

# Rhodes Newsletter

Published for  
Old Rhodians

## Rhodes and the *new* South Africa

Like many other South African institutions Rhodes University is facing new challenges and possible changes as we move towards the *new* South Africa. Uncertainty about future demands on the University and varying perceptions of its proper role in a changing society have produced stresses within our community. As a positive approach to this problem, the Rhodes University Summit, an open meeting for all concerned about the future of our University, was held at the 1820 Settlers National Monument on Saturday 25 September. This meeting was attended by some 250 people, including students, academic and administrative staff, Old Rhodians, members of Council and interested people from the Grahamstown community. Several members of the Old Rhodian Union Committee, representing Old Rhodians and Convocation, were present. An undertaking was made to inform Old Rhodians of the proceedings and to canvass opinion about the issues involved.

In parallel sessions the issues discussed were: Industrial relations and collective bargaining; Academic Development; Community outreach; Co-operation with other tertiary institutions; Student admission policies; Governance and accountability; University funding; Staff selection; Extension of opportunities for formal education; the role of the Research Institutes; Sports policy, and a Protest Charter and dispute resolution.

All the sessions were conducted in a generally amicable and positive atmosphere and I was impressed with the feeling expressed by student participants that they wanted their University to play a full and proper part in the future of the country.

In the final plenary session it was agreed to enlarge the Summit Organising Committee, to include wider representation of interested sections of the University community and that this committee should explore further all the issues raised. In particular, concern was expressed about the perceived non-democratic and non-

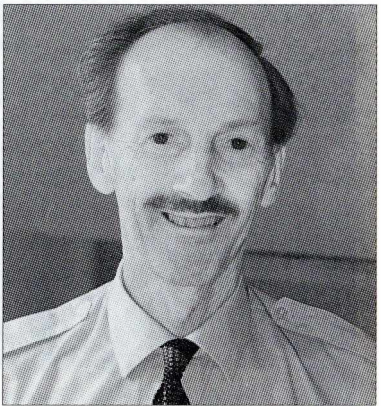
representative composition of the University Council and other decision-making bodies. As all Old Rhodians remain part of the University (Convocation members are legally part of it), we all need to give thought to its future role. In a changing situation we have to decide which things of the past to retain and what positive changes are necessary to ensure a future for Rhodes as an independent University institution, which will make a full and proper contribution to well-being and progress in our country. I therefore invite comment from Old Rhodians, corporately or individually, wherever they may be, for our guidance in future discussions and negotiations.

*Desmond Eve*  
*President of the Old Rhodian Union*

## Prof Eales retires

Professor Hugh Eales retired at the end of March 1993, having come to Rhodes initially as a first-year student in 1948. He studied geology under Professor E D Mountain, won a number of prizes and was the founding chairman of the University Geological Society, as well as president of the Rhodes University Scientific Society. His MSc thesis on the Khali Dolerite Sheet in Botswana stimulated an interest in mineralogy and igneous petrology, so it was natural that one of his main research interests in later years would include the Karoo igneous rocks. He spent two years researching diamonds at Williamson's Mwadui diamond mine in Tanganyika. He then joined Frobishers in Rhodesia to pursue exploration work and developed an interest in gold. With his bride, Anne, whom he had married in Bulawayo, he came to Rhodes as a leave replacement for Professor Ruddock, and has remained in Grahamstown ever since. He joined the staff in 1957 and became head of the department of Geology in 1970. He completed his PhD on gold mineralisation in Southern Rhodesia and carried out further research on ore minerals and Karoo rocks.

In the 1970s he developed a deep interest in the Bushveld Complex, which contains much of the world's chromium, platinum and vanadium reserves and he has since acquired international recognition for his work on the mineralogy and petrology of the Complex. Now Professor Emeritus, he will continue his research work in the department. Professor Eales built up the department of Geology and established it as a leader in South Africa. He has been a dedicated researcher, teacher and supervisor and has always had the interests of Rhodes at heart. He has promoted these interests through his membership of various outside organisations and has given excellent service to a number of University committees, including that of Bursaries. Hugh was awarded the prestigious Draper Memorial Medal for 1993 at a Council meeting of the Geological Society of South Africa held in September. The award has been made in recognition of his enormous contribution to the earth sciences throughout his career. The Medal will be presented at the Annual General Meeting of the Society which will be held in February 1994.



*Professor Hugh Eales*

His hobbies (or passions) include golf and fishing and he is also something of a handyman. He built his seaside cottage (which included making the bricks) over a protracted period of time. This enterprising investment in time and energy has given him much joy as it has welded the family together and ensured that they return home on a regular basis. Hugh and Anne have three daughters, **Susan van Coppenhagen (1976)**, Kathy who recently completed her MA and now works as a freelance editor, and the youngest, **Beth (1985)** who married **Athol Hockey (1972)** in October 1993 and is a music teacher in Cape Town.

## Rowdy Revellers



*This photograph of Struben House party goers was taken by Tony Turton (1974).  
Do you recognise yourself among them? If so, please write and tell us what you have been getting up to for the last 19 or so years.*



# Reunion Report back

Those who attended the 1970s reunion, in Grahamstown (below).



## Early 1970s

This reunion which was attended by about 100 ORs took place on the 29 and 30 June, prior to the Grahamstown National Festival of the Arts.

**Professor Chris Hummel (1953)**, President of the Old Rhodian Union, together with **Professor Ian Macdonald (1958)** welcomed everyone to Rhodes. Tea was followed by a tour of the campus, highlighting the changes which have taken place over the past 20 years. A delicious bar lunch was held at the Cathcart Arms and an extremely 'festive' Folk Music Festival was held at the Graham Hotel that night which had everyone nostalgically clapping and singing along with **Charlie Griffin (1971)** and **Neil Thomson (1971)**. On Wednesday, two buses transported revellers to the coast for a trip which included lunch at the Pig 'n Whistle and a visit to the Big Pineapple in Bathurst.

A very successful dinner/dance was held in Kimberley Hall on Wednesday night - the delicious meal bore absolutely no resemblance whatsoever to res food remembered from those long-ago days. The following highly entertaining speech was given by **Professor Vivian de Klerk (Cole 1972)**, head of the department of Linguistics and English Language: There's something frightfully sobering about having to deliver the guest address at an ex-students reunion. Sobering firstly in that one's normal consumption of alcohol is severely inhibited prior to the address, not to mention one's

intake of food; but sobering also in that one is forced to sit down beforehand and take stock of the passing years.

Age has a nasty habit of creeping up on one and suddenly revealing itself in reunions after 20 years, and I've decided not to dwell too much on the olden days, as such, and rather to look on the bright side of getting older. I am going to give you a brief sketch of life at Rhodes in the 90s, and at the end of it all I think you'll agree with me that we have every reason to feel good about having been a student in the 70s, delighted to be thirty-something, and not at all envious of students today.

Another reason for my describing student life today is to make sure that none of you who may now be on the point of sending your children to your *Alma Mater* make fools of yourselves by trying to give them outdated parental advice. Before you counsel your hapless offspring, it may be wise to get a clear idea of what life at University is like now.

Right, let me begin with the residences and rules pertaining thereto:

- *Res rules*: Remember when female students had to sign out nightly and had to be back before 11 on a weekday, and you only had four nights out per week? Forget it! Students can now go out every night, signing out is optional, and you can come back as late as you like
- Gone are the days when males were banned from the inner precincts of any female residence. Remember when *inter res visiting* (cross-sex) was only

allowed on Founders Day, during which one's door had to remain open for the vigilant eye of the frantically pacing warden? No longer, my friends - regardless of your gender, if you have an invitation, you can enter anyone's room up to midnight and emerge unscathed and unfinned at the end of it all! Frankly, I think the reason for this is that genders are no longer distinct, one is never sure what the sex of the creature in front of one is: hair is no indicator, nor is clothing, and with hormone treatment even physical shape can be misleading. I think the authorities have given up trying to monitor it.

- Of course, when one thinks of rules, one thinks of how to break them, and the *ways of breaking the rules* have changed a lot. If you cast your minds back to the mid-seventies, you may recall the daring disobedience campaign, master-minded by intrepid young revolutionaries who dared to question the wisdom of generations by rejecting a few long-standing rules, such as wearing ties to dinner in the evening, and wearing undergraduate gowns to evening meals. On one occasion everyone gathered together in a state of nervous excitement and marched down High Street, culminating in arrest! This was heady stuff, mass action was relatively unheard of and our demands were laughably modest. Today nobody beats about the bush. The thundering sounds occasionally heard around the campus while one is trying to

concentrate on a lecture are nothing to be afraid of: it's known as toyi-toying, and anyone can join in, trying to muscle the intransigent administration into conceding to yet another demand. For those new students who feel a little uncertain about how to join in, rumour has it that students will be able to attend classes in the art of toyi-toying during orientation week as from next year.

When one starts out at University, it is very important to be dressed appropriately, and many a fond mother spends a fortune on expensive outfits, desperately trying to ensure that her son or daughter will fit in. Well, before you spend any money, it would be wise to find out a little more about the clothing commonly worn at Rhodes these days.

You may remember receiving a letter regarding the code of dress at RU in our day, with female students instructed to wear slacks only with a matching jacket i.e. a slack suit. Everyone had to dress smartly for lectures. Today, students are asked to dress, i.e. to wear clothes, but we certainly cannot be so presumptuous as to expect them to realise that this includes shoes - a shoeless student is a common sight, and on a hot summer's day in a small-group teaching seminar, this can prove quite an affront to the senses! Today most students don't own ties, and if they saw anyone in an undergraduate gown they might wonder where they had escaped from, or think they were seeing the members of some strange religious sect. Reverse snobbery demands that one must at all times look one's worst

and most students wear very cheap baggies, tracksuit pants with holes in them or jeans with holes in them and a stretched T-shirt (also preferably with holes); this is having a serious effect on sexual relations on campus, because young girls often find that the person looking like a hunk with shapely calves and heavy black boots that they have been eyeing across the room is actually female! Or vice versa. Male and female are becoming increasingly indistinguishable - in our day at least we knew the difference!

As far as *accessories* to outfits are concerned, gender is also irrelevant to choice: an earring or two, ponytails, ribbons in the hair, bells on fingers and rings on toes are equally acceptable for both sexes. Of course, multiple earrings and nose-rings have their practical limitations, when one is faced with the challenge of blowing one's nose for example, but being fashionable demands some sacrifices! Boldness and inventiveness in decoration definitely add spice to the otherwise drab uniform of our students, and my recent favourite was a moth-eaten and dog-chewed old toothbrush which a young *trendette* had managed to melt down and curve around her wrist. (it was irremovable, hence its filthy state) A very important part of fashion is the *way to speak*, and students quickly learn the art of being impeccably politically correct, avoiding sexist and racist terminology like the plague, but they **don't** avoid slang and swearwords with a similar respect!

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## Adelaide reunion



From left to right:

Back row: Clive Moore (1957), Mary Moore (Lavin 1962), Bev Kokkinn (Charteris 1966), Ernie Kirsten (1969), Jacquie Moller (Sanan 1968), Noah James, Padma James.

