

# THE KALIMPONG ASSOCIATION (UK)



## *Summer 2009 Newsletter*

---

*James Simpson*  
*Sponsorship Secretary*



– I am delighted to be appointed Sponsorship Secretary for Dr Graham's Homes and look forward to its many challenges.

Whilst over recent months the role has been filled diligently by our Treasurer, Christine McLeod, I am only too aware that I follow in the footsteps of Vera Cassie, that most dedicated champion of The Homes who for

so very many years looked after almost the entire operation virtually on her own. Thus I am not yet sure that I fully appreciate the extent of the difficult task that I have undertaken. However, with the support of our Sponsors and the Management Committee I am optimistic of success in the long term.

From reading the files and listening to colleagues as I, say, establish the background to some of the situations that I have already been dealing with, the love and care that Miss Cassie gave to the Homes – to Children, to Staff, to Sponsors and to correspondents alike – has been quite incredible. Now there lies my real challenge!

I am happy that I already know a great number of you through meetings, 'phone-calls' letters and email. I hope to have that same contact made with each one of our Sponsors and Correspondents well before the year is out. Equally I am happy to have you contact me at any time to discuss topics such as those below, or indeed any other relevant matter.

**Sponsorship:** Not surprisingly, the credit crunch is already showing signs of affecting even Dr Graham's Homes! Whilst we continue to enjoy the support of all of our Sponsors, signs are that if the occasion arises – perhaps a child is withdrawn unannounced from school – a pause for

### *From the Editor's Desk*

Well, here we are already over half way through the year. Before we know it we will be reminded about how many days are left before Christmas!!

It is always heartening to hear good news about OGB's. Our congratulations to Thuten Kesang on winning the "Unsung Heroes of Compassion Award". An article on his achievement appears on Pages 2 – 5.

Also in this context mention must be made of Hemlata Pradhan (daughter of Udai Pradhan), Florence Harrop and Sharon and Richard Monteiro. We congratulate all of them on their achievements and articles follow on pages 5, 6 and 7 respectively.

There are also a couple of articles on OGB visits which make interesting reading. I had hoped to include a write up of Jeff's and my visit to Australia in January but due to constraints on the length of the Newsletter this has now been postponed to the Winter edition.

There is no dinner/dance scheduled for this year, but please make a note in your diaries for next year to keep Saturday 29 May 2010 free for this occasion. This time a band will be provided and you can bring your own food and drink for the evening. This event can only be a success with as much support as possible so please spread the word amongst as many OGB's and friends as possible.

Please continue to send in your articles. The Newsletter can only make interesting reading if OGB's take the time to let us know what is happening in their lives and are happy to share their experiences with us.

Enjoy the rest of the summer and take good care of yourselves and each other.

*Yolande Fegredo*  
*Editor*

re-assessment of commitment would not be an unreasonable action to expect. The need therefore is to spread the sponsorship load somehow – the obvious way must be to increase the number of part-sponsorship donors.

**Friends of Kalimpong:** From the above I see the need for establishment of more Sponsorship Groups – “Friends of Kalimpong” – similar to the very successful Troon Friends, Arran Friends, and Cawder Friends. I have started by putting this suggestion to known supporters living in the North of England and am pleased to have had some positive support already; e.g. helping with other’s events if appropriate and practical.

**Home Leavers:** I find the number of instances of a child “disappearing” on leaving school, whether moving into further education or not, to be disheartening. I am seeking ways, firstly, of ensuring that sponsors are aware of the child’s situation and career plans well before leaving school and, secondly, of enabling contact between child and sponsor to continue post-DGH with the minimum of disruption, whether with or without sponsorship. Until the day of leaving this must be a school matter but with Sponsors taking an interest, thereafter perhaps, this matter weighs more heavily on the minds of the Sponsors.

**College Students:** There is a tendency to lose a degree of contact with the children when they move on to college; the close supervision is, understandably, no longer there; sponsorship ceases or at best contact with the sponsor diminishes. I hope to find ways of reducing this disappointment to sponsors by finding ways to continue more positively the sponsor/child bond developed during the pupil’s time at The Homes. More needs to be made of the opportunity for sponsoring students through college. Another task!

