

Habari October 96

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29

Newsletter of the Friends of East Africa

Nuusbrief van die Vriende van Oos-Afrika



REDAKTEURSBRIEF

**5 OKTOBER TREK ONS SAAM!
WE MEET THE 5th of OCTOBER!**

By Roodeplaatdam, net buite Pretoria.
Sien die kaart agterop.

The Habari format has changed from A4 to A5. We are trying to keep down the cost of postage.

Ons het bydraes nodig. By die jaarlikse saamtrek kry ons heelwat in, maar dan net van die ongeveer 200 mense wat dit bywoon. Baie mense wat nie by die saamtrek uitkom nie, ontvang die Habari, en ons vra mooi dat hulle ook vir ons 'n tjekkie sal stuur, of sommer direk sal inbetaal op die rekening van: **Oos-Afrika Vriendekomitee, 080-602-405 (Volkskas, Hercules-tak).** Thank you for your support and letters! Please keep writing.

OOS-AFRIKA VRIENDEKOMITEE

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Terug Op Ou Spore

deur Lettie Davies.

My man, Hansie Davies, het al die jare 'n brandende begeerte gehad om net een keer terug te gaan na sy geboorteland, Kenia. Ongelukkig was dit hom nie beskore nie. Maar verlede jaar kry ek die kans om te gaan kyk wat die laaste 35 jaar vir ons geboorteland gebring het.

Ek pak een van dr Willie Marais se boekies, in Engels vertaal, in; ook Engelse Bybels, balpuntpenne en oefenboeke. Lg twee is vir die Higa Primary School wat op ons plaas tot stand gekom het. My oudste dogter, Cilla, het hulle al 3 jaar tevore besoek.

Saam met my twee dogters, Bets en Lettie, my skoonseun en vyf van my kleinkinders, pak ons die lang pad aan in twee Toyota Ventures. Op 74 jaar wil die kinders my per vliegtuig laat gaan, maar wat wou! Ons is mos van goeie materiaal gemaak. Dis is die moeite werd om te ry, want ons het baie ervaringe. Met die reis herleef ons weer die Kenya-uittog.

Ons kuier by Kariba en in Zambië moet ons net 'n klein stukkie slegte pad deur. Zambië is min ingestel op toerisme, dus is ons vinnig daar deur.

Anderkant Mbeya, oor Pienaarshoogte, slaap ons by 'n sendingstasie op Mkumi, waar ons gasvry ontvang word. Met die doeane en padblokkades het ons geen probleme nie. 'n Mens is net vriendelik. 'n Paar woorde Swahili net die ding om die kwaaieste soldaat in 'n vriend te verander.

In Tanzanië slaap ons by 'n pragtige kusedorpie, Tanga, voor ons deur Mom-basa na Tsavo reis. Dan na Nairobi, waar ons ons Tanzaniese visas en ander dokumente regmaak.

Om deur die Masaireserwe na Serengeti te reis, het jy 'n spesiale dokument nodig. Ons basiskamp op Naivasha is by die Fisherman's Camp. Daar is dit pragtig skoon en vir 'n verandering kan ons warm storte neem. Hiervandaan gaan kyk ons na die plaas waar die penne en boeke baie goed ontvang word. Hulle het ook intussen 'n klein kerkie vir die skoolkinders opgerig en 'n Bybel word dankbaar ontvang, want daar is min in omloop.

Ol'Kalou, wat ons naaste dorpie was, het redelik uitgebrei. Naby is 'n nuwe motorhawe, pyrethrumdroër en 'n hele paar nuwe winkels. Die goeie teerpad na Thompson's Falls is ook 'n bate.

Tussen Naivasha en Nakuru loop die Zebras, Topi's en Thompson's Gazelle so saam met die beeste, geen drade of

versperrings nie. Van Nakuru na Baringo is 'n pragtige teerpad vir President Moi gebou. Na Eldoret is dit dieselfde storie. Ons ry van Thompson's Falls na Baringo.

Die Van Riebeeckskool op Thompson's Falls (Nyruru) is onlangs herstel en geverf en die personeel ontvang ons vriendelik. Die NG Kerk daar is mooi opgepas en die grafte is afgekamp en versorg. Die waterval is vol agv die goeie reën wat ons partykeer maar goed laat les opsê.

Kersfees bring ons deur aan die voet van Berg Kenya, tussen die colobus en bobbejane. Vandaar gaan ons na Isiolo en die Samburu Nasionale Park waar ons destyds elke jaar gedurende vakansie tye gaan kamp het. Aangesien Kenya baie van sy geld uit toerisme maak, is die Nasionale Parke duur om te besoek. Die wild is egter volop, bv. die Gurunuks, die uitsonderlike kameelperde wat 'n mens daar kry; ons kom ook 'n jagluiperd ma met haar twee kinders teë.

