



Camps Bay 2001 Reunion Expatriate Alumni News



Introduction

Many of the following snippets are extracts from e-mail messages. Editing has been kept to a minimum. Postal and e-mail addresses and phone and fax numbers have been removed, but these are available in the online database.

Additions to original text are shown within square brackets [e.g. this text was added by the editor] and are generally for clarification.

Three dots ... are used to indicate that text has been removed.

1943

Megan Raaff (Victoria, Australia)

Best wishes from Megan. She now lives on a farm in Victoria, Australia.

1944

Bill Dent (e-mail from Zimbabwe)

... I know that both my brother Bob and sister Glynn had an absolute BALL at the last [Camps Bay Reunion in 1996] gathering! Unfortunately with things as they are in Zimbabwe (where I have been resident for the last, almost 42 years) I don't see me being able to make this year's bash - also we were in Cape Town just three months ago over Xmas etc so to do another trip now seems unlikely.

... PLEASE wish everybody the very best for the reunion and particularly those of the 1951 Standard 5 Class.

Pam Hedges (Melbourne, Australia)

Best wishes from Pam who now lives in Melbourne, Australia.

Mary Ingle (Sydney, Australia)

Best wishes from Mary. She is still teaching in Sydney, Australia.

1946

Maryke Hulscher (e-mail from Deventer, Holland)

... Thank you so much for the invitation to the Reunion and what a great web-site you folks have made! with that fantastic view of Camps Bay taken exactly in front of my old house in Clifton ... I always say it was the most beautiful spot in the world.

... Unfortunately I won't be able to come to the reunion, even though I did know that it was being planned for the end of April. Seeing I hardly ever have sunshine and warmth in Holland I did not want to take the risk of a holiday at that time of the year as I can't spend so much money and then risk sitting

in the rain in Cape Town. My suggestion to the organisers of the reunion: the next time have it a bit earlier in the year Feb or March so that the overseas people can combine it with a nice hot sunny holiday!

... It is so sad to see that so many of our ex school buddies have already passed away, gosh! we aren't even so old yet, can you imagine how it will be by the time we are 80 years old

Liesel Speirs (e-mail from Devon, UK)

... It does not appear that I will be able to be at the Rotunda, unless something wonderful happens, but thank you so much for the invitation and the database. ... The 1996 pictures are fun but a pity that not all the classes were captured on film. Look forward to seeing this year's pics when they are added to the CBHS website. ... please remember me to my classmates. Wish I could have joined you all.

1947

Russ Bowman (e-mail from Loughborough, UK)

... It was most interesting to see what has happened to all of us from years ago. I was amazed to see that many are still living where they did when we were at school. Sadly, I know that some of our class have died. I always see Alan Lighton when I am back, the only one of our year I have kept in touch with.

I have been out of SA since 1963 and have had little contact in SA for a long time. My partner and I were in Cape Town this January and last Easter so I won't be returning again however attractive that may sound.

Laurence Kaminsky (e-mail from Albany, USA)

My sister-in-law, Lorraine Kaminsky passed your message on to me. We live in a small town just outside of Albany, New York, which is the capital of New York State. We have lived here for just over 25 years and moved here directly from Cape Town. I am a scientist and although we travel very frequently all over the world I have never been back to South Africa. I graduated from Camps Bay School in 1958 (I can't believe it has been so long - haven't thought about it for a long time) and really have totally lost contact with all members of my class. Your letter sure stimulated some very old memories. If you have the e-mail addresses of any of my old classmates I would appreciate getting hold of them. It would be great to hear how time has treated them. Thanks for the contact.



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1948

Ruth Aaron (Sydney, Australia)

Ruth now lives in Sydney, Australia, and sends her very best wishes.

David Beasley (Melbourne, Australia)

David now lives in Melbourne, Australia, and is a magazine editor. He sends his love and best wishes.

Ann Butcher (Portsmouth, UK)

Ann went to the Falklands in 1955 and then moved to Portsmouth, UK in 1960. She owns a day nursery for children 3-5 years old. Ann sends her best wishes and will be thinking of us all.

Aileen Duffett (e-mail from Detroit, USA)

What a super surprise! I have been on the Internet looking through all the old pictures and getting up to date with all the "old cronies" on the pupils listing. Sad that some are deceased.

... My husband was wondering why I kept bursting into laughter when I came up with my Sub A and also Matric pictures.