**Sponsorship Newsletters:** This brief notice perhaps counts as the first of my Sponsorship Newsletters that I hope to put out from time to time; your suggestions of specific content would be welcomed, as too would be your comments on any of the matters above.

---

## ***UNSUNG HEROES OF COMPASSION AWARD***

Some time in 2008 I received an email from Mr Tenzin Namgyal Tethong, who was a Minister in the Tibetan Government in Exile, who now lives in the United States. He informed me that he had nominated me for an award called “Unsung Heroes of Compassion Award” which is given by a private organization called “Wisdom in Action” based in San Francisco. I was most humbled by this nomination and thanked him and told him I do what I do and don’t expect anything in return.

Shortly after that I received the letter below from Wisdom in Action

*“August 3, 2008*

*Dear Thuten Kesang,*

*It is my great honour to inform you that you have been selected to receive a special acknowledgment and blessing from His Holiness the Dalai Lama. In receiving this acknowledgment, you will represent the countless others worldwide who like you, practice compassion and kindness in their daily conduct.*

*Wisdom in Action, a San Francisco non-profit organisation, recently identified individuals who, through their loving kindness and service to others, have made their communities and our world a better place. Your nomination was presented to our Board and accepted. In sharing your story, and the stories of the other “Unsung Heroes”, Wisdom in Action seeks to increase awareness, and inspire others to find their own paths to compassionate action.*

*As part of your selection as an honouree, we invite you and one guest of your choice to join us for Unsung Heroes of Compassion 2009. Your attendance is requested on April 25, 2009, for a dinner and on April 26, 2009, for a special luncheon. On that day, at the Ritz Carlton in San Francisco, California, our honoured guest, His Holiness the Dalai Lama, will join us. The luncheon will be a joyous celebration of kindness and compassion and you will be publicly acknowledged for your personal efforts.*

*Although His Holiness the Dalai Lama is a Buddhist teacher and leader of the Tibetan people, we want to assure you that this is not a religious or political event, nor is Buddhism or Tibet its focus. You and our other honourees are a diverse group of men and women, representing different faiths, countries of origin, and ways of working in the world. What is important to us, and to*

*His Holiness, are the characteristics you share—your kindness, your quiet dedication to others, and your belief in the importance of caring for your fellow sisters and brothers who are under-served.*

*Please confirm your acceptance by completing the attached RSVP, and mailing or emailing it to us no later than August 15, 2008.*

*On behalf of the Board of Directors of Wisdom in Action, our deepest thanks for all that you do.*

*Dick Grace  
Board Chair*

*Christine Wright  
Program Coordinator*

They asked me to provide some information about myself and the work that I do to help others. Of course assisting the Tibetan refugees and Dr. Graham's Homes played a major part in my story, which was produced in a booklet form with the other 48 recipients of this award.

*The following article was published in the book of "Unsung Heroes of Compassion Award" about me and my work*

### **Thuten Kesang**



***"I look at the bright side of life and get on with it,  
The important thing is to have a good heart."***

Thuten Kesang is passionate about helping his fellow Tibetan refugees. For him, in fact, it is a moral imperative. Equally important, however, is that aiding others is his way of returning a stranger's long-ago kindness.

Eager to see him well educated, Thuten's parents sent him at the age of eleven from his home in Lhasa Tibet, to board at Dr Graham's Homes, a school in Kalimpong, India. One of India's finest schools, Dr. Graham's Homes was established in 1900 to educate Anglo-Indian children, and Thuten was one of the few Tibetan children enrolled. Four years later, however, he learned that his parents had been arrested in the 1959 Chinese occupation of Tibet and that he had become a refugee. With no money to pay tuition and no family to return home to, Thuten's prospect looked dire. Then, one day, he met Robert Crow, a Scottish board member of Dr. Graham's Homes who lived in India and offered to pay Thuten's tuition and boarding fees. "That precise moment," Thuten says, "I decided that I would do my best to repay his kindness by helping others in need when I was in a position to do so"

In time, Thuten learned that his mother had starved to death in Tibet, and his father had perished in a Chinese prison. "What happened to my parents was terrible, but not unique," Thuten says. "I will never forget the kindness shown to me by Robert Crow at that time."

