

OHA NEWS



HERSCHEL
GIRLS SCHOOL

Staying Connected

2014

We are assembled here in love, we are united, we care for one another.

The greatest lesson of all is the one that teaches us to live together,

together.

Dei gratia

believe

there

that

burn

God

fondly



then, these will be friends forever, forever. Everyone's a spark and in the

night a fire burning bright. Ad Dei gloriam Inkosi mayibongwe to

the glory of our God this is what we believe. Ad Dei gloriam

Contact Us

- Catch up on all the news at www.herschel.org.za/alumni
- Keep us informed of your new address and telephone numbers by completing the “**Update Details**” page.
- Locate other Old Herschelians by using the “**Locate Friends**” form.
- Join the **Lady Herschel** group and join us for a relaxed evening with friends. gilespie@iafrica.com
- Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com . Search for “Old Herschelian Association” and click on “like”.
- E-mail us on oha@herschel.org.za

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OHA OFFICE HOURS: Thursday 8h30 to 12h30 during school term

Dates to diarise

Thursday 12 February 2015	@18h00	OHA Cocktail Party	Tickets cost R30 Acceptances only to oha@herschel.org.za
Friday 13 February 2015	@11h00	Founder's Day Service at St Saviour's	Acceptances to oha@herschel.org.za before Friday 6 February
	@12h45	AGM in the Dining Room	
	@13h00	Lunch in the Mary Jagger Hall	Acceptances to oha@herschel.org.za before Friday 6 February
June 2015		OHA Winter Dinner	For all Old Herschelians, Staff and Friends of the school Cost R150 per person
September 2015		OH Mother's Breakfast	For Old Herschelians who currently have daughters, granddaughters or nieces at Herschel
November 2015		Golden Girls Tea	For Old Herschelians who have celebrated their 50 year reunion



Letter from the Head



This year we have once again celebrated our Herschel tagline: *Learning to make a difference.*

Academic excellence is our core business. I am privileged to report that my staff are on top of the academic challenges in every area. We are ranked the top academic performing school in the Western Cape in both matric results and the WCED Grade 9 English and Mathematics systemic tests. We know, however, that the real success of many of the subject departments lies, not so much in the number of distinctions, but in the small and significant improvements and complex understandings supportively instilled in the girls each day. The Grade 11

Research essay and the Grade 9 Science Expo project are two bold examples, amongst many, illustrating that we demand an academic engagement and philosophy of thinking that goes well beyond the curriculum and Grade 12 examinations.

In our resource centre, our new Head Librarian, Mrs Margie Paton-Ash, has championed afresh the importance of mature reading and comprehension skills, which form the basis of understanding in all subjects. We are constantly training our girls to develop and refine their academic vocabulary, research and writing skills. Research shows our Alumni thrive in academic life beyond school. Old Girls studying at local universities tell us that their robust work ethic and confident research and academic writing skills are as a result of their Herschel heritage. Alumni continue to get into Universities and faculties of choice both locally and overseas.

This year we celebrated the 20th anniversary of the concretion of the current Chapel and the 21st anniversary of the School Song. In celebrating these, we celebrated the centrality of the Chapel and the love of God amongst us. We are privileged to be able to work and learn within such a spiritually-enriched environment. It reminded me again that as we welcome, teach and shape those in our care, we welcome the presence, love and peace of God and in so doing, we can embrace the power of renewal, transformation and hope in the lives of our students and the school community.

We have worked very intentionally this year to make the highly productive and demanding learning environment that is Herschel a more nurturing and empathetic space for all. Mrs Michelle van Schalkwyk, Head of Pastoral Care, has pioneered this drive to support and nurture the development of the individual Herschel girl. The tutor system has been revamped and made more intimate, with tutors encouraged to build relationships, care and fun into the girls' daily routine. The addition of Carter House has made the Houses smaller, more manageable and places where more girls can lead and shine. Mrs Sellmeyer, the school counsellor, has held numerous workshops with the girls and staff to raise awareness and understanding of how stress and bullying behaviour operate within a girls' school and how they can impact and undermine a girl's sense of connectedness and self-worth. At the end of last year we restructured the Boarding House and appointed Mrs Gaynor Cornish as House Mother. This year we have seen the growing warmth, sense of family and homely atmosphere evident in Arderne House.

A highlight of the year for many is Enrichment Week, powerfully championed and co-ordinated by Mrs Sue Grove. The week's activities are designed to challenge the girls to grow into better people, through their engagements with people and communities who experience life differently. The word "education" means 'to draw out' and we are committed to drawing out women of both academic and personal substance, integrity, passion and character. Much of this occurs in the day-to-day teaching and learning; much also occurs in those Enrichment Week moments when a speaker or activity sparks an idea, affirms a passion or speaks purpose, belief or hope into a young life. For the Herschel girl, that is the difference we are learning to make.

This year we launched the one-to-one iPad programme in grades 8 - 10. We decided to allow for a gradual integration into the classroom situation, believing that each girl in our school should be a robust, 21st century digital citizen, capable of shaping her work and future with the help of technology. We are, however, very conscious of the dangers and distractions of too much screen-time, the perils of social media and the damage that cyberbullying causes. Social media activist and lawyer, Emma Sadleir, pulled no punches in her presentations to parents, girls and staff, in the third term, presenting a direct, clear message on the urgent need to safeguard privacy and reputation while practising responsible social media etiquette.

There has been a great amount of attention given to the student leadership structures this year, with an enlarged Prefect and Management leadership team. Miss Denise Baws mentors the Prefects, Management Heads and the Forum with a hands-on and dedicated approach, ensuring strong girl leadership in all spheres of school life. One of the great joys for me to witness is the girl's leadership of the Community Service programme and clubs and societies on the campus. We serve 8 different school groups through our community service initiatives and I am thrilled to watch as our girls engage with both preparatory and senior school pupils from a variety of less-resourced schools. Every week we host eighty Grade 11 and 12 Mathematics students from Langa High and our girls peer-tutor those students as they work through past Mathematics examination papers. At the same time more than forty students from Regina Coeli Primary are welcomed onto the Herschel campus to receive Mathematics tuition in the JUMP-HI programme, generously sponsored by the Ackerman family. There is no doubt that our girls are learning a good deal as they make a difference!

This has once again been an exceptional year for music, art, drama and sport. We have hosted three cultural productions; our music, drama and dance girls have performed to acclaim in numerous Eisteddfods; our Matric artists produced a magnificent exhibition, and our Choir and Chorale and Fusion groups have delivered majestic performances. Our highly-respected Chorale was the backbone of two *Songs of Praise* services conducted by the renowned conductor, Richard Cock, which commemorated 200 years of Anglican work and worship in South Africa. Once again the House Plays proved to be a dramatic highlight of the term. The theme for this year's House productions was The Big Issue and it forced the script writers and directors to construct some deeply meaningful and insightful plays that explored some of the major political, racial and social issues of our time.

This year we sent the First Hockey and Basketball teams on a remarkable sports tour to China and have had highly successful domestic seasons in all sports. Basketball is proving to be more popular each year and we congratulate the First and U16A teams who reached the finals of the Top Schools Tournaments. The highlight of the tennis season was the Independent Schools Tennis Tournament which was hosted by Herschel. Eight of the top Independent schools from all over the country participated in this tournament and Herschel came a strong third. The Herschel U16 Hockey team won their league and has been selected to represent the Western Cape in the Top Schools' Tournament which is being held in Pretoria during the December school holidays.

As you can see 2014 has been a wonderfully enriching and productive year. It is right and fitting to reflect on all the learning, magic and wonder that is generated on the Herschel campus and applaud the staff for their deep investment and creative leadership. It is a remarkable school and it makes a profound difference.

I have the pleasant opportunity to meet many Old Herschelians who pop in to visit their school and revisit many memories. Please know that you are very welcome at any stage to visit and see the school that undoubtedly played a significant role in your lives and to marvel at some of the recent developments.

Joyanne and I wish you and your families a most blessed Christmas and New Year full of happiness and love.

Ad Dei Gloriam,

Stuart West

Report from the Chairman of the OHA



In my report at the end of 2013, I asked for suggestions for a new name for the OHA (some members just do not like being called "old"). However, after in-depth research into putting the change into effect, the committee realised it is just too complicated to change the bank account, constitution and so on... So the name remains The Old Herschelians Association, but our spirit will forever be young!

A large group of Old Herschelians gathered with much excitement for our Founder's Day celebrations. As usual, it was a wonderful way to start the OHA year. The cocktail party was well supported and everyone admired the venue, the newly-built Aaron Searll building, and all the amazing facilities the girls have today. Founder's Day was magic as always.

The theme of Founder's Day this year was the school song. The new chaplain, Reverend Sue Taylor, led the service and spoke beautifully about the school song in her sermon. The lovely tradition, introduced by Bob Commin, of building a cross of fresh roses by the Old Herschelians, and anyone else who wished to, continues as a moving part of the service. In the silence we remembered those Old Herschelians who had died in the past year.

The service was followed by the welcoming arch back at the school. In this special tradition the current pupils form an arch through which the new pupils and staff pass and are thus welcomed into the Herschel family. We all sing the school song and it is always so special to participate.

The AGM is a vital part of the day for the OHA as we are able to give feedback on the past year and give insight into what the next year holds in store. At the AGM it was agreed that the OHA donation would be given to Herschel to help pupils, particularly bursary students, with the extras they needed. Di Burns gave the Treasurer's report and I gratefully thanked her for all the work she does and has done for the school. Daphne Beames still arranges the Lady Herschel evenings, which will now take place on a Thursday evening every second month. I hope that I will be able to attend a few of her fun evenings. I value and thank my committee for all they do, particularly our secretary, Tania Johnstone.

