

James was delayed a day coming out here - fog had delayed his flight when it touched down in Manchester en route from Dublin to Zurich so he ended up spending the night in Manchester and missing his Swiss Air connection in Zurich. He went down to London the next day and was put on a Kenya Airways flight which arrived here at 4 in the morning. So we met him at the airport and then went straight down to Mombasa - about an 8 hour journey from Nairobi by the time we arrived at our beach cottage just south of Mombasa - had to take a ferry to cross Mombasa harbour.

It is a beautiful coast. But our particular area had a lot of coral and bold headlands so we couldn't walk along the beach. A little bit further down the coast, the beach stretches for miles. We couldn't really swim at low tide because there wasn't enough water and at high tide there was still the danger of getting cut on the coral. All you could really do was wallow. Well that was o.k. And I think the highlight of the holiday for me was when we walked out on the reef one morning at low tide at about 8 o'clock. That was so beautiful. The boys also went out on the reef when it was low tide later in the day but that was just too hot for me. Ian and I tried to keep on our verandah during the hottest part of the day. Most people did that and only appeared on the beach early in the morning or late in the afternoon.

Back in Nairobi we have been playing a lot of golf. Joy or despair, depending on the scores.

I was back in the office today (and also last week). Happily I have now been offered a one year contract - but unhappily it is effective from November 1st which means I am not as free to take time off as I would have been under the former system of just working by the hour.

Next morning....Happy New Year! No dancing at the party but we had a nice time - hope the photos we took with David's new camera show us off to best advantage and not looking ghoulish in artificial light. Will close for now and hope this card reaches you in time for a Happy Birthday.

Love,
Jan