



"Building Hilton Together" - An update to all Old Hiltonians

OCTOBER 2021 ISSUE 50

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RUGBY IN THE SNOW

By Dylan Thomson

Possibility. In a word, it sums up my past two years at Hilton. What was the possibility of the world experiencing a deadly virus that would rob us of two years and five sports seasons? Or the possibility of playing rugby in the snow?

Despite the challenges of the pandemic, we've come a long way and returned to some form of normality. Due to there being no spectators for sports, we've become famous on TV and YouTube, although they never seem to get the tune of "Oh boys of Hilton" right when it's sung at the end of a game. Except for one game... Hilton College 1st XV versus Maritzburg College 1st XV.

It was an extremely cold and bitter day walking to the Gilfillan change room. Had you asked me if there was a possibility of us playing in snow that day, I would have said the possibility was substantial. As it turned out, the rain turned to sleet and the sleet into snow. We were playing in the scene of a Cinderella movie with Maritzburg College being one of our not-sobeautiful sisters.

> To say it was cold is an understatement. It's rough for us backs, alone in the cold whilst the forwards enjoy the warmth of each other's presence due to the countless knock-ons from the bar of soap we call a ball. Unfortunately, we lost 10-14, but what an experience. According to some sources, it has snowed at Hilton only twice. What a special place with such incredible boys. Once a band of brothers, always a band of brothers!

Dylan Thomson is head of sport 2021.







BUILDING HILTON TOGETHER

ROWING THE ATLANTIC FOR CHILDREN AT RISK

Old Hiltonian Matthew Bell (2005, Ellis) is embarking on "the world's toughest row" a 3000 nautical mile, unsupported rowing race from the Canary Islands to Antigua in the Caribbean to raise A\$100,000 (about R1m) for a non-profit organisation.

Matt, along with South African Martin Muller and Brit Robert Lennox, will do the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge in December in aid of ChildFund Rugby, which runs life skills and mentoring programmes throughout Southeast Asia using rugby as its medium of education.

The three friends met playing rugby for Valley RFC premiership side in Hong Kong.

"Rugby has given us all opportunities and taught us a lot in life. We think it's a great way to educate young people about values and hard work. It's also what brought us together and gave us friends for life," according to the team's website.

"The opportunity to help improve the lives of children from poor backgrounds in Asia is something we are passionate about and look forward to visiting the [beneficiary] communities to share our knowledge and experiences as well as raising money for this fantastic cause."

To help the team - known as East Rows West - reach its fundraising target, go to www.EastRowsWest.com and donate online.







ABOUT OUR SCHOOL PRAYER

By Bruce MacLachlan

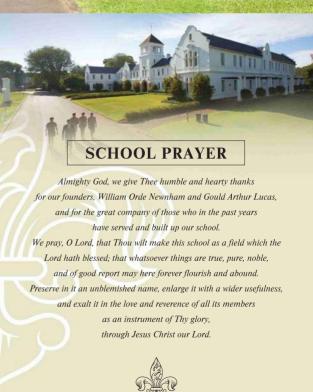
I believe it is generally accepted that the school prayer came into existence during the tenure of Hilton's ninth headmaster, Raymond Slater, but it is not a unique prayer to Hilton College. The second half is used verbatim as the school prayer of several schools both locally and internationally and is sourced from a book entitled "Forms of Prayer suitable for a Public School". An interesting link to Hilton College is that the compiler of this book, Henry Hayman, was at one time Headmaster of Rugby School.

The portion which is unique to Hilton is the first part, which substitutes for the first line in the prayer in the aforementioned book:

Almighty God, we give Thee humble and hearty thanks for our founders, William Orde Newnham and Gould Arthur Lucas, and for the great company of those who in the past years have served and built up our school.

We also substitute the word "noble" for the word "lovely" in the line which ends ...of good report".

Given Slater's strong religious convictions and Christian commitment, I would agree that there is every chance that it was he who combined these passages into what we know as the school prayer, but given the original source, we know for sure that he did not pen the entire prayer.





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Deeply Traditional. Refreshingly Contemporary.

STRADDLING TWO VASTLY DIFFERENT WORLDS

By Yenziwa Nzuza

I was born in Durban, but my family home is in Nongoma, a busy market town in Zululand. I'm passionate about working with people less fortunate than I am and want to establish a non-profit organisation to provide immediate food relief to the Nongoma community.

