

The Albanian

COMMUNITY CONSISTENCY COMMUNICATION



in the news...

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Chairman's Chat

The planning for the Old Albanian Reunion weekend on 24th, 25th and 26th May is well underway and I hope to see many Old Albanians joining the celebrations.

Our Annual Golf Day is planned for late September and will again be held at Wingate Park. 4-balls are available, but demand for this day has increased over the last 2 years, so don't delay and book to avoid missing out.

Mandy Sutcliffe is hard at work to connect with as many Old Boys as possible and to this end I ask you to ensure you log into Alumnet (The new Alumni Portal) to update your details.

Till next time...

Regards Garth Ridgway Class of '86







Sue's News

Sue Daffon - The Albanian Editor

Little news from me this time – Christmas came and went with all my overseas family here and now the Easter Bunny just paid us a visit! I am planning a trip to Portugal for **Mike Farrer's 50th** in April and will then go on to Poland to see **Craig Boshard '96** and my daughter and grand-daughters there.

The other visitor over Christmas was **Dawie Botha** and I thought you would enjoy this photo of the "off the wall crowd" as we were once referred to! True to form, Dawie is wearing my youngest grand-daughter's sunhat!





It was good to welcome **Mark Stenhouse** back and have him join me at my birthday celebrations. He has already made his mark (pardon the pun!) again at College.



Oliver Gilbert '88, was back in College today and it was lovely to catch up with him. He told me that as a new boy he was not entered in the Inter-House Gala for breast-stroke and he didn't like to say anything! So big brother chimed up to the team planner and the rest, as they say, is history! (Check further news in the Old Boys' Sport section.)





Let us be grateful to the people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom.

- Marcel Proust



This is now the **8th edition of The Albanian** and I hope that you are all still receiving it and enjoying it. With all the social media that is around these days where you can access College on Facebook, the d6 School Communicator, the Old Albanian page on the website and the Old Boys' pages, I wonder if there is still value in this publication? Do you have time to read it online? I understand that only the link is now sent, not the whole Newsletter. If you have a moment please send me some feedback.



As we had no support crew, we had to transport all our belongings and food ourselves.





Share with us...

You will remember in the last edition that I told you about Mike Sewell's Patagonia Project? Here is a story to share of that amazing adventure – not to mention what he's up to next!

PROJECT PATAGONIA

In November 2017, I and **Roger Cameron Class of '09**, set off for Chile in South America, where we would take on an independent and self-supported run of 1,200km through rural Patagonia. The route would follow the Carretera Austral, a road 60% gravel but famous with adventurous travellers who journey into beautiful and wild surrounds.



There was no set plan except to complete the run in 6 weeks. Travelling south, we would simply take each day as it came and run until we reached a town, or had done a suitable distance for the day.

As we had no support crew, we had to transport all our belongings and food ourselves. We did this by running with jogging strollers, the kind you'd normally use to run with your kids. Instead, we packed our strollers with camping gear, clothing, running kit, spare parts, solar power gadgets and of course food and water. We'd stock enough food for 3 days which was normally enough to get us to the next town.





Beautiful national parks protect dense forests, smoking volcanoes, glaciers and pristine rivers.



As it wasn't always possible to reach the next town in a day, we would often camp wild - which was easy enough to do in the natural surroundings which included an abundance of drinkable water.



On average, we ran 36.6km a day, but our longest day was a 12 hour trudge of 68km in the rain. Due to the wet weather, we made the decision to run 50km to an abandoned hut and dry refuge. However, we didn't realise until late in the day that our camping app was measuring "as the crow flies" and not actual distance. This would prove to be our toughest day out and the start of a stretch that saw us run 126km in 3 days.

Each day, our legs would grow tired but as the weeks passed we became stronger and in our last week, we accumulated a massive 271km on the final stretch.

Patagonia is astoundingly beautiful. Chile is a very narrow country flanked by the Andean mountain range in the east and the Pacific Ocean in the west. As such, our days were filled with views of either snow capped mountains or the vast ocean, sometimes both. But it didn't stop there as Patagonia is so sparsely populated and wild in nature.

