

CLIFTON

1924 ♦ 2024

Celebrating

10

YEARS

COMMEMORATIVE
CENTENARY BROCHURE



CLIFTON

HENRY THOMAS 'HARRY' STUBBS
1863-1936
FOUNDING HEADMASTER,
CLIFTON PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Unveiled on 5 February 2024 by
CLYDE MAC DONALD Executive Headmaster and
JASON BROWN, Preparatory School Principal

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FROM THE EXECUTIVE HEADMASTER



Clyde Mac Donald
Executive Headmaster

In August 1923 a newspaper announcement heralded the opening of a boys' preparatory school to be led by Mr Harry Stubbs. The following year, Mr Stubbs and his wife opened our School in their family home, with just 12 boys enrolled.

Over the past one hundred years, the school expanded upon the City block – forever improving our offering. This achievement is owed to the visionaries and architects, headmasters and board members who kept their focus on developing 'A School, in a garden, in a City'. Our growth and development continued as we opened Centenary House in February of this year – proudly reintroducing boarding after an 82-year hiatus!

My sincere gratitude to the Chairman of our Centenary Steering Committee Mr Shaun McCabe, who ensured that our Centenary Celebrations paid fitting tribute to this significant milestone in our School's history. I also extend my thanks to the Chairman of our Board Mr Roger Maingard as well as Board members and trustees past and present for the guidance they have offered our School over the years.

FROM THE PREP SCHOOL PRINCIPAL



Jason Brown
Prep School Principal

Clifton School celebrated a monumental milestone this year, marking a century of providing exceptional education to young men. From its humble beginnings it has blossomed into an institution synonymous with excellence, having shaped the lives of generations of boys.

For one hundred years, Clifton School has stood as a beacon of independent education, nurturing young minds and fostering a sense of purpose and responsibility within its pupils. The School's influence reaches far beyond Durban, forming connections and relationships across South Africa as well as the world.

Even as Clifton continues to innovate, adapting to the changing times, it retains the core ethos established in 1924. Our heritage is rooted in the sounds of singing coming from Sutcliffe Theatre, the 'whack!' of bat on ball, the scent of chalk, the raising of a hat with a cheerful 'Good morning!', and always the echoing of unrestrained laughter from the classrooms.

Clifton School stands as a testament to the enduring power of tradition and innovation created in these corridors, carrying forward a legacy that began in 1924 in Stubbs House.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

It is an honour to have been a part of this incredible and historical 100-year milestone! What an incredible journey and heritage that strongly positions Clifton School for the future. Witnessing the culmination of the vision, leadership, energy and resources of many committed Clifton ambassadors has been truly special. Many have made significant contributions to ensure Clifton has been firmly positioned where it is today. Thank you to every person who has gone above and beyond the call of duty.

To the Trustees, Board of Directors, Operations Board, and various sub-committees, you lead with distinction and remain committed to this amazing School, our boys, and the community we serve. Thank you for your wisdom, energy and resources.

To Clyde, Jason, Kate and our College and Prep Management Teams: You manage a remarkably busy and connected School with passion, flair and innovation. You have navigated far more than is required of you.

Clifton School is in great hands, and our boys are fortunate to be at the forefront of professional leadership, great teachers, educational best practices, and state-of-the-art facilities.



Roger Maingard
Chairman, The Board
of Directors

FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION

Our School's journey has been one that is marked by unwavering tradition that has been a guiding light through the winds of change.

From its humble beginnings in 1924, Clifton School has stood as a bastion of values, ethics, and academic excellence. The strong tradition of integrity, camaraderie and a commitment to learning that is instilled within its walls has remained constant.

Clifton School has witnessed remarkable growth and transformation – from the iconic and historical Stubbs House to the breathtaking science and sport facilities, each brick is a testament to our dedication to excellence and our investment in the future of our community.

At this historic juncture, it is essential that we express our deepest gratitude to all who have contributed to our School's legacy.

Our Old Boys, parents, teachers, coaches and supporters have all played a pivotal role in shaping the success story of Clifton School. Together, we have cultivated an atmosphere of scholarship, encouraging a thirst for knowledge and a passion for lifelong learning.

