

PETER PAN

says

EDITION NO. 2



OLD
WOODRIDGEAN
ASSOCIATION

Welcome!

It gives us great pleasure to welcome you to our second edition of Peter Pan Says, the school's official Old Woodridgean Association (OWA) publication.

In an attempt to keep alumni informed about our school and all OWA activities, we're thrilled to share the lively array of events that have had Woodridge humming these past few months. Enjoy!



Contents

01	Message from our OWA Chairman	2
02	OWA reunion news	5
03	What's new at Woodridge	7
04	Academics	9
05	Outdoor education	12
06	Sport	14
07	Art and culture	16
08	A look at our Prep	18
09	General highlights	20





A MESSAGE FROM...
OWA CHAIRMAN, GRANT PUTTERGILL

Hooraah!

THIS YEAR BEGAN WITH A BANG
AND IT 'LOOKS' SET TO END WITH
AN EVEN BIGGER BANG.



Our first edition of Peter Pan Says showcased a range of OWA-related news. From the establishment of our new executive committee and the class of '82 reunion, to OWA cricket days and our Premier 500 draws. We also published some of the recent renovations that have improved our beautiful school campus.

Happily, our school-nurturing initiatives have really gained momentum this year, and it's a tremendous privilege to serve as Chairman on such an active and successful committee. Certainly, we've had a busy few months. The OWA enjoyed fun hockey and soccer fixtures against the school, a golf day and an awesome reunion weekend. Our subsequent Premier 500 Club

draws have been highlights, too. Congratulations go to our prize winners, Chantell Guilietti and Mark Nagle, who won the second and third draws respectively. Chantell generously donated R5 000 of her winnings back into the Juffrou de Wet Fund, which is so appreciated.

One of the priorities we've made within the OWA is to support different sports teams. Last term we enjoyed 'meet and greet' evenings with our 1st team hockey girls and rugby boys. Woodridge 1st team rugby has had a particularly successful year and it was a real honour to hand over 1st team jerseys to the boys.

Mini reunions have been another highlight on the OWA calendar. In keeping with our intention to keep Old Woodridgeans connected, we

feel there's a need for as many satellite branches as possible across the globe. Consequently, mini reunions were arranged in Cape Town, Joburg and London.

On behalf of the OWA I would like to thank all those who donated to the school during 2022. The class of '95, for example, made it possible to re-introduce the house banners that burned during the 2017 fires. Resources from the Juffrou de Wet Fund have contributed towards floodlights for the cricket nets, and we have sourced new waterproof two-way radios for the Woodridge Surf Lifesaving Club (SLC). Beyond making training sessions easier for the coaches, we feel these devices have an invaluable capacity to help save lives.

In addition to all the great things the OWA has achieved this year, we are proud to announce that our newly established Woodridge Foundation is fully operational. You can read more about the mechanics of the organization on page 8.

Special mention goes to the class of 2022. It was a privilege to formally host and induct these special young ladies and gents as Old Woodridgeans. We wish them the best of luck for their final exams ahead – we know that they will do us proud!

A personal favourite for me this year has been the launch of our very own limited edition branded vellies by FatFrank. We like them so much we spoilt the head girl and boy of 2022 each with a pair. What's more, we auctioned off a pair at Reunion 2022 for the princely sum of R16 000! If you also want to get your hands on some fancy footwork, email OWA secretary Natasha on owa@woodridge.co.za.

Finally, are you aware of our mini noticeboard? We publish OWA-related happenings regularly in an attempt to keep everyone up to date with current affairs and events. If you don't receive these updates and you'd like to, please get in touch: owa@woodridge.co.za

That's a wrap of all our recent OWA news. I invite you now to sit back, relax and enjoy this edition of Peter Pan Says.

Yours sincerely,
Grant Puttergill
*Chairman, Old Woodridgean
Association*
Fideliter

#WeAreWoodridge





Snooze You Lose

Our next Premier 500 Club draw is planned to take place at the end of March 2023. Have you bought your [tickets?](#)



OWA

What a WEEKEND!

Reunion 2022 was incredible fun. It kicked off with a golf day on the 29th of September at the Port Elizabeth Golf Club, followed by a formal cocktail party on campus on Friday night. The event presented the perfect opportunity to induct Mr Trevor von Berg, headmaster of the

Prep School, as an honorary OWA member. Since starting at Woodridge over a decade ago, Trevor's love and passion for the school has been exceptional, as well as his support for the OWA. Another highlight of the evening was our MC, the hilarious comedian, Gino Fabbri, who had us all in stitches.

