

WITS
UNIVERSITY



MEN'S RES RAIDERS NEWSLETTER

*Greetings to all Men's Res alumni, both
locally and globally*

Dear Peter

Welcome to the new **Men's Res Raiders Newsletter** that we are launching as one of our final contributions as the 2017 Men's Res House Committee – as the 2017 academic calendar finishes and we commence our final exams! We hope this will become a regular mouthpiece for future House Committees to communicate Men's Res news and developments to our more than 6 500 alumni spread across the globe.



Men's Res 95th Reunion Anniversary Dinner -

29 September 2017

Clearly one of the most memorable and important highlights of our term of office was the **Men's Res 95th Reunion Anniversary Dinner**. To the more than 150 alumni who attended the dinner on 29 September (and whose time in Men's Res spanned more than 60 years), we would like to express our utmost gratitude and appreciation for you taking time off your busy schedules to attend a very special evening. It was great meeting you all (after all the many email invitations and telephone conversations) as we all celebrated a house that has left a lasting impact in all our lives.

The aim of the evening was for all Men's Res alumni to reminisce about our fondest memories during the time we lived in the house, and we certainly believe we achieved that. From the warm atmosphere of Old Raiders meeting up with their peers and fellow raiders for welcoming drinks in the Common Room, through to tours of College and Dals and culminating in the dinner. To those Men's Res alumni who were unable to attend, you were missed and we know that you were with us in spirit. We plan on getting alumni more and more involved in the house over the next couple of years as we edge closer to the centenary and we hope when the house calls you to duty, you'll answer with open arms!

Photos from the anniversary dinner can be viewed here:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/witsalumni/albums/72157686537357401>

Two prominent alumni from the 1970s and 1980s – **Bruce Fordyce** (the nine time Comrades Marathon winner) and **Mark Stiller** (the 1984 House Comm Chair, now based in Los Angeles) – sent us videos to share at the reunion dinner. View them here:

<https://www.wits.ac.za/mens-res/95th-birthday-celebration/>. Please feel free to send

us more greeting videos. We will upload them on our webpage as we receive them.

Our thanks also go out to the wide range of speakers on the evening who covered a wide range of interesting, amusing, nostalgic and provocative topics – as one would expect at a momentous event such as this.

Finally, we were so busy ensuring the evening went as smoothly as possible, we overlooked honouring the fantastic turnout (and taking a photo) of the many ex-House Committee Chairs present. We are in the process of putting together a fun collage that will feature the excellent turnout of at least nine Men's Res House Committee Chairs present on the evening (in year order: Tony Murray: **1955**, Bill Evans: **1960**, Dale Howes: **1981**, Richard Boardman: **1984**, Bafana Skosana: **1996**, Cornelius Tema: **1997**, Elvis Ukpaka: **2002**, Thulani Mkhamba: **2016** and myself in **2018!**). We hope we have not missed anyone – please inform us if there were other Chairs present. This should be on the webpage within the next fortnight or so.

Men's Res webpage, Facebook page and the Men's Res Centenary Book

The Men's Res webpage (www.wits.ac.za/mens-res) has been thoroughly updated with all the above to complement the wide range of material already showcased on the site. We have also included some of the excellent archive material that has been sent to us by John Buttress (Men's Res 1955 – 1960) who was also in attendance at the Anniversary Dinner. Many thanks, John. Could we please encourage as many alumni as possible to send through material that can be used for both the webpage as well as the Men's Res Centenary Book and the MHR Alumni Hall of Fame which will be produced in time for the 2022 Celebrations.

The Men's Halls of Residence Fund

The Men's Res Fund is one of the legacies that has been set up as part of the 95th celebrations. We appeal to each of you to make some form of contribution to the fund so that current and future generations of Men's Res residents may benefit. Please assist us in making sure that the Men's Res Fund will make a difference to deserving students in need at Men's Res. You are welcome to make a discretionary donation or to specify a range of projects or initiatives that you would like to support in the Residence. The funds will be managed by a committee comprising the Men's Res House Committee and representatives of Men's Res management and the Residence Life Office at Wits.

It is easy to make an online contribution – from within South Africa or via the Wits United States and United Kingdom offices. Please note:

FOR SA GIVING:

Please visit <http://www.wits.ac.za/givingtowits/> and click on **Support Us**. This will take you to a donate page where you will be requested to enter some basic contact details. Please then select the **Men's Halls of Residence Fund** – which is an option within the Residence Support Funds section. Please then make your donation, or if you wish to make a direct deposit, the South African bank account details are as follows:

Account Name: Wits Foundation
Bank: Standard Bank
Account number: 002 900 076
Branch code: 00 48 05
Account type: Business Current Account
SWIFT code: SB-ZAZ-AJJ-480502
Beneficiary Reference: Please use **Men's Res Fund:**
First name and surname



All South African donations to Wits University by individuals and corporates qualify for a Section 18A Certificate which can be offset against your taxable income. In addition, the full value of a corporate investment can be claimed as Socio-Economic Development on the corporate's B—BBEE scorecard.

FOR OVERSEAS GIVING:

Donations made to the **Wits US** and **UK** Funds attract similar tax benefits – please visit <http://www.wits.ac.za/givingtowits/wits-worldwide/>

Creating opportunity and building leadership among Men's Res fellows (Raiders)!

Please share this email with friends who lived with you in Men's Res during your years in College House or Dalrymple so that we can reach as many Men's Res alumni as possible. We estimate that at least 6 500 students passed through Men's Res over the past 95 years. We are in touch with around 2000 of them and would greatly appreciate being in contact with many more. Please contact **Peter Maher** at the Wits Alumni Relations Office at Peter.Maher@wits.ac.za or on 011 717 1092 should you have contact details for your friends and contemporaries. Wits is looking forward to receiving replies from all of you and obtaining contact details (email addresses and full names) of former Raiders and the years in which they resided in Men's Res!

You are always welcome back at Men's Res – and we would love to host you.

I finish my term at the end of this year, but I'm always around to help in any way with regards to Men's Res related issues. Next year I'll be doing my Honours in Quantity Surveying (hopefully) amongst other things and I hope to further grow as a person beyond the valuable lessons this house has taught me. Lastly, I will now be handing over to the newly created house position of Alumni Relations Officer - Owen Maluleke (RisunaOwen@gmail.com) so feel free to contact him next year regarding anything related to the house. We'd really love to nurture the tradition of Alumni giving back to the house.

Kind Regards
Sizwe Bhengu
Chairperson of Men's Halls of Residence 2016/17
Wits University

Alumni House, Wits Club Complex, West Campus