I've lived much of my life in two different worlds, spending my weeks in Durban and my weekends in Nongoma. It's difficult to identify which world I truly belong to - one overwhelms me with the complexity of urban life while the other world suggests I'm not a "true Zulu man". Having my identity questioned has been difficult, but I'm learning to unite my two worlds.

While in Nongoma recently, I sought to put my privilege to use by helping my parents donate shoes and clothes to schools in the region, while also taking the opportunity to speak with and learn from the youth about the problems they face.

Doing this work has motivated me to apply to study at The University of Edinburgh, which is renowned for some of the best thinking in the world around social enterprise and community work.

The institution is also known for its broad and flexible undergraduate programmes, as well as its intensive research.

Unfortunately, Covid-19 has put significant pressure on my parents and it is impossible for them to financially support my dream.



Yenziwa Nzuza is head of transformation on the Student Council. He is in Grade 12 and is the dormitory leader of the Grade 8 year group in Lucas house.



During my time at Hilton I've realized two important things: First, many students at exceptional schools like Hilton College enjoy so much privilege they can be numb to the injustices around them. And, unless we acknowledge our differences and work towards finding common ground, striving to unite South Africans, these differences can alienate us from one another.

The Transformation Committee at Hilton has impressed upon us that we have a responsibility to be more than just citizens. I believe that when my year group leaves, the Hilton College community will be a better place, and that we can be proud to belong to this band of brothers.

If anyone would like to support Yenzi in his quest to study at Edinburgh, please contact Hilton's Director of International Learning, Alexei du Bois afdb@hiltoncollege.com

Hilton College belongs to us)) W.A.Campbell ("Wac")

OUR FOUR FUNDS

The Hilton community comprises a diversity of stakeholders with differing interests. To serve a range of donors, we offer the following four funds:

The Lift Up Your Hearts Fund - a Human Capital Fund The Pinnacles Fund - an Infrastructure Fund The uMngeni Fund - an Estate Fund The Vula Fund - a Social Responsibility Fund

If you require more information, please feel free to contact the Advancement team on advancement@hiltoncollege.com

Click here to donate: https://hiltoncollege.devman.co.za/devman/online/giving/

A JOURNEY OF SELF-DISCOVERY AND LEAVING A MARK

By Teresa Whitfield

A vital part of the curriculum is the time boys spend on the estate - an integral part of life at Hilton College. Apart from it being fun, immersion in nature for an extended period helps boys develop resilience and facilitates personal growth and an appreciation for the natural environment.

This year the Grade 8s spent six days mostly camping down at the Lapa where they engaged in a variety of activities, one of the highlights being the game of Poachers and Rangers. They also did a two-day hike which included one night in a remote part of the estate.

The Grade 9s spent their time with the team from Spirit of Adventure at Shongweni Dam, engaging in activities designed to challenge and stretch them.



The apex of our programme was the 15-day Grade 10 journey through the Karkloof, to Albert Falls Dam and Cumberland Nature Reserve. The boys hiked, cycled, and paddled, covering approximately 200 kilometers over the course of their adventure.

Highlights included the Karkloof canopy tour, fishing, and evening chats around the campfire. Towards the end of the journey, the boys spent 24 hours in solitude when they received letters from home and wrote replies. For this overnight experience, the boys weren't allowed to use their tents and had to make themselves a shelter using a plastic drop sheet. There were some cleverly designed shelters.

The theme of the Grade 10 boys' journey is isivivane, which means a pile of stones but holds a deeper symbolic meaning in Zulu culture. Essentially it means to leave your mark on a place but also to show the way forward for others. Stone formations can be found in many cultures and places around the world.

A distinguishing feature of the journey is that it is entirely on foot - the boys walk from the school and back to the campus 15 days later. On their return they place a rock on our own isivivane or cairn in the lower Wild Gardens. From that spot they can see Mt Gilboa, that they summited. They do this to symbolically acknowledge that they have completed their rite of passage.

Teresa Whitfield is HOD of Accounting, and leader of the OLE programme at Hilton College





NAILS IN THE TREE

By Paul Henry

I was at Hilton from 1961 to 1965 and loved the estate.



