beautiful game of football.”

Big 10

Our game against Maritzburg College was a joy to watch, with end-to-end action and goal after goal, until College won 4-3. We then played Clifton College, which ended in a draw.

Later in the day we had a crossover fixture against Westville. We let ourselves down, conceding two quick goals, and although we managed to score one goal before half-time, we weren’t able to get ahead of our opponents and ended the game 2-1.

With the football gods on our side, we qualified for the quarterfinals in second place out of all the groups. That meant playing Westville again for a spot in the semi-finals. We came in hard and fought with everything until the final whistle, leaving our fate to be determined by penalties. Our first four takers did a great job by scoring and that put us in the lead. After we missed one penalty to the match, we went to a “sudden death” shoot out. Jack Weavind made a great save to make it 7-7 and we were a kick away from winning. Lesedi Mangwale did the honours, and we won!

On to the semifinal we went, facing Maritzburg College again and this time around a spot in the final. While we missed numerous chances to score, College got one chance and took it, winning the game 1-0.

St David’s

The tournament started badly for us with a 4-3 loss to St Peter. In our second game, which was against Jeppe, the boys came out on top with a solid 4-2 win. The last game of the group stage was against Brebner High School. A draw or win would have taken us into the last eight, but unfortunately it was not to be. A 2-0 defeat knocked us out.

FA Cup

In our last chance at silverware, our boys came out with sizzle and pure determination to defend what was ours last year. Our first game, against Grace College, was a show of just how much we wanted to keep the trophy. The game ended 6-0 as Tino Hove and Natenzi Denenga scored two goals apiece.

The next game, against Greytown, had its challenges. From a counter-attack, Greytown scored first and took the lead into half-time. The second half is always our half, in which we out-run our opponents and take charge of the game. And so it happened that our boys scored four goals in the second half to win the game 4-1.

On to the quarterfinals we went. The first half of our game against Linpark was goalless, before Linpark got a set piece. A mistake cost us and Linpark scored. We found ourselves chasing the game and exposed at the back. With two minutes to play, we conceded again and that was game over for us.

I could not be prouder of the boys for putting up a hard fight throughout the year, even when things weren’t going our way. We owned our mistakes, trained hard and never gave up the fight.



1st soccer team – top left to bottom right: *Matipa Denenga; Mathubamahle Xaba; Chisa Mulenga; Daniel Holtzhauzen*



1ST TEAM

Back row: *Lesedi Mangwale, Jack Weavind, Daniel Hathorn, Chisa Mulenga*
Third row: *Natenzi Denenga, Travis de Bruyn, James Ogilby, Tumisho Manaka*
Second row: *Tiisano Tisane, Tino Hove, Sakhiwo Moilwa, Ntuma Moagi, Jack Henderson, Qhama Ngwenya*
Front row: *Mr Philani Sondzaba, Matipa Denenga, Mr Mhlengi Shezi, Mathubamahle Xaba, Mr Herbert Mncwabe*

TRAVIS DE BRYN: With a very good left foot, Travis has played a massive role in the team when he comes to set-plays. Quiet and often in his own world, Travis will give you a solid performance when called upon.

MATIPA DENENGA: Matipa was captain of the side and is a hardworking young man. Whether he is wearing the white or the black, he leaves the field dirty. He plays with heart, always giving his best.

NATENZI DENENGA: By far the most talented player on the team. On a good day he will easily score three goals. He is a man you want to on your team.

DANIEL HATHORN: A lovely player who is never without a smile. Daniel has a great work ethic and is a pleasure to work with.

JACK HENDERSON: Full of energy and always ready to run for the team, Jack is adamant to improve his game. Playing in defence this year for the first time, he put in a solid performance.

DANIEL HOLTZHAUZEN: This year Daniel came into his own, making important saves to keep us in the game. It was wonderful to watch him in goals. Whether in a game or in practice, he always gives 110%.

TINO HOVE: A "goal machine", Tino has a great eye and a high work rate, which make him the player that he is. He is also humble and committed to improving his game. I am expecting great things from him.

TUMISHO MANAKA: Tumisho goes about his business quietly and proficiently. He is humble and has the makings of a great footballer. It is safe to say that the Hilton College midfield is in good hands.

LESEDI MANGWALE: A talented sportsman who can play in any position, Lesedi has grown to be a leader in the team.

AKHA MDA: Akha is a talented number 10 – skillful, a good passer of the ball and a shooter. He can be relied on to deliver time and again.

NTUMA MOAGI: One of the most improved players on the team, Ntuma is teachable – not afraid of making mistakes or too proud to learn from them. He's big-hearted and is a good leader at the back.

SAKHIWO MOILWA: The king of tap-in goals, Sakhiwo can be relied on to score in the penalty area. Every team needs someone like Sakhiwo, who is always happy and always up for a laugh.

CHISHA MULENGA: Mr Cool, Calm and Collected, you won't ever see Chisha in a panic. A defender who doesn't shout or scream, he seeks to help everyone around him.

QHAMA NGWENYA: He may be shy, but he's neither soft nor afraid to get stuck in. Qhama has a great deal to offer the team and with more belief in himself, he could be our next destroyer.

JAMES OGILBY: James hates losing, which is one of the reasons you want him on your team. He fights to the end and gives his all.

TISSANO TISANE: Quiet and not one to complain, Tissano can run and run like there is no tomorrow.

JACK WEAVIND: One of the most improved players this year, Jack stood in the gap whenever we needed a leader on the pitch. His goalkeeping skills have improved so much he has pushed Daniel to the limit.

MATHUBAMAHLE XABA: A hard worker with a big heart, Mathubamahle doesn't back himself when he comes to shooting. But on a good day, he will score a wonderful goal for you.

Mhlengi Shezi | Coach













Top left to bottom right: *1st soccer team; Ntuma Moagi; Akha Mda; Sean Ritchie; Zahlele Khumalo; Jack Weavind; Hylton Lötter; Having fun; 1st team celebrations*

2ND TEAM

Regular players: *Daniel Hathorn, Jack Henderson, Zakhele Khumalo (captain), Hylton Lötter, Wonga Masina, Qhama Ngwenya, Gabriel Njonjo, Didier Rey, Sean Ritchie, Jack Weavind, Sam Wingfield, Sandiso Zondi*

The team had an amazing season in which they showed class and character, doing our school proud.

The boys played seven games, winning six and losing only one game, which was to Michaelhouse.

Captain Zakhele Khumalo and vice-captain Gabriel Njonjo provided great leadership and the team played beautiful football.

Thanks to the players for putting in the hard work during training sessions. Being in shape prepared them for every kind of game.

Herbert Mncwabe | Coach

3RD TEAM

Regular players: *Buthulwazi Buthelezi, James Daniels, Tumelo Gopane, Uthando Gumede, Hylton Lötter, Matome Manthata, Wonga Masina, Ntando Mhlongo, Katlego Moncho, Six Nyangiwe, Joaquim Ozoux, Didier Rey, Chris Snijman, Miguel Teixeira, Nicholas Thorburn*

If success is measured by the improvement of individuals, both as players and people, then the season was a resounding success.

Not only did the players achieve success on the field (winning three of their seven games and drawing one), they also got the sceptics to realise that there is more to the game of soccer than kicking a ball around to fill the time between seasons.

The tactical awareness of the players and their positive approach to practises and matches made coaching them a pleasure. The young men were prepared to listen and implement various drills and, with their astute appreciation and understanding of the game, making tactical changes during the match did not cause them any concern. Their positive attitude and ability to rise above some dubious decisions spoke volumes about their character.

A special thanks to Mr Cebo Mthethwa and Mr Celo Mabanjwa for their support and encouragement during the season.

Michael Werth | Coach

4TH TEAM

Regular players: *Zimele Khumalo, Senathi Makola, Siyamkela Maphumulo, Ntando Mchunu, Ntando Mhlongo (captain), Luntu Ncube, Six Nyangiwe, Bayanda Ncobeni, Thuto Phakisi, Kamogelo Seopa, Nicholas Thorburn*

The team delivered a mixed bag of results in a season in which they played seven games. They secured a solitary victory of 5-3 against St Charles while drawing three matches and suffering three losses.

This indicates both potential and room for improvement.
The team's ability to secure a win demonstrates what they are capable of, but to achieve more consistent success, much work needs to be done.

Analysing their defeats, working on strategies, and fostering stronger teamwork could significantly benefit the team in future matches, enabling them to better capitalize on their strengths and attain more favourable results.

Cebo Mthethwa | Coach

5TH TEAM

Regular players: *Neil Bararugurika, Adam Essey, Tristian Grant, Robert James, Sean Kamau (captain), Oliver Mann, Seko Maseko, Similo Mkhungo, Thamsanqa Ncube, Ntando Ngcobo, Rorisang Nkosi, Thuto Phakisi, Jordan Udal, Caleb Venter, Unami Zungu*

The team had an exciting and fun-filled season, marked by excellent teamwork, growth, and a strong sense of brotherhood. The players were dedicated and with every match, they improved their soccer skills and enjoyed themselves. The team consistently demonstrated outstanding sportsmanship on and off the field.

Throughout the season, the team played seven games, securing one victory, two draws, and experiencing four losses. Notably, their victory was a hard-fought one away against St Charles, overcoming the challenges posed by a slippery field.

The entire team deserves recognition, including backup players from other teams, for their spirit and dedication.

Thanks especially to the matrics who attended team practises despite their academic commitments. I am also grateful to all the parents, staff, students, and wider Hilton College community for their support, which has been instrumental in our journey.

Lindokuhle Xulu | Coach

6TH TEAM

Regular players: *Neil Bararugurika, Rhydian Evans, Christopher Gundu, Thomas Harilaou, Deepen Kooverjee, Karabo Lepheme, Seko Maseko, Nghwazi Mkansi, Tumelo Mosethle, Munashe Musora, Shailen Naidoo, Akani Nxumalo (captain), Lie Yu Wang*

The season got off to a difficult start without a goalkeeper. In the run up to our first match against Kearsney College, we scrambled to fill the position and ended up switching players to take turns in goalkeeping. The team played well, but we went down 8-0.

The following week, we managed to secure a keeper for our game against Michaelhouse. We played well to keep the game goalless until the very last minute when we conceded a goal, resulting in a 1-0 loss.

Our third game was against Westville. We looked promising at the start of this game, conceding an early goal but managing to tie it 1-1 at half-time. Unfortunately, in the second half we lost concentration and conceded three more goals, ending with a 4-1 loss.

Our final fixture was against Michaelhouse. Everyone was in high spirits and eager to play. The fighting spirit prevailed, and the game ended in a 4-4 draw. We were pleased to have avoided a loss, at least.

Congratulations to the team on their performance. We will come back stronger next year.

Charles Ncobeni | Coach

7TH TEAM

Regular players: *Oscar Bredenkamp, Zukhanya Fatyi, Mihle Gazi, Jack Hampson, Bunono Jabavu, Zimele Khumalo, Ben Kok, Ahona Kunene, Khukhanya Mahlangu, Minenhle Makhathini, Khanya Mhlongo, Siya Mpofu, Nkosi Msiza, Nkululeko Ncobo, Saphiwe Nzimande (captain), Matthew Stewart, Devon Thomson, Jordan Udal, Luke Warren*

The team, which had plenty of quality players, had a good season winning three of their four games. Their only loss was to Michaelhouse (6-3) at the start of the season.

Highlights of the season were our games against Westville and Michaelhouse. Although our win against Westville was a narrow victory, the boys applied pressure on their opponents and displayed great teamwork.

Late in the season, when we played our archrivals for a second time, we beat Michaelhouse 3-1, dominating the game from start to finish.

Coaching a matric side is special because the guys want to be there; they want to play. I enjoyed everything from the training sessions to the banter between the players. I wish them all the best.

Sipho Moniwa | Coach

U16A

Regular players: *Nic Harcourt, Jack Holtzhauzen, Jack Kitching, Oskar Michel, Tsebo Mokhathi, Reagan Mudau, Mpande Myeza, Efe Ozcan, Alex Pitman (captain), Sizwe Pwele, Jason Webster*

The team showed tremendous growth and commitment over the season, which started with a 2-1 victory against Kearsney College, a 3-0 loss against Michaelhouse, and a 4-1 victory against St Charles College.

In matches, the boys gave of their best until the final whistle, displaying a strong work ethic and great determination.

This was especially evident in their game against Westville Boys when we were trailing 2-0 in the first 15 minutes of the game and managed to win 4-2.

The boys' ability to communicate and support each other on the field improved over the course of the season, leading to better coordination and overall performance.

Another commendable feature of the team was their sportsmanship, which was exemplary. They showed respect for opponents, referees, and teammates. Equally impressive was their resilience in the face of challenges and their response to their four victories and two defeats.

It has been a pleasure to watch these young athletes develop their skills and characters. I am confident they will continue to grow and achieve even greater successes. Keep up the excellent work, team!

S'bonelo Hlophe | Coach

U16B

Regular players: *Phelele Cele, Langa Dlamini, Stewart Falconer, Chris Johnson, Erin Kihara, Nqubeko Majozi, Resima Mashaba, Liyema Mndela, Senzo Mngomezulu, Reagan Mudau, Ntando Nyabonda, Ndabenhle Sithole, James Youens, Ungweru Ziba*

The squad's talent, passion, and dedication were evident throughout the season. From their opening match against Kearsney College, which they won 4-0, the scene was set for an unbeaten record, including three draws out of seven games.

A highlight of the season was a commendable 3-0 victory against Michaelhouse.

The players' enjoyment of the game coupled with their relentless drive to succeed have been the cornerstone of their success.

Congratulations to the squad for an outstanding season, and best wishes for their future endeavours.

Swelihle Mkhwanazi | Coach

U16C

Regular players: *Linathi Dabula, Lwandle Gabuza (captain), Chris Johnson, Kyle Lewis, Mpho Makulana, Thabo Mngomezulu, Kgosi Modise, Chuhal Pillay, Gcina Qgwaaru, Benjamin Scorjie, Tom Twiss, Dominic van Aardt, Silwa Wafulwa*

It has been an absolute pleasure to have coached such a talented group of players. The season had its highs and lows, but the boys stood together and fought hard throughout the season.

Our first game was against Kearsney at home. The boys played well, dominating the game and winning 3-2.

The highlight of the season was our game against Michaelhouse at home, where the boys put in a great effort. They are always motivated when they play their arch-rivals. We won the game 3-0.

The team played seven games in all, winning three, losing two and drawing two. I wish the players all the best in their soccer endeavours.

Bheki Kunene | Coach

U16D

Regular players: *Daniel Askew, Michael Bird, Kenyu Chiang, Jack Davenport, Alex Engelbrecht, Gcina Gqwaaru, Alex Hathorn, Ethan Hornby, Bakuena Lekitla, Tumelo Makgeru, Omohau Mbileni, Ziyanda Mnyandu, Katleho Motaung, Tino Nyabonda (captain), Khayalethu Nouse, Nthekgo Phasha, Richard Roxburgh, Boleng Seoe, Thando Shongwe, Alex Wesselink*

The U16D team won five of their eight games in what was an awesome season. The players exhibited outstanding teamwork, unwavering commitment, and commendable sportsmanship throughout.

I am immensely proud of their growth as individuals and as a cohesive unit. Their passion for the game, coupled with relentless effort, fuelled our victories and made this season memorable.

It's a privilege to witness players make progress, and I look forward to seeing these young athletes continue to shine on and off the field.

Thanks to Tino Nyabonda who captained the side with excellence. Congratulations to a fantastic team!

Richard Garrett | Coach

U16E

Regular players: *Daniel Askew, Goodsin Chirwa, Bakuena Lekitla, Tumelo Makgeru, Mbuyelo Mbokota, Ziyanda Mnyandu (captain), Khayalethu Nouse, Thando Shongwe*

The boys had a good season even though we played each match with a different team due to the unavailability of players.

We started our season with a match at home against Kearsney, beating them 5-1. It was to be our only win of the season. Unfortunately, we lost the other two games we played.

We did not play the usual numbers of fixtures for lack of teams to play; not many schools have the luxury of as many teams as we do.

I enjoyed coaching these young men and wish them the very best going forward.

Bheki Kunene | Coach

U15A

Regular players: *Mphati Atang, Daniel Barradas, Miles Cox, Zizwe Digangoane, Oscar Franco, Tadi Hove, Mahlatji Koma, Kopano Lekeka, Nelwang Letsoalo, Patrick Mosimakoko, Mamojele Ofentse, Luphelele Shange, Dante Sigei, Oyena Zulu (captain), Wanga Zulu*

The team had a season of ups and downs, marked by a challenging tournament and a spirited run in the regular season. With a record of three wins, two draws, and one loss in the St David's tournament, and a season that included two wins, three draws, and three losses, the team showcased resilience and determination on the pitch.

The tournament proved to be a testing ground for the team, where they faced stiff competition from formidable opponents. The team navigated through the group stage with three wins, displaying a commendable blend of skill and strategy. A draw in two matches demonstrated the team's ability to secure hard-fought points, while a lone loss served as a valuable learning experience, highlighting areas for improvement.

Throughout the tournament, several players shone in crucial moments. Patrick Mosimakoko, Oscar Franco, and Kopano Lekeka delivered standout performances, contributing goals, assists, and solid defensive plays. The team's ability to bounce back from setbacks and build on their successes showcased their mental fortitude and collective spirit.

Captain Oyena Zulu emerged as a standout player, contributing significantly to the team's successes. Zulu's leadership qualities were evident in every match, with him leading by example through skilful play, strategic decision-making, and motivating teammates. His ability to inspire the team during challenging moments proved crucial to the team.

Despite the ups and downs, the team maintained a strong sense of unity. The coaching staff worked tirelessly to address areas for improvement, implementing training regimens that focused on refining skills and enhancing team cohesion. The collective commitment of the players to bettering themselves and the team bodes well for future seasons.

The support of parents, in both our victories and defeats, played a significant role throughout the season. The enthusiasm of parents created an electric atmosphere at every match, reinforcing the connection between the team and its community.

In a season filled with challenges and triumphs, the boys displayed commendable resilience and skill. They can take pride in the progress they made and look forward to building on their successes in seasons to come.

Thabiso Mkhize | Coach

U15B

Regular players: *Sechaba Gude, Khumo Lobelo, Kagiso Magasa, Zenande Mahlangu, Atang Mphati, Barack Munawa, Mvila Ncongwane, Francios Odendaal, Banele Phoswa, Kgosi Sekgobela, Tadji Sigei, Alessandro Valente*

The team had a remarkable season, winning all six of their games. Their performance is a testament to the character of the players.

One of the defining moments of the season was their encounter against St Charles, a team known for its physical prowess. Our boys played with determination, twice coming from behind before securing a resounding victory with five goals. This match showcased the team's ability to persevere, a quality that defined their season.

Westville proved a challenge on a field with limited width. Despite the conditions, the team once again displayed their prowess, outscoring their opponents 4-3.

Key to the team's success was their exceptional defensive effort, spearheaded by the commanding presence of Barack Munawa. His leadership on the field played a crucial role in ensuring the team's solidity at the back, contributing significantly to their unbeaten record.

What set this team apart was their outstanding team spirit. The players enjoyed a camaraderie that went beyond the pitch and supported one another through thick and thin.

Rodney Zondi | Coach

U15C

Regular players: *Joshua Chibwe, Nwagbo Chika, Nkosi Fuyana, Oliver Jarvie, Hokhanguy Langa, Kagiso Magasa, Karabelo Morojele, Axolile Nyangiwe, Francois Odendaal, Sebastian Ozoux, Taji Sigei (captain), Christopher Weavind*

The team showed a lot of promise but did not live up to their potential, winning only two of their seven games in the season.

Their first fixture against Kearsney did not yield positive results. This was disappointing as we led for most of the game.

The following week we re-adjusted things, which yielded two positive results in succession, firstly drawing with St Charles followed by a memorable win away against Westville.

The lads also had a positive result against Northwood.

Two narrow losses to Michaelhouse were unfortunate as the lads gave it their all.

The final fixture against St Charles away dampened our spirits as we led for most of the match, only to concede a last-minute goal.

There is a lot of potential in this team. I believe that the boys need to train hard and believe in themselves. I will be watching their progress with keen interest going forward.

Msizi Mchunu | Coach

U15D

Regular players: *Mtshungwana Akhumzi, Khawe Amandla, Ramutla Atlegang, Makhakhe Baile, Valentine Brynn (captain), Day Daniel, Evans Daniel, Langa Hokhanguy, Hermon Jack, Moletsane Khalane, Motsumi Lefa, Zondi Liyema, Chitha Lwanda, Ncongwane Mvila, Manci Ndyebo, Jarvie Oliver, Kgafela Pheto, Wilmot Ralfe, Bannalotlhe Seriti, Nhlapho Sibusiso*

The U15D soccer season was an interesting one. It was a season of learning and growth. The team put in a lot of work. The boys wanted to learn and grow in every way possible.

The results do not truly reflect on the effort the team put in during the season. The team played a total of seven matches, securing victory in two, facing defeat in four, and drawing one, showcasing their competitive spirit and determination on the field.

In the face of these challenges, the team displayed remarkable teamwork, strength, and growth, setting the stage for future successes.

The boys can be proud of the efforts they made. I am truly proud and amazed by the team's growth. The highlight of the season was beating St Charles twice in the season.

Kaloso Tsoaeli | Coach

U14A

Regular players: *Jowi Cole, Max Dalrymple (captain), Gabriel Dube, Devonde Hoff, Liam Hoffman, Phemelo Joel, Ayanda Kunene, Chuma Luswazi, Litha Madinda, Ntuthuko Mahlangu, Raymond Muleso, Sbonokuhle Sithebe, Makobane Thema, Arjun Wadhwani*

An U14 season should never be defined results. The focus should be on developing skills and understanding structures with a view to excelling in the senior age groups. That said, the 2023 U14As produced some excellent results and, more importantly, played some beautiful soccer along the way.

The season began with an exciting attacking performance against Kearsney at home. Despite Hilton dominating the game for long periods with fluent pass and move soccer, the score ended 2-2. This was to become the story of the season. The boys playing excellent soccer in patches but struggling to maintain their intensity for the duration of the games.

The Kearsney game was followed by an excellent 3-1 win against Michaelhouse away, capped by a wonderful long-range effort from Chuma Luswazi.

Next was a dominant home performance against St Charles that unfortunately ended in a 1-1 draw. The following weekend the boys played a very strong Westville side away and were unlucky to go down 1-0. This was followed by another narrow home loss to Northwood and a disappointing away defeat against St Charles.

After a disappointing series of results, the boys played with great heart and intensity to end the season with a 1-0 home victory over Michaelhouse.

The team benefited from a dominant midfield controlled by the silky smooth Luswazi, ably assisted by the selfless and powerful Arjun Wadhwani and Makobane Thema's eye for a pass.

We were blessed with two exceptionally quick and skilful wide players in Raymond Muleso and Phemelo Joel and the defence was led by the calm and physical Litha Madinda.

I have no doubt that many of these players will be gracing Zungu Field in seasons to come.

William Donkin | Coach

U14B

Regular players: *Max Asamoah, Aiden Clubb, Gabriel Dube, Raphael Dube, Zachery Ichikowitz, Ryan Jellis, Ayanda Kunene, Sigcobe Magwentshu, Ntuthuko Mahlangu, Larona Mampane, Obakeng Motsepa, Linda Mphephu, Kelechi Nwobi (captain), Ore Ogunfowora, Sbonokuhle Sithebe, Matthew Stott, Kihara Waithaka*

The U14B soccer team enjoyed a season filled with memorable moments, camaraderie, and positive development.

The first highlight of the season was an exhilarating victory against Michaelhouse, where our young talents showcased their skills and determination by securing a hard-fought 3-2 win. The return fixture at the end of the season demonstrated the team's resilience as they battled to a well-deserved 1-1 draw, proving that our boys are not only formidable opponents but also disciplined competitors.

The victories against St Charles were nothing short of spectacular. The first encounter ended with a tight 2-1 scoreline in our favour, highlighting the team's ability to adapt to different challenges. The rematch showcased our growing prowess with a commanding 5-1 triumph.

One of the season's most memorable moments was the thrilling encounter with Westville, which ended in a heart-stopping 3-4 defeat in stoppage time. Despite the loss, our boys exhibited exceptional sportsmanship and resilience in a match that kept spectators on the edge of their seats. The spirit displayed during this seven-goal thriller serves as a testament to the team's fighting spirit and determination to push beyond their limits.

The camaraderie within the team was exceptional. The players were like a tight-knit family, supporting each other on and off the field. The positive atmosphere within the team undoubtedly contributed to the player's individual growth and the overall success of the squad.

Behind every triumph lies a foundation of hard work and dedication. Practices implemented a series of constructive and focused drills, tailored to enhance each player's skills and understanding of the game. These sessions not only fostered individual development but also promoted teamwork and strategic thinking.

The commitment, sportsmanship, and positive energy exhibited by our players resulted in an overwhelmingly successful season.