Front row: John Hussey, Jinny Hussey (Beatty 1962), Mike Kokkinn (1976), Sue Kirsten (Bredenkamp 1967), Richard Moller.

### Reunion Report Back

*continued from page 2*

Slang is very important and if you want to be part of the gang, you've got to use that slang! A word of warning here: there is nothing quite so dating as the slang of yesteryear, and we, I hate to say, are the products of yesteryear. Only we know what we mean by Cotch Creek, bungies, inks, inkettes or blots: current students have never heard of them and will smirk unkindly at you if you use these words.

The lingo has changed, even the meanings of some of the old slang words have changed, so, for example, instead of "Dawnies" they now have "nighties", and the dawnie is the lecture that starts at 08.40am. Remember, nobody actually wears nighties at all any more, so there is no confusion! Words which are currently in vogue and are an absolute must if you want to demonstrate true studenthood are *arb* and *as well*... with the stress on the first syllable. I think Arb is derived from the word "arbitrary", but it is linguistically much more versatile, trebling as an adjective, noun, and expletive. It has to be pronounced with a slight nasal twang, showing boredom.

"This arb like walks up to me and says: "How was the lecture?" "Arb man". "And the lecturer?" "Arb as well!"

The perennial slang referring to ugly females is alive and well at Rhodes, where unfortunate *grots*, *grommets* and *dogs* are still in evidence. If you overhear someone saying they've just been to a real *dog show* they are saying they have been to a flop of a party where there were only a lot of ugly females. Remember the slang of courtship? My parents used the word *kafiofle* to refer to what Masters and Johnson might call light-petting. We in the 70s used the word *graunch* – there was a certain amount of delicacy and imagination lurking in those evocative words. I will not offend your ears with current references to the same perennial student pastime. Nevertheless you may all rest assured in the knowledge that this particular pastime still occupies a time-honoured place at Rhodes – some things never change! Still on the subject of extramural activities on campus: Rhodes now offers societies for just about anything from being a Zimbabwean, to being gay or lesbian. The latest

official club is the Homophobic Society, and I tremble to think what they get up to.

Less formalised but nevertheless very real are the intriguing *subcultures* on campus. There are the Goths or Coffinites: a dreary, mournful, pessimistic looking lot, who wear predominantly black, preferably layers of well-used brownish greyish blackish cloth, the older the better; a recently shaven or half-shaven (i.e. only half the head shaved) head is preferable, but if you must retain some hair, it must, at all costs, be uncombed and uneven lengths, much longer on one side than the other! Dyed black hair is in. Part of this group, I think, is composed of some scary young women who wear heavy black army-type boots, often sockless, and look as if they could kick-start Boeings.

To be an authentic Goth, you must look philosophical and haunted, preferably slightly anorexic, and serious, man, serious. If you can get hold of a shabby little cardboard suitcase which looks interesting, all the better, but you must look intriguing, and you must have found yourself. Hey, man seriously, you must.

As an alternative, you can be an ethnolentil; these are usually (but not exclusively) females, often older students, they never smoke and are very keen on health foods, meditation, and conservation. They wear multicolored ethnic clothes, and in fact, several members of the seventies generation have become ethnolentils, so you might recognise yourselves in that description. They are very pleasant, clean-living individuals, offering a nice contrast to the Goths. Then there are the rugger-buggers, the macho men who still operate the drinking clubs on campus (which seem to have multiplied). They are muscular, wear T-shirts and multicolored baggies even in mid winter, and they never get gooseflesh! They are clean-shaven and cultivate a bored cool look and an ability to consume inordinate amounts of beer. Some things never change, I guess.

It must be quite a strain deciding what to wear as a student, because whatever you choose, you will be making a statement about who you are. If you are uncertain about where you belong, you can't go wrong by combining a little bit of everything I've just mentioned. There are some things that we, in the naivety of the seventies, thought could never ever change. I'll

elaborate on three: the weekend, Rhodes Rag, and the name of the University.

The traditional weekend has undergone a phenomenal transformation, brought on by the fact that students have their own transport. Lecture halls are amazingly empty on Friday afternoons and even emptier on Mondays – it would seem that the weekend is becoming longer every year.

And do you remember Rag? Who could forget! The social event of the year used to be Rhodes Rag.

Well, you should have got the message by now that it simply is not cool any more to dress up as a dwarf and ask for donations.

Feminists have converted the old sexist beauty pageants into personality contests, in which males and females alike compete, and drummies are not merely an endangered species at Rhodes – they are, quite frankly, extinct. It is not cool to spend weeks making crepe flowers and papier mache masks and decorating floats; indeed, as from next year there will be no Rag at all any more.

Obviously students enjoy the challenges of changing such apparently immutable cultural phenomena as Rag and the weekend. If you can change those, why not tackle *the name of the University*: it is currently in vogue to *demand* (negotiation is too democratic) new names for the University and many of its residences which share any association with a White Colonialist past.

In order to feel part of the student body, you, as a student, will need to decide whether you prefer the name Ruth First, Oliver Tambo or Chris Hani. A preference for the name Rhodes will demand a firm resolve! It's hardly surprising that some of our students face crises of identity, as they muddle through the question of who and what they are – they aren't even sure of where they are!

The time-honoured tradition of going to university to find a husband is also under threat as well: in the past two years females have begun to outnumber males on campus, and finding a husband on campus is quite a challenge – it's easier to settle for a degree. But then again, marriage itself is a tradition which finds itself increasingly threatened.

Gone are the undergrad gowns, and with them the daring practice of wearing nothing underneath them to supper, and using the encrusted sleeves as a table napkin for one's

three years in res. The students of today don't know what they are missing!

And what about the academics of the nineties? How does one distinguish this new species from students? The clue to their identity used to be their mode of transport and dress – they drove cars and wore suits. Nowadays it is the students who have the best cars, and one identifies staff members by their *vintage* models, as only students have enough money to buy new cars. Actually there are very real problems in distinguishing staff from students these days, because suits are no longer a giveaway (there are more and more female academics, and even the odd female professor, I believe). Some academics have even taken to wearing student disguises, many of them being ethnolentils and goths themselves.

A more reliable way of telling staff from student is the colour of the hair: if it's grey, its likely to be academic. Baldness can be misleading, as I pointed out earlier, owing to the head-shaving trend currently in vogue, but if you can get close enough, a quick stroke of the bald pate will quickly enable you to tell whether you are dealing with a staff member: the bald professors will lack that prickly feel (I naturally don't speak from experience), having, instead, a delightfully smooth texture to their heads, in stark contrast to the pricklier stubble on the shaven heads around campus.

Well, you may wonder if this Rhodes is the same place you attended so long ago. Remember, change is a healthy sign of vitality, and while the picture I have been painting may seem unappealing, I have used a little poetic licence. Rest assured, underneath it all it's still Rhodes University, and some things never change. These deserve mention:

- the perennial and predictable excuses for late essays and missing exams. It still amazes statisticians how many grandmothers die during exam times, many of them actually dying several times while a student is at University.
- the salaries of academics never change: they need the comforting reassurance of the same figures year after year
- frustrated wardens, still determined, fight to uphold the defences of decent society. Some of you may remember Winnie Maxwell "you're a stupid, ugly, randy old bitch" – "not the old!"

- the common cold, bringing with it bubbling little students, who cough and splutter in class, determined to share the virus.
- The uniformity of youth, who try so hard to be different, yet relentlessly copy each other
- One unshakeable tradition, still going strong, is the need to drink and to smoke, free at last from parental constraints and protected by the divine invulnerability of youth from all car accidents and lung cancer which only affect other people.

Still unchanged is the fact that Rhodes maintains an excellent tradition of high standards, small class sizes and an excellent staff-student ratio, enabling students to participate in the rich and diverse life the University offers.

Obviously Rhodes has its problems: not least among these bridging the wide gap between school and university and adjusting to the new demands of our increasingly integrated society. But it is aware of them and working on them. We live in interesting times, and I do not envy those who have to administer the University and guide it through the stormy seas of the nineties. They don't have an easy task and while it is easy to criticise with hindsight, so far our Senate and Council are riding the wave admirably well. I also do not envy those young people who face an uncertain future as they embark on studenthood, anxious to test their newfound freedom in various ways, sartorial, sexual and academic. I hope I have made you all realise how very pleasant it is to be an *Old Rhodian*.

May Rhodes University, our Alma mater continue to grow and flourish under wise guidance, and may her students become increasingly interesting in years to come.

### Adelaide

**Mike Kokkinn (1976)** writes to let us know that the annual inter-varsity Quiz night was held in the Fullarton Community Centre on 25 July. For the second year running the winning team was UCT. ORs were there in force and gave a good showing. Much fun was had by all and over \$ 800 was raised for World Vision to continue the sponsorship of two children in Natal. On 11 September the annual Founder's Day dinner was held at a South African Indian restaurant called *Durban Delights*. The proprietor, Noah James, is a Fort Hare graduate who has joined the Adelaide ORs. The food was excellent, the company was full of cheer and there were some signs of purple here and there.

### Perth

The Perth reunion was held at the home of **Gavin (1971)** and **Bev Hartley (Parkin 1971)** and was organised by **Roy Parkin (1940)**, **Maureen de la Harpe (Beare 1955)** and **Peter Jooste (1964)**. Approximately 50 people from *down under* thoroughly enjoyed the news about Rhodes and South Africa from **Dr Derek Henderson (1947)** and his wife, **Thelma (1989)**. Dr and Mrs Henderson also attended the Sydney reunion.



Seen from left to right in the picture above are Elaine Parkin (Lawrence 1944) and Roy Parkin (1940)

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## Perth Reunion



Thelma Henderson (1989) and Maureen de la Harpe (Beare 1955) at the Perth Reunion

## Sydney

The approximately 30 people who attended this reunion, which was organised by **John Kingsley-Jones (1978)** certainly enjoyed a Tooheys or two! Once again journalism students were in abundance – they obviously thrive on Australian soil. This function was also a family reunion for the Hendersons as Peter and Trish Keeton are related to the Henderson's daughter, **Margie (1978)** and her husband, **Gavin Keeton (1977)**, while **Brian (1953)** and Kay Thiel are Derek's second cousins.

## Bloemfontein

This most enjoyable function was held at the home of **Roy (1960)** and **Margie Gordon** with about 20 ORs in attendance. The evening continued until well after 11pm with all present interested and concerned about the disputations which had occurred earlier at the University. **Professor Peter Surtees (1959)**, head of the department of Accounting, addressed the gatherings at Bloemfontein and Kimberley.

## Cape Town

This happy and pleasant occasion was organised by **Mrs Kitty Cruise (Button 1965)** and her husband, **Stephen (1965)**. **Professor Lambe Parolis (1959)** and his wife, **Lesley (Salter 1977)** represented the University at this very successful reunion at which about 125 people were present. **Professor Chris Hummel (1953)**, introduced Lambe and organised the 150 Club draw.

## Durban

The 'let's-all-talk' spirit of the new South Africa prevailed at the reunion supper at the Glenwood Old Boys' Club on Friday 10 September which was attended by about 50 ORs. The guest speaker was Mr Sathie Naidoo, former MP and now National Party MEC for Roads in Natal. Impromptu speeches were also made by: former Black Students' Movement president, **Ashwin Desai (1979)**, **Chuck Scott (1979)** and **Libby Dreyer (1983)**. Master of ceremonies, **Donwald Pressly (1981)**, is the political correspondent at the *Natal Mercury*. **Cheryl Sol (Meyer 1975)** was the co-organiser.

