

Hello all

I believe we are early enough into 2005 for me still to wish you all a Happy New Year with few stresses and lots of successes.

I have had a few queries as to why the Newsletter has not yet been received. Alas, it is a month late in starting but having taken on a new job in April last year, somehow what I am paid to do has to take some precedence over what I enjoy doing more. In November I was handed a challenging research project which is now completed and revised, so, with luck I shall have more time for the Newsletter. Also, Robin has been back in hospital and he is not too strong yet and unable to drive for a while, so my time is taken up with being a caring wife, breadwinner and housekeeper. For those of you who hadn't heard, Robin was shot twice by intruders just outside our front door last March 29th. Things were touch and go for a while but miracles do happen and he has almost recovered fully – at least until the recent set back. But he is determined that we make a move from here and he has chosen KZN and a new cluster development for our next home. We will probably relocate in June, after which our postal address will be: P O Box 1113, HILTON, 3245. e-mail and cellular phone remain as before: waltonrb@global.co.za and 083 266 8309. We will notify land line telephone numbers in the next newsletter.

Newsletter.

The process of house selling is taking far longer than we envisaged, although we heard yesterday that the sale has finally gone through with the bond granted to the new owner. On the positive side, it has given us time to cull after 23 years of living in the same spacious home where we continued to spread ourselves, as one does, after our two left the nest. Enough about us!

Reunion 2005

Thanks to **Anthony and Penny Denton**, things are well under way and the enclosed flyer will give you basic details. One word of warning Penny gives is, if you plan to come to the reunion and we hope you will, to book your accommodation early because, being summer, local Bed & Breakfast accommodation places can get quite busy. The sooner you book, the sooner you will get the accommodation you are looking for and at an affordable price. While I had many positive responses to a London reunion, I do believe that one further out and in the country will be extremely pleasant and, for those of you travelling some distance, a weekend event makes the journey much more worthwhile. Come prepared to play tennis and other sport as mentioned in the flyer. *[Thank you Penny and Anthony for making this very generous offer. It's up to the rest of us now to ensure its success]*

This year we have included an advert for **Jane and Julia Barnley's** Kaibos Farm and Sirikwa Safaris. A long e-mail from **Ralph Nicholson**, who took Melinda and Robin for a trip down memory lane this year and stayed with Jane and Julia gives some detail of their experiences. Ralph writes: 'Jane and Julia gave us a great welcome. Robin and Melinda said they didn't want to sit in a car all the time so Jane organised a guide and 2 porters and we set off for a four day walk across the Cheranganis.' Places they visited included Flat Top, following the course of the Wei Wei River, from Tamkal to Sigor, a 7000' drop into the Kerio Valley and eventually back to the Barnleys – using a Matatu for the final leg! Two more days were spent with **Helen Mayer and Jonathan**, who runs their Kiminini farm very efficiently. They went up Elgon from that side, seeing herds of buffalo but no elephant. While at the Kitale Club they met **Cherry Dale**. The Club is just the same except for a swimming pool outside the top bar. The **Nicholson** farm seems still to be very productive with the new owner producing milk, which he sells in Kitale.

Rob Bairstow and Ann Barnley sent an article about Cimbria [the company where Rob works] support for AFEW [African Fund for Endangered Wildlife] towards the relocation of the Rothschild giraffe from Soy to Ruma National Park near Lake Victoria. The report tells

us there were only 6 of these animals remaining, 2 females and 4 males, numbers reduced from 10 at the beginning of 2004, an indication of how animals have to make way for humans. *[We hope to see you in Chichester, Rob and Anne]*

Rob also sent an article about a very successful Kitaleite, **Terry Davidson**, clearly a man who does not blow his own trumpet!



Terry Davidson – such success!

Terry is CEO of Kenya Commercial Bank, a bank which, after 5 years of 'wobbly' performance seems to be out of the woods. *[Terry & Gayle, we need the news of your success first hand for the next Newsletter, please!!]*

I had an e-mail from **Barbara and John Barton** who, in spite of the ageing syndrome from which many of us now suffer, continue to enjoy their Naivasha home. *[I hope that no news from **Caroline, Oliver and Susan** is good news].*

Niels Bertlesen has started a new job, which is keeping him busy. *[Thank you Niels for Peter's address details. It is interesting that **Penny Flatt [Madvig]** sees Peter occasionally when they visit Melbourne.]*

Mary Brendon's daughter Di wrote to let me know that Mary finally decided that she had had enough of life. **Helen Nicholson [Bailey]** was at the Memorial Service.

It was wonderful to get a 'snail mail' letter from **Moira Bridson [McIntyre]** who has relocated to Northern Ireland close to two daughters while husband **George** continues to travel, probably for another two years.

Jeanne and Eddie Bristow continue to travel regularly between their home in Spring Valley, Nairobi and the UK. Eddie is a sports fanatic, rugby in particular but also

cricket and he is a staunch supporter of the Kenya Regiment.

Thank you, **Mick [Buck]** for your new address and for **Anne's** new E-mail address.

