



## OLD JOHANNIAN ASSOCIATION



### **Newsletter 2011 – Term 3**

Dear Old Johannians

It's always an indication, when we send out the newsletter at this time of year that before we know it, the end of the year will be upon us.

We will soon be welcoming into the ranks of the OJA this year's school leavers from Matric and V1th form, and would like to take the opportunity to look back on the events of the past few months.

The Annual Dinner this year in Darragh Hall was without doubt the best in many years and Gaudy Day was a great follow up to the dinner. There were many players and supporters on the day and the OJ rugby team brought the trophy home with an impressive win over Old Eds. In addition, there were a number of very successful reunion dinners held over the weekend.

We anticipate having the dinner again in Darragh Hall next year so when the notice goes out, please book early to avoid disappointment.

Please make a note of the last few upcoming events of the year and support them if you can.

#### **Dates to diarise for the remainder of 2011:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
1 October	On the Night
11 November	Remembrance Day
13 November	Combined Carol Service

#### **On the Night**

St John's annual On the Night celebration has proven to be very popular, and this year should be even better! This much anticipated event will be featuring St John's College musicians, a spectacular fireworks display, and popular SA band, Flash Republic. There will also be stalls and entertainment, a food court, and entertainment for the children.

#### ***Details are as follows:***

Date: Saturday 1 October 2011

Price: R130 (free entry for children under 6 years)

Tickets can be bought at St John's College (at the school shop) or at Computicket.

Gates open at 3:30pm

### Upcoming 2012 Reunions

1962, 1972, 1982, 1987, 1992, 2002

### List of 2011 Reunions

1961

1971

1986

1991

2001 (to take place in December 2011)

For more information on the reunions, please contact Lauren Dicks - [lauren@oja.co.za](mailto:lauren@oja.co.za) and/or visit our website [here](#).

### Class of 1971 (40 year reunion)

The weather was great, the Annual Dinner was superb, and Gaudy Day itself was an experience. The OJ's 1<sup>st</sup> XV beat Old Eds 1<sup>st</sup> XV as well!



Greg, Richard and George before the soccer against Prep 1<sup>st</sup> IX. We lost 3-2! despite George's save.

All in all, it was a great weekend of memories, renewed friendships, retelling of stories (and excuses) and lots and lots of laughter! We also met some former teachers: Wilcocks, Badham and Boney Marais!



A big thank you to all who came, and especially to our wives who patiently allowed us to relive the past and talk about so many people they have never met!

It's amazing how easy it is to pick up where we left off 40 years ago...

We all decided that we must do this again, so please diarize Gaudy Day 2016 for our 45<sup>th</sup> Reunion. On second thoughts, we really must do it sooner!

Keep in touch guys!

-Rob Barrie-

### **Class of 1986 (25 year reunion)**

From 14-16 July 2011, members of the Matric Class of 1986 gathered to celebrate 25 years since leaving St John's. Rallying the troops initially took some effort but Mark Presbury's great networking skills and Peter Clinton's "SJC 1986 Reunion" Facebook page proved to be our greatest assets.

Momentum gathered towards the weekend and on Thursday night 14 July, 30 of us gathered at Lekgotla in Mandela Square for an informal dinner to reminisce and exchange "war stories". The hair colour may have changed but the personalities certainly hadn't. Head of School, John McPherson, took us down memory lane (or should that be long walk?) and those who had travelled from especially far were acknowledged: Peter Clinton (USA), Garth Ritchie (UK), Barry Weir (UK), Mike Barber (Dubai), Simon Antiglevich (Australia), Chris Blyth (Australia) and Adam Bousfield (Zambia).

On Friday morning, a 2 ½ hour tour of the Prep and College was conducted by a most eloquent Matric pupil who impressed all with his knowledge of St John's history as well as a spontaneous piano recital in Clarke Auditorium. The most recent developments in the College such as the Alan Wilcock Centre and the Rene England Auditorium particularly impressed the group. We then enjoyed lunch with the College Headmaster who, after hearing some of the stories, admitted that he was grateful not to have been there in our time!

Friday night was the highlight as our number swelled to 60 for the Old Johannian Association Dinner in Darragh Hall. We were joined by 10 former teachers who we wished to acknowledge as having particularly contributed towards our education. The College band provided great entertainment, the Boar's Head carol was sung, a wonderful meal was enjoyed, and the good wine ensured that Goodfellas did a roaring trade that evening!

The next day was Gaudy Day. The chapel service was an emotional experience for many who had not returned for 25 years. The mood was jovial as we listened to the choir's spectacular singing but rather more solemn as the names of the five members of our class that have passed on were read out by the Headmaster. After breakfast it was football against the Prep, a wonderful lunch in the marquee on Burger Field, and then a drink at the Johannian to round off a wonderful weekend. Over 200 pictures have been posted on the Facebook page, testament to the great time we had as well as our resolve to re-gather in 2016 for our 30<sup>th</sup>.

-Jon Patricios-

## Annual Old Johannian Dinner

The 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Old Johannian Dinner took place on the 15<sup>th</sup> July in Darragh Hall.