## Cape Town reunion



Seen at the Cape Town reunion are, from left to right, Chris Hummel (1953), Kitty Cruise (Button 1965) with Lesley (Salter 1977) and Lambe Parolis (1959).

## East London

For the first time in eight years a reunion was held in East London at the Rhodes University East London Division in Oxford Street. **Dr Steve Fourie (1974)**, director of the East London Division, welcomed everyone to the function and called upon **Professor Gavin Stewart (Staff 1980)**, head of the department of Journalism and Media Studies, to address the gathering. This he did in fine style and with great humour. The majority of ORs present had graduated in the last 10 years but it was very pleasing to see folk who had been at Rhodes in the 1950s. Two of these came from Kidds Beach, **Tim Mildenhall (1950)** and **Joan Marshall (Boardman 1957)**. A special event was the reunion of three old friends who attended Rhodes from 1952 to '55. **Margaret Chanter (Pascoe 1952)** was visiting from the UK and up from Cape Town to meet her was **Mary Sugden (Macquarrie 1952)**, who was also visiting **Liz Bamford (Smith 1952)**. Mary and Liz are both BSc graduates and Margaret, who has a BA (Fine Art), teaches History of Art at Birmingham Polytechnic. Margaret's sister, **Jessica Chanter (Pascoe 1953)**, married Margaret's brother-in-law and their sister, Becky, married **Barry Dean (Staff 1969)**. Liz lives in Pinelands, has three daughters who are all doctors and her husband, Graeme, is a chemical engineer. Mary, who was widowed some years ago is very active as a Life Line Counsellor.

## Johannesburg

The Kaif Krawl held at the Wanderers Club was a resounding success, thanks to the Old Rhodian Golfers under the leadership of **Terry Sutherland (1967)**, who put a lot of time and effort into ensuring just that! The room was decorated with photostat copies of old *Rhodeos* - many of the ORs present featured prominently - as well as purple and white balloons and purple bunting around the pillars. The mood was extremely festive and various 'boat' races were held during the course of the evening with the older generation winning hands down! The band was highly

## Sydney Reunion



Photographed at the Sydney Reunion are (above from left) Mike Ward (1986), Carry Ward (Croft Goodison 1986) and Simon Butler-White (1979). Below (from left) are Mark Euvrard (1975), John Kingsley-Jones (1978) and Doug Strugnell (1977)



entertaining and provided excellent music for ORs who never forget how to party! The gathering was addressed by **Professor Gavin Staude (1963)**. He was accompanied by his wife, **Issie (Rennie 1966)**, who graced the front cover of a number of *Rhodeos*! It is hoped that the 'Rhodes Razzle' in Johannesburg will become an annual event. See the next (June) newsletter for details of the date, venue and guest speaker. If you missed the 1993 'Rhodes Razzle', don't miss it next year!

## Kimberley

This very enjoyable reunion, organised by **Mark Fletcher (1983)**, was held at the Kimberley Club. Mark's fiancée, **Allison Moss (1983)**, supplied the moral support.

## Namibia

A very jovial get-together of about 23 ORs and spouses at a local restaurant in Windhoek was attended by **Mike Ginn (1958)**, Senior Schools Liaison Officer. **Ian Rogers (1987)** was the organiser and host. Mike mentioned the pressing need for bursary money for children of ORs and appealed for support for the 150 Club. There was an immediate and enthusiastic response, with a number of completed application forms and cheques promptly forthcoming. We thank these ORs for their enthusiasm. The group spanned the 1940s to the 1980s, a distinguished gathering.

## United Kingdom

UK Old Rhodians were fortunate to have representatives from Rhodes at both their reunions in 1993. **Neil (1954)** and **June Jardine (Dicks 1955)**, recently arrived in the UK from Grahamstown, attended the braaivleis in June - held at the home of Bob and Maggie Wade (**Gordon-Brown 1959**) in Crowthorne, Berkshire. Neil and June are both ORs and Neil, formerly headmaster at Kingswood College, talked about recent developments at Rhodes. The role the English language plays – and is likely to play – in the new South Africa was the topic of the talk by **Professor Malvern van Wyk Smith (1972)** at the London reunion in October. He outlined initiatives by Rhodes, including the longstanding, very successful Molteno Project and recent community programmes. Prof Van Wyk Smith, head of the Department of English at Rhodes, was in the UK as a visiting scholar at Woolfson College, Cambridge engaged in broad research into the European image of Africa. This reunion at a new venue, the Rugby Club of London, was a relaxed occasion and we hope to return in the future. There will be one reunion during 1994 – venue and date to be decided. For details, please contact **Murray Graham (1943)** on telephone no 081 - 574 2197 or write to him, enclosing a sae, at 27 Dormers Wells Lane, Southall, Middlesex UB1 3HX. Remember to give him your UK address and telephone number.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF CONVOCATION

In terms of the current Rhodes University Statute notice of any motion or matter for discussion at the above mentioned meeting must be given by a member of Convocation to the Secretary of Convocation (i.e. the Registrar) in writing by 15 February 1994. However members should be

further advised that publication of the amended Statutes is imminent. I anticipate that they will be published before the 15 February. If that is the case, then it will be possible to receive items for the agenda until 12 July 1994.

Dr K S Hunt  
Registrar



# Old Rhodian Union

## Special General Meeting

### Notice

A special general meeting of the Old Rhodian Union will be held in the Council Chamber at 17:15, Wednesday 23 February 1994, to consider amendments to the constitution of the Old Rhodian Union. First, with a view to accommodating within that constitution the merger-of-a-kind between Old Rhodian Union and Convocation, agreed to by a special general meeting of Convocation on 24 February 1993. Second, with a view to incorporating into the ORU constitution those changes to update that constitution, as worked on by a constitutional sub-committee. The amended constitution will be available at this meeting and for examination at the Registrar's office beforehand. Copies of the

amended constitution can be made available on request to the Registrar.

**Agenda**

The original constitution was adopted on 12 September 1963. Certain changes were adopted on 12 September 1970. With the formation of one Union with Convocation the Old Rhodian Union constitution required amendment. At the same time as that amendment was considered it became obvious that certain clauses needed updating. These are, among others:-

1. a clearer statement of certain definitions relating to the joining with Convocation and membership.
2. The clauses relating to the functions of an administrative secretary whose assistance will

probably be required in future.

3. The clauses relating to the appointment of officers, which will provide for annual appointments without automatic retirements.

Proper notice of the meeting having been given, members will be asked to pass the following resolution:-

**THAT**

The amended constitution having been made available to members requesting it and copies having lain for inspection in the office of the Registrar of the University, it is resolved that the amended constitution be adopted as the constitution of the Old Rhodian Union.

*C A LANHAM*  
*Honorary Secretary*  
*6 October 1993*

## OR Golf Club

The Old Rhodian Golf Club in Johannesburg has become the reunion centre for sporting ORs. The club has a mailing list of more than 200 members and every month the mighty Rhodians play against the alumni of another university.

Recently Rhodes recorded victories over Tukkie's and OFS. The first inter-varsity against UPE (played on the same day) finished in a dead tie.

## New members welcomed

The club relies on new members, who are most welcome. We especially appeal to the over 35 year-old age group to make an effort to play. If you would like to join us please 'phone Rose at the Rhodes University Johannesburg office on 788 5543. Committee members are **Terry Sutherland (1967)** (captain), **Alan Sutton (1981)** (treasurer), **Tyrone Hawkes (1986)**, **Brian Hunter (1980)**, **Jeremy Squier (1980)** and **Ernie Alexander (1979)**. Ernie does a great job in producing newsletters which are circulated to all members.

The club championships are played in February, (the current champion is **Graham Rolfe (1984)**) and the other important event is the Bursary Day, which is held in November, when all ORs are requested to sponsor holes.

The Old Rhodian Committee	
Honorary President-	<b>Professor J V L Rennie</b> (Staff 1931 - 1970)
Honorary Vice-Presidents-	<b>Professor S G Shuttleworth</b> (1928) <b>Professor H H Smith (1945)</b> <b>The Honourable Mr Justice J D Cloete (1935)</b> <b>Doctor E E A Gledhill (1931)</b> <b>Professor D E A Rivett(1939)</b>
President-	<b>Professor D J Eve (1951)</b>
Vice-President-	<b>Professor H C Hummel (1953)</b>
Honorary Secretary-	<b>Mr C A Lanham</b> (Staff 1977 - 1987)
Honorary Treasurer-	<b>Mr M G E Beauvais (1984)</b>
Council's Representative-	<b>Professor F G Butler (1936)</b>
Committee Members-	<b>Professor D R Cooper (1949)</b> <b>Professor I A Macdonald (1958)</b> <b>Professor I D Schafer (1962)</b> <b>Professor J R Midgley (1973)</b> <b>Doctor V M Murali (1985)</b> <b>Mrs E Haigh (Rademeyer 1963)</b>
150 Club Sub-Committee-	<b>Professor Hummel and Messrs Lanham and Beauvais.</b>

The Ally Weakley Memorial Bursary Fund	
<b>A</b> lly was tragically killed at Sinangwana, Transkei, on 13 April 1993. It has been decided to establish a memorial bursary, administered by Rhodes, to commemorate the ideals he lived by and to assist worthy recipients to enrol at the University.	
The aim of the fund is to provide an annual bursary to an individual who, in the opinion of the Selection Committee, will make a significant contribution to the spirit and achievement of the Rhodes University Rugby Football Club.	
Ally touched the lives of all who met him. He was a true democrat, and made an enormous impact on the rugby fraternity at the University.	
A donation to the University qualifies for tax relief under section 18A of the Income Tax Act. Donors will be sent a tax certificate.	
If you would like to make a donation, please send it to:	
The Rugby Administrator Sports Administration Rhodes University 6140 Grahamstown.	
Please make cheques payable to Rhodes University (Weakley Bursary)	

## Physicist attends International Conference

There is a possibility for co-operative research between Rhodes, the University of Natal and Stanford University in the United States, said **Dr Allon Poole (1961)**, a senior lecturer in the department of Physics and Electronics, upon his return from Japan, where he attended an URSI Conference from August 25 to September 2. (URSI is a French acronym which translates as the International Union for Radio Science, one of the largest and oldest scientific unions in the world.)

The URSI Conference, which is held every three years, was attended by about 1 500 delegates from around the world. The Conference was split into 10 specialist Commissions.

Dr Poole presented two papers, both written by himself and an MSc student in his department, Mr Christopher Mercer, at the 'Ionospheric radio and propagation' Commission. The papers, which were presented in poster form, dealt with the development of mathematical models for use in studies of the ionosphere for shortwave radio communications purposes.

