

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF EAST AFRICA

HABARI 2022

NUUSBRIEF VAN DIE OOS-AFRIKA VRIENDEKOMITEE

Kenya national
rugby union team



Image source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kenya_national_rugby_union_team

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**EDITOR'S LETTER /
REDAKTEURSBRIEF**

Baie dankie aan almal wat artikels
en foto's gestuur het. Stuur gerus
nog meer, ons plaas graag soveel
as wat ons kan.

*Thanks to everyone who has sent
articles and photographs. Please
keep sending. We gladly use all
everything we get.*

Donations are always welcome and
helpful. U kan in die volgende rekening
deponeer: Oos-Afrika Vriendekomitee /
Friends of East Africa Committee Acc
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Die takkode vir alle Absa takke is die-
selfde 632 005 is the code for all Absa
branches.

**Some readers were wondering whether we
had decided to stop publishing Habari.**

But no, this edition is a tad late.

(A tad, here = 3 months)

Our apologies.

**Nee, ons het darem nie opgehou om Habari
te publiseer nie.**

**Hierdie uitgawe is ietwat laat, en behoort
nog aan 2022. Jammer vir die lang wag.**

Please send us your e-mail address! We no longer use
postal services, and are now totally reliant on emails.

Most people have emails or, if not, have families who have
e-mails. If you prefer the Habari in hard copy, it is easy
enough to download the PDF file from an email to print it.

Ken u **Facebook**? Indien wel, kan u oorweeg om
aansoek te doen om lidmaatskap by een of meer
van die volgende groepe:

LOVING MEMORIES OF EAST AFRICA

Private Group

Admins: Bob Evans; James Penhaligon

KENYAN FRIENDS REUNITED

Private Group

Admins: Alison Porter; Glynda Raath Gebhardt;
Carolinda Witt

**HABARI - Friends of East Africa / Vriende van
Oos-Afrika**

Openbare Groep

Admin: Krige van Heerden

If you know **Facebook**, you might consider apply-
ing for membership of one or more of the above
groups.

**Some articles from Facebook have been pub-
lished in this 2022 edition of Habari. Authors
have been acknowledged, and some responses
quoted.**

The following sportsmen passed on in 2021 & 2022.

1) Donald Rooken-Smith

Born 24/05/1936, Nakuru, Kenya, Eldoret RFC, West Kenya Rugby Football Club-Oribis, Died 9/1/2022-Florida, United States of America.

2) Lewis 'Lew' Arnold Wright

Born 27/02/1933 in England. Kilembe Mines RFC, Nile RFC, Kampala RFC, Uganda Cranes 15's, East Africa 15's. Died-29/04/2022 - Perth, Australia

3) James (Jimmy) Rea Todd

Born 1924, Belfast, Northern Ireland. Nondescripts RFC, Nairobi & District 15's, Nairobi & Nakuru 15's, Londiani RFC, West Kenya Rugby Football Union, East Africa nee Tuskers-1954 & Captain, Kenya Simba's 15's, 1951 & 1954.

Died 7/09/2021, Belfast, Northern Ireland.

4) Edwin 'Eddie' Alfred Bristow

Born 30/12/1930, Nairobi, Kenya. Nondescripts RFC, Kenya 15's, Scorpions RFC, Kenya Regiment XV's, East Africa Tuskers-1954, President Rugby Football Union of East Africa, Kenya Rugby Football Union-1974-1975-Trustee RFUEA- Died 01/10/2021, Nairobi, Kenya.

5) Trevor Farnsworth

Died 21/11/2021-Hong Kong- Nondescripts RFC.

STERFTES

Koos Engelbrecht (Koos Moiben) 6 Jan 2021 eggenoot van San van Rensburg Eldoret

Lettie Engelbrecht 27 Mei 2022 eggenote van Lantjie reeds oorlede 20.02 1990

Flip Helberg 18 April 2022 Eggenoot van Rina (Mouton)

Ria la Grange 27 Junie 2022 dogter van oom Fantjie en tant Gertie Eldoret

Dr Martin Swan 26 Junie 2022 Eggenoot van Wilma. Empangeni

Andries Venter 14 April 2022 Seun van Georgie Venter (Kleynhans)

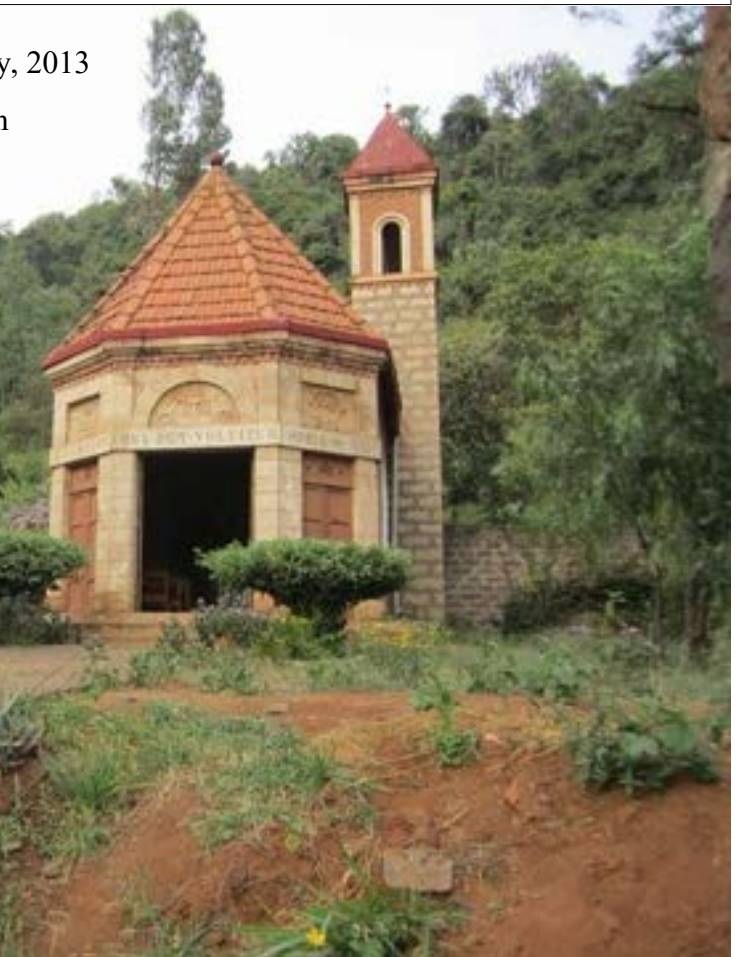
Rysie Venter 11 Mei 2022. Seun van Hannes en Gertie Venter, Moiben

Bettie van Wyk Junie 2022. Moeder van Sue Bryant

Italian Prisoners' Church on the escarpment

Photographs by Brendon Hawley, 2013

Below left: Interior of the church



Jenny Jina (née Dedhar), Vancouver, Canada:

I was reading the Habari newsletter and was wondering if you would know of **anyone who lived in Eldoret from 1940 1973**. My grandfather **Hassanali Dedhar** owned a store called **Hassanali and Co** on **Uganda Street**.

