

NEWSLETTER NUMBER 47

DECEMBER 2007

FOUNDERS DAY - 25 JANUARY 2008

**10h00 TEA, 11h00 ASSEMBLY, 12h30+
LUNCH + AGM OF THE ROGU.
LUNCH BOOKING ESSENTIAL!
COST IS R60 PER PERSON FOR A THREE-
COURSE MEAL. PLEASE E-MAIL MAUREEN
MANTELL at mmantell@absamail.co.za OR
TELEPHONE (021) 671-1361 BEFORE
WEDNESDAY, 16 JANUARY 2008**

Our Website is now hosted by the
Rustenburg Girls' Junior School.
Please visit it at
www.rgjs.co.za/ROGU/main.htm

GRAND PIANO FUND

A new Grand Piano, estimated cost R99,000, is needed for Charlie's Hope after its refurbishment has been completed. At present our fund is standing at nearly R13,000, thanks to a number of generous donations, including one from a Matric reunion. If you are planning a Reunion you may wish to consider making a donation too. Alternatively, if about 800 -900 Old Girls can each make a donation of R100, we will reach our target easily.

Your contributions would be greatly appreciated. These may be deposited at Nedbank or paid by EFT into the ROGU Nedbank account number 2046666046, branch code 104609, with your name and telephone number as the reference. A minimum of R100 may be deposited. Please advise Maureen Mantell (tel/fax (021) 671-1996 or e-mail mmantell@absamail.co.za) of your details so that we may acknowledge your contribution.

APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL

We are pleased to announce the appointment of the new principal, MS LAURA BEKKER from 01 July 2007.

Ms Bekker received her education at Clarendon Girls' High School in East London, after which she completed a Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Port Elizabeth, followed by a Higher Diploma in Education at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Her career in education began as an English teacher at Dawnview High School in Johannesburg in 1982. She then moved to East London where she taught briefly at Cambridge High School before taking up a post as Head of Department at George Randell High. Her next promotion post was as Deputy Principal of Westering High School in Port Elizabeth. In May 2001 she was appointed as Principal at Riebeek College Girls' High School in Uitenhage.

She is a member of Rotary and the Business Women's Association and enjoys bird-watching, reading, theatre and the outdoors.

November 2007

Dear Old Girls

"It is the steady, constant driving to the goal for which you're striving, not the speed with which you travel, that will make your victory sure; it's the everlasting gaining, without whimper or complaining at the burdens you are bearing or the woes you must endure. It's the holding to a purpose, and never giving in; it's the cutting down the distance by the little that you win; it's the iron will to do it, and the steady sticking to it, so whate'er your task, go to it! Keep your smile and drive on."

I received such a warm welcome from the school and the ROGU committee on my arrival at Rustenburg. It is difficult to believe that six months have already passed. It is such a privilege and honour to be part of the history and traditions of this prestigious school. I look forward to meeting you at our Founder's Day ceremony, or your visits to your alma mater during the year. Your loyalty and interest in your school is so important. We would like our ROGU to grow and leave their stamp on the future generations of young ladies who attend this fine institution.

We have come to the end of the very busy and fruitful year and, as has come to be expected, those involved in life at Rustenburg have aspired to maintain the excellence associated with our school. The School Magazine attests to the successes Rustenburg has enjoyed this year. Every pupil has certainly had numerous opportunities to be involved in all aspects of school life, and the chance to do of her best in a variety of fields of endeavour. Ms Elise Marais, and her magazine committee headed by Julia Norrish, have produced another superb edition.

Particular points of interest include:

The appointment in March of two further Heads of Department (HODs) to join the School Management Team (SMT). Ms Bidy Cameron and Mr Adrian Skelly now join Ms Renée Fourie, Ms Maureen Burchell, Ms Elizabeth Sole and Ms Bidy Ryan as staff leaders.

Mr Adrian Skelly seems to be the first male member of management in the history of the school!

Ms Bidy Cameron has been afforded the opportunity of participating in the US-SA Fulbright Teacher Exchange Programme. Ms Sharyn Abbess, from Virginia USA, will join Rustenburg in 2008 to teach Bidy's classes.

Dramatic Arts as an academic subject has been introduced for the first time as a formal subject at Grade 8 level this year. As you know, there has always been 'drama' at Rustenburg, and not always just of the theatrical variety! Girls can now study, during the school day, acting techniques and the contributions made by various respected playwrights.

The formal addition of the Dramatic Arts department seems to complement the strong cultural flavour already in place at the school, evident in the many achievements of both the Music and Art departments.

The old 'Home Economics' venues have been transformed to meet the new needs of the subject, which also boasts a new name, 'Consumer Studies'.

Ms Sally Michell is retiring after fifty-one years in education. Her contribution to Rustenburg during the past seven years is indicative of her unstinting loyalty and commitment to the school and her charges. Sally's contribution to staff development and the wisdom of her experience as an educator will be missed.

Ms Sue Hoffman, our front-of-house secretary, has decided to retire after thirteen years at Rustenburg. Her responsible and innovative approach to managing her responsibilities and her unending energy will be missed. Ms Denise Cowan, who has been responsible for the tuck shop and catering, will be taking on the role of secretary in Sue's place.

Rustenburg has a number of projects planned for 2007/2008. The much needed refurbishment of Charlie's Hope will include revamping the Tuck Shop, main hall area, and an additional block to the back of Charlie's Hope, for the benefit of Music department. Work will commence in December 2007.

We are also planning to develop a complete clothing shop where parents could purchase the school uniform plus stationery and sports kit. One of the major problems with maintaining the estate is the availability and the cost of municipal water. We are therefore planning to sink a borehole, to make more water available for better preparation of the sports fields and improvement of the general gardens. The swimming pool change rooms will be upgraded early next year and the main road entrance to the school is to be repaved to the fountain.

The long-awaited renovations to the main administrative entrance to the school will commence before year-end. This will entail the creation of an improved waiting room and the relocation of the secretaries' offices.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr Patrick Chong (whose tenure as SGB Chairman has ended) and Mr David Newby, our new SGB Chairman, and the Governing Body for their unstinting support and commitment to Rustenburg. The sacrifice of their time and energy to the interests of the school is part of what makes Rustenburg the reputable school that it is.

All that remains is for me to wish you and yours a blessed time with your loved ones this holiday season.

Yours,
Laura Bekker

From MARY ROSE BERRISFORD (Trainor 1956, staff 1989 -1998)

Dear Old Girls

This year I have had to miss the Award Ceremonies and the last day of the year. I am sorry as I always like to see Rustenburg in action. I receive the fortnightly RGHS Newsletter, edited by MARIAN LENNOX (staff 1968 – 2006) and am constantly impressed by the range and standards of the achievements. Marian and the past headmistresses, JO McINTYRE, MARY VAN BLERK, ELIZABETH FULLARD, and HAZEL LENTIN have been meeting regularly for coffee and are now joined by FIONA WATSON (Stewart 1953), past headmistress of San Souci. They call themselves 'The Dead Head Society'! I was very pleased to meet the new headmistress, LAURA BEKKER, in the interval of The Messiah. She was very warm and friendly and I enjoyed her enthusiasm for birding holidays.

There will also be a change of headmistress at RGJS as JOYCE CONWAY retires. Joyce was first a substitute teacher there in 1979, later joining the permanent staff and becoming headmistress in the late nineties.

