

31 August 2016



2016 LOG Newsletter

Hi, everybody Loreto!

Soon it is time for the annual reunion of all LOGS which will be held at Nana Sita / Skinner Street Loreto Convent School on Saturday, 1 October 2016 at 11h00 for registration and 11h30 for Mass, followed by a finger lunch. Entrance is at 138 Visagie Street.

Bring your spouses, friends, etc. and, of course, Loreto Old Boys are very welcome, all at the price of R70 each (to cover costs, including admin costs).

We request LOGS of a specific year to contact each other. This year the Golden Girls are the LOGS of 1966. The Diamond Girls are of 1956, the Ruby Girls of 1976, the Silver Girls of 1991 and the Tin Girls of 2006.

The overall aim is to bring together Loreto Past Pupils across the generations.

This is probably the longest Newsletter of all time! We received so many personal stories and memories and, particularly, Sr. Marian's Loreto details, that we just had to share them with you all. (Thank you for the news!) So please go first to the end of the Newsletter and let us know that you will be with us on Saturday, 1 October 2016, and then enjoy our Newsletter in your own time. May it bring back your own happy memories.

SCHOOL NEWS from:

Loreto Convent School, Nana Sita Street, Pretoria

While we are not promised the day of tomorrow all we have is the day of today; if we choose to live in the moment we have been blessed with, we will live a thankful life.

Therefore, it is with a thankful heart that we can report on the past few months' successes of Loreto Convent School. The year started off with excitement and cheer as everyone returned from their summer holiday.



Our 2015 Matric group of 76 students had the privilege of writing their matric exam. These learners managed a collective 78 distinctions as well as a 90.78% Bachelors' Degree admission. Our Top Student achieved no less than 6 distinctions, followed by 4 girls each achieving 5 distinctions.

The staff and learners were all keen on getting the year off to a splendid start.

Term 1 was greeted with a Staff Orientation, inspiring everyone to give of their best. A highlight for the Grade 11 learners was the Mass at Holy Trinity. The Grade 7 learners enjoyed their annual camp and our Grade 12 girls had their one night of magic at their Matric Farewell.

The fun continued into the second term with retreats, Bible Quiz finals and the Grade 7 Mass held at Assumption Convent. The School also celebrated its birthday. The second term also gave the opportunity to give generously to the less fortunate by donating to charities of each grade's choice. This gave us the opportunity to give back to the community, open the hearts of everyone and reflect on what we are blessed with.

Heading into the second half of 2016 leaves us with a chance to further enrich and plough into the lives of the learners. The Speakers' Circle dinner for the hardworking motivated girls who diligently attend this course annually, the Women's day celebration reminding us all of our worth as women and the Primary School's Music Festivals, to be held at CBC are all events we look forward to. We would also like to wish our 2016 matrics everything of the best for their final exams and know that they will certainly make us proud.

We enter into 2017 with great expectation, to be led by Mrs. Truter as we say goodbye to Mr. Shillinglaw, who will retire at the end of 2016. May everyone who forms part of the Loreto Convent School community be richly blessed.

[Loreto School Queenswood](#)

We received the following report for 2015 from Felicity Mullan.

"Anastasia van Zyl has recently had another baby and one of her siblings was married during the year. Maryke van Velsen (Bosma)'s son is trying out his vocation at the Seminary in Cape Town and her daughter has recently married. Carol Henry now has 4 grandchildren all living in Pretoria. Colleen Henry's eldest daughter was recently married and is living in Italy. Avril Henry is still playing hockey and was recently at the Master's Tournament in Bloemfontein. Susan Henry's triplets have completed their Matric and are preparing to study further next year. The Henry males - pupils of St Patrick's school in Waterkloof - are all in different areas of the business world and helping to make the world a better place for others. Loreto Queenswood suffered the loss of 3 pupils this year: Govern fell off a mountain in Kenya last week; Chaise Stols was killed in a car accident as was Donavan - the pupil in the wheelchair."

NEWS OF OUR LORETO SISTERS

Where the Sisters are and what they are doing.

We may retire from ministry but our mission never ends....

Many past-pupils wonder what the sisters are doing now that they are no longer directly involved in the schools so it seems good to share a little with you all. Currently our community in Southern Africa includes sisters in Cape Town, in Pretoria/Tshwane and in Western Zambia. We have had an active website but it is being revamped this month. The new address will be www.ibvmsa.co.za. Please take time to open this when you have a moment and it will give you some up to date news. We also encourage you to visit www.ibvm.org which is our international website with links to the various Loreto provinces in different parts of the world. We have one sister in New York representing us at United Nations with many other men and women religious. See www.ibvmunngo.org She is there on behalf of the worldwide IBVM/Loreto family – sisters, associates, co-workers in our schools and projects, students, parents, and yourselves our past-pupils.

In Cape Town there is still a significant commitment to Loreto School Strand – on the governing body and through support in different ways. Srs. Jacinta Bannon, Marie Brady, Rosaleen O’Kane and Monica Shanley are involved in various spiritual and pastoral ministries – in parishes, in prison ministry, with women’s groups, in healing of memories workshops, in awareness raising and action around human trafficking etc. A small group of Associates is active in the Strand area in recent years.

In Pretoria Srs. Margaret Mary O’Brien and Linda Prest are in Holy Cross Home as they need special care. Their ministry is simply “being”, praying and sharing in the pain and suffering of humanity. While residing in the retirement complex at Nazareth House, Srs. Deirdre Harman, Eileen Gallagher, Emer McNally, Marian Moriarty and Bernadette Wilczkiewicz are engaged in diverse ministries. These include significant engagement on the governing body and committees in both schools and support where possible for staff. Sr. Emer has given much time and energy to the Catholic Schools’ Trust which has taken several years to become formally established. It will shortly assume responsibility for Catholic schools previously owned by four different religious congregations. Meantime the spiritual and pastoral ministries of the sisters in Pretoria are similar to those listed above for Cape Town and also include reflexology, group facilitation, involvement with migrants / asylum seekers / refugees, the homeless and those in a halfway house.

