

# Campus News

## St Stithians College

Dear Saints family,

I greet you warmly – staff, students, parents, and Old Stithians. It is a privilege and honour to take up office as the third Rector of St Stithians College, in this the 60<sup>th</sup> Jubilee year. There is a stone plaque at the entrance to the Chapel which commemorates the ‘happy fulfilment’ of the creation of a Trust which enabled the founding of St Stithians College in 1953. I regard my assumption of the Rectorship as a ‘happy fulfilment’ for me personally in a long and interesting career as a South African educationalist; and I pledge to focus my energies and abilities towards leading and re-creating a St Stithians College community which happily fulfils its mission of educational excellence.

As a Christian school, St Stithians College rightly embraces happiness and fulfilment through an ethos of gratitude and service, through the living out of our commitment to Honour God, Honour Others, Honour Self. We carry a joyful and demanding responsibility to be the head, eyes, ears, hands, heart and feet of a Living Lord as we make a difference in the worlds we inhabit, large and small. We strive to be a South African School Making a World of Difference. As I arrive here I ask: what does this imperative mean, and is there an opportunity to think afresh about how to express our strategic intent? I am interested to explore the prospect of St Stithians College and citizenship, of a school which educates citizens and which is itself an institutional citizen. Our motto ‘One and All’ speaks of individuality, unity and diversity; of our common identity as St Stithians College and our distributed identities as a village of five schools clustered around a learning commons. Adding in our bush school at Kamoka and our Thandulwazi School, we are seven constituent schools, making us a unique value proposition in the South African educational landscape. We are honoured by those families who commit themselves to a Saints education.

I have arrived during the last week of term when heads are down and the holidays beckon. I look forward to the formal welcomes which will take place at the start of the third term. Arriving at this quieter point in the term has provided a welcome opportunity to interact socially with members of Council, and to spend quality time with members of the College Executive. I have been well briefed and warmly welcomed. I express appreciation to the Chair of Council, Carel Nolte, for his huge commitment to St Stithians College and for the care, attention and human touch, he has brought to my arrival. My sleeves are rolled up.

Thank you to all who have worked so hard to make this past term a successful one. May the holidays be good.

Sincerely



Dr T A Nuttall

Rector

1



### Campus News



#### Contents

Welcome from the Rector .....	1
Jubilee activities.....	2-4
Kamoka .....	5
Tech corner.....	6
Ops news.....	6
Saints Family news.....	7

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# Campus News

## St Stithians College

### Jubilee activities

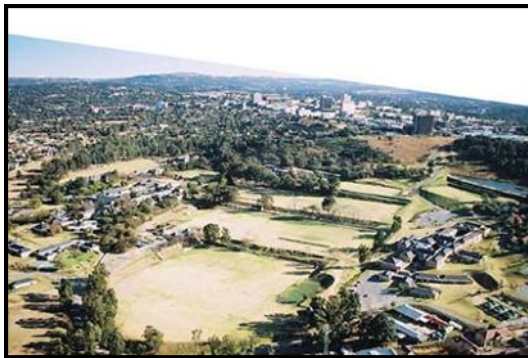
#### Jubilee Rose

Sales of the jubilee rose are blooming! However, we still need more sales so follow the link below to place your order:

<http://www.stithian.com/index.php/news/1239-bc-saints-jubilee-rose>



#### A walk down memory lane....



2004

2013



Kim Urquhart, HR Director writes:

*"In the initial build up and planning for our Jubilee year I started thinking about two of our support staff who had each recently completed 40 years of service with the College before retiring last year and this prompted me to consider that these two gents must have some great stories to tell of life at Saints over the years. During our 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee year the book "To serve the Future Hour" was published as a written history of the College from 1953 – 2003. This book provides great insight into the history of the school from an academic perspective but what about those staff who have worked behind the scenes, many of whom have dedicated their entire working lives to our school! They too, I had discovered through passing chats with some of them, have some amazing stories to tell not just of the school but of their experience of our country over the years."*



ST STITHIANS  
COLLEGE

### Campus News

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

Richard Foster

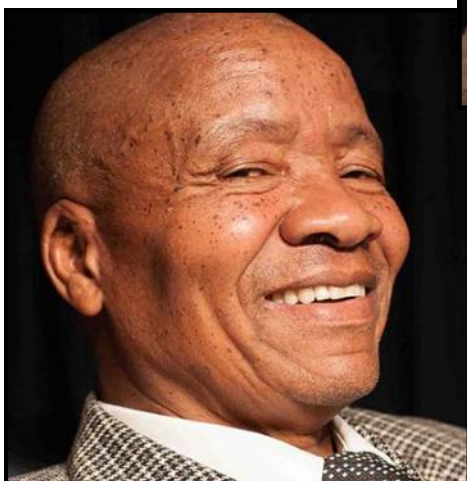
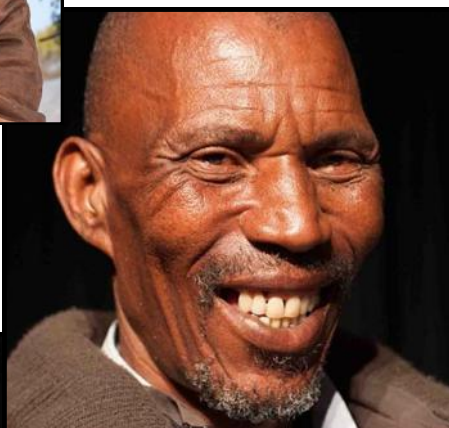
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### A walk down memory lane... (cont)

*As English is not the home language of these members of staff, the challenge was given to our College Historians to put the stories together. Noma Shange, isiZulu Teacher and Director of Transformation at the Boys' College was very keen to help make this project a reality.*

