



THE HILTONIAN



EDITION 160 JUNE 2025



CONNECT

Connect with fellow Hiltonians,
from alumni to parents and senior boys,
and expand your professional network
and grow your brand.

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Ours is a vast and unique network
of highly connected and resourced people.

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Many Hiltonians, including entrepreneurs,
professionals, and captains of industry, are willing
to mentor fellow Hiltonians.



HILTON TIES

Old Hiltonians • Boys • Parents

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HILTON COLLEGE





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Governance

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Once again, these pages record the many events that made for another memorable year.

Our staff and boys continue to thrive at Hilton and we continue to enjoy an immensely rich and rewarding school life.

Sadly, however, 2024 will also be remembered as the year when we tragically lost two Grade 8 boys. Whenever a boy passes away whilst at school, it leaves a hollow space that requires time to heal. My thoughts continue to be with the bereaved families and also with the boys in the dorms who knew the individuals best.

It is through tragedy that we learn to live in community more profoundly and this is true for the Class of 2028 especially.

The gift of the Draper-Gain Performance and Wellness Centre was a fantastic milestone in our year and one which has added significant value for our boys.

My thanks, once again, to every person who works to make this school as memorable a place as it is. It remains a privilege to be its custodian at this chapter in her history.

Sincerely,



George Harris | Headmaster

Governors

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE HILTONIAN SOCIETY 2024

- Andrew Johnston | **CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF GOVERNORS**
- Thabo Seopa | **DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF GOVERNORS**
- Jonathan Clark | **CHAIRPERSON, FINANCE COMMITTEE**
- Bruce Falcon | **CHAIRPERSON, REMUNERATION COMMITTEE**
- Doug Gain | **GOVERNOR**
- Guy Hancock | **CHAIRPERSON, BUILDINGS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE**
- Carl Jankowitz | **GOVERNOR**
- Sizo Jali | **GOVERNOR**
- Anton Jooste | **EX-OFFICIO, CHAIRPERSON, ADVANCEMENT COMMITTEE; CHAIRPERSON, OLD HILTONIAN CLUB**
- Mzamo Khuzwayo | **CHAIRPERSON, ESTATE COMMITTEE**
- Belinda Mapongwana | **GOVERNOR**
- Simon Reid | **GOVERNOR**
- Susan Tasker | **GOVERNOR**
- Dale ten Hope | **CHAIRPERSON, COMMUNITY PROJECTS** (Resigned November 2024)
- David Wingfield | **CHAIRPERSON, MARKETING COMMITTEE**
- Attending Executives**
- George Harris | **HEADMASTER**
- Patricia van Rooyen | **COMPANY SECRETARY** (Appointed 1 March 2024)



We do our very best to ensure the accuracy of the magazine and it goes through many checks.
However, we are human and errors occasionally creep in.
Please let us know if you pick something up, in which case we will correct the digital edition, which is archived.

ADVANCEMENT

Anton Jooste | **CHAIRPERSON**
 Brett Armstrong | **REPRESENTATIVE, OLD HILTONIAN CLUB**
 George Harris | **HEADMASTER**
 Pete Storrar | **DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT**
 Maralyn Atkins | **MARKETING MANAGER**
 Burger Nel | **DIRECTOR OF SPORT** (by invitation)
 Kim Martin | **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE** (by invitation)

BUILDINGS AND SERVICES

Guy Hancock | **CHAIRPERSON**
 Andrew Johnston | **CHAIRPERSON,
BOARD OF GOVERNORS EX-OFFICIO**
 Carl Jankowitz | **GOVERNOR**
 George Harris | **HEADMASTER** (by invitation)
 Sean Lindsay | **FACILITIES AND ESTATE MANAGER** (by invitation)
 Kim Martin | **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE** (by invitation)
 Neels Grobler | **BROLL** (by invitation)
 Basil Kundalram | **BROLL** (by invitation)
 Cindy van der Westhuizen | **SERVEST** (by invitation)
 Rudi Jonck | **SERVEST** (by invitation)
 Mark van der Linde | **SERVEST** (by invitation)
 Shirley Twycross | **SISONKE** (by invitation)
 Susan Musgrave | **SISONKE** (by invitation)
 Patricia van Rooyen | **COMPANY SECRETARY** (by invitation)

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Dale ten Hope | **CHAIRPERSON**
 Andrew Johnston | **CHAIRPERSON,
BOARD OF GOVERNORS EX-OFFICIO**
 Ashleigh Askew | **TEACHER**
 Anne Chamberlain | **DONOR REPRESENTATIVE**
 Mike Green | **TEACHER**
 George Harris | **HEADMASTER**
 Anton Jooste | **BOARD REPRESENTATIVE**
 Chris Kingsley | **DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**
 Kim Martin | **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**
 Sean McGuigan | **CHAPLAIN**
 Phila Mnyandu | **TEACHER**
 Penny Mullan | **TEACHER**
 Lloyd Smuts | **DIRECTOR OF VULA PROGRAMME**
 Sue Southwood | **TEACHER**
 Rekesh Somchand | **MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT**
 Peter Storrar | **DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT**
 Bhekani Zulu

ESTATE

Mzamo Khuzwayo | **CHAIRPERSON**
 Andrew Johnston | **CHAIRPERSON,
BOARD OF GOVERNORS EX-OFFICIO**

Carl Jankowitz | **GOVERNOR**
 George Harris | **HEADMASTER**
 Iain McMillan | **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GWENS STREAM ESTATES**
 Sean Lindsay | **FACILITIES AND ESTATE MANAGER** (by invitation)
 Kim Martin | **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE** (by invitation)
 John Patrick Eustace | **INDEPENDENT** (by invitation)
 Tim Gibson | **INDEPENDENT** (by invitation)
 Justin Platt | **INDEPENDENT** (by invitation)
 Peter Symons | **FARM MANAGER** (by invitation)
 / Appointed June 2024
 Rowan Welsford | **FARM MANAGER** (by invitation)
 / Retired June 2024
 Patricia van Rooyen | **COMPANY SECRETARY** (by invitation)

FINANCE

Jonathan Clark | **CHAIRPERSON**
 Andrew Johnston | **CHAIRPERSON,
BOARD OF GOVERNORS EX-OFFICIO**
 Thabo Seopa | **DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF GOVERNORS**
 Mzamo Khuzwayo | **GOVERNOR**
 George Harris | **HEADMASTER** (by invitation)
 Kim Martin | **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE** (by invitation)
 Kgomotso Motlogeloa | **DEPUTY HEADMASTER** (by invitation)
 Tony Shuttleworth | **SECOND MASTER** (by invitation)
 Patricia van Rooyen | **COMPANY SECRETARY** (by invitation)

NOMINATIONS

Thabo Seopa | **DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

REMUNERATION

Bruce Falcon | **CHAIRPERSON**
 Andrew Johnston | **CHAIRPERSON,
BOARD OF GOVERNORS EX-OFFICIO**
 Jonathan Clark | **CHAIRPERSON OF FINANCE**
 George Harris | **HEADMASTER** (standing invitation)
 Arlene Brown | **INDEPENDENT** (by invitation)
 Charlotte Cliff | **PAYROLL ADMINISTRATOR** (by invitation)
 Laurence Grubb | **INDEPENDENT** (by invitation)
 Kim Martin | **DIRECTOR OF FINANCE** (by invitation)

HILTON COLLEGE ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION

Guy Hayward | **CHAIRPERSON, INDEPENDENT TRUSTEE**
 Yann LeClezio | **BOARD NOMINATED TRUSTEE**
 Thabo Seopa | **BOARD NOMINATED TRUSTEE**
 Anton Jooste | **BOARD NOMINATED TRUSTEE**
 Sean Segar | **INDEPENDENT TRUSTEE**
 Robert Taylor | **INDEPENDENT TRUSTEE**
 David Gibb | **INDEPENDENT TRUSTEE**
 Iain McMillan | **SECRETARY**

Staff

HEADMASTER'S OFFICE

GEORGE HARRIS | BA (Pretoria) BA Hons (Wits)

SALLY MOON | Comp TIA N+, A+

EXECUTIVE

JANNA DE GOUVEIA | Director of Student Support

HANLIE DRY | Director of Academics

DARRYN GALLAGHER | Director of Sport

GARY HOLDER | Director of IT

LUKE HOLDER | Director of Creative and Performing Arts

TANIA HURLEY | Deputy Director of Academics

SEAN LINDSAY | Facilities and Estate Manager

DAVID LOOK | Director of School Discipline

KIM MARTIN | Director of Finance

SEAN MCGUIGAN | Chaplain

KGOMOTSO MOTLOGELOA | Deputy Headmaster

TONY SHUTTLEWORTH | Second Master

PETER STORRAR | Director of Advancement

PAUL VENTER | Director of Belonging

JAMES WEBB | Director of International Learning

ACADEMIC

KATHY ACUTT | Academic Secretary

ASHLEIGH ASKEW* | BA, PGCE (Unisa) Spec needs
Ed (London), MA (Wits)

JOSHUA BOUDAN* | MMus (UP)

ANDREW BROWN | BCom Hons, HDE (Natal)

JAMES BULLOUGH | BEd (Unisa)

THERÉSE CARLSON | BA Hons, HDE (RU)

TARRYN DALY* | BA (UKZN), PGCE (Unisa)

WILLIAM DONKIN* | BCom, BEd Hons (UCT), PGCE (RU)

HANLIE DRY | BA Ed (UFS) BBA SBS

ALEXEI DU BOIS | BA (UCT), PGCE (Unisa) MSc DPhil (Oxon)

ANDREW DUNCAN | BSocSc (RU), PGCE (Unisa)

GHYSLAINE DYE | BA Hons (Unisa) MA (UKZN)

GRAEME EVANS* | BSc Hons (Bristol), PGCE (B'ham)

CAMERON FRASER | BEd (Unisa)

RICHARD GARRETT | BSc (Wits), PGCE (Unisa)

ANNELIZE GOODWIN | BEng (UP), PGCE (Unisa)

MIKE GREEN | BSc, HDE (UCT)

NICOLETTE HOHLS | BA Hons, HDE, (UKZN)

LUKE HOLDER | BA, BEd (UKZN) LTCL piano, ATCL organ
(Trinity College of Music, London)

* Denotes Head of Department



ACADEMIC STAFF 2024

Row 6: Sanele Mhlongo, Sibonelo Khanyile, Bradley Mangold, Tienie van Wyk, Jaco van Dyk, Graeme Roberts, Michael Werth, Andrew Duncan, David Smythe, William Donkin, Nick Holtzhauzen, Cameron Fraser, Chris Kingsley

Row 5: Moira Gundu, Charles Ncobeni, Luke Bartholomew, Penny Mullan, Coco Mamabolo, Joshua Boudan, Swelihle Mkhwanazi, Graeme Evans, Burger Nel, Lara Rogers, Dayna Mackay, Kwanele Mgozoli, Wilbert Tenga

Row 4: Claude Pitout, Sipho Moniwa, Matthew Fairweather, Carl Schmidt, Craig Wilkinson, Andrew Brown, James Robey, Jeremy Piater, Ernie Steenkamp, Leana Steenkamp, Lionel Julius, Lindokuhle Xulu, Angela Salamon

Row 3: Katy McNeil, Richard Randlehoff, intern, Jean van Heeswijk, Thembile Zuma, Tarryn Daly, Annelize Goodwin, Tracey MacKenzie, Damian Kimfley, intern, Charissa Steenkamp, Nicolette Hohls, Richard Garrett, Nkanyiso Kambula

Row 2: Mike Green, Juliet Morulane, Sesetu Jada, Ndumiso Langa, Ghyslaine Dye, Ncumisa Makha, Devon van der Merwe, Karen Koopman, Lizel Pollard, Msizi Mchunu, Pamela Neethling, Emma Bray, Ashleigh Askew, Mantombi Skosana, Brett Udal

Row 1: Tania Hurley, James Bullough, Luke Holder, Janna de Gouveia, De Wet Wentzel, Debbie Veenstra, Tony Shuttleworth, George Harris, Kgomoitso Motlogeloa, Bruce MacLachlan, Hanlie Dry, David Look, Paul Venter, James Webb, Sean McGuigan

NICK HOLTZHAUZEN | BA Hons HDE (Natal)

JULIETTE HUNTER* | BEd Hons (KU)

TANIA HURLEY | BSocSc (UKZN), HDE (UP)

LIONEL JULIUS | BSc (UWC), BEd Hons (Unisa)

SIBONELO KHANYILE | BEd (Unisa)

CHRIS KINGSLEY | BA (RU), BEd Hons (UP), PGCE (NMMU)

KAREN KOOPMAN* | BSc Hons (Natal), PGCE (Unisa)

DAVID LOOK | BSocSc (UKZN), PGCE (UKZN) BEd Hons (Unisa)

BRUCE MACLACHLAN* | BCom, HDE (Natal) MIITPSA

TRACEY MACKENZIE* | BSc, HDE (Natal)

COCO MAMABOLO | BEd Senior & FET (Unisa)

SEAN MCGUIGAN | BSc, MSc (Natal), BTh (TEEC)

MSIZI MCHUNU | BEd (UKZN)

JULIET MORULANE | BEd FET (Wits)

KATY MCNEIL | BSc Hons, PGCE (RU)

KWANELE MGOLOZELI | BSc Hons (RU), PGCE (RU), MEd (RU)

MIKE MILL | BA Hons, HDE (Natal)

SIPHO MONIWA | BADA, PGCE (Wits)

KGOMOTSO MOTLOGELOA | BEd Hons (Wits), PGDip (UCT)

ORATENG MOTSOE | BSc (Wits)

PENNY MULLAN | BSc (RU)

CHARLES NCOBENI* | BA HDE (Natal)

BURGER NEL | BEd Senior & FET (Unisa)

JEREMY PIATER* | BEd (UKZN)

CLAUDE PITOUT | BEd Senior & FET (Unisa)

CLAUDIA PLUNKETT* | MAFA (Natal)

LIZEL POLLARD* | BCom (UFS), PGCE (NWU)

RICHARD RANDELHOFF | BSocSc (UKZN), PGCE (UKZN) BEd Hons (Unisa)

GRAEME ROBERTS | BA Hons (Natal), HDE FDE

JAMES ROBey | BSc (UCT) Hons (RU), MSc (UKZN), PGCE (Unisa)

LARA ROGERS | BA (UP), BA Hons (Wits), PGCE (Stadio)

ANGELA SALAMON* | Dipl Graphic Design (London)

TONY SHUTTLEWORTH | BSc (Stell), HDE (Stell), BEd Hons (UP)

DAVID SMYTHE | BA (Stell), PGCE (Unisa)

CHARISSA STEENKAMP | BEd Hons (NWU)

ERNIE STEENKAMP | BSc Hons, MSc (UP)

LEANA STEENKAMP* | BA (RAU), PGCE (Unisa)

WILBERT TENGA | BCom Hons, PGCE (Unisa), BSc (Fort Hare)

BRETT UDAL* | BMus (UP), HDE (Unisa)

JACO VAN DYK | BCom Hons, PGCE (UJ)

JEAN VAN HEESWIJK | HDE, BA (Unisa)

TIENIE VAN WYK* | BSc PGCE (NWU), BEd Hons (Unisa)

CHEVONNE VAN WYK | PA to Deputy Headmasters
Dipl Marketing (TVET)

DEBBIE VEENSTRA | BA, HDE (Natal)

JENINE WARREN* | BA Hons (AFDA), PGCE (Stadio)

JAMES WEBB* | BCom (Stell), PGCE (Unisa)

DE WET WENTZEL | BA Ed Hons (RAU)

MICHAEL WERTH | BSc (UPE), BEd (Unisa), HDE (UCT) PDE

CRAIG WILKINSON | BA, PDEM (RU), PGCE (Unisa), CELTA (Cambridge)

LINDOKUHLE XULU | BSocSc Hons (UKZN), PGCE (Stadio)

THEMBILE ZUMA | BEd Senior & FET (Unisa)

WELLNESS

JANNA DE GOUVEIA | Educational Psychologist
BA, BEd Hons, MEd, PhD Ed Psych (UP)

LUKE BARTHOLOMEW | Educational Psychologist
BSocSc Hons, MA Ed Psych (UKZN)

EMMA BRAY | Academic Support Teacher
BSocSci, PDEM (RU), PGCE (Stadio),
Adv.Dip. Remedial Education (UJ)

ADÉLE WENTZEL | Student Support Administrator
Dip Nursing

HOUSES

DEVON VAN DER MERWE | Churchill Housemaster

SIBONELO KHANYILE | Churchill Deputy Housemaster

NOMFUNDO NZIMANDE | Churchill House Manager

MBALI SHELEMBE | Churchill Housekeeper

BURGER NEL | Ellis Housemaster

SIPHO MONIWA | Ellis Deputy Housemaster

KESHNI PETERS | Ellis House Manager

BONGI MTHALANE | Ellis Housekeeper

WILBERT TENGA | Falcon Housemaster

WARREN KIRSTEN | Falcon Deputy Housemaster

VANESSA WEDDERBURN | Falcon House Manager

MANDY NENE | Falcon Housekeeper

MSIZI MCHUNU | Lucas Housemaster

CAMERON FRASER | Lucas Deputy Housemaster

INGA RAUTENBACH | Lucas House Manager

PATRICIA DLADLA | Lucas Housekeeper

LIONEL JULIUS | McKenzie Housemaster

CARL SCHMIDT | McKenzie Deputy Housemaster

ROSEY KALIPERSAD | McKenzie House Manager

MATHOLI MTHALANE | McKenzie Housekeeper

MATTHEW FAIRWEATHER | Newnham Housemaster

SWELIHLE MKHWANAZI | Newnham Deputy Housemaster

RESHMEE MOHANLAL | Newnham House Manager

DORIS NGCOBO | Newnham Housekeeper

JAMES BULLOUGH | Pearce Housemaster

ANDREW DUNCAN | Pearce Deputy Housemaster

NONHLANHLA MAJOLA | Pearce House Manager

PRECIOUS MWELASE | Pearce Housekeeper

SECRETARIAT

PATRICIA VAN ROOYEN | BA (Unisa) MBA (Wits)

ADMINISTRATION

KIM MARTIN | Director of Finance
BCom (UKZN) BComp Hons
(Unisa) CA (SA)

CHRISTINE BARKER | PA to Director of Finance

REKESH SOMCHAND | Society Accountant
BCompt (Unisa) AGA (SA)

WAYNE CLAYTON | Accounts Controller / Bookroom Manager
Dip Bkp Dip Proj Man (Varsity Coll)



ADMINISTRATION STAFF

Row 6: Herbert Mncwabe, Brayden Wynn, Ian McFarlane, Bheki Kunene

Row 5: Kerry Pepworth, Charlotte Cliff, Allan Fryer, Sbonelo Hlophe, Chevonne van Wyk, Dwayne Clayton, Jabulani Kunene, Thuthu Jili

Row 4: Doris Ngcobo, Mandy Nene, Zanele Ngubane, Kathy Acutt, Kgalalelo Modise, Denise Venter, Thabani Hlela, Angelique Ardé, Margie South, Charlene Ragubeer

Row 3: Keshni Peters, Chantel Ngubane, Priscilla Tenga, Thandeka Ndelela, Bianca Smith, Kamini Sindraj, Nerusha Mangalparsad, Adele Wentzel, Andrea Ridderhof

Row 2: Vanessa Wedderburn, Sheryl Govender, Reshmee Mohanlal, Emma Aldridge, Yvette McDonald, Lauren Richmond, Wendy Allen, Diana Pillay, Christine Barker, Maralyn Atkins

Row 1: Brett Armstrong, Gary Holder, Bruce MacLachlan, Peter Storrar, George Harris, Kim Martin, Reakesh Somchand, Sally Moon, Robby de Gouveia



HOUSEMASTERS

Row 2: Devon van der Merwe, Matthew Fairweather, Wilbert Tenga, Msizi Mchunu

Row 1: James Bullough, George Harris, Lionel Julius, Burger Nel

CHARLOTTE CLIFF | Payroll Administrator

KAMINI SINDRAJ | Accounts Controller

DIANA PILLAY | Cash and Bank Administrator
Bkp to T/B, Bus Lit and Pastel Acc V12
(Varsity College)

SHERYL GOVENDER | Creditors Controller

MARGIE SOUTH | Specialist Bookkeeper
BCom (Natal)

ROBBY DE GOUVEIA | Accountant
BCom (UP)

PRISCILLA TENGA | Debtors Manager
BCom (Fort Hare), PG internal auditing (Unisa)

NERUSHA MANGALPARSAD | Debtors Controller
N.Cert Fin Man. (UTVET)
N.Cert Bus Man. (UTVET)

KGALALELO MODISE | Creditors Controller
BCom (Unisa)

ADVANCEMENT

PETER STORRAR | Director
BBusSc (UCT)

ANGELIQUE ARDÉ | Communications Manager
Dipl Journ (Natal Technikon)

BRETT ARMSTRONG | Ambassador

MARALYN ATKINS | Marketing Manager

JOANNE BUSHELL | Receptionist

BRENDA CAMPBELL | Enrolment Partner
Dipl (IMM), Dipl (Marketing & BM)

TRISH DAVIDSON | Enrolment Administrator

THUTHUKILE JILI | Enrolment Partner
MA (UKZN)

AMANDA PISTORIUS | Alumni Relations Manager
BA Hons (NWU) BCom (NWU)

ANDREA SHUTTLEWORTH | Endowment Raising and
Strategic Projects
BSc (UKZN), Dipl (IMM)

FARM/ESTATE

ROWAN WELSFORD | Estate General Manager (Outgoing)
B Agric Man (UKZN) BCom (Unisa)

PETER SYMONS | Farm Manager (Incoming)
BA (UP)

CONSTANCE NGUBANE | Estate Clerk

THANDO MABASO | Estate Administrator
NQF 5 Technical Financial Accounting (FASSET)

FLEUR-DE-LYS CLUB

RALPH TIADEN | Manager

ANDREW BEVERIDGE | Club Accountant
BA Hons (Natal), Dip Fin Acc (Varsity College)

GWENS STREAM ESTATES

IAIN MCMILLAN | Executive Director
BA Hons HDE (Natal)

DENISE VENTER | Operations Manager
BSocSc (Natal)

INTERNS

SESETU JADA

DAYNA MAC KAY

KGOTSOFALO MATABANE

SANELE MHLONGO

BONGANI ZIKODE

NKANYISO KAMBULA

NCUMISA MAKHA

BUBELE MONAKALI

MANTOMBI SKOSANA

IT DEPARTMENT

GARY HOLDER | Director of IT
High Dipl Ed (Edgewood), CAN, ICDL

IAN MCFARLANE | Technical Manager
A+, N+, IT Systems App

ALLAN FRYER | IT Technician (Academic) / IT Skills Teacher
CompTIA A+

SBONELO HLOPHE | IT/Network Technician (Technical)
A+, N+, CISCO CCNA

THABANI HLELA | IT Technician

BRAYDEN WYNN | IT/Laptop Technician
A+

LIBRARY

MOIRA GUNDU | Head Librarian
B. Bibl Hons (UFH) M. Bibl (UFH), PhD (Unisa)
PGCE (Unisa) PMgt (UJ)

NDUMISO LANGA | BSocSc (UKZN)

MUSEUM / ARCHIVES

BRUCE MACLACHLAN | Heritage Curator
BCom, HDE (Natal) MIITPSA

MUSIC

JOSHUA BOUDAN | Director of Music

LUKE HOLDER | Music Teacher

DAN NEWELL | Head of Brass and International Relations

BRETT UDAL | HOD: Music

BHEKI KUNENE | Music Administrator

ASSISTANT MUSIC TEACHERS

JENNY DU PLESSIS | Clarinet/Piano/Saxophone

CURT LAWRENCE | Bass Guitar/Keyboards

LENDELE LEWIS | Drumkit

SBONGUMUSA MAJOLA | Brass

RONEL PERKS | Classical Voice/Cello

RICHARD RHEEDER | Piano and Accompaniment

CHRIS SMITH | Guitar

PRINTER

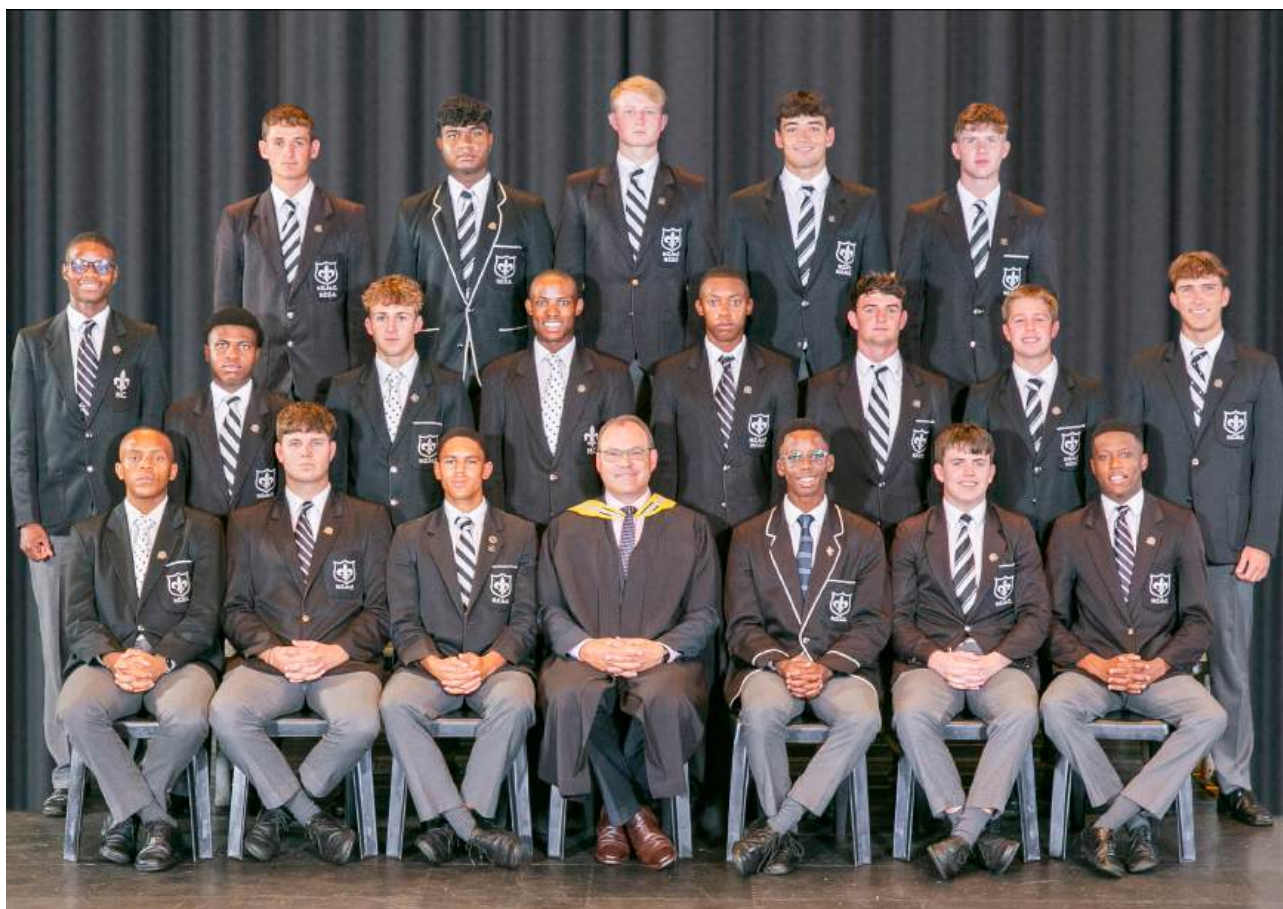
ATIN SINDRAJ | Print Manager



INTERNS

Row 2: Ncumisa Makha, Nkanyiso Kambula, Sanele Mhlongo, Dayna Mac Kay, Kgotsfalo Matabane, Sesetu Jada

Row 1: Mantombi Skosana, Ms Penny Mullan, Mr George Harris, Mrs Ashleigh Askew, Bradley Mangold, Bongani Zikode



STUDENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Row 3: Luke Spear, Shailen Naidoo, Jack Weavind, Ben le Roux, Richard Eyres

Row 2: Sixolile Nyangiwe, Uthando Gumede, Jarred Maltby, Reabetswe Motthaloga, Siyamkela Maphumulo, Ross Brown, Jarred Kitto, Retief Malherbe

Row 1: Ntando Ngcobo, James McGregor, Joshua Julius, Mr George Harris, Kigen Chepkonga, Daniel Sweeney, Munashe Musora

SANATORIUM

NOMUSA KUNENE | Head of Sanatorium (Incoming)
BNurs Hons, AdvDip

EMMA ALDRIDGE | R/N, R/M, CHN

WENDY ALLEN | Dip (Nursing and Midwifery), BA Hons

YVETTE MCDONALD | Head of Sanatorium (Outgoing)
Dip Nursing CHN, Psych. & Mid, Cert. OHN,
BTech Nursing Sc.

LAUREN RICHMOND | R/N, R/M (Greys) OHNP (DUT)
Advanced wound care (UFS)

BIANCA SMITH | R/N, R/M, CHN

SCHOOL DOCTOR

DR DALE THOMAS | MB Chb (Stell) DA (SA)

SPORT

DARRYN GALLAGHER | Executive Director: Sport

MATT FAIRWEATHER | Sports Administrator

ANDREA RIDDERHOF | Sport Secretary

BURGER NEL | Video Analyst

CARL SCHMIDT | Sport Scientist

ROBYN STEWART | Biokinetist

NICK PEREIRA | Physiotherapist

PHILANI SONDZABA | Conditioning Specialist and Coach

DE WET WENTZEL | Head of Athletics

AYANDA SHANGE | Director of Basketball

ORATENG MOTSOE | 1st Team Basketball Coach

JAMES ROBEY | Head of Canoeing

WARREN KIRSTEN | Director of Cricket

DAVID GRIFFITHS | 1st XI Cricket Coach

GRAEME EVANS | Head of Golf

DEVON VAN DER MERWE | Director of Hockey

DAMIAN KIMFLEY | 1st XI Hockey Coach

GREG MILLER | Director of Rugby

BRAD MACLEOD-HENDERSON | 1st XV Rugby Coach

CELO MBANJWA | Director of Soccer

MHLENGI SHEZI | 1st XI Soccer Coach

JAMES BULLOUGH | Head of Squash

ANDREA RIDDERHOF | Head of Swimming

ANNELIZE GOODWIN | Head of Tennis

ANDREW DUNCAN | Director of Water Polo

JASON SILENO | 1st Team Water Polo Coach

STOCK EXCHANGE

KERRY PEPWORTH | Manager

THANDEKA NDELELA / CHANTAL NGUBANE | Assistants

TECHNICIANS (LIFE & PHYSICAL SCIENCE)

CHARLENE RAGUBEER | Senior Lab Technician
BSc Biol Sc Hons and Masters (UKZN)

JABULANI KUNENE / ZANELE NGUBANE | Assistant Lab Technicians

THEATRE

LUKE HOLDER | Theatre Manager

TRANSPORT

JOANNE BUSHELL | Transport Co-ordinator

BHEKI SHANGE / SIPHIWE KUNENE | Drivers

VULA PROGRAMME

LLOYD SMUTS | Director
BA Hons HDE (UPE)

MICHAEL BENNETT | Science Project Co-ordinator
BSc Hons UED (Natal)

SUE SOUTHWOOD | Maths Project Co-ordinator
BSc (Natal) HDE

PHILA MNYANDU | Maths Project Facilitator
BEd Hons

BHEKI KUNENE | Vula Administrator

CONTRACTORS

Catering | **CAPITOL CATERING**

Cleaning, Grounds and Laundry | **SPECTRUM SERVICES**

Maintenance | **BROLL FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**
BASIL KUNDALRAM (Site Manager)

Security | **RED ALERT**
DAVID HUNTER (Site Manager)

Transport | **METRO TAXIS, KALAMAZOO, KENYONA GROUP**

ACTIVITIES / RESPONSIBILITIES

(Other than Games and Societies)

Academic Extension | **ALEXEI DU BOIS**

Art Gallery | **ANGELA SALAMON**

Art Technician | **HERBERT MNCWABE**

English Advanced Programme | **PAMELA NEETHLING**

English Olympiad Training | **PAMELA NEETHLING**

Environmental Education and Estate | **MIKE MILL**

Exchange Programme | **CRAIG WILKINSON / INGA RAUTENBACH**

Festival Director | **SUE CLARENCE**

Maths Advanced Programme | **GRAEME EVANS**

Maths Olympiad Training | **GRAEME EVANS**

Matric Dance | **ANNELIZE GOODWIN**

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The purpose of this fund is to provide financial assistance to boys from families who don't have the means to send their sons to Hilton.



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– an Infrastructure Fund

The purpose of this fund is to provide funding for the ongoing maintenance of the Hilton campus and to fund new infrastructure projects.



THE UMNGENI FUND

– an Environmental/ Estate Fund

The purpose of this fund is to provide funding for environmental and conservation projects linked to the Hilton Estate.

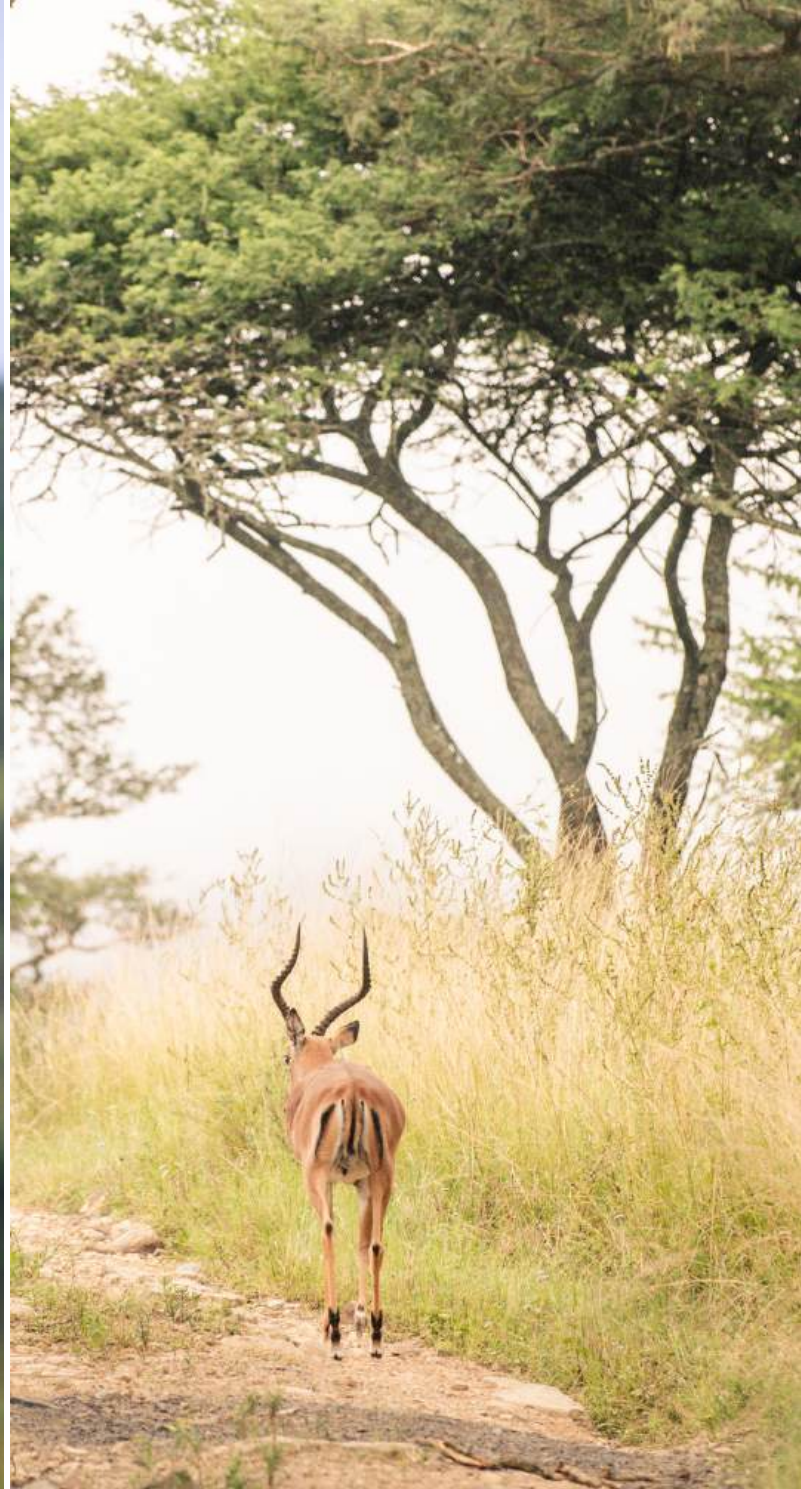


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The purpose of this fund is to provide funding for community outreach projects that are linked to the school, such as the highly acclaimed Vula Programme.





CATTLE PROJECT

The Hilton College Cattle Project was initiated approximately a decade ago by the Hilton College Old Boys. The primary aim of the project is to help facilitate the purchasing and running of oxen on the Hilton College estate. The funds generated from this project are directed towards bursaries.

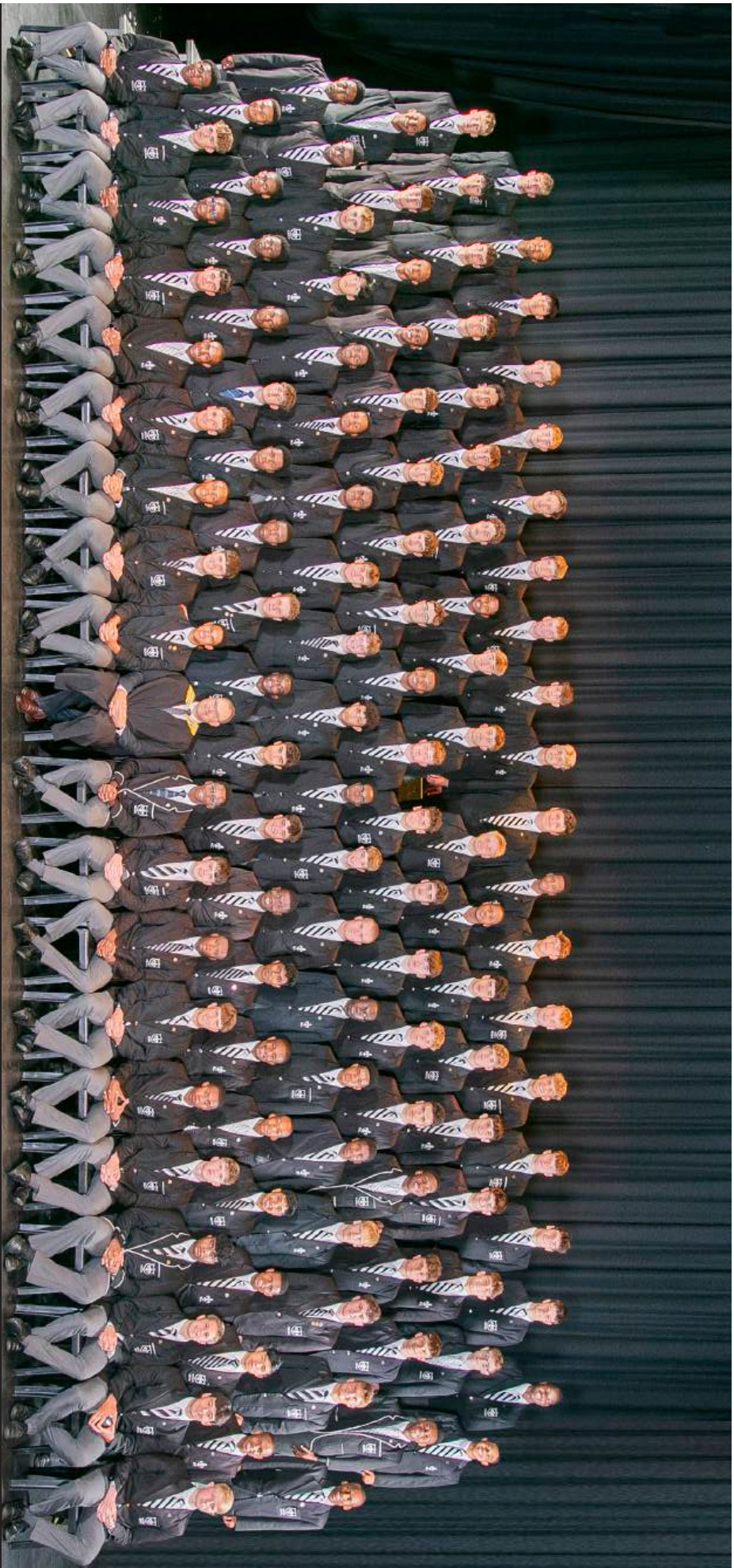
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2

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CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen, distinguished guests, fellow governors, members of staff and Hilton boys.

Welcome to Speech Day, which is always such a momentous occasion in our annual school calendar. Similar to a few years ago, we have chosen to hold the event in the evening rather than the traditional morning or afternoon slot. We hope the cooler evening temperature and the added convenience for parents, who will be able to take their sons home for the September holiday afterward, make this a more enjoyable experience for all.

You will have noticed that there has been a change in the programme this evening regarding our guest speaker. Sitting alongside George is Professor Zebulon Vilakazi, the Vice Chancellor of Wits University, who has very kindly agreed to stand in for Oscar Chalupsky whose health has unfortunately taken a turn for the worse in the past few days and who has been strongly advised by his oncologist to avoid any travel. On behalf of Hilton College, we wish Oscar everything of the very best as he overcomes this recent setback to his health. Daniel Sweeney, our deputy head of school, will shortly introduce Professor Vilakazi who can best be described as South Africa's very own rocket scientist and nuclear physicist and judging by his CV he wouldn't be out of place directing a Star Wars movie!

Arising out of these developments in the past few days, I have been reminded of two valuable life lessons. The first is that in life one can never prepare for what is around the next corner and despite believing that all is well and under control, from time to time, life throws us curveballs which we have to manage. No doubt you are all familiar with the old adage: Live every day as if it's your last and never, never take anything for granted.

The second lesson which flows directly from the first is that when life gives you lemons you need to turn them into lemonade. As Winston Churchill once remarked, one should "never let a good crisis go to waste". So, welcome professor, and thank you for being our lemonade this evening and for allowing George to squeeze you into speech day on such short notice. We look forward to receiving your address.

When I was confronted on Monday evening this week with the reality that Oscar would no longer be joining us for speech day, I would be lying if I didn't confess that a mild panic overcame me as to how on earth I would adapt my speech from one pertaining to a Springbok sportsman whose passion is kayaking on the open ocean to a nuclear physicist whose passion is to split atoms in a confined laboratory?

However, on reflection and once my nerves had calmed down, I realised that actually there is a lot more commonality between physics and sport than one may realise.

Sport is a practical application of science and physics can help athletes develop new techniques that increase their chances of outperforming their rivals. Newton's three laws of physics, which the science boffs in the audience will know are referred to as the laws of inertia, acceleration and reaction, explain how athletes control their movements and improve their speed and game performance.



Overall, the principles of physics can describe certain phenomena and influence various facets of sports from assisting athletes to move faster and hit harder, to training more efficiently, to preventing injuries, to strengthening their attitudes and mindsets and to designing aerodynamic clothing and devices.

Anyone who is a sports aficionado will also attest to the fact that sport is deeply ingrained in South Africa's national psyche. This has no doubt been heightened by last year's Rugby World Cup win as well as certain good performances at the Olympics where two of Hilton's own competed – Nick Spooner in men's hockey and Hamish Lovemore in canoeing. We are incredibly blessed to have world-class athletes who can compete at the highest levels on the global stage. However, I am a firm believer that sport is so much more than simply winning World Cups and being crowned world champions.

Sport showcases the best of humanity. It defines us as individuals and teaches us valuable life lessons such as determination, perseverance, courage and mental attitude and fortitude, that can be applied in our daily lives – whether at school, in business, or society at large.

Is there anyone here who hasn't watched Chasing the Sun 2, the documentary capturing the Boks' journey through the World Cup to the finals in Paris? Let me see a show of hands.

Aside from the colourful language used throughout, this has to be one of the best sports documentaries ever produced. Once you've watched it purely for entertainment value, I encourage you to rewatch it and carefully analyse the interplay between sport and physics, the formulae and methodologies applied by Rassie and his coaches and the valuable life lessons which we can all learn from the Boks' success in Paris. These lessons are applicable to everyone,

whether you're a sportsman, an academic, or a musician and included among others the following:

1. Write your own life script – don't let others write it for you.

Many of the South African rugby players who competed in the World Cup didn't attend elite rugby schools like Hilton College or have the opportunities that many of you here tonight enjoy. They grew up in challenging circumstances, but their determination, grit and never-give-up attitude got them onto the world stage. Success in life is not always a linear path – write your own script.

2. Don't simulate the game – play the game.

During the World Cup campaign, Daan Human, the Boks' scrum coach, refused to use a scrum machine during practice. Instead, the squad engaged in live scrums against each other during training, which many of the forwards stated following the World Cup were far tougher and more brutal than the actual matches. These sessions strengthened every group of muscles of the forwards and sensitised the players to what it would feel like and what they could expect to encounter from their opponents on the day. The key takeaway here is not to overthink things – get out there and play, even when it's hard.

3. It's never too late to shine.

Deon Fourie, the oldest Bok debutant, was called up for his first Bok game at 36 and went on to play 77 minutes of the final, even taking over as captain during the game. For many of you, you may feel like you're playing behind the scenes at school, but there's nothing stopping you from achieving big goals later in life. Lead when no one is watching.

4. Master your emotions.

During the quarter-finals and leading up to the final against New Zealand, the Boks maintained their composure under immense pressure. Handrè Pollard's perfect kicking record at Stade de France and the crucial scrum against England in our 22 are just two examples. Interestingly, the Boks were the only team not to receive a yellow or red card during the pool phases – talk about managing emotions and holding your nerve in the ultimate pressure cooker. A calm mind can handle any situation.

However, sport alone must be put into perspective, and I quote Hamish Lovemore who on returning from these Olympics remarked publicly, "Winning is not everything and losing is part of every sport. The privilege to compete is enough for me."

If you would indulge me a few minutes longer, I would like to highlight some key developments and achievements at Hilton College over the past year:

- The Board recently revisited Hilton College's strategy of "A Plan for Every Boy", first developed in 2016/2017 and refreshed it to ensure it remains contemporary and relevant as we face the future of private school education in South Africa. Our focus will be on three core strategic development themes: maintaining the excellence of our offerings, reviewing our funding sources and uses, and future-proofing infrastructure, particularly in terms of sustainability.
- Our academic results for 2023 were outstanding, with Hilton ranked as the second top all-boys private school in South Africa.
- The matric class achieved an average of 2.8 distinctions per candidate, with 85.5% of all symbols attained being a C or higher. Additionally, 16 boys wrote A-Level exams of which 87% of the symbols achieved were between an A and a C.

- On the sporting front, Hilton continues to punch well above its weight, with boys being selected for KZN and South African schools' teams across various sports.
- The cultural sphere at Hilton has also excelled. Currently there are 186 boys taking an individual practical musical instrument and 140 boys playing in 12 ensembles. Sixty boys are involved in drama, dance and acting. The new Chamberlain Music Centre has undoubtedly influenced this trend.
- Financially, Hilton College has operated at a surplus to budget and continues to scrutinize costs carefully. Bolstering the Endowment Fund remains a key priority to ensure that the right calibre of boys continues to be enrolled at Hilton, sustaining its ethos, values, and esprit de corps.
- From an infrastructure perspective, we've attained the necessary licences to begin construction on the old dairy site. In addition, the Beckingham Astro turf has been replaced and soon we'll be relaying the grass on the Gilfillan rugby field. A solar project on top of the Centenary Centre has been installed, thanks to the generosity of a Hilton family, which will generate 175 MWh of electricity per annum.
- A highlight in recent months has been the construction of the new fitness and conditioning centre, made possible by the generosity of Peter Gain, Anthony Draper and Andrew Dunn, all Old Hiltonians. We are deeply grateful for their ongoing support.

Finally, I want to express my deepest thanks and appreciation to the staff at Hilton College, so ably led by George Harris. George's even temperament, nurturing nature and wisdom have guided this school admirably for the past eight years. To the staff, your dedication and commitment to Hilton College is truly extraordinary. You have successfully created a home-away-from-home environment that makes boarding school life easier for the boys and their families.

I would also like to extend my personal thanks to Kigen Chepkonga and Daniel Sweeney, our Head Boy and Deputy Head Boy respectively, for their excellent leadership this past year.

In conclusion, no school can run effectively without the input, expertise and guidance of a dedicated board of governors. I thank my colleagues on the Hiltonian Society Board for their unwavering support and wise counsel during the past year.

Congratulations to those receiving prizes this evening. Enjoy the break and we look forward to welcoming you back next term!

Thank you.

Andrew Johnston | Chairman



HEADMASTER'S ADDRESS

Mr Andrew Johnston, chairman of the Board of Governors, Professor Vilakazi, governors, esteemed guests, friends of Hilton, fellow heads of schools, parents, staff and young men of Hilton – welcome, and thank you for taking the time to celebrate another terrific year with us.

We didn't win an Oscar ... but we have won an incredible replacement, almost a coup, in Prof Vilakazi. Even as a student at Wits, I never got to meet the VC when I was there, but here we are.

Professor Vilakazi, your generosity in accepting our invitation at such short notice speaks to your humility and your belief in the young people of our country. As an alum of Wits, I can attest to the education I received in the hallowed, albeit somewhat chaotic, hallways of your institution and I am delighted that you get to see and taste another great South African institution here today. Thank you, once again, your presence and your message are deeply appreciated.

Dostoevsky wrote, ironically, in his novel *The Idiot*, "*The soul is healed by being with children*", and I concur.

The joy of teaching and of the bustle of boys as a conglomerate, as a band of brothers, as a scrum of enthusiasm, is exhilarating. Whilst many other adults while away their days in gentrified offices, minding their Ps and Qs, those of us in education are thrust into the torrid world of frantic hormones, all grasping for attention and despairing at relevance.

A teacher's world, especially in the beauty and pungency of a boys' classroom, or a dormitory (in our case), is rivetingly raw. Anything might happen at any time. It is not for the faint-hearted. It is made for the brave, for the fearless, for the single-minded champions of hope who believe in tomorrow, in the steadfast promise of the youth and their untamed energy. It is undoubtedly the best profession in the world, as it wields the most influence on young minds, eager to understand, eager to believe, eager to be.

I want to thank every teacher, housemaster, coach, and support staff member, who braves the world of youthful vigour, unfiltered expression, and awkward emotion, to co-create the adults of tomorrow who will be our collective futures. Many of you have spent the past few weeks, or parts thereof, sleeping out in nature with our boys – braving storms, dust, camp-food, rudimentary facilities, in order to give our boys an experience they will remember for their lives. Dostoevsky also wrote in *The Insulted and the Injured*, "*To live without hope is to cease to live*", and your imparting of hope as you inspire the next generation is one of the greatest gifts you offer, day in and day out. Ladies and gentlemen, the warmest round of applause for our collective staff who make this school great!

As always, a few teachers take leave of us at the end of 2024, some to promotion posts elsewhere, others onto retirement or onto new chapters:

Mr Graeme Evans

Mr Evans has been Director of Mathematics for almost four years at Hilton. He has brought a stability and a professional excitement to the Maths Department, and he has ensured that boys are well-prepared and extended in their mathematical thinking. Mr Evans re-emphasised the importance of writing the Maths Olympiad and has been especially helpful in our managing both the IEB and the A-Level syllabi simultaneously – with great prowess. Ever the quirky maths guy, Mr Evans has enjoyed great camaraderie from his peers and his wry sense of humour has stood him in good stead on countless occasions.



Mr Luke Holder

Mr Luke Holder, our Director of Culture, has decided to pursue a different avenue in the world of performing arts from next year. Mr Holder is an extraordinary individual with talents that afford him a scope of opportunity few of us are fortunate to know. Mr Holder has been at Hilton for almost five years, as theatre manager, music teacher, drama teacher, organist, accompanist, arts festival coordinator ... the list is long and impressive. We will miss Mr Holder's prowess and his varied and comprehensive contribution to so many areas of our collective arts space at Hilton.

Mrs Vanessa Wedderburn

Mrs Vanessa Wedderburn retires at the end of this year. Mrs Wedderburn has been mum to Falcon boys for the past five years. Mrs Wedderburn has a warmth about her that has endeared her to many. Her commitment to making Falcon a home away from home has been significant and we thank her for her contribution to Hilton.

Mr Jason Sileno

Mr Sileno has been at Hilton for almost seven years, both our director of water polo and as 1st team coach. He is passionate about his sport but has also been a strong mentor to many boys. Alongside his water polo exploits lie his rugby coaching skills, which proves that water polo is basically rugby in the water. Mr Sileno is moving to St Stithians as director of aquatics and where their policy on outrageous footwear is obviously less stringent than ours is. We wish him everything of the best as he takes on his new role next year.

Mr Tienie van Wyk

Mr Tienie van Wyk has been a Science teacher at Hilton College from 2018. He also served as deputy housemaster in Churchill and currently as our HOD of Science. He and his family are jetting off on an adventure to New Zealand, the home of the long white cloud, where Tou-Trek is not yet a national sport, but Mr van Wyk assures me that this duty is included in his new employment contract.

Mr Van Wyk is a man of many talents and his conscientious nature, 'opreg manier' and 'hoof-seun' characteristics have left an indelible mark on many boys in our college. We wish him everything of the best in this new adventure.

Sr Bianca Smith

Sister Smith has been at Hilton for almost 16 years and has treated many a boy in our San. Her warmth and her professionalism are strong characteristics of her person and her service to Hilton has been impeccable and for such an extended time. Sr Smith is off to work in an oncology practice where her skills will be significantly deployed.

Sr McDonald

Sr McDonald left us at the end of Term 2 to take up the role of Head Nurse at Michaelhouse, after almost 20 years at Hilton. Her service to Hilton was outstanding.

Mr Brett Udal

Mr Udal has served Hilton College for almost 18 years. Mr Udal was instrumental and influential in the realisation of the Chamberlain Music Centre to the great joy of all of us who love the arts. Boys, if ever you wondered about commitment to a cause, when Mr Udal was a high school pupil his mother would drive him from Pretoria to Bloemfontein at least once a month if not more, to have violin lessons from one of South Africa's premier violinists at the time. Some of you boys find an excuse when you need to walk from your boarding house to the music block for your lesson ...

This passion for violin is what has resulted in Mr Udal taking a leap of faith and choosing to make his playing his primary focus again. From next year, he rejoins the KZN Philharmonic Orchestra full-time whilst also pursuing other performance opportunities. Mr Udal will conduct our band and choir today, in celebration of his wonderful contribution over the years.

Mr Rowan Welsford

Mr Welsford was our Farm Manager for almost 22 years. An Old Hiltonian with a heart for helping people as a core tenet of his person – cattle are his second love – Mr Welsford's service was outstanding.

Mrs Christine Barker

Mrs Barker has served Hilton for the past 24 years. Her commitment to her various responsibilities through the years has been nothing short of comprehensive. Mrs Barker has an unwavering faith and her firm resolve to serve is a strong foundation of whom she is. We will miss the petrol price change alerts on the staff group, and your general determination to care for those in your orbit. Thank you, Mrs Barker, for your dedicated service.

Mr Jabulani Kunene

Mr Kunene joined Hilton College on 1 January 1978! He has served this school for almost 47 years. I asked Jabulani if he would stay until the end of next year, in the hope that I could then get him to his half-century, but he was emphatic that he is done at the end of March next year. I'm not sure they make people in the mould of Mr Kunene anymore ... long-serving, long-suffering, dependable, self-sacrificing. Your service to this institution is profound and an example to many. Thank you for giving, thank you for serving, thank you for your smile. When April arrives and the quiet of the mornings overtakes us, we will remember you and your contribution, Jabulani! Siyabonga Kakhulu, Numzane.

I want to thank this community of parents for placing your trust in us. From time to time your expectations are akin to us all being saintly, but most often you support us in this human endeavour of growing your son, especially as he learns through trial and error.

I want to thank every parent who seeks and finds opportunity to build up our school. Those parents who, despite our being a boarding school, make significant sacrifices to attend events and to give financially or in time or in support, such that ours is undeniably a warm, supportive and nurturing environment for all.

I delight in the successes, but I also value the learning opportunities when things do not go according to plan, of each boy as he finds his place in this world. There is a place for everyone. Our boys love this school, this Hilton experience. For the large majority, they understand the privilege, the honour, and the richness of this great privilege. They play hard, they learn hard, they love hard, they pretend hard too.

Class of 2024, your Grade 8 year was interrupted by Covid. As bizarre as that episode was, you have emerged a united class, a tenacious bunch who have stuck with each other through the metaphoric thick and thin. Even though you missed out on four opportunities to do the spell at home and away, you still managed a fairly decent rendition in this your final year, which obviously spurred [Sebastien] Gaboreau on to attain immortal status on Meadows.

Only one of you forgot the name of your date at the Matric Dance ... and only one of you continued playing a rugby game with a broken leg. A few of you have attended every chapel service required, whilst a number of you remain conspicuous when it comes to support lessons for Afrikaans.

Among you is the poet, the joker, the engineer, the scientist, the fund manager, the entrepreneur, the dreamer, the explorer, the muso, the jock, the nerd, the organiser, the seeker, the prayer, the life of the party, the conspiracy theorist, the politician, the provocateur, the peacemaker and the peacekeeper. Every one of you has had the opportunity to be, to imagine, to thrive.

Tonight, we celebrate the Class of 2024 – the coming of age of a group of young men at the cusp of their next chapter. Hilton College is the richer for your contribution.

Great schools are some of the last institutions of community life, in our fast-paced and increasingly impersonal world. Here we choose real over virtual and depth over shallow. I am reminded of the times we have hurt together and of the times we have danced joyfully in the celebration of life; both extremes making the journey we are all on, one of a collective richness both robust and frail, at the same time.

Dr Iain McGilchrist, my go-to scientist and author, hypothesises that we need to attend to the world with a more right-hemisphere dominant view – which sees the whole, rather than the distinct parts (which is a left-hemisphere quality). By this, he emphasises the arts as a mechanism to achieve this shift in attention – arguing that much of our worldview has become grossly utilitarian and broadly formulaic in nature. Technology has not assisted us in this dilemma as it quickly focuses on the end result and robs us of process, of struggle, of pondering and of wonder.

In the world of schools, the pressure to get the correct mark shifts our attention to a formulaic response to learning – we, the adults, are driven to ensure our charges can do the work, can reproduce the required content to achieve a result, which will allow children to advance to the next stage of education and then do it all again.

Our attending is on the result and on the application of a formula for success – a left-hemisphere approach to life.

Longevity and contentment as the human race are sacrificed in our pursuit of a vision of a world that is besotted with the material and not with the art of being. According to McGilchrist our approach to life must be far more geared to wonder, to being, to imagination, to poetry and to reflection.

Young men, your Hilton experience has, on many occasions, afforded you this privilege. I hope that you will value it and develop this practice in your adulthood. A life well-lived is a life that seeks being over having; giving over getting; grace over judgement; forgiveness over retribution; hope over fear.

In his address to Duke's graduates this year, Jerry Seinfeld questioned why privilege has become such a negative position to hold in today's world, he challenges this and instead suggests that one should figure out how to use one's privilege to one's advantage. You have heard me say that we should not become prisoners of privilege and by this I do not only mean that one should not feel bad about having or being privileged but rather, as suggested by Seinfeld, you should use your privilege.

When someone asks which school you attended, own your Hilton experience, let them be surprised at your humility, at your courage, at your integrity, at your kindness, at your honesty. When an opportunity arises for you to stand up for the truth, perhaps to defend a person or a situation, or a policy that improves the lives of those around you, or the lives of the marginalized, be that person who stands tall, who makes the tough calls, who risks popularity or comfort whilst pursuing the right thing.

Kigen and Daniel, you have been a terrific team. Your calm steering of this ship of boys has been done with class and care. Thank you for encouraging your peers and those younger than you to pursue their potential, to uphold our ethos, to stand tall as Hiltonians. Class of 2024, you are our future. You are Africa's future. To whom much has been given, much will be required.

Leaders of 2025

Onto the leadership roles for 2025. Parents, you may have had an opportunity to read my newsletter on our approach to leadership which I sent out yesterday. The Class of 2025 has just

finished leadership week, and together, we discussed a slightly adjusted structure for this coming year in the ongoing hope of improving what we do. I won't go into details in this speech but please take the time to read it to understand our philosophy. In short, certain portfolios will be allocated by the boys as they determine how best to allocate roles and responsibilities from among themselves. Furthermore, we will introduce the opportunity to be awarded Half-Colours, Colours and Honours for leadership in 2025 – this accolade will be available to Grade 11 and 12 boys – my newsletter addresses this in more detail.

So, without further ado, Heads of Houses:

- **CHURCHILL** – David Hill
- **ELLIS** – Tochi Ezenwugo
- **FALCON** – Langa Dlamini
- **LUCAS** – Ben Erasmus
- **MCKENZIE** – Xavier Enslin
- **NEWNHAM** – Matt Thomas
- **PEARCE** – Josh Grant

Schoolwide leadership roles – portfolios to be assigned by the committee:

- James Dingley
- Andre Boshoff
- Erin Kiara
- Senzo Mngomezulu
- Mpande Myeza
- Nqubeko Majosi
- Jacques Olivier

DEPUTY HEAD OF SCHOOL FOR 2025 – Stewart Falconer
HEAD OF SCHOOL FOR 2025 – Shaka Buthelezi

Ladies and gentlemen, this is an extraordinary school; I remain but its custodian and all of us associated with this great place are privileged to share in its prosperity and progress.

Tomorrow's generation is our collective responsibility, and I am enthused to play my part. Thank you for your trust in us. Thank you for another great year of communal learning.

George Harris | Headmaster



GUEST OF HONOUR'S ADDRESS

Nothing is as defining in life as a rite of passage. Your birth, your christening if you're a Christian, your matriculating, your graduation, your marriage, even your death. Each of these are punctuated by occasion. We mark these occasions because of the quintessential nature of who we are: we are humans. Every moment is celebrated with a rite of passage. So, when an offer came a couple of days ago for me to be a substitute guest speaker tonight, I couldn't pass up the opportunity to be part of this timeless tradition. Rather than being stuck on the 11th floor of some building in Johannesburg, arguing with professors and highly opinionated youngsters, I thought I'd come here instead. However, I hate to disappoint you: I come here as a substitute for Oscar Chalupsky, a great South African. I'm sorry to hear about his condition. But, ladies and gentlemen, if you think I'm a "bomb squad" – to use a rugby metaphor made famous by Dr Rassie Erasmus – you will be disappointed.

Chairman of the Board of Governors Mr Andrew Johnston; members of the board, including my friend Sizo Jali; headmaster Mr George Harris; academic and support staff; students: In celebrating the profession of the mind, there is a Latin song called *Gaudeamus igitur*, an academic commercium song. Translated, one chorus means, "Long live the academy, long live the professors. Long live the student."

We come and go – headmasters, board members, parents and students. But the academy lives forever because of those like Mr Jabulani Kunene, who has served this school with distinction for 47 years. It is the collective that sustains this timeless and majestic profession of growing young minds and advancing knowledge. So, I would like to honour the staff who have been part of this timeless tradition. I'd like to honour the parents and the friends of this great institution, Hiltonians. To our celebrants tonight – the boys – this is your night. A few years ago, at St Mary's where my daughter is schooled, I gave an address on a similar occasion. And one of the parents came to me afterwards and said, 'Prof, we didn't understand.' And I said, 'Excuse me ma'am, I was speaking to the future generation.' So I am aiming this speech at the future generation. I want you to think of a map. A map is a means of compressing distances – kilometres or miles into centimetres or inches. Depending on the scale, one centimetre equals one kilometre. Now instead of space, use your time axis. If 1,000 years represents a year, 100,000 years represents 100 years. Let's take this journey. Forty years ago, humankind wore animal skins. About 30 years ago, we developed consciousness and started projecting our thoughts on to material. Ten years ago, we started farming and that allowed us to build communities, to expand, leading to a period five years ago when civilisations arose in the Middle East around Egypt and Mesopotamia. Two years ago, we had Christianity. A year and half ago, there was a period of great thought by the Greeks: Aristotle, Plato and others. We learned about democracy, music and plays. Half a year ago, we had the Great War, then the Second World War. Three months ago, man landed on the moon and Albert Einstein unleashed his force, $E=mc^2$. Last week, the internet was launched. Then the world wide web was launched by Tim Berners-Lee. I had the privilege of being there in 1994 when it was launched. You were born two days ago. Yesterday, Google became a multibillion-dollar company and Nvidia became the top chip maker yesterday. And just a minute ago, ChatGPT made great strides. Now you can imagine that over the past two days, since we were born, humanity has advanced.

We have been born into a period where change happens so fast that even us academics, us professors, are bewildered by this blizzarding pace. I challenge you not to be frightened. Carpe diem.



Seize the moment. Your generation may fear the advances in AI and Agent Smith taking over the world and multiplying. Don't worry! We human beings know how to advance ourselves. I don't think that any robot can be as creative as what you saw tonight in the beauty of the composition that was rendered. Therefore, your future is one of work, and of jobs that are being created now.

You were born into a world where there's no certainty, where your future is being created. It is up to your generation to create a better future. Or you could be the generation that leads us to a dystopian future. The choice is yours.

You are entering a new phase of life where you are being unleashed into the world as an 18-year-old with opinions that can change the world – a world of climate change and global conflicts. You will shake off your uniform, grow a beard – just don't get a tattoo, please – have an opinion. The minute you hear a professor or lecturer say a word, question them. You have a right to have an opinion, challenge authority – within limits – and experiment with ideas.

You'll go to a university where you will sit next to a child who finished school at Diepsloot High or a school in Lusikisiki. A child who has never flown before; someone who doesn't come from a monastic school like yours. You'll meet someone who believes differently – they could be Christian or Jewish – and speaks a different language to you. What I'm saying is that with this rite of passage, your shelter will be broken. And it should be. Life is about rupture. The progress of humankind over the past 10 years never happened because of a continuum. It happened because of breaks. And now we are breaking. We are making a celebration tonight: break out there. Be unleashed into the world, into professions and businesses. Choose to go to university, here or abroad, but preferably here. Boys, this country is blessed with great schools.

This school is among the best in the world. I've been to every public school in the UK and to private schools in America and in Switzerland, and none of them can match this. You are privileged, but you'll go there and meet people who do not have the same privilege. And they might be smarter than you with the little that they have. That's what we in the profession of the mind celebrate. We celebrate that while genius has to be nurtured, it can sprout from anywhere. Talent is a great equaliser. You will meet people different from you, but you will share one thing in common: you will be citizens of the future.

In closing, I would like to quote Robert F Kennedy, the younger brother of the late John F Kennedy, a great American politician who sadly was assassinated in 1968. In 1967, in his famous "A Tiny Ripple of Hope" speech, which he delivered at the University of Cape Town during a very difficult time in our history, Robert Kennedy said:

“Each time a man stands up for an ideal or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope. And crossing each other from a million different centres of energy and daring, those ripples build a current that can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.”

Each and every one of you is a ripple of hope, colliding with other ripples of hope. With positive energy, you can make this a much better world than the one you have inherited. I was once your age. I was once the future. The future is yours. Seize it. And may the force be with you. Thank you.

Professor Zeblon Vilakazi | Vice-Chancellor of the University of the Witwatersrand

HEAD BOY'S ADDRESS

Good evening, Mr Chairman, Headmaster, invited guests, parents, staff, and boys. Professor Vilakazi, on behalf of the Hilton College community, thank you so much for making the trip to Hilton College to address us. Your address was exceptional, and I am sure it will be remembered for years to come.

In my address to this year's Grade 8s on their first day of school, I made it clear that the goal was to uphold the Fleur-de-Lys as a mark of distinction in South African education. We set out to ensure that chapter 152 in this school's history would be its greatest chapter. And standing here, at the end of the road we have walked together, there is only one way to describe 2024: a year of triumph. The Class of 2024 can be proud of the school we are leaving.

It has been a year of remarkable moments – from epic rugby and hockey games played on Gilfillan, Mansergh, and across the country, to the hard-won victories that followed early defeats – a true highlight of our year at Hilton College. Because the lessons learned from hard times are far more valuable than those learned when everything is going our way. The dedication of our staff, parents, and boys, no matter what the scoreboards said, proved pivotal in ensuring that we kept our heads in the game.

Looking back on this year – and the past five years at Hilton – has been deeply emotional. Coming here was never a certainty for me. It was a difficult decision my family and I made. Some people were dumbfounded by my decision to leave one of the most renowned music institutions in the world to come here in Grade 8. But a deciding factor was the way we felt the moment we stepped foot on this campus. From the beautiful grounds to the upstanding boys we met, we knew there was no other school for me. Of course, I could have ended up at the school up the road, or one in Durban or Gauteng. And all of them would have given me the matric certificate I will be receiving a few months from now.

However, I strongly doubt that I would have been the same person. Had I not been afforded the opportunity to attend this great school, I would have never jumped into a rowing boat for the first time one day in Grade 8. I would not have spent two months of my Grade 10 year in North Carolina, meeting and living with people who have a completely different view on our world. There wouldn't have been the Nature Reserve, the countless musicals, the staff, or the brotherhood. Hilton College is a place of wonder.



At Hilton College we aren't all the same. It's what makes this school so special. Our school is comprised of boys from all walks of life, from all over the world. Regardless of one's economic background, race, sexuality, or nationality, we each have the same opportunities to thrive at this institution. We're a community that looks past the labels pinned onto us by society, labels that divide and distance us as people.

And while the forces working to separate us may be strong, the force of the Fleur-de-Lys, uniting us as brothers, is stronger. What defines us is our values; how we treat people and the environment; how we pick ourselves up from defeat; and how we uplift those among us. A Hiltonian is not simply a pupil of this school, but someone who subscribes to our ideals and makes society a better place. Whether one does that by picking up litter, running for public office, or anything in between, we are men defined by our actions.

At times, the person most dedicated to embodying the true spirit of a Hiltonian may not appear as you would expect. He may not be a strong sportsman, or one who leaves a mark in the classroom or on the stage. He may come from a different background or have vastly different life experiences to you. But the essence of being “of” this school goes beyond the picture frames that we are put into as people. I challenge you to take a closer look at those around you and consider whether you are judging them for who they are, or for who they appear to be.

There are countless people that have made this year the incredible journey that it has been, and if I attempted to name them all, I doubt any of us would be making it home tonight. Firstly, to my parents, thank you for the immeasurable sacrifices you have made to gift me with this world-class education. You have always been there for me, to offer guidance, support, and to be a second pair of eyes over my long-winded speeches. Mom, if it weren't for you getting me out of my previous school prematurely, I wouldn't have had my start at Hilton in Grade 8, so thank you for taking the risk, believing in Hilton, and believing in me.

Mr Harris, Mr Shuttleworth, Mr Motlogeloa, and the wider staffing body, thank you for trusting and supporting myself, Daniel, and the matrics on our leadership journeys this year. Your guidance has helped us extensively as we worked to do our part in continuing Hilton College's legacy of excellence.

To my brothers in arms, the Class of 2024, what an impactful five years it has been. I clearly recall the headmaster sitting us down as Grade 10s, expressing concerns that the staff had about us. We were – and perhaps still are – loud, immature, and reckless. But above all, we are a year group with unmatched tenacity and drive – with the determination to succeed. This year, we made sure to show that. Particularly to this year's wider leadership group through the houses and the Student Executive Committee, I thank you for your fearless courage in never shying away from a challenge. As we continue to face challenges, particularly at this very moment, always remember that when we fight, we win – and that the fight is never over. Together, we stepped up to lead Hilton College through its 152nd year of triumph, and along

the way, we had the times of our lives. I'm going to miss each and every one of you, it has been an honour walking this journey alongside you all.

And lastly, Sweendog, I couldn't have asked for anyone better to serve with in this role. Together, we've had so many ups, quite a few downs, and most certainly a lot of frustration in between. But throughout it all, you have been nothing but a phenomenal teammate and incredible best friend.

Grade 11s, we have our upmost faith in you boys. We have no doubts that you will take this school to even greater heights and can't wait to see the year that you make out of 2025. I sincerely hope that we set a clear example of what it means to be a leader, and that you build on our successes, and make them your own.

Hilton College, it has been an honour, and I am deeply humbled and grateful to have served in this role as head of school.

To close, I would like share a short passage from Tom Roy's poem, “I am a Hilton Boy”, originally read in 2022 – inspired by former President Thabo Mbheki.

I come of those who have spent 152 years forging a path that we have now also journeyed along, adding to it our own legacy.

My being has been shaped by the values and traditions of our school which are entrenched in our rich 152-year history.

Engrained in my memory is Lift Up Your Hearts, resounding off the walls of the chapel, O Boys of Hilton echoing down the valley and the silence of the exam hall ringing in my ears.

I am of a brotherhood, a cohesive unit of young men.

A brotherhood that recognises and celebrates the talents unique to each of us, and uplifts each other in tough times.

A brotherhood that creates the environment in which all of us can feel a sense of belonging.

It provides the opportunity for all to state their views and feel comfortable doing so.

All this I know, and know to be true, because I am a Hilton boy.

Kigen Chepkonga | Head Boy 2024



Prize List 2024

THE HILTON YEAR

A LEVEL

SCHOLAR OF THE YEAR | Gabriel Njonjo
DUX SCHOLAR | William Chien

GRADE 12

ACCOUNTING | William Chien
ART AND DESIGN | Charlie Short
BIOLOGY | James McGregor
ECONOMICS | Jack Weavind
GEOGRAPHY | Joshua Mapp
HISTORY | William Ebersöhn
LITERATURE IN ENGLISH | William Ebersöhn
MATHEMATICS | William Chien | Charlie Short
PHYSICS | William Chien
PSYCHOLOGY | William Ebersöhn

GRADE 11 INTC, AS LEVEL

ACCOUNTING | Jake Hockly
AFRIKAANS | Neil Grobbelaar
BUSINESS | Jake Hockly
CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL PROJECT QUALIFICATION | Neil Grobbelaar
CHEMISTRY | Jordan Byres
CHINESE | Justin Du
ECONOMICS | Neil Grobbelaar | Jake Hockly
GEOGRAPHY | Josh Grant
MATHEMATICS | Neil Grobbelaar | Rupert Wright
MUSIC | James Dingley
PHYSICS | Neil Grobbelaar

GRADE 10 AS LEVEL

ECONOMICS | William Segar
LAW | William Segar

COMMENDATION PRIZES

GRADE 11

Jordan Byres
Josh Grant
Neil Grobbelaar
Erin Kihara

I E B

GRADE 12

JOHN LEWIS PRIZE FOR ACCOUNTING | Didier Rey
PAUL BESTEL MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR FRENCH | Katlego Moncho
RAHMANI PRIZE FOR COMMITMENT TO FRENCH | Lyle Clubb
PRAV IYER AWARD FOR FURTHER STUDIES MATHEMATICS | Connor Sawyer
R F J HAYWARD VC MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR GEOGRAPHY | William Kitching
J E NISBET PRIZE FOR HISTORY | Shailen Naidoo
THE EVAN BROWN PRIZE FOR ISIZULU | Siyamkela Maphumulo
MERVYN LLOYD PRIZE FOR LIFE SCIENCES | William Kitching
NICHOLAS ARTHUR MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR MATHEMATICS | William Kitching | Connor Sawyer
D V DUCASSE PRIZE FOR PHYSICAL SCIENCE | Connor Sawyer
KENNETH BEGHIN MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR VISUAL ARTS – THEORY | Benjamin Ferguson
PRACTICAL | Max Gilson
AFRIKAANS | Ben le Roux
DRAMATIC ARTS | Siyamkela Maphumulo
ECONOMICS | Kigen Chepkonga
ENGINEERING GRAPHICS AND DESIGN | Connor Sawyer
ENGLISH | Richard Eyres
FURTHER STUDIES MATHEMATICS (ELECTIVE MODULE) | Kigen Chepkonga
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | Ben le Roux
LIFE ORIENTATION | Kigen Chepkonga | William Kitching
MATHEMATICAL LITERACY | Sebastien Gaboreau
MUSIC | Kigen Chepkonga

GRADE 11

RAHMANI PRIZE FOR COMMITMENT TO FRENCH | Alex Pitman
ACCOUNTING | Robbie Hayward
AFRIKAANS | André Boshoff
DRAMATIC ARTS | Tochi Ezenwugo
ECONOMICS | Robbie Hayward
ENGINEERING GRAPHICS AND DESIGN | Lesedi Mangwale | Jake van Zuydam
ENGLISH | André Boshoff
EXTENDED ESSAY | Daniel Askew | Shaka Buthelezi
FRENCH | Reinard Wagner
FURTHER STUDIES MATHEMATICS | Robbie Hayward
GEOGRAPHY | Ben Erasmus
HISTORY | André Boshoff
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | Kenyu Chiang
ISIZULU | Shaka Buthelezi | Langa Dlamini
LIFE SCIENCES | André Boshoff
MATHEMATICAL LITERACY | Jake van Zuydam & Griffin Barnes
MATHEMATICS | Robbie Hayward
MUSIC | William Lingenfelder
PHYSICAL SCIENCES | Robbie Hayward
VISUAL ARTS PRACTICAL | Adam Essey
VISUAL ARTS THEORY | Stewart Falconer

GRADE 10

RAHMANI PRIZE FOR COMMITMENT TO FRENCH | Kagiso Magasa

ACCOUNTING | Rohan Naidoo

AFRIKAANS | John Grubb

DRAMATIC ARTS | Jack Kitching

ECONOMICS | William Segar

ENGLISH | Matthew Wilson

FRENCH | Ofentse Mamojele

GEOGRAPHY | Lance Kitto

HISTORY | Matthew Wilson

ISIZULU | Banele Phoswa

LIFE SCIENCES | Rohan Naidoo

MATHEMATICS | Robert Burman

MUSIC | Rohan Naidoo

PHYSICAL SCIENCES | Evan Moloseni

VISUAL ARTS PRACTICAL | Banele Phoswa

VISUAL ARTS THEORY | Andreas Demetriou

GRADE 9

GRIFFIN MEMORIAL PRIZE | Raphael Dube

TOP PUPILS IN GRADE 9

Ryan Grobler, Zach Ichikowitz, Layton Stokes, Arjun Wadhwani

GRADE 8

A J COOK PRIZE | David Weng

TOP PUPILS IN GRADE 8

Fynn Asamoah, Callum Dreyer, Nathan Mturi, Avaneesh Nunna, Richard Porritt

SPECIAL PRIZES

L A B SHARPE MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR ENGLISH

William Ebersöhn (Clifton Nottingham Road)

THE DEREK VEENSTRA PRIZE FOR CREATIVE WRITING

William Segar (Clifton Nottingham Road)

SENIOR VERSE PRIZE

Richard Roxburgh (Grayston Preparatory)

JUNIOR WRITER'S PRIZE

Ryan Grobler (St John's Preparatory)

Layton Stokes (British International School of Jeddah)

EP CHAPMAN MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR DEBATING

Shailen Naidoo (Redhill School)

VERA BURKE MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR DRAMATIC ARTS

Natenzi Denenga (Redhill School)

FREDERIC TATHAM MEMORIAL ESSAY PRIZE FOR HISTORY

Shailen Naidoo (Redhill School)

BASSETT-SMITH MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR SCIENCE

William Kitching (Howick Preparatory School)

NORMAND DUNN PRIZE FOR VISUAL ARTS

Tristian Grant (Cordwalles Preparatory)

BAND PRIZE

Rowan Cox (Pridwin Preparatory)

CHORAL PRIZE

Kigen Chepkonga (Drakensberg Boys Choir School)

CHAPLAIN'S PRIZE

Siyamkela Maphumulo (Cordwalles Preparatory)

SIR HENRY STRAKOSCH SCHOLARSHIP

(FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE)

Evan Moloseni (American International School of Johannesburg)

DEREK VEENSTRA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Shaka Buthelezi (The Ridge School)

THE DRIMIE SCHOLARSHIP

André Boshoff (Cordwalles Preparatory)

D'URBAN ARMSTRONG MEMORIAL PRIZE

(BEST 2023 IEB RESULTS)

Khanya Mhlongo (Reddam House Umhlanga)

DORIS ESSERY MEMORIAL PRIZE

(TRADITIONALLY TO THE HEAD OF SCHOOL)

Kigen Chepkonga (Drakensberg Boys Choir School)

RICHARD JOHNSTON MEMORIAL PRIZE

William Ebersöhn (Clifton Nottingham Road)

PHILIA PRIZE IN RECOGNITION OF INTEGRITY AND MORAL COURAGE

Siyamkela Maphumulo (Cordwalles Preparatory)

Daniel Sweeney (Durban Preparatory High School)

NOEL FREEBODY MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR FELLOWSHIP

Josh Grant (Glenwood Preparatory)

THE KARABO CHÉ MOKOAPE PRIZE

Reabetswe Motlhaloga (Waterkloof House Preparatory)

1942 MATRIC CLASS AWARD

Akani Nxumalo (Penryn)

CARL KLINGENBERG MEMORIAL PRIZE

(BEST ALL-ROUNDER IN GRADE 12)

Jarred Maltby (Cordwalles Preparatory)

CHAIRMAN'S PRIZE

(TO A TOP ACADEMIC WHO HAS CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY)

Ross Brown (Highbury Preparatory)

Richard Eyres (Durban Preparatory High School)

Jack Weavind (St Peter's Boys Prep)

DICK GRAHAM MEMORIAL PRIZE – IEB DUX SCHOLAR

(BEST TRIALS RESULTS)

William Kitching (Howick Preparatory School)

PAUL HARRISON SCHOLAR

Stewart Falconer

ROSS OSBORN SCHOLAR

Shaka Buthelezi

COMMENDATION PRIZES

GRADE 11

Shaka Buthelezi, Tochi Ezenwugo, Stewart Falconer, Alex Pitman, Zac Sweidan, Matthew Thomas

GRADE 10

Matthew Bezuidenhout, Andreas Demetriou, Rohan Naidoo

GRADE 9

Ryan Grobler, Layton Stokes, Arjun Wadhwani, Ben Wilson

GRADE 8

Roddick Hunter, Richard Porritt, Jude Shen-Yu, David Weng

DEPUTIES

Running a school like ours is no easy task. Institutions committed to excellence are inherently busy, with countless priorities and moving parts. In such an environment, space and time are constantly contested, and it's easy to lose sight of what truly matters in the education of boys. Creating room for the magic of learning depends on this tension – but success lies in a careful balance between structure and freedom. As Deputy Headmasters, our role is to hold this inevitable dissonance, offering firm guidance and boundaries, while remaining gracious and flexible in our approach.