In Lukulu in Western Zambia Srs. Elizabeth Donnan and Pat Harvey have had a great but demanding ministry in education and development, in health and pastoral care since moving to Zambia from Witbank in 2006. In May 2016 they welcomed Sr. Lenah Mambo,

one of our Kenyan sisters, who is now teaching in a local high school in Lukulu. They recently visited us in SA. We usually gather on an annual basis for a meeting and to have time together.

In June 2017 Pretoria will be the venue for an International Loreto Schools' Conference. This is being jointly planned by the three Loreto Schools in SA in liaison with others from a few different countries. They connect with the planning committee online. We expect more than 60 participants.

From this outline it is evident that retirement has a different meaning for sisters! The possibilities are endless for living out the charism of Mary Ward who encouraged us to do ordinary things well and to do all for the glory of God. We cannot all be Mother Teresas but each one makes a difference in others' lives daily. We acknowledge her Loreto roots and rejoice with Mother Teresa's Sisters as they celebrate her canonisation on 4th September. Sr. Emer will represent us all in Rome that day. We are looking forward to meeting many of you on 1st October.

Sr. Marian Moriarty 20th August 2016

MARY WARD ENGLAND/TERESA BALL IRELAND/MARGARET MARY JOLIVET SOUTH AFRICA

The year 1609 is considered to be the time when our Institute began. In that year, while she was in London, Mary Ward had a clear insight that she was being called to do something different for the glory of God. In the years that followed she understood that she was being guided to provide for the education of women in ways similar to what the Jesuits were already doing for boys. Thus began a long difficult journey for her as she tried to establish a religious congregation of active, ministerial religious. The officials of the Church wanted women religious to be cloistered, to live within the walls of the convent and not to engage in ministry outside. Mary worked tirelessly to avoid confining her congregation in this way. She was declared a heretic and the congregation was suppressed in 1631.

However, through the efforts of her faithful followers, the call to work for the *care of the faith and the education of women and girls* continued. Gradually approval was given for the rules and constitutions which were based on those of the Jesuits. Schools flourished in various parts of Europe and during Penal Times in Ireland young Irish women were sent to these schools in England and elsewhere if their families could afford it. It was in this way that Frances Ball – later known as Mother Teresa Ball- came to be a boarder at the Bar Convent York in England.

Frances Ball returned to Dublin when she completed her years in school. Shortly afterwards she experienced a call to the religious life. At that same time Archbishop Murray of Dublin

was asking the sisters, followers of Mary Ward, in York to send a group to found a convent and start a school in Ireland. Those sisters of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary said that they could not do it but suggested that the archbishop send young women to York to be trained. Frances Ball was one of those who went to York for formation in the religious life. She and her companions returned to Dublin in 1821 and they called their first convent and school Loreto – hence the name by which we have been known for nearly 200 years.

The 1800s were a time of great missionary expansion with numerous groups of men and women religious leaving Europe for many other parts of the world to bring the good news of the gospel. Frances – now Mother Teresa Ball - responded to invitations received and during her lifetime sisters went to India, Canada and several other places. This pattern continued after her death in 1861.

Meantime in South Africa Catholic missionaries were moving into the interior of the country. Men religious led the way and among them the Oblates of Mary Immaculate – OMIs – stand out. They evangelised large tracts of Southern Africa and still have a strong presence here today. A French Oblate named Jolivet became bishop of a wide area of South Africa including Pretoria. His sister – Margaret Mary – was sent to Loreto School in Navan in Ireland to improve her English. She later became a Loreto Sister and when her brother saw the needs in South Africa he invited the Loreto Sisters to come. So in 1878 Margaret Mary and her companions came by ship to Durban and by ox-wagon over the Drakensberg to Pretoria.....and the rest is history.

For years we looked upon Teresa Ball as our foundress because we were not allowed to call Mary Ward foundress. In the renewal following Vatican Council II (1962-1965) all religious were strongly urged to go back to the spirit of their foundress. We began to claim Mary Ward as foundress from that time. We rejoice that she was declared Venerable in December 2009 and we trust that one day she, who was once called a heretic, will be canonised.

This brief historical outline would not be complete without mentioning that the congregation which continued after Mary Ward's death and was known as the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary changed their name to Congregation of Jesus in 2002. We work closely with these sisters in several places around the world. About twelve of them will come to the International Schools' Conference being organised here in Pretoria next June. They have communities in Zimbabwe. This is the only country of Africa where they are. They are in many countries where we do not have communities just as we are in countries where they are not working. The followers of Mary Ward in the different branches minister today in forty-four countries across five continents.....all for the greater glory of God.

From Sr. Marian Moriaty 22-08-2016

NEWS OF LORETO OLD GIRLS

Please note:

1. The annual LOG Reunion will take place on **Saturday 1 October 2016**, at Loreto Convent School, Nana Sita Street (previously Skinner Street), with Registration at 11:00 (at the entrance to the Chapel) and Mass in the School Chapel at 11:30, followed by further Registration and Finger Lunch in the School Hall.

2. Use the Visagie Street entrance (138 Visagie), the back entrance to the School. Visagie Street is a one-way street in a westerly direction. As soon as you cross over Bosman Street, keep in the far right-hand lane as the entrance to the school is soon after the traffic light on the right-hand side of the street. Do not attempt to use Nana Sita Street (previously Skinner Street), as the front entrance to the Loreto Convent School is not open at the weekends.