Let us continue to uphold the values that have defined us and allowed us to empower leaders who will shape the world for centuries to come.



Byron Johnstone
Chairman, Clifton School
Old Boys' Association

The Centenary Logo



One of the Centenary Committee's earliest projects was the creation of 'The Logo' - one image to immortalize this, our most important year to date.

The mission? To design a logo that complemented Clifton School's existing and well-recognised brand elements, while paying tribute to the unique celebration with a standout graphic that would stand the test of time moving forward.

'Much like our boys' journeys into Clifton - it began with the bell,' explains Mr Shaun McCabe, Centenary Committee Chairman.

'We knew this motif should play a central role in the design, owing to the historical symbolism and the important role it plays in our daily landscape, and we wanted to pay homage to the catchy tagline 'Meet you under the bell!' (launched in 2023), which was a clarion call of sorts to our wider Clifton community, past boys and staff, and parents and served as an invitation to gather together for the centenary activities being planned,' he said.

'There were many variations tabled, and much creative brainstorming took place over several months.

'But through all of these many discussions, we kept returning to the logo as eventually unveiled.'

The Centenary logo has at its centre the original School badge, first introduced by Mr Haworth in 1938.

This convergence point of the two zeros also resembles two interlocking 'C's' which represent the Prep School and the College.

'Further impact was created by the resemblance to an infinity symbol which speaks to the future of Clifton School, and its philosophy which is grounded in the character-education of boys.'

The '100' is anchored by the dates '1924' and '2024' which are connected symbolically by the bell.

'Black and white were the colours chosen to reflect the original School colours, while the red was also introduced in 1938 upon the design of the new School badge.

'This Centenary logo is sure to resonate for the next one hundred years!' said Mr McCabe.

The Bell That Calls Us Home

Every historic event is enrobed in expressions of the culture surrounding it. This is the art that speaks to our hearts, and cements a unique mark on the passage of time.

When Mr Shaun McCabe approached me to write the Clifton Centenary Song – specifying only that the message should include the overarching Centenary motif of a bell – he supported my dream creative process by allowing me complete artistic freedom. ‘Go for it!’ was the resounding message.

When writing the song I wanted to compose a piece of music that was both catchy and anthemic, without being ‘cheesy’. I always wrote with the vision of our boys singing and playing in mind. This was, after all, always going to be their song.

Max Koenig (Head Boy, 2015) is a talented musician who was perfectly placed to record the vocals. Produced and recorded at Sonic Studios Durban, this song’s story was a true collaboration with the Clifton Film Academy’s Mr Donovan Fletcher.

This video – which was shot, filmed and edited at Clifton, and by Clifton boys - captures the essence of the Clifton journey, and will be commemorated through its art for years to come.

Mrs Jane Magner
Head of Music: Prep
Director of Instrumental Music

We heard it ringing loud and strong
It let's us know that we belong
For across the lands, all the seas and sands
We listen for the bell that calls us home

For men of old and men of new
The echoes of our brothers ringing true
For across the lands, all the seas and sands
We listen for the bell that calls us home

And when I hear it ring
I can't help but sing
Of how it all began

And my heart will beat
As the song rings out
And we stand as one

For across the lands, all the seas and sands
We listen for the bell that calls us home

Those memories, they still carry me
through
How hard we fell, how high we flew
For across the lands, all the seas and sands
We listen for the bell that calls us home

We know the world can't take away
The voices we listen for each day
For across the lands, all the seas and sands
We listen for the bell that calls us home

And when I hear it ring
I can't help but sing
Of how it all began

And my heart will beat
As the song rings out
And we stand as one

For across the lands, all the seas and sands
We listen for the bell that calls us home

We listen for the bell that calls us home
of how it all began

The Centenary Assembly



Our Centenary Festival week kicked off on Monday, 5 February 2024 – one hundred years to the very day since Mr Harry Stubbs welcomed onto the steps of 102 Lambert Road the first 12 boys to attend Clifton Preparatory School.

Central to the day's festivities was a full-school assembly in which all our staff and boys from Grade 00 to the Class of 2024 gathered in the Ken Mackenzie Hall to mark the auspicious occasion of the School's founding.