... I have 4 children - all married (two boys and two girls) ranging from 35 years to 27 years old. I have been married for 38 years to Allan. I have 3 grand children. I only have one daughter living in Michigan. The others live in Georgia (where we lived for 3 1/2 years and my husband worked as an envoy for the Olympics in 1996), a son in Tennessee and a son in Texas. ... My brother Russell Duffett lives in New Zealand in Tawa.

... I keep in contact with Lyn McCraw (Latimer) and visited her when in RSA. I was there last March visiting my 90 year old father. My sisters Denise and Dawn still live in South Africa. Dawn said she has been on the phone for hours rounding past pupils up for the reunion. ... Dawn emailed me and said that all my family will be attending the reunion - that is except Russell and me. She persuaded June, John and Denise to go with her! I can't remember the exact date but hope it is a great success. It was so nice checking the new photos on the web page

Elinor Lazarus (e-mail from the UK)

... We enjoyed looking at all the old photos. Unfortunately I am not able to come to the reunion as we will be in Thailand visiting my son. I'm sure it will be great fun and look forward to seeing photos after the event.

Best wishes, Elinor Simanowitz...Lazarus

Andrew Mann (e-mail from Selwyn Klein)

... Andrew, unfortunately was killed in a car accident on 8th March 1998. He was making a u-turn in Rosh

Pina (a small town in northern Israel). He was killed instantly. I was in shock and it took me some time to digest that. I remembered Andrew as a guy with incredible determination to overcome his CP handicap. He used to participate in cricket and I do remember that he had lost his hair at a very young age. His wife told me what he had been doing. He studied landscape ecology at the Haifa Technikon and did a doctorate at Bar Ilan University. He met his wife Rivka who is a landscape architect and they had worked together. He lived with his wife at Korazin in the north of the country. ... Andrew is survived by 3 children, a daughter Michal (18 yr.), a son, Guy (14 yr.) and the youngest daughter, Ayalah (13 yr.). Andrew's mother is still alive and she is at Bet Protea Parents' Home in Herzlia. Apparently she has quite a bit of memorabilia of Andrew's. Rivka told me that there is a video on Andrew but it is in Hebrew. ... she told me that she will try and have it edited in English. I shall ask my sister Hilary who is coming here on a visit for three weeks to take it back to SA with her. She is friendly with Marilyn Berman who is also busy with the Reunion. I shall ask her to give it to Marilyn.

... Andrew had also designed the landscaping of Vered Hagail - a community settlement in northern Israel - a real masterpiece in landscape design. I had been there and I can assure you that it is a great tribute to Andrew's talent. The last few years of his life was spent simply in gardening. He worked as a gardener which is what he loved the most.

Marion Sacks (e-mail from Middlesex, UK)

Elinor [Lazarus] caught up with me in London just last week and has sent on [a link to] the Camps Bay Reunion website and some e-mails. It has been so exciting catching up on people from the past, logging on to photos of the school years, and generally reminiscing. Unfortunately I shan't be able to attend in Cape Town this April due to too many other plans, but would love to be kept up to date and receive more info afterwards.

We left Cape Town to settle in London in August 1979, then my husband was Ivor Freedman; he sadly and unexpectedly died of a heart attack in October 1989, leaving me with my 3 children, David, Tanya and Gary. Some 2 and a bit years later I met George Summerfield at a friend's dinner party and this transformed my life. We married in Feb 1993 and have been so fortunate to be very happy together. He has 2 children and we now have a grandson and another on its way soon on his side, and a granddaughter from my eldest son --they keep us busy. We also travel a lot and were in Australia 4 years ago too. The last time I was in Cape Town was 3 years ago. My youngest sister Linda still lives in Green Point. Hermione, my other sister lives in London, (since 1961) she still has the Sacks surname.



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1949

Jeremy Fialkov (e-mail from Pennsylvania, USA)

It was delightful to receive information on the Old Boys and Girls from Camps Bay Primary. Names of those we were so intimately involved with. I have been out of the country since 1977 and have never returned although I recall those halcyon days with great nostalgia.

Victor Kaminsky (Ottawa, Canada)

Best wishes from Victor. He is now Chief of Surgery at Queensway Carleton Hospital in Ottawa, Canada.

Barbara Mann (e-mail from Beersheba, Israel)

... I still can't believe that I've really spoken to you [Gerda Bus] again after all these long lost years (40 to be exact). Talking to you this morning brought back a flood of pictures, faces and events gushing through my mind, taking me back to a period in my life that I haven't thought about for such a long time - as I don't have anyone here to share my memories with. My elder daughter has often asked me why I have never returned to Cape Town to visit all the old places and suggested that we go together someday - as she is curious to see where I grew up after hearing so many stories, descriptions and looking at my photos.