I am doing a biography on him and would be very appreciative if you could refer me to anyone who would have lived in Eldoret during that time.

Thank you for your help.

You are welcome to email me at jennydedhar@gmail.com

Judy Wingrove:

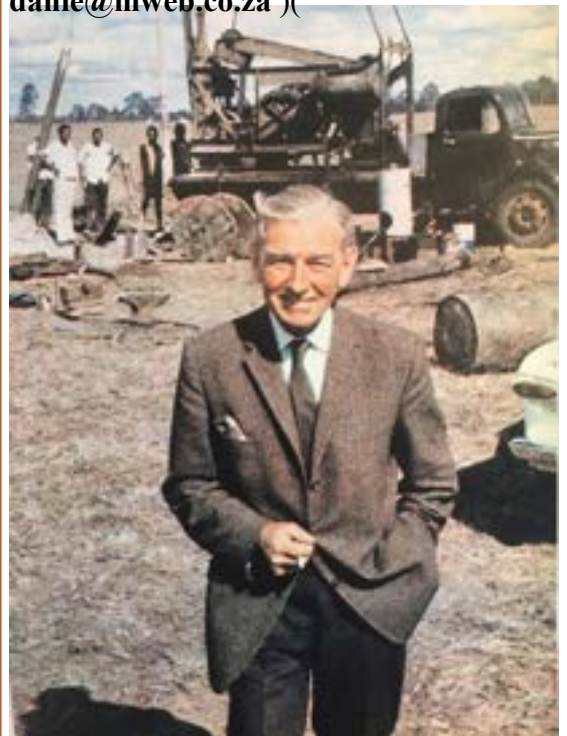
I would love to find out whether there are any souls out there who would remember my Mum and Dad?

Noel Wingrove, born 1926 and practised as an architect with the PWD in Entebbe. My Mum **Joyce Brenda Wingrove**, born 1928 who was a housewife, and then operated a Tourism office in the Lake Vic Hotel in the first tour. Second Tour she managed to get a position as PA to the Minister of Water (I think that was the correct description). We lived during both tours in **Bugonga Road, Entebbe** and we kids went to the Kindergarten, or the Entebbe Primary School. We left towards the end of 1962, shortly before Independence. I was the eldest, followed by **Christopher, Michael** and my baby brother **Andrew Wingrove** was born in June 1962 at the Kampala Hospital.

If you would like to contact me about my parents, please do so at generalmanager@robroylife.co.za

Ole Bernt Frøshaug asks

The picture below is of **Severin Finne**. He moved to The Kenya colony in 1935 from Norway. He started digging for gold In Kakamega for 3 years without succeeding, but ended up drilling for water. He lived in Muthaiga in Nairobi, but moved to France, I think around 1985, where he died. He was my uncle-in-law and I would love to get some information about his activities in Kenya. (Please send responses to danie@mweb.co.za)

**Nondescripts RFC Kenya**

Danie,

I thought I would reach out to you to see if you might be able to use your Friends of East Africa distribution list to try and find some former **Nondescripts R.F.C. Kenya players or their family members**. We suspect they returned to South Africa. Their details are as follows:

Carolyn, James (1964 - 1968); Hauptfleisch, M. (1963 - 1965); Klynsmith, Hugo (1962 - 1967)

And from the **Mombasa Sports Club**:

Bulley, Rodney Kenneth (Spike) Passed On: 15 December 2014 in South Africa.

His last known address (1982) was 7 Warrior Road, Hillcrest 3600, Natal, R.S.A.

Thank you for your assistance.

Best regards,

Bill (**William Cherry** <wcherry62@hotmail.com> Sat, Jan 27, 2018)

Willie Joubert van Niagara Falls, Kanada, skryf:

Ek is wyle Piet Prinsloo se neef, Willie Joubert, gebore te Arusha.

Ek werk al jare aan die familie stories om dit vir die nageslagte hier in Kanada te kan gee. 'n Paar jaar terug het ek 'n boek oor my ouers gepubliseer — *A Century on African Soil* — op Amazon.

Ek skryf ook elke Vrydag 'n nuwe stuk op 'n Facebook blad — *Family Stories and History* — om dit te deel met ander familie. Dit het gegroei en ek het nou honderde wat dit lees.

Onlangs het ek ook 'n klomp navorsing gedoen en op skrif gestel oor my ouma Joubert se familie, die Vissers (my Ouma Joubert was 'n Visser) wat saam met my oupagrootjie Rooi Piet Joubert se trek na Oos-Afrika gegaan het in 1905. Oupagrootjie Visser het 'n plaas gekry op Ngare Nairobi naby Kilimanjaro en dit het later aan sy een seun Floors Visser behoort.

Ek het jare gelede met dr. Hennie Pieterse gekorrespondeer en ook met wyle Wynsarel Malan en het baie van hulle werke. Ek weet nie of dr. Pieterse se versameling steeds in sy kinders se hande is nie. Een rede waarom ek vra, is dat ek weet hy het 'n beëdigde verklaring gehad van my grootjie Nicolaas Visser met sy storie. Hy het ook drie boeke oor Oupagrootjie Rooi Piet Joubert geskryf. Twee was gepubliseer, maar die derde nie. Ek het kopieë



van die publikasies, maar sou graag van die derde boek 'n skandeerde kopie wou kry. Sover ek weet het Kobus Pieterse die versameling gehad en oom Hennie het jare terug dit aan my genoem dat hy dit nie aan ander wil skenk nie.

Ek soek ook na fotos van die familie. Dalk moet dié wat met rekenaars vaardig is, ou foto's op 'n sentrale plek aanlyn plaas of moontlik maak dat lede dit kan doen. Andersins gaan dit verlore en na jare weet geen mens wie was wie nie. Ekself het familie fotos van my ouma se voorouers, maar ek kan hulle nie plaas nie want ek het nooit gevra wie dit was toe sy nog

geleef het nie — Ouma Alie van Rensburg van Kinankop — Piet Prinsloo se ouma. Ek sukkel om enige kontak te kry met my Van Rensburg neefs en niggies en baie is al oorlede.

