

# NEWSLETTER NUMBER 49

December 2008

Dear Old Girls

As the year moves towards its frenetic end, writing to you allows me time to reflect on the highlights of 2008 at Rustenburg. Our school newsletters during the course of the year (available on the website) and the School Magazine attest to the many successes and activities of the pupils over the past twelve months.

I would like, however, to highlight a few that may be of interest to you:

Our girls combined with boys from Bishops to organise a Cyclathon at the V & A Waterfront in aid of Habitat for Humanity in February. They raised the impressive sum of R105 000 which has been matched by SEED thus enabling them to build three houses.

In March we hosted the Live@Rustenburg concert which raised R20 000 towards the Lisa Hellenberg Music Bursary. Also in March our U/19 Waterpolo team toured to Gauteng, while our U/16 team went to Port Elizabeth.

Rustenburg sportswomen (netball, tennis and hockey), debaters and actors enjoyed participating in the National All Girls' Festival also held in Port Elizabeth. They were excellent ambassadors for Rustenburg.

The Grade 12's braved the waters of the Orange River. Besides learning about water-rafting and camping under the stars, they found this trip to be character-building and great fun. Similarly, the Grade 11's embarked on the Umfolozi Trail in the third term. Our Grade 10 Afrikaans pupils were offered the opportunity to participate in an Afrikaans Literature excursion to Knysna, George and Oudtshoorn in September. In addition, some of our girls have been selected to go overseas on Rotary exchanges for the summer holiday.

Liz Sole and the Music Department have done us proud this year. Our choir, orchestra and jazz band performances at the City Hall deserve particular mention. Rutter's Requiem was a huge success, as was Coila Enderstein's (a matric music pupil) performance of Grieg's Piano Concerto.

The high standard of art on display at our annual Art & Design Exhibition & Awards Evening was yet another indication of the wealth of talent and creativity in our School.

On the academic front, our girls have successfully taken part in the Science Expo and various Olympiads. The Holocaust Centre chose our senior History class to receive the Bishop Tutu Award for its work on Human Rights Education. It was a great pleasure to see so many Grade 12's rewarded for their hard work and high academic standards at their Awards for Excellence Ceremony.

It is with great pride that I see our girls offered so many opportunities in many different fields. Many of them flourish as they find their niche in the School. As they work hard to achieve excellence in their chosen area, they not only develop personally, but give back to the School community in so many

different ways. It is this combination of academic excellence, music, art, drama, public speaking, community outreach and sportsmanship that makes Rustenburg the unique school that it is.

May I wish you every blessing for the festive season.

Laura Bekker

**FOUNDERS DAY - 30 JANUARY 2009**

**10h30 TEA, 11h30 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](mailto:mmantell@absamail.co.za)  
OR TELEPHONE (021) 671-1361**

**BEFORE FRIDAY, 23 JANUARY 2009, TO MAKE A BOOKING**

**NOTICE OF AGM TO BE HELD ON 30 JANUARY 2009**

**The President of the ROGU, Jeanne Jackson, as well as the Treasurer, Maureen Mantell, will be standing down after many years' service. We request nominations for ROGU members to serve on the Committee. Elections will be held at the AGM, which will take place prior to the luncheon.**

**GRAND PIANO FUND**

To date our Piano fund is standing at about R35,000, still a long way to go to achieve our goal, which is now estimated to cost in the region of R125,000. Many thanks to those who have been so generous.

The 1956 matrics have made a concerted effort amongst themselves to make a worthwhile contribution to the fund and we would request that other years, especially those having reunions, consider a similar action.

At the end of the newsletter you will find details of the Golf Day being planned for 13th March 2009, also as a fund raiser for the piano. Your offers of help in the many aspects suggested would be much appreciated, as will your contributions. 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](mailto:mmantell@absamail.co.za)) of your details so that we may acknowledge your contribution.

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

## DEAR OLD GIRLS

There are special moments which are the rewards for writing these newsletters. They happen when I recognise a name from teaching days, read of accomplishments, perhaps see a picture of offspring. In the sadness of Bronwen Orpen's tribute to her sister Marion, it is heart-warming to read of yet another ROG influenced to study science by the late Ann Griffiths. – "the superb Science teacher".

Elizabeth Fullard (headmistress 1999 – 2006) must have had a proud moment at the Senior Awards ceremony. The speaker was her daughter, ALEX PINNOCK (Fullard 1993) and according to BIDDY RYAN (1977 and staff) she did splendidly. I heard about it only this week so the text or gist of Alex's address will be in the next issue. What Bidy did remember was a hilarious chance meeting Alex had with Richard Branson.

STAFF past and present.

MARIAN LENNOX, retired deputy head, went to Scotland to visit JUNE JOHNSTON (maths teacher from the 80's) and together they had a holiday travelling in Ireland. Back at home, Marion still edits the fortnightly Rustenburg newsletter and is active in the Pinelands community surveillance team. She organised a Women's Day celebration for the women who work at the Pinelands Police Station.

MONIQUE HELLENBERG (2000) is teaching piano part-time at Rustenburg (See In the News). A snippet of news of DIANE AWERBUCK comes from an article in Mail and Guardian in July. She is collaborating on a book with three other writers.

Current teacher, Adrian Skelly, has another, rather different job. He coaches the Miss South Africa finalists. This year one of them is JODIE BALFOUR (2004). I caught a glimpse of DR COLLEEN SEYMOUR (Staff in the 90's) walking briskly through Kirstenbosch, her current place of work. How she comes to be in such an enviable environment is that she is employed by the SA National Biodiversity Institute doing ecosystems services research.

GILL COCKRAM (staff from the 70's to this century) has moved to Johannesburg and is enjoying her life there.

## IN THE NEWS

GUINEVERE KAUFFMANN (1985) in 2007 was awarded the highest honour given for German research; this is the Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz Prize of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft. Guinevere is an astrophysicist. See 80's for more.

A full page in the Sunday Independent of June 22 is devoted to DEBORA PATTA (1981) "Indie news' Ms Delivery – Debora Patta, the woman behind the new 24-hour information station. It is one of the hottest jobs in the country. For the buck stops with Debora Patta at e.tv's 24-hour news channel....it's Patta who has to say "yea'or nay' to tough decisions on whether to send up a helicopter to cover a disaster or fly a news team to a disaster spot. ...Patta spent years at Radio 702, learning to work without huge resources..... Patta attributes e.tv news's success to having understood its market from day one. 'It's new, young, hip, aspiring to own houses, have credit cards. It's an exciting market. It's fiercely patriotic, has its own point of view and isn't fettered by the past.'...she's on a roll as she talks about knowledge, empowering people and how good it is for our democracy to have the glare of TV cameras on it 24 hours a day, 'so if you're up to no good or if you're a corrupt official, life's going to get a little bit harder for

you'. You can hear the satisfaction in the voice of the one-time anti-apartheid political activist, who was detained several times and, aged 21, spent six months in Pollsmoor prison. She's a natural born mother who adores her Isabella 2 and Chiara 9. She wishes she could have a third baby, but says it's not realistic as she simply doesn't have enough time to fit one into her busy lifestyle. She and her husband, Lance Levitas, a businessman, are not the glamorous, celeb gadabouts many assume they would be. Her interesting background includes a former marriage to a Zulu prince, Mveli Mzizi, the father of Chiara. Their wedding, attended by Nelson Mandela, was the one day that Patta, who dates all her experiences by political happenings, made news instead of reporting it. Mandela's affection for Patta as she trailed him for Radio 702 news during the historic 1994 elections was enjoyed by all who saw it. ... a viewer queried the necessity for the 24-hour TV news in a country where, he said, the news is always so depressing. 'It's not our job to decide what is news. News is news,' declares Patta who will ensure we get to see all the news there is." The picture shows Debora, group editor-in-chief, mug and a cell phone in hand, in the new studio in Hyde Park.

CLAIRE COWAN (1999), Biokineticist for the SA Women's Cricket Team, was on television in May. She was being interviewed about the team's stay at the High Performance Centre in Pretoria. Claire has recently joined the Sports Science Institute of SA in Newlands where she is taking classes for sports injuries and is involved in many areas of the Institute's work.

