



WORTHY WORDSMITH

Congratulations to Thomas Hudson who was placed in the top 15 in South Africa in the prestigious De Beers English Olympiad. There were 7 400 entrants from across the country and it is a fantastic achievement for Thomas. Sue Miles (Publicist) and Heather Pearse (Communications Manager) bring you the story.

Thomas will attend the National Schools Festival in Grahamstown in July where the winner will be announced at an official prize-giving ceremony. In addition to a scholarship to Rhodes University, the top three scholars will each receive a prize of a literary tour of England in December.

Thomas joined two other KZN students in the top 15 – Mia McCarthy from Maris Stella and Tamella Okuhle from New Forest High School.

The theme of the examination this year was “When Urban meets Rural”, and the anthology “Small Town, Big Voice” featured three South African poets. “We were asked to continue the story of the man in the poem, but the format was not prescribed” explained Thomas. His submission was in the form of a poem.

“Thomas thoroughly enjoys creative writing and is interested in pursuits that broaden his outlook.”

The De Beers English Olympiad is an annual national English competition, organised jointly by the Grahamstown Foundation and the South African Council for English Education (SACEE). The aim of the Olympiad is to enrich learners through the study of English and to encourage critical thinking and creative writing.

A Grade 11 pupil at Kearsney, Thomas is an enthusiastic rugby player with strong leadership qualities. Thomas thoroughly enjoys creative writing and is interested in pursuits that broaden his outlook. He loves reading, particularly philosophy, history and fantasy. This year he helped Mark Holtes with writing the inter-house play for Finningley.





Maths Challenge Workshops

Kearsney recently hosted Epoch and Optima Trusts who facilitate Mathematics workshops for independent and public schools, writes Communications Manager Heather Pearse.

Close on 70 Maths teachers and HODs gathered during Kearsney's mid-term holiday on 26 May to share insights and experiences around the main challenges in delivering high level Mathematics education and to examine innovations that schools have introduced to facilitate Maths education.

Kearsney HoD, Mrs Trish Pike commented saying "Networking with colleagues is incredibly valuable. I was particularly interested to observe that while Mathematics results in state schools are worsening, the results at IEB schools are improving."

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Kearsney is acknowledged as a centre of excellence in the field of Mathematics education and our sophisticated Mathematics programme is having a measurable impact on results. As such, Kearsney's Mathematics department receives the generous support of the Epoch and Optima Trusts, receiving R 275 000 towards staffing annually. We are extremely grateful to the Epoch and Optima Trusts for this support and are committed to maintaining our Maths excellence and making a real difference to Mathematics education in our country.

Farewell Wendy

Wendy O'Connor joined Kearsney in April 2002 after completing a year's internship at the Brown's School. Wendy is a qualified and registered Educational Psychologist and English teacher with a passion for helping children with learning disabilities. Rod de Villiers, Head: Middle School, tells us more.

Wendy initiated and established Kearsney's incredibly successful Inclusive Education programme and took on the responsibility for training our staff in inclusive practices. Wendy also introduced exam concessions and accommodations to assist eligible boys. As the resident school counsellor, Wendy has been instrumental in providing after hours support to our boys and staff when crises have struck.

Over her years at the College, Wendy has been involved in the Life Skills Programme, the HIV-AIDS committee, the Wellness Forum and most recently, as chair of the Pastoral Committee – a body that oversees and directs the pastoral needs of the College. Wendy attributes her success at the College to the professionalism and support of her colleagues: "There is no other group of teachers who I would like my own sons to be taught by. They are thoroughly decent people who are passionate about their work".



Wendy is married to John and has two sons. She will be leaving her full-time position at the College to take up a half-day position in private practice in order to have more time for her own children.

Wendy says that when she thinks of Kearsney she'll always remember the mist, soccer season frenzy, staff-room sausage rolls and teaching cooking to Grade 8s.

Grade 8s integrated studies

On Friday 8 June the Grade 8s, recovering from their examination session, embarked on a morning of Integrated Studies, using the school campus as the central theme. Rod de Villiers, Head: Middle School explains.

Often subjects are seen in isolation, yet in reality are integrated as 'nothing is an island'. Each boy received his own worksheet which directed him to the Conservancy, Astro, Chapel and Memorial Garden areas and then into the Heritage Centre and on to the Tennis Pavilion via the Squash Courts. Trees and birds were identified, plaques were interpreted and members of staff interviewed as the boys systematically sought the answers to the various questions posed. The boys are to be commended on the positive manner in which they tackled their tasks. Fortunately it was a beautiful day and by the end of the exercise each boy had learnt quite a bit more about the school campus.

