



# NEWSLETTER

Winter 2004



## International School Alumni Association Association des Anciens de l'Ecole Internationale

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## 5<sup>e</sup> Réunion mondiale des Anciens

### Did you make it to the Reunion? We certainly hope so!

For four event-filled days, over 500 Alumni from across the globe, ranging from recent graduates to those having graduated as far back as in the 30's, flocked to Geneva and Vaud for the 5th Alumni World Reunion. The event kicked off to a sunny start early Thursday afternoon when Alumni started arriving for registration. The Château at LGB was quickly filled

tout à fait savoureux ont été préparés avec le plus grand soin par Mme Chapuis et son équipe de la cafétéria de l'école. Un complément des plus appréciés a été l'accompagnement musical généreusement offert par les groupes Bob Ackerman et John Intrator respectivement. A La Chât, anciens, professeurs et le Directeur du campus, Michel Chinal, se sont également réunis pour savourer un délicieux dîner-buffet à la cafétéria de l'école aux sons de la musique de "Mad Violet".



*Le grand portail glacé*

with the exclamations of joy and emotion and the excited chatter of Alumni who suddenly recognized a classmate, friend or teacher whom they had not seen for many years. Before the official opening ceremony in the Greek Theatre during which many Alumni first became acquainted with the school's new Director General, Nicholas Tate, they gathered at the Vin d'honneur, held in the Rose Garden, which was kindly offered by "Earth Focus". Sam Jarrell officially declared the Reunion open, Nicholas Tate and Hélène Durand Ballivet welcomed the Alumni and our guest speakers: Monsieur le Conseiller d'Etat Charles Beer, Eric Margolis and Rock Brynner.

A l'instar des réunions mondiales précédentes, la soirée à LGB s'est poursuivie dehors devant le Grand Bâtiment avec un dîner-buffet arrangé par Mme Kastoryano et le Service technique. Les différents plats

On Friday morning present LGB Middle School students led campus tours for those wishing to see how their school had evolved since they were last here, whilst others preferred to visit their favourite haunts in town or have a leisurely morning getting over their jetlag.



*Guests arriving for the LGB Buffet*

In the early afternoon an interesting Educational Forum was organized by David Rimer and Othman Hamayed with participants including George Walker, Hélène Durand Ballivet, Antoine Zelenka and Hugo Lamb. This was followed by Mrs Quin's lovely tea party in the Rose Garden attended by Mr Quin's former students, colleagues and friends. The elegant English finger sandwiches and homemade ginger cake disappeared in no time....

Précédant les traditionnels et mémorables

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dîners de classes tenus dans des restaurants locaux et même sur un bateau, quelque 70 anciens ont rejoint Peter Beare et Roger Murray pour un joyeux tour à bord d'un tram des temps jadis à travers une Genève au trafic quelque peu congestionné.

On Saturday morning there were two choices – the Alumni Association's Annual General Assembly (please see Sam Jarrell's article on page 8) or a wine tour of a vineyard in Dardagny. Some 40 participants enjoyed visiting the vineyard and the wine cellars, hearing the interesting explanations by the wine growers. But the highlight for many was tasting several local

wines and cheeses while having a light lunch overlooking the, by then rather wet, vineyard.

Saturday evening began with a beautiful cocktail hosted by the International School in the Noga Hilton Hotel's ballroom. Alumni then made their way up to the hotel's terrace overlooking the lake for the gala dinner. The evening was highlighted by two special treats: a specially recomposed one-off alumni band "the Internats", made up of Manny Araoz, Cengiz Yaltkaya, Chikara Hattori, Jim Frank, and his son, Sam. The music was great and, after having indulged in a delicious international buffet, everyone danced the night away. After the band stopped, dancing continued to the beat of special La Chât alumna DJ, Leona Godfrey. The second surprise was that the jet d'eau was exceptionally lit up in "Ecolint blue" for the Alumni Reunion. For a few short hours, Geneva's

lakeside view was even more spectacular than usual!

On Sunday morning, despite a late night and intermittent rain, over 300 Alumni made it to the delicious BBQ, held in the LGB grounds and cafeteria, prepared by master chefs Alan Sharpe, Isabel Wise and Frank Lunt, with Carole Lunt in charge of the bar. Unfortunately, Les Wise was unable to use his culinary skills due to illness. At the same time the La Chât BBQ was also going strong and La Chât Alumni were entertained by the music of DJ Leona.

La réunion est terminée et chacun est retourné dans son pays respectif et à sa vie quotidienne, mais pour quelques brèves journées nous avons pu reprendre contact avec d'anciens amis et nouer de nouvelles amitiés; l'esprit Ecolint a été ravivé et le souvenir de ces moments uniques perdurera sans aucun doute pendant

longtemps encore.

Thank you to all those who participated in one way or another in allowing this reunion to take place and for making this such an exceptional event. A special thanks to the Reunion Committee members, Jill Wolf, Sue Anthony, Sam Jarrell, Michel Pelletier and Dean Soldatos for LGB and Ian Cogswell, Leona Godfrey and Phil Hill for La Chât, to the LGB Campus Principal - Mr. Jean-Guy Carpentier, to those volunteers who helped at registration including Mary Sor-

rentino, Jackie Woolman-Stebler, Manzo Nitta, Christine Kjellberg, Pennie Aldrich, Patricia Aldrich-Hillis, Judy Ackerman and Laura Kinahan-Meredith, and to those who organized the class dinners\*.

La prochaine réunion mondiale se tiendra en 2009 – prenez en note afin de ne pas la rater!

*Vivian Hakkak*  
President  
Alumni World Reunion  
Committee

**\*Thanks to the organizers of the Reunion Class Dinners:**

**La Chât :** Ian Cogswell/81,  
**LGB :** Lois Meyhoffer/33, Johannes Ernst/54, Anees Ahmad/54, Georgia Ehrgott Achard/60, Vito Cavaliero/60, Donate Dobbernack/63, Vivian Hakkak/66, Isabelle Gilliéron/82, Matilde Bagnoli-Maranzana/82, Hagit Moustaki Snir/88, Mughees Husain/89, Kaarina Rodriguez Lorenzini/90, Wilfred de Guzman/94 and Tulika Tripathi/97.  
**Staff:** Eric Anthony/97.

Full English version on: / version française complète sur: [www.ecolint-alumni.ch](http://www.ecolint-alumni.ch)

## Reunion – special La Chât

Twenty years on since graduation year seems to have passed with a blink!

How could I already be 38 and still be so very young at heart.

ence even if LGB had always been let's just say the 'BIG-GER' school. One mid-Spring lunchtime, I found myself face to face with the committee – Phil, Ian, Nigel and Lydia. How



Joey Radi/81 and Mr. John Schumann

We kicked off the official reunion on Thursday, June 17th. Greeted by Michel Chinal, the Number 1 on the La Chât campus, with a cool glass of white wine from one of the local vineyards (remember the days we used to HAVE to run through them, aches and pains - yet now we could enjoy the fruits of our toil and trouble!). After briefing us on the new extensions of the School, i.e. the new Primary campus in Mies, and a few more glasses of wine, we settled down to our delectable buffet, amiably pre-

pared by Laurent Guessard, the head of the snazzy new, very neon-lit cafeteria. A fine repast was laid on with all the trimmings and we caught up on years well spent. For dessert, we invited "Mad Violet", a talented duo from Canada, touring Switzerland at the time, but free and willing to comply with my whims to come and play for my old schoolmates. Yes, it was a great *démarrage* that finished short of dawn!

Friday, June 18th, class dinner convened by Ian at the Relais de



Phil Hill/83, Sarah Lambert/84, Leona Godfrey/84 and Isabelle Albrow/84

Made me wonder how my other schoolmates were doing. Couldn't think of a better way to discover the truth than by joining the Châtaigneraie-alumni-committee. And so I did!

La Chât had been a real experi-

could I not be traumatized: they were all older than me! Not a worry, I was only in for the music and the old faces after all, and Joey was there to help having added his sagacity and experience shortly after the alumni luncheon.

Photos: Isabelle Albrow



Nathalie/90 and Isabelle/84 Albrow.

Chavannes, a favourite haunt of our former and apparently still current, members of staff. A feast was laid on by the portly *patronne*, pitchers of H<sub>2</sub>O on the go and another belly-full granted us yet another pleasant evening, few as we may have been. Cheers Roger for keeping us perky on our end, and Suha on the other.

I dreaded Saturday 19th, the fancy gala at the notorious lake-

front Hilton Hotel. I had to DJ for the event, being the sort of music person. Sameer brought his wife, and Iz brought Natalie, so it wasn't too bad considering that we all had a few friends somewhere within the LGB 400+ strong crowd and we were all of 8! It went fine with the LGB alumni band playing rock classics and me trying to follow. Yup, some people did not want to stop shaking!!! Off the record, it was raining on our

terrace facing the jet d'eau!

Then suddenly, it was Sunday 20th, the last day. On the programme, an outdoor barbecue on the La Chât campus; lamb and chicken off the spit. Word had got round, and not only did the sun come out, but there were suddenly lots of former students, staff and loads of children, Sarah Lambert, Kai Ingwersen, to name a few who brought their kids. It was brilliant and worth the perseverance and fatigue accumulated over the past four days and 20 years. My only regret? Not to

have seen more of you. Hopefully better luck next round? Keep well wherever you are in the world and do try and remember that around every La Chât Kermesse, there will be some form of reunion.

Thanks for the memories, the blast of yesterday that created today and paves tomorrow. ♦

Leona Godfrey/84

P.S. Since the reunion I have managed to touch base with Tanya Najera, Rasha Hammad, Samantha Parker and even Fahima Adballah!

## New website: [la-chat.ch](http://la-chat.ch)

Acting on discussions at the Alumni Reunion in June, Ian Cogswell has created [www.la-chat.ch](http://www.la-chat.ch), a user-editable "wiki" website for La Châtaigneraie alumni.

The website currently has sections on Forums, Albums, Class Pages and Alumni Resources.

The "Class Pages" are currently being edited by the following volunteers:

1974-1977	Sameer Sant
1978-1980	Joey Radi
1981	Ian Cogswell
1982	Shelagh Macleod
1983	Phil Hill
1984	Sarah Houston-Lambert
1985	Robin Ramcharan and Vicky Godfrey

If you too would like to be a contributing editor please, contact [ian@inextenso.com](mailto:ian@inextenso.com).

Please visit [www.la-chat.ch](http://www.la-chat.ch) for further information. ♦

## Prix des Anciens - Juin 2004

Le Comité central a décerné le "Prix des Anciens" aux élèves suivants:

### La Châtaigneraie:

Nikhil Ray, *classe 13BI*

### La Grande Boissière:

Abtin Pourgive, *classe 13BI*

Sophia Smith-Savedoff, *classe 13BI*

## Reunion Master Chefs LGB



Alan Sharpe, Isabel Wise and Frank Lunt - master chefs of the LGB Reunion.