Beautiful national parks protect dense forests, smoking volcanoes, glaciers and pristine rivers. The Rio Baker was literally the colour of turquoise Powerade, an astonishing sight. Ever changing landscapes of lakes and waterfalls, thousands of them.

Patagonia can be notoriously wet and windy. To counter the wind, we ran with the prevailing southerly and save for a few days, were seldom challenged by the wind. It's impossible to run in the rain without getting soaked from either the rain or an uncomfortable sweat beneath your raincoat. These were the grumpiest days, but we were lucky and only had a handful of wet runs.

Overall, an incredible experience of adventure, endurance and scenery beyond compare. I strongly urge you to add Patagonia to the "bucket list."

To see photos, videos and updates from the expedition, visit www.facebook.com/ ProjectPatagonia/



Project is an opportunity to learn, to figure out problems and challenges, to invent and reinvent.

David Rockwellrock



What's next...

Roger and I will join three other runners in May 2018 as we attempt to run 90km a day from Cape Town to Pietermaritzburg, in the 19 days leading up to the Comrades Marathon. On the 20th day, we will run the Comrades to Durban. To follow this rather crazy project, like us on Facebook and Instagram under the hashtag #longroadtocomrades.

Mike Sewell Class of 1995









College News

Parliament St Alban's College



Individual commitment to a group effort - that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work.

Vince Lombardi

Welcome to St Alban's College's Student Parliament. We are a student representative body with three core missions:

- We are a voice for change.
- We are a voice for truth.
- We are a voice for all of us.

This site is a reflection of us: our hopes, our dreams, our passion for change, and our unwavering commitment to the truth. This is not just a site for Parliament, because Parliament is more than that. It exists for every single Albanian.

Here we believe that everyone has a right to be heard. There is a saying by Voltaire that goes:

"I may disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

This is our mantra for Parliament. It is illogical to believe that everyone will always agree, and that is just the way we like it!

We love the outsider, the renegade, the mayerick and the voice for the voiceless.

That is what an Albanian is, and that is who we are.

So feel free here, for this is your space. We serve at YOUR pleasure.

On our website you will find everything that there is to know about Parliament. You will have access to all existing minutes of Parliament Sittings. You can submit petitions to Parliament, and you can discover more about the Parliament Team.

Yours sincerely **Matthew Field** Speaker of the Parliament, 2018

A Quick Who's Who in Parliament?

"Who is my member of Parliament?" "Who runs parliament?"

Fear no more! Here is a quick summary of all the students and staff members affiliated with Parliament. (2018)

Coordinator: Dr Glynnis Moore Matthew Field Speaker: **Deputy Speaker:** Yangeni Saidi

Secretary/ Secretaries

Refiloe Mamabolo & Sahil Givind



A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way.

John C. Maxwell



Greg Kirkcaldy Head of School 2018

A blast from the past





Don MacRobert, Chairman of Council 1981-1991, walked round the campus with Shane Kidwell. A visit to Macrobert House was unquestionable! All the ex Housemasters from MacRobert, from Roger Wickens through to Keith Viljoen, have in their time become Headmasters!





Old Albanians

COMMUNITY CONSISTENCY COMMUNICATION

An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.

Benjamin Franklin

Careers Information Evening



Brian Mosaisa, Sibusiso Sibulela, Bradley Mansfield, Mona Monaisa, William Cadman, Don Mahon



It has become an annual event on the College calendar that the Old Boys organise a Career Information Evening for the Matrics. This year's event was held at the end of February and included the following Old Boys:

Don Mahon Class of '00 who spoke on Law as a career.

Sibusiso Sibulela HoS '95 whose passion lies in Engineering and Banking.

Patrick Brown gave an interesting talk on Entrepreneurship.

Dr Brian Monaisa, (Cousin of Phetogo Monaisa) a Plastic Surgeon.

Bradley Mansfield Class of '90 and a CA.

An informative and interesting evening for all involved. Thank you Old Boys for giving of your time.

And William Cadman, an Entrpreneur.