Mrs McIntyre sent me this letter about ROG's she'd seen:

I was so delighted last Wednesday when shopping at Long Beach mall and coming out of Clicks, to meet SARAH CRABTREE- not sure when she matriculated but she was at school in the late 1980's, early 1990's - such a lovely girl - now married and living in Kommetjie with a very new and happy baby - it was the baby I saw first and asked the mother if it was very young before I saw whose it was! Sarah has kept in contact with BARBARA ELSHOVE, whom I also met a short while ago - Barbara is a partner in a firm called Cape Point Route, which won a very prestigious Travel Firm award recently. Her office is just below the Southern

Right Hotel in Glencairn. She, too, is married and lives in the area. CARMEN GOLD (1994), now Barkhuizen, is a very successful business woman and has two lovely children, Leah and Ryan. JOANNE MACDONALD who matriculated in the 70's, I think, is living in Swaziland and has just joined my daughter, SUSAN, in starting a small school for children with special problems like Attention Deficit Disorder. Susan says she is a brilliant and innovative teacher of English, which pleases me especially as she was one of my English pupils. I also hear news of KATE LINDSAY (ex Erinville boarding House Head Prefect) who is a psychiatrist now and practises in Perth, Australia. She is due to have her second child at any moment, I believe. Her mother, ANNE MARIE CARTER (Baker 1955), also an Old Girl, gives me news, too, of Kate's sister, ALEXANDRA CARTER (1991), who is a linguist of note.

When in Hermanus for the day recently, whom did I bump into but MORAIG MCLEOD, there for the Whale festival that was due to start the following day. It was good to have a chance for a brief chat before I had to leave.

Then on Sunday I was invited out to Bot River to join JEAN MACKENZIE (E3 1970) for lunch. Jean spent many years in Holland and has visited India several times. There I got news of HEIDI MUHL (1970) who is a friend of Jean's and whose mother was also at the lunch.

It is always such fun to meet past pupils and members of staff!

AN APOLOGY

I apologise to the readers of the hard copy of the last ROGU Newsletter, June 2007. The printer managed to leave out a section of text so that what remained in the middle was nonsense. In doing so it completely omitted my very favourite ROG anecdote of how KATHY JOHNSON (Fish 1985), her family and I were the first to know of the engagement of CHIARA WALLERS (1997 at that very romantic spot at the bottom of a waterfall in Leopard's Kloof, Betty's Bay. This is how that section should read:

WEDDINGS.....

.....The next Saturday, a very different wedding but with a large Rustenburg contingent: the venue, Yzerfontein beach, the bride, our daughter, ALISON (1993), in a gown of the palest blue. We led her along the sands with following barefooted bridesmaids dressed in rich reds and gold: sister FIONA (1989) and Ali's classmates GENEVIEVE FORDER, JEANINE GOMES, MANDY HOFMEYR, LINDY BRIERS-DANKS (Crisp) See Births.....(A PS on the Rustenburg connections of the bridesmaids; Genevieve is daughter of ERICA (Westall 1954); Jeanine daughter of MAUVEEN (Marsh/Gomes, staff of the 60's) MANDY is daughter of CILLA (Whitehead 1967), granddaughter of PHYLL (Smith 1942) and great-granddaughter of EFFIE (Macquilken 192?)!!!!

I didn't have time to get many details of MARIE BUCHOLTZ'S (1998) wedding but I did learn that she too had a flock of Rustenburg bridesmaids round her as she was married in the Kirstenbosch sculpture garden. They were her sisters, KIM (2000) and LESLEY (2002) and GABY LE ROUX (1998).Rustenburg friendships endure. A decade or more after school it is Rustenburg friends so often chosen for special roles, bridesmaid or godmother.

..... AND AN ENGAGEMENT

I don't expect I shall ever again be the very first person – other than the couple – to know of a Rustenburg engagement. It was very special and it happened like this: KATHY JOHNSON (Fish 1985), her husband, Steve, children Daniel (8) and Amy(6) and I were having a snack stop in the forest of Leopard's Kloof, Betty's Bay. Coming up behind us was a familiar figure, CHIARA WALLERS (1997) and her boyfriend, both out from Bristol. We chatted and they went on ahead. When we reached the top pool, I noticed Chiara and Gary sitting very close, Gary's trouser legs were wet. Later they passed us, eyes shining, 'We've just got engaged' said Chiara, 'Gary went down on his knees in the water'. Chiara was expecting Rustenburg friends among them INGE DE BEER and TRACEY WATSON at the weekend. They will have been celebrating!

IN THE NEWS

Once a month I scan the Cape Times Society supplement. The December issue had a bumper crop of ROG's. There was national director for Habitat for Humanity, DONNÉ CAMERON (Jones 1990), at 567 Capetalk's birthday celebration when the station's staff builds houses. NICKY GREENWALL (1996) was pictured with Robin Fryer at the Appletiser Summer Sunset Series at Kirstenbosch, a special evening for local media. DAPHNE NUNNELEY (Schernbrucker 1963) was one of five finalists for KFM's 'coolest teacher' in the Cape'. 3 500 teachers had been nominated by their pupils. Daphne is on the staff of the Junior School. DIANA SEGAL (Duffett 1956) and her husband had attended the Cape Times 'Business Personality of the Year' award presentation.

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Now back to the December 2007 Newsletter

WRITERS, ARTISTS

A chance visit to a bookshop in La Lucia, KZN led to my spotting *Leaves to a Tree*, edited by Robin Malan, published in 2005 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the SA Council for English Education. A caption on the cover reads, 'Beyond English Alive – a celebration of writing in South Africa' It took only five minutes to realise it was a treasure for the Newsletter. First, the cover artist was our KATHERINE BULL (1991). This cover had been on the 1994 edition of *English Alive* and showed a section of a self-portrait made up of miniature portraits of friends and family, the whole being created by using digital 'brushes' in a complicated process. Pictured inside *Leaves on a Tree* were the complete self-portrait and a summary of Katherine's career. She was awarded a Master of Fine Art degree with distinction and in 2002 was winner (with FRITHA LANGERMAN 1987) of the 3rd Cape Town Public Sculpture Competition. *English Alive* is 'a national anthology of writing by high school pupils' published annually. In 2006 Rustenburg had a record of eight works accepted and one learner was asked to read her poem at the launch. The practising writers included in *Leaves to a Tree* had all had pieces published in *English Alive*. For 'Leaves' each was asked to write a piece on writing and to submit a work that had been published elsewhere.

ANÉL POWELL (1993), Metro writer for the Cape Times, contributed to the 1992 *English Alive* wrote in 'Leaves':

"My love for English was fuelled by my English teacher, June Sacks, who was editor of *English Alive* in 1992. She instilled in me a love of language, a fearlessness for pushing the boundaries of literary exploration and a desire to read voraciously. Sadly, she died while I was at Stellenbosch University. But I attribute my career choice to Mrs Sacks's inspiring poetry classes."

SARAH ROWAN (Johnson 1998) not only had had poems published in *English Alive*, but has also been editor of that publication. Her contribution to 'Leaves' was a poem from her book of poetry, *Personae*.

