



MICHAELHOUSE

THE CHRONICLE



2020



MICHAELHOUSE

Michaelhouse, the Anglican Diocesan College of Natal, was founded in 1896 and is a South African boarding school for senior boys, with an international reputation. Situated on a secure estate in the beautiful Midlands of KwaZulu-Natal, the school has a fully residential staff which facilitates a high level of pastoral care and interaction with the pupils. The distinctive architecture of interlinked quadrangles inspires a sense of belonging amongst the 567 boys.

VALUES

To live our lives according to the Christian values of integrity, humility, compassion and courage in service to our community and country.

MISSION

To provide a dynamic and progressive education for boys that respects individual needs and embraces diversity and change in pursuit of academic, sporting and cultural excellence, while providing social and leadership skills and nurturing spiritual growth.

VISION

"Our aim is to make, not accountants, not clerks, not clergymen, but men; men of understanding, thought and culture."

*Canon James Cameron Todd, Founder of Michaelhouse
(Speech Day 1897)*

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MESSAGE FROM THE RECTOR

2020 will surely be remembered as one of the most challenging years which most of us in the Michaelhouse community have faced. It has been a year dominated by Covid-19 and the immense uncertainty that it brought in its wake. What started as a year with all the familiar ambition and achievement, with all the familiar sounds and smells, suddenly took an unexpected turn. We entered a period of hibernation in which we locked down but continued with the educational provision online and from which we ultimately emerged intact as a community. The familiar sounds of encouragement and cheering from the water polo pool, the raucous exultations from the basketball courts in the Indoor Centre and the perhaps more refined sound of leather on willow along with the inevitable appeal suddenly came to an end as we contemplated an uncertain future and geared ourselves for the continuation of learning exclusively through technology. No more war cries, no more stretchers bearing boys off fields. An immediacy related to “saving the year” for all of our matrics and other boys became the key focus.

There is no handbook or advice that can easily be acquired on how to react to such a phenomenon as Covid-19: any relevance to the so-called, but inappropriately named, Spanish Flu which decimated millions after the First World War seemed misplaced. Possible comparisons were made with the devastating impact of the Great Depression or world wars on our society and one could only imagine that some of our families would lose children or that fathers and mothers would no longer be there to nurture their sons. Would the financial impact be so great on parents that the school would diminish to 480, 460, 420 or fewer boys? Our scenario planning included all possibilities and the importance of making a success of our e-learning became mission critical as we tried simultaneously to create as much normality in boys’ lives as possible through online learning and activities relating to exercise or music in addition to the academic content. We were generously

supported in the creation of a Covid fund by some parents, Old Boys and friends of the school who were in a position to help other parents, and most families clung tenaciously to a place at Michaelhouse for their sons whilst, at the same time, we began to attract boys from other schools where there was less satisfaction with the online and other provision.

As soon as schools had closed nationwide, the key focus here at Michaelhouse, apart from the online learning, was to try arrange for our boys to come back but in a safe way. Negotiations were conducted through our umbrella bodies with the Department of Basic Education and, understandably, there was considerable confusion over what was permitted in independent schools and elsewhere and the extent to which Michaelhouse had to comply with the diktat of the government or could make our own judgements on issues which were peculiar to us as a school. As the level of Covid-related distress in the country improved, we wanted to try to return to school – even if it meant coming back one Block at a time, starting with the seniors.

Because Michaelhouse is a boarding school there were, naturally, significant alterations which needed to be made to our day-to-day programme to give effect to our provision as safely as possible as a return to school became a reality: this did not simply entail the wearing of masks and protective screening in classrooms, deep cleaning in the Houses and the insistence on social distancing, but also the rearrangement of our standard procedures. An apparently simple example concerned meal times: boys had to be socially distanced in such a way that each of breakfast, lunch and supper initially had to be served over five different sittings. This had knock-on ramifications for the academic programme and a new timetable had to be devised at all levels for each of the Blocks. Some boys had their meals first and then went to lessons, others had lessons first, then went to meals. The academic staff also had to contend simultaneously with teaching pupils both in the



classroom and online and some cross-border or international pupils were even in different time zones.

As a result of much help from many people, including our parents, Old Boys and board, and the resilience of our staff, we ended the year with a full school and a waiting list, with over 600 boys destined to arrive on the first day of 2021.

Turning to some of the highlights of the year, pride of place could go to the opening of Ralfe and McCormick Houses under the leadership of Mr Mark Blew and Ms Karin Moffat. It is unusual for new Houses to be assimilated into the life of any school as quickly as was the case in Ralfe and McCormick: this was, perhaps, exemplified by the unexpected victory of Ralfe in the very first inter-House activity in which it participated – the Swimming Gala. The McCormick family hosted all the boys in the House which bears their name to a wonderful day at Rawdon's Hotel and the sense of purpose of the new House was quickly established.

The year will also be remembered for the development of the Transformation and Diversity Advisory Committee following representations by boys to me that there were situations which troubled them deeply and that the time had come for a more significant African footprint in the school. The result was that the committee was formed with the principal purpose of creating a "safe space" for boys to express concerns and to propose a policy from grassroots level up to be ratified by our ExCo and subsequently, our board. A third aspiration was to consider the relevance of our curriculum in our era and to look at being more sensitive to some developments without necessarily abandoning the platform of the past. The committee which was formed comprises the Senior Prefect and Second Prefect (ex officio) along with four elected representatives from the A Block, three from the B Block and two from the C Block, along with an equal number of staff. The chairperson of the committee is Mr Sibusiso Ncamani and we have been fortunate to have been guided through our process by Mr Karabo Che Maokope, an ex-Hiltonian of the highest order, as a consultant. I believe we have progressed

well this year but that our journey is only just beginning and it will be important to continue on this road in creating a climate for greater tolerance and greater acceptance of diversity in fields other than those related solely to race. In short, greater sensitivity to each other and a deeper understanding of the different viewpoints of people will make us a better school.

Another highlight of the year was the fact that the C Block Journey, along with the D Block hike and E Block camps, was able to continue and that our boys were able to have the opportunity to discover their own strengths (and perhaps shortcomings) and those of others within the course of 13 days out in the wonderful Drakensberg. I recognise that many other schools have a similar provision, but the Michaelhouse experience is a rare opportunity and, in many cases, a life-defining one.

We live in a beautiful environment at Michaelhouse: many of those who are visitors to us for the first time are "blown away" by the ambience and the care which has been taken over many years to establish the symmetry in the buildings and to link that symmetry with the trees, the shrubs, the paths, the flowers. For this there are many people to thank, including Gordon Bruins, a retiring member of our board who will, however, still contribute to our Buildings, Grounds and Environment Committee. Like Ross Armstrong, another retiring board member, he has given unstintingly of himself over the past years in the cause of Michaelhouse.

In closing, I would like to thank the teaching and support staff and the members of the board of governors, especially Anthony Hewat as chairman, Andrew Schaefer as vice-chairman and Richard Gush as chairman of our Finance Committee for their help and support during the year.

We move forward into 2021, our 125th anniversary year, with confidence and with the school some 80 boys stronger than just ten years ago. As if in answer to our School Prayer, many blessings have been poured down upon our school and we have been made generous and brave in our interactions. May we continue in this vein and remain thankful for having been given so much.

“

Let us, therefore, preserve for them a record of our thoughts and doings, so that the Michaelhouse boys of five hundred years hence may learn something of their predecessors from the pages of St. Michael's Chronicle.

The Chronicle, May 1897

”

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LEADERSHIP AND STAFF

Michaelhouse, the Anglican Diocesan College of Natal, was founded in 1896 and is a South African boarding school for senior boys with an international reputation. The school is governed by a board made up of significant South Africans. At the heart of the school's academic, pastoral, spiritual and cultural endeavours is a fully resident academic staff complement whose daily role it is to nurture, guide and encourage our boys.



BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Back Row: Phil Roberts, Damien Rautenbach, Mark Lynn, Gordon Bruins, Nick Jonsson, Richard Gush, Mike Gammie, Wayne Witherspoon

Front Row: Ross Armstrong, Anthony Hewat (Chairman), Antony Clark (Rector), Andrew Schaefer

Absent: Dr Zuko Kubukeli, Debbie Martin, Rev Jacques Pretorius, Nkululeko Sowazi

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

GOVERNORS

Mr R Armstrong

Mr M Lynn

Mr G Bruins

Mrs D Martin

Rev J Pretorius

Mr M Gammie

Mr P Roberts (*President: Old Boys' Club*)

Mr R Gush

Mr A Schaefer (*Deputy Chairman*)

Mr A Hewat (*Chairman*)

Mr N Sowazi

Mr N Jonsson

Mr W Witherspoon (*President Elect: Old Boys' Club*)

Dr Z Kubukeli

Mr A Clark (*Rector*)

Mr D Rautenbach (*Bursar*)

ASSOCIATE GOVERNORS

Mr P Goss

Mr D Sacco

Mrs D Mokgatle

Mr N Tatham

Mr G Ralfe

TRUSTEES

Mr R Buchholz

Mr G Ralfe (*Trusts' Chairman*)

Mr D Rautenbach (*Bursar*)

Mr R Gush

Mr N Sowazi

Mr P Hayward-Butt

Mr J Inglis (*Consultant*)

Mr A Hewat

Dr Z Kubukeli (*Consultant*)

Mr N Jonsson

Mr N Porter (*Consultant*)

Mr S Jonsson

Mrs D Mokgatle

MICHAELHOUSE STAFF

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Antony Clark, MA, HDE: Rector

Paul Fleischack, MSc HDE: Senior Deputy Rector Co-Curricular and Old Boys' Club Secretary

Damien Rautenbach, BCompt: Bursar

Alan Adlington-Corfield, BSc PGCE BEd (Hons): Mathematics, APM: Deputy Rector Academic

Allan Laing, HDE FDE MEd, Mathematics: Deputy Rector Pupils

Rev Canon Alan Smedley, BCom, Dip Th: Chaplain

Tim Jarvis, BA Ed (Hons), BA Psych (Hons): Life Orientation, School Counsellor: Senior Master Pastoral

Lynne Moore, BA HDE BEd (Hons) HRM Dip: Human Resources Manager

William Silk, MMus, Music: Senior Master Cultural

Ryan Strudwick, BAgric Mgt: Senior Master Sport

Amy Webster, MSc: Community Partnership Manager

Murray Witherspoon, MA: Head: Marketing and Admissions

Mark Blew, MEd PGCE: Economics, EMS, Housemaster (Ralfe)

Bernice Borain, BA (LAL) BA Hons PGCE MA Eng: English, Tutor – East

Nico Boshoff, BEcon (Hons) PGCE: Mathematics, HOD (Mathematical Literacy), Tutor – Founders, MIC – Athletics and Cross Country

Katherine Cass, MA: English, Learning Support Coordinator, E Block Tutor – Farfield

Jenni Clinton-Parker, BA Psych (Hons) BA Fine Art (Ed): HOD (Visual Arts), E Block Tutor – Founders, Tutor – Media

Marcel Cornelius, BEd: Afrikaans, Tutor – Pascoe

Jed Coventry, BA Psych (Hons): HOD (Media Centre, Media Studies), Tutor – Mackenzie

Bailey Coxon, BSc (Hons) HDE: Housemaster (Mackenzie), Mathematics

John Crawford, BA UED BEd: Geography, HSS (Part-time)

PORTFOLIO MANAGERS

Win de Wet, BA HDE, Economics, EMS: Senior Academic

Marius Henn, BA (Hons): Operations Manager

Peter Huntley, BA (Hons) HDE, English: Senior Housemaster: Pascoe, MIC – Squash (20/03/2020)

ACADEMIC STAFF

Grant Ball, B.Journ (Hons) PGCE: English, Tutor – Tatham

Carl Bezuidenhout, BCom: Economics, EMS, Asst Housemaster (Tatham)

Gemma Blew, BA PGCE, English: (Part-time)



ACADEMIC STAFF

Back Row: Mr Bradley McManus, Mr Nkanyiso Ngcobo, Mr Dean Forword, Mr Dominic Gruijters, Mr Chris Waldburger, Mr Sikelela Nyandeni, Mr Bernard Whitaker, Mr Carl Bezuidenhout, Mr Clint Sliedrecht, Mr Nathan Holm, Mr Olwethu Hugo, Mr John Crawford, Mr Emmanuel Mkhize,

Fourth Row: Mr Gerhard Erasmus, Mr Liam Boshoff, Mr Herman Visagie, Mr Peter Stevens, Mr Mark Blew, Mr Craig Pieterse, Mr Ross Stanley, Mr Nico Boshoff, Mr Matthew Higginson, Mr Jed Coventry, Mr Paul Snyman, Mrs Mary McMichael, Mr Thabani Hlabisa, Mr Aidan Friend,

Third Row: Mr Chris van der Berg, Ms Marcel Cornelius, Mr Sifiso Vilakazi, Ms Karin Moffat, Mrs Tanith von Mayer, Mr Grant von Mayer, Mr Richard Brown, Mr Ian Crawford, Mr May Mazibuko, Mr Linda Mabuza, Mr Paul McKay, Mr Mike Thomson, Mr Paul De Wet, Mr Johan van Rooyen, Mr Ernest Rindfleish, Mr Richard McMichael,

Second Row: Mrs Gemma Blew, Mrs Asha Royappen, Miss Lisa Hardie, Ms Martine Planteau de Maroussem, Mr Thapelo Machimane, Ms Carika de Swardt, Mr Linda Shezi, Mrs Paula Waller, Mr Sibusiso Ncamani, Ms Riette White, Mr Michael Sevenoaks, Mr Edward Jeffrey, Mr Matthew Stringer, Mr David Pachonick, Mr Siphesihle Mdladla, Mrs Katherine Cass, Mr Richard Snowden, Mrs Ilne Visagie, Mr William le Cordeur, Mrs Julie Flanagan, Mr Sibonelo Khanyile, Mrs Jenni Clinton-Parker, Mr Jason Blockley, Mr Ayanda Duma, Mrs Candice Smith, Ms Nqobile Zuma, Mrs Helene du Toit,

Front Row: Miss Amy Webster, Mr Bailey Coxon, Mr James Fleming, Mr Peter Huntley, Mr Tim Jarvis, Mrs Lynne Moore, Mr Allan Laing, Mr Paul Fleischack, Mr Antony Clark, Mr Alan Adlington-Corfield, Mr Damien Rautenbach, Mr William Silk, Mrs Win De Wet, Mr Ryan Strudwick, Mr Righardt Kotze, Mr Jonathan Smith, Mr Marius Henn

Ian Crawford, BEd: ICT, CAT, Asst Housemaster (Farfield)

Carika De Swardt, MMus Ed: Music, Tutor – McCormick

Peter Dennyson, MA Dip Ed: English (Advanced Programme) (Part-time)

Paul de Wet, BSc HDE BEd (Hons): Director of Mathematics, Tutor – McCormick

Jaco Dippenaar, BMusEd MMus DMus: Director of Music, Tutor – Ralfé

Heléne du Toit, BA HDE: Afrikaans, E Block Tutor – Baines, Tutor – IT

Gerhard Erasmus, MSc: Life Sciences, Natural Science, Tutor – Tatham, MIC – Canoeing

Julie Flanagan, BSc HDE: HOD (Information Technology), ICT, IT, CAT, Tutor – West

Dean Forword, BCom PGCE BEd Honours: Housemaster (Founders), HOD (Accounting, EMS)

Dominic Gruijters, BSc (Hons): Information Technology, ICT, Mathematics, Tutor – McCormick

Lisa Hardie, HDE: Mathematics, Mathematical Literacy, E Block Tutor – Baines

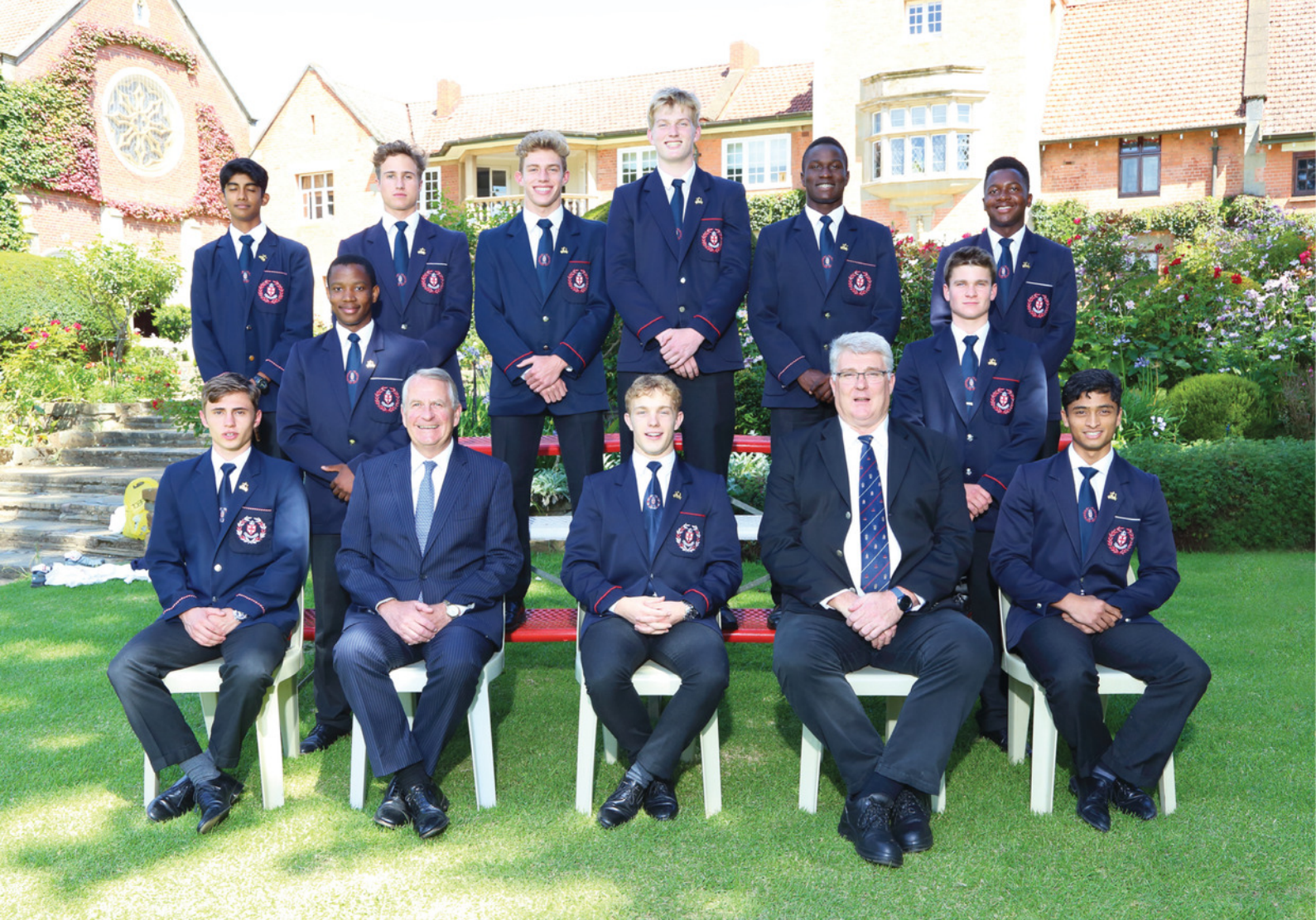
Matthew Higginson, BSc (Hons) HDE: HOD (Physical Science, Natural Science), Tutor – West, MIC – Squash

Olwethu Hugo, BSc PGCE: Geography, HSS, Asst Housemaster McCormick

Peter Huntley, BA (Hons) HDE: Senior Housemaster (Pascoe), English, MIC – Squash (20/03/2020)

Edward Jeffrey, BEd: Physical Science, Natural Science, Asst Housemaster (West/ Pascoe – wef 01/04/2020)

Sibonelo Khanyile, BEd: Mathematics, Mathematical Literacy, Asst Housemaster (Ralfé)



SCHOOL PREFECTS

Back Row: Nikhil Iyer, Nathan Bau, James Murray, Nicholas Crampton, Mugabi Lubinga, Takwana Shava,

Middle Row: Xhanti Gqweta, Matthew Henderson,

Front Row: Michael Ross, Mr Antony Clark, Michael Bradford, Mr Allan Laing, Hussain Mohamed

Righardt Kotze, BSc (Hons) PGCE: Housemaster (Tatham), Life Science, Natural Science, LO

Leigh Kotze, MPhil PGCE: English, Assistant Librarian (Part-time), E Block Tutor – Tatham

William le Cordeur, MA: Drama, Theatre Director

Paul McKay, HDE: Geography, Housemaster (Farfield)

Brad McManus, BA, PGCE: History HSS, Tutor – Pascoe, MIC – Swimming (Part-time)

Mary McMichael, BA, HDE: English

Richard McMichael, BCom HDE: Housemaster (Baines), Accounting, EMS

Helen Mennie, BA BMus HDE, Music: Locum (01/01/2020 -30/06/2020) (Part-time)

Karin Moffat, BSc (Hons) HDE: Housemaster (McCormick), Mathematics, APM

Sibusiso Ncamani, BEd: Housemaster (East), Geography, HSS

Nkanyiso Ngcobo, BSc PGCE BED (Hons): Housemaster (Pascoe – wef 01/04/2020) Physical Science, NS

Craig Pieterse BEd: HOD Engineering Graphics & Design: Asst Housemaster (Baines)

Martine Planteau de Maroussem, BA PGD HDE: HOD (French)

Ernest Rindfleisch, BCom HDE: HOD (Economics), EMS, Tutor – Mackenzie

Doug Rodger, BA PGCE: English, Tutor – Founders

Asha Royappen, BA PGCE: HOD (Dramatic Arts), E Block Tutor – East

Linda Shezi, BA, PGCE, HOD (isiZulu), Asst Housemaster (West)

Clint Sliedrecht, MSc, PGCE:
*Physical Science, Natural Science,
Asst Housemaster (Mackenzie), MIC –
Basketball*

Candice Smith, BTh (Hons) PGCE:
Visual Arts, E Block Tutor – West

Jonathan Smith, BA MTh PGCE:
Housemaster (West), English

Richard Snowden, BCom PGCE: HOD
(English), Tutor – Ralfe (31/07/2020)

**Paul Snyman, BSc HDE: HOD (Life
Sciences, Natural Science), Tutor –
Farfield**

**Peter Stevens, BA HDE: Mathematics,
Mathematical Literacy, Tutor – West**

**Mike Thomson, BA HDE: History,
HSS, Tutor – East (Part-time)**

Chris van der Berg, MA HDE: HOD
*(Afrikaans), Tutor – Baines, MIC –
Soccer*

Johan van Rooyen, BA (Hons) HDE:
Afrikaans, Tutor – Ralfe

Herman Visagie, BA (Hons) PGCE:
*HOD (Life Orientation), School
Counsellor; Asst Housemaster
(Founders), MIC – Tennis*

**Ilné Visagie, BA PGCE: Afrikaans,
Tutor – East (Part-time)**

**Grant von Mayer, BSc: Mathematics,
Natural Science, Tutor – Farfield, MIC
– Hockey**

Tanith von Mayer, BA PGCE: HOD
*(English) – wef 01/09/2020, E Block
Tutor – Mackenzie*

Christopher Waldburger, MA, PGCE:
*HOD History, Asst Housemaster
(Founders) (17/08/2020)*

Lara Waldburger, BA PGCE: Divinity
(Part-time) (17/08/2020)

Paula Waller, BA HDE, English:
*Locum (01/01/2020 -30/06/2020) (Part-
time)*

Riette White, BCom PGCE:
Economics, E Block Tutor – McCormick

Bernard Whitaker, BEd: HOD
(Geography), Asst Housemaster (East)

Nqobile Zuma, NS Language Practice:
*isiZulu, Support Classes (Part-time),
Tutor - Tatham*

INTERN STAFF

Cameron Barry, Tutor – Pascoe

Jason Blockley, Tutor – Mackenzie

Liam Boshoff, Tutor – West

Richard Brown, Tutor – McCormick

Ayanda Duma, Tutor – Ralfe

Aidan Friend, Tutor – Farfield

Thabani Hlabisa, Tutor - East

Nathan Holm, Tutor - East

Linda Mabuza, Tutor – Farfield

**Thapelo Machimane, Tutor –
McCormick**

**Mayibongwe Mazibuko, Tutor –
Tatham**

Siphesihle Mdladla, Tutor – Pascoe

Emmanuel Mkhize, Tutor – Tatham

Sikelela Nyandeni, Tutor – Baines

David Pachonick, Tutor – Founders

Michael Sevenoaks, Tutor – West

Ross Stanley, Tutor – Ralfe

**Matthew Stringer, Tutor – Mackenzie,
MIC – Water Polo**

Sifiso Vilakazi, Tutor – Pascoe
(24/05/2020)

SPORTS

**Ryan Strudwick, B.Agric Mgt: Senior
Master Sport**

James Fleming, BSc (Hons)
*Physiotherapy: Head of Sports
Medicine, Tutor – Pascoe, MIC – Rugby*

Liam Mickleburgh, B. Sport Science
*(Hons), CFL3: Strength & Conditioning
Specialist*

Prosper Dubazana, B. Sport Science
*(Hons): Strength & Conditioning
Specialist*

ADMINISTRATIVE & ACADEMIC SUPPORT STAFF

**Carol Baillie, Housemother: East,
Farfield, Founders, Tatham, West**

Caryl Ballance, Pastoral Administrator

**Sally Berriman, Personal Assistant to
the Rector (04/09/2020)**

**Shy Bhugwande, Bookroom
Manager and Photocopy Administrator**

**Raymond Duma, Physical Science Lab
Technician**

Rachel Forword, BSc (OT) PGD
*Neurodevelopment, Assistant Learning
Support Coordinator*

**Angela Jonsson, Music School &
Theatre Administrator (Part-time),
Executive Assistant to the Rector wef
01/09/2020**

Wendy Kelly, Academic Administrator

**Sibusiso Elton Mlotshwa, Arts &
Humanities Technician**

**Hayley Moran, Housemother: Baines,
Mackenzie, McCormick, Pascoe, Ralfe**

**Joanne Morrison, Co-Curricular
Administrator**

Shakila Moola, Receptionist

**Bhekumuzi (Fish) Ndlovu, Cultural/
Theatre Technician**

**Zanele Ndlovu, Life Sciences Lab
Assistant**

**Dorathe van Rooyen, Data
Administrator**

**Nikki Veenstra, Rector & Board of
Governors Administrator**

BURSARY

**Damien Rautenbach, BCompt:
Bursar**

**Susan Dawson, Assistant Bursar &
Trust Administrator (30/11/2020)**

**Bronwyn Cramer, BCompt: Assistant
Bursar & Trust Administrator
(18/11/2020)**

**Larisha Govender, Management
Accountant**

**Meera Rughoo, Senior Debtors' &
Controller (01/04/2020)**

**Pushpa Ramharack, Debtors' &
Controller**

“

... to give a sound education, not designed with a view to
the immediate exigencies of business, but framed to supply a
training of character, intellect, and physique.

From the school prospectus, 1896

”

Jacques Ehlers, *Financial Assistant*

Rita Bhugwandeen, *Cashier / Accounts Clerk (31/07/2020)*

Sheena White, *Cashbook Administrator*

Joanne Kissoon, *Creditors' Controller*

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Amy Webster, *Community Partnership Manager*

Nkosinomusa Mahlaba, *Community Partnership Assistant*

Andiswa Nyandu, *Community Partnership Administrator*

HUMAN RESOURCES

Lynne Moore, *BA HDE BEd (Hons) HRM Dip: Human Resources Manager*

Londiwe Hearthstones, *ND: HRM: HR Generalist*

IT

Brad Flanagan, *BSc (Hons): Network Manager, MIC – Golf*

Simon Dottridge, *BCom: Senior Network Technician*

Shailan Govender, *Junior Network Technician*

Shalani Govender, *IT Administrator*

ADMISSIONS & MARKETING

Murray Witherspoon, *MA: Head of Marketing & Admissions*

Sian McDowell, *Admissions Administrator*

Catherine Maitin-Casalis, *Marketing Coordinator*

Xillen van Rooyen, *High Performance Facilitator*

Shanice Cassim, *Creative Designer*

MEDIA CENTRE

Jed Coventry, *BA Psych (Hons): Head of Media Centre*

Leigh Kotze, *MPhil, PGCE: Assistant Librarian (Part-time)*

Sindisiwe Mnikathi, *Media Centre Assistant*

Sikhephu (Simon) Zondi, *Audio Visual Assistant*

OLD BOYS' CLUB

Taryn Murdey, *Old Boys' Club Administrator & Archivist*

Michelle Huntley, *Old Boys' Administrator (31/03/2020)*

Robyn Gruijters, *Archivist (31/01/2020)*

SANATORIUM

Dr Jonathan Cook, *MA (FA) HDE, MB, BCH Dip. for Med (SA): School Doctor (Consultant)*

Sr Avis Coxon, *SRN (Dip); RM (Dip): Senior Sanatorium Sister*

Sr Debbie Hayes, *SRN (Dip); RM (Dip), RORN (Dip): Sanatorium Sister*

Sr Alexandra McManus, *Bachelor of Nursing Science: Sanatorium Sister*

Jenay Ngcobo, *Sanatorium Accounts Administrator*

Sr Fiona Booysen, *Relief Sister (Part-time)*

Sr Jill Brewitt, *Relief Sister (Part-time)*

Sr Judy Dimmick, *Relief Sister (Part-time)*

Sr Palesa Ndlovu, *Staff Nurse Night Duty (Part-time) (30/06/2020)*

TRADE-INN

Trish Akal, *Trade-Inn Manager*

Ronel van der Berg, *Assistant*

Roxanne Frost, *Assistant*

OPERATIONS

Marius Henn, *BA (Hons): Operations Manager*

CATERING – CAPITOL CATERERS

Jonathan Kalika, *Kitchen Project Manager*

Paula Klemp, *Catering Manager*

Nadine Jeffrey, *Catering Manager*

Simon Xulu, *Kitchen Supervisor/ Storeman*

Shakes Dladla, *Storeman*

Dannica Baillie, *Coffee Shop Manager*

ESTATES & GARDENS

Gunther Heynecke, *Estate & Nature Reserve Manager*

Amanda Jarvis, *Gardens Manager*

FUNCTIONS / EVENTS

Mandy Rouillard, *Conference & Functions Coordinator*

HOUSEKEEPING

Ephraim Mshengu, *Housekeeping Assistant Manager*

Candy Sithole, *Domestic Services Administrator*

LAUNDRY

Samuel Zuma, *Laundry Assistant Manager*

MAINTENANCE

Donovan Nel, *Maintenance Manager*

Tiaan Wilken, *Assistant Maintenance Manager*

Bongi Ndlela, *Health, Safety & Environment Officer*

SECURITY

Caroline Higginson, *Security Analyst (Part-time)*

Mduduzi Khanyile, *Security Supervisor (Ballid)*

TRANSPORT

Denver Kalika, *Transport Controller*

Nirvana Naicker, *Transport Coordinator*

Jack Ndlela, *Head Driver*

Cornelius Sithole, *Driver*

Robert Duma, *Driver*

Steven Zuma, *Driver*

Thula Sikakane, *Driver*

Victor Thwala, *Driver*

TRIBUTES TO STAFF LEAVING AFTER MORE THAN TEN YEARS OF SERVICE

ALAN ADLINGTON-CORFIELD

In the latter half of 2005, when asked for comment in support of Alan Adlington-Corfield's application for the position of Head of the Mathematics Department, the principal at Bridge House was both glowing in her assessment of Alan and clearly disappointed that he might be leaving. It soon became clear that her references were accurate as Alan made his mark on Michaelhouse.

Alan and Jessica arrived at Michaelhouse in January 2006 with their three young children, Josh, Olivia and Bella.

Alan's passion for mathematics was quickly reflected by the department, which is held in high esteem in the local school circuit. On his watch mathematics flourished, matric marks escalated to the outstanding levels which are still sustained today and the ranks of advanced programme mathematics candidates swelled to their current high numbers. Alan also extended mathematics support in local community schools, with intern staff providing extra classes on Saturdays. This project resulted in some local schools achieving the highest matric marks in many years.

It came as no surprise that Alan opted to focus on staff development during his time as senior master of academics. His easy, yet decisive engagement with colleagues and sound communication skills brought new developments within the academic committee, laying the foundation for his promotion to deputy rector, academic, which was warmly received in the common room.

Over the past few years Alan has overseen and guided major developments in the provision of information technology throughout the school. The speed with which Michaelhouse adapted to and implemented effective online learning during the Covid-19 lockdown is credit to his creativity, drive and expertise in this area. His experience in weight-lifting and conditioning saw Alan supporting the Sports Medicine Department in the development of the High Performance Centre, a world-class facility now frequented by boys and staff.

Alan is a schoolmaster at heart and involved himself in tutoring boys, coaching hockey and joining groups on the C Block Journey. He loves the outdoors and was the go-to staff member for boys struggling with the calculations required for accurate navigation in the 'Berg. An avid fly-fisherman, Alan was soon drawn to this club and the East Griqualand expeditions, which have continued uninterrupted for 65 years.

After 15 years of dedicated and exceptional service Alan leaves Michaelhouse to take up the position of executive headmaster of the Mpesa Academy School in Tika, Kenya, a post to which he is ideally suited. Alan and Jessica will make a difference in Tika. We look forward to hearing of their successes and wish them fulfilment and every happiness in their exciting new journey in Kenya.

SALLY BERRIMAN

Sally joined Michaelhouse in December 1997 as personal Assistant to Rector Dudley Forde and during her time here has managed the bustle and intricacies of the Rector's Reception as well as the working lives of five rectors.

Parents and Rector's visitors, staff and boys were always met with a warm smile and, a friendly, efficient welcome in the Rector's Reception, regardless of the issues being dealt with behind the Rector's door. Over the years, Sally has provided wise counsel and wonderful support to distressed mums who were struggling with the separation from their boys. She also became a surrogate mother to many boys, relaying messages and parcels and even allowing some to hide their tuck in cupboards in the Rector's Reception.

The Rector's PA is also the gatekeeper to his office. So effective was Sally that on one occasion a member of staff overheard a person in Nottingham Road complaining that they couldn't get an appointment to see the Rector as the "two Wolverines in the office [Sally and Kathy] are too hard to get past".

Sally is a passionate and loyal supporter of Michaelhouse. During her time here she has been the diligent keeper of the peace, frequently easing issues before they arrived on the Rector's desk and, of course, being an unassailable keeper of confidential secrets regarding staff and boys.

Sally is a deeply compassionate, courageous, kind and loyal person who will always go the extra mile to assist someone or make them feel exceptional. Birthdays and special occasions were always remembered and marked with a surprise tea or gathering. Her sense of humour ensured that a few Rectors did not escape April Fools' Day. Guy Pearson will recall waiting to interview Mr and Mrs Duck and their son, Don, whose flight from America was delayed, until a bevy of secretaries, led by Sally, burst through his door quacking loudly.

Always adventurous, Sally with a few other ladies climbed up the bell tower, along with glasses and a bottle of champagne, to celebrate while enjoying the view with a glass of bubbly.

For a number of years Sally's Cavalier spaniels were part of the Rector's Reception. While well trained and behaved at home, they occasionally forgot their good manners, and their forays into the dining hall, unpredictable bowel movements and one which barked at prospective parents ended their daily visits from Nottingham Road.

Sally always fought hard for the underdog, and can be extremely persuasive and her colleagues found that she was very hard to say no to, but at the same time she was an outstanding mentor, confidante, counsellor and a wonderful friend to so many members of staff.

Sally is proud that her two boys attended Michaelhouse. She

will miss being part of the Michaelhouse family, the gala days and special occasions. We will miss Sally as we wish her everything of the best for her move to England, where she and Clint will begin the next chapter in their lives.

RITA BHUGWANDEEN

Rita's farewell preparations went on for some time – a few weeks actually – and involved rehearsals, line-dance sessions behind closed doors, an awe-inspiring solo by Sheena White to Celine Dion's *All By Myself* and, of course, tributes from all of her co-workers, including a very special and heartfelt video from Charlie Burton explaining how important Rita was to him in his many years here and how fondly he remembers his time working with her. This is testament to the impact that Rita has had on all those she worked with during her decades at Michaelhouse.

Few staff members, I am sure, can claim to have had such a constant and long-standing link with Michaelhouse. While we are saying goodbye after an incredible 38 years of service to Michaelhouse, we also acknowledge the family ties that the Bhugwande family has with the school.

Many staff fondly refer to Michaelhouse as their home, but for Rita this takes on a far deeper meaning. Michaelhouse has been Rita's home more so than probably anyone else who has ever been involved with Michaelhouse, having been born here and lived here with her family up until her retirement. It is truly a special relationship that I am sure Rita will always hold very dear.

Rita and Shy are both very house-proud and, having lived on the estate their entire lives, took very good care of their home. Miles Alexander would regularly say that their house used to be the most immaculately maintained house on the entire estate. I am sure that their new home in Howick will be no different.

Rita is the staunchest supporter of Michaelhouse and does not allow anything negative to be said about the school. Heaven help anyone who has anything less than positive to say about it or anyone associated with it. Such fierce loyalty and dedication is not guaranteed in every employee, but with Rita it always was.

Rita's commitment to Michaelhouse was evident in the tireless manner in which she managed her role in the bursary. Her attention to detail and firmness in sticking to process was a constant source of comfort to me, knowing that everything related to payments and to cash was being managed perfectly.

Few may know that Rita actually came in to work every day of lockdown, on her own, working in isolation, safely, ensuring that all paperwork was gathered and payments were processed to allow the services and operations of Michaelhouse to continue. This literally kept the lights on and suppliers were paid, so that we could continue to offer what we could during this unprecedented and difficult time. This commitment is something that we are enormously grateful for.

Rita has a great sense of adventure and is always one to involve herself in any activity. One end-of-year Christmas

lunch, we went up to the Oribi Reserve and had a lunch up there and played some games. Rita, as always, led from the front, shooting cattles and playing every game. Even her sense of adventure has boundaries, however, and she couldn't quite force herself to return to school in Susan's car because of the rally driving that had taken place on the way up.

Rita, we will miss your laugh, your sense of humour, your cooking, your chilli bites and the Diwali treats that you spoiled us with each year.

We wish you all the best in your retirement in your and Shy's new home in Howick. We are sure that you will enjoy many years there as you have here, and we are all excited to come and visit.

You will be incredibly missed.

SUSAN DAWSON

Susan is leaving a tremendous gap here at the school. One that will be difficult to fill, not just because of what she does but because of who she is.

On that note you can't talk about Susan without talking about Mick as well; the two come very much together as a team.

Susan (and Mick) haven't just been a part of Michaelhouse, they have been a part of the Midlands community for very many years. Susan has worked in school environments for over 35 years, beginning at St Dominic's in Johannesburg for 16 years before moving to the Midlands in July 1999 with Mick. They both began working at Clifton Notties as co-bursars, which must have been interesting. Three years later Mick decided that manual labour and toiling across a smallholding all day long was far easier and less stressful work and so he left Clifton to focus on their property at *Eland Park*, which the family has owned since 1985. Susan stayed on and ran the Bursary Department at Clifton for five more years until 2008, when she moved to Michaelhouse, where she has been for almost 13 years.

So that is 35 years of educational and financial experience across provinces and schools. It is quite rare that someone possesses this amount of knowledge and is one of the reasons why Susan has been so effective in her role here. Knowing how and why things happen will always be specific to an organisation but there are many commonalities that exist in all schools. For me, working in a school for the first time and having access to Susan's experience as a resource was extremely helpful and comforting in my first years.

It appears that Susan is a sucker for punishment as 35 years is not enough. Susan leaves us for another school, across a hemisphere and continent and of course a country to join Lomond School in Scotland. Our loss is very much their gain.

The Dawsons have been a part of the Midlands community over these past 20 years and have made many close friendships along the way. Susan was a part of one of the first book clubs at Michaelhouse. During this time Mick was involved with the Balgowan conservancy and actually helped build the

Conservancy Kiosk outside our gates, carting machinery and wood to the site in his truck. There was also ballroom dancing in the staff common room, I believe, as well as many lunches, dinners, games of golf and social events throughout the greater Midlands area.

Susan was not only an employee here at Michaelhouse; perhaps more importantly, she was a parent as well. Her son Matthew attended the school. I hear that Mick loved creating his own version of the movie *Spud* by taking great joy in driving Matthew right up to the main circle under *Screens* in the farm's red pickup filled with garbage, refuse and dogs, loudly waving Matthew off as he returned to school.

I don't want to focus too much on the work aspect of Susan's time here, there are more important things to mention, but we do need to acknowledge Susan's impact in the bursary.

We have made many changes in the bursary over the last few years, changing the entire accounting system, bringing in new trust systems, and changing processes; taking on the trusts, Chairman's Club and all of the administration and reporting that it required. Not once did Susan complain, at times she must have been shaking her head thinking that we were mad for trying to take all of this on but if she did, she kept it to herself. This wouldn't have been possible without Susan's buy-in and support. I feel we have made progress, we are looking forward and I need to thank Susan for her role in each of these projects.

The assistant bursar role isn't always an easy one and at times can be the villain in the school according to some staff. It takes a special person to be able to fill the post, do what needs to be done and still maintain friendships and relationships along the way. This is something that Susan managed to do well, I am sure she learnt a lot of lessons over the past 35 years.

Michaelhouse will miss you, the Midlands will miss you. We wish you all the best and every success in your new adventures.

And with that we formally say goodbye.

HELENE DU TOIT

The du Toits arrived at Michaelhouse from the Drakensberg Boys Choir School in July 1996. Helene started at Michaelhouse as a part-time Afrikaans teacher and then took on a full-time role from 2003. She also taught divinity for a couple of years.

Mevrou has been a patient and caring teacher who has made every endeavour to assist her pupils to understand Afrikaans better and to get good marks. She has been an advocate for the use of IT in the classroom for many years and the Covid-19 pandemic presented her with the perfect opportunity to show the rest of the department what the road ahead looks like. She has been all about maintaining high standards and her administration has been of the highest quality. She is neat, organised and punctual and has never been the type of person looking for recognition. She just gets things done in her quiet and unassuming manner. She also acted as chaperone for the KZN Youth Choir on

numerous occasions while her husband Gerard'd was in charge of the choir. Helene became a mother figure for the members of the choir and loved every second of her involvement.

During the past 24 years she has been involved in various activities at Michaelhouse and has proven herself to be a jack of all trades. She was in charge of Afrikaans support classes for many years and made light work of this thankless task. She also ran the Community Service programme and later became the MIC of this programme after Fred Pitout got involved. For the last five years she has looked after the administration side of this programme. Helene was also involved with Michaelhouse's exchange programme for a couple of years. And she was in charge of IEB examinations for some time. She also stood at the helm of the Film Appreciation Society, the AKV (Afrikaans Society) and the Sailing Club at various times. She was even part of the squash coaching staff back in the day.

I have come to know Helene as a sophisticated, sincere and hard working person. She has a love of the Arts. She has a deep appreciation of music (especially choral and classical music) and has a beautiful voice herself. It was always such a pleasure to sit in front of her in chapel and hear her hitting those high notes when the rest of us were struggling to come close. She is also a keen student of genealogy, which I suspect is an indication of the importance of her family in her life. I have been informed that she is looking at moving to Pretoria to spend more time with her sons. I know that she is fond of travelling abroad as well and this will hopefully also be a part of her itinerary for the future.

I want to thank Helene for her years of service to the school. It was a real pleasure to work with her for the last 12 years and I hope that she will have the opportunity to do the things that she loves when she doesn't have to run around to help boys to deal with the challenges of Afrikaans first additional language any longer.

MICHELLE HUNTLEY

Michelle and Peter moved from Maritzburg College to Michaelhouse when Peter was appointed as an English teacher. Michelle is an outstanding administrator and her skills saw her filling various roles in the school. Over the years she co-ordinated aspects of the Community Partnership Programme, edited the Chronicle, and administered the Archives and the Development Fund. However, she will be fondly remembered as the Administrator of the Old Boys' Club. Her knowledge and concern for Old Boys and branch functions and Gaudies will remain legendary.

As the house mother to Pascoe boys, Michelle knew many boys and their families before they joined the ranks of the Old Boys. This added to the warm associations which she forged during her time here and Michelle soon became the favoured contact for Old Boys. She engaged warmly with all, knew of their whereabouts and involvements and she made the Old Boys' Club a welcoming space for all.

Michelle played an active role in organising the life of the Squash Club while Peter was master in charge of this sport. Visiting teams, including the Sacco Jaguars, were always

ensured of convivial hospitality when at Michaelhouse. Old Boys, boys and visitors will recall the tournaments which Michelle organised with much fondness.

Michelle mentored the presidents and secretaries of the Old Boys' Club during her tenure as administrator. She will be remembered by all for her attention to detail, planning and organisation, but also for her buoyant, amiable presence. We wish her well in her new venture in Harrismith.

PETER HUNTLEY

The Huntleys arrived at Michaelhouse in January 2005. Peter arrived along with his wife Michelle and their daughter Emma. He joined the academic staff as an English teacher from Maritzburg College, where he had also run the matric boarding house and served as a school counsellor. From the moment he arrived his warm nature endeared him to the boys, parents and staff as Peter immersed himself in the busy schedule of school life. As an English teacher the boys loved his passion for poetry and his admiration for Shakespeare. This allowed him to get the best out of the boys when it came to their appreciation of the language.

From the outset Peter was placed in charge of squash, which grew to become one of the most successful sports at the school in the past 15 years. Peter was instrumental in Michaelhouse winning the provincial champs on seven occasions and taking the team to seven South African champs tournaments, winning the title on one occasion. A record I am sure will be around for a while.

In January 2007 Peter started as the Pascoe Housemaster after a short stint in Founders as the senior tutor. Pascoe required some work in his early years and Peter set about creating a warm and welcoming homely environment for his new charges. Since then Pascoe has been a happy family home with both Peter and Michelle getting fully involved in House activities. It was in Pascoe that Peter really made his mark on the boys of Michaelhouse as a firm, but fair and caring Housemaster. The boys loved his humorous nature, warm caring attitude, quick comebacks, and were so passionate about their Housemaster that they dubbed themselves *Huntley's Army*.

In 2015 Peter took over as the senior housemaster, a role he held until leaving in March of 2020. It was in this role that Peter started to make a greater impact in the pastoral and discipline side of the school. This role grew to include staff training and, in particular, housemaster and assistant housemaster training, and staff, specifically for their role in a boarding school. His contribution extended beyond the bounds of Michaelhouse as he joined the Boarding Schools Association of Southern Africa as a consultant and was often a key figure in presentations all over the country.

Peter fully immersed himself in every aspect of the school and never shied away from supporting whatever event was taking place. After 13 years of housemastering, 15 years of squash coaching and English teaching at Michaelhouse he now moves on to a headship role in Harrismith. A well-deserved appointment where he can continue to make a significant contribution to the education of young children in South Africa.

EPHRAIM MSHENGU

In 1986, on our arrival at Michaelhouse, Laura Fleischack was tasked with overseeing the provision for boys' horses stabled at Michaelhouse. She soon developed a deep respect for Ephraim Mshengu, the quietly spoken, affable and gentle man who groomed and tended these animals with care and dedication.

Ephraim was appointed by Lance Knight, the then estate manager, to the Michaelhouse staff in 1973. As a 16-year-old lad, he started work as an assistant in the Estates Department, mowing lawns, trimming hedges and mending tar roads on campus. He recalls Lance inspecting the estate and current nature reserve on horseback. In 1979, when Jon Morgan managed the estate, Ephraim moved to become the groom for staff and boys' horses. At that time the stables were on the sites of *Izingkinga* and *Jabula*, staff houses on the *Berea* of the campus. He recalls caring for horses owned by amongst others Humphrey Hamilton, Adam Rouillard and Stuart Campbell.

In 1988, as the number of boys' horses on campus dwindled, Ephraim joined the security team as a dog handler. He spent time completing a training course in Scottburgh and was assigned *Joe*, his first guard dog. Ephraim and Joe were effective in apprehending intruders who attempted to steal items from dormitories during the home fixtures against Hilton. When Michaelhouse outsourced security in 2006, Ephraim opted not to join a private security company and left Michaelhouse to follow business opportunities.

Fortunately, Ephraim re-joined Michaelhouse in 2008, initially as a painter before moving to Housekeeping as a cleaner and driver. His diligence and integrity soon ensured that he rose to the position of manager in the Housekeeping Department, a position from which he retires at the end of 2020.

Ephraim's wife, Paulina, served as a cleaner in the Housekeeping Department for 12 years. In 2008 she resigned to take up the running of a very successful community crèche in Zenzane Village.

Ephraim feels he has had a special relationship with Michaelhouse, where he has grown professionally and developed special relationships with boys whom he hopes to see when he returns to watch future matches on Meadows.

Ephraim retires to his home in Zenzane. His retirement does not mean the end of his work as he intends starting a cleaning service in the area. *uDonga*, we look forward to welcoming you back to Michaelhouse in future. There will always be a seat for you on the banks of Meadows.

ALAN AND KATE SMEDLEY

Alan, Kate and three young children (David, Paul and Suzanne) arrived at Michaelhouse in 1993. Alan says that he reluctantly accepted Rector John Pluke's pleas to become the chaplain but immediately he set foot on the beautiful campus he realized that it was most definitely the correct decision.

Alan's time at Michaelhouse makes him the longest serving



Simon Zondi



Helene du Toit



Alan Smedley



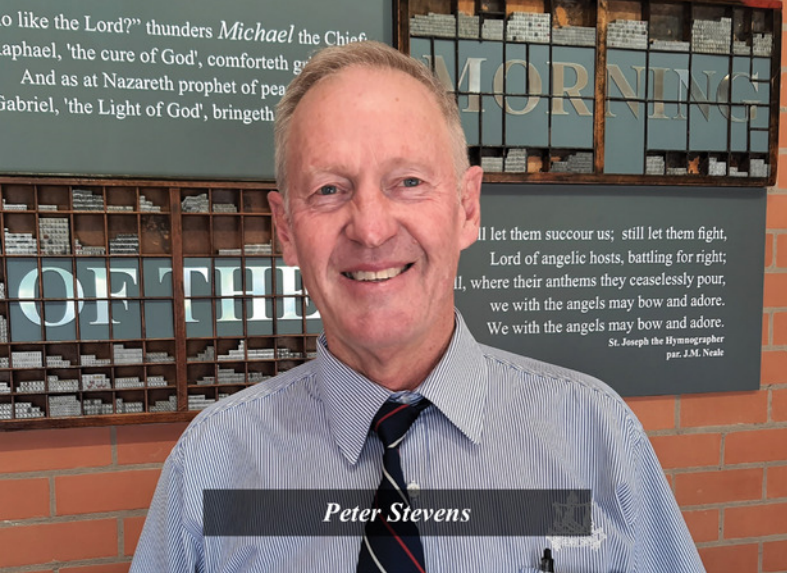
Peter Huntley



Susan Dawson



Ephraim Mshengu



chaplain at the school and during this time their two sons David and Paul attended Michaelhouse, which in itself was a privilege, and Suzanne was able to attend St Anne's. The whole family thrived on the estate with plenty of pets and horses around but it is Josie the Dalmatian that really stood out and became instantly infamous when she stole a leg of lamb off a table at a Michaelhouse-Hilton fixture and proudly swept across Meadows showing her prize to the thousands watching the rugby.

Kate was the perfect support to Alan. She taught Divinity for over 20 years, ran the outreach project SMILE, was the chief Unisa examiner at the university's exam centre at the school, arranged flowers every week for the chapel and used her calligraphy skills to write names into every leaver's Bible amongst many other things.

Alan's impact on the spiritual life of the school was profound. The many Christian Focus weeks ensured that every boy at Michaelhouse experienced at least one of these experiences during his five years at the school. A great variety of wonderful Christian men and women spoke and ministered to the boys, staff and greater community. The speakers ranged from international sportsmen, astrophysicists, authors and explorers to prominent Old Boys. These undoubtedly had a huge impact on the spiritual life of the school and helped make the chapel the central feature around which the school operated. Alan planned and meticulously organized the confirmation camps for the boys. It was humbling to see so many young men begin a relationship with the Lord. They really did have an immense impact on many of the boys, and the confirmation services proved to be deeply significant for many of the boys.

Alan also organized many opportunities for the staff to grow spiritually. Bible studies, Alpha Courses, prayer courses and marriage courses allowed staff to grow in this area and were very popular. It was such a pity that Alan's last year was interfered with by Covid as he had plans for more courses for the staff.

Alan has enabled many boys to grow spiritually. The number of senior boys over the years who have become committed Christians, the great numbers that attended the Christian Fellowship meetings each week and the number of others who have given their lives to the Lord all indicate the great legacy that Alan leaves behind. His legacy certainly travels to the heavenly realms.

We trust that Alan and Kate enjoy their retirement but know that he will always keep a very close interest in the school that he made such a positive impact on.

PETE STEVENS

Pete is a man who we all respect, admire and are grateful to have been able to work with. Pete is truly one of the most authentic people I have come across. He is sincere in his dealings with others, always caring about them and enquiring about their, and their family's, well-being. Peter is also most generous with his time; nothing is too much to ask of Pete; he would drop whatever he was doing to help if you asked; on the academic front (for both staff and boys), sports field or

even if you needed a hand at home. His generosity extended to the use of his home in the Kamberg; the Maths Department and their families' will never forget the weekends spent there. However, what happens in the Kamberg stays in the Kamberg.

Pete is the epitome of an old-school master; not dusty and grey, but vibrant and full of energy, giving everything to the school. Pete could outrun most of us as evidenced by the numerous Comrades completed and his immense stamina on *Journey*. The boys have certainly responded to his warm and caring nature, yet with this quiet strength came clear boundaries.

When I think of Pete the two words which come immediately to mind are "team player". Pete has always loved being part of and making significant contributions to a team, whether it is in maths, water polo, rugby or as part of the larger staff team; and we have been richly blessed to have him on our team for ten years.

There is nothing that Pete enjoys more than chatting to anyone about anything from their families, to sport, to world or South African matters, to even the smallest things that are personal to you. He takes a keen interest in everyone. I am going to truly miss our daily chats and seeing you in the classroom next door to me. But I am thrilled that you will still be involved in coaching sport and that you won't be leaving your alma mater on a permanent basis.

Pete is a born teacher and knew during his days owning a garage that he was born to teach, and so he did.

Pete found one of the greatest expressions of his passions in his role of leader of team 2 in the *C Block Journey*. Through all the phases of the *Journey* he was supportive and gave inspiring lessons to the lads, who learnt a lot from Pete.

Pete is so well respected and loved, and we are all thrilled that he will be in the area so that we can continue to tap into his generous soul and wisdom. Go well, Pete.

SIMON ZONDI

Simon Zondi retires this year from audio-visual resources after a long and storied career at Michaelhouse. Simon joined Michaelhouse in 1980, beginning his career in the maintenance department while the school was under the stewardship of Rector Neil Jardine.

In 1985, Simon moved to the audio-visual department as an assistant, setting up a 16mm film projector in KLT to display educational films for different subjects, and Saturday night movies to entertain the boys. Simon also became involved in the operation of the school printing press, housed where the housekeeping office is now located, setting type and plates for the publication of ceremony programmes and covers.

In 1998, the AV department moved to its current home in the new Media Centre and Simon became a member of the Media Centre team. From his new offices, Simon copied and edited tapes for classroom viewing, and began supplying PA and presentational set-ups for events around the school that required



amplification. He also began filming first-team matches for the rugby and hockey clubs and he has many fond memories from beside the field on dewy Saturday mornings. Simon has also done filming for dramatic productions in the theatre and has similarly wonderful memories of these evenings in the gallery.

Over the years, Simon has seen many changes to the school buildings as Michaelhouse has continually grown and

developed. Likewise, Simon has seen the technology he used on a day-to-day basis change over the years. Gone are the days of movies on 16mm, film slides, overhead projectors and VHS tapes. Of late Simon was used to digital film, HD projectors and professional audio equipment. However, his commitment to providing reliable service when, and wherever it was required never changed and we thank him for his dedication. Wishing you well on your retirement journey. God bless.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

Staff Member in Charge: **Mrs Win de Wet**

The vision of our intern programme is to grow the next generation of great teachers for our school and country. The programme presents a wonderful opportunity to learn and grow as a teacher. Our internship programme offers both on-the-job training and mentoring along with a development plan for each intern, who is assigned a mentor from the full-time academic staff to guide and nurture him, and to look for opportunities to further his growth. Our interns are treated like professionals and are given opportunities to become involved in all aspects of growing boys, from teaching in classes, tutoring in the Houses, coaching sport and assisting with clubs and societies, to being involved in our community outreach programme.

Nine new interns joined us at the beginning of 2020, namely

Mr Nathan Holm (*PGCE*),

Mr David Pachonick (*BA*) who is a Michaelhouse Old Boy,

Mr Richard Brown (*PGCE*),

Mr Thabani Hlabisa (*B. Ed*),

Mr Thapelo Machimane (*B. Ed*),

Mr Ross Stanley,

Mr Michael Sevenoaks (*PGCE*),

Mr Linda Mabuza (*B. Ed*) and

Mr Ayanda Duma (*B. Ed*).

Mr Cameron Barry (*PGCE*) joined us at the start of the fourth quarter. We continue to afford our interns the opportunity to grow professionally and personally by offering them the opportunity to attend both internally and externally run courses.

Tragically, Mr Sifiso Vilakazi passed away in May this year. His untimely death will deprive the education community and indeed our country of the further contributions he would certainly have made. At the end of the year we say goodbye to Mr Liam Boshoff. We thank them both for their contribution to Michaelhouse during the time they have been on the Intern Programme. Mr Siphesihle Mdladla qualifies at the end of the

year and we wish him well in his full-time teaching post in Johannesburg. Mr Aidan Friend finishes his PGCE at the end of the year and leaves the programme but stays at Michaelhouse to take up a one-year contract in the EGD and IT Departments.

For 2021, we will start the year with 20 interns on the programme and we look forward to their contribution to Michaelhouse.

TRANSFORMATION AND DIVERSITY COMMITTEE

Transformation and Diversity Advisory Committee
Members: **M Guma, Mr KC Mokoape, R Esipisu, Mrs A Royappen, Mr W le Cordeur, Mr D Forword, Mr N Ngcobo, Mrs W de Wet, Mr T Jarvis, Mr A Clark, J Jordaan, M Ross, J Makhele, J Samuels, K Dhlomo, Mr S Ncamani (Chairman), K Khumalo, X Gqwetha, M Bradford, Mrs C Smith, S Mabuza, Mrs B Borain**

The Transformation and Diversity Advisory Committee was established in the latter part of 2020. The committee was formed primarily on an advisory basis for the school, to deal with issues that may arise regarding transformation and diversity.

The school appointed Mr Karabo Che Mokoape as the school's consultant. He is an expert in this field and, thanks to his experience and expertise, he has helped establish a clear path for the mandate of the committee. In our first meeting, we identified that we were the custodians of the transformation and diversity working policy document, and we went on to define the role of the committee as follows:

1. To help draft a preliminary working policy document on matters of transformation and diversity, which we hope will be published in the New Year.
2. To be a safe space where social issues can be brought to and discussed and to provide advice on the process that should be followed.
3. To provide advice on any contentious issues that might arise that fall within our ambit.
4. To explore opportunities that can be best described as "aspirational affirmative initiatives", such as naming certain buildings, fields or spaces using African names and concepts of significance in our school's history, or modify our catering menu to accommodate the diverse group of people who study and work here.

We have also undertaken to look for opportunities to ensure that boys from different faiths feel welcome. The question of how to accommodate these needs, without compromising the Anglican tradition of the school, which is the centre of our school, has been raised and is being explored. We believe that we can create this inclusive space very deliberately by holding fast to our Anglican Christian values, which require that we practise Christian love in all of our relationships.

Initially, we identified the following areas which we felt needed the most attention to derive clear policy for the school:

- Race
- Ethnicity
- Gender
- Religion
- Sexual orientation

From our very first meeting, the general consensus was that Michaelhouse would be properly transformed when all the boys and staff felt a strong sense of belonging regardless of their social standing, background or status. We will strive to create an environment in our school that clearly embraces and appreciates diversity and to build an atmosphere of inclusivity.

In closing, we believe that by using our core business to educate the boys and staff, we can help create a school where the sense of belonging and inclusivity thrives. This can be done through many different channels, as we continue to listen and embrace different voices present at our school which keep us on the path of becoming an excellent African school of the 21st century.

Transformation and diversity matters!

“

I think that places like Michaelhouse make a good effort to encourage an active social conscience and it is quite obvious from reading your paper *The Beacon* that this effort is successful.

AG Sutcliffe, guest of honour at the Durban Old Boys' AGM, 8 November 1974

”

PRIZE-GIVING

During the course of each year, two events are traditionally held to recognise academic endeavour and to celebrate excellence. Prize-Giving, which takes place in the first quarter, acknowledges academic performances by boys during the latter half of the preceding year. Speech Day, now held annually in the Indoor Centre during the fourth quarter, acknowledges academic, cultural and sporting contributions by boys at Michaelhouse.

ADDRESS BY THE RECTOR, MR ANTONY CLARK

Good evening to you all, boys and parents and staff, and welcome to the Michaelhouse 2020 Prize-Giving. Our chief purpose today quite obviously is to look back on the past year and to celebrate the achievements of those who have excelled in the academic realm. In doing so we also re-state the importance of academia at Michaelhouse – it is most definitely the golden thread that runs through the school and is our principal purpose. Most of our time, as we know, is spent in lessons, in prep and in learning. And we work hard together, teachers and boys, to make things happen in the academic realm. I will return later in my brief talk this evening to ways in which we can make things happen for ourselves.

But first I know that it is traditional that we start off with a commentary on the IEB Matric results of last year. Some of the pointers in this summary are that our pass rate, as expected, was 100% and that 32 boys in total achieved either an A or B aggregate with the average mark across all subjects being 71%. Our dux was **Luke van Rooyen** and the Proxime Accessit was **Huckleberry Finn Elliot**. Both appeared on the IEB outstanding list, which means that they achieved within the top 5% in six subjects or more and achieved a distinction in Life Orientation. Well done to them.

Ten of our subject results were in the top 1% in South Africa and **Josh Witherspoon** achieved 99% for Mathematics. **Reuben Mitchell** achieved an aggregate of 89.1%, including eight distinctions. Results in the top 1% in each subject were achieved by **Luke van Rooyen** for Accounting, **Barend Bierman** in Afrikaans First Additional Language, **Luke van Rooyen** and **Huckleberry Finn Elliot** in Computer Applications Technology, **Huckleberry Finn Elliot** in Economics, **Luke van Rooyen** in English Home Language, **Duncan le Roux** in Mathematics Literacy and **Joshua Witherspoon**, **Ruben Mitchell** and **Luke van Rooyen** in Mathematics. Over

the past seven years we have maintained an average of two or more subject distinctions per boy in the school. That is simply a snapshot of the past year relating to our matriculation candidates. Naturally, the most important thing is that in most cases we felt that the boys had done themselves justice, having improved on their results from June and the September trials.

And though we are celebrating the achievements of those who have been most successful last year, it is also important to underline the point that each and every boy in this school should have set himself targets for the year ahead and be working assiduously towards those. There will be different targets for each student in each subject and our purpose as a school is to drive and inspire young men towards achieving their goals whatever they may be. Now I want to play on this theme a little and suggest that there are six practical ways in which you boys can develop yourself academically and I am really hoping that you are not too much in half-term mode yet and will listen carefully to these approaches to learning. Some of these may already be ingrained in your system, but even if they are, try to add the ones that are missing to your make-up. I promise to be brief.

Firstly, you need to have a vision of what you can be. I have spoken about this to you before in assembly, but it entails setting your goals and imagining yourself achieving those goals.

Secondly, you need to have scholarly resilience, an understanding that you may not succeed in all that you do every time, but you need the capacity to bounce back and to wrestle intellectually with the material before you. Thirdly, you need to have capacity for independent learning; by this I mean you need to be able to research by yourself and tease out problems on your own.

Fourthly, you need intellectual curiosity to succeed. You need

to be driven by things within you that ask, “Why? When? What did this lead to? Why did it lead to this?” Such curiosity will take you to a new level of thinking.

Fifthly, you need to be an academic risk taker. By this I mean that you need to develop the capacity to put your head above the parapet in class; you need to ask questions about what you don’t understand. More importantly, you need to consider theories and ideas beyond those that are standard or considered the way to do things.

Most people who succeed academically are self-motivated and, of course, that is all important. So self-motivation is my sixth and final ingredient for success.

I now come to the announcements of the Sir Henry Strakosch and John W Hamilton internal scholarships.

The Sir Henry Strakosch Scholarship is held for one year and it is awarded to the top boy in each Block with the best combined mark for academic performance in Mathematics and Science in the previous year. In E Block the scholarship is won by **Kofi Asumaning**, in D Block by **James Asherson**, in C Block by **Callum Porrill** and in B Block by **Tapiwa Chikwanda**. Well done to all of those boys.

The John W Hamilton Internal Scholarship is awarded for one year to a boy with the top aggregate in his Block who is not a recipient of another academic scholarship. The winners are the following: in E Block **Maxim Sutherland**, in D Block **Adrian Hill**, in C Block **Jadin Jordaan** and in B Block **Nikhil Iyer**. Well done to these boys.

I would like to end this evening by thanking staff for their commitment and for the extra mile to which they go to educate and inspire all of the boys both in class and after hours. The staff are also involved in an ongoing development programme and learning themselves through conferences, workshops and similar activities. Many of our staff are IEB markers and so have an inside track into the thinking behind learner development and they also participate in the widest possible way in the life of the school in their Houses, on the sportsfields, in cultural activities, in chapel and on outdoor expeditions. I wish to thank them warmly and acknowledge their work on this special occasion.

I hope that tonight provides inspiration for you boys as you continue your work into this year and strive to be the best that you can be. That is the all-important message for tonight – being the best you can be. Good luck to you all.

SUBJECT PRIZES

E BLOCK

GABRIELLE MASSEY PRIZE

Kofi Asumaning

SUBJECT PRIZES

AFRIKAANS

First in Subject: **David du Toit**

Diligence: **Jordyn Kleynhans, Dylan McCoy, Harrison Field, Erich van Zyl**

ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

First in Subject: **Marc du Plessis, Thomas Lahaye, Kofi Asumaning, Sandiso Hlongwa**

Diligence: **Kofi Asumaning, Muako Maepa, Thomas Lahaye, Ethan Cockram, Erich van Zyl**

ENGLISH

First in Subject: **Jack Sutherland**

Diligence: **Oliver Armstrong, Harrison Field, Oliver Brown, Erich van Zyl, Abongile Xulu, Kofi Asumaning**

FRENCH

First in Subject: **Maxim Sutherland**

Diligence: **Samora Apaa**

HUMAN AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

First in Subject: **Thomas Lahaye, Maxim Sutherland**

Diligence: **Thomas Lahaye, Kade Reinhardt, Jordan Govender, Erich van Zyl, Dominic Furby, Oliver Armstrong, Jack Sutherland, Jayden Griffin**

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

First in Subject: **Theo Apteker**

ISIZULU

First in Subject: **Azipheli Sithole, Abongile Xulu**

Diligence: **Sandiso Hlongwa**

MATHEMATICS

First in Subject: **David du Toit**

Diligence: **Jack Walters, Erich van Zyl, Dylan McCoy, David du Toit, Oliver Armstrong**

NATURAL SCIENCES

First in Subject: **Thomas Lahaye**

Diligence: **Kofi Asumaning, Dylan McCoy, James Burns, Erich van Zyl, Maxim Sutherland**

MERIT CERTIFICATES (Year Mark Aggregate over 80%)

Maxim Sutherland, Aiden Jinnah, Kofi Asumaning, David du Toit, Kekeli Eni, Marc du Plessis, Oliver Healy, Sandiso Hlongwa, Jack Sutherland, Theo Apteker, Jordan Baxter, Andrew Beviss-Challinor, Oliver Walters, Andrew Woodland, Oliver Brown, Ntando Ndhlaizi, Jack Walters, Nicholas Pitt, Erich van Zyl, Dominic Furby, Aeden Turner, Joshua Perkins, Oliver von Klemperer, Michael Thornton, Sebastian Bailes, Dylan McCoy, Angus Wattam, Onalerona Sekgororwana, Leo Muziva, Abongile Xulu, James Gilson, Thomas Lahaye

Third in Block: **Kofi Asumaning**

Second in Block: **Aiden Jinnah**

First in Block: **Maxim Sutherland**

D BLOCK

GABRIELLE MASSEY PRIZE

Xihluke Marhule

SUBJECT PRIZES

AFRIKAANS

First in Subject: **Reuben Baldry**

Most Improved Mark: **Reuben Baldry**

Diligence: **Tristan Hoyle, Robert Lawrence, Oliver Gauntlett, James Kennedy**

ECONOMICS AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

First in Subject: **James Asherson**

Diligence: **Lazola Mayekiso, Anthony Melouney, Jonathan Segar, Andrew Davis, Lwando Ntuli, Harry Moller**

ENGINEERING GRAPHICS AND DESIGN

Diligence: **Sean Hough, Liam Telford**

ENGLISH

First in Subject: **Reuben Baldry**

Most Improved Mark: **Jack Jones**

Diligence: **Caleb Bryden, Oliver Currie, Skulule Ngejane, Mvelwenhle Guma, Marc Sidebottom, Joshua Hadley-Grave**

FRENCH

First in Subject: **Christopher Townshend**

Most Improved Mark: **Kabelo Setipa**

Diligence: **Timothy Evans**

GEOGRAPHY

First in Subject: **Ross Rhodes**

Diligence: **Joshua Hadley-Grave, Sikhumbuzo Mabuza, Ethan Boast, Thomas Hicks, Mvelwenhle Guma**

HISTORY

First in Subject: **Jack Martin**

Diligence: **Luke Farndell, Benjamin Frost, Jack Martin, Daniel Courtenay, Harry Moller**

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

First in Subject: **Alejandro Sartini-Kruger**

ISIZULU

First in Subject: **Ayabonga Zakwe**

Most Improved Mark: **Lwando Ntuli**

Diligence: **Khala-Khulu Mashiya**

MATHEMATICS

First in Subject: **Reuben Baldry, Tristan Hoyle**

Most Improved Mark: **Luke van Niekerk**

Diligence: **Bongani Mhlongo Silinda, Murray-John Pitt, Oliver Gauntlett, Tristan Hoyle, James Asherson, Angus Fleming, Byron Mitchell-Innes**

NATURAL SCIENCES

First in Subject: **Benjamin Frost, James Asherson**

Diligence: **Luke Farndell, Lusanda Mrasi, Jack Jones, Skulule Ngejane**

VISUAL ARTS

Diligence: **Adrian Hill, Tristan Hoyle**

MERIT CERTIFICATES (Year Mark Aggregate over 80%)

Reuben Baldry, Benjamin Frost, James Kennedy, James Asherson, Adrian Hill, Lusanda Mrasi, Tristan Hoyle, Peter Woodland, Alejandro Sartini-Kruger, Joshua Hadley-Grave, David Nienaber, Timothy Evans, Ross Rhodes, Christopher Townshend, Skulule Ngejane, Xihluke Marhule, Matthew de Villiers, Letlotlo Sekatle, Lekgotla Kebonang, Joshua Heafield, Tomas Szudrawski, Andrew Davis, Oliver Gauntlett, Frederick Waller, Mvelwenhle Guma, Benjamin Turner, Marc Sidebottom, James Thomson

Most Improved Aggregate: **Byron Mitchell-Innes**

Third in Block: **James Kennedy**

Second in Block: **Benjamin Frost**

First in Block: **Reuben Baldry**

C BLOCK

GABRIELLE MASSEY PRIZE

Jadin Jordaan

SUBJECT PRIZES

ACCOUNTING

First in Subject: **Pierre van der Westhuyzen, David Ferguson**

Diligence: **Luke Hooker, Kyle McCoy**

ADVANCED PROGRAMME MATHEMATICS

First in Subject: **Gustave de Villiers**

Diligence: **Max von Klemperer, Ntumbuluko Mdluli**

AFRIKAANS

First in Subject: **Jaden van der Merwe**

Most Improved Mark: **Siqhamile Ntiyane**

Diligence: **Joseph Price, David Acres, Jason Makhele, Adrien Fisher**

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

First in Subject: **Jaden van der Merwe**

Diligence: **Matthew Marx, Dominic le Sueur, Joshua Elliot**

DRAMATIC ARTS

First in Subject: **Jadin Jordaan**

Diligence: **Hilton Giles**

ECONOMICS

First in Subject: **Kameran Jinnah**

Diligence: **Siqhamile Ntiyane, Kwande Dhlomo, Joshua White, Hilton Giles**

ENGINEERING GRAPHICS AND DESIGN

First in Subject: **Anthony Turner**

Diligence: **Nicholas Howarth**

ENGLISH

First in Subject: **Jadin Jordaan, Kwande Dhlomo**

Most Improved Mark: **Okuhle Mndebele**

Diligence: **Connor Oellermann, Cameron McLean-Banks, Kyle McCoy, Jason Makhele, Jadin Jordaan**

FRENCH

First in Subject: **Kameran Jinnah, Simon le Vieux**

Most Improved Mark: **Simon le Vieux**

Diligence: **Simon le Vieux**

GEOGRAPHY

First in Subject: **Stephen Perkins**

Diligence: **Connor Oellermann, Drew Reynolds, Simon Williams, Joshua White**

HISTORY

First in Subject: Jadin Jordaan

Diligence: Jadin Jordaan

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

First in Subject: Gustave de Villiers

Diligence: Nicholas Howarth, Luke Hooker

ISIZULU

First in Subject: Ayanda Cele

Most Improved Mark: Sello Stone-Mboweni

Diligence: Owami Mokoena

LIFE ORIENTATION

First in Subject: Joshua Naudé, Gustave de Villiers

LIFE SCIENCES

First in Subject: Gustave de Villiers

Diligence: Matthew Millward, Benjamin Jarvis

MATHEMATICAL LITERACY

First in Subject: Ross Fleming

MATHEMATICS

First in Subject: Callum Porrill

Most Improved Mark: Max von Klemperer

Diligence: Nicholas Holt, Jon-Luke Ferreira, Kyle McCoy, Cameron McLean-Banks, Ntumbuluko Mdluli

MUSIC

First in Subject: Alexander Brits

Diligence: Maqhawe Hoohlo

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

First in Subject: Gustave de Villiers

Diligence: Alexander Brits, Kwande Dhlomo, Callum Porrill, Cameron McLean-Banks

VISUAL ARTS

First in Subject: Richard Upfold, Simon le Vieux, Thomas Walters

Diligence: Thomas Walters

MERIT CERTIFICATES (*Year Mark Aggregate over 80%*)

Jaden van der Merwe, Gustave de Villiers, Jadin Jordaan, Pierre van

der Westhuyzen, Alexander Brits, Mitchell Flanagan, Callum Porrill, David Ferguson, Ntumbuluko Mdluli, Kameran Jinnah, Kwande Dhlomo, Ross Keep, Danilo Ceronio, Alexander Vermeulen, Joshua White, Matthew Gibson, Luke Hooker, Jason Makhele, Ryan Baker, Simon le Vieux, Maqhawe Hoohlo, Connor Sesink Clee, Keemal Ramnath, Murray Behn, Jack Edmonds, Anthony Turner, Thomas Deist

Most Improved Aggregate: Ross Fleming

Third in Block: Jadin Jordaan

Second in Block: Gustave de Villiers

First in Block: Jaden van der Merwe

B BLOCK

GABRIELLE MASSEY PRIZE

Michael Ross

SUBJECT PRIZES

ACCOUNTING

First in Subject: Letlotlo Kebonang, Nicholas Crampton

Most Improved Mark: Kgosi Matola, Letlotlo Kebonang

Diligence: Takwana Shava

ADVANCED PROGRAMME ENGLISH

Diligence: Raiffe Ingledew

ADVANCED PROGRAMME MATHEMATICS

First in Subject: Tapiwa Chikwanda

Most Improved Mark: Charles Melouney

AFRIKAANS

First in Subject: Tristan Naidoo

Most Improved Mark: Ian Parsons

Diligence: Raiffe Ingledew, Michael Christodoulou, Jack Irons, Tristan Naidoo

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

First in Subject: Tapiwa Chikwanda

Most Improved Mark: Joshua Voget

Diligence: Richard Kombe

DRAMATIC ARTS

First in Subject: Lehlohonolo Mapetla

Most Improved Mark: Alexander Bergin

Diligence: Connor Muirhead

ECONOMICS

First in Subject: Nikhil Iyer, Tapiwa Chikwanda, Lehlohonolo Mapetla

Most Improved Mark:

Inuoluwadunsimi Femi-Kayode

Diligence: Michael Christodoulou, Matthew Winn, Lehlohonolo Mapetla

ENGINEERING GRAPHICS AND DESIGN

First in Subject: Timothy Whitaker

Diligence: Hussain Mohamed

ENGLISH

First in Subject: Tapiwa Chikwanda

Most Improved Mark: Kiyan Singh

Diligence: Nicholas Crampton, Lehlohonolo Mapetla, Luke Gammie, Aidan Browne, Kiyan Singh, Kabo Molete

FRENCH

First in Subject: Nikhil Iyer

Most Improved Mark: William Selby

Diligence: Nicholas Crampton

GEOGRAPHY

First in Subject: James Murray

Most Improved Mark: Lethabile Makhubela

Diligence: Raiffe Ingledew, James Murray, Joshua Voget, Ross Leslie

HISTORY

First in Subject: Tristan Naidoo

Most Improved Mark: Xhanti Gqweta

Diligence: Hussain Mohamed, Kiyan Singh

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

First in Subject: Tapiwa Chikwanda

Most Improved Mark: Keegan O'Brien

Diligence: Matteo Cozzi, Timothy Whitaker

ISIZULU

First in Subject: Kwanele Khumalo

Most Improved Mark: Pitso Sekhoto, Nhlakanipho Mathe

Diligence: Mkhululi Magugu



LIFE ORIENTATION

First in Subject: **Tristan Naidoo**

Most Improved Mark: **Murray Odell**

LIFE SCIENCES

First in Subject: **Tristan Naidoo**

Most Improved Mark: **Karan Chauhan**

Diligence: **Rex le Sueur**

MATHEMATICAL LITERACY

First in Subject: **Samuel Butcher**

Most Improved Mark: **Connor England**

Diligence: **Samuel Butcher**

MATHEMATICS

First in Subject: **Tapiwa Chikwanda**

Most Improved Mark: **Jaimé Gomes**

Diligence: **Brett Oellermann, Aidan Browne, Jordan Dobson, Jaimé Gomes**

MUSIC

First in Subject: **Ryan Smith**

Diligence: **Sean Ramsay**

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

First in Subject: **Tapiwa Chikwanda**

Most Improved Mark: **Guy Cocksedge**

Diligence: **Kabo Molete, Warwick Yorke Smith, Ian Parsons, Guy Cocksedge**

VISUAL ARTS

First in Subject: **Michael Gurney**

Most Improved Mark: **Banele Sithole**

Diligence: **Matthew Henderson**

MERIT CERTIFICATE (Year Mark Aggregate over 80%)

Tapiwa Chikwanda, Nikhil Iyer, Michael Gurney, Tristan Naidoo, Timothy Whitaker, Lehlohonolo Mapetla, Joshua Baillie, Matthew Winn, Timothy Harding, Aidan

Browne, Michael Ross, Sam Frost, Thomas Hill, Michael Christodoulou, Nathan Bau, Charles Melouney, James Murray, Lloyd Howell, Nicholas Crampton, Hussain Mohamed, Warwick Yorke Smith, Matthew Henderson, Brett Oellermann, James Fleming, Mugabi Lubinga, Luke Gammie, Michael Bradford, Christopher Langebrink, Jarred Booysen, Guy Cocksedge

Most Improved Aggregate: **Ayanda Mde**

Third in Block: (Tied) Tristan Naidoo, Michael Gurney

Second in Block: **Nikhil Iyer**

First in Block: **Tapiwa Chikwanda**

HOUSE ACADEMIC AWARDS

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT (FLEISCHER SHIELD):
East

ACADEMIC EFFORT (RALFE CUP):
Baines

SPEECH DAY

ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, MR ANTHONY HEWAT

To the class of 2020, prize winners, Rector, staff, and friends of Michaelhouse online, welcome to what is the first socially distanced, streamed, Covid Speech Day in history and what I sincerely hope will be the last.

I am going to share with you only four things: about how we adapted to Covid, how we tackled the racism issues facing private schools, our new plans for development and to thank a few special contributors.

What a tough year, boys. Your matric-year dreams of Meadows and the new astro have turned to harsh realities. In adversity we have all found new resilience, shared precious family times, and renewed focus on personal values.

What proportion of our parents or staff knew what a mute button was this time last year? How many parents had taken for granted that it was easy to keep teenage boys in order, in a routine, and at their desks? This year our thanks to our Rector and his staff are more heartfelt than ever before. And we were all propelled into a cyber-world previously seen only in science fiction.

So how did Michaelhouse face this, and how did the model of an all-boarding school in the sticks stand up to the greatest health crisis and recession in a century? Was an expensive education such a luxury that parents would take out boys in droves? We braced ourselves for an existential crisis in our March board meeting. Could Michaelhouse survive? Would our servers cope? Was an online classroom even possible? We constructed our Covid emergency financial plan – and waited for the crisis to hit after our boys rushed home to lockdown.

Businesses shuttered, jobs were lost, and at first home seemed a safer place than boarding school. But as your Rector, staff, parents, boys and board pulled together it became clear that our resilience, flexibility, the Michaelhouse brand and our values all held firm.

For every withdrawal there were two new applications. Together, we weathered the storm and have emerged stronger for it. Today it is clear that being a boarder is even safer – not a single boy or teacher has contracted the virus while at school – and this in a society where case numbers continue to threaten business and health.

And that is testament to the ability of our Rector and staff to adopt and develop best health and safety standards. Also, from their ingenuity and dedication our academic performance has held up. And almost the entire school recorded an unbeaten winter sports season.

Beyond the challenges of the virus, private schools faced their legacies of racism this year. Again, Michaelhouse has taken a leading, proactive, honest and concerted path. For that I commend our Rector, staff, boys and Old Boys – and in particular the leadership of Ray Mkhulusi, Michael Bradford and Antony Clark. Under the chairmanship of Sibs Ncamani and facilitation of Karabo che Mokoape, our newly formed Transformation and Diversity Advisory Committee is tackling tough issues and guiding both policy and implementation. From the board and entire Michaelhouse family, we commend them for their work and we commit to making the changes required. We wish to be (and remain) a benchmark example of how to constructively and cooperatively tackle our past, but far more importantly improve our today and tomorrow.

