

# THE *Moorcock Chronicle*

EDITION 32 - 2015

THE THOMAS MORE COLLEGE PAST PUPILS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

## Pub Quiz JUNE 2015

The PPA hosted the inaugural Pub Quiz in June this year. We were searching for a social event which would serve to bring our members together in a relaxed atmosphere and remind them of the fun associated with learning.

With the PPA Pub Quiz we have truly found just that. The evening saw 10 teams of 6 pitted against one another under the superb tutelage of quizmaster Gary Green. With Standeaven Breweries ensuring that the genius in us all came to the fore, every team member walked away from an incredibly enjoyable evening with a fantastic prize and lasting memories. As **#proudpastpupils** we would like to point out that the winning team was made up of the Matriculants from the early 1970s, whilst the second place team, was made up of Matriculants from the early 2000s, so congratulations are due to the teachers of TMC over the years!

The PPA would like to thank Gary Green for the donation of most of the evening's fabulous prizes, Keegan Whitton for sponsoring the Roost vouchers which were snapped up by the third round and Shaun Standeaven for supplying the excellent brews!! This event will be hosted bi-annually going forward – we truly hope you'll join us for the next one!



Thomas More College Past Pupils' Association invites you to our inaugural Craft Beer & Chicken Curry Pub Quiz Evening Friday 5th June, at 7pm, in the Robin Savory Pavilion Entrance: R100 per person covers your food Limited Cash Bar Including Standeaven Brews Fabulous Prizes on Offer for each team of 6 People Limited Seats Available - Entry Deadline = 27 May 2015 RSVP to [rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za](mailto:rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za)

Come have some fun proving to us how much you know... We might just reward you!



## HIGH SCHOOL PRIZE GIVING 2014



I was blown away in January by the sheer joy, passion and happiness at the Grades 8 – 11 2014 Prize Giving. It was a real 'feel good' evening capped by a brilliant talk by past pupil and internationally renowned photographer and benefactor, Matthew Willman, who caught the heart and soul of everyone present, including the pupils, with a brilliant address containing empathy, pathos, the triumph of commitment and dedication, and the celebration of humanity. His speech also encapsulated the magic and allure of Thomas More College and the humane element that underpins its ethos and existence.

Allan Chandler



# THOMAS MORE COLLEGE



## Long Walk



First and foremost, on behalf of the TMC Past Pupils' Association, I would like to extend my most sincere gratitude to all those who helped make this year's Stop 9 the resounding success it was. Your time and energy is greatly appreciated.

We had a hugely successful and extremely busy day. The new loop that carried most walkers past our stop twice literally doubled the work load, but despite the increased foot count, all went off without a glitch. The stop was constantly adequately stocked with refreshments and walker control which normally presents its own unique challenges, worked seamlessly.



To Philippa and her team, you guys are nothing short of legends. Thank you for the constant assistance and encouragement. To my trusty co-convenor James Lees, thank you for your involvement, it would have been a long day without you. Stuart and the IT team, you guys did a sterling job and walker control which promised to be our biggest challenge worked flawlessly.

To all the parents who gave up their valuable time, thank you so much. We couldn't do it without you. And as always, thank you to Rae Griesel, the glue who holds it all together.

To the PPA committee, we set ourselves a target this year that no less than 50% of the helpers at the stop would be past pupils. I am happy to report that of the 24 people that worked at the stop this year, 13 were in fact past pupils (including Roy Alderdice (class of 1967), the Chairman of the Board of Trustees), so mission accomplished.

Next year we hope to aim for 75% PPA Volunteers!

Gary Green



The PPA once again ran a stall at the annual Thomas More Country Fair hosted by the TMC Parents' Council. As the biggest fundraiser on the TMC Calendar, the Country Fair is a drawcard event for TMC families (past & present) as well as Upper Highway residents in general. This year was no exception as an incredibly well-run, entertaining and enjoyable Fair was appreciated by all who visited.

The purpose of the PPA stand is to supply our members with a place to reconnect and take a stroll down memory lane, whilst enjoying some refreshments in the form of cappuccinos and doughnuts. In order to promote our ongoing #proudpastpupil campaign we distributed free #proudpastpupil caps and bumper stickers to any member who stopped and updated their details. One visitors even stated that they "felt like Royalty!"

