

# Campus News

## St Stithians College

Dear One & All,

Welcome to the first edition of Campus News, published by the Rector's Office and featuring news about aspects of College life, including articles from various Campus Directors and the Rector.

Half term is over and the countdown to Summer has begun! The days are still chilly but the campus is beautiful in its stark tones of autumnal colours; we are so privileged to be able to study and work in such a stunning environment.



### Jubilee activities

The first part of the second term was dominated by a huge Jubilee Founders' Day celebration. What an awesome day for students, parents, teachers and visitors to the College! Noteworthy was Sim

Tshabalala, our inspiring guest speaker, the beautiful music, amazing Jubilee balloons and of course the final College war cry; it was a day to remember.

### Founders' Day 2013



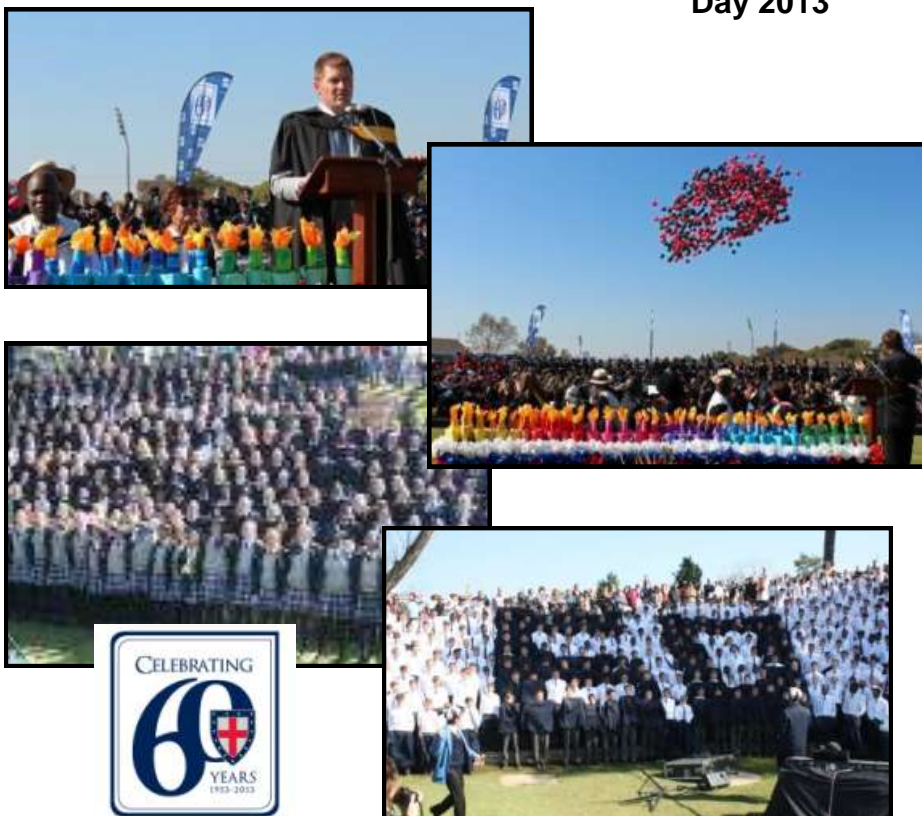
### Campus News

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## Jubilee activities (cont)

## Founders' Day 2013



The evening was celebrated in style at the Jubilee Ball, hosted at Helderfontein Conference centre and attended by over 400 guests from parents, staff and former members of staff.

together and to commemorate a milestone in the history of this great College, so sincere thanks to everyone involved in the organisation of both Founders' Day and the Jubilee ball.

It is not often that the Saints Family gets the opportunity to celebrate



Quoting from one of many emails received by the Rector's Office: *"that was the most wonderful, emotional, moving, meaningful and spectacular 60th birthday celebration. We fully appreciated all the work that goes into producing a morning of such calibre!! It is so true that small hinges move big doors!"*

Thank you to all those small hinges .....



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**"Leadership is found  
in becoming the  
servant of all."**

Richard Foster

## Jubilee activities (cont)

We would like to compile an album of photographs of Founders' Day and therefore ask that you send any images which you might have taken to [marketing@stithian.com](mailto:marketing@stithian.com). The quality is important as we might wish to enlarge some and possibly

create a digital album. We are always looking in particular for photos that capture special moments on the day and do hope you are able to help.

## Cultural Festival 2013

The family event for the College cultural festival took place on the evening of Thursday 31 May in the format of a film and music festival. In a relaxed atmosphere parents and students alike, watched films and listened to bands, whilst being well fed by the very successful grade 8 businesses venture. A huge success; watch this space for



## Tech corner

The ICT department has been testing a new internet line which allows the College to connect directly into the TENET Academic Network at WITS using wireless technology. We have been testing a dedicated 100Mbps wireless backbone which is significantly faster than the 8Mbps link we currently have. This technology, along with the acceleration of our WIFI infrastructure on campus will set us up to better serve the integration of online curriculum in

our classes and facilitate the introduction of BYOD in 2014.