Crow helped Thuten again in 1962, this time securing him a position as a printer's apprentice in Calcutta, India, and supporting him for three years while he learned a trade. Today, Thuten owns his own printing business in Auckland, New Zealand, where he works to fulfil his promise to return the generosity he received as a child. "I have never hesitated to help someone in need," he says adding that he expects nothing in return.

Thuten's first opportunity to give back came when he learned that young refugees living at the Tibetan Children's Village in Dharamsala, India, a school established in 1960 by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and his sister Tsering Dolma Takla, needed financial support. Thuten offered to sponsor a child, and soon thereafter became treasurer of the Tibetan Children Relief Society of New Zealand, a grass-root organization dedicated to raising funds to sponsor children at Tibetan Children's Village. "The first orphan I sponsored went on to receive his doctorate in medicine," Thuten says, noting that the former orphan is now a physician in India. Today the Tibetan Children Relief Society

sponsors the education of four hundred and fifty students at two schools in India, and Thuten recently marked his forty-second year as treasurer.

Thuten also serves as the honorary secretary and treasurer of Dr. Graham's Homes New Zealand Committee, an international committee established to match individual children at Thuten's alma mater with financial sponsors in New Zealand. It is important to Thuten that in addition to providing money for student's education, each sponsor corresponds with the child he supports. "I know from personal experience how much it means to meet the person blessing you with his generosity," he says.

Inspired by a passion to help and an awareness that the need for aid to Tibetan children far surpasses available resources, Thuten founded and became the national Chairman of Friends of Tibet (New Zealand), an organization that educates New Zealanders about the plight of the Tibetans, raises funds to educate exiled Tibetan children in India, and provides support to ex-political prisoners who have escaped from Tibet to India. He has also served as President of the Auckland Multicultural Society.

The diaspora and hardship of people sadden Thuten but they also inspire him to do even more. "I don't dwell on the bad," he says. *"I look at the bright side of life and get on with it, The important thing is to have a good heart."*



*His Holiness the Dalai Lama with 49 Unsung Heroes of Compassion Award recipients  
Ritz Carlton Hotel San Francisco on 26th April 2009 (Thuten standing right behind His Holiness)*

My wife Gwen and I flew to San Francisco on 24 April 2009 and we were put up at the Ritz Carlton with all the other recipients and it was lovely meeting the Board of Directors of Wisdom in Action. There were four Tibetans amongst 49 recipients, one each from Australia, United States, India and myself from New Zealand. It was lovely meeting my fellow countrymen.

The Award ceremony was held on 26 April at a luncheon for 500 guests. Each recipient and their partner were placed on each table with 10 guests. Everyone read the book and read the story of the recipient who was at their table, and those at my table asked questions about the work I do etc.

The moment I had been waiting for came when they announced that His Holiness the Dalai Lama was about to enter. My heart jumped for joy knowing that I would see His Holiness' radiant face once again. After a brief speech, the recipients lined up to receive their Award from His Holiness. As each one of us went up on to the stage a brief description of them was read out. When my turn came, I presented a khata to His Holiness. He rubbed that in his

hand and put it back on my neck and as I left he patted me on the back with a big smile, and my whole body felt warm. The ceremony was followed by a group photograph with His Holiness.

That evening the representatives of the local Tibet support groups and the Tibetan community took the Tibetan recipients out for dinner at the Fishermen's Wharf and thanked us all for what we are doing for Tibet. In return we thanked them and also thanked our wives for supporting us in everything we do.

My wife and I took a quick trip to Canada (Jasper National Park) where our younger daughter Elizabeth is working. She showed us all around that area, then we all went to Edmonton to meet up with Gwen's pen friend Cathie from her teenage years, when they were in school. Cathie and her husband Dave showed us around Edmonton. That was wonderful, but like all good things, it had to come to an end and we flew home on 7th May in time for Gwen's father's 90th Birthday celebration on the 9th of May 2009.