On Saturday the campus was abuzz with the various OE day activities, the reunion afterparty and Premier 500 draw in the evening. The Old Woodridgeans took part in the OE day tug-o-war with much gusto. Fortunately, the battle of strength was valiantly won by Carter House Old Woodridgeans – yeah!





HIGH *five*

Special thanks go to Nicolette Copley and her team from the school kitchen for supporting our latest events on campus with their superb catering, which never disappoints!

Another huge note of appreciation goes to all our sponsors for our Golf Day – especially our title sponsor Anzelle and Kurt from StayToday Properties.

Reunion Rendezvous

Recently we organized brilliant get-togethers in London, Cape Town and JHB. Our aim was to establish satellite committees and also introduce Old Woodridgeans to the Woodridge Foundation. Our trips were very successful and we're looking forward to introducing sub committees at our satellite branches soon. We are looking forward to working with our satellite branches in a structured and ongoing manner. We will keep you in the loop.



KEEP IN TOUCH

Please keep us informed of any changes to your contact details on owa@woodridge.co.za and be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for regular updates.

	TITLE SPONSOR DEFINED BY REPUTATION STAYTODAY properties BUY SELL LET

OWA

FUTURE

Fantastic

WE'RE THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE THAT JENDAMARK AUTOMATION IS PARTNERING WITH WOODRIDGE TO PROVIDE THE ED-TECH PLATFORM UNDERPINNING WOODRIDGE CONNECT – SOUTH AFRICA'S FIRST ONLINE HIGH SCHOOL THAT USES ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AS PART OF THE LEARNING EXPERIENCE.

<https://woodridgeconnect.com/>

Woodridge Connect has its roots in the rich educational heritage of Woodridge College where children can enjoy world-class, home-based learning with the benefits of a structured curriculum and an online team of teaching professionals.

Learners can choose to follow the IEB curriculum for grades 7-12 or complete a Cambridge Matric in Grades 11 and 12. Integrated learning educates for the future. Learn more about Woodridge Connect [here](#).



The WOODRIDGE FOUNDATION

The Woodridge Foundation is registered as a non-profit organization (NPC) in terms of the Companies Act. It is a separate legal entity from the school and has Woodridge College and Preparatory School as its sole beneficiary. The Foundation has Public Benefits Organisation (PBO) status and as such is authorized to issue Section 18A tax certificates to qualifying donors.

It is governed by a board of directors, which consists of independent alumni and ex officio representatives of the Woodridge Trust and the Old Woodridgian Association.

The Foundation has four donor options to choose from (as per below). Prioritised infrastructure projects include: a new OWA Clubhouse/Woodpecker and the conversion of the Prep pool into an enclosed aquatics training facility.

For further info about the Foundation please click [here](#).

BURSARIES



INFRASTRUCTURE



STAFF DEVELOPMENT



THE EXPERIENCE



The fundraising arm of Woodridge College and Preparatory School is dedicated to ensuring that the Woodridge Experience lives on.

Godfrey Carter – Patron of the Woodridge Foundation

But Wait, There's More!

Visit our [website](#) for more information about our various fundraising & donation initiatives. To buy OWA merchandice visit our [online shop](#)
For assistance please contact Natasha at owa@woodridge.co.za or +27 83 521 820.

The Board of Directors

Sonwabo Zide

Class of 1999
Head of Kohler Residence
Chief Operating Officer at HSBC

Andrea Puggia

Class of 1980
Head of Kohler Residence
Chairman of the Woodridge Trust
Director of PwC South Africa

Chulumanco Kate

Class of 2019
Captain of Debating Team
Founder & Director of The Virtual Desk

Glen Mukheibir

Class of 1978
Head of Carter Residence
Executive Financial Planner at Old Mutual

Grant Puttergill

Class of 1996
Head of Founders Residence
OWA Chairman
Puttergill Farming

Loyiso Jiya

Class of 1986
Chairman of Bannow Africa (Pty) Ltd.