BRONWEN HENDRY'S (1990) delivery of the closing argument in the trial for tax fraud of a former SA sportsman was reported in the Cape Times of 16 July. Bronwen was the prosecutor at the Wynberg Regional Court.

HLUBI MBOYA (1995) had a mention in Business Day of May 28 under the heading: "TV celebrity and sports champion to help HSRC with HIV and health survey". The HSRC has enlisted "soapie star" Hlubi and swimmer, Natalie du Toit to encourage the public to participate in its "national HIV, behaviour and health survey". That was May. In September your editor was driving through KwaZuluNatal trying the radio stations. An interviewer said, "So you were a hockey player and now you're a soapie star". That had to be our Hlube and so it was. Reason for the interview was that she was in training for Strictly Come Dancing which means dancing 6 hours a day. Hlube said she was reaching new energy levels, "I'm in love with the rumba, elegant, intense. I can't stop dancing; my body is so fluid, more supple. I can do the splits."

A colour picture in the Cape Times of July 9th shows BRONWYN REDDY (2003) as Pinocchio in a holiday production of that name at the Baxter. SHEILA CHISHOLM (1949) is the reviewer; she writes: "As Pinocchio, Bronwyn Reddy made a delightful mischievous puppet – duly chastened when his nose grew longer by telling lies." The Mail and Guardian of June 20 has a review of Prison Codes on at the Baxter. In it is, "There is no sympathy for the major victim – Davie's wife (Bronwyn Reddy)."

The Chisholm sisters are both regular contributors to the Cape Times. Sheila writes reviews of ballet, FIONA (1955) wrote an obituary for the pianist, Yonty Solomon and recently a long review of a play at the Masque Theatre. In the Cape Times of 29th August, there is a letter by Fiona praising the guides on the new Hoerikwaggo Trail on the Cape Peninsula. She writes that she herself has twice walked this demanding trail.

The Leisure page of the Cape Times of August 8 has a Caption, "The Nellie turns a new leaf in redefining the art of tea" In the text is, "...pastry chef Samantha Waring has developed a range of tea-themed

cakes and confectionary....vanilla tea fudge, forest berry tea infused Turkish Delight, ....rooibos orange marshmallows." SAMANTHA (1995) would have cut her culinary teeth in Bon Appetit. In the 1995 magazine she writes that she is probably heading for Silwood.

The last issue in September of The Weekender had a letter by actress GRETHE FOX (1965) of Johannesburg. She writes how a stranger approached her, left abruptly then wrote a piece in Business Day of how she'd pursued a Grethe Fox look-alike who in fact was the real GF!

The Cape Times Society supplement of October 2008 had a picture of MONIQUE HELLENBERG (2000) as a finalist in "Cape Town's Got Talent". This competition was held over two months and had hundreds of contestants. Monique is a Jazz singer and graduate of UCT's College of Music. In the same issues there is a picture of JAY SMITH (Jacqueline Young 1955) at an Afro-Egyptian opera gala dinner to raise funds for Cape Town Opera.

SALLY BORCHERT (D 1970) was honoured as 'Pinelander of the Year' for 2007 by the Pinelands Ratepayers' Association There was a picture of Sally with a shield and certificate in the People's Post. Sally has managed a community surveillance team for more than six years. This 75-man strong team works in conjunction with the Pinelands Police Station to fight against crime. Sally is a retired nursing sister from Groote Schuur.

"A Healthy Measure of Glamour" was the caption for an account of the opening of a spa in Sea Point in the October issue of the magazine Get It. NICKY GREENWALL (1996) was photographed there looking suitably glamorous.

KARYN MAUGHAM (1997)'s name is regularly attached to reports in the Cape Town papers. A notable one was the main story on the front page of the Weekend Argus of 29th November entitled, "Court slams Zuma ruling"

#### GRAND PIANO FUND - A CHALLENGE!

Reunions are good opportunities for raising money for Rustenburg. Even afterwards, the network of addresses can be used. The class of 1956 raised some R11 600 for gifts to the schools at the time of the 50th anniversary reunion in 2006. In this last year, more than R5 000 has been contributed by this class to the Grand Piano fund. Donations have come from local ROG's in the Western Cape and Johannesburg but also from England, Scotland, and Israel. R1000 was given in lieu of payment for lunch by a group of twenty-two – See The 50's. So, the challenge goes out to classes, beat that R5000 for the Piano Fund. E's of 1958 donated R1500 at the time of their reunion, the class of '67 R450.00, the '68's R1300. Boys' schools pull in huge amounts from their Old Boys. Rustenburg needs just R120 000 for a Kawai baby grand. Charlie's Hope is the building near the tennis courts which houses the Tuck Shop and a minor hall. Both have been renovated and added to, with the hall specifically tailored to be a dedicated venue for music; for chamber concerts and music classes; there will be a new room for percussion. The Kawai will be in this hall. It is a Japanese piano and at R120 000, is the cheapest option to have a quality instrument. This piano will not replace the Steinway in the Kemp Hall that we played on; that treasure, replacement cost over R1 000 000, is still cherished, and well maintained. Pianists love to play on it but the hall is often used for other things. The Steinway was bought from the Cape Town Municipal Orchestra probably in Miss Kemp's time. Hottentots Holland HS has a Kawai as has Bishops. Winners of the Van Cliburn and Tchaikowsky piano competitions have chosen Kawai. There are thousands of Rustenburg Old Girls. You can help keep up the tradition for good music at Rustenburg.

## ROG'S CELEBRATE MICKLEFIELD's 80th

There were very many ROG's seen at Micklefield over the weekend of September 10th. DIANA BROOKE MUZIK (1939) was at pupil at Micklefield the day the school opened in 1928. Today she lives at Peer's Village, Fish Hoek and is currently studying Ancient Greek. Initially graduating B Mus, Diana taught at the Pretoria Tech Music School but languages always fascinated her. Over the years she graduated BA from UNISA in French and Italian and passed matric and then three years of university courses in both German and Latin. PAM HANSFORD (Kipps 1959) was there with her old friend, BARBARA MALAN (Brown 1959). MONIQUE HELLENBERG (2000) a part-time teacher at both schools, sang very attractive songs to provide the entertainment at the Friday cocktail party. Seen that night together were ANNEMARIE CARTER (Baker 1955) and JEAN HUNNEYBALL (D 1955). From the same era were HAZEL CAMPBELL (White 1956) and VIV CLARKE (Jagger D 1955) Former Micklefield Headmistress, JENNY MASTERSON (Solomon 1963) was there and LIZ HUTTON (Malan 1962), ANTHEA WEBB (Sabin 1961), JOSEPHINE ROSE (Cuks 196 ), NICOLA BEKKER, (198?), SANDY MULLER (Mills 1957). From the younger generation, I was delighted to find LIESL GOFF (1997), last seen in my Matric biology class. With her were ROBYN SAMPSON, SU SMITH and HAYLEY HERMAN all from 2001. The VIANELLO sisters, MARIA (1995) and DEMELZA (1998) were together. Mother and daughter ROG's were PAT ALSTON (Schipper 1952) with CAIREEN ALSTON (1985), CILLA HOFMEYR (Whitehead 1967) with MANDY (1993) and your editor with ALISON (1993). JEANINE GOMES (1993) was with old friends, Mandy and Alison. Clearly there are strong links between the two schools.

## THE ARTS

At two concerts in Hermanus this year leading parts were played by ROG's. The Overstrand Municipality had bought a new piano and the inaugural concert featured the pianist VALDA FUHR (1969). She played in a trio but the high point of the evening was when she played a Chopin Ballade. Valda lives in Cape Town and fairly recently stopped teaching (Bishops Prep) to concentrate on performing. She has a son studying in England. After the concert Valda started singing 'The Gypsy Rover' the song which won the House-singing in 1968 with Valda at the piano and JEAN COHEN (Trainor 1968), my sister, conducting. Only weeks later, five musicians from Caledon, known as Festa presented, 'A Music Celebration from the Heart of the Overberg' Before it started familiar figure came up to me, the TRACEY BURGER on the programme was Rustenburg's Tracey Hall (1989) remembered not only as a musician but as a speedy athlete and hockey player. Tracey has lived all her life in Caledon, her husband is Guillaume and they have daughters Lara 8 and Lisa 6. Tracey teaches piano and flute in Caledon & Tableview.

