SIMON'S TOWN SCHOOL'S

LAWHILL MARITIME CENTRE

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2020 – MARCH 2020

2020 - A NEW YEAR, A NEW DECADE, A BIRTHDAY MILESTONE - AND A WHOLE LOT MORE ....

Dear Bursary Sponsor, Funder, Supporter, Friend of the STS Lawhill Maritime Centre

The world is an uncertain place to be in right now and our sincere thanks to all those who have supported our programme, and our students, during this time of great disruption and uncertainty. While Government has closed schools, the Lawhill team is committed to providing the necessary support, academic and otherwise, to our students over this 'lockdown' period. Amongst others, we have provided free access, online, to Grade 10 to 12 Mathematics, Physical Sciences and Maritime Economics content and hope to add Term 2 Nautical Science content to our website in the weeks ahead. We sincerely hope that we can count on your continued financial support during this time and promise to keep all bursary sponsors informed on issues relating to their students. May the Term 1, 2020 newsletter that follows lift your spirits!

SIMON'S TOWN SCHOOL
LAWHILL MARITIME CENTRE
Celebrating 25 years of operation in 2020

SPECIAL TRIBUTE LUNCH TO HONOUR MR BRIAN INGPEN

Thank you to the S.A.T.S. General Botha Old Boys' Association (GBOBA), the Lawhill Maritime Educational Trust, the S.A.T.S General Botha Old Boys' Association Bursary Fund (GBOBA BF), the Sailors Home Trust and the Society of Master Mariners South Africa (SOMMSA) for honouring our Maritime Educator Extraordinaire, Mr Brian Ingpen, at a special tribute lunch on Saturday 14 March.

The above-mentioned organisations and their members have been incredible supporters of our maritime studies programme, dedicating funds, hours of their personal time as well as their expertise to ensure the continued growth and success of our programme and its benefit of the youth of SA, particularly those from under-served communities.

Thank you too to the Ingpen family for the many sacrifices they have made, and for their love and support.

THERE'S NO STOPPING THE BIG HEARTED CAPTAIN PHIL WADE!

This year's Cape2Rio Yacht Race, which took place in January, turned out to be a very special one. We were enormously inspired by the example set by Captain Phil Wade (founder of the S.A.T.S General Botha Old Boys Bursary Fund and co-founder of the maritime mentoring organisation, Marine Inspirations) who was not only the oldest competitor in this year's Race, but quite possibly the one with the biggest heart! Although we'd hoped Captain Wade would stick to his promise to ''take it easy and rest'' this year, we were not surprised by his determination to do his second Cape2Rio to raise funds for a bursary for Nqobile, a most deserving young lady from Sail Africa who'd been selected to join our maritime studies programme in January. Read more on https://imstaying.co.za/an-adventurer-and-sailor-offering-maritime-training-to-youngsters/ and if **you can, please donate to his Go Fund Me campaign on the link below** https://www.gofundme.com/f/phil-wade-doing-the-cape-to-rio.

INSPIRING TALKS

We are most grateful to two significant player in our industry, Resolve Marine and the Oceana Group, for spending time with our students this term.

We definitely could not have asked for a more inspiring talk from Resolve Marine's Captain Nick Sloane (of ''Costa Concordia'' fame), who was accompanied by colleagues Rob Hare, Graham Riddell and Beverley Europa.

We were left 'star struck' by both his Parbuckling/Costa Concordia and Iceberg Towing presentations, delivered with humour and enormous insight.

What a privilege it was to hear, first hand, about these two incredible maritime projects, one past and one hopefully to come!

Thank you too to Oceana Group's Olivia Slevin, Alice Hershelman and Thembela Taboshe for providing our students with a better understanding of the fishing industry and its many and varied career opportunities.

INSPIRING VISITS –

AND VISITORS

We were honoured to host several visitors this term, including Ms. Nillian N. Mulemi, the Chief Executive Officer of the Namibian Petroleum Training and Education Fund, Ms Catriona McDavid and Mr Simon Ford from Africa Oil Week/SA Mining Indaba/Hyve Events as well as senior members of the Department Of Basic Education and Western Cape Education Department.