3. We invite all LOGS to attend, as well as the Loreto Sisters, the Principal of Loreto Convent School and his wife, Mr and Mrs Shillinglaw, the Vice-principal, Mrs Truter, and all Teachers, Past Principals and Past Teachers. We thank Mr Shillinglaw for coming to the Annual Reunion and for his support of and assistance to the LOGS over the years. Congratulations to Mrs Truter as the new Principal from January 2017 and we invite her and her husband to attend the Reunion. Furthermore, we invite Mr Marcello Pallozzi, the Principal of Loreto School Queenswood, with his wife, and the Queenswood Teachers and Past Teachers to attend the Reunion. Let us know if you are coming. RSVP to pa@lorskin.co.za.

4. LOGS, note the categories for celebration.

Golden Girls	50 years out of school
Diamond Girls	60 years out of school
Ruby Girls	40 years out of school
Silver Girls	25 years out of school
Tin Girls	10 years out of school

5. Send all LOG News to pa@lorskin.co.za throughout the year.

6. Refer to www.loreto.co.za for matters relating to LOGS.

LOG / LOB Commendations

We sing the praises of:

- Joan (Acker) Kerswill (Skinner 1971) on the publication of her article, "The Perfect Friar" in the Franciscan quarterly periodical called "New Serafika", November 2015.
- Sister Marian Moriarty (Loreto Sister) on walking the Camino Pilgrims Route in 2015.
- Tessa Eales (Past Teacher of Loreto School Queenswood) for walking the Camino Pilgrims Route in 2016.
- Father Kevin Reynolds (Skinner Loreto Old Boy) for celebrating the Requiem Mass on 26 August 2016 of Medea (Angelo) (Hussey) Evans (Skinner 1946) with wholehearted commitment to make the Mass a joyous celebration of Medea's life.
- Father Michael Van Heerden (Strand Loreto Old Boy) and Father Hugh O'Conner (Sea Point Loreto Old Boy) for celebrating Mass for the Sea Point LOGS in Cape Town.

Bravo!

LOG Family Matters

- Sandra (Melvill) Truter (Skinner 1959)

My name is Sandra Truter (nee Melvill) and I attended Loreto Skinner Street between 1950 and 1959. In Std 5 I was given the option of writing to a pen friend overseas and am still in contact with the friend I wrote to then. We have visited them in Switzerland on a number of occasions and had them visit us in SA. Did hairdressing on leaving school and in 1960 met Danie, my husband to be, when we moved into the house across the road from his family. He is a Loreto Old Boy, having attended Loreto Lydenburg in 1948/49. We were married in the Bosman Street Cathedral in January 1964 by Father, later Monsignor, Magennis and have three children and seven grandchildren. We had all of them here in July to celebrate the eldest son's 50th birthday which was quite an occasion as they are spread out between Port Elizabeth, Denmark and the United States. We were fortunate enough to celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary with our best man and bridesmaid, Errol and Annet Richa as well as have our wedding vows renewed by Father Kevin Reynolds. We are looking forward to the reunion in October.

- Colleen (Kilfoil) Newton (Hillcrest 1950)

I am not a Golden Girl, but a lot older. I was at Loreto Hillcrest in 1950 so as you can see I'm no spring chicken. I have attended all the Loreto Reunions and will be there again this year, God willing. I was married in 1959 and have three lovely children. My husband left

this earth in 2005 so I am now on my own in a lovely Retirement Home where I have a fair size garden and of course everything gets done for me. My one daughter, Suzanne, is now living in Ireland and I must admit I visit them at least twice a year. She has just been here to celebrate her 50th Birthday and came with her three children and her husband, so it has been wonderful having them. We spent four days in the Drakensburg and then four days at Umhlanga Rocks. My daughter has gone back with her son for school and my son-in-law with the two girls goes back tomorrow. It gave her a chance to see her brother and sister here in SA, which was great.

- Cecilia (Bettini) Wilson (Skinner 1967)

Thanks for the very chatty email. So much happens in my life it would take forever to explain –

- new kitchen renovations, decided to knock walls down as well, at our age, must be mad;
- trip to the UK with husband, son and his girlfriend last September for a month to visit family and friends. Since we left the UK in 1995 my son has never returned, so it was extremely exciting to visit and show the girlfriend where he grew up and introduce her to family;
- middle daughter completed her Honours in Education and directed Les Miserables as her high school musical this year, first school in Africa I believe to have been given the rights by the New York Publishers to do so; what an honour and what a success it was too;
- eldest daughter running a successful drama school in Durban and having her play, Christmas in Africa, selected and published in the Trinity College International Playwriting Collection

I could go on and on but won't bore you.

Still trying to contact Cheryl van der Merwe who was my closest friend at Loreto. Appears she has disappeared but I **will** find her, that's a given.

