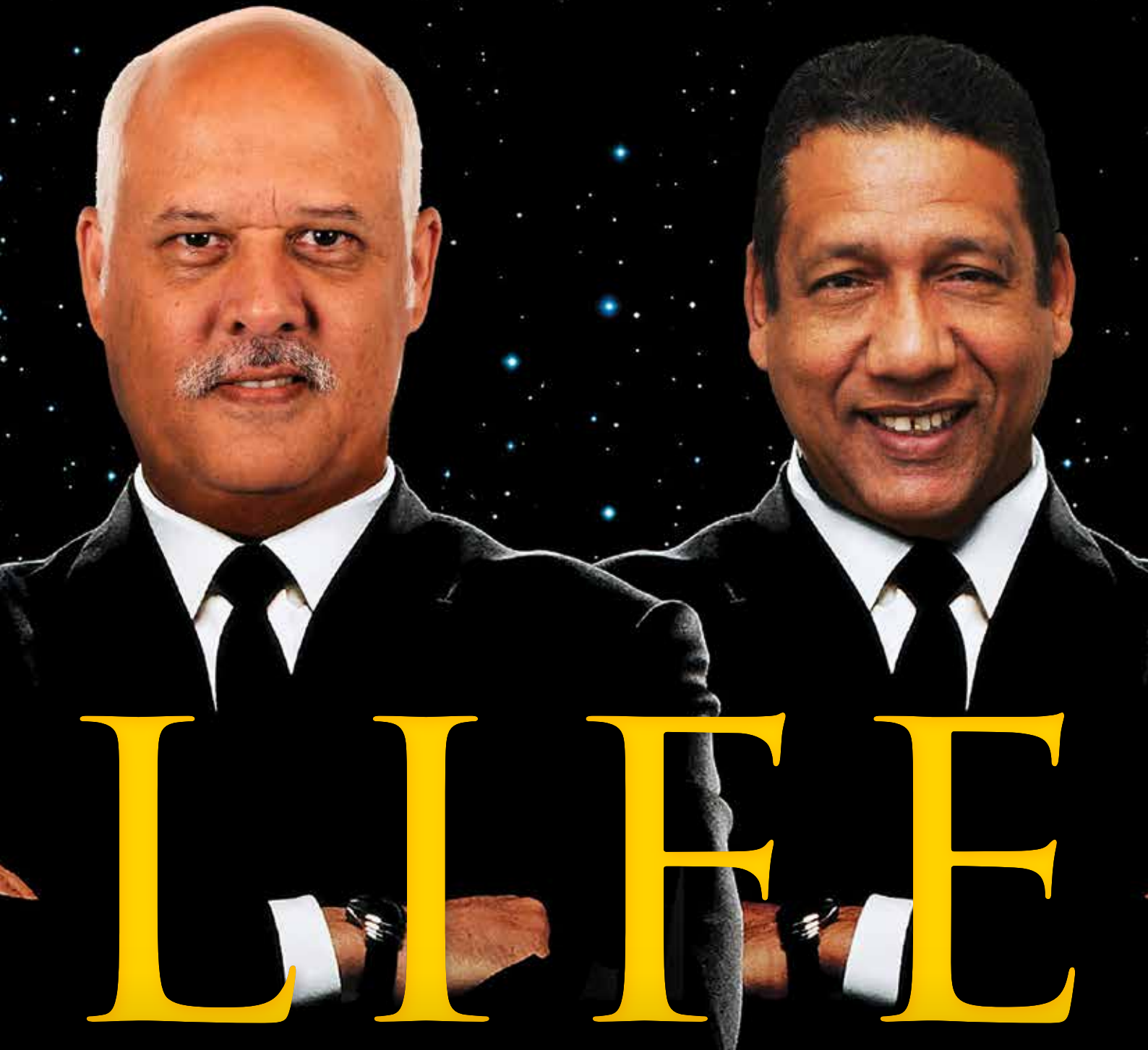


PROPERTIES & SERVICES



LIFE

RISKY BUSINESS

SPOTLIGHT ON RISK SERVICES

ROLAND SEPTEMBER • STEVEN GANGER

P&S IN ACTION • INSPIRATIONAL KEITH WITBOOI FROM STREET CHILD TO TRAFFIC WARDEN • MUSIC IN HIS BLOOD, THE STORY OF TRAFFIC WARDEN WINSTON SIMS • TRIBUTE TO THE LATE BRUCE JANSEN • OUR LIFE LIGHT WINNER • AND MUCH, MUCH MORE...

LIFE

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Welcome to LIFE!

Despite grey, cold days, compiling this LIFE Winter edition – the second Properties & Services newsletter – has brought much sunshine into the P&S Communications office.

As always, I got to interview some of our wonderful staff who are doing amazing things. And, as always, I am humbled by the resilience and talent of colleagues.

In these pages you'll read inspirational stories, get news from the teams, and see some of the behind-the-scenes work we have been doing. We are also excited to announce the winner of our Life LIGHT competition (see page 5).