We look back on 2024 with great pride in all that was accomplished. Every sphere of school life – from academics and culture to community partnerships and sport – thrived. Several departments experienced meaningful growth, with new events added to the calendar and exciting innovations introduced. Yet, our greatest success lies in the fact that the development of our boys was placed above accolades. As a school, we created the space for them to grow and flourish – and that remains our proudest achievement.

Independent Schools of South Africa monitors the performance of its affiliate schools through its quality assurance body, the Office of Independent School Evaluations (OISESA). The OISESA process includes a comprehensive audit of all aspects of a school, with the goal of ensuring that all independent schools meet the standards required for accreditation. The audit includes, among other things, stakeholder surveys, focus group research, and an onsite inspection of the school's operations and personnel.

In 2024, we were awarded certification and are proud to have completed the process with flying colours. While a few areas for improvement were identified – as is expected in any robust evaluation – the feedback across all facets of school life was overwhelmingly positive, and we received several commendations. The next OISESA review is scheduled for 2026.

It was our privilege to host the regional conference of the International Boys' Schools Coalition in 2024, welcoming delegates from boys' schools across Southern Africa. Centred on the theme "Listening Loudly", the conference encouraged meaningful conversations, thoughtful reflection, and – most importantly – attentive listening to the voices within our schools.

Keynote speakers included Tom Batty from the IBSC international office and renowned spoken word poet Puno Selesho. Breakaway workshops explored themes such as community connection, restorative discipline, and school traditions. A standout session for many was the panel discussion led by our Second Master, Tony Shuttleworth, and Deputy Head of School, Daniel Sweeney, who interviewed boys from Maritzburg College, Cordwalles, Michaelhouse, and Hilton about their experiences in boys' schools.

The "coffee conversations", facilitated by senior staff from various schools, underscored the importance of open, sometimes challenging dialogue among teachers of young men – across both primary and high schools, as well as state and independent sectors – on topics including relationships, hope, the role of boys' schools in society, and the presence and impact of women in our schools.

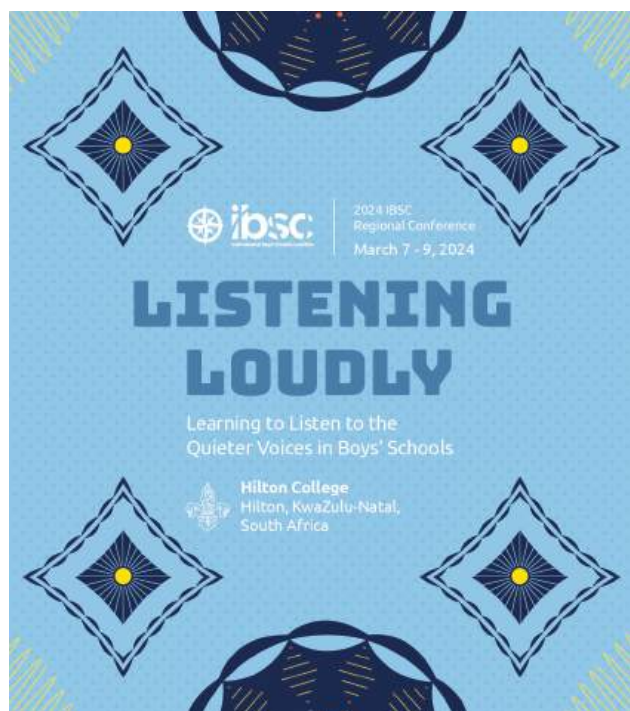
Sincere thanks to the organising committee and sponsors, whose efforts made this remarkable conference possible.

On the staff front, we continued to prioritise the professional development of our academic team through our Growth Track programme. This framework supports four levels of progression and includes video-recorded lessons, pupil surveys, external courses and conferences, as well as practical opportunities to apply new skills within the school. All academic staff engage with Growth Track annually, culminating in a career development conversation with a senior manager.

A highlight in 2024 was the introduction of an overseas exchange opportunity. Designed to broaden professional horizons, the programme exposes staff to leading teaching and learning practices at top international schools. The first exchange took place in November at Global College in Madrid, with two more planned for 2025 – St Jude's in Tanzania and The Doon School in India.

The adage "people make a place" cannot be truer and, in our case, we have an incredible place due to the diversity of talented people that live, work and learn here. To this end, we count ourselves incredibly privileged to work at our school, through the highs and the inevitable lows of being in community.

Our boys are the heartbeat of this place, and they were led courageously in 2024 by head of school Kigen Chepkonga and





his deputy Daniel Sweeney, together with the student executive committee and matric group who navigated moments of hard lessons and terrific triumphs, from the first derby day against Michaelhouse to the infamous fence saga and victory in their final fixture.

Our student exchange programme, which hosts boys from Australia, the USA and the UK, has grown under the guidance of Mr Craig Wilkinson and many of our boys experience tremendous personal growth when on exchange overseas.

Educating teenage boys requires a careful balance between restorative and punitive approaches to discipline. At Hilton, we do not shy away from addressing matters of discipline and safeguarding. Some of the cases dealt with in 2024 were emotive, as is often the nature of such issues. This important space has been ably led by Mr David Look, who is at the coalface of maintaining a safe environment aligned with our values, while ensuring a balanced and consistent approach to discipline. The introduction of the disciplinary committee has ensured a fair and consistent process to support the Head of Discipline. Involvement from Heads of Houses and the implementation of amnesty programmes reflect Hilton's commitment to thoughtful discipline in a boys' school setting.

Our approach to education extends well beyond discipline; it encompasses meaningful engagement, personal growth and academic support. Highlights of the 2024 calendar year include the successful integration of the Community Partnerships programme into our weekly routine. Each house now dedicates an afternoon to partnering with and serving Angel's Care and Thembelihle School in Howick – initiatives that build empathy and connection beyond our campus. We also created space in the timetable for boys to benefit from the state-of-the-art Draper-Gain Centre for Performance and Wellness, as well as evening academic support sessions for those striving to improve their results or simply aiming to pass.

The success of our 24-hour school model – built on excellence, effort and care – would not be possible without our dedicated staff, who consistently go above and beyond in support of the boys.

Kgomotso Motlogeloa and Tony Shuttleworth

ADVANCEMENT

The Advancement Department took important steps in 2024 to strengthen its capacity and focus. We welcomed Brenda Campbell as a second Enrolment Partner. Brenda has already had a marked impact – particularly in establishing more human touchpoints in Johannesburg and exploring growth potential in Cape Town.

To support our fundraising activities, we created a new role: Endowment Raising and Strategic Projects Manager. Andrea Shuttleworth was appointed to this position, which is dedicated to identifying and converting fundraising leads into well-executed projects that meet the expectations of donors and stakeholders.

Enrolment

The Enrolment team experienced another exceptionally busy and productive year. We hosted five Welcome Days, 10 Meet the Headmaster events in different regions, and eight strategically focused overnight visits. The team also visited Kenya and Botswana to meet prospective families, while conducting hundreds of one-on-one engagements.

We continue to interview all accepted applicants and conduct due diligence on boys and their families, helping to ensure that each new enrolment strengthens the culture and community of the school.

Our two flagship events – New Boys' Weekend in March and the Grade 6 Masterclass in October – each attracted more than 200 boys and played a major role in helping prospective families experience Hilton College in a meaningful way.

The school remains oversubscribed, with 600 boys enrolled against an official capacity of 590. Waiting lists remain healthy across all grades. We received 460 applications for Grade 8 in 2025, a record number and a 20% increase from the year before. While these numbers are encouraging, they must be seen within the context of a challenging economic environment, with school fee inflation running ahead of CPIX. Ensuring a full school – while continuing to admit boys and families who contribute positively across all areas of college life – remains a key strategic priority.

Fundraising

Our fundraising priorities in 2024 centred on building more effective structures and strengthening the resourcing of the function. The appointment of a dedicated resource, in Mrs Shuttleworth, has helped in this regard. Our digital platforms have also improved, making it easier for supporters to sign up as monthly donors.

A major gift towards the Draper-Gain Centre for Performance and Wellness helped push total funds raised over the past five years to R100 million.

Going forward, we will place special focus not only on increasing the total amount donated, but also on broadening our donor base. We aim to raise awareness that everyone in our community can contribute, and that collectively, these contributions can make a significant difference.

Our inaugural Giving Day was scheduled for November 2024 and was intended to support this drive to broaden participation. Due to the tragic passing of Allan Maclean, the event was postponed to 2025.

We are encouraged by the time and energy contributed by a wide range of individuals across the Hilton community. One example was the Ellis House elephant project, which began as a statue initiative and evolved into a broader renovation initiative for the house.

We were also proud to have produced a fundraising video and our first impact report – each intended to provide transparency, demonstrate need, and thank those who make our work possible.

Friend-Raising

A renewed focus in 2024 was strengthening relationships across both our immediate and extended community. This included creating more opportunities to engage people in the Midlands area, as well as those living elsewhere in South Africa and around the world.

A new initiative called uMngeni Day – led by boys and Old Hiltonians – highlighted the importance of protecting the Hilton College Nature Reserve and the health of our river systems.

In partnership with the Fleur-de-Lys Club, we also launched a weekly Wednesday run. The event brings members of the local community onto campus, where they can enjoy the natural beauty of the estate and connect with one another.

The Headmaster undertook an extensive programme of branch visits during the year. Across South Africa, he engaged with the Durban, Johannesburg, and Cape Town branches. Internationally, he visited Old Hiltonians in Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom, where he shared updates and invited individuals to reconnect with the school.

We also hosted a Gratitude Lunch in September, which was positively received by many of our major donors.

In addition, the Advancement Department helped coordinate student-led functions at the University of Stellenbosch and the University of Cape Town, supporting the continuation of the Hilton College connection beyond graduation.

The revitalisation of Old Hiltonian branches in the US, UK, Johannesburg, KZN Midlands, and the Western Cape has already yielded positive signs. These networks help sustain ties to the school and foster a spirit of involvement long after boys leave campus.

Communications and Storytelling

Many of our initiatives this last year relied on quality storytelling and communication. In a South African context, a privileged, all-boys boarding school can be burdened with certain perceptions. A central part of our communication strategy is to invite people to visit and engage with Hilton College so they can experience the real culture of the school – rooted in humility, excellence, and, as the school prayer reminds us, a wider usefulness.

We produced a range of short-form videos, including the Giving Video and the 2024 Impact Report. We are appreciative of the podcast series by the Madala brothers. These stories help paint a clearer picture of life at Hilton College and of the school's contribution to the broader society.

Social media engagement has continued to grow rapidly and remains a key platform for communicating with Old Hiltonians, prospective families, and friends of the school. Hiltonties.com, our online mentoring and networking platform, now has more than 2500 registered users.

We are deeply grateful to the individuals who have supported the Advancement Department throughout the year – for their time, leadership and the spirit of collaboration that they have fostered. In particular, we thank Guy Hayward, Chairman of the Hilton College Endowment Foundation, and Anton Jooste, Chairman of the Old Hiltonian Club and Governor of the Society, for their generosity.

Peter Storrar | Director of Advancement

BELONGING

The Belonging Committee was involved in a number of activities in 2024. In the first term, Mr Siphoniwa and I, along with the boys in the committee, met with staff and pupils from Howick High School to share with them how we run our Hard Talks. It was a great sharing of ideas and experiences. As a result, Howick High held their first Hard Talk in the year.

Mr Siphoniwa and I also addressed our staff and various grades on a number of occasions, reinforcing the school's stance on inclusivity and the celebration of diversity. At the beginning of the year, Hilton was involved in a quality assurance exercise carried out by the Office of Independent Schools Evaluations Southern Africa. It was pleasing to note the findings that our wider school community supports the progress made to date by Hilton College on its pilgrimage of belonging.

The 30th anniversary of the 27 April 1994 elections was commemorated by a whole school panel discussion on the meaning of freedom. In keeping with our tradition, Workers' Day was celebrated with a braai hosted by committee members who cooked for staff and pupils.

On Women's Day our boys were led by their Connect Group leaders in a discussion on the challenges facing female athletes at the Paris Summer Olympiad. They were also addressed by women members of staff on the specific challenges women teachers face in boys single sex schools.

During the year, a number of Hard Talks were held, covering topics from xenophobia to the silence around boys' mental health issues. Hilton College and St Anne's co-hosted a discussion about monastic schools and gender stereotypes.

Thanks to Reabetswe Mothaloga, the portfolio head of belonging, and the other Grade 12s who led the committee with selflessness and distinction.

Paul Venter | Director of Belonging



CHAPLAIN'S REPORT

"The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit" Psalm 34:18

The prophets dream of a day when every child will live out their days and God will make all things new. That is because we live in a world of suffering, grief, and death. Usually, on the beautiful estate of Hilton College, we are spared the ravages of disease, hunger and violence that so many suffer. However, we are not unfamiliar with grief. This year we mourned the loss of two Grade 8 boys, Bradley Meke of Newnham House and Allan Maclean of Ellis House.

Grief softens us. It makes us more aware of our shared human vulnerability and fragility. We are more open to offering and receiving comfort. As boys and housemasters wept openly, embracing one another in their grief, God's comfort and peace that "transcends understanding" was made known.

One of the ways we honour Bradley and Allan is by gratefully making the most of the life God gives us. We are thankful for the many signs of God's grace in 2024.

Our Christian Fellowship (CF) programme, faithfully led by the head of spirituality, Siya Maphumulo, flourished, with boys participating in evening visits to other schools and the band contributing to Sunday worship. A highlight was the "Encounters" night with Scripture Union that filled the theatre with energetic students from eight schools.

The Grade 10 Inward Bound Camp sparked a gentle revival in faith, evident from the many "thank you" emails received. One boy wrote, "Thank you so much for organising this camp. I loved it, and it helped me solidify my belief in Christ. This camp felt different from the other camps ... it was peace-filled."

Twenty-one boys were confirmed in October, after faithfully attending Confirmation classes on Monday nights. They are: Robert Burman, James Dent, Guy Fender, Oscar Franco, John Grubb, Sechaba Gude, Mholi Khuzwayo, Lance Kitto, Karabelo Morojela, Khetsa Motsa, Zander Muller, Barack Munaw, Nthekgo Phasha, Atlegang Ramutla, Benoit Rey, Xander Schlebusch, Kgosi Sekgobela, Ross Steyn, James Voller, Luke Wilson, Liyema Zondi. Seven Anglican boys from the same cohort will be confirmed next year by the Diocesan Bishop.

Father Michael Lapsley, an Anglican priest and founder of the Healing of Memories Institute, preached at our Remembrance Day service. Father Lapsley is a partially blind, double amputee (the result of a letter bomb sent by the apartheid regime). Reflecting on his visit to us he wrote these words, "Allan's death was very much uppermost in everyone's heart and mind. I framed what I had to say in terms of choices. There are so many things about which we have no choice. Yet every day we make choices, some minute and others life-changing. I shared with the school some of my life choices. I told the school that as young people they could be the healers of adults and of one another as they listen and support one other. I said I hoped and prayed that in their own lives they would help to make the world a better place."

Our School Prayer asks God to "make this school as a field which the Lord hath blessed; that whatsoever things are true, pure, noble, and of good report may here forever flourish and abound". Even with mustard seed-sized faith, it is not difficult to see God at work to answer this prayer, forming young men who will indeed make this world a better place.

Rev Sean McGuigan | Chaplain

CATHOLIC SOCIETY

The number of boys regularly attended catechism classes at St Jospeh's, Cedara on Wednesday evenings dropped in 2024. This was primarily due to the fact that most of the senior boys were confirmed in the previous year. Boys were given the opportunity to attend Holy Mass on occasion and it is hoped that more will take part in this Sunday obligation in 2025.

Once again, the school thanks Fr Dlamini (OMI) for the wonderful spiritual guidance he provided and we congratulate the number of Brothers who were ordained to the Permanent Diaconate in 2024.

Paul Venter | Master in Charge

CONSERVATION

The Conservation Department was kept busy in 2024. In addition to the regular afternoon activities on the estate, a number of interesting new initiatives were successfully implemented.

Estate Activities

The following five Grade 8 boys were awarded Estate Certificates for their interest in and contribution to the Hilton estate over the course of their Grade 8 year: Jared Bartells, Thomas McGregor, Craig Nel, Phillip van der Vyver and Dominic Dunn.

In addition to helping repair and maintain the many picnic sites and bird hides on the estate, these boys – Craig Nel, in particular – contributed to the rebuilding of the long-abandoned Newnham picnic site near The Point.

EcoTraining Course

A group of 16 boys signed up to do a basic field-guiding course held in the Hilton Nature Reserve and presented by EcoTraining. The two facilitators, Mr John Roff and Mr Tsundzukani Hlongwane – aka "Mr T", put the boys through a stimulating and demanding four days. At the end of the course, the candidates had a good knowledge of the fauna and flora of the Hilton Nature Reserve and a basic understanding of the techniques of field guiding.

All 16 boys finished the course and were awarded certificates, equipping them to serve as guides to visitors to our estate.

Congratulations to Adam Fitzsimons, Rex Holdsworth, Ryan Grobler, Murray Meyer, Caleb Kinvig, Craig Nel, Patrick Gibson, Kai Davenport, Jaques Flamand, Thomas McGregor, Joshua Earl, Fin Dalrymple, Thomas Mason, Rhett Beaumont, Ethan Smale and Roddick Hunter.

uMngeni River Day

This event, which took place in early October, was created to increase awareness of the need for improved river health. The day was organised by Old Hiltonian Matt Fitzsimons (1991, Ellis) and his son Adam, who is an enthusiastic participant in various estate activities. Both Adam and Matt are keen fly fishermen and are therefore determined that Hilton does what it can to maintain and improve the quality of the water flowing through our estate.

The Hilton boys and guests who took part in our first river day enjoyed talks by Mr Marc Hattingh, the chief environmental officer at the uMngeni municipality; Ms Tanisha Curtis, a senior researcher at GroundTruth, which is a local environmental and engineering organisation; and Dr Matthew Burnett, a principal scientist at the Institute of Natural Resources at UKZN.



Dr Burnett has been involved in monitoring the movement of yellow fish in the uMngeni River for almost a decade. All the talks were extremely informative, and Hilton College boys are beginning to appreciate their responsibility to protect our water sources.

Conservation Centre

The gardens and surrounds of the Conservation Centre have, once again, been well-maintained by conservation assistant Mr Victor Mchunu. Mr Mchunu has also willingly driven many prospective boys and their parents on our estate, and they appreciate his constant good humour.

The Conservation Department would like to thank Mr Fred Wörner, the owner of the neighbouring Karkloof, for allowing us to drive across onto his reserve to experience his magnificent nature reserve. It is a real bonus for the boys and staff.

Mike Mill | Wildlife Centre Manager

ESTATE

The estate was used extensively in 2024. We received more than 200 bookings for use of the Henley Lapa, picnic sites and Derek's camp, accounting for more than 3110 person-days.

At least five schools in the Midlands contributed to these numbers. St Johns, Wykeham Collegiate, St Anne's, Laddsworth Primary, iThemba and Michaelhouse School's Wildlife Society made use of the estate for group activities, along with hiking clubs, candidates for Presidents Awards, groups from LIV Village orphanage, researchers from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Hilton College staff and Old Hiltonians.

Two KZN Trail Running events took place on the estate, with each race attracting about 150 entries.

The Grade 8 boys used the lapa for their estate orientation; the Grade 9 boys were based there for Camp Ubuntu; and the Grade 10 boys passed through on their "Journey", as is customary.

The estate was again used during the Hilton Arts Festival by Rockjumper Tours, which offered birding walks and drives into the reserve.

Some work was done on the estate roads and a few kilometres of fence was replaced.

Alien plant control continues in the fight against the likes of bugweed, lantana and Bramble.

The animal populations have remained stable with some satisfactory lambing rates from the impala, blesbuck and wildebeest.

No animals were removed in 2024.

Sean Lindsay | Facilities and Estate Manager

FACILITIES

In 2024 we welcomed two new service providers following a tender process at the end of 2023: Servest have taken on the grounds maintenance and Sisonke have stepped in to handle the cleaning of the buildings.

Our maintenance service providers, Broll FM, handled nearly 4000 calls for repairs and maintenance in 2024.

The water use license for the Hiltonian Society and the Gates was issued on 17 February 2024. This was a huge relief as the process had dragged on for a number of years.

Some of the larger projects undertaken this year include:

The Draper-Gain Centre for Performance and Wellness. The centre was constructed and equipped thanks to the generous benefaction by Old Hiltonians. Peter Gain (1992, Ellis), Anthony Draper (1990, Ellis) and Andrew Dunn (1989, Newnham) funded this world-class facility, which was designed by architect Marc Ussher (2000, Ellis) and fitted by Dr Vern Neville (1985, McKenzie) from ESP Fitness. We're also grateful to Blayne Burke of ARB Electrical for the contribution of solar panels.

FALCON HOUSE Generous benefaction from the Falcon family made it possible to re-pave the front entrance to Falcon House and to create the Rosemary Falcon tribute staircase. This has significantly improved the view of Falcon House from the back and the low wall has provided a useful seat for the boys when waiting to go in to bat on Falcon oval.

THE ELLIS ELEPHANT More benefaction saw the installation of the Ellis House elephant statue.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY A number of electrical meters were installed to improve our understanding of electricity usage on campus. These meters, strategically placed, provide detailed information about electricity usage patterns around the campus and inform our electricity management.

SOLAR PV PLANTS Two Solar PV plants were installed, both funded by old boy benefactors concerned about the increasing cost of electricity. The plant on the roof of the Centenary Centre is designed to generate up to 100kW of power when the sun is shining. The electricity generated powers the centre and any excess powers surrounding buildings via the internal grid. The solar system in the Draper-Gain Centre is designed to output 100kW to the internal grid and to generate 40kW for the gym building batteries. The gym itself can run independently of Eskom power for about two cloudy days, much longer if it is sunny.

SUSTAINABILITY Food waste collections and diversion from the landfill gained traction and momentum in 2024. It started out with applying the Bokashi technique of composting and then, under guidance of Mr Terence Unterpertinger, transitioned into a fully-fledged insect farming operation using the Black soldier fly. Black soldier fly larvae eat a wide variety of decaying organic matter. The black soldier fly larvae are fed all the food waste from the kitchen and staff houses. The larvae in turn can be made into feed for chickens or other livestock. The byproduct, called frass, is an excellent soil conditioner. We are grateful to Mr Unterpertinger for lending his expertise to us.

CENTENARY CENTRE ROOF REPLACEMENT The roof sheets on the top of the Centenary Centre were replaced in preparation for the installation of a solar PV array.

ASTRO RESURFACING Beckingham hockey astro was resurfaced and converted from sand to water-based.

CHURCHILL HOUSE RENOVATIONS The entrance hall, common room and prep room were all refreshed in 2024. First, the two hot water boilers were moved into a new boiler room near the braai area and the boiler rooms were converted into single studies. Then the wall between the prep room and the kit room was removed to create a bigger prep room. The room behind the fountain in the quad was converted into a new kit room. This renovation allows for all boys to be accommodated upstairs on the same floor.

STAFF HOUSES No fewer than 14 staff houses were refreshed or refurbished in some way.

GILFILLAN Gilfillan rugby field was ripped up, levelled and replanted.

PAINTING The art block, the interior of the Centenary Centre, the interior of Churchill House and the exterior of McKenzie House, the workshops and Vula lodges were all painted in 2024.

In addition to these big projects, we also:

Refurbished the old science lab and refurnished it; refreshed the thatch on Falconia; erected a taller fence around the swimming pool and introduced access control; and replaced the roof of the wellness centre and the roof of one of the staff houses.

Sean Lindsay | Facilities and Estate Manager

FARMING

In July of 2024, Rowan Welsford who had served the Hiltonian Farm for 23 years, retired. I joined Rowan in May, to learn the ropes of the farm and estate and to understand the systems we have in place. As an old boy (2014, Ellis), I am delighted in the current success of the farm and aim to carry on with the current profitable practices, while striving to find new sources of revenue for the Hiltonian Society.

The timber and cattle continue to provide revenue streams for the society.

In 2024, we purchased 860 weaners – the most the farm has ever held. We were able to carry this increased number of cattle due to us putting in 20 hectares of irrigation and planting Perennial Rye grass and Stooling Rye, which allowed for green repetitive grazing during winter when the Khikuyu is dormant.

With the Dairy development not under way yet, we were able to utilize that area as well and with wrapping 800 bales, we had an additional source of feed for the cattle over winter. We were fortunate to buy the weaners at the lowest price in seven years.

Our timber enterprise is sustained by a 320-hectare expanse of wattle trees. Each year, approximately 32 hectares is harvested, yielding an average of 110 tons of pulpwood per hectare. In the 2024/2025 season, we are harvesting 33.4ha. Additionally, we harvest an average of 19 tons of bark per hectare, a valuable resource with diverse applications. Committed to responsible forestry practices, we prioritize silviculture, carried out by our team. While we secured the services of a new harvesting contractor, we maintain strict oversight to ensure sustainable and ethical practices. This allows us to provide premium timber products while preserving the delicate balance of our ecosystem. In 2024 we were awarded a membership certificate for supplying NCT with our timber for 75 years.

With development in wattle cloning, the trees planted in 2024/2025 are going to help reduce our cycle from a 10-year cycle to eight/nine years. This, in time, will increase the tonnage we harvest annually.

The planting process begins with the inspection of seedlings for health and uniformity. Three years after being planted, the seedlings grow into small trees, which are nurtured by eradicating competing weeds. The leaves and stems are continually inspected for insect and environmental damage and undesirable branches are removed. At year four, the trees are thinned to a desirable population and then left to grow. They are inspected periodically for bag worm infestation. In year eight, dead and thin trees are removed and sold for firewood. In the October of year 10 (with the current cycle), harvesting begins, and trees are felled, the bark is manually removed and transported to Dalton, where it is processed into tannin and then exported to India. The timber is left to dry for four weeks before it is transported to a chipping plant at Durban Harbour and then exported to Japan and China.

Peter Symons | Farm Manager

FINANCE

The year 2024 was marked by both significant achievements and notable personnel changes within the Finance Department.

We bid farewell to two long-serving members of our team. Sheryl Govender retired after 18 years in Debtors and Creditors, and Christine Barker concluded her tenure after 23 years as a vital administrative and finance resource for the team. Such occasions are always bittersweet, as we celebrate their dedicated service while acknowledging the loss of their invaluable experience.

In welcoming new talent, Kgalalelo Modise has seamlessly stepped into the role of Creditors Controller, bringing fresh insight and added depth to the team with her BCom degree.

On the systems front, our transition to Sage Intacct progressed significantly, with workshops beginning in August. Although we had aimed for full migration in 2024, implementation has been rescheduled for early 2025. This new system includes a stand-alone asset maintenance module (with journal integration), which will enhance our financial management, ensuring timely replacement and refurbishment of key assets.

A major capital replacement this year was the Beckingham astro turf, where both the carpet and underlayers were renewed through college funding. Additionally, we continue to be blessed by the generosity of our benefactors, whose contributions strengthen the fabric of our campus. Among these gifts, the most notable was the Draper-Gain Centre for Performance and Wellness, alongside numerous smaller initiatives that are equally appreciated.

As we move into 2025, we remain committed to financial excellence and strategic asset management, ensuring sustainable growth and development for the institution.

Kim Martin | Director of Finance



GWENS STREAM ESTATES

Gwens Stream Estates (Pty) Ltd (GSE) was established in 2008, specifically to execute the board's policy to realise some of the embedded value in the school's landholdings by introducing residential developments on limited areas of the Hilton Estate. The funds generated by converting relatively low-value agricultural land into high-value rural residential property would enhance the funds in the Hilton College Endowment Foundation, the trust which stands behind the Hiltonian Society and is a source of bursary funding. The foundation is the sole shareholder in GSE.

GSE has a permanent staff consisting of Iain McMillan (executive director) and Denise Venter (operations manager) who are responsible for the ongoing business of the company and the management of The Gates. There is close liaison with the other directors, Chris Tod (chair) and Carl Jankowitz, and also with Guy Hayward, the chairman of the foundation. We operate out of a small office beside the Dave White Conservation Centre.

The first project was The Gates at Hilton, commenced in 2013 and now fully established as a beautiful residential estate, enjoying its reputation as a premier place to live. The Gates has proved to be an excellent advertisement for the Gwens Stream Estates brand, encouraging great interest in The Dairy and The Oaks, our projects which lie ahead.

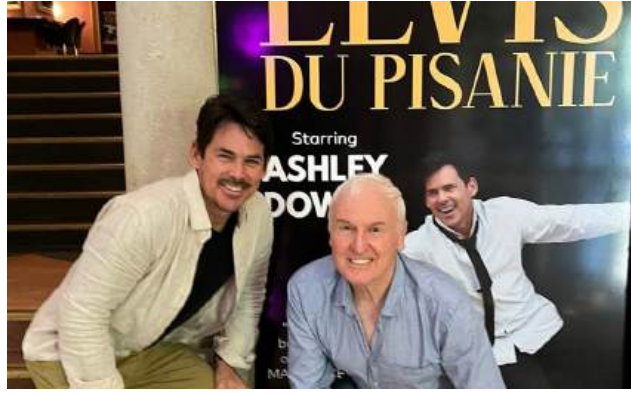
Whatever else the GSE journey may have taught us, nothing matches the understanding of the complexities and frustrations which can accompany the regulatory approval processes.

Mercifully we are nearing the end with both projects:

- The Oaks is fully approved; and
- The Dairy faces a final hurdle with an appeal lodged against the Water Use Licence issued by the Department of Water and Sanitation.

Sails are set for a successful 2025 in terms of progress with both these developments.

Iain McMillan | Executive Director



HILTON ARTS FESTIVAL

The 2024 Hilton Arts Festival took place from 2–4 August, once again delivering a vibrant celebration of South African artistic talent. This year's event featured an impressive array of theatre, music, dance, visual arts, and comedy, drawing audiences from across the country. Attendance saw a significant increase compared to 2023, and the energy throughout the festival was undeniable.

With a diverse lineup of performances, there was truly something for everyone. Theatre enthusiasts were captivated by drama classics like Paul Slabolepzy's *The Return of Elvis DuPisane*, while those with a taste for sharp political satire enjoyed Mike van Graan's *My Fellow South Africans*. Spectacular multisensory performances included the award-winning *Vincent*, and audiences were treated to the South African premiere of the Pulitzer Prize-winning adaptation of *My Name Is Lucy Barton*.

Music lovers were equally spoilt for choice, with performances by the KZN Philharmonic Orchestra and the University of Johannesburg Choir, the latter making a special stop as part of their Golden Jubilee tour. Through a partnership with the Hilton College Music Department, the festival also featured interactive workshops, utilizing the recording studio, marimba room, and other facilities for hands-on learning experiences. Additionally, top young musicians from KZN schools were given the opportunity to perform on a professional stage, ensuring that the next generation of artists had their moment in the spotlight.

The festival's visual arts component was just as compelling, with expansive exhibitions featuring both established and emerging artists. The upmarket craft market offered a carefully curated selection of handmade goods, providing artisans with a valuable platform to showcase and sell their work.

Entertainment extended beyond the stage and gallery, with activities for all ages. Children enjoyed a host of fun and interactive experiences, while live music, street theatre, and a display of classic cars added to the festival's lively ambiance. A diverse selection of food stalls and inviting social spaces further enhanced the atmosphere, ensuring a truly immersive cultural experience.

Looking ahead, the Hilton Arts Festival is on track to be even bigger and better in 2025. Planning is already under way, with an expanded lineup of performances, workshops, and exhibitions in the works. The festival remains committed to showcasing the finest in South African arts while introducing fresh and innovative elements to surprise and delight audiences.

Lastly, the festival is, as always, indebted to Hilton College for their ongoing support in keeping the arts alive and well in KZN.

The Hilton Arts Festival Team

IT

At the end of 2023, following discussions with the Headmaster, the IT Steering Committee and the Head of Academics, a joint decision was made to designate 2024 as a technology-free year for Grade 8 learners.

This shift posed several academic challenges, as Grade 8 boys no longer had access to electronic communication or digital resources. While IT lessons continued in the Library Computer Laboratory, most teaching relied on traditional methods and printed materials.

Despite the adjustment, both boys and parents responded positively, with boys enjoying a more interactive, peer-focused and outdoor-oriented year. Due to its success, the policy will remain in place for the foreseeable future.

In 2024, the IT department re-evaluated the type of device used by boys, with a view to identifying a more robust and durable one. The process included visits to local schools to explore how they manage their laptop programmes and the devices they use.

The exercise outlined that Hilton College is managing its IT space in much the same way as other schools in the area. Most schools were moving to a more robust and durable laptop, especially in the junior phases, but taking a more relaxed approach in the senior phases. And so at the end of 2024, we decided to adopt a more "military grade" laptop, thus forming a new partnership with the ASUS brand. New devices were secured and ordered and final configuration took place during the December break, so that they would be ready for distribution to Grade 9 boys at the start of 2025.

As of 2025, Grade 11 and 12 boys will be allowed to use the device of their choice in the classroom. For security reasons, the device will need to be re-set and re-installed with device management software, by the IT department, before it may be used on the school network.

In 2024 the school's internet connectivity enjoyed a much-needed boost, thanks to an underground (or trenched) business fibre-optic cable, directly connecting the school with the MetroFibre network at 10Gigabits per second. This is a significant improvement from the old 1Gigabit per second, overhead fibre line that was subject to occasional breakages, burns and physical damage.

The IT department was also heavily involved in the following projects in 2024:

- Implementation of security, access control and audio visual in the new Draper-Gain Centre for Performance and Wellness.
- Completion and final roll-out of the new virtual PABX system, that was purchased in 2023.
- Upgrade of the core network switches, to accommodate the new 10Gbs underground fibre internet connection.
- Upgrading, maintenance and improvements to the lightning alarm system.
- Implementation of the Academic Innovation Committee and formalized staff IT Professional Development.

Overall, 2024 proved to be a productive and successful year for the IT department, keeping the staff, boys and the school at large, abreast of technological trends across the country and the world.

Gary Holder | Director of Information Technology

MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

While we have yet to complete the renovations that began in 2021, one major milestone was achieved in 2024: the long-overdue replacement of the original 1990s air conditioner. New units were installed in both the main museum space and the reception area, dramatically improving conditions. For the first time since the museum opened in 1992, we now have effective control over temperature and humidity throughout the space.

The main displays for 2024/5 focussed on the Pateman era. John Pateman arrived at Hilton College in late 1947 to assume control of the school at the start of 1948 and was headmaster until 1953.

His was an interesting tenure, and the displays highlighted:

- A timeline of events in Pateman's life,
- Several newspaper cuttings from his time at Hilton College,
- The Crofton Affair of 1950, and
- The 1953 walkout.

Researching his and his wife's background was fascinating and uncovered many unknown facts. I am indebted to Dr Paul Swanepoel (1995, McKenzie) for assisting in acquiring some court records of the Crofton case.

Once again, I am pleased with the number of boys, staff and visitors who spent time in the museum over the course of the year.

On 29 January 2024, for the celebration of the founding of the school, I addressed the whole school and staff. The title of my presentation was "152 Years of Change" which focused largely on the changes to the campus over that period. I believe this presentation was well-received and I am grateful to the school management for providing this opportunity to teach about the school's rich history.

2024 was a year of many rich additions to the archives. More additions were made to the Normand Dunn collection, and it is hoped that once sufficient funding is made available, all these paintings can be re-framed and properly presented. I am amazed by the generosity of many Old Hiltonians who have made either parts of or their entire collections of memorabilia available to the archives. There have also been excellent pickings at local auctions.

One of the ongoing challenges in any dynamic school environment is managing the preservation of documents and records. I encourage colleagues to check in before discarding items, as even seemingly small documents may hold value for future generations. It's always better to ask than risk losing a piece of our shared story.

At the end of 2024, an additional room – part of the building – was made available to the museum. Once funding is made available for this to be renovated, the venue will become a library where all the old books which the archives hold will be kept, and this area will hopefully become a tranquil space for anyone to visit and read some of the remarkable books in the archives.

I hope that the importance of the museum and archives continues to be acknowledged going forward. The school's history, which cannot be rewritten, is an important facet of the life of the school and deserves a properly funded home.

Bruce MacLachlan | Heritage Curator

SANATORIUM

The Sanatorium experienced significant changes in personnel in 2024. With heavy hearts, we bid farewell to Sister Yvette McDonald, who headed up the San, and to Sister Bianca Smith. Both dedicated many years of service to Hilton College, and we wish them all the best on their new journeys.

We are pleased to announce that Sister Nomusa Kunene assumed the role of Head of Sanatorium in 2024.

Our dedicated team of sisters each manage specific areas of responsibility:

- **Sr Nomusa Kunene:** Administration and Blood Donation Drive
- **Sr Wendy Allen:** Concussion Protocol and SWAY Testing
- **Sr Lauren Richmond:** First Aid Training
- **Sr Emma Alridge:** Chronic and Scheduled Medication

In 2024, the school had an excellent year supporting the South African National Blood Service, hosting four blood drives and collecting a total of 205 donations. Our aim is to increase these numbers, and we encourage students and staff to donate during each visit. We are proud to have Pearce House as the reigning champion for the most donations.

The Concussion SWAY programme continues to be a vital resource, with excellent participation from our new boys. SWAY is a trusted tool used by the San to assess boys returning to sports after a concussion. It has been invaluable in identifying asymptomatic boys at risk and preventing secondary injuries. We have implemented a standard 21 days off sport for the purpose of recovery for all concussion injuries.

Our First Aid programme, initiated in 2002, has seen tremendous growth, empowering our boys with essential skills. We currently have 18 qualified First Aiders, with 10 more in training. These students assist at home hockey and rugby games, earning service points towards the Presidents Award, community service, and Service Ties. We hope to expand the programme, with the course now available from Grade 9 upwards. The First Aid certification is now valid for three years, allowing boys to renew their qualification at the end of Grade 11, ensuring they leave Hilton College as qualified First Aiders.

Since the appointment of a sister in charge of medication, we have seen a significant improvement in medication compliance. Currently, more than 100 boys are on chronic or high-scheduled medications, all managed by Sr Alridge. The boys have become more aware of the importance of their medications, building trust, and fostering positive relationships with the San.

In terms of stock management, we have made great strides in reducing waste. We have implemented a weekly medication ordering system, along with daily orders for individual prescriptions. Stock counts are performed at the end of each term, ensuring accurate financial records for the San.

Looking to the future, renovations to modernize and improve the facility will be phased over the next few years, enhancing the services we provide to the boys and the Hiltonian community.

The San Sisters

THEATRE

The Hilton College Theatre remains a beacon of artistic excellence, fostering both educational and professional performance opportunities. As a cultural hub for the Midlands, the theatre continues to inspire creativity, cultivate talent, and provide an engaging space for students and the broader community alike. This year has been no exception, with an array of spectacular productions, collaborations, and performances that have reinforced Hilton College's reputation as a premier institution for the creative and performing arts.

The year began with an array of workshops, performances, and masterclasses aimed at setting a strong artistic foundation.

Notable highlights included:

- Masterclasses with Hamilton Dlamini, a leading expert in physical theatre, who worked with our drama students to refine their craft.
- The return of ThinkTheatre's productions of *Othello* and *Hamlet*, seen by more than 4000 matric learners from Pietermaritzburg and the Midlands, reaffirming our commitment to supporting curriculum-based theatre.
- An acclaimed performance of *The King of Broken Things* at the IBSC conference, which left a lasting impression on attendees.

The first term also saw significant growth in the instrumental tuition programme, with nearly 200 students actively participating. The school musical rehearsals commenced with 78 students engaged in music, dance, and acting. The term concluded with a stellar production of Athol Fugard's *Sizwe Bansi Is Dead*, while the Cape Town City Ballet mesmerized audiences with *Aladdin*.

The second quarter was dominated by the much-anticipated school musical, a joint effort with Epworth School to present Disney's *High School Musical* on Stage. Seen by nearly 3000 audience members, this production brought together 96 students from six schools in a dynamic and high-energy spectacle. The collaboration fostered meaningful artistic relationships, reinforcing the power of teamwork in the arts.

Another highlight of the term was the annual 2 Schools in Concert performance with Michaelhouse, playing to a full house of 1700 spectators.

The third term began with *A Star Is Born – The Rise and Fall of Judy Garland*, featuring award-winning performer Kerry Hiles, with musical arrangements by Luke Holder. Hilton's students had the honour of being the first to play the newly orchestrated version, which is set to tour extensively in the coming year.

The Hilton Arts Festival, a flagship event for both the school and the province, was a highlight of the term.

Key festival highlights included:

- Three dynamic and engaging workshops
- A captivating cabaret production
- A large-scale orchestral and choral collaboration
- A remarkable FreeFest showcase, offering 13 schools the opportunity to perform on a professional stage.

In addition to festival successes, the music department shone in the SASMT regional eisteddfod, where 79 Hilton students participated, achieving outstanding results:

- 58.5% Gold certificates
- 34% Silver certificates
- 7.5% Bronze certificates

The drama department staged a stunning production of *The Old Man and the Sea*, directed by Jenine Warren. Though its audience was limited to the school cohort, the production stood as a testament to exceptional theatre craftsmanship.

The Hilton College Theatre also continued to serve as the preferred venue for large-scale ballet productions in the Midlands, hosting several stunning performances.

2024 was a landmark year for the creative and performing arts at Hilton College. From innovative collaborations to high-calibre performances, our students have thrived in an environment that fosters both technical skill and creative expression.

The Hilton College Theatre remains a dynamic hub where artistic excellence is nurtured, and where young performers gain invaluable experience on a professional stage.

As we look ahead to another year of growth and innovation in 2025, we extend our gratitude to the students, staff, and partners who have made the year an outstanding success. The future of the performing arts at Hilton College is bright, and we eagerly anticipate the next chapter of artistic excellence.

Luke Holder | Director of Creative and Performing Arts and Theatre Manager

VULA

The Vula Programme had a full and fruitful 2024, building on a 24-year history of improving the quality of education at poorly resourced township and rural schools.

Vula Mathematics Project

The Vula Maths Project was established in 2007, with its main goal being to improve the teaching and learning of mathematics in poorly resourced schools in under-privileged communities in KwaZulu-Natal.

The project continues to deliver on its goals. Of the 121 township and rural schools in the Umgungundlovu district, 71 have benefited from the project. These 121 schools collectively produced 54 A symbols (80% and above) in mathematics in 2023. Almost 80% of these A symbols were obtained by learners at the 71 schools where there was a VuMA-trained teacher.

The flagship component of the project, the Vula Mathematics Academy (VuMA), had intakes of teachers in the first and second terms of the year. Each group spent 11 full weeks in residence in the Vula Lodges at Hilton College, attending a mathematical enrichment programme every school day for a full term. The participating teachers were from the Umgungundlovu, Pinetown and Harry Gwala educational districts of KwaZulu-Natal.

During the third and fourth terms of the year the project hosted residential workshops for 80 GET teachers (those who teach Grades 7, 8 and 9) from the Pinetown, King Cetshwayo, Ilembe and Harry Gwala districts. These Mini VuMAs focused on practical, hands-on strategies to make the teaching of Grade 8 and 9 mathematics more interactive and engaging.

Mr Phila Mnyandu is the project's facilitator and field worker. He is tasked with keeping in touch with teachers from previous intakes, particularly those who have recently returned to their schools after spending a term at VuMA. In 2024, Mr Mnyandu visited 120 teachers and principals at 149 schools during the year, travelling almost 8000 kilometres.



Maths Club

Also falling under this project is the Vula Maths Club for Grade 12 learners from schools in the Edendale Valley who attended on three or four Saturdays each term over the past three years. The club was an exploratory pilot project which has now ended.

Vula Science Project

The project, which began in 2005, supports and encourages physical science teachers through the loaning of laboratory equipment required to teach compulsory experiments in Grades 10, 11 and 12, and the provision of laptop computers loaded with appropriate teaching resources. The schools assisted are in clusters in and around Wartburg, Edendale, Sweetwaters, Mpendle, Wembezi, Estcourt, Loskop, Bergville, and Camperdown, and each term they share access to a set of equipment within each cluster.

The project also makes regular visits to schools to assist with teaching and practicals. In 2024 these schools were in Edendale, Sweetwaters, Mpendle and Wembezi. Pupils from three schools also attended Saturday morning classes in the Hilton College laboratories, with these being taught by Hilton College staff.

Other activities during the year included:

- An introductory day for new teachers of Technical Science during February;
- Four-day workshops for teachers during the April and July school holidays;
- The distribution of 200 copies of a bird book in IsiZulu; and
- The distribution of Grade 12 study and revision guides to schools where these were most needed.
- A four-day maths and science winter school for the PROTEC PMB Grade 12 class, during the mid-year holidays.

Vula Grade 12 Careers Day

Since 2002 the Vula Programme has provided a day during which Grade 12 pupils from affiliated schools can focus on career and training opportunities which require excellent maths and science results. In 2024, we hosted 500 Grade 12 pupils, 30 of their teachers and exhibitors from 28 companies and institutions.

School Holiday Activities

The Vula Programme is fortunate in that it can hold comprehensive residential training workshops during the school holidays, using the accommodation available in the 47-sleeper Vula Lodges and the school's boarding houses. During the 2024 holidays, we hosted workshops attended by 125 teachers and principals.

Vula and Hilton College Teacher Internship Project

Hilton College took in its first two teacher interns in 2002, and each year since then has provided opportunities for aspiring teachers to immerse themselves fully in a highly demanding educational environment, while completing their studies. In 2024, we had eight teacher interns.

Vula Principals' Leadership Project

Eighteen principals of Vula-affiliated schools attended our Principals' Forum held over three days in September. Discussions were facilitated by Headmaster George Harris and accommodation was provided in the Vula Lodges.

The group will meet again in the first half of 2025 and return for three days in the September 2025 holidays.

Looking back at all that was done and achieved during the year, we are reminded that none of this would have been possible without the support and backing of the many companies, organisations, and individuals, who collectively gave us the means and the motivation to continue with Vula's work.

To each one of you, a sincere thanks from the members of the Vula team and from the teachers and pupils who walk this journey with us.

Lloyd Smuts | Director of Vula Programme



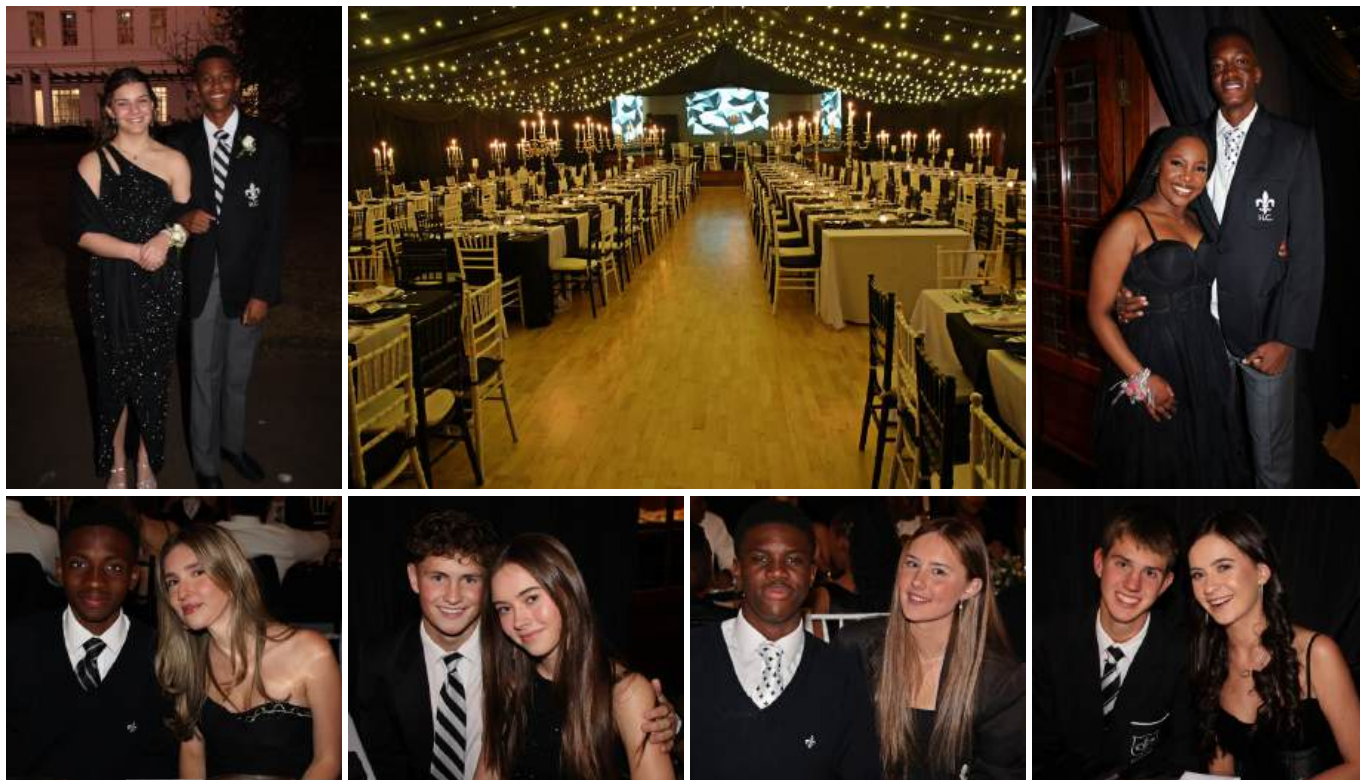
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BLACK AND WHITE FORMAL

The 2024 Black and White Formal was a stylish and elegant affair, which the Grade 11s enjoyed thoroughly. The theme embodied simplicity and sophistication, with the boys looking sharp in their Number Ones and their partners dazzling in timeless black formal wear. The venue, the Memorial Hall, was bathed in candlelight and soft lighting, creating a refined and intimate atmosphere. The evening featured dancing, laughter and a delectable meal, served by the Grade 10 waiters.

A big thank you to the Dance Committee (Ms Juliet Morulane, Ms Lizel Pollard, Mr Allan Fryer, Ms Coco Mamabolo, Ms Lara Rogers and Mrs Ndimiso Langa), the deputy housemasters and their partners, and all the service providers who made this night one to remember.

Mrs Annelize Goodwin | Head of the Dance Committee 2024







MATRIC DANCE 2024 – JEWEL OF THE NILE

The 2024 Matric Dance was an unforgettable evening, bringing the Jewel of the Nile theme to life in a stunning display of ancient Egyptian elegance. The Sports Centre was transformed into a lavish space, adorned with gold accents, rich tones, and opulent décor that transported guests back to the majestic era of the pharaohs. The tables sparkled under soft lighting, while Persian rugs and meticulously crafted décor set the tone for a truly memorable night.

The highlight of the evening was the grand entrance, with the matric boys and their partners arriving in a procession befitting royalty. A delicious feast, with lamb shank as the standout dish, delighted guests, and the dance floor soon filled with energy and laughter as the night unfolded.

A special thanks to the team of parents, ably led by Mrs Louise Sweeney, the head of the Parent Committee for 2025. We are grateful to all parents who supported our vision of a classy, appropriately toned-down event that truly embodied the Hilton way. Thank you to the staff committee (Ms Juliet Morulane, Mrs Pamela Neethling, Mrs Ashleigh Askew, Mr Allan Fryer, Mr Bruce MacLachlan, Ms Coco Mamabolo, Mr Claude Pitout, Mr Damian Kimfley and Mrs Katy McNeill), who worked tirelessly to make this event a resounding success. The 2024 Matric Dance was a fitting celebration of the final chapter in our Grade 12 boys' Hilton College journey.

Mrs Annelize Goodwin | Head of the Dance Committee 2024



Leavers' Service

Today is a significant one, filled with reflection, gratitude, and anticipation. As you gather for your final chapel service, you find yourselves on the edge of a new chapter – a chapter that beckons you to leave behind the comfort of familiar routines and step boldly into the unknown.

This transition is not just about moving on physically; it is also about spiritual and emotional growth. It is about remembering the lessons, values, and faith that have been instilled in you and carrying them into a world that will challenge you to live out what you have learnt and experienced in meaningful ways.

The hymn *Shepherd of My Soul* offers us a profound reminder of God's faithfulness. Whether we walk through green pastures of peace and success (like the South African Rugby Union) or rugged valleys of difficulty and defeat (like the Welsh Rugby Union), He is with us, guiding our steps, comforting our hearts, and leading us to places of growth. This assurance of His presence is vital because the world you are stepping into will often test your faith, your character, and your resolve.

As you depart the gates of Hilton College, so do I. I have all the anxiety of leaving a place which I have grown to love, especially the people in it. I am currently going through a very intense sensation of starting to miss this place, which is new for me. I have always been rather stoic about everything, which, believe me, as a maths teacher and head of department, does help! But Hilton seems to be softening my rough edges. I also feel the excitement of the new challenge which awaits me. I will hold the strong memories of my colleagues and friends, and the students I have taught, close to my heart as I continue this journey in education, which I enjoy so much. I'll even miss hockey table duty for the first team. With two stop

watches in one hand, and the scoreboard remote in the other, being simultaneously entertained by Mr Damian Kimfley taunting the opposition coaches. I'm sure I must have added a goal for Hilton here and there, or made the opposition sit for an extra 30 seconds on a yellow card! And then there were golf tours. As they say, what happens on golf tour stays there ... but let's just say that my definition of an "iced tea" might be different to some of the matrices, and we'll leave it like that!

I leave to become deputy principal with responsibility for academics at Lebone II, College of the Royal Bafokeng. I have had great role models to learn from in the form of, for example, Mrs Hanlie Dry and Mr De Wet Wentzel and many other colleagues from whom I have learnt a great deal, when they probably didn't even know they were teaching me. But I will also bring my own brand of what I believe to my role. And my wish for you boys is likewise – that you would put your own stamp of your individual character and personality on the world you encounter outside the McKenzie Gates.

In Philippians 4:6-7, we are given these words of encouragement:

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."



As you face decisions about your future – what career to pursue, who to surround yourself with, and how to make your mark on the world – be prayerful in your choices. The world will try to steer you in directions that may seem appealing, promising success, power, or comfort. But not all paths align with God's ideal, even though He is with you, whatever heights you attain, or depths you end up in.

When you guys get into the world of work, and have real responsibilities, you'll really know what it is to be exhausted. Maybe you'll be trying to put your own kids through Hilton College – that will be in the region of R1,5 million per annum by then. Ouch! But when the pressures of life seem all too much, just remember the following verse:

Matthew 11:28-30

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

The way of the world often encourages self-reliance, ambition without integrity, and a focus on personal gain. These paths can feel heavy and unfulfilling. But Jesus calls us to a different way – a way of humility, service, and reliance on Him. His way may not always be the easiest or most popular, but it is the one that brings true peace and purpose.

As you leave this place, you will encounter people with different values, beliefs, and ways of living. Some of them may even not like rugby, or have heard of the exploits of one Sebastian Gaboreau, scoring the now legendary winning try at the last Michaelhouse derby. Let's also take Lebone College for example. Next year there will be three types of teachers on the staff. There will be those who speak Afrikaans, those who speak Setswana ... and then there will be me!

Hence, I have recruited Mr Orateng Motsoe and Ms Coco Mamabolo as my linguistic coaches ... and we'll see how it goes! Some encounters will inspire you, while others may tempt you to compromise your standards. Remember that stepping into new experiences and meeting people unlike yourself is an important part of your growth. Stepping out of your comfort zone is essential. Try new things. Take risks. Engage in opportunities that stretch you beyond what you thought possible. But as you do, anchor yourself in God's Word and His will for your life. Be courageous enough to stand firm in your values, even when the world pushes back.

At this point of departure and new beginnings, let's leave any negative emotions behind us. Forgiveness is essential in a healthy life, and yet it is so difficult to do. When people upset us, our instinct is to retaliate or be passive aggressive. But this is not the way God has taught us to be. Perhaps I should forgive this year's matrics for bunking Further Studies last year. And, in turn, they can forgive me for putting the whole lot of them in study hall! Take a moment now to think if you are carrying a grudge against someone, and perhaps make amends over a glass of lemonade at Crossways tomorrow. No, let's go mad. Let's make it a Rock Shandy!

Remember, God is your Shepherd. He walks ahead of you to prepare the way, beside you to give you strength, and behind you to protect you. Life will ask you to leave behind what is comfortable and familiar, but every departure is an arrival at something new – something that God has planned uniquely for you.

As you leave this chapter behind, step forward with courage, faith, and trust. Be a light in the world. Carry His peace in your heart, His truth in your actions, and His love in all you do.

May the Shepherd of your soul guide you, now and always.

Graeme Evans



Tie Ceremony







I love this quote from John C Maxwell: “Small disciplines, repeated with consistency every day, lead to great achievements gained slowly over time.” For me, this perfectly sums up the boarding experience at Hilton College. We encourage and guide our boys to focus on getting the “small disciplines” right every day, and to keep trying to repeat them over their five years here. These small disciplines, practiced consistently, often result in our boys leaving having realised their potential in their chosen fields and interests.

These “small disciplines” include making your bed, folding your clothes, looking after your possessions, and keeping your area and prep room tidy. We encourage older boys to help teach younger boys how to self-regulate, gain independence, and develop self-discipline. Our structures and mechanisms for achieving this goal have stood the test of time, and they must be protected and cherished as we navigate a complex and uncertain future.

We have continued to have lengthy discussions on how we manage the boys’ use of technology. This is a constantly evolving landscape that we need to remain attentive to, so our boys can get the most out of what the Hilton campus offers, while also staying relevant to the world around them.

I love hearing the boys play quad cricket while sitting in my office – the conversations, the competitiveness, the banter. Activities such as these keep our boys grounded and happy. Intrahouse dodgeball, soccer, table tennis, and talent shows are wonderful events that keep boarding fun and exciting. Football nights and watching our beloved Springboks together also help keep our relationships healthy and foster unity between the different grades in the houses.

Critical to our success is the role our matric boys play in leading various aspects of the day-to-day running of the school. To this end, I would like to acknowledge our dormitory leaders and the important role they play in passing on the healthy traditions and structures that make Hilton what it is. This is

often a thankless job that requires boys to serve and give of themselves. Relationships forged when senior boys serve junior boys last a lifetime. This is something we pride ourselves on, and we strive to get it right each year.

My thanks to our heads of houses, housemasters, deputy housemasters, house managers, and housekeepers for your tireless dedication to looking after our boys. The energy and passion with which you guide them is deeply appreciated.

Boarding is central to the success of the school; a happy and contented boy is a young man who can work, train, and practice with clarity, enabling him to realise his potential. Thank you for giving our boys clarity and the confidence to be themselves and pursue their goals.

I am heartened by the empathy and care shown by the Hilton community in response to the few difficult life experiences we have had this year in our junior grades. This has reaffirmed the brotherhood that exists within these walls. It is to be celebrated and embraced in a world where the trend is to be self-centred. Care and concern for others, both inside and outside of these gates, must be prioritised if we are to remain relevant and impactful as an institution gifted with so much.

Here’s to 2025 – a year of new opportunities and challenges. Bring it on!

James Bullough | Senior Housemaster





CHURCHILL HOUSE

Row 7: Oliver Jarvie, Harry Jarvie, Ethan Griesel, Kayson Holtzhausen, Jake Van Zuydam, Riley Ross, Etienne Smith, Efe Ozcan, Ryan Jellis, Oliver Mattison, Umi Gwala, JD Van Wyk
Row 6: Travis De Bruijn, Reabetswe Mathlodega, Darryn Bridgeford, James Peattie, Jordan Byres, Adam Essey, Tino Nyabonda, Sizwe Pwete, Jordan Roux, Lyemza Zondi, Oorabie Makhubedu, Lwanda Chittha, Ubaid Soyed
Row 5: Lyemza Gazi, Mbuyelo Mbokota, Ngwenzi Mkanisi, Grant Bridgeford, Axolile Nyangwe, Daniel Lyon, Benjamin Ferguson, Brynn Valentine, Didier Rey, Neil Barorirungika, Xander Schiebusch, James Dent, Ndalo Ngewu, Akani Nxumalo
Row 4: Sean Kamau, Seko Maseko, Matt Mattison, Khumo Lobelo, James Lyon, Phemelo Joel, Zizwe Digaogane, David Hill, Monheng Machabe, Thoriso Mya, Cameron Hangroves, Linda Mphophu, Oliver Crowe
Row 3: Imran Maharaj, Ramoswe Matine, Oliver Crew, Daniel Urquhart, Thandwa Monyae Phetele Cele, Tesbo Mokhotli, Benoit Rey, Chase Smith, Ross Hill, Luke Calvert, kwenzokuhle Mncwabe, Kai Davenport, Philip van der Vyver
Row 2: Quinn Bush, Rourke Schwegmann, Reatile Malatji, Makwe Mosepe, Joyden Dube, Mwelelo Phungo, Luke Ramlakan, Jonathon Mattison, Jess Sauls, Ziyanda Mnyandu, Siyabonga Moyo, Carter van den Burg, Heath Schwegmann
Row 1: Ms Moira Gundu, Mr Claude Ptiout, Sanele Mhlongo, Mr Jaco Van Dyk, Ms Mbali Shelembe, Sxolile Nyangwe, Mr Devon van der Merwe, Mr Sibonelo Khanyile, Daniel Sweeney, Ms Nonjundo Nzimande, Mrs Leana Steenkamp, Mr Nick Holtzhausen, Mr Damian Kimfley, Mrs Annelize Goodwin



The matrices of 2024 set out to foster discipline, mutual respect, and a spirit of fun in the house – and I believe we succeeded in making Churchill a fun and welcoming place to live.

Our house motto for the year was Standing on Business and that we did! We celebrated many highlights over the year, as individuals and as a house. Having won the Estate Adventure Race in 2023, we wanted more in 2024, and went on to win numerous inter-house events, including junior inter-house rugby, inter-house tennis, inter-house squash, inter-house golf and lastly, our most memorable one, senior inter-house football.

Academically, Churchill was ranked third in Terms 1 and 2, and second in Term 3. Our boys also responded to the call to give back, taking part in outreach initiatives throughout the year.

Individually, many Churchill boys performed admirably this year.

The most notable were:

- Grant Bridgeford, who made the national U18 side for hockey and played for the country in Malaysia. He also made a new cricket club record, scoring 50 runs off 11 balls for the 3rd team.
- Daniel Sweeney, our deputy head boy, was among those rugby players who played the most games for 1st team rugby this year.
- Didier Rey played for five first teams: Rugby, tennis, football, cricket and golf.
- Reabetswe Motlhaloga, a key member of the school's Transformation Committee, was instrumental in fostering a relationship with Howick High School.
- Akani Nxumalo was named the fourth war cry leader after displaying excellent leadership and commitment to the 'Hilton College trap'.



- Benjamin Ferguson started his revolutionary "1% better programme" with our new Grade 8s, and it has become part of our culture.
- Daniel Lyon won gold for KZN and SA rowing champs (2023).
- Nghwazi Mkansi was named war-cry leader for 2024.
- Oliver Mattison was a regular in the 1st team water polo squad.
- Travis de Bruyn was a regular in the 1st team football squad.

Our Grade 8 boys have really grown and bonded, realising that going through Hilton alone would be a waste of opportunities and friendships.

The matrices of 2024 are an amazing group of young men who will achieve greatness in the world, equipped with the lessons they have learnt and the friendships they have made at Hilton.

To Mr Devon van der Merwe, Mr Sibonelo Khanyile, Miss Nomfundo Nzimande, and Miss Mbali Shelembe: you have really made Churchill a welcoming and joyful place. The rest of the house staff have also played a huge role in our lives, and for that we love and appreciate you.

To the boys of Churchill, we, the matrices of 2024, wish you the very best in all your future endeavours. We encourage you to stay true to the values we hold dear. For 113 years Churchill has produced excellence, and we trust it will continue to do so.

Continue leading Churchill to greatness in 2025!

Sixolile Nyangiwe | Head of House



ELLIS HOUSE

Row 7: Jason Webster, Charles Fawcett, Lwengo Ntantola, Thomas Leathern, Oliver Chopple, Olufermi Oyeka, Callum Dreyer, Andrew Schnell, William Leathern, William Lingenfelder

Row 6: William Kitching, Tumelo Gopane, Griffin Burnes, Charlie Short, Liam Wilken, Alex Hathorn, Jack Holtzhuzzen, Tochi Ezenwugo, Senzo Mngomezulu, Thomas Taylor, Joyden Olivier, Dzunisoni Mboweni

Row 5: Risima Mashoba, Casey Marks, Ore Ogunfowora, Kihara Weithaka, Joshua Chibwe, Zipho Mpoju, Ty Kalagamotha, Tristan Grant, Siyanda McClain, John Grubb, Jack Kitching, Nadenhle Sithole, Garrick Phillips, Tele Sifoyo, Zander Vorster

Row 4: Josh Aitken, Lyema Mandela, Nyiko Mubunda, Jarred Matlby, Ruon Mulder, Josh McGhee, Ntando Mhlongo, Khazimla Mkalil, Sigcobe Mogwensthu, Wandile Mthembu, Ategang Ramutla, Murray Meyer, Kgosi Sekgobela, Raymond Muleso

Row 3: Rex Holdsworth, Ndlela Ntuli, Munezi Mongole, Alizwa Mankayi, Phathu Mukweho, Uthando Gumede, Adam Fitzsimons, Joshua Earl, Sebastian Louderberg, Nathan Mturi, Olerato Chitanga, Kopono Leleka, Demi Ogunfowora, Mitchell McGhee, Ntando Mchunu

Row 2: Otsile Moncho, Leago Moagi, Ethan Aitken, Jack Heenan, William Eustace, Karabelo Morojele, Allan Maclean, Patrick Gibson, Ethan Matlby, Blake Bullough, Larona Mampane, James Aitken, Mathew McGhee, Matthew Stott

Row 1: Mrs Katy McNeil, Mr Bongzi Zikode, Ms Dyna Mackay, Mrs Tania Hurley, Mr Richard Garrett, Ms Bongzi Mthalane, Mr Burger Nel, Ross Brown, Mr Sipho Momiwa, Mrs Keshni Peters, Mr Andrew Brown, Mrs Hanlie Dry, Mr Lindokuhle Xulu, Ms Penny Mulian, Mr Mike Green



Ellis House enjoyed an incredible 2024. Although the school faced various challenges in the year, Ellis boys stood in the face of adversity every time, doing us all proud.

A number of individuals went above and beyond in service of Ellis. Mrs Keshni Peters, our house manager, and Mrs Bongki Mthlana, our housekeeper, were instrumental in the smooth running of the house and making Ellis a home away from home for all boys, while the guidance and mentorship of deputy housemaster Mr Sipho Moniwa and housemaster Mr Burger Nel were central to the growth and development of every Ellis boy at Hilton College.

But it is the boys that make this house and the school so very special. Ellis is a place for everyone. At the start of the year our main focus, as matrices, was to build on a foundation for growth and I am very happy that this has been achieved in every part of life in our house. I believe the class of 2024 has deepened the strong sense of brotherhood that has long defined Ellis House. The Grade 11s have developed into a group that is ably equipped to lead the house next year; the Grade 10s have excelled individually and as a group in all areas of school life; the Grade 9s have grown exponentially and deepened their relationships; and the Grade 8s have integrated superbly in the school and the house.



We tragically lost our brother Allan Maclean this year, and yet in our loss we gained a sense of strength from knowing that Allan is always in our hearts. Our grief has drawn us closer together.

To the boys of Ellis, thank you for passionately representing the blue and white. Each individual effort is a cause to celebrate.

From an inter-house point of view, we performed exceptionally in a number of ways, winning junior rugby, junior cricket, junior longest drive, senior water polo and, most notably, athletics day for the first time since 2017. Each achievement is a reflection of the Ellis culture.

I would like to thank Mr Nel, who will be ending his tenure as housemaster at the end of 2024. Mr Nel has served passionately and embodied the values of this house. I wish Mr Moniwa, Tochi Ezenwugo and the Grade 11s the very best as Ellis continues to produce greatness.

Long may it last.

Ross Brown | Head of House



FALCON HOUSE

Row 7: Lyle Clubb, Shallen Naidoo, Rupert Wright, Oliver Proudfoot, Dima Zegiradis, Munashe Musora, Simba Chidakwa, Joshua Lord, Christian Snijman, Karabo Lephema, Namisi Opoi-Teteh, Michael Strauss, Khanya Jekwa, Kieran Janse van Rensburg, Nelwong Letsosalo

Row 6: Kotlego Moncho, Jamie Murray, Aiden Clubb, Langa Dlamini, Jake Hocky, Nkanyiso Xaba, Connor Thomson, Kai Dreyer, Adriei Apokoboyen, Nicolas Bregman-Frangos, Joshua Snyman, Ben Hocky, Sange Qangule, Bradley van Loggerenberg, Christopher Weevind

Row 5: Rosco Campbell, Christopher Gundu, Silwa Wafuza, Omohau Mbleni, Matthew Bezuidenhout, Jamie Dunn, Nthato Mpakati, Xavier Jaftha, Dominic van Aardt, Ethan McCabe, Kgosi Modise, Hanlin Shi, Rukudzo Madinga, Miguel Teixeira, Sandiso Zondi

Row 4: Shaka Buthelezi, Omolemo Kenney, Sbusiso Nhlapo, Andiswa Mahlase, Goodson Chirwa, Collan Kennuir, Joshua Kok, Lee Singh, Jacques Olivier, Christopher Lindsay, Dante Sigei, Daniel Evans, Griffon Le Meme, Lyerna Nela

Row 3: Karl Senanu, Michael Njono, Charles Ngunyi, Michael Bird, Ryan Moodley, Kanya Nouse, Lehuno Modise, Tsepo Tsike, Keiso Bolton, Taji Sigei, Olebogeng Segale, William Chien, Samuel Bird, John De Wet, Esami Biyela

Row 2: Awande Sibisi, Tlali Puling, Nicholas Bodley, Murray Dicks, Riley Lindsay, Jesse Newell, Mahlagi Koma, Jacob Lombard, Dominic Dunn, Kabelo Lephema, Daniel Marshall, Liphoyiya Ngcese, Luthando Mbadu, Kaloyame Normanyame
Row 1: Mrs Ashleigh Askew, Mr Luke Bartholomew, Ms Lizel Pollard, Mr Ernie Steenkamp, Mrs Mandy Nene, Mr Wilbert Tenga, Jack Weavind, Mr Warren Kirsten, Ms Vanessa Wedderburn, Mr Tony Shutteworth, Mrs Thembile Zuma, Mr James Webb, Ms Ncumisa Makha



While every year brings its own challenges, Falcon boys consistently demonstrate a resilience that should never be underestimated. In 2024, academic pressures, along with cultural and sporting commitments, could easily have overwhelmed life in a boarding house – but through grit and perseverance, Falcon boys thrived.

We defended our Spirit Cup for the seventh consecutive year at the inter-house athletics and won senior inter-house basketball. I think this can be attributed in part to the pride that every Falconian carries. This year was characterized by intentionality and the commitment to holding one another to as high a standard as possible.

While competitiveness is celebrated and nurtured, it's equally important to foster a strong sense of unity within the house. Through in-house activities like the Falcon family braai and Falcon's Got Talent, the togetherness of the house was acknowledged and strengthened. The constant support of Falcon parents, teachers and staff are what allows us to fulfil our true potential and for that they are duly commemorated.

I am also grateful to the teachers whose patience and steadfast commitment to Falcon boys play a vital role in shaping the character and values of the boys. It is a monumental privilege to



have access to teachers who place such a high emphasis on timeless values and guide us on the correct path as we tackle our next chapters.

To the boys, thank you for ensuring our values were always upheld. The ability to hold one another accountable is a gift and I have no doubt that it will only lead to the betterment of Falcon House. In the coming years you will be tested, but the trust you place in yourself and in your brothers will be what sets you apart.

The future of Falcon House is bright. I now pass the baton of leadership to Langa Dlamini who I have no doubt will ensure that Falcon reaches even higher highs.

Thank you for the opportunity to lead Falcon. It has been my greatest honour.

Good luck for 2025!

Jack Weavind | Head of House



LUCAS HOUSE

Row 7: Nicholas Wenjika, Mitchell Garreau, Ross Steyn, Hanu Pieterse, Kingsley Thompson, Kyle Christie, Kieran Hunter, Rafle Wilmut, Justin Du, Christopher Wegner, Morne Engelbrecht

Row 6: Ndywebo Manci, Ben Erasmus, Brendan Nieuwstadt, Neil Grobbelaar, Calum Bryson, Chuhai Pillay, Yu Lie Wang, Sebastian Gaboreau, Zach Mphosi, Karl-Werner Luderitz, Tristan Lys, Sean Erasmus, Dominic Richards, Alex Engelbrecht

Row 5: Max Asamoah, Unami Zungu, Tskunda Ntongo, Thando Shongwe, Reinard Wagner, Zhaun Swart, Zendahe Mahlangu, Benjamin Coetzee, Andreas Demetriou, Sechaba Gude, Nicandro Padayachee, Natenzi Derenga, Tito Chonco, Joseph Gichuru, Rhydian Evans

Row 4: Avaneesh Nunn, Raiten de la Cour, Lucas Pieterse, Wonga Masina, Deepen Kooverjee, Duncan van Niekerk, Troy Orchard, Thomas Harilaou, William Ebersöhn, Trey Padayachee, Reinhardt Luderitz, Musawenkosi Mponda, Reece Johnson-Watts, Nathan Rowdianmanana, Gabriel Landzanakis, Ohama Ngwenya

Row 3: Banele Phoswa, Juvaan Du Preez, Tumele Makgeru, Reagan Mudau, Ethan Smale, Reuben Szudrawski, Leyton Stokes, Roddick Hunter, Liam Hoffmann, Lwandle Gabuza, Alex Pimman, Sbonokuhle Sithabe, Milani Mahlangu, Iwe Mncanywa, Fynn Asamoah

Row 2: Luvanda Malinga, Melusi Gude, Mnotho Ngema, Asande Mleya, Landa Mgele, Alessandro Valente, Zangi Mwale, Baile Makhakhe, Boleng Seoe, Kamohelo Mashale, Obakeng Motsepa, Kuphelele Mchunu, Gwabini Zungu, David Forbes, Wetsebekile Thwala, Nthani Buthelezi

Row 1: Mr Bradley Mangold, Mrs Karen Koopman, Mr Kwamele Mngolozeli, Mrs Debbie Veenstra, Mr Graeme Roberts, Mrs Inga Rautenbach, Mr Msizi Mchunu, Ben Le Roux, Mr Cameron Fraser, Ms Juliet Moruane, Mr William Donkin, Dr Janna de Gouveia, Mr Greg Miller, Mr Philani Sondaba, Ms Mantiombi Skosana



Brotherhood grew tremendously in 2024 with Lucas boys sharing moments of triumph and despair. The one constant in the year was the camaraderie among us.

The house's competitive spirit shone brightly at every inter-house event, with us defending our title in both the inter-house gala and senior rugby.