Paul Lynch

Class of 1979
Prefect
Co-owner of Standard Wool

Trenwyth Pledger

Class of 1995
Head of Matopos Residence
Owner of Thunzi
Bush Lodge



THE WOODRIDGE
FOUNDATION

The Woodridge *Experience*

HIGHER-
ORDER
THINKING

Academic Adventure

The Grade 10s participated in a dynamic learning experience in the quirky Karoo village of Nieu-Bethesda. Nestled at the foot of the Sneeuwberg mountain range, the town's intriguing history makes for a rich educational experience. Pupils engaged in active learning across the curriculum by visiting different sites:

The Owl House


Kitching Fossil

Infinity Gallery

Bushman Heritage Museum

Bethesda Arts Centre

The fundamental purpose of the camp was to encourage real-life understanding of concepts taught in the classroom. Creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, communication and active engagement, were predominant themes explored.



This camp was
an unforgettable
outdoor and
discovery
experience
that provided
meaningful
opportunities for
holistic education
and personal
growth

– Derek Bradley

The Owl House

*Creaking door, black walls, no light
The weakest sound causes fright
Shaking hands and cold shivers shoot though
The demons this woman was fighting, I never knew
Yet, I sense them, feel their presence
Stone sculpture, beady eyes radiating their essence
Abusive father I see on the chair*

*His demons sit with him in his lair
traumatise this woman they did,
on her downfall did they bid
She suffered until her last breath
Dying an agonizing death.
But, her suffering brought peace
and fortune
to the town of Nieu-Bethesda
The very town that hated her
The roles reversing, ever traversing,
all in the town of Nieu-Bethesda.*

– Written by Gareth Bekker
after the trip



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

THE GRADE 9 *market day*



The grade 9s blew us away with their entrepreneurial efforts this year.

As part of the annual Grade 9 curriculum, pupils explore and develop their business skills by hosting a market day. They are divided into teams and required to develop their own business plans, work out cost calculations and create marketing material.

The best part? Pupils get to keep their profits. Real-life learning with tangible rewards – nice!



OUTDOOR EDUCATION

This year's OE Day took place on 1 October and coincided with our Reunion 2022 weekend. What a day it was!

The "gees" was incredible and made the many hours of preparation invaluable and so worth it. Having the new house banners in place again was very heart-warming as was all the effort on display.

Well done to the participants and prize winners, we can't wait for next year's rivalry!

Wild
AT HEART



OE Day Details

Junior and Senior teams from Carter, Founders and Kohler competed in the Ropes Course, Loom 4s, Mrs McGinty, the Assault Course and The Wall (remember that!)

The OWA tug-o-war formed the event's grand finale with Carter House Old Woodridgeans taking the title with ease.

Prizegiving followed with Kohler House scooping the most points and winning the 2022 OE trophy.



FYI

The senior wall challenge was won by Founders house, but Kohler still holds the record.



A full-page background image of two water polo players in a swimming pool. The player in the foreground is wearing a brown cap with the number 10 and a yellow face mask. The player in the background is wearing a brown cap with the number 6 and a yellow face mask. Both caps have 'WOODRIDGE' written on them. The water is a clear, bright blue.

SPORT

The Woodridge College water polo teams participated in several tournaments and performed phenomenally well.

The 2022 National Co-Ed Water Polo Tournament held in Durban at Thomas More College in October, for example, was a major highpoint. 40 teams from around the country competed at the highest level. Our boys came 4th and the girls 9th overall.

In keeping with their highly competitive start, the teams travelled to Cape Town over half term to compete in further tournaments. They performed against some of the best water polo schools in the country and they can be very proud of their performance. Well done!

Water Polo

THE COLLEGE
HAS HAD A BUSY
SUMMER SPORT
SEASON SO FAR.



Cricket season is back!

Now that floodlights have been installed at the cricket nets, we look forward to extending cricket practise times.

NEWSFLASH

The Old Boys will play a fixture against Woodridge on the 19th of November. Eager for the chance to dust off your cricket gear? Please get in touch. owa@woodridge.co.za Alternatively, just come along and support. It promises to be a fun day out.