Old Albanians

COMMUNITY CONSISTENCY COMMUNICATION

"Lay this unto your breast: Old friends, like old swords, still are trusted best.

John Webster



Reunions



ST ALBAN'S COLLEGE

St Alban's College Headmaster, Shane Kidwell invites you to the UK get together

Date: Friday, 27th July 2018

Where: The Queen's Club

Palliser Road, West Kensington, London, W14 9EQ

Time: 18H00

Contact: Mandy Sutcliffe on sutcliffem@stalbanscollege.com



Class of '73



Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination and life to everything.

Plato

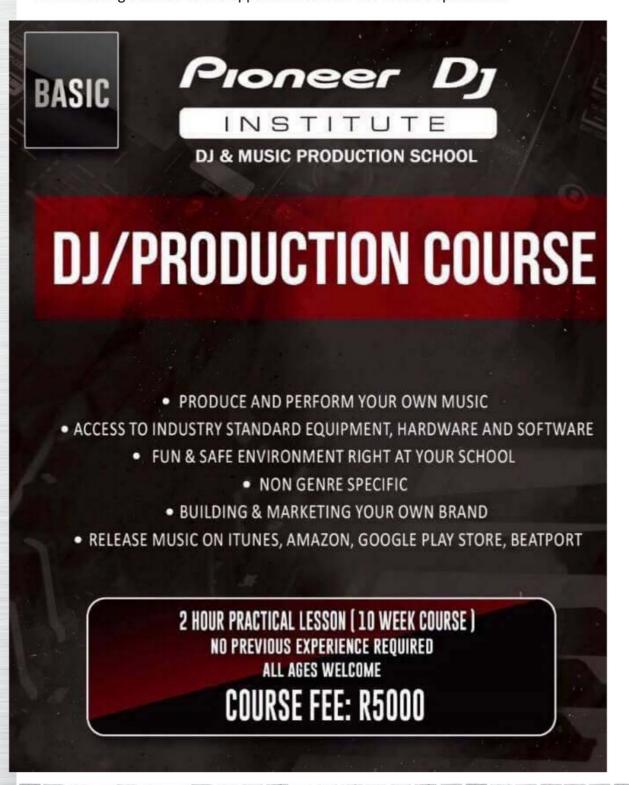


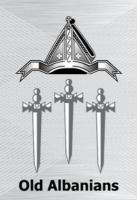


The Barbershop and Choir recently went on the now annual Roadshow, to the Limpopo province and received rave reviews wherever they went! The Barbershop will be competing in The World Choir Games, here in SA later this year.

Public Speaking – Keroshan Pillay, Matthew Field and Yangeni Saidi are representing South Africa at the International Public Speaking Competition.

An interesting addition to the opportunities from the Music Department.





That's what
I consider
true
generosity:
You give
your all
and yet
you always
feel as if it
costs you
nothing.

Simone de Beauvoir





Connie Kanneymeyer writes:

Season of giving - Lent

Lent started on Ash Wednesday on the 14th of February 2018 in Christian Churches and climaxes during Easter Week. The last week of Lent is called Holy Week. During the 40 days of Lent, Christians remember the time when Jesus went into the desert to fast and pray before beginning his work for God.

STOP HUNGER DRIVE

In the spirit of healing bodies and souls, our school is dedicated to helping the less fortunate. During our visits and outreach programme, we realized that thousands of children were going to bed hungry, night after night. Daily more and more families are losing their jobs and homes.

Holding a food drive is a fun and an easy way to help feed our hungry neighbours in the City of Tshwane. We will be in need for unperishable food like the "super six" items: canned fruits & vegetables, baked beans, soya mince; mealie meal and pilchards. Once packed by the boys in the houses, the food will be given to the homeless ministries, orphanages and other faith-based communities.

Please see our wish list (right) for more details.

I also invite you to discuss issues of hunger at your dinner table with friends and family and make it your aim to feed as many families or children during this time of Lent.

Wish List

The following items are always needed:

CANNED GOODS

410g Pilchard plain/tomato, 410g canned fruits, 410g vegetables, hearty beef soups, baked beans.

