

Newsletter Number 42

June 2005

Dr Elizabeth Fullard is overseas at present. Her next letter will bring us up to date with all the happenings at the High School.

ROGU Committee Members:

Mrs Lindsay Baynham (Sanders 1996)

Dr Elizabeth Fullard (ex officio: Head RGHS)

Mrs Daphne Burger (Colburn 1968) (Database)

Ms Amanda Graham (1989) (Secretary)

Ms Lianne Carver-Brown (1999)

Mrs Jeanne Jackson (Logan 1954) (President)

Mrs Samantha Centurion-Harris (Fick 1997)

Mrs Averil Keller (1974) (Vice-President)

Mrs Ashleigh Coetzee (Fairweather 1981)

Mrs Maureen Mantell (Mellish 1954)
(Treasurer)

Mrs Joyce Conway (ex officio: Head RGJS)

Mrs Janet Pryor (Hyde 1969)

Mrs Tanya Dean (Vermeulen 1988)

Mrs June Watson (Tribelhorn 1971)

Ms Liz Frost (1999)

Contact email: rogu2000@hotmail.com

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ROGU WEBSITE

At last we are getting our own website! The committee has appointed Melanie Watson (Callaghan 1994) to design our pages. All those on email will receive notification as soon as the site goes live.

The design and hosting of a website that is kept up to date does not come cheaply. We appeal for donations for this specific purpose. Please send cheques / postal orders made out to Rustenburg Old Girls Union to the postal address given above, or contact us for bank details to deposit directly.

FROM THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR - MARY ROSE BERRISFORD:

Dear Old Girls

First Founders' Day, notable for two reasons. For the first time since the start of Founders' Day celebrations in January 2000, all four of the school's living headmistresses were present. Previously, Miss Thomson (1952 – 1979) had always had a board meeting of the Cape Peninsula Organisation for the Aged. Luckily the day of this meeting has been changed to a Thursday. So there was Tommy looking pretty good with carer Eugenia to help her get around. Queues of somewhat older ROGs waited to talk to her and Eugenia, attentive with an after-lunch pill, was shooed away. Jo McIntyre (1980 – 1991) had driven up from Fish Hoek and Mary van Blerk (1991 – 1999) from Simonstown.

Both are in very good form. The four were lined up for photographs which will doubt be in the next magazine. Their years in the hotseat span fifty-two years in Rustenburg's history. The other notable feature was that the turnout of ROGs was the biggest ever. Over seventy were at the delightful and quite delicious lunch held in the Thomson Hall. More were at the tea and Assembly. The E's of 1974 had gathered for a reunion with AVERIL KELLER elegant in hat and gloves. I had not realized that the Superintendent of the hostel, PAM VAN DYK (Goss 1974) was an ROG.

Speaker at Founder's Day was ROSEMARY GILCHRIST (Lyons-Montgomery – 'Monty' A 1954) Rosemary was visiting from her home in rural West of Ireland. The reason she was asked to talk was that her grandmother was born and lived in Charlie's Hope, the house that stood in the school grounds until demolished, I think in the sixties, and after which our tuckshop building is named. The grandmother, one of seven Robertson Reids born in the house in the latter part of the 19th century, remembered playing on the banks of the Liesbeeck, outings to the Cape Flats in ox-wagons, visits from Cecil John Rhodes to the family's holiday cottage in Muizenburg when the children would be lined up to shake hands, and being carted to school in a wheelbarrow by the gardener when she was six because she wanted to, stay at home. Rosemary herself completed her schooling in the then Pietersburg, studied drama, went to London, married Peter, who was with her. They lived in Hong Kong where she had a business exporting arts and crafts before returning to Europe. Rosemary has two daughters, writes - has sold a film script - does trauma counselling and is obviously very interested in history. Probably the most fascinating of the residents of Charlie's Hope were Harry Smith, fresh from the Peninsula Wars and not yet 'Sir' and his fourteen-year-old Spanish bride, Juanna who loved Charlie's Hope, mentioning it fondly in her memoirs. She did some teaching there, concentrating on sewing which she believed was 'more good than reading and writing'. Once she attacked an intruder with a knife – so nothing's changed. On New Year's Day 1934, Harry Smith rode off from Charlie's Hope with Sir Benjamin D'Urban to put down an uprising in Grahamstown eight days ride away.

