



September 2022

A black and white and gold oasis

The beauty of the Jeppe High School for Boys campus is one of the many things which draws people to our school. Coupled with beautiful historic buildings and wonderful facilities, our black, white and gold oasis in Kensington is something many of us could be in danger of taking for granted.

The truth is, however, that the maintenance of this campus, which includes numerous fields, indoor sports facilities, five separate educational blocks, four boarding houses and additional historic and sentimental buildings - The War Memorial, Memorial Hall and Centenary House - is an immense undertaking on a daily basis.

The maintenance and upkeep of this wonderful property, which incorporates buildings which are national monuments, takes a team which includes more than just a few individuals.

Over and above the grounds and maintenance staff, numerous contractors, staff and special individuals put love, sweat and tears into the upkeep of all that we have.

What is also clearly evident, we hope, has been the school's commitment to continually improve and update the facilities for the good of the boys and the community which makes use of them.

The Innovation Centre which is currently under construction (more updates on its progress below) is just the latest, albeit supersized, example of the drive to improve the educational and holistic experience for the boys.

Facilities at schools are only as good as the work, and the people, that takes place, and go to work, inside them. I



don't think anyone would disagree with that... but it is also equally true that well maintained, accessible and purposeful facilities enable people to excel, too.

Environment, physically and socially, is a crucial element of success. Not a day will pass without some work being completed on our property by Mr Stegmann, Mr Ramutle and the members of their team. Equally, not a day will go by that we do not see Mr Mashasha, Mr Nkwakhwa and others tirelessly preparing fields, pitches, lines etc.

We are as indebted to them for their daily toil and care as we are to Mr Jackson for his constant desire to improve on what we have and where we are, and the various benefactors, predominantly but not exclusively, from our Old Boys Association.

The new art classrooms (as a result of the Innovation Centre) are an upcoming project but there remain many additional

projects on the table; including the building of a High Performance Centre, additional staff housing, the upgrading and improvement of the museum and the upgrading our basketball courts (including re-surfacing and additional stands).

As with all such projects, they take time, extensive planning and resources, but it is exciting to be associated with a school that has such wonderful resources being so wonderfully maintained, as well as ambitious plans for the future, too.

Should any parents or members of the Jeppe community wish to learn more about the Innovation Centre or any of the upcoming projects or proposals, or about the maintenance of our current facilities, please feel free to contact the school - where you will be directed accordingly.

– Mr Peter Murison, Senior Deputy Headmaster

Innovation Centre update

Developments that will transform the educational experience of the boys

Construction on the new Jeppe Innovation Centre is continuing according to plan, with the targeted handover date planned for late in November 2022.

Those of us who are fortunate enough to spend time on our wonderful school

campus are continually in awe each day as this iconic building, which will transform the education experience at Jeppe, especially with the use of and education around technology, takes shape.

Equally exciting is the planning for our Art Complex which will also add a new

dimension to our campus.

Construction on that project is due to begin later this year, or early next year, targeting a handover towards the end of the first term of 2023.

The total budget for these two projects is R14,5m and we want to thank those old boys who have provided such

generous support.

● Please reach out to the Jeppe Boys Association at jdebjie@jeppeboys.co.za if you are able to assist with funding or are interested in being associated with these amazing buildings or the technology in them.



Taking shape: the construction of the new Innovation Centre building is progressing well and we are on track for the proposed completion date later in the year.



Welcoming space: an artist's impression of the foyer and stairway of the Innovation



A room with a view: the proposed new Art Complex will have an uninterrupted view of the south of Johannesburg.