We reconnected with over 70 past pupils this year, and can only hope to see many more next year! In 2016 we hope to expand on the "Memory Lane" theme by drawing on the results of the current Archive Project – WATCH THIS SPACE.



## Country Fair



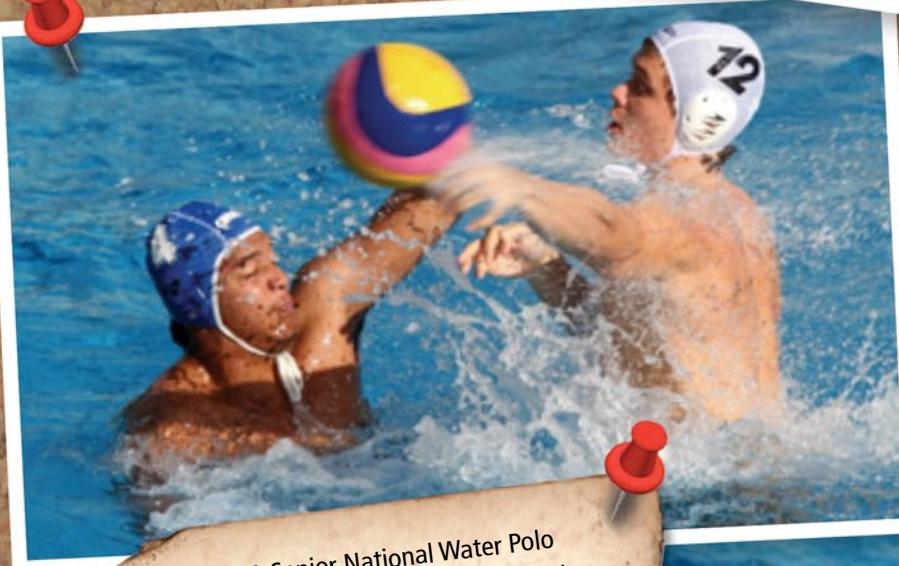
ASSOCIATION

Sport



Fun, Smiles  
& Hockey

## HOCKEY



## WATER POLO

SA Senior National Water Polo  
Tournament (Currie Cup) in April.  
Hosted by KZN Aquatics at  
Kings Park Swimming pool.

6 of our Jellyfish team played in  
the tournament including Wesley  
Bohata and Stefan Beier



# PAST PUPIL Snippets



**BILL PICKERING,  
SHAWN RICE  
& NEIL FOX**

at a pub in Perth

(December 2014)



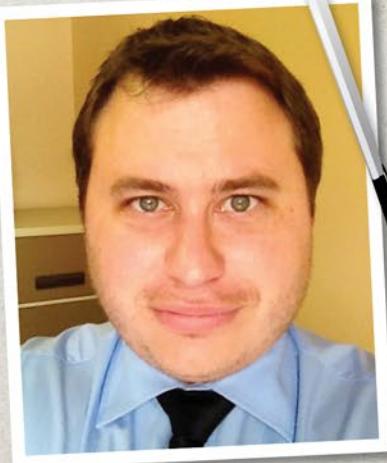
## NOEL HIRZEL (Class of 2005)

Noel Hirzel (Class of 2005) enrolled at the University of Pietermaritzburg (UKZN) in 2006 to study a BCom, majoring in Economics and Law. After completing the BCom, and enjoying the legal stuff he decided to complete an LLB, finishing in 2010.

In 2011 he joined MacRobert Inc. to serve his Articles of Clerkship, working exclusively in Medical Malpractice Litigation and gained lots of experience. In 2012 he wrote his Board Exams and was admitted as an Attorney in early 2013.

He joined a well-known firm in Pinetown and worked there up until November 2014, whereafter he joined Johnston & Partners where he is currently employed as an Associate practising mainly in banking law and commercial litigation.

He continues to enjoy playing sport, and golf in particular, and has since school developed a love for playing the guitar and spends much of his free time playing and learning.



## JONTY SMITH (Class of 2009)

Jonty is at present rowing for the South African National Rowing Team, preparing to compete at the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro.

He took up rowing for the first time in 2013 whilst completing his Mechanical Engineering degree at UCT, and thoroughly enjoyed it. He had undoubtedly found his sporting niche and moved quickly into competing for the U23 National Rowing Squad at the U23 World Championships in Italy last year.

He graduated from UCT at the end of last year, and this year has seen him moving to Pretoria to train with the Senior National Rowing Squad at the High Performance Centre based at the University of Pretoria. He holds the South African Record for the fastest time on the indoor rowing machine.