In my first two years, in summer, Big Rock, Umgeni, Riets and Gwens were the places to visit on Sundays. In winter, Pinnacles, Beacons or a spot under a shady tree were convenient places to hide for the day.

From my third year, we spent more time walking to distant destinations like the Karkloof Valley, Triangles Forest, Peatties Lake and similar spots where we might find birds of prey particularly, or other birds, nesting.

Our favourite destinations were a martial eagle's nest up the Karkloof Valley and a crowned eagle's nest in the Triangles Forest. These destinations were at least two hours away and we sprinted out of chapel to get walking as soon as possible. Similarly, on return walks we had to walk as fast as we could to make it back in time for showers and supper. We were often late because we had loitered on the Solomon's farm below Triangles to be offered a chicken leftover from their lunch.



What was significant about these two nests was that the trees had clusters of long nails sticking out of the trunk that provided a means to get up the tree. We couldn't believe our luck that we were able to climb up the trees, out of the forest canopy and get into the large nests.

In the case of the crowned eagle, the tree was straight and grew well beyond the surrounding forest canopy. To climb up this makeshift ladder required some skill and a fair amount of courage, particularly the first time. We enjoyed monitoring the nest and watching the chicks grow up. Of interest always was the food remnants not eaten by the eagle and we wondered if the local farmer knew where his Muscovy ducks were going.

The martial eagle nest was also in a very large tree, Ekebergia Capensis, that grew out of the hillside half way up the Karkloof Valley on the northern side. The tree trunk was at least two meters in diameter and grew out of the hillside at about a 45-degree angle. Obviously, this tree was easier to climb, with the nails providing more than enough security.

If we were quiet while walking up through the bush to the nest, we were on occasions able to surprise the adult bird, as we climbed to within meters of the nest. We visited this nest all through the winter months constantly monitoring the nestling.

Sadly, this big tree was blown down during the Demoina cyclone in early 1984.

My brother, David, who was three years ahead of me, suggested that Neil Orford had placed these nails in the trees. Neil had left Hilton by the time I arrived.

I made some inquiries recently, some 55 years on, and tracked Neil down. He confirmed that he had put these nails into the tree trunks a year after leaving school and with permission from the local farmer, Robin Green. He was pleased to hear how we had found the same nests and used the nails to provide us with all those eagle-watching opportunities. He also confirmed how difficult it was trying to hammer the nails in, well above his head while hanging on with one hand.

My adventure-seeking school friends at that time who shared and loved the long walks and such adventures were Eric de Boor, KD Taylor, John Farquarson, Jeremy Routledge, and apologies to others who joined us and who's names or faces I cannot recall.

How privileged we all were!

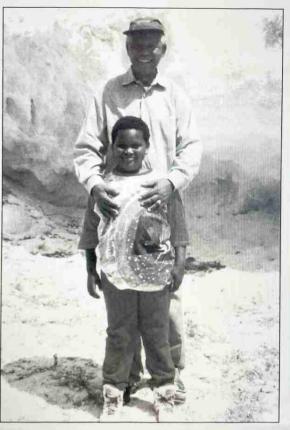
Paul Henry (1965, Pearce)



KARABO MOKOAPE: Hamba Kahle, Mfowethu

The Hilton College family was rocked recently by the death of Karabo "Che" Mokoape. Karabo was Head of School in 2001, Governor of the Hiltonian Society since 2012, leader of Hilton College's journey of transformation and a true man of faith.

Karabo was only 37 when he died as a result of Covid-related complications just seven months after the virus claimed the life of his father, Dr Aubrey Mokoape.



Mr Nelson Mandela with Karabo as a child, on a visit to Robben Island

Earlier this year, on a visit to the school, Karabo expressed his joy at being on campus because the place "feels like home to me", he said. He urged staff and boys to ensure that every person who passes through the McKenzie gates feels the same way.

In his Speech Day address, as a schoolboy in 2001, Karabo encouraged the Hilton community "do things better, go further and get there faster".

Thank you, Karabo, for sharing your grace and gentleness with our community and for being a wonderful ambassador of your school and the Christian faith.

Karabo will be sorely missed by wife Thuli, children Somila and Samora, his greater family, and the Hiltonian brotherhood and sisterhood everywhere. We will miss him.

