



S.A.T.S. General Botha OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION BURSARY FUND

Nurturing Sea Fever

MARCH
2024



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Every new year seems to be busier and more demanding than the previous year.

The GBOBA Bursary Fund sailed successfully into 2024 but the pace has increased as meetings and resulting workloads have been impacted.

One of these meetings was an exploratory consultation with an executive from Wilhelmsen's who had sent a senior staff member to Pretoria, Cape Town and Durban to investigate how South African seafarers are selected, trained, certificated and ultimately ready for secondment to their huge international fleet. The doors of re-entry into the worldwide seafarer labour market do seem to be opening and that news will be received with a loud welcome from our SA youth.

The Bursary Fund is also investigating a relationship with Clarksons which is a global Ship Management and Services Corporate and we would like to partner them in ship broking as a career option for our bursary students.

Our incoming bursary applicants for 2024 will start in the second term. We are experimenting with this new arrangement as we can then monitor their scholastic progress from January to April ('24) and then decide which are the most likely candidates to succeed with our three-year programme and then into tertiary. A career at sea is a big decision for any youngster to decide on and so mentoring is a commitment we hold very dearly.

Our Board and Executive Committee work tirelessly to perform the very best results on behalf of the Bursary Fund and we are very fortunate to have an excellent team.

We are also fortunate to have a competent administration managed superbly by Thalia Hock, our General Manager, and a tight control is kept on the finances with her team and our Treasurer, June Williams.

All our energies are really focused on getting our young bursary holders through their three academic years at Lawhill Maritime Centre and also to give them training at sea on a variety of sail and motor craft.

We are so proud of their achievements especially those that have graduated and are now at sea doing really well in a variety of vessels for different shipping companies.

All this is largely due to the very generous support we get from our sponsors who make it possible for the GBOBA Bursary Fund to offer a lifelong opportunity for a life at sea.

Thank you to you all.

Simon.



Wilhelmsen visit to LMC





MOTIVATIONAL TALK AT FALSE BAY YACHT CLUB

The Bursary Fund's first get together of the year with LMC Grade 11 and 12 students was a chance to reconnect and inspire for the year ahead. General Botha Old Boy's Tony Nicholas and Hugh James together with General Manager Thalia Hock were on hand to provide mentorship.

WAR MEMORIAL EVENT

This year the SATS General Botha Annual Service of Remembrance took place at a new venue in Simon's Town in sight of where the original training ship lay at anchor over 100 years ago. Bursary Fund students attended a very moving tribute to past fallen heroes and laid a wreath. Among the luminaries was SA Navy's Rear Admiral (JG) Msikinya.



A prayerful moment.



SWIMMING 2024

The NSRI reports that only 15% of South Africans can swim, so learning to swim should be prioritized as an essential skill, hence our partnership with them in providing this training.

Cleeve Robertson NSRI CEO conducts a medical to ensure all participants are fit for training and NSRI accredited trainers Sarah Sandemann and Sam Rorwana provide the lessons.

18 Grade 10 LMC students started their 2024 school year with lessons in preparation for future participation in Sail and Motor Training. Many participants were nervous to even get in the water at first but by the last lesson everyone was water confident. Swimma once again donated swimming caps for diverse hair types.

The Bursary Fund is very grateful to the SA Navy for making the Simon's Town Navy pool available for this life changing possibility and to Rear Admiral Nkomonde for attending the last swimming lessons and handing over the certificates. Thank you to funders from all over the world including Mr Krueger from Germany who make this possible.



SAIL AFRICA REGATTA

LMC Durban participants in the Bursary Fund's sail training were thrilled to be invited to join a regatta hosted by Sail Africa in the December 2023 school holiday. The team excelled and narrowly missed out on being the winners! Everyone is now eager to have further racing experience.



NEW SAILING DAY SKIPPER'S

Congratulations to Grade 12 Anika Mtyelwa on achieving her Day Skippers in difficult South Easter conditions. Mills Boating is the Bursary Fund's provider of this training in Cape Town. Thank you to Maiden Factor Foundation for the funding which made this possible. The Bursary Fund is holding thumbs for a successful outcome for the all-female team on Maiden's final leg of the Ocean Globe Race from Punta Del Este, Uruguay to Cowes, England.

Thanks to our partnership with Sail Africa in Durban, Akhona Zondo and Misokhule Langa have also completed their Day Skippers training and their Radio Licence in preparation for being accredited South African Sailing Day Skippers.



TERTIARY NEWS

In 2024 the Bursary Fund and its partners together with proceeds from the Marine Bursary Golf Days are funding three former LMC 2023 students for their fees, accommodation, and an allowance. Siseko Makholwana and Nolukhanyo Ludidi who both hail from the Eastern Cape are studying Marine Engineering at CPUT and Nhlakanipho Lebengu from the Free State is studying Nautical Science.