This year has involved incredibly hard training and commitment, but it has certainly been an interesting and exciting one, involving travelling to London in July to compete in the Henley Royal Regatta and then on to Lucerne, Switzerland, to compete in the third stage of the World Cup Rowing series. Jonty and the squad also spent two months of the year undergoing high altitude training in Lesotho and one doing low altitude on a dam in Tzaneen. He is in France at present preparing to take part in the World Rowing Championships from 30th August – 6th September 2015. This is the biggest event of the season and serves as the qualifier for the 2016 Olympics. Jonty and his other three teammates are aiming for good results. We wish them everything of the best on "The Road to Rio".





THOMAS MORE COLLEGE

# Chefs Past & Present



SHIELA NAIDOO (past) and LYNN MACDONALD (present)

## THE Morris Family

In August 2015 we were blessed to receive a visit from the Morris family. Clifford Snr and his wife Jutta Morris, a Clinical Psychotherapist, immigrated to Florida, USA in 2006 where he has built and runs the largest shrimp raising facility in Florida. **Stephen**, a fishing pro, (Class of 2002) works full time in his father's business. **Clifford** junior (Class of 2007) has just completed his MA in Bio Medical Chemistry and will continue with his PHD. **Bianca** (Class of 1998) who was unable to make the trip is an Attorney and Psychologist, married with 2 little girls.

Jutta Morris emailed us the following reflection on their very memorable family vacation.

*"Our visit to Thomas More College stands out as among one of the most meaningful activities this vacation. The welcome you extended to us and our boys was phenomenal and not only did they get to tour the beautiful additions to the school but my sons Steven and Clifford were able to meet up with their grade teacher Jean Vairy which was so special in and of itself.*

*My children remain very proud TMC alumni students and their success in the USA was founded in their years at TMC."*

What an honour it was to be able to add to their memories of TMC! Morris family, thank you so much for taking the time out of your brief holiday to visit us!





## SHELBY SALZWEDEL (Class of 2009)

Shelby has graduated with a BComm Actuarial Science. Shelby has remained in the Cape and works for an Actuarial firm whilst still studying and completing her Board exams.



## BRETT ARENDSE (Class of 2005)

Brett completed his degree in Bachelor of Commerce in Management.



Congratulations to **RHYS** (Class of 1999) & **KELLY JANSEN NEE VAN LEEUWEN** (Class of 2004) on the birth of their son **SAXON JET** on 15 August 2015.

# Achievements



## BIANCA JOINER (Class of 2007)

Bianca completed her BA Psychology and Communications Undergraduate Degree through UNISA in 2013 and has just completed her Honours Degree in Psychology at the UKZN PMB campus (2014).

Bianca is currently a facilitator at Thomas More College.

## Births

Congratulations to  
**MARK** (Class of 2000)  
& **MELANIE KÜSTER**  
(Class of 2002) on the  
birth of their daughter  
**ANGELA FAITH** on  
23rd September 2014.



# Congratulations!



**BRITTANY KIPPEN** (Class of 2008) and  
**JEAN-PIERRE DESVAUX DE MARIGNY**  
were engaged on 31 December 2014.



I would first of all like to thank Rae for giving me the opportunity to share this special moment with all of you in the Moorcock Chronicle, it is amazing how time has flown since my Matriculation in 2008, but I still feel a special connection to my old school and feel very proud to say I attended TMC.

A brief background on the two of us... JP and I have been together going on six years now and they have been the loveliest years to date. We met in the first year of our studies and JP is now doing his Masters in Architecture and I am the National CRO for a Jewellery Wholesale company. We both feel so excited and blessed to have found each other in the early years of our lives and be able to grow and learn together.

Now to the exciting news- In late December 2014, my family along with JP's went to Europe. On the 31st December whilst we were getting ready for the New Year's celebrations, JP had organised for himself and I to go and have a look at the church opposite St Marc's Square- St Giorgio Maggiore. We were to meet my family later and took the water taxi across to the island. Whilst on the taxi, we were mesmerised by the sun setting on the breath-taking island of Venice.

