maru-a-pula
celebrating
40 years
CONSTITUTION

THIS IS THE CONSTITUTION OF
MARI A PULA - BOTSWANA

MARI A PULA is established as a school to which boys and girls of all races, classes, nationalities and faiths shall be eligible for admission.

It will be the object of the school to promote the highest degree of intellectual, cultural, spiritual and physical development of which each pupil is capable.

It will encourage the development of the personal qualities of tolerance, compassion, humility, initiative, self-discipline, moral and intellectual integrity and leadership for their own sake and because they are essential to the creating of understanding and respect between individuals of different races, nationalities, classes, faiths and cultures.

The school will foster the ideals of citizenship, social responsibility and a lasting commitment to service, both by encouraging an understanding of international, national and community issues, and by involving the pupils in practical acts of service to the community in which the school is situated.

While the wish to observe other beliefs and faiths will be respected, the religious instruction and worship of the school will be Christian.

The Council, as hereinafter defined, is appointed to administer the school, through the Headmaster, in accordance with these objects and principles.

original MaP constitution, 1972
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From Andrew Taylor, Principal:

This book, *Maru-a-Pula: Celebrating 40 Years*, has been created with the help of many hands.

In particular, I would like to thank Phil Sandick for his tireless research and writing of MaP’s history. Deane Yates, David Matthews, David Slater and John O’Brien have all made vital comments on the content. Derek James, Bruce Brodigan and Alan Wilson contributed written recollections and Dot Yates’s diary proved an invaluable resource. Many of the best images which follow are the work of our Maths teacher and Yearbook editor, Dean Chalmers. Nidhi Gureja and Tebogo George drove the project to completion while Tlotlego Gaogakwe, Lynda Tosefsky and Judy Brown helped proofread various sections. The skilful layout and design is the work of MaP English teacher, Alastair Hagger.

At the time this book went to press we had just received the very sad news of the death of our beloved music teacher and marimba band leader, Alport Mhlanga. His music brought great joy to many people across the globe and he will be sorely missed.

Finally, I can think of no more fitting prelude to the following pages than to share these greetings from Maru-a-Pula’s founder:

Deane Yates
4 Jacaranda, Waverley House, 5 Murray Street, Waverley, 2090

12 June 2012

Greetings to all you members of Maru-a-Pula past and present! It is wonderful to see how the tiny seed we planted forty years ago has germinated and grown into a tree with many branches flourishing more and more as the years go by.

We must rightly rejoice at what has been achieved, but I suggest that this is a time when before all else we should pause and reflect why Maru-a-Pula was founded? We did not intend it to be just another school, but a special school showing in its education a philosophy which was different to that generally prevailing at the time. We must be the judges of how far we have been faithful. We have been richly blessed. Let us pass on this blessing to those who follow.

I do greatly wish that I could have been with you today, but my age and general condition rules that out. Surely I will be with you in spirit as, I am sure, will be that of my beloved wife MmaY.

Let us rejoice! Again, I say let us rejoice! God bless you all!

Deane Yates / DY

[Email: info@alexeducation.org.za
Tel: 011 27 4401304]
Maru-a-Pula: Celebrating 40 Years
You are going to read about Maru-a-Pula, an educational project in the heart of Africa; I warmly commend this project to you, and hope you will resolve to give it your active support.

~ 1971, Sir Seretse Khama, K.B. E., L.L.D., First President of the Republic of Botswana

Maru-a-Pula opened the doors of a single classroom on 10th February 1972. Sited on the outer edge of Gaborone, where paved roads gave way to red sand and bush, the school’s fifty acres were a gift from the Botswana Government. President Seretse Khama and his wife, Lady Ruth Khama, were staunch supporters of the school right from the start.

Maru-a-Pula’s founder, Deane Yates, known as “DY”, and his wife, Dot, started their life in Botswana in a blue tent under a peltophorum tree in what is now the Principal’s garden. DY and Dot and their colleagues, David Matthews, and his wife, Estella, had taught at the prestigious St. John’s College in Johannesburg. They were determined to break from South African apartheid and to have the school serve Botswana with its non-racial ideals.

This vision was shared by a small group of senior civil servants and government officials who had been discussing the possibility of a non-racial private school since 1967. The ad-hoc committee consisted of: Archie Mogwe - Permanent Secretary to the President who served as MaP School Council Chair from 1972 to 1996, Quill Hermans - Permanent Secretary to the Minister of Finance and Development

Original concept art for MaP campus
When we first arrived in Botswana I remember Deane looking at a really harsh landscape, dry and dusty, with the goats nibbling the thorn bushes, and he said: “Isn’t it wonderful?” It took me a bit longer to capture that vision.

~ Dot Yates, wife of Maru-a-Pula’s first Headmaster, Deane Yates
Planning, Sebotho Modise - retired Senior Education Officer; Hugh Murray Hudson - Clerk to the Executive and Legislative Councils and Charles Pletcher - American Chargé d’Affaires. The committee was convened by the Reverend Alan Butler, simultaneously Gaborone’s Anglican Priest and Deputy Mayor. When Butler heard of DY’s availability, the project moved forward swiftly.

The school’s first 25 pupils - twelve were boarders and four on bursaries - became part of a closely-knit family with big expectations. Self-help was the order of the day. After each meal, everyone washed dishes. Classrooms were swept, windows cleaned, floors mopped and polished, bush cleared, a small dam dug out and vegetable plots started. (In 1975 the ultimate self-help project saw staff and students digging their own swimming pool!)

In that first year, DY taught History, Development Studies and Latin; Dot, called “Mma Y”, mothered the girls, cared for the sick and taught English and Ethics; David Matthews taught Maths, Geography and Science lessons in the kitchen and organised
the catering, while Estella taught English and French, served as House Mother for the boy boarders and took care of the laundry.

To instill an ethos of service, school groups travelled twice a week to the village of Gabane, twelve kilometres away, to assist with community projects proposed by Gabane’s Social Service Committee. These included English lessons for Gabane Primary School pupils, reading classes for adult learners, sewing and knitting classes, cultivating a vegetable garden, the care of two handicapped children, the feeding of five destitute old people and repair of their houses and the making of bricks for further houses. Maru-a-Pula’s own bricks and mortar were funded primarily by Anglo American, whose Deputy Chairman, Bill Wilson, had taken a personal interest in the school. During the ‘80s and ‘90s, major funding came from the American Friends of Maru-a-Pula (AFMAP), a foundation set up by Edward “Ned” Hall, a Headmaster from the States. AFMAP served as a conduit for generous grants from the US Agency for International Development which allowed the school to build additional classrooms, science labs, a library, an AV Centre and a school theatre with a public purpose called Maitisong.

Under the leadership of its first Director, David Slater, Maitisong (meaning “the place where culture is shared”) became the home of the performing arts in Botswana, and still features the country’s largest annual cultural festival.
Maru-a-Pula’s tradition of theatre excellence was launched by John O’Brien, who joined the staff as an English teacher in 1976 and served as Second Master from 1978 to 1999.

O’Brien’s productions of Sophocles’ Antigone, Shakespeare’s Midsummer Night’s Dream, Brecht’s Caucasian Chalk Circle and Schaffer’s Royal Hunt of the Sun earned public acclaim and nurtured the creative spirit of a rapidly growing school community.

One of O’Brien’s most distinctive contributions to Maru-a-Pula would be his development of the school grounds. Today’s staff and students enjoy the shade of trees and abundant gardens whose cultivation was spearheaded by John O’Brien for nearly 25 years.

Having launched the school with such vigour and care, Deane and Dot Yates returned to South Africa in 1981 to further the cause of non-racial education and to continue their battle against the evils of apartheid. Earlier, in a fitting tribute, Deane had been named a Member of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for “services in education in Botswana.”

Yates was succeeded by his partner in the founding of Maru-a-Pula, David Matthews (1981-1990). Matthews was a superb listener and master consolidator. He embarked on an ambitious building programme to accommodate an enrolment which increased from 266 to 400 students while the number of full-time teachers doubled. After a successful nine years as Headmaster, David Matthews left Maru-a-Pula in 1990 to reopen Tiger Kloof in Vryburg, South Africa.

Maru-a-Pula’s third Headmaster, Malcolm McKenzie (1991-99), was a Rhodes Scholar who arrived in 1987 as Head of English. McKenzie presided over what some called “Malcolm’s Magnificent ‘90s” putting a strong emphasis on both scholastic study and sport and adding a fourth stream to enlarge the school. McKenzie gave the school a more sustainable structure, increasing fees and scholarships and, most importantly, teacher salaries.

Two headmasters - Neil Smooker and Garth Grierson - had brief tenures buffered by veteran MaP history teacher, Alan Wilson, who served twice as Acting Principal, until the current Principal, Andrew Taylor, took the reins in 2004. Taylor has made scholarships for orphans and vulnerable children his top priority. The school’s finances have been enhanced by significant fundraising and enrolment has increased to 670 students. A Capital Development Levy has allowed Maru-a-Pula to
upgrade and expand its facilities.

Maru-a-Pula's teachers and students have been assisted with uncommon loyalty by a legendary cast of characters. Edna Moselekatse started cooking meals for the first twelve boy boarders in 1972; she retired in 2010 after 38 years of service. Starting in 1976, Greta Steele kept an eagle eye on the school’s money for 23 years as Bursar, enjoyed a one-year retirement and then returned in 1999 to a six-year stint as Catering & Purchasing Manager.

Gideon (Thom) Chobela, MaP’s current Head of Security, has chased intruders and greeted students since 1978. Sethokgo Sechele, who still guides MaP visitors around local landmarks, served as Girls Boarding Mistress from 1980-83 before assuming duties as Matron & Catering Manager from 1984-97. Edson Baoteng, MaP’s current Maintenance Supervisor, has repaired leaks, replaced broken windows and kept classrooms functioning since 1985.

In 2012, the school is flourishing. Maru-a-Pula’s students continue to earn outstanding results in the Cambridge IGCSE and A-Level exams. The world’s top universities - Stanford, Oxford, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Princeton, Williams, University of Cape Town, Columbia, Cornell and Yale - regularly offer places to Maru-a-Pula students. Most importantly, service is very much at the heart of school life with students still making regular visits to Gabane and many other sites in Gaborone and beyond.

The school’s name Maru-a-Pula means “clouds of rain” or “promises of blessings” in Setswana. Founding headmaster, Deane Yates, reflects on Maru-a-Pula’s impact:

What I’m proudest about is that sense of a community, an outpouring of a community that thrives and prospers. It’s not just a seat of learning; it’s something far greater than that.