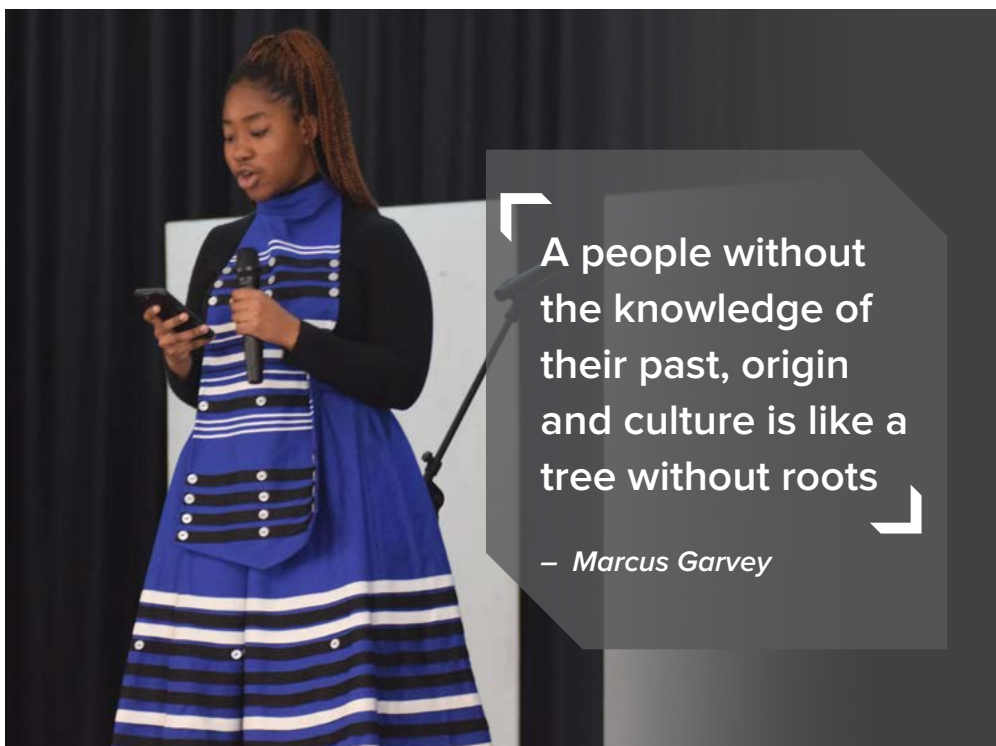
ART AND CULTURE

Heritage Day

Happiness

Woodridge campuses at both the College and Prep enjoyed kaleidoscopic celebrations infused with poetic performances, musical talents, gumboot dancing, djembe drumming, traditional South African treats and a braai for lunch – yum!





A look at OUR PREP

WHERE CHILDREN
LEARN AS MUCH
OUTSIDE THE
CLASSROOM AS THEY
DO INSIDE.