Led by Executive Headmaster, Mr Clyde Mac Donald, and Prep School Principal, Mr Jason Brown, the Centenary Assembly acknowledged the significant contribution of Harry Stubbs to the School we know today. Head Boy of 2024 Ethan Lyne delivered the traditional Founders' Prayer. The highlight of the assembly was undoubtedly the debut of the music video produced by our own Film Academy 'Calls Us Home'.

We were also privileged to have as our special guests Mrs Rosemary Whitley, the granddaughter of our Founder, Mr Harry Stubbs. She was accompanied by her son Mr Andrew Whitley, and his two daughters Emily and Molly. To be so personally linked to Harry Stubbs on our Centenary Founders' Day was truly meaningful.





Stubbs Bust & Time Capsule

The contents of the time capsule were interred into the foundation of Stubbs House on 5 February by Head Boy Ethan Lyne, and sealed by Executive Headmaster Mr Clyde Mac Donald.

The contents included:

- A letter written by Mr Mac Donald, and Mr Jason Brown
- A pen from Prep School Deputy Principal Mr Ivan Boniaszcruk
- A newspaper dated 05/02/2024 from Mrs Karlien Cain, Subject Head – College Visual Arts Department
- A prefect badge gifted by Head Boy Ethan Lyne
- A letter from Andrew Allen (Grade 11, 2024)
- A USB stick from Sahl Carrim (Grade 10, 2024)
- A College tie from George Gooch (Grade 8, 2024)
- A Prep hat from Nathan Mckay (Grade 8, 2024)
- A Covid-19 facemask from Ziyaad Carrim (Grade 8, 2024)
- A bottle of honey from Zanezinhle Mohaye (Grade 7, 2024)
- A pair of scissors from Brandon Munks (Grade 7, 2024)
- A pencil from Jack Ferreira (Grade 7, 2024)
- A lanyard from Jordan Basson (Grade 4, 2024)





100 on the Field

Following the Centenary Assembly, our boys gathered on the field to form the shape of the number 100.

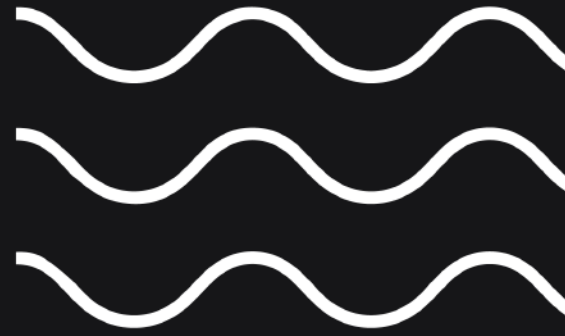
What was unique about this exercise was the fact that every boy from Grade 00 to Matric – as well as all academic, administrative, and estate staff – was present for this special moment.

The Foundation Phase was the heart of the project, as they formed a central 'bell' that was to 'call everyone home'.



100

Acts Of Kindness



Clifton School has always dedicated itself to serving others. On Tuesday, 6 February, the School committee itself to undertaking one hundred acts of kindness to the wider community for the duration of the Centenary year.

Some of these projects included collecting items for 'Clothes to Good', assisting at St Joseph's Soup Kitchen, co-ordinating Santa Shoe Box Collections, visiting the

Thembela Old Age Home and the Tuinsig Retirement Home, raising funds (R20 000.00) for KZN Children's Hospital Trust, donating time and care packages to the residents of Domino Babies' Home and Shepherds Keep, collecting books for Denis Hurley Centre, and making and distributing hundreds of sandwiches on Mandela Day.

By the closing of the year, we had recorded many more than 100 acts of kindness.



Past Staff Luncheon



As part of the Centenary Festival, we extended an open invitation to past staff to attend a gathering and celebration that was also a wonderful reunion of sorts.

A significant number of past staff members from the College and Prep School travelled from around the country, and the world, to attend the wonderful event in the Sutcliffe Theatre.

There was much merriment as colleagues who had not seen each other for, in some cases, many years reconnected and shared stories from their time spent at Clifton.

It was truly heartwarming to see old friends fill the theatre with laughter and smiles as they reminisced on their many shared adventures. A moment was also taken to acknowledge those who, though they have passed, are still remembered for their contributions to the growth of our beloved School.