Numerous boys in the house represented their A-teams, 1st teams, and even provincial teams across various sporting codes. Additionally, the boys excelled academically. The Form 1, 2, and 3 dorms consistently ranked either first or in the top three academically and in the senior dorms, many boys achieved honours, colours, or half-colours for academics.

But Lucas's success runs far deeper than achievement. It lies in the fostering of strong relationships and the spirit of the house. It is about creating an environment where every individual feels valued and contributes to a shared journey of growth and unity.

None of Lucas's successes would be possible without the support of the staff. Mr Msizi Mchunu plays a critical role in the lives of the boys, holding us accountable and encouraging us to be the best versions of ourselves. Mr Cameron Fraser has positively impacted so many during his time at Lucas. We wish him all the best for his adventure at McKenzie. Mrs Inge Rautenbach is the core of Lucas;



without her chaos would ensue. She ensures that the machine is always oiled and running smoothly. Mrs Patricia Dladla had enormous shoes to fill but has done an incredible job. Her energy and bright, big smile light up every boy's day. I would like to thank all the house staff for making Lucas the amazing place it is.

The house was deeply saddened by the passing of Mrs Rosemary Mwelase, who bravely fought cancer for almost two years. She personified hard work and dedication, serving as a role model and a listening ear.

For the matrics and I, Lucas has been our home for the past five years. I will cherish my time here and be eternally grateful for the role it has played in my life. My 17 brothers and I have shared countless hours of laughter within its walls, and we have grown from boys into men.

To the boys of Lucas, cherish every moment you have here because, before you know it, your time will be up. Laugh a bit louder, smile a bit more, and make the most of every opportunity.

Ben le Roux | Head of House



MCKENZIE HOUSE

Row 7: James Fender, Guy Fender, Nicholas Eyres, Luke Campbell, Richard Roxburgh, Trent Chubb, Meyer Malherbe, Rowan Cox, Christopher Morrison, Marc Isabelle, Ntando Ngcobo, Linathi Dabula, Xavier Enslin

Row 6: Mpande Myeza, Adam Wingfield, Matome Manthata, Lesedi Ngwenya, Ethan van Heerden, Ngubeko Majazi, James Delis, Benjamin Scorgie, Adhil Girdharparsadh, Joshua Hurley, Max Gilson, Sean Ritchie, Nick Dalrymple,

Tumisho Monda

Row 5: Luke Tröger, Benjamin Shen-Yu, Fanaka Mwoiro, Lesedi Matswiri, Miles Cox, Kateleho Motung, Oscar Steiner, Sam Wingfield, Daniel Day, Sozi Sigodi, Ntshkego Phosha, Oscar Franco, Richard Porritt, Zwashesi Mhlunga

Row 4: Tisano Tisane, Anahle Seima, Jack Davenport, Ungweru Ziba, Akhuzi Mshungwana, Ukwais Girdharparsadh, Jude Shen-Yu, Tino Hove, Evan Moloseni, Robert Burman, Lizwehlhe Ntshangase, Sean Burman, Tristan Pflenger,

Hokhangy Lunga, Lupthele Shangé, Tadi Hove

Row 3: Ludwonga Mshungwana, Gabriel Freeman, Kagiso Mogasa, Kwandumusa Mtshali, James Robertson, Xola Bakana, Nkosi Fuyana, Yanelo Mdlolane, Oliver Hunter, Adnan Girdharparsadh, Rohan Naidoo, Nkosi Fuyana, Liam Firth,

Matthew Bastard, Pheto kgofela, Nsika Kleinbooi

Row 2: Leruo Motsei, Owame Dube, Thomas Morrison, Zwelli Ngutshana, Oliver McSeveney, Kamogelo Seopa, Andrew Bernstein, Makgetsi Manthata, Victor Viljoen, Aphhiwe Ntamo, Tumelo Moseithe, Vidal Analo, Nkosana Msimong, Leja Kelobang,

Sebastian Scorgie, Caleb Kirvig

Row 1: Mr Jeremy Pieter, Mr James Robey, Mr Craig Wilkinson, Kgotosofolo Matobane, Ms Tarryn Daly, Matholi Mtholane, Mr Lionel Julius, Richard Eyres, Mr Carl Schmidt, Mrs Rosey Kalipersad, Mr Kgomoiso Motlogela, Ms Angela Salamon, Mrs Jenine Warren, Mr De Wet Wenzel, Mr Charles Nicobeni



McKenzie House, “the happy house,” is characterised by choruses of laughter, the bounce of a basketball in the courtyard, cheering spectators. Touchies on No. 2, games that flow into the fading sunlight, the crack of the pool ball as it rockets into the pocket of the pool table. A celebratory cackle from the undefeated Mr Julius. Mrs K’s office, always open for a chat, a joke, a visit.

At 5 pm, Golf Wing comes alive with blasting music and happy shrieks. Who needs the weekend when you live in McKenzie? (Deputy housemaster Mr Schmidt politely disagrees on the music front!)

My objectives for 2024 were for us to become more competitive at inter-house events; to have zero tolerance for bullying; and to foster greater belonging and cohesion in the house.

Inspired by the sentiment that, “You can either believe in the vision or believe in division,” McKenzie House chose to believe. In 2024, there was a definite shift in attitude in the house, with dorms functioning like well-oiled machines and faces painted with smiles.

Unsurprisingly, we brought home a senior sports title and the mighty Spirit Cup.

I am thankful for the outstanding work of the matric dorm cops; the new and exciting inter-dorm competitions, and the remarkable attitudes of every one of the McKenzie boys.



As head of house, I sought to produce more leaders, not followers; I loved my McKenzie brothers and the house that I have called home for the past 1826 days. Thank you for driving me to be the best I can be.

To my amazing dorm, my brothers, thank you for the five years that shaped me, all the memories, all the laughter, and all the tears. I have no doubt you shall prosper as life takes us down its paths. Never forget who you are or who you left in the rearview mirror.

Where would I be without my Hilton brothers? How would I have turned out had it not been for the wisdom and selflessness of the college’s staff? How could I have braved the journey of high school without the support of my beloved parents? “Umntu ngumuntu ngabantu,” I am because we are. I have my Hilton family to thank for who I am today.

To the leadership of the school, and to Mr Julius: thank you for trusting me with this honour.

Richard Eyres | Head of House



NEWHAM HOUSE

Row 7: Mphumelo Mchululi, Kyle Lewis, Thomas Mason, Pepe Krug, Jowi Cole, Connor Jerome Jared Wilson, Tom Twiss, Connor Sawyer, Charles Swart

Row 6: Atang Mphoti, Jack Warwick, Requiline Adonis, Jack Hannon, Liphqang Mokoena, Abubakar Mussa, Siba Dlamini, Alex Wesselink, Tinyiko Khosa, Jack Henderson

Row 5: Bokunena Lekitla, Robby de Beer, Daniel Barradas, Matthew Thomas, Ewan Miskin, Ward Miles, Mwangbo Chika, Simon Steyn, Sebastian Ozoux, Kaelo Taikobong, Joshua Dube, Philipp Plate, Thabo Mngomezulu, David Sutton

Row 4: Khatlano Moletsane, Daniel Friend, Lesphosethu Ndlovu, Leja Motsuni, Lanner Reilly, Christopher Job, Ethan Hornby, Mthokozisi Lebese, Chuma Luswazi, Luke Goodeough, Jaydon Wiltwer, Bradley Meke, Arjun Wadhvani, Jesse Miller,

Mitchel Wilson

Row 3: Mngobi Mdhuli, Jamie Byres, Wanga Zulu, Kelechi Nwobi, Moelesi Moletsane, Makobane Thema, Daniel Christie, Thuto Phakisi, Ntando Nyabonda, Zac Sweidan, Daniel Carver, Kenyu Chiang, Liam Orchard, Caleb Barradas,

Rhett Beaumont, Isago Khomo

Row 2: Gideon Sweidan, Rolphael Dube, Dougal Carr, Oyena Zulu, Max Sclanders, Benjamin Keeton, Shammah Makofane, Ben Wilson, Jed Harrel, Seriti Bannadihlhe, William Thompson, Craig Nel, Nkazimulo Hadebe, Moagi Monare, Jaden Dube

Row 1: Mr Richard Randelhoff, Mrs Tracey Macdenzie, Mr Michael Werth, Ms Coco Manabolo, Rev Sean McGuigan, Mrs Reshnee Mohanlal, Kigen Chepkongga, Mr Matthew Fairweather, Mr Sweililhe Mkhwanazi, Retief Malherbe, Mrs Doris Ngcoba, Mr Tienie Van Wyk, Ms Charissa Steenkamp, Mr Brett Udal, Ms Claudia Plunkett, Mr Nkanyiso Khumbula



From fierce inter-house competitions to shared moments of victory and disappointment, each event in 2024 played a role in building our house spirit and camaraderie. While our senior teams fought fearlessly in water polo, football, basketball, and rugby, reaching the semi-finals in several sports, it was our junior teams who achieved standout placements in basketball, hockey, and golf. Newnham also excelled in the campus run and circular drive, where our teamwork and hard work earned us first place.

As we look back on the year's achievements, we celebrate the resilience, dedication, and unity that define Newnham House.

That said, 2024 was not an easy year. We suffered the heartbreaking loss of one of our own when Bradley Tafara Meke tragically passed away. As we struggled to cope, we pulled together and decided to give 100% in everything in honour of the brother we lost.

A number of our matrics were outstanding achievers this year and deserve mention:

- Kigen Chepkonga, our head boy, was awarded honours for culture and academics;
- Connor Sawyer was awarded honours for academics, winning prizes for the following subjects further maths, maths, physics and EGD;
- Mitchel Wilson was awarded honours for academics and was vice captain for water polo and swimming;
- Jack Henderson was selected to play football for KZN;



- Connor Jerome was selected to play basketball for KZN; and
- Charles Swart, who was vice captain for cricket, was selected to play cricket for Coke Week.

Newnham achieved a healthy balance in academic, sports, and cultural in 2024. This was thanks to the wonderful unity in the house. Our brotherhood and relationships are like no other and for this reason, I believe Newnham will continue to grow in strength.

I want to thank my brothers in Newnham for trusting me as their head of house. I will truly miss this place, which has become my home. I would also like to give special thanks to our amazing housemaster, deputy housemaster and everyone involved in the house. Best of luck to Matt Thomas and his dorm in leading the house to further greatness next year. To repeat what I said at the end of last year: "The achievements of the boys before us are not just milestones but rather stepping stones for us to move forward."

Retief Malherbe | Head of House



PEARCE HOUSE

Row 7: Emmanuel Dankwah, Nicholas Yu, Murray Loughor-Clarke, James McGregor, Chad Swanepoel, Zander Muller, Liam Casey, Stewart Falconer, Byron Chandler

Row 6: Robbie Hayward, Dylan Neill, Peter Beevers, Luke Wilson, Lesedi Mangwile, Chris Johnson, Bryce Johnson, Hartman Fourie, Josh Grant, Barack Munawa, Nic Harcourt, James Youens, James Ogilby, James Dingley

Row 5: James Volter, Ofentse Mamolele, Uyapo Ndawapi, Aiden Du Plooy, Fin Dalrymple, Masud Dakile, Jack Guye, Joshua Mapp, Luke Spear, Siyamkela Maphumulo, Matthew Wilson, Ketsa Motsoa, William Segar, Tshiamo Mashishi

Row 4: Andiswa Thwala, Njabulo Abe, Litha Madinda, Jared Bartels, Mpho Mokuiana, Sung So, Sedise Moseneki, Sabelo Skosana, Thami Ncube, Gerina Gqwarru, Lwazi Phillip, Dumisani Gondwe, Alessio Sewraj, Rex Schoeman

Row 3: Erin Khara, Azonia Ntshona, Shee Sebeo, Ryan Grobler, Jarred Kitto, Gabriel Dube, Ben Mann, David Weng, Connor Zuma, Ayanda Kunene, Mholi Khuzwayo, Ndalo Moyi, Bakani Ndawapi, Eyethu Luthuli, Kulani Tlbone

Row 2: Son Neill, Lance Kitto, Jacques Fiamand, Judah Steyn, Buhle Ntshangase, Zach Ichikowitz, Ayoan Pillay, Daniel Askew, Nicholas Taylor, Sam Dalrymple, Thomas McGregor, Markus Steenkamp, Mhlo Nkongwane, Anthony Crossley

Row 1: Mr Paul Venter, Mrs Jean Van Heeswijk, Mr David Smythe, Mrs Pamela Neethling, Mr Orateng Motsoe, Mrs Northlanhla Mojola, Mr James Bullough, Joshua Julius, Mr Andrew Duncon, Mrs Precious Mwelose, Mr Bruce MacLachlan, Ms Lara Rogers, Mr Graeme Evans, Ms Sesetu Joda, Mrs Nicolette Hohls



The Pearce boys began 2024 enthusiastic and determined to excel academically, culturally, and on the sports field while displaying the values of integrity and passion. Their dedication earned them academic, sporting, and cultural accolades, showcasing our house's exceptional talent and commitment.

Pearce proudly secured victories in several inter-house events, including inter-house music, junior basketball, the estate trail run, the athletics relays cup, and junior soccer. These wins were a testament to the talent, resilience, and teamwork displayed by the boys. In senior soccer, although we narrowly lost in the final to Churchill, the perseverance, sportsmanship, and unity the boys demonstrated made us all proud.

Another highlight of the year was the in-house table tennis competition, which brought energy and excitement to the house as boys bonded over friendly rivalry. Additionally, the Pearce Golf Day was a success, offering boys and parents a wonderful day out on the course, strengthening the bonds within our broader house community.

Pearce also made time to have fun and build relationships. One of our cherished traditions is playing chapel footy on the lawn outside chapel. These informal football games bring together boys from grades 8 to 12, bridging the gap between different dormitories in the house. It's a space where everyone can unwind, have fun, and connect, reinforcing the strong bonds and sense of brotherhood that make Pearce so special.



The success of Pearce House would not have been possible without the steadfast guidance of our housemaster, Mr James Bullough, and deputy housemaster, Mr Andrew Duncan. Their support and mentorship create an environment where boys can thrive.

Special thanks also go to Mrs Nonhlanhla Majola, our house manager, and Ms Precious Mwelase, our housekeeper, whose constant care and kindness made Pearce a home away from home.

To my dormmates and fellow matrices, this journey has been unforgettable. We came here as strangers and leave as brothers, with bonds that will last a lifetime. You have made this one of the most special chapters of my life, and I wish you success and happiness in the years ahead.

As I pass the baton to Josh Grant and the matrices of 2025, I am confident they will continue to raise the bar for Pearce, inspiring excellence and upholding the values that make this house extraordinary. To the rest of the house, treasure your time here – it passes far too quickly. Pearce House is a family, and some of your best memories will be made within these walls.

Thank you for allowing me the privilege to lead. It has been an honour and a joy.

Joshua Julius | Head of House

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



BRADLEY TAFARA MEKE

Our beloved son Bradley Tafara Meke was born on 5 May 2009 and passed away on 28 May 2024 as a result of complications following brain tumour surgery.

Bradley was born in England and we relocated to South Africa in his childhood. His grandmother named him Tafara, meaning happiness, and he lived up to his name from the day he was born.

He brought joy and happiness to everyone around him: always cheerful, even in tough and draining situations; always giving others first preference before himself – from his siblings to his friends and family; helping out his friends with his pocket money and wanting the best for everyone; and keeping a cheerful smile, which was his trademark.

He was passionately invested in his sports, namely rugby and basketball, and was excelling in them.

We decided to give him the opportunity of a lifetime, which he deserved, by sending him to Hilton College, where he pursued his sports and academics. He had a bright future ahead of him. He missed home in the first few weeks of school, but as the days went by, he started acclimatizing, making new friends and trying to make the best out of boarding school.

When our boy was at his peak, he started suffering from constant headaches and problems with his eyesight, which led us to take him to the doctor. We had to accept that he needed brain surgery, which led to his untimely passing away.

Gone but never forgotten. We will always cherish and adore all the good moments spent with Bradley and we know that heaven has gained an angel, and he is in a better place.

We love you, son, now and forever, and we hope and pray one day we will meet again in the promised land, where there is no pain or sorrow.

Bradley is survived by his father, Carlo, his mother, Blessing, and his sisters, Flora and Kylie.

Bradley was laid to rest in Zimbabwe, his country of origin.

We would like to thank Hilton College and Hilton College parents for their overwhelming support. We know we are not alone in this journey.

Thank you,
Dad and Mum

“ He brought joy and happiness
to everyone around him:
always cheerful,
even in tough and draining situations;
always giving others
first preference. ”

IN LOVING MEMORY OF



ALLAN WILLIAM MACLEAN

It is with deep sorrow and profound grief that we remember and celebrate the life of Allan William Maclean, a beloved son, brother, grandson, and friend. At just 14 years old, Allan tragically passed away on 2 November 2024, after being struck by lightning during a fishing trip on the Zambezi River with his dad, along with his close friends Patrick Gibson, Jack Heenan, and Blake Bullough (Ellis), and their fathers. This sudden and heart-breaking loss has left an indescribable void in the lives of all who knew and loved him.

Allan's journey was one marked by his vibrant personality, unwavering character, and boundless compassion. From his early days at St Dunstan's to his time at Hilton College, Allan excelled not only in academics and sports but also in building meaningful relationships with those around him. He was an exceptional student, a dedicated athlete, and a loyal, caring friend.

From a young age, Allan (born 26 January 2010) learned that success came from putting in the extra effort. He internalised life lessons quickly and always strove to go the extra mile – whether it was in his physical training, his studies, or on the hockey astro. His self-discipline and ability to push himself were truly remarkable. His natural curiosity and love for learning fuelled his confidence, helping him grow stronger both mentally and physically. Allan's commitment to constant self-improvement taught those around him valuable lessons, and his exceptional discipline and work ethic set him apart, making him an inspiration to his peers.

A gifted hockey player, Allan was proud to have been selected for the Hilton U14A hockey team. His selection for both the Eastern Gauteng U13A (2023) hockey team and the U14A KZN Inland (2024) hockey team, were achievements he was quietly extremely proud of. His love for the sport was matched only by his relentless drive for improvement, always striving to be better both on and off the field. Allan's passion and love for mathematics was just as evident, as he sought to understand the world around him and excel in all aspects of his life.

What truly set Allan apart was his profound compassion and kindness. His friends often described him as someone who could always be counted on to offer support and comfort to

those in need. Whether it was lending a hand to a classmate or housemate or simply being there for his friends, Allan's kindness was limitless. His deep thoughtfulness was coupled with a strong spiritual conviction, as he attended Christian Fellowship every Friday, seeking to better himself and those around him.

Allan's sense of humour was another one of his remarkable qualities. Whether through his quirky Russian accent or the playful moments shared with friends and family, Allan's laughter was contagious, spreading joy wherever he went. His warmth, tenderness, and generosity of spirit were felt by all who knew him – from his affectionate moments with his Labrador "Sherlock" to the special bond he shared with his family.

The relationship Allan shared with his family was a testament to the love and care he received. He and his brother, Michael, shared a very close and unbreakable bond, one that will endure despite the tragedy of Allan's passing. He was particularly excited to welcome Michael to Ellis House in 2026.

Allan's parents, Natalie and Dave, poured love, wisdom, and guidance into raising two remarkable young men, and Allan's character is a reflection of the values they instilled in him.

Though Allan's time with us was tragically short, his impact was immeasurable. He embraced every aspect of his time at Hilton College with enthusiasm, excelling in all that he did, leaving behind a legacy of friendship, dedication, and community that will continue to inspire all who knew him.

As we remember Allan, we reflect on the extraordinary legacy he leaves behind. His life was a model of kindness, determination, love and grit, reminding us all to be the best version of ourselves – as students, as friends, as sportsman and as family. Allan's spirit will continue to inspire us, and we are forever grateful for the time we were able to share with him.

Rest in peace, Allan.

You will always be in our hearts, and your legacy will live on through each of us.

Dad and Mom





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3

Beyond the Results: A Celebration of Scholarship and Character.

Hilton College 2024 NSC Matric Results

It is with great pride that I present the IEB Senior Certificate examination results for our Class of 2024. These outcomes represent far more than a final set of marks – they are the culmination of years of intellectual engagement, personal growth, and sustained effort. Our students have distinguished themselves through their commitment to learning, and their results affirm both their academic maturity and their readiness to navigate the challenges and opportunities that lie beyond our gates – whether at university, during a formative gap year, or within the professional sphere.

Such achievements are seldom the product of individual effort alone. I am deeply grateful to my colleagues – an exceptional group of educators – whose professionalism, insight, and steadfast support have shaped this cohort's academic journey. Their influence is evident not only in the results we celebrate, but in the broader development of young men who think critically, care deeply, and lead with purpose. To each member of our academic staff: thank you for the quiet excellence with which you serve.

Class of 2024: A Snapshot of Success

**99 candidates were entered
for the examinations**

100% pass rate

**97% Bachelor's degree passes,
three candidates qualified for
diploma studies**

2.5 distinctions per candidate

**83.2% of all symbols were a C
or higher**

**One candidate on IEB
Outstanding Achievement List**

**Two candidates on IEB
Commendable Achievement List**

**Top 1% performance in
Afrikaans FAL, Economics,
Engineering Graphics and
Design, English HL, Geography,
History, Life Orientation and
Core Mathematics**

**National benchmarking:
Hilton students exceeded national
averages in 13 of 18 subjects**

Scholar of the Year and Top Achievers

Richard Eyres was the 2024 Scholar of the Year – a young man whose academic brilliance is reflected in seven distinctions and a remarkable average of 92%.

Close on his heels, and recognised as Proxime Accessit, is William Kitching, who achieved eight distinctions with an outstanding average of 91.57%.

Also among the school's exceptional achievers were Joshua Julius with nine distinctions and Connor Sawyer who attained eight distinctions – placing them among the most decorated candidates in the 2024 national examinations.

Distinctions

As reflected in the table below, the Class of 2024 collectively achieved a total of 247 distinctions – an average of 2.5 distinctions per candidate.

Of the 99 boys who sat the NSC examinations, 82 obtained one or more distinctions, and 96 qualified for Bachelor's degree admission and three for diploma studies.

Notably, 79 of 99 boys (80%) achieved one or more distinctions.

Year	A symbols per student	% A	% B	% C	% D	% E	% F	% G
2020	2.7	36.0	26.0	20.0	10.4	4.84	1.8	0.38
2021	1.9	26.9	29.2	24.3	9.8	6.27	2.9	0.63
2022	2.4	34.0	27.0	23.0	11.0	4.0	1.0	0.01
2023	2.7	38.5	27.7	19.2	8.7	3.52	1.5	0.8
2024	2.5	35	27	21	10	6	1	0

SUBJECT AVERAGES 70% AND ABOVE

Hilton College boys achieved an average of 70% or higher in the following subjects:

ACCOUNTING | 72%
DRAMATIC ARTS | 73%
ECONOMICS | 80%
ENGLISH HOME LANGUAGE | 70%
GEOGRAPHY | 70%
HISTORY | 77%
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | 79%
ISIZULU | 75%
LIFE ORIENTATION | 82%
MANDARIN | 85%
MATHEMATICAL LITERACY | 76%
MUSIC | 83%
VISUAL ARTS | 84%

SUBJECT PERFORMANCE: PERCENTAGE CANDIDATES ACHIEVING A, B OR C

The subjects listed below reflect the percentage of Hilton College candidates who achieved A, B, or C symbols in each subject – a clear indication of the academic excellence and consistency across all academic disciplines:

In **Music**, **Life Orientation** and **Visual Arts**, 100% of candidates achieved a symbol in the A-C range; in **Economics**, 98% of candidates achieved a symbol in the A-C range; in **Mathematical Literacy**, 96%; **History**, 94%; **Dramatic Arts**, 92%; **English Home Language**, 89%; **Information Technology**, 88%; **Engineering Graphics and Design**, 86%; **isiZulu**, 85%; **Geography** 82%; **Life Sciences**, **Mathematics** and **Further Studies** **Mathematics**, 77%; **Physical Sciences**, 71% and **French** 70%.

IEB COMMENDABLE ACHIEVEMENTS

Two Hilton College boys achieved Commendable Achievements for obtaining marks placing them in the top 5% in five subjects and achieving a rating level of 7 in Life Orientation nationally. They are:

Kigen Chepkonga
Jarred Maltby

IEB OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS

William Kitching was our **Proxime Accessit**.

He achieved within the top 5% in six or more subjects and achieved a rating level of 7 in Life Orientation.

SUMMARY OF DISTINCTIONS

*Denotes that candidate achieved in the top 1% in the country.

HL – Home Language

FS – Further Studies

FAL – First Additional Language

SAL – Second Additional Language

NINE DISTINCTIONS

Joshua Julius (Afrikaans, Economics, English HL, History, Information Technology, Life Orientation, Mathematics, Physical Sciences, FS Mathematics)

EIGHT DISTINCTIONS

Connor Sawyer (Accounting, Afrikaans FAL, *Engineering Graphics and Design, English HL, Life Orientation, *Mathematics, Physical Sciences, FS Mathematics)

William Kitching (Afrikaans FAL, English HL, Geography, *Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Mathematics, Physical Sciences, FS Mathematics)

SEVEN DISTINCTIONS

Richard Eyres (*Economics, *English HL, *History, isiZulu FAL, Life Orientation, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

Jarred Kitto (Afrikaans FAL, Economics, English HL, Information Technology, Life Orientation, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

Jarred Maltby (Afrikaans FAL, Economics, English HL, Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

Katlego Moncho (Afrikaans FAL, Economics, English HL, French SAL, Life Orientation, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

Daniel Sweeney (Accounting, Afrikaans FAL, Economics, English HL, History, Life Orientation, Mathematics)

Miguel Teixeira (Afrikaans FAL, Economics, English HL, History, Life Orientation, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

Mitchel Wilson (Accounting, Afrikaans FAL, Economics, English HL, Life Orientation, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

SIX DISTINCTIONS

Kigen Chepkonga (Economics, English HL, *Life Orientation, Mathematics, Music, Physical Sciences)

Ben Le Roux (*Afrikaans FAL, Information Technology, Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

Shailen Naidoo (Economics, English HL, *History, *Life Orientation, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

Namisi Opai-Tetteh (*Economics, English HL, *Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

FIVE DISTINCTIONS

Grant Bridgeford (Information Technology, Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

Finlay Dalrymple (Accounting, English HL, Life Orientation, Mathematics, Music)

Harry Jarvie (Accounting, Economics, English HL, Life Orientation, Mathematics)

Daniel Lyon (Economics, Geography, History, Life Orientation, Mathematical Literacy)

Sedise Moseneke (English HL, Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Mathematics, Physical Sciences)

Samuel Wingfield (Economics, Geography, Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Mathematics)

FOUR DISTINCTIONS

Uthando Gumede (Economics, History, isiZulu FAL, Life Orientation)
Murray Loughor-Clarke (Economics, Geography, History, Life Orientation)
Ethan McCabe (Economics, English HL, *Geography, Life Orientation)
Siphiwe Mpofu (Economics, isiZulu FAL, Life Orientation, Music)
Ntando Ngcobo (Life Orientation, Life Sciences, Mathematics, Music)
Trey Padayachee (Afrikaans FAL, Economics, Engineering Graphics and Design, Life Orientation)
Didier Rey (Accounting, Economics, Life Orientation, Mathematics)
Luke Spear (English HL, Geography, History, Life Orientation)
Christopher Wagner (Afrikaans FAL, Economics, Life Orientation, Life Sciences)

THREE DISTINCTIONS

Troy Bailey (Economics, Life Orientation, Life Sciences)
Daniel Friend (History, Life Orientation, Mathematical Literacy)
Max Gilson (Life Orientation, Mathematical Literacy, Visual Arts)
Kieran Hunter (Engineering Graphics and Design, English HL, Life Orientation)
Siyamkela Maphumulo (Dramatic Arts, isiZulu FAL, Life Orientation)
Oliver Mattison (English HL, Geography, Life Orientation)
Ntando-Kamsizi Mchunu (Dramatic Arts, isiZulu FAL, Life Orientation)
Sean Ritchie (Geography, Life Orientation, Mathematics)
Chad Swanepoel (Economics, History, Life Orientation)

TWO DISTINCTIONS

Ross Brown (Dramatic Arts, Life Orientation)
Rowan Cox (History, Life Orientation)
Benjamin Ferguson (Life Orientation, Visual Arts)
Nthato Christopher Gundu (Dramatic Arts, Life Orientation)
Thomas Harilaou (History, Life Orientation)
Connor Jerome (Life Orientation, Mathematical Literacy)
Retief Malherbe (Economics, Life Orientation)
Sqiniseko Maseko (isiZulu FAL, Life Orientation)
Mpumelelo Mdhuli (Engineering Graphics and Design, isiZulu FAL)
Osman Motlhaloga (Economics, Life Orientation)
Sixolile Nyangiwe (isiZulu FAL, Life Orientation)
Nicolaas Pieterse (Afrikaans FAL, Life Orientation)
Oliver Proudfoot (Economics, Life Orientation)
Amahle Seima (isiZulu FAL, Life Orientation)
Sabelo Skosana (Life Orientation, Music)
Connor Thomson (Engineering Graphics and Design, Life Orientation)
Ethan van Heerden (History, Life Orientation)

ONE DISTINCTION

Josh Aitken (Life Orientation)
Travis De Bruyn (Mathematical Literacy)

James Fender (Life Orientation)
Sebastien Gaboreau (Mathematical Literacy)
Jack Henderson (Life Orientation)
Joshua Hurley (Life Orientation)
Deepen Kooverjee (Life Orientation)
Meyer Malherbe (Mathematical Literacy)
Bongani Mhlango (isiZulu FAL)
Nghwazi Mkanzi (Life Orientation)
Liphapang Mokoena (isiZulu FAL)
Abubakar Moshin Mussa (Mathematical Literacy)
Qhama Ngwenya (isiZulu FAL)
Mdlhiseni Nxumalo (Life Orientation)
Kamogelo Seopa (Life Orientation)
Christian Snijman (Mathematical Literacy)
Joshua Snyman (Mathematical Literacy)
Oscar Steiner (Life Orientation)
Francois Swart (Mathematical Literacy)
Tiisano Tisane (Life Orientation)
Yulick Wang (Mandarin SAL)
Jared Wilson (Mathematical Literacy)
Hong Sheng Yu (Life Orientation)

CANDIDATES IN THE TOP 1% PER SUBJECT

Eight Hilton College students earned national distinction, placing in the top 1% of all IEB candidates in specific subjects. These exceptional young men are:

Ben Le Roux | Afrikaans First Additional Language
Richard Eyres | Economics, English Home Language, History
Namisi Opai-Tetteh | Economics, Life Orientation
Connor Sawyer | Engineering Graphics and Design, Mathematics
Ethan McCabe | Geography
Shailen Naidoo | History, Life Orientation
Kigen Chepkonga | Life Orientation
William Kitching | Life Orientation

As I conclude my final academic report in the role of Director of Academics, I extend my sincere thanks to the many people who have shaped and supported this journey. I am deeply grateful to our Headmaster, Mr George Harris, and the Board of Governors for their unwavering support and strategic guidance, to the parent body for their partnership and belief in our academic vision, and above all, to my remarkable colleagues – a team of dedicated educators whose commitment to excellence has inspired me daily. A special word of thanks to the Deputy Director of Academics, Mrs Tania Hurley; the Director of Academic Administration, Mr De Wet Wentzel; and our Academic Secretary, Mrs Kathy Acutt, whose steadfast support, attention to detail, and quiet efficiency have been invaluable to the smooth running of our academic programme. It has been an honour to serve in this capacity over the past six years.

I warmly welcome my successor Dr Alexei du Bois and wish him every success as he guides Hilton College into its next chapter of academic distinction.

Hanlie Dry | Director of Academics

A-LEVEL PATHWAY

The A-Level pathway is an integral feature of Hilton's academic offering with IGCSE, AS and A-Level qualifications being pursued by Hilton boys. Developments to broadening the IGCSE offering in 2025 are exciting, creating further choice and opportunity for Hilton boys. The Pathway is structured to grant students the flexibility to pursue their interests in subjects not offered by the IEB or just to extend boys who want an additional academic challenge, all while supplying the essential structure and support for their academic success. Increasingly, boys who opt for the A-Level pathway are embracing the opportunity to manage their time effectively during discretionary lessons in the library. We are delighted to have more specialist A-Level teachers dedicated to the success of our boys.

In 2024, Hilton College produced its third cohort of Grade 12 A-Level graduates. Almost 70% of the symbols achieved by these candidates ranged from a C to an A*, showcasing their dedication and hard work over the past two years. The boys at the top end were particularly impressive and we are delighted to celebrate their achievements, particularly those who achieved an A*, which is a milestone for us as a school.

More than 36% of subject results were an A and A* symbols, where our candidates demonstrated their exceptional abilities and mastery in their fields of study. This is a testament to the high-quality education they received at Hilton and a significant improvement on last year's achievement at the top end. This is further evidence of the dedicated efforts and support from teachers who encouraged them to reach their full potential.

The success of these matriculants has created many exciting opportunities for them as they embark on the next chapter of their lives. Candidates, who have chosen to go straight into tertiary education have secured a place at either a top South African university or an international university, offering them a range of possibilities for further study and future career possibilities. A few of the boys have accessed international universities opting for a foundational pathway where they have been successfully enrolled. Some boys have opted to improve their A-Levels before applying to more selective universities.

We are extremely proud of our A-Level graduates and their impressive achievements.

In conclusion, the A-Level programme has been embedded as a growing and thriving programme supported by exceptional teachers and academically ambitious boys. With our largest group of AS and A-Level boys yet, 2025 promises to be a good year.

A-LEVELS SCHOLAR OF THE YEAR

The A-Levels Scholar of the Year for 2024 is **William Chien** who achieved A*A*A* for his full A-Levels.

TOP ACHIEVERS IN A-LEVELS

William Chien | Accounting (A*), Mathematics (A*), Physics (A*)

Charlie Short | Physics (A*), Art & Design (A), Mathematics (A)

William Ebersohn | Economics (A), English Literature (A), Psychology (A), IPQ (A), History (B)

According to the Stellenbosch University benchmark test:

An A-Level A* is equal to 95% in the same subject at IEB;

An A-Level A is equal to 90% in the same subject at IEB;

An A-Level B is equal to 85% in the same subject at IEB;

An A-Level C is equal to 80% in the same subject at IEB.

James Webb | Director of International Learning

WILLIAM CHIEN



MATRIC RESULTS 2024

100%
PASS RATE

97%
BD PASS

35%
(IEB)
A SYMBOLS

83%
of symbols achieved were a C or higher

DISTINCTIONS

9 1 Candidate 8 2 Candidates 7 7 Candidates 6 4 Candidates 5 6 Candidates 4 9 Candidates 3 9 Candidates 2 17 Candidates

An average of **2.5** distinctions per candidate



JUNIOR PHASE ACADEMICS

Embedding Ethical Leadership in the Curriculum

Teaching ethics to teenagers plays a crucial role in shaping responsible and principled future leaders. By fostering integrity, accountability, and empathy, we help students build strong moral foundations that guide their decision-making. This year, we introduced Ethical Leadership as a new elective for Grades 8 and 9, incorporating key modules on resource management and environmental sustainability. Through these topics, students develop critical thinking skills and learn to navigate complex situations while resolving conflicts ethically. Additionally, modules on servant leadership and community partnership emphasize inclusivity, social responsibility, and global awareness, equipping students to become fair and transparent leaders who prioritize the well-being of others.

In line with the Grade 8 and 9 theme of exploration and understanding, the 2024 Project Week further embedded ethical leadership into the curriculum. Students were challenged with subject-specific ethical dilemmas, where they had to weigh conflicting moral principles and make thoughtful decisions. These exercises reinforced Hilton College's core values while strengthening students' understanding of ethical reasoning.

A highlight of the initiative was the collaborative stop-motion animation project, where Grade 8 and 9 students creatively showcased an aspect of ethical behaviour they observed in their boarding houses. The results were both innovative and inspiring, reflecting a deeper engagement with the values of ethical leadership in their daily lives.

Outstanding Academic Achievers

In 2024, Raphael Dube received the Griffin Memorial Prize for being placed first in Grade 9 and Dawid Weng received the AJ Cook Prize for taking first place in Grade 8. Congratulations to both boys for their outstanding results as well as to the following boys on receiving commendation prizes:

Grade 9

Ryan Grobler, Zach Ichikowitz, Layton Stokes, Arjun Wadhvani

Grade 8

Fynn Asamoah, Callum Dreyer, Nathan Mturi, Avaneesh Nunna, Richard Porritt

Tania Hurley | Deputy Director of Academics

Department Reports



JAMES ROBEY

ACCOUNTING

The Accounting Department experienced substantial growth, change, and achievement in 2024. A key development was the appointment of a new head of accounting, which marked the beginning of a new chapter for the department. A collaborative team effort ensured a smooth leadership transition, and the department's renewed vision has been positively received by both staff and pupils.

The department has also seen an increase in the number of boys choosing accounting as a subject in both the IEB and Cambridge pathways. This shift reflects a growing interest in the subject, and we are excited to see more pupils exploring the many opportunities Accounting has to offer.

In our senior grades, we continue to take the curriculum beyond the classroom, framing theoretical knowledge into practical application. One example of this was our exploration of the rise and fall of Bernie Madoff, which not only provided valuable insights into the world of financial crimes but also sparked thought-provoking discussions among the boys about the importance of ethics in accounting and finance.

In line with our commitment to preparing the junior boys for informed decision-making about subject choices, we continue to use the simple yet effective techniques from Colour Accounting in our teaching. These techniques help pupils better understand complex concepts, equipping them with the tools to excel in accounting and make more confident decisions about their future careers.

Our results speak for themselves. We are proud to report a very good set of matric results at the end of 2024, with our students outperforming the national average. This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of both pupils and staff. Our Cambridge results have also been impressive, with the remarkable William Chein receiving an A* star for his A-Level exam.

We are confident that our department is on a strong trajectory toward growth and success. While the department is in a strong position, there is a continued commitment to progress and improvement. We remain focused on learning from our successes and enhancing our offering. We look forward to developing an even stronger curriculum in the coming years, one that will continue to inspire and equip our students for the challenges of the future.

Lizél Pollard | Head of Department

AFRIKAANS

The Afrikaans Department achieved remarkable success in the 2024 academic year, setting new standards of excellence in language education. Our students' outstanding performance in the IEB examinations reflects both their dedication and the department's commitment to fostering language mastery.

The 2024 IEB examination results showcase exceptional student performance, and we are very proud of our boys. Ben le Roux achieved outstanding recognition, placing in the top 1% nationally. This achievement represents the highest level of language proficiency and comprehension in Afrikaans as an additional language.

Our department's success is built on several key pillars that have proven instrumental in student achievement, innovative teaching methodology being one.

The department's approach combines traditional language instruction with contemporary teaching methods. Regular immersion sessions, interactive oral presentations, and creative writing workshops have enhanced students' language capabilities across all assessment criteria. The integration of South African cultural elements into our curriculum has deepened students' connection with the language beyond mere academic requirements.

Success in language acquisition stems from our focus on practical application. Regular cultural events, like our Afrikaans braai with girls' schools, movies, games, and Afrikaans media engagement have created an environment where students naturally gravitate toward using Afrikaans in daily communication. This practical approach has resonated with our boys, who have shown marked improvement in oral and written expression.

Our departmental assessment strategy aligns closely with IEB requirements while maintaining high internal standards. Regular feedback sessions, personalised learning plans, and targeted interventions have enabled students to identify and overcome language barriers effectively.

Building on this year's success, the department aims to further enhance its curriculum in 2025 through:

Advanced conversational workshops;
Extended cultural exchange programmes;
Enhanced digital learning resources; and
Strengthened partnerships with Afrikaans-speaking schools.

The remarkable achievements of our 2024 leavers, exemplified by Ben's performance, reflect not only individual excellence but also the department's successful approach to language education. These results validate our teaching methodology and bode well for future academic years.

Leana Steenkamp | Head of Department

DRAMATIC ARTS

The year began with Hamilton Dlamini – the veteran, multi-award-winning stage and screen actor – joining us as our artist in residence. With a special focus on the Grade 10, 11 and 12 boys, Hamilton worked with them to recreate scenes from the curriculum text *Woza Albert!* His week-long residency provided an immersive experience, culminating in performances where the boys showcased all they had learned. The energy and commitment they brought to rehearsals was wonderful to witness. The week concluded with Hamilton and his company performing their version of *Woza Albert!* for our senior boys. Exposure to professionals who bring networks to life adds tremendous value to the boys' appreciation of dramatic arts.

In Grades 8 and 9, the syllabus was adjusted to keep the content relevant and engaging. During the Grade 12 final practical examination, Christopher Gundu and Natenzi Denenga were singled out for their excellent performances. Overall, the final examination results were strong, with four A symbols achieved and Siyamkela Maphumulo earning the highest mark.

I am delighted with the academic achievements of the class of 2024.

I look forward to the possibilities and the challenges that 2025 holds – from engaging with challenging texts in the classroom to helping boys overcome personal fears on the stage.

Jenine Warren | Head of Department

ECONOMICS

The department is immensely proud of the academic accomplishments of our economics students in the 2024 IEB Final Examinations. They attained an impressive average of 75%, significantly surpassing the national average of 57%. A total of 54 matriculants wrote the IEB economics paper, with 98% securing A, B or C symbols. Notably, 26 boys (48%) achieved distinctions. Many students demonstrated substantial improvement, with several attaining their personal best results in economics during their time at Hilton.

A special mention goes to Richard Eyres and Namisi Opai-Tetteh, who ranked among the top 1% – or top six – nationally. Their exceptional achievements are a testament to their unwavering dedication, and we commend them for the commitment and diligence they consistently displayed throughout their studies at Hilton.

This year marked our third full set of A-Level results, and we take great pride in our students who pursued the Cambridge pathway. Two students earned an A, while 75% of the cohort achieved A, B or C grades in their economics A-Level examinations.

In February, Old Hiltonian Andrew Lloyd-Ellis (2004, Pearce) delivered an insightful presentation to a group of students on his career in property development. He discussed the micro- and macroeconomic factors that contributed to his success. The staff were particularly impressed by his recollection of first-year monetary policy, while the students were captivated by his engaging personality and compelling anecdotes from his time in Pearce House. If the property industry ever loses its appeal, Andrew might have a promising future in teaching economics!

We continue to witness a growing number of students pursuing career paths in economics or related fields. Many of our 2024 matriculants, along with recent graduates, have excelled in their tertiary studies at leading local and international universities. It is especially gratifying for the Economics Department to hear how highly these old boys regard the strong academic foundation they received at Hilton, whether through the IEB or Cambridge A-Level pathway.

Our teaching staff – Mrs Hanlie Dry, Mr Msizi Mchunu and Mr James Webb – have continued to provide outstanding instruction and support to our students. This year, we were delighted to welcome Mr Andrew Brown to the department. As a former Head of Economics at Reddam House in Constantia, a former housemaster and economics teacher at another Midlands school, Mr Brown brings valuable expertise to our team. All four members of our department were involved in marking the IEB exams, with Mr Brown serving as the national moderator for school-based assessments.

On a personal note, it has been a privilege to lead such a knowledgeable, professional, and welcoming department.

William Donkin | Head of Department

ENGINEERING GRAPHICS AND DESIGN

In 2024, 17 Matric boys completed the final year of their three-year journey in Engineering Graphics and Design (EGAD).

The class of 2024 delivered impressive results with five boys achieving distinctions. Congratulations to Kieran Hunter; Mpumelelo Mdhuli; Trey Padayachee; Connor Sawyer and Connor Thomson! Connor Sawyer must be commended for his final result of 98% which placed him in the top 1% in the country. Well done, boys. It was a pleasure teaching you over the past three years.

The Grade 11 group of EGAD boys also tried their best throughout the year and the Grade 11 subject prize was shared by Jake van Zuydam and Lesedi Mangwale. Well done to these boys for always producing work of a high standard and for paying attention to the finer details.

I would also like to thank the rest of the boys. Although they were not subject prize winners, each brought a positive attitude to the classroom. Boys, thank you for getting on with the work required, persevering, and creating a pleasant classroom environment for everyone.

Sadly, EGAD is being phased out at Hilton College, and the current Grade 11s will be the final group to complete the subject in Matric in 2025. It has been a privilege to teach EGAD at Hilton over the past few years, and I wish all the boys continued success as they approach their final year.

Jeremy Piater | Head of Department

ENGLISH

2024 was another busy and fruitful one for the English Department, marked by success for both our boys and staff. At the heart of our department's success lies a team of dedicated, knowledgeable, and passionate teachers who continue to inspire excellence.

This year, we bid farewell to our Head of Department, Pamela Neethling, who left to join her husband, Pierre, in the Western Cape. Pamela, who joined the department in 2020, left an indelible mark on the culture of our team. Her passion for English, unwavering professionalism, and commitment to excellence shaped the department in significant ways. In April, Ashleigh Askew was appointed the Head of Department, bringing fresh vision and leadership to guide the team.

We were delighted to welcome two new members to our department. Richard Randlehoff joined us from St Charles College, bringing invaluable expertise in the Cambridge curriculum. In April, Therése Carlson joined from Kingswood College in Makanda, adding depth with her subject knowledge and creative teaching methods. At the end of the year, we said goodbye to Graeme Roberts, whose 13 years at Hilton College have profoundly impacted both boys and colleagues, particularly in his contributions to debating and the classroom.

Alexei du Bois was named the Heimbecker Inspiration Chair for Experiential Education for 2023–2024. This prestigious appointment saw Alexei spend a sabbatical year at Shawnigan Lake School on Canada's west coast. He returned in January 2025 as Director of Academics with fresh insights and ideas from his time abroad.

Professional development remains a cornerstone of our work as educators. By embracing continuous learning and reflecting on



PAMELA NEETHLING

our practices, we not only enhance our own skills but also model the essence of lifelong learning for our boys. The IEB National English Conference in February provided Matric teachers with an opportunity to engage with examiners and presenters, exploring topics such as teaching *The White Tiger* (the 2025 Grade 12 novel) and navigating the challenges and opportunities of AI in education. Throughout the year, our team benefited from a range of workshops, including those on reading strategies, engaging with poetry, and integrating AI into the classroom. Tania Hurley completed an eight-week course on utilising conflict for growth. Additionally, Ashleigh Askew completed her Master's degree in education through the University of the Witwatersrand; her dissertation explored how teachers' understanding of curiosity in learning affects their teaching practice.

Several members of our department were recognised for their expertise through appointments within the IEB. Three teachers served as oral moderators, while four were selected as Grade 12 markers. We are very grateful to Craig Wilkinson, Therése Carlson, Nic Holtzhauzen and Ashleigh Askew for giving their time, energy and expertise to support the IEB, the school and most importantly our boys in ensuring that quality assessment continues. Furthermore, Cambridge International Education appointed Richard Randlehoff as an assessment specialist for the IGCSE language paper and as an assistant examiner for the A-Level literature paper. These roles enrich our department and ensure that our boys receive an education of the highest standard.

Hilton College continued its strong tradition of participating in the national English Olympiad, with 30 boys entering this prestigious competition. In February, we hosted a Masterclass led by Mrs Pat Fanucci, welcoming students from surrounding schools to join our boys in the theatre. This enriching session sharpened their literary and writing skills. We are proud of the achievements of our boys: three earned gold certificates. Notably, Wim Eberson ranked 28th in the country, securing a full year's tuition scholarship to Rhodes University, while Olufemi Oyeka also placed in the top 100.

In February, our Grade 12 boys were privileged to watch ThinkTheatre's dynamic performances of *Othello* (the 2024 IEB Shakespeare text) and *Hamlet* (the 2024 Cambridge text). The IEB students further benefited from an engaging workshop with Luke Holder, which deepened their understanding of the intricate plots, themes, and characters – critical preparation for their final exams.

These are just a few of the highlights from 2024. However, the true essence of the English Department lies in the daily interactions in the classrooms. It is here, through literature, that we explore what it means to be human. It is in these everyday moments that our boys discover the power of language and the importance of expression.

Ashleigh Askew | Head of Department

FRENCH

In 2024, the French Department excelled in and out of the classroom. Beyond mastering grammar rules and expanding vocabulary, our students embraced French as a dynamic, living language – one that sparks curiosity, fosters connections, and broadens global perspectives.

While Hilton remains the Pietermaritzburg DELF exam centre – a hub for French language certification in KwaZulu-Natal – our focus has extended far beyond the exam hall. In 2024, we had 50 students, ranging from Grades 8–12, take the DELF exam and achieve a 100% pass rate. We received 12 distinctions and 14 merits. In the 2024 IEB exam, our Matric students delivered outstanding results, a testament to their dedication and perseverance. As we celebrate their achievements, we look ahead with anticipation to the class of 2025, hoping to reach even greater heights.

From Fun French Fridays to immersive film screenings and crêpe days, our students explored not just the language, but the culture woven into its expressions, cuisine, and the rich traditions of the Francophone world. It remains a powerful reminder that French is more than just a subject – it is a gateway to global understanding.

If there is one event that encapsulates the essence of our department, it is the Annual Matric French Dinner. Picture a beautifully set table at the Fleur-de-Lys, the warm hum of conversation blending French and English, stories exchanged over fine cuisine, and laughter echoing into the evening, hosting schools from all over KwaZulu-Natal. In as much as this celebration is our highlight of the year, we believe that culture is not reserved for special occasions. From spontaneous pétanque matches after class to spirited inter-house French debates, language at Hilton is more than words on a page – it is an experience.

Our department continues to thrive under the leadership of a dedicated team. Mrs Nicolette Hohls, now in her second year at Hilton, has further enriched our teaching with her creativity and fresh perspective. Alongside her, the ever-dedicated Mrs Ghyslaine Dye remains a cornerstone of the department, bringing her wealth of experience and passion to every lesson.

French at Hilton is about connection, curiosity, and the courage to step beyond comfort zones.

To our students, colleagues, and families who have supported us this year, merci mille fois! Here's to another year of discovery, growth, and a touch of French flair. Vive le français!

Juliette Hunter | Head of Department



GEOGRAPHY



2024 was another successful year in which we embraced new ideas and learning opportunities to stay relevant and to embrace the learning process.

We created an opportunity for boys to take part in the IEB Geospatial Data Science Certificate, which is a stand-alone course that covers the basics of GIS – a powerful mapping tool. And our staff had the opportunity to attend webinars and conferences to develop themselves professionally. This ensures we stay up to date with new developments in our subject.

As always, our teaching prioritised the development of relevant skills alongside the deepening of geographical knowledge and understanding. Over the year, key focus areas included problem-solving, critical thinking, enquiry, values-based reasoning, decision-making, adaptable thinking, spatial awareness, and a broader appreciation of social, environmental, and economic issues.

Our 2024 matric results were pleasing at the top end but especially at the bottom end. Those boys who attended the revision and support sessions clearly benefited from these. We are very proud of our top geography student Ethan McCabe who achieved 93% and was listed in the top 1% for the subject. We also celebrate the successes of those who improved by a symbol.

National Senior Certificate results:

School average: 70% (IEB average: 64.46%)

Symbols: | A = 8 | B = 21 | C = 12 | D = 8 | E = 1 |

82% of our boys achieved an A, B or C.

Cambridge International results:

| C = 1 | D = 1 |

In 2024 we went on a few field trips, and this meant that our boys benefited from experiential learning associated with out-of-classroom activity. The Grade 12s did a drive through tour of Pietermaritzburg as part of the matric settlement section. Experiential learning is a key component of geography and seeing and experiencing geography firsthand helps the boys to make sense of concepts covered in the classroom. Geography develops critical skills that are, ever increasingly, in demand in the workplace and tertiary institutions.

At the start of 2024 we welcomed two new staff members to the department: Mr Dave Smythe and Mr Lindo Xulu. Mr Smythe has many years of experience teaching geography and Mr Xulu brings his environmental knowledge and expertise in GIS into the department. The success of any department depends entirely on the dedication and professionalism of its teachers, and I would like to thank the geography team for all their hard work and commitment this year.

Karen Koopman | Head of Department

HISTORY

The History Department had another outstanding year in 2024. Our primary objective was to initiate the process of decolonizing the history syllabus, ensuring that while we continued to teach critical historical events, we shifted towards a less Eurocentric focus.

This transformative effort began with the visit of our esteemed historian-in-residence, Ms Shalo Mbatha. Ms Mbatha spent two days engaging with senior grades through workshops where she shared her profound personal experiences. She recounted her role as a participant in the 1976 Soweto Uprising, her years in exile following the apartheid regime's targeting of her family, and her extensive research for her book, *Zulu Empire Decolonised*. Notably, her work earned her official recognition by the Zulu Royal Family as the first female Zulu Royal historian.

Continuing this decolonization initiative, we updated the syllabus to include significant African narratives. Examples include the sinking of the SS Mendi during World War I and, when teaching the Holocaust, examining genocide within the Rwandan context.

We also enriched our students' learning experiences with curriculum-aligned educational tours. The Grade 9s visited the Durban Holocaust Museum, the Grade 10s explored the Anglo-Zulu battlefields in Babanango, and the Grade 11s visited the Constitutional Court, Rivonia and Freedom Park.

The dedication and expertise of our highly experienced teaching team ensured academic excellence across all grades. The 2024 history matric cohort of 34 students achieved an exam average 7% higher than the national average, with 82% earning either an A or B symbol. Among these exceptional students, Richard Eysers and Shailen Naidoo placed in the national top 1% for history, each achieving an impressive 96%.

As a department, we hope to continue to build on the successes of 2024.

Tarryn Daly | Head of Department

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Grade 12 class of 2024 was a mixed group which made for interesting classroom activities and banter. As always, working with responsive pupils is always such a pleasure.

There was an interesting selection of programming project topics this year which showed a range of diverse skills and abilities. Each boy was able to do the best he could, and it was gratifying to see even a weaker pupil complete this task.

Out of a class of eight pupils, we achieved the following symbols at the end of the year: 4 As, 2 Bs, 1 C and 1 D. These marks are the result of dedicated hard work by the pupils and they are to be congratulated.

The Grade 11 class of 2024 will, unfortunately, be a very small one as most of the pupils, some extremely talented, have chosen to move to the A-Level pathway.

The Grade 8 and 9 Computer Skills programme continued during the course of 2024. It was great to have dedicated time on the timetable in 2024 and once again I thank Mr Allan Fryer for his dedication to teaching and attention to these lessons.

In 2025, the teaching allocation for these lessons in both grades will be reduced by half, resulting in each boy receiving a maximum

of 16 lessons over the course of the year. While this presents significant challenges, the department remains committed to delivering as much educational value as possible within the available time.

Bruce MacLachlan | Head of Department

ISIZULU

2024 was another successful year for the department. Our matriculants are to be congratulated for their outstanding results. Our 26 boys achieved 12 As, 7 Bs, 3 Cs, 3 Ds and 1 E.

The number of boys choosing our subject has continued to grow. We had more than 40 boys taking isiZulu in Grade 8, and 21 boys choosing to take isiZulu as an elective subject in Grade 8, which is the highest number we have seen in recent years. We also continued to offer isiZulu as part of the Cambridge syllabus.

We went on several field trips to enhance and support teaching and learning in the classroom. It is now an annual feature for Grade 12s to attend a play based on the set book, and in 2024 this production was hosted by Michaelhouse. Since it took place just before the Trials Examinations, it was hugely beneficial for our boys to attend. The Grade 10s attended the isiZulu Cultural Day hosted by St Anne's, where the Zulu culture and traditions were showcased through music and dance. At the end of the evening, the boys enjoyed some traditional Zulu food. All in all, the boys learned about the importance of preserving Zulu culture through art and music.

The Grade 9 elective class visited Phezulu Safari Park in Hillcrest, where they enjoyed lessons about Zulu culture and watched a traditional dance in the village. They also learned about traditional Zulu medicine and the role played by traditional healers in Zulu communities.

Apart from enriching our learners, we also prioritized the growth and development of our teachers. Mrs Thembele Zuma attended the annual teachers' workshop in Pinetown. The workshop focused on creating strong working relationships across all phases of the curriculum, catering to different learning needs in our classrooms, growing the isiZulu departments in our schools, integrating technology into our teaching and learning, and acknowledging each other's strengths and weaknesses.

The success of the department in 2024 was entirely due to the dedication and professionalism of its teachers, and I would like to thank Mrs Zuma and Mr Swelihle Mkhwanazi for their commitment and dedication. May we continue to excel in 2025.

Charles Ncobeni | Head of Department

LIFE ORIENTATION

Life Orientation (LO) at Hilton continues to excel: four of our 2024 matriculants ranked in the top 1% nationally and 67% of our boys received distinctions for LO. The average mark achieved by our boys who wrote the IEB examination was 82%, which is a great achievement!

Our department continues to strive to keep the curriculum relevant and meaningful. We seek to develop the emotional intelligence of our students and build life skills that will serve them for life. We had a number of superb guest speakers in 2024 to share their life stories, expertise and philanthropy. They included

Tendai Mtawarira (also known as The Beast), Ronnie Ntuli, the CEO of Thelo Group for rail and infrastructure, Travis Warwick-Oliver (Turbo Trav), Emma Sadleir, the social media law expert, and Barry Swartzberg, the co-founder of Discovery.

Hilton College has developed engaging and practical content to prepare Grade 11 students for real-world challenges – both in managing their personal finances and navigating the modern workplace. The Manage Your Own Finances course covers key concepts such as interest, tax returns, credit scores, and different types of insurance, while our career development content focuses on building essential workplace skills. The Academic Tour to Johannesburg exposes students to a wide range of professions, while assignments and workshops help refine their critical thinking and interpersonal abilities.

In Grade 10 we focus on developing emotional intelligence. The curriculum includes goal setting and long-term planning, critical thinking and interpersonal skills, healthy masculinity, and issues relating to gender, as well as mental wellness and coping strategies. We also aim to promote inclusivity and diversity within the school community, building a more compassionate and empathetic environment, and the ability to consider multiple perspectives.

In Grades 8 and 9, the LO programme is now being implemented by our housemasters, because it aligns closely with educating boys on their interpersonal relationships within the dorm. Their programme covers physical education, etiquette, bullying, goal setting, social media, community responsibility and cultural exploration, and understanding diversity within our school. We have also engaged Christy Herselman from The Chat to develop videos and assignments to navigate issues around online pornography and sex education.

Building on the achievements of 2024, the department is committed to continue enhancing the curriculum and exploring innovative ways to engage students in meaningful learning experiences such that they receive a well-rounded education that extends beyond traditional academics.

Claudia Plunkett | Head of Department

LIFE SCIENCES

Our 2024 matriculants are to be congratulated on their pleasing results. Twenty-three percent achieved an A symbol and 77% obtained either an A, B or C symbol.

Our aim is to equip our pupils to apply life sciences concepts and skills to their personal lives and as responsible citizens. This will hopefully contribute to their living healthy lifestyles, perhaps going on to become doctors or biomedical engineers, or contributing to future solutions for the sustainable management of our resources.

As a department, we continue to embrace teamwork – sharing resources, collaborating, and exploring innovative approaches to teaching and assessment. In 2024, we collaborated in a hands-on project during the Life Sciences Indaba, using some of the allocated time to replant greenery outside the labs. Special thanks to James Robey and Ernie Steenkamp for their green fingers.

We welcomed Lindokuhle Xulu into our department to teach two of the Grade 8 life sciences classes. A large focus of the Grade 8 curriculum is on environmental studies, focusing on conservation and sustainably. Mr Xulu is deeply passionate and personally invested in these topics.

We also welcome Mrs Sarah Marais into the department. She taught the A-Level Biology candidates.

In 2024, we were able to share our microscopes and labs with staff and pupils from Umthoqotho High School as part of the Vula Programme.

I would like to thank our laboratory assistants Mrs Charlene Ragubeer, Mr Jabulani Kunene and Mrs Zanele Ngubane, and my teaching colleagues Mr Robey, Mr Steenkamp, Mr Xulu, Mr Tony Shuttleworth and Mrs Marais for all their hard work, dedication, and support throughout the year.

Tracey Mackenzie | Head of Department

MATHEMATICS

In 2024 the Mathematics Department moved from the Crooke's Block to the state-of-the-art Centenary Centre. This move has provided us with enhanced facilities, including two small lecture theatres, six additional classrooms, and closer proximity to the library and IT centre. The new surroundings have not only elevated our teaching environment but also enriched the overall learning experience for our students with their aesthetic appeal and functional design.

We were pleased to welcome Mr Sibonelo Khanyile to the team. Mr Khanyile is the Coordinator of Mathematical Literacy and his expertise and enthusiasm have made him a valuable addition to our team.

The team comprises:

- Mr Graeme Evans, Director of Maths, who has 31 years' teaching experience;
- Mr Michael Werth, Further Studies Coordinator, who has 32 years' teaching experience;
- Mr Richard Garrett, International Curriculum Coordinator, who has 20 years' teaching experience;
- Mr Sibonelo Khanyile, Mathematical Literacy Coordinator, who has seven years' teaching experience;
- Ms Jean van Heeswijk, who has 36 years' teaching experience;
- Mr Lionel Julius, who has 26 years' teaching experience;
- Mr James Bullough, who has 21 years' teaching experience;
- Mr Wilbert Tenga, who has 15 years' teaching experience;
- Mr Orateng Motsoe, who has 11 years' teaching experience;
- Ms Anze Goodwin, who has eight years' teaching experience; and
- Ms Coco Mamabolo, who has two years' teaching experience.

Academic Offerings and Support

The department remains committed to providing a tailored academic plan for every student, ensuring opportunities for both extension and consolidation. Key initiatives include:

- Grade 8 maths elective sessions to foster early engagement with advanced concepts;
- Olympiad training for all grades, encouraging problem-solving and critical thinking;
- IEB further studies mathematics for Grade 11 students, offered after hours online and in person; and
- International curriculum options, including Cambridge and Pearson Mathematics and Further Mathematics.



GRAEME EVANS

We are immensely proud of our 2024 matriculants, whose outstanding results reflect their hard work and dedication:

IEB Core Mathematics: 22 boys achieved an A, with an average of 69%.

IEB Mathematical Literacy: 12 boys achieved an A, with an average of 76%.

IEB Further Studies: Three out of 7 boys achieved an A.

CIE Mathematics: One boy achieved an A at AS Level, three boys achieved an A at A Level, and one boy achieved an A* at A Level.

These results underscore the department's commitment to academic excellence and the success of our tailored teaching approach.

Farewells and New Beginnings

At year end, we bid farewell to Mr Evans, who leaves to take up the position of Deputy Principal: Academics at Lebone II College of the Royal Bafokeng in the North West, and to Ms Mamabolo, who will be joining Eco Schools in Johannesburg.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to both for their contributions to the department and wish them every success in their new roles.

In 2025, we will welcome Ms Sarah Bouwer, who joins us from Pretoria Boys' High School, where she served as Head of Department. And we congratulate Mr Motsoe as he assumes the role of Head of Department next year. We are confident that his vision and dedication will guide the department to even greater heights.

Looking Ahead

The Mathematics Department remains steadfast in its mission to inspire and challenge every student, equipping them with the skills and knowledge to excel in an ever-evolving world. As we reflect on the achievements of 2024, we look forward to another year of growth, innovation, and academic success in 2025.

Graeme Evans | Director of Mathematics

MUSIC

In 2024, the Music Department made great strides in both participation and performance. A total of 186 boys – one in three pupils – took up a musical instrument, and 12 ensembles involving 140 musicians were active throughout the year. The department remained committed to fostering excellence across its many disciplines, supported by world-class facilities and staff that helped each pupil reach their musical potential.

Building on the success of 2023's concerts, workshops and collaborations, 2024 saw our students perform on a variety of stages. With 52 concerts held during the year, both on and off campus, the department created valuable opportunities and forged meaningful connections. Highlights included:

Hilton College, in collaboration with the YES trust, presented a Valentine's Day concert in Kloof at St Agnes Church. The boys performed solo acts including ballads, love songs and more. A great afternoon was had by all, and all funds went to a great cause.

Our first music marketing soirée was held at the Inanda Club in Sandton. The purpose of the event was to showcase our offering to Grade 6 and 7 boys considering Hilton College, music heads of departments, school principals and other VIPs. Our Competition Marimba Band, Vocal Ensemble and selected soloists did us proud.

The 2024 school musical was *High School Musical*, staged in collaboration with Epworth, Pietermaritzburg Girls' High, The Wykeham Collegiate and St John's DSG. A scratch orchestra and a combined cast brought together nearly 100 pupils, performing live across nine shows. The success of this production has set a new standard for future school musicals.

The annual Two Schools in Concert with Michaelhouse was hosted at Hilton College. As is tradition, invited guests, pupils from both schools and parents enjoyed a wide-ranging programme featuring various ensembles and soloists. Around 1,700 people attended the concert – an evening that celebrated the musical talent of both institutions.

The multi-award-winning *A Star is Born*, a production by Wela Kapela Productions, was staged at Hilton College in the third term. A tribute to the late Judy Garland and the Great American Songbook, the show has earned international acclaim at the Edinburgh Festival. Hilton College music staff and a few pupils joined the show band for this special performance, which was presented in a supper theatre format in the Margot Chamberlain Recital Hall and warmly received by the audience.

The Sunday Soirée Concert Series continued successfully in 2024, offering our students the chance to participate in masterclasses and perform alongside professional musicians. The series featured esteemed artists including internationally renowned classical guitarist James Grace, Mr Christopher Duigan, and Hilton College peripatetic staff member Mr Richard Rheeder. A standout event was the ABRSM High Scorers Concert, which showcases the top achievers in each instrumental grade. In 2024, two of our pupils – Ntando Ngcobo and Sabelo Skosana – were invited to perform after scoring above 95% in their Grade 8 Classical Voice Examinations.

Achievements

The annual Pietermaritzburg SASMT Eisteddfod was held in the third term of 2024. Hilton College broke its own record by entering 74 candidates into this event, nearly three times as many entries in any year before. Our boys performed excellently and a record 10 boys were selected to perform in the Best of Eisteddfod concert.

They were Luthando Mbada (piano), Kai Davenport (saxophone), Sanda Futshane (saxophone), Kuphelele Mchunu (saxophone), Iviwe Mnconywa (saxophone), Kelso Bolton (piano), Umi Gwala (piano), Callum Dreyer (saxophone), Ntando Ngcobo (voice) and Joshua Lord (voice).

In 2024, the Music Department began entering pupils into international competitions to broaden their horizons. The first was the UK International Music Competition, an online event open to young musicians worldwide. David Weng and Thabo Mngomezulu competed in the Young Artist piano category, both earning joint second place. David also placed first in the Classical A category and received a special award for stylistic accuracy.

Academics

The IEB matric class of 2024 achieved outstanding results for subject music:

- **Kigen Chepkonga:** 91%
- **Rowan Cox:** 78%
- **Fin Dalrymple:** 87%
- **Sedise Moseneke:** 72%
- **Zipho Mpfu:** 85%
- **Ntando Ngcobo:** 87%
- **Sabelo Skosana:** 83%

The 2024 music appointments were as follows:

• **Choir**

Head: Kigen Chepkonga

Sectional Leaders: Sabelo Skosana, Ntando Ngcobo, Zipho Mpfu, Fin Dalrymple

• **Jazz Band**

Head: Rowan Cox

Deputy: Jarred Maltby

• **Marimbas**

Head: Shailen Naidoo

Deputies: Ivan Jjuuko, Thuto Phakisi

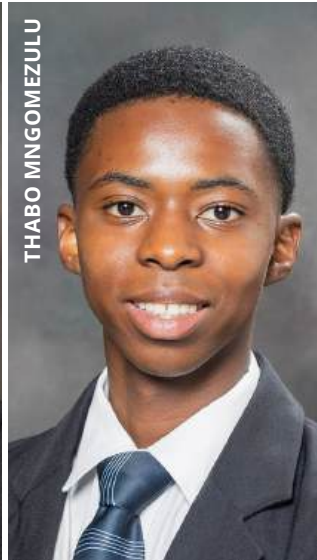
• **String Ensemble**

Head: William Chien

Deputy: Sedise Moseneke

• **Vocal Ensemble**

Head: Sabelo Skosana



Awards for music went to the following boys:

HONOURS:

Zipho Mpfu, Sabelo Skosana, Rowan Cox, Fin Dalrymple

COLOURS:

James Dingley, Ndalo Ngewu, William Lingenfelder, Thabo Mngomezulu

HALF COLOURS:

Rheabetswe Motlhaloga, William Chien

In 2024, many Hilton College musicians sat ABRSM, Trinity College, and Rock School exams – both in person and online – across a range of instruments, from bass guitar, clarinet and drumkit to organ, piano, saxophone and violin. Outstanding results reflect the dedication of our expert music staff.

The pupils who achieved merit or higher were:

Demi Ogunfowora	Bass Guitar	Debut	Distinction
Mvelele Phungo	Drumkit	Debut	Merit
Demi Ogunfowora	Drumkit	Grade 1	Distinction
Ryan Moodley	Classical Piano	Grade 1	Merit
Oarabile Makhubedu	Drumkit	Grade 2	Merit
Jesse Newell	Trumpet	Grade 3	Distinction
Joseph Gichuru	Drumkit	Grade 1	Merit
Raphael Dube	Drumkit	Grade 1	Distinction
Vidal Analo	Drumkit	Grade 1	Distinction
Atlegang Ramutla	Clarinet	Grade 1	Distinction
Zvashe Mhlanga	Classical Piano	Initial & Grade 1	Distinction
Raymond Muleso	Drumkit	Grade 3	Distinction
Raymond Muleso	Saxophone	Grade 1	Distinction
Umi Gwala	Classical Piano	Initial & Grade 1	Distinction
Ore Ogunfowora	Bass Guitar	Grade 2	Distinction
Makwe Motsepe	Violin	Grade 3	Distinction
Jamie Byres	Drumkit	Grade 3	Distinction
Charles Ngunyi	Drumkit	Grade 4	Merit
Ramotse Matime	Drumkit	Grade 5	Merit
Kopano Lekeka	Drumkit	Grade 2	Merit
Iviwe Mnconywa	Saxophone	Grade 3	Distinction
Musawenkosi Mponda	Classical Piano	Grade 3	Merit
Kgosi Sekgobela	Bass Guitar	Grade 4	Merit
Rohan Naidoo	Classical Voice	Grade 8	Distinction
Ndalo Ngewu	Clarinet	Grade 5	Merit
James Dingley	Saxophone	Grade 5	Merit
Mpho Makulana	Bass Guitar	Grade 5	Merit
Thabo Mngomezulu	Classical Piano	Grade 8	Distinction
William Lingenfelder	Classical Voice	Grade 8	Distinction
Rowan Cox	Trombone	Grade 8	Merit
Fin Dalrymple	Classical Voice	Grade 8	Merit
Ntando Ngcobo	Classical Voice	Grade 8	Distinction
Kigen Chepkonga	Classical Voice	Grade 8	Distinction



DAN NEWELL

Staff News

In 2024, great musicians came and left.

Mr Dan Newell joined us as Head of Brass and International Music Relations. Mr Newell is principal cornet (trumpet) with the orchestra of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, and a former member of the London Symphony Orchestra and the London Philharmonic Orchestra. You can hear him playing on over 200 film, TV and video soundtracks including Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings, and Love Actually. He has also played and recorded with artists including Muse, Chris Martin, Florence and the Machine, Sam Smith, The 1975, Peter Gabriel and Sir Paul McCartney. Mr Newell is the creator of Billy's Band and a professor at the Royal College of Music, London.

Mr Sbongumusa Majola joined our peripatetic music staff as brass teacher. He is a tuba player who plays and performs on most brass instruments.

Mrs Helen Vermaak joined our peripatetic music staff as singing teacher responsible for our classical voice students, including those performing diploma programmes. Unfortunately, due to health reasons, Mrs Vermaak left us at the end of 2024 having achieved remarkable results with the matric subject music students.

After five years at Hilton College, Mr Luke Holder left to pursue his musical career. As Theatre Manager and Director of Creative and Performing Arts, he brought expertise across a range of disciplines, teaching music production, classical voice, organ, piano (classical, jazz and contemporary), and music theory. His greatest strength lay in musical productions, where he trained vocalists, oversaw technical design, built sets and directed full-scale shows. Notable productions included *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (2022), *Five Guys Named Moe* (2023), and *High School Musical* (2024). Mr Holder leaves a legacy, and we thank him for his significant contribution to the cultural life of Hilton College.

Mr Brett Udal served Hilton College for 18 years. A violin specialist, he taught generations of young musicians and supported their continued success beyond school. As Head of Department, his dedication and drive led to numerous achievements. Under his leadership, the Hilton College Competition Marimba Band gained national recognition, securing multiple first-place finishes at the International Steel Pan and Marimba Festival. He also founded the Hilton College String Ensemble and Big Band, and consistently guided IEB matric music students to excellent results. His most enduring legacy is the Chamberlain Music Centre – a state-of-the-art facility that became a reality through his vision and commitment. We thank Mr Udal for his lasting impact on music at Hilton and wish him every success in his next chapter.

Joshua Boudan | Director of Music

PHYSICAL SCIENCES

It is a pleasure to report that the matric class of 2024 achieved an average aggregate seven percent higher than the national average.

Our staff are to be commended for their commitment to inspiring and supporting the boys to consistently improving their results. Out of a class of 51 boys, 15 achieved an A, while 12 boys attained a B symbol. In other words, more than half our boys secured an A or B symbol.

Connor Sawyer was awarded the prestigious Ducasse Prize for achieving the highest result in Grade 12 science throughout the year. Both Connor and William Kitching emerged as the top achievers in the final examinations, each attaining an outstanding 91%.

The third cohort of A-Level physics pupils and the second cohort of A-Level chemistry students completed their Cambridge courses in November 2024. William Chien won the Physics prize based on the Trial Examinations. In the external Cambridge examinations, both Charlie Short and William Chien achieved an A* for Physics – an extraordinary accomplishment.

William Kitching, Kigen Chepkonga, and Namisi Opai-Tetteh attended the MIT conference during the Christmas holidays at St John's in Houghton. They delivered an exceptional feedback presentation to the Hilton College boys, which will undoubtedly inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

Prof Liza Coetsee was our distinguished guest speaker for the Basil Crews Science Lecture. She delivered an engaging talk on her research into phosphors, with a focus on improving the efficiency of photovoltaic cells (solar panels).

Mr Luke Holder also delivered an engaging presentation to the school titled *The Application of Applied Mathematics in Marine, Civil, and Mechanical Engineering*. Both lectures were enthusiastically received by the boys, sparking curiosity and lively discussions.

In the second semester of 2024, Mr Kwanele Mgozeli introduced Coding and Robotics into the junior curriculum. From 2025, this exciting offering will be available as an elective for Grade 8 and 9 boys.

The department bids farewell to two members of staff.

After serving at Hilton for seven years, at the end of 2024 my family and I leave Hilton and South Africa. We are heading to Aotearoa (New Zealand) where we will be closer to my family. At the start of the second term in 2025, Mr Fergus Gray will join the department.

Mr Jabulani Kunene will retire at the end of the first term in 2025, after 47 years of dedicated service. As an exceptional lab technician, he has played an integral role in helping our boys conduct experiments that bring to life the theory they learn. He will be fondly remembered by the staff and many Old Hiltonians for his friendly smile and helpful demeanour. His presence in the department will be deeply missed. We wish him great happiness and relaxation in his well-deserved retirement.

A heartfelt thanks to my colleagues for their hard work and dedication.

Tienie van Wyk | Head of Department

VISUAL ARTS

We started the year with an inspiring outing to Clay Brulee, where our Grade 10 and 12 students spent the morning painting ceramic plates based on the theme “Inspired by Nature”. The glazed and fired results reflected the individual expression and creativity of each artist.

In the second term, we hosted our annual joint exhibition with the matric art pupils from St Anne’s. The event drew a large and engaged audience, and guest speaker and renowned pencil artist Vince Reid praised the students’ skill, creativity, and bold choice of subject matter. These combined exhibitions offer valuable opportunities for young artists to showcase their work in a gallery setting, draw inspiration from peers, and engage with the public. The standard of work was exceptional, and the artists represented their schools with pride.

Each year, Grade 10–12 Visual Arts students visit the Tatham Art Gallery in Pietermaritzburg, which curates a selection of matric artwork from local government and independent schools. In 2024, five artists from the Class of 2023 had their art exhibited – Zukhanye Fatyi, Daniel Holtzhauzen, Bunono Jabavu, Hlonie Lethole, and Ruben Marx – highlighting the exceptional quality of their work.

One of the highlights of the third term is the Grade 8–11 Art Exhibition, held on Grandparents Day in the Normand Dunn Gallery and Theatre foyer. This year’s theme, “Inspired by Nature”, was embraced with enthusiasm and showcased string drawings, collages, sculptures, and pen-and-ink studies of plants and animals. The strong family turnout reflected genuine support for our young artists.

In addition to the group exhibitions and outings, we were proud to celebrate the achievements of one of our senior students. James Youens, a Grade 11 pupil, took part in the Hilton Arts Festival and an exhibition at The Old Mushroom Farm in Howick, where he showcased his paintings and drawings alongside established artists – and sold some of his work! His passion for visual arts is evident and his growing profile well deserved. James is a talent to watch.

Panda Art Supplies runs an annual art competition for senior school artists every year and in 2024 Anne Marie Levine judged the competition. Several of our boys’ work was highly commended, including Gabriel Dube, Tom Twiss, Nicholas Wenyika and Banele Phoswa.

To enrich the boys’ understanding of art history, we hosted a series of film evenings featuring films about artists and key periods in art. The Grade 10s, who studied Ancient Roman and Baroque art, were captivated by *Gladiator* and *Angels and Demons*, while the Grade 11s watched *Woman in Gold*, which tells the true story of Maria Altmann and her legal battle to recover Klimt’s *Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer I*, stolen by the Nazis. These evenings are thoroughly enjoyed by both students and teachers, offering an engaging way to connect with art theory.

The Matric Art Exhibition in the fourth term was a delightful celebration of the diverse and creative interpretations of the theme “Truth and Fiction”. Our guest speaker was Tim Barry, a clinical psychologist with a particular interest in how consumerism affects mental health. Tim is an Old Hiltonian who completed his post-matric in 1983 and was head of McKenzie House. He spoke knowledgeably about how technology and social media are negatively impacting the thinking, creativity and mental health



Clay Brulee.



4 matric art boys with Tatham Gallery Educational Officer.



James Youens (Grade 11) exhibiting at the Hilton Arts Festival.

of young people. Tim applauded our boys for their courageous interpretation of the theme.

It was a stimulating year marked by creative growth and notable achievements. I commend the boys for their enthusiasm, willingness to experiment, and commitment to refining their skills. Sincere thanks to Mrs Debbie Veenstra and Mr Herbert Mncwabe for their ongoing support and invaluable contribution to the department.