*A group of 15 support staff were identified, who together have 408 (yes, that isn't a typo) years of service to the College! Most of them have 25 or 30 years' service each and many of them joined the College as young men in the 1970's. These staff members were invited to participate in this historic event by attending a video interview where they could chat and share their stories from the past with Noma.*

*Who remembers Revson Netshindela who used to work in the Boys' College Tuckshop before he retired after 33 years when the tuckshops were outsourced to Sodexo? Revson, originally from Venda, joined the College in the late 70's and was renamed Pikinini by Mr Baytopp. Revson proudly states he moved from reporting to Mr Baytopp, to then Mr Henning as he loved the gardens & landscape, and then finally to the Tuckshop. Next time you are in the Boys' College quad, read the sign on the big oak tree next to the toilet block in the centre of the quad. That tree was planted many years ago by a then very young Revson!*



### Campus News

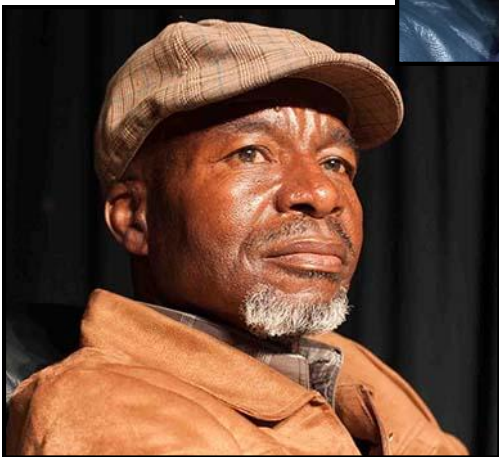
*"I am to become a  
Christ to my  
neighbour and be for  
him what Christ is  
for me."*

Martin Luther King

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## A walk down memory lane... (cont)

Someone else our JP parents may recall is Frankie Bapela who retired in 2011 after 40 years' service, most of which was spent caring for the gardens in and around the Junior Prep. Another unsung hero is Thomas Mdlalose who retired at the end of 2012, also with 40 years' service. Thomas originated from KwaNongoma in KwaZulu Natal and began his time at the College as a cleaner. The last few years you would find him at the Aquatics centre quietly making sure the pools were impeccable for all those eager swimmers, divers and polo players.



Jackson Khubayi originally from Tzaneen, joined the College in 1981 as the first security guard at the Bram Fischer gate. Jackson spent many of his years at Saints as a committed member of the team fondly referred to as the "furniture fairies". This is the team responsible for setting up and clearing away furniture in all the venues across campus, generally without any of us being aware of the process.



## Campus News

"The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

## A walk down memory lane ... (cont)

Any of you who have ever had to organise a function or set up a venue may also recall Wilson Semona, the Madala of our Ops Team who retired in 2011 after 16 years. During the building of the Girls' College many of the support staff had to be relocated and Wilson was instrumental in easing this transition.



There is still much to be done in terms of editing and translation but we have managed to successfully record the best of these stories. Many generations of students, parents and staff will be better informed about the history of this amazing school. We hope to make these stories available in a booklet and DVD format as part of our Jubilee year celebration.

A big thank you must go to Noma Shange and her team for making this idea a reality!"

## Kamoka

The Grade 9 boys have just been on the Kamoka bush school experience – the photos just confirm the enthusiasm shown by this fantastic group of boys!



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"No act of kindness,  
no matter how  
small, is ever  
wasted."

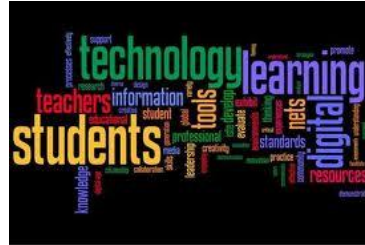
Aesop

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## Tech corner

Paul Mayers, the College IT Director, has been awarded an "ISASA visitorship" to research schools in Australia and Singapore during the August holidays, with the goal of investigating academic strategies relating to the integration of IT devices into the curriculum. Paul will be looking at various learning spaces to understand the type of infrastructure which successfully supports the integration of technology into teaching and learning and

transferring this knowledge to our own SA environment.



## Operations news

The campus as always is developing and upgrading; here is the status on some of those key projects:

- New ring road should be complete by 15 August 2013 and ready for use. There will be some changes to traffic flow which will be communicated next term.
- The second basketball court has been excavated to enable the third court to be developed and thus keep all the courts in one facility. There have been a few

hiccups with damage to cables but all is on track.

- The 25m pool has been resurfaced in preparation for the new summer season.
- Repairs to the roads will take place during the holidays to minimise any disruption

Many thanks to everyone in the Saints community for your patience whilst these improvements take place.



## Campus News

*"Remember not only to say the right thing in the right place, but to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment."*

Ben Franklin

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## Saints Family News

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:

- Margharet Muller on the death of her father
- Isla Walter on the death of her sister-in-law
- Ingrid Wustrow on the death of her mother
- The Wilkinson family on the death of their mother
- The Richardson family on the death of their father
- Trish Bornman on the death of her mother
- Sylvia van der Walt on the death of her father-in-law

We also think of those in the community who are struggling with illness and sadness and hope that August can be a time of renewal and healing.



## OSA announcements

The OSA would like to remind the community of their annual dinner, scheduled for 06 September 2013, with Mr Piet van Tonder as the guest speaker and the annual golf day scheduled for 31 October 2013 at Randpark Golf club. Any enquiries should be directed to Susannah (011 024 0706) at [alumni@stithian.com](mailto:alumni@stithian.com) or the OSA website <http://www.oldstithian.com/>.

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

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me."

Philippians 4:13

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