From the board level I can confirm that notwithstanding the multiple costs of Covid we will at Michaelhouse achieve financial breakeven in 2020. And with our school full for 2021 we will enter it with renewed enthusiasm. By their continued support, our parents have confirmed that a Michaelhouse education represents value for money even in these times. The water polo pool, Science Block and Heritage Centre built in the last few years have come into their own. This year we have settled into our two new Houses, Ralfe and McCormick, and a renovated Baines, and our fantastic second Astroturf is up and running thanks to the Sacco family.

I for one never thought I would have the honour of opening a new gym, but the High Performance Centre too is now the envy of our competition. Not that it helped my physique.

We moved the Marketing Department into new premises in what used to be the Old Boys' Club, approved the expansion of the Trade-Inn, and started the transformation of our front of school that we will fully unveil next year. The first impression of visitors and prospective parents will never have been better than what will greet them in our 125-anniversary year.

So are we done, can we stop the capex and sit back now? Well, no.

From this December we will commence with the refurbishment of Mackenzie. More radically, in our September meeting your board has had the confidence in this school, its Old Boys, and parental support to authorise a project to plan (and raise the capital for) the building of a new Tatham to round out the Pennington Quad on the Willows side. This will allow Tatham to be the last House to have a Housemaster's residence attached. It will also allow the rotation through the old Tatham area of each of the other five

Houses due for refurbishment in the years thereafter. This project will be the centrepiece of our 125-anniversary campaign.

Again for this ongoing special effort I must thank Gordon Bruins. Gordon's tenure comes to an end next year, but I want him to know that the board has insisted on his lifetime right (if not obligation) to sit on our Building, Grounds and Environment Committee. He has, with architect Nick Grice, overseen every single one of these improvements, and for the past two years has done so from a home in St Andrews – not Grahamstown, but Scotland.

There is another stalwart of service to Michaelhouse that I must single out – he steadfastly refuses every honour the school or the Old Boys wish to confer on him, but he cannot silence us. Jon Bates steps down from our Community Partnership Trust and our Stakeholders subcommittee after driving these with Andrew Schaefer and transforming our outreach efforts. Thank you, Jon, from Michaelhouse and the entire Balgowan Valley community, for your incredible efforts for the youth, the sick and the hungry here.

I am also thankful to Andrew Schaefer for sharing with me the overall governance responsibility as deputy chairman this year. You see, even our leadership structures are improving:

your ageing chairman was an irresponsible House prefect and seventh-team flyhalf; his younger deputy was an outstanding Head Boy and First XV vice-captain here.

We will together with Antony Clark lead a new strategy process for the school through next year, something that was necessarily delayed due to the intervention of the virus.

In conclusion, first a word about our Rector. In more than 25 years as headmaster, Antony Clark has never faced a year like this one. But he has done so with a calm, a care and a confidence at which we can only marvel.

There is really only one job a chairman needs to get right and that is his choice of Rector. And in my case with both Paul Fleischack and Antony Clark I have had the pleasure of getting it right, both times.

To our staff, you have been extraordinary in the care and education you gave this year twice over, both online and off to the class of 2020, do you need a word of advice from me? Absolutely not, you have had enough of those. Go and kill your matric, and thank you for your efforts in these crazy times. Thank you, and may this last part of 2020 be wonderful for you all.

ADDRESS BY THE RECTOR, MR ANTONY CLARK

Chairman, fellow heads, parents, staff and boys; good afternoon to you on the occasion of a Speech Day with a difference: clearly the majority of the audience is of necessity at home or in a workplace, but I do hope that this will not detract from the celebration associated with the award of prizes and the great pride parents will feel in their sons' achievements. Given the nature of this event and the fact that it is being streamed to you, we felt it appropriate not to have a guest speaker and to aim for a shorter afternoon than usual so that interest is maintained and screen fatigue is not mentioned once.

In welcoming you all to Michaelhouse this afternoon, I would like to extend a very special welcome to the heads of a number of prep and senior schools and, in particular, to the retiring Head of St Anne's, David Arguile and his wife, Venita. They have been close friends of Michaelhouse over the past decade or so and our two Anglican church schools continue to enjoy a brotherly and sisterly association made all the richer by the influence of the Arguiles. We wish you well on your retirement, Dave.

Now, in line with the notion of brevity, I am going to be eclectic in my comments and signpost them firstly by reflecting

generally on the past year, secondly by thanking and bidding farewell to a range of our staff, thirdly by giving a message of importance to the matrics and then by concluding. So that is about 15 minutes' worth for those who may struggle to focus, or who have entered a sweepstake on the length of this address.

A high-point of 2020 was the opening of Ralfe and McCormick under Mark Blew and the first female Housemaster of a House at Michaelhouse, Karin Moffat. The Houses have flourished and evidence of this was in Ralfe's astonishing victory in the very first event in which the House participated – the school's swimming gala.

Other sports during the first quarter were played with similar passion; but pride of place must definitely go to our first basketball team, spearheaded by JC Oelofse, who won the St John's tournament which is now considered to be the most prestigious event nationally in this sport. Considerable development was also seen in the realm of water polo.

Meanwhile, each week, Sam Butcher led the canoeists in their quest to bring home the silverware. Well done to you, Sam, on your prominence in this sport.

“

Discipline in any school must be better when it is rather further removed from the parents of the boys.

Rector's address, Speech Day 1898

”

And then we had our first winter sports events in rugby and hockey. These were also to prove to be our last inter-schools events of the year and the only happy aspect of that was that the boys can reflect with some pride on an unbeaten season at all levels. There are few years, boys, where that will be the case. Then, of course, the world changed and the boys had to improvise at home in the hope of a quick return to school.

In the field of debating, Jadin Jordaan, Kwande Dhlomo and Reuben Baldry were selected to participate in the World Individual Debating and Public Speaking Championships. Warmest congratulations to them.

I am avoiding mentioning the C word, but its impact could have been so much greater had there been less resilience and determination across a wide range of people simply to make things happen. The heads of department leapt into action implementing online teaching with which there had long been some experimentation, IT personnel were on hand to support and develop teacher capacity and to extend the provision significantly, the Deputy Rector: Academic, Mr Alan Adlington-Corfield, liaised day and night with teachers, some of whom were in touch with boys at odd hours in different time zones. At the height of the lockdown, teachers did not see colleagues for two months in person and we worried about how things would turn out and whether the academic year might be lost, but most boys really coped exceptionally well in the home situation, learning to take responsibility to a far greater extent than before for their own intellectual and academic development. The return to school was no less fraught with uncertainties as to what we could and could not do in the national framework and a dual *modus operandi* was adopted to support those cross-border boys who were not able to return to Michaelhouse whilst, at the same time, teaching the majority who were back. The fine line between trying to protect the House bubble and then the Michaelhouse bubble, on the one hand, and the natural integration of those from beyond the Michaelhouse perimeter with boys has still remained an issue with which we are juggling. A huge amount of credit must go to the teachers and other staff and to you, boys, who simply made things work and have brought us to the position which we currently occupy with trial exams successfully taken, all matrics back at school and final examinations about to commence. Well done, too, to our San sisters and the Operations Manager, Marius Henn, for their preparations. From my perspective it has been a privilege to work with staff who are so creative, ingenious, committed, dynamic and robust in outlook. I ask you boys to applaud the teachers and the teachers similarly please to give credit to the boys for their striving to do their best in these circumstances.

Last year, we congratulated those who had served Michaelhouse for 30 or more years and I would like to continue to express our appreciation in this way to four members of our staff today whose devoted service over that period should be recognised. In the laundry we have had Irene Hlela and Delsie Ndlovu and, in our Afrikaans Department, Johan van Rooyen whilst Dorathea van Rooyen has so ably worked in academic support. I would ask them now please to come up to receive a certificate of long service and our warm applause for the enormous contribution which they have made to Michaelhouse.

Any community is going to have to say farewell to its staff

at the end of the year and, this year, there are some whom I would particularly like to thank: Chris and Lara Waldburger left us in the third quarter to go to Switzerland having been at Michaelhouse since 2013. Chris will be remembered for his inspiring teaching of English, and latterly, history, of which he was head of department, as well as his contribution to rugby and cricket, whilst Lara taught divinity to the junior forms.

Richard Snowden came to Michaelhouse in 2012 and was head of English from 2017; he will also be remembered for his sterling contribution to hockey and canoeing and he left us in the third quarter to take up a position at Epsom College, UK.

Pete Stevens has been a valued teacher in the Maths Department since 2011 and has been at the fore in an array of other activities, perhaps notably as a group leader on the wonderful C Block Journey. His enthusiasm for all things Michaelhouse has been evident in everything he undertakes and we wish him well on his retirement.

Another retiree this year is Helene du Toit who started at Michaelhouse as a part-time Afrikaans teacher and then took on a full-time role from 2003. Thank you, Helene, for your 21 years of dedicated service and we wish you, too, a fulfilling retirement.

As most of you will know, Sally Berriman, the PA to the past five Rectors, left at the end of last term to emigrate to the UK. She has been a wonderfully dedicated and helpful support to all the Rectors from Dudley Forde onwards and is much missed in our community.

I want to pay tribute to Ephraim Mshengu who retires at the end of this year after years of dedicated service to Michaelhouse. Believe it or not, Ephraim started with us as a herdsman in 1973 and gradually worked his way up through a role as a painter into housekeeping and he has been the assistant housekeeping manager since 2017. Ephraim has been ill for much of this year, latterly having been affected with the virus, but we want to thank him for his huge contribution to so many lives over those decades. Thank you, Ephraim.

In a similar vein, Simon Zondi has given selflessly and unstintingly of himself over the past 40 years in the Audio-visual Department as a technician. Simon joined us in 1980 and his cheerful presence and enthusiasm for the task before him has impacted very positively on our community. Thank you, Simon.

We would also like to acknowledge Elphas Madondo who retires after more than 14 years of service to Michaelhouse, first in the gardens and more recently in the Estate Department. We wish him well.

Rita Bhugwandeem left us a month ago after 38 years of service in the bursary. She was born on the property and grew up at Michaelhouse with her parents and grandparents who worked in the laundry or laundered clothes in a private capacity, and Rita then studied commercial courses which led to her being able to master the detail of the work required in the bursary. Her sister, Shy will soon leave us after many years and, together, they will live in Howick. We will applaud Shy again when she departs.

Susan Dawson our assistant bursar is sadly leaving us at the end of November and is moving to Scotland with her husband and we wish her well.

Alan Adlington-Corfield, our Deputy Rector: Academic, is to take up a headship in Kenya as everybody knows. Alan played a significant role as head of our Maths Department after joining Michaelhouse in 2006, and since 2013 has been in his current role as deputy rector. Our reputation as a strong academic school has much to do with Alan's determination over the years to drive up the results and to ensure that the boys are more than motivated to succeed. Well done, Alan, and good luck to you and Jessica at the M-PESA Academy in the years to come.

Lastly, our chaplain, Alan Smedley, and his wife Kate are retiring after 27 years ministering to the boys, staff and the broader Michaelhouse community. The fact that so many of the boys are involved entirely voluntarily with our Christian Fellowship and that so many leave this school with a strong Christian faith is testimony to Alan's inspiring work over the years: he has been alongside the boys in and out of chapel, on the C Block Journey, for example, as a group leader and elsewhere. It is almost impossible to quantify the impact of such service on the lives of Michaelhouse boys and staff, past and present, but we do salute you, Alan, and thank you for your life's work.

At this point, I want to recall how desperately sad we were when Sifiso Vilakazi passed away in the second quarter. Sifiso was a much-respected intern and he would have gone on to be an excellent teacher. He was one who really cared for the boys, especially those he coached.

I am turning now to speak to the matrics and this is the third strand out of four in my talk. I want to wish you all success and fulfilment in the years to come. I sincerely hope that you are able to give further consideration to the pillars on which the character of boys at Michaelhouse has been built over the years: those of courage, compassion, humility, integrity and service and many allied qualities. The question is to what extent you maintain these and similar qualities in your lives going forward because I suggest that the extent to which you do will determine how fulfilling your lives are in the future. Linked to this notion of leading a life which is worthy and honourable, last year around this time our matrics and others staged a silent protest against violence towards women. This followed the death of the UCT student Uyinene Mrwetyana at a post office in Cape Town. You will recall the outcry over her

tragic death. Our attention to gender-based violence and our opposition to it has been at the fore in the country on television and through other media this year and my hope is that you will consider all the issues associated with that term as you leave school and that you will conduct yourselves in a way which demonstrates your repugnance of such violence so that you can be proud of your conduct throughout your lives. My message to you is, I am sure, clear and understood.

The matric group and all associated with Michaelhouse owe our gratitude to all who have led in a positive way, eliminating what is not part of the way we should operate here and instilling the qualities of manhood, of spirituality, of tolerance, of truth in others. At the forefront of this group has been Michael Ross as Second Prefect and, naturally, Michael Bradford as Senior Prefect. Well done and thank you to them for their enormous contribution to the well-being of the boys and staff throughout this year.

Finally, I thank those who have been, for many years, contributors to this wonderful school in an attempt to make it even better. The vast majority of these people do so anonymously and without seeking accolades. Few will have an idea of the extensive work carried out in the Chairman's Club and other trusts and endowments which seek to raise funds for supporting worthy boys whose parents are not able to afford Michaelhouse fees. Few will know of the commitment of board members whose time is given enthusiastically and in a pro bono capacity to enhance the wellbeing of the school. In particular, may I mention Anthony Hewat, who has been a wise and supportive chairman through a challenging year for the school and deserves much credit for the success of Michaelhouse over the past few years.

We are being assisted by Karabo Che Makoape, a Hilton old boy, in our quest to transform our community into one with which all feel able to identify strongly and, as I have indicated previously, we are just beginning that process. So, as we give our best wishes to the matric group and trust that they will enjoy the success that they deserve in their final examinations, we are also conscious of the need to reflect in our actions the antithesis of complacency. We will move into 2021 with a significantly greater demand for places than we can offer, and our quest will remain to make Michaelhouse even better than before.

Thank you all for your tremendous support through the year, and my best wishes go to you all at home as well as we seek to move forward from the challenges of 2020 into a sunnier 2021.

ADDRESS BY THE SENIOR PREFECT, MICHAEL BRADFORD

This has been one of the most challenging speeches I have had to write yet. Neither because I'm trying to keep it to the point for all of you (who are straining not to nod off behind your screens) nor since this is, in a way, a farewell to an institution that has cherished me through the good, the bad, the ugly and has given me friends for life, but these are hard words

to write because, what the heck is there to say for 2020 other than how unruly it has been, to put it politely?

Good morning, chairman of the board, Rector, members of staff, guests, everyone watching through a screen, members of the Michaelhouse community and Men of Michaelhouse. It is my

privilege to be standing before you as the Head Boy. This is a powerful and sincerely respected position that has simultaneously made me feel like the bees-knees and an odd-one-out. I will evermore be grateful to those who have put me here. Holding this office for you has brought me tons of pride. Hence, it is my honour to pay homage to the time I have spent with you all over the past years – particularly to the brave, supportive and silly grade of which I can proudly say I am a part.

Where is a better place to start than the first day? When 120-odd anxious, awkward and excited boys from various corners of the country and globe congregated within the red-bricked walls, we had no idea of our path ahead.

Naturally, some were more prepared than others: from people like Richard calling Mkuzo, our first head boy, “Mpondo” in front of the entire grade, to Hubo, who knew the name of every person in the school and could recite 220 digits of pi by heart. I started to suspect that we were no ordinary bunch of hooligans when our U14A rugby side won 60-0 in our first fixture against the old rivals; boys were representing the first squash team; on E Block camp, the Mackenzie guys came close to burning down the Oribi Reserve as they threw a deodorant can in a bonfire, apparently for research purposes, and we even lived through the era of “Gustave’s Goodstuff”.

Our second year was perhaps the most challenging of them all. This was the year of the tragic bus accident that sent a shockwave through our hearts. I don’t think we’ll ever forget that day; when one of our brothers was taken from us. We’ll also probably never forget the shared feelings as we came together to support one another regardless of age, social status or disposition.

This was when we knew we were part of something bigger than ourselves or a school; we were part of a family. The school’s heart was shattered, but I doubt that Michaelhouse has ever been stronger than it was then. This is the reason why I choose to refer to the relationship amongst Michaelhouse men as a brotherhood – I am not making us out as members a cult.

Personally, this was the year of my father’s passing. I do not know where I would be now if it weren’t for the school and the people in it. The immense support shown towards my brother, mother and me from this community was our rock – the thing that kept us together and got us through such a tough time. For this, I will forever be grateful.

On the note of personal struggles, I know that the arrival of Josh Elliot was tough for CJ and Matt Lambert as they transitioned from being the cutest to simply “bang average.”

Grade 10 brought on C Block Journey and all its stories which are too numerous (and potentially inappropriate) to share. Despite being hit with snow, heat, rain, solitude and the so-called Blash, we made it through our ordeal closer than ever.

Oh, and I cannot forget to mention how group 3 faced starvation as Mr Hugo ate all of our crunchies and other snacks!

Last year brought on a new perspective of the school, for us, as we were “real seniors”. The first term hit hard for most of us as the workload brutally increased, yet we adjusted ourselves to this change and we discovered our sense of increased liberty. For some, this meant solidifying relationships with last year’s matrices, whilst others were able to grow into their own whether in character, academics or sport. I’d like to mention our year’s basketball side who have only lost four games since E Block. This is an outstanding record and accomplishment.

I don’t think anyone would be surprised if I were to say that this year has been awful – thanks to Coco, as Hloni calls it.

It certainly has not been what anyone would have hoped for. We have all met new challenges and we have all had to adapt, but it is good to be grateful for the opportunities that have come our way. We have been able to escape the chaos of the world around us, pause, reflect, learn new things, pursue different hobbies and spend quality time with our families – something that we, at boarding school, do not get to do enough of. Nevertheless, we are here now, wearing these dreadfully stuffy masks, with the opportunity to reflect on some of the highlights of the year.

2020 commenced with an enthusiastic feeling about the school in general and boys seemed to be thriving. Morale was high, academics were taken seriously (but not too seriously), cultural and service activities were successful, and the summer sports seasons were promising. Then, of course, the unprecedented lockdown sent us back into those different corners all over the world.

There has been no hockey, football, warcries and other activities, not to mention the derbies against the desperados from down the road. Nevertheless, I have been amazed at some of the achievements of the boys:

The computer whizz, Nick Crampton, managed to come third in the grade during online learning (completely unsuspecting).

Mugabi has befriended even more of the Ladies in Blue – to think that this was even possible.

And, despite all the uncertainty and trepidation, Hartwell has made it through the year without leaving a few times.

The concept of leading a successful school and matric year is a strange one. Some people will say that the more A symbols a matric group achieves will make for a better school, whilst for others it may be the more Ws the school manages in sport. Music students say that winning the marimba competition will determine this, and for many the Michaelhouse-specific trump card is if we beat Hilton at rugby, hockey and warcries. Because we have not had many of these opportunities, on occasion I have found myself feeling as if this year has been somewhat of a failure. A year of nothing that we should just scratch out of remembrance.

“

In a school like this the prefects have large powers and influence, and on them rests largely the keeping up of a high character.

The Chronicle, 1900

”

Whilst I was going through one of these melodramatic funks, I stumbled upon a quote from an American entrepreneur, Jim Rohn, that said, "Success is something you attract by the person you become." If this is true, then this year has undoubtedly been a triumph. We have shelved individual aspirations to embrace responsibility for people whom we do not know because of something we cannot see, and we have paid close attention towards the mental health of ourselves and those around us, facing vulnerability and scary thoughts and emotions – after their recent act of solitude on Journey, the C Blockers will know exactly how scary one's mind can be when left to its own devices.

This year also saw the implementation of the Transformation and Diversity Advisory Committee. Although many of us may not realise it now, this is a huge legacy that our year will be remembered for. I know that it is not as fashionable as beating Hilton 60-0, once again, (this time on Meadows), but this is a platform that will affect generations of the Michaelhouse community yet to come. The maturity, sensitivity and bravery that was displayed those nights in the Memorial Hall moved me and made me feel fulfilled.

In review, these past five years have seen us transform from crazy, awkward and ignorant boys into crazier, more sensitive and mature men. And that is thanks to the school and all those who enable us to be a part of it.

First and foremost, to my mum: earlier this year I delivered an entire speech dedicated to you and how grateful I am of you, and when I said that I will never thank you enough I meant it. Throughout my life, even more so my time at Michaelhouse, you have been a pillar of strength whilst maintaining your immense compassion and support. I would be nowhere without you, and throughout this last chapter in my life, my love has grown for you in ways I thought were not imaginable. I will forever be thankful for the sacrifices you have made to send Tom and me here, but I am even more grateful that (despite countless threats) you never drove me into school as was demonstrated in Spud – spluttering car and all. I love you to the moon and back.

To Mr Clark, I admit that I was a little hesitant when you made your first visit from England in 2018 and said that you would be joining us in "the year of two-oh-one-nine" – I might add that at the time many of us were perplexed with this bizarre pronunciation. That hesitation has since expired as you have had to deal with a frightful and taxing start to your Michaelhouse career, and I can speak on behalf of everyone in saying how impressive you have been. We congratulate you on your efforts

thus far and wish you all the best for the future.

To all the teaching and coaching staff. Every day you pour your hearts into this school; to nurture, educate, develop and inspire us. You are the reason for a great deal of our proficiency and success. Additionally, thank you for the relationships you build with us. You have become teachers, mentors, friends and, in the case of Mr Stevens, a spiritual leader.

It is more than fitting to pay special tribute to the ground staff, kitchen staff, cleaning staff, transporters, launderers, security and all the other people that are for the most part out of sight. Frankly, you enable the school to achieve its high standards and world-class reputation and all of you are thanked not nearly enough.

Mike Ross and the other school prefects have been remarkable in the way they have led the school through such a challenging year. I will miss our meetings and the shenanigans we have had to deal with together. I feel privileged to say that I am a part of our group and I appreciate the way you have supported all those around you.

All of you who will continue to dwell within these grounds beyond this year, bear in mind that sports, academics and other things are important, but you do not come to Michaelhouse to become only academics, sportsmen, musicians or anything of the sort. Although this school can and will help you to become these things, you come to Michaelhouse for the experience. You are meant to have fun, be cheeky, make friends, grow yourself and learn new and wonderful things. Just remember where the line between matters you can and cannot do lies. It is a privilege to hold a position at this school and it is something you do not want to throw away – embrace every opportunity that is hurled your way.

It is said that the quality of a place is determined by those who dwell in it. Considering this, it is no surprise that this school is regarded as one of, if not the greatest in the country. If you surround yourself with people like the ones seated before me and through those screens, you will unearth a sense of belonging and happiness. My time at this school and with these men has gone by in a flash.

And, as soppy as it is, I would kick myself if I didn't say that in this flash the school has won my heart and the people will always have my time.

Remember that if you bare the crest on your blazer and wear the Michaelhouse tie, in the spirit of the Premier League champions: You'll Never Walk Alone.

SUBJECT PRIZES

A BLOCK ACCOUNTING

First in Subject: **Nicholas Crampton**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Luke Gammie**
Diligence: **Nicholas Kuhn**

AFRIKAANS

First in Subject: **Tristan Naidoo**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Sam Frost**
Diligence: **Tristan Naidoo, Guy Cocksedge, Michael Christodoulou, Connor Muirhead**

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

First in Subject: **Mugabi Lubinga**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Matthew Lambert**
Diligence: **Richard Kombe**

DRAMATIC ARTS

First in Subject: **Lehlohonolo Mapetla**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Roeland van den Berg**
Diligence: **Julian Daffy**

ECONOMICS

First in Subject: **Lehlohonolo Mapetla**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Kgosi Matola**
Diligence: **Matthew Winn, Michael Christodoulou, Aidan Browne**

ADVANCED PROGRAMME ENGLISH

First in Subject: **Raiffe Ingledew**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Inuoluwadunsimi Femi-Kayode**
Diligence: **Raiffe Ingledew**

ENGLISH

First in Subject: **Nikhil Iyer, Tristan Naidoo**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Inuoluwadunsimi Femi-Kayode, Tristan Naidoo**
Diligence: **Lehlohonolo Mapetla, Raiffe Ingledew, Jack Irons, Keegan O'Brien, Letlotlo Kebonang, Nhlakanipho Mathe**

ENGINEERING GRAPHICS AND DESIGN

First in Subject: **Christopher Langebrink, Aidan Browne**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Christopher Langebrink**
Diligence: **Nhlakanipho Mathe**

FRENCH

First in Subject: **Nikhil Iyer**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Nicholas Crampton**
Diligence: **Joshua Bergin**

GEOGRAPHY

First in Subject: **Connor Muirhead**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Joss Gehren**
Diligence: **Ross Leslie, Mogomotsi Nteta, Raiffe Ingledew, Christian Brand**

HISTORY

First in Subject: **Tristan Naidoo**

Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Jaimé Gomes, Mark Grant**
Diligence: **Hussain Mohamed, Kiyan Singh**

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

First in Subject: **Tapiwa Chikwanda**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Karan Chauhan**
Diligence: **Michael Gurney, Keegan O'Brien**

ISIZULU

First in Subject: **Kwanele Khumalo**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Lethabile Makhubela**
Diligence: **Ross Leslie**

LIFE ORIENTATION

First in Subject: **Michael Christodoulou**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Sean Fitzsimmons**

LIFE SCIENCES

First in Subject: **Michael Ross**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Siyabonga Ndlovu**
Diligence: **Michael Christodoulou, Kabo Molete, Mark Grant**

ADVANCED PROGRAMME MATHEMATICS

First in Subject: **Tapiwa Chikwanda**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Nathan Bau**
Diligence: **Timothy Whitaker**

MATHEMATICS

First in Subject: **Tapiwa Chikwanda**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Mark Grant**
Diligence: **Kabo Molete, Michael Bradford, Mark Grant, Jaimé Gomes**

MATHEMATICAL LITERACY

First in Subject: **Ethan Hartwell**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Dean Hough**
Diligence: **Samuel Butcher, Alexander Bergin**

MUSIC

Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Sean Ramsay**
Diligence: **Sean Ramsay**

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

First in Subject: **Tapiwa Chikwanda**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Jaimé Gomes**
Diligence: **Nicholas Crampton, Jaimé Gomes, Matthew Henderson, Aidan Browne**

VISUAL ARTS

First in Subject: **Michael Gurney**
Most Improved Mark (November 2019 – Trials 2020): **Theodore Gwiliza**
Diligence: **Michael Gurney**

AGGREGATE PRIZES

MERIT CERTIFICATES (Year Mark 2020: 80% or above aggregate)

Joshua Baillie, Nathan Bau, Aidan Browne, Tapiwa Chikwanda, Michael Christodoulou, Nicholas Crampton, James Fleming, Sam Frost, Jaimé Gomes, Michael Gurney, Matthew Henderson, Thomas Hill, Lloyd Howell, Nikhil Iyer, Christopher Langebrink, Mugabi Lubinga, Lehlohonolo Mapetla, Hussain Mohamed, James Murray, Tristan Naidoo, Gary Pitt, Michael Ross, Timothy Whitaker, Matthew Winn, Warwick Yorke Smith

MOST IMPROVED AGGREGATE (November 2019 – Trials 2020):
Jaimé Gomes

TOP ACHIEVERS IN A BLOCK (Year Mark 2020)

3rd Position in the Block: **Nikhil Iyer**
2nd Position in the Block: **Tristan Naidoo**
1st Position in the Block: **Tapiwa Chikwanda**

SPECIAL PRIZES

GABRIELLE MASSEY PRIZE
Michael Gurney (Oral Work in English)

OLD BOYS' ESSAY PRIZE
Tapiwa Chikwanda (English)

ISIZULU PROGRESS PRIZE
Sello Stone-Mboweni (Senior)
Sentso Tlelai (Junior)

RECTOR'S AFRIKAANS ESSAY

Tapiwa Chikwanda

P D BARNARD MEMORIAL AFRIKAANS PRIZE

Sam Frost (*Most Improved*)

MICHAELHOUSE BILINGUAL PRIZE

Tristan Naidoo (*Combined Afrikaans
and English*)

HINDSON HISTORY ESSAY

Matthew Winn

JOHN ALLEN MEMORIAL ART PRIZE

Michael Gurney (*Drawing*)

MUSIC PRIZE

Alexander Brits (*Senior*)
Gqamile Mbuyazi (*Junior*)

ROB MATTHEWS AWARD

Theodore Gwiliza (*Courage in the face
of personal adversity*)

COLLINS PRIZE FOR MUSIC

Tapiwa Chikwanda (*All Round
Musicianship*)

MARIE-FRANCE RALFE MUSIC TROPHY

Michael Gurney (*Classical Music*)

PETER BEARD MEMORIAL MUSIC PRIZE

Mmofa Matjele (*Excellence in Music
Performance*)

SMITHIES SHIELD FOR VOCAL ARTS

Kiyan Singh

J L ROBINSON AWARD

Tristan Naidoo (*Physical Science*)

KEVIN KING MEMORIAL AWARD

Tapiwa Chikwanda (*Science Project*)

TATHAM MEMORIAL ESSAY

James Murray, Michael Ross (*Best
Life Sciences Essay*)

LIONS RIVER CONSERVATION PRIZE

Tristan Naidoo (*Best Life Sciences
Research Project*)

NEDBANK LIFE SCIENCES PRIZE

Michael Ross (*Top Biologist in 2020*)

PROCTOR SCIENCE AWARD

Tristan Naidoo (*Top Mark in Physical
and Life Sciences*)

STUBBINGS-DYSON PRIZE

Benjamin Frost (*Mathematics*)

GODFREY IMMELMAN MATHEMATICS PRIZE

Alexander Brits

HUTCHINSON MEMORIAL MATHEMATICS PRIZE

Tapiwa Chikwanda (*Senior*)
David du Toit (*Junior*)

BISHOP BAINES MEMORIAL ESSAY

Takwana Shava (*For Service in the
Chapel*)

RICHARD HEDDEN MEMORIAL PRIZE

Luke Gilmore (*Community Service*)

TIM PATRICK MEMORIAL PRIZE

Tapiwa Chikwanda, Michael Gurney
(*Contribution to Societies*)

ANDREW CRUTCHLEY MEMORIAL AWARD

Thomas de Lange (*Leadership on the
C Block Journey 2020*)

CHICK HENDERSON AWARD

Reuben Baldry

PETER BROWN AWARD

Nathan Bau

DES SACCO AWARD

Kwanele Khumalo (*For Best All-
Round A Block Sportsman as voted by
his peers*)

BIFF-SMITH FAMILY AWARD: SODALIS DIGNUS

Michael Gurney (*For a non-School
Prefect who best demonstrates qual-
ities of care, compassion, concern and
communication*)

ELLIOT COMMERCE SHIELD

Nicholas Kuhn

NICK CROWE GOOD FELLOWSHIP AWARD

Michael Gurney

REX AND SARAH PENNINGTON AWARD

Kwande Dhlomo

HARRISON ACADEMIC TROPHY

Tapiwa Chikwanda (*Awarded to the
A Block boy who has accumulated the
most academic points during his time at
Michaelhouse*)

HERBERT FISHER AWARD

Tapiwa Chikwanda (*Best A Block
Aggregate*)

ANTHONY EVANS TROPHY

Luke van Rooyen (*Dux 2019*)

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

(August 2019 – September 2020)

ACADEMIC

MATRICULATION RESULTS 2019

Dux: **Luke van Rooyen**

Proxime Accessit: **Huckleberry Finn
Elliot**

- 100% Pass Rate
- 94% University Entrance Pass
- 198 Subject Distinctions (2.0 per boy)

8 Distinctions: **Ruben Mitchell, Luke
van Rooyen**

7 Distinctions: **Huckleberry Finn
Elliot, Cyle Wilson**

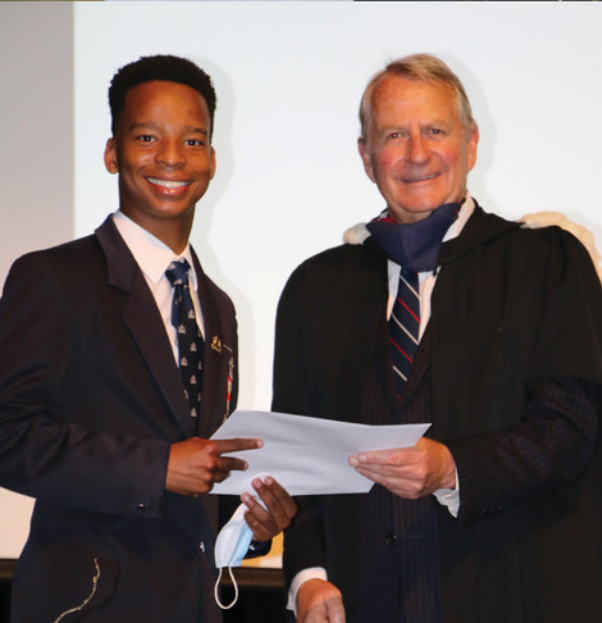
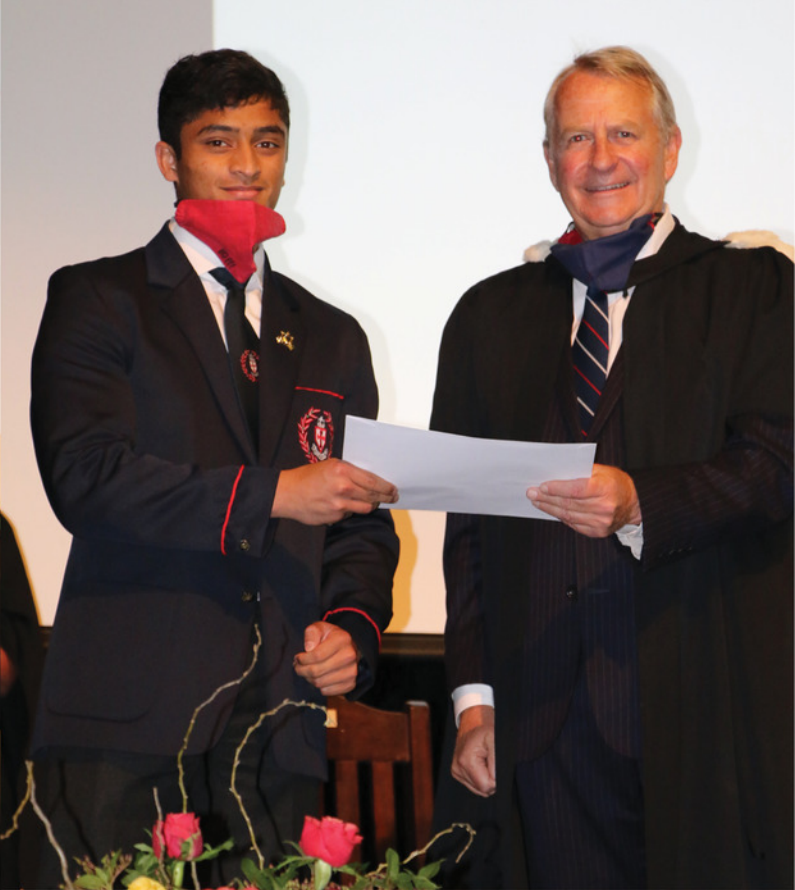
6 Distinctions: **Neil du Toit, Thomas
Roberts, Joshua Witherspoon**

5 Distinctions: **James Armstrong,
Barend Bierman, James Gush,
Richard Taylor**

IEB OUTSTANDING LIST:

**Luke van Rooyen, Huckleberry
Finn Elliot** (*Achieved within the top
5% of all candidates in South Africa
in six subjects or more and achieved a
distinction for Life Orientation*)





TOP SUBJECT RESULTS

Joshua Witherspoon: 99%
Mathematics

Ruben Mitchell: 98% *Mathematics*,
94% *Information Technology*

Luke van Rooyen: 97% *Mathematics*,
96% *Accounting*, 94% *Information Technology*

Huckleberry Finn Elliot: 96%
Economics, 94% *Accounting*

Duncan le Roux: 96% *Mathematical Literacy*

Barend Bierman: 94% *Afrikaans*

Michael Buxton-Tetteh: 94% *French*

CULTURAL

DEBATING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING: WORLD INDEPENDENT DEBATING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING CHAMPIONSHIPS

(Participated at the first online WIDP-SC): **Jadin Jordaan, Reuben Baldry, Kwande Dhlomo**

Overall - 21st place: **Kwande Dhlomo**

Overall - 39th place: **Jadin Jordaan**

Top 50: **Reuben Baldry**

Persuasive Speech – 3rd place:
Kwande Dhlomo

Persuasive Speech – 21st place: **Jadin Jordaan**

Persuasive Speech – 32nd place:
Reuben Baldry

Debating – 29th place: **Kwande Dhlomo**

Prepared Reading – 28th place:
Kwande Dhlomo

Prepared Reading – 30th place: **Jadin Jordaan**

Impromptu – 26th place: **Kwande Dhlomo**

Impromptu – 28th place: **Jadin Jordaan**

NATIONAL INDEPENDENT DEBATING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING CHAMPIONSHIPS

(Qualified as part of the SA team to the WIDPSC 2021): **Jadin Jordaan, Reuben Baldry, Kwande Dhlomo**

PIETERMARITZBURG DEBATING LEAGUE

(Selected for Pietermaritzburg team):
Reuben Baldry, Ross Keep

DEBATING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING PRIZES 2020

Truda Trophy: **Jadin Jordaan**

Coyle Debating: **Kwande Dhlomo**

Most Improved Debater and Public Speaker: **Ross Keep**

Most Promising Junior Speaker: **Seth Segal**

DEBATING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING COMMITTEE 2020

Chairmen: **Michael Gurney, Jadin Jordaan**

Vice-Chairman: **Tapiwa Chikwanda**

COMPUTER STUDIES

IITPSA Programming Olympiad Final Round: **Tapiwa Chikwanda**

Programming Olympiad 2020 Final Round – Runner-up: **Tapiwa Chikwanda**

Programming Olympiad Provincial Certificate KZN – 3rd place: **Tapiwa Chikwanda**

SPORT

ATHLETICS

KZN Champs 1st Place 800m and 1500m: **Senzo Sokhela**

BASKETBALL

1st Team won the St John's Tournament and ranked Number 1 in South Africa

CANOEING:

Dusi Canoe Marathon 2020

1st U18: **Ross Leslie, Chase Leisegang**

2nd U18: **Samuel Butcher, Matthew Millward**

3rd U18: **Jack Edmonds**

1st U16: **Reuben Baldry, Jack Shooter**

School's Trophy: **Michaelhouse**

CRICKET

KZN Inland U17 2019: **Jared Meiring**

KZN Inland U17 2019: **Ayanda Cele**

Kingsmead Mynahs XI 2019: **Campbell Davies-Webb**

Kingsmead Mynahs XI 2019: **Max Latter**

GOLF

KZN Inland A: **Danilo Ceronio**

KZN Inland B: **Mitchell Flanagan**

SQUASH

Zimbabwe U19 World Junior Team:
Kameran Jinnah

TENNIS

KZN U18B: **Joshua Heath**

KZN U15B: **Carl Schaefer**

WATER POLO

Zimbabwe U18A 2019: **Graham Hoal**

SA U15 Training Squad and KZN U14A 2019: **Ethan Stewart**

KZN U14A Reserve 2019: **Oliver Walters**

STUDENT EXCHANGES 2020

Samuel Mitchell (*Wittelsbacher Gymnasium: Germany*)

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS 2021

Kwanele Khumalo, Senzo Sokhela (*Westmont College, United States of America*)

LONG SERVICE AWARDS

The following staff are recognized today for giving 30 years of service to Michaelhouse:

Mrs Irene Hlela (*Laundry*)

Mrs Delsie Ndlovu (*Laundry*)

Mrs Dorathea van Rooyen (*Academic Support*)

Mr Johan van Rooyen (*Academics*)

FELLOW ASSOCIATE OF MICHAELHOUSE AWARD

RICHARD IAN LISTER

NOVEMBER 2020

The Michaelhouse community welcomes you here today, as the 21st Fellow Associate in the 124-year history of the school.

It has been said by the wives of many Old Boys that, so enthusiastic are they about their school, they never leave.

That comment is apt in summing up the long period of service, of more than 50 years, which our recipient, Richard Lister, has offered up to Michaelhouse.

Richard followed in the footsteps of his father, Laurence, and uncle, Walton, to Michaelhouse, entering West in 1956. He was a dedicated academic and, after obtaining a first-class matriculation pass, he spent 18 months in the VIth Form. He was made a House prefect in West, enjoyed a variety of sports, such as cricket and squash, and duly went up to Jesus College, Cambridge, in 1962, to read law.

In 1963, England had the coldest winter on record. Richard has often told the story of how it was so cold in student accommodation that his hot-water bottle froze in his bed. He must have fondly remembered the Balgowan Valley with the superb winter climate that his alma mater enjoyed. Inspired by the thought, he founded and chaired an Old Boys' club in Cambridge with 30 members. He even persuaded two Oxford students, Anthony Ardington and Anthony Evans, both of whom became future chairmen of our board of governors, to join the reunion of old school friends. He then began his remarkable journey of serving Michaelhouse in a variety of ways.

Returning to Pietermaritzburg, he took his LLB degree at the University of Natal and joined the family firm of Lister & Lister, where he ultimately became senior partner and worked for 37 years. Thereafter, he was a consultant to the firm, until his eventual retirement in 2014. During his professional life, he acted as a commissioner for the small claims court for 35 years, and he was an external examiner for the final-year LLB exams at the University of Natal. He was also a member of the South African Institute for International Affairs for 23 years. His other acts of service are too many to mention, except perhaps for two of them: firstly, his role as a director for ten years of the Kupugani Nutritional Organisation, which provided quality food for those who lived on limited income in this country. Secondly, he served as a governor of his prep school, Cowan House, for 16 years from 1973 to 1989. Whilst *in situ*, he chaired the fundraising drive to build the school a new theatre.

Richard listened to his father, who advised him not to rush into matrimony. Taking that advice to heart, he finally asked Amber to marry him in 1995, at the age of 53 years. He and Amber celebrated 25 years of marriage last month.

It might have been his singular sense of purpose that enabled him to give so much of his time to Michaelhouse. Many Old Boys have given generously to the mighty Old School but, if an Old Boy has the means, it is not time consuming to sign a cheque. Money comes, and it goes, and it can be passed on to another generation. Time is finite, and it ebbs away faster than any of us would like to admit. It is precious. It is unlikely that the example that Richard has set, over 50 years of dedicated commitment to the school, will ever be repeated.

Richard has served the school in many and varied ways. Here are just a few of them:

- Governor of the school from 1989 to 1998, where he served with great effect as chairman of the financial assistance committee.
- President of the Old Boys' Club in 1983.
- Trustee of the Old Boys' Club from 1985 to 2012.
- Secretary to the Pietermaritzburg branch of the Old Boys' Club in 1965.
- President of the Pietermaritzburg branch of the Old Boys' Club from 1966.
- Member of the central committee of the Old Boys' Club, serving in that capacity from 1966 to 1983.
- Attending Old Boys dinner celebrations in Pietermaritzburg, Durban, Johannesburg, Cape Town and Harare during his time of service to the Old Boys.
- Encouraging Brian Law, a former teacher at the school, who was active in raising funds in England for Michaelhouse.
- Being an active, successful and inspiring member of the fundraising committee of the board of governors on an ongoing basis.
- From 2014, helping with the update of the Old Boys database, including establishing the contact details for hundreds of Old Boys who are now back in the Michaelhouse fold.



Richard Lister with Anthony Hewat and Phil Roberts

- Securing the *Manse*, on the corner of Meadows, to house the secretary of the Old Boys' Club, and ensuring that the Old Boys' Club has the undisputed right to occupy the building by raising R100 000 to secure those rights in perpetuity, through a grand ball in 1984. He has made successive chairmen of the board, and also future presidents of the Old Boys' Club, aware of the right of perpetual occupation (but not of ownership) by the Old Boys of any future building which will be occupied by the Old Boys' Club on school grounds.

I close with a quote from Richard himself: "I have enjoyed every moment of my past, and continuing, service to Michaelhouse, which has always been given in the spirit of enthusiasm. It has been inspirational, rewarding, and a service which has given me great pleasure at all times to help make the school a centre of Christian education, which is held in high esteem throughout the world."

Richard, Michaelhouse has good reason to be grateful to you. You are a worthy recipient of the Fellow Associate Award.

“

Michaelhouse was a very different place when my journey with this special school started in 1956. All the boys had porridge for breakfast and supper, and cold showers for everyone, except prefects. No computers, no cellphones or fax machines; we actually had to write letters home once a week before Sunday Evensong. Johannesburg and Durban boys travelled by train, home and return, every term. Yes, life today at Michaelhouse is very different from what it was then; but what has not changed is the ethos, the spirit, and the heart of this great school.

In the many years of my Michaelhouse journey I have had the privilege and pleasure of meeting, getting to know, and interacting with eight Rectors; many board members; innumerable academic and administrative staff members; present, past and prospective parents; many special friends of the school; and not least of all, the Old Boys' Club, its employees and many of our alumni scattered as they are around the world.

To those of these who are still alive, I say thank you for your friendship and commitment to the same cause. For those who have passed on, your contributions and names will never fade.

Thank you for this most meaningful and special award.
I am greatly honoured and humbled to accept it.

Richard Lister, November 2020

”

ACADEMIC REPORTS

Michaelhouse writes the examinations of the Independent Examinations Board (IEB). The standards of the IEB are held in high regard by international and South African tertiary institutions. In their first two years at Michaelhouse, boys participate in a non-specialist academic programme where some of the subjects that are regarded as core disciplines are combined into broader learning areas. This exposure to broader areas of learning enables boys to make an informed decision about the subject package chosen for their Matriculation course. A package of seven subjects is then selected for a three-year course, from C Block through to A Block (Grade 10 to Grade 12). A large number of subject package options offer the opportunity to achieve a National Senior Certificate with university entrance dispensation. Our 680ha classroom allows for a myriad of opportunities to develop academic discipline in an educational environment specifically geared towards the ways in which boys learn.

ACADEMIC REPORT

One hundred percent of the matric class of 2020 passed their final examinations, with 99% achieving degree entry passes. Twenty-five boys achieved an A aggregate while 47 achieved a B aggregate. The class achieved 2.4 A symbols per boy, a solid improvement on 2019's two distinctions per boy. The average mark across all subjects was 73%.

Our Dux and Proxime Accessit both appeared on the IEB Commendable Achievements List for candidates within the top 5% in five subjects and achieving a distinction in life orientation. Ten subject results were in the top 1% in South Africa.

DUX

Tapiwa Chikwanda was our Dux with eight distinctions and an aggregate of 93.4%. His results were mathematics 98%, advanced programme mathematics 97%, information technology 96%, economics 95%, English 89%, physical sciences 94%, life orientation 92%, and Afrikaans 87%.

PROXIME ACCESSIT:

Tristan Naidoo was our Proxime Accessit with eight distinctions and an aggregate of 90.29%. His results were as follows: mathematics 96%, English 92%, life orientation 91%, Afrikaans 90%, physical science 88%, advanced programme mathematics 88%, life sciences 87%, and history 85%.

Lehlohonolo Mapetla finished off our top three, also with eight distinctions and an aggregate of 89.9%. His results were: economics 98%, mathematics 96%, dramatic arts 93%, physical sciences 88%, life orientation 87%, English 85%, advanced programme mathematics 82%, and Afrikaans 82%.

TOP TEN

1.	Tapiwa Chikwanda	93.43%
2.	Tristan Naidoo	90.29%
3.	Lehlohonolo Mapetla	89.86%
4.	Nikhil Iyer	88.57%
5.	Timothy Whitaker	88.29%
6.	Aidan Browne	88.14%
7.	Michael Gurney	86.57%
8.	Matthew Winn	86.00%
9.	Joshua Baillie	84.57%
10.	Sam Frost	84.43%

TOP SUBJECT RESULTS

98%	Mathematics: Tapiwa Chikwanda
98%	Mathematics: Timothy Whitaker



DUX: TAPIWA CHIKWANDA



PROXIME ACCESSIT: TRISTAN NAIDOO



IEB COMMENDABLE LIST: LEHLOHONOLO MAPETLA

98%	Economics: Lehlohonolo Mapetla
97%	Advanced programme mathematics: Tapiwa Chikwanda
97%	Economics: Aidan Browne
96%	Information technology: Tapiwa Chikwanda
96%	Mathematics: Jaimé Gomes
96%	Mathematics: Tristan Naidoo
96%	Engineering graphics and design: Aidan Browne
95%	Economics: Tapiwa Chikwanda
95%	Economics: Lloyd Howell
95%	isiZulu: Hubo Khumalo

RESULTS IN THE TOP 1% IN SOUTH AFRICA

ECONOMICS: Lehlohonolo Mapetla, Aidan Browne, Lloyd Howell, Tapiwa Chikwanda

ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE: Tristan Naidoo

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Tapiwa Chikwanda

MATHEMATICAL LITERACY: Samuel Butcher

MATHEMATICS: Tapiwa Chikwanda, Timothy Whitaker

PHYSICAL SCIENCES: Tapiwa Chikwanda

DISTRIBUTION OF SYMBOLS

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
260	263	159	81	26	7	3

33%	of all results were A symbols.
65%	of all results were A or B symbols
85%	of all results were A, B or C symbols

SUBJECTS WITH MORE THAN 35% OF CANDIDATES ACHIEVING A SYMBOLS

Drama	83%
EGD	63%
Economics	54%
Mathematics	36%
Mathematical literacy	56%
Information technology	58%
Life orientation	45%
History	35%

TOP ACHIEVERS

EIGHT DISTINCTIONS: Tapiwa Chikwanda, Tristan Naidoo, Lehlohonolo Mapetla, Michael Gurney

SEVEN DISTINCTIONS: Nikhil Iyer, Aidan Browne

SIX DISTINCTIONS: Nicholas Crampton, Sam Frost, Charles Melouney, Matthew Winn, Timothy Whitaker

FIVE DISTINCTIONS: Joshua Baillie, Nathan Bau, Jaimé Gomes, Lloyd Howell, Raiffe Ingledew, James Murray, Timothy Whitaker

“

We have a small number of studious boys and a small number of habitually lazy ones; the majority occupy the middle ground.

The Chronicle, 1898

”

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

For a second year the sitting of academic scholarship examinations was decentralized, with boys writing at centres in Durban, Pietermaritzburg, East London, Johannesburg, Pretoria and in the Science Lecture Theatre at headquarters in Balgowan. As was the case in the previous year, candidates were afforded the option of writing their language paper in either English, Afrikaans or isiZulu.

SCHOLARSHIP

Minor Open
Major Trust
Academic Exhibition

AWARDED TO

Kian Moses
Hendri Zietsman
Dylan Noach

PREP SCHOOL

St Benedict's
Merchiston
Crawford, SandtonClifton Prep, Durban,

SCHOLARSHIP

Closed
Clifton Prep, NR, Closed
Pridwin Closed
St Peter's Closed
The Ridge Closed
Cordwalles Closed
James Cameron Todd
James Cameron Todd
Rector's Scholarship
Rector's Scholarship
Pennington Scholarship
Major Music
Major Sport
Minor Sport
Sport Exhibition
Sport Exhibition
Sport Exhibition
Sport Exhibition
Sport Exhibition
Sport Exhibition
Sport Exhibition
Sport Exhibition
Sport Exhibition
Sport Exhibition
Sport Exhibition

AWARDED TO

Matthew Asherson
Max Rautenbach
Lucien Baldry
Dylan Hewlett
Lukhanyo Nhlapo
Ayabonga Shivane
Christopher Angel
Luke Davidson
Ross Moller
Ruben Visagie
Tlhogi Moeng
Ben Cheales
Matteo Valente
Basti Hofmeyr
Ben English
Murray Hall-Jones
Caryle Hawkins
West Mitchell-Innes
Ayabonga Mkhokheli
Cival Rugby
Aphiwe Shelembe
Patrick Lambert
Ngaa Chikarango
Abhi Panday

PREP SCHOOL

Clifton Prep, Durban
Clifton Prep, Nottingham Road
Pridwin
St Peter's
The Ridge
Cordwalles
WHPS
DPHS
Clifton Prep, Nottingham Road
Highbury
St Andrew's, Bloemfontein
The Ridge
Dainfern
Cordwalles
Somerset House Prep
Clifton Prep, Durban
St Andrew's, Bloemfontein
Cordwalles
Lilyfontein School
St Charles Prep
Nardini Convent
Clifton Prep, Durban
Kenton College
Atholton Primary

TARPS: TOP FIVE ACADEMIC REWARDS PROGRAMME

Teacher in Charge: **Mrs Win de Wet**

JANUARY TO JUNE 2020

A Block: **Tapiwa Chikwanda, Nikhil Iyer, Tristan Naidoo, Michael Gurney, Tim Whitaker**

B Block: **Jaden van der Merwe, Gustave de Villiers, Kwande Dhlomo, Jadin Jordaan, Mitchell Flanagan, Alexander Brits, Callum Porrill**

C Block: **Reuben Baldry, Benjamin Frost, James Kennedy, James Asherson, Lusanda Mrasi**

D Block: **Kofi Asumaning, David du Toit, Kekeli Eni, Marc du Plessis, Maxim Sutherland**

JULY TO DECEMBER 2020

A Block: **Tapiwa Chikwanda, Tristan Naidoo, Nikhil Iyer, Michael Gurney, Tim Whitaker**

B Block: **Jaden van der Merwe, Gustave de Villiers, Alexander Brits, Kwande Dhlomo, Jadin Jordaan**

C Block: **Benjamin Frost, Reuben Baldry, Peter Woodland, Lusanda Mrasi, James Asherson**

DBlock: **David du Toit, Kofi Asumaning, Maxim Sutherland, Aiden Jinnah, Marc du Plessis, Thomas Lahaye**

E Block: **Lucien Baldry, Kian Moses, Luke Payne, Carlyle Hawkins, Luke Kaufmann**

The Tarps programme continues to be divided into two sections during the year, namely from January to June and then from July to December. To be part of this group, a boy must end in the top five of his Block based on his quarter and examination averages. If a boy is on exchange while in the programme, his membership is transferred to the next six months. This is usually for boys in

C Block, and obviously, given global circumstances, was not a consideration this year.

The aims of the programme are to reward boys who achieve academic excellence as well as to extend them beyond the syllabus. In the first quarter of 2020 we went out for pizzas at *Il Postino's*. In the second and fourth quarters we would normally have had formal dinners with guest speakers but, due to Covid, this could not happen.

The programme also focuses on staff and academic departments. Some subjects lend themselves more to advancing and extending boys, but many of the other departments make it one of their goals to enrich the boys wherever possible. The focus here is to promote academic excellence and for the boys to achieve their best possible results, without concern for negative comments from their peer group.

VISUAL ARTS

Head of Department: **Mrs Jenni Clinton-Parker**

Staff: **Mrs Candice Smith, Mr Elton Mlotshwa**

AWARDS

Half-Colours: **Michael Gurney, Leo Baber, Thomas Barnes**

Other awards: **Michael Gurney, Theodore Gwiliza**

If visual art is a subject that proposes to develop problem-solving ability and technical skills, decision-making, risk-taking, and inventiveness, as well as teach time-management skills and patience, the Visual Art Department has certainly been put to the test this year and finished with its integrity intact.

Who would have thought that the IEB practical examination topic, *20/20 Vision*, given to the A Block on the eve Michaelhouse went into lockdown, would have turned from a positive exploration of a vision for a new decade into a trip into the scarily over-sanitized and virtual unknown? We learned that practical art can in fact be taught online; we learned a whole new language of jargon that made Moodle and Wacom tablets, Google Meet, Google Slides, Zoom, YouTube and video editing everyday terms. Boys became used to exploring the work of the old masters in their gallery settings as international galleries like MOMA and The Louvre opened their doors to the virtual public. Boys also learned to self-manage and take responsibility for much of their learning; Simon le Vieux was even innovative enough to make his own charcoal when he ran out of art materials during the hard lockdown. For a department used to getting its

hands physically dirty, this year has seen our out-of-the-box thinking stretched and our technical skills blossom

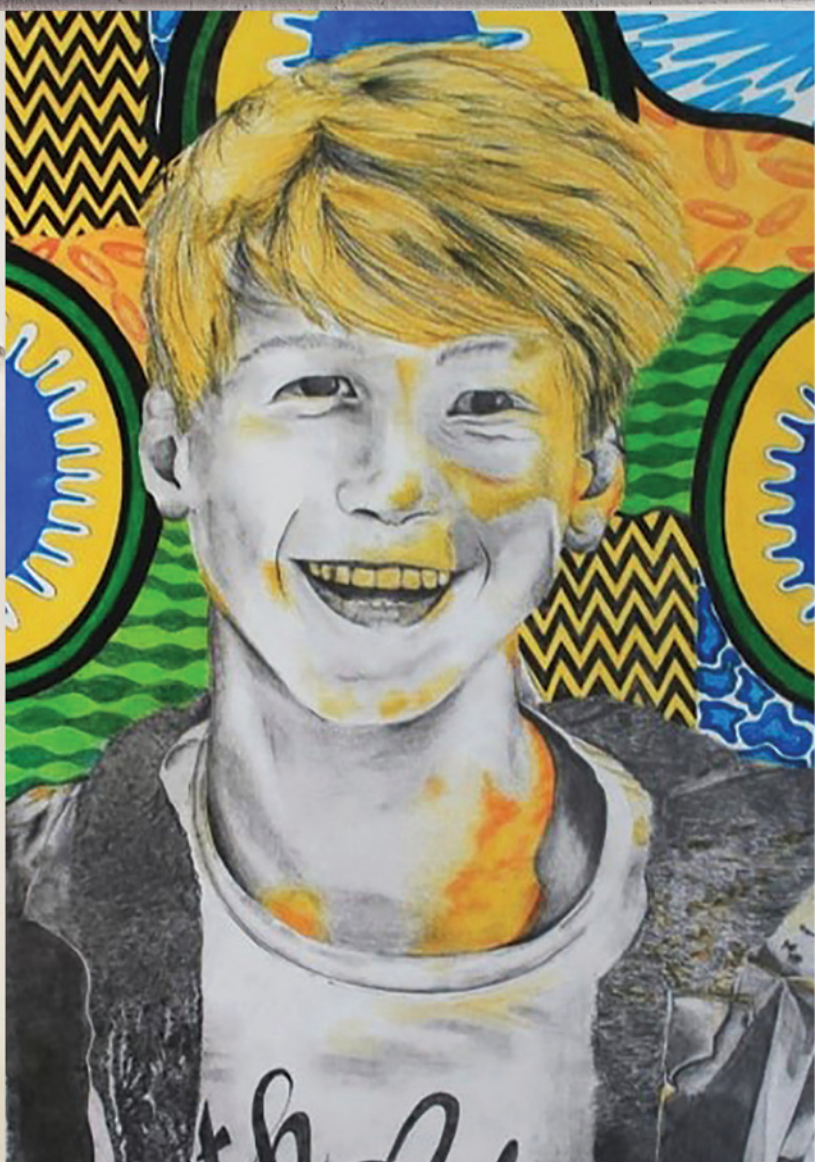
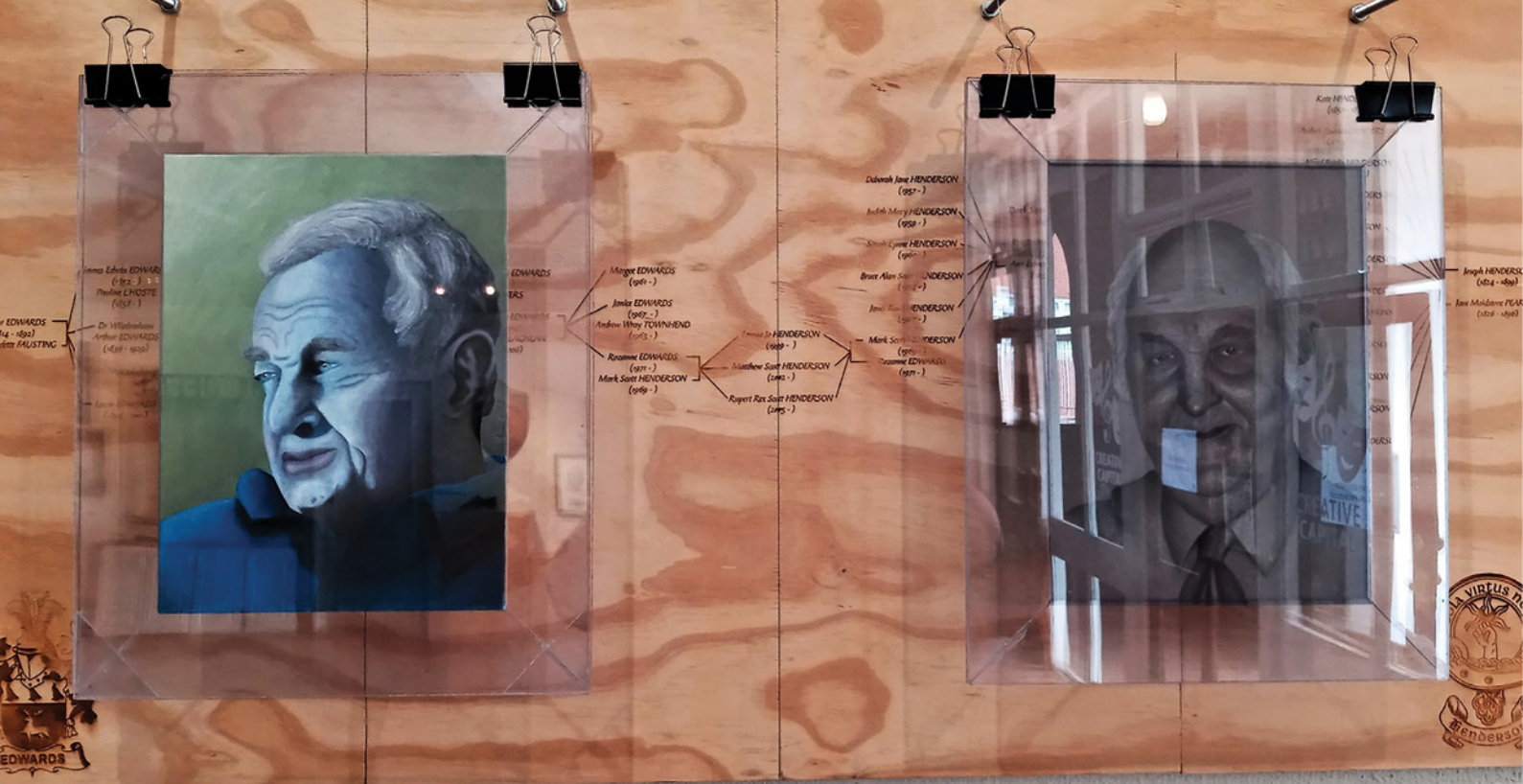
One of the technical skills learned was the exploration of virtual gallery platforms. While we had a physical exhibition featuring a selection of work from our senior art students on show in the first quarter in the Schlesinger Theatre foyer, our exhibitions for the rest of the year went virtual. At the end of the Pentecost Quarter, we showcased the work of the last five years in the Culture Week Virtual Showcase via the Michaelhouse Virtual Art Gallery. It was special to have the gallery space to include juniors, seniors and Old Boys in a single exhibition for a change. Wednesday, 4 November 2020 saw the premiere of our 2020 Virtual Matric Exhibition in the Art Lecture Theatre and then on Facebook. Sadly, the Tatham Art Gallery's 2020 Midlands Matric Exhibition and the annual Michaelhouse-Trevertton Grade 10 and 11 Exhibition were cancelled.

While we may not have been able to visit Durban for our annual gallery tour, we were able to bring Durban into our space. The D Block enjoyed an introduction to the art of puppetry via Google Meet with Greg King from KickstArt in August and the C Block took part in a papier-mâché workshop with Debbie Morgan from Panda Paints at the end of October.

In closing, I believe Michael Gurney's drawing, *Uncertainty*, was the most suitable response to that the year the Art School has had, and Dean Hough's *Hope for a Dream*, the most optimistic.



*Top: Theodore Gwiliza (A Block) – “Code of Silence” Soft pastel on Fabriano;
Bottom (left): Dean Hough (A Block) – “Silent Plea” White pencil crayon on Fabriano;
Bottom (right): George Scott (C Block) – “Visage” Ball point pen on Fabriano*



Top: Matthew Henderson (A Block) "Family Tree" Oil paint on board, graphite and white pencil crayon on grey Fabriano in Perspex on wooden structure;
Bottom (left): Tom-Tom Walters (B Block) "Process drawing for Visage" Graphite pencil on Fabriano;
Bottom (right): Byron Mitchell-Innes (C Block) "Visage" Graphite pencil and pencil crayon on Fabriano

DRAMATIC ARTS

Head of Department: **Mrs Asha Royappen**

Staff: **Mr William le Cordeur**

If someone had asked me in 2019 if dramatic arts is a subject that can be taught online I would have adamantly said “no”. Lockdown demanded a paradigm shift on the part of the department and we had to reinvent the subject for online learning. A subject that relies on emotional intelligence, social interaction, critical thinking and an understanding of what it means to be human had to transfer these skills to digital platforms.

The boys must be complimented on the way they received the tasks and engaged with them. In a time of doom and gloom they were resilient; while the pandemic had dampened our spirits, the boys’ creativity and enthusiasm for dramatic arts was still intact.

HIGHLIGHTS

The E Block boys studied Charlie Chaplin and silent movies as one of their tasks. This was a task that we created specifically for online learning. They had to use the skills learnt to create their own silent movie, record it and send it to us. This task was taken seriously by all the boys who put tremendous effort into these and we certainly needed the humour. We had a WhatsApp group where videos were posted and this was probably one of our busiest WhatsApp groups as I had a group for each Block, from A to E.

The D Block had the task of creating a lockdown video. You can watch some of these on the Michaelhouse Dramatic Arts Virtual Cultural Week Showcase, which boys can access for you on Moodle. A new set of skills was learnt in this process as boys worked remotely with a partner to conceive the ideas, collaborate and create a video that documented their lockdown life. They learnt how to use a camera, edit, add music, backgrounds, etc. The videos were recorded separately and had to be edited together. Dramatic arts is a subject that is constantly changing as it reflects on the socio-political context

of the times. The lockdown videos did just this and each video revealed a different set of emotions, difficulties and humour. We laughed, we cried, we applauded and had hope through the various videos.

The C Block worked on monologues from a play called *Breasts*, with the dominant theme being toxic masculinity. We explored and discussed how men should embrace their masculinity, and how and when it becomes toxic. All masculinity is not toxic but if we can identify the toxicity and begin to understand it then we become better husbands, fathers, sons, co-workers – better humans. It was with this deepened understanding of the characters that the boys then attempted their monologues.

Movement in lockdown? Can it be done? B Blockers proved that nothing is impossible in lockdown – not even choreography. Movement and choreography are strengths in the department with the school being identified as a school of excellence in movement at the end of each year’s matric practical examination. This is one of the strengths of this particular group, who grabbed this task with both hands, feet and any part of the body that can move to create beautiful and touching pieces. The boys had to select a site and incorporate use of the site into their movement pieces. These were entitled: *Movement in Isolation*.

The A Block worked on preparing their exam pieces throughout lockdown. They performed their final practical examination which was reduced to two pieces of their choice this year. These were strange times for them and the challenges that they faced were unlike any other year, yet they produced exceptional work in the examination. Resilience and the ability to adapt have been the strengths of this group of boys. We were disheartened that they had to perform to a camera rather than an examiner, which defeats a major function and purpose of theatre. Despite this the quality of the pieces were of a high standard as the boys displayed their talent and skills learnt over the past two and a half years. We look forward to the time when our theatres can reopen to audiences and the spirit of live theatre can be revived.

PERFORMING ARTS

Director of Music: **Mr Jaco Dippenaar, Ms Carika de Swardt (Acting HOD)**

Full-time Staff: **Mr William Silk, Ms Carika de Swardt**

Administrative Staff: **Mrs Angela Jonsson, Ms Katherine Clark (temporary)**

Part-time Staff: **Mrs Helen Mennie (Piano)**

Itinerant Staff: **Mr Bernard Kisbey-Green (saxophone, clarinet, drumkit), Mr Leandros Stavrou (guitar), Mrs Ansie Whitby (piano), Ms Talisa Symons (violin),**

Mr Brett Udall (violin), Mr David Solomon (brass), Mrs Carin Louw (bassoon), Mr Nigel Fish (cello)

MUSICAL LEADERSHIP

Chapel Choir Leaders: **Kiyan Singh, Tristan Naidoo**

Orchestra Leaders: **Michael Bradford, Mmofa Matjele**

Marimba Leaders: **Lehlohonolo Mapetla, Michael Bradford**

AWARDS

Honours: **Sean Ramsay, Sello Stone-Mboweni, Oliver Cheales**

Colours: **Mayenziwe Nene, Xihluke Marhule, Letlotlo Sekatle**

Half-Colours: **Jordan Baxter, Oliver von Klemperer, Andrew Woodland, Gqamile Mbuyazi, Christopher Silk, Enrique Benassi, Thomas Kuhn, Kofi Asumaning, Sandiso Hlongwa, Sibongakonke Buthelezi, Sentso Tlelai, Sebastian Bailes, Kamogelo de Almeida, Onakho Khumalo, Azipheli Sithole, Erich van Zyl, Mazvita Magara, Thabe Sono**

KZN Midlands Youth Choir: **Christopher Silk, Erich van Zyl, Mayenziwe Nene, Mazvita Magara, Sebastian Bailes, Xihluke Marhule, Lethloho Sekatle, Sean Ramsay, Daniel Jonsson, Onakho Khumalo, David Nienaber, Jesse Breytenbach, Kamo de Almeida, Azipheli Sithole, Sibonga Buthelezi**

The importance of a music education in the lives of young Michaelhouse men has been valued since the beginning of the school, and remains the ideal to this day. The nurturing of multidimensional young men drives the music programme, affording all the opportunity to establish, or develop, musical talent into something noteworthy to be celebrated by the young musicians themselves, their peers, parents, staff, and the larger community. To this end, ensuring both technical depth, as well as the musician's emotional well-being, remains the goal of music education at Michaelhouse, aimed at building confidence and unforgettable musical experiences.

@BANDROOM SERIES: 24 FEBRUARY

The only concert taking place as part of the @Bandroom series for 2020 featured the choir, orchestra and different marimba bands. The celebration of the outstanding talent of the school's musicians, the joy of making music together, sharing it with an audience, and enjoying good food together were sorely missed in the months to come.

THE STORY OF SOUTH AFRICAN JAZZ: 6 FEBRUARY

The Music Department hosted Michaelhouse Old Boy and author, Struan Douglas, for an audio-visual presentation entitled *The Story of South African Jazz* on 6 February. He has dedicated a large part of his life to interviewing and interacting with remarkable musicians from this country and in this presentation he shared some of his experiences, ideas, significance, heritage and history with subject music pupils and teachers from Michaelhouse, Epworth, Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School, St John's DSG and St Anne's Diocesan College. Struan's two books on this topic are a valuable resource that have been endorsed by the Department of Education. He has since launched an online platform on which course material can be found.

VIRTUAL MUSIC CONCERT: 17 JUNE

Under the umbrella of the Michaelhouse Cultural Week, the Music Department hosted its first virtual music showcase, a concert for which solo musicians could submit video recordings of pieces they were studying at the time or, in the case of Gqamile Mbuyazi, Sello Stone-Mboweni and

Kofi Mensah, Jacques du Preez and Jesse Breytenbach, their own compositions. This concert, called *Michaelhouse Music Maestros*, was made available on the newly-launched Music School YouTube channel, which is a remarkable showcase of the work and dedication of the musicians during the Covid-19 lockdown period. Other participants included Nicholas Railston-Brown (violin), Alexander Brits (voice), Andrew Woodland (saxophone), Peter Woodland (trumpet), Ben Frost (guitar), Kofi Asumaning (saxophone), Christopher Silk (horn), Maqhawe Hoohlo (cello), Oliver Cheales (clarinet), Ben Cheales (piano), Adrian Hill (voice), Letlotlo Sekatle (voice).

KICKBACK CONCERT: 15 OCTOBER

With boys back at school and lessons underway again, the Arts departments combined to give our artists the opportunity to perform music and drama and exhibit art. This special evening was attended by the Rector and staff to celebrate the boys' talents. The musicians who performed were: Peter Woodland (trumpet), Xihluke Marhule (baritone), Letlotlo Sekatle (guitar), Tomas Szudrawski (piano), Alex Brits (baritone), Maqhawe Hoohlo (cello), Sello Stone-Mboweni (drum kit), Gqamile Mbuyazi (trumpet), Kofi Asumaning (saxophone), Sean Ramsay (baritone), Christopher Silk (French horn), and Ben Cheales (piano).

PREFECT'S INDUCTION SERVICE: 18 OCTOBER

The prefect's induction service marked the first time that parents, staff, and boys could meet for a service since the lockdown at the end of March. Owing to Covid-19 restrictions, the decision was made to have the service in the Amphitheatre. With no congregational singing allowed, Mr William Silk sang a blessing to the prefects, *I thank my God*, accompanied by Mr Jaco Dippenaar (piano) and Kofi Asumaning (saxophone). The service came to an end as the evening precipitation turned into a soft rain.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY: 8 NOVEMBER

The Remembrance Day service was held in the Amphitheatre and Peter Woodland performed a moving rendition of the *Last Post*, *Sunset* and *Reveille* on trumpet, accompanied by Mr Jaco Dippenaar (piano).

RECTOR'S CONCERT: 15 NOVEMBER

The Rector's Concert was introduced as an annual event aimed at celebrating the noteworthy soloistic talents of our musicians who had done exceptionally well in external examinations during the course of the year, or those recommended by their instrumental teachers. In spite of the impact of the Covid-19 restrictions on music lessons, there was much to celebrate this year with 15 of the 16 boys who took external music examinations passing with either a merit or a distinction. The following boys featured in the programme: Kofi Asumaning (Grade 7 saxophone); Oliver Cheales (Grade 8 clarinet); Ben Frost (Grade 4 guitar); Christopher Silk (Grade 3 horn); Adrian Hill (Grade 5 voice); Sandiso Hlongwa (Grade 5 piano); Letlotlo Sekatle (Grade 3 guitar); Sello Stone-Mboweni (Grade 6 drums); David Nienaber (Grade 3 elec guitar); Andrew Woodland (Grade 6 saxophone); Rory Steyn (Grade 3 drums); Peter Woodland (Grade 6 trumpet); Marc Sidebottom (Grade 3 guitar); Jesse Breytenbach (Grade 5 voice); Alexander Brits (Grade 6 bassoon); Max Chapman (Grade 6 guitar); and Ben Cheales (Grade 8 piano).



COMPETITION MARIMBA BAND

Back Row: Tristan Baker, Kiyan Singh, Alexander Brits, Jason Williams, Tristan Naidoo, Jason Makhele, Jacques du Preez, Kwande Dhlomo

Second Row: Kabo Molete, Tapiwa Chikwanda, Sello Stone-Mboweni, Maqhawe Hoohlo,

Front Row: Mmofo Matjele, Lehlohonolo Mapetla, Mr Jason Blockley, Michael Bradford, Connor Muirhead

CAROL SERVICE: 26-27 NOVEMBER

This year's carol service followed the structure of the traditional Nine Lessons and Carols and was held in the chapel as the weather did not permit an outdoor service. Readings were done by the newly appointed school prefects, and hymns were sung by soloists from the choir. The orchestra performed in the service and smaller instrumental ensembles played renditions of *Silent night* and *O come, O come Emmanuel*. The organ recessional was a fanfare-like rendition of the well-known *Adeste fideles*. The service was repeated the next morning for parents, as is the tradition.

ORCHESTRA REPORT

2020 has been a year of extreme frustration with very little being allowed to happen as far as both rehearsals and performances were concerned due to Covid-19. This was such a pity, as the

orchestra had performed so well at the end of 2019 and with the wealth of experience within the instrumental ranks, we had planned to have an *Evening at the Movies*, playing movie theme songs. The orchestra continues to go from strength to strength and numbers joining outweigh the number of A Block boys leaving us at the end of the year. A highlight for the year was a recording that we made for the Virtual Speech Day of the academic procession *Gaudeamus Igitur*. The end-of-year carol service remained the highpoint of our year.

MARIMBA BAND REPORT

Despite the challenges faced by Covid-19, we still enjoyed some form of marimba activities this year. Starting the year off with the *@Bandroom* performance, where our newly elected competition, senior, junior, and staff bands had their chance to perform on stage. The marimbas then had to come to a slight standstill due to the nationwide lock down. However, the boys



CHAPEL CHOIR

Fifth Row: Elijah Kanguuehi, Brett Hill, Vuyo Mgoduso, Jordan Baxter, Sentso Tlelai, Michael Dalglish, Christopher Silk, Erich van Zyl, Ayden McDavid, Ntando Khumalo, Sandiso Hlongwa, Kungalo Somhlahlo

Fourth Row: Siphesihle Shinga, Stephan Macamo, Reuben Baldry, Mvelwenhle Guma, Onakho Khumalo, Mazvita Magara, Sibongakonke Buthelezi, Sebastian Bailes, Ntando Mbhele, Letlotlo Sekatle

Third Row: Tshiamo Boikhutso, Kofi Asumaning, Awande Ngcobo, Kamogelo de Almeida, Lucien Baldry, Khala-Khulu Mashiyi, Luthando Jonas, Xihluke Marhule, Tom Telford, Onalerona Lefakane, Christopher Angel

Second Row: Letlhogonolo Moeng, Azipheli Sithole, Lukhanyo Nhlapo, Sanele Mnganga, Mayenziwe Nene, Gqamile Mbuyazi, Thabe Sono, Ruben Visagie, Alex Vries, Tiyisa Khosa

Front Row: Tristan Hoyle, Adrian Hill, Kiyan Singh, Mr Jaco Dippenaar, Tristan Naidoo, Ms Carika de Swardt, Alexander Brits, Jesse Breytenbach, David Nienaber

remained positive that they would return to their bands soon enough. When the restrictions eased up and we were allowed to return to marimbas, the boys were given the opportunity to attend a weekend workshop with the marimba and percussion specialist, Bryan Clarke, where invaluable skills were learnt. The competition and performance band members for 2021 were selected at this workshop and we congratulate them.

CHAPEL CHOIR REPORT

The choir performed at the solitary @Bandroom performance, but did not get the opportunity to perform again until Speech Day at the start of the fourth quarter. An arrangement by Ms Carika de Swardt of *Hallelujah* by Leonard Cohen, as well as the school hymn, *Stars of the Morning*, were prepared and recorded by the choir for the streaming of the annual Speech Day.

INDIVIDUAL EXCELLENCE

EXTERNAL EXAMINATIONS: FIRST AND SECOND SESSIONS

Owing to travel restrictions and social distancing, examining bodies such as the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, Trinity Guildhall, Trinity Rock & Pop and Rock School explored online music examinations by adjusting the requirements and accepting recorded online submissions for students. The following results were obtained this year:

TRINITY COLLEGE LONDON: TRINITY GUILDHALL

NAME	INSTRUMENT	GR.	RESULTS
Andrew Woodland	Saxophone	6	Merit
Peter Woodland	Trumpet	6	Merit
Oliver Cheales	Clarinet	8	Merit

Kofi Asumaning	Saxophone	7	Merit
Christopher Silk	French horn	3	Merit
Xihluke Marhule	Guitar	3	Merit
Ben Frost	Electric guitar	4	Distinction
David Nienaber	Electric guitar	3	Merit
Rory Steyn	Drum kit	3	Merit
Nicholas Pitt	Drum kit	3	Merit
Marc Sidebottom	Electric guitar	2	Distinction
Luthando Jonas	Voice	4	Pass
Sello Stone-Mboweni	Drum kit	6	Merit
Max Chapman	Electric guitar	6	Distinction

THE ASSOCIATED BOARD OF THE ROYAL SCHOOLS OF MUSIC: PRACTICAL RESULTS

NAME	INSTRUMENT	GR.	RESULTS
Letlotlo Sekatle	Guitar	3	Distinction
Tapiwa Chikwanda	Guitar	6	Distinction
Ben Cheales	Piano	8	Merit

Mmofa Matjele was featured in the September 2020 edition of the *SA Drummer* magazine, together with other notable drummers from around South Africa. *"It's not about the size of the crowd, it was about how I made people feel when they were listening to me play."*

Jesse Breytenbach and his father, Neil, released two songs during lockdown under the project name, Cantrel: *What if flowers burn* and *Jump*.

KZN HAS IT'S OWN HIDDEN GEM **MMOFA MATJELE** By Louis R. Malherbe II

Tell us about when you started playing the drums? At what age did you start? What inspired you to get started?
My parents told me I started at the age of 8 months - apparently I always played on pots with spoons. I would watch the drummers at churches and imitate them. I also always had the urge to sit behind the kit and play exactly how they did, and play the same songs as them. This was from a young age up until now. I was given my first blue kiddies drum kit at 2 years of age. At the age of about 5 or 6 I got my first adult sized kit which was a Century 5-piece kit that came with stock hi-hat cymbals and a crash cymbal. The kit was a light blue in colour. The reason I bought a big kit is because from my exposure to a 9-piece kit at a church I would practice at. I developed a love for big kits. I loved hear-

ing the different tones kits could make and I found it to be more fun to play on.
Starting at such a young age, you must have had some inspiration within your own family as well. What role did you parent's play in your musical journey?
In my family there isn't anyone who influenced me to play any instrument.

"IT'S NOT ABOUT THE SIZE OF THE CROWD IT WAS ABOUT HOW I MADE PEOPLE FEEL WHEN THEY WERE LISTENING TO ME PLAY."



“

Admittedly nothing could be more calculated to break up our opponent's first wicket partnership than a trombone played slightly out of tune.
Rector CY Morgan on the use of the cricket pavilion for brass band practice, 1957

”

ACCOUNTING

Head of Department: **Mr Dean Forword**

Staff: **Richard McMichael**

OUR AIM IN THE ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT IS TWO-FOLD:

- We want to provide our boys in all Blocks with a skill which they can use for the rest of their lives in personal finance, entrepreneurial ventures and in their work.
- We want to equip C, B and A Block boys with the necessary knowledge and skill base to thrive in their undergraduate and postgraduate studies and also to make effective decisions in their workplace one day.

Our matric class of 2019 produced satisfactory results. 27% of the boys achieved A symbols and 47% A or B symbols.

With the intimidating challenge of remote teaching and learning this year, we had to re-evaluate our methods and content around teaching the important skill of accounting. We made use of the Moodle platform to set weekly plans. These included tasks and exercises from the textbook, pre-recorded Zoom lessons explaining new concepts, the use of the *Accounting Stuff* YouTube channel and live Zoom lessons.