... You may be interested to know that a short video film was being made on Andrew by a young movie student (as one of his projects for his university degree) just at the time Andrew was killed. He had chosen Andrew as his subject to show how someone can overcome physical handicaps and have a good and healthy life if they put their mind to it and persevered. The filming was cut short when Andrew died and the student thought that he wouldn't be able to finish his project and it wouldn't be right to continue under the circumstances. But after talking to [Andrew's wife] Rikky and Andrew's close friends - he decided to continue the film exactly where he stopped, but instead of Andrew appearing himself, his family and friends appeared describing for the viewer all the things that he loved to do, places he liked to go and all he had accomplished. The language spoken in the video is of course Hebrew, but I had a copy dubbed with English so that my Mom could understand. Perhaps you would like me to send you a copy ...

Roy Levine (Sydney, Australia)

Roy now lives in Sydney, Australia, and sends his best wishes.

Coralie Seaborn (Bucks., UK)

Best wishes from Coralie who now lives in Buckinghamshire, UK.

1950

Kathleen Hedges (Stockport, UK)

Best wishes from Kathy who now lives in Stockport, UK.

1951

Carol Flanter (e-mail from Holland)

Thanks so much for all the info on the reunion - what a pity that I shall have to miss it as ... we were just in C.T a week ago and now home again in cold Holland it was great seeing your site and also the photos.... oh for days gone by..... I have been living in Holland for the past 33 years after studying physiotherapy at UCT I left to see the world and landed up here which is not too bad...have 2 kids aged 29 and 27 and still work as a physio 4 days a week, and as you realise have just been to visit my Mom in Mouille Point...Guess that's it in a nutshell...maybe there are some more classmates of mine who have sent their news, would be nice to hear....lots of success at the reunion and send everyone of the class of 51/52 my best....

Chris Moyle (e-mail from Sydney, Australia)

I have just stumbled upon this web page - thank you and congratulations! I have just had a fascinating half hour browse - found myself and my sister Pamela Moyle listed - was saddened to see Rosalind Langston, about whom I still have some strong and fond memories, recorded as deceased - was pleased to reflect on a special friendship when I came across Ingrid Baumgartens name and so on. If you are fielding calls for this web page I am sure you hear more of this sort of thing than you want... but one last comment is that I discovered quite a coincidence too. I moved just 14 months ago from a home we had in Sydney which I now see was only 5 doors along the road from the address Gerda Bus has listed - I remember Gerda and Emmy from Bakoven. I am sure I must have seen her about our old neighbourhood in Sydney without making the connection.

1952

Michael Butcher (Stanley, Falkland Islands)

Michael went to the Falklands in 1955 and is still there. He sends his best wishes.

Alex Morton (e-mail from Sydney, Australia)

Class of 1952. Have just found your great website. ... Have been living in Australia for nearly 13 years with my wife Sally and 2 children. Please send my regards to all my former classmates.



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1953

Peter Bunting (e-mail from Ontario, Canada)

I would really like to make contact with any of my classmates who might be interested in exchanging brief histories with me. The following is a brief summary of what has happened over the 37-odd years since I left Camps Bay High School. I left South Africa with great reluctance, to join my parents and brother (Stephen) and sister (Margaret) who had left the country before me. They left on an "exit visa" which meant that they could not return (at least not until 1992, when de Klerk and Mandela negotiated the "truce"). In England, we stayed in London where I had to complete the so-called "Advanced Level" high school before I could go to university. At Sussex University near Brighton, I studied chemistry and biochemistry in their School of Molecular Sciences towards a B.Sc degree. (The current President of South Africa was also studying there at the time). While at Sussex, I met my wife-to-be, Audrey Laidler. She persuaded me to give Canada a try. We got married shortly after we moved to Ottawa, where I did a PhD in Chemistry. Her father, Keith, who has just turned 83, was been an eminent chemical kineticist for many years. He recently switched to the history of chemistry, and still publishes papers and books. After Ottawa, we moved to Kingston so that Audrey could train as a teacher, and I did some postdoctoral research. Thereafter I heard about the career of clinical biochemistry (I think it's called chemical pathology in the South African and British systems), and took a two-year Diploma in Toronto, finally getting a job at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto, a tertiary-care teaching hospital, where I worked for 22 years. More recently I have moved to Gamma-Dynacare Medical Laboratories just outside Toronto. The culture shock of coming to Canada was considerable, and it was several years before I felt reasonably at home. In many ways I am a three-way split, with parts of me still missing life in England, and certainly life in South Africa. Audrey and I were married in 1969, and spent 19 happy years together, producing three lovely children, all girls. ... Tragically, Audrey's sister developed breast cancer, from which she died when she was 34; and a few years later, Audrey herself developed it, and died five years after her diagnosis. The last two years of her life were a living hell that I would not wish on my worst enemy. There is clearly a gene in the family, and the two sisters have four daughters (Audrey's niece is aged 28), and one can't help but wonder how they will fare with such a genetic history. The four children have adjusted quite amazingly in the subsequent years, which is wonderful to see. Sometimes out of tragedy there is a new beginning - at least there was for me. I am now married to Anna Henderson. She has a son ... so we are now a "blended" or "composite" family, which has worked mostly very well. My interest in South Africa increased after I came to Canada. I joined the African National Congress, and was effectively in exile. I returned for