GLEANED AT FOUNDERS' DAY

It was really good to see many younger ROGs at Founders' Day. I was specially pleased to meet people I'd taught. LIANNE CARVER BROWN (1999) graduated B.Soc.Sc. from UCT in organisational psychology and industrial sociology and is now doing a post-grad course in enterprise organisation. A keen rower, Lianne has rowed for Western Province, is on the executive of WP rowing and coaches the Springfield rowers. Friend LIZ FROST (1999) studied Film for two years gaining a diploma in directing. Now she works for sister THERESA (1997) whose company, Vanilla Frost, makes handmade chocolates, iced teas and other tempting goodies for Melissa's. Liz has not abandoned her artistic side and is also following a writer's path. She has had nine poems published in an anthology, Poetry of South Africa. She is managing to fit in a journalism course at Cape Tech with the aim of writing novels. English teacher and novelist, DI AWERBUCK (Staff 1996 - 2002) is her inspiration. Happily both Lianne and Liz have agreed to join the committee of the ROGU. RISQAH THEUNISSEN (2002) is in her third year at of physio at UWC. THEA FELMORE (1999) spent two years at Rhodes studying Fine Art, went to a chefs' school and is now in her second year of a course in game ranger and lodge management at Damelin. KYLE MCKERRON (2000) is in her third year of Occupational Therapy at UWC. She comes from a long line of ROGs; she was at Founders' Day with her grandmother, AUDREY WEBB (Stakes 1944) Stop Press: I have just received a letter Audrey wrote thanking the ROGU for the lovely day she and her granddaughter had had - "we really enjoyed it and thought that it was all so well-organised – the lunch was delicious and so beautifully set out and served". She was pleased to be able to chat to past headmistresses. Audrey's daughter and Kyle's mother is NADINE MCKERRON (Webb 1974) who lives in Keimoes and teaches in Upington. Audrey's mother was ELSIE STAKES (Quy 1908). That is a great family record. LOUISE BOWLEY (1996) has had a varied and interesting career. She studied at the Montrose Business College and the Cape Technikon Hotel School where I think she met LIZETTE CRABTREE (1994) – see below. Louise is currently working for Cape Mental Health, but

has been at Carmel-by-the-Sea, near George, The Place on the Bay, Camps Bay, and in 1998, the Vineyard Hotel.

STAFF

Up date on Miss Thomson is that she had a few days in hospital in April. Niece ZEPHANIE VAN DER SPUY (1964) says the stay had been beneficial. I found Tommy as interested in goings on as usual when I popped in to see her in her Edingicht flat in Rondebosch. She very much enjoyed the Rustenburg cabaret, Showtime, where she sat at a table with Jo McIntyre, Marian Lennox, Gill Cockram. Great-niece, KAREN VAN DER SPUY (1997) had taken her. Karen, a qualified Physio, is now in her third year of Medicine at UCT.

WENDY RAWLINGS, teacher of Maths and Science for the past four years, has moved with her husband to Zimbabwe. DIRKJE MOUTON has unfortunately had to have more treatment and is not yet back at Herschel. She has enjoyed meeting VANESSA (Ann Turnley- Jones 1994) who is in charge of the Sunflower Unit at Constantiaberg Hospital. Dirkje is in close touch with ELISE LIVINGSTONE who gives extra lessons in the afternoon at Herschel - 'doing a great job' .I met BARBARA HUGHES (staff till 1995) recently in Betty's Bay. After leaving Rustenburg, Barbara taught at Cedar House, Kenilworth but is now living on a golf estate near Paarl and teaching at Bridge House, Franschoek. She was with a group of teachers planning an Integrated Studies exercise here in September.

HETTIE SMIT (staff till 1990) was spotted chatting on a street corner in Kleinmond. She looks incredibly fit and trim. Is an enthusiastic hiker in the mountains round about. She spends time in Australia each year, Brisbane I think, catching up with grandsons. We had lunch with KATHY JOHNSON (Fish 1985, staff in the 90's), husband Steve and their two truly delightful children. That was in Pietermaritzburg where Kathy has just started a Masters in Science Education, in the field of Biology, at the university there. She has founded and runs a support group for families with diabetic children.

OLDER OLD GIRLS

90th Birthday! News of ERICA DAVIDSON (Van Selm 1932), a life member of ROGU, came from younger daughter, DENISE EATON (Davidson 1966). Erica celebrated her 90th birthday on 23 April, 2005. Warmest good wishes from ROGU on reaching this milestone, Erica! The birthday party took place on a farm in the Magaliesberg district, home of daughter JUDY MASPERO (1962), with family flying up from Cape Town for the occasion, phone calls from all over the world and a stack of cards. The farm is Erica's home now but she returns to the Cape every year to be with son in Pinelands and Denise in Durbanville. I asked Erica through Denise if she still had any friends from her schooldays and the answer was, 'all dead'. But when living in Pinelands Place she had been friends with KAY PORTER (Oswald) who must be one of our oldest ROGs and would have finished school in the nineteen-twenties. She is ninety-four and now lives in Helen Keller, Pinelands. I heard about her from her daughter MARGARET DINAN (Porter 1956) who is in Edgemoor after many years in Pretoria.

Two ROGs have recently moved into retirement complexes in Somerset West. NERINE OAKES (van der Spuy 1938) has been living in Greyton and WINIFRED LOWN (Dunseith C 1934) who was already a resident of Somerset West.

RENEE SAMSON (Goldschmidt 1942) sent in a data base form from her home in Stamford, Connecticut, USA. She has two married daughters. Her email address is renersam@cs.com.

STELLA HOFMEYR (Mills 1940) sent a form showing an address in Rondebosch, work place experience as a doctor doing paediatric sessions and four married children, two girls and two boys. TAMSIN RAFFLE (Murray late 1940's, sister to MARGOT and PHYLLIDA) wrote from her Norfolk home to say she felt the expense to the ROGU of sending her the Newsletter wasn't justified since, 'its rather a long time ago – and now rather far away'. She remembered Rustenburg 'with great affection'.

Not much news from the thirties and forties. Please write in. I know your news is enjoyed by your peers. Winifred Lown wrote 'I look forward to the ROGU Newsletters although I do not recognise any of the names ... except in the obits.'