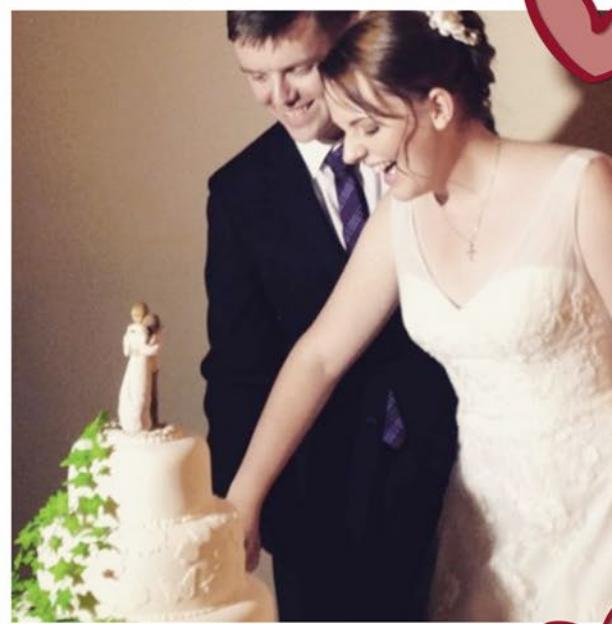
Once we arrived at St Giorgio Maggiore, JP asked me to walk with him to the tip of the island to get some pictures and take in the spectacular view. He seemed a little nervous and the smallest suspicion crept up on me, he then got down on one knee, said the most beautiful things I have ever heard; he promised to look after me, love me and to be there for me every step of the way and finally, asked me to marry him. It was almost impossible to speak, but of course I said; yes!

We had a wonderful celebration together with my family and what a magnificent way to start the New Year. We were then also lucky enough to join some more family in Ischgl later on and have an 'engage-moon'. Now here we are, both looking ahead at our future together and absorbing every moment of this beautiful time filled with such excitement, love and happiness!



**KELSEY COADY** (Class of 2009) and  
**FREDRICK VAN WYK** were engaged on  
9th August 2015 at Swissland Cheese,  
out in the Midlands.

LOVE



## Wedding

**NICOLE PURDON** (Class of 2009)  
and **ROBERT POOL** were married  
at Eden Lassie on 27 June 2015.



# Obituaries



**ROBERT BRIAN BRISLIN**  
(Class of 1967)  
2 JUNE 1950 – 21 MARCH 2015

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Robert earlier this year after a battle with cancer.

Robert was amongst the earliest years of students admitted to Thomas More.

He was then, and continued to be throughout his life, a kind, generous, reliable, musical, sporty and witty man.

He leaves behind him his three loving children, two step-children, family, relatives, friends and countless others who were impacted by his wonderful life, and who had the privilege of knowing him.

Robert was the eldest of ten children and was often looked to as a father-figure by his siblings. He had an assured air about him which people warmed to, and was a rock to many people.

He was an Attorney by profession but held special interest in his art and music, latterly being a member and Chairman of the Johannesburg Symphony Orchestra, and a self-taught violin-maker. He furthered his craftsmanship to cover repairs, and which business soon thrived by word of mouth due to his reliability and talent. In addition he established a charitable violin-making school to which he devoted many hours of love and energy for the benefit of his pupils.

Robert is, and will be, sorely missed, however those who knew him will take solace in being able to enjoy and take pride in his rich and beautiful legacy of wisdom, culture and love.

#### Editor's Note:

*Robert Brislin was also a previous Chair of the Old Boys Association (as it was called back then), as well as running the Old Boys Cricket Team. A true Thomas Morean who will be truly missed!*



**DUNCAN MARC SCOTT**  
19 APRIL 1992 – 18 FEBRUARY 2014

Duncan was a loving, caring and precious young man. He loved TMC and all his College stood for. The staff and fellow learners meant so much to him. Amongst many staff members, Mr Cromie and Mr Dove (Big bird) had a special place in Dunc's heart. He had a huge warm heart that worked so hard caring for others but it finally broke on 18-02-2014 just short of 22 years. Duncs, your big heart, smiles and hugs are sorely missed.

Forever in our hearts, Dad, Mom, Hilton, Keagan, Grandpa, Granny and your many friends.

