

80th Anniversary



Jane Barnley



Amazing roses – thanks to Bob and Cherry



Ronnie, Luke, Cherry admire the table décor



who arrives back at school!



Cherry and Mrs Wanyonye in serious talk



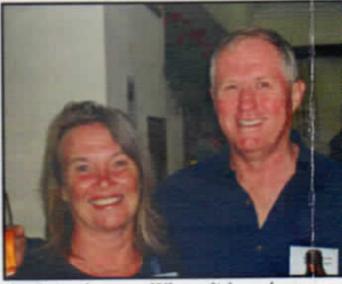
All seem pleased to be back!



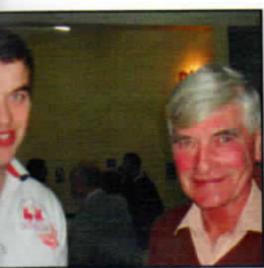
! Don't forget us, please!



What did you guys have for lunch?



Lindy & Anthony – When did we last meet



Christopher and David



Happiness is – Penny and Jenny



Kirsty, Roger, Cath and John – 4 Dudins

Reunion 2008



décor



Looks good; tasted good also



Cake cutters of note – John and Pam



Roses, roses everywhere



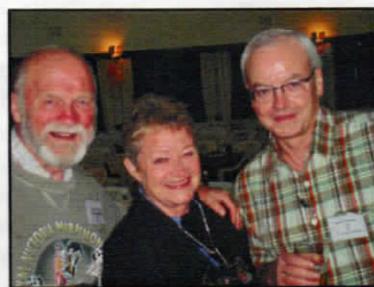
The naughty guys always sit at the back!



This is more like it!



Not much has changed!



Happy reunion – Maurice, Isabel and Tony



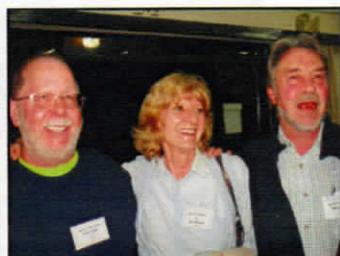
Dan & June of E A W L fame



Father and son; Grant & Kingsley



Charlotte, Paul and Trish



Niels with Anne and Rob



Jonathan and Cliff – the younger guys!

and some that were not



Danie and class mates, Else, Karin, Jenny and Tom



Jockey Dance – Carol Gerard and Inge Sunde



How different they look now! Jennifer Woods, Pat Matthew, Else Sunde., Vivien Greaves



Andrew and Gail [Hillier] at son Ross's wedding



Proud grandparents Tessa [Haupt] and Brian with Anna



Naomi and Robert Richard [far right] at son Oreb's wedding to Catherine Johnson in Nairobi

Tom Jacobs has moved away from ESKOM. [This means we no longer have a personal contact to blame for electrical load shedding] He and **Alison** enjoyed a visit from **Robert Mundy** and all three travelled to Kenya and Kitale together. While in Kenya, the plan was to visit Lake Borgario where there are plans to build a Geothermal Power Plant. Their 4X4 vehicle will also have taken them to Naivasha, Nakuru and Kisumu en route to Kitale. Robert has undergone medical treatment on a previous ankle injury this week. [We hope all went well, Robert.]

Sad news reached me this morning that, after a two-year illness, **Barry and Val [Arnold] Jacob's** much loved daughter Angela finally lost her battle with cancer. [Barry and Val, I know all Kitaleites join me in sending condolences to you both and also to grandson David.]

Christine [Jensen] Cross and **Chris** enjoyed a quiet wedding in April of 2008. She writes that, having given up work, she is in 7th heaven making jams and preserves, doing needlework and getting a large garden looking more than beautiful. Christine, **Robin** and **Jessica** laid her Mum's ashes to rest alongside her Dad in the cemetery in Kitale and she mentions that **Cherry** was superb in getting things organised. For Jessica and Robin life continues to be fraught with anxiety – high prices of fertilizer and concern over children and jobs to which they have to travel being main causes.