Craig Wilkinson | Coach

U14C

Regular players: *Vidal Analo (captain), Nothani Buthelezi, Joseph Gichuru, Cristopher Job, Imran Mahomed, Luthando Mbada, Lehumo Modise, Kwandumusa Mtshali, Nicandro Padayachee, Tristan Pillinger, Luke Ramlakan, Olebogang Sengale, Duncan van Niekerk, Kihara Waithaka*

The team had a large number of talented players passionate and willing to give their best. Although the season started off slowly with most of the boys struggling with fitness, the team grew stronger together.

The team won two matches, against Kearsney College (1-0) and St Charles (4-0). We lost to St Charles in the second leg, Westville and Michaelhouse. We drew to Northwood and Michaelhouse in the second leg.

The boys enjoyed practice sessions, where they worked hard on fitness, ball skills and formations.

I commend them for their commitment to the team during the season and my thanks to assistant coach Ms Budrunnisaa Halliday.

Kwanda Sibiya | Coach

U14D

Regular players: *Mussa Abdullah, Dougal Carr (captain), Reece Johnson-Watts, Zayd Kidy, Daniel Marshall, Kamohelo Mashele, Lefa Matswiri, Leago Moagi, Nthato Mpakati, Ludvonga Mtshungwana, Sam Neil, Liqhayiya Ngcese, Benjamin Shen-Yu, Hanlin Shi, Daniel Urquhart*

The U14D had a season of mixed results. While they did not secure a significant number of wins, their performance went beyond the numbers on the scoreboard. The team showcased potential and growth in various aspects of their play.

The highlight of our season was our mighty comeback against Northwood. The match ended with a narrow 3-2 defeat, but the remarkable comeback serves as a source of inspiration and a symbol of the team's indomitable spirit throughout the season. It was a game where they proved that win or lose, they would always fight to the end with their heads held high.

Ayibongwe Dube and Budrunnisaa Halliday | Coaches

Squash



SQUASH CLUB

Back row: *Chad Swanepoel, Lyle Clubb and Oscar Steiner*
Middle row: *Trey Padayachee, William Segar, Sam Wingfield, Josh Aitken*
Front row: *Matt Watts, Mr Werner Strydom, Luke Hancock, Mr James Bullough, Andrew Harding*

Regular players: *Josh Aitken, Grant Bridgeford, Jordan Byres, Lyle Clubb, Oscar Franco, Daniel Friend, Tumelo Gopane, Tristan Grant, Kieran Griffin, Uthando Gumede, Luke Hancock (captain), Andrew Harding, Jack Hermon, Joshua Hurley, William Kitching, Lefa Motsumi, Trey Padayachee, James Peattie, William Segar, Ethan Smith, Oscar Steiner, Chad Swanepoel, Victor Viljoen, Matt Watts, Sam Wingfield*

More than anything, 2023 was a year of growth: the club grew both in numbers and in the level of competition between our boys and their opponents. Our challenge was to find ways to re-imagine how we train, when we train and who we play. At Hilton, squash competes for a place amongst our bigger and more popular team sports.

During 2023, we played friendly fixtures with local schools such as Michaelhouse, Maritzburg College, St Charles College, Howick, St Anne's Diocesan College, St John's DSG, Epworth, Kearsney and Glenwood. We also played Pretoria Boys High School in our annual sporting exchange with them. Our results were mixed, but the boys were exposed to a variety of opponents with varying degrees of ability, facilitating growth in victory and defeat.

A major positive for the club was the introduction of winter league squash in 2023. It was wonderful for us to be a part of this again. Our boys benefitted hugely; their growth was exponential. We entered two teams – a fourth and fifth league team. Both struggled to begin with, but by the end of the season they were starting to compete and win matches. I would like to continue to build on this momentum next year. Both the boys and staff who competed in the league thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The club's championship was hugely successful. After a series of round robin matches, we ended up with a group of eight boys in the quarter-finals. These were hotly contested games with Matt Watts, Grant Bridgeford, Luke Hancock and Oscar Steiner playing in the semi-finals. Watts and Hancock won their games and entered the grand finale. The match was incredible to watch with both boys giving of their best to come out on top. Hancock went on to win the match 3-1. This fixture reflected the progress made by these boys over the year.

My thanks go to Hancock and Watts for their leadership of the club and for their passion and enthusiasm. They were an example to the younger boys and their commitment to training was exceptional. I hope they continue to play squash in the years to come.

I am also thankful to the following members of staff for their support and help in managing training sessions and matches this year: Mrs Tracey MacKenzie, Mrs Debbie Veenstra, Mr Tienie van Wyk and Mrs Ashleigh Askew. Special mention must be made of our full-time professional coach, Mr Werner Strydom. Your insight, passion and love for the game is appreciated. You have instilled a culture of training and your ability to help and correct the boys' techniques is valued.

> "I look forward to what lies in store for us in 2024. My hope is that we build on our achievements, taking the club to new heights."

James Bullough | MIC Squash

Swimming



A SWIMMING SQUAD

Back row: *Tristan Uys, Robbie Hayward, Liam Casey, Kieran Hunter, James Swart, Luke Spear, Thomas Taylor*
Middle row: *Mitchel Wilson, Bradley van Loggerenberg, Zhaun Swart, Matthew Thomas, Rex Schoeman, Griffon Le Meme*
Front row: *Retief Malherbe, Caine Letschert, Mr Lindokuhle Xulu, Matthew Hayes, Mrs Andrea Ridderhof, Jack Hampson, Connor Woods*

The Hilton College swimming team can be very proud of its performances in 2023, with swimming being held in the 1st term. Under the guidance of captain Matthew Hayes and vice-captain Caine Letschert, we had a wonderful season in which we competed well.

We participated in the following galas:

The Hilton College Invitational Gala, where we came second out of five schools in the KZN Inland area.

The Independent Quadrangular, comprising Hilton College, Michaelhouse, Clifton College, St Charles College, St Anne's Diocesan College, The Wykeham Collegiate, St John's DSG, Pietermaritzburg Girls High School and Epworth School. We put in a fantastic performance and won the gala. This was an exhilarating gala and such a thrill for our boys to finish on top of the log.

Midmar Mile, where our boys excelled in the race and had a ton of fun during the event.

KZN Top 10 Gala, in which we came fifth out of eight schools. The gala was hosted by Hilton College at Kings Park Swimming Pool.

The inter-house gala, which was a huge success with excellent times recorded. Congratulations to Pearce for winning the inter-house relay cup and championship gala cup, and to Ellis for winning the spirit shield.

A large number of boys took part in these galas, and I would like to thank them for their hard work and effort this year. I wish them all of the very best for 2024 and look forward to another fantastic swimming season!

Thanks also to coaches Mr Tony Shuttleworth, Mrs Tracey MacKenzie, Mrs Hanlie Dry, and Mr Lindokuhle Xulu.

Andrea Mica Ridderhof | MIC Swimming



Tennis



1ST TEAM

Back row: *Jarred Malby, Jason Sasse, Oli Gaboreau, Didier Rey*
Front row: *Josh Black, Mr Wilbert Tenga, Mr Jordache Hussein, Michael Capes*

Regular senior players*: Josh Black (captain), Andrê Boshoff, Michael Capes, Oli Gaboreau, Jack Hockly, Daniel Holtzhauzen, Jarred Maltby, Didier Rey, Jason Sasse*

Regular junior players: *Oliver Crowe, Ross Hill, Fanaka Mworia, Uyapo Ndwapi, Daniel Urquhart*

At the start of the 2023 season, the squad had a mixture of young players and senior seasoned players. Our 1st team started their season by taking part in the inter-district tournament held at Michaelhouse, where our top four players occupied the first five positions in the district. In the first term, both our U19 and U15 sides participated in the uMgungundlovu Doubles tournament, winning key fixtures against traditionally strong teams.

In the third term, our 1st team participated in the historical Dennesse League tournament, pitting top schools in our district against each other. The boys played with grit and determination, coming second overall. Josh Black won the School Championship trophy for the second year in a row.

The De Wet Cup, our final fixture against arch-rivals Michaelhouse, was an incredible display of tennis as a team sport. The season ended with heartbreak for our boys, losing three matches through tie-breaks to a stronger Michaelhouse side. The lesson was tough but valuable!

Another highlight on the tennis calendar was the Hilton and St Anne's Doubles Tournament, which we co-hosted. Losing one tennis court presented a big challenge for practice sessions and our hosting capacity. Our participating team played exceptionally well, finishing second out of eight doubles teams in the mixed doubles category.

At the end of the season, we bid farewell to five matric boys who have been part of the Hilton College tennis family: Josh Black, Michael Capes, Oli Gaboreau, Daniel Holtzhauzen, and Jason Sasse.

> "We are very excited about the prospect of a new season and have no doubt that those who remain will draw valuable lessons from the 2023 season."

A huge thank you to Mr James Webb and the Sports Department for their continued support and a special welcome to Mr Jordache Hussein, our new coach, who joined us at the beginning of the second term, taking over from the legendary Mr Dale Michau, who has retired.

Congratulations to Jarred Maltby and Didier Rey, who were chosen as 2024's captain and vice-captain respectively. We wish them well!

Wilbert Tenga | Tennis MIC



Water Polo



KZN U19

Left to right: *Jono Bregman-Frangos, Meyer Malherbe, Stefan Swart, Matthew Hayes, Mr Jason Sileno*

In 2023, the Hilton Water Polo Club excelled, boasting five open and four junior teams, each skilfully guided by our dedicated staff members.

We remained focused on providing ample opportunities for all teams and players to engage in numerous games throughout the season. The year's statistics showcased our commitment: out of 212 games played, we clinched victory in 147, faced defeat in 37, and had 11 draws. More significantly, every player relished a blend of competitive spirit and enjoyment, fostering their growth as water polo players. Credit to the players and coaches whose dedication made this possible.

Tournaments held a significant place in our journey this year. Our 1st, 2nd, U16A, U15A, and U14A teams participated in prestigious national events. The 1st team made appearances at the St Andrews Shield, KES Tournament, Clifton Tournament, SACS Tournament, KZN Top 10 and the St Stithians Stayers Tournament. Meanwhile, the 2nd team showed their skills at the Pearson Tournament. The U16As competed fiercely in the Durban High School (DHS) U16 Tournament, and the U15A team made waves at the Parktown U15 Tournament, Top 10, and the Ian Melliar Cup. Notably, the U14A side left their mark at the Jeppe Festival, the Hilton U14 Tournament, KZN Top 10, and the Northwood U14 Tournament.

> "These teams deserve commendation for their competitive edge, remarkable teamwork, and outstanding sportsmanship."

Highlights from these tournaments include:

Northwood U14 Tournament	**Gold Medal**
Hilton U14 Tournament	**Silver Medal**
DHS U16 Tournament	**Bronze Medal**
KES 1st Team Tournament	**Bronze medal**
KZN Top 10 Schools	**U14A Gold Medal**
KZN Top 10 Schools	**U15A Gold Medal**
KZN Top 10 Schools	**1st Team Silver Medal**
KZN Top 10 Schools	**Overall Winners Trophy**
Jeppe U14 Festival	**Unbeaten**

Numerous Hilton players were selected for various KZN Schools. A huge congratulations to these players for their efforts:

KZN U14A Team: Liam Casey, Griffon Le Meme, Lwango Ntantala, James Swart, Bradley van Loggerenberg

KZN U15A Team: Sebastian Laudenberg, Musawenkosi Mponda, Garrick Phillips, Andrew Schnell

KZN U16A Team: Trent Chubb, Mitchel Garreau, Thomas Taylor, Tristan Uys

KZN U19B Team: Mitchel Wilson

KZN U19A Team: Jono Bregman-Frangos, Matthew Hayes, Meyer Malherbe, Stefan Swart

A huge thank you to all of the water polo coaches for their remarkable contribution throughout the year.

Andrew Duncan | Director of Water Polo

1ST TEAM

Regular players: *Jono Bregman-Frangos, Murray Brink, Trent Chubb, Mitchel Garreau, Jack Hampson, Matthew Hayes, Jordan Hein, Joshua Kok, Caine Letschert, Dean Macleod-Henderson, Meyer Malherbe, Retief Malherbe, Oliver Mattison, Hanu Pieterse, Stefan Swart, Tom Taylor, Matt Thomas, Tristan Uys, Mitchel Wilson*

The season kicked off with a pre-season camp in January, followed by participation in the St Andrew's College (SAC) Shield Tournament in Grahamstown. After mixed performances against Selborne College, St Stithians and Rondebosch, the team dispatched a very good Westville team in a play-off to reach the quarter-finals. A disappointing performance against Clifton was followed by a good result against a highly ranked St John's team, and then a stunning performance against St Stithians under extraordinary circumstances (without a goalkeeper) to finish in fifth place overall. This is Hilton College's highest place finish at the SAC Shield Tournament to date.

Later in the first term, the team participated in the King Edward VII School (KES) Tournament. With accuracy and ruthlessness, the team were able to overrun Bishops, Pretoria Boys and KES to finish at the top of the pool and earn themselves a quarter-final berth. In arguably the most exciting schoolboy match of the year, the team was able to overcome a three-goal deficit in the fourth chukka to overhaul Paul Roos Gimnasium, to win in astonishing fashion with a saved penalty in dead time. In the semi-final, after another late comeback, the team were not able to reproduce their powers of recovery against St John's and went down agonizingly by one goal. However, the team did pick themselves up to dominate Rondebosch in the 3rd/4th match to earn the bronze medal. This was a significant achievement, the first medal and best placed finish for Hilton College at the KES Tournament.

In August, the team began their pre-season in preparation for a busy second half of the season in which the team participated in four more tournaments: Clifton Tournament, SACS Tournament, Top 10 Tournament, Saints Stayers Tournament.

At the Clifton Tournament the team performed superbly by dispatching Maritzburg College, Reddam Constantia and St Andrew's College to finish top of the pool. In another epic encounter against St John's in the quarter-final, the team fought back from a three-goal deficit to win in a penalty shoot-out. In the semi-final against a formidable SACS side, the team played sublimely but were edged out in the closing stages. The team finished in fourth place overall, the highest placing for Hilton at the Clifton Tournament.

The team then travelled to Cape Town for a return to the SACS Tournament (absent since 2019). Drawn in a difficult pool, the team quickly experienced the unpredictable nature of this tournament and adapted well to the challenge. We lost to St John's, drew to Selborne and Paul Roos, but overcame St David's, Parktown, Rondebosch, Pretoria Boys and Northwood to earn a quarter-final spot. A clinical performance against Bishops in the quarter-final meant the team would face Paul Roos again in the semi-final. The team performed admirably but were unable to overhaul the team from the Cape. Finishing in fourth place overall was a fantastic effort and Hilton's best placed finish at the SACS Tournament to date.



1ST TEAM

Back row: *Hanu Pieterse, Meyer Malherbe, Dean Macleod-Henderson, Trent Chubb*
Third row: *Mitchel Garreau, Jack Hampson, Jordan Hein, Retief Malherbe*
Second row: *Thomas Taylor, Matthew Thomas, Tristan Uys, Oliver Mattison, Murray Brink, Mitchel Wilson*
Front row: *Matthew Hayes, Stefan Swart, Mr Jason Sileno, Caine Letschert, Jono Bregman-Frangos*

At the KZN Schools Top 10 Tournament the team remained unbeaten in their pool matches against Glenwood High School, Durban High School and Maritzburg College to book their spot in the semi-final. In a ruthless performance against a highly rated Westville, the team advanced to the final. The final against an accomplished Clifton team was a tough encounter where the team performed admirably but were unable to take the victory. This second-place finish equals the previous best place for Hilton College in this tournament.

The Saints Stayers Tournament saw a changing of the guard with the departure of the matrics and some fresh faces joining the team. The team started well with a good win over Grey High School, but let themselves down with a poor performance against Affies. Great performances against St Benedict's College and a very strong Rondebosch meant we would need to beat Clifton in a cross-pool play-off. Owing to a disappointing loss to Clifton we never reached the quarter-final, although we managed to regroup and beat Grey Bloem and Michaelhouse to finish in nineth place.

Aside from the tournament, the team was also involved in several scheduled KZN fixtures. They successfully overcame Durban High School, Maritzburg College, Michaelhouse (all three times), Kearsney College (both times), and drew against Clifton College.

The 1st team had a fantastic year in which they exemplified the spirit of Hilton College water polo: grit and determination. The team was able to rival the very best and was ranked amongst the top four teams in the country – an incredible achievement for Hilton College.

In numbers:

Four semi-finals in six tournaments
Two finals
One silver, one bronze
Won 35 of their 50 games; lost 12 and drew three

> "Thank you to all the coaches, parents and players for a successful and enjoyable year of water polo in 2023."

JONO BREGMAN-FRANGOS: Jono is a mobile and versatile player that possesses the ability to play across various positions in the pool. He has a keen understanding of the game, and an instinct for creating scoring opportunities as well as the ability to assess any threats on defence. Jono is a very competitive player who plays with great passion and has played a key role in the successes of the team. He had many standout moments in 2023 – defending key opponents, lob shots from impossible angles, and scoring last-minute goals. Jono was awarded Honours for water polo.

MURRAY BRINK: Murray is a physical and imposing centre forward with a very direct approach to his game. He is able to bring fresh energy and tempo to the game with his instinct for attacking opportunities and sheer willpower. His commitment and no-fuss approach have been invaluable in the team's successes. In his standout performances for the team, Murray dominated the opposition's centre backs and scored crucial goals. He was awarded Half-Colours for water polo.

TRENT CHUBB: Trent has the body positioning and technique that make him a formidable goalkeeper. His keen eye and outlet pass result in many successful counter-attacks. Trent's commitment to training hard and his willingness to work for the team make him crucial to the team's success. Over the year, he has made a significant contribution to the team, saving shots and penalties.

MITCHEL GARREAU: Mitchel is a mobile player with a keen sense of the game. This instinct allows him to be dangerous on both the counter-attack and on the drive. His work ethic and passion to succeed make him a valuable member of the team. He scored important goals for the team and made memorable counter-attacks.

JACK HAMPSON: Jack is a physical and hardworking player who can play on the left side as well as at centre forward. He has a very direct approach to his game, with his quick reactions and the instinct for attacking opportunities. His commitment and work ethic have contributed to the team's successes. The team is indebted to Jack for his defending and scoring fantastic goals. He was awarded Half-Colours for water polo.

MATTHEW HAYES (vice-captain): Matthew is a highly skilled left-hander who has an instinct for the game and an uncanny ability to read defensive threats and identify goal-scoring opportunities. Matthew is a very competitive player whose passion and enthusiasm are always present. His leadership, commitment and work ethic have significantly impacted the team and endeared him to his teammates. Over the year, Matthew earned exclusions in important matches, defended key opponents, and scored in outrageous ways. He was awarded Honours for water polo.

JORDAN HEIN: Jordan is a physical and versatile player with the ability to play up front and at the back. He has a physical presence and a powerful shot that make him an ever-present threat against any opponent. He is a very competitive player whose passion and enthusiasm has had a significant impact on the team. Jordan put in numerous standout performances for the team, dominating our opponent's centre backs, scoring incredible goals, and changing the outcome of matches. Jordan was awarded Colours for water polo.

JOSHUA KOK: Jos is a mobile player who has a keen sense for finding space and creating opportunities. He is always hard working and enthusiastic. His energy and tempo make him an asset to the team. Jos's contribution to the team's success included drawing exclusions, making assists and scoring important goals.

CAINE LETSCHERT (vice-captain): Caine is a physical and versatile player with the ability to play across multiple positions in the pool. He has a powerful shot and physicality that make him an ever-present threat against any opponent. Caine's leadership skills and enthusiasm in meeting challenges head-on have contributed enormously to the success of the team. Caine scored key goals for the team and served as our designated penalty taker. He was awarded Honours for water polo.

DEAN MACLEOD-HENDERSON: Dean's frame and hand-eye coordination make him a superb goalkeeper. His reflex saves and outlet pass resulted in many successful counter-attacks over his tenure. Dean's commitment to training hard and his willingness to work for the team are second to none. His sheer passion for the school and the team were ever-present, and key to motivating his teammates. In standout performances this year, Dean used his head to save shots, saved clutch penalties and scored in penalty shoot-outs. He was awarded Colours for water polo.

MEYER MALHERBE: Meyer is equipped with an uncanny instinct for the game. He can play across multiple positions due to his capacity to deal with threats and create goal-scoring opportunities. He is incredibly competitive and driven, which has played an important role in the success of the team. Meyer dominated opponents and scored crucial goals for the team this year. He was awarded Colours for water polo.











1st water polo team – top left to bottom right: *Matthew Hayes; Mitchel Garreau; Jono Bregman-Frangos; Stefan Swart; Tristan Uys; Mitchel Wilson; Caine Letschert; Meyer Malherbe*

RETIEF MALHERBE: With his versatility and technical ability, Retief can play multiple roles in the pool. His defensive skills and driving game are real assets to the team. His work ethic and reliability make him a valued member of the team. He was awarded Half-Colours for water polo.

OLIVER MATTISON: Oliver is a physical and combative player who has good instincts for the game. His defensive skills and keen eye have been crucial to the success of the team. He has a strong work ethic and ability to motivate those around him.

HANU PIETERSE: Hanu is a player with a strong presence on defence and powerful shot from the outside. His strong work ethic and passion to succeed inspire those around him, making him a valuable member of the team. He will be remembered for shooting rockets and dominating opponents. Hanu was awarded Half-Colours for water polo.

STEFAN SWART (captain): Stefan has a natural feel for the game and the ability to read threats and opportunities. His high fitness and energy levels, along with his ability to dominate opposition centre forwards, have enabled him to fulfil a key role in the team. Stefan's commitment and leadership skills have contributed significantly to the successes of the team. An excellent leader, Stefan scored important goals and influenced the outcome of many a match this season. He was awarded Honours for water polo.

TOM TAYLOR: Tom is a highly skilled left-hander who has a keen sense for the game. His ability to read defensive threats and identify scoring opportunities are real assets, as are his work ethic and calm demeanour.

MATT THOMAS: Matt is a mobile and industrious player. He injects tempo and speed into a game creating scoring opportunities for himself and others. His work ethic and passion to succeed have added greatly to the team.

TRISTAN UYS: Tristan is a versatile player who is able to play across various positions in the pool. His understanding of the game and instinct for scoring opportunities have been key to the success of the team. Tristan is highly competitive and has put in memorable performances this year, drawing exclusions and scoring crucial goals.

MITCHEL WILSON: Mitchel is a mobile player with a sharp instinct for the game. His nose for a counter-attack and his driving skills enable him to find and create scoring opportunities. His distribution skills and sense for the right pass at the right time allows him to set up other teammates. He has played an important role in the success of the team. Mitchel was awarded Colours for water polo.

Jason Sileno | Coach



2ND TEAM

Regular players: *Nicholas Bregman-Frangos, Robbie Hayward, Kieran Hunter, Kieran Janse van Rensburg, Harry Jarvie, Oliver Joyner, Ben Kok, Joshua Kok, Ben le Roux, Retief Malherbe, Oliver Mattison, Dylan Neill, Brendan Nieuwstad, Hanu Pieterse, Sean Ritchie, Luke Spear, Matthew Thomas, Connor Woods (captain)*

The team had an exceptional season, showcasing their talent and dedication throughout the year. They demonstrated remarkable skill and teamwork, resulting in an unbeaten record against all teams in KwaZulu-Natal.

A highlight of the season was the team's participation in the prestigious Pearson tournament, widely recognized as the pinnacle of 2nd team water polo in the country. The team achieved outstanding results although narrowly missing out on victory against the eventual tournament winners, Paul Roos Gimnasium, in the quarter-final with a score of 5 goals to 2. It is worth mentioning their impressive victory over St Andrew's College from Grahamstown, where they secured a convincing 10-2 win, ultimately finishing the tournament in seventh place overall.

The team's resilience and determination were exemplified in their last game of the season against arch-rivals Michaelhouse. Despite trailing throughout the match, the boys displayed unwavering grit and determination, ultimately turning the game around to secure a thrilling 4-3 victory.

The dedication exhibited by the boys throughout the season cannot be understated. Their commitment to the team, both in and out of the pool, was evident in their consistent performance and support for one another. Their hard work and perseverance have undoubtedly contributed to the team's success. In summary, they won 13 of their 17 games, losing only three and drawing one.

Cameron Wiid | Coach

3RD TEAM

Regular players: *Troy Bailey, Griffin Barnes, Oliver Chapple, James Dent, Jack Guye, Luke Hancock, Alex Hathorn, Daniel Hathorn, Kieran Hunter, Bryce Johnson, Ben le Roux, Kego Maseko, Ruben Marx, Ethan McCabe, Caleb Mc Donald, Dylan Neill, Lee Singh, Luke Spear, Reinard Wagner, Luke Warren, Alex Wesselink*

A commitment to practices and a willingness to learn were characteristics of this team. The school and the team were all-important, and players gave their best at all times.

Matches were played in the spirit of the game and the success of the team cannot be attributed to any one player, but to the team as a whole. A combination of skill, aggressive attack and defence made the team the successful one that it was, winning seven of their 11 matches and drawing two.