TIM'S TEAM WINS AT THE TOKYO OLYMPICS



Timothy Drummond (2006, Ellis)



Nic Spooner (2009, Newnham)

Congratulations Timothy Drummond, South African men's hockey captain, who led his team, which included Nic Spooner, to victory against Germany at the Tokyo Olympics! The South Africans, ranked 14th in the world, defeated Germany, ranked 5th in the world, 4-3.

REAL LEADERS LEAD FROM BEHIND

In preparation for the task of leading the school and their houses in their matric year, the Grade 11 leadership camp is an opportunity for the boys to reflect on the true meaning of leadership, to develop their leadership skills and to engage leaders inside the school and the outside world.



Sizo Jali (2000, Newnham), the managing director at Frontrow Ventures, addressed the boys on leadership in a rapidly changing world.

"The average age of world leaders is decreasing. The fourth industrial revolution is upon us. Speed and time are of the essence. Real leaders lead from behind and solely for the benefit of others," Jali said.

"In an increasingly complex world, adequate education and ability to stand up for the truth are leadership imperatives. A sense of urgency is the fuel that drives real leaders. Every minute counts."

HOW AN OLD PHOTO AND A TEDDY IN THE MUSEUM GOT US THINKING...







Ever wondered what the first ever rugby jerseys worn by Hilton boys were like?

Now's your chance to step back into the 1870s and own one of these limited edition 150th Old School jerseys.

The jerseys will be available to purchase online soon.

Make sure that watch the 150th website to keep in touch with all matters related to the 150th next year. www.hiltoncollege.com/150



Time to scrum!

HILTON COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL GOLF CHALLENGE

Entrants will form their own four-ball teams and play at any club convenient to them in any locality with one match being played once a quarter. Scoring will be on an alliance basis using stableford points (2 points for a par, 3 for a one under par etc). The two best scores of the four players on each hole will be counted and added after playing 18 holes and submitted. Green fees, cart hire, travel etc will be at the golfer's account. Score cards must be scanned or photographed using WhatsApp, signed and submitted to pps@global.co.za for collation and distribution of results and prizes. Communication will be by email, WhatsApp and Teams.

Cost per individual (paid to Hilton College Endowment Fund) is ZAR250 per quarter. To qualify for an annual prize, one match must be played every quarter.

For more information contact Tim Morgan on 082 410 6014 or pps@global.co.za

Hilton College Endowment Fund Banking Details:

Bank: First National Bank (FNB)

Branch: Midlands Mall Branch Code: 257355

Account Type: Enterprise Business Account

Account Number: 62838933431

SWIFT CODE: FIRNZAJJ



UPCOMING OLD HILTONIAN EVENTS



GAUTENG BRANCH

27 October 2021

The Copper Bar, Bryanston 18h00 **Dave Heenan**

084 577 7764 davidheenan08@gmail.com



UK BRANCH

29 October 2021

The Elgin - Maida Vale (255 Elgin Ave, London) 18h00

Simon Ellis

+44 7795 565371 simonellis89@icloud.com

LUNCH IS ON US



If you're an Old Hiltonian, you're invited to lunch in the dining hall on any weekday during term time that suits you.

We would be delighted to host you.

So please come and share a meal with us.

To make arrangement, email the Advancement team on advancement@hiltoncollege.com



INVEST IN CATTLE FOR A CAUSE



From 40 oxen, donated by friends and family of Hilton, to a herd of more than 700. Such is the success of the cattle bursary project.

To be a part of this project requires a donation of R8000, which is used to buy an ox. The donor in turn receives a section 18A tax certificate. At the end of the season, the animal is sold, and a portion of the profit is paid to the school's bursary fund.

The capital amount is retained, and the donor is automatically allocated an ox every year. All participants are listed in the Hiltonian Magazine.

Participants "own" an ox and get to name it. A competition is held annually to award the owner of the animal that gains the most weight - the "best-performing ox". The winner receives the Pat Eustace floating trophy at the Old Hiltonian AGM as well as the grand prize of 1kg of biltong.

This novel project allows Old Hiltonians to be part of an excellent cause, while providing them with a fun opportunity to be farmers and compete with their desk-bound friends.

RULES OF THE GAME:

To play you need to deposit R8000 into the account of the Hiltonian Society. This will constitute a donation and a section 18a tax certificate will be issued to you.

You may sponsor more than one animal if you choose.