The Founder's Day lunch is a highlight of the day. During the lunch we enjoy many memories and much laughter as a representative of each Reunion year takes us back into the Herschel of yesteryear. I am so glad to say that every Founder's Day we seem to have more people coming back for their reunions. This year we hosted seven reunion groups from 1954 to 2004 this year and one stalwart celebrating 70 years out of school.

The class of 2013 took Herschel to the top! Herschel was named the top achieving school in the Western Cape - what a name to be linked to forever.

Please keep in touch so we can keep in touch with you.

Best love

Prue Crawley

The annual OHA Cocktail Party



The cocktail party was held in the Aaron Searll Building this year. As always, there was great excitement as many Old Herschelians gathered for reunions. Of course, there is also the opportunity to meet many other Old Herschelians from other year groups and different generations too. There are so many stories to tell. It is always lovely to see past and present teachers at the cocktail party too.



*We hope you will join us at the 2015 Cocktail Party
to be held on Thursday, 12 February at 18h30*

Founder's Day



Happy Birthday Herschel

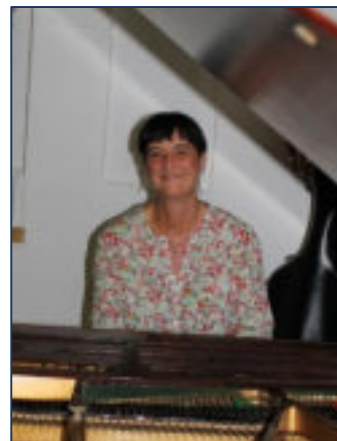


Grade One Girls

"Everyone's a spark..." Founder's Day 2014 celebrated the special unity of the Herschel family and the bonds we form at the school that remain long after we have left.

This year marks the 21st anniversary of the school song, so appropriately the theme focused on our School Song and what it means to the Herschel family. The beautiful music and lyrics were written in 1993 by Thandi Siebert (Head Girl 1994) under the guidance of Mrs Rosie Taylor, music teacher at the time.

The prep and senior school began the days' celebrations with a special assembly where framed copies of the school song were unveiled and the birthday cakes were admired and cut. The delightful and enthusiastic, Mrs Rosie Taylor entertained the girls with her (often hilarious) memories of her time at Herschel and even played the piano for them.



A special service at St Saviours, led by Rev Sue Taylor, followed. The senior school girls were joined by Alumni, many celebrating milestone reunions, including a group from the Class of 1954, celebrating their 60th reunion. Placing a rose on the cross of remembrance is a tradition many hold dear and this year was no exception. Rev Taylor emphasised the bonds of womanhood in her message.



Back on campus, the Newcomer's Arch welcomed the new girls and staff to the Herschel family and then, as is tradition; the girls, staff, council members and Old Herschelians assembled at the school fountain to sing the school song together. A joyful reminder that those past, present and to come "*will be friends forever*".

The School Song

We are assembled here in love,
we are united,
we care for one another.
The greatest lesson of all is the one
that teaches us to live together, together.

*Everyone's a spark and in the night
a fire burning bright.
Ad Dei gloriam
Inkosi mayibongwe
to the glory of our God
this is what we believe.*

In times of trouble we support
our fellows; we are taught
to be there for our friends.
And all around us, there will be
that special unity,
that binds us all together.

Everyone's a spark ...

If we come back after many years,
we think fondly
of the things that we remember,
and the friends that we made then,
these will be friends forever,
forever.

Everyone's a spark...

The Mary Jagger Hall was filled with laughter and the buzz of conversation during the OHA lunch. We had a record number of reunions and many happy and thought provoking speeches from the reunion groups.



OHA Winter Dinner



If you 'Google' *Karen Dudley*, you will find a very long list of her accomplishments in the culinary world, peppered with colourful adjectives describing her flair, her creativity, her unique style and her innovative ideas.

Karen is definitely one of a kind.

She is the author of two bestselling recipe books (*A Week in The Kitchen* and *Another Week in The Kitchen*), the owner of the much-loved *The Kitchen* in Woodstock and the highly acclaimed *The Dining Room*, she writes a blog, caters for functions and, of course, she is a wife to Dave and a mother to their kids, Ben and Maggie.

Karen fills the world with love.

Every day of the week, Karen feeds and nourishes the vibrant people of Woodstock who flock to *The Kitchen* for her signature Love Sandwiches and abundant selection of delicious salads. Her guests include the likes of Michelle Obama and of course, her loyal, local regulars.

Karen was Head Girl of Herschel in 1985. In her final address to the school she quoted Darwin P Kingsley: "You have powers you never dreamed of. You can do things you never thought you could do. There are no limitations in what you can do except the limitations in your mind as to what you cannot do. Don't think you cannot do. Think you can." Karen, it seems, lives by this motto each and every day.

Karen shared with us her lessons learnt along the path her life has taken and filled us with her positive energy, inspiring us to live our lives mindfully of others and in service of the greater community.



During the course of the evening, we enjoyed the enormous talent of the Herschel a'capella group, *Fusion*. They performed a variety of popular songs and received a standing ovation.

Diana Davis remembers Rev. Carter

Diana Davis (née Struben, 1937) started at Herschel in Kindergarten and completed her Matric in 1937.

She remembers staying with the Archbishop of Cape Town and Mrs Carter at their home in Bishopscourt when she was six years old. She found him a very approachable man, whom she could ask anything. "They were special people."

Mrs Davis also recounts that she played with their dog, Bogey, but that, on a later occasion on Muizenberg beach, Bogey nipped her in the face. After the death of the Archbishop, Mrs Carter lived in a village in England and Diana accompanied her parents on a visit to Mrs Carter, who, Diana says "was a lovely, sweet lady with a flair for pretty things."

Diana's parents first lived in Strubenholt, in Rosebank, which is now the home of the South African College of Music. They later moved to Talana Road near the school. Diana and her sister used to come to school on horseback, with the groom, Jacobus, bringing up the rear, carrying their suitcases. At school he would swap the book bags for the horses and return home. "Life was very different in those days", admits Diana. There were stables at Herschel at that time (and Diana remembers the retainer called Joel who worked there) but the girls were not allowed to stable their horses and at 5 in the afternoon Jacobus would return and the entire procedure would take place in reverse. "We did that for 5 years, because my father refused to drive us to school."

Diana also boarded at Herschel, sleeping in the infamous open balcony, where they had a male intruder one night. The man did not keep teenage hysteria in mind when he planned his visit, frantically tried to flee amidst the shrieking and was found clinging to a ledge of the building.

There were 75 girls at school when she was in Matric. The Headmistress, Miss Ralph, was very strict and even opened and censored the girls' letters before it was mailed. There were no dances allowed either, though the girls were allowed to attend the Bishop's Matric Dance in a church hall.

The girls participated in "games": hockey netball, tennis and attended gym classes. "I see Herschel is doing very well on the sports fields, but then we were thoroughly beaten by Rustenburg."

Once a term they were forced to walk to Kirstenbosch and although she did not enjoy it at that stage, Diana now loves Kirstenbosch and admits to having green fingers. A termly outing to St James was also compulsory and to Diana, travelling back on the train in sandy, wet clothes, is not a memory she cherishes.

The start of a choir by the music teacher Miss Willis, on the other hand, brought a love of music and the girls loved the experience which, she says, made the school a much happier place.

After she matriculated in 1937, Diana wanted to study architecture, but her father, a barrister, had other plans. He said there was no place for a woman in architecture and chose to send her to a finishing school in Wimbledon, England ("where I learned nothing"), and then to a finishing school in Paris where she learned to speak fluent French – and now practices her French on the car guards at a Rosmead shopping centre - discovered the French Impressionists and cultivated a life-long love for good perfume.

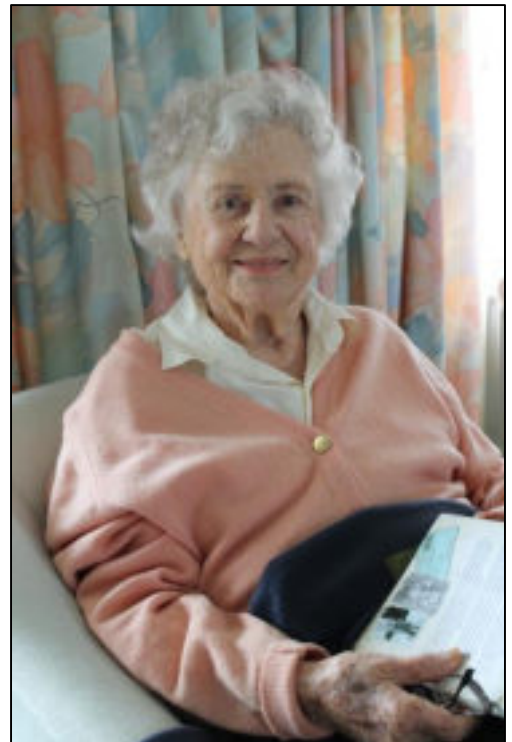
"How different things were then," says Diana. "You could become a nurse or learn shorthand or maybe train to become a teacher. Women have achieved so much in the past 70 years; it is no wonder men are scared of us!"

After her return, Diana met an old acquaintance that was at Bishops when she was at Herschel. He went to Cambridge, but in 1939 he was sent to war. They corresponded and were married after the war. They lived in Port Elizabeth and established an estate in Balgowan, in the Natal Midlands.