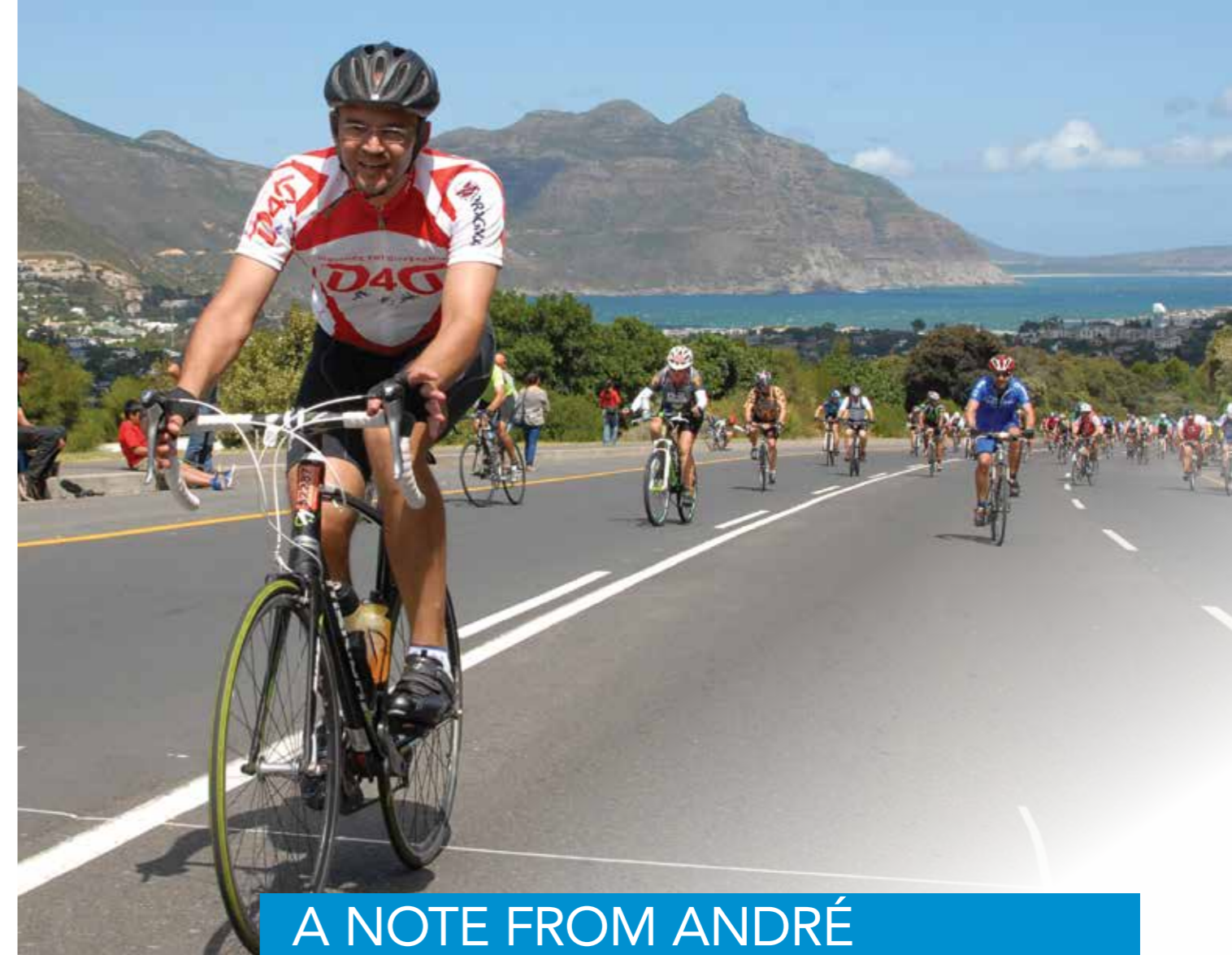
Everyone interviewed for this issue was asked to share their secret to happiness. We did this to honour our Traffic Manager Bruce Jansen, who died in June after a long illness bravely borne.

Bruce taught us a lot about being happy in the face of adversity, always arriving at meetings with a smile on his face, and an audible chuckle even if he had just come back from dialysis. So, in part, this edition is dedicated to Bruce but also to the Risk Services team, headed by Roland September, who have lost a chief.

I hope you will garner inspiration from these pages, that you'll learn a few secrets to happiness and, most importantly, that you will continue to inspire greatness in each other.

Till next time
Be safe, be happy

Vivian,
LIFE editor
P&S Communications Co-ordinator



A NOTE FROM ANDRÉ

In March I completed my first Cape Argus Pick 'n Pay Momentum Cycle Tour. In many ways I can liken it to my first nine months as Executive Director. No amount of training can prepare you for the actual ride. There were steep uphill, fast downhill, smooth roads with some great scenery and then the accomplishment of reaching the finish, despite the cramps.

At P&S we had some steep hills to climb: we completed the New Engineering Building, the Mendi Memorial, the Irma Stern parking lot and are about to complete the Rugby Club refurbishment. Then we hit a down hill in June, when we lost a great colleague and friend with the passing of Bruce Jansen, our Traffic Manager.

On a positive note we were able to fill some key posts and we welcomed Christo Odendaal to head Maintenance and Operations, Carin Brown and Grant Tobin to Physical Planning, Jabulani Nkosi to Projects and Capital Works, PJ Fisher to Systems; and Rushda Behardien and Saajid Ely to Finance, amongst others who will be featured in the next issue.

Please enjoy this second edition of P&S LIFE, our internal newsletter. A lot of hard work has gone into creating it for you, our valuable and loyal staff. This edition contains our farewell to Bruce, celebrates our retirees and our achievements outside the workplace.

As we head into summer, we have survived a slightly drier winter than last year, although the rains have been more intense. That we survived with minimal leaks and floods is a testament to our maintenance team's work having paid off over the past few years.

Finally, you are all encouraged to visit the P&S pages buried in the UCT website. You would have also noted the P&S notices all having a "look and feel". This is part of our new image and our mantra going forward, which should be on every P&S employee's lips: "GTBOS", or "Glad To Be Of Service".

André



THE COVER

Graphic designer Cristal Smith and myself had some fun putting this edition's cover together. We hope you enjoy it and that it brings a smile to your face. We've gone with the theme of the 1997 American comic science fiction action spy film, Men In Black, that starred Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones. We felt that the suited heroes were an apt and happy way to depict our Risk Services team.
– Vivian Warby.



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Cover Photos by: Michael Hammond (CMD)
Please send all suggestions and letters to info-ps@uct.ac.za
Please put the title 'LIFE' in the subject line

TEAMWORK BEHIND THE SCENES



Desmond Simpson and Sidwell Ntshibilikwana



20 Years of Freedom Concert

Bernard Soules and Roland September with Jessica Lyon and Campbell Lyons



Barry Platen and Michael Langley



Gerchen Herold and Jan Ross

On the Move P&S has been involved with over 200 events and functions on and off campus so far this year. This included the UCT 20 Years of Freedom Concert, the memorial service to Madiba, June Graduation, Orientation week, National and International Maths Olympiads, Access Card issuing, visits by high-profile people, student events and off-site parties, and sporting events, including Rugby and the recent Soccer Varsity Cup and the Two Oceans Marathon. Here are a few photos of us on the go taking care of things to ensure smooth sailing on and off campus. Thanks **Team P&S**. You do a lot of behind-the-scenes work to ensure things are taken care of so events can happen without a hitch.

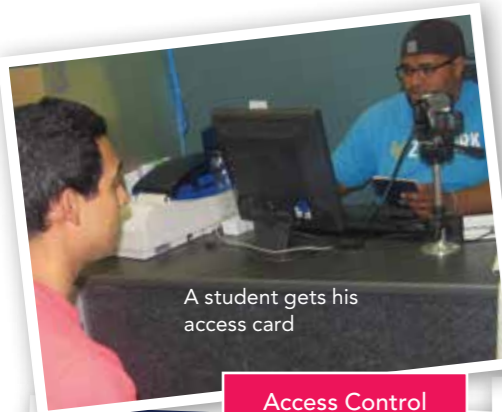


Roland September, André Theys, Bernard Soules and Michael Langley



Angie Ngalonkulu

Orientation Week



A student gets his access card

Access Control



Students line up for their access control cards



Peter De Wet



Charl Esau

OUR FIRST LIFE LIGHT

We all know Michael Langley as someone we can count on for Health and Safety on campus, but his colleague discovered that he was there even when it wasn't part of the job. We salute Michael and the kindness he extended to Charl Esau.