Schools are rarely so aptly named.

Gaborone and beyond.

Current Principal, Andrew Taylor
If we are to produce leaders they must be leaders who are never afraid to mix the cow dung and the dirt, who never lose the urge to rub shoulders with the poorest in the land. Hence our weekly visits to Gabane.

~ Deane Yates
Dot Yates wrote in her diary about how MaP’s 40-year connection with Gabane began:

Deane and I were in charge of social service and we wanted to make the care of others less fortunate than ourselves, a very important part of our students’ lives. We were not sure how to go about this, so we went to the welfare department and asked for advice. They introduced us to Mrs Thipe, who was a trained social worker, who visited the outlying villages. She told us about the village of Gabane, ten miles away from Gaborone where poverty was rife. She suggested that she should arrange a meeting with the Chief and member of the Kgотla, which is the seat of Government in a village. They suggested a date and Deane and I, and our Teacher Aide attended the meeting which was held under a huge shady tree near the
Chief’s house. It was a very hot day.

In the New Testament one reads of the halt and the lame who followed Christ and here they were in abundance. To see so many beseeching suffering faces was heartrending; they were all so full of hope, but when or where could one begin. In this village in 1972 there was no clinic, and the nearest medical help was in the hospital at Gaborone, ten minutes away along a muddy, rutted road. A doctor and a nurse did call once a month from a mission hospital, but their time was very limited and there was not much they could do. Hopeful, upturned faces looked beseechingly at us.

They said that their greatest need was for someone to look after their destitutes, and they named six people who had no one to look after them, and for whom the village felt a responsibility.

The social worker had told us that one of the reasons why she had chosen Gabane was because the Chief’s wife [Mrs. Pule] was the most compassionate and caring person, who had drive and initiative. She had asked the social worker in and was eager for help.

Mrs. Pule asked us to come in at least twice a week and by mutual arrangement Wednesday afternoon and Saturday morning were chosen. Deane was in charge of the larger group on Wednesday, and I took the smaller group on Saturday. We used
to raise money ourselves from the students and staff to pay for the bread, mealie meal, sugar, milk powder and tea.

A teacher aide in 1977, Mark McCrum, picks up the story in his book, Happy, Sad Land:

There were a variety of community service projects... Perhaps the best of these was the trip to the little village of Gabane, to the west of Gaborone, in the lee of low and beautiful hills. There were people here who were quite literally starving. Once a week a teacher, a couple of teacher aides and twenty or thirty kids, would drive the school truck to the back of the Gaborone Holiday Inn and pick up a huge aluminium cooking pot full of leftover steaks, pork chops and so on, over which the cooks had poured boiling water. This mess of pottage would then be driven (usually at maniac speed...) out over the bumpy dirt road to Gabane, where it would be handed out to ‘the destitutes’, together with small packets of sugar and dried milk. This they would live on for a week.

An article which appeared in an issue of South Africa's Sunday Times Magazine, 14 January, 1973 continues the story:

As 11 o’clock approaches on this particular Saturday morning, the villagers of Gabane anxiously scan the road to Gaborone 15km away. Their
eyes register relief when they see the dust thrown up by the Land-Rover and the open truck. They know they have not been forgotten by the pupils of Maru-a-Pula, Southern Africa’s newest and most remarkable multi-racial school.

Gabane possibly has 3,000 people but no one knows for sure... It differs little from its neighboring rural communities in Botswana, where disaster stalks the veld if the rainy season fails to materialise. A family is well off if its income reaches R75 in a year... A small boy’s wardrobe may consist of a pair of tattered shorts. A girl’s sole possession could be her one dress...

The Land-Rover and the truck disgorge their boys and girls, who include an American girl, her tousled-hair brother, some Indians from South Africa and the twin 14-year-old boys of Sir Seretse Khama, Botswana’s President...

One twin goes with a group to make earth bricks. Despite the heat, they will turn out 200 within two hours. Two of the girls enter the hut of two partially blind and crippled old women and squat mixing cowdung with dirt and water to repair the crumbling wall. A boy takes a loaf of bread to a well gnarled African who reckons he is 94 and remembers fighting for the British on the Western Front in 1916.
The three classrooms are crowded with village children. In the first one, Tshekedzi, one of the Khama twins, and a girl student [Faith Galetshoge] split the pupils into two parties for a general knowledge test, scoring point on the blackboard. In the next room a Motswana boy of 14 takes a class in a geography lesson. In a third an Indian boy is setting simple mathematical questions...

Our 40-year relationship with Gabane continues to flourish. MaP students travel in combis now, but the work of feeding and helping the elderly and teaching in the Pule Primary School is much the same. While traveling to services is still the norm, quite a few services take place on the school grounds. One of the more memorable involved a chicken coop:

At ‘Egg City’ they have solved one of the great riddles of the universe: chickens definitely come before the eggs. It was almost a month in fact before the new batch of ‘layers’ produced an egg between them - and then it looked as if a passing pigeon had been responsible. However, after much dark muttering by the management about the lucrative price of plucked chickens, egg production eventually began and Egg City eggs quickly re-gained their reputation for super freshness at bargain prices. Thanks to all the service volunteers who tramp down the path with buckets of feed and water every afternoon - and to the chickens.
Deep within the uncharted bowels of Maru-a-Pula there winds a path. Known only to a chosen few, it twists and winds its way through the backwaters of MAP. We, the minions of the yearbook, set off to find this path and the city that it led to... Egg City, Empire of the Golden Egg. We found this city, eventually, and if you don’t know what we are referring to, it’s the MAP chicken coop... Officially it is a service project which provides its members with valuable experience in... ahh... taking care of chickens. The chickens need food, water and, you know, the general sort of chicken necessities. The end result of this service project, however, is one relatively successful chicken farm.

~ Carnage Creator & JJ Flash, 1988 Yearbook

The chicken coop is no more but our service programme - guided by SPE Director Brenda Turnbull - continues to change both our students' lives and the lives of those they help.

One new initiative - “Project Starfish” - exemplifies MAP’s outstanding service programme. Caroline Desai, former MAP student, MAP parent and a veritable “Mother Theresa in heels”, spearheaded an intervention to help Onnalenna, a destitute young mother struggling to finish school. Caroline’s team of ten students organized a raffle, a civvies day and sales of posters and doughnuts to raise funds. On a sunny July day in 2011, Onnalenna and her family gratefully received soft blankets, an axe and a wheelbarrow, foodstuffs, water and storage containers and a much-prized paraffin lamp that will...
allow night study.

Today, we have over 25 service activities where students learn teamwork, the importance of careful planning and disciplined follow-through on good intentions. MaP students regularly teach reading, math and basic computer skills in village primary schools; they feed destitute families, coach orphans in various sports and visit sick children in hospital, to give just a few current examples.

While the content of classroom lessons are easily forgotten, community service continues to make an indelible mark on the lives - and future priorities - of MaP students.
The Performing & Visual Arts
MaP’s first actors performed on top of tables pushed together at one end of our cafeteria. Actors hit their heads on the ceiling if they were too tall or got too excited.

In an inspired bit of teasing at one of MaP’s early variety shows, DY and Dot dressed up as MaP students, lovebirds “Pigeon” & Kelvin, and played the balcony scene from Romeo & Juliet. Dot recalled the moment in her diary:

We made a make-shift balcony which I stood on. As I saw Deane running up I was overcome with emotion. He looked just as he used to look when I first met him, adorable! Fortunately I soon got my emotions under control, and I was word perfect. But it was difficult to get the words out because of the cheering of the school.

Other cafeteria-based shows included David Slater’s productions of pop operas for Form 1s including Holy Moses (featuring Solomon Monyame as Moses) and Jonahman Jazz.

An outdoor theatre was created when dirt scraped from the fields was piled up behind the history classrooms. This open-air stage, currently the Wilson Memorial Garden, was the setting for John O’Brien’s production of Sophocles’ Antigone in 1977. Roswitha Groth supplied the student cast with magnificently tie-dyed costumes.

Warren Nebe, one of the central forces in the performing arts at MaP, became Drama HOD in 1989. His first show - Story Time: Mainane - was stunning in its inventiveness and starred a youthful DJ Fresh, now one of Africa’s most popular DJs, then known as Thato Sikwane. Then came Warren’s brilliant and well-loved 1990 production of Godspell. Warren left MaP for UCT in 1991, before returning to MaP in 2002 for a further four years of dramatic excellence. Students remember him fondly as someone “who would listen and help but not criticize or judge… an incredibly sensitive and irritatingly perceptive person.” ~ Drama students, 1990 Yearbook

In 1987, Maru-a-Pula opened Maitisong, Botswana’s first public theatre, which was shared with the nation. The name MAITISONG means a place where culture is shared, often in the form of stories, song and dance around a fire. For 25 years, Maitisong has served as the national fireplace, playing host to an average of one show a week, amounting to well over 1200 shows. Thousands of people come onto our campus each year to attend these performances.

The Big Names have all been here:

and Selo and the Sengwe le Sengwe Tree.

Maitisong
Miriam Makeba, Abdullah Ibrahim, Sibongile Khumalo, Pieter-Dirk Uys, Ladysmith Black Mambazo, Soweto String Quartet, Andrew Buckland, Oliver Mtukudzi and our very own Angela Kerrison.

These Big Names have been joined on the Maitisong stage by names in the making: local gospel choirs, traditional dancers, drama troupes, the Botswana Defence Force bands, foreign embassies bringing performers from their home countries, hopeful promoters, local schools and, of course, Maru-a-Pula itself. Maitisong is for all.

The acclaimed Maitisong Festival started in 1987. This annual event, the biggest arts festival in Botswana, brings classical and popular concerts to fee-paying audiences in Maitisong and non-stop gospel, kwaiito and Afro-pop shows to thousands of revellers in Old Naledi free of charge.