*Thuten Kesang*  
*New Zealand*

---

## ***HILL WOMAN'S ORCHID PAINTINGS REACH UK***

The following article appeared in the Telegraph and has been forwarded by Brenda Haseldene (nee Stokoe). Many OGB's may remember Hemlata's father Udai Pradhan.



**Kalimpong, May 8:** Kalimpong based Botanical Illustrator Hemlata Pradhan is holding an exhibition of her paintings of India's wild orchids at the British Museum in London.

The 34-year-old Hemlata Pradhan is probably the first Indian botanical illustrator to be honoured with the exhibition of her works by the British Museum. The nearly two-month long exhibition is scheduled to begin at the Clore Education Centre, British Museum. Hemlata Pradhan hopes the exhibition will highlight the plants like orchids in India. "My aim is to highlight India's wild orchids and other plants which are disappearing from the planet earth," Hemlata said in a message sent through her father Udai C. Pradhan. Udai himself is a floriculturist and an authority on orchids.

The exhibition at the prestigious London Museum is another feather in the cap of the young artist, who is a graduate of Viswa Bharati, Shantiniketan. In 2005, Hemlata won the Gold Medal in the World Orchid Conference in Dijon, France. She also became the first Indian to win the Royal Horticulture Society Gold Medal in 2000 for her paintings of Indian wild orchids and Indian jewel orchids.

Most of her works are housed at the Royal Botanic Gardens (RBG) in Kew, England. The artist had earlier held solo exhibitions at the Indian Habitat Centre in New Delhi and Siddhartha Art Gallery in Kathmandu. During the course of her exhibition, Hemlata also conducted workshops on botanical illustration on May 12 and May 19.

Hemlata did her Diploma in botanical illustration from RBG and her Masters in natural history illustration at the Royal College of Art (RCA) in London on a Commonwealth scholarship. The artist had her preliminary education at St Joseph's Convent School and Dr Graham's Homes, Kalimpong. "She was inclined towards art right from her school days," said her father. "My wife Tej and I feel it is a great honour for our country. Hemlata has worked her way up against all odds, proving that given an opportunity, our hill children are also capable of achieving heights in fields as little known as natural history illustration," said Udai.

Hemlata is now involved in setting up a National History Art Institute here and getting natural history illustration recognised as a fine art subject in India.

*By Rajeev Ravidas*

---

***HER LIFE REVOLVES AROUND THE NEEDY – A day in the life of Florence (nee Harrop) (Bene) now known as Poonam Kaira***



***Poonam Kaira with her pet dogs at her home in Sarabha Nagar in Ludhiana (Photograph by Ravi Kanojla)***

Her day starts early with prayers. A compassionate animal lover, Poonam Kaira wakes at 5.00 a.m. and the first thing she does after saying her prayers is taking her four pet dogs for a morning walk.

“I spend about 45 minutes with my pets in the fresh air. Morning tea can wait”, says Poonam.

Go to her spacious house in Sarabha Nagar at any time of day and you will find it spic and span. She gives the credit to Geetu, her domestic help, who ensures that everything is kept in order. With her husband D K Kaira and their only daughter Supriya away at work – Kaira is employed in Mumbai as Senior Manager, Bank of Baroda and Supriya works with the Borderless World Foundation, an NGO for orphan girls in Kashmir – Geetu is her companion at home.

To Poonam, Geetu is like a family member and she sings the same lullaby for her one year old son, Rohit, which she sang for Supriya when she was small.

After all her morning rituals, at about 10.30 a.m. she heads for ‘Darpan’, a school for special (autistic) children. Poonam spends more than four hours with these children. “I love to work for these angels. They are so affectionate. My work is like a co-ordinator there. I do not consider myself a working woman because I do all these service voluntarily.”

Poonam owes all thanks to her school Dr Graham’s Homes in Kalimpong, Darjeeling, where she learnt “how to face challenges in life.” This school sheltered all those children whose parents disowned them. We were taught to do all kinds of work. Perhaps, that is why I am here today,” says Poonam.

