OLD BOYS' CLUB

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



It has been a productive quarter for the Club - the kind where the real work is less about any single headline event and more about the steady rhythm of Old Boys showing up for one another, on rugby fields, at branch dinners, and back at Balgowan.

We were especially privileged this quarter to welcome Bart Wielenga to his first Old Boys' event as our new Rector and Patron, at the Johannesburg Branch's Annual Dinner. In that same spirit of generations meeting, we celebrated the 100th birthday of Basil Hersov (Pascoe, 1943), the fourth Old Michaelhousian to reach that milestone, joined by three generations of his own family.

Elsewhere, our Ambassador Programme brought Old Boys back to school to speak to the B Block at World of Work Day, and Cape Town's Old Boys made their mark and claimed the title at the Alumni Rugby 7s event. Congratulations also to Theo Apteker (McCormick, 2022), named among the Mail & Guardian's 200 Young South Africans for 2026.

Thank you, as always, to everyone who gives their time to organise, host and show up for gatherings.

Introducing the Club for Life Contribution

This quarter we've launched something new: the Club for Life Contribution, a voluntary contribution given monthly or annually in support of our Club for Life Impact Fund, which gives every Old Boy a simple way to give back on an ongoing basis.

From R130 a month, or its annual equivalent, Old Boys can now contribute directly to three things:

- **Connection:** strengthening the Old Boy network through OM+ and the technology built to keep us connected for life
- **Direct Support:** helping young Old Boys as they leave school, through holiday work placements, the A Block and post-tertiary mentorship programmes, and career guidance
- **Capability and Delivery:** funding the people and systems that keep the Club running

The Club will report back regularly and openly on how funds are used and the difference they're making.

You can find out more and contribute at *michaelhouse.org/make-an-impact*

ROLL OF HONOUR

Since our last newsletter, we note with great sadness the passing of the following members of the Michaelhouse Old Boys' Club: Mark Inman (East, 1959), M.A. Bauristhene (Pascoe, 1971), Christopher Melville (Tatham, 1953), Jacob Dovey (Mackenzie, 2012), Denzil Vaughan Montague Bradley (Tatham, 1954) and Tony Richmond (Baines, 1960).

We extend our heartfelt condolences to their families and loved ones.

As always, we strive to keep our Roll of Honour up to date, but we rely on our community to keep us informed of any Old Boys who have passed away. Please email us should there be any omissions.

RECENT CLUB HIGHLIGHTS



Johannesburg Branch: Annual General Meeting and Dinner

The highlight of the evening was celebrating Basil Hersov's (Pascoe, 1943) 100th birthday, with the Club presenting him with an engraved centenary cricket bat. Basil becomes the fourth Old Michaelhousian to reach his century, and the occasion was made all the more special by three generations of his family in attendance.

Thank you to the Johannesburg Branch for their excellent organisation and to Mike Stannard (East, 2004) for leading the branch.

Basil Hersov receiving his engraved centenary bat

Theo Apteker (McCormick, 2022) - Mail & Guardian 200 Young South Africans

Michaelhouse Old Boy Theo Apteker has been named among the Mail & Guardian's 200 Young South Africans for 2026, recognised in the Entrepreneurship category. Now a business, technology and entrepreneurship student at New York University's Stern School of Business, Theo is the founder of Proud, a food accountability app he designed and coded himself, accepted into Blackbird's Giants accelerator in Sydney. Alongside his studies, he is working as a summer analyst on the Equity Capital Markets desk at Berenberg in Frankfurt. The Old Boys' Club is incredibly proud!

Cape Town Branch: Bishops Old Boys 7-a-side Rugby Festival

Cape Town's Old Boys made a strong showing at this year's festival, hosted at Bishops' Lutgensvale Field, beating St Andrew's College in the final to take the title. The winning side included: Michael Pitt (East, 2025), Harry Vickery (East, 2025), Mitchell Davies-Webb (McCormick, 2022), Murray Baker (East, 2023), Noah Bates (East, 2025), Nicholas Baker (East, 2025), Thomas Carmody (McCormick, 2022), Rupert Hechter (McCormick, 2022), Duncan Davies-Webb (McCormick, 2022), Jack Hughes (West, 2024) and Will Harvey (Farfield, 2022).