MICHAEL LANGLEY, Safety, Health and Environment Manager. Nominated by Charl Esau (Left), Occupational Health Nurse (Projects), SHE. Below: Charl's smashed car.

Charl's story: "I was involved in a vehicle accident in March this year and I couldn't get hold of any relatives or my husband. I have never been involved in an accident before and didn't know what to do. The only other person I could think of to contact was Michael. He immediately left the office and came to assist and support me through a very scary situation. I would say that on that terrible morning he was definitely a 'life light' or a 'life line'. It's really nice to know that when the chips are down, we can depend on our colleagues to stand in and fill the role of family, for isn't that what we really are? A P&S family."



WHAT THEY WON Charl and Michael are the winners of the R300 voucher. Enjoy!

DO GOOD TO FEEL GOOD: Research shows performing an act of kindness can increase the brain's serotonin levels (the happiness hormone)

What is the LIFE LIGHT Competition?

Do you have a P&S colleague who lights up your LIFE? Do you think they deserve some love back? Tell us why they bring a smile to your face and how they have helped you in a challenging situation. If your nomination is chosen, you are in line to win a R150 gift voucher, and the person you nominated who is featured, also wins a R150 gift voucher.

* The written piece should be no longer than 250 words. If you'd prefer, pop into the Communications office in Meulenhof, Main Road, Mowbray, and tell me about your LIFE LIGHT.



THE BRAINY BUNCH

Many P&S colleagues are studying part-time. Here are two of our recent graduates.

Nwabisa Mgojo, assistant finance officer: "It feels good," says Nwabisa of her March graduation. "All the hard work has paid off."

goals are and persevere because anything is possible if you put your mind to it."

Gail said she loved the creative aspect of her studies in which she had to find different and creative ways to help children learn. Her 30-year-old son Clayton says he was very impressed with his mother's choice to study. "When I spoke to him about starting the journey a while back he told me it could only be a plus for me, and he was right," says Gail.

The young mother of a six-year-old daughter decided two years ago to study further to turn her diploma in Cost and Management Accounting into a B-tech degree. It wasn't always easy, says Nwabisa, and there were challenging aspects to studying part-time. "I attended lectures four times a week straight from work to start at 5.15pm to 9.30pm which meant I had very little time to study. You have to sacrifice other things to make the time to follow your dreams," she says.

Nwabisa, who has at one time also worked as an economics teacher for Grade 9 and 10 learners, advises others studying part time: "Know what your

Gail van Neel, 56, Educare child carer and assistant teacher: Studying later in life was one of the most enriching and rewarding journeys Gail has undertaken, made even sweeter because her son was also studying towards a degree at the time.

Earlier this year Gail graduated with her Level 4 Early Childhood Development diploma. While it was a heavy workload,

Besides the community work she does, Gail's partner has four children, two of whom are still at school, and they were part of the extended family she cared for during her studies. "I had to find a way to juggle it all together with work as well."

And her advice to those wanting to study further? "Plan and manage your time well. Don't take on more than you can chew. And don't neglect anyone, especially yourself."



MUSO MAN

UCT Traffic Warden Winston Sims, 43, has just jetted back from Germany where he took part in international music concerts. **LIFE** spoke to him. **I performed in concerts in Frankfurt, Dusseldorf and Munich.** I belong to the New Apostolic Church Male Choir and there was a national church convention in Munich at the Olympic stadium. **Germany is so different** – very First World. It was awesome. **A highlight was meeting foreign people**, sharing ideas and living the experience. It was my first time

overseas, and that was so exciting. My wife, Michelle, unfortunately couldn't come with but she supported me all the way.

I was a musician from a young age and started playing the piano in matric. I also play the trumpet, the French horn, the trombone, tuba, and am an assistant organist at the church. **Music can uplift a person.** In the Cape Flats I teach music to youngsters on a weekly basis. It really can change lives.



It also teaches you about discipline – to be able to play an instrument you have to have the discipline and patience to practise. **My dad, John, used to play guitar and banjo.** He died recently so he didn't get to see me go to Germany. My mom, Gwen,

was proud of my going to Germany though. **I have a dream** of studying music part time at the College of Music. **The secret to happiness?** Appreciate what you have.

FAREWELL TO A TRUE CHIEF

Our much-loved Traffic Manager Bruce Jansen passed away recently after a long illness bravely borne. So well-loved and known was Bruce that our Vice Chancellor, Dr Max Price, sent out an all-campus email on Bruce's death. Condolences flooded in from everywhere. But ultimately it was his wife Jenny, whom he had fallen in love with almost 50 years ago, who captures the best of Bruce in these notes.

Bruce leaves behind Jenny and his children, Jenene, Jade and Dwayne and grandchildren Toshka Green, Farah Burton, Kiara Cupido and Janu Jansen.



Shanaaz Wilson and Bruce

"He was happiest when he had people around him. He was always the joker and inherited his sense of humour from his mom. The first time he was in hospital there were so many visitors. He was so weak and exhausted but he still tried to entertain them."



Roland September with Bruce



Jenny, Bruce, Shanaaz and Steven



A young Bruce



Young Bruce and his mother

"He was on dialysis for five years and refused our son, Jade's, kidney then, as he felt that the children were still young and they had to live 'normal' lives. We found out that he had renal failure in 2008."

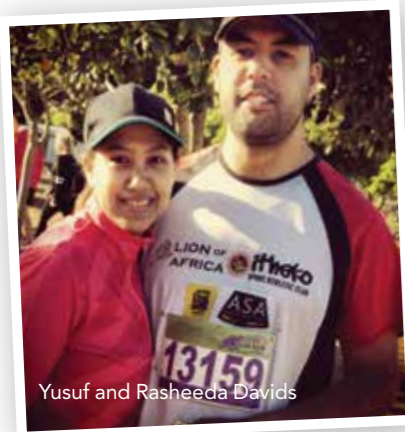
"Bruce once even paid for a patient's dialysis session when he heard that the person was very ill from lack of treatment because the medical aid had run out."

* Donations can be made to The Cape Kidney Association. However, Bruce's wish was to start a non-profit organisation to raise funds for the dialysis unit. The family will send out more details of this at a later stage.



"He motivated the other dialysis patients and he was a natural carer and a confidante to many. Bruce had a presentation called The Art of Positivity and he used it in motivational talks for The Kidney Association's Forum and various support groups."

LOVE IN THE TIME OF RUNNING



Yusuf and Rasheeda Davids

Yusuf Davids, our assistant Finance Manager, and his wife, Rasheeda, are known as the road-running couple in their circle of friends.