Jenny Coombes [Pont] and **Ben** have had a really tough year. While things have gone excellently on the work front, there have been two bereavements which must have left Jenny quite devastated. Many of you will have heard of Simon's accident at the hands of a charging buffalo resulting in his untimely death. There will have been many at his memorial, thanksgiving service in at Soysambu in Kenya as well as in Tewksbury Abbey in the UK, with **Penny and Anthony Denton** as well as **Grant Daniels** among the large Kitale School contingent saying farewell.. Jenny writes, 'My wonderful, talented and famous bro. I adored and hero-worshipped him since I was a little girl and I thought he was invincible and immortal. We were especially close since he returned to live in Kenya permanently with Kat 5 years ago and I am grateful for the great times we had together. If there was a place and a way he would have wanted to go, this would have been it.' In January, Jenny's Mum, **Dodie Coombes** passed away peacefully having suffered from bone cancer for over three years. Both she and Simon have been laid to rest in that beautiful valley in the Aberdares where Jenny's Dad and Rob are. *[Our thoughts are with you all, Jenny]*

We have not heard from **Jessie Dale** since April 2004 when she wrote to say she was having treatment in Perth for cancer that had recurred. *[Take care, Jessie.]*

Anthony and Penny Denton have had a double bereavement with Penny losing her Dad in June last year and **Lizzie Denton [Rhobus]** succumbing to cancer in September barely six months after her wedding. Fortunately Penny and Anthony has been to visit her and **Mrs Denton senior** during the summer. *[I am sure I write for all Kitaleites, Anthony and Penny, Caroline [Horsey] and Mrs Denton when I express our sincere sympathy in your loss of two loved ones.]* Anthony and Penny look forward to a holiday in Kenya immediately after the summer reunion at Westbourne House.

We send congratulations to **David de Bromhead** who married **Jackie Phillips** in August. The good news also is that David and Jackie plan to be at the reunion in Chichester. David's main concern with the combining of two households was one similar to ours currently, how to cull 30 years of accumulated furniture etc.

Doreen Drakes, now on e-mail, writes cheerful news of the family, all now living in Perth, WA. **Lynne** has turned down promotion on the grounds that she thoroughly enjoys her teaching while **Ian** is about to 'go it alone' in the computer world.

Doreen, like the rest of us, regrets the inevitable ageing process.

Sandy Duncan [Peatling] and **Hugh** spent time in Europe, France and Italy, where Sandy did some painting. Their great news is that they became grandparents in May 2004. Hugh is involved in the wine industry and both he and Sandy play as much golf as time permits.

We haven't heard from **Jenny [Dairs]** and **John Field** this year. With John retiring from the Foreign Office, they will have settled back into their home in Gloucestershire. Having revamped the garden in 2003, repairs to the house were to be tackled in 2004, that is, when they were not enjoying their holiday home in the south of France. *[Jenny, please let us know how you spent your sabbatical year.]*

Sally Eager [Hood] is another good correspondent. In June, Sally and **Peter** spent a couple of weeks in Kenya with Peter's mother in Malindi, where no doubt they will have seen **Jenny Hellier [Northcote]** and then in August they flew to Vancouver to visit **Tim**, which they enjoyed thoroughly, feeling so safe after the 'inefficiency, dirt, crime, grime and corruption of Africa'. The Hoodies continue to live in Malawi but are looking for pastures new for when they retire in two years' time.

A letter is promised from **Donald Fell**, who hopes to be at the reunion

Chichester Reunion. *[See you there, Donald!]*

Alison Flatt continues to work and live happily in Maun, Botswana.

A new recruit since the last Newsletter is **Beryl [Flemmer] Pickford**, of the 1942 / 1943 era. Beryl, who, with husband **Dale**, has lived in New Zealand for 40 years. Beryl is in touch with **Ann Totty [Attwood]** and also with ex-Kenyans through the Kenya Regiment Association.

John and Sally Foster have moved to Cornwall. They are planning to visit Kenya in June/July and will visit the Barnleys. *[We hope you will be back in time for the reunion, John. Please let me have names of folk you would particularly like to renew contact with and if I have their addresses I can forward those to you.]*

Peter Gerrard is another who made a return to Kenya early in 2004 for his mother's 90th birthday, which they celebrated with a lunch at the Muthaiga Club. Peter continues to live and work in Indonesia but he gets back to his UK base 3 times a year. *[We hope you can plan to be there this summer, Peter.]*

Alan Hitchcox has promised to make a visit to South Africa. *[We look forward to that, and I am sure I speak for many when I say we can offer accommodation.]*

A surprise letter arrived from **Jim Gladman** who made contact through brother **Hugh** and **Anne** who live in Australia. *[It's good to have your address, Jim.]* Jim was in Australia for Hugh's 60th birthday. The highlight of the trip was sitting in front of Hugh's apartment, at a table overlooking the ocean where they enjoyed fish and chips and a nice bottle of chardonnay, something he could never contemplate doing in Durban.