The Cape Times of 16 July 2007 had a piece entitled, "Crisp, cerebral sustenance". This was a review of an exhibition of the works of two artists, one of whom was FRITHA LANGERMAN (1987). This is what was written: "Langerman....takes traditional art media – classic etching, photography and the favourite 'local' method, the zippy linocut – and fiddles with it, very skilfully, for newer purposes. But she also takes to high tech in the form of pieces made out of chromed plasma-cut steel and sand blasted mirror. All for use in her installation called *The Knowledge Chambers*. The 'knowledge' referred to is the kind that is recorded – in signs, in print – in taxonomic systems such as an encyclopaedia. We read that Langerman took as point of departure the famous 'Encyclopaedia or systematic dictionary for the sciences, arts, and crafts' published by the French philosopher Diderot in 1751. In her wide-ranging installation, Langerman sets out to show how such systems eventually collapse.....It is quite hectic, intimidatingly cool and bordering on overload – but then that is probably also the point.....she forces us to work a little harder at the art that we wish to know."

In the Sunday Independent of July 29, 2007 we find; "The Goodman Gallery finally arrived in Cape Town.....bringing with it a fresher, younger and edgier crowd.....Among the talents are LISA BRICE (1986).....Lisa Brice's series of poignant and compelling studies examine the first intimacy between young people, with its equal share of awkwardness and joy. Using paint, bleach and gesso, Brice both erases marks from the surface of the canvas and applies them, bringing into question the nature of painting itself" Her solo show is from 20 October to 10 November.

LAUREN WILLIAMS (2001) writes about her career path as a writer:

My greatest inspiration and role model at school and till today, would have to be Ms Awerbuck. The only teacher I've ever had who believed in me and my writing capabilities. I think I first realised my talent once I had my Matric Final Piece published in English Alive. From there on I continued to write poetry and short pieces. I then went on to study Medicine, and after three years and no longer being able to fund my own studies, I went in search of a job to start saving toward finishing my degree. I've had no formal training in writing, apart from the lessons received by Ms Awerbuck in class (my favourite lesson!) and started off as a database manager at a property company. There I proofread ads and was handed the task of drafting their monthly newsletter and so forth. I then got engaged (to my wonderful fiancé - a journalist and sports anchor) and moved to Johannesburg in pursuit of a better career, as all the editorial jobs and so forth were abundant in JHB. I started out as a freelance writer working for advertising agencies, and then progressed to drafting articles and sports interviews for ETV on a freelance basis. I was then hired as a copywriter/marketing manager and client liaison officer at a Leisure Retail company, where I wrote all copy for ads, campaigns etc. Sadly I grew tired of this position as there was not much room for creativity and moved on to work for a business solutions company where I started writing for their Golf magazine, and conducted interviews for their Lifestyle section. Again I wasn't feeling challenged and moved on, only to land at the doors to Kezi Communications. I started off as a junior writer, and two and a half weeks later, was promoted to senior writer. Another two and a half weeks passed, and I was promoted to senior writer and publicist within the company. Currently there are only two writers (myself and my boss) who draft articles, PR and pitches for over 12 clients on a daily basis. I am also mentoring our trainee junior writer who is studying toward her journalism degree.

Currently, I am in the process of launching my own social upliftment company aimed at artists and writers, to coach and train them in their future careers/aspirations. The launch date is yet to be confirmed as the strikes have delayed everything by a month. Apart from that, I am busy writing a biography and a novel, and am launching two magazines of my own by the end of the year.

I was never certain as to what life had to offer me coming from an all girls school, but having attended Rustenburg, the doors were opened to me time and time again. I recall at least 6 interviews, where the interviewer had attended Rustenburg themselves and spoke highly of the school. Those who knew of Rustenburg knew that any girl/woman who completed their schooling there was a hard worker, trustworthy and dedicated. Rustenburg Girls High has become reputable in unleashing creative and business talent into the world, which is recognised by people throughout South Africa. I don't think I could have attended a better school, one that teaches discipline, focus and hard work, all requirements and the basic foundation of becoming a successful person. Everything I've learnt at Rustenburg has been applicable and relevant in my life, and I can't say anything learnt has been useless.

My greatest thanks would go to the following teachers:

Ms Awerbuck - English teacher (role model) Ms Matthews - Form Teacher, Ms Asary - Biology Teacher. Ms Ryan - Geography teacher. Ms Burchell - Science and Maths, Mev. Livingstone – Afrikaans, Mr Dawood - computer science, Ms McLeod - Science & Sport

Life lessons, faith and belief from these teachers are what drove me to achieve and try everything at least once!

My eleven years at Rustenburg has proven to mould the person I have become, with morals, integrity and direction in life, not forgetting an empowered and ambitious woman. . Thank you very much, and I'm

really proud to be called a Rustenburg Old Girl. I think it's great that despite all the drama taking place in schools, that Rustenburg is still firm and getting great results, particularly in English Alive.

MUSIC

In the glossy programme for the Third Unisa National Piano Competition held in June at the Unisa campus in Pretoria there was a page devoted to our CATHERINE FOXCROFT (1986), one of the judges. Some extracts: "Catherine Foxcroft is considered to be one of South Africa's finest young pianistsWhile still a student at UCT she won prizes in many national competitions and was engaged professionally as soloist with all the symphony orchestras in South Africa.....(scholarships) enabled her to study with the renowned pianist Arie Vardi from 1991 to 2000..... in Hanover, GermanyDuring this time she was a distinguished semi-finalist and finalist at international piano and chamber music competitions in the USA and (Europe)." An active chamber musician, Catherine performed with the Odeon and Sontonga quartets in 2006. She is a much sought-after adjudicator. She has recorded for the SABC, Radio Telefis (Ireland) and for German radio. Catherine is a lecturer in piano and chamber music at Rhodes University. She is married and has a son. (I was at the competition to listen to a nephew, son of JEAN COHEN (Trainor 1968)).

Early in August, the Rustenburg choirs joined by choirs from Rondebosch and SACS presented a very fine performance of Handel's Messiah in the City Hall. ROG's singing were SHIH-YA HUANG (1999), BABALWA MPULU (200?) and CAITLIN VAN DYK (2006). In the Chamber Orchestra were CAMILLA DRIVER (1992), viola – see Marriages – and SARAH-JANE FRITH (2004) violin. As usual, PAT HANGER (Noble 1961) helped with the bookings.

MONIQUE HELLENBERG (2000) was selected as a vocalist for the National Youth Jazz band which was to perform in Johannesburg and possibly overseas.

Update on LOUISE CARVER (1996) is that she was soloist at a Kirstenbosch Winter Warmer concert in July. Her latest CD is Saved by Moonlight, all the songs are written by her and she accompanies herself on the piano. A review in the Cape Times included, "Accessible pop from this local singer who's grown by leaps and bounds ---- Saved by Moonlight has a professional edge.... her emotional intent makes this a convincing album."

NICOLA VAN ZYL SMIT formed the first professional recorder quartet in the Western Cape. I think it is called Hout. The quartet's CD was produced in 2005 and is available from the University of Stellenbosch Conservatoire.

SYBIL WHITEMAN MORRIS (C195?) pianist and clarinettist, was the speaker at the school's annual Music Awards Dinner. She talked about her experiences in music and those of her late father, the late Professor Whiteman. She was highly impressed by the quality of the music learners at Rustenburg.