For the past few years they have taken part in major road races. Running was not always in Yusuf's blood. However, in 2011, when he ran over the finish line in his first road race, he was hooked. "It was a revelation for me. Up to that

Three of our Finance colleagues highlight some of the ways their family relationships and marriages have been strengthened by a love of running.

point I had been a team sports person but my cousins spurred me on to try running. The exhilaration, the sense of achievement I felt when I completed my first 10km in Gugulethu, was inspiring."

Since then Yusuf, who has two sons with Rasheeda, has run countless races, including three half Two Oceans marathons. Not only that but he has inspired his wife to give running a try as well. She has run alongside him in many of the races. The highlight of running and training together, says Yusuf, is that you get to have "this 'quiet time' where you really communicate with each other.

"Running with Rasheeda is the best"

– Yusuf

"Having Rasheeda run with me is one of the most positive things that has come from my running. We really have 90 minutes to two hours to really connect. We tease each other during the race

and also help get our mind off any physical pain by talking about other things like what we'll do the next weekend."

There have been times that Sandiswa Ndlebe, 32, our senior Finance Officer, has passed Yusuf on the road ("Yes," she smiles, "I am faster than him." Yusuf says nothing on this). "To see a colleague brings an excitement to the race, you feel you are part of something, that

you belong," says Sandiswa, who herself has completed four half Two Ocean Marathons and has taken part in countless other races.

For Sandiswa, who started running with her husband, Thobela, in 2010, the best part of being on the road – besides the health benefits – is the people you meet from all walks of life and how it has augmented her relationship with her husband.

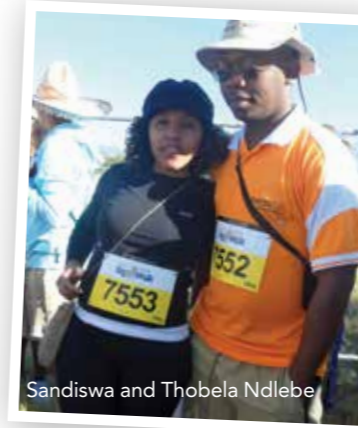
"My husband and I started running from our house every morning and evening; we'd do about 5kms. We took our running seriously and joined a running club. In the beginning my times were

better than Thobela's, but he soon caught up and since the birth of our son, Yohluka, he is faster than me... but I plan to catch up soon," says

Sandiswa with her signature laugh.

"A lot of our issues have been sorted out on the road in our running shoes"

– Sandiswa



Sandiswa and Thobela Ndlebe

"If we run together in a race my husband is always complimenting me. When I tell him I am tired, he encourages me. He gives me words of affirmation all the way. How can you not fall in love all over again with someone that believes so much in you?"

Both Yusuf and Sandiswa say that they will continue sharing this sport with their partner. "I can't see us ever stopping," says Yusuf about his new passion.

A FAMILY THAT RUNS TOGETHER...

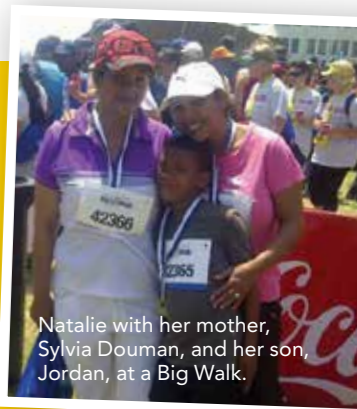
Nalalie Alies, Finance Officer/ University Proxy for Vehicles

"My father was an ultra marathon runner and always encouraged us as kids to become active.

"I started running during my school years as a long-distance runner, 3000m and cross country. After finishing matric I ran many fun runs with my father and ended up doing 21km. For many years I did the well-known Big Walk, 36km, with my siblings and close friends.

"As life happened, and I started my own family, I did the same... doing 5km fun runs, and the Big Walk with my kids. "There are many things families do together, but this is one of the 'fun times' that we all love doing. It definitely creates beautiful memories.

"Currently my one son, Jordan, 10, is following in my footsteps, participating in the WP Athletics Assemblies for 80 and 100m sprints and cross country. Hopefully one day, he will carry over this legacy to his kids."



Natalie with her mother, Sylvia Douman, and her son, Jordan, at a Big Walk.

THE CYCLING GURUS



Chris Briers, Director Projects and Capital Works, who this year completed his 20th consecutive Cape Argus Pick 'n Pay Momentum Cycle Tour alongside his son, who did his first one, offers first-timers some sage advice:

"This advice is obviously now too late – but do not do it, it is addictive."

"Your first race would probably be your most memorable and enjoyable one. Your initial seeding probably meant you starting in the later 'social' groups. The atmosphere and vibes in those groups are just unbelievable. My 22nd race will have a number of beer stops. You are cordially invited to join me, my treat.

"The day before, make sure your bike is not stolen, go on your knees and pray for a windless day and that no idiot clips your wheel during the race. On the day, get there on time and enjoy a fantastic event."



We're proud of our other cycling guru Nigel Haupt (left), Director Physical Planning, who completed his 19th race.

Two of our newbies to the race are André Theys (top right), our Executive Director, and Grant Tobin, architectural technologist (right), who both did the race for the first time this year.