When Rustenburg, Rondebosch and SACS performed the John Rutter Requiem at the City Hall in July, some ROG's were in the orchestra – cellist MICHAELA BUDDEN (200?) and some were in the choir - RUTH DRUIFF, KIRSTEN ROWE , TASNEEM ROSSOUW, REBECCA THOMSON and CAITLIN VAN DYK, I suspect all rather new ROG's.

SHEILA DORJE (1989) was one of a number of artists giving a group show entitled Desire at the Cape Gallery in Cape Town during July. According to the Mail and Guardian the show explored lust, longing, yearning and aspiration.

In September emails went out: 'KATHERINE BULL -Thursday at blank.' There was a picture of KATHERINE (1991) at a computer and 'data **capturer: a muse- a series of digital drawing performances by Katherine Bull.**' On an evening in October I saw what this meant. Outside a gallery

in Bokaap, the pavement was busy. Not the usual passers-by but people watching and video cameras on tripods. Through the left-hand window Katherine, dressed in white, could be seen drawing at a white computer. The subject with his back to the window was a naked man. Next-door the watchers could follow on a screen the progress of Katherine's drawing. This performance was repeated on four Thursdays each time with a different model. One wrote about it: "I was petrified.....It's a strange process but it's OK. And it was very cold that day". I was told this process was exploring a combination of fine art, performance art and multi-media.

#### PAPENBOOM IN NEWLANDS – CRADLE OF BREWING

This is the title of a book by BEATRICE LAW (Hunter 1953) which was featured in the People's Post of 26 February. Papenboom was the name of an estate in what is present-day Newlands between Main and Dean Streets. Beatrice has been living in the area for the past 16 years and her book is a history from the early days of the Dutch settlers. It highlights the importance of Newlands in the development of the South African brewing industry and also the forcible removal of many residents as a result of the Group Areas Act. Beatrice studied geography and history at UCT, trained as a teacher and later graduated MSc in geography from the University of Wisconsin, USA. She actually spent most of her professional life teaching maths. Beatrice and her husband farmed near Somerset West for a number of years. They have three married sons and six grandchildren. Beatrice has been an active member of the Mountain Club of South Africa for many years.

#### A RUSTENBURG FAMILY

Tom Webb, husband of the late AUDREY WEBB (Stakes 1944) sent this record of a family at Rustenburg. As he says, it is a family of what MISS THOMSON (Headmistress 1952 – 1979) would describe as "good citizens". It started with Miss ELSIE QUY who matriculated from Rustenburg in 1908. In 1910, she was a relief teacher at the school and in 1921, she married. Her daughter was Audrey who matriculated in 1944 with her friends, DR JOAN FOURIE (ALBERTYN), PAT COWAN and AILEEN HERBERT. Audrey's daughters were NADINE McKERRON (1974), a teacher in Upington, MARGARET HONLISTON (1975) a librarian of Johannesburg and HILARY WILLIAMSON (1976) an art teacher in N.S.W. Australia. Nadine's daughter KYLE McKERRON (2002) is an occupational therapist doing her community service in Port Alfred. Tom, himself, was a member of the School Committee for several years.

#### THE McMURRAY SISTERS and some Le Roux's

Here is some news of the 4 McMurray sisters in a very welcome email from WENDY LE ROUX (McMurray 1994).

MARGI SATCHEL (1987) lives in Weybridge, Surrey UK with her husband Mark, they have 3 children – See Births. CATHY JOUBERT (1990) lives with her husband Morne in Fowlmere near Cambridge, they have a little girl Emily who soon will be 2. JENNY LEAVER (1993) and her husband Andrew recently moved back to Cape Town from the UK they have 2 children David (3) and Nicholas (1). I live in Paarl and work as a Product Development manager for a company that supplies ready made meals to Woolworths. I have 1 child Benjamin who is 2. It is great having a sister in the same country and we see each other often as our husbands are friends since junior school and the children play together. I am married to Glen Le Roux whose two sisters GABY (19 ) – See Marriages and LISA (19 ) were ROG's. Lisa is in Canada and is expecting her 2nd baby in October; her 1st child Bianca will be 2 soon.

## BILLINGHAM SISTERS

LORRAINE NUTTALL (Billingham 1970) sent in news of her and her sisters from her new house on the mountain above Onrus River, near Hermanus. After training at a secretarial college, Lorraine worked at a shipping company, enjoying extensive travel by air and sea. On 'retiring' in 2002, she moved to Hermanus and together with Brian who she married in 2004, ran a farm-stall. This they sold in 2006 and now they are busy setting out a new garden for their house with its outstanding mountain and sea views. At nearby Hermanus, sister JEANETTE (1973) runs a pet-shop part-time after a career in a division of Heynes Mathew which sells veterinary products. Previously she had been married, had lived in Iran and in London where she worked in Harley Street as a dental nurse. DENISE GAMAROFF (BILLINGHAM 1980) B.Sc, married in 1985 and emigrated to Australia where she worked for the Australian Wheat Board for many years. Now she works part-time for IKEA. She has two daughters.

## A WEDDING

In front of me is a beautiful picture of a wedding group; the smiling mother and daughter ROG's are the bride, ELAINE PIENAAR (Burger 2000) and her mother, DAPHNE BURGER (Colburn 1968). The back drop is the Tokai forest as the wedding was held at The Range. Against the green there is the stunning red of Elaine's flowers, husband Jeandr e's tie and buttonhole and Daphne's outfit. The couple have returned to London where they expect to remain for a period. Elaine graduated BA from Stellenbosch then did a two-year course in beauty therapy which she is now practicing.

## A BETTY'S BAY 80TH

A sunny November day (rare this year) saw a gathering in Betty's Bay to celebrate the 80th birthday of JOAN NORTON (Mitchell 1944). Joan lived for many years in a little house overlooking the sea but now is with daughter JILL BERGMAN (1978) in Cape Town. Joan was in good spirits and faultlessly recited an amusing poem she'd written years ago, 'Ode to my Garden Hose'. Joan was an active member of the Writers' Circle in Betty's Bay and has published several children's stories – one based on the local leopard. Her poem, 'Pensioner's Complaint' published in 'Plus 50' was read. Jill, a geography teacher, is now helping her doctor husband promote 'Kangaroo Care' for premature babies. Her sister JENNY SMETHEMAN (RGJS) was out from England for the birthday. She matriculated in Johannesburg in 1974, was head of Physical Science and Biology at Wynberg GHS in the 80's, moved to Tanzania and then the UK. News of Joan's granddaughters - REBECCA BERGMAN (2006) is a second year medical student at UCT and sister EMMA is in Grade 9 at Rustenburg. Other ROG guests were local residents, PEGGY DAVIDSON (Albertyn 1937) whose sister DR JOAN FOURIE (mother of current German teacher, Ren e) was in Joan Norton's matric class and JENNY BERRISFORD (1958). Joan's son-in-law, Charles Smetheman grew up in an Alma Rd house which abutted Rustenburg. Girls peacefully smoking beyond the hockey field would be surprised/shocked/horrified when he banged on the corrugated iron fence against which they were leaning.

## THE THIRTIES

PRIZES ! PEGGY WYNNE (Duffett 1956) found husband Jeremy tidying his books in their Kleinmond home. Two were leather-bound with gold edges and a gold badge she recognised immediately. Inside The Oxford Book of English Verse was a sticker proclaiming it to be the Maureen Parker Memorial Prize presented to DOROTHY BEARDWOOD in 1934. She was also the winner of History Standard C Prize 1932, 'The Story of Mankind' by Hendrik van Loon. There is no mention of Rustenburg, only the badge.

Jeremy had bought these books in the early 80's in Rhodesia. Does anyone remember what happened to Dorothy?

## THE FORTIES

This is part of a letter from Howard, son of BLANCHE PARKER (Vickers 194?):

"I wonder if you would be able to send a newsletter to my Mother: She was born in 1923, went to Rustenburg and used to tell me wonderful stories of how she loved it. She came to England in 1948 and only went back once to ZA since. She is 84 now and has not been well for a while. I am sure it would cheer her up to get news of her old school.