Ronnie [Jocelyn] Enness' son **Luke** was amazing in the way, despite being the youngest at the Reunion, he fitted in and helped with all the more physical tasks that we 'oldies' found most difficult. He blew up balloons, then climbed to the ceiling and placed them strategically, fetched and carried and was an eager beaver all over the place.

[Thank you, Ronnie, for bringing both **David** and **Luke** with you. Luke, we hope you can make plans to join us for the next get together, whenever and wherever it may be held.]

Pat and Linda Kelly have settled well in Australia and have been in touch with **Tim Roberts** who works on a fortnightly basis between the north and Perth. They spent an hour and a half catching up on news from when Tim left for New Zealand in 1966 Linda recommends that we have the next reunion in Australia, Oz being a safe country. [Linda, nothing could have been safer than Kitale in October 2008.]

The **Kerfoot** family [**Charles** and **Vicky**] has been living it up in 2007/8. **Sally** and **Robin [Lavis]** were in Australia for Christmas; they took a trip to Vietnam for their son Matthew's wedding; **Clemency [Bagshawe]** arrived for daughter Julia's wedding, Thereafter, for Charles and Vicky, it was a trip to Kenya in October for the Kitale School reunion. Now **Antonia [Bagshawe]** is in Zambia for a couple of months – Vicky describes all of this as footprinting!

From Mwalimu Kali, I rose in an e-mail to the ranks of Memsahib Makubwa [Thanks, **Jeremy**, also for the new address. Please let us know when it kicks in!] The **Kidners**, **Jeremy** and **Doreen** are in the process of selling their flat in Hong Kong before they finally retire to Queensland in 2009. Jeremy describes **Biddy Crowcombe** and **Kay Yuille** as terrifying [Biddy] but women that are the "Empire Breed", tough, resourceful and caring.

Michael Fulton writes from Hong Kong. He has enjoyed having **Jeremy** and **Doreen** live close by. Michael uses Skype extensively to keep in touch with his sister **Diana [Purchase]**.

A really long e-mail arrived from **Gillian [Leach] Flochell**. Sadly, she is having to sell her lovely 19th century home in Marly-le-Roi, near Versailles and St Germain en Laye [*Have we a buyer amongst Kitaleites?*] Gillian was unable even to contemplate joining us in October. She would, meantime, love to have folk visit. Her home is easily reached by public transport – a 30 minute train ride from Gare St Lazare followed by a five minute walk. [*It sounds too good to be true, Gillian, and we wish you lots of luck as you embark on a new life.*]

Biddy [Lloyd] Hamil had plans for Kenya in October and meeting sister **Sally Foxton** in Kitale. [*Sometimes the best laid plans come to nought. We missed you both.*] Biddy sent through the sad news of **Robin Bridgman's** death last Autumn on his farm in British Columbia. [*Through the Newsletter, we extend our deepest sympathy to his family members, especially to his wife, Carolyn.*]

For our October gathering, we adopted some Kitaleites in **George and Janet Manuel**. Perhaps it was the other way round in that they adopted us. At the reunion, they met friends they had not seen in 30 years, not to mention all the Kenyans that they do not see often enough. [*For travellers who might be thinking of visiting Kenya in the future, George and Janet recommend the Kitale – Nakuru drive via the Kerio Valley to Kabarnet and from there via Tenges to Emining. The views into Kerio and the Rift Valley are spectacular.*]

Kay Yuille: Dear, Kay passed away in January, after a short illness. **Liz and Mike Mills** and Peter Rosa represented Kitale School at the Memorial Service and took with them a wreath from us all. [*Thank you so much for doing this for us, Mike.*] He writes, "That ends a 52 year long relationship between Kay and myself. The reason for it

was because Kay was, without question, the best teacher I ever had, so I never lost touch with her. [*Mike will keep in touch with Kay's sister, Jinty, with whom she shared a home after returning to Perth, Scotland.*] Mike was a good friend of **Robin Bridgman** and he too sent through news of Robin's last days.