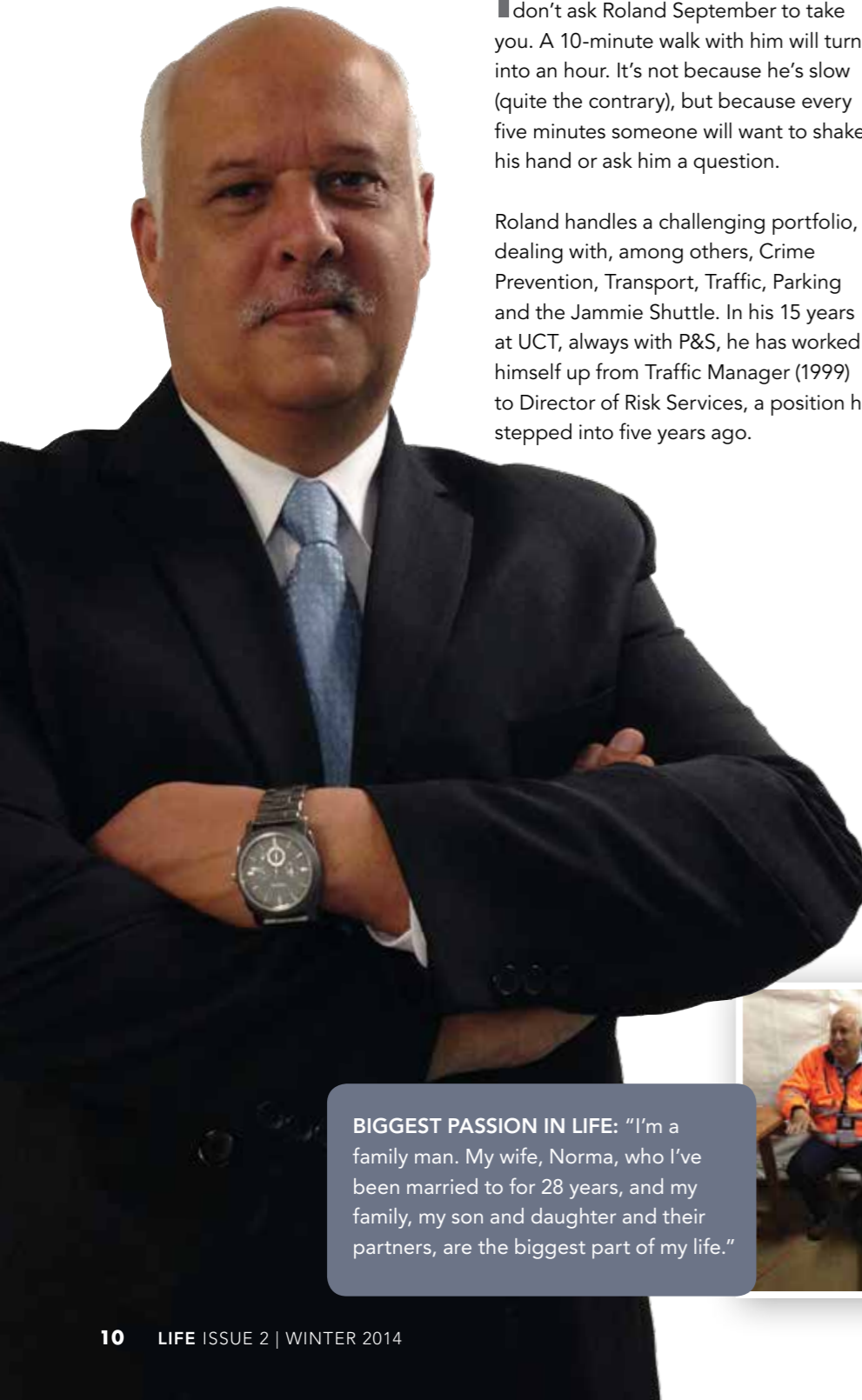


DID YOU KNOW?

People who exercise on work days, either before work or during their lunch hour, are more productive, happier and suffer less stress than on non-gym days, scientists say.

IMPOSSIBLE IS NOTHING

He's known by colleagues as the mayor on Campus, and after spending one morning with our Risk Services Director... it's not hard to see why



If you want a quick visit on campus, don't ask Roland September to take you. A 10-minute walk with him will turn into an hour. It's not because he's slow (quite the contrary), but because every five minutes someone will want to shake his hand or ask him a question.

Roland handles a challenging portfolio, dealing with, among others, Crime Prevention, Transport, Traffic, Parking and the Jammie Shuttle. In his 15 years at UCT, always with P&S, he has worked himself up from Traffic Manager (1999) to Director of Risk Services, a position he stepped into five years ago.

It's his job to manage all physical risk on campus. "This work is only possible because of the great team we have in this division. From our own staff, to our contract staff and also the close relationship we have with other departments at the university, and with the outside role players such as the Groote Schuur Improvement District (GSCID), the SA Police Services and local traffic."

A typical day for Roland can include visiting Traffic to sort out issues; prepping the team; a visit to the investigations unit at Burnage to survey CCTV footage with Steven Ganger; discussions with Bernard Soules, Operations Manager, Campus Protection Services, to ensure that all crime prevention strategies are in place; helping work out a Risk Management plan for a major Campus event; meeting with the taxi associations; visiting Jammie Shuttle bus depots; responding to media queries; and more.

"You'll never hear Roland say something can't be done," says his PA, Shanaaz Wilson, of Roland's 'can-do' attitude. "He will always find a way to make things happen," she says.

Part of this has to do with his "in the field, on the job" training as a traffic officer. "You quickly learn that nothing is impossible. If someone has a broken leg you learn that a piece of wood and two hankies work well. You don't always need fancy technology to make things happen."

"I always like to see the bright side of things."

His positive attitude got him through some tough situations, including the violent taxi wars of the 1980s when he first joined provincial traffic. He cut his teeth in Traffic during those apartheid-era riots, and worked in patrols in gang-controlled areas, escaping many a stray live bullet.

During this time Roland also worked in all the facets of traffic – the motorcycle patrol, taxi squad, speeding, warrants of arrest, drivers licence testing, and the courts.

Nothing could deter him from a career in traffic until he was involved in a high-speed bike accident. He never got back on a bike again. "I realise how lucky I am to be telling you my story today," he says.

After many years in traffic, Roland moved to New Zealand with his family where he worked in the security industry on big events, and when he returned to South Africa he joined the tourism industry where he developed a passion for big coaches. In retrospect

it is easy to see how all these career paths were preparing him for his job as Director of Risk Services at the university. "When Roland queries something or asks you something, it's because he knows what it is like on the ground. You can respect that," say those who work with him.

Roland is president of the Campus Protection Society of Southern Africa, and has represented UCT and Camprosa at the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA)-conference overseas, where more than 1200 universities get together to discuss security-related issues.

For him one of the greatest changes over the years has been in technology. "It has revolutionised Risk Services. What we can do today is incredible. It has changed the face of crime prevention."

At UCT Roland was also part of the team who pioneered the Jammie Shuttle. For him it has been inspiring to see how something that started out as a mere idea became an indispensable transport system for the university.

"It shows," he says, "that many great things start out as mere ideas. Ultimately anything is possible."

FINDER OF THE TRUTH

Thorough. This is a word that almost everyone who knows and who has dealt with Steven Ganger uses.

Ganger, P&S Investigations Unit Head, who was a detective commander in the South African Police for 17 years, doesn't like to leave any stone unturned. What makes a great detective, says Steven, is patience and persistence. "I always tell those working in this unit: Don't give up easily. If you keep looking you will find something." Housed at Burnage House, Steven's team (Patricia Dedericks, Anthea Appollis, Eric Sello Mohlaphuli and Warren Pekeur) is responsible for investigating all reported crime incidents that occur on UCT premises. A seasoned detective Steven's fast action has seen many incidents solved on and off campus. His history with the SA Police which he left in 1997 ranked as a Lieutenant Colonel, has also helped UCT form a very solid relationship with police



in surrounding areas. It comes as no surprise that some of the team members from the SAPS now defunct Murder and Robbery Squad still visit Steven to get tips on tracking down suspects. Steven believes that it is the small stuff that can win cases. "It's a known fact that a criminal will leave something behind for you, you just have to have patience to find it." Steven, who has been married for 29 years and has a 27-year-old daughter, says that his team is not only reactive, but also proactive. "We often advise complainants on loopholes and how to prevent crime." Before joining UCT in 2004, Steven worked as National Senior Manager for Security and Investigations of all the SA Post Office mail centres in South Africa and also worked as forensic investigator for two top investigations companies.