Wyle Piet Prinsloo en ek het kontak gehad. Ek verstaan dat my een neef Willie Janse van Rensburg leef nog. Sy susterskind, Karin Kruger (Boesak se dogter) het dit genoem — maar meer inligting kry ek nie. So sukkel ek maar om kontak te kry van die verre koue Kanada. *

Dr Willie Joubert (Adapted from <https://www.amazon.com/Century-African-Soil-Willie-Joubert/dp/177750130X>)

I was born in Tanzania when it was the British colony called Tanganyika. My parents met in Kenya during WW2 when my dad was a gunner on an armoured vehicle operating in Somalia and Ethiopia. After the war they moved to a little farm he owned on Mount Meru in Tanganyika. I grew up there. It was an awesome childhood growing up amongst wildlife and no electricity, radios or even telephones. We lived mostly off the land — made our own soap, my mom sewed our clothes, we grew our own food and in time prospered. In 1959 my parents moved to South Africa, and I met my future wife, Eda, when I started in the local public school in Grade 6. We met again at university and we got married in 1972. After two years studying Chemical Engineering I switched to Theology. I completed a Masters degree in Semitic Languages and a Ph.D. in Theology. I lectured at the University of Pretoria in the Dept. of Semitics for 7 years before we moved with our three children to Canada, where I served as minister in the Presbyterian Church for 17 years.



Image source: <https://www.facebook.com>

Dear Danie, Thought it maybe of interest to let you know of our latest safari to our beloved Kenya + Home. to the wedding of

LAST LETTER FROM GEORGE WOODLEY TO DANIE STEYN

Before George Woodley died recently, he wrote me a letter but never got around to posting it. I had asked him to write a piece about his visit to Kenya, so that I could publish it in the Habari. After his death, his son Andrew was tidying his papers and came across the letter. He scanned and sent it on to me.

Dear Danie,

Thought it may be of interest to let you know of our latest safari to our beloved Kenya and home.

We were on our way to the wedding of John and Helen (Coetzee). Taylor's son Danjan. Helen is the daughter of the late Oom Dan Coetzee of Eldoret. She is a well-known cake decorator. She is famous for her wedding cakes and does regular orders for people like the Kenyatta family. She won most of the Women's League awards for her exhibits at this year's show.

We used the wedding, too, as an excuse to visit Malindi and stayed at the Drift Wood Club which is still highly recommended —good food, and tea in your room at 6 o'clock, very much in the old colonial style. Rates about US150 double. Then to Watamu where the wedding was held in a private garden.

Danjan's brother Toyjan and Clare run the famous snake farm. We think he inherited it from the late Mr

Ash. (Not many people would like to be left with about 600 snakes.) But Royjan is a snake expert and lives to do research. He is writing a book.

We stayed in a private house belonging to the well-known Tony Fernandes, ex Nanyuki. Bookings through Langata Link at about US150 a day. A cat, Tom, and a friendly dog, Trivia, were included in the deal. No sea view, though. We shared the house with John and Welejah.

We were picked up and driven to Teita Hills to stay at the Sarova Hotel. Good game viewing. This land is on the road to Taveta and was owned I think by the famous Col Grogan. After

We stayed in a private house belonging to the well known Tony Fernandes ex Nanyuki. Bookings thro Langata link at US150 a day. a cat Tom + friendly dog trivia is included in the deal. no sea view thou. We shared the house with John + Welejah.

2 days we were to driven via Loitokitok to Amboseli. But due to heavy rain, we were forced to drive via Voi and Mitito Nde and turned off at Emali onto a new tarmac road. An hour later we arrived at the Kilima tented Safari camp, a dream of a place with views of Kilimanjaro out of this world. Very dry and many dying animals due to the drought. But the park is alive with game and we got some wonderful photos.

Two days later off to Embu to stay at the Izaak Walton Inn. We stayed here 45 years ago trout fishing. In those days and catches of 5lb fish

were not unusual.

The Inn is now a well-known conference centre and has about 100 rooms, and nice gardens, but not a tourist attraction, double rooms about US 60.

We were asked to find the old cemetery and find the grave of the late Brian Hawkins' mother. Shan-

Kenya Regiment chaps is now acre upon acre of tea. One can wonder now it would have been if Kenya was not independent, how we could have coped with all the extra people that have been born since 1960.

We saw zebra and Thompson's gazelle in numbers

just near here as we drove into the lodge in Narumoro. Very good campsite 345/= pp.

After 2 nights we left for Naivasha via Thomson's Falls.

The falls are still the same but now you have to pay 200/= to

go to the edge. The old Barry's Hotel looks acceptable and had many tourists stop for tea, etc. 3 beds per double room.

Speed bumps all the way to Gilgil. Lots of game: zebra, Thompson's gazelle, and a big herd of eland on the way. Roads are good but busy.

We stayed at the Naivasha Country Club where standards have dropped; but still it has a nice approach and well-kept gardens. Hippo and water-buck on the lawns. The best eating place is at the Fisherman's Camp at reasonable prices.

The lake is half or less full and the area is a very busy: a flower and vegetable growing operation employing thousands of people earning about US 2 a day each. Managers were earning about 10 000 \= a day.

The last night was spent at the Aeroclub at Wilson airport. Good rooms and nice food. From there it is easy access to the Kenyatta Airport, taxi 1200 \=shs. 74\=to US1. Left many deces. Heavy floods hope they bring relief to the drought and save the lives of the suffering game.

17:30 I then off to Narumoro river
18:00 lodge to stay in a self catering
18:30 cottage. a dream of a place
19:00 logfire in lounge + river in front
19:30 garden Mt Kenya under clouds
Notes: most of the time in front of cottage
costs 4/150. or 4/150.
A pathy is the place intended

dra, the granddaughter who now lives in Arusha, can remember coming with Brian to Embu as a child. Anyway, we tried with no luck only to be told by an old boy that the graves were dug up and bones cremated; then foundations were dug and the area is now built up. A hospital is now in the foreground of what was the cemetery.

Embu is a very prosperous area. Thousands of acres of rice and coffee. No poverty was visible, and all the people are well-dressed and well-fed. Saturday shopping was a nightmare. The supermarkets were filled to capacity, and the bank had long queues. (1US = 70 shs.)

Then off to Naromoru river lodge to stay in a self-catering cottage, a dream of a place. Logfire in the lounge and river in the front garden. Mt Kenya is under clouds most of the time in front of a cottage. Costs US150. A good place to stay if you are traveling to Nanyuki and beyond. They have cottages that sleep up to 7 in 3 bedrooms. 20 bathrooms.

A foot safari can be done from here to do Mt Kenya from one to five-day safaris. Driving from Embu to Karatina which will be remembered by all the

We expect our rain soon.
Best of luck & thank you
- Lao Tzu -

My Kenya Story (Part 2)

By Petrie Cloete (née Bosman)

In the Habari of 2012 you read the first part of my father, Danie Bosman's story. I shall now continue his story and tell you more about him, my mother and us, their three children, Koba, myself and Harm.

My parents met each other before either one was ever married. As a young working lady, my mother, Susan (née Denkema), was living in Johannesburg in a boarding house belonging to my father's cousin. My father came to visit from Kenya and they met. A friendship developed and they corresponded after his return to Kenya. Some months later my mother became engaged to Hercules van Deventer, whom my father had met. After this their correspondence ceased.