Ons besoek ook die Aberdare National Park waar die olifante ons 'n paar benoude oomblikke gee wanneer ons ook die bebosde pad wil gebruik. Daar is ook buffels, bongo's, leeus, bosbokke. Dis 'n paradys, so saam met die welige bosse en die baie veldblomme. Daar sien ons nog baie plaashuise. Die

huise en tuine word versorg en koring- en pyrethrumlande is oral. Die Kikuyus het natuurlik agter die Aberdareberge baie groentelande asook tee en koffieplantasies.

Van Thompson's Falls gaan ons na Baringo waar ons langs die meer kamp opslaan. Omdat ek graag weer die plek van my jongdae wil sien, vat ons die nuwe teerpad deur die skeurvallei oor Sergoi, waar die Daviese gewoon het, na Eldoret. Eldoret is President Moi se setel, en het dus baie ontwikkel met regeringsgeboue, hotelle, 3 motorhaws, selfs 'n groot supermark. Die mense daar lyk, in teenstelling met baie ander plekke, vooruitstrewend. Die landbou gaan ook goed aan.

Ons ontvangs deur die pastoor en sy vrou by die NG Kerk is gulhartig. Die kerkgebou word vir ons oopgesluit en met trots word aan ons gewys dat die kerk binne, die doopbak, die banke, kansel, orrel blink gehou word - selfs die doek oor die Nagmaalstafel is nog net so. Die werk word deur dieselfde persoon gedoen wat destyds vir die laaste wit gemeente gewerk het. In Afrikaans vra hy uit oor baie van die gemeentelêde. Ons word, na 'n hartseer laaste kykie, genooi om by die pastorie te gaan tee drink.

By die Hervormde Kerk word ons

met oop arms ontvang. Die kerk het te klein geword. Daar is planne om, afgesien van die saal, wat vir Sondagskool gebou is, die kerk agter te vergroot. Hulle het 3 dienste op 'n Sondag: een in Engels, een in Swahili en een in die plaaslike taal.

Vandaar is ons oor Kericho met sy tee- en koffieplantasies oor Kisii na Kisumu. Net daar vang die reën ons. Nadat ons baie sirkels in die donker en stortreën gery het op soek na slaapplek, stop ons by 'n robot, koud en moeg. 'n Blanke stop langs ons en vra of hy kan help. Oplaas, nat en uitgeput, kom ons by 'n eetplek op die wal van die Victoriameer aan. Die restaurant het ook kamers wat deur 'n Indiërvrou uitgehuur word. Daar span ons uit vir 'n hele dag.

Wat ons opval, is Kenya se baie kos. Groente en vrugte is vrylik beskikbaar. Daar is geen hongersnood nie, al bly oorbevolking 'n probleem. Die vriendelikheid van die mense beïndruk ons baie.

Die Masai-Mara moet ons sien. Van teerpaaie is daar egter nie sprake in die wildduine nie en, bruin van die modder en moeg, slaap ons die aand by die grenspos tussen Kenya en Tanzanië, in die beampies se huis. Dit is die moeite werd, want ons sien die groot wildtrek. Agv die modder, vat ons maar nie die pad Ngorongoro toe nie en gaan terug

Naivasha toe.

Op pad terug gaan ons oor Arusha na Meru waar ons in 'n vakansieplek slaap wat deur 'n Ier bestuur word. Die tariewe is baie redelik. Daarna besoek ons weer ons vriende by die Mkukisending stasie. Dan breek een van die motors. Met moeite sleep ons ons sleepwaentjie en die stukkende motor oor Pienaarshoogte tot anderkant Mbeya. Terwyl die motorhawe in Songwe 'n slide sleepstang probeer prakseer, kry ons by die sementfabriek 'n netjiese huis te huur. Ons kan ontspan en besluit hoe ons by die huis gaan kom.

Ons terugtog is vinnig en beknop. Die een Venture laat ons net daar. Soveel van ons besittings wat ons kan, pak ons in die waentjies. Met 9 siele in die ander Venture, is deurnagry maar die oplossing. 'n Paar dae later kom by die huis afsaal met dank aan die liewe Vader vir 'n kans om weer op ou spore te kon loop.

FREDA COMES HOME WITH A SMILE ON HER DIAL

When Freda was abducted, her family imagined the worst. They pictured her lying stripped and ravished in some filthy garage. The McGilbens of Kloof last saw her standing in their driveway during the late hours of August 10. The following morning

she was gone.