Tony Mills and Adrienne, through their safari business, their enormous contribution to the success of this last reunion and just because they are Tony and Adrienne, are an amazing couple. Hospitality at Lokitela knows no bounds. They hosted 17 Kitaleites over the reunion weekend, including brother **Jolyon and Janet**. The weekend before it was a safari into Pokot with **Magda and Chris Hearne**. They have their commitments on their own farm and in Nanyuki and also care for Adrienne's mother, albeit from a distance. On a visit to Nanyuki in September they met up with **Peter and Marisa Swan** with daughter **Aileen** and grand-daughter **Shasta**. Do they ever stand still? [*Thank you for so much, T & A and especially for friendship towards so many.*]

Chris Flatt wrote that **Mark O'Hanlon** might have attended the reunion if he had known when it was on. The only e-mail address for Mark on the database is the following: mark.ohanlon@uk.abnamro.com It may still work although you will be aware that ABN AMRO was taken over by RBS some months ago. Unfortunately, I have sometimes to rely on family members whose e-mails we have on the database to pass news round. Sister **Damaris** can be contacted on: Damaris.ohanlon@yahoo.com [*Both are now added.*]

Pam [Mudd] and **Chris Bennett** who continue to live in Harare, Zimbabwe, write of the difficult times and terrible things they witness happening in their beloved homeland.

Pam especially wishes to be remembered to all who remember her.

Cliff Mukulu along with **Jonathan Mayer** represented the later years before the school became known as Kitale Academy. Cliff was a great 'behind the scenes' worker for the Reunion. He knew and put committee members in touch with the right contacts in Nairobi [*Cliff, we could not have had better than Devan and Travel 'n Style, whose attention to detail was quite outstanding. Thank you. What we need now is for Cliff to rally round more recent alumni who are still living in Kenya or in Africa so that the movement survives.*] It was a great pity that Cliff's friend **Jackson Omaid** was called away at zero hour and so could not join us.



Excited Primary School children as they receive soccer, basket and netballs from Chris and Cliff

Richard Northmore, Henry and Tammy, three who enjoyed the days in Kitale and indeed in Kenya enormously, have two young guides show them a classroom



Sally [Nield] and **Dick Evans** write that, although they decided not to go to the Reunion, they have happy memories of Kitale and keep in touch with many friends from those times. They enjoy living in Devon, have made excellent new friends and still go camping. Last September saw them spend time with children and grandchildren and have fun rowing down the River Wye [that is rowing when they were not ducking!].

The Nicholson Family: It doesn't seem that long ago that we had our very first Kitale School Reunion at Buckland House, home of **Ralph and Jane [Cox]**. We had a record attendance [162 in all], several of whom stayed on after the Saturday to make full use of the gathering and catching up on news. Since then, we have had two in South Africa [Johannesburg and Hlanlanathi], a further one in England [Chichester] a gathering in Perth, Western Australia, and 2008 saw a second held in Kenya, with the first being a very ambitious reunion in both Nairobi and Kitale. Jane and Ralph joined us in Kitale for this recent one, combining the journey with visits to **Margaret** now living at Fairseat, as well as to the Nicholson family home in Watamu.



All Nicholsons are great travellers. **Alison** and **Simon Gilbert** were in Australia in September and hoped to travel further to New Zealand's South island. **Helen** has recently become a first time Granny and she travelled to England to enjoy seeing Lisa and baby Zak soon after he arrived.

After an amazing 4X4 trek back to Kitale in 2007, when they stayed with the **Barnleys**, in April 2008 Helen and Ralph returned and this time travelled via Nairobi Park to Namanga and on to Amboseli, Tsavo East and West before going on to the coast for a few days. This visit was soon after the troubled times and they painted a sad story of Kenya, which fortunately those of us at the reunion did not experience. They saw **Terry and Gail Davidson** while in Nairobi and enjoyed a meal with them.