IN THE NEWS

DEBORA PATTA (1981) was the South African personality featured in 'Why I love this country' in the March 2006 issue of The South African. Debora is the managing editor and deputy editor-in-chief at e-TV. Since 2000 she has anchored, as well as performed the role of executive producer, of 3rd Degree on e-TV. Her history teacher, Marian Lennox, remarked that she must have learnt something at school. Debora's pedigree as a broadcaster is impressive and she has had a wide experience of Africa including being under fire in the townships. As news editor and special assignments editor for Radio 702 as well as senior correspondent for e-TV, she developed a reputation for investigative reporting. Stories she covered include the Chris Hani assassination, the Samora Machel and Helderberg plane crashes, Nelson Mandela's election campaign, inauguration and presidency. Debora co-authored, with one of Mandela's bodyguards, the book, Mandela: one step behind. Some of Debora's responses to 'why I love this country' were: – "I love South

Africa's resilient spirit. We've been through hell and come out smiling on the other side. No matter what gets thrown at us – we cope. That is why we are amongst the most sought-after employees in other parts of the world." And "I don't love the way we dress. Too gaudy, too fussy, too label-conscious – it offends my Italian heritage." In the picture Debora wears a black trouser suit with long jacket, and silver, unfussy jewellery. While still at school, Debora was the Western Province delegate at the National Youth Consultation in Johannesburg, played Antigone in the play of that name, displaying, "excellent amateur acting" and was chairman of the Senior Debating society - all good pointers to what she would later achieve.

From Bishops magazines.....It must be our TARYN VOSLOO (Luitingh 1995) who was named a co-producer for a Bishops Pre-Prep drama production earlier this year. Taryn has two young children, Sienna and Jagger. Those in the know would recognise our CARYN BROWNELL (1997) as the 'Mrs Starey' in the following passage: "The boys all thoroughly enjoyed watching the staff taking part in the staff cabaret. We were all very impressed with Mrs Starey's dancing performances..." Caryn has a BEd Foundation Phase (Cape Tech). It seems likely that JO-ANNE TAYLOR (1997) has been a student at the Pre-Prep as she's mentioned as running a voluntary Christian group there.

A snippet in the Cape Times said that ANTHEA THOMPSON (1987) was to star in 'Shirley Valentine' at the Masque Theatre in July. Sadly I missed the play and the review.

The Cape Times of 27 July 2007 had an account of a court case where the accused faced forty-eight cases of fraud. The report reads in part, "Prosecutor BRONWEN HENDRY (1990) was arguing against an application for the discharge, at the end of the state's case.....Noting a deduction claimed for a payment to the.....Animal Clinic, Hendry asked whether a reasonable court would believe a veterinary expense had been honestly incurred in receiving commission on property sales....." In the school magazine of 1990, Bronwen wrote for her future plans: "Law". She knew where she was heading.

Pictured in Noseweek, July 2007 is ANN WALLIS-BROWN (Martin 195?) with Lewis Nkosi and Lesengo Matima at the Cape Town Book Fair. The article is written by Hilary Prendini Toffoli (nee Young).

HLUBI MBOYA (1995) is regularly in the news. This time she was pictured with her mother and sister at a 'celebs and moms' fashion show – ".....Isidingo's vivacious Hlubi Mboya".

THE THIRTIES

Senior resident of Betty's Bay, PEGGY DAVIDSON (Albertyn 1937), at a fund-raising lunch, was telling me of her days at Rustenburg. What she stressed was the excellence of the teachers: "In those days they were graduates of Oxford and Cambridge". Dr Jean van der Poel was an outstanding teacher of history; "she made us think". Miss Ralls and Miss Janisch were first rate and headmistress, Miss Hazell, "a very fine teacher". Peggy studied at UCT, taught art in Pretoria, and spent her married life in Natal raising a daughter and three sons. She returned to the traditional holiday place of her branch of the Albertyns in retirement. Still very active, Peggy enjoys painting especially flowers. RENÉE FOURIE (Staff) is Peggy's niece.

DAPHNE BURGER (Colburn 1968) sent me this about some of our oldies:

"I have just been speaking to an ROGU member, AMY ASKEW (Peacock 1932). I received her change of address to Huis Nuweland in the post and she gave her phone number, so I called her to say I had received the notification. What a "together" lady! She still drives and does not wear specs. I got permission to mention her age of 92 - she was born on 29 March 1915! Her younger sister, JOAN ASKEW (Peacock 1941) has moved to Silvermine Village. They both married Askew brothers, Amy (the eldest) married the

younger brother, and Joan the elder brother. Amy was married for 63 years, and was widowed three years ago. I told her about Founder's Day and she will try to be there with her sister."

We also heard of another very active old girl who turned 93 on 28 October - DECIMA FLANAGAN who lives in Somerset West. She has been very active in the Mountain Club of SA.

I hope I'll have more about these ROG's for the next newsletter.

CLAUDINE BUTLER (Brown A1 in 1938) sent in her updated details, saying she is another straggler for the 30's, having been born in 1922! Her three daughters all went to Clarendon High School in East London, so she was pleased to see that our new principal, Ms Bekker, went there too. She writes: "Before going to Rustenburg Jnr in 1934, I attended a small school in Mowbray where I was fortunate enough to be taught in both Stds 4 & 5 by a Mrs Austin – a truly wonderful lady. She was a widow – the mother of only one child, a girl named Helen. Helen was at university at the time and I can remember Mrs Austin's elation and excitement when Helen attained her degree – she came down to our school to tell her Mom. At high school, my "A" subject was Physics and Chemistry taught by Miss Heath – I only wanted to be a Research Analytical Chemist in the food industry after a BSc degree majoring in Chemistry, something never heard of for GIRLS – you could be a teacher, a nurse/doctor (which heaven forbid as I hated the sight of blood) or a shorthand typist, which, being a people's person, turned out OK. I have been a friend of Pat McCrindle since she was 13 – we were next door neighbours – please give her my regards." Claudine took a course in secretarial practice and a journalism diploma and was a secretary to the Administrator of the Cape and to the General Manager of the Cape Times. She published short stories and ran a school for Black children for 15 years in the 1980s. She has been a dedicated Christian since childhood, involved in any sort of help to the poor.

THE FORTIES

STELLA KERKHOVEN (Hodges 1946) wrote from her home in Renkum, Holland. She has lived in Holland for nearly forty years and all three of her African-born children are there too. Stella was widowed in April. She used to sometimes do translations for the university but mostly kept house. Her sister BARBARA (Hodges 1947), living on the Shropshire border had a long and successful career. She too has three children, two in the UK, one in New Zealand.

SHIRLEY DU PLESSIS (Gericke 1947) sent in a change of address in Welgelegen.

PAM CLARKE (Monnery 1947) is mentioned by her daughter Geraldine – See The Sixties.

ROSEMARY SUNDGREN (Wood 1948) and her husband have moved from Pringle Bay to a retirement complex in Somerset West. She has a BA Hons degree and a UED from UCT, and has taught mainly English to matric level from 1953 to 1998. Rosemary told me about her three daughters, JUDY WELLS (1977), LYNN GODDARD (1979) and WENDY SKEAT (1981). Read about them under their decades. She also has a son, Terence.

CATHERINE ANDREW (Solms 1949) updated her record. She has been a Research Chemist in the Department of Medicine and Surgery, Medical School, Cape Town and now lives in Somerset West. She is married to a judge and has four children.

THE FIFTIES

ELERO MARITZ (Viljoen 1955) sent this email to Rustenburg Junior School:-

I have just received the latest Stephan Welz/Sotheby's catalogue and I see the school piano is going to be sold at auction.