THE FIFTIES

JILL HEYDORN (Gould 1954) like Nerine Oakes, above, lives in Heritage Manor, Somerset West. She trained as a teacher, had two children and worked for 26 years. Jill is remembered as a star swimmer, holder of the senior swimming cup in 1954. Swimming captain in 1952 was HEATHER TRACEY (Beard), actually something of a legend when I hit high school the next year. Heather lives in Grahamstown with husband Andrew, an African music boff. They have two children. Heather has been national president of the National Council of Women of South Africa. Another resident of Somerset West is HELENA PLANT (Pentz 1950). AMANDA WAKER (Opie 1955) featured in the swimming team – was she a diver? She lives at Woodside Village in Rondebosch, trained as a nurse, had three sons and writes, 'still married to the same husband who happens to be the best in the whole world'. When you drive along Riverside or Upper Noreen Roads in Newlands, you will see that the banks of the Liesbeeck have been stabilised and very attractively planted. This is thanks to DR JOAN PARKER, the driver of the Bishopcourt Village Liesbeeck River Rehabilitation Project. Our hard-working secretary, DAPHNE BURGER (Colburn 1968) sang in the choir at wedding of PEGGY WYNNE (Evans, Duffett 1956). She watched Peggy and Jeremy rock and roll down the aisle to Rock Around the Clock – 'one of the best weddings'. The Wynnes are in the US for a few months looking after Peggy's grandchild but are due back in July and will live down the road from us in Kleinmond.

THE SIXTIES AND SEVENTIES

ELAINE MOORE (Nannucci 1967) lives in Rondebosch, has two sons and retired nine years ago as an oncology radiographer. It just happens that the next form is from another Moore. Sisters? She is WENDY PEACOCK (1970), a B. Soc.Sc. graduate of UCT who worked as a human resources manager and has a daughter, Nicola. COLLEEN COX (Hastie 1975) who lives in Pinelands, has two teenage sons. JUDY MASPERO see above, moved from Johannesburg to the country six years ago and enjoys a life which includes making jams and pickles (husband is Kevin of RBHS). She has three children and two grandchildren. Sister DENISE lost her first husband tragically eleven years ago in Durban, has now remarried. She too has three children.

I did enjoy reading through the Cassidy Family Letter sent by CAROL CASSIDY (Bam headgirl 1962. It records that Carol thoroughly enjoyed the 40th reunion of her matric class in Cape Town, "a real high point happening". Living in Hilton, KZN, Carol goes to weekly art classes, loves gardening. Her other weekly activity, "along with an assortment of 'people-care' things, is the ministry in Sweetwaters, a pitifully poor area near our home". This involves self-help projects, (crocheting blankets), literacy work, 'selling' inexpensive food and a simple church service with congregational sharing. Periodically, through the kindness of sponsors, Carol is able to accompany husband, Michael on his overseas ministries. One trip enabled her to be at a grandson's third birthday in Lookout Mountain, Georgia, USA. Daughter, Debbie, is married to none other than cricketer, Gary Kirsten. Clearly the highlight of the past three years was a 'first-ever' experience of being with all her children, their spouses and the three grandchildren together at Kenton-on-Sea at Easter. Thank you, Carol. Staying in KZN, I believe there was a gathering of class of '95 at the Botanic Gardens in Durban. Organised by SHEILA PATTERSON (Firth) and attended among others by CAROL O'CONNOR (Schreiber) of Johannesburg. No news of a major 40 years reunion.

THE EIGHTIES

LINDY LUGER (Smith, headgirl 1985) sent a change of address with a move from Westlake to Pekaia, Bergvliet. With husband Mike, children Anton 5 and Claire 3, Lindy lists her occupation as 'mother'. SIGRID THOMSON (Tonnesen 1984) lives in Hout Bay and works as Communications Manager for Old Mutual. She's been at OM for fifteen years having originally trained as a teacher. KAREN RIKKERS (Bromley, nee Louwrens 1984) was an air hostess with SAA for eleven years, retiring in 1995, the year her first child was born. She now has three and lives in Pretoria. Also with a new address in Pretoria is CELESTE SEGAL (André 1983). JEMIMA McGUINNESS (Wain 1987) lives in Kommetjie, is mother to three children - See Births - and has/had her own pre-school for six years. ALISON VIDES (Trueman 1986) graduated B. Comm (Hons) at Rhodes, spent twelve years in marketing and now lives in East London with husband Avron and sons Ross 6 and Joel 2. TERESA TEMPLETON (Fernie 1988) is in Timaru, New Zealand with two little daughters. News came from sister, CATHERINE NIXON (Fernie 1990) - see Marriages - who lives in Panorama and works in medical admin. Their mother is JUDITH FERNIE from the fifties or early sixties whose maiden name escapes me.

JOANNE REID (Bruce 1988) lives in Constantia with winemaker husband and two small children. Originally a designer in the clothing industry, Joanne developed her artistic talents in the direction of painting when husband did a stint in the vineyards of France. Today she is a portrait painter in oils.

THE NINETIES

I always enjoy chance meetings. DAWN STANFORD (1994) was at one of my children's parties. She is in online marketing. Do I remember she had been with Mark Shuttleworth's organisation? She is in touch with DONNA NORGARB (C 1990) who has three children and if my scribble is reliable, was in the UK but now back. Apologies if that's not quite so. JESSICA HUDSON (Gross 1992) lives in Hout Bay and has a three-year old daughter. She describes herself as a creative income earner. She and a friend set up a most attractive 'house shop' for Christmas shopping which is where I found her. LISA DUTHIE (1994) was at the next table at a restaurant in Harfield Village. She'd had three years in London and had graduated in Drama from the Cape Academy of Dramatic Art.