Angela Salamon | Head of Department

MATRIC ART EXHIBITION

Jonathan Franzen, whom some of you will know from his book *The Corrections*, says that real culture, whether it is music, art, theatre or a good book, will be therapeutic in that it will leave us disquieted. Instead of presenting a premature foreclosure on a subject, art should leave us with an uncomfortable question that lingers and invites us to work through our ambivalence to a meaningful understanding of nuanced realities. Much of what passes for culture in a hyper-capitalist world is palliative in that it soothes and offers glib answers to very complex issues. We are seeing these dynamics played out on political stages by often infantilized men as predicted in the 1980s by Neil Postman in his book *Amusing Ourselves to Death*. He suggested that in a world where books, theatre, art and music lose their currency to mass-produced entertainment, we will see pop stars who think they are politicians and politicians who think they are pop stars.

A large part of being an adult is the ability to articulate what we are feeling, contain uncomfortable feelings without projecting blame onto convenient others, and then, most importantly, act against impulse for a larger good. Unlike the fast, simple, easy solutions embraced by much of contemporary pop culture, meaningful quests are often slow, complex and hard. The works on the wall certainly represent slow, complex and hard. They also represent a great deal of risk.

As the artists watch us scrutinizing their work, they will surely feel exposed. Postman differentiates between entertainment and discipline. While we cannot get better at watching Netflix, discipline-orientated activities involve exercising a skill that improves our mastery. The more we do it, the better we get and there is usually some element of risk. This risk is often a result of engaging with an audience. I think we would all agree that there is risk when a young girl plays the piano for her grandfather at his 70th birthday and I think we would all agree that the young men presenting their work to this audience have taken significant risks that have in particular left some of their parents therapeutically disoriented.

Lastly, can I mention the art department for the work they have done behind the scenes. The great Russian psychologist Lev Vygotsky suggested that education is not a conversation between a learner and an adult's past. Rather education is a conversation between a learner and their future, and we see the results of how the art department has brokered these intimate conversations in front of us.

Thank you to Mrs Salamon for inviting me today and can we end by applauding the men who have produced the work on display. Thank you.

Tim Barry





STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

In 2024 we welcomed educational psychologist Mr Luke Bartholomew to our team. Mr Bartholomew graduated from the University of KwaZulu-Natal and brings to the department experience as a lecturer of psychology for the South African College of Applied Psychology, as well as psychological assessment and counselling expertise working in boys' schools. Prior to his appointment at Hilton, he taught English in South Korea for two years which has greatly enriched his experiences both from an educational and a social psychology perspective.

Mr Bartholomew took over from clinical psychologist Mr Michael Pitchford who emigrated to the United Kingdom in June 2023. Since his appointment in January 2024, Mr Bartholomew has built strong relationships with boys across all five grades at Hilton and we have seen a significant increase in boys making use of the psychological counselling services available to them at school. Mr Bartholomew plays an integral role in the boarding context and has been the driving force behind a number of mental health initiatives, including "Be Curious, Not Judgemental", which challenged the boys not to underestimate others, but to be curious about their peers and who they really are, as opposed to being judgemental in their interactions and making assumptions about one another.

From an academic perspective, the Student Development Centre reaped the rewards of many years of investing in the boys who chose to make use of the academic support services that we offer. Mrs Adèle Wentzel, Miss Emma Bray and I worked closely with the Grade 12 students enrolled in the academic support programme this year, with the shared goal of helping each boy work towards the academic targets he had set for his final examinations.

In close collaboration with department heads, subject teachers, the sports department, housemasters, Connect leaders, and parents, the boys who remained committed to their academic support plans achieved exceptional results.

The class of 2024 stands as a testament to what can be achieved – even in the face of significant challenges – when a system works collaboratively and effectively. We challenge the class of 2025 to build on this legacy of hard work and commitment in their pursuit of becoming the best version of themselves.

Dr Janna de Gouveia | Head of Department

LIBRARY

Our library continues to serve as a hub for learning, collaboration, and community engagement. In 2024, we focused on enhancing resources, fostering creativity, and providing a supportive environment for students and faculty.

We made significant strides in 2024. New acquisitions included an array of books, journals, and digital resources, broadening the library's appeal and usefulness to students and staff. Programmes and events were a highlight of the year, from "I Love My Library" in February to Mathematics Week and National Literacy Month. Library Week in March also drew considerable participation. Notably, the library surpassed last year's average circulation with 4 800 titles loaned, reflecting growing engagement with our resources.

Collaboration remained a central theme, with strengthened partnerships with teachers, particularly the Maths Department,

which accounted for the highest number of book requests and reviews. Their relocation to the Centenary Centre has improved the library's visibility and accessibility. The library has begun aligning its initiatives with the UN calendar to incorporate global themes into classroom learning across various subjects. Plans are also under way to work with alumni authors to highlight career options, encourage reading, and reinforce Hilton Ties.

The library's impact was evident in its usage and engagement statistics. Operating from 07:30 to 16:30 during the day and from 18:50 to 19:50 after school with the assistance of library monitors, it remained a vibrant space for students and staff. More than 3 000 books were borrowed in the first semester, spanning fiction, non-fiction, and research materials. Participation in external events, such as local librarians' meetings at St John's, further strengthened our network and visibility.

Students often describe the library as a "safe space" and are frequently reluctant to leave. The recent addition of a water dispenser has further improved the user experience. Teachers have also praised the library's calm, structured atmosphere, highlighting its valuable role in supporting both academic work and student well-being.

While 2024 was a year of progress, challenges persisted. Limited funding restricted the acquisition of new materials, and balancing academic and recreational reading priorities remains an ongoing effort. Delays in completing office renovations hindered full functionality. Despite these obstacles, the library staff remained steadfast in their commitment to delivering quality services and fostering a thriving learning environment.

The library's operations in 2024 reflect the dedication of the library team and the support of the school community. As we look to 2025, we are excited to continue growing and evolving to meet the needs of boys and staff. Thank you to everyone who contributes to making the library a thriving and vital part of Hilton College.

Moirá Gundu | Head Librarian

DEBATING

2024 was a highly successful year for Hilton College Debating. We entered four teams into the Pietermaritzburg Debating League, two junior teams and two senior teams. In the senior league, Hilton 1 – comprising Shailen Naidoo, Munashe Musora and Jack Weavind – advanced to the break rounds and made it to the quarter-finals. In the junior league, Hilton 1 – comprising Layton Stokes, Ntsika Kleinbooi and Raphael Dube – achieved even greater success making it to the finals, which was hosted at Hilton College. Unfortunately, despite their best efforts and a well-argued case, the junior team narrowly lost the finals.

A special mention goes to Layton Stokes who was selected to represent the Pietermaritzburg Debating League at the KwaZulu-Natal trials. He was subsequently chosen to represent the province and went on to participate in the National Trials in December as part of Team KZN.

Overall, it was a season marked by competitive excellence, personal growth, and strong team spirit. The boys consistently challenged themselves, refined their skills, and proudly upheld the Hilton College tradition of debating excellence.

Tarryn Daly | Debating

THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD

The President's Award is more than a badge – it's a powerful journey of personal growth, resilience, and achievement. As part of the internationally renowned Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme, this prestigious award opens doors for our boys, giving them a distinct edge when applying for acceptance at university and for scholarships.

What makes the President's Award so special? It's a journey that challenges young men to step out of their comfort zones and grow in every area of life. Through service, skills development, physical recreation, and the unforgettable adventurous journey provided by the school's Outdoor Leadership Experience programme, participants build character, discover their potential, and learn the true value of leadership, commitment, and community.

With three progressive levels – bronze, silver, and gold – the programme is open to boys from the age of 14 and can be joined at any stage, depending on age and readiness.

It was incredibly inspiring to see so many of our boys rise to the challenge in 2024, especially those who completed the demanding silver and gold levels. Their dedication, perseverance, and enthusiasm are truly commendable.

Congratulations to the following boys, who were awarded their certificates and badges in 2024.

GOLD:

Wim Ebersohn, Charlie Short, Sung Su, Joshua Julius, William Kitching, Ntando Ngcobo, Joshua Dube, Namisi Opai-Tetteh, Luke Spear, Fin Dalrymple, Harry Jarvie

SILVER:

Ivan Jjuuko, Kenyu Chiang, Mholi Khuzwayo, Khumo Lobelo, James Peattie, Darryn Bridgeford, Luke Wilson, Matthew Wilson, Liyema Zond, William Segar, Raphael Dube, Karl Senanu, Seriti Bannalotle, Olufemi Oyeka, Oscar Franco

BRONZE:

Duncan van Niekerk, Rex Holdsworth, Zachery Ichikowitz, Kelso Bolton, Luthando Mbada, Dougal Carr, Ryan Grobler

To achieve each level of the President's Award, boys must dedicate significant time to developing a skill, participating in regular physical activity, engaging in community service, and completing an adventurous journey. For many, these challenges align naturally with the rhythm of school life – from being a member of a sports team and participating in cultural activities to engaging in community outreach and taking on leadership roles.

However, the gold level takes it a step further. In addition to the core elements, boys must undertake a unique and transformative experience known as the residential project. This involves spending five days and four nights in an unfamiliar setting, fully immersed in purposeful, meaningful work alongside people they've never met. Whether it's volunteering in a rural village, assisting with environmental projects, or supporting a youth programme, the experience is often life-changing – pushing boys beyond their comfort zones and deepening their understanding of service, independence, and global citizenship.

Juliet Morulane | Award Leader



WIM EBERSOHN



CHARLIE SHORT



SUNG SU



JOSHUA JULIUS



WILLIAM KITCHING



NTANDO NGCOBO



JOSHUA DUBE



NAMISI OPAI-TETTEH



LUKE SPEAR



FIN DALRYMPLE



HARRY JARVIE

Community Partnerships



Our Community Partnerships programme, established in 2023, has made strong progress in fostering relationships between our school and local community. The programme provides educational and experiential opportunities for boys from Grade 8 to 12 to engage meaningfully with under-resourced communities.

Through collaboration with local organisations such as iThemba Projects, Thembelihle School, Angels' Care and Love Howick, Hilton College boys have been exposed to the challenges and the joys of giving of their time while growing in their understanding of the responsibility that comes with privilege.

The programme expanded significantly in scope and scale in 2024, with every boarding house taking part in rotations for four weeks at a time. Boys had regular opportunities to coach sport at Thembelihle School or be involved in after-school activities at Angels' Care. These interactions enabled the boys to form meaningful connections with the children they coached, fostering personal growth and mutual development.

Making sandwiches for the children at Angels' Care on Saturday mornings has proved to be particularly meaningful for our boys. Knowing that, for many of the children, it's their only meal of the day has given our boys a deeper awareness of the daily challenges faced by so many South Africans.

Feedback from boys involved in the programme illustrate how transformative these experiences have been:

"Dropping off sandwiches makes you think about how easy it is to help, even with something small," reflected one boy.

"It's more than just coaching – it's about connecting. Seeing their smiles when we arrive is the best part of my week," said another.

"When you see how little these kids have and how much joy they get from just playing soccer, it changes how you see the world."

These reflections highlight how Community Partnerships is not only helping the children cared for by our partner organisations, but also profoundly shaping our boys' perspectives and understanding of life beyond the Hilton College gates.

Expanding our Programme

Heartbeat Days provide extended time for community service. We have used these days to get involved in clean-up projects in collaboration with Love Howick and to spend time with children from Angels' Care. We received a lot of positive feedback from our partner organisations and will continue to use these days to serve in our community. During the third term, our Grade 9 boys participated in community projects at Thembelihle School, Angels' Care, ACAT, and Love Howick. Highlights included hosting Angels' Care children on the Hilton Estate for their first wildlife experience. Through various activities – teaching, cooking, and playing – the boys developed empathy, teamwork, and a deeper understanding of community engagement. Our Grade 11 boys also contributed during Leadership Week at ACAT in Lidgetton, gaining insights into food security initiatives while working on the farm and connecting with the local community. These experiences broadened the boys' perspectives on contributing locally and globally.

Additionally, our Art Department worked with boys to complete a mural at Thembelihle School, adding colour and vibrancy to the children's playground. And our cricket players joined 64 pupils from Thembelihle School for the KFC Mini-Cricket Festival at the

Pietermaritzburg Oval. Each Hilton College boy was assigned a team to coach, fostering a sense of mentorship and sportsmanship. Lastly, more than 70 of our boys hosted and helped sponsor a Christmas party for the children at Angels' Care and Thembelihle.

Ethical Leadership as a Subject

The Ethical Leadership offering has been a significant addition to our academic programme, particularly for Grades 8 and 9. It was also extended to include all Grade 11s, with this module featuring within Life Orientation lessons. This provides a structured environment for boys to reflect and process their relevance in the world and examine how Hilton College's core values can be applied to real-life situations. The discussions in these sessions have fostered a deeper understanding of ethics, empowering our boys to contribute meaningfully to the world.

Sport for Lives Campaigns

Hilton boys have demonstrated exceptional commitment to raising funds and awareness through various Sport for Lives campaigns. The Run for Rangers, led by Old Hiltonian Harry Bailey, inspired three boys to collectively run 270 km in two days, raising more than R33,000 for Project Rhino. A 24-hour swim in honour of cancer survivor Mitchel Garreau raised more than R90,000 for CHOC, funding essential items for CHOC House and Grey's Hospital. This event saw 84 participants complete a remarkable 6,686 laps,

covering 167 km. The Run for Richter raised more than R5,000 for the Singakwenza Foundation, supporting Early Childhood Development centres. Additionally, the 1st XI hockey team's Goals for Lives campaign garnered over R11,000 for new sports facilities at Mountain Homes School, facilitated by Restoration Hope. These campaigns reflect the boys' dedication to making a tangible difference in their communities.

Key Stats for 2024:

- More than 10,000 sandwiches made
- Approximately R500,000 raised by our boys
- Seven houses involved
- More than 1,500 hours of service
- Eight NPOs served in our community
- Every grade gave at least one day to community service.

In 2024, our boys were involved in more than 200 visits to and countless meaningful relationship-building moments within our local community. It is evident that through the Community Partnerships programme, there has been a positive shift in the culture of our school. We are proud of all those boys who have selflessly served the community. Our partner organisations have all been impacted by the spirit of generosity shown by our boys.

Chris Kingsley | Director of Community Partnerships



Outdoor Leadership Experience

GRADE 8 OLE

On Sunday, 15 September 2024, our Grade 8 boys set off on an unforgettable five-day outdoor adventure within the breathtaking expanse of our nature reserve. This camp was more than a retreat – it was a rite of passage, designed to foster independence, resilience, and lasting friendships.

Excitement buzzed as the boys, grouped into teams of 14–16 from various houses, settled into their campsites, eager for the journey ahead. Camping side by side in tents, they learned the value of teamwork and the importance of relying on one another. Miss Charissa Steenkamp's guidance helped them master camp cooking, from baking bread to crafting a hearty potjie-kos, sparking pride in every dish shared over campfires.

A challenging two-day, 20-kilometre hike brought new landscapes into view as the boys trekked from Bennies and Beacons to Mncwabe's and C16, facing the physical trials with grit and camaraderie. Along the way, they immersed themselves in the natural beauty of the Hilton estate, an experience many described as eye-opening and awe-inspiring. The hike strengthened bonds within each group, as the boys encouraged each other to persevere through every hill and valley.

Daily activities like "Initiatives" taught critical lessons in teamwork and leadership, while "Poachers and Rangers" kept spirits high with friendly competition. Showers became a celebrated luxury, with even the simplest warm water providing comfort and laughter. River pools offered refreshing escapes, where boys joyfully built rock dams and engaged with their environment in creative, hands-on ways.

Under the mentorship of Mr Deren Coetzer, from Conservation Outcomes, and snake expert Mr Pat McKrill, the boys deepened their understanding of veld management, ethical wildlife conservation and snake safety – lessons as vital as any taught in the classroom. These experts made abstract concepts tangible, encouraging conversations about our role as stewards of the natural world.

This camp would not have been possible without the dedication of the Hilton College Conservation team, led by Mr Michael Mill and Victor Mchunu and the support of Peter Symons, our farm manager, who ensured campsites and trails were well-prepared. Mr Nhlanhla Shelembe's meticulous organization of guides and medical support from Rencor First Aid kept our boys safe every step of the way.

Through it all, the Grade 8 group embodied resilience, responsibility, and maturity, showing they are well-prepared for leadership roles. This camp wasn't just an adventure; it was a pivotal step in their Hilton journey, and the lessons they learned – about nature, teamwork, and themselves – will undoubtedly remain with them.

Claude Roland Pitout | Grade 8 OLE Co-ordinator



GRADE 9 OLE

We often learn the most about ourselves when we face challenges that push us beyond our comfort zones. This year, our focus was on understanding how our personal wants impact the needs of others while also preparing the boys for their Grade 10 Journey.

We were privileged to be hosted by the Spirit of Adventure team at Nyala Pans and the Roselands Nature Reserve, surrounded by breathtaking scenery, indigenous bush, and the beautiful Umkhomazi River.

The adventure began with the boys being dropped off eight kilometres from camp. Armed with a map, they had to navigate their way to checkpoints to earn currency, which they then used to purchase ingredients for their dinner. This exercise was an early lesson in prioritizing group needs over individual desires and understanding the consequences of their decisions. While a few boys initially felt frustrated upon reaching camp, reflection helped them realize that choices made for the collective good often yield the best outcomes. That evening, after learning how to cook a potjie, the boys set up camp along the banks of the Umkhomazi River. Their efforts were well rewarded, as the potjie meals turned out to be a great success.

The second day was packed with water-based challenges. The boys participated in a water course that included kayaking in inflatable rafts, crossing fast-flowing river sections, navigating

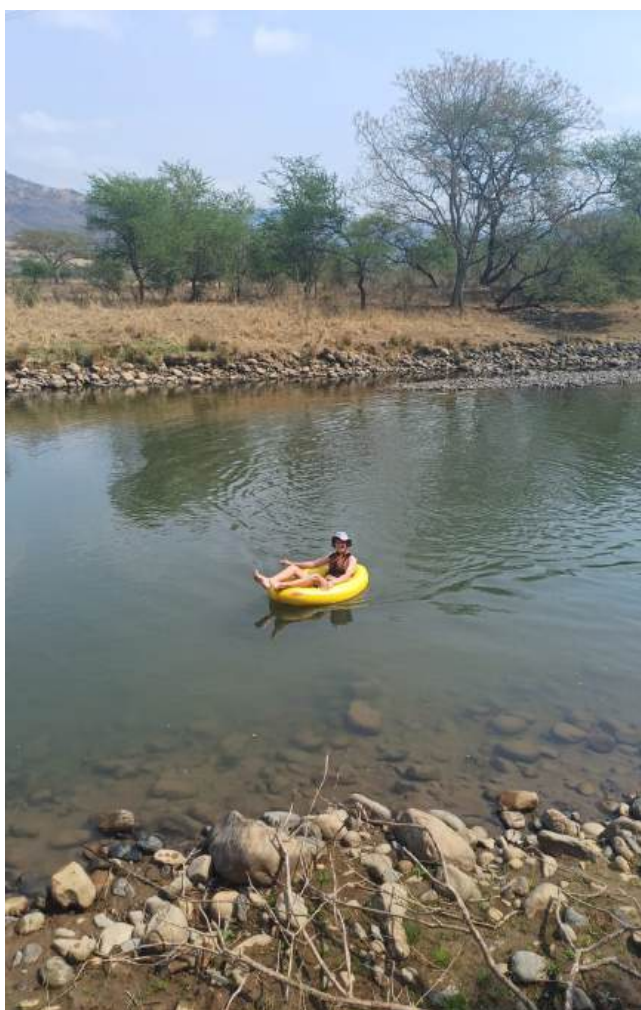
rapids, and mastering shallow diving from various heights. This day emphasized resilience, adaptability, and teamwork.

The third day featured the much-anticipated “Boys to Men” hike – a demanding 22-kilometre trek, including a gruelling nine-kilometre uphill stretch, all while carrying their own equipment. The focus of the day was on grit, perseverance, and supporting one another. The sense of accomplishment was palpable, and the reward of a well-earned mac-and-cheese lunch was met with unanimous appreciation – it was, by all accounts, the best they had ever had! The journey concluded at Roselands, where the boys participated in a reflective debrief, discussing the lessons they had learned along the way.

Although we were unable to spend the night at Roselands due to time constraints, the impact of the camp was clear. Conversations about personal growth, new friendships, and overcoming adversity were strong indicators that the experience had fulfilled its purpose.

A heartfelt thank you to the Spirit of Adventure team and the Hilton College staff who went above and beyond to make this camp an unforgettable and meaningful experience for all involved.

Michael Werth | Grade 9 OLE Co-ordinator



The Outdoor Leadership Experience for the Grade 10s involves Isivivane, commonly known as the Journey. Now well established and part of Hilton's culture, it is respected by our boys and is something that they look forward to. In 2024, for possibly for the first time, all boys who started the Journey finished it. What an amazing outcome and reflection of the dedication and commitment of all involved, as well as the determination and grit shown by the boys.

With the school's positioning it is an absolute privilege to be able to simply walk out of the Wild Gardens into the great unknown of the Karkloof and uMgeni valleys. This provides our boys with a truly unique adventure and unparalleled sense of achievement, when they return 15 days later and stand on the same spot they left from. Placing their stones on the Isivivane and leaving their mark on the school forever. Without fully realising it, the relationships created, self-awareness and perspective gained during this time in the wilderness have also left a mark on our boys. This is why we journey.

In 2024, we retained much of the format and routes used in previous years with one significant change: boys were given maps of their routes and were expected to self-navigate. There has been a drive for this to be a more realistic journey, as opposed to playing follow the leader. We are moving in that direction, and I look forward to it becoming a greater challenge for the boys in the years to come. Unfortunately, the weather didn't play along. Terrible runaway wildfires in the Karkloof in the months before our start left many areas devastated. We were subject to a very

cold snap in the middle of our journey, resulting in a few groups being re-routed and some spending nearly 48 hours in barns. Fortunately, we had completed the journey before a major snowfall in the Karkloof. This is part and parcel of the experience and added to the uniqueness of each boy's journey. Fortunately we never encountered any major injuries or difficulties and as always, we learnt from the experience.

Once again, this endeavour would not be possible without the logistical help and support of our partners the WESSA team at the uMgeni Nature Reserve and Wild Health medical services, who provide amazing support and care for the boys and the dedicated Hilton College staff members. Access to land is always tricky and we are blessed to have the ability to walk through and stay on many different properties in the Karkloof. Thank you to all landowners.

Personally, it was a challenge and a privilege to co-ordinate this journey for the first time, learning from and building on all the work that has been done before. I look forward to many more adventures on the journey.

James Robey | OLE Co-ordinator



GRAEME EVANS

Farewell by Anze Goodwin

Trying to sum up Graeme's legacy in a few minutes feels like attempting to solve a five-mark Maths question in two lines – it's just not going to happen.

Graeme, your reputation precedes you. An accomplished examiner with the IEB, Olympiad setter, moderator, author (yes, my school Maths books literally had your name on them!), and an all-around mathematical powerhouse – your CV is basically a "flex", as the boys would say.

Since your arrival at Hilton as the Director of Mathematics, you haven't just improved our Maths results; you've transformed them. You've challenged us in PD sessions, inspired us to aim higher, and raised the bar. Beyond the Maths Department, your contributions to the Vula programme, golf club, and hockey table duty, among other areas, have been immense. But this speech isn't just about your achievements – it's about honouring you as a person.

I asked our Maths department and a few friends to describe you in a word or two, and here's what came back: Graeme is "wisdom in action" and "a compass of compassion". He is gentle yet a fearsome challenge to anyone who doesn't think critically. He is eccentric in the best way possible. He has an analytical, enquiring mind that seeks to truly understand and know. You're a kind, straightforward mentor who nurtures and trusts growing talent. One colleague described you as erudite and quick-witted, someone who surprises people by being approachable when they initially thought you'd be intimidatingly brilliant. (Spoiler alert: you're both.)

You're ingenious, understanding, inquisitive, and... super Welsh. Apparently, being Welsh means warm, personable, and capable of whipping out a guitar to lead worship at the drop of a hat. Who knew?



You've carried so much weight in this department – not just with your expertise but with your humility and kindness. Whether it was taking on an excessive amount of batting or shielding us from "overenthusiastic" parents, you've left a mark that goes far beyond numbers and equations. Colleagues have shared how much they have loved working with you and wished it could have been for longer.

On a personal note, Graeme, you've been an incredible friend. Over the past two years, I've grown very fond of you. Your encouragement,

quiet strength, and grounded nature have been a true answer to prayer. You've stood by me through tough times and good ones, always offering wisdom and support.

As you head off to be closer to your family and take on your new role as Academic Head at Lebone II College of the Royal Bafokeng, we know you'll create yet another massive positive impact. God's hand has guided you this far, and we're certain He will continue to do so.

Thank you for being unapologetically yourself: the legend, the leader, and the friend we've all come to respect. You will be sorely missed – and please don't stop speaking up at IEB exam feedback sessions, saying what the rest of us are only brave enough to think!

I want to leave you with the words you sang so beautifully at the Leavers' Ceremony. May they resonate deeply as you step into this new season:

"Shepherd of my soul, I give You full control,
Wherever You may lead, I will follow."

Thank you, Graeme.

GRAEME ROBERTS

Farewell by Chris Kingsley

Today, we gather to celebrate the wonderful career of Graeme Lester Roberts – teacher, mentor, colleague, and friend. Over the past 13 years, Graeme has been an integral part of Hilton College, leaving an indelible mark on our school and its people.

From the very start, Graeme has been more than just an English (and, more recently, LO) teacher. He is, and will always be, the "funky dad" of the English department. His flair for eccentricity – whether interrupting meetings from the back corner with some left-field thinking or rocking leopard-print hot pants without a hint of shame while training for another 100miler – has brought much joy and colour to our lives. His presence reminds us of the value of authenticity: being unapologetically true to oneself. And then there's his sense of style... or, perhaps more accurately, his fearless lack of it!



From hairy Movember handles to waistcoats paired with trail-running shoes, Graeme has proven that confidence is the best accessory. Yet beneath the flamboyance is a man of deep humility and wisdom, always thinking of others and leading in his, often-overlooked, areas with courage and intuition. The wise old owl won everyone over in the department... even our compliant rebel, Nick.

Graeme's journey in and arm-wrestle with education has taken him from Queensburgh Boys' (seven years) to Kloof High (seven years),

Thomas More (seven years), and finally to the College of Knowledge. He has lived a life dedicated to learning and teaching, while his encyclopaedic knowledge of English literature – whether making poetry come alive or transforming dense texts into page-turners – has inspired generations of students and colleagues alike.

Who else could make Hamlet sound like a gripping crime drama or persuade sceptical teenagers that poetry isn't just about rhyming words but is the essence of life itself? Graeme could, and he would, soldier on valiantly despite the obstacles faced in the last lesson of the day!

Graeme's impact extends far beyond the classroom, wearing many hats with grace and gusto. He's been a deputy housemaster in Lucas, a type of coach on the cricket field, and an important father figure on several Grade 10 Journeys. Graeme has exemplified the values of a steadfast schoolmaster. His 1000s of hours of dedication to directing several productions, including: *An Inspector Calls*, *The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole*, *Macbeth*, *Hamlet*, *The Outsiders* and leading the debating club have inspired countless students to find their voices – on stage and in life. Under his mentorship, Hilton's debating team transformed into a powerhouse, and I'm convinced that our competitors were terrified simply at the thought of Graeme appearing as an adjudicator or a coach.

I've had the privilege of team-teaching with Graeme, and it was wonderful to observe the lesson and contribute only by greeting the class! His depth of knowledge and understanding of the English language is unmatched, and I've learned so much from him over the years.

But Graeme's impact wasn't limited to teaching and coaching. His tales of the Comrades Marathon, and his passion for gardening – a “meditative” pursuit that might have occasionally doubled as an essay-marking avoidance strategy – made him an

unforgettable presence in the staffroom. His humour, energy, and ability to connect with others have enriched our lives in immeasurable ways. Furthermore, his willingness to challenge the status quo, intentionally and deliberately but always respectfully and inclusively, has taught us to think more critically. His presentation at the IBSC Conference in Vancouver, Canada, entitled: *Identity Formation in Boarding* sums up his conviction and pursuit of nurturing young men to become more empathetic and understanding of the complex world around them.

Graeme, congrats on making the bold decision to follow your dreams and embrace early retirement. We know this is not a farewell to your boundless energy and passion. These will only increase. As you step into this new chapter, may it be filled with the joys of hosting in your Airbnbs, creating memories with your best friend Dom and special dogs, living care-free off the grid, exploring new trails, or tackling a DIY project with or without a dodgy contractor, and, of course, the peace of knowing the difference you've made in education. We are confident you'll bring the same zeal that has defined your journey so far. Your legacy will live on, not just in the halls of Hilton but in the lives of every student, colleague, and friend you've touched. You have stood your ground and been unwavering in your belief in a more inclusive world full of grace and free from judgement. We can all learn from you in this regard, and we are better for having known you.

Thank you for your service to Hilton College and especially boys' education. We salute you, Graeme Lester Roberts – a courageous educator, a maverick, and an enduring inspiration.

BRETT UDAL

Farewell by Bruce MacLachlan

Over the past 17 years, Brett has been fully involved in the life of the school, including ensuring that his two sons had a Hilton education. He is respected in the music teaching community and was an early adopter of technology in teaching. Before the rest of us came to grips with the concept of electronic textbooks, Brett had already pioneered these and other teaching technologies in the music department.



What has impressed me about his time here is that he has always been willing to contribute to various functions of the school by playing his violin, whether at concerts, playing with small ensembles, speech day, chapel services or being in the violin line with a visiting orchestra. Brett's happy space is when he is making music; today's concert could not have been a more appropriate farewell for him.

Brett is moving on to some wonderful challenges in the years to come, and I know he will make a great success of his new venture in the Highway area. We will miss you, Brett.

Thank you and farewell from me and your colleagues.



TIENTIE VAN WYK

Forewell by Mike Green

Tienie's departure marks the end of an era of 20 years of Van Wyk teachers in the Science Department. Dave van Wyk was replaced by Shaun van Wyk who was replaced by Tienie van Wyk, who until yesterday we hadn't secured a replacement for, and in so many ways I really think that Tienie can't be replaced.

I first met Tienie in his online interview at the end of 2017. In the interview I asked him if he had any family, to which he replied, "Yes, I'm married to my lovely wife, Sere-né, and our two babies are at the clinic today undergoing a procedure."

I didn't quite follow his answer... but as Tienie was involved with the SA schools' tug-of-war team we reckoned that he must know something about forces, tensions, friction and Newton's Laws so he was appointed, despite him having not taught science before.

A few weeks later he and Sere-né came to the school (without any babies) and we held a braai to welcome them. At some point in the evening there was a lull in the conversation and I said, "How are your babies after their procedure at the clinic?" Tienie responded, "Ag no, Mike, they are our dogs!" To which everyone had a good laugh at my expense. That was the first of many, many laughs over the ensuing years.

I sat in on a few of Tienie's classes in the early days. What was immediately obvious was that we had uncovered a science teaching whiz! His planning was meticulous, his explanations were spot on, there was and always is mutual respect between him and his pupils, and his class environment was fun and most conducive to learning.

About two years into Tienie's time at Hilton (early 2020) he told me that he was resigning. Waarheen gaan jy, Tienie?... "Shiplake College in England". Goeie genade Tienie, dit klink baie fancy!

So we advertised for a science teacher to join us from April 2020. Just as Covid was creeping ever closer, so was the closing date for applications and things were looking rather thin. Tienie phoned me at that time, sounding very excited: "Mike, I've found a science teacher and he's quite good."

"Oh lekker, tell me more about the ou."

"Well, firstly he's a Van Wyk".

"No ways, nog 'n Van Wyk. A good Van Wyk will be brilliant. Tienie, what else can you tell me about him?"

To which he replied: "He knows a bit about toutrek!"

And with that, Tienie, Sere-né and Nicholas (luckily for us and I think for them too) stayed put as the world went into lockdown.

Over the years Tienie has occupied various positions at the school. Assistant housemaster of Churchill for three years. I believe he was referred to as the General when on duty and I can imagine why. He's organised, efficient and things happen correctly under his watch.

He saw in the introduction of "agric" in Grade 8 and 9, with boys even producing edible vegetables. He coached cricket, and he has been the U14A rugby coach for the past five years. He acted as the master in charge of squash for two years. He also took on the organisation of the Grade 8 OLE camp. All of these responsibilities he handled with aplomb, always making sure that things were well-organised, properly done and people were enjoying themselves.



Towards the end of Tienie's fifth year I felt that this young buck was coming through quite strongly, and I was comfortable to step aside and hand over the running of the department to him. Well, no sooner had the congratulatory cheering, high-fiving, back slapping and champagne cork popping died down, than the science resignations starting coming in. A thin trickle in the beginning, just one or two. However, this trickle grew and became a raging torrent and before long there was a massive pile of resignations on George's desk. Everyone in the department resigned

except for the two of us! As a scientist I'm just presenting the facts; you draw your own conclusions...

In truth, Tienie has been an absolutely outstanding HOD. He has been super organised and super caring. What a treat to have him as my boss. He is also highly efficient; if something needed to be done, it would get done pronto and properly.

The school very kindly allowed me some time off in the 2nd term last year. Besides the exam period, I was also going to miss about two and a half weeks of classes. The plan to cover my lessons started falling apart with the resignations. At one point I said to Tienie, "I think I should cancel my tickets and try do my trip another time." He immediately responded by saying, "No, Mike. Don't worry, soos boere sal ons a lekker plan maak." Well, we made a lekker plan which worked really well... I cycled through France while Tienie taught my classes! Such is the nature of the man that he was happy to do that for me and I'll never forget his kindness for that and so many other things.

On Tienie as teacher:

Connor Sawyer said: "Mr Van Wyk was more than just a teacher to us. He was an exemplary role model."

Jarred Kitto: "Mr Van Wyk, what a legend of a teacher. Your enthusiasm is infectious. As a student there is nothing better than having a teacher who is so engaged with their students."

Kigen Chepkongo: "He's a phenomenal teacher, but what really got me through the past two years was getting a laugh out of a subject that is typically known for causing boys a lot of pain."

Zipho Mphofu: "A teaching atmosphere that is truly one of a kind."

Troy Bailey: "He often would turn your average school day into one of those days you'll fondly remember."

Mitchel Wilson was in Tienie's Connect Group and says: "He has been a fantastic tutor who has always been willing to help and go the extra mile if you needed help with anything."

Tienie and Sere-né, it has been an absolute pleasure having you as part of the Hilton College family, as well as your delightful boys, Nicholas and Migail.

Tienie, baie dankie vir die vriendskap, vir die pret, die koffie geselsies, die braais en potjies. Baie dankie vir alles wat jy vir Hilton College gedoen en beteken het. Ons wens julle alles van die beste toe, en ek sien uit daarna om julle in Nieu Seeland te kom besoek.

Tot weer siens. Vaarwel my vriend!





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Sport

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4

The year 2024 was an exceptional one for our sports programme, marked by passion, determination, and remarkable achievements across a wide range of disciplines.

Our athletes, coaches, and support staff exemplified commitment, teamwork, and the values of our institution, leaving a legacy of success.

Our water polo teams shone brightly, with the 1st team finishing in the top four in four major tournaments, holding their own against the nation's best. Their success reflects the dedication of both players and coaches, setting a high standard for future athletes.

The 1st hockey team solidified their place among South Africa's top five, thanks to exceptional teamwork and strategic play. Their sportsmanship and camaraderie were inspiring, and their success is a testament to the programme's strength and the commitment of its coaches.

Basketball saw tremendous growth, with the 1st team delivering strong performances and the U14A and U15A teams showing immense potential. This progress highlights the depth of talent within our programme and the coaches' emphasis on skills development.

Despite challenges, our rugby teams demonstrated resilience and finished the season on a high. Their journey reminded us that success is about growth, unity, and character, supported by the guidance of dedicated coaches.

Soccer continued to thrive, with teams across all age groups showing remarkable improvement and enthusiasm. Their dedication and camaraderie resulted in a successful season, reflecting a well-rounded programme that focuses on skill and sportsmanship.

Our cricket teams had another stellar year, with the 1st team delivering outstanding performances and younger players showing great promise. The programme's strength is a result of meticulous planning and the players' dedication to excellence.

Our golf club had a successful year with players putting in strong performances and showing a commitment to precision and sportsmanship.

Our canoeing club performed exceptionally at regional and national levels and our rowing club enjoyed success at a number of regattas.

Our tennis players excelled in matches and tournaments, showcasing skill and a drive for improvement, while our squash players put in dynamic performances, showing technical mastery.

A number of our swimmers broke personal records and achieved outstanding results in individual and team events, and our athletes outdid themselves in track and field events.

These successes, driven by the tireless efforts of athletes and coaches, inspire pride and set the stage for even greater accomplishments in 2025.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making 2024 exceptional.

Matthew Fairweather | Sports Administrator



ATHLETICS TEAM

Back row: Khetsa Motsa, Dominic van Aardt, Guy Fender, Callum Dreyer, Morné Engelbrecht, Requilme Adonis

Middle row: Tomupeishe Gurupira, Goodson Chirwa, Njabulo Abe, Zvashe Mhlanga, Alessandro Valente

Front row: James Fender, Mr De Wet Wentzel, Amahle Seima, Joshua Julius, Mr Kelvin Tembu, Jack Henderson

Looking back on the 2024 athletics season, we're proud to celebrate a year of success marked by achievements and strong sportsmanship.

The season started with the aQuelle Spring Series, which gave our athletes valuable opportunities to compete at different levels. This initiative fostered growth, teamwork, and many memorable experiences.

Key achievements include the selection of Tomupeishe Gurupira and Njabulo Abe for the KZN Schools team. Abe went on to represent the province at the SA Schools Athletics Championship in Paarl. Later in the year, Morné Engelbrecht represented Hilton College at the Top 10 Championship in Potchefstroom, placing third in both the 110m hurdles and 400m hurdles.

Additionally, Callum Dreyer earned KZN colours for cross country and represented the province at the South African Cross Country Championships.

We also want to commend all our athletes for their hard work and determination throughout the season. Your dedication and positive attitude have been key to this year's success.

A special thanks to our coaches and officials, whose guidance and commitment ensured the smooth running of every event. Their efforts have been instrumental in helping our athletes achieve their best.

We are proud of what our athletes and team accomplished in 2024 and look forward to an even more successful 2025. Thank you to everyone who contributed to making this season a success!

De Wet Wentzel | MIC Athletics

It was a highly successful and rewarding start to 2024 for the Basketball Club. We were excited to welcome the junior athletes to the club, who came out in large numbers, demonstrating an increasing passion for the sport. The under-14 age group, in particular, has seen remarkable growth, and we had to accommodate seven (A to G) teams initially. However, due to logistical constraints in schools, we had to reduce this to six teams (A to F). Despite this, the overall growth of the club, both in terms of numbers and performance, has been impressive.

The club's ethos of ensuring that each player has a tailored plan for development continues to have a positive impact on our culture. This focus on individual growth has fostered an environment where players are eager to learn, improve, and compete at a higher level, rather than simply engaging in casual or social play. One of the key strategies that has contributed to this shift is the integration of A-team coaches with the lower teams. This move has been instrumental in elevating the performance and competitive mindset of our younger athletes, helping them build their skills and motivation to strive for higher achievements.

One of the most encouraging aspects of the season has been seeing athletes from the lower teams progress to higher levels of competition. Both in Term 1 and Term 4, we witnessed several players make the jump to higher teams, a clear reflection of their dedication and improvement.

Our players and teams have continued to perform at an exceptional level, with numerous standout results across various tournaments and competitions:

- The performance of our B, C, D, E, and F teams has been nothing short of exceptional, showcasing the depth and talent that continues to grow within our club. These teams have not only remained competitive but have also produced some remarkable results across various fixtures.
- Under-14A and under-15A had unbeaten seasons in Term 1, showcasing their dominance and skill development.
- Under-15A claimed victory at the prestigious St John's Tournament, marking a significant achievement for the club.
- Litha Madinda, a talented young player from the under-15 group, was enrolled by Monte Verde, a school in the United States, providing a clear example of the opportunities the club is offering its athletes.



- The under-16A team made it to the final of the Michaelhouse Tournament, earning a well-deserved silver medal after a narrow loss to a highly competitive Westville side.
- The 1st team finished in the top eight at the St John's Tournament and made it to the quarter-finals at the Kearsney Tournament, demonstrating the team's competitive strength.
- A historic achievement occurred when we defeated our arch-rivals Michaelhouse for the first time in several years, a feat we replicated twice in Term 4.

These achievements are a testament to the quality of our coaching staff, who bring dedication, experience, and passion to their work. Their commitment to developing not only the technical skills of the players but also their character and resilience is evident in the progress made by the athletes.

The success of the club in 2024 was driven by a group of young and enthusiastic coaches, whose energy and passion for the sport have helped cultivate a positive and focused atmosphere within the club. Their determination to improve the lives of our young athletes is reflected in the culture of the club, where hard work, respect, and a commitment to excellence are at the core of everything we do.

As we reflect on a successful 2024, we are excited about the future and the continued growth of the club. We are proud of the achievements of our athletes, the dedication of our coaches, and the supportive environment that continues to foster development. We look forward to an even more successful 2025, with the continued support of players, parents, and the broader school community.

Ayanda Shange | Director of Basketball



1ST TEAM

Back row: Nqubeko Majosi, Simba Chidakwa, Lesedi Mangwale, Langa Dlamini

Middle row: Gcina Gqwaaru, Silwa Wafula, Thabo Mngomezulu, Nicholas Wenyika, Robby De Beer, Reagan Mudau

Front row: Mpande Myeza, Mr Ayanda Shange, Connor Thomson, Mr Orateng Motsoe, Connor Jerome, Mr Philani Sondzaba, Rowan Cox

1ST TEAM

Regular players: Simba Chidakwa, Langa Dlamini, Connor Jerome, Lesedi Mangwale, Thabo Mngomezulu, Mpande Myeza, Sixolile Nyangiwe, Connor Thomson (captain), Silwa Wafula

The 2024 season for our 1st basketball team has been transformative, laying the groundwork for a resilient team culture and a fast-paced, high-intensity style of play. Brimming with diverse talents and primarily composed of Grade 11s, the team captivated fans with their determination and exciting gameplay.

We launched into the season with tremendous enthusiasm, confident in the unique skill sets of each player. Embracing a high-tempo style, our well-conditioned athletes executed strategic plays that thrilled supporters, especially during unforgettable matchups. Among these was a sensational victory over Glenwood at home, and a nail-biting, narrow two-point loss against Kearsney College decided in the final three seconds – a testament to the team's resilience.

In tournament play, the 1st team competed in the Jenny Orchard Invitational, hosted by Maritzburg College, where they achieved notable wins over Bishops and SACS, lifting team morale. Following this, the team participated in the 25th annual St John's Basketball Tournament, Southern Africa's premier basketball event, featuring in the top 20 teams. Here, our team celebrated a historic win against St Stithians, a top-five ranked team, stopping them from advancing. We also triumphed over St Peter's College but faced tough losses against rivals Michaelhouse and the hosts, St John's, the latter by a heart-wrenching one-point margin.

The final match of the season against Michaelhouse was marked on our calendar from the start, aiming for back-to-back victories on their home court. With immense support from the community, our team rose to the occasion in an intense showdown. The game delivered on every expectation, featuring rapid offensive plays, fierce defensive stands, and a triumphant finish, securing a memorable win and marking an impressive achievement in the history of Hilton College basketball.

Captain Connor Thomson led the team with dedication, fostering a unified culture defined by a "passionate first" ethos. His commitment to the sport has been invaluable, setting a high standard for future leaders. We extend our deepest gratitude to Mr Ayanda Shange, our Director of Basketball, for his unwavering support, and to our school community and parents for their encouragement. Our players' hard work has set a strong foundation, heralding continued success in future seasons.

The following players represent the best of Hilton College basketball – talent, hard work, and sportsmanship. Their growth and dedication throughout the season have been exceptional, setting a high standard for our programme's future.

Orateng Motsoe | Coach

SIMBA CHIDAKWA: Simba's dedication to mastering team roles is evident in his rebounding and rim-protection. His focus on post-up play and mid-range shooting is progressing, promising future versatility. As Simba hones his skills, his impact on both ends of the court is sure to grow.

LANGA DLAMINI: Langa has made a swift impact as our point guard. His exceptional ball-handling and court vision elevate our offence, consistently setting up impactful plays. Defensively, Langa's size enables him to contest shots both inside and on the perimeter. His growth this season signals a promising future.

CONNOR JEROME: Connor has emerged as a formidable presence on the court. Known for his versatility, he excels as a forward on offence and as a centre on defence, proving his value as a shot-blocker and rebounder. Connor's mid-range jump shot has become a reliable scoring tool, complemented by his impressive development in offensive rebounding, making him an indispensable asset to our team.

LESEDI MANGWALE: Lesedi has proven to be a relentless attacker, challenging defences with his agility and tenacity. His skill in drawing fouls and getting to the line adds an extra dimension to our offence. His fearless drives to the rim showcase his athleticism and make him a crucial part of our roster.

THABO MNGOMEZULU: Thabo's adaptability as a combo guard provides versatility to our roster. As he gains experience, his contributions to our gameplay will increase, marking him as a player to watch.



MPANDE MYEZA: Mpande has developed into a confident playmaker, his high basketball IQ earning him valuable court time. He is a consistent 3-point shooter and a reliable floor general, contributing scoring and leadership to our offence. His continued growth highlights his potential as a vital team player.

SIXOLILE NYANGIWE: Sixolile's season has been marked by consistent improvement, his dedication to refining all aspects of his game was inspiring. He has become a reliable contributor, and his development foreshadows even greater contributions as he continues to grow.

CONNOR THOMSON: Captain Connor embodies leadership on and off the court. A sharpshooter from the 3-point line, he stretches defences and enhances our offensive strategy. His slashing ability and free-throw accuracy have been pivotal in close games. Connor's refined perimeter defence solidifies his role as a key contributor on both ends, representing the heart of our team.

SILWA WAFULA: Silwa stands out for his athleticism and defensive prowess. His exceptional transition play and ability to score on the fast break make him a vital part of our team's dynamic. With a strong defensive mindset, Silwa is poised for continued impact.



2ND TEAM

Regular players: *Shaka Buthelezi (captain), Lwandle Gabuza, Karabo Lephema, Kyle Lewis, Katlego Motaung, Ndalo Ngewu, Tino Nyabonda, Sixolile Nyangiwe, Efe Ozan, Thando Shongwe, Connor Thomson*

In Term 1 we focused on preparing players for the next level, anticipating the loss of key players to the 1st team in Term 4. We emphasised skills development, adaptability, and strategic play, ensuring the team could seamlessly transition to a new lineup by year-end. The players responded with enthusiasm and determination, eager to rise to the challenge.

Throughout the season, the team demonstrated steady progress. Early matches provided valuable learning opportunities, with the players refining their abilities against strong opponents. As the term progressed, their confidence grew, leading to impressive performances and significant victories. The hunger to improve and compete at a higher level was evident, laying the foundation for future success.

Our efforts paid off, with several players earning selection to the 1st team in Term 4. The team was led by seniors Karabo Lephema, Conner Thomson and Sixolile Nyangiwe who modelled our philosophy to fight until the end.

The highlight of the season was our game against St Charles College when we were down 20-7 at the end of the second half. We had a game plan to stop them from shooting three-pointers, which the boys did well. Kyle Lewis played with heart, managing to score a layup and a couple of three-pointers. Lephema and Nyangiwe managed to get steals on our 1-3-1 full-court press. The team was determined, and they fought to the end. The final score was 35-30 – a well-deserved win!

The final fixture was against Michaelhouse. The team started slow but picked up momentum as the game progressed. Unfortunately, we were unable to make up the deficit and lost 34-24 to our opponents.

The boys will have a better understanding of the team philosophy next season.

Siyabonga Mahlinza | Coach

3RD TEAM

Regular players: *Neil Bararugurika, Ross Brown, Shaka Buthelezi, William Chien, Josh Dube, Lwandle Gabuza, Max Gilson, Kyle Lewis, Rukudzo Madinga, Munashe Musora, Ndalo Ngewu, Ntando Nyabonde, Thuto Phakkies, Oliver Proudfoot (captain), Thando Shongwe, Miguel Teixeira, Jack Weavind, Sandiso Zondi, Unami Zungu*

In the first game of the season, against Glenwood High School, the team displayed strong offensive and defensive strategies, securing a decisive win. Our game against Kearsney College, a tough opponent, was a highlight. The team executed their game plan effectively, with key players contributing significantly, demonstrating excellent teamwork to secure a well-deserved victory.

In our game against Clifton, the team's resilience shone through; their ability to adapt and communicate on the court was pivotal in clinching the win. For the remainder of the season, the team lost two matches. The losses, while disappointing, served as valuable learning experiences. We analysed these games to identify areas for improvement and developed strategies to enhance our performance.

The Term 4 season started badly with a loss against Durban High School. But the boys came back stronger on their game against Westville, beating them convincingly. We also won convincingly against Clifton (54-2) in a game that was the highlight of our season.

It was an incredibly fun season in which we enjoyed success. Thanks to the leadership skills of Jack Weavind, Sandiso Zondi, Oliver Proudfoot and Miguel Teixeira, to name a few. It was a blessing having such players in the team. Every boy in the team – whether on the court or the bench – made their mark, supporting and encouraging one another all the way.

Herbert Mncwabe | Coach

4TH TEAM

Regular players: *Daniel Askew, Jack Davenport, Neil Grobbelaar, Erin Kihara (captain), Bakuena Lekitla, Tumelo Makgeru, Mpho Makulana, Tumisho Manaka, Risima Mashaba, Tshiamo Mashishi, Mbuyelo Mbokota, Senzo Mngomezulu, Kgosi Modise, Tsebo Mokhathi, Katleho Motaung, Ziyanda Myandu, Ntando Nyabonda, Jameel Said*

The season started off strong thanks to long-standing chemistry amongst the boys. What set this team apart from others in their age group was the boys' ability to put their pride aside in favour of the best interests of the team.

Our only two losses in the season were to Maritzburg College and Durban High School. These were due to unfortunate decisions such as limiting game time to select players only. But the team came back from these losses, showing grit and maturity, and focused on their goals.

While every member of the team played a part in making it a successful season, Neil Grobbelaar deserves special mention as our top scorer, and my thanks go to our captain Erin Kihara.

It was a real pleasure coaching these boys. Not only did they perform well, but they maintained a great attitude this season and represented Hilton College well.

Herbert Mncwabe | Coach

U16A

Regular players: *Liyema Gazi, Tadi Hove, Kopano Lekeka, Nelwang Letswalo, Zenande Mahlangu, Cox Miles, Machabe Monaheng, Karl Senanu, Kaelo Taukobong, Tsepo Tsike, Ralfe Wilmot, Liyema Zondi (captain)*

The season was a journey of challenges, growth, and standout performances. In Term 1, the team faced Northwood High School in their first game, struggling against a strong opponent known for their fast breaks and aggressive defence. Captain Liyema Zondi and Nelwang Letswalo stood out, but the team ultimately lost the match.

Their second game against Glenwood High School was an opportunity to experiment with strategies. Hilton implemented the Box-in-One defence and Motion Play, capitalizing on the shooting skills of Kaelo Taukobong and the offensive drives of Letswalo and Liyema Gazi. The plan worked, leading to a 50-27 victory. This momentum carried into their third match against Kearsney College, where a focus on three-point shooting and attacking the rim led to a dominant 56-23 win, the team's largest margin of the season, with key contributions from Zondi and Gazi.

In our game against Clifton, the emphasis was on fast breaks and a high-energy full-court press. Kopano Lekeka, Tsepo Tsike and Tadi Hove stepped up, turning the game around and securing a 46-22 victory.

The term concluded with a highly anticipated match against Michaelhouse. Despite losing key players to injury, the team fought back from an 11-point deficit in the second half. The introduction of Zenande Mahlangu proved pivotal as Hilton exploited defensive gaps to secure a thrilling 35-33 win.

Term 4 began with an away game against Durban High School. Without pre-season preparation due to camp, the team started slowly and struggled to execute a new playstyle effectively, resulting in a 36-28 loss. The next match against Westville Boys' High School was closely contested. Hilton overcame early struggles against their opponent's size and physicality, adjusting to a half-court press and transitional play. However, despite taking a lead in the third quarter, they narrowly lost 38-34.

In their final match of the term against Maritzburg College, the team regained momentum with the return of injured players, including Zondi. Hilton dominated with high energy, effective motion offence, and relentless defence. Mahlangu and Taukobong led offensively, supported by Ralfe Wilmot's strong rebounding efforts, resulting in a decisive 36-26 victory.

The season was marked by resilience, adaptability, and moments of brilliance, with the team showing consistent improvement and determination despite setbacks.

Lindo Sibisi | Coach

U16B TEAM

Regular players: Darren Bridgeford, Joshua Chibwe, Nyiko Mabunda, Baile Makhakhi, Ofentse Mamajele, Nyebe Manci, Khalane Molestsane, Atang Mphathi, Akhumzi Mtshungwane, Sizwe Ntshangase, Axolile Nyangiwe, Nathan Ravalomanana, Luphelele Shange, Dante Sigei, Taji Sigei (captain), Tom Twiss

Leading from beginning to end, our boys won their first fixture of the season 21-15 against Northwood Boys High School. The following week they went on to defeat Glenwood High School 78-6. Their next fixture was against Kearsney College, which is always a tough opponent. But the lads played superbly, winning 17-19.

By the time they played Clifton, the team had developed great cohesion which helped them secure a convincing win (48-10) before a triangular against Kearsney and Michaelhouse. In their game against Michaelhouse, the boys paced themselves well and managed to win 20-23. Playing Kearsney straight after MHS was a stretch and the boys suffered their first and only loss of the season (21-17). The final week was the big derby against Michaelhouse. A lot of boys had suffered injuries during the week, so we went into the fixture short of three players. The players played with poise and patience winning the fixture (24-21).

The Term 4 season was a testament to the growth, maturity, and grit shown by the team. The boys consistently demonstrated their commitment to hard work and their ability to adapt to challenges, playing some excellent basketball. The team played with focus and determination against Durban High School, new players were added to the team and team chemistry was apparent early in the game securing a solid 21-15 win with a well-rounded performance. Despite the opposition's height advantage, the team fought back valiantly but fell short 22-30. The resilience shown in this game would set the tone for the rest of the season.

Against Maritzburg College, the team showed incredible spirit by fighting back and narrowing the gap, only to fall just short 25-23.

However, this game showcased their never-give-up attitude, which they carried into future fixtures. A well-deserved victory with a strong team performance, the boys' hard work paid off, and they earned a well-fought 21-17 win against St Charles College.

In their game of the season against Michaelhouse, the boys played an exceptional brand of basketball, executing their strategies flawlessly to win 45-22.

It has been a privilege to coach this group. They have shown that with grit, hard work, and teamwork, anything is possible.

Lindani Shoba | Coach

U16C

Regular players: Seriti Bannalotlhe, Daniel Day, Zizwe Digangoane (captain), Pheto Kgafela, Mahlatji Koma, Andiswa Mahlase, Iwele Mnconywa, Karabelo Morojele, Fanaka Mworia, Khayalethu Nouse, Kgosi Sekgobela

The team started the year on a strong note with five wins out of seven games. Losing our first game of the season by three points to Northwood Boys High School served as motivation when we played Maritzburg College and Kearsney College resulting in hard-fought wins scoring 35-31 and 20-18 respectively. This was followed by a crushing win against Clifton College where we only allowed two points to be scored against us. Our winning streak continued into our home fixture against archrivals Michaelhouse even after moving two players up to the B team.

In our last fixture in Term 1, we faced Kearsney College and Michaelhouse for the second time. The boys were not used to playing two games consecutively and they lost against Kearsney. But they managed to beat Michaelhouse with the same score on their home turf.

In Term 4 we won three out of five games. While the two losses were due to our shortcomings, we also lost four players to the B team.

Our toughest fixture of this season was against Maritzburg College. The boys showed heart and determination, and with a strong defensive performance, managed to win 12-9. The players have grown in skill and ability not to mention understanding of the game. This was evident in their last performance against Michaelhouse, which was a very casual and composed win of 42-30.

Bradford Jasson | Coach

U16D TEAM

Regular players: Pheto Kgafela, Ben Mann (captain), Evan Moloseni, Lefa Motsumi, Mvila Ncongwane, Atlegang Ramutla

The season started with a closely contested home loss against Northwood (18-13), followed by a 25-18 loss to an athletic Glenwood. In our third game, against Kearsney College, Ben Mann and Mvila Ncongwane put in spirited performances that lifted the team to a narrow 19-17 win. In the triangular series, we edged past Kearsney 13-9 and drew 15-15 against Michaelhouse in a time-restricted game. In the final match of the season, an away fixture against rivals Michaelhouse, the team fell short losing 19-9.

Term 4 began with an away game against Durban High School. Despite the scorching heat, we narrowly defeated our strong and physical opponents, 20-14. Next up was Westville Boys' High School where Mann came up in the clutch converting two offensive rebounds

to seal a 30–26 win. With the introduction of Uren Harry and Sukeh Noah, the team was outplayed by Maritzburg College 35–6.

In an away game versus St Charles, we trailed for most of the game and went down 32–14. In the final home game against perennial rivals Michaelhouse, the team took a slim lead after the first quarter. In the second and third quarters, Noah, ably assisted by Mann and Ncongwane, lit up the scoreboard with good conversions on fast breaks. The team closed the fourth quarter with a great 40–18 victory.

Milesh Lambert | Coach

U15A

Regular players: Max Asamoah, Jowi Cole, Gabriel Dube, Liam Hoffmann, Phemelo Joel, Chuma Luswazi, Litha Madinda (captain), Ntuthuko Mahlangu, Imran Mohamed, Lesiphosethu Ndlovu, Nicandro Padayachee, Sazi Sigodi, Kihara Waithaka, Aaron Wesi, Dimo Zigiridis

The team had an incredibly successful Term 1, finishing as the number one team in the country at the St John's College tournament and remaining unbeaten in the schools league. Litha Madinda was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player, and Jowi Cole was selected as an All-Star at the St John's College Tournament. The team was truly living the dream.

However, in Term 4, the boys found themselves with targets on their backs, as competitors came out strong against Hilton, eager to prove themselves. The team was also adversely impacted by the loss of Madinda, who moved to the USA, and injuries to key players including Max Asamoah, who was sidelined for most of the season, and Jowi Cole, who was not at full strength. The team also welcomed two new players: Aaron Wesi from Johannesburg (joining in Term 3) and Sazi Sigodi, who was promoted from the B team.

Despite these challenges, players like Imran Mohamed and Chuma Luswazi stepped up, while rising star Phemelo Joel and others such as Kihara Waithaka and Aaron Wesi made valuable contributions.

Ntuthuko Mahlangu brought aggression on defence, while Nicandro Padayachee and Lesiphosethu Ndlovu provided shooting. Sazi Sigodi added versatility to the team and Dimo Zigiridis rim protection.

Term 4 was a test of resilience as the boys faced adversity, especially at the St David's Marist tournament. After a tough five-point loss to King Edward School in their opening game, they were unable to make the playoffs, even though they won every game that followed, including a victory over the tournament winners. The school league games were also challenging, with the team often starting slow and needing to fight hard to secure victories.

Overall, the team learned that staying at the top requires even more effort and determination than getting to the top. Despite the setbacks, the boys showed great character, and I hope they carry these lessons forward.

Ayanda Shange | Coach



U15B

Regular players: Njabulo Abe, Gabriel Dube, Liam Hoffmann, Larona Mampane, Lefa Matswiri, Linda Mphephu, Kwandumusa Mtshali, Raymond Muleso, Michael Njonjo, Kelechi Nwobi, Ore Ogunfowora (captain), Olebogeng Segale, Sbonokuhle Sithebe

The U15B team has shown remarkable growth throughout the season, demonstrating a strong commitment to the sport and skills development. Each player approached practices and games with energy and a positive mindset, showing eagerness to improve individually and as a team.

The season had several challenges and learning opportunities that helped the players sharpen their skills. From the start, players were eager to learn and compete, quickly adapting to different strategies. Over time, the U15B team gained more confidence and character, working together effectively on both offence and defence. Their determination enabled them to compete with confidence, regardless of the opponent.

We were fortunate to have a few players making appearances in the A team squad. These players stood out for their leadership and playmaking abilities, guiding the team in crucial moments. Their dedication in practice translated into improved performances on the court, with noticeable growth in offensive, defensive skills, and game IQ. While a few challenging games tested them in both seasons, the team's perseverance and dedication were commendable, and each game contributed to their overall development.

I am proud of the team's progress and the positive sportsmanship they demonstrated this season, more especially in their final game, coming back from 14 points down in the third quarter and defeating their rivals by five points. Congratulations to all the players for their hard work and commitment, and I look forward to seeing what they accomplish in the future seasons.

Swelihle Mkhwanazi | Coach

U15C

Regular players: Vidal Analo, Nothani Buthelezi (captain), Jamie Byres, Olerato Chitanga, Joseph Gichuru, Duvonde Hof, Tinyiko Khosa, Ayanda Kunene, Luthando Mbada, Lehumo Modise, Makwe Motsepe, Nthato Mpakati, Sbusiso Nhlapo

The team had a good start to the season against our first four competitors with a hard-fought loss against our toughest opponent of the season, Northwood College, two comeback wins against Glenwood and Kearsney College, and one dominating performance against Clifton with a final score of 50–9.

Unfortunately, the boys' performance dipped as the season drew to an end when they faced rivals Michaelhouse and played a rematch against a very tough Kearsney College. The first home fixture against Michaelhouse led to an embarrassing loss, which was demoralising, and that seeped into the following fixture where the team was constantly on the back foot and chasing the game.

Term 4 didn't go as planned. Fixtures were tough and results did not go our way. This was due to changes in the team roster with a few boys moving up in teams, which did nothing for team cohesion. This however did not deter the boys from working hard in trying to achieve their goals and they never gave up, no matter the circumstances.

Many of the players have been inspired to grow and become better players and most of them have done so. Every player has increased their skills tremendously as well as their basketball IQ. This was evident in their last fixture in Term 4 against Michaelhouse which Hilton lost by only two points.

Bradford Jasson | Coach

U15D

Regular players: Vidal Analo, Joseph Gichuru, Ramsey Matime (captain), Lehumo Modise, Makwe Motsepe, Sbusiso Nhlapo, Li Ngcese

Term 1 started with a tough loss against Northwood High School (31-10), compounded by limited practice time. In their second game, they faced an athletic Glenwood High School team in a nail-biting match, narrowly losing 21-18. A defeat followed against Kearsney College (22-10), but the team showed significant progress in practice, which paid off with a strong 37-7 away win against Michaelhouse.

After the mid-term break, the team participated in a triangular home series, where they lost a close game to Kearsney College (22-17) but bounced back to beat Michaelhouse 15-13. In their final Term 1 match, a challenging away fixture at Michaelhouse saw the team work tirelessly to keep the game close. Their rebounding efforts in the fourth quarter led to a hard-earned 24-18 victory. Despite some losses, the team's performance showed clear improvement, with several players earning promotions to higher teams for the next season.

Term 4 kicked off with a trip to Durban High School where Ramsey Matime led the team to a solid 15-6 win. In their second game at home against Westville Boys' High School, newcomers Devonde Hoff and Tristan Pillinger contributed to the team's development, though they narrowly lost 28-27 in a tightly contested match. The team then faced Maritzburg College, but faded in the final quarter, resulting in a 27-16 loss.

In a much-needed morale boost, the team fought hard against St Charles College, securing a 19-18 victory away. Their final game of the season against Michaelhouse was a rollercoaster. The team started strong, leading 20-12 at halftime, but unforced errors in the third quarter allowed Michaelhouse to close the gap. Despite a strong effort in the fourth quarter, Michaelhouse edged out Hilton College with a 40-31 win.

Overall, the season was a journey of improvement and determination, with the team showing great resilience and growth.

Milesh Lambert | Coach

U14A

Regular players: Adriel Akpokabayen (captain), Fynn Asamoah, Owame Dube, Omolemo Kenney, Milani Mahlangu, Oarabile Makhubedu, Luyanda Malinga, Thoriso Miya, Mnotho Ngema, Azania Ntshona, Lanner Reilly, Ethan Smale, Michael Strauss

In Term 1, the team had an unbeaten season, with only one loss at the Michaelhouse tournament, which they ultimately won. This impressive performance set a high standard for their division, and it was clear that other teams would grow and improve by Term 4, aiming to challenge the U14A's dominance.

These young lads demonstrated exceptional talent, passion, and dedication throughout the season. Every member showed both the ability and ambition to progress to the 1st team in the future.

Their collective growth transformed them into a strong, unified unit, seamlessly merging individual abilities into a resilient and cohesive team. Their determination to excel and their readiness to face any opponent laid a solid foundation for a promising season.

The season began on a high note with an impressive 64-22 victory over Northwood College, setting the stage for what turned out to be an outstanding campaign in which they won 11 of their 13 matches.

The players exhibited unwavering dedication on the field, maintaining their focus and spirit until the final whistle of each game. A highlight of the year was participating in the Michaelhouse U14 Basketball Festival, providing the boys an opportunity to compete against former primary school friends. The team played a total of six matches, securing four victories and experiencing two defeats. The season concluded with a memorable 49-39 triumph over Michaelhouse.

The squad's accomplishments and teamwork throughout the season are truly commendable. Their passion for the game, combined with an unyielding drive to succeed, served as the foundation of their achievements. I look forward with optimism and pride to their future endeavours. The growth and outstanding performances of the U14A team position them well for future opportunities. Congratulations to the squad for a remarkable season.

Sibonelo Khanyile | Coach

U14B

Regular players: Esami Biyela, Owame Dube, Xavier Jafta, Jacob Lombard, Shammah Makofane, Luyanda Malinga, Munei Mangale, Makgetsi Manthata (captain), Zangi Mwale, Asande Mleya, Azania Ntshona

Our first game of the season was against Durban High School. Although a little rusty, our boys showed character and played as a team. Jacob Lombard put on a show with his exceptional shooting skills, and we won 23-10.

Our game against Westville Boys' High School was a tough one. Our opponents outmatched us in size and speed. We came back from a 10-point deficit to eventually lose the game by five points. Against Maritzburg College the shooting guards were slow and lacked energy and this led to silly turnovers, which allowed College to score easy points. The boys had to regroup and stick to the game plan. Even though we lost the game 22-23, we fought to the end.

The team would go on to win their fixture against St Charles 15-10, even though the boys were not at their best. Owame Dube, Xavier Jafta and Lombard put in great performances which kept the team going. The man-on-man defence was starting to improve, and as a result the team made a few defensive stops. Fortunately, our boys managed to beat them 15-10.

Our last game of the season was against Michaelhouse. This game was the highlight of the season. Both teams showed they wanted to win, and it came down to who wanted it more. Our team executed the game plan with precision. Michaelhouse gained momentum early and scored a few points from our mistakes. We managed to work on our craft and play better defence. After trailing by a significant number of points, we managed to catch up and when the score was 24-24, Jafta made the shot from about 18 feet out. With three seconds left on the clock, Munei Mangale managed to convert one of two free throws, which won us the game 25-24. What a way to close off the season!

Lindo Sibisi | Coach

U14C

Regular players: Callum Dreyer, Nkazimulo Hadebe, Xavier Jaftha, Mthokozisi Lelese, Alizwa Mankayi, Jono Mattison, Asande Mleya, Nkosana Msimang, Phathutshedzo Mukwevho, Zangi Mwale, Ethan Smale, Gideon Sweidan, David Weng, Jayden Wiltwer, Gwabini Zungu (captain)

The season began with a narrow defeat to Michaelhouse. Unfortunately, we were without several players, who were sidelined due to injuries and illness. Despite the loss, the determination shown by our boys hinted at the potential that lay within the team.

Our first notable victory was against Durban High School. Our 23-10 win was a big morale booster for the team. The following match, in which we managed to score only nine points, would see a very dominant Westville Boys' High School put a dent in our morale.

A tightly contested match against Maritzburg College tested our tenacity, ending in a hard-fought 17-22 loss. Despite the setback, our team spirit remained high as the boys worked diligently to learn from this experience and apply those lessons to future games.

The team bounced back in style against St Charles College, claiming victory with a score of 25-17. The team demonstrated excellent communication and execution, reinforcing their commitment to improvement. The culmination of our efforts came in the final game of the season against Michaelhouse. In a thrilling rematch, we found ourselves trailing 21-31 at the start of the fourth quarter. The boys exemplified true grit and teamwork, orchestrating an impressive comeback to win the game 36-33. This victory was not just about the score; it was a testament to the power of perseverance and the bond that had formed within the team.

I am proud that three of our players earned promotions to the B team. It is a significant achievement for the players and a testament to the overall strength of our programme.

As we reflect on this remarkable season, it is evident that the memories made and friendships forged will last a lifetime. The enthusiasm and passion displayed by every member of the team have made this journey truly special. I am grateful for the experiences shared with the boys and the invaluable lessons learned in sportsmanship and teamwork.

In conclusion, this season has not only been about winning games but also about personal and collective growth. I encourage each player to continue developing their skills and fostering teamwork. Thank you to all players and supporters for making this season an unforgettable experience!

Sipho Moniwa | Coach

U14D

Regular players: Peter Bevers, Jed Hartel, Lefa Kelobang (captain), Mnqobi Mdhluli, Bradley Meki, Nkosana Msimang, Phathutshedzo Mukwevho, Zangi Mwale, Kulani Tibone, Gwabini Zungu

The team had an incredible season, marked by rapid development, teamwork, and resilience. From the beginning, the boys approached the sport with enthusiasm and a strong desire to learn. Despite many of them being new to basketball, they quickly developed their skills and the ability to work as a team.

In the early part of the season, the team displayed impressive cohesion in their victories, including a notable win over Northwood (16-11), where their teamwork and enthusiasm shone brightly. This victory gave them confidence, and they continued to improve,

securing a hard-fought win over Maritzburg College (11-10) in overtime. A tough match against Kearsney saw their first loss (15-19), but the boys lost well. A commanding victory over Clifton (30-4) followed, showcasing their growing strength.

The team faced a challenging triangular fixture against Kearsney and Michaelhouse, winning the first match against Michaelhouse (21-12) before succumbing to Kearsney (15-20). However, they ended the season on a high note with an impressive win over Michaelhouse (24-4), demonstrating their growth and ability to execute well under pressure.

The second half of the season continued to reflect their development. After a tough loss to Michaelhouse (18-17) and a narrow defeat to DHS (9-17), the boys rallied to secure a thrilling comeback victory against Westville (28-26), showcasing their resilience and teamwork. They faced stronger teams like Maritzburg College (10-22) but took valuable lessons from the experience. A dominant win over St Charles (36-15) demonstrated their improvement, and the season culminated in a satisfying revenge victory over Michaelhouse (19-15).

Overall, the season was a testament to the boys' commitment to growth, their ability to learn from both victories and defeats, and the strong bond they formed on and off the court.

Lindani Shoba | Coach

U14E AND U14F

Regular players: Kai Davenport, John De Wet, Jadon Dube, Jed Hartel, Isago Khomo, Eyethu Luthuli, Reatile Malatji, Mnqobi Mdhluli, Yanelo Mdlopane, Otsile Moncho (captain), Siyabonga Moyo, Kalayame Namanyane, Craig Nel, Lesedi Ngwenya, Zweli Ngutshana, Buhle Ntshangase, Demi Ogunfowora, Mvelelo Phungo, Tlali Puling, Jesse Sauls (captain), Jude Shen Yu

The E and F teams played most games as a combined squad, with players being rotated frequently between the two teams.

In total, they achieved 10 wins and seven losses, with memorable wins over big schools such as Maritzburg College (14-6), Kearsney (16-9), Michaelhouse (24-6) and St Charles (20-17).

The lineup was a mix of E and F team players, ensuring that everyone participated. The highlight of the season was the final game, where the team had to play two back-to-back fixtures against Michaelhouse. The team won both games in challenging conditions. Another highlight was witnessing players being called up to play for the C and D teams.

Throughout the season, the boys improved and showed remarkable resilience. At the start, some players struggled with basic skills, such as catching the ball, but by the end of the season, they had all developed considerably.

We are immensely proud of the dedication and hard work each boy put in, both during practices and in games. They embodied the spirit of teamwork and growth, making them a joy to coach.

Ncumisa Makha, Dayna Mac Kay and Mantombi Skosana | Coaches



Back row: Adam Fitzsimons, Rhett Beaumont, Nicholas Eyres, Jamie Dunn, Jamie Byres, Rex Holdsworth

Middle row: Jack Heenan, Dominic Dunn, Gabriel Freeman, Patrick Gibson, William Thompson, Thomas Morrison

Front row: Jordan Byres, Mr James Robey, Richard Eyres, Mr Sean McGuigan, James Dingley

The 2024 canoeing year proved to be another successful and adventurous one for the Kayak Club. Building upon the momentum of the previous year, the club grew and we had more boys participating in all the major races as well as the schools league. The club had a positive culture, and the boys trained hard and showed great improvement, which was wonderful to witness.

As always, the first major race of the season was the much-anticipated Drak Challenge. Unfortunately, the rains let us down in Underberg, and the uMzimkhulu River was at a very low level. This meant that the race had a low-level start. Nonetheless, we had an outstanding weekend, with seven boys paddling. Matthew Wilson did exceptionally well and finished third in the U16 category. This led straight into Dusi training and for the first time in years, we had an excellent showing with five boys taking on the challenge. This included a few first-timers. Wilson, James Dingley and Jordan Byres paddled with partners outside of Hilton and all did exceptionally well. Notably, Richard Eyres and Jamie Dunn paddled together, a first time driving the K2 for Eyres and a first Dusi for Dunn. They all had an unbelievable adventure, making memories that will last a lifetime. In 2024, the Fish River Marathon was cancelled. This was disappointing, as we had planned to take a big group of boys to this event. Hopefully, we will be back in Craddock in 2025.

The schools league, as always, tries to expose the paddlers to a wide range of canoeing disciplines. In 2024 we even had a mixed doubles event, which was great fun for all. We had boys

do exceptionally well in all five events throughout the year and obtained the following overall results: Dingley came second in the U18 group, Rhett Beaumont was placed third in the U16 and Patrick Gibson was placed third in the U14 age group.

The club had some excellent regional and national representation this year. Byres represented KZN at the SA Canoe Polo Championships, where his team finished second. Wilson was selected to represent SA at the Olympic Hopes Regatta in Szeged, Hungary. He participated in the 500m and 1,000m events. He did very well and gained great experience, posting personal best times in all his events. I look forward to following his progress in the years to come.

This year Wilson was awarded the trophy for the Kayak Club Paddler of The Year, which is awarded to the paddler who upholds the spirit of the club, actively competing, and always giving of his best. Thanks as always to Rev. Sean McGuigan and our coach Mr Kyle Friedenstien, both of whom are extremely passionate and add exceptional value to the boys in our club.

James Robey | MIC Canoeing

The 2024 season was one of highs and lows, during which we won the inaugural 100-ball competition but struggled to maintain that form consistently in our league matches. Our U15 team continued to show promise on the national stage and had the opportunity to play in a variety of conditions across the country. The U14 teams worked hard and were rewarded with some late-season form, which they will carry into next year.

Ben Hockly excelled this year, not only at Hilton College but also with his outstanding performances for the Tuskers Colts team, scoring 178 and 167 in back-to-back three-day matches. He was also fortunate to tour with the SA U19 team to Zimbabwe where his 168 runs were instrumental in the team going unbeaten.

A great deal of work, dedication, and commitment goes into a cricket season at Hilton College, and we deeply appreciate the passion, professionalism, and effort of everyone involved in our unique system. From the coaching team, led by Mr David Griffiths and Mr Mark Handman, to our external coaches, including Mr Travis Pieters, Mr James Ritchie, and Mr Sean Gilson, as well as the teachers who dedicate their time and energy to teams and players when few are watching – every one of them has made us proud.

The success of our programme lies in the passion of the players and the equally dedicated individuals who coach our sport. The ever-popular Hilton Premier League allowed senior players to mentor junior players within the system, fostering a more cohesive and unified cricketing culture for the future.

Congratulations to Ben Hockly on his selection for the KZN Coastal Conquerors team following Coke Week. Additionally, Sechaba Gude, Obakeng Motsepa, and Ben Wilson were named in the U16 KZN Inland team, that finished as beaten finalists at the U16 National Week. We are also honoured to have had Natenzi Denenga, Charles Swart, and Hockly represent the KZN Inland U19 team, where Mr David Griffiths was the provincial U19 coach.



On behalf of the coaches and players, I would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Hilton College parents for their unwavering support and encouragement throughout the season. Your presence and reinforcement of our cricketing philosophy do not go unnoticed.

We would also like to express our gratitude to Mr David Griffiths for his dedication to the Hilton College cricket programme, and we wish him all the very best for the coming season. The professionalism, guidance, and continued support of everyone in the sports department, particularly Mr Carl Schmidt and Mr Burger Nel, have enabled the Hilton College Cricket Club to remain competitive against the very best in South Africa.

We were fortunate to have several of our boys selected for the KZN Inland and Coastal Conquerors teams:

KZN INLAND U19	Natenzi Denenga, Charles Swart, and Ben Hockly (Ethan van Heerden – non-travelling reserve)
KZN INLAND U16	Sechaba Gude, Obakeng Motsepa, and Ben Hockly (Barack Munawa – non-travelling reserve)
COASTAL CONQUERORS	Ben Hockly

Warren Kirsten | Director of Cricket



1ST XI

Back row: Luke Campbell, Kyle Christie, Murray Loughor-Clarke, Simon Steyn

Middle row: Jarred Kitto, Jayden Roux, James Ogilby, Ben Erasmus, Robert Burman, David Hill

Front row: Natenzi Denenga, Mr Warren Kirsten, Ethan van Heerden, Mr David Griffiths, Charles Swart, Mr Carl Schmidt, Ben Hockly

1ST XI

Regular players: Robert Burman, Luke Campbell, Kyle Christie, Natenzi Denenga, Stewart Falconer, Sechaba Gude, David Hill, Ben Hockly, Murray Loughor-Clarke, Alex Pitman, Benoit Rey, Jayden Roux, Simon Steyn, Charles Swart, Ethan van Heerden (captain)

The 1st XI cricket team has had a memorable and character-building year, marked by both challenges and remarkable achievements. The year began with a tough start in Cape Town, where the team faced high-quality opposition in challenging conditions. These early setbacks provided valuable lessons, particularly in handling pressure and developing resilience under intense game scenarios. Despite the challenges, there were some outstanding performances with the bat from Ben Hockly and Rob Burman, and with the ball from Kyle Christie and David Hill.

