

# THE Moorcock Chronicle

EDITION 30 - 2013

THE THOMAS MORE COLLEGE PAST PUPILS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

## PAST PUPILS' ASSOCIATION

# Chairman's Report

2013

**Welcome, everyone, to our 2013 AGM. I would like to thank you all for coming, and am sure you will agree with me that the delicious breakfast was worth the early start! And I will take this opportunity to offer our thanks to Pips and Joycie for the wonderful spread.**

Allan, thank you so much for your wonderful talk! I have personally been looking forward to this publication with huge interest, so the chance to hear you give us this sneak peek was one we gratefully snatched at. The Past Pupil body will I am sure feel the same way!

2013 has been a scholarly year for the Past Pupils' Association. We have tried new things, we have learnt lessons from past experiences, we have established priorities, we have highlighted the need for change in some areas, and we have continued past trends in other areas.

We unfortunately began the year by receiving the resignation of 2 committee members, Zuriel Naiker due to study commitments and his subsequent relocation to Johannesburg, and Jeremy Redding due to his retirement. I would like to take this opportunity to thank both of them for their efforts and input. They were both faithful servants of the PPA, and are missed! But for every cloud, there is a silver lining - Jeremy's position on our Committee was automatically filled by Colleen Woodley, the school's new Business Manager, and apart from taking this opportunity to welcome her, I would like to sincerely thank her for the incredible work she has done so far!

Our Association Sport has grown tremendously. The Hockey Club now fields eleven teams of men, ladies and juniors in both the Indoor and Outdoor disciplines, competing in the Second through Fifth divisions of the KZN League. The Waterpolo Club now fields five teams of men, ladies, masters and juniors, competing in the First through Third divisions. Our thanks go to Johann McLeod for his tireless efforts running Hockey, and to Gregg Higgs, for doing the same for Waterpolo. We would also

like to thank Colleen Woodley and her department for their assistance in taking over the day-to-day financial transactions of both clubs. Due to this growth we have also re-structured the way in which we donate

money towards these clubs, which will come into effect in 2014. The material purpose behind any Past Pupils' Association is to have an active and reliable database, and in 2013 we received an unexpected boost in this regard. When Jeremy was cleaning out his old files, he discovered complete Matric class lists dating back to 1967. This has provided us with names and years of matriculation, which were previously just question marks. The task ahead of us is now to turn those names into contact details. Into our 2014 budget we have requested funds to employ a temporary staff member to fulfil this tracing role. Further to that, we have in the last 2 weeks received an incredibly generous donation from Mr Roy Alderdice which will enable us to exceed our hopes for this project, and not only complete it sooner than expected, but also to complete it with a much higher degree of accuracy. We are so grateful to Roy for his generosity, and we are so excited for the momentum we will gain from it.

The PPA's project for 2013 was to commit a total of R30 000.00 towards re-vamping the interior of the Robin Savory Pavilion, and thus The Coffee Shoppe. The money has gone towards the outside furniture, and the installation of new blinds, and I am sure you will agree this has been money well spent. On this note, the Past Pupils' Association would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank Gary Green for his donation of a portion of the profits from the sales of his book "Coming to Terms" which was based on his time in the boarding establishment here at Thomas More. Thank you Gary, we are so grateful, not only for that generosity, but also for the consistent help you provide with other aspects like the manufacture of hockey shirts, and the Country Fair.

On the "trying new things front", the Parents' Council proposed to us that we take over the management of one of the stops on the Long Walk, and turn it into 'The Past Pupils' Stop'. We were truly excited at the possibility of creating another PPA 'tradition', and took up the challenge. Thanks to the co-ordination of James Lees, and the superb organisation of the Parents' Council, we believe the stop to have been a great success, and hope to continue this 'new' tradition in years to come.

cont...



As far as highlighting the need for change goes, our stand at the Country Fair is something we have chosen as a focal point for 2014. In 2013 we exceeded our success, if you can call it that, of 2012, by increasing the number of completed "Update your Details" forms by a whopping 4. We obviously feel that more can and should be gained from this platform, and it is something we will work towards in 2014.

Learning from past experiences, as a committee we took the decision for 2013 to assist in the planning and funding, where possible, of any particular matriculation year that contacted us and requested a reunion, but not to actually host one every year just for the sake of hosting a reunion. Our experiences from hosting the Jubilee Reunion showed that it is not yet within our reach to throw such a 'grand bash' on an annual basis. We have so far had one enquiry from the class of 2003, which has not turned into anything further just yet. We are currently revising our Reunion planning strategy so as to ensure that we achieve maximum success in future years.