Maitisong’s first Director, David Slater, who continues to promote the performing arts with energetic flair, was awarded the Presidential Certificate of Honour in 2002, “in recognition of long and faithful service to Botswana”.
The response to Maitisong’s offerings has been enormously positive:

*Maitisong has probably done more to promote culture in Botswana than any other institution... Maitisong’s greatest contribution to culture is ensuring that it gets to the ordinary people.*

~ Botswana Gazette, 27 March, 1996

One of the school’s most popular additions to the nation’s cultural calendar is an annual Setswana Week with its joyous celebration of all aspects of Botswana’s culture. Here’s what UB’s Professor Otologetswe had to say about our efforts:

*Maru-a-Pula, a national centre of cultural excellence!*

*How do they do it? How is this fantastic school able to host some of the finest national and international shows? Anything from music to drama or film - you will find it at Maru-a-Pula - presented with supreme excellence. The school has now gone further, and it has taken on cultural preservation activities by hosting an annual Setswana Week.*

*There is something right that Maru-a-Pula is doing, that no one else anywhere in the country is doing. There is no other place in Botswana which has so much culture and art as Maru-a-Pula...*

*Maru-a-Pula may be a perfect place to launch a national cultural renaissance. First, their love for the Setswana language and culture cannot be*
misconstrued as a consequence of incompetence in the English tongue - no, not MaP students. They represent the kind of student Botswana wants to produce – one who is confident with himself and comfortable with both English and Setswana. Second, Maru-a-Pula is an international school. Probably more than any other school in the country, the school attracts international acts and its activities can be used as powerful tools of cultural exchange that can export Setswana culture to other nations while bringing international acts into the country. Third, Maru-a-Pula has resources that even the University of Botswana lacks. Its hall, Maitisong, has become a national epicentre of cultural activity. It is a well-built hall with a decent PA system as well as a magnificent lighting system. The students are well mannered, articulate and well informed. I still have to remind myself that I am referring to a secondary school! Maru-a-Pula doesn’t have flashy buildings - but it is super organised with people who generally know what they have to do. Some institutions are cluttered with the so-called experts who theorise excessively, but whose theorizing achieves very little. Maru-a-Pula gets things done effectively, period.

It is hoped that activities around the Setswana week will continue to grow and flourish, and hopefully restore dignity and pride to the language and culture of the Batswana.

~ Dr. Thapelo Otlogetswe, The Telegraph, 22 September 2010

MaP’s Visual Arts

In 1987, Judith Crouch became MaP’s first full-time Art teacher and Head of Department. She brought her love of ceramics and pottery to a pre-fabricated building with no full-time teachers. Since then Nigel Dunmore, Candice Pierce, Steve Jobson, Ann Gollifer and Sedireng Mothibatsela have nurtured hundreds of budding artists as they draw, paint, weld and fashion clay objects of all descriptions.

The annual Junk’d Fashion Show - a collaboration between former Drama HOD, Aldo Brincat and current Art HOD, Steve Jobson - was introduced in 2006. Junk’d mandated students to design once-off garments made out of non-fabric materials such as plastic, bubble wrap, old CDs, paper, foil, masking tape and anything else one could think of to be used creatively. The shows have been extremely well received by students; parents, staff and the local press were thrilled with their creativity.

One of the most successful students to come out of the Art Department is Meleko Mokgosi, whose close mentor, Steve Jobson, is MaP’s current Art HOD. After graduating from Williams in 2007, Meleko was invited to join the Independent Study Program at the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City. In 2011 he received his Master of Fine Arts from UCLA and is now an Artist in Residence at The Studio Museum in Harlem for 2011/12. Through numerous exhibitions, Meleko’s work has met with critical acclaim worldwide.
During my lifetime I have dedicated my life to the struggle of the African people. I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die.

Nelson Mandela
No part of the MaP experience has generated more joy and goodwill - both in Botswana and internationally - than MaP’s marimba bands.

Twenty-five years ago, Alport Mhlanga began creating a MaP marimba programme that has sent musical ripples across the globe. One thing is clear: audiences love hearing our marimba bands. Small children run frenzied laps inside concert halls; seniors forget their infirmities and rise up from wheelchairs, high school students surge forward to dance. At times the reaction is unhinged, but the delight is there for all to see.

Responses to the recent tour of New York City, New England and Boston were unequivocal:

*Inspiring, spirit-soaring, energy-amping performance - this year’s touring group is especially personable, and, as usual, astoundingly talented. What a fantastic evening! I’m still faintly thrumming...*  
~ Beth Nissen, NBC Senior Producer, New York City

Thank you for a marvelous, inspiring
evening! The kids and their music FAR exceeded my expectations, I enjoyed every moment.
  ~ Richard Herman, Boston educator

Your students are fantastic people and wonderful musicians. I love experiencing the joy they exude and the joy their music creates for us the listeners. I can’t wait until 2016 when we hope you return.
  ~ Bob Sinicrope, Milton Jazz Band leader

North America - not to mention visits to Brazil and Portugal - and after six Artist in Residence invitations from Williams College, it is time to ask a couple questions. How difficult is it to learn to play the marimba? Is there some secret to Alport’s success? Alport’s answer:

With a good teacher not difficult at all. But with a bad teacher it can be hell. You must remember one thing: Keep a cool face and smile!

May the smiles keep on coming!

After five marimba band tours to North America - not to mention visits to Brazil and Portugal - and after six Artist in Residence invitations from Williams College, it is time to ask a couple questions. How difficult is it to learn to play the marimba? Is there some secret to Alport’s success? Alport’s answer:

With a good teacher not difficult at all. But with a bad teacher it can be hell. You must remember one thing: Keep a cool face and smile!

May the smiles keep on coming!

Picture - MaP Marimba Band in full swing at the Taft School, April 26th 2012
Most students in southern Africa, if asked what their most important activity outside the classroom was, would give their vote to sport. At Maru-a-Pula the reply would be ‘social service’…

Our games, soccer for the boys and tenniquoits and netball for the girls, are played on an area which a friend graded for us. So far, although our approach is not an intense one, we have been able to meet and match the skill of our local rivals.

~ Deane Yates (1974)

In the first year, our [football] team experienced a chain of defeats but as it matured and the school expanded in the second year, we were defeated only occasionally.
We always have a bitter feeling when we stride off the pitch after losing; a very reasonable thing, but we have to accept the fact that there cannot be a winner without a loser....

~ Kagisanyo Mokaila, Form 3 (1974)

Derek James, MaP’s first History teacher, shares some early sporting recollections:

When I arrived in November 1972, I was told to coach football. Apart from being enthusiastic, I was the proud owner of a refereeing certificate only and of little ability. No one said we must first clear the field of thorn bushes and then level it with shovel and rake. Calling for volunteers resulted in Tshekedi and Tony Khama, Chief and Kitso Mokaila and I to do the work. Hard Labour was proposed by me as a punishment for not doing homework or annoying teachers... some vague philosophical argument cancelled that theory. So the five of us cleared the fields, and this before every match and practice.

Then I requested football shirts for the team... no money.. so we always practised, one team in a shirt and the other bareback... painful when falling among the thorns! We had Form One only, and even then state schools had 20-year-olds in Form One and upwards.

We once played Gaborone Secondary School and lost 11 to 1, and our goal was scored by an ex-GSS pupil Ashford Mamelodi.... now a FIFA official. The 11 goals were let in, if my memory serves me, by one Kitso Mokaila, now the Honourable Minister of Tourism and Just About Everything Else. He was placed in goal because of his height. However we learned to accept defeat with smiles and good humour, our excuse being the other teams had men with beards playing, and we only had a coach with a beard and not much of a coach at that! Seriously our opponents were over the age of 20 and we were 15-year-olds. Deane Yates once had the gall to ask me why we always lost, words then and now fail me! Perhaps because we had two later Ministers, one MP, and two later pilots among us!

What about swimming? I was asked to coach and organise swimming... was I the only staff member who could swim? No pool... so the Head told us to raise funds and dig it ourselves. Mrs Mmagoane Masire, wife of the then VP, and I formed a committee... and steadily we raised funds with sponsored walks to the border and back, numerous jumble and fatcake sales, and our walks included Jock Dickson on his crutches, our best fundraiser. Eventually many parents came to our aid and a mechanical shovel replaced the weak efforts of the diggers of the pool! This pool is still operative and I am delighted to say that I am allowed to swim
Netball and other sports struggled to form teams because of our small numbers. Athletes had no track to run on so we used the roads about town or cleared pathways with slashers!!!

~ Derek James

[Derek was awarded the Presidential Order of Honour, the highest civilian award in Botswana, in September 2010, “in recognition of efficient and devoted services to Botswana.” Derek was President of the Botswana Athletic Association for ten years, and worked for 17 years at SOS Children’s Villages.]

As Derek notes, football, especially for the Senior Boys, proved a difficult challenge. Some painfully honest Yearbook reports capture the players’ and coaches’ despair:

1984: We lost all our games... Compared to other teams we were rather useless. Our team consisted of small weak people... We weren’t physically fit ... and we didn’t have any stamina... Unskillful and luckless. Played some very strange soccer. Made no use of two coaches. [Opponents scored ten times as many goals as MaP : 41 to 4].

1989: A disappointing season. They had the inspired leadership of an experienced player, they were coached by one-time Botswana footballer of the year and they...
had a new kit, but they failed to produce the goods. [The team played eight games without a win; opponents outscored MaP 40 to 13].

1990: Bennett Mamelodi’s “Comments on football at MaP”
- Generally low standard
- Student participation is questionable
- Staff attitudes in doubt
- Lack of motivation and incentives
- Things may improve

[Opponents scored thirteen times more goals than MaP that year:

Goals Against: 26, Goals For: 2].

1994: Known as the ‘Dream Team’, as half of them spent the game asleep, dreaming of their dates from the SAC disco the night before. We lost more games than we won.

1995: We drew and we lost, but as many of us know, winning is not the object of the game…. We played with great spirit which counts for a lot, especially if you go to a school like MAP, where winning does not occur that often… we’re struggling to keep this sport alive at MAP.

1996: I think we opened a few eyes in our method of play. [Won: 1 Lost: 6; Goals Against: 46; Goals For: 12]

1997: Our Senior football team – which seemed very promising at the start of the season – was unable to remain motivated and disciplined after suffering a couple of defeats. Consequently the team ended up losing all its fixtures…. 

2006: As our season progressed, mistakes were made, games were lost that should have been won, but lessons were learned!

While MaP’s football fortunes have improved of late, 2006 saw the start of a wildly popular innovation which - blessedly - didn’t require playing teams from other schools: The SHIBOBO League!

The vision was of an in-school mini
soccer league and was aptly named the ‘Shibobo’ League. Its resounding success signals a new era in MaP football.

MaP’s early humility was soon eclipsed by a more assertive attitude in games other than football. Here’s Raheem Hosseini’s account of what he called “a team of wonder-boys”:

The MaP Senior Softball Team 1984 is one that will never be forgotten. It ploughed through all immediate opposition to win the Zonal Championships and went on to the National Finals in such grand style that won the respect of all who saw the team play. [They actually lost in the finals to Lobatse Secondary School].

