

Investing in the future

They say that time flies when you're having fun... all of us associated with the St Andrew's Heritage Foundation are not only having fun, we're also inspired and encouraged by the growing support for the Foundation.

While we cannot yet report another gift of R1 million or more, we are deeply appreciative of all in our community who care enough about the school, its values - and the importance of education - to have made a donation. Their foresight indicates awareness that one of the best investments to assure the future of South Africa, and St Andrew's in particular, is in education.

We know that for St Andrew's to remain at the forefront of best educational practice, we're going to have to continue working hard to ensure that the school will never be financially compromised. It is a challenge and, if we're frank, the challenge seems to be greater because St Andrew's is a school for girls. Perhaps now is the time to repeat the well-known maxim - "the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world": if you truly analyse that statement, it should be a clarion call to stress the importance of ensuring that the education of girls is never compromised.

When I consider the all "girls" team with whom I interface, I am deeply impressed by what the Foundation has achieved in a relatively short space of time. It is thus a pleasure to formally welcome Old Girl Beverley Smith as Executive Director. Bev has devoted much of her adult life to the well being of the school and we're very fortunate to have someone as dedicated as her to lead the team. Bev has had exemplary support from the Foundation's Administrator, Anna Surmon.

Support too from the Foundation's Board of Governors is vital and I thank them for giving up their time to advise and guide us. We were sorry that work commitments led to the resignation of Tumi Sefolo (née Maruping, 1993) and Barbara Tucker - our thanks for their contribution.

One final point - as a businessman, I'd like to remind donors that all donations are tax deductible. With the marginal rate on personal tax at 40%, your donation will be recouped from income tax savings, giving you the opportunity of channelling an amount you would have had to pay in tax to a very worthy institution... yet another good reason to support the School!

Lindsay Robertson

Chairman, Heritage Foundation Board of Governors



Beverley Smith (née Schaafsma, 1983), the Foundation's new Executive Director, and Lindsay Robertson, Chairman of the Board of the Heritage Foundation.

**Is our
challenge
greater
because St
Andrew's is
a school for
girls?**

Leaving a legacy

When a school has been in existence for over a century, numerous talented and capable people will have played a part in the school's history. St Andrew's has long had a reputation for attracting staff and pupils who in a myriad of ways, have left a lasting legacy. One such person was Mary Hunt, Junior School Headmistress from 1966 to 1982.

The St Andrew's community was saddened by Mary's passing away in Peterborough, England, on 29 June 2009 but her many contributions to the school were remembered at a Memorial Service held in the chapel on 2 November. Mary has been described as "a most remarkable lady who had a lasting influence on all those she taught. She presented a somewhat imposing figure and was very dignified, but she also had a great sense of humour and was always able to laugh at herself...". Former headmaster and Heritage Foundation Board member Frank Simmonds believes that Mary was an outstanding educator who inculcated in her charges "an awareness and understanding of what is going on around them, a feeling and compassion for other people, and a genuine sense of commitment to society in general." These are indeed attributes that still define the special ethos that prevails at St Andrew's.

Among those who attended the memorial service for Mary Hunt were (l-r) Gill Morris, a past staff and Board member, Judy Rogan (née Libera, 1988) and Cynthia Solomon, a past staff member. One of Mary's pet slogans, repeated at every Final Assembly, was: 'Good, better, best; may we never rest; till our good is better and our better best.'



Former Junior School headmistress Mary Hunt never forgot the school and visited on several occasions, notably at the Centenary Celebrations in 2002. She is seen here cutting the centenary cake with Old Girl Monica Brink (née Barry, 1940) (left) who is the Foundation's Founding Patron.



"Old Wing" is crying out for restoration...

A face lift for Bedford Court?

Bedford Court, designed by Sir Herbert Baker and once the home of mining magnate and Randlord, Sir George Farrar, is one of Johannesburg's earliest buildings. St Andrew's is the custodian of this magnificent national treasure but we know that Bedford Court is showing her age and is crying out for renovation and refurbishment. It was thus a happy coincidence that in the name of the Class of 1977, a donation in kind has been received with the request that the funds raised be used for the Bedford Court (Old Wing) Restoration Project.