- Beatrice (Richardson) Eksteen (Skinner 1946)

My mother and father left Southampton in England on a Union Castle Line Boat and arrived in Cape Town in December 1929. We went to the Namaqualand Copper Mines at Nababeep as my father was an engineer and stayed there from 1930 to 1932 when the mine closed at the time of the Great Depression. In 1939 when the mine opened again we returned. I went to the O'Kiep Farm School until I went to Loreto Convent Sea Point in 1940 where Sister Shirley taught me English. In 1941 I went to Loreto Convent Skinner Street and there I matriculated in 1946. I married Nicolaas (Nic) Johannes Eksteen (I met him in Germiston when I was 21) in 1953. In 1955 we moved to Delareyville where he opened the first chemist in the small town. We had four children, Nicolaas Johannes, Clarissa, Ernst and Theresa. Our son Nic followed in his father's footsteps and became a pharmacist as also did Nic's daughter, Simone. Nic and his family moved to Barberton where he bought his uncle's

chemist. They are still there today. Their son, Nico-Juan is a pilot who trained in Nelspruit and is at present stationed in Dubai working with simulators to train pilots. Chanel, their third child, is a chartered accountant in Johannesburg and she is marrying a chartered accountant by the name of Bradley Boxshell-Smith in October. Our daughter Clarissa and her husband Chris Passano visited their son Tino in April 2016. Tino is a chef at Mudbrick, Waiheke Island, near Auckland. In July 2016 they also visited their daughter Leani who is a chartered accountant and her husband who is an engineer in Manchester, England. My next son is Ernst, a medical doctor in Pretoria, and is married to Trudy who is an occupational therapist. Their son, Ernst, is studying at Pretoria University doing his second degree in Graphic Art. Their daughter Theresa and her husband live in Midstream. Both are in financial departments - one at Sasol and the other at Grupp. Craig their son is studying Computer Science at Pretoria University. He has done special programming for his old school at Midstream. Merize my youngest grandchild is writing Matric this year and hopes to study at Stellenbosch. So all in all I come from a father who was a Richardson from England and a mother who was Swiss (came to learn English in England). I myself was born in Switzerland at Lungern where my Swiss grandmother lived.

LOG Births

- Colleen (Stringer) Trent (Lydenburg 1965) has been blessed with her first grandchild.
- Elizabeth Crabtree (Skinner 1994) reported that her brother Andrew Crabtree (Skinner Loreto Old Boy) and his wife had a baby girl in September 2014.

Congratulations.

LOG Travellers

- Gracie Pozzo (Skinner 1947) reports from Pretoria on her coach tours in South Africa as follows: Whole Garden Route Experience: We travelled from Pretoria arriving at Breton-On-Sea in Knysna where we spent a few days exploring surrounding areas, amongst others Plettenberg Bay where we joined Ocean Safaris on the open sea to view whales close up. A very unique experience. We were also treated to a ride onboard the "Rivercat Ferry" (also known as "Old Three Legs") to the Knysna Heads. Travelled on to Port Elizabeth (the friendly city) where we stayed over-night before departing for Cradock, staying at "The Tuishuise and Victoria Manor" with its warm Victorian atmosphere. More than two dozen Tuishuise in Market Street in Cradock are all beautifully restored Victorian era houses, each having its own lounge, kitchen and bathroom in its own distinctive theme of period paints and antique furniture. The Victoria Manor is a grand old hotel with décor from the days of Cecil John Rhodes. Then homeward bound, the route taking us over the Gariep Dam wall. Namaqualand West Coast Flower Spectacular: We departed with a Kulula flight from Lanseria Airport to Cape Town. Our luxury coach was waiting to take us to our hotel. Then we visited Cape Town's V&A Waterfront. This old and desolate harbour, developed in the 1990's, turned out to be one of the highlights in the city. The next day our outing took us to

Postberg Flower and Nature Reserve where our first glimpse of the flowers presented us with the most awesome flower carpets imaginable. Then we travelled to, amongst other places, Ramskop Nature Reserve, Nieuwoudsville, Garies, Kamieskroon, then on to Springbok. Along these routes, the flowers appeared everywhere, giving us a spectacular scene of Daisies of all colours – an experience never to be forgotten. Then homeward bound, making a short stop at the Augrabies Falls. Early Christmas in the Mountains: Our accommodation was at the ATKV Drakensville Holiday Resort. We experienced the interesting Tugela-Vaal Project, South Africa's only underground power station. The Thukela River rises in the Drakensberg Mountains, near Bergville, and flows eastwards to discharge into the Indian Ocean about 95km north of Durban. Major tributaries include the Little Thukela, Klip, Bushman's, Sundays, Mooi and Buffalo Riviers (the last mentioned being the largest). Next we visited Mont-Aux-Sources Hotel from where we saw scenes of the breathtaking Amphitheatre and Mont-Aux-Sources. We also visited the world famous Drakensburg Boys Choir. The Choir opened its doors in 1967 and draws its inspiration from the environment of the Champagne Valley where daily can be heard the sound of boys singing. Here we enjoyed their special Christmas programme. The last day we enjoyed the peace and serenity of the mountainous surroundings with a visit to popular viewpoints. Sadly, after a very interesting few days spent in the mountains, we headed for home. Scottburgh Blue Marlin Holiday: On our way to Scottburgh we stopped at Van Reenen, just outside Harrismith. Here we visited the Llandaff Oratory which was built by Maynard Mathews in memory of his son Llandaff Mathews, who died while saving the lives of eight colleagues at the Burnside Colliery Mine on 19 March 1925. In this church he erected a plaque in honour of his son. It is a Roman Catholic Church, which seats just eight people, apparently the same number of people Llandaff saved in the mine accident, and is architecturally based on a wing of the Cardiff Cathedral in Wales. The Llandaff Oratory is a Heritage landmark. It is the smallest Roman Catholic Church in Africa and they have a service once a month. We stayed at the Blue Marlin in Scottburgh. The next day we visited the uShaka Marine World in Durban – the biggest marine park in Africa. Here we were entertained with dolphin and sea lion shows. We were taken to Durban on a second occasion, this time to enjoy a boat ride through the harbour on the "Isle of Capri". Durban harbour is the biggest and busiest harbour in SA. Its 15km wharf handles big freight ships, the Prince Edward Dry Dock and a sugar export terminal of 400 000 tons, to mention but a few. Also we visited the Moses Mabhida Soccer Stadium and Durban Botanical Gardens. Next day we headed for home. While I was in Scottburgh, I contacted Yvonne (Rentzke) Stone (Skinner 1947) who lives in Umkomaas. She paid me a short visit. It was great to see her as we were in the same class at Loreto.