The Michaelhouse Old Boys 7s side before their final against St Andrew's

B Block World of Work Day - 26 August

Michaelhouse hosted its annual World of Work Day, giving the boys direct exposure to a wide range of careers and industries. Thank you to Charles Watson (Pascoe, 1976), Mike Moran (Founders, 1980), Mike Roberts (Founders, 1993), Gavin Erasmus (Founders, 1997), Brad Roets (Farfield, 1999), Andrew Davidson (Baines, 1999) and Luke Kaufmann (East, 2024) who gave up their valuable time to help the next generation of Old Boys.

At another event, the Michaelhouse Entrepreneurship, Leadership and Networking (M.E.N.) Society hosted Divesh Makan (Pascoe, 1991), founding partner of ICONIQ Capital, for a student-led Q&A. Thank you, Divesh, for all that you do for Michaelhouse boys and for the Old Boys' Club.



President-Elect Ray Mkhulisi (Baines, 2011) addresses the 1st XI

As we head into the summer season, the 1st XI cricket team invited President-Elect Ray Mkhulisi (Baines, 2011) into the changeroom for an early-morning conversation before their fixture against Affies. The invitation came from Vincent Jordaan (MiC Cricket) on behalf of the side, who wanted the boys to hear Ray's story and understand who and what they represent when they walk onto the field.

"Stars of the Schlesinger" at the 50th Anniversary Celebration

The Schlesinger Theatre marked its 50th anniversary with an evening of performances from the schoolboys, Old Boys, staff and the wider community. Andreas Damm (Founders, 2004) and Ryan Dittman (Baines, 2002) served as MCs; John van de Ruit (Founders, 1992) and Craig Higginson (Founders, 1989) gave addresses on the theatre's legacy; Angus Douglas (Pascoe,

1986) presented its history; and Brandon Jones (Farfield, 2017) and Bruere Venter (Baines, 2017) performed several duets. William le Cordeur (Founders, 1998), Director of the Theatre, brought the evening together, with Gareth Dry, Head of Music, performing "The Music of the Night." It was an incredibly memorable occasion, and we look forward to welcoming back Old Boys to the stage in the future.

If you missed the event, you can watch it back here.

Rugby

Tom Baguley (Tatham, 2024) turned out for Chile's development rugby side, which thumped Paraguay on Wednesday 23 September - a remarkable achievement so soon after leaving school. Well done, Tom! We are all incredibly proud and look forward to watching your progress in the months and years ahead.

Congratulations to Andrew Davis (Tatham, 2022) and Josh Aissing (Pascoe, 2023), who helped win the Murray Cup, the oldest rugby knockout trophy in the world. Andrew captained the side, with Josh in the starting line-up.



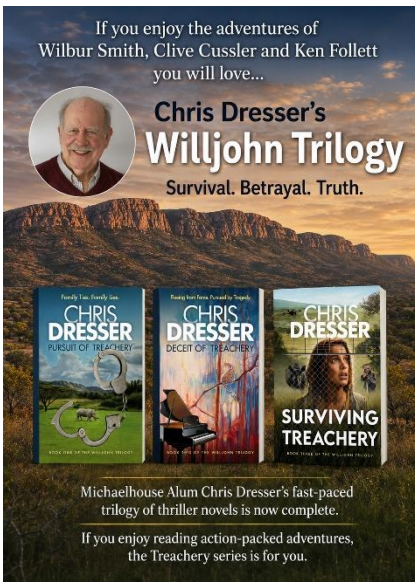


Left: Tom with Chile's development rugby side before their match against Paraguay
Right: Andrew Davis and Josh Aissing with the Murray Cup

On the Bookshelf

Congratulations to Chris Dresser (Farfield, 1954) on completing his action-adventure trilogy, the Willjohn Trilogy: *Pursuit of Treachery*, *Deceit of Treachery* and *Surviving Treachery* - available now on Amazon/Kindle. If you enjoy Wilbur Smith, Clive Cussler or Ken Follett, this one is for you!

World-renowned playwright Anthony Akerman (Farfield, 1966) also paid us a visit recently to drop off his latest published title, *Maverick Writers*, which now takes its place in our Old Boys' library. Our thanks to Anthony for the gift.





