

CITATION FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF WOODSTOCK SCHOOL RECOGNISES

Judy Crider

FOR HER YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO WOODSTOCK SCHOOL

Judy's extraordinary relationship with Woodstock spans a lifetime of service and commitment. It began 60 years ago, when she joined as a six-year old boarder in 1957. Graduating in 1969, she returned in 1979 and had a baby only three-weeks after arriving! Judy is a rare individual who has been more than able to fill Kipling's "unforgiving minute with sixty seconds' worth of distance run" in diverse roles across the school.



Judy worked at Clifton Hostel as a dorm parent until 1988. Alongside husband Dana, she created a warm, welcoming and caring environment for generations of boys to thrive.

After many years in the Quad office, Judy was the Principal's Assistant for 14 years – spanning the careers of Ron Flaming, David Jeffery, Kaye Aoki and David Laurenson. More recently, Judy has juggled a challenging role balancing the demands of the Alumni, HR and Communications teams.

Among a multitude of other responsibilities, Judy has been responsible for staff banquets – two a year for the last 25 years – and has looked after countless farewell and baby teas. She has scored for innumerable basketball games, cross-country races and sports days, and chaperoned many Activity Week trips, village trips, hikes and countless other activities.

As Staff Welfare Officer, Judy is the welcoming face who meets and orientates staff when they first arrive at Woodstock, and continues to work to ensure their happiness and satisfaction throughout their time here.

As exceptional as this record is, Judy's time at Woodstock cannot be measured in responsibilities alone. What distinguishes her service is the person she has been and the faith she has lived out with joyfulness and love. Ceaselessly caring, kind and patient, Judy embodies the values and qualities we wish for our students.

With integrity, steadfastness and tireless hard work, she has been an ever-steady hand amidst change and transition. Judy is passionate about her alma mater and this passion is evident in every event she organises for the school, and in her strong emotional connection to the students she works with.

Generations of young people and staff remember her for the encouragement she gave when the going was hard, for her warmth of welcome, her unwavering faithfulness, love and compassion.



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Shonila Chander

FOR HER YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO WOODSTOCK SCHOOL

With a distinguished career spanning more than 34 years, Miss Chander is universally respected as one of the most esteemed Woodstock staff members of recent generations. Miss Chander joined Woodstock in July 1983 to teach Grade 7 Social Studies and Economics to Grade 12, and serve as the Indian College Counsellor. For more than 21 years, Miss Chander was Head of Social Studies. She has served as an adviser for 32 years and has been homeroom teacher four times.



Her accomplished teaching repertoire has extended from Social Studies and Economics, to Sociology, South Asian Studies, Middle Eastern Studies and History, as well as Religions of India and Semitic Religions.

She has served as Staff Representative on the Board of Directors for three terms and on committees including Nominations, Student Life, Religious Life and the Board's Committee for the selection of the Principal. She has been a valued member of the Chaplaincy Committee for several years.

As Model United Nations advisor, Miss Chander led Woodstock delegations to events in India and abroad. She was responsible for a very successful student trip to Switzerland for an International Student Fair and has helped the Admissions Office on countless occasions with interviews and admissions fairs. With involvement in numerous Activity Week trips and the Winter Tour, she has been unstinting in her commitment and service to Woodstock.

Miss Chander is respected and admired for her considerable integrity, empathy and kindness.

Over the years, she has represented a calm and dignified presence on campus and within the wider Woodstock community. Inspired by her Christian faith, she has combined a deep sense of selfless service to others with a gracious generosity of spirit, sensitivity and compassion.

In the classroom, her firm but fair approach has endeared her to generations of Woodstock students who fondly remember her as one of their most highly regarded teachers.

As an adviser, teacher and mentor to young people, Miss Chander models the values which Woodstock holds dear. As a colleague and friend to other members of the community, she has been a steady and reassuring influence – ever ready with a word of encouragement or an act of generosity and kindness.



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Thupten Chophel

FOR HIS YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO WOODSTOCK SCHOOL

Thupten's memorably varied career at Woodstock has spanned almost 30 extraordinary years. Since joining us in July 1989 his many roles have ranged from Secretary to the Headmaster and Dorm Supervisor at the Edgehill Dorms, to Travel Secretary and Receptionist. By 1996, he was in charge of the Travel and Liaison offices with responsibilities which called for exceptional organisational and relationship building skills.



Thupten is unquestionably one of life's 'givers', possessing unequivocal kindness and considerable compassion. He is a man of many hidden talents – an amazing artist, singer and poet, with a keen interest in football.

For many years, Thupten has been the reliable and steady presence in the Liaison Office, handling mind-boggling paperwork with an unflustered efficiency and impressive patience. With a role which brings with it great challenge and high demand, he always maintains an incredibly calm and composed disposition. Many a staff member, student and parent has found Thupten's gentle spirit and unrelenting helpfulness a source of great reassurance in stressful circumstances. A relentlessly hard worker who takes his responsibilities very seriously, nothing has ever been too much to ask him, no pressure has ever buckled his patience, no obstacle has dented his composure.

In 1991 Mr Chophel won a national award for bravery from the Government of India because he saved someone from drowning in the Yamuna River. This courageous act epitomises the man – humble, selfless, committed and kind.

Reflecting on his years at Woodstock, Thupten says:

"I have thoroughly enjoyed working and being a part of this very special international community, where everyone learns to live with all their differences in harmony, much like one big family.

"Woodstock has not only been the place of work for my wife and I, but where our children have studied and grown up, and where our family has proudly called home for the past 27 years.

"As much as the school has trusted my work over the years, I too, have worked untiringly and to the best of my ability. And though I look forward to retiring now, I am definitely going to miss this wonderful community."



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Phuntsok Dolma Chophel

FOR HER YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO WOODSTOCK SCHOOL

Dolma has been an integral part of the Woodstock story for more than 43 years. Joining as a young Assistant Nurse in 1974, she became Nurse-in-Charge of the school's dispensary in 1989. With her husband, Thupten, and their three children, Tenzin, Nordon and Namdol, Woodstock became the family's home and the place from which the children graduated.



With a well-earned reputation for warmth, kindness and deep compassion, Dolma has served Woodstock as a loyal and highly respected member of staff through many changes and transitions at the school. At all times completely calm and reassuringly gentle, Dolma has always been a welcoming presence in the Health Centre.

Her friendliness, cheerfulness and approachability have made the Health Centre a place of welcome for generations of Woodstock students – speeding their return to health and creating a wonderfully caring atmosphere for those who are sick or injured.

In 1994, Dolma was recognised by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate of Mussoorie and by the Principal of Woodstock for her courageous and selfless action following a tragic bus accident in Mussoorie. This typifies her humanity and generosity of spirit.

During Woodstock School's 150th Anniversary celebrations in December 2004, Dolma was one of the few staff members to receive a special 'gold coin' for having served the school for over 25 years.

Reflecting on her years at Woodstock, Dolma says:

"I am thankful to Woodstock for providing me a healthy and happy workplace for all these years. I have been able to live comfortably in these beautiful mountains, and to see children (including my own) learn and grow every day in such an incredibly diverse community.

"I have loved getting to know every student that has come to me, and see them grow into wonderful adults, and then to meet their parents and in many cases, to even meet their own children!

"From the very first day, I have loved being a part of this Woodstock family. It is what has kept me coming back and what made me choose to bring my own family to experience this one-of-a-kind place."