- In September 2016 Gail (Atteridge) Carreira (Skinner 1971) and her husband will be going for some time to Portugal where her husband has a flat.

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- Natasha Odendaal (Skinner 1987) who, with Janet, runs an occupational therapy business in USA, came to Cape Town with colleagues at the end of November 2015. They flew from Houston USA via Turkey to Cape Town. Here Natasha met up with her family, father, Derek, mother, Maria, and her two brothers.

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- Maryke (Bosma) Van Velzen (Skinner 1974) went to Holland for a family reunion in October 2015.

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- Berniece (Bell) Eales (Skinner 1955) went on a pilgrimage tour with her sister Rosemary Peters-Hendy to Medjugorje in September 2015.

- Berniece also attended the Beatification of Tshimangadzo Samuel Benedict Daswa on 13 September 2015. The ceremony was held in a field specially cleared for the purpose. It is near the village of Tshitani, 17km from Thohoyandou, in the Diocese of Tzaneen. All went well, especially the singing of the "Gloria" in the Mass. Cardinal Angelo Amato, sent by Pope Francis, will have a clear memory of the wonderful singing voices from Southern Africa! About 20 000 people attended the Beatification Mass on the field which has been set aside for building a pilgrimage church.

LOGS on Holiday

- Maureen Greet (Skinner 1955) to a friend in Port Alfred in March 2016.

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- Margaret (Wickham) Collins (Skinner 1951) to Cape Town in November 2015.

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- Beatrice (Richardson) Eksteen (Skinner 1946) to Ballito in October 2014.

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- Dorina (Rentzke) Shaw (Skinner 1949) and her husband David (Dave) to Hermanus for five days at the Windsor Hotel in September 2016.

LOGS Who Have Moved House

- Shirley (Hobbs) Korsman (Skinner 1957) moved from Irene to Cape Town.

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- Enid (Schreuder) Phillips (Skinner 1974) moved from Pretoria to Rooiels in the Western Cape.

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- Yvonne (Rentzke) Stone (Skinner 1947) moved from Umkomaas on the South Coast to a Retirement Village on the North Coast.

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- Both Shirley (Brown) Johnson (Hillcrest 1953) and Pat (Joubert) Pollitt (Hillcrest 1963) moved from Kempton Park to Benoni. They now attend the church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel in Benoni.

LOG Social Activities

- Maud (Williams) Pickup (Hillcrest 1951) is involved in the activities of the Rand South Garden Club which is based at the Klipriver Nature Reserve in Kibler Park, Johannesburg.

She was secretary for some time and for 16 years led the club as chairperson. She retired as chairperson 6 months ago.

- Maud is also involved in the Woman's Institute, an interdenominational society which operates from the Anglican Church in Mondeor. They meet once a month, have guest speakers, run competitions for knitting and sewing and work for various charities, knitting, for example, bedsocks for the aged and hats for children suffering from cancer.

LOG Memories

- Alida (Andreatta) Cosani (Skinner 1971) writes:

We are 1971 Loreto Skinner Street LOGS.

We were a small class and were always a close-knit group. We are in continual contact and have our own WhatsApp group. We have Anne Woodley in Sydney, Australia, Fulvia D'Amico in L'Aquila, Italy, Elsa Bastos in Portugal, Joan Allright in Mpumalanga, Charmaine Veldhoen in Cape Town, Marie-Louise De Cort in Eastern Cape and the rest of us spread around Johannesburg, Edenvale and Pretoria.

A few of us are at the LOG meeting yearly and I think I have only missed 2 years since leaving school. In fact, this year Elsa will probably be joining us for the first time from Portugal so it will be a special year.

Sadly, our friend Niki Cacouris passed away on the 24 April 2016 (09-02-1954 – 24-04-2016) and she is the third in our group to go to her eternal rest.

In the last few years we have tried to meet and Niki invited us 2 years ago to her brother's house, where we spent a great afternoon, eating and sharing news. This year our very talented Agatha Couvaris hosted a meeting while sharing her business contacts and work. Nine of us were present!!

Our school years were formative years and these special girls made it all so worthwhile.

Regards Alida and friends.

- Maud (Williams) Pickup (Hillcrest 1951) writes as follows:

I was at school at Skinner Street as a boarder, then went to Hillcrest Convent and left in 1951. I was in the class with Shirley (Brown) Johnson and previous to that Pam Varrie. Mother Kevin, Sister Philomena, Mother John, and Mother Therese taught me. I would like to add that I turned 80 on 16 June 2015 and am very proud to have reached this age. I am very well and kept busy with various societies to which I belong. I have very fond memories of my school days. I particularly remember Colleen (Kilfoil) Newton – she was Head Girl when I was at Hillcrest Convent. I have a sister Valerie Williams (not married). She was in the same class as Molly Connolly and Felicity Mullan. So that too was some years ago. She is now living in a retirement village in Port Alfred. Both our parents have passed away sadly, but we had a wonderful childhood in Pretoria, with many memories. In passing, if anyone remembers Mr and Mrs Cockhead (who have now also passed away) will remember that

these folks used to teach the Convent Girls to swim at the Hillcrest Swimming Baths. I too was one of the pupils. Their daughter, Nora, was also at Hillcrest and was in Shirley (Velcich) Plisic's class. Unfortunately, Nora is not well at all and is presently in the frail care section at the Belenois 24-7 Care Centre in Krugersdorp. God Bless you.