I attended the junior school in the 1940's when Miss Orton was at the helm and Mrs Kish (I am not sure of the spelling) was our singing teacher. The piano looks remarkably like the one I remember. Is it? If so, I am very sad the school is letting go of an item which I am sure many girls will remember with much nostalgia. I do.

If this is the one I remember, I am so sad the school is letting go of an item which has so much historical value in the history of the school. Even if the insides of it are dead it is a piece of sculpture which is part of the school. How sad.

I was at the school from 1949 to 1951 and both my younger sisters were there for their whole primary school education. I was Elero and my sisters JEANNE and LORRAINE Viljoen.

And a follow-up to the ROGU Committee, which was subsequently acknowledged by Maureen Mantell:-
Recently I saw the old junior school Steinway piano go up at auction at a Stephan Welz/Sotheby auction for R75 000. I was so sad to see this happen as it carries so many memories of my time at the junior school. It was synonymous to the old school hall, Miss Orton and Mrs Kisch (the perfectionist singing teacher). I wrote to the junior school and the ROGU expressing my sadness at the school selling off a piece of tradition but had no answer. Was it considered by the ROGU for Charlie's Hope piano at any stage and found wanting? I am getting on in years (I am 69) the younger generation will say but I find a lack of respect for tradition and icons of history very sad. Surely an old piano of such quality can be restored to its former glory.....or even just revered as a work of art. I don't know?

Is it a matter of "the old order changeth , yielding place to the new"?

OLIVE RUNCIMAN (Cloete 1956) has finally retired after forty-seven years as a registered nursing sister working in various capacities including at a university residence and being a much admired matron at a home for the elderly. She is divorced, has two grown-up children and now lives in Wynberg.

THE SIXTIES

A recognisable GILLAN BOWIE (1960) was at a Micklefield reunion. She was head radiographer running the X-ray department of Groote Schuur and was due to retire at the end of August; then she hopes to consult, in particular in the field of digitalisation of X-ray data for CD's. Gillan trains teachers in this. Home is Pinelands. She gave me news of her sister LISLE NEL (1964) who was a Springbok golfer until hampered by leg problems. She is a friend of star golfer; GILL WHITFIELD (1971) Lisle is now is a professional, teaching golf at the Wanderers Club in Johannesburg. Lisle has two children and is divorced.

MARIE HESTER ROSHOLT (Olivier 1966) sent in her details from her home in Parkview, Johannesburg. She has spent the last twenty-nine years in television, directing and producing winning awards for her television productions. Marie graduated BA from Stellenbosch, did a STD at UCT, taught for three years before changing direction. Film and television courses from the New School for Social Research, New York equipped her for this. Marie has two children in their thirties, Francois and Julia Bruyns.

PRISCILLA MARY CRUNDWELL (Yates 1968) is another of Rustenburg's music teachers. She is Director of Music at St Mary's DSG in Kloof, KZN and is an IEB Examiner and Moderator. Priscilla obtained her first qualification, TLD from UCT in 1971. In 1998 she put herself to the test through Trinity College London with the result that she can add Mus TCL to her name. Priscilla and Peter have four children and four grandchildren.

GERALDINE CASSIDY (Clarke 1968) sent in an update from her home in Nottinghamshire. She can be contacted at mjdcassidy@btinternet.com. Geraldine, her husband, Mike and their teenage son, Richard, moved to the UK in 1996. Like so many of her era, Geraldine trained at Groote Schuur, as a general nurse, midwife and in ward management and administration. She was a Senior Sister there until 1989. Geraldine is the daughter of PAM CLARKE (Monnery 1947).

A new member of the ROGU is ALISON TURNER (Varley – Junior Matric in 1961) who moved to Zimbabwe to complete her education – obtaining a BA Hons in English at UCRN in then Salisbury. She acquired a postgraduate Certificate in Education at Bristol University and a Diploma in Counselling from Warrington University. She taught English from 1968 to 1992, was involved in Educational Management from 1992 to 1999, and has been a “person-centred counsellor” since then. “After living in the UK for over 40 years, I’ve now returned to South Africa with my husband, Richard. My elder sisters (Gillian and Bridget) were also at Rustenburg – Gillian (1954) was friends with Jeanne Logan (1954).” (Jeanne Jackson is the President of the ROGU). Alison is living in Somerset West.

MARGOT DOWNIE (Little 1962) sent in a change of address to Langebaan.

THE SEVENTIES

Early in the history of Rustenburg there were eight POWIS sisters all of whom later were involved in education. Details can be read in JO McINTYRE’S White Stoep on the Highway in the chapter, Great Families. There was one brother, George, who married ROG OLIVE MCKENZIE. They had three granddaughters at the school, JENNY, POWIS, HEATHER TENNANT (Powis) and their cousin JEAN BOURN (Powis C 1968). Jean has written from Lynnwood Glen, Pretoria where she lives with Gavin and daughters Hazel, 16 and Erica, 13. Jean matriculated from Westville GHS and would like to be on the list for E 1970. Her friends at school were ISABEL DALE KUYS, ANNE RYCROFT, VETTA WISE and JENNY SMEES. Jean kept up the family tradition in education. Graduating BA from the University of Natal, she added a H.E.D. and a Dip Sp Ed (Deaf) UNISA to her qualifications. She has had varied teaching experiences in high schools, a school for the deaf, a London Montessori Pre-School. Jean has travelled overseas a number of times.

DI SLINGSBY (Wilson 1973) sent in an appeal for contact details of others from her year. See Reunions for her own details. Di lives in Constantia, not far from Muriel Payne organiser of the 1977 reunion – see below.

ELIZABETH FIONA PRIDE HAW (Smit 1975), hawfamily@telkomsa.net, sent in her details and a welcome letter. Liz lives in East London with her husband, Michael. They have two sons, Lawrence, 21 and Andrew, 18. Elizabeth trained in General Nursing and Midwifery at Carinus Nursing College, has a certificate in Infection control and is currently studying for a certificate in Medicine and Law through UNISA. She wrote:

My sisters, MARGOT (198?) and VERONICA as well as my mother SHEILA SMIT (Chisholm) are also past pupils. Veronica and my mother live in Pinelands and Margot lives in Fish Hoek. I am currently the Safety and Infection Control Coordinator for 3 private hospitals East London. This keeps me very busy with little time for anything else. However, I always make time for my creative interests and currently fabric painting and beading are what keep my hands busy. Somehow I have acquired the Safety portfolio for rowing for the Eastern Cape – and this too keeps me (and the whole family) busy as I always need extra help! My husband and I love the outdoors, and over the years have travelled to many less frequented places in order to hike, canoe, or simply to enjoy the journey, the views and the people. Since moving to the Eastern Cape in 2000 I have met only 2 Rustybugs – they seem to be scarce here (or in hiding!). Lawrie matriculated from Selborne College (the brother school of Clarendon where Miss Judith Stuart Watson (now GORDON) was head mistress) in 2004 and is doing very well in the IT business. Andrew is about to start writing matric at St Andrews in Grahamstown and hopes to study Law next year. My husband is a Consulting Engineer, currently involved with projects aimed at upgrading the water and sanitation of many villages in the Transkei. He is studying part-time towards a degree in Environmental Management, which he is thoroughly enjoying. We lead busy full lives, what with studying, cycling, running and swimming, (for fun) and enjoy nothing more than a quiet evening with friends or curled up on the couch with a good book.