Back home, she first goes to her pets, serving them food, before she has her own lunch. As the clock strikes 3.00 Poonam isolates herself for an hour, to practise Reiki (a Japanese technique for stress reduction and relaxation that also promotes healing).

“I enjoy evening tea with my friends and also watch television for some time. The evening is only for myself. I listen to music and cook anything I feel like,” Poonam tells us.

However busy she may be Poonam never forgets to meet an old couple living in her neighbourhood. “The old lady is like my mother. She cannot move around much. I take care of her dog too. I am there for any help they require.”

Her house is an open place for stray animals that make it a point to be there in time for dinner. “I feed five pet dogs at night. They are very docile and after their meal they sleep on my porch. I make sure that each of them gets proper bedding.” During the rains, you can find them on the porch during the day too. It’s not only stray dogs that get her attention. “Whenever I get a phone call about any sick animal, I arrange for a doctor and medicines. These animals cannot speak; they need care, love and affection, like children. My life revolves around stray animals and special children.”

Poonam, who ends the day with a word of thanks to God says: “My motto of life is to live one day at a time. Do your best and set an example so that others can learn from your work.”

***By Anupam Bhagria***

## SHARON AND RICHARD MONTEIRO



I would like to update you on two of our successful OGB's in Dubai, Richard and Sharon Monteiro. Richard was the Headmaster of DGH from 2004-2006 and his wife Sharon was the Sponsor Secretary and Career Guidance Counsellor.

Richard and Sharon completed twenty years of marriage on 4 February this year. They are a young, energetic and vibrant couple and we wish them many more anniversaries.

They are very excited as their daughter Hazel joined her parents permanently in April after being separated from

them since July 2006. Richard and Sharon had moved to Nigeria from DGH in 2006 and decided to let Hazel continue her education in DGH until she finished her final exams.

Richard is currently heading a very big school in Dubai. His wife is an Internationally Certified Life Coach (Life Designer). She is very successful and holds workshops and seminars. Sharon says that "Coaching is such a wondrous gift, it's an ability to make a difference in people's lives. It helps clients live their life fully expressed, so that they can move forward and fully honour their values. They can then be "IN" the lives they are having. It also helps them to consciously choose actions that resonate with them and this leads to a deep self understanding."

Another bit of news. Sharon has completed writing her book titled 'Give me a Break!!' – it is a book for young parents to understand their kids so that the kids don't go from lovingly saying "I love you Mum" to frustratingly saying "Give me a break!!" She has written this book from a child's perspective wherein the child is guiding her young parents on how to parent her effectively. The book is simple and to the point and Sharon has included mind maps to explain the contents of the chapters. She has received very positive feedback from friends and family and also from Greg Mosse who conducted the Writers Workshop on 26 and 28 February in Festival City, Dubai which she attended. Given below is the 'Introduction' page for better understanding of her book.

Another piece of good news is that Sharon met and spoke to Robin Sharma (author of "The Monk who sold his Ferrari") at the International Literature festival held in Dubai on 27 February 2009 and had the honour of sitting right in front of him in Al Majli's ballroom 2 in the Intercontinental Hotel at Festival City where he spoke about "Lead without Title". She told him the title of her book during the book signing session and he quite liked it.

Congratulations to Richard and Sharon. We look forward to hearing more from you.

*Margaretta Purtill - President*

\*\*\*\*\*

### Introduction

No child knowingly grows up into an angry teenager. This book has been written from a child's perspective guiding the parent on what to do so that the child does not move from saying



"I love you Dad" to ...



"Give me a break !".



The child wants the parent to WALK THE TALK and to be good role models they should be.

Today's children are thinking children and will question anything we say. Children want to know that we are interested in what they have to say, they want us to play with them, listen to them and appreciate them for who they are and not what you want them to be. This book will help young parents to do just that.