Here are the twelve hearts that pumped blood into the veins of Maru-a-Pula sport and, indeed, sport throughout the country:

- Tuli Johnson, the dynamic coach who found a gathering of potential young stars and left behind a team of precisely turned and highly skilled national champions:
- Themba Johnson, the 14-year-old pitching ace
- Ditirwa Mphoeng, the ultimate guardian as Captain and Catcher
- Martinus Seboni, the highly efficient and calculating first-baseman
- Kenna Giddie, the explosive second-baseman
- David Keitshokile, the ever-present third-baseman and backup pitcher
- Ian Norman, the
“sparkling” short-stop
• Ephraim Taolo, the miraculous left-fielder
• Andrew Norman, the outfield pivot of centre-field
• Raheem Hosseini, the outfield communications man right field
• Derrick Musa, the match-saving second left-fielder and
• Reuben Bvulani, the ever boosting second right-fielder...

Those twelve hearts came third in the country on paper, but remained Champions in all other respects... Maru-a-Pula salutes those twelve hearts and accepts the obligation that she must fight to keep her new-found reputation.

Which led finally in 1986 to the long-sought MOMENT OF GLORY:
• MaP’s Senior softball team beat all local competition, was crowned regional champions for third straight year and won the 1986 National Championships
  Team members: Themba Johnson (Captain), Kingsley (Vice-Captain), Bogale, Ty, Anthony Maganu, Thompson Seboni (game captain), Merafhe Rabogatsu, Edward, James, Randall Dyck, Tiro and Tawana Moremi (coach).

For almost twenty years MaP Running was a way of life for some at the school. Few boy boarders during those years will not have cursed the wake-up call on Sundays for the pre-breakfast ascent of Kgale. Many
MaP students participated in the Monday afternoon time trials, while the annual inter-house cross country competitions (270 finishers in 1995 alone) halted all other activities at the school.

Then there were the road runs and the Fun 4 and Super 8 contests. To say nothing of the four Ruretse Half Marathons. And the 160 km run to Jwaneng, one of several events organized for charity: Camphill, Cheshire, SOS, Khama Rhino Sanctuary and the MaP Bursary Funds were all beneficiaries at one time or another.

Best remembered of all will be the Moonlight Runs. These all-night relays on the beautiful MaP track, illuminated by the full moon, brought school teams from as far afield as Maun and Kanye, Selebi-Phikwe, Mochudi and Molepolole to take part in an event which promoted good health, fun and friendship and combined these with keen athletic competition. The first Moonlight Run, staged to mark MaP’s 25th anniversary in 1997, saw 3211 laps completed, for a total distance of 1284.4 km.

Running, and its cousin Jogging, are about the least demanding of all sports that have been on offer at the school. We like to think that MaP Running might have left its mark for life on some of our past students. Current students in search of inspiration need look no further than our very own James John,
MaP maintenance staff member since 2001, who holds the national record for the marathon.

Basketball, today’s most popular sport, started at MaP on a simple dirt court in the 2nd term, 1986:

Despite the fact that basketball is a ‘non-contact sport’ our games sometimes resemble Armageddon... None of us deserves the title of “Doctor” or “Chocolate Thunder”... Long live basketball at MaP! ~ 1986 Yearbook

Since that rough & tumble start, MaP basketball has flourished for both boys and girls. Starting in 1993 through 2009, the Senior Boys Basketball team won Botswana’s national championship for sixteen straight years. This was largely the work of one of MaP’s most inspirational coaches, Silas Mabonga, who life was tragically cut short in a car accident in 2007. An annual basketball tournament
is held in remembrance of “Mabee” and his contribution to the growth of the sport at MaP and in Botswana.

Other sports have enjoyed remarkable success as well. Netball coach Theresa Hirschfeld has led her girls to ten straight national championships starting in 2001. Swimming have won five straight national championships starting in 2008 and our Senior Boys Rugby team has captured national crowns in 2010 and 2011.

HOD Bruce Nkala has presided over a “golden age” in MaP sport. From humble beginnings where we were crushed by local teams, MaP’s athletes now regularly triumph over competitors from South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia and Swaziland. Improved facilities include properly grassed playing fields and new changing rooms. We currently employ nine external coaches to develop the skills of a

new generation of MaP athletes. They would appear to be doing rather well. In 2011 we achieved the following:

• Inter-Schools Athletics Champions
• Inter-Schools Swimming Champions
• Inter-Schools Cricket Champions
• ISSA Mafikeng Cricket Festival Champions
• Inter-Schools Senior Netball Champions
• Inter-Schools Junior Netball Champions
• Inter-Schools Senior Boys’ Rugby Champions
• Inter-Schools Senior Girls’ Tag Rugby Champions
• Inter-Schools Junior Boys’ Basketball Champions
• Inter-Schools Junior Girls’ Basketball Champions
• Inter-Schools Senior Boys’ Basketball Runners-up
• Inter-Schools Senior Boys’ Football Runners-up
• Inter-Schools Senior Boys’ Football Third place
• ISSA Mafikeng U16 Basketball Boys’ Champions
• Overall Inter-Schools Tennis Singles Champions
• U14 Basketball Boys’ Invitational Champions
• U14 Basketball Girls’ Invitational Champions
• U16 Basketball Boys’ Invitational Champions
• U16 Basketball Girls’ Invitational Champions
• U16 Basketball Boys’ Mabonga Invitational Champions
• U16 Basketball Girls’ Mabonga Invitational Champions
• Karate Hayashi Ha Tournament - 6 Golds, 1 Silver and 1 Bronze
Name a human activity, chances are it’s been a MaP club or enrichment at some point since 1972. Countless clubs have either flourished or perished at MaP, but live or die, they’ve had an undeniable impact in our 40 years as a school.

A sampling:

COMPUTERS
Some of the regular members have been Bushi and Dziki who are two of the Logo animation experts. Raymond has found that programming his history notes is the best way of learning them. Per Landmark produced some interesting graphics using Basic earlier in the year, something which I have not seen any other Basic supporters attempt. Todd remains our most reliable source of alternative software and he is constantly in demand to print ‘headings’ and posters. Most recently John Moffat and Robert Lindfield have got the computers to play tunes.

~ Yearbook 1985

I love it because I get to play SPEEDWAY, listen to Portia’s never ending problems and chew a chappie!

~ Yearbook 1990

CAR MAINTENANCE
The Car Club has become an extremely successful institution on campus. Each term a new group of capable students is trained in the
More recently Bird Club members have been spotted stalking through the undergrowth around MAP with Mr Gardener forever in search of the elusive white-faced tree duck and identifying some 15 common campus species in the process.
~ JG, Yearbook 1989

We also spent some time in the labs exploring the contents of owl pellets. We recovered quite a number of skulls and plenty of (ugh!) mouse fur.
~ Senwelo Foster, Yearbook 1998
The art of motor vehicle maintenance. The greatest measure of our success has been the number of cars we have serviced and the number of these cars that we never see again, presumably because the first service was so efficient. Among our triumphs have been the work performed on Mr Pilkington’s Peugot prior its trip to Zambia and points southward, my own glorious Nomad prior to selling it, and Mr Murray’s Nomad before it stopped running altogether. We have filled Mrs Colquhoun’s radiator. Need I say more? It has long been our aim to obtain a used engine or old car that we can call our own. This way we would always have something to work on, since lately, for reasons unknown to us, nobody has taken us up on our offer of free service.

~ OO, Yearbook 1985

COOKERY

To tell the truth not all our attempts are disastrous. We do learn a lot about cooking - and what’s more, we enjoy eating the results, whatever happens to them.

~ Tshepidi Moremong, Yearbook 1985

JUGGLING

In their constant struggle with the dark force of gravity, the new jugglers have advanced to performing a wide variety of tricks with little efforts. The non-jugglers remain pinned down by this dark force and spend most of their time chasing after tennis balls...
With the intention of developing the whole juggler, foot skills have been improved with the Hacky Sack. This little bean bag has been introduced to teach students where their feet are. Up to this point we thought they were at the end of our legs. Hacky Sack teaches us where they really are.

~ RB, Yearbook 1985

DEBATING
Blood, sweat and tears don’t begin to describe the effects of this club on its members. Innocent newcomers and seasoned diehards clash weekly on the verbal battlefield which is the Debating Club.

~ WN/RB/MM, Yearbook 1989

FISHING
In centuries to come when learned scholars are writing weighty tomes (why are ‘tomes’ always so heavy?) on the history of Maru-a-Pula Secondary School, the second term of the 1989 academic year will stand out above all others as being of great importance. For this was when the MAP Fishing Club got off the ground and into the water. Under the expert guidance of Mr Jolliffe and Mr Doyle numerous intrepid fishermen (no sexism here, for there wasn’t a female in sight) cast all caution to the wind and all worms into the Dam in search of Bream, Barbel, Squeaker and other piscatorial delights. There is a sporting axiom which says: ‘It is not to win, but to compete’. So it is with fishing. It is not the catch,
but the relaxation. We in the Fishing Club are very good at relaxing. There have been times when our catches have been rather disappointing but we are hoping in the future to turn Botswana into a net exporter of fish.

~ DO, Yearbook 1989

SEWING CLUB
Sewing Club consists of a small group of young and dedicated beginners. When they are not battling to control runaway electric sewing machines, they are unpicking the crazing stitching by said mavericks. In between, progress is made, slowly, and hopefully by the end of term everyone will be finished with the skirts they began sewing in February.

~ JC, Yearbook 1989
BRIDGE CLUB
The definite highlight of the year was losing the Interschool Bridge Tournament. Oh well, it's fun. I'll let you in on a well-kept secret - most of us actually know how to play bridge!
~ Karla Yoder, Yearbook 1989

Warning: joining this club is highly likely, almost definitely, going to cause thinking - occasionally deep thinking.
~ Yearbook 2004

MODERN JAZZ DANCE
Generally the girls are not excellent dancers. People must remember that they do try hard especially since the movements and rhythms are difficult to master. As Madame (Van der Post) constantly reminds the girls, 'you might not be professionals but you must strive to be good amateurs.'
~ Tebby Khutoane, Yearbook 1989
Jock Dickson looms very large in the minds of many who first attended MaP. Coming from St. Stithians College in Johannesburg, Jock had a steep learning curve:

At St. Stithians, I was a very good teacher. I was a very firm disciplinarian. That didn’t count at MaP. You had to be able to handle kids. Above all, the boarding house. I’ve never taken on a job that I less wanted to take on. Above all, following on after John [O’Brien]. I found John the most stimulating and exciting person in education that I’d ever met.