the first time in 29 years in 1994, just before the elections, and was able to show Anna some of the Cape Province. My parents had both returned to Cape Town two years before that, and my Dad was an MP in Mandela's government until 1999.

Jenny Cutler (East Anglia, UK)

Jenni Cutler, now Jenni Fleetwood, lives in a small town in England, and writes: "I have been thrilled to make contact with several former school friends through finding their e-mail addresses on the database. If there's anyone out there who would like to contact me, write to jennifleetwood@aol.com. I live in a small town called Leiston, which is a couple of miles from the sea in a rural part of East Anglia. My husband, Bill, is a ship's purser (we met on one of the mailships) and we have three adult children. Alex, our elder son, is 23. A singer, he works in London and is the administrator of an opera competition. Nick (21) and Kate (19) are both at university, Nick in Lincoln reading Communications, and Kate at Bath, reading Psychology. I am a writer and editor. We visit South Africa every couple of years, and missed the reunion by a whisker. Next time I am determined to be there!"

Gavin Fialkov (Sydney, Australia)

Gavin now lives in Sydney, Australia, and sends his best wishes.

Hazel Kaminsky (e-mail from Toronto, Canada)

I am married to Peter Satusky (from Muizenberg) and we have been in Toronto for 22 years or so. We have two sons, Elton 28 (a lawyer in Palo Alto, California) and Frank 21 (working through his third year at York University in Toronto, doing a B.A. in Business Sciences). I worked most recently as an Assistant Buyer for Peoples Jewellers, the largest jewellery chain in Canada, but [they] were taken over by an American company and the head office was moved to Dallas. So I have recently taken the position of Executive Assistant to the President of a company that runs childcare centres and a catering facility that caters lunches for childcare centres across Toronto. So far, so good. The major plus is that I am 6 minutes from home and in a city the size of Toronto, this is almost unheard of. Peter is an accountant for a large carpet contracting business. ... I have not been back to S.A. since 1984 - Peter used to go back to see his Mom regularly, but she passed away 2 years ago, so he does not go back anymore. My Mom is here in Toronto (83 years young and still driving a car).



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Selwyn Klein (e-mail from Bat Chefer, Israel)

... I was very moved by seeing the old photographs of the past pupils. I had matriculated in 1964 and our picture including Yours Truly, is there. ... This is an incredible website that you all had built.

... I am a pharmacist, working at Laniado Hospital in Netanya. I have been living in Israel for 26 yrs and have been in hospital pharmacy all the time. Today we live in a new border settlement called Bat Chefer which was established four years ago from scratch. We are about 2 Km from the Palestinian town of Tulkarem where all the action has been taking place lately. However, we live within the Green Line that is Israel proper.

Our home is in very pastoral surroundings and is always open to visitors from the old country including old school friends of course. It is perfectly safe here despite the fact that this country always seems to be in the news. Today I am fluent in Hebrew of course, as this is the vernacular and this has become our language of communication even at home with the wife and kids. They do know English as well.

... I do have contact with some old school friends such as Peter Hirschson and Edwin Woodbridge who were both in my class. Whenever I come to SA, we reminisce about old times. If you are interested in any information about them, I shall only be too pleased to supply you with what I have. Being a bit of a computer boffin in my spare time, I enjoy scanning and touching up old pictures.

I do a bit of odd writing of articles in discussion groups of the New York Times and even the Lebanese Daily Star about the Middle East as I am a great believer in finding a just solution for Arabs and Israelis so that we can all live together in peace.

Kindest regards and Good Luck on a tremendous project which I think is a wonderful effort. Remember, if there is any way that I can help, it would be a real pleasure.