DRIED GOODS

500gms white kidney beans, 500gms brown speckled beans, rice, pasta, macaroni, grits, 2.5kg white meal, 2.5kg oats, 200g savoury soya mince; 410g peanut butter, 500g salt.

OTHER

Deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, bath soap, diapers, Vaseline.

Housemasters will receive a list of items that will be collected in their different houses.

"That's what I consider true generosity: You give your all and yet you always feel as if it costs you nothing."

Simone de Beauvoir







A single rose can be my garden... a single friend, my world.

Leo Buscaglia





Hatch, Match & Despatch

oring Wen

In the first 15 days of January there were 4 very sad deaths. First, early in the month was that of the U19 and U20 SA Rugby player and ex Blue Bulls, Mlungisi Bali Class of '08. A couple of days later I heard of the death of Manuel Gomez-Sarli Class of '14. Then on the 14 January I heard about Martin Rattray, a colourful character from the Class of '79. And today, the wonderful lady who coined the phrase "it's all about the boys", Elaine Pinnock, devoted wife of Bruce and surrogate mother to so many boys over the years, lost her battle in a Nelspruit hospital.

Elaine's funeral was beautiful and so many people were there to pay their last respects. She was a warm, humble and generous lady who always had a smile and a hug ready at any time. Bruce and Elaine were enjoying retirement and their grandchildren – she will be much missed.



RIP Elaine, Mlungisi, Manuel and Martin.

"When you are sorrowful look again in your heart, and you shall see that in truth you are weeping for that which has been your delight." Kahlil Gibran

gagements

On a happier note, Hannes Swart Class of '08 announced his engagement, as did Adam Hamilton, Class of '07. Bradley Chegwidden, also '07 will be tying the knot too.



CONSISTENCY COMMUNICATION

Congratulations

James Langlands Class of '10 was married in a real College family occasion – his brother George Class of '06 and step-brothers Jason '08 and Matthew Botha '11 were there and the bride's brother is Lukas van Vuuren Class of '08.





Also married is Monet Wicks Class of '08. Righardt Prinsloo Class of '09 is pictured with his bride and just before going to press I received this photo of Kyle Wood Class of '06 at his wedding, as well as Michael Forbes, also '06 at his ceremony. I did mention Richard Atkinson's ('08) wedding in the last edition, but did not have a photo at the time – here it is now!



You know you're in love when you can't fall asleep because reality is finally better than your dreams.

Dr. Seuss













Old Albanians

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Dylan Nicolson, Class of '08 is pictured as the proud father of his new son, as is Jean-Philip Grobler, Class of '01, with his son.







Although not new born, I thought this photo of John Stathakis, Class of '04 and his son, was a happy photo for publication.







Staff News - Past & Present

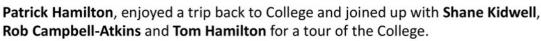
At Elaine Davis's Farewell, Josh Kidwell (now Form 2 at College!) entertained us with his pet snake! Also pictured is Nico du Plessis – alias Mr Dupe!





Pictured here at Elaine Pinnock's funeral are Ross Barrett and Keith Viljoen, both former Housemasters of MacRobert House, now Headmasters of Pecanwood College and Cornwall Hill College respectively.









" OH! THE PLACES YOU'LL GO!

> You'll be on your way up! You'll be seeing great sights! You'll join the high fliers who soar to high heights.

Dr Seuss





General Old Albanian News

Pierre Salmon, Class of '08 was back at his training ground recently, Cranfield University, presenting a lecture on CFD Simulation of Brake Cooling Systems.





Ben and Nathan Soames and John Gaydon '83 and '84 at Stamford Bridge



Truly great
friends
are hard
to find,
difficult to
leave, and
impossible
to forget.
Unknown





Junior Vatanavorodum 07- Thai Military

Emmanuel Arowolo Class of 2002 writes: I just wanted to say St Alban's College is an EXCELLENT school! Big thanks to Rob Campbell Atkins, Brendan Stoltenkamp, Kevin Coles, Father Andrew Nel and Mark Stenhouse, so many others. The school prepared me for life in so many ways! Just wanted you to please send my thanks to all the teachers and staff!!! I know many of them have left but for any still around from the 1998-2002 era!