LOG Milestones

Ray Jeppe (Skinner 1972)

Hi!

I was reading all the news and decided to update those who may remember me, about my own life. (I see Felicity Mullan mentioned what I do in the last newsletter.)

I started school in Skinner Street in 1960 and remained there until matric (1972). I then studied to be a veterinarian, and worked as one in Bloemfontein and Johannesburg until 2007, when I joined a Christian Art School (Creare) in Bloemfontein.

I work in Siberia (Russia) most of the time, in a town called Prokopyevsk, where we are busy establishing a satellite Creare school. I teach Drama! I share a flat with 3 other girls, 2 of whom are part of our full-time Creare team. One teaches music, the other teaches dance and art. We spread the Gospel through the Arts. We also present subjects on hearing God's voice, God's Perspective, Spiritual gifts, prophecy, and several others.

I work at a Rehabilitation Centre 3 afternoons a week as well (there are many drug addicts and alcoholics in Russia, and our church here runs 3 Rehabilitation Centres). The girls at this centre have a little business, making food and selling it in small containers. I help cutting up the vegetables or whatever is needed. I speak some Russian but not enough to communicate fluently, and working there exposes me to the language and we are building wonderful friendships as well!

The summers in Siberia are quite hot - the temperatures can go up to 34 degrees C - but luckily only for a few days at a time. It rains often, so the average summer temperature is in the 20's. The winters can go down to minus 50, but last winter the coldest was minus 30. I love the winters. I learned a lot of things I never knew about snow - not all snow can be made into snowballs or snowmen!! There are forests everywhere in Russia; all towns are surrounded by forests. Autumn is stunningly beautiful, when the trees (apart from the evergreen ones) turn yellow, orange or red.

I am in Mongolia at the moment, as my Visa requires me to leave Russia every 3 months. While in Mongolia, I stay with an American missionary (Yvonne) who has been here for 20 years. We will be leaving for a small village tomorrow, 400 km outside Ulaanbaatar, for a month. She does evangelisation there every year. (80% of Mongolians

are Buddhists.) Mongolia has vast grassy plains (no forests except in some mountains) and there are more horses than people here! The rural people are nomads - they travel around with their animals (horses, sheep, goats and cattle). There are no fences in the countryside (the land belongs to the government) and the people go wherever they need grazing. (I am amazed that no-one seems to get mixed up regarding whose animals belong to whom... In the village, the animals just wander into anybody's yard if the gate happens to be open.) Mongolian tea is made with herbal tea, milk and salt. (Very nice!)

In closing, I would like to say thank you to all the Loreto Sisters who were part of my life as a child and teenager. I am not a Catholic, but I have no doubt that if it were not for the Sister's prayers, I would not be doing what I am today, and I would not have a living relationship with God. Thank you for every prayer!!! The Sisters who worked in the kitchen and laundry were my mother's special friends and were a pillar of strength after my dad passed away. I also remember Sister Sixtus, who used to clean the bathrooms. Although her English was not very good, she was such an example of faithfulness and servanthood, and showed the heart of Jesus through her lifestyle.

So, even though I am not able to attend the reunions, I wish you all well, and I will be with you in spirit!

Be blessed.
Ray Jeppe

LOG Birthdays

- Constance (Sada) Heim (Skinner 1953) turned 80 on 27 September 2015. The family took her to the Drakensberg on holiday. Well done!

Congratulations.

LOG Special Achievements

- Maxine, daughter of Jeanne-Marie (Fouche) Murray (Skinner 1988), achieved GOLD in the poetry Eistedford held at the Eugene Marais Primary School in Modimolle.

Congratulations.

LOGS Who Are Ill or Recuperating

LOGS who are ill or recuperating, we wish you a speedy recovery.

LOG Obituaries

We note with sadness and sincere condolences the passing of the following:

Olga Corner (Hillcrest 1973) on 17 March 2016; Niki (Cacouris) Stevens (Skinner 1971) on 24 April 2016; Ursula (Hardy) (Hamilton) Fleming (Skinner 1966) on 25 July 2016; Medea (Angelo) (Hussey) Evans (Skinner 1946) on 17 August 2016; Dianne (Smith) Reis (Skinner 1974) in March 2015; Tessa van der Merwe (Hillcrest 1967) in 2015; Ariadne (Nunny) (Dermatis) Phitides (Skinner 1955) in June 2016; Maria (Merisa) Blasco (Skinner 1975) in 2015; the mother of Louisa Swan (Skinner 1975) on 21 September 2012; Jennifer (Munro) Gent (Skinner 1974) on 16 April 2016; Sinclair, beloved husband of Yvonne (Rentzke) Stone (Skinner 1947) on 13 January 2015; Lorna (Kilfoil) Pirow (Hillcrest 1948) on 23 July 2015, was the sister of Colleen (Kilfoil) Newton (Hillcrest 1950); Shirley (Linklaper) Delaney (Hillcrest 1948), was the friend of Lorna Pirow, died three years ago.

Paula (Malherbe) Martin wrote to say:

"I am writing to let you know that Vera Malherbe has died in Loughrea, County Galway, Ireland, aged 90. She had a fall in late 2014 and struggled with her health after that. She lived with me and as her health deteriorated, I was unable to look after her myself and Vera moved to a Nursing Home in August 2015.

She was in great form mentally, but physically she faced a few challenges. She died on Saturday 2 January 2016 and her ashes will be buried in her family grave in Altrincham, near Manchester on Saturday, 23 July.

Vera, who went to Skinner Street, was a founding member of the LOG, alongside Media Hussey, I think? She always followed your newsletter with great interest."