Participation in the inaugural Clifton Top 10 Schools T20 Tournament was an exciting new competition that pushed the boys to develop in the fast-paced format. The team's determination shone through as they progressed to the latter rounds, gaining confidence and valuable experience. This momentum carried through to the T20 Night Series where the team demonstrated strong standout performances that showcased the talent and grit within the squad and reignited the hope for the season. The team continued to build on these performances with some excellent wins at the Independent Schools Week in Pretoria where they competed against strong opposition, further demonstrating their growth and cohesion as a unit.

Under the strong and inspirational leadership of captain Ethan van Heerden, the team truly hit its stride in the latter part of the year. A standout achievement was winning the inaugural Inland 100 Ball Competition, a fantastic display of adaptability to

the evolving formats of the game. Adding to the list of accolades, another standout achievement was winning the SA20 Inland Stayers XI Tournament, a testament to the squad's hard work and determination.

There were very strong performances from individual players across the season, most notably from Van Heerden attaining 40+ 1st team wickets, and Charles Swart scoring three hundreds.

The season ended on a high with a brilliant victory over long-standing rivals Michaelhouse during the much-anticipated annual Pink Day at Hilton College – a fitting finale to a year of growth, learning, and triumph. It was an exciting game bowling Michaelhouse out for 146 with exceptional figures from Natenzi Denenga of 4-22. The team chased down the score in 33.2 overs with only three wickets down. Alex Pitman and Hockly impressively put a partnership of 108 on the board before the first wicket had fallen.

Congratulations and thank you to the players, parents, Mr Carl Schmidt (1st XI Coaching Assistant), Mr Warren Kirsten (Director of Cricket), Mr Travis Pieters (2nd Team Coach), and the ground staff for their dedication and hard work throughout the year. We are exceptionally privileged with the ground staff that we have who continually produce, in my opinion, some of the best wickets in the country. The foundations laid this season provide an exciting platform for the future of 1st XI cricket at Hilton College.

David Griffiths | Coach

ROBERT BURMAN: Burman, what a first year in the 1st XI it has been for you. I threw you in the deep end to open the batting in Cape Town and you have continued to take on the season without looking back, scoring 730 runs as a Grade 10, which is outstanding. Your contribution to the top of the order has gotten us over the line to many wins.

LUKE CAMPBELL: What a character you are – always putting smiles on everyone's faces. Your skill of bowling off spin is at the highest level, and you manage to gain the team so much control when you are bowling. You are developing into a strong all-rounder showing lots of potential with the bat as well.

KYLE CHRISTIE: Kyle, you have had a good year. The pace and energy that you always have when bowling is commendable. Your spells this year in Cape Town had lots of pace and bounce and were phenomenal. I am sure there is a lot more to still come from you in the coming years. Good luck with your next adventure, Kyle!

NATENZI DENENGA: Tenzi, the game changer! The energy you bring to every game you play is massive for the team. Your electric pace instils fear in batters and I see big things for your future in cricket. I know your name is not on a Hilton College Honours board, but I am confident that we will see it on an international board somewhere in the world. Best of luck for your future, Tenzi.

STEWART FALCONER: Stew, you have come into the 1st XI after some brilliant performances in the 2nd team and have settled in well. You have made some big contributions with the ball and had some game-changing moments, which was great to see. Looking forward to a big season in your matric year.

SECHABA GUDE: The growth in your cricket over the past year has been massive, Sechaba. Your desire to keep developing yourself and your skill is inspiring. You have had some great spells this year with the ball in hand and are becoming the strike bowler that the 1st XI needs. Next year is going to be a big year for you.

DAVID HILL: Warney, from always being in the nets practicing to asking the right questions, your desire to keep improving is so encouraging. Your wickets have come in so many different ways this year demonstrating your skill set with ball in hand. You are going to play a big role in the team with both bat and ball next year.

BEN HOCKLY: Better known as CSA by your friends in the team, Hockers, congratulations on a brilliant year with the bat and your keeping gloves. Over 1000 runs in the year is a mean feat and some of your catches are of international standard! You have solidified yourself as a senior player in a very short time. I am certain we will see lots of hundreds from you next year. Good luck as you take on the captaincy in your matric year. I have every faith you will do us proud.

MURRAY LOUGHOR-CLARKE: Muzza, it has been a tough year for you with some injuries that set you back. When you have played, you were always the Murray we know and trust that doesn't miss your area and is always doing what the team needs. You may have taken over from Matipa as the best number 10 in the country with some brilliant cameos with the bat this year.



COACH DAVID GRIFFITHS

ALEX PITMAN: Alex, you came into the 1st XI team towards the end of the year and brought a breath of fresh air with you. Your love for the game and your brilliant performances in the stayer's fixture helped to get us over the line in games, most notably a score of 66 that contributed significantly to our win against Michaelhouse on Pink Day.

BENOIT REY: Benoit, this has been a great breakthrough year for you. Each time you have bowled it has been with guile and brilliant skill to bowl the ball exactly where you want it to be which has gained you a lot of wickets as well as achieved control for the team. I am certain we will see a lot more to come from you in your Grade 11 year.

JAYDEN ROUX: You have had a brilliant first year at Hilton College and in the 1st XI, Jayden. You have contributed with both bat and ball and had some standout performances, especially against Clifton with the ball and more recently against Kearsney scoring 90 with the bat. A big year ahead of you next year!

SIMON STEYN: It has been a pleasure to welcome you to Hilton College and add you to our 1st XI this year. Your personality has brought value to the team dynamic and your skill with the bat and ball has been so beneficial to games. Looking forward to lots of great things to come from you next year.

CHARLES SWART: Charles, you scored over 750 runs in this, your final year as a Hilton College 1st XI player, which consisted of three hundreds. Your cricketing knowledge has grown over the year, along with your determination to score runs every time you go out into the middle. Best of luck with your cricketing career after Hilton College.

ETHAN VAN HEERDEN: Ethan, you have been a brilliant 1st XI captain. Your growth as a person and a cricket player has been nothing short of excellent. You have developed into a brilliant all-rounder and ended up as the leading wicket taker in the school this year. It was a tough year for the team, but you always managed to lead with skill, as a brilliant captain should.



2ND XI

Regular players: *Matthew Bezuidenhout, Luke Campbell, Daniel Christie, Ben Erasmus, Stewart Falconer, Josh Grant, Nick Harcourt, Ivan Jjuuko, Nela Liyema, Ethan Maltby, James McGregor (captain), Barack Munawa, Takunda Ntonyo, Jacques Olivier (captain), James Peattie, Alex Pitman, Didier Rey, Ross Steyn, Tom Twiss, Chris Wagner, Luke Wilson, Oyena Zulu*

The team had a remarkable 2024 season, showing excellence and resilience. Unbeaten in Term 1, the team won all their matches with determination and skill. Every game brought its own excitement, and each player contributed to a stellar season start. In Term 4, with a fresh, younger lineup, the results were mixed, but the team's spirit and commitment remained unwavering.

Among the season's unforgettable moments, the last game of the first term at Hart Davis stands out. In a tense match that kept spectators on the edge of their seats, the reliable partnership of Chris Wagner (47 not out) and Jacques Olivier (30 not out) carried us past the target of 168, with three wickets to spare. It was a thrilling close to a flawless term, underscoring the players' ability to perform under pressure.

Individually, many players shone brightly. Our "spin twins," Didier Rey and Luke Campbell, were match-winners week in and week out. Campbell's tight off-spin often strangled the run rate, setting up Rey's lethal leg-spin to claim the wickets. Rey's standout performances included two five-wicket hauls (5/18 vs Glenwood and 5/25 vs Clifton). James McGregor also delivered a spectacular bowling performance, taking 5/10 against Kearsney at AH Smith, while Stewart Falconer's powerful batting resulted in two centuries – 103 not out vs Kearsney on the RG Oval and 121 against St Charles on the HD Oval.

The challenges were few but varied. In the first term, the biggest obstacle was the potential for complacency, as every player was eager to contribute, sometimes feeling disappointed at missing opportunities to bat, bowl, or even play up. In the second term, the team faced a shortage of seam bowlers, but found effective ways to restrict opponents or defend totals with confidence. A special boost came with the arrival of our newly married coach, Travis Pieters, who brought a "spring in his step" and provided invaluable coaching expertise.

Captain James McGregor's leadership was instrumental in fostering a healthy, cohesive team environment. His leadership, combined with the team's solid balance, was key to their success. With talented top-order batters like Falconer, Erasmus, and Pitman, versatile all-rounders, and the spin attack already mentioned, the 2nd XI was fortunate to have a lineup that could adapt to any challenge.

On and off the field, the team's camaraderie shone brightly. They relished tight fielding situations, rising to the occasion when the pressure was on. The season was filled with good-natured moments that kept spirits high, and their cheerful outlook made the team a pleasure to watch and work with.

Fittingly, they finished on a high, with an excellent all-round team effort on RG Oval vs Michaelhouse – batting and bowling well and holding onto excellent catches; Olivier top scored with 75 and Christie's leg spin 7/34, causing the MHS batting to collapse.

The 2024 season was, without a doubt, one to remember for the Hilton 2nd XI – a year of impressive performances, strong bonds, and lasting memories.

Andrew Brown | Coach

3RD XI

Regular players: *Grant Bridgeford, Dan Carver, Byron Chandler, Kyle-Reese Clements, Estiaan Du Preez, Josh Grant, Chris Johnson, Jarred Maltby, Thomas Mason, Mitchell McGhee, Chris Morrison, Liyema Nela, Benjamin Scorgie, Chris Snijman, Daniel Sweeney (captain), Kingsley Thompson, Victor Viljoen, James Voller, Jason Webster*

The team began the year with an impressive start, quickly finding their rhythm and putting in strong performances through the first round of fixtures. They played with skill, resilience, and enthusiasm, showcasing their talent and determination in each game. However, despite the promising start, the latter part of the season didn't go our way, with several games narrowly lost. These close matches, while disappointing, were valuable learning experiences, and the boys handled each one with maturity and focus.

One of the standout aspects of the team was its culture. The players were disciplined, positive and supportive of one another while setting high standards for the team. The boys responded well to feedback and always aimed to make adjustments based on the coaches' reviews, showing both maturity and a growth mindset.

Practices were also a reflection of this positive team culture, with everyone arriving punctually and demonstrating respect for one another's time and commitment. Each player took ownership of their role and held themselves and each other accountable.

The talent within this group is evident, and it has been a pleasure coaching such a dedicated and cohesive team.

Brett Armstrong and Claude Pitout | Coaches



BIOKINETICIST ROBYN STEWART

U16A

Regular players: Matt Bezuidenhout, Daniel Christie, Ben Coetzee, John Grubb, Sechaba Gude, Ethan Maltby, Barack Munawa, Takunda Ntonyo, James Peattie, Benoit Rey, Luke Wilson (captain), Oyena Zulu

The U16A side started the term off on the right foot, winning our first four games and putting in some excellent performances. Unfortunately we weren't able to keep our momentum and ultimately lost our last three games.

Captain Luke Wilson and fellow opening batsman Matt Bezuidenhout were instrumental at the top of the order and often put the team into a good position with the opening partnership. Barack Munawa, James Peattie, Ben Coetzee, John Grubb and Ethan Maltby made up our middle to lower order. Sechaba Gude, Benoit Rey, Takunda Ntonyo and Oyena Zulu were excellent for us with the ball. Daniel Christie joined the team halfway through the first term.

Gude, Rey, Christie and Peattie got the opportunity to debut for the 1st team during the Eston Night Series as well as the Michaelmas Week.

Gude was elected to represent the KZN U16A team and Munawa was also selected for the KZN U16A cricket team as a non-travelling reserve.

Rey finished the first term as the highest wicket taker, taking 16 wickets with best bowling figures of seven for 21 and Ntonyo, coming in a close second with 15 wickets, with best bowling figures of four for 16.

Wilson finished the first term as the highest run scorer, scoring 158 runs with a high score of 45.

Noticeable results came against the Northdale U19 Hub. The Hub were bowled out for 78 runs, thanks to Rey claiming seven for 21. In reply, Hilton U16A chased the total down without losing a wicket, thanks to Matt Bezuidenhout scoring 41 not out and Wilson scoring 29 not out.

I thoroughly enjoyed working with this talented group and cannot wait to see what they achieve in the upcoming cricket season.

Travis Pieters | Coach

U15A

Regular players: Matthew Bastard, Sean Burman, Aiden Clubb, Anthony Crossley, Max Dalrymple, Sean Erasmus, Cameron Hargroves, Ross Hill, Ryan Jellis, Murray Meyer, Obakeng Motsepa, Arjun Wadhvani, Ben Wilson (captain)

The first match of the season was against Northwood, which ironed out our expectations. The team did not get going with the bat, and fell to 135 all out, losing by 42 runs. What followed, however, were excellent performances by a team that continued to develop their skills and understanding of their roles, convincingly beating Glenwood, Kearsney, and Clifton.

At the Independent Schools' Cricket Festival, the team began with timed matches against St John's College and Kingswood. A draw in the first was followed by a storm ending the game with the boys in a winning position. Although the team became unstuck against St Alban's in a nailbiter, an easy win against St Benedict's concluded the tour.

The highlight of the year has to be the opening match of the Sommerville Cricket Festival against Waterkloof – a seriously talented group of boys playing on their main park in frigid, drizzly conditions on a green wicket. We struggled along to 24 for six after 30 overs against excellent bowling. When all seemed lost, a 101-run partnership between Obakeng Motsepa (86) and Ryan Jellis steadied the ship before Sean Burman guided the team to a once-improbable 189. Anthony Crossley's four for 27 would be the turning point in the bowling innings, getting Waterkloof all out for 167 – a 21-run victory. The team also rallied against the hosts, Pretoria Boys High School, beating them on their main oval, before losing to Affies and King Edward School.

Term 4 began with a 10-wicket win over DHS, and then a tight three-wicket win over St Charles College.

I have seen time and again that this group of cricketers simply does not give up. Both of our matches against rivals Michaelhouse were incredibly close. The first match, in which MHS needed only 20 off 30, with four wickets in hand, ended in a riveting last-ball tie. The second time around, we slumped from 61 without loss to 74 for seven before heroics from the lower order set a competitive 185. Motsepa's six for 24 secured a 32-run victory.

The best trait of this team is that they are coachable, and supported by their parents who are not result-focused. I must commend their tireless work ethic, love for the game, and their respect for the captain and vice-captain – both of whom are outstanding examples of maturity and cricket knowledge.

Ben Wilson, with two hundreds and many fifties, and Motsepa with his genuine all-rounder skills, were both selected for the U16 provincial team.

Richard Randelhoff | Coach

U15B

Regular players: Matthew Bastard, Andrew Bernstein, Max Dalrymple, William Eustace (captain), Devonde Hoff, Zachery Ichikowitz, Caleb Kinvig, Thomas Leathern, Daniel Marshall, Murray Meyer, Sam Neill, Rourke Schwegman, Max Sclanders, Layton Stokes, Carter van der Berg

The 2024 season saw the U15B cricket team play some truly memorable matches. Despite an initial setback against Northwood, the team bounced back to string together an impressive run of seven consecutive victories. Among these were commanding wins against Glenwood (68 runs), Kearsney College (10 wickets), Clifton College (nine wickets), and DHS (10 wickets), where Hilton's dominance was undeniable. In these games, the team displayed a ruthless edge, decisively overpowering the opposition.

However, what stood out more than the victories was the humble manner in which the players conducted themselves. There was no bravado or chest-thumping after matches; instead, the team consistently showed respect and gratitude, politely thanking their opponents and honouring the spirit of the game.

With confidence riding high, the team faced three tightly contested matches, each testing their composure. Rising to the challenge, they secured wins by six runs (against Michaelhouse), 12 runs (against Kearsney College), and one wicket (against Michaelhouse again).

The second victory over Michaelhouse was especially thrilling. The game swung back and forth as momentum shifted between the two sides. Murray Meyer anchored the innings with an

impressive performance (56 not out), while wickets fell steadily at the other end. With the pressure mounting, specialist No. 11 Max Sclanders walked to the crease. Despite visible nerves, he executed his role perfectly, focusing on getting Meyer on strike. Recognising the urgency of the situation, Meyer took control. Four boundaries later, the match was sealed – Hilton had emerged victorious in an epic battle at Etheridge.

Once again, the team's conduct in victory was commendable. The players recognised how easily the result could have gone the other way, showing respect for their opponents and the game itself.

The season was filled with individual highlights: Max Dalrymple's spectacular TV dives; Layton Stokes' meteoric rise; Matthew Bastard's sure hands; Devonde Hoff's powerful arm; Andrew Bernstein's magician-like leg spin; and William Eustace's measured leadership. These moments, along with countless others, made the season unforgettable.

Practices were always spirited, with players supporting one another and ensuring everyone had opportunities to contribute. Old friendships deepened, and new ones were forged.

I am immensely proud of this team – not just for their impressive results, but for their tenacity, sportsmanship, and attitude. Whether humble in victory or dignified in defeat, these boys embodied the true spirit of the game. Coaching them and witnessing their growth, both as cricketers and as individuals, was a tremendous honour.

Craig Wilkinson | Coach

U15C

Regular players: Rhett Beaumont, Dougal Carr, Reece Johnson-Watts, Caleb Kinvig (captain), Lionel Laurence, Thomas Leathern, Layton Stokes, William Thompson, Duncan van Niekerk

Our initial squad also included Makwe Motsepe, Olerato Chitanga, Luke Ramlakan, and Daniel Urquhart, who later left to play basketball. Special thanks to Nicandro Padayachee, Max Asamoah, Joseph Gichuru and Liam Hoffmann from the basketball club for filling in when we were short-handed.

Our season began with a win against Glenwood, scoring 106 for eight and restricting them to 85 all out. We then beat Michaelhouse by seven wickets at Kearsney, chasing 113 for six, thanks to Layton Stokes' 36 runs. However, we narrowly lost to Kearsney in the same day's second match by seven runs, despite Luke Ramlakan's three for 20.

We suffered losses against Westville at home (84 all out, lost by eight wickets) and Michaelhouse away (110 for six, lost by eight wickets), despite Rhett Beaumont's 48 runs off 48 balls.

A season highlight was our dominant 113-run win against St Charles away, where Lionel Laurence scored 45 runs and Caleb Kinvig took four wickets.

I appreciate the dedication of the boys who remained committed to cricket amidst their peers leaving for basketball. Your passion for the game is commendable. Thank you, gentlemen!

Kwanele Mgozoli | Coach

U14A

Regular players: Nicholas Bodley, Blake Bullough, Oliver Crewe, Sanda Futshane, Allan Maclean, Lerou Motsei, Wandile Mthembu, Jesse Newell, Aphiwe Ntamo, Avaneesh Nunna, Richard Porritt, Sange Qangule (captain), Jesse Sauls, Judah Steyn, Phillip van der Vyver, Liam Wilken

The year started inconspicuously with a heavy loss to Northwood, a traditionally strong Durban side. Thereafter the boys picked up the pace and delivered some fine performances in the first term by beating Glenwood, Clifton and Michaelhouse twice. Fortunately for us, the weather intervened against Kearsney, as we were on the back foot against them, and we managed to win all our fixtures against our traditional rivals. Sange Qangule got the first of his two centuries this year with a solid 115 against Glenwood.

Pre-season activities in Term 3 were productive as always and the boys worked hard in the run-up to the annual U14 Hilton festival. The weather is usually kind to us at the festival in September but not this year. In our first game against Wynberg, rain curtailed what would be the only opportunity for the boys to play on Hart Davis until they earn their caps for the 1st XI. The second game, which was against Grey College, was a washout. Sunday dawned cold and wet, but we managed to start on time against Rondebosch. It was a tough day in the field; Bosch scored 307 and left us lots to do with the bat. Qangule managed a fighting 74 before we succumbed to 146 all out. In our game against St Alban's the following day, Jesse Newell got to 54 before losing his wicket. With our anchor out we only managed 163 chasing 227. In the T20 vs St John's, a fine fielding performance saw us restrict them to just 119. A flying start by Aphiwe Ntamo left a relatively easy job for Qangule and Phillip van der Vyver to see us home, both batting sensibly to get us over the line for a comfortable win.

Term 4 was a tough one for the team. After scoring a decent total of 235 against DHS with Qangule's contribution of 120 not out I was confident we had this one in the bag. However, a below-par effort in the field saw DHS reach our total with just five wickets down.

The next game against Westville saw us lose to a well-drilled side. Although we played much better cricket than we did in Durban, Westville were just better than us on the day. Qangule was in the runs again with an 83, but I always thought we were 40 runs short of a winning total which proved to be correct on a good Henderson wicket. Against St Charles once again chasing a total of 227, we fell short. Some unnecessary runouts proved to be our undoing and it led to another frustrating day in the field for the boys.

Our final fixture was going to be the toughest day yet for the boys. They had just learned of the tragic passing of their teammate Allan Maclean, a boy who brought a wonderful attitude to the game and was loved by all. A solid foundation by Avaneesh Nunna and Newell saw us get a solid total of 205 and the boys came out firing after the change of innings. A good win was achieved and a fitting tribute to Allan.

This team had to fight for their results. I look forward to following their careers at the school and expect to see many of them wearing the much-coveted white cap.

Mark Handman | Coach

U14B

Regular players: Quinn Bush, Oliver Crewe, Murray Dicks (captain), Jacques Flamand, David Forbes, Melusi Gude, Allan Maclean, Thomas McGregor, Kuphelele Mchunu, Landa Mgele, Thomas Morrison, Leruo Motsei, Richard Porritt, Sebastian Scorgie, Markus Steenkamp, Judah Steyn, Phillip van der Vyver

The U14B team consisted of an extended squad of 17 players, with two very different teams in Terms 1 and 4. The Term 1 results were slightly more favourable, with convincing wins over Glenwood and Clifton. The following players were later deservedly called up to the A side due to consistent performances: Oliver Crewe, Phillip van der Vyver, Leruo Motsei, Judah Steyn and Richard Porritt.

The Term 4 season started positively with a win against DHS. Unfortunately, the remaining fixtures against Westville, Maritzburg College, St Charles and Michaelhouse resulted in losses.

The emphasis for the season was individual skill development. I was pleased to see the batsmen showing improvement in batting for longer periods of time and batting for the duration of the innings rather than being bowled out short of their allotted overs. From a bowling perspective, the focus was on bowling line and length and limiting the extras, which improved as the season progressed.

A highlight of the season was the resilience shown by the boys in their batting performance against Michaelhouse. Despite chasing an almost impossible total of 219 in 30 overs against an extremely good bowling attack, the batters got stuck in and played for a cause far greater than cricket. The team managed to bat their overs and ended on 140 for nine. I was proud of how the boys supported one another and the spirit within the team was commendable.

The eagerness to improve and learn will stand this group of players in good stead going into their U15 age group. I wish them all the best for next year.

David Smythe | Coach

U14C

Regular players: Riley Carlson, John De Wet, Juvann Du Preez, Gabriel Freeman, Adnan Girdharparsadh, Uwais Girdharparsadh, Xavier Jaftha (captain), Ryan Moodley, Demi Ogunfowora, Heath Schwegmann

A rather disparate group of boys gathered at the Henderson Oval at the start of Term 1 – three had never played cricket before and the remaining eight were somewhat inexperienced. Thus, the U14C team of 2024 was born. Whilst Term 1 was not a success in terms of number of matches won, the team was enthusiastic and each practice brought the players closer to some personal achievements, such as learning how to block or holding on to catches for the entire session.

In Term 4, only seven of the original 11 remained and a number of 10-over, six-a-side matches were played. Again, victories were hard to come by, but the enthusiasm remained and each boy emerged as a better cricketer at the end of the year.

Nick Holtzhausen | Coach



PHYSIO NICK PEREIRA

I would like to start by thanking all those who make golf the thriving sport that it is at Hilton College. At the top of the list is the parent body. As a master-in-charge it is great to get to know the parents and boys a bit better through this sport. Next on the list is our coach, Mr Jacques Nel. We are extremely lucky to have such a tactically astute coach who combines passion and knowledge superbly. He has also demonstrated his expert gardening skills in looking after the tees, green and bunkers at the range! Jacques is a perfectionist, and this is a two-edged sword when working within the confines of school systems, policies and procedures. However, we are immensely grateful for everything he has done and continues to do to make the golf range work so well. I would also like to thank Mr Jeremy Piater, Ms Thembile Zuma and Ms Juliet Morulane, the teacher assistant coaches who help out at the range.

It has not been a year marked by great results, but it has been a year where grit and resilience have abounded, and it has been a year for discovering new young talent in our juniors, when our seniors were not available due to their many commitments and talents. The first term kicked off with the Golf League in which we competed against Michaelhouse, St Charles College and Maritzburg College, home and away. We fought hard and managed to draw with Michaelhouse on games won, but we gave them the win on the basis that their margin of victory over us in the Hilton-MHS clash was greater. The regulars during the league were Ben Wilson, Ethan van Heerden, Chad Swanepoel, Chris Snijman, Byron Chandler, Daniel Lyon, Cameron Hargroves, Calum Bryson, James McGregor, Luke Campbell, James Dellis, Tom Leathern, Oliver McSeveney, William Eustace and Jason Webster.

It was touch and go as to whether we attended the annual Affies tournament during the Easter break as a number of our top players were not available. However, we put together a team and I believe it was a great experience for them. We played at Silver Lakes, Centurion, Irene and Serengeti – all superb courses. We were not expecting to compete with the top teams, but the boys played with great perseverance and passion. In the team were Chris Snijman, Byron Chandler, Chad Swanepoel, Cameron Hargroves, Thomas Leathern and James McGregor. My sincere thanks to the Hargroves family for sponsoring the kit for the tour.

In the second term, we travelled to Joburg for the Woodlands Masters tournament which was hosted at the Serengeti Golf Course. We fielded a strong team consisting of Ben Wilson, Ethan van Heerden, Byron Chandler, Chad Swanepoel, Chris Snijman and Daniel Lyon, and there were some solid performances from the boys. Our thanks to Dr Chris Snijman for his generous support of the shirts and caps for the boys.

We also ran our internal Hilton College Champs at Victoria Country Club.

At this event, the following boys were recognized:

Strokeplay Champion (Gross)

Ben Wilson

2nd Place (Gross)

Ethan van Heerden

Strokeplay Champion (Nett)

Oliver McSeveney

2nd Place (Nett)

Thomas Leathern

In the third term, we supported a new venture hosted by Grey College, Gqeberqhe, which was a tournament for Grade 8s – Grade 10s as there is very little in the golf calendar aimed at the Juniors. We sent a team consisting of Cameron Hargroves, Ben Wilson, Thomas Leathern, Oliver McSeveney, Aryan Pillay and James Lyon. My sincere thanks to Mr Warren Kirsten for accompanying the boys and to Mr Sean Wilson for supplying the shirts and jackets.

The Douglas Cup – our annual duel with Michaelhouse – took place on Sunday 13th October. This is always fun and festive, but competitive day over 27 holes in Ryder Cup style. Sadly, but not surprisingly, Michaelhouse retained the Cup.

We have a great deal of growth and development to do before we can challenge again, but we have a great group of younger players coming through whom I am sure will be hungry to prise back the cup in 2025.

On this day we also had our annual golf dinner at the Bosch Hoek Lodge. I am grateful to the parents who supported the event, and a special mention to Mr and Mrs Leathern who picked up the bar tab in celebration of Thomas's hole-in-one at the KZN trials earlier in the year.





The following awards were made at the golf dinner:

Captain 2025	Chris Morrison
Vice-Captain 2025	Nic Harcourt
Murray Grindrod Strokeplay Champion	Ben Wilson
Gordon Grieve Matchplay Champion	Byron Chandler
Emerging Golfer Award	Cameron Hargroves
Douglas Cup Most Valuable Player Award	Ethan van Heerden
John Andrew Golfer of the Year	Ben Wilson
Geyser Award for Sportmanship	Daniel Lyon
Attitude, Belief and Commitment	William Eustace
Dean Shillaw Order of Merit	Ben Wilson
Junior Golfer of the Year	Cameron Hargroves
LONGEST DRIVE	
Seniors	Didier Rey
Juniors	Thomas Leathern
Hole-in-One Award	Thomas Leathern
Douglas Cup Eagle Award	Calum Bryson and Ethan van Heerden

A special word of congratulations to Ben Wilson on being selected for the KZN A Team which will compete in the KZN SA Golf Association Inter-Provincial Tournament.

In closing, I would like to extend a special word of thanks to Dr Chris Snijman for his significant support this year as the captain's dad. Your enthusiasm, energy and sense of humour were sincerely appreciated. And to quote from Dr Snijman's address at the golf dinner:

“ Golf offers so much more than a mere physical skill. It shapes your character, strengthens your mind and forges lifelong connections and friendships. It is a sport that teaches lessons that reach far beyond the fairways and greens. The value of golf in your life is immeasurable since it will prepare you not just for the game, but for life itself. I wish you many memorable rounds in the future. ”

Graeme Evans | MIC Golf

The 2024 hockey season was defined by a competitive spirit, mutual support, and a drive to improve, all of which strengthened our hockey programme. Our teams showed remarkable resilience, teamwork, and growth.

Our 1st team exemplified the qualities of a cohesive unit. Through hard-fought matches and consistent dedication, they demonstrated their capacity to compete at a high level. The team's success at the Nomads and Saints Festivals, winning nine out of 10 games, speaks to their preparation, skill, and commitment. While some in-season matches presented challenges, the team responded resiliently, particularly in their impressive comeback against Kearsney College and their memorable away victory against Michaelhouse. Leadership from captain Jarred Kitto and vice-captain Masud Dakile was instrumental, setting a standard of excellence and camaraderie. The achievements of our players in provincial and national selections further underscore the talent and hard work within this group.

Our 2nd and 3rd teams also showed determination and tenacity. In the first half of the season, the 2nd team achieved three wins and a draw, while the 3rd team, despite facing challenges with injuries, secured several victories early in the season and approached each game with determination.

The junior teams, from the U16 squads to the U14 teams, showed great promise. Each team demonstrated that, regardless of their results, they could perform with commitment and pride. From the U16B's perseverance against Michaelhouse to the U14C's victories over Michaelhouse, our junior teams embodied the spirit of growth and learning.

The season's achievements are never just about scores but about the journey each team has taken. Our coaches, from Mr James Webb and Mr Matthew Fairweather to Mr Wilbert Tenga and Mr Travis Pieters, have been vital in fostering a positive and competitive environment, guiding players through both triumphs and trials. Their dedication to development has ensured that each player has had the opportunity to learn, grow, and contribute to the team.



DEVON VAN DER MERWE

The support staff, including Mr Daiyaan Solomons and Mr Nhlakanipho Ngubane, have been invaluable in preparing the teams and ensuring that each player could perform at their best. Their contributions behind the scenes have been crucial in building on our strong foundation.

I am filled with optimism for the future of our programme. Not only have we produced impressive results, but we have

also grown in unity and pride. Our players are well-prepared, both in skill and in character, to face challenges and continue to elevate our game.

Congratulations to each player, coach, and staff member on a season that has left a lasting impact. Let's carry this momentum forward with the same spirit of teamwork, resilience, and dedication.

Devon van der Merwe | Director of Hockey



1ST TEAM

Back row: Joshua Julius, Xavier Enslin, Murray Loughor-Clarke, Connor Thomson, Nicholas Harcourt, Jayden Roux, Matthew Thomas

Middle row: Jarred Maltby, Tinotenda Hove, Grant Bridgeford, Kayson Holtzhauzen, Robert Burman, Oscar Steiner, Reagan Mudau

Front row: Mr Philani Sondzaba, Mr Devon van der Merwe, Jarred Kitto, Mr Damian Kimfley, Masud Dakile, Mr Matt Fairweather

1ST TEAM

Regular players: Grant Bridgeford, Robert Burman, Masud Dakile, Xavier Enslin, Nicholas Harcourt, Kayson Holtzhauzen, Tinotenda Hove, Joshua Julius, Jarred Kitto, Murray Loughor-Clarke, Jarred Maltby, Reagan Mudau, Jayden Roux, Oscar Steiner, Matthew Thomas, Connor Thomson

Friendship, competitiveness, selflessness, drive, social media stars – these are just some ways to describe the 2024 1st team. A year ago, I would never have described them this way.

Friendship has been the cornerstone of the team. Through every challenge and triumph, the boys stood by one another. Laughter, encouragement, and tough conversations strengthened their connection, revealing a bond that transcended teammates and was more familial.

Drive and competitiveness pushed the boys to new heights. Each player brought his best to every practice, game, and challenge. That relentless pursuit of excellence was defining. Beyond the wins and losses, it was their determination to push themselves and one another that was key to their success.

Lastly, selflessness is what truly defines a great team. Time and again, I saw players put the needs of the team above their own. Whether it was making a pass, supporting a teammate, or simply being there when someone needed a lift, the boys showed what it means to play with heart and for one another.

Our season kicked off with the two festivals we traditionally attend: the Nomads Festival, hosted by Maritzburg College, and the Saints Festival at St Stithians. Over these two festivals, we played 10 games against schools from across the country, winning an impressive nine and narrowly losing only to Grey PE 1-0. This match stands out as one of our best, despite the result. The intensity and desire to give everything was remarkable.

Our in-season fixtures proved to be more challenging, with eight games played. We recorded four wins, two draws, and two losses. One of the hardest losses was against Michaelhouse at home, marking our first defeat on the Mansergh Astro. However, this result galvanized the team, motivating the boys to deliver an exceptional away performance. In front of both schools under the lights on a Friday evening, they dominated the game and executed the game plan flawlessly, making it one of the most memorable schoolboy hockey experiences.

Another standout performance was our 4-4 draw with Kearsney College. The boys demonstrated great character, coming from behind and eventually taking the lead. Although Kearsney managed to equalize in the final minutes, it was a true testament to the belief and resilience of our team, proving that we have what it takes to compete and achieve strong results.

Captain Jarred Kitto and vice-captain Masud Dakile were a perfect duo to lead such a great group of players. Kitto was the calm and calculated one, while Dakile, the straight talker, was ever ready to tackle the tough issues. I will miss our coffee meetings and catch-ups.

To the seniors: your assistance and readiness to step up when called upon did not go unnoticed. You guys have shown the next group of seniors how to lead. I wish you the very best.

In 2024, we had eight players in the KZN Inland U18A team, four players in the U18B team, and one player in the C team and one

non-traveling reserve. Additionally, our players have continued last year's success in national representation, with Kitto and Grant Bridgeford selected for the U18B team, and Reagan Mudau and Jayden Roux chosen for the U17A team. We are also proud to have Mr Devon van der Merwe, fresh from the Paris Olympics, where he served as assistant coach and performance analyst, alongside Mr Daiyaan Solomons, who formerly served as the physio for the SA18A team and has recently been appointed physio for the U21 side. This bodes well for our programme.

A word of congratulations to Kitto, who in 2024 reached the milestone of 50 games for a Hilton College 1st team, ending the season with 55 games.

The success of the season is in large part due to key members of staff working behind the scenes:

- **Mr James Webb:** Your contributions to the 2nd team and readiness to assist us with preparation matches and player discipline were invaluable.
- **Mr Darryn Gallagher:** The leadership of the U16A team and your support in preparing the boys for the transition to the 1st team have been greatly appreciated. Your expertise will be missed.
- **Mr Nhlakanipho Ngubane:** As our goalkeeper specialist, your commitment and dedication are crucial, I know our goalkeepers appreciate your hard work, and I can't thank you enough.
- **Mr Daiyaan Solomons:** Your efforts in getting our boys ready for the weekend games are no easy task. Thank you for your dedication.
- **Mr Ziyaad Solomons:** The driving force behind our social media campaign, your connection with the boys is greatly valued.
- **Mr Philani Sondzaba:** Your preparation of the boys during warm-ups and cool-downs is greatly appreciated. Thank you for bringing such a great vibe to the team.
- **Mr Matthew Fairweather:** Your calm presence and voice of reason are invaluable. Thank you for your contributions on match days and during training, and for always providing reassurance. Your insights, especially during short corners, are second to none.
- Lastly, **Mr Devon van der Merwe:** Your attention to detail is unmatched. I am grateful for your encouragement to think differently and to keep striving. We all appreciate you reminding us of the standards we must uphold. We are truly fortunate to have you leading our programme.

Damian Kimfley | Coach



GRANT BRIDGEFORD (36 appearances): Grant's second season in the 1st team went as expected with him leading the goal-scoring charts with his drag-flicking ability. Grant showed great leadership this year and stepped up a level at the provincial week to be included in the SA U18B team, which he can be very proud of. I applaud his commitment to hard work and his reliability.

ROBERT BURMAN (18 appearances): Robert (Grade 10) had a smooth first year in the 1st team, putting his body on the line and giving his all. He has become an invaluable member of the team with his 1st runner ability. I look forward to working with him next year and to the next step in his development.

MASUD DAKILE (36 appearances): Masud stepped into the vice-captain role this year and led by example, showing remarkable improvement and drive. His ability to understand our press and lead from the front was exemplary. He was selected for the KZN Inland U18A team, where he performed exceptionally. I am so proud of his growth this season.

XAVIER ENSLIN (25 appearances): Xavier sets high standards for himself. He is reliable, hardworking, and passionate. His great attitude toward training will set him up for many success in life.

NICHOLAS HARCOURT (18 appearances): Nic's first season in the 1st team was developmental and he can be very proud of his progress. As a senior, he will be an important player in the team next season. I am relying on him to hit the ground running and look forward to working with him next season.

KAYSON HOLTZHAUZEN (18 appearances): The first year in the 1st team is never easy, especially as a goalkeeper. However, Kayson stepped up to the challenge and excelled this year. I encourage him to maintain a growth mindset and a determination to take his game to the next level.

TINOTENDA HOVE (28 appearances): Tino returned this year with renewed confidence and contributed crucial goals to big games this season. I appreciate his positive energy and contribution to the team. It was a joy coaching him and watching him play.

JOSHUA JULIUS (18 appearances): Joshua's hard work paid off and he was selected to play for the Inland U18A team for KwaZulu-Natal. He is to be commended for his commitment to the game and his huge contribution to the team.

JARRED KITTO (55 appearances): It's not every year that a Grade 10 player makes the 1st team and goes on to play such an instrumental role in the team. And it's equally rare for a player to reach 50 caps for the 1st team. Jarred achieved all of this, going on to captain the 1st team this year and the KZN Inland team. He was also selected for the SA U18B team at the end of the provincial week. It has been a pleasure watching him grow as a player.

MURRAY LOUGHOR-CLARKE (37 appearances): Murray's transition from the left-back position to centre-back this year was remarkable. He took his game to new heights and established himself as a key figure in the team and our main distributor. I encourage him to continue playing hockey after school and wish him the best.

JARRED MALTBY (37 appearances): Jarred made great strides in his second year in the 1st team. He made the midfield spot his own and put in some great performances, especially in the big games. He was a pleasure to coach over the years and I wish him the very best in the future.

REAGAN MUDAU (18 appearances): Reagan found the step up to the 1st team challenging at first, but as the season progressed, he found his footing and put in some great performances. His good form at the end of the season got him selected for the SA U17A team, doing himself and the team proud. I challenge him to continue his development; next season will be important for him as a senior.

JAYDEN ROUX (17 appearances): Jayden had a great first year in the 1st team. His ability to play multiple positions made him an important part of the team. He was selected for the SA U17A team after national week, which is a great achievement. I encourage him to continue working hard, as next year will be an important year for him.

OSCAR STEINER (23 appearances): Oscar can be very proud of his contribution to the team this season. Showing great determination, he knuckled down in pre-season and made sure he would be a permanent fixture. I wish him the very best next year.

MATTHEW THOMAS (16 appearances): After making an appearance last season and training with the 1st team, Matt integrated into the 1st team smoothly this season. While injuries slowed down his progression, he came back strong and finished by going to IPT. Matt needs to continue working hard for next season as he will be a senior and leader of the back line.

CONNOR THOMSON (25 appearances): Connor worked hard this season showcasing his ability to find space and score goals in tight areas. A highly valued member of the team, Connor displayed great leadership, encouraging his teammates at all times. I wish him the very best for next year.



2ND TEAM

Regular players: Nic Bregman-Frangos, Darryn Bridgeford, Kenyu Chiang, Rhydian Evans, Max Gilson, Jack Holtzhauzen, Joshua Julius (co-captain), Matome Manthata (co-captain), Xander Schlebusch, Chase Smith, Jason Webster, Sandiso Zondi

Many of the 2nd team players joined the senior pre-season squad and showed promise at the start of the season. I was optimistic following our second training session where the 2nd team held their own against the 1st team.

The team played well against Northwood, at home, for most of the match leading 1-0 until we lost focus and energy in the last 10 minutes where they equalized, beginning the season with a draw.

After a long break, and no hockey played for a month, we started the first half of the 2nd term well with three wins and a draw. Beating Kearsney 1-0 and Glenwood 2-1 was a good start, and it felt as though we had good momentum before playing Michaelhouse. In both matches we played good hockey, and the boys adapted well to changing tactics. We had many opportunities to score, but were unable to capitalise as much as we should have.

Playing against Michaelhouse at home was never going to be easy, even though we had had two good weeks in a row, as we had been plagued by illness. However, the team showed incredible grit and determination to keep a dominant Michaelhouse team to 0-0 after two chukkas. In the third chukka we managed to score two goals in opportune fashion, and it felt as though the tables had turned in the match and for the season! Sadly, they scored two goals in the final chukka resulting in a draw, in what was probably one of the most entertaining games of hockey in the season.

Following three matches in a row at home it was a long drive up to Pretoria Boys High School. The team played well making excellent connections displaying a spectator-friendly brand of hockey. They were guided and managed superbly by the 1st team coach, Mr Damian Kimfley, on the day to a 3-2 win. This marked halfway in the season before the mid-term break.

Upon reflection, the first half had been the best part of the season from a results perspective, and it was going to be a season of two very different halves.

Playing Westville away is tough, so a 0-0 draw was acceptable. I am grateful to the Director of Hockey, Mr Devon van der Merwe, who more than ably managed and guided the team on this occasion.

The final three matches of the season proved to be challenging in the form of three losses against Maritzburg College, St Charles and Michaelhouse, for the return fixture away. Although the season ended this way, the boys learnt many lessons from the losses and will take these forwards in life, on and off the sports field.

The matrics made up half of the team and contributed during practices and in matches. Josh and Matome consistently lead by example throughout the season.

The team benefitted from support and additional coaching by Mr van der Merwe and Mr Kimfley. I am thankful for the way in which both men stepped in to coach and manage the team when I was busy with other school responsibilities. Their input has been invaluable.

James Webb | Coach

3RD TEAM

Regular players: Josh Aitkin, Lyle Clubb, Aahil Girdharparsadh, Tumelo Gopane, Tristian Grant, Uthando Gumede, Erin Kihara, Risima Mashaba, Thomas Mason, Ntando Mchunu, Efe Ozcan, Trey Padayachee, Benjamin Scorgie, Xander Schlebusch, Sandiso Zondi (captain)

The 2024 season for the 3rd team hockey squad featured a mix of exciting victories and challenging setbacks. The team began strongly, securing three consecutive wins against Northwood (2-1), Kearsney (1-0), and Glenwood (3-2), which sparked optimism and showcased their teamwork and skill. However, as the season progressed, injuries to key players impacted their momentum, leading to consecutive defeats against Michaelhouse (0-1), Pretoria Boys High School (1-2), and Westville (1-3). These losses not only diminished scoring opportunities but also tested the players' confidence, serving as a reminder of the resilience needed to maintain high performance.

Despite these setbacks, the players remained dedicated and approached each match with renewed determination, leading to hard-fought draws against Michaelhouse in the return fixture and Maritzburg College. The season provided valuable lessons as they navigated both triumphs and challenges. Through it all, the team grew in unity, learning the importance of mutual support and motivation when facing adversity.

By season's end, each player gained a deeper understanding of team dynamics, with every match reinforcing the value of trust and encouragement. While the season did not deliver consistent victories, it fostered a lasting sense of camaraderie and pride. The experiences of this season have prepared the team for future challenges, instilling in them that success is built on perseverance and collective spirit.

Wilbert Tenga | Coach

4TH TEAM

Regular players: Jordan Byres, Fin Dalrymple, Adam Essey, Lwandle Gabuza, Deepen Kooverjee, Mpho Makulana, Sainiseko Maseko (captain), Risima Mashaba, Tshiamo Mashishi, Thomas Mason, Josh McGhee, Ntando Mhlongo, Kgosi Modise, Tsebo Mokhati, Efe Ozcan

The 4th team consisted of senior boys who each demonstrated a high level of skill on the playing field. The team quickly learnt to work together and encourage one another, showing good camaraderie which developed during the season. There was a positive team spirit and the team showed good sportsmanship at all times.

Their hockey was a pleasure to watch even when they were not winning. The team achieved four wins and suffered four losses.

A highlight of the season was the final match against Michaelhouse, especially for our matric boys who played an excellent game and managed to win (2-1).

The team also enjoyed wins against St Charles College (2-0), Pretoria Boys High School (1-0), and Glenwood (5-0).

They lost to Maritzburg College (0-1), Westville Boys' High School (0-3), Michaelhouse (0-2), and Northwood School (0-1).

I am thankful to all the boys. They were a pleasure to coach and their enthusiasm for the game was appreciated. We say farewell to several matrics and wish them all the best for the future.

Jeremy Piater | Coach

5TH TEAM

Regular players: Daniel Askew, Michael Bird, Fin Dalrymple, Joshua Dube, Alex Engelbrecht, Tumelo Gopane, Tumisho Manaka, Mbuyelo Mbokota, Josh McGee, Mitchell McGee, Tumelo Mosethle, Chuhal Pillay, Phillip Plate, Sizwe Pwele, Kamogelo Seopa, Ziba Ungweru, Jack Warwick

The season got off to a slow start with our first game against Northwood on an unbearably hot day. We played as a cohesive team, creating numerous scoring opportunities, but lost the game at the last minute, 0-1.

In our encounter with Howick High, the boys displayed great teamwork. Our opponents were very dangerous in their attacks, and their strikers were proficient in creating chances and taking shots at our goalkeeper. They managed to score an early goal, and although we retaliated, we lost the game 1-2.

Our third encounter was against Howick's 2nd team. We travelled to play them at the UKZN Astro. We were surprised to find the ground packed with spectators, mostly from the Howick side. The boys rose to the occasion, securing a convincing victory of 3-0.

The spirit remained high as we went on to play Pretoria Boys. Good teamwork and team spirit resulted in a cohesive team securing a 1-0 win. The fixture that followed was against Westville. We conceded a goal in the first 15 minutes but never stopped attacking and defending our goal. The equalizer came from Kamogelo Seopa just before halftime. We scored two more goals in the second half, winning that match 3-1.

Next, we travelled to play at Maritzburg College. We got an early goal in the first half from a short corner. We defended well and managed to hold on to that scoreline until the last minute, when they also scored from a short corner. The final score was 1-1. We thought we had won this one, and the mood was very low at the end of the game. It felt like we had lost, and we had to convince each other that the draw was not that bad.

The boys displayed teamwork and commitment throughout the season, and I was proud to be their coach. It was a remarkable season, and I wish them well.

Charles Ncobeni | Coach

U16A

Regular players: Aiden Clubb, Anthony Crossley, Max Dalrymple, Evan Ducasse, Sechaba Gude, Tadi Hove, Lance Kitto (captain), Sebastian Laudenberg, Khumo Lobelo, Iran Mahomed, Ethan Maltby, Nicandro Padayachee, Ben Wilson, Oyena Zulu, Wanga Zulu

The season began with intensive pre-season training, with the team focused on building their fitness and sharpening their basic skills. It was clear from the start that this group was committed to improving and growing together. As the season progressed, the team was ready to face the challenges ahead, including some of the toughest opponents they would encounter.

The Nomads Festival, held at Pretoria Boys High School, was a tough start to the season, where the team faced off against much bigger, stronger, and fitter opposition. The first five matches were especially challenging, but they provided valuable lessons about the demands of top-level competition. Despite the tough start, the team showed signs of potential, particularly in their match against Grey High School. Although they narrowly lost 2-3, they demonstrated resilience and determination, qualities that would become a hallmark of their play.

One of the standout moments of the Nomads Festival was their victory against Pretoria Boys High School. The team showed real character, winning 1-0 and proving that they were capable of competing at this level. This win boosted their confidence and set the tone for the rest of the season.

As the domestic season began, the team found their rhythm. Although they were dominated by Michaelhouse in the first match, they responded well in the following games, coming close to victory in several tight encounters. A narrow 2-3 loss to Michaelhouse was a testament to the team's growth and improvement over the course of the season.

There were many notable performances, with standout displays against Kearsney, Westville Boys' High School, and a well-earned draw against a strong Maritzburg College team. In these matches, the team demonstrated both individual brilliance and cohesion, learning how to fight for every opportunity and showing great maturity as the season progressed.

The team's development throughout the season was evident. From struggling against some of the bigger, stronger teams early on, they grew in confidence, both as individuals and as a team. They learned valuable lessons about resilience, teamwork, and the importance of mental and physical preparation.

While the season was tough, the growth and progress made by the team were undeniable. They will undoubtedly be stronger and more mature in their second year of under-16 hockey, and they should be proud of what they accomplished. Their ability to adapt and improve, even in the face of adversity, is a testament to their character.

Congratulations to the following players who earned selection to the KZN Inland U16 teams:

KZN Inland A	Sebastian Laudenberg, Ethan Maltby, Ben Wilson, Oyena Zulu
KZN Inland B	Sechaba Gude, Tadi Hove, Lance Kitto, Imran Mohamed
KZN Inland C	Anthony Crossley, Khumo Lobelo

Congratulations to the entire team for their commitment, growth, and determination throughout the season. We look forward to seeing how they continue to develop in the years to come.

Darryn Gallagher | Coach

U16B

Regular players: Ethan Aitken, James Aitken, Max Asamoah, Aiden Clubb (captain), Max Dalrymple, Liam Firth, Phemelo Joel, Christopher Lindsay, Murray Meyer, Nicandro Padayachee, Rourke Schwegmann, Sazi Sigodi, Carter Van den Berg, Arjun Wadhvani

Many of the players in this team were part of the pre-season training squad under the care of Mr Devon van der Merwe and Mr Damian Kimfley, which meant they were well-conditioned and ready for their first match.

The first match of the season was against Northwood, which we won 3-0. The boys worked tirelessly during the season's practices, always eager to listen and learn. A testament to their diligence was that they bookended the holiday with another impressive win, this time 6-1 against Kearsney.

Both of our matches against rivals Michaelhouse were intense. In the first fixture, Michaelhouse were admittedly the better team, and the boys had to dig deep to get through long periods without the ball. The team's perseverance, however, prevailed allowing a 1-1 draw. This same result arose in the reverse fixture, this time playing away from home in a rapid, far more evenly presented match.

Traveling to Pretoria showed the team's resilience. Playing the early Saturday game after a long day on the road, our defensive structures were sound, and our finishing clinical. In a game where very few clear opportunities arose, a 1-0 victory was deserved.

One of the best matches of the season, for me, was against St Charles College. It was not the result, and certainly not the first half that stood out for me. The team began poorly and seemed to lack the required energy. What stands out, though, is how the team rallied during the half-time talk. Sport rarely goes exactly to plan, and it takes a dynamic team to admit what is not working, to better their discipline and take responsibility. In 10 swift second-half minutes, a 3-0 win was confirmed.

Overall, the team played nine matches, winning five, drawing three, and losing only one.

An encouraging sign for the future is that most of the regular players were Grade 9s, meaning that next year's U16A squad should have talent, experience, and competition for places. I look forward to seeing their progress.

Richard Randelhoff | Coach

U16C

Regular players: Ethan Aitken, James Aitken, Andrew Bernstein, Kelso Bolton, Olerato Chitanga, Daniel Evans, Liam Firth, Phemelo Joel, Ntsika Kleinboo, Christopher Lindsay, Obakeng Motsepa, Atang Mphati, Barack Munawa, Luphelele Shange, Daniel Urquhart

The U16Cs had a shaky start to the season with a 0-2 loss to Northwood. Thereafter, the ship began to right itself and a draw against Kearsney, as well as a 6-1 routing of Glenwood, followed.

Unfortunately, this momentum could not be maintained, and two consecutive losses were suffered in the next set of fixtures; the one against our old rivals, Michaelhouse, was particularly grating. Our next match was against Maritzburg College on their very own Pape's Astro, and it was here that the boys put on their best performance of the season, solidly beating College 3-0; it was easily the best hockey that the U16Cs had played to date. The team capitalised on this and managed to end the season by turning their 0-4 loss to Michaelhouse into a 2-1 victory in the return fixture – jubilant celebrations ensued.

The team grew, both as players and young men, through the course of the season and I am extremely proud of the way they conducted themselves on the astroturf.

Nic Holtzhauzen | Coach



U16D

Regular players: Rhett Beaumont, Nothani Buthelezi, Dougal Carr, Joshua Chibwe, Olerato Chitanga, Daniel Christie, Zizwe Digangoane (captain), Raphael Dube, Langa Hokhanguy, Ben Mann, Makwe Motsepe, Max Sclanders, Alessio Sewraj, Will Thompson, Duncan van Niekerk

The U16D hockey team had a season marked by grit and steady progress, capturing a memorable early season win (6-3 vs Glenwood) and valuable lessons with games that were lost or drawn. Although our results were mixed, the team showed determination (in a 1-1 draw vs Kearsney), staying competitive and fighting until the final whistle in every match. The season saw them notch some impressive goals, even though maintaining control in the midfield proved challenging at times. Defensive lapses let opponents through all too often, but every game served as a chance for growth and learning.

One standout was Langa Hokhanguy, who was a revelation in goals. His instinctive saves and quick reflexes became a cornerstone for the team, lifting morale and keeping the team in tight games. Langa's contributions not only boosted the team's defence but also inspired his teammates to rally around him in difficult moments.

However, maintaining consistency proved challenging, as several players were promoted to higher teams, leading to frequent changes in selection. Despite this, the team spirit and determination never wavered. The unwavering optimism and enthusiasm of captain Zizwe Digangoane was instrumental in fostering a healthy, happy team atmosphere. Zizwe's leadership brought out the best in the squad, ensuring that each player felt valued and motivated.

Some of the most memorable moments came from practice matches against the U16C team. These sessions were tough and often tested the D team's limits, but they proved invaluable for development. Playing against a stronger squad challenged the players and built resilience – and there was never a dull moment during those sessions! The camaraderie they shared in these sessions became a key part of this team's character.

In all, it was a season that demonstrated the importance of perseverance, teamwork, and personal growth. The U16D team's journey was about more than the final score; it was about each player's development and commitment to each other and the game.

Andrew Brown | Coach

U16E

Regular players: Samuel Bird, Jamie Byres, Joshua Chibwe, Lwanda Chitha, Ryan Grobler, Ty Kalayamotho, Caleb Kinvig (captain), Mahlatji Koma, Karabelo Morojele, Akhumzi Mtshungwana, Ludvonga Mtshungwana, Aryan Pillay, Luke Ramlakan, Layton Stokes, Luke Troger, Duncan van Niekerk

The U16E team had a lively and challenging hockey season, with every player showing passion and dedication to the game. Though the results didn't always fall in our favour, the boys stayed motivated and eager to improve, ready for each practice and the next match. A special thanks to Caleb Kinvig for his exemplary leadership as captain. Coaching this group of young men was truly enjoyable, as they all consistently displayed excellent sportsmanship and a real love for hockey.

Over the season, the team played nine games, of which they won three, lost four and drew two.

Richard Garrett | Coach

U14A

Regular players: Fynn Asamoah, Nicholas Bodley, Quinn Bush, Luke Calvert, Callum Dreyer, Allan Maclean, Landa Mgele, Leruo Motsei, Avaneesh Nunna, Demi Ogunfowora, Richard Porritt, Tlali Puling, Sange Qangule, Jess Sauls

The team gave themselves to tough pre-season training, working hard on their fitness and basic skills. When the season kicked off, they were ready for a competitive few months.

It began with KZN Inland pre-season friendlies. This laid the platform for our Nomads tour which was held at Hilton College. We would come up against some of the best hockey-playing schools in the country.

During the actual season, we played some scintillating hockey and notched up some impressive wins and ground out some tough draws. We played with heart and determination in the last game of the season, which made for a pleasing finish to the season.

Of the 14 games we played, we won five, lost seven and drew two.

The standout achievement of this team was the way the boys defended and had to learn to fight for a win, draw or just a close loss. I am very proud of their growth and development from the start to the end.

Congratulations to the following players for making the KZN Inland U14A, B and C teams:

KZN Inland A	Quinn Bush, Luke Calvert, Callam Dreyer, Allan Maclean, Jess Sauls
KZN Inland B	Fynn Asamoah, Landa Mgele, Leruo Motsei, Sange Qangule
KZN Inland C	Nicholas Bodley, Demi Ogunfowora, Richard Porritt
Non-travelling reserve	Avaneesh Nunna, Tlali Puling

Matthew Fairweather | Coach

U14B

Regular players: Jared Bartels, Murray Dicks (captain), Luke Goodenough, Omolemo Kenney, Luyanda Malinga, Munei Mangale, Nicholas Miller, Nathan Mturi, Zangi Mwale, Jesse Newell, Buhlebonke Ntshangase, Azania Ntshona, Avaneesh Nunna, Demi Ogunfowora, Tlali Puling, Benjamin Scorgie

With a team made up of seasoned hockey players as well as boys who had never played the sport – yet possessed natural flair and ability – much of the season was spent honing the basic skills required to play strong hockey. And, whilst we got off to a slow start and experienced disappointments, we managed to learn from those moments and end our season on a high.

Our match results were varied. We secured victories over Glenwood (3-0) and Michaelhouse (5-1), drew to Maritzburg College (0-0) and Northwood (1-1), and lost to Kearsney (1-4), Michaelhouse (0-1), Westville (0-3) and St Charles (1-4).

The team eagerly anticipated their turn to travel to the hallowed grounds of Pretoria Boys High School. The excitement and nerves mixed with the long drive did not prove to be our winning formula and our result was not what we had hoped for. Whilst we had many opportunities to score, we were reluctant in the “D” and second-guessed ourselves when going for goals. Ultimately, the home side dominated, and we walked away with a three-goal deficit.

Our most noteworthy victory came at the second Hilton vs. Michaelhouse fixture in Balgowan where we managed to clench a 5-1 win. In the words of Benjamin Scorgie in his post-match debrief: “It may be their House, but today, we made it our home.”

The boys are commended for their tenacity on the pitch and bringing a sense of humour to our practices. Losing is never fun, nor is it easy, but the boys kept their heads high and learnt from their setbacks.

Lara Rogers | Coach

U14C

Regular players: Vidal Analo, Jared Bartels, Kai Davenport, Dom Dunn, Josh Earl, Melusi Gude, Jed Hartel, Raele Kendall, Otsile Moncho, Craig Nel, Kelechi Nwobi, Liam Orchard, Troy Orchard, Jude Shen-Yu, David Weng

The season began with a 1-0 win against Northwood in the last five seconds of the game, setting the scene for the type of hockey they wanted to play. The boys came up against some good U14C teams that tested them, but they worked hard and for the most part managed to come out on top, winning six of the 10 games they played.

It was a season of intense and exciting play. The team played an attacking brand of hockey, beating Michaelhouse at home and away 7-1 and 5-0 respectively.

They learnt to fight for a win and became a tight-knit group of friends.

Travis Pieters | Coach

U14D

Regular players: Vidal Analo, Jared Bartel, Josh Earl, Melusi Gude, Liam Orchard, Troy Orchard, Jude Shen-Yu, David Weng

The U14Ds had an incredible season, and I couldn’t be prouder of the effort and attitude of each player. Though our results were mixed, that was never the focus; instead, the emphasis was on having fun, building skills, and creating a supportive team environment. From the beginning, the players embraced the idea of playing for the sheer joy of the game. There was no pressure to perform, and they embodied the spirit of teamwork, sportsmanship, and resilience.

This relaxed and positive approach allowed the players to explore their skills freely, to experiment with new techniques, and to support each other in victories and defeats. They developed a real love for the game, and you could see it in the smiles on their faces every time they took to the field. This enthusiasm was contagious and contributed to a strong team culture where everyone felt valued and included.

As a coach, one of the most rewarding aspects of the season was seeing how the players developed in confidence, learning to handle challenges with grace.

This season was a testament to the power of playing for the love of the game. I am very proud of them. It was a pleasure to coach such a spirited, committed, and joyful group of players, and I look forward to seeing them grow and thrive in the future.

Msizi Mchunu | Coach

Comparing past successes to present outcomes is always complex due to the many variables at play. To truly assess where we stand, it's essential to look at our systems – what we do well, where we fall short, and how to align our expectations with reality. While this season might appear average in terms of results, there are significant positives that lay a strong foundation for the future. Below is an age-group breakdown of Hilton College Rugby's progress this season.

The U14 age group has been a highlight, showing immense potential. A talented mix of size, strength, and skill has set a strong platform. The A team benefited from depth, with the B team stepping up admirably when injuries occurred. Coaches Mr Mike Horak and Mr Tienie van Wyk have set high standards, pushing the boys to their limits while equipping them with the tools to develop into a powerhouse.

The B side, under Mr Sibonelo Khanyile and Mr KG Motlogeloa, thrived on a combination of passion, competitiveness, and camaraderie. They introduced these players to the ethos of Hilton Rugby with vigour. Meanwhile, the C and D teams, led by Mr David Griffiths and Mr Mark Handman, showcased enthusiasm and energy. Despite some boys being new to rugby or late developers, the mix created a unique and vibrant team dynamic.

The U15A side experienced a slow start but peaked with memorable wins against Westville and Michaelhouse. Coaches Mr Andrew Duncan and Mr Lwazi Mvovo have moulded a group that promises to mature into a formidable team in future seasons.

The B team, led by Mr Will Donkin and Mr Dave Smythe, faced disruptions due to injuries in the A side. Despite challenges, they kept their players motivated and resilient. The C and D teams, guided by Mr Lionel Julius and Mr Swelihle Mkhwanazi, balanced fun with hard work, helping the boys navigate a critical stage in their rugby journey.

The U16A team stood out with exceptional performances against top-tier opponents like Northwood, Grey Bloem, and Stellenberg. Though injuries affected their momentum towards the season's end, their potential remains undeniable. A special congratulations to Burger Nel and Zander Müller for being included in the SA U16 national setup – a testament to their hard work and talent.

The B side, under the seasoned guidance of Mr Michael Werth, managed some outstanding games, while the C and D teams, led by Mr Jason Sileno and Mr Cam Wiid, brought energy and excitement. The "Ballers & Jollers" delivered passionate, entertaining rugby, showcasing commitment across the board.

In the open age group, the 7th and 8th teams epitomized rugby spirit, competing with heart despite limited fixtures. The 5th and 6th teams, under Mr De Wet Wentzel and Mr Jaco van Dyk, played with guts and determination, producing enjoyable and competitive rugby.

The 3rd and 4th teams set the tone for weekend fixtures, displaying commitment and energy. Coaches Mr Sipho Moniwa, Mr Paul Venter, Mr Brett Armstrong, and Mr Brad McDonald cultivated a strong training culture that translated into great performances on match days.

The 2nd XV faced significant challenges due to injuries in the 1st team. Despite the disruptions, Mr Cameron Fraser and his squad managed to deliver noteworthy performances, showcasing resilience and adaptability. The team continues to be a critical breeding ground for future first-team players.

The 1st XV might reflect on a mixed season but can take pride in their development and achievements. A slow start did not deter them from producing standout performances, including a memorable win at Kings Park against Glenwood – a significant improvement from their loss to the same team five years ago. The victory over Boland Landbou was another highlight.

Injuries to key players like Hanu Pieterse and Ross Brown tested the team's depth, but the Grade 11s stepped up admirably, offering a glimpse into the potential for next year.

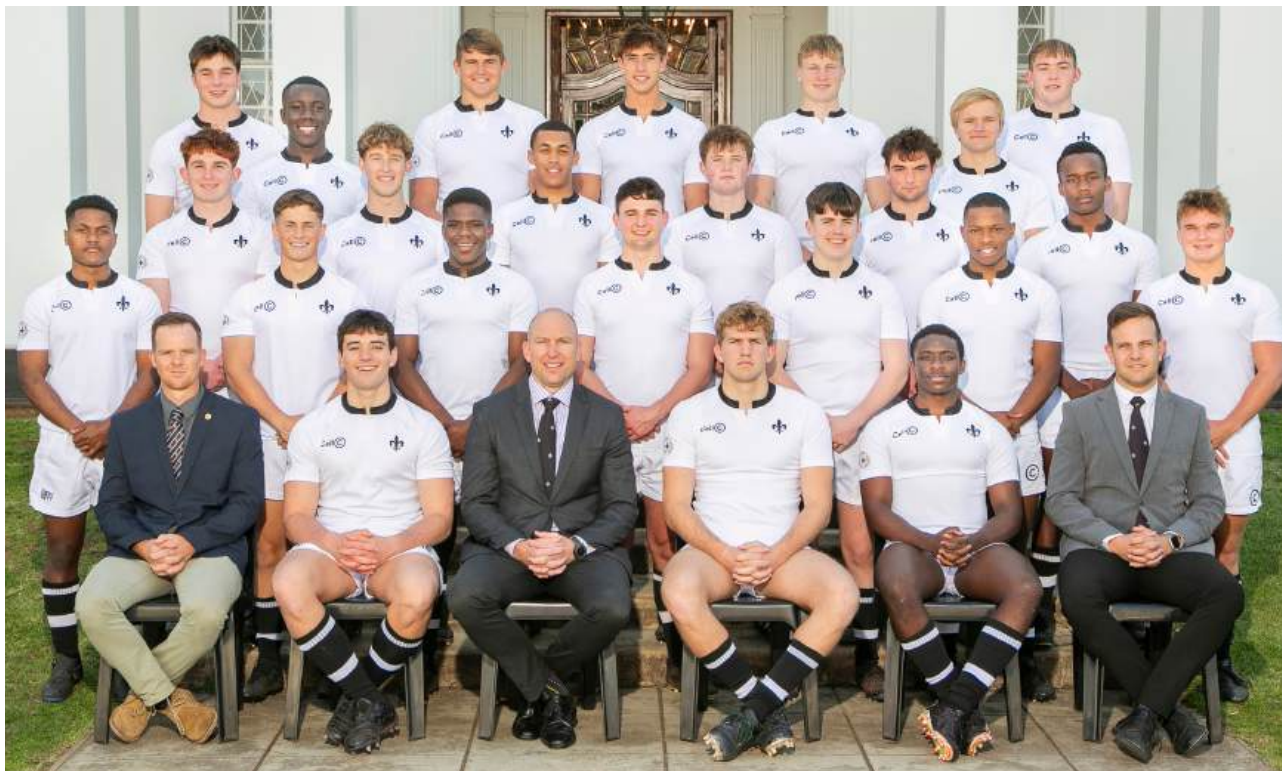


GREG MILLER

Special recognition goes to Mr Burger Nel and Mr Cameron Fraser for their involvement in the Sharks Provincial setup, and to Liyema Nela for making the SA U17 squad. Trent Chubb's inclusion as a non-traveling reserve further underscores the talent in the squad.

While this season's results might not match past successes, the foundation being laid across all age groups is evident. Coaches and players alike have shown resilience, passion, and commitment. The depth, talent, and potential seen throughout the teams promise a bright future for Hilton rugby. As we reflect on this season, the focus must remain on continuous growth, aligning expectations, and building a legacy of excellence.

Greg Miller | Director of Rugby



1ST XV

Back row: Stewart Falconer, Trent Chubb, Meyer Malherbe, Keiran Hunter, Rowan Cox

Fourth row: Emmanuel Dankwah, Oliver Proudfoot

Third row: Josh Grant, Oliver Mattison, Requilme Adonis, Dylan Neill, Sebastien Gaboreau, Ivan Jjuuko

Second row: Xola Makongolo, Jacques Olivier, Liyema Nela, Ross Brown, Daniel Sweeney, Khazimla Makali, Mitchel Wilson

Front row: Mr Carl Schmidt, Ben le Roux, Mr Brad Macleod-Henderson, Hanu Pieterse, Rukudzo Madinga, Mr Cameron Fraser

1ST XV

Regular players: Requilme Adonis, Ross Brown, Trent Chubb, Rowan Cox, Emmanuel Dankwah, Stewart Falconer, Sebastien Gaboreau, Josh Grant, Keiran Hunter, Khanya Jekwa, Ivan Jjuuko, Ben le Roux, Rukudzo Madinga, Khazimla Makali, Xola Makongolo, Meyer Malherbe, Oliver Mattison, Dylan Neill, Liyema Nela, Jacques Olivier, Hanu Pieterse, Oliver Proudfoot, Daniel Sweeney, Zander Vorster, Mitchel Wilson

The 2024 1st XV rugby season began at home against a well-prepared and very physical Northwood side. Having attended the matric dance the night before, our boys were comprehensively outplayed, especially at lineout time and in the physical exchanges, and went down to a 10-7 loss. With no time to mourn, the team headed to Cape Town to play at the Bishop's 175th Rugby Festival, where our first game was against Kingswood. Hilton, having rectified their lineout in the week and with Ivan Jjuuko showing all his experience from the back, managed to run out to a large 22-7 lead. Kingswood, being a lot larger and muscular than Hilton, used this advantage to grind away against Hilton and took the lead 26-25. Despite our pushing on the Kingswood line at the end of the game, we couldn't get over the line and went down 26-25. To make matters worse Hilton's captain, Hanu Pieterse, was ruled out with concussion and so Ben Le Roux took over the captaincy.

The team went on to face an even larger opponent in the form of Grey High School. But our boys were up for the physical challenge: two of the younger boys – Jacques Olivier and Stewart Falconer – tackled the big Grey forwards backwards. Ricky Adonis and Xola Makongolo both scored two tries each and this combined with some brilliant kicking by Makongolo and Liyema Nela allowed Hilton to get in front and eventually run away with a 34-17 win. Ben le Roux, addressing the large contingent of Hilton supporters after the game, summed it up nicely by saying, "The white is back!" Sadly, however, Meyer Malherbe injured his hand and was ruled out for two months.

At the St John's festival in Johannesburg over the Easter weekend, Hilton began with a game against St Benedict's running away with a 57-0 win. Adonis scored a hat-trick of tries and it was wonderful to watch prop Khanya Jekwa run 50 metres and score. This was followed by the main game on the Saturday against a very powerful Boland Landbou side from the Western Cape who had dismantled Maritzburg College in their previous game. Hilton welcomed back their vice-captain Rukudzo Madinga from injury and had a clear plan for the game: to match the bruising boys from Boland otherwise they would be in trouble. Fifteen minutes into the game Hilton's Ross Brown led the charge supported by fellow loose forwards Falconer and Olivier, scrapping for everything. In the second half Hilton managed to take charge. Madinga scored two brilliant tries on the right wing, one after a clever kick by Zander Vorster, and some fantastic conversions from Liyema Nela allowed Hilton to earn a shock 17-14 victory much to the delight of a large Hilton support base. The image of Madinga collapsing after the final whistle, too exhausted to celebrate with his teammates, will live long in my memory.

The last game of the tour was against a tough Nelspruit team hell-bent on getting one over the Hilton boys. After the high of beating Boland Landbou and some sore bodies, there was a concern that Hilton wouldn't be up for the battle. This was quickly dispelled with the Hilton backs scoring all five tries, the best of which involving Mitchel Wilson to Nela to Madinga to Dan Sweeney

to Brown to Khazi Makali back to Nela to Makongolo. Trent Chubb was particularly strong up front with some big carries and putting pressure on the Nelspruit lineout. Tries in the second half by Sweeney and Vorster meant Hilton ran out 32-17 winners.

The start of the second term began at home against Kearsney and with the matrices having taken a large loss in U16 against Kearsney, there was a lot of determination to show what the boys could do. Hilton welcomed back Pieterse and the game started at a frantic pace on a particularly hot winter's day. Hilton's defence wasn't what it should be but luckily their attack was as warm as the weather and Hilton won 55-37. Hilton's next game was against Glenwood at Kings Park. Injuries continued to plague Hilton with Vorster, Wilson, Olivier and Madinga injured. Jjuuko playing at centre was massive on attack and defence and he was well supported by Pieterse with strong back up from Josh Grant, and so Hilton won 26-7.

The first Hilton/Michaelhouse game was next and with both teams in good form, there was a lot of excitement in the buildup. Unfortunately, Hilton made too many mistakes and went down 23-34 in a score that maybe flattered Hilton a bit. This was followed by a trip up to Pretoria to play Pretoria Boys High School with a team hindered by injuries: Brown miraculously finished the Michaelhouse game with a broken leg and Falconer was taken out by a shoulder injury. Hilton had regular hooker Dylan Neill playing flank and Ollie Mattison stepping in. There was some great kicking by Nela before he left the field concussed; Neill scored off a maul; Pieterse did some strong work at the breakdown and Adonis scored two tries out wide. This proved too strong for PBHS and Hilton won 29-17. Hilton needed a break and luckily it was half term.

After the half-term break, the injuries continued with Pieterse ruled out with a knee injury and Hilton facing a tough away fixture against a large and very quick Westville team. Hilton did manage to welcome back Malherbe from a hand injury and so he slotted in at blindside flank with Neill moving across to openside flank, his third position for the team. Emmanuel Dankwah came in at eighth man and Ben Le Roux took over the captaincy. Hilton started the game perfectly according to the game plan and there was some

fantastic kicking by Makongolo at flyhalf and some big carries by Grant, Vorster and Malherbe. Just before half-time a short lapse in concentration allowed the quick Westville backs in for a try and in the second half, Hilton ran out of steam and the talented Westville side ran away with the game 40-26.

Next for Hilton was our game against our oldest foes Maritzburg College down at Goldstones. Hilton were under pressure initially, however in the second half a great linebreak by Makali led to Jjuuko scoring and then Makongolo made another break that led to Vorster scoring his second try, placing Hilton in the lead. A few costly lineouts allowed College to get some territory and wrestle back the lead 26-20. In the closing seconds of the game, Hilton had put many phases together but a great tackle by the College winger denied Hilton a potential try and the match.

Hilton had their last game at home against St Charles who had shown some recent good form. Hilton started the game well but didn't get many points for their pressure and St Charles struck with two long-range tries by their speedy backs, going into the second half ahead on the scoreboard. In the second half, Hilton continued to apply pressure with some big carries by Dankwah. Madinga had two intercepts that led to tries and Hilton won 44-34.

Hilton's last game of the season was against Michaelhouse, as usual, and after Michaelhouse won the first fixture a large crowd pitched up at Meadows. Hilton welcomed captain Pieterse back and moved vice-captain Madinga into the 13 jersey and both boys were outstanding for Hilton. Hilton started the game well with Sweeney scoring, however the rest of the half belonged to Michaelhouse as their combination of forward power and pacey backs proved too much. Just after half time, Hilton made a handling error and this allowed the Michaelhouse backs to beat Hilton on the outside and score their third try, taking a 22-7 lead. Hilton then tightened up their play and combined with some brilliant lineout work by Keiran Hunter and some great mauling by forwards Ben Le Roux and Ollie Proudfoot, Hilton managed to gain territory. This allowed Grant and Malherbe to barge over from close range. When the score was 25-21 to Michaelhouse, Jjuuko kicked long and as the ball was rolling in the in-goal area, the Michaelhouse backs thought they would leave the ball to roll dead rather than dot it down and as they dawdled, Sebastien Gaboreau kept running and dived in with his right hand extended and dotted the ball down! Try to Hilton and a 26-25 lead, the Hilton forwards and scrumhalf Vorster handled the last three minutes well in controlling position. There were massive celebrations at the final whistle as Hilton had come back from the dead and, led by Gaboreau, never given up. For the second year in a row the winning margins between the two games were exactly the same: one point in 2024 and three points in 2023.

That brought the curtain down on the 2024 season where Hilton managed to win nine of their 14 games, and while the side were not always the biggest or the best and were obliterated with injuries, they always gave their all and put up a strong fight in the white. I would like to wish all the boys the best and to thank them for their efforts and hard work this season. I would also like to thank my fellow coaches and support staff, the parents, and the wider Hilton College rugby community for all their support over the year.

In the June/July holidays Hilton took a 'stayers' team to St Alban's in Pretoria under the captaincy of Madinga and vice captaincy of Sweeney and Neill. Hilton managed to secure narrow wins over St Stithian's (12-7) and the Blue Bulls Invitation (10-7), and a big 38-7 win against St Alban's.

Brad Macleod-Henderson | Coach



REQUILME ADONIS: Ricky was the team's leading try scorer with nine tries. He also used his pace to great effect to beat players on the outside and was very effective in using his height to challenge kick offs. I am sure he won't easily forget his two tries against Pretoria Boys High and Kearsney. If Ricky works on improving his strength and power, he can do some great things next year.

ROSS BROWN: Ross was phenomenal for the team, showing how strong and tough someone could be with a small body. He had the ability to knock ball carriers back and attach himself like a limpet to the ball and secure us a turnover. He was hugely missed after the first Hilton Michaelhouse game where he broke his leg but still somehow managed to finish the game.

TRENT CHUBB: Trent came into the team as our number 4 lock and did some big carries for us and added weight to our scrum and maul. There was a particular big effort by him and Meyer in the chase line against St Charles where he caught their fullback, and that intervention really turned the tide for us. If he works hard on his conditioning, he can do some great things next year.

ROWAN COX: Coxie was a super solid player for the team who covered us at prop. Whenever he came on, he always gave his best and brought a lot of positivity to the team. He also did a great job in captaining the 2nd XV.

EMMANUEL DANKWAH: Jerry is an extremely talented ball carrier, and he used his pace and power to great effect for the team, especially off the base of the scrum. His one carry off the base against St Charles really sticks with me. If he works hard he will have a fantastic 2025.

STEWART FALCONER: Stewie had a great season playing both blindside and openside flank. He has a great work rate that allowed him to do loads of chasing and harassing of the opposition. His breakdown work and defence improved as the season progressed and hopefully, he can continue to work on these areas and his conditioning for next year. Unfortunately he injured his shoulder but returned for the last few games.

SEBASTIEN GABOREAU: Seb was a revelation with his commitment and hard work winning him the most improved player of the season. He scored three tries for the team, the most important being the 'viral – never-give-it-up try' in the second game against Michaelhouse. He also made numerous tackles and was always a threat at the breakdown.

JOSH GRANT: Josh brought some nice physicality to the team in his carries and his defence. He was difficult to stop close to the tryline and used this power to score four tries. His lineout throwing improved as the season went on and he was a vital part of our kick chase line where he used his strong communication skills and high work rate to good effect for the team. I look forward to watching him develop next year.

KEIRAN HUNTER: Keiran was a rock for the team and one of only three who played every game. He had a massive work rate and ran good lines for the team and took full control of the lineout where we achieved a 100% in the second game against Michaelhouse and put a lot of pressure on the opposition lineout.

KHANYA JEKWA: Khanya started at loose head for the team and came off the bench at times to cover us at loose forward. He scored an amazing try against St Benedict's where he ran for 50 metres to score. He is a strong ball carrier who needs to continue working on the other aspects of his game and he can have a brilliant 2025 season.