Now to the formalities and remaining thanks: Election of Office Bearers took place where The Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary have all indicated their willingness to stand for re-election. The Treasurer post has been filled by Colleen Woodley due to her position within Thomas More. All current Committee Members have indicated their willingness to stand for re-election. No issues for General discussion were raised.

I would like to thank the Past Pupils' Association Committee, which exists purely on a volunteer basis, for giving of your time as you do, especially in the fast-paced times in which we live. This speaks volumes to your characters, and I am very grateful!



Rae, you are our bright and shining star, without whom we would not achieve anything! Thank you for your passion, selflessness and dedication! You are never allowed to leave us, because we would never be able to replace you!

Due to the forced cancellation of last year's Association Day due to inclement weather, Association Day returns today after a 2-year hiatus. We hope that those of you who stay to watch the sports, and those of you who stay to join me in suffering a coronary by participating in the sports, will enjoy the day! Thank you for your

attendance, and for bearing with us through the formalities. I will end by quoting a Past Pupil by the name of Ryan Wattus from the class of 2004. In his words: "Thomas More is a great school and the only place, I think, where you can play rugby, do drama and not get a wedgy or swirly every break. You can explore all your talents and endure the things you don't like, but the biggest thing is that you get the chance.



Matthew Willman  
The South African Heritage

**MATTHEW WILLMAN**

Matthew Willman's (Class of 1997) "MW Heritage Collection" was launched at the Everard Read Gallery, Rosebank, Johannesburg in August 2013. This collection of work is the first photographic collection ever to be exhibited at this gallery so it's a massive step forward for photography.



**WESLEY BOHATA [CLASS OF 2010]**

Wesley has just finished the 3rd year of his B.Com/Economics/Finance and Supply Chain degree at UKZN in Westville. In his spare-time over the last 2 and a half years he has been running Junior Jellies.



**MALONEY/CARDWELL**  
Ian and Jules Cardwell are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter Chelsea to Patrick Maloney, son of Paddy and Vanessa. May the sun shine warm upon your faces.

Emily Emale and Gareth Williams are married at The barn, in waterford, Niagara drive. PHOTO: Sharragh O'Reilly



# Births



Congratulations to SEAN (Class of 2000) and ROBYN OLIVIER on the birth of their daughter Isla Rose on 23 December 2012.



Congratulations to KATIE VISSER (Class of 2001) on the birth of her son Hunter John Visser on 21 July 2013.



Congratulations to MICHANE MOSTERT (Class of 2007) on the birth of her daughter on 16 September 2013 in Pretoria.



Congratulations to KELLY JANSEN (née van Leeuwen) (Class of 2004) and RHYS JANSEN (class of 1999) on the birth of their daughter Harlow Ivy Jansen on 22 October 2013

# ACHIEVEMENTS

Elzané van Wyk – gained her Civil Engineering Degree cum laude at Stellenbosch University, and started working at SMEC, a civil engineering company in Durban in January 2013.



4 TMC Engineering Graduates 2012: Jarred Crossley, Dinesha Maistry, Matthew Hunter and Michael Chandler.



Cayleigh Dexter (née Hornby) (Class of 2005) graduated in May 2013 with her BEd (ECD).



Hannah Meredith was awarded the Top Student for 2013 at Telford College in Edinburgh Scotland and is now doing her honours at Napier University also in Edinburgh.



# Weddings



JOANNE ENGLEFIELD (Class of 1999) and IAN WILD were married on 27 April 2013 at the Station Masters Arms.



FLORIAN LAABMAYR (Class of 2006) and ELZANÉ VAN WYK (Class of 2006) were married on 4 May 2013 at Woodridge Country Lodge.



KIRSTEN HORNSEY (Class of 2005) and DEON MEYER were married on 8 June 2013 at Straven Court near Richmond.



STEVEN FROLICK (Class of 2002) and HAYLEE FROLICK (née Phillpotts) were married on 5 January 2013 at the Windmills in Nottingham Road.



MAXINE WHITFIELD and BEN SMIT were married on 9 August 2013 at The Plantations in Port Elizabeth.



CAYLEIGH DEXTER (née Hornby) married NEIL DEXTER on 10 September 2012.