My mother and her fiancé were married on 30 April 1932. Out of this marriage my brothers, Willem Adriaan (Willie) and Hendrink Denkema (Denkie) were born. After almost 11 years, my mother was widowed. She went back to work and continued to live in Johannesburg.

After he went back to Kenya they began corresponding again

In the meantime my father had married and my brother John (Danie) was born. Some time after his divorce, my father again came to Johannesburg and heard my mother had been widowed, so he went visiting.

After he went back to Kenya they began corresponding again. I am not sure how much time elapsed, but he later wrote to my mother and proposed. After she accepted his proposal, he let her know he would be coming to South Africa the following year in February and that she should make arrangements for them to be married. This was two years after the death of Hercules. They were married on 4th March 1945 and they returned to Kenya.

My mother, a city girl, found life on a remote Nanyuki farm, Mimosa Farm, rather daunting. She was often left at home while my father went on locust-extermination campaigns. Willie and John were at boarding school but Denkie was

not yet of school-going age. Fortunately he quickly learnt to speak Swahili and so my mother was able to communicate with the workers.

My parents planted plenty of fruit trees and my mother supervised work on the veggie garden. My mother soon settled down to life on the farm and thoroughly enjoyed it. The only mode of transport was a 5-ton truck, so the city girl had to learn to drive it and take her driver's licence test with it. After a few years my father sold the farm, moved to the Trans Nzoia, and went to work for Mowlems' Construction Company as an explosives technician. While he was working for Mowlems Johnny Kruger, my brother John's grandfather, was tasked with finding a suitable farm for my father. (Johnny Kruger had already re-located from Nanyuki to Trans Nzoia.)

While my parents were living in the construction village at Gilgil my sister Koba was born in The War Memorial Hospital in Nakuru. The following year my mother, the boys and Koba were living in a house near Kitale when I was born in Kitale Hospital.

My father was still working for Mowlems and we often visited him at various sites where he worked until such a time that he moved to Jinja, Uganda, where the Owen Falls' Dam was under construction. I have wonderful memories of living in the construction village and I have recently re-connected with a childhood friend, Miles Baallam, whom we met there.

By this time my brother Willie was working for EAR&H and John and Denkie were at school in SA.

Around 1953 my father decided he wanted to return permanently to his farm which had been in the care of a farm manager.

Living on the farm was an adventure — plenty to do and lots to learn. Once again the fruit trees were planted and the veggie garden came into being. The one thing that was plentiful on that farm was strawberries. I remember a big strawberry patch — a real "shamba". When visitors arrived, Koba and I were sent to pick strawberries for the visitors to take home. Since living in SA I have on a few occasions been invited to go on a strawberry-picking trip "You know it will be fun to pick our

own strawberries." Nope, I've picked enough strawberries in my life — I'll just buy mine from the supermarket.

Nineteen-fifty-five was a year to remember. Koba started her schooling at Kitale School.

Harm was born in April. We were thrilled with the newest little Bosman. August came with lots of rain and in pelting rain we went to visit friends, Philip and Susan Engelbrecht, near Isiolo. It became a biennial trip and we loved it.

John and Denkie had been in school in SA for four years and they flew home for Christmas in December. My parents had left two teenagers in SA and two young men returned. When they arrived at the airport, they were surprised to see a nine-month-old baby in my mother's arms.

We were very privileged to have grown up with the parents we had. My father believed children must know what is going on in the world and often explained news items to us. He was very fond of reading as was my mother, so there were always newspapers and magazines in our house.

My father was a good teacher as well and when my brain couldn't understand $a + b = c$, he sat patiently with me until I understood. Years later one of his pupils from his Burnt Forest teaching years told me he was the best maths teacher a child could wish for and I quite agreed.

“Blast you, Susan Bosman ...”

My father also liked to show us things of interest like a Masai hut we stopped near and which we walked to, to have a closer look. This was in (then) Tanganyika on a trip to SA. On the same trip he took us to Senekal in the Free State to show us the church surrounded by petrified trees.

My mother was a wonderful cook and baked the best brown bread. We had coffee trees and she roasted the beans to perfection. I have never been able to find any coffee remotely like that. She also made us the loveliest dresses and must have spent hours smocking them. She also hand knitted many jerseys. My love for knitting I got from her and still treasure many of her baby jacket patterns.

My mother often took part in the Home Industries section of the show in Kitale. She won first prizes in all the sections. I remember one year

she knitted a beautiful baby jacket. It was really something special. There was one lady (I won't mention names) who tried very hard to win first prize and on this occasion again my mother won first prize. After the judging this lady came up to my mother, looked her in the eyes and said, "Blast you, Susan Bosman." My mother didn't know what it was about because she had been with one of the other judges in another area. She also surprised a judge who wanted to know what type of stove she used for baking her fruit cake - gas or electric? My mother's answer was "kuni" — (wood).

Back on farm! My father planted maize and sunflowers. He had cattle and delivered cream to KCC. For quite a few years my mother saw to the milking and later also supervised the pig feeding.

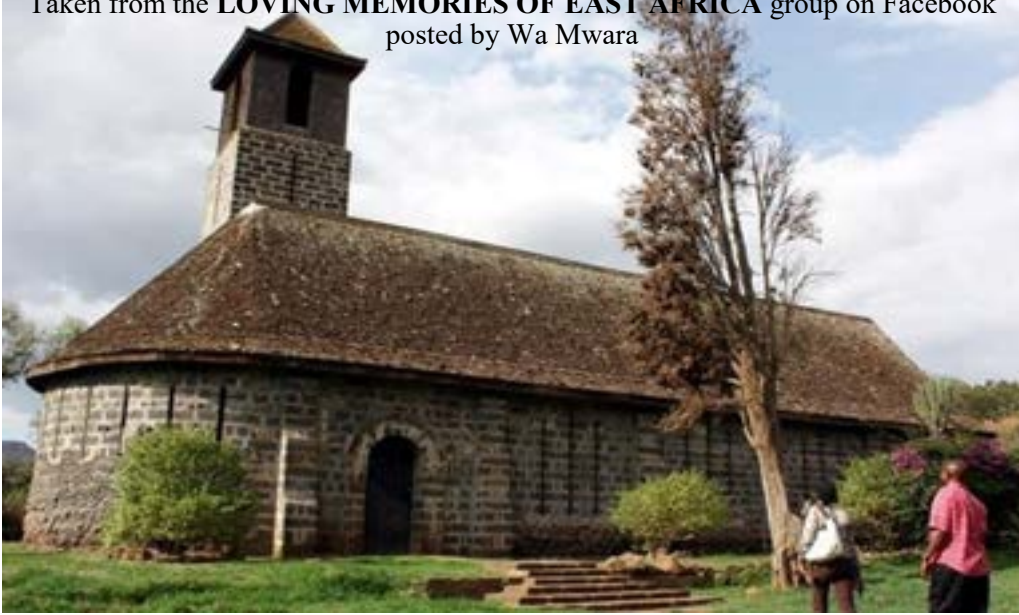
My father was a proficient marksman and while a Police Reservist he was a member of the police shooting team which took part in the Bise-ly competition.