## The Quin family

Nita and her family very much appreciated the presence of so many of Michael's former students, friends and colleagues, and of having the opportunity to reminisce and to feel the spirit of Ecolint. ♦



## Message de la Présidente du Conseil de Fondation



Photo: Sabah Al-Basri Saliman

secondaires réunies, pour l'occasion, au Théâtre grec, Alejandro Rodriguez leur a, à son tour, raconté son expérience de l'école. C'est ainsi que, par tradition orale, naissent les légendes, en l'occurrence la légende de l'Ecolint! Car, ne dit-on pas que les peuples heureux n'ont pas d'histoire?

Mais revenons à la réalité d'aujourd'hui. Au cours de l'année scolaire écoulée, le Conseil de Fondation et le Directeur général, en étroite collaboration avec de nombreux délégués des différents groupes représentés à l'école ont travaillé ensemble pour élaborer un Plan stratégique, "plan d'action clair et cohérent qui précise les procédures et les politiques régissant les relations et le travail au sein de la Fondation, les objectifs à atteindre, les manières de procéder, le moment d'agir, les personnes responsables de ces actions ainsi que leur coût". Ce travail de synthèse et de consolidation s'appuie sur une "Déclaration sur la vision" des

but de l'école, réaffirmant l'attachement de la Fondation aux huit principes pour une éducation internationale; il fournit une interprétation définitive d'un certain nombre de dispositions et, en particulier, de l'article 4 de la Charte relatif aux objectifs de la Fondation. Vous trouverez un résumé de ce Plan stratégique sur le site Internet de la Fondation ([www.ecolint.ch](http://www.ecolint.ch)).

Nous souhaitons que cette année anniversaire soit l'occasion d'une véritable "Re-fondation" des objectifs et de la philosophie de l'Ecole internationale de Genève. Nous y avons travaillé avec opiniâtreté. En effet, après la crise des années 2000-2002, une grande partie de la communauté éprouvait le besoin d'unir ses efforts pour que soit garantie, dans la durée, la qualité de l'éducation et qu'elle bénéficie de manière visible aux élèves. Améliorer la transparence des procédures et des politiques ainsi que la communication tant à l'intérieur de la communauté que vers l'extérieur, engager un processus d'évaluation de toutes les composantes de la Fondation, identifier et développer des apports financiers externes, valoriser les réussites et l'expertise de l'école en matière éducative, développer les initiatives et innovations dans le domaine de la pédagogie tout en maintenant au niveau d'excellence les enseignements

dispensés actuellement: tels sont nos objectifs pour la période 2004 à 2009.

Le "Livre Rouge" du Cinquantième Anniversaire raconte: "Au moment où l'Institution atteint son cinquantenaire, près de deux mille jeunes... continuent à suivre la voie tracée sur terre genevoise, carrefour du monde, par de nombreuses générations de prédécesseurs. Cette voie est pavée de l'élan généreux qui est celui de la jeunesse sous tous les cieux du monde. Et, à l'Ecole internationale, elle est, en plus, imprégnée de la fraternité universelle des communautés où se mêlent races et peuples dans un coude à coude où ne comptent ni la couleur de la peau, ni les croyances particulières, mais la chaleur bienfaisante des cœurs qui, dans l'acceptation bienveillante des différences et des divergences, ne finissent jamais de s'unir." Les membres actuels du Conseil de Fondation se sentent responsables de la sauvegarde de cet équilibre et de cette harmonie, facteurs déterminants des progrès d'une institution aussi complexe et délicate que celle de l'Ecole internationale de Genève, notre école. ◆

*Hélène Durand Ballivet/60,  
Présidente du Conseil  
de Fondation*

Chers amis anciens,

La célébration du 80<sup>e</sup> anniversaire de la Fondation de notre école, le 17 septembre 1924, prit la forme d'une cérémonie "familiale" à l'occasion de laquelle les élèves ont pu entendre parler des valeurs et de l'éthique sur lesquelles est fondé ce que nous appelons "l'esprit Ecolint". Loïs Meyhoffer avait accepté de parler aux enfants de 5 ans de sa première expérience de l'école alors qu'elle avait leur âge; puis, s'adressant aux élèves des classes moyennes et

collaboration avec de nombreux délégués des différents groupes représentés à l'école ont travaillé ensemble pour élaborer un Plan stratégique, "plan d'action clair et cohérent qui précise les procédures et les politiques régissant les relations et le travail au sein de la Fondation, les objectifs à atteindre, les manières de procéder, le moment d'agir, les personnes responsables de ces actions ainsi que leur coût". Ce travail de synthèse et de consolidation s'appuie sur une "Déclaration sur la vision" des

## Escalade 2004 - celebrations around the world !!

### Denver:

Rocky Mountain Alumni Association Escalade/Fondue dinner to be held on Saturday, 4 December in Denver, Colorado. Please email Pennie Aldrich/65 [plaldrich@comcast.net](mailto:plaldrich@comcast.net) for details. ◆

### Geneva:

Escalade dinner, Wednesday, 8 December in the La Grande Boissière cafeteria. Please contact the alumni office at [alumni@ecolint.ch](mailto:alumni@ecolint.ch) or phone 079.449.50.43. ◆

### London:

Escalade dinner to be held on Wednesday, 8 Dec. at the St. Moritz restaurant, Soho. Please contact Agnes de Guzman/90 [agnes@deguzman.org](mailto:agnes@deguzman.org) or [ukalumni@ecolint-alumni.ch](mailto:ukalumni@ecolint-alumni.ch). ◆

### New York:

The annual Escalade dinner will be held on Saturday, 11 December. Please contact either Charles Potter/62 [cameleopard@earthlink.net](mailto:cameleopard@earthlink.net) or Peggy Troupin/60 [classact-inc@mindspring.com](mailto:classact-inc@mindspring.com) to let us know if you are interested in joining us. ◆

### Toronto:

Escalade dinner will be held on Saturday, 27 November. For more details, please contact Jock Galloway/56 at [galloway@geog.utoronto.ca](mailto:galloway@geog.utoronto.ca) or phone (416) 767.92.97. ◆

### Washington DC:

This is an announcement for this year's Ecolint alumni reunion celebrating the Escalade in the Washington DC /Maryland /Virginia /Pennsylvania /West Virginia / North Carolina area.

**Location:** THE MELTING POT, 1220 19th Street NW Washington DC 20036 (Tel:202 857-0777)  
Cost: approx. \$40 per head (drinks, tax, service charge excluded).

The date will be set according to a popular vote for one of the following:

- (a) Wednesday, December 8
- (b) Thursday, December 9
- (c) Friday, December 10
- (d) Saturday, December 11
- (e) Sunday, December 12

PLEASE RESPOND BY THE FOLLOWING DEADLINE - 6:00pm November 25, 2004: Please send your 1st, 2nd & 3rd date preferences by e-mail to Alexander Smouha at: [asmouha@attglobal.net](mailto:asmouha@attglobal.net)

The results will then be published by November 28 to all, confirming the date of the event, as decided by popular vote. ◆

## Dr. Nicholas Tate Director-General's message



Photo: Véronique Dupraz

Dans l'école où j'exerçais mes fonctions précédemment, ainsi qu'à l'Ecole Internationale de Genève, l'une des premières actions que j'ai entreprises a été de persuader le Conseil de Fondation de concevoir un Plan stratégique à long terme pour l'école, de manière à connaître la nature de nos objectifs et les moyens pour les réaliser. Pour ma part, cela faisait tout simplement partie des bonnes pratiques. Imaginez ma surprise lorsque le journal de mon ancienne école, dans un esprit d'ouverture et de dialogue, pas très éloigné de celui de l'Ecolint, a publié une lettre d'Ancien dénonçant l'idée même d'un plan stratégique, tout en déplorant que la communauté scolaire de 600 ans à laquelle il appartenait avait finalement succombé, à l'arrivée du nouveau directeur, aux pressions du XXI<sup>e</sup> siècle, celui du monde des affaires.

Having got over my initial shock at the *esprit libre* of alumni communities, I came to feel that this passionate correspondent had a point. His fundamental argument was this: schools are organic communities, what happens in them is infinitely subtle and to some extent unpredictable; most important is their spirit, which it is difficult to legislate for; and so therefore one should tread carefully, avoiding the

imposition of any kind of rationalist schema for fear of making things worse.

What I found particularly helpful was the reminder that many of the best things that happen in schools have little to do with managers' long-term plans. This term at Ecolint we have had, or will shortly have had, all of the following: a Benjamin Britten opera, performed at La Grande Boissière Middle School; an Africa Week at La

Châtaigneraie; the Students' League of Nations at the Palais des Nations; a new edition of the magazine "Earth Focus", with many articles and illustrations by Ecolint students; evening theatre visits; meetings to plan next summer's visit to Tanzania; sports trips to other countries; an exhibition *Hommage à Bagdad* by one of our art teachers; and much more besides. None of this is part of any plan. It has happened because of spontaneous enthusiasms on the part of staff and students. But it is this sort of thing that above all helps to define the character of a school. Strategic Plans must provide a context that supports activities of this kind. They are unlikely to be able to prescribe them.

No argument, however, will persuade me that strategic plans are not essential, at the very least as a framework for all the other things that go on inside a school. This is why we spent so much time last year consulting upon the Plan that the Board has now adopted and that will guide our activities over the next three years. We began with a consultation on the school's fundamental aims and objectives and have now placed at the front of the Strategic Plan what we are calling our "vision statement", a credo stating what we think we stand for and, more importantly,

what we hope to become.

Ecolint's Strategic Plan, the summary version of which is available on the school website, covers all aspects of school life. It sets objectives, gives an outline plan for their accomplishment and identifies criteria by which success in achieving the objective can be established. It is enormously wide-ranging and includes objectives as diverse as trying to make best use of the resources we have available in our parent and alumni communities, exploring in depth the extent to which we might better improve our support for students with special educational needs, defining more precisely how we plan to promote 'international values' through the curriculum and the daily life of the school, and developing still further our arrangements for staff and Board evaluation.

Many of these objectives can be achieved without additional expenditure. What matters most in a school is the quality of the daily interactions between students and teachers, in the classroom and in extra-curricular activities. We improve this by changing what we teach, how we teach, how we communicate, and the kind of relationships that exist between students, parents and staff. Our greatest resource is people and the main purpose of a Strategic Plan is to help our staff to do an even better job.

There are, however, needs that can only be met through additional expenditure. I have recently returned from the annual International Baccalaureate Heads conference in Istanbul and am still reeling from the gulf between the physical facilities at the Turk-

ish school that hosted that conference and those we have on our various campuses at Ecolint. There is an urgent need for improved sports facilities on both our major campuses; La Grande Boissière still lacks an all-weather auditorium in which to hold large school assemblies; there is a desperate need to improve our art and drama facilities; there are many buildings requiring either extensive renovation or expansion. The Strategic Plan spells out these needs. It is clear, however, that, only a proportion can be met from the Foundation's own resources, however hard we try to make efficiency savings to allow this to happen. That is why our new Director of Development is working on plans for a fund-raising campaign that will be targeted, among others, at those alumni who would like to help their old school improve the quality of the educational facilities we are able to offer to today's students. We would be enormously grateful for your support.