Kearsney boys and staff will undertake three different international tours in the holidays, as outlined in the previous edition of News & Views. The touring parties are pictured here.

- Cricket Tour (1st XI) to England:** 22 June to 8 July.
- Choir Tour to the USA** United Nations Headquarters in New York and World Choir Games in Cincinnati: 24 June to 17 July.
- History Tour to Germany and France:** 25 June to 7 July

We wish them safe, educational, enjoyable and successful ventures and know they will make Kearsney proud.

Thank you to all who have assisted in the fund-raising efforts for the Choir and Cricket Tours.

Reports and updates from our international tours will be posted on our website (www.kearsney.com) and Facebook (Kearsney College – link via website).



JETTING OFF

Kearsney's Craven Week selection success

Five people from Kearsney College are part of the team and management announced at the weekend for the annual 2012 Coca-Cola Craven Week which will be held during the second week of July.

Three 1st XV players - Daniel du Preez, Jean-Luc du Preez and Sandile Kubeka - were selected for the KZN U18 team. All three played in the 2011 Craven Week. Another 1st team player, Ayrton Schramm, was selected for KZN's U18 team to play in the Academy Week.

In addition, Mr Dean Moodley has been named as manager and Mr Barend Steyn as coach of the KZN Craven Week team.

A number of boys were unable to attend the Craven Week trials due to their cricket or choir tour commitments.



Above: Mr Barend Steyn, Jean-Luc du Preez, Sandile Kubeka, Daniel du Preez, Ayrton Schramm and Mr Dean Moodley

KZN CRICKETER OF THE SEASON

Tristan Tedder (Grade 10) was awarded the KZN U15 Player of the Season at a ceremony held on Friday 8 June in Durban. Congratulations to Tristan on this great achievement. He is pictured here with Mr Faez Jaffar, President of KwaZulu Natal Cricket Union.



FINAL POSITIONS

- 1 Paul Roos (Stellenbosch)
- 2 Grey College (Bloemfontein)
- 3 Clifton and Glenwood (both KZN)
- 5 Affies (Pretoria)
- 6 Kearsney College (KZN)
- 7 Selborne College (East London)
- 8 St Sithians (Johannesburg)

KEARSNEY TENNIS FESTIVAL 2012

Once again Paul Roos from Stellenbosch dominated this top schools tennis festival hosted by Kearsney over half-term. The tennis, played over three days, was of a very high standard and extremely competitive. Publicist, Sue Miles, puts a spin on it.

Organiser Anthony Willows said the event highlighted that the standard of tennis at this level was extremely encouraging. "It's good to see that, certainly at participating schools, tennis is not just a Cinderella sport," he said.

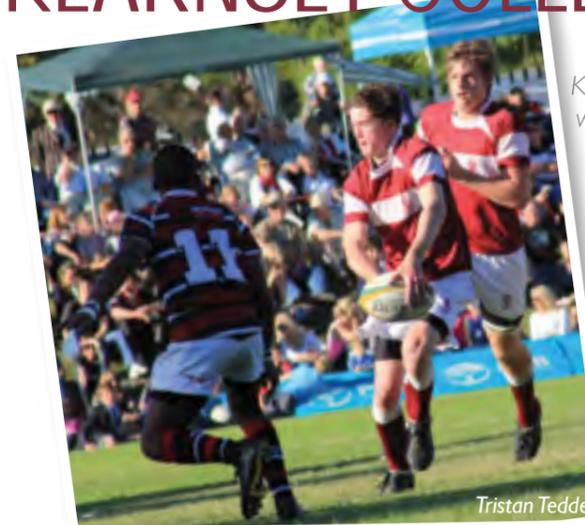
Kearsney's young team lost against Affies by 4 matches to 5 in an exciting play off for 5th/6th position. In two of the singles matches Kearsney boys had match points, before losing both these singles in a 3rd set super tie break.

Participating 1st team players were Josh Devine, Keagan Foss, Dale Sandy, Richard Southey, Bradley Porteous, Mathew Bentley and Ben Patton.

Paul Roos dominated Grey in the finals on Sunday morning, winning 6-0.

Festival sponsors Sportsmans Warehouse and Wilson assisted in ensuring a successful event.

