

As the flight approached Durban on the 20th stage of my holiday, I would at last after 40+ years of not having seen my friend David Marks & also now his family, David would be meeting me at Durban airport. I was a bit nervous & excited after all these years, but I knew deep down, David would be the same person as I knew all those years ago. David is a song writer & has a well known Reputation & is very well known on the music scene. His Company, 3rd Ear Music helps & has brought local artists to the notice of South Africa & other countries. David teaches & lectures to students at one of the Universities, another string to his Bow, David with the help of Fran his wife has created an archive & Records of the music scene since the 1960s, which has caused ^{great} interest. (Hidden Years Music Archives) So people who know him, he is a mine of information with what he has been involved with.

At long last I cleared customs etc, & the next thing I knew David was there, memory's came flooding back to me of all those years ago, he hadnt changed, it was a very emotional meeting we ching to each other, it was a wonderful feeling to be & see David again. We travelled back to David's house, Rosie was there, his daughter, it was a lovely sunny day, it was really good to be there with David. Fran I found out was in London with their other son & his wife, I would meet Fran later in the holiday.

David, in the days that followed told me about his life had been like & with Fran at his side, what they have achieved. He has

done promotions, lectures, he has done with Fran so much in South Africa. His up to date story of his life was fascinating, I don't think he or Fran would have missed any of it, he is a great family man + Fran really does think he is the greatest.

David is in the middle of his Auto-Biography, which is a Mammoth Task in it self, beside having to still earn a living, and also David Hidden Years Music Archives going back years compiling the stories that go with the recordings + I can see and surmise that music + song to the for-front to the people also brings notice to injustices to the for-front as well + helps a great deal to put matters right for all the people in this country, life + change can go together, to bring home to all the people they have a queen right about their daily lives in peace and with freedom.

I soon realized David was the same person I had known all those years ago, quiet, gentlest mannered + honest in all he did or said. Music will always be David, and fair change brings satisfaction to him + Fran it has taken many years to come to pass, even if at times he would be discouraged, but both kepted going until it came right.

I had lived in South Africa from 1952 to the early 70's, but during those years I could not settle, I went back to the UK two times before I went back to the UK permanently to live in UK, but this trip really brought it home to me I had made the wrong

decision all those years ago, I should never have left.

Yes! one could see the changes in South Africa, Durban had changed, people were free, no "apartheid" to deal with, but what has surprised me the slums are still there, Townships where thousands live I saw enough while I was there to realize it will take years to put all things right. It also brought + made me realize, but age has changed me, I lost the one I really loved in this country, my father as well, I also felt I had ~~not~~ roots left here. I was part of the old system and progress had been made to change.

So the day arrive to leave my friends, I had met a lot of lovely people, Hans Moller David's sister, and other relations, I have had a lovely 3 weeks and will never forget it. I have one ambition to read David's Auto-Biography he deserves all the success so does his family.

As the plane for the homebound trip taxied for take off, I think I knew I would never be able to return to the place I had lived in with so many happy times.

Thank you David + Fran + Family for making my trip so enjoyable.

Love Max.