It was while living in Port Elizabeth, that Diana decided that their two daughters, Gillian and Susan, should attend Herschel and "I dragged them, kicking and screaming, to board at Herschel." Neither Diana nor her daughters regretted her decision and Susan became Head of Boarding under Miss Kittow in 1965.

"What Herschel gave me, was friends forever," says Diana, who still scrutinizes every issue of the Herschel magazine and is completely up to date with the latest developments and staff changes at the school.

But what else does one expect from this 92-year old Herschelian who reads voraciously - from Max du Preez and Jonathan Jansen to biographies - and has definite and informed opinions about education?



School Song Memories

Dear Herschelians,

It is such an honour to have been asked to write something for you, as we commemorate 21 years since the inception of the school song.

The idea that the school needed an anthem, a sung celebration, a patriotic reminder of belonging to Herschel, and believing in everything she stands for, was not a new one when our little group of girls were asked to come together for a 'jamming' session. We met a few times, I think, and jammed away, although there was only one instrument, the piano, and break times were really too short to try and make much progress. Too many voices too, perhaps to agree, too many different styles. Mrs Rosie Taylor asked us then to go away and give it some thought, to play around a little with some of the lyrics we had come up with as a group, and to see whether we could find, alone, our own appropriate melody.

We did, and 3 of us arrived the following day, excited with our own little 'school song' version, shared lyrics, but new melodies. The only real way to go forward with this was to perform the songs for the school and for everyone to cast a vote. So we did.

My version was chosen, or shall I say just happened to get more votes! I was so touched and thrilled by it all and it goes without saying that each one was an anthem, with a lovely melody in its own right. To know that my song was to secure such an important place in the school's history was really beyond my wildest dreams.

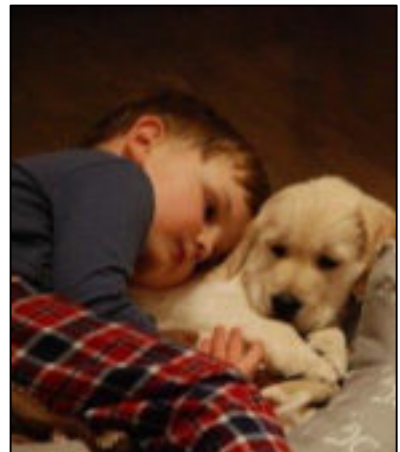
I am more and more touched as the years go by, to hear how much of a special part it has been and continues to be for pupils past and present. I remember such happy times of singing it too, arm in arm with my school peers, harmonies flying everywhere, big hearts proud and big voices sharing in a common love: HERSCHEL.

My melody may have been chosen, but as the different lyrics came together 21 years ago with a common goal, so do all the different voices who sing this song bring something new and fresh, and beautifully unique. It is in celebrating and cherishing each other and our differences, that we ARE UNITED.

Lastly and most importantly, anything that is committed to and led by the Lord, 'AD DEI GLORIAM' will succeed. May you continue singing and living to God's glory!

My warmest regards to you all,

Thandi x



Thandi Siebert (now Crisp) lives in London with her husband, Stuart and her son, James.

The Herschel Chapel – 1994 to 2014

Written by Pamela Duff (Past Head 1986 to 1997)

This beautiful and very special Chapel was originally built as a library in 1940 thanks to a generous donation by Mr Duncan Baxter, son-in-law of the school's founder. With vaulted ceilings, magnificent woodwork, a splendid fireplace, warm red brick, leaded light window panes, tall stately free-standing wooden bookcases and comfy window seats, it was a haven of tranquility and learning for many generations of Herschelians. In fact, I remember the awe and peace I felt when entering the room as a young student teacher here in 1955.

The years passed and my teaching career eventually took me from the then Rhodesia to Pietermaritzburg in Natal where in 1981, I had the privilege of becoming Headmistress of a lovely school – St. John's Diocesan School for Girls, an Anglican school steeped in tradition and still with representatives of the founding Sisters on the Governing Body. With over 100 full-time boarders, the Sunday Eucharist was celebrated at nearby St. Alpheges and the parish priest was also the school Chaplain. St. Johns also has a beautiful old free standing chapel where evensong, communion and confirmation services were held – it was definitely the spiritual 'heart' of the school.



In 1986 I was honoured to take up appointment as Headmistress of Herschel – another Anglican school. Again, the nearby parish church, St. Saviours served the school community, holding the annual major services and Sunday Eucharists, while mid-week evensong for the then full-time boarders and services for individual classes, were held in the small underground crypt chapel which had been lovingly created in 1945 by the then Headmistress Barbara Elcombe. She had cleared the old crypt where sporting equipment had been kept. And in spite of inconveniences of a low ceiling, numerous sight obscuring pillars and uncomfortable benches – the crypt chapel also became a very special place in the life of Herschel with many precious memories for Old Herschelians.



However, by 1986 the school had increased in numbers and was still growing, not only was the crypt chapel becoming too small, but relations with St. Saviours had become sadly strained with the then Rector admitting he did not relate to teenage girls. He also "lost" the attention of teenagers by sticking to his tradition of a lengthy sermon (always well over 50 minutes) strictly adhering to Old Testament scriptures. Happily Christ Church Kenilworth took the school under its ministry, giving wonderful guidance to our pupils and taking over the role of school Chaplain. First was Rev. David Cook, followed by Rev. John Atkinson. The girls were always intrigued to see Chaplain John arriving at great speed on his trusty motor bike!

By 1993, with ever increasing pupil numbers, the Baxter library had become too small to accommodate the needs of the school and the School Council approved my ambitious proposal to build a new Resource Centre/Library, Atrium and classroom block. I had always felt that the lovely Tudor style Baxter library room reminded me more of a Chapel than anything else. I also missed the peace and joy provided by having a special Chapel at St. John's and I had a vision of this room becoming just such a spiritual 'heart' and sanctuary for Herschel.

There was some resistance to the idea from Old Herschelians and tactful, gentle persuasion was necessary to have support from all who had treasured and personal memories. A committee of staff and parents was formed, spearheaded by Countess Sylvia Labia, the then Senior teacher Mrs Paddy Allen who, after ordination became Herschel's first full-time Chaplain, Mrs Anne Snyders, Mrs Gillian Durrant and Mrs Margie Thomas. There was an overwhelming response to an appeal for Chapel funds, with parents, Old Herschelians and friends 'buying' bricks, sponsoring items of furniture and making the tapestry kneelers. Most touching of all is the wooden cross which was donated by the friends of Patience Nofili, a vibrant, much loved girl whose asthma attack sadly caused her death in the January of her matric year. Countess Labia was especially generous in providing beautiful pictures depicting the stations of the cross – and later for the magnificent organ that we have today.



In September 1994 the library was relocated to the Baxter Resource Centre – with the Grade 8's carrying armfuls of books under the guidance of librarians Mrs Sheila Ryan and Mrs Chris Brathwaite. And this room was consecrated as a Chapel by Bishop Merwyn Castle on the 1st of December 1994.

By 2000 the school was in the capable hands of Di van Zyl who enthusiastically completed the stained glass window project. It was my joy and pleasure to sponsor the windows and I am delighted to see the little black angel whom I feel is "Patience" and also the angel holding a computer keyboard. Many old stained glass windows show 'books' indicating learning and the written word of God. Today, computers, iPads and iPhones have become the means of learning and sharing knowledge, so it was my wish that a computer keyboard would bring Herschel into the 21st Century. The twelve windows show different perspectives of Herschel and of spiritual life, a wonderful collage of imagery that lead one into praise and adoration.

Happily Herschel's relationship with St. Saviours has been mended and successive Herschel Chaplains have been welcomed there together with the whole school. Rev. Jo Tyers and Rev. Bob Commin have successively ministered to Herschelians since 1998 and the Chapel is now in the loving hands of Rev. Sue Taylor.

The most heart-warming part of this story is how this Chapel, the symbolic focus of the spiritual life of the school is fulfilling our vision to move out of the curriculum into the lives of the whole Herschel family, including not only regular Eucharists, confirmation services, special services and prayer groups, but also Old Herschelian weddings and blessings. This blessed spiritual 'heart' of the school has played a very special part in the Christian nurturing of Herschelians for twenty years – and will surely continue to do so in the years to come.

Ad Dei Gloriam.



Lady Herschel



Lady Herschel evenings arranged by Daphne Beames continue to be a popular social gathering. All Old Herschelians and friends of Herschel are welcome. To join, e-mail Daphne at gillespie@iafrica.com. See you there soon!



Three Generations of Herschelians



Front Row: Kate Whitfield, Emma Oelz and Lea Chisholm.
Middle Row: Adele Bennetts, Brendalyn Stempel and Jill Eckstein.
Back Row: Jill Whitfield, Kerry Oelz and Nicky Eckstein

Old Herschelians Mothers with their Grade 12 Daughters



Jill and Kate Whitfield, Kerry and Emma Oelz, Nicky Ekstein and Lea Chisholm, Faith Knight and Tessa Koekemoer

Grade 1 to Matric 2014



Front Row: D. Murray, E. Perrot, L. Chisolm, (Mr West) L. Spokes, J. Hampton, G. Buchanan
Second Row: C. Goliath, S. Hodgson, L. Paterson, C. Cullinan, H. Allderman, C. Das Neves, E. Brooks
Third Row: C. Hermans, S. Mitchell, A. Bensch, G. Cole, D. Hugo, C. Bosomworth, V. Atkins, E. Oelz, A. Macey, J. Alleson
Back Row: T. Bell, V. Nel, L. Biebuyck, T. Chittenden, M. Church, P. Marubelela, K. Pettit, S. Sperryn, A. Psillos

Going forward... Prefects and Leaders 2015



Head Girl 2015, Jessica Wilson with Mr Stuart West and Deputy Heads, Shandukani Mulaudzi and Ruby Lapid

Brendalyn Tyers Stempel Old Herschelian Bursary

Applications are now open for
GRADE 8: 2016

- The successful applicant must be the daughter of an Old Herschelian.
- The family will not be in a financial position to afford the full Herschel fees.
- She should be supportive of Herschel's ideals and proud of its heritage.
- She must have academic merit and make sound progress each year.
- She must contribute to the ethos of the school and observe the school's code of conduct.
- The donors will receive regular progress reports from the school and have contact with the recipient herself.
- The bursary will cover a percentage of the normal fees from Grades 8 to 12.