Our method of teaching and learning is very much based on the process of acquiring a skill. This lends itself to exposing our students to many practical examples, both basic and more complex. Initially, the language of accounting is emphasised and accounting terms are discussed, explained and implemented. As our students move forward, we look at implementing the financial recording process through the use of journals, ledgers and financial statements. As the boys reach C Block, we begin looking at the financial reporting process.

We appreciate the use of automated and online accounting systems in the workplace at present, but place value on our boys understanding this process. We want our students to be exposed to financial recording and reporting, ie: understanding basic financial statements because we want them to make informed decisions, personally and in the workplace, that will result in generating profit.

To conclude, it is accepted that not everyone is an accountant, but in today's business world, we think it is imperative, even if one is not looking to be an accountant one day, that every boy who leaves Michaelhouse has a basic understanding of a set of financial statements. That's the bottom line.

COMPUTER STUDIES

Head of Department: **Mrs Julie Flanagan**

Staff: **Mr Dominic Gruijters, Mr Ian Crawford, Mr Aidan Friend, Mr Jason Blockley, Mr Matt Stringer**

AWARDS

2020 Programming Olympiad finals – Outstanding Performance: **Tapiwa Chikwanda**

2020 Programming Olympiad second round – 3rd in KwaZulu-Natal: **Tapiwa Chikwanda**

As we found out during this unprecedented year with lockdown and the Covid-19 pandemic forcing our schools into remote learning, technology has become more prevalent in the classroom and society. Students do not only need to be able to learn and complete their work online but should also be prepared for a workforce where the comfortable use of technology is a growing necessity. It is very rewarding therefore to see that our class sizes for Information technology (IT) and Computer applications technology (CAT) grew by 10% to 165 boys this year. This is the first year since IT was implemented in 2008 that we have had two classes in each of A, B and C Block.

The A Block IT and CAT students performed admirably in

the November 2019 IEB examinations. IT students (27 in total) achieved 56% A symbols, with 89% achieving an A, B or C symbol. The CAT students (23 in total) achieved 30% A symbols and 87% achieved an A, B or C symbol. Luke van Rooyen and Huckleberry Finn Elliot were placed in the top 1% in the country for CAT, which was a great achievement, considering that they both took CAT as an extra subject.

Our department enjoyed a seamless move to online teaching and learning from the beginning of the second quarter. Using the Moodle platform, we supported our students in all parts of the globe. Online teaching and learning does come with a new set of challenges, and reflecting on this time, the most important aspect to remember is that classroom teaching cannot be replicated in the online classroom. The most important considerations for online teaching are interactivity between teachers and students, constant feedback from teachers to students, continuous assessment for students, collaboration between students and reflection by teachers and students.

Our E Block ICT students were introduced to Ozaria, an adventure game where students learn to code in Python while participating in an adventure story. They discussed the various dangers and benefits of social networking and created their

own escape rooms to develop their problem-solving skills. Our D Block ICT students learned how to create websites using HTML and CSS and use spreadsheets effectively and developed their coding skills in Python.

We continue to develop as a staff in the Computer Studies Department. We attended the IEB CAT and IT conferences in Johannesburg during February and we continue to work closely with the KwaZulu-Natal clusters in both IT and CAT. Various online conferences were held during lockdown and Mrs Julie Flanagan attended the T4 conference online, which was an enriching experience. Over 100 000 educators from 81 countries shared their experiences on how Covid-19 had changed the teaching and learning space and the focus was on teachers worldwide. We welcomed Mr Jason Blockley and Mr Matt Stringer to our department to teach the growing CAT numbers and they have made a significant contribution to the department.

During the period 31 August to 11 September 2020, 222 Michaelhouse boys participated in the Computer Olympiad Talent Search. Over 4000 candidates participated nationally in this Olympiad, a much smaller number than usual. The talent search builds 21st century skills, the top three skills being: complex problem solving, critical thinking and creativity. Certificates were awarded to the participants with above average scores. Michaelhouse boys achieved good results, with 57% of them achieving either a gold, silver or bronze certificate. Congratulations to the following 29 boys who achieved gold certificates (top 7% of all participants countrywide):

NAME GRADE

INTERMEDIATE (GRADE 8 & 9)

Ethan Cockram	9
Nicholas Fearnhead	8
Luke Fellner	8
Tom Hodgson	9
Luke Kaufmann	8
Matthew Kennedy	8
Gqamile Mbuyazi	9
Ayden McDavid	8
Kian Moses	8
Luke Payne	8
Seth Segal	8
Nathan Strachan	8
Hendri Zietsman	8

SENIOR (GRADE 10 & 11)

Ross le Sueur	11
Joshua Stevenson	11

On 2 March 2020, ten Michaelhouse boys participated in the Computer Applications Olympiad, First Round Open Division. Certificates were awarded to the participants with above average scores. Due to Covid-19, a second round was not held. Congratulations to the following boys who achieved certificates:

NAME	GR	CERTIFICATE
Reuben Baldry	10	Gold
Tapiwa Chikwanda	12	Gold
Michael Brown	12	Silver
Alejandro Sartini-Kruger	10	Bronze

On 20 July 2020, 42 Michaelhouse boys participated in the first round of the Computer Programming Olympiad, out of a total of 824 students. Certificates were awarded to the participants with above average scores. Congratulations to the ten Michaelhouse boys who qualified to participate in the second round on 19 August 2020: **Nathan Bau, Tapiwa Chikwanda, David Ferguson, Mitchell Flanagan, Luke Hooker, Ross Keep, Ntumbuluko Mdluli, Arden Scholtz, Max von Klemperer and Timothy Whitaker.**

Well done to the following boys who achieved certificates:

NAME	GR	CERTIFICATE
Tapiwa Chikwanda	12	Gold
David Ferguson	11	Silver
Mitchell Flanagan	11	Silver
Luke Hooker	11	Silver
Ross Keep	11	Silver
Arden Scholtz	11	Silver
Max von Klemperer	11	Silver
Nathan Bau	12	Bronze
Timothy Whitaker	12	Bronze
Ntumbuluko Mdluli	11	Bronze
James Asherson	10	Bronze
Reuben Baldry	10	Bronze
Liam Bran-der	10	Bronze
Michael Dagleish	10	Bronze
Ben Frost	10	Bronze
Joshua Hadley-Grave	10	Bronze
Edward Hamilton	10	Bronze
Tristan Hoyle	10	Bronze
Lucky Mabuza	10	Bronze
Sam Mitchell	10	Bronze
Lusanda Mrasi	10	Bronze
Skulule Ngejane	10	Bronze
Lwando Ntuli	10	Bronze
Alex Sartini	10	Bronze
George Scott	10	Bronze
Christopher Townshend	10	Bronze
Benjamin Turner	10	Bronze
Peter Woodland	10	Bronze

Tapiwa Chikwanda was selected as one of the 13 finalists nationally out of 329 participants, to represent Michaelhouse at

the final round of the 2020 Computer Programming Olympiad on 27 September 2020. We are so very proud of Tapiwa for not only coming third in KwaZulu-Natal based on his second-round performance, but especially of his invitation to represent Michaelhouse at the final round.

Computer Studies Department will continue with our mission,

which is to provide a dynamic and progressive IT education. We will continue to engage and inspire boys, integrate the latest technologies in a student-centred manner, encourage collaboration and reflection, support individual learning and encourage dialogue and groupwork. Our aim is to develop digital citizens who have the necessary skills that will ensure their success in any chosen field in a global, connected world.

PASTORAL CARE AND COUNSELLING

Senior Master Pastoral Care: **Mr Tim Jarvis**

WHY WON'T BOYS ASK FOR HELP?

Some years ago, a young man walked into my office, shoulders sagging, eyes down, clearly burdened by something yet unnamed. Despite some gentle questioning he could not bring himself to express what he was feeling. I had long since learnt that teenage boys do not make an appointment to ask for help unless it is serious, so I didn't want to leave it. "I know there is something wrong," I said, "can't you tell me what it is?" After a silence that lasted well over a minute he looked up and replied, "I can't, it's just too hard to say."

With my next appointment waiting outside I had to bring our interaction to an end unresolved. I know that for boys and men, putting a feeling into words can take a long time, often days. With that in mind all I could do was suggest that he come back later in the week and then cross my fingers.

Caring for boys presents challenges; especially considering the societal pressure around masculinity and a reluctance to admit to fear or weakness. This in turn leads to a brittle kind of strength that educators of boys will be familiar with.

This is not merely an academic issue with no import in the real world. According to the American Psychological Association, men's fragility impacts not only their mental and physical health but also public health (violence, substance abuse and incarceration) and issues relating to quality of life such as relational problems and family well-being.

It matters for all these reasons but also it matters for educators because it holds boys back in what is the core business of schools, academics. Boys in the UK, for example, when compared to girls, are less likely to study for a degree; and if they do they are less likely to complete it and, if they do complete it, they are less likely to get a 2:1 or above. This has been the case since the mid 1990s.

This is merely a continuation of what we see at school, where girls do better at GCSE level and significantly more girls than boys do A levels. In South Africa in 2019 there were 61,744 more girls than boys who enrolled for the National Senior Certificate examinations, and 57,579 more girls than boys who

actually wrote; 63.8% of the 156,884 distinctions were attained by female candidates.

We can't be certain why this is. We can be certain the reason won't be simple. We do know that students who access academic and pastoral support report that it helps, and we know that males don't access this support to the extent that females do.

Research by Dr Ruth Woodfield at the University of Sussex provides some fascinating insight into gender difference when it comes to seeking help. Her work revealed that while female students more often report experiencing anxiety while at university and are more likely to express thoughts of leaving university, it is their male counterparts who are more likely to actually quit.

This tells us something important. It seems we get early warning signals from females when they experience emotional distress. To use a motoring analogy, when girls are struggling the lights on the dashboard start flashing, giving both a clue to the problem and a chance to get to the garage. For boys it can appear that the car is humming along fine. Then the engine just blows up.

The focus on the bodywork at the expense of a labouring engine does not serve boys well. Men have got the memo that masculinity is achieved through an outward toughness marked by a reluctance to talk about anything that might make them seem *less than* others. The script about how to be male includes, it seems, unhelpful direction on how to manage emotional pain.

In 2018, the American Psychological Association published specific guidelines for dealing specifically with males for the first time. The guidelines are a significant acknowledgement that providing psychological and emotional support might look different for different genders. The document concludes that, due to rigid gender expectations and narrow ideas about how men should suffer, men are less likely to seek help than women. "Men struggle with acknowledging issues that they believe might cause them to be perceived as vulnerable or unable to manage."

None of this will be a surprise to the half of the population who has been a daughter to, a sister of, wedded with or given birth to a male. It probably isn't a shock to most men themselves, although it may be less obvious. If men and boys are working on the assumption that to ask for help is somehow at odds

with being a male (and many are) then this must necessitate a difference in the way we provide care for boys.

Back to my story. A few days later as I was clearing my desk at the end of the day there was a knock at my door. Looking up I saw the young man who had visited me earlier, standing there. Mentally crossing my fingers again, I invited him in. In halting words, he was able to hesitantly articulate his struggle. It seems he was reluctant to admit, even to himself, that he wasn't coping. The man code around not showing vulnerability really is that strong. As the result of his courage we were then able to give him the support he needed.

Not every boy is able to do this. The script that steers men away from admitting weakness and asking for help is a powerful one. The easier we can make it for boys to be emotionally courageous, the better for everyone. What we aim to do at Michaelhouse is set up pastoral care structures in the school in a way that makes it easy for boys to access them.

ST ANDREW'S, BIRMINGHAM, OUNDLE AND EDINBURGH

Before we really felt the impact of the coronavirus, I was able to make a visit to the United Kingdom, arriving back in South Africa just before the lockdown and school closures.

The primary purpose of my visit was to attend the meeting of the Global Advisory Board of St Andrew's University. It has been a privilege to serve on this board for the last two years and the trip to Scotland was the icing on the cake. The visit gave me the chance to learn more about the university, tertiary education in Scotland, and how best to advise our boys on admission to top international universities. It was also a chance to connect with colleagues around the world and give the university insight into how best to work with schools around the world. While in Scotland I was also able to visit the University of Edinburgh and meet with our contacts there.

While in the United Kingdom I took the opportunity to attend the ResearchED Conference in Birmingham. While there I presented on Effective Pastoral Care for Boys on which the opening to this report is based. I was also able to visit Oundle School, one of England's largest boarding schools, to see how they managed the pastoral care of over 1000 students. I have written up on both these topics on my blog (see below).

INTERNATIONAL BOYS' SCHOOL COALITION

As a result of my ResearchED presentation on pastoral care, and the subsequent write-ups, I was privileged to be interviewed for the Exploring Boys' Education podcast run by the International Boys' School Coalition (IBSC). For those who are interested this can be found here <https://www.theibsc.org/teaching-learning/podcast/season2/episode-4> or on your favourite podcast platform.

Mr Jonathan Smith and I were also asked by the IBSC to be part of one of their online training modules around masculinity in boys' schools.

COUNSELLING

Counselling and pastoral care is an ongoing activity through the year at Michaelhouse. With 600 or more boys it is a demanding role, and I am very grateful to be assisted by Dr Rob Pluke in this regard. Rob has been visiting the school as our consulting psychologist every Wednesday morning now for the last two years. He has really added value with his oversight and input. We are also grateful to Mr Bryce Dekker who has stepped in to provide career assessment to our senior boys following on from the excellent work of Mrs Shannon Lang in this regard.

Mr Herman Visagie is the head of life orientation but also puts time aside for counselling. Moving forward Herman will focus on assisting applications to South African university applications. He is also available to the boys for other areas where they may need support.

CAREERS AND TERTIARY EDUCATION GUIDANCE

Guiding boys towards the right career or at least the appropriate tertiary education option is a significant part of what the Counselling Department does here at Michaelhouse.

This year our programme of presentations by tertiary education institutions and gap year organisations was hard hit by Covid-19. However, in the critical early part of the year we were able to get some key organisations in. This was then followed up by virtual presentations where necessary. As part of the career development programme there is career counselling for those who require it. This year during lockdown we partnered with Pivotal Talent to give boys the option of an on-line assessment. In the final term we were able to bring in Bryce Dekker to provide in-person assessments and guidance for Grade 11 boys.

PASTORAL CARE NEWSLETTER & BLOG

We continued with this initiative this year to raise awareness of pastoral issues and highlight good practice of the same. The newsletter uses contributions from both staff, and professionals outside of the school. The blog is published at <https://timothyjejarvis.blog/> and covers educational issues around careers and teenagers (particularly boys). Between the two publications we have had a wide variety of articles and posts, a few of which are listed below:

EFFECTIVE PASTORAL CARE FOR BOYS

This series considered how care can be tailored specifically for boys.

FIVE THINGS ALL PARENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT TEENAGE BOYS

Insight into what adolescent boys get up to.

SURVIVING FAMILY LOCKDOWN

Some guidance to parents around how to manage lockdown with teenagers.

HOW TO TALK TO STUDENTS ABOUT RACE

In the light of Black Lives Matter this article covered an approach to conversations around race.

SECRETS OF THE TEENAGE BRAIN

Sarah-Jayne Blakemore, professor in cognitive neuroscience at University College, London, explains the development of the brain during the precarious, enriching and crucial years of adolescence.

ELEMENTS OF GOOD PASTORAL CARE IN SCHOOLS

A write-up of my trip to Oundle School in the United Kingdom.

TUTOR GROUPS

This year there was the added challenge of connecting as tutor groups while away from school. Each tutor has a tutor calendar which provides ideas, material and resources around relevant topics throughout the school year for them to work through with the boys in their groups. In addition, all staff receive a weekly email with further ideas based on current events. 2020 saw the groups work through a social media safety course provided by Emma Sadleir's Digital Law Academy (see below). Further initiatives included an on-line mental health survey and an online inter-group quiz. .

STUDENT PROGRAMMES

Throughout the year there are different programmes and interventions to assist boys in their development and relationships. Here are a few:

BODIES, BOUNDARIES AND BOARDING

A look at your rights and responsibilities as a boarder. This is for our E Block when they enter the school.

D BLOCK CAMP

This happens early on in the year and is designed to assist Grade 9 boys with their development and relationships with their peer group and more junior boys.

THE DANGERS OF SOCIAL MEDIA AND HOW TO AVOID THEM

Each boy had the opportunity, through his tutor group, to do this course and obtain a certificate of completion. This was done online through the Digital Law Academy.

PARENT COURSES

STRONG MOTHERS, STRONG SONS

Before lockdown we were once again able to run our Strong Mothers-Strong Sons programme, facilitated by Cape Town psychologist Megan de Beyer. We have run this course, with great success for several years. During the second term we were then able to run the course in a shortened online form. This gave many more mothers a chance to attend this valuable course.

COURAGE TO CONNECT

We were not able to run this course for fathers and sons this year. However, we plan to run at least two in 2021 to give as many as possible the chance to attend.

THANKS

With the demands of high school education there are many boys who need academic support. Our gratitude goes to Mrs Katherine Cass, our academic support teacher, in this regard and whose support often overlaps into the area of pastoral concern. Finally, thanks go to my secretary Mrs Caryl Ballance. Without the support of all these people it would be impossible to do what we do in terms of support, counselling and pastoral care.

LIFE ORIENTATION

Head of Department: **Mr Herman Visagie**

Staff: **Mr Tim Jarvis, Mr Mark Blew, Mr Righardt Kotze, Mr Siphesihle Mdladla, Mr Sifiso Vilakazi**

Life orientation is a compulsory subject for every student in South Africa that offers a great opportunity to address and discuss some exceedingly important topics that often falls by the wayside. As a subject, it provides opportunities to formally teach life skills and encourage the boys to function successfully as individuals and as part of society. In short, life orientation is about relationships: the relationship you have with yourself, your friends and family, the wider community, as well as the environment.

In the first quarter this year, the juniors were taught by our

School Counsellor, Mr. Tim Jarvis. The E Block focused on integration and self-esteem while D Block discussed their relationships with younger and older blocks. In C Block we looked at the importance of personal branding, with a strong emphasis on their social media presence. B Block started the year by setting some long-term goals and learning about the importance of delayed gratification. A Block got going on their physical education task for their portfolio, which included an introductory gym session, a three-week online health and wellness journal as well as a reflective essay.

During the second quarter, like with most subjects, the Covid-19 pandemic presented its own unique challenges, but luckily life orientation had been using Moodle prior to the lockdown

as a means of communication, which made the transition to online fairly easy. The real challenge for us as a department, however, was trying to find a way to address those sensitive topics that more often than not require face-to-face discussions. We tried our best to compensate for this by making Moodle as interactive as possible and, upon reflection, have done so with great success.

We enjoyed having the majority of the boys back in the third quarter and it did not take us long to hit the ground running. The A Block went straight into completing their final portfolio task where they had to choose a form of social inequality in their communities and find creative ways to address the chosen issue in their current capacity. We were astounded by the proposals we received from the boys and are hoping to start implementing a couple of them in the near future. The B Block focused on careers and more specifically university or gap year applications. The boys had to choose a degree or gap-year that they are interested in and then had to present their choice to the class, referring to everything from entry requirements to possible postgraduate and career options. The boys were extremely creative, using various platforms to make their presentations from PowerPoint to PowToon. The quality of the presentations was extremely high. The boys thoroughly enjoyed watching the different presentations and in the process learning more about various tertiary and gap-year options available to them.

The C Block's focus turned to their social and environmental responsibilities and how these two are interrelated. We usually

emphasize their environmental responsibility this quarter to set the tone for the much-anticipated C Block Journey, where they will no doubt grow a much greater appreciation for the environment. The D Block looked at subject choices with Mr Jarvis, which helped the boys to make a much more informed choice, while the E Block had a gentle introduction to addiction, with a strong focus on how the brain works when it comes to the interaction with screen time.

We finished the year with the juniors continuing with some time management and study skills as they were heading into their final examination. The help from the Learning Support Department was clearly appreciated in this regard and we are excited about having them even more involved in the Life Orientation Department next year. C Block started looking at how to write a discursive essay and had to practise that skills in their final examination as they had to say whether they agree or disagree with the statement: "Equal pay for equal play". Professional sportsmen and women should be paid the same. B Block had to present proof of their community service and started with their A Block portfolio work.

It is clear from the variety of topics mentioned above that life orientation is a much-needed subject especially in today's world where the boys are surrounded with so much information affecting the way in which they interact with the world around them. We as a department are grateful to be able to help guide them through this journey by teaching such a rewarding subject.

ECONOMICS

Head of Department: **Mr Ernest Rindfleisch**

Staff: **Mr Carl Bezuidenhout, Mr Mark Blew, Mrs Win de Wet, Mrs Riette White, Mr Michael Sevenoaks (Intern)**

For the Economics Department, as for all of us, 2020 was a year of rapid change. At the same time, it was also an extremely interesting one in terms of the drastic economic impact of Covid-19 on the global economy and on our domestic economy.

In the second quarter our department faced the challenge of adapting our curriculum to accommodate an online format on Moodle. As teachers and students, we were all initially on a steep learning curve, but we managed to quickly adapt, and in the end, the quarter turned out to be an academically successful one. We grew technologically in the sense that we all vastly improved our online skills, which I have no doubt will serve us well in the future and enhance our teaching and learning going forward. As a result, we have also developed a fabulous set of digital resources which we can use to enrich the learning experience of boys in future years.

Each of the Blocks were given either an assignment or a

case study in which they had to investigate the impact of the coronavirus on our economy. I trust that the boys developed a greater appreciation of the vast impact that this event had on us economically – individually, in our communities, nationally and globally.

The boys appeared to enjoy their online learning experience, although the general consensus was that learning and personal interaction in the classroom is still more effective and enjoyable. On their return in the third quarter, we were back to our normal interactions in the classroom despite the inconvenience of face masks, social distancing and sanitizing between lessons. By the end of the year, all of the planned content had been covered and so the boys were well prepared for their final examinations.

Unfortunately, many of our planned excursions and activities had to be put on hold this year. The only activities not hindered were the participation of the C Block boys in the JSE Schools' Challenge and the D Block boys taking part in an Investopedia Share Simulation Trading Game in the form of an intra-class league created by their teachers. Hopefully 2021 will see a return to normality and the usual activities can once again be included in our learning programme.



ENGINEERING GRAPHICS AND DESIGN

Head of Department: **Mr Craig Pieterse**

Staff: **Mr Aidan Friend**

Interns: **Mr Ross Stanley, Mr Cameron Barry**

2019 RESULTS

The engineering graphics and design matric group of 2019 once again achieved some excellent results. The class scored an overall average of 74.5%, one percent down from 2018, and a total of 43% achieved A symbols. Although the average went down slightly what was encouraging was that 86% of the boys achieved an average of above 60%. The boys pulled some fantastic results out the bag with a late push as their results in the trial examination had raised some concern. Happily, these concerns were put to bed once the final results came out. Well done, EGD class of 2019.

THE YEAR THAT WAS

Earlier in the year, I attended the IEB National Conference in Johannesburg in order to keep up to date with the IEB requirements for EGD. I look forward to other members of the department joining me at the conference to get more exposure to the subject and how it operates within the IEB. Mr Friend

and I also attended a personalised advanced AutoCad course in Durban to unearth some tricks of the programme to help our matrics with their practical assessment tasks (PATs). We're looking at doing more Autodesk products training in the future to widen the options of products we teach the boys in EGD.

This year, aside the obvious, has been an exciting one for the department. We used the year as a blank canvas to relook and redesign what and how we teach. We obviously have limits to what we teach as the boys still have to write IEB exams, but, we tried looking at how we bring about learning outcomes and what we can add to enhance the learning experience. We have looked at the syllabus in all Blocks, shifted certain parts and have added in new topics and ideas into the junior grades. There was some disruption to the practical components due to the social distancing rules.

A BLOCK

The matric class of 2020 show huge promise and I look forward to their final results. The boys produced some excellent PATs this year. They were tasked with designing ten additional staff houses next to the school's new Astroturf (any similarity to Michaelhouse is entirely coincidental). Many excellent

concepts and final designs were submitted. Well done to Aidan Browne (Baines), who produced the best design in the class and achieved an excellent 99%.

B AND C BLOCK

The B and C Blockers have made huge strides in the curriculum. I feel the boys are more prepared for the next grade than they have ever been. We introduced a PAT for the B Block in anticipation of the one to come in A Block. We introduced some B Block topics into the C Block syllabus to advance them further and to free up some time in 2021 to tackle more practical work in our workshop.

D AND E BLOCK

It is in the junior grades where much excitement lies in how we teach. We changed the syllabus for the D Block this year, which has proved to be beneficial. Their year ended in much excitement as they had to draw and digitally generate their dream home. Many amazing designs were submitted, remembering that the “architects” are only in D Block. We are currently looking at redeveloping the E Block syllabus and looking at different ways to inspire future engineers. I delivered a “where engineering is going” presentation to the junior classes, which generated much interest and conversation about the modern world we live in.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

The Engineering Graphics and Design Department is in a

fantastic place at the moment. This year we see our biggest matric class in the last ten years sit for the final examination. 2021 will be the first time we will have two C Block classes. Our D Block numbers also continue to increase. 2021 will also herald our first innovation class, which will comprise of a small group of D Block boys completing a similar syllabus to their peers but all through project-based work. This is a very exciting pilot initiative and I look forward to writing about the success of the project next year.

The massive increase in our numbers is encouraging and it made me think of this quote again, “There is nothing I believe more strongly than getting young people interested in science and engineering, for a better tomorrow, for all humankind.”
– Bill Nye

STAFF NEWS

The success and growth of the department is thanks to the staff involved. They have been instrumental in setting a new vision and goals for the department and have worked exceptionally hard to achieve these. We welcome Mr Friend (mechatronic engineer) in a full-time capacity into the department in 2021. We also welcomed Mr Barry (civil engineer) as an intern toward the end of 2020. We are blessed to have two engineers in the department and the boys will benefit from their skills and knowledge. We bid farewell to Mr Stanley, who leaves the department, and I wish him well in his future endeavours.

GEOGRAPHY

Head of Department: **Mr Bernard Whitaker**

Staff: **Mr John Crawford, Mr Ollie Hugo, Mr Sibusiso Ncamani, Mr Paul McKay**

Interns: **Mr May Mazibuko, Mr Matthew Stringer, Mr David Pachonick**

2020 has certainly left its mark on the world, and we’ve all had to change our habits. Likewise, in the Geography Department we have had to change our ways and adapt to this virus. We all had to learn new skills to be able to teach over Google Meet. This was extremely challenging for a subject, where practical examples are all around us, but we are unable to use them. So it was a great pleasure to have the boys back on campus, where we could make practical use of our environment.

Geography always lends itself to learning outside, where concepts can be taught and understood both visually and physically. During our B Block lesson on the first Saturday of term I had seen the cloud build-up of an approaching cold front and took my class out to observe this approach. I had just finished explaining how the wind would switch direction and the

temperature would drop, when that was exactly what happened. The wind switched 180 degrees and the temperature dropped by about five degrees. The timing was absolutely perfect, and I doubt the boys will ever forget the conditions of a cold front.

In covering valley climates, the Balgowan valley and particularly the hills around Michaelhouse paint a visual picture of how these climatic concepts work but the boys were also able to actually feel geography in motion. Simple concepts of colder air draining into the bottom of the valley can be felt at night at school but on this particular occasion it was a warming anabatic wind that blew up the valley and this was felt when standing on New Dam’s wall. Looking up the valley the wind picked up and blew directly into our backs, reaffirming this concept of warmer air rising up the valley during the day. It was also evident in the fire break smoke moving up the length of the valley. This is the beauty of a subject that is all around us, everyday – we can see it, feel it and experience it.

In E and D Block we continued to teach geography as its own entity and not as a part of HSS. This seems to have been successful and we will continue to have the two subjects separated.

In E block we covered Unique South Africa, river studies, with a project on the Bog Stream, and the geography of Michaelhouse. In D Block we covered natural and man-made disasters.

From C Block, boys are able to choose their subjects and we have 52 geographers in C Block, 59 in B Block and 68 in A Block. The A Block did their research project on the Bog Stream,

where it was a pleasure having these facilities so close to us.

The matric class of 2019 again achieved outstanding results. Of the 67 boys who wrote, there were 22 A symbols achieved, which equates to a third of our boys achieving an A. A, B, or C symbols were achieved by 89.5% of the boys. The top achiever in the IEB examinations was Finn Elliot, who achieved 89% for his final examinations.

HISTORY

Head of Department: **Mr Christopher Waldburger**

Staff: **Mr Bradley McManus (Acting HOD August – December), Mr Mike Thomson**

The year was a tumultuous one for the History Department. It saw not only the disruptions of the pandemic take a toll on our in-class learning times but also brought massive changes in the departments' structure.

Mr Christopher Waldburger took the reins of the department at the start of 2020 from Mr Mike Thomson. Mr Thomson ably lead the department for many years and brought countless notable achievements during this time. Mr Thomson took a step back and fell into a part-time academic roll during the year. Mr Waldburger brought with him many new and exciting ideas and topics, which our boys relished. Mr Waldburger was, however, appointed to teach English at Le Rosey school in Switzerland, during the early part of the year. This meant he would leave for the second part of 2020. Mr McManus was appointed as acting HOD for the remainder of the year in his stead.

E Block were presented with the normal history of Michaelhouse topic and all the difficulties that came with learning this section without being within its walls. Each boy was required to engage with countless videos and virtual tours of the school, made by the history staff. Coupled with

this, a new section of South African history was explored and enjoyed by all.

D Block engaged with the topics of the ancient world throughout their six months with the department. This covered a multitude of topics, including ancient Rome, Greek civilization, and Mesopotamian history. The boys delved deep into each topic and engaged tremendously.

Our C Block group took advantage of their ability to engage on unique points of interest throughout the year. The boys were able to engage on topics which interested them most. Topics such as Pocahontas, Elizabeth I, Toussaint L'Ouverture and Talleyrand. These were difficult topics and required the boys to delve deep into research and their understandings of the world during each of these people's times. They worked hard and showed a depth of knowledge that will leave them in good stead for the coming years.

As one moves forward the Blocks begin to blur as the shift to matric work takes precedence. Both A and B Block worked on their end-of-matric syllabus and ensured the highest levels of diligence were maintained both individually and as collectives. We are certain that new records will be reached in the IEB examinations for the class of 2020 and 2021. Mr Brandon Venter was appointed to fill the vacant position of head of department at the end of August to start in 2021. He will surely bring much enthusiasm into the department and school as a whole.

AFRIKAANS

Head of Department: **Mr Chris van der Berg**

Staff: **Mr Johan van Rooyen, Mrs Helene du Toit, Miss Marcel Cornelius**

Part-Time: **Mrs Ilne Visagie**

The year started with another set of excellent results in the IEB Grade 12 final examinations: eight boys (11%) achieved distinctions and we had 18 B and 18 C symbols. This meant that 63% of the boys achieved 60% or more. This was definitely just reward for the hard work put in by both teach-

ers and pupils. The challenge is, of course, to keep improving.

Early in February Mr van Rooyen and I attended the IEB regional conference in Ballito in order to keep abreast of the requirements of the IEB.

After a normal first term, Covid-19 reared its ugly head and everything changed. I wrote the following for the Rector's newsletter during this time and this still accurately sums up what we went through:



B Block boys back in the classroom after Covid-19 lockdown regulations were eased

The past term has no doubt been the most challenging term of my 30-year teaching career. Teaching is all about connecting with your students and building relationships in the process, while information and skills are passed on. Online learning moved the focus to the basic transfer of information and that is not what Michaelhouse is all about. I certainly speak for all the teachers in my department when I say that we will be so happy to have the bulk of our boys back in class.

The challenge has been to find the most effective way of doing online teaching and we settled on a combination of pre-recorded audio and video lessons, worksheets, online quizzes and live meetings to discuss the previous week and to plan ahead. We have certainly learned a lot and I suspect that everybody's approach to teaching will look different in future. Using platforms like Moodle and Teams has certainly opened new doors when it comes to teaching effectively. It has been very challenging though and teachers have spent an enormous amount of time behind their computers to do their lesson plans and to make things work. It was nevertheless very rewarding to see most of our boys performing according to their ability in the June assessment tests.

At the moment we have to cater for both the boys at school and those who are stuck at home for whatever reason. I strongly feel that effective and regular communication is the key to success. We need to be present and in constant touch with our students in order to ensure that they know what to do, and when.

We are boosted by the support of our Michaelhouse parents and the gratitude we receive from the boys. It keeps us going during the tough times.

We have had our own mishaps like all the other departments. The one mishap that I will share with you is that a teacher got all excited about a student's brilliant answers when marking June assessment tests, only to realize that it was in fact the memorandum. I was just relieved that the memorandum got 100% (imagine if it was 65%).

As a teacher you face all the everyday concerns of living (health, the economy, the future, etc.), but you also carry the burden of worrying about your students and whether they are surviving in the world we find ourselves in at the moment. Making online teaching/learning work, is a very time-consuming exercise and when you have to do it while also teaching boys physically in class, twice as much effort is required. I am blessed to have a department who really pulls out all the stops to make things work!

In terms three and four, we managed to move closer to normal life at Michaelhouse and we were so happy to get the boys back at school and in class. Things were still miles removed from life before the pandemic, though: rules with regards to social distancing were the order of the day and made life more challenging.

Mrs Helene du Toit is retiring at the end of the year after teaching at Michaelhouse for the past 24 years. I want to thank her for her service to the school and to the Afrikaans Department. She has been pushing for more prominent use of technology in our teaching of Afrikaans for some time and really got her wish this year. She absolutely relished the opportunity to put her knowledge to use. I will also miss our chats every morning and wish her well for the future.

We were fortunate in acquiring the services of Mr Jean-Pierre Olivier, a very experienced Afrikaans teacher from St Stithians, to replace Mrs du Toit, and we look forward to the contribution he will make to the department.

The challenge remains to keep up with new developments in education and in Afrikaans specifically and to make sure that we motivate and inspire our students to see the subject as a relevant one in South Africa. A positive attitude is the key to being successful.

Mr Johan van Rooyen and I have been appointed as IEB markers for the final IEB examinations for 2020. This is an invaluable source of experience for a teacher.

DIE BOS-IS-LOS FEES, DEUR DIE OË VAN 'N BRAK!

Adrien Fisher (B Block)

"Sien ek myself in jou oë, ek het hierdie oorlog verloor!"

Jis ouens! 27 Februarie 2020 rock! Die Bos-is-los Fees kook. Koos Kombuis, Piet die Pers Patat, Bosvark en natuurlik Francois van Coke. Afrikaans, alternatief, lekker! Buite in die opelig en nie 'n wolkie in sig nie. Gelukkig is ek Francois se brawe bulldog, anders was ek nie vandag hier nie. Die musiek dreun en dis 'n wemelende massa jongmense wat uit volle bors skreeu en sing! Ek staan reg voor aan my leiband vasgemaak. Ek kan die spoeg op my voel spat! Woef woef, laat waai Meraai.

Grrrr, so nou en dan word daar op my poot getrap en my kop is al nat van al die bier en vodka. Dit is seker die nadeel van kort wees, maar almal vryf my en daar val gereeld 'n lekker stukkie burger of 'n lekker sappige hot-dog worsie. Die mense skreeu sleptong die woorde van die liedjies uit en daar kry ek weer 'n lekker oorkrap en sommer 'n hele hoenderbroodjie! Genoeg redes om verseker weer terug te kom.

Ek dink ek het hierdie oorlog gewen, nê Francois? Tot volgende jaar! Wie van julle kom saam? Woef woef en stertswaai groet, Ringo!

'N DAGBOEKINSKRYWING - 7 NOVEMBER 2020

Jaden van der Merwe (B Block)

Liewe Dagboek

Dit is die laaste dag van skool! Ek is so bly 2020 se skooljaar is amptelik verby. Dit was 'n goor jaar met baie teleurstellings as gevolg van die grendeltyd wat soveel ervarings gesteel het.

Rugby, sokkies en danse en nog hope goed waarna ek uitgesien het, was ongelukkig nie vanjaar moontlik nie.

Gelukkig sak die son nou op 2020 en ek sien sò uit na al die opwindende geleenthede wat my matriekjaar bring! Ek het baie doelwitte wat ek wil bereik en ek sal hard moet werk om hulle te bereik. Ek wil akademies eerste in die land opeindig in 2021 se IEB-eindeksamens, ek wil Michaelhouse by die Cravenweekrugbytoernooi verteenwoordig en ek sal graag 'n bietjie wil sing! Ek wil op 'n persoonlike vlak my vriendskappe ontwikkel en aanhou om daar te wees vir my pelle. Ek wil ook altyd my verhouding met Jaime verder ontwikkel en ek sien uit na wat gedurende die komende jaar vir ons voorlê.

Ek glo vas dat 2021 'n jaar van vreugde, geleenthede en groei sal wees. 2020 is verby en ek is ongelooflik opgewonde om die vryheid wat my matriekjaar gaan bring, te ervaar.

Op 'n positiewe 2021!

Jaden

WINTER

Tristan Naidoo (A Block)

Gedurende die feesseisoen, hou Suid-Afrikaanse mense van al nege provinsies van die helder en vuurwarm son van die somer. Strande is propvol mense wat daarna verlang om bruin te brand en in die water van Kaapstad of Durban te swem. Maar na my mening, voldoen die kokende warm hitte en warm water egter nie aan my feestelike verwagtinge nie. My skilderagtige ligging van die jaar is inderdaad binne die omhelsing van die winter en die tyd van besinning wat dit meebring.

Stap onder die wolk bedekte lug en jy kan al die oomblikke van skoonheid sien wat winter bring. In die vry en oop lug, onder die vallende sneeuvlokkies, met kinders en volwassenes wat musse en handskoene van verskillende kleure dra, geniet die ure saam met vriende en familie in die sneeu. Sneeu gevegte en sneeumanne maak die dag. Maar wanneer die voëls en diere terug na hulle wonings vir die nag gaan dan keer mense ook terug na hulle warm huise om langs die vuur met 'n heerlike koppie warm sjokolade te sit. Hulle vertel stories en deel herinneringe van tye lank gelede. Warm en smaaklike huiskos dui die einde van die dag aan.

Wanneer die son in die laat ure van die oggend in die Ooste styg, saam met die sterre wat voortgaan om te skyn in die lug en die koue wind wat teen jou gesig waai. Dan bring die stilte van die sneeu ook 'n gevoel wat vrede en geluk bring. Met die gevoel van dennebolle onder jou voete, kan jy besin oor jou lewe en die betekenis van jou aksies, wat ook 'n vlak van geluk bring.

Winter bring nie net gesinne en vriende nader aan mekaar nie, maar op 'n meer persoonlike vlak laat dit jou die natuur en jou lewe waardeer. Dit maak jou gelukkiger, veiliger en gee jou tyd vir ontspanning en refleksie. Winter is meer as 'n seisoen. Aan die einde van die dag is winter deel van ons.

ENGLISH

Heads of Department: **Mr Richard Snowden, Mrs Tanith von Mayer**

Staff: **Mr Peter Huntley, Mrs Mary McMichael, Mr Jonathan Smith, Mrs Gemma Blew, Mr Doug Rodger, Mrs Bernice Borain, Mr Grant Ball.**

Advanced Programme English: **Mr Peter Dennyson**

Part-time Staff: **Mrs Katherine Cass, Mrs Leigh Kotze, Mrs Paula Waller**

Intern Staff: **Mr Richard Brown, Mr Sikelela Nyandeni, Mr Liam Boshoff**

2019 IEB ENGLISH EXAMINATIONS:

YEAR	NO.	AVE	A	B	C	D	% A, B, C
2019	100	70%	8	49	36	6	1 93%
2018	114	73%	27	53	25	9	0 92%

Luke van Rooyen was the top Michaelhouse achiever with 90%. This result placed him in the top 1% nationally in the IEB examination for English home language. Although the average is pleasing, and the number of A, B and C candidates is impressive, our aim remains to convert more B symbols into As.

RESULTS IN THE TOP 1 % IN SOUTH AFRICA:

Luke van Rooyen 90%

Advanced programme English continues to be offered as an optional extra to the boys and the results are as follows:

YEAR	NO.	AVE	A	B	C	D
2019	1	74%	0	1	0	0
2018	7	59%	1	1	1	4

James Moodie persevered as the sole AP English candidate and, despite his busy schedule, his efforts were rewarded with a B symbol in this challenging course. The rigours of AP English are not for the faint of heart but James's determination to succeed and his dedication to Mr Dennyson were admirable.

Advanced programme English is not the only extension we offered in 2020. Forty-seven boys entered the De Beers English Olympiad, which is a competition organized jointly by the Grahamstown Foundation and the South African Council for English Education. The 2020 syllabus revolved around an anthology of short stories entitled *Aftermath*. Simon le Vieux and Tristan Hoyle are to be congratulated on achieving a gold certificate while nine boys, and a further 12 boys, achieved silver and bronze certificates respectively.

Mr Richard Snowden's 2019 *Chronicle* report seems rather

prophetic when he declared: "The Michaelhouse English Department will need to embrace some changes in the new year." Little did we know just how *many* changes. It began with the addition of a further intern, Mr Richard Brown, and teacher, Mrs Gemma Blew, due to Mr Chris Waldburger's defection to the History Department. This was followed closely by Mr Peter Huntley's resignation as he began his leadership journey at Harriston School in Harrismith. His wise and thoughtful insights into the teaching of English and the minds of teenage boys was, and will continue to be, greatly missed. The 'master-teacher' has left an indelible mark on the boys, who passed through his classroom, and his colleagues.

As a result, Mrs Paula Waller joined the English Department and ably taught Mr Huntley's classes. Her positive and humorous outlook on life was a welcome distraction from what was slowly enveloping us: the fear of Covid-19. During these turbulent times, Mr Doug Rodger joined the online English Department, from Johannesburg, as Mr Huntley's replacement; however, Mrs Waller remained part of the team due to Mrs Leigh Kotze enjoying the newest member of the Kotze family – Mikaela.

The second quarter is characterised by the online teaching and learning experience. From Moodle to Google Meets, and Snapify to Zoom, the members of the English Department, under the guidance and scrutiny of Mr Snowden, immersed themselves into the challenges and struggles of teaching teenage boys from behind a screen. Mute buttons were a welcome addition but the second quarter winter-sport excitement was, sadly, replaced with computer screens and WhatsApp messages. Mrs Gemma Blew's experience in the online teaching realm was a great relief and her enthusiasm in helping her technophobic colleagues was appreciated. Our sympathies lay with Mr Rodger and his family, who were prevented from moving to their new home due to the lockdown measures.

"The Michaelhouse English Department will need to embrace some changes in the new year," Mr Snowden had said. I do not think that, at the end of 2019, he had anticipated his own departure during 2020. He was granted the opportunity of teaching at Epsom College in Surrey, UK, and he and his family left Michaelhouse after nine years of service. His consistent leadership and reflective demeanour will be sorely missed. He was an asset, not only to the department, but to the school as a whole, and he will be remembered for his tactful adversity and his dry sense of humour.

With Mrs Waller's and Mr Snowden's departures came Mr Grant Ball's and Mrs Bernice Borain's arrivals. Having joined Michaelhouse during the tumultuous Covid-19 times and the return to classroom teaching, they settled into their new roles as well as can be expected. They injected energy, optimism and excitement into the English classrooms.

Four new members; an experienced existing team; an exciting

2021 syllabus; *Trivium* brilliance; poetry bliss. May 2021 also bring some stability and consistency; a rebuilding of face-to-face relationships and freedom. We will apply what we learnt during the technological-times of 2020 and move forward with wisdom and new experiences. In the wise words of William Wordsworth: "Life is divided into three terms – that which was, which is, and which will be. Let us learn from the past to profit by the present, and from the present to live better for the future."

RITE OF PASSAGE

Tapiwa Chikwanda (A Block)

As Sterling had settled into a routine as a primary school cram-artist, he came to appreciate Wednesday afternoons as ones of glee and relief. He had surmounted whatever challenge of a test the teachers had set and could unwind until the following Tuesday's evening. What usually followed his arrival home were plans with nearby friends to celebrate the respite from their stress.

One such afternoon, as the desire escalated to skateboard with his peers, so too did the menace and weight intensify of the typical Johannesburg clouds. Basking outside carried the same risk as stretching for his brother's biscuits on the top shelf. Instead, he found himself in his bedroom, fettered to a sputtering CRT screen, and feeling as though boredom had thieved his pleasure through the unbarred windows.

Soon, however, his eyes drew towards a sliver of light. A signal, to which he responded excitedly, springing off his mattress and brushing past the soda-stain on the living-room rug. Hoping to reply with a wave, he arrived at the staircase's viewpoint window, though the glow had already steered into the garage.

His race resumed towards the kitchen, the colours of the paintings beside him blending into a blur. Seconds shy of fracturing a rib on the granite countertop, he skewed his path towards his mother, who summited the scullery stairs. As an eleven-year-old who had been confined to the house all day, he was eager to socialise.

"Mom...", he paused as his breath had yet to make its way downstairs, "What do you have for me today?"

"I think it's time I introduce you to the world of cooking. When I come back down, be ready to make your first meal," she winked.

While his mother changed into a t-shirt upstairs, Sterling searched for the vegetables and the chopping board among the white drawers and cupboards. As he found them, his mother had returned and began teaching him how to wield a kitchen knife. She divided into halves her victims – a bleeding tomato, a weeping onion, and some mangled spinach – inviting Sterling to mimic her actions as she punctured the food.

For a while, his mother mapped her arm's precision onto his, guiding the blade away from his fingers. Thinking this chopping would be as simple as his mother's efforts made it seem, Sterling sensed a maternal twitch at the sight of the knife almost scoring his index-finger. After trimming her son's speed, she gave him a chance to slice alone. The two progressed from this execution once Sterling pushed his untidy pile to meet his mother's perfectly diced mound.

His mother beckoned him to the freezer, "What about meat? The choice is yours, son."

He grabbed a packet of pork steaks and walked across black-and-white checkerboard tiles to the microwave. By then it was 7:00 and his mother had adjourned the lesson to watch some news in the lounge. After eight minutes of defrosting, the microwave summoned her back with four beeps. She reached into a cabinet while warning of burns at the stove and arranged the meat into a glistening saucepan. She then accorded to him the family seasoning recipe as she showed him how to "excite the taste-buds," with spices.

A sizzle of frying and a simmer of rice later, Sterling made for the lounge with cutlery and table mats. Once the two glass counters were prepared, he dished generous helpings of the first meal he assisted in crafting. He traipsed into the lounge again, wary of spilling his plate onto the leather couches before the room. The mentor followed shortly after her apprentice and sat beside him. With his first bite, the dish offset the day's turmoil; his home danced on his tongue, condensed in a packet of flavour.

THE CULT OF DIONYSUS

By Michael Gurney (A Block)

The meal was engorging, sumptuous, overflowing with delicacies. The wine was pure, sweet, and powerful. The room, intoxicatingly beautiful, and intricate. The people, vibrant and oozing pleasure. It was simply an ordinary day in the cult.

Diane was ushered in at the tender age of fifteen, introduced to wine and women and polygamy. It suffocated her, with her

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It is notorious that the ordinary South African schoolboy cannot string together a sentence grammatically even in conversation, and the general run of essays makes for tears.

The Chronicle, 1911

”

mild attitudes and shy enjoyments. The cult found this mildly amusing. Diane did not comprehend their dismissal of their very ideals, but years later, at the arrival of the stranger, she began to understand.

The day had begun like any other: delectable food, voluptuous entertainment, and an empty space where a collective bitterness once existed, before these joyous worshipers had finally joined. Diane was part of the festivities, and heaved every rich flavour into her now-gaping maw- transformed after so many indoctrinations, being told the mouth should hold as many pleasures as the eyes. It was a curated talent, to unceremoniously gobble food in as many multitudes as possible, a talent shared ironically by the poor and hungry. But these members knew nothing of the far-distant lands of displeasure. They were the Cult of Dionysus, destined to revel in the most meaningful emotion of life: pleasure.

However, that pleasure was heartily disturbed when the stranger entered through the ornate gold pillar of a door. The pleasure was not disturbed as a result of the stranger: no, he was far too enchanting and radiant. Rather, it was the near-forgotten knowledge, that this hall was impossible to locate, that made some mutter through mouthfuls of alcohol. This man, despite his striking features, was trespassing, an action displeasing to all.

Except Diane. She observed, quietly.

“Who do you all think you are?” boomed the stranger, his voice echoing through the cathedral-like roofs. There was no reply. Many members had forgotten how to talk. There was no need. Even those who could, were faced with a new emotion: bafflement.

“Come on! Who do you think you are?” the man shouted again. Some worshippers jumped in surprise, and their mouths were loosened.

“We... we’re the cult. The Cult of Dionysus,” a woman hiccupped, her liver, intestines, all overflowing with unnatural gasses. “We found ...hic... the right way to live,” she mumbled and rambled back to the ever-continuing orgy, which had not even halted at her moment of fright.

“Well now.” The man seemed not to expect this measure of resistance, or perhaps apathy. Many now were leaving, assuming he would no longer interrupt their ecstatic stupor.

But the man once more grew angry at their disrespect, and took a deep breath. “YOU FOOLS!” he bellowed, with an intensity that rattled food off plates, and wine out of glasses. “You worship Dionysus? Who is he, then?” he once more roared, capturing the attention of even the orgy.

None replied, except Diane, now at the age of twenty, barely recalling the very knowledge she demanded before joining.

“Bacchus. God of... wine. Fertility. Insanity. You made a cult. We are the cult.” Her words were slow and pained, using muscles long-forgotten.

The stranger raised an eyebrow, and his words, accentuated by his deep purple toga, rang across the hall once more. “Yes. I once determined a few worthy souls to join me in hedonistic fantasies. They had felt out of place in a cruel, unforgiving world, so I gave them respite, and eternal pleasure.

“It was my worst mistake,” came the despondent sigh.

The intoxicated worshippers barely registered his words, but the instinctive reaction to his regretful tone remained. They knew a man, with his features, and tone, was one to listen to.

“I returned after many years, to take stock. What I found were excesses, thick and sweet as honey. My worthy souls did not even respond to the outside world, being engrossed in their pleasures. There was nothing I could do. Lightning from Zeus, floods from Poseidon, war from Ares. They were trapped in their head, being overcome by too much, for too long. So I left them.

“It seems, that their numbers have grown.”

The severity of the man’s statements was lost on those already descending into their own demise. They did not understand.

Diana did.

In a flash, a personal cognitive renaissance emerged, she found the man’s words indicative of the future of all who joined the cult. In a flood of realization, shock and remembrance, Diane splurged all excesses, feelings, like hardened blood, gooey snot, all sticking to her insides. Finally she remembered the truth of the cult. Her breathing became laboured as the pain of her reactions overtook her. She remembered the starving, the lame, and the weary. She remembered it all.

The man turned to peer at her, toga swaying with his movements. “Ah. It seems my words have had some effect, on one.” He spoke gently and moved forward to support the falling Diane. “Rest, child. It is alright. There is time to make yourself anew.”

The worshippers found themselves once more disinterested, and they began to slide back into comfortable bliss. The man held Diane for a while, before she could finally pick herself up.

She sniffed, wiping away the tears that dribbled down her face. “What... is this feeling? Where... where will we go now?”

The man smiled. It was a genuine smile, but one that hid thousands of years of pain and mistakes. “Well, I’ve done so much wrong in my life. I think we first have to fix this.”

Diane glanced around the room. "What are they doing?" she asked, amazed at the worshippers' now-bizarre behaviour.

"Listen. This is something quite important: these people are not here to enjoy life. They're trying to eradicate it. That's what they're doing."

Diane tried to make sense of his words, but before she could ask, the man took her by the hand and lead her out of the familiar, now gaudy door.

Once they were out the man took upon his face the mask of bitter concentration. Then, in a snap, air rushed past them, towards the door, and it became suddenly a single, giant slab of marble.

Diane stared. The man had continued along the dingy passageway. "Diane?" he asked. "Are you ready to go outside?"

Diane turned to him. "I'm ready. Make me anew."

They walked silently out of the night.

SERGIO THE SOCCER BALL

Luke Kaufmann (E Block)

I live for the last-minute goals: the cheer of the crowd when I blast past the goalie and slice through the net. I live for the big occasions: the cup finals: and the classic derbies. My life may seem tough being lobbed around all day, but the best part. Whether I am sailing through the air at the demand of the goalie or piercing the net with precision like a sniper bullet, I enjoy every second in the spotlight. With thousands of people, their gaze upon me, I dissect my opponents' legs and loop over their heads. I flick, flack, bend and ascend. Possibly the best part is when I see my name in the papers after scoring a ludicrous goal. People will talk about me for weeks until I achieve yet another incredible feat. But all this aside, my dream is to bring glee to your ordinary lives. This may not be on the big stage; it may be in your back garden or in the streets with your best mates but, in the heat of the moment, what is the difference?

DRAGON DEATH

Aiden Furby (E Block)

Dissecting a dragon;
Dreadful and depressing.
Doomsday descends;
Drives through my doubts.
A dark death
Down in the depths:
A disintegrating dragon
Down in the dungeon.

A TERRIBLE TRIFLING TASTER

Tshiamo Boikhutso (E Block)

Tim and Tom tasted a terrible trifle!
In a stadium full of stupid tyrants, the
tasting was tiresome and the thrilling
talking was too. So Tim and Tom got
teased and tormented...
For the terrible trifle tasting they tried to do.

DOWN IN THE DUMPS

Luke Davidson (E Block)

Day after day,
Down in the dank dark,
Dismal and dreary,
Dave drops his doubtful head.

His dad is dead.

Dejected and down he remains in his bed.
Down in the dumps he feels,
Only to hear the dread of his mother's tears.

I AM WHAT I AM

Johnathan Baber (E Block)

I am the moonlight on the dam shining like a lost jewel
That is never seen by the world.
I flicker and glitter and dazzle
But soon I irritate the looker by shining too bright.
And all that love and marvel is quickly turned to anguish and
hatred.

I am the sad boy: wet, lonely, unwanted, just lying on the kerb -

the cold of my humiliation; regret hangs around me like a mist.
I long for love and the warmth of sanity.
The demon of cold comes closer and closer
Slowly creeping towards my heart where it will finally strike.

I am the demon of cold
injuring and insulting those around me.
Every new soul I break makes my own fade a little more and
soon it will no longer exist. It will be cast to fiery underbelly
of hell.
My body will become empty and chilled like the corpses in the
cemetery;
Each person I meet and hurt adds to the large array of voices;
adds to the large array of voices that torment my dreams every
single night.

I am the quiet boy at the back of the class
Scared that if I open up just a smidge

I will make false friends who will toil and burn me by the steak.
 Scared at every question I ask;
 Wondering, once again, if I will be ridiculed like a pig in the mud by the class;
 Scared every time when my homework isn't done, and the teacher starts to yell
 That my legs will finally give way to the weight and magnitude of my disappointment.

I am the shattered mirror on the floor
 My once whole glass sits shattered so many times
 That I don't even recognise what it is I am.
 Every time I try to put myself back together
 Another blow comes exponentially harder, splintering me further...
 Every time more of me is lost and,
 soon, there will be nothing left of me.

I am the ancient tree
 watching every nasty act, every display of humiliation, every act of cruelty.
 (The boy being beaten behind the lockers;
 The man crying for help and every person walking past with a sickening grin on their faces;
 Sad face upon sad face walking past.)
 I sit there motionless like a lemon
 Unable to move in the terror that one day one of these atrocities will happen to me.

BANG! BANG!
 Another innocent broken by another.

I am, I aM, I AM, I AM
 I am what I am
 I can't change that even though, by god – god, I wish could!
 I am who I am.

WHY I LOVE SOUTH AFRICA

Onalerona Lefakane (E Block)

I love South Africa for what it is
 And what it has become -
 a place that was once violent
 to a place of peace and culture.

I love her beautiful ancient rivers
 And her great mountains,
 high and tall;
 big and wide.

I love her beautiful blue tides
 And all of her sizes of fish,
 Big or small -
 They all have a place in her great oceans.

I love her velds and fields -
 For their greenery and long and wide valleys
 where some of her biggest creatures live -
 The strong lion
 The sneaky leopard
 The mighty Rhino
 The fearless buffalo
 The wise elephant.

I love South Africa
 And I will fight and protect her
 With all my might and power
 For she is worth fighting for.

FRENCH

Head of Department: **Ms Martine de Maroussem**

NSC FINAL EXAMINATIONS

French Second additional language papers have been written by independent and public schools for a number of years. They have also generally been written early on in the NSC time table. Due to Covid-19 causing many changes to the time table, both papers will be written later than usual, in November.

AWARDS

DELf EXAMINATION

Despite the uncertainty of the situation with regards to Covid-19, it was decided that the DELF examinations would take place. Unfortunately, for various reasons, Michaelhouse French learners could not take part in the examinations this year.



The matric French class of 2020 before their outing to Hilton College

OUTINGS

All outings were cancelled but the A Block French Matric Dinner that was held at Hilton College in early February was

enjoyed just in the nick of time. The event gathered schools from Durban to Balgowan and, as always, the evening was a great success and much fun for all learners present.

ISIZULU

Head of Department: **Mr Linda Shezi**

Part-time Staff: **Miss Nqobile Zuma**

Interns: **Mr Emmanuel Mkhize, Mr Siphesihle Mdladla, Mr Ayanda Duma**

There is no doubt that this year has been a challenging one especially for students. It was very strange not having boys at school for a while and teaching them online. There were a lot of lessons from 2020 learned by the Department, the most important one being adapting to new ways of teaching and understanding the importance of technology in the department.

We aim at ensuring that learners understand that they should treat isiZulu not just as a language but as a subject. This means

that it should be studied just like any other subject. Often boys who are fluent in speaking the language assume that they do not need to do extra work. This is not good as it leads to them not achieving to their full potential. Over the years the department has seen many boys who are non-mother tongue speakers take the subject and do well. This is purely because they treat isiZulu as a subject. The department offers sufficient support to students on a daily basis. We keep a register for these so that we can track the progress of the learners. We have created a welcoming environment especially for those who take the subject for the first time in E or D Block.

Outings are an important educational aspect of our department. Unfortunately, this year we were unable to go on any. These outings are different for each Block, and obviously boys look

forward to them. B Block enjoys an annual Zulu evening which is held in September each year. It serves as a good opportunity for students to interact with students from other schools, but in a different type of social setting. C Block travels to *Shakaland* to learn more about the Zulu Kingdom and its history. D Block traditionally visits Ecabazini Homestead near Albert Falls Dam, where they are introduced to the ways of the Zulu people, particularly their farming system, diet and spiritual rituals. I believe that these outings enhance the working, practical knowledge of the students. As it stands there are no scheduled outings for E Block as the primary focus is to ensure that they

adapt well into the subject and into high school. I am hopeful that in 2021 our annual outings will be back in full swing.

I must congratulate the class of 2019 for achieving excellent results. Their achievements rubbed off on the class of 2020. Dedication, desire and attitude are the core values of this department. These values are instilled in all our students. The long-term goal of the department is to have two classes per Block.

The isiZulu Department thrives promoting this subject and working hard at eliminating the stigma of it being difficult.

LIFE SCIENCES

Head of Department: **Mr Paul Snyman**

Staff: **Mr Righardt Kotze, Mr Gerhard Erasmus, Ms Zanele Ndlovu (Laboratory Assistant)**

The online learning process, which was imposed at short notice when the Covid-19 lockdown was enforced, has been a positive experience for staff and boys alike. Yes, the learning curve has been steep but the staff development which has occurred as a result would have taken years to accomplish otherwise. For the boys, particularly the seniors, time management and working independently have been key growth areas. Gerhard Erasmus, who has been our B Block online work co-ordinator, commented on the significant increase in maturity observed in the boys he interacted with. The C Block completed an introductory task on essay writing which demanded a high level of cognition. Righardt Kotze, the C Block online work co-ordinator, also noted a mature approach from his class. Paul Snyman co-ordinated the A Block online offering. This group of boys were under pressure to complete the curriculum before the trial examinations but careful planning and co-operation from all the boys concerned ensured that the process went well.

The practical element of life sciences is a key component to the subject. Online learning made this outcome challenging, but not impossible, to achieve. Some of the A Block boys conducted an online practical investigation which met IEB standards. A consequence of the unusual year past has been that the C Block group lost the opportunity to go on their annual Oceanographic Research Institute excursion. We hope to return to normal excursions in 2021.

There were some members of the department for whom life continued as per normal. The boa-constrictor, the Natal tree-frog, the pair of leopard geckos and the fish in the aquaponic plant have all been flourishing. A pair of spotted eagle owls returned to roost in the plane tree outside the new marketing suite and we

were delighted to see two fluffy grey chicks in the nest in spring.

The sciences block remains a world-class facility. Phase two of the project to install acoustics panels in the teaching venues was put on hold this year due to some necessary budget reshuffling. Recording lessons during distance learning highlighted the acoustic concerns in these venues and the necessity to improve them remains a priority. This project is planned for completion in 2021. The panels in the venues which have already been upgraded make a marked improvement to the sound quality.

The 2019 Grade 12 life sciences group had a slow start to the year. Their results in the June and trial examinations were lower than those seen the previous six years. Pleasingly, there was a significant improvement from this group in their final examinations where they performed above the IEB averages in all areas. The substantial upward shift in tail-end results was most pleasing. 19% of the year group achieved an A symbol which is 3% higher than the IEB average. 64% of the group achieved either an A or B symbol overall. The final candidate average for this group was 71% which is on par with previous years and 6% higher than the IEB average. There were no failures.

We continue to place emphasis on the skills assessed in Paper II – developing a fluent, succinct, well-planned argument in response to an essay question and adopting an analytical approach to case study questions remain focus areas. Foundational skills continue to be taught at C and B Block levels. Close analysis of the 2019 results reflected improvements in the essay and case study questions.

Our 2020 Grade 12 school-based assessments (SBAs) were moderated regionally. Our moderator commented favourably on the standard of our assessments. She felt that our boys had been well prepared for their final examinations despite the challenges they had faced this year. We eagerly await their results and wish them well as they leave our department and school.

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The subject of the next lecture was 'Evolution', in which were explained the main principles of Darwin's great theory and its effects on the scientific world. The object of these lectures, we believe, is to remedy to some extent the general ignorance which exists on scientific matters.

Report on lectures given by Rector James Cameron Todd to the school, 1902

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MATHEMATICS

Head of Department: **Mr Paul de Wet**

Head of Department (Mathematical Literacy): **Mr Nico Boshoff**

Staff: **Mr Alan Adlington-Corfield, Mr Jason Blockley (intern), Mr Bailey Coxon, Mr Dominic Gruijters, Ms Lisa Hardie, Mr Thabani Hlabisa (intern), Mr Nathan Holm (intern), Mr Sibonelo Khanyile, Mr Allan Laing, Mr Linda Mabuza (intern), Mr Thapelo Machimane (intern), Ms Karin Moffat, Mr Michael Sevenoaks (intern), Mr Peter Stevens, Mr Grant von Mayer**

The year started with our celebrating excellent matric results in core mathematics, advanced programme mathematics and mathematical literacy. Special mention must be made of Joshua Witherspoon (99%), Ruben Mitchell (98%) and Luke van Rooyen (97%), all of whom were in the top 1% for maths in the IEB nationally.

At the start of the year Mr Paul de Wet assumed the leadership of the department following Ms Karin Moffat's appointment to Housemaster of the newly established McCormick House. Paul previously taught at Michaelhouse from 2002 to 2009, following which he spent nine years running academics at Hilton College. Paul thoroughly enjoyed his years at Michaelhouse and is excited to be back leading a team with an enviable reputation for collegiality, collaboration and excellent results. Paul is in the role of director of mathematics with his co-curricular involvement being the promotion of mathematics teaching and learning at schools in our community. Although Covid-19 somewhat limited the extent of this opportunity, he has been able to make valuable contributions to our local schools and has been willingly supported in this by several members of the department.

We remain committed to "acting wisely, caring deeply and taking joy in every day" and we believe we have been successful in this in 2020.

In past years we have streamed the E Block classes following a benchmarking test in the first week. This process was somewhat problematic given the boys' varied mathematical backgrounds. We were also anxious about the possible negative consequences of labelling a boy as a bottom setter so early on. This year we opted instead to sort the E Block boys into six mixed-ability groups based on their performance in the benchmarking test. The intention was to perform some form of streaming at mid-year. However, Covid-19 meant that we did not write proper mid-year examinations on which to base this streaming so we ended up persisting with the mixed-ability groups. This worked really well with all teachers commenting that even the less capable boys seemed to be more optimistic about their mathematics. We will continue with this paradigm in future years but will consider the possibility of some form of streaming at mid-year.

As has been the case in the past, we entered a large number of boys into the National Mathematics Olympiad, with 359 boys writing round one on 12 March. In order to qualify for round two, one needs to achieve a mark of at least 50% in the first innings. One hundred and eighty-one boys succeeded in doing so. In order to qualify for the final round, one needs to finish in the top 100 in the country. While we did not have any boys qualifying for

the final round this year, the following boys are commended for finishing in the top 100 in the province: Tapiwa Chikwanda, Mitchell Flanagan, Dylan Hewlett, Ross Keep, Matthew Kennedy, Anelechi Obasi, Nathan Strachan and Alex Vries.

Friday 13 March saw us celebrating Pi Day a day early due to its falling on a Saturday. Kian Moses (E Block, McCormick) won the prize for correctly reciting the greatest number of decimal places of Pi (122). Apart from the prize of R1 per digit, he had the pleasure of throwing a pie at Ms Moffat (in Mr de Wet's fortuitous absence). Farfield won the Pi Day relay – an inter-House event involving one runner from each Block running his share of the 3.1415926535.... km route

And that was the point at which the year ceased to be normal. The school closed early on Tuesday 17 March due to the Covid-19 pandemic. A significant proportion of the rest of the year was taught remotely using a combination of online lessons, videos, online quizzes and so on. We are very proud of the way the Michaelhouse mathematics team responded to the challenges of delivering our curriculum online. We learnt a significant number of new skills in creating and editing videos, using Moodle, setting up online quizzes and marking online, to mention just a few. There is no doubt that these skills will serve us and the boys well in the years to come.

On 7 and 8 August we again hosted Math Camp – a revision opportunity for our matrices who, along with the staff, sacrificed a couple of days of holiday to "do the math". Jason Blockley took full responsibility for this event, from the creation of a workbook to the logistics around buses and meals. We take this opportunity to thank him for creating this opportunity for our boys. There is no doubt it will play a part in adding further lustre to our results at the end of the year.

At the end of the year we will lose the services of Alan Adlington-Corfield (who leaves us to become the executive head of M-Pesa Foundation Academy in Kenya) and Peter Stevens (who retires). Alan ran the department for six years and taught in it for 15 years, making significant contributions to the teaching of top sets and advanced programme mathematics in particular, enjoying unparalleled success with both. Peter Stevens served his alma mater for ten years as a highly effective teacher, mentor and role model to our boys. We will miss them both and we thank them for their contributions. Mr Steven Ngwenya will join our team from Mitchell House at the start of 2021.

The department continues to be a place of high expectations – both of ourselves and of the boys we teach. It also continues to be a place of collegiality and learning and a great place to grow the next generation of mathematics teachers through our intern programme. This year we have hosted six interns in the department. We are proud of their development and appreciative of their contributions.

I am grateful to the whole team for their contributions but especially to my predecessors who have helped me find my feet and embraced the changes I have proposed.

In conclusion: we are proud of the way we have delivered the curriculum and we are optimistic about the results we will achieve in the final examinations.

MEDIA CENTRE

Head of Department: **Mr Jed Coventry**

Staff: **Mrs Leigh Kotze (Assistant Librarian), Ms Sindi Mnikathi (Librarian's Assistant), Mr Simon Zondi (Audio-Visual Resource Centre)**

"A TRULY GREAT LIBRARY CONTAINS SOMETHING IN IT TO OFFEND EVERYONE" – JO GOODWIN

The year started on a high note, with plans of exciting events and projects designed to slot in with the usual packed school calendar at Michaelhouse. Little did we know that these plans would shortly be scuppered by Covid-19 when school closed abruptly on 18 March.

In the early part of the year Mrs Kotze and Ms Mnikathi took it in turns to each go on maternity leave, ushering in new arrivals Mikaela Kotze and Nkazimulo Mdladla respectively. The impeccable timing of these two new arrivals meant we were never shorthanded by more than one person at a time, and the air of joyous anticipation and the aftermath of sleep-deprived, but proud mums set the tone for a year that was to be full of both excitement and challenges.

Also in the new arrivals category, the Media Centre received a printer upgrade, providing a more capably equipped printing centre for the boys, offering greater consistency and reliability, as well as the ability to publish in colour or A3 with ease.

While many similar facilities were forced to close, the Media Centre was fortunate enough to remain open to our community throughout the period that Michaelhouse was open and operational this year. This necessitated a proactive approach in developing a set of operating protocols designed to minimise the risk of transmission in the facility: only one class at a time, masks on, sanitising of hands at the entrance, spaced seating

arrangements, and sanitising of all surfaces in between classes.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the diligence of the Michaelhouse managerial team, who provided us with the equipment, materials and information to operate safely, and to all the staff who carried out their services stringently in this regard.

Although it came with its inconveniences, the period of hard national lockdown bolstered the launch of our ebook platform, Snapplify, meaning eager readers could keep up to date with their favourite series and new releases. The down-time was also utilised to conduct a collection audit, allowing us to replace missing or lost books and stock up on extra copies of our most in-demand titles.

Mrs Kotze continued to dazzle with an array of informative displays, marking important events and offering new points of interest throughout the year. Inspired by guest speaker Karobo Che Makaope's passionate addresses on the project of multiculturalism, she has conceptualised a series of displays celebrating cultural achievement and excellence from across our home continent, Africa, that will continue to develop into next year.

As this year draws to close, Ms Sindi Mnikathi leaves the Media Centre to take up a new position as housemother. Although Sindi's keen efficiency and bright smile will be missed at the Media Centre, we wish her all the best in her new role.

Mr Simon Zondi, AV manager at Michaelhouse since 1980, retires at the end of this year, and so we bid farewell to a man who has served our community for 40 years. Every time a guest speaker stepped up to speak into the microphone, or gestured to the projected display, Simon was there behind the scenes setting up speakers and laying down cables. Thank you, Mr Zondi, for your years of selfless service and willingness to help in every circumstance.

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We seem to be becoming less and less able to make active use of our spare time without relying on popular mass entertainment.

The Chronicle, 1958

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OUTDOOR EDUCATION

E BLOCK CAMP

Masters in Charge: **Mr Herman Visagie, Mr Mark Blew**
Written by Seth Segal (Mackenzie)

EBlock Camp 2020. Now this is a story worth telling. Early in the morning, hyped for the 'amazing' time ahead, the group of unwitting cacks grew steadily larger at the

Amphitheatre. The day for the much-anticipated E Block Camp had arrived and the teachers sat the mob of 120 14-year olds down to explain the safety logistics. We politely listened; and, then, politely forgot.

The adventure began when the first House was sent off. This was not Mackenzie, of course; Murphy would never let that



E Block Camp

happen. It was a heartless 20-minute wait for the Mackenzie journey to begin; however, it did not disappoint.

We hiked the 5km up the hill with our bags dragging behind our bodies, and the sun blazing – it was as if Murphy was sitting with a magnifying glass intensifying the heat. We spent the afternoon setting up camp and working on our flags and war cries. Thanks to our amazing Mackenzie artists, the flag was a stunner; the war cry, however, was a bunch of rowdy, unsynchronized, school boys. Dismal, really! We deserved our bed after a tiring day and we were welcomed by the ground covered by a thin piece of fabric called a camping mat. Sleep did not come easily that night and the next morning it rained. It rained till our clothes were wet; our shoes were wet; our food was wet; our sleeping bags were wet; the marrow deep in our bones was wet.

And then it rained some more.

It got to the point where my flooded shoes just gave up – broke apart – and I had to walk the last 8km of our hike on soaked prune-like feet.

The next day, the sun shone brightly and dried our sodden spirits. The day was filled with fun activities such as the tug of war. This is more difficult than you would think when the ground is nothing but mud. The night run was a highlight – we had to conquer the dark and complete the tasks. Mackenzie won this one, I am happy to say.

There was nothing better than going to bed that night knowing that I had done all I could for my House; knowing that every person had striven for victory; knowing that we were the closest to the crown. The greatest achievement of the camp, however, is being able to say that my insane friends had gone from acquaintances to the best team I could ask for. Whether we took home the win or not, we would always have those fun-filled memories of starting a fire in the rain, drilling a hole in our table, and boiling meatballs with our noodles.

D BLOCK HIKE

Staff in Charge: **Mr Ian Crawford, Ms Carika de Swardt**

The main aim of the D Block Hike is to promote outdoor education and learning that will stand the boys in good stead for their C Block Journey. On the hike the boys



D Block Hike

become familiar with carrying a rucksack, learning to pitch a tent, cooking various meals on a gas cooker and gaining a feel for different terrains and distances. Fitness, health, leisure, recreation, personal development and the encouragement of outdoor pursuits, are fundamental in providing high-quality leadership training.

The D Block Hike route is a four-day hike back to Michaelhouse from Castle Howard in the Kamberg. Departure of the hike commenced at 10am on Monday with over 120 eager boys. Reality sank in as it dawned on the boys that the 50-minute drive from school was taking them further and further away from the familiar red-brick fortress.

The rain and mist caused an upset on day two when visibility fell to near zero, forcing some Houses to return to their first overnight camp. Clear weather on day three saw the Block re-grouping at Bellwood and all found their way safely home on the last day.

THE FOLLOWING PERSPECTIVES ARE PROVIDED BY VARIOUS BOYS WHO RECOUNTED THEIR PERSONAL AND THEIR HOUSE'S DAILY TRIUMPHS AND TRIALS:

D Block Hike was a crazy adventure with many ups and downs. I really enjoyed the chilled and relaxing afternoons, the camping and getting to know my friends a whole lot better. I will never forget the Tuesday; getting lost, the freezing temperatures and my aching muscles – what an adventure. This hike will definitely stay with me forever and I will always have many fond memories of this great adventure.

Andrew Woodland (Farfield)

A really cool and enjoyable hike despite the freezing nights, the rain and the icy temperatures on Tuesday. A big part of the hike was on the second day when we got a little lost. Our spirits were certainly down but we all carried on, fighting off the cold weather, chilly wind, rain and we eventually got to camp. We



C Block boys on Journey

will definitely have many laughs about that cold, miserable second day of hiking. Memories were definitely made on this hike, especially chilling with our mates in the evenings and cooking on a cooker.

Caleb Vermaak (Farfield)

D Block Hike was not the worst and I actually enjoyed it. The best part of the hike was on the last day when we were walking back and I could just see Michaelhouse. I got extremely excited about the prospect of getting back to school. Looking back, the second day was the toughest. The extreme cold, wind and freezing rain was horrible. All in all, I really enjoyed the hike. It was great fun walking around with friends, being outdoors and seeing our beautiful natural surroundings.

Amogelang Phetlhu (East)

D Block Hike was quite an experience for me as my family and I never go camping, and I found out exactly why during this

hike. Sleeping in a tent is rough because when you wake up and move the water comes seeping through on to you and you don't have much space in the tent to begin with. Other than the camping I thought it was really fun. For me the best part was when we got a little lost and we had no clue where we were going. It seemed like we did a loop around a mountain whilst the temperature was about three degrees. We thought we were near the next campsite but were proved wrong as we decided, in the mist, to head back to where we had camped on day one

Dominic Furby (Baines)

C BLOCK JOURNEY

Master in Charge: **Mr Paul Fleischack**

Why a journey? Life is a journey, but in the electronic age this journey can often be delivered second hand through TV or computer imagery.

It is both easy and comfortable to experience the risk-free images of nature on a screen. Children are thus long in knowledge but very short on experience to handle that knowledge; much of it gathered second hand.

Dr Nick Bayliss and Dr Tim Barry remind us that humans are hardwired to connect with nature. Technology seduces us by offering 'connectedness', and yet it brings distance. They also propose that we make friends best by sharing adventures; the better the adventure, the better the friendship. Research conducted by Dr Richard Louv, who has established the Nature Network in the USA and coined the term "nature deficit disorder", points clearly to the importance of authentic time spent in nature. The Journey provides this opportunity.

We cannot control nature by the click of a mouse. On the Journey, boys will learn to cope with what they cannot control: the weather, distances, blisters, their companions. They will discover their own identities once the layers of comfort and fashion have been peeled back. This is the essence of the Journey. Each boy will experience his own journey within his group, growing physically, spiritually and in self-awareness. With the C Block Journey, the challenge is, at least in part, a metaphor of the journey from boyhood to manhood. It is a journey each boy must complete for himself. No one else can do it for him. However, he does not do it by himself.

Reflection by Skulule Ngejane (Baines)

"Keep going", "One foot in front of the other", "We're almost there". The Boy had been hearing these phrases, these camp slogans that were told to him before he left, along the abrupt slopes of the Drakensberg. Rising along the side of an ancient giant, up and up, step by step, as if heading towards the pearly gates, the thought of quitting never left his mind. And a loneliness pierced his heart.

After sixteen years of comfortable living. Wealthy parents, top class education and a life most would dream of, it would have been safe to say that The Boy grew up with a silver spoon in his mouth and ate on a golden plate. As you would imagine after a life filled with first generation wealth and parents who prioritized giving him everything they never had instead of teaching

him the lessons they never learned, The Boy had become an arrogant, self-centred and immensely lazy young man. The Boy was intelligent but not wise; he gave away but, like most, never really cared about those who were less fortunate.

There he was at the foot of an ancient beast who had once walked amongst the stars. The Boy was confronted by a truth that over a decade and a half of a perfect life had been hiding from him. Life is an uphill battle. And this time he was on his own. Up and up he went as if the mountain grew with every step he took. There was no parent, nor servants, nor anyone else who would normally help him. The combination of the melanin melting sun and his sobbing muscles made the journey all the more difficult for The Boy. However, the real challenge came when the climb became less physical and more and more mentally taxing.

Then finally, after hours of mind moulding, muscle maiming climbing, he got to the top. "Hooray, I made it!" These were the words that The Boy called out in elation. Then after some rest and celebration of his achievement The Boy went wandering to see what lay on the other side of this ancient beast. The Boy was puzzled by what he saw: in the distance, little children were running up and down what seemed a more strenuous route than his with buckets. Exhausted and not really caring much The Boy set out on a much easier return trip down the beast.

When he got to the bottom he was received by his driver whom he told to get him home as soon as humanly possible. On the way back, The Boy was explaining his experience to his driver. When he got to the bit about the children on the other side of the mountain his driver said, "Oh I remember doing that as a child. You know, Master, we used to go to the top of the Drakensberg to fetch the ice melted there because that was the closest water supply our village had."

Then The Boy realized what he had actually seen. He had been outdone by children. They carried water for their families while he was complaining that he didn't buy a big enough water bottle. They had to adapt to running up and down a mountain while he, a person who thought the world of himself, who saw himself as superior to most of the people that he'd ever met, he almost didn't make it up the easier side of the mountain.

SCIENCE

Head of Department: **Mr Matthew Higginson**

Teaching Staff: **Mr Edward Jeffery, Mr Nkanyiso Ngcobo, Mr Clint Sliedrecht**

Lab Assistance: **Mr Raymond Duma**

2020 has proven to be an exceptionally productive year with the boys' interest in physical science sparked by thought-provoking lessons throughout the year. This

year will forever be remembered as the year of online learning.

We have enjoyed the challenges of learning new pedagogy and have continued to strive for excellence in the development of our skills as a department. We are determined to continue to contribute to a meaningful online experience for the boys and are passionate about ensuring structured learning through the digital medium. In our regular departmental



E Block science with Nkanyiso Ngcobo

meetings, we have an agenda point relating to “tips and tricks” where we share what we have learnt during the week and we are developing the pattern of remote learning to make future lessons more accessible and interactive in the classroom setting.

Recording topics and examples has been extremely helpful as we will be able to use and update these videos and make them available to a wider group of boys for use during revision time. This is particularly the case where there are difficult concepts and scientific ideas where we know students struggle.

We have found that the boys' use of online lessons has improved and that their skill of learning from video content has rapidly improved. The library of material which we have built up will also be extremely useful for boys who are away from school for a variety of reasons such as illness, sport or cultural commitments or on exchange programmes.

What we have missed most is the interaction with boys in the classroom and laboratory, but it is interesting to note how a large number of boys have also become independent learners and are working in their own time and at their own pace to

generate some exceptional work.

The Physical Science Department will continue to inspire our boys in all science fields. The use of simulation software in the science laboratory is proving invaluable and we are committed to extending our knowledge in all digital areas involving science teaching and learning. We will continue to use our online platforms and all our virtual learning environments.

2020 saw the uptake of our first advanced programme physics cohort. The boys are due to sit their exams in November 2021. Mr Edward Jeffery has had the pleasure of teaching this group of talented young physicists. He is confident that the boys are deepening their understanding of the world and space around them. We look forward to seeing how this group of young men can tackle the challenges of such a gruelling syllabus.

The reputation of the Physical Science Department continues to grow with the uptake of young Grade 10 scientists once again at a new high, with 69 current D Block boys choosing physical science as one of their subject choices.

SPIRITUAL

Michaelhouse is an Anglican foundation school in the Diocese of Natal, and the Bishop of Natal, the Rt Rev Dino Gabriel, is the school visitor. The resident chaplain, Canon Alan Smedley, together with the Rector, assumes responsibility for the spiritual welfare of the boys. The chapel and the spiritual life of the school are seen to be central to the education Michaelhouse seeks to provide. We believe it's fundamental that each boy who passes through this school should have had the opportunity to be exposed to Christian worship and values, and to come to a personal faith in Jesus Christ. For some this will occur during their time here, whilst for others we trust that the seeds which are planted in their lives will germinate in later life. However this occurs, it is our hope that young men of Michaelhouse will acquire a spiritual foundation which will not only equip them to live whole and fulfilled lives, but which will also enable them to practise a life of Christian service in the world. Whilst being a Christian foundation school, the necessity for religious tolerance is recognized and our boys are taught to respect the beliefs of other world religions and philosophies.

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It was the conviction of our founders that the only foundation strong enough is that of Christian Faith. It was their hope that from this place might go forth a stream of boys, rooted and built up in Jesus Christ and established in their faith...From this would proceed the sense of responsibility, the readiness for service and the aptitude for wise leadership... and it is our loyalty to this ideal that the future usefulness of Michaelhouse depends.

The Chronicle, 1929

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Written by Rev Canon Alan Smedley

As I write this report, I am reflecting on my last year at Michaelhouse. I am due to retire in a few weeks' time after 28 years as the chaplain. What an extraordinary year it has been! Who would have thought when the school opened in January that a virus would bring the whole world to a standstill and close down so much of what we take for granted, and on such an unprecedented scale. As I think about what has transpired this year it is still difficult to get one's head around it. But here we are, with the A Block writing their finals and the rest of the school also having started exams. And as is the case for all of those who are involved in schools, the Christmas holidays are beckoning.