With most of the matric boys not playing sport in the fourth term, it provided an opportunity for others to experience playing at a higher and greater intensity. They did the school proud winning three of the five matches played with a very narrow loss to Northwood (6-7) and a loss to Maritzburg College's 2nd team.

The highlight of the season was the final match against Michaelhouse. After being 0-4 down at the end of the first chukka, the boys dug deep to come out victorious 8-7.

A special thanks to Mr Richard Garret for his assistance and support at practices and matches.

Michael Werth | Coach

4TH TEAM

Regular players: *Jon Braithwaite, Calum Bryson (captain), Hugh Caldwell, Michael Capes, Kenyu Chiang, Oscar Clifton, James Cole, Nick Dalrymple, Jarod du Plessis, Sebastien Gaboreau, Alex Hathorn, Alex Hayward, Harry Jarvie, Riley Lindsay, Minenhle Makhathini, Ethan McCabe, Oskar Michel, Ewan Miskin, James Morrison, Philipp Plate, Dominic Richards, Xander Schlebusch, Charlie Short, Tele Sitoyo, David Sutton, Zac Sweidan, Jordan Udal, Zander Vorster, Chris Wanless, Alex Wesselink, James Youens*

Our 4th team squad showcased exceptional skill and teamwork in every match they played, winning five out of nine. Each player exhibited growth and determination, which contributed to the team's overall success.

I am immensely proud of their commitment, sportsmanship, and enthusiasm in the pool. Their dedication has not only led to commendable performances but has also fostered a strong sense of camaraderie. The reward for me was in seeing the boys develop and thrive.

Thanks to Calum Bryson who captained the 4ths with excellence. I thoroughly enjoyed coaching these young men, each of them displaying true sportsmanship and a love for the game.

Richard Garrett | Coach

5TH TEAM

Regular players: *Oliver Chapple, Kenyu Chiang, James Daniels, James Dent, Charles Fawcett, Jack Guye, Riley Lindsay, Luke Marshall, James Morrison, Xander Schlebusch, Lee Singh, Tele Sitoyo, James Youens*

While the team got to play in only five fixtures in the first term – owing to there being so few schools with our number of open teams – they performed excellently with five wins.

The new, younger players that entered the open age group in 2023 did well to get involved and increase the performance overall.

The fourth term presented an opportunity for us to fine tune our training programme. Without any fixtures, we got to focus on specifics such as zone defence systems, passing and shooting drills, general fitness and legwork.

I am confident that many of the players in this team will play for higher teams in 2024.

Chris Carey | Coach

6TH TEAM

Regular players: *Calum Bryson, Phelele Cele, Nick Dalrymple, Siba Dlamini, Charles Fawcett, Alex Hathorn, Riley Lindsay, Ewan Miskin, Xander Schlebusch, Tele Sitoyo, David Sutton, Zac Sweidan, Zander Vorster, James Youens*

The team's preparation for the season involved fitness and tactical exercises, setting the stage for a physically demanding journey. Noteworthy, however, was the team's high spirits, humour, and determination during these drills. The camaraderie and hubris displayed by each player added to the spirit and it was rewarding to see the boys improve in their fitness and dexterity over the season.

The pinnacle of the season was our match against Kearsney, where we found ourselves falling behind in the first two chukkas. A team chat and change of strategy led to a remarkable victory and earned the team the moniker of the "Comeback Kids".

The team played four games, of which they won two, lost one and drew one.

I could not be prouder of each player. They showed commitment, grappled with team dynamics, and delivered. They have done themselves proud.

Claudia Plunkett | Coach

U15A

Regular players: *Caleb Barradas, Daniel Barradas, Kai Dreyer, Callan Kenmuir, Sebastian Laudenberg, Matthew Mattison, Ndalo Moyo, Musawenkosi Mponda, James Murray, Uyapo Ndwapi, Garrick Phillips, Andrew Schnell*

The team had an exceptional season, surpassing all expectations and emerging as a dominant force in KwaZulu-Natal. Their achievements include being crowned domestic champions and securing the top ranking in the region by the end of the season.

Throughout the season, the team consistently delivered outstanding performances, showcasing their talent and teamwork. Notably, they achieved commendable seventh place finishes at two of the most prestigious U15 tournaments in the country: the Parktown U15 Tournament and the Ian Melliar Cup. These achievements highlight the team's ability to compete at a high level and their determination to excel against formidable opponents.

The season reached its pinnacle with the team's triumph in the domestic trophy at the annual Top 10 Water Polo Tournament. This victory further solidified their status as one of the leading teams in KZN. Additionally, the team concluded the season on a high note with a tightly contested win over their rivals, Michaelhouse, showcasing their resilience and ability to perform under pressure.

In summary, the team won 17 of their 24 games; they lost only six and drew one.

The success of the U15A team can be attributed to their exceptional work ethic and teamwork. Their dedication to improving as individuals and functioning cohesively as a unit was evident throughout the season. Their commitment to each other and their shared goals allowed them to overcome challenges and achieve great success.

I cannot wait to see what lies ahead for this talented group of young men.

Cameron Wiid | Coach

U15B

Regular players: *Ethan Aitken, James Aitken, Rosco Campbell, Guy Fender, Oliver Jarvie, James Lyon, Ward Miles, Patrick Mosimakoko, Khetsa Motsa, Zander Müller, Sebastien Ozoux, William Segar*

The season began with a triangular fixture against St Charles College and Kearsney College. After the disappointing loss of our first match of the season to Kearsney (3-5) in a nail-biting penalty shoot-out, the boys levelled up and took the win against St Charles (9-2). Understanding that our strength ultimately lay in our fitness and ability to outswim our opposition, the team trained incredibly hard to win five of our seven matches and losing only two in the first term.

We clenched convincing wins against Glenwood (11-1) and Curro Hillcrest (10-0) and were able to outplay both Durban High School (6-4) and Michaelhouse (8-6) in the final chukkas of both games. Northwood's attack, however, was fierce and well-calculated and in the end, they walked away with a 9-2 victory. In total this season, we scored an impressive 57 goals and conceded only 20.

The boys are commended for their perseverance and hard work. Our training programme was not easy, and injury and illness often left the team a player or two down. At every turn, they rose to the occasion and should be proud of their efforts.

Lara Rogers | Coach

U14A

Regular players: *Liam Casey, Gabriel Landzanakis, Griffon Le Meme, Karl-Werner Lüderitz, Lwango Ntantala, Rex Schoeman, James Swart (captain), Zhaun Swart, Bradley van Loggerenberg, JD van Wyk*

The U14A team enjoyed an incredible season thanks to their hard work and dedication.

Their journey through the KZN domestic season was nothing short of remarkable, triumphing in every game they played. Standout victories included a commanding 21-2 win against Michaelhouse and a dominant 15-2 victory over Clifton.

Ending term 1 on an extraordinary note, the team swept through the Jeppe festival, showcasing their prowess against formidable opponents such as SACS, St Johns, St Stithians, Kearsney, KES, St Davids and others, leaving an indelible mark on the festival.

As term 3 commenced, the team hit the ground running, investing in rigorous pre-season training in anticipation of the highly awaited Hilton U14 Tournament. As the home team, they rose to the occasion, eliminating various opponents en route to the final, where they narrowly fell short to Rondebosch.

However, their resilience shone brightly as they clinched gold at the KZN Top 10 Tournament, followed by another triumphant gold medal at the Northwood U14 Tournament just two weekends later. This achievement marked the pinnacle of success for the U14A team, leaving an unforgettable legacy.

Each player can take immense pride in their contributions to the team's success, culminating in the finest season experienced by an U14A team at Hilton College. Special thanks to Mr Cameron Wiid for his invaluable assistance throughout the season.

Andrew Duncan | Coach

U14B

Regular players: *Kelso Bolton, Nicholas Eyres, Adam Fitzsimons, Ryan Grobler, Rex Holdsworth, Christopher Job, Sigcobe Magwentshu, Lehumo Modise, Ruan Mulder, Charles Ngunyi, Jack O'Brien, James Robertson, Knox Rutherfoord, Hanlin Shi, Matthew Stott, Makobane Thema*

The U14Bs had an eventful year. First term proved to be an undefeated season with our only draw (5-5) against Clifton, arguably our strongest competitor. Term 4 proved to be more challenging with more losses than we were expecting: an unlucky 6-5 loss against Glenwood High School, 7-11 loss against Kearsney, as well as a 5-5 draw against Northwood. However, the boys showed a real passion for the sport and ended the term off with a 9-4 win against arch-rivals Michaelhouse.

A huge influx of players at the beginning of term four resulted in a large team for the remainder of the year, but they were a welcomed addition. Sigcobe Magwentshu, Makobane Thema, Lehumo Modise, Kelso Bolton and Ruan Mulder joined with enthusiasm and a love of the game.

The players developed well throughout the year, with key players James Robertson, Knox Rutherfoord and Jack O'Brien taking part in a tournament for the U14A team.

In summary, the team played 13 games, won nine, drew two and lost two.

I hope these boys persevere in their water polo careers and look forward to seeing them next year around the pool, where I expect the same positive, promising attitudes.

Brendan Gray | Coach





U14A water polo team – back: *Mr Tony Shuttleworth, Mr Andrew Duncan, Lwango Ntantala, Liam Casey, Griffon Le Meme, Karl-Werner Lüderitz, Bradley van Loggerenberg, James Swart, Mr Cameron Wiid, Mr Brad Anderson*
Front: *Gabriel Landzanakis, Rex Schoeman, Zhaun Swart*


JUNE 16 1990



5 Old Hiltonians

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The Old Hiltonian Club

OLD BOYS AND FRIENDS OF HILTON COLLEGE





CLUB MINUTES

Minutes of the annual general meeting of the Old Hiltonian Club held online on Saturday, 10 June 2023 at 10h00.

Present

Anton Jooste (chairman), George Harris (headmaster), 25 members present electronically, 10 members present by proxy, Brett South (company secretary) and three members of staff.

Apologies

Apologies were received from 10 members.

Devotions

The headmaster recited the school prayer.

Notice, Welcome And Apologies

Notice of the meeting having been duly given, and there being more than the minimum of seven members present as provided for in Clause 16.1 of the Constitution, the 131st meeting was declared open.

Welcome was extended to the honorary president and vice presidents as well as to members and guests. Apologies as recorded were noted.

Approval Of Minutes

The chairman reported that the minutes of the AGM held on 11 June 2022, having been available for inspection at the secretary's office during normal office hours were taken as read, and there being no amendments they were unanimously approved and adopted as a true record of proceedings. There were no matters arising.

Annual Financial Statements

The summary annual financial statements of the club for the year ended 31 December 2022, together with the independent auditor's report having been circulated with the notice of the meeting, were regarded as having been tabled and were taken as read. As no comments, queries, or objections had been received the annual financial statements of the club were unanimously approved and adopted.

Auditors

Messrs. GC Ford & Co. were unanimously re-appointed as the auditors to the club for the ensuing financial year.

Election

There being no other nominations for election received, the following Old Hiltonians were re-elected as members of the national committee for a further year:

Anton Jooste

John Eustace

Tlhogi Dube

Siphiwe Mafereka

Michael Salgado

Ilyaas Mayet

Chairman's Report

The chairman's report as circulated with the notice of the meeting was tabled and taken as read. Following an invitation for comments, as there were no matters raised by attendees, the chairman's comprehensive report was accepted.

Headmaster's Report

The headmaster's report, as circulated and tabled, was taken as read. Following an invitation for comments, as there were no matters raised by attendees, the headmaster's comprehensive report was accepted.

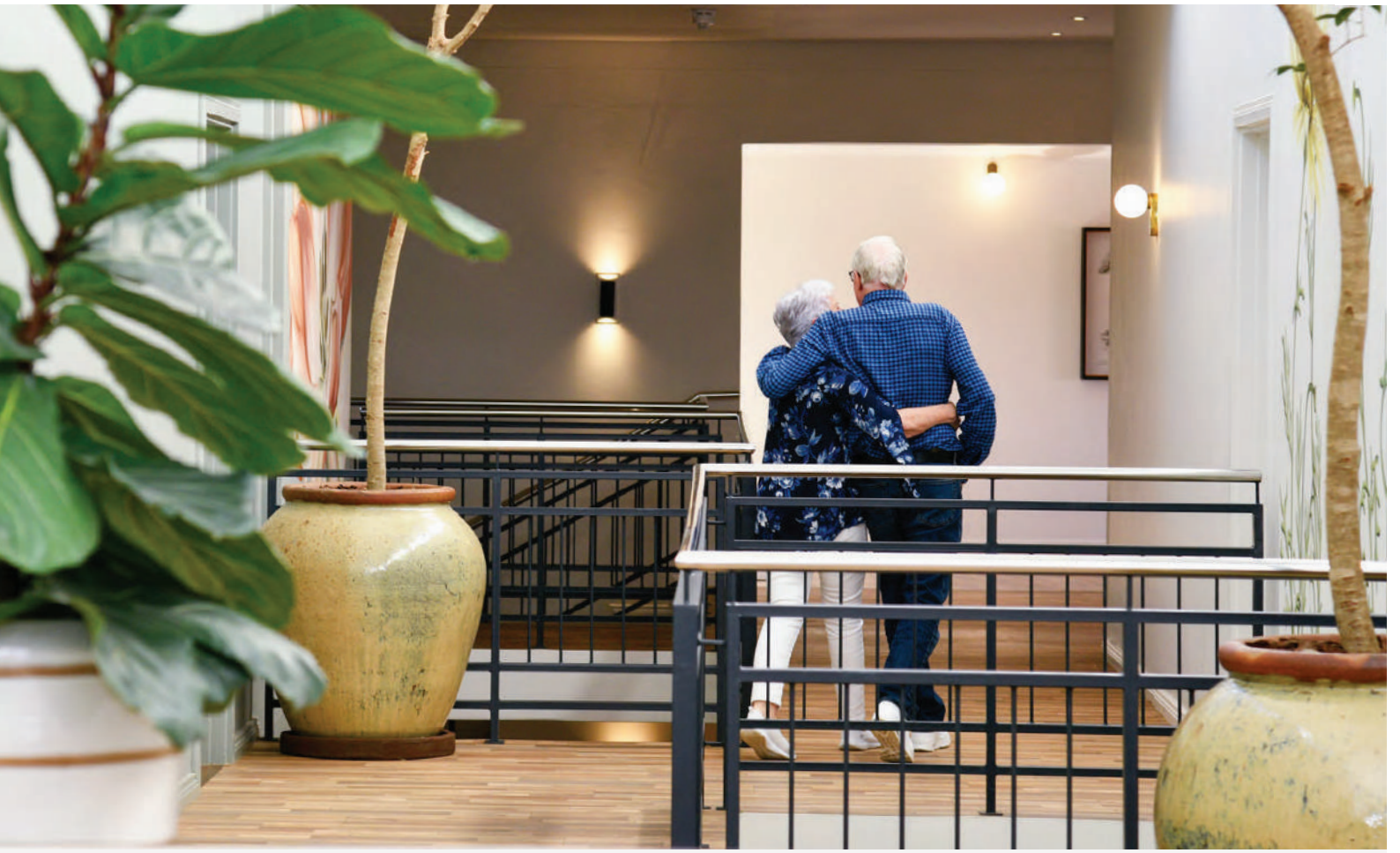
Other Business

Peter Ducasse extended his congratulations to the Advancement team for their hard work in making the school's 150th anniversary celebrations a resounding success.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 10h15.

amber glades

a caring community



SENIOR LIVING *Redefined*

Herdsmore is a family-owned company and we believe in the enduring power of strong, traditional family values. In the development of Amber Glades, we honour our commitment to create a space where a flourishing community truly thrives. Our hands-on management approach reflects the values we hold close to our hearts, ensuring they are not only upheld but also embraced.

Our deep appreciation and understanding of what families hold dear have inspired us to extend an open invitation to all those who share our passion.

We welcome you to come and explore how we have redefined senior living.

For more information, please contact Michele on 078 868 4736 or email info@amberglades.co.za

AN INITIATIVE MADE POSSIBLE BY
OLD MUTUAL ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENTS

OLDMUTUAL

HERDSMORE

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Reunions





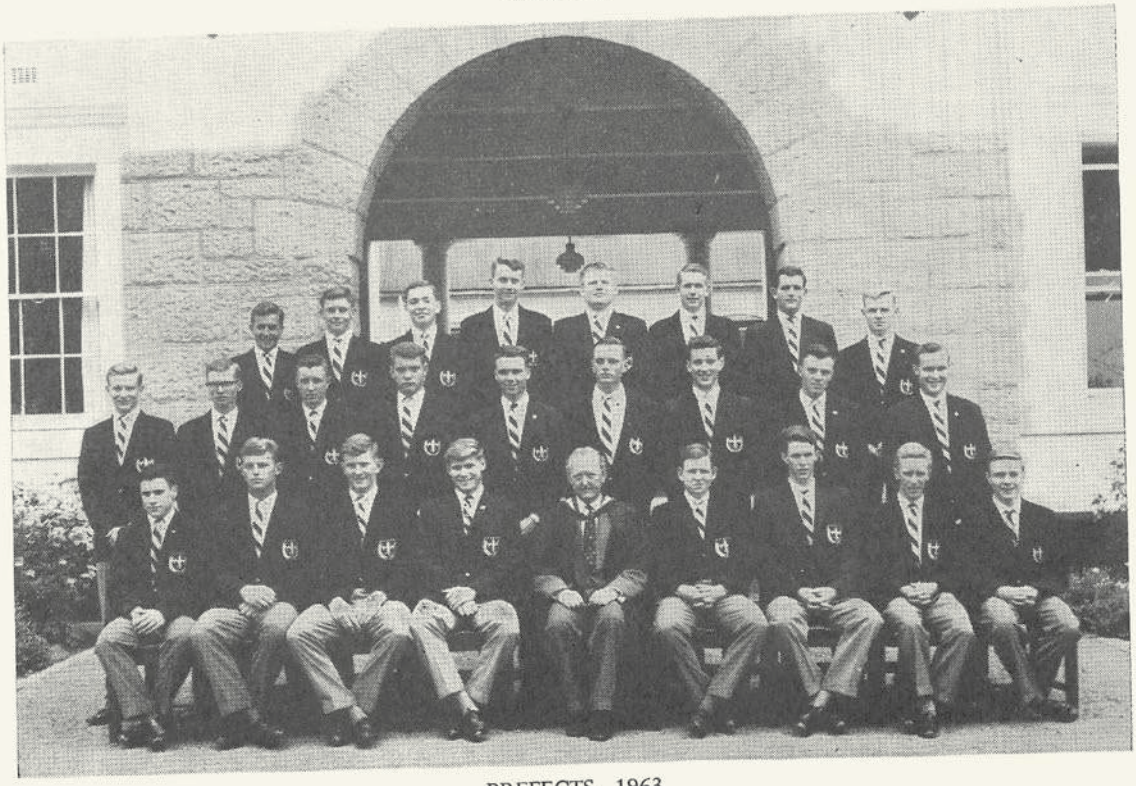
In 2023, we hosted events for alumni celebrating their 60+-year reunion, 45-year reunion and 10-year reunion. We also hosted a Festival of Friends, which saw those who left 20, 30, 40 and 50 years ago gathering for reunions over one weekend.

In early May, the class of 1978 gathered for their 45-year reunion, which was celebrated over a weekend.



The Hilton Year

SALVETE
THE CHAPEL
OBITUARIES
EXAMINATION RESULTS
PRIZE LIST
SPEECH DAY
SCHOOL NOTES
HILTON CADETS
VALETE



PREFECTS, 1963

Back Row: I. D. L. Harcourt-Baldwin, D. W. A. Raw, R. G. Dickson, H. B. C. Shaw, R. S. F. Brown, S. M. Lund, M. J. Ringdahl, I. K. Anderson.

Second Row: A. Greyling, M. R. F. Glennie, P. Arnold, A. J. Grant, N. E. Tones, H. J. D. Otto, A. G. B. Sherwood, R. Tait, B. V. Davidson.

Seated: F. D. Chamberlain, D. M. Essery, J. V. Davies, A. B. Stott (Head of School), The Headmaster, A. G. Trollip (Second Prefect), B. C. Attwood-Smith, A. I. Peter, R. W. Tannahill.

Page Two

Four of the old boys at the 2023 reunion are in this image. They are:

Brian Attwood-Smith, Dawie Chamberlain, Malcolm Glennie and Dorian Harcourt-Baldwin.

In June, alumni who left Hilton College 60 or more years ago were treated to a "Hilton College Experience".

Among the Old Hiltonians and their family members who joined in the festivities were: Graham Armstrong (1963, Pearce), Brian Attwood-Smith (1963 PM, Pearce), Henry Aucock (1956, Newnham), Monty Brett (1958, McKenzie), Kim Brett, Alan Carnegie (1958, McKenzie), Jill Carnegie, Dawie Chamberlain (1963 PM, McKenzie), Min Mackenzie, Philip Chamberlain (1956, McKenzie), Althea Chamberlain, Graeme Crookes (1960, McKenzie), Keith Dent (1960, Newnham), Flo Dent, Roger Don-Wauchope (1957, Churchill), Sally Don-Wauchope, John Drummond-Hay (1956, McKenzie), Beverly Drummond-Hay, Martin Forsyth-Thompson (1964, McKenzie), Glynn Haines (1960, McKenzie), Netty Hill, Dorian Harcourt-Baldwin (1963, Pearce), Annie Harcourt-Baldwin, David Henry (1961, Pearce), Dorothy Henry, Peter Jackson (1964, Ellis), Alastair Johnston (1958 PM, Churchill), Drummond Mackenzie (1961 PM, McKenzie), Brigid Mackenzie, Timothy Morgan (1961, McKenzie), Anthony Nicholson (1960 PM, Churchill), Henry Otto (1964 PM, Pearce), Yvonne Otto, Roger Pike (1957, Churchill), Jen Howson, Brian Radford (1959, Newnham), Michael Ryan (1959, Churchill), Rae Stewart (1962 PM, Falcon), Vincent Taylor (1961, Ellis), Pam Taylor, Peter Thorburn (1960, Ellis), Barbara Thorburn, Rodney Tweedie (1964 PM, Newnham), Richard Westwood (1960, Churchill), Alexa Westwood, Raymond White (1958 PM, Churchill).









10-YEAR REUNION

Also in June, we hosted on campus alumni who left Hilton only a decade ago.

We loved having you back on your old stomping ground! Thank you for making the effort, gentlemen. Old Hiltonians who made it to the reunion included: Patrick Bartlett, Bryce Bentley, Darryn Bentley, Angus Butler, Campbell Caley, Stuart Campbell-Gillies, Devan Chamberlain, Daniel Cole, Marius De Villiers, Dean Fahn, Mark Gunn, Sibusiso Hlanguza, Matthew Holding, Christopher Kennedy, Stuart Leathern, Murray Lovemore, Thabang Ndawonde, Keabetswe Ndlovu, Nathi Ndlovu, Ziviwe Ntobongwana, Simon Purdon, Jaeger Richmond, Michael Salgado, Tyron Searle, Kyle Sinclair, Steven Teichmann and Cameron Wright. ***(Right)***





During the Festival of Friends weekend in June, groups celebrating their 20-year, 30-year, 40-year, and 50-year reunions gathered.

20-YEAR REUNION

Mike Arthur, Ian Cunningham, Murray Beattie, Rob Cook, Rowan Louw, Tom Lovett, Howie Ford, Reg Jelliman, Sbu Thusi, Neil McWilliams, Murray Saunders, Bongi Nsindane, Grant Rawson, Dave Perks, Rhett Finch, James Williams, Paul Fulton Scott Dyson, Ryan Shillaw. ***(Below)***





ROLLING 30-YEAR REUNION

The class of 1993's reunion was a two-year affair, merging a rowdy 150th celebration in 2022 with our 30-year anniversary in 2023.

For both occasions, folks travelled from the farthest corners of the globe – Russia, Seychelles, USA, Singapore, England, and Cedarville, among others.

The Henley Lapa provided the perfect venue for great friends to reunite and share tales of dorm raids, bunking out, calls to St Anne's from attic pay phones, and the legendary Russell Winship escapades.

A stunning sunset, a flawlessly roasted East Griqualand lamb, and stories around the fire kept us laughing and reminiscing till the early hours!

The 150th was a lively, rowdy affair – watching the 1sts hockey and rugby teams provided great entertainment and bragging rights against our mates on the hill. Hilton fought back fiercely in the 2023 rematch, reminding us never to bet on this much-anticipated fixture.

It was an absolute blast for everyone involved, reconnecting friendships and reminding us of the unique magic that Hilton College holds.