IVAN JUUUKO: Ivan was the team's fullback and he used his experience to great effect. His positional play was excellent and he was very brave in defence. He played 12 for a few games due to injuries and his defence again shone through. He did a great job in leading the team against St Benedict's on tour and I am sure he will remember his try against College for years to come. He scored three tries for the team.

BEN LE ROUX: Ben was a true trojan of the team, one of the few guys who played every game and used all his experience from last year to help those around him. He was the team vice-captain but stepped in and did a great job as captain on many occasions. His defence and work rate were always of the top order, and he wasn't shy to carry some ball for the team. He also continued his tradition of scoring one try for the team against Kingswood.

RUKUDZO MADINGA: Rukudzo is a very tough rugby player who tackles and runs hard, he was the team's vice-captain and did most of his talking in actions. He was arguably the best player on the field in the second game against Michaelhouse. He scored five tries for the team including two against Boland Landbou in what become known as "Madingas's corner". He unfortunately missed a few games due to injury.

KHAZIMLA MAKALI: Khazi played 13 for the team and used his silky skills to score four tries for the team. He is extremely competitive which helped the team on defence. His communication improved as the season went on and hopefully he continues to work on that and his conditioning, as he can have an awesome 2025 season.

XOLA MAKONGOLO: Xola played flyhalf, fullback and wing for the team where he used his sidestep and a nice right boot to great effect. He scored 75 points for the team and his goalkicking really kept us in the game against Westville. He also kicked two drop kicks against Michaelhouse and Westville.

MEYER MALHERBE: Meyer made massive strides in his rugby development, and it was very disappointing that he got injured so early in the season. Luckily, he recovered and played the last few games for us, scoring a crucial try against Michaelhouse, and always posing a big threat with ball in hand.

OLIVER MATTISON: Ollie was a great member of the squad. On numerous occasions he was asked to come off the bench, and he gave of his best every time. His big work rate was vital for us in our kick chase and in securing the ball at the breakdown.

DYLAN NEILL: Dyl could always be relied on to give his best for the team and he amazingly started in three different positions for the team, showing his love for and understanding of the game. At hooker his throwing was always good and at loose forward he always ran the right lines and was in the right place for the team. I'm sure he will remember his try against Pretoria Boys High for a long time.

LIYEMA NELA: Liyema played flyhalf for the team and was our first choice goalkicker. He scored 81 points for the team before he unfortunately got concussed and missed the second half of the season. He has a great left boot that put the team in the right areas, and he can also pull the right strings on attack. His penalty kick from the halfway line against Pretoria Boys High pretty much killed off the game. If he brings a little more focus to his game, he can do some amazing things next year.

JACQUES OLIVIER: Jacquie was a real find for the team this year where his tenacity in defence and on attack was a privilege to watch. He tackled everything in front of him and developed his breakdown stealing skills. He also had a few powerful carries.

HANU PIETERSE: Hanu was the team's captain and when available he did an outstanding job of leading the team in the number eight jersey. He was destructive at the breakdown winning us numerous turnovers. He was also very effective in the lineouts and in his ball carries, where he scored five tries. His performance in the second game against Michaelhouse was truly phenomenal considering he had just come back from a five-week knee injury. He was selected for the KZN Craven week side.

OLIVER PROUDFOOT: Ollie was an extremely dependable member of the team and one of the few players who played every game. He made sure that our scrum was steady and his high work rate showed in his tackle count and ruck attendance. He also has a nice little tip on pass.

DANIEL SWEENEY: Dan played 12 for the team and used his strong pass and good communication skills to great effect on attack, and in defence he never shirked his duties. He was also a rock for us on our kick chase helping to guide everyone in the right direction. He also covered us at 9 at times when the team had injuries. I don't think he will ever forget his try which contributed to our win against Michaelhouse.

ZANDER VORSTER: Zander was the team's scrumhalf and used his strength and power to great effect scoring six tries for the team. He was particularly effective five metres out. He has a big boot and strong pass. If he continues to work on the consistency of his pass and kick and his ability to get the best out of his teammates, he could be quite formidable next year.

MITCHEL WILSON: Mitchie played 9 for the team and used his great boot and strong pass to great effect for the team. I am sure that he will remember his try against Nelspruit for years to come.

Boys who also represented the 1st XV in 2024 include Jos Kok, Tristan Uys, Didier Rey and André Boshoff.



DIRECTOR OF HEALTH AND FITNESS: CARL SCHMIDT

2ND XV

Regular players: André Boshoff, Rowan Cox, Emmanuel Dankwah, Morné Engelbrecht, Richard Eyres, James Fender, Sebastien Gaboreau, Khanya Jekwa, Bryce Johnson, Jos Kok, Daniel Lyon, Oliver Mattison, Ethan McCabe, Dylan Neill, James Ogilby, Amahle Seima, Simon Steyn, Tristan Uys, Christopher Wagner, Jack Weavind, Mitchel Wilson

The 2nd XV, affectionately known as the “Hoop and Badge,” displayed a spirited and determined performance throughout a memorable season, marked by high-stakes wins, challenging draws, and nail-biting finishes. The team’s resilience and unity on the field highlighted their commitment to giving everything in every match.

Their season began with a chukka against Secunda’s 1st team, where Hilton’s physicality and organised play set the tone. Despite facing a stronger side, the Hoop and Badge played fearlessly. Meyer Malherbe’s hard ball-carrying and a well-executed attack paved the way for James Fender to score, setting up a positive start.

A home match against Northwood saw the team take on a tough opponent in sweltering conditions. Both teams faced defensive struggles, but Hilton stayed in the fight with tries from Zander Vorster and Xola Makongolo, each converted by Chris Wagner. The contest was tight, resulting in a hard-fought 14-14 draw that reflected each team’s strength and resilience.

Next up, the team faced Kearsney College, who began with an early try. Unfazed, Hilton responded with two counter-attacking tries by Sebastien Gaboreau and Morné Engelbrecht, along with a Wagner penalty. Another early second-half try by Makongolo seemed to secure the win, but Kearsney capitalised on defensive lapses to retake the lead. In the closing minutes, a powerful push from Jos Kok resulted in a try, clinching a thrilling 34-31 victory for Hilton.

Against Glenwood, our boys started strong, with two tries by Engelbrecht – one from a set-piece and another from a counter-attack – showing Hilton’s ability to capitalise on their strengths. Wagner added two penalties, and Amahle Seima scored after a chase on a fumbled Glenwood ball. Despite Glenwood’s persistent rolling maul, Hilton responded with a penalty try after Glenwood collapsed a Hilton maul. A late try from Khanya Jekwa rounded off a satisfying 38-25 victory.

The team’s momentum was checked in a challenging game against an ambitious Michaelhouse side. Despite a few solid penalties by Wagner, Hilton struggled to find their rhythm and lost 31-11.

Hilton bounced back in an away fixture against Pretoria Boys High. Although they initially conceded an early try, Wagner’s penalties kept them in touch, and a powerful run by Jekwa put Hilton ahead 10-7 at halftime. Mitchel Wilson snuck in with a maul try, extending Hilton’s lead, but Pretoria Boys High capitalised on defensive lapses to score twice in rapid succession. In a final push, Malherbe charged through defenders, setting up Wagner for a clutch conversion that sealed a thrilling 22-21 win.

The highlight of the season was undoubtedly facing a strong Westville Boys’ High outfit in Durban. Hilton opened strongly with a line break by Tristan Uys, whereafter Wilson linked up with Jekwa to score the first try. After a second half try in the left-hand corner by Kok, Westville responded with physical play, putting Hilton on the defensive. However, Hilton’s relentless last-minute pressure forced a turnover, leading to a final try by Simon Steyn for another memorable victory.

Hilton’s match against Maritzburg College on Goldstones proved tough, with two early mistakes allowing College to establish a lead. Despite tries from Jekwa and a Wagner penalty, Hilton was down

21-10 at halftime. Dylan Neill drove over for a five-pointer in the second half, but College’s late penalty sealed a 24-17 defeat, with an unfortunate handling error thwarting Hilton’s final push.

The team rebounded with a commanding performance against St Charles College on Gilfillan. Hilton’s dominance in every phase led to a 45-7 victory, with tries from Oliver Mattison, Jekwa, Uys, Wilson, Wagner, Steyn, and Kok.

In the season finale, Hilton took on Michaelhouse on Meadows in an epic clash. Hilton conceded an early try but responded with another pick-and-go try by Neill. Another try by Michaelhouse left Hilton trailing 14-7 at halftime. Neill scored again early in the second half, but Michaelhouse widened the gap with a lineout try. Emmanuel Dankwah then scored off a powerful run in the wide channels, closing the gap to two points. Michaelhouse’s late penalty made it 24-17, but Hilton’s relentless waves of attack culminated in a memorable try by Jekwa. With Wagner’s precise conversion, Hilton secured a hard-earned 24-24 draw in the closing moments.

Throughout the season, the 2nd XV displayed relentless tenacity, fighting back from deficits and pushing forward in every game. The Hoop and Badge exemplified the spirit of Hilton rugby, showing grit, camaraderie, and an undying will to compete – leaving the Hilton community with lasting memories of an unforgettable season.

Cameron Fraser | Coach

3RD XV

Regular players: Natenzi Denenga, Langa Dlamini, Richard Eyres, Charles Fawcett, Thomas Harilaou, Harry Jarvie, Chris Johnson, Bryce Johnson, Joshua Lord, Daniel Lyon, Ewan Miskin, Six Nyangiwe, Alex Pitman, Didier Rey, Sean Richie, Lee Singh, Chad Swanepoel, Thomas Taylor, Ethan van Heerden (captain)

The 3rd team had a challenging season, marked by narrow losses and missed opportunities. Despite the results, the players demonstrated commendable spirit and resilience throughout the year.

Our season began with a heart-wrenching 12-14 loss to Northwood. In a dramatic finish, Northwood scored a try in the dying moments, stealing victory from our grasp. Despite this setback, our team rallied with a fantastic performance against Kearsney College, securing a solid 25-7 win.

The momentum continued as we triumphed over Glenwood High School with a convincing 18-0 victory, highlighting our defensive strength and tactical execution. However, things took a turn for the team: First we lost 13-26 to Michaelhouse, and then suffered consecutive narrow losses to Pretoria Boys High (14-15) and Westville Boys’ High (14-15). Our encounter with Maritzburg College ended in a 14-21 loss, despite our fighting until the final whistle.

A standout moment came when we dominated Linpark’s 1st team, finishing with a remarkable 37-10 victory, which invigorated the squad. Unfortunately, we closed the season with a close match against Michaelhouse, where we lost 22-28.

While the season may not have yielded the wins we hoped for, it fostered a strong culture within the team. Every player consistently gave their best, showcasing their commitment and character, which is something to be proud of. I am grateful for the dedication shown by all the players throughout the season. Their hard work and teamwork have laid a foundation for future successes, and I look forward to seeing how the Grade 11s build on this experience.

Sipho Moniwa | Coach

4TH XV

Regular players: Travis de Bryn, Natenzi Denenga, James Dent, Jack Guye, Ben Hockly, Marc Isabelle, Joshua Lord, Joshua Mapp, James McGregor, Ntando Ngcobo, Ndalo Ngewu, Alex Pitman, Charlie Short, Chris Snijman (captain), Luke Spear, Charles Swart, Kingsley Thompson, Dominic van Aardt, Jake van Zydarn, Jared Wilson

The 4th XV had a season of stark contrasts, with moments of sublime play punctuated by periods of being decisively outmatched.

The campaign began on Gilfillan against Northwood where, despite some early season rustiness, the side ran out 40-24 victors. A number of players went on to take part in the Glenwood Festival where they played 1st teams from schools we don't traditionally play. After the Easter holidays the team worked hard to overcome Kearsney in a scrappy affair before beating Glenwood in a match played in inclement conditions. In the home fixture against Michaelhouse, our boys were soundly beaten by very strong opponents. The nadir of the season occurred before the half term break where, up at Pretoria Boys High, a combination of inexplicable decisions, the bounce of the ball and the sporting gods saw the team lose.

Westville Boys' High then hosted us on a rainy day and the boys showed great fortitude to grind out a nail-biting 15-14 win. Boosted by this win, the team travelled to the hallowed Goldstones Field where they led Maritzburg College until a lack of concentration saw them succumb 12-24. After a solid performance against St Charles, we were set to end the season on a winning note. But it was not to be. We were dealt a heavy blow by an unbeaten Michaelhouse side.

To the Grade 12 players – Chris Snijman (who captained the side), Travis de Bryn, Natenzi Denenga, Joshua Mapp, James McGregor, Ntando Ngcobo, Charlie Short, Luke Spear, Charles Swart, Kingsley Thompson and Jared Wilson – thank you for your unwavering service and for setting an example for the younger players.

As always, thanks to Mr Greg Miller, Mr Sipho Moniwa and Mr Brett Armstrong who gave of their time, passion and expertise to the squad. To coach this wonderful game on the green fields of Hilton with these gentlemen remains the most incredible privilege.

Paul Venter | Coach

5TH XV

Regular players: Troy Bailey, Byron Chandler, Oliver Chapple, James Dent, Siba Dlamini, Ben Erasmus, Ben Ferguson (captain), Alex Hathorn, David Hill, Ben Hockly, Jack Kitching, Nqubeko Majozi, Lesedi Mangwale, Ntando Nyabonda, Namisi Opai-Tetteh, Etienne Smith, David Sutton, Sam Wingfield, Rupert Wright

The 5th team had a memorable, albeit challenging, season defined by commitment, teamwork and sportsmanship. The players supported each other in every game, and this created a positive, enjoyable atmosphere that brought out the best in every player.

The team's standout games were against Westville and Glenwood High School. In both matches, they showed impressive defence, standing their ground against tough opponents in hard-fought games, and securing victories.

The season was not without its disappointments. Despite their best efforts, the team lost against Michaelhouse and Pretoria Boys High School. These losses were challenging but helped the boys learn the importance of staying calm under pressure and the need for ongoing practice and growth.

Over the course of the season, the boys developed as players and as young men. Their hard work, team spirit, and resilience have taught them valuable life lessons that will prepare them well for their future in rugby and beyond.

De Wet Wentzel, Jaco van Dyk and Greg Miller | Coaches

6TH XV | No Report

7TH XV

Regular players: Neil Bararugurika, Dan Carver, Simba Chidakwa, Nick Dalrymple, Justin Du, Jamie Dunn, Tochi Ezenwugo, Gcina Gqwaaru, Neil Grobbelaar, William Kitching, Bakuena Lekitla, Karabo Lephema, Retief Malherbe, Siyamkela Maphumulo, Omohau Mbileni, Dzuni Mboweni, Siyanda McClain, Liyema Mndela, Senzo Mngomezulu, Thabo Mngomezulu, Zipho Mpofo, AbuBakr Mussa, Brendan Nieuwstad, Tino Nyabonda, Thuto Phakisi, Dominic Richards, Richard Roxburg, Ndabenhle Sithole, Tele Sitoyo, Sabelo Skosana, Zac Sweidan, Miguel Teixeira, Silwa Wafula, Nicholas Wenyika, Alex Wesselink, Adam Wingfield, Unami Zungu

The 7th XV established three core aims for the season, that being, to practice hard, to play to the best of their ability and to have fun. I am delighted that the squad achieved these goals and, as a result, they were able to have a memorable season.

The season got off to a good start with a narrow 10-7 win against Kearsney. The next match we played was against the Midlands Development 1st XV. This was always going to be a difficult encounter due to the size, speed, and strength of our opponents but we were delighted that we were 'in' the game for most of the match only going down 12-25. The week thereafter was our most disappointing game of the season, our first match against Michaelhouse. Despite spending 80% of the match in our opponent's half, we were not able to convert territory into points. In addition, our poor defence allowed Michaelhouse to score several long-range tries, against the run of play. Our 7-38 loss was a huge blow to the team.

Realising that our weak point was defence and rucking, we spent time on these skills in training. The boys worked hard, and their improvement was notable. Despite not being able to win any of the proceeding matches against much larger schools, the structure of our play and the improvement in our skills was significant. This provided the belief that we could overturn the 31-point loss we had sustained against Michaelhouse, in our final game against them.

This match was the highlight of season. The boys defended like lions and tactically outplayed their opponents by combining a running play with a sound kicking game and forcing them to make errors deep in their half. After a tense start, we were able to go up first by scoring a converted try. Michaelhouse replied scoring a converted try of their own. At the break the score was 7-7. Michaelhouse scored the next try, forcing us to claw our way back from behind. With the scores tied at 12-12, the game was on a knife edge. Fortunately, in the last few minutes we were able to pin Michaelhouse down in their 22m area and an error by them awarded us a scrum in a good attacking position. A set piece move enabled us to get momentum and after a few ball carries our scrumhalf, William Kitching, eventually found the gap we were looking for and dived over for the 5-pointer and with it the victory.

Special thanks to coaches Mr Craig Wilkinson and Mr Chris Kingsley for their invaluable contribution to the team over the season.

Tony Shuttleworth | Coach

U16A

Regular players: Ben Coetzee, Guy Fender, Hartman Fourie, Liyema Gazi, John Grubb, Tomupeishe Gurupira, Callan Kenmuir, Mholi Khuzwayo (captain), Ward Miles, Khetsa Motsa, Musawenkosi Mponda, Zander Müller, Takunda Ntonyo, James Peattie, Garrick Phillips, Banele Phoswa, Benoit Rey, Andrew Schnell, Ross Steyn, Luke Wilson, Liyema Zondi

The U16As performed commendably throughout the season, acquiring valuable experience along the way. Although injuries to key players posed challenges, this also allowed the team to develop greater squad depth. Overall, they demonstrated the potential to become a formidable team. A special bond developed among the players, making it rewarding to witness their growth. Over the course of the season, they played 13 matches, of which they won eight.

The boys were dedicated to pre-season training, which made for a strong start to the season. In a pre-season friendly against Secunda Hoërskool, the team showcased their capabilities with a resounding 54-3 victory. This momentum carried into their first official match against Northwood, where they achieved a memorable 33-3 win.

For the second consecutive year, the U16A team was invited to the prestigious Jean de Villiers Rugby Festival, hosted by Paarl Gimnasium. The competition was particularly tough, beginning with a match against the formidable Grey College from Bloemfontein. Embracing the underdog status, the team excelled in set-pieces and collisions. Ultimately, Grey College defeated Hilton 23-8. Next, Hilton faced Stellenberg Hoërskool, a rising competitor from the Western Cape. Again, positioned as the underdogs, the team employed a tactical masterclass, leveraging the weather conditions to secure a hard-fought 23-22 victory, thanks to a late penalty conversion by flyhalf John Grubb. The final match of the tour was against Hoërskool Diamantveld from Kimberley, which unfortunately descended into ill-discipline from both sides, disrupting the flow of the game. Hilton managed to secure a narrow 31-30 win.

Upon returning home for Term 2, Hilton hosted Kearsney, a team regarded as one of the best in the province. Our team delivered one of their poorest performances, particularly in the second half, losing 32-29 after a last-minute penalty from Kearsney. The boys quickly regrouped to face Glenwood next, overcoming a physical challenge to win comfortably, 19-7. This momentum was crucial leading into the derby clash against Michaelhouse. In a fiercely contested match, Hilton emerged victorious with a late try, sealing a 29-27 win, which was met with great relief and celebration.

The last fixture before the half-term break saw the entire school travel to Pretoria for matches against Pretoria Boys High. Hilton delivered a solid performance securing an 11-10 victory against a particularly dogged defensive effort by the hosts.

Following the half-term break, the team faced a challenging schedule with away fixtures against Westville Boys' High and Maritzburg College. The match against Westville was a classic encounter, with both teams showcasing their best rugby. Although Hilton lost 27-20, the boys displayed commendable effort. Against Maritzburg College on Goldstones, Hilton struggled to find their rhythm, succumbing to a 30-15 loss even after the opposition was reduced to 14 men.

In the last home match of the season against St Charles, Hilton displayed dominance, securing a convincing 38-14 victory. Unfortunately, due to provincial commitments, I, along with two other players, missed the final match against Michaelhouse. With several players injured, the team faced significant challenges. In a thrilling contest, Hilton led until the closing moments but ultimately lost 20-19 after conceding a late penalty. While the result was disappointing, the team's effort and commitment were commendable.

Four players earned provincial selection: Mholi Khuzwayo and Ben Coetzee were chosen for the Sharks Grant Khomo team, which enjoyed a successful national tournament, while John Grubb and Andrew Schnell were selected for the Sharks U16B side. Zander Müller, though injured for the latter part of the season, was recognized for his earlier performances with selection for the SA Rugby U16 Elite Player Development Camp.

A successful season such as this is the result of the dedication of the players and the invaluable support from the coaching and medical staff. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to our Director of Rugby, Mr Greg Miller, for his guidance throughout the season. Special thanks also go to assistant coaches Mr Claude Pitout and Mr Michael Werth for their unwavering support. We are fortunate at Hilton College to have expert medical staff, including Mr Carl Schmidt (Strength and Conditioning), the San Sisters, Mrs Robyn Stewart (biokineticist), Mr Nick Pereira and Mr Daiyaan Solomons (physiotherapists), who all play a vital role in keeping our boys fit and prepared for play.

Burger Nel | Coach



U16B

Regular players: Caleb Barradas, Daniel Barradas, Oliver Jarvie, Iviwe Mnconywa, Machabe Monaheng, Musawenkosi Mponda, Mvila Ncongwane, Sbusiso Nhlapo, Lizwelihe Ntshangase, Sebastian Ozoux, Banele Phoswa, Taylor Seiler, Kgosi Sekgobela, Brynn Valentine, James Voller, Christopher Weavind, Ralfe Wilmot, Matthew Wilson, Liyema Zondi

The U16B team had a solid season, winning five of the 10 games they played. The players demonstrated skill and determination throughout the season, learning from each game and improving collectively.

In our victories, the team exhibited strong defensive structures and effective communication on the field. Our forwards provided a powerful foundation in scrums and rucks, while the backs moved the ball with precision, often creating scoring opportunities. Notable performances included impressive tackles, strategic kicking, and creative attacking plays that kept our opponents on their toes.

While the team's five losses were hard-fought, they provided valuable lessons that strengthened our players' adaptability and grit. Each defeat presented areas for improvement, such as maintaining focus under pressure, quick decision-making, and reinforcing defence during critical moments. These experiences, though challenging, ultimately fuelled the team's drive to work harder and elevate their performance.

The boys supported one another through their wins and losses, showing camaraderie and sportsmanship. I am proud of their growth and dedication and look forward to seeing them build on this foundation.

Michael Werth | Coach

U16C

Regular players: Shaka Buthelezi (captain), Miles Cox, Oliver Crowe, Daniel Day, Kai Dreyer, Oscar Franco, Jack Hermon, Pheto Kgafela, Kopano Leleka, James Lyon, Ndyabo Manci, Iviwe Mnconywa, James Murray, Sbusiso Nhlapo, Riley Ross, William Segar, Kgosi Sekgobela, Dante Sigei, Taji Sigei, Brynn Valentine, Christopher Weavind

The team started the season eager and optimistic. Their plan was to play a structured game that would enable them to show their skills.

While they never got to show their skills in the opening match against a physically dominant Northwood, they did in their win against Kearsney and in a brutal encounter with Glenwood. Buoyed by solid performances, the team looked ahead to their clash against Michaelhouse. In a game of two very different halves, Michaelhouse surged ahead with a few long-range tries. But our boys rallied in the second half to take the game to the wire by scoring in the final minute. And then by gathering the kick-off, gave themselves a chance to snatch a win. In an unfortunate sequence of events, their old foe turned over the ball and scored a breakaway try.

The second half of the season saw the depth of the squad being tested to the maximum as the injuries began to stack up. Despite the adversity the team showed true grit by fronting up in what can only be described as a blockbuster against Westville. The match ended in a draw. It was our best and most rewarding performance of the season. Challenging Maritzburg College and Michaelhouse after being severely depleted was always going to be a difficult task. However, the team passion and pride remained.

Thanks to the players for committing themselves to working hard and giving of their best.

Special thanks to Mr Cameron Wiid for all his work with the backline. And thanks to Shaka Buthelezi and the leaders in the team for all their efforts. Well done, U16C team, for playing with passion.

Keep working hard and playing for the love of the game.

Jason Sileno | Coach

U16D

Regular players: Seriti Bannalotlhe, Rosco Campbell, Nwagbo Chika, Pheto Kgafela, James Lyon, Baile Makhakhe, Andiswa Mahlase, Matthew Mattison, Matthew McGee, Lefa Motsumi (captain), Axolile Nyangiwe, Atlegang Ramutla, Zak Triplow, Alessandro Valente, Victor Viljoen

The U16D team may not have walked off the field with an unbeaten season but they certainly earned something far more valuable – respect. From the very first whistle, the team demonstrated a level of grit, heart, and determination that far exceeded expectations. Despite facing challenges at every turn, including a tough run of injuries, they never once let their heads drop or their commitment waver. Each game was a testament to their resilience, with every player giving their all and fighting for one another. While the scoreboard may not have always reflected their effort, their passion and perseverance were impossible to ignore. It was a season where, above all else, the team proved that rugby is about much more than just winning – it's about showing up, competing respectfully and never giving up.

One of the season's standout moments came when the team faced off against a well-drilled Glenwood Boys High School team. With a squad that was a little smaller than usual, the team had to dig deep to put up a competitive fight. They played a gutsy ten-a-side game against the green machines from down the hill. While Glenwoods' polished attack tested the D team at every turn, the team responded with heart and hustle, refusing to let their opponents dominate. The final score wasn't the headline – what stood out was the courage the team showed to compete at that level, making it a match to remember for everyone involved.

A special mention must be made of Pheto Kgafela, affectionately known as the Minister of Defence. Whether it is rugby, soccer, or basketball, Pheto has a reputation for shutting down any attack with an almost supernatural ability to read the game. In rugby, he was the impenetrable wall no opponent could breach. From bone-crunching tackles to last-ditch efforts that kept the opposition from scoring, Pheto's defensive skills were a thing of legend. His consistency and commitment to the cause made him a true standout – a player who could always be relied upon to deliver when the team needed him most.

A massive thank you to Mr Jason Sileno for the passion he shared with this special group of players and the culture that he helped create. The U16D team will be remembered for their determination, tireless effort and indomitable spirit.

Cameron Wiid | Coach



U15A

Regular players: Njabulo Abe, Sean Burman, Jowi Cole, Aidan Du Plooy, James Dellis, William Eustace, Nicholas Eyres, Devonde Hoff, Ryan Jellis, Ayanda Kunene, Griffon Le Meme, Karl-Werner Lüderitz, Litha Madinda, Sigcobe Mangwentshu, Ruan Mulder, Kwandumusa Mtshali, Lesiphosethu Ndlovu, Lwango Ntantala, Ore Ogunfowora, Lucas Pietersen, James Robertson, Zhaun Swart, JD van Wyk, Dimo Zigiriadis

The U15A rugby team displayed remarkable resilience, grit, and passion throughout a season of intense competition. Despite some early challenges, the team showed substantial growth and commitment as the season unfolded.

The season opened with a scrappy match against Northwood, where Hilton made numerous mistakes, which Northwood exploited. Despite this setback, the boys showed clear potential, although they needed to refine their execution. Shortly afterward, a tour to Outeniqua saw the team face strong opponents. Hilton secured a solid win against Transvalia and narrowly lost to Garsfontein (15-12) and Stellenberg (14-12), proving their ability to compete with some of the country's top teams.

Following the break and with thorough preparation, Hilton returned to clinch an 18-15 victory over Kearsney on Ethridge Field. This match was a true test of heart and grit, with the team delivering an outstanding defensive performance, holding the line under sustained pressure. This crucial win highlighted the team's resilience and set an optimistic tone for the season.

Next, the team faced Glenwood in a tightly contested match, narrowly missing a victory. The game remained competitive until the end, with Hilton fighting hard but ultimately falling short. Their subsequent trip to Pretoria was another memorable experience, as Hilton scored a coast-to-coast try to set up a last-minute kick from the corner to draw the match. Despite a valiant effort, the kick narrowly missed, resulting in a loss.

The Midlands derby against Michaelhouse followed, which proved frustrating, as the game was filled with avoidable mistakes. Costly penalties ultimately allowed Michaelhouse to edge out a narrow victory, marking a turning point and highlighting areas for improvement.

The season's breakthrough moment came with a 17-5 win over Westville, where Hilton played with incredible grit and physicality, securing a decisive victory. The team delivered a complete performance, confidently dominating their opponents and demonstrating their growing confidence and skill.

Against a physically dominant Maritzburg College side, Hilton faced tough opposition and, despite the challenging outcome, showed character throughout. They bounced back with a 12-6 win against St Charles, displaying composure and resilience to secure the hard-earned victory.

In the season finale, Hilton produced a memorable performance, dominating their rivals Michaelhouse with an emphatic 42-12 win. This decisive victory was a fitting end to the season and showcased the team's development and tenacity.

Special thanks to Messrs William Donkin, Lwazi Mvovo, Greg Miller, and David Smythe for their invaluable input throughout the season.

Andrew Duncan | Coach

U15B

Regular players: Matthew Bastard, Sean Burman, Gabriel Dube, William Eustace, Adam Fitzsimons, Joseph Gichuru, Cameron Hargroves, Zach Ichikowitz, Christopher Job, Reece Johnson-Watts, Thomas Leathern, Karl-Werner Lüderitz, Litha Madinda, Ntuthuko Mahlangu, Daniel Marshall, Ramotse Matime, Linda Mphephu, Kwandumusa Mtshali, Sam Neil, Charles Ngunyi, Ore Ogunfowora, Tristan Pillinger, James Robertson, Sbonokuhle Sitebe, Makobane Thema, Kihara Waitaha

The 2024 season was a tough one for the U15B team, and many valuable lessons were learned. While the win-loss ratio was somewhat underwhelming, the skills and character that the boys developed over the course of the season are what really matter, not to mention the fun they had.

The season began with a narrow defeat to a big, motivated, and physical Secunda side, which was a sign of things to come. The team faced further losses to Northwood, Kearsney, Glenwood High School, Michaelhouse, Pretoria Boys High, Westville Boys' High, and Maritzburg College. It wasn't all doom and gloom, however, as the team recorded a hard-fought win over St Charles U15B, a true testament to their resilience and teamwork.

The highlight of the season was a determined and passionate performance against Glenwood away. Against a far bigger side, the Hilton boys tackled and rucked their hearts out, showing incredible spirit and dedication. Although they eventually went down by five points to nil, their effort was unforgettable.

Special mention must be made of a few players. Team leaders Kwandumusa Mtshali, Karl-Werner Lüderitz, Zach Ichikowitz, and William Eustace ensured that morale in the team never wavered; James Robertson's determination and bravery were an inspiration to his teammates; and Gabriel Dube and Makobane Thema demonstrated an unwavering refusal to give up, even when all seemed lost.

The boys can be proud of their growth, in both skills and character. Their experiences, along with the bonds forged on and off the field, will benefit them in the seasons to come.

William Donkin | Coach

U15C

Regular players: Liam Casey, Sean Erasmus, Umi Gwala, Jack Heenan, Liam Hoffmann, Chris Job, Reece Johnson-Watts, Tinyiko Khosa, Gabriel Landzanakis, Chuma Luswazi, Daniel Marshall, Ramotse Matime, Lefa Matswiri, Zvashe Mhlana, Linda Mphephu, Raymond Muleso, Sam Neill, Charles Ngunyi, Tristan Pillinger, Knox Rutherfordoord, Rex Schoeman, Benjamin Shen-Yu, Sbonokuhle Sitebe

The season began on a strong note, with the boys demonstrating commitment and an eagerness to learn and improve their skills. The squad was notably large, but not large enough to form a D team. A few players earned well-deserved promotions to the B team, thanks to their hard work.

Despite a challenging start, with some early losses, the team showed improvement with every game. Initially struggling to score tries in the first few matches, the boys gained confidence as the season progressed, eventually putting points on the board. This boosted morale in the squad and was a testament to their dedication and perseverance.

One of the highlights of the season was their second encounter with Michaelhouse. After a tough first leg where they were unable to score, the boys were determined to bounce back stronger.

Their efforts paid off as they managed to cross the try line. Although the match ended in a loss, there were many positives to take away.

We concluded the season on a high note, proud of the strides made by the players. Several individuals showed potential and are well-positioned for success in their U16 season. I am excited to see how these boys continue to develop and wish them all the best next year.

Swelihle Mkhwanazi | Coach

U14A

Regular players: Adriel Akpokabayen, Blake Bullough, Oliver Crewe, Ethan Griezel, Xavier Jafta, Alizwa Mankayi, Shammah Makofane, Makgetsi Manthata, Casey Marks, Kuphulele Mchunu, Kwenzokuhle Mcwabe, Jesse Miller, Thoriso Miya, Asande Mleya, Siyabonga Moyo, Aphiwe Ntamo, Jayden Olivier, Lanner Reilly, Judah Steyn, Liam Wilkin

During pre-season training it was clear that we had players with the temperament and skill to play good running rugby. Effort and attitude were once again the measure of success with the team also producing some good scores.

After the Secunda warm-up match, our first match delivered a taste of what could be expected of a team that played with confidence, beating Northwood High School 19-0.

On tournament in George at Outeniqua High School, the boys showed great fighting spirit competing with schools who play 20 matches a year. Our first game was against Stellenberg High School which we won 21-5. Unfortunately, in our second match which was against Boland Landbou, we went down 12-27. In our final match we faced Monument for the first time and this game emphasized the importance of playing together from the start. We lost 14-26.

The boys returned from their holiday well rested and ready to take on Kearsney College. We held the lead until the last 20 seconds when the opposition scored and converted to draw the game 12 all. After this the team rallied to take all their learnings and apply them in a solid match of rugby against Glenwood High School, winning 19-12.

In preparation for the Michaelhouse fixture, the boys came together and played, in my opinion, the best U14 rugby I have seen. Michaelhouse had no answer to the onslaught of a well-drilled team and they succumbed to us 54-10.

Our boys travelled well to Pretoria and in fighting in one of their toughest games yet, they were able to clinch the match with a 10-8 win. However, the season and worthy opponents took their toll, and we started to pick up injuries. I have to congratulate every boy who stepped in to fill a position.

Our matches against Westville Boys' High and Maritzburg College were frustrating in the sense that we were not able to execute our game plan and allowed ourselves to be bullied, physically. We lost these two matches 13-21 and 15-19 respectively.

We found our rhythm again during our preparation for St Charles College. Even though they had a very good offense, our defence was solid allowing us turnovers to which their defence had no answer. We played an exciting match winning 41-7.

Our old nemesis was now hosting us on their icy pitch. With four players unable to start for our team, the boys knew it was going to be a hard day. However, they held their own and ensured that all of our hard work was rewarded with a 24-15 win at Michaelhouse.

What a result for our boys!

This is an exceptional group of boys and rugby players. If they remain humble and keep their focus on working hard, chasing effort above all, Hilton might see one of the best teams in the White jersey in four years.

I would like to express my gratitude to the players for their trust, especially as they had to adapt to new positions regularly. Thanks to the parents for their support and confidence in the coaching team, and thanks to the B and C team coaches for providing players when needed.

To my friend and co-coach Mr Mike Horak, I extend my deepest gratitude. It has been an absolute privilege learning from and growing with you over the past five years. Not only are the boys privileged to learn from an experienced rugby player and strategist, but they are blessed to be coached by such a God-fearing family man.

Tienie van Wyk and Mike Horak | Coaches

U14B | No Report

U14C

Regular players: Peter Beevers, Esami Biyela, Oliver Crewe, Jacques Flamand, David Forbes, Patrick Gibson, Nkazimulo Hadebe, Roddick Hunter, Isago Khomo, Jacob Lombard, Milani Mahlangu, Mqobi Mdhuli, Thomas Morrison, Nkosana Msimang, Mnotho Ngema, Ndlela Ntuli, Ethan Smale, Markus Steenkamp, Gideon Sweidan, Wetsembekile Thwala, Phillip van der Vyver, Nkanyiso Xaba, Gwabini Zungu

The 2024 season was one of the best U14C seasons we have had in recent years, despite the statistics. Following a tough opening fixture against Northwood, the boys played a terrific game against Kearsney where they came back fighting, finishing the game in a 14-14 draw. The team faced another difficult loss against Glenwood but again showed their fight and passion in the next game with an impressive victory over Michaelhouse 21-12 at home.

The team had an enjoyable tour to Pretoria Boys High. Despite losing, the boys were proud to put some points on the board. Westville Boys' High School and Maritzburg College were tough opponents, but the U14Cs fought hard against these two great rugby schools. In a stagger fixture against St Charles U14B team, the boys demonstrated their skill ending in a very close game losing by just five points with a final score of 14-19.

It all came down to the last game of the year at Michaelhouse. The boys played their hearts out and narrowly lost in the dying minutes of the game. Overall, the U14Cs showed great heart and commitment throughout the season and can be proud of themselves and their teammates. It was wonderful to see how many boys were chosen for U14B team fixtures demonstrating the growth within the team.

David Griffiths | Coach





RUGBY 7S

Back row: Hartman Fourie, Andrew Schnell, Ross Steyn, James Voller

Middle row: Takunda Ntonyo, Garrick Phillips, James Peattie, Chris Johnson, Callan Kenmuir, Tom Gurupira

Front row: Mr Carl Schmidt, André Boshoff, Mr Brad Macleod-Henderson, Kyle Lewis, Mr Cameron Fraser

SEVENS

Rugby 7s continues to grow in KwaZulu-Natal and we had more than 40 boys opt to play 7s in the third term. Our focus was more on performance and development than on results.

Regular players: André Boshoff (captain), Guy Fender, Hartman Fourie, John Grubb, Tom Gurupira, Chris Johnson, Callan Kenmuir, Kyle Lewis, Takunda Ntonyo, James Peattie, Garrick Phillips, William Segar, Andrew Schnell, Ross Steyn, James Voller.

We participated in tournaments at Clifton, Michaelhouse, St Charles, Glenwood, Durban High School and Maritzburg College.

We put in our best performance at the Clifton tournament where we qualified for the semi-finals. Generally, our results were

underwhelming and this was largely due to the massive injury count, which severely hampered our ability to field a full team towards the end of the season.

Congratulations to André Boshoff, who captained the team and was selected for the initial KZN 7s squad, and to all the other regular players. I am sure the 2024 season will serve them well in future 7s seasons.

Brad Macleod-Henderson | Coach



The year began on a high as we committed ourselves to maintaining a competitive environment within the club; creating opportunities for our boys; and achieving all of our objectives.

As preparations kicked off in the second term, the mood in the camp was exceptional. I was excited to see how the youngsters integrated into the set up. We selected players to attend the pre-season camp where they also got to play in various games.

We began preparations by outlining expectations and the structure of our programme. Players must adapt to the ever-changing demands of the modern game and understand what they need to do to compete at the highest level while enjoying their game.

During the second term, we played nine pre-season games. Before schools resumed, we played an additional game during our training camp. To assess our 1st team's readiness, we scheduled games against strong opposition, including AmaZulu Football Club.

After the mid-term break in the second term, our junior A teams began their preparations. The boys responded with enthusiasm, demonstrating an eagerness to improve and compete. A palpable sense of excitement filled their ranks.

Special thanks to the U14 coaching team – Mr William Donkin, Mr Sbonelo Khanyile, Mr Craig Wilkinson, Ms Mantombi Skosana, and Ms Ncumisa Makha – for their energetic and determined efforts in building a strong foundation for our boys. We sincerely appreciate their commitment to ensuring that our boys improve and enjoy their first year in our programme.

One of the toughest games of the season was our home game versus Kearsney College. This was an important one, which we won 2-1. The club did extremely well across all age groups in 2024.

Sportsmanship and good spirit carried us through the season and seeing our boys compete and play the beautiful game with pride was a joy and a credit to our coaching staff.



Tournaments

Our club successfully hosted the Big 10 schools' tournament and the Jody Momphe FA Cup in 2024. We look forward to hosting more tournaments in 2025.

We also took all our A teams on tour in 2024. The U14 and U16 teams played at St Stithians and our U15 and 1st team at St David's. This is indicative of the growth of the club and presents great opportunities for our boys.

Our boys also played in the local age group knockout tournaments, playing KwaZulu-Natal schools from far and wide.

We are immensely proud of all the boys who represented us well in regional and KZN squads.

REGIONAL TEAM

Max Dalrymple, Zizwe Digangoane, Jack Henderson, Chuma Luswazi, Lesedi Magwale, Tumisho Manaka, Jono Mattison, Thoriso Miya, Raymond Muleso, Kelechi Nwobi, Lanner Reily, and Makobane Thema

KZN TEAM

Max Dalrymple, Zizwe Digangoane, Chuma Luswazi, Thoriso Miya, and Lanner Reily

All these boys, as well as those who attended the trials, did us proud.

The 2024 season was a great one for our club and boys. We grew in confidence and stature, playing more games than in previous years, and are excited for what the future holds for us.

Thanks to all the boys and staff who came out to support us. Special thanks to our coaching staff who are integral to our success. Your commitment and hard work are a testament to your love of the game and our boys.

Celo Mbanjwa | Director of Soccer



1ST TEAM

Back row: Liphapang Mokoena, Efe Ozcan

Third row: Sandiso Zondi, Jason Webster, Lesedi Mangwale, Jack Holtzhauzen, James Ogilby

Second row: Qhama Ngwenya, Jack Henderson, Sizwe Pwele, Tumisho Manaka, Travis De Bruyn, Sam Wingfield

Front row: Mr Philani Sondzaba, Jack Weavind, Mr Mhlengi Shezi, Tinotenda Hove, Mr Herbert Mncwabe

1ST TEAM

Regular players: Travis De Bruyn, Natenzi Denenga, Jack Henderson, Jack Holtzhauzen, Tinotenda Hove, Tumisho Manaka, Lesedi Mangwale, Liphapang Mokoena, Qhama Ngwenya, James Ogilby, Efe Ozcan, Alex Pitman, Sizwe Pwele, Tiisano Tisane, Jack Weavind (captain), Jason Webster, Sam Wingfield, Sandiso Zondi

The 2024 soccer season must be the greatest comeback season ever. Yes, we enjoyed some luck, but the boys really showed character and that's what you want from the boys.

Our first game of the season was a home fixture against Kearsney College, which we won 2-1. We didn't play our best, but it went to show what we were capable of.

Next up was a hard fixture against Westville, a team that beat us 5-1 last year. This time the tables were turned. Tino Hove played exceptionally well, bringing the score to 1-1. Then, just before half-time, Westville took the lead again to make it 2-1. The boys came hard and strong in the second half with a wonder strike from Lesedi Mangwale to make it 2-2. With 12 minutes to go, Hove had the ball in the oppositions half and had to beat two opponents before laying a perfect pass from a lightning-quick Natenzi Denenga at the back post to give us a 3-2 win.

In our game against Michaelhouse, we started like a house on fire. A well-worked set piece saw Alex Pitman, one of the smallest players on the field, score. At half-time the score was 1-1. Then 10 minutes into the second half, Michaelhouse scored. Our boys were desperate not to let their opponents get the better of them. With just under five minutes to play, we managed a set piece and Tino Hove, coming out of nowhere, headed the ball to make it 2-2.

Our final game of the season was against Glenwood High School. With it being our final home fixture of the season and our Grade 12 players' last game, the boys stepped up taking control of the game from start to finish. Adamant not to concede a goal, we won the game 3-0.

BIG 10

Our first game in the Primo Big 10 was against St Charles. The first half of the game was terrible and at half-time we were down 2-0. Realising we needed to come back strong, that is exactly what we did, with three quick goals giving us a 3-2 win.

When we came up against Durban High School, a draw was all we needed to go through as group winners. Sadly, we lost 1-0 in a game that we ought to have won.

Our third and final game of the day was against Clifton, which we won 2-1 thanks to goals from Tino Hove.

In the quarter-final we faced Michaelhouse. With key players writing exams, our boys had their work cut out for them. MHS scored first from an error we made at the back. In the second half of the game, we were forced to play defensively, with MHS controlling possession and territory for most of the time. While our boys put up a good fight, they also missed a penalty, among other things, losing the game 1-0.

ST DAVID'S

The tournament started well for us, with a 1-1 draw against St John's: Jack Weavind saved a penalty and Jason Webster scored a beautiful goal.

Next, we played Norkem Park. While the score might suggest we were given a hiding, that wasn't the case. Silly mistakes cost us the game. We were down 2-0 with 10 minutes to half-time when we first scored. In the second half, it was Jack Holtzhausen who saved a penalty, but it wasn't enough, and we lost the game 4-1.

The final game of the group stage was a fixture against St Andrew's. We needed a 5-0 win to get to the quarter-finals. A slow start resulted in us conceding the first goal, which put us under pressure. But thanks to goals from Tino Hove, Natenzi Denenga and Tiisano Tisane we went into half-time with a 3-1 lead. Unfortunately, two more goals in the second half wasn't enough to secure the win. I'm extremely proud of the boys for their fighting spirit.

The rest of the games were for placing and our boys approached their game against Jeppe discouraged, resulting in 2-0 loss.

On our last day on the tour, we desperately wanted to end the tour on a high. Our first game of the day was a great comeback against King Edward VII School, winning 2-1 thanks to goals from Sizwe Pwele and Liphapang Mokoena. The final game of the day was against Linmeyer and Efe Ozcan, Tumisho Manaka and Liphapang Mokoena ensured the win.

FA CUP

The Pietermaritzburg FA Cup tournament is a showcase of the best of the best Midlands schools. Our first assignment was against Howick High School, and those boys didn't hold back, chasing the game we ended up drawing 2-2. The rules dictate there must be a winner and so the game went down to penalties, of which Hilton College won 5-4. In our game against Riverwood College, our boys turned up the heat to win 6-1. Tino Hove and Travis De Bruyn were among the goal scorers of the day.

Into the quarter-final we went facing a strong Alex team. Scoring two quick goals (from Hove and Denenga) in the first 10 minutes of the game, we claimed the game. Every time they scored, we scored, putting into play all that we had worked on during pre-season training, and securing victory (5-2).

We went into the semi-final knowing we had to beat Michaelhouse to make it to the final. We scored first and minutes later had a glorious chance to take the score to 2-0, but we never took the chance and that cost us the game 2-1.

In closing, we won 10 of the 17 games we played, losing only five and drawing two.

The season was one of great improvement. We aren't where we want to be but nor are we where we were. We won more games than we lost and we remained unbeaten on the league fixtures, which is something to be proud of.

Thank you to everyone involved in making it a successful season. A massive thank you to all our parents for their support and to our boys for their sacrifices.

Mhlengi Shezi | Coach

TRAVIS DE BRUYN: A talented left-footed player, he played for us as left back or left wing. On a good day, he can win games all by himself. Very good when it comes to set pieces.

NATENZI DENENGA: Injuries robbed him of what could have been his best season in his last year of school. Nevertheless, put him on the pitch, and he will deliver. A top athlete with a bright future. "You want goals, come here".

JACK HENDERSON: Jack played an important role for us in the middle of the park. A very hard, strong boy who will go far in life when he believes in myself. He is very smart and understands the game.

JACK HOLTZHAUSEN: Like his brother before him, he has amazing goalkeeping skills and is very brave when it comes to one-on-one. He doesn't shy away. He has the ability to become a good goalkeeper and is very good with his feet.

TINOTENDA HOVE: The fact that he won almost all the awards says a lot about the season he had. Tino was an important player for us and deserved to end the season on a high. I always knew you were a great goal scorer, Tino, but this year you outdid yourself.

TUMISHO MANAKA: This year we got to see what Tumisho can do. A calm footballer, who reads the game and has an eye for a good pass. I believe the best is yet to come from him.

LESEDI MANGWALE: In every team you need a Lesedi; a player who can play anywhere on the field and gives 110% always. Injuries got the better of him this year but next year will be his year.



COACH MHLengi SHEZI

LIPHAPANG MOKOENA: Mokoena played striker for us. Not afraid to change tactics, he is a very big boy and can strike the ball well.

QHAMA NGWENYA: Ngwenya played as center back for the team. He never backs off from a 50/50 and is a skilful player.

JAMES OGILBY: Outstanding in the games he managed to play, James sadly couldn't play the whole season. We missed him at the back, where his calmness and leadership skills were an asset to the team.

EFE OZCAN: A very hard-working player, always keen to learn and seeking to improve. Efe has the ability to become a top striker for the school and team.

ALEX PITMAN: He may be the smallest player on the field, but Alex has the biggest heart and is brave, willing to tackle big guys for his team.

SIZWE PWELE: Sizwe played an important role at the heart of the midfield. He did whatever was required of him and scored goals for us when called on.

TIISANO TISANE: Tiisano was our go-to guy whenever we needed to make an impact on the field. He can play right or left wing and is able to beat anyone with his pace.

JACK WEAVIND: Jack was the team captain and played as goalkeeper. He started playing in Grade 10 and it has been great to see him grow as a person and a leader. He made some good saves and kept us in matches more than once. A good boy and awesome goalkeeper.

JASON WEBSTER: A hard worker, Jason came into the team this year and fought for his position, really owning it. He played a key role in defence and had a good impact in attack, too.

SAM WINGFIELD: Sam, who played as right back, is a very strong and physical player. He is always looking to improve his game and never wanting to settle. A hard runner and a person you can count on.

SANDISO ZONDI: Playing as centre back, Zondi is calm and possesses grit and physicality. Sadly, he played only one season, in which he gave everything to his teammates and coaches.



2ND TEAM

Regular players: Phelele Cele, Siba Dlamini, Neil Grobbelaar, Jack Holtzhauzen (captain), Jack Kitching, Nqubeko Majosi, Tsebo Mokhathi, Katlego Moncho, Mpande Myeza, Reagan Mudau, Ntando Nyabonda, Miguel Teixeira

The 2024 season was a positive one despite my team not always getting the results we wanted. The boys all grew into better players and better teammates.

We faced numerous challenges throughout the season, with players moving in and out of the team and being absent for a number of reasons. Their ability to adapt to these changes and to new players was commendable and is something they can take with them on their Hilton journey and beyond.

Of the seven games they played, they won three, drew two and lost two.

I am sure the team will take these learnings and apply them next year, on and off the sports field.

Herbert Mncwabe | Coach

3RD TEAM

Regular players: Langa Dlamini, Uthando Gumedede (captain), Erin Kihara, William Kitching, Nqubeko Majosi, Risima Mashaba, Ntando Mchunu, Lyema Mndela, Kgosi Modise, Tino Nyabonda, Chuhal Pillay, Ndabenhle Sithole, Chris Snijman, Zac Sweidan, James Youens

The team was comprised of young men who were fully committed to practices and eager to learn. Both the school and the team held great importance to them, and this was reflected in the high-intensity practices where everyone gave their best with a strong desire to improve.

Matches were played with great sportsmanship, and the team's success was not due to any individual player but to the collective effort of the entire team. A combination of skill, aggressive attacking, and solid defence were defining attributes.

They played seven games, of which they won four, lost two and drew one.

The players' tactical awareness, along with their positive approach to both practices and matches made coaching them a pleasure. They were always willing to listen and execute drills, and their astute understanding of the game meant that making tactical adjustments during matches did not faze them. Their positive attitude and ability to rise above questionable decisions on the field spoke volumes about their character.

Michael Werth | Coach

4TH TEAM

Regular players: Ben Erasmus, Lwandle Gabuza, Gcina Gqwaaru, Mpho Makulana, Matome Manthata, Ntando Mhlongo, Senzo Mngomezulu, Thabo Mngomezulu, Zipho Mpofu, Sixolile Nyangiwe, Thuto Phakisi, Ben Scorgie, Amahle Seima, Chris Snijman, Silwa Wafula, Ungweru Ziba

The 4th team had a successful season, playing six games, winning three, drawing one, and losing two. A highlight was achieving a clean sweep against Michaelhouse, with a win and a draw at home, followed by an away win. However, a team's success extends beyond the scoreboard. The true value lies in the journey, where growth and resilience are developed.

Throughout the season, the boys demonstrated determination and a fighting spirit, especially in challenging matches. They supported each other, encouraged teamwork, and learned valuable lessons. With each game, they improved, fighting hard even in defeat, and reducing the margin of loss.

The team's positivity and enthusiasm for soccer were evident. They attended every practice, willing to work hard and improve. Some players were promoted from the 5th team and made significant contributions, earning regular playing time.

I'd like to thank the boys for their efforts and dedication. It was a pleasure coaching them, and I wish the outgoing matrics all the best!

Kwanele Mgozeli | Coach

5TH TEAM

Regular players: Neil Bararugurika, Dan Carver, Kenyu Chiang, Simba Chidakwa, Joshua Dube, Adam Essey, Riley Lindsay, Tumelo Makgeru, Tshiamo Mashishi, Omohau Mbileni, Thando Shongwe

Of our six fixtures, we won one, drew one and lost four. Despite these results, the boys showed progress over the course of the season. They enjoyed good chemistry, were disciplined, and covered for one another on the field. They also put in the effort during practices, which made coaching them a pleasure.

The season kicked off with a tough 4-3 loss against Kearsney in an intense game where we made many mistakes. In the following match against St Charles College the team was triumphant in a 3-0 win that highlighted the boys' goal-scoring and defensive abilities.

In our game against Westville Boys' High, our mistakes cost us a 3-1 loss against the travelling side. However, the boys never lost courage as they played against a very tough Michaelhouse side and were able to achieve a 1-1 draw.

During the season, most of our players were promoted to the 4th, 3rd, and some to the 2nd team. This was a blow to the team, and it showed in our results. We suffered a gruesome 5-1 defeat against Maritzburg College, and a deflating 10-0 loss against Michaelhouse.

It was an eventful season. Ultimately, we were proud of our players who moved up the ranks, despite what it cost the team. A special mention to Neil Bararugurika, who came in mid-season to lead the team when they needed it most. For the rest of the matrics, may they continue to grow into the men the world needs.

Bubele Monakali | Coach

6TH TEAM

Regular players: Daniel Askew, Chase Copeland, Tochi Ezenwugo, Deepen Kooverjee, Bakuena Lekitla, Ziyanda Mnyandu, Richard Roxburgh, Jameel Said, Tele Sitofo, Jack Warwick

The team started on a high, with the boys showing optimism and commitment to training. However, spirits were dampened after our first game, which we lost 6-1 to Kearsney College.

Some of the boys lost their confidence and others expressed their frustration at playing for the 6th team, but in the main the boys showed spirit and perseverance. Although we went on to be defeated a number of times, most of the players consistently showed up to play and built strong camaraderie.

One thing that remained constant throughout the season was the respect of our players, both at home and away games. Regardless of the outcome or the opponent, the team upheld good sportsmanship, treating our opposition well and showing respect for the game. This is something to be proud of and reveals character.

While the season did not go well for the 6th team, I appreciate the effort made by the regular players who pushed through the challenges. Their courage, respect for the game, and willingness to keep playing, regardless of the results, showed their resilience.

Kgotsofalo Matabane | Coach

7TH TEAM

Regular players: Nic Bregman-Frangos, Rowan Cox, Karabo Lephema, Daniel Lyon, Rukudzo Madinga, Siqiniseko Maseko, Oliver Mattison, Nghwazi Mkansi, Ntando Ngcobo, Akani Nxumalo, Oliver Proudfoot, Didier Rey, Daniel Sweeney

The 7th Team showed remarkable resilience this season, despite having a short season due to the lack of depth in the opposition schools. Even though we only played four matches, the team's performance revealed their depth and talent, resulting in an impressive record of two wins, one draw, and one loss.

The highlight of the season was undoubtedly the dominant victory against Westville, where the team showed their attacking prowess with a resounding 6-1 score. This match not only demonstrated the players' technical abilities but also their excellent teamwork and communication on the field. The players moved fluidly, creating numerous scoring opportunities and capitalising on them effectively.

Another memorable match was the hard-fought victory against Kearsney, where the team battled to a 2-1 win. This game highlighted the team's determination and tenacity, as they managed to secure the win against a spirited Kearsney side. The ability to perform under pressure was commendable and speaks to the players' character.

The only setback came in the first match against Michaelhouse, where the team faced a tough challenge and ended up losing 3-1. However, the resilience of the squad shone through in their second encounter, where they managed to secure a draw. This ability to bounce back and learn from experience is a testament to the players' growth and adaptability.

Overall, the 7th Team has had a successful season, marked by strong performances and a commendable spirit. The limited number of games may have posed challenges, but the team's victories against Kearsney and Westville, along with their resilience against Michaelhouse, highlights their potential. I was pleased with their effort this season. They played with their hearts and had fun.

Sipho Moniwa | Coach



8TH TEAM

Regular players: Byron Chandler, Masud Dakile, Ivan Jjuuko, Joshua Julius, Jarred Kitto, Murray Loughor-Clarke, Joshua Mapp, Siyamkela Maphumulo, Sedise Mosenene, Dylan Neill, Thamsanqa Ncube, Sabelo Skosana, Chad Swanepoel

This was a team made up only of Pearce matric boys. Indeed, it was a wonderful way to finish a five-year sporting career playing alongside your housemates. The team showed great teamwork, dedication and commitment.

Unfortunately, we only had two fixtures, as very few schools offer an 8th team.

Our first exciting encounter was against Kearney College, which proved to be a balanced game, with both sides refusing to back down. The final score was 2-2. This was a great way to start the season, and we looked forward to more encounters.

The next match, which would be our last, was against Michaelhouse. In preparation for this fixture, we had improved our goal-scoring opportunities during practice, and that effort paid off during the match. We dominated the game on all fronts, defending well and playing as a unit, resulting in a score of 2-0 in our favour.

It was indeed a great albeit short season, and it was a pleasure coaching this group of boys. I wish you all the best for the future.

Charles Ncobeni | Coach

U16A

Regular players: Daniel Barradas, Zizwe Digangoane, Tadi Hove, Kopano Lekeka, Nelwang Letsoalo, Ofentse Mamojele, Atang Mphati, Uyapo Ndwapu, Luphelele Shange, Kgosi Sekgobela, Oyena Zulu, Wanga Zulu

The U16A season commenced triumphantly with an impressive 5-0 victory against Kearsney College. A key characteristic of the team was their resilience during their Saturday fixtures, where they remained unbeaten throughout the domestic season.

The team played some scintillating soccer and notched up some impressive wins; none more so than the 2-0 victory against our arch-rivals, Michaelhouse. One special highlight of the season was the gritty comeback against a spirited Westville side at home. Having knocked us out of the age group tournament some weeks back, the boys showed hunger and determination to complete a 2-1 comeback scoring two goals deep into the second half. This was followed by our participation in the competitive three-day St Stithians tournament where they played a total of six matches. The team suffered two losses, two hard-fought draws, and secured two impressive Saturday wins. This team refused to lose on a Saturday.

The U16A's performance was an example of their development throughout the season and reflected their dedication. The boys should be proud of their achievements, hard work, and commitment! I thoroughly enjoyed coaching them and wish them well as they progress to the open age-group.

Sbonelo Hlophe | Coach

U16B

Regular players: Nwagbo Chika, Miles Cox, Sechaba Gude, Mahlatji Koma, Kopano Lekeke, Machabe Monaheng, Karabelo Morojele, Akhumzi Mtshungwana, Mvila Ncongwane, Buhlebenkosi Ntshangase, Alessandro Valente

The team trained with the U16A side in the hope that boys promoted to the A team could seamlessly fit in when the opportunity arose. This worked as a number of players had to represent the higher team at some stage. Practices were rigorous, and the boys were challenged to rise to the occasion. It was gratifying to see the boys give it their all.

The team generally played ball-dominating football, working hard to keep possession and build from the back. This daring style of play risked leaving our defence vulnerable and exposed. However, when it worked it paid dividends and was entertaining to watch.

The lads started with a phenomenal 5-2 win against Kearsney, followed by an unlucky draw (1-1) against St Charles with plenty of missed chances. The 2-1 win against a strong Westville team was the highlight of the season. Our two draws against Michaelhouse, 1-1 home and away, were disappointing, and our loss against Maritzburg College (0-1) was heartbreaking considering that the boys gave it their all.

I believe it is safe to say that the future of soccer at Hilton College is very promising.

Msizi Mchunu | Coach

U16C

Regular players: Seriti Bannalothle, Joshua Chibwe, Nkosi Fuyana, Ndyabo Manci, Khetsa Motsa, Ndalo Moyo, Akhumzi Mtshungwana, Khayaletu Nouse, Axolile Nyangiwe, Benoit Rey, Tom Twiss

Our season kicked off with a home game against Kearsney. We controlled the game in the first half, but in the second half we were all over the place and ended up losing 1-0. It was a game we should have won.

In the five remaining games of the season, the team enjoyed wins against Westville (4-3), Michaelhouse (3-0) and St Charles (2-0); one draw – with Maritzburg College (0-0) – and one loss to Michaelhouse (2-1).

The team worked hard throughout the season to ensure improved performances and grit. The boys really pushed themselves, which was great to see.

The players represented our school well and I wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

Bheki Kunene | Coach



U16D

Regular players: Ethan Aitken, James Aitken, Seriti Bannalothle, Lwanda Chitha, Oliver Crowe, Oliver Ford, Jack Hermon, Oliver Jarvie, Ben Mann, Lefa Motsumi (captain), Axolile Nyangiwe, Atlegang Ramutla, Oskar Specht, Kaelo Taukobong, Brynn Valentine

The U16D team had a busy and exciting soccer season, with every player showing great passion and love for the game. While the results didn't always go our way, the boys left the field eager to attend the next practice and take on the next challenge.

In all, they played six games, of which they won two, drew one and lost three.

A big thank you to Lefa Motsumi for his excellent leadership as captain. Coaching these young men was a pleasure, as each of them displayed outstanding sportsmanship and a genuine love for soccer.

Richard Garrett | Coach

U15A

Regular players: Aiden Clubb, Jowi Cole, Anthony Crossley, Max Dalrymple (captain), Gabriel Dube, Liam Hoffmann, Zachery Ichikowitz, Phemelo Joel, Ntuthuko Mahlangu, Imran Mahomed, Linda Mpephu, Raymond Muleso, Nathan Mturi, Ore Ogunfowora, Sbonokuhle Sithebe, Makobane Thema, Arjun Wadhvani, Chuma Luswazi

The U15A team had a season marked by growth, determination, and progress. From the beginning, the players displayed enthusiasm and a strong commitment to training sessions and matches. Each player made a positive contribution to the team, with many showing the potential to advance to higher levels.

Over the course of the season, the squad developed into a united and well-organised team, transforming their individual skills into collective strength. Their ability to implement strategies learned in practice and respond effectively to challenges during matches was impressive, as was their willingness to learn and compete, even against tough opponents.

Throughout the season, several players delivered exceptional performances, contributing both offensively and defensively to the team's overall success. We were also proud to have players Chuma Luswazi and Max Dalrymple selected to play for the KZN team. This was rewarding and encouraging for the team and club. While some difficult matches tested the team, these experiences also served as valuable lessons, strengthening their resilience and preparing them for future challenges.

Looking forward, the emphasis will be on sharpening technical abilities and further developing tactical awareness to build on this season's momentum. With their dedication and hard work, this group of players is well-positioned to continue growing and achieving success in their soccer journeys.

Congratulations to all the players for their efforts and progress this season.

Swelihle Mkhwanazi | Coach

U15B

Regular players: Max Asamoah, Aiden Clubb, Sean Erasmus, Zach Ichikowitz, Imran Mahomed, Larona Mampane, Luthando Mbada, Linda Mphephu, Obakeng Motsepa, Ore Ogunfowora, Nicandro Padayachee, Kihara Waitthaka

The U15B team had an immensely enjoyable season and can take pride in their weekly performances.

Despite dominating several matches, the results didn't always reflect their efforts. Of their seven games, they won only two, drew one and lost four. In their game against St Charles, the team controlled possession and led for most of the match, but a lapse in concentration led to a draw.

Defensive errors in a few games cost them potential victories, while in others, luck simply wasn't on their side. However, the team showed remarkable determination against Michaelhouse, securing a well-deserved win. They capped off the season with a fantastic victory against Glenwood, finishing on a high note.

Lionel Julius | Coach

U15C

Regular players: Joseph Gichuru, Lefa Matswiri, Kwandumusa Mtshali, Sam Neil, Tristan Pillinger, Luke Ramlakan, Max Sclanders, Sazi Sigodi, Matthew Stott, Duncan van Niekerk

The U15C team was made up of skilled and enthusiastic players with aspirations to transition to the B team. Their eagerness to excel and take on any opponent positioned them well for the season.

The team got off to an impressive start with a 1-1 draw against Kearsney College. They went on to secure three more draws (out of seven games). But the boys maintained high spirits and commitment until the final whistle. The season ended on a high note, with the team securing a draw against Michaelhouse.

The squad's teamwork was exceptional. They enjoyed every game and were driven to succeed. Congratulations to the U15C squad for an outstanding effort. You did us proud.

Bongani Zikode | Coach

U15D

Regular players: Andrew Bernstein, Kelso Bolton, Sean Burman, Dougal Carr, Reece Johnson-Watts, Ramotse Matime, Leago Moagi, Kwandumusa Mtshali, Ludvonga Mtshungwana (captain), Liqhayiya Ngcese, Sbusiso Nhlalo, Olebogeng Segale, Sazi Sigode, Duncan van Niekerk

Our first match of the season was against Kearsney, which we drew 2-2. The following weekend we played St Charles, suffering a 4-0 loss. The following weekend we played Westville Boys' High and after a great first half, lost to them (3-2).

In our first encounter with Michaelhouse, they came at us hard. But our boys fought back, beating them 3-2. This win was followed by another against Maritzburg College on their home ground.

In the remaining matches of the season, the team enjoyed another win against Michaelhouse (1-0) and a draw against Glenwood (0-0).

One of the best matches of the season was against Maritzburg College, when we beat them 4-0 on their home field.

The Grade 12 players were encouraging of new and younger players, and I hope that future seniors will do the same.

Dayna Mac Kay | Coach

U14A

Regular players: Adriel Akpokabayen, Oliver Crewe, Raphael Dube (captain), Xavier Jaftha, Shammah Makofane, Munei Mangale, Makgetsi Manthata, Jono Mattison, Asande Mleya, Thoriso Miya, Zangi Mwale, Aphiwe Ntamo, Azania Ntshona, Kelechi Nwobi, Lanner Reilly, Wetsembekile Thwala, Jayden Wiltwer

The U14A team players gelled almost immediately and understood the attacking, pass-and-move style of football we wanted to play. This approach requires excellent fundamental skills, a high level of fitness and tactical discipline.

Our first three games of the season ended with two wins, one loss, 10 goals scored and eight conceded!

Eighteen boys went up to Johannesburg for the St Stithians festival. While we aimed to win as many games as possible, the key purpose of this tour was to give our boys exposure to a high standard of football with a view to developing more depth for future seasons. The tour included dominant wins over St John's (4-0) and St Andrew's (3-0), but it was the narrow and unlucky defeat to the unbeaten Jeppe side (3-4) that best illustrated this team's potential. When the boys played with pace and intensity, they could rival anyone in the country.

The final three games included a narrow loss to Westville (2-3), a dominant win over Michaelhouse (4-1) and a very frustrating draw with Glenwood (0-0).

This is a special group of players defined by a wonderful balance of talent, passion and commitment, and I will follow their progress with great interest in the coming seasons.

William Donkin | Coach

U14B

Regular players: Fynn Asamoah, Vidal Analo, Esami Biyela, Murray Dicks, Raphael Dube, Sanda Futshane, Dumisani Gondwe, Xavier Jaftha, Milani Mahlangu, Munei Mangale, Kuphelele Mchunu, Landa Mgele, Zangi Mwale, Mnotho Ngema, Zweli Ngutshana, Aphiwe Ntamo, Buhlebonke Ntshangase, Azania Ntshona (captain), Awande Sibisi, Gideon Sweidan, Gideon Sweidan, Kulani Tibone, Wetsembekile Thwala, David Weng, Jayden Wiltwer, Gwabini Zungu

The U14B team's season began on a high note with an impressive 3-1 victory over Kearsney College, setting the stage for what turned out to be an outstanding campaign. The team consistently showed their skill and commitment, achieving a commendable record of three wins, two losses, and two draws. The players exhibited great dedication on the field, maintaining their focus and spirit until the final whistle of each game. The season ended with a memorable 3-2 triumph over Michaelhouse, while the standout performance of the year came with a remarkable 6-1 victory away against St Charles.

The squad's accomplishments and teamwork throughout the season are commendable. Their passion for the game, combined with an unyielding drive to succeed served them well.

Congratulations to the U14B soccer squad for a remarkable season, and best wishes for continued success ahead.

Sibonelo Khanyile | Coach

U14C

Regular players: Esami Biyela (captain), Murray Dicks, Sanda Futshane, Dumisani Gondwe, Nkosana Msimang, Phathutshedzo Mukwevho, Mnotho Ngema, Zweli Ngutshana, Lwazi Phillip, Tlali Puling, Sebastian Scorgie, Gideon Sweidan, Gwabini Zungu

This group of talented boys represented their school with pride and honour throughout the season. Beyond the commendable results, the team consistently demonstrated determination and respect on the field, along with courtesy and politeness off it. Unfortunately, only seven games were played this season.

In the opening match against Kearsney, the team eagerly put into practice all they had learned during trials and training, and they delivered. The 1-0 victory doesn't quite reflect the level of dominance Hilton College displayed.

The momentum continued with a solid 3-1 win over St Charles. However, the next two games proved to be challenging, with narrow losses despite the team being the stronger side in both.

The response to these setbacks was particularly gratifying. The team secured a tense victory against Maritzburg College and then came from behind in a thrilling 3-2 win over Michaelhouse. The final match of the season, against Glenwood, was filled with drama: finding themselves 3-0 down with just 15 minutes remaining, the boys demonstrated their tenacity with a thrilling fight back, scoring three well-crafted goals and nearly clinching a winner before time ran out.

Practices were filled with enthusiasm, and it was an absolute pleasure to work with this team.

Craig Wilkinson | Coach

U14D

Regular players: Jadon Dube, Lefa Kelobang, Isago Khomo, Mthokozisi Lebeso, Eyethu Luthuli, Luyanda Malinga, Mngqobi Mdhuli, Moagi Monare, Ryan Moodley, Phathutshedzo Mukwevho, Nkanyiso Xaba

The boys began the season with different levels of experience, but they quickly came together as a strong team. Their hard work and willingness to learn helped them improve throughout the season. Even though they faced some tough matches, their dedication made them a better team.

In their first match, they won 5-0 against Kearsney College. Their second game was even better, with a 4-0 victory over St Charles, highlighting their teamwork and confidence. Their third match ended in a 0-2 loss to Westville Boys' High School. This game pushed the boys to work on their skills and learn from their mistakes.

The team went on to make a great comeback, with a 6-0 win against Michaelhouse. Their fifth game ended in a 2-2 draw against Maritzburg College, and they played Michaelhouse again, drawing 2-2 in the sixth game. In the last match, the team played Glenwood and ended with a 1-1 draw.

Throughout the season, the boys improved not only in their skills but also in their communication on the field. This better communication helped them work as a unit and made their gameplay more effective.

Overall, the boys made great progress this season. They learned to work together and support each other on the field. I am proud of their efforts and excited for their future.

Mantombi Skosana | Coach



STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING COACH:
PHILANI SONDZABA

U14E

Regular players: Peter Beevers, Nkazimulo Hadebe, Jed Hartel, Lefa Kelobang, Jacob Lombard, Reatile Malatji, Yanelo Mdlopene, Moagi Monare, Siyabonga Moyo, Kalayame Namanyane, Lesedi Ngwenya, Mvelelo Phungo, Ethan Smale, Connor Zuma

Many of the boys were new to the game, but their dedication and willingness to learn transformed the team into a competitive and cohesive unit. Despite early challenges, they improved consistently over the course of the season.

The first match of the season was a 0-0 draw against Kearsney College. The second game was a strong 5-0 victory against St Charles, showcasing the team's growing confidence and teamwork. We faced a tough 3-0 loss to Westville Boys' High School, followed by a 4-1 loss to Michaelhouse, both challenging games that pushed the boys to refine their skills. However, they bounced back and finished the season on a high note, with a 4-2 victory over Michaelhouse in the final game. The progression and determination of the team were clearly evident by this last match.

The standout performance of the season was our 5-0 win over St Charles, where the team displayed excellent teamwork and determination. The final 4-2 win against Michaelhouse also marked a significant achievement, showing how much the boys had grown throughout the season.

There is still a lot of work to be done in refining their skills but considering that many of them started the season without even being able to kick a ball properly, their progress has been commendable.

Ncumisa Makha | Coach



SQUASH CLUB

Back row: Uthando Gumede, Sam Wingfield, Tristian Grant, William Kitching, Jack Hermon, Lyle Clubb, Lefa Motsumi, Trey Padayachee, Josh Aitken
Front row: James Peattie, Ms Julia Whitby, Oscar Steiner, Grant Bridgeford, Mr James Bullough, Thomas Mason

Squash at Hilton remains one of our smaller sporting codes, but it is by no means less important than any other sport. Many of our players have shown tremendous commitment to the sport despite being involved in so many other facets of school life. Squash at Hilton has developed grit and determination within our boys as we have continued to punch above our weight. The sport continues to be reliant on the few boys who are determined to keep it alive while still trying to compete in the other bigger and more recognised sports at the school. My hope is that we can attract new players to the sport next year as we continue to promote the game as a sport that can be played for many years after leaving school.

Club players: Josh Aitken, Grant Bridgeford, Jordan Byres, Lyle Clubb, Owame Dube, Jamie Dunn, Daniel Friend, Tristian Grant, Ryan Grobler, Uthando Gumede, Jack Hermon, Oliver Hunter, Joshua Hurley, Omolemo Kenney, William Kitching, Gabriel Landzanakis, Reinhardt Luderitz, Thomas Mason, Lefa Motsumi, James Murray, Trey Padayachee, James Peattie, Knox Rutherford, Rex Schoeman, Oscar Steiner (captain), Zak Triplow, Victor Viljoen, Phillip van der Vyver, Jared Wilson, Sam Wingfield

In 2024 we played several local schools in friendly fixtures, namely, Maritzburg College, St Charles, Westville, Howick, St Anne's, St John's, Epworth, Wykeham Collegiate, Girls High School, and Kearsney. We also played Pretoria Boys High School in our annual sporting exchange with them. It was great to see our boys interact and develop friendships with players from other schools. Although many of the results went against us, we showed a fighting spirit and were able to grow and learn from these lessons on the courts.

Our Winter League season was once again a massive learning curve for the boys. Playing against seasoned campaigners each week can only strengthen you and build resilience. Our two teams gave of their best and pitched up every week to learn and grow from the experience. We were able to produce a few stunning victories over the course of the season. The following boys were regular members of our teams, and I would like to thank them for their commitment over the 18 weeks of fixtures: Josh Aitken, Grant Bridgeford, Lyle Clubb, Thomas Mason, Trey Padayachee, James Peattie, Oscar Steiner and Victor Viljoen. I would also like to thank Miss Julia Whitby for managing and playing for us in the 5th league team.

The inter-house trophy for squash was a hotly contested event this year. Churchill and McKenzie managed to push through the round robin phases to book a place in the final. Both teams had an equal chance to win the cup, but it was ultimately Churchill who showed greater composure to come out as inter-house winners for 2024.

The club's squash championships were once again a highlight on our calendar. Grant Bridgeford and Oscar Steiner made it to the final. Both boys played brilliantly this year, and both deserved to win. Ultimately, Bridgeford made fewer mistakes on the day and so he was crowned the 2024 school champion. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Steiner and Bridgeford for their leadership of the club and for their passion and enthusiasm. They were both heavily involved in other areas of school life and yet they were committed to the end. They were an example to the younger boys and their dedication to training was exceptional. I hope that they will continue to play the game of squash in the years to come.

I would also like to thank Mrs Nicolette Hohls and Mrs Katy McNiel for their support and help in managing training sessions and matches this year. Special thanks to our full-time professional coach, Mr Eli Meyer. His energy and vibrancy are enjoyed by the boys, who benefit greatly from his technical insights.

I look forward to 2025. My hope is that we can continue to build a squash community at Hilton that is passionate and committed to raising the profile of the sport and can take it to new heights.

James Bullough | MIC Squash

Swimming



A SWIMMING SQUAD

Back row: Bradley van Loggerenberg, Liam Casey, Callum Dreyer, Karl-Werner Lüderitz

Middle row: Luke Calvert, Rex Schoeman, Zhaun Swart, Matt Thomas, Griffon Le Meme, Gabriel Landzanakis

Front row: Kieran Hunter, Kingsley Thompson, Mrs Andrea Ridderhof, Mitchel Wilson, Robbie Hayward

The Hilton College swimming team can be very proud of its performances this year. Under the guidance of captain Kingsley Thompson and vice- captain Mitchel Wilson, they had a wonderful season in which they competed well.

The team participated in a number of galas, including the Hilton College Invitational Gala, where they came second out of five schools in the KwaZulu-Natal Inland area, and the KZN Top 10 gala, where they took sixth place.

About 25 of our boys completed the Midmar Mile, where they did us proud and thoroughly enjoy the event.

The Independent Quadrangular – comprising of Hilton College, Michaelhouse, Clifton College, St Charles College, St Anne's Diocesan College, The Wykeham Collegiate, St John's Diocesan School for Girls, Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School and Epworth School – was unfortunately cancelled due to severe weather.

The inter-house gala was a huge success with exciting races and excellent times recorded. The boys had a wonderful morning filled with team spirit and camaraderie.

Congratulations to Lucas House for winning the inter-house relay cup and championship gala cup, and to McKenzie House for winning the spirit shield.

A large number of boys took part in galas, and I would like to thank them for their hard work and effort this year. I wish them all the best for 2025 and look forward to another fantastic swimming season!

Thanks also to our coaches Mrs Tracey Mackenzie, Ms Lizelle Pollard, Mrs Hanlie Dry and Mr Lindokuhle Xulu.

Andrea Ridderhof | MIC Swimming



1ST TEAM

Back row: Kigen Chepkonga, André Boshoff, Kingsley Thompson, Nicholas Yu, Thomas Mason
Middle row: Ethan Maltby, Jack Holtzhauzen, Jake Hockly, Fin Dalrymple, Connor Sawyer, Grant Bridgeford
Front row: Sebastien Gaboreau, Mrs Annelize Goodwin, Jarred Maltby, Mrs Leana Steenkamp, Didier Rey
Absent: **Staff:** Coach Jordache Hussein, Mr PK Ramnarain, Ms Lizel Pollard, Mr Wilbert Tenga
Boys: Chris Johnson, Benoit Rey, Estiaan du Preez, Ubaid Sayed, William Chien

The year 2024 was a significant year for tennis at Hilton College, with the introduction of a more fiercely contested tennis ladder system and more than 50 boys participating in the sport.