Before reporting on the activities of the spiritual life of the school this year, I thought I would share with you three words which have been pivotal to my experience of living and working in this most beautiful and incredible place. Each one beginning with the letter G.

Firstly, the word “Gift”. Those amazing words from John 3:16 have undergirded all that I have tried to do: “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” It has been the staggering gift of Jesus Christ, offered to all humanity, that I have felt called to share with the boys and adults of the community. What an enormous privilege it has been to try and be faithful to this high calling.

Secondly, the word “Grace”. As I have tried to do the above, it has only been possible because of God's grace. Anything good which may have been achieved has only been by His grace. There have been many times when I have felt unworthy, and out of my depth, but God has nevertheless intervened and been at work. To Him, and to Him alone, be all the praise and the glory and the splendour and the majesty, for ever and ever, amen.

Then third, the word “Gratitude”. I am so grateful to God, for the incredible gift of his Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and the gracious activity of the Holy Spirit, who has blessed us beyond measure. We have been blessed again and again,

both in the ministry and personally. As I look back over the past 28 years I would not have wanted to be doing anything else, anywhere else. Thank you, thank you, Father, for your extreme generosity and goodness which you have showered upon us with such abundance.

And so, let me now report on the spiritual life of the school since the last *Chronicle* was published.

LICENSING OF NEW LAY MINISTERS

At the end of last year, at our Wednesday morning service on 20 November, it was a great joy to welcome the Archdeacon of uMngeni, Canon Paul Mosdell, to Michaelhouse. He joined us to license ten new lay ministers. These were: Mark Blew, Nkanyiso Ngcobo, Carl Bezuidenhout, Carika de Swardt, Righardt Kotze, William Silk, Herman Visagie, Jenny Clinton-Parker, Linda Shezi and Win de Wet. Then in January this year, Paul de Wet joined the group. We now have 18 lay ministers on our staff.

CONFIRMATION

Once again we held our annual confirmation camp at Em'seni. It took place from the afternoon of Saturday 8 February to midday on Wednesday 12 February. This year 102 B Blockers attended whilst 12 chose to remain at school. Those who remained at school were given academic projects to complete. As we have done in the past we used the youth Alpha material which comes from Holy Trinity Brompton in central London. It is an excellent course covering basic Christianity.

A critical component of the course is small group discussion. This year we divided the boys into 11 groups and each one was led by a Michaelhouse staff member. The following people were involved: Mark Blew, Linda Shezi, Carl Bezuidenhout, Chris Waldburger, Herman Visagie, Gerhard Erasmus, John Crawford, Carika de Swart, Paul Fleischack, Jenny Clinton-Parker, Nqobile Zuma, William Silk, Nkanyiso Ngcobo, Emmanuel Mkhize, Sifiso Vilakazi, Richard Brown and Ross Stanley. Gerhard Erasmus also led the worship at each of the plenary sessions. Henry Bro, from Em'seni, assisted with the overall programme as well.

Once again we were greatly blessed. A large proportion of the boys made a commitment to Christ and many received an infilling of the Holy Spirit. On the Tuesday and Wednesday mornings we gave boys the opportunity to share with the whole group what God had done in their lives the previous day. It was deeply humbling, and moving, to witness about 20 boys stand up and share their personal stories. Their willingness to be vulnerable in front of virtually the entire year group was

quite remarkable. As is the case each year, the challenge now is for the boys to keep growing in their relationship with Jesus.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE

The confirmation service took place in the chapel on Friday 13 March at 5pm. In the absence of a Diocesan bishop, Bishop Dino graciously agreed to come out of retirement and preside. As always, it was a wonderful celebration and I praise God for what he did amongst us. Eighty-one boys were confirmed and 11 of them were also baptised.

CHAPEL SERVICES

We held our usual chapel services in the first quarter with involvement from boys and staff. Other than myself, the Rector, Alan Corfield, William Silk, Nkanyiso Ngcobo, Jonathan Smith, Carl Bezuidenhout, Paul de Wet, Righardt Kotze and Mark Blew preached. The B Blockers from Farfield and Mackenzie also took Wednesday chapel services. On 26 February we celebrated Ash Wednesday at which Paul Fleischack spoke. As I have mentioned a number of times before, it is such a privilege for our community to be able to listen to talks given by such a diverse cross section of people, with their different styles of delivery and content.

On most Sundays for the remainder of the year, due to the pandemic, we were forced to have pre-recorded chapel services. In the second quarter, during the hard lockdown, these were online so that the community could access them wherever they were. Then in the third and fourth quarters, given the prohibition on church services with congregations larger than 50 people, and no singing not permitted, it proved to be extremely difficult to timetable services where we could use the chapel, and so we continued to have them pre-recorded and screened in House dayrooms on Sunday evenings. There were two sittings. One at 6.30pm for the juniors, and then another at 7pm for the seniors.

However, on two Sundays in the fourth quarter, in order to try and meet as the whole school, we decided to have our evening services in the big outdoor amphitheatre. The initial one was on 18 October for the school prefect induction ceremony. It was the first time that we had been able to have a live chapel service since March. All the boys and academic staff were present, appropriately socially distanced. What a joy it was to at last meet and worship together. At this service, the ten new heads of Houses, and the senior prefect, for 2021 affirmed their commitment to their new roles by responding positively to the Rector's questions regarding their responsibilities. They then came forward one by one, signed the school prefects' pledge in front of the gathering, and then were congratulated by him. This was followed by a music item from our Music Department

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Michaelhouse is part of a great system of training, and those coming here have their ideals and character built up to meet the many problems and difficulties which they will meet in life.

The Bishop of Natal, addressing the governor general and Princess Alice, 1928

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The Remembrance Day service

and then the Rector addressed us. He gave a wonderful talk about leadership, drawing on the examples of various historical figures. He then spoke about the supreme leader, Jesus Christ, and referred to the Biblical account of him washing his disciples' feet. As a gesture and to exemplify how important servant leadership is, the Rector then called forward three of the new school prefects, asked them to sit in front of him, take off their shoes and socks, and he then knelt down and washed their feet. It was a very powerful and moving visual aid. This important service in the school's annual calendar was then concluded with some prayers.

The second amphitheatre service took place on Sunday 8 November. This was on Remembrance Sunday. It was similar to what we have done in the past, except for the laying of wreaths. As there was no altar to place them against, we decided to leave them for this year. However, we still had the playing of the *Last Post* and the *Reveille* by Peter Woodland, a sermon by Paul Fleischack, the reading of the roll of honour by the new senior prefects, various prayers and a music item. The Rector

began the service by giving an extremely helpful and informative explanation of why we hold a Remembrance Service each year and Paul gave an excellent sermon. It was a most moving and beautiful occasion. There was a light breeze on a warm Balgowan evening and the sun set as we were gathered together. It was very special to be in that lovely outdoor environment.

Then, on Sunday 25 October we had another first since March. We held a voluntary morning Eucharist in the chapel. We used individual plastic cups for the wine (similar to the practice of the Methodist Church) and then wafers as usual. In place of our singing we listened to two songs over the sound system. Although it was a very small congregation, it was wonderful to once again be back in the chapel after seven months.

DAILY DEVOTIONS

From the start of the second quarter through to the end of the year, I pre-recorded a daily devotion which was posted online. These were drawn from the writings of Selwyn Hughes,

a Christian minister, writer and teacher who died in 2006. His foundation continues to publish his daily devotional, *Every Day with Jesus*. We initially looked at the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit, the Divine Counsellor, and then in the fourth quarter we worked through the book of Ecclesiastes.

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

The chairman of CF this year was Raiffe Ingledew. He gave superb leadership under very difficult circumstances, particularly during the hard lockdown when everything was online. He was assisted by the second prefect, Michael Ross. The other members of the committee were Xhanti Gqweta, Ross Leslie, Kwanele Khumalo, TK Shava, Ntsako Sambo, Michael Gurney, David Stubbs, Michael Moodie and James Murray from A Block and then Cameron McLean-Banks, Jamie Stevenson and Richard Upfold from B Block. The CF band was led by Michael Gurney and Tapiwa Chikwanda.

In the first quarter the CF group continued to meet each Wednesday evening at 8.20pm in the crypt. Attendance was in the region of 80 to 100 boys. Then in the second quarter they met each Wednesday at the normal time but by using Instagram. During the hard lockdown the CF committee also continued to meet each Thursday evening on Google Meet. In the third quarter the meetings took place in the chapel on Wednesday evenings as usual. However, the numbers had to be limited to 50 boys and there was no singing allowed. In the fourth quarter we relaxed somewhat and returned to the crypt.

WESTMONT COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP, SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA

It was a great joy and privilege to chaperone our next two matric leavers to Westmont College in Santa Barbara, California, in January this year. As I was already in the UK for Christmas with family, I met Ayanda Nene and Thami Zakwe at Heathrow on 2 January. The three of us then flew to Los Angeles. They were this year's recipients of the highly prestigious Michaelhouse Fellows Scholarship, funded by a Michaelhouse Old Boy. This is a four-year bursary covering all expenses including air fares, given to two matric boys each year. They received a warm welcome from Michaelhouse Old Boys, Mfolozi Dlamini, Luvuyo Magwaza, Thabani Ntombela, Mpho Mthethwa and Seun Afolayan, who are previous recipients. Whilst there I met with Dr Gayle Beebe, the President of Westmont, who said that the Michaelhouse scholars have continued to make a great contribution to the community. They have achieved excellent academic results, but also immersed themselves in other aspects of college life. Three of them play in the Westmont rugby team, and Seun is the vice-captain. It was an enormous privilege to spend five days with them and hear all about their progress.

PERSONAL

Very sadly, I was forced to work online and be in self isolation for the second and third quarters. This was extremely frustrating and gave rise to many mixed emotions. However, I was encouraged by the fact that we now have 18 lay ministers

at Michaelhouse who all interact with the boys on a daily basis. So, in the absence of the physical presence of the chaplain, the boys had many people on hand who could encourage them in their spiritual growth and development. In the fourth quarter I cautiously emerged from our home and was involved in various aspects of school life. What a joy it was to be back!

As this will be my last *Chronicle* report before retirement, I would like to conclude by expressing my sincere thanks to all the members of the Michaelhouse community for your support and encouragement, as well as the friendship, that I have experienced from so many over the years. It has been an enormous privilege to get to know such wonderful people. It has also been such a joy and privilege to live and work at this incredible school. Michaelhouse has become so much a part of us and we leave with hearts full of gratitude to God, and to you all, for the way in which we have been so very, very blessed. Thank you most sincerely.

As I have done in the past, I would also like to conclude this report by thanking particularly all those who have given so much to our spiritual life during 2020. Mrs Lara Waldburger who taught divinity to all the boys in E and D Blocks. Lara and her husband Chris and their family left us in the third quarter and emigrated to Switzerland. Lara also assisted as a group leader on confirmation camps. I am most grateful to Lara for her faithful Christian witness to all those whom she has taught as well as all those who crossed her path here at Michaelhouse. My gratitude is extended also to Mrs Caryl Balance our secretary; Ms Carika de Swardt our choir mistress and the chapel organist in the first quarter; the chapel servers; school prefects; the bell ringers, and our lay ministers. All of the above play a critically important role in encouraging the spiritual life at Michaelhouse.

CHAPEL PREACHERS

The following people were our preachers this year. Most of them members of the academic staff. They add so much to our chapel life and I so appreciate each of them and their willingness to be involved in this way.

Antony Clark	Tim Jarvis
William Silk	Paul Fleischack
Chris Waldburger	Alan Corfield
Linda Shezi	Paul de Wet
Jonathan Smith	Nkanyiso Ngcobo
Mark Blew	Matt Lewis
Carl Bezuidenhout	Carika de Swardt

WEDDINGS OF MICHAELHOUSE STAFF AND OLD BOYS IN THE CHAPEL

James Hitchcock (OM 2010) married Orla Murphy on 14 March 2020.

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

The clubs and societies of Michaelhouse provide a wonderful opportunity for self-development, as well as an excellent vehicle for getting to know boys in quite a different environment. Opportunities for leadership experience also exist since most clubs have a committee responsible for organisation, motivation and administration. With the exception of certain senior societies, membership extends to boys from all Houses and all ages. This enables boys to enjoy time spent in the pursuit of shared passions and interests. Perhaps most of all, it is within this framework that lifelong friendships are forged.

AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Master in Charge: **Mr Mr Linda Shezi**

Chairman: **Takwana Shava**

Deputy Chairman: **Jason Makhele**

Secretary: **Letlotlo Kebonang**

The African Affairs Society grew considerably in numbers this year with more than 20 boys attending our meetings regularly. Each member engaged confidently in conversations that were beyond the level expected of a schoolboy on topical issues that affect South Africa and the African continent. These ranged from political to economic and social. South Africa's social landscape provided plenty of topics for our discussions, which centred on white privilege and what the term means to those who benefit or are affected by it, the difficulties minorities face in large institutions such as Michaelhouse, and how these social issues were affected by political and economic instability on a national and international level.

It was clear that despite the sometimes heated discussions in which many opinions and viewpoints clashed, that we all shared a common vision for our country and continent, in the hope that one day as they both overcome their dark and painful pasts, they will become prosperous. There is an African proverb that goes, "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." I would like to add that this is the spirit in which the society thrives, the spirit of togetherness; that through our meaningful and intellectual discussions we can come up with reasonable solutions which can be put into action, and aid in the effort to better our country and continent.

We were unfortunately forced to postpone many meetings due to the national lockdown restrictions, but the conversations still continued though in informal settings and in smaller, more informal groups such as the dorms or outside the dining halls.

BARISTA SOCIETY

Staff Members in Charge: **Mr Herman Visagie, Mr Johan van Rooyen, Mr Carl Bezuidenhout**

Chairman: **Jacques du Preez**

Committee members: **Jarred Booysen, Nick Kuhn**

We started the year with some wonderfully exciting goals like visiting Steampunk to see how to choose and roast coffee beans, Coffee and Life to see how to

make a cappuccino and do latte art, The Station Shop to learn how to make a flat white and a cortado, and last but not least having a friendly internal competition.

Unfortunately, none of these goals materialized due to the pandemic, and we had to resort to an online platform. This, however, provided us with the opportunity to be quizzed on our knowledge, share some interesting articles, and even some videos of us making our favourite home-made coffees. A special thank you must go out to



our chairman, Jacques du Preez, for his wonderful online tutorial on how to make his favourite home-made coffee using Chemex to get us through to those cold lockdown winter days.

The fact that we were unable to meet as often as we wanted only increased our enthusiasm for next year, and I truly hope that we will be able to go on more outings and achieve our goals in 2021.

CATHOLIC SOCIETY

Masters in Charge: **Mr Chris Waldburger, Mr Bernard Whitaker**

The Catholic Society continues to provide a setting for Roman Catholics among the Michaelhouse community to nurture and practise their faith, in harmony with the school's Anglican tradition.

Father Scott Davidson of St Joseph's in Howick, came up regularly before lockdown to celebrate Mass in the Crypt. It has been most encouraging to see many families in the area joining us on these occasions. During lockdown Father Scott updated us with a daily homily, which was very encouraging.

2020 once again saw catechism classes being conducted on campus by Mr Waldburger, in order to prepare boys for confirmation in the final quarter of their C Block year. The classes are based on study of the ancient creeds, the seven sacraments, the Ten Commandments, and the Lord's Prayer. As Catholic boys from D and C Block represent the core of these classes, the lessons are run on a two-year cycle.

Confirmation this year took place on 8 November and for the first time was celebrated in the Michaelhouse Chapel. Luke Bokaba, Bophelo Dipico, Diego Fernandes, Ayama Khumalo, Lusanda Mrasi and Mayenziwe Nene, were all confirmed.

CHESS CLUB

Staff Members in Charge: **Mr Jed Coventry, Mrs Bernice Borain**

The Michaelhouse Masters Chess Club continued to enjoy regular, well-attended meetings this year, leading to consistent and excellent practice for all participants. The club has

attracted a skilled roster of keen and ruthless minds. Meetings were held in the Media Centre with social-distancing, mask-wearing and hygiene well-observed. During lockdown, members were able to stay connected by joining the club online where it is hosted by virtual platform Chess.com. On-campus meetings were held weekly, and subsequently bi-weekly due to demand. In the third quarter, club leadership was joined by Mrs Bernice Borain, who brings with her a wealth of skill, passion for the sport, and experience in coaching chess at a provincial level. The new points-based ranking system, introduced by Mrs Borain, ensures that all matches are recorded and that wins and losses distribute points fairly, based on the opponent's ranking. This allows the ladder more accurately to reflect our top ten players, but also provides a ranking system that more closely resembles those used widely in competitive chess.

Publishing the ladder results at the time of going to print may be controversial, given that the new scoring system was introduced late in the year. It is therefore debateable whether enough games have been played using the new system to accurately reflect the rankings of our top players. Nevertheless, the early standings were as follows:

1. Tristan Hoyle
2. Luke van Niekerk
3. Theo Apteker
4. Takwana Shava
5. Kian Moses

CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Master in Charge: **Mr Mark Blew**

Chairmen: **Luke Hooker, Ben Lister**

The Conservation Society started the year off with an express outing to nearby Weenen Game Reserve in Escourt on a blisteringly hot Friday afternoon. We met with head ranger Mr Frik Lemmer, who gave us a history of the reserve before updating us on the latest challenges surrounding rhino poaching and reserve management. The remainder of the afternoon was spent driving leisurely through the reserve spotting many of the park's mammal and bird species.

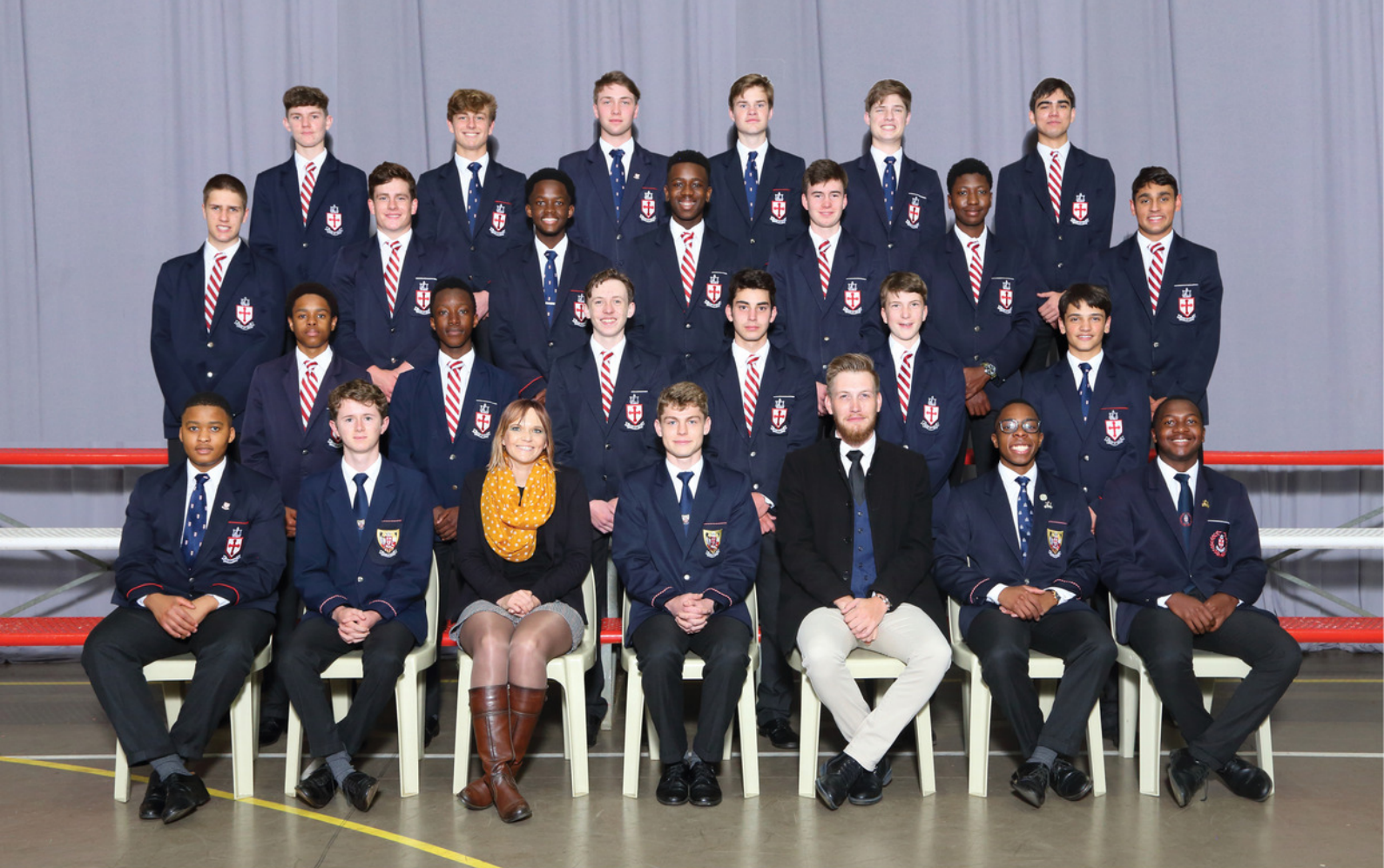
The pandemic brought an abrupt halt to our plans for the year and we were unable to achieve many of objectives as a result. Resorting to online lectures and virtual meetings, we did, however, manage to maintain some sense of momentum in the society. We interviewed James Hendry, author, and safari guide of *SafariLive*, who entertained us with stories from his years

in the African bush, and offered his insights on the impact the pandemic has had on tourism in the greater Kruger National Park. OM Keith Begg shared an intriguing documentary on his work with Niassa in Mozambique and their proactive approach in managing communities within conservation areas.

With off-site activities banned, we enjoyed the Netflix documentary *The Ivory Game* one Friday evening, which detailed the current illegal trade of rhino horn and elephant ivory. Our chairmen, Ben and Luke, hosted a fun virtual birding competition, and this alongside many interesting articles posted on our WhatsApp group, managed to keep our members interested, informed and educated on all things conservation.

We do have high hopes for an adventurous 2021 in the society, and we are currently putting plans in place to visit many of the conservation areas in and around KwaZulu-Natal, as well as possibly visiting Zululand and the North Coast on a Conservation Society trip in the June/July holidays.





DEBATING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

Back Row: Ayden McDavid, Ryan Baker, Richard Upfold, Ross Keep, David Ferguson, Kameran Jinnah

Third Row: Nathan Strachan, Cameron McLean-Banks, Kwande Dhlomo, Dakalo Nonge, Reuben Baldry, Nhlanhla Dlamini, David Nienaber

Second Row: Mayenziwe Nene, Xihluke Marhule, Tomas Szudrawski, Frederick Waller, Lucien Baldry, Simon le Vieux

Front Row: Hubo Khumalo, Michael Gurney, Mrs Candice Smith, Jadin Jordaan, Mr Liam Boshoff, Tapiwa Chikwanda, Takwana Shava

DEBATING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

Staff Member in Charge: **Ms Candice Smith**

Staff: **Mr Liam Boshoff, Mr Richard Brown, Mr Jonathan Smith**

Chairmen: **Michael Gurney, Jadin Jordaan**

Deputy Chairman: **Tapiwa Chikanda**

AWARDS

Honours: **Michael Gurney, Kwande Dhlomo**

Colours: **Reuben Baldry, David Ferguson, Simone le Vieux, Kameran Jinnah**

Most Improved Debater and/or Public Speaker: **Ross Keep**

Most Promising Junior Speaker: **Seth Segal**

Coyle Debating Prize: **Kwande Dhlomo**

Truda Trophy: **Jadin Jordaan**

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

WORLD INDIVIDUAL DEBATING AND PUBLIC SPEAKING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Michaelhouse had three young men represented on the South African team this year.

Jadin Jordaan, Kwande Dhlomo, Reuben Baldry

PERSUASIVE SPEECH

Kwande Dhlomo (3rd)

Jadin Jordaan (21st)

PIETERMARITZBURG DEBATING LEAGUE

Senior Team Red: **Jadin Jordaan, Ross Keep, Jason Makhele**

Senior Team White: **Kwande Dhlomo, Reuben Baldry, David Ferguson, Simon le Vieux**

E Block Team: **Seth Segal, Damian Watson, Lucien Baldry, Nathan Strachan, Richard Grant, Ayden McDavid**

2020 has been no ordinary year. It will be a year that is remembered for the juxtaposition of some remarkable firsts in history and a year that we grieve what couldn't happen. The debating and public speaking narrative of the year is no different. The debating leagues were interrupted and incomplete; National Individual Debating and Public Speaking Championships (NIDSPC) did not take place. Neither did the Speak competition or the Absa Debating Challenge. These are the opportunities that fill the normal year with a competitive edge which drives us to strive and to achieve. However, within this shaky kaleidoscope we have had to be creative, and it is in the ability to adapt that we found the highlights that satisfied ambitions.

Despite the unpredictable circumstances, this year has been productive for the Debating and Public Speaking Society. We began the year by joining the Pietermaritzburg Debating League, which is recognised as a well-run organisation and for its fierce competition. We registered two senior teams and one Grade 8 team, and prepared to go up against schools like St Anne's, Epworth and Hilton College, who have a reputation of dominating the debating scene in the South African schools' division. Unfortunately, due to lockdown, the league competitions were abandoned after only three rounds. At this point both senior teams had won two out of three debates each and our Grade 8s had won one of two. Reuben Baldry and Ross Keep were awarded best speaker twice and Kwande Dhlomo once. This placed all three of these young men tie on sixth place in the league according to their speaker scores. Seth Segal was also awarded a best speaker at his first debate representing Michaelhouse. There is no doubt that if this competition were

to have gone on, our debating teams would have been a force to be reckoned with

This year the society has been steered by a capable and dedicated committee and leadership team consisting of Michael Gurney, Jadin Jordaan (sharing the chairmanship) and Tapiwa Chikanda (as deputy chairman).

Lockdown reared its head at the brink of our interhouse cultural competition and as we realised that school would not physically take place for a whole quarter, we had to shake the kaleidoscope in our favour. *The Virtual Showcase* was an excellent example of how this leadership team refused to be held back and a testimony to their determination to create and imagine something new. We exhibited pre-recorded speeches, live online debates, an online impromptu speech competition and a series of videos catching up with our Old Boys, and hearing about their opportunity to be heard whilst at Michaelhouse. The showcase was our introduction to public speaking online.

Three of our public speakers (Jadin Jordaan, Kwande Dhlomo and Reuben Baldry) had been selected and should have competed in Shanghai as part of the South African team at the World Independent Debating and Public Speaking Championships in July. This competition made history and was adjusted to be hosted online for the first time ever. The competitors were still required to participate in all four of the traditional categories: Prepared Speaking, Interpretive Reading and the unprepared categories Impromptu Speaking and Debating, which ran live online (synchronously) in groups involving participants from different countries. The competition was judged by an international adjudication panel. All three Michaelhouse gentlemen did very well. Kwande Dhlomo made the final for the prepared speech category and placed third overall, which is an extraordinary achievement. We may not have had the same opportunities to compete this year, but that has not reined in our ambition. Rather it has shaped our ability to imagine new possibilities and to take control of a shaky landscape.

“

At St Anne's, Wallace, Erlank and Thompson persuaded the House, disappointingly easily, that the movement for women's lib is misguided and unreasonable.

The Chronicle, 1976

”

FIRST AID SOCIETY

Master in Charge: **Mr Bailey Coxon**

Staff: **Mr Craig Pieterse, Mr Jason Blockley**

Interns: **Mr Aidan Friend, Mr Nathan Holm, Mr Liam Mickleburgh**

Chairman: **Luke Gilmore**

Vice-Chair: **Josh Bergin, Dean Hough**

C Block Co-ordinator: **Jonathan Segar**

MISSION AND VISION

The mission and vision of the Michaelhouse First Aid Society is to equip its members with skills that will enable them to respond in a confident and professional manner in any emergency situation and to be of assistance to the sisters and doctor on duty during the winter sports season at the school.

THE AIMS OF THE FIRST AID SOCIETY REMAIN:

- To encourage and instill a sense of service before self.
- To instill confidence, pride and personal growth.
- To be good ambassadors for Michaelhouse and a tangible support for the boys playing sport, the staff and sanatorium sisters.

THE OBJECTIVES FOR 2020 WERE AS FOLLOWS:

- To keep enthusiastic about the society.
- To volunteer for extra duties on sports weekends.
- To attend Thursday meetings to refresh one's skills.
- To dress appropriately.
- To support the blood drive.

Once again many of the E Blockers were curious about the First Aid Society stand at the society fair held in the Indoor Centre at the beginning of the school year, where numerous boys signed up. The first official meeting was then held on Thursday 23 January to elect a new chairman and to plan the year ahead. This involved looking at the expectations of members who had signed up for the society and the commitments required during

both the Pentecost and Michaelmas quarters.

During the first quarter, Dave Adam from Rencor First Aid ran a Level 2 First Aid course in February. Thirteen boys, three interns and two of the Sanatorium staff qualified here. Due to the pandemic, these newly qualified members, and the others, were not able to develop their skills, as only one set of fixtures was played. I mentioned at the inaugural meeting this year that I would like to introduce a 25 Club for boys reaching 25 hours of service or more during the course of the year. This will hopefully be re-implemented in 2021 when we are able to play sport against other schools.

The society continued to meet virtually during lockdown in the second quarter and two Google Meets were held. In the first, Sister Alex McManus explained what Covid-19 was, how it is spread and what preventative measures should be taken to limit infection. We then had an interview with Ryan King, a Michaelhouse Old Boy and director of St Michael's Ambulance Services. Both meets were well attended and I am confident that the boys gained much here. I also put some interesting links on Moodle for the boys to see, some a bit tongue in cheek.

A blood clinic is held every quarter and it is encouraging to see the number of boys willing to donate a pint. Our record to date was in July, when more than 50 pints were donated. I would like to see us beat this in the new year.

FILM APPRECIATION SOCIETY

Master in Charge: **Mr Chris van der Berg**

Chairman: **Kiyan Singh**

This has been my seventh year of running the Film Appreciation Society and the goal is to make this a society for an elite group of boys who really appreciate the art of film.

This has been such a difficult year as a result of the pandemic though. As much as we wanted to get together on a regular basis, it was not possible. We had to often make use of online meetings, which are just not the same as the real thing, where we get together to discuss the art of film. We managed to meet

five times this year and watched the hilarious *Dinner For One* (a short film dating back to 1963), the Coen brothers' musical drama *Inside Llewyn Davis* (2013), *The Broken Circle Breakdown* (a Danish film with subtitles that was shot in 2012) and *Run Lola Run* (a French thriller with subtitles dating back to 1998). We hope to watch last year's Academy Award winner for best motion picture, *Parasite*, before school closes.

The fact that the Schlesinger Theatre has its own film projector and big screen makes the meetings much more effective and enjoyable. Movies are definitely meant to be watched on the BIG screen.

FISHING CLUB

Master in Charge: **Mr Righardt Kotze**

Chairman: **Thomas Walters**

Deputy Chairman: **John Hulley**

What a year it was going to be for the club, and then what a year it turned out to be. Unfortunately we were not able to fully enjoy the normal quarterly outings and

events planned for the year. Our club's chairman Thomas Walters had such an exciting itinerary of events lined up for the year. However, as Thomas was unable to fully implement his vision for the club under his chairmanship this year, he has very excitedly agreed to take on the mantle during his final year and will continue as the club's chairman and fulfil his mandate in 2021.

We were only able to go on one social outing, which doubled



Mr Paul McKay led a few adventurous anglers on deep-sea fishing excursions

as the first KwaZulu-Natal Fly Fishing Association trials in the first quarter. We had ten boys sign up for the KZNFFA to participate in the trials in hope of making the provincial A and B teams to participate in the National Fly Fishing Championships later in the year. However, all provincial and national championships were postponed to next year. This also meant that Thomas Walters' participation in the World Youth Fly Fishing Championships to be held in Bosnia was also postponed to next year and we wish him all the best in realising his dream to participate for South Africa and wear his national colours. In the third quarter after the relaxing of the Covid-19 regulations, we were able to make a social afternoon trip up to Top Dam with several boys. Although it was hard fishing a few good-sized fish were landed. Over the lockdown period, many of the boys were privileged enough to have access to private waters and shared a few of their catches with our club's WhatsApp group. The Michaelhouse Moodle online platform also generated keen interest from our club's members as well as a few others that were browsing to see what our club is all about. We will continue to use this online platform next year to further explore the art of fly tying.

Another amendment to our club's itinerary was having a year-end braai with the boys instead of the club's annual dinner. The braai and fun events organised by Thomas Walters were

very well received by the boys and a welcomed break away from the busy hustle and bustle of life at school. The boys had a go at a casting distance competition as well as a casting accuracy competition and there was a great deal of fun at the awards ceremony held later in the evening. The fun awards were too many and elaborate to remember, however, the club's traditional annual awards went to the following:

The chairman's award for the most improved fly fisherman:
Jack Walters (D Block, Tatham)

Club's Senior Fly Fisherman 2020: **Thomas Walters** (A Block, Tatham)

Club's Junior Fly Fisherman 2020: **Jack Walters** (D Block, Tatham)

At the club's braai evening we had the opportunity to say our farewell and thank you to Mr Alan Adlington-Corfield for his enormous 15-year contribution and annual organisation of the Trout Club's East Griqualand outing. Mr Adlington-Corfield encouraged the boys to enjoy and explore the possibilities our club has to offer and said he'd wished he had more opportunity to have fished with the senior boys over the last few years. However, he has extended an invite to the club's members to join him in Kenya to fish the abundant waters on offer. What an exciting prospect!

FLYING CLUB

Staff Member in Charge: **Mr William Silk**

Chairman: **Sean Ramsay**

Deputy Chairman: **Thomas Barnes**

The purpose of the Flying Club is to promote safe, enjoyable flying and all aviation-related activities; to promote and expose all aspects of aviation to the boys, from ATC through building as well as general flying, and to provide the opportunity for its members to fly aircraft.

Unfortunately, not much flying took place this year due to

terrible weather and then all pilots and planes being grounded because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The boys did get the opportunity to meet a local aerobatic pilot and plane builder to view the now four-year project build of his Skybolt biplane. A few boys have added more hours towards their licences and we hope that 2021 will bring more opportunities for flying.

The Flying Club is in the process of acquiring a Sling 2 kit, which we hope to start building and flying next year.

INVENTORS' SOCIETY

Master in Charge: **Mr Peter Stevens, Mr Aidan Friend**

Chairman: **John Hulley**

The society was, unfortunately, unable to embark on the many projects planned for 2020 because of Covid restrictions.

We must, however, thank Mr Hulley for his unfailing support of the society and his willingness to continue assisting the society after he had left Michaelhouse. We also thank John for his contribution as chairman and as liaison.

Mr Stevens will be leaving the school at the end of 2020 and we thank him for driving the society over the past three years.

INVESTMENT CLUB

Master in Charge: **Mr Ernest Rindflesich**

The Investment Club only met on four occasions this year, mostly due to the national lockdown over the second quarter and then subsequently due to the social distancing requirements for the remainder of the year. Fortunately, it was possible to share information on the Moodle platform when it was simply not possible to meet. I was quite impressed by the number of boys who accessed the information posted digitally over the course of the year.

Through the meetings and online resources, we managed to deal with the following topics:

Hot Stocks 2020; What South African financial experts would

do with R10 000 in 2020; Back to basics, Investing 101; Coronavirus: the companies cashing in on the crisis; Crash-proof investments: how safe havens performed; Magnus Heystek: a truly horrific chart explained; *The Stock Market* (a Netflix documentary); and the power of compound interest.

In 2021, Mrs White will take over the Investment Club and I will be sad to end my involvement. There are also some other interesting developments ahead next year. Firstly, club members will participate in the JSE Schools' Challenge and compete against other schools from all over the country. Secondly, an amount of money has been allocated to the club for physical investment. This will give the club members experience in managing an actual portfolio. This no doubt will add excitement and lead to endless debate and analysis.



The MTB Club at Karkloof

MOUNTAIN BIKING

Master in Charge: **Mr Edward Jeffrey**

Chairman: **Dean Hough**

The Mountain Biking Society started positively with much interest and many plans being made for outrides and races to be entered in 2020. We had hoped to compete for the first time, in the Spur Schools Mountain Bike Series scheduled for the third quarter. Many of these good intentions and plans were brought to a halt. However, once the dust had settled and the lockdown period was over, the new normal was embraced and we noticed an increase in boys on bikes in and around campus. The interest in mountain biking grew and the club swelled. This has obviously had a very positive effect on how we approach 2021. This enthusiasm has also led to some new initiatives taking off, with multiple single-track trails be-

ing built in the forests surrounding the campus, as well as the construction of numerous jumps throughout the school. The amount of crashes has increased proportionally as the cyclists have grown more confident, adventurous, and daring. To the delight of the boys and the horror of the master in charge, there has also been an increase in crash video footage, all of which has been viewed with awe, lots of laughter and sometimes both.

All in all, this has been a successful year for mountain biking and to top it off we have enjoyed two awesome outings to the Karkloof trail network. These outings were not only eventful but also loads of fun. I hope to see even more boys take advantage of the opportunities and enjoyment that the society has to offer in the new year.

PHOTOGRAPHIC AND VIDEOGRAPHY SOCIETY

Staff Member in Charge: **Mr Grant von Mayer**

Chairman: **Phillip van der Hoven**

Brigitte Bardot said: "A photograph can be an instant of life captured for eternity that will never cease looking back at you." Seldom has a quote been more poignant, and photographs taken over this time will bring us back to a year at school that wasn't at school.

In the absence of organised sports events, the year of 2020 presented various unique photographic opportunities. The isolation of lockdown forced the members and inspirational professionals to look at normal life in a different manner. In this spirit, the society launched several projects that members

could undertake at home, such as "What did you do today?" and "HomeLife Wildlife" *inter alia*.

Thomas Barnes produced some intriguing and well-composed seascapes which were exhibited in the Virtual Gallery. Leo Baber gained a second and a first placing for images in the "Dust to dawn" and "People Portrait" categories at the Culture @Kearsney photography competition.

There is opportunity for all levels of photographers at Michaelhouse and 2021 will present a unique opportunity to explore this and showcase our 125th year. Your photographs will be here – looking back at you. Daring you to bring back those vibrant times.

READERS' SOCIETY

Master in Charge: **Mr Jed Coventry**

Chairman: **Rueben Baldry**

Secretary: **Alejandro Sartini-Kruger**

The Readers' Society met consistently throughout this year, though due to changing and challenging circumstances, attendance was not always possible for everyone. Despite this, each meeting was a joyful and good-humoured gathering, filled with talk of good books, conten-

tion, philosophy and debate. Many of the friendships forged and renewed here extend outside of the club and into other areas of school life. At our final meeting we said farewell to Michael Gurney and Guy Cocksedge, both A Blockers who have been members of the club every year from E through to A Block. Meetings were held in the Media Centre with social-distancing, mask-wearing and hygiene well-observed. Hot cocoa was served at each meeting and the occasional quiz night took place using Kahoot. During lockdown members were able to stay connected by joining the club on the WhatsApp group.

SCUBA DIVING CLUB

Staff Members in Charge: **Mrs Jenni Clinton-Parker, Mr Clint Slidrecht**

PADI Open Water Diver: **Jaden Adam, Tristan Baker, Thomas Deist, Ryan Maskell**

PADI Advanced Open Water Diver: **Michael Abourous, Jack Jones**

Despite Covid-19 playing havoc with our dive plans for the year, the Scuba Diving Club managed two very successful trips to the South Coast in the first quarter before lockdown began, which saw six boys qualifying as either PADI Open Water or Advanced Open Water divers.

The first weekend of February saw Beryl Evans from Africa Blue offer a four-day intensive PADI Open Water Diver course in which four boys qualified by the end of the weekend. Lectures took place on Thursday 30 January and the skills learned in the classroom were practised in the water polo pool on Friday, after which the boys and Clint Slidrecht went down to Wydenham on the Durban South Coast for a weekend of diving. The boys dived four times over two days in wonderful conditions and enjoyed their downtime on the beach close to their host, Old

Boy Patrick Baker's, beach house. Although learning to dive in such an intense manner was admittedly exhausting, four delighted boys returned to school as qualified divers.

In March, we ran a PADI Advanced Open Water course. After an evening of lectures, five boys spent the last Sunday before hard lockdown on Aliwal Shoal being tested on their practical navigation skills and completing their deep dive by diving the wreck of the Nebo. The diving conditions were reasonable and the boys thoroughly enjoyed the tasks they had to complete at 24m to show them how much slower reaction times are at depth. The course boys were joined by four of the longest-standing members of the club on their final dive as high school students. We were very sad to say goodbye to our matric social divers as they have been extremely keen members of the club from their E Block days.

Sadly, we were unable to conduct any further diving trips due to dive charters being unable to launch as per Covid-19 regulations but we have scheduled another two courses and a weekend of social diving for the first quarter of 2021, which we look very forward to running.



SNELL SOCIETY

Master in Charge: **Mr Antony Clark**

Members: **Joshua Baillie (East), Nathan Bau (Pascoe), Aidan Browne (Baines), Tapiwa Chikwanda (Mackenzie), Michael Christodoulou (Farfield), Sam Frost (Baines), Michael Gurney (Baines), Tim Harding (Pascoe), Nikhil Iyer (East), Hloni Mapetla (East), Hussain Mohamed (East), Tristan Naidoo (West), Michael Ross (Farfield), Timothy Whitaker (Founders), Matthew Winn (West)**

The Snell Society is an academic society which meets seven times a year between the beginning of the third quarter of a boy's B Block year and the end of the second quarter of his A Block experience. It comprises 15 of the most academically gifted boys in the school. Each presents a

view, usually a polemical one, on a particular topic, for example, artificial intelligence, to his peers as well as staff. He then fields questions from the audience on the area which he has researched. This format enhances the prospect of the boys developing a special interest in an intellectual area which takes them well beyond the bounds of any subject-related syllabus and prepares them well for university-style interviews or seminars.

Any boy in the school may attend the meetings, which are followed by a fair quantity of sausage rolls and doughnuts at the Rector's house for society members.

I have enjoyed initiating and developing this society and discussing with each presenter angles which he may take on his particular topic.

SPORT ARCHIVES

Masters in Charge: **Mr Ian Crawford, Mr Dean Forward**

Chairmen: **Aidan Mason, Jaden van der Merwe**

The Sports Archives Society had a very interesting year and the pandemic gave us an opportunity to think out of the box and complete some interesting and fun activities.

Many of our members have a long tradition of family members who have attended Michaelhouse and others have an interest in the history of the school. This gave us an opportunity to

get the boys to do some online Michaelhouse family research, which some of the boys really enjoyed. The boys also enjoyed completing some online Kahoot quizzes on various aspects of Michaelhouse and its history. In our final two meetings of the year the topic: *Tradition vs 21st century schooling* was discussed and many interesting viewpoints were shared.

The society bids farewell to numerous A Blockers who have been members of the society for the past five years. We thank them for their contributions.

SURFING

Master in Charge: **Mr Nathan Holm**

Chairman: **Thomas Stroud**

The Surfing Society has grown exponentially in recent years, and great interest has been shown by its members. Numerous trips to Durban beaches and internal scoring competitions were planned for the peak season this year, with hopes of a weekend trip to the coast. Due to Covid-19, many of these plans were brought to a halt. However, as soon as the president announced an ease on lockdown regulations, we were waxing down our surfboards and organising our much-anticipated trip to Durban. The boys were up at the break of dawn for our first trip, ready for a day out in the water. The day was spent At New Pier with minimal wind, medium swell and maximum enjoyment. Fresh out of

lockdown, many of the members were soon to recall the high physical demands of the sport and it wasn't long before they retreated to shore for a quick coffee break at the nearest café. However, they were soon back out in the water, making good use of their opportunity to catch some waves before returning to landlocked Balgowan. The sun, sand and surf were thoroughly enjoyed by all who were on the trip.

Although the year did not go according to plan, the high spirits and positive attitudes shown by all members of the society have made us even more steadfast in our planning for the coming year. It is my hope that more boys become involved in the society, be it those wishing to start a new hobby, or those wishing to improve their skills, because where there is a will, there is always a wave.

THEATRE TECHNICAL SOCIETY

Masters in Charge: **Mr William le Cordeur, Mr Fish Ndlovu**
Chair technicians: **Daniel Sabatta, Nhlanhla Dlamini**

AWARDS

Colours: **Nhlanhla Jr Dlamini, Daniel Sabatta, Philip van der Hoven, Cameron McClean-Banks, Jesse Breytenbach, Heinrich Reyneke**

Half-Colours: **Daniel Courtenay, Jonathan Segar, Khabane Jonathan, Thomas Barnes, Lwando Ntuli, Fredrick Waller, Letlotlo Sekatle**

The Theatre Tech Society was of course heavily affected by Covid-19, with little happening in terms of live performance in the Schlesinger Theatre.

The year began once again with C Block drama residency, which included a professional play and a schoolboy play, both of which were run by society members. Dan Courtenay, Jonathan Segar, Khabane Jonathan, Thomas Barnes, Lwando Ntuli, Fredrick Waller and Letlotlo Sekatle all gave of themselves, and attended meetings throughout the first part of the year, and after we had reconvened in July.

Daniel Sabatta and Nhlanhla Dlamini continued their leadership of the society and should be commended for keeping everyone together through such a disrupted year. Phillip van der Hoven and Heinrich Reyneke again gave hugely of their time, especially in the set-up of the Fugard plays that were cancelled the night before they were billed to open.

TOASTMASTERS' SOCIETY

Masters in Charge: **Mr Dominic Gruijters, Mrs Mary McMichael**

Chairman: **Nikhil Iyer**

Deputy-Chairman: **Tristan Naidoo**

Secretary: **Michael Gurney**

Toastmasters is often regarded as the school's most prestigious and well-respected society. A rigorous entry process allows for a limited number of members and there is an expectation that the quality of speeches be consistently maintained. Boys are encouraged to tackle challenging, intellectual topics while conveying a message in an entertaining and humorous way. The group of 2020, while being deprived of some of their speaking opportunities, has definitely reaped the benefits of being in the society. Overall, we have seen very pleasing growth in all individuals who have, without a doubt, preserved our reputation of excellence.

One of the main attractions of Toastmasters is the incredible variety of speaking roles – some unique to this society – which members may explore. While prepared speeches are popular, we have seen increasing interest in the more niche roles of Sergeant at Arms and Grammarian, not to mention impromptu speeches. Adopting roles such as these provides a glimpse into a much more spontaneous and stimulating realm of public speaking in which one must be able to speak off the cuff.

While we do stick to a relatively rigid layout in our evenings, the actual content presented is far from homogenous. Even though meetings have an overarching theme, it is purposefully kept quite broad so it merely gives context but does not dictate the message of a speech. We have created an environment in which people are prepared to speak from incredibly varying personal standpoints, unimpeded by judgement. This platform – which allows all members to enjoy freedom in what they speak about – has incited tremendous creativity in the boys, who have

been keen to experiment with unconventional speech formats.

To further ensure that quality is upheld, we have best-speaker prizes awarded every evening in the prepared, impromptu, evaluation, and icebreaker categories. This system allows the boys to vote for who they believe should go home with the prize and kindles a good-natured competitiveness.

The nitty-gritties of the evenings are always immaculately put together by our masters in charge, Mrs McMichael and Mr Gruijters, whose wisdom in the domain of public speaking is second to none. As mentor figures, they have nurtured heaps of talent year-upon-year and taken the society and its members to new heights.

A philosophy we have always endorsed in Toastmasters is one of growth and progression. While we look for talent in our members, we are inclined to choose members who we believe may push their boundaries, perhaps make themselves vulnerable and yet persevere. This approach has really fostered talent in boys who would not have had the opportunity to exercise their gifts in this capacity.

Unfortunately, with the impact of Covid-19, we could not host the customary parents and sons evening which also serves as the final meeting for matrices where trophies are awarded. Nevertheless, in our last meeting of the year, the following boys *did* in fact receive awards:

Dudley Ford Trophy for Promotion of Excellence: **Tristan Naidoo**

John Pluke Trophy for the Most Improved Speaker: **Aidan Browne**

Jack Crutchley Trophy for Excellence in Public Speaking: **Michael Gurney**



TOASTMASTERS AWARD WINNERS:

Tristan Naidoo (Dudley Ford Trophy), Aidan Browne (John Pluke Trophy), Michael Gurney (Jack Crutchley Trophy)

WORDSMITHS

Staff Member in Charge: **Mrs Bernice Borain**

Wordsmiths is a new club for aspiring writers who would like to hone their craft, whether it be slam poems and raps, or sonnets and free verse, or short stories, novels and speeches. We meet to write, perform and critique our efforts, as well as finding opportunities to present, at events like Words@Kearsney or the regular Night of the Writer with local schools. These functions feature icebreakers and an open mic section when participants can present their best work and collaborate with peers from other schools. Quite often, the poetry presented expresses contemporary and social justice con-

cerns, as students find writing to be an outlet for voicing their opinions on contentious subjects. Other times, they write about being teenagers or the beauty around them. This is a cathartic experience for both the writers and the listeners and allows them to put into words the issues they grapple with every day.

Not only are we all keen writers, but we are also enthusiastic readers and presenters. Our first meeting was held on a rainy Midlands night in October around a roaring fire with hot chocolate and a discussion on the club's purposes and aims. We will meet again in 2021, and in the interim, our pens are scribbling away contentedly.

ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY

The school's community partnership trust and environmental programmes are aimed at educating boys and our community and staff to appreciate and deal with environmental and social issues, and to administer and manage the school in appropriately sensitive ways. Michaelhouse provides excellent facilities to sustain and support these programmes. These resources are managed through the expertise and dedication of the members of the buildings, grounds and environmental committee.

NATURE RESERVE

The Nature Reserve again hosted the E Block for their annual camp. The Mvuleni Lapa is a wonderful base for school activities and two new campsites have been established at the lapa, one each for the newly inaugurated Ralfe and McCormick Houses. Lockdown saw a renewed interest in boys visiting and overnighing in the reserve and a number of boys spent pleasant Saturday nights in the lapa.

Fencing has been replaced on part of the west boundary. The 1.2m bonnox fence which was removed from the school campus boundary will be used to replace some of the remainder of this western fence. The southern boundary fence now needs to be replaced with a simpler agricultural-type fence: barbed wire, which will retain the cattle, zebra and blesbuck, but allow the more itinerant game to move into and out of the reserve. In due course the eastern boundary fence will require repair also. Once the west and southern fences are

repaired, we intend buying a small parcel of zebra to increase the numbers of the herd to create a viable breeding herd.

The cattle have overwintered well and we are most grateful to Dr Peter Ardington, who continues to provide free veterinary services for the herd and also training in grassland and grazing management for the staff managing the cattle and reserve. Peter also kindly arranged for the cutting of a new section of the walking trail, which now leads walkers through both mist-belt grassland and magnificent riverine forest. We anticipate that this trail will become popular with boys, staff and their families as it becomes known to interested parties.

The required camps have been burned as per the advice of Mr Steve McKean and Dr Isabel Johnston, two ecologists, after an assessment of the veld condition indices. Steve will remain as a consultant and will assist with future management.

MICHAELHOUSE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The Michaelhouse Community Partnerships Trust (CPT) is a registered non-profit organisation creating change through many educational projects in the greater Michaelhouse community. Over R2.6m was raised during the year which was a challenging one for many, especially as much of our work is carried out in schools. While many of our projects were on hold during lockdown it allowed us to come up with creative ideas on how we are going to adapt and restructure some of our projects. The CPT team continued

to work remotely during lockdown, and fundraising efforts moved to supporting the Nottingham Road Landowners Relief Fund during lockdown.

TRAINING

PRINCIPAL LEADERSHIP TRAINING

The aim of this project is to empower and upskill school





principals and their leadership teams in our partnership schools. On 12 March 2020, ten principals, five heads of departments and five others in leadership roles attended a leadership workshop covering, Concept of Leadership, Difference to Management, History of Leadership and Leadership Styles.

"This workshop has helped me to understand the true role of a leader and the three points as to what makes a modern leader. Food for thought."

"I've been able to broaden my network and to differentiate what task I should do as a leader and what to pass on to a manager."

MATHEMATICS TRAINING

Mr Paul de Wet, Director of Mathematics at Michaelhouse, has been mentoring three mathematics educators at Asithuthuke, Jabula and Shea O'Connor schools. Paul has supported the mathematics teachers with resources and training and provides Saturday school for pupils, and was able to continue with maths lessons throughout the lockdown. It is our intention that our partner schools will continue to benefit from our learnings and our resources.

Once Grade 12 learners returned, Paul attended and taught lessons at Shea O'Connor and at Asithuthuke schools. Paul has also provided resources (hard copy workbooks on calculus and videos on memory sticks) to both schools and also to Jabula school in Lidgetton. He has subsequently also managed to provide some Grade 11 resources and support as they have returned to school after lockdown.

"I am humbled by the excellent work the teachers do under difficult circumstances and I am inspired by the appetite and diligence displayed by the learners, especially at Shea O'Connor. I recently set a calculus test for these Grade 12s and will go over it with them this week. I believe that the longer-term solutions lie in increasing our footprint by means of online resources and I am busy trying to better understand the requirements for achieving this."

– Paul de Wet

Through the online service of WhatsApp, a daily revision programme has been launched called Daily Maths Challenge (DMC) where maths questions are sent each day by WhatsApp to the teacher. The following day a new question is sent with the solution to the previous day's question. These alternate between paper 1 and paper 2. The idea is that the teacher can forward these on to learners who have cellphones or simply put them up on the board.

Two revisions sessions were held at the Midlands Community College before the Grade 12s wrote their final mathematics exams.

IT TRAINING

The aim of the IT training programme is to extend our reach and engage with partnerships school staff in charge of IT

facilities, as well as extend our available training for learners, educators and youth.

In the first term the focus was to create eight IT satellite facilities to better assist and sustain learning of IT. An extensive needs analysis of each school has been conducted and a meeting with each principal will be scheduled for the next quarter. These will include areas of expertise and strength, challenges, and how to best overcome those. In some schools it may mean ensuring that computer labs start being used effectively by learners and educators. We are assisting IT staff with resources and content to teach the range of ages and IT literacy which they are faced with. Included in this programme is overseeing the CAMI programme and the ongoing assessment of its effectiveness.

The March training for 50 Grade 11 and 12 learners was unfortunately cancelled due to lockdown. However, plans are under way for 2021.

PARTNERS FOR POSSIBILITY (PFP)

Principals are partnered in a co-action and co-learning partnership with business leaders, who bring their knowledge and skills to share with the leadership of the school. Midlands1 comprised of eight schools having completed the year-long leadership and training. The insight that has come from this project is remarkable. To see their national impact visit <https://pfp4sa.org/impact>.

On 27 February, PFP Midlands1 concluded their first year of partnerships, sharing their individual leadership journeys with a packed audience in the Michaelhouse Centenary Centre. The stories captured their personal and partnership developments, community initiatives and various instructional, infrastructural and regulatory improvements undertaken. Special mention to the Bruntville team for their clip: *Our Vision and Values of Joy* – <https://youtu.be/mVRDcWdtTb8>.

In April, Midlands2 started online with a further eight schools in our community with development partners. Paul Fleischack, Senior Deputy Rector, joined the circle and was partnered with Curry's Post Principal Sibusiso (Patrick) Ndlovu.

The Midlands2 principals are funded by Foundation Federated Employers' Mutual Education Foundation, and business leaders are funded by the Development Bank of Southern Africa. CPT will play more of a supportive role with Midlands2.

The first community of practice (COP) was held on 14 July. The Online Flawless Consulting training was successfully completed on 28-29 July and on 4 and 6 August. This training focused on the choice and decision we have in forming relationships, learning to deal with resistance and influencing outcomes in conversations for clarity and commitment.

The second COP meeting took place on 25 August at Sibonokuhle Primary School in Rosetta, our first face-to-face meeting since launching at the end of May.

On 13 and 14 October, community building training under the leadership of Dr Rama Naidu took place at Michaelhouse, with 45 people in attendance.

TEACHERS WORKSHOPS

The aim of these workshops is to bring teachers together and have workshops on topics that they feel they need support with. This is an informal opportunity for them to learn and share ideas that can be implemented in their teaching. Classroom management was a common topic that many teachers requested to cover, so in the first term the first workshop covered classroom management, learner discipline and motivation, which are all interlinked.

To view a short write-up in the local press, use this link: <https://bit.ly/34iw4Ge>

BANKING WORKSHOP

Many of our partner schools still use chequebooks and the South African banking industry is discontinuing these in 2021. On 8 October we hosted a banking workshop with 12 schools, totalling 27 individuals, to introduce them to alternative electronic payment methods. Challenges such as access to internet, petty cash and account signatories were discussed.

EDUCATION

LITERACY ENRICHMENT

We are committed to improving literacy skills and promoting learning. Mr Nkosi Mahlaba, Community Partnership Assistant, used to drive the N3TC library bus, which serviced 18 schools between Lion's River and Mooi River. In late 2018 the bus was no longer roadworthy and the majority of the books were distributed to the schools if they had their own library, while the rest were kept in the office. Since there was no longer a bus, Nkosi would take a selection of books with him to the schools. During this quarter Nkosi has visited the senior phase classes at Lion's River, Hlanganani, Asithuthuke, Curry's Post, Dargle, Corrie Lynn and Jabula. He takes a selection of SMILE CAPS aligned story books.

The learners take turns to read out loud to improve their fluency and understanding of the English language. Lists of learners who may need extra practice reading or may appear to struggle with reading and require support with their reading are given to the teacher.

For the foundation phase, learners' big books and isiZulu story books are read aloud. Questions are asked, like: "What do you think will happen next; why is this character feeling that way?" After the story is complete, children are asked what they can remember from the story and what lessons they have learnt.

"They enjoy the story time a lot because they show a lot of attention to the story and are very quiet at times when I read the story to them."

– Nkosi Mahlaba

As many schools now have computer rooms, Nkosi will occasionally take children for computer lessons. The children enjoy the excitement of going to the computer room and of holding the mouse to do the activity on the computer. We hope that in the future he will be able to help with CAMI and e-learning.

"It makes me sad to find kids in higher grades not knowing how to read. I'm also surprised how they get to this grade when they can't even read their mother tongue."

– Nkosi Mahlaba

EDUHELPERS

During 2020, nine Eduhelpers have been active in five schools. Each Eduhelper fulfils a different role at their school, depending on the need. Bruntville Primary School has an Eduhelper in the computer lab, whereas the Asithuthuke Eduhelper teaches mathematics. The community partnerships team works with the principals to ensure that the Eduhelpers are fulfilling the need that the school has identified.

As part of their monitoring and evaluation process, Dr Sandy Stewart hosted a workshop on 13 February. Classroom management and paired reading were the topics for this workshop.

"Mr AZ Dladla has made a huge difference in the learning of the learners. He has been part of the main school timetable which assists the delivery of the curriculum to the learners, which is the core business of the school. He teaches mathematics in the senior phase classes and results of mathematics went from very bad in the first term to 73% at the end of the year."

– Mr V Nxumalo, Principal, Shea 'O Connor

The pandemic has, naturally, impacted on our ability to host workshops with our Eduhelpers, but they have continued to make good progress.

Our plan is to expand the Eduhelper project in 2021 when we aim to reach ten schools and support 15 Eduhelpers. This project is fully dependent on external funding, mainly through corporate social investment.

E-LEARNING

The aim of e-learning is to improve learners' computer skills while learning content. Two educational software programmes are used, namely Ligbron e-Learning System and CAMI. The Ligbron e-Learning System has been in place at Shea O'Connor for a number of years and seems to be creating more interest in the subjects of mathematics and science. The maths core class of 2021 will be the largest yet at Shea O'Connor.

CAMI has been installed at seven schools. There have been some challenges with installation issues and some schools have not yet been able to fit CAMI into their timetable. It has definitely been better used in some schools than others.

READING CREW

The Reading Crew's mission is to speak English for oral understanding, to help with basic understanding and to enhance vocabulary and pronunciation in foundation phase at partner schools. This is done by developing an interactive partnership with the teacher to create a fun environment with no pressure. We want to encourage reading to be a time of pleasure, empathy and kindness. The learners need to have fun without realising they are learning vital skills. The Reading Crew are not there to teach or take over the role of the teachers, but support and assist them and the children.

In order to have a successful project, volunteers need to be recruited – young, old, male and female. The idea is to have two or three readers per class per school to allow for flexibility for readers, should they be unable to make a reading session. All it requires is an hour of a person's time each week during government school term time. All volunteers will be provided with age-appropriate activities, curriculum based, supplied by Clifton Preparatory School. These activities will benefit the children and support the teachers' term programme.

In the first term, 35 readers have reached eight schools, partnered with 25 teachers and touched the hearts of more than 500 learners. Consistency within the different Reading Crews is important while maintaining flexibility, but the main objectives set out by the Reading Crew need to be considered when joining the Crew.

CPT also hosted various teacher workshops to upskill classroom management and support the Reading Crew with expert speakers on the value and enjoyment of reading.

Due to Covid, the Reading Crew have not been able to function in any of our schools since mid-March. Nonetheless, WhatsApp groups were launched and audiobooks were shared in those groups to allow children access to virtual story time. With school phasing back to normal, we will be looking at alternative ways to reach the learners.

READING TO LEARN

Before schools closed due to the pandemic, the Reading to Learn team did a few demonstration lessons in select classrooms with the intention of carrying out the training later in the year. However, the Reading to Learn training has been postponed until such time that it is possible to proceed again. Thank you to Debby Avery, Mike Hart and Lucky Lushaba's for the demonstration and Kate Baynes for co-ordinating.

ART AND CHOIR COMPETITION

The annual art competition is under way with the theme *My imagination during lockdown*. Each learner is allowed to submit up to three pieces of art. We plan to profile their art on www.the-art-room.net after the internal judging has been completed by the Michaelhouse Head of Visual Arts, Mrs Jenni Clinton-Parker. A prize-giving was held at each school. Due to Covid protocols and other reasons, we have chosen to delay the choir competition until 2021.

HEALTH

ST RAPHAEL'S

The St Raphael's project is our longest-running project, providing basic health care to the greater Michaelhouse community. The team is made up of one medical doctor and three caregivers who refer clients directly to the doctor at Balgowan Clinic if necessary.

In February this year there was a terrible taxi accident involving children from Asithuthuke school. Each of the children affected in the accident was visited by the St Raphael's team, most more than once. Counselling was organized for them, as well as for the mother of the learner who died in the accident.

In view of the current worldwide pandemic and the stages of lockdown the country has been in over this time, the St Raphael's work has looked a little different. During level five lockdown it was decided that the St Raphael's staff would also adhere to the regulations set out by the president, and stay at home. However, as the lockdown eased over time, caregivers began to collaborate with other organisations to provide some much-needed relief to these communities.

These relief efforts included the distribution of food parcels and hot meals to the Dargle, Fort Nottingham, Bellwood, The Bend, Boshhoek, Honeydew, Hlanganani, Lidgetton, Lion's River and Rosetta areas. Given our mandate to improve the health of the community we serve, we used these distribution events to educate the community about the importance of hand washing and the correct method of mask wearing and mask care.

The caregivers always have their eyes open at these events to notice any health problems that may be present in the community. An outbreak of scabies in one family was noted and treated, a child with a hot-water burn was identified and the wound was dressed until it was healed, and a patient with chronic osteitis (bone infection) who had been lost to follow-up at Grey's Hospital was helped to get back into the government system of care.

Many patients during the period of strict lockdown did not attend their clinic dates or collect medication as they were unsure of the procedure. The caregivers provided a link back to care for these patients. They collected medication for 39 clients who were unable to collect themselves. They also transported six patients to the clinic to be seen by the nursing staff or the doctor.

The month of August saw a devastating fire that swept through the Esitendeni informal settlement in Nottingham Road. The St Raphael's team provided a meal for those affected once a week for a period of time. Children's clothes that had been donated to St Raphael's and Action in Isolation were also distributed as many residents lost everything in the fire. Michaelhouse donated mattresses for those who lost their homes.

Two women's wellness days were held in conjunction with Action in Isolation during women's month. One of the

caregivers, Khanyisile, spoke to the 22 women in attendance about breast health and self-examination. In the same month, the caregivers identified community members in need of disability aids and loaned out equipment from St Raphael's to them. These appliances included four walking frames, three pairs of crutches and a toilet seat for the disabled.

The St Raphael's staff are also running a Sunday feeding scheme for the children of Zenzani Village. This is done alongside a Sunday school lesson. The St Raphael's caregivers have included seven community volunteers in this programme making it a true community initiative. Each Sunday a group of children gather at the St Raphael's building at Zenzani. Here they have their temperatures taken and they are given a cursory look over for any obvious health problems. This is followed by a prayer and a Sunday school lesson and, of course, a healthy meal. There are 126 children now registered at these Sunday events although not all of them attend every week. There is an average of 43 children that have attended per week over the last 12 weeks.

Alongside all of these activities St Raphael's has conducted two pensioners' clinics and one farm visit where a total of 53 clients were screened for hypertension and diabetes. Twelve of these clients were referred to Balgowan Clinic for further treatment. From the community supported by St Raphael's: 22 clients were transported to Balgowan Clinic; 60 home visits were conducted with 57 blood pressures and seven blood sugars recorded; 63 clients had their medication collected from the clinic and delivered to them; and the planned patient transport was booked seven times.

"I am continually astounded by the incredible work of the St Raphael's team and am privileged to be part of this vibrant team."

– Dr. Kendon

EXTRA ACTIVITIES

ASITHUTHUKE COMBINED SCHOOL

Asithuthuke, formerly known as the Michaelhouse Farm School, was founded in 1949 exclusively for the children of Michaelhouse staff. In 1951 there were 78 pupils, and by 1977 there were 450. Of these about a third came from the Michaelhouse estate, with the balance from neighbouring farms. In 1995 it became Asithuthuke Combined School with classes ranging from Grade R to matric. It was one of the leading farm schools in the country, better equipped than most other schools.

It was a good start to 2020, knowing that the Asithuthuke matric class of 2019 had achieved a 53% pass rate compared to a 34% pass rate in 2018. The mathematical literacy pass rate went from 44% in 2018 to an impressive 81% in 2019.

On 17 February a tragic taxi accident on the R103 left the driver and a Grade 11 learner dead and many injured. It was an emotional time for the whole community.

The Michaelhouse staff, board members and Balgowan community pulled together and donated R25 303 towards the accident victims. Old Boy Stuart Pennington (East, 1968), who is the Partner for Possibility partner for Asithuthuke, met with all the affected families. School uniform sizes and home addresses were collected for future home visits. The donated funds were used to cover school uniforms and other items destroyed in the accident. Catering and transport was covered so that friends were able to attend the funeral. In one case, where a learner had sustained burns and was in Estcourt Hospital, the mother's transport to visit her was covered. Nottingham Road Spar put out a trolley for collections including stationery, and this was distributed to those affected.

In June 2019 we began a considerable process of infrastructure renovation. By the end of 2019 nine classrooms had been refurbished, the computer room equipped with 30 new computers (largely thanks to Jon Bates), the toilets fixed, the security improved, the electricity and plumbing sorted, and the school hall refurbished. We refurbished the four toilet blocks, 54 desks, the school hall storeroom, a classroom and the perimeter fence during the Christmas holidays.

In the senior school:

- Seven classrooms have been completely refurbished, ceilings replaced, electricity restored, windows repaired, blackboards replaced, furniture supplemented
- Maths classroom renovated, upgraded and equipped
- Computer room upgraded, connected and live
- Four toilet blocks repaired, repainted with new lights
- Kitchen, storeroom and tuckshop renovated, tiled, painted and re-equipped
- School hall storeroom repaired
- Library upgraded
- School Wi-Fi connected
- Mandela Day clean-up of grounds

In the junior school

- Perimeter fence replaced
- Jungle gym replaced
- Toilet block renovated, refurbished with new lights
- Staff toilet refurbished
- Staff accommodation refurbished, painted
- Three classrooms repaired

Most of the work was performed by a Zenzane community building team. At the end of last year matric results improved by 165% from Trials in June, and we had six Bachelor passes (class of 18). As a result, our reputation improved and numbers in the school grew by 70, from 166 to 236 in 2020.

Michaelhouse Community Partnerships continues to support the school and in 2020 paid for five of the 13 staff members at the school.

SOUL2SOLE

During the last week of school in 2019 the Blue Sky Society Trust's Soul2Sole initiative in conjunction with The Lion Match Company and Aramex representatives were at Michaelhouse. Michaelhouse boys donated 123 pairs of shoes. Soul2Sole then purchased 1 500 pairs of new school shoes to donate, which took the total number of shoes donated for 2020 to 3 613 pairs of shoes.

TOOLKIT THURSDAY

Multiple challenges faced school principals with the return to school after lockdown. Many of them had to deal with difficulty in ensuring staff and learner safety both at school and on their way to school. To support schools in this process, CPT partnered with Partners for Possibility to provide a series of weekly upskilling Zoom workshops called Toolkit Thursdays. The agenda of the workshops was tailored based on conversations with principals to acknowledge the high levels of anxiety in the education system, and to discuss how they can practically accommodate the returning Grade 7 and 12 learners, looking at where they are in terms of curriculum coverage, revision, how to deal with masks in classrooms from a health worker's perspective and legal processes to apply for concessions for teachers with comorbidities. External speakers who are experts in those questions were invited to contribute and respond to the audience's questions. The sessions were recorded and recordings were made available to those who were unable to attend. The sessions were opened to other interested parties including Department of Basic Education circuit managers.

SOCIAL MEDIA IMPACT

The CPT Facebook page was launched on 10 June 2019, and now has 283 followers. To follow updates on all our projects please follow: <https://bit.ly/3aWXioa>.

NOTTINGHAM ROAD LANDOWNERS RELIEF FUND

Like many other non-profit organisations, we adapted our impact and supported the Nottingham Road Landowners Relief Fund, which feeds 1 500 people every second week, therefore about 3 000 a month. Food relief has been taking place where families are in need and earning less than R1 800 a month. The list of beneficiaries continues to be adjusted with some no longer needing food relief whilst others are added to the list as lockdown levels change. Nkosi has been helping with the delivery of food as well as the collection of donated goods.

Michaelhouse parents and Old Boys had donated more than R160 000 as of 6 July. Old Boys Mphathisi Filtane and Patrick Schofield from the class of 1989 encouraged their year to make a contribution. Donations have come in from as far afield as the UK, USA and Canada. Going forward, the 1989 leaver group are planning to pass the baton to other leaver year groups. For more information look at the campaign on <http://bit.ly/2W9wJH2>.

Moving to a more sustainable model the fund, in collaboration with the Nottingham Road Refreshed, is exploring waste collection and recycling opportunities. The Nottingham Road

community is looking for a shop – a building where needy communities will be able to exchange bags of plastic for tokens to exchange for food, clothes, linen or seedlings.

NATHAN LAPTOP DRIVE

A Block boy, Nathan Bau (head of Pascoe) initiated a computer drive to support the continuation of teaching and learning during the Covid-19 pandemic. He collected a total of seven used laptops, and with funds donated by Michaelhouse Old Boys together with other generous individuals, he managed to buy three additional laptops, headphones and other necessary accessories to ensure that the computer lab at Lion's River Primary School is up and running. The Peter Brown award was given to Nathan on Speech Day and 1 further funds went to support the IT lab with a printer, toner and paper.

MANDELA DAY

#ActionAgainstPoverty was the theme for Mandela Day 2020. The Community Partnership Trust team spent Mandela Day improving food gardens at Bruntville, Crystal Springs, Lion's River, and Nottingham Road primary schools and at Shea O'Connor Combined School, which already had gardens in place. Sunshine Seedlings kindly donated vegetable seedlings. These vegetables will either be added to the schools' feeding schemes or the ongoing Nottingham Road food relief: Making Mandela Day(s).

ANNUAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION CONFERENCE

On 19 August, 30 individuals from a range of local NGOs participated in the Zoom from various fields of interest as we explored the value of collaboration as shared by Dr Robby Whittaker from Kaleidoscope Lights. We faced some challenges as load shedding was implemented during the presentation.

EXTRA ITEMS OF INTEREST

On Tuesday 25 February, Nicholas Nxumalo, Principal of Shea O'Connor Combined School, visited Michaelhouse. He observed maths, geography, life orientation and isiZulu classes and joined the prefects for lunch.

Michaelhouse Community Partnerships is now a registered member of the National Association of Social Change Entities in Education (NASCEE). <https://nascee.org.za/membership/members>

The choirs of Shea O'Connor Combined School and St Peter's School, Bournemouth, are collaborating to record *Impi* by Johnny Clegg in order to celebrate their partnership and shared appreciation of music. Updates on the intercontinental song project will be posted on our Facebook page.

INVESTORS

A special thank you to all those who continue to support the work of the CPT. In 2021 we are planning to scale some of our projects. Please contact us if you wish to invest in our community.



BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

Written by Mr Damien Rautenbach

The year 2020 will be remembered by all for some time to come. Of course, no report would be complete without mentioning Covid-19 and the impact that this has had on strategic planning, current operations, our families in the greater Michaelhouse community and, indeed, the world. Although this has dominated our lives at Michaelhouse for most of this year, and we must acknowledge the unprecedented nature and seriousness of this epidemic, we must also consider and acknowledge the positives of this past year. The most notable of these being the opening of the ninth and tenth boarding houses at Michaelhouse, Ralfe and McCormick.

While reflecting on this past year it would be impossible not to mention the impact that the pandemic has had on

Michaelhouse. Resident staff and essential worker contractors would have no doubt noticed the uncharacteristic quietness as they passed through the front gates of the school during the national lockdown of the second term. The return to school at the start of the third term did not mean a return to normality by any means. Saturdays, although pleasantly busy with the return of the boys, did not enjoy the energy and excitement that inter-school sports brings. I must thank our Operations Manager, Marius Henn, and his team for their efforts in ensuring that all health and safety protocols were in place throughout the year, safeguarding Michaelhouse boys and staff. This process can be regarded as having been successful and the "Michaelhouse bubble" was maintained with little disruption.

Moving on to the positives of the year, a great stride has been taken towards achieving a key objective of the Michaelhouse

strategic plan, which is to “enhance school infrastructure for optimal pastoral care, with modern, enabling facilities,” with the opening of two new Houses. For the first time Michaelhouse welcomed over 600 boys into ten Houses at the start of the year.

Each of these new Houses has the capacity to home 60 boys in modern, comfortable conditions. Despite the creation of these 120 additional beds, the school will only be increasing the overall number of enrolled pupils by approximately 40 boys in total. During this same time Baines underwent an almost complete rebuild of its own, also re-opening its doors at the start of 2020. The Baines facelift heralds the start of the refurbishment plan for the eight existing Houses. The remaining seven Houses will follow in the same general configuration and design principles while retaining the nature and characteristics of each individual House. Unfortunately, Covid-19 did impact on the continuation of this strategy during 2020 as the commencement of certain strategic capex plans had to be delayed somewhat. This meant that the next House refurbishment, that of Mackenzie, had to be delayed until the end of the year, now scheduled for completion during 2021. This will be the largest ongoing, continuous refurbishment programme of the residences at Michaelhouse and is expected to continue for the next seven years, resulting in world-class boarding facilities at the school. I would like to thank the school architect Nick Grice for his efforts in this process and for ensuring that the feel and nature of the school is unaffected while the interior of the Houses are designed for modern boarding and pastoral care needs. The most notable departure from the existing configurations is the practical decentralisation of both day room and ablution facilities in the Houses.

The High Performance Centre, opened in March 2020, is a busy and very well used world-class facility. Conditioning and wellness of all boys had been established as a key focus area at Michaelhouse. This facility will not only function as a gym as it includes physiotherapy rooms, teaching spaces, and cardio areas to allow for low-impact rehabilitation work while also providing for the more obvious strength and conditioning programmes designed for Michaelhouse boys.

Three projects of significance currently under way are: the front-of-school landscaping project incorporating the statue of St Michael slaying the dragon – a work by OM Robbie Leggatt; the Trade-Inn refurbishment; and the redesign of the front gates.

The front-of-school landscaping project, which has been very generously donated by two Michaelhouse Old Boys, will provide a spectacular welcome to Michaelhouse as visitors and families drive up to the school. The statue of St Michael slaying the dragon, a reference to the book of Revelation in the Bible, fronts the newly formalised terraced gardens, the design work of OM Tim Steyn, and pathway leading up to the bust of James Cameron Todd and Screens behind him.

The Trade-Inn is also undergoing its first extensive renovation in decades. The objective is to expand the current crowded footprint and modernise the layout and offering in the store to be able to provide the pupils and families of Michaelhouse with a welcome and pleasant introduction to the school.

The front gates are being redesigned and expanded in order to allow for greater safety and control of all movement in and out of Michaelhouse while at the same time avoiding congestion at this point. Michaelhouse considers safety and security as a critical focal point for all residents and visitors to the campus. This redesign, together with the access control systems being developed, will ensure that this key area is addressed and managed appropriately. The design of these new gates is consistent with the design of the current Centenary Gates and visitors to the school will enjoy the familiarity that they have come to know as they approach Michaelhouse. We know that first impressions last and these three projects will no doubt create an appropriate and indelible first impression of Michaelhouse to all families and visitors of the school.

Investments in school facilities and infrastructure were not only limited to these projects; significant investment was also made into general school facilities, staff housing and general IT infrastructure. Continual investment into the existing facilities is an ongoing process which must be managed and addressed annually to ensure that Michaelhouse continues to offer a first-class education in world-class facilities while located in our unique and special environment.

We now look ahead towards the refurbishment and modernisation of the seven remaining Houses, with our next significant project – the Mackenzie refurbishment – having just commenced. This is sure to be an exciting and productive time at Michaelhouse, continuing from the expansive capital development plan of the past few years.

It is appropriate at this time to thank all those who continue to support and contribute towards the development of these facilities. Michaelhouse has experienced an unprecedented period of growth, expansion and modernisation of facilities over these past few years, none of which would have been possible without an immense amount of time, energy and resources contributed by the Michaelhouse community. This extends to board and subcommittee members who generously donate of their time and expertise to the school, benefactors who continue to generously provide funding to allow these projects and ideas to become reality and, of course, the staff of Michaelhouse, who continue to contribute to the maintenance and management of the estate on a daily basis.

“

In the Bath House are six good porcelain baths with a plentiful supply of hot water, enabling every boy in the school to have a hot bath at least once a week.

The Chronicle, 1928

”

SPORT

The educational programme of any top school should reflect a balance between academic, cultural, environmental and sporting activities. In this respect, Michaelhouse endeavours to remain at the cutting edge of each pursuit. Michaelhouse offers a vibrant sport programme with a choice of 16 sport options. We are fortunate to enjoy some of the finest sporting facilities in the country. Our boys' athletic talents are acknowledged at zonal, provincial and national level, with inter-school fixtures played at first league level. Michaelhouse has produced in excess of 120 sportsmen who have played at international level.

AQUATICS – SWIMMING

Master in Charge: **Mr Bradley McManus**

Captain: **Thomas Walters**

Vice-Captain: **Timothy Harding**

AWARDS

Honours: **Graham Hoal**

Colours: **Ben Lister**

Half-Colours: **Timothy Harding, Thomas Walters**

**THE SWIMMING SEASON WAS ONE OF VERY FEW
ENJOYED BY ANY SPORTING CODE IN 2020.**

HILTON INVITATIONAL GALA

Michaelhouse entered two teams for the annual Hilton Invitational, finishing fifth in the A section and third in the B Section. The U15B team surprised everyone by winning several races in both A and B sections. Graham Hoal swam incredible races against some tough nationally ranked opposition and come out victorious on all occasions.

CLIFTON TRIALS GALA

The Clifton Trials Gala was an evening of much excitement that saw several of our swimmers break personal best times and cement their places in the team to attend the uMgungundlovu Trials at the Wykeham Collegiate.

DIMONT INVITATION GALA

Our team carved out a well-deserved second place overall.

UMGUNGUNDLOVU TRIALS

Twelve swimmers went down to the trials at TWC. The following swimmers achieved top-three places in their respective races with times within Swimming South Africa level 1 times or better.

Graham Hoal: 50m butterfly, 50m backstroke, 50m freestyle, 100m freestyle

Matteo Valente: 50m backstroke, 50m freestyle

Kamogelo de Almeida: 200 individual medley

Benjamin Bryden: 50m butterfly, 100m breaststroke, 50m breaststroke, 100m freestyle

Benjamin Lister: 50m breaststroke, 50m freestyle

Christian Brand: 50m butterfly

Simon Williams: 50m backstroke

Caleb Bryden: 50m butterfly

Campbell Houston: 50m freestyle

Hunter Whittle: 50m breaststroke

INVITATIONAL QUAD GALA

Michaelhouse hosted the Invitational Quad Gala at the back end of the season, where we achieved a respectable third place.

INTERHOUSE GALA

We hosted the Michaelhouse annual Interhouse Gala on the very first Friday of the year with many events being contested under lights as darkness descended. It was an incredibly festive occasion and the school wholeheartedly bought into the event and brought it alive. The major takeaway from the event was the increased involvement through the age groups. One more element that was included was an open-water race contested in New Dam. This



SWIMMING

Back Row: Hunter Whittle, Oliver Walters, Matteo Valente, Aidan Browne, Benjamin Lister, Theo Apteker, Luke Hooker, Simon Williams

Third Row: Cameron Retzlaff, Samuel Berchowitz, Byron Mitchell-Innes, Campbell Houston, Ethan Stewart, Oliver Bass, Luke Hoekstra

Second Row: Tom Telford, Justin Prowse, Caleb Bryden, Angus Wattam, Benjamin Bryden, Joshua Lebenon, Onalerona Sekgororwana, Brian Bowmaker

Front Row: Graham Hoal, Julian Daffy, Thomas Walters, Mr Bradley McManus, Timothy Harding, Matthew Winn, Daniel Johnson

was done to reinvigorate the House spirit and keep the young men interested. This event was met with much gusto and lead to some incredibly tight races. Perhaps the most incredible aspect of the event was the fact that Ralfe, a House not even in existence for a full week, should walk away with the overall honours.

INTERHOUSE TROPHIES

Open water (Junior): **Justin Prowse**
Open water (Senior): **Graham Hoal**

Junior Individual Medley: **Ethan Stewart**
Senior Individual Medley: **Graham Hoal**
Junior Victor Ludorum: **Ethan Stewart**
U17 Victor Ludorum: **Caleb Bryden**
Senior Victor Ludorum: **James Murray**
Open Freestyle Relay: **Pascoe**
Winning House (Relays): **West**
Winning House Overall: **Ralfe**

AGE GROUP CHAMPIONS

AGE GROUP GOLD

U14 **Matteo Valente (R)**
U15 **Ethan Stewart (R)**
U16 **Caleb Bryden (Fa)**

SILVER

Ben Bryden (F)
Theo Apteker (Mc)
Samuel Berchowitz (W)

BRONZE

Tom Telford (B)
Kamogelo de Almeida (Fo)
Luke Hoekstra (Mc)

U17

Graham Hoal (R)

David Acres (B)

Benjamin Lister (Ma)

U19

James Murray (T)

Jared Meiring (W)

Aidan Browne (B)

NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

Graham Hoal achieved a feat that no other Michaelhouse swimmer has done in all the years of swimming at Michaelhouse. Graham amassed all required criteria and points to receive his

honours badge in his first term at Michaelhouse. Such a feat normally takes years of points accumulation but was done in the shortest possible space of time.