Sandra Duncan [Peatling] has kept us closely in touch as she and her three lovely daughters nursed **Hugh** through his terminal illness. Sandra writes: 'Julie, Nina and Michie have been simply fantastic, including their help in moving house while Hugh was in hospital. I could not have done without them. Hugh's memorial was quite phenomenal We were truly touched with so much love and kindness. My sister **Glen** is arriving from Australia at the beginning of January for a month and my other sister **Del** arrives from Germany at the end of January for three weeks. How fortunate I am to have such a wonderful family.' [*Sandy, I am sure all Kitale alumni would join me in expressing our love and sympathy in your loss of a wonderful husband, father and grandfather.*]

The **O'Hanlon family**: **Michael** wrote in January 2008 while he had Mum, **Rosemary**, and **Polly [Rosalind]** enjoy a visit to their Oxford home. [*We hope for more news of your doings in 2009, Michael.*]

A surprise new recruit is **Margaret [Peggy] Johnson [Owen]** who lives in Vredehoek, Cape Town. She was sent details of our October reunion. Obviously there was little hope that Peggy could make plans at short notice.

Alison Pickford [*Thank you Alison for sending through Jay's new e-mail address besides the many others.*] **Joanna**, although she went to the convent, had thoughts of joining us all the way from Australia. However, work commitments had to be uppermost on her agenda.

Martin Pickford wrote from France: 'It was indeed sad to see Kenya unravelling at the seams. I was in Kenya in September [2007] and it was clear to me that the likelihood of an implosion was very great. I thought it would occur in the lead-up to the elections; it came immediately afterwards.' [*Fortunately, Martin, everything did sort itself out to a point where we 94 returnees had a safe and wonderful experience. What a pity you were unable to join us.*]

Veronica Plunkett wrote to let us know that her much loved brother, **Patrick**, who lived in Calgary, Canada, passed away in April. Fortunately Patrick's wife **Starla** encouraged Veronica to change her flight to arrive earlier than planned so that she was there, able to see him and be with him to the end. This enabled Patrick also to see and enjoy family photos [his Mum now aged 92, Veronica's own two children and a grand niece]. As always, Hospice came up trumps and Veronica and Starla were both also able to be accommodated there. Veronica has memories of the time Patrick worked alongside **Allan Hallett** in a dental lab in Durban. Patrick continued working in dental technology and had his workshop in the basement of his lovely home. [*Veronica, I remember Patrick as a lively, fair-haired, handsome, young man I can imagine how you miss him. You and all members of your family are in our thoughts at this time.*]

Caroline Esterman [Quinn] keeps sending folk from Australia on safari to Africa. October saw her realize her own dream. In spite of a mishap in Nairobi where Caroline had her bag snatched, she arrived in Kitale in time to enjoy our Gala Dinner and the Sunday. *[I have to compliment you, Caroline, on the cheerful way in which you handled the experience. Thank you Terry and Gail Davidson for being available to help our damsel in distress.]* It was Caroline's first return since 1972 and she met all friends from the past mentioned in her e-mail of July: **Terry, Richard Barnley, Horace Horsey** and even **Tony Mills**, who was pretty senior!

Esther Richards, like many, had pipe dreams for coming to the reunion which did not materialise. **Robert's** son's wedding at least took him back to Kenya and he was able to introduce **Naomi**, his wife and three children to Kitale School and the farm where they used to live. This latter proved to be an emotional experience as they met an old man who once looked after their chickens and horses. All were amazed at the size of the school and the extensive grounds, swimming pool included. However, what horrified them was the thought of leaving a six-year-old boarder at the school with parents driving away. Robert writes of an amazing family experience as they visited Tsavo and Diani Beach after the wedding in Nairobi.

