



NEWSLETTER

May 2019

St. Paul's College Alumni Newsletter 1st Edition

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Welcome Letter

Welcome to the first edition of the St Pauls Alumni Newsletter – a platform for the alumni members, non-members, school staff, current parents and interested parties to read up on happenings at the school and just share information – much of which may just be useless but interesting reading.

We are extremely pleased with the launch of the formal Alumni, with a Constitution, signed and adopted and more importantly, a HOME. For those of you who attended the launch, you have witnessed what is possible if a small group of people put their minds to it. For those of you who have not yet come by, keep an eye out for events listed or promoted via emails or social media as this is a home to all.

We hope that the initial interest and support will grow to make the Alumni the Institution almost all Old Scholars believe it can be. Purely as a repetition of what was said at the formalisation of the Alumni Association and the launch of the Shack – we list some of the advantages of an Alumnus:

- **Network**

Your alumni association is an immense network of professional contacts—all with whom you already have one thing in common. In a way, it is a database of resources for business partners in our community. This becomes really worthwhile if you attend events to build relationships over the long-term.

- **Expertise**

Talented alumni will likely have a wealth of experience and skills to share with current students via talks right here in The Shack. In certain cases, this could go even further with alumni offering to practically support students in job shadowing or in work placements and help them launch their careers. Also, it is often good for our children to get advice from an independent third party than the opinions of their parents.

- **Career portal/Employment**

Whilst assisting students and graduates, this can be a win win as this also becomes a recruiting network for the current alumni.

- **Sense of Community**

By its very nature, an effective Alumnus Association contributes to the society or community within which it operates. Most of us are proud to say we attended St Pauls or that we are associated with St Pauls. Starting with the Alumnus as an official body and now having the Shack – our community has a base or a home.

Core values

Our core value is to make a positive impact – and importantly to have some fun whilst doing this. An engaged alumni network allows the school to benefit from the skills and experience of our graduates, by offering their support to our students, to the institution and to each other.





The Shack Launch

The launch of the Shack with much fanfare was an auspicious occasion for all who attended, a chance for many old scholars to catch up with peers, friends and school acquaintances. Below are a few images of the event – because as they say, a picture says more than a thousand words.



Initial Committee

The initial Committee is made up of the founding members of the St Pauls Alumni. It is a committee of equals, chaired by Boris Gollwitzer – who has been the energy behind everyone to complete this project. Internal skills were utilised to set up a constitution, relationships pressured to get bank accounts opened – and Ockie and Andre Oosthuizen to drive the process of building our home – the Shack.

The committee is however an interim one, pending getting more involvement from the membership and to have a balanced committee, representing more years of the school and a more significant demographic. There have been old scholars in the past who have also put in effort and energy, but it takes the collective and not only a few to make this work.



Thank you for your support!

Setting up the Alumnus and renovating the old Grocery shed to become our Home occasioned significant efforts and costs. Right from the start we have leant on support from Old Scholars and friends to bring this to fruition. The cost to date is in the vicinity of **NAD 560,000**. The preponderance of this amount has been sponsored generously by the sponsors mentioned below. The simple

truth is, without their sense of community and engagement, we would not yet be where we are. We want to publicly acknowledge and thank the following people and businesses.

- OJ Construction – Building and sponsoring of materials and services and overall renovation of the Shack
- OJ Construction - Signage “Welcome to the Home of the St Pauls ALumni”
- St Pauls College School - Sponsoring the main signage of “The Shack”
- Manrico Select – Deep freezer.
- African Marketing (Hendrik Roeschlau) – Fridge
- Guido Roeschlau – Cushions
- Steven Paschke - Sponsoring the cost of the landscaping outside the shack
- Frank Biederlack – Sponsoring payment for some of the labour
- SOL Square (Leo Eins) – Solar System and geyser
- Andre Oosthuizen – Creation of Logo
- Wilhelmin Chamberlain- Glasses
- Holzbau Hess - Sponsoring water well roof structure
- Ruben Haering - Sponsoring water well roof sheeting
- GuardTech (Abel Schoeman) - Sponsoring New Roof Sheeting to “The Shack”
- Dynamic Concrete - Sponsoring “Profas Structural Sealant to existing walls and brickwork of “The Shack”

It is also fitting to mention the support, in particular from Marianne Pretorius from St Pauls Marketing team as well as the Board of Governors and the PTFA for supporting this venture

However, even after sponsorships, we are sitting with a financial deficit of **NAD 280,000**. The plan is to cover this with the once off life-long **Alumni membership fee of NAD 1300**. Although we are part of the way there, we need more support from all those interested in this community. Currently we are getting new members signed on weekly and we have over 50 paid up members.



Membership Report, Communications and Finances

- Currently we have 65 paid up members as at the end of May. Against that we have more than 400 facebook followers that represent a 16% take up at membership by engaged facebook followers
- Membership is open to all old scholars, regardless where you matriculated, past staff members and parents of existing scholars
- We have collected through membership and sponsors/donations an amount of N\$ 100,000.00
- We are busy updating the Database regarding the contact details – if any of you have updated information please send this to marketing@spcnam.org or to stpc.alumni@gmail.com
- Memberships can be paid either via PAY Today or EFT – the amount is N\$ 1300.00 once off
 - Nedbank 461089 St Pauls College Alumni I1990213102
- We are also renting out the Shack at a cost of N\$ 3500.00 per day , please send an email to stpc.alumni@gmail.com for enquiries.
- Our single most significant challenge currently is to get old scholars to join the Alumni to make the institution sustainable

Feedback from board of directors

- The committee is looking into the insurance and liability for the school together with the board regarding the events at the Shack
- We are also exploring getting a liquor license so that we can operate at the Shack on a more permanent basis.



Upcoming Events

- We will inform member via Facebook when the Shack is open, please join us for a beer or a drink.
- Zenobia Kloppers (class of 90) who has one of the leading roles in the new movie “Fila Se Kind” to be released in September 2019, has offered to do a special viewing of the movie at St Paul’s for scholars, parents and Alumni – and will attend as the guest of honour . The Alumni will send out more detail later in the year about this special event.
- Welcoming the Grade 12 into the Alumni.

We hope to see many new and old faces within our community, both formally at events but also just at meet-ups at our home.