He explained, "The ionosphere is found between 90 and 400 kilometres from the earth's surface, and is that part of the atmosphere which is ionised. It is able to reflect radio waves used for short wave radio communication. Scientists study its behaviour and predict what the ionosphere is going to do on a daily and monthly basis". Although some papers were read at the Conference, most were presented in poster form. Presenters tended to provide an overall review of progress made in a specific scientific field, rather than concentrate on their own research. "Poster presentations enable the presenter to engage in one-on-one discussions about the subject, thereby exchanging ideas and learning from each other. As a result of these conversations with other scientists, there is a possibility for co-operative research between Rhodes, the University of Natal and a group at Stanford University in the United States. This research will focus on the effects of lightning on the lower ionosphere," he said.

Dr Poole, who is the Chairman of the South African National Committee for URSI, was elected to attend the Conference as the South African national delegate. He formed part of a six-man South African delegation. He is also the Director of the Hermann Ohlthaver Institute for Aeronomy (HOIA), one of the University's affiliated research institutes. The Institute has recently shifted the emphasis of its activities from Antarctica to South Africa. It is now the only organisation that measures and publishes ionospheric data in the Republic.

## Old Rhodian 1975 - 1980 and Pharmacy Reunion

This is to be held on 28 and 29 June 1994, two days before the Standard Bank National Festival of the Arts begins.

We would welcome you for tea in the Senior Common Room followed by a Rhodes update and bar lunch, and, we hope, encourage you to make your own 'music' and other entertainment that first evening.

Wednesday (late!) morning is always given over to the coastal 'watering' holes, including the Pig and Whistle. Please give us your own suggestions for Wednesday evening. Should it be a dinner, dinner/dance, braai (weather permitting!) or something else. Be prepared to chip in your own contribution for catering for this function.

Please fill in the application form below, cut it out and send the completed form to Ms Lesley Lowry, Residence Officer, Rhodes University, 6140 Grahamstown; fax no. 2 5049 by 31 May 1994.

<b>LATE 70S AND PHARMACY REUNION</b>	
<b>28 - 29 June 1994</b>	
<b>Application form</b>	
SURNAME:	.....
MAIDEN NAME:	.....
CHRISTIAN NAMES:	.....
ADDRESS:	.....
Accommodation* in Rhodes University residence required for:	
NAME/S	.....
	.....
Date of Arrival:	.....
Date of Departure:	.....
I enclose my cheque for	R.....

\*Accommodation costs - R 85 per person bed & breakfast. The residences open from 27 June to 11 July. (The latter date being for those who wish to stay on for the Arts Festival.)

## Joint Benelux venture

Michael Callaghan (UCT) is the alumni convenor for the Benelux countries (Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg). The Benelux alumni committee wish to contact alumni from all South

African universities with a view to holding combined functions. If you are interested please contact him at P O Box 649, Wassenaar 2240-an, The Netherlands. Tel and Fax no : 0931 - 01751 14009.



# OBITUARIES

**Mr John Fairbridge Bennett (1931)** in Grahamstown on 10 July 1993, at the age of 81. He was educated at St Andrew's Prep and College and later graduated with a BSc degree. He played first team rugby for both St Andrew's and Rhodes. St Andrew's has always been dear to his heart and one of the motivating factors in his retiring to Kenton-on-Sea was to watch schoolboy rugby. His sons and grandsons have carried on the family tradition and have attended St Andrew's. After graduating John moved to the Transvaal where he worked for the Gold Fields Mining Company until the outbreak of World War II. He reached the rank of Captain and was taken prisoner after being wounded in Italy. At the end of the war he married Joan and returned to his job on the mines. On his retirement in 1972 he became actively involved in community affairs. He was also a self-taught carpenter and there are many people who are proud owners of the work he so beautifully crafted. He will be remembered as a gentleman in every sense of the word, and even after his health deteriorated after the shock of his son's death, he always had a ready smile and a joke for everyone. He is survived by his wife, Joan, his son, Dr Geoff Bennett of Grahamstown, his daughter-in-law Tibby, and grandsons, Andy and Michael.

**Mr Richard 'Dick' Coates (1945)** in Port Alfred in July this year, at the age of 80. He was born in Cape Town in 1912 and matriculated from Wynberg Boys High School. He served in the artillery, returning to South Africa in 1942, very badly wounded. He studied land surveying at Rhodes University College. In 1951 Dick and his wife, Joy, moved to Grahamstown where Dick was a land surveyor and a city councillor for 15 years. They then moved to Port Alfred, where he worked as a land surveyor for 25 years before reluctantly retiring at the age of 77. He will be remembered for his contributions to Port Alfred and his positive input into the town and community.

**Dr Howard Quail Davies (1925)** in East London on 23 October 1993, at the age of 87. Dr Davies was born in Mount Coke, of missionary parents. He matriculated at Kingswood College, Grahamstown, before going to Rhodes where he obtained a BSc degree. His first teaching position was science master at Sea Point Boys' High. While at Rhodes, he became the Eastern Province champion 120 yards hurdler in 1926, a title he held for two years. He also held the Western Province hurdles title

for six years. He was South African champion in the 120 yards hurdles from 1929 to 1932 and in 1930 he was selected for the British Empire Games in Hamilton, Canada. He was also chosen for the British Empire team against the United States in Chicago. Although selected for the next Olympic Games, he was unable to participate. He married Miss Delene Cartwright and the couple moved to Butterworth where Dr Davies was headmaster of Butterworth High School for six years before his appointment to Queen's College as headmaster in 1940. He remained there for 24 years. They had one daughter, Rhondda, now Mrs Strugnell. Mrs Davies died in 1958 and two years later Dr Davies married Helene Anders, a Music inspector. Owing to ill health he retired from Queen's College in 1963 and settled at Gonubie, where he was active in civic affairs, becoming mayor for a period. He was involved with Border tourism and played bowls. Mrs Helene Davies died earlier this year.

**Professor David Z de Villiers (Staff 1965 - 1973)** in Cape Town on 23 June 1993, at the age of 80.

**Mrs Patricia Marjorie Dovey (Lee 1945)** in Grahamstown on 6 January 1993, at the age of 65. She was the only child of the late H Montgomery Lee and Mrs P M Caffin (now of Somerset West). Pat grew up in Zimbabwe, attending Evelyn in Bulawayo and Girls High in Harare. She graduated from Rhodes with a BA (cum laude) and married **Mark Dovey (1944)** in 1953. She was a wonderful home-maker. Wherever she lived - Harare, Kitwe and Grahamstown - she created a garden. Her three children, Anne, John and Jill, all university graduates, and seven grandchildren, are scattered all over South Africa. She died with dignity after a short illness bravely borne.

**Mr William Thomson Ferguson (1929)** in Cape Town on 2 September 1993. He was born in Bedford in 1911. He completed his schooling at eastern Cape schools, except for his matriculation year at SACS in 1928. Will then proceeded to Rhodes where he obtained a BA degree in 1931. At Rhodes he played inter-varsity golf against the University of Cape Town (UCT). He moved to UCT, where he graduated with an MA (Honours) in 1932 and an MEd in 1936. He was interested in politics and became leader of the Liberal party at UCT and a cabinet minister of the NUSAS parliament in 1934. In the following year he became national leader of the Liberal Party in the NUSAS parliament. From 1936 to 1943 he taught English, mathematics and history

at SACS and from 1944 to 1957 he taught at Grey High School. From 1958 he lectured in education until his retirement in 1976. He had two terms as president of the South African Teachers' Association and was chairman of several societies in Cape Town. He was also history examiner for the Joint Matriculation Board and the Cape Senior Certificate. He married Mrs Patricia Watson (Coaker) in 1972.

**Mr Charles James Wallace Fleming (1924)** on 20 June 1993, on his farm at Harare South in Zimbabwe.

**Mr Graham Hall (1958)** in Port Elizabeth in May 1993 at the age of 59. He underwent a valve-replacement heart operation a week before his death and was apparently recovering well when he collapsed. He was born in East London and had a long association with Grahamstown, first as a student at Rhodes and later as a master at Kingswood College. He was treasurer of the Kingswood Foundation Trust, the Old Kingswoodian Club and the Wyvern Union for many years. He was appointed principal of the Technical College and through his dedication built it up into a college with growing numbers of full-time students and lecturers. He is survived by a sister, Miss Denise Hall, who teaches in Cape Town.

**Mr Harry Hall (1939)** in Harare, Zimbabwe, on 17 October 1993. Harry turned 72 in October. At Rhodes, he abandoned his original intention to study theology, to major in English and Psychology - he would have made a good priest. He then went to England and obtained a further degree in Psychology. When he returned to South Africa he joined Danie Craven's School for physically and mentally handicapped children. He played inter-provincial rugby and hockey for Griquas. During the Second World War he served with the South African Air Force. After the war he was sent to England to assist in rehabilitating airmen to life in 'civvy' street. Upon his return to South Africa he joined the Psychological Unit of the Natal Department of Education. In 1957 he opened the first psychological unit for children in the then Southern Rhodesia and in 1970 went into private practice. He represented his country for many years on the World Council for Gifted Children. In 1989, as of the senior golfers representing Zimbabwe at Colorado Springs, he won his section. Harry was the longest serving Governor on the Board of Governors of the Rhodes University Foundation. He had two children from his first marriage and married Pam

McGraw in 1974. Harry was a true gentleman, both on and off the golf course. His habits and life style were modest; he was not ostentatious. He bubbled, he was effervescent, he walked with a spring in his step and he made you feel good. On top of this he enjoyed everything he did and he did it competently. Harry had only one real love - his family - and he was a devoted husband and father. He was Pam's constant companion and she, with her teaching experience, complemented his professionalism to the great advantage of the many children who were sent to him. After his family, Harry's loves were golf and, equal to it, his work. This involved helping children who were physically or mentally handicapped, or needed vocational guidance, or were so gifted that they needed the help that he was qualified to give. He also gladly made his services available to less privileged children. When Harry comes to stand before his Maker it could be fairly said of him: "Here, Lord, is a man who for himself and for others, made the most of the life and gifts which you gave to him, and his cup overflowed with the love and enjoyment of them".

*Tribute by Mr A L Hardy, at the memorial service at the Presbyterian Church, Highlands, Harare.*

**Mr Bob Hart (1946)** in Knysna on 11 October 1993. After matriculating at St Andrew's College in Grahamstown in 1942, he joined the Royal Navy Carbineers and saw action in North Africa and Italy with the Sixth Division. He later studied for a BSc (Honours) and an Education Diploma at Rhodes. He taught at Prince Edward School in Salisbury, Livingstone High School in Livingstone and Alexander Road High School in Port Elizabeth, before a spell at Grey and Kimberley Boys' High. Bob leaves his wife, Carmen, son Michael in New Zealand, and daughters Phillipa, in Port Elizabeth, and Jane, in Cape Town.

**Mrs Sheila Key (Clarkson 1931)** in England in 1992, after a long illness.

**Professor Tom Matthews (1959)** in Durban on 6 March 1993. He was born in Johannesburg and educated in Kimberley. He worked and travelled abroad before graduating from Rhodes. He was later appointed as a senior lecturer in the Department of Fine Art. In 1982 he moved to the University of Durban-Westville, where he later became head of the Department of Fine Art. He distinguished himself as an art historian and academic. He conducted valuable research into Hindu Temple sculpture and built up the University's collection of

Indian Art. His research into South African mural art was later adapted and published. He was a committed, knowledgeable and enthusiastic teacher who set very high standards and led by example. He had a quiet strength and a serious and philosophical nature. He will be sorely missed by his family, friends and colleagues.