Peter Rosa confirms that he planned a visit to Melbourne during 2008 and the possibility of extending his stay in Australia to include Perth also. He looked forward to seeing members of the **Beghetti** family and also his cousin **Melanie Forster [Hickman]**. Visits to Makerere and Uganda continue to be part of Peter's working life. *[What a pity such a visit didn't coincide with the 24 – 26 October weekend, Peter.]*

Giles and Ginnie Shaw do what many Australians do best – explore their own country in a mobile home. Giles is very involved in Kenya Regiment activities in Queensland *[see inside back cover for details of the 2010 cruise]*. Croquet, botchy ball *[whatever that may be!]* and cycling are now their sports of choice. Their croquet is played with home made mallets, hoops larger than standard size and normal sized balls – clearly great fun is had by all.

Dan and June Shaw have also done some travelling. June writes of visits to see their daughter in Zimbabwe with trips to Kariba and Zambezi. Further safaris took them to Maasai Mara, camel riding in Laikipia and Malindi. The latter included a four night stay at Kulalu, situated on the Galana River. Dan continues to care take farms while June, as National Chair of the EAWL had been more than busy visiting all 24 branches.

Tom Shaw, who came to the reunion, writes that his last visit to East Africa had been in 1990. He has happy memories of time spent in Arusha, which was also the launch pad for a trip to Lake Manyara and Ngorongoro with **Sheila**, his wife to be! *[Sheila, we missed having with us.]*

Sue Shields [White] and **Irvine** had great plans for shipping two vehicles from Perth [Freemantle] to Cape Town and driving through Africa to Kitale, to arrive in time for the reunion. Cost was the main factor in their making a negative decision *[Very understandable, Sue, although Chris and Magda would not have missed their 13 000 kilometre experience for anything. They plan a repeat safari with Allan and Jenny Hallett, so maybe the Whites will also have a pipe dream become a reality in the future.]*

Julian Shorten writes from New Zealand that he remembers **Cherry Dale** and **Glenda Duirs**. Julian runs a dairy farm on the West Coast of South Island and milks 500 cows – so you can imagine why he was unable to be at the Reunion. *[We hope you enjoyed the anticipated time of relaxation over Christmas, Julian.]*

We get news of the Australian members of the **Sinclair** family from **Daphne [Bellingeri]**, who like many has become a proud Granny to Joshua during 2008. Part of the Perth winter months were spent in Broome, where they were joined by **Posy** and **Paul**, **Toots** and **Rolf** and **great granddad Sinclair** [now 93]. Daphne expects **Penny** with daughter **Lili** from Canberra to visit over Christmas and beyond.



Mary Sloane was bearer of more sad news in that she wrote of **Haidée King's** passing. Haidée had been unwell over an extended period. Daughter **Janine [Wynne]**, whom some may remember, said the end was peaceful, just as anyone would wish, *[Mary, as we have no postal address for Janine, please let her know that, through the Newsletter, she is remembered.]*

Liz Statham [Kerr] and **Chris** have moved nearer Perth to a town called Gnowangerup. Meantime, **Richard** and **Pauline**, having attended a wedding in the UK and visited Holland and Greece also, will have joined them for son Sean's wedding to Elize. They mention having seen **Kuku Henn**, who was spending a farewell day with **Sue [Wilson]** and **Klaus [Böll]**.

From Australia, **Richard** and **Pauline** planned to travel on to New Zealand where they hoped to see something of both North and South Island.

2008 has not been a happy year for Kitaleites. **Derek Strange** wrote to tell us that **Michael** had a recurrence of his cancer and that, having been cared for excellently at a Hospice facing Clapham Common, he passed away in his sleep. *[Derek, our thoughts and prayers go out to you and Joanna, also to your son Mark and not forgetting Peter.]* Clever Kitaleites clearly produce clever children. We congratulate **Mark Strange** on being offered a Post Doctoral Fellowship at Pembroke College, Cambridge University.