La nouvelle école a commencé sur une note très positive. Nous avons resserré nos liens avec nos origines grâce aux diverses célébrations à l'école qui ont marqué notre quatre-vingtième anniversaire. Nous nous tournons aussi vers l'avenir et nous réjouissons de l'ouverture du nouveau campus au Grand-Saconnex en septembre 2005. J'espère vivement vous tenir au courant de nouveaux développements au cours de l'année. Et quiconque voudrait s'exprimer à propos de plans stratégiques ou d'autre chose est invité à m'écrire: nihil humanum alienum puto (comme l'histoire que je vous ai racontée au début tend à le montrer). ◆

Nicholas Tate

### Governing Board

For the latest Governing Board news please visit the school website: [www.ecolint.ch](http://www.ecolint.ch) ◆

### Conseil de Fondation

Pour les dernières nouvelles du Conseil de Fondation, veuillez consulter le site web de l'école: [www.ecolint.ch](http://www.ecolint.ch) ◆

## A new Director of Development, Michaelene Stack



Photo: Véronique Dupraz

I am acutely aware that I join the Foundation in a momentous year. For, in the words of my first press release for the Foundation, "It is not every day you celebrate your 80th birthday". I also join it at a time of renewal and reinvigoration after, it must be acknowledged, what has been a very hard period for all who hold the fundamental interests of the school at heart. Indeed, as we look beyond our 80th year, the Foundation and its many communities (yes, I do mean communities) face

continual challenges.

The Foundation's Strategic Plan 2004 – 2007, adopted by the Foundation Board as the community's benchmark and touchstone, sets clear objectives for our communities to work toward. (You can find the Strategic Plan on our web site at

[www.ecolint.ch](http://www.ecolint.ch) in the governing board section or we can provide you with a copy

from the Development Office). To avert the risk of running into opaque ramblings about strategy, I turn to the fact that making this plan a reality, whilst simultaneously meeting many of our associated aspirations, will require the effort of more than the paid staff of the Foundation. Indeed there will be much that the likes of me will just not be able to deliver without the knowledge, networks and guidance of individual Alumni.

At a practical level we need to equip ourselves with the tools which will enable us to work together. If I dare cite one specific tool at the heart of much debate, I would name the database of alumni information. Current, accurate and accessible information about alumni; what you did when you were at the International School of Geneva, whether at La Chât, La Grande Boissière, Pregny-Rigot or for the many who are yet to graduate from our Campus des Nations, and where you are now is at the heart of any endeavour to communicate and collaborate. With this in mind work has begun to allow our existing information to be updated. We can do a certain amount with desk based data cleaning, but only a certain amount. We will need all the good intelligence we can find to track down the unaccounted for and to fill in the blanks for those records we do have. This intelligence is found in one place, the quite remarkable network of Ecolint alumni which has wound itself around the world. From late spring 2005, with support of the Alumni Association (I hope Sue Anthony will not be handing in her notice in horror!) and individual Alumni, we will be in a position to bring this information into a readily interpretable format, compatible with our web site (another tool not infrequently giving rise to frustration!). I am pleased to find myself in a position where the Foundation has the fore-

sight to wish to invest time and money in addressing with the Alumni Association what has long been recognized as major hurdles to communicating more effectively with more of our alumni.

I am beginning to grasp the vision(s) that our communities have for their Foundation – though I suspect this is going to be an ongoing process – whether formalized in the Strategic Plan or in the minds of individual alumni. However, being a practical person I have also enjoyed getting stuck in with Sue and others to tackle the challenges of making sure we have the tools with which to work together. I am also a realist. Checking the validity of 12,000 records, sorting out the technical aspects of running an on-line directory whilst juggling all our other strategic objectives for which the Foundation holds me responsible will take time. My commitment would be to continue addressing our shared frustrations whilst developing tools and the relationships we need to work together. All this whilst trying not to forget to just get on doing things. There are Chapter reunions planned, there are buildings to be built, money to be raised and a whole new campus to be opened. Somehow, I do not think I shall want for diversity in this international community of ours. ◆

*Michaelene Stack*

## Retirements

We wish long and happy retirements to the members of staff listed below who retired at the end of August, 2004, after many years of service to the School. Tributes to these members of staff will be given in the Spring 2005 Newsletter.

### Pregny-Rigot:

M. Edward Weldon

### La Châtaigneraie:

Mme Piera Bonada  
Mme Arlette D'Amico  
Mme Monique Florimond  
Mme Hélène Forneris  
M. Roman Tomzack

### La Grande Boissière:

Mme Gabriela Guerrero  
Mme Marie-Françoise Polliand  
M. David Ryan  
M. Alan Sharpe  
M. John Barry Smith  
Mme Anne-Marie Tremeaud  
M. Leslie Wise

### Retraites

Nous souhaitons une longue et heureuse retraite aux membres du personnel mentionnés ci-dessus, qui ont pris leur retraite à la fin du mois d'août 2004, après avoir été au service de l'École pendant de nombreuses années. Hommage leur sera rendu dans le numéro de printemps 2005 de la "Newsletter". ◆

## Journée d'orientation professionnelle LGB – 23 juin 2005

Vous êtes scientifique, artiste, politicien, médecin, linguiste, professeur, architecte, urbaniste, banquier, dans les affaires .... ? Aidez nos enfants à comprendre le monde du travail et à atteindre leurs objectifs!

Le service de guidance de la Grande Boissière est à la recherche de professionnels qui seraient prêts à consacrer quelques heures aux élèves des degrés 11 et 12 et à parler de leur carrière, leur chemin, leurs récompenses / déceptions ou toutes autres informations liées à leur métier.

Vous pourriez soit les rencontrer à l'école et discuter avec eux, soit les recevoir sur votre lieu de travail en groupe et ainsi leur expliquer comment se passe une de vos journées.

Si vous êtes intéressé, n'hésitez pas à contacter : Beth Ballin/73 au service de guidance. E-mail: [elizabeth.ballin@ecolint.ch](mailto:elizabeth.ballin@ecolint.ch) ou tel: 022 787 2543 ◆

## Mme Loïs Meyhoffer's speech to the Assembly - Middle and Secondary Schools La Grande Boissière



Photos: Sabah Al-Baefi Salmian

C'est une joie pour moi de fêter le 80<sup>e</sup> anniversaire de l'École avec vous.

Le 17 septembre 1924 a été bien sûr mon premier jour d'école. Est-ce que je me le rappelle? Pas si sûr. Mais je me rappelle bien le chalet à la route de Florissant où j'ai commencé à apprendre à lire et à écrire. Il me semble que c'était tout de suite en français et en anglais. Je me souviens aussi de n'avoir trouvé que du plaisir dans cette petite classe où chacun travaillait à son rythme.

Dr Tate asked me whether I remember the colour of the rabbit for which we built a hutch. Alas, I was not able to give him that information\*. But I do remember when the School moved 5 years later, in September 1929, into this beautiful property, which for two years became my home, as my parents were in charge of the Boarding School for girls, over there in "La Vieille Maison".

I also remember playing a small

part in Shakespeare's "Midsummer Night's Dream" performed right here. The Greek Theatre had not yet been built, but to have the trees and nature as a scenery gave the play a wonderful dreamlike atmosphere.

L'année où nous avons étudié la route de la Soie et où nous avons élevé, entre autres, des vers à soie est restée gravée dans ma mémoire. Tant et si bien que l'année où j'ai pris ma retraite, j'ai enfin pu réaliser mon rêve de visiter la Chine.

Mais, assez parlé de moi, je suis venue surtout pour vous apporter un message de la part des Anciens de cette école qui forment une très grande famille dispersée à travers le monde.

I want to tell you about two former students who have been honoured this year for actions in line with our School's ideals:

Tracy Strong, a student at Ecolint in the early days like myself, was honoured last June

at a commemorative reunion at Le Chambon sur Lignon in France for his participation in a vast action to save Jews and other internees from deportation to concentration camps at the time of the Nazi occupation of France. The inhabitants of Le Chambon sur Lignon and the surrounding region gave refuge – hiding them – to some 3000 Jews, children and adults. A number of them came back to Le Chambon this summer to celebrate and express their gratitude to those who often had risked their lives for them.

Rami Khouri, who was a student here in the 1960s, is the editor of the "Daily Star" in Beirut. At a ceremony held in Brussels on 9th September – just a week ago – he received the "Common Ground Award" given to journalists, selected from Arab, Israeli and Western Press, whose articles promote dialogue and peaceful coexistence in the region.

In his prize winning article, Rami puts in parallel the efforts of a group of Palestinians who are working on a draft constitution for Palestine, with what the exiled Jews did in Babylon two and a half millennia ago.

In both cases exiled communities endured hardships, remembered their roots, fortified their national integrity and codified their sentiments into laws and political doctrines guided by divinely inspired moral values. Parts of the biblical books of Isaiah and Deuteronomy, says Khouri, were probably written during the Jewish exile in Babylon.

Likewise, elements of the Palestinian Constitution are being written now under similar circumstances. In concluding the article, Rami writes: "God or something equally powerful and benevolent must guide both these peoples".

Impressed by these two examples I wanted to share them with you, because you are the new generations, who will carry into the world the ideals of peace and understanding between peoples and nations which are at the basis of the Foundation of our School. ◆

\* Part of Dr. Tate's speech to the students was centred around the photograph taken one of the first days of school where three teachers and eight pupils are shown gathered around a rabbit hutch in the garden of the Chalet. ◆



Loïs Meyhoffer at LGB - 17 September 2004.

### Alumni Directory

#### Important request!

Please don't forget to register in the Alumni Directory at: [www.ecolint-alumni.ch](http://www.ecolint-alumni.ch) ◆

### Annuaire des Anciens

#### Demande importante!

N'oubliez pas de vous enregistrer à l'Annuaire des Anciens sur: [www.ecolint-alumni.ch](http://www.ecolint-alumni.ch) ◆

## Sam Jarrell President's message



Photo: Suzi Jarrell

Two weeks ago as I packed my bags for a trip to Los Angeles on business I remembered that Sue Anthony had asked me for my regular contribution to this "Newsletter". No problem I thought! I'll take my aging portable and write it in my hotel room, since I was going to have a bit of spare time while I was there. Of course, I forgot to take into account a bad case of jetlag which left my brain only just functioning enough to get through the day. When I finally felt up to sitting down with my portable, it spluttered, coughed and steadfastly refused to start. I know I should be able to revert to pen and paper but somehow I have become so accustomed to being able to reedit as I go that the prospect seemed daunting. However, while I was in LA I did manage one very pleasant bit of Alumni business. I met up with Roger Cherniss and his wife Diane, along with Roxie Lonergan for a very mini Ecolint reunion over Tapas and some fine wine from New Zealand. Then it was time to go back to Geneva and I only had a couple of days to find the time to sit down and write this article so you'll have to forgive me if it isn't as polished as it should be.