For further details and an application form, please contact the Admissions Secretary on 021 6707500 or vbowes@herschel.org.za



Herschel Bursary Fund

"The future belongs to those who prepare for it today" ~ African proverb

The Herschel school fees are used to fund the running costs of the School. Therefore, fund-raising is essential in order to ensure that the School has the facilities to continue to offer a world-class education, and to enable the school to offer a Herschel education to girls who meet the criteria for acceptance but whose parents cannot afford the full fees.

While fund-raising for specific capital development projects takes place from time to time, there is a significant need to turn greater (and on-going) attention to boosting our Bursary Fund.



Our wonderful Old Herschel Charm is one way of raising funds for the Herschel Bursary Fund, which has been helping deserving recipients for a number of years.

Bursaries are based on merit and need. They may be awarded to girls from Grade 8 to 12 who have academic potential and whose character, interests and talents suggest they would benefit from the education offered by Herschel but who require financial assistance to enrol at the school or to continue their education at Herschel. All applications are submitted to the Bursary Committee.

Whilst our Herschel charm is just one fund-raising event, the Bursary Fund has on-going needs.

If you would like to make a donation or bequest, however big or small, whether a once-off amount or a regular monthly payment, please contact Mrs Mary-Anne Posthumus at mposthum@herschel.org.za or call her on 021 6707515. All donations are channelled to the fund through the Herschel Association which is a registered public benefit organisation. Donors are entitled to a section 18A tax certificate. The Banking details are Herschel Association; First National Bank Claremont; Branch code 200109; Account No 50151103336; Ref: Bursary Support.

Thank you for being willing to make a difference, and helping Herschel create the future.

Sterling silver @ R450

Gold 9ct @ R2 250

Gold 9ct with 1x.02ct diamond @ R2 350

Gold 14ct @ R2 500

Gold 14ct with 1x.02ct diamond @ R 2 800

Extra: Year engraved on back @ R50

To order, please email

beverley@therothmans.co.za

NB: We need 100 orders before the jeweller can start making the charms.

Reunion News

Class of 1954 by Diana Burns (Dicey)

Initially there was some reluctance to celebrate sixty years since writing matric! However, when we heard that our head girl, Revel Reilly (Christie) planned to be in Cape Town for Founder's Day, we decided we had better do something about it!

Fortunately, most of the survivors of the 1954 class live in Cape Town. We were spurred on by Val Hughes (Lewis) to visit the Sculpture Garden of her son, acclaimed sculptor, Dylan Lewis, at Paradyskloof, near Stellenbosch. We had a most enjoyable outing on the day before Founder's Day. The garden has been beautifully landscaped to accommodate the magnificent sculptures of Dylan and other sculptors. He had brought in bull dozers to contour the terrain to show off the works to their best advantage in natural surroundings, and planted the area with local fynbos among the water features. We had a lovely guided walk around the area followed by a tour of the studio and explanation of the casting of the sculptures. We then had a chance to relax over a cup of coffee while we caught up with each other's lives. We were interested to find that Dylan's PA, Lynn Ascham, is the daughter of Old Herschelien, Jackie Jeppe (Ascham, 1947)!

On Founder's Day we assembled at St Saviour's Church for the annual service. We were transported back sixty years as we listened to the beautiful singing of the choir and the inspiring address by the new school chaplain, Rev Sue Taylor. We shared in the decorating of the wire cross with fresh roses, while we remembered past friends and happy days.

The lunch in the Mary Jagger Hall brought back memories of the old gymnasium, now completely transformed, and this time we were seated on the stage in pride of place as the oldest group celebrating the day! Di spoke on behalf the class, recalling customs and events from sixty years ago.



Left to Right: Gill de Kock, Vicki Paterson, Pam Sinclair, Di Burns; Anita Gilmour, Revel Christie, Amelia Brown, Betty Casciati, Severine Barry, Wendy Hofmeyr.

Those who attended were: Revel Reilly (Christie), Pam Jones (Sinclair), Grace Garvin (Smith), Vicki Langham Carter (Paterson), Amelia Cronwright (Brown, from Johannesburg) Severine Penn Hughes (Barry, from Bulawayo), Val Hughes (Lewis), Betty Rudland (Casciati), Wendy Hartford (Hofmeyr), Anita Lockwood (Gilmour), Gill Downing (de Kock) and Di Dicey (Burns). Unfortunately, Jean McCall (Carlsson) was unable to attend at the last moment and Di Versfeld (Reed) sent good wishes from her home in Clarens in the Free State.

We all agreed it had been a happy gathering and we hope to meet more frequently in future.

Class of 1964 by Penny Whyte (Ismay)

The Matric Class of 1964 had a most memorable Reunion which I started organising over a year ago. In the end 17 out of a class of 26 attended. It was held over the Founder's Day weekend, which was the hottest we had all summer. We started our festivities at the Old Herschelien Cocktail Party, which was held at school in the beautiful new Atrium. Hardly anything was eaten by our year as we all had so much catching up to do. Our friends came from far and wide including Australia, Spain, Vienna, Johannesburg, Napier and Port Alfred. Surprisingly enough no one attended from the UK.

Founder's Day and Valentine's Day coincided this year and the temperatures soared. We started the day with a beautiful service at St Saviour's and it was so wonderful hearing the choir again. We then went up to the school for the brief AGM and then into the Mary Jagger Hall for a really delicious lunch. A representative from each Reunion gave a short talk on their years at Herschel. Wendy Simpson was our spokesperson and many laughs were had by all of us.

After lunch two Matrics were assigned to take us on a comprehensive tour of the school and its grounds. The expansion since our days has been enormous.



Back Row: Left to Right: Penny Whyte (Ismay), Sue O Molony (Dicey) Astrid Coyle (Landsberg), Jean Small, Amanda Bester (Waring), Sue Lieberman, Melissa Jesse (Persse), Moira Furter (Hennessy), Wendy Simpson (Whitehead),
Front Row: Left to Right: Di Fleck (Cattell), Mosa Le Roux (Henderson), Jenny Naysmith (Rhodes), Geraldine Montague (Van Der Bijl), Marion Naude (Sampson)
Missing from the photo are: Marion Van Sickle, Suzy Raath and Melanie Serrurier.

Saturday dawned and it was another steamy day. Moira Furter very kindly hosted us for a delicious lunch in her beautiful home in Constantia. Some husbands attended this function and it really was a memorable occasion. On Sunday a few of us met at The Cape Point Vineyards in Noordhoek for a picnic lunch. This was fitting end to a more than fabulous reunion as we gazed over the sparkling ocean.

Class of 1974 by Shushy Hugo-Hamman



After a year of planning, searching for people on Facebook and tracking those with whom we had lost contact through class friends, 22 'girls' arrived, 7 of whom came from overseas, for our Class of 1974 Reunion, which was held in February 2014.

The Old Herschelien Cocktail Party kicked off our reunion and we all met in front of the school where the Ilex Tree once stood. We spent about half an hour just catching up and, luckily we could all recognise each other (thank heavens for hair dye). After a very noisy cocktail party, where we also reconnected with 'old girls' from other years, we all went to Liz Jeffery's (Cowell) home. It was lovely to just sit around in a relaxed setting and for most of us the years just slipped away.

Back row: Left to right - Robin Perold, Barbara Ward-Able, Susan Dowdle, Andrea Williams, Clemmie Robinson
Middle row: Dorothy Beukes, Gill Reay, Libby Aitchison, Susie Le Roux, Liz Jeffery, Gayle Jooste, Cathy Hund, Gill Austin, Sharon Bosma
Front row: Annemarie Serritslev, Penny Whitehead, Shushy Fuller, Tori Hau, Patsy Thom
Missing from photograph: Lynn Slingsby, Susie Brownlie, Julia Paley

The next morning was Founder's Day and our class occupied five pews. Many of us found the experience of being back in St Saviour's very moving. Nothing seems to have changed much except everything about Herschel is now more nurturing and informal. 'God be in my Head' is still sung and the only difference is the absence of Miss Sweet

We walked back to school and participated in singing the school song, a few tears were shed and then into lunch. This was a very loud and enjoyable occasion. Tori Hau (Coombes) made an excellent speech on behalf of our class. On Saturday we met at Buiterverwachting for a picnic lunch with our spouses, partners and family members. It was a beautiful day. We all chatted easily and felt that the reunion weekend had been wonderful.

Finally on Sunday evening many of us met at Kirstenbosch with our families to listen to 'Freshlyground', a very popular local group. We brought our own picnic baskets and made ourselves comfortable on picnic blankets to enjoy the beautiful Cape evening. It was a fabulous way to end a fantastic Reunion.