The abduction was a blow to a family already saddened by the demise of Freda's mate, Humphrey, who "got worn out" and shuffled off his mortal coil.

"Everyone loved Freda, she was the family pet," said Peter McGilben. "She would just go and go and cart anything you cared to put in her. We were heartbroken."

In a Durban newspaper they appealed to the public to watch out for a 1969 off-white Mercedes Benz 180SE, which "answers to the name Freda".

"I bought her from a guy called 'Sunny' Cloete", said Mr McGilben. "She was getting a bit much for him to handle. He offered to sell her. I asked him how much he wanted. He said, 'As much as I paid for her when she was new in 1969' and I agreed. She cost me R5 500!

"He also said if I could guess his first name, beginning with a V, he would knock two thousand off the price. If I couldn't I'd have to give him an extra two thousand. I didn't take him up - it's just a well because his name turned out to be something like 'Valorius'," said Mr McGilben with a grin.

Later in the week, a relieved family heard that Freda had been found abandoned in a ditch near Hammersdale. She had suffered only one minor injury - a hole in the radiator - and was very thirsty. The old beast was towed to a nearby garage, where an ecstatic Mr McGilben retrieved her.

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oorlede , DECEASED

J J "Hansie" Botha (Ol'Kalou, later Nakuru) skielik oorlede, 22 Maart 1996, London, waar hy al tien jaar gebly het.

J G "Hans" Joubert, (Malindi, Mombasa) oorlede 10 Julie 1996: 91 jr.

Fay Goby, 2 May 1996, Isle of Man. Passed away after a short illness. She is survived by her husband Gordon, daughter Jackie and family (Nairobi) and son Kim (Johannesburg). Fay was the daughter of the late Gordon and Lucy Farr of Eldoret, and the last surviving member of the Farr family. Fay worked for Unga Ltd. for years, then for the Kenya Meat Commission, Eldoret, where she met and married Gordon. They lived on the Isle of Man for 21 years until her death. *Kwaheri Rafiki from Emma.*

Traffic Inspector **Dalene Van Rensburg**, 24 April 1996, daughter of Pretoria Traffic Chief Tienie Van Rensburg, died in a collision between the traffic department vehicle in which she was a passenger and another city vehicle. They were travelling in response to an emergency call. She died two days before her 22nd birthday. Her father attended Duke of York School Nairobi. His family were from Eldoret. He met and married his wife Loma in South Africa.

Tony Farr, 30th March, after a long illness. He was the son of Thelma and the late Rodney Farr (Eldoret). He leaves his wife Pat and his twin sisters Heather and Hazel.

Frans and Letty Van Straten, March /April, after visiting Zimbabwe where they contracted malaria. He was the son of late Chris and Betty Van Straten; she was the daughter of Joof and Martie Joubert (Thompson's Falls), now of Groblersdal.

Margaret Moskoff, 11th April. She was the wife of late Sid Moskoff. She was a Miss Davies, her father worked for Dalgety's Nairobi.

Hendrik (Boet) van Rensburg, 16 April after a long illness. He leaves his wife Diana, two daughters Katerina and family (England), Annette and family Buccleigh. He was the son of the late Hendrik and Catherina van Rensburg (Nairobi). His brother Paul, his sister Anna Ulyate and his twin, Emma Stow live in South Africa. He went to the Nairobi Primary School, then came down to Marist Brother's College Johannesburg. In wartime he left school and went into the South African Air Force, later to the First City Cape Town Highlanders. He saw service in Egypt and in Italy.

After the war he returned to Kenya and

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joined the Kenya Regiment, after working for Express Transport and the Kenya Meat Commission. He then decided to make his career in the Kenya Police, and had to leave the Regiment, but he was still totally involved in the Mau Mau Emergency, serving in the Gatunda, Kiambu and Kabete areas.

In 1957 he was mentioned in a despatch for distinguished service. He then he joined the Police Training Unit as part of a team which earned international fame. He retired as a Senior Superintendent and Force Dog Master 1992. He was able to leave behind the newly built up and up-to- date Dog section at Langata.