The class of '94 had a v good reunion in December organised by CARMEN BARKHUIZEN (Gold). Headgirl SONIA HERRMANN came from New Zealand for the celebration. PAT HANGER (Noble 1961 current staff) heard from daughter LYNNE that thirteen '94s had gathered in London for a great reunion party. FRANKIE GLEN (See Marriages) was in the UK at the time and after some adventures, eventually made it to the gathering. Pat had seen TAMRYN DICKIE (1994) visiting the school. Tamryn has done film courses. LOUISE KRIGE (1994) still uses her Rust en Vrede Ave, Constantia address but is currently living in Putney, London. louisekrige@yahoo.co.uk After a B.Comm at Stellenbosch University, Louise has worked in Finance/accountancy contracting in London for 4 years (and doing some travelling). Now working in Property Strategy&Research at Morley Fund Management in London.

The Saturday Argus of 21st May had a striking picture on the front page - an African woman in an amazing yellow outfit. The caption read: 'Flawless face: beautiful soapie star HLUBI MBOYA (1995) who plays the role of Nandipha in Isidingo, stunned the crowd at a winter collection fashion show held at the Table Bay Hotel yesterday.' Inside the report continued, 'Mboya stole the show and drew applause from the crowd in a stunning corset and flowing skirt from Sun Goddess'. Many of you from the nineties will be able to picture Hlubi co-compèring the fashion show (with ROS RICEMAN I think). Hlubi looked marvellous in a white strapless gown and we predicted she'd make her mark.

Somebody in Betty's Bay had news of CHIARA WALLERS (1997). She is very successfully representing a firm publishing university text books and is at present based in Bristol, but previously was in Ireland.

When ALEX FULLARD – see Marriages – tied the knot, it was something of a Rustenburg affair. Seventeen members of the choir gave up a day of holiday, donned school uniform and under the direction of ELIZABETH SOLE sang 'Make me a channel of thy peace' for the signing of the register, 'The Lord's Prayer' from African Sanctus and the Rutter Blessing. At the organ was IVAN KILIA and mother, Elizabeth, read a lesson. Among the guests who'd come from all over the world, were NATALIE LE BLOND (1993) and LISA LE ROUX with her Polish husband.

BELINDA MOWATT (1991) – See Engagements – lives in Green Point. She graduated B.Bus.Sc. (Finance Hons) at UCT followed by the Postgrad Diploma in Accounting. After working locally for Deloitte and Touche she moved to their office in New York and Stamford Connecticut where she became a senior manager. MARGARET (FOXCROFT) from the same year, also returns to Cape Town after living in the USA. Daughter, Victoria, (must be named for aunt VICTORIA FOXCROFT (1997)) will begin her schooling at RGJS in Grade 0 next year. MEGAN FOSTER (1992) with a string of degrees to her name, is completing her Community Service for Medicine in Knysna. Perhaps that was last year; the form is not dated. Anyway, her next step was to head overseas before deciding on which direction she would follow in medicine.

I was absolutely delighted to have this news-filled email from ANGELA POLLOCK (1995) angela@accessint.co.za , well-remembered from a matric biology class.

Hi, I have some updated news for the ROGU Newsletter - for the 1995 Matrics

KATIE MABIN * recently back from London * working as an aromatherapist & is also currently studying psychology ANGIE POLLOCK * settled back in CT after 4 amazing years in London, working as a graphic designer * (I lived with NIKKI LOUW, who is still there also working in graphic design and loving life!) * now a design & training consultant : training creative's in the publishing, advertising & design industries on design elements & software. For DOMINIQUE BIGARA see Births. SARAH BUNN * works with LoveLife and is very involved in educating people about Aids. * married Steve Binos last December 2003. CEREN ANDERSON * Running Anderson's Bakery very successfully and married to Richard Laubscher, living in Newlands. SALLY LOW * Working in the film industry in London. * has worked on many mainstream international movies. KIM CHALONER * she is the Managing Editor at Discovery Magazine (Touchline Media) * and works with CATHERINE RENNIE (matric 94) who is the Art Director (I'd seen Catherine's name in the mag and wondered if it was the RGHS Catherine). LISA TING CHONG * is a graphic designer at The Jupiter Drawing room. JANINE KOCHANNEK, PAULA WILSON, JANET WHITMAN, NADINE VAN GINKEL, are all working and living in London.hope this helps.... and is there any mention of who would be co-ordinating our 10 year reunion which should be held this year? Thank you very much for all that, Angie. It's what I always hope I'll find. As an addendum, I saw LUCY SCHOLTE'S mother who told me Lucy had just gone to London to work and would be seeing Janet who has been there a long time. GILLIAN SHOLTE (199?) has just bought a flat in Claremont.

News from MICHELE BUCHANAN (1990) – see Marriages – 'spent 2 fantastic weeks on honeymoon in the Garden Route, and we are loving married life. Darren is an engineer working for John Thompson (boiler makers), and is a very talented cyclist. We are living in Claremont and I work at BP Head office as an analyst to the Vice President of Marketing Operations. My email address has changed too michele.cronk@za.bp.com

Also from 1990, HAYLEY COLEMAN (Lawson) has her own Physio practice in Claremont having worked in the US and Sydney.