Time has passed since our reunion and I have been asked by many friends, not from my class, for my thoughts. Certainly, it was worth the effort, but my overriding feeling is one of warmth. We all felt comfortable with one another and I recall remarks such as "I wish I had made an effort to get to know because she is such a wonderful person" and "I was so intimidated by but she is so nice and easy going". Thanks to all who made the effort to attend and to those who made contact, even though they could not attend. We will definitely be having a 45th reunion in February 2019!!

Class of 1984 by Julia Stallard

Wow, what a fabulous weekend we all had !

Thank you to everyone who made it the wonderful, warm, fun, happy event it was. For those who could not be there, we missed you ALL ! At some point during the weekend, every missing person was mentioned, whether you had been in the class for a year or five years.

So what are my 'takeaways' from this reunion weekend - firstly, we are all fabulous (of course, we all knew that!!), we are all looking pretty good given the knocks and highlights of the last thirty years and we are really, really a lovely bunch of women. I have had the privilege of communicating with my year group over the last six months and so have had the pleasure of "talking" to those who could not make it to the reunion, as well as seeing all the girls who did. It has been such a treat.



Hillary Tasker, Lerrisse Thurling, Nicky Newton-King, Mrs Denise Baws (Senior Teacher at Herschel), Julia Stallard.
Liske Wynne, Jo Sedgwick, Nicola Caine, Leanne Kinghorn

Some girls bustled in to our reunion activities exactly as they bustled out of school in 1984 – many sound the same and look the same. We have accumulated loads of children between us, more than a fair share of husbands (some more than others), air miles galore and the odd kilo or two (ahem !!!).

The stories we shared had us in hysterics - some from school and some from our "grown up" lives. The one thing we all agreed is that we felt we could call almost anyone up of our school friends and ask for help; we also felt far more comfortable (this WAS after two days of being together, along with quite a lot of wine!!) exposing our weaknesses and sadnesses to each other than we possibly would to some better, but shorter standing friends! How lovely is that? The comment was made that whilst we went through all that teenage angst together, we still knew each other the best and could therefore accept, forgive and support the best. There were several occasions when I tuned into conversations that started "I have never told this to anyone before but....."

So I ask the Class of 1984, let's not be strangers to each other for the next ten years. Let's stay in touch - call each other, email each other, stalk each other on Facebook... I can think of nothing better than us getting together again soon, knowing we are actively involved in each other's lives.

Class of 1994 by Sally Veary

We started off our reunion festivities at the annual OHA Cocktail Party. This was well attended by girls from the 1994 class. A few girls went to the church service at St Saviour's and were well impressed. I arrived at the school as the girls started singing the school song in the quad and it was a goose bump experience - especially as our year was largely involved in the song through our head girl, Thandi Siebert. We had a lovely lunch in the Mary Jagger hall and Lindi Green (Le Roux) did a great job of speaking on behalf of our year (she also read a letter written by Thandi as she is living in the UK so couldn't attend). We were also taken went on a tour of the school. On Friday evening we enjoyed dinner and drinks just for the girls at the Frog and Toad in Newlands. A good catch-up was had by all.



On Saturday we had a casual family lunch-time get together with families at the Club House in Constantia and it was wonderful to meet the spouses and children of some of the girls.

Class of 2004 by Katie Lamond

The class of 2004 held its 10 year reunion in February 2014 which coincided with the Herschel Founder's Day weekend. The reunion commenced with the traditional Founder's Day service at St Saviour's, which was a trip down memory lane for all of us. We really enjoyed seeing how very little had changed in 10 years from Mr Scott assisting the girls across the busy intersection, to the familiar hymns and ending off with the Grade Eights and other newcomers running through the tunnel to congregate in singing our school song. The service was followed by a wonderful lunch in the Mary Jagger Hall with the rest of the Old Herschelians and staff. The stories shared by previous generations about their school days highlighted how our little school has grown and developed over the years and confirmed that in all its time Herschel has continuously cultivated many life-long friendships which, looking around the lunch tables, was palpable. Once we had finished our lunch, the current Matrics lead us on a school tour where we discovered the incredible renovations that have been done since 2004.

The following day we met up at Steenberg Vineyards for a picnic lunch in the extreme summer heat. We had a great turnout considering so many of the girls from our year are now living abroad. We spent the afternoon laughing, reminiscing and catching-up. We all agreed that 10 years is far too long to wait for our next reunion and are looking forward to reconnecting again next year.



Front: Karen Mayer, Stephanie Rainier

2nd row: Katie Harold (Gull); Kirsty Rich; Nicole Gede; Leigh Anne Macready; Stacey Rehbock; Ashleigh Tyrrell; Vicky Raine; Samantha Watermeyer (Woods); Micarle Van Heerden; Tamyra Joseph

3rd row: Valentina Labia; Jenny Blomkamp; Tammy Le Riche; Kate Haslewood; Lyndsay Theron; Azra Saloojee (Ismail); Aneesa Hassim; Robyne Bizony; Sheenagh Bruce; Tasneem Harnekar

4th row: Katie Lamond; Sarah Girdwood; Elizabeth Reid; Kate McMullen; Bridget Lamont (Hill); Lee-Ann Maughan (De Villiers); Justine Botha; Jessica Doherty (Collins); Megan Ross

5th row: Debby Vella (Goldschmidt); Robyne Cowling; Kirsten Schmitgen; Michelle Jacobs; Amy Harington; Stacey Higginbotham

Special Message from the Class of 1944:

Marjorie Taylor (née Harbottle) and Valerie Gasson (née Kinghorn), two members of the Class of 1944 were due to attend Founder's Day, but unfortunately due to ill health, Marjorie was unable to attend. She is now much better and sends this message: *70 years ago, our matric class (or form as we called it then) consisted of a mere 8 girls and the entire school fitted, with room to spare, into the Mary Jagger Hall. Miss Harriet Robinson was our Headmistress and "Rob", as the girls called her, retired at the end of our year. Our school days were very special and we were happy pupils. We enjoyed all that Herschel had to offer and remained close friends throughout our lives. There are fewer of us now. We are so proud of the unbelievable progress at Herschel and enjoy keeping up with the news. Both my granddaughter, Tania Johnstone (née Peck) and great granddaughter (Katie, Grade 7) keep me up to date.*

Reunions to look forward to

Class of 1965 will be taking part in all the Founder's Day school celebrations – the cocktail party on the Thursday and all the events on the Friday. They will also be having a lunch on the Saturday (14th February). Please contact Jean Bradshaw for further information jeanb@intekom.co.za

Class of 1975 will celebrate over the Founder's Day weekend, with events at the school on Thursday and Friday, followed by an overnight stay in Hermanus. Contact Suzanne Leighton on 084 293 3214 or suzl@mweb.co.za . Or Nicky Thompson on nickythompson@telkomsa.net

Class of 1985 Kyra Schlebusch is organising the reunion over the Founder's Day weekend. Contact her on tomkyra@telkomsa.net

Class of 2005 Lauren Govinden is coordinating the reunion arrangements. Contact her on lsoobramoney@gmail.com

Any other group wishing to book a table together for Founder's Day, please contact oha@herschel.org.za



Engagements

Frances Gain (2001) engaged to Bennett Bossert on 4 February 2014

Alice Johnson (2002) to Ryan Herselman in November 2013

Kristina Miller (2002) to Warwick Erlank in August 2014

Brigette van Selm (2001) engaged to Guy Simonsz on 9 November 2013

Bianca Vos (2001) engaged to Brandon Lynch on 15 April 2014

Marriages

Zeanne Duminy (2001) to Rian Bornman on 14 December 2013 in Newlands, Cape Town

Julia Durrant (2001) to Vito da Silva on 5 September 2013 in Skopelos, Greece

Christie Fynn (2003) to Jonathan Morgan on 23 September 2013

Kathryn Grobler (2000) to Derrin Bassage in Stellenbosch on 30 November 2013

Nicole Grobler (2002) to Matthew McConkey in Cape Town on 3 May 2014

Jacqui Grouwstra (2000) to Alan Koetschid

Liora Lazarus (1986) to Kim Stern on 28 September 2014

Amaal Taliep (2001) to Rashaad Magiet on 1 September 2013

Janice Weggelaar (2003) to Ismaeel Fakier on 9 March 2014

Births

To **Mikaela (née Burnett, 2000)** and Neil Lister, a baby boy, Cameron Walter, born on 12 June 2014 in Sandton, Johannesburg.

To **Kathryn (née du Toit, 2000)** and Julian Burke, a baby boy, Daniel, brother to Emily (2), born 10 Feb 2014.

To **Lauren Elliot Jones (née Elliot, 2000)** and Philip Jones, a daughter, Kathryn Haydn, born in Singapore in May 2014.

To **Ilana (née Johnson, 2001)** and her husband, a baby girl, Liyanda Ava Mafanya, born on 23 March 2014.

To **Philippa (née Slingsby, 2001)** and Ryan Kohler, a baby girl, Amelia Grace, born on 27 November 2013.

To **Lucy (née Stehlik, 1998)** and Daniel Turner, a son, Jesse Duke, 15 August 2014, in London.

To **Jessica (née Stubbs, 2001)** and Mark Bullivant, a baby boy, Thomas Campbell, born on 14 May 2014.

To **Ma'ayan (née Van Der Westhuizen, 2002)** and her husband, Ian Hamilton, twins, Eden Brooke and Lion Grayson on 4 February 2014.