Hugh reminds us that he was House Captain of Falcon in 1956 and he remembers that **Sue Shields [White]** *[would she have been Kestrel?]* and **Diana Fulton [Purchase]**, who was in Hawk, were captains at the same time. Hugh has been in touch with **Alan Dale** and **Sue Shields** and the plan was that they were to meet in Western Australia in August of 2004. Other names Hugh remembers are: **Ralph Fremlin, Andrew Kerfoot, Brandon Brooksbank, Bill Radford, Pat Revill, Alison** and **Ralph Nicholson, Paddy Lloyd, Andrew Hillier, Lizzy** and **Richard Statham, Sven Robin** and **Christine Jensen**. For those of you who would like to write to Hugh: huganne@optusnet.com.au

Michael Brooks

A very busy Michael has promised to write giving all his news. *[We look forward to that, Michael.]*

Christine Jensen [Coppola], [neighbours at Endeless]. Did you know, **Claire Breckenridge [Long]** that Hugh fell madly in love with you when he met you at Tim's 21st Birthday party – and never saw you again thereafter!

Pat Greaves [Casadio] and **Oreste** are so pleased to be enjoying Kenya sunshine after the winters in England. *[It is good to know that Oreste has made such a fantastic recovery, Pat. You ask about Koba's address. You might contact her by writing to: 24 Yellow Wood Lane, KAMBANJI, HARARE. Koba Bosman's married name is Bentley.]*

Allen Hallett has an excellent wife / PA in that **Jenny** does the writing for him. Allen and his bronzes continue to be a talking point for many of us living in South Africa. Alan recommends that folk interested in wildlife art may like to go into Gordon Mumford's webpage: www.gordonmumford.com – the KenyaKorner section.

May Payne [Wreford Smith] heard via bush telegraph that the Perth Reunion was a general Trans Nzoia get together. May, together with **Jac Dudin**, **Madeline Flatt**, **Pat Burr [Murrow]** **Ilse Gecks [Hasse]** the **Buswells** and **Dickie Matthews** were the 1934-1938 vintage.

Tessa Haupt [Watson] will have had a busy 2004 since she has been

quiet on correspondence. The family enjoyed Christmas with a French flavour, even to playing 'Petanque'. **Binky** seems well settled in her new 'Low Care Accommodation, called Hollywood Senior Citizens Village. Fortunately she makes friends easily and she has her hobbies – art, pottery and mosaic work to keep her busy. **Tessa** and **Brian** enjoy more free time for travel, sometimes by air but more frequently in **Brian's** pride and joy 4X4.

The **Hearnes**, **Chris**, **Magda** and **Barry** spent Christmas day in the KZN Drakensberg Mountains, watching the sunset and reflecting on the many happy occasions when they have enjoyed friends on different occasions and in different places.

Another welcome e-mail arrived from **Peter Heathcote**, ex Endeless and Kitale School from 1948 – 1950. Brother **Oliver** was also there two years later. *[Peter, we definitely look forward to seeing you in July.]*

Robert and **Alison Hemphill** were both at Kitale School until the family moved overseas to live in Ireland. Rob is wine farming in Suffolk and becomes another new recruit to receive the Newsletter. **Alison** and husband **Mike** and family live in Lausanne, which seems to be a lovely place to be centred in. They are frequently visited by parents **Nell** and **David**.

Shirley Brown [Heriz-Smith] who lives in Diss, Norfolk, who was at Kitale School between 1933 and 1935 when her father was farming in Hoey's Bridge, is very keen to join us at the reunion but may need help with transport since to get by train from Norfolk is a lengthy journey. **David and Gordon Brown**, who live in Perth, Western Australia were also there for a short time before the family moved to South Africa. Husband **Peter** and Shirley moved to the UK in 1964, where he taught for 22 years. Shirley enjoys the annual EAWL curry lunches. She remembers Kitale School under **Ray Barton** as Head before he went on to the Prince of Wales and **Miss Roberts** as matron. She disliked the 7 o'clock bedtime to a point where after Sunday outings all took back food for a midnight feast! The girls unscrewed the glass case where the key was kept in case of fire; the boys did the same and both groups met in the quad. Unfortunately, on one occasion, they were caught by a wandering teacher and this resulted in expulsion for one of the girls. *[Shirley, husbands/wives of Kitaleites are so welcome to join in the reunions. This might make it easier for you transport-wise.]*

Kitaleites in Western Australia will have heard that **Andrew Hillier** had to have major heart surgery during 2004. The condition was discovered by none other than **Nigel Sinclair**. Kitale School certainly produced fine men *[and as*

many fine ladies!]

The last couple of years have not been easy for Andrew. In March he received the news of his mother **Freda's** sudden passing and he had to fly across to the UK – via Dubai, which Andrew described as a 'trip from hell.' *[Andrew, I am sure I speak for all when I say that we wish both you and Gail a better year. 2003 and 2004 did not treat you kindly.]*

Roger and Heleen Hissey are now grandparents twice over, which makes **Daphne** great granny yet again *[and yet she never seems to become a day older]*. **Pam Barbour's [Hissey]** art seems really to be a huge success as she holds exhibition after exhibition in Western Australia. Husband **John** is the good, supportive man behind this success. **Peter** and **Jenny [Patterson]** hoped to be in Johannesburg for Christmas 2004.