Dorothy Ritchie (Melbourne, Australia)

Greetings to everyone. What a thrill to see all the familiar names again.

Many years ago I qualified at Groote Schuur Hospital as a Medical Technologist and then set off to London to seek my fortune. I worked at Guy's Hospital and then the Royal Postgraduate Medical School/ Hammersmith Hospital. After doing a three month bus trip through Europe to Turkey, I knew a lot of Aussies, New Zealanders and some South Africans. I teamed up with Australians in Ealing and that is where I met my husband Geoff. We married in St Peter's Church Camps Bay in Feb 1973, honeymooned in Hluwhluwe and then travelled by Italian ship to Melbourne, Australia. We have now been married 28 years. Wow!

I left work eventually to become a mother and so effectively lost my career. I started a small business, selling plants and subsequently hiring indoor plants to offices (now in my 21st year). Much later on I retrained as a Microbiologist at university 1994-6 however, bad luck no jobs.

I have always been interested in politics one way or another, so now I find myself in local government here in Southeast Melbourne - a councillor elected for a three year term, one down and two to go.

What I can do for you is to invite you to visit us. We have lots of room and would love to see you. Why not?

We have 3 children:

Melanie	24	who has just started her first job (in London) as a mechanical engineer
Julian	19	studying 2nd year Applied Physics
Felicity	16	finishes school end 2002

I must mention that our daughter Melanie and Jenni Cutler's son Alexander, have teamed up, believe it or not, and are currently an item.

1954

Stan Chasen (e-mail from Melbourne, Australia)

Thank you for all the information ... regarding the reunion. I am sorry I will not be there as it sounds like it will be quite a milestone in the lives of a lot for folk who have not seen each other for a long time. Please pass on my regards to all my old class mates and have a great day.



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1955

Charmaine Fialkov (e-mail from Israel)

Gavin [Fialkov] sent me an e-mail yesterday with the site address I went into it and nearly had a heart-attack at the most beautiful picture of camps bay - and the photos of the old matric etc classes - I just had a lump in my throat.

I saw that Selwyn Klein is in Israel and I dropped him a line yesterday and he phoned me last night - we chatted and laughed for an hour - it was marvellous!

I don't know if I was the Sub A class of 53 or 54! Whatever it was lovely seeing all the faces that I hadn't seen for years (at least 40 - I am in Israel 30 years and before that....)

I would love to be able to come to the reunion, but funds etc I really can't allow myself such a luxury - but if you should see my classmates and friends of 53 or 54 - please pass on my fondest love and remember me to them.

May you have a lovely reunion and I am very jealous

Barbara Whall (North Carolina, USA)

Barbara now lives in Advance, North Carolina. She sends her best wishes.

1956

Roanne Mendelsohn (e-mail from Barnett, UK)

... [I] would love to keep in touch with ex classmates. ... I am hoping to be in Cape Town on July 1st, because it is my father's 80th birthday then and I cannot visit in both April and July. It's unfortunate as I would love to have been at the reunion. Perhaps I'll make the next one?

Thank you for getting in touch with me. I keep in touch also with Mirchelle Louis (nee Kessel) and Lindsay Reinhardt (nee Broll) who were at school with me. ... I understand that you have Linda Goldenstein's (nee Barnett) details. She lives quite close to me. Merle Singer (nee Mayers) who was head girl in the year above me also lives in England now, so if you need info on any of these, I'll either get them to contact you, or pass on the details. Sheila Chiat, who is from my year, see and speak to each other regularly and she mentioned that she'd seen school photos on the website.

1959

Moir Clark (e-mail from Saskatchewan, Canada)

My maiden name is Clark and my married name is Brownlee. ... I have lived in Canada for the past 29 years. I always wanted to be a Social Worker and finally I almost got that wish except I decided to change direction half way through university. So in

1996 I obtained a BA majoring in Sociology with a minor in Native Studies. I now teach conflict resolution and mediation skills to children in the local elementary schools here in Saskatoon. My husband is an ordained Presbyterian Minister and we have three "Canadian" daughters. My husband too is Canadian.

1962

David Jacob (e-mail from California, USA)

This is David Jacob and I was pleasantly surprised to receive your e-mail and invitation to the reunion. I live in Los Angeles and will be in Cape Town on April 26, unfortunately just missing the reunion which I would love to attend. ... I have lived in Los Angeles since 1977 married to Michelle Gerber, two daughters aged 20 and 18 both of whom attend college at UC Berkeley. I would love to get in contact with some people. ... Hope all the plans are moving along smoothly for the reunion. Best of luck!