It's hard to believe that its already nearly five months ago I stood before over five hundred old Ecolint students to declare the Fifth Alumni World Reunion open. The reunion was a great success, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank every-

one who helped in any way whatever. In particular I would like to say a big thank you to, Vivian Hakkak, Sue & Eric Anthony, Jill Wolf, and Dean Soldatos who were the mainstays of the organising committee.

I won't wax lyrical about the wonderful time we all had. Others have done that far better than I can else-

where in this "Newsletter", and anyway if you were there you already know all about it. If you weren't then I can only urge you to try and attend the next world reunion which all being well will be held in 2009. If you can't wait that long the various ad hoc chapters that exist all around the world are planning a number of events. There will be Escalade dinners in Denver, Geneva, London, New York, Toronto, and Washington DC. Most notably the Denver chapter is proposing a world reunion in July 2006, we will keep you posted with details as they become available.

If reunions aren't your thing you can stay in touch by logging in to our website at [www.ecolint-alumni.ch](http://www.ecolint-alumni.ch). If you do visit please do take the time to register in the Directory it only takes a couple of minutes and it helps us to keep in touch and provide a better service. You'll also find instructions for signing up for the three discussion groups or listserves, ECOLINT, ALUMNI & FREESPEECH organised by alumni.

There is one aspect of this summer's reunion that I do want to come back to though and that is the Annual General Meeting. As I wrote in the last "Newsletter" I have felt for some time we in Geneva need to do a better job of staying in touch with the Alumni community around the world than we do at the moment. An improved website, more frequent updates and a better online

database are just some of things we could use. Unfortunately financing this is becoming a problem, The Association does not raise enough from its membership fees to support its current activities. The largest but most essential cost is the wage of our one part time employee without whom the association would probably cease to exist. Distributing the "Newsletter" is another major cost; again one could ask the question whether, in these days of electronic communication, a paper version of the "Newsletter" is really necessary. Personally I think for many of our members it is but I would welcome your opinions on this.

In the past the school, or more exactly the Foundation, has kindly contributed to the costs of running the Association but this has been on an ad hoc basis which neither the school nor the Association was really happy with. For some time now the Foundation like many other private schools around the world has felt it could make better use of its Alumni network to raise funds for some of the special projects that cannot be met by its day to day operating budget. On the other hand the Association, which has maintained and developed our database of Alumni members, has been continually struggling with its financial difficulties. It is clear to me that to provide a better service for the alumni community we will have to find a better way of collaborating with the school. At the AGM this June I presented a draft memorandum of understanding between the Foundation and the Alumni Association which I had discussed with Scott Lane the development director at the time. For personal reasons Scott decided to return to the USA where we wish him the very best. This has meant that finalising this memorandum has taken

a little longer than expected. Scott's replacement Michaelene Stack, naturally has needed a bit of time to settle in. Nonetheless, I am happy to report that we have had very constructive discussions on all the issues involved and that a final version of the memorandum of understanding will be available shortly. (You can download a copy of the MOU from the website; just follow the Newsletters & docs link) In essence, it will mean that, in exchange for our collaboration in their future fund-raising efforts the Foundation will take on some of the infrastructure costs involved in servicing the alumni community, which should mean a better service for alumni everywhere.

As well as an alumnus of the school, I am also a parent of a current student. My daughter has just started her last year of the IB at La Grande Boissière. Because of this, my contacts with the school are probably more immediate than many alumni. It gives me great pleasure to report that the International School is in safe hands. The new Director-General, Dr Nicholas Tate, has been working hard sorting out many of the administrative problems that have plagued the Foundation in recent years. The confirmation of the schools re-accreditation with the Council of Independent School's is all but complete. Construction of the new Campus des Nations on a site in Grand Saconnex is well under way and plans to improve the existing campuses are in the process of being finalised. It has been quite a few years since the outlook for the International School has been this healthy, so I feel quite confident that the time has come for a closer collaboration between the Alumni Association and the school. ♦

*Sam Jarrell*

### Alumni T-shirts

We have Alumni T-shirts and pens for sale. If anyone is interested in purchasing these souvenirs please contact the Alumni Office: [alumni@ecolint.ch](mailto:alumni@ecolint.ch) or telephone: +41 (0) 79.449.5043 ♦

Nous vendons des T-shirts et des stylos bille "Alumni". Si vous êtes intéressés à acheter ce souvenir, merci de contacter le Bureau des Anciens: [alumni@ecolint.ch](mailto:alumni@ecolint.ch) ou de téléphoner: +41 (0) 79.449.5043 ♦

## Réunion à Paris Samedi 8 janvier 2005

Je souhaiterais essayer de retrouver quelques camarades pour une petite fête à Paris si possible. Afin d'organiser une soirée retrouvailles des anciens de l'Ecolint à Paris, je propose la date du samedi 8 janvier 2005 en soirée et un budget de 45 Euros par personne. Tous les intéressés sont priés de bien vouloir me faire parvenir leurs

réservations avant le 31 décembre 2004. Merci donc de prendre contact avec moi et à très bientôt. ◆

*Jean-Marc Thomas/77*

*Tél. le soir: +33-(0)143060339  
Fax: +33-(0)147834085  
E-mail: j.marc.thomas@wanadoo.fr*

## Swiss National Day 2004 Sydney, Australia

Sydney Alumni held their annual celebration of the Swiss National Day on 1 August 2004 at the Eiger Restaurant, Sydney.

A good time was had by all! Below are two photos of our reunion. ◆

*Alex Buzo/62*



Photo: Alex Buzo

*l. to r.: Christine Sherwood Asani/80, Marcus Sherwood, Marcus' wife, Barbara, and Matt Balogh/79*



Photo: Barbara Sherwood

*Ann Tohill/79 and Marcus Sherwood/79*

## Mini Reunion in Maryland

Pierre-Alain and his wife, Kim, had come to Baltimore to help Andrew get settled in at the Maryland Institute of Fine Arts. It was during that trip in August

that they came to our home and we had dinner together and great fun reminiscing about our days at Ecolint. ◆

*Penelope*



Photo: Penelope Ford-Bezdkian

*Penelope Ford-Bezdkian/62, her husband Leon, Pierre-Alain Hirschy/64 and Andrew/03.*

## A rare Ecolint Reunion 64 years later

On the 25 May 2004, three "anciens" met in my home in Denmark. All three of us had not been together since we left Geneva 64 years ago in June

1940, or soon thereafter.

We were sorry that we were not able to attend the 17-20 June 2004 Alumni Reunion. ◆

*Hans von Bülow/40*



Photo: Hans von Bülow

*From the left : Gudrun Friis (35-40), now Williams living in Maryland, USA; Hans von Bülow (36-40) living in Charlottenlund, Denmark, and Cécilia Walters (36-40), living in London, UK.*

### B.E.E.R. Year 2004

#### Biggest Ever Ecolint Reunion

will take place in the calm, relaxing environment of the **Pickwick Pub**

The date has been chosen especially for Alumni returning to Geneva from university and those based in Geneva – just an enjoyable evening reminiscing over a pint.

**Thursday, 23 December 2004  
all evening from approx. 9:00 p.m.**

See you there !



# 5th ALUMNI W



# WORLD REUNION



## La Chât Campus News

Photo: Sue Anthony



*La Châtaigneraie Kermesse 2004 band.*

Pour cette rentrée scolaire, nous accueillons à Mies 240 élèves (9 classes primaires et 2 classes secondaires.) Mies est dirigé par Mme Diana Smith. Sur le campus de la Châtaigneraie, nous accueillons 340 élèves dans les 15 classes primaires dirigées par Mme Wanda Matuszkiewicz. L'école secondaire dirigée par M. Chris Binge scolarise 820 élèves répartis en 41 classes. Des travaux importants ont été entrepris pendant l'été sur le campus: rénovation d'une aile de l'ancien bâtiment sur deux étages. Un nouveau laboratoi-

re de langues sera installé prochainement dans l'une des salles nouvellement refaites pendant les vacances d'automne. Le chantier du nouveau terrain de football sera terminé en temps voulu. Nous nous réjouissons de la séance inaugurale en novembre. Une passerelle a été construite à Mies pour permettre un accès plus rapide et sécurisé sur l'aire de jeux en face de l'école. De nouveaux jeux ont été installés également sur ce terrain. Des travaux concernant la sécurité ont également été réalisés. A La Ferme (département de musique et école de musique), de nouveaux détecteurs de fumée ont été installés ainsi que dans le bâtiment primaire.

Le concours d'architectes pour la construction d'une nouvelle salle de sport a été organisé. Un jury s'est réuni pour un sélectionner un projet. La procédure pourra prochainement commencer auprès du Conseil de Fondation pour son acceptation puis des autorités cantonales pour les autorisations.

Sur le plan pédagogique, nos deux écoles primaires à Mies et la Châtaigneraie ont obtenu l'accréditation pour le programme primaire du Baccalauréat International. Nous félicitons les deux équipes professorales qui ont durement travaillé pour obtenir cette

qualification. Nous félicitons également les professeurs et les élèves des excellents résultats au Baccalauréat International (95%) et à la maturité suisse (100%). Il s'agissait de la première volée à préparer la nouvelle maturité.

Pour préparer les futurs développements de l'école, le CDG (groupe de développement du campus) se réunit chaque mois sous la présidence de M. John Tarpey. Je vous invite à consulter le site web pour suivre les travaux de ce comité.

Je vous invite à consulter également le site web de l'école ainsi que la page du Directeur du Campus qui sera régulièrement mise à jour. ◆

*Michel Chinal*  
Directeur du Campus



Photo: Sabah Al-Besri Saliman

## Africascope

One of the challenges in international education is to confront some of the stereotypes that are presented in the media. Actually this is a challenge in all educational systems but we seem to feel it more acutely in the international sector. As we all know the stereotypes can be presented in overt ways or more subtly and perhaps more accidentally. The news media focus on the newsworthy and the sensational and the sin of omission makes it hard for one to gather a broader picture. Africa suffers from this distortion of image, and it is possible, indeed common, for students to gain a picture of Africa which comprises only poverty, disease, war and starvation.

A group of teachers at La Chât have decided to devote a week to the celebration and discussion of a wider concept of Africa. Afriscope, as we are calling the project, takes place from Monday 15th November to Friday 19th November and you can see the draft programme from the "Earth Focus" website: [www.earthfocus.org/Africa%20week/africa\\_week.htm](http://www.earthfocus.org/Africa%20week/africa_week.htm) ◆

*Chris Binge*  
La Châtaigneraie

**Contacts:**  
[richard.heery@ecolint.ch](mailto:richard.heery@ecolint.ch)  
[anne.frykman@ecolint.ch](mailto:anne.frykman@ecolint.ch)

## Career Night – La Chât 14 June 2005

brings together representatives of many of the professions our students are interested in for a "fair" like the College Fair. Students can circulate from "booth" to "booth" and talk (French and English) in small groups or individually with our volunteer doctors, lawyers, bankers, mechanics, nurses, graphic designers, and many more.