In 1963 Koba and I came to SA to continue our schooling in Belfast, Mpumalanga. It was always lovely to go home for the December holidays and we enjoyed seeing our old Kitale friends. After her schooling, Koba returned to Kenya. I went to college and obtained my Teacher's Diploma in Home Economics. Thanks to my Kenyan background and the fact that even the Afrikaans speaking Kenyans speak good English, I later taught English to the Venda children of the then Venda Homeland, English. I taught in Venda from 1977-2008 in high schools and at a primary school.. Besides teaching English, I taught Afrikaans and also Home Economics for a while. (Just shows we Kenyans are versatile and ready for any job.) Teaching in Venda was a wonderful experience.

Sadly, Harm passed away in 2007. Koba and her husband, Bob Bentley, live in Wales. My husband and I are retired and we live on my daughter and son-in-law's farm near Hartebeespoort Dam.

*What a privilege to have grown up in Kenya!
Like all Kenyans I have wonderful memories of those days.* ☩

Taken from the **LOVING MEMORIES OF EAST AFRICA** group on Facebook
posted by Wa Mwara



The Church of Goodwill in Nakuru County still retains its original purpose

By Wa Mwara

The imposing Church of Goodwill situated at Kariandusi in Nakuru County. It was built by a colonial settler Lady Eleanor Balfour in memory of her husband and in honour of her two sons who had returned safely from war.

The church was constructed as a gift to God by a colonial settler Lady Eleanor Balfour, wife of the Lord Galbraith Cole of the 5th Early Enniskillen.

She built it in honour of her late husband and also as thanksgiving to God for bringing her two sons back from the battlefield during the Second World War. The church was officially opened in 1947. The opening coincided with the twentieth anniversary of the death of her late husband Lord Galbraith Cole. Lady Cole footed the bill for importing all movables inside the church were imported. They have remained in use to date. The bell tower and the wooden roofing tiles have withstood the vagaries of weather over the years to stand the test of time, making it a historic monument worth visiting.

The wooden teak doors are arch-shaped and have heavy latches, and the windows are long, narrow, arched spaces constructed into the walls let in rays of light that illuminate the church's interior.

The well-kept graves outside the church, we are told, are those of the founder members of the church who had stated their wishes to be buried next to the building. The graves bear the names and their dates of death, some in English and others in French.

While other structures have long been disposed of after the subdivision of the 38,000 hectare Kikopey farm owned by Lady Balfour, the church is the only structure that has retained its original purpose.

The church is located near the old Nakuru-Nairobi road near Kariandusi pre-historic site at Kikopey in Elementaita, Nakuru County.

Facebook comments ...

Danie Steyn

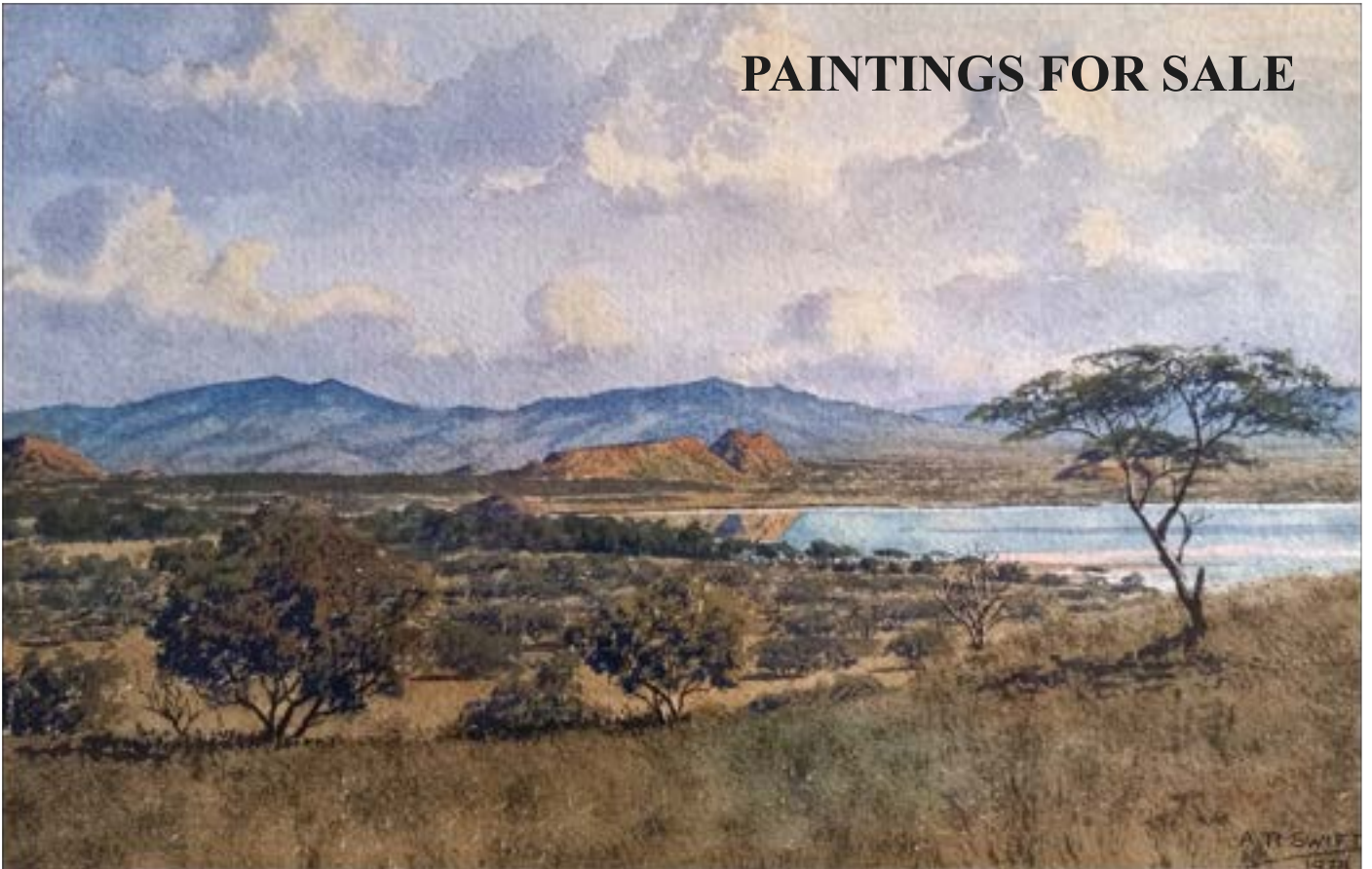
Thanks for this. We always passed this Church on the way to Nairobi. The story told to us children at that time was very similar but it lacked names and here now at last I have them. The other info given was that it was not attached to a denomination and any religious group could hold services there. A very special story.