Her postal address (she's not on email) is: 'Thistledome' Suckley Road, Leigh, Worcester, WR6 5LE UK. I guess she went to the school around 1934. She was in a lot of sports teams, hockey, netball etc."

PATRICIA BENEKE (Ritchie 1941) lives in Ivan Hampshire Place, Newlands after a life of many changes. She writes that she moved house 18 times in SA and abroad during her marriage. Now a widow, Patricia has two sons, Richard, a civil engineer and Christopher who has earned seven degrees. She studied in Cape Town and Australia and worked in practical banking.

In UCT NEWS there is a snippet about JOAN DICHMONT (Corbett 1942) saying she retired from Cape Town City Libraries in 1992 and more recently from active work in the Black Sash. She enjoys receiving emails particularly about interesting lectures and excursions.

GERALDINE (Forster headgirl 1948) lives in Hermanus where she is the local expert on fynbos and does quite a bit of writing for magazines and local newspapers. This news came from her daughter, LYNNE WADE (Gardiner 1978) – See 70's. I can confirm that, Geraldine is famous in the Overstrand for the depth of her knowledge of our flora. We met at a talk on Ericas held at Betty's Bay (didn't know she was a Rustybug). I have just seen Geraldine's name in 'White Stoep on the Highway' – in 1946 she was the top student in Junior Certificate in the Province and was awarded a merit bursary and two years later, as Head Prefect she was asked to address the Rotary Club; the subject she chose was 'Capital Punishment.'

## THE FIFTIES

PAM GELDARD (1950) sent in her new address in Fish Hoek. Pam is one of the elite band of headmistresses from Rustenburg. She was the head at Epworth in Pietermaritzburg from 1966 to 1975 before moving to Herschel, 1979 – 1985. Pam graduated B.Ed at UCT and MA from Cambridge.

MARJORIE BULL (1951) told ANGELA VAN RENSBURG (Bolt 1956) of the death of her mother, TINA BULL, who at 98 was possibly the oldest ROG. Marj has written an account of her mother's life and also a couple of books. She was in the library and art archival world for many years.

MONICA SUTHERLAND (Pentecost - 1951) certainmjs1@gmail.com has a granddaughter who sent in this address. No other details.

JOY FUNNELL (Green C 1950) sent in this account of her life since Rustenburg.

"When I left school I did a year at Cornhill's Secretarial College then went to work as a telephonist at a firm of Chartered Accountants. I then moved on to work for The Union Castle Company in their Cape Town office. The opportunity arose for me to work on the Union Castle Ships as a Purser's Clerk, and so

in June 1958 I sailed for England on my first voyage, the first South African girl that they employed in this position. I did this job for about 2 years, thoroughly enjoying my time at sea and the opportunity to travel in England and Europe. In 1960 I left the sea to marry Roy Funnell, who I met when we were both posted to the Pendennis Castle for her maiden voyage. We settled in Hythe, a little village on the edge of the New Forest, and across the water from Southampton. We had 3 children, a daughter, Dawn, and twin boys, Christopher and Robin. When they were all in their teens I went back to work as a secretary at a small engineering manufacturing company and after 11 years service I moved on to work for a larger manufacturing company as a costing clerk. This job was some 25 miles from home and after 6 years of travelling back and forth in the rush hour traffic I decided to work nearer to home and got a job as an accounts clerk with a small branch office of a large scientific company whose focus was on maritime technology. At this time my journey to work consisted of a car ride to Hythe where I boarded a little train which took us down the pier to catch the ferry across the water to Southampton – then a 10 minute walk to the office! When I retired in the mid 1990s I soon found myself taking on work at our Church, and eventually became our Church Administrator, which work I continue to do.

During the past 10 years I have had the privilege of working on board ship once again. I have a South African friend who does Craft Workshops with the passengers on board the P&O Ships, and I accompany her as her assistant. I do two or three cruises a year with her and I have visited some wonderful places including Istanbul in Turkey, Athens and various Greek Islands and many other Mediterranean ports. I have been to the Caribbean several times and had a wonderful cruise up the Amazon River to Manaus. The Canary Islands is another area much visited, and this year I went to the Baltic for the first time. I have had 4 opportunities to do a leg of the World Cruise, and 3 of these brought me via Cape Town to such places as India, Malaya, Egypt, Singapore, and many ports in between. This has been a wonderful opportunity to see so many parts of the world.

From the back windows of our maisonette we have a good view across the Southampton Water and we can see the cruise liners arriving and departing – we can actually see the berth where the QE2 and Queen Mary 2 dock, so our interest in the ships is constantly being fed!

My heart is still in Cape Town and I miss the lovely summer days of my youth, and often think of my happy Rustybug days! If anyone remembers me please send me an e-mail on [funnell@3green.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:funnell@3green.freeserve.co.uk).

The Class of '56 had a mini-reunion in October, having a picnic lunch at the riverside 'lounge' on the Liesbeeck in Newlands. DR JOAN PARKER (1956) is one of the prime movers in this restoration project. ADIE DE GROOT was out from Canada which added to the enjoyment. Twenty-two '56's had gathered in a lovely and very relaxed venue.

We have another request for contact details: CHRISTINE THOMAS (LOCHNER 1957) from Riversdale. Email [rogu2000@hotmail.com](mailto:rogu2000@hotmail.com) if you can help.

## THE SIXTIES

In April, MARIAN ROBERTS (Bernadt 1961) collected the Order of Luthuli (Silver) from Thabo Mbeki on behalf of her frail mother and late father. This was at a ceremony to honour struggle heroes. Marian's mother was being honoured for her contribution to the struggle against gender oppression and her father for providing legal defence to anti-apartheid activists and his excellent contribution in the advancement of human rights in the legal field. At the time of her 40-year reunion, Marian wrote of the support she had received at Rustenburg when her mother was detained for several months. The late ALICE ALLEN (English teacher) and the late ANN GRIFFITHS (science teacher) and Marian's classmates in

D1 had all given powerful support. Marian lives in England; a barrister and a qualified social worker, Marian has been active in the field of mediation in family disputes and spent ten years as a Director at The National Family Mediation Centre. In 2001, Marian was still going to ballet classes twice a week.

ALISON TURNER (Varley 1962) has moved to Helderberg, Somerset West after 40 years in the UK. Alison did A-levels in Salisbury (Harare). She would very much like to contact JENNY (Levenstein) from her class. I think Jenny is an actress in Texas. Try her aunt, FREDA WEINER (Jaffe 1943) at freda@hampstead-english.ac.uk Contact details for Alison are: cell 079 7417 097 and atalisonturner@gmail.com. Alison's older sisters were GILLIAN (1954) and BRIDGET (1957). No news of either of them. Alison was an English teacher for many years. More recently she has been a person-centred counsellor.

BRONWEN ORPEN (Sneath 1962) was telling me how wonderfully supportive her own Rustenburg class had been when her sister, MARION NEWMARCH (1960) – see In Memoriam –was seriously ill. Five of Bronwen's friends, including the late DAPHNE LISTER (Pinchin), used to drop off meals for Marion's family. Recently Bronwen was at a lunch where 15 of the '62 E's welcomed HEATHER McMAHON (Brodie) back to Cape Town after many years in Johannesburg. Bonds formed at Rustenburg are phenomenally strong.

CARYL LOGIE (Todd 1962) was a leader for a botanising ramble through the St Francis Fynbos Thicket Mosaic in October for the Algoa Branch of BotSoc.