Right: Anthony Akerman beside the Old Boys' library display in the Heritage Centre

Clay Pigeon Shoot

Friday 11 September saw the Pietermaritzburg Branch take on the Midlands Branch in the annual clay pigeon shoot, organised by Mark van Heerden (Farfield, 2009), Nick Jackson (East, 2004), Nick March (Farfield, 2005) and James Wardlaw (Farfield, 1991). Well done to the PMB Branch, who won 17-14 on average, and to Mike Norton (Tatham, 2002), named Best Shot of the Day.





Left: Old Boys at the Midlands vs PMB Clay Pigeon shoot
Right: The Michaelhouse Old Boys team at the Nottingham Road Touch Rugby Tournament

The following day, on Saturday 12 September, Pietermaritzburg Branch Chair, Mark van Heerden (Farfield, 2009) organised a team to play in the Nottingham Road Touch Rugby Tournament. Our Old Boys' side placed 3rd, losing 3-2 to the eventual winners.



Around the Branches and Affiliates

Thank you to UAE Affiliate, Luke Versfeld (Pascoe, 2016) for organising a golf get-together in the UAE, to Kyle Dutton (Mackenzie, 2004) for keeping the monthly drinks going and Geoff Chennells (Founders, 1998) for continuing to organise many gatherings on the North Coast. We appreciate all the hard work that our branches and affiliates do to ensure that Old Boys are connected in every corner of the world!

Old Boys at the UAE golf get-together



James Cameron Todd: 130 Years Since Founding Michaelhouse

To mark the 130th anniversary of the founding of Michaelhouse on 5 August 1896, and to honour the legacy of our Founder, Canon James Cameron Todd, the UK Old Boys' Branch laid a floral tribute at his resting place in St Martin's Churchyard, Ruislip. They represented our global Michaelhouse community by placing a bouquet of proteas and other South African flowers at his grave, alongside a memorial card.

James Cameron Todd's grave at St Martin's Churchyard, Ruislip, London



New Basketball Courts Opened

Michaelhouse opened its new basketball courts on Friday 28 August. Ahead of the opening, two current Michaelhouse boys sat down with MiC Basketball Nkanyiso Ngcobo and Old Boy Tshediso Khuzwayo (East, 2004), former 1st Team Basketball Captain, to discuss the journey of basketball at Michaelhouse.

Watch the story here.

The Michaelhouse Old Boys' basketball team after playing the schoolboys



UK Branch: Old Boys' Cricket vs Hilton College Old Boys

The UK Branch played Hilton College Old Boys in a match at The Wimbledon Cricket Club on 2 August.

The Michaelhouse team: Murray Judge (West, 2017), James Gush (Founders, 2019), William Norton (Farfield, 2018), captain Tom Quin (Founders, 2018), Luc Pousson (Baines, 2019), Declan Newton (Founders, 2018), Jack Firth (Baines, 2018), Brandon Jewell (Farfield, 2019), Oli Calvert-Evers (Founders, 2017), Dan Kramer (Tatham, 2013), Troy Nijland (Mackenzie, 2017).

The UK Branch Old Boys' cricket side at The Wimbledon Cricket Club

SCHOOL NEWS

Catch up on all the latest news from the school in the weekly Rector's eNews.

COMING UP

Please see the list below for all upcoming events. Please email *oldboys@michaelhouse.org* if you want to find out more about a specific event.

October

- **Durban Branch:** Annual Old Boys' Dinner - 14 October, guest speaker John van de Ruit (Founders, 1992), Glen Ashley, Durban North
- **Cape Town Branch:** Annual Dinner & AGM - 15 October, Springbok Arms, Observatory
- **Old Boys' Lunch:** pre-1960 leavers - 16 October, Michaelhouse Old Boys' Club
- **PMB Branch:** Hudson Bennett Golf Day - 23 October, 11h00, Victoria Country Club, Pietermaritzburg
- **UK&E:** Winter Luncheon - 29 October, Royal Air Force Club, London
- **UK&E:** AGM & Auction Dinner - 30 October, Royal Air Force Club, London

November

- **Johannesburg Branch:** Golf Day - 20 November, Parkview Golf Club

December

- **Eswatini Affiliate:** Padel and Golf Weekend - 11-12 December
  (Padel: Friday, from 16h00, Malkerns Country Club; Golf: Saturday, from 09h00, Nkonyeni Golf Course)

We wish you all a happy and healthy term ahead and hope to see you at a branch event or back at HQ soon!