“

Progress is without doubt being hampered due to our facilities being restricted to a pool of thirty-three and a third yards in length, containing only five lanes and little more than six feet deep in the deep end.

The Chronicle, 1976

”

WATER POLO

Master in Charge: **Mr Matthew Stringer**

COACHES

First Team: **Mr Bernard Whitaker**

Second Team: **Mr Peter Stevens**

Third Team: **Mr Bradley McManus**

Fourth Team: **Mr Bailey Coxon**

Fifth Team: **Ms Karin Moffat**





WATER POLO

Back Row: James Murray, Jason Morby-Smith, Graham Hoal, Daniel Johnson, Zubin Randeria

Middle Row: Samuel Berchowitz, Benjamin Lister, Campbell Houston, Robert Pickard

Front Row: Thomas Walters, Julian Daffy, Mr Bernard Whitaker, Timothy Harding, Matteo Cozzi,

U16A: Mr Matthew Stringer

U15A: Mr Matthew Stringer

U15B: Mr Lee-Roy Storm (Jason Blockley from 4th quarter)

U14A: Mr Nathan Holm

U14B: Mr Lee-Roy Storm (Jason Blockley from 4th quarter)

1st Team Captain: Julian Daffy

1st Team Vice-Captain: Timothy Harding

AWARDS

Honours: Graham Hoal

Half-Colours: Samuel Berchowitz, Campbell Houston, Daniel Johnson, Benjamin Lister, Robert Pickard

Whilst 2020 brought about its own challenges in terms of the coronavirus, the boys were still lucky enough to have been able to have a full season of water polo in the first quarter. The U15A boys took part in the Dallas Hutton tournament which was held at Northwood, whilst the first team travelled to East London to take part in Selbourne's Vides Tournament. Both these teams learnt a lot and grew in leaps and bounds after being afforded the experience of being able to play in a tournament set-up with many teams from different provinces. As has become the norm, the Michaelhouse junior teams continued to produce strong results, with the U15A side placing third at the Dallas Hutton tournament, while the senior teams once again continued to close the gap between themselves and their opponents. The third and fourth quarters saw the boys continuing to train, under the Walrus Academy, as water polo players had to be registered under a club and with Swimming South

“

We won the House Water Polo Competition (alas, still in the eyes of the Games Committee an unofficial competition!).

Tatham House report, 1975

”

Africa, in order for them to be considered Covid compliant and resume training with strict safety measures in place. The fourth quarter also saw the introduction of an internal league where the boys were split into seven equal teams which were made up of players from the first team all the way down to the U14B.

The first team, coached by Mr Bernard Whitaker and captained by Julian Daffy, had a much-improved season and once again benefited from being able to tour across the country and play against over 20 different schools. During the first quarter, the first team travelled to East London to take part in the Vides tournament at Selborne College whilst also competing in the annual sporting summer league in Durban.

FIRST TEAM WATER POLO RESULTS

DATE	OPPOSITION	RESULT	GF	GA
18 Jan	Kearsney College	Lost	5	12
01 Feb	Durban High School	Lost	6	10
08 Feb	Maritzburg College	Won	9	8
14 Feb	Paul Roos Gymnasium	Lost	4	11
14 Feb	St Charles College	Won	18	1
14 Feb	Glenwood House School	Won	9	4
14 Feb	Selborne College	Won	9	8
15 Feb	Reddam Helderfontein	Lost	7	10
15 Feb	Kingswood College	Lost	4	7
16 Feb	St Albans College	Lost	6	7
22 Feb	St Charles College	Won	20	0
29 Feb	Hilton College	Lost	3	19

Whilst the coronavirus prevented the team from being able to play any competitive fixtures against other schools in the third and fourth quarters, the boys were still eager to train in order to retain some kind of normality.

WATER POLO 2020

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD
1st	12	5	0	7	100	97	3
2nd	5	1	1	3	23	33	-10
3rd	4	2	1	1	27	21	6
4th	4	2	0	2	29	27	2
5th	4	0	0	4	13	32	-19
U15A	11	8	0	3	65	48	17
U15B	3	2	0	1	15	11	4
Junior Mixed	4	2	0	2	21	23	-2
U14A	5	2	1	2	24	50	-26

The second team, coached by Mr Peter Stevens, enjoyed a competitive first quarter but the results did not swing in their favour. The jump from the junior level of water polo to that of the senior took many of the new C Blockers by surprise and they struggled to adapt. However, the boys and coach are to be commended on continuing to work hard and put in the necessary hours of preparation throughout the year.

What was once seen to be the more social set-up of Michaelhouse water polo in the third, fourth, and fifth teams, coached by Mr Brad McManus, Mr Bailey Coxon and Ms Karin Moffat respectively, took a new turn this year with the boys being eager to put in the hours of pool time preparation necessary to improve their results. Congratulations must go to both the boys and coaches for putting in this level of time and dedication in order to achieve some impressive results in the first quarter.

The U15A team, coached by Mr Matthew Stringer and captained by Ethan Stewart, had one of the best first-quarter seasons that Michaelhouse has seen in at least the last five years. With victories over Kearsney, Northwood, Durban High School, Maritzburg College, and Westville, as well as a third-place finish and bronze medal at Northwood's Dallas Hutton tournament, the boys proved what real dedication and a strong work-hard mindset can achieve.

The U14A team, coached by Mr Nathan Holm and captained by Ben Bryden, also enjoyed a successful first quarter. Whilst their first game of the season did not go according to plan, the boys rallied together and pulled off impressive victories against Northwood and Maritzburg College, as well as an impressive draw against Durban High School. With yet another strong age group of junior water polo players having entered the Michaelhouse ranks, the overall water polo programme continues to benefit greatly.

The U14B and U15B teams, coached by Mr Lee-Roy Storm and later taken over by Mr Jason Blockley, Mr Nathan Holm, and Mr Matthew Stringer in the fourth quarter, had an enjoyable season where the emphasis was placed upon learning the basics whilst having fun at the same time. Many of these boys work very hard and are knocking on the door of the age group's respective A teams.

The annual interhouse tournament took place in the fourth quarter. Each House created a junior and senior team, playing one half of the game each. With ten Houses, a minimum of four games per House, and 200 players taking part, the event was a huge success and a fun way to end off the season.

First:	Pascoe
Second:	Founders
Third:	East



ATHLETICS

Back Row: Ayanda Nongauza, Tshiamo Boikhutso, Ayabonga Zakwe

Middle Row: Damian Watson, Ruben Visagie

Front Row: Senzo Sokhela, Mr Nico Boshoff, Joshua Voget

ATHLETICS

Master in Charge: **Mr Nico Boshoff**

Coaches: **Mr Sibs Ncamani, Mr Siphesihle Mdladla**

Captain: **Senzo Sokhela**

Pietermaritzburg and Districts Invitation Team: **Senzo Sokhela (U19), Ruben Visagie (U15)**

KwaZulu-Natal Schools: **Senzo Sokhela (U19)**

2020 was going to be the year Senzo Sokhela placed Michaelhouse on the national schools athletics championships map. After all, he medalled in 2019 as a 17-year-old, a year younger than his competitors. He had a remarkable pre-season training period and was in great shape as the school year started. His times in the 800m and 1500m events were leading times in the U19 age group in South Africa, by quite a margin too. Then a few weeks before the national championships, Covid struck South Africa and lockdown put an end to organised sporting events. The disappointment was tangible.

Michaelhouse athletes can reflect on a short but successful first quarter. They achieved admirably against top-class opposition in the province. Some of the oldest Michaelhouse records, dating back to 1974, were broken.

As Senzo entered his final year at Michaelhouse, it was almost a case of out with the old, in with the new as Ruben Visagie started his high school career. Senzo soon took on the role as mentor to Ruben as his cop in Farfield, sharing more than just running knowledge. Training together served as motivation for both these talented athletes as was demonstrated when they both broke records in the 1500m events held prior to Sports Day.

Our athletes participated in the various KwaZulu-Natal League meetings at Kings Park in Durban where they competed against athletes from various schools and clubs.

Ruben and Senzo represented Michaelhouse at the KZN Championships which were held on 6 and 7 March in Durban. Senzo won the boys U19 800m heat in a time of 1:51.96. The final clashed with the matric dance and he did not compete in the final. He was the fastest qualifier though and met the time standard to race at the South African champs at the end of March. Ruben came third in his heat in the boys U15 1500m and qualified for the final. Unfortunately, due to illness he had to withdraw from the final. Senzo won his 1500m heat and progressed to the final. In the final he ran a superb race and

finished in a new Michaelhouse record of 3:53.02, winning the gold medal. His winning time met the criteria for the SA championships.

Interhouse Sports Day took place on 12 February. Congratulations to Farfield on being declared the winning House, regaining their reputation as school athletics champions after losing that title by the narrowest margin in 2019, having dominated Sports Day for many years. The highlight of the day was Senzo Sokhela breaking the U19 800m record that had

been set in 1974 in a time of 1:55.28.

SPORTS DAY RESULTS

RELAYS

The Five-Age Relay (Grant Cornish Bowden Floating Trophy): **Tatham**

The 4x100m Relay (David Chance Floating Trophy): **Tatham**

Winning House Relays (RH Harris Floating Trophy): **Tatham**

AGE GROUP CHAMPIONS

AGE GROUP

GOLD

U14	Ngaakudzweishe Chikarango (R)
U15	Theo Apteker (Mc)
U16	Anothile Nzimande (Fa)
U17	Matthew Gibson (E)
U19	Senzo Sokhela (Fa)

SILVER

Ruben Visagie (Fa)
Jack Williamson (Fa)
Mvelo Guma (B)
Joshua Samuels (P)
Mugabi Lubinga (R)

BRONZE

Tshiamo Boikhutso (P)
Nkosinathi Kumalo (Fa)
Luke Farndell (Fa)
David Acres (B)
JC Oelofse (W)



Junior Victor Ludorum (Paul Nash Trophy): **Theo Apteker (Mc)**

U17 Victor Ludorum (Martin Rose Floating Trophy): **Matthew Gibson (E)**

Senior Victor Ludorum (John Odams Trophy): **Senzo Sokhela (Fa)**

U19 100m Sprint (D Barford Trophy): **Mark Grant (Fo)**

Best Single Performance in a Field Event (Mike Gledhill Cup): **Graham Hoal (R)**

Best Single Performance in a Track Event (Steven Weidelich Floating Trophy): **Senzo Sokhela (Fa)**

Best Single Performance in a Javelin Event (JR Cairns Trophy): **JC Oelofse (W)**

Best Middle Distance Athlete (GD Barrie Trophy): **Senzo Sokhela (Fa)**

Best Single Performance in Any Event (ST Evens Trophy): **Senzo Sokhela (Fa)**

Service to Athletics (M Jeffrey Memorial Tray): **Senzo Sokhela (Fa)**

Winning House (Eric Strapp Memorial Trophy): **Farfield**

NEW RECORDS

U19 800m:	Senzo Sokhela	(1 min 55.28)
U19 1500m:	Senzo Sokhela	(4 min 01.2)
U19 3000m:	Senzo Sokhela	(9 min 09)
U14 1500m:	Ruben Visagie	(4 min 33.9)

In the fourth quarter an enthusiastic trio consisting of Theo Apteker, Ruben Visagie and Tshiamo Boikhutso trained at the

Harry Gwala tartan track in Pietermaritzburg and I'm looking forward to their results in 2021. Middle-distance running at Michaelhouse is alive and well.

In November it was announced that Senzo had been selected for the Athletics South Africa preparation squad for the World U20 champs in 2021 which is scheduled for August in Kenya. We wish him all the best and will follow with great interest.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Senzo for his selfless service to athletics at Michaelhouse. He is a true champion in

every sense of the word. I have never heard him complain about weather conditions, whether it's a balmy Durban or wet and cold Balgowan, he always gets on with the task at hand. Traveling to

events is also never questioned. A park run 90 minutes away or a 3000m event in Bloemfontein is met with equal enthusiasm. Senzo simply eats, breathes and sleeps athletics. We salute you.



BASKETBALL

Back Row: David Stubbs, Dominic le Sueur, Inuoluwadunsimi Femi-Kayode, Nicholas Howarth, Joshua Stevenson, Jason Makhele

Middle Row: Nhlakanipho Mathe, Pitso Sekhoto, Richard Kombe, Mogomotsi Nteta

Front Row: Banele Sithole, Mr Nkanyiso Ngcobo, Kwanele Khumalo, Mr Prosper Dubazana, Richard Esipisu

BASKETBALL

Master in Charge: **Mr Clint Sliedrecht**

COACHES

First Team: **Mr Nkanyiso Ngcobo, Mr Ryan McFie, Mr Prosper Dubazana**

Second Team: **Mr Sibonelo Khanyile, Mr Ryan McFie**

Third Team: **Mr Sikelela Nyandeni**

Fourth Team: **Mr Ayanda Duma**

Fifth Team: **Mr Jason Blockley**

Sixth Team: **Mr Jason Blockley**

Seventh Team: **Mr Righardt Kotze**

Eighth Team: **Mr Righardt Kotze**



The winners of the prestigious St John's College tournament

U16A: **Mr Ryan McFie**
 U16B: **Mr Sifiso Vilakazi**
 U16C: **Mr Thabani Hlabisa**
 U16D: **Mr Thapelo Machimane**
 U15A: **Mr Siphesihle Mdladla**
 U15B: **Mr Sifiso Vilakazi**
 U15C: **Mr Ayanda Duma**
 U15D: **Mr Linda Mabuza**
 U14A: **Mr Ryan McFie**
 U14B: **Mr Clint Sliedrecht**
 U14C: **Mr Allan Laing**
 U14D: **Mr Grant von Mayer**
 Captain: **JC Oelofse**

AWARDS

Honours: **Inuoluwadunsimi Femi-Kayode**

Colours: **Banele Sithole**

Half-colours: **Richard Esipisu, Richard Kombe, Mogomotsi Nteta, David Stubbs, Nhlakanipho Mathe, Jason Makhele, Dominic le Sueur, Joshua Stevenson, Nicholas Howarth**

NATIONAL REPRESENTATION

Basketball South Africa Provincial Representation U18: **Kwanele Khumalo, JC Oelofse**

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATION

LMSBA Provincial U18A: **JC Oelofse, Kwanele Khumalo, Inuoluwadunsimi Femi-Kayode**

LMSBA Provincial U16: **Christian Magero**

SPECIAL AWARDS

The Coache's Award for the Most Valuable Player: **JC Oelofse**

The Captain's Award for the Most Improved Player: **Richard Esipisu**

The Witherspoon Trophy for the Best Defensive Player: **Banele Sithole, Inuoluwadunsimi Femi-Kayode**

K van der Haar Interhouse trophy: **Baines**

Despite the challenges presented to all of us by the pandemic this year, the first quarter of 2020 (the end of our 2019/2020 season) saw the Michaelhouse Basketball Club soar to new heights. We again finished the year with the highest win ratio of all sports at Michaelhouse (64%). Although, admittedly, winter sports were not afforded the opportunity of posing a challenge. Incredibly, our first team's ground-breaking achievement of winning our first piece of major silverware with their victory in the prestigious Independent Schools Stayers' Basketball tournament (ISSBT) held at Kearsney College in September 2019 was followed by their remarkable achievement of winning the most prestigious South African schools basketball tournament, the St John's College tournament, in February. This meant that we achieved the unthinkable in winning the double in the 2019/2020 season. An achievement which saw us ranked the number one basketball school in South Africa at the end of the 2019/2020 season.

From a results perspective, the first quarter of the year was very successful: we played 140 matches in total, winning 90, drawing three and losing 47 (a win ratio of 64.3%). Special mention must go to our first team who lead by example and were a pleasure to watch, especially in the way they conducted themselves throughout the season. Their win ratio of 88.2% (played 17 won 15) was an improvement on their win ratio of last year (81.3%). Our U15A and U14A teams also deserve a special mention with their win ratios of 72.7% and 75% respectively.

BASKETBALL 2020

TEAM	P	W	D	L	PF	PA	PD	WIN RATIO
1st	17	15	0	2	643	450	193	88.2%
2nd	7	5	0	2	237	139	98	71.4%
3rd	6	6	0	0	199	68	131	100.0%
4th	5	5	0	0	148	77	71	100.0%
5th	5	2	0	3	100	120	-20	40.0%
6th	4	4	0	0	105	50	55	100.0%
7th	2	2	0	0	60	33	27	100.0%
8th	1	1	0	0	26	14	12	100.0%
U16A	20	11	1	8	597	453	144	55.0%
U16B	6	2	0	4	92	144	-52	33.3%
U16C	5	2	0	3	77	82	-5	40.0%
U16D	4	3	0	1	88	74	14	75.0%
U16E	2	1	0	1	28	38	-10	50.0%

Our continued efforts to get the boys competing in tournament basketball were seriously hampered by the global pandemic but not before our first team's victory at the St John's College tournament. As another first, we sent our U15A team with our first team to the tournament and they delivered some excellent performances before narrowly losing out to the Soweto Academy at the quarter-final stage (34-36).

Before the onset of the pandemic, our U16A team attended the annual St Stithians College tournament in February. They competed exceptionally well, finishing in ninth position, the best placed of all KwaZulu-Natal schools. We were disappointed to not have the opportunity to defend our title at the Kearsney stayers' tournament in September or to accompany our U14A and B teams to the St Andrew's College festival in Grahamstown at the start of October. Finally, on the note of tours and tournaments we look forward to hosting a special 125th anniversary tournament in the latter part of 2021 and will also give it a concerted effort with our U16A boys to win our own annual tournament at the end of January 2021.

Four boys were selected to represent KZN in their respective age-groups: Inuoluwadunsimi Femi-Kayode (U18A), Kwanele Khumalo (U18A), JC Oelofse (U18A) and Christian Magero (U16A). Our own first team coach, Mr Ngcobo was also selected as head coach of the KZN Like-Minded Schools Basketball Association (LMSBA) U18A team.

Michaelhouse basketball continues to grow in strength and stature and I would like to say a final word of thanks to all the coaches and players involved. A special thank you to Mr Siphesihle Mdladla, who leaves us after two years of dedicated service to the basketball club. We also thank Mr Ryan McFie for his excellent coaching and helping us to take the step up to the next level. Finally, it would be remiss of me not to pay respects and a big thank you to the late Mr Sifiso Vilakazi, who left an indelible mark on the boys and coaches alike with his passion for the game.

U15A	11	8	0	3	328	186	142	72.7%
U15B	6	2	0	4	127	139	-12	33.3%
U15C	5	2	0	3	143	112	31	40.0%
U15D	4	2	0	2	56	77	-21	50.0%
U15E	2	1	0	1	24	33	-9	50.0%
U14A	8	6	0	2	208	140	68	75.0%
U14B	7	4	1	2	116	77	39	57.1%
U14C	4	2	0	2	49	46	3	50.0%
U14D	5	4	0	1	82	38	44	80.0%
U14E	4	0	1	3	31	63	-32	0.0%
Totals:	140	90	3	47	3564	2653	911	64.3%

FIRST TEAM BASKETBALL

Coaches: **Mr Nkanyiso Ngcobo, Mr Ryan McFie, Mr Prosper Dubazana**

Captain: **JC Oelofse**

First Team: **JC Oelofse, Kwanele Khumalo, Banele Sithole, Inuoluwadunsimi Femi-Kayode, Richard Esipisu, Richard Kombe, Mogomotsi Nteta, David Stubbs, Nhlakanipho Mathe, Jason Makhele, Dominic le Sueur, Joshua Stevenson, Nicholas Howarth, Pitso Sekhoto**

The 2020 first team will go down in the annals of Michaelhouse history as the record-breakers. Their achievement of the double in winning the Kearsney Stayers' and St John's College tournaments in the same season has not been achieved before and will take a great effort from future teams to repeat. The year got off to a winning start with a resounding thrashing of Kearsney College at home. Our captain, JC Oelofse, undoubtedly played one of the finest games he has played in a Michaelhouse jersey and his dominance from everywhere on the court was a sight to behold. This exceptional performance propelled the team to another three victories on the trot against Carter High (50-21), Northwood (44-40) and Treverton College (33-12) before the juggernaut was brought to a halt with a hard-fought loss to DHS in the debilitating Durban heat on their outdoor court (33-38). After that the first team showed their class with a comfortable victory over Maritzburg Christian School (48-16) before an epic victory in the Alan Paton indoor centre at Maritzburg College (38-34). The victory at College was memorable for its intensity and the big-match temperament shown by our team during two periods of over-time where three pointers from JC Oelofse were crucial. After winning the day away at Maritzburg College we returned to defend our home court against St Charles College. This was a fixture we were looking for revenge in after our lack-lustre but narrow loss to them at home in the fourth quarter of 2019. An exceptionally composed performance by the boys saw us come up trumps (54-45).

After only losing to DHS in our regular season fixtures the team

headed up the N3 for the St John's College tournament. There were bashful mutterings of the possibility of doing the double, although these were not taken seriously even by those who were muttering. The tournament started well for our team with comfortable victories against Enjabulwini Independent School (20-0) and Wynberg Boys' High (39-11) before we met the hosts in a tournament group match where a repeat of what unfolded at the Kearsney stayers' tournament a few months previously unfolded and we lost to the hosts in the group stage (26-29). After our disappointing loss to St John's the team showed their mettle with victories in their last group matches against St Alban's (26-20), Clifton College (37-35) and Waterford Kamhlaba (34-21). Our victory over St Charles College by one point in the quarter-final (28-27) ensured that we were the only KZN school left in the tournament and we were delighted to prevail in a hard-fought victory over St David's Marist, Inanda in the semi-final (23-17). The scene was beautifully set with us facing the highly-touted St John's team in the final. In one of the best performances of our seasoned team at the tournament the boys brought home the elusive double and sealed their place in our school's history as our most successful first team and the number one ranked team in the country.

Finally, I must make special mention of the remarkable accomplishment of our captain, JC Oelofse, who has been awarded a scholarship to attend Western Reserve Academy in Cleveland, Ohio, to make an early transition to the USA game and continue his dream of playing basketball professionally. We wish him well in his aspiration of playing in the NBA one day and will be keenly watching his progress.

All in all, 2020 has been another landmark year for our club, lead by the performances of our first team in particular. I would like to thank our head coach Mr Nkanyiso Ngcobo, his assistant coach Mr Ryan McFie and our conditioning specialist Mr Prosper Dubazana for their excellent efforts in bringing out the best in the boys and helping them to reach new heights this year.

FIRST TEAM BASKETBALL 2020

OPPOSITION	RESULT	PF	PA				
Kearsney College	Won	62	44	Enjabulweni Independent School	Won	20	0
Carter High	Won	50	21	Wynberg Boys' High School	Won	39	11
Northwood	Won	44	40	St John's College	Lost	26	29
Treverton College	Won	33	12	St Alban's College	Won	26	20
Durban High School	Lost	33	38	Clifton College	Won	37	35
Maritzburg Christian School	Won	48	16	Waterford Kamhlaba	Won	34	21
Maritzburg College	Won	38	34	St Charles College	Won	28	27
St Charles College	Won	54	45	St David's Marist, Inanda	Won	23	17
				St John's College	Won	48	40

CANOEING

Masters in Charge: **Mr Gerhard Erasmus, Mr Paul Snyman, Mr Edward Jeffrey**

Team Captain: **Ross Leslie**

AWARDS

Stuart Maclaren Floating Trophy for the Best Senior Canoeist: **Samuel Butcher**

Michaelhouse Junior Canoeing Champion: **Jack Shooter**

The Connolly Award for Perseverance and Commitment: **Luke de Heer and Michael Brown**

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATION 2019/2020 SEASON

U18 KwaZulu-Natal Colours, KZN Marathon K2 Junior Champion, KZN River K2 Junior Champion, Bridgette Hartley Trophy (Best Junior Male Sprinter): **Sam Butcher**

U18 KZN Colours: **Ross Leslie, Chase Leisegang**

U16 and U18 KZN Colours, U16 Paddler of the Year, Ski Junior Mixed Doubles Champion, KZN Marathon K2 Junior Champion, KZN River K2 Junior Champion: **Matthew Millward**

U16 KZN Colours, KNCU Championship Sprints Trophy (Junior Boys): **Pierre van der Westhuyzen**

U16 and U18 KZN Colours: **Jack Edmonds**

2019 U14 Schools Victor Ludorum: **Robert Butcher**

INTERHOUSE CANOEING

1. East
2. Tatham
3. Mackenzie

Fifty-three Michaelhouse boys are currently registered with the KwaZulu-Natal Canoeing Union. Not all of these boys have persevered with the sport but the club has

about 40 boys who have raced this year despite the restrictions we have faced due to the pandemic. The club's aim remains to develop healthy, capable and resilient young canoeists while attaining widespread, inclusive, sustainable and enjoyable participation and success at all levels. These goals were achieved with some success over the course of the year.

When the Covid-19 pandemic took hold in April and the country went into a hard lockdown the KZN Interschools League came to a premature end. At the time Michaelhouse were comfortably leading the standings having won the first three events, which included a sprint, a marathon and a river race.

Canoeing South Africa (CSA) were proactive in putting strict measures in place during the lockdown period to ensure a quick return to racing. The boys have been fortunate to have a relatively full year of paddling under the circumstances. The Fish River Canoe Marathon – our biggest race of the year – was unfortunately cancelled but the other major events took place albeit at unusual times of the year. A summary of the major CSA events the Michaelhouse paddlers took part in follows:

THE DRAK CHALLENGE: 1-2 FEBRUARY

A record 29 boys and four staff headed off to Underberg for the two-day 65km Drak Challenge Canoe Marathon.

NAME	AGE	CANOE	P	OVERALL
Sam Butcher	U18	K1	1	14
Jack Edmonds	U18	K1	2	16
Matthew Millward	U18	K1	3	18
Ross Leslie	U18	K1	4	29
Chase Leisegang	U18	K1	5	33
Oliver Bekker	U18	K1	11	76
Connor Leisegang	U16	K1	2	84



CANOEING

Back Row: Reuben Baldry, Huntley Earle, Anthony Turner, Heinrich Reyneke, Phillipus van der Hoven, Karl Rindfleisch, Jack Irons, Murray Behn, Thomas Denny, Carter Karan

Third Row: Max von Klemperer, Luke de Heer, Thomas Hill, Jaden Adam, Chase Leisegang, Rupert Henderson

Second Row: Ethan Cockram, Rourke Murray, Dominic Furby, Jack Edmonds, Jack Shooter, Harrison Field, Robert Butcher, Connor Leisegang

Front Row: Michael Brown, Mr Edward Jeffrey, Ross Leslie, Mr Gerhard Erasmus, Matthew Henderson, Mr Paul Snyman, Christopher Langebrink

Absent: Sam Butcher, Matthew Millward

Murray Behn	U18	K1	13	89
Reuben Baldry	U16	K1	6	112
Matthew Henderson	U18	K1	25	133
Michael Brown	U18	K1	27	144
Liam Bekker	U18	K1	28	150
Jack Shooter	U16	K1	7	153
Robert Butcher	U16	K1	9	183
Anthony Turner	U18	K1	31	186
Kade Reinhardt	Open	K2	47	218
Jack Irons	U18	K1	34	226
Luke de Heer	U18	K1	36	233
William Selby	U18	K1	38	236

Heinrich Reyneke	U18	K1	39	240
Christopher Langebrink	U18	K1	40	241
Karl Rindfleisch & Mr Snyman	Open	K2	52	249
Phillip van der Hoven	U18	K1	41	250
Thomas Hill	U18	K1	42	259
Mr Jeffrey	Sub-vet	K1	25	282
Harrison Field & Mrs Snowden	Open	K2	57	291
Huntley Earl	U16	K1	15	292
Peter Hein	U16	K1	18	304
Carter Karan	U16	K1	20	307



DUSI CANOE MARATHON: 25-27 FEBRUARY

On the back of a very successful 2019 Dusi campaign, expectations from the Michaelhouse Canoe Club for the 2020 K2 event were high. Twelve boys and three staff members completed the arduous paddle from Pietermaritzburg to Durban. Michaelhouse paddlers occupied all three steps on the U18 podium, which is a first for the club and an outstanding achievement. Ross Leslie and Chase Leisegang led the Michaelhouse charge, finishing 19th overall and first in the U18 category. Sam Butcher and Matthew Millward finished 21st overall and second in the U18 category and Jack Edmonds and his partner finished 23rd overall and third in the U18 category. Jack Shooter and Reuben Baldry, in their first Dusi Canoe Marathon, finished 77th overall and were the first U16 boat to Durban.

NAME	AGE	CANOE	P	OVERALL
Ross Leslie & Chase Leisegang	U18	K2	1	19
Sam Butcher & Matthew Millward	U18	K2	2	21
Jack Edmonds & Partner	U18	K2	3	23
Jack Shooter & Reuben Baldry	U16	K2	1	81
Huntley Earle	Open	K2	47	101

& Mr Snyman

Oliver Bekker & Liam Bekker	U18	K2	12	138
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Murray Behn & Partner	U18	K2	66	152
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Mr Erasmus & Mr Jeffrey	Sub-vet K2	19	223
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KZN SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIPS (SHONGWENI DAM): 22-23 FEBRUARY

1000M EVENTS

NAME	AGE	K1 / K2	P
Sam Butcher	U18	K1	1
Matthew Millward	U18	K1	3
Ross Leslie	U18	K1	5
Reuben Baldry	U16	K1	4
Jack Shooter	U16	K1	5
Sam Butcher & Matthew Millward	U18	K2	1
Ross Leslie & Chase Leisegang	U18	K2	2
Michael Brown & Partner	U18	K2	7

Reuben Baldry & Jack Shooter U16 K2 3

Murray Behn & Max von Klemperer U18 K2 5

200M EVENTS

NAME	AGE	K1 / K2	P
Sam Butcher	U18	K1	1
Matthew Millward	U18	K1	7
Michael Brown	U18	K1	9
Reuben Baldry	U16	K1	5
Sam Butcher & Matthew Millward	U18	K2	1
Michael Brown & Partner	U18	K2	5
Reuben Baldry & Jack Shooter	U16	K2	3

KZN K1 AND K2 MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS (CAMP'S DRIFT): 26-27 SEPTEMBER

Eight Michaelhouse paddlers took part in these championships. These tough events involve a 20km flat-water paddle with regular portages. The Michaelhouse boys performed very well in this event, using it as race training during their build-up to the South African Marathon Championships.

NAME	AGE	K1 / K2	P
Sam Butcher	U18	K1	1
Matthew Millward	U18	K1	2
Jack Edmonds	U18	K1	3
Ross Leslie	U18	K1	4
Murray Behn	U18	K1	9
Jack Shooter	U16	K1	5
Sam Butcher & Matthew Millward	U18	K2	1
Ross Leslie & Chase Leisegang	U18	K2	2
Jack Edmonds & Partner	U18	K2	3

SA K1 AND K2 MARATHON CHAMPIONSHIPS (CAPE ST FRANCIS): 11-12 OCTOBER

Eight Michaelhouse paddlers took part in these championships. The Michaelhouse paddlers occupied all but one step on the podium in the U18 K1 and K2 events – outstanding achievements.

NAME	AGE	K1 / K2	P
Sam Butcher	U18	K1	1
Matthew Millward	U18	K1	2
Ross Leslie	U18	K1	4
Jack Edmonds	U18	K1	5
Murray Behn	U18	K1	9
Jack Shooter	U16	K1	7
Sam Butcher & Matthew Millward	U18	K2	1
Ross Leslie & Chase Leisegang	U18	K2	2
Jack Edmonds & Partner	U18	K2	3
Murray Behn & Max von Klemperer	U18	K2	5
Jack Shooter and Partner	U16	K2	2

SA S1 AND S2 SURFSKI CHAMPIONSHIPS (KZN) & WESTERN CAPE: OCTOBER

Matthew Millward and Murray Behn teamed up in the S2 race held in KZN and finished ninth overall and were first in the U18 category. Jack Shooter and his partner finished 15th overall and were first in the U16 category.

Chase Leisegang competed in the S1 race held in the Western Cape and finished 26th overall and second in the U18 category.

CRICKET

Master in Charge: **Mr John Crawford**

COACHES

First XI: **Mr Darren Mortimer, Mr Ian Crawford, Mr Liam Mickleburg (sports scientist)**

Second XI: **Mr Chris van den Berg, Mr Carl Bezuidenhout**

Third XI: **Mr Richard McMichael**

Fourth XI: **Mr Paul Mackay**

Fifth XI: **Mr Aidan Friend**

U16A: **Mr Dean Forword, Mr Olwethu Hugo**

U16B: **Mr Linda Shezi, Mr Michael Sevenoaks**

U16C: **Mr Liam Boshoff**

U15A: **Mr Simon Greyvensteyn, Mr Chris Waldburger**
 U15B: **Mr Mark Blew, Mr Ross Stanley, Mr Cameron Barry**
 U14A: **Mr Emmanuel Mkhize, Mr May Mazibuko**
 U14B: **Mr Ernest Rindfleisch, Mr David Pachonick**
 U14C: **Mr Jonothan Smith**
 U14D: **Mr Richard Brown**

AWARDS

Honours: **Jared Meiring**

Colours: **Roeland Van Den Berg, Adrien Fisher, Ayanda Cele**

Half-Colours: **Oyama Ntshona, Josh White, Max Latter, Kieran Martin, Alexander Vermeulen**

AWARDS ANNOUNCED AT THE FIRST XI CRICKET DINNER

The Henry Fotheringham Batsman of the Year: **Jared Meiring**

The Ravenor Nicholson Bowler of the Year: **Oyama Ntshona**

The Craig Sugden Player's Player of the Year: **Roeland van den Berg**

The Dale Benkenstein Player of the Year: **Jared Meiring**

SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS

BATTING

NAME	OPPONENT	TEAM	ACHIEVEMENT
Jared Meiring	St Dominic's	1st XI	104

NAME	OPPONENT	TEAM	ACHIEVEMENT
Thomas Griffin	St Charles College	U15B	130*
Thomas McCall	Nottingham Road XI	U16A	120

BOWLING

NAME	OPPONENT	TEAM	ACHIEVEMENT
Ayanda Cele	Border U17	KZN Inland U17	5/22
Luke Hoekstra	Northwood	U16B	6/5
Kieran Martin	Northwood	1st XI	5/48
Ross Fleming	Northwood	4th XI	5/5
Alexander Vermeulen	DHS	2nd XI	7/30
Christian Brand	DHS	3rd XI	6/7
Benjamin Jarvis	DHS	4th XI	5/2
Kevin Smith	DHS	U16C	6/7
Thomas Mitchell	St Charles College	U15A	5/20
Roeland van den Berg	Titans Invitation XI	1st XI	5/15
Kamohelo Rathepe	Nottingham Road XI	U16A	5/18

The cricket year started in early January, before school opened. It was our turn to host the Independent Schools Festival. Although the weather was predictably variable most of the games were either started or completed. An interesting and welcome addition was the inclusion of an Inland Academy side. The season followed much the same pattern as usual. Little did we know what was around the corner. Our U14 age group showed lots of talent without much luck on the field.

They will become a force of their own in the years to come. The U15 group started to show much improvement and this will carry them positively into the future. The U16 boys showed what great talent they have as a group and what good depth too as there are some good cricketers in the B and C sides. The open age group also showed great depth as the results indicate.

The First XI welcomed a new set of coaches. Darren Mortimer,

“

Our batting is weak, and not the source of alarm to our opponents it should be.

The Chronicle, 1898

”



CRICKET

Back Row: Ayanda Cele, Max Latter, Kieran Martin, Campbell Davies-Webb, Luke Gammie, Callum Porrill, Adrien Fisher

Second Row: Oyama Ntshona, Joshua White, James Fleming, Alexander Vermeulen,

Front Row: Mr Ian Crawford, Jared Meiring, Mr Darryn Mortimer, Roeland van den Berg, Mr Liam Mickleburgh

was already well known amongst cricketers at the school and his experience and expertise is without question and with Mr Ian Crawford formed a formidable combination. We are really fortunate to have such a depth of coaching talent at the school. A look down the list of coaches and their pedigree as players and coaches makes impressive reading. Few schools are as fortunate as we are. The school is blessed with wonderful facilities; seven turf pitches, five turf nets and an indoor centre that is the envy of even some first-class franchises. Add to that the new High Performance Centre, where all the staff are so enthusiastic but where Mr Liam Mickleburgh has a particular soft spot for the cricket boys, and we can boast world-class facilities and programmes. We really do need to complete the upgrade to the indoor nets, though, as they are used so much.

We are very grateful to still have the coaching of Ugasen Govender, a top-level fast-bowling coach, and of course an Old Boy. Yogi, as he is known, helps the quickies while the Midlands has a range of experienced coaches to call on for those boys wanting extra coaching.

The first part of the cricket season ended as normal but that was the end of normality. When the boys eventually returned we carefully introduced winter and then spring cricket and it was heart-warming to see how many boys were keen to be in

fresh air and improve their skills, with no fixtures in sight. It was remarkable.

We reinvented the Caversham sides. These, in times of less pressure, were staff sides that played friendly games on Sundays with the whole family watching. How wonderful to have enough staff willing to fill two sides to give the boys some cricket. We even have the talent to give the First XI a good game.

When we were allowed to play some matches the local Nottingham Road side and The Crickets rallied around to make some memorable matches happen. My thanks to Old Boy, parent and cricket lover, Iain Lambert for organising those games. It was such a pity that the Old Boy matches were called off due to bad weather (not Covid!). The Eston Club, however, agreed to play us and let the First XI play their last fixture together. It was a special afternoon and hopefully we will build a close bond with them.

My thanks go again to Mr Gunther Heyneke and his staff for looking after all the pitches. It is a massive task.

TEAM	P	W	L	D
1st XI	16	9	5	2
2nd XI	4	2	2	





TEAM	P	W	L	D	TEAM	P	W	L	D
3rd XI	5	4	1		U15A	6	3	3	
4th XI	4	3	1		U15B	5	2	3	
5th XI	2	1	1		U14A	6	0	5	1
U16A	5	4	1		U14B	4	2	2	
U16B	4	4			U14C	5	4	1	
U16C	3	1	2		U14D	3	2	1	

FIRST XI CRICKET

Coaches: **Mr Darren Mortimer Mr Ian Crawford**

Sport Scientist: **Mr Liam Mickleburg**

Captain: **Jared Meiring**

Team: **Jared Meiring, Callum Porrill, Adrien Fisher, Luke Gammie, Roeland van den Berg, James Fleming, Campbell Davies-Webb, Ayanda Cele, Oyama Ntshona, Alexander Vermeulen, Josh White, Kieran Martin, Max Latter, Mark Grant, Chase Michaux, Ross le Sueur**

The pre-season festival was held at Michaelhouse and it was a pity that the last game was washed out without a ball being bowled. Both the matches against Zimbabwean schools were won, which set a good foundation for the season.

There was great hope that this team could really assert themselves amongst local cricketing schools but we really struggled to get big scores, with set batsmen getting themselves out. Classic examples of this trend were against Kearsney, Northwood and DHS. The ability was there, which made it all the more frustrating.

The National T20 was held at Hilton College and the team played good cricket against St Dominic's and Maritzburg College to reach the final. Adrien Fisher's half-century against College was just what we wanted to see. It was a masterful display. We lost the final to Hilton but it was a closer affair than the score suggested.

The trip to St Alban's saw the team play some very good and very poor cricket. We had a poor off day against Bishops but played some sublime cricket against St Andrew's and the Titans' Academy side and then showed character in the drawn fixture against Hilton.

Little did we then realise that the year had almost ended from a

cricket-fixture point of view. Fortunately, we could play some fixtures in the fourth quarter. The Caversham Staff side proved solid competition and the fixture against a strong Eston Club side was a fitting way to end off the year. Unfortunately, the Old Boys game was called off due to cricket's old nemesis: rain.

Jared Meiring, playing in his third year for the team, was a passionate captain. We will watch his career with great interest. Jared won the trophy for the most runs scored for the second year, which is no mean feat. Roeland van den Berg added huge value to the team. His bowling improved so much and by the end of the year his control was exemplary. Roeland loved batting and prized his wicket. Added to that his huge hands hardly ever let the ball through them. Luke Gammie is one of the most talented of batsmen that the school has seen in recent years. His cavalier approach was sometimes his downfall but while he was at the crease nobody got bored. James Fleming was a top-rate off-spinner and his control and subtle variations were impeccable. His final spell against Eston was most impressive. Campbell Davies-Webb suffered from lack of opportunity with the bat. His spells with the ball were often a bit erratic, which was a pity as he is a fine all-rounder and a simply exceptional fielder. Kieran Martin took the new ball with aplomb and his consistency was most impressive. His spell against Northwood was a pleasure to watch. Callum Porrill is a top-rate batsman who really should dominate attacks in the future. He must push on when he gets those good starts. The Meiring/Porrill opening partnership so often got us off to promising starts. Adrien Fisher is a top-rate cricketer and there were certainly signs of his quality. 2021 should be his year as captain and batsman. Added to that was his remarkable wicketkeeping. One hardly notices him on the field, which is the sign of a top wicketkeeper, and the number of byes he concedes is negligible. Josh White settled into the team with ease and to have a left-hander in the middle order was a bonus. He has huge ability and the side will look to him in the future to really post big scores. Once Max Latter started to find his feet and

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Findlay and Levy have also made runs at times, though both are much too inclined to try and make 100 in the first over.

The Chronicle, 1898

”

feel less apprehensive his whole game improved. He is by nature an attacking player but he also showed how tenacious he can be when the team needed it. One of the most exciting aspects of the year was the development of the Cele/Ntshona spin combination. Ayanda continued to put such a lot of work into his bowling and then to have a left-arm wrist spinner developing so rapidly is most encouraging. Oyama's control and the development of his googly made him a handful and he will play a vital part in the team's success next year. Alex Vermeulen is a wonderful athlete and will lead the attack and be a key figure in the middle order. His control really improved as the year progressed.

The boys played their cricket in the correct spirit and were a great pleasure to be part of throughout the year.

FIRST XI 2020

DATE	OPPOSITION	FORMAT	RESULT
8/1/20	Falcon College	50 over	Won by 110 runs
9/1/20	St George's College	50 over	Won by 8 wickets
10/1/20	Inland Academy	50 over	Abandoned

DATE	OPPOSITION	FORMAT	RESULT
18/1/20	Kearsney College	50 over	Lost by 5 wickets
25/1/20	Northwood	50 over	Lost by 2 runs
28/1/20	St Dominic's	T20	Won by 177 runs
29/1/20	Maritzburg College	T20	Won by 4 wickets
29/1/20	Hilton College	T20	Lost by 8 wickets
1/2/20	DHS	50 over	Lost by 5 wickets
22/2/20	St Charles College	50 over	Rain. No result
27/2/20	St Andrew's (Bloem)	T20	Won by 39 runs
27/2/20	Titans Academy XI	T20	Won by 30 runs
28/2/20	Bishops Diocesan College	50 over	Lost by 8 wickets
29/2/20	Hilton College	Declaration	Draw
9/10/20	Caversham XI	T20	Won by 8 wickets
14/11/20	Eston XI	30 over	Won by 4 wickets

GOLF

Master in Charge (First Team Coach): **Mr Brad Flanagan**

Assistant Coach: **Mr Craig Pieterse**

Captain: **Kieran Martin**

First Team: **Kieran Martin, Jesse Rencken, Tshepo Sono, Danilo Ceronio, Mitchell Flanagan, Joseph Price, Callum Porrill, Michael Thornton**

AWARDS

Colours: **Danilo Ceronio, Mitchell Flanagan**

Half-Colours: **Kieran Martin, Joseph Price, Callum Porrill, Tshepo Sono, Michael Thornton**

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATION

KwaZulu-Natal Inland U19A*: **Danilo Ceronio.**

KwaZulu-Natal Inland U19B: **Mitchell Flanagan**

**There are two bodies governing junior golf in KwaZulu-Natal, namely KZN Schools and KZN Foundation. KZN Schools colours are only awarded for bona-fide full-time scholars who are selected solely on the results of the eight qualifying tournaments. The schools interprovincial tournament (IPT) is held in September and not all provinces take part. SA Schools colours are awarded based on the results of the IPT. KZN Foundation colours are awarded at various different age groups and have a different set of qualifying criteria. The U19 IPT is held in December of each year and all provinces are represented.*

Most people will probably not agree, but the best thing that happened for golf in 2020 was the Covid outbreak. Despite not being able to play for a large chunk of the second quarter, golf was one of the first sports that was given the green light to commence playing. This had an unbelievable effect on the number of boys at school who took advantage of the facilities and while some picked up the game after an absence of a few years, others took up the sport for the first time. It became so popular that we were booking events on two courses simultaneously.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank both Gowrie Farm and Bosch Hoek golf clubs for availing their facilities to us, sometimes at very short notice, and for giving us prime weekend bookings. I do sincerely hope that the relationship was mutually beneficial.

Due to reasons that we are all far too aware of we had a very short golf year in terms of fixtures and festivals. We did manage to fulfil all of our first-quarter fixtures. Although the results are not much of an improvement from the previous year, I did at least feel that we were far more competitive in the individual matches. Our first team managed two wins out of five and our second team a single win. We did, however, not struggle to find golfers to fulfil our fixtures and as mentioned before, the results were not quite as catastrophic as in 2019. Danilo Ceronio was our most consistent performer and was rewarded for his efforts with a place in the KZN Inland A team.

The tours to Affies (AHS Pretoria) and the Links Festival to Grey



GOLF

Back Row: Joseph Price, Mitchell Flanagan, Michael Thornton, Callum Porrill

Middle Row: Danilo Ceronio, Tshepo Sono

Front Row: Mr Craig Pieterse, Kieran Martin, Mr Bradley Flanagan

High School were unfortunately cancelled. We also for the first time in 20 years had no Douglas Cup. I am not sure if that was a tragedy or a blessing. We did manage one KZN-based fixture in the first quarter of 2020; a 36-hole tournament at Mount Edgecombe in some torrid conditions, and finished 13th out of 21 teams. Mitchell Flanagan did shoot a creditable 78 in the afternoon.

In lieu of the Douglas Cup being played I did manage to find a fixture for our boys on the day and they put up a very creditable performance to lose to a very strong Old Boys/dads/staff combined team by 51.5 to 56.5 points. A highlight was the team of Kieran Martin and Richard Upfold birdying both the difficult 17th and 18th holes to salvage a draw against yours truly and Mr Carl Bezuidenhout, a fellow staff member. Both better-ball pairs finished under par.

The prospects for 2021 are certainly looking brighter as our young team is starting to show some maturity and a few of the very junior golfers are starting to deliver on their promise. I am still continually going to bemoan our lack of golfing facilities at Michaelhouse, especially compared to what our great rivals down the road have.

I would like to thank all the staff involved with golf, mainly

Mr Craig Pieterse and Mr Aidan Friend, without whose help golf would not happen at Michaelhouse. I would also like to thank Mr Ryan Strudwick, our head of sport, who continually fights for the betterment of golf, and sport, at the school.

FIRST QUARTER LEAGUE

A LEAGUE MICHAELHOUSE FIRST TEAM:

Played 5, won 2, lost 3

B LEAGUE MICHAELHOUSE SECOND TEAM:

Played 5, won 1, lost 4

SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIPS

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| 1. Mitchell Flanagan | 32 Points |
| 2. Tshepo Sono | 28 Points |
| 3. Danilo Ceronio | 26 Points |

KZN SCHOOLS MT EDGECOMBE COUNTRY CLUB (TEAMS OF FOUR)

Michaelhouse 13th out of 21 teams

HOCKEY

Master in Charge: **Mr Grant von Mayer**

First XI: **Mr Richard Snowden, Mr Grant von Mayer**

Second XI: **Mr Paul Snyman, Ms Marcel Cornelius**

Third XI: **Mrs Mary McMichael, Mr Richard Brown**

Fourth XI: **Mrs Candice Smith, Mr Mike Thomson**

Fifth XI: **Ms Lisa Hardie, Mr Mike Thomson**

U16A: **Mr Grant von Mayer, Mr May Mazibuko**

U16B: **Mr Ian Crawford, Mr Mike Thomson**

U16C: **Mr Ed Jeffery, Mr Michael Sevenoaks**

U16D: **Mr Linda Shezi, Mr Michael Sevenoaks**

U16E: **Mr Bailey Coxon, Ms Karin Moffat**

U14A: **Mrs Tanith von Mayer, Mr Jonothan Smith**

U14B: **Mr Jason Blockley, Mr Bailey Coxon**

U14C: **Mr Craig Pieterse, Mr Nathan Holm**

U14D: **Ms Riette White, Mr Nathan Holm**

Strength and Conditioning: **Mr Liam Mickleburgh**

Hockey is a game of technical skill, speed and endurance. It combines a team ethic and a lifelong collegiality that few other sports can boast. A competitive spirit engulfs every player when making a tackle at the limit of your physicality, and executing a skill elicits the same emotions as scoring a goal. Whether to an elite athlete or an escapee from the bruising rigors of rugby, the club attempts to deliver these experiences to its members.

It is in the spirit of appreciation that I report on the 2020 season. There was an enormous effort put into the season that far outweighed the competition. The staff of this club put in some long hours preparing players in preseason regimes from U14 to U18 and I would like to thank them for their efforts. Their generosity made their empathy for the players' all the more real and heartfelt.

For the first time, the benefits of the High Performance Center, guided by Mr Liam Mickleburgh and Mr James Fleming, were

on show and the boys' physical preparation in U18 and U16 levels were about to pay dividends.

Only one fixture was played on the magnificent new Punchbowl astro. This facility will provide years of success and the club's appreciation of the benefactors will be borne out in the manner in which Michaelhouse teams push for victory.

Against Clifton College, Michaelhouse recorded four victories, seven defeats and a draw. Our U14 age group shows enormous potential and we embark on their five-year development programme with anticipation whilst we say goodbye to a strong U18 group, who over the last five years have given Michaelhouse hockey much to be proud of. The club's ambition is that our boys continue to play the game beyond their years at school and can return in the annual Old Boys fixture to harry and hound future stars.

TEAM	OPPOSITION	RESULT	SCORE
1st XI	Clifton 1st XI	Won	5-3
2nd XI	Clifton 2nd XI	Won	4-1
3rd XI	Clifton 3rd XI	Won	2-1
4th XI	Clifton 4th XI	Lost	1-2
U16A	Clifton U16A	Lost	0-2
U16B	Clifton U16B	Lost	0-6
U16C	Clifton U16C	Lost	0-5
U16D	Clifton U16D	Lost	1-2
U16E	Clifton U16E	Lost	0-4
U14A	Clifton U14A	Won	4-1
U14B	Clifton U14B	Draw	3-3
U14C	Clifton U14C	Lost	1-4

FIRST XI HOCKEY

Master in Charge: **Mr Richard Snowden**

Captain: **Mugabi Lubinga**

Vice-Captain: **Michael Ross**

First Team: **Jason Williams, Hilton Giles, Kenton Melville, Chris Christodoulou, Mugabi Lubinga, Michael Christodoulou, Luke Gammie, Christopher Maartens, Ethan Hartwell, Michael Ross, Christian Brand, Joshua**

White, Rex le Suer, Josh Elliot, Matthew Gibson, Danilo Ceronio

The 2019 team, which comprised of 12 of this squad, was renowned for an attacking brand of hockey – a style that created a risk-reward outcome. The 2020 team consolidated this style with an exceptionally good work



HOCKEY

Back Row: Luke Gammie, Jason Williams, Christopher Maartens, Kenton Melville, Rex le Sueur
Middle Row: Joshua Elliot, Joshua White, Matthew Gibson, Hilton Giles, Christian Brand, Danilo Ceronio
Front Row: Michael Ross, Michael Christodoulou, Mr Grant von Mayer, Mugabi Lubinga, Mr Liam Mickleburgh, Christakis Christodoulou, Ethan Hartwell

ethic. Chiseled in the gym and honed on the astro, this squad was destined for a record-breaking season.

The Covid-19 pandemic put paid to this; however, this squad will be remembered by the staff working with them for a number of facets – humility, collegiality, work ethic and an enormous desire to have fun.

The squad played only two matches – the annual fixture against a talented but aging Old Boys outfit, and Clifton College. The Old Boys fixture – the first and, to date, only fixture on the brand new Aitkens Astro – proved useful as always and played a significant role in the disciplined performance of the Clifton fixture.

Clifton College is a renowned and growing force in hockey circles and the victory (5-3) was a testament to the squad's pre-season efforts. Most impressive was the pace at which the team

played, resulting in Clifton College's discipline being pushed beyond their limits. This was a fitting start and end to the season.

No awards were handed out for the 2020 season. It would have been an interesting end-of-year election procedure. Our 2019 provincial and national representatives, having already been training with the province, were primed for excellent seasons. Mugabi Lubinga deserves an honorable mention for his leadership of the squad as well as his work ethic, which would have seen him play in the U21 interprovincial tournament in 2020. Where he went, he was willingly followed by the squad and a character such as Mugabi will be hard to replace.

FIRST XI HOCKEY

DATE	OPPOSITION	RESULT	SCORE
9 March	Clifton College	Won	5-3



RUGBY

Fourth Row: Thomas Nel, David Stubbs, Campbell Davies-Webb, Mark Grant, Connor Sesink Clee, Ian Parsons, Jaden van der Merwe, Luke Stubbs

Third Row: Kwanele Khumalo, James Murray

Second Row: Ayabonga Zakwe, Connor Oellermann, Banele Sithole, Alexander Vermeulen, Timothy Harding, Julian Daffy, Nhlakanipho Mathe, Xhanti Gqweta

Front Row: Nicholas Crampton, Mr James Fleming, Brett Oellermann, Mr Carl Bezuidenhout, Michael Moodie, Mr Prosper Dubazana, Roeland van den Berg

RUGBY

Master in Charge: **Mr James Fleming**

First XV Head Coach: **Mr Carl Bezuidenhout**

Assistant Coach: **Mr Robbie Diack**

Second XV: **Mr Greg Muirhead**

Third XV: **Mr Chris Waldburger**

Assistant Coach: **Mr Simon Greyvensteyn**

Fourth XV: **Mr Peter Stevens**

Assistant Coach: **Mr Dean Forword**

Fifth XV: **Mr Richard McMichael**

Assistant Coach: **Mr Linda Mabuza**

Sixth XV: **Mr Bernie Whitaker**

Seventh XV: **Mr Ernest Rindfleisch**

Eighth XV: **Mr Liam Boshoff**

U16A: **Mr Olwethu Hugo**

Assistant Coach: **Mr Dave Pachonick**

U16B: **Mr Paul McKay**

Assistant Coach: **Mr Sihle Mdlalala**

U16C: **Mr Sibs Khanyile**

Assistant Coach: **Mr Sikelela Nyandeni**

U16D: **Mr Aidan Friend**

U15A: **Mr Ryan Strudwick**

Assistant Coach: **Mr Ross Stanley**





U15B: **Mr Sibs Ncamani**

Assistant Coach: **Mr Emmanuel Mkhize**

U15C: **Mr Nkanyiso Ngcobo**

U15D: **Mr Sifiso Vilakazi**

U14A: **Mr Mark Blew**

Assistant: **Mr Rory Connellan**

U14B: **Mr Ayanda Duma**

U14C: **Mr Bradley McManus**

Assistant: **Mr Shaun Khenyeza**

First XV Captain: **Brett Oellermann**

AWARDS

Honours: **Kwanele Khumalo**

Colours: **Mark Grant**

Half-Colours: **Nick Crampton, Xhanti Gqweta, Michael Moodie, James Murray, Brett Oellermann, Luke Stubbs, Roeland van den Berg, Julian Daffy, Ian Parsons, JC Oelofse, David Stubbs**

The 2020 rugby season which promised so much ended after only one weekend of action; a real disappointment for the boys, coaches and families as we all looked forward to an exciting season. As always, there was a real buzz about the prospect of throwing the oval ball around and we anticipated continued improvement in our play and the results. The First XV had no fewer than 13 players who had already worn the broad stripes in 2019 and were particularly optimistic about what lay ahead.

We played a staggered weekend of fixtures against Clifton College and Vryheid High School on 7 March and were extremely happy with how they went, playing some fantastic rugby and winning every game. We continued to emphasize our pre-season strength and conditioning and skill development and I believe these were clearly evident on the day.

The next weekend of fixtures was due to be St Charles at home, but that was unfortunately the first to be cancelled due to the

Covid-19 threat. The disappointment on missing out on the rugby season and the excitement and camaraderie it brings to the school was immense, but just a part of what we had to deal with in 2020. A special thought goes out to the matrices who won't have the opportunity to play together with their teammates and represent Michaelhouse again.

We were fortunate enough to continue with our physical development programme when we returned to school, which will not only benefit the boys next season, but is also essential at this stage of their lives. The opening of the new High Performance Centre at the end of March – just in time for the pandemic to strike – has encouraged boys to train harder and more regularly and has uplifted the training culture in the school. I expect this to bear fruit in the years to come. It seems in some ways that little has changed since 1897 when Dobree wrote, "Brain power has to be exercised and by setting the blood freely in motion, rugby, especially, is beneficial to the brain."

RUGBY 2020

DATE	OPPOSITION	RESULT
First XV	Clifton 1st XV	49-7
Second XV	Vryheid 1st XV	45-24
Third XV	Clifton 2nd XV	42-12
Fourth XV	Vryheid 2nd XV	36-5
Fifth XV	Clifton 3rd XV	50-0
U16A	Clifton U16A	50-0
U16B	Vryheid U16A	42-17
U16C	Clifton U16B	50-0
U15A	Vryheid U15A	50-0
U15B	Clifton U15A	40-12
U14A	Clifton U14A	46-0
U14B	Vryheid U14A	35-26
U14C	Clifton U14B	26-15

“

One word as to passing - there is not enough of it, the three-quarters ought to get the ball more than they do.

The Chronicle, 1898

”

SQUASH

Masters in Charge: **Mr Peter Huntley (January-March), Mr Matthew Higginson**

Coaches: **Mr Peter Huntley, Mr Matthew Higginson,**

Mrs Mary McMichael, Mr Daniel Smith (consultant coach)

Captains: **Michael Ross, Brett Oellermann**



SQUASH

Back Row: Connor Oellermann, Richard Upfold, Nathan Hoatson, Kameran Jinnah, Murray Baker

Middle Row: Noah Bedingham, Joshua Hoatson

Front Row: Raiffe Ingledew, Michael Ross, Mr Matthew Higginson, Brett Oellermann, Mitchell Flanagan

AWARDS

Honours: **Kameran Jinnah**

Half-Colours: **Joshua Hoatson, Murray Baker, Nathan Hoatson**

A year where Michaelhouse squash was going to build on the successes of 2019 was short lived due to Covid-19. A year where team tours and festivals would have been a memory for the boys to enjoy for years to come turned into training at home in the garden by yourself.

We managed to play some squash during the first quarter. We played the Super 8 Schools League, as well as the KwaZulu-Natal pre-season tournament and the St Andrew's Festival (which the first team attended). We were also able to host our annual match against Des Sacco's Jaguars in February. This is always one of the highlights of the year as the boys are exposed to some of the legends of South African Squash.

The annual tour to Bloemfontein to participate in the prestigious St Andrew's Festival is always special. This year was particularly special for Mr Peter Huntley, who was given an award and a standing ovation for recognition of 25 consecutive

years of participation in the festival. This is the premier schools squash festival in the country, with all the country's top squash players participating.

Our domestic results were relatively pleasing in the Super 8 competition and again established us as front runners in the province. The focus in the first half of the year was almost entirely on the domestic front, with the ultimate goal being for our leading players to catch the eye of the KZN schools' selectors; but more importantly, our first team contesting the KZN interschools tournament.

This year saw the inaugural Michaelhouse Junior Squash Championship. The final was played between Ben Harper and Anesu Nduru. The match was played on a hot court which meant the ball was pliable and difficult to kill. The boys were also able to retrieve everything which meant the points were long and strenuous. Anesu made a few unforced errors at vital times during the match which allowed Ben to stay one or two points ahead in each game, and come out as the eventual 3-0 winner.

We also held a successful senior championship, with our eight top boys participating. The final was played between number one

seed and defending champion, Kameran Jinnah and number two seed Richard Upfold. Both players were hungry to win and there was palpable excitement in the Warin Bushell Squash Complex beforehand. There were a few very long rallies in the first game, with both players wanting to stamp their authority on the match. Richard managed to take an early lead and was able to maintain his lead, winning the first game. Kameran fought back to win the second game but made a few uncharacteristic unforced errors in the third. Richard took advantage of those errors taking a 2-1 lead. During a tense fourth game that could have gone either way, Kameran managed to level the score at 2-2. Both exhausted players gave it everything they had in the fifth, and Kameran was able to fight his way to a comeback 3-2 victory.

Unfortunately, we were not able to enjoy the traditional Squash Dinner, but the following awards were handed out at the final assembly of the year.

Mike and Karen Short Trophy for sportsmanship: **Noah Bedingham**

The Collen Floating Trophy for the most improved player: **Nathan Hoatson**

The Bradford Cup – Michaelhouse Squash Champion: **Kameran Jinnah**

Deon Royappen Trophy (commitment to Michaelhouse squash): **Raiffe Ingledew**

Planning for 2021 started in October with a coaching clinic hosted by Craig van der Wath. Craig focussed on the boys' mental and physical strengths, lecturing them on the importance of fitness and conditioning in squash. The boys set team and individual goals and took the positives out of the 2020 season to build on in 2021.

TENNIS

Master in Charge: **Mr Herman Visagie**

Coaches: **Mr Herman Visagie, Mrs Win de Wet, Ms Lisa Hardie, Mrs Riette White, Mrs Tanith von Mayer, Mr Chris Folker (professional coach)**

First Team Captain: **Luke Gammie**

AWARDS

Colours: **Joshua Heath**

Half-Colours: **Rex le Sueur; Harry Rowles**

PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATION

KwaZulu-Natal U18B: **Joshua Heath**

KwaZulu-Natal U15B: **Karl Schaefer**

KwaZulu-Natal Midlands U15: **Oliver Mostert**

We made a great start to the year competing in the Denness League, and a number of our boys took part in the Inland and provincial tennis trials. However, due to Covid-19, all extramural activities came to a screeching halt shortly thereafter, and we had to cancel many of our annual fixtures, including our match against St John's, the Umgungundlovu Doubles League, and the private schools' tennis tournament at Sun City. The most heartbreaking of all was the fact that we could not play the annual De Wet Cup. This is the first time the De Wet Cup has been cancelled since its inauguration in 2012. At the end of the third quarter, however, internal club tennis was allowed again, enabling us to play interhouse tennis, the first-ever Rector's Invitational Match between the staff and boys, and the school championships.

In the first quarter, we entered five teams in the Denness

League. Unfortunately, we could not complete all the matches, but we made a great start, with the first, third, and fifth teams all still undefeated after three matches. The Inland and KwaZulu-Natal trials also took place in the first quarter, and you will see the names of our representatives at the top of the report, but special mention must be made of Joshua Heath for making the provincial U18B team while he still qualifies to play at U16 level.

When tennis returned at the end of the third quarter, although we were only allowed to play internally, our focus turned to interhouse and the school championships. With more time available, it gave us a great opportunity to expand these events. We had more boys playing interhouse tennis than ever before. The competition intensified as we approached the end, and it was Tatham (juniors) and Farfield (seniors) who prevailed as the winners.

The school championships were no different as the draw was opened wider than ever before. This allowed for some great competition, and it gave some boys who do not officially play tennis for the school, the opportunity to show off their talents. This was clear when Murray came out of nowhere to win the junior championship trophy in a closely contested final against Aiden Jinnah. It went down to a deciding third set with the final scoreline in favour of Murray Baker: 7-6; 0-6; 6-2. The senior championship, on the other hand, confirmed Joshua Heath's dominance as the number one. He won the senior championship in straight sets for the second consecutive year. Will anyone be able to stop him in the next couple of years?

The Rector also inaugurated the Rector's Invitational Match between the staff and the boys and, even though the staff lost the first-ever encounter, it was an afternoon to remember. This initiative has created a lot of renewed interest in the game, especially amongst



TENNIS

Back Row: Rex le Sueur, Adrien Fisher, Joshua Heath

Front Row: Luke Gammie, Mr Herman Visagie, Harry Rowles

the staff, and we are hoping to build on this in the future.

We ended the year with an awards assembly, and the following trophies were awarded:

The ER de Villiers Trophy for the winner of the school junior championship: **Murray Baker**

The Ted Tatz Memorial Trophy for the winner of the school senior championship: **Joshua Heath**

The Strachan Trophy for the most improved player: **Rex le Sueur**

The Richard Ashforth Trophy for service to tennis: **Luke Gammie**

DENNESS LEAGUE 2020

MICHAELHOUSE U19A

DATE	OPPOSITION	SCORE
20 Jan	Michaelhouse B	18-0
27 Jan	Hilton B	18-0
24 Feb	St Charles A	18-0

MICHAELHOUSE U19B

DATE	OPPOSITION	SCORE
20 Jan	Michaelhouse A	0-18
27 Jan	St Charles A	18-0
24 Feb	Hilton A	2-16

MICHAELHOUSE U19C (B LEAGUE)

DATE	OPPOSITION	SCORE
20 Jan	College B	14-4
27 Jan	Howick A	15-3
24 Feb	Hilton C	18-0

MICHAELHOUSE U19D (C LEAGUE)

DATE	OPPOSITION	SCORE
27 Jan	Voortrekker A	18-0
24 Feb	St Charles B	18-0

MICHAELHOUSE LIFE

Daily life at Michaelhouse is constantly informed by the concept of high-quality pastoral care in the pursuit of an all-round education. The idea is to provide something to ignite every boy's enthusiasm and enable him to develop useful and lifelong interests. Broader involvement in all aspects of student life at Michaelhouse is encouraged and engenders a great sense of civic-mindedness and inclusion. Our timetable provides ample opportunity to take full advantage of the activities on offer. Daily routines are designed to encourage and allow our boys to expand their involvement beyond individual focus on just academics to sport, music, art, drama, community involvement, spiritual growth or simply taking time out to read a book, thereby ensuring a more open and balanced world view.

SCHLESINGER THEATRE

Master in Charge: **Mr William le Cordeur**
Staff: **Mr Fish Ndlovu**

AWARDS

Honours: **Hloni Mapetla, Julian Daffy**
Colours: **Jaden Jordaan, Cameron McClean-Banks, Senzo Sokhela**

SPECIAL AWARDS

Van Velden Trophy for Best Contribution to Theatre: **Hloni Mapetla**

The seats of the Schlesinger Theatre were largely empty during the year of Covid-19. The good news is that the seats are now brand new, the downtime having been used to make some renovations to increase our capacity to accommodate the additional boys in the school in the wake of opening the doors to two new Houses this year. Theatre has obviously been extremely hard hit by the global pandemic. Red lights were lit for technicians out of work, and as much as possible we went online to try keep actors, writers and directors in business. But our need to assemble as a community, to listen to a story, to be entertained or challenged, or simply to be together, is an urgent human need that will soon triumph over this adversity.

We did, however, have some wonderful projects in the theatre this year, only one that was completed, but a few others that were initiated. Beginning, as is now tradition, with the C Block Drama Residency in February, the year looked like it was going

to be another one of wonder and diversity. The residency was conducted by OM Francis Mennigke, an award-winning South African actor who also plies his trade in Canada, and Hannah Lax, a director and designer who has recently finished her second master's degree in theatre in New Orleans, where she focused on design. Francis was working on his new play, *The Fool of White*, directed by Hannah, which was performed on the final evening of the residency. The production, with incredibly beautiful and meaningful design by Hannah and a physically masterful performance by Francis, was well received by all. The work conducted with the boys focused on identity, exploring stories of self, and aiming to help the new students of theatre to articulate their inner selves clearly on stage. The work that they achieved in a week was outstanding, and resulted in a 15-minute show for the entire school. The themes explored were meant to be a precursor for the year, where studies of self, identity, mental health and personal narratives were major themes in the other work selected.

Interhouse theatre was being co-ordinated by Makhubalo and Lungile Ikaneng, a couple of professional theatre and TV writers, directors and performers who have settled in Howick. Through their project Young Authors' Book Initiative (YABI), they have published collections of short stories written by young authors from township schools. These stories are about the young learners' lives, about their hopes and realities. We decided to partner and to ask Michaelhouse boys to collaborate with story makers from some of these schools and to create ten-minute plays that would be performed in June. After two meetings we had to shut down as restrictions came into place. But we will take this project up again in 2021 and are excited to see what we can achieve.



New seating being installed in the Schlessinger Theatre to increase capacity

The real cliffhangers were the two Fugard plays scheduled to open in mid-March. *The Island* and *Sizwe Banzi is Dead* are two of Athol Fugard's more famous plays and first opened in the 1970s to global acclaim. The plays were set during apartheid South Africa and were protests against the injustice of the system. As research we visited the Old Jail in Pietermaritzburg, the old court houses, the old Pass Office, and we drove through Edendale township, taking note of the apartheid geography and recounting the history of violence that defines such communities. Senzo Sokhela and Xhanti Gqweta rehearsed the roles for *The Island*, which tells the story of two political prisoners on Robben Island rehearsing *Antigone* for a prison variety show. Both performers, being high-achieving sportsmen, were especially physical, which is necessary for the style of performance, and were intelligent in their emotional display. Xhanti showed great maturity in his quietness and focus, whilst Senzo was able to bring tension and humour to the scenes through his precise reactions. Hloni Mapetla and Mohale Mogale rehearsed for *Sizwe Banzi is Dead*, a play that tells the story of a man who steals a dead man's ID document in order to remain a legal member of society. Hloni had a 30-minute monologue to begin the play, and mastered it to near perfection. Mohale brought the pathos on to stage and was as believable in

his dilemma as a professional might have showed. In fact, each of these performances could have played as professional shows, and each performer was up to professional standard. The plays were closed down the evening before we could perform due to Covid-19, leaving the boys, the director and the stories in the cold. However, we have since filmed a documentary of these plays that were never performed, interviewing the actors and showing some of the scenes.

The final project would have been *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, taking a look at mental health and integrity of self. We never cast for this play, and unfortunately have no plans to perform it in the near future. The idea to challenge narratives of self through identity and mental health are to seek honesty in character. In this age of hyper-individualism, fake news and information overload, the source of truth is often very difficult to distinguish. The theatre's aim is to assist both performers and audience in seeing the world collectively and objectively as they assemble together to share stories. Next year we have a very full schedule planned. Many shows are scheduled to take place outside in the amphitheatre, and there will be some that are still affected by Covid-19; but the show will go on.

“

S. Lamont-Smith made a good impression as the American movie star; his little difficulty with the prompter was very amusing – one felt that at any moment he might rush off the stage and find the place himself!

The Chronicle, 1958

”

EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

Staff Members in Charge: **Mrs Julie Flanagan, Mrs Mary McMichael**

Chase Foundation and Henry Shippey from Radley College in the United Kingdom.

The exchange programme for 2020 began with loads of excitement as we dispatched Samuel Mitchell off to Wittelsbacher Gymnasium in Germany and welcomed Julius Hoellermann at the start of the first quarter. We also welcomed Ramiro Quevedo Mendoza from Argentina through the

The impact of Covid-19 and lockdown put paid to all further exchanges, which were cancelled for the year. We know that this was a big disappointment for all our exchange students and families, but we congratulate the following boys for being chosen to serve as ambassadors of our school around the world.

FIRST QUARTER

Samuel Mitchell	Pascoe	Wittelsbacher Gymnasium	Germany
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SECOND QUARTER

Adrian Hill	East	Chase Foundation	South America
Oliver Currie	Tatham	Chase Foundation	South America
James Kennedy	Farfield	Trinity College	Canada
Benjamin Turner	Mackenzie	Trinity College	Canada
Benjamin Frost	Baines	Trinity College	Canada
James Asherson	Founders	Clongowes Wood	Ireland
Lekgotla Kebonang	Baines	Clongowes Wood	Ireland

THIRD QUARTER

Christopher Townshend	East	Scotch College	Australia
Murray-John Pitt	Farfield	Scotch College	Australia

FOURTH QUARTER

Lusanda Mrasi	Mackenzie	Woodberry Forest	United States of America
Tristan Hoyle	Baines	Kinross Wolaroi School	Australia
Anthony Melouney	Baines	Kinross Wolaroi School	Australia
Daniel Courtenay	Founders	Christ Church Grammar School	Australia
Jonathan Segar	Founders	Christ Church Grammar School	Australia
Andrew Davis	Tatham	Radley College	United Kingdom
Peter Woodland	Farfield	Malvern College	United Kingdom
Matthew de Villiers	Pascoe	Canberra Grammar School	Australia
Rupert Hechter	Mackenzie	Canberra Grammar School	Australia
Thomas Barnes	Tatham	Montgomery Bell Academy	United States of America
Liam Telford	Baines	Montgomery Bell Academy	United States of America

We look forward to resuming this rewarding and enriching exchange programme again next year.

MATRIC BALL

Written by Mrs Candice Smith

On the morning before the Matric Ball, I stood with the dedicated team of mothers taking a tea break, before putting up the last of the decorations and perfecting the finishing touches for that evening. The news had just broken; there was a confirmed Covid case in Hilton and we imagined being told, after the ordeal of preparation, fretting, thought, and planning, that the ball would not be allowed to happen. We had no idea that this event would be one of the last “normal” moments of 2020, and how fortunate our young men were to squeeze it in before the months which followed became so unclear.

I believe the Matric Ball of 2020 exceeded expectation. The theme was A Starry Night and the decorations were inspired by

Van Gogh’s painting and the idea of a whimsical picnic under the stars. There were many people involved in making this fantasy come true, and their hard work produced something that was truly exceptional. From the food, invitations and decorations, to the logistics and the clean up the day after, the night was everything we imagined.

Julian Daffy led the evening’s proceedings as MC and the occasion drew to an emotional close as, arm-in-arm, the class of 2020 belted out and sang along to Billy Joel’s *Piano Man*; which has become the traditional way to close a Matric Ball here at Michaelhouse.

I am sure this event went down as a memorable occasion as it was labelled one of the most incredible dances yet.

SANATORIUM

Written by Sr Debbie Hayes

Sister in Charge: **Sr Avis Coxon**

Staff: **Sr Debbie Hayes, Sr Alex McManus**

Part-time staff: **Sr Judy Dimmick, Sr Jilly Brewitt, Sr Fiona Booyesen, SN Palesa Ndlovu**

Support Staff: **Mrs Jenay Ngcobo, Mr Elias Benghu, Mrs Joyce Khumalo**

It has been an extremely memorable year for the San, beginning very normally with New Boys’ Day and the usual young group of E Blockers, many of whom needed extra care and support from the San staff. We had heard stories of a viral outbreak in Wuhan, China; and the news became more alarming as the virus spread rapidly throughout Europe, the UK, the USA and most of the northern hemisphere. When the first positive cases were identified in South Africa – literally on our doorstep in Hilton – we began planning for how Michaelhouse would manage this virus. Assisted by Dr Jonathan Cook we drew up protocols for the San and every department throughout the school. We sourced PPE and thermometers for screening and worked closely with the Covid-19 Management Team to ensure critical areas like the kitchen, laundry and housekeeping were adequately prepared. With the impending three-week lockdown, the boys suddenly left the school and quiet descended on our campus.

Although we were fully prepared for our normal busy winter sport season in the second term, rugby and hockey fixtures simply disappeared into thin air. During lockdown, we re-configured the San. A screening tent was erected outside the entrance, enabling the boys to socially distance whilst they waited to be assessed. One of our dormitories was converted into an isolation unit and an external door was installed. Any boy with Covid-19 symptoms was admitted directly to that unit where they were barrier nursed. A second dormitory was

soon converted into another quarantine ward. Each time a boy was admitted with Covid-19 symptoms, his dorm mates and close contacts were admitted in quarantine until a negative test was obtained. An external door was soon installed to that dorm to allow healthy quarantining teenagers to easily access the spacious San garden to get some fresh air and kick a ball around whilst avoiding contact with the other boys and staff. We are so grateful to Joyce and Elias who have kept the San sparkling clean and managed the challenges of isolation and completely different routines in the San so well.

As we gradually re-introduced staff and boys after lockdown, we assisted in daily screening of the staff and with return to school protocols. Every staff member and boy received an induction to teach them about Covid-19, how to manage it in their area and the correct use of masks and handwashing.

Term three dawned with most of the boys back at school. Whilst we hardly had any illnesses (probably due to the number of boys and staff who had had the flu jab and the wearing of masks and handwashing) we were kept busy with numerous injuries and broken bones, mostly due to E Blockers falling off their bicycles. Despite Covid-19 the C Block Journey took place and was very successful. This year Sisters Alex McManus, Jilly Brewitt and Debbie Hayes provided support for the cyclists. The other boys went on their respective hikes and camps and everything ran very smoothly.

The final quarter was extremely busy. Extremes of temperature at Balgowan accompanied by early rain caused allergies to flare and we had many respiratory tract infections and two outbreaks of gastro to contend with; whilst simultaneously trying to ensure that we didn’t miss any possible Covid-19 cases. We also met our 2021 new boys and their parents and conducted their San interviews. Some of these took place on Zoom which was an interesting experience.

SPECIAL AWARDS



NICK CROW GOOD FELLOWSHIP AWARD

This award is made each year to a Matric boy who the A Block body judge to have displayed the qualities and attributes of all-round good fellowship, whilst wholeheartedly living out the school's values. The recipient is decided by a ballot taken by all matric boys. The award may be given to any A Block boy who does not hold the office of School Prefect. The award is presented annually at the Leavers' Dinner. In 2020, **Michael Gurney** was a most popular and worthy recipient.

SPECIAL AWARDS



THE REX AND SARAH PENNINGTON AWARD

The Rex and Sarah Pennington Award was presented for the first time on Speech Day in 2014. The award is made in recognition of a boy entering A Block who, in the opinion of his teachers and peers, demonstrates the following outstanding qualities during the years leading up to his Matric year:

- A willingness to participate and become involved in all school activities
- Service to the school and others
- Kindness and generosity of spirit
- A strong and active personal faith
- A sense of values and the courage to live by them

Kwande Dhlomo was 2020's winner.

SPECIAL AWARDS



CHICK HENDERSON MEMORIAL AWARD

Reuben Baldry was 2020's recipient of this award, which is presented to a C Block boy who has displayed excellent sporting and academic potential, coupled with active involvement in the school's service programme. The recipient should also demonstrate a strong sense of sportsmanship and comradeship towards peers and staff.

HOUSE REPORTS

Central to the Michaelhouse experience is the House system, with each House being home to approximately 60 boys. This year, two new Houses were opened in McCormick and Ralfe, bringing the total to ten, each one in the care of a Housemaster who is supported by a management team consisting of an assistant Housemaster, House tutors, a home room teacher and a prefect body. Together they are responsible for facilitating a nurturing and structured environment where every boy can feel secure and valued. Houses are the focal point of group identity, friendship and relaxation, and have a healthy rivalry in sporting, cultural and academic arenas.

FOUNDERS

Written by Xhanti Gqweta

Housemaster: **Mr Dean Forword**

Assistant Housemaster: **Mr Chris Waldburger, Mr Herman Visagie**

House Tutors: **Mr Ryan Strudwick, Mr Nico Boshoff, Mr Douglas Rodger**

E Block Tutor: **Mrs Jenni Clinton-Parker**

Housemother: **Mrs Carol Baillie**

Intern: **Mr David Pachonick**

Head of House: **Xhanti Gqweta**

House Prefects: **Tim Whitaker, Warwick Yorke Smith, Ross Leslie, James Fleming, Mark Grant**

The longstanding and ever-mighty House was put to the test along with all the boys who call Founders home. We kicked off to a great first term where the House seemed to be stronger than ever, and appeared to have the potential for an incredible academic, cultural and sporting year. The adaptability of the boys and staff was then tested to the extreme as we all had to say goodbye to the distinct scent, sounds and character of our House. I can say honestly, though, that this House passed the test with distinction and our love for Founders has been deepened. Earlier in the year my sentiments to the boys were that we would never be defined by the number of House events we won, but rather by the deep connections established and knowing that the guy next to us has our back unconditionally, regardless of colour or background. As an outgoing Head of House I can leave with my heart at peace as I feel the House is at a place where this dream has been realized.

The dawn of 2020 brought with it an extremely diverse group

of 14 new faces, freshly cut hair, abnormally large blazers and a bubbling nervous excitement in anticipation of the journey into what some may know as the Red Brick Fortress; or what I believe, from the core of my being, to be the greatest school in the world. Soon the nerves faded, the smiles broadened, the laughter got louder and the once-timid walks became more confident as they began to transition into Michaelhouse. A transition which is daunting, I must say, but one which they took in their stride and deserve a world of praise for. Anesu Nduru showed his balanced abilities as he performed both in the classroom, where he achieved top-ten placings in the Block, and on the sports field, where he was an anchor in both the U14A basketball and rugby sides. Anesu also earned his provincial colours for squash along with Ben Harper, who was the junior squash champion and a recipient of provincial squash colours. Luke Payne placed fourth in his grade and was also part of the U14A cricket side. Luke Davidson made it into both the U15A water polo and the U14A (as captain) rugby sides. Murray Hall-Jones was a member of the U14A hockey XI, proving himself to be a name for the future. Despite a very difficult first year at Michaelhouse, I believe the future is bright for this group of youngsters, who have immense potential.