For the first time in many years the dinner was oversubscribed with over 250 Old Boys and their partners attending the dinner. The Association had to turn away OJ's who left their booking to the last minute. An increase in the numbers was due to the active marketing of the dinner by the OJA and the 1961, 1971 and 1986 reunions.

The guests were treated to sherries on arrival at the Old Johannian Club where guests mingled and much laughter was heard.

On arrival in the hall, the St Johns College Jazz band entertained the crowd while everybody was seated at their respective tables. The guests were treated to a three course plated meal which was of superb quality.



Once again a big thank you to the Boars Head Singers who continued the great tradition of the Old Boys dinners. For those who had seen it before, it brought back a sense of pride and for the first timers, much interest.

The guest speaker for evening was Adrian Loveland (OJ 1997) who is the writer, director and producer of "*Unhinged Surviving Joburg*". His speech was certainly entertaining, giving the guests some insights into making the film and what the film has made him realise about Johannesburg. All guests received a complimentary DVD of the film.



Overall it was a superb dinner with guests finishing the dinner with coffee and cheese at their tables whilst sharing many old stories of their school days and hopes for the future.

Thank you to the Old Johannian Association for a wonderful evening; we look forward to the next one.

[Click here](#) for more pictures of the Annual Dinner.

## Gaudy Day

The Gaudy Day weekend of 2011 was a celebration of both St John's College and its extensive Old Boy community. As ex-pupils of all ages returned to their alma mater, the school corridors and grounds quickly filled with Old Johannians reminiscing about their years spent at St John's.

The traditional morning chapel service marked the beginning of the day's events, which included a host of cultural and sporting fixtures. The day also served as an opportunity for all members of the St John's Community to observe the new changes and additions that have been made to the school grounds over recent years.



The much-anticipated rugby game between the Old Johannians and the KES Old Boys, always played in good spirit, and now in its fourth year as a Gaudy Day fixture, was certainly one of the highlights of the day.

A strong Old Johannians team, with some players more "mature" than others, put on a great show and ensured that the trophy was reclaimed and will remain in the possession of the Old Johannians for another year.

In summary, the strong attendance and festival atmosphere made Gaudy Day 2011 a great occasion and reaffirmed the life-long connection that all Old Johannians maintain with their school.

**Tennis results:**

SJC	21
OJ	29

**Squash results:**

Andrew Wallers	vs	Bradley Dial	3 - 1
Neil Barrow	vs	Dean Maxton	3 - 0
Edward Brooks	vs	Kyle Robertson	3 - 1
Ian Graham	vs	Tyrone Dial	3 - 2
Rob Thompson	vs	Cameron Dry	0 - 3



**Soccer results:**

<b>1<sup>st</sup> XI</b>	
OJ	2
Pre	3
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> XI</b>	
OJ	3
Prep	3

**Hockey results:**

1 <sup>st</sup> XI	2
OJ 1 <sup>st</sup>	4

## Hockey report (David Martin)

The OJ Eagles Hockey Club wrapped up a mixed season of results at the beginning of September. The 1st XI Men's side (Fugitives) finished mid-table with a respectable 6th position in the 1st League, after being riddled with injuries mid-year. Their short-term goal is to attract some younger talent and hopefully break into the Premier League in the next year or so.

Our 2nd XI Men's side (Apprentices) did not fare well at all, finishing last in the SGHA 4th League. Hopefully they will find their feet again next year and return to form.

The 3rd XI Men's side (Nappies) had a decent season in the 5th league, especially considering the fact that they are in a rebuilding phase, with a large number of new players having joined the side. They finished 5th this year thanks to some spirited performances.

Our 4th XI Men's side (Blitz) built on their sterling 2010 season with another top three finish, coming in 3rd in the 5th league.

Lastly, our 1st XI Lady's side (Coyotes) had an outstanding season. Having been promoted to the 3rd league at the beginning of the year, they went on to finish 3rd with the help of their new coach, Patrick Tshutshani.

The club continues to thrive financially and invested in some brand new tracksuit tops for its members this year. We pride ourselves on having some of the lowest subs in Gauteng, and still manage to give back to the players where we can.



We topped the season off with a massive end-of-year function at the Sunnyside Park Hotel.

The food was excellent as was the company. And thanks to some takkie-squeaking tunes from Year 3000, the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The Lady's Player of the Season Award went to Emilia Domagala; while the Most Improved Player Award went to Bianca Hastie.



Alex Kennard picked up the Men's Player of the Season Award for the second time in a row, while Simon Gill netted the Most Improved Men's Player Award.

A newcomer, Wes Davies, stormed to the top of the goal tables with a season haul of 32 goals for the Nappies, and thus took home the OJ Eagles Sharp Shooter Award.

All in all, 2011 proved to be a fine season. Thanks to all the captains for making the season the success it was, as well as to all the players who make the club a real force to be reckoned with, both on and off the field. A huge thank you to the Old Johannian Association again for all the support and financial help throughout the season. We as a club are indebted to you, and look forward to many more years under the OJ banner!