Memories were shared from over 5 decades of service, with Penny Kenyon and Jen Hands most notably having arrived at Clifton in 1970!





Centenary Service & Old Boys' Tea

On Friday, 9 February the School warmly welcomed our esteemed Old Boys from both the Prep and the College.

The day commenced with a solemn service, during which the homily was thoughtfully delivered by the Reverend Kevin Robertson (Prep, 1973), the Rector of St Martin's. Following the service, guests were treated to a delightful high tea in the elegant surroundings of the Centenary House dining hall.



Centenary House

When Harry Stubbs founded Clifton in 1924, he utilised the top verandah of his home (Stubbs House) to accommodate a small group of boarders.

In 1942 during World War II, Mr Kenneth Haworth relocated the boarders to Colonel Green's farm Spring Grove in Nottingham Road over concerns for their safety, thus establishing what is now fondly known as Clifton Notties.

Boarding at Clifton School Durban came to an end during this time.

Fast forward 82 years, and boarding returned to the School with the welcoming of 42 weekly boarders to the state-of-the-art boarding facility, aptly named 'Centenary House'!

By blending Clifton's traditions with exemplary pastoral care, we ensure that boarders feel at home in a boarding model that encourages the boys to make the most of the academic, sporting and art opportunities on offer at Clifton School.





Years of Leadership

Looking back over the past century, it is evident that each Headmaster celebrated what is a central pillar of our School: Leadership.

In 1924 Harry Stubbs' vision was clear: to boldly open a private preparatory school for boys in the City of Durban which was based on the same academic principals of Clifton College in Bristol. Unlike most contemporary public schools at that time, Bristol's Clifton was interested in the sciences, rather than the classics. Their curriculum was less concerned with social elitism and saw each boy – whether a day boy or a boarder – treated on equal terms. This was quite a fresh idea at that time, as central to its philosophy was a fostering a passion for sports through participation. Hence the significance of the line from Henry Newbolt's poem ('Vitai Lampada – The Torch of Life') quoted in their chapel, which gave birth to the mantra 'Play up! Play up! And play the game!'

Considering that our School's start was in Stubbs' private home, it is not surprising that his emphasis on family, belonging and participation was carried through the years, and well beyond his term.

It was Kenneth Haworth who, in 1938, introduced the motto 'Prodesse Quam Conspici' – to be humble in one's achievement', a term carried from his alma mater Rydal Mount School in Wales.

Tim Sutcliffe, who was to serve as Headmaster for 38 years from 1942, cemented the educational philosophy and leadership values based on warm relationships between staff and the boys. His era saw a strong return to the Arts and Music, and his academic staff excelled at nurturing and developing their young students. He said, 'a Clifton ou, is not a main ou...' and with a warm South

African colloquialism, the concept of humility and relationship were cemented into the School's leadership ethos.

Kevin Whitehead's energy and care were focused on servant leadership. His example was the driving principle that each boy – regardless of his achievements – mattered. He was emphatic that the 11C team member was seen to be as important as the A-team captain. This example allowed humility to thrive amongst the boys of Clifton.

With the growth of the School, Mr Brian Mitchell extended the leadership philosophy and School motto into the newly-formed higher grades. His work ensured that to this day, the celebration of each boy is based on both passionate involvement and humility and that the College would have no hierarchy. The consolidation and growth of a leadership model was continued by Mr David Knowles who ran a 'leaderful' School at which it was presumed that each boy was a leader in the present, or in the future. Focus was given to character education, and leadership lessons became a core part of the curriculum. So too did the Clifton Creed: Value Self, Embrace Relationships, and Honour School.

We have much to look forward to as our school ushers in the next Century under the leadership of our Executive Headmaster, Mr Clyde Mac Donald, and our Preparatory School Principal, Mr Jason Brown.

Clifton's leadership philosophy makes us refreshingly unique, and our past headmasters have ensured that all boys under their care develop their unique leadership skills based on the values of 'Prodesse Quam Conspici', or what some would come to call, 'the Clifton way'.

Gala Dinner





The Centenary Festival culminated in a stunning Gala Dinner in the Ken Mackenzie Hall.