We invite our Ecolint Alumni to volunteer for Career Night/Soirée des Professions, 14 June, 2005, 7 – 9 p.m., in the Salle Polyvalente at La Châtaigneraie. This is a quick and rewarding opportunity to inform and interest young people by talking about career paths, the pleasures and pains of careers, and how to prepare for fruitful work in the future. We ask our volunteers to provide a brief biography ahead of time so that we can create a directory for the fair, and we ask for a CV and/or a description of your career path – university preparation, first job, and later directions. Some also like to provide a list of pluses and minuses for their own careers. We do not plan any formal presentations but leave lots of flexibility for the way you think your work is best presented.

Contact: Anne Spencer, La Châtaigneraie Guidance on 022.960.9118 and [anne.spencer@ecolint.ch](mailto:anne.spencer@ecolint.ch) ◆

## LGB Campus News

Dear LGB Alumni,

The first term of school got off to a very positive start. New students and staff members are by now well integrated in our school community.

Throughout the last school year and during last summer, major improvements were carried out across the campus to provide safer, more spacious and better-equipped facilities which are greatly appreciated by the teachers, students and the parents.

Several committees were created last year to shape a number of exciting major new projects and also to address on-going unresolved issues on campus such as parking and circulation. The Committee dealing with the Sports Field and Secondary play area projects, has had numerous meetings since the beginning of the school year, to

define the project that will best meet the needs of the students. The Art Center working group is also working very hard at finding creative solutions that will allow the project to meet the needs of the students at a reasonable cost. Tangible progress has been made and we already have draft plans to consider. The Parking and Circulation Committee has also met a number of times to explore ways to improve the inevitable difficulties related to parking and circulation in and around the Campus. All of the above groups report back to the LGB Campus Development Group where the President of the Alumni Association, Sam Jarrell, is a co-opted member. The final specifications for the aforementioned projects should be completed during the course of this year. The major challenge will then be deploying an effective fundraising strategy so that we may realise

these projects for the benefit of our students.

The Foundation Strategic Plan is driving the Unit and Campus Action Plans for 2004/2005. For those of you who are not aware, each school and campus across the Foundation, drew-up these plans in order to pursue the objectives set by the Foundation Strategic Plan. One of the focal objectives of the LGB action plans is to address the campus-wide need for better articulation, coherence and continuity between the units. The main areas being developed this year are Special Learning Needs and ICT.

The first of three Pedagogical days for this year will be held on Monday 1st November. For the Secondary School, the main focus for this day will be following up the staff consultation exercise undertaken by the new Principal; analysing the current strengths and weaknesses and identifying areas for development; setting priorities and establishing, in collaboration

with the staff, a common direction and vision for the future. In the Middle school, the staff will spend part of the day doing training in Atlas curriculum mapping software and they will also attend a half-day session on assessment and differentiation within the classroom. The Primary School Pedagogical Day will involve the continued development of Language and Math Curricula and the use of new Atlas curriculum mapping software.

In closing, we would like to thank Madame Loïs Meyhoffer, Alex Rodriguez-Giovo and other Alumni who participated in making the 80th anniversary celebration such a memorable occasion. This celebration gave us the opportunity to refer back to the origin of our school, its ever-living values and its vision, helping us to better understand why our school is so special. ◆

*Jean-Guy Carpentier  
Campus Principal  
October 2004*

## U. K. Stand LGB Kermesse

Alan and Carole Sharpe have been helping with the U.K. stand – LGB Kermesse – for over 30 years; first of all with the strawberries and cream and then organising their own very

successful Pub. To celebrate Alan and Carole's Kermesse retirement, Isabel Wise assembled present and former staff to give them a rousing "three cheers". ◆



Photos: John Cederroth

## UNESCO's Visual Arts Award 04



Photo: Sabah Al-Basri Salman

It is with great pride that we announce and congratulate Momar Seck, Secondary School Art Teacher, for the receipt of UNESCO's VISUAL ARTS AWARD 2004. Mr. Seck is one of four winners; he will be receiving the award at the end of December in Bamako, Mali. ◆

*Ariela Hakim*

## Career Day – LGB 23 June, 2005

Are you a scientist, an artist, a politician, a doctor, a linguist, a professor, an architect, a city planner, a banker, a businessman...?? We have held three very successful Career Days when many Alumni have helped our present students understand the professional world and achieve their goals!

The LGB Guidance Department is again looking for professionals in the Geneva area, or on visit to Geneva, who would be willing to come for a few hours to talk to our 11th and 12th grade students about their jobs, their career path, their rewards, disappointments and any other issue related to their profession.

You could come to the school and discuss with the students, or you could receive a group of supervised students at your workplace to give them a rundown on how things operate.

If you are interested, please contact Beth Ballin/73 in the Guidance Department. E-mail: elizabeth.ballin@ecolint.ch or tel: 022 787 2543 ◆

## What's New With You?

*Just what have you been doing since you left the different campuses? Have any novel and exciting things happened in your personal and professional life? If so, please let us know and we will try to include your contribution in a future edition of the Alumni 'Newsletter'.*

*We start the ball rolling with news from Julie Bassam and as you will see, Julie's life has been rich and exciting!*

Photo: Julie Bassam



**Profile: Julie Bassam de la Barrera, née Bassam. Graduated from Ecolint in 1990. Currently working for the International Committee of the Red Cross in Khartoum, Sudan.**

Fourteen years have passed since I graduated from Ecolint. Coincidentally, this is exactly the same number of years as I spent at Ecolint. But how slowly those first fourteen years went, as I crawled up the rungs from kindergarten in 1976 to IB in 1990. Each year had its own flavour, with different teachers and classmates and new skills acquired. The learning curve was vertiginous, especially in the early years, as we progressed from painting and pasting to reading, writing and multiplication, before soaring to the dizzy heights of higher math and the history of the Enlightenment. It is alarming to think how much of all this I have spent the last fourteen years forgetting, years that have rushed by like as many months. I could not paint now to save my life, and as for determining  $x$  and  $y$ ...

The first years after leaving school were marked by a certain natural chaos. Not knowing what I wanted to do, where, or why, I embarked on a path of trying to do everything, at the

same time. Over the next six years I was to attend as many different universities, in almost as many countries. It was fascinating and fun, even though at the end I came out with just the one degree!

After a false start at the University of Surrey in the UK, where I tried to combine the pleasurable (languages) with the useful (law), I "went up" (as they say) to Oxford in October 1992 – following an unforgettable gap-year studying law at Göttingen University in Germany – to indulge fully in the pleasurable and "read" (as they also say) Modern Languages for four years. While I had got in on the strength of my French and German, I soon switched to Russian and Spanish, for the challenge. The four years flew like, well, four years of hard work, interspersed with long holidays blissfully spent back home reading the set literature or travelling to some of the most far-flung places in Europe (and few have been flung as far as the Urals). Well versed in the theory and able to discourse on the relative merits of Borges and Bulgakov, the time had come to master the languages "as they are spoke". There ensued a hard winter, enrolled at St Petersburg State University in 1995, nicely rounded off by White Nights in that northern Venice. That summer I made my debut in the cut-throat world of business: selling freshly smoked salmon to passing Trans-siberian passengers, somewhere on the shores of Lake Baikal...

Later that year, keen to brush up my Spanish before returning to Oxford but anxious to avoid the tell-tale lisp, having successfully managed to shed my own, out came the old rucksack again and off we set on a three-month discovery of South America, taking in a few weeks of lectures at Montevideo university on our way. In Chile, the further

south I travelled the more I realized I really was upside down, as the scenery began to look like Scotland, before slowly turning into Iceland!

After surviving the ordeal of final exams at Oxford, my first thought was to go back to what I felt had become my spiritual home, Russia. However, loyalties were divided at this stage, as my boyfriend – now husband – was then working in a court in a small town deep in rural Catalonia. To cut a long story short(er), however, by the end of the year we were both settled in St Petersburg, Russia, doing a stint at a small yet vociferous NGO, defending the rights of conscript soldiers in the Russian Federation.

I remember an Ecolint French teacher telling us one day that we would be surprised how many of us would end up coming back to Geneva. And sure enough, in mid-1997 I returned to the country where I was born, Switzerland, and where my parents were both still living. Bolstered by my in-depth knowledge of 19th-century Spanish literature and the history of the Russian language, I set about the serious task of seeking what they call "a real job". Something international and not too commercial sounded good. An internship in an NGO seemed a promising start, with freelance translating a reliable breadwinner on the side. So for a few months I hopped around trying to save the world from environmental catastrophe and doing my bit to prevent torture, supplemented by the highly lucrative but mentally draining translation of German invention patents for an international agency. Then, somewhere along the line, I heard from someone I knew that they were looking for English-language writers at the International Committee of the Red Cross...

With my knowledge of Eastern Europe and Latin America I was immediately put in the Middle East and North Africa department, covering countries that, at that stage, I could hardly place on the map and with protagonists whose names I could not spell. Five years on, however, I had produced reams on the ICRC's work to promote respect for humanitarian law

and protect and assist conflict victims in each of the countries covered, and visited a good number of them. The high-points included: researching a report on the effect of sanctions on the Iraqi population in 1999; a spell in occupied southern Lebanon in May 2000, followed by a claustrophobic visit to the Gaza Strip; the repatriation of a hundred Moroccan prisoners of war, detained in camps in the Western Sahara since 1977. On the other hand, I won't even try to calculate the number of hours spent behind the computer in the office in Geneva, or the average number of meetings attended per year! By 2004, I felt the time had come to see what working full-time for the Red Cross in the field was really like.

So, in June this year we set off for Khartoum, Sudan, on a one-year posting. This was a chance to be part of the ICRC's biggest operation worldwide, to discover a new culture and way of life, and with luck to put into practice the shaky and theoretical grounding in classical Arabic I had gained over four years of diligent, but seemingly vain, study back in Geneva. What a language! I suppose I have reached my original goal of being able to read street signs and to explain that my surname, Arabic though it may sound, is actually of solid Anglo-Norman stock and stems from a distant, mist-shrouded isle (in simpler vocabulary); but if only it didn't have so many different words, and such a wealth of homonyms! And as for certain consonant sounds...

The work here is intense, as world attention continues to bear down on Darfur, and ICRC activities to alleviate the plight of the displaced and the war-wounded continue to grow. However, the pace of life in the capital is as slow and as tranquil as the White and Blue Niles themselves, which majestically unite here in the tree-lined centre of town. And now that the rainy season is over and "winter" is not yet upon us, temperatures are back to a dry and dusty 40°C, convincing you that, indeed, there is no need to hurry, as *bukra*, tomorrow, is another day, God willing. ♦

## Vichuquén



Photo: Adair Stevenson

In the remote Chilean village of Vichuquén, as many as 450 children from the Barrios of Santiago, are given the remarkable opportunity to spend part of their summer in healthy surroundings, thanks to the leadership and support of Ecolint faculty and students, past and present.

Initiated in 1990 by Chilean native Adair Stevenson, who taught in Ecolint's Early Childhood Programme from 1974 until retirement in 2001, the project offers to city slum children a range of activities emphasizing recreation, sports, art, environmental awareness, healthy eating and hygiene habits, and personal growth.