Elizabeth's mother, Sheila, and aunt, FIONA CHISOLM (1955), write for the Cape Times. Sheila writes on Ballet and Fiona on Opera and the Theatre. Recently she wrote a tribute to leading actress, the late Moira Lister.

MURIEL PAYNE (Gallie 1977) has just joined the Union and is hoping to have a forty year reunion for her class. - see Reunions. Muriel lives in Constantia with her husband, Martyn, and two teenage sons. She trained as a radiographer at the Cape Technikon and worked in a private radiology practice for ten years.

News of the next five girls, I gleaned from their parents at the 70th birthday party of the husband of PEGGY WYNNE (Duffett/Evans 1956). I keep my little notebook handy; ROG's pop up everywhere.

JUDY WELLS (Sundgren 1977) graduated B Sc Nursing, went to Australia and married a parliamentarian. She works at the Royal Melbourne Hospital where she heads the department of Stomatherapy. She has three children.

Judy's sister, LYNN GODDARD (1979) is a physiotherapist who lived with her family, husband and three children, at Pringle Bay for some years. Now they are in Somerset West but Lynn returns to Pringle weekly to hold classes in calanetics.

News from LORRAINE NUTTALL (Billingham 1970) came with a change of address form to Onrus River. After completing a PA course, she joined a shipping company until 2002. She qualified as a travel agent as well and travelled extensively. She married her husband, Brian, in 2004, having met in 1985! They have just completed building a home on the mountain slopes and the next 12 months will be spent setting out the 1000 square metres of garden. Lorraine provided news of her sisters, JEANETTE (Billingham 1973) and DENISE GAMAROFF (Billingham 1980). Jeanette married and moved first to Iran and then to London where she worked in Harley Street as a dental nurse. She returned to SA and got divorced. She is also living in Hermanus and works part-time running a pet shop. Denise obtained a BSc degree and married in 1985, thereafter emigrating to Australia. She worked for the Australian Wheat Board for many years. She has two daughters and now works part-time for IKEA.

THE EIGHTIES

The youngest Sundgren sister, WENDY SKEAT (1981), lives in Somerset West for three weeks each month devoting herself to her husband and three children. The fourth week she is a paediatric ICU nurse at the Cromwell Hospital, South Kensington, London. Like her sister Judy, Wendy is a B Sc Nursing graduate.

News of BIDDY VAN BLOCK (Janse van Rensberg 1983) comes from her mother, ANGELA VAN RENSBERG (Bolt 1956) of Fish Hoek. Bidy lives in Sedona, Arizona, USA and is married to Charles and is mother to Savannah, 8 and Zoe, 6. A Social Science graduate of UCT, Bidy also earned an MA at Prescott College, USA.

JENNY WHITTAL (Darcy-Evans 1985) lectures in Geomatics at UCT. Her two daughters are at RGJS.

SUE ERASMUS (Wiseman 1986), an ex-RGJS teacher, writes from her new home in England with an update and also a very useful tip for those having difficulty with the email version of the newsletter. Thanks for that. A village in the Cotswolds sounds like heaven. "Since moving to the UK in January this year I have not had any newsletters sent to my email. I thought that I would let you know how handy the new www.facebook.com website is as it was through this site in the Rustenburg Girls High group that I could finally catch up and read the newsletter. We are living in a village in the Cotswolds in Gloucestershire with my husband Dean and 2 sons, Daniel 11yrs and Benjamin 8 years. We all settled down really quickly and had a visit in July from ALISON MULLER (HYNE 1985) and her family which was lovely. One of the

days we spent in Stratford-upon-Avon, bringing back all the memories of learning Shakespeare at Rustenburg!!”

MICHELLE VINTCENT (Pomario 1986) has a Business Science degree from UCT. She is married to Craig and has a son and a daughter born in 2002 and 2004 respectively. The family is living in Dubai.

SAMANTHA BOSMAN (Frost 1988) has two daughters and is living in Hermanus.

BEVERLEY HUMAN (Deacon 1989) has been living on Long Island, New York since 2001. She is married to Mike, a South African and like her, a former teacher. They have sons aged 9, 4 and 2. Beverley studied at Mowbray Training College for a Diploma in Education and then at Stellenbosch University for a BA degree. After teaching for a short while, she had stints with Drake personnel and then Dimension Data

THE NINETIES

SARAH BELL (Fraser 1990) sent in welcome news of the arrival of her and her sister Julia’s new sons – see Births. From the address it seems that Sarah is a Broker/Client Liaison Officer for Cadiz Private Wealth Management in Cape Town.

MANDY WHITTAKER (1990) wrote in the magazine of 1990 that her future plans focussed on Interior Design. She is doing just that, working at a Claremont curtain company.

KIRSTIE NIELSEN-BEAN (Nielsen 1991) writes: “I now live in the UK in a village just outside of York in North Yorkshire. I have lived in the UK for the past 10 years although still visit South Africa on a yearly basis. I recently got married to Adrian James Bean, Adrian is from North Yorkshire, but we chose to get married on the 17th March 2007 at Blaauwklippen Wine Estate in Stellenbosch followed by a honeymoon on the Garden Route, Plettenburg Bay finished off with a safari near Port Elizabeth.

I work for GlaxoSmithKline as a Travel Health Account Manager with a developmental role as a Sales Performance Coach.

I have found many old school friends via the new social network website, Facebook and there is a group on there for old Rustenburg Girls to join. There is also a group at the moment that is looking to find the class of 1991. I came to the 10 year reunion in 2001, but it would appear that there are many of us in the UK now so it would be great if as many of the old class of 1991 could join the group and perhaps we could organise a reunion for the UK Rustybugs in London.”

I saw JEANNE McCLAY (1992) when I happened to be in the same house as her Book Club. She has 2-year old, lives in Observatory and does freelance editing for the OUP and CUP. “I’m not cut out for teaching” she said. Her Rustenburg friends include CARA WINTERBOTTOM (1992) who has a Ph D in Computer Studies after undergraduate studies in Psychology and CARINA KOCH who writes computer programmes.

LINDA BATEMAN (Webb 1992) and husband Andrew have moved to the Isle of Man with their three children.

No fewer than six Matrics of 1993 are doctors; ANN HORAK has just qualified as a gynaecologist at UCT; HELEN WRIGHT is doing a Masters in Sports Medicine through UCT while working in urology at Groote Schuur; SALLY LE ROUX (Masterson) and her husband, Karl, both did a Masters in a field allied to Rural Medicine in Sweden and are now living near Hole-in-the Wall, Wild Coast. They are working at Zithulele Hospital there; that is Sally is, if her maternity leave is over. KERREN MIDDLECOOP (Jones) was working at the Desmond Tutu Institute at UCT, This institute runs an antiretroviral programme. Catherine DOMMISSE is a registrar in Paediatrics at Tygerberg Hospital and ALISON BERRISFORD is doing a Master of Medicine

(Family Medicine) through Stellenbosch University and working at Helderberg Hospital (ex Hottentots Holland) to fulfil the practical requirements.

WENDY BRASLER (1994) has moved house – to Wimbledon Close – and changed jobs. She is now teaching in a new facility for children with slight special needs which is in a regular school. News from her mother VALERIE BRASLER (Webster 1961) who was looking forward to Wendy's visit of just one week at the end of October.