**Mr Moses Martin Sihlangu (1985)** in May 1993 at the age of 28. Moses was born on 5 November 1965. When he was 12 years old, he was taken under the wing of Father Michel of the Roman Catholic Church. Father Michel became his father and mentor. After matriculating in 1983 Moses worked for a year as an unqualified teacher. In 1985 he began to study for BA in Social Science at Rhodes and continued to complete honours and masters' degrees. Moses eventually fulfilled his hard-earned dream by becoming a clinical psychologist at Themba Hospital in February this year. He served in this position for only a short while when he was brutally murdered while carrying out his duties. Only a few months after receiving his Masters degree, the fulfilment of his dream came to an abrupt and cruel halt.

**Miss Nancy Maydew Wamsley (1930)** in Johannesburg on 10 January 1993. She was headmistress of St Mary's School, Waverley from January 1963 until her retirement in March 1973. Miss Wamsley was educated at Collegiate in Port Elizabeth, Rhodes University and Cambridge. Miss Wamsley taught Mathematics at St Cyprian's and Pretoria Girls High School, and for many years at Barnato Park High School, before her appointment to St Mary's. She was an excellent Mathematics teacher, and as headmistress, while very conscious of the need to maintain high academic standards, recognised the importance of encouraging wider interests. Her commitment to her pupils and her influence on the school is perhaps best summed up in the tribute written in the history of St Mary's: "Always dignified, pleasant and a little remote, Miss Wamsley had such a quick appreciation of the various aspects of any difficulty that she could at once put them in their proper perspective and so solve the problem wisely. This meant security and comfort for staff and girls alike". Miss Wamsley was most generous and left a substantial legacy to Rhodes University for which we are extremely grateful in these times of economic recession and subsidy cutbacks.

## Rhodes Newsletter . .

. . . is produced by the Public Relations and Development Division and edited by **Mrs Jenny Purdon**. She may be contacted by telephone at 0461 - 31 8516, by fax at 0461 -

31 1902 or through mail addressed to her at the Public Relations and Development Division, Rhodes University, 6140 Grahamstown. Our e-mail address is [adjp@kudu.ru.ac.za](mailto:adjp@kudu.ru.ac.za).

She looks forward to hearing news of reunions and other contacts with Old Rhodians and, as well, notifications of any address changes.



## 1920s

**Miss Madge Stormont (1925)** who lives at Brookshaw Home in Grahamstown remembers when she and **Miss K Wallis (1919)** taught together at Pearson High School in Port Elizabeth.

## 1930s

**Edgar Bayes (1938)** visited Grahamstown and Rhodes on a 'sentimental journey' after an almost 50-year absence. After Edgar graduated with a BSc in physics and chemistry he spent six years in the South African Air Force as a meteorological officer. On the advice of the late Professor JLB Smith he then joined Shell SA as a chemist. During the 38 years Edgar spent as chief chemist for Shell, he travelled to 34 countries around the world. Edgar felt that Grahamstown had not changed much - the house he grew up in still stands. There is even a Bayes Street which was named after his mother, Dorothy, the first woman in a hundred years to become mayor of Grahamstown.

**Dennis Butler (1939)** and his wife, Dee, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary together with their four children and four grandchildren at Umkomaas in July this year. Dennis has continued his wood-working hobby and has made a name for himself through his beautifully crafted buttons and beads.

**Maddy Gilfillan (Allison 1932)** celebrated her 80th birthday at a special party arranged by members of St David's Anglican Women's Fellowship at Kenton-on-Sea in July this year. Maddy retired at Kenton in 1984 and has been an active member of St David's.

**Nicolette Quekett (Bodmer 1932)** writes from Freemantle in Australia to tell us that she and **Professor Guy Butler (1936)** attended the same English class. Nicolette taught English in China in 1987, 1989 and 1991. Her life has been one of travel - living in Kenya, the Middle East, Lebanon, Aden, India, Pakistan and Thailand.

## 1940s

**Joyce Williams (Hutchons 1949)** has retired at Plettenberg Bay. Their family had three generations of Rhodians. Her mother, **Mary Agnes Hutchons (Welsh 1920)** died at the age of 91 earlier this year. Joyce's daughter, **Tessa (1986)**, was champagne queen when she was at Rhodes. Both Joy and her mother graduated with BA degrees.

**John Powell (Staff 1948 - 1959)** spent twelve happy years at Rhodes working with **Prof Eugene Locke (1935)** in the Department of Physical Education (now known as Human Movement Studies). John and his wife, Joan, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in

September together with their three children, David, Stephen and Bronwyn and seven grandchildren. The Human Biology Building at the University of Guelph was renamed the *John T Powell Building* in October in honour of John who created the School of Human Biology in 1965. John, who retired in 1985, is renowned internationally for his work with the Olympic Academy in Greece.

## 1950s

**Bryan Butler (1958)** is MD of Media Initiative Africa (Lintas media arm). Bryan is married with two children and one grandchild. He is a keen birder and collector of Goss China (Victorian china mementoes).

**Bob Caley (1953)** has retired after 35 years in the freight forwarding industry. Bob was editor of *Rhodo* in 1955 and thoroughly enjoys the Newsletter which keeps him in touch with others of his vintage.

**Elizabeth Franklin (Pitman 1958)** is a psychologist in private practice in Cleveland, USA.

**James Hardwick (1950)** recently published a book *Clogs to Clergy* in England.

**Lawson Lobb (1958)** is professor of mathematics and information technology at Charles Stuart University in Bathurst, Australia where he has lectured since 1973.

**Professor Rupert Mayr (Staff 1955 - 1987)** and his wife, Erna, still live in Port Elizabeth. Erna teaches singing and enjoys gardening - especially now that water restrictions have been lifted in Port Elizabeth! Prof Mayr is being kept busy by adjudicating at Eisteddfodau, at Afrikaans Kunswedstryde and reviewing concerts for the *Eastern Province Herald*. He has also written three articles for the Unisa music magazine, *Musicus*. Prof says that some of his former music students teach in Grahamstown:-

**Mike Skipper (1977)** - St Andrew's  
**Ian Smith (1973)** and his wife,  
**Sharon (Palmer 1970)** are both at Kingswood

**Cynthia Webbstock (1971)** - St Andrew's

**Janet Mullineux (Jessop 1970)** - St Andrew's

**Denise Berrange (1967)** - DSG  
**Gillian McManee (Williams 1978)** - DSG

**Gerard Jacobs (1986)** - Kingswood

**Roger Norkie (1987)** - Kingswood

**Merlin Julie (1985)** - St Andrew's  
**Priscilla Glover (Tandy 1982)** - teaches pre-school music

**Ingrid van Eck (1985)** - P J Olivier  
**Marion Sparrow (1974)** - P J Olivier

**Jeanine Baart (Emmett 1969)** - VGHS

**Stephanie Fourie (Schoeman 1965)** - Victoria Primary  
**Colin Pringle (1954)** and his wife, Glen, live in Bedford. Colin recently received an honours award from the Eastern Province Tennis Association for the more than 30 years he has dedicated to tennis. During his time at Rhodes Colin captained the first tennis team from 1954 to 1957. Colin is also on the

Rhodes University Foundation Board of Governors.

**Antony Smith (1950)** has retired as principal of Bergvliet High School after 25 years at the school. His greatest joy has come from the successes of past pupils and seeing how their education has stood them in good stead during their tertiary education.

**Jill Wentzel (White 1952)** is the Special Research and Public Affairs Director of the South African Institute of Race Relations. She is publishing a book describing how influential liberals in South Africa let their values 'slide away' during the political turbulence of the 1980s. Entitled *The Liberal Slideaway*, the book uses the Black Sash as a model to illustrate how daily exposure to suffering led many liberals to believe they had a duty to turn a blind eye to the violent aspects of the ungovernability strategy; in so doing, they lost sight of the people they had always championed - ordinary black people who bore the brunt of the violence. Jill says political violence might not pose such a serious problem for South Africa today if the influential liberal constituency had been willing to 'raise the alarm' when some of the liberatory tactics in the townships became as violent and coercive as those of the government. Jill worked as a political organiser in the Black Sash in the 1950s, and in the Liberal Party in the early 1960s. She ran a few elections for the Progressive Party, and from the mid 1970s to the mid 1980s she was variously the Transvaal chair, national secretary, national vice-president, and magazine editor of the Black Sash. She was married to Ernie Wentzel, a prominent advocate, who died in 1986.

## 1960s

**Robert Chan-Henry (1962)** is one of four academics living in London who founded a hi-tech company at City University which was recently sold for a large sum of money. The company, City Technology, was formed in 1977 to raise capital for the university. Money from the sale will be spent on two student residences and a block of lecture theatres as well as a long-term endowment fund.

**'N O' Curry (1966)** obtained his masters in Applied Science (ScEd) in Perth and is director of Teaching Development at the University of Namibia. He is the author of the recently published *Physical Science in Namibia* series for secondary schools. 'N O' is an active sportsman and was recently a semi-finalist in the veterans section of the British Open Squash Championships. Molly Joy, his wife and sons, Greig (11) and Alexander (9) are closely watching developments in South Africa as they consider the 'calling' to return to the eastern Cape.

## Rhodes revisited



**Mrs Jenny Kirkland (Hill-Lewis 1965)** recently visited Rhodes for the first time since graduating in 1968. Jenny lives in Zululand with her husband, Andy, and has two sons and two daughters.

**Neil 'Foxy' de Jager (1968)** is married with two children, a girl (8) and a boy (5) and lives in Johannesburg where he is a senior partner in a law practice.

**Phil Grafton (1964)** is the business director of Mortimer Property Group.

**Neill Hoare (1961)** is the deputy principal of Riebeeck College in Uitenhage where he teaches physical science. He is very involved in school and amateur theatre. Neil is married with two school-going daughters. Also on the staff at Riebeeck College is **Jennifer Schwechheimer (Muller 1960)** who recently became a grandmother.

**Marian Hofmeyr (Theunissen 1962)** was recently ordained as an Anglican priest and works as an assistant priest in the parish of St Lukes, Orchards, in Johannesburg. She also teaches divinity at St Mary's School. Marian and Rob have two children, Kate (18) and Matthew (13).

**Peter (1966)** and **Erica Kirby (Ebdon 1967)** are very keen to hold a reunion in Melbourne - their fax no is 3 787 3029 if anyone would like to contact them. Peter and Erica have been living in Mt Eliza with their son, Robert (12), since 1986. Mt Eliza is a village on Port Philip Bay, about 60km from Melbourne's centre - they feel they have the best of both worlds - country living within easy access to the bright lights! Peter has been managing director of Dulux (ICI) Paints in Australia, and was recently appointed chief executive officer for ICI Paints, Asia Pacific. His responsibilities include Australia, New Zealand, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Hong Kong, Peoples' Republic of China, Korea, Fiji and Papua New Guinea, so he does a *lot* of travelling. In 1992 he spent some time at the Harvard Business School in Boston and found it a most interesting experience - especially being back in 'res' after so many years. He is something of a 'connoisseur' of universities, having obtained his BEcon at Rhodes, BEcon (Honours at Natal University (Durban), MA at Manchester University, MBA at the Witwatersrand and, more recently, Harvard.