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*"Growth is the only evidence of life."*

John Henry  
Newman

[www.stithian.com](http://www.stithian.com)

## Mark Henning

Mark Henning, former Head of Boys' College for more than 20 years, recently launched a book called "Zest. A celebration of Good Schools and Good Teachers". On June 05, members of the educational fraternity were treated to a breakfast courtesy of Etana Insurance, whilst Mark was interviewed by Jenny Crwys Williams, talkshow host and book fundi, from Radio 702.

What a fascinating interview and you can read more by following the link to the Flowsa blog;

[http://www.flowsa.com/blog/entry/discovering\\_joburg\\_gems/](http://www.flowsa.com/blog/entry/discovering_joburg_gems/)



## Thandulwazi

On Saturday, 22 June 2013, the Miracle Rising producers (Ms Michele Sparkes and Mr Jimi Matthews) and director (Mr Brett Lotriet Best) spent the morning at the Thandulwazi Saturday School. The Thandulwazi learners were treated to a special screening of the 90-minute long documentary Miracle Rising, which details South Africa's transition from an apartheid state to a democratic "rainbow nation" whose constitution is the envy of the world. The learners were absolutely absorbed by the visuals, interviews, and the wonderful South African music woven into the documentary.

The film's producers and director then engaged with the Thandulwazi learners in a fascinating Q/A session, which saw a number of interesting questions posed. These conversations continued in class long after the screening ended.

The Thandulwazi Saturday School, an educational outreach programme, offers extra tuition in key subjects (Maths (Core), Physical Science, Life Science, Accounting and English) to Grade 10, 11 and 12 learners on 27 Saturdays a year.

For further information please contact the Saturday School Director, Mr Z Khoza, at [thandulwazi@stithian.com](mailto:thandulwazi@stithian.com) or go to [www.thandulwazi.com](http://www.thandulwazi.com)



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*"The difficulty in life is the choice."*

George Moore

[www.stithian.com](http://www.stithian.com)

## Kamoka

We have had a busy time at Kamoka over the past two months, with two Grade 9 Bush Schools (20 nights each) taking place from the Girls' College. The girls have embraced the challenges of Bush School with gusto and it has been great to watch them taking part in activities such as early morning Ostrich runs; a 12 hour solitary time; a 2 day Dollar a Day immersion and a tough 3 day hike. The girls have also focused on the more academic side of Bush School, which now includes completing the Junior Wild Dog Qualification through the Field Guides Association of Southern Africa (FGASA). Well

done Grade 9 girls – we are very proud of all of your achievements!

Kamoka Bush School would never have been achieved without the support of our outgoing Rector, Mr Stephen Lowry and we will always be indebted to him for working hard to ensure that Kamoka came to fruition. It is with great thanks to Mr Lowry that so many students from St Stithians College and other schools can grow as young people through camps and Bush Schools at Kamoka.



## Saints United Football club



The Saints United Football Club, consisting of mainly players from the Saints Workshop, played against BP last week:

### ***"Eish! Boys Prep!***

*Sorry supporters, we lost horribly to Boys Prep yesterday the final score was 8-6. It was a nice flowing game and Boys Prep had a point to prove and unlucky to us we ran out of time...We will pay revenge when we meet Boys College soon!"*



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**"One sees great things from the valley; only small things from the peak."**

G.K.Chesterton

## My School Card

Swipe for Africa: Grand Prize Winner Announcement

Grand Prize Winners for the School promotion:

Congratulations to the Winning Schools!

1st - St Stithians

2nd - Bishops/Diocesan College

3rd - St David's Marist, College - Inanda

These Top 3 ranked schools each win R100 000 plus R50 000 to be donated to any MyPlanet animal beneficiary

## Saints Family News

Congratulations to:

- Tim Schaerer on the birth of his son
- Russell Lennox on the birth of his daughter
- Gill Tolley, Trish Bornman and Dawid Matthews on becoming grand parents!

We wish to express our sincere condolences to the following members of the Saints Family on the loss of their loved ones. Please keep the families in your thoughts and prayers:

- Megan van der Poll on the death of her father
- Trish Bornman on the death of her father-in-law
- Martin Currin on the death of his father
- Rita Ncube on the death of her brother
- Margaret Muller on the death of her father



## Saints Prayer Group

The Saints Prayer Group would like to extend a warm invitation to all staff, parents and friends to join them as they spend time praying for the needs of our community. We meet at -

Higher Ground Board Room,  
Wednesday mornings  
07h45 to 08h30

This is an informal group and all are welcome – even for the occasional visit. If you are unable to attend but have specific prayer requests, please email them to [saintspg@gmail.com](mailto:saintspg@gmail.com). You are also welcome to leave a note at any of the reception desks marked Saints Prayer Group – we will collect weekly.