Boet worked for the Inanda Club as Security Officer, until his health worsened. He was an outdoor man, hunting, shooting and fishing trout in the early days in Kenya, and was invited to become the honorary member of the East African Professional Hunters Association. He later turned to conservation. He planted many a tree at the various police stations he manned in Kenya. Despite being incapacitated by emphysema for the last few years he remained cheerful. His stock phrase to friends enquiring after his health was, "I can't complain" and he never did. His end was peaceful with Diana at his side

after 43 years of marriage. His decorations from the Kenya Regiment Association and the Kenya Police were displayed at the foot of his coffin. A memorial service was held at the Kenya Regiment Nairobi for Boet. A plaque was put onto one of the trees which he planted at the Regiment. *Kwaheri Moro Ya Wantina.*

John Luies, June 1996. He was the son of late Oom Jannie and Tant Johanna Luies (Machakos, Kenya).

Piet Enslin passed away at Nylstroom, he was the brother of Jannie Enslin. Piet was married to Mini.

Joey Smit (nee Lombard) 28th June, aged 82, at Huis Vergenoeg, after a long illness. She is survived by her daughters Eddie and Alida and sons.

Girle Ettheridge (nee Demac, nee Botha) June 1996, England. She had been in South Africa visiting her children and was only back in England a few days when she passed away. As a child she lived in Nairobi after which she moved to Eldoret.

Mr Ephraim van Wyngaard, 2 November 1995, aged 81. He was in Kenya from 1948 to 1962, working for PWD in Nakuru and Mombasa. He and tant Ralie were married 57 years. He is survived by his wife, two sons and two daughter. The two sons are Colonels in

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the SA Police.

Mr John Luies passed away suddenly, 30 December 1995. He was the son of Oom Daan and Aunt Girlie Luies, ex Nairobi. John was a Train driver on the Kenya Railways. He still has a sister Beryl Enslin and a brother Henry Luies. They were a family of eight children.

Mrs Nellie Kruger, 20 January 1996, she is survived by her husband Stoffel who worked at the Railway workshops in the early days. She is survived by her children and grandchildren.

Ds Jan Dednam - ons ou seder het geval op 95 jaar. Sy laaste jare met sy tweede vrou het hy by Roodeplaat gebly en toe in Huis Vergenoeg, waar hy oorlede is. Hy het sy mense liefgehad en hulle het hom gerespekteer. In die oorlogsjare het hy sy mense se trekkers en motors herstel terwyl die manne op die front was. Hy was een van die stilles wat sy werk getrou en goed gedoen het. Ons eer sy nagedagtenis. In Kenia was hy predikant van 1935 tot 1940. Die hoogtepunt van sy tyd daar was die bou van die saal op Plateau. Sy vertrek was genoodsaak om naby dokters te wees omdat klein Gabriel verlam was en dus was terug Suid toe al uitweg.

Willem von Maltitz - Lena het hom in die kombuis dood gekry waar hy oor die skotelgoed gelê het. Willem het die spore

van sy beroemde pa, oom Bokkie von Maltitz, volgestaan. Lena is die dogter van oom Gert van Rensburg.

Hulle laaste jare het hulle gelukkig gewoon naby hulle kinders in Virginia, waar hy op 30 Julie begrawe is.

Mev. Allet van Staden, Maart 1995. Ds Van Staden is in huis Frans Boshoff, Mckenzie straat, Brooklyn. Dit sal goed wees as van die ou vriende vir hom kan kuier daar.

Oom At van Ryneveld, 30 September 1995, Greytown Kaap. Hy was 74. Hy was in die polisie in Kenia en het later met pyrethrum geboer. Sy bynaam was Arapchiblanget.

Boet Venter (Moiben) seun van Hannes en Gertie Venter. Oorlede 1994, Potgietersrus. Laat sy vrou en agt kinders na, en kleinkinders.

Peet Luies, 20 September 1995, 76 jaar (Ol'Kalou). Hy het in Witbank gewoon en is aan longversaking oorlede. Hy laat 4 seuns na: Douglas, Roy, Piet en Hannes.

Karel Enslin, tweede seun van Jannie en Yvonne Enslin is oorlede op sy plaas by Heidelberg. Hy was die kleinseun van Faerie Engelbrecht, wat van Nairobi na Johannesburg die reisies gewen het.

Oom Adam van Rensburg (Eldoret) Augustus 1996. Hy en tant Hendrina het op Nigel gewoon. Hy was lank siek, in

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en uit die hospitaal.

Trudi de Waal, (Eldoret) Augustus 1995, op slag dood in 'n motorongeluk. Sy laat haar ma, Anna de Waal (gebore Venter, van Moiben), en broers, Eddie en Johann, na. Sy het gewerk vir die verkeersafdeling Akasia, Pretoria, in die radiokamer.

John Ross (Nakuru, Maji Mazuri), March 1996, Australia. Leaves his wife Susie Daniel, who is till in Australia.