Beautifully attired according to the theme 'Black and White, with a touch of Red', guests arrived in gorgeous finery to a venue resplendent with superbly decorated banquet tables glittering under a canopy of lights.

Guests were transported back to 1924 as the event began with a rousing performance by 'flappers' who set the scene for what quickly

became a fantastically festive celebration.

After some formalities, which included a retrospective of the School's century by Executive Headmaster Mr Clyde Mac Donald, as well as the Clifton Grace by the School's longest-serving staff member Mr Michael Foxcroft, guests – including Trustees, members of the Board, and previous Executive Headmasters Mr Brian Mitchell and Mr David Knowles - were delighted to watch the Centenary Song music video. The mood and revelry captured the true essence of the Roaring Twenties!



Centenary Production

'From One Small Acre'

From one small acre... a hundred years of history followed!

Clifton's Centenary Production was a theatrical romp through the decades, beginning at our School's very foundations in the year 1924.

It told the tale of a family of Cliftonians – a young Prep boy, his 'Old Boy' father, and his grandfather – attending a guided tour of the School which saw them looking through the School's historical archives. It led the audience on a celebratory journey down memory lane and they revisited Clifton's many achievements and challenges over the past century. As the three Clifton gentlemen, from three different generations, poured through the newspaper clippings, photographs and artifacts, the memories that were evoked played out on the stage.

Every single boy in the Senior Prep School had his own moment to shine on stage, and to celebrate his past and present Clifton brothers. From newspaper boys to YouTube influencers, a host of characters brought one hundred years of history to life in vibrant colour through acting, singing, musical performance and dancing, this incredible work of love paid a fitting homage to our great School!

It was truly an original Clifton Show!
Written and produced by Liam Magner
Musical Score and Arrangement Jane Magner
Produced by Londiwe Mbuli





A College Production 2024

'Everyman'



This year's College production was made even more special by the fact that it was presented in our Centenary.

The 14th-century play demonstrated how, much like Clifton School, the 'old' can adapt to play a relevant, important and successful role in this fast-paced 21st century landscape, while begging the question 'What does it mean to be a human being?'

The play was set in 'the in-between', presented on a simplistic and symbolic stage that transported the audience to no-man's land, where we see Everyman searching for answers, while Death is his ever-present companion.

The Muses act as a Greek chorus that bears witness to the obsessive human instinct to collect both material possessions as well as people while desperately searching for meaning and purpose.

This is the magic of theatre at Clifton College. The ability to draw from the actors their talents and present them in a variety of incredible, meaningful, funny and classic tales from Rosencrantz and Guildenstern (are dead), '12 Angry Men', 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', 'Of Mice and Men', 'Macbeth', to proudly South African theatre such as 'Master Harold... and the boys', and 'My Name is Legion'. Let us not forget the comedies 'Noises Off!' and 'Murder! At the Manor'.

At Clifton we enjoy the spectacle of performance. The lights. The music. Our productions are, however, firmly rooted in serious theatre that moves audiences, encourages them to reflect, learn, laugh, cry and to open their minds to new realities, dreams, opinions and possibilities.



Founders' Weekend

- Stubbs' Grave Site & Memorial Wall



Each year since 2019, the Executive Headmaster, Preparatory School Principal, Head Boy and special representatives visit the gravesite of our Founder Mr Harry Stubbs at Stellawood Cemetery, where he has rested since his death on 6 May 1936.

This year's visit, in our Centenary year, was all the more poignant.

In 2021 a Memorial Wall and Garden was built in a quite corner of our beautiful campus, in a space that is serene but still accessible to all. The wall allows for the placements of memorial plaques to commemorate and celebrate the lives and legacies of our Clifton community members.

The space itself invites their loved ones to visit the site to enjoy quiet reflection and contemplation.

Tradition now sees a service on the afternoon preceding the Old Boys' Dinner, at which the dedication of new plaques takes place.





Founders' Weekend

- Old Boys' Dinner

The Annual Old Boys' Dinner took place on 10 May in our Centenary Year.

Clifton Old Boys' Association Chairman Mr Byron Johnstone delivered his annual address to the attendees, while the Reverend Kevin Robertson (Prep 1973) presented the blessing.