The objectives of the Centre are to better the conditions of under-privileged children, by enhancing their social, psychological development in a unique environment.

From the very beginning, the project has relied on volunteers from Ecolint faculty and student body to supplement the work and contribution of local Chilean volunteers who manage the programme on site.

Selected students from the secondary school and staff from all departments have visited the centre and donated their labour and expertise.

Equally important, Ecolint has been the primary source of financial support for the programme.

Some student's impressions:  
Sophie V: "I deeply admire these children for being able to be so open and trusting to me. I have changed so much it is unbelievable

...I am more patient, more tolerant, more often in a good mood".

Jacqueline P: "I came back very attached to these children who had so much to give and so little materially".

Philippe B: "It was an eye opening experience for me. Coming back I questioned my way of life".

Lissie G: "The trip to Chile was a great experience and one that I would recommend to anyone".

Maike K: "This was defiantly one of the most exciting, interesting and best experiences of my life".

Alice V: "This trip made me discover things about me that I never imagined".

Rafael J: "A world with a hidden antiquity in its natural splendour. Some have called it Vichuquén".

### How can you help?

- You can participate in supporting fundraising efforts through the Student Council or other activities with this purpose.
- Express your support for Vichuquén to other Grant committees of Ecolint.
- Come spend some time at the camp.
- Individual contributions to Association des Enfants de Vichuquén, CCP: 87-427457-7

## Soirée Raclette

Mercredi 6 avril 2005, soirée raclette aux Armures à Genève. Venez nombreux!  
Pour toute information, veuillez prendre contact avec le Bureau des Anciens.

## Earth Focus

### One Planet - One Community Produced by Young People For Young People of All Ages

Published by the Bellerive Foundation in association with the International School of Geneva and the Old City Publishing Group

www.earthfocus.org  
EARTH FOCUS SEEKS  
ALUMNI SUPPORT

The Earth Focus initiative began in 1992, through a partnership between students and teachers of the International School of Geneva and Bellerive Foundation, as a simple newspaper. It was conceived as a voice for young people, to empower them and stimulate positive action – encouraging young people to become involved in key local and global issues. It has evolved steadily and is now a polished and respected magazine with a steadily growing circulation, and is published quarterly. It provides young people throughout the world with a forum for discussion and a catalyst for action, and has been described as "one of the hardest hitting environmental publications in circulation at the moment".

A key and continuing feature of "Earth Focus" has been its preparation by young people themselves, the articles, artwork, layout are all worked on by students of the International School of Geneva in conjunction with other contributing schools, thus providing students and teachers with an international forum for the exchange of ideas and a resource base.

Thanks to the kind support of the late Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, the Bellerive Foundation has financially supported "Earth Focus" over the years. The magazine is circulated around the World to International Schools and to the UNESCO Affiliated Schools.

EARTH FOCUS would like you to become an International School of Geneva Alumni Supporter.

For CHF 250 per annum this includes:

- A year's subscription to the magazine.
- Mention of your name on the alumni supporter page in each issue of the magazine.
- A Class Pack of 25 copies, 4 times per annum to be sent in your name to the most needy schools in the worldwide UNESCO Associated School Programme.

Or you could make a one-year individual subscription of "Earth Focus" to be sent to:

25 UNESCO Associated schools: CHF 450.00  
50 UNESCO Associated schools: CHF 750.00  
100 UNESCO Associated schools: CHF 1,800.00

For further information please contact:

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CH-1245 Collonge-Bellerive  
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E.mai: nicola@earthfocus.org  
www.earthfocus.org

\* Earth Times

## Aux Amis de Kharikhola

André Sauthier, Frédéric Schoenahl, Nicole Thouroude et le Sherpa Sher vous remercient de votre présence lors du diaporama du mardi 7 septembre à l'École Internationale de Genève. Un grand merci à l'école de nous avoir permis d'occuper une salle!

Soirée chaleureuse avec peu de participants....mais, ce soir-là 8 enfants ont trouvé des parrains et marraines.

Toute ma reconnaissance à vous tous et avec l'espoir que vous allez m'aider à continuer à développer ce projet Santé et Education dans un village de montagne au Népal abritant 2.500 habitants et 400 enfants à éduquer.

Nicole Thouroude/2003

**Contact:**  
nicolethouroude@yahoo.fr  
school@kharikhola.org  
Tél.: +33/6.88.55.93.75

## Winter Music Concert

### An open letter to all members of the International School of Geneva Community.

**Students, Parents, Staff, Alumni.** As in past years the music department at La Chât is organising a winter concert to take place in the Tempest Theatre at 17.00 on Sunday 12th December. This year we would like to include as many students and adults from the **entire International School Community.**

We have invited a special guest Scott Stroman who has worked with some of our students, staff and parents in the past and is coming to prepare a performance of his composition "Songs of the Spirit" which will be accompanied by a professional orchestra. We are making a special effort this

year to include as many students in this performance as possible. If your child would like to sing in the choir we are making arrangements to have rehearsals at "YOUR" campus. We are also encouraging, Teachers, Parents and Alumni to come and join us and very little time is demanded of you as we are well aware of busy schedules particularly at this time of year. I will prepare a CD and sheet music that has your voice part on it (Soprano, Alto, Tenor or Bass) so that you can all practice this in your own time at home, in the shower or in the car, the most important is that you have fun with it.

**YOU CAN HELP ME.** As an adult, parent, friend of the community, teacher, administrator, **NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY.** Please come

along and join us you will be amazed at how much you can enjoy this. You will be working with one of the world's leading musicians, someone who regularly conducts the London Philharmonic orchestra, Director of Jazz Studies at the prestigious Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London and who is such an inspirational leader and person. I will have a CD prepared for you by the end of the October, which you can purchase for a sum of 5 francs for the CD and sheet music. You will have a version with your own part (either soprano, alto, tenor or bass) and a copy of the music.

If you have never done this **DON'T BE SCARED !!** You can do it. Ask any of the parents or teachers who have done it before

and they will tell you just what fun it can be. Don't forget to encourage your children as well. It really can be a unique experience where entire families can participate. If you have any friend or colleagues that you think might be interested then please try to encourage them to come and join us as well. They will then be able to see how we work at "The International School of Geneva" and how the community is so important to us.

I really do hope to see as many of you as possible come and join us. Remember if you can't make it make sure that your sons or daughters can.

I, on behalf of my colleagues in the music department look forward to welcoming you all. ◆

*John Aram*

**Information on rehearsals and registration form can be found on the school web site: [www.ecolint.ch](http://www.ecolint.ch)**

## In Memoriam

### Mrs Jean Blackburn

Having retired in June 2003, Jean unfortunately did not have long to enjoy life after La Châtaigneraie, as she died on 8 July 2004. Her many students, and all the teachers she worked with, will have fond memories of her and her delightful sense of humour. Her love of books and music started at a very early age, and she certainly knew how to transmit this love to others. She started teaching at La Chât in 1980 and whether working in the Learning Support unit or in the Music Department, or as an EFL/ESL teacher for the FLP, she managed to make learning fun. When thinking of her, names like Mary Poppins and the Pied Piper spring to mind. Our heartfelt sympathy goes to her husband, Graham, her mother and all her many friends. ◆

*Carole Sharpe, with thanks to Roman Tomczak/2004*



### Mrs Vivianne Edwards - Instone

Former secretary of the school, who came to Geneva this summer to attend the Reunion – and especially Nita Quin's tea party in memory of Michael, died suddenly on 7 August 2004 in England. Our sincere condolences to her family and friends.



### Camilla Hewitt

Christine Kjellberg/56 informed us that her friend and classmate Camilla Hewitt/54 sadly died of cancer on 19 July 2004. She was in school from 1953-54. ◆



### Mrs Evelyn (Mac) Jarrell

The Jarrells, Ecolint and the Sharpes go back a long way. Andy was in my first serious Physics class, then there was Sam and now

it is Sam's daughter, Sophie, who is doing the running. Jean had already left when we arrived and Michael was to take a different path.

As well as a parent, however, I remember Mac best in her role as a support industry - particularly as Wardrobe Mistress for the school's theatrical productions. One particular memory is the opening night of a staff production of "The Importance of Being Earnest". The producer, Rod Price, had taken the huge risk of giving me a speaking part. As I waited nervously to go on stage, it was noticed that a very important button was missing from my costume. Embarrassment for all, including Oscar Wilde, was avoided as Mac was there with her needle and thread and after rummaging in a magic biscuit-tin, managed to find just the right button. This was Mac - never in the spotlight, but always standing quietly in the wings, making sure everything ran smoothly.

Many will remember Mac for her time in the library, working alongside Peter Gras and Charlotte Leighton, where she obviously enjoyed her contact with young people. To our family, however, it was her time as "Bookroom Lady" that meant so much. From the seventies up until the nineties Mac was the Bookroom. Memory, organization and patience were required and she had all three. This was the true digital age, before computers, but with Mac in charge, everything ran smoothly. Our younger son, Tim, was involved in the hectic pre-school task of unloading, counting and distributing the books and he remembers her fondly as one of the best bosses he has ever had, but it was Carole who truly appreciated these qualities of management, working alongside Mac when La Châtaigneraie opened its own Bookroom. She admits quite freely that she could not have managed without Mac's advice, support and invaluable help. A request for an unusual item posed no problem - if Mac did not have it in stock, she would know where to find it and the order would be delivered on time. Alongside all her other duties in the Bookroom, Mac managed to continue her love of the Arts, as she sold tickets and acted as Front-of-House Manager for the school's many musical and theatrical performances.

## In Memoriam (suite)

When histories are written, it is all too easy to overlook the contribution of people like Mac, who made that history possible. I know other colleagues agree with me that she was a truly gentle lady who was more interested in hearing about others than in talking about herself - more of a listener than a talker - but when you needed her, she was there. Thank you, Mac. ◆

*Alan Sharpe/2004*



### Mme Colette Rohrbach-Weltz

A Colette Rohrbach, cette éducatrice atypique, qui déclencha des vocations et marqua fortement les esprits de ceux qui eurent le bonheur de la rencontrer.

Chère Colette,

J'étais frais émoulu de l'E.N.I. de Bourg-en-Bresse, lorsque je débarquai un matin d'octobre 1965 (t'en souviens-tu?) dans ta classe de première année, au temps où "Les Marronniers" étaient un paradis dans un écrin de verdure.

Ce fut alors comme un rayon de soleil révélateur sur le chemin de mes premiers pas professionnels. Ce fut comme une évidence qui s'imposait à moi. Je sus à l'instant même que ma vocation d'éducateur venait de naître et qu'elle guiderait désormais ma vie.

Où que tu sois, dans les limbes ou déjà dans ta vie nouvelle, reçois ce message d'affection et de gratitude.