But Jock filled those shoes well. The students found him quite exciting.

I remember our very first geography lesson with him. He had these steely blue eyes. We were petrified of him. First of all, the fact that he used crutches; he was different. And he looked like a real no-nonsense type of person. He’d hook his leg over the arm bit of his crutch, have his arms folded, and narrow his eyes and survey the classroom. He reminded me a bit of what I imagined a ship’s captain to be like.

~ Alice Mogwe

There’s a famous story of somebody stealing one of his crutches for a laugh. They had run up behind him and stole a crutch as he was standing there. Do you remember those things? They were big, heavy, stone and steel things. He hefted the other one, just chucked it like a javelin, caught this guy straight in the back, knocked him over, went over and retrieved his crutch. You didn’t mess with Jock.

~ Martyn Fisher

When I arrived and encountered Jock in the flesh, I was struck by his physical presence, by his robust take on life, his crackling intensity, his immense enthusiasm, his complete devotion to, and affection for, our students and Maru-a-Pula. In a word, Jock exuded passion.

~ Andy Taylor
Jock left MaP to teach at Moeding College, a government school in Otse. It was there, as a Boarding Master, that he felt he really connected with Setswana culture. He returned to teach at MaP from the mid ‘80s through the mid ‘90s, this time with Botswana citizenship and an adopted Motlokwa son.

Because Mara and Ross Metcalfe left after only two terms at Maru-a-Pula, many consider Derek and Lyn James the third family to join the MaP staff. Derek came in as a teacher of History and English, and Lyn taught Biology and Geography. They arrived from the Western Township, from a boys’ school called St. Nicholas. Though they liked the school, they were happy to receive DY’s invitation to come to Botswana (even if it meant sleeping in a Volkswagen Dormobile next to the BBH for a little while). There had been quite a few recent murders around their house in South Africa, and they were raising their two young daughters.

Anyone who was taught by Derek James will tell you that he had a very particular style of teaching - one that didn’t suit all students. That didn’t bother James - he was a stringer for the BBC, so he was used to complaints. The same journalistic training that had thickened his skin was also the cause of some of the students’ acrimony: he occasionally ran out of class, leaving the students with instructions to carry on in his absence. “Something big has happened! Gotta run!” he’d shout. And none could forget his mantra: You mustn’t let the truth interfere with a good story.

Derek James had a knack for levelling with the students, though, and seeing things from their perspective. In that sense, he and Lyn - who shared this talent - were very important additions to the community. At one point, he brought his history class to the top of Basothokop (near the Gaborone Dam) to explain the British perspective of a local Anglo-Boer War battle. Meanwhile, Ross Metcalfe’s geography class was down in the riverbed, waiting for the signal. When James gave it, at the appropriate part of his story (“And then they blew up the bridge across the Metsimaswana!”) Ross’s class set off crackers and fired blanks out of rifles lent to them by Ian Khama, head of the fledgling Botswana Defence Force. It was a very good story, and well executed.
As fun and wonderful as MaP was, when Kalahari Management Services approached James to be Group Personnel Manager “of all the hotels, all the breweries, and all game-trackers” in Botswana, he couldn’t refuse.

Derek James left in Term One of 1980. Lyn ended up coming back to MaP after 9 years of teaching full-time at the local government Gaborone Secondary School. Both Jameses recently retired from SOS Children’s Villages Botswana, where they helped hundreds of Botswana’s orphans for over a decade.

When he was Vice Principal of a government school in the north of Swaziland, John O’Brien handed a letter to the Ministry of Education. In it, he explained he could no longer participate in a system that cared so poorly for its teachers (his Headmaster had, at one point, lived in a garage). Almost immediately upon submitting the letter, he received one from Deane Yates that read, “I wonder if you would be interested in coming to join us at Maru-a-Pula.”

John O’Brien joined MaP as Head of the English Department in 1976. “JO’B”, as he was called, knew DY from his time at St. John’s, and had been in the same year as David Matthews all through college and the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. JO’B also went to hear DY give a talk in England entitled, “Maru-a-Pula - An Educational Venture in Botswana” to the Royal Society of the Arts on 4 May 1972. By 1976, he was well aware of Maru-a-Pula and knew the Old Johannians (St. John’s alumni) who were running the operation.

Though he held various positions at Maru-a-Pula through the years, including Second Master under both Yates and Matthews, and Head of English, some of John O’Brien’s major contributions were not only theatrical but also botanical. His plays began MaP’s strong theatre tradition, and his horticultural interests are largely responsible for the cultivated beauty of today’s school grounds. Whether you call him “JO’B” or just “O’B”, his imprint on Maru-a-Pula is deep and lasting.

There was one O’Brien project that didn’t go quite so well. Sydney Press (of Edgar’s department store fame) offered to donate large White Stinkwoods to be driven up from his farm outside Johannesburg. Holes were dug around campus at
O’Brien's specification of 1 meter in length, width, and depth to accommodate the roots. The trees eventually came, but they were tiny. David Matthews fell in a hole walking home at night and hurt his back. A Teacher Aide (assistant teacher) fell in another; a guest of the Matthews family got his car stuck in yet another of these hazards (the vehicle was damaged, and the owner not amused). The White Stinkwoods - only about 30 centimetres (1 foot) high - arrived months later, and the holes were then refilled.

We always knew he was finished with the day when we'd see him walking through the school in his loud Hawaiian shirts and shorts.

~ Martyn Fisher ('82)

JO'B's plans for theatre productions, however, never went awry. “Antigone” was the first play produced at MaP. Then came “Caucasian Chalk Circle”, “Royal Hunt of the Sun”, and “Midsummer Night’s Dream” - all before a drama department was established, and all incredibly well done for student productions, in the bush or not. Of “Midsummer Night’s Dream”, one alumnus recalls:

All the costumes were white and silver, and the backdrop was pretty much white as well, so there was this fantastic contrast between the dark faces and the light costumes. And it had this effect of bringing them straight out into the audience. You know, you’re sort of 50-60 feet away from them, but it was right there. He thought of everything! It was just brilliantly done, from start to finish.

O’Brien inspired students and teachers alike. He was exciting and outgoing, and poured his life into his work. On one of his vacations, he even attended an interview at Oxford on behalf of a MaP student who had applied but couldn’t make it to the UK. Ndaona Chokani, MaP Class of 1980, was accepted.

Even though JO’B officially retired in 1999, he still comes to campus on Tuesdays and Fridays to check on the gardens and offer advice. Unlike the many teachers who have come and gone, John O’Brien is a lifetime member of the Maru-a-Pula community.

Mma Steele has lived in Botswana since 1958. Her husband was Deputy Commissioner of the Police, and she held posts at the Botswana Housing
Greta Steele
Corporation and the Ministry of Education before coming to Maru-a-Pula. Her skills were immediately necessary, because the previous Bursar was discovered to have grossly misrepresented his qualifications after a couple months on the job. The council dismissed him at their first meeting of the year.

Phil Steenkamp, when this man made such a mess, he said, “Greta will put it right.” He came round and said, “You’re going to Maru-a-Pula.”
I said, “No, I’m not.”
He said, “Yes, you are.”
I said, “This is ridiculous! I’m not taking over all the finances after someone’s made a mess!”

She was installed as Bursar in April 1976. Though she performed her function flawlessly, it wasn’t until the 1990s that she came into her own. Without Mma Steele’s financial foresight and diligent management of school resources, much of the McKenzie Era development would have been impossible. Greta still appears frequently at MaP to visit with friends and feed her beloved pack of feral cats.

It is no surprise that Alan David Boone Wilson teaches American History at Maru-a-Pula - he has ancestors from the famous Boones of Kentucky.

When he arrived as a Teacher Aide in 1975, though, he was more interested in socialising. It wasn’t until he returned in 1984 that Wilson began his career at MaP in earnest. He has been the Boys’ Housemaster, the founder and coach of MaP Running, Senior Master when that post existed, and, depending on when you knew him, has been known as “Magetla”, “Mawila”, “ADB”, or all three.

When the school went through a difficult period in the early 2000s, it was Alan Wilson the Council called upon to act as Headmaster until they could find...
someone to take over. His stable stewardship kept the functioning of the school aligned with its mission.

From Dot’s Diary:

He was a man of tremendous intellect and possessed of a great deal of wisdom. He was also very influential, with wide contacts in the U.S.A. and he was able to raise funds for us. Later, he became the first President of a scheme called ‘The American Friends of Maru-a-Pula’.

He was a very generous person, and had a house built at his own expense on the property. It consisted of a main room, and two bedrooms, each with its own bathroom, as he was very hospitable person and liked having people to stay. He kept his fridge stocked with cold drinks and snacks, which were much appreciated by the young.

Ned had many interests and could play a good game of tennis. He taught many of the boys how to play bridge (he started a Bridge Club) and he could play backgammon by the hour. He was very fond of animals and got himself a black and white cat he called ‘Prufrock’ after T.S. Eliot’s character of that name. He wanted a dog, but this proved to be impossible. Ned was only going to be able to spend the first and third terms of the year with us, as he still had commitments in the U.S. He was going to find a replacement for himself for the second term, but the replacement might not be a dog lover, and in the holidays there would be no one to look after it.

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Ned provided the balance we needed on the staff and he was both a good listener and a wise counsellor. I went to him with a problem which he solved for me. He was very keen on our philosophy of self-help and social service, and used his own truck to do the social service and allowed others to use it. He did his share and more of the washing up, his pipe bellowing smoke from the corner of his mouth.

As far back as September 7, 1973, Ned Hall made his dedication clear in a letter to DY: “Whatever happens, I hope you know that my interest in Maru-a-Pula is real and lasting....”
Through Ned’s contacts, he was written up in Newsweek. The article was titled, “American Headmaster in an African School”. He wrote of his real and lasting interest in Maru-a-Pula to Robert C. Christopher, Editor of the Foreign Edition of Newsweek, on 31 January 1975: “I have given my services to the school in preference to The Hill or St. Mark’s because I believe its role is unique, its methods refreshingly free of elitism, its aim as thoroughly clear as it can be.”

Before he passed away, Ned Hall visited MaP one last time. Andy Jackson, a student of Hall’s from St. Mark’s and a long-time friend, said, “The last thing that he ever probably did deliberately was visit Maru-a-Pula. And I talked to him, I think, on the phone the day that he got back, and that was the last time that I felt that he knew who I was - who he was talking to.”