Little known fact: "I wanted to be an engineer. It was always my dream but we had no money. My mother was a domestic worker and my father was a lorry driver. So I joined the police. It has been an interesting career." – Steven

BIGGEST PASSION IN LIFE: "I'm a family man. My wife, Norma, who I've been married to for 28 years, and my family, my son and daughter and their partners, are the biggest part of my life."



FROM ZERO TO HERO

Keith Witbooi, P&S traffic warden, has come a long way from his days of living on the streets as a child. But he still remembers what it was like, and uses his spare time now to help others.

It's a Sunday morning and Keith Witbooi is out in Hout Bay's Imizamo Yethu township, preaching to the community.

"Mr White, Mr White," the children affectionately call out to him. In the congregation are a number of young children that he and his wife, Heidi, ensure they go to school, either by paying their fees or buying their uniforms.

He is smiling as he delivers his sermon for the day. It is about forgiveness. Keith Witbooi, P&S traffic warden and head priest of the congregation, knows all about forgiveness. It is something he has had to learn to do.

In the crowd is a nine-year-old boy. Keith smiles at him. In that moment Keith is transported back to his own youth.

It was at the same age that Keith, who was adopted shortly after his mother died when he was nine months old, decided to leave the home of his adoptive parents.

Keith says he was violently abused by his adoptive parents, and saw no way out but a life on the streets. In his adoptive home he had a real fear that the next beating would kill him.



From top to bottom: Keith with his two sons in a dated photo; With the UCT Transport team; Singing in the choir.

"I was about five, when I realised that that home was not for me, that that space was wrong." But it took another four years of constant physical attacks on him, he says, before Keith decided to run away. "The night I ran away I jumped on a train and hid in a carriage. It drove up and down but finally the last ride came. I tried to keep as quiet as possible so no one would find me. But the conductor saw me. He looked straight at me, and my heart almost stopped, but then he nodded at me and told me I could sleep on the train."

Keith, wearing a pair of shorts, no shoes and a sweater, with absolutely no money, soon found himself on the streets. He joined a group of other runaways. They were older than him and there were about five of them who all slept in alleyways.

"I learnt how to defend myself. But even though it was hard it was better than being in the home I had grown up in. And people were kind. They gave us food; we never went hungry. It is different on the streets today. I don't know if I would have survived now," he says.

After a few years on the streets, one of the welfare nurses found Keith and took him to the welfare offices. "I told her my story and

she was able to track down my aunt (my mother's sister) and a court battle ensued with my adoptive parents trying to get me back. In the end my aunt, now old enough to look after me, and her husband, won custody of me. I was almost 12.

"That's when my life started. I went back to school. I had always known that the life on the streets was not for me but I didn't know how to get out of it. I realised that education would help me out of poverty and I worked really hard. A teacher also encouraged me to do well. I wanted to make sure I could look after myself."

Despite his start in life, Keith excelled at school, coming top of his class. He also joined the church choir where he discovered another one of his talents – music. Today he plays the trumpet and clarinet, conducts the church choir and sings.

"On the streets I learnt to defend myself."

After completing high school he went to Traffic College where he took many tough courses, including becoming an Examiner of driving licences. Keith started working in Athlone and was later seconded to Khayelitsha in 1992 as acting Traffic Manager. "It was a hectic time in our country's history, the area was extremely volatile and I lost two men to gunshot wounds in the first year. It was a very raw area, there were a lot of children being killed in hit and runs so I started to introduce things like scholar patrols, speed bumps, road markings and speed traps. The law enforcement didn't always go down well.

"At the time there were also the taxi wars with different factions trying to win areas for routes. It was one of the hardest times in my working career, but I learnt so much." Keith remained there until 1998 when he went to

work for the American Embassy doing traffic and security. He joined UCT three years ago.

"Music, in part, transformed me and what I did with my life. It changed me on the inside. It brought about inner peace and gave me comfort and ultimately joy."

Such was his enthusiasm for self-development that he completed a number of courses in his first year of employment, including Interpersonal Skills, Career Management and handling of grievances and conflict. He also enrolled at CPUT and completed management courses.

Keith keeps healthy and active through his sporting sons Kadan (14) and Kieran (11). "My wife, Heidi, is my pillar of strength. She understands me and we have so much in common."

On forgiveness, Keith says that when he was 18, he again saw his adoptive parents, but he had already found peace. "I had to learn to forgive. No one ever apologised to me, but I realised that I had to make peace with what

DID YOU KNOW?
Mastering a skill, having a sense of belonging and feeling that you are part of a larger purpose, are the top three resilience-building blocks.

had happened in my life to be able to become the best me, to move on.

"I realised I could never change what had happened to me, but I could change how I dealt with it now.

"Freeing myself from hatred, forgiving myself and others and moving on, was so liberating.

"I know I would never have got to this point in my life without Divine Intervention, without the help of someone bigger than me. I can't think of anything else that brought me to this point in my life."



NEW FACES ON THE BLOCK

Meet some of your colleagues who recently joined P&S.



PJ Fisher Access Control Systems Administrator



Jabulani Nkosi Project Manager



Rushda Behardien Maintenance Purchaser



Grant Tobin Architectural Technologist



Carin Brown Architect, Physical Planning



Saajid Ely Assistant Finance Officer

I went deaf and blind simultaneously. It paid off though.

Jabulani: Bungee jumping in Soweto a few years ago. It was a real adrenaline rush but very scary.

Rushda: Resigning after 17 years with one company.

Grant: Riding the Cape Argus Pick n Pay Momentum Cycle Tour without having trained properly.

Carin: Diving out of the way of a falling slab on a site last year. I am not sure if my hard hat would have stopped the falling mass of concrete from five storeys up.

Saajid: Changing my career path. I initially studied architecture, but while studying realised I no longer enjoyed it and decided to change to finance.

What's been the highlight of your life?

PJ: My baby brother, Michael. He'll be seven in August, and is the most amazing little human being.

Jabulani: A lot of things – just being alive and healthy is a highlight. You can't achieve milestones if you don't have your health.

Rushda: A pilgrimage to Mecca.

Grant: Many moments stand out, from the birth of my kids to finishing the Argus.

Carin: As an architect, working with the Royal Bafokeng to design their hotel and sports facilities for the 2010 Soccer World Cup.

Saajid: I've been to Mecca twice, and the ability to remove all worldly distractions and focus completely and solely on spiritual matters was very rewarding.

Three words that sum you up?

PJ: Three won't suffice. (That's three, right?)