Desperately trying to convince my wife to let my boy attend but the distance is too much for her, possibly for me as well. Greetings from Houston. Below is a pic of my kiddos for anyone around from that period:





It is becoming the norm for **Tom Hamilton** to bump in to Old Boys and here he is pictured with **Tebogo Thlaku '09**, who hailed him in Menlyn. Tebogo was Head of Knoll, rugby player of note, top athlete, dedicated and committed scholar and a remarkable young leader, receiving Honours for Leadership. The photo includes Frans, tebogo's business partner and they have just launched their own Eco-Cement Company. They are aiming for a niche market and had just made a pitch to a client before bumping into Tom.



Richard Brokensha, Class of '04 has just released his latest song and music video Äddict". Richard will be touring South America in March/April. He is one of many Old Albanians making their mark in the music world.

Another one is **James Whitehouse '07,** who is based in Liverpool. His band "Rival Bones" will be releasing its new music video "Scars" on 6 April.





Old Boys' Sporting News

Once again our Old Albanians have been up to some exciting adventures — Paul Shearer '02 summited Aconcagua, 6960m, and dedicated his climb to his brother Ryan and his family

Alistair Scott Corder '81 is pictured here with his son and friend, after completing the Cape Town Cycle Tour in a new personal best of 3:39!



Donovan Stoop '01 is seen here at the Argus, which he completed.



You will have seen the article from **Mike Sewell '95** in the 'Share with Us' section.







It's that time of year again for the SA Masters Swimming Championships and once again Oliver Gilbert '88 achieved great results – 200m Breaststroke – Gold, 50m Breaststroke – Silver. Medley Relay – Gold!

Congratulations! There really is no stopping Oliver!

His final tally was 4 Golds and 3 Silver.

I thought this photo of Milan Germishuzen '07, was worthy of inclusion in this section! Milan is passionate about his life as a fisherman.









GOLF

Congratulations to the St Alban's College A-team pairing of Warwick Purchase and Kyle Campbell, who won the Dainfern College National Golf Championships for 2018. They finished two points ahead of Dainfern A. Warwick is the son of Allen Purchase Class of '73. A proud Dad I'm sure! Kyle Campbell finished the tournament with 3 over par shooting 73, 74, 72 to come 6th in the individual competition, while a superb 3 under par secured Warwick Purchase the Individual Championship Title, shooting 72, 69, 72 over the 3 days. What an outstanding achievement guys – well done! The St Alban's College B pairing of Mathew Christie and Dylan Blom finished 17th overall out of 35 teams taking part, well done to all the golfers who represented the College.



Warwick Purchase and Kyle Campbell - Golf Champions



CRICKET

The 1st X1 **CRICKET** team have made it through to the finals of the National 20/20 competition, **Captain Rein Hulme**, scored 192 against St George's — the highest batting score in the College history — beating **David Bunn's** record!

WATER POLO

The WATER POLO results at festivals around the country have been superb. They finished with Silver medals at the Reef Cup. Dylan Blom, Aaron Viljoen, Ronan McDonald and Gabriel dos Santos were selected for the Northerns U18 Currie Cup team.



ATHLETICS

Phatu Maswanganye recently ran a 10.55 100m sprint and is in the top 8 fastest athletes in the world in his age group!

ROWING

For the **15th consecutive year**, the Senior Quad won **Gold** in the South African Championships! We were also awarded the trophy for the best sculling school in the country! Other Gold medals were won by **Liam Smit** in the Single and he and **Nicholas Botoulas** took the Gold in the Doubles.

BASKETBALL

Basketball is flourishing and after an amazingly successful season are ranked 1st in the country!

ICE HOCKEY

Like his brother, Jason, Class of '17, Reinhard Venter made the U19 SA ICE HOCKEY TEAM

SQUASH

Reece Maclachlan represented South Africa at U16 level.