The donation received is from an Old Girl, the owner of a wine estate, who has given the Foundation a 5-litre magnum (to be auctioned at a function next year) and 1 200 bottles of wine which the Foundation will sell on a first-come, first-served basis. A special

wine label has been created, incorporating the school's logo and history. The painting of Bedford Court is the work of Grade 11 pupil, Chikombarero Kamba - limited edition prints of her painting are being made available (see page 4). In addition, Red Apple Graphix donated the label design and Ince (Pty) Ltd the printing - our grateful thanks to all concerned.



On behalf of the Class of 1977, an innovative donation of highly rated 2005 Shiraz from Graceland Vineyards has been received by the Heritage Foundation. Proceeds from the sale of the wine will go towards the restoration of Bedford Court. Thank you to the Old Girls of 1977 - you've set a wonderful precedent!

We invite other classes to match - or beat! this innovative way of giving.

Another memory, another legacy

It's difficult to single out particular donations since every gift is appreciated, whatever the amount. However, a generous donation from Elizabeth Paul (née Curtis-Setchell, 1956) had a special resonance. It's not only because Elizabeth no longer lives in South Africa yet still believes that St Andrew's is worthy of support, it's also because the gift was made in memory of her late sister Clorinda Buchan (née Curtis-Setchell, 1962). What a thoughtful way of ensuring that Clorinda will not be forgotten by the St Andrew's community.

Making a bequest is another form of giving which also allows a donor to remember a family member or special friend, or to leave a legacy in their own right, as well as offering attractive estate duty benefits.

Please contact us if you would like more information.



The former library in Bedford Court is today the office of Mrs Noëlle McCann, Personal Assistant to the Executive Head. If any member of the St Andrew's community has knowledge of buildings and furnishings of the period, the Heritage Foundation would be delighted to hear from you. (Photo: School's Archives.)

Fascinating Forum evening

The Foundation held another Forum evening in June at which well-respected *Business Day* editor Peter Bruce was our guest speaker. Peter posed the question, "Is Capitalism dying?". He conceded it wasn't but he commented that South Africa needed to modernise its economy, which is still based on Victorian principles.

Among many interesting observations, Peter drew distinctions between Spain's and South Africa's transition to democracy (he was the *Financial Times* Madrid bureau chief from 1988-1993). He commented that in Spain the trade unions were given valuable State assets to manage as they wished, a move which proved beneficial to the economy as the Communist-orientated unions gained understanding of capitalism and market forces. In addition - as is the case in Germany - all companies were obliged to have at least one union member on their board. One of the results was that in both countries, industrial action is the exception rather than the norm. It was indeed food for thought.



Guest speaker at another informative and thought-provoking Forum evening was Mr Peter Bruce, editor of "Business Day", (left) with Mr Lindsay Robertson, the Foundation's Chairman.



Another of the attractions of the Forum evenings is the lucky draw. The winner of the June Forum draw was parent Gordon Matheson: seen here with Bev Smith, Gordon was delighted to receive a bottle of much sought after Graham Beck sparkling wine.

We will be arranging another Forum evening early in 2010 - watch this space!

2009 Matrics join the StAy Circle



Anually, the Heritage Foundation invites every girl in matric to become a member of the StAy Circle by making a small donation to the Foundation. It's not about the amount of the gift, it is rather about symbolic support for St Andrew's. We've called this the StAy Circle since circles have no end and it is our hope that this will apply to each girl's ongoing

relationship with St Andrew's. A special function - complete with hot chocolate and doughnut treats - was arranged to tell the class of 2009 about the aims and functions of the Foundation. Seen here are: (l-r) Samantha Marshall, Stacy Davie, Sphehile Thango, Bev Smith (Executive Director), Ashley England, Claire-Louise Bode and Farirai Sanyika.

We would love to hear from you. Our administrator is Anna Surmon and our contact details are:

heritage@standrews.co.za

Tel: 011 453-9408 ext 273; Fax: 011 453-1112

St Andrew's School for Girls, St Andrews Avenue, Senderwood, Bedfordview 2007 South Africa

To purchase the St Andrew's wine (R900 for a case of 6) or one of the limited edition prints of Bedford Court (R150) please contact the Foundation office.

The Foundation is a registered Public Benefit Organisation (PBO) no 930031219. All donations are tax deductible in terms of Section 18A of the Income Tax Act. In terms of current South African law, individuals are entitled to deduct up to 10% of taxable income (prior to the deduction of medical expenses) in respect of donations to a registered public benefit organisation.

www.standrews.co.za/heritagefoundation

Help us to continue the legacy of St Andrew's School for Girls - every country needs to have reservoirs of educational excellence