HEIDI ASHMEAD (Brunner 1964) lives in Cape Town and had two daughters at Rustenburg, PHILLIPA (1992) living in the UK and ALEXANDRA KISS (1993), mother of two small children, living in Perth, Australia

The Cullis clan gathered in Durban to celebrate the 60th birthday of CHARMIAN WIGHTMAN (Cullis 1965). Of course her sisters flew up from the Cape, MUFFY JEFFERY (1962) and BETSEY JOUBERT (1963). CAROL O'CONNOR (Shreiber 1965) was down from Johannesburg and was staying with SHEILA FREW (Patterson 1964) in Morningside and would visit GLENDA HARKER (Gardener 1964) in Westville. Carol has been a PA in the secretarial department of a big company where she specialises in statutory work. See the 40's for a note on Carol's mother and aunts. Carol has one child in Johannesburg and the other in Australia. Sitting next to Carol at the lunch at the Durban Country Club, was PENNY PURCHASE (Smedley 1962). Penny's sister, ERICA who died at twenty-two, was Charmian's best friend at Rustenburg. Penny is enjoying retirement from being librarian at Michaelhouse, lives in Hilton, has a son in Cape Town and a daughter in the UK. When Penny's son was married in Franschoek, she stayed with BRONWEN ORPEN (Sneath 1962). Charmian's party moved to a Champagne Castle resort for two days; altogether a birthday well-celebrated.

Our secretary, DAPHNE BURGER (Colburn 1968), a law librarian, has been busy with the huge task of transferring 140 000 catalogue cards of the National Library to electronic format. To accomplish this, she has had over thirty people on the payroll of her company, Lexinfo CC. The project was funded by the Carnegie Foundation. Thirty seven from the class of '68 met at the River Café for lunch in November.

## THE SEVENTIES

ELSABE KETTERINGHAM (Elizabeth Groenewald E 1970) ketttersmail@qmail.com writes that she has just decided she is old enough to join ROGU. Her daughter, the youngest of her four children is in Grade

10 at Rustenburg. Elsabe lives in Hermanus and was working the day of the ROR's lunch but her sister ALETTA was there. Elsabe is a graduate of Stellenbosch University, has higher diplomas in both teaching and librarianship. She has taught English for over 25 years. Elsabe is keen to be part of the organization of a 1970 reunion and wonders whether head girl and vice, BARBARA WARREN and JEANINE LAMPCHEN are available.

Does anyone know how to contact ANNETTE GIBB (1971)? She did nursing at Groote Schuur Hospital and then went to the UK for a while. She returned to SA about '78/'79, was married and then went to Australia. An old friend has been trying to track her down. Please send any contact details to ROGU.

DEBBY McGAVIN (Watermeyer 1973) sent in her details. A graduate of Rhodes University, Debby worked in the Personnel Department of Caltex Oil. She is married to Ian and has four grown-up daughters, Lauren, Caitlin, Nicola and Melissa. Home is Constantia Hills.

KARIN EVANS (Mommel 1974) sent a letter: 'I work in Erinville Hostel as one of the House-Moms. PAM VAN DYK (Goss 1974) and I were at school together and she recruited me in 2001. I love living at school and working in the hostel with the boarders - we have truly special girls here. We have the most wonderful girls at our school and they develop into such amazing women who go forth and conquer in such a wide range of fields. We always say that their 5 years with us in the hostel goes by so quickly - one moment they are little 13 year olds saying goodbye to their Mums and Dads on the steps of Erinville - and the next moment they are beautiful, responsible 18 year olds saying goodbye to us and starting the next phase at a university of their choice.' Karin gave me news of RACHEL STEENKAMP (Barlow 2000) and her baby - See Births.

DEBBY HENSHILWOOD (Wilson 1975) reported that her sister DI SLINGSBY (Wilson 1973) had organized a very successful 35 year reunion, rounding up 70 ROG's.

JANE BISHTON (1977) lives in Rondebosch and her fourteen-year old son, James is at RBHS after seven years at the Prep. She graduated Hons B Soc Sc from UCT and has spent eighteen years in international timber marketing.

LYNNE WADE (Gardiner 1978) sent a long letter from her home on Mallorca, Spain. How she came to live there is a story classroom-bound teachers would envy. A Stellenbosch graduate, Lynne taught for five years then spent the next thirteen as a chef on charter yachts in the Med, Caribbean, USA and Pacific. Her husband, Nigel, is still the captain of a large motor yacht based in Mallorca. Their sons are Matthew 8 and Sebastian 5. One day Lynne was in a doctor's consulting room with a woman interpreting for her. Somehow they discovered they were both Rustybugs, the interpreter being VIVIENNE LORENTZON (Bain 1971). They got so involved in reminiscing that the doctor had to ask them to leave so he could see the next patient. Vivienne did diplomas in General Nursing and midwifery in SA as well as a BA (Fine Art). She works in a private hospital in Mallorca as an interpreter and public relations person - "a great help to us foreigners" says Lynne. Checking on Vivienne's matric year I saw in the magazine a picture of the RGJS Diving Team with Lynne in it. She later became WP and SAU diving champion. Lynne gave news of her mother, GERALDINE GARDINER (Forster 1948) - See 40's. Contact details are lynnewade@ya.com and vlorentzon@hotmail.com

## THE EIGHTIES

JENNY WHITTAL (D'Arcy Evans 1985) graduated PhD this year at a university in North America. The details of her thesis (in Geomatics) were beyond her mother and I am waiting for more from Jenny. She asked in the last Newsletter if anyone had knowledge of astrophysicist, GUINVERE KAUFFMANN (1985). Someone did but I have managed to lose that email. I am sorry, so please will that person resend. In the meantime, Wikipedia and Google yield that Guinevere studied at UCT until 1990; she graduated Ph.D at the University of Cambridge in 1993. After being employed at the Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics and the Max Planck Institute for Astrophysics she became head of a research team at the Max Planck Institute for Astrophysics in 2003. Papers she has written include ones about the evolution of galaxies. Guinevere's home seems to be Garching, Germany.

News of the three LONG sisters came from their mother at her B and B in Riebeeck West. SASCHIA MITCHELL (1985) worked as a policewoman becoming an Inspector. She now lives in Avoca county Wicklow, Ireland with her husband, Richard, Shannon 6 and Christopher 4. Home is a farm house down a mile and a half of muddy lane. Saschia helps her husband with his business. CHARLOTTE RUNGREN (1987) graduated BA Hons in languages from UCT before moving overseas. She sent an update in 2004 with details of her extraordinary life. She and her husband are with the world-renown Cirque de Soleil. Charlotte works part-time in costuming, in particular for the performances in the Albert Hall, London. For the past 14 years or so Charlotte has been travelling the world, earlier with Disney on Ice. ALEXI (Price 1990) lives in Riebeeck West with her two children, Nolea 12 and Aidan 10. Her daily work has two sides to it, specialist massage such as Shiatsu and doing reservations for the Riebeeck Valley.

Kilt-clad CAIREEN ALSTON (1985) was one of two pipers to lead the Grand March at a Scottish Country Dance Ball held at Kelvin Grove recently. Other ROG's I recognised were Caireen's mother, PAT ALSTON (Schipper 1952) and ANN LITTLEWORT (headgirl 1954).

RENE TODD (Pomario 1988) was on Betty's Bay beach with husband, Peter and Michaela 6, Connor 4 and Dylan 2. They were enjoying the half term break from Johannesburg. The Todds lived for a number of years in Singapore. René studied law but is now in IT.

KATHRYN SMITH (Alrick 1988) lives in Truro, Cornwall. She works for MBB connections and The Sensory Project.

MARGIE WARD (1989) was the focus of attention at a lunch at the Hillcrest Berry Farm near Stellenbosch. It was given in her honour as she was leaving Stellenbosch University for Tshwane University (result of mergers of institutions in Pretoria). Margie, basically an economist, graduated MBA from UCT in 2005 and works as a research manager. Apart from a brief stint in Australia, Margie worked at UCT for years before Stellenbosch. Her sister, CATHY WARD (1983) did a PhD at the University of North Carolina. She works for The Human Sciences Research Council and lives in Mowbray. The late DOROTHY WARD (Templeton 1956) would be very proud of her daughters. Your editor was lunching with a group of ROG's from 1956 and was delighted when Margie approached.

SUE WALKER (1987) works as assistant production manager for the magazine Getaway. After Rustenburg, Sue did post-matric at Bishops then studied Personnel Management at Tech. She spent eight years travelling, was married for ten years and now lives in Pinelands with her daughter, Tess 7.

TRACY OLCKERS (Elliott 1989) has a franchise for the US children' development programme, Gymboree TV, in I think, Tableview. TRACEY BURGER (Hall 1989) does the music side for her.

