

However, Ernest, you too need to make contact with Alison as I hand over the reins after posting this, my last, Newsletter.

**Christine Coppola (Jensen)** Many thanks Christine for the several e-mail addresses that you sent through always useful to check against the database, especially as I will be passing this on. Jess write that you and **Chris** are busy breeding fancy chickens. I hope the project is prospering.

**Jessica Jensen** wrote that she and **Sven Robin** are grandparents twice over. Both daughters have had babies. Tania having had twins, Jessica was looking forward to being a helping granny for as long as the workshop where she works can spare her. Jessica mentions Kenya's bad roads and how difficult it is to run a car hire firm under such conditions. However, she recalls seeing **Terry and Colin Davidson** when they called to hire a vehicle for their sons. More news is about **Niels Sunde**, wife **Carol** and boys coming back to live at the coast where Niels will pursue his interest in carving and woodwork. **Pam Robinson** continues to garden and refuses to slow down. There was great excitement with the looking forward to a grand-daughter's wedding on her small plot. Family members will all be assembled for the occasion. Robin and Jessica went back to Kitale to their farm and visited **Cherry (Dale)**, who, with a small group of hard-working helpers is

bringing the Club back to its former self. (*Well done, Cherry!*). As so many do, they went back to their farm and were happy to find the farmhouse looking well cared for. The house girl is the daughter of their former gardener. So there was cause for happiness in the re-visit.

**David Malitte** and **Deirdre** have now been in Ireland for eleven years. They have settled well into the community although still struggle to come to terms with the weather. Winter temperatures were -11° this last winter. Deirdre works in a health food shop while David is self-employed as a small job man for the DIY challenged. (*Please, David, put me in touch with your cousin, **Wendy (Roberts) West**, 1942-1949, so that we can add her details to the Database.*)

We see **Chris** and **Magda Hearne** often, usually on their way back from shopping in Pietermaritzburg. Magda is your best contact for organizing tours should any of you visit South Africa. Chris runs an excellent B & B in the Drakensbergs while also doing photography as a part time, weekend, job.

**Pat** and **Marian Long** continue to farm in Liggeton, KZN. They are very keen concert goers, which gives us an opportunity to meet occasionally also.

Thank you **Peter (Long)** for sending through a postal address.

## Reunion Photographs 2011

### The Décor and Memorabilia



Hawk



Eagle



Falcon



Kestrel



Reunion Cake, decorated by Paula



Jo and best friend Paula



Our comfortable B & B  
home of Paula and Ian



Pat and Jean



Dad Ian and son Scott



Julian and Gail



Hugh and Anne



Karin in relaxed mode



Which House is the best?



Each attendee received a folder



Newsletters from 2001



Memories galore!



Delicious eats



and more to call

**Gillian Flochel (Leach)** has moved home although she still lives just outside Paris. She decided to retire, which means drawing in horns as we all know it. *(I will certainly make contact should I come to France, Gillian. Robin was in the south of France this year. I find the Mediterranean summer too hot and had to get back to work, so did not go with him. Perhaps you might visit us here sometime now that you are no longer working. We have a small bungalow in the Natal Midlands. It has a comfortable guest room with main en suite bathroom.)*

From **Brian and Joan Coleman**, now living in Texas USA: 'I remember Kitale School and **Woody**, the headmaster. He used to take us to the dam swimming. I think it was called Bowker's Dam. Those were the days when we were all mkoras. My dad was in the police during the Mau Mau. I became a hunter and was Director of White Hunters. Juba rings a bell as I hunted in the Sudan for a number of years. I used to love staying at the so called luxurious Juba Hotel!