He still maintains that Rhodes is the best! Erica worked for 12 years as a scientific computer programmer and later analyst but became a 'household executive' when their son was born. Last year they were visited by **Clive (1963)** and **Carol-Ann Hallam (Jew 1967)** who live in the USA.

**Andre Lemmer (1964)** runs pre- and in-service courses for teachers of English at the University of Port Elizabeth. He is the author of three books and has written numerous articles, chiefly on topics related to the teaching of literature.

**Gordon Maclean (1962)** is a senior professor in the department of zoology and entomology at the University of Natal (Pietermaritzburg) and president of the Southern African Ornithological Society. He was awarded a University of Natal Fellowship in 1992 and is the author of the sixth edition of *Roberts' Birds of Southern Africa* published in July 1993. He has been at the University of Natal since 1968. He is married to Cherie (ex-Zimbabwe) and has two grown-up children, Anne and David. **Paul Marsh (1961)** leaves Hilton College at the end of 1993 to take up a consultancy position in the United Kingdom. He has served as headmaster of Hilton for seven years.

**Dale Munday (1962)** and his family have emigrated to Scotland where Dale is a senior lecturer in the School of Pharmacy at Aberdeen.

**Jo Prince (1960)** has been appointed editor of *The Property Professional*.

**Leslie Roberts (1965)** has been appointed as the Eastern Cape Attorney-General.

**Paul Robertson (1964)**, headmaster of Stutterheim High School for the last eight years, has been appointed headmaster of Bergvliet High School. He and his wife, Caroline, have three sons, Keith (18), Angus (16) and Ricky (12).

**Sandra Schnekenzinger (Oertel 1969)** recently completed her training as a Jungian analyst at the Carl Gustav Jung Institute of Psycho-analysis in Zurich, where she practises.



# OLD RHODIAN NEWS

*continued from page 7*

**Tony Selby (1964)** has been appointed headmaster at the King's School and College in Robin Hills. Tony has always been interested in rugby and has successfully completed two Comrades marathons. He and his wife, Arlene and three children work for the furtherance of God's Kingdom.

**David Short (1964)** has been director of the Ashwell Field Studies Centre in Hertfordshire, England, for the past 18 years. The company specialises in field work in local history for school and adult groups. David is closely involved with the British Association for local history.

**Barry Swart (1962)** is MD of First National Bank. He shelved his dream of being an air force pilot and decided to become a banking giant at the tender age of 16. He started at the proverbial bottom of the ladder - licking stamps and carting mail at Barclays Bank in East London. After graduating in 1965 he started working his way up and travelled to the UK which was followed by New York in 1968. In 1971 he created Barclays Bank of New York and its first branch was opened as the 2 035th biggest bank in the States. In less than a decade, the New York branch was 150th and he was president and chief executive. He continued to travel both nationally and internationally until he settled in Johannesburg as deputy MD in 1987. When he became MD in 1989 he cut R 160m worth of expense which made him unpopular but which had the desired effect of keeping First National at the forefront of banking. **Geoff Untiedt (1961)** was recently appointed principal of Stutterheim High School where he was a teacher for 15 years.

## 1970s

**Antony Clark (1975)** has been appointed headmaster of St Andrew's College in Grahamstown from 1994. Antony was born in Grahamstown and attended St Andrew's College where he was head boy in 1974 and obtained academic honours as well as colours for cricket, rugby and squash. While at Rhodes he played cricket and, occasionally, rugby for the first team. Antony's father, **Roger (1948)**, honorary life member of the Old Andrean Club, retires as second master at the end of this year.

**Michelle Colman (1978)** is a freelance travel writer based in Johannesburg. Over the past 12 years she has written extensively for travel and trade publications. She has also served as editor on travel industry journals. In the course of her work she has travelled widely. Besides freelance journalism, Michelle works closely with the travel industry as a public relations consultant.

**Caroline de Mello Machado (Fawkes 1979)** was paralysed from the chest downwards in an horrific car crash, in which her mother-in-law died, seven years ago.

Caroline was told that she would be in a wheelchair for the rest of her life and to make the most of what she had. She bravely and determinedly followed this advice and despite being a quadriplegic she has since given birth to two sons, Miguel and Paulo.

**Graham Hardy (1973)** has been appointed marketing director for Volkswagen in South Africa.

**Bryn Hird (1977)** completed a PhD at McGill University in Montreal and then did postdoctoral work at the IBM Almaden Research Centre in San Jose, California for about a year. He now works in polymer research at Procter and Gamble in Cincinnati, Ohio. Bryn and his wife, who also obtained her PhD in polymer chemistry at McGill and did a post doctorate course at IBM, have two children, Kyle (3) and Nicole (1).

**Margie Keeton (Henderson 1978)** was recently appointed to the rotating position of executive assistant to Anglo chairman, **Julian Ogilvie-Thompson**, who received an honorary degree in 1988. This post was created in the mid-1950s and is filled every two years by the brightest of the bright young Anglo management trainees who have been hand picked for grooming for greater things. Until Margie's appointment, they have all been male. The group public affairs consultant, **Michael Spicer (1971)**, was a previous incumbent as well as **Gavin Relly**, Chancellor of Rhodes University, and **Julian Ogilvie-Thompson**, who were both executive assistants to Harry Oppenheimer. Margie views her job as an enormous opportunity to get a bird's eye view of the business and to see how the corporation works. Margie sees her position as being similar to that of a British parliamentary private secretary, who briefs the minister, handles queries, his in-tray and correspondence. Both Margie's Rhodes degree in maths and history and her history honours degree were awarded with distinctions. She was deputy president of the SRC and the PFP local youth branch chairman in the year that **Errol Moorcroft (1957)**, Albany district's first PFP MP, was elected to parliament. She subsequently went on to Oxford as one of South Africa's first women Rhodes Scholars and earned a master's degree in history. Margie's very supportive husband, **Gavin (1977)**, is an economist who also works for Anglo.

**Helen Kidwell (Marston 1974)** has lived in Holland for the last two years together with her husband and two daughters, Micheline (10) and Kate (8).

**Lisa Kirstein (Coghlan 1978)** taught in Cape Town for three years after graduation and then moved to Johannesburg. After a recent divorce Lisa moved to Knysna with her two young children.

**Eric Leach (1970)** has been appointed a Judge of the Eastern Province Supreme Court. At 40 years of age he is the youngest judge on the Bench. After graduating with a BA degree he spent a year farming and exploring

Namibia (South West Africa) before studying for an LLB degree at Natal University. He was called to the Bar in January 1976 and has practised as an advocate in Grahamstown ever since, specialising in civil and commercial law. He took Silk in 1990 when he was appointed Senior Counsel. Eric and his wife, Celeste, have two sons, Craig (3) and James (5).

**Anne Maclean (1977)** is the principal of Sacred Heart Secondary School in Natal.

**Mike Mills (1978)** is an announcer on Radio 702. He also presents the *Ithuba Win 'n Spin* Game show on TV1.

**Chris Parrish (1975)** is the minister at St David's Church in Victoria Park in Queenstown. His parents were not keen on the idea of his ordination and refused to pay for a university education in theology. As a result he studied to be a teacher at Rhodes, whereafter he taught at Vredenberg High School and put himself through a Bachelor of Theology degree through Unisa. He later studied at St Paul's College, now the College of Transfiguration, and received a diploma in theology, and then went on to do honours and masters in theology at Rhodes. Chris met his wife, Bridgette, while completing his thesis at Rhodes. Bridgette was a nurse at Fort England Hospital who used to pop into the Rhodes pool for a swim. It was love at first sight - they were engaged within four months and married within a year. They have two sons, Peter and Paul.

**Patricia Pichulik (Bullen 1974)** has been running her own public relations company, P & P Promotions, for the past ten years.

**Donna Shillington (1976)** who lives in Richmond is the new community correspondent for the Natal Midlands.

**Nicky Sinclair (Genllood 1973)** emigrated to New Zealand in 1989 after lecturing for three and a half years at the Johannesburg College of Education. She is studying theology at St John's College in Auckland. Nicky is married to Douglas and has two children, Alasdair (13) and Robyn (11).

**Izak (1974)** and **Debbie Smuts (Boshoff 1981)** live in Grahamstown where Izak has been practising at the Bar since 1982, and Debbie is the Director of the In-Service Education and Training Project at the 1820 Foundation. They have a one-year old son, Nicholas. Izak collaborated with his father, **Professor Johan Smuts (Staff 1958)** to write a book entitled *Woordeboek van Regs-en Handelsterme* which was published at the end of last year. This book may remind a host of ORs of dawn patrol lectures on the subject. In May and June of this year Izak visited Australia and met a number of ORs down under: in Perth he met **Saint (1958)** and **Marion Sudano (Baker 1962)**; **Tony Siopis (1968)** and **Mike Schwikkard (1971)**. In Sydney he stayed with **Cully (1973)** and **Sue Gower (Lipworth 1975)** where he also met **Wouter Scholtz (1970)**. **Julia Walker** (formerly **Thorborn**,

nee **Evans 1970**) married John in England in May 1993. Her stepmother, **Barbara Evans (Almon 1948)**, and her brother, David, attended the wedding. Julie lives in Hampshire and is personnel manager for Currie Motors and John is a senior manager in a car rental company.

**Brian Stephens (1976)** works for the accounting firm KPMG Peat Marwick (KPMG Aiken and Peat in South Africa) in Stamford, Connecticut. Brian was admitted as a partner in the US firm in July. His sister, **Kay Wilson (1964)**, lives near Washington DC and is a junior school teacher in the Northern Virginia area.

**Paul (1972)** and **Debbie Youngman (Carrier 1972)** live in Perth where Paul owns and runs a successful retail camping business and Debbie is a pharmacist.

**Mike Walwyn (1970)** has been appointed general manager of Africalink in Durban. Africalink is part of the Grindrod Group and offers a forwarding and transport service in 38 African countries including the Indian Ocean Islands. Mike has been with the Grindrod Group for seven years.

## 1980s

**Lindsay Barnes (1986)** is the editor of the South Coast Mail.

**Ian (1987)** and **Arlene Barrable (Dickinson 1987)** live in New York where Ian works at the South Africa Mission to the United Nations.

**Andrea Bryce (1989)** has joined *The Mercury* in King William's Town as a reporter.

**Helena Cain (1984)** is engaged to Grant Anthony Michl, an Australian mining engineer. They live in Canberra where Helena works as a marketing officer for the Australian Government Publishing Service. They plan to marry in September 1994 and would like to return to South Africa when the mining industry picks up.