Deaths

BROADBENT, Kim (1970) died on 19 July 2014

CRAWFORD, Anne (née Porter, 1957) on 4 August 2014

EASTON, Rita (née Levetan, 1949) on 26 February 2014 in Pietermaritzburg

ENTHOVEN, Pam (née Hockly, 1944) died in Johannesburg in April 2014

GOODRICK, Jacqui (Staff, 1984 to 1993) died in England in August 2014

MUZI, Diana (née Brooke, 1941) died in Fish Hoek on 24th March 2014

O'MOLONY, Mary (1959) died on 21 August 2014

PATRICK, Meg (Staff) died in September 2014

SUNDE, Helen (née Vincent, 1950) died in May 2014

WILLIAMS, Linda (nee Bettison, 1982) died on 22 February 2014.

Obituaries



KIM BROADBENT (1970) What can you say when you lose one of your closest pals? Never once complaining, Kim battled for nearly a quarter of her life with cancer in various forms. Her inner strength and unfaltering faith in the Lord not only kept her going, but her ever-positive attitude to all of life's challenges rubbed off onto all of us. No matter what hardships she might have been going through (and there were many), she was always available for a quick chat, a giggle, some advice or to provide a new angle on things.

Kim matriculated from Herschel in 1970 and studied Higher Primary School teaching at UCT. She taught at Oakhurst School and then moved to the UK where she was PA to a Board Director of Sothebys. Thereafter she was involved with television producing, advertising, project management and publishing. In 1996 she moved to Johannesburg and established Polygon Projects which was a highly successful project management company. In 2006 she came back to Cape Town to be with her ailing mother and then, reinventing herself again, she studied for a Post Graduate Diploma in Coaching and Counselling and practised as a Life and Business coach for private and corporate clients who adored her.

Kim had a large circle of friends all over the world and at 61 she was certainly too young to leave us. We will miss her beautiful smile and her throaty guffaws. Rest in peace, you courageous, plucky girl.

Kim died on 19 July 2014.

Tribute by Maya Ingwersen (née Albrecht, 1970) , with a little help from Sally Silberbauer (née Wells, 1970)

ANNE CRAWFORD (née Porter, 1957) An amazing Herschel reunion happened in Spain this year. I make 90 minute weekly satellite TV health programmes on Revelation Christian TV reaching 169 countries. An English lady called Anne Crawford applied to come on my *Get Well* weeks in Spain. On the phone she mentioned she had had liver problems since her childhood in Cape Town, and knowing her age was the same as mine, I told her I was at Herschel and wondered if she was, too.....Amazingly it turned out that we were in the same form, and she was Anne Porter. I was Felicity Gill. Both English girls, at Herschel for a few years.

Anne and her daughter came to stay for a week in Spain, but by then she had stage four liver cancer. I did all I could to help with the radical Gerson Therapy detox I teach, having recovered from pancreatic cancer myself in 2003. Sadly, Anne passed away on 4 August 2014 in a hospice in York, UK. Courageous to the end, she celebrated her daughter's 40th birthday in the sunshine the day before. As doctors had told her she only had a few days to live, she turned it into a champagne celebration for the family.

I shall miss her, and will stay in touch with her daughter, Kate.

Tribute by Felicity Corbin-Wheeler (née Gill, 1957)

JACQUI GOODRICK (Sports Teacher at Prep, 1984 to 1993) It is with great sadness that we learned of the death of Jacqui Goodrick who died in Manchester, England in August 2014 after a long and brave fight against cancer. Jacqui was in charge of the Phys. Ed. Department at the Prep School for many years and was loved and respected by both pupils and teachers. She brightened up many hours in the staff room and she will long be remembered.

She left Herschel to return to England with her husband, John and it was there that she gave birth to their twins, Tom and Beth, now 15. Our thoughts are with John, Tom and Beth and we wish them the strength to continue along the path that Jacqui helped them to create.



Tribute by Elaine Bray (Past Prep Teacher)

DIANA MUZIK (née Brooke, 1941) When Diana died on 24th March 2014, a long association with Herschel ended. She became Circle Secretary after Fenella Douglas died and took her duties very seriously, spending long hours tracking down old school friends and reporting on their lives for the annual newsletter.

Diana was an accomplished professional musician and had a busy schedule as an accompanist and vocal répétiteur.

She recalled an extensive season of Dulcie Howes' UCT ballet company in the 1950s to the Eastern Cape, when she and Rachel Rabinowitz were the pianists with a small string orchestra. She said Dulcie organised and controlled every facet of the tour in a most remarkable way, including stage management and lighting. At the end of every performance Dulcie appeared on stage, immaculate and glamorous, before the enthralled audience! (Dulcie Howes, 1925, a founder member of Herschel in 1922, died in October 1993.)

Diana was also a keen member of the local Czech community. Together with her stepson, Petr, she founded a library at the Czech Consulate General with approximately 1500 Czech classical and modern works that belonged to her late husband.

In her retirement she devoted her time to furthering her studies in German, Latin, Roman Imperial History, New Testament Greek, Classical Greek and Ancient History, all of which she studied through Unisa. She always seemed to be studying for exams! She also involved herself in organizing concerts with singers and instrumentalists for the elderly in the Peninsula.

Diana remained a loyal and enthusiastic Old Herschelian until the end of her life. Although limited by failing eyesight and various joint replacements, she never failed to attend Founder's Day and other functions. We treasure her memory as a very special past pupil and friend.

Tribute by Diana Burns (née Dicey, 1954)

MEG PATRICK (Science Teacher at Herschel 1993 to 2006) died in September after a long struggle with cancer. Many girls will remember her fondly for her wonderful science lessons and kind, caring nature.

MARY STEWART O'MOLONY (1959) passed away peacefully on 21 August 2014 at her home in Barrydale after a long illness. She was a gentle soul, much loved by all who knew her. She will be sadly missed, but is now at peace. She leaves behind her brother, Rob, and sister-in-law, Sue O'Molony (née Dicey, 1964)

HELEN SUNDE (née Vincent, 1950) died 3 May 2014. Helen was born in England, came to South Africa with her parents after World War Two in 1946. She was enrolled at Herschel in 1947 and matriculated in 1950. She did a secretarial course at Tech and joined the corporate world. She worked for Eric Rosenthal for some time and then decided to take up nursing. She completed her training at Grey's Hospital in Pietermaritzburg where she met her husband, Edward. They were married at St Saviour's Church in Claremont on 9 May 1959. They would have celebrated their 55th Wedding Anniversary this year. They lived in East London for a while and then Johannesburg before moving to Port Elizabeth in 1969.

Helen was an intelligent, lively, principled and caring person. She and a friend started "Riding for the Disabled" in Port Elizabeth. She participated in voluntary work for the Red Cross and Hospice. She raised funds for charity by selling secondhand books. She was always interested in nature and keeping fit. She started a walking / hiking club.

Helen was a good, faithful friend, a loving wife and mother and will be greatly missed by family and friends. She leaves her husband, Edward, and three daughters, Claire and Jackie in Cape Town and Margaret in Sydney, Australia and four grandchildren. She will be greatly missed by her friends in Port Elizabeth.

Tribute by Mary Coxon (née Jones, 1950)

News from around the world

Patsy Allen (née Thom, 1974) has joined Signature Real Estate as an assistant agent, and having always enjoyed working with people, she is finding it such an exciting transition. Her past experience in Personnel Recruitment, including many, many years in the Health Industry, makes matching people to properties seem a completely natural process.

Dew Barry (née Warren, 1943) writes: *I always enjoy getting the school magazine and this time it is a really bumper edition. I cannot believe it's the same school I attended 75 years ago. Back then we were celebrating the opening of the Library and the new swimming bath, and look at you now! Inevitably, these last few years have seen little news of my contemporaries and none of us feature in last year's newsletter. Not surprising, as those of us who are still around and still have their marbles would only be able to boast about the accomplishments of grandchildren or tricky contracts brought off at the bridge table.*

In 1943 thirteen or fourteen of us wrote matric. It was the end of the war years and six of us were evacuees who were to return to Europe at the end of hostilities. Pam Smuts was our head girl and the only one I keep in touch with. She still lives in Cape Town and travels to friends in England. She was my bridesmaid in 1947. Sadly, neither my daughters nor granddaughters were able to go to Herschel, so I can't boast about them but they all have brilliant careers! One who is a researcher in the art field was recently invited to be a Patron of the Friends of the Michaelis Collection, so I have a Cape Town link!

Suzanne Beele (née Bothner, 1963) writes: *"At the end of July 2013 I moved from my home in Kenilworth to Evergreen Lifestyle Village in Muizenberg with my 2 cats and dog. A year later, and I am very happy here being close to the sea, enjoying the mild climate and I have joined the Bridge crowd...I am bitten!*

I visited my daughter Michelle, her husband Andrew Gray and my 2 grandsons in Auckland, NZ in February this year. Guy (15) has done exceptionally well in the under 18 Underwater Hockey team winning a silver this month in Auckland and Storm (12) is Hip Hop mad! Michelle's business, Oxygen & Skin Renewal Ltd, in Tauranga is doing well and the family are thriving there. Anyone finding themselves in Tauranga is encouraged to visit her web site and make a booking with her. My son, Wade and his wife, Ursula, who live near Windsor in the UK are busy preparing for a London to Paris cycle tour in September, and their trip to climb Mnt Kilimanjaro in February next year.

My contacts with Diana Seymour Hodge-Hawke, Diana Harris Wingfield (UK), and other local Herschelians from my class are still strong, and always a source of pleasure."