JANICE HALL (Mantell 1989), who is the Head of the Physiotherapy Department at Kimberley Hospital, received the 2008 Health Professions Council of South Africa Award for Excellence in Healthcare in recognition of her outstanding performance and contribution in the advancement of broad-based quality healthcare and the principles of the Patient Charter. Janice was commended for her enhancement of Physiotherapy services in the Northern Cape Province (particularly Kimberley area) and for profoundly impacting on the lives of her patients, including those in disadvantaged communities. She has also been committed to promoting healthcare through a number of projects and activities, including research, healthcare promotions, community involvement and school talks.

Janice, who is married to Charles, brother of TRACEY BURGER (Hall 1989), is the youngest daughter of MAUREEN MANTELL (Mellish 1954) and sister of CAROL RAMSAY (1979), LYNNE TOLSMA (1981) and PENNY JENKINSON (1986).

## THE NINETIES

JO EMMERICH (Gibson 1992) has moved to Germany while her husband does a Masters in Renewable Energy through a university there. Jo and the children, Bronwen 5 and Jurgen 2/3 are learning German, Jo being already fluent. They are spending 4 months in a university town south of Bremen, near the coast, but will later move further south. News from Jo's mother, OLWEN (Jones 1954)

NADIA (Ebrahiem 1996) – See Births – graduated in civil engineering from UCT and is currently working on a Masters. She married another civil engineer, Fareed, five years ago and they live in Rondebosch East. Nadia has earned a black belt in karate. My memories of Nadia doing practical work in the lab are very clear. I saw her looking glamorous during the preparations for the Cricket World Cup as her company was responsible for the temporary stands at Newlands.

I have just been moved as I again looked at an emailed photo of 9-week old Daisy Hart of Iowa, USA. It doesn't seem 15 years since her mother; SAMANTHA HART (Solomons 1997) was in my Std 6 General Science class. Samantha is married to Ben and works as a magazine editor for a large publishing house. This is her news of some of her classmates: "TORI HOFFMANN (nee Foxcroft) currently lives in JHB where she works as a freelance writer. She and her husband Brendan are expecting their first child in March. CARYN STAREY (nee Brownell) lives in Stellenbosch with her husband Alex. She has been working as a teacher at Bishops Prep and is expecting her first child in December. Her older sister NICOLE delivered a healthy baby boy, Ashton, in July. MEGAN VILJOEN, MONIQUE LEDESMA, JACQUI HALL and SUSAN COMMERFORD are all living and thriving in London."

CATHERINE NIXON (Fernie 1990) has moved to Craighall Park, Gauteng.

STACEY COLEMAN (D 1991) breezed past me in Cavendish recently, she sat down for just enough time to tell me she is back in SA after years in the US, is living on a farm in the Wellington district and doing Aroma Therapy.

LEIGH HARRIS (Willmore 1992) leigh@tafian.com is hoping someone is in touch with LISA TAYLOR (1992)

CATHERINE MAGRATH (Rennie 1994) qualified as a graphic designer at the Cape Technikon and has worked in that field for ten years, four in the UK. She lives in Lynfrae, Cape Town, is married to Brett and they have a daughter – See Births.

BRONWEN LEE (1995) on air from Rustenburg! On October 16th Bronwen was interviewed on Radio Good Hope about her work running Help-2-Read. What made this interview special was that it was part of an outside broadcast from the Kemp Hall, Rustenburg. Nigel Pearce of RGH was doing a book-drive for under-privileged schools and libraries. Help-2-Read is an organization which aims at motivating the literate adult population to pass on their skills to the next generation, helping children to love books and become confident readers. Volunteer reading helpers are placed in primary schools to work with learners who struggle with reading. In the Cape Town area there are 200 volunteers and 500 learners. The School Magazine of 1995 shows a picture of Bronwen as one of the Library Monitresses with Ellen Eddy and Marilyn Peters in the school library.

KASHA DICKIE (1997) has just been promoted to Wellness and Fitness Centre Manager at the Sports Science Institute of South Africa in Newlands. The news was in the Institute's newsletter forwarded to me by BIDDY RYAN (1977 staff)). Kasha had been managing a different section and was very excited with the new position.

KATHRYN HENSHILWOOD (1998) was spotted back in Cape Town after spending two years in each of Johannesburg and London working in Marketing. She was with her mother DEBBY (Wilson 1975)

SAMIRA PATEL (1999) - See Marriages - is in Johannesburg working in schools and running a private practice as an Occupational Therapist. She sent news of her sisters – See 21st Century

#### THE 21ST CENTURY

RABIA PATEL (2001) – See Marriages – completed her Board 1, CA Exam and is working in audit for KPMG. HASEENA PATEL (2002), completed a BA (brand communication) degree specialising in design in 2006 at the AAA School of Advertising and now works for Jupiter Drawing Room.

SARAH ATMORE (200?) graduated with distinction and top of her class in Nature Conservation at Caput (the Cape University of Technology)

Thank you to LALA NONGALAZA (2002) for sending in her details. She graduated in Social Science from UCT in 2005 and is presently doing an honours degree in Public Administration while working as Incone Generation Coordinator for Wola Nani. She lives in Mowbray and has a child, Lindokuhle.

Warm congratulations and good wishes to all who have recently had a special event in their lives.

#### ENGAGEMENTS

SHELAGH HOFFMANN (1994) to Michael Hughes in Cape Town in June 2008. (wedding planned for December 2008) (Shelagh is an OT at Vista Nova, Rondebosch)

DEBORAH HARPUR (1993) to Mark Sourian in New York on 8th September 2008

GENEVIEVE FORDER (1993) to James Dalrymple in London on 29th October 2008 Genevieve is daughter of ERICA (Westall 1954) and sister to Belinda – see Births

KATHERINE DOMMISSE (1993) to Mark Wiseman in Cape Town in November 2008 Kath is daughter of SANDY (Fairweather 1967) and sister to MICHELLE (1995)

## MARRIAGES

SAMIRA PATEL (1999) to Hamza Farooqui in Cape Town, reception at the Greek Hall, Mouille Point on 26th October 2007

GABY LE ROUX to Gareth in November 2007 at Zorgvliet wine estate.

RABIA PATEL (2001) to Ziyaad Khan in Cape Town in January 2008

AMANDA GRAHAM (1989) to David Rich at Tulbagh in August 2008

ELAINE BURGER (2000) married Jeandré Pienaar at The Range, Tokai in October 2008

TISH (Laetitia) LANCASTER (1993) to Sean Lambert on 8 November 2008 at Kelvin Grove (The bridesmaids were Bridget Lancaster (1989), Nicky Lancaster (1990) and Samantha James (1993).

## BIRTHS

To NADIA EBRAHIEM (1996) and Fareed, a baby daughter, Nuhaa on 7 May 2007 in Cape Town

To CLAERWYN HOWES (1991) and Alisdair Hamilton-Weekes, a son during November 2007, brother to Sara, 2, in England.

To CATHERINE RENNIE (1994) and Brett Magrath, a daughter, Eva Sophie in Cape Town on 12th November 2007

To BIANCA LUCAS (1998) and Sean Brophy a son Corban on 20th February 2008 in Cape Town

To NIDA SAMODIEN (1998) and Yaqub Omar a son Uzayr on 1st March 2008 in Cape Town (I remember Bianca and Nida as smiling little new girls in my class - MRB)

To MARGI McMURRAY (1987) and Mark Satchel in Weybridge, Surrey, a daughter Kiera, sister to James 5 and Caitlin 3 in March 2008

To ALEX GARFIELD-ALLEN and Martin Versveld in Cape Town, a son Nicholas Michael, brother to Olivia 7 and Mia 5 in May 2008 (Alex is sister of PHILIPPA (1991), they are daughters of BARBARA ALLEN (Van Imhoff 1956))

To DIANE GALLIE (1994) and Mike James in Chelmsford, England, a son Joseph (9lbs 12 oz) on 26th June 2008, brother to Daniel, 1.