D Block is the beginning of one's independent journey through Michaelhouse and boys no longer have a Cop watching over every step. Our D Blockers were very respectable role models for the E Blockers to look up to, making a name for themselves in the school in the process. Kamogelo de Almeida was a member of the KwaZulu-Natal Youth Choir and was again selected for the KZN swimming team. Onakho Khumalo, Sebastian Bailes, Azipheli Sithole and Christopher Silk were also members of the KZN Youth Choir. Christopher also received a merit for his Grade 3 French Horn exam. Sebastian also received half colours for art along with Harrison Field. Tom Griffin showed



FOUNDERS

Back Row: Christopher Langebrink, Rex le Sueur, Campbell Ridl, Jaime Gomes, Christopher Silk, Dominic le Sueur, Murray Odell, Ethan Hartwell, Joshua James, Dylan Roberts, Jaden Anderson; **Fourth Row:** Harrison Field, Kamohelo Rathepe, Diego Fernandes, Zakithi Nhlangulela, Joseph Price, Ross le Sueur, James Asherson, Alexander Vermeulen, Simon Williams, Campbell Houston, Daniel Sabatta, Thomas Jonsson, Robert Pickard, Thomas Griffin; **Third Row:** Gqamile Mbuyazi, Blake Chittenden, Kamogelo de Almeida, Onakho Khumalo, Luke Granat, Kgothatso Mahowa, Graham Wynne, James Quinn, Georg Methner, Sebastian Bailes, Kwande Camane, Oliver Healy, Azipheli Sithole; **Second Row:** Luke Payne, Kyle Tissier, Siyolise Finiza, Luke Davidson, Matthew Asherson, Kevin Roberts, Nicholas Burger, Anesu Nduru, Abhishek Panday, Murray Hall-Jones, Callum James, Stuart Neilson, Benjamin Harper, Gregory Goldby; **Front Row:** Mr Linda Shezi, Warwick Yorke Smith, Mr Ryan Strudwick, Mark Grant, Mr Chris Waldburger, Xhanti Gqweta, Mr Dean Forword, Ross Leslie, Mr Nico Boshoff, James Fleming, Mrs Jenni Clinton-Parker, Timothy Whitaker, Mr David Pachonick

his cricketing prowess with a 130-run spectacle against St Charles and also earned a call-up to the U15A side. Oliver Healy was placed in the top ten academically once again. Unfortunately, since there was no soccer season, Oliver could not show his immense talent with the round ball at his feet, which I consider to be poetry in motion. Campbell Ridl and Graham Wynne were members of the U15A rugby side, which shows promising signs for the future of Michaelhouse rugby. Campbell was also a member of the U15A water polo side.

For many, C Block is one of the more interesting years, one that boys look back at with fond memories. C Block is the year where you begin to understand your identity as an individual at Michaelhouse. For the Founders C Block of 2020 it has been a year of deepening voices, growth spurts and plenty of fun. The Block did well for themselves across the board. Kamohelo Rathepe was a valuable member of the U16A hockey side and looks like a very promising prospect on the atsrö for the next two years at Michaelhouse. Jaden Anderson was a member of the U16A rugby side who have grown in leaps and bounds since their arrival at Michaelhouse, and this year would certainly

have been marked as their year of redemption had there been a season. Jaden also represented the U16A cricket side. James Asherson placed in the top five in his Block once again, which is testament to his consistent work ethic. James was also a member of the first golf side. Unfortunately, the group had to bid farewell to Georg Methner, who returned to Germany. His infectious smile and his gentle demeanour will certainly be missed. The group did welcome three new members in Colm Geraghty, Thomas de Lange and Matthew van der Merwe. The three newbies have brought a new dynamic to the group and also to the House. I am very keen to see the progress of this group in years to come.

The B Block of 2020 was an outstanding group of kind-hearted and thoughtful young men. Although not the loudest or most outgoing group they must be commended for the leadership role they played in the House and the big brother role they played for the younger boys. The group is small and very diverse but extremely tight-knit. Together, they are a cohesive force. They did well for themselves both as individuals and as a collective. Dominic le Sueur was a valuable member of the

very successful first basketball side which won the St John's Tournament for the first time ever, which is the most prestigious basketball tournament in the South Africa. Dominic was also a member of the Second XV along with Joseph Price. Dominic also placed in the top ten in his Block academically. Joseph Price was a member of the first golf side. Alex Vermeulen was a member of both the First XV and the cricket First XI. Simon Williams represented the second water polo team, whereas Robbie Pickard and Campbell Houston represented the first team. Alex was also elected as the incoming head of House. Kgothatso Mahowa was a member of the second basketball team and Ross le Sueur was a member of the cricket Second XI. I am extremely proud of what this group has achieved and the growth and maturity they have shown.

The A Block is a group very close to my heart for obvious reasons. We started out together as a very mischievous gang of 14 young men. Although our physical features might have changed, that same group of naughty young boys are still well and truly within us even as our time here has drawn to an end. It has been the greatest privilege calling these boys family for the last five years and I will forever consider them my brothers. A very diverse group of young men we may be but we all share one goal, and that is to see Founders and Michaelhouse flourish. Each boy in this group has his own distinct talents and abilities which make him special, and each boy has found his own path whilst at Michaelhouse. Tim Whitaker once again cemented his spot in the top ten academically and was awarded academic honours. Warwick Yorke Smith was also awarded honours. Zakithi Nhlangulela was named deputy war cry leader for 2020, following in the steps of his Cop before him. James Fleming represented the cricket First XI along with Mark Grant. Xhanti Gqweta and Mark were both members of the First XV. Ross Leslie was the first U18 paddler home in the Duzi Canoe Marathon and came second in the South African champs. James was awarded academic colours. Ethan and Rex both represented the hockey First XI.

A huge and sincere thank you must go to my incredible group of prefects, who made my job as head of House as comfortable as possible. I definitely could not have achieved anything without their support. Special thanks must also go to Ma Zuma for all the constant hard work she quietly does in the House, for

which she expects no recognition. Special mention must go to Mrs Baillie, our new Housemother who worked tirelessly this year to make Founders even more of a home environment than it already was. Her efforts definitely did not go unnoticed and I am very grateful to her for the special role she played in the House. The tutors deserve recognition for their constant efforts to help Founders run smoothly. We bade farewell to Mr Chris Waldburger in the third quarter and welcomed Mr Visagie back as our assistant Housemaster. I have no doubt Mr Visagie will add value to the House through his humility and authentic connection with the boys. Lastly, big thanks must be extended to Mr Forword for his unrelenting support of both myself and also of every boy in the House. He has been both a role model and a friend. I have no doubt that with Mr Forword's integrity and undiluted pride in seeing the House flourish, Founders will continue to stand strong and go from strength to strength.

To my brothers of Founders, I urge you to keep the fire burning. To all of you, those staying and those moving on, in all your endeavours remember that "the measure of a man is not how much wealth he acquires but his ability to influence those around him positively". Men, it's been an indescribable journey and experience leading all of you. I am eternally grateful for the role you guys trusted me with and I hope to have done you all proud. I love you all from the very depths of my heart and I wish you all blessings. In all you do never forget the power you carry within you: the fire of St Michael's Red Brick Fortress, which can never be put out.

SALVETE:

Murray Hall-Jones, Luke Davidson, Matthew Asherson, Siyo Finiza, Stuart Neilson, Ben Harper, Luke Payne, Nicholas Burger, Greg Goldby, Abhishek Panday, Kyle Tissier, Callum James, Anesu Nduru, Kevin Roberts, Matthew van der Merwe, Colm Geraghty, Thomas de Lange

VALETE:

Ross Leslie, Mark Grant, Tim Whitaker, Warwick Yorke Smith, James Fleming, Xhanti Gqweta, Zakithi Nhlangulela, Rex le Sueur, Chris Langebrink, Jaime Gomes, Ethan Hartwell, Murray Odell, Georg Methner, Matthew van der Merwe

EAST

Written by Nikhil Iyer

Housemaster: **Mr Sibusiso Ncamani**

Assistant Housemaster: **Mr Bernard Whitaker**

House Tutors: **Mrs Bernice Borain, Mrs Asha Royappen, Mrs Ilne Visagie, Mr Mike Thompson**

Interns: **Mr Nathan Holm, Mr Thabani Hlabisa**

Home Room Teacher: **Mrs Asha Royappen**

Head of House: **Nikhil Iyer**

House Prefects: **Luke Gammie, Hloni Mapetla, Joe Vickery, Chris Christodoulou, Samuel Butcher**

Reflecting on my time in East, the camaraderie and togetherness definitely stands out. With boys hailing from different backgrounds under a single roof, inclusivity is of utmost importance and I firmly believe we have set a benchmark for all to follow in this respect. Being one of the oldest and most traditional Houses in the school, it has been difficult in finding the balance of which traditions to maintain and



EAST

Back Row: Thomas Hill, Sihle Mokoena, Jeremy Trinidad, Luke Hooker, Hunter Whittle, Max Rey, Harry Rowles, Connor Sesink Clee, Sikhumbuzo Mabuza, Joshua Baillie, Arden Scholtz, Ilizwe Blose, Tristan Baker, Jack Irons;

Fourth Row: Murray Baker, Max von Klemperer, Matthew Browse, Oliver von Klemperer, Michael Abourous, Carter Karan, Byron Mitchell-Innes, Sentso Tlelai, Peter Hein, Chase Leisegang, Matthew Gibson, Maximilliano Scribante, Karan Chauhan;

Third Row: Oliver Armstrong, Ethan Cockram, Robert Butcher, Maqhawe Hoohlo, Jack Shooter, Amogelang Phetlhu, Oliver Gauntlett, Luc D'Offay, Christopher Townshend, Misokuhle Hlophe, Sibongakonke Buthelezi, Oliver Brown, Connor Leisegang, James Gilson, Lawrence Hawke;

Second Row: Liam van Aardt, West Mitchell-Innes, Onalerona Lefakane, Ayden McDavid, Brett Hill, Oliver Mostert, Christopher Skinner, Daniel Faircliff, Luke Kaufman, Sebastian Hofmeyr;

Front Row: Mrs Asha Royappen, Lehlohonolo Mapetla, Mr Mike Thomson, Luke Gammie, Mr Nathan Holm, Mr Bernard Whitaker, Nikhil Iyer, Mr Sibusiso Ncamani, Christakis Christodoulou, Mr Liam Mickleburgh, Samuel Butcher, Mr Thabani Hlabisa, Joe Vickery, Mrs Ilne Visagie, Mr Herman Visagie

which to do without. Since his arrival as Housemaster in the latter months of 2018, Mr Ncamani has been instrumental in retaining the core values of the House while doing away with certain toxic elements and redefining tradition.

While this year has hardly been one to write home about world over, I genuinely feel that we made the most of what we were given. After the majority of interhouse events were cancelled, we still managed to end the year winning canoeing and the Academic Shield for a second consecutive year. I believe that winning the Academic Shield is an indication of the progress we have made in creating a positive work environment during prep times as well as the effectiveness of the peer-tutoring programme we have in place. Furthermore, it goes to show the emphasis we put on academic accomplishment, contrary to the notion that only sports are truly appreciated in all-boys boarding schools. Although we won only two events, we came achingly close in numerous others, losing on penalties in the football semi-finals and facing another semi-final knockout in tennis.

The beginning of the year was marked with the arrival of 14 new boys, ready to tackle the challenges of E Block. Despite the fact that they came from different schools, they gelled together

as a group in no time and began crafting their friendships, which I know will extend far beyond their five years in East. One of the most memorable yet stressful experiences of the year came on the second night where we, as House Prefects, decided to give the new kids on the block a taste of a night run and Matthew Solms decided it would be a fantastic time to start his experience off with a broken collar bone. Fabricating a makeshift sling out of his soiled T-shirt, he soldiered through the pain all the way to hospital and kept smiling throughout. I can confidently say that the E Block of 2020 has had a great impact on the House and has helped maintain the reputation of excellence we stand for. Individually, they experienced a whole heap of achievements in academic, sporting and cultural fields. Sebastian Hofmeyr, West Mitchell-Innes and Luke Kaufmann were integral members of the U14A cricket side, with Sebastian captaining the team and West backing him up as vice-captain. Luke achieved something quite amazing by taking a wicket on his first ever ball for Michaelhouse. The U14A basketball team benefitted from having Isa Shabalala, Sinnon Khosa and Oliver Mostert in its ranks, while Samuel Bates represented the U14A water polo team. Second-term sport saw West Mitchell-Innes, Sinnon Khosa, Sebastian Hofmeyr and Luke Kaufmann representing the U14A hockey side, which unfortunately only managed a single game before the season was cancelled. Academically, Luke Kaufmann was

a consistent member of the top five achievers in the grade, peaking at second place. In the cultural realm, Sinnon Khosa made the KZN Midlands Youth Choir, a great feat.

Although D Block is often the year in which boys act on impulse and subsequently cause a bit of chaos, this year's boys were quite brilliant in conducting themselves with immense maturity. While on D Block camp with them, I was privileged to witness how they functioned as a unit, each person knowing and understanding his roles in the group. Not once did I ever see them treat the E Block boys poorly, and the dynamic these two grades share is a sign of a bright future for the House. Considering they have only been around for two years, the impact they have had on the House is substantial and it is quite safe to say that this is one of the – if not the most – respected groups of D Blockers in the school. Murray Baker has proven himself an exemplary leader and was subsequently appointed as captain of both the U15A cricket and rugby sides. Other A-team representatives included Sentso Tlelai and Sibonga Buthelezi for basketball, James Gilson for cricket and hockey, Oliver von Klemperer for rugby, and Oliver Brown and Oliver Armstrong for hockey. Even though he is only in D Block, Murray Baker also represented the first squash side for a second year, quite a phenomenal achievement. Culturally, Sentso Tlelai, Sibonga Buthelezi and Oliver von Klemperer were awarded half-colours for music while Oliver Armstrong was awarded half-colours for art.

The C Block boys have shown tremendous maturity this year and have come a long way as a group. They have forged an immensely strong bond together and have embodied the values of camaraderie we constantly try to promote in the House. I have no doubt that they will exceed all expectations next year as they progress to B Block and take up various leadership portfolios. More than anything, East C Block have cemented themselves as a bunch of genuinely sociable and friendly characters with whom I feel lucky to have spent three years. Christopher Townshend must be congratulated for his consistent placing in the top ten academic achievers in the grade as well as being selected for the exchange programme, which unfortunately fell through due to the implications of the pandemic on travel. Lucky Mabuza represented the second basketball team. He also deservedly earned a spot on the school's new Transformation Committee, which seeks to update the school's policy in accordance with socially conscious values. Byron Mitchell-Innes also achieved greatly on the sporting front, being selected for the second water polo team, while Jack Shooter consistently posted impressive canoeing results, placing first in U16 in both the Dusi K2 and South African K2 surfski champs.

The B Block of 2020 is one of the most vivacious groups I have seen in my time at Michaelhouse. One evening they were given the task of making a three-course meal together at Mr Ncamani's home as part of their leadership programme, and it was soon evident that they were hugely effective as a group. Every boy had his role, each fulfilling it with great distinction. I leave East hugely optimistic about what 2021 will bring under the guidance of Connor Sesink-Clee and the brilliant group supporting him. Academically, Maqhawe Hoohlo, Matthew Gibson and Connor Sesink-Clee consistently placed in the top 20 in the grade, with both Maqhawe and Matthew

enjoying stints in the top ten. Colours awards for academics went to Maqhawe Hoohlo, Matthew Gibson, Connor Sesink-Clee and Luke Hooker. Matthew was also selected for the first hockey side for the short-lived season we did have, while Connor earned his place in First XV. In canoeing, Chase Leisegang impressively won the Duzi Canoe Marathon in the U18 category. Culturally, Maqhawe was deservedly awarded honours for music in recognition of his involvement in the competition marimba band, orchestra and – most remarkably – his completion of his Grade 7 cello examination. Tristan Baker also achieved on the cultural front, being an integral member of the competition marimba band and being selected for Toastmasters. A significant achievement which I feel must be noted is Lawrence Hawke's involvement in a food drive for the needy at the height of lockdown – a manifestation of his kind and caring character.

The A Block of 2020 was dealt a tough hand. For four years, every grade builds up the prospect of their matric year and ponder the legacy they will eventually leave behind. Rather than being bogged down by not having interschool sports, the maturity shown in accepting the unfortunate reality was outstanding. Over our five years together, we have really formed a tight-knit group even though we have endured our fair share of ups and downs. While this year may have failed to meet our expectations, the rest of our time together was hugely worthwhile. Our strong academic ability was shown once again by Hloni Mapetla and Josh Baillie, who placed in the top ten in the grade. On the sporting front, Luke Gammie led the way, representing cricket, hockey and tennis (as captain), all at first team level. Harry Rowles also represented the successful first tennis team. Sam Butcher continued his phenomenal canoeing record, winning both the K1 and K2 events at the South African Canoeing Championships. Hloni Mapetla was at the forefront of Michaelhouse culture, leading the competition marimba band. He was also appointed chairman of Social Awareness and rightly earned his place as a founding member of the Transformation Committee.

The success of East this year could not have been achieved without the incredible mentorship of Mr Ncamani and his team of tutors, who have taken the boys under their wings and helped them through it all. An enormous thanks must also be given to Mrs Rose Zaca, who always ensures the House remains in pristine condition. Without these dynamic individuals, East would not be the same.

SALVETE:

Samuel Bates, Daniel Faircliff, Brett Hill, Sebastian Hofmeyr, Sinnon Khosa, Onalerona Lefakane, Ayden McDavid, West Mitchell-Innes, Oliver Mostert, Isa Shabalala, Christopher Skinner, Matthew Solms, Donovan van Staden

VALETE:

Joshua Baillie, Sam Butcher, Karan Chauhan, Chris Christodoulou, Luke Gammie, Thomas Hill, Jack Irons, Nikhil Iyer, Hloni Mapetla, Harry Rowles, Joe Vickery, Daniel Faircliff, Michael Abourous

Written by James Murray

Housemaster: **Mr Righardt Kotze**

Assistant Housemaster: **Mr Carl Bezuidenhout**

House Tutors: **Mr Grant Ball, Mr Gerhard Erasmus, Ms Nqobile Zuma**

Interns: **Mr May Mazibuko, Mr Emmanuel Mkhize**

Homeroom Tutor: **Mrs Leigh Kotze**

Head of House: **James Murray**

House Prefects: **Jarred Booysen, Connor Muirhead, Ntsako Sambo, David Stubbs, Luke Stubbs**

2020. A year some would mistakenly say was divided into two. A year many would say was a disaster. A year when we were all found guilty at some point of dwelling on what we lost, or what could have been, rather than on what we have managed to do. The below adaptation of an extract from a poem that I read this year is what I admire about the Tatham ethos; and when I say Tatham, I refer specifically to the boys.

“Tho’ much is taken, much abides;
that which we are we are;
One equal temper of heroic hearts,
strong in will
To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.”

Ulysses – Tennyson

Tatham made a flying start to the year; with a mindset of everything that might be achieved, should be achieved together, with every boy’s contribution taken into account; every boy encouraged to take part and every boy to be supportive of every other. This ideal became evident when we started reeling in trophies for interhouse relay events, such as on Sports Day, Pi Day and the prestigious Pancake Race. Yes, it took individual talent, but it also took a Houseful of support; the latter being of more value to me.

The time away from our second home during the Pentecost quarter proved challenging. Each boy tried to remain on top of his studies, stay somewhat fit, be helpful around the house, not fight with his siblings or parents and somehow just not dwell on the disappointment of the loss of probably the most valued season of the year. It was a difficult period of time for the majority of the boys who I contacted. Yet, the Tatham spirit endured with online House meetings, tutor groups and weekly competitions, which brought about some good laughs and hidden talents.

There was no doubt an unsettled feeling throughout the school on our return from several months at home, especially now with masks covering up our faces and none of us certain about whether to embrace our brothers or remain socially distanced. But boys will be boys and, in a place like Tatham where there is constantly noise throughout the corridors, this was impossible. I loved it. The energy the boys had from just being at school was like none other. Having intrahouse sport and a variety of hobbies available allowed boys to remain active and involved. The House was once again healthy, once again happy.

The Tatham E Block boys quickly became one of the strongest Grade 8 groups in their first few weeks here. Whether this was because of the diversity within the group, with their different upbringings, views and strengths, or just the tireless effort which the matrices and staff put into their well-being, I do not know – but they sure did catch on quickly with how things worked at Michaelhouse. This was encouraging to see but unfortunately the time away from school almost set these boys right back to square one. However, they picked up their game eventually and by the end of the year were looking like a group with great potential – as long as they continue to work with each other and realize they are all equals. I challenge all of them to become a tight-knit group that will one day make the 2020 matrices proud.

The Tatham D Block must be commended for their unexpected approach to the year, which I was very grateful for. Instead of being a group which aspired to have no positive relationship with the E Blockers, and shout at them just because they had one extra year of experience over them, they actually broke this unhealthy chain of D Block fever by taking the E Block boys under their wing. This helped the matrices out a lot as the D Block boys caused not a single issue in the House this year. They are a mature and close group, qualities which are going to stand them in good stead for the years they have left at Michaelhouse as seniors. I urge them to hold each other accountable and continue to keep everyone involved in all that they do as a group.

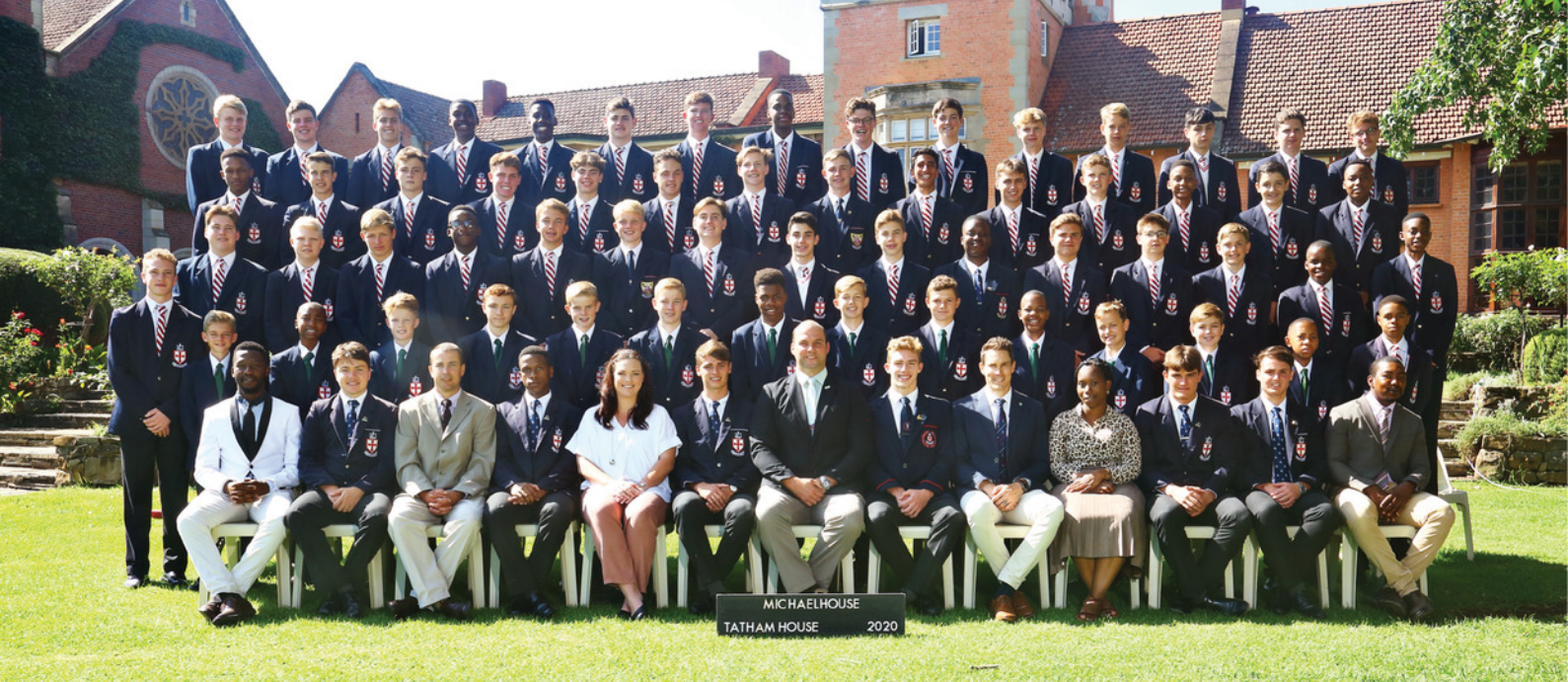
In C Block it is very easy to remain secluded from the rest of the House as a result of the physical positioning of the C Block area. Fortunately, this year’s Tatham C Block did not cut themselves off and in fact were often seen throughout the corridors, representing the House on the sports fields, spending time around the pool table, chilling in the dayroom and even taking up the role of sometimes leading our Cell Group on a Friday evening. Their presence and contribution to House spirit was much appreciated this year and will add great value to Tatham in 2021. For those of them who read this, you are entering your B Block year and are now leaders in the House.

“

We have unhesitatingly put the training of character before the training of intellect, and we try to make everything we do ... contribute to that end. [Character is] everything which is admirable in a man: rectitude, consistency, moral courage, kindness, consideration for others, self-restraint, generosity...

The Chronicle, 1913

”



TATHAM

Back Row: Andrew Davis, Benjamin Jarvis, Thomas Deist, Elihle Ngcobo, Christian Magero, Thomas Nel, Thomas Walters, Kgosi Matola, Keegan O'Brien, Mitchell Flanagan, Vaughan Dorning, Michael Thornton, Jon-Luke Ferreira, James Wattam, Thomas Barnes; **Fourth Row:** Ayanda Mde, Huntley Earle, Thomas Denny, Oliver Bass, Kenton Melville, Callum Porrill, Oliver Bekker, Robert Anderson, Zubin Randeria, Jacques du Preez, Jack Walters, Sandiso Hlongwa, Tom Hodgson, Orateng Mokone; **Third Row:** Ethan Boast, Kyle Walker, Angus Wattam, Andisa Young, Luke de Heer, Jack Edmonds, Liam Bekker, Frederick Waller, Edward Hamilton, Sello Stone-Mboweni, Joshua White, Oliver Currie, Ryan Maskell, Siqhamile Ntiyane, Glen Chiimba; **Second Row:** Thomas Hicks, Keaton Porrill, Anelechi Obasi, Rory Steyn, Murray Rourke, Cameron Strudwick, Johannes Zietsman, Phuti Motsileng, Benjamin English, Tomas Baguley Bonsma, Ethan Gwebe-Nyirenda, Jack Browne, Matthew Nel, Katleho Mpobole, Mayenziwe Nene; **Front Row:** Mr May Mazibuko, Connor Muirhead, Mr Gerhard Erasmus, Ntsako Sambo, Mrs Leigh Kotze, Luke Stubbs, Mr Righardt Kotze, James Murray, Mr Carl Bezuidenhout, Ms Nqobile Zuma, David Stubbs, Jarred Booysen, Mr Emmanuel Mkhize

Be respectful of the matrices by looking to help them out as much as possible, and make the effort to form a strong bond with the new boys and D Blockers of 2021.

The Tatham B Block is a very diverse group who excel in all spheres of life at Michaelhouse. This year they took it upon themselves to start taking charge and taking initiative in the House, and this is a testament to their willingness to listen to each other and to lead. They are a highly respected group in the school and have my utmost respect too. They all have the potential to do great things. I am personally thankful for the effort they put into the House this year despite the conditions we were confronted with. 2021 will be a remarkable year in the hands of the new Tatham A Block.

The members of the current Tatham A Block have been spoken highly of for our entire Michaelhouse career. We are a group of well-rounded boys with strong ideals and some strong characters which have not gone unnoticed over the years. My boys have done Tatham proud ever since 2016. Yes, a group which was originally off the rails, but this was because of the views and morals we had embedded into ourselves prior to arriving at Michaelhouse. We took our time to learn to cope

with our differences and, unfortunately, we could not all finish together. However, every single boy who has been a part of this group undoubtedly has taken something of value which will better him in the future. I pray the House and particularly the E Block boys have been positively influenced by our group. I will cherish the years we have had together and would do it all again if I could; but for now, thanks, brothers.

The Tatham tutors put in a huge effort this year with online meetings to see how we were all coping, initiating thought-provoking sessions and just general discussions on whatever spice was making its way from boy to boy. I thank Mr Ball, Mr Bezuidenhout, Mr Erasmus, Mr Mazibuko, Mr Mkhize and Ms Zuma for putting in the effort just to ensure that every boy was okay and remaining involved in the House; particularly by creating a friendly environment for younger boys to openly interact and learn. A special thanks must also go to Mrs Kotze for the time you took to help the E Block boys settle in and catch on with the Michaelhouse Way, despite having your own two little kids, Rex and Mikaela, to take care of.

Mr Kotze is a Housemaster who respects the space that Tatham

boys need, allowing sensible traditions and boy shenanigans to run by allowing the House to be responsibly managed by the boys. This is extremely important for the growth of each boy as instead of always learning from an adult alongside their peers, they begin to learn from their peers. Yet when he is present the whole House, and in fact the entire Main Quad, will know of it. I thank Mr. Kotze for the energy he has put into Tatham over the past four years, and particularly the days of work – which often go unacknowledged – that he has invested into the well-being of the House this year. On behalf of the House, thank you, *Meneer*.

SALVETE:

Tomas Baguley Bonsma, Benjamin English, Ethan Gwebenyirenda, Phuti Motsileng, Katleho Mpobole, Rourke Murray, Matthew Nel, Anelechi Obasi, Keaton Porrrill, Rory Steyn, Cameron Strudwick, Hendri Zietsman

VALETE:

Robbie Anderson, Jarred Booysen, Luke de Heer, Vaughan Dorning, Kgosi Matola, Ayanda Mde, Connor Muirhead, James Murray, Keegan O'Brien, Ntsako Sambo, David Stubbs, Luke Stubbs, Chris Magero, Jack Browne

WEST

Written by Matthew Henderson

Housemaster: **Mr Jonathan Smith**

Assistant Housemaster: **Mr Linda Shezi**

House Tutors: **Mr Pete Stevens, Mr Matt Higginson, Mrs Julie Flanagan**

E Block Tutor: **Mrs Candice-Ann Roodt Smith**

Intern: **Mr Liam Boschhoff, Mr Michael Sevenoaks**

Head of House: **Matthew Henderson**

House Prefects: **Matthew Winn, Michael Moodie, Tristan Naidoo, Kiyan Singh, Christopher Maartens**

What a year we have experienced, one which was unexpected and unplanned for. Through the transformations and changes enforced on us through the pandemic, West has adapted and survived. Through this adversity, West has prevailed and produced a group of very resilient young men as the House achievements will demonstrate. Mr Smith introduced the motto of *Honesty, Integrity and Respect* a few years ago, and it has been a great ethos for the boys of West to aspire to through these challenging times.

Despite the disruptions the E Blockers have faced, they have settled into their new surroundings seamlessly. On the sports field, Patrick Lambert and Jack Hughes both played A-team cricket. Patrick and Jack also represented the A hockey and rugby sides. Richard Grant was prominent on the basketball courts playing for the A team. Patrick, Lucien Baldry and Nathan Strachan performed well academically, with Nathan achieving a place in the top 20. Special mention of Lucien and Patrick who placed first and sixth respectively. Lucien, Kwanele Shazi, Bongani Ngcobo, Richard Grant and Katlego Morema were all involved in cultural activities. Lucien and Kwanele were both members of the choir. Lucien, Richard and Katlego were all members of the debating team. Lucien achieved a Grade 6 level for the violin, while Bongani achieved Grade 3 for drums. I commend these boys for starting strong. They successfully integrated into the West family and have laid solid foundations for an incredible four years to come.

D Block is a notoriously challenging year to navigate. This year's D Blockers made a smooth transition and continued with their upward trend. They had a rather quiet sporting year, with Dylan McCoy placing second in the interhouse gala. Despite this quiet start, they and the E Block managed to place second in the junior interhouse soccer championship after being narrowly defeated in the finals. Academically, Dylan McCoy, Andrew Bevis-Challinor and Leo Muziva all achieved top-20 results. The D Blockers excelled culturally, with both Thabe Sono and Magara Mazvita being members of the choir and receiving their half-colours for music. Congratulations to Magara for earning a place in Midlands Youth Choir. Luke Reynolds was a member of the performance marimba band. I am proud of all that the West D Blockers achieved during this tough year and I am sure they will continue to impress in years to come.

The C Blockers are a diverse group of boys but together they faced and overcame many challenges throughout this year. The greatest of these was the infamous C Block Journey. All the boys managed to complete the journey unscathed, except for Reuben Baldry, who suffered an awful crash whilst cycling. C Block is a milestone in your Michaelhouse career as you are now considered a senior. This expectation did not seem to faze these boys and they performed well under the pressure. Jeremy Foss excelled on both the cricket pitch and the astro, managing to secure himself a spot in the first cricket and hockey squads. Sam Berchowetz must also be commended for making the first water polo team and being placed second in the interhouse gala. On the academic side, Reuben once again stood out, finishing first in the Block. David Nienaber, Tomas Szudrawski and Joshua Heafield all placed in the top 20. Culturally, David and Dakalo Nonge were both in choir, and Tomas was a member of the senior competition marimba band. Reuben flew the Michaelhouse and West flags high when he performed admirably in the World Debating and Public Speaking tournament. This group of boys have really stepped up to the plate and have grown immensely in their short time in West. It was with great sadness, however, that we said goodbye to two members of the group, Bongani Mhlongo and Caleb Vandayar. Their presence in the House will be sorely missed.



WEST

Back Row: Banele Sithole, Connor Stanton, Matthew Lambert, Rethabile Sekhoto, Guy Cocksedge, Dominic Le Court de Billot, Richard Esipisu, Jan-Cloete Oelofse, Ryan Wolvaardt, Jared Meiring, Matteo Cozzi, Theodore Gwiliza, Dakalo Nonge, Leo Muziva; **Fourth Row:** Okuhle Mndebele, Tshepo Sono, Nicholas Holt, Kyle McCoy, Bongani Mhlongo Silinda, Samuel Berchowitz, Luke Reynolds, Kwande Dhlomo, Caleb Moser, David Nienaber, Ntando Ndhlaizi, Jeremy Foss, Joshua Heafield, Caleb Vandayar, Rupert Henderson, Hilton Giles; **Third Row:** Reuben Baldry, Tomas Szudrawski, Andrew Beviss-Challinor, Simon le Vieux, Kade Reinhardt, Mazvita Magara, Torin Wright, Dylan McCoy, Dalitso Simwinwa, Oliver Jonsson, Josh Capazorio, Adrian Thompson, Callum Kelly, Thabe Sono, Drew Reynolds; **Second Row:** Neo Sodi, Jack Hughes, Lucien Baldry, Kwanele Shazi, Richard Grant, Nathan Strachan, Nelisuzungu Zungu, Oliver Sage, Bongani Ngcobo, Sibani Zungu, Katlego Morema, Joshua Southwood, Patrick Lambert, Mr Liam Boshoff; **Front Row:** Mr Peter Stevens, Tristan Naidoo, Mr Michael Sevenoaks, Michael Moodie, Mr Matthew Higginson, Matthew Henderson, Mr Jonathan Smith, Kiyan Singh, Mr Edward Jeffrey, Matthew Winn, Mrs Candice Smith, Christopher Maartens, Mrs Julie Flanagan

The B Block group have emerged from early challenges in the junior years to become a united group of friends and excellent young men. This group, although small, produced very noteworthy achievements and always brought a positive energy to West. Kwande Dhlomo, Simon le Vieux, Hilton Giles and Kyle McCoy all achieved excellent academic results. Hilton and Kyle placed in the top 20. Special mention to Simon, who placed in the top ten, and to Kwande, who placed in the top five. Kwande and Simon were invited to be part of the 2021 Snell Society. They were also prominent members of the debating team and were awarded honours (Kwande) and colours (Simon) for their contribution. Kwande also managed to achieve a top-three placement for persuasive speaking at the World Debating and Public Speaking contest. Nicholas Holt was awarded half-colours and Simon received full colours for visual arts. Nicholas also received the Silver President's

Award. There are many sportsmen of varying disciplines in this group. Drew Reynolds was chosen to represent the KwaZulu-Natal fishing team. Kwande was selected to be part of the first basketball squad and Hilton played for the first hockey XI. Tshepo Sono played for the first golf team and must be commended for his dedication to the sport.

I am sure this group will continue to excel and take West to even greater heights next year. West is extremely honoured to have produced the head boy of 2021, Kwande Dhlomo. West is in capable hands, with Hilton Giles taking over as head of House. I wish Kwande, Hilton and the rest of the group all the best as they embark on the last stretch of their Michaelhouse journey.

"The end of a journey means the start of a new one." And what a journey the last five years has been. Tristan Naidoo

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That hackneyed line 'mens sana in corpore sano' was not often spoken by Canon Todd, was not often preached by him, but it was deliberately impressed into us by the system he laid down.

The Chronicle, 1903

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and Matthew Winn both achieved academic honours, with Matthew's best placing being fourth in the grade and Tristan's first. Theo Gwiliza and Banele Sithole were both awarded half-colours for visual arts. Michael Moodie received his half-colours for both dramatic arts and service. Richard Esipisu was the lead clarinetist for the Michaelhouse Orchestra. We also had some very impressive choir representation, with Guy Cocksedge being the lead Christmas carol soloist. Tristan and Kiyan Singh shared the responsibility of being head chorister; they were also both members of the competition marimba band. Kiyan was also awarded the Smithies Vocal Shield.

On the sports fields, Michael, Banele and JC Oelofse all represented the First XV. Michael and Banele also represented the First VII, with Michael being selected for the KZN Sevens squad. Matteo Cozzi played goalkeeper for the first water polo side and Matthew was the most capped second-team water polo player in our history. Matthew was also a member of the first tennis team. Chris Maartens played sweeper for the first hockey XI and played a crucial role in the success of their unbeaten season. Both Michael and Jared Meiring represented the first cricket XI. Jared also represented the KZN cricket side for three years and was awarded honours for his achievements. Banele, Richard, JC and Pitso Sekhoto all played for the first basketball team. Both Banele and JC represented the province. Banele was awarded colours and JC received honours. JC left us at the end of the third term and moved to America in pursuit of a career in basketball. It was extremely hard for us to say goodbye to one of our brothers, but we know he will do us proud. I am grateful to have spent these five years at Michaelhouse with this group of boys. Each of them has laid a great foundation during his time at this school and I wish them all the best for the next leg of their journeys.

West did not fair too badly in interhouse events this year. We placed third in the gala, fourth in the cross-country and second in the basketball, where we were narrowly beaten in the finals. The boys of West are proud to be in this House

and the camaraderie amongst them is hard to describe. In 20 years' time we will not remember what happened on the sports field or what we achieved academically, but rather we will remember the dorm wars, the night-runs and most importantly the brotherhoods which were shared.

Despite the strange nature of our times, it has been another wonderful, confident, smooth and successful year for West. This success is due largely to the efforts of our Housemaster Mr Smith, assistant Housemaster Mr Shezi and our dedicated tutors. Mr Smith's tireless efforts to prepare Zoom House meetings and organise fun House competitions kept the West atmosphere alive and strong in our homes during lockdown. Another person who deserves special mention is our Housekeeper, Primrose. She works tirelessly to ensure that West is spotless and her work so often goes unnoticed, particularly in the West Cop Shop.

I came to this place as a careless child and I leave here as a man, a Man of Michaelhouse – but, more importantly, as a Man of West, and for that I am eternally grateful.

SALVETE:

Owami Mokoena, Matthew Doyle, Liam Brander, Kofi Asumaning, Andrew Bevis-Challinor, Josh Capazorio, Rupert Henderson, Oliver Jonsson, Mazvita Magara, Dylan McCoy, Leo Muziva, Ntando Ndhlahi, Kade Reinhardt, Luke Reynolds, Dalitso Simwinwa, Thabe Sono, Ryan Wolvaardt, Torin Wright, Oliver Sage

VALETE:

Oliver Sage, JC Oelofse, Ryan Wolvaardt, Caleb Moser, Caleb Vandayar, Bongani Mhlongo, Guy Cocksedge, Matteo Cozzi, Richard Esipisu, Theodore Gwiliza, Matthew Henderson, Matthew Lambert, Christopher Maartens, Jared Meiring, Michael Moodie, Tristan Naidoo, Rethabile Sekhoto, Kiyan Singh, Banele Sithole, Connor Stanton, Matthew Winn

FARFIELD

Written by Michael Ross

Housemaster: **Mr Paul McKay**

Assistant Housemaster: **Mr Ian Crawford**

House Tutors: **Mrs Win de Wet, Mr Paul Snyman, Mr Grant von Mayer**

E Block Tutor: **Mrs Katherine Cass**

Interns: **Mr Aidan Friend, Mr Linda Mabuza**

Head of House: **Michael Ross**

House Prefects: **Alexander Bergin, Michael Christodoulou, Raiffe Ingledew, Gary Pitt, Senzo Sokhela**

It seems that not even a global pandemic can drag Farfield down, as the boys in yellow went on to achieve fantastic individual and House results. Although Farfield is known for

being one of the great Houses, this year has been a particularly triumphant one for us, not just because of our outstanding individual achievements, but also due to the immense courage and brotherly love that the boys showed for each other during the tough months of lockdown and those in a far more strict Covid-savvy Michaelhouse. Through support and courage shown during these strenuous times, the House has never felt more like a home than it does now – its members having been far apart yet closer than ever.

The pastoral care given by the Farfield staff is largely responsible for the strong relationships throughout the House. Under the resilient leadership of Mr Paul McKay, and with the assistance of Mr Ian Crawford and all the tutors, Farfield has managed to steer through uneasy waters with relative ease.



FARFIELD

Back Row: William Harvey, Matthew Marx, Luke Farnell, Pierre van der Westhuyzen, Joss Gehren, Avela Zungu, Jaden van der Merwe, Sedipa Ramokoto, Joshua Bergin, William Selby, Murray-John Pitt; **Fourth Row:** Aiden Mason, Cameron Retzlaff, Jack Martin, Peter Woodland, Nkosinathi Kumalo, Max Latter, Jack Williamson, Joshua Heath, Bradley Banda, Ross Fleming, Katlego Africa, Anothile Nzimande, Ayama Khumalo, Matthew Louw; **Third Row:** Jordan Govender, Justin Prowse, Caleb Vermaak, Ross Rhodes, Caleb Bryden, Grant Leslie, Siyabonga Ncube, James Kennedy, Cameron Fleming, Anotida Mashamhanda, Angus Fleming, Andrew Woodland, George Boltler; **Second Row:** Nicholas Fearnhead, Karl Schaefer, Kyle Farnell, Andrew Boettiger, Pikolomzi Nkompela, Mokilibi Makara, Matthew Kennedy, Riley Gehren, Hugo Phipson, Ayabonga Mkhokeli, Sithenkosi Nkompela, Benjamin Bryden, Ruben Visagie, Dylan Hewlett, Bayanda Zuma; **Front Row:** Mr Grant von Mayer, Senzo Sokhela, Mrs Win De Wet, Raiffe Ingledew, Mr Ian Crawford, Michael Christodoulou, Mr Paul McKay, Michael Ross, Mrs Katherine Cass, Gary Pitt, Mr Paul Snyman, Alexander Bergin, Mr Aidan Friend

Having a strong staff support system is vital in the growth of the boys and so a huge debt of gratitude is owed to each of Farfield's dedicated staff.

A smooth start is often challenging to achieve with the E Blockers, who enter into a strange environment and are expected to understand and excel in a relatively short period of time. However, Farfield's new boys of 2020 stepped up to the plate with enthusiasm and perseverance. They quickly slotted into this environment and showed a strong understanding of what it means to be a boy at Michaelhouse. From regular quad soccer games to movie nights, they bonded as a group and enjoyed getting to know each other. Apart from forming crucial initial relationships with each other and with the rest of the House (under the very trying circumstances of being off campus for long stretches), they excelled in their individual contributions to the school as well. Riley Gehren, Ayabonga Mkhokeli, Sithenkosi Nkompela, Dylan Hewlett, Matthew Kennedy, Kyle Farnell, Karl Schaefer, Nicholas Fearnhead, Benjamin Bryden and Ruben Visagie all represented the school at A-team level in various sports, and so it is evident that this Block possesses very strong sporting abilities. On top of representing Michaelhouse, a few of these boys achieved further excellence in sport and are deserving of special recognition. They include: Karl Schaefer,

who was selected for the KwaZulu-Natal U14B tennis team; Benjamin Bryden who was selected as the U14A water polo captain, along with being runner-up in the U14 age group at the gala, and being selected to represent the Midlands swimming team; and Ruben Visagie, who broke the U14 1500m record and placed first in the U14 interhouse cross-country event. The Block also showed promising musical talents with: Pikolomzi Nkompela being selected for the junior marimba band as well as the performance marimba band; and Ruben Visagie, Kili Makara, Bayanda Zuma and Benjamin Bryden being part of the Michaelhouse Chapel Choir. Academically, the entire grade showed strength, but a particular mention must be made of Matthew Kennedy and Dylan Hewlett, who secured top-ten positions in the Block. Overall, the E Blockers had a successful start to their Michaelhouse career and offer a promising future for the House in the years to come.

D Block is often known as a challenging year as the boys prepare to become seniors without the guidance provided by the Cack-Cop system. Adding the difficulties of Covid to the equation, the D Blockers' year was a strenuous one to say the least. It is, therefore, a huge testament to the Farfield D Block's character that they refused to let these challenges get in their way. Numerous members of the grade represented the school in their respective

A-teams for sport, but a few individuals reached an even greater height that is worthy of special mention. These boys were: Cameron Retzlaff, who was selected to attend a South African schools regional water polo camp for provincial and national selection; Nathi Kumalo, who placed third in the U15 age group on Sports Day; Justin Prowse, who became the first ever winner of the junior interhouse open-water swim; and Jack Williamson, who represented South Africa in a polo match against Zambia as well as came second in the U15 age group on Sports Day. The D Block also attained overall academic merit along with individual excellence from Jordan Govender, who placed in the top 1% nationally in the English Olympiad, and Andrew Woodland, who regularly found himself in the top five academically. Andrew also went on to achieve close to a distinction for his Grade 6 saxophone exams, for which he was awarded half-colours for music. George Boltler was also awarded half-colours in a cultural sphere, worthily receiving this award for art. The D Block continued to be a prominent grade in the House and must be commended for maintaining this standard under difficult circumstances.

Credit must be given to the C Block, who played a pivotal role in the House's spirit and general positive atmosphere throughout the year. They are a tight-knit grade who combine well. Although many of their members performed well academically, Peter Woodland led the pack, regularly placing in the top five. James Kennedy followed closely and was awarded half-colours for his consistent academic performances. Peter is also a talented musician, representing the school's orchestra and the KZN Youth Orchestra and was deservedly awarded half-colours for music as well as for service. This group enjoy a strong and competitive sporting culture, and this pushes each of them to succeed in their respective sports. This could be seen in their results. Joshua Heath, Anothile Nzimande, James Kennedy, Ross Rhodes and Luke Farndell all represented Michaelhouse in the U16A team of their respective sports. The following boys took achievement to the next level: Luke Farndell was runner-up in the U16 age group on Sports Day and was the first U16 athlete home in the interhouse cross-country race; Caleb Bryden won the U16 category as well as the U17 victor ludorum at the gala and was unsurprisingly selected to represent the Midlands Swimming Team; Anothile Nzimande was the second U16 athlete to cross the line at the interhouse cross-country race and was also the U16 victor ludorum on Sports Day; Joshua Heath was the senior school tennis champion, which is an outstanding achievement at such a young age – his bright future in the sport was recognized when he was awarded half-colours for tennis. The C Block did us proud this year and left no doubt in our minds that they will lead the House capably in the near future.

The pressure and expectation that comes with being a senior in the school is vast and so the Farfield B Block deserve to be commended for their performance this year. Being a small group of nine members, they have become particularly close to one

another. They refuse to let their size hinder their contribution to the House and are often the first ones down in support of Farfield in the interhouse events. This, combined with their individual achievements, is testimony to their determination to contribute as a Block. The following boys achieved notable success: Jaden van der Merwe, who was selected for the second basketball side as well as the First XV; Max Latter, who was awarded half-colours for his contribution to the First XI cricket side; Aidan Mason, who was selected for the Second XV; and Siyabonga Ncube, who played for the U16A basketball team and who was selected as a reserve for the KZN U16B basketball team. Jaden van der Merwe, a strong academic who regularly places top in his Block, was awarded full academic honours this year. Matthew Marx brought a cultural aspect to the group with his strong public speaking abilities, which he regularly displayed at Toastmasters. The Farfield B Block showed potential to play a vital role in the school's 125th year in 2021, and seemed eager and ready to lead Farfield into what I am sure will be another successful year.

Finally, there is the A Block of 2020. There is no doubt that you form a special kind of bond with the guys in your House Block. You spend hours of your life getting to know them, joking around with them, and occasionally fighting with them. They truly become your brothers and I feel privileged to have been with the crazy Farfield brothers who I will now walk alongside as we leave the Michaelhouse gates. Watching everyone grow and become the men that they are today has been an honour. Each of them has contributed his very best to Farfield during his time in the House, even if it was in the less obvious ways, such as Will's humour or Josh's crazy ideas. However, there are a few individuals who need to be recognized for their more formal contributions. Michael Christodoulou joined Farfield in C Block and has since been a huge asset to the House. This can be seen in his achievements in representing the hockey First XI as well as in his academic abilities, which were rewarded with colours and his being placed top of the Block for life orientation. Raiffe Ingledew also made Farfield proud playing for the first squash team and also by displaying his strong leadership qualities as captain of the second golf team and head of the Christian Fellowship Society. Alexander Bergin and Hubo Khumalo joined Raiffe in the Toastmasters Society, with Hubo excelling in particular with his speaking abilities by being selected for the National Individual Debating and Public Speaking Championship. Hubo also received honours for academics this year. Our "hype man" of the House, Avela Zungu, showed his passion not only for Farfield but for the school in his role as a War Cry Committee member, and the House would not have been the same without the energy he brought to it during his time here. Although everyone shines in his own way, there is one matric boy who has undeniably gone past the point of merely shining. There were very few occasions during our time here when Senzo Sokhela did not receive the Man of the Week chocolate for his running achievements

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A school such as this secures the conditions under which may be obtained that which is the end of all true Education, viz., the making of men. Here the greatest emphasis is placed upon the formation of character and the development of individuality.

The Chronicle, 1929

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over the previous week, and rightly so. *Zola*, as he is more commonly known, has been one of the most promising athletes ever to pass through Michaelhouse. His running is a joy to watch and I feel lucky to have been able to see him in action. Zola's achievements for this year alone are as follows:

SPORTS DAY

- U19 3000m record
- U19 1500m record
- U19 800m record

INTERHOUSE CROSS-COUNTRY

- School champion

KWAZULU-NATAL TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 1st U19 800m
- 1st U19 1500m (new school record)

SOUTH AFRICAN U19 RANKINGS

- 800m (9th)
- 1500m (1st)

Zola was, therefore, selected to represent South Africa in the 1500m at the Junior World Championships, which will be held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 16 to 21 August 2021. These achievements are unheard of and are as a direct result of Zola's unmatched determination and work ethic. He is down at the track running before the sun comes up and is often still running when it goes down. His career here will be remembered and we are excited to see what he achieves in the future.

All the boys of Farfield have played their role in how well the House has run this year. Although winning trophies is only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to assessing a House's performance, it is worth mentioning that this year Farfield placed third in the

gala, won the interhouse open-water swim, soccer and senior tennis, and (sweetest of them all) reclaimed the interhouse athletics trophy. As I said this is only the surface of what Farfield achieved this year, as our greatest achievements were those that are less tangible. The respect and camaraderie among the Farfield boys and those around them remained a thing we took pride in.

During one's time at Michaelhouse, one often hears and refers to the "spirit of Michaelhouse", and the more I think upon this term the more intrigued I become. I have sat and tried to pinpoint what it is and what creates it. On occasion, I have even tried to explain it to outsiders. Each time I have failed miserably. I find this rather amusing as every person who has attended this beautiful school knows what it is but none of us is able to explain it. All that is certain is that there is something enclosed in these red bricks that walks with us through the corridors and echoes with our voices down the halls, and it is this indescribable, invisible yet undeniable spirit that makes Michaelhouse a place like none other. I have loved every second I have been here, and being in Farfield has enhanced this feeling just that much more. I cannot say exactly what it is, but the spirit of Michaelhouse is as present in these tough times as ever. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to making our Farfield experience an unforgettable one. The Farfield A Block of 2020 and I will walk down Warriors' Walk and into the Old Boys' Club, but will always feel a part of Farfield and of Michaelhouse.

SALVETE:

Andrew Boettiger, Benjamin Bryden, Kyle Farndell, Nicholas Fearnhead, Riley Gehren, Dylan Hewlett, Matthew Kennedy, Mokilibi Makara, Ayabonga Mkhokeli, Pikolomzi Nkompela, Sithenkosi Nkompela, Karl Schaefer, Ruben Visagie, Bayanda Zuma, Hubo Khumalo, Farai Madzima, Hugo Phipson

VALETE:

Alexander Bergin, Joshua Bergin, Michael Christodoulou, Joss Gehren, Raiffe Ingledew, Hubo Khumalo, Gary Pitt, Michael Ross, William Selby, Senzo Sokhela, Avela Zungu, Sedipa Ramakoto, Hugo Phipson, Pierre van der Westhuyzen

PASCOE

Written by Nathan Bau

Housemaster: **Mr Peter Huntley (left 31 March), Mr Nkanyiso Ngcobo (wef 1 April)**

Assistant Housemaster: **Mr Nkanyiso Ngcobo (until 31 March); Mr Edward Jeffrey (wef 1 April)**

House Tutors: **Mr Bradley McManus, Mr Siphesihle Mdladla, Mr Sifiso Vilakazi, Mr James Fleming, Mr Cameron Barry**

E Block Tutor: **Ms Marcel Cornelius**

Head of House: **Nathan Bau**

House Prefects: **Julian Daffy, Timothy Harding, Kieran Martin, Roeland van den Berg, Thomas Walters**

It's very clichéd but this year has been different from what we all envisioned at the start of 2020. However, through adversity came the opportunity to rise above the challenges and learn. I can say with my chest puffed out that Pascoe has faced our challenges and endured the year with a confident, head-on approach whilst demonstrating compassion and bravery.



PASCOE

Back Row: Stephen Perkins, Jason Williams, David Ferguson, Ross Keep, Thomas Mitchell, Thomas Stroud, Guy van der Bijl, Gustave de Villiers, Oliver Walters, Richard Upfold, Matthew de Villiers, Kameran Jinnah, Jason Makhele, Tawana Makura;

Fourth Row: Lwando Ntuli, Ntando Khumalo, Oliver Cheales, Murray Behn, Mkhululi Magugu, Lethabile Makhubela, Daniel Jonsson, William McLaughlin, Sean Fitzsimmons, Connor England, Cameron McLean Banks, Thomas McCall, Jesse Breytenbach, Ashley Vere; **Third Row:** Ben Keep, Jadin Jordaan, Ashton Marais, Max Chapman, Keleenna Amaonwu, Kungalo Somhlahlo, Aiden Jinnah, Julius Hoellermann, Brian Bowmaker, Noah Bedingham, Ryan Bruwer, Tshiamo Boikhutso, Joshua Perkins; **Second Row:** Chishala Kalenga, Sebastian Heinemann, Angelo Nkosi, Daniel de Paiva, Aphiwe Mkhize, Johnroy Watt-Pringle, Stephan Macamo, Thomas Cradock, Joshua Samuels, Ben Cheales, Johannes Weyers, Noah Satram, Ayabonga Shivane, Lwazi Dlamini; **Front Row:** Mr Sifiso Vilakazi, Roeland van den Berg, Mr James Fleming, Timothy Harding, Ms Marcel Cornelius, Nathan Bau, Mr Peter Huntley, Mr Nkanyiso Ngcobo, Julian Daffy, Mr Bradley McManus, Thomas Walters, Mr Siphesihle Mdladla, Kieran Martin

Pascoe said its last goodbyes to Mr Huntley at the end of the first term. The bond Mr Huntley developed with the boys in the House will never be forgotten, nor will his ongoing efforts to create an environment where each boy can succeed in his goals. Mr Ngcobo, as our new Housemaster, has aimed to strengthen the bond amongst the boys in the House and create a more inclusive, hard-working environment. Mr Ngcobo's philosophy has played a large role in House achievement this year, such as defending our title as water polo champions, winning the junior interhouse soccer and placing second in the senior division.

Not the largest in numbers but playing a large role in the House are the Pascoe staff. The unfortunate passing of Mr Vilakazi was a tragedy that struck the hearts of all members of the community. His enthusiasm around the House and his constant drive towards self-improvement in himself and the boys encouraged us to never give up on ourselves and to continue to give our best in everything we do. Mr Jeffrey as our new assistant Housemaster contributed largely to the administration and general running of Pascoe. Mr McManus pushed us to take pride in our living space and to become more punctual. Mr Mdladla served the boys largely in the House and often

took time to offer extra lessons or help with individual advice. Mr Fleming continued to show his passion for Michaelhouse by demanding we set high standards for ourselves and hold ourselves accountable for our actions. Ms Cornelius had another incredible year as the E Block Tutor. Ensuring the well-being of the new boys is not always an easy feat, but Ms Cornelius did so with such a positive attitude whilst being an incredibly comforting and down-to-earth figure for the rest of the House. Mr Barry joined us late in the year and settled in well – we look forward to what he offers.

E Block is a tough year, accompanied by many unfamiliar challenges, but Covid-19 made it even more tricky. Despite this, the cacks settled in well and added a spark of liveliness to the House. Ben Cheales was in the school's competition band whilst earning his Grade 8 for piano, an astonishing feat for someone so young. Tshiamo Boikhutso, Kungalo Somhlahlo and Stephan Macamo all represented the KwaZulu-Natal Youth Choir. Angelo Nkosi earned a merit award for Grade 3 drums and was a member of the U14A basketball team. Tshiamo also achieved an academic merit award, played a part in the junior marimba band and was ranked the third best athlete in U14 for his performances

on Sports Day. Ashton Marais showed his athleticism by representing the U15A rugby team and winning the interhouse 100m race. One cannot neglect to mention Kungalo Somhlahlo's first place in the high jump on the day; an amazing contribution. Johan Weyers achieved a position in the top 20 for his academics and also worked hard to work his way into the U14A basketball team. Seb Heinemann was a member of the U14A water polo team. Daniel de Paiva and Ayabonga Shivane both achieved merit awards for academics. Lwazi Dlamini represented the U14B hockey XI, Stephan Macamo played U14B basketball, and Chishala Kalanga improved his bowling form on the cricket field immensely. Noah Satram joined all the boys in working hard on their academics and we saw lots of improvement in areas previously not their strongest. I am incredibly grateful to have been able to watch such a lively group of boys grow during their first year in Pascoe and am fully confident they will lift our House to new levels over the coming years.

D Block is an awkward year. It is the first year the boys will not have their cops, but it is also their first small taste of becoming a senior. The D Blockers adjusted well to this change and found freedom in focusing more on their individual interests. Thomas Mitchell took a fiver for the U15A cricket team – a rare achievement. Joshua Perkins, Thomas Cradock, Brian Bowmaker and Oliver Walters all represented a strong U15A water polo team. Later in the year Brian earned a place in the first team practice squad while Oliver made it through to KwaZulu-Natal trials. Chido Amaonwu represented a formidable U15A basketball team which went undefeated in KZN and took part in the prestigious St Stithians tournament. Ben Keep played in the U15C basketball team. Aiden Jinnah cemented his reputation as a top academic and placed first in the grade in the third term, continuing his place in Tarps, and playing U15A cricket. Johnroy Watt-Pringle was part of the U15B water polo side and was an active member of the fly fishing society. Pascoe also welcomed two new D Blockers halfway through the year: Thabo Njapha and Blake Neale. Both settled in rapidly and found a caring group of friends amongst the Pascoe boys.

Having completed the challenging C Block Journey, the C Blockers had a fantastic year. The Block grew even closer and was a source of energy in the House, never ceasing to add humour and an overall positive, entertaining atmosphere. As much as they grew as a group, we also noted individual growth. Matthew de Villiers and Ntando Khumalo played for the U16A basketball team. Aphiwe Mkhize played in the U16B team, and Tawana Makura and Alban le Vieux played in the U16C team. Samuel Mitchell went on an exchange to Germany in the first quarter and looked to prove his academic strength again by placing in the top ten. Oliver Cheales was a stalwart of the third water polo team and the orchestra, earning himself honours for music. Max Chapman played in the competition marimba band

and achieved 85% for his Grade 6 guitar examination. Lwando Ntuli proved his leadership by captaining the seventh basketball team, while Ryan Bruwer continued to show his passion and love for nature as an integral member of the Conservation Society. Noah Bedingham represented the first squash team, while Tom McCall played in the U16A sides for both cricket and rugby.

The Pascoe B Block has always been an exceptional group. Healthy competition within their ranks pushes each of them further, and it was another year of them setting an example for the rest of the school in all aspects, from academics to sport and culture. A rock amongst his peers, Jason Makhele deservedly earned his spot as Second Prefect for 2021 and represented the first basketball team. Richard Upfold and Kameran Jinnah continued to prove their squash ability, both representing the first team and going on to make the KZN men's team. Richard earned his 100th cap on the squash court, played first-team golf and became deputy head of the Christian Fellowship Committee. Kameran also earned a spot in the top ten for his academics, alongside Jadin Jordaan, David Ferguson, Ross Keep and Gus de Villiers with Gus placing first in the grade. David was also involved in the fifth basketball team and the Toastmasters Society. Jadin showed us once again why he is such a strong force on stage, becoming chairman of the Debating Society and, even more impressively, a member of the South African public speaking team. Jadin placed third in South Africa at the National Individual Debating and Public Speaking Championships, entered South Africa's Gender-Based Violence writing competition, and became a member of both the Christian Fellowship and the Transformation and Diversity Advisory committees. Jason Williams made the first hockey XI and was also a member of the competition marimba band. Thomas Stroud became head of the Surfing Society and a member of the Conservation Society. Ross Keep developed himself as a speaker by joining the Snell Society and Toastmasters, and also captaining the debating team. Murray Behn won the SA Surfski Championship in the K2 division and also placed in the top 20 academically. Stephen Perkins was a second-team cricketer. Jesse Breytenbach played an important part in the chapel choir and was deservedly selected as the co-head chorister for 2021. Cameron McLean-Banks took part in the competition marimba band and second basketball team, and earned a spot as head of Christian Fellowship for 2021. Gus de Villiers was also a member of the Snell Society and Toastmasters and worked himself into the first-team cricket squad after impressive performances for the Third XI and then Second XI. Joshua Samuels represented the Second XV as a pacey winger, was part of the Christian Fellowship Committee, was a first-team basketball squad member and a founding member of Michaelhouse's Transformation and Diversity Advisory Committee, where he looked to make a positive change in the school.

“ Most Michaelhouse boys realise that their masters are not their natural enemies, that they are not considered as convicts to be watched by suspicious jailers, that they are not to avoid wrong-doing because they fear to be found out but because wrong is wrong, and lastly, that the school is to a great extent theirs to make or mar.

The Chronicle, 1899

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The A Block has been a group of boys that I am proud to be a part of. We have always had a fighting spirit in all activities and have exemplified a genuine passion for nothing but the Michaelhouse badge during our time here. Julian Daffy played in the strong First XV and captained the first water polo team. Connor England represented the third and second XVs. Sean Fitzsimmons continued to be a top scuba diver and was a solid member of the canoeing club. Tim Harding played for both the second and first XVs, and the first water polo team alongside Thomas Walters. Daniel Jonsson was a member of the KZN Youth Choir and fourth water polo team. Mkhululi Magugu was a Third XV regular. Molefi Makhubela was the war cry leader where he played a vital role in maintaining school spirit, especially in the basketball season. Kieran Martin was captain of the first golf team and a member of the first cricket XI, alongside Roeland van den Berg, who was voted players' player of the season. Roeland was also a solid member of the First XV for a second year. Finn McLaughlin was an enthusiastic member of the Surfing Society and played for the third water polo team. Guy van der Bijl represented the Third XV and the second cricket XI.

Overall, I have been incredibly blessed to have been a part of such a remarkable House. The memories forged in 2020 and during the years before it will live forever in my heart.

SALVETE:

Tshiamo Boikhutso, Ben Cheales, Daniel de Paiva, Lwazi Dlamini, Sebastian Heinemann, Chishala Kalenga, Stephan Macamo, Ashton Marais, Angelo Nkosi, Noah Satram, Ayabonga Shivane, Kungalo Somhlahllo, Johan Weyers, Alban le Vieux, Blake Neale, Thabo Njapha

VALETE:

Nathan Bau, Julian Daffy, Connor England, Sean Fitzsimmons, Timothy Harding, Daniel Jonsson, Mkhululi Magugu, Molefi Makhubela, Kieran Martin, William McLaughlin, Roeland van den Berg, Guy van der Bijl, Thomas Walters, Ashley Vere, Daniel de Paiva

BAINES

Written by Takwana Shava

Housemaster: **Mr Richard McMichael**

Assistant Housemaster: **Mr Craig Pieterse**

House Tutors: **Mr Chris van der Berg, Mrs Mary McMichael, Mrs Helène du Toit**

Home Room Tutor: **Ms Lisa Hardie**

Senior Prefect: **Michael Bradford**

Head of House: **Takwana Shava**

House Prefects: **Aidan Browne, Sam Frost, Letlotlo Kebonang, Kwanele Khumalo, Brett Oellermann**

How does one describe the spirit, the essence and, most of all, the brotherhood that lies within the foundations of this House? This is a question not many can answer as there are a number of things that make Baines what it is today, a House which offers a unique experience, in which a spirit of brotherhood thrives, which in turn promotes a positive atmosphere that is second to none. The friendly and welcoming vibe in the House allows a person to feel at home, which is exactly what Baines has been for the past five years – home.

The year, with its unpleasant and unfortunate surprises, proved to be another successful one for Baines. This year also saw the completion of the two new Houses, and the completion of the renovation of Baines. This marked the beginning of a new chapter for us all, as we moved back into a newly refurbished state-of-the-art House. We also welcomed 12 new boys who all exceeded our expectations on the sports field, in the classroom and within the House. We also welcomed a new House Mother, Mrs Hayley Moran, who worked tirelessly this year to ensure all

was in check. The new additions to the environment were warmly welcomed and their contributions were greatly appreciated.

We continued the spirit of togetherness in which we all, as a House, work together to achieve as a common goal. As a House, we managed to defend two titles, interhouse cross-country and basketball, as well as achieve the Ralfe Cup for academic effort. For the sixth year running, we managed to maintain and defend our claim to the Spirit Cup awarded at the gala. This serves as a testament to the Baines spirit.

I am proud of the achievements we have managed this year. However, Baines is nothing without individual personalities. Baines excels because of the individuals who make up this well-rounded team. Throughout the Blocks we continued to excel on the academic and sporting fronts, with top grades and significantly improved marks and aggregates, and by representing the House and school in top sports teams, or by moving up a team. I am greatly honoured to give credit to every individual for their various contributions during 2020.

BOYS WHO ACHIEVED TOP-TEN ACADEMIC PLACES DURING THE YEAR INCLUDED:

E Block: **Ross Moller, Max Rautenbach**

D Block: **Jordan Baxter, David du Toit**

C Block: **Lekgotla Kebonang, Benjamin Frost**

B Block: **Danilo Ceronio**

A Block: **Aidan Browne, Sam Frost, Michael Gurney**

Skulule Ngejane and Joshua Stevenson both participated in the National Computer Olympiad, and both received medals, bronze and gold, respectively.



BAINES

Back Row: Lekgotla Kebonang, Benjamin Frost, David Acres, David du Toit, George Scott, Jordyn Kleynhans, Nicholas Howarth, Joshua Stevenson, Charles Melouney, Nathan Hoatson, Luke van Niekerk, Harry Moller, Tyler West, Skulule Ngejane; **Fourth Row:** Chenge Gondo, Vuyo Mgoduso, Keemal Ramnath, Connor Oellermann, Tristan Butler, Michael Gurney, John Hulley, Leo Baber, Matthew Millward, Nhlanhla Dlamini, Joshua Banfield, Abongile Xulu, Joshua Voget, Jordan Baxter; **Third Row:** Jayden Griffin, James Burns, Joshua Elliot, Danilo Ceronio, Anthony Melouney, Mogomotsi Nteta, Jack Jones, Sohan Ramnath, Gregory Lovett, Nsika Nxumalo, Mvelwenhle Guma, Liam Telford, Dominic Furby, Joshua Hoatson; **Second Row:** Muhammed Suleiman, Mandla Mlangeni, Tom Telford, Aiden Furby, Junior Ncamani, Max Rautenbach, Johnathan Baber, Ross Moller, Luke Fellner, Awande Ngcobo, Sanele Mnganga, Luke Banfield; **Front Row:** Brett Oellermann, Sam Frost, Miss Lisa Hardie, Kwanele Khumalo, Mrs Mary McMichael, Takwana Shava, Mr Richard McMichael, Michael Bradford, Mr Craig Pieterse, Aidan Browne, Mr Chris van der Berg, Letlotlo Kebonang, Mrs Helene du Toit, Mr Sikelela Nyandeni; **Absent:** Jack Sutherland

Unfortunately, competitive sports against other schools were put on hold from the end of the first quarter. However, during the early part of the year several Baines boys represented us in various top sports teams. Sanele Mnganga played in both the U14A basketball and hockey sides, with both Johnathan Baber and Tom Telford represented in the U14A water polo side. Joshua Hoatson, Brett Oellermann and Connor Oellermann played squash for the first team and continued to fly the school flag high with their exceptional performances. Joshua Hoatson, along with his brother Nathan, also played in the U15A cricket side and second-team golf, with Danilo Ceronio playing for the first golf side. Jordyn Kleynhans, Abongile Xulu and Jordan Baxter played in the U15A basketball side. Harry Moller and Jordan Baxter played alongside each other in the U16A hockey XI, with both Nsika Nxumalo and Tristan Butler representing us on the rugby field in the U16A side. Luke van Niekerk and Harry Moller played cricket for the U16A team and made us all proud with exceptional performances.

In the senior ranks Baines continued to dominate on the basketball court. Nicholas Howarth, Joshua Stevenson, Mogomotsi Nteta and Kwanele Khumalo all played alongside one another in the formidable first basketball side, with Chenge Gondo playing for the second basketball side.

Aidan Browne played for the second water polo side. Brett Oellermann, for a second year, was the captain of squash. He was also given the distinct privilege and honour of captaining the Michaelhouse First XV. Matthew Millward, who is a formidable canoeist, represented us at both provincial and national level, placing second in the K1 marathon and first in the K2 marathon at both the KwaZulu-Natal and South African marathon championships.

Over the years, Baines has prided itself on being a cultural hub in the school, with many boys being part of many cultural groups and societies. This has allowed them to expand their knowledge and grow in various and often interesting ways. Throughout the year, the boys have showcased their talents in leadership roles and by representing us at competitions. Junior Dlamini was selected to join the competition marimba band. Leo Baber showed off his amazing photography skills at the Culture@Kearsney competition and won a deserving first and second prize in various categories. I am also proud to mention that Letlotlo Kebonang and Michael Bradford both led the Michaelhouse Orchestra, with Michael as head and Letlotlo as his deputy. Ben Frost, Liam Telford, Lekgotla Kebonang and Antony Melouney were all selected for C Block exchange programmes, which due to Covid-19 travel restrictions were called off.

The year 2020 proved to be challenging for all in all aspects of life. With the nationwide move for transformation within schools, midway through the year we saw the establishment of the Transformation and Diversity Advisory Committee. I am pleased to say that Kwanele Khumalo and Mvelo Guma were both selected, by their peers, to be members on this committee for the year 2020. Both are highly respected boys within the House and around the school and have made an enormous contribution to making our school more inclusive and diverse.

We experienced a few changes regarding staff. Mr Craig Pieterse re-joined Baines this year as Assistant Housemaster. Sadly, we said goodbye to Mr Sikelela Nyandeni, who left Baines at the end of the year. We thank him for his service and involvement. His wisdom and willingness to see boys succeed will be greatly missed.

Our remarkable Housemaster, Mr Richard McMichael, along with his dedicated team of tutors, continued to nurture and cultivate the boys, helping them find their feet. A special thanks to Auntie Bong, who has worked in Baines for 18 years, as our housekeeper. She has worked tirelessly day-in and day-out to keep Baines clean and respectable. It is her sheer hard work that has kept Baines together and made her the wonderful woman she is. We thank her for all that she has done, and all that she will continue to do.

So, after five years, this is the end. I cannot believe how fast these years have gone. I have witnessed brotherhood at its finest. Like the day we dethroned Farfield after their historic 12-year winning streak on Sports Day, or on the fateful day of 5 September 2017, when we lost a brother. These are just two examples of when the Baines spirit of togetherness and brotherhood thrived like never before.

I am truly honoured and privileged to have been a part of Baines for the past five years; this House has become my home away from home. The Baines community will always have a special place in my heart. My fellow A Blockers and I entered this House alone, and we are now finishing together.

SALVETE:

Johnathan Baber, Luke Banfield, Luke Fellner, Aiden Furby, Mandla Mlangeni, Sanele Mnganga, Ross Moller, Junior Ncamani, Awande Ngcobo, Max Rautenbach, Muhammed Suleiman, Tom Telford

VALETE:

Michael Bradford, Aidan Browne, Sam Frost, Michael Gurney, Letlotlo Kebonang, Kwanele Khumalo, Charlie Meloney, Mogomotsi Nteta, Brett Ollermann, Takwana Shava, Joshua Voget, John Hulley

MACKENZIE

Written by Nicholas Crampton

Housemaster: **Mr Bailey Coxon**

Assistant Housemaster: **Mr Clint Slidrecht**

House Tutors: **Mr Jed Coventry, Mr Ernest Rindfleisch, Mr William Silk**

Interns: **Mr Jason Blockley, Mr Matthew Stringer**

Home Room Teacher: **Mrs Tanith von Mayer**

Head of House: **Nicholas Crampton**

House Prefects: **Tapiwa Chikwanda, Conor MacColl, Nhlakanipho Mathe, Mohale Mogale, Ryan Smith**

In its first year of no longer being the newest House, Mackenzie enjoyed great success despite the difficulties of 2020. Working with Mr Coxon and newly appointed Assistant Housemaster Mr Slidrecht was a pleasure. Unfortunately, due to the unforeseen circumstances of 2020, which I'm sure all are aware of, the success of Mackenzie cannot be quantified by awards and accomplishments as opportunities were sorely missed this year. Instead, we saw the House motto *Shine, not burn* personified in the wholehearted spirit which remained with the boys throughout the pandemic lockdown, and it showed the fantastic character of Michaelhouse man who resides in Mackenzie's corridors. Annual competitions such as the Community Service Shield and Cultural Week are where

Mackenzie has traditionally flourished, but were missed opportunities this year. Despite this, we still enjoyed successes, such as our E Blockers' winning the E Block Survivor Camp, continuing our impressive run of four straight years. This not only showed the character of the boys who joined in E Block but also how quickly their cohesion was strengthened into a tight band of brothers.

During lockdown, Mackenzie showed its resilience. The time spent with families away from the school might have been a polarising experience for all, and the difficulties were indeed very taxing, but this was not obvious amongst the boys in Mackenzie. Weekly tutor group and House meetings still occurred and boys all across the country, and the world, kept in touch via Zoom and Google Meets. The energy was always optimistic amongst all five grades and the staff. At the beginning of the third term, it was a very special occasion to welcome back all the boys into the House, reigniting the fire of Mackenzie.

Despite the bumps of 2020, the 13 new cacks settled into Mackenzie with ease. The life of an E Blocker may be tedious, with duties such as tea making, fetching laundry and looking after his prefect's room. He may also become accustomed to the pond if his duties are not up to standard. Nevertheless, the camaraderie in this year's group was quickly evident in their winning the Survivor Camp, a competition which tests their determination and commitment to a common cause. Individually,



MACKENZIE

Back Row: Abdulhakim Mulla, Lloyd Howell, Benjamin Turner, Adrien Fisher, Jason Morby-Smith, Inuoluwadunsimi Femi-Kayode, Jesse Rencken, Wandile Mlaba, Phillipus van der Hoven, Benjamin Lister, Ryan Baker, Connor MacCallum;
Fourth Row: Lazola Mayekiso, Hugh D Dyason, Ayabonga Zakwe, Scott Kirk, Rory MacColl, Luke Gilmore, Heinrich Reyneke, Anthony Turner, Ayanda Cele, Bereng Seeiso, Zhane Inko-Tariah, Ayanda Nongauza; **Third Row:** Sean Hough, Ntumbuluko Mdluli, Oyama Ntshona, Aeden Turner, Dean Hough, Marc Sidebottom, Feroz Amod, Mufaro Madiro, Thomas Kuhn, Timothy Evans, Siyabonga Ndlovu, Oreofeoluwatomi Femi- Kayode, Enrique Benassi, Thomas Lahaye; **Second Row:** Ross Borley, Boitumelo Sefoithelo, Luthando Jonas, Elijah Kanguuehi, Ryan Pienaar, Seth Segal, Ethan de Kock, Maanda Ramabulana, Conner Klein, Kevin Smith, Carlyle Hawkins, Cival Rugbar, Damian Watson, Saziwe Mbiko; **Front Row:** Mr William Silk, Nhlakanipho Mathe, Mr Jason Blockley, Ryan Smith, Mr Matt Stringer, Conor MacColl, Mr Jed Coventry, Mr Bailey Coxon, Nicholas Crampton, Mr Clint Slidrecht, Mohale Mogale, Mr Ernest Rindfleisch, Tapiwa Chikwanda, Mrs Tanith von Mayer;
Absent: Maxim Sutherland, Melusi Khumalo, Kekeli Eni, Kabelo Setipa

the E Block boys had many impressive achievements. Seth Segal displayed his debating skills and took the award for best junior speaker. Elijah Kanguuehi and Luthando Jonas excelled in the Michaelhouse Choir and were deservedly rewarded with an opportunity to represent the KwaZulu-Natal Youth Choir. Luthando further showed his excellence by playing in the Michaelhouse Band. Maanda Ramabulana delved into the cultural side of Michaelhouse by being selected for the junior marimba band. Cival Rugbar and Carlyle Hawkins were impactful forces in the U14A cricket team, while Ethan de Kock and Maanda represented the notorious U14A basketball team. Special mention must be made of Ethan, who was appointed captain of the basketball side. Despite the limited action on the winter sports front, Carlyle Hawkins represented the U14A rugby team on their one outing whilst also being appointed vice-captain. Likewise, Ross Borley featured in the U14A hockey team. On the academic front, Carlyle must be commended for achieving a top-five position in the grade.

A lot of responsibility is placed on our D Block boys as they share the same corridor as the new boys and are often required to help them settle in. The D Blockers this year have come a long way since what was for them a successful 2019. Sporting wise, Abdul Mulla and Wandile Mlaba added height and aerial

prowess to the U15A basketball side. Wandile also represented U15A rugby team, showing his ability as an outstanding athlete. D Block represented Mackenzie remarkably with their academic feats. Abdul performed superbly this year placing in the top ten, whilst Kekeli Eni, Thomas Lahaye and Max Sutherland all managed to take up positions within the top five, truly embodying the academic culture of the group. Lastly, congratulations must be given to Enrique Benassi, who will be rewarded half-colours for his achievements in music.

C Block is often considered one of the best years at Michaelhouse because one sits in the middle of the school enjoying the benefits of being both a junior and senior boy. The year can be defined by the challenging Journey, which lasts for two weeks in and around the Drakensberg. If the C Block experience epitomises everything good about Michaelhouse, the same can be said about how our boys represented Mackenzie. It is customary to see them playing sports in the quad, and their voices can be heard throughout the House. This group has always made a presence and it was encouraging to see them thrive during a difficult year. Ben Turner performed excellently academically by claiming a spot in the top ten. On the rugby field, Kevin Smith and Ayabonga Zakwe made their presence felt. Kevin represented the Gauteng men's touch rugby side and managed to take it even

further with the South African men's touch rugby side. On top of these achievements, he also featured in the Michaelhouse U16 rugby side in the 15-man version of the game. Ayabonga impressively started against Clifton for the First XV, which is an especially rare occurrence for a C Block boy. Feroz Amod led his U16A cricket side with the most wickets taken during the season, a phenomenal contribution to the team.

B Block is a year where the gears shift and the academic focus is intensified. The workload and assignments increase as the boys prepare for their matric year. For the majority of boys, it is also their first year playing open sports, where competitiveness and physicality increases. The B Block boys have a massive influence on the House and act as a second-in-command in terms of running Mackenzie. This year Mackenzie's B Blockers showed themselves to be a very strong group who will undoubtedly succeed in running the House in 2021, taking it even higher. They also continued the Mackenzie tradition of having outstanding athletes in all fields of endeavour. Ben Lister showed his natural ability in the pool by placing first and second respectively in the U17 breaststroke and freestyle races in the KwaZulu-Natal Inland swimming competitions. In addition to this Ben and Jason Morby-Smith represented the first water polo team and took part in a historic victory against Maritzburg College. The B Block boys have an abundance of cricketers, with Adrien Fisher, Ayanda Cele and Oyama Ntshona all representing the First XI. Oyama made his impact felt at the highest level by winning bowler of the year after taking the most wickets for the team. Massive congratulations must be given to Adrien, who has been named captain of both cricket and tennis in 2021, paying tribute to his leadership and ability as a sportsman. Ntumboluko Mdluli performed impressively in class this year, achieving a top-five position and also placing ninth in the country for the general knowledge quiz. Ryan Baker was admitted into the prestigious Snell Society for his academic endeavours. The school appropriately awarded Ben, Ryan, Ntumboluko, Ayanda and Adrien colours for their respective achievements.

The matric boys were dealt a tough hand for their final year at Michaelhouse. Despite being plagued with work and not allowed to end their sporting careers in a fitting way, the Mackenzie matrices remained strong and fought till the very end. No one showed that excellence perseveres through the hardships quite as well as Tapiwa Chikwanda. His academic

competence is arguably the most exceptional the school has ever seen. On Speech Day, he won an impressive seven prizes and was recognized for the extraordinary feat of placing first in the grade. In addition to this, in his time at Michaelhouse, Tapiwa earned more than triple the points necessary for achieving academic honours, having already attained honours in B Block for academics. Nicholas Crampton was awarded colours for academics. The Mackenzie matrices also continued to perform at the highest level in multiple sports. Nhlakanipho Mathe and Inuoluwadunsimi Femi-Kayode were a part of the first basketball side that won the St John's Basketball Tournament, often considered the pinnacle of South African schoolboy basketball. Simi earned basketball honours. Nicholas Crampton was appointed vice-captain for rugby after playing his third successive year in the First XV alongside Nhlakanipho, who made an appearance for the side off the bench. Jesse Rencken performed on the fairways, representing the first golf team. Luke Gilmore must be recognized for winning the Richard Hedden Memorial Prize for community service after reaching an impressive number of hours in service to others.

After having spent five years in Mackenzie, a place I called home, it is sad to depart. The House I have come to know too well is filled with memories, but I am relieved to know that Mackenzie is in good hands for the foreseeable future with Mr Coxon. I express my gratitude to the interns, the tutors, Fikile, Mr Coxon and, most importantly, the boys as I and my fellow matrices leave Mackenzie behind.