I moved to the United States in 1974 although continued to hunt back in Africa until 1980 when I started game ranching in South Texas. I have since sold my ranch and am now retired. My wife, **Joan** and I then moved to Fayetteville, Texas, to be near our son. Our door is always open for Kenya people; we have a spare room for guests! *(Thank you, David, for passing this news on Bridget)*

**David Leete** write of his fear that many African animals will soon become extinct due to human pressure. He recalls a visit to the Congo in 1996, on a private flying visit with 10 other Kenya families. The New York Zoological Society had financed a grant to rehabilitate the Garamba Park in an effort to protect the last known group of Northern white rhino. Sadly, some 6 months later, Kabila's guerrillas invaded the park and they had to pull out. Some taken out of the park and were taken to Czechoslovakia, where a breeding colony was established. Several have since been returned to Kenya where they are doing well at Ol Pejeta Ranch near Nanyuki. David and **Jane** now lives in Gilgil where there is a small community. The club keeps going with its two tennis courts and a 9-hole golf course which adjoins Pembroke House School. Dennis is at the club most Thursdays and on Sundays.

**Alexander Liechti** enjoys the Newsletters, and in particular, news of reunions which brings back memories. He suggests that we share photos electronically through PICASA Webalbums. *(Alex, this works well for those of us who are on e-mail and broadband. However, the older ones among us who do not have advanced technology would be left out.)*

**Margrit (Liechti) Eichler** would love to attend a reunion sometime (*We would love to welcome you, Margrit; how about that you attend the next one, wherever it might be held?*)

**Sylvia Davidson's** address is: P O Box 6325, MUTHAIGA, Nairobi 00619, KENYA. She mentions that the **Liechti family, Peter, Alex and Margrit** are doing fine, getting older but not yet retired. Her husband works for ETH in Zurich and has been asked to carry on beyond 65. Margrit is doing voluntary work in the community, working among senior citizens and at the National Research Institute PSI where she takes care of new foreign scientist's partners, helping them to get adjusted to living in Switzerland. She writes also that grand-children need some attention.

It was good finally to catch up with **Richard Matthews** and **Jane** who live in Western Australia. They enjoy living in a 'lifestyle' village, which has excellent amenities. Richard keeps busy engaging on volunteering activities for the University of the Third Age (U3A) and the Department of Conservation at Yanchep National Park. Richard keeps in touch with **Hector and Elaine Munro** and also **Roderick**, who visited during 2010. He also sees **Rory O'Toole** at Kenya functions. Rory, although fit and well must by now be pushing 90. (*Thank you, Richard, for the contribution to funds received through Patricia in England*)

Richard's brother, **Phil (Matthews)** lives in Pukekohe, a suburb of Auckland, NZ (*We send our condolences, Phil, on the loss of your wife, Betty, in 2010*).

**Patrick Kelly** mentioned how sad he was to hear about John and Barbara Barton. He was a close friend of **Miles** and used to visit during school holidays. He was also saddened to learn of the death of **Julia Barnley**, especially as he worked for the Barnleys after leaving school. Patrick and **Linda** are well settled in Perth although he still travels back to Zimbabwe twice annually since he still owns his spare part business in Harare.



*Patrick usually walks dogs, not cats!*

We keep in touch with **Patricia Neale** and her family through corresponding with **Molly Mudd, Pamela and 'Tiff'** continue to live and work in Zimbabwe although their sons are both in England.

**Jacquie (Megson) Evans** is a recent recruit. She returned to Kenya this northern summer and planned to stay

at the Club and visit Mount Elgon and their farm as well as to see the Andersons in Endeless. Jacquie's husband is also ex Kenya, born in Kisumu. They hoped to return there also during their holiday. She also has a sister living in Limuru and an uncle at the coast.

**Tony and Adrienne Mills** had an exciting if worrying start to their year. Olivia and Steve's twins were born prematurely in England and Adrienne spent several months helping in the beginning stages. The last news received was great in that Olivia, Adrienne with two precious bundles were well enough to return to Kenya and to a new home in Naivasha where Steve works.



Tony & Adrienne with 3 grand-children and Olivia. Jade's 3<sup>rd</sup> Birthday!