Sue Brendon

The bell tower was rebuilt and made safe a few years back on the initiative of Tim Hutchinson... a beautiful little church.

Andy Russell

My Dad built this church for Lady Eleanore Cole while working for the railways on the bridge and tunnel up on the hill. His name was Peter Dawson. ✝

PAINTINGS FOR SALE**Diana van Rensburg:**

Hope you have an enjoyable gathering. I have been meaning to ask if you know of any .ex Kenyans who might be interested in buying some Kenys paintings, and maybe one or two other memorabilia such as a large cowrie shell made into a side lamp. My daughter wants to down size my paintings etc. Although the paintings are attractive I think only Kenyans would appreciate such. The one below is a Rena Fennessey water colour (perhaps Lengai?). Rena is well known for her bird paintings in Kenya bird books and for a stamp issue.



CHRIS NORMAN

Friday, 26 August 2022

E-mail from Celia (Falck) Moore:

My much-loved brother-in-law Chris Norman, beloved and loving husband of Karin, passed away on Friday 19th August 2022.

He was 93.

Chris did not go to Kitale School, but Karin did, 1947 -1950. The family farmed at Endebess and later on he took over the farm, Dunmillen, when his parents left for Scotland.

Chris always enjoyed the Kitale School reunions and attended when possible. He was an amazing man, highly qualified, very widely read, and he remembered everything he read.

All he wanted was to be a farmer.

They had a wonderful life with their family in Kenya, Australia, and South Africa.

Another great library has burned down.

And in a Kenya Regiment Sitrep, David Breton:

Christopher Norman was practically my own elder brother for five years 1939-1944, when he lived with us at our home on Mt Elgon.

Leigh Norman was a Kenya settler farmer at Endebess, near Kitale, in the 1930s and presumably the 1920s too. His farm was called Dunmillin, apparently because he had previously been engaged in a sawmill enterprise somewhere else in Kenya. I think he must have served in the First War, for he was sometimes known as either Captain or perhaps Major Norman. My father knew him as one of the fellow soldier-settlers in that part of the District.

It is said that Leigh built the house on the farm, in double storey style, which was fairly unusual. When it was almost complete, it was realised that he had not provided any staircase to the upper floor. I don't know how that was resolved.

Leigh's wife was Mollie Norman, who was a lover of classical music and a talented pianist, which is the main reason why my mother was especially friendly with her, and occasionally they used to do some recitals together.

Leigh and Mollie had two children, Christopher, born 15 July 1929, and Rosamund, a couple of years or so younger. Our two families were close friends. Christopher was sent to the Pembroke House prep-school, near Gilgil.

In 1939 the parents took "home leave" back in Britain, and, not to disrupt Christopher's schooling, they asked my mother if she would look after Christopher during the two school holidays in April and July-September. Then WWII started in September, so the parents could not return to Kenya, and Christopher continued to live with us. Leigh Norman joined up, was captured at Dunkirk, and spent the rest of the war in a German POW officers' prison camp.

In 1939 I was sent away to boarding prep-school, at Kenton College, Nairobi. So, every school holiday thereafter I had Christopher to share everything with. As he was two years older he must have taught me many things and he was usually the leader in whatever childish activities we engaged in.

When he left Pembroke House he went to the Prince of Wales School. In 1944 I was sent to England, and so lost contact with him.

Christopher graduated at Cambridge and then applied to join the Colonial Service as an Agricultural Officer. After the usual spell at the Tropical Agriculture College in Trinidad, he was posted to Tanganyika in 1952. He married Karen Falke, another Kenya resident. A few years later he left Tanganyika to go back to take over the family farm as his father decided to retire from farming and to return to Scotland.

Then at the time of Uhuru and the Africanisation of the settled areas Christopher moved to South Africa.

From the Facebook group LOVING MEMORIES OF EAST AFRICA

Wa Mwara · 30 July 2022 ·

Cecil Hoey and Hoey's Bridge (now Moi's Bridge)

One of the first white residents in the Trans-Nzoia region was Arthur Cecil Hoey. Who was Hoey? He was born in Wimbledon in 1883 and baptised on 12 October that year, the son of John Hoey and his wife Matilda Jane, née Tront, who came from Dublin.

In 1891 the family lived in Knaphill near Woking and Arthur Cecil had an older brother John and a younger brother William Henry. Another older brother, Alfred Ernest, had left home, and was later to join Cecil in East Africa in 1905 (he died in Nairobi in 1926), as did the younger brother William (who died at Naivasha in 1960). Their father John was working as a clerk.

After education at Farnham Grammar School, Cecil had an adventurous youth. He was apprenticed to a sailing boat and went to sea. When his ship reached South Africa he left it to fight in the Boer War's closing months. He stayed in South Africa when the war came to an end and learned something about breeding horses.

He then embarked for East Africa, where he took up big-game hunting in 1904. He trekked through the Uasin Gishu plateau to the Nzoia River, marveling at the huge herds of game, and becoming a proficient lion hunter. The American writer W.S. Rainsford sought him out to accompany him on a year's safari to the Sergoit river. Since ivory hunting brought the greatest profit, Hoey shot many elephants until he had made a sizeable sum.

In 1909 Cecil trekked from Nakuru to Addis Ababa, through unmapped country. The maps he made were given to the Royal Geographical Society, of which Cecil became a member. He also indulged in land dealings in the Plateau region for other potential settlers, setting up an estate agency office in Eldoret. One of his clients was John Frederic Wright, who brought his daughter Gladys to East Africa in 1913. Hoey fell in love, followed the family back to Britain, and married Gladys May Avery Wright at St Paul's, Frimley, on 23 June 1914. Her family was of independent means, being owners of Wright's coal tar soap. Cecil took Gladys to East Africa, but their life together was interrupted when the First World War broke out. Cecil joined the East Africa Transport Corps, and was given the rank of temporary lieutenant, and then temporary captain (1917).

After the war, Cecil started farming seriously, at first near Sergoit rock, and later in the Cherangani Hills, where he established his farm Kapsirowa (later bought by the Duke of Manchester). There he grew maize and sisal and built up a herd of pure-bred Frieslands. He went into a farm partnership on the Plateau with Denys Finch Hatton. Cecil then moved to Sageru, where his beloved horse Sea Eagle carried him around every morning. He became a Steward of the Kenya Jockey Club, for racing was one of his primary interests. And we find him acting as best man at the wedding of Beryl Clutterbuck, a keen horsewoman, and Mansfield Markham.