Back: *Richard Heiss, Adrian Schoemann, Simon Tennant, Geoff Linnell, Kevin Hardy, Brian Brett*
Middle: *Tim Gibson, Myles Hoppe, Russell Winship, Lutwa Gwilt*
Front: *Kurt Hold, Paul de Bruyn, Clive Manqele*



Seated: *Fearne Gilson, Ryan Plumb, Kurt Hold, Adrian Schoemann, Paul de Bruyn, Ryan Mitchell*
On wall from left: *Russell Winship, Guy Bastard, CJ Porter*





From left: *Paul de Bruyn, Simon Tennant, Adrian Schoemann, Russell Winship, Kurt Hold*



Back: *Geoff Linnell, Kevin Hardy, CJ Porter, Kurt Hold, Adrian Schoemann, Matt Pennefather, Rickard Heiss, Guy Bastard*
Front: *Myles Hoppe, Ryan Mitchell, Paul de Bruyn, Lutwa Gwilt, Russ Winship, Ryan Plumb, Simon Tennant, Fearne Gilson*



Back: *Paul de Bruyn, Fearne Gilson, Myles Hoppe, Richard Heiss*
Front: *Ryan Plumb, CJ Porter, Geoff Linnell, Brian Brett*

40-YEAR REUNION

The class of 1983's reunion was a wonderful celebration of friendship.

Hilton/MHS Rugby: Sean Segar, Rory Sharp, Mike Harty, Mark Stewart, James Gilfillan, Stuart Wortley, William Bryant, Rob Guy, Nick Davies, Grant Warren, Pete McKenzie, Brett Armstrong, Alex Larsen, Rob Barrett.

Festival of Friends: Sean Segar, Alex Larsen, Brett Armstrong, Rob Guy, Andrew Johnston, Grant Warren, Nick Davies, Mike Harty, Mark Stewart, Rory Sharp, Chris Attwood.





Branch Events

Hilton College alumni are a collegial and connected lot! In 2023, nine out of 12 branches around the world hosted events, reconnecting old friends and celebrating the Hiltonian spirit.



UNDERBERG, KWAZULU-NATAL

Old Hiltonians and prospective parents joined Headmaster George Harris in Underberg, KwaZulu-Natal for an engaging evening in March. The event provided a platform for old boys to catch up on the latest school developments, while prospective parents gained valuable insights into Hilton College's ethos.



CAPE TOWN, WESTERN CAPE

The Western Cape branch hosted a successful joint event for Old Hiltonians and prospective parents in May in the Mother City. Alumni enjoyed the opportunity to reconnect, network with fellow Hiltonians, and welcome new families to our growing community.



LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

The annual Hilton, Michaelhouse, and Bishops Old Boys' Golf Day was hosted at Silvermere Golf Club in Cobham in mid-June, bringing together alumni for a day of friendly competition and networking. It was a great day of rekindling old friendships and building new ones within the South African school community in the UK.



SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

The Australia branch of alumni hosted a fabulous get-together at the Sydney Opera Bar in early July. Old Hiltonians revelled in good company, insightful conversation with Headmaster George Harris, and the stunning harbour views.



AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

Old Hiltonians gathered in Auckland, New Zealand in July, to spend time with Headmaster George Harris and his wife Vicki. The evening buzzed with warm conversations, a heartfelt address from George, and a touch of local Kiwi culture!



JOHANNESBURG, GAUTENG

In September, Hilton College hosted a special event to honour some of our most generous benefactors. The dinner, which was hosted at Glenda's in Hyde Park – owned by the wife of Old Hiltonian Tony Lederle (1974, Churchill) – was a heartwarming evening filled with gratitude and fellowship. Like many top independent schools, Hilton College relies heavily on the support of benefactors. Their generosity has not only built our superb facilities, but more importantly, it has transformed the lives of countless boys who have received a life-changing Hilton College education. Are you interested in making a difference in a young man's life? Learn more about supporting our school and its mission at **https://hiltoncollege.com/giving-back/**



ZULULAND, KWAZULU-NATAL

The Zululand branch hosted two fantastic events in one epic weekend in September! Old Hiltonians and their partners kicked things off with a reunion at Vista Lagoa Restaurant in Mtunzini. Headmaster George Harris and his wife Vicki joined the festivities, making it a night filled with warm camaraderie and catching up. The next morning, the focus shifted to family fun with a Dads and Lads Fishing Competition at New Mouth near Richard's Bay. While a number of impressive fish were caught (and released), the true prize was the day spent bonding, laughing, and dodging a few bees during boat loading! Huge thanks to Mark Hathorn and Dave Bell for organizing these stellar events, and to all the Zululand Old Hiltonians who participated. We can't wait for the next one!





BRISBANE, AUSTRALIA

Old Hiltonians in the Brisbane/Gold Coast area got together for a brew-tiful evening in late October! Dr Alexei du Bois, Hilton College's Director of International Learning, joined the crew at Newstead Brewing Co. for an engaging chat and some Aussie cheer.



LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

Old Hiltonians in the UK reconnected in early November at formal and informal events in London, where they caught up with fellow alumni and Headmaster George Harris. Everyone enjoyed a memorable time reminiscing about school days and hearing the latest news from Hilton College. Thanks to Simon Ellis, Matt Bell, and Chris Trenchard for orchestrating these successful events, and of course, a big shout-out to all the Old Hiltonians who attended! We look forward to the next one!

Valetes 2023



STUART BAKER (McKenzie)

Head of dining hall | 2nd team cricket | 2nd team hockey.

Hilton taught me values that I will carry for the rest of my life. Coming into Grade 8 there are a few lessons that you learn quickly, like showing respect not only for the older schoolboys but the teachers and the boys in your grade. I learned how to converse with people with different personalities and interests, which enabled me to make friends and brothers.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study business science at UCT or a BCom in management science: investment management at Stellies.

JORDAN BENIANS (Newnham)

4th team water polo.

Hilton taught me to learn from the experiences that the school has to offer.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study a BCom through IMM in Stellenbosch and to get my commercial helicopter pilot's license and a private fixed wing pilot's license.

JOSHUA BLACK (Churchill)

Head of house spirit and entertainment | Half-colours for academics | 2nd team hockey.

Hilton taught me how to get out of my comfort zone; to make the most of any opportunity; how to be independent; and to strive to achieve.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study business science agricultural economics and management at Stellies.

ROSS BOAST (Ellis)

Academic colours in Grade 11 | Top 7 dinner in Grade 9 | 80% average every year | 1st team cricket.

Hilton has allowed me to grow as a person and a leader. It has given me the tools to succeed and taught me that privilege comes with the expectation to succeed.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study investment management at Stellies and to pursue my cricket career.

GREG BRAITHWAITE (Churchill)

3rd team rugby.

Hilton taught me to make the most of every opportunity and to give of my best.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To go to Hotel Institute Montreux, Switzerland, and to study a BA in business administration.

JONATHAN BRAITHWAITE (Falcon)

Full colours for academics | 5th team rugby | 5th team water polo.

Hilton taught me that when there's a job to be done, no one is going to do it for you, you have to do it yourself. I learned how to take care of myself and those around me and to always keep my chin up and smile.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: to study industrial engineering at Stellies.

OSCAR BREDENKAMP (Churchill)

Choir | 5th team rugby | 6th and 7th team soccer | 3rd team water polo.

Hilton taught me respect for self and others is the way of life.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To go to Tuks.

JONO BREGMAN-FRANGOS (Falcon)

1st team water polo | 4th team rugby.

Hilton taught me the importance of relationships. This school is a place of opportunity to develop yourself with the aid of others and aid in the development of others. This is a unique characteristic of the school and its boys for which I will forever be grateful.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study industrial engineering at Stellies.

MURRAY BRINK (Ellis)

Gold President's Award | 1st team rugby | 1st team water polo.

Hilton taught me to cherish the memories I have made here, from making my bed to showing respect to my elders, shaking the headmaster's hand with a firm grip and looking him in the eye, to the laughs in the house and the dying moments of a Hilton v Michealhouse fixture. This place is truly special. Hilton gives you the opportunity to learn, play, think, problem solve, connect and grow. I am proud to be part of Hilton College. I am proud to be a Hilton boy.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at Stellies.

BUTHULWAZI BUTHELEZI (Falcon)

A-Level commendation (2022) | Debating (2019) | Choir (2019–2021) | Piano (2019) | Saxophone (2020) | 2nd team hockey | 2nd team soccer | 4th team water polo.

Hilton taught me to be supportive and caring and that it's okay to ask for help. But above all, two major values: respect for others and self-discipline.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study medicine or biochemistry in eastern Europe or Canada

JAMES CAMPBELL (McKenzie)

Form 1 dormitory leader | Half-colours for golf (2023) | Headmaster's leadership Award (2023) | Bagnall leadership trophy (2023) | Emerging Golfer of the Year (2023) | Vice-captain of golf (2023) | 2nd team cricket | 6th and 7th team rugby.

Hilton has shaped me into a person I never thought I could be. I have learned sporting skills and leadership skills and developed into a well-rounded man ready for what the future holds!

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study a BCom in marketing management science at Stellies.

MICHAEL CAPES (Falcon)

Honours for academics | 1st team rugby | 2nd team basketball | 3rd team water polo | 6th and 7th team soccer.

Hilton taught me independence and that you need to find comfort in discomfort in order to survive.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study BAcc at Stellies.

NICHOLAS CHANTLER (Lucas)

1st team cricket | 1st team hockey.

Hilton taught me that consistency is key and that hard work is never wasted. I've learned the skill of building relationships with different types of people and the importance of honest relationships. I've been given the opportunity to play sport at the highest level, which comes with loads of pressure, which is when I learnt my most valuable lessons.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study in the UK and to play cricket while I am studying.

JAMES COLE (McKenzie)

Richard Jonsson Award (2023) | 2nd team water polo.

Hilton taught me to take all the opportunities that come my way and to stay disciplined in everything I do.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study marketing and supply chain management at IMM in Stellenbosch.

ADAM COLE (Churchill)

Half-colours for academics (2023) | Accommodation Award (2023) | Grade 11 EGAD Prize | 5th team basketball | 6th and 7th team hockey.

Hilton taught me to stand up for and believe in myself, and the rewards of hard work.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To take a gap year to expose myself to different opportunities before deciding on the best future for me.

VICTOR COMPTON (Churchill)

Head of estate (2023) | Adventure race (2023) | 4th team rugby | Estate Prize (2019).

Hilton taught me that consistency and patience influence the outcome. Mr [Mike] Mill taught me to be adaptable because life will throw curveballs your way.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: Undecided.

HLUMELO CONJWA (Ellis)

Half-colours for marimba (2023) | Competition Marimba Band (2023) | 5th team basketball | 5th team water polo | 6th and 7th team rugby | Junior Marimba Band (2020) | Piano (2021, 2020, 2019).

Hilton taught me that the world does not wait for one person. I have learnt that surrounding yourself with the right people is one of the best things you can do for yourself.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study BSc property studies at UCT.

BRETT CUTTING (Lucas)

1st team cricket | 2nd team hockey.

Hilton taught me how to be a man, a good friend, a good brother, a good son, and in the future a good father. Hilton has taught me to be grateful for the opportunities I have been given and to take every opportunity that comes my way with both hands.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To go to Tuks and study a BCom and play sport.

JAMES DANIELS (Lucas)

A2 DELF exam certificate (2023) | 2nd team soccer | 3rd team water polo | 4th team hockey.

Hilton taught me the importance of adaptability. I was constantly challenged to adapt, whether it was through diverse coursework or interactions with a culturally diverse student body. The commitment to excellence at Hilton fuelled my ambition to strive for the highest standards and the encouragement to pursue innovation and critical thinking enhanced my problem-solving skills and fostered a mindset of continuous improvement. The lessons learned here go far beyond academic knowledge, encompassing adaptability, teamwork, excellence, and the importance of meaningful relationships. These lessons will serve as a solid foundation as I embark on the next chapter of my journey.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands.

MATIPA DENENGA (Lucas)

1st team cricket | 1st team soccer | 2nd team rugby.

Hilton helped me develop my faith in God as I had the opportunity to be surrounded by boys who had the same interest in knowing God.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study law while playing cricket at Stellies.

JASON DIX (McKenzie)

Half-colours for academics | Half-colours for rugby | 1st team rugby | 2nd team cricket.

Hilton taught me to value the memories I made with the boys.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at Stellies.

JAROD DU PLESSIS (Falcon)

2nd team soccer | 4th team rugby | 4th team water polo.

Hilton taught me how to be disciplined and how to conduct myself when faced with tasks and troubles.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: The young minds programme at the Stellenbosch University Business School with a view to a career in property.

MATTHEW EMMOTT (Ellis)

3rd team soccer.

Hilton taught me: Being in the rowing squad taught me a lot about working together as one and persevering through the storm (literally), whilst being in a dorm environment created unforgettable memories and lifelong bonds.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at UCT and join the U23 Rowing National Squad.

ROELOF ENGELBRECHT (Lucas)

1st team rugby.

Hilton taught me to hold myself accountable to my morals and goals, to push myself to the limit, and that effort is way more important than skill.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To go to Tuks to study BAcc and play rugby for the Blue Bulls.

ZUKHANYE FATYI (Falcon)

3rd team rugby | 4th team cricket | 4th team soccer.

Hilton taught me that regardless of your background, when you are in a position of privilege, it's your responsibility to uplift all those in your sphere of influence.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study engineering at UCT.

OLIVIER GABOREAU (Lucas)

Grade 10 dorm cop | 2nd team rugby.

Hilton taught me to take responsibility for and ownership of my actions; that life is about being a team player and not just an individual, and the importance of brotherhood.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To keep on moving, no matter what.

MIHLE GAZI (Churchill)

2nd team rugby.

Hilton gifted to me a treasured and transformative chapter in my life. The past five years have been an incredible journey of growth, learning, and cherished memories. Hilton has been a second home where lasting friendships were forged. From late-night study sessions to cheering on our teams at spirited events, every moment is etched in my memory. The dedicated faculty and diverse academic opportunities have not only expanded my knowledge but shaped my perspective on the world.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study law at UCT.

KIERAN GRIFFIN (Lucas)

Top in subject music (2023) | Vocal ensemble | Jazz band | 4th team hockey.

Hilton taught me good manners and self-discipline which will help me succeed in life. I also learned how to juggle work and free time.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study accounting at Stellies.

BENJAMIN GUIMARAENS (Newnham)

Colours for academics (2023) | 5th team basketball | 5th team hockey | Senior Verse Prize (2023, 2022) | Commendation certificate (2022) | Half-colours for academics (2022) | Derek Veentra Prize (2021) | EGAD Prize (2021) | Academic commendation Prize (2019).

Hilton taught me how to deal with people.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at Tuks.

KWANELE GUMBI (Churchill)

3rd team soccer | 4th team hockey.

Hilton taught me to enjoy the journey of life with my friends, in particular, my dorm mates. We bonded as a dorm during the Grade 10 camp experience, which solidified relationships that will last a lifetime.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study law at UCT.

JACK HAMPSON (Pearce)

Half-colours for academics (2023) | Head of house | 1st team water polo | 2nd team rugby.

Hilton taught me that patience and perseverance always leads to greatness and having manners will get you a long way in life. The people I have met and the friends I have made here will forever be with me, wherever I go. Certain teachers, like Mr [Paul] Venter, want the best for the boys and find ways to make our time here memorable. Students like Khanya Mhlongo have taught me a lot about the business world and sparked my interest in it. I will dearly miss singing of O Boys Of Hilton. The feeling of unity that it evokes will remain with me forever. I will dearly miss Hilton College. Thank you, Hilton College.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study towards a BCom in mathematics at Stellies.

LUKE HANCOCK (Churchill)

Form 1 dorm cop | Headmaster's Award (Level 3) | Life sciences Prize (2023) | 3rd team hockey | 3rd team water polo | Mathematics Prize (2022) | Further studies mathematics Prize (2022).

Hilton taught me: 'Swiss neat and Swiss timing" – Mr Ernie Steenkamp. And, if you want something badly enough, you'll put in the effort.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study medicine at Wits.

GUY HARCOURT (Pearce)

Colours for academics (2023) | Belonging Committee | Christian Fellowship Committee | 4th team cricket | 4th team hockey | 4th team soccer | Half-colours for academics (2022) | Academic commendation Prize (2022) | Debating (2021).

Hilton taught me that with hard work anything is possible, to believe in myself, and to always give 100% in whatever I do. Furthermore, Hilton has taught me to interact with boys from different backgrounds. Hilton's spiritual foundations have taught me to place my trust in God.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study law at Stellies.

ANDREW HARDING (Pearce)

3rd team hockey | 4th team cricket | 6th and 7th team soccer.

Hilton taught me to cherish the moment.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study BCom in financial accounting at Stellies.

DANIEL HATHORN (Ellis)

Form 2 dorm cop | Honours for academics | 2nd team rugby | 2nd team soccer | 3rd team water polo | A-Level history Prize | AS-Level economics.

Hilton taught me traditional values of respect and discipline. It has also helped me to become better at working and living in an environment with people you may not get along with, which will be very beneficial to me in the future.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study business science at UCT.

MATTHEW HAYES (Newnham)

Colours for academics | Ambassador Award | Head of sport | Headmaster's leadership Award | 1st team water polo | 4th team rugby.

Hilton taught me to take advantage of all that is available to me and has gifted me with many memories and friends that I'll cherish forever.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at Stellies.

JORDAN HEIN (Lucas)

1st team rugby | 1st team water polo | Colours for water polo (2022).

Hilton has given me unforgettable memories with friends. I could not have asked for a better five years.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To take a gap year in New Zealand.

DALE HERBERT (McKenzie)

1st team hockey | 2nd team cricket | 2nd team soccer.

Hilton taught me to never give up.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at IMM.

TRISTAN HOCKLY (Falcon)

Honours for academics | Grade 8 dorm cop | 2nd team cricket | 4th team rugby | Silver President's Award (2022) | Top 7 (2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019).

Hilton taught me about people, power and leadership. Hilton made me into a man, equipping me with the necessary skills for the future success of my family.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at Stellenbosch University.

DANIEL HOLTZHAUZEN (Ellis)

1st team soccer | 2nd team hockey | Art prac and theory Prize (2023) | Art prac Prize (2022, 2021).

Hilton taught me how to lead myself. I used to be frustrated at having to fold my clothes, make my bed and tidy my area, but now I realise how important the minor organizational skills are to becoming successful.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To go to university.

CHRISTOPHER HORAK (Lucas)

1st team rugby | 4th team water polo.

Hilton taught me the power and importance of relationships. At Hilton I met a wide variety of people with whom I now have very good relationships, from the staff to the boys and parents. They have all contributed to my growth and I'll forever be grateful to them. Hilton has also taught me to be humble in victory and gracious in defeat, and to be more grateful for what I have. My parents have made a huge sacrifice to send me to this wonderful school and I cannot put into words how thankful I am. I leave Hilton knowing I've made the most of my journey and hopefully inspired some people along the way.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To play for The Sharks, study a BCom and get my pilot's license.

BUNONO JABAVU (Ellis)

1st team rugby | 6th and 7th team soccer.

Hilton taught me to trust the process. I want to die with memories rather than dreams. I have learnt the value of being present in the moment, rather than trying to anticipate the future.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study a BCom at the University of Western Cape and to play rugby for the U20 junior team.

ROBERT JAMES (Pearce)

3rd team cricket | 5th team rugby | 5th team soccer.

Hilton taught me the value of diverse experiences and to have respect for different perspectives and backgrounds. Hilton College has taught me to be an upstanding young man.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: Quest.

TAYEDZA JARAVAZA (Newnham)

Commitment to French Prize | 1st team rugby.

Hilton taught me the power of brotherhood and camaraderie – and being open to possibility. There is always more to come.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To go to college in America.

NATAN JOUBERT-BOUWER (Falcon)

Head of String Ensemble (2023) | Orchestra | Debating | Choir.

Hilton taught me that who you are becoming is what matters.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: Study at university.

OLIVER JOYNER (McKenzie)

Head of house | 2nd team water polo (vice-captain) | 5th team rugby (vice-captain) | Full colours for academics (2023) | Marketing Tie (2023) | Leadership Award (2023) | Routes to Resilience (2022) | Top 7 (2021, 2020, 2019)

Hilton taught me to take advantage of every opportunity that comes my way. Hilton has also taught me the importance of friendships and relationships. I am leaving Hilton with a brotherhood of friends, which shows how this magnificent school can unite people by a brotherhood and bond them by a story.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study mechanical engineering at UCT.

RONAN KEOGH (Churchill)

Dorm cop | Half-colours for academics (2023) | Debating (2019).

Hilton taught me to be understanding and flexible. Being a dorm cop taught me to always be open to a second opinion. And living in a dorm has taught me to be more tolerant of others.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study engineering at Stellies.

KEARABETSWE KHOELE (Pearce)

Half-colours for academics | Head of wellbeing and blood drive (2023) | 1st team hockey | 2nd team soccer | 5th team basketball.

Hilton taught me that your network is your net worth. Consistent work is better than inconsistent hard work, and opportunities are always presenting themselves, you just have to find them.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study business sciences at UCT.

ZIMELE KHUMALO (Ellis)

1st team basketball | 2nd team soccer | 3rd team hockey | Honours for academics | Subject Prize for mathematics | Top 7 academic achiever (2023, 2022, 2021, 2020) | French Delf A1 (2022) | Subject Prizes for accounting, physical sciences and French (2022) | Sir Henry Strakosch Award for mathematics and physical sciences (2021).

Hilton taught me the importance of consideration.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study an undergraduate degree in computer science or electrical engineering at UCT. I hope to complete my degree at MIT in the USA.

ZAKHELE KHUMALO (Ellis)

Debating 1st team (vice-captain) | 1st team soccer | 2nd team basketball | 3rd team hockey | Prestige Marimba Band (2023) | Christian Fellowship Choir (2023, 2022).

Hilton taught me to be patient and intentional with my work. I've also learnt to put others first and I firmly believe that with God anything is possible.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study BCom Law at Stellenbosch University.

JOEL KITSHOFF (Pearce)

Full colours for academics (2023) | Subject Prize for geography (2023) | Head of academics and administration in the house | 1st team hockey | 5th team soccer | Bronze President's Award (2022) | Half-colours for academics (2022).

Hilton taught me to take advantage of the opportunities I have been given and nurture personal growth from them. Over time, I've learned to value and cherish friends and people who put a lot of effort into my being here. I've also learnt the power of respect in developing those around you as well as yourself.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study medicine at the University of Free State and to play hockey at university level and in the annual USSA tournaments.

BEN KOK (Falcon)

2nd team water polo | 4th team rugby | Top 7 academics (2019–2023) | Honours for academics (2022) | Honours for culture (2022).

Hilton taught me the value of community. To live with 17 other boys in the same space for five years teaches you how to grow with and understand people. It sharpens your skills. You learn to function as a collective and grow into the responsibilities that come with representing something bigger than yourself.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study in the UK or USA.

TAWANDA KUGOTSI (Churchill)

Colours for academics | Commendation for academics | Form 1 dorm cop | 1st team basketball | Ambassador's Award (basketball) | 3rd team rugby.

Hilton taught me the soft skills needed to take on the many challenges in life. My time at Hilton was one of the most crucial developmental chapters of my life, forming the basis for the man I have become. It has given me opportunities to excel in life. I am eternally grateful for being part of such a community and family.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study a Bachelor of business science specialising in finance and accounting at UCT.

AKHONA KUNENE (Newnham)

1st team rugby.

Hilton taught me that hard work is fundamental in all aspects of life.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To prove to myself that I'm worthy of all my dreams.

ONKE KWEYAMA (Pearce)

Headmaster's Award for leadership (2023) | 2nd team cricket | 2nd team rugby | 2nd team soccer | Colours for culture (2022) | Service tie (2022) | Cultural tie (2022) | Joseph and the Amazing Technicoloured Dreamcoat (2022) | CF Band (2023, 2022) | Choir (2020, 2019).

Hilton taught me independence and the importance of trying new things and taking opportunities. At Hilton you learn the true meaning of giving back and using your privilege to help others. Hilton also taught me how to work hard to reach my full potential. Mr [James] Webb was a very influential person in my life; he helped me realise that I have the ability to do well in all that I do. I am forever grateful to him.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study psychology and get into e-commerce and real estate later in life.

LEBO LEGODI (Churchill)

Honours for academics (2023) | 4th team basketball | 4th team hockey | Computer Olympiad Silver Certificate (2023) | IT Prize (2022).

Hilton taught me that there is always an opportunity to learn from those around you. It has also instilled in me a sense of humility, and to value and respect the friends, family, and people who provide assistance in life, no matter how little or how much.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at UCT.

HLONIE LETHOLE (Churchill)

2nd team basketball | 3rd team hockey | 3rd team soccer.

Hilton taught me to be strong when facing challenges. Everyone is on a different path, and the key to success is doing your best. I can have confidence knowing that trying my best is a success in and of itself.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study a BCom at the University of Pretoria.

THABELO LETJAMA (McKenzie)

Level 2 leadership Award | 2nd team basketball | 3rd team rugby.

Hilton taught me to persevere through challenges.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To pursue a career in real estate.

CAINE LETSCHERT (Lucas)

1st team water polo | 2nd team rugby | Choir | Vocal ensemble | Orchestra.

Hilton taught me to appreciate the smaller gestures and things in life, for if I can appreciate these smaller things, I'll never be at risk of losing my happiness.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at Stellies.

WIAN LIEBENBERG (Pearce)

1st team cricket | 1st team hockey | 1st team soccer | Half-colours for academics (2022).