To SAMANTHA FICK (1997) and ? Centurier-Harris in Cape Town a son, Jack on 1 July 2008

To NICOLE BROWNELL (1994) and Marco de Freitas a son, Ashton Filipe on 24th July 2008 in Cape Town

To ANNA LEMMON (1994) and Mat Welthagen in Cape Town, a daughter Zara Kate in July 2008 (Anna is an interior decorator and lives in Hout Bay)

To BELINDA FORDER (1987) and Bruce Green, a son, Luke Daniel, brother to Mia on 31st July 2008 in Sydney. (Belinda is daughter of ERICA (Westall 1954) and sister to GENEVIEVE - see Engagements)

To ROS NEWMARCH (1991) and Rinen Watermeyer a son Finn, brother to Sophy in Cape Town in August 2008 (Ros is daughter of the late MARION NEWMARCH (Sneath 1960))

To GENEVIEVE LANGENHOVEN (1989) and Andrew Clark, a son, Eli in Cape Town, on 6th October 2008, brother to Joshua 9, Asha 5, and Indi 2.

To RACHEL BARLOW (2000) and Daniel a daughter, Zöe Daniella (4.2Kg) on 7 October 2008 (KARIN EVANS (Memmel 1974) sent me a photo of the baby)

## IN MEMORIAM

ANNIE HOWES HOWELL (1941 – 2008). Annie (196?) died after a very short illness in April 2008. Annie's great love was the mountains and a service celebrating her life and friendships was held in the clubhouse

of the Mountain Club of South Africa. OLWEN GIBSON (Jones 1954) remembers how proud they both were to have scaled a significant peak together in the Cedarberg in 2007. She said Annie had spent two weeks in Groote Schuur almost at the end, and at that time was visited by a host of friends. Below are extracts from tributes in the September issue of the club's 'Mountain Ears'.

Annie was an extremely popular Club member and she shared her friendship with everyone with kindness, warmth, sincerity above all, boundless joy. (She).. ventured out on the mountains at a very young age and delighted in taking trips to the Cedarberg....(Annie) taught me everything I know about the flowers, the botanical names and many routes on the mountains all over the Peninsula. I felt very safe with her on the mountains.

MARY ROBERTS/ELLIS (Roberts 1951) This is a tribute to Mary written by her husband, Prof George Ellis, followed by memories of her sister by BOSKY ANDREW (Roberts 1956) read at her funeral on 9th May 2008. We offer deep sympathy to them and to Mary's children.

Mary was a devoted doctor. She studied medicine at UCT and Edinburgh, and was an excellent diagnostician. She worked in Kenya and Australia, including as a flying Doctor to the outback. She did family planning with Dennis Davey at UCT, worked in the day hospitals in the Cape Town townships, and in Outpatients at Groote Schuur with Fay Mofsowitz. She started the Philani nutritional centres in Cross Roads with Ingrid Le Roux, after working there for some years. She was famous as the caring doctor who would go to the townships when no one else would. She visited Trudy Thomas at St Matthews's mission hospital in Keiskammahoek and so became very involved in the Ciskei. She was a strong member of Planned Parenthood Association. She was a passionate Quaker since her time in Perth, Australia, where she met and married John Wheeldon. They had a daughter (Miriam) and son (Andrew), both born in Perth. On her return to Cape Town she got divorced, and then met and married George Ellis; they then lived in Kenilworth opposite Michael Oak School. Mary was an intense social activist, working in Quaker service with Cheryl Barratt; in particular helping squatters in the deep apartheid days with Rommel and Celeste Roberts; running the Friends of the Ciskei with Trudi Thomas and many others; setting up the Sebenza Saamwerk Committee with Steve Biko and Mamphela Ramphele. She was passionately involved in politics, the PFP (later the DA) being a big part of her life for many years: she canvassed for it with passion. She was a strong member of the Black Sash and the SA Institute of Race Relations (Western Cape). She took part in running the Quaker ambulance with Paul Hare and Elizabeth Dexter, when it was active in the townships, and provided medical attention for activists being hunted by the police. With George she provided Christmas dinners for Robben Island families at Cowley House, when they visited detainees on the Island.

She was a strong follower of Jungian psychology since her introduction to it by Mrs Rix Weaver in Perth, who dedicated a book on it to Mary. She was warm, brave, generous, with great energy and enthusiasm for life. She has been a great caring influence in many other people's lives, for example providing a home for two young black girls on

weekdays when they were at Michael Oak School, too far from the townships to make a daily trip there. She set up the Andrew Roberts Memorial Fund in memory of her father, who she loved very much, and helped many needy people via this fund. She was very diminished in recent years as Alzheimer's disease progressed, but was still very aware of others and doing her very best to help them even when there was very little she could do. She died peacefully in hospital on May 4th 2008 after a short illness, and is remembered with great affection and sense of loss by her family and many friends.

Some of Bosky's memories of an older sister:

During my early years you were pretty much always there for me  
You were there for me when a neighbourhood dog killed all my rabbits.

Whilst sobbing and sulking in the garden in lonesome sorrow, a kitchen knife flew past my head and stuck into a tree. There was a note attached;  
It said 'Sorry about Flopsy, Peter and the babies!'  
Further knife missiles carried notes; "Hope you feel better" "they did not suffer" "Choc and Milo waiting for you" Sniffing and gulping I rejoined the human race.  
YOU were there for me, when we were on a Union Castle boat with Mummy, and we were supposed to go to a dance I was 12 and you were a lovely 17.  
Sitting on a stool, staring at myself in the mirror I pronounced that I was ugly and stupid and would not leave the cabin.  
You sat next to me and put white powder on your face  
"Look at me," you said, "An ugly old toothless hag"  
I grabbed the powder and dusted it on to my face.  
"Me too" I shouted in delight; trying to talk toothless.  
We laughed and laughed at our teary stained white faces in the mirror turning pain into one of those moments of pure joy.  
You were there for me when I was learning to ride your old horse Diamond...gripping pennies between my knees and the saddle... round and round the paddock. up down ..up down /  
The wonderful out rides in Tokai forest. Just you and me. Jumping streams and talking horse. This is happiness

A post-script from your editor who was on a walking holiday in Spain when news came of Mary's passing. I told our friends as I thought they may well have known her and they did; Peter Hart (son of ISA, one of the legendary PARKER sisters) said he had taken Mary to his Rondebosch Matric Dance. He was head boy; Mary was the sort of partner a head boy would have chosen.

#### MARION NEWMARCH (Sneath 1960)

Marion Newmarch (Sneath) 1943-2008 from her sister BRONWEN ORPEN It is with great sadness that I pass on the news of my sister Marion's death on 29th May 2008 after a long and courageous fight against cancer. Marion came to Rustenburg in Std 6. This is what ILONA MCINTOSH (Wells 1960) said in a letter written to Marion's husband John, after hearing about her death:

"I remember Marion with great affection - this new girl from Oakhurst. We, being dyed in the wool Rusty Bugs, quickly incorporated her into our "gang"....a group of rather intelligent rebels! She was something of an enigma to us all and I think to the teachers as well. Quietly spoken, frightfully polite, a wicked sense of humour and very naughty! In fact, she was the instigator of all the rot we got up to! She had the ideas, the modus operandi and then the polite, banal explanations to the poor teachers. She in fact got us into the trouble and then got us out of it! School became great fun when she was around. She was level headed, responsible and a marvellous leader"

Marion loved Rustenburg and became a house captain, a prefect and a defender of Rustenburg and its high standards for evermore. After matriculating, inspired by Ann Griffiths, the superb Science teacher who taught her in her final years at Rustenburg, she went to Stellenbosch to do a BSc. followed by a post graduate teaching diploma at U.C.T.

She taught in Natal, England and in Cape Town; in 1970 she married John Newmarch. When her son Philip and daughter, ROSALIND WATERMEYER (1991) were at school she developed her artistry in flower arranging, specialising in bridal and church flowers. Once the children were independent she took an unpaid voluntary job in the Department of Pharmacology at U.C.T. helping in the lab with testing against malaria. She then accepted a job in the information processing section of the Traditional

Medicines Research Programme. Her earlier studies at Stellenbosch were invaluable in this role as she was the only person in the department who had studied the areas that were so central to understanding the science behind traditional medicines. Marion became passionate about traditional medicine and established the first chemical classification in this field. She continued in this post until she was hospitalised for cancer treatment in 2003. The initial prognosis was for 6 months to 2 years but we were blessed to have her for 5 years during which time her remarkable courage, sense of humour and above all caring for others impressed all who came into contact with her.