# Engagements



CHELSEA CARDWELL (Class of 2006) and PATRICK MALONEY got engaged on 28 September 2013 in the Drakensberg Mountains in Pillar Cave after a 2-hour hike to the top.



# Obituaries

## Mike Dunleavy.

Mike was a colleague of mine at Thomas More. Both of us taught English, and both were involved in producing plays and the many other activities that teachers were engaged in. It was clear to me from the time of arrival that he was a very gifted man. Not only did his wit and intelligence shine through but he rapidly developed a rapport with the pupils, especially through his enthusiasm and abilities as a sporting coach. Of course, he had a great talent for drama and was a star in local amateur theatre. I once asked him how he memorised such large tracts of script; he simply laughed, said he read them through a few times and they stuck. On another occasion I saw him on stage at Pinetown Civic Centre - in one of those comedies requiring split-second scene shifts. One of the doors got stuck; he needed to get through: so he neatly slipped through a window. The play went on, with few in the audience noticing the emergency.

Mike was in great demand as a compère on many occasions. I recall him at a fund-raising dinner for the Kloof Catholic parish conducting a complicated raffle based on seating tickets being taken out of a hat. With his usual quick patter he eliminated ticket after ticket until finally the lady who drew the tickets lifted the last one: it was his, to his considerable embarrassment. So he handed the prize over as his donation.

He is someone who will stay on in the memories of the many who knew him.

~Peter McKay



## Neil Clifton Cartwright, (25 July 1961 - 27th January 2013).

Beloved father of Emma, son of Joe and Connie and brother to Denise and Dawn. An aortic aneurysm cut short a life well lived but with so much still on his agenda.

Neil enjoyed a happy childhood in Kloof, Natal, which saw the start of many long lasting friendships especially during his time at Thomas More in the mid-seventies. He often referred to this period as the happiest and most valued of his formative years. He recognized that he was best suited to being self-employed, and after a short apprenticeship in signwriting he sallied forth with a brush, a good 'hitching' thumb and a spirit fuelled by optimism and determination. He secured contracts through his honesty and reliability. Link Pharmacies was a chain who knew that even without transport Neil would arrive, as arranged, and complete the job.

In the 1980s married to the love of his life, Alison, and with a beautiful daughter, Emma, the family re-located to the UK where Neil again painstakingly established another successful signwriting business. Borough Market on the South Bank of the Thames and launches of The Port of London Authority prominently reflect his skill.

At the same time Neil's entrepreneurial interest was always alert for opportunities to diversify. A meeting with Kevin, friend and future business partner, established Screen Savers – computer support company. Using the IT talents of the workforce and with his vision and work ethic controlling at the helm, the company prospers. Clients not only in the UK but many as far away as Thailand, New Zealand, Portugal and Spain are part of the portfolio, undeterred by the economic problems which have engulfed the world economy.

Neil will be sorely missed by the many whose lives he touched. Always well read, articulate and passionate on subjects wide and varied, he never failed to be good value at the dinner table, whatever the subject of debate. Quick-witted but never unkind, frustrating but never boring, his keen sense of humour and his glorious smile will long be remembered. His maxim was 'Have faith – give love'. Neil certainly did.

~Connie Cartwright

MySchool

MySchool Heritage Partners

## MYSCHOOL CARD

**MySchool Cards are free.** Once you have the card the simple action of swiping your MySchool Card at any one of the MySchool partners means a steady source of income for Thomas More College to help in maintaining its high standards. We need your support to grow our supporter base. The bigger the base the greater the returns. Please support your "old school" by applying for a card or swiping the one you have.

Applying is simple. Do it online at <http://www.myschool.co.za/>.



# 13 Years at TMC



GRADE 0B CLASS  
WHERE IT ALL BEGAN  
13 YEARS AGO.