LOG Memoriam

Medea (Angelo) (Hussey) Evans (Skinner 1946)

Medea, born Angelo, wife to Geoffrey Mark Hussey and later to William Benjamin David Iorwerth (Lorry) Evans, is dearly loved by a large extended family. Through her work in the Girl Guides, she touched the lives of hundreds of girls and women in South Africa and overseas. As a perennial member of the Catholic Women's League, she was most active in social work in the Pretoria Diocese. She was also an accomplished conchologist, honoured with a shell named in recognition of her work with Lorry on South African seashells.

But most people who met and who knew her will remember a most loving and caring mother, aunt, grandmother and great grandmother, who gave so willingly of herself, her time and her immense love to others. Her family, whether by birth, by marriage or by

association will always remember how she touched our lives. Medea will live forever in us. (By courtesy of Martin's printed funeral bulletin)

The Requiem Mass for Medea took place at St Pius X Catholic Church on Friday 26 August 2016. It was a joyous Catholic Requiem Mass celebrated by Father Kevin Reynolds, a Loreto Old Boy, and concelebrated with Emeritus Archbishop George Daniel and the present pastor of Pius X, Father Tony. Two of the organisations close to Medea's heart, the Catholic Women's League and the Girl Guides were represented as well as Loreto Old Girls, notably Gracie Pozzo (Skinner 1947). The Good Shepherd Sisters, with whom Medea worked, were also at the Mass. Medea's contribution to society is epitomised by her cheerful and steadfast participation in all things family and community. May she always be remembered as an illustrious example of a Loreto Old Girl who fulfilled the words of Mary Ward, "I hope to God it will be seen that women in time to come will do much".

[From Yvonne \(Rentzke\) Stone \(Skinner 1947\) and Dorina \(Rentzke\) Shaw \(Skinner 1949\):](#)

Medea was at Loreto Skinner Street for her entire schooling as a boarder. She was one of the brightest pupils and passed every standard with flying colours. The one thing she can be particularly remembered for is that she never seemed to do the wrong thing as most of us always did. During her years at Loreto she played a great part in helping the Nuns run and organise the school in every way from discipline to school events and even helped the Nuns run the school financial matters. She was mature beyond her years. She was a prefect from an early age and, as such, was a just disciplinarian. Medea was serious minded and words such as dependable, capable, responsible and conscientious aptly describe her. What a great privilege for both of us to have been her friends.

[Ursula \(Hardy\) \(Hamilton\) Fleming \(Skinner 1966\)](#)

Ursula Helen Fleming died at age 66, on 25 July 2016, after a courageous battle against cancer. She was the eldest daughter of the late Bonnie and Edward Hardy. Ursula is survived by her husband Raymond, daughters Dellene and Debbie, sons-in-law Glen and Robin and grandchildren Ahren, Jarryd and Milly and her extended family. Ursula was one of the kindest, humblest and giving persons you could ever meet. She opened her home, her heart and purse to those in need. She shared whatever she had even when she did not have much of her own. Ursula was a true example of a Christian in word and deed. She loved and lived for her family and will be sorely missed. (By courtesy of Martin's printed funeral bulletin)

The Memorial Service for Ursula took place on Friday, 29 July 2016 at Centurion Vineyard Christian Fellowship. It was a truly inspiring service where Ursula's outstanding qualities were lauded. Underlying themes were the pearl and the treasure in the field. The scripture reading was from Philippians 4 v 6 and 7 "Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.". The Memorial Service

was attended by family and friends and by LOGS, mainly the classmates of Ursula at Loreto Skinner Street, the Golden Girls, 50 years out of school, for this year of 2016.

Advertisement No. 1

Calling all LOGS who now live in the Cape Town area. The Sea Point LOGS have an annual reunion which you are invited to attend. Please contact Maureen (Lynam) Fernandes (Sea Point 1962) at email maureenfernandes111@gmail.com or cell number 079 517 0067. Maureen would love to hear from **ALL** LOGS who now live in Cape Town and in the districts around Cape Town. This year's reunion has been delayed. Date to be decided. Contact Maureen.

Advertisement No. 2

Benedict Daswa was beatified on 13 September 2015. Please send all information regarding graces and favours received through the intercession of Blessed Thimangadzo Samuel Benedict Daswa to Diocese of Tzaneen, Cause of Benedict Daswa, email bendaswa@mweb.co.za.

Advertisement No. 3

On 19 December 2009, Pope Benedict XVI published a Decree recognising the "heroic virtue" demonstrated by Mary Ward and thereby conferring on her the title "Venerable". If you have received healing from sickness or a personal intention and you believe your prayers have been answered, please inform Office for the Cause of Mary Ward, Loreto International House at email causemaryward@gmail.com.

Celebrations at the Annual LOG Reunion on Saturday 1 October 2016 at Loreto Convent School, Nana Sita Street (previously Skinner Street), Pretoria, entrance in Visagie Street (see above for directions).

Note: If there are any LOGS not listed in the categories below but known to other LOGS, let us know as soon as possible.