Jabulani: Hard-working, determined, compassionate.

Rushda: Bubbly, caring, productive.

Grant: Father, friend, colleague.

Carin: Architect, extrovert, thinker.

Saajid: Introverted, inquisitive, interesting.

What does your job entail?

PJ: I head the access control department and manage the university's access control system and sub-systems from a technical perspective. Along with my team, we also manage the access for students, staff and third parties to various areas on campus.

Jabulani: I oversee projects relating to cost, quality and time.

Rushda: Maintenance purchaser.

Grant: I translate concept sketch into detailed construction documentation.

Carin: I work with a great team, and together we design spaces for various projects within the UCT campuses. The design work we do includes all aspects of a building envelope and its final aesthetic.

Saajid: My job involves financial administration, purchasing, facilitation of payments, recording of expenses and financial reporting.

In what colours do you see the world?

PJ: 256 shades of grey.

Jabulani: The blue of the sky in whatever season, and the yellow of sunshine.

Rushda: Shades of yellow.

Grant: All of them.

Carin: Pantone.

Saajid: Blue.

The scariest thing you've ever done?

PJ: As silly as it sounds it was asking out my first girlfriend in high school. I think

SOME OTHER NEW NAMES:

Robyn Spollander, Landscape Architect; Traffic wardens, Munroe Brown and Grant Wilson; Educare child carer, Lungiswa Ngqukuvana, among others.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL HAMMOND



When it's rugby season, you will find Christo Odendaal, our Maintenance and Operations Director, glued to the game. And even though he now lives in Cape Town, the blood of this former Krugersdorp, Gauteng, resident, still runs true blue.

RUGBY, BRAAIVLEIS AND WIND-FREE DAYS, PLEASE...

His son, Burger, 21, plays rugby for the Blue Bulls junior squad, so it is no wonder dad has a firm favourite side. "I don't see myself becoming a Stormers supporter anytime soon," laughs Christo, with his wonderfully dry sense of humour.

Since moving to Cape Town, Christo, who also has a daughter Sanri, 25, says his biggest adjustment has been getting used to the wind. Known as the 'Braai master', the South-easter has stopped a braai or two. "But I'm adjusting well," he says.

Christo grew up in Natal, went to university in Pretoria, and at one time worked in the Free State. He has also travelled the country extensively with his family. His wife, Annarien, whom he met when serving on the Rag Committee when they both studied at Tukkies, has not yet moved to Cape Town, but is in the process. His two children stay in Gauteng but

will be visiting the couple. "It will be wonderful to be together full time again," says Christo.

Christo joined Properties and Services in April from Tygerberg Hospital. With a strong electrical background (he has a degree in electrical engineering) Christo has also worked at Eskom, City Power in Johannesburg, the University of Johannesburg and Liberty Properties.

His on-the-job career history has taught him that leadership can be more important than management. "And it's a myth that leaders are born. I fully believe that you can acquire leadership skills."

On his new team, Christo says that the unit "works as a team and executes as a team". "I've arrived at a place with a team that has a 'can-do' attitude. They are willing to, and open to, change and they also come with a

vast reservoir of knowledge to tap into it. The team is focused on solving problems and willing to participate to make UCT a better place. It is an exciting place to be."

Christo says one of the biggest challenges in maintenance is the work on heritage buildings that can be both costly and involved. On the team and operations, he says it is "important that we are performance driven, but equally that we have systems in place that we utilise to help execute our work. This is something I look forward to helping develop with the P&S team".

One of the things Christo has brought into his role as Director is his management attitude that communication is everything. "No one wants to be kept in the dark. Communication is important."

There you have it, for a 'true blue', he's not that bad after all.

THE GOLDEN OLDIES

THE END OF AN ERA



Between them over a 100 years of service. These four faces will soon be off campus for good. Good bye Mr (Igsaan) Brown, Mr (William) Willemse, Mr (Brian) Skinner and Mr (Cassiem) Kahn (insert). An era is gone and how it will be missed. (See Newsletter Summer 2013 for stories on the retirees.)

BRIAN SKINNER

In the words of Maintenance Help Desk's Kathy Coetzee:

"Brian worked for UCT for 43 years. He was a young boy when he started working here and was always very committed to all the work that he was involved in. He progressed through the years and finally had Planned Maintenance as his brain child. That too progressed to become what it is today. He did so much more but one thing was consistent: whatever he did he showed 100 percent commitment.

"I could always rely on Brian if I had a problem regarding planned maintenance. He would always sort out the problem in a matter of minutes. If I needed a shoulder to cry on, he would be there for me, no matter what.

"He has provided so much insight into what he was and who he was by the way he handled all issues in such a generous way. He was a true blessing to UCT in more ways than one. Not many people knew the real Brian, who had four computers he was working on."

"In his emails to me since he left he says that it will be some time before he gets 'work at UCT' out of his system. He still wakes up every morning at 4.30 and then realises that he doesn't have to get up so early in the mornings anymore.

"He says he is happy not having to face the heavy traffic on the roads but is still getting used to being home on a permanent basis.

"A big part of his life is over now and a new journey is beginning for him. As far as I am concerned, he will always be part of UCT because of his wonderful work ethic. He is greatly missed."

LILITH SULLIVAN, Space administrator and assistant to project co-ordinator Gloria Robinson.

After retirement, Lillith came back for a three-month stint but ended up staying for almost five years. She left us earlier this year, and this time she says it is for good.



The highlight of your time at UCT? "It was when people were happy with a project and there was acknowledgement from them about the work we did."

Where to now? With my retirement fund I bought a cottage in Stanford and I'd like to go live there permanently,

but my husband, Billy, has cold feet. He says it may be too quiet there, but I can't wait. I love the idea of less stress and the intimacy and neighbourliness of the countryside. My son, Sean, lives in Berlin and I have three grandchildren, Liam (7), Jamie (3) and Isabella (two months old) so I also look forward to visiting and spending more time with them too.

What will you miss about UCT? The interaction with the UCT community, and the contractors.

The key to happiness? Maintaining good health, good friendships and good relationships.

P&S LIFE AND TIMES IN BRIEF



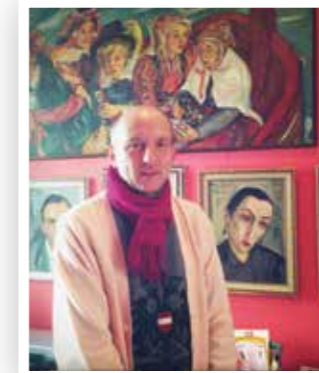
FREE SMILES HERE

Derick Muller, Transport Monitor, is one of those people who always manages to have a smile on his face: This is, in his own words, how he does it.