Mavis Hollows keeps in touch. She recently enjoyed a TV programme about the Elgon elephants who go to the big cave for their salt. **Judith**, who still lives in Hong Kong although she travels the world, will be with them for a week at Christmas time. Mavis writes, 'Kitale Mother's Union is now on our Prayer List. Apparently there are 3 million members around the world. *[She would love to know more about it. Any offers?]* Both **Alan** and **Tom** have new addresses.

Geoff and Beverley Howard have a new e-mail address:

ge.ba.howard@ntlworld.com

as has Tony Humphris:

saza@iafrica.com

Val Jacob [Arnold] writes: 'It is interesting to see that although the Newsletter was started by David Reynolds, who left Kitale School at about the time that I first went there in 1944, it is the younger people who have taken it up so enthusiastically. Perhaps their memories are fresher and they are more mobile and therefore able to attend the reunions.' *[Our oldest in Perth was coming on for 93 and in the UK Dick Troward and Margaret Nicholson were both octogenarians.]* 'Kitale School has something indefinable that no other school had. Perhaps it was because we all lived in the area and were all the same. Perhaps it was because most of us lived on farms, where life for a child could be a little dull, whereas at school there were friends and plenty of activity. Whatever it was, we must all have been very happy there to want to relive these memories and to keep in touch with "old" friends.' Val and Barry are in touch with Giles and Ginnie Shaw.

Paddy Lloyd's e-mail address:

patteldet@aol.com

A year ago, Sven Robin [Jensen] and Vicky were excited about the prospect of a move back to Kitale to work on the Andersen's farm.

Unfortunately the flower industry has not flourished and it has been a case of last in, last out, so the Jensens return to their home in Nakuru shortly. *[I am sorry about this, Sven Robin and Vick. We all hope you will settle back happily and soon find work.]*

Peggy Johnson wrote from the Cape: 'Can anyone tell me what has happened to two people I remember, Betty Littlehales and Cleone Keese [Kay's sister]? They were good friends of many years ago. *[I suggest you contact Kay, at: Mrs Kay Macpherson [Keese], 9 Bracelet Street, Sonheuwel, NELSPRUIT 1200.]*

From Judith Kennedy, 'I opened the Kitale Newsletter, made a cup of coffee and then proceeded to spend the rest of the morning devouring. I have got nothing done and I am supposed to be cooking for an imminent dinner party! It was such fun to see familiar faces and has brought home to me that those that went to the Antipodes have all worn a lot better than those of us who came to stressed out Europe. Jay Roffey and Alan Dale don't look a day older! Jay had as much hair at 20 as he does now. It is great to see that 'old' Jessie is still about. Judith's husband Ian is an ex-Kituru player, played rugby with Alan and Jay. Richard and Johnny did not play but George B was the skipper and Ian Shields was often on the touch line. *[We always invite spouses to the Kitale Reunions,*

Judith, so please bring Ian to Chichester. Perhaps the men can continue with that game of ruggier!]

There seem to have been a number of Kitaleites at the Kenya Regiment Reunion in Durban. Dennis Leete writes that he hoped to go on to the Cape Town gathering for the lunch on 25 September. *[What a pity you by-passed Johannesburg, Dennis.]*

Dave Lichtenstein, although not a Kitaleite must be one of the best Newsletter writers one could meet – and also excellent at making contact with Kitaleites *[It must have been as good a school as the Hill since he has so many Kitale rafikis!]*

Dave writes of having seen Penny and Brandon Brooksbank and Andrew Hillier, Tony and Adrienne Mills in Kitale and in Mombasa daughters of Tony Monkhouse and Patrick Long whom he describes as different from the 'run of the mill post-uhuru tourist.'

Chris Gibson spent Christmas in the Manchester area, having flown from Plymouth to avoid the complications of train travel. She is thinking in terms of a trip to New Zealand towards the end of 2005.

[Chris, a great idea! Think about breaking your journey in SA].

After a long silence, Chrissie Briscoe [Luck] wrote a 7-page letter. She mentions a visit from brother Guy and his wife, Liz [Murray], professor of oncology

and a breast cancer specialist from Cape Town. Guy himself was in geology and geophysics but gave that up and learnt the craft of creative wrought iron. He is now the best creative wrought iron smith in the country. Guy is apparently the split image of father Tom, bald and with twinkling eyes! Chrissie writes glowingly about the skills of Antonia Bagshawe as a doctor and John Barton as a pilot who flew Tom Luck down to Nairobi for medical treatment. She mentioned that Guy recalled the Hilliers as a 'super family' and also Ian Sinclair, still thriving, the Flatts easy to recognise, Pam Hissey and Johnnie as well as Alan and Jessie just the same. *[Pietrie Bosman*

[Mostert's] address: P O Box 188, SIBASA 0970]