NUUSBROKKIES

Romanse van die jaar

Ds Jos Theron van Vergenoeg en mev. Magriet Retief van die Valle het gekuier en dadelik vir mekaar geval - hulle is as wewenaar en weduwee onlangs getroud en woon in Port Elizabeth.

Baie geluk - kom kuier by ons volgende saamtrek. *ds Piet Grobler*

Laura Ross (nee Steenkamp), writes: I recommend Lawrence Green's book, *The Great North Road*. He writes a lot about the Afrikaans people in Kenya.

He also says that it is thought the Swahili dates from about 500 AD. Swahili is essentially a Bantu language, ehich began to take shape when the first Arabs and Persians settled in East Africa and took native wives. Lamu is said to be the cradle of Kiswahili.

I left Kenya in 1959, and went back for a three week visit in 1991. I felt very much at home, especially as I can still speak Swahili after 37 years. Maybe we can all remember some Swahili "slang", like *gilassi* - glass, *keki* - cake, *Pali Ali* - Pale Ale Beer. And what about *pilipili hoho* - the name of very hot soup the Goans eat!

Are we now to live in the second land of *badu kidogo* and say *hakuna matata*, or shall we return to the first one, or shall we say *Asanti sana Mungu* - we are back in the land of our forefathers?

Wie was Bana Maie?

In die jare twintig het iemand, wat homself Bana Maie noem, 'n boek gepubliseer: *Voortrekkerslewe in Donker Afrika*. Maar dis verniet of mens uit sy boek kan agterkom wie hyself was. Kan iemand help? - *Eddie de Waal*

Von Maltitz-boek

In 1963 het 'n boek "Von Maltitz in Afrika" verskyn. Ons berei 'n verbeterde uitgawe voor vir publikasie.

Kan enigiemand wat die Von Maltitz-familie in Oos-Afrika geken het, met my skakel by 011.646-4771? Ek sal dit baie waardeer. Ek bly in Pallingshurstweg 28a, Westcliff, 2193 Johannesburg.

Brief van wyle ds A Brandt

Ouderling Koos Engelbrecht van Nelspruit het aan ds Andries Brandt 'n brief geskryf. Ds Brandt, eens 'n bekende radioprediker in ons land, het na sy emeritaat na Kanada verhuis. Hy is in 1991 daar oorlede. Kort voor sy dood het hy op ouderling Engelbrecht se skrywe geantwoord:

My oupa was ds Van Warmelo, vir baie jare predikant van die Hervormde Kerk in Heidelberg, Transvaal. My vader was vir 21 jaar Voorsitter van die Algemene Kerkvergadering in Transvaal. Meeste van my jong dae het ek in pastorieë deurgebring.

Na my teologiese studies, in 1929, was dit in Suid-Afrika die middel van die depressie. Dus kon gemeentes jong predikante beroep nie.

By die Gemeente Rensburgsrus in Kenia was geen predikant nie, maar af en toe het 'n Transvaalse predikant Kenia besoek, kinders gedoop, Nagmaal bedien en weer vertrek. My vader het voorgestel dat ek, werkloos, die gemeentes in Kenia en Tanganyika besoek. So het ek die eerste vaste predikant geword vir die hele gebied - Kenia, Tanganyika, Belgiese Kongo, Uganda, selfs in die Lupa Goudveld.

Ek was vir 'n jaar in Oos-Afrika. In 1940 het ek 'n beroep na Memel in die Vrystaat aangeneem. Die gemeente was klein en swak en het Dundee, Colenso en Vryheid ingesluit. Toe het ek 'n beroep na Bethal ontvang, en vanaf 1941 het ek die klein gemeentes van Kaapstad en omgewing bearbei, ook Saldanha en Swellendam. In 1976 het my vrou en ek na Kanada verhuis.

Hoe het ek die toestand van die Afrikaners in Kenia gevind?

Die Boere was redelik goed gevestig. Meeste het hulle eie boerderye besit en koring en mielies was die hoofproduk. Die mense was gasvry. Eldoret het reeds 'n NG Gemeente en 'n vaste predikant gehad. Die Hervormers het ook reeds 'n kerkgebou gehad, maar moes bedien word deur tydelike besoekende predikante.

Daar was 'n Afrikaanse skool 'n paar myl buite Eldoret, met 'n koshuis. Mnr Wolmarans (almal het hom Wolfie genoem) was prinsipaal en mev Steenkamp onderwyseres. Toe mnr en mev Wolmarans vir vakansie Transvaal toe is, het ek vir 6 maande as onderwyser opgetree. Daar was geen pastorie nie, maar op die skoolgronde was 'n skakelhuisie waar ek gewoon het. Die omgewing was bekend as Broederstroom.