Chloe Bradley (2012) was selected to represent the South African Ladies Water Polo team. The team participated at the 16th FINA Women's Water Polo World Cup, held in Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia in mid August.



Gill Coble (née Liebermann, 1960) sent her best wishes as we celebrated Founder's Day on probably the hottest day of the year in Cape Town. She wrote *"Wish I could be with you, temperature here today is - 32°C"*. Gill lives in "freezing cold" Canada. She visited Herschel a few years ago to celebrate her 50th reunion and has such fond memories. This year, her sister, **Susan Liebermann (1964)** who lives in Cape Town, helped organize her 50th reunion. Gill and Susan's mother, Rosemary Godbold left Herschel in 1933 and at the time donated a chair with her name on it. The chair is still in use in the dining room.

Sarah Dall (2005) is a passionate foodie and food stylist and has just published her first recipe book, *For the love of Baking*, full of delicious baked treats and tempting recipes. Sarah trained at Silwood and graduated with the Grande Diploma. She has worked in many top restaurants, done private catering, food styling for various magazines and so much more. Read more at <http://www.sarahdall.co.za>



Jen De Beyer, 2002 writes: *I've spent the last decade or so knocking about universities, playing with all things biochemistry. There were five lovely years in Stellenbosch, doing mathematical modelling of metabolic pathways and building houses with Habitat for Humanity. Then I had five equally delightful years in Oxford, investigating how bacteria sense food and move towards it. That involved videoing lots of spinning cells stuck to glass by their 'tails' and growing vats of bacteria to collect tiny quantities of protein from. Working with Siyavula to make science textbooks for SA schools was an excellent counterpoint to the focus of PhD work. Having successfully delivered the thesis-baby and survived an epic 5-hour viva, I'm now experiencing life mostly outside the laboratory and academia. I work as a science editor in Oxford and help academics to share their awesome work with the world. When not elbow-deep in words, you can find me in the dojo practising aikido, taking advantage of all those easy travel links to Europe or pottering about the kitchen.*

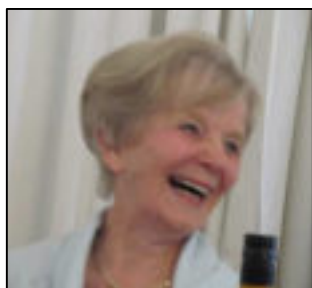


Mary-Jane Duckworth (1947) Mary-Jane Duckworth was born in Cape Town and trained in the Cecchetti Method at the University of Cape Town Ballet School with **Dr Dulcie Howes** (one of the first pupils at Herschel when it opened in 1922) and danced as a student with the University Ballet Company.

She went on to the Royal Ballet School in the UK and danced professionally with the Royal Ballet, the Sadlers Wells Theatre Ballet and with the Ballet Russe during a short revival season. She started her own ballet school in Northamptonshire, in 1966. She was appointed an examiner for the Cecchetti Society Classical Ballet Faculty of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing in 1978, where she was a senior examiner, and carried out extensive overseas examining and teaching tours.

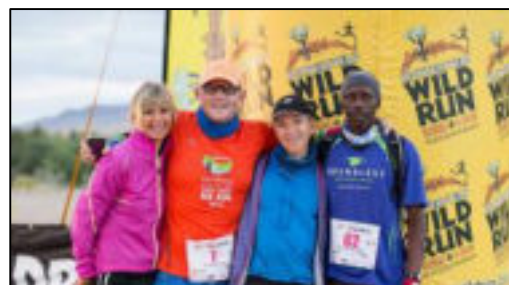
Mary-Jane has now retired, but remains a Trustee of the Dance Teachers Benevolent Fund, a Trustee and Chairman of the Cecchetti Society Trust and of the Cyril Beaumont Scholarship Trust.

She hopes to visit Herschel in 2015 when she comes to visit family and friends in Cape Town.



Pamela Duff (Past Head, 1986 to 1997) writes: *August was a busy month for my husband and me – after eighteen happy years in Greyton, we packed up our beloved 'Golden Pond' cottage and moved to an even smaller, cute cottage at Bridgewater Manor in Somerset West. Getting rid of so much 'stuff' accumulated over the years was both sad and therapeutic! We now live nearer our Cape Town family – and Herschel. I still enjoy attending Herschel functions and feel so proud to see how the school has grown. August also brought my 80th birthday (although I don't feel it!) and the arrival of my fourth great grandchild.*

Nicky Eckstein (1986) ran in the inaugural Richtersveld Wild Run in June. It covered 150kms over uncharted terrain. She ran on behalf of the conservation of rhinos in the Kruger Park, if you want to learn more about this organisation go to www.helpingrhinos.org



Left to Right: Tina van Zyl from Australia, Dave Bellairs, Nicky Eckstein and the winner, Bernard Rukadza.



Chanel Erasmus (2011) is studying at Trinity College in the US. Her squash team have had an extremely successful season, making history in 2014. They won the Division 1 College Squash National Championships for the first time in 11 years, beating Harvard University 5-4 in the finals and they posted a 16-1 record this season. *"It was an unbelievable season. We are the best team in the entire United States. Once a Herschel girl, always a Herschel girl :) "*

Carly Faber (2005) is currently on a graduate student exchange at the University of Minnesota. After completing her masters in geology at UCT, she moved to Tromsø in arctic Norway (at a latitude of almost 70 north) to study a PhD in plate tectonics specializing in ancient continental collision processes (which has meant exploring the fjords, playing with a lot of rocks, snow and reindeer, and getting used to 24 hours sunlight in summer and darkness in winter). She will return to Norway for two more years after spending a few months learning from some of the most interesting and experienced geologists in Minnesota.

Rhoni Gericke (2012) has been named one of Yale's 2013 NFHCA National Academic Squad honorees. The National Academic Squad recognizes those student-athletes who have achieved a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.30 through the first semester of the 2013-14 academic year.



Ma'ayan Hamilton (née Van Der Westhuizen, 2002) and her husband, Ian, are the proud parents of twins, Eden Brooke and Lion Grayson Hamilton. The twins were born on 4 February, 2014

Pictured on the left is Eden with her brother, Lion, sleeping peacefully.

Fiona Henderson (née Macsymon, 1972) and her husband, Geoff, had the experience of a lifetime trekking in the Himalayas this year and reaching the AmaDablam Base Camp of 4,750m in beautiful Nepal. Consequent to that challenge, Geoff has been awarded a trip to Minneapolis, USA and nominated as a Global Hero for the achievement of climbing with a Medtronic pacemaker. Their Brady bunch family of 8 are all grown up with the youngest Julia turning 18 this August, the same year as their eldest daughter's marriage. Fiona who lives near Canberra, Australia, catches up with **Barbara Gautschi (née Parry, 1973)** and **Jos Franklin (née Anstee, 1972)** in Sydney and recently had a rendezvous with **Pam Loteryman (née Johnson, 1972)**.

Jade Hübner (2010) is studying in the commerce faculty at UCT. Earlier this year she had the opportunity to participate in Miss SA and she was the only candidate selected from the Cape. *"I have learnt so much from the experience and have seen that the Miss SA competition is not a cattle parade at all! It is a competition which encourages woman to be intelligent, classy, independent, strong role models and have ambition. It is about the empowerment of women and so many other things; I could really go on forever! This platform is an amazing opportunity to do incredible things and truly make a difference, whether it is one individual at a time, a group of people or influencing thousands in a positive way."*



Louise Jenner-Clarke (2001) and her husband, Peter Garrod, are expecting their first child in March 2015.

Alice Johnson (2002) got engaged in Thailand in November 2013 to Ryan Herselman from Somerset West. They have bought a house and live in Somerset West where Ryan is a doctor at Helderberg Hospital. They will be married on 13 December 2014. Alice worked at WWF South Africa as their Fisheries Officer for 3 years after obtaining her MSc from the University of Pretoria. In June 2013, Alice left WWF to start her own consulting business. She is an independent consultant to the fishing industry focusing on environmental sustainability and education.



Tamyan Joseph, 2004 completed her MBChB degree at UCT at the end of 2010 and then moved to JHB to do the two years of internship at Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital, the largest hospital in the Southern Hemisphere, which she describes as "a great hospital to learn at". She is currently finishing her community service year in Beaufort West and Price Albert. Part of her community service contract was to work for 9 months in Beaufort West and 3 months in Prince Albert. The 3 months happened to fall at the end of year and so she is now living and working in Prince Albert. Moving to the Karoo has been a huge challenge but one which she feels she has made the most of. She is hoping to move to Cape Town in 2015.

Lauren Kohn Goldschmidt (née Kohn, 2000) is currently lecturing constitutional and administrative Law at the University of Cape Town. Since joining academia last year, she has published widely in the fields of constitutional, administrative, environmental and contract law. Her article entitled, 'The burgeoning constitutional requirement of rationality & the separation of powers: Has rationality review gone too far?', which was published in the 2013 edition of the South African Law Journal, has been cited with approval in two recent High Court judgments. Her latest academic article considers the implications of the Draft Traditional Affairs Bill and she has given extensive *pro bono* legal advice on the subject and has been invited to present her findings at an international conference on 'Constitutional Rights,

Judicial Independence and the Transition to Democracy’ at New York Law School later this year. In July this year, Lauren was interviewed on eNCA news regarding the constitutionality of Malema’s expulsion from Parliament on the basis of his ‘unparliamentary’ remark that the ANC government killed the miners at Marikana. She also participated as ‘a key stakeholder and expert on socio-economic rights and the Constitution’ in a Colloquium (‘Assessment of the Impact of the Decisions of the CC and SCA on the transformation of society’) hosted in Johannesburg and has been nominated to serve as a member of the Reference Group on this particular project. Earlier this year Lauren was appointed as a panel member of Caveat Legal and consults as an expert in the fields of constitutional, administrative and regulatory law (including public procurement and pharmaceuticals).