We also hold an evening prayer meeting once a term for those who

are not able to make the morning meetings. The term 2 date is *17th July 2013 18h00 at Higher Ground, Conference Room*. Alistair Stewart will continue sharing his insights into the spiritual development of the school.

Please join us if you can. (Tanja Simpson, Lianda Galatis, Julia Howie, Dianne Webb (0828542583))



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**“Faith activates  
God—fear activates  
the enemy.”**

Joel Osteen

[www.stithian.com](http://www.stithian.com)

## Rector's news

As I am sure you are all aware we have said farewell to Mr Lowry as he embarks on a new journey in his educational career. Below is an extract from an email from a former student to Mr Lowry wishing him well as he leaves the College; it really exemplifies the character of student developed at St Stithians .

*“Dear Mr Lowry,*

*I write this letter to share some positive memories and lessons learnt from your time as Rector at St Stithians.*

*It was my Grade 7 year some 11 or so years ago when I – a knobbly-kneed member of the prep PR team – was assigned the task of taking our school's incoming Rector on what might have been his first tour and his first impression of the school grounds. I had little idea of what a Rector was or what one did but would like to think that I did fine, since you didn't seem disappointed with the tour and indeed you were Rector when I came into Grade 8 in 2003.*

*Naturally, I had a vested interest in your success at Saints as it would afford me something to brag about; in my young mind, I had after all 'sealed the deal' with that tour in Grade 7. However (and I must admit this) I would have no such bragging rights with my peers. For some reason, nothing you did could seem to earn our favour and there all too often seemed to be a reason to criticise the new Rector (and there were times where I myself joined this pity-party).*

*In hindsight, our irritations most probably came more from a combination of aversion to change and an apparent desire to find someone – anyone by ourselves – to blame for the things we were*

*unhappy about; they had very little to do with your abilities as a Rector.*

*One final highlight for me of your time at Saints was Founders Day 2007, when you asked the Orchestra to play an encore of the song we had prepared: 'Weeping'. Founders Days weren't generally the most exciting dates on the school calendar for us as learners, but the fact that it was my final year, we had such a great song to play, and that we were given the opportunity to play it twice made it extremely memorable.*

*There are a few lessons that I will personally take from your tenure as Rector (that have time and again proven to be important for living in this wonderful country):*

- *Judge a situation by what you know of it, not merely by what others say.*
- *Stand by your informed opinions & decisions.*
- *Value integrity and character more than popularity.*

*In closing, Sir, thank you for your work at St Stithians and may God bless you on the next leg of your lifelong journey.*



## Campus News

**“Faith is the bird  
that sings while it is  
yet dark.”**

Max Lucado

## Rector's news

### **Alumni database**

The College is in the process of updating the Alumni database and recently an email was sent to our database to follow this link: <http://www.stithian.com/index.php/alumni> to update details.

It seemed that there was some concern that this email was spam and we can only apologise if this was the case. Your cooperation in this regard is really appreciated and please feel free to forward this link to any other former Saints student with whom you have contact.

### **Nan Mears Study award**

The College has recently awarded the Nan Mears scholarship to Richard Wilkinson. Mr Wally Mears was a former Headmaster of Rondebosch Boys' High School and the founding Headmaster of St Stithians College. Wally Mears

established the Nan Mears Scholarship Fund in memory of his wife, to benefit both St Stithians College and Rondebosch Boys' High school. The Fund is administered by BoE Trust Limited in Cape Town. The Nan Mears Scholarship Fund is available to a past pupil of St Stithians College, who matriculated from the College and has completed or is in the final year of completing an undergraduate degree at a South African University, and who wishes to further his/her studies in either Law or the Arts or Humanities at Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom.

Congratulations to Richard, the recipient of this award, who has been accepted into a Humanities course at Emmanuel College, Cambridge and will pursuing his studies further this year.

## **Nelson Mandela**



As we join the country in praying for Nelson Mandela, we are constantly reminded of the legacy he leaves and how privileged we are as a country to be part of his life's journey. Madiba we wish you well and pay tribute to your dedication to our country.

***If there is anything you would like more information about,  
please do not hesitate to send your questions to  
[rector@stithian.com](mailto:rector@stithian.com)***



## **Campus News**

**"Education is the  
most powerful  
weapon you can use  
to change the  
world."**

Nelson Mandela

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