



# Class of '61 – Reunion

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The Reunion is over but the memories linger on . . . .

Super sleuth, **Clive Jones**, was instrumental in organizing a Cape Town get-together with **Scotch Kirkpatrick** visiting from Australia. Clive reports as follows:



“Scotch, who lives in Sydney, Australia, visited Cape Town recently. Before his trip, a list of names of all Class of '61 people now living in the Western Cape was given to him, to establish who he would like to see while he was here. His request was **Tony de Kock, Paul and Rod le Roux and Brian Pincus**. Tuesday, 13th March, was arranged as a day that suited everybody. The only exception was Rod le Roux, who would be in the UK for the whole time that

Scotch was in South Africa. He and Scotch are now in contact with each other, and have probably since met overseas, as Scotch was travelling to the UK on business on leaving here (before going back to Australia).



Paul collected Tony and myself, and took us to Foresters Arms (Forries). Scotch was already waiting for us there. Brian arrived a little later, having come from the other side of the peninsula, and also because he is not yet retired like some of the rest of us Cape Town ex-Selbornians.

As seen from the picture (from left to right – Tony, Paul, Brian and Scotch) we had an



outside table, which enabled us all to be involved in each conversation (and there were many - we spent almost 3 hours together). Scotch is looking very well and still has business interests in the UK.

He said that, if he had known about the Reunion a month earlier (remember, we had to find him first), he would have been able to change his schedule and join us. He has every intention at being at the next East London get together, and the group was unanimous that that should be a 55th (2016) instead of waiting for the 60th (2021). There was much comment and

appreciation on the Reunion last year, especially regarding the Souvenir Year Book.

The topics of discussion were very wide, because each of the participants had had a different friendship with Scotch. He and Tony spent a lot of their childhood and youth together, so many escapades came to the surface. It is amazing what memories are still there. It was also very interesting that when some individual (not from Class of '61) was mentioned, how many others in the group also knew them (in different contexts). Scotch had requested particularly to see Tony, and the reason for this became evident as the two of them called back the past.

Paul had been (immediately after school) in the Airforce Gymnasium with Scotch. Rod le Roux had also been there, as had Errol Sapire and Robin Sumner – so all those connections were discussed. Paul came to Selborne later than the rest of us, but of course was known by all because of his high-level involvement (at school and later) in Athletics and Rugby. This led to sports discussions, and many names in Border rugby were mentioned, and also National and International rugby issues.



Brian is still playing Veterans tennis at National level (he and his overseas partner are the Men's Doubles champions, and have been for a few years). He was due to travel to East London the following

week for the SA Champs. His involvement led to discussion of tennis at International level. Various Class of '61 tennis players (like Ian Walker and Fred Alexander [both now in Australia] and Mike Moorshead - now in USA) also came into the conversation. Sitting at a table about 5 metres from us, were Robin Jackman and Trevor Quirk (of national cricket level) together with Christian Stewart of local rugby fame. This, of course, led to local and International cricket comments.

Most of the group have done some travelling internationally (particularly Brian and Scotch). In fact, Brian could identify the area where Scotch lives, having been near there. Areas of the UK, Europe and USA also provided some common ground.

There were many memories of incidents of Selborne school days - teachers, prefects, class-mates etc - and a great deal of laughter came from our table. Brian kindly picked up the tab for the cost of lunch and drinks, and all wanted to remain in touch. Scotch will let us know when he will next be in Cape Town, so that we can meet up again."

No doubt we **did** work together to make it a truly memorable 50th Reunion – after all, it was the only 50th we will ever have! **Only four and a half years before the 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion – prepare!!!**

Kind regards

**Werner Illgner** (on behalf of the 2011 organising committee)

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