

# SNAP SHOT

Stanford Lake College

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## Matters of Principal

*"Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world"*

Desmond Tutu

This week our community mourns the loss of a great man: After a long and brave fight Ed Hillary succumbed to cancer early on Sunday morning. I had the privilege of meeting Ed at St Pauls; he was an absolute gentle man, a man of faith who lived a life of service, a man I know will be sorely missed by his family and this tightly knit community.

I received an email from Gavin Scholefield – the Founding Headmaster of Stanford Lake College sharing a few thoughts on Ed Hillary and his unquantifiable contribution to our school. I asked Gavin if I could share his thoughts in the Snapshot:

*"I'd like to tell you a bit about the now late Ed Hillary and his part in the establishment of the school.*

*Ed was involved in the building of the school from the start. No task involving earth, or water or electricity, was too much for him. He and Howard and I were at the school on a Saturday morning in October 1997, discussing how to get access to flat land for fields. The Gillette property on the lake on the other side of the road, and the Bishop's property were our focus. Out of the blue, Con Facconier walked in and offered us part of his property. I think Ed had Trevor Freestone on the hill behind the staff quarters within days. Flip van Rooyen also brought in machinery and fuel, and the first field was levelled. Ed asked me whether we'd ever need another field, and I said yes, in the fullness of time. So while the machines were there he leveled the bottom field too. The founding pupils, and Steven Willson is proudly one of them, planted the grass in January 1998. I cannot begin to tell you what an effect Ed had on us all. There was never a moan or criticism. He solved problems before they occurred. And so it continued. I know that after I left he re-did the entire water supply to the school.*



*I thought it was entirely appropriate for the school to name the top field after Ed.*

*But it was not only in the practicalities that Ed contributed. His first portfolio on the Board included all matters financial. My wife Joan was bursar, and Angie was secretary/reception, Sandy Wilson was girls' boarding and kitchen, and Ken was boys' boarding. Brian was a real rock as deputy. He saw the bigger picture too. But it was Ed who brought the team together. He worked hard to create a feasible financial base for the school and he succeeded. It's no secret that there were tensions, yet Ed seemed to be able to calm the waters with his ever-positive and sympathetic manner. We had legendary sessions in the staffroom and in the village with Ed and Jane and especially Ken!*

*I often wondered whether Howard and Maggie and Ed had day-jobs, which they did, yet they never took their eyes off the bigger goal. Maggie cried at the opening of the school and I'm sure Ed had a tear in his eye as Sarah was a founding pupil too. (I hope you know the story of the single red brick in the wall not far from the plaque in the original teaching block.)*

*Ed became a very good friend to me and to my family. Many was the time they took us to Ntsiri, and we were pleased to host them in Harrismith. He was a National Chairman of Round Table, and as an ex-Tabler myself I know his philanthropic contributions to the greater Polokwane area were significant."*

Gavin Scholefield – Founding Headmaster Stanford Lake College

Rest in Peace Ed

Stanford Lake College  
The Hillary Field

## BLUE BELT BOYS

Congratulations to Rhain and Jordan Skordi who both received their blue belts in Kimura Shukokai Karate on Saturday, 16th November. They are now eligible to be selected for the SA team. The boys will be working hard over December with a personal trainer to work on their fitness levels.



## NEW HEIGHTS FOR RUBEN AND TI QUINTA

Ruben le Roux and his horse Ti Quinta have been selected to represent the Limpopo team at the National Youth Equestrian Championships at Kyalami Equestrian Park from 8 - 13 December. They will be competing in the 1.10m showjumping class. Good luck, Ruben!



## STANFORDIANS INVITED TO YOUTH PROTEA TEAM FLY-FISHING TRIALS

Three Stanford Lake College learners (Marthinus Maritz, Lloyd Lombard and Jason Freestone) have been invited to the Youth Protea Team Fly-fishing Trials to be held at Tierhoek, Kamberg, KZN from 6 - 8 December.

The invitations were sent by the South African Fly Fishing Association to the top 16 youth anglers in South Africa, based on their placings in the 2018 and 2019 Youth National events. During the trials the anglers need to showcase the various skills required for fly-fishing (fly-tying, casting, fly-presentation, ability to 'read' the water, attitude, focus and inter-personal skills). A panel of selectors will then choose the anglers that will represent South Africa at the 2020 World Youth Fly Fishing Championships to be held in Bosnia in July / August 2020. Good luck, lads!

Top left: Marthinus Maritz, Top Right: Lloyd Lombard, Bottom: Jason Freestone



## ZIMBABWE

## GRADE 10 TOUR

*"I have already learnt so much about Zim. Coming here made me realise that we are so privileged and it slips our minds because we forget to appreciate the little things."*

- A reflection on Day 1 at Nottingham Estate by Tsebo Makuwa

*"We drove, and then we drove some more. After a little bit more driving, we arrived at the destination, a hotel that looked like a map from the mobile game Temple Run."*

- A reflection on Day 2 arriving at Great Zimbabwe by Callan Schultz

*"We walked up to the enclosure where previous kings resided and learnt about the history of the area. From the Kings' 200 wives to his home protection methods, the experience of learning happened by osmosis as it was very entertaining."*

- A reflection on Day 3 at Great Zimbabwe by Hloni Mangena

*"Traditional dancing, study of ancient architecture, and squeezing and climbing through narrow staircases were but a few examples of our immersion into a once great kingdom."*

- A reflection on Day 3 at Great Zimbabwe by Josh Fairhead

*"We visited the Matopos and got our day started off by seeing some rhinos, which was a sight to behold. It was a day spent in nature and nature didn't fail to show us its beauty."*

- A reflection on Day 5 at Matopos by Danish Saleem

*"Today we went to the Matopos. It was beautiful. The first thing we got to see was 3 three rhinos in the morning, it was truly amazing. We got to see interesting bushman paintings as well as the grave of Cecil John Rhodes throughout the day."*

- A reflection on Day 5 at Matopos by Mudathir Cassim

*"Today started with a really early start as we had a morning game drive, after the long hot night the cool breeze on the back of the game drive truck was highly appreciated even though it was only 6 o'clock in the morning. On this game drive we were fortunate to see several different animals including buffalo, impala, kudu, jackal and warthog, but the one that topped it all was a small pride of lions."*

- A reflection on Day 7 in Hwange National Park by Kayla Day

*"Waking up early for the game drive was the hardest part of today. But it was all worth it, the game drive was just beautiful especially in the morning while the sun was rising. Seeing different animals like the lions, kudu, ostriches etc. It was just the thought of going outside and connecting with nature in our own way. Martin our guide was one of the reasons why the drive was amazing and accompanied by Joseph. Sitting together and bonding was a magical time. In conclusion today was a wonderful day and a great experience, something I would do again."*

- A reflection on Day 7 in Hwange National Park by Larona Morake