## **OBITUARIES**

### ***CHARLES ARTHUR JORDAN – 4.7.1921 – 27.2.2009***

Charles Jordan passed away peacefully on 27 February 2009. The last year had seen his health deteriorate and his desire to join his beloved Phyllis increase.

A small service was held in Whitianga, New Zealand on Friday 6 March to celebrate his life. There was a good turnout of family, friends and members of the community who had cared and supported Charles over the last few years.

Charles' life story was read by Granddaughter Lauryn (the daughter of Phyllis' son John) and other members of the family shared poems and memories of Charles.

A private cremation followed and his ashes will be interred with Phyllis's in Wanganui, New Zealand.

Charles left a list of people who he wished to be advised of his passing as you had all been an important part of his life.

Please send any message to Stepson John Bertie at

15 Sherbrook Avenue  
Glasgow G41 4PD  
United Kingdom. Phone +44 141 427 0136  
[Jonifer.bertie@googlemail.com](mailto:Jonifer.bertie@googlemail.com)

### ***From the Family of Charles Jordan***

\*\*\*\*\*

We were very sorry to receive a card from John Bertie of Glasgow (stepson of Charles) informing us that Charles had passed away peacefully on 27 February 2009. This was sent to us from Glasgow on 23 March 2009, stating that "Charles left a list of people who he wishes to be advised of his passing as you had all been an important part of his life" This was shocking news to us. We had a call from a friend of his in September stating that Charles sent his apologies as he could not attend the Homes Birthday at our house but that he sent his love to all of us. Charles always joined us for the Homes Birthday Celebration without fail. We will miss him very much.

I came to know Charlie when he first came to New Zealand with his wife Phyllis in the late 1960's when I was living with Wenty and Jess Ferdinands. A few years later they moved to Auckland and we had many gatherings at his house in Onehunga, especially when visiting OGB's from his era came to New Zealand.

He and his wife eventually sold their house and retired from Auckland, moving to the seaside resort of Whitianga which is about four hours drive from Auckland. We kept in touch with them. Unfortunately, some years ago, his dear wife Phyllis passed away and he was devastated but slowly and surely he got his life back together. Whenever Charlie came up to Auckland he stayed with his dear school friend Lionel Landale.

So the news of his passing came as a shock to us all. Unfortunately, none of the OGB's in Auckland attended his funeral as we never knew about it. I am very sad and disappointed that we could not say goodbye to him. As we say in Tibet to those friends and relations who pass away "May your soul find a rebirth soon"

**Thuten Kesang**  
**New Zealand**

---



**FRANK SAMUEL JORDAN – 15 August 1923 - 19 June 2009**



Frank Samuel Jordan, known to his close friends as “Franko” or “Frankie”, was born to a tea planter’s family in Dooars on August 15, 1923. He spent his early days in the Dooars before going to the Homes. He was admitted to Lucia King. His elder brother Charles and elder sister Ellen were already studying in the Homes at that time.

The Second World War had just broken out when he finished school. He joined Dunlop India immediately after leaving school. He was based at Sahagunj, West Bengal and continued to work for Dunlop until the time of his retirement. He remembered the days when Dunlop produced goods mainly for the forces and every employee was asked to work overtime for minimal wages. He used to say everyone needed to sacrifice for the war in some way or the other. Though he worked for Dunlop for over 40 years he made it a point to visit the Homes practically every year. He maintained with pride the beautiful pictures he used to take during his visits to the Homes. His albums ran into thick volumes which definitely were items of interest to the visitors to the Holiday Home.

Throughout his working career and even after retirement he made it a point to reach the poor and deserving children. He sponsored a number of children who are well placed in life now. Some of them are living in Germany, Australia, Canada and India.

He was a keen sportsman and played hockey and cricket very well. He represented Bengal in many hockey tournaments.

He loved outdoor life. He loved scouts and dedicated his life to it. He participated in the Republic Day parades in Delhi as a scout for many years. He participated in many scouts World Jamborees and received various awards for scouts from many organizations. The most prestigious being the award received from the first Prime Minister of India Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru. He continued to help out with the Scouts & Guides after he returned to the Homes.