Once the ox has been purchased, you will be allocated an animal and be given the opportunity to name it.

The cattle will be reared on the Hilton Estate under the careful watch of the estate manager, and the cattle team.

The winner of the competition will be the "owner" whose animal has gained the most weight, on an ADG basis.

Buy your ox today.

If you would like to be involved, please deposit R8000 into the following account and confirm your ox's name by email to cattle@hiltoncollege.com.

Account name: THE HILTONIAN SOCIETY NPC

Bank: First National Bank Account Number: 62811385063

Account type: ENTERPRISE BUSINESS ACCOUNT

Branch: MIDLANDS MALL

Branch Code: 257355

Beneficiary Ref: Initials, Surname, Cattle Example: TEM Gibson Cattle

NEW 2021 cattle owners:

Guy Armstrong (1986, Pearce)
Mark Armstrong (2019, Pearce)
Greg Armstrong (Grade 12 2021, Pearce, Head of House)
Tony Godrich (1968, Newnham)
Nick Hatton (Grade 12 2021, Pearce, Head of School)
James Te Riele (Grade 12 2021, Newnham, Head of House)
Matthew Watts (Grade 10, Churchill)

For further information, please contact Amanda Pistorius on the following address cattle@hiltoncollege.com.

SUPPORT US WITH EVERY SWIPE



If you're a Woolworths shopper, you're able to nominate Hilton College as a beneficiary of the retailer's MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet programme.

The programme raises more than R7 million a month which helps support 7500 schools and charities nationwide.

It doesn't cost you anything to be a MySchool cardholder, and you can have more than one beneficiary.

To register as a MySchool supporter complete an online registration form on the MySchool website and make Hilton College a beneficiary:

https://www.myschool.co.za/supporter/update/

Your contribution will help support our bursary fund: https://www.myschool.co.za/supporter/apply?beneficiary=628

Cashiers will prompt you at the point of sale, asking you if you have a MySchool card. If you do, you'll be required to swipe it. Every swipe counts!

A substantial endowment fund will ensure that Hilton can thrive - and leave a legacy for future generations.

Having a significant amount of capital in the Hilton College Endowment Foundation allows us to:

- Extend financial assistance to boys whose families don't have the means;
- Fund major capital expenditure programmes;
- Remain financially secure and independent; and
- Support the broader Hilton community.

For more information, contact Amanda Pistorius at the Advancement office on +27 (0)72 872 9357 or email: database@hiltoncollege.com.





HILTONIANS WITH HEART STEP UP TO THE PLATE...

By Brett Armstrong

We're into the home straights as our 150th approaches and Old Hiltonians are going all out in support of their alma mater.

150th Legacy Benefactor

We are proud to announce our first two **150th Legacy Benefactors**, Clive Tasker and Alex van der Velden. Their substantial donations to Hilton College will go towards funding human capital and our tangible assets, respectively.

Legacy Benefactors - of which there can be only nine - each receive:

- An oak table crafted from the mighty Newnham tree, giving the donor ownership of a piece of Hilton's history;
- VIP Gala Dinner tickets for 10;
- Pitch-side seating at the Hilton vs Michaelhouse sports fixtures for the benefactor and his guests; and
- Recognition of his donation in the coffee table book marking the school's 150th anniversary.

For more about becoming a Legacy Benefactor, please email 150@hiltoncollege.com



150th Book

Another way **you can support Hilton College is by subscribing to a coffee table book** - an anthology of Hilton College stories - which is in production. In so doing, you enable publication of this exceptional work, for only R1725, and **have your name published in the book**. To subscribe, go to this link on the website: www.hiltoncollege.com/150th/150th-book/#legacylink



Pinnacles Statue

To commemorate our 150-th, Old Hiltonian Grant Waterhouse has commissioned 150 bronze statues of a boy standing on Pinnacles.

These are limited-edition artworks selling for R26 500 apiece, to grow the Endowment Fund.
They're selling fast.
Email 150@hiltoncollege.com to secure yours!



Please keep an eye on our website for the launch of an exciting range of **merchandise**.

In coming weeks we will introduce **our very own collection of wine**.

www.hiltoncollege.com/150th

During the course of this term, you will also be able to book for the "A Black & White African Night" gala dinner. We will promote this on the WhatsApp groups and the website.

The best way to stay in touch is to join your year WhatsApp group.