The Xterra

ANOTHER MAJOR
HIGHLIGHT ON THE
PREP CALENDAR

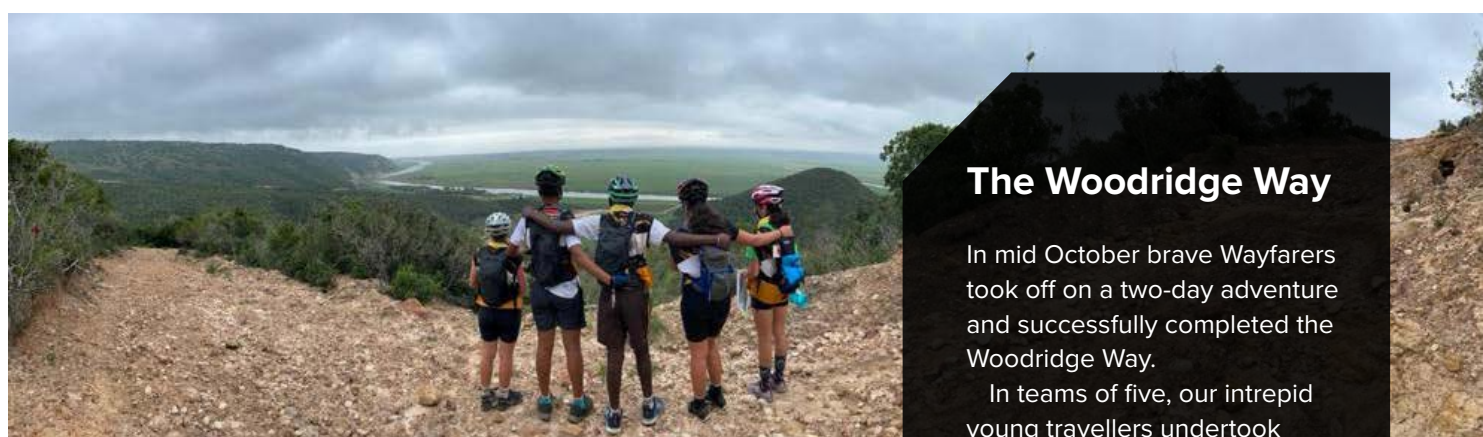
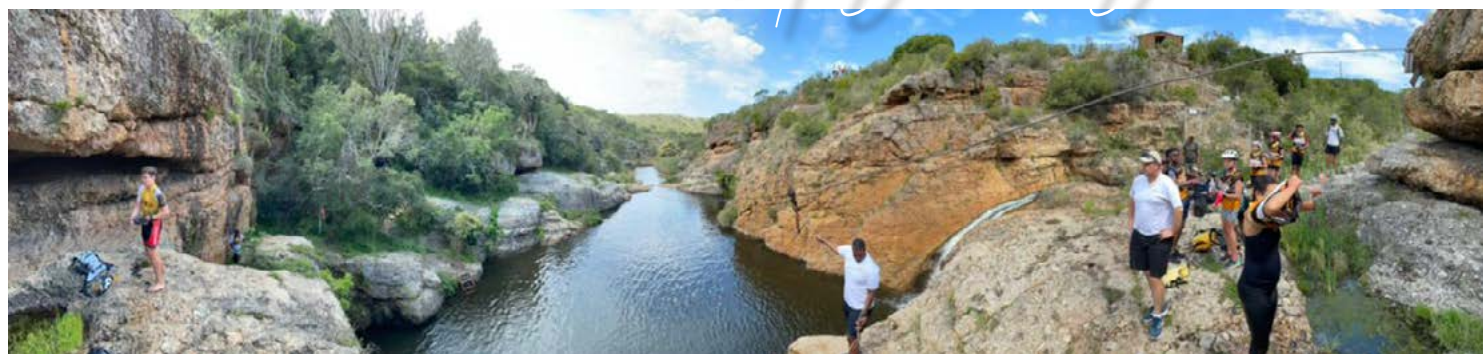
For those that don't know, the Xterra-Lite is a one-day event consisting of running, cycling and paddling, and covers a total distance of nearly 14km. The Xterra-Race, on the other hand, is a two-day event where participants cover nearly 28km and involves running, cycling, swimming, paddling and a night run.

What champions!





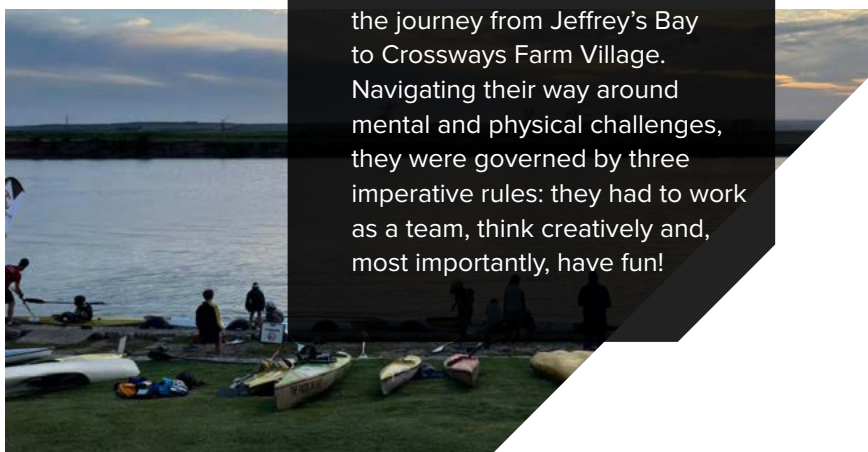
Prep Event *Highlights*



The Woodridge Way

In mid October brave Wayfarers took off on a two-day adventure and successfully completed the Woodridge Way.

In teams of five, our intrepid young travellers undertook the journey from Jeffrey's Bay to Crossways Farm Village. Navigating their way around mental and physical challenges, they were governed by three imperative rules: they had to work as a team, think creatively and, most importantly, have fun!