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Ek het die Hervormers rondom Meruberg gaan besoek, maar vind toe by my aankoms dat meer as die helfte van die gemeente na die Lupa Goudvelde getrek het.

Ek sou baie meer kon vertel oor hoe jou oupa, ouma, pa saam met my deur die Kongo gereis het, en hoe ek vir dae op die wal van 'n vol rivier in my motor gesit het.

Maar - ek sien nie kans nie. Ek is oud en swak en my oë is sleg. Ek kan my eie handskrif nie lees nie, dus... hartlike groete en beste wense.

An Ecologist's Travel Log to Kenya

North of the Limpopo are great areas of Savanna woodland. Sunlight penetrates the canopy of trees and aloes. There is grazing for a variety of animals. North of the Zambezi this forest is known as "Miombo" which extends right into central Tanzania, and again to the North of the Equator into the Southern Sudan. Its soil is low in nutrients, and if cleared for agriculture, it yields little. Already there are many abandoned native farms, where meagre crops of maize, sorghum and kassawa (Maniok) once was planted.

In an operation that boded ill for the ecology, the British Government cleared

gigantic tracts of bush in Southern Tanganyika, to launch a peanut scheme which came to nothing because of poor soil and lack of water.

As the road from Iringa to Dodoma was impassable, we drove towards the Uluguru mountains at Morogoro. Here an agricultural university is developing knowledge of proper land use. Different crops are planted above and underneath each other, like beans and tomatoes under coffee or bananas. This planting technique has spread throughout the volcanic soil regions of Northern Tanzania, where cultivated patches of multilayers of plants are to be seen.

At the start of the rainy season (April-May) we entered Tarangire Game Reserve. The thirsty land was penetrated by streams which attracted flocks of migratory birds. Climbing the escarpment above lake Manyara, one enters the Ngorongoro crater and beyond the Serengeti plains the wildlife was magnificent, and especially the migration of wildebeest was an unforgettable sight, as were the great grass plains stretching to the horizon, with blue hills rising in the distance.

(Dr Mary Scholes' speech submitted by Herman Landgrebe.)

Rugby in Kenya

LES TUCKER, Queenstown:

Having had 14 glorious years in East Africa, I still crave for that country. There I got married, and two of my children were born there.

Our son now lives in Pretoria, so maybe, on the first Saturday in October I could be with East Africans and brush up on my Swahili! Thank you for Habari.

Les and Elsie (nee Engelbrecht) Tucker.
A bit about myself and my project, which might interest quite a few readers, especially the Rugby fans.

I arrived in Nairobi straight from Ireland, late 1947, to join Unga (Ltd), the milling firm.

In 1948 I was transferred to a mill in Eldoret, and there began my involvement in Rugby under the expert guidance and tuition of the legendary "Stompie" Jones.

I was not to leave Eldoret until August 1952. I will not forget that month or year, for I married Elsie Engelbrecht, daughter of DJP Engelbrecht of Moiben.

On my return, I was posted to Arusha, Tanganyika. As captain of the Arusha Gymkhana Club XV, I was invited to join the Scorpions Rugby Club under another legendary figure, Dennie O'

Loughlin, and then picked for Tanganyika in the representative match vs Kenya in 1954.

I was then posted to Iringa, then to Jinja, Uganda, then back to Eldoret. It was rugby practise on the day we unpacked - and off I went to the Eldoret Sports Club. I was not popular at home, for Elsie said, "I hope you break your toe..." and that's what happened - I eventually got around to the unpacking!

My project begins in Nakuru, my last posting before leaving for South Africa in 1962. I can never forget my Rugby-playing days there. For four glorious years, I played for West Kenya, Kenya, and finally, the cherry on top, for East Africa in an official test vs University of Cape Town Touring Team... the team that day being: C G D Brown, *Impala Full Back*, D F Rus Kenya *Harlequins, Wing*, GLE Rutherford Kenya *Harlequins, Centre*, LA Wright *Kelembe Centre*, JR Henderson *Nile Wing*; HY Keir *Nile Fly Half*; HA Swaine *Kitale Scrum Half*; BR Hadfield *Kitale Forward (Front row)*; R Pollasti *Nakuru Hooker*; L Tucker *Nakuru Forward (Front Row)*; KV Oulton *Nakuru Lock Forward*; KI Duncan *Kenya Harlequins Lock Forward*; ER Evans *Capt. Kitale Wing*

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Forward; DS Reynolds *Nakuru Eight Man*; L Booyse *Impala Wing Forward*; Referee IM Malan (*Kenya*)

My project: Where are they now... not the East African XV, but rather that Nakuru team of 1958, winners of the RAF sevens cup, the Nakuru sevens cup, and the Enterprise cup.