**Liz Casey (1985)** writes from London where she has spent the last five years. Liz has done a fair amount of travelling around the world, spending much of the time 'temping' in the financial sector. She is in her fourth year of study for an LLB through UNISA and intends leaving in April 1994 on a nine-month holiday to New Zealand and Australia. Liz hopes to visit **Lindsay Sherman (1984)** who has been living in Sydney for the past few years. Lindsay is getting married to Simon at the beginning of February and will live in Sydney. Liz is in regular contact with the following ORs: - **Paddy Kleu (1985)** and his wife, Delia, live in Brussels; **Daryl Bisset** is married and lives in London; **Owen Conway (1983)** lives in London; **Anthony Bickersteth (1983)** works in banking in London. His sister, **Mary-Jane (1986)** lives in Hong Kong. **Dieter Wust (1983)** shared a house with Anthony in London but has since moved to Germany where he trying to learn German! His sister, **Heidi (1982)**

lives in London and is a keen runner with a well-known running club; **Sheena Ferguson (1987)** is touring Australia and complaining about the number of 'tourists' she meets; **Cheryl Crouch (1983)** married at the beginning of this year and lives in Sweden; **Deanne van Rensburg (1983)** lives in Walvis Bay with her husband and baby. She runs her own business in Swakopmund; **Lynda Clunnie (1983)** and her husband live in Port Elizabeth; -Liz visits them whenever she is in South Africa as Lynda is the perfect shopaholic with whom to go on a spending spree; **Carrie Goble (1987)** stays with Liz in London in between trips around Britain and Europe; **Mandy Laemmle (1985)** who is a close friend of Liz's has spent the last year or so gallivanting around Europe and Britain; **Cathy (1983)** and **Linly Sewell (1985)** have been regular guests at Liz's flat when they have been overseas on holiday. Linly has spent most of this year skiing, working on a kibbutz and wandering around Europe and Britain. Cathy is back in Pinetown and works in Durban. Linly is hoping to meet up with Liz in Thailand for Christmas in 1994. Other Rhodians living in London are: **Neil Smith (1986)**, **Tom Ravensdale (1982)**, **Nicole Hartley (1986)** and **Sue Skirving (1987)**.

**Alan Clunnie (1980)** is the associate editor of *Drive*. He's no stranger to *Drive* readers, having 'moonlighted' as the in-car audio expert while serving as the Midrand-based PR manager for Volkswagen. Alan's hobbies include biking, boating and music, with a personal highlight being his annual role as team manager for a GTI Club entry in the Castrol endurance race at Killarney.

**Fran Cox (1980)** is the education officer for NAPAC. As head of the Loft Schools Company, Fran has been the driving force behind exposing teachers and pupils to drama as a tool of education in Natal schools. She works a six-day week, writing scripts, directing, negotiating with teachers and educationalists and trying to fit in rehearsals with her four-man troupe. At the moment, the troupe concentrates on the English syllabus, but also performs a number of plays dealing with issued such as divorce, AIDS and family roles.

**John Craig (1985)** lived in Port Elizabeth for two and a half years working as administration manager for Corobrik. He then moved to Durban in July 1992 as financial manager at Corobrik and Tile. He was appointed as financial director of Brick and Tile during 1993 and is enjoying it to the full. John sends regard to all who remember him. **Lyn Donaldson (1982)** is a product manager at Ciba-Geigy in Johannesburg. She has a daughter, Kelly (3). **Michael Donaldson (1986)** is doing his CA in Cape Town.

*continued on page 9*



# OLD RHODIAN NEWS

*continued from page 8*

**Emma Durden (1988)** is a Loft actress involved in education theatre who is translating *War on Waste* into Xhosa. The basic message is ‘don’t dump, recycle’. Emma is convinced that theatre education works and thoroughly supports the theory: “I hear, I forget; I see, I remember; I do , I understand”.

**Mariita Eager (1984)** is the news editor of the Sunday edition of the *South China Morning Post* in Hong Kong. She is not only the youngest news editor on the Sunday, she is also the first woman to be appointed to this position. Mariita feels that what she learnt as a junior reporter at Radio 702 has been invaluable in her career.

**Tommy Els (1980)** married Nevilene in February this year and lives at Great Brak River.

**Vanessa Farr (1986)** is at the University of South Carolina on a Fulbright Scholarship. She plans to read for an MA in American Literature.

**Carl Fourie (1987)** has moved to Cape Town where he hopes to further his interest in cabaret. He has taken up a teaching post at Fishhoek Senior High School. Carl’s interest in drama drew him to public speaking and he was a founder member of the Grahamstown Toastmasters’ Club which was voted the top club in southern Africa during his term as president last year. He also won the Best Afrikaans Speaker competition in 1991 and was voted Area Governor of the Year for Toastmasters southern Africa.

**Mike (1981) and Gail Hagemann (Brewer 1981)** were married in April 1984. They live in Bothasig and have a stunning view of Table Mountain. Gail is a senior scientist with Nampak group R & D and Mike is in full-time Christian ministry to street children in Cape Town.

**Ian (1981) and Juliet Harris (Keevil 1985)** married in 1991 and live in Harare.

**Davina Haynes (Harraway 1981)** has been working for Hoechst since leaving Rhodes in 1984. Davina has worked in all aspects of the business from production, marketing, financial manager of the Chemicals Business Unit to associate business analyst in the I S department. Her husband is a foreign exchange dealer at Nedbank and their first baby is due in March 1994.

**David Japp (1986)** is a research scientist at the Sea Fisheries Research Institute.

**Hedley (1985) and Jennifer Jones (Gibbs 1986)** were married in June this year and live in Johannesburg. In 1992 they spent 10 months backpacking and working in the UK and Europe.

**Mawethu Kondile (1989)** has been appointed as researcher in the 1820 Foundation’s In-service programme for the Education of Teachers (INSET). He will be researching INSET’s Farm School Project which operates in 40 primary schools, reaching 60 teachers and about 1 400 pupils in the Albany and Alexandria areas of the Eastern Cape.

**Richard (1985) and Karen Lane (Rayner 1984)** were married in April 1992 and live in Rivonia. Richard is an analyst for ABS Computer Consultants and Karen is the marketing manager for Struik Book Distributors in Johannesburg.

**Colin (1981) and Lorraine Langhein (Welsh 1984)** were married in October this year. They live in Cape Town where Colin is the product and market development manager at Bokomo Breakfast Foods and Lorraine is a medical representative working for Smith and Nephew.

**Gerry Leibel (1989)** is a journalist at the Ladysmith Gazette.

**David Lindley (1986)** has been appointed Conservation Ecologist for the Wildlife Society in the Northern Areas. While at Rhodes in 1988 David won the Award from the Zoological Society of Southern Africa for the Most Outstanding Student. He recently returned from an 18-month overland trip from London to Sydney, via the old Soviet Union, China, the Indian subcontinent and South East Asia.

**Lindelwa Matshikiza (1987)** is a pharmacist in Umtata.

**David McKay (1986)** is the editor of *Plant Equipment Hire and Rate Review*. He is also the South African correspondent for the London-based *Metal Bulletin* and has worked as a freelance journalist for *The Weekly Mail* and the *Vrye Weekblad*.

**Allison Morgan (1984)** moved to Cape Town three years ago and lives in Sea Point. She is as a very successful estate agent working for Aida and ‘selling houses like crazy’.

**Hynek Pindak (1988)** is the marketing consultant at Flow Systems (Pty) Ltd.

**Kevin Ritchie (1982)** has been appointed editor of the *Diamond Fields Advertiser*. Kevin said he was looking forward to the challenges ahead of re forging the DFA’s links with the people of Kimberley and the Northern Cape. He recently married Maxine in Kimberley.

**Richard (1983) and Lee-Anne Rossiter (Dawson 1983)** live in Bedfordview. They have two daughters, Tarryn (4) and Shana (2). Lee is kept very busy at home and is an aerobics instructor. Richard was the underground manager at Genmin and is now involved with internationalising the gold division and is stationed in Johannesburg. Lee says they have moved five times in the last year!

**Sheurle-Anne Screen (Robinson 1984)** lives in Marondera, Zimbabwe with her husband and baby girl.

**Tisha Sheard (1985)** teaches at Dale Junior School in King William’s Town.

**Craig (1981) and Natalie Sparg (Donkin 1986)** married in 1992 and live in East London where Craig is financial manager at the Ciskei Development Bank and Natalie teaches music at Stirling High School.

**Melanie Strydom (Logan 1986)** is a Database administrator at the OK Bazaars and is married to Hendrik.

**Wayne (1984) and Robyn Swanepoel (Donaldson 1984)** have

been happily married for three years and live in the Transvaal. Wayne is an Industrial Relations Officer at a large mining company and Robyn teaches Phys Ed at a private school.

**Robin Weare (1984)** has continued studying and is presently doing BCom honours through Unisa. He recently married and spent an idyllic honeymoon at Mauritius.

**Phillipa Wilmot (1987)** works as a chalet girl in Switzerland.

**Darryl Wood (1985)** is a drug information pharmacist at the Medicines Information Centre in Cape Town.

## 1990s

**Ally Ashwell (1992)** is the head of education at the National Botanical Institute at Kirstenbosch. The post covers environmental education for the whole of South Africa and includes programmes for all eight National Botanical Gardens.

**Nicola Humphris (1990)** works in London as a researcher on a magazine. She plans to stay in London for about five years.

**Pumla Rulashe (1991)** is the CCV TV news update presenter. Pumla taught at Maluti High and Middledrift in the Ciskei for three years before she joined the Africa Channel as an announcer\producer on the English service in February 1992.

**Linda Schwartz (1991)** is one of eight Natal women who were ordained as deacons earlier this year. Linda is the Anglican deacon at the Hillcrest Anglican/Methodist Church Centre and feels that it is part of her ministry to work for women’s equality, both in and out of the church environment.

## The 1960s Choir

*See picture at bottom right*

*Back Row*

*Louise Hinsch (Southey 1957)*  
*Gwen Williams (Farrar 1960)*  
*Juliana Davidson (Coetzee 1957)*  
*Helen Lee (Kay 1961)*  
*Winky Smith (Whitcher 1966)*  
*Geoff Smith (1963)*  
*Trevor Pengelly (1966)*  
*Tim Radloff (1965)*  
*Betty Engler (Handley 1961)*

*Front Row*

*Bee Petter-Bowyer (Timberlake 1956)*  
*Jenny Henderson (Dugmore 1963)*  
*Lucretia Fourie (1965)*  
*Rosemary Burton (1960)*  
*Inge Gruber (1957)*  
*Rosemary Snead (1965)*  
*Moira Abbott (1966)*  
*Jeanine Baart (Emmett 1969)*

## Chamber choir celebrates fortieth anniversary

**Trevor Pengelly (1966)**, who travelled from Johannesburg, reports on the choir reunion. Those in our jails with indeterminate sentences are given blue coats to distinguish them from the other prisoners. When we arrived we were issued with blue files. We had been given an indeterminate sentence in love of chamber choir music. The present Choir had black files. Despite the fact that the youngest could have been grandchildren of the eldest we formed a single group. Age did not count. How you sang your top C did. We may have come to do all the usual things of reunions, which include meeting some old friends, getting a little drunk, buying a few souvenirs and indulging in large doses of food and reminiscence, but this fortieth anniversary was different. We were also there to work together, and if anyone had stopped us we would have sulked the whole weekend. By nine o’clock on Saturday morning we had already assembled in the choir room at Beethoven House, impatient to begin. Some felt a little trepidation about whether we would cope with a skill we had not used in a long time. We should not have worried. It’s like riding a bicycle. Once you know you never forget, said one of the old members who had made music his career. We sang until the sun was setting and delighted in being ‘jailed’, once again, in the middle of our beloved choir. The only time we became restless was when the music stopped. We concentrated on polishing the difficult parts. We were all caught up in the demands of putting a good piece of music together. We were happy to be hard at work, which left us as refreshed as if we had been on a long holiday. That evening, the reunion supper was held in Allan Webb Hall, which has retained its elegance and charm from the old Grahamstown Training College days. I sat with many choristers from the 60s, including **Inge Gruber (1957)**, daughter of Doc, the founder of the choir. Her brother, **Georg (1956)**, a most colourful character, died in 1991 and was missed by us all. It was our moment to swop all the tales of days gone past. Doc Gruber, as he was affectionately known, a former conductor of the Vienna Boys Choir, was brought out in 1952 by the far-sighted Prof Fritz Hartman, who recognised the need for the