SALVETE:

Ross Borley, Ethan de Kock, Carlyle Hawkins, Luthando Jonas, Elijah Kanguethi, Conner Klein, Sazi Mbiko, Ryan Pienaar, Maanda Ramabulana, Cival Rugbar, Tumi Sefothelo, Seth Segal, Damian Watson, Jude Njeru, Ayanda Nongauza, Adam Pienaar, Kevin Smith, Enrique Mwakio

VALETE:

Tapiwa Chikwanda, Nicholas Crampton, Inuoluwadunsimi Femi-Kayode, Luke Gilmore, Dean Hough, Lloyd Howell, Conor MacColl, Nhlakanipho Mathe, Mohale Mogale, Siyabonga Ndlovu, Jesse Rencken, Ryan Smith, Timothy Evans, Rory MacColl, Mufaro Madiro

RALFE

Written by Mugabi Lubinga

Housemaster: **Mr Mark Blew**

Assistant Housemaster: **Mr Sibonelo Khanyile**

House Tutors: **Mr Jaco Dippenaar, Mr Richard Snowden, Mr Johan van Rooyen**

E Block Tutor: **Mrs Gemma Blew**

Interns: **Mr Ross Stanley, Mr Ayanda Duma**

Housemother: **Mrs Hayley Moran**

Head of House: **Mugabi Lubinga**

House Prefects: **Kabo Molete, Sean Ramsay, Christian Brand, Nicholas Kuhn, Richard Kombe**

Welcome to Ralfe House. This year, 2020, 51 boys were gifted with a unique opportunity to participate in the creation of a brand new House culture at Michael-



RALFE

Back Row: Liam Brander, Ethan Stewart, Fortune Mpofu, Graham Hoal, Daniel Johnson, Adrian Hill; Anotidaishe McHardy;
Fourth Row: Tristan Arde, Rhulani Chauke, Greg McGlashan, Luke Larsen, Owami Mokoena, James Cleland, Neo Wenyika, Matthew Doyle, Mitchell Hamilton, Kofi Mensah, Jordan Benians, Joshua Hadley-Grave; **Third Row:** Huntley Price Moor, Mpumzi Ngogodo, Xihluke Marhule, Molemo Molefi, Khala Khulu Mashiyi, Robert Lawrence, Tristan Hoyle, Edwin Miller, Muako Maepa, Marc du Plessis, Letlotlo Sekatle, Bophelo Dipico, Alejandro Sartini-Kruger; **Second Row:** Sazi Mbatha, Nhlohloli Shikhati, Miguel de Freitas, Nicholas Railston-Brown, Michael Spencer, Matteo-Marco Valente, Ngaakudzweishe Chikarango, Ntando Mbhele, Ike Githinji, Lukhanyo Nhlapo, James Reeve, Sean Robinson; **Front Row:** Mr Richard Snowden, Richard Kombe, Mr Ayanda Duma, Sean Ramsay, Mr Sibonelo Khanyile, Kabo Molete, Mr Mark Blew, Mugabi Lubinga, Mr Ross Dubazana, Mr Ross Stanley, Christian Brand, Mrs Gemma Blew, Nicholas Kuhn; **Absent:** Mr Johan van Rooyen, Nqobile Manyara, Hayden Booysen

house. We were granted the privilege of stamping our names in history as members of the newly constructed Ralfe. This challenge was met, accepted and conquered. On no better front than sports, the first cohort of the men of Ralfe registered their name as the winners of the first interhouse event of the year. This was done by a sizeable margin, I must add.

What a year it has been. We do not know what the future holds, but no learner of our lifetime will ever forget 2020. The year during which schools were mostly closed, school routine was adjusted and we had to wear masks. Even though the Covid-19 pandemic slowed the momentum of what had begun as a successful year, the House united and made the best of a troubled situation. The innovative men of Ralfe created a multifaceted Ralfe Lockdown Challenge. This challenge consisted of meals being made for their respective families, legendary trick shots, a wonderful ballet recital by Rebeckah Blew and a showcase of baby photos which also included our Housemaster, assistant Housemaster and tutors. Oh, how I wish I could share the photos with you.

This year we welcomed 12 E Blockers into the Red Brick Fortress we call home. The different dynamic to other houses in having no non-prefects in A Block was graciously accepted by the E Blockers as they set out on their journey through

Michaelhouse. The E Block group endured a complicated first year of high school in many regards, but they came together to overcome several obstacles and gain an abundance of character. A number of boys achieved remarkable representations which deserve to be recognized and commended: Matteo Valente represented both the A swimming and water polo teams. Matteo also won gold in the U14 category of the gala. Ngaa Chikarango represented the U14A rugby team and won gold in the U14 category on Sports Day. Ntando Mbhele represented the U15A basketball side. Ntando was also a member of the choir. Sean Robinson represented the KwaZulu-Natal fly fishing team, which is an incredible achievement for a Grade 8. Lukhanyo Nhlapo was a regular member of the top 20 in the academic sphere and was also part of the orchestra.

The D Blockers – boys who had started to find their feet in the school last year and then had to contend with positioning themselves in a brand-new House – enjoyed a successful year despite the obvious challenges. This group was very tight-knit and good humoured, two characteristics that fed off each other remarkably well. In sports, Fortune Mpofu represented the U16A basketball and rugby sides. Muako Maepa represented the U15A basketball side and academically was a consistent member of the top 20. The dynamic duo of James Cleland

and Tristan Arde strengthened the U15A rugby side. A notable achievement was that of Edwin Miller, who captained the Zambian junior angling team. Marc du Plessis represented the second golf team, an extraordinary feat for someone who is still in Grade 9. Marc was an esteemed member of Tarps, which is a prestigious award for members who finish consistently within the top five academically in their respective Blocks. Molefi was a member of the First Aid Society and spent many sporting weekends helping his peers with injuries on the side of the field.

The C Blockers are a diverse group and showed themselves to be exciting prospects in many ways for the future of Michaelhouse. The most impressive characteristic of this group was undoubtedly their ability to challenge each other to accomplish more in all spheres. This was why they achieved numerous accolades in practically every sphere. All of these achievements were accomplished whilst still playing an integral part as the proverbial middle child of the House. I thoroughly enjoyed getting to know them and getting to learn a few things from their brilliance. In the academic realm: Joshua Hadley-Grave, Tristan Hoyle, Adrian Hill, Letlotlo Sekatle and Alex Sartini-Kruger must all be congratulated on achieving top-ten positions during the year. Xihluke Marhule was a regular member of the top 20. On the sporting front: Adrian Hill represented the U16A basketball team; Liam Brander represented the second tennis team; Greg McGlashan and Robbie Lawrence both represented the U16A cricket and rugby teams; Tristan Hoyle represented the U16A hockey team and Ethan Stewart was a part of the first water polo team which toured Selbourne – a massive achievement for a C Blocker who is a year young for his grade. In terms of cultural representatives: Adrian Hill, Tristan Hoyle, Letlotlo Sekatle, Xihluke Marhule and Khala Mashiyi were all part of the choir, with Xihluke being selected to represent the KZN Midlands Youth Choir. Tristan was also part of the orchestra and Joshua was selected to be part of the competition marimba band next year. To add to the countless achievements and representations of this resilient and diverse group, Xihluke and Letlotlo won an award in the Nelson Mandela Day Capture Site Performance Competition. Lastly (and yes there is more), Tristan Hoyle and Adrian Hill were selected to go on exchange to Australia and Argentina respectively. Adrian also managed to learn a fair bit of Spanish to add to his bag of tricks. Due to the pandemic, though, both were unable to travel to their respective exchanges.

The B Blockers are an outstanding group and although they were few in number compared to other Houses, they were not lacking in commitment or spirit. They were a fine group of leaders who must be commended for being the driving force in our gala victory, with the whole group consistently achieving top positions in the individual and relay events. They were an enormous asset to the House, and their help and co-operation with the A Block will not be forgotten. In terms of sport, Graham Hoal and Daniel Johnson were crucial assets to the first water polo team. Graham should be congratulated on receiving honours for his blistering swimming times. Graham was also selected to represent the Zimbabwean men's water polo team. Graham represented the Second XV and has taken Michaelhouse by the horns in his first year. Ngobile Manyara represented the First XV in their unbeaten season with that glorious 49-7 thrashing over Clifton College.

My brand-new band of brothers was my pillar of strength. They were absolutely sensational in every aspect throughout this year. The dynamic was changed in 2020 as the Ralfe A Block group was created from scratch, blending boys from older Houses. The group was made up of only prefects. The result could be described as outstanding, better than anyone could have imagined. We had no choice but to work doubly hard, to ensure that the new House succeeded. Not on our account was it going to waver. The whole group had to gel instantly and work with one another to achieve the common goal of starting Ralfe with the best possible foot forward. All through the changes wrought by moving to a new House during the final year of school, learning to cope with a new lifestyle and ways of doing things, there were still numerous individual achievements from the brave gang which deserve recognition. Christian Brand represented the first golf and hockey teams and the second cricket XI. Christian's efforts in the pool were pivotal in the gala victory as he carried a struggling Ralfe A Block whose buoyancy could be compared to that of stones, myself included. It was no surprise when he went on to make the Midlands swimming team. Kabo Molete represented the second basketball team, captaining his side to many victories. Kabo was also a member of the competition marimba band and deputy leader of the orchestra. Richard Kombe represented the first basketball team, which included that famous back-to-back trophy win at Kearsney College and St John's College. Sean Ramsay represented the second golf team. Sean's almost angelic voice qualified him as a member of the choir and the KZN Midlands Youth Choir and assured him of being awarded music honours. Mugabi Lubinga made his humble but robust contribution to the achievements of the A Block group. He was captain of the first hockey XI, which won the first and only match of the season against Clifton College 5-3. Mugabi represented the second cricket XI and first soccer XI, and was appointed captain and vice-captain, respectively. He was selected to play as part of the SA National U18 hockey team whose foray into the hockey season was promising but met the same fate as all other schoolboy sport in South Africa in 2020. Lastly, Mugabi was a regular member of the top 20. Through it all, our small gang of A Blockers gave it everything.

A House can easily be built but it can only become a home created by the people who live in it. The A Block were instrumental in creating that homely feeling. Their tireless efforts and ability in placing the House's interests above all others were the reasons for the major success of this inaugural year for Ralfe. I will cherish and reminisce about the time spent with these fine gentlemen and I look forward to future encounters with them.

Mr Blew and the Ralfe group were influential in many aspects of the House. Their hard work and time put into establishing a going concern cannot be overlooked. Other unsung heroes who need praise are Miss Shelembe and Mrs Moran for managing to keep the House in pristine condition. Ralfe would probably lie in tatters had it not been for these two incredible ladies. They have maintained the House in its new condition.



For the majority of the Ralfe House role players, boys and staff, this year necessitated a move from old habits and scenery into a new environment, akin to a caterpillar which morphs into a butterfly. The metamorphic process is not easy but, ultimately, beauty emerges. It is an immensely challenging experience and the bravery and ability to adapt and excel in a new environment cannot be expressed through words. The pioneers of Ralfe 2020 have shown themselves to be a formidable force for the future and an exciting addition to the dynamics of Michaelhouse. As singer Frank Sinatra might have crooned, “Through it all, we did it *our* way.” May many generations of boys to come build upon the proud legacy of Ralfe, which we had the honour of premiering.

SALVETE:

Ike Githinji, James Reeve, Lukhanyo Nhlapo, Matteo Valente, Michael Spencer, Miguel de Freitas, Ngaakudzweishe Chikarango, Nhlohlori Shikhati, Nicholas Railson-Brown, Ntando Mbhele, Sazi Mbatha, Sean Robinson, Rhulani Chauke, Daniel Johnson, Graham Hoal, Nqobile Manyara

VALETE:

Mugabi Lubinga, Christian Brand, Richard Kombe, Nicholas Kuhn, Kabo Molete, Sean Ramsay, Kofi Mensah, Jordan Benians, Greg McGlashen, Ano McHardy

FOUNDATION MEMBERS:

Christian Brand, Richard Kombe, Nic Kuhn, Mugabi Lubinga, Kabo Molete, Sean Ramsay, Matthew Doyle, Graham Hoal, Daniel Johnson, Luke Larsen, Nqobile Manyara, Kofi Mensah, Owami Mokoena, Neo Wnyika, Liam Brander, Bophelo Dipico, Joshua Hadley-Grave, Adrian Hill, Tristan Hoyle, Robert Lawrence, Xihluke Marhule, Khala Mashiyi, Greg McGlashen, Ano McHardy, Alejandro Sartini-Kruger, Ethan Stewart, Tristan Arde, Jordan Benians, Hayden Booysen, Rhulani Chauke, James Cleland, Marc du Plessis, Mitchell Hamilton, Muako Maepa, Edwin Miller, Molemo Molefi, Fortune Mpofu, Mpumzi Ngogodo, Huntley Price Moor, Ngaa Chikarango, Miguel de Freitas, Ike Githinji, Sazi Mbatha, Ntando Mbhele, Lukhanyo Nhlapo, Nicholas Railston-Brown, James Reeve, Sean Robinson, Nhlohlori Shikhati, Michael Spencer, Matteo Valente, Letlotlo Sekatle

MCCORMICK

Written by Hussain Mohamed

Housemaster: **Ms Karin Moffat**

Assistant Housemaster: **Mr Olwethu Hugo**

House Tutors: **Mr Dominic Gruijters, Mr Paul de Wet, Ms Carika de Swardt**

E Block Tutor: **Ms Riette White**

Interns: **Mr Richard Brown, Mr Thapelo Machimane**

Head of House: **Hussain Mohamed**

House Prefects: **Campbell Davies-Webb, Michael Brown, Ian Parsons, Mmofa Matjele, Jordan Dobson**

The newly built McCormick dorms welcomed their founding members this year, marking the creation of its legacy. With the flag waving high, the boys and staff were determined to do everything within their capacity to ensure that the McCormick name would earn its position in the school.

2020 was a year associated with great ambition. After having a successful first term, Covid-19 hindered our progress and dampened our ambition. Lockdown learning was met with mixed emotions. However, there was a general feeling of frustration that we could not return to the comfort of our school. After months of isolation we finally united and, upon our return, our ambitions were reignited; eventually resulting in the success of our first year.



MCCORMICK

Back Row: Liam Tibshraeny, Chase Michaux, Luke Bokaba, Joshua Naude, Mitchell Davies Webb, Rupert Hechter; Theo Apteker; Duncan Davies Webb, Karl Rindfleish, Erich van Zyl, Alexander Brits, Michael Dalglish; **Third Row:** Anesu Chasi, Jamie Stephenson, Jaden Adam, Shandukane Etsane, Otsile Maphosa, Dilan Patel, Samora Apaa, Jonathan Segar, Luke Hoekstra, Lusanda Mrasi, Vuyani Getyengana, Daniel Courtenay, Giulian di Giovanni, Onalerona Sekgororwana; **Second Row:** Kofi Asumaning, Chase Strathmore, Joshua Lebenon, Akhona Mchunu, Dylan Noach, Christopher Angel, Aphiwe Shelembe, Kian Moses, Siphesihle Shinga, Aidan Wood, Ohungaka Sefara, Alex Vries, Khabane Jonathan, Letlhogonolo Moeng; **Front Row:** Ms Carika de Swardt, Campbell Davies-Webb, Mr Richard Brown, Michael Brown, Mr Paul de Wet, Ian Parsons, Ms Karin Moffat, Mr Olwethu Hugo, Hussain Mohamed, Mr Dominic Gruijters, Jordan Dobson, Mr Thapelo Machimane, Mmofa Matjele, Ms Riette White; **Absent:** Benedict Chite, Christian Dalais, Remi Dalais, Nicholas Pitt

The E Blockers arrived with a mixture of fear and anxiety as they embarked on their new journey. The unfortunate arrival of the pandemic meant that they were robbed of some of the traditional cack experiences. Despite this, their strength prevailed and they remained intent on showing us that they would make the most of the opportunities they were given. This was not only shown in their character development and maturity but also through what they achieved throughout the year. Academically, there were three boys in the top ten in the first half of the year, with Kian Moses placing third, Alex Vries fifth and Dylan Noach tenth. Placing only one position behind Dylan was Joshua Lebenon. This academic excellence reflects their ability to adapt and embrace change. Important mention must be made of Sihle Shinga, who showed the strength of his determination and climbed 88 positions in the academic rankings. On the sports field, both Aphiwe Shelembe and Alex Vries played U14A rugby and basketball, and Chris Angel played U14A hockey and cricket. The variety of their talents was evident as they also excelled on the cultural side, with Sihle, Thlogi Moeng and Chris all members of the choir. Both Chris and Thlogi had the honour of being part of the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands Youth Choir. As a grade this is a tight-knit group who have matured greatly over the course of the year.

The gentle nature of our D Blockers coupled with their

positive energy enabled them to contribute greatly towards the positive culture of the House in its first year. There were some high-calibre performances in the classroom. Throughout the year four of the boys in Erich van Zyl, Nicholas Pitt, Theo Apteker and Kofi Asumaning placed in the top ten. Notably, Theo achieved second position in the grade during the third term and Kofi remained a close rival as he was only one place behind. Liam Tibshraeny should also be commended for consistently placing in the top 20 academically. Overall, the academic achievements were further substantiated by the boys' ability to consistently earn Green Cards. Their contribution on the sports fields was also a great success. Both Erich and Nicholas represented the U16A hockey side. In addition to that, Onalerona Sekgororwana and Theo represented us proudly in the A teams for both swimming and water polo. Theo's success wasn't limited to the pool as he also claimed the title of victor in both athletics and cross-country in his age group. His variety of talents were further observed in the cultural realm as he was selected for trials for chess nationals. On the music front, Kofi continued to charm the crowds on his saxophone and on the marimbas as he made the competition marimba band. Nicholas was also a member of the performance marimba band, and Erich had the honour of being part of the KZN Midlands Youth Choir. These boys are both mature and humble and I have no doubt that their influence on McCormick will continue to

improve the overall tone of the House.

The McCormick C Blockers were characterised by their light-hearted behaviour; they were never without a smile. Whilst their unserious nature might have frustrated the tutors on duty, they did not let it undermine their determination to achieve. Lusanda Mrasi lead the group academically, placing first at the end of the first half of the year. Lusanda was honoured with a Rector's scholarship as well as academic half-colours. Mitchell Davies-Webb should also be congratulated for improving his economics mark by 20% over the course of the year. Jono Segar was a competent member of the First Aid Society and supported his friends medically as an overwhelming number of McCormick C Blockers ran on to Meadows to represent the U16A rugby team, which included Luke Hoekstra, who was vice-captain. The sporting excellence of McCormick continued in the swimming pool as Luke was also a member of the U16A water polo team. Jono should also be congratulated for his sporting efforts as he will be participating in the Sani2C cycling race later in the year. On the cultural front, Michael Dalglish led the pack as a dedicated drummer who formed part of the senior marimba band and is a reserve for the competition marimba band.

The B Blockers remained the silent yet lethal force of the House. In comparison to other B Block groups, they are relatively small and quiet. However, the impact which they had on the House was significant. The genesis of their high-school careers ranged from other Houses to other schools. This subsequently meant that they were able to create a culture which combined the best aspects of their past experiences. Academically, Alex Brits displayed his excellence by continuously being a member of TARPs and in earning academic prizes for both maths and music. Vuyani Getyengana showed his determination to improve academically as he moved up 53 positions at the end of the mid-year exams. Josh Naudé also showed his academic ability as he claimed the top mark for LO in his grade. Culturally, Alex was awarded honours for music and was also a member of the competition marimba band. Chase Michaux should be commended for his dedication to helping the community as he spent 30 hours of his time performing community service this year. Chase showed his excellence in the sporting realm, too, as he earned his cap for the cricket First XI this year. Jamie Stephenson also played a vital role as he led the House in Christian Fellowship.

As a group of matrices we were gifted with the opportunity to embark on a new adventure and take on the challenge of being the leaders of McCormick in its first year of existence. This journey was, in all honesty, a nearly overwhelming experience. However, as a collective we managed to lay the foundations for the future leaders of the House. As the year progressed our relationships grew, and as we join the Old Boys' Club we leave McCormick as a group of brothers. Despite spending most of our time clowning around, there were notable achievements made. Michael Brown played a pivotal role in mentoring all the cacks and building relationships throughout the House, and to cap it off he earned provincial canoeing colours. Mmofa Matjele was awarded music honours and featured in the South African Drummer magazine. Campbell Davies-Webb earned service half-colours and excelled on the sports field as he was

a senior in the cricket First XI, earned cricket colours and was in the First XV squad. Joining him in the First XV squad was Ian Parsons, who also earned half-colours for rugby. Jordan Dobson showed great dedication to his academics and should also be commended for his excellence in the water polo pool. Throughout the year we have all relied on one another and it is owing to this that we have strengthened our relationships. I'm forever grateful for the memories I've made with these young men and I look forward to our journey together as we begin new chapters beyond the bounds of Michaelhouse.

Whilst the success of the House can be owed to the boys, the tutors played a significant role in establishing McCormick. Special mention must be made of Ms Karin Moffat, our Housemaster. Her dedication and ambition ensured that McCormick became an environment which was admired by many.

This year was a roller coaster. Our eventual return to school after lockdown was met with trepidation and lacked excitement. Despite this, the year turned round and ended as a success, especially for McCormick. A positive culture was created and our fundamental values of trust, honour and empathy were implemented. On a personal level, many boys achieved success and should be commended for their resilience. The founding members of McCormick should be delighted with what they have achieved and I have no doubt that as they fulfil their new roles in the House, they will take it to new heights.

SALVETE:

Akohna Mchunu, Alex Vries, Aphiwe Shelembe, Chase Strathmore, Christopher Angel, Daniel Awuah, Dylan Noach, Joshua Lebenon, Kian Moses, Neo Sefara, Sihle Shinga, Thlogi Moeng, Mitchell Davies-Webb, Duncan Davies-Webb, Anesu Chasi, Aidan Wood, Remi Dalais, Christian Dalais, Karl Rindfleisch, Kurt Williamson

VALETE:

Michael Brown, Campbell Davies-Webb, Jordan Dobson, Mmofa Matjele, Hussain Mohamed, Ian Parsons, Giulian de Giovanni, Daniel Courtenay, Zivai Hukuimwe, Ben Chite, Remi Dalais

FOUNDATION MEMBERS:

Michael Brown, Campbell Davies-Webb, Jordan Dobson, Mmofa Matjele, Hussain Mohamed, Ian Parson, Alexander Brits, Christian Dalais, Vuyani Getyengana, Chase Michaux, Joshua Naude, Dilan Patel, Karl Rindfleisch, Jamie Stephenson, Luke Bokaba, Daniel Courtenay, Michael Dalglish, Duncan Davies-Webb, Mitchell Davies-Webb, Shandukane Etsane, Rupert Hechter, Luke Hoekstra, Khabane Jonathan, Lusanda Mrasi, Jonathan Segar, Samora Apaa, Theo Apteker, Kofi Asumaning, Anesu Chasi, Remi Dalais, Daniel Awuah, Otsile Maphosa, Nicholas Pitt, Onalerona Sekgororwana, Liam Tibshraeny, Erich van Zyl, Christopher Angel, Joshua Lebenon, Akhona Mchunu, Thlogi Moeng, Kian Moses, Dylan Noach, Neo Sefara, Aphiwe Shelembe, Sihle Shinga, Chase Strathmore, Alex Vries, Aidan Wood, Jaden Adam

OLD BOYS

In 1896, Michaelhouse's founder, James Cameron Todd, reflected that "a boy's connection with his school is not severed when he leaves, but lasts throughout life. His whole tone, moral and spiritual as well as intellectual, is largely determined for life by his school." One hundred and twenty-three years and generations of Michaelhouse boys on, we are still guided by our founder's spirit and the belief that each boy who passes through our gates is taking the first major step on a life-long journey of self-discovery, personal growth and camaraderie. The distinctive ivy-clad architecture of interlinked quadrangles, which has inspired a sense of belonging for generations of boys, remains a constant touchstone to the over 6 500 alumni across five continents.

OFFICE BEARERS

THE PATRON

THE RECTOR OF MICHAELHOUSE:
Antony Clark

PRESIDENT

Phil Roberts

PRESIDENT ELECT

Wayne Witherspoon

PAST PRESIDENT

Ross Armstrong

TRUSTEES

Chris James
Callum Smythe

OLD BOYS' CLUB SECRETARY

Paul Fleischack

ADMINISTRATOR & ARCHIVIST

Taryn Murdey

TREASURER

Damien Rautenbach

NOMINATED MEMBERS

Brett Davidson
Norman Ingledew
Patrick Lambie
Mphathisi Filtane

SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE

Murray Witherspoon

ASSOCIATE COMMITTEE MEMBER

Fred Pitout

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Anthony Hewat

BRANCH CHAIRMEN

CAPE TOWN: Charles Phillips
DURBAN: Steven Boast
**EAST GRIQUALAND
(UNDERBERG):** Roger Spencer

GAUTENG (JHB): Robert Brown

GAUTENG (PRETORIA): Matthew McCormick

MIDLANDS: Richard Bates

MPUMALANGA: Jack Brotherton

PIETERMARITZBURG: Nick Jackson

ZULULAND: Jeremy Steere

OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES

**EASTERN AUSTRALIA
(MELBOURNE):** Richard Gellie

EASTERN AUSTRALIA (SYDNEY):
Greg Bawden

**EASTERN AUSTRALIA
(BRISBANE):** David Renton

WESTERN AUSTRALIA (PERTH):
Guy Kirk

NEW ZEALAND (AUCKLAND):
Andrew Pennington

CANADA / USA: Mike Havers

CANADA (VANCOUVER): William Galloway

USA (NEW YORK): Peter Campbell

EAST AFRICA (KENYA): Michael Scott

UNITED KINGDOM: Sean Lumley

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE OLD BOYS' CLUB, MR PHIL ROBERTS

Thank you very much, Rector, and again thank you for your support and involvement with the Old Boys, it is always a pleasure.

This is my first tenure of presidency in the Old Boys' Club. It's been great, I must admit. Like everybody, we have been affected by the lockdown. But we have been extremely fortunate in the Old Boys' Club, particularly in the administration and communication activities, which have continued unaffected, so we have largely been able to continue as normal, other than the fact that we haven't been able to get together as much as we'd like to. But the telecoms, email and Zoom calls have made it possible to connect with everybody. You'll remember, of course, that we lost Robyn Gruitjers and Michelle Huntley, who went on to pursue their own interests, and Taryn Murdey came on board. Those of you that have followed the Michaelhouse Old Boys' publications will also have seen the change that Taryn and Paul have had in terms of influencing the way we now receive the Old Boys' News, which is through a flip-page, rather than the old, very un-interactive mechanism. And also the content – you'll find that the content has become a lot lighter and that there is a lot more detail.

So I would just like to say thank you to them. Paul has done a fantastic job. He's embraced the Old Boys' Club and everything he has done has resonated, including his capacity and willingness to travel to some of the far-flung reaches of the Earth to go and connect with the Old Boys. I think that's a very important aspect of Old Boys, and that's what the leadership of Old Boys brings to the party.

Since lockdown it's become all about keeping everybody connected and we really want to see that continue. With that in mind, thank you also to Taryn, who has pretty much taken on two jobs – those of the roles of Robyn and Michelle – and has hit the ground running, bringing a fresh perspective into how we communicate and how we organise ourselves within the club.

I would also like to mention the branch chairmen, who continue to do a tremendous job, despite not being able to activate some of the key fundraising activities that they usually do. And also the elected officials, who are always available to offer advice, and to get their hands dirty when we require help organising certain elements within the Old Boys' Club. Then there are the Rector and the Bursar, who are instrumental in making sure the club functions as it does, plus all the senior members of staff. And, of course, without the members of the board we wouldn't be able to get stuff across the line as efficiently as we do. So, I just want to record my thanks to all of you.

I spoke about Paul and the branch chairmen connecting with Old Boys electronically. We have the app, and the app has grown particularly active in helping people connect with each other. It has also become very helpful for the publishing of events as well as matters of interest. Progressing from the app,

we will soon have an offering on the LinkedIn platform, where Old Boys are able to connect with each other without having to phone the Old Boys' Club to get a referral or download other information. It is evolving.

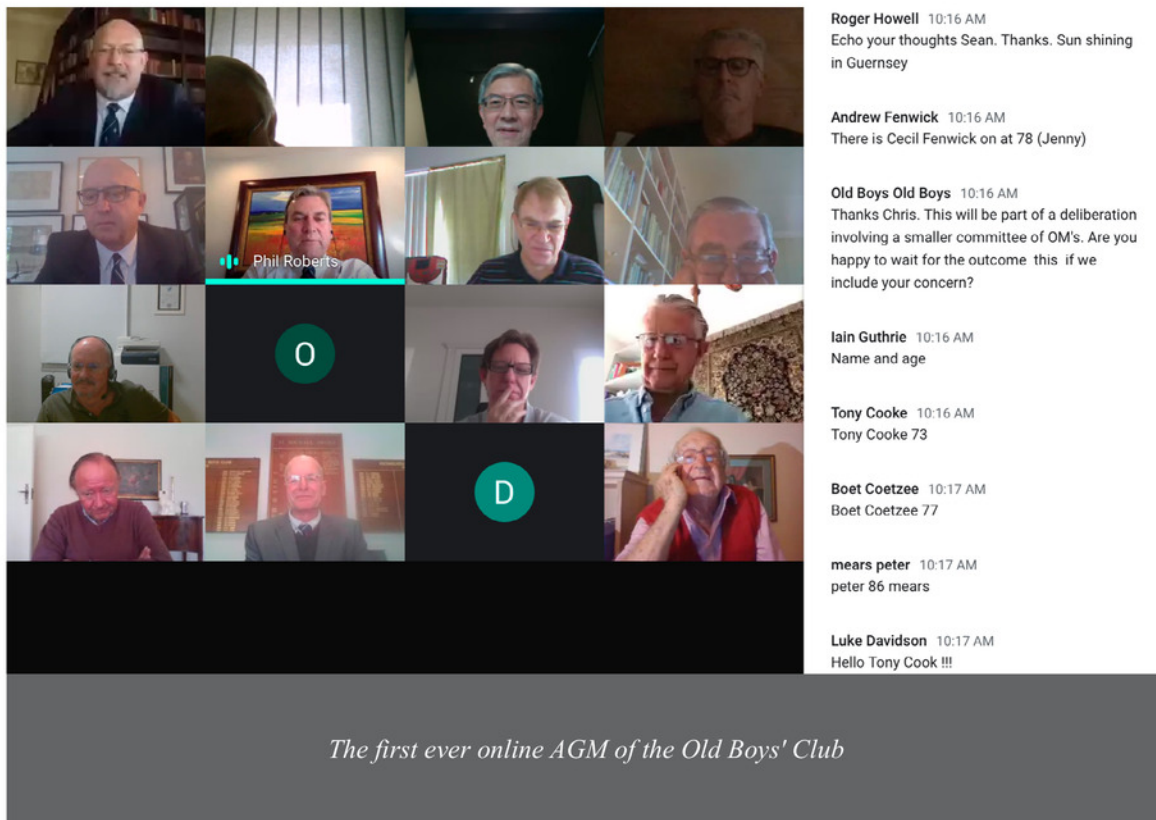
We have just over 6,000 Old Boys, with 5,000 on the mailing list. One of the tasks we have is to fill that gap. We do have some problematic mailing addresses, so I urge those of you who are on the call today just to drop a note to Taryn to check that we've got your correct contact details. If you're not receiving the Old Boys' newsletters, please reach out and we'll address the issues on our side.

One of the other aspects of the Old Boys, which I've personally been involved in from the local community point of view, is the capacity and benevolence in terms of supporting the communities in and around Michaelhouse. Just yesterday we delivered 250-odd food parcels to Asithuthuke school on a very structured basis, very organised, on a programme that's run by Jon Bates and the Nottingham Road and Midlands community feeding scheme. This is also made possible through funds raised through donors through the Michaelhouse mechanism. I think the important thing here is that they have managed to bypass any kind of political interference to reach directly all affected members of the community, irrespective of political affiliation or nationality. To date, as of the end of last month, they have basically fed 1,838 members of the community. This is your donated food, as well as through contributions from donors. It's a fantastic achievement, and it certainly will continue. I think we have sufficient funds to run through to the end of June, according to Jon.

There is also crowdfunding that takes place, in which Paul and some of the Old Boys have been instrumental. This is the BackaBuddy donor sourcing and funding mechanism. And there are other Old Boy initiatives. Mphathisi Filtane, for example, has also looked at a mechanism of raising funds. We would also like to recognise Amy Webster and Andrew Schaefer for the work that they do in the community in supporting some of the local activities. Again, they're always looking for support, and if it's in your means to help with a small donation of any kind, feel free – there's no obligation.

I certainly saw the people yesterday queuing up for food parcels in a very organised fashion. There's no cheating, no mechanism for someone to dip in twice. It's an extremely well run, logistically excellent process.

If we talk about connecting with Old Boys, we've done as much as we possibly can within the budgets to get to as many places as we could. Last year, Paul was able to attend meetings in Australia, New Zealand and, on the way home, Dubai. They were well attended and well received. I know Sean Lumley is a great proponent of sending financial comparisons around to show people that it's a lot cheaper to send your kid to



Michaelhouse then it is to send them to a private school in the UK or overseas, or wherever you may be residing, so hopefully that will continue and we will continue to attract expatriate families to send their children to our fantastic school.

This year, unfortunately, a trip to one of the continents that we had neglected, North America, was postponed. At the last central committee meeting the funds that were assigned to support Paul on that trip will either be accrued – and then we'll use them to support activities for Michaelhouse 125 – or whatever surplus there is will go towards settling that outstanding liability for the Heritage Centre. It is unlikely that we will have any representatives heading abroad, based on current travel restrictions, and just the difficulty of travelling. So if we could Zoom in, that's going to help as well.

From an Old Boys point of view, it's always interesting to find unexpected information online. The other day I was on Takealot, for example, and I saw Crispian Olver had published a couple of books. He was my contemporary at East back in '76. The most recent, notable published author is one of our dear friends in the UK, Rick Peacock-Edwards, who's written a book called *Rate of Climb*. Paul and Taryn are now just looking at a costing to get some signed copies couriered over because, unfortunately, Amazon won't deliver to us at the moment.

Looking ahead, we have had a very good dialogue over a couple of meetings about super gaudies for Michaelhouse 125. Our sincere apologies to all people who have made travel arrangements that have had to be cancelled for Old Boys' Day and your respective gaudies. Next year is going to be an absolute humdinger. We certainly are working hard with the Rector, with the rest of the school, with the Old Boys to make sure that it's a memorable event. Whilst we can't make up time, we will certainly make it the time of your life at Michaelhouse.

We will work hard to ensure that there are a lot of activities and to ensure that your visit is worthwhile and extended. More news will follow ahead with that.

The Heritage Centre. Most of you have been there but if you haven't, next time you're in town please pass by. You're always welcome to come have tea or coffee. Paul's and Taryn's smiles and hospitality are always available. We have applied for a liquor licence for the centre, and these things are difficult, but we will continue to pursue that option so that we can, at events, offer you some form of libation beyond the tea or coffee. But we know it's a process, and when it comes, it's a bonus.

In terms of my succession, I have another year in the chair, which has been most enjoyable, and I will continue to enjoy it. It's only fitting that my last activity for my two-year tenure will be Michaelhouse 125, so it will be fantastic to exit on that, and then I will hand over to Wayne. Wayne is engrossed at the moment in the Old Boys' Club, particularly around the online shop that we're trying to sort out. When it's ready you will have access to some of the memorabilia and some of the unique Old Boys kit that we're busy planning. We will be discussing with Wayne the process of looking for his successor over the ensuing months.

In terms of awards, we haven't been able this year to identify any particular recipients for the St Michael Award. Those who we had identified very graciously declined on the basis that they felt they hadn't done enough to justify the award, so we will continue to look and continue to invalidate any potential awardees. So for this session of the AGM, there is nothing to announce in terms of the awards.

That is as much as I have to say from the president's point of view. Again, my thanks to you Old Boys. Without you, we

don't exist. Without your support, we don't have the energy or the capacity to deliver on what you feel is the premier old boys' club. We will continue to provide that as much as we can. We can only be as good as the feedback that we get from all of you to help guide us and educate us on stuff that is out there. I think the positive thing to come out of all of this is that all of us who weren't techno savvy at least now are able to communicate

virtually and maintain our connections virtually. The nice thing about this, too, is that if any of you ask any difficult questions, we can drop you, or pretend we don't hear you, in which case there's no aggro in any of the AGMs.

I look forward to seeing you all in person at the next AGM, which I'm sure is going to be an absolutely wonderful affair.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

PARAPHRASE OF THE ADDRESS BY THE RECTOR, MR ANTONY CLARK (NOT SCRIPTED)

Good morning, everybody. I have about 10 minutes set aside for me and I am hoping to cover nine items. Just to give you a bit of steer as to the length of the report and the items to be raised, only one of the items relates to Covid, you'll be pleased to hear, because I want to focus on some other things that have happened during the year.

Firstly, we started the year on a very good footing. We had budgeted on 578 boys being in the school but we started with 596, mainly due to a flurry of applications late in the year, in about October/November, with some very good candidates among them. So we were in a healthy position financially as we entered 2020. Two new Houses were opened in Ralfe and McCormick, with McCormick having the first female Housemaster, in Karin Moffat. That was a bit of a first for us. Ralfe won the interhouse swimming gala – their very first entry into an interhouse event – so that was a significant milestone for them. Talking about Housemasters, we have also very recently appointed our second black Housemaster, in Nkanyiso Ngcobo. He has just taken over the reins of Pascoe as Peter Huntley left to go to Harriston School as a head.

Secondly, just reflecting on the past year academically, as you know, Michaelhouse has developed a very strong reputation over the last few years. This last year's academic performance we think was satisfactory, not brilliant. We didn't have a particularly strong year group, but nonetheless managed an average of 71% per boy per subject, and we had two boys who were on the IEB outstanding list. Josh Witherspoon, whose father is with us this morning, achieved 99% for Mathematics. I don't know what happened to that one percent, but he certainly did very well. Our academic reputation is very important to us and it is something that we need to enhance constantly and are very much engaged with right now.

Thirdly, with regard to our staff, I think I should reflect that we have, a fortnight ago, suffered the very sad loss of Sifiso Vilakazi, one of our interns; the exact reason for his death is hitherto unknown, but it is certainly not Covid-related. Sifiso was a young man who had particular talents in the coaching of games, especially basketball, and had a way of inspiring the boys, so he is somebody that we miss enormously. He was a tutor in Pascoe and lived in McCormick, so his association with the boys was widespread through all the sports and contact in the Houses. We had a memorial service for him at the school last Thursday, conducted by Alan Smedley and via Zoom. We laid him to rest in that way.

I mentioned that Peter Huntley left Pascoe to go to be the head of Harriston School, having been 15 years at Michaelhouse, and we have recently had resignations from two additional staff members whom we will miss sorely. They will be leaving these shores for the UK and Switzerland respectively. Richard Snowden, our head of English, who has also been first-team hockey coach, will be taking up a role at Epsom College in the UK; and Chris Waldburger will be leaving us and moving to a school in Switzerland. At the end of the year, regrettably, Alan Smedley, will be leaving us and we will pay tribute to Alan at a later stage, but I think in the course of this AGM it's appropriate to thank him for his tremendous service to the Michaelhouse community over 28 years. We have appointed a successor to Alan, but that person has yet to announce his departure to his own parish and wanted to do so in person, and so we have allowed for that measure of confidentiality to be retained until he has the opportunity to let them know.

Moving on to sport as my fourth point out of nine, I believe that we have made progress in this realm, which is certainly something that has been targeted during the course of last year. I don't believe we should give great focus to our win ratio, but last year across all games in all teams we won 44% of our games. In the first term of this year, we won 59% of all our games. So there is an improvement that is demonstrable, and we aim to continue developing our sport.

Darren Mortimer has been a great addition as our first-team cricket coach, and Robbie Diack and Carl Bezuidenhout were very well set up – both having played rugby at the highest level – to coach our first rugby team. Indeed, our rugby and hockey boys had one outing only before the Covid came. In terms of the rugby teams, we managed to win all our matches on that particular Saturday, so we can say that all of our rugby teams were unbeaten in 2020 – which is the best spin we can put on a situation that has been disappointing due to the lack of ability to play against the other schools!

I do also want to mention basketball and the fact that most of our teams have done extremely well, particularly our first team winning the St John's tournament, which is regarded as the premier event in the country, so well done to our basketball players.

Moving on to the fifth point, there are two areas that I would

pick up as areas where we are learning from the past and, I believe, improving – just to give you an indication that we are very much open to development. The first of these lies in the election of prefects. We have engaged in a process which is more extensive and more exhaustive in assessing the talent of prefects. In the B Block our boys now demonstrate their capacity to lead in a range of portfolios, and all staff are more involved than before in the selection of prefects in the Houses. There is also an opportunity for those who are not prefects to engage in other meaningful ways of leadership in the school through a Rector's Leadership Portfolio. Unfortunately, this year that opportunity was not taken up by anybody to whom it was offered, but I wanted to reflect on the fact that we are looking at ways of developing our system to allow for those who are not prefects to lead in a significant way.

The second area where we are learning from other schools, rather than being complacent, relates to our attempts to stamp out bullying. To this end, we have had one of the school attorneys come to speak at Michaelhouse. He has spoken to the whole school; he has spoken to the prefects separately; he has spoken to the whole of A Block and the whole of D Block about their relationships with other boys and the fact that while certainly issues may be brought to our attention at any stage while a boy is at school, it's also possible that at a much later stage, after the boys have left the school, they can face the consequences of their actions in a legal setting. We have also engaged directly and often with senior boys as another way of diminishing the scourge of bullying.

Moving on to my seventh point, relating to Covid-19, I have to say that the past months have been a shattering experience for many of our boys, particularly those in the A Block whose hopes and ambitions and dreams revolved around Meadows, the Astroturf, plays that they might have been in and the like, and also just being in the last year of school, in friendships that we've all had the opportunity of experiencing in the last year of our school careers. This has been very difficult for many of our boys to cope with and so we have had to look at their mental health and try to assess where they are. Some boys have taken to the idea of online learning very well, and it has not been a problem for them at all, but others have had a different experience. Certainly, for our teachers it has been a big challenge but I am proud of the way they have mastered it. What we believe is that it takes roughly four times longer to prepare for an online lesson than it does to prepare for an ordinary one. So our staff have been challenged, and worked very hard over the Easter holidays, for example, to get ourselves into a position where we were able to deliver online; and indeed, we are still doing this. Even though 96 of our 109 A Blockers have returned to school we are of necessity still teaching in a hybrid format – to those who are still at home as well as the boys at school.

We're about to have a two-week holiday because the boys are going through screen fatigue and their productivity is declining, particularly those of average ability and those who are at the bottom end of their year groups in the C, D and E Blocks. They are finding it more difficult than the more mature and driven A Block boys. As I mentioned, our A Block has returned since 1 June, and you will be aware, no doubt, of the great confusion and furore over when pupils were allowed to come back to school

in South Africa. The current legal position is that it's only the A Block that is allowed back. We were told that if we wish to have other boys back, we would need to submit all of our applications to the head of Education in KwaZulu-Natal for approval, and this we did on Wednesday – a very full application, amounting to 65 pages – and we are awaiting a response.

There are some schools which have gone ahead, it appears, in inviting grades other than A Block back. Particularly because we are in a boarding school, we have to be extremely careful in doing that because we would not want to have to turn around again and send boys back to their homes. We are also, at this stage, trying to deal with the future of the boys who are cross border. We have 53 boys who live outside South Africa. The borders aren't open and those boys would have to fulfil a quarantine period of some two weeks after their return. We are trying to get Michaelhouse established as a nationally recognised quarantine centre, so that we can receive those boys hopefully over the June holidays, and they can spend two weeks here and then be ready for the start of term. But there is no certainty in that whatsoever, and we are negotiating with the Department of Home Affairs through ISASA to try to give effect to that. This has obviously been a very difficult time for many of our parents, and a number of them have approached us with a view to our helping them financially. It is our goal to try to retain as many of our boys as we possibly can. In most cases we have made arrangements with the parents to extend their payments over a slightly longer period of time. And, of course, in the school we are being very careful with expenditure and cost cutting. All posts are frozen and we are monitoring our costs extremely carefully.

The eighth point I would like to raise relates to the issue of #blacklivesmatter, and there has just overnight been quite a significant amount in the press in this regard. I think it's fair to say that, in accordance with the Bishop Nuttall prayer, we are as a school very much open to change and to pursuing justice and to walking humbly with God. Where one pupil, or one Old Boy, or one parent does not feel part of our community, there is significant work to do. Our matric boys met last night in our dining hall and had meaningful discussions on Michaelhouse being a place where ALL boys belong, and we see this as a positive opportunity for us to engage further with issues troubling the boys and, indeed, I am meeting after lunch today with representatives of the boys to seek their advice in crafting a statement which demonstrates our intent. This is very much an inclusive school. We recognise that there is much to do in this area, but we are not afraid of meeting that challenge.

And then my ninth point, in terms of the ten minutes that I've been allowed, is briefly to talk to the 125th celebrations which we will be holding next year and are looking forward to. It has been quite a challenge to continue the momentum with schools that haven't been in session, in trying to arrange for various festivals and other events to happen. But something very good has happened recently and that is that we've been in conversation with Gavin Erasmus, Old Boy of 1997, who has agreed to help in supporting our initiatives as we seek to set up a really amazing year in 2021 – something which will be thoroughly enjoyed by the boys and parents of the school and also by the Old Boys of the school.

Gentlemen, thank you for allowing me those ten minutes.

BRANCH REPORTS

CAPE TOWN

CHAIRMAN: CHARLES PHILLIPS

This has been our quietest year ever in terms of MHSOBC functions sadly due to Covid-19 and lockdown etc, but the OM spirit certainly lives on in the Fairest Cape and we look forward to a full year of events in 2021.

Condolences to all those Cape families who have lost loved OMs this year due to Covid, and there have been some surprisingly younger members as well who have passed on - not just our 'veterans'.

Next year's Cape events will include drinks with first-year Old Boy students at UCT and Stellenbosch, the Cape Town and Stellenbosch annual dinners, lunch at Mount Vernon Wine Estate plus our family church service.

Stay safe!

DURBAN

CHAIRMAN: STEVEN BOAST

Durban Branch held a drinks evening at the Blues at Beachwood in Durban North. It was a great success considering these unusual Covid times.

Over 80 Old Boys, wives and past and current parents attended the casual drinks evening at the rooftop bar at the Beachwood Country Club venue overlooking the golf course.

Congratulations to Brent Maartens, who won the 1/2 sheep donated by Karoo Kitchen, and a big thanks to E Snell Co for donating the whiskey, tequila, gin and vodka hampers.

What a magnificent venue for this wonderful get together of the Michaelhouse Durban community.

Thank you to everyone who attended and for creating this time of connection and camaraderie.

2021 will hopefully be back to our normal activities of golf days and drinks evenings and our annual dinner. There will be a few exciting changes to these events, make sure to attend a few of them.

EAST GRIQUALAND

CHAIRMAN: ROGER SPENCER

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, we were unable to hold the Michaelhouse gathering in Underberg this year. The marketing team did visit and held an information day for prospective parents.

I am starting to get the Weaner Scheme up and running

again. We've bought some weaners from Barras Farming and will be speaking to Old Boys to try and secure more for the scheme for next year.

I aim to hold a gathering next year in September and will keep everyone in Underberg and EG posted.

GAUTENG, JHB

CHAIRMAN: ROBERT BROWN

This year has been an extremely unusual year, especially when it has come to running the Old Boys' Club in Johannesburg. Not only that, it has also been a very different year as a parent of a boy in A Block at Michaelhouse.

We usually hold two events a year, the annual dinner around August time and the golf day at the beginning of November, but this year we haven't managed to put together either event due to Covid.

So I thought a quick recap of last year's events starting with our annual dinner, which was held at the Bryanston Country Club on the 1 August 2019. The dinner was well attended with about 95 Old Boys turning out to hear our guest speaker, Mr Herman Mashaba, the Mayor of Johannesburg, along with the Rector, Antony Clark. Herman gave a very inspirational talk about his upbringing and life story and the time he has had in office as the mayor, which I am sure we can all agree hasn't been the easiest time.

Our second event was our annual golf day was held on the 22 November 2019 at the Johannesburg Country Club, and once again the Hilton Cup was up for grabs and I am delighted to say that our Old Boys were able to wrestle the cup away from Hilton.

Thanks to the committee for their continued support and we wish all the matrics the best of luck for their results and welcome them to the Old Boys' Club.

Next year we will attempt to host a few additional events as well as look to bring on a few additional committee members so as to be a more inclusive branch going forward.

GAUTENG, PRETORIA

CHAIRMAN: MATTHEW MCCORMICK

To those new members joining the Pretoria branch from Tuks, we wish you well with your studies and hope that 2021 is more productive than 2020.

We hope to host the usual dinner in the first or second quarter in 2021 as well as host some social activities that cater for families, wives and partners of the Old Boys. As we are predominately a young branch we hope to host more informal gatherings such as getting together to watch a live sporting event or concert – all Covid-19 dependent of course.



Durban Old Boys, 2020's five-down touch rugby champions (above) UK Old Boys (below)



MIDLANDS

CHAIRMAN: RICHARD BATES

As has probably become apparent in the other branch reports, 2020 has been a challenging and relatively uneventful year with regards to meetings and events. So unfortunately there is not much exciting to report back on. We of course hope that next year is very different and we have a committee meeting set up early in the new year in order to plan for 2021.

I have taken over as chairman of the Midlands branch and the running of the weaner scheme from Brett Moller, and as is done every year it is important to give a brief outline of what the Michaelhouse Weaner Scheme entails for the benefit of the younger Old Boys who have recently joined our fraternity. The scheme was started in the 1980s by John Morgan, groundsman and MIC of the Gun Club and Agricultural Society. In those days the Agric Society cattle were grazed on the estate and tended by enthusiastic scholars. As cow numbers increased and grazing on the estate became limited, John came up with the idea of asking a couple of Old Boys and parents to rear calves (weaners) on neighboring farmland and return them fully grown. The profits from weaner sales were put into a fund aptly named 'The Weaner Scheme' and it is from these humble beginnings that this initiative was started. The primary objective of the scheme is to assist Michaelhouse Old Boy farmers in sending their sons and grandsons to Michaelhouse. It is these farmers' sons who will hopefully contribute and impart their 'natural' ethos on to their peers and thereby create a diversity of culture and upbringing at Michaelhouse.

At present the Michaelhouse Weaner Scheme has an asset base of approximately R7.2m in the Michaelhouse Bursary Endowment Trust and R802,000 in livestock holdings. Livestock sales for 2020 year to date have been R527,709 with a GP of 120%. Livestock holdings in the field are 154 head with 13 active members. Eight boys are currently being assisted with bursaries of up to 25% of their school fees and this number will increase to nine boys in 2021. The farmers benefitting from the scheme are encouraged to assist with looking after cattle so that the scheme does not become depleted, unless they are needy and are struggling to keep up with the school fees, when the scheme assists with the support where required and possible.

Great thanks needs to be given to Brett Moller, who very ably looked after and nurtured his appointment for five years. Under Brett's care, fantastic camaraderie was developed amongst the Midlands Old Boys. The events that he arranged were incredibly well supported, with often up to 150-plus attendees, some of those attending came up from Durban just to support and be part of what was happening. The guest speakers were certainly a major attraction. These included the likes of Graeme Duane (Founders, 1987) and his documentaries on pioneering free diving with great white sharks and crocodiles; Keith Begg (Baines, 1988), 'conservationist extraordinaire' who spoke about his life on the Lugenda River in the Niassa National Reserve; environmentalist and social reformist Andrew Zaloumis (East, 1979), the founder CEO of South Africa's first Unesco World Heritage site, namely the iSimangaliso Wetland Park; conservationist Kester Vickery, the co-founder of Conservation

Solutions, who has been responsible for moving thousands of elephants, rhinos and other wildlife as part of its conservation work across Africa (Kester is the father of Joe Vickery who matriculated in 2020); and CNN and Sky News camera man Garwen McLuckie, whose son Reece matriculated in 2019, and who kept us on the edge of our seats as he spoke to us about the harrowing interactions he has witnessed while covering the Ebola breakout and the plight of migrants desperately crossing the Mediterranean in search of a better life.

During Brett's term he also arranged for an amendment in the weaner scheme's constitution whereby the grandsons of Old Boys would be allowed to benefit from the scheme. This has helped in the expansion of the scheme, not just in terms of those who can benefit, but helped broaden the base of those contributing as well. The following year will see a major focus on growing the scheme by getting more Old Boys to contribute by looking after cattle for MHS, which is needed in order to ensure the scheme's growth. Thanks as well must go to Carmen Moller, Brett's wife, who kept a very astute eye on the administration and financial happenings. They certainly made a good team together.

Being part of the central committee and hearing the challenges that the Michaelhouse community face on a continuous basis can be daunting, but it is impressive and enlightening to see how Phil Roberts and his committee have dealt with the issues. I look forward to contributing by not only focusing on my role as Midlands chairman but also in being a contributor to the broader picture, as we pledge our support to Wayne Witherspoon who takes over as president of the Old Boys in 2021. Here's to making next year successful. The Midlands community is very excited about being part of a Super Gaudy and we will play our part in making sure it is a well-attended bumper event.

MPUMALANGA

CHAIRMAN: JACK BROTHERTON

Wow, what a year 2020 has been for all of us. We were scheduled to have our annual Mpumalanga Michaelhouse Old Boys' Get-together, with Paul Fleischack scheduled to join us at the end of March, when pandemonium hit and put us all into lockdown.

It has been a very tough year for most industries up here, particularly those involved in the tourism and hospitality, which is a major employer. The agricultural sector was less affected but still presented its unique challenges, with most of the Old Boys' from this area being from the agricultural sector.

Looking forward to getting things back on track in 2021, with the 125-year reunion being a big event on the calendar. Must say, with vaccine starting to kick in, things looking up for all of us.

PIETERMARITZBURG

CHAIRMAN: NICK JACKSON

The Pietermaritzburg branch's aim of reconnecting with our peers continues to be achieved as we are growing in attendance for all events being held, including our drinks evenings as well as our golf day.

We had the 83rd playing of the Hudson Bennett golf day, which was played at Victoria Country Club this year. The playing numbers were slightly down this year due to the short notice of the event. Due to Covid-19 restrictions changing we were able to create a fantastic day in two weeks and achieved over 40 golfers from the Michaelhouse community, which I think is a great achievement. As usual golf was enjoyable to play but you could see the enjoyment that everyone had at their new-found freedoms and being able to catch up with everyone, which I believe is the real winner, as Old Boys were seen leaving the 19th hole well into the evening.

Our informal drinks evening was one we were really excited about, as it would have had Sean Hensman talk about his adventures with elephants and his conservation programmes. But it was postponed and hopefully will take place in the new year.

Unfortunately, in this previous year Craig Lyle, who was an avid member and past chairman of our committee, passed away. It has left a hole in our committee and an even greater hole to his loved ones left behind.

We would also like to congratulate Matthew and Jess Tatham, and Joobie and Ashleigh Craig on their weddings as well and their soon-to-be new arrivals, and adding to this list of new arrivals is Kirsty and Robbie Diack. A massive congratulations to all three families and hopefully we will see them running around the fields of Michaelhouse soon.

ZULULAND

CHAIRMAN: JEREMY STEERE

The Zululand / North Coast branch has been inactive for two years now due mainly to the cancellation of the visit last year by the school Rector and Fred Pitout due to unforeseen circumstances and this year as social distancing has been the norm.

Previously we held events annually with the last two being a presentation by Davey du Plessis about his Amazonian adventure and Nick Nel, our local homeopath and sports coach for Justine Palframan, whom he accompanied to the 2016 Rio Olympics. Justine placed 18th in the 200m and was one of two athletes to compete in more than one event, Caster Semenya being the other. Dr Don Clark (Farfield, 1946) of Eshowe, former Springbok athlete (and almost 1956 Olympian – pipped at the post by Malcolm Spence) was particularly interesting as he shared anecdotes of his days on the 400 metre track.

Dinners are usually hosted by the Rector and the secretary of the Old Boys' Club at the Mtunzini Country Club, with an attendance of about 30.

It is difficult to motivate mainly farmers who are Old Boys and prospective parents to such events as people are reluctant to leave their farms and Netflix has become the distraction of choice.

Some ideas regarding the revitalisation of the branch will be welcome. Perhaps a younger Old Boy takes over and injects new life into the 100 or so Zululand / North Coast Old Boys.

Some humour to end: "Remember, it's not a vaccine unless it comes from the Vaccine region of France; otherwise it's just a sparkling antidote."

UNITED KINGDOM BRANCH

CHAIRMAN: SEAN LUMLEY

In January, the United Kingdom branch was gearing up for possibly its best year yet. We had six events planned, including evening drinks on the Thames in March and a golf day outside London in July – both with Hilton and Bishops. We almost had our drinks evening on the Thames, but it was dashed by the rise of Covid-19 and the months of lockdown and social distancing that followed – and that is still in place as I write this report for the *Chronicle*.

Over the British summer, we kept in touch with branch members via our usual channels: Facebook and the Old Boys' app. The stories of Old Boys in the health service and on the front line of the battle against Covid were heart-warming and a true reflection of the spirit of a Michaelhouse man.

As the daily case numbers dropped, we for a while hoped that we might be able to do a socially distanced luncheon at the Royal Air Force Club in London, but again we were thwarted by further national lockdown in November.

This was discouraging, but we decided to look at Covid-19 as an opportunity to focus on a long-standing aim of the UK branch: to make our incredible Old Boy network more readily accessible in this time of need.

We got together with the Hilton and Bishops UK branches and set up #OMOHOD together on LinkedIn. Our aim was to create an environment for Old Boys to ask for help, offer help, share knowledge and do good business. We went live on 7 October 2020 and by early December we had almost 600 members.

Our members are Old Boys from all three schools – predominantly in the UK – but they are now also joining us from Europe, North America, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. We have made it our mission to speak to every new joiner to hear what they think about the group. So far, we have spoken with over 480 Old Boys from all three schools.

The response has been overwhelmingly positive as has the feedback from those who have asked for help and who have sought out other Old Boys to do good business. Our aim is to get to 1000 members by the 125th anniversary celebrations in April 2021 while we grow globally.

If you would like to join us, search on LinkedIn for 'UK Alumni Branches of Hilton, Michaelhouse & Bishops: help & be helped'. We may drop the 'UK' bit if we get enough global members (fingers crossed!).

WE LOOK AHEAD TO 2021 WITH OPTIMISM AND ARE PLANNING EIGHT EVENTS:

1. Spring drinks with Hilton and Bishops (London) – March

2. 125th Celebrations UK Event (London or Windsor) – 23 April
3. Summer luncheon (RAF Club, London) – Thursday, 20 May
4. Tripartite golf day with Hilton and Bishops (SE England) – July
5. Late summer drinks (London or Windsor) – August / September
6. Drinks evening / dinner (New Club, Edinburgh) – Friday, 12 November
7. Winter luncheon (RAF Club, London) – Thursday, 18 November
8. AGM dinner (RAF Club, London) – Friday, 19 November

Our calendar is on the app and the Michaelhouse website. We remain optimistic that with a vaccine now being rolled out, life will begin to return to normal in the spring and that our events will go ahead. Again, we look forward to welcoming Hilton and Bishops to our spring drinks in March as well as the golf day in July 2021.

The committee for 2021 was elected at the annual election meeting held via Google Meet on 30 November 2020 and announced to branch members the following day. They are:

- **CHAIRMAN:** Sean Lumley, Baines 1994
- **SECRETARY:** Greg Jackson, East 2014
- **PAST SECRETARY:** Rory McKenna, West 2002
- **TREASURER:** Ryan Maree, West 2002
- **ELDER STATESMEN:** Rick Peacock-Edwards, Pascoe 1961
- **MEMBER:** Dave Hudson Bennett, Farfield 1997

- **MEMBER:** Ben Ussher-Stanley, Baines 2004
- **MEMBER (SCOTLAND):** Nicholas Llewellyn Palmer, Founders 2016

I am delighted to announce that we have two new committee members in Greg and Ben. It is also with sadness that I announce that Rory McKenna is standing down as branch secretary.

Rory has been a faithful servant of the UK branch for over a decade – joining in 2010. He is one of the most organised, diligent, and polite people you will ever come across. His love for his school and the dedication to branch members is unmatched. There are few branch members who do not know him and share my admiration for the service he has given. Although he is stepping away from his usual involvement at the heart of the committee, we have persuaded him to stay on as a visiting member in the capacity of past secretary. I know that Greg will value having Rory nearby as he settles into the role.

The Committee remain at the service of our branch members and the club. They give of their time freely, for which the branch members and I are profoundly grateful.

On a personal note, I would like to, with great sincerity, thank our magnificent branch members for their enduring interest, generous words, kind hearts and unwavering support for the committee and me.

I believe that the Michaelhouse community has a depth of meaning, love and fortitude that will last the ages. There remains so much untapped potential for the Michaelhouse community in the United Kingdom – and globally for that matter – and I look forward to realising it. So please be in touch with thoughts, feedback or just to have a drink.

Hearing from and spending time with fellow OMs does never not make my day!

OLD BOYS NEWS

JOHNSTONE, MICHAEL (1951)

I retired from being parish priest in the small Norfolk market town of Swaffham some years ago, and moved into a flat in the city of Norwich, feeling that now well into my 80s I needed to be near facilities including a hospital. After some years here, however, I find I so miss simple unspoilt Norfolk countryside and the friendships I had made in more rural Norfolk that I needed to go back to that area. All was set, and I was just about to make the move when Covid-19 pulled down the shutters. So here I am in self-isolation – but I am raring to go and ready to move as soon as

we are freed from lockdown.

Over the years I have worked a lot with the young, particularly of course when I was in Scouting and teaching for nearly 25 plus years, which included a spell as headmaster, but is of course true also in my priestly life. One aspect of that was participating in World Youth Day, an international gathering of young Catholics from all over the world, begun by Pope St John Paul II. World Youth Day is a misnomer, for in fact the event extends to two weeks: but the ‘day’ is the day the Pope is with us! Over the years,

apart from many cities in Europe, the WYD has led us to Toronto, Rio, Sydney and Panama – joyous days of fellowship and friendship – and opening the eyes of the young to the universality of the church. It is always good for me to come across South African groups, which was especially true in Panama in 2019.

This happened to be an easy journey for me – for the past ten years I have spent two, or more recently three, weeks in Kingston, Jamaica, each January volunteering with a community of brothers, called the Missionaries of the Poor. So I was able to pop across to Panama from Kingston.

You can see that even in old age I am still reasonably active, though my legs don't like carrying me long distances.

I was born in Durban, but most of my family have moved away from Natal. I do have a niece who with her husband farm in the Kamberg Valley; and a sister-in-law who has an historic bungalow directly on the opposite side of Kamberg itself. So when I come out to South Africa I generally spend some time there, and pop into Michaelhouse on my way past. But, of course, there is no-one left on the staff who remembers my generation; 1951 is a long time ago.

HOWARD, FRANCIS (1952)

It is wonderful to be able to read so much about the school in the web *Chronicle*. Living in London, as I have, since I moved here in 1973 with the Anglo American group, I seldom get the chance to visit the school; the last time was in about 2012, 60 years after leaving! I am long since retired and spend a lot of time and energy painting watercolours.

DAUNCEY, PETER (1953)

Following over 40 years of schoolmastering, 30 at senior admin. level, I retired in 1998. And then in 2014, my wife and I returned to the Cape to be near our families. Our long period in KwaZulu-Natal meant closer ties once more with Michaelhouse after time in Zimbabwe up to 1968, and then in Cape Town. I enjoyed a number of visits to the school and a renewal of old friendships, with memorable Durban OM lunches and other get-togethers organised by Stan Sharratt and Murray Armstrong. A second coronary not long after our move south in 2014 led to a triple bypass and some inevitable slowing down. Six grandchildren are dotted around the globe, and we were gifted with a great-grandson in Oxford in May 2020. After over 60 years of wonderful married life, Janetta and I are blessed with good health at present, and with just enough tech. savvy to be able to keep in constant touch with scattered family. We bumble on happily enough in spite of strange times and Covid restrictions. I still much enjoy ongoing contact with a few surviving Michaelhouse contemporaries both locally and abroad.

The 2019 *Chronicle* aerial shot of

the school estate reminds me of the incredibly impressive growth that has taken place since 1953, my final year. What a privilege to be an OM. May the school continue to flourish in its role as a worthy leader in the world of education.

DRESSER, CHRIS (1954)

I returned to the UK in 2013 where I was born and plan to remain here with Hero, my wife of 56 years.

I was chairman of the Transvaal branch of the Old Boys in about 1982/3.

Despite being almost 85 years old, I am still writing movie screenplays and am having a trilogy of novels (the Willjohn Trilogy) published by Pagoda Tree Books. The first, *Pursuit of Treachery*, is online with Amazon-Kindle and will appear in hard copy shortly. I am also continuing to write poetry and give readings when not in lockdown.

My eldest son Jason (1982-85) and family are also in the UK. He is a production manager with Sky TV and deals largely with rugby union and league fixtures. He is scheduled to accompany the British and Irish Lions rugby team on their South African tour this year – provided it can go ahead despite the pandemic. He has two children, Andrew and Matthew.

My youngest son Gregori (1986-89) has been with Dell Computers in Dublin for some years. He is a senior sales person dealing with major corporations. He has played tag rugby since his arrival in Ireland and captained a team that reached the final of the All-Ireland Tag Championship about three years ago. He has three children, Erin, Kai and Ryan.

DRYSDALE, KENNETH (1957)

Since leaving Michaelhouse I have had a career in electrical engineering and am registered as a Professional Chartered Engineer in the UK and here in Australia. I am currently working on a very ambitious project which could ultimately lead to a massive reduction in carbon pollution, lower electricity prices and the creation of new water resources. I would very much like to meet like-minded Old Boys who could join with me in this project. My colleagues and I currently have a submission to the

Australian federal government under consideration. I believe that we are at the crossroads of important change with the future of mankind being at stake. Any help would be very much appreciated.

ROSE, GUY (1959)

Still working as a literary and screenplay agent, representing, amongst others, a Michaelhouse Old Boy in Judge Chris Nicholson.

MUNRO, JOHN (1962)

I emigrated from South Africa in 1986 and settled with my wife and four children in Sevenoaks, England.

Obviously one thinks back on one's time at Michaelhouse and, for me, none more so than when watching the Six Nations and watching the dark arts of the front-row forwards. I think back nostalgically to being the hooker between two fine front-row forwards, Doug Campbell and Gary Ralfe in the 1st XV of 1962. We enjoyed good times on and off the field and especially with a tour to Grahamstown.

Since moving to the UK I have been involved in a number of businesses. At the start joining forces with two friends I met when we were honing our skills at Harvard Business School. Our biggest success came when we sold an ornithological publishing business to A&C Black, a listed company that published *Who's Who*. The purchase consideration was primarily in shares in A&C Black. The infamous Robert Maxwell was unable to have his biography published by *Who's Who* and so he made a bid to acquire A&C Black with a resultant surge in the share price. This suited us just fine when we cashed out!

For ten years I was CEO of a company listed on the London Stock Exchange but I guess my career here has been recognising that I am not blessed with any particular business skill and so I have focussed on motivating others who have better skills than me.

I spend my time now managing my Covid depleted pension fund and as chairman of a very successful Cambridge-based healthcare consultancy.

I live my life for Jesus and really enjoy

time with my extended family which includes eight grandchildren. The past year on Zoom!

I am in my 70th year of playing golf. Handicap currently 9.9 and, having had three holes in one and an albatross, my ambition now is to manage 18 holes with no more shots than my age.

BARNES, BRIAN (1961)

It's been a long, long time since I appeared in these columns, so I am probably long forgotten. After school and the navy, I worked my way through three universities, ending with a PhD Agric. in Entomology from Stellenbosch University. I retired ten years ago from the Agricultural Research Council (Fruit, Vine & Wine Research) in Stellenbosch after spending 45-odd years in various capacities developing pest management systems for fruit growers in the Western Cape. I had the pleasure of seeing my final project – using sterile fruit flies as a means of fruit fly management – being privatized. Today, 55 million sterile fruit flies are released every week by air over some 40,000ha of fruit orchards. I live in Somerset West with Charlotte, where we are privileged to have a delightful 180° view over False Bay, from the Hottentots Holland mountains to Table Mountain. I still keep a finger in the entomological pie – I am technical advisor to the sterile fruit fly programme, serve on a fruit industry oversight committee for pest management projects, and periodically review manuscripts for entomology journals and examine the odd thesis. But this still leaves plenty of time to do other retirement things, including dabbling with veggies in the garden, doing some gym time, and some local and, now and again, overseas travel.

TOMLINSON, TOMMY (1962)

I have been involved in Bible mission work which has taken me from Tanna Island, Vanuatu (2015), to Chiang Mai, Thailand (2016), and Bougainville, Alotau (2017); and finally to Goodenough Island, Papua New Guinea (2018 to the present).

BARFORD, DONALD (1963)

Having moved from Washington (State) to Portland, Oregon, my sole remaining

medical responsibility is as a member of the medical team in our retirement community in the event of an earthquake. Despite the catastrophic fires, the effects of the virus and the political unrest in the region, life is returning to some semblance of normality and hopefully will permit our return to South Africa next year where I hope to see and recognise many faces not seen for sixty years.

The 10 000 hour rule does not apply to golf.

BRISCOE, PETER (1964)

Since leaving school, I have been actively involved in farming in the Eston district on an old farm, that has been in our family, since 1838, coming down from my maternal great-grandfather, John Vanderplank, an early English settler, who is famously or infamously known for introducing the wattle tree to South Africa, from Australia, thus creating an industry that is thriving to this day. Whilst in the VIth Form, I was given a choice by my parents, to leave school and to develop this farm to sugar cane, which had been opened up to be grown in the district at the time, or, the farm would be sold to a local timber company for the unheard of price of R10 per acre! The alternative was to press on to university and enable a Degree in agriculture. I chose to take on the challenge of taking over Galtee More, which was very run down. sugar cane was planted and it has done us well, and now Galtee More also produces timber (wattle) and we run a beef herd, whose bloodlines originate from the 'Bees Commando', following the Battle of Blood River, when many head of cattle were taken for reparations. Apart from farming, I was actively involved in the local cricket and polo clubs, representing Natal Country Districts Cricket and Natal Junior Polo.

I have been married to Chrissie for 42 years. We have two sons and a daughter.

KOLLING (WONG), GRANT (1965)

The Covid-19 lockdown and ubiquitous smoke from multiple wild fires in northern California interrupted my normal routine and recreational activities, yet I continued to fare well in retirement. For starters, I expended more time and energy at my at-home gym and not at my club's swimming pool and my favourite golf

course. The most surprising development of 2020 for me? Honing my new-found carpentry skills. I built two greenhouses, two wire-mesh cages (to exclude rodents and squirrels from the many vegetables I grew as a home gardener), and a bouldering wall of 2.5m². There are no limitations to creativity at my age, I've proved to myself!

THACKERAY, MICHAEL (1966)

It is good to reconnect with Michaelhouse after being absent for 54 years or so. After leaving Michaelhouse in 1966 and UCT in 1973, I joined the CSIR in Pretoria where research on energy storage systems for electric vehicles was initiated in response to the Middle East oil crisis. I was captivated by this challenge, which led to a 45-year career in the lithium battery field, probing the relationships between the structure of matter and energy generation. After 20 years at the CSIR and a sabbatical at Oxford, I was invited to join Argonne National Laboratory in the United States, where similar research was being conducted. I retired from Argonne in 2019, but am still active in a part-time capacity. I am married to Lisa (née Kreft) – we have three daughters, three granddaughters, and a grandson (at last!).

We still have strong links to South Africa and are fortunate to be able to return 'home' on a fairly regular basis. If any of the 1962-1966 Pascoe class happen to travel to Chicago, I would be delighted to reunite – it has been a long while!

WILSON, STEVE (1970)

After an eventful business career, I've managed to build a business in the field of packing, marketing, and distribution of edible oil (mostly olive oil). My factory is in Cape Town.

Not planning on retiring anytime soon. Active kayaker and cyclist. I recently gave up hiking; Leith Stewart (orthoped, Baines, 1970) has done what he can for my overused knees. Caused in part by those endless games of touch rugby on Meadows.

AIKEN, TIM (1971)

I must say it's scary to think that next year will be 50 years from leaving school.

After spending 22 great years at JCI/ Anglo Platinum I left to become president of the Nickel Institute, where I spent three fantastic years with some incredible people. I have since retired to Steenberg in the fairest Cape. Val and I are trying to stay out of trouble by playing golf, visiting our children who are located in Jupiter (Florida), London and Plettenberg Bay whilst watching and enjoying our four grandchildren.

KERR, GORDON (1971)

I was one of the first 20 or so boys who started at Michaelhouse in the first E Block in 1967. After matriculating, I went to medical school at the University of Witwatersrand and specialized as an anesthesiologist at King Edward VIII hospital in Durban before working in Pietermaritzburg for ten years.

In 2001 I moved to Richmond, Virginia, in the States to work in the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System. My wife of 34 years, Dr Shireen Richards, passed away in 2018. I'll be retiring in 2020.

The 50th anniversary gaudy in 2021 will thus include the boys that were part of the first E Block. I have every intention of being at the Old Boys' Day for my 50th anniversary in 2021 but maybe it is worth making something of that first E Block.

CROOKES, DAVID (1974)

I had a very sad experience at Nottingham Road when I was writing matric.

My greatest friend and I went out fishing on the last Sunday of November while writing matric in 1974. We were struck by lightning and Chris Nash, who was planning to do medicine at Cambridge, was killed. I survived because of the swift response from his father, Dr Bobby Nash. Thanks to Our Heavenly Father.

My great interest is the study of the technical trading oscillators, analysing the fundamental indicators and making short-term forecasts of the South African business and mining companies.

BEGGS, MICHAEL (1988)

I have spent the last 30 years in the hospitality development business, travelling and working throughout

Europe, Asia, Africa and the Caribbean. Currently living in Belize with my wife and son while developing a large master planned marina community.

RIGDEN, BRAD (1995)

I emigrated to the UK 17 years ago, after completing my tertiary studies in SA. I've spent the majority of my career here in the IT field for organisations such as Canon, Siemens and the BBC. Over the past six years, I've predominantly focussed on fintech (financial technology) and until recently was chief technology officer for one of London's largest FTSE 100 insurers.

I'm currently working with a publisher, finalising the manuscript for my non-fiction book covering the subject of fintech. We're preparing for an expected launch in April 2021.

My wife and I are both avid conservationists and regularly travel to Africa to engage in philanthropic initiatives aimed at supporting wildlife conservation, especially for rhino. My wife is the CEO of a luxury fashion brand focussed on inclusivity, called Eradine.

We co-chair a charitable trust which channels a share of Eradine's profits into rehabilitation and education initiatives for women in need. In my spare time, I compete in IPSC shooting sports and have represented Northern Ireland in France at the World Championships in 2017; in Serbia at the European Championships in 2019, am scheduled to represent them once again at the World Championships in Thailand, in 2021. I reflect on my time at Michaelhouse with increasing frequency of late and cherish the memories fondly. I consider the friendships forged and experiences gained at Michaelhouse, to be an unparalleled privilege. I'm thrilled to see and read about "Old Boys" continuing to succeed in their endeavours and look forward to reading the next *Chronicle*. Best wishes.

FRANKLIN, GRANT (1996)

I have been living in the UK for 24 years and have happy memories of my time at Michaelhouse. I like to stay in touch with fellow Old Boys whenever possible.

BRISCOE, ALAN (1997)

Alan is very involved in the running of the farm with his dad, Old Boy Peter Briscoe, and development continues to this day. There is a church and clinic on the farm, and they have just completed a major building project, providing housing for the families living on the farm. Future plans involve considering the planting of macadamia nuts or avocado pears. Alan is involved in many local activities, managing the local cattle sale rooms and yards, which involves much dedication and regular work. He manages the local conservancy, as well as taking on other roles of leadership within the community. Alan continues with a family passion for cricket. Sadly, at school, he had very little encouragement or recognition, except from Estate Manager John Morgan, who took it upon himself to coach Alan, in his spare time. Alan went on to play First League intercity cricket for over a decade, and he played in the national club championships in 2009. At one stage, he was pressed to strive for provincial honours. He is still actively involved in cricket, playing for Eston and he is also chairman of the Eston Cricket Club, which is now one of the only country clubs, that hosts night matches with local schools and clubs. Alan completed a four-year course at Cedara and he is still involved with the college, giving an introductory lecture to the new students every year. After school, he took himself to New Zealand, Australia, England and the USA, and he played cricket for teams in New Zealand and England, and he managed stables and polo ponies, getting some polo playing in when he was in Florida, working for Stuart Campbell, an OM himself, before Alan returned to help manage the farm here. He was the runner-up of the Young Farmers Award in 2018, initiated by Kwanalu, the KwaZulu-Natal Agricultural Union.

BRISCOE, ANDREW (2001)

Andrew took a gap year working at Cheam Preparatory School in England. Thereafter he went to UCT where he studied electro-mechanical engineering, obtaining honours. This was followed by a master's degree in politics and economics at University College London, graduating with distinction. Then, Andrew pursued a career in investment banking, starting at

Deutsche Bank in 2008, on the very day Lehman Brothers collapsed. After four years in London, he relocated to New York. Four years thereafter, he joined the Bank of America Merrill Lynch in London, where he currently heads up the equity syndicate team for Europe, the Middle East and Africa. He is married to Samantha, and they live in North London with their little baby girl, Fallon.

CROOKES, ASHLEY (2001)

Farming in the Upper Dargle.

WEX, ANDREW (2001)

I live in Cape Town and am working for the events company Howler. We have cancelled or postponed over 1000 events in this crisis. We have moved our entire business online where I have led the innovation of our online streamed event product. I now drive sales, internal technical training and support and new product development.

I'm looking forward to my 20-year gaudy next year when we can all be together again.

CROOKES, CHARLES (2003)

I'm a medical doctor, and have just been

offered a registration post at Groote Schuur in psychiatry, after trying for many years to do neurosurgery.

EVANS, DAVID (2004)

I emigrated with my wife and daughter to the UK in March 2020. I am the managing director of an agricultural contracting, farming and machinery sales business in Ledbury, Herefordshire.

FRANCIS, DAVID (2006)

I live in Johannesburg, and work as an economist at Wits University. I live with my fiancé, Rob, and our two pet rats, Alice B Toklas and Noodles. Possibly to the surprise of some of my schoolmates, I am now a keen long-distance runner with one (and it will remain one) Comrades Marathon under my belt.

ALFREDSEN, HENRIK (2011)

I am currently working as a project manager for Netcompany, an IT consultancy firm in Oslo, Norway. Upon leaving Michaelhouse and South Africa in 2011, I moved back to Norway and obtained my master of business administration degree.

On a more personal note, in 2018, my

girlfriend and I got engaged in South Africa, after I brought her back to show her what a beautiful country it is. If all goes as planned, we'll get married in Tuscany, Italy, in July 2021.

MOKGOSI, LEOGANG (2011)

After completing an MSc (International Management) at the University of Roehampton, I joined the South African Chapter of the Swiss Chamber of Commerce through the Kutana Investment Group. I'm currently a member of the South African Institute of Directors and will be pursuing a double postgraduate in 2021.

MKHULISI, RAY (2011)

Married Thembi Maphumulo on 26 September, 2020.

HATHORN, FERGUS (2016)

I will be graduating from Stellenbosch University at the end of the year, with a degree in industrial engineering. Despite enjoying my time at Stellenbosch, I hope to move my studies overseas in pursuit of a master's degree. Throughout the last four years I have maintained my pilot's licence, something which I plan on continuing in the future.

OBITUARIES

BISSETT, JOHN MASTER

Born 1935, Died 2020

Michaelhouse, 1949-1952

John Master Bisset started D Block at Michaelhouse in 1949 having completed his junior school days at Clifton Preparatory in Durban.

Following in the footsteps of his father Jock Bisset (one of the early pupils at Michaelhouse who started in 1897 - one year after the school was formed), he was billeted to West House.

Jock had been in Founders, which was probably the only house at that time

(it's incredible to think that there are 10 houses nowadays)!

Dad loved his time at Michaelhouse, often regaling us with his many interesting tales of schoolboy fun and camaraderie, developing solid friendships which he maintained for many years after school, albeit many around the globe.

Keeping the tradition going, his 3 sons became third generation entrants at the school – all in West House (John Jarvis 1979-1982; Craig 1981-1984; Mark 1985-1988). Dad fervently tried to coerce us into sending his 2 grandsons to MHS, pursuant in fulfilling his dream of creating a fourth generation legacy.

Being Cape Town-based, the logistics presented a viable obstacle to the realisation of his secret dream (and the Cape Town schools are not a bad second prize to BG)!

After leaving school, he studied at Natal University to obtain his law degree and he also spent time abroad travelling and working, largely in Canada and the USA (the "gap year" as they call it these days)!

He spent the bulk of his working life within the law fraternity, largely in his own practice/partnership and then in the latter years working with Woodhead Bigby.

He met Jill Griffin and they were married in November 1963 and remained very happily married for 57 years until his passing just after Christmas in 2020. They spent their lives in Durban, only transferring to Cape Town at the end of 2019, so that they could be closer to the wider family, including 7 grandchildren, during their twilight years.

All of the well wishes received by the family on the occasion of his passing have consistently reflected what a lovely, compassionate and dignified man he was.

Liked by everyone as he always took a genuine interest in other people's plights whilst being so engaging and sincere in the process.

He was immensely loyal to friends and work colleagues alike – a rare trait these days. His strong faith helped sustain the many challenges he faced over the years, in particular over the last couple of years when his health started to fail him badly.

He was an amazing father, grandfather and husband – a role model and, whilst he will be sorely missed, we can hold onto many fond memories.

His legacy and personality is best summed up by his good friend of nearly 80 years, Bobby Jenkins:

"Dear Bissy, he was such a warm, generous, loyal friend right from our early Clifton Durban days when we both lived on the Berea.

Our mothers became good friends too. He was "the master" at marbles in junior school days and we went on to West together before heading our own ways, but not before my "best friend" became my "best man" – the tall, handsome one in the photos.

He will be sorely missed".

Hamba kahle, Dad/Pops!

Written by his son, John Jarvis Bisset

DICKSON, ROB

Born 1946, Died 2020

(Honorary Old Boy / Past Staff Member)

Rob was born Robert George Dickson on 6 October 1946. He came into a world of austerity and which was racked by a world war. He was the first son of a soldier who returned from the war and a Wren who had just lost her first husband in the war. He rejoiced in the first names of his father and grandfather.

In tune with the times Rob was a serious child. He went to Highbury and on his last Speech Day he was handed a prize by the guest speaker, Edgar Brookes, the chairman of the Liberal Party (later banned). There is a photograph of the two of them, both participating in a 'serious face' competition.