We extend deepest sympathy to John, Philip, Ros and Bronwen and their families. It was only seven years ago that Marion wrote an obituary for her mother JESS SNEATH (Parker 1922).

AUDREY WEBB (Stakes 1944) died in Cape Town on 29th July 2008 after having a heart attack four days earlier. Audrey was one of a family with four generations at Rustenburg; a faithful ROG who used to come to Founders' Day. In 2005 she was there with her granddaughter, KYLE MCKERRON (2000) – See 'A Rustenburg Family' above. Audrey was a faithful member of Christ Church, Kenilworth for 43 years. The following are extracts from tributes written by parishioners: 'The essence of Audrey was gentleness, caring love courage and determination and most of all a loving wife, mother and grandmother', 'Audrey was concerned about the plight of the poor and became a member of the Greyladies Association....in spite of poor eyesight she knitted many squares for blankets. Everything she did was done quietly and with great commitment.' 'She radiated warmth and was an encouragement to all who knew her.'

We offer deep sympathy to Audrey's husband, Tom, Nadine, Margaret, Hilary and Kyle and all who loved Audrey.

MARGARET HILL (Holliday 1958) in August 2008 in Durban. Margaret was the wife of Dennis, mother to 4 children and sister to EUNICE HOLLIDAY (195?). To all them and to all her family we extend our sympathy.

HILARY PARREIRA (Hinds 1948) in 2008 in Cape Town. Hilary was the organizer of the 60th anniversary of the E's of 1948 when she died. We extend our sympathy to her family and friends.

LAUREN DEVINE (2002) Deputy Head girl of Rustenburg in 2002, died tragically in a car accident on Saturday 23 August. She was an excellent student, won prizes for German and English and was awarded the Adele Naude Writing prize in her matric year. A dedicated sportswoman, Lauren played Netball at a high level and was a reliable member of the Bon Appetit catering committee. Always kind, generous, friendly and polite, Lauren was an asset to the school, excelling in the classroom, on the sports field and as a leader. Since leaving school, Lauren had studied for a year at Stellenbosch before moving to UCT where she graduated BA. After a year overseas, Lauren was back in Cape Town working as a copywriter. To her parents and her sister, MICHELLE (200?) we extend our deepest sympathy,

TINA BULL (192?) has just passed on aged 98. She was the mother of MARJORIE BULL (1951). She was a musician in her day and had a bursary to attend Rustenburg. Our sympathy to Marj.

MARGUERITE (Meg) OLIVIER (Van Velden 1936) died on 24th September 2008 in a retirement complex in Vereeniging at the age of 90. This is a tribute written by ANN FISHER (Whittingdale 1936), a life-long friend of Meg. Meg and her doctor husband had brought up their four children in Vereeniging. Migs as she was known then, went to RGJS in her Standard 6 year from Oakhurst, and in 1933 moved to the

newly built high school on Camp Ground Rd. In her matric year she was head girl, a house captain and member of a very successful hockey team. From 1938 to 1941, Meg studied at UCT obtaining a Medical and Surgical degree which led to her becoming a Sister-Tutor and a health worker in the townships. In 1947, Meg and friends, Dr Neil Ackerman, his wife, Flo and Dr Buchs Olson, travelled by car up Africa to Cairo then across the desert to Tripoli and through Europe. In the UK, Meg worked in hospitals and on her return to South Africa she married Dr Pierre Olivier. The school years had laid the foundations of life-long friendships. The class of '36 had a reunion in 1986 and then three more at five-year intervals. Meg came down for each one. At the last on she spoke about the value of friendships. Meg's life has been one of achievement and dedication to work and play emanating from good sound "old-fashioned" education.

PAM LINCK (Chiddy 1959) Pam died after a short illness. An obituary will appear in the next issue. We offer our warmest sympathy to her husband, Mike and daughters ANDREA (1990) and JANET (1993).

GAYNOR MOODIE (1996). The last issue of the Newsletter was returned from Gaynor's address with a sombre note: 'Deceased RTS'. We have not been able to confirm that this referred to Gaynor. She was a prefect and planned to study music, (her mother sometimes taught music at Rustenburg).

KATHY EMMETT (1965 – 2008) a tribute from Karen DRUMMOND (Joubert 1982)

Kathy started at Rustenburg Junior in 1971, completing high school in 1982. She was a keen sportswoman and member of the Netball and Hockey teams. She participated in the Scripture Union and Ecology Clubs, and will always be remembered by her friends for her spirit of enthusiasm and fun, and for doing the entire Outeniqua Trail hike barefoot before anyone had even heard of Zola Budd.

After leaving school, she graduated as a nursing sister and after a number of years in Durban and East London, married and immigrated to New Zealand. Kathy loved the rural area of Alexander in central Otago, South Island and she was soon at home amongst the kindly, hard working folk. She lived life to the full - horse riding and cycling with the children in the nearby mountains, swimming in the lakes, enjoying the frequent Scottish celebrations so common in the area and most importantly-ensuring her time with her children was as happy and enduring as it could be. Kathy would take Stuart (16) and Caroline (14) driving through the pine forest - the kids riding on the back bumper and the dog chasing behind through the icy puddles and over the bumps. With Kathy's deep love of music there were many a bagpipes night and hilarious attendances at the local music productions. Kathy showed remarkable courage and fortitude during her long battle with cancer. Her positive attitude, faith and determination to be there for her children for as long as possible set an example to all who knew her. While she would have given anything to see her children grow into adults, she did a wonderful job in instilling in them compassion, determination and above all a wicked sense of humour. Our thoughts and prayers go to Stewart and Caroline, her parents and family (sister Helen matriculated in 1980).

JOAN ELIZABETH BROOKE (Coetzer 1948) died on 18 November 2008 – news from her son, Alan, in Canberra, Australia.

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## REUNION

Calling all 1974 Rustybugs – we are celebrating our 35th anniversary with a "mini" reunion on Founder's Day, 30 January 2009. Please check your emails for details from Karin, or SMS 083 5645032 for further information

That is all for 2008. Keep the news flowing in 2009 and the contributions to the Piano Fund! Have a very happy festive season'

Affectionately

Mary Rose

## **RUSTENBURG GOLF DAY**

MOWBRAY GOLF CLUB  
FRIDAY 13th MARCH 2009

The Rustenburg Old Girls' Union and Rustenburg High School Music Fundraising Committee have arranged a Golf Day to benefit all learners at Rustenburg High School, with proceeds directed towards various school upgrading projects, a new hall piano and charity initiatives.

The competition is a 4-Ball Alliance and is open to Men, Ladies and Mixed 4-balls. There will be a shotgun start at 1 pm.

We request your help with the following:

- \* Sponsorship of a golf hole at R1000 per hole (tee to green). Advertising banners can be displayed and items can be promoted.
- \* Prizes for Players such as electrical appliances, sports gear, wine, goods with which to make up hampers, vouchers or anything you feel you would like to win. 4 of each is preferable but all donations welcome.
- \* Items for Players' Goodie Bags such as drinks, snacks, sunscreen, golf tees, peak caps, markers or any branded goods.
- \* Organizing a 4-ball to play at R300 per person. You may enter individually.

Support us by securing sponsorship or donations, either personally, through your business or by pursuing your contacts that could sponsor, donate or play. We can arrange collection of prizes and supply a tax invoice. Attached is a letter which you can use to secure sponsorship from businesses.

Your contributions would be greatly appreciated. Monetary sponsorships may be deposited at Nedbank or paid by EFT into the ROGU Nedbank with your name and telephone number as the reference. Account number 2046666046, Branch code 104609,

If you have any queries or suggestions, please contact

**June Watson** 021 6854512 / 0716833127

**Lorraine Smit** 021 7944926 / 0824411125

Or email us at [rghsgolfday2009@gmail.com](mailto:rghsgolfday2009@gmail.com)