Golden Girls for 2016 (50 years out of school = left school in 1966, or were with this group), inter alia: **Skinner:** Charlene (Cave) Watt; Alma (Fourie) Vos; Theresa (Granzier) Bason; Andrea (Jansen) Swemmer; Patricia (Pat) (Killeen) Rehse; Madeleine (Riley) Offner; Ursula (Sinovich) Jadrijevich; Lilian (Van Der Spuy) Tibshraeny; Colleen (O'Neill) Brown; Glenda (Ryan) Beukes; Moya (Fitzgerald) Joubert; Sarah (Sarie) (Zabbia) Kaya; Stella (Lamb) Prozesky; Denise (Haggis) Siebrits; Joan (Gainsford) Visser; Veronica (Latouf) Davies
Lydenburg: Sue (Hamilton) Walters; Gwen (Huddle) Cooper; Margaret (Van Renen) Patterson

Diamond Girls for 2016 (60 years out of school = left school in 1956 or were with this group), inter alia: **Skinner:** Rosalie (Atkinson) Lowe; Marilyn Bernstein; Morgot (Blomdal) Skaparas; Ann Mary (Bower) Gray; Yvette (Cilliers) Gory; Nadia (Gatticchi) Neto; Maria Lemos; Marina (Pagan) Johnson; Maria Abranches Pinto; Elizabeth (Schapers) Baransky; Elizabeth (Liz) (Sherriff) Stott; Ann (Effie) (Slade) (Clark) Kritzinger; Johanna (Smulders) Roberts; Elsie Van Der Sman; Elizabeth (Liz/Betty) Womersley **Hillcrest:** Mary Anne (Mey) Anderson; Cecile (Sluyter) Veldhuis; Virginia Tosi; Barbara (Van Rooyen) Ludwig **Lydenburg:** Doreen Mitchell; Jeanette (Schmitz) Van Heerden **Sea Point:** Fiona (Lee) Sutton; Wendy (Smith) Velcich Jessel Molin?

Ruby Girls for 2016 (40 years out of school = left school in 1976, or were with this group), inter alia: **Skinner:** Luiza Maria (De Freitas) Sousa; Jacky (Denning) Sudding; Helena (Dias) Valente; Mabel (Fung) Kingston; Sandra (Giraldo) Eloff; Avril (Henry) Wood; Carol (Henry) Wright; Teresa (Joao) Paixao; Gail (Jones) Evans; Patricia (Jones) Von Pouser; Marion (Kuisis) Hinds; Celest Lockoff; Cheryl (Marshall) Pieterse; Colleen (Maurer) Wright; Diamanda (Murphy) Roode; Anne (Poole) Ehlers; Marie Claire (Markie) (Powell) Parker; Monica (Quan) Pon; Jenny Ratham; Mary Rob; Eileen (Saad) Merriman; Wendy (Sinclair) Sergeant; Germaine (Smeets) Janse Van Rensburg; Jermain Smitch; Litsa (Stavrides) Stylianou; Pam Taylor; Beverley Trolip; Beverly (Van Staden) De Villiers **Queenswood:** Sherilyn (Van Niekerk) Haupt

Silver Girls for 2016 (25 years out of school = left school in 1991, or were with this group), inter alia: **Skinner:** Audilia Camacho; Fatima (De Freitas) Sequeira; Illana Lewis; Rhoda Yvonne Smith; Giulietta (Stefanutti) Campanelli; Nicolene Tuson; Beatriz Lopes; Sharon Mazibuko; Avantha Ramjas; Ana Cristina Coelho; Nadia Osman; Lerato Motlatla; Patrizia Lalli; Fadiya Dinath; Toroshni Pillay; Veronica Mafoko; Lisel Muller; Charmaine Brace; Coulla Droushiotou; Bronwyn Nagel; Yvette Weinrich; Maria Perregil

Tin Girls for 2016 (10 years out of school = left school in 2006): **Skinner:** Issosa(Ruth) Bakonga; Boipelo Dikgang; Adele Legoabe; Kgolagano Leola; Gaolekwe Mahapa; Elizabeth Manganye; Khutso Mantwedi; Thabang Masokameng; Zaina Matenda; Malebo Mathe; Ipeleng Matolong; Bonolo Matsho; Tracy Mdhuli; Pamela Mndau; Gratitude Modiba; Mabatho Mogadime; Thakane Moletsane; Dineo Dorothy Molokoane; Lerato Moloto; Obakeng Montsho; Tshologelo Morulane; Tshegotatso Mosime; Keneilwe Mosime; Kefiloe Mosupyoe; Rosemary Motseki; Sandra Mwaka; Akona Ntshiba; Pearl Ntuli; Kimberly Petrie; Lebogan Phalatse; Gugulethu Radebe; Deborah Ramano; Ofentse Grace Ramokgopa; Catherine Ratuobei; Mampho Safatsa; Sylvania Salvador; Mora Seakamela; Lebogang Seshweni; Zandile Skhonde; Angelique Sola; Mbali Thusi; Thandi Tibane; Mpho Tshikombji; Tebogo Tswene; Cecilia Vibetti

Keep in Touch! Note that if you intend to be at the **Skinner Pretoria** LOG REUNION on 1 OCTOBER 2016, it is essential to **RSVP** so that your name can be put on a list, (particularly for those receiving a gift in celebration of your year left school, 50 or 60 or 40 or 25 or 10), and a name-label **{First name (maiden name in brackets) Surname}** can be prepared for you. With thanks!

REPLY SLIP (2016)

(Detach the reply slip for RSVP)

I.....(Name and Surname), accompanied
by.....(Name and Surname),

will

will not

be attending the **Loreto Convent Nana Sita/Skinner Pretoria 2016 LOG Reunion** on Saturday 1 October 2016 at 11:00 for Registration and Mass in the School Chapel at 11:30, followed by further Registration and Finger Lunch in the School Hall. Contribution towards costs: R70, payable at the door at Registration on Reunion Day.

Maiden Name.....

Year Left School..... Loreto Convent attended.....

Postal Address.....

Email address.....

Telephone numbers: Cell.....

Home.....

Work.....

RSVP: Reply to sender **OR** pa@lorskin.co.za **OR** cell: 079 375 8043

RSVP by post: Loreto Old Girls c/o P. O. Box 21259, Valhalla, 0137

We hope to see you, but if you are not coming, please send us your updated details.