Chrissie met up with Christine Jensen in Worcester and knows that Janet Morgan lives in Devon and was a good friend of Annette Nielsen [Gilbert] until sadly Annette succumbed to cancer. She describes Sue Brooksbank [Mackenzie] and Sarah Humphris as, 'just the same as ever – could have recognised them after 40 years'. She saw Anne [Pitout] and Hugo Partridge – not changed at all – and remembers Jackie Lachmann as a gutsy little girl who could run like the wind. Peter Liechti and David Leach – you were oh so clever while John Beghetti and I were late developers and struggled. Of her maths Chrissie writes, 'my grounding at Kitale School was so

non-existent in this subject that I can barely add 1+1+1 to this day! Are the rest of you able to remember Miss Dempsey as Housemistress, who could wallop hard with a tackie? Mrs Munroe's daughter in law, who helped with the matron work, looked like a ballet dancer with long hair parted over the head and tied back in a ballet-bun, was stunning to look at, or so Chrissie thought. Other names remembered are: Aiden Doyle and Nils Sunde [who had crushes on Chrissie and because she could not run very fast she got zapped!] She tells of Mrs Troward who took the Girl Guides and one day drove some girls including Francesca Pelissier in her old Morris Cowley when the brakes failed on an incline. Fortunately the car stalled before it hit a tree! Denise Chapman ran a pony club and riding school; Yvonne and Susan rode really well. Sally Eager, Francie Pelissier and Naughty Nielsen were so popular that I longed to be like them! Rounders, hockey and athletics were favourite sports; I hated them all. Lunchtimes, with cake puddings and chockie sauce, were nightmares for Chrissie. She would swallow down with masses of water under the eagle eye of Mrs Fell, and this had disastrous results afterwards when loo calls during afternoon sessions were not permitted. Birthday times made one popular; many girls chugged around trying to get in on the ticket. Once the party was over, relationships returned to normal.

She remembers Kitale Bakery sweets and fudge, petite fours and doughnuts with Ma Woods running the tea room. 'I can thank Jessie Barbour for putting a love of music in me. Jessie was one of those incredibly popular girls like Pam Hissey and Cherry Dale. She taught me to play 3 Blind Mice and The First Nowell. Bath times were a conveyor belt situation, two to a bath, in, out, dry and rush to get ready for supper. The last couple to have a bath got grotty water but the list was rotated so one had a chance at both. I used to share a desk either with Pieter Van der Westhuisen, who was a huge blond chap, or with Michael Meyer, stocky and dark. Our inkwells always ran out of ink and our pens always splodged; those desks and wells are collectors' items now. I remember that Johnnie Eager and brother Mike were such heart throbs and sister Sally, like the other lovelies at Kitale School, was a legend. John Northcote was a white hunter and farmer and the Northcote four spent quite a lot of time in the lovely Hissey home. We all had such fantastic homes in Kenya and they were all so different. Creating gardens in the soil of Elgon and the Cherengani was a piece of cake'. Chrissie ends her 7 typed page letter with 'In haste; more memories crop up all the time!'
[Let's have the next instalment for 2006, Chrissie.]

Kay Keese wrote about her brother Philip's visit – a first back to Africa after 40 years. He now lives in Australia. Kay writes, 'My memory gets a jolt every time I glance at the Newsletter [2004 copy]. I remember more names/faces and the photo of the school certainly brought back memories, not least of which was "daring boys" jumping off the top balcony.'

Eric Lusso is very good at telephoning with his news but when it comes to writing letters he gets his 'older man' to do that. [Eric, we must have slipped up badly at K S!] At any rate, Eric visited Kenya in March, got back to the Cheranganis where the Lusso's farm was and he visited Jane and Julia while staying with Tony and Adrienne. A return to the school where he was welcomed warmly by the Headmaster was a pleasant surprise – all was neat and tidy.

Thank you Sally Lloyd [Foxton] for your new address details. Sally revisited Kenya in 2004, staying with daughter Amanda at Pembroke House and with Tony and Adrienne in Kitale. She writes, 'What a treat that was to meet up again after 40 years'. I was sad to hear through Sally that Hugh passed away just after she had left for her holiday in Kenya. As Sally said, although sad, it meant that she returned to that country almost as a tribute to her Dad and the life he had given to all the Lloyd family there.

Living near Durban, Sally was able to see a lot of him in his last few months. [Sally, from June we will be closer and I hope to see something of you occasionally. There will always be a bed for Kitaleites chez nous.]



Eric Lusso returns to Kitale School



Dormitory, Junior Block; how about a return, chaps?

Members of the Matthews family have been in touch this year, Tricia [Pratt], on behalf of Richard in Australia and Phil in New Zealand. Jane and Richard will have enjoyed a three-month caravan trip round Australia during 2004.

Thank you to **John McCormick** who sent photographs from his Dad's album. *[Good to get them, John. If there are more for 2006, they do add interest.]*

Robin Walton met **Tony and Adrienne Mills'** daughter, **Olivia**, while she visited Zimbabwe and South Africa in May and they also came to meet us at Rondo Retreat in Kakamega Forest during our short return to the Kisumu area in March of 2004. They enjoyed **Sally Lloyd's** visit enormously and went back to the Lloyd's house high up the mountain at Tedelet. It still 'stands proud, a testament to the good part of colonialism'.