This event is unique in that it brings together alumni who attended the Prep School before

2002, the College after 2002, or who attended both and spent over 12 years on the Clifton Campus.

A highlight of the evening was the gathering of previous Head Boys, who are now immortalised in a single image – brothers in arms. They are (above): JJ Booysen (2009), Rees Godbolt (2022), James Parry (2020), Nicholas Downes (2014), Paul Snell (2008) and Andrew Sparks (2019).

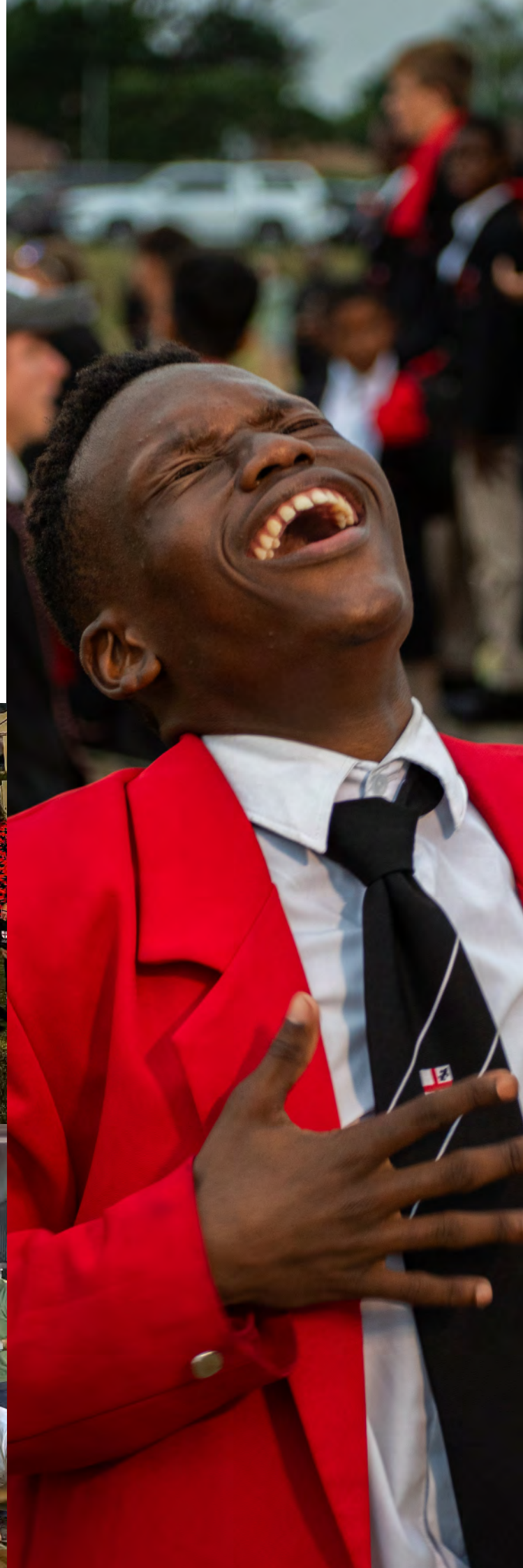


Founders' Weekend

- Old Boys' Matches

A firm tradition on our Annual Founders' Weekend is the return of our Old Boys, who compete in a number of sports matches against their alma mater's current first team representatives.

Though the competition is fierce the camaraderie is evident, as is the arc that connects our Old Boys with our current boys.



Founders' Weekend

- vs St Charles



Sports at Clifton in 2024



For one hundred years the School and the City have been intertwined, with Clifton's boys making historical use of the various facilities on offer in Durban – from swimming at the beaches to playing cricket at Hoy Park and running the athletics tracks at King's Park Stadium. Today the Clifton boys can be seen surfing the waves at North Beach, practising hockey at our world-class Riverside astros, and playing golf at Royal Durban Country Club. Sport at Clifton continues to grow from strength to strength and sees our boys enjoy a wide variety of disciplines including – but not limited to – water polo, rugby, hockey, cricket, tennis, basketball, soccer, cross country, surfing, canoeing, squash, sevens rugby, and indoor hockey.





A few of the many highlight on our busy and successful 2024 sporting calendar include hosting the Centenary Festivals and a High Schools' T20 Cricket, and Prep Hockey Tournament.