I set about tracing a team that were so closely knit in those years, they were as if a family. I located the team as follows: **Dai Davies**, *fullback* - father of the team, now 76, lives in Thorpele-Soken, Essex, England. He loves golf. **Don Darrock**, *wing* -lived in Natal until two years ago: now in Benalla, Victoria, Australia. Played for East Africa vs the British Lions. **Roger Jackson**, *centre* - unable to trace. **P Roberts**, *centre* - unable to trace. **J Green**, *wing* - Unable to trace. **Willie Law**, *scrum half*, lives in Lanark, Scotland...loves golf. Willie and Bettie come to South Africa each year to visit their daughter in Cape Town. **Les Tucker** *front row forward* - lives in Queenstown South Africa, 33 Frost Street Tel: 0451 5614 Plays bowls now. **Remo Pollastri**, *hooker* - a well known figure, who lived in South America for some years, and now lives in Harare Zimbabwe. **Bill Harte**, *front row forward* -

lives in Hastings, New Zealand. Recently in South Africa for the World Rugby Cup. Ken Oulton lock - still in Kenya. Lives in Kelif, grows orchids, resin tappings and is a seed merchant. **Lofty Reynolds**, *lock* - farms near to Bill Harte in Hastings, New Zealand. Recently in South Africa for the World Rugby Cup. Most "capped" player for East Africa. **Ben Durand** *wing forward* - lives in Westmancote, Gloucestershire, England. **Don Kennedy** *8th man* - lives in Taumaranui, New Zealand. One son represented New Zealand at World Sky Diving. Don played for Canterbury, a South Island University "Blue".

Footnote Included in the University of Cape Town Touring team in 1959 were the following who made good: JF Coetzee Western Province, Transvaal and Junior Springbok. AR Hutchenson Northern Transvaal. CJ Blom Western Province; AS Malan Western Province, Transvaal and Springbok Captain. O le Roux Western Province; Basil Holmes Western Province; NF Dollar Rhodesia.

I returned in 1994 for a short sentimental visit, after over 40 years, to the Eldoret Sports club and the scene of many a rugby triumph. I could almost hear the enthusiastic crowd, the shout of

the coach "Stompie" Jones. I remembered the many tries scored, the Tuskers consumed afterwards and the fun. But I was brought to reality in the silence, the weathered buildings, the long grass and neglect. That once a red turf now nearly a meadow. I left downhearted in one way but delighted that I could tell my son of the days that used to be. It was mainly for his benefit and a father's story of years gone past that the journey was made to 64. That roar of 64!!! on the rugby-ground I can hear to this day - how many readers feel the same?

RETURNED. TERUGONTVANG.

*Mnr & Mev Dick Bessler, Posbus 673, St Michaels on Sea 4265. *Graham and Shirley Broadbent, 4 Hendrik Verwoerd Ave, Delmas 2210. *Mnr & mev Davies, Posbus 313, Ermelo 2350. *LJ de Beer, Posbus 14383, Zuurfontein, 1900. *Mev Alida Eksteen, Posbus 212 Somerset-Wes, 7130. *Mnr De Bruin Erasmus, Posbus 313, Ermelo, 2350. *Lynette Germeshuisen, Posbus 20074, Peacehaven, Vereeniging, 1934. *JG Joubert, Posbus 898, Thabazimbi, 0380. *Mev Makkie Kleynhans, 210 Monte Carlo w/s., Margaret Ave, Kempton Park 1619. *Mnr J H Korf, Sodwana Baai Park, Privaatsak 310, Mbazwana, 3974. *Mnr PW Muller, Pk Ellof, 2211. *Mnr MS Nel, Kampersrus, Hoedspruit 1380. *JCJ Olivier, Posbus 70, Duiwelskloof, 0835. *Mnr Pine Pienaar, Posbus 395, Barberton, 1300. *Lina Stephenson, Shirleyweg, Winkelspruit, 4126. *JJ Steyn, Posbus 78, Duiwelskloof, 0835. *Susan vd Westhuizen, Posbus 1358, Britz, 1250. * Mnr LC van Dyk, 24stelaan 813, Villieria, 0186

*Mnr en mev Gideon van Rensburg, Jan van Riebeekstr 68, Gofsig, Middelburg 1050. *Willie Jansen van Rensburg, Rothery str 68, Nelspruit 1200. *Mev L van Rooyen, HA Potgieter Tehuis, Malherbe str 51, Capital Park 0084. *Peter van Ryneveld, Erf 302, Riverside, Kleinbrakrivier, 6803. *Mnr AJ van Straaten, Bamboesstr 13, Kempton Park, 1619. *Mnr GJ von Landsberg, Posbus 188, Hazyview, 1242.