Ned Hall passed away on September 25 1993, remaining unquestionably true to dedication to the school for the last twenty years of his life.

What would the school be without a strong head of security? Gideon Chobela, member of the MaP community since 1977, runs the show: no questions asked.

In the past, if the students were lucky, he just grabbed them by the ear and said, “You - you are a naughty one. Don’t do this.” He preferred the stick, though.

According to Gideon, some of the neighbourhood kids who used the pool on the weekends were actually upset when the man with the stick wasn’t around:

*If they didn’t find me, they’d ask, “Where is that man hitting us always when we come here?”*

At one point in the mid-‘80s, there were so many MaP kids being beaten up at the local shopping centre, No Mathata, that Gideon was sent out in plain clothes - with a sjambock - to ‘sort out’ the situation. The beatings ceased.

In the early ‘80s, Setswana teacher Zach Matumo taught Gideon how to raise chickens. Matumo tried to teach the students in a chicken-farming Enrichment, but, in Gideon’s words, the students
“were just lazy to feed some chickens.”

Gideon, however, was not lazy. Soon, his chicken farming empire grew to “nearly 2000 white chickens.” He sold them to the school and to the butchery at No Mathata, but some teachers objected to his use of school resources (land and water at his ad hoc farm just behind the BBH). Despite Malcolm McKenzie’s encouragement, Gideon closed his farm. When he moved his house to Northwest Campus, McKenzie again urged him to resume his fowl operations, but Gideon was reluctant. He scaled down and raised only a few Setswana chickens:

“Not white ones. Strong chickens.”

Still Head of Security, Gideon is the second longest-serving continuous member of the Maru-a-Pula staff.
It was and is an astonishing place, Maru-a-Pula. We tried, as teacher aides, to contribute to and improve the life of the school, each in our own way. There were errands and postal pick-up in the town, the serving of meals, the help with studies, the pouring of paving slabs, the trips out to feed the old ladies in Gabane and the role we played in the boarding houses that discouraged unfairness to the youngest boys.

We mostly did what we liked to do and invited the students to do it with us. We were forever taking the old truck “Jacobo” filled to the brim with students, out to some way-post where they could climb up kopjes, wriggle our way through caves (disturbing bats who flew above us - yipes!) or poke around the dry, sandy beds of rivers.

The boys’ boarding house is what I remember best. We went to the rail station to pick up students arriving, some of the small boys coming from their villages the start of each term with a paper sack containing little more than a toothbrush and some changes of underwear.

Bed-check at the start of a new school year was a revelation to me: not to find the youngest boys in their beds at all but sleeping a half-dozen of them on the floor in various cubicles, grouped under the standard-issue grey blankets. There were scorpions one had to check for before getting into bed at night and sometimes snakes which the boys would surround and kill no matter the species.

The walls in the rainy season grew a moldy damp substance that ascended bit-by-bit up the walls.
starting from the floor. There was never enough hot water. Q-tips were stolen, excuse me pinched, from my room within a day of buying them. Every single time I got a new pack I could walk to the 1st Form boys' sleeping area and see all of them simultaneously, happily cleaning out their ears.

If the boys' boarding house with its occasional snake, its dreadful toilets, its perpetual lack of hot water, and its gritty layer of dust over everything represented one side of life in the 1970s, there were most definitely other sides: making paving slabs that would become the concrete surround for a swimming pool; riding into town to pick up the mail - attempting to safely drive a Honda 50 whose gears were shot; hoping to start at the back of the correct line at the post office only to be told 90 minutes later by the clerk when I finally reach the window that I needed to be in the line for window 5, not window 4, and getting back in line for another 90 minutes. Riding in the Land-Rover with Dot, who stops rather abruptly, grabs a bag of canned (tinned) food I hadn’t noticed, and drops it at the front entrance to the rondavel of an old lady outside some village
who - Dot explains to me - has a hard time managing. Dot stops by with a bag of food when she can.

“Scroothing” at MaP & the “Scrootch Patrol”

~ Bruce Brodigan

The problem is as old as rocks and as common as pig tracks. Everyone knows that this is the #1 worry of persons responsible for the upbringing of adolescent boys and girls: How do you persuade boys and girls not to have sexual intimacy, with all its related complexities and potential pitfalls… at the very moment in their lives when their bodies are telling them precisely the opposite? Maru-a-Pula was no different from any other school in this regard.

Dot spoke to Mark [McCrum, also a teacher aide in 1976] about this problem on a few occasions - how it might be helpful if we could make our presence known in and around the boarding houses in the half-hour between prep-time and lights out, when the boys and girls were permitted to cross the campus and visit with one another in the evening. Visiting was one thing, said Dot, but the boys and girls were not to have sex; they
were too young, their education and careers could be jeopardized, and so on and so forth.

“I hate to say it,” said Dot, “but I think there may be some of our students who are scrootching in the bushes.”

Mark and I appreciated Dot’s openness with us on this difficult matter and her appeal for our help. We said we would do what we could. But once we were out of her company - we wondered: had we heard her correctly? What exactly did Mma Y mean by “scrootching”? We knew smooching... and we knew screwing... but scrootching?

This was a word only Dot Yates could have come up with. Mark was beside himself with happiness at this new concept of Mma Y’s - “scrootching” - because he knew exactly how to respond. Mark taped, or tied, two flashlights (torches) to the handlebars of the Honda, placed himself as driver and me in the rear, and had us set off that very night in the prescribed half-hour. We were officially, Mark informed me, the “Scrootch Patrol.” Mark was a crap driver, and therefore the word hilarity does not do justice to the experience of the two of us driving a motorcycle with flashlights on the handlebars all around the bush to the rear of the girls’ boardinghouse, loudly proclaiming ourselves to be the “Scrootch Patrol.” We hit rocks. We hit horrible, thorny acacia trees. We nearly hit students. Who did not find us funny, not one bit.

I never had, or ever will have, as much fun as I had on the evening when I was second-in-command of the world’s first and only Dot-Yates-commissioned “Scrooch Patrol.”

A Story about Dot Yates
~ from a letter sent to DY by Bruce Brodigan, 3 July 2011

She was an extraordinary woman, DY. I don’t think you could have found better. Vice-versa. One day Dot told me a story you may or may not know. It was in the first year of
the founding of this new, multi-racial school - “Maru-a-Pula” - that would become distinguished in time, but was then little more than a cleared spot in the scrubby bush outside Gaborone, Botswana. Deane Yates the Headmaster of St. John’s had been tapped to become its head; Deane and Dot were furnished a tent to live in.

At some point, Dot had had enough of the dust and scrub; it was asking too much of her to live like this. She went for a walk into the bush, because she needed to cry - and she did not want you to know. Dot did not want to discourage you, she did not want to complain.

When Dot - having had her cry - her eyes were runny and red. You looked at her and wondered if she didn’t have an allergy to something that was pollinating that season. “Your eyes look all runny and red, Dear. I think you might be having an allergic reaction to something in the air,” you said. Dot answered you, “Yes, I think I am. I must be having an allergy to something.”

It was and it wasn’t a parable. I was a young man, and Dot was naturally a mother to young men like Chris [Bruce’s brother, also a MaP teacher aide] and me. She had not had children of her own - that is true - but nobody could say Dot wasn’t a mother. To young men like Chris and me, Dot Yates was a mother.

In telling me this story, Dot was intending for me to understand that complaining, even when justified, was something one could refrain from, and at times should refrain from. Worthwhile endeavors require sacrifice, and sacrifice requires forbearance.

But with that story she taught me much more. Dot taught me about the tenderness of love; she taught me about patience and about courage. My god, I wondered at the time: What would it be like to be the kind of phenomenal person Dot Yates is?

I still wonder.
Today [1972] it has 26 pupils of whom 12 (all boys) are boarders. A girls’ wing will be added when funds permit. Three Indian boys come from well-off trading families at Potgietersrus and two Africans are from Lesotho and Ciskei where their fathers are a doctor and the head of a university department. There is one boy from Zambia but mostly they are from Botswana itself... Fees are R700 for boarders and R350 for day pupils.

~ Peter Lawrence in Sunday Times Magazine, 14 Jan. 1973
1972, FORM 1: MaP’s first 26 students

Saad Chachalia
Faith Galetshoge
Gwyneth Gould
Cyril Gregory
Dineo Kgarebe
Anthony Khama
Tshekedi Khama
Clive Leeuw
Mothusi Lekalake
Justice Makole
Gaone Masire
Dominic Matumo
Kagisanyo Mokaila
Kitso Mokaila
Alicia Mookodi
Violet Mosele
Thabo Ntshona
Jeffrey Porretta
Barbara Raleru
Anne Sales
Mark Sales
Edna Setidisho
Ashraf Tayob
Suleiman Tayob
James Widgery
Elizabeth Young
What I Expect From Maru-a-Pula

I expect the teachers to help the children when they find things difficult. I also expect the teachers to explain to the children how to work and how to set out things.

I expect the walls of the Form 1 and 2 cubicles to be painted a darker colour, like dark brown, because the Form 3s do not have to wash their walls.

I expect the class to have the same Class Teacher all through their life at the school. I expect the classes to start at 7:10 am.

I expect to have supper at 7:00 p.m. and lights out at 9:45 p.m. I expect the water to stay hot longer in the showers.

~ Ndaona Chokani, Form 1 (1974)
Why Afternoon Classes Are No More

During the first two terms we had lessons in the morning and the afternoon. We had six lessons in the morning each forty-five minutes long and two lessons in the afternoon. In summer the afternoon lessons would be especially boring because you would be tired and too hot to concentrate. Everyone always gave a sigh of relief when the period came to an end.

~ Olive Pitso, Form 2 (1974)
A Uniform? Try Polyform

On a visit to most schools it is the clothing - or perhaps the way the clothes are being worn - that catches the eye. Clothing as a barometer of Maru-a-Pula identifies a carefreeness... There is a prescribed practical form of dress, which is worn jauntily.

~ A. H. Maclarty, Marung, Magazine of Air Botswana, 1988
It was April Fool’s Day and David Matthews had tried on April Fool on his class by telling them that he had heard that there had been an elephant sighted on the outskirts of the town and that if anyone saw it they must report it to the Wild Life Department. This information was received without any questioning by the students so David came to us and suggested that we followed it up. It was arranged that I should drive up to the classroom at high speed, slam on the brakes, and rush inside the classroom and say, “Deane, an elephant has just walked down the road from the sewage farm end and -”

I didn’t have time to add any more as I was nearly knocked down by the whole class trying to get out of the door. There was only one person who didn’t run. She walked and when she was outside the classroom she said, “What date is it today - isn’t it April 1st?”