In 1916 he was made a member of the War Council in Nairobi. Although not greatly interested in politics, he stood for the Plateau North constituency of the Legislative Council and was returned as a member several times. He was a member of the Kenya Land Commission and also served as chairman of the Game Policy Committee from 1939, where he was instrumental in the establishment of national parks.

When the Second World War broke out Cecil was put in charge of Army Welfare in the East African Command; for his services he was appointed to the OBE.

But it is not so much for this that he is known, but for the settlement of Hoey's Bridge. He built the bridge to drive his ox teams over the Nzoia river, and a settlement grew up around there – it is now a small town and the name changed to Moi's Bridge after independence. Hoey was a big man physically. Elspeth Huxley described him as a burly man, rather slow of speech, with a quiet humour and strong fixed opinions. He was gregarious, convivial, friendly, bespectacled. The East Africa Natural History Society published two of his works – Lake Rudolph and Some Notes on the Haunts and Habitats of the Elephant on the Guas Ngisho Plateau.

Cecil's heart trouble forced the Hoeyes into retirement at the coast, at Nyali. Cecil had one last trip to England in 1955, and he died from an aortic aneurism at Mombasa European Hospital on 11 February 1956. There is a plaque at Mbaraki cemetery in Mombasa, but Hoey was buried at sea, according to his wishes, the day after he died. He left effects worth £7,815.16s.

Facebook responses ...

Eddie Njoro Ndungu

Wow wow Wa mwara 🍌 . You are reconnecting me to my childhood memories. Moi's Bridge town holds special memories for our family. My

late father lived & worked in Maji Mazuri EAT-EC farm on the outskirts of Moi's Bridge. When in Kenya we often drive through this area on our way to visit family in cherangani. Always knew it was called Hoey's bridge. The rivers described, Sergoit area & Duke of Manchester (now a state lodge) are very familiar. Thank you for bringing to the fore, this rich history.

As a young person growing between Kitale & Eldoret in former colonial farms (in picture-perfect settings) I still remember seeing lots of beautiful wildlife & nature along the way. Asante sana

Bethuel Oduo

Wa Mwara, this is quite nostalgic. I was born bred and brought up in Kitale before independence and I always looked forward to our family trips to Eldoret' in our Peugeot 403.

Hoey's Bridge it was until around 1972 when it changed to Moi's Bridge.

From the Facebook group LOVING MEMORIES OF EAST AFRICA

Malkit Rooprai · 30 July 2022 ·

MOUNT LONGONOT. KENYA 🇰🇪 AND ITS PART IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Before fibre optics, Mount Longonot was a scientific and tech marvel.

Mount Longonot was originally known as Mt Margaret until 1970 when Mzee Jomo Kenyatta declared the name change.

Mzee had been invited to open the first phase of the Longonot Earth Satellite Station on November 12, 1970. Did you know a satellite earth station is a specialised terrestrial terminal used to communicate with the satellites? The first phase of the Longonot facility connected Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania to the world through the Atlantic Ocean.

The defunct East Africa Post and Telecommunications owned it. The second phase that relayed data to a satellite over the Indian Ocean was later added.

The station is located on the floor of the Rift Valley and is visible on your way to Narok from Mai Mahiu. Now looking desolate and abandoned, the place was a scientific marvel in the seventies and eighties before technology rendered it obsolete.

Did you know that with the advent of Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) satellites with

a much smaller dish like the type we have in our homes, (the likes of Zuku, DStv and others) Longonot became moribund.

With the arrival of undersea fibre optic cables to Kenya, the need for the Longonot station diminished its technological value.

Did you know, when the Longonot facility was erected in 1970, it was as though Kenya had been introduced to the Space Age.

Satellite communications was a game-changer to radio and TV viewers in Kenya.

Staff were drawn from the entire East African region and the place became a protected facility with serious, mean-looking guards on standby. It was common to see special staff vans ferrying workers from Nairobi to the station.

They were treated in a very special way and they worked in shifts to ensure the region was connected to the world.

The introduction of satellite communications was a game-changer to radio and TV viewers in Kenya. It was now possible to relay information live and in real time.

The very first major event to benefit from the new tech was the 1972 Munich Olympics. Kenyans were able to see the legendary Kipchoge Keino winning the 3,000 metres steeplechase gold medal in Munich. Thanks to satellite technology, Kenyans also watched Mohamed Ali destroy George Foreman live on TV from Kinshasa Zaire (Congo DRC).

It was common for our VOK TV to give credit to the staff at the Longonot station for ensuring viewers got uninterrupted service.

Did you know, the station is now a shell of its former self and antelopes and squirrels loiter in the once-famous scientific structure that awed our minds? It lies abandoned and desolate, facing Suswa Plains and Mt Longonot.



Longonot satellites and site in c1970.

KENYATTA MAY HAVE BEEN FRAMED;

On April 8, five years ago, 60-year-old author and scholar Jomo (the Burning Spear) Kenyatta was convicted of masterminding the Mau Mau and converting the green hills of Kenya into a battleground running red with the blood of whites and blacks. After he was sentenced to seven years at hard labor, exiled for life from the Kenya highlands and the Kikuyu tribal areas of his birth, some observers felt the evidence that had uprooted him was scant at best.

Last week, a document was handed to British Colonial Sec. Alan Lennox-Boyd, in which an unidentified star witness at Kenyatta's 1953 trial admitted he was paid to lie about the African leader. The copy of an affidavit, sworn to on November 22, was presented to the minister by fiery, young (28) Tom Mboya, leader of the elected African members in the Kenya Legislative Council, and militant nationalist who chaired the recently-concluded All-Africa Peoples Conference, which met in Accra, Ghana.

The witness says his evidence that he had attended a Mau Mau initiation ceremony with Kenyatta was false. He added that he had never attended any such ceremony, and that other witnesses were "procured and suborned"

WITNESS SAYS HE WAS PAID TO LIE

to give false evidence.

The witness claimed he lied in exchange for a promise of free passage to England and a two-year course in local government at a British University (approximate value, \$3,250). The promise contained a built-in life insurance, stating that if he was murdered by the Mau Mau, his family would be cared for by the government and if he was not killed, he would get a job in the local Kenya government.

Declared Mboya, the British should hold a public inquiry into the charges.

At week's end, Kikuyus waited with strained ears to hear the British answer.



Jomo Kenyatta, exiled for life.

From "Jet" Magazine of 8th January 1959

CUTTINGS

From the "Daily Nation" of 14th July 1990



The Deputy President of the African National Congress, Mr Nelson Mandela, greets Mama Ngina Kenyatta, widow of the late Mzee Jomo Kenyatta before Mr Mandela laid a wreath yesterday at the mausoleum of the founding father of the Kenya nation. Mr Uhuru Kenyatta (right), Mama Ngina's son looks on. (Picture by YAHYA MOHAMED)



NB. The huge White guy, left, was known as Patrick David Shaw (code name "Romeo 9"), and was a dreaded Kenya Police Reservist in Jomo Kenyatta's Kenya & Daniel T. arap Moi's Kenya. Shaw passed away in 1988.