KEARNSEY COLLEGE VS MARITZBURG COLLEGE



Tristan Tedder

Kearsney delivered a double blow to Maritzburg College at their Founders Day, winning both the 1st team rugby and hockey fixtures.

The televised Classic Clash rugby fixture was played in front of a capacity crowd in KZN's capital city. The Kearsney 1st XV delivered a superb performance, beating College 30 - 10

The hockey game went down to the wire with Kearsney hanging on to their slender lead and College trying to find an equaliser. The final whistle gave Kearsney the victory, for their first win at College since 1997. The Kearsney boys certainly gave it their all and can be proud of their 2 - 1 victory.

Thank you to College for the great games and the warm hospitality.



Jean-Luc du Preez with Ayrton Schramm in support



Jono Deighton (captain), Ben Karnezos standing



Sandile Kubeka



Above: Kearsney staff who completed the race: Matthew Conradie, Matt Laskey, Cameron Buys, Wayne Sudding and Steve Main

Maroon balloons for Comrades runners! Our on-going support for the Comrades Marathon has become a part of this annual sporting event.

Comrades

This year we had our Kearsney choir boys supporting Zola Budd in her debut Comrades, 25 boys seconding at the half-way point and all the other boys supporting at the Kearsney gates. Kearsney boys handed out maroon balloons to Kearsney-related runners just before they jogged past the Kearsney gates. Runners who carried a balloon past the Kearsney gates received a big cheer from the boys.

The Kearsney Striders Running Club had 30 male and 18 Female finishers. Five Kearsney staff members completed the race with Mr Steve Main earning his green number. Mr Wayne Sudding, Mr Cameron Buys and Mr Matthew Laskey ran the Comrades

Marathon to raise funds for the Sunflower Fund. Highbury teacher Mr Paddy Collins finished 10th in his age category in a time of 08:39:30. Mr Collins sent through the following wonderful message of appreciation after the race:

“The physical and mental state of a Comrades runner after some 55 kms is generally somewhat shattered!”

“Questioning one’s own sanity and endurance capabilities, one crests the top of Botha’s and tries to enjoy the slight decline

towards the Kearsney gates, before facing the dreaded pounding the quads are about to experience as the gradient down the Hill takes its toll!

And then, the roar, the deafening crescendo of applause and cheer as hundreds of

Kearsney voices join to shout support and encouragement as the runner is recognised as being a Kearsney affiliate. Those boys will never know, not until the day they too run past, they’ll never know quite what it means and what it does - It lifts a broken spirit, it stimulates flagging muscles, it is a vocal steroid that puts a greatly needed ‘oomph’ in the pace of the shattered athlete, it gets you through a stage of the race that would otherwise be so much tougher; like uniformed Red Bull, it ‘gives you wings’ that carry you well on your way and I thank you for doing it each year.

I hope that this wonderful tradition is kept in place for as long as the Comrades is run; it has become iconic with the race and is a feature that adds immeasurably to the experience of the Comrades runner. Well done Kearsney boys.”

Mr Paddy Collins proudly carrying his maroon balloon

Mark Keal (KCOB 2011) who as a novice this year achieved a silver medal time.

Mrs Belinda Padbury in the colours of Kearsney Striders



INAUGURAL USA OLD BOYS



Kearsney Old Boys in the USA are working closely with the Foundation to welcome the Kearsney Choir to the States. The scheduled events will be the first formal gatherings of Old Boys in the United States.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our Old Boys living in the States, or elsewhere around the world, to enjoy our wonderful choir and feel the passion and pride of seeing boys from their old school performing on the world stage in front of some of the most powerful and influential people in the world. If you know of Old Boys overseas, or have friends or family interested in joining us, please contact Vicky Todd on vickytk@kearsney.com.

OLD BOYS WILL BE ATTENDING:

- Two Pre-Concert Kearsney Foundation Receptions: one in New York (26 June) and the other in Washington DC (2 July). Thank you to our sponsors: Leif Gjestland (KCOB 1950), UKZN Foundation and the US KCOB Branch.
- Two KCOB Dinners: one in New York (29 June) and one in Washington DC (3 July)
- The UN Headquarters in NYC where the choir will perform (30 June)
- A Dinner Cruise in NYC (30 June) with the Kearsney Choir

FOUNDERS SPIRIT

Close on 1000 Kearsney Old Boys returned to Kearsney over Founders Weekend on 8 and 9 June to reconnect with classmates, celebrate their reunions and catch up on all the developments that have happened on campus since their days. Foundation Director Joy Mills-Hackmann reports.