Loved this from the onetime homesick boarder I remember so well – LIZETTE CRABTREE (1994), from sunny Saigon – “Hello there! This is a short note to say hey and to say I am very sorry will be missing the Old Girls' eve for E 94 this year!! I am currently working as executive sous chef at the Caravelle Hotel, Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon). It is a magic place, filled with history and tradition. If any old girls out in SE Asia, would be great to make contact! I am here on a contract basis, Mrs McIntyre will not believe her ears when she learns who it is, as she knows how awfully homesick I was as a boarder at Erinville for the 1st year at RGHS!! Look at me now, thousands of miles away! Well all I can say is that it is a great holiday destination, and there is terrific diversity not only in activities but also in food, culture and scenery. Keep in touch and all the best with the newsletter - keep up the good work and thank you! warm regards, Lizette Crabtree chefliz@hotmail.com ”

Recently I needed to phone RGJS and was delighted the phone was answered by the mother of KAREN ALSTON (1998). Karen, as we heard from SARAH JOHNSON (1998) graduated M. Sc cum laude in Conservation Biology. What delighted me was Karen's topic, plant invaders in the Newlands Forest. Karen is busy preparing her thesis for publication and is hoping to go to an Australian university to work on South African invaders in Australia.

ROGs FROM THE 21ST CENTURY

From KIM HENDRY (2001) came this update – in 3rd year B.Bus. Sc at UCT with an LIB to follow. Kim was on the Dean's Merit List 2002 when she also was in the Golden Key International Honour Society – a new one on me. Well done, Kim! I have an idea this news is a little out-of-date. kimhendry@mweb.co.za

Very new ROG is AINA AMPUTU (2004) from Namibia who was starting a route to BA. LIB at UCT this year. I remember seeing Aina collecting a number of awards at the Awards Evening in October. She was head of the Representative Council of Learners, a school prefect, head of Erinville and earned the Preiss trophy for Service to Erinville House. She was Player of the Year in outdoor and indoor netball. Welcome to the Union, Aina,! Yours is the first data base I've seen from 2004. Immediately following I find one for JESSICA WATERMEYER, headgirl, who received the Dr Moll Honour Prize - 'the girl who has best upheld the traditions of Rustenburg'. Then MEGAN SCHUMANN heading for the Cape University of Technology and PR, Marketing; SIOBHÁN SWEENEY where its UCT and BA. Psychology, (she received Service awards for General Choir and 'The Bug'); ILANA LOUW, AFDA and a degree in Motion Picture Medium. On their forms the next two were emphatic that they are not married – KRYSTLE CAWOOD was off to Stellenbosch for B. Comm Marketing and STACEY COUPE, living in Milnerton, activities in 2005 not revealed.

To end, something I have been meaning to write – the ginkgo tree you see on the cover of your newsletter, standing in front of the school's entrance, has not been there for several years. It was cut down to allow a better view of the new sign RUSTENBURG on the building. In its place is a fountain and pretty garden. However, biology teachers no longer have this 'fossil' tree to include in a walk showing gymnosperms – cycads, yellowwoods, cypress and the not-much-loved stone pines. We must move on. Miss Joubert liked the story of the ginkgo believed to be extinct but then discovered in the wilds of China.

With warm wishes to you all

Mary Rose Berrisford (Trainor 1956, staff)
Betty's Bay

BEST WISHES AND CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING:

ENGAGEMENTS

BELINDA MOWATT (1991) to Paul Levine on Christmas Eve, 2004 in Cape Town

LEIGH LANGSTON (1995) to Ashley Hogarty in December 2004

JODI LOUW (1989) has accepted the promise of betrothal from Lucas Kjellquist of Sweden in May 2005. They will make their covenant vows in early February. (Jodi is the daughter of SALLY LOUW (Beamish 1957) cousin of Jemima - see births and JULIE BEAMISH 1995))

BIRTHS

To JEMIMA WAIN and Sean McGuinness a daughter, Hannah, sister to Matt and Joshua on 12 July 2004 in Cape Town. Jemima is a daughter of PAM WAIN (Beamish 1955)

To LYNDY WHITE (1991) and Tim Steele, a daughter, Caitlin Rose on 13 November 2004 in Cape Town. (Caitlin looked gorgeous when I glimpsed her before she and parents went back home to Zambia).

To JENNY McMURRAY (1993) and Andrew Leaver, a son, David Andrew on 24 November 2004 in London

To SALLY ORREN (1986) and Declan Mason, a son, Adam Michael, brother to Connor, on 11 January, 2005 in La Seu D'Urgell, Spain

To CERYS RICH (1987) and Mark Tooby twin boys, Adam and Joshua, brothers to Ella Grace 3, in Perth, Australia

SALLY HUTTON (1987) and Mark Rowand, a son on 10 February 2005, brother to Emma and Jack (Sally is daughter of ELIZABETH HUTTON (Malan 1962))

To PAULA JOHNS (1994) and Carl Coutts-Trotter, a daughter Chloe Jean, sister to Anton, on Tuesday 1 March 2005 in Cape Town.