**Helen (Nicholson) Bailey** had serious thoughts about joining us in Picton and, it seems that, World Cup was the deciding factor against. She has travelled to Kenya this year with sister **Alison (Gilbert)** to see Mum, **Margaret**, on the occasion of her 99<sup>th</sup>

birthday, *(Congratulations, Margaret from all of us)* and to England for Ralph's son's wedding and the arrival of a 2<sup>nd</sup> grand child in July. She and Alison also went with **Kate (Hill) Fjastad** to their home in Eburru. They went on to see the **Barton's** erstwhile home in Naivasha, which, according to **Matthew**, will be sold. Helen says it is amazingly beautiful. They then saw **Oliver** at a function at the local golf club. Another visit was to see **Simon Coombe's** widow, a lovely American lady. There they enjoyed a picnic and a fabulous game drive *(So the Kitale School links continue. Well done, Helen and thank you for sharing all the information).*

A staunch supporter of our alumni movement and an excellent correspondent is **Richard Northmore**. Richard keeps in touch with **Marylin (Northmore)** who lives in Howick, in what Richard calls a 'retirement ghetto', so I see her quite frequently. Richard plans a return to South Africa in 2012 for his niece's 40<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration. On reaching the ripe age of 60, Richard describes how he went to live on his own for three weeks in a tent. He kept busy building a shelter which has a ring of ash trees around and the start of a stone circle. Retirement did not last long and Richard is back, working as a consultant. Sadly Richard and his wife could only be in New Zealand until October 02. They had booked to watch some of the World Cup pool games and were disappointed that the Christchurch match was moved elsewhere. *(I arrived on the night of*

*the final match, Richard, so our dates did not overlap at all. I hope you enjoyed New Zealand as much as we did. We must try to meet next time you are here).*

News from **Michael O'Hanlon** is always welcome. Mum **Rosemary** spent last Christmas with them in Oxford. There was some concern then over her health and her desire once better to go back to her cold home in Plymouth. Very sadly, Rosemary passed away in August of this year. The family decided to have a Memorial Service in the church where she and Michael Senior got married. **Kevin Northcote** was there and read one of the lessons. The service was indeed very special with religion intermingled with lovely poetry – just as Rosemary would have wanted it. In his tribute, Michael writes: 'We are bound to feel sad but the very last thing Mum would have wanted would be for this to be a sorrowful occasion. Nothing would have pleased her more than if you all departed, buoyed up and happier than when you arrived. Mum liked laughter, light and colour and today her granddaughters are wearing bright frocks in honour of this. He then goes on to sum his Mother up as many will have known her best. 'It is tea time at 16 Thorn Park, that is to say approaching 20h00, Thorn Park being roughly 3 hours behind Greenwich Mean Time. A great consumption of buns is going on. Mrs Newing too is being eaten – Mrs Newing being a neighbour who gave her name to an excellent cake, the recipe of which

Michael's mother acquired. Children (anyone under fifty) are there, so too are some of their friends. The doorbell rings incessantly. A visitor has called and is being interrogated in friendly fashion by Rosemary – about school or career, the deficiencies of politicians, the fallen state of the world. Now tell us Kevin (or Nick, John, Jane or Donald, Jill or Patrick) about ....' Then without waiting for an answer, Rosemary gives her robust views on the topic under discussion.' After the service, guests enjoyed a wake 'at what used to be the Officer's Club, where Rosemary enjoyed her dancing days.'

**Polly and Damsie (Damaris)** were in Oxford for a post Christmas celebration while **Mark**, his wife and three smaller children escaped England's cold over Christmas and flew to Barbados. **Linda, Miriam** and Michael went on a summer cruise around the Mediterranean. Apart from Kevin, Michael is in touch with **Peter Rosa** and **Catherine Black**, who corresponded with Rosemary.

*(On behalf of so many who knew and loved Rosemary, may I offer our condolences to all members of the O'Hanlon family in their loss of a very special friend, Mother, and grandmother.)*