Liora Lazarus (1986) is an Associate Professor in Law, at the Faculty of Law, University of Oxford and a Fellow and Tutor in Law at St. Anne’s College, Oxford. Read more about her at <http://www.law.ox.ac.uk/profile/lazarus/>

“My big news this year is that I’m marrying my partner, Kim Stern, on 28 September 2014 at Babylonstoren. She is a very cool art curator – worked in New York and is an expert in South African and African contemporary art more generally. We share our lives between her home here in Kalk Bay, and my home in Oxford. My professional life remains at Oxford, but at least I can say I’ve now settled down for the first time at the wise old age of 45.”

Jenna Lowe (2013) In 2012, this bright, courageous and beautiful teenager was diagnosed with Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension, an extremely rare and life threatening lung disease. Despite the enormous challenges of her condition, Jenna fulfilled her duties as Deputy Head Girl of Herschel in 2013 and went on to achieve 7 subject distinctions in her final exams. Read more about her story and join her “getmeto21” campaign via <http://jennalowe.org> or <https://www.getmeto21.com>



Cailey Low (2000) is still enjoying living in New York and working for global Real Estate giant, Tishman Speyer, who own Class A assets such as The Rockefeller Center and The Chrysler Building in Manhattan. As IT Director of Tishman Speyer, Cailey continues to manage the Financial Applications across the US & Europe.



Tiffany Lumley (née Byers, 1991) is now specializing in newborn photography, having recently made the decision to stop family and birthday party photography and just concentrate on photographing newborn babies. See her beautiful photography at www.tiffanylumley.co.za. She is preparing to present a newborn photography workshop in 2015. Next year also brings a whole new adventure for her and her husband (who photographs weddings www.greglumley.com). They will be spending a month in the UK and Ireland to do several shoots. Their daughter, Jordan is 6 and her stepchild, Jamie, is 12. A hamster, cat, bunny, dog and fish complete the family. Most of the pets are hand-me-downs from Herschel moms :)

Fiona Mackay (2001) is studying for an MBA at Columbia University in New York City (her third degree) and plans to continue working in the fashion industry when she graduates next June.

Shelagh Masters (née Cantley, 1951) writes: *I have moved back to Cape Town from Knysna and am now living in Woodside Village in Rondebosch. It has been a good move, although after 30 years of living in Old Belvidere Village on the Cape Town side of the Knysna Lagoon, I do miss all my dear friends. However, I am now near two of my children here in Cape Town (the other two are overseas) and am able to see them and three of my grandchildren regularly, which I am greatly enjoying.*

Lyn Marklew (Holmes, 1953) wrote to tell us that the OHs she is in touch with are healthy and happy. A whole year has passed since their 60th reunion. They all enjoyed it so much that they decided to have a mini-reunion. Chloe Dobre(Baumann), Pat Reid(McCarthy), Christine Boucher(Faure), Pat Lusty(Dukes) and Alice Mathews(Hofmeyr) got together for lunch with their husbands at Lyn's home for a fun afternoon.

Kris Miller (2002) After being selected for the DA Young Leaders Program in 2014 and participating in the program, Kris was voted onto the Ward 55 Branch Committee and the City of Cape Town Constituency and is also involved in youth event co-ordination for the party. She remains employed at EOH Health as Health and Safety Law Specialist and travels to Bangladesh in support of the newly launched Garment Industry Clean-up Project.

Kris got engaged in August this year to Warrick Erlank, they plan to marry in October 2015, if she ever gets time to plan a wedding!

Kris also found time to start an NGO in 2014 called Great Girls Cape Town which aims to up skill and educate young women in Grade 11 and 12 from disadvantaged areas in order to assist in them in furthering their studies, finding work and being prepared to build a career and break the cycle of poverty from which they have come. Old Herschelians, **Angie Jacobs** and **Helen Raine (both 2003)** form part of the Great Girls Team and other Old Herschelians have been fantastic in supporting the program through donations and pledges of food and clothing items for the girls to have suitable clothing for interviews and employment. Great Girls plans to expand to an additional new area in Cape Town every year. Watch their progress and read more at www.greatgirls.co.za

Great Girls is an awesome non-profit project run by a diverse group of women in Cape Town that aims to bridge the gap between high-school education and full-time employment for disadvantaged girls. The Trustees and the Team Members do not collect salaries or draw from the NPO account at all. We all give of our time and expertise completely free of charge, while still working full-time, so donors and sponsors can be confident in knowing that their contribution has been 100% allocated to providing for the Girls and their needs on the programme, and nothing else.

Further to this, the participating Great Girls are not required to pay for any part of the programme; their participation is reliant only on their dedication and motivation.

We volunteer our time and expertise with young women in grade 11 and 12 from disadvantaged areas who are looking for support. Our goal is to ensure that South African girls leave high school equipped with the skills to either find meaningful full-time employment or to pursue further studies.

Through practical workshops and mentoring, Great Girls coaches its participants on elements that range from interview technique, CV writing, basic labour law and professional communication to budgeting, eloquence, confidence-building, personal grooming and assertiveness, paving the way for a well-rounded individual capable of carving out their own successful career path, regardless of their background.

Great Girls nourishes ambition, assists girls who wish to study further, and helps participants search successfully for jobs and bursaries.

Angie Morphy (née Bottomley, 1970) has enjoyed a life of variety. After studying Music at UCT, she left SA in 1976. She got married and lived in Norwich in the UK until 1986. She then lived in Istanbul, Turkey until 1991, followed by two years in Saudi Arabia until 1993. After her divorce she returned to the UK and lived in London until she remarried and moved to quieter Devon, where she teaches piano in a small private school and enjoys her hobbies – painting and organic farming on her smallholding. She thinks a move to East Sussex may be next...



Lerato Nxomani (2007), was recently awarded a Mandela Rhodes Scholarship. This postgraduate scholarship is available to students from all over Africa. In order to qualify Lerato had to prove that she espouses the values of leadership, education, reconciliation and entrepreneurship – the strongest values of the patrons, Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela and Cecil John Rhodes.

Lerato will be studying an Honours degree in Economics at Rhodes University.

"I identified strongly with the values the scholarship espouses and I wanted to be in community with fellow African students who had a vision to restore glory to our continent," says Lerato.

When asked about her plans for the future Lerato simply says, *"I don't know ... But I'm excited about the path that God is taking me on and the path He is revealing for me to be of service to Him and bring Him glory."*

Lethu Ntshinga (Head Girl, 2013) has been accepted to study at Harvard.

Alex Smith, 1991 is loving being mother to her two-year-old son Elias, who is a voracious 'reader' of picture books. Alex has recently had her fifth novel published by Random House in SA and by Arachne press in the UK. The novel, 'Devilskein&Dearlove' is an edgy fantasy set in Long Street, Cape Town and is suitable for readers aged 12 and up. Alex was also tickled to have her first erotic short story published in an anthology called 'Adults Only'! It was a year for books in her home, because her partner, Andrew Salomon also had a new novel, 'Tokoloshe Song' published by Random House. Both Alex and Andrew are working on new novels.



Sue Snyman, 1992 In 2008, Sue completed a Master of Business Science (Economics) from the University of Cape Town, South Africa, and recently received a PhD (Economics), also at UCT. Having completed coursework at the University of Goteborg in Sweden, the focus of her PhD research measured the socio-economic impact of high-end ecotourism in remote rural communities adjacent to protected areas, based on over 1800 community surveys in six southern African countries, including Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

She has been working for Wilderness Safaris for the past six years and is the Regional Community Development and Culture Coordinator, as well as the Regional Director of Children in the Wilderness, an environmental and life skills educational programme for children to facilitate sustainable conservation through leadership development and education of rural children in Africa. She also recently became the Vice-Chair of the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) Tourism and Protected Areas Specialist Groups (TAPASG). Sue lives in Johannesburg with her partner, Chris, and their two beautiful Labradors.



Stacey van den Aardweg, 2002 has recently been promoted to CEO of First Retail UK, a UK-based sports retailer with a footprint in more than 310 locations in the UK and Europe.

Kim Whitaker (2002) started a new business last November, *Once in Cape Town*, a 130 bed hotel and hostel on Kloof Street. Kim attended a Young Entrepreneurs trip to Israel sponsored by Investec with 11 other Entrepreneurs. Her sister, **Thea Whittaker (2006)** is studying in Paris at Le Cordon Bleu, but will be back next February for Kim's wedding to John Rostance.

Class of 1985 Helen Botma, Ali Kebble, Kyra Pratt, Caroline Isted, Jacqui Kolbe and Shirley Murray had such a fun evening with Karen Dudley at the Winter Dinner. Helen is an accomplished artist in Grahamstown, Ali runs a successful interior design and fabric protection company, Jacqui is an established and accomplished milliner in Cape Town, Kyra is a cattle farmer and starting a guest farm with wedding venue on her farm 'Inhoek' just outside Arniston in Bredasdorp. Shirley is a stay at home mum. They are really looking forward to their reunion next year.

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A huge **thank you** to all the Circle Secretaries and other Old Herschelians who submitted news and reports - without you, this newsletter would not be possible. Please remember the onus is on you to keep your Circle Secretary or the OHA secretary informed of your news, change of address etc.