DIANE GALLIE JAMES (Gallie 1994) brought her small son to Cape Town in July. She lives in Chelmsford and works in IT for a firm of consulting engineers concerned with railways and analyses train travel. News comes from her mother who is enjoying being granny to Dan.

I glean news in so many ways. KERRIN TITMAS (1994) sent in a complaint to the Cape Times Consumer Watch about her extraordinary experiences with airport scales in South Africa. From this I learnt that she is the general manager of a luxury hotel in the Cape and recently flew to China. Kerrin was in my first form class when I started teaching at Rustenburg and I remember her as a great enthusiast, in particular, for our class project at Blouville Nursery School in Retreat. Now for an update; on a Sunday in late October, we were lunching at Mont Rochelle Hotel in Franschhoek and who should walk past but Kerrin. First time I'd seen her in twelve years. Instantly recognisable, she was full of life, warm, elegant. The setting of her workplace, Mont Rochelle, is unbeatable. She has been in the hospitality trade since spending a year at Stellenbosch, "You know how I felt about science" (veterinary science had been a dream). Kerrin is on the Board of Tourism in Franschhoek and through this is involved in community projects. She is in touch with LIZETTE CRABTREE (1994) no longer a chef in Vietnam but back in South Africa. Another friend is NICKY MOORE (1994) who was giving extra maths lessons for a while in SA but has now returned to the UK.

SUSAN WYNNE (1994) is a regular and much-valued contributor. This is her update:

I had a wonderful 9 months in Belgium from October 2006 to July 2007, where I was involved in engineering design work (I&C) and training in Nivelles, 30 km South of Brussels. It was a great opportunity for me to travel and I hooked up with some good friends while in the Northern Hemisphere. I visited REJANE BOWIE (1994) in the Netherlands over my big 3-Oh birthday and then we travelled to London together to celebrate YVONNE EMERY'S (nee Forshaw, 1994) birthday the following week. What fun to be together again!!

For the last few years I have been busy with part-time studies. I completed a Postgraduate Diploma in nuclear science from WITS in 2006 and graduated with MSc in Biomedical Engineering (UCT) in June 2007. I will take it easy for a while now. It is great to have my evenings back.

My sister, HEATHER WYNNE (1994) is doing very well in Jo'burg. Her daughter, Samantha, will be 4 years old in September. She is such a little star!!

SARSHEN MARAIS (1995) trained as a physiotherapist but according to her grandmother, she needed a change of direction and is back at UCT doing a Masters in Environmental Management.

JACQUI CLARK (Horak 1995) – see Births - graduated M Ed and then spent two years in Japan with her husband, SA hockey player, Greg Clark - news from her father. What would I do without these parents?

More news of JOANNE PEERS (Hanslo 1997) – see Births - is that she and RBHS Old Boy, Grant (1995) moved back to Cape Town after two years in Durban. Jo was principal of a Pre-Primary school there. Grant is minister at the Claremont East Congregational Church. Jo must be a great minister's wife, warm, cheerful and enthusiastic. We had a good phone chat catching up on the last number of years. She is thinking of starting her own pre-primary school. Members of the church include CLAIRE WILLIAMS (2000) – see Engagements – and VERONICA MPOFU (2000)

MICHELLE NICOLL (1997) B Com UNISA sent in a change of postal address to Pinelands. There was no further news from Michelle who I can clearly picture. Perhaps there'll be more details next time.

KATRINA SAMUEL (Cornell 1997) – see Marriages – is living in Pinelands, working for a Promotional company in Observatory and is clearly very happy. She wrote: 'so sad to hear about Mev. Mouton! She was my Afrikaans teacher for a good couple of years and she was such a lovely warm and enthusiastic person!'

Here is another ROG much saddened by DIRKJE MOUTON's death. THANDI NKOMO (Tsukudu 1998) thandiwen@gmail.com writes: "Was sad to read of Mev Mouton's death, she really made an impact in my life. I am currently living in Parklands and am raising my 2 kids - the last one born last year 2006. Her name is Eliora. The last time I received an email from the ROGU was when we were in Kenya a few years ago, so would appreciate receiving them again "

HUDAA FAKIR (Kariem 1999) – see Births – is a Physiotherapy graduate of UWC who has worked as senior physiotherapist in the acute spinal-cord injury unit at Groote Schuur.

NICOLA VAN ZYL SMIT (1999) lives in London while her South African base being in Hermanus. Nicola is a M. Mus graduate of the Royal College of Music having completed her undergraduate studies(B Mus and Hons) at the University of Stellenbosch Conservatoire. In London she is teaching recorder, doing teacher training and performing as much as possible. See under Music for details of her CD.

A change of address has been received from TAMSEN BARRETT (1999). She obtained an N4 National Certificate in Business Management from the South Peninsula College in 2000, and a Bachelor of Architectural Studies at UCT in 2004. She has been working at RPP Architects Ltd in Belfast, Northern Ireland since March 2005.

News from MEAGAN REES (1999) who is having a fascinating time as Assistant to Cape Town's Executive Mayor.

It has been such a long time since I left school – well, it feels like it in any case. I completed a BA in journalism and law at Rhodes before pursuing a postgrad diploma in international studies there are well. I then did a B (Phil) Journalism degree at Stellenbosch and then went to London, where I worked as a journalist for 2 and a half years. I decided that it was time for me to come home and have landed quite an extraordinary position acting as Assistant to Helen Zille, and providing a bridge between her Mayoral and Parliamentary officesa very interesting and eye-opening experience. But I am considering doing a PGCE at UCT next year (teaching History and English to Grade 10-12).

It is always gratifying when someone capable thinks of teaching.

THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

Congratulations to RAGMAH KARIEM (2001) who graduated BChD (Dentistry) in 2006.

CASEY-JANE FITZGERALD (2001) – see Engagements – has recently been employed at Wynberg Girls' Junior School as the Assistant bursar and Debt Collector.

For more about LAUREN WILLIAMS (2001) see 'Writers, Artists. This is what she wrote about her friends: Unfortunately, I have lost contact with my Rustenburg friends, largely due to career paths etc. I am however in touch with 2 friends, MECIA PETERSEN and HAYLEY HERMAN, and we try to keep in touch as often as possible.

News of ZAYAAN BUFFKINS (2003) came from her aunt, a colleague of Mandy Whitaker. Zayaan is in her 4th year of Business Science at UCT.

At the Prize-Giving of 2002 I remember being struck by blonde TARA HOSSACK (2002) who looked like a surfer and did indeed receive an award for Outstanding Achievements in Surfing but earlier she'd been up to collect certificates for Academic Achievement and for Academic Half Colours – some all-rounder! This is what she writes nearly seven years later:

Hi there. Just thought I would touch base as I love receiving the news letter and seeing what people are up to. My name is Tara Hossack and I matriculated from Rustenburg in 2002. Since then, I have completed a BSocSci degree at UCT, majoring in psychology and philosophy. I then went on to do my honours in Clinical Psychology at Stellenbosch. Now, I am the Girls Marketing Coordinator for Billabong SA and living in Jeffreys Bay - can you believe it? Big change from vibey Cape Town and psychology. I have continued to surf and still compete in the local surfing events around the country. I am also presenting a TV show that begins in late December this year. It is the Billabong Girls Get Out There Summer Surf Series, to be aired on Supersport and Mnet. That's me... Tara.hossack@billabong.co.za

Watch out for yet another ROG on the box!