Significantly, the Clifton Prep 1st XI and Clifton Nottingham Road 1st XI played against each other on 20 February – 60 years to the day since the Schools first competed at the inaugural match, on the School's new cricket oval.



The Arts at Clifton in 2024

The arts continue to flourish at Clifton School, and the Centenary year was no exception. From Foundation Phase forays into visual art and choral verse, to the Senior Prep theatre productions, celebrations of music in all forms, to College debate competitions and their incredible film productions.

The highlight of the arts calendar is always the finale of our Annual Cultural D@ze, with the 'Concert on the Lawns' featuring local talents Qadasi. This year the important evening also showcased Clifton's own home-grown band and a live rendition of 'Calls Us Home' the Centenary song performed by Max Koenig (Head Boy 2015).

The Centenary Arts Programme also included staging the Centenary Production 'From One Small Acre' by the Prep School, as well as the Declamation Competition for College public speakers.



Night at the Speakeasy

What an unforgettable evening!

Following on the success of our previous annual musical supper theatres, 'A Night At the Speakeasy' whisked our guest from 2024 back to 1924, transporting them through time on a rollicking musical adventure through the School's 100-year history.

Their journey began at the Sutcliffe Theatre, where they enjoyed entrees and bubbles before they ventured through the hidden doors of 'Harry's 'Speakeasy' (Clifton's Ken Mackenzie Hall) where they experienced a multi-venue supper spectacular that featured performances by soloists, the Senior Prep and College choirs, orchestras, ensembles, marimba bands, as well as a special 1920's dance number performed by Jake Savage (2024).

The eclectic mix of music and entertainment set the perfect tone for a night of celebration for our Clifton community, who arrived dressed to the nines in their finest flapper dresses and dapper suits. The authentic décor and electric atmosphere created an immersive experience that celebrated the richness of the music and culture that continue to thrive at Clifton School!



Remembrance Day & The 'Centenary Poppy Project'

Our Annual Remembrance Day Service was held on 13 November.

This moment allows us as a School to not only commemorate the loss of life during wartime, but also the twenty-two Prep Old Boys who perished in World War II, whose names are now immortalised in the pillars of the Memorial Gates. Following a traditional order of service, we also acknowledged the role played by Black South Africans during our country's time of conflict.

We were honoured by the presence of a number of regimental representatives who, along with our Executive Headmaster Mr Clyde Mac Donald and Prep Principal Mr Jason Brown, laid tribute wreaths.

This was then followed by the unveiling of our stunning and poignant 'Centenary Poppy Project', an art installation that commemorates those who were lost during the wars of the 20th Century, as well as the dismantling of our Apartheid government.

The flowers – red poppies that have a long association with remembrance – symbolise those many brave men and women who served in these wars.

Carefully created and curated by the Preparatory and College boys under the guidance of Mrs Wendy Meyer and Mrs Karlien Cain, the art features a multitude of handmade poppies. The effect is ethereal, yet bold, with the flowers suspended in perpetual bloom, cascading downwards towards the viewer.

The piece reflects on our School's deep historical connection with the fallen, and is a tactile symbol of sacrifice and service. Lest we forget.



Commemorative Moments



The Centenary Calendar

This project was brought to life by a group of artists including our own teachers, past staff, parents and Old Boys as well as the present Prep and College boys. The brief was simple: Use a limited spectrum, centred around the School colours to celebrate the moments, places and people that make Clifton School so unique. The Centenary Calendar showcased a diverse group of artists, styles and perspectives, with the original artworks kindly donated to School and proudly on display in the main Reception.



Apparel and Merchandise

From hoodies to caps, wine to socks, the Clifton community was able to proudly display their connection to our School by wearing the Centenary logo on a wide variety of items that were designed and sold in collaboration with our School shop, The Clifhanger. Supporters even enjoyed Uzalo Brew, a delicious, rich centenary coffee.

A special tie for the gentlemen and a scarf for the ladies were also made available, while the boys were able to proudly wear the Centenary tie with their No1's throughout 2024.

