

Brunei reunion 29th & 30th of January 2005 in the Netherlands

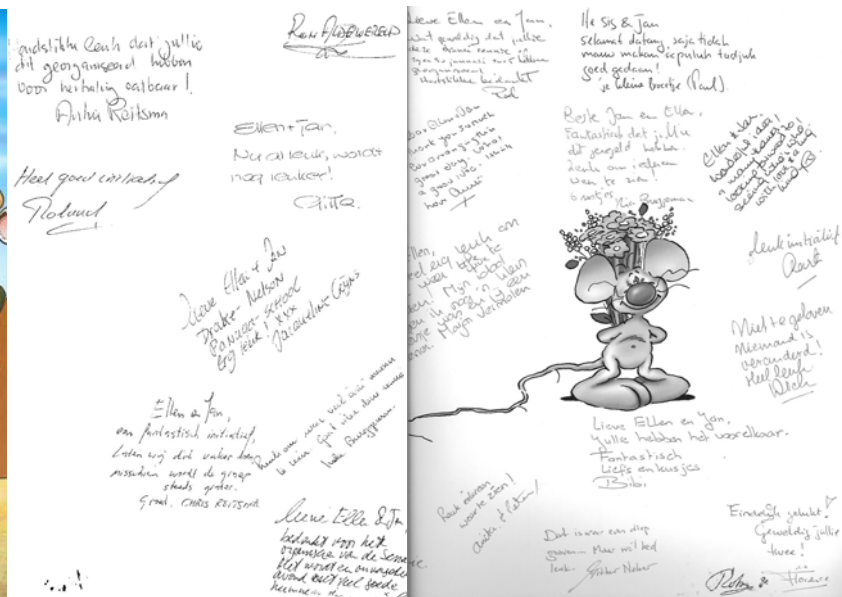
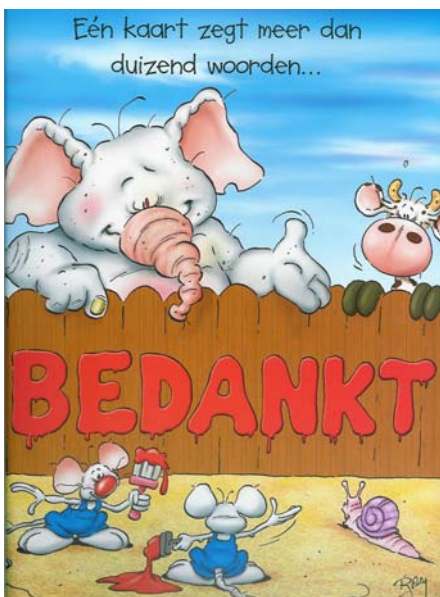
Brunei 1965 - 1975

Who showed up: *Top left to right:* Brigitte van Dam, Roel van de Lint, Lindy Williamson, Annette Anderton, Ria & Ineke Bruggeman (hidden), Ankie Reitsma, Ron Aldewereld, *to the left of Ron:* Peter Ball & in front of him his wife Anita Snippe, *from right to left:* Aart Veldhoen, Dick van Dam, Jan Ros, Ellen van de Lint, Florence Kranendonk, *from left to right:* Arthur Neher, Marjon Vermolen, Michiel Crijns, *from right to left:* Rob Kranendonk, Gitta Nanning, Roland van Dam, Jacqueline Crijns, Paul van de Lint and Chris Reitsma. Paul van Riel showed up later in the evening.

Annette & Lindy flew in from the UK, Anita & Peter chunneled in via France and the Dutchies drove down to Soest. Between four and five o'clock we gathered and started off with tea and coffee. Quite a few had brought their photo albums. Great fun to see the old pictures. As you can see from the picture below we didn't look too much older then we did in 1973!



We all signed a thank you card for Ellen & Jan. They did a great job organising the weekend. Thanks again for all your hard work – it certainly was worth it!



It was great seeing familiar faces, reliving almost forgotten memories, finding out what has become of everyone a little bit of a "those were the days" atmosphere. We talked so much that at first we forgot to get drinks at the bar! But that was soon remedied. Soon we switched over to the Panaga club airconditioned-bar mode; this time though there were no signed chits! Beer and wine flowed and then all the 'remember this' and 'remember that' stories came out. Memories from Borneo, for some even dating back to Trinidad! Many memories of people who weren't there, maybe we'll see them at the next reunion! Finally we found out who made the tyre tracks in the Van Dam's garden, how the Iguana escaped from the Neher's patio (Robert knew that!) and how Mike Wary's new boots ended up in the river. We found out that many of us went on the same Labuan trip. And what about the after party talks in the Bruggeman kitchen. Oh and when the Dutchies had left Brunei at the end of the summer holiday, the Brits decided on a party trip to one of the rigs, at three in the morning! They never made it. The boat sank and they ended up on the wrong side of the river! Some of the Dutch partied on in Holland visiting Peter Holtkamp in the Kaag. And Chris' speed walking. We were reminded that Rick & Roel's Dutch lessons didn't lead to anything, Paul van Riel found out how and in what state he got home from a Van Dam's party, how Roel pushed a car on high heels, that Jan, Caroline Veldhoen and Paul van Riel got lost on the Gurkha jungle safari trip and how a cobra was transported from Brunei by Shell kids by KLM to the Blijdorp zoo.

Later we had a lovely dinner together and then talked until one in the morning. Some stayed the night and had breakfast together. A few survivors had a brisk walk in the morning and then closed out the reunion with a lunch.



It was a shame not everyone could make it. We are now scattered all over the world, from the Netherlands and the UK to France, Iran, Oman, Canada, Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta, Japan, France, USA, Germany and Australia. It will be fun to see more people the next time around. **Annette and Lindy have kindly offered to organise the next reunion in the UK sometime in the spring or summer of 2007.** We need to get more names and e-mail addresses on the Brunei reunion list which will now be kept up to date by lindycozens@btconnect.com & annette.quinn@essentialdetail.co.uk, so pass on the news. And we need to ensure the list is kept up to date. This way we will be able to keep in touch.

To close out we have some very good news. David O'Keeffe (Patrick's brother) David.OKeeffe@mwkl.co.uk has offered to organize a Website for us! Thanks David. So soon we'll be able to find out via this Website a bit more about the story's highlighted above, see the pictures taken on the 29th of Januari 2005, be kept up to date with the plans for the next reunion in 2007 and maybe see pictures of us in the 70's and now. Any other Website ideas are welcome. Please pass on your ideas to Lindy, Annette, David or me roelvandelint@gmail.com.

Best regards,

Roel