DAILY NATION OF FRIDAY, 18TH MAY 1979



TOM Okatch (second left), Chris Onasoti (extreme right) and Bill Okwirry (next to Onasoti) coming in to support a fellow Miro player bring down Blackheath's John Percival in yesterday's match.

RUGBY

by GISHINGA NJORGE

BLACKHEATH BLACKED OUT

Miro (Kenya) ... 32

Blackheath (England) ... 19

THE all-Black Kenyan rugby football side Miro, yesterday annihilated the highly rated British club, Blackheath in a thrilling friendly at the ground of the Rugby Football Union of East Africa.

It was a historic victory for the locals, who had first to overcome an internal strife, which they finally won to field a side of their choice—non-whites!

The English side, who opened their tour here last week with a draw against the Scorpions, another Invitational side and trounced Upcountry Invitational in the other, had no answer to the superior and open play applied by the Miro backs and forwards.

Blackheath were pinned onto their own half right from the kick-off. They were shaken by a classic try by fullback Wycliffe Mukulu. Hooker Robert "Arafat" Aswani got the ball from the second set scrum — the only set win in the entire match.

Then it moved to Jimmy Owino and Joe Masiga, for Mukulu to place a touchdown. Flyhalf Walter Omaldo converted for a welcome 6-0 lead.

Masiga, who had a super game, got the second try. After a pass following

a loose piece, he made a solo run from midfield to score, for Omaldo to convert (12-0).

The struggling visitors put their name on the scoreboard following an infringement, which Kenley-Fry scored (12-3).

But moments later Owino struck. The move started from a possession by Edebe, which he fed to skipper Omaldo for an uncovered try to leave the score at 18-3.

At resumption Blackheath went for forward play to add to their sweeping all the set scrums. But the

Miro forwards were at their best in tackling.

Bill Okwirry, who had been left out by the ousted selectors was superb, with good support from J. B. Nyamwange, Kilado Gillette, Tom Okatch, Chris Onasoti, Aswani, and John Omani.

Masiga opened the scoring in the second half after Edebe had made a solo break run deep into the Blackheath area, supported by Gillette, who found Masiga at full flight to place the uncovered try for a 20-3 lead.

CUTTINGS

DAILY NATION, Thursday, October 18, 1978 17



It was a thrilling moment for six-year-old Josephine Okwach (right) and her five-year-old sister Carol when they met the President. Their father, a Nairobi University lecturer, was attending the reception ceremony.

TOP OF ITS CLASS.



"The first Kenya assembled vehicle to finish the 1982 Safari Rally. MG4 Pick-up which finished 8th overall."

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(Kenya in the 1940s)

Cousin Jane.

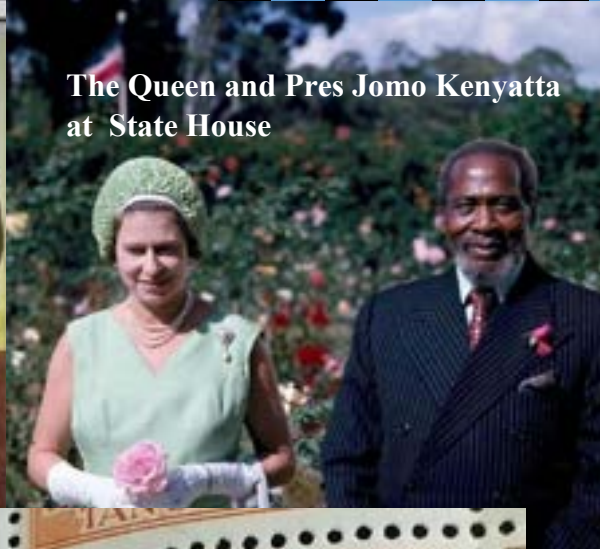
for morning coffee
afternoon tea
luncheons

City House,

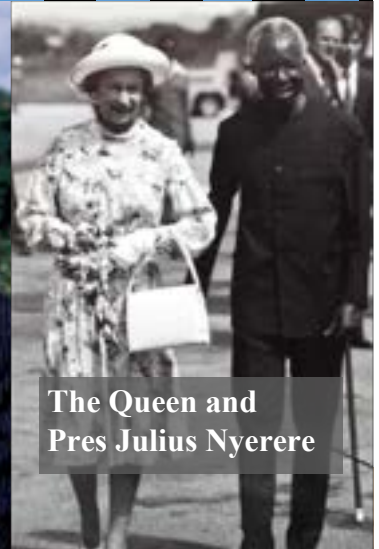
Standard Street.



Pres Moi with the Queen, Prince Philip, and Prince Charles at Buckingham Palace



The Queen and Pres Jomo Kenyatta at State House



The Queen and Pres Julius Nyerere



ABOVE: Treetops Hotel, Nyeri., 1952
BELOW: Treetops plaque commemorating Elizabeth II's 60th year on the throne.



Pen Knife Coronation Souvenir to scholars at St George's Primary
Photo: Hannes Grobler

ELIZABETH II (1926-2022)



On Kenya Friends Reunited: Nov 1983 Commonwealth War Memorial Cemetery off Ngong Road .
Photo: Roger Barnard.





BACK: Ian Njenga. Patrick Ouko. Brian Amaita. Jone Kubu. Brian Tanga. Sam Asati. Brian Waraba. Coleman Were.

MIDDLE: John Okoth. Edward Mwaura. Derrick Ashiundu. Geoffrey Ominde. Vincent Onyala. Brian Juma. George Nyambua. Timothy Omela. Ephraim Oduor. Shem Angugo.

FRONT: Elkeans Musonye. Peter Drewitt. Darwin Mukidza. Paul Odera (Head Coach). Daniel Sikuta (Captain). Mike Aung (Forwards Coach). Oliver Mang'eni. Jacob Ojee.

EAST AFRICA RUGBY TOUR OF NORTHERN RHODESIA 1962

Tuskers



Standing Left to Right

D. Klynsmith B. R. Granville-Ross J. G. Bell T. A. Tory M. Konstant M. R. Andrews D. S. Reynolds S. P. E. Kruger
R. B. Laing E. B. W. Darrell G. N. Paterson F. A. R. Bwyne K. I. Duncan.

Sitting Left to Right

P. M. Blunt W. T. H. Peregrine B. K. McGuinness K. F. O'Byrne C. C. Young J. L. Taylor F. Lawson W. W. Law
(Captain) (Manager) (Vice - Captain)
A. C. Schwentafsky A. J. Tanish

Thank you very much, PAUL OKONGO, RUGBY HISTORIAN, for sharing the photographs and information with us.