-David Martin-

OJ Eagles Hockey Club Chairman

([Click here](#) for more information on the OJ Eagles Hockey Club)

### **Water polo**

Water polo season has started! Please [click here](#) for more information.

### **OLD JOHANNIAN CLUB**

The association governing committee and I thank Mark Van Der Griendt for his hard work and input over the past two years during his tenure as chairman of the Old Johannian Club. Mark will continue to serve on the governing committee of the Association and we look forward to many more years of his input and guidance.

The club is still in the hands of Mandy and Kim who continue to serve the community. The club this year has been the chosen venue for many of the Reunion Dinners and "get-togethers" as well as hosting drinks before the OJA dinner which is held in Darragh Hall on the evening prior to Gaudy Day. Gaudy Day was also particularly busy again this year with the OJ rugby players hosting KES and many of their supporters to drinks and a bite to eat after their great battle on Burger field. This is a great tradition and speaks of the true relationship between our schools based on a culture of fair play and good sportsmanship; many friendships were rekindled and a good many libations were consumed.

Every Friday our club, through KMS, hosts a Harvest Table served at lunch time – this is well worth a visit! The food is always superb. Also the “Cake Table” is a daily indulgence with a wonderful spread of decadence.

Please diarise the Christmas Market currently set down for the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2011. This market has become an annual event and provides a great place to have tea and kick off your Christmas shopping!!!

The Johannian Wine Club is a great place to learn about the different Wine Estates that this country has to offer! Come and spend an enjoyable evening with us. The next date will be advised shortly. We have made available, from the Club, a boutique wine with an Old Johannian Label. The wine is a sauvignon blanc and is a delicious, easy drinking wine that comes from the grapes of Klein Dassenberg farm in Franschoek. It is described as an elegant wine with crisp and flinty fresh mineral qualities with a distinct passionfruit flavour. A percentage of profits from sales are paid directly into the OJA bursary fund.

The Committee has embarked on a programme of renovation and upkeep that started just prior to Gaudy Day and will continue for the next four months. We ask and thank you for your patience in this regard. We extend grateful thanks and recognition to Irene Maxton who has given much time and expertise in order to improve and maintain the club gardens. We look forward to summer when we will see the true fruits of her labour.

The Seattle Coffee shop at the club provides a place for parents, staff and boys to be able to get a quick coffee of choice to kick off their day. Please remember that all profits from this venture go directly to our bursary fund. Seattle Coffee will also be available at **On the Night 2011** which is on the **1<sup>st</sup> October from 15h30**. Why not have a lunch at the Old Johannian Club and then join us for the fireworks spectacular in the afternoon?

Please remember that we have a service comment card system in place at the club which is made available in order to assist management to address requests or requirements that you may have. Please ask for a card at the club or feel free to contact me directly should you wish to discuss any pertinent issue. My email address is [damian@adsat.co.za](mailto:damian@adsat.co.za). We have revised some of the club rules. Please acquaint yourself with them when next you make use of your club.



Finally we would like to congratulate Kim on the marriage of her youngest daughter and wish Teniele a happy and blessed marriage. Our Club was transformed into a Pink and White fantasy world for this celebration and looked splendid.

Please consider us when planning your next function whether it is for work or family. We really do rely on your support.

-Damian Boyce-  
Club Chairman 2011

## Deaths

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of some of our OJ's:

- **Michael Carter**

After complications following surgery, Michael Carter (ex-staff) died peacefully in ICU at Bedford Gardens Clinic on the 1st of September 2011. Michael served the St John's community faithfully for almost fifty years, and impacted many lives in that time. He is survived by five children, Roddy, Andrew, Stephen, David and Helen.

- **Professor John Skinner**

Prof Skinner had an illustrious career; the seeds of which were sown at St John's College. The greater part of his career was spent at the University of Pretoria. He took his first degree - in animal science - at the then University of Natal. In May 2011 the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) bestowed its highest academic honour - DSc Honoris Causa - in recognition of his huge contribution to South African and international science in the fields of zoology and mammology.

- **Mr JJ Brossy**

## New staff

Sandra Lou has joined the St John's Foundation and OJA team as the Communications and Information Manager reporting directly to Heather Cooper after having worked at Europcar South Africa as their E-commerce manager. She studied Marketing and is married with an eleven month old daughter.

Sandra will support the goals of the St John's Foundation and the OJA through the use, coordination and maintenance of the communications and data management as well as the production and distribution of all communications to the constituent bases of the Foundation and the OJA.

## OJA Memorabilia

We have a variety of ties, cufflinks, rugby jerseys and many other items of memorabilia for sale at the school shop. Please contact the shop at [shop@stjohnscollege.co.za](mailto:shop@stjohnscollege.co.za).

## OJA Website

Please visit the website for more information on the events and happenings taking place with the OJA – [www.oja.co.za](http://www.oja.co.za).

You are also welcome to join us on:



[Facebook](#)



[Twitter](#)



[LinkedIn](#)

Download the electronic version of the 2010 OJA magazine - [click here](#).

There are a limited number of hardcopy magazines for 2010. If you would like a copy, please contact us for more information.

**OJA Office**

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