Rob was a generation ahead of me and Ian. He moved on from Highbury before we got there and went to Hilton, where he began the institution of Spicko. Again by the time we got there he had moved on. But I always looked up to him as a brother. He, however, had his own friends. He made friends well and for life. At this time, he met Jacko Jackson (Terrence) and he became a brother of ours too. Later he befriended a touring Australian who stayed for decades, Ellis Clifford. And so on. There were many good solid friends that Rob made. His effervescent spirit and humour drew people to him.

After school he commenced a BCom (Accounting) for three weeks and then realised that he was a born teacher. He started at Highbury as a junior master (unqualified) at the age of 19. He spent many happy years there and at Hilton, The Ridge, Cedarwood, Michaelhouse, Felixton, Cowan House and others.

He did his teaching degrees along the way and ended up with a year in Kansas, where he did an MA in literature at Kansas State. I recall he returned with amazing stories of America and the music of Fats Waller.

While he was at Hilton, my wife Tiki and I had the pleasure of meeting his friends: Rob Hofmeyr, Ken Franklin, Patrick Harty, the McMillans, the Cannons, the Wards, the Lovells and Geoff Thompson and others. These were good times.

He moved off campus to a house in Celtis

Road. Next door there was a widow with four children. The rest is history.

I know that Rob was an excellent teacher. In the last few days I have received these messages. Let me share them with you.

- Chairman of the Hilton board, Alistair Franklin: "Your brother Rob was splendid. I was lucky enough to have had him as a teacher at Highbury and Hilton. He was always such a positive person and great fun to be around. The Hilton chat group is full of great memories of Rob."
- We have lost an inspirational educator.
- Spicko was the headmaster of Felixton a while ago and the community in Zululand loved him and he was a successful headmaster. We are all very sad about his passing.
- What a complete gentleman in the old sense. He was the first counsellor at Hilton and this was a great innovation in developing Hilton to the wonderful school it is today.
- He was a blue-chip educationalist. He was always fair, firm and friendly. We had happy dealings as parents at Michaelhouse and I also dealt with him at Felixton. He was wonderfully positive and made a substantial contribution to the development of children, all of whom remember him with great affection.
- A great oke, even if he bust Sainsbury and me with beers and told Gubby (Raymond Slater the HM).

And so it is *Hamba Khahle* Rob. He spoke shortly before his death to both Ian and me about seeing us on the other side. He told Rohan (our son) and me that he was looking forward to seeing Cameron. What a lovely thing to look forward to.

He will be greatly missed and the loss to Tish and their children is inestimable.

Written by his brother, Alastair (Spicko) Dickson

DRUMMOND, JOHN

Born 1946, Died 2020

Michaelhouse, 1957-1961

I watched you as a KwaZulu-Natal gymnast, fished with you in South Africa, Victoria and WA, rode motorbikes with you (ah, your Norton Commando), endlessly smoking, drinking and laughing and always with your ever-loving and caring wife Di sharing your journey. Also working with you as young and older lawyers with your calm and wide professionalism for over 40 years together. What a great journey which I am greatly privileged to have shared with you, Di and your son Michael, the loves of your fine life. Have the rods ready and I'll see you there!

Written by Miles Kennedy (West, 1965) and submitted by Hugh Childers (Tatham, 1961).

DUNSTAN, TREVOR

Born 1942, Died 2020

Michaelhouse, 1956-1959

Born in Kampala, Uganda, he spent his early years travelling with his parents in Uganda, Kenya and Rhodesia before settling in South Africa.

He went to Cowan House Prep School before entering Tatham at Michaelhouse. After school he went to the University of Natal in Pietermaritzburg to study a BCom.

He then moved to Johannesburg where he met his wife Wendy. They had three sons who all attended Michaelhouse. Graham (82-85), Matthew (84-87) and Roland (87-90). The family moved to Durban in the early 70s where he took up the position as head accountant at James North.

It was here he was introduced to computers that sparked a passion for IT that back then consisted of feeding punch cards into a payroll machine. He followed this passion to eventually start his own computing business in the 90s.

He is remembered by his family as a quiet and gentle man who loved the

outdoors and tried to pass this love on to his children by many long hikes, caravanning, water skiing and other outdoor activities.

Written by son, Graham Dunstan (Tatham, 1985)

FEE, LAWRENCE ROBIN MORGAN

Born 1937, Died 2020

Michaelhouse, 1950-1954

Robin (Rob) Fee passed away at the age of 82 after a short illness on Friday 13 March 2020. Robin was a partner in RFB Architects and in Fee Challis Architects prior to his retirement in 2012.

Born in 1937 in Pietersburg (Polokwane), Robin attended primary school in Pietersburg before going to Michaelhouse. After matriculating in 1954, he completed a post matric at Michaelhouse and enrolled at the University of the Witwatersrand in 1956. At Wits, Fee was in the same class as John Roy and Michael Challis, who would later become partners in RFB, as well as Mira Fassler (Kamstra).

As a young man, Rob was a keen sportsman and later completed the Comrades on four occasions.

After graduating with a B.Arch in 1962, Fee left for London as did many graduates of his generation, where he worked for two years, completing the requirements for registration with the RIBA. In London he met an Australian, Laurretta (Lol), who was nursing in London. They married in Sydney in 1965.

In 1964 Fee left London to work for Skidmore Owens and Merrill (SOM) in New York. This was a decisive moment in his career. Fee was working on large projects in SOM's New York office when they were commissioned by Anglo American for the Carlton Centre. The project was to be done with local Johannesburg-based Rhodes-Harrison Hoffe & Partners. Fee left SOM in New York in 1967 and returned to South Africa to join Rhodes-Harrison Hoffe & Partners on the Carlton Centre project till its completion in 1971. Clive Chipkin in Johannesburg Transition

remarks that SOM's design for the Carlton represented "a major transfer of technology and culture from New York to Johannesburg".

This was the beginning of a long illustrious career in commercial practice in Johannesburg. Fee maintained a fascination for tall buildings throughout his career.

In 1972, Fee became a founding partner of Rhodes-Harrison Fee & Bold. Later the practice became RFB together with partners John Roy, Mike Challis and Peter Bold.

RFB completed an extensive list of buildings during its 30 plus years in existence. Notable projects include 55 Marshall Street for Anglo, the Ernst & Young and JCI headquarters in the Johannesburg CBD, the new terminal of OR Tambo Airport and Bank City as a part of a consortium with Revel Fox & Partners, GAPP and Meyer Pienaar & Partners.

The practice received several ISAA awards of merit

Robin was a creative and strategic thinker in practice. This is illustrated by the example of the extension to the Johannesburg International (OR Tambo) Airport terminal, where a creative breakthrough was made when it was realized that the building could be extended on to the apron by using the triangular space between the wings of parked planes. In collaboration with Arup, the solution was to build the pods off-site and tow them into position using the aeroplane tug vehicles. However, ideas were owned collaboratively not singularly as part of team solutions to complex problem solving.

Fee served the profession in various capacities. He served on the Transvaal Institute of Architects both on the committee and as president from 1984/5. At a national level he was vice-president in chief of the Institute of South African Architects in 1986/7 and the president in 1988/9.

Fee was the Southern Africa regional representative for the International

Council for Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat for many years.

He maintained a long association with his alma mater, the University of the Witwatersrand, in various capacities, from serving on the faculty board and advisory board to the head of department to acting as a long-term external examiner in the B.Arch thesis examinations.

On retirement, Fee continued with consulting work in arbitration and heritage.

Robin was an architect ferociously committed to Johannesburg. He was an optimist who loved a good chuckle.

He will be missed by his former colleagues, friends and family.

Source: South African Institute of Architects (SALA)

FEETHAM, RICHARD CRAWLEY CHRISTOPHER

*Born 1928, Died 2020
Michaelhouse, 1941-1945*

Richard was born in 1928 as the third child and only son of a distinguished father who in turn came from a distinguished family. Between Richard's father and four uncles there was a major general; a bishop of 34 years and Australia's first Anglican saint; an eminent judge; two other ministers of the church; two CMGs and various other honours.

Accordingly, he grew up with some sense of a burden of expectation – that he would be highly educated; highly principled; that he would display Christian values; excel and show commitment to whatever course he followed; that he would be true to the family motto of *Tenax Propositi* (Tenacity of Purpose) in the same way his forebears had been.

Between all these five men of the cloth and men of achievement there were few marriages and fewer children. Only one boy, Richard, was born to carry forward the Feetham name.

In his early youth his father was prominent in leading commissions to settle international disputes whether in East Africa, Ireland or China. Accordingly, Richard had an unusual childhood for a South African boy in the 1930s. By the age of 6 Richard had travelled to Shanghai in China, to Japan and the UK. His parents could then no longer drag him along with them on their travels without disrupting his education, so he was sent off to Cordwalles at age 6; then on to Michaelhouse and then to New College, Oxford, at the age of 17 in 1946 where he completed an MA. He returned to take a second degree in law in South Africa at the age of 21.

As a result, he did not spend much time with his parents in his youth. When, in 2011, I asked him to write his own recollections of the family history, he rather revealingly wrote the following sentence: *"(My Dad) was 54 years old when I was born and I remember him as a kindly but rather remote father."*

This upbringing cannot but have developed resilience, a quiet determination and a preparedness to look inwards for strength. The remoteness from his parents influenced him, I believe, in the way he faced challenges; responded to, nurtured and cherished his own family.

He told me several stories about Michaelhouse in the war years; of attending chapel to hear read out the names of Old Boys who had been killed – often boys who had recently left and were well-known to those at school or who were the older brothers of those sitting in the pews. These were also times of rationing of fuel, which led to alternative methods of getting home on exesats. While he was at Michaelhouse, his family owned a property called Braeside at Howick which overlooked the falls. He described how, on the occasional Sunday, he would be met at the school gates at dawn by a stablehand with two horses and they would ride to Howick for the day and then back that evening.

There had never been much doubt about the choice of Michaelhouse for his education. His father was a governor of the school from 1931 to

1961. He was also received Ad Portas in 1961. The family's ties to the school and the Midlands of Natal also remained strong through succeeding generations. Richard's eldest son, David, was in Farfield from 1972-1977 at the time that the family owned a small farm in Lidgetton. David's son, another Richard, did an exchange at Michaelhouse in 2008 from his school, Cranbrook, in Sydney.

Following completion of his law degree, he started as an attorney at Tatham Wilkes in Pietermaritzburg and then joined the bar several years later. He and Pamela Thrash met at a dance in their late 20s, only realising later that they had met before – when they had played together at Collegiate kindergarten in Pietermaritzburg when they were 3 and 4. Their relationship blossomed and, when they were married on 14 September 1957, it was quite the society wedding of the time as the children of two prominent fathers who had both been judges, senators and members of parliament.

David was born in 1958 and Mark in 1964.

Aside from his legal career, Richard also followed the family tradition of making very personal contributions to schools. He was for a time in the 1960s the chairman of the board of Collegiate at the time when the school decided to relocate to its current site on the hill at Clarendon, Pietermaritzburg.

Richard's practice as an advocate rapidly outgrew Pietermaritzburg and he moved the family to Durban at the age of 36. He took silk at the early age of 39 (became a Senior Counsel) and was some years later appointed as chairman of the General Council of the Bar of South Africa.

As one of his old legal friends said recently: "If I may say so, he added lustre to the fame and name of his father."

He was offered a permanent judicial appointment twice in his 40s and on both occasions declined on the grounds of conscience. When I later asked him why, I was given a somewhat cryptic

response about good German judges finding themselves in the position of having to administer unjust justice in Nazi Germany.

During the 1970s Richard and Pam became concerned about the trend of events in South Africa; the repression of apartheid and the dismantling of the rights of individual citizens. Richard viewed the Soweto riots of 1976 as the forerunner of more such death, violence and brutal repression which was likely to push the country down a path that looked distinctly ominous and potentially tragic.

They began to consider their options and the scouting and the outbound enquiry to other countries picked up pace. Australia and New Zealand were seen as favourites. When asked why, Richard replied: "You can take the boy out of the southern hemisphere, but you can't take the southern hemisphere out of the boy."

Emigration was a huge decision for Richard and Pam. It was about starting again at 50 to build a new life; walking away from a highly successful career, the broader family and everything they had built and their own families' histories in the country going back nearly 150 years and 80 years respectively.

The family of four landed in Australia in early February 1978. David went to Sydney University basically off the plane; Mark went to Shore school and Richard started as a senior lecturer in law at Sydney University. Pam kept the whole ship together without the benefit the boys had of being plugged into new social networks. Two years later Richard was invited to join the legal firm of Stephen Jaques as it then was; two years later again, he was made a partner and several years later as head of litigation for the firm which has grown to be one of Australia's largest. In that role he handled some of the largest and most complex cases in Australia at the time. In the words of one of his former partners: "Richard was a superb lawyer who... built the firm's litigation group into a powerhouse... And of course he was the consummate gentleman, wonderful person and great mentor of young talent."

Richard retired from the partnership at 65 and was then invited to remain part of the firm as a consultant to provide wise counsel and help the firm manage delicate matters. He filled this role until he was 75.

A colleague and friend who had known him as an advocate in South Africa and as a solicitor in Australia wrote: "It is no surprise that he achieved what he did. He was a quality person. A superior intellect; a rock-like integrity; a commanding presence; dedicated to his profession; and an uncommon abundance of common sense. His legal knowledge was profound. To say that he had a natural aptitude for the law is an understatement."

His last 17 years enabled some relaxation and much more time with Pam; wonderful trips overseas and lots more gardening (a particular passion of theirs), while he was able to do so. He also had greater involvement with his family and his grandchildren. Never one to crowd or impose, he has left indelible memories on them and he took immense pride in their achievements and the young people they have become.

With Pam as his life partner, they celebrated 63 years of marriage in September. They made a superb team with so many complementary attributes and a wonderful harmonious combination.

There is no doubt that immigration brought the family closer. From a very comfortable life in South Africa to, initially, a rather old and cramped two-bedroom flat in Sydney, the family was thrown together by circumstance and all relied on each other. Together, Richard and Pam built into their new Australian life and made wonderful homes for their sons, making friends in their community and welcoming their sons' friends and future wives.

They did their level best – involving many, many sacrifices – to give them the best of opportunities.

Our gratitude, love and respect knows no bounds.

From kindergarten together in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, to Anthem Care in Bowral, Australia, together. Across continents, across nine decades, from two people to one couple, to two sons to seven grandchildren – the circles of life.

Following his passing, the family has received many messages from old friends who have scattered to the four corners of the planet. In almost every one of them, the word "gentleman" is used to describe their perception of him. They reveal the impact Richard had on them and the respect in which they held him.

Richard's qualities shine through:

"A tremendous example of intelligence, hard work and commitment for all of us lucky enough to know him."

"His warmth and kindness were strong and subtle, but always there, like a steady sort of pilot light I think."

"The quiet calm dignified but authoritative presence of your father epitomised the gentleman that he was..... One certainly listened when he spoke, but more importantly, when we spoke, he too listened."

Richard was a quiet, brave, principled, kind and distinguished man with so many fine qualities; shaped by his upbringing; born with high expectations of him; a man who over-delivered on every front; who did what he saw was right, not what was easy; who loved and gave so much to his wife and family; who epitomised the family motto of *Tenax Propositi*.

He will be missed by Pam, his sons David and Mark, and his grandchildren. His memory will be treasured.

May he experience now the qualities of the name of the house in which he was born so long ago: Rust en Vrede: Rest and Peace.

Written by his son, David Feetham (Farfield, 1976)

FILTANE, MPHATHISI ZOLISA

Born 1970, Died 2020

Michaelhouse, 1985-1989

Mphathisi Zolisa Filtane was born on 26 November 1970, in Ngcobo Eastern Cape, to Mncedisi Luthando Wellington Filtane and Pumza Filtane, née Mpumlwana (uMamTolo).

He started his schooling at St Joseph's Primary School, Mthatha, and then moved to Clifton Nottingham Road as a boarder. In 1985 he began his Michaelhouse journey in East House, matriculating in 1989. He then studied towards a BCom degree at Varsity College, which he did not complete. He later obtained his certificate for the Management Advancement Programme (MAP) with Wits Business School.

At Michaelhouse Mphathisi (AKA TC) was an avid sports lover, displaying his talents in rugby, athletics and soccer for which he captained the First XI in 1989. Off the field he was also a known feature for the visiting girl schools at the derbies. His love for Michaelhouse never died until the end. He was a prominent member of the Old Boys' Club Central committee always adding value to all deliberations. Mphathisi's counsel was frequently sought, particularly as the school navigated the difficult times of 2020 and the issues of transformation. He was hugely supportive of the school and engaged in many initiatives and projects from marketing, fundraising, to planning the 125 celebrations.

Quite early on he had a flair for marketing and chose to test this skill at National Sorghum Breweries and Gilbeys Distillers. After confirming with his higher self that marketing was his professional calling, he changed industries and joined the SABC as an account executive in 1996. He later moved to the paper and pulp industry, joining Sappi as their marketing officer. In the year 2000 he shifted ever so slightly from marketing to advertising and media, joining Johncom (later renamed Avusa Media) as manager *Sunday Times Magazine* and *Soccer Life Magazine*. His special project was Publisher and Group Strategist World Cup 2010, which he executed with distinction.

After the world cup Mphathisi decided to explore business opportunities in Johannesburg and started a trucking company. He then moved his family to Durban and opened an Old Fashioned Fish and Chips franchise in Mthatha, commuting weekly between the two cities. During this time, he started an online platform connecting students with home owners for accommodation. He then moved back permanently to Durban and started a milling and manufacturing company. His company manufactures heavy duty cradles and pallets for the export industry. At the time of his death he was expanding to include other industries.

Phopho, Phophorice or Bhaah, as we affectionately called him, loved his sport, a passionate rugby and soccer fan, in particular a Kaizer Chiefs supporter. He even coached the Juventas Football Club, which he enjoyed immensely. This is a team of Durban North youngsters from different schools, including his son Likho.

Mphathisi was obsessed with his life's purpose and actively pursued it. Apart from knowing, recognising and consulting with God, he knew there was a reason for his physical presence on Earth. He started this journey in his 20s when he signed up for a course in quantum physics and later worked with Dr Baruch Banai, a transformational teacher, to raise his human awareness and consciousness in order to live a life of vision and purpose. He went through two of Dr. Banai's gruelling workshops, Turning Point and Joy Spring. He concluded that his life's purpose was LOVE.

He practised as best as he could principles that were rooted in love and in his own words realised that wherever he said or did something from a place of love, it would give him peace. He understood love to mean kindness, compassion, humility and lots of laughter. Mphathisi loved to talk to people and this, he would say, allowed him to understand why their paths crossed at that particular time in his life.

He attended and signed up for similar personal growth courses for the rest of

his short life, his last being an eight-week journey in Conscious Manifestation in June 2020 with Eckhart Tolle. This alongside A Course in Miracles, a year-long programme designed to heal the mind and remove all judgement. He loved to read, meditate, explore the meaning of life and debate the reason for our existence and how to improve our experience here on Earth. Mphathisi enjoyed motivating others, especially the young cousins, but he also tended to inspire his older family members. He was also an artist and loved to paint, especially in his early years. As he grew older he decided without a canvass and oil paint, he would park this gift. He never did fully resume this hobby.

In 1996 he married Motheba Mohapi u MamHlakoane and later divorced. In 2010 he married Pindiwe Filtane, nee Holomisa u MamGebe.

He is survived by his wife Pindiwe, his mothers; Pumza MamTolo and Nomsa MamBhele, his mother-in-law MaSweleba, his siblings; Zintle, Nosipho, Aanda, Buntu and Onele; his sister-in-law; Lorraine MaRampe; brothers-in-law; Thando u Xhamela and Ayanda u Ngconde; his children Luthando, Anda, Sesetu, Lelam and Likhonkcolomzi.

When Mphathisi was in hospital he asked us not to cry for him but to pray and trust the process.

You loved your wife and children deeply. You loved, respected and honoured your siblings, parents (oo Tatomncinci, Dabawo noo Malume and their families). You chased after, found and lived your purpose.

Phopho, even now you are everywhere and inspiring us all to laugh hard and love more deeply.

"There are some who bring a light so great to the world that even after they're gone, the light remains." – Unknown

Lala ngoxolo dlamini, zizi, chubungulashe, lamyeli, mtatela, ngxibinoboya, nomana, lunika, lubokoboko, natipikoko.

Written by Ngcebo Zungu (West, 1990)

FLEMING, MICHAEL ELLIOTT VINEY

Born 1938, Died 2020

Michaelhouse, 1951-1955

Michael was born in Johannesburg to Leonard and Kathleen Fleming, one of four children he had three sisters, Anne, Barbara and Trisha. He was born in the home that his father built in Westcliff, which he ended up taking over, bringing up his family.

Michael attended junior school at St John's Prep, which was designed by his grandfather, Frank Fleming, partner for a time of Sir Herbert Baker. Frank Fleming interestingly also designed the chapel at Michaelhouse. An interesting story that Mike related regarding his grandfather and the chapel at Michaelhouse was that whilst inspecting the building thereof, his grandfather wrote a message and enclosed it in a cigarette box, which he buried in the concrete of the stairs leading up to the chapel.

After school Mike moved from St John's to finish his senior school at Michaelhouse in 1955. He attended the University of Witwatersrand, where he also studied architecture like his father and grandfather before him.

After completing his architectural degree Mike married Elizabeth (previously Drake) and they moved to Canada for an adventure, but after only being there for a short while Mike's mother passed and he returned home and took over the family home in Westcliff, where he and Liz reared their family, comprising of Chris and Frances.

Mike went to work for his father's firm, Fleming and Cooke Architects, in which he became a partner. After many years of working in the creative design side of architecture he decided to follow his passion in the heritage aspect of thereof, which was probably inspired through fighting rezoning applications in the old suburb of Westcliff whilst chairman of the Westcliff Residents Association. In this process he met Flo Bird and went on to work with her in attempting to preserve the historically valuable buildings and heritage sites around Johannesburg, which he continued doing with passion until his death last year.

His other passion was for golf, which he only took up in his 30s. Although not very good, a more passionate golfer I have yet to come across. Mike founded the Old Johnnies Golfing Society, which he ran for well over 30 years. He was also a passionate member of the Johannesburg Country Club, where he served on the committee and ultimately served as chairman. He also created the "Fleming Golf School" weekly on a Thursday afternoon at CCJ, which regularly exceeded 40 players.

Mike was a loving husband and father. He was an honorable, dependable and principled man. He was a quiet gentleman. He was a rock! He will be sorely missed by his friends and family.

He leaves behind his wife Elizabeth, son Christopher, daughter Frances and grandchildren Thomas (Michaelhouse 2010-2014), Julia and James (Michaelhouse 2016-2020).

Written by his son, Chris Fleming

FULLER, ADAM HARRISON

Born 1957, Died 2020

Michaelhouse, 1971-1974

Adam Harrison Fuller (63) passed away peacefully at home with his family, on the 29 December 2020 after a long and heroic struggle with amyloidosis.

He had recently retired after 40 years of unbroken service with Tsogo Sun, where he ultimately held the position of operations director for Southern Sun Resorts. His untimely death is a great loss to the hospitality industry which he served with enthusiasm and pride. He was a remarkable hotelier and an extraordinary host who captured the hearts and imagination of his colleagues and guests alike.

Full of kindness and with a keen sense of mischief, Adam brought sparkle, wit and wonder wherever he went.

He was a true mensch and we will love and miss him always.

The family wish to express their immense gratitude to doctors Andrew Asherson and Dhaya Moodley for their

exceptional treatment and support during his illness.

Written by his wife, Mandy Fuller

GOBLE, ARTHUR KENNETH (GUY)

Born 1961, Died 2020

Michaelhouse, 1975-1979

Guy was born on 9 November 1961 and passed away after a short illness on 6 May 2020.

He grew up on a farm in Upper Tongaat and after attending Highbury from the age of eight he went on to Michaelhouse in 1976 and matriculated in 1979, where he was a House prefect and played hooker for the first rugby side.

After his national service in the air force as a dog handler he graduated from UKZN Durban with a commerce degree.

After a short stint in a bank, he married Kim Knight in 1988 and they raised two daughters, Andrea and Beverly, on a cattle farm near Kranskop, and a decade later relocated back to Upper Tongaat where he ran the financial side of the family business, and later became a sugar cane farmer.

Guy loved to fish and spent many happy times in the Transkei, on Westbrook Beach and with the Noodesburg fishing club in various locations. He was a very keen wood worker, who loved to turn wood and made many incredibly beautiful pieces of furniture.

He had a sharp wit and a great sense of humour, and was a humble, generous and caring man, a loving husband, father and friend and he was known for always going above and beyond to lend a helping hand.

We miss him dearly.

GROBLER, CARL

Born 1947, Died 2020

Michaelhouse, 1960-1964

Carl Grobler, who lived in Onrus for more than a decade, passed away unexpectedly from complications following heart surgery.

Grobler moved from Trichardt in Mpumalanga to Hermanus 13 years ago after his retirement.

He grew up in the Leandra district where his father owned a Ford car dealership. In his youth he attended Michaelhouse in the then Natal, where he excelled at sport, achieving provincial colours for both cricket and rugby.

After completing his schooling, Grobler went to America, where he did his apprenticeship at Ford.

Later in life, he founded Tri-Sec Autohaus Volkswagen car dealership in Trichardt in Mpumalanga. The successful businessman also served as mayor of the then Trichardt Municipality.

Right up until his operation, say his children, Grobler was an avid golfer who took to the greens at Hermanus Golf Club at least three times a week for a game.

He was also a member of the Hermanus Ski Boat Club and loved going out with friends to catch crayfish.

Grobler was admitted to Christiaan Barnard Hospital in Cape Town after being informed by doctors last month that he had to undergo surgery to replace a heart valve.

"Doctors reported that the operation was successful, and our mother visited him the next day. He was in isolation and gave her a friendly wave through the window," explained Tanya Smit. "Thursday night the hospital called to say he had passed away after complications had developed."

His children describe him as a humble, loving and spontaneous man, who loved chatting to everyone who crossed his path and always stayed positive.

He is survived by his wife Poppie, their daughters Ilze and Tanya, Poppie's two sons Org and Hein from a previous marriage, and five grandchildren.

Article from Hermanus Times

HOUGHTON, RAYMOND GEORGE HOBART

Born 1948, Died 2020

Michaelhouse, 1962-1966

Ray was born in Durban and went into Farfield after four years at Cordwalles. In my first year he was a big help in navigating the life of a cack. He was part of the gymnastics and diving teams and appeared fearless. I was always amazed at his ability knowing I didn't have a chance of doing anything like his somersaults from the top diving board.

Growing up in Kloof we spent many happy hours bicycling miles and miles, up and down Kloof Falls and Everton Roads. He was always way faster than me, often sending me down the hill first so he could come screaming past me with a huge grin on his face. The ride would end with a stop at Gillitts station to help ourselves to sugar cane on the parked rail cars.

He was also a meticulous modeller building many ships and aeroplanes – Lord Nelson's Victory, the Cutty Sark, Lancasters, Spitfires and Hurricanes and many others which he hung from the roof of our bedroom. He spent hours gluing them together and then painting them perfectly. He also designed his own gliders made from balsa wood, some with a wingspan of several feet.

He was most proud of his biplane for which he cut out all the struts to support the top wing. He had built a small 'cabin' on the lower wing and on the maiden flight decided it needed some passengers. We went out into the garden and found some grasshoppers to be unwitting crew. It glided beautifully all the way down to the bottom of our garden. I shall always remember his happy laugh with that flight.

After a year at university in Pietermaritzburg studying BSc he decided this was not for him and was accepted into the South African Air Force. Flying was his true love and on weekends away from training on Impalas at Langebaan he would come down to UCT medical school and pick me up for a visit to the Pig & Whistle or Forries.

He flew and instructed in many aircraft. On one special Speech Day he was delegated as an Old Boy to fly the guest of honour, Minister Piet Koornhof, from Durban, landing the Puma on the rugby field. Watching him perform at various air shows in a Harvard was always a pleasure. He made the loops and rolls look so graceful.

Having a private pilot licence myself he was only too happy to take me up flying if he could get permission. He made me sick in the back of a Harvard doing aerobatics at Dunnottar and flew me in Alouettes and Pumas. He gave me left seat time in a Dakota and co-pilot time in a Skymaster. In return I was happy to give him some time in my little Cessna across Northern BC.

He survived a rocket attack in Zimbabwe where the SAAF had seconded him. It demolished his Alouette helicopter and left him with pieces of shrapnel in his body. On another occasion there was an engine failure with a subsequent crash in a Puma and some years later being hit mid-air by another DC 3 whilst practicing formation over Pretoria. The wing of his aircraft looked like somebody had taken giant shears to it where the other plane's propeller had cut out big chunks. It was immediately very difficult to control but he and his co-pilot managed to get it safely back on the ground.

Ray married Alice Emerton, originally from the UK, who was working as a registered nurse at Entabeni Hospital when they met. They had two boys Mark and James (Farfield 2011-2013) and he was tremendously proud of them. He always enjoyed Old Boys' Day and on one special one we were both present with our dad George (Farfield 1928-1931) and on another were able to watch James score a try for the school.

After 20 years in the SAAF he became an Airbus 320 captain flying for Flitestar in South Africa. On one flight from Durban to Johannesburg I had a ticket in the jump seat and was amazed to see how far he had come flying this very sophisticated aircraft with its then novel glass cockpit. When Flitestar went out of business he moved on to Virgin Atlantic out of Greece. It too stopped

operating and so the family moved to Oman for work with Oman Air. When that contract was up they moved to Bahrain, where Ray was captain and instructor on A320s and A330s for Gulf Air. His last work before retiring was as one of four personal pilots to His Highness Sheik Hamad Al Sharqi on his private Airbus 320 out of Fujeira.

Ray had a big heart and a wonderful sense of humour. He loved putting on accents and on one occasion fooled my staff "Theez is Doktor Vladimir to talk to Doktor Pietrofski". I heard the howls of laughter from them when he turned on the video link from his Skype call 35,000 feet over the Atlantic. They were flying the Sheik to Inuktituk. He gave them a virtual tour of the cockpit, the three pilots all looking very nattily dressed in their captain's uniforms.

He and Alice retired to Riebeeck Kasteel with a wonderful view over the vineyards to the Cedarberg mountains. He became ill in October, requiring urgent laparotomy for peritonitis and sepsis. This was followed by a second operation two weeks later, which was then complicated by him contracting Covid. He died on 27 November.

We have all been devastated by his untimely death and I shall love and miss him forever.

Written by his brother, Peter Houghton (Farfield, 1969), in Victoria, British Columbia

LYLE, CRAIG JOHN

*Born 1957, Died 2020
Michaelhouse, 1971-1974*

Born on 13 November 1957, Craig was the youngest of three brothers. He attended Clifton, Durban, before going to Michaelhouse in East House. He was soon dubbed Glunky, a nickname inherited from his brothers Rob and Bruce.

Craig was good at sports, particularly at school cricket; in later years, he excelled at golf and especially the Hudson Bennett tournament. Still later,

he took up bowls and, as usual, quickly made a name for himself at his club. Aside from golf, Craig was a wily and successful angler, a superb gardener and animal lover.

After school, he did his mandatory national service for what was then two years, being stationed in Namibia for lengthy periods of time. Being occasionally thrifty and often thirsty, he saved all the beer tins he had drained and used them to make an aluminium floor for his tent.

He had provisionally decided on agriculture as a career and attended colleges in Ireland and England.

He met his wife-to-be, Carole, at the golf club and they remained married for 27 years.

He gained a sound footing in the agricultural sector; thereafter, he took up a post at Bayer Agricultural, where he prospered in his position. However, he always wanted to be his own man and travelled to the uMzimkhulu Valley to farm for his own account. Things didn't turn out as hoped, so he moved back to Pietermaritzburg to continue in the field of the sale of agricultural products.

He was a genial host, with a gentle sense of humour, a kindly nature and a deep love of family. During his battle with cancer, he displayed exemplary courage, patience and endurance in the face of mounting odds. His passing at the end, aged 61, on 22 May 2020, was mercifully brief.

Written by brother, Bruce Lyle (East, 1974)

MARTIN, GEORGE

*Born 1934, Died 2020
Michaelhouse, 1947-1951*

George Martin along with his twin brother Richard and their younger brother Bill were born in Uganda. Their father Eric Martin worked for the British government and was the first person to grow tobacco in East Africa. He taught local farmers to grow tobacco.

The Martin family then moved to Kenya and that was when my dad and his brother Richard used to travel from Kenya to Johannesburg by plane and then would catch a train from there to Balgowan to attend Michaelhouse. After moving from Kenya to Zambia they would catch a train all the way from Lusaka to Balgowan, a trip that would take a week. A few of the St Anne's girls were also on the train, so I am sure that would break the boredom.

My dad was very sporty and played cricket, hockey and excelled at long-distance running. He studied Latin and Greek along with all the other subjects. He won the award for public speaking.

Michaelhouse had always been a special place for my dad and when he used to visit us he would walk around the grounds remembering his time there.

After attending Michaelhouse, he went to Rhodes University and then on to Oxford where he attained his Blue for running and earned a teaching degree.

After getting married to his wife Rosemary, whom he met in Uganda at the age of four, he along with two daughters Diana and Caroline moved to Rhodesia, where he taught at Peterhouse. The Rector at that time was Fred Snell, who had moved from Michaelhouse to start Peterhouse. My dad taught at the school for over 40 years before he retired.

He suffered two heart attacks; surprising, as he was still a very fit man. The second one six years ago nearly killed him. He survived thanks to having a pacemaker inserted in Pietermaritzburg by Dr Maharaj. This prolonged his life for another six years that he spent mostly in England. Unfortunately, his heart had become too weak to handle the pressure and he passed away peacefully with a friend close by on Sunday. My sister Caroline, who had looked after him while in the UK, had been with him an hour before.

George is survived by myself, Tim Martin, Diana and Caroline as well as my two daughters, Tara and Kelly, and Diana's son, Kyle.

As my dad had been suffering for the last five months I actually visited Michaelhouse last Friday and visited the chapel and asked the good Lord to end the suffering and take him. He lasted another day or so. He had a great innings of 87 years and achieved a great deal in his life. Many Peterhouse boys are thankful for his teaching and his cross-country coaching.

I am sure he would have liked to have had a memorial service in the beautiful chapel at Michaelhouse. We shall have a small service for him in Hilton, another in Zimbabwe and in the UK.

Written by son, Timothy Martin

**MEYER, NICHOLAS
LINDSAY LLEWELLYN**

*Born 1990, Died 2020
Michaelhouse, 2004-2008*

It was with much anticipation and excitement that Nicholas arrived to begin his high school education at Michaelhouse. The proud recipient of the Highbury Closed Scholarship to Michaelhouse (Nicholas attended Highbury Preparatory School from 1997 to 2003). Nicholas's years at Michaelhouse were memories he always treasured. In his cop, Ben Usher-Stanley, he found an excellent example. In his Housemaster, Mr Johan van Rooyen, and the Rector, Mr Guy Pearson, he knew trusted guidance. Through his remarkable teachers he learned to express his love of theatre and language and his abiding interest in economic theory.

Nicholas always a keen athlete, loved the opportunity to run freely into the Midlands countryside. This enjoyment of outdoor pursuits, climbing mountains, jumping off waterfalls, running on rugged terrain, remained with him throughout his life.

Nicholas completed his time at Michaelhouse as Proxime Accessit and head of Baines.

Nicholas, always hankered after his dream of being in film, theatre, and especially musical theatre, but in the end decided to study law. He attended the University

of Cape Town, where years of adventure followed, climbing Lion's Head and Table Mountain, and running the Sea Point Promenade. He also enjoyed entering the Impi and Warrior Challenges.

From 2009 to 2011, Nicholas studied a Bachelor of Commerce degree, specialising in philosophy, politics and economics. This was followed by a Post Graduate LLB. In 2017 Nicholas achieved his Master's in Commercial Law with distinction.

Nicholas, in his years at university, stood firmly for the principles of social justice. It was with full engagement that he worked voluntarily for Students for Law and Social Justice, which provided legal aid to disadvantaged members of the Khyalitsha and Athlone communities.

After serving his articles in Cape Town, Nicholas was admitted as an attorney in 2018.

Nicholas lived his 29 years with warmth. Inclusive, charismatic and expressive, he leaves behind close and special friendships and memories of close family bonds, especially with his precious sister, Alice. Other people were always significant to Nicholas, and he went out of his way to facilitate the realisation of others' dreams. His life, indeed, was all too short, but for those who knew and remember him, he leaves an indelible impact. He was yet to realise his real dream of returning to the world of theatre (his first performance was aged six in the KwaZulu-Natal Technicon production of South Pacific). While his remarkable singing voice is on recording only, he encouraged all he met and knew to find their own independent, individual voice. This was a value nurtured at Michaelhouse. As a family, we thank Michaelhouse for the gift of a remarkable schooling experience for Nicholas.

Written by his mother, Patricia Meyer

MORPHEW, DAVID MCKENZIE

*Born 1952, Died 2020
Michaelhouse, 1966-1970*

Dave, my dad, grew up at the base of the Inhlosane mountain in the Dargle at his family farm, Furth, with his father

Granby, mother Joy and sister and brother Jean and Peter. There he was able to fully explore the joys of nature from fishing, hunting, farming and getting to know the wildlife around him. It was here that his deep love for the natural world began.

From Furth, the family relocated to Maryland Farm, Howick, and it was at this time that Dave began his schooling at Michaelhouse. Some of Dave's fondest memories of his childhood were of his time at Michaelhouse. From boyhood shenanigans in class and in the dorms, to team sports, to traditions and to Sunday walks to the farms of family friends, every memory was cherished. Here he made long-time friendship that would span his lifetime. After school Dave attended University of Natal, and soon enough married and settled on the North Coast working for Perry Ford as a tractor salesman. He kept busy building his first home and fishing. He was a driven, honest and hardworking man (no doubt the values instilled in him in his years at Michaelhouse) and soon achieved a variety of awards for his efforts, including an all-expenses paid cruise to Italy and the Seychelles. He and his wife Frances, a nursing sister, welcomed their first child, Paul, in 1979. Thereafter Duncan in 1984 and Jessica in 1988.

The family relocated back up to Howick in 1998 where Dave began his career as a financial advisor. It did not take him long to build up a large practice due to his enthusiasm and fondness of dealing with people. Dave's biggest love, however, was working with his hands. He could always be found building, plumbing, restoring a vehicle or fixing a tractor. When this was not sufficient he tended to his sheep or the various animals that had been adopted over the years.

He was never too busy to sit down with a cup of tea and share any knowledge he had acquired over the years, solving problems, or dreaming of his next holiday to Kruger.

Dave's biggest enjoyment was the Kruger National Park. It was here that he was most happy and he never missed an opportunity to visit. He and his second wife Kim explored every inch of the park and acquired many interesting and fond memories over the years.

My dad was a big man with an even bigger heart. He is remembered best for his constant smile and light-hearted attitude, his kind and loving nature, and as a man who would do anything for those he cared about. My brothers and I could not have asked for a better role model who guided us on the path to God, and instilled strong Christian values in all of us. His wisdom and his time had no limits, and he is severely missed.

"The greatness of a man is not in how much wealth he acquires, but in his integrity and his ability to affect those around him positively." – Bob Marley

Written by his daughter, Jessica Dewing

NELSON, JOHN

Born 1926, Died 2020

Michaelhouse, 1940-1943

Born in 1926, John Nelson at an age of 94 years died peacefully in Perth, Western Australia, on 7 December 2020. This eulogy attempts to reflect a little of his personality as a soldier, teacher, mentor, and father. He had a significant input to life, especially in education for boys covering careers in southern Africa and Australia. He clearly and quickly assessed any situation and rarely changed his opinion after having made a decision. People knew where they stood with him. A true and hardy Scot, he lived a spartan life, rising early for an ocean swim, playing some competitive sport during the day like tennis or golf, followed by a run or bicycle ride in the late afternoon. Displeasure at losing a golf competition was his only recognisable weakness but this rarely happened because he Played by the Rules – that is to say, by the rules as interpreted by John. Some 200 mourners in attendance at the Scotch College chapel in Perth reflected the community trust and affection earned by John.

John's family left his birthplace, Gretna Green in Scotland, seeking a better quality of life. They settled pre-war in Kloof near Durban, and John attended senior school at Michaelhouse (Pascoe 1940-43). Directly after leaving school John enrolled for a BSc degree at Rhodes University, Grahamstown, but

soon abandoned his studies in order to volunteer for the South African Army. He joined too late to have been captured with the Second Infantry Division that was defeated at Tobruk, this being the fate of other OM's (Old Michaelhouse boys) including James Chutter and Bill Burnett, both later in the 1950s becoming chaplains at Michaelhouse. John instead enlisted with the South African 6th Armoured Division that landed at Taranto as part of a northward Allied invasion of Italy. He served as an observer/signaller and participated in the epic battle for Monte Cassino. Accompanied by an experienced soldier on an observation mission, John proposed they seek cover in a site partially concealed by bushes and rocks. However, his experienced comrade directed them instead to an inconspicuous site located on featureless terrain. Soon thereafter, a well-placed enemy shell obliterated John's preferred site. Throughout the war and later, John bonded with a buddy, another OM John Youngleson, later to be a surgeon in Natal.

After the war, John returned to Rhodes University to complete his degree studies. John used an army surplus motorcycle for economic transport between Kloof and Grahamstown, this trip involving riding over very rough, dirt roads through the Transkei. After graduation, he worked his passage as an assistant chemist on board a whale factory ship to Norway. Later he went to the UK, earning a Certificate in Education; he had a traineeship in industrial management; and he taught. In Durban on 17 December 1955 he and June married. Thereafter he taught at Umtali Boys High in Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), thence appointed principal of Kabulonga High School, Lusaka, Zambia. Later, John and June with their two daughters, Delia and Janet, toured Europe in a Volkswagen camper van. This dreadful van, that was much loved by John, accompanied them on emigration to Australia.

So began his 19 years of distinguished career at Scotch College, Perth (1971-1989). The scale of his rapid progression is recorded on page 8 in *The Reporter* for 1989, Volume 82, being an annual journal published by Scotch College

(copy kindly loaned by Paul Reuvers). He was an innovative mathematics teacher, a coach of hockey and tennis, and a conductor of boys on tours and academic learning camps. He was promoted to coordinator of studies, where he dealt with many areas such as compliance with syllabuses, curriculum, examination results and grades. He restructured and computerised the school timetable to meet regulatory requirements. These duties he conducted in his usual bright, breezy and capable manner – another example of his determined and disciplined personality – then he looked for fresh fields to conquer.

The irrepressible John was an innovator and friend of newly arrived OM's in Perth. In 1980 he founded a local branch of OM's, he took newcomers for bush expeditions in the dreadful VW that I called "Hitler's Revenge". He led a hiking tour in the Murchison Gorge, he introduced us to the arid pastoral lands of the interior near Lake Barlee, we saw abandoned mines and met his local friends, rugged pastoralists of the region. Of special memory are the Christmas/New Year holidays that he and June arranged for friends at their corrugated iron shack at Mandurah on the Indian Ocean coast. Here he cooked his speciality of mussels barbequed in the shell. The shack was usually overpopulated with happy revellers. The extent of their enjoyment was evident the next morning from the numbers of comatose guests to be found lying all over the place, a few in the shack, some in tents, a few under caravans, and others dispersed about the open garden.

This was not all. He liquidated his meagre capital from the school retirement fund and expertly invested the proceeds to provide an adequate pension. Towards this end he helped found an Investor's Circle where like-minded people could share investment ideas. John became an expert stripper of dividends paid from company shares. All this in conjunction with family, recreation and sporting commitments. John in old age had no known surviving contemporaries apart from his widow June, also over the age of 90.

Any biographer must now depend

somewhat on memory, but the Michaelhouse archives might reveal additional records. He also leaves his daughters Delia and Janet, five grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. At his funeral, Noel Wright, a teaching colleague from Zambian days, read the eulogy, music was provided by a lone bagpiper, a Scotch College old boy taught by John, and a men's barbershop chorus group, the West Coast Chordsmen. John still attended weekly rehearsals of the barbershop chorus up to nine weeks before his passing. He experienced a slip on gravel whilst attending what was to be his final rehearsal.

So his voice remains alive in our thoughts: *"Anyone up for a quick round of golf?"*

Written by Brian Downing (Tatham, 1957) on a request from Kimberley Madden, a granddaughter of John. Approved by family members: Delia Nelson and Kimberley Madden

PICKSTONE, JAMES 'DAVID'

*Born 1948, Died 2020
(Honorary Old Boy / Past Staff
Member)*

'Digger' Pickstone, as he was affectionately known by the Michaelhouse community, was a much-loved and respected head of biology and Tatham Housemaster, who passed away in 2020.

David was born on 2 December 1948 in Manchester. At the age of 6 he left England for South Africa with his mother and sister, following his father to a new life in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe). When the train taking them to Bulawayo halted for the night, David observed a few young boys selling a bush baby. He bought the creature and immediately released it on the other side of the track. This act of kindness was to mark the beginning of his life-long passion for wildlife and conservation.

His father was given the responsibility for maintaining and upgrading the railway line between Victoria Falls, Plumtree and Bulawayo, which still remains one of the wildest and most

remote areas in Africa. When David wasn't attending school at Plumtree College, he was often out with his dad and team in the "bush". David relayed many stories of his childhood and the menagerie of rescued animals that he had rehabilitated.

On completion of his schooling at Bulawayo's renowned Milton College, David moved to Pietermaritzburg in South Africa, where he studied biology and botany, obtaining his Bachelor of Science degree in 1973. This was followed by a Higher Education Diploma at the University of South Africa (1976), and later a Bachelor of Education from the University of Natal (1981).

While completing his science degree, as a penniless student, he met Grace Baxter, who took him under her wing, fed him, befriended him and gave him accommodation. He subsequently relieved Grace of a troublesome, feisty daughter: he married Barbara, the landlady's daughter, in 1973.

His teaching experience included Uplands High School (1971-73), Hilton College (1974-82), Cowan House (1982-85), and finally Michaelhouse (1985-2001). David moved to Michaelhouse to take up the position of head of biology and soon established himself as a much-loved and respected colleague and mentor. His wonderful sense of humour and empathetic personality made him the go-to man for many younger staff members. Alongside this his integrity and honesty allowed him to confront issues in a direct and frank manner. He developed rich friendships with so many of the staff within the school: groundsman and building staff, laundry staff, cleaners, technicians, kitchen staff, telephonists and office staff.

Dave's biology lessons were frequently outdoors, along the Bog Stream or in the bush on his many southern African expeditions, usually with Mike Goulding at the wheel of the trusted Land Rover. He dispensed quickly with bureaucracy and focussed on what really matters in life: relationships, care and sensibility.

David had an amazing ability to see life through the eyes of the boys. He had an uncanny knack for dealing with mischief with a smile, but grasped the thorny

issues without flinching. The tributes which poured into the Old Boys' Club highlighted the profound and positive effect which Dave had on so many lives. We have found summing up his life in 1000 words incredibly difficult, partly because of the great outpouring of love and stories from those who knew him, about what he meant to them and how he has helped them in so many ways over such an extended time frame. His energy, patience and generosity, beyond what we as his family have known and experienced, has become abundantly clear and we are truly humbled by it.

An Old Boy wrote: "What a great man. I can't tell you how much he encouraged, influenced, challenged and mentored me. It's not often that your teacher becomes your lasting friend! I am going walking now and will think of good times your dad and I spent together and celebrate his life in the wilds of Namibia..."

As well as mentioning his ever-present pipe, many of the memories shared with us featured Dad in his element: outdoors, within one of nature's countless settings and habitats. His immense knowledge of wildlife and nature he shared with an infectious enthusiasm. Our childhood was not materialistic but fulfilled with travel, adventure, curiosity, appreciation and an understanding of the natural wonders and animals with which we inhabit this planet. Our memories of growing up in South Africa are of landscapes, mountains, clear babbling 'Berg streams, and the smells and sights that are countless and unforgettable. The sound and smell of turpentine grass blowing in the wind is still a vivid memory Dad introduced us to: this is when hiking boots were made from leather and were kept soft and waterproofed with dubbin. Dad taught and showed us that exhilaration could be obtained from viewing the sun rising above a blanket of clouds below the peaks of the Drakensberg mountains at half past four in the morning.

In 2001 David and Barbara made the decision to immigrate to the UK to start a new adventure. Following a very challenging period at a large public school, where David had to draw on all his experience, he moved to Headington Girls College, Oxford

(2002-3), followed by the Perse School in Cambridge (2003-2013). Having retired David spent time on his lifelong passion of beekeeping and mentoring.

He passed away on the 16 May 2020 following a five-month struggle with cancer, during which he consciously chose not to burden anybody with any personal considerations. He focused a lot in the final few weeks on what he has always relished: coming up with schemes and projects and plans, now for mum and us boys and our families. Those who knew him will appreciate, he was never content to sit around... he always had to be busy, whether working on a grand design, helping somebody to overcome some sort of adversity or simply fixing a wobbly cupboard door. David leaves behind his wife Barbara and three sons: Simon, James and John; their wives Alex, Jenn and Amy; and his grandchildren Ben, Francesca, Saskia, Ronin, Jack and Alfie.

Written by John Pickstone (Mackenzie, 2000) on behalf of Barbara, Simon, James and John Pickstone, with thanks to Ian Guthrie and Paul Fleischack

RAIMONDO, JOHN

*Born 1943, Died 2020
Michaelhouse, 1956-1960*

John was born in London during the Blitz in September 1943 and arrived in South Africa with his family in 1945. He went to school at PTS in Johannesburg where he was a prefect. He spent four happy years at Michaelhouse in East and graduated with a first-class matric.

He then went on to study chemical engineering at Natal University and then spent time in France at the University of Grenoble, where he obtained his doctorate, cum laude, in engineering specialising in the paper industry.

This was followed by his move to Pretoria where he joined the family paper and packaging business PPI, where he installed the most modern corrugated machinery from Germany at that time.

He assisted in the growth of the family business which was subsequently sold

to Nampak, whereupon John elected to return to study environmental sciences at the University of Cape Town.

He then moved into the world of environmental impact assessment and set up his own practice as well as heading up the Institute of Environmental Assessment in South Africa.

John was involved in consulting for large corporations as well as for government.

Towards the end of his life John decided to go farming and purchased a farm in Swellendam, where he practised the various principles of environmental education and farming which were close to his heart.

John loved being in the wilds, a habit he learned from Michaelhouse when he went on free bounds.

He was a great supporter of the Wilderness Leadership School under Ian Player and played a very important role in the creation of the St Lucia Wetland Park – now known as Isimangaliso – which became South Africa's first World Heritage site.

He was a free spirit and loved travelling to foreign countries.

John married Dawn Stapleton Adkins and together they had three children: Anton, Peter and Anna.

He died suddenly after a heart operation and complications caused by cancer in July 2020.

Written by brother, Frank Raimondo (East, 1957)

STANTON, THOMAS (DAVID)

*Born 1935, Died 2020
Michaelhouse, 1948-1952*

It was with great sadness that the family of Thomas David Stanton announced his passing at the age of 85 on 28 September having suffered from congestive heart failure.

Dave was born in Stockton-on-Tees, England, and grew up in Mozambique,

Lesotho and South Africa. His early memories were of happy school days at Michaelhouse and, later, sailing with his family on Midmar.

He trained as a pharmacist working in hospitals and retail. His daughters remember him as a wonderful role model for them. He was well loved for his quirky sense of humour and his interest in history, medicine, sport and much else.

In 1962 he married his first wife Marjorie ('Bobby') and they had three daughters. Sadly she died in 1993, and in 1995 he married Bronwen his wife for 25 years, and Thomas became stepfather to her daughter from a previous marriage.

Dave passed away peacefully at his home in Rosetta and will be lovingly remembered by his wife Bronwen, his daughters Colleen, Barbara and Jean, his sister Margaret and his stepdaughter Wendy and their families.

The funeral service was held at All Saints Church, Nottingham Road on Friday 9 October 2020. Unfortunately, his three daughters were unable to attend due to Covid restrictions, but were able to view the service through live streaming. Fortunately, Wendy his stepdaughter was able to attend to support her mother.

Written by his sister, Margaret Olivier

STARLING, PADDY

*Born 1940, Died 2020
Michaelhouse, 1954-1958*

My father might have been the world's worst Old Boy. He'd have been the first to admit he probably wasn't very good schoolboy material either.

He was one of three brothers to have attended Michaelhouse. And while his brothers were sporty and probably were a real asset to the school, my father marched wonderfully and creatively and confidently to the beat of his own drum.

He was quietly sure of himself and comfortable enough in his skin, that he wanted nothing anyone else had. Nor did he want to be anyone but himself.

So, while he might not have been Michaelhouse first-team rugby material, or first-team any material for that matter, he was quietly courageous and brave in his warm, indomitable way.

He was brave enough to be kind and gentle and sensitive in an age where you were measured on being rough and tough and ready. He showed emotion in an age of stiff upper lips.

He was courageous enough to openly express his love and affection to those he cared about. To be demonstrative, to kiss his children and wife, and hug his friends at every opportunity, and not care what others thought.

This is a good lesson. That you don't need to do exceptionally well at school, to do exceptionally well at life.

And he did do exceptionally well at life.

He might not have known one end of a cricket bat from another, but he knew how to hold an artist's brush so that it came alive in his hand. At the time of his death, my father was considered one of South Africa's pre-eminent landscape artists, with hundreds of works that will survive for generations after his death.

What a fitting legacy. A gregarious, spontaneous, humble life, spent creating hundreds of works of art that are still on display all around the world, bringing joy and memories and imagination to so many people.

But that isn't what made him exceptionally successful in life.

He was successful because he was brave enough to be himself. He was successful because he was humble and modest and unpretentious, and without guile. He was successful because he was the world's biggest and most cheerful optimist, who for all his faults and quirks and fears, was one of the kindest, gentlest and positive men I have ever met, completely comfortable in his own skin.

But mostly he was exceptionally successful because of how he died.

He died loved.

So when you hear that my father died, know that he died well. He died shifting position in his sleep, in bed next to the woman he loved deeply and had spent his life with. He died at home surrounded by those he loved. He died with nothing left unsaid, and nothing left unspoken, and nothing left unshown.

He left behind a comet's trail of laughter and love and life.

So if you don't make the Michaelhouse first team. Or get your A for matric. Or, even if you do.

That's okay. Quite possibly, it's better than okay. Because you can still become a great person, and even if you are very far from perfect, you can live a life that is exceptional and successful because it is filled with love, and built on kindness.

And if Michaelhouse 70 years ago played a part in who my father was. Then the school deserves our thanks.

Written by his son, Charles Starling

STEINER, ANDREW

Born 1993, Died 2020

Michaelhouse, 2006-2010

It is with profound sorrow that we write of the death of our beloved son and brother, Andrew Steiner, at the age of 27.

As a small boy in Rivonia, he was a whirlwind, interested in everything, and had the sweetest nature. He soon earned the nickname 'Action Andrew' and was certain that he was Batman.

At the age of two, we moved to Kloof where Andrew's vital, boyish imagination and energy evolved and were directed into his many pursuits, such as his flair for drawing, skateboarding, playing the flute and academics. After primary school at Highbury, he won a scholarship to Michaelhouse, following in the footsteps of his great-grandfather (George F Tatham), his grandfather (Dudley H Pringle) and his uncle (John G Pringle). While at Michaelhouse, Andrew was chosen to go on an academic tour to the US, took part in running and rugby, excelled in

maths Olympiads, art, and IT, received academic colours, received honours for music and became a member of the KwaZulu-Natal Youth Orchestra.

Later, this spurred his passion for part-time deejay work at Hatfield Square while he studied chemical engineering at Pretoria university. On completing his degree, he enrolled for a master's degree at Stellenbosch University.

The traumatising discovery of a benign brain tumour in April 2017 interrupted his studies. The tumour was removed and a shunt inserted to manage hydrocephalus. It took eight months to recover his strength. Andrew's drive to rebuild his life after the surgeries was remarkable and really a humbling lesson for everyone who knew him. He went back to Stellenbosch in 2018 to complete his experimental work and then returned home to write his master's thesis. Compromised vision and great physical discomfort were a daily challenge but he persevered until it was completed. He graduated in April 2019 and his incredible story caught the interest of several newspapers and radio stations.

He started his first job in his chosen field of bio-resources engineering, took German classes, did a barista course, went to gym and fellowship, and took trips to Joburg to visit friends. His Christian faith deepened and he knew that life is not about status and wealth, but rather about human connections. We got to know the many facets of a precious gem.

On 4 January 2020, his shunt blocked and what should have been routine surgery requiring five days in hospital turned into five months in ICU during which he survived a pulmonary embolism and several operations. Finally, at the end of May he was transferred to a rehabilitation centre, having lost 35kg. He was excited to get there and was looking forward to regaining his strength and to getting home and back to work. After five days at the rehab centre, he inexplicably aspirated into his lungs and could not be resuscitated.

Andrew was truly an authentic soul

and we are so grateful for the time we had together. We are comforted by the little that we know about Albert Einstein's theory of relativity: $E = mc^2$, energy equals mass multiplied by the speed of light squared. Energy cannot end, only transform. As we know from thermodynamics, energy cannot be created nor destroyed. It simply changes states. Andrew's energy and empathy live on in the many letters and messages he wrote to his friends and family.

In October 2017, Andrew wrote a card to a wonderful lady who had nursed him and he included this quote by Florence Nightingale: "Live life while you have it. It is a splendid gift. There is nothing small about life".

Andrew is survived by his parents, Mary-Ann and Philipp, and his sister, Catherine.

Written by his mother, Mary-Ann Steiner

STUBBS, ROBIN MITFORD

Born 1941, Died 2020

Michaelhouse, 1954-1958

Robin Mitford Stubbs was born in Johannesburg on 12 July 1941 to Tat and Flick Stubbs. Both parents had a lifelong love and interest in horses and horseracing, a love that Robin inherited and which remained an interest throughout his life.

His primary schooling was at The Ridge in Johannesburg and from there he went to Michaelhouse from 1955 to 1958.

Most if not all the boys from The Ridge were automatically promoted a year into C Block, so he was 16 years old when he matriculated in 1957.

He stayed on for an extra year of VI Form, became a prefect in his House Founders and continued to play a meaningful role in the success of the first cricket team.

He was a left-hand opening bat and a sneaky, slow left-arm bowler when he wasn't batting. Robin played all sports like tennis and rugby but cricket was his main love. He was a member of the first

team at both Ridge and Michaelhouse for two to three years.

Having left Michaelhouse in 1958, Robin joined the auditing firm of Cooper Brothers in Johannesburg and obtained his CA(SA) at Wits University.

A number of years overseas ended when he joined the Jessel group of companies in South Africa. They were eventually taken over by Lonrho and Robin was put in charge of all the group's industrial interests in South Africa.

After a good few years, Robin left Lonrho and spent the rest of his working life in the mining industry, mining diamonds and other minerals from South Africa up into countries like Angola.

Written by Robin's lifelong best friend, Tony Worthington (Farfield, 1958)

It was discovered later in his life that his true gifts lay in the domain of family life. He married Sally Garmany, Gale van Lingen and eventually his beloved Georgie Stubbs, whom he settled down with for the rest of his life.

Always a naughty smile on his face, Robin left no one untouched by his perfectly inappropriate sense of humour.

Robin has been an incredibly selfless, generous and loving father to four children: Bear, Sarah, Josephine and Nicholas. He was Marlon Brando as the godfather at the head of the table, quietly doing everything in his power to support and protect the whole family. Grandfather to seven, he watched over his family with unconditional care and support. Known as a provider, he made it his mission to make sure he did his best to set his kids up for life as best he could.

My father was a man of laughter and joy. 'Live, love, laugh' (as my mother claims to have been the first one to say), he really did. He could take the mick out of any situation and lighten any load, no matter how heavy. But he also had a deep empathy for all those around him. He couldn't help but care. He was known as a second father by some in the workplace.

"My boy," he would tell me, "if there's one piece of advice you can take from me, let it be to never take life so seriously that you can't laugh at yourself. People who can't laugh at themselves need to take the carrots out of their asses and lighten up!"

Written by his son, Nicholas 'Nic' Stubbs (Founders, 2014)

WHITSITT, GEORGE FREDERICK RODWAY

Born 1946, Died 2020

Michaelhouse, 1960-1963

George was born in Cheshire, England, a year after the end of the war in Europe. His father, Thomas Whitsitt, a doctor and quite a vocal opponent of the introduction of a National Health Service, seeing it as denying a right to treat his patients, subsequently moved to Pietermaritzburg with a young family in tow. George grew up like many young boys of the time riding bicycles (at terrifying speeds down Taunton Road), swimming, making and flying insanely overpowered model aircraft and creating elaborate soapbox go-karts, which evolved into racing a converted Morris Minor in local rallies with his father.

George attended Cowan House Preparatory School in Hilton and later moved on to Michaelhouse, where he was housed in Pascoe. He loved sport, especially rugby and sailing. He loved sailing so much he decided to take a small boat out in the middle of the night, on the small dam across the road from the Oval, quite an easy catch for any masters returning from Notties Pub. There was also an incident involving a tin of Brasso in an East classroom fireplace that took most of the chimney pot off, and an attempt to make jungle juice with spectacular results when the locker, which was being used as a brewery, exploded during prep, but the less said about all that the better.

George thoroughly enjoyed his time at Michaelhouse and was much liked by most. A contemporary of his said that when he arrived as a terrified cack, George helped him unpack his trunk and get him settled in. He was always

kind and never bullied anyone. It was this kind and caring manner that would be the hallmarks of his character for the many years to come. He was always quick to share a joke and a smile and never a disingenuous word. He remained active in the Old Boys network and helped with the arrangement of the Hilton / Michaelhouse Golf Days and attending fundraising events.

Upon leaving school George went to work at the then Barclays Bank and, apart from a short sojourn into private business, spent many years doing what he called "bush banking". This meant being posted to branches in remote areas of the province like Matubatuba, Stanger and Harding. Later in his career it was to Maun and Francistown in Botswana. This suited him well as it was here that he could work hard and form life-long friendships and provide financial support and guidance to local farmers and business owners. Always charitable with his time he often got involved in local Rotary or Lions and SOS Villages in Botswana in an effort to contribute to his local community and improve the lives of those less fortunate.

George was a great dad to his two boys, he always made time for them. He was always ready to take them fishing, or build model aeroplanes, race go-karts, play cricket on the lawn or throw a rugby ball around. He took great pride in celebrating the achievements of his two sons no matter how seemingly trivial. He religiously travelled to all their events, from sports matches to school plays. He was always there for them when they needed encouragement or to cheer them on from the sideline. He showed great patience with his boys, whether it was teaching them how to fish or ride a bicycle or learn to drive. He would carefully explain what needed to be done and then never too critical if the outcome was less than successful, while also managing to inject a bit of humour into the proceeding if they were effective or otherwise.

When George wasn't working or spending time with his boys, socialising, playing golf, watching sports and

occasional fly-fishing was how he enjoyed his spare time. However, one hobby stands out above all the other interests and that was carpentry. George was a very skilled carpenter and managed to produce a wide assortment of very beautiful furniture. He made everything from small side tables, a dressing table, drinks cabinet to a full-size dining room table with matching chairs, using yellowwood – a very difficult material to work with. When asked about where he got the designs or plans, he just replied that they were in his head, or he had seen some dovetailing on an item of furniture and wanted to try it out.

Upon retirement George spent a large part of his time living in Howick and then more recently Eshowe. It didn't seem to matter where he lived, though, as he was always quick to make new friends or acquaintances, taking a keen interest in their lives and remarkable for his ability to remember everyone's names and relationships. While retirement may have been a more difficult time for him, he always shouldered his troubles with dignity and never once tried to apportion blame on to anyone else.

It is upon the reflection on the passing of a loved one that the success of a life is often measured, and it is often that those measures are taken from the greatest of achievements. However, it is worth noting that as Ralph Waldo Emerson, the American poet and philosopher, offers that it is often the smallest of actions that provide the greatest measure of success when he states:

"To laugh often and love much; to win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children ... to leave the world a little better ... to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived – this is to have succeeded."

It is by this degree that George's life should be measured and remembered by the small actions of kindness and interest that he took in the people around him. He will be sorely missed by his sons, sister, nieces and five grandchildren, and the many friends and acquaintances he made during his life.

Written by son, Justin Whitsitt (Pascoe, 1993)

WILLIS, JULIAN CHARLES (CHUNKY)

Born 1945, Died 2020

Past teacher of Michaelhouse

He spoke French before he spoke English. He drove to Moscow in 1963 with his schoolfriend Ricky Richardson. He was a mercenary in the Congo, leading a group of nuns to safety across the border single-handed. He was a financial journalist in Durban, or was it the gardening column? He journeyed through the Midlands Meander with his relative, Princess Rania of India. He was a prison missionary for Chuck Colson. He was played by John Cleese in the movie.

Sometimes it was hard to tell. The poet creates his own truth.

One place, however, where his sparking, fizzing, blazing intellectual energy, humour and love of life shone brightest and truest was the classroom. So many old boys of Glenwood, Maritzburg College, Michaelhouse and Weston fondly recall his lessons as the most magical highlight of their classroom career. There was a wonderful sense that no one in the classroom, Julian included, knew what was going to happen next. There were moments of humour, farce, tragedy, and drama (some of them explosive) as he brought to life the key elements of every story: characters, setting, plot, conflict and resolution. He later realised the timeless truths of English literature teaching *Macbeth* at Imdumiso Teacher Training College, where a story that opens with witches, thunder and prophecy was in some ways even more accessible to a Zulu audience.

He taught his sons to shoot early, reminding them to keep both eyes open when aiming, so you'd be aware of any movement of the enemy. He volunteered for the Commandos, serving in Umkomaas Command, often guarding the mental asylum in Howick, to stop people breaking in or breaking out.

He was into photography. And drama and art and debating and more. He helped forge unforgettable experiences

for boys working on school magazines and plays and debating societies and shooting and cricket teams.

He was recklessly generous, giving away cars, and his time and his wealth, with no regard or thought for himself. He was also known to hit the old *skokiaan* with a vengeance, sometimes with awful consequences. But consequences were not something known to trouble him much. Which meant it wasn't always easy for those around him. That reckless generosity to others and complete lack of regard for himself and his love of a drink made him at times an utterly exasperating husband and sometimes a mixed bag as a father. He'd put money on the horses or buy ten tailored shirts when there wasn't much money for food on a single teacher's salary. He wasn't the easiest person in the world to be married to or to live with. But he was unforgettable.

Though by no means a regular churchgoer, he also had a deep personal faith, lived out in spectacular acts of kindness to others and huge positivity throughout every situation, and every Easter Sunday texting "*Kristos anesti!*" (Christ is risen!) to his sons.

Some of the stories were true.

Julian Charles d'Anyers Willis was born on 15 July 1945 to Ursula (née Kearsley) and Charles Willis at Fineshade Abbey near Kettering, Northamptonshire. His father Charles served in the Coldstream Guards, sadly passing away when Jules was about 14. His grandfather was Brigadier-General Sir Robert Harvey Kearsley KCVO CMG DSO, who served with some distinction in the second Boer War, the First World War, and for a time was Aide-de-Camp to Lord Baden Powell.

Julian was educated at Eton College, moving to South Africa when he was 19 and his mother had remarried an old family friend who farmed at Granton (now Old Halliwell) on the Giant's Castle Road. The Natal Midlands were his home for much of the rest of his life.

(Though in later years, he had some

memorable adventures around Muldersdrift and Krugersdorp, in what he persisted in calling the Transvaal, learning execrable Afrikaans and was fondly known as as "Oom Jules" to Tinus, Willem and their families and friends.)

After arriving in South Africa he studied at the University of Natal, Durban, and following a few false starts in the wine trade and journalism found his calling as an English teacher at Glenwood. He caught the eye of a beautiful young primary school teacher from Maritzburg, and married Gillian on 8 December 1972. Their first son, Sean, was born in Durban in 1974 and his second son, Timothy, two years later in Pietermaritzburg. By then Jules had moved to teach at Maritzburg College.

There he had a profound influence on many boys, but perhaps most significantly, a young man named Philip Powell. He played a hugely important role in Philip's life as a confidant, friend and teacher, taking special care of Philip during a difficult phase of his life, helping secure him a bursary to go to university and personally sponsoring his books in his first year, insisting that he needed a decent education before pursuing his dream of becoming a soldier. Philip and Julian remained lifelong friends to the end, and it was fitting that Philip was perhaps the last person Jules spoke to, when Philip called him on the morning of 15 July this year to wish him a happy 75th birthday.

Unusually, when Philip asked him what his plans for the day were, Julian, though otherwise well, said he didn't have any. Julian died peacefully shortly afterwards with a cigarette lighter in one hand and a cigarette in the other. Jan and Louise said it looked for all the world like he'd fallen asleep.

—

Going through some correspondence with Dad following news of his passing, I found a note he sent shortly after my marriage in which he quotes TE Lawrence that: "All men dream: but not equally. Those who dream by night in

the dusty recesses of their minds wake in the day to find that it was vanity: but the dreamers of the day are dangerous men, for they may act their dreams with open eyes, to make it possible."

Dad was unquestionably one of Lawrence's dangerous men, as the recesses of his mind were blazing with energy allowing him to not only dream with his eyes wide open, but through his intellect, erudition and eloquence, to paint vivid pictures in the mind that entertained, educated, charmed and challenged all who spent time in his orbit and draw them into his dreams.

For there was much of Tennyson's Ulysses in him; the same restless energy that would "drink life to the lees" and considered "how dull it is to pause, to make an end, To rust unburnish'd, not to shine in use! As tho' to breathe were life!" For Julian, merely to exist was not life; his unbridled love of life corruscated through to all who knew him, ensuring he became a part of all that he had met right to the end when his fire at last burnt out looking for all the world like he'd just fallen asleep.

The danger with Dad was also, however, that his incandescence could both illuminate and burn; those close to him experienced both. By many conventional measures, one could suggest that he was perhaps not a good father, divorced twice before I had finished school, a fondness for firewater (it was not just life he would drink to the lees) leading to some hard words at times. But Julian was never one for convention. And by other measures as a father, the ones that perhaps really matter, he was without equal. Always encouraging but never pushing, instilling a love of reading, history, art and learning in us, teaching us to question orthodoxy, to consider things from the other person's perspective, understanding right from wrong, and not to stand idly by when we saw wrongs being committed, to enjoy the simple pleasures in life, ensuring in his own way that we grew up to be gentlemen, to be ready to face the world and raise children of our own.

It is perhaps only now, in taking the first steps in raising my own children, that I truly realise how important the role Dad

played in my life was, for so much of what I do as a father is based on what he did for us. The fantastic wooden toys he made for us in his workshop, the magical bedtime stories he spun out of thin air that entranced us and made our imaginations soar, the reindeer hoof prints laid out of freshly cut grass on Christmas morning to show that Father Christmas was real, teaching us to make rope from bark when camping in the Drakensberg, teaching us to shoot, showing us how to throw a knife just in case we missed any of the buggers when we were shooting at them, I suppose, scratching a rhino behind the ears at Queen Elizabeth Park (a story he fondly recounted to my wife Polly the last time we saw him), the fact I know exactly how to remove a bee sting from a child's hand with a penknife because I can still see him removing the sting from my hand with his knife. And as they get older, perhaps I won't take them to a casino to teach them how to play blackjack (although as I then bought him dinner with my winnings, perhaps I should), or the proper way to use a Molotov cocktail, but I will continue to try to distill the best of Julian into what I continue to grow into, and pass to his grandchildren.

And by these measures, and by the measure of the legacy and the mark he left on all who met him, he was an extraordinary man who I was proud to call my father.

For throughout my life, throughout the vicissitudes of our relationship, I knew his love for me and Sean was never in doubt; every conversation finished with a heartfelt "love you, boy" and I am glad that I finished those conversations, and for this final goodbye, saying, "I love you too, Dad."

—

I want to commend some words of encouragement to Sean and Tim and their families. To Gilly and Dave, to Philip and Louis Powell, to Jan and Louise, to Delbert who cared for Julian, and to you as Julian's friends. These words which follow offer comfort as we confront the mystery of death, but more

than comfort, they offer something intangible, something that will enable us to celebrate Julian's eccentric and unusual life.

The words are from St. Paul's letter to the Romans 8: 38-39. "I'm absolutely convinced that nothing – nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable – absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us."

Today we have reason to both grieve and celebrate the life of Julian Willis, a man who had a special rapport with those he taught. A man who was particularly kind to small children, who was recklessly generous with his possessions, a man with a lively and off-the-wall sense of humour. I particularly enjoyed this quote from Sean: "There was a wonderful sense that no one in the classroom, Julian included, knew what was going to happen next." A free spirit, in the true and kindest sense of the word.

But like all of us, he was also a person with demons and struggles. Another quote from Sean: "His love of a drink made him at times an utterly exasperating husband and sometimes a mixed bag as a father. But he was unforgettable."

Julian didn't fit the model of a regular churchgoer, but he had a deep personal faith, evidenced in his spectacular acts of kindness, his positive attitude in every situation and in particular, his text to his sons every Easter morning which read, "*Kristos anesti!*" – Christ is Risen. Clear evidence of a man of faith.

Julian was educated at Eton, but he spent most of his life in the Natal Midlands, teaching at Glenwood, Maritzburg College and then Michaelhouse. His marriage to Gillian produced two sons, Sean and Tim.

Sean wrote, "A close friend, Philip Powell, called Julian to wish him a happy 75th birthday on 15 July. Julian died shortly afterwards, a cigarette

lighter in one hand and a cigarette in the other. Jan and Louise said it looked for all the world like he'd fallen asleep."

As modern people we have achieved much that is noteworthy. From the Hubble Space Telescope to the Web, micro surgery on a fetus in the womb and much more.

Yet death is still as much of a mystery as it ever was. It is into this mystery that the philosopher writes in Ecclesiastes, "There is a time to be born, and a time to die." And for people of faith, that is the key to the mystery of death.

Our comfort hinges on faith in God, God who alone controls our destiny. It is this sure knowledge that enables us to see death, not as an end, but as a part of the tapestry of life – life in all its fullness, its beauty and ugliness, its strength and fragility.

We all know that there are times when we are angry at God, or confused by the complexity of our problems, and we wonder where God is in all this chaos. God is OK with that, with our questions and struggles, because they are honest.

When Jesus died on the cross he said, "It is finished." His physical work here was done as he transformed into the spiritual. So too for Julian, his work here is done, his struggles with his demons are over. He now faces a new spiritual beginning, with the Jesus Christ he professed had risen.

I close by quoting Paul's words again: "I'm absolutely convinced that nothing – nothing living or dead, angelic or demonic, today or tomorrow, high or low, thinkable or unthinkable – absolutely nothing can get between us and God's love because of the way that Jesus our Master has embraced us."

May these words bring comfort as you reflect on Julian's life, and as you contemplate your own mortality.

Amen.

Written by his sons, Sean and Tim Willis



WEAR IT  N
WEDNESDAYS





CLASS OF 2020

ROBBIE ANDERSON	SIMI FEMI-KAYODE	MATT LAMBERT	MOGOMOTSI NTETA
JOSHUA BAILLIE	SEAN FITZSIMMONS	CHRIS LANGEBRINK	KEEGAN O'BRIEN
NATHAN BAU	JAMES FLEMING	REX LE SUEUR	MURRAY ODELL
ALEXANDER BERGIN	SAM FROST	ROSS LESLIE	BRETT OELLERMANN
JOSHUA BERGIN	LUKE GAMMIE	MUGABI LUBINGA	IAN PARSONS
JARRED BOOYSEN	JOSS GEHREN	CHRISTOPHER MAARTENS	GARY PITT
MICHAEL BRADFORD	LUKE GILMORE	MKHULULI MAGUGU	SEAN RAMSAY
CHRISTIAN BRAND	JAIMÉ GOMES	MOLEFI MAKHUBELA	MICHAEL ROSS
MICHAEL BROWN	XHANTI GWETA	HLONI MAPETLA	HARRY ROWLES
AIDAN BROWNE	MARK GRANT	KIERAN MARTIN	NTSAKO SAMBO
SAM BUTCHER	MICHAEL GURNEY	NHLAKA MATHE	PITSO SEKHOTO
KARAN CHAUHAN	THEO GWILIZA	MJ MATJELE	WILL SELBY
TAPIWA CHIKWANDA	TIM HARDING	KGOSI MATOLA	TAKWANA SHAVA
CHRIS CHRISTODOULOU	ETHAN HARTWELL	FINN MCLAUGHLIN	KIYAN SINGH
MICHAEL CHRISTODOULOU	MATTHEW HENDERSON	AYANDA MDE	BANELE SITHOLE
GUY COCKSEGE	THOMAS HILL	JARED MEIRING	ZOLA SOKHELA
MATTEO COZZI	DEAN HOUGH	CHARLIE MELOUNEY	CONNOR STANTON
NICK CRAMPTON	LLOYD HOWELL	MOHALE MOGALE	DAVID STUBBS
JULIAN DAFFY	RAIFFE INGLEDEW	HUSSAIN MOHAMED	LUKE STUBBS
CAMPBELL DAVIES-WEBB	JACK IRONS	KABO MOLETE	ROELAND VAN DEN BERG
LUKE DE HEER	NIKHIL IYER	MIKE MOODIE	GUY VAN DER BIJL
JORDAN DOBSON	DANIEL JONSSON	CONNOR MUIRHEAD	JOE VICKERY
VAUGHAN DORNING	LETLOTLO KEBONANG	JAMES MURRAY	JOSH VOGET
CONNOR ENGLAND	HUBO KHUMALO	TRISTAN NAIDOO	TOM WALTERS
RICHARD ESIPISU	KWANELE KHUMALO	SIYABONGA NDLOVU	TIM WHITAKER
	RICHARD KOMBE	ZAKITHI NHLANGULELA	MATT WINN
	NICK KUHN		WARWICK YORKE SMITH
			AVELA ZUNGU

GLOSSARY

2MICHAELHOUSE@125 (ALSO: 2MHS@125)	The strategic plan for Michaelhouse as it approaches its 125th year in 2021. Replaced <i>Vision 2015</i> , which guided the developments, goals and daily processes of Michaelhouse between 2008 and 2015.
A LEVEL AND AS LEVEL	The General Certificate of Education (GCE) advanced level is a school-leaving qualification in the UK. AS level is a separate qualification and is not required for an A level award, although still encompasses the first year of the full A level content. (Wikipedia)
ATKV	<i>Afrikaanse Taal en Kultuurvereniging</i> (Afrikaans Language and Culture Association)
BOKSMART	South African rugby safety programme. Aims to ensure that safety and best practice principles are incorporated into all aspects of contact rugby in South Africa.
CAT	Computer applications technology
CF	Christian Fellowship (at Michaelhouse)
DELF	<i>Diplôme d'études en langue française</i>
EGD	Engineering graphics and design
EM'SENI	The Scripture Union Independent Schools (SUIS) camp and conference centre.
EMS	Economics and management sciences
FIRST GAME	Term used when referring collectively to the Michaelhouse First XV and Second XV rugby sides.
GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education. An academic qualification generally taken in a number of subjects by pupils aged 14-16 in secondary education in England and Wales. Replaced the O level qualification in 1988.
HDE	Higher Diploma in Education
HOD	Head of department
HSS	Human and social sciences
IBSC	International Boys' Schools Coalition
ICT	Information and communications technology
IEB	Independent Examinations Board
IEBT	IEB benchmark test
IITPSA	Institute of IT Professionals South Africa
ISASA	Independent Schools Association of Southern Africa
ITSI	IT School Innovation
KLT	Kramer Lecture Theatre at Michaelhouse.
KZN	KwaZulu-Natal
MIC	Master in charge
MLT	Media Lecture Theatre at Michaelhouse.
MVULENI	The centre/facility/lapa on the Michaelhouse Nature Reserve.
NBT	National benchmark test
NGO	Non-governmental organization
NS	Natural sciences
NSC	National Senior Certificate
PGCE	Postgraduate Certificate in Education
PISA	Programme for International Student Assessment
SACEE	South African Council for English Education
SARB	South African Reserve Bank
SAGTA	Southern African Geography Teachers' Association
TARP	Top-five academic rewards programme (at Michaelhouse)
UKZN	University of KwaZulu-Natal
UNISA	University of South Africa
WIDPSC	World Individual Debating and Public Speaking Championship

NOTES

THE MICHAELHOUSE WAY

Growing boys into significant men

‘QUIS UT DEUS’

WAY

THE MICHAELHOUSE

OUR VALUES

To live our lives according to the Christian values of integrity, humility, compassion and courage in service to our community and country.

OUR MISSION

To provide a dynamic and progressive education for boys that respects individual needs and embraces diversity and change in pursuit of academic, sporting and cultural excellence while providing social and leadership skills and nurturing spiritual growth.

OUR VISION

“Our aim is to make, not accountants, not clerks, not clergymen, but men; men of understanding, thought and culture.”

*Founder James Cameron Todd,
Speech Day 1897*



OUR HONOURABLE TRADITIONS

Our Christian values and structures that frame our respect for ourselves, each other, and God.

Our holistic approach that encourages us to take every opportunity.

Our hierarchy through which we learn the traditions, responsibilities and rites of passage of a Michaelhouse boy.

Our distinctive architecture, uniforms, customs, events, and language that inspire our sense of belonging.

Our staff who teach us, care for us and model the Michaelhouse way.

THE MICHAELHOUSE

C

INTEGRITY

We will do what is expected of us when no one is looking.
We will earn trust by being honest.
We will not compromise these values.

O

HUMILITY

We will understand that the world does not revolve around us.
We will be grateful for the privileges we have been afforded.
We will acknowledge our own flaws and shortcomings.

D

COMPASSION

We will aim to do for others what we would want to have done for us.
We will do our best to integrate everyone into our community.
We will seek to understand the perspectives of others.

E

COURAGE

We will not be afraid to stand up for what is right and good.
We will not stand down when faced with adversity and challenges.
We will be willing to lead for the sake of truth and justice.

SERVICE

We will give to others and not expect anything in return.
We will do for others the best of what was done for us.
We will seek to embody these words: “If a boy walks so tall that he cannot stoop to help those that have fallen, then he knows nothing of the spirit of Michaelhouse.”

‘QUIT YOU LIKE MEN’

A SIGNIFICANT MAN IS

A MAN OF UNDERSTANDING

Who knows right from wrong yet is able to be gracious and manage complexity.

A MAN OF THOUGHT

Who is intellectually curious and seeks to relate healthily to his entire world.

A MAN OF CULTURE

Who knows his own roots yet also seeks to know the best that has been thought and expressed throughout the world.

Therefore:

A SIGNIFICANT MAN

Will have the strength and wisdom to meet personal and social challenges with the hope and courage of St Michael himself.



MICHAELHOUSE

Boys today. Men of principle tomorrow.

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