Hilton taught me how to deal with a variety of people with diverse perspectives and backgrounds.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study psychology at Durham or Exeter in the UK.

IVAN LOCKEM (Ellis)

Form 1 dorm cop | 1st team cricket (vice-captain) | 1st team rugby.

Hilton taught me how to look after myself and given me tools to be better than those around me in the future.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To play cricket in Australia and then to study.

HYLTON LÖTTER (Churchill)

1st team cricket | 1st team soccer | 3rd team rugby | House leadership Award | Academic extension programme (2021).

Hilton taught me key values such as determination and humility. However, learning to interact and build friendships with boys of different cultures and backgrounds within a dorm environment is what I will take away from my time at the school. This has opened by mind to many differing opinions and perspectives and helped me better understand the complex and divided world we live in.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study agricultural economics at Stellies.

DEAN MACLEOD-HENDERSON (Newnham)

1st team water polo | Most Valuable Player (water polo) | 2nd team rugby.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: Quest.



KUKHANYA MAHLANGU (Lucas)

1st team basketball | 4th team soccer | 5th team hockey | Marimba band (captain) | Honours for marimba (2022).

Hilton taught me to be determined and resilient – to do my best to achieve and follow through with every goal I set for myself, no matter how daunting or challenging. Going to the gym with my fellow dorm mates as well as extra lessons with teachers to be in the best shape and academic form of my life is a testament to these lessons.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To go to the UK.

MINENHLE MAKHATHINI (Ellis)

3rd team soccer | 3rd team water polo | 4th team rugby | Half-colours for academics (2023) | Commitment to French Prize (2023) | French Prize (2023) | Distinction for Delf French exam (2022) | Bass guitar (2023, 2022) | Backstage crew for Joseph (2022) | Junior marimba band (2020, 2019).

Hilton taught me to manage my emotions and to persevere. Watching local boys travel home each weekend and return happy, I learnt to love school and love myself to keep happy.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study a BCom in accounting at Stellies or Wits.

SENATHI MAKOLA (Lucas)

A-Level chemistry (2023) | Honours for academics (2023) | Competition Marimba Band (2023) | Half-colours for marimba | 2nd team basketball | 3rd team soccer | 5th team rugby | Senior debating (2023, 2022) | AS physics (2022) | AS chemistry (2022) | Commendation Prize (2023, 2019) | Top 4 in the grade (2019).

Hilton taught me to value being part of a collective and how to grow and mature with different people with diverse perspectives. I've learnt that I am my own person, unique in my own way. All of us can carve out for ourselves a niche.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study computer science in the US and to expand my online business venture.

OLIVER MANN (Pearce)

3rd team basketball | 4th team hockey | 5th team soccer.

Hilton taught me the value of friendships. Some of the friendships formed at Hilton are for life. Boarding enabled me to go to my friends' rooms to talk and relax when I took a break from work; it really helped me bond with my dorm mates.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To do a bachelor's degree in game design at Vega School in Cape Town.

LUKE MARSHALL (Falcon)

5th team hockey | 5th team rugby | 5th team soccer | 5th team water polo.

Hilton taught me the true meaning of brotherhood.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To go to Quest in Zimbabwe.

RUBEN MARX (Churchill)

Honours for academics (2023) | Normand Dunn Art Prize | 2nd team rugby | 3rd team water polo | Academic commendation (2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019).

Hilton taught me how to deal with people, including those who aren't nice to you.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study in the Cape.

CALEB MC DONALD (Lucas)

3rd team water polo | 6th and 7th team rugby.

Hilton taught me many life skills, including time management and how to treat people. Living in a dorm taught me the importance of being kind to everyone, because you don't always know how people are feeling. Mr [AC] Blume, my housemaster from Grades 8 to 10, taught us this on our arrival at Hilton and I now understand why.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study law at Varsity College in Cape Town.

BENJAMIN MCGUIGAN (Lucas)

Form 2 dorm cop | Community rep in the house | Physical sciences Prize (2023) | 1st team hockey | 2nd team cricket | 3rd team soccer.

Hilton taught me how to properly worship God and how to form connections with my peers. I have made some lifelong friendships with amazing people like Noah Ravalomanana, Jason Sasse and Daniel Holzhauzen.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study chemical engineering at Stellies.

CAMPBELL MCKENZIE (McKenzie)

3rd team cricket | 6th and 7th team rugby | 6th and 7th team soccer.

Hilton taught me that tough times don't last forever, and they are a lot easier to get through with the friends you make at this school.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at IMM.

NIC MCLEOD (McKenzie)

Form 1 dorm cop | Headmaster's leadership Award | 2nd team hockey (captain) | 2nd team cricket | Academic commendation | Half-colours for academics | Silver President's Award (2022).

Hilton taught me courage and determination. I have learnt this through teachers and coaches such as Mr [Francois] Morgan, Mr [Paul] Venter and Mr [Brett] Armstrong, teaching us old values that inspire boys to be more passionate and have more grit, whether on the sports field or in the classroom.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study investment management at Stellies.

AKHA MDA (McKenzie)

1st team basketball | 1st team hockey | 1st team soccer | Sesquicentennial players player (2023).

Hilton's Director of Hockey, Mr [Devon] van der Merwe, taught me that discipline is key to long-term success! I'll never forget that.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To do a business management course.

KHANYA MHLONGO (Churchill)

Deputy Head of School (2023) | DUX scholar (2023) | Honours for academics (2023) | History essay Prize (2023) | Debating 1st team captain (2023) | 3rd team basketball | 5th team rugby | 5th team soccer | Subject Prizes for history, economics and English (2023, 2022) | Honours for debating (2022) | SA Senior A Team (2022) | SA Junior A Team (2021) | English Prize (2021) | Academic Extension Programme (2020).

Hilton taught me how to lead by example and that the little things matter. I will never forget my housemaster Mr [Ernie] Steenkamp telling us in Grade 8 about the Broken Windows Theory and why he was so pedantic about us being "Swiss neat" and "on Swiss time". Similarly, greeting people by name and small gestures of respect matter. Truly, manners maketh the man. The lessons Hilton has taught me about being respectful, neat and on time have allowed me to leave a strong impression and lead team projects.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study computer science at UCT. However, this may change if an enticing and affordable opportunity emerges in the US or UK.

SIMILO MKHUNGO (Newnham)

Half-colours for culture | 1st team basketball | 3rd team hockey | 4th team soccer.

Hilton taught me to value my friends; my Hilton memories have a special place in my heart. The days I enjoyed and those I hated helped me develop into the person I am today.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study business sciences at the University of Pretoria.

NTUMA MOAGI (Ellis)

War cry leader for the house (won Spirit Cup twice) | 1st team soccer | 3rd team basketball | 6th and 7th team rugby.

Hilton taught me resilience and instilled in me the values of discipline and perseverance; I have learnt that I'm capable of achieving anything I set my mind to. The Hilton experience is transformative; it turns boys into men of integrity.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study finance and economics at UCT and continue playing football and chess.

SAKHIWOSENKOSI MOILWA (Lucas)

Head of entertainment in the house | 1st team soccer | 4th team basketball.

Hilton taught me to put God first in whatever I do. I have learned to be humble and selfless. I have become independent. The friendships I have made at school are for life. My teachers were more like my parents, and I felt at home with all the support I received with my academics.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To go to Varsity College in Durban North.

JAMES MORRISON (McKenzie)

3rd team water polo | 6th and 7th team hockey.

Hilton taught me to appreciate the little things and live in the moment. I have built incredible relationships with many of the boys, especially my dorm mates. I enjoyed McKenzie and couldn't have asked for a better housemaster than Mr [Lionel] Julius, or house mother Mrs Kalipersad.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study a BCom in international supply chain management at IMM in Stellenbosch.

RAHEEL MOTTIAR (McKenzie)

Half-colours for academics (2023) | Honours for culture (2023) | Hamlet! (2023) | Colours for culture (2022) | Joseph and the Amazing Technicoloured Dreamcoat (2022) | Half-colours for culture (2022) | JEMBA (2022) | A Midsummer's Night Dream (2020) | West Side Story (2019) | 6th and 7th team rugby.

Hilton taught me how to deal with the challenges of day-to-day life outside the classroom

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study overseas.

SIYA MPOFU (Ellis)

Honours for marimba (2023) | Head of choir and vocal ensemble (2023) | Five Guys Named Moe (2023) | Honours for culture (2022) | Competition Marimba Band (2023, 2022) | Jazz Band (2023, 2022) | KZN Midlands Youth Choir (2023, 2022) | Choir and vocal ensemble (2023, 2022, 2021) | Gumboots squad (2022, 2021) | 2nd team basketball | 6th and 7th team rugby | 6th and 7th team soccer.

Hilton taught me that friends can also be brothers. The relationships that I built at Hilton will last a lifetime and I am blessed by the experience.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study information studies at the University of Pretoria or music in the USA.

NKOSI MSIZA (Falcon)

Half-colours for academics | 4th team rugby | 5th team soccer.

Hilton taught me independence.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To go to university in Australia or the UK.

CHISHA MULENGA (Churchill)

Colours for academics | Commendation Award | 1st team basketball (captain) | 1st team soccer | 3rd team rugby | Grade 6 drums with merit (2021).

Hilton taught me that the most important thing Hilton has taught me is the high standard of brotherhood.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study civil engineering at UCT.

NKULULEKO NGCOBO (Pearce)

Colours for academics | 2nd team soccer | 5th team hockey | 6th and 7th team rugby.

Hilton taught me to get out of my comfort zone and try new things. I would not have made the friends I have if it weren't for the fact that I was forced to play sport in every term. Also, the fact that the school is full boarding enabled me to form bonds with my brothers as I was with them almost every hour of every day. I will not forget the friendships I have made and the opportunities the school has given me.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at UCT before going to the US to study.

LISO NGOQO (Newnham)

President's Award | Head of Spirituality | 3rd team basketball | 4th team rugby.

Hilton taught me that it's about the people I engage with on my journey.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: University of Pretoria.

AYANDA NINELA (McKenzie)

Honours for drama | Half-colours for academics | Honours for culture (2023) | Deputy Head of choir (2023) | Subject drama Prize (2023) | Speech Day drama Prize (2023) | Hamlet! (2023) | Five Guys Named Moe (2023) | The Tempest (2023) | Joseph and the Amazing Technicoloured Dreamcoat (2022) | Choir (2023, 2022, 2021) | Vocal ensemble (2023, 2022, 2021).

Hilton taught me to persevere through difficult and seemingly impossible circumstances, while appreciating the precious friendships and memories I have made here.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study drama or law at UCT, while pursuing a career in performing arts.

GABRIEL NJONJO (Falcon)

1st team basketball | 1st team soccer | 4th team hockey | A-Level DUX Scholar | Top A-Level pupil in Grade 11 | Top 7 in each term since Grade 8 | Gold English Olympiad (2021) | Hilton's Lester B Pearson scholarship nominee | Choir and debating (Grade 8 and 9).

Hilton taught me that opportunity comes in different forms; dealing with disappointment and finding the opportunity to grow in the midst of adversity are golden tools for life.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: Go to university.

RORISANG NKOSI (Pearce)

4th team soccer | 5th team hockey.

Hilton taught me respect and accountability. The boarding environment enriched my understanding and application of these two virtues.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at the University of Pretoria.

SAPHIWA NZIMANDE (Newnham)

1st team basketball | 5th team hockey | 6th and 7th team soccer | Competition Marimba Band (vice-captain) | Competition Band | Honours for culture (2022).

Hilton taught me how to prioritise. I have also learnt the value of friends and family that you can lean on so that whatever you are going through, you aren't going through it alone, which makes everything in life easier.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study a BA at UCT.

JAMES OGILVIE (McKenzie)

Colours for academics | Academic portfolio leader in house | Paul Bastille Prize for French | 3rd team cricket | 5th team hockey | 6th and 7th team soccer | Routes to Resilience (2022) | Level 2 First Aid certificate (2022) | Bronze President's Award (2021) | Academic commendation (2021).

Hilton taught me that no matter how you are feeling, it will pass. It's important to take a step back and recognise this. Once you have, you can truly begin to live. Dr Seuss said, "Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened."

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study computer science at Stellies.

MODUPE OGUNRONBI (Pearce)

1st team soccer | 2nd team basketball | 3rd team rugby.

Hilton taught me to show respect to my elders. Standard practices such as greeting is still very present in my vocabulary even when out of school, much to the annoyance of my peers.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study in Manchester in the UK.

JOAQUIM OZOUX (Newnham)

Half-colours for academics | A-Level French Prize | 2nd team basketball | 3rd team soccer | 5th team rugby.

Hilton taught me to be resilient and independent, two qualities I don't think I would have acquired had I not gone to Hilton.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: Undecided.

TEBOHO PAKKIES (Newnham)

Honours for academics | 2nd team soccer | 3rd team rugby | 4th team basketball.

Hilton has given me great friends.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study actuarial science at UCT.

TOM PEATTIE (Pearce)

Level 2 leadership Award (2023) | 3rd team water polo | 5th team rugby | 6th and 7th team soccer | Gold Reading certificate (2019).

Hilton taught me that boarding creates a bond between boys that will last a lifetime. A dorm environment at Hilton teaches you that all boys are equal. Hilton taught me to take every opportunity I have to improve myself and to learn from my mistakes.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To take a gap year.

MATTHEW PETERS (Newnham)

Head of house | 2nd team rugby | Half-colours for academics | Headmaster's leadership Award (Level 3) | Computer Programming Olympiad (silver certificate) | Information Technology Prize for 1st in the grade | Life Orientation Prize for 1st in the grade.

Hilton taught me that relationships are of utmost importance. If you have strong relationships, everything else will fall into place.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at Dartmouth College in the USA.

NOAH RAVALOMANANA (Lucas)

4th team water polo | 5th team rugby | Grade 5 Piano ABRSM | Routes to Resilience certificate (Grade 10) | International French examinations (Grades 8–10) | Reading Award (Grade 8).

Hilton taught me to adapt to an unfamiliar environment and how to relate to people from diverse backgrounds.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at Bristol University in the UK.

LUKE ROWE (Pearce)

Half-colours for academics | 1st team rugby | 2nd team cricket | Sports rep in the house | Academic commendation Award (2019).

Hilton taught me how to overcome certain challenges. It has also taught me the effectiveness of living together and how well us as boys are able to work together.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study accounting at Stellies.

MICHAEL SARA (Newnham)

Colours for academics (2023) | Head of the conservation (2023) | First Aider of the Year (2023) | 1st team hockey | 3rd team cricket.

Hilton taught me that I can be independent while still relying on and learning from the people around me.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study business at UCT.

JASON SASSE (Lucas)

Colours for academics | 4th team hockey | 6th and 7th team rugby | Half-colours for academics (2022).

Hilton taught me to have faith in Christ in the midst of suffering, and how to hope and get through the toughest days. I have also learned how to structure my academic studies, and how to get involved in the community and use my resources the best I can.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To serve and grow in the Common Ground Church community in Rondebosch while studying BBusSci accounting and finance at UCT.

RENEILOE SEOPA (McKenzie)

1st team cricket | 3rd team soccer | 4th team rugby | Jazz Ensemble and Big Band (2023, 2022, 2021, 2020, 2019).

Hilton taught me that when I'm facing big hurdles, my dorm mates and close friends are a support system and will look out for me.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: Study abroad.

BANDILE SHABALALA (Falcon)

Honours for academics (2023) | 1st team cricket | 1st team hockey | 1st team water polo | 3rd team basketball | 4th team soccer | 6th and 7th team rugby | Half-colours and colours for academics (2022) | IsiZulu subject Prize (2022) | Backstage for Joseph (2022).

Hilton taught me that everybody has a story and a reason for who they are and why they act a certain way, so to understand someone you have to understand their background.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at UCT.

NKOSI SHOZI (Falcon)

Half-colours for academics | War Cry leader | 1st team hockey | 3rd team basketball | 5th team soccer | Night in Soweto (2022) | Marimba (2020) | Choir (2020, 2019).

Hilton taught me to respect people who have been there before you and when it's your turn to lead, do it well and leave the place better than when you found it.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study law.

VHUTHIHI SIWADA (Ellis)

Head of culture | Head of Jazz Band | Head of War Cry Band | Five Guys Named Moe (2023) | Vocal ensemble (2023, 2022, 2021) | Choir (2023, 2022, 2021) | Jazz Band (2023, 2022, 2021) | 6th and 7th team basketball | 6th and 7th team rugby | 6th and 7th team soccer | Joseph and the Amazing Technicoloured Dreamcoat (2022) | Represented Hilton at the Makanda Jazz Festival (2022) | Gumboot squad (2022) | Grade 8 Trinity singing with distinction (2022) | Grade 6 Trinity singing with distinction (2021).

Hilton taught me that we are all different and can learn from each other. I learnt this from being in my dorm made up of different people. Everyone has something to give and everyone has something to learn.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study property studies at the University of Pretoria.

ETHAN SMITH (Pearce)

4th team hockey | 5th team basketball.

Hilton taught me: That time flies.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: Undecided.

MATTHEW STEWART (Ellis)

Head of School | Honours for academics (2023) | 1st team cricket | 1st team rugby | 6th and 7th team soccer.

Hilton taught me how to be around people. I learnt patience and communication skills. More than that though, I made friends for life.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at Stellies.

SAMUEL STRYDOM (Lucas)

1st team cricket | 2nd team hockey | 5th team soccer.

Hilton taught me independence and maturity.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at Stellies.

STÈFAN SWART (Falcon)

Honours for academics | Sports captain | 1st team water polo | 2nd team rugby.

Hilton taught me grit and determination.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study at Stellies.

JEHAN THIPANYANE-SAID (McKenzie)

Transformation committee | Full colours for academics | 2nd team basketball | 4th team hockey | 5th team soccer.

Hilton taught me the value of perseverance. In my time at Hilton, I was consistently challenged, mentally and physically. The toughest challenge was the Grade 10 Journey. There were many times I thought I wouldn't be able to continue. However, I pushed through and when I finished it, I realised I can get through anything if I put my mind to it.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study law at UCT.

BRIAN THOMSON (Falcon)

Hilton taught me many key lessons, foremost is independence.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To go to the US to study and peruse my rowing career.

DEVON THOMSON (Newnham)

3rd team hockey | 6th and 7th team soccer | 6th and 7th team basketball.

Hilton taught me how to be respectful.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study a BCom at IMM in Stellenbosch.

NIC THORBURN (Ellis)

1st team basketball | 3rd team rugby | 3rd team soccer | Further studies maths Prize (2023) | Life science Prize (2023, 2022) | Extended essay Prize (2022) | History Prize (2021) | Debating | Guitar.

Hilton taught me the importance of building my own unique character with every action and decision I make. This being done with its cornerstone based on hard work and fun, with the intention of making a difference in the world.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study mechatronic engineering or medicine at UCT.



JORDAN UDAL (Falcon)

Colours for marimbas | Competition Marimba Band (2023, 2022) | 2nd team hockey | KZN Inland reserve (2023, 2022) | 4th team water polo | 6th and 7th team soccer | 1st team hockey reserve (2022) | Marimba Champs (2022) | Junior Marimba Band (2020, 2019) | KZN Inland hockey (2019) | Choir (2019).

Hilton taught me the importance of brotherhood and of having a diversity of relationships. There is a bigger world out there! There is value in learning from one another.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study mechanical engineering at Tshwane University of Technology.

PJ VAN DER WALT (Lucas)

Half-colours for academics | EGAD subject Prize | Leadership level 2 Award | Orchestra | 6th and 7th team basketball | 6th and 7th team rugby | Violin (2021, 2020, 2019).

Mr [Tienie] Van Wyk really stood out for me as a role model. He made me realise that only those who attempt the absurd can achieve the impossible. Liso Ngoqo has taught me many life lessons in my time here.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study engineering at Stellenbosch University.

CALEB VENTER (Pearce)

5th team cricket | 5th team rugby | 6th and 7th team soccer | Head of culture in the house | Colours for academics (2023) | Dramatic arts Prize (2023, 2022) | Further studies English Prize (2023, 2022) | A Night in Soweto (2022) | Sainthood (2021).

Hilton taught me about what it is like to be a part of a brotherhood. By essentially being forced to socialize with the same group of boys for five years, I have learnt how to socialize and how to appreciate other people around me.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study drama at the University of Pretoria.

CHRIS WANLESS (McKenzie)

3rd team rugby | 4th team water polo.

Hilton taught me that our bonds are unbreakable. It is truly a privilege to be at this school and in this family. It highlighted for me the sacrifices the people around me have made for me.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study accounting at Stellies.

LUKE WARREN (Newnham)

Dorm cop | 1st team rugby | 3rd team water polo | Choir (2020, 2019).

Hilton taught me to take responsibility for my actions. I could work or I could mess around. It was all up to me. Once I put in the effort, I got the results I wanted.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To go to university and work part-time.

LUKE WATT (McKenzie)

Head of sport in the house | 1st team cricket | 1st team rugby.

Hilton taught me to value the people around me. The people you meet and interact with could help or change your life; this network and platform is incredible.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study in the UK and continue to play rugby.

MATT WATTS (Churchill)

3rd team hockey.

Hilton gave me a home away from home. My connections with my dorm mates are for life. The Journey taught me life lessons I will treasure forever.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study in the Netherlands.

> "Hilton gave me a home away from home."

CONNOR WOODS (Falcon)

Grade 8 dorm cop | Colours for academics | Cambridge sustainability programme graduate | Head of pastoral care in the house | Head of A Levels | 2nd team rugby | 2nd team water polo.

Hilton taught me teamwork; being in an 18-man dorm has taught me how to overcome challenges as a team, while being surrounded by boys who are better than you at almost everything serves to push you to the limit in all aspects. These things will add value to my life for years to come.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study an undergrad in psychology and economics and a masters in behavioural economics or industrial psychology, while doing business on the side.

MATHUBAMAHLE XABA (Pearce)

Transformation committee member | 1st team soccer | 2nd team hockey | 3rd team basketball.

Hilton taught me that to whom much is given much is expected. As young as I am, I understand the importance of making a change and Hilton lights a fire in you to be the change.

Plans for 2024 and beyond: To study a law at UCT.



Roll of Honour

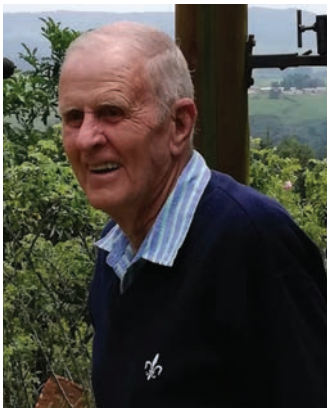


NAME	LAST YEAR	HOUSE	DECEASED
ALFRED JOHN BASS	1960	Ellis	May 2023
JOHN BENNIE	Former farm manager		December 2023
LANCE DE KLERK BOSCH	1976 PM	Ellis	December 2023
DAVID EDWARD ROY CAMPBELL	1962	Newnham	December 2023
GEOFFREY DUNSCOMB CLOUGH	1954	Ellis	July 2023
GRANT VAUGHAN DAVIES	1989 PM	McKenzie	February 2023
RYAN GAVIN DINGLEY	1992 PM	Pearce	December 2023
RAYMOND ARTHUR ELLIS	1972	Pearce	January 2023
LIONEL MICHAEL FALCON	1953 PM	Ellis	May 2023
DAMIAN G FARRELL	1978	McKenzie	February 2023
KEITH WILLIAM HEIMANN	1952 PM	Newnham	February 2023
WARREN RICHARD HENFREY	1988	Ellis	December 2023
ROBERT HOFMEYR	Former Latin teacher		December 2023
PETER THOMAS HYSLOP	1946 PM	Churchill	December 2022
THOMAS DAVID HYSLOP	1977	Falcon	January 2023
BILLY JARVIS	Former staff member		December 2023
MATTHEW PAUL JOHNSTONE	1988 PM	Ellis	October 2023
CHRISTOPHER ANTHONY LENSVELT	1962	Ellis	June 2022
GRANT KEITH MILLAR	1979 PM	Newnham	April 2023
REUBEN NDHLOVU	1994	Churchill	March 2023
LEIGH REILLY	1972	McKenzie	March 2023
CYRIL HENRY SOUCHON	1942 PM	McKenzie	December 2022
THEODORE PAUL VAN SCHAIK	1953 PM	Pearce	June 2023
RYAN M B WALKER	1996	Ellis	November 2022
DAVID B WALTERS	1968	McKenzie	November 2022
MARK COOKMAN WILKES	1966	Pearce	July 2023

JOHN ROBERT BENNIE (Member of Staff 1959–2000)







John Bennie, who was manager of the Hilton College farm from September 1959 until his retirement on 31 December 2000, passed away peacefully in Howick on 15 December 2023 at the age of 86.

John was born in Flagstaff in the then Transkei area on 7 October 1937. He was born with a love of animals and the outdoors. From a young age, he was sent to boarding school at St Andrew's Preparatory School in Grahamstown and then went on to St Andrew's College where he completed his post matric in 1955, their centenary year. He was one of the first few third-generation Andreans.