With the accommodation crisis that hit tertiary students as the academic year commenced, Head of the Tertiary Sub Committee Dennis Henwood had a challenge on his hands but luckily Peak Studios in Observatory has proved to be a great choice.



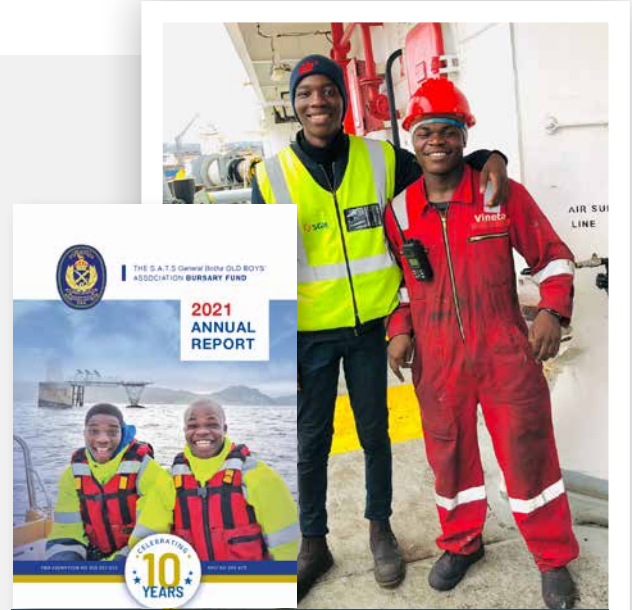
Siseko, Dennis Henwood and Nolukhanyo.



Tertiary hike with GB "Old Boys" Adrian Havenga and Charles Kingon.

It is so fantastic to report the successes of students who have been funded by the Bursary Fund and its partners. With the grounding of the outstanding opportunities, they receive at LMC, and ongoing funding and mentorship by the Bursary Fund, our students are excelling in their careers.

In 2023 a record five students were funded for their tertiary studies with some outstanding results. It is wonderful to report that Anele May, Juvandre Williams, Amanda Gasa and Nqobile Khuzwayo who completed OOW training have also finished their short courses and are now cadets with four different companies.



Good friends Alwande Sithole (SGM) and Anele May (MACS Shipping) LMC Grade 12 2022 met up recently in Durban Harbour while both hard at work.



Amanda Gasa – Fairfield Chemical Carriers



Gracia Pillay and Alwande Sithole – LMC Grade 12 2022 have completed their learnerships at Sturrock Grindrod Maritime and now have contracts of employment.



Afikamathemba Mbaso LMC Grade 12 2023 an Intern at Sail Africa this year seen here with 2023 Tertiary student Amanda Gasa (both far left).



WELL DONE!
Sabelo

Congratulations to Sabelo Mthimkhule who has passed his SAMSA Certificate of Competence.



Liqhawe Mdoda – LMC Grade 12 2023 is on a learnership at Fairship and Siphosethu Libalele – LMC Grade 12 2022 has had her contract there renewed.

SAVE THE DATE

24 JULY 2024

MOUNT EDGECOMBE GOLF COURSE -
DURBAN MARINE BURSARY GOLF DAY

PLEASE CONSIDER BEING A MAIN SPONSOR IN AID OF TERTIARY BURSARIES #GOLF FOR EDUCATION

CONTACT Mike Melly mikemelly@gmail.com - for further information.

We would not be able to impact so many young South African lives without funder support.

MARCH INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S MONTH



Captain Michele Lowe U.S. Navy Defense and Naval Attache visited LMC and shared her passion for the U.S. Navy and female empowerment with awe struck Grade 12 Maritime Studies learners.



Grade 12 Jordan Heyburg, Thalia Hock, Captain Michele Lowe and Tony Nicholas

BOARD

We celebrate the diverse women of the Bursary Fund who volunteer their time to help make a difference - our Vice Chairman Nomkhitha Mbele and Treasurer June Williams together with Board members Thembela Taboshe, Yvette de Klerk and Samantha Montes - **we salute you.**



Yvette



Samantha



Thembela



June



Nomkhitha



S.A.T.S General Botha OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION BURSARY FUND

PBO Exemption No 930 037 633 | NPO No 091-875

FAIRSHIP

Marine Bursary Golf day

SAVE THE DATE!
Friday, 1 November 2024

VENUE:
**Rondebosch
Golf Club Cape Town**

Hosted by: General Botha Old Boys Association Bursary Fund

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING

Section 18A tax deductible certificates are available to all donors.

The organisation is 100% B-BBEE



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BANKING DETAILS

S.A.T.S. General Botha Old Boys Association Bursary Fund

Nedbank, Constantia

Branch Code 101-109

Account Number 10111 33164

Swift Code (Foreign Transfers) NEDS ZA JJ