Mon lointain souvenir de ta classe de première  
Est un havre serein, de calme et de lumière,  
D'enfants heureux, actifs, libres, émerveillés,  
D'âmes épanouies et d'esprits éveillés.  
Ici et là, au centre, aux quatre coins, partout,  
Tu étais si présente à chacun et pour tous!  
Tu étais si présente à chacun et pour tous!  
D'humeur égale, légère, en gestes économes  
Tu donnais sans compter à tous ces petits d'homme  
Ton amour et ta grâce et ton souffle de vie,  
En échange de quoi, chacun selon l'envie,  
Exprimait de soi-même le produit, la liqueur  
D'une alchimie secrète de l'esprit et du cœur.  
Colette aux mains de fée cueillait la quintessence,  
L'infusant en retour en manière de semence  
A tous ces affamés d'apprendre et de connaître.

L'auto-éducation était son dessein maître. ◆

*Georges Grandjean, ancien professeur d'Ecolint*



### Robert Judson Leach

Personal tribute to an IB founding father

With the death of Bob Leach 17 April 2004 the world of international education has lost one of its doughtiest champions, and the International Baccalaureate one of its founding fathers and most consistent advocates.

When I met Bob in 1961 he was already well established as head of the history department at the International School of Geneva, Switzerland, teaching what he insisted on calling "internationalism". By 1962 he was off on a one year leave of absence visiting schools and educational authorities throughout the world, promoting the idea that teaching history should be based on international rather than national perspectives. In the 1960s this idea, now so widely current, was not generally acceptable; but Bob always relished being the prophet of unpopular ideas, and this indeed was a role that he pursued throughout his long life. His initiative of 1962 was in many ways the genesis of the Interna-

tional Baccalaureate. At that time some of us considered it self-evident that as more international schools were being established in the context of the growth of political and economic globalization (not then the contentious issue it has since become), an educational system based on Bob's concept of internationalism was essential. Moreover, it was equally self evident, in Bob's perspective, that the teaching of history in line with his concept must be at the core of any system that might be developed.

In a remarkably short time a fledgling International Baccalaureate Organization became operational, for which a history syllabus and examination programme were trialled and then adopted at the International School of Geneva. Bob was deeply involved in these early developments in the late 1960s and early 1970s together with other founding fathers such as Alec Peterson, Robert Blackburn and Gérard Renaud, not to mention the distinguished historian, Asa Briggs.

For the first 25 years of the IB, as it grew into the paramount international educational organization it is today, Bob remained at the heart of developments in what was considered the "core" history programme. This period was enlivened by his natural tendency to have eccentric as well as visionary ideas, and he was capable of being rather single-minded should one of these ideas be challenged. I recall an occasion when his cherished formulation "internationalism" was criticized as "oxymoronic" by an unsuspecting delegate at an IB development conference. The incandescence of his reply was of such a spectacular intensity that I subsequently wondered whether perhaps Bob had missed the initial "oxy-". However, another of his endearing characteristics was that the flames quickly died down, giving way to a more gently Quakerish sweetness and light. In this particular case the sweetness and light was accompanied by a self-deprecating giggle and the sotto voce aside: "that showed him".

Bob always seemed to me an archetypical American New Englander of the Martha's Vineyard persuasion. After his retirement in 1984 he spent much time on that island near Boston researching and published on the Quaker-led New England whaling industry, in the process establishing himself as a local character. As a Presbyterian convert to the Society of Friends at an early age he was always consistent to the Friends' values. I hope not to be misunderstood in mentioning that this very often made him uncomfortably uncompromising in his views. He would never have countenanced saying or doing anything in which he did not strongly believe. But the fact that on more than one occasion he was deeply wrong in his assessment of a situation sometimes led to the engendering of enmities: however, I do not believe that anyone could remain his enemy for long, such was the essential charity of his nature.

Throughout his life Bob kept a daily journal, which he assiduously re-wrote and perfected in his retirement years. I have no doubt that he kept this going right to the end, and from what he has said to me about it at various times it is a candid commentary of his own and others' failings. It would be fascinating to read this self-observed life story should a careful (and legally well-advised) editor ever manage to bring it into the public domain!

Just a couple of weeks before he died Bob telephoned me from his nursing home near his beloved Morgins in the Valais mountains, in Switzerland. It was quite typical of him that he was positive and forward looking; in fact the main object of the call was to ask me to get some books for him to send to a friend. Equally characteristic was his blunt remark that since he knew he only had a few weeks left he thought it would be nice to have a chat. That wide-ranging chat went on for nearly an hour. He was a dear and distinguished man, and I shall miss him. ◆

*Michael Knight/99*

*Reproduced with permission from "IB World" - August 2004*

## La Châtaigneraie

### Samuel Ross/37 - Henderson, Nevada

<samross@greenchimneys.org>  
 "I received the "Newsletter" and found it very interesting. I am writing a book about my life with particular emphasis on living with children and animals. I began at Green Chimneys the day after I graduated from college in 1948. I must have been a student at La Chât around 1937. I left abruptly because of the talk of the war and a warning to my parents to get me back to the USA. I was the youngest child in the school at

the time. I can still remember a great deal about it. Now I can add in the book that the school exists today. As I read the "Newsletter" I got the impression that there were classes for children with special needs. As you now probably realize, Green Chimneys residential and day school is all special education. Thanks for the "Newsletter" and the other information you shared."

### Jean-Marc Thomas/77 - Paris, France

<j.marc.thomas@wanadoo.fr>

"Pensionnaire à la Châtaigneraie en 1976-77, je souhaiterais essayer de retrouver quelques camarades pour une petite fête à Paris si possible. Afin d'organiser une soirée retrouvailles des anciens de l'Ecolint à Paris, je propose la date du samedi 8 janvier 2005 en soirée et un budget de 45 Euros par personne. Tous les intéressés sont priés de bien vouloir me faire parvenir leurs réservations avant le 31 décembre 2004. Merci donc de prendre contact avec moi et à très bientôt."

Jean-Marc Thomas

Tél. le soir: ++33-

(0)143060339

Fax: ++33-(0)147834085

### Agnès Fiamma/96 - Soweto, South Africa

<fiamma@hivsa.com>

"I am looking for an E-mail address of one of my former classmates - the one I have no longer works and I thought he might have updated it with you. He was at La Chât in 1990 and his name is Julian Hunt."

### Frederic Aranda/98

<fredericaranda@yahoo.com>

"I graduated from La Châtaigneraie in '98. I am now working as a professional fashion photographer and my website is www.fredericaranda.com"

## La Grande Boissière

### 1950-59

#### Álvaro Rey de Castro/56 - Lima, Peru

<arey@amauta.rcp.net.pe>  
 "I was in Ecolint in the English section between 1952 and 1956, with an interruption in 1954, year that we spent in Peru. My classmates were: Walter Lammi (with whom I have contact), Robert Chevalier, Jody Robinson, Alex Pokrowsky, Alexa Kaplan, Deborah Wise, and Peggy (?). I would like to establish contact with them. Can you help me?  
 I visited the web page and was very moved when I saw the Greek amphitheatre which we helped to build and which we inaugurated."

#### Christine Kjellberg/56 - Florida, USA

<ckjkjellberg@yahoo.de>  
 Brent Taylor, Mike Cavallon and I are looking for Sigfried Dietrich, Robin Miller, Sheila Cornell and Dennis Covell. If anyone knows of their whereabouts, please contact me.

#### Jacque Richardson Burt/59 - San Diego, USA

<alamb@prodigy.net>  
 "Greetings from California! I'm presently working, with two colleagues, on putting together a DVD on the fires of October 2003 that ravaged a large percentage of San Diego County. We hope to have the

DVD out soon and to sell the product for about \$10.00. All the proceeds from the sales, going directly to victims of the fires, many of whom, one year later are seeing their rent money run out, (insurance rules), and many of whom have not been able to rebuild due to lack of funds, being underinsured, having no insurance (hard to obtain in some rural areas) etc. So if anyone in the large Ecolint family would like to obtain one of the DVDs they can contact me and I will tell them how to go about it. Thanks."

### 1960-69

#### Muriel Norcross/61 - La Varenne, France

Muriel cherche à joindre Marie-Louise Norlin. Si vous connaissez ses coordonnées, veuillez en informer le Bureau des Anciens.  
 "Marie-Louise était du côté anglais et moi du côté français. Nous avons toutes deux habité chez une famille près de l'école, à savoir chez M. et Mme Bucher. C'était en 1959-60."

#### Alex Buzo/62 - Sydney, Australia

<ajbuzo@optusnet.com.au>  
 We in the Alumni Office heard that Currency Press was putting on a special birthday tribute evening for Alex at the

Stables Theatre, Sydney, on 15 August 2004:

"The 60th birthday tribute consisted of a team of 8 actors doing extracts from my plays and books, and it was a great day (although I would say that, of course). One of the plays, Makassar Reef, has an Ecolint alumna as one of the major characters, and my daughter Emma, did a great job portraying her (although I would...etc.). It was also gratifying to see Sandy Gore reprising some of her roles over the years. She's played the lead in many of my plays and may be familiar to some alumni through her films (her ex-husband is George Miller, the one who made Babe and the Mad Max series)."

"On December 3 Allen and Unwin are publishing my cricket book Legends of the Baggy Green, a social history of the game. Chapter 19 is called Memories of Development, and it deals with my time at Ecolint, playing for the school and then Switzerland at the athletic field near the Gare des Eaux-Vives.

One should be careful about making extravagant claims, but I think this is the first cricket book to mention Cathy von Sternberg/62!"

#### Shankar Kumar/62 - New Delhi, India

<b\_shankar\_kumar@yahoo.co.uk>  
 "Having spent my childhood

in Geneva (1947-62) and my college days and initial career in England (1962-72), I returned to India in 1973. I have worked for various multinational corporations as an electronic engineer/manager and am now looking after an instrumentation factory just outside New Delhi. I used to keep in touch with the infamous Upper Sixth Form class of '62 but have regrettably lost contact with most."

#### Liz Frank/63 - New York, USA

<LizFrank@aol.com>  
 From Riva Freifeld/61: "Just got back from Liz Frank's reading at "Three Lives Bookstore" in Greenwich Village of part of her new novel "Cheat and Charmer" (Random House). A large crowd was packed into the tiny space of this outstanding independent bookstore. Liz read from the first chapter of her novel in which the main characters are introduced. Just as in real life, the complicated characters are women!! ..... but this is definitely a women's book that men will enjoy!"

#### Rock Brynner/63 - New York, USA

<RBrynner@aol.com>  
 "In the past year I've made three trips to Russia, and next year my new book will be published in the U.S. "Empire and Odyssey: The Brynners in Far East Russia" is both the history of the Brynners and



the history of Russia since 1855. And, in the coming year I hope to marry my sweetheart, Olya, from Vladivostok, where my family lived in Russia. You can see more about this at [www.rockbrynn.com](http://www.rockbrynn.com)"

(Congratulations Rock - Editor)

#### **Jim Miller/65 – Texas, USA**

Jim would like to locate the following alumni :  
Fielding Miller, Sandra Hoffman, Allen Daley, John Carson, Joe Fuller and Frances Regis. Please contact Jim via Glynda Hale at [ghhale@earthlink.net](mailto:ghhale@earthlink.net)

#### **Nicette Pinto-Bera/68 – Hong Kong**

"I am quite frequently in touch with Max Ma/72. When I first arrived in Hong Kong, I bumped into two Ecolint students, Lina Tang and Mark Nitta/67. What a small world! I have been living here now for the past 33 years and have loved and enjoyed every bit of it. It has been a most fulfilling and interesting life. I am married and have 3 grown up children.