Not much has changed in that **Else Sunde [McMichael]** and **Niels Sunde** continue to travel the world. Else introduced us to new husband **Hugh** at the reunion while Niels met his London-based son **Sven** in Kenya where they travelled before coming through to Kitale. Travel has also included a trip to the USA, San Francisco and Salt Lake City where Niels addressed a group on drug and alcohol related issues. *[Niels, we hope Inge has made a complete recovery and that she managed to enjoy her trip to England.]* Niels puts many of us to shame in that he continues to study – this time Maori – certainly not the easiest of languages. Seemingly, it has no Arab, Bantu, Germanic or Latin roots but is a language of song, proverb and ritual.

Peter Symes helps us keep track of the whereabouts of his sister **Ronnie [Older]**. Ronnie assures us that she and **John** are no longer nomads, at least for a while!

Our thoughts are currently with **Peter Troward**, and **Angela**. Peter has recently had a hip replacement renewed successfully. However, other health complications

necessitated a lengthy period of hospitalisation. Christmas in bed cannot have been the best expected present. Twin sisters **Liz [Vorster]** and **Jenny [Botto]** will be visiting in January after which Jenny goes on to Cape Town for her annual holiday.

Danie Steyn continues to be a strong supporter of the Kitale School alumni movement. He and his friend **Dave Joubert** covered many miles in their hire car and included a trip via Kakamega to the shores of Lake Victoria, where they enjoyed a meal of freshly caught and fried tilapia – the best fish dish in the world!

Meeting up again with **Nigel Warren** has been quite a bonus since he has kept up links with Kitale Academy over the years through the GAP organisation. To quote Nigel, 'Who would ever have thought that so many of us scallywags would meet up in Kitale some 50+ years later (ouch!!). Nigel thought, correctly, that the school came up trumps with what they laid on for us and he is right in saying that we all enjoyed that part of the programme immensely. *[Nigel and Tony have kindly agreed to monitor funds raised by alumni, which will be put towards improving the school's library. There may be folk among those who did not attend the reunion who would like to contribute. If so, one route is to make cheques out to Mr N Warren and use his address as follows: P O Box 24867, KAREN 00502, Kenya. Alternatively, those who wish to donate, might get in touch by e-mail: Nigel@avkenya.com ask for banking details, do a direct transfer and inform Nigel of date and amount transferred so that records can be kept.*

Liz Bannister [Waterfield] mentioned that she and her husband had hoped to join us in Kitale. However, the timing was not right for their travel plans, which was a pity for them and for us. *[Another time perhaps, Liz?]*

Madge Rattray [Watts] is another staunch Kitale supporter. She holds mini reunions in her home and invites all who live close as follows:

Kay Keese [MacPherson]

Sue Forrester [Mouton]

Colin Davey [Staff]

Marie de Bruyn [not in photo]



Dolly Watts [Andreeva] and husband **Peter** have relocated to England. Dolly seems to be happily settled in Saffron Walden, while Peter had to return to the Eldoret farm to get in this year's harvest. The National Health Service has really come up trumps and Dolly is already registered and enjoying free medication and consultations for her many ailments.

Tom Watts busies himself taking clients and tourists in and out of Mozambique.

Rosalind Williams [Graham Smith] writes that her mother celebrated her 85th birthday this summer. The whole family gathered, including **John** from Kenya and his lovely new wife, **Biraj**. Rosalind is one of the 1948ers and she may well have celebrated her milestone birthday in Diani where John has a second home.

The **Wilson** clan were well represented at the 2008 Reunion with 6 members present – **Steve and Cecilia, Jenny and Charlie**

[Munden] and Sue and Klaus [Böll] who have sold up in South African and plan eventually to live in Germany. Steve and Roger Dudin are excellent good at keeping in touch with and visiting Michael Brookes. He writes of having had a chat with Margaret Sinclair [who lives in Spain] and who was able to put him back in touch with Carol.