Around our beautiful campus



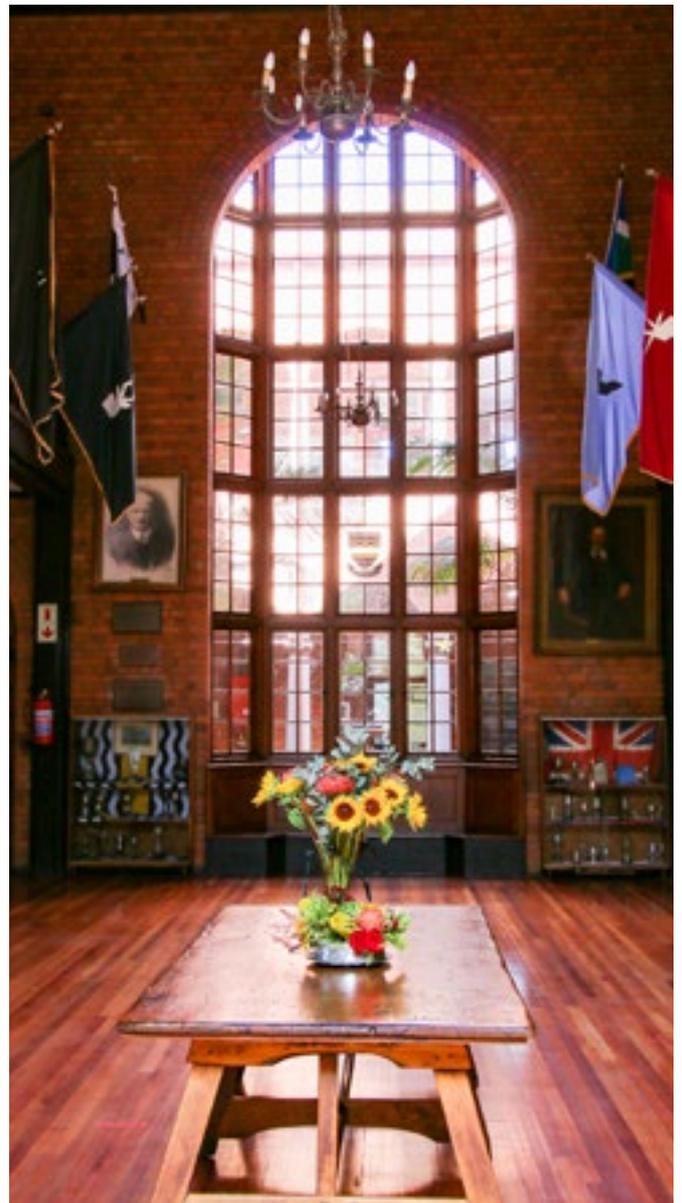
The Bill Siburn Memorial Quad at Oribi House.



Sable House.



The aquatic centre.



The historic Payne Hall.

The Rowan Room honours two famous old boys

The Eric and Athol Rowan Room is located upstairs in the circular pavilion next to the top fields at Jeppe High School for Boys.

It was named in honour of the Rowan brothers, Eric (1925 Duiker) and Athol (1938 Oriibi) who were Jeppe's 10th and 13th South African national cricketers. It is a boardroom, a venue for meetings and small functions, and it doubles up as the staff refreshment station during sports events taking place on the top fields.

The bottom level houses the school's tuckshop, making it a popular spot with the boys.

The building was erected in 1978 and the boardroom was originally called the Beckwith Room, after Henry Beckwith, the school's 11th headmaster (1963 to 1966). Mr Quail changed its name to the Rowan Room after the Rowan brothers and decided to honour Beckwith by naming the main cricket oval after him instead.

Athol was 13 years younger than Eric and his achievements at school were greater than his older brother. He was an all-rounder who scored nine centuries for the Jeppe 1st team, and made 1199 runs at an average of 171 – still a school record. As a spin bowler, he took 10 five-wicket hauls and twice made 100 runs and took a fiver in the same Test match



Eric only made one century while at school – 121 vs St John's in 1925. Eric's career took off after school. He played 51 Tests for South Africa, captained the team on a number of occasions, and was Wisden Cricketer of the Year in 1952. He made 1956 Test runs, hitting two centuries, one double century and and 12 half centuries.

Eric took a break from cricket and when he made his comeback, Athol had made his Test debut and the brothers played for SA together on the 1951 tour to England. Athol played 15 Tests between 1947 and 1951 and took 54 wickets and five five-wicket hauls.

Eric's daughter, Diane Thompson and Athol's daughter, Athalie van Beuge, officially opened the room in 2003 and their families have donated the paintings and various items of memorabilia on display there.



The Rowan brothers Eric (left) and Athol.

In other news



[Tshepo Stafa scored Jeppe's 1st century for this half of the cricket season](#)



[Aaron Biagio is our next international sportsman](#)



[Thoman Baigent wins gold in the Science Olympiad](#)



[Feedem pair make it through to the National Championships](#)



[The Angling Club is going to the SA Championships](#)



[Blood drive yields a school record](#)