"When I wake up in the morning the first thing I do is give thanks to my Creator and embrace the day for the wonderful gift that it is. I decided a long time ago to rather give a smile instead of a frown on my face. Life is great, if you can only see it. Be happy and satisfied with what you have and keep on smiling and all around you, you'll find people smiling back at you."

TALENT IN OUR MIDST

P&S staff are a diverse, eclectic bunch, and there are some talented people among us. One of them, Christopher Peter, director of the Irma Stern Museum, was recently featured in the acclaimed design magazine Visi for the way in which he has done his new home in Greenpoint. Christopher moved there last year after a lifetime at the cottage attached to the Irma Stern Museum. It was a brave move, but has paid off as Christopher threw himself into redoing the Edwardian apartment he moved to. Visi describes his home as "an ode to romance in



Eastern Cape where he grew up."

* The Irma Stern Museum itself is undergoing a revamp, and we look forward to reporting more on this in the coming months.

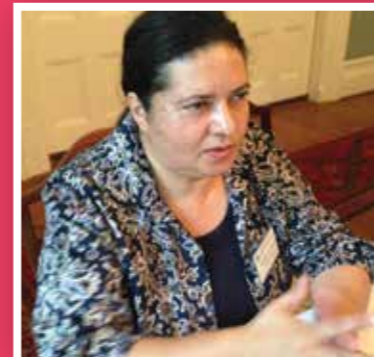
SPARKLING AGAIN

We're so proud of Maura Sanderoff, P&S architectural technician, for being chosen as one of 13 women to tell their stories of courage. Maura's story was part of the WomanZone, 13 WOMEN Storytelling event, which focused on 13 women in Cape Town and their stories. Maura was chosen for her courageous story of overcoming disability (Maura has only one leg) and going on to thrive (Maura has done not one but two 7.5 km Robben Island swims, sans wetsuit). Maura spoke at Graca Machel Residence to an enthusiastic audience, including her husband and children.



THE CAT WHISPERER

Our horticulturist, Noelene Cordier, is known around campus for her green fingers, but not everyone knows of her ability to help tame even the wildest of cats.



While back if you bumped into Noelene on campus, she'd be accompanied by the most handsome of cats, Prince Hunny. Hunny, who sadly died recently, was one of the abandoned or feral cats that P&S has opted to look after instead of having them euthanased. Noelene, who falls under P&S Estates and Custodials unit with Duke Metcalf as its Director,

has a long list of people to thank for the help they put in to keeping the cats fed, sterilised and well looked after, but those who know Noelene say it is her love that goes a long way. The cat enclosure at the moment has six adorable cats – Bijou (found abandoned by P&S's Janine Osman from Venue bookings), Suzy, Sally, Smokie, Bali and Chloe.



Duke Metcalf, André Theys and Chris Briers



Maintenance in their new offices: Pam de Villiers, Lindsay Jeftha, Rosina Court and Anton Johnson



Traffic and Transport Team



Ted Stuart, Louis Wyngaard and Aaron Ngxangu



DVC Sandra Klopper, Liesle van Wyk and Peter Byne



Gloria Robinson and Nigel Haupt



Terisa Brandt



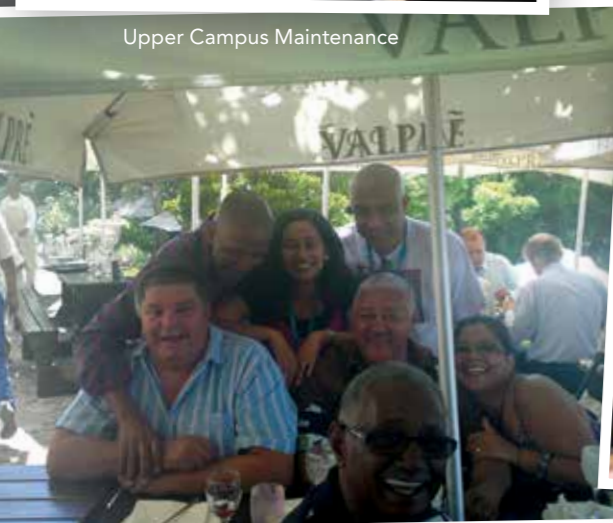
Alicia Leonard



Jabulani Nkosi, Sandiswa Ndlebe, Rushda Behardien and Zulpha Salie



Liesle van Wyk, Lillith Sullivan and André Theys



Upper Campus Maintenance



Claudine Cacambile, Nwabisa Mgojo and Jeanetta Pieterse



VC Max Price, Steven Ganger and Chris Briers



Stephen Fredericks and Clifford October



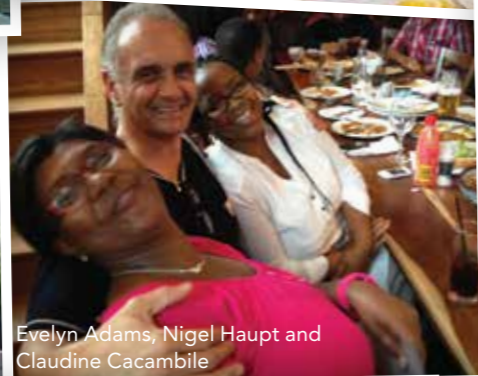
Angie Ngalonkulu



Maintenance Team



P&S at Madiba tribute (Finance and Venues)



Evelyn Adams, Nigel Haupt and Claudine Cacambile



Ferdi Nell and Christopher Peter



Fahmza Jaffar, Sandiswa Ndlebe and Charl Essau



Belmira Carreno



Mitch Le Roux turns 60 with Lucinda Cullem

SUCCESS IS NO ACCIDENT

SOME 2014 HIGHLIGHTS SO FAR

THE JAMMIE SHUTTLE PROVIDED OVER TWO MILLION RIDES TO USERS

RISK SERVICES AND SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT TOOK PART IN OVER
200 SUCCESSFUL FUNCTIONS ON AND OFF CAMPUS

PHYSICAL PLANNING STARTED WORK ON 50 PROJECTS

VENUES GOT A STANDING OVATION FOR OUTSTANDING WORK
AT START OF YEAR

PROJECTS AND CAPITAL WORKS COMPLETED THE NEW ENGINEERING
BUILDING, MENDI MEMORIAL, IRMA STERN PARKING LOT AND THE RUGBY
CLUB REFURBISHMENT

MAINTENANCE RECEIVED OVER 11000 CALLS AND CLOSED ALMOST
THREE QUARTERS OF THESE

FINANCE RAISED OVER 3000 PURCHASE ORDERS

ACCESS CONTROL ISSUED CLOSE TO 17000 CARDS

THE 2013 CARBON FOOTPRINT REPORT WAS COMPLETED

MAIL ROOM STAFF WALKED FAR AND WIDE TO DELIVER POST TO YOU



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