Some extra photos [taken at the Reunion]



Magda Hearne



Bob Andersen



Peter Gerrard and Dave Jocelyn



Tom Jacobs with Allison Veinings

Several e-mails this year have asked for news of the **Waltons**. I have hitherto preferred not to add details of what we are up to – perhaps because we teachers created Kitaleites who have grown up to be extraordinarily successful in either their professional capacity or as entrepreneurs or both. In teaching, I never got promoted beyond the level of 8th year! As Head of a school of 400, I was responsible for children, parents and grandparents, while continuing to teach a half time-table – because I felt this was the best way of keeping in touch with what was happening in ‘my’ school. On reaching retirement age, I had a complete change of direction in that I was head-hunted into the ‘ugly world of business.’ What an eye opener that was after the more cosseted teaching profession that we were able to enjoy – It was also an upward spiralling learning curve.

Now, I am back in education part time, as a mentor / consultant and in electronic data capture for the Independent Schools’ Association, Southern Africa, also part time. In between I teach computer literacy to adult retirees. We keep house, garden, enjoy visitors and travel occasionally – last year north, Robin for 8 weeks, I for 3 and later I was at the Kenya Reunion. This week, we drive to Cape Town for a ten day visit, Robin to attend one meeting and for the rest seeing and catching up with friends.

Mid January, life becomes hectic again as I leave for Johannesburg on 20 January to attend our AGM; there is a local workshop to be organised for mid February. My two jobs then kick in. Somewhere in between I shall be involved in helping to organise a Prep-School Teachers’ Conference. In 2007, we catered for over 1000 teachers over a three day weekend. How to keep young or how wicked must I have been in those far off days in Kitale? Another Kitale School Reunion? – over to you, the readers!



2010 KENYA REGIMENT ASSOCIATION REUNION

P & O BOAT CRUISE

10th APRIL TO 17th APRIL 2010

We will be sailing on the Pacific Jewel, leaving Brisbane on the 10th April
Cruising to Noumea, Lifou and Vila
50 twin cabins have been booked
All Prices are SAUD
SAU200 fully refundable deposit requested by 31 January 2009 to confirm booking
Passports will be required

We will be using Colin Randall of M.T.A. Travel as our Travel Agent

His Phone No (07) 3841 6346

Mobile No. - 0408 076 582

His email - crandall@mtatravel.com.au

Colin will be only too willing to answer your queries.

The Eagers – as they 'discover' Australia!



Christine with Katie



Concentration is ... John as driver!

[Munden] and Sue and Klaus [Böll] who have sold up in South African and plan eventually to live in Germany. Steve and Roger Dudin are excellent good at keeping in touch with and visiting Michael Brookes. He writes of having had a chat with Margaret Sinclair [who lives in Spain] and who was able to put him back in touch with Carol.

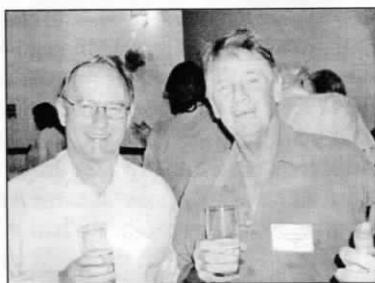
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Stop Press:

Bereavement:

While visiting Cape Town recently, I learned of the sad passing of **Mike Cooper**, dearly loved father of **Carolyn** and **David**. As, through the Newsletter, we send our message of sympathy to a loving daughter and son, we remember **Marjorie**, her amazing cheerfulness and the friendship we enjoyed over many years spent in Kitale.

Happier news:

On a far happier note **Alison [Jacobs]** and **Don Mclean** have become the proudest of proud grandparents. To quote Alison: 'We are absolutely thrilled and delighted to join the grandparent club at last, proudly announcing the arrival of a perfect baby girl, Aisling Heather, born to our son, Dale, and his lovely wife, Prudence, on 5th January. We had no idea that becoming grandparents would be so exciting.'



Alison, Dale and Don with Aisling