I await a promised letter from **Celia Moore [Falck]** – and hope to update you with news of her in the 2006 edition! *[Over to you, Celia!]*

Pam Mudd [Bennett] and **Chris** live on in Zimbabwe although two sons have left and they continue to visit **Molly** in the UK. Very sadly, **John Mudd Junior** passed away on 30 April in Harare, of a heart attack. *[Pam, our hearts go out to you and to your Mum, especially as you all had a bereavement in 2003 when your Dad passed away.]*

The **Nicholson** family continue to be staunch supporters of the Newsletter. Ralph we have already mentioned. I met **Helen [Bailey]**, **Alison [Gilbert]**, **Liz Troward [Vorster]** and **Clare Roberts** in Kirstenbosch Gardens in August.

Helen and Liz are great walkers while Liz still plays a lot of tennis. Alison's hobby is bird watching and she has been over most of Southern and East Africa on bird-watching safaris.



Helen, Liz and Alison, August 2004, in Kirstenbosch Gardens, Cape Town



Liz and Helen with Memsahib Kali – they don't look too unhappy!

Sally Evans [Nield] and **Dick** now have 9 grandchildren and somehow manage to keep in touch with them all.

Lindy Northcote [Wilson] is a prolific letter writer. Like so many, the Wilsons have become grandparents since the last Newsletter. Congratulations! Younger brother **Clive** continues to live in South Africa but spent some time in Kisumu during the first half of 2004, working in the sugar mills.

Michael O'Hanlon wrote that the Newsletter's arrival always causes him to fall into a reverie of memories. He is still in close touch with **Peter Rosa** albeit that they live at opposite ends of the UK. Sadly, Mr Rosa, senior, aged 92, succumbed to cancer in March 2004, after a long and brave battle. *[Our sympathy goes out to Mrs Rosa and the family, Peter. I am pleased she is now recovering from her loss.]* During May, the family took his ashes back to Italy where they were placed in an ancestral church in a beautiful valley in Tuscany. Peter wrote that, while in Uganda he had met **Antonia Bagshawe**, who had been providing medical services in Arua. He describes Antonia as a remarkable person and I think we would all agree on that.

Giles and Ginny Shaw enjoyed a great 'when we' curry party given by **Alison and Peter Evans**. There were about 40 from Kenya there, several from the Regiment. On another occasion they met **John and Pat Grafton**. Giles says he now has 84 names on his Kenya Regiment South East Queensland

Branch database. A new name on the database is **Bryan Hacker [1949]** who arrived at Kitale School midway through Standard Five.

Unfortunately, Giles had problems with eyesight and, for a while, was unable to drive, which, in a country like Australia, is irksome to say the least. During the year he has had both eye and knee surgery but he seems to be a new man with both eyesight and knee restored. *[Good news, Giles. Well done Ginnie for being eyes, chauffeur and porter!]*

Alison Pickford [Wardle] heard about the Perth reunion through Jo. *[Jo, I am sorry the reunion had such a bad effect that you were in bed for a week afterwards! It was great to see you there and I hope you may be able to visit the UK for the next one!]*

Clare Roberts [Madden] continues to live in Cape Town where she has her practice. She joined us in Kirstenbosch Gardens and we were able to hear all about the family gathering in Ireland for her Dad's 100th Birthday celebration.



Clare's Dad still enjoys playing Bridge several times a week and he seems to keep remarkably fit.

Julia and Jay Roffey are the world's greatest travellers and, if they make the London Reunion, they will have supported three such events, as will **Grant and David Daniel**. Julie writes about making a living on their lovely little farm close to Lake Naivasha. After such a great start, the coalition government appears to be going through a crisis situation as crime escalates. **Pam Robinson**, Julie's mother, lives in Nakuru while her brother was also at Kitale School before going on to Manor House, as was sister **Carol [Smart]** who now lives in Mauritius. Other names mentioned are: **Ann Bennett** [2nd daughter of **Jean [Barbour]** and **Mike Bennett** and **Julie Tatton [Nicholas]** as well as **Eleanor Mayers** [now in New Zealand].

Good news is that, through the Newsletter, **Gillian Scroggie [Prophet]** is back in touch with **Richard Matthews** with whom her brother **Derek** was so friendly. The sad news is that Derek had died of a fatal heart attack on the golf course at Tzaneen some years back and that his widow, **June [Arnold]** suffered two strokes. Fortunately she has recovered well. *[Gillian, we look forward to having **Val [Robertson]** at the reunion. She, at least, won't have far to travel.]*

Dan and June Shaw seem to have had a better year – with some rain at the right time. They were pleased to see the family photo of Giles and family in the 2004 Newsletter.

Julian Shorten who lives in New Zealand is now on the database. We need news of **Patrick**, please, Julian.

Charles Simba was at Kitale Academy between 1986 and 1993. from where he went to Lenana until 1997 and then on to Egerton University, where he is studying computer science. Charles grew up and still lives on a farm in Kitale *[I hope you are going to tell us which one, Charles.]* He always hoped after leaving school that one day Kitale Academy would have a progressive and vibrant alumni and he had discussed this with his brother Arthur. His ideas are that besides networking with folk all over the world, we might support the school to become the school of choice in Kenya and beyond. *[I hope you will find the Newsletter of interest, Charles.]*

Carol Sinclair [Weston] has been in touch. I remember Carol with her beautiful auburn hair. Although she didn't enjoy school herself, she has been teaching for 40 years. We have put Carol in touch with friends from the past, **Jackie Black [Kangas]** as well as **Tom Jacobs**, **Rodney Dimech** through brother **Alistair** and **Steve Wilson**. Sister **Margaret** spent time in the States

visiting her son. For those of you who remember Robin, sadly he died tragically in 1986. Robin had married a lovely blond Swedish lady and they had two daughters.