To DOMINIQUE BIGARA (1995) and Anthony Ainslee, a son in March in Cape Town,

To LYNN KOCH (1986) and Mike, a daughter, Rachel Margaret in 2005 in Cape Town (named for grandmother, the late MARGIE KOCH (Franz 1956))

MARRIAGES

CATHERINE FERNIE (1990) to John Nixon on 17 April 2004 at Hout Bay Manor

KATE O'HANLON (1989) to Declan Randall at Toadbury Hall, near Johannesburg on 29 February 2004 (look out for Kate playing the violin in the show Chicago)

ALEXANDRA FULLARD (1993) to Brian Pinnock on December, 2004, at St Thomas's, Rondebosch and afterwards at Kelvin Grove

FRANKIE GLEN (1994) to Rob Fleck at Zorgvliet Wine Estate, Cape, on 15 January, 2005

GEORGINA MORROW (1992) to Blair Russell on 11 February 2005 on Kawau Island, near Auckland New Zealand (sister is MELISSA (1988))

ANGELA POLLOCK (1995) to Michael Hausner on 20 March 2005

BEVERLEY CALITZ (1994) on 16 April 2005 in Cape Town

MICHELE BUCHANAN (1990) to Darren Cronk on 16 Dec 2004 in St Thomas's Anglican church in Rondebosch and at Bowe Joubert Wine Estate in Stellenbosch

FIONA BEGG (1992) to Colin Mathieson on 11 March 2005 at Botlierskop, near Little Brak (sister CAROLINE (199?) was a bridesmaid, DEBBY BROOKE SUMNER (Toy 1956) among the guests. Fiona and Colin live in England)

IN MEMORIAM

Deepest sympathy to the family and friends of the following ROGs.

JOYCE BOWLES (1933 Staff 1943 – 1979) on 23 December 2004 in Cape Town
BERYL DARGE (Nicholson 1946) on 24 December 2004 in Hermanus
JOAN ROSE INNES (1947) in Cape Town on 24 March 2005
MARGIE ANN VOSLOO (Jones 1952) in 2004
CYNTHIA WATERMEYER (Boyes) recently (sister of LORNA (1951) and BETTY (19??))
DIANA WILSON (1955) on 22 May, 2005, in Cape Town

(I am sorry I don't always have all details. Feel it's better to have some news. Often my informants are my contemporaries and names just vanish, albeit usually temporarily.)

OBITUARIES

JOYCE BOWLES 1916 - 2004

Joyce Bowles must have had one of the longest associations with Rustenburg. Starting as a little girl in 1921, she matriculated in 1933. Ten years later she joined the staff of the Junior School, moving in 1955 to the Senior School with the first standard six class. Fourteen years later she was back in the Junior School as Deputy Principal, retiring on 1979. For another twenty years she was again a familiar figure around the Senior School as first organiser of the Archives. Mrs McIntyre had asked her to sort out photos and bits and pieces in an old hide suitcase found in the strong room. She had felt that Joyce was the right person for the job because of her English and reliability. As Mrs McIntyre writes in her history of Rustenburg, *White Stoep on the Highway*, 'the result is a range of files containing all the photographs and documents pertaining to the school over the past one hundred years, neatly labelled and catalogued.' Joyce organised long overdue updating of the Honours Boards, ordered boards for recording names of all Head Prefects of Rustenburg. Mrs McIntyre ends her tribute to Joyce: 'There is more – much more that she has done for the school since her retirement; as before, she has given generously of herself to the service of the school.'

Miss Orton, past head of RGJS, writes in *White Stoep on the Highway*:

'.....often it has been said that Joyce Bowles' name is synonymous with that of Rustenburg. How true and deserved this is, for apart from having been a pupil there, she dedicated, and I mean dedicated, most of her career to Rustenburg. It was the luck of the school and indeed a privilege for me, to have had her as a colleague for many years. A more dedicated and efficient member of the staff it would have been difficult to find. With a strict sense of duty, she inculcated in her pupils the will to give of their best, and parents as well as her pupils held her in high esteem. Her fine qualities were an inspiration to the very many girls who were fortunate enough to have been taught by her and who would want to emulate that sense of loyalty and of the honour of the fine traditions of the school of which we are so proud.'

The funeral service was held in the chapel at the Marsh Memorial Homes and was conducted by ministers from the Rosebank Methodist Church who knew Joyce well. Amongst those present were the four Rustenburg heads, Margaret Thomson, Jo McIntyre, Mary van Blerk, Elizabeth Fullard and also Marian Lennox, Ruth Dosé, Judith (1964 and staff) and Tim Gordon, Marilyn Siebörger (Chunnet 1967) from RGJS, Pam Moys (Thompson 1958). Pam's sister, Wendy van Rensberg (Thompson 1956), played the organ. The flowers in the church were from Starke Ayres and you can read why further on. When I spoke to Miss Thomson last week about Joyce, her words were, 'She did a great deal for a great number of girls'.

I wanted to have contributions about Joyce's life outside Rustenburg and am very grateful to her niece, Jill Hofmann, for the history below. I also enjoyed a long chat with Joyce's friend of 64 years,

who visited her every day when she was in the frail care at Woodside Village. There were some good anecdotes but 'not for publication'. What I can quote is that Joyce was 'a wonderful, wonderful friend', also a very good driver on their many outings.