Throughout the Singles League, Regional Trials, U15 Racquet Festival, Doubles League, St Anne’s Hilton Mixed Doubles Tournament, Dads and Lads and De Wet Cup, Hilton players consistently demonstrated exceptional skill and sportsmanship.

Congratulations to Uyapo Ndwapi who played for the U19A regional team and Sebastien Gaboreau who played for the U19B regional team.

Congrats also to André Boshoff, Ross Hill and Jacques Flamand who put in impressive performances at the ITF KZN Tennis Trials. We look forward to their future successes in tennis.

The season’s pinnacle event, the annual Tennis Dinner, celebrated these achievements and featured guest speaker Liezel Huber, a former world number one and three-time Olympian, who inspired the senior tennis boys to push themselves to their limits and to embrace resilience.

We also celebrated the following award-winning players:

Rising Star	Ross Hill
The Team Spirit Award	Nicholas Yu and Sebastien Gaboreau

The Grit Award	Jake Hockly
The Maltby MVP Cup	Didier Rey and Jarred Maltby
Leadership Award	Jarred Maltby

In his Tennis Dinner address, captain Jarred Maltby highlighted that tennis is more than a sport. It is a platform for building lifelong friendships and learning invaluable lessons. He reflected on the camaraderie and resilience his team displayed in triumph and defeat. Drawing inspiration from tennis legend Roger Federer, he reminded his teammates that perseverance and mental strength are as crucial as skill on the court.

Hilton College’s tennis programme remains committed to nurturing talent and fostering a love for the sport. Special thanks to the staff associated with the tennis programme this year: Head Coach Mr Jordache Hussein, Mr PK Ramnarain, Mr Wilbert Tenga, Mrs Leana Steenkamp, Mrs Lizel Pollard, and Mrs Katy McNeil. We look forward to another promising season with incoming captain Jake Hockly and vice-captain André Boshoff leading the charge.

Annelize Goodwin | MIC Tennis

The Hilton College Water Polo Club had another dynamic year in 2024, marking significant milestones and continuing its tradition of excellence. With five senior teams and four junior teams, the club provided a competitive and supportive environment for all our players, guided by a dedicated coaching staff.

Our focus remained on maximising playing opportunities and fostering an environment of growth and enjoyment. Across the season, Hilton teams competed in 163 games, recording 103 victories, 31 defeats, and 12 draws. These statistics highlight the hard work and commitment of both our players and coaches, whose enthusiasm made each match memorable and worthwhile.

The season was capped off on 11 November in style with U14A, U14B, U15A, U15B and 1st team wins against Michaelhouse (draws for 3rds and 4ths, conceding just one loss at 2nd team level), and a memorable social gathering with parents and players at the Ducasse Aquatic Centre.

Participation in tournaments took centre stage, offering valuable exposure to high-level competition. Our 1st, 2nd, U16A, U15A, and U14A teams represented Hilton College at top national tournaments, honing their skills and showing our competitive spirit. The 1st team made appearances at the St Andrew's Shield, KES Tournament, Clifton Tournament, SACS Tournament, KZN Top 10 (making the final), and the St Stithians Stayers Tournament. The 2nd team competed at the Pearson Tournament, while the U16As battled it out in the DHS U16 Tournament. The U15A team displayed impressive performances at the Parktown U15 Tournament, making the final, KZN Top 10, also making the final, and the Ian Melliar Cup. Our U14A team participated in the Jeppe Festival, Hilton U14 Tournament and the KZN Top 10, where they won the Brad Anderson Shield and finished third at Top 10.



Our teams' performances at these events were truly remarkable.

On a national level, Meyer Malherbe was selected to represent the South African Men's team at the World Cup in Istanbul, Turkey.

My heartfelt appreciation to the water polo coaching staff, whose dedication, expertise, and encouragement have been instrumental in the success of our players and teams this year.

19 Hilton players were selected for the KZN Schools squads.

Congratulations to each of these players:

KZN U14B

Luke Calvert, Benji Keeton,
Nicholas Taylor

KZN U14A

Carter Seiler, Oliver Hunter, Casey Marks

KZN U15A

Griffon Le Meme, Lwango Ntantala,
Bradley van Loggerenberg, Liam Casey,
Gabriel Landzanakis

KZN U16A

Garrick Phillips, Musawenkosi Mponda,
Andrew Schnell, Taylor Seiler

KZN U19B

Trent Chubb

KZN U19A

Mitchel Garreau, Thomas Taylor,
Tristan Uys

A further 10 players were selected to represent KZN at the Currie Cup:

KZN U16A

Musawenkosi Mponda,
Taylor Seiler, Sebastian Laudenberg

KZN U18A

Thomas Taylor, Trent Chubb,
Tristan Uys, Mitchel Garreau,
Meyer Malherbe

KZN Mens

Meyer Malherbe

Thank you for your remarkable efforts in 2024.

Andrew Duncan | Director of Water Polo



1ST TEAM

Back row: Taylor Seiler, Hanu Pieterse, Trent Chubb, Andrew Schnell, Mitchel Garreau

Second row: Sebastian Laudenberg, Matthew Thomas, Thomas Taylor, Oliver Mattison, Tristan Uys, Garrick Phillips, Musawenkosi Mponda

Front row: Retief Malherbe, Mr Jason Sileno, Meyer Malherbe, Mr Andrew Duncan, Mitchel Wilson

1ST TEAM

Regular players: Trent Chubb, Mitchel Garreau, Jos Kok, Sebastian Laudenberg, Meyer Malherbe, Retief Malherbe, Oliver Mattison, Musawenkosi Mponda, Garrick Phillips, Hanu Pieterse, Andrew Schnell, Taylor Seiler, Thomas Taylor, Matthew Thomas, Tristan Uys, Mitchel Wilson

The season began in January with the customary pre-season camp in preparation for the St Andrew's College Shield Tournament in Grahamstown. Drawn into a difficult group, the team were put to the sword early on with some mixed performances – the good wins against Selborne and Grey High were undone by narrow losses to Clifton, St Stithians and Bishops. Disappointingly, this meant that the team were unable to make it through to the quarter-finals. The team, however, bounced back in an accomplished performance against St Andrew's College, and were valiant in their penalty shootout defeat to St Stithians to finish tenth. Although the team were disappointed by the final placing, there were real signs of potential moving forward.

Determined and focused on making amends, the team set about their preparation for the KES Tournament by putting together strong performances in their Saturday fixtures against Northwood, Maritzburg College, Clifton and Kearsney. Placed in the group dubbed the “pool of death” they got off to a good start with a win against Jeppe, then lost out narrowly in an epic battle against SACS, and finished off the group matches with a confident win against a very good Selborne team. Meeting Rondebosch (eventual winners) in the quarter-final was always going to produce fireworks. With the teams exchanging blows throughout, we were unable to

hold onto a well-earned lead and went down in a memorable performance. The play-off match against Paul Roos displayed the team's resilience as they made a strong comeback to pip their rivals in a fiery encounter. The 5/6 play-off saw another passionate performance with the team losing out on a penalty shoot-out to finish sixth overall. Being the only KZN team in the top eight at KES was a positive outcome and reward for the effort and work the team had put in.

In August, the team began their pre-season in preparation for a busy second half of the season in which the team participated in four more tournaments: Clifton Tournament, SACS Tournament, Top 10 Tournament and the Saints Stayers Tournament.

At the SACS Tournament the team performed well in a competitive pool with superb wins against Clifton, St David's, Jeppe, Pretoria Boys and Grey High. Valiant losses against St Stithians, Rondebosch and Bishops still meant the team qualified for the quarter-finals and were drawn against St John's. In an inspirational comeback from 0-3 down, the team rallied in the second half to draw level with 16 seconds to go. In the cruellest of fates, the team then conceded a penalty goal with six seconds remaining. However, the team played with passion and grit throughout and were rewarded with another top eight finish.

At the Clifton Tournament the team performed well by dispatching Grey College and Northwood early on. In the performance of the year, the team were sublime in a “box office” clash with SACS with a penalty save at the death taking the match into a penalty shoot-out. The team held firm to win and finish top of the group. Unable to reproduce the same energy and precision in the quarter-final against Paul Roos the team went down disappointingly. However, the response in the final two matches against Kearsney and Affies illustrated the togetherness of the group and a willingness to make amends. Winning both matches narrowly the team finished in sixth place overall, another good outcome.

At the KZN Schools Top 10 Tournament the team remained unbeaten in their pool matches against Kearsney, Co-Ed Invitational and Michaelhouse to book their spot in the semi-final. In a ruthless performance against a highly rated DHS the team advanced to the final. The final against archrivals Kearsney was a brutal encounter with the momentum swinging back and forth. The team performed admirably but were unable to take the victory. The second-place finish also equalling the previous best place for Hilton College in this tournament.

The Saints Stayers Tournament saw a changing of the guard with the departure of the Matrics and some fresh faces introduced into the team. The team started poorly with a loss to Kearsney, which fuelled them on to an inspirational win against SACS. Having found their mojo, the team continued their form with wins against Jeppe and Pretoria Boys. Perhaps overconfident, the team nearly paid the ultimate price in their play-off match against a fired-up Reddam Constantia. In a desperate comeback, the team managed to find a way back in and won via a penalty shoot-out. Determined to make further amends the team stepped up with an utterly dominant display in the quarter-final against pre-tournament favourite Rondebosch. The reward was a semi-final appointment with Bishops (the other pre-tournament favourite) which produced another fantasy-like performance. Trailing in the final minute, the team drew level with a penalty goal, and in the most desperate of moments conceded a goal in the last second to miss out on the final. The 3/4 play-off against St John’s was bittersweet as the team performed so very well but went down with 12 seconds to play. Finishing fourth overall is the second-best Hilton College performance at this tournament and indicates the strength of the team and potential.

This was a fantastic year for the 1st team that typified the spirit of Hilton College water polo: grit and the determination to succeed. The team was able to rival the very best and was ranked amongst the top eight teams in the country, an elevated space, and an incredible achievement for Hilton College.

In numbers:

- 423 goals scored (336 goals conceded)
- 27 matches won (3 matches drawn) (18 matches lost)
- 5 quarter-finals in 7 tournaments
- 2 semi-finals in 7 tournaments

Thank you to all the coaches, parents and players for a successful and enjoyable year of water polo in 2024.

Jason Sileno | Coach



COACH JASON SILENO

TRENT CHUBB: Trent possesses the frame and positioning skills that make him an exceptional goalkeeper. His reflex saves and accurate outlet passes have led to numerous successful counterattacks. Trent’s dedication to training and his willingness to work for the team have made him essential to the team’s success. He has had many standout moments for the team – stopping several one-on-one shots and saving countless penalties in critical matches. Trent was awarded school colours for water polo.

MITCHEL GARREAU: Mitchel is a dynamic player with a sharp understanding of the game and a strong instinct for goal-scoring opportunities. He is a constant threat on the counterattack, proving to be lethal when driving towards the goal, and has also developed into an effective perimeter shooter. His remarkable recovery from illness and subsequent return to the team have been nothing short of inspiring. His courage, passion, and determination to succeed have set an example for everyone and served as a motivating force for the entire team. His contribution to the team was significant and included blistering counterattacks, scoring spectacular goals, and demonstrating that with the right mindset anything is possible. Mitchel was awarded school colours for water polo.

JOS KOK: Jos is an energetic and mobile player whose game is focused on identifying space and seeking out opportunities. His exceptional work rate and enthusiasm infuse a fresh energy and tempo into the game, which is critical to the team’s overall success. Although injured in the second half of the year, I am sure he will make a positive return next year. Throughout his time with the 1st team, Jos had many a memorable moment – drawing exclusions, creating assists, and scoring important goals.

SEBASTIAN LAUDENBERG: Sebastian is a mobile player with a keen ability to find space and create attacking opportunities. He is consistently hardworking, energetic, and enthusiastic, bringing these qualities to the game, making him a key contributor to the team’s success. Sebastian often played at the top of his game – drawing exclusions, making assists and scoring important goals.

MEYER MALHERBE: Meyer has an exceptional instinct for the game, enabling him to play across multiple positions. His ability to handle threats, control the tempo, and create goal-scoring opportunities makes him a triple threat. Highly competitive and driven, Meyer has been a key factor in the team’s success, consistently dominating opponents and scoring crucial goals. Meyer was also awarded honours for his achievements in water polo.

RETIEF MALHERBE: Retief possesses strong technical skills and a keen ability to read the game, which allow him to play a key role in various defensive systems. His willingness to drive forward on attack provides the team with multiple offensive options, making him a valuable asset. His work ethic and reliability further establish him as an important member of the team. Retief has had numerous standout moments with the team – including defending against opposing centre-forwards, as well as scoring crucial goals and providing key assists. He was also awarded school colours for his achievements in water polo.

OLIVER MATTISON: Oliver is a powerful player with a physical approach to his game, and his strong instinct for goal-scoring opportunities has been crucial to the team's success. His work ethic and motivational nature have had a positive impact on his teammates. Oliver contributed significantly to the team, scoring important goals and dominating opponents defensively. He was awarded half-colours for water polo.

MUSAWENKOSI MPONDA: Musa is a physical and technically skilled player capable of playing both centre-forward and covering at centre-back. His physical presence and powerful shot make him a constant threat in the pool. He has adapted well to this level of water polo and is a highly competitive player whose enthusiasm has contributed significantly to the team's success. Musa delivered for the team, dominating opposing centre-backs, scoring incredible goals, and changing the outcome of matches.

GARRICK PHILLIPS: Garrick is a versatile and hardworking player who can play on the left side as well as at centre-forward, as well as on the left or at centre-back. He has a direct approach to his game, with quick reactions and an instinct for attacking opportunities, and the ability to read threats. His commitment, and no-fuss approach has been invaluable in the team's successes. He was instrumental in defending key opponents and scoring fantastic goals.

HANU PIETERSE: Hanu takes a physical and uncompromising approach to the game. As a solid centre-back, he also has the ability to unleash a powerful shot from a distance. His passion for the team, combined with his strong work ethic, makes him an invaluable asset and serves as a source of motivation for those around him. He has had many memorable moments for the team – scoring cracker shots from a distance, and dominating opponent centre-forwards. Hanu was awarded half-colours for water polo.

ANDREW SCHNELL: Andrew has the versatility and technical ability that allow him to play multiple roles in the pool. His range of defensive skills, driving game and outside shot make him a triple threat. He has adjusted well to this level of water polo. His work ethic and reliability make him a valued member of the team. He put in many stellar performances for the team, defending opponent centre-forwards as well as scoring crucial goals.

TAYLOR SEILER: Taylor is a physical and hardworking player who can play on both the left and right side of the pool. He has adapted well to this level of water polo by working on his defensive skills, and by developing the skills required for a right-side control. His direct approach to the game and instinct for attacking opportunities has been invaluable in the team's successes. Taylor has had many standout moments for the team – defending key opponents and scoring superb goals.

THOMAS TAYLOR: Tom is a highly skilled left-hander who has a natural feel for the game. He has the ability to read defensive threats, control the tempo of the attack and identify goal-scoring opportunities. Tom's calm demeanour, commitment and work ethic have made a significant impact on the successes of the team and endeared him to his teammates. Tom contributed significantly to the team – earning exclusions in important matches, defending key opponents, and scoring in outrageous ways. He was awarded school colours for water polo.

MATTHEW THOMAS: Matthew is an energetic player whose strengths lie in his fast counter-attacking and ability to create opportunities on the drive. His role provides him with chances in front of goal and enables the team to adopt varied attacking strategies to break down defences. His willingness and passion for success have been significant contributors to the team's achievements. Matthew gave 100 percent, drawing exclusions, making assists, and scoring important goals. He was awarded half-colours for water polo.

TRISTAN UYS: Tristan is a highly mobile and versatile player that possesses the ability to play across any position in the pool. He has an acute understanding of the game, and an instinct for timing and the creation of scoring opportunities. Tristan is a very competitive player who plays with passion and has played a key role in the successes of the team. Tristan put in many standout performances for the team – defending key opponents, taking numerous important penalties, and scoring seemingly impossible goals. He was awarded school colours for water polo.

MITCHEL WILSON: Mitchel is a very mobile player who has an instinct for the game and an uncanny ability to read defensive threats and identify goal-scoring opportunities. His tireless work on defence and eagerness to break down defences with his counter-attack and driving skills brings a high tempo to the game. His leadership, competitive spirit and passion have contributed significantly to the successes of the team and endeared him to his teammates. Mitchel had memorable performances for the Team – earning exclusions in important matches, defending key opponents, and scoring in outrageous ways. He was awarded school colours for water polo.





2ND TEAM

Regular players: Troy Bailey (captain), Griffon Barnes, Caleb Barradas, Daniel Barradas, Nic Bregman-Frangos, Kai Dreyer, Robbie Hayward, Kieran Hunter, Oliver Jarvie, Callan Kenmuir, Ben Le Roux, Matthew Mattison, Musawenkosi Mponda, Jamie Murray, Ndalo Moyo, Dylan Neill, Brendan Nieuwstad, Sean Ritchie, Taylor Seiler, William Segar, Luke Spear, Charlie Short, Joshua Snyman, Reinard Wagner, Alex Wesselink

The first half of the season for the 2nd team was filled with promising performances and competitive results throughout, setting a positive tone for the rest of the year. The team opened the season with a hard-fought 6-6 draw against a spirited Northwood Boys High School side, showcasing our resilience and grit from the outset. This was followed by an impressive victory over Glenwood (6-5), where tactical discipline and sharp shooting helped secure a solid win, reinforcing the team's growing confidence.

A highlight of the season was the team's participation in the annual Pearson 2nd Team Water Polo Tournament where we battled against a strong field of opposition. The team demonstrated a competitive edge throughout the tournament but, unfortunately, a narrow loss to St Andrew's (7-4) in our last game of the weekend resulted in us placing tenth out of 20 teams in East London. While the result was a tough one, it was a valuable learning experience and the team showed great spirit and determination throughout the competition. Thanks to Mr Sipho Moniwa for his support and motivational team talks throughout the weekend. Without his inspiration and ability to bring a calming mindset to the team, we would not have achieved what we did.

The team's most significant triumph was against Clifton College in Durban. In a tightly contested match, the squad emerged victorious by a two-goal margin (6-4), marking an exciting and well-earned win to cap off the first half of the season. This result not only highlighted the team's ability to perform under pressure but also underscored the progress they've made in terms of cohesion and tactical awareness. With a solid foundation laid, the team headed into the second half of the season with optimism and the belief that their hard work will continue to pay off.

In term 4 most of the players attended pre-season training by Mr Jason Sileno and emerged conditioned for an amazing season.

The first match of the season was against DHS, which we won 17-4. The boys showed grit and determination to achieve such a great result. We then played Westville in a tight game that ended in a 3-1 win. We went on to play Maritzburg College and beat them 5-4 in a very close encounter; the boys really played their hearts out. We played Maritzburg College again at home and won 11-5 in a much better display of water polo, with the boys showing their skills and scoring some wonderful goals. Next, we faced St Charles, beating them 9-4.

After a short half-term break, we played Michaelhouse at home, which was set to be our hardest fixture yet. It was indeed challenging, as we were 6-6 going into the 4th quarter. However, we let it slip after a few mistakes and ended up losing 12-10. This 2nd team is one of the best I have seen, only losing one game against tough opponents, with most players being in Grade 10 and only a few in Grade 11.

The team benefited from the support and additional coaching of Mr Duncan and Mr Wiid, for which I am very grateful.

Dean Macleod-Henderson and Cameron Wiid | Coaches

3RD TEAM

Regular players: Griffin Barnes, Calum Bryson, Oliver Chappel, Charles Fawcett, Jack Guye, Alex Hathorn, Kieran Hunter, Kieran Janse van Rensburg, Harry Jarvie, Oliver Jarvie, Bryce Johnson, Mholi Khuzwayo, Riley Lindsay, Ethan McCabe, James Murray, Zander Müller, Dylan Neill, Sean Ritchie, William Segar, Lee Singh, Charlie Short, Luke Spear (captain), David Sutton, Reinard Wagner, Alex Wesselink

The 3rd team had a remarkable season, finishing with an outstanding record of nine wins and one draw out of 10 matches. The team's hard work, strategic play, and resilience were evident in every game, demonstrating their dedication and skill.

Throughout the season, the players displayed strong offensive tactics, effective ball movement, and consistent scoring abilities, which allowed them to dominate in most matches. Their defensive efforts were equally impressive, with goalkeepers and defenders executing well-coordinated strategies that minimized opponents' scoring opportunities.

The single draw was a fiercely contested match, showcasing the team's resilience and ability to adapt under pressure. Their determination to maintain an unbeaten record pushed them to perform exceptionally well, securing a hard-earned result in challenging circumstances.

Each member of the team contributed to this successful season, building an atmosphere of support and collaboration. The players' commitment in training and focus during games were pivotal in achieving such a strong season. Congratulations to the team on an excellent record, marking a season filled with skill, teamwork, and dedication!

Veniemus, Videbimus, Vincemus.

Michael Werth | Coach

4TH TEAM

Regular players: James Aitken, Griffin Barnes, Samuel Bird, Calum Bryson, Rosco Campbell, Kenyu Chiang, Nick Dalrymple (captain), James Dent, Xavier Enslin, Charles Fawcett, Liam Firth, Hartman Fourie, Oscar Franco, Jack Guye, Oliver Jarvie, Bryce Johnson, Riley Lindsay, Ewan Miskin, Christopher Morrison, Zander Müller, Sebastian Ozoux, Matthew Phipson, Dominic Richards, Xander Schlebusch, Lee Singh, Tele Sitoyo, Ross Steyn, Zac Sweidan, Victor Viljoen, Zander Vorster

Enthusiasm and a commitment to excellence were traits of this team. Competing in 12 matches, they secured an impressive six victories, a testament to their hard work and teamwork. With each game, they developed strength and determination, and every player contributed to the team's success. Watching these athletes develop their skills and confidence has been a source of pride for me as their coach. Their effort and sense of unity have not only led to strong performances but also built lasting bonds between teammates.

Thanks to Nick Dalrymple who captained the team with excellence.

Richard Garrett | Coach

5TH TEAM

Regular players: James Aitken, Rosco Campbell, Nick Dalrymple, Charles Fawcett, Liam Firth, Alex Hathorn, Mholi Khuzwayo, James Lyon, Thomas Mason, Zander Müller, Philipp Plate, Xander Schlebusch, Tele Sitoyo, Ross Steyn, David Sutton, James Youens.

The 5th team made incredible progress in the first term and achieved several excellent results. The squad comprised mainly of players with little or no experience in the game, but they rose to the challenge to work hard and play their best for their school.

Our first contest was against a physically stronger and more experienced Northwood outfit. Our team did well to compete, though we were always chasing the scoreline. The match ended in a 2-4 loss. This defeat highlighted deficiencies in our transitional play, defensive structure, and ball transfers, which we worked hard on during training.

Determined not to make the opening match a determiner for the season, the team travelled to Michaelhouse for what was the first of three encounters against our old foe. We were delighted with the outcome of this match winning 9-0 in a one-sided affair. This match instilled in the boys a sense of confidence and a determination to compete even harder in the coming match against Kearsney's 4th team, a game we won 6-2. With ever-growing confidence our performances steadily improved and we were able to win all our remaining games.

The highlight of the term was a nail-biting win (4-3) against Clifton College in their home pool. Whilst we were mostly ahead in this game, Clifton was always in the match and drew level on two occasions. It took committed defence and composure with the ball in hand in the dying minutes of the match to ensure the victory.

Special thanks to the Director of Water Polo, Mr Andrew Duncan, for his support and for ensuring we had a full set of fixtures for the term.

Tony Shuttleworth and James Webb | Coaches

U15A

Regular players: Liam Casey, Gabriel Landzanakis, Griffon Le Meme, Karl-Werner Lüderitz, Lwango Ntantala (captain), Knox Rutherford, Rex Schoeman, Matthew Stott, Zhaun Swart, Bradley Van Loggerenberg, JD Van Wyk

The U15A team had an exceptional season, marked by consistent victories, strong performances and valuable learning experiences. The team kicked off the year with a string of convincing wins over top competitors, including Northwood (9-2), Glenwood (10-0), Kearsney (8-5), Clifton (7-5) and Michaelhouse (11-2), setting a solid foundation for what was to come.

Our impressive form continued at the Parktown Boys' High School Water Polo Tournament in Johannesburg, where we faced a tough field of teams. We managed to start the weekend off on a great note in the pool stages, where we earned significant victories over strong opposition, including Selborne College (6-5) and SACS (6-5). In the quarter-finals the team achieved a historic win, beating Rondebosch Boys 4-2. The Southern Suburbs side had been undefeated since Grade 6, making the victory even more special. The team went on to defeat Paul Roos in the semi-finals (4-1) before falling just short in a thrilling final against local rivals, Kearsney, by just one goal (7-6).

The second half of the season saw the team continue to build on our early successes starting with a productive pre-season.

The team travelled to Cape Town for the Ian Melliar Cup, hosted annually by Wynberg Boys' High School. There, we produced some thrilling performances, including memorable wins but were eventually stopped by Rondebosch in the pool stages. The Cape side managed to exact their revenge for their earlier loss in Johannesburg. Rondebosch went on to win the tournament but the U15A team showed resilience, bouncing back to finish in a well-deserved 5th place. The team's strong performances included back-to-back penalty shootout wins against Paul Roos and Kearsney, the latter providing a measure of redemption after our Parktown loss.

A final highlight of the season came at the KZN Schools Top 10 Tournament, where the team continued to impress. We fought our way to the final, demonstrating exceptional teamwork and strategy along the way but fell short against Clifton College, losing 7-4 to finish second overall. The season ended with more dominant victories, including a sweet win over Michaelhouse (19-2), capping off a truly memorable year.

A warm thank you to Mr Andrew Duncan for his dedication to the squad and the expertise he imparted on the players over the course of the year. Throughout the season, the U15A team displayed a high level of commitment, growth, and sportsmanship, earning well-deserved recognition for their efforts and setting a strong precedent for the future of the programme.

Cameron Wiid | Coach

U15B

Regular players: Kelso Bolton, Aidan du Plooy, Nicholas Eyres, Adam Fitzsimons, Ryan Grabler, Jack Heenan, Rex Holdsworth, Christopher Job, Sigcobe Magwentshu, Ruan Mulder, Charles Ngunyi, Lucas Pietersen, James Robertson, Knox Rutherford, Hanlin Shi, Matthew Stott, Makobane Thema

The team was made up of players easily capable of playing for the A team. Yet the boys were teachable and brought energy and enthusiasm to the start of the season.

We had some close calls, with a narrow loss to Kearsney College 5-4 and a draw with Clifton College 4-4. However, the boys were determined to have a good season. They achieved a convincing win over Maritzburg College 9-3 and finished the term with a resounding 12-4 victory over Michaelhouse.

At the start of the 4th term we enjoyed a commanding 12-5 win against Durban High School. In a nail-biting encounter against Maritzburg College, the team emerged victorious with a 5-4 win. Against Westville Boys' High School, the players secured another close victory, edging their opponents by a single goal in a tense 6-5 game. In a rematch with Maritzburg College, Hilton displayed remarkable improvement, dominating with a stunning 13-1 victory.

The team continued their winning streak with a decisive 12-4 triumph over St Charles. This match, played against a junior A team, highlighted their ability to control the game and apply consistent pressure. Finally, Hilton concluded the season with an 8-4 victory over Michaelhouse, delivering yet another strong performance to cap off an impressive campaign.

Overall, the U15B team had an outstanding season, finishing with consistent displays of skill, teamwork, and determination. Their hard work and dedication led to a truly memorable season.

Tienie van Wyk and Dean Macleod-Henderson | Coaches

U14A

Regular players: Luke Calvert, Raiden Dornonville de la Cour, Luke Goodenough, Oliver Hunter (captain), Benji Keeton, Reinhardt Luderitz, Casey Marks, Jesse Miller, Lwazi Phillip, and Carter Seiler.

The U14A team had a memorable and successful season, displaying skill, resilience, and growth from the very start.

The season kicked off strongly with victories over Northwood, Glenwood, and Kearsney, which set a positive tone and built early momentum. Despite a narrow defeat to Clifton, the team bounced back, securing further wins against Michaelhouse and Kearsney, reinforcing their competitive edge and teamwork.

One of the season's highlights was the team's participation in the prestigious Jeppe Festival in Johannesburg, where they competed against some of the top schools in the country. The boys rose to the occasion, delivering outstanding performances with wins over St Stithians and KES, and securing hard-fought draws against St John's, Bishops, and St David's. These results highlighted the team's talent and determination, as they held their own against formidable opponents.

In Term 3, the team entered its pre-season phase with a strong emphasis on refining technical skills, improving conditioning, and sharpening tactical play. This preparation paid off, particularly as they hosted the renowned Hilton U14 tournament, another season highlight, where they showed their progress and claimed victory in the plate section, winning the Brad Anderson Shield. The season continued with the KZN Top 10 tournament, where the team topped their pool with impressive wins against Northwood, Westville, Maritzburg College, and Glenwood, eventually finishing in a commendable third place.

The season concluded with a highly anticipated derby against Michaelhouse. The U14A team displayed dominance and teamwork, achieving a convincing 13-5 victory, a fitting end to a remarkable season.

Gratitude is extended to Messrs Cameron Wiid and Dean Macleod-Henderson for their invaluable support throughout the season. Their expertise and commitment were instrumental in the team's success and development.

Andrew Duncan | Coach

U14B

Regular players: Jared Bartels, Patrick Gibson, Ethan Griezel, Roddrick Hunter, Isago Khomo, Oliver McSeveney, Otsile Moncho, Bakani Ndwapi, Buhlebonke Ntshangase, Jayden Olivier, Dominic Dunn, Reuben Szudrawski, Liam Wilkin.

The U14B boys had an exciting Term 1, starting with the challenge of building a solid foundation as many players were new to the sport. Despite a slow beginning, the team showed tremendous growth and commitment throughout the term. Each game provided valuable experience, and the boys developed their skills, teamwork, and confidence with every match.

Although the season was tough, with losses in our initial games, hard work paid off in the end. The team finished on a high note with a well-earned victory against Michaelhouse, showcasing their improvement and determination.

Despite losing some players to other sports, we also gained some new players in Term 4. The boys who played this term did phenomenally. They competed against teams that often had an average of five boys on the bench compared to our one or, on a good day, maybe two reserves.

Even though the boys are not individually the fastest swimmers in their age group, they have come together as a team to almost finish the term undefeated. Unfortunately, they lost to St Charles' mixed junior team, which included quite a few under-15 boys.

They have played with great determination and can be very proud of their achievements.

Tienie van Wyk and Matthew Fairweather | Coaches







5 Old Hiltonians

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The Old Hiltonian Club

OLD BOYS AND FRIENDS OF HILTON COLLEGE



CLUB MINUTES

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Old Hiltonian Club held in person and online on Friday, 14 June 2024 at 16h00.

Present

Anton Jooste (chairman), George Harris (headmaster), Andrew Johnston (chairman of the Board of Governors of The Hiltonian Society), 25 members present, one member present by proxy, five members present online, Patricia van Rooyen (company secretary) and three members of staff.

Apologies

Apologies were received from three members.

Devotions

The headmaster recited the school prayer.

Notice, Welcome and Apologies

Notice of the meeting having been duly given, and there being more than the minimum of seven members present, the 132nd meeting was declared open. Apologies received were noted. The chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and expressed his gratitude for the good turnout at the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

The chairman reported that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 10 June 2023, having been available for inspection at the secretary's office during normal office hours were taken as read, and there being no amendments they were unanimously approved and adopted as a true record of proceedings. There were no matters arising.

Annual Financial Statements

The summary annual financial statements of the club for the year ended 31 December 2023, together with the independent auditor's report having been circulated with the notice of the meeting were regarded as having been tabled and were taken as read. As no comments, queries, or objections had been received the annual financial statements of the club were unanimously approved and adopted.

Auditors

Messrs. GC Ford & Co. were unanimously re-appointed as the auditors to the club for the ensuing financial year.

Chairman's Report

The chairman's report, as circulated with the notice of the meeting, was tabled and taken as read. Following an invitation for comments, as there were no matters raised by attendees, the chairman's comprehensive report was accepted.

Headmaster's Report

The headmaster's report, as circulated and tabled, was taken as read. Following an invitation for comments, as there were no matters raised by attendees, the headmaster's comprehensive report was accepted.

Proposed Amended Constitution

The amended constitution was circulated prior to the meeting to all members. The chairman briefed the members present on the proposed amendments to the constitution of the club, and the reasons therefore. The most notable change to the constitution would be the composition of the OHC Committee. In future, the committee would be comprised as follows:

- An honorary president
- Up to three honorary vice presidents
- A chairman
- A deputy chairman
- A treasurer
- The chairmen of each branch of the club ex officio.

The majority of members present voted in favour of the amendments, with two abstentions. The amended constitution as circulated was thus approved and adopted.

Other Business

The chairman extended his thanks to Sir Roger Don-Wauchope for his ongoing and unstinting support of the Hilton family. There being no other business the meeting was closed at 16h35.

2024 AGM REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE

President and vice-presidents of the Old Hiltonian Club (OHC), chairman of the board of governors, deputy chairman of the board, governors, trustees of the Hilton College Endowment Foundation, headmaster, national committee members, branch committee chairmen and all Old Hiltonians: it is my great pleasure to submit the OHC chairman's report for the financial year ended 31 December 2023, in anticipation of the 132nd Annual General Meeting of the club.

In 2023, Hilton College celebrated its 151st year of existence, starting with a celebration of Hilton's actual birthday on 29 January. Yet understandably, much of the club's activities do not happen at Hilton, but rather in the club's various branches.

The various chapters of the club, represented by the branches, are an integral part of building collegiality amongst Old Hiltonians. With the Covid-related restrictions now well behind us, most of the club's branches revitalised their activities and events during 2023.

The UK branch in particular has been most active, continuing to help alumni who are looking for advice, introductions and other commercial opportunities in the UK. This project is run in conjunction with Michaelhouse, Bishops, and St Andrews, and by leveraging social media, it has helped several people find employment – a wonderful example of the power of the Hilton network. Simon Ellis is to be congratulated for his ongoing work in this regard, as well as for his efforts in arranging dinners and pub evenings in the UK.

The Gauteng branch continues to host well-attended drinks evenings, thanks to the efforts of David Heenan. For various reasons, it appears that these informal drinks evenings are more popular than formal dinners and are likely to be the preferred format for Gauteng branch gatherings in the future.

Myles Hoppe continues to lead the Western Cape chapter of the club and has deliberately focussed on including young Old Hiltonians studying at Stellenbosch and the University of Cape Town in branch activities.

With Damian Farrell's sad passing, John Shorten has taken over the leadership of the USA branch, strongly supported by stalwarts such as David Meachin and Rich Davies. Wayne Millar and Deon van den Berg are new members of the branch committee and have brought fresh energy to activities in the USA chapter of the club. Simon Fish is to be thanked for his ongoing efforts in championing the Hilton cause in Canada.

Adam Oldfield, Mark Hathorn and Brett Armstrong were instrumental in organising events for the club in KZN during 2023, including drinks evenings, golf days, fishing competitions and regular gatherings at the Fleur-de-Lys Club.

In addition to fostering collegiality amongst Old Hiltonians and friends of Hilton College, the purpose of the OHC has always been to uphold and perpetuate the good name and reputation of Hilton College, contribute to endowment-raising initiatives in support of the school, and to represent the interests of



Old Hiltonians on the board of governors of the Hiltonian Society NPC.

"Friendship raising" and fundraising are no longer part-time activities for great institutions like Hilton College. Leading schools around the world all have dedicated teams that advance their cause. Hilton is no different. For this reason, the school established the Advancement Office in 2017 in support of growing the Hilton College Endowment Foundation.

The work of the Advancement Office is also inextricably linked with that of the OHC. For this reason, it was decided at the September 2019 board meeting that the

chairman of The Old Hiltonian Club should also hold the board responsibility for Advancement.

During 2023 ongoing progress was made in further professionalising the Advancement Office. Having completed the planning phase of their work, the team began the work of executing the plan that focuses on growing endowment for four separate causes:

- **The "Lift Up Your Hearts Fund" – a human capital / bursary / scholarship fund.** The purpose of this fund is to provide financial assistance to deserving Hilton boys.
- **The "Pinnacles" Fund** – an infrastructure fund. The purpose of this fund is to provide funding for the ongoing maintenance of the Hilton campus and to fund new infrastructure projects.
- **The "uMngeni" Fund** – an environmental / estate fund. The purpose of this fund is to provide funding for environmental and conservation projects linked to the Hilton estate.
- **The "Vula" Fund** – a community outreach fund. The purpose of this fund is to provide funding for community outreach projects linked to the school, such as the highly acclaimed Vula Programme.

A deliberate strategy of the advancement team has been to get as many Old Hiltonians as possible to become monthly donors. Some progress has been made, but, frankly speaking, not nearly enough. If Hilton is to secure its future by building a sizeable endowment, many more Old Hiltonians are going to need to play their part.

In addition to endowment raising, a key responsibility of the advancement office is that of enrolment. The efforts required to fill Hilton with 120, quality, fee-paying boys every year is gargantuan.

Given the current socio-economic pressures, the advancement office needs as much support as possible to achieve this objective. It is self-evident that Old Hiltonians can play an influential role in this regard. With this in mind, a number of Old Hiltonians supported the enrolment efforts by arranging personalised “New Boys’ Weekends” for Hilton’s key feeder schools.

Furthermore, these “Hilton experiences” were supplemented by these Old Hiltonians advocating the school’s value proposition in their respective communities. The fruits of these activities are to be seen in the quality of the 2025 intake. Based on this success, the involvement of Old Hiltonians in enrolment is something that will be amplified for years to come.

Speaking of Old Hiltonians playing their part, I would like to acknowledge Andrew Dunn for his relentless support of Hilton over many years. Andrew has a passion for people and has mobilised resources that have put many talented boys through Hilton. Like Andrew, Dawie and Phillip Chamberlain have been great benefactors of Hilton over many years. The new Chamberlain Music Centre is now operational, made possible by the Chamberlain’s generosity, with the support of Stephen Crookes and the Letschert family.

A well-resourced advancement office is a pre-requisite for success. Mr Peter Storrar assumed the role of Director of Advancement in February 2021 and has done an exceptional job in this capacity. Pete is ably supported by Amanda Pistorius, Maralyn Atkins, Angelique Ardé, Trish Davidson and Thuthukile Jili. Brett Armstrong has done an outstanding job, largely focussing on alumni relations and endowment raising and continuing the relationship- or friendship-building that started during the 150th anniversary year.

For years, many Old Hiltonians have advocated for a digital networking platform that helps facilitate business interactions amongst members of the Hilton family. Such platforms are commonplace at equivalent schools around the world as more and more alumni begin to appreciate the power of connecting through their alma maters. 2023 saw the launch of Hilton Ties, our very own digital networking platform. To date, more than 2,000 Old Hiltonians have registered on the platform. Hilton Ties is a good example of how Hilton is giving back to its alumni. In particular, I would like to thank Amanda Pistorius, Brett Armstrong, Pete Storrar, Simon Ellis, Alex Baisch, Matthew Bell and Klyne Maharaj for their invaluable contributions to the successful launch of Hilton Ties.

Speaking of digital technologies, almost every year group, stretching back about 60 years or so, has a WhatsApp group run by an appointed ambassador. This has made mass communication on matters-Hilton much more effective than in the past. Should you not be in your class group, please contact the advancement office.

The national committee is responsible for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and the preparation and integrity of the annual financial statements and related information for the club. The committee is also responsible for the club’s systems of internal financial control. Nothing has come to the attention of the committee to indicate that any material breakdown in the functioning of these controls, procedures, and systems has occurred during the year under review. In this regard, the national committee is deeply grateful to Mrs Denise Venter for the invaluable role she plays in professionally managing the club’s finances. The financial statements have been prepared on a “going-concern” basis, since the committee has every reason to believe

that the club has adequate resources to continue in operation for the foreseeable future. Messrs GC Ford & Co, the club’s independent auditors, have given their opinion that the financial statements fairly reflect, in all material aspects, the financial position of the club as at 31 December 2023.

The Cattle Project continues to be very successful. Launched in 2009 with an initial donation of 40 oxen, the Cattle Project has contributed significantly to the Hilton Farm and Endowment Fund. To support this initiative, the OHC has periodically provided bridging loans. Over the past 15 years, all former maize lands on the estate were converted to Kikuyu pastures, and our livestock carrying capacity has increased such that through donations and retained surpluses we are able to run between 700 and 850 oxen per season. Old boys, as well as parents and friends of Hilton, are welcome to join this meaningful project by donating an amount equivalent to a weaner-ox. Approximately R6800 (in 2023) donated to the foundation is enough to sponsor an ox and provides naming rights to the “owner”. The donor will receive a Section 18A certificate that allows the donor to deduct the donation for tax purposes. The committee extends its sincere appreciation to Rowan Welsford, Tim Gibson, Kim Martin, and John Eustace for their invaluable efforts in effectively managing this project.

The OHC national committee is made up of a minimum of five and maximum of 10 members. In addition to four honorary roles on the committee, the following Old Hiltonians formed the national committee during the year: Mr Tlhogi Dube, Mr Bevan Ducasse, Mr John Eustace, Mr Anton Jooste, Mr Michael Salgado, Mr Siphiwe Mafereka, and Mr Ilyas Mayet. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of the national committee who so selflessly give of their time. This is a thankless task for which we are all deeply appreciative. The honorary president, Mr Mike Nicholson, and the three honorary vice-presidents, Mr Peter Clarke, Mr Peter Ducasse and Sir Roger Don-Wauchope, have been an invaluable support, providing the institutional knowledge so needed in organisations like ours. For their guidance and support, I am truly grateful.

For Hilton to thrive, the four entities that make up “the collective” need to work in close co-operation, and I am pleased to report that the good working relationship between all these entities continues. In this regard, I would like to thank the chairman of the board Mr Andrew Johnston for his unwavering support, sage counsel, and dedication to Hilton College. Close co-operation exists between the school and the headmaster. Mr George Harris and Mr Storrar have provided, and continue to provide, invaluable support to the OHC. Mr Brett South has done an outstanding job as company secretary and played a pivotal role in professionalising the administration of the club. Brett retired towards the end of 2023 and on behalf of the club, we wish him well. Mr Guy Hayward, in his capacity as chairman of the Hilton College Endowment Foundation, has been a strong supporter of the club, for which I am grateful.

2023 will be remembered as an exceptional year for Hilton College. Our academic and sporting results surpassed expectations. We have an outstanding leadership team, professional teachers, and, most importantly, happy boys. Let us, however, not become complacent as there is much that we can improve on, and much work still to do. I call on all Old Hiltonians to play their part in this regard.

Anton Jooste | Chairman of the Old Hiltonian Club

Reunions

It's great to report that in 2024 a number of year groups gathered for reunions – from the Class of 1969 (55-year reunion) to the Class of 2014 (10-year reunion).

55-YEAR REUNION

On 7 June, we hosted a small but enthusiastic group celebrating their 55th reunion! Old Hiltonians in attendance included John Gwilt, Keith Richmond, Christopher Till, Derek Greene, Robert Hodgson, Ian Dickson, Ronald Wand, Charles Proudfoot, Weston Dickson and Hugh Solomon.

Headmaster George Harris gave an interesting and entertaining update on the school before dinner was served at the Fleur-de-Lys Club. On the Saturday morning Brett Armstrong gave a few old boys a guided tour of some of the newer parts of the school, including the state-of-the-art Chamberlain Music Centre.

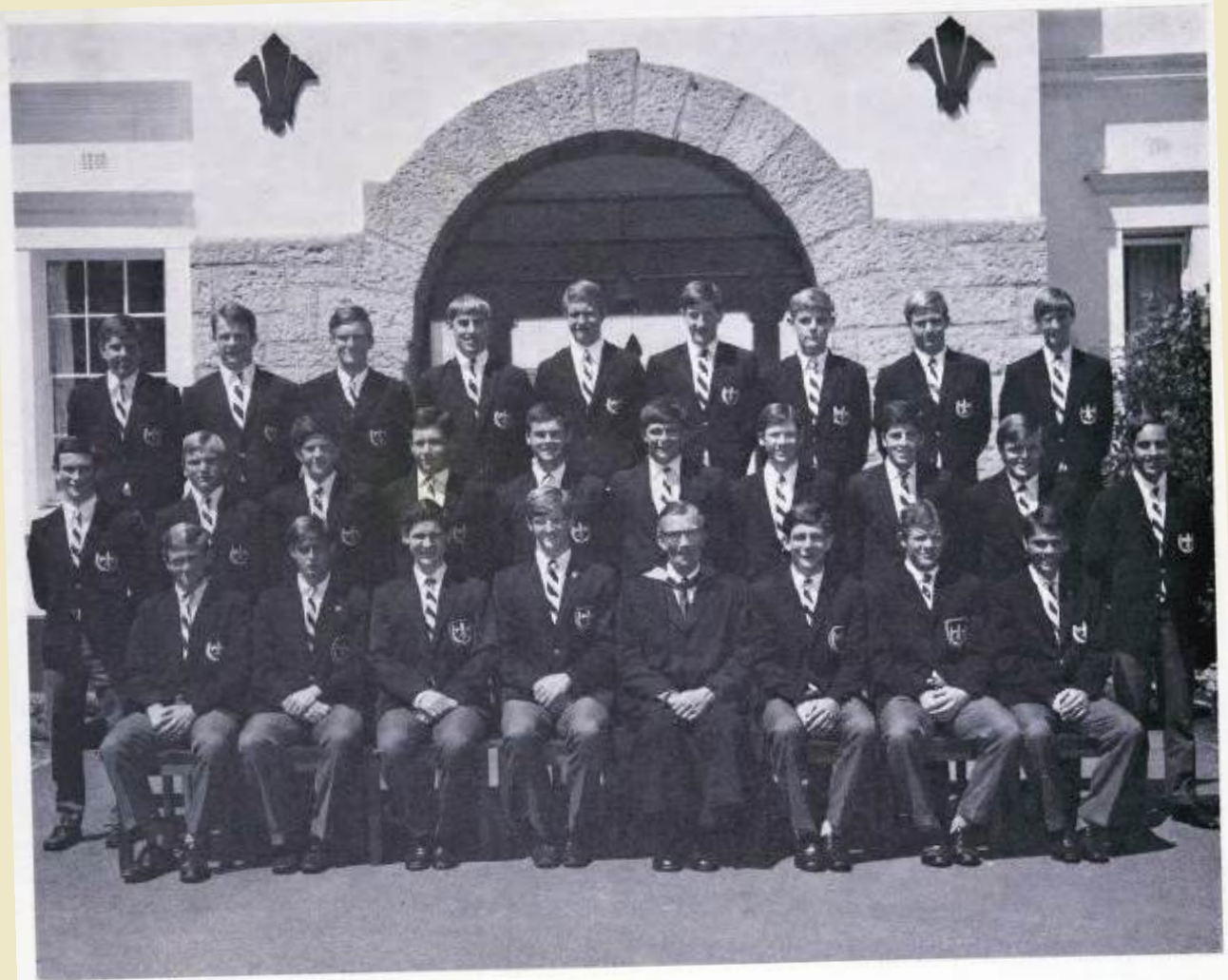


50-YEAR REUNION

It was our privilege to host the Class of 1974 for their 50th reunion on 19 and 20 April. The turnout was excellent! In addition to dinners, a walk on the estate, and plenty of time at the Fleur-de-Lys Club,

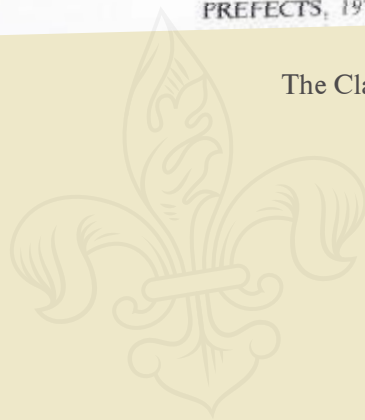
some members of the unbeaten 1974 1st XV presented Hilton's 2024 1st XV with their match jerseys.





PREFECTS, 1974

The Class of 1974's edition of The Hiltonian.



Branch Events

JOHANNESBURG, GAUTENG

9 May 2024

The Gauteng Branch of the Old Hiltonian Club hosted a wonderful evening at The Wild Side restaurant in Craighall Park.

About 80 old boys from across the generations gathered to share stories about their time at Hilton. Anton Jooste, chairman of the Old Hiltonian Club, spoke about the role that old boys can play after leaving school and headmaster George Harris addressed the gathering on the status of the school. There was a lot of laughter, banter and a great time was had by all.

LUSAKA, ZAMBIA

7 June 2024

The inaugural Zambian Hilton vs MHS Old Boys golf day was held at Bonanza Golf Club just outside Lusaka on 7 June.

In a hotly contested affair Hilton came out on top by 3 points.

Festivities carried on until late in the night culminating in fairly poor, but exuberant renditions of both school's war cries!

The following old boys were there: Chungu Katayi, Tim Brown, Andrew Howard, Graham Thorburn, Alistair Howard, Duncan Scott, Jayden Wilde, Chris Clubb and Mike Jackson. Heine Lillie joined as ex-Hilton parent along with Duncan Scott and Pete Storrar.

TORONTO, CANADA

20 June 2024



In June, Old Hiltonians, along with several of their partners, assembled at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club and, a week later, at the Toronto Club to extend a warm welcome to headmaster George Harris and his wife, Vicki. These gatherings allowed Old Hiltonians the opportunity to hear from George about exciting developments at Hilton College. We were also pleased to be joined by Dr Alexei du Bois, Hilton's Director of International Learning, who was on sabbatical at Shawnigan Lake School in British Columbia. During their trip to Canada, George and Vicki visited both Shawnigan Lake School and Trinity College School in Ontario, where they met with the headmasters and staff. A student from Shawnigan is currently participating in an exchange programme at Hilton, which we hope is the beginning of many such exchanges between Canada and Hilton.

by Simon Fish (1978, McKenzie)

NEW YORK, USA

25 June 2024

We had a fantastic and successful gathering of the USA Old Hiltonian Branch in NYC recently. The turnout was impressive, and the evening was filled with engaging conversations about how Old Hiltonians can support the Hilton College endowment. Thank you to everyone who attended the event. Let's continue to support our alma mater and make a difference together.

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM

4 July 2024

Thank you to everyone who attended the Old Hiltonian event in the United Kingdom. It was a fantastic evening and wonderful to see so many familiar faces. Special shoutout to Tony Bruggemann (1970, McKenzie) and John Gwilt (1969, McKenzie), who reunited after 55 years! It was heartwarming to see their connection rekindled. Here's to many more memorable gatherings!

STELLENBOSCH, WESTERN CAPE

Tuesday, 13 August 2024

Despite the miserable weather, young Old Hiltonians studying at Stellies came out in their numbers to hang out together. At one point in the evening, there were close to 70 old boys connecting. What an energetic and engaging crew we have out there. Thanks to Myles Hoppe (1993, Churchill), Rex Truter (1999, Pearce) and Reece Valentine (2020, Churchill) for making it happen.

ZULULAND, KWAZULU-NATAL

19 September 2024

Zululand Quadrangular – 20 and 21 September 2024, Mtunzini, KZN.

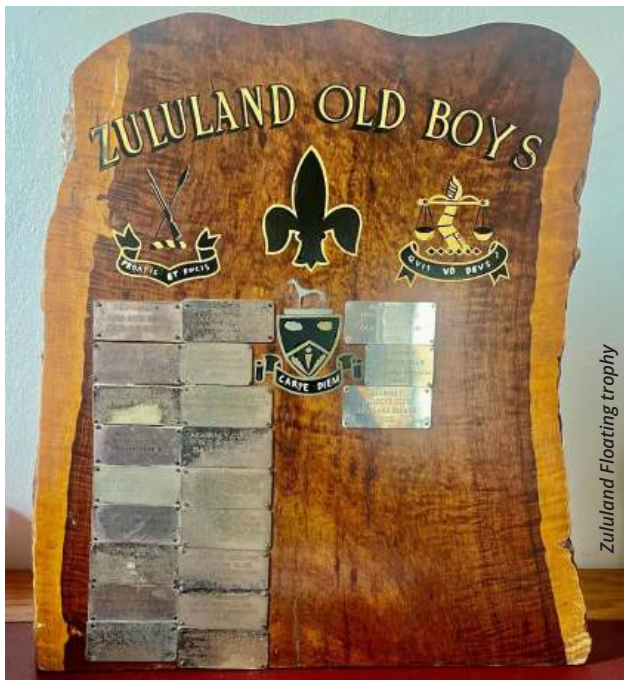
"There is no such thing as bad weather..."

While snow disrupted parts of KZN on 20 September, Zululand was battered by heavy winds and much-needed rainfall. Unfortunately, the Quadrangular Sports Day and Fishing Competition had to be called off. However, that did not stop old boys from Hilton, Michaelhouse, College, and Kearsney, from gathering for a day of fun in the coastal village of Mtunzini.

Plan B for the day involved a long, leisurely lunch at Vista Lagoa, followed by the Sharks narrowly clinching the Currie Cup final – a fitting end to the day. Old boys from all four schools were well represented.

Always adding value were Hilton's legendary Hill brothers Greg and Chris who were out with their sons David and James, as were Ant Bennett and son Nick, who were on great form. Also present was Wayne Kriel, David Bell, Mark Hathorn and Alex Hathorn.

Despite the weather, we still had to determine who would take home the trophy. Two Hilton and one Michaelhouse old boys (Greg Hill, Mark Hathorn, and Richard Chennells) "bravely" set out on a beach and lagoon walk, which we discovered was flooded. After wading through deep water and bundu-bashing through thick bush to return to the beach, we made it back in one piece – without losing a dog! This earned Hilton 2 points to Michaelhouse's 1 for the hike.



Next, the Verbaan brothers (Kearsney) faced off against Hilton's Hathorn (Jnr) and Hill (Jnr) on the squash court, with Hilton coming out on top after a few hard matches and adding to their points tally. Michaelhouse tried to squeeze in some extra points for Larsen from Kwambonambi, who was celebrating his birthday on Saturday, but to no avail. However, Hilton was awarded extra points for their Friday evening attendance at Mtunzini Country Club, led by Sir David Bell, after the fishing was cancelled. It was unanimously decided – without needing to resort to a hot dog-eating or beer-downing competition – that Hilton would take home the shield this year. Congratulations to the Fleur-de-Lys!

A big thank you to Richard Chennells (MHS) David McIlrath (College), Daniel Verbaan (Kearsney), and Mark Hathorn (Hilton) for all their efforts in organising the event. A big thanks also to Elvy Fosse and his team at Vista Lagoa for amazing grub and setting up the rugger screens for us!

It was fantastic to see Zululand old boys from four schools getting together and including young, old, partners, and parents in the event. We dearly missed those who could not make it due to the sporting conditions, but I think we can all agree: there is no such thing as bad weather, maybe just inappropriate clothing, and some gees to get everyone together!

HILTON, KWAZULU-NATAL

20 September 2024

Hilton College was built on benefaction, and we love to honour our benefactors. To show our appreciation to our donors, we hosted a lunch on campus. It was a warm and intimate affair, inside the Chamberlain Music Centre; an opportunity to celebrate the generosity that has sustained our great school for generations. A heartfelt thanks to all of our donors. Every contribution counts.

STELLENBOSCH, WESTERN CAPE

16 October 2024

A vibrant group of Old Hiltonians studying at Stellenbosch University gathered at The Courtyard for a lively beer and pizza evening. Hilton's Director of Rugby, Greg Miller, kicked off the



festivities with an engaging "Fine's meeting," making the night even more memorable. The fun continued at de Lapa across the road! A huge thank you to Mark and Derek Holdsworth from Clanfin for generously sponsoring this event for our students.

CAPE TOWN, WESTERN CAPE

17 October 2024

The night after our gathering at Stellies, we hosted an Old Hiltonian get-together at Hamilton's Rugby Club in Green Point. Chairman of the Old Hiltonian Club Anton Jooste and headmaster George Harris addressed the group, sharing insights and answering questions.

Both events saw impressive turnouts, with more than 60 students at the Stellenbosch event and 90 Old Hiltonians at Hamilton's. Special thanks to Myles Hoppe (outgoing WC chairman) and Rex Truter (new WC chairman) for organising these gatherings and rallying our community.

Thank you to everyone who made the effort to attend; both events were a blast! We look forward to hosting more of these gatherings regularly in the future!

JOHANNESBURG, GAUTENG

22 November 2024

The annual Hilton vs Michaelhouse Old Boys Golf Day was hosted at Parkview GC in Johannesburg.

It proved to be another stellar day out on the course, with Hilton old boys desperate for a win as it has been a long six-year wait.

It is always a joy to witness the camaraderie between the guys and speaks volumes of the friendship we have with our mates from Michaelhouse. Cheers and laughter could be heard across the course throughout the afternoon.

We were lucky the rain stayed away, and Hilton managed a 13.5 to 10.5 win on the day.

A big thank you to all of our sponsors on the day and we encourage all Old Hiltonians to try get involved in some way next year. Our goal is to raise enough money to start donating to relevant school funds and projects. Whether you contribute on the course or as a sponsor, your support would be much appreciated

See you next year to defend the Old Hiltonian Trophy!

by Mike Tindall (2006, Mckenzie)

GAUTENG (MAY)



LUSAKA (JUNE)



CANADA (JUNE)



LONDON (JULY)



NEW YORK (JUNE)



STELLENBOSCH (AUGUST)





Left to right: James Hill, David Hill, Alex Hathorn, Mark Hathorn
(Hilton College – winners of the 2024 floating trophy)



ZULULAND (SEPTEMBER)

Left to right: Mark Hathorn and
Richard Chennells (Chairmen of the Hilton
and MHS Zululand Old Boys respectively)



HILTON (SEPTEMBER)



STELLENBOSCH (OCTOBER)



CAPE TOWN (OCTOBER)



JOHANNESBURG (NOVEMBER)



JOSH AITKEN (Ellis)

3rd team hockey | Squash league | Estate Tie.

Hilton has taught me to keep my friends close and that the bonds you make at Hilton are for life.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study a BCom at Tuks or UCT.

TROY BAILEY (Ellis)

Academic colours | 2nd team water polo | Pearson Water Polo Tournament | 5th team rugby | Christian fellowship (2021–2024) | Base guitar grade 4 (2021).

Hilton taught me to value people and to manage myself; that relationships are tiring and invaluable. Choose to work hard and never lose sight of why.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study business science at UCT.

XOLA BAKANA (McKenzie)

Rugby 7s colours | Rugby half colours | 1st team rugby | Athletics.

Hilton taught me the value of relationships, especially with my dorm mates. It has given me memories to cherish for life. I'm grateful to Mr Cameron Fraser who was instrumental in developing the sportsman in me. He believed in me more than I believed in myself.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: Undecided.

NEIL BARARUGURIKA (Churchill)

School leadership Award | 4th team basketball | 4th team soccer | 6th/7th team rugby.

Hilton taught me resilience, camaraderie, and leadership. I was taught to face adversity with courage and determination.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To go overseas.

NIC BREGMAN-FRANGOS (Falcon)

School leadership Award | Dining hall rep for Falcon | 2nd team hockey | 2nd team water polo | 6th/7th team soccer | 1st team water polo stayers tournament (2023) | Sports Merit Award for making KZN U15A water polo (2021) | Gym | Guitar.

Hilton taught me about independence, teamwork, and resilience. While it had its challenges, I'm grateful for it all.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: Undecided.

GRANT BRIDGEFORD (Churchill)

Headmaster's Award for Outstanding Leadership (2024) | Hockey honours | Top Goal Scorer in hockey | 1st team hockey | U18A KZN hockey team | U18B SA hockey team | U17 SA Malaysia Tour hockey team (2023) | U16A KZN hockey team (2021, 2022) | 1st team squash (2024) | Squash Champion Award (2024) | Squash half colours (2023) | 3rd team cricket | Fastest to 50 runs (2024) | 3rd team tennis | Accommodation Awards (Gr 8 – Gr 12) | Academic colours (2023) | Head of Sport and IT in Churchill | Gr 11 dorm leader | Formula 1 Club (2023) | Chess Club (2020).

Hilton taught me to take every opportunity that comes my way, rather than have regrets. Be courageous, be willing, and never be scared to try.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study mechanical engineering and play hockey at Tuks, or to study and play in Australia or Europe.



ROSS BROWN (Ellis)

Head of House | Chairman's Prize | 1st team rugby | 4th team basketball | Rugby colours (2023) | Noel Freebody Memorial Prize for Fellowship (2023) | Drama half colours (2023).

Hilton taught me to appreciate the incredible people around me and opened the door to experiences on the estate, sports fields and in the dorms, giving me memories for life.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study a BCom at the University of Pretoria.

BYRON CHANDLER (Pearce)

Golf Matchplay Champion | 2nd team cricket | 4th team rugby | 6th/7th team soccer | Gym and Frisbie (Gr 8, 9, 10).

Hilton taught me many life lessons, learned from teachers and boys in my dorm. Matric was my best year and I take with me memories for life.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To play golf and see where it takes me.

KIGEN CHEPKONGA (Newnham)

Head of School | Headmaster's Award for Outstanding Leadership (2024) | Academic honours (2024) | Music, Drama, and Cultural honours (2024) | AP Maths Elective Prize (2024) | LO Prize (2024) | Head of Choir (2024) | Boys of Hilton Committee (2024) | Transformation Committee (2024, 2023) | Lead role in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat (2024) | Lead role in Back at Burt's (2024) | 2nd team tennis | 4th team hockey | 6th/7th team rugby | Lead role in Five Guys Named Moe (2023) | Extended Essay Prize (2023) | Economics Prize (2022–2024) | Music Prize (2022–2024) | Vocal Ensemble (2020–2024) | Big Band (2022, 2020) | U16 Junior National Development Rowing Squad (2022) | Sustainability Committee (2021–2023).

Hilton taught me that new experiences are formative. The more uncomfortable and out-of-our-depth we are, the more we grow. Rowing taught me perseverance, patience, grit, teamwork, and the power of discomfort. I'm grateful for the opportunity Hilton has given me to try a range of new things, and to achieve what I once thought was unachievable.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study actuarial science at UCT.

WILLIAM CHIEN (Falcon)

A-Level Dux Scholar | English Olympiad | A-Level accounting, physics, mathematics Prizes | Academic honours | High School Musical (violin) | 4th team basketball | 6th/7th team rugby | AS-Level accounting, physics, English language and literature Prizes (2023) | Music half colours (2023) | Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat (violin) | Accounting Prize (2022) | String ensemble (2020–2024) | Big Band (2020–2024) | Engineering Club (2020).

Hilton taught me the importance and the influence of the people around you. Both the boys and staff of Hilton shaped my character. I learnt to pursue genuine and honest relationships and to embrace critical feedback. The diversity of the Hilton community has taught me to think about where people come from and what I can learn from them.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study aeronautical engineering at Toyosu University or Delft Institute of Technology.

KYLE CHRISTIE (Lucas)

Consistently strong leadership Award (2024) | 1st team cricket (2024, 2023, 2022) | 3rd team hockey | Cricket half colours (2023) | U16 KZN cricket team to Joburg (2022).

Hilton taught me about brotherhood. People who were once strangers have become my brothers.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study at Potchestroom or Stellenbosch.

LYLE CLUBB (Falcon)

French Delf A1 | Level 1 leadership Award (2024) | 1st team squash | Squash half colours | 3rd team cricket | 3rd team hockey | Tea Club (Gr 11).

Hilton taught me to appreciate the huge sacrifices my parents made to send me to a school such as Hilton.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To go on Quest in the Eastern Cape.

ROWAN COX (McKenzie)

Headmaster's leadership Award (2024) | Band Prize (2024) | Head of Jazz Band, Big Band, Brass Band, Brass quintet (2024) | Music honours (2024) | Gr 8 Trombone (2024) | High School Musical | 1st team basketball | 1st team rugby | 2nd team rugby (captain) | 6th/7th team soccer | Cultural colours (2023) | Jazz Band (2023) | Five Guys Named Moe (2023) | Ambassador Award (2023) | Basketball half colours (2023) | Basketball MIP (2023) | Best Defensive Player (basketball) | KZN Basketball U16 (2022).

Hilton taught me the importance of team work, responsibility, accountability, leadership, and brotherhood. The staff at Hilton have also been role models. Mr Paul Venter has been a mentor to me throughout my time at Hilton.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study a BCom at UCT or UP.

MASUD DAKILE (Pearce)

Competition Marimba Band | Cultural honours | Sizwe Banzi is Dead | 1st team hockey MIP | KZN Inland hockey U18A | 6th/7th team soccer | KZN Inland hockey U18B (2023) | KZN Inland hockey U16B (2022).

Hilton taught me how to deal with people delicately; every person is fighting their own silent battle, so be kind. And that I have a purpose.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study at the University of Exeter.

FIN DALRYMPLE (Pearce)

Academic honours | Cultural honours | Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat | Various solo performances for choir and vocal ensemble (2024, 2023, 2022) | 4th team hockey | Tennis | Tea Club.

Hilton taught me the importance of communication.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study accounting at UCT.

TRAVIS DE BRUYN (Churchill)

1st team soccer | Soccer half colours | 4th team basketball | 4th team cricket | 4th team rugby | Formula 1 Club.

Hilton taught me kindness, respect, humility and generosity.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study and pursue my passion for football in Europe or America.

NATENZI DENENGA (Lucas)

1st team cricket | KZN Inland cricket U19 vice-captain | 1st team soccer (vice captain) | 3rd team rugby, 4th team rugby (captain) | Head of Spirit | Drama Prize | Competition Marimba Band.

Hilton taught me that home is not a place, it's a feeling. The care and love the teachers at Hilton show the students makes every boy feel at home.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To play cricket.

WIM EBERSÖHN (Lucas)

Academic colours | EPQ Essay Award | English Olympiad | Rhodes University Scholarship | Debating Award | Psychology, History and English Literature Prizes (Gr 12, 11) | Economics Prize (Gr 11) | Headmaster's leadership Award | Rugby | President's Award | Routes to Resilience (2021).

Hilton taught me resilience and how to take every opportunity presented.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study law in the UK.

RHYDIAN EVANS (Lucas)

2nd team hockey | 4th team cricket | 4th team soccer | Tea Club | AS chemistry Award (Gr 11).

Hilton taught me independence and developed in me an ability to work with conflicting personalities.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study engineering at Wits University.

RICHARD EYRES (McKenzie)

Head of House | Academic honours | Top 7 (every term from Grade 8) | English Prize | Chairman's Prize | Level 3 leadership Award | Christian Fellowship band | Canoeing (captain) | 2 Dusi Canoe Marathons | 2nd team rugby | 3rd team rugby (leader of the haka) | 4th team water polo | Ran a marathon because Mr [Paul] Venter said I couldn't | Surfing Club | Drimmie scholarship for leadership (Gr 11).

Hilton taught me leadership, kindness, empathy, compromise, choosing friends wisely, people management, transformative attitudes to culture and race, and how to have hard conversations. I had amazing teachers who helped me become the best academic and person I can be.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study business science at UCT.

JAMES FENDER (McKenzie)

2nd team rugby | Athletics | Academic half colours.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study at Stellenbosch University.

BEN FERGUSON (Churchill)

Level 3 leadership Award | Ambassador Award | 4th team cricket | 5th team rugby | Art practical Prize (2024, 2023) | Art History Prize (2023) | Art Competition Winner (2023) | Service Tie (2023) | Formula 1 Club (2022) | Photography Club (2021, 2020).

Hilton taught me that the impact you have on others lasts longer than any mark or accolade.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study BCom law or BCom economics at the University of Pretoria.

DANIEL FRIEND (Newnham)

French Delf B1 | English Olympiad (silver) | Jazz band | 6th and 7th team hockey | Squash | Tea Club | Formula 1 Club.

Hilton taught me independence and that the world is my judge.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To travel Europe before heading to San Francisco for three months. Then I hope to go to university in Ireland.

SEBASTIEN GABOREAU (Lucas)

1st team rugby | 1st team tennis | 3rd team water polo.

Hilton taught me to take risks.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To play rugby and study in Europe.

MAX GILSON (McKenzie)

Visual arts practical Prize | 2nd team hockey | 3rd team basketball.

Hilton taught me to appreciate those who do you good.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To take a gap year in the UK, working as a bartender or boarder master.

TUMELO GOPANE (Ellis)

2nd team soccer | 3rd team hockey | 5th team basketball | Academic half colours.

Hilton taught me to navigate the highs and lows and how to make friends.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study.



UTHANDO GUMEDE (Ellis)

Head of Sustainability | Gr 8 dorm cop | 2nd team hockey | 3rd team soccer (captain) | Squash | Sizwe Banzi is Dead | Drama half colours | Academic half colours | English Olympiad silver certificate (2023) | St Albans MAD Festival (2021) | Cooking Club.

Hilton taught me to take every opportunity because you may never get that chance again.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To get my degree.

CHRISTOPHER GUNDU (Falcon)

Drama half colours | Performed in Hamlet! | 6th/7th team basketball | 6th/7th team rugby | 6th/7th team soccer.

Hilton taught me about brotherhood and independence.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study international relations at the University of Pretoria.

THOMAS HARILAOU (Lucas)

Form 1 dorm cop | Headmaster's leadership Prize | 3rd team rugby | 4th team water polo | 6th/7th team soccer | Photography Club.

Hilton taught me respect and how to deal with people who view things differently to me.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To go to the University of Johannesburg.

JACK HENDERSON (Newnham)

Dorm cop | Leadership Award | 1st team soccer | KZN Inland soccer selection | 2nd team hockey.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To go to university in the USA.

TINOTENDA HOVE (McKenzie)

School Leadership Award | 1st team basketball | 1st team hockey | Hockey Player's Player of the Year (2024) | KZN U18A | 1st team soccer | Soccer Player of the Year | Top Goal Scorer (soccer) | Ambassador Award (2023) | Basketball Most Improved Junior (2023) | Choir (2020).

Hilton taught me to appreciate the relationships that I have with those around me and value my friends.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To go to university in America.

KIERAN HUNTER (Lucas)

Academic colours | Rugby half colours | 1st team rugby | 2nd team water polo | 3rd team water polo (captain) | Swimming half colours (2023).

Hilton taught me that hard work pays off. Doing Friday fitness with Mr Brad Macleod-Henderson led to me playing 1st team rugby.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To travel Australia.

JOSHUA HURLEY (McKenzie)

3rd team basketball | 5th team hockey | Squash | Canoeing | Tea Club.

Hilton taught me to work in dynamic circumstances. It also taught me the importance of good friends and brotherhood.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study chemical engineering at the University of Pretoria.

HARRY JARVIE (Churchill)

Academic colours | President's Award (gold) | Form 3 dorm cop | House rep for academics | Level 1 leadership Award | 2nd team water polo | 3rd team rugby | Golf | Formula 1 Club | Commendation certificate (2023).

Hilton taught me the importance of brotherhood and community. Being in a diverse group of boys taught me mutual respect and gave me lifelong friends. The camaraderie in our house, late-night conversations, and shared challenges have built bonds for life. Mr [Sipho] Moniwa, who coached me in rugby, taught me what it really means to work hard and strive for success. His training sessions were particularly difficult until I realised that you should never do anything half-heartedly. To become the best version of yourself, you need to put in the extra work.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To obtain a degree in finance from a university in the UK.

CONNOR JEROME (Newnham)

Housemaster's Award | 1st team basketball | MVP in basketball | Defensive Player of the Year Award (basketball) | KZN A team | 3rd team hockey | Formula 1 Club.

Hilton taught me to cherish brotherhood. My teachers and the staff in the boarding house played a crucial role in guiding me through challenges I faced and I'm truly grateful to all of them. I met some amazing people in my time at Hilton and especially in Newnham House.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: Undecided.

JOSHUA JULIUS (Pearce)

Academic honours | Head of House | Elite Jazz Band | High School Musical | 1st team hockey | KZN Inland hockey U18A | Athletics | 6th/7th team soccer | American Sports Club | President's Award gold (2023).

Hilton taught me that at the end of the day, it's up to you.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study actuarial science at UCT.



WILLIAM KITCHING (Ellis)

Represented SA at NASA | MIT Africa Maths and Science Seminar | President's Award (gold) | 2nd team hockey | 3rd team soccer | 6th/7th team rugby | Douglas Cup golf team | Tennis | Squash | Tea Club | Sir Henry Strackosch Scholarship (2022) | Derek Veenstra Memorial Scholarship (2022) | UKZN Trophy for Maths and Science (2022) | Trinity College Gr 1 Piano with distinction (2022) | Griffin Memorial Prize (2021) | Guitar (2021) | AJ Cook Prize (2020) | Choir (2020).

Hilton has taught me that opportunities lie in plain sight and it's up to you to pursue them. In doing so, you not only enhance your person, but also build an invaluable network of people. Watch, listen, and communicate well. People make the world go round: find the good ones, and stick by them. Hilton taught me that no matter how small a fish you are, nor how large a pond you find yourself in, there will always be a place for you.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study medicine at UCT.

JARRED KITTO (Pearce)

Headmaster's leadership Award | Head of Sports | Service Tie | Academic honours | 1st team hockey captain (55 caps) | SA U18B hockey team | SA U17 hockey team (2023) | SA U16 hockey team (2022) | 1st team cricket | 6th/7th team soccer.

Hilton taught me the value of resilience, brotherhood, and striving for excellence in all aspects of life. The rigorous academic environment pushed me to think critically and approach challenges with determination, while the boarding school environment taught me independence, adaptability, and the importance of building meaningful connections with those around me. From the bonds forged in chapel footy to the discipline instilled through early morning training sessions, Hilton instilled a sense of discipline and leadership that has shaped my character and will guide me in the future. Above all, the school has taught me that success is not just about personal achievement but about uplifting those around you.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study actuarial science at Stellenbosch University.

DEEPEN KOOVERJEE (Lucas)

Headmaster's leadership Award (2024) | Head of Sustainability for Lucas | Head of Outreach for Lucas | Form 2 dorm cop | 3rd team cricket | 4th team cricket (captain) | 4th team hockey | 6th/7th team soccer | Academic half colours (2023) | Service Tie (2023) | Piano (2023) | English Olympiad (2022).

Hilton taught me respect and to always lend a helping hand to others. When I needed help, there were always people there for me. Hilton also taught me to be brave.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study.



BEN LE ROUX (Lucas)

Academic honours (2024) | Headmaster's leadership Award (2024) | Rugby colours | 1st team rugby | 2nd team water polo | Sharks XV at Academy Week (2023).

Hilton taught me how to communicate and engage with people. It also taught me to take every opportunity, to be grateful for opportunities, and to have fun. Enjoy the journey.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study in the US or at Stellies.

KARABO LEPHEMA (Falcon)

1st team basketball | 4th team hockey | 5th team rugby | 6th/7th team soccer.

Hilton taught me to stay true to myself. I saw this in my history teacher Mr Paul Venter, a unique character, who always stayed true to himself.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study at the University of Pretoria and start working in our family business.

MURRAY LOUGHOR-CLARKE (Pearce)

President's Award (gold) | Hockey honours | 1st team hockey for two years | MVP in hockey | KZN Inland hockey (U18/16/15) | 1st team cricket for three years | KZN Inland cricket (U16/15) | 6th/7th team soccer.

Hilton equipped me for the future. It has pushed me to maximise my potential in the classroom and on the sports field. It has afforded me opportunities beyond my widest imagination. It has allowed me to develop friendships with the most amazing boys and create lifelong friendships and memories, for which I will be forever grateful.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study commerce at Stellenbosch University.

DANIEL LYON (Churchill)

Sportsmanship Award for golf | 3rd team rugby | Gr 9 dorm cop | Mathematical literacy Prize (2023) | KZN rowing (2022) | Formula 1 Club.

Hilton taught me resilience and independence. It also taught me that sometimes you have to accept help. On the Stayers rugby tour in 2023, I broke my leg and all the coaches and boys were very generous in offering to help me. Ethan van Heerden even offered to drive me back to Johannesburg to get treatment.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: Joining the Singaporean military.

RUKUDZO MADINGA (Falcon)

Leadership Award | 1st team rugby | Most capped Gr 11 player trophy.

Hilton taught me to make time for the things that are most important to me and that the small things in life matter.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: I hope to be playing for the Sharks rugby Academy next year.

RETIEF MALHERBE (Newnham)

Headmaster's Award | Academic half colours |
1st team water polo | Water polo colours | 5th team rugby.
Hilton taught me that respect is earned not forced.
Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study at UCT.

MEYER MALHERBE (McKenzie)

1st team water polo (captain) | Water polo honours |
SA water polo (mens – U16) | KZN water polo U19, U16,
U15, mens (2024–2021) | Swim for Lives campaign |
Swimming colours | 1st team rugby | Rugby half colours |
Form 1 dorm cop.
Hilton taught me the value of brotherhood.
Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study and play water polo abroad.

JARRED MALTBY (Ellis)

Academic honours | 1st team hockey | Hockey half
colours | 1st team tennis (captain) | Leadership Award
for tennis | MVP Award for tennis | Tennis half colours |
Cultural half colours | Jazz Band and Orchestra |
Headmaster's leadership Award | Head of Conservation |
Science Club.
Hilton taught me independence and problem solving in an
environment with different personalities. I am grateful for these
skills and will continue to use them.
Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study mechatronic engineering at
the University of Stellenbosch.

MATOME MANTHATA (McKenzie)

2nd team basketball | 2nd team hockey |
KZN hockey non-travelling reserve | 5th team soccer.
Hilton taught me that Hilton connections are for life.
Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study in Scotland.

SIYA MAPHUMULO (Pearce)

Headmaster's leadership Award | Philia Prize | Head of
Spirituality | Christian Fellowship Band | Academic half
colours | Dramatic Arts and IsiZulu prizes in Gr 12, 11, 10 |
Culture half colours (2023) | Hamlet! (2023) | 5th team
basketball | 6th/7th team rugby | 6th/7th team soccer.
Hilton taught me the value of relationships and resilience. I have
also been taught the power of opportunity and that it is better to
give than to receive.
Plans for 2025 and beyond: To go to university.

SEKO MASEKO (Churchill)

Level 2 leadership Award | 4th team cricket |
4th team hockey | 6th/7th team soccer |
Academic extension programme (2021).
Hilton taught me to take risks and when an opportunity presents,
you need to grab it.
Plans for 2025 and beyond: To go to university.

WONGA MASINA (Lucas)

2nd team soccer | 4th team basketball |
6th/7th team hockey | 6th/7th team water polo.
Hilton taught me to view things from multiple perspectives.
Plans for 2025 and beyond: To go to university.

DZUNISANI MBOWENI (Ellis)

6th/7th team basketball | 6th/7th team rugby |
Competition Marimba Band (2023) | Choir (2021, 2020).
Hilton taught me to make courageous choices and to be
academically focused.
Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study mechanical engineering
at Exeter.