After his retirement from Dunlop he thought of no better place to call a home than Kalimpong. He was asked to take care of the Holiday Home by Mr. B T Brooks who was the Principal at that time. He then volunteered to take care of the Holiday Home as Manager, which he did for the next 25 years of his life without taking any salary from the Homes.

He loved animals, nature and the Homes. It hurt him to see people ill treating animals, breaking off branches from trees or felling trees. He quickly made enemies with such people.

He was probably the oldest OB living in The Homes. He knew Daddy Graham personally and often told children stories of his school days when Daddy Graham was around.

He is survived by his son Shyam (Ex-Farm Manager), daughter-in-law Megumi and grand daughters Yuma and Ritu.

***Shyam Jordan***

---

***ELIZABETH KHALIL (nee HAWKINS) – 15.10.1932 – 6.4.2009***

My beautiful sister Lizzy died on 6 April 2009 and when thinking about the words to say at her funeral, I thought, “What tribute can you pay to a person whose whole life was a tribute?” A tribute to goodness, kindness, caring and generosity.

I remember my sister Lizzy helping me to get ready for school, brushing my curly hair and making sure I was tidy. When I saw her for the last time just two days prior to her death, she was still straightening my collar and touching my hair.

As sisters we have always been very close and have kept in contact throughout our lives, visiting each other, staying together, holidaying together and have never fallen out with each other.

So now I have to do without those sisterly hugs, the warmth of her smile and the touch of her hand but I will see her in the faces of her children, Jasmine, Harry, Jimmy and her grandchildren, Laura, Dean, Tara and Reis, and I will be comforted.

My special thoughts are with our sister Margaret (Hawkins), her husband John and their son Kenneth who live in Australia and their daughter Patrina who lives in Portugal. Also our relatives in India, Alan and Zeenath, Johann and Zareen Palmer. Lizzy’s classmate and friend Norman Hutchinson and his wife Gloria will be remembering her at this time in their chapel.

No one can ever take the place of my lovely sister. So my darling Lizzy thank you for being mine, I will carry you in my heart forever and always.

God Bless you.

***Barbara Burgess (Castley)***

\*\*\*\*\*

***A personal tribute to Elizabeth Khalil (nee Hawkins)***

“Special” is a word that is used to describe something or someone that is one-of-a-kind, a person who spreads love with a smile or a kind gesture. “Special” describes people who act from the heart and keep in mind the hearts of others. “Special” is a word that best describes Lizzy.

Some people come into our lives and quickly go ...some people stay awhile and leave footprints on our hearts ... and we are never, ever the same. Lizzy had a kindness, an inner desire to want to do good things for others without expecting anything in return. She did ordinary things in extraordinary ways. Lizzy leaves behind a wonderful legacy for her children and grandchildren who will, hopefully, continue to walk in her shoes and help and support others less fortunate than themselves.

Lizzy’s life in Cromer (Norfolk) was dedicated to sharing and giving her love to her fellow human beings, whether it came in a smile, a hug or through food. She thoroughly enjoyed going down the streets of Cromer with her basket of ‘curry puffs’ feeding the butcher, the baker, the girls who worked in the charity shops as well as banks and office staff.

Lizzy’s family were her life. She never asked for or wanted anything more. She was a wonderful Mother, a devoted Grandmother and a loving sister. If there were more like her, the world would be a much better place. The light that shone in her eyes has gone out but the warm glow that she leaves behind will never be extinguished. Lizzy’s family will miss her eternally.

On the day of her funeral, those who could not get into the church lined the streets of Cromer to pay their last respects. It was very emotional, moving yet very uplifting to see how much the town of Cromer loved and will miss her. Her presence was a present to this world. She was unique and one of a kind. Lizzy’s philosophy was: Life’s treasures are people together.

***Margaretta Purtill (nee Byers) – President***

## **OGB VISITS**

### ***Maureen Burress***

Maureen Burress and her daughter Rowena have been visiting the UK. Edith (Blanchard) Wilson drove them for an overnight visit on 15 May. Edith lives in Llangollen, North Wales – it was a good four hours drive for her in inclement weather!