REUNIONS

1973 DI SLINGSBY (Wilson) is looking for contact details of her classmates for a reunion. Make contact with Di at slingsby@rsaweb.co.za or at 'Granite', 27B Brommaert Ave, Constantia, 7806

1977 MURIEL PAYNE (Gallie) and some classmates organised a great reunion. BIDDY RYAN (1973 and current staff) said it was a wonderful celebration but was too snowed under with school work to send a report.

20th Reunion for the Matrics of 1988. A group of us are keen to arrange a Reunion for late in 2008. Contact Jane Upton at uptonjane@hotmail.com

40th reunion for 1968 Es. Lunch at Founder's Day, Friday 25 January 2008 followed by events still to be decided. Contact Betty Baerecke (Caplan) fambaer@iafrica.com or Daphne Burger (Colburn) rogu2000@hotmail.com

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Warmest congratulations and good wishes to all ROG's who reached one of the major milestones of life in the past few months. These lists are rather short. Please send in a quick email with details of your or your friends' happy events. A few of you do that, a few I read about in the Cape Times, otherwise it's the network and that extends only so far.

ENGAGEMENTS

CASEY-JANE FITZGERALD (2001) to Greg Korck on May 2007 in Cape Town

CLAIRE WILLIAMS (2000) to Jonathan Byrne (RBHS 2000) in Cape Town during 2007. Wedding planned for the end of the year.

MARRIAGES

KATRINA CORNELL to Mark Samuel at St Thomas, Rondebosch and Kirstenbosch on 5 May 2007. Katrina writes: "The day was truly amazing...sunny, warm and full of smiles! "

CAMILLA DRIVER (1992) to Julian (Bood) Carver on 24 September 2007 at DeRust, near Oudtshoorn . One of her bridesmaids was WENDY FAULL who was with Cam in my E4 form class. AURELIA DRIVER (1987) said she and sister MANDY (1985) were "too old for such things" ie bridesmaids. Cam and Bood honeymooned in Ghana.

KIRSTIE NEILSEN (1991) to Adrian James Bean, 17th March 2007 at Blaauwklippen Wine Estate in Stellenbosch

BIRTHS

To JACQUI HORAK (1995) and Grant Clark a daughter, Lucy on 23 November 2006 in Cape Town

To HUDAA KARIEM (1999) and Utham Fakir, a child Azraa on 21 November, 2006

To SARAH FRASER (1990) and ? Bell, a son Harrison, brother to Garrick in January, 2007 in Cape Town

To JOANNE HANSLO (1997) and Grant Peers, a son Seth on 6 March 2007 in Cape Town

To CAROL MILLER (1992) and Ian Webb, a son James, on 3 May 2007 in Cape Town. (Aunts are LINDA BATEMAN (Webb 1991) and DEBBIE MILLER (1996))

To INGRID HUGHES (D 1992) and Chris Graham, a son Nathan on 12 June 2007 in Auckland, New Zealand

To JULIA FRASER (1985) and ? Coscia their first child, Matteo on 3 July 2007

To BELINDA CRISP (1993) and Rick Briers-Danks, a daughter Ashleigh Reid, on 17 August 2007, in Cape Town

To SARAH CRABTREE (1991) a beautiful baby seen by Mrs McIntyre but no details!

To CATHERINE WINTER (1991) and Tim Mitchell, a daughter, Sybilla Ruth, sister to Rose, Sophie and Ben on 7 September 2007 in Cape Town

To CATHERINE MOLTENO (1986) and Hugh Corder, a daughter, Lauren Rachel, sister to Daniel, Juliet, James and Joanna, on 20 October, 2007 in Cape Town.

IN MEMORIAM

VALERIE JOYCE ENGELSTOFT COLE (Nissen 1962) died on 31. 8. 2006 in Cape Town. Her husband wrote that she always enjoyed receiving the newsletter and was able to attend a reunion fairly recently. We send him our sincere sympathy.

NERINE OAKES (Van der Spuy 1938) has died in Somerset West.

MARGUERITE JEAN BOWEN (Pope 1948) died on 14 February 2007 in England. Her elder daughter, Alice Holdaway of London wrote: "She was a member of the R.O.G.U. and continued to receive the school Magazine until the late 1980s, though by then she was living in England. In 1988 there was a gathering of former pupils (the class of 1948) in London which she went to. She had very fond memories of her time at the school when she and her family were living in Rondebosch. They returned to Zambia 1949 where my mother lived until 1974 when she left to come and live in England. I wanted the R.O.G.U. to know of the above deaths and if possible to put it into the next newsletter as there may be people who knew and remember her (and her sister)."

PAMELA STELLA KEET (Pope194?) died on 18 March 2007. She and her sister, Jean above, are survived by their sister Shirley Smit of Modderfontein. To her and Alice we extend our very sincere sympathy.

CHLOE HELENE STUART (Alexander 1959) 8 6 41 – 7 8 07

A service for Chloe was held in St George's Anglican Church Knysna. A wonderful mother and grandmother, she will be sadly missed by her family and friends, including her life-long friend URSULA DAMP (Smith 1959). We extend our deepest sympathy to all who held Chloe dear.

Mrs A M BUTCHART (late of Fish Hoek and Bergvliet) has died recently.

MARGARET ROSE (Joubert 1951) 9 8 33 – 23 9 07

Margaret, a musician and teacher, lived near enough to Rustenburg to be able to cycle to school every day. Moving to the UK, Margaret studied music at Rhodes University, graduating B Mus. She married John Rose, lived in Glasgow and Honiton, Devon. On returning to South Africa, she taught in Springbok, Kimberley, and at Fort Hare. Margaret's last years were not easy and she lived in Sherwood House, Kenilworth, close to her loving grandchildren and daughter, Karen de Klerk of Claremont. Margaret's brother is the composer, John Joubert. To these and other relatives we extend our sincere sympathy.

Thank you to Eivind Thesen, Margaret's cousin for this information.

DEBBIE HARRIS (Gleave 1969). Both she and her husband were very tragically killed in their Cape Town home on the 10th July 2007. Our deepest sympathy to their family and friends. BELINDA AUSTIN (Foster 1991) sent this sad news from Australia. She wrote that she has seen lovely photos of her mother, GLENDYR BUSBY (Shepherd) of Johannesburg and Debbie on the hockey field in their Matric year.

HILARY NAPPER (Kahn 1960) died in Manchester on 4th November 2007 after a long illness. Younger sister to EVELYN ROSSMEISL (Kahn 1954).

MARGARET LEGUM (Roberts 1949) died suddenly in Cape Town on 1st November 2007. Margaret was the sister of MARY ELLIS (1951) and BOSKY ANDREW (1956). We extend our deepest sympathy to them and all of Margaret's family.

M GOLDMAN (Stanton 1946) has died. She had been living at Somerset West.

MISSING PERSONS

Does anyone have contact details for the head girl of 1970, BARBARA WARREN? She is thought to have married more than once and is now Barbara Ritchie. She recently lived in Queensland, Australia. Please contact ROGU Secretary, Daphne Burger at rogu2000@hotmail.com or P O Box 19058, Wynberg, 7824 so that she can tell Barbara who is searching for her.

We also have a request for contact details for

Meryl Comyn, who worked in Cape Town in the early 1970's and may have moved to the UK in recent years

That is all for 2007. It remains for me to wish you all "Merry Christmas" and a happy and fulfilling year in 2008.

Affectionately
Mary Rose