ETHAN MCCABE (Falcon)

Level 1 leadership Award | Academic half colours |
Gr 11 dorm cop | 2nd team rugby | 3rd team water polo |
Gym Club | Soccer premier league club.
Hilton taught me independence, to work independently, and the
importance of a good routine.
Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study law at UP.

SIYANDA MCCLAIN (Ellis)

5th team basketball | 5th team rugby |
6th/7th team soccer | Trumpet | Drums | Tea club.
Hilton taught me to be more independent and gave me the
opportunity to interact with people from all over the world –
people I wouldn't usually interact with – which has helped me
forge strong friendships.
Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study at Stellenbosch University.

JOSH MCGHEE (Ellis)

2nd team golf | KZN colours for rowing (2023) |
4th in the country for the quadruple sculls event (2023).
Hilton College is a wonderful place.
Plans for 2025 and beyond: To do a course in cyber security.

JAMES MCGREGOR (Pearce)

Head of A-Level academics | Leadership Award |
Biology Prize | 1st team cricket | 2nd team cricket captain |
3rd team rugby | Golf | Soccer Club | Top 10 in academics
(Gr 8 – Gr 10) | U14A cricket captain | U14B rugby captain.
Hilton taught me to use my privilege to help others. My friendship
with Richard Eyres taught me a great deal about generosity.
He coached kids sport when he was injured and couldn't play.
The smallest things really do have a massive impact. Mr [Sipho]
Moniwa helped me fight a mental battle after I had surgery.
All in all, Hilton taught me to put people first in everything you do.
Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study a BCom at Stellenbosch
University or biological and medicinal chemistry at Exeter.

NTANDO MCHUNU (Ellis)

Drama half colours | High School Musical | Tempest | 2nd/3rd team hockey | 3rd team soccer | 5th team basketball | Science Club | Indoor football Club | Commendations (2020) | isiZulu Prize (2020).

Hilton taught me to value and appreciate the small things in life because they are what create the bigger picture.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study medicine at the University of Pretoria.

MPUMELELO MDHLULI (Newnham)

5th team basketball | 6th/7th team hockey | Engineering Club in Gr 8 | DJ Club in Gr 9/10.

Hilton taught me how to talk to people. It forced me out of my shell.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To go to university in the UK.

NTANDO MHLONGO (Ellis)

4th team hockey | 4th team soccer | 5th team basketball | Tea Club.

Hilton taught me independence.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: Undecided.

NGHWAZI MKANZI (Churchill)

Spirit leader | DJ Club leader | 3rd team basketball | 5th team rugby | 6th/7th team soccer.

Hilton taught me the power of community. Hilton is a family. From my first year, I was welcomed by the boys and staff into an environment that encourages personal growth and mutual support. The sense of belonging will stay with me forever. The friendships I made at Hilton taught me the importance of loyalty and teamwork. Strength comes from being part of a close-knit group. I'll always remember late-night study sessions with my friends, celebrating successes, and the way we pulled each other up during tough times. My Hilton years were transformative.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study a public management and international relations at the University of Pretoria.

LIPHAPANG MOKOENA (Newnham)

1st team soccer | Soccer half colours | 2nd team basketball | 5th team hockey.

Hilton taught me humility and that true wealth is being able to give back and empower others. I learnt this through the school's work in the community and the many opportunities that Hilton offers to young aspiring children. Community partnerships at Hilton are about connecting with people on a deeper level and actually listening without judging.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study at UCT.

KATLEGO MONCHO (Falcon)

Academic honours | Academic Commendation Award | French Prize in Gr 12, 11, 10 | Marimba Club | Competition Marimba Band | 2nd team basketball | 2nd team soccer | 6th/7th team rugby.

Hilton taught me to push myself in pursuit of the person I want to become. I remember coming to Hilton and seeing the Competition Marimba Band playing. I had never played the marimba. It took me almost four years, but I finally got there. The conversations in connect group, and the after-school support lessons were priceless. I will forever be thankful for the staff who gave their time whenever I needed help. At Hilton, you are surrounded by some of the hardest-working staff and boys, which teaches you that there is always more of yourself to give. Comfort is the enemy of progression, so step out your comfort zone. This is the most valuable lesson Hilton has taught me. I have learnt to be more appreciative and grateful for all I have been given.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study actuarial science at UCT.

SEDISE MOSENEKE (Pearce)

Academic colours (2024) | Bronze in English Olympiad | Trinity College Gr 7 Cello | Deputy head of the string ensemble | Played in the orchestra for High School Musical (2024) | 2nd team basketball | 6th/7th team rugby | 6th/7th team soccer | Cultural Tie (2023) | DJ Club (2023) | Photography Club (2020).

Hilton taught me to embrace circumstances – from adapting to boarding to making new friends. In Grade 10, I met my best friend Sabelo. Hilton College has taught me the quality of being able to share your thoughts and experiences with those close to you, as you may find the advice you're looking for is sitting right in front of you.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study medicine or a BSc in human anatomy and physiology at UCT.

TUMELO MOSETLHE (McKenzie)

Cultural half colours | High School Musical | 4th team soccer | 5th team hockey | 5th team basketball | Athletics | Hamlet (2023) | Esports.

Hilton taught me that there's no shortcut to success.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To go the film school.

REABETWE MOTLHALOGA (Churchill)

Head of Transformation | Karabo Ché Mokoape Prize | Headmaster's leadership Award | Form 1 dorm cop | Cultural half colours | High School Musical (orchestra) | Two Schools in Concert (2024, 2023) | String Ensemble (2024, 2023, 2022) | 4th team basketball | Photography Club | Formula 1 Club | Big Band (2021, 2020) | Choir (2021, 2020).

Hilton taught me humility and loyalty; that friends can become brothers. Hilton also taught me to be humble in victory and gracious in defeat and to be grateful for the opportunities I have been granted.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study finance and investment management at UCT.

ZIPHO MPOFU (Ellis)

4th team soccer | 5th team basketball | 6th/7th team rugby | Marimba, Choir, Vocal Ensemble (2024–2022) | Jazz Band (2022) | High School Musical (2024) | Five Guys Named Moe (2024) | Back at Burt's (2024) | Jazz Band (2022).

Hilton taught me that without hard work you will not achieve your goals. You need to sacrifice your time to reach your goals.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study business science at UCT.

MUNASHE MUSORA (Falcon)

Academic colours | Debating | Head of Pastoral | 4th team basketball | 6th/7th team soccer.

Hilton taught me that you can find something that you didn't even know you were looking for: friendships, life lessons and memories that will last a lifetime.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study at Stellenbosch.

ABUBAKR MUSSA (Newnham)

Head of Pastoral | Head of Community | Certificate for pastoral | Service Tie | 4th team soccer | 5th team rugby | Shooting | Tennis | Photography.

Hilton taught me to cherish my memories.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To go to university.

SHAILEN NAIDOO (Falcon)

Head of Academics | Academic honours | Headmaster's leadership Award | History Prize | Memorial Essay Writing Prize | Debating Prize | 1st team debating | KZN debating 1st team (2023, 2021) | Competition Marimba Band (captain) | Jazz Band | Big Band | Orchestra | Music honours | Debating honours | Cultural honours | 3rd team basketball | 5th team soccer.

Hilton taught me how to be adaptable in uncomfortable situations and how to be a true friend. When you're with your brothers 24/7 it's revealing and that's when you learn what it is to be a friend and a brother.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: Undecided.

THAMSANQA NCUBE (Pearce)

Competition Marimba Band | Culture Tie | House and school commendation | 6th/7th team basketball | 6th/7th team rugby | 6th/7th team soccer | Photography Club | DJ Club | Junior Marimba Band (2021, 2020).

Hilton taught me how to be independent and accountable to myself. I have realised that I am never alone. There will always be people to help and guide me through my challenges.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study information systems or software engineering.

DYLAN NEILL (Pearce)

1st team rugby | 2nd team water polo | School leadership Award | Commendation.

Hilton taught me that I am greatly blessed with opportunities and people who genuinely care for me. I've learnt how to be a better student, athlete, friend, brother, son and, most importantly, man. I'm grateful for my Hilton brothers. I'll never forget what rugby at Hilton has done for me.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To play club rugby in Scotland and hopefully make a professional career out of it.

NTANDO NGCOBO (McKenzie)

President's Award (gold) | Headmaster's leadership Award | Head of Culture | Vocal Ensemble | Choir | Jazz Band | Marimba Band | KZN Midlands Youth Choir | High School Musical | Back at Burt's (2024) | Five Guys Named Moe (2023) | Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat (2022) | 2nd team basketball | 4th team rugby | 4th team soccer.

Hilton taught me the value of service: whether playing sport with kids at Thembelihle, performing on stage, or fixing potholes in Howick, leadership is about making a difference, and these lessons will stay with me for life. As Head of Culture, I discovered how music and the arts unite people, and having to balance responsibilities taught me resilience. The staff's guidance has left a lasting impact, shaping me into someone I'm proud to be.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To pursue a career in medicine.

QHAMA NGWENYA (Lucas)

1st team soccer | Soccer half colours (2024) | 5th team rugby | Drama colours | Head of spirituality for Lucas | Commendation Prize (2023).

Hilton taught me to live in the moment; to never take anything for granted and to appreciate the time you have.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study accounting sciences.

BRENDAN NIEUWSTAD (Lucas)

2nd team water polo | 6th/7th team rugby.

Hilton taught me to appreciate the privilege afforded to me. I'm grateful to my parents for the countless sacrifices they made to give me a Hilton College experience.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study in Cape Town.

AKANI NXUMALO (Churchill)

1942 class Award | Headmaster's leadership Award | Warcry leader | Spell leader | High school musical | Cultural colours | 5th team rugby | 6th/7th team soccer | Debating | DJ Club | Sustainability committee | Top 4 in history (2023) | Tempest reading (2023) | 6th team soccer captain (2023) | Funk (2022).

Hilton taught me that everyone has many different perspectives and the beauty of life is how all these different lives can conglomerate into something beautiful like my dorm.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study property management at UCT.



SIX NYANGIWE (Churchill)

Head of House | Students Executive Committee | Level 3 leadership Award | First Aider of the Year | Cultural colours | Sizwe Bansi is Dead | High School Musical | Christian Fellowship Band leader | 1st team basketball | 2nd team soccer | 3rd team rugby | Tempest (2023) | Outstanding Service leadership Award (2022) | Funk (2022, 2021) | Choir (2021, 2020).

Hilton taught me that you have one chance at life; become the best version of you.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study engineering at UCT or UP.

NAMISI OPAI-TETTEH (Falcon)

Academic colours | MIT Africa Maths and Science seminar | President's Award (gold) | Trinity College Gr 1 Piano | 1st team basketball | 4th team rugby.

Hilton taught me to appreciate the small things in life – the fleeting moments that often go unnoticed. Whether it was the laughter shared with friends, the warcries, or a sunset over the uMngeni Valley, there is joy to be found in the moment. I learnt to slow down, be mindful, and find gratitude in the everyday. I'll always remember my friends and the advice of staff who genuinely cared about my growth, as a student and a person. And most importantly my dorm mates, who showed me the importance of brotherhood.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study computer science at UCT.

OLUFEMI OYEKA (Ellis)

President's Award (silver) | English Olympiad (gold) | 6th/7th team basketball | 6th/7th team rugby | 6th/7th team soccer | High School Musical band | Senior debating (2024, 2023) | Jazz band (2024, 2023, 2022) | Christian Fellowship band (2024, 2023, 2022) | Ellis head of marketing | International mentor for foreign students | History dinners | Competition Marimba Band (2023) | Squash (2023) | English Olympiad silver (2023) | Archery silver medal (2023) | English Olympiad silver (2022) | Rowing (2022) | Shooting (2021).

Hilton taught me how to connect with people I otherwise wouldn't connect with.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To go to university.

TREY PADAYACHEE (Lucas)

Academic colours | President's Award (silver) | Form 3 dorm cop | Transformation committee | 3rd team hockey (captain).

Hilton taught me independence and I think that skill is invaluable in life.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study mechanical engineering at UCT.

HANU PIETERSE (Lucas)

Headmaster's leadership Award (2024) | Rugby honours (2024) | Golden boot (2024) | 1st team rugby (captain) | Played Craven Week in Gr 11 & 12 | 1st team water polo | U16 MVP Tony Richter Award (2022)

Hilton taught me to enjoy every moment; to have good people in your life; and to be a warrior, attacking everything life throws at you.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To play for the Sharks and to study through them.

OLIVER PROUDFOOT (Falcon)

Form 2 dorm cop | Rugby colours | Sevens rugby colours | 1st team rugby | 4th team basketball | 6th/7th team soccer | Gym Club.

Hilton taught me to be patient and to take responsibility for my actions. It takes time to settle into boarding and patience is key to forming strong connections.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study a BCom at Stellenbosch or TUKS.

DIDIER REY (Churchill)

Academic colours | Accounting Prize | 1st team tennis | MVP tennis Award | 1st team golf | 2nd team cricket | 3rd team rugby | 3rd team soccer | Formula 1 Club | Surfing Club | Maths and accounting Prize (Gr 11).

Hilton taught me about brotherhood, respect and adapting to an environment. Hilton boys come from all different backgrounds, which has made my friendship group diverse. Hilton also taught me to not take anything for granted and to enjoy the moment.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study actuarial science at Stellenbosch University.

SEAN RITCHIE (McKenzie)

School leadership Award | 2nd team soccer | 2nd team water polo | 3rd team rugby.

Hilton taught me that relationships, trust and loyalty mean everything.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study at Stellenbosch University.

CONNOR SAWYER (Newnham)

Maths Prize (2024, 2022) | Further Maths Prize (2024, 2023) | Physics Prize (2024, 2023) | EGD Prize (2024, 2023) | 2nd team basketball | 6th/7th team rugby.

Hilton taught me independence and to work for what you want.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study.



AMAHLE SEIMA (McKenzie)

Ambassador Award | 2nd team rugby | 3rd team soccer | Gwijo.

Hilton taught me the value of camaraderie, resilience, and personal growth. The strong bonds formed with my peers, particularly through sports teams and house events, have shown me the importance of teamwork and mutual support. Engaging with staff who genuinely care about our development, such as my mentor who always encouraged me to push my limits, has left a lasting impression on me.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: Undecided.

KAMOGELO SEOPA (McKenzie)

3rd team soccer | 4th team hockey | Jazz band.

Hilton taught me the importance of brotherhood, resilience, and embracing challenges. Late-night study sessions with friends, inter-house sports competitions, and guidance from staff like Mr [Lionel] Julius, who always pushed me to reach my potential, have shaped me. The friendships I've made and the lessons I've learned about hard work and self-belief are things I'll carry with me forever.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study architecture.

CHARLIE SHORT (Ellis)

Academic honours | President's Award (gold) | 2nd team water polo | 2nd team golf | 3rd team rugby | 6th/7th team soccer.

Hilton taught me manners and courtesy.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study engineering in the UK.

SABELO SKOSANA (Pearce)

Head of vocal ensemble | Choir | President's Award (bronze) | Marketing Tie | Academic half colours | 4th team cricket | 6th/7th team rugby | KZN Midlands Youth Choir (2023) | Five Guys Named Moe (2023) | Gumboot squad (2022) | Took part in Joseph and the Technicolour Dreamcoat (2022) | Tea Club.

Hilton taught me to embrace my love for music and the performing arts. I have had countless opportunities to showcase my skills in my time here. I have grown and matured from a small, mischievous boy to a well-groomed young man.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study medicine.

ETIENNE SMITH (Churchill)

2nd team basketball | 5th team rugby | 6th/7th team soccer | Formula 1 Club.

Hilton taught me to always look out for other people.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To work for Decimal Data Services.

JOSHUA SNYMAN (Falcon)

2nd team water polo | 5th team soccer.

Hilton taught me the importance of relationships and that relationships made at Hilton College are valuable and for life.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study at Stellenbosch University.

LUKE SPEAR (Pearce)

Level 2 house leadership | Head of Community Outreach | Academic colours | Cultural half colours for Drama | 3rd team water polo | 4th team rugby | 4th team tennis | History Prize (2022) | Cultural half colours for Marimba (2022).

Hilton taught me how to stand up for what I believe, even if it means going against the flow.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study BSc at Stellenbosch University.

OSCAR STEINER (McKenzie)

House leadership Award | French Delf B1 | 1st team squash (captain) | 1st team hockey | 5s hockey | KZN U18C hockey.

Hilton taught me time management and to accept people for who they are.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study at Stellenbosch University.

DANIEL SWEENEY (Churchill)

Deputy head of school | Award for moral courage and integrity | Level 3 leadership Award | Academic honours | 1st team rugby | Rugby half colours | 2nd team cricket | 3rd team cricket (captain) | Surfing | Rugby sevens half colours (2023) | Ultimate Frisbee (2020).

Hilton taught me to show humility, how to work with people from different walks of life and how to approach disagreements.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study a bachelor of accounting at Stellenbosch University.

MIGUEL TEIXEIRA (Falcon)

Academic honours | English Olympiad (silver) | 2nd team soccer | 4th team basketball | 6th/7th team rugby.

Hilton taught me the power of brotherhood and relationships. I value the closeness I have shared with my many friends and with Hilton College staff. My former housemaster Mr [Kwanda] Sibiya helped me navigate a number of personal challenges, making a huge impact on my life.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study actuarial science at UCT.

KINGSLEY THOMPSON (Lucas)

Swimming honours | Swimming captain | 3rd team cricket | 4th team rugby | Tennis | Tea Club.

Hilton taught me core values.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study at a university in the UK.

CONNOR THOMSON (Falcon)

Ambassador Award | 1st team basketball (captain) | MVP basketball | KZN basketball | 1st team hockey | KZN hockey team.

Hilton taught me what it means to be an effective leader. The director of basketball Mr [Ayanda] Shange taught me this; the importance of understanding each teammate as an individual. By adapting my approach to each player, I became a better leader. This lesson in understanding and connecting with people is something I'll carry with me into every part of my life.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To play basketball in the USA.

TIISANO TISANE (McKenzie)

1st team basketball (vice-captain) | 1st team soccer | DJ Club.

Hilton taught me independence and how to be mentally strong in the face of challenges. Hilton has been more than a place of learning; it was home and has shaped me into who I am today. I made incredible friends who have stood by me, laughed with me, and turned tough times into cherished memories. For all of this, I am truly grateful.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To consider my goals and dreams.

ETHAN VAN HEERDEN (McKenzie)

Headmaster's leadership Award | Academic half colours | 1st team golf | 1st team cricket (captain) | 3rd team rugby (captain) | Golf colours | Golf MVP (2024, 2023) | Cricket colours.

Hilton taught me servant leadership, accountability and discipline. Mr [Paul] Venter has been a role model in terms of these values. In his history class, on the rugby field, out walking his dog or on a run, he always manages to teach you something valuable.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To play cricket in the UK or golf in the USA.

CHRISTOPHER WAGNER (Lucas)

Academic honours | 2nd team cricket | 2nd team rugby | Ultimate Frisbee.

Hilton taught me that showing kindness and compassion is the first step to forming good relationships. My biggest role model was Mrs [Debbie] Veenstra who also taught me to push myself beyond my perceived limits.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: I will be attending Stellenbosch University where I will be studying a BSc in Health Sciences.

YU LIE WANG (Lucas)

1st team basketball | 6th/7th team rugby | 6th/7th team soccer.

Hilton taught me respect.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study international business in Taiwan.

JACK WEAVIND (Falcon)

Chairman's Prize | A-Level economics Prize | Headmaster's leadership Award | English Olympiad (gold) | Academic colours | 1st team debating (matric) | 1st team soccer | 2nd team rugby | 4th team basketball.

Hilton taught me to not limit any aspiration and to not settle for anything average. Hilton's environment encourages real growth.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study economics in the United Kingdom.

MITCHEL WILSON (Newnham)

Academic honours | Level 2 leadership Award | 1st team rugby | 1st team water polo (vice-captain) | SA U16 water polo team (World Cup, 2022) | Played provincial water polo since Gr 8 | Swimming | Surfing Club.

Hilton taught me my friends are for life. I had great relationships with members of staff who went the extra mile to help me.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study BCom Accounting at Stellenbosch.

SAM WINGFIELD (McKenzie)

Academic half colours | Soccer half colours | 1st team soccer | 2nd team squash | 3rd team hockey | 4th team rugby | House leadership Award.

Hilton taught me that my friendships are forever. I will miss the good times.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study a BCom at UCT.

NICHOLAS YU (Pearce)

1st team basketball | 6th/7th team hockey | 6th/7th team rugby | Service Tie | Tennis half colours.

Hilton taught me the importance of a good routine and of taking responsibility, including when you are at fault. Hilton has prepared me well for life outside of school.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study dental science at Wits.

SANDISO ZONDI (Falcon)

1st team soccer | 2nd team hockey | 4th team basketball | Academic half colours | Soccer half colours.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To study at UCT.

UNAMI ZUNGU (Lucas)

Drama colours | 3rd team basketball | 4th team soccer | 5th team rugby.

Hilton taught me honesty, the importance of friendship and personal growth.

Plans for 2025 and beyond: To go to university.





Roll of Honour

NAME	LAST YEAR	HOUSE	DECEASED
MARTIN ALLAN BEZUIDENHOUT	Parent of a Hilton boy		January 2024
CEDRIC ANTHONY BINNS	1947	Ellis	February 2024
PETER BENNETT COLUMBINE	1953	Pearce	January 2024
IAN DOUGLAS CORDINER	1956	McKenzie	July 2024
JOHN VAUGHAN DAVIES	1963	McKenzie	July 2024
PETER CECIL DEE	1946	Ellis	July 2024
OLIVER PRINGLE DE VILLIERS	1984	Falcon	September 2023
PIERRE SPAFFORD DU TOIT	1950	Pearce	August 2024
MARK REID ELLIS	1971	Ellis	November 2024
COLIN RUSSELL FORBES	1964	Newnham	December 2023
CLIVE FYVIE	1971	Churchill	October 2023
TERRI ELEFThERIOS GALANIS	2002	McKenzie	November 2024
MICHAEL CHARLES GIBB	1979	Churchill	October 2024
DAVID HAMMOND	Teacher at Hilton for 42 years		May 2024
ANTHONY HARDINGHAM	1964	Newnham	May 2024
MICHAEL KENNETH SHULDHAM HATHORN	1938	Churchill	July 2024
WARREN RICHARD HENFREY	1988	Ellis	December 2023
ARTHUR MICHAEL HYATT (MICK) (Fellow of The Hiltonian Society)	1956	McKenzie	May 2024
RODERICK MAURICE HYSLOP	1976	Churchill	March 2024
ALASTAIR MENTEITH JOHNSTON	1957	Churchill	December 2024
NICHOLAS ARTHUR LABUSCHAGNE	1947	Pearce	July 2024
COLIN FREEMANTLE LANE	1959	Newnham	December 2023
ALLAN WILLIAM MACLEAN	Grade 8	Ellis	November 2024
BRADLEY TAFARA MEKE	Grade 8	Newnham	May 2024
BARRY KEITH MIDGLEY	1965	Ellis	October 2023
CHRISTIAN THEODOR MURMAN	1987	Falcon	December 2023
ARTHUR NIXON OERTEL	1965	Pearce	October 2024
DARRYL PILLAY	1998	Pearce	January 2024
MICHAEL JOHN CALLOCOTT PROCTER	1964	Newnham	February 2024
ROBERT CAMPBELL DEANS RITCHIE	1974	Churchill	September 2024
CHARLOTTE SLATER	Late headmaster Ramond Slater's wife		May 2024
GEOFFREY THOMPSON	1970	Newnham	June 2024
DAVID MUNGO THOMPSON	1966	Newnham	July 2024
ROBERT WELLS TRAIN	1963	Ellis	November 2024
FREDERICK VOLBRECHT	Past parent		January 2024

PETER BENNETT COLUMBINE (1953, Pearce)

Peter was born on 31 August 1935 to Montagu and Aileen Columbine in Karachi, British India, now Pakistan. After early childhood years in Malaysia, Singapore and Australia, Peter moved to Pietermaritzburg with his parents and attended Hilton College.

Peter's parents married in Shanghai in December 1926. His father "Monty" Columbine was a banker with the Chartered Bank in Asia – he was the bank's manager in Kuala Lumpur and Singapore.

Due to the war, Peter and his mother left Singapore in 1942 for Melbourne, Australia. His father remained in Singapore and was there when the Japanese advanced to take control in 1942. He fortunately escaped and joined his family in Melbourne six months later. Peter was an only child and attended Geelong Grammar School before the family moved to Pietermaritzburg.

During his time at Hilton, Peter was very active in tennis, swimming and water polo and developed a love for the outdoors on the estate.

His time at Hilton provided Peter with stability as compared to his early years – getting out onto the estate, sport and friendships were important to him. Hilton helped him grow in character and confidence and prepared him for later life – consideration for people from different backgrounds, generosity and kindness, independence and leadership.

After matriculating from Hilton in 1953, Peter studied at the University of Natal. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science Honours degree with distinction in 1959, majoring in Chemistry and Geology.

He was involved in the leadership of the Student Representative Council and was particularly active with various initiatives to raise funds for the university.

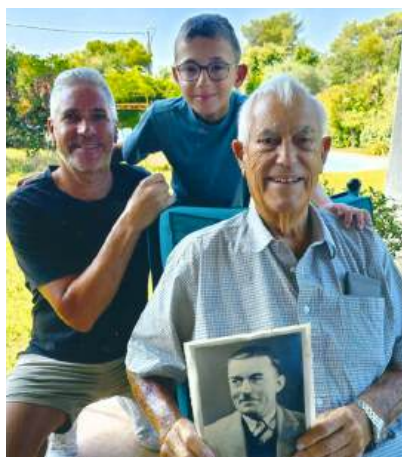
Peter's career started in the mining industry with Union Corporation Limited (now Gencor) in 1960, followed by roles with Rand Mines and ICI South Africa. As a geologist he spent time underground directing the miners where to dig for minerals and conducting geological surveys throughout Southern Africa. Peter met his wife Margaret when they worked together at Rand Mines laboratories in Johannesburg.

Peter joined The Dow Chemical Company in Johannesburg in 1967 and held several

roles covering sales and marketing for Speciality, Mining, Urethane and Organic Chemicals. In 1972, Peter moved to Zürich, Switzerland with his wife Margaret and their two young children. In the late 1960s The Dow Chemical Company had established their headquarters for Europe, Mid-East, Africa in Zürich.

Peter focused on building his career in a dynamic and growing industry, and on life with his family. He travelled extensively throughout the world in the 1970s, building a significant chemical business which contributed one-third of the total turnover and profit for one of the world's largest chemical companies. Peter eventually became the Commercial Director for the Chemical Department of Dow Europe (East and West), Mid-East and Africa, covering basic and speciality chemicals, and was a member of the board for Dow Europe.

In 1983, Peter returned to South Africa with his family, on special assignment for Dow Chemical. The objective of the assignment was to manage the restructuring of the local company, following the start-up of specialty polymers production, and the global acquisition of a pharmaceuticals business requiring construction of a local production facility.



Hiltonians, past and future. Four generations of the Columbine family, including Peter Columbine (front), son Richard Columbine (Pearce, 1989), grandson Leo Columbine (plans to start at Hilton in January 2027). Peter is holding a picture of his father Montagu Columbine.

In line with increasing pressure on the apartheid regime from foreign governments, the United States Congress enacted The Comprehensive Anti-Apartheid Act of 1986, which imposed sanctions on South Africa. Since Dow Chemical was an US company, they had to disinvest from South Africa.

Upon divestment of Dow from South Africa in 1987, Peter formed CH Chemicals with a partner to acquire Dow's chemical and polymer business interests, the pharmaceuticals business having been sold. Peter then travelled globally and added representation of other major international chemical and industrial companies such as Mobil, AkzoNobel and Huntsman Corporation. In 1997 Peter sold his share of CH Chemicals to his partner and retired from the industry.

Peter and Margaret continued to travel extensively during their retirement, visiting friends and family around the world. Peter also maintained a bond with Hilton College, through lifelong friendships from school days, becoming a benefactor and having a son at Hilton, with plans for his grandson to attend Hilton in future.

In large part due to his varied experiences in life, Peter had a seemingly natural understanding of the world around him. He also had the ability to connect with people from all walks of life anywhere in the world and was a very social person.

Family and friends were incredibly important to Peter. His working life and achievements were driven by his deep desire to provide the best for his family. Peter passed away peacefully with his family at their home in the south of France on 13 January 2024. A memorial was held in Johannesburg in March, with several Old Hiltonians in attendance.

Peter is survived by his wife Margaret, daughters Nicola and Lauren, son Richard, daughter-in-law Sally and grandchildren Leo and Skye.

Rich Columbine | Son



YOUNG FIREMEN, J. D. Cordiner, of Johannesburg (left) and H. W. Tully, of Durban, Natal, wait for the water to be turned on.



THE ROVER LADDER DRILL is extremely efficient.

With an old jealousy for a fire engine and a quarter-mile of hose, boys of Natal's Hilton College are vigilantly guarding 3,000 acres of "fire risk" and have already earned the praise of Maritzburg's Fire Chief.

SCHOOLBOY FIREMEN TAKE OVER

By D. N. E. KAIN
who also took the pictures

AT THE DOUBLE CHAMPS, No. 2 and 3 the pump. No. 1 the efficient, No. 1 the 3,000 acre risk. The rest of you, the boys—get a move on!" The snappy commands might have come from the chief of the Cape Town or Johannesburg Fire Brigades.

Actually it happened in the winter of 1,000 acres which enclose picturesque Hilton College on the Natal midlands. We were watching a red vehicle sweep out of a marshy building and back towards an imaginary fire.

Driving it was a schoolboy. The "fire" were other schoolboys, all dressed in dark overalls, steel helmets and gas masks. Their ages ranged from 14 to 18. They are members of the only school fire brigade in South Africa.

At Hilton these days, the silence of the schoolroom and the concentration of the cricket field are occasionally shattered by the wail of a siren and the roar of an engine two feet away from the door.

The college's own farm provides meat and vegetables; they have a power-plant, a shoring waste industry, an airy, and a staff of carpenters, glaziers and builders, and now their own fire brigade. When the Board of Governors discussed fire protection, they purchased the suggestion: "Let's do it ourselves." The idea came from the physics and chemistry master, Pat Whitworth, who was once a senior lecturer in a Government public fire station at Grahamstown, Scotland. The Governors decided to give it a trial, and a game was made in his equipment. From that moment, however, everything was over, and he got the best out of the very best. An old motor car was bought in Harlow for £20 and a pump from a farmer in the district. The car was converted by the boys and the roof was changed of. Wooden compartments were built into glass and a machine provided for a 100-ton tank of water.

Boxes, which, placed end to end, extend for a quarter of a mile, were bought from Government surplus stock. They cost a little, but they still give good service and are to be repaired.

Immediately the equipment was on its way, Mr. Whitworth formed his "fire brigade". He started giving lessons on the fire engine and the pump.

The young "firemen" worked on the standard British National Fire Service drill, and then conducted a little practice. The brigade members have today



A BLAZING PETROL BATH is the dry field is well downed by the brigade of young firefighters.

drill, the use of hand-operated fire engine, motor pump and the extinguishers, the theory of fire and the various methods used to locate them. They are now learning first aid.

The main danger here has been near the college, the smallest of which holds 1,000 gallons. Power working at the school is now within reach of the brigade's hands. It is a matter to Mr. F. H. Hutton, the Principal, that the pump is capable of supplying water at the rate of 180 gallons a minute.

HAVE there been any fire since the brigade was formed? The record shows two bush fires, one of them serious. This time shows in just incidentally—right through the school's fire club's eyes. The firemen, going to work with a will, got severely injured.

"And," said Pat Whitworth, "the fact that the fire club did not give us as much as a pot of honey for our trouble added to the story."

Recently the fire engine broke a wheel and was put out of action. Mr. Whitworth, ever one "hand" while the potential mechanics get busy. They could not get the correct control so they could

one from another make of car. It took—let me before they "messed it about" to see Mr. Whitworth's own words. The boys do all their own repairs and servicing. In fact, the fire station ground is probably the most covered in Natal.

The engine's official driver is 16-year-old Geoffrey Ford, senior form, who already has a driver's license. Mr. Whitworth's big hope is that at some time the brigade will be recognized by the Hilton Road "Bride" and the legal definition and the question of suitable insurance would have to be settled before it could operate outside the college grounds.

The brigade is already on call to two farms near by and also to plantations, although college property. Whenever they are, wherever they are doing the young firemen are constantly on the alert. It has been a wonderful experience for them, and they have already earned the praise of Mr. N. C. Wilkinson, Maritzburg Corporation Fire Chief.

They are proud, too, that insurance runs on the college have been reduced. For the moment are satisfied that the college has a fire service which can tackle any emergency.



SMOKEY TARGET. During a display given recently for parents, boys Hilton Fire Brigade got to work on a burning rustic building.



FIRE ENGINE. This converted motor car is doing sterling work in putting out the college.



PUMP TO IT! The boys are ready at a moment's notice to hitch their own fire engine.



PAT WHITWORTH, chief instructor of the Hilton College Fire Brigade, shows Geoffrey Ford how to regulate the diffuse valve.

IAN DOUGLAS CORDINER (1956, McKenzie)

Ian finished at Hilton in 1956 and went on to study civil engineering at Wits University graduating in 1962. He left for the UK in early 1963 and, apart from family visits, never returned to South Africa.

He was in the UK for four years: three years in London, working for Ove Arup and John Laing, and one year in Scotland, working on the Cockenzie Power Station. His work with John Laing on operations research led to his future career in Australia.

He migrated as a "ten-pound Pom" to Australia in 1967 and joined the McKinsey Group, the well-known international management consultancy. His work with McKinsey led him to many places in Australia, particularly the mining areas of West Australia.

At this time he met and married Judy Gundhill and they went on to have two sons.

At McKinsey he met up with a group of young men who together raised funds

to take over Henry Jones IXL, based in Hobart Tasmania. Ian was sent to Hobart to manage the rationalisation of Henry Jones and was there for three years.

Thereafter he went to a position in Renmark South Australia as managing director of a fruit canning co-op.

Judy sadly passed away in Renmark. Ian returned to Melbourne and took up the position of corporate affairs director of Australian National Line.

Together with a friend he set up an executive placement consultancy which grew to a very well-known boutique agency with a wide range of corporate and government agency clients. At this time he met and married Anne Redden and they

had a son. They bought a small farm in Heathcote and planted six acres of shiraz grapes which went into an excellent wine produced by his neighbour.

When Ian retired, Ian and Anne moved to Hobart and he was on the board of the National Trust. He wrote an auto biography, The Accidental Head-hunter, and a novel, Blood Moon. He enjoyed golf and fishing, among other things.

He lived in Hobart until he passed away in June 2024 and his passing was celebrated by a large group of friends and family at his favourite haunt, the Tasmania Club. He is sorely missed by us all.

Roy Cordiner | Brother

OLIVER PRINGLE DE VILLIERS (1984, FALCON)

Oliver passed away peacefully in September 2023 after living with Locked-in Syndrome for 23 years.

PIERRE SPAFFORD DU TOIT (1950 PM, Pearce)

Pierre Spafford du Toit passed away in August [2024] at the ripe old age of 90. Earlier in the year we had a wonderful celebration of his life in Stanford where he lived with our mom Gay who died a while back.

He had five children, four boys and a girl, and numerous grandchildren who all loved him dearly. He was a very kind, principled man who was respected and loved by all who came into contact with him.

He matriculated in 1950 and played 1st team rugby for two years. He was also captain of water polo.

Richard du Toit | Son



MICHAEL CHARLES GIBB (1979, Churchill)

Michael Gibb died much too soon, aged 62, on 20 October 2024.



Michael was a remarkable force of nature. He was tall, good looking, charming and great fun to be with, but he could also be fiery, blunt and unreasonable. As a school-boy, he was sometimes a menace, particularly on the rugby field, where he thrived in over-robust play. Having graduated from his rather rebellious high school years, and then completing his military service and university in Pietermaritzburg, Michael embarked on an outstanding career in investment banking in the UK.

Armed with a single reference from The Hub department store in Pietermaritzburg, Michael managed to snare a place on Salomon Brothers' storied New York training programme. He went on to work at Morgan Stanley and then at Deutsche Bank,

ultimately as head of global sales, before retiring to his cattle farm in Kent, England.

Throughout his life Michael was fascinated by the military – first with toy soldiers and model building kits, but in later life undertaking immaculate restoration of WW1 and WW2 military vehicles – tanks, staff cars, armoured vehicles and others. This collection, largely housed in the UK's Weald Foundation which he founded and endowed, is regarded as one of the finest in the world.

Michael is survived by his wonderful wife Sarah, daughters Larson, Caroline and Daisy and by his mother, Susan and three siblings.

David Gibb | Brother

COLIN FREEMANTLE LANE (1959, Newnham)

Colin Freemantle Lane (known as CF Lane) died on 15 December 2023.

He was the youngest and last of three brothers to come through Hilton College, as his father, Theodore William Freemantle Lane, had done before him – all in Newnham House. An outstanding sportsman, he received colours for swimming, diving, squash, hockey of which he was captain of the 1st team, breaking a number of school records, as well as representing Hilton College in athletics and rugby. He also played Cassius in the school's rendition of Julius Caesar in his final year.

Colin was born in Mufulira, Northern Rhodesia (Zambia), the Copperbelt, catching the train to/from Hilton College with his brothers and the many other kids who schooled in South Africa. He told many tales of the long overnight train journey with carriages full of boys.

Post Hilton College the family relocated to Pietermaritzburg, he studied for a degree in education from the University of Natal, before travelling around the world for a few years with my mother, following which they settled down in Glenwood, Durban.

Colin spent his working life teaching at schools, including Addington Primary, William Hartley and Lyndhurst Primary. He served most of his years as deputy headmaster or headmaster, before retiring early in the 1990s. His love for family and sports never diminished for a second, a love which he has passed down to my sister and I, and I in turn to my own children.

He always spoke so fondly of Hilton College, his friends and his time there. Whilst he wasn't in touch with many of his old schoolmates, I recall him mentioning John Newbury, and I would like to get in touch with any Old Hiltonians who knew him and have any memories to share. It would be of great treasure if anyone had class, sports or other photos from 1959 or around then, featuring my Dad.

His loss has been devastating to all of us, but 83 years was a really good run.

Mike Lane | Son

GEOFFREY THOMPSON (1970 PM, Newnham)

Hiltonians of several generations were distressed to learn of Geoff Thompson's death on 14 June 2024.

Hilton played a major part in Geoff's life. Having spent six successful years here as a pupil (1965 to 1970), which culminated in his serving as head of Newnham House and deputy head boy, he returned to join the staff in January 1982. This began a period where his contribution to Hilton life was immeasurable.

Over two decades, Geoff's life was anchored in his role as an empathetic and discreet counsellor; many pupils will confirm the wise assistance he provided. But Geoff's enthusiastic personality and wide talents were never to be confined to a single role. He was ubiquitously involved, and in several respects a pioneer. He was a live-in tutor in Ellis and later, Lucas, when the new house was established. He fought hard for the introduction of drama into the curriculum and was the first teacher of that subject. A little later, he was the first manager of the Hilton College Theatre. He was also a very effective manager of the Fleur-de-Lys Club in its infancy, using his enthusiasm and imagination to grow the club as an appealing venue. For years, Geoff was in charge of squash, and he led any number of student tours, largely to Europe for skiing but also to Israel and the US.

Geoff made an enormous contribution to Hilton drama. He was a prolific and successful director of plays, contributing to a wonderful era where the list of talented staff directors, led by Ant Lovell, included Patrick Harty, Mary Davidge and Phil Taylor. Of course, arguably his greatest legacy is the Hilton Arts Festival which he pioneered, together with Sue Clarence. He will also be remembered for his comic contribution to the staff Monty Python Show, where the performances were always ended by his rendition of Max Bygraves' "Remember When".

None of this, however, conveys the sheer force of Geoff's character on the school community. He was involved, enthusiastic, entertaining, endlessly quirky and committed. His departure at the end of 2001 left an absolute void.

After Hilton, Geoff spent a brief while in the UK, returning to teach, first at Clifton College in Durban and later at Drakensberg



Boys' Choir School, where he spent many happy years. Shortly after his retirement he experienced a serious illness which required a lengthy hospital stay and left him physically disabled. For someone who had lived his life frenetically and energetically, this presented a serious challenge, which he met with fortitude and stoicism. While immobile and requiring nursing care, he remained excellent and entertaining company to the end.

Iain McMillan | Friend

DAVID MUNGO THOMPSON (1966 PM, Newnham)

David was born in Durban to Mungo and Mac on 13 January 1948. From an early age he loved the outdoors and excelled in team sports. He was destined to follow in his father's and brother's footsteps as an orthopaedic surgeon.

Both his sons, Grahame and Iain, are also Hilton old boys and his eldest grandson, William, currently attends the school.

David started at Hilton in 1961 and began his Hilton journey, as all new boys did at the time, in the old Falcon House. In his second year he moved to Newnham House where he experienced the 'Train'. He was head of Newnham for two years in 1965 and 1966. He represented 1st team rugby, cricket and hockey. He loved his time at Hilton, especially on the sports field and on the estate.

David qualified as an orthopaedic surgeon in 1980 having trained in Edinburgh and Durban. He remained passionate about the profession until his dying day. He lived most

of his life in KwaZulu-Natal and loved the people and the environment of this province.

He enjoyed a view down the uMngeni Valley, with Hilton College in the distance, in his final years.

A dedicated and loving father and grandfather, David is survived by his wife Jo, his brother Peter and his sons and grandchildren. His memorial bench is positioned close to Newnham in the shade of the old oaks.

Grahame Thompson | Son

DAVID HAMMOND (Teacher at Hilton for 42 years)

I met Mr Hammond in the 1980s, when I started at Hilton College. By then he was well into his tenure at Hilton Collage, which spanned nearly four decades before he retired in 2004.

One of my first memories when I arrived at Hilton was a trip to Pinnacles on the estate. Picture it. I was 13 years old, in Standard 6 – or Grade 8 as we now know it. I had gone from being a big fish in a small Cordwalles pond to being a very small fish in a large Hilton College ocean. The magnitude and stature of the school was intimidating. The school was so new to me, I even had trouble finding my own Newnham House. One of the first weekends away from home, Newnham and McKenzie newbies were assigned a trip to Pinnacles. We ventured out in the early morning that weekend, through the plantation toward our destination, the legendary Pinnacles, which the matrics had hyped up for us! The sun's rays were beaming through the canopy. As we walked side by side in the vehicle tracks, when all of a sudden a voice from behind bellowed out "Quiet down, you boys in front. You're going to scare away the wildlife." The students ahead immediately toned it down and continued ahead.

That day was spent out in the countryside, and I remember us having fun. The teacher also taught us a lot of the school history that day.

It was only on our way back that afternoon that I learned the teacher was DR Hammond, fondly known as "Doc Hammond". A stern but very fair teacher.

Prior to Hilton, history had been just another subject for me. I had no real interest in the past. I was in Standard 7 when Mr Hammond taught me history. And I remember how fascinated I was at how he brought History to life. My favourite was a battle between 464 Voortrekkers and an estimated 25,000 Zulu. The Battle of Blood River! I had heard of this battle before, but never had I been taught it with such inspired passion and knowledge that it has resonated with me ever since.

I was also fortunate enough to take shooting as a sport at Hilton. Mr Hammond was the master in charge. At first, I was useless, I would be lucky to hit my neighbour's target. Mr Hammond was very strict on the range, and for good reason, we were a bunch of teenagers with guns! He taught me how to breathe, while squeezing the trigger. Another thing I remember was having to have my feet planted when lying down to shoot. Shooters will know what I mean. The more I listened and took instruction, the closer and closer to I got to my target. These lessons from Mr Hammond on the range at Hilton became invaluable when I joined the army core of engineers.

My son James was two years old when my Mum first broke the news that she was seeing one of my teachers. I remember thinking to myself, David has some huge shoes to fill. And, boy, did he fill them. Two years later my daughter Meaghan was born and Grandpa David became a household name. Grandpa David always made time for my kids, and all the Lovell Greene children.

I noticed my Mum had a skip in her step and a sparkle in her eyes again. David loved my Mum to the ends of the earth. David made my Mum happy. And that meant more than anything in this world to me.

Sometimes in life, things don't always go to plan and when my world came crashing down, Grandpa David was there to lend a hand, and never once did he judge me.

On 8 January this year, I called my Mum. She was with David and was able to hold the phone to his ear as I wished him a happy birthday. David replied in a bold and encouraging voice, "Thank you very much". These would be our last words to each other.

I wish I had another chance.

I salute you, David Hammond.
A true gentleman. Until we meet again!

Graham Lovell Greene | Stepson

CEDRIC ANTHONY BINNS (1947, Ellis)

Born in Durban on 1 February 1933, Cedric lost his mom at a very young age and was cared for by an aunt in the Midlands until Peter Binns, who established Treverton School, adopted him.

Cedric left Hilton to pursue his dream to study agriculture. Thereafter he sailed out on the last Jerusalem voyage to Mombasa to farm.

From there he and a friend moved to Zimbabwe and later back to Witbank/ Pretoria and Johannesburg.

Following a nasty fall in December 2023, Cedric suffered a concussion. His health deteriorated and he was rendered bedridden for nine weeks before he died.

Cedric was a man of integrity and compassion. He spoke of Hilton and rugby with great pride.

Trudy Bender | Wife



MARTIN BEZUIDENHOUT (Parent of a Hilton boy)

Martin Bezuidenhout was one of the first people to support Hilton College's 150th celebrations by becoming one of our 150th Legacy Benefactors.

An extremely generous and enthusiastic supporter of our school, he contributed towards Hilton College's new Centre for Performance and Wellness, which opened in late 2024, and also supported our Cattle Project by purchasing three oxen.

Martin was respected by all and had a wide circle of friends, among them many Hilton College parents.

Martin leaves his wife Pamela, his daughter Cath and his sons James (2014, Falcon) and Matthew (Grade 11, Falcon).

Brett Armstrong | Friend



MICHAEL JOHN CALLOCOTT PROCTER (1964, Newnham)

In this memorable moment captured in 2019, Mike Procter (Newnham, 1964) is joined by his former captain, Ali Bacher, on a visit to Hilton College. Procter's remarkable life is captured in an excerpt from *Stories of Hilton College: An Anthology*, published to commemorate Hilton's 150th.

He was, simply, one of cricket's greatest all-rounders, a genuinely fast bowler, a capable off-spinner, a hard-hitting middle-order batsman and an astute captain.

Mike Procter was a prodigious cricketer who dazzled. In his pomp, and before he was shackled by knee injuries, he bowled as quickly as anyone in the world. Charging in off a long run, blond hair bouncing in the breeze, he delivered, chest-on, with the ball emerging from the late windmill flurry as if fired from a catapult. His action produced late in-swing and many leg-before decisions.

He was a commanding batsman, strong off the backfoot and a classic cover-driver. He could turn his hand to off-breaks on

a wearing pitch, as he showed in taking nine for 71 in spinning Rhodesia to a Currie Cup win over Transvaal.

Procter was in the Keith Miller mould, on and off the field, enjoying the contest and the often-protracted dressing-room post-mortem which inevitably followed a day's play.

He spent most of his 23 years of first-class cricket with Natal and Gloucestershire ("Proctershire"). His feats at the highest level would have been herculean had it not been for the sporting boycott which limited him to just seven Tests – all against Australia in two series wins – with a remarkable 41 wickets at 15 apiece.

The county season was often a daily grind but he kept performing, scoring over

1000 runs a season nine times and twice taking over 100 wickets.

Statistics say nothing about his style and appeal, but they do underline his match-winning ability. He took four first-class hat-tricks, two of them all leg-before in consecutive matches; he is the only player to twice take a hat-trick and score a century in the same match, and he hit six consecutive Currie Cup centuries, a world record, for Rhodesia in 1970–71.

Respected commentator Mark Nicholas described Procter as "colourful, swashbuckling and devastatingly good, an all-rounder to rank with any in history".

Hilton College



We would like to thank everyone who informed us of the sad passing of Old Hiltonians. It is a privilege to honour their lives and keep contact with their families. If you are aware of any Old Hiltonian who has passed, please inform Amanda Pistorius at database@hiltoncollege.com

DARRYL PILLAY (1998, Pearce)

Darryl was born on 10 July 1981 to Charmane Pillay and the late Silvapragasen Pillay, who taught maths at Hilton College from 1994 to 2016.

From four years old, Darryl was his own person in the way he communicated, in the way his mind worked, and the way in which he gave expression to his feelings.

Darryl began his schooling at TPA Primary School in 1986. His high school career began at Woodlands Secondary, and he matriculated at Hilton College in 1998.

After school, Darryl went on a rotary exchange programme in the USA, where he spent a year taking part in a space exploration programme.

He spent his 17th birthday celebrating in Lake Tahoe in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, straddling the border of California and Nevada.

Back in South Africa, Darryl commenced his tertiary education at the University of Cape Town where he completed his Bachelor of Information Technology, before acquiring his honours degree.

In the early stages of his career, Darryl worked in Johannesburg, London and Durban before returning to Johannesburg. Whilst working in the UK, Darryl took a two-month sabbatical and toured 12 countries.

In total he visited 53 countries in four continents.

Before leaving for the UK in 2008, Darryl met the love of his life, Shaista, who he married in 2015 on the spectacular MSC Sinfonia.

In 2020 Darryl and Shaista were blessed with their beautiful baby girl, Riley Malia Pillay.

Darryl was a highly skilled solutions architect who specialised in designing and building complex information systems.

His expertise was highly valued and called upon in times of need from industry giants.

Darryl can aptly be described as a man with a brilliant mind, one who embraced life. He believed in making every moment count. Life for Darryl was either a daring adventure or nothing at all.

His life was a spirited dance, a vibrant symphony, a beautiful tapestry of vivid colours and rich textures.



Darryl's insatiable curiosity about the world around him was unrivalled. His quest for knowledge was unending and his thirst for understanding, unquenchable.

His travels took him to USA, Australia, Spain, Portugal, Norway, Hong Kong, Bali and Italy to name a few. And his final journey has taken him to his creator.

We are reminded how short life is and how we are just passing through. As Darryl would say, "Go to the beat of your own drum and live on your terms."

Leah Pillay | Sister

ROBERT CAMPBELL DEANS RITCHIE (1974, Churchill)

Rob passed away on 23 September 2024 in Greytown from Parkinson-related issues, having lived in a frail care centre there for some years.



Born in Durban on 14 January 1957, Rob was schooled at Durban Preparatory High School before coming to Hilton.

After leaving Hilton, he spent two years doing his national service with the SADF at officers' school and attained the rank of lieutenant. He served the bulk of his time in

Durban. On being discharged, he joined the SA Railways and Harbours (now Transnet), and while working with them studied electronics at the Technikon to T6 level. He and two colleagues went into business servicing mainly marine craft in the Durban harbour. He left the partnership to join Danfoss, a Danish company supplying and servicing electronic equipment to industries in South Africa. It was while with them that he relocated to Johannesburg. He joined Siemens after Danfoss and had a very successful career with them, visiting many parts of the world in their employ.

In about 2017, Parkinsons disease was negatively impacting Rob's ability to work, and he was medically boarded. He was well-liked by the management at Siemens as testified by the many German Siemens' staff who attended his funeral online.

While at Hilton, Rob participated in many sports – playing rugby for the 2nd team as a lock forward in a year when the 1st XV were unbeaten for the second time in Hilton's rugby history.

He managed to master the art of the "Frosby Flop" in high jump, which saw him win the inter-house high jump competition. He swam for the school and was a more than useful tennis player with a big-hitting serve and volley game, and at net with his long levers was a real pest to his opposition! The same applied on the squash court where he dominated the "T". He was a member of Berea Rovers in Durban for many years and became actively involved in hockey. He was an aggressive goal-keeper and enjoyed nothing more than taking out opposition players at the top of the "D"! He also coached some of the Rovers' women's sides.

In the tributes that came in for him he was described, inter alia, as a good friend, a gentle giant, and a man with a keen sense of humour.

He met Leigh Deans while at Berea Rovers and they were married in 1984 and had three children – Linton, Beth and Shelley-Jane. He had one grandson.

Rob was my first cousin (our mothers were sisters) and given that we were a month apart in age, we were probably more like brothers than cousins. We had many an adventure on the Hilton College estate on Sundays and when together in Durban, I recall some weekends where we played rugby on a Saturday afternoon, hockey on a Sunday morning, and then tennis or squash on Sunday afternoon!

Parkinsons is a dreadful disease and his last couple of years were very sad, particularly as his body deteriorated but his mind was still sharp. He is missed by all of us who knew him, but his death was a blessed relief. While in the frail care centre he actively participated in activities that the Anglican Church held there and his favourite verse was from 2 Corinthians 4:16: "Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day." Go well my friend and cousin. We will meet again.

Bruce Fannin | Friend and cousin

PETER CECIL DEE (1946, Ellis)

Peter Dee was born in Durban on 10 July 1929 and died in Hillcrest on 21 June 2024. He started his schooling at Durban Prep (DPHS) and entered Hilton College in 1942.

He loved sports and made friends easily. Peter earned his school colours in boxing, coached by the legendary Pabby Bould. He stayed close to his Hilton College friends for the rest of his life, often meeting for monthly lunches.

He captained the Durban Rowing Club and played squash and tennis with vigour and enthusiasm. He remained an ardent Springbok fan and Castle Lager drinker his whole life.

Peter did not attend university, and started work at the Lion Match Company at their iconic factory in Umgeni Road, Durban. He married Diana Ernst in 1958, and their three sons (Stephen, Andrew and James) arrived in the ensuing seven years.



His career as a company manager took the family from Durban to Johannesburg, then to Windhoek, back to Johannesburg, and finally to Bothas Hill.

It was said about Peter that he was the most loyal friend any friend could have. He had a wide circle of close friends, for whom he always showed up. He regaled us with stories of their histories, their school days, their wild years, their children, and in due course their grandchildren, whose news he delighted in following. He had numerous godchildren, although it must be said that he was probably not the most God-fearing mentor to this happy band.

He was devoted to his family, his nieces, nephews and their families and revelled in their travels, their academic achievements, their winemaking prowess, and their art. He was a loyal Hiltonian, and for many years organized the Hilton Old Boy lunches in Durban.

Peter was a very handy repair man, woodworker and DIY fixer of machinery. His sons will always have vivid memories of road trips punctuated by car repairs, such as punctures, recalcitrant tyre chains,

leaking radiators, the towing of a trailer of rowing boats from Durban to East London, affixed by rope rather than a tow hook, and the panel beating in our sandpit of the front fender of our 1948 Ford Plymouth after a traffic altercation. And who could forget searching the endless shimmering sands of the Namib Desert for the clutch bolt of a Land Rover?

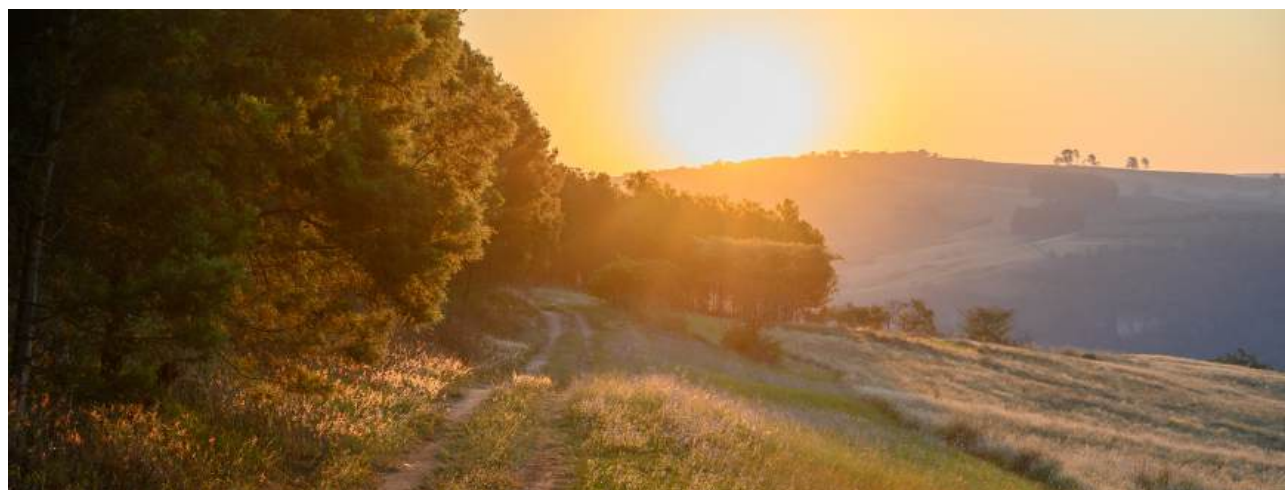
My father had a huge faith in the innate goodness of people, a positive outlook on life and a terrific optimistic nature.

Peter's wife Diana passed away in 1997. He was lost without my Mum, and we worried about how he'd cope. We were very happy when Glenda Thwaite arrived on the scene, having been a widow herself for many years. It was a new chapter in his life. Glenda and Peter had their wedding in Cape Town in 2002 and were happily married for 22 years. Pretty soon they took to the air with journeys to Malaysia, Australia, New Zealand, the UK, Namibia, America and even Fiji. For him the purpose of these journeys was not so much about the sightseeing, but to reconnect with far flung family and friends.

My Dad pushed his sons quite hard, but he was a soft touch and really adored his five grandchildren. From their first arrival they were cherished and loved without reserve. He loved their visits, and trips to the bush with them, and in recent years he loved seeing them on his weekly Zoom calls. How fortunate it was that he saw all of his grandchildren in the last year of his life. He made sure to end each Zoom call with a heartfelt sending of love to each and every one.

And so, at the end of the day, nothing was left unsaid.

Steve Dee | Son





JOHN TAYLER (1958, Ellis)

Married and retired, I live in Harare. I still enjoy camping in Gonarezhou and Mana Pools each year and a spell in Inhassoro in Mozambique each November. I have three happily married daughters and nine grandchildren. Gave up flying my Mooney aircraft a couple of years ago. Enjoy watching rugby.

PROF ANDREW COLMAN (1961, Pearce)

I studied psychology at the University of Cape Town and loved every minute of it. I was an anti-apartheid student activist and was elected to the Students' Representative Council and National Union of South African Students.

During my postgraduate study, I was recruited as a graduate teaching assistant to fill for the head of department, and I loved the job even more than being a student. I was promoted to a junior lectureship and married Shen Attwell in 1968. After two years lecturing at Rhodes, we decided we didn't want to raise a family in South Africa, and in 1970 I was lucky to get a lectureship at the University of Leicester in the UK, where I was eventually promoted to a reader, then a professor.

Having been awarded colours for squash at Hilton, I was delighted that the Leicester

Squash Club was one of the best in England, and during the 1970s and early 1980s I played regularly for that club's second team, and for my university, which also awarded me colours in 1980.

Having been active in the Chess Society at Hilton, I played for a Leicester chess club and on occasion for Leicestershire County. Perhaps partly because I was seldom at home, Shen and I drifted apart, and we never raised that family. After a period during which I played piano (learnt at Hilton) and harpsicord in the chamber group Musica Dolce, I began an enduring second marriage to Caroline Salinger, who is now Principal Cello in the Leicester Symphony Orchestra.

I retired in October 2024 as the longest-serving member of my university and (I believe) any UK university. In 2008, as I was approaching age 65, I managed to get my contract extended, although compulsory retirement at 65 had not yet been abolished in the UK. I had just landed a three-year research council grant, and I used that fact plus argumentative skills sharpened in the Hilton Debating Society to escape compulsory retirement before anyone else managed to.

Most academics want to retire as soon as they can afford it; the reason I wanted to go on working was that I enjoyed teaching (I was voted one of the university's five Superstars

of the Year by the Students' Union in 2014) and found research interesting.

Over the decades, I've published many books on aspects of psychology, including some bestsellers (my Oxford Dictionary of Psychology, now in its 4th edition, has been an Amazon bestseller for many years), and what I find most rewarding of all is publishing original research. My research papers, almost all co-authored with colleagues, have if anything improved in recent years, judging by citations in the psychological literature. I've done some of my best work, especially on my favourite topics of game theory and experimental games, after turning 65. Without my Hiltonian schooling, probably none of this would have happened.





WALLY FRY (1968, Ellis) and PETE PERRINS (1969, Pearce)

In recent years Rob Maclean (1968, Pearce) helped Pete Perrins (1969, Pearce) and Wally Fry (1968, Ellis) reunite in Noosa, Australia, after 56 years! Their story is a testament to the enduring bonds formed at Hilton and the power of modern technology to bring people together.

Through various Rhodesian Facebook groups, Rob discovered that Pete was living in Hervey Bay, Australia. Knowing that Wally was in Noosa, just three hours away, he facilitated their reunion. Seeing them meet again after so long was a joyous occasion, filled with reminiscing and rekindled friendship.

If you know of any Old Hiltonians looking to reconnect with old friends, please reach out to Amanda (database@hiltoncollege.com). Let's continue to celebrate and strengthen the Hiltonian community, no matter where we are in the world.



DR MICHAEL KENYON (1976, Newnham)

Michael is Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of British Columbia. He's also a fanatic Skeena River steelhead fly fisherman.

Between 2016 and 2020 Michael was governor of BC Chapter of American College of Physicians. In 2019 he was awarded the UBC Clinical Faculty Award for Career Excellence in Clinical Teaching and in 2020 received the Award of Excellence in Rural Medicine: Lifetime Achievement award. In 2023 he officially opened the New ICU Building in Nanaimo, Central Vancouver Island, and received the Resident Doctors of Canada Mikhail Award for teaching across all specialties in medicine.

In 2024, Michael received the Order of Terrace, an award given by the City of Terrace in British Columbia in recognition of individuals who have made a significant contribution to the city and its community. He also completed raising funds for the construction of New HAU/Stepdown Unit in Nanaimo and was the recipient of the American College of Physicians Laureate Award (BC Chapter) and the Canadian Society of Internal Medicine (Osler) Award for Distinguished Service in General Internal Medicine.

Michael has been married to Karen for 44 years. They have two children, Nathalie Marie and Michael Arthur, both educated at Shawnigan Lake School, Vancouver Island, which has affiliations with Hilton College. He has one granddaughter named Alice.

Michael sees Anthony van der Byl (Ellis, 1976) whenever he visits his daughter and granddaughter in NSW, Australia and also visits with some of the Aussies he served with when he was in charge of the Canadian/NATO Main Combat Hospital on Kandahar Airfield in Afghanistan (2006–2009).

While he still works in ICU in Nanaimo, he is winding down his practice in Terrace, BC.



ANDREW JOHNSTON (1983, McKenzie)

In February 2024, the Chartered Governance Institute of Southern Africa (CGISA), which represents chartered secretaries and chartered governance professionals across the region, nominated Andrew Johnston, Director of Corporate Services of Sun International Limited, as the institute's top candidate for the prestigious Global Corporate Secretary of the Year Award, hosted by the Corporate Secretaries International Association Limited based in Hong Kong.

This award, which took place in Kuala Lumpur in April 2024, recognised outstanding work performed by a company secretary who has not only demonstrated excellence in the company secretarial field but who has also made exceptional contributions and commitments in other related areas such as, inter alia, corporate governance, both nationally and globally. Each country was permitted to submit only one individual for this award.

Andrew, who is an admitted attorney and also holds a FCG through the institute, was recognised not only for his contribution to advancing the company secretarial profession in South Africa over the past two decades, but also for his global corporate governance interventions which included, amongst others, advising the International Finance Corporation around potential corporate governance reforms to the Nigerian debt capital market; assisting Trinidad and Tobago in the drafting and launch of their inaugural code of corporate governance; advising the Jamaican Stock Exchange and Finance Ministry on integrated reporting as well as serving on the International Corporate Governance Network's Remuneration Committee between 2012–2016, which is responsible for developing global best practices in

the field of executive and non-executive director remuneration. Andrew has also served on the Auditing and Accounting Sub-Committee of King III as well as on the Committee for Responsible Investing in South Africa committee. Locally, Andrew pioneered a cadet programme for newly qualified, previously disadvantaged CGISA graduates to join Sun International as interns and gain invaluable company secretarial experience for a minimum of one year, as well as established, in conjunction with the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, the JSE Cosec Forum to input on proposed new Listings Requirements before they are implemented nationally. Andrew also regularly contributes towards learning and training seminars and webinars both here in South Africa as well as offshore and has published several articles on latest developments to company law, corporate governance and secretarial practice.

Following this nomination, Andrew was shortlisted by an international panel of judges which placed him among the top five global corporate secretaries for the year.



JOHN SHORTEN (1983, McKenzie)

The Old Hiltonian Club is delighted to announce that John Shorten is the new chairman of the USA branch of Old Hiltonians.

John adds great value and energy to our team! A committed and proud Old Hiltonian, he is a director at multinational insurance company WTW (Willis Towers Watson). He and his family emigrated to the USA 20 years ago. They live in Memphis, Tennessee. We are excited about John heading up our USA branch.

Please extend a warm welcome to John.



DON HILL (1985, Churchill)

I live in Ballito, KZN and have been married to Candice for 25 years. We have four kids, three of which are boys. Our second son starts at Hilton in 2025 and joins his older brother who will be in Grade 10. The fourth will finish in 2032, so, I need to keep working hard and staying young.

My career is watching over some Kauai stores around the greater Durban area. I love what I do, as I get to see first-hand some incredible growth in people, when given the chance to shine. Another bonus is that the food is really delicious.

I have recently become a staunchly passionate and enthusiastic Old Hiltonian. After seeing how small our presence was locally, and then hearing some alarmingly negative narratives about our school, I decided to dig deeper and get to know the school again.

The short version of this is that I have been blown away by what George and his team are achieving in this legendary institution.

Yes, mistakes may have happened, and we face new challenges. But that's true for all top schools.

What we do have is a team of teachers, coaches and support staff that are incredibly capable and, most importantly, wholly committed to taking the school to even higher levels. It's encouraging to know.

A lot is aligned at Hilton in assisting us parents to produce solid, grounded kids. Hilton is in an absolutely brilliant space.

As a final note: We do lose good families to competitor schools simply because we don't have enough of an endowment to assist some of them financially. This includes sons of Old Hiltonians. There are a lot of us like-minded folk who are driven to resolve these missed opportunities.

If this message talks to your heart, and you can share any tips or strategies to help us rectify this situation, please reach out to me on donjhill67@gmail.com

Someone recently said: "Hilton produces gentlemen and frontiersmen." Which I thought sounded very cool. We are privileged, yes, but are not ashamed of it. Instead, we use what we have learnt in our schooling years to be brave, get out there and make a positive difference to the environments we are in.

CHRIS MITCHELL (1986, Churchill) and TOM MITCHELL (2019, McKenzie)

At the end of 2020 my son Tom and I established CoffeeTIME! as an artisanal "pop-up" coffee offering at special occasions on the Hilton College campus. As passionate Old Hiltonians and lovers of all things coffee, our intention was to provide an authentic coffee shop experience to boys, staff and visitors to Hilton College. We were asked to assist with helping to be "better hosts" to guests at Hilton College in the period leading up to and during the 150th anniversary celebrations.

To date we have "popped up" at more than 120 sporting, theatre and other organised events over the past four or so years as well as being proud participants at the past three Hilton Arts Festivals.

We have embraced the Hilton Ties platform and CoffeeTIME! does business with no fewer than 15 Old Hiltonians and Hilton parents. The network has certainly benefitted us and we would recommend all who are part of the Hilton family to tap into this rich, diverse and unique community.

In conjunction with our hands-on managing and running of CoffeeTIME! at Hilton College, we are kept busy with Tom studying an online BSc degree in business and management through the University of London, which he expects to graduate from at the end of 2025. I consult to a print and packaging business, which I have been a shareholder of for the past 17 years.

When you are next on campus look out for our distinctive Hilton College branded Tuk Tuk and black and white striped gazebos. Our team of baristas (which include brothers Nkulu and Nqubeko, who grew up on the Hilton College estate) will be only too happy to serve you one of our espresso-based coffee drinks or "signature" Freezos.



IAN DE BRUYN (1987, Ellis)

Ian lives in Perth, Western Australia, and works as a geotechnical engineer (mining projects) for international consultants SRK. He has worked on complex mining projects on many continents and is a staunch promoter of international best practice for geotechnical engineering.

Ian is a fitness enthusiast who competes in ultramarathon trail runs and is an avid adventurer. He and his wife Diane have climbed in Peru, Nepal, Pakistan, India and Canada, including attempts on several 7000m and 8000m peaks. They have also spent many months in the jungles of New Guinea, travelled 3800km up the Amazon river, hiked, biked and kayaked coast to coast in Costa Rica, hiked the rugged east coast of Greenland and visited Antarctica.

Ian's brother Paul (Ellis 1990–1993) lives in the Seychelles and is the executive secretary of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, part of the United Nations FAO, but Paul can tell his own story!

Paul's son Travis graduated from Hilton in 2024. We wish him a very successful future!



RUDSTON STEWARD (1991, Ellis)

Rudston Steward has been adding new regions to the unique "Off Beat, On Foot" Italian walking tours he arranges with his company Maremma Safari Club.

He researches, develops and leads small groups of up to 12 people, from the ordinarily fit to the not-so-fit, usually for five days, to unexplored regions of Italy: the Aeolian Islands in Sicily; the Dolomites; the Tuscan Maremma, walking from castle to castle; eastern Sardinia, and elsewhere.

His latest addition is the Barolo Safari, somewhat less arduous, exploring the exceptional Barolo wines and superb gastronomy of Piedmont, including a truffle hunt!

His expertise – he has lived in Italy for 23 years and been guiding walking trips since 2006 – has recently been recognized by articles in The Financial Times and The New York Times, and he's been selected for Conde Nast Traveller's prestigious Top Travel Specialist List for Italy for the past seven years running.

The details of all his tours are on maremmasafari.com.



NEIL SMITH (1997, Pearce)

We're excited to add an Emmy winner to our network! Neil Smith was awarded an Emmy for his contributions to live production technology. His software system, TFC, played a crucial role in major events like the Super Bowl and the 2022 FIFA World Cup. Well done, Neil!



JASON GEORGHIOU (1998, Pearce)

We live in Durban North with our two children Christopher and Chloe. Chloe is in Grade 7 at Our Lady of Fatima and Christopher is in Grade 5 at Clifton Durban. Chloe is working towards her Piano Grade 4 exam and Christopher is working towards his Clarinet Grade 5, Piano Grade 4 and Trumpet Grade 2 exam. Both our children love learning music. It's very exciting to see that Hilton College has so much to offer the boys culturally; and the Chamberlain Music Centre is magnificent.

My wife Sophie recently completed her BEd degree and I'm still working in our family business, GM Pharmaceuticals.

We thoroughly enjoy our visits to Hilton College to appreciate the beautiful grounds and fresh air.





GREG WALSH (2002, Pearce)

2024 was a very special year for us on the family and work front. We welcomed our second child, Emily, and our first born, Jennifer, is a cheeky and fabulous three-year-old, though she thinks she's 18.

We live in Port Elizabeth and I travel two to three times a month to Johannesburg, mostly, where my business, G&G Productions, is based in Hyde Park.

Having come out of the most awful four years since the Covid-19 pandemic and resultant havoc it caused our business, financially and reputationally (remember: Rage Festival in Ballito, the superspreader) 2024 was the year of green shoots.

We partnered with the Marble Hospitality Group and Grid Worldwide to curate and create The Luxurious Marble Circus, a new festival in Johannesburg aimed at the premium South African community.

Quite fortuitously, Old Hiltonian Ryan Parkhurst, who I used to have to greet when I walked past, is now a senior leader and game changer in the marketing world at Investec. I took the concept to him and over one lunch we agreed we had to work together on it. And so became The Luxurious Marble Circus, a grand collaboration with Investec. And it was very grand, on all fronts. Most especially between Ryan and I.

It was an inspiring career moment and highlight, and I was pleased to see some very happy Old Hiltonians at the festival who I had no idea were coming.



MATTHEW BELL (2005, Ellis)

We're delighted to welcome Matthew Bell as the new chairman of the UK branch. Matt's dedication and passion for Hilton College make him the ideal leader for this role, and we're excited for the future under his guidance.

A heartfelt thank you to Simon Ellis, who has gone above and beyond as chairman, leaving a lasting legacy. We are deeply grateful for his commitment and leadership.

To both Simon and Matt, thank you for your passion and dedication to Hilton College!



KLYNE MAHARAJ (2009, Falcon)

When I matriculated from Hilton in 2009, I had huge ambitions to leave my dent in the world – and fortunately, it didn't take me too long to find my path. After receiving a scholarship to Rhodes University and completing my postgraduate studies in Cape Town, I was headhunted to join M&C Saatchi Abel as a strategist. There, I worked on the Takealot Group, focusing on Takealot, Mr D, and Superbalist.com – three South African household names. At 22, I was approached by my clients at Superbalist.com to become their marketing manager, overseeing South Africa's largest fashion retailer.

Building on these experiences, I started my own business, Reflector Marketing, a strategy and branding agency dedicated to supporting African startups. Reflector grew rapidly, working with businesses across five continents and earning a reputation for helping startups refine their positioning and scale. Among our clients were Jem HR, founded by Simon Ellis (2009), and where Adam Duxbury (2009) is an advisor – both Old Hiltonians who share a passion for making an impact in the African business ecosystem.

Earlier this year, Reflector Marketing was acquired by Baobab Network, Africa's leading early-stage investor and accelerator. Baobab has already backed 60 startups in 16 countries and helped them raise over \$60 million in follow-on funding. The acquisition brought Reflector's team in-house, allowing us to offer tailored support to the startups in Baobab's portfolio. Now, as director of the Accelerator, I'm focused on helping African entrepreneurs refine their product-market fit, scale their businesses, and secure funding.

Africa's startup ecosystem is entering what I call its "Startup Golden Age," with a rapidly growing, young population and unprecedented levels of mobile connectivity driving innovation. At Baobab, we aim to support this momentum by investing in 1,000 African startups by 2033, ensuring that founders solving the continent's most pressing challenges have the resources and mentorship to succeed.



HAMISH LOVEMORE (2017, Churchill)

Hamish Lovemore (2017, Churchill) has South Africans brimming with pride after he finished 1st in the Canoe Sprint Men's K1 1000m Final B, ending the Olympic Games as the 9th-fastest in the world! What a champ! Well done, Hamish!



Alunga speaking at TEDx University of Pretoria event, *Redefining Tomorrow*.

ALUNGA MADALA (2020, Newnham)

Count your failures... Yes, you read correctly. Not your blessings. Your failures. There's fortune in failure. And it's a good thing I failed...

I spoke at a university residence the other day on the topic of failure, and it had me pondering my tango with the infamous failure.

Particularly, 2023, my failed third year in accounting sciences. The end of my degree.

The finish line. Flopped. Flunked. Failed. And in hindsight, that was a very good thing. Not in the romantic way typical in entrepreneurship. But in the way that, had I succeeded, it would have been short-lived. This is because the universe tends to level itself out. For good or for bad.

If you haven't given anything, chances are you won't get anything. But even if you do somehow get something without giving much, the world will balance itself out and it will return to equilibrium.

Maybe you're lucky, and you win R100 million in the lottery.

Maybe you get five free marks by mistake in a test which let you pass because the markers miscounted in your favour (and you kept quiet about it, but that's a topic for another day...).

However, you will be the balancing figure.

You'll lose the lottery money within a few years, at the expense of frivolous pursuits and an ignorance of what it takes to wield wealth.

You'll fail, not just a test, but the exam – one that counts the most because that counterfeit pass lulled you into resting on

your laurels (not that you honestly earned your "laurels" to begin with).

Therefore, I see my failure as one of my greatest fortunes.

Had I progressed to the next stage – by the skin of my teeth, with the shocking foundation I had laid – I would not be smiling writing this to you. I would be crying... (postgrad in accounting is unforgiving – Chartered Accountants (CAs) and CA trainees would know).

So, I accept that God does not want me to move forward for a reason.

I accept that I was not ready for progression.

I accept that I was not good enough... yet.

And I thank God that I failed!

Imagine if I had passed. Imagine if I had moved forward with my shoddy constitution.

I would be burning the books in practice. Not for lack of morals, but for lack of competence...

That is failure's fortune.

So, thank God, and count your failures.



CONNECT

Connect with fellow Hiltonians, from alumni to parents and senior boys,
and expand your professional network and grow your brand.

RECRUIT OR BE RECRUITED

Ours is a vast and unique network of
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and captains of industry,
are willing to mentor fellow Hiltonians.



HILTON TIES

Old Hiltonians • Boys • Parents



www.hiltonties.com



At the beginning of the year, the club welcomed Mr Chandru Wadhwani as its new chairman. As chairman of the Royal Johannesburg Club, Mr Wadhwani brings experience and enthusiasm to the committee. It was fitting that a function was held early in the year to thank Mr Derek Chaplin for his many years of service to the club.

As always, the Fleur-de-Lys was at the centre of the life of the wider Hilton College community during the year. The committee was deliberate about widening the reach of the club and making it accessible to Hilton residents. As such a successful wine and food pairing evening was held on the Saturday of the Hilton Arts Festival. The winemaker from Vergelegen Wine Estate took us through a number of his wines that were paired with food supplied by Capital Caterers.

Another very successful endeavour was the launch of a Wednesday evening trail run from the club. These runs, which started in September, proved to be massively popular with fields of up to 100 turning out. The club hosted a lucky draw, plus drinks and supper after every run, and it has been a very effective way of opening the school's estate to the residents of Hilton.

Various reunions, parents' functions, and academic and sports club dinners were held during the year. Highlights include the class of 1974's 50th reunion, a high tea on Women's Day and a luncheon held in aid of the Pink Drive to raise funds for and awareness of the fight against breast cancer.

The Fleur-de-Lys continues to be served by men and women whose goal is to ensure that every member of the Hilton community knows that the club is a meeting place for all, a place where old friendships are strengthened and new ones made.

Part of the committee's strategy is to raise funds for much-needed renovations. That process was begun with an improvement to the food servery and the acquisition of a mobile point of sales system.

Committee members for 2024 were:

Mr Chandru Wadhwani	Chairman
Mr Ralph Tiaden	Club Manager
Mr Andrew Beveridge	Club Accountant
Mr Robby de Gouveia	Club Treasurer
Mr Brett Armstrong	Old Hiltonians' Representative
Sir Roger Don-Wauchope	Board Representative
Mr Brett Mattison	Parent Representative
Mr Mark Holdsworth	Parent Representative
Mrs Shana Wadhwani	Parent Representative
Mr Sanele Zondi	Parent Representative
Mr George Harris	Headmaster of Hilton College
Mrs Kim Martin	Director of Finance
Mr Peter Storrar	Director of Advancement
Mr Paul Venter	Staff Representative

Ralph Tiaden | Club Manager



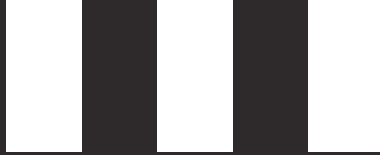


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