GENERAL HIGHLIGHTS

Congrats!



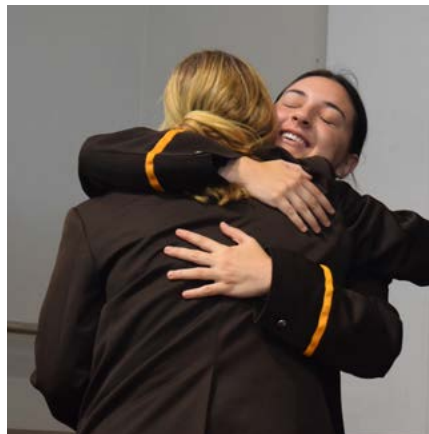
Put your hands together for the new head boy and head girl of Woodridge College 2023. We wish them all the best for the leadership year that lies ahead.

HEAD BOY
Buzwe Pango

HEAD GIRL
Hannah Praetorius

DEPUTY HEADGIRL
Kate Lagan

DEPUTY HEADBOY
Van Ginkel Venter



HELLO! !077EH

Where are you, Old Woodrigeans? Let us know where in the world you live – we might even come and visit! Jokes aside, wouldn't you love to see a few old faces from your school years? Better yet, discovering what your brothers and sisters in arms are up to these days could rekindle your connection. Please share your stories! Send a short snippet and a recent pic (if you want) to Natasha on owa@woodridge.co.za or WhatsApp her on +27 83 521 8203 before the 1st of December 2022.

Have You Heard?

Woodridge has its very own coffee blend. Mastertons Coffee helped us create a robust brew that combines aroma and flavour, and it's simply delicious! In fact, our coffee is so good it's travelled all the way to Hanoi in Vietnam where old boy Jaryd Olivier (class of 2014) loves it, he says. Keen to try it? Grab a bag at the Woodridge coffee shop, alternatively contact us and we will arrange delivery.
owa@woodridge.co.za

Stay TUNED

The next edition of Peter Pan Says will land early next year. Expect to see more info on our new Technology Centre, revamped coffee shop and original braai boma plans. Furthermore, proposals for the school's new clubhouse, The Woodpecker, are in the pipeline. Watch this space!

Gotta grow

Growing our alumni database is key. Please take the time to update your details and send any contact particulars you have for your old school friends (POPIA Act pertinent) to owa@woodridge.co.za or WhatsApp +27 83 521 8203.

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www.oldwoodridgean.co.za

Peter Pan's Statue

In the very early days of World War 2 identical twins, Ian and Robin Stewart, were enrolled at Woodridge Preparatory School. Their legacy still stands on the front lawn of the school, immortalised in the statue of Peter Pan. The head and face are those of the boys.

The artist responsible was their mother, Mrs H Stewart, also the creator of the statuette of Peter Pan's Wendy who stood for many years *"a robust, sturdy, wind-swept child...bearing a shallow bird-bath, her head thrown back with an air of interest and confidence"* in the courtyard of Collegiate Junior School on Castle Hill. This was to replace the original Wendy from 1928 when Collegiate Junior School moved into their own building on Castle Hill. Mrs Stewart's Wendy eventually succumbed to the famous wind of Port Elizabeth and literally lost her head, so that Wendy Mark III was sculpted in 1956 and was later moved to the new school entrance when the schools moved to their present site.

It says much for Peter's stamina that Collegiate are currently blessed with their fourth Wendy while the young man struggles on against the elements, although much repaired and considerably weather-beaten.

L.J.A.Carter, founding Headmaster and creator of stories for young minds, wrote the following in the late sixties:

"He has been standing there for nearly thirty years, Summer and Winter, on the old tree stump in the middle of the lawn. Softly he pipes (for those whose ears can catch the haunting melody) to those who have not been afraid to grow up – to keen ears and childlike understanding of the eternally youthful."

Sometimes on a moonlit summer's night, if you are very quiet, when everyone around you is asleep and you creep softly out of bed and look over the balcony, they say that you will see his friends, the wild creatures, gathered round him listening to his tunes of the forest, the rivers and flowers. Maybe you too, if you are very attentive and do not stir, will be able to catch a few wandering notes of the wild music".

The stump on which he stands has since been cemented over and encased in stone; previously it had held a bird bath, which served as the font when Julian Carter was christened there.