SWIMMING

INTER-HOUSE GALA

The Gala is always the introduction for new boys to House Spirit and it is always a loud, colourful affair! The swimmers do not get long to prepare as the Gala is on the first Friday of term. The results this term were:

SWIMMING: MacRobert, Murray, De Beer. SPIRIT: De Beer, Knoll, Murray.

Dates to diarise

TERM 1 Events

REUNION WEEKEND

NB this is a complete change from previous Reunions in October.

FRIDAY 25 MAY 2018

- Homecoming for Class of '68 and Class of '78
- Reunion Dinners for 10/20/30/40 and 50th

SATURDAY 26 MAY 2018

- Home winter fixture v St David's Marist Inanda and Old Boys' Day.





Any of us who have had the good fortune of experiencing services in the old cow shed will know that this was a particularly special place. Bishop **Knapp-Fisher**



Chapel NEWS

A Chapel Service was held at College on Thursday 8 March to commemorate the turning of the first sod for the new Chapel. The Service was conducted by the Bishop of the Diocese of Pretoria, Rt Revd Alban Kannemeyer and the College Chaplain Fr Gradwell Fredericks. Guests present to celebrate this historic occasion included Past Chaplains, Members of Council. Members of Foundation, Members of the Planning Committee, Members of the Architectural Team, Staff and Boys.

A letter to the Parents on the 9 th, from The Headmaster said, "Yesterday was a significant day in the life of the College. We celebrated our intention to build a new Chapel by turning the soil to symbolize the start of this new and exciting project. The current Chapel dates back to 1964 when it was a cow shed and our current research indicates that this building is over 100 years old. In my most recent communication with our first Chaplain, Timothy Bavin, he wrote to remind me that the Headmaster's stall was the lowliest of all places in the shed, as it was originally a pig sty. He and David Swanepoel, another staff member at the time, tried to convince our first Headmaster, Anton Murray, to convert it into a Chapel - you can imagine why he was reluctant! Any of us who have had the good fortune of experiencing services in the old cow shed will know that this was a particularly special place. Bishop Knapp-Fisher who dedicated this building in 1964 said of the Chapel: It is a place of dignity and beauty, worthy of Him who was born in a manager and reigns in glory. I am deeply grateful to the many Old Albanians, staff members and founders who have been involved in the discussions regarding the design of our new Chapel. I have no doubt that this new building will continue to allow us to gather as a community and worship our God, who has poured out His blessing on this beautiful school since its inception.



Head Server, Keegan Lazarus. Keegan is the brother of Calvin who was Head Server in '16.

So, yesterday, the 8 th of March the Chapel bell was rung for the last time by our Head Server, Keegan Lazarus. And he will once again ring it when we dedicate, as Bishop Knapp-Fisher did in 1964, the new Chapel, which will reflect the old and incorporate the new. This will beckon us to approach the future with hope and courage as a new generation of Albanians find comfort in the humble beginnings of our original Chapel. Exciting times await us as we progress and I would like to thank Bishop Kannemeyer who kindly led the service and challenged us to dedicate the building progress to God!"



Turning the sod...





Head of School Greg Kirkaldy



David Swanepoel, Bishop Kannemeyer and the Headmaster



It is a place of dignity and beauty, worthy of Him who was born in a manager and reigns in glory.



Chaplain Father Gradwell



Headmaster Shane Kidwell



The time has come...



Chapel Warden Rob Campbell-Atkins



Chair of Council Warwick van Breda



"It takes a school with vision to prepare a young man for life.

Old Boys' Prayer

Gracious and loving God;

We give you thanks for the gift of learning

And the opportunity to celebrate this gift.

Through the years we have responded to your call



Old Albanians

To apply our skill, gifts and talents in the various spheres of our lives. And it is our prayer that You will continue to encourage and inspire us as Old Boys of St Alban's to respond to the needs of our Alma Mater and the community at large, through the power of the Holy Spirit, in Jesus name. Amen.



Final word

Please update your details, if/when you have any changes, via Mandy on sutcliffem@stalbanscollege. com. It is important to College that we keep in touch with you all – so send news, views, stories, photos to me daffons@stalbanscollege.com if you are happy to share in this publication.