After St Andrew's, he enrolled at Cedara Agricultural College where he graduated in 1958. While at Cedara, he excelled at sport, playing for the first cricket, rugby and hockey teams.

In September 1959 he replaced Brian Wilson as farm manager at Hilton College. Neville Nuttall, in Lift Up your Hearts, referred to him on his appointment as being "young, keen, energetic and very able". John loved Hilton College and served the school loyally for over four decades under six headmasters.

Under John's stewardship, together with the contributions of the farm staff, Farm Committee and the Board of Governors, the farm grew from very humble beginnings into a robust commercial enterprise. The dairy was relocated from below Ellis House to the Hathorn property near the supply dams and with that there was an increase in the milking herd. A beef herd was established, as was a 65-sow piggery unit, and there was significant growth in the timber and crop operations.

John loved his interactions with staff during his years at Hilton, interactions that were strengthened by his bilingualism in English and isiZulu. He formed lifelong friendships. A keen polo player, he thoroughly enjoyed his years playing at Otto's Bluff. He was a regular in the staff squash team that played in the Pietermaritzburg league and was a stalwart of the uMngeni cricket team, where despite his talent, always asked to bat at number 11 so that he could go and supervise the milking while his teammates were batting. His energetic dancing and storytelling at New Year's Eve parties and the annual Ducasse Guy Fawkes party were legendary.

On his retirement, John moved to Hilton and his love of walking and his friendly personality made him a recognisable figure around the village and on the bowling greens at the Hilton Bowls Club. He was also a faithful member of the Church of the Ascension.

John was a selfless, generous, humble, and inherently decent man. His integrity was beyond reproach, and he cared deeply about people, particularly his family. He always had a profound concern for the wellbeing of all those he worked with at Hilton College and remained in close contact with many, well into his retirement.

He leaves his wife of 60 years, Heather, son James (Newnham, 1982), daughters Sue and Kate and grandchildren Megan, the late Craig, Juliette and Justin.

His ashes will be scattered at the Bennie view site on the estate.

James Bennie | Son

DAVID EDWARD ROY CAMPBELL (1962, Newnham)

David Campbell was born in Pietermaritzburg on 13 November 1944. He died in Melbourne, Australia on 7 December 2023. He was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, father-in-law and uncle. Always in our hearts.

Natalie Campbell | Wife



GEOFFREY DUNCOMBE CLOUGH (1954, Ellis)

Geoffrey, known as Geoff, was born on 22 April 1937 to Eric and Doris Clough in Kasama, Northern Rhodesia, now Zambia. He was the youngest of two sons, the elder being Michael (known as Mike) who also attended Hilton.

His father, Eric, was a Provincial Commissioner in the British colonial government, which meant that he [Geoff] had a rural upbringing, was looked after by an African nanny and played with the local kids. At four years old, he spoke Bemba only. To remedy this, he was packed off to boarding school. He attended various schools before Hilton, but Hilton is the only school that he remembered fondly and often spoke about the freezing morning baths and frequent beatings from the prefects. Despite this, he loved his time at Hilton and could recount many a story from his time there.

He was treasurer for the bee keeping society and one of the stories he recounts is bringing a swarm of bees with him from his home in Broken Hill (now Kabwe) in Northern Rhodesia (Zambia) on the train to Hilton. On the train, the bees escaped causing chaos. Somehow, he seemed to get away with that, but he did mourn the loss of the bee colony that he had been nurturing. Geoff took up bee keeping again when he retired passing his colonies onto his son, James, in 2021.

Geoff was a keen sportsman, playing cricket for the 2nd XI (obtaining colours), rugby for the 4th XV and athletics. After Hilton, he played golf at least twice a week, maintaining a single figure handicap for most of his life.

After Hilton, Geoff studied law at UCT. He had a wild time at UCT, riding Norton motorcycles and making the front page of the Cape Times dressed as a cowboy for RAG week. After UCT, Geoff moved to London to read for the bar – a pre-requisite for the law profession in Northern Rhodesia. To earn an income while studying, he taught rugby, maths and French at Rannoch School in Scotland. This despite never having studied French; the headmaster reassured him that as long as he kept a chapter ahead of the boys then he'd be fine!

Once he had been admitted to the bar, he returned to Northern Rhodesia where he joined the practise of Martin & Co. It was during this time that events came to pass that are detailed in the story "The Gun" that Geoff submitted for publication in the Old Hiltonian in 2022.

Geoff met his future wife, Ann, a quiet girl from a Methodist family in Solihull United Kingdom, playing tennis at Government House in Lusaka. At first, she didn't make much of this fair-haired, pasty-faced individual that was the centre of attention until one night when she was driving from what was then Salisbury, now Harare, back to Lusaka. She had just crossed the border at Chirundu when she came across a huge herd of elephants on the road. Scared stiff and ignorant of the best course of action, she drove through the herd. Dad had been a little further behind and waited for the herd to clear the road. He found Ann parked up on the other side in tears. "Did you drive through that herd of elephants?" he asked. "Yes" she said. "You stupid woman!" he replied. Ever the charmer, to make amends, he gallantly told her, "You can follow my tail lights back to Lusaka" and thus the romance began. With lines like that, it was not long before they were engaged. They got married in 1965 shortly after Northern Rhodesia gained independence and became Zambia. They lived an idyllic life in those early years, braaiing and water skiing at weekends on Mulungushi Reservoir in Geoff's speed boat.

Geoff's first child, Karol-Ann, was born in 1967 and with the Zambian economy taking a nose-dive, they decided there was no future in Zambia for their newborn and moved to Cape Town.

Neither was a fan of apartheid, so they did not stay long in Cape Town, deciding to emigrate to Canada, stopping off in the UK on the way. While in the UK, Ann fell pregnant with their second child, James. James was born in 1969, so they settled in the UK with Geoff working as a barrister on the Midlands Circuit as a member of No.2 Fountain Court chambers before moving to Coleridge Chambers in the 1980s.

During his working life he had a number of interests, he was a member of Ladbrook Park Golf Club, where at one point he became House Chairman purely to get real ale behind the bar, and thereby combining two loves, golf and beer. He was also a member of the Midlands Austin 7 Club, at one point editing the magazine and organising a trip to the Champagne region of France.

There were also frequent Christmas holidays to South Africa staying with his brother Mike and his family in George.

After leaving Zambia in 1968, Geoff did not return until 1993 when his son James, a recently graduated engineer, obtained a job there on hydroelectric power schemes. He was able to introduce his son to his home country and his schoolboy friends.

Geoff retired and moved to Charmouth on the south coast of the United Kingdom, but he also purchased a property in Bushman's River Mouth, near Kenton-on-Sea in the Eastern Cape, where he and Ann escaped the worst of the UK winters until he sold up in 2020 just before the world was ravaged by the Covid epidemic.

Geoff was diagnosed with heart failure in 2021. He slowly lost his physical fitness giving up golf in 2022. But he did retain his golf membership to meet up with his old golfing buddies in the 19th hole at the Lyme Regis Golf Club.

Geoff was taken into hospital 10 days before he passed away on 13 July with his family around him. He is survived by his wife Ann, his daughter Karol-Ann, his son James and his grandchildren Francesca and Georgina.

James Clough | Son







GRANT VAUGHAN DAVIES (1989 PM, McKenzie)

Grant Davies. To us he was Dodge. He passed away on the morning of 18 February 2023. For almost nine years he had been on a journey of some adventure and a lot of discovery. But mostly a journey of enormous courage as he fought a cancer called multiple myeloma. Much can be said of how he fought. But much can also be said of how he lived and how he died.

We were lucky to know him and to have lived and journeyed beside him, and we might not have known it at the time, but on reflection, he taught us so much. Not that he set out to teach us. But rather that he was exemplary. He showed us how to fight with courage and humility; how to live with generosity and empathy; and how to die with grace and equanimity.

Dodge and his wife Vics used the word "journey" a lot when they talked about where Dodge was at in his battle against cancer, how they were doing, and where they were going next. Many others used the word "fight" because this is what Dodge seemed to be doing a lot of in the almost nine years after he learned he had cancer. But they both applied equally to Dodge, and so they should because the hero on his journey must of necessity fight.

Dodge's "call to adventure" came in April 2014. He would have given that phrase one of his wry smiles. But I think he would have liked it because he was such an optimistic guy and "call to adventure" is so much more positive than "diagnosis". And what an adventure it turned out to be. Not one any of us would willingly choose, but if any of us were summoned now, we would have enormous gratitude to Dodge for showing us how to go forth.

We would know never to give up. We would know to fight, fight, fight. We'd know that at every step along the way, we were to remain positive and kind.

Multiple myeloma. This is what called Dodge to adventure. A rare form of cancer that attacks the plasma cells. These cells are found in the bone marrow and are an important part of the immune system. At the time, Dodge was given a maximum of five years. He journeyed for almost five more. Along the way he had round after round of chemo, he had a bone marrow transplant, he travelled to China as part of a trial using CAR-T immunotherapy, he cycled through gallons of blood transfusions, he had bone-marrow killing chemo and then seemingly endless other chemo, he had stem cells transplants, he had radiation treatment. And then he travelled numerous times to Seattle in the US as part of another CAR-T trial.

The Seattle trips and the CAR-T trial at the Fred Hutch Cancer Research Centre are worth pausing on. They bought Dodge a whole lot more time, but also they were largely funded by Dodge's fellow Hiltonians in his class of 1988 and 1989. But for their support, Dodge would never have been able to go on this trial and his journey would have been curtailed. Dodge was enormously grateful. He expressed his gratitude in a letter he wrote in June 2022 and shared posthumously through Brent "Bone" Youens. It is worth sharing it in its entirety: "Hi Guys, I have asked Bone to post this to say one final thanks! It's 22 June as I write this. I'm chilling in Kalk Bay recovering from some pretty nasty chemo that has me laid low, and it's got me thinking about the Car-T treatment I had in Seattle. At the time there was every hope that it was going to be a cure, which it wasn't, but it did give me my first and only remission. It was expensive, complicated, and crazy to even consider getting onto it, but you all incredibly got on board and made it happen. It was extraordinary and my family and I are still overwhelmed by the kindness you showed us. It might not have been a cure, but it has bought me another three or four years… that's time with my wife, my son, my family and friends. Instead of being 10, my son is now 13 and started high school… That's four more years of memories for all of us, thanks to you guys. I guess with me now out of the picture, Bone is officially taking over as hoofseun. I wish you good luck with that."

The reference to "hoofseun" to the class of 1988 provides an apt portal into Dodge's life. For, indeed, Dodge was the "hoofseun". He was head boy in 1989. His sidekick was Bone Youens, the deputy head boy.

There are different measures of success, but becoming head boy was certainly in conventional terms Dodge's pinnacle achievement at Hilton, although his occupation of that position did have a certain uniqueness that Dodge embodied. On his appointment, Dodge told the then headmaster, Mr Paul Marsh, that he wouldn't be fulfilling one of the essential roles of a head boy: delivering rousing speeches. Mr Marsh seemed unfazed by this pronouncement and declared that it was not a problem and that the speech making would be carried out by Bone Youens, the deputy. And so in the foggy telling of it down the years, Dodge has become the only head boy at Hilton College to stand up once and speak publicly, on the occasion that mattered most: Speech Day. For the rest, he artfully delegated to his proxy, Bone.

But besides this minor dereliction of duty, Dodge seems to have done a fine job, and for that matter Bone too. In his headmaster's address in 1989, Mr Marsh had the following to say about the two: "Our head boy, Grant Davies, and his deputy, Brent Youens, have set an outstanding example of unselfishness and kindness to others. I thank them for their friendship, good humour, and for placing the interests of Hilton above everything else."

Now, that seems to be real success! But it is worth mentioning that Dodge did a few other things pretty well:

- He played 1st team rugby in 1988 and 1989 and received colours for rugby. The school magazine from that period describes him as a "hard-working and mobile tight forward".
- He was captain of swimming and got honours for swimming.
- He was captain of 1st water polo and got colours for water polo.
- He was the Ross Osborn Scholar for 1989.

It is worth noting that Dodge's dad, John Vaughan (JV), was head of McKenzie House, also received colours for rugby, was also captain of swimming and also got honours for swimming some years before, when he was in matric at Hilton in 1963.

So we enter Dodge's life through his time at Hilton, because for this audience it makes most sense. But what came before and what came after?

Dodge was born in Johannesburg in 1971, Betty and JV's first child. Dodge's sister, Carolyn, was born two years later. They grew up in Hazyview on a tobacco farm, in what is today Mpumalanga. Here Dodge possibly nurtured his smoking habit, but he certainly cultivated a smell for petrol and a tough disposition as he rode bikes, tractors and cars and roughed it up on the farm. Possibly good lessons for the battles he would fight later. He also started getting an education at Uplands Junior School in White River, which he attended till Standard 5. The distinguished Hilton years have been illuminated above. And then… Dodge really started to bloom.

He was an air load master in the South African Air Force. He was a used car salesman on the East Rand. For a period, he found Christ. He slipped in a BSoc Sci degree along the way, followed by a post graduate degree in Marketing. And then he decamped to London, hit the club scene, and metamorphosised. Well, not exactly. He was the same beautiful Dodge. But he had learned to, without shame or fear, dance!

Dodge returned to Cape Town in the early 2000s and his life was then shaped by two main forces. The one was the movie business in which Dodge rose rapidly to become a respected producer. The other was the magnificent Victoria Bartlett, his wife, who beguiled him on the streets of Cape Town and then became a steadfast pillar that anchored Dodge and supported him and held him and, would it be too much to say, completed him? As he completed her. She was his lover and soulmate and mother of their beautiful child. And the journey would continue and take unexpected twists, but in meeting and joining his life to Vics, Dodge had in a sense arrived.

You can say so much about a person in terms of how they fight and how they live. But perhaps you can say even more about a person in terms of how they die.

Dodge's fight against cancer defined him in the last nine years of his life. He went about staying alive as long as possible in a dogged and systematic fashion. He researched, he reached out, he endured treatment after sickening treatment. And all along he suffered. There was physical pain. There was emotional agony. There was existential anguish. But, here's the thing: when you met Dodge in his last years, you almost never knew. He met you with kindness and warmth. He was more interested in your well-being than in his sharing the diminishing nature of his being. And, somehow, he managed along the way, in truly genial Dodge style, to balance his fight for life with his acceptance of death. For as much as he had interrogated his illness, he had researched death. If it can be said, he seemed prepared and at peace. And so, when he did finally pass, it was accepting and grace and light.

For those who go on living there is a hole. A gap. For his parents, Betty and JV, for his sister, Carolyn (Pooks), for his wife, Victoria, and for his son, Oscar. And, indeed, for all his friends. But this hole closes with each passing day, not because memories fade, but because it fills with thoughts and memories of Dodge. Such was Dodge; you don't forget him. He will stay in our hearts always. We were lucky to have known him and better for it.

Michael A. Walker | Friend



RAYMOND ARTHUR ELLIS (1972, PEARCE)





Raymond Ellis entered Hilton College in 1969 and matriculated in 1972 following in the footsteps of his father Graham Arthur Ellis.

Raymond had a lifelong love of music. He was completely self-taught, a feat even more impressive by the fact that all his orchestrations were a result of a total innate natural musicality.

At Hilton, Raymond together with peers Charles Pinnell, Stephen King and Alistair Nisbet formed a competent and successful pop group. They gained experience by performing at school functions as well as extramural concerts and parties.

It was at Hilton that Raymond wrote his first draft of his rock opera Brother Brother, which was performed by fellow students in the inter-house school plays. After leaving Hilton, Raymond wrote an adaptation of Brother Brother. This was staged with great success and critical acclaim at the St John's Theatre in Durban. Hence Raymond's career as a professional musician was launched.

Soon after the success of Brother Brother, Raymond signed up with the prominent music producer David Gresham ("Gruesome Gresh"). Under Gresham, Raymond wrote and performed his song Beautiful Morning which went on to be nominated in the best song category at the prestigious Sari Music Awards.

Raymond's music career was temporarily put on hold when he went to manage his family's well-known horse racing stud farm, Hartford in the Natal Midlands. Hartford was one of South Africa's most successful breeding and racing establishments producing racing greats such as the champion and record stakes earner Sentinel, as well as Mowgli, winner of the Rothmans July Handicap and Clairwood Winter Winner. Other Group One greats bred and raced by the Ellis family include Alyssum, Master Polly, Ajax, Panjandrum, Council Rock, and Magic Mirror etc. Hartford Country House was added to the estate during Raymond's time on the farm and proved to be one of South Africa's most loved and prestigious country houses.

Raymond's love of Thomas Hardy's great classic novel inspired him to write the entire music score to it in opera format. With his brother John, who was responsible for the musical book and lyrics, they mounted this mega production at the Playhouse Opera in Durban. Once again, Raymond received favourable critical reviews.

After Far From The Madding Crowd, Raymond met Violet Ricketts who was from Johannesburg. They became partners and consequently he followed Violet back to Johannesburg where they were eventually happily married.

In Johannesburg Raymond continued writing music, focussing on corporate events and musical reviews such as Jozi Girls. Raymond and his brother John had just started public performances of Sincerely Raymond, another musical review written by Raymond, when the Covid pandemic struck. Due to the lockdown, performances had to be put on hold.

Unfortunately, during this time Raymond was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. After the Covid restrictions were lifted, he resumed performances of Sincerely Raymond. However, after bravely fighting a long and arduous battle with his malady, he eventually succumbed, and all performances had to be cancelled. Raymond sadly passed away on 19 January 2023 [aged 68].

His music spoke of love, life, relationships and anything in between. He was a deep thinking and compassionate person with a keen sense of humour. Raymond lived a life of significance.

A large amount of Raymond's work has never been aired or produced and John plans to get Raymond's unpublished compositions out there! We can only hope that one day they will take their rightful place in the hearts of people everywhere.

Raymond is survived by his wife Violet, brother John, and sister Patricia Michaelides.

John Shaw Ellis | Brother



LIONEL MICHAEL FALCON (1953 PM, Ellis)

Lionel Falcon was the only grandson of William Falcon, the headmaster of Hilton College from 1906 to 1933, and the only son of Michael Falcon, a life governor of the college. He started at Hilton College in 1949 and completed his matric in 1953 (post-matric in 1954). During his school career he was an enthusiastic and accomplished gymnast and swimmer.

Lionel studied metallurgical engineering at Wits University where he captained the Wits hockey team for several years. This was followed by a two-year stint studying at Imperial College (Royal School of Mines) in London after which he joined Anglo American where he spent 10 years in research and running a variety of metallurgical plants. He was invited to join GoldFields of South Africa in 1972 where he became a consulting metallurgist to a wide range of mines. He was based in the Johannesburg head office, apart from two years in London representing the group.

After 32 years in the mining industry, Lionel retired in 1994 and was immediately commandeered to lecture at Wits University in the School of Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering. Here he spent another 24 years lecturing and supervising postgraduate research students, which he dearly enjoyed. He finally retired from his second career in 2018 but continued to participate in professional and educational activities until 18 months before his death.

Lionel married Rosemary in 1964 and together they had 59 years of an exceptionally wonderful relationship, often working, consulting, teaching or supervising students together. They had three children: Susan, Andrew and Bruce, all three of which attended Hilton College. They were also blessed with eight grandchildren, one of whom, James, attended Hilton College. Lionel is survived by a greater family of 16 (including two sons-in-law).

Throughout his life Lionel was regarded as a true gentleman in every respect, with a wicked twinkle in his eye, a wonderful sense of humour, and an enduring wish to serve his various professions, colleagues and communities, all of which he did in an exemplary fashion.

He was known for his fairness, respect for all and true dedication. The love, gratitude, admiration and respect for him was born out by the many tributes received both after his death and throughout his life, be they from staff on the mines he consulted to, students he taught, colleagues with whom he worked in his various positions and those from various professional bodies, some of which he had founded, chaired and supported in various ways. His family all loved him most dearly.

His lifelong love of his wife, his family and his varied professions was matched only by his life-long support, respect and endearment for Hilton College.

Bruce Falcon | Son





DAMIAN G FARRELL (1978, McKenzie)

Damian Farrell, born on 14 February 1961 in Durban, died unexpectedly on 7 February 2023 from natural causes at his Ann Arbor home in Fairdene, Michigan, his beloved wife of 30 years, Katherine, by his side.

Damian grew up on his family's citrus, avocado and sugar cane farms in KwaZulu-Natal, where he kept a pet zebra. As was customary for farming children in remote locations, Damian attended boarding school (Hilton College) from the age of eight. An enthusiastic and avid sportsman, Damian competed in horse jumping, cricket, golf and rugby. During the hot winter seasons, he joined his family in the Drakensberg mountains, fly fishing and hiking. He flew bush planes with his father, Brian Farrell, awed by stories of Uncle Dustin Farrell, a 19-year-old lieutenant in the South African Air Force who perished in his Spitfire during WWII. Damian also loved to ski. With his mother, Margaret Farrell, he performed onstage in local theatrical productions.

A South African neighbour, a sugar cane farmer and architect, shared his drawings with Damian. "As a kid, I was fascinated by his drawings," Damian said. "I would study them for hours. From the age of five, there was never a question that I would become an architect. My school counsellors tried to persuade me to at least consider other choices, but I was hooked."

Damian went on to the University of Natal, Durban, graduating in 1985 with a master's degree in architecture, followed by two years at an architecture firm in Pietermaritzburg. His passion for South African wines inspired him to train as a sommelier. Later, in the US, he met monthly with a group of fellow connoisseurs hosting each year on his veranda at Fairdene.

In his final year of university, Damian's design for an international missionary organization won the prestigious Des Baker award for Design. As a result, Damian met local landscape architect Carl Johnson who, in 1983, brought Damian to the US for a year's fellowship. Carl introduced Damian to Richard Black of Hobbs & Black Architecture (H&B). Black offered Damian a position with the firm.

In 1988, Damian relocated to Ann Arbor to work as design lead on a wide variety of projects for H&B and as Director of Marketing. In 1991, he realized his personal American dream, founding Damian Farrell Design Group (DFDG). DFDG projects went on to earn accolades and national recognition for Damian's unique designs, ranging from his renovation of the Ann Arbor Art Center to large homes in Sun Valley built from the beams of antique Vermont barns and homes in Greece and South Africa.

While describing himself as a "modernist at heart" Damian possessed a deep knowledge of architectural history, as well as artful garden and community design. Damian's work was featured in Architectural Digest and numerous regional publications. In 2002, he sold his practice back to H&B, and in 2008 he opened his second company.

Damian invited Katherine on their first date to a fundraiser in the lobby of the Michigan Theatre. After a year of courtship, Damian invited Katherine to meet his family in South Africa. On a visit to Hilton College, he proposed to her in a garden overlooking the waterfalls and lush green slopes of the Umgeni Valley. They were married in Ann Arbor and Amaron and Jon led them down the aisle. The new family was joined by Brian Christian Farrell, born in 1994.

Along with running their companies, they took long trips with their three children. Each year they drove to the beach in Florida and to Northern Michigan to ski. When Brian was eight months old, they travelled to Damian's family farms in South Africa. In 1999, the year Damian became a US citizen, the family moved into their dream home Damian designed. "It has," he said, "a place for everything."

In 2015 Damian was admitted to the American Institute of Architects as a Fellow, a coveted position granted in recognition of



outstanding contributions to the profession through design excellence, architectural education, and advancement of the profession. Damian served on the boards of the Huron Valley American Institute of Architects, the Michigan Architectural Foundation, the Michigan chapter of the American Institute of Architects as well as the Ann Arbor Art Center and Artrain. He was also Chairman of the US chapter of the Old Hiltonian Club.

Damian is survived by his loving wife, Katherine Hilboldt Farrell, and their children: Brian (Taylor) Farrell, Amaron (Shannon) Gerken, Jonathan (Marianne) Curtis. Damian was a devoted grandfather who loved nothing more than to snuggle with his ten grandchildren: Noah, Caden, Isabelle, Christian, Layla, James, Alesia, Patrick, Charles and Ethan.

Damian is also survived by his sister, Shayne Farrell and nephew Brian Farrell as well as his extended Hilboldt family: James S. Hilboldt, Sr., James S. (Wendy) Hilboldt, Jr., Susanna Hilboldt (Jeff Hockensmith), Thomas (Pum) Hilboldt, and many nephews and nieces. He is predeceased by his parents and Martha Hilboldt.

Katherine Farrell | Wife



THOMAS DAVID HYSLOP (1977, Falcon)





> “Dave will be remembered for his compassion and selfless leadership.”

Dave was born and bred in Howick and educated at Howick Primary School, Clifton Nottingham Road and then Hilton College.

David excelled at sport at school, especially rugby where he, with his sturdy build, was a formidable prop forward who played in all the A rugby teams and in that pinnacle of all pinnacles, the 1st team rugby which he played for two years! He famously wore his original 1st team jersey to the 35th reunion and the Fleur-de-Lys manager reckoned he hadn't had such a laugh in years! It must be said that it was a little tight!

He was also an accomplished water polo player and represented the school at all the levels of the sport (thank heavens he didn't wear his speedo to that reunion!)