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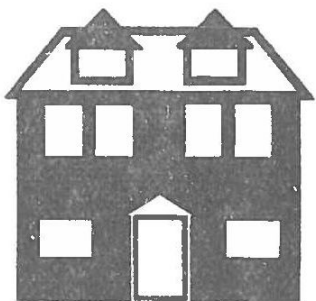
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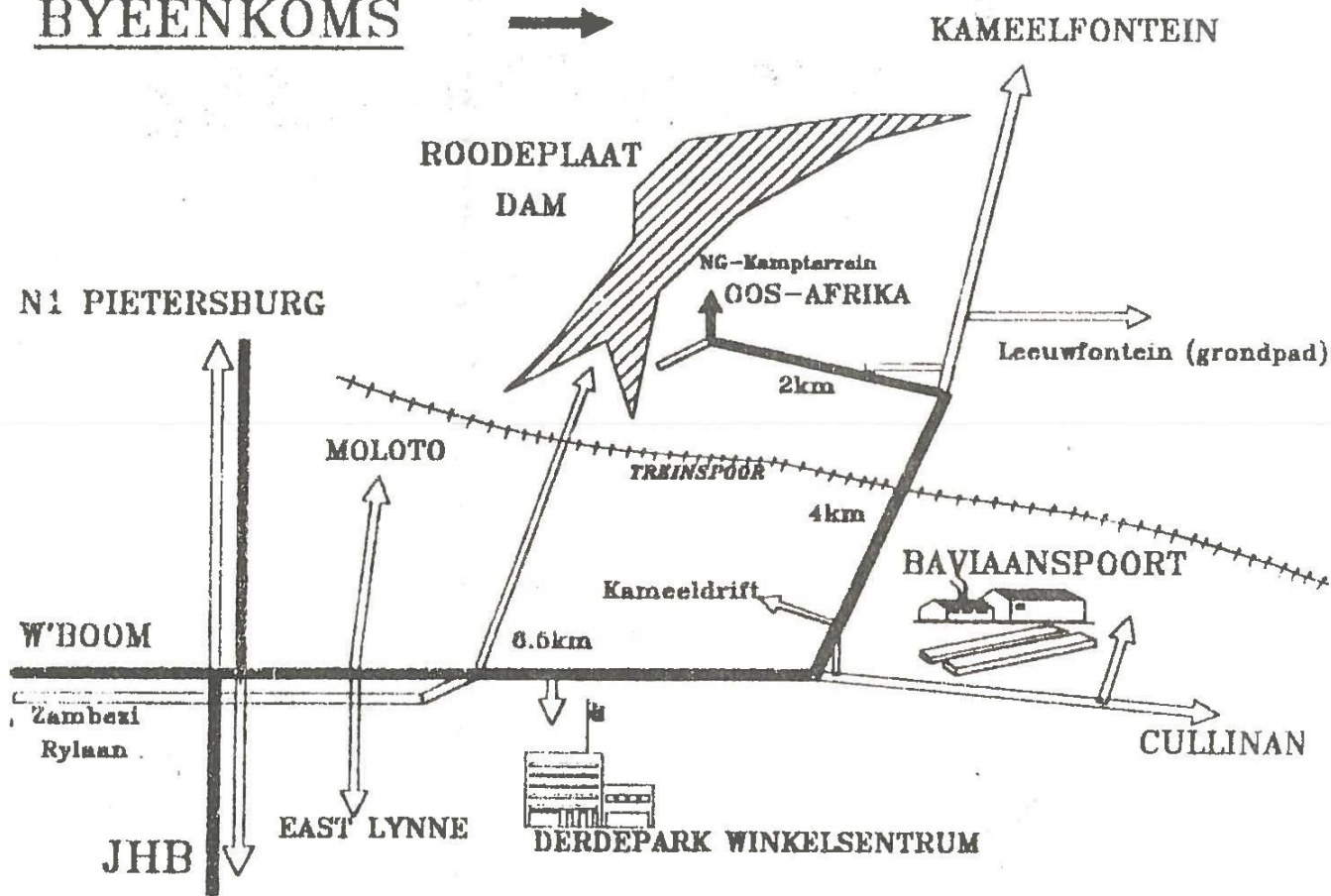
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