It's been so many years since I left Ecolint but the happy memories remain forever.

They were wonderful years and I can say that the multi-international education that I have been so lucky to acquire there has helped me all along with both my social and professional life. I assist my husband in his company and mostly deal in the real estate and financial sectors .

I often think, as I travel around the world, of my geography teacher Mr. Thomas. Such a wonderful person with an equally fabulous personality..... and then there was Mr. O'Donovan my French teacher, Mr. Knight our history teacher, the American couple Mr. & Mrs. Pierce who taught us well before our GCE exams and Mme Poirel. All this seems so far away yet still so present.

Again thanks for contacting me."

#### **Susan Cox/70 - Umbria, Italy**

<[susacox@woow.it](mailto:susacox@woow.it)>  
"After leaving Ecolint in 1970 I studied at the University of Toronto (B.Sc. 1973) and then

Columbia University, NYC (M.Arch 1977). Following that a diploma from the Collège d'Europe in Bruges in architectural and urban conservation (1978).

I live in Umbria, Italy, in an old farmhouse in the country. Married in 1978, my husband, Massimo, is Italian. (A neurologist in family practice.) No children. After having worked in civil engineering (commuting to Rome for 15 years) I am now growing fruit and olives, working on botanical illustrations (watercolour and pastel) and learning the techniques of *abyanga*. These last two interests have grown as my husband has increasingly relied on alternative medicine, phytotherapy and *ayurveda* in particular."

#### **1970-79**

#### **Bob Ackerman/72 – Dallas, USA**

<[ackermans@aol.com](mailto:ackermans@aol.com)>  
You can request the Ackermans singing Jimmy Dale Gilmore's "Dallas From a DC9", currently in the top 10 at Whole Wheat Radio.

#### **Carol Schillios/71 – Seattle, USA**

<[c.schillios@verizon.net](mailto:c.schillios@verizon.net)>  
Carol lives in Seattle and her Schillios Consulting Group celebrates 20 years serving credit unions worldwide. Through her foundation (Fabric of Life), Carol makes grants to cooperative development projects around the globe. On her property in Bamako, Mali, West Africa, she's opened a training center for disabled women who learn skills to help themselves become economically independent. You can check out other projects on her website: [www.schillios.com](http://www.schillios.com) (Carol was very sorry to have missed the reunion, but her father passed away in March. Our sincere condolences to the Schillios family, who used to be our wonderful neighbours in Geneva - Editor).

#### **Jaime Bendeck/74 – UK**

<[j.bendeck@doctors.net.uk](mailto:j.bendeck@doctors.net.uk)>  
"I have written a manuscript 'Be a doctor in a war. Angola chronicle in extremis'. I should very much appreciate it if an alumnus/alumna would kindly read the manuscript with a view to publishing it, or

at least point me in the right direction by suggesting someone whom I could contact.

I have notes from my worldwide work including 'observations on the dentist with one arm, and his assistant'. I hope that we receive some positive replies to either c/o the Alumni Office [alumni@ecolint.ch](mailto:alumni@ecolint.ch) or to me at [j.bendeck@doctors.net.uk](mailto:j.bendeck@doctors.net.uk) Thank you." (Jaime worked for many years for 'Médecins Sans Frontières' - Editor)

#### **Nicholas Marshi/75 – Los Angeles, USA**

<[nmarshi1@hotmail.com](mailto:nmarshi1@hotmail.com)>  
"After moving to the USA in 1975, and getting both a BA and an MA, I decided the academic world was not in my future. I married Sally in '82 and immediately started a career with Citicorp in International Banking. We were first in Athens, then Dubai, too briefly in Puerto Rico (that lovely island), and finally London. I moved on to a British bank Kleinwort Benson in order to set some roots down in England. Of course, KB moved us to Los Angeles, in 1987, where we've been ever since. After 3 years of being a merchant banker, I struck out on my own to set up Kensington Capital, to undertake leveraged buy-outs of companies in Southern California. We travel extensively and I play a lot of tennis and soccer once a week, despite degenerating knees (I have not improved but it's a highlight of the week). We love Southern California and expect to stay here indefinitely. I keep up with Andrew Malakoff/75, who lives in Seattle, but have otherwise lost touch with all my classmates."

#### **Amy Goodwin/78 – Chicago, IL, USA**

<[coquette19@comcast.net](mailto:coquette19@comcast.net)>  
"I came back to Ecolint to see the old campus. Everything about the school came flooding back with wonderful memories of my time spent here. I continue to fly for American Airlines and live in Chicago, IL."



#### **1980-89**

#### **Fati Azadgoo-Nellesen/80 – Irvine, CA, USA**

<[john@allmagnetics.com](mailto:john@allmagnetics.com)>  
"Hi Mrs. Anthony, This is Fati Azadgoo from 25 years ago. I was thinking about you, Mr. Anthony, the boys and your mom. I could never thank you enough for your support through all those tough years. I am married to a American named John and we have 3 children. We live in Irvine, Southern California. In fact this is where I have been living since I left Switzerland. I graduated from Cal State Fullerton in microbiology and did research for a while. I am a stay home mom now. Would love to hear from Alumni."

#### **Lisa Cirioco-Ohlman/81 – Geneva**

Lisa has written two books and is self-published! They are :  
1) "**Know-it-all parents**" [www.knowitall.ch](http://www.knowitall.ch)  
Guide to the area that is published every 2 years. The current edition is the 4th one so far and has quite a reputation in the Geneva/Vaud areas. It is over 500 pages of information and addresses for parents of children 0-18 years. It is sold at all the bookshops in Geneva as well as a few in Lausanne and Vevey.

#### 2) "**Spikie Mikie**"

[www.knowitall.ch](http://www.knowitall.ch)  
"I have just published a new bilingual children's book! Spikie Mikie is a cactus who visits Geneva, Lausanne, and the Mont-Blanc Mountain in an effort to rid himself of his needles. In English and in French, this delightful book also has some activities for children (and their parents!)"

#### **Pascale Mompoin-Gaillard/81 – Montpellier, France**

Après avoir vécu 7 ans aux USA, Seattle, Washington, Pascale est de retour en France avec sa famille: son mari Alain, frère de Dominique, ancienne de l'Ecolint comme elle.

#### **Mark Jennings/82**

<[markandvienna@hotmail.com](mailto:markandvienna@hotmail.com)>  
Mark and his wife, Vienna, have just completed their first year of a three-year posting in

Yaounde, Cameroon. They managed to visit Geneva for Martin's 40th birthday in September on their way to R and R in Texas and Mexico and spent more time here on their return to Cameroon. Mark would love to catch up with more old friends, especially alumni near his present location, and can be contacted at markandviena@hotmail.com

**Martin Jennings/83**

<swissmerc@earthling.net> is following in Mum's footsteps and is appearing in pantomime as "the Dame".

Father, Don, is still coaching basketball with excellent results. He and Jo continue battling with their hectare of land in the Haute Savoie and will be visiting Yaounde in December/January  
<joanddon@wanadoo.fr>

**Alexander Smouha/84 – Washington, DC, USA**

<asmouha@attglobal.net> who currently lives outside Washington, DC, is organizing the regional 2004 Ecolint Escalade Reunion, which will take place in Washington in December. He encourages all alumni living in Washington, Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania to contact him for further details. Also, he encourages alumni to contact him if they are seeking work, as the company for which he works in McLean, VA, has over 400 job openings!

**1990-2004**

**Jennifer McDermott/91 – Geneva**

<101565.3077@compuserve.com>  
"Hello all,  
I graduated in 1991 from LGB and am now a member of staff in the Middle School at LGB. I was married in 2003 to

Kilian Schalk, whom I've known since university, making me one of a relatively small but growing group of women who married Vassar MEN (the cliché is the 'Vassar girl'; the College became co-ed in 1969 but its reputation as a top-notch women's college is so firmly established that many people still haven't absorbed that fact). I also earned a BA in Geography-Anthropology from Vassar, in 1995. My thesis examined the phenomenon of McDonald's in Europe. Now I teach part-time in the Middle School at LGB and write/edit on a freelance basis. Projects have included an anthology of writing from Geneva, a Guide to Greek Wine, radio spots, and the Fodor's Guides to Switzerland and Europe. I've also published a small number of poems and essays. My husband lives in New York, where he works for The New Yorker Magazine, so I now split my time between Geneva and the Big Apple. Would love to re-establish contact with classmates in either place."

**Dorette Garba/98 – Douala, Cameroon**

"When I left Ecolint, I went on to Belgium where I attended the International School of Brussels for 8 years before going back to my home country, Cameroon. I have a BSc in Law and I'm currently working in a company called Douala1 in the city of Douala which is the economic capital of Cameroon. It is my greatest wish that through the Alumni website I will be able to regain contact with my old classmates."



## Naissances

**Toutes nos felicitations à:**

- Linsey and Wilfred de Guzman/94, a baby daughter, Anna Claire, born in Geneva on 6 November 2004.
- Carrie Green-Eccleston/90 and Ian Eccleston, a daughter, Frances Josephine, born in Chicago, IL, on 27 October 2004.
- Hilary and Alex Aziz/89 (La Chât.) are very pleased to announce the birth of our daughter, Megan Tarana, on 15 September 2004 in Geneva.
- Susan Gill-Heyworth/82 and Peter Heyworth, a baby girl, Annabelle Grace, born in Bunbury, Western Australia, on 6 September 2004.
- Sarah de Guzman-Furner/91 and Matthew Furner, a second child, Ella Paris, born on 8 July 2004.
- Mehra and David Rimer/86 are pleased to announce the birth of their second child, a son, Manouchehr, on 6 July 2004 in Geneva.
- Capucine Neuprez-Lyons/94 and Ian Lyons, a son, Elliot Emerson, born in Los Angeles, CA, on 15 February 2004. ◆

## Mariages

**Félicitations à:**

- Laurie Bruton/72 and Nicolas Chauvet/73 married in Geneva on 6 October 2004.
- Edward Upstell/90 married Jo Fairey on 18 September 2004 in West Hoathly, Sussex.
- Eric Fevre/93 (La Chât) married Katie Hamilton on 4 September 2004, in Niton, Isle of Wight, UK. They are currently living in Edinburgh.
- Alma de Guzman/2000 married Tom Hiatt in Provo, Utah, on 14 August 2004.
- Jonathan de Guzman/98 married Jasmin Garcia in Ithaca, NY, on 29 May 2004.
- Agnes de Guzman/90 married Antonio Borges in Alter do Chao, Portugal, on 22 May 2004. ◆






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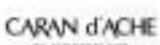


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