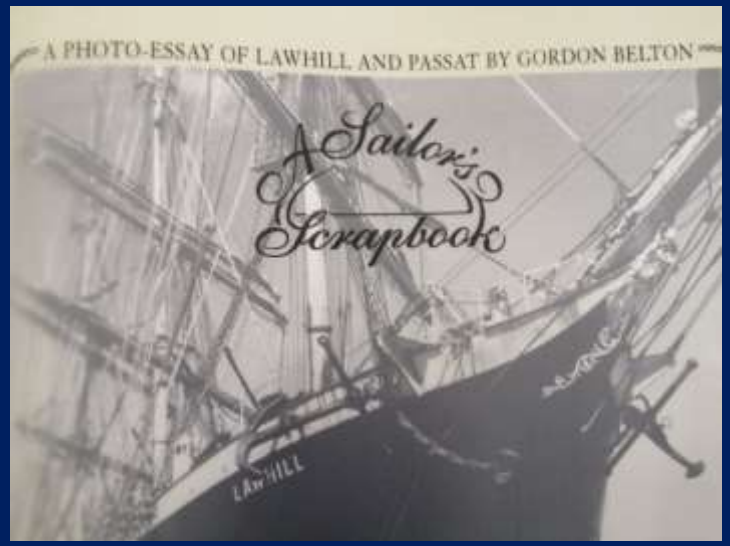
We appreciate their interest in our maritime programme and their support. Our grateful thanks to all concerned. We look forward to return visits and further engagement on how we can grow and strengthen school-based maritime education in Southern Africa.

INSPIRING VISITS – AND VISITORS

One of the highlights of the term was the special visit by the namesake of *The Sailors Scrapbook* author, Gordon Belton. The Scrapbook is a much-loved photo-essay of life onboard the original 1940s Lawhill sailing ship.

This year marks 75 years since Gordon Belton signed on to the Lawhill in 1945 and what a privilege it was to have his namesake, Gordon Belton and his wife Heidi, onboard our modern-day Lawhill 'ship'!

Our thanks to long-time rowing and swimming supporter, Julie Geddes and CCRC Rowing Commodore, Mr Pieter Coetzer for making the visit possible.



MORE VISITS AND VISITORS

We also thoroughly enjoyed hosting a group from the Pinelands-based, South African Association of Retired Persons (SAARP) and thank them, not only for their generous donation, but their kind words of support.

We enjoyed *their* stories as much as they did our Lawhill story!

SPONSOR VISITS

In the first week of the new academic year, we were delighted to have a team from Equinor in Europe as our ''after dinner'' speakers. The team members took turns to share career experiences and advice, as well as information on the oil and gas industry and Equinor as a company. The Equinor bursary students were then treated to a steakhouse dinner – what a treat and what a way to start the year!

It was also wonderful to have the team from Capland and the Community Property Group visit their existing bursary students and welcome Liyema, the new addition to their bursary family! The GBOBA were also regular visitors this term, supporting both their bursary students and our programme in multiple ways.

INTERNATIONAL WOMENS' DAY WITH WISTA SA

We were proud to celebrate this year's International Women's Day with members of WISTA South Africa and to spend time exploring this year's theme, "An EQUAL world is an ENABLED world" as we discussed what equality really means and how each of us could contribute to a more equal world.

OUT AND ABOUT

We were also very privileged to be the **only high school students** invited to attend this year's **Mining Indaba Young Leaders** programme.

It was day of learning, new perspectives and networking with captains of industry and inspirational speakers - not to mention doing radio and TV interviews!

Our thanks to the organisers, Hyve Events for including us in this incredible event, which drew over 7000 visitors this year.

Our students did their school and their sponsors very proud and it was a learning experience that not only inspired our students, but also our educators, Mr Naude and Ms Cronje.

We hope our attendance will encourage other event organisers to follow the example set by Hyve Events!