She was an American, and her name was Anne Sales. I may say that the next year the students got their own back on us. It has been a tradition ever since to do some April fooling until 12 noon.

~ Dot Yates’ Diary
Every year, MaP students receive tutoring and mentorship from six extraordinary Harvard University undergraduates for eight weeks. This unique programme is made possible through the generous sponsorship of Harvard University’s Treasurer, Jim Rothenberg. In 2011 and again in 2012, each of the Harvard students arrive with ten of their favourite books to inspire reading at MaP. They advise on students’ written work, help senior students prepare compelling college essays, teach Maths classes and clinics, edit student journalism and provide SAT instruction. Their impact on our students has been wonderful to see.

Excerpts from Isaiah’s letter of thanks to Jim Rothenberg follow:

3 August, 2011

Dear Mr. Rothenberg,

Two days ago, my summer in Botswana ended, and I had to say a surprisingly difficult goodbye to the Maru-a-Pula School in Gaborone. I am not a very sentimental person, but I have to say that it was very sad to say goodbye to all the students and teachers I had worked with the past two months. Maru-a-Pula is an amazing place, and I want to sincerely thank you for making it possible for me to spend the summer there. I am sure you already realize the value of investing in the Maru-a-Pula internship, but I would like to take a minute to articulate a little of what
I think about that value....

MaP is an extremely valuable institution for Botswana because it fosters an atmosphere of rigorous academic study and because it puts a strong emphasis on community service. I hope that the other interns and I helped to contribute to this atmosphere this summer. One specific way I think we did contribute to this atmosphere was by emphasizing the importance of a well-rounded education.

MaP students tend to be quite strong in the maths and sciences, but in my opinion there is not as much interest in literature or the humanities. All of us worked one-on-one with numerous students to improve on individual writing assignments. We read Richard III with students. We played vocabulary games with them. We dissected poetry with them... We strongly encouraged (forced?) students to read on their own, and then had them give us book reports on what they had read. I can’t be sure that all these strategies were perfectly effective, but the overall response to our efforts was definitely encouraging.

I also think it is wonderful that you expanded the program this year to allow all six of us to go. Because there were more of us, we were able to more consistently reach out to the entire school than what I believe has been done in past years. I think this had an especially positive impact on many of the lower-form students, with whom we probably would not have been able to work very closely had there been fewer of us...

All this says nothing of the many ways this experience impacted me personally. I had never left the States before coming to Botswana this summer, I cannot think of a better first international experience... Thank you for creating such an opportunity.

Sincerely,

Isaiah T. Peterson
Harvard 2012
Maru-a-Pula is a world-class school rooted in Botswana. We aim to launch leaders with the skills and the informed passion to confront global challenges. We connect students to their local communities and to the wider world.

In 2012, our 670 students are 63% Batswana and 37% expatriate, representing 34 different nationalities. We have active links, featuring student exchanges, with over 20 schools in the USA, UK, China, Japan, Switzerland, France and Australia.

Just last month, we initiated a partnership with the Ministry of Education whereby 19 students who have earned 4 A*s or better in their BGCSEs are receiving full government sponsorship to attend Maru-a-Pula as part of the Top Achievers programme.

MaP students are working with six Harvard undergraduates for eight weeks this term; two Princeton in Africa Fellows have just joined us and will be teaching here for a year. We must raise funds to
continue our two-year partnership with students from the Juilliard School of the Performing Arts in New York.

As part of our effort to serve Botswana and Africa, Maru-a-Pula provides scholarships for 28 orphans and vulnerable children. Nearly a third of our Batswana students receive financial assistance. We must do more.

In its range of partners and depth of relations, our 40-year tradition of service is unparalleled for a secondary school. With over 25 different weekly opportunities, service is required of all students at all levels. We are constantly looking for new ways to engage MaP students in local and global challenges.

Our students’ consistently outstanding performance on the Cambridge IGCSE and A-Level examinations position Maru-a-Pula as one of Africa’s top schools. Over the past three years our IGCSE candidates have averaged over 50% A*s and As; in 2011, 48% of our A-Level candidates achieved A*s & As in one or more subjects.

Maru-a-Pula has an outstanding track record in helping students gain places at the world’s most selective universities. Here are the salient features:

  * Times 2011/2012 rankings

- Maru-a-Pula currently has seven students at Williams College, the top-ranked U.S. liberal arts college: Justin Mangope, Neo Mokgwati, Arsema Berhanu, Mmaserame Gaefele, Kushata Fanikiso, Laone Thekiso and Thobo Mogojwe.

In 2011, over 1500 international students applied to Williams. Only 90 international students were accepted. Of the 90 accepted, six were Maru-a-Pula students, an exceptional achievement for a single school.
• Three Maru-a-Pula students - Tumisang Madigele, Gobakwe Montshiwa and Kesa Modukanele - are currently attending Stanford on full scholarships. Two further MaP students, Kaelo Moahi and Wandipa Muafele, will join Stanford this September.

• Former MaP students, Katlego Bagwasi and Ludo Sabone, currently attend Oxford as Rhodes Scholars.

In 2012, we remain committed to our founder’s dream of moving students - step by step - toward great and giving lives, to shifting our students from asking “Why” to asking “Why not?”
MaP’s Links with Overseas Schools

* = MaP Scholars who attend host schools for a full year on scholarship before university

**Aiglon College (SWITZERLAND, Co-ed boarding)**
- 2010/2011: Natasha Mmonatau* (Stanford University, USA)
- 2009: Peo Kgwadi* (Botswana Accountancy College) & Maria Lungu* (University of Charleston, USA)
- 2008: Bakang Moetse* (UCT, South Africa) & Lettie Letsapa* (University of Witwatersrand, South Africa)
- 2007: Vanessa Siwawa-Ndai* (Rhodes University, South Africa) & Rudisang Motshub* (Wesleyan, USA)
- 2006: Atlang Mompe* (Gettysburg, USA) & Thato Tekane* (UCT, South Africa)
- Started in 2005: Tefo Paya* (Wits, South Africa) & Ludo Sabone* (Rhodes Scholar, Oxford)

**Brooks School (Massachusetts, USA, Co-ed day & boarding)**
- 2011: MaP: Tapiwa Nkhisang & Zola Sibanda // Brooks: John Moltz & Tammy Hernandez
- 2010: MaP: Churchill Barrows & Gosego Katai // Brooks: Albert Nascimento & Phoebe Howe
- 2009: MaP: Boikhutso Onkabetse & Carol Moleboge // Brooks: Lucy Gleysteen & Alena Petrella
- 2008: MaP: Abu-Halidi Gongoro & Onneile Khumalo // Brooks: Kate Flanigan & Rob Whirty
- 2007: MaP: Lenah Kitenge & Kenneth Tamocha

**Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School (AUSTRALIA, Co-ed boarding)**
- 2011: BCGS hosted MaP student, Goitseone Thebe
- 2010: MaP hosted BCGS student, Isabel Owen.
- 2009: BCGS hosted MaP student, Andrew Williams.
- 2008: MaP hosted BCGS student, Mitchell Lindbeck.

**Catlin Gabel School (Oregon, USA, Co-ed day)**
- 2012: Tapiwa Nkhisang* (Smith College, USA)
- 2011: MaP hosted Catlin Gabel group (13 students & 2 teachers) on a service learning trip
- 2011: Mmaserame Gaefele* (Williams College, USA)
- 2010: Monkoggi Otlhogile* (Scripps College, USA)
- 2009: Kushata Fanikiso* (Williams College, USA)
- 2008: Malebogo Montshiwa* (Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, South Africa)
- Started in 2007: Tumisang Mothei* (Whitman College, USA)

**Deerfield Academy (Massachusetts, USA, Co-ed boarding)**
- 2012: Kabo Kula* (Princeton University, USA)
- 2010: Mahwi George* (Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University)
- 2009: Nikheil Singh* (Wits, South Africa)

• Started in 2006: MaP: Kathy Lewis & Emmanuel Munyadzwe // Brooks: Cieu Lan Dong & Nina Cameron
• 2008: Kesaobaka Seloko* (Stanford University, USA)
• 2007: Ludo Mphusu* (Wits, South Africa)
• 2006: Dithapelo Medupe* (Stanford University, USA)
• Started in 1998 with Kitso Lemo (Harvard University, USA)

**Downe House (UK Girls boarding)**
• 2011: DH hosted MaP student, Phatsimo Lemogang
• 2011: MaP hosted DH students, Gussy Bunbury & Sophia Welch, working as TAs
• 2010: DH hosted MaP students, Tapiwa Gachala & Beatrice Mahlaya
• 2009: DH hosted Charity Tshimakoko
• 2008: MaP hosted DH girls working as MaP TAs: Fi Guest, Grace Hodnett, Tamara Astor & Celia Robinson
• Started in 2008: DH hosted Tshiamo Lechina

**Ecole-Alsacienne (Paris, FRANCE, Co-ed day)**
• 2012: EA will host MaP student, Moratwa Chamme
• 2012: MaP hosting EA student, Daphnee Guenee
• 2011: EA hosted MaP students, Orefile Healy & Natasha Mbwana
• 2011: MaP hosted EA students, Iris Favand & Galatée Bourquelot
• 2010: EA hosted MaP students, Opelo Matome & Refilwe Mpai
• 2010: MaP hosted EA students, Roxanne Preti & Mara Noblet
• 2009: MaP hosted EA student, Sona Kessaria
• Started in 2009: EA hosted MaP student, Gaone Moetse

**Emma Willard School (New York, USA, Girls boarding)**
• 2012: Wandipa Mualefe* (Stanford University, USA)
• 2011: Lerato Maphanyane* (Smith College, USA)
• 2010: Tebo Molosiwa* (Mt. Holyoke College, USA)
• Started in 2009: Refilwe Moahi* (Scripps College, USA)

**Hawken School (Ohio, USA, Co-ed day)**
• 2012: Thabo Kasongo* (Kenyon College, USA) & Karabo Tebogo-Maruping* (Scripps College, USA)
• 2011: Yame Senye* (Lawrence University, USA) & Surafel Berhanu* (University of Botswana)
• 2010: Sally Madiba* (Occidental College, USA), & Valentina Muraleedharan* (Gustavus Adolphus, USA)
• 2009: Laone Nthaga* (University of Botswana) & Bokang Rabasha* (Trinity College, USA)
• Started in 2008: Hawken group of ten students & staff visited MaP for community service project