The Founders Golf Day at Cotswold s were fully subscribed and lots of fun was had by all. The new Kearsney Ambassadors Gazebo Zone, hosted alongside Stott by the class of 2007, was well received and all past parents and friends were invited to join the group.

The Class of 2012 have chosen to leave a legacy to the school in the form of an impressive stadium flag, featuring the school crest on a giant maroon and white stripe background. The boys chose the occasion of

the Founders Day fixture against Westville to unveil the massive flag and it is sure to become a treasured tradition in the years to come. The XV 1st win inspired a Victory Circle after the game on the Stott, with the Old Boys joining the school for a rousing

“The weekend was a great success, with many old boys describing it as the best Founders ever!”

rendition of Shosholoz. A warm thank you to all for your support!

At the KCOB AGM Mr Nick Keary (1998) was congratulated on his term as KCOB President as he handed over to Mr Lawrence Polkinghorne (1990). The College appreciates Nick’s tireless work in promoting the school and running the KCOB so professionally.



Special Events

Dads & Lads Golf Day

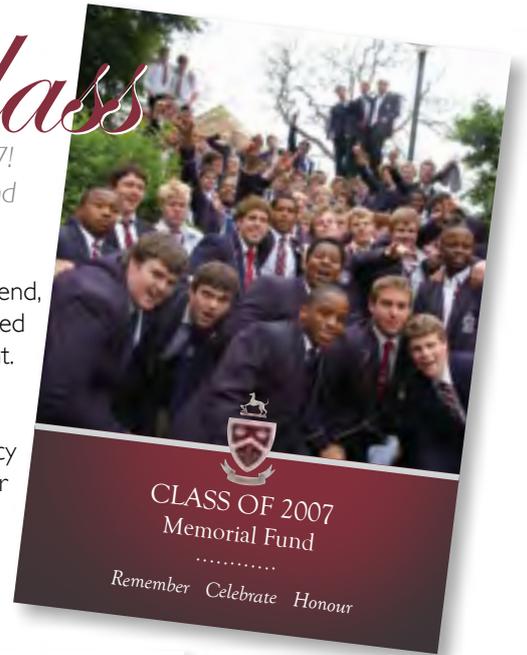
The 4th annual Dads and Lads Golf Day was held at Cotswold Downs on 6 May. Bruce Thompson MiC Golf, has the 'hole' story.

A field of 66 players took to the course, playing an American Scramble format. This format produced many "war stories" and even more missed fairways but a great day was had by all. Eventual winners, on 44 points, were Roger and Matthew Lees, closely followed by Andrew and James Marshall on 43 points, beating Andy and Josh Bean into 2nd place on a count out.

Star Class

Congratulations to the Class of 2007! The Class of 2007 Memorial Bursary Fund has reached R300 000.

At their 5th reunion on Founders Weekend, boys and parents from the Class pledged R2 000 per month to grow the endowment. They hope to encourage others to give monthly at their Golf Day on 22 June and challenge other year groups to leave a legacy and make a Kearsney education possible for other worthy boys.



Three generations of Kearsney boys: Dads, lads and granddads in the annual group photograph taken on Founders Weekend.



Olympic Games

We wish our South African Olympic representatives all the best for the London Games in July. Lloyd Madsen (Hockey) and Troy Prinsloo (10k swimmer) are both Old Boys from the Class of 2004.

For your diary



Upbeat Festival: This year our annual Upbeat Festival will be held on Thursday 16 to Sunday 18 August.

Kearsney Grandparents' Day: Kindly notify grandparents of our boys that this event will take place on the morning of Friday 21 September. More information will be sent to parents to pass on nearer the time.



KEARSNEY COLLEGE

THOUGHT FOR THE MOMENT

"The fire must be kept burning on the altar continuously; it must not go out." Leviticus 6: 13.

As we celebrated our Founders Weekend, it dawned on me that the honour and glory of an institution like this lies in the traditions cherished and passed on from the previous generations. So as you walk through these sacred grounds, remember those who have gone before you and honour their contributions so that the legacy you leave behind may be honoured by those to come.

Rev Sifiso Khuzwayo

Old Main Road, Botha's Hill, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa | PO Botha's Hill, 3660, South Africa
Tel: +27 31 765 9600 | Fax: +27 31 765 5381 | email: kearsney@kearsney.com | www.kearsney.com