Ian Sinclair, who lives with **Daphne [Bellingeri]** in Perth, flew to Europe last year to see **Posie** in England and **Toots** in Holland. No doubt the Sinclair family will be having a grand reunion and celebration for Ian's 90th Birthday in 2005. *[We all send our good wishes and congratulations, Ian.]*

Penny Sinclair [Mckenzie] and **Alistair** have been living in Manila, Philippines although their home is in Kambah, Australia. Penny is teaching English to foreign students as well as passing exams herself. Living in the Philippines, she says, 'is a wonderful existence – straight back to the good old days in Kenya'. Daughter **Lili** is now 6 and very energetic – keeping parents on the run as she enjoys gymnastics and ice skating.

Roz [Sinclair] Kohler and **Paul** now live in Hampshire, nearer to family members and they feel much more in touch with the world and with friends, who pop in for tea as they drive past. London is only an hour away.

Toots and **Rolf Janssens** have also moved house since the last Newsletter was written although they are still living in the same village.

Mary Sloane and her late husband taught at Kitale School from 1969 – 1975. She remembers **Caroline Quinn** and enjoyed seeing her photograph. Some of you will remember **Haidée King** and daughter **Janine**. Sadly, Haidée has suffered a severe stroke, which has left her physically handicapped although mentally very capable. She is in a nursing home in Flintshire. Haidée returned to Kitale School as Head in 1970 Mary remembers **Jessie Dale, [Senior]** and **Mrs Lariche**, who lived on the Saboti Road with her collection of bushbuck, duiker etc. and the hydrangeas that she used to propagate. Mary is still in contact with **Haggis** and **Betty Evans** and **Mike** and **Jeannie Bennett**, who used to farm on the Island. *[If anyone has an address for Mrs Lariche, please pass it on to me at: waltonrb@global.co.za].*
[Caroline, do write to Mary at: New Bungalow, St Mary's Road, Port Erin, IOM IM9 6JL.]

Ron Standfield has been contacted by **Peter Uys**. Both were at Kitale during the war years – up to the end of 1943, from where they went to the POW. Peter is amazed at how many people still live and work in Kenya. He is now in New Zealand, retired with 5 grown children and 5 grandchildren.

Chris and **Liz Kerr [Statham]** have now been in Australia for 3 years and have received Permanent Residence status. This means that

they will be eligible for citizenship in 2 years' time. They have had a tough year because drought, dramatic heat followed by hail and frost hit farmers hard. Liz feels the stress but hopes time will prove that it has all been worthwhile.

Richard and Pauline Statham have been on their travels during 2004 – a Trafalgar Coach Tour through Europe took them to UK where they stayed with family and friends. July 2005 will see them holidaying in Namibia. Richard had a spell of ill health which has required surgery, but he and Pauline walk 3X weekly and 14km at weekends. In between, Richard has been following his passion as a Personal Trainer. *[Retirement sounds good, Richard! Yes, let's have another Clarens weekend. Alison McLean [Jacobs] address for Gillian Hall is: P O Box 453, NORTH RIDING, 2162.]*

I hear from **Danie Steyn** once a year when he sends through a copy of HABARI – Newsletter of the Friends of East Africa.

Derek and Jo Strange found last winter in Spain appallingly wet. It sounds as if they were pleased to return to London. Derek enjoyed seeing photos of his classmates, **Andrew Hillier** and **Charles Kerfoot** in the last Newsletter, 'a fellow accomplice on all sorts of dubious Grasslands adventures', some of which he remembers with childish glee *[but he is obviously keeping*

keeping details to himself!]

Mike Strange is another Kitaleite who keeps in touch annually. He and Derek obviously miss Inez, their mother, a great deal but Mike praises the National Health who kept her comfortable to the end.

Ronnie Older [Symes] has had another move this time to Bingley in West Yorkshire. *[At least you will be keeping the clutter down with each move, Ronnie, unlike us. We have 23 years of accumulated paper to turn out before our imminent move.]*

Ann Attwood and **Harold** continue to enjoy visits to their elder son and family, enjoying their two grand daughters enormously. Bruce, who lives at home remains the joy of their lives.

Alan and Madge Watts [Ratray] keep in touch with **Dolly [Andreeva]** who, with husband **Peter** still live on Biwott's farm just outside Eldoret. Madge hoped that Dolly might come and spend some time in White River or go to England where **Butch** is now settled. Madge and Alan had plans for going to Adelaide, Australia for Christmas 2004.