**Harlem Educational Activities Fund (New York, USA, Education non-profit)**
• 2011: MaP hosted 16 students & 4 staff on a service learning trip to Botswana

**Hill School (Pennsylvania, USA, Co-ed boarding)**
• 2012: Tshepo Tumelo* (Hobart & William Smith Colleges, USA)
• 2011: Neo Mokgwathi* (Williams College, USA)
• 2010: Arsema Berhanu* (Williams College, USA)
• 2009: Justin Mangope* (Williams College, USA)
• 2008: Mompati Maruping* (Providence College, USA)
• 2007: Lebo Merafhe* (Worcester Polytechnic Institute, USA)

Horace Mann School (New York, USA, Co-ed day)
• 2012: HM hosted MaP Marimba Band concert
• 2011: MaP hosted HM student, James Ruben, who worked as a TA
• 2010: Kholiwe Simeon hosted by HM family (the Bauers).
• 2009: HM student, Rumur Dowling, who helped to start a student-run MaP School newspaper.
• 2008: HM students, Max Fikke & Rumur Dowling, visited MaP.
• 2008: HM students, Daniel Liss & Max Bandier, visited MaP & helped with college counseling
• 2008: HM hosted MaP Student, Laone Land
• Started in 2007: HM & the family of Daniel Liss hosted Henry Lukoma (Yale University, USA)

Hotchkiss School (Connecticut, USA, Co-ed boarding)
• 2012: Ian Robinson, Hotchkiss graduate, working as MaP TA for 1st & 2nd terms.
• 2012: Andrew Williams* (UCT, South Africa)
• 2011: Ruby Fako* (Bucknell University, USA)
• 2010: Richard Kirby, Hotchkiss Chemistry teacher joined MaP with his family for 1st term.
• 2010: Jessica Eaton* (Columbia University, USA) & Lawrence Kati* (Franklin & Marshall College, USA)

Laurel School (Ohio, USA, Girls day)
• 2012: MaP hosting Laurel students, Tristen Hall & Claire O'Donnell-McCarthry.
• 2012: Laurel hosted MaP students, Faith Ocitti & Karabo Keapoletswe.
• 2009: MaP hosted Laurel girls, Avery Alatis & Emily Liptow.
• 2009: Laurel hosted MaP girls, Karabo Tebogo-Maruping & Amantle Mphotho starting exchange
• Started in 2008: AT visited & spoke at Laurel school assembly.

Menlo School (California, USA, Co-ed day)
• 2013: MaP will host Menlo service group
• 2012: Androulla Markus* (Columbia University, USA)
• 2011: MaP hosted Menlo (13 students & 2 staff) on a service-learning trip
• 2011: Miles Tomlinson* (Fairfield College, USA)
• 2010: Mbakisi Gopolang* (Lake Forest College, USA)
• 2009: Tumisang Madigele* (Stanford University, USA)
• 2009: MaP hosted Menlo group (15
students & 3 staff) on a service learning trip
• 2008: MaP hosted Menlo group (35 students & staff) on service learning trip
• Started in 2008: Menlo hosted Outiwile Matome, Androulla Markus, Boago Nkwe and Nyenyedzi Maunge.

Merchiston Castle School (Scotland, UK, Boys day & boarding)
• 2012: Merchiston graduate, Horace Li, working as MaP TA.
• 2011: Merchiston graduate, Ruaridh Owen, worked as MaP TA.
• 2011: AT led Merchiston staff development workshop, spoke with parents & to students at school assembly
• 2010: Callum McClane & Jacob Flapan worked as MaP TAs.
• 2010: Myles Paterson worked as MaPTA.
• Started in 2010: AT visited Merchiston & spoke to 6th Form.

Milton Academy (Massachusetts, USA, Co-ed day & boarding)
• 2012: Milton hosted concerts & classes for the MaP Marimba Band.
• 2009: MaP hosted 42 staff and students from Milton for jazz concert.
• 2008: Milton hosted concert and MaP band members during Boston stay.
• 2003: MaP hosted Milton for Jazz concert
• 2002: Milton hosted MaP marimba band concert

Pacific Ridge (California, USA, Co-ed day)
• Started in 2011: PR hosted Marc Mogwe-Jansen & Lebo Gaetsaloe

Peking University High School International (Beijing, CHINA, Co-ed day)
• 2012: MaP hosted 17 PKU students & staff for a two-week stay with service focus.
• Started in 2011: AT visited PKU & spoke with students, staff and parents.

Riverdale Country School (New York, USA, Co-ed day)
• 2012: Riverdale families & school hosted MaP Marimba Band for classes & concerts.
• 2009: MaP hosted Riverdale student group.
• 2009: MaP hosted Riverdale staff, Ilse Abusamra & Jane Moore, who worked with MaP students
• Started in 2008 by Antoinette Quarshie: Riverdale hosted MaP marimba concert & band members in NYC

Roxbury Latin School (Massachusetts, USA, Boys day)
• 2012: MaP hosting RL students, Richie Shen & Elijah Zenger
• 2012: RL hosted MaP Marimba Band
• First MaP Scholar in 2011: Thato Ungwang* (Carleton College, US)
• 2011: MaP hosted RL students, Danny Ahemne and Cavan Finigan
• 2009: RL group visited MaP & did Habitat build in Molepolole
• 2009: MaP hosted RL students, Danny Driscor & Kevin Mullen
• 2008: MaP hosted RL students, Amir Ameri & Corey Rosenberg
• 2008: RL hosted MaP marimba concert & tour members while in Boston
• Student Exchange started in 2007: MaP hosted RL students, George Matthews & Kevin O’Brien
• RL hold annual AFMAP fundraiser & assembly (MaP/ RL started in mid-1980s)
Taft School (Connecticut, USA, Co-ed boarding & day)
• 2012: Outlwile Matome* (Trinity University, USA)
• 2012: Taft hosted MaP Marimba Band concert
• 2011: Chabala Kaongwa* (UCT, South Africa)
• 2010: MaP hosted visiting Taft group (38 students & 6 teachers)
• 2010: Kopano Ramsay* (Scripps College, USA)
• 2009: MaP hosted Harrison Glazer, Taft 10th grader.
• 2009: Gobakwe Montshiwa* (Stanford University, USA)
• 2008: MaP hosted Taft group (30+ students & teachers)
• 2008: Taft hosted MaP marimba concert
• 2007: Liliana Saplontai* (St. Lawrence University, USA)
• Started in the 1980s with Neo Modise* (Princeton University, USA)

Tamagawa Academy (Tokyo, JAPAN, Co-ed day)
• 2012: Tamagawa hosted MaP students, Lucy Wills & Elwin Kirigiti
• 2011: MaP hosted 17 Tamagawa students & 3 staff
• 2010: MaP hosted 14 Tamagawa students & 3 staff
• Started in 2009: MaP hosted 10 Tamagawa students & 2 staff

University School (Ohio, USA, Boys day)
• 2012: MaP hosting David Andersen, Hal Juster & Jack McGee.
• 2012: Kaelo Moahi* (Stanford University, USA)
• 2011: Reagan Tsimakoko* (Kenyon College, USA)
• 2009: US hosted MaP students, Pako Mosimaneotsile & Kaelo Moahi
• 2009: MaP hosted US student, Brandon Jackson
• 2008: MaP hosted US students: Cooper Mead, Korey Schneider, William Sheppard-Sage, Joseph Grisko
• 2008: US hosted MaP students, Kabo Kula & Reagan Tsimakoko
• Started in 2006: US Head Steve Murray and faculty visited MaP to explore exchange opportunities

Rotary Exchanges
• 2010/2011: MaP Interact members Miles Tomlinson & Sina Parastaran, hosted by families in Belo Horizonte, Brazil
• 2010/2011: Interact Exchanges: Outlwile Matome (Argentina), Lorato Moalafi (Argentina), Pako Mosimaneotsile (Brazil), Laura Sekwababe (Brazil), Lisa Sekwababe (Chile), Boasa Robert (Brazil), Matthew van Zyl (Brazil)

* = MaP Scholars who attend host schools for a full year on scholarship before university
**Friends of MaP**

We are enormously grateful for the generous gifts of our many donors (listed below) both in cash and in kind, at home and abroad. Their support over the past four decades, has allowed Maru-a-Pula to become one of Africa’s great schools.

**National Corporates/Organizations**

- Air Botswana
- African Alliance
- African Life Health
- American Business Council in Botswana
- American Embassy in Botswana
- Artswana
- Barclays Bank
- BIHL Trust
- Be Mobile
- Bothakga Burrow
- Botsalano Press
- Botswana Insurance Company
- Botswanacraft Marketing
- Botswana Permanent Mission to the UN
- Debswana
- Diagnofirm Medical Laboratories
- Embassy of France to Botswana
- First National Bank of Botswana
- Hotwire/ Wired Y&R
- Impression House
- Investec Asset Management
- Kgalagadi Breweries Ltd
- Lady Khama Charitable Trust
- Mascom Wireless
- Motor Centre Botswana
- Med rescue
- Kalahari Quilts
- KPMG
- Nashua
- Pick n Pay
- PricewaterhouseCoopers
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- Sun International
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- Shell Oil Botswana
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- White City

**Individuals**

- Kalvar Antzon
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- Batsho Dambe-Groth
- Lucy Dixon-Clarke
- Salima Ebrahim
- Tlotlego Gaogakwe
- Tebogo George
- Oliver Groth
- Nicola Groth Hart
- Buca Kereng
- Boikanyo Kgosi
- Clark & Carol Ann Leith
- Ithabeleng Letsunyane
- Joshua Machao
- Gorata Magetse
- Roland Masalila
- Dr. Reba Matthews
- Thabo Matthews
- Dr. Tebogo Matome
- Natalie McCormack Antzon
- Otsetswe Mosime
- Goleele Mosinyi
- Oupa Mothibatsela
- Jabulani Ncube
- Mbako Nnyepi
- Mokgadi Nteta
- Oarabile Pitso
- Kelly Rooney
- William Scheffers
- Martinus Seboni
- Urban Sedie
Elizabeth Segopolo-Galeforolwe
Kelebogile Seitei
Piyush Sharma
Neo Tapela
Andrew Taylor
Brenda Turnbull
Maru-a-Pula Class of 1983

International

Corporates/Organizations

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