Joyce Elizabeth Bowles
1916-2004

Joyce was born on the 9th of March 1916 at Ayres Nursery in Rosebank. Her grandfather, Charles Ayres F.R.H.S. had come to South Africa from England to work as a nurseryman on a large property in Roeland Street, Cape Town. A year later he established his own business, the Wandell Street Nursery off Mill Street and soon afterwards he opened a seedman's and florist shop in St George's Street. In 1881, a year after his marriage to Elizabeth Grace Bendell, a teacher, he purchased another piece of land along the banks of the Liesbeek River in Rosebank. It was a portion of the original land granted to the first free burghers by Jan van Riebeeck in 1657. This became Ayres Nursery and Charles built a house for the family which he added to at a later stage. He and Elizabeth and their only child, Charlotte, moved there from their Wandell Street nursery in 1904. This house is at present part of Starke Ayres Administration. He gained a wide clientele, won many cups and was an excellent judge. Sadly, Charles had a serious ponytrap accident in 1913 from which he never fully recovered, and he passed away on 24th January 1915, shortly before his daughter's wedding to Walter Walden Bowles. He never got to see his grandchildren. Their grandmother continued to control the business for 5 years, entrusting the management to her son-in-law. In 1920 the business was sold to C. Starke & Co. Ltd, with Mr Bowles continuing as Nursery Manager, later becoming a director.

Joyce was the eldest of the five grandchildren born at Ayres Nursery. She spent a wonderful childhood on the farm where she developed a keen interest in plants and a love of nature. The family home was filled with fun and laughter and the Liesbeek River was a tremendous source of entertainment. The children enjoyed fishing and boating and rescuing plants when the river flooded the nursery. Joyce was a student at Rustenburg and Charlie, the older of her two brothers, spent the first two years of his schooling there too!! Joyce remained on the farm until her father's retirement in 1949. After his death a year later, she and her mother returned to Rosebank to a flat in Liesbeek Road.

Joyce was a 'fun aunt' (we were not allowed to call her 'aunt' as it made her feel old!!!) She was extremely well read and enjoyed telling and reading stories to her nephew, nieces, and their families. She loved to take us on outings, and was always interested in our progress and well being. Joyce loved to walk and it was difficult to keep up with her at times. She inherited her grandfather's spirit of adventure and was widely travelled, not only in her own country but on all the continents with the exception of South America. Her last trip abroad, at the age of 84, was a tour of New Zealand, followed by a 10 day visit to a niece in Australia. There the family had a chance to enjoy her enthusiasm, wonderful sense of humour and interest in her surroundings. Her only regret was that she didn't get to visit Antarctica.

Joyce loved keeping records. She kept albums of her travels, drew a detailed family tree tracing her father's family back as far as 1500 to Thomas Boales and wrote a history of the Bendell family, her research taking her as far afield as Canada. She thoroughly enjoyed collecting, sorting and filing facts, photographs, newspaper clippings etc to establish the Rustenburg Archives after her retirement. She loved to visit places of historical value. She compiled extensive notes on the history of Rustenburg and her research makes fascinating reading. We would like to share two sayings from a collection she made that were special to her;

'We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give.'

'He who makes room in his heart for others will himself find accommodation everywhere.'

Joyce had an amazing zest for life and lived it to the full. The past two years must have been extremely frustrating for her as her quality of life was taken from her after a stroke and she battled to read and write, to feed herself and could no longer walk about freely. We never heard her complain about her condition, and were humbled when we found a letter she had written as best she could to one of the sisters who nursed her.

'Since being amongst nurses, I have come to realise that your work is exhausting and demanding and includes long hours and stretches of night duty without holiday breaks. Not only do you give of yourself physically but your kindness and sympathy with regard to my problems has helped me tremendously.'

We have many fond memories of Joyce, she was an inspiration to us all.

.....

BERYL DARGE

Thanks to Beryl's classmate, MARGE HILL (1946) for this.

Beryl passed away in Hermanus after an illness bravely borne. She had been a member of the ROGU committee for many years. She was Secretary and took over the job of editor of the Newsletter from LUCY WEBSTER (19??) at a trying stage as the information was being computerised. Beryl was instrumental in attracting many younger members to the ROGU through the cheese and wine parties at Charlies' Hope. She was a very efficient person and very good company.

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DIANA FRANCES WILSON

One of Rustenburg's keenest workers for conservation will no longer be seen walking the trails of the Cedarberg, Oorlogskloof, and other marvellous Cape mountains. It was through the efforts of Di Wilson that Water Day, now Water Week, became a fixture on the national calendar. She did this during her long stint employed by the then Wildlife Society's Cape Town Branch. The move of the Society's head office from the city to attractive, green quarters in Tokai was Di's work. She was a very active member of the Mountain Club of South Africa, serving on committees, leading club meets. Di was determined that her illness should affect her commitments and her enjoyment of mountains as little as possible. I have only just learned that Di was personal secretary to Raymond Ackerman of Pick 'n Pay for nine years. What I do remember is many, many years ago seeing a newspaper picture of Di limbo dancing, bending backwards to go under a rod. Whether she had been to the Caribbean or not I don't know, but it certainly was very novel for Cape Town then and for me typifies Di's feisty, adventurous spirit.

MRB

Reunions

There have been reunions but no reports in. 1956 E's are busy planning the celebrations of their 50th year since matric. These will be centred on Founder's Day - last Friday in January 2006. Contact Joan Parker at mulpark@intekom.co.za

1955 Matric Class Reunion notice

We are holding a reunion luncheon at the Blue Peter Hotel at Blouberg on Saturday 5th November 2005. Please be there by 12 noon.