A collection of wine was curated in collaboration with the Mount Vernon Estate. 'Stubbs' Vision', 'Sutcliffe's Spirit' and 'Mitchell's Heart' not only paid homage to three great past Headmasters, but also graced the tables at our Centenary events.



Centenary Timeline

Visitors to the School Reception are greeted by a beautiful graphic depicting the timeline of Clifton School, highlighting the people and events that have come to shape our School for the past one hundred years. It will serve as a colourful visual testimony of those who came before them, for future generations.



The Centenary Tree

'The true meaning of life is to plant trees under whose shade you do not expect to sit. - Anon
As part of our ongoing Centenary celebrations – and to coincide with Arbour Week 2024 – our Executive Headmaster Mr Clyde Mac Donald and Prep School Principal Mr Jason Brown planted a Centenary Tree.

The Albizia adianthifolia - or Flat Crown as it is more commonly known - is an indigenous coastal tree with a wide variety of uses, from soil conservation to erosion control. The bark of this tree is said to be medicinal, and is even considered an ingredient in love potions according to traditional isiZulu fables.

It will now grow and flourish along with our School, and will provide shade to future generations of Clifton boys.

Clifton Foundation

- Legacy Appeal & Centenary Wall



The Centenary Legacy Appeal was launched at the Old Boys' Dinner this year, and is a pivotal initiative aimed at creating a lasting legacy for future Clifton boys.

The campaign began when Prep Old Boy Jason Georghiou became the first donor to secure a legacy plaque, setting a powerful example which others have followed.

The appeal channels the spirit of our Centenary celebrations, with the primary focus being on raising essential funding to strengthen our Clifton Bursary Programme. Endowments are crucial to providing sustainable, long-term financial support that ensures access to quality education for boys from all backgrounds.

In recognition of their donations, the names of these past and present Clifton boys will be displayed on the Centenary Wall which form the backdrop to the Harry Stubbs bust. The name plaques were carefully designed to be proudly positioned in such a poignant place on the Clifton campus, seamlessly integrated into our evolving structural landscape while being highly visible to our Old Boys, visitors, pupils and staff members.

Clifton's legacy of offering a premium education to boys from all walk of life is woven into the fabric of our community. As we look ahead, we remain committed to adapting to the evolving educational landscape in South African, and to ensuring that Clifton continues to offer excellence in education for centuries to come.



From the Centenary Committee Chairman

"It has been a privilege for me to have led the Clifton community throughout the Centenary year and all the celebrations in 2024.

The Executive Headmaster, Mr David Knowles, who retired at the end of 2021, must be acknowledged for initiating the Centenary Committee team who was then tasked with developing and then curating the events that would allow for the appropriate celebration and commemoration of Clifton School's one-hundred years. Mr Knowles had the foresight to know that it was going to take a number of years to lay the necessary plans for a Centenary and I appreciate, and am humbled by, the trust he had in appointing me as the Chairman.

Furthermore, Roger Maingard, as the Chairman, and the Board must be thanked for their support and approval of budgets to allow the Centenary team to make real their ideas over the year.

Many staff were co-opted, from finance to administration, from Estates to Events, from the Sports Department to academic, all of whom contributed in some way to the success of the Centenary year. However, it is to the Centenary Committee to which much credit must go for the time, effort, and energy since 2021 in managing and overseeing the various functions and elements of the year-long celebration. Thank you to Clyde Mac

Donald, Jason Brown, Wendy Meyer, Barry Mezher, Mike Foxcroft, Cheryl Hoosen, and Angelique Schwegmann for the past few years of brainstorming, planning and logistics meetings but also for a lot of creativity and fun.

The school can thus look back with satisfaction that the Centenary year was celebrated with due pomp and ceremony but also in a truly Clifton way."

Mr Shaun McCabe



Angelique Schwegmann (Old Boys' & Foundation Administrator), Barry Mezher (Deputy Principal: Marketing), Shaun McCabe (Chairman: Centenary Committee & College Director of the Arts), Mike Foxcroft (Clifton School Functions Manager), Wendy Meyer (Director of the Arts/Head of Visual Arts - Prep), (seated) Jason Brown (Prep School Principal) and Mr Clyde Mac Donald (Executive Headmaster and Principal of College)

Contributors

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Commemorating the past
Celebrating the present

Creating the future