Above all David was a natural leader, he was never seen to lose his temper or cool and he looked after the younger guys with a natural kindness that shone through. This was soon recognised by headmaster Raymond Slater and the other staff members and although he was in Ellis House, he made history at Hilton by being asked by Slater to move across to Churchill, as the headmaster had decided that over there, they could do with a gentleman of his calibre to bring the Churchill guys into line!

Ellis's loss was Churchill's gain, and he duly brought things under control. This he did, without fuss or rancour, and went on to become one of only five prefects in a school of 400.

David also achieved excellent matric results and following in the footsteps of his father John Hyslop, was accepted into Wits Medical School, however he soon found that his mechanical abilities suited him better and instead took up mining engineering qualifying high up in his class. He then went on to obtain an MBA and while still in his twenties became the youngest manager of a South African mine. He was based in Middleburg in the then Transvaal.

Howick and Hilton truly produced a young man of ability and legend.

All the experiences from his school years soon paid off as Dave was recognised as an excellent trouble shooter in the coal mines. Being a practical graduate, he was able to use his theoretical and practical abilities to problem solve. As such he was moved around the Gencor Group, sorting out problem mines.

His time on the coal mines ended when he was seconded by Gencor to assist in the ailing Keeley Granite. He helped turn fortunes around but the collapse of the Asian markets devastated the industry. A disagreement with Gencor on their definition of secondment lead to David going on his own into the granite industry in both mining and machining.

These were turbulent times for David, and he handled them with a fierce determination and optimism. Whilst at Keeley he had assisted various local miners to obtain long-term lucrative contracts and this was paid back tenfold by the support of these folk when things were tough.

Sadly, at this time he started suffering from heart issues, but despite requiring valve replacements he soldiered on, believing he owed it to his staff to keep the wheels turning and them employed. It has since emerged that although he was battling himself, he still, unknown to most family and friends, made his knowledge, experience and time available to a group of about 20 emerging entrepreneurs who were trying to get established in the granite industry! Selfless to the last.

He eventually had his heart valves replaced and a bypass, and within a week was back into the factory running operations! After one or two scares and some serious admonishment from his doctors and family, he slowed down for a month or two and was well on his way to good health when on 30 January 2023 he suffered a massive stroke and never regained consciousness.

Dave will be sorely missed by all his friends and family and will be remembered for his compassion and selfless leadership.

David had a special send off from Hilton when only minutes before he died, a beautiful male leopard was spotted relaxing on a rock ledge in the Hilton nature reserve.

An old Hiltonian and friend of David's wrote a brilliant article in the Sunday Independent newspaper on this historic spotting of a wild leopard in the reserve, mentioning that it was a fitting send off for a true Hiltonian, gentleman and friend to many, David Hyslop.

Duncan Guy, thank you for your wonderfully researched article, which I am sure will pass with our dear brother and friend David into the annuals of Hyslop history, a family that has contributed so immensely to Howick and the Natal Midlands. May David's soul rest in peace.

Rod Hylsop | Brother

MATTHEW PAUL JOHNSTONE (1988 PM, Ellis)

My dearest friend Mat left us far too soon – at the tender age of 54. They say the good die young. While words may fail to capture the depth of my grief, I honour the beautiful life that our friend lived and the impact he had on us. I believe the number of friends that have turned out today is testament to how much Rat was truly loved.

When I reflect on the life of our dear friend, what comes to mind first is his kindness and quick-witted humour right up to the end. Rat was a true gentleman full of compassion that it touched the lives of countless others. Rat is irreplaceable.



Friendship is a bond that transcends time and place, and I was fortunate enough to share the most extraordinary bond with Mat. Starting in 1985 on his first day at Hilton. I believe I was Rat's best friend, but the funny thing is that so do 10 other friends. That was how much Rat was loved. We navigated the ups and downs of life together, creating memories that will forever be etched in my soul. From the joyful celebrations to the moments of shared vulnerability, our friendship was a sanctuary of love, happy times, and unwavering support for each other.

Rat possessed an incredible zest for life. He was a source of inspiration, encouraging us all to embrace life. Mat loved his family more than life itself and was always there for Kirk, Cam and Aiden.

Kirk, you have been incredible during this tough passage of watching Mat slowly fade away. We have laughed and cried over the months and you have been rock solid. I have the utmost respect for you and the way you have handled this horrible situation. We love you.

Cameron, the eldest, well done on being there for your dad. Your quiet presence when we visited and the endless cups of tea you made for all his visitors did not go unnoticed.

Aiden, your 15 loving phone calls a day and your care for your dad was so cherished. Cas, you are loved, and you are rock solid.

Mat's genuine kindness and empathy was unparalleled. He possessed the remarkable ability to make each person feel seen, heard, and valued. He offered a shoulder to lean on, a listening ear, and a compassionate heart. My friend's compassion knew no bounds.

Through his departure, our friend has left a void that cannot be filled. The laughter we once shared now echoes in our memories. The wisdom he imparted continues to guide us, and Mat's love will forever resonate within our hearts. Though the pain of his absence is overwhelming, I am grateful for the time we had together.

Jen and James were very fortunate to share a few weekends in a row where we managed to have braais and talk about the times our families spent together over the years. Rat has been part of James and Georgie's whole life. We sat in the TV room six weeks ago and he told us for the 20th time how the 2nd team of 1988 was unbeaten. He was also part of the Rhodes U20 side that was unbeaten. He was small but courageous.

Let us honour Mat's legacy by carrying his spirit within us. Let us be inspired by his zest for life, kindness, and love. As we grieve his loss, let us also celebrate the beautiful soul that touched our lives in ways we may never fully comprehend.

To my dearest friend, as I bid you farewell, I hold onto the memories we created and the happy times our families shared. Thank you for being an extraordinary presence in my life and for leaving an indelible imprint on my soul. Your light will continue to shine through the lives you touched, and your memory will forever be etched in our hearts.

Rest in peace, my dear friend, knowing that you were deeply loved. Until we meet again.

Mark Beart | Friend

CHRISTOPHER ANTHONY LENSVELT (1962, Ellis)

Some of Chris' classmates from Hilton in 1962 may remember an iconic photo taken in the common room over a tea break. Seeing one of the boys with a camera at the ready, Chris picked up an ornate large empty picture frame, posed as the subject of the missing picture, and with his well-known wit said, "The Laughing Cavalier". A reference to the famous Frans Hals painting of the same name. A very apt description of himself. And that is how I remember him. He brought joy and fun to people around him.

I was one of a few who spent years at Clifton and subsequently at Hilton in his delightful company. Never a boring moment. We can attest to a friend blessed with a multiplicity of talents. Clever he certainly was. Very clever. He won an academic open scholarship to Hilton in 1959. A prolific reader who did not spend this talent on the somewhat insipid and monotonous English school setworks – found tiresome by many energetic teenagers. Instead, he read what he wanted to read. He read with an enquiring mind and for the joy of reading. He read voraciously. And it showed in his lifelong interest in the precise use of the English language. All the real gifts of a good education.

As a very talented musician, Chris at the age of about 12 enthralled parents with his crystal clear angelic unaccompanied treble solo rendition of "Once in Royal David's City" at the start of the final carol service in the little church near Clifton. I remember it clearly. In later years, it was accompanying himself, crouching over the piano, stroking the keys in his crooning style, or kicking away the piano stool in his "Little Richard" mode of "Keep a' knockin'..." or "Baby face" through an array of artists and their popular hits that his eager audience would call for – changing the style to fit the artist.

Real sporting talent came with the package that was Chris. A squash player. A useful fast bowler and an uncanny knack for throwing a rugby ball. Yes, throwing it American football style. I recall that he could throw it over the cross bar from very close to the halfway line.

Mischievous. He certainly was that as well. Stories about this aspect of his life too numerous for this short eulogy. A friend recalls him, on a school train trip from

Swaziland, mixing Enos with the sugar in a "tearoom" – an earlier version of today's coffee shop. Waiting and anticipating the consequences for an unsuspecting genteel tea drinker.

Some people say amusing things from time to time. Mix a very high intellect with a great ability to express oneself; add a real sense of humour and you have our entertaining friend, Chris. Sometimes he showed his artistic talent with a wonderful cartoon to give his view of the situation. On birthdays in later years, he would call with a quip like: "I'm doing my annual roll call". Never a boring moment for those around. Laughter rippling through the groups of people. Friends. Chris could do almost everything. He was a ball of talent wrapped in a human frame. Able to perform without really trying. It has struck me that in general things came too easily.

He did not bother performing to the peak of his ability. It simply was not his driving force. Chris simply loved people and people loved him. A joy to be around.

Under this light-hearted demeanour came real depth. Chris had empathy. Years after leaving Hilton, one of our classmates who had been through a particularly rough time met him. The advice Chris proffered was "just see it as an adventure". Wise advice indeed, it helped him ease his way through his crisis.

As with most people who have had the privilege of reaching their eighth decade, Chris also bore his battle scars. Brought on by experiences like tough commercial ventures; years of health issues (compounded by a tough time in Covid); and other challenges. Unlike many people, Chris faced all of them. And he prevailed.

On several occasions, he told me how marrying Ruth had been the best thing that ever happened to him. To her, sons Luke and Brett, and the wider family we offer our condolences.

Recently, I stood in front of the famous Frans Hals' painting at the Wallace Collection in London. It evoked wonderful fond memories of our own Chris – "The Laughing Cavalier".

Tiger Wessels | Friend

GRANT KEITH MILLAR (1979 PM, Newnham)

Grant Keith Millar, Newnham 1979, beloved brother to Wayne, Scott and Clyde passed away unexpectedly on his Midmar farm.

Wayne Millar | Brother

LEIGH REILLY (1972, McKenzie)

Leigh Reilly passed away on 22 April after a bravely fought battle against cancer and, passing into eternity, was a Hilton College pupil and friend whom I shall never forget.

In 1968, Leigh "the boy from Yeoville" arrived at Hilton College, a skinny youngster with a pronounced hump on his back, a spinal defect known as Scheuermann's scoliosis, which had developed in early childhood and would remain with him for life. He was advised not to play any contact sport but was allowed to run.

I was master in charge of athletics at Hilton and enjoyed running on the roads and in the Hilton forests. I met Leigh and invited him to join me on my daily runs. From the beginning we shared a passion for running and many hours together we ran on those beautiful trails. I realised however that he needed more of a challenge, so I resorted to my old VW beetle. On the road to the Hilton Hotel and back, he would lope next to the car like a greyhound and react to my whistle – jog, stride, sprint – again and again.

Leigh took to running like a duck to water. We followed the training methods of Percy Cerutti, a famous Australian athletics coach, and designed a punishing course in the plantations which would test him to the full – "the Cerutti circuit of torture" as he named it. Our motto was "no pain, no gain" and through sheer guts and determination, Leigh became one of the best middle-distance and cross-country runners the school had ever produced. At inter-house athletics meetings he would win the 800m, 1500m and 3000m events in one day – well ahead of the field. He won national colours for cross-country and toured the country with the South African team. He became one of the youngest Hilton pupils to be awarded honours for athletics.

Leigh was a member of Wanderers Athletics Club, Johannesburg. During one of his school holidays, they sent a team to Rhodesia to compete in national athletics trials. Leigh ran in the men's 1500m event and won the race. According to a local news report, it was the best time in the world for an under-17 athlete.

In 1971, he ran the fastest lap of the annual Circular Drive Relay race in a time of four minutes and 36.5 seconds – a record which stands to this day. That year the Nicholas Arthur Memorial trophy was awarded for the first time, in memory of Nick who died of cancer. The boys in McKenzie House collected money and donated this magnificent trophy. That year, the McKenzie runners all wore black armbands and won the race.

Leigh was awarded a scholarship for athletics to the University of Southern California where he performed with success and was selected for the USC team to compete in Cambridge, England.

Alas in 1975, his father passed away prematurely. Scheuermann's scoliosis started taking its toll and his athletics career came to an end.

Leigh worked in England for some years but then returned to South Africa. He became a successful businessman and lived on a golf estate near Pretoria with his wife Debbie and daughter Chanel.

Many years had passed by before we met up again at my home in Maritzburg but that bond of friendship was as strong as ever. Thereafter we often spoke on the phone, sometimes in the middle of the night sharing our love for music, golf and athletics and reminiscing about old days.

During the last 18 months of his life, he suffered from cancer, then refused medical treatment and was determined to live life to the full. Still playing golf, his sense of humour and positive attitude was as strong as ever. This was just another challenge that his great heart would overcome. He spoke fondly of Debbie and Chanel and the part they played in his life and had a deep love for his old school, Hilton College.

Special mention must be made of Rev Alan Smedley, former Hilton College colleague who was such an inspiration and pillar of strength and encouraged a belief in God that made the dark days ahead look like a new dawn. Leigh often spoke about him.

I have lost a son and a best friend with whom I could share everything and will miss his sense of humour and his many video clips, jokes and musical contributions sent by phone.

Fortunately, I have a daily reminder of him. From our new home in Amber Valley, I stare across the uMngeni Valley at the Hilton College forests on the other side and on those trails I see two skinny legs and pumping arms and wonder how that scrawny chest could contain a heart so big. Rest in peace my dear friend.

Rob van Heerden | Mentor

CYRIL HENRY SOUCHON (1942 PM, McKenzie)

Cyril was born in 1925 in Durban to Alec and Lily Souchon who were from Mauritius. They had four children: Evelyn, Cyril, Jacqy and Claude.

Cyril attended Clifton Prep School in Durban before starting at Hilton in 1939 and matriculating in 1942. He was a proud member of McKenzie House and made many lifelong friends. His school days were very happy and he remained proud of his association with Hilton College throughout his life.

He was very keen to join the war effort and enlisted as soon as he turned 18. He served in the Royal Natal Carbineers and saw action in Italy where he arrived shortly after the Battle of Monte Cassino.

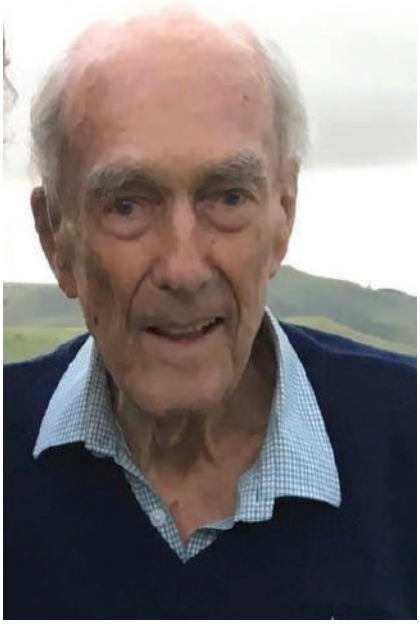
On returning to Durban, Cyril joined Compton and Horne as an articled clerk and studied part time at Durban University to qualify as a chartered accountant. He became a partner and remained with the same firm throughout his working life.

He was closely involved in the negotiations when Compton and Horne merged to become Goldby Compton and McElvie and again when that firm became Pim Goldby (now part of Deloitte). He was chairman of Pim Goldby before retiring in 1985.

Cyril married Betty Pennefather in 1949 and they remained happily married until her tragic death in 2006. They had four children between 1951 and 1960: Anne, Jane, Peter and Stephen, all of whom moved to the UK as adults.

He was a positive and outward looking person. He made and retained many friendships and those of his schooldays remained an important part of his life.

Cyril lived in Durban all his life spending his last 14 years at Caister Lodge. He died at the age of 97 in December 2022.



He is fondly remembered by his children and grandchildren.

Stephen Souchon | Son

THEODORE PAUL VAN SCHAIK (1953 PM, Pearce)

Theo was born in November 1935 in Pretoria. His primary school years were spent there at WHPS until he went to Hilton in 1949. He had a successful high school career culminating in a very fulfilling and rewarding post matric year in 1953. He was grateful his whole adult life for the privilege of having attended such a fine school.

There followed happy years at UCT where he rowed for the first four and eight crews. Theo was astute and efficient from a young age, taking over an engineering business from his father in Pretoria which extended eventually into property development all over South Africa.

In 1959 he married Blanche and had two daughters, Trish and Tessa. Their home for 40 years in Pretoria was a truly happy one where friends of all ages were always warmly welcomed.

He served in Round Table 19 for 12 rewarding years.

Theo had three passions in life: the African bush, snow skiing and the sea. He, with family and friends, went on safari, birding or fishing to 17 African countries, scuba-dived in the Barrier Reef, Sinai Peninsula, Maldives and the Seychelles, and became an expert snow skier. His last skiing trip, at the age of 78, was with his daughters to Vail and Aspen. For 57 years Christmas holidays were spent at Plettenberg Bay.

Theo and Blanche moved to Cape Town in 2001. He was delighted to join a group of Old Hiltonians of his own era, for a monthly lunch reigniting old friendships.

The last school reunion at Hilton was in 2022 – the 70th anniversary of their matric class. By then he was ill but nevertheless delighted to be there.

He died on 20 June 2023 after a two-year battle with a brain tumour that he bravely fought with great courage and dignity.

He was devoted to his family and had a life that was well lived and inspiring. He was sincerely loved in return by his family



and many friends. He was respectful to all, generous, kind, honourable and a true gentleman.

Trish Sherrell | Daughter

We would like to thank everyone who informed us of the sad passing of Old Hiltonians. It is a privilege to honour their lives and keep contact with their families. If you are aware of any Old Hiltonian who has passed, please inform Amanda Pistorius at **database@hiltoncollege.com**

DAVID B WALTERS (1968, McKenzie)

David Walters, one of our country's master potters, lived and worked in Franschhoek for over 20 years.

He was born in Durban in 1950 and matriculated in 1968 from Hilton College, where he was known as Taffy. He graduated in1974 with his wife Michelle from the Fine Arts Department of Natal University (Pietermaritzburg) where they both majored in ceramics.

David's flair for finding old buildings with good bones, where they could establish a pottery studio, show room and home, began in 1984 with the restoration of the 1840 wood-and-iron grinding mill and water wheel at Caversham on the Lions River in KwaZulu-Natal.

A year later David, together with several local resident craftspeople, founded The Midlands Meander. This craft route is now well established and has economically uplifted everyone in the area. Serious flooding in 1987 swept away the mill and the wheel and roared through their home, a disaster that sent David and his family to England.

They began again in The Particular Baptist Chapel at Kenninghall in South Norfolk, creating The Particular Pottery and



converting the agricultural timber black barn on the property into a home – 1794 is carved on a wooden beam!

Ten years later they returned to South Africa to restore and work in one of Franschhoek's oldest Victorian Buildings – Roubaix House (dated pre-1910). David became a committee member of the Franschhoek Tourism Association and was responsible for marketing the arts sector. His skilled throwing demonstrations on the potter's wheel, their gallery openings and lively "pop-up" feasts at the long studio table with friends and guests became sought-after village events.

During this time, David produced hand thrown porcelain dinnerware for restaurants and local chefs including Reuben, David Higgs and Camil Haas. Many of his bespoke dinner services were shipped to customers all over the world.

Along with Christopher Duigan of Music Revival, they presented classical music concerts regularly in the Dutch Reformed Church and helped raise money to buy a piano for the community.

David was recognized as a Cape Craft Icon and a Fellow of Ceramics SA. He also curated an annual ceramics exhibition, called "David Walters and Friends", at the National William Humphries Art Gallery in Kimberley.

He leaves Michelle and their daughter Sarah, a graduate of the Norwich School of Art & Design and creator of The Ceramics Gallery in Newlands Village, Cape Town, where she continues his legacy.

Michelle Walters | Wife

MARK COOKMAN WILKES (1966, Pearce)

Mark was born to Tote (Old Hiltonian) and Ginger Wilkes on 12 November 1948, and was big brother to Patrick (Old Hiltonian) and Robyn.

He was a courteous, kind, generous and humble man, with a wonderful sense of humour and a hearty laugh to match his burly stature. He was a private man who loved his family and friends dearly.

Mark passed away peacefully at the Kloof Medi Clinic in Pretoria on 23 July 2023, having suffered a few months of illness. He fought bravely to the end with Sandy at his side. His passing has left a huge void in the lives of his family, friends and community.

Mark attended Highbury Preparatory School in Hillcrest in his formative years. He arrived to start school at Hilton College in 1962 and matriculated in 1966. The formidable 1st team rugby of 1966 was a highlight of Mark's rugby career. An active member of the Enterprise Club at Hilton College, Mark was passionate about nature and the outdoors.

On leaving Hilton College, Mark began an apprenticeship at Kempstor's in Durban where he qualified as a mechanic. His calling to the bush resulted in him settling in the Eastern Transvaal where he completed a diesel apprenticeship in Nelspruit. Thereafter, he started a highly successful company, Brayshaw Diesels, in Nelspruit, and later Alan Hudson in Nelspruit and White River.

It was in Nelspruit that he met the love of his life, Sandy van den Burgh, and her two sons, Wayne and Clint. Mark and Sandy were married in Hazyview and they were blessed with another two sons, Bard and Donovan, both Hilton College old boys.

Nelspruit became too urbanised for Mark, who bought a farm outside Nelspruit. Mark named the farm Hilton Valley after his fond memories of his beloved school, Hilton College. They lived here for 25 years. During this time, they bought a property in the Lissataba Game Reserve and built a magnificent "cliff home" overlooking the Olifants River.

They re-located to Zambia and built a fishing camp called Mutemwa Lodge on the banks of the Zambezi River. This was later sold to Gavin and Penny Johnson.

Some years later they returned to Hilton Valley, and Mark's calling took them to the Timbavati and Klaserie Nature Reserves. Mark did a lot of speculation in property, buying, building and selling properties in the Hoedspruit area. During this period, he bought a small property bordering the Timbavati and surrounded by Big Five reserves. He built a number of houses as well as a bush pub and inn on this property, called "The Fish Pond", as his retirement investment. Mark and Sandy retired here in 2012.

Mark loved all the fauna and flora and planted more than 100 trees on their property, an island of green when viewed on Google Earth. Mark and Sandy travelled extensively, visiting more Southern African game parks, Botswana being his favourite. He was fondly known in Botswana as 'Mark-kavango.'

Rest in peace, big guy, and thank you for the memories.

Rodney Hall | Friend

LANCE "BARREL" DE KLERK BOSCH (1976, Ellis)

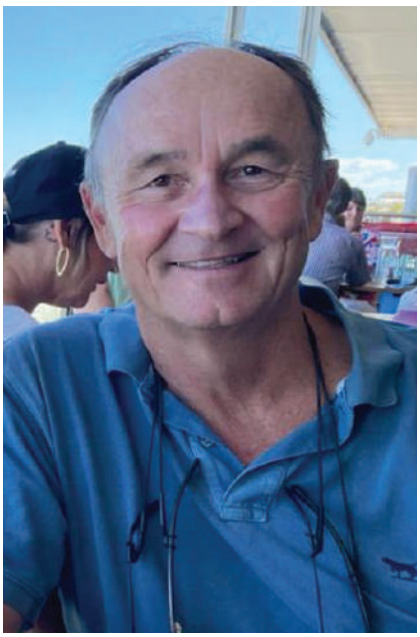
It is with great sadness that I write here about the passing of my great friend Lance Bosch in December 2023. We met at Hilton College in 1972, the centenary year, and remained very close friends, sharing many adventures and spending much time together over the next 50 years.

In the condolence messages from his Hilton mates, his friends and colleagues in Durban and Perth, as well his family the following words keep being used to describe Lance: private, understated, loyal, stable, knowledgeable, interested, concerned, fun to be with, funny, competitive on the sports field, supportive of the underdog, blessed with a generous nature.

Lance was born in Durban, attended Northlands Primary School and started at Hilton in 1972. He followed his brother Roger "Barrel" Bosch and, as is the norm, was bestowed with the same nickname. He was a good all-round sportsman, playing cricket, rugby, swimming and tennis, always competitively, during his time at Hilton. In his matric year he played for the 1st and 2nd XV teams and also led Ellis as Head of House.

As Head of House in 1976, Lance was required to prepare opening and closing reports in the official Ellis House yearbook. Despite an overall sense of satisfaction that Lance enjoyed in his year of leading Ellis, he recorded that "the house was easily excited", had "a most ebullient enthusiasm" and that this "earned Ellis the unjustifiable name of Riot House". Whilst it is probably true that the Ellis matrics of 1976 were somewhat rebellious, Lance's mature, calm and reasonable approach ensured we all made it through that final year at Hilton. More importantly, the Ellis matrics remained close after school and were excellent attendees at reunion gatherings.

Lance studied at UKZN after school, graduating in 1979 with a BSc in geology. This qualification set him on the career path he chose as an environmental consultant. He began at Davies Lyn and Partners in Durban, becoming a partner in that firm. In 1998 he and his wife Bem, with three young daughters, moved to Perth in Australia. There he joined Martinick McNulty as an environmental consultant. In 2002, soon after joining, Lance became a director of a new firm MBS Environmental with his partners Wolf Martinick and Kristy Sell. This firm quickly became a very well-respected and successful environmental consulting business, advising clients all over Western Australia, particularly in the mining



industry. In 2016 Lance withdrew from the firm he had formed so he could travel and enjoy retirement.