Music Ring time in  
Mrs Sim's class

Work time at their desks -  
making marie-biscuit faces



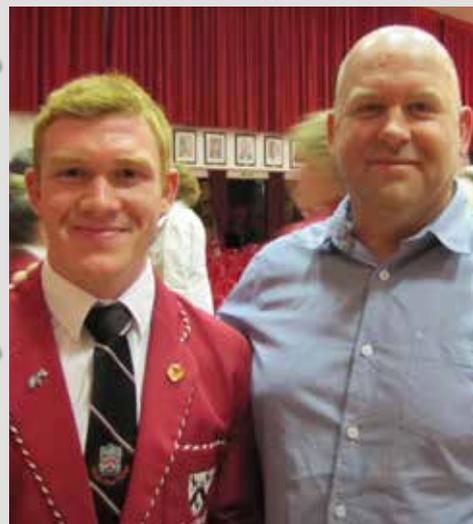
Play time in the amazing  
playground (a little  
different 13 years ago)



St John Batchelor, Todd Bauermeister, Jenna Barter, Guy Borley,  
Ashleigh de Chalain, Karé Dorfling, Tayla Dumont, Sinéad Emery,  
Chloë Erskine, Mark Freeman, Christine Fritsch, Stuart Hirst, Liam Hornby,  
Justin Houston, Sean Ingham, Gareth Naylor, Tessa Orpwood, Tayla Pierrot,  
Richard Princen, Elizabeth Ross, Jesse Smith, Benjamin van Zyl, Lisa Willemsen



## Matric Prize Giving



The Past Pupils' Trophy was awarded  
to BEN VAN ZYL. Ben is photographed  
with GARY GREEN (Class of 1979)  
current Vice-Chairman of the  
Past Pupils' Association.

## 2014 HEADS AND DEPUTIES



(From left to right: Head Boy – Jason Walker, Head Girl  
– Melissa Duthie, Deputy Head Boy – Travis Preston and  
Deputy Head Girl – Grace Borley)

## THE FIG TREE

During the storm of Saturday evening, 26 October 2013, Thomas More College lost one of its natural fixtures – the large fig tree at the corner of the path down to the Pre-School area was knocked down by the wind falling onto the roof of the OT Room, and while the roof can and will be repaired, that tree cannot be easily replaced. Many a Thomas More College child will remember sitting in the shade of that big old tree, or running circles around it, or ducking under the hazard tape secured around it during events such as the Country Fair. Thomas More College is re-known for the natural beauty of its campus, and those of us who have passed through the school are always sad to lose one of Thomas More's giants, even when the particular giant was too awkward to spend break time climbing in its boughs...

~Melanie Küster



## CHANGE OF MATRIC LEADERSHIP TITLE

When I first arrived at TMC, overall Matric school leadership lay in the hands of the Head of the Students' Executive Council. The SEC later changed to a Matric Leadership Council and the leaders were given titles of Chair and Vice-Chair. They had to be one boy and one girl in any combination. Over the last couple of years the youngsters have been asking for two changes:

- a. To have 2 Chairpersons – a boy and a girl of equal status
- b. To change the names to Head Boy and Head Girl as these terms are well known and easily identifiable on items such as Testimonials.

We are implementing these changes for 2014 and shall also have a Deputy Head Girl and Deputy Head Boy.

~Allan Chandler



# Matric Breakfast and Final Assembly

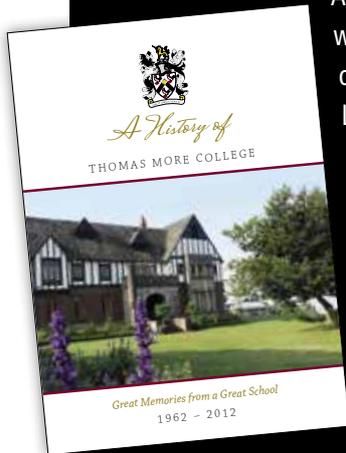
The Matric Breakfast and Final Assembly took place on 18 October 2013. The morning starts with a breakfast in the Robin Savory Pavilion. The whole school then comes out to form a guard of honour to wish the Matrics farewell. The pupils make a tunnel from the St. Thomas More bust, past the Primary School bell and up to the Habberton Hall. What an emotional and special tribute to the Matrics.



## HISTORY BOOK

A new "History of Thomas More College" was released in October 2013. The original, written by the late Mike Leffler, covered the first 40 years from the early days in 1962 to 2002. Last year was our 50th Anniversary and a great deal has happened in the last 10 years. Part B of the "History" deals with the period 2002 to 2012. This has been written by none other than our High School Headmaster Allan Chandler. Allan is a passionate historian, having held the position of Provincial History Examiner for Natal and National History Convenor for the Independent Examinations Board. While he has tried to describe the major events, he also brings in many stories and anecdotes that make amusing reading. Limited copies will be available for purchase.