They arrived at about 5.00 p.m. Had a nice “burra khanna”. The three OGB’s chatted, laughed and had a great time looking at old magazines and were up until midnight. The next morning I took them for a drive to see Cardiff Bay and a bit of our quiet little backwater! We had a great time together and I was sorry the visit was so short.

### ***Florence Snell (nee Hopper)***



***Edith, Maureen and Florence***



***Edith, Rowena and Maureen***

---

### ***Sandra Stokoe – visited her sister Brenda in Binningup, Western Australia***

A reunion was held at Rita and Andy’s home in Duncraig so that Sandra could meet as many OGB’s as possible. I purposely got to Rita’s dead on 6.30 p.m. to show her how punctual I can be. We had a great evening together, gang grub and much mirth. Andy had the braziers going on the patio which gave it a cosy effect.

OGB’s also present were: Ivan Smith, Dick Warner, Susan Warner, Enid Macey, Richie Stokoe, Yvonne (Neal), Michael Martin, Dudley Appleby, Irene Webber, Linda Cameron (much younger from 1983), Betty Langham. Mrs Macey was also present.

The evening wound up at around 11.00 p.m. which just goes to show how we can ‘yak’ and enjoy KPG company. What else can I say, a merry time was had by all!!

### ***Errol Webber – Perth, WA***

---

## **TYNDALE BAPTIST CHURCH**

The Kalimpong Association (UK) wish to thank the members of the Tyndale Baptist Church and Mr John Elliott for their generous donations over many years.

---

## **KEEPING IN TOUCH**

Nancy Modayil (nee Dunlop) (sister to Elspeth Lamb) is searching for Basil Harrington. He would have been in the school during 1948. He had two relatives – a sister Barbara Harrington (Thorburn) and a brother Vivian Harrington.

Any news on the whereabouts of Basil please contact Margaretta Purtill (President).

A reminder that readers can visit our website [www.kalimpong-association.co.uk](http://www.kalimpong-association.co.uk) where Newsletters can be downloaded from the 'newsletters' page of the site as .pdf files.

Also, given below are a few books which may be of interest to some of our readers:

1.	ISBN 1-843560100	Britain's Betrayal in India – The Story of the Anglo-Indian Community	By Frank Anthony	£24.00
2.	ISBN 1-843560127	These are the Anglo-Indians.	By James Reginald Maher	£16.00
3.	ISBN 1-843560119	Hostages to India – the life story of the Anglo-Indian Race	By H A Stark	£15.00
4.	ISBN 1-843560135	Cimmerii or Eurasians and Their Future (an Anglo-Indian Heritage Book)	By Cedric Dover	£15.00

*Dave Evans*

\*\*\*\*\*

***DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES***

<b>Forthcoming Events</b>	<b>Dates</b>	<b>Venues</b>
<b>BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION</b>  <i>Donations of items for the Raffle would be greatly appreciated.</i>	<b>Saturday, 19 September 2009</b>  Doors open at 2.00 pm	Methodist Church Hinde Street, London W1  Tube: Bond Street
<b>The Kalimpong Association Dance</b>  Bring your own food and drink and dance the night away to a fantastic Band	<b>Saturday 29 May 2010</b>	Archbishop LanFranc School Mitcham Road, Croydon
<b>AGM</b> The Kalimpong Association (UK) The Kalimpong Association (UK) Charitable Trust  <i>Donations of items for the Raffle would be greatly appreciated</i>	<b>Saturday 19 June 2010</b>  Doors open at 2.00 p.m. AGM commences at 3.00 p.m.	Methodist Church Hinde Street, London W1  Tube: Bond Street
<b>BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION</b>  <i>Donations of items for the Raffle would be greatly appreciated</i>	<b>Saturday, 25 September 2010</b>  Doors open at 2.00 pm	Methodist Church Hinde Street, London W1  Tube: Bond Street

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sadly, we have lost our printer, Mr Webber, as he has retired from the printing business. If there is anyone in the UK who would be prepared to take on this job please do get in touch with the President/Secretary.**