All classmates are asked to contact one of us before the end of August to indicate intention of joining us. It will be great fun and we urge you to make the effort to attend. This contact is also for catering purposes.

Carol Kirk (Trigg) Ph/fax: 0217902304; email carol@glenashby.co.za

Gillian van Copenhagen (Pip Theron) Ph/fax 028 3164949

Amanda Waker (Opie) Ph: 021 6899291; fax: 4478410; email mandy@waker.org.za

We attach a copy of the ROGU Constitution as adopted at the Special General Meeting held on 29 January 2005 for your information:

ROGU CONSTITUTION

1. NAME

The name of the Union shall be "THE RUSTENBURG OLD GIRLS' UNION", known as "ROGU".

2. AIMS

The aims of the Union are:

2.1 to associate past pupils of Rustenburg with each other for their mutual benefit

2.2 to foster interested relationships between the School and its past pupils

2.3 to promote the interests and welfare of the School

2.4 to administer such bursaries as may be held in trust by the ROGU

3. ELIGIBILITY

All past pupils shall be eligible for membership of the Union. All present members of the staff of Rustenburg shall be honorary members. Members of staff who retire after a minimum of ten years' service (or after a different period of service at the discretion of the committee) are eligible for honorary life membership. Members of staff who resign may apply for membership of the Union.

4. SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The Life Membership subscription payable shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting each year and may be paid to the Treasurer at any time.

Rustenburg High School for Girls will be responsible for the enrolment of those writing their final examinations as members of the Union.

All Life Membership subscriptions shall be invested by the Treasurer and the interest accrued shall be used for the running expenses of the Union, such as the publishing of bi-annual newsletters and for any other expenditure as may be approved by the Committee.

5.1 OFFICE BEARERS

The affairs of the Union shall be managed by a Committee elected annually at the Annual General Meeting.

5.2 COMMITTEE

The committee shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer and at least five (5) additional members. The committee shall assign portfolios at their first meeting after the AGM. The Principals of Rustenburg High School for Girls and Rustenburg Junior School for Girls shall serve on the committee in an ex officio capacity.

Four members shall form a quorum for the purposes of holding a committee meeting. Committee meetings may be requested by any member of the committee and called by the Secretary. For convenience, the committee may co-opt members, who shall, however, have no vote at the committee meetings.

Casual vacancies in the committee during the year shall be filled by persons nominated by the committee.

The committee shall meet at least three times per year.

5.3 CHAIRMAN

The Chairman at all meetings shall be the President or Vice-President or a substitute to be specially nominated by the President and approved by the members present at the meeting. The Chairman shall have the casting vote in all cases of equal voting,

5.4 HONORARY TREASURER

5.4.1 The elected Treasurer, plus two other signatories, will be responsible for the administration of the Union's financial affairs, including administration of the bursaries.

5.4.2 Any funds not immediately required for disbursements may be invested in a savings or similar account with any financial institution as defined in Section 1 of the Financial Services Board Act 97 of 1990 approved by the Committee from time to time.

5.4.3 Any one of the elected signatories is authorised to transact on behalf of ROGU.

6. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting shall be held on the last Friday of January (Founder's Day) each year.

The Agenda at this meeting shall be as follows:-

Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting

President's Annual Report

Treasurer's Report and presentation of annual financial statements

Election of committee members and office bearers for the ensuing year

Any other business

A quorum of twelve (12) members shall be required. Only paid-up members of the Union may vote.

Resolutions: Every resolution of the Union shall be determined by a show of hands, provided that any member has the right to abstain. Voting by ballot may be used if requested by a majority of members present.

7. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

A Special General Meeting may be called by the committee if requested in writing by no fewer than six (6) members of the Union, setting forth the special purpose for which such a meeting is required. Notice of such meetings shall be given via electronic mail. The only business of such meetings shall be the special business for which the meeting was called. Twelve (12) members shall form a quorum at such meetings.

8. OTHER MEETINGS

In addition to the Annual General Meeting, other meetings may be held.

9. HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

To show the Union's appreciation of the contribution of any person/member, the committee may decide to confer the title of Honorary Vice-President at the Annual General Meeting on such person, provided that each fully motivated nomination is received in writing from a member and the nomination is seconded by two other members. Such nominations shall be circulated with the notice of the Annual General Meeting.

10. CHANGES IN CONSTITUTION

10.1 This Constitution shall not be amended, added to or rescinded, except by a two-thirds majority of members present at any General Meeting (Annual or Special) and only when notice of the proposed alteration has been given on the official Notice of Meeting sent to members. Any amendments or additions or rescission shall take immediate effect.

10.2 Any amendments to this Constitution must be submitted to the South African Revenue Services for approval.

11. INTERPRETATION OF THE CONSTITUTION

The interpretation of the Constitution shall be determined by the committee.

12. DISSOLUTION

12.1 In the event of dissolution of the Union, any remaining assets shall, after the liabilities of the Union have been discharged, be transferred to the Rustenburg Girls' School Trust which is exempt from income tax in terms of Section 10(1)(e)(iii) of the Income Tax 58/1962, as amended from time to time.

12.2 In the event of dissolution of the Union and failing the Rustenburg Girls' School Trust, the Union shall distribute its assets or funds to a similar association of persons, that is also exempt from income tax in terms of Section 10(1)(e)(iii) of the Income Tax 58 of 1962, as amended from time to time.