University to have an outstanding choir. Over the years Doc led the choir on many tours, both locally and overseas. The choir became the ‘signature tune’ of the University. He also pioneered the notating of indigenous African music for use by choirs, his Xhosa Cantata being the most famous. The Vice-Chancellor, Dr Derek Henderson, the guest speaker at the dinner, called the choir, an island of excellence, at the University. Since Doc Gruber, there has been Professor Rupert Mayr and now the present incumbent, Christopher Cockburn (Staff 1986) who, we all agreed by the end of the reunion, was a worthy successor to his predecessors. As the evening began slowly to unravel through the action of good food and wine, some of the present choir members began to slip out of the hall. A hush fell on us all and then in the clear tones of the finest tradition of choral music the sound of ‘Yesterday’ from the Beatles rang out. It is difficult to describe so perfect a moment. The beautiful building, in brick and wood, answered the crystal clear notes being sung. Those overpriced opera houses around the country could never match this acoustical quality. The song ended on a hushed note so low that the merest noise would crush it, yet the sound was still full of tone and warmth. No one can do this quite like the Rhodes Choir. The final Sunday morning rehearsal was in the Rhodes Chapel, which at 3.30pm was full of people who had come to listen. It was the time of testing. The first half featured the present choir who performed some of their repertoire with great panache. Then we were called to join them for the second half. The whole reunion was over with a flourish and those who missed this special event are the poorer for it. During the course of the weekend a guild of all choir members was formed. If you are one of those who has lost touch with the choir, please contact the Music Department at Rhodes or Trevor Pengelly, the Guild chairman, at 011-782 7639. Alternatively, write to 19 Chirside Road, Greenside, Johannesburg, 2193. We would love to hear from you. Donations to the Guild can be sent to the same addresses clearly marked “RUCC GUILD”. R 50 seems to be the going amount, but do not be shy if you can give more. This money will be used to support the present choir and to help us get together from time to time for singing and fun.





# OLD RHODIAN UNION

## President's Annual Report, 1993

The Old Rhodian Union can look back on another year of fruitful activity.

**Constitutional Matters**

The first of these is the merger, of a kind, between ORU and Convocation, approved by a special meeting of Convocation held on 24 February. The ORU now needs to alter its constitution accordingly but, as the procedure for such a change is rather cumbersome, this cannot be ratified by the ORU until notice of a special general meeting is given in this issue of the *Rhodes Newsletter* and the meeting is convened in February 1994.

Arising from this, the ORU executive took a hard, long look at the existing ORU constitution, which dates from 1963, though it was slightly amended in 1970. It was concluded that in many respects the document had become somewhat out of date, and it was therefore decided to put before the same special general meeting to be convened in February 1994, a series of additional, more general amendments to the constitution, which will have been drafted by a constitutional sub-committee, headed by Professor Ivan Schäfer, and subsequently approved by the ORU committee as a whole.

**Fund - raising**

Fund - raising obviously remains a major concern, and it is most gratifying to record that the response to the Committee's major appeal for bursaries funds, launched in 1992, was not merely sustained into the new year, but accelerated. Since I last reported the sum of direct donations totals R 27 928, and the subscriptions to the '150 Club' stand at 161 members, totalling a further financial commitment since my last report of R 19 320. This response, for which I thank the wider Old Rhodian community most sincerely, and the generosity of the university's authorities in making available to us the interest earned by the Hugh Chapman and John Brunton White Trusts, now puts the whole question of funding of OR dependants as students here by the Old Rhodian Union on a much more meaningful, not mere token, and also longer-term basis. In this connection, it is particularly gratifying to record that the 150 Club, started as an 'act of faith' in December 1992, has settled into a routine institutional existence, and though membership, quite predictably, fluctuates from time to time, has grown steadily even beyond the initial enthusiasm.

**Award of bursaries**

There were 54 applicants for bursaries in 1993. We awarded 23 bursaries, including some post-graduates, whom we managed to help with small amounts. The total awarded was R 22 850, an increase of R 4 350 over the previous year. The recipients included 10 Hugh Chapman bursars, including the recipient of the biggest ever single bursary awarded by the ORU, the Hugh Chapman Gold bursary, worth R 3 000 p.a., to a 2nd year BA student, Miss Susan Thurman. The list also included the first J B White bursar, Miss Trevlyn Cunningham, a 2nd year BCom student. The £ 300 (± R 1 560) OR United Kingdom bursary was won by Mr Graham Glover, a 2nd year Arts student who as an ORU bursary holder in 1992 achieved an excellent set of first year passes.

The traditional cocktail party for these young people in the Rhodes Union Club in the first term was highlighted by the bursars being introduced to Mrs Jean Chapman, widow of Professor Hugh Chapman *alias* Chappie.

**Reunions**

These have come to stay, though not perhaps the mini-reunions at graduation time which we have tried to host over the past two years, and although we opened the function this year to all ORs attending their children's graduation, irrespective of vintage, it elicited only a very small response. But other reunions, like the 40th reunion of the Chamber Choir, held in June and the early 70s reunion, attended by about 100 people 2 days before the opening of the National Festival of the Arts in the last week of June, seem well worth the effort. And one is also pleased to report that it seems to have become accepted as a matter of course that the bigger reunions be scheduled for the two days prior to the opening of the Grahamstown festival each year. That now being the case, plans for a reunion in 1994 are well in hand.

**Correspondence**

Being without secretarial assistance, I have kept no record of the many letters I have written to and also received from Old Rhodians, and not only in connection with financial matters such as the 150 Club. I highlight this aspect of the year, because I sense the mutual goodwill engendered by this form of communication is one which cannot be measured merely in material terms. I certainly would have found it difficult to keep going without the many messages I received, urging me and the committee to "keep up the good work".

**The Committee**

We had the pleasure of welcoming Professor Guy Butler onto the committee after he had kindly consented to serve on it as Council's representative. We also took the opportunity at a committee meeting to extend our own special welcome to the new Director of Public Relations and Development, Mrs Annette Clifford-Vaughan, and have arranged with the Registrar that a member of her division be in attendance at our committee meetings on a regular basis. In terms of the new arrangement we were able to welcome Mrs Jenny Purdon, who handles ORU affairs in the division to her first committee meeting.

**Thanks**

None of what we managed to do would have been possible without the help of a number of people. I thank the committee, and in particular the secretary, Mr Arthur Lanham, on whose solid rectitude I have relied very heavily to keep me on the 'straight and narrow'. Quite indispensable is our treasurer, Mr Michel Beauvais. He has managed both ORU funds and 150 Club subscriptions with unfailing promptness and unflappability. I thank him most sincerely. I wish also to record my thanks for the unfailing help and support of the Registrar and Deputy Registrar and their staff, Public Relations and Development; the Bursary Officer, the Conference Liaison Officer, Ms Lesley Lowry and Miss Jane Dalton and her staff, who catered for our functions. I thank the History departmental secretary Mrs Cherry Charteris who is often called upon to rescue Old Rhodian Union affairs way beyond the call of duty. I thank Professor Vivian de Klerk for her excellent address on changing trends in student language to the 70s reunion. This was much appreciated and the full text of it is reproduced in this Newsletter. I want also to record our thanks to Miss Beccy Clarke, who was the driving and organising force behind the 40th choir reunion. We owe a special debt to Professor Ivan Schäfer for his expertise and the many hours of devoted labour he has spent helping us to update our constitution. I conclude by thanking Rhodians, old and new, for their support over the past three years and trust that the many ventures consolidated and started during these years will continue to flourish.

H C HUMMEL

## Tiny's in the 70s

**Pam Williams (Sherrin 1971)** who lives in Botswana kindly sent us memorabilia from the 1970s for the Rhodes Museum. An extract from one of Tiny's Steak House menus appears below. Wouldn't it be great if the prices were the same today!?

### Menu

CHAR-GRILLED RUMP STEAK	<b>R1,95</b>
CHAR-GRILLED T-BONE STEAK	<b>R2,00</b>
CHAR-GRILLED FILLET STEAK	<b>R2,15</b>

#### TINY'S SPECIALITIES

<b>STEAK HAWAII</b> Tender Fillet served with delicious grilled Pineapple, Banana and Cherries	<b>R2,45</b>
<b>PEPPERED STEAK</b> A generous portion of Fillet served with freshly crushed Pepper in a thick brown sauce	<b>R2,45</b>
<b>TERIYAKI STEAK</b> Marinated in a secret sauce, this steak is definitely reserved for the Connoisseur	<b>R3,00</b>

## 150 Club update

We are living in extraordinary times. As the news gets more sombre in many spheres, the club flourishes, so much so that, some fluctuations in membership notwithstanding, the loyal core remains and newcomers are signing up to such an extent that we are now well over the 200 mark. So the organising committee: myself, the Secretary, Arthur Lanham, and the Treasurer, Michel Beauvais plan to meet as a matter of urgency to perhaps rename the club more ambitiously and begin to step up its prizes. Thank you all for your wonderful response to the latest recruitment drive!

Luck also moves in extraordinary ways. Two of our earliest winners are also among our latest draw winners. Here is the comprehensive list to date:

	<b>R 500,00</b>	<b>Attendance 'whisky bottle' prize</b>
December 1992	Pat Terry, (1963) Rhodes University	Michael Smout, Vice-Principal Rhodes University
January 1993	Stanley Shuttleworth (1928) Kenton-on-Sea	Julia Goodwin (1992)
February 1993	Jennifer Still (1977) Cape Town	Margot Beard (Daly 1964)
March 1993	Otto Hempel (1959) Unified	Mary Allen (1987)
April 1993	John Torrance (1934) Harare	Michel Beauvais (1984), our Treasurer
May 1993	Julia Goodwin (1992) Grahamstown	Vivian de Klerk (Cole 1972)
June 1993	Richard Cooke (1985) Plettenberg Bay	---
July 1993	John Torrance (1934) Harare	Jennifer Still (1977) Cape Town Reunion, who donated the bottle for auctioning for Ally Weakley Memorial Bursary funds
August 1993	Michael Rossouw (1983) Hartswater	Derek Zipp (1978), Johannesburg Reunion
September 1993	Otto Hempel (1959) Unified	Eleanor Barker (1954) who also donated it for the Weakley bursary fund. Highest bidder, Billy de Klerk (1972). Thank you both!

Sign up today!

Chris Hummel  
Chairman, 150 Club