Contact Rae Griesel [rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za](mailto:rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za)



## Capex Projects 2013



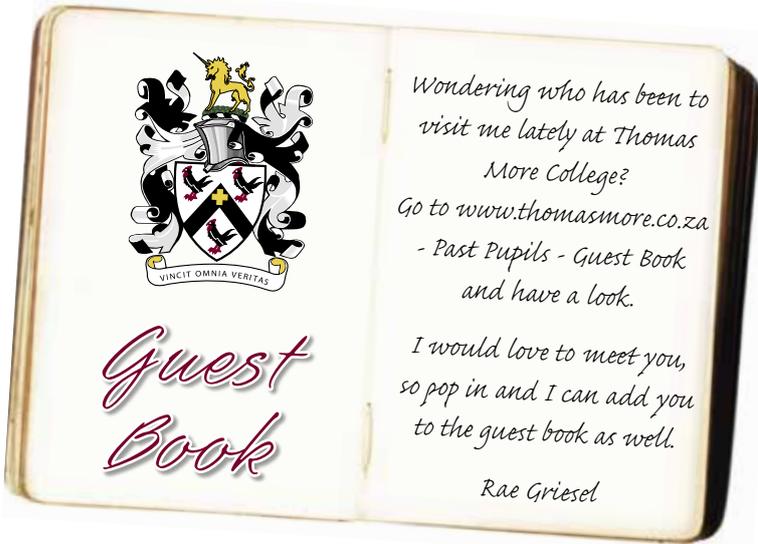
## OUR BEAUTIFUL CAMPUS



*This is but a few of the many facelifts / upgrades that took place in 2013 on campus.*



# THOMAS MORE COLLEGE



## The Thomas More Education Trust

ESTABLISHED 2009

*"One of the greatest problems of our time is that many are schooled but few are educated."*

THOMAS MORE, ENGLISH HUMANIST, STATESMAN & CHANCELLOR OF ENGLAND, 1477-1535

**WWW.TMEDUCATIONTRUST.CO.ZA**

# 2014 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- LONG WALK ..... Saturday 15 March 2014
- GOLF DAY ..... Friday 11 April 2014
- COUNTRY FAIR ..... Saturday 02 August 2014
- ASSOCIATION DAY/REUNION ... Saturday 13 September 2014
- NIGHT RACING ..... TBA October / November 2014

The donors of the Thomas More Education Trust have made it possible to fund the education of 5 pupils and 7 student teachers in 2014. We are grateful to our donors for changing the lives of these aspirant young South Africans and for supporting the work of the Trust.

**BECOME A DONOR AND QUALIFY FOR BBBEE CERTIFICATION**

BBBEE is a strategic issue for the South African business sector. Given this legislative framework a viable solution is the synergy between the business sector and non-profit sector. Funding the education of young South Africans is the core aim of the Thomas More Education Trust. Since the Trust spends in excess of 75% of its net income on the upliftment of black South African citizens, as set out in the BBBEE Code of Good Practice, and in addition is a registered PBO and NPO, funds donated to the Trust entitle donors to:

- BBBEE points in the Socio-Economic Development category. BBBEE points, in respect of Socio-Economic Development, vary between 5% and 25% depending on turnover and/or the trading sector of the particular business entity.
- A tax deduction (in terms of Section 18A of the Income Tax Act).

To contact the Trust's secretary call Claudia Levarelli on 031 764 8640 or email on [clevarelli@thomasmore.co.za](mailto:clevarelli@thomasmore.co.za)

### Archive Collection

If you have pics, clothes, documents to donate. Stories to tell... Please do so...

RAE GRIESEL  
**031 7648640**  
[rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za](mailto:rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za)

### Mentorship

Should you be willing to have your details listed in the Mentorship Directory, please contact Rae Griesel (secretary of the TMC PPA) on [rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za](mailto:rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za) or 031-764 8640, or Melanie Küster (co-ordinator of the TMC PPA Mentorship programme) on [melanie@steritech.co.za](mailto:melanie@steritech.co.za) or 082 852 9160

## Update YOUR DETAILS

Hooray!!!! Thank you to all past pupils that have been doing my quick "update your details" on the website. Keep it up!!!!

*Rae Griesel*



The School for all Seasons  
[www.thomasmore.co.za](http://www.thomasmore.co.za)  
Editor: Rae Griesel  
[rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za](mailto:rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za)

"Help your school help you".  
For more info, please contact Rae.