To some degree Lance's retirement was as a consequence of the early diagnosis of CLL, a type of blood cancer. His condition remained stable and did not affect his life in any material way until May 2023. In a reasonably short space of time Lance's condition deteriorated forcing him to spend extended periods in hospital receiving various chemo and other treatments. Sadly, none of these were successful and despite a brave fight, Lance succumbed on 11 December 2023.

The following is an extract from the obituary written by his partner in MBS, Kristy Sell. "MBS as it is today continues to reflect the things that were important to Lance – having a positive work-life balance, celebrating achievements, delivering high-quality work and creating an atmosphere where people could develop and flourish. His love of cycling, the beach, a coffee, a glass of good red wine, the occasional cheezel and chocolate freckle are fondly remembered by many of the MBS family."

Lance had a keen interest in the environment, history and the outdoors. One of the highlights of his life was a trip to Italy with his brother Roger and his dad, Bill, who fought in World War 2 in Italy. Lance had thoroughly researched the places Bill had been stationed in and had fought in, beginning at Monte Cassino and moving north to Tuscany. The trip involved visiting many of these battlefields. Roger recalls going to beautifully maintained graveyards and seeing hundreds of gravestones honouring the brave Springboks who died in Italy. No doubt many Hiltonians are also buried in these graveyards.

Throughout his life, Lance's love of the outdoors and nature was evident. He, with Bem, was a keen traveller, undertaking any number of trips and adventures in SA, Australia and Europe. And even though he lived in Australia, he visited SA often, always including a visit to the Kruger National Park or the Drakensberg in the itinerary.

I was the beneficiary of a long friendship with Lance. Our love of the beach, surfing and music ensured we spent a great deal of our post-school years together. These were fun, carefree days spent on the simple things like good surf, hikes in the 'Berg, camping, travelling around SA and generally having fun.

Above all, Lance was a dedicated husband, father and grandfather. He and Bem settled well in Australia and their daughters Lauren, Terri and Jenni all married Australian men producing five grandchildren. To celebrate Lance's life a memorial gathering was held at Waterman's Bay, Perth and attended by family, friends and colleagues. Fittingly the celebration took place on the beach referred to by his family as "Lance's Beach".

We lift up our hearts to you Lance, a true gentleman of Hilton – may you rest in peace.

Chris Tod | Friend



Old Boys' News





Sean Conway and his trophy for the Dee sport's personality of the year

SEAN CONWAY (1999, Pearce)

In 2023, endurance athlete Sean Conway made a world record by doing 105 Ironmans in 105 consecutive days! He went on to be named Dee Sports Personality Award in recognition of his remarkable achievement. Sean, to you and your crew!

In his typically self-effacing fashion, Sean had this to say on LinkedIn: "As in all achievements in life, most of the cr@p jobs, the important jobs, the tough repetitive jobs, are done by other team members and crew who equally deserve acclaim. I had the best crew in the world. They worked hard to make sure that all I had to do each day was swim 2.4 miles, cycle 112 miles and then run a marathon. Oh, and all the eating. Just want to say thank you to my crew. This is for you too."



KYLE STEENBERG (2019, Newnham)

We're super proud of Kyle Steenberg who finished first in his class for the Post Graduate Diploma in Accounting Sciences programme at the University of Pretoria! Kyle was awarded: The 2023 PwC Prize for best performance in PGDip (Accounting Science) Financial Management 705 (FBS 705); the 2023 Ernst & Young Prize for the best achievement in Financial Accounting 705 for the Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting Sciences; the 2023 BDO Prize for best overall achievement in Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting Science; the 2023 Investec Prize for best performance in Taxation 705 in Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting Sciences; and the Greenpen Prize for the best achievement in Financial Accounting for both the BCom Accounting Sciences degree and Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting Sciences! Outstanding work, Kyle!



CHRIS PAPPAS (2009, Churchill)

Congratulations to Old Hiltonian and uMngeni Mayor Chris Pappas (2009, Churchill) on being recognised by TIME magazine as one of only 100 rising leaders in the world!

As he said to TimesLive, "There is a need for more administrative politicians, people who are not so focused on giving quality speeches but more focused on the outcomes of policy implementation."





MATTHEW DE LA HEY (2008, Churchill)

My recruitment business in the UK, inploi, received a Highly Commended award for Innovation of the Year! The award, received at the British Recruitment Awards, is run by employee insight platform New Possible and sets out to discover and celebrate the individuals and teams that are passionate about recruitment's role in building a thriving organisation.



Neil Smith with Marc Williamson

NEIL SMITH (1997, Pearce)

In 2022 I led the engineering team as the engineer in charge of the FIFA World Cup in Qatar. I was the design engineer for the systems that captured and produced four of the eight venues, including the final at Lusail. I was also responsible for all the centralized production that was done at the International Broadcast Centre (IBC). This project spanned two years for us as a company (NEP). We did three proof of concept sessions for FIFA during the Covid travel ban, which culminated in three months in Qatar at the end of 2022.

I now have the role of Global Head of Platform Engineering at NEP and manage a team of 38 people who are building a media platform (TFC) inside our global business. The TFC software platform is what was used to manage all aspects of the World Cup in Qatar.

TFC won two awards in 2023: one at NAB, for our Software Defined Network (SDN) solution, and another for our ephemeral productions feature at IBC. TFC started as a pet project between a colleague and I in 2019 to help us automate broadcast television workflows. It has since become a full-blown control system that runs across all our facilities globally, covering events like The Masters Golf, Super Bowl, NFL, NBA, NHL, Swedish Ice hockey, SkySports F1, all live sport in Australia, FIFA world Cup and FIFA Women's World Cup.

NEP and TFC are positioned at the front of a broadcast television shift as the industry moves away from serial baseband systems to ST2110 IP systems.

CREAGH GOBLE (1990, Ellis)

After a long stint in the US, I returned to South Africa, got married to Rache Breedt in 2013, and we have three children: Grace, Matthew and Ava. We live in Hillcrest.
In 2018, I started a frozen fruit business called Frozen Brands with my business partner Blake Edy. We supply frozen fruit products to Checkers under the Früzo brand, to Spar in their house brand and to Pick 'n Pay under BURRRST brand. We also export to the various SADAC countries.



LIAM WALKER (2011, Falcon)

A big up to Liam Walker! Donning the Uganda Cranes jersey in the Victoria Cup, he scored the game-winning penalty in the final match, securing victory against Kenya, breaking their 11-game streak.



Mark Harrison in the museum with Heritage Curator Bruce MacLachlan holding his brother's blazer



Mark Harrison visiting Ellis House

MARK HARRISON (1968, Ellis)

I recently visited Hilton College and took a stroll down memory lane. My older brother Paul (1983, Ellis), who was Head of School, passed away shortly after leaving Hilton. The lights outside Ellis House were donated by Paul's friend Peter Feuilherade (1982, Ellis).

Bruce MacLachlan, the school's Heritage Curator, recently received Paul's school blazer. This cherished item was given to Doug Gain (1996, Ellis, Head of School) by my parents after Doug was awarded the Paul Harrison Memorial Scholarship at Speech Day. Impressed by Doug's values, which echoed those of Paul's, my parents wanted Doug to have Paul's school blazer. I am delighted that Paul's blazer has been donated to the school. Ironically, the museum is situated where the Head of School stayed in 1983, bringing the blazer full circle back to its home!



Back: *David Attwood-Smith (1966 PM, Pearce), Ian Fyvie (1962, Churchill), Mike Procter (1964, Newnham), Graham Armstrong (1963, Pearce), Tim Hooper (1963, Newnham), Rodney Tweedie (1964 PM, Newnham), Malcolm Glennie (1963, Churchill), Peter Hassard (1964, Newnham)*

Front: *John Havemann (1963, Pearce), Ken Bannister (1961, Churchill), Brian Attwood-Smith (1963, Pearce), Dawie Chamberlain (1963 PM, McKenzie), David Henry (1961, Pearce), Dorian Harcourt-Baldwin (1963, Pearce)*

LAUGHS AND LUNCH

About 15 Old Hiltonians got together for lunch (because they can). They laughed and ate, and laughed some more, reminisced, and revelled in the sheer delight of reconnecting. Here's to many more!



BRETT MORGAN (2016, Lucas)

In 2024, I will run the London Marathon in support of the charity Children with Cancer UK. I lost my mother to cancer in 2008, and so I would like to give a child the opportunity to get treatment; to make a difference in my small way. Children with Cancer UK does incredible work by raising and investing money for vital specialist research to save the lives of children with cancer and keep their families together. **www.childrenwithcancer.org.uk**



Gareth at University of Oxford

GARETH OBERY (2014, McKenzie)

Gareth is starting his master's in applied digital health at the University of Oxford. We wish you well, Gareth!

OLIVER STEADMAN (2005, Lucas)

On 6 October I became a dad and released a new album with my band Stornoway!

The album has reached #7 in the UK Top 40 album sales chart... our best performance in the sales chart, and first time in the UK album sales Top Ten. I think there must've been many Hiltonians who streamed or purchased a copy in support, so thank you all!



Ettienne at the Western Cape High Court

ETTIENNE MARX (2015, Churchill)

Congratulations to Ettienne Marx (2015, Churchill) on his admission as an Attorney of the Western Cape High Court.



SEBASTIAN NEGRI (2012, Churchill)

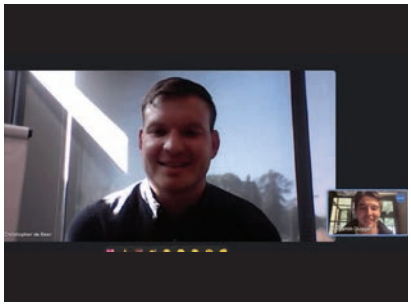
Congratulations to Old Hiltonian Sebastian Negri (2012, Churchill) on being selected for the Italian Rugby World Cup squad for the tournament in France. This will be Sebastian's second World Cup tournament!



Dr Jay Park (left) and Sir Terence English in Oxford, both donning their Old Hiltonian ties

JAY PARK (2014, McKenzie)

When Dr Jay Park (2014, McKenzie) was invited to author "Stories of Discovery" for the Cureus Journal of Medical Science, it made perfect sense for him to approach fellow Old Hiltonian and retired cardiothoracic surgeon Sir Terence English (1949, Falcon). The two doctors collaborated to publish the article "Follow Your Heart: Trials and Tribulations of Sir Terence English and the First Successful Heart Transplant in the United Kingdom". Dr Park's journey with Sir Terence has inspired him to follow his heart, which he says is crucial to pioneering in medicine. Sir Terence is the epitome of a Hiltonian, Dr Park says: honest, upright, and true as steel. "Our interaction was special for us as Old Hiltonians. We were able to share our fond memories of Hilton... Not only did I gain a mentor, but also a friend."



Christopher De Beer (left) and Benjamin Duggan

BENJAMIN-JEVÁN DUGGAN (2017, Falcon)

I recently had the privilege of concluding a mentorship meeting with Christopher De Beer (2012, Pearce), during which we discussed career growth and opportunities in the logistics industry. As a young professional navigating the world of work, this meeting ignited in me reflections on how to solidify success in any field and how to identify key indicators for personal and professional growth.

Christopher generously shared insights into his professional journey, including the his challenges and triumphs. He offered valuable advice on how to expand my network and gain a deeper understanding of the business landscape. Furthermore, he gave me tangible short-term and long-term goals to strive for in my career development journey.

His mentorship was made possible by Hilton Ties, a powerful tool for fostering meaningful connections and knowledge sharing among alumni. It's also a testament to the spirit of support and guidance that thrives within our network.



JARROD SIDDALL (2022, Pearce)

After matriculating, I embarked on a gap year opportunity provided by "letzlive", which allows students to work at prestigious international schools while exploring different countries. I secured a position at Lambrook School in Winkfield Row, Berkshire, UK, where I serve as an assistant coach and boarding assistant. I have also been afforded the opportunity to contribute to classroom activities – and umpire a match featuring none other than Prince George, with Prince William watching from the sidelines.

When I shared my origins with a few of the parents, I was surprised by their interest and even more surprised to discover some Old Hiltonians in their ranks. It revealed to me the enduring legacy of Hilton College and the global impact of its alumni.

My gap year has allowed me to gain valuable experiences, such as meeting and listening to Bear Grylls and former Prime Minister Teresa May, but also showcased the confidence and resilience instilled in Hilton College alumni. I am returning to South Africa to study my BAcc at Varsity College in Cape Town.

DAVID MEACHIN (1956, Ellis)

Barbara, my wife of more than 50 years, and I will be embarking on a round-the-world cruise on a voyage of 138 days and calling at 58 ports along the way. We leave Fort Lauderdale, Florida on Viking Sky on 20 December 2023 and, after passing through the Panama and Suez Canals, arrive at our final destination at the Port of Greenwich in London on 6 May 2024. We will fly back to St Petersburg (Florida) on 7 May 2024. Our ultimate bucket list. On our Baltic sailing trip last year, we didn't make it to Saint Petersburg in Russia due to the Russian/Ukrainian conflict. I suspect this time a number of destinations in the Middle East may "melt away". We have already been advised that we will no longer be visiting Israel but exploring Kalamata in Greece and Heraklion in Crete. When we dock in Hobart, Tasmania I will have the chance to meet up with Old Hiltonian Anthony Herbert, who I have known since I was eight years old but have not seen for more than 60 years. I also look forward to celebrating my 83rd birthday on 1 January 2024 at sea in the Pacific Ocean.



The Madala brothers Awela (left) and Alunga

AWELA MADALA (2016, Newnham), and ALUNGA MADALA (2020, Newnham)

The Madala brothers, Awela (2016, Newnham) and Alunga (2020, Newnham), are the latest additions to our family of monthly donors! A heartfelt thank you to these young men for passionately supporting our school.



Jason with Christopher and Chloe at the Chamberlain Music Centre

JASON GEORGHIOU (1998, Pearce)

My children Christopher and Chloe love music. Chloe (Grade 6 at Our Lady of Fatima) is working towards her Piano Grade 2 exam, and Christopher (Grade 4 at Clifton in Durban) his Clarinet Grade 3 and Piano Grade 2 exam. We are very impressed by the Chamberlain Music Centre at Hilton College and excited to see what Hilton has to offer the boys.

We always enjoy our visits to Hilton which are a reminder to me of how fortunate I am to call myself an Old Hiltonian.

KEITH RICHMOND (1969, Churchill)

In the 2022 issue of The Hiltonian, I wrote about "Archie", the benign ghost in Hilton folklore of former master Archibald Pearce, associated with the Campbell Block. Now I comment more seriously on a malign spectre that haunted the school in the past in the form of bullying, intimidation and beatings.

The oppressive effect of this dark cultural strain was highlighted for me recently by the testimony of four old boys who revealed the torment they'd endured at the school in those years. To some extent these practices were naturalised as part of the authoritarian disciplinary system, the traditional schoolboy hierarchy and masculine interpersonal style, so they weren't seriously resisted or seen as particularly abusive. The trend was evidently at its height in the 1950s, and toxic traces remained throughout the 1960s. To his credit, headmaster Raymond Slater initiated reforms in the 1970s towards cultivating a more humane regulatory and interpersonal ethos at the school, and today of course corporal punishment is banned nationally by law.

When victims at that time voiced their grievances, their parents were apparently sceptical or unsympathetic, seeing the adversity as part of a character-building rite of passage, and they were reluctant to confront the school authorities. This compounded the problem, increasing the boys' vulnerability, self-doubt and shame and undermining trust. Even if extreme instances were rare, their hurtful effects on the victims, both physical and psychological, caused deeply negative attitudes to the school both during and after their years there.

Nowadays Hilton tries to meet the boys' need for empathetic guidance and honest self-disclosure by having a clinical psychologist on hand and promoting a considerate, friendly ethos and mutually supportive styles of interaction at the school. Such measures have presumably curbed the divisive and demoralising behaviour experienced by some boys in former times. Only one of the contemporaries I've mentioned could restore a positive relationship with the school afterwards. How many others have never disclosed similar personal experiences of suffering, resentment and alienation and the lasting impact of their tribulations at the school?

This shadow in Hilton's history should warn against taking too lightly the more caring, fraternal values affirmed by the school today. One may well imagine that in those less enlightened years the benevolent Archie had good reason to patrol the corridors at night, motivated by concern for his bemused and abused young charges. May the school's harsher traditions and their damaging effects remain forever in the past.

GEOFFREY DUNCOMBE CLOUGH (1954, Ellis)

In pride of place hanging over the fireplace in our home is a battered old black powder gun, or blunderbuss. From the trigger guard there is a cord from which once hung a lace-up bag that held the black powder. The bag was fabricated from the scrotum of an antelope. Sadly, in the gun's travels from Africa to England, it has become detached from the cord either accidentally or at the hands of a thief and is now lost.

The reason this ancient weapon is held in such high esteem is its history.

I came by the gun in a rather unorthodox way. It was an exhibit in a murder case alleged to have been used by one of the clients I was defending.

The trial was held in the summer of 1964 at a town called Fort Jameson in Northern Rhodesia, about to become Zambia, where I was a newly called legal practitioner.

In most countries, newly qualified lawyers cut their teeth on trivial cases such as careless driving or shop lifting, but not in Zambia. In my first few years of practice I, as were all newcomers, was required to represent a succession of alleged murderers; in this case I was defending 14 out of 26 men all charged with this capital offence.

Zambia was just about to become an independent republic having before been a British Protectorate called Northern Rhodesia. Prior to independence, a religious sect had grown up under the leadership of a woman called Alice Lenshina. This sect became known as "the Lumpa". She encouraged her members to pay, what would otherwise have been their taxes, to her church, instead of the state. The colonial government, about to cease to exist, allowed this state of affairs to pertain rather than risk accusations of racism. The new black administration, the African National Independence Party, led by its first president, Doctor Kenneth Kaunda, took a different view of the matter and vigorously enforced their tax regime.

Thus, animosity developed between the villagers supporting the new government and those favouring the Lumpa. Sadly, this led to bloodshed and attacks and counter-attacks, one village upon the other, were violent in the extreme; women were raped before being staked to the ground and the heads of beheaded men were mounted on the crest of huts which were then fired. Needless to say, this violence led to a number of murder trials. The sect had developed in the south-east province of the country, the centre of which was Fort Jameson.

The court in the form of the judge, his marshall, an interpreter, and prosecutor and two defence advocates, including me, were flown "on circuit" from the capital Lusaka in a Dakota to Fort Jameson for a series of trials in rotation, Lumpa members followed by a trial of the counter-attackers, namely UNIP villagers. As the death sentence was mandatory, it was particularly important that utmost efforts were made



defending the Lumpa men because in their case the likely result would be death if convicted. Whereas, any UNIP men so convicted, would probably be pardoned, and after reduced remission of sentence, soon released. The men I was defending were all from the same Lumpa village and one of them was the proud owner of the black powder gun. When all of his village had been arrested, the gun, recently fired, was found in his hut, but there was virtually no other evidence against him. There was no scientific evidence available, certainly not in Zambia. In interview, his explanation for the recent firing of the gun was that he had been hunting that morning and he had a couple of guinea fowl to prove it; furthermore several guns had been fired in the attack, and the police found another recently fired black powder gun. There was really a very thin case against my gun owner and I had carefully avoided asking any questions of prosecution witnesses that may elicit a reply which could assist the Crown. Unfortunately, matters did not end there because, despite strong advice, he gave evidence as did three of the other men that I was representing. They were all convicted while the other 10 had verdicts reflecting the strength of the evidence against them.

The reason these defendants insisted upon giving evidence was their innate pride. They could not see what they had done wrong. The undermanned police force was incapable of preventing these reciprocal raids of one village upon the other, and the villagers regarded it their duty to avenge the relatives of their extended family who had been killed in a previous attack; in fact they were proud to have done so. In cross examination, it was put to my gun owner that he must have been so incensed by the attack on this relatives' village by the UNIP supporters, that he would have shot the first man he saw. His reply ended my hopes of further defence: "Oh no, Bwana, I would have waited until I got at least five of them in range," he said. I should explain that when they use such weapons, the breach was primed with black powder in the usual way, but rammed down the barrel as missiles would be nuts, bolts and nails, all held in by a wad. When the gun was fired, there would be a shotgun effect. The excessive load for the powder to discharge rendered the weapon a danger to the user but was also very effective against anything alive within the vicinity of its sights.

After his inevitable conviction, the court ordered the weapons used in the attack, including the gun, to be destroyed.

By then I was friendly with the policeman whose duty it was to destroy the weapons, and over a beer, I persuaded him that this could be achieved by deactivating the gun, and then passing it on to me in the certain knowledge that it would never again be restored to use. I still have the gun and I can positively vouch for the facts to this point.

From here on, I rely on what I have been reliably told and the historical fact, which are, as the police officer who deactivated the gun and was something of a weapons' enthusiast, said were almost certainly the case.

Towards the end of the 19th century, Cecil John Rhodes negotiated with Lobengula, the Chief of the Matabele tribe, which was both the senior and the warrior tribe of the area for the mineral rights of his domain, which was then Rhodesia. I have not seen any documentation to support it, but it is universally accepted that the deal struck was that in exchange for those mineral rights, Rhodes would provide:

(a) A motorised launch for the chief's use on the Zambezi;
(b) A sum of money, the most usually quoted sum before £200; and
(c) Two hundred Martini Henry rifles.

The contract was honoured as far as (a) and (b) above were concerned, but instead of the rifles, or any sort of rifle, Rhodes delivered 200 black powder muzzle loaders which had been used in the American War of Independence. My pride and joy has military markings on the butt suggesting that this was the case, and my police officer was convinced that this was one of the so-called rifles.

Once it became apparent to Lobengula that rifles were superior to the weapons Rhodes had supplied, the muzzle loaders were soon replaced by rifles and the original weapons were distributed as favours over the years to the sub chiefs in the area and this was how it eventually came into the hands of my sorry defendant.

It was in reliance on this breach of contract that Kaunda nationalised the mining industry in Zambia, although he allowed the mining houses to continue to operate and be paid for doing so by the new state.

It is the history of the weapon, coupled with the fact that it was an exhibit in a murder case in which I acted for its owner, that has made the weapon so cherished that it hangs in pride of place in my home. The only sorry part of the whole saga is that my client was convicted of murder. I just wish that my powers of persuasion not to give evidence had been more effective and prevented him from going into the witness box where he gave the evidence so fatal to his case. I have carefully avoided enquiring whether the death sentence was in fact carried out in this case. However, there was a tendency to remit sentences even in the case of Lumpa convictions if it was established that there was a strong element of bravery, and he certainly was a brave man.

Before I went on the trials, I proposed to my wife and upon my return with the gun as the Dakota descended, I could see her dress in green awaiting.

Geoff sadly passed away in July 2022.
His obituary is published in this edition.

> "The only sorry part of the whole saga is that my client was convicted of murder."

Fleur-de-Lys



We enjoyed great success in 2023, hosting numerous excellent events, including reunions, which are a wonderful celebration of our community.

The highlight of our year was the Matric Parents' Social in the first term, which drew an impressive 250 guests.

Among the reunions we hosted were those for alumni celebrating milestone years of 10, 20, 30, 40, and 50 years since they matriculated from Hilton College. These festive occasions enable old friends to reconnect, reminisce, and revel in the memories of yesteryears. They are always enjoyed by all.

The club played host to a number of residential sporting events during the school holidays throughout the year. These included three hockey tournaments, the U14 cricket festival and the water polo festival.

We also hosted dinners for various departments – from academics, culture and sports to matric leavers. These intimate events serve to honour pupils for their hard work, dedication, and excellent results, whether achieved in the classroom on the stage or on the sports fields. While the matric leavers dinners are emotional farewells, when boys reflect on their time at this special school and bid adieu before embarking on new chapters in their lives.

For the seventh time in 15 years, the club hosted the Cecchetti Summer School ballet camp in 2023. The prestigious camp takes place every two years, and we are proud to be hosting it again in 2025. While our theatre and Chamberlain Music Centre provide superb facilities for the 150 ballerinas who take part in the camp, we manage the catering and logistics of the event.

In 2023, the club bid farewell to Derek Chaplin, our esteemed chairman, who served the club faithfully for 17 years. Derek leaves an indelible mark on the Fleur-de-Lys Club; his leadership, wisdom, and unwavering commitment have been instrumental in shaping the club and fostering a thriving community. His passion for the club, coupled with his tireless efforts, have left an enduring legacy that will be cherished for years to come.

We also grieved the passing of our dear friend and dedicated treasurer Dean Harding. Dean's courageous battle with illness touched the hearts of all who knew him, and his unwavering dedication to the club will forever be remembered. We offer our deepest condolences and heartfelt sympathy to his family.

The following new life members were welcomed to the club in 2023.

R J DANCER
M M ARMSTRONG
G M ARMSTRONG
L A CHOWLES
W LIEBENBERG
B M MACGIBBON
S R MAYNARD
M R ARMSTRONG
J C JUTZEN
S LIEBENBERG
N THORBURN
M J RAW

Ralph Tiaden | Club Manager

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Connect with fellow Hiltonians, from alumni to parents and senior boys,
and expand your professional network and grow your brand.

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highly connected and resourced people.

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