John Williams enjoys the Newsletter although poor eyesight will prevent him from attending the next reunion. *[Many of you will remember John as Scoutmaster at Kitale School.]*

Roz Williams [Graham Smith]
writes that her Mum is her old self
again and that she has been to visit
John in Kenya and enjoyed his
successful rose farm. *[Contact e-mail
addresses for you, Roz:*

Tessa Haupt: watson4@iinet.net.au

Daphne Sinclair:

bellingeri@bigpond.com

Penny Sinclair:

penelopesinclair@yahoo.co.uk

Peter Woods' greetings arrived too
late for the 2004 Newsletter. He
mentions that brother **Jonathan** has
been to Kenya to see Jenny's new
rondavel home just outside Kitale at
mile saba. Besides enjoying time
with Jennifer, they saw the Barnleys
and the Andersens. *[I am sorry you
had spells in hospital, Peter and hope
that is all behind you. I apologise
also that your Newsletter seemed to
arrive stampless. At least it was
posted in the UK and not from SA.]*

Kay Yuille 's address is: 8 Juniper
Place, OAKBANK, PERTH PH1 1EZ
Scotland. Kay, who lives with her
sister, spends her retirement
creating the most amazing artistic
designs. Kay, who had many talents,
kept this one hidden until retirement.
Mike Mills and **Liz** live close enough
to be able to visit Kay occasionally.
Kay feels that a UK reunion is a good
idea. She can no longer drive so if
there is anyone who plans to come
from the North of England or from
over the border who could give Kay a
lift to Chichester in July, that would
be

superb. **Michael Brooks** and **Mike
Mills** have been excellent at keeping
in touch with her and she was
delighted to see **Tony** when he flew
over for Cath Mill's wedding.

Just this week there was an e-mail
from **Helen O'Loan [Hilders?]** who
visited relatives in Elgin close to
Cape Town [none other than **Gay
Provost [Tilney]** and husband
Mike. She saw the 2004 Newsletter
and, having been at Kitale School
from 1964 – 1969, we have a new
recruit. Sisters **Caroline** and **Juliet**
were also there from 1966 and 1968
– 1969. Helen is keen to find out
whether anyone is in touch with
Anna or **Lena Sorensen** [their
mother was the dentist in Kitale in
the late sixties] and also **Anne** and
Jennifer Morrison. *[Helen can be
contacted at:*

david@oloan89.freeserve.co.uk]

Please make a note of our new
address as from 01 June:

Robin and Bridget Walton

P O Box 1113

HILTON

3245

SOUTH AFRICA

e-mail will remain the same:

waltonrb@global.co.za

and our cellular phone number:

+27 83 266 8309

Please help keep the Newsletter
going!

Standard 6 class of 1961

Back Row:

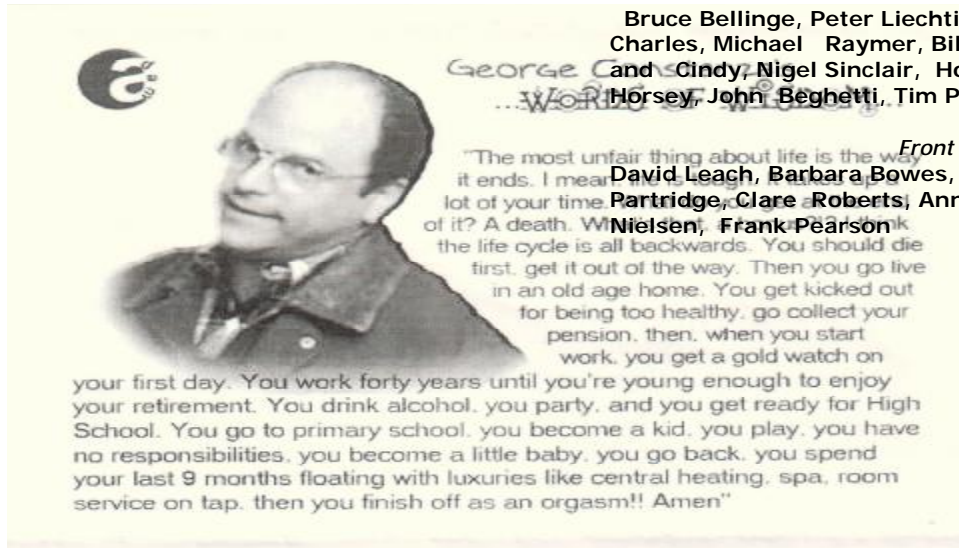
Chris Luck, Anne Barnley, Sue Barton,
Sue Chapman, Pam Hissey, Sue Garrod,
Pietrie Bosman

Middle Row

Bruce Bellinge, Peter Liechti, Michael
Charles, Michael Raymer, Bill McCormick
and Cindy, Nigel Sinclair, Horace
Horsey, John Beghetti, Tim Page

Front Row:

David Leach, Barbara Bowes, Biddy
Partridge, Clare Roberts, Annette
Nielsen, Frank Pearson



Contributed by one of our Kitale
School 'stars.'





Tuition Block and Junior School, April
1961



Tuition Block and Junior School, April
1961

Anticipation as we await the arrival
of Sir Patrick Renison, April 1960

How serious
can one get? Are you able to
recognise friends from the past?

I can see several familiar
faces – Bidy Partridge peeping
out, serious Sue Barton stands
tall; John Beghetti, dark haired
and far right - who else?