## MEMORIAL WALL

### We annually update our Memorial Wall

If you know or have details of a past pupil who has passed on and whose family would like their name added to the Memorial Wall, please contact:

**Rae Griesel**  
031 764 8640 | [rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za](mailto:rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za)





## The Thomas More Education Trust

ESTABLISHED 2009



The Education Trust has successfully seen two pupils through High School and into tertiary studies, and is currently funding one of them as a 1st Year BSc student. This young lady, who has shown immense strength of character in the face of adversity, would never have achieved what she has without the Thomas More Education Trust's dedicated donors. The Trust has also assisted families who have fallen on tough financial times. We endeavour to assist these families on a short-term basis to see them through the hardship without prejudicing the child.

Our appeal to you is to consider making a difference in the lives of other such children. We believe that the Thomas More College ethos, combined with the commitment and

dedication of teaching staff will enable these children to achieve their dreams and aspirations. The Trust currently has two pupils in Grade 9, and eight teacher Interns at Thomas More College and we hope to grow this number with your involvement.

Our target for 2016 has been set at **R250 000.00** (R105 000.00 secured thus far). As depicted by the '2016 Target Barometer' we are not far from achieving our goal. This

amount will go a long way in educating between 4 to 8 bursary candidates, dependent on the financial need of each individual, as well as teacher interns. We hope to double the number of candidates in 2017 and again in 2018 until we

see each Grade with a minimum of 6 bursary candidates funded by The Thomas More Education Trust and its donors, with the assistance of Thomas More College.

All donations to the Trust entitle the company donating to claim:

- BBBEE points in the socio-economic development category, as set out by the BBBEE Code of Good Practice.
- In addition the Trust is registered as both a PBO and a NPO and accordingly a tax deduction (in terms of Section 18A of the Income Tax Act) also applies to such donations.

The Education Trust has selected **4 additional pupils for 2016** that have shown incredible commitment to their current schools and have excelled academically, culturally and on the sporting front. Our objective is to take these pupils through High School at Thomas More College and Tertiary studies and eventually into employment in their chosen fields.

*If you would like to sponsor a child or make a contribution to the Education Trust's endeavours, please contact:*

**Ms. Claudia Levarelli**

031 764 8646

clevarelli@thomasmore.co.za



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

SIR THOMAS MORE





**Thomas More College  
Past Pupils' Association**  
invites you to our annual  
*Association Day*

Saturday 12th September 2015

07h30-08h30: AGM - Savory Pavilion (*Mr Allan Chandler & Mr René Missen to be inducted as Honorary Life Members. Please RSVP to [rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za](mailto:rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za) for catering purposes*)

09h00-10h00: Men's Hockey - Leffler Field

09h00-10h00: Netball - Netball Courts

10h00-11h00: Ladies' Hockey - Leffler Field

10h00-11h00: Mens' Waterpolo - Akal Pool

11h00-12h00: Ladies' Waterpolo - Akal Pool

11h00-12h00: Men's Soccer - Pickering Field

12h30-16h00: Cricket - Savory Field

All participants will receive either a free  
**#proudpastpupil** t-shirt or a free  
**#proudpastpupil** cap.

Bring your children for some fun on the Jumping Castle whilst you catch up with old Friends - the Coffee Shop will be open 09h00-13h00.



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

# 2015

- ASSOCIATION DAY/REUNION ..... Saturday 12 September  
 PUB QUIZ ..... TBC  
 GREYVILLE NIGHT RACING ..... Friday 20 November

# 2016

- LONG WALK ..... Saturday 5 March  
 GOLF DAY ..... Friday 6 May  
 PUB QUIZ ..... TBC  
 COUNTRY FAIR ..... Saturday 30 July  
 GREYVILLE NIGHT RACING ..... TBC

### 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 or 031-764 8640, or Melanie Küster (co-ordinator of the TMC PPA Mentorship programme) on melanie@steritech.co.za or 082 852 9160

### Archive Collection

If you have pics, clothes, documents to donate. Stories to tell... Please do so...  
 RAE GRIESEL  
**031 7648640**  
 rgriesel@thomasmore.co.za

### Update

Please e-mail me if you have any personal details to update, or any news you would like us to publish in our chronicle.

Rae Griesel

Wondering who has been to visit me lately at Thomas More College?

Go to [www.thomasmore.co.za](http://www.thomasmore.co.za)  
 - Past Pupils - Guest Book  
 and have a look.

I would love to meet you, so pop in and I can add you to the guest book as well.

Rae Griesel



## Guest Book

### DO YOU REMEMBER THIS?



WAY BACK WHEN



TODAY

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



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



Thomas More College  
 CLASSIFIEDS

