

Wednesday, 19th July.

Dearest Phyllis,

I think the magazine will make you more-homesick, but will also please you. This is what Mike Kirkwood is involved in producing. I've just finished typing an essay on teacher education for Africans. I hated it. I much prefer writing about ideas; real things, I'm afraid to say, don't excite me intellectually. I know it's bad, but Plate really does grab me more than lists of figures. Anyway, I had the typewriter out and you're lucky that you don't have to read this very rare letter in my illegible handwriting.

I'm in my last week of July vacation, and have just realised that I go back a day earlier than I expected - I feel very cheated. I'm going back to another month of teaching practice which I'm very apprehensive about. I went away for the first week. Three and a half days in Joburg and three and a half days with Chris's sister and her husband in Swaziland. The Swaziland part was really lovely - a real change: of scenery, people and interests. However I was horrified by the political situation - as far as I can see a total lack of interest in the well-being of the people. I suppose you know about it all, but I was unaware. Chris's sister, Julie, and her husband Chris Green live near the Mantenga Falls, he is a potter working at the Craft Centre there. I spoke to Piers Cross when I was in Joburg and was pleased to hear that he has been in touch with you. I also got your regards from Jill Nicholson, thank you.

How is Sakthi? Give her our love. Chris has just bought himself a second-hand motor-bike, something he's wanted since I've known him. It's a scrambler, which has the added advantage of being <sup>able</sup> to ride up walls, sand-dunes and sheer rock-faces, so you can leap with your motor-bike off the other side! - so I've been told by the fanatic who sold the bike to Chris. Chris is well and is working very hard at the office - I hope the pressure will decrease fairly soon because at the moment he isn't able to work when he comes home in the evenings.

I'm afraid that I haven't been in touch with many people since I've been doing this course. I can't cope with many things at a time. It's a long time since I've seen alph, but I speak to him sometimes on the phone; he seems to be well. The Cheedles will be moving to Johannesburg at the beginning of September. Halton has a job with a new Institute attached to the University, under Prof. Dugard, which will deal with labour and consumer law. Halton will be dealing with labour law. There is some lecturing involved, but it is mainly a research institute and the aim is also to do test cases. In spite of the many ups and downs in our friendship with them, we will miss them very much. Unfortunately political concerns poisons so many friendships in this country. It is one of the saddest things here, I think.

I will end now, Phyll, as I must get this letter to David. Love to you and Sakti, from Chris and me.

Be well,  
Deb.