

OVERSEAS BAG – AUTUMN 2013

“HERE & THERE” (Overseas Bag)

Overseas Bag Editor: Chris Essex (K69-75), 3 Kingston Avenue, Saltford, Bristol, BS31 3LF;
Tel: +44 (0)1225 873878; E-mail: overseasbag@oldframlinghamian.com

A big thank you for another good crop of correspondence from far and wide. As always there are some new writers and plenty of correspondence from familiar friends. Its always great to hear from anyone. These pages are the full version – an abbreviated version will appeared in the 2013 Yearbook. As always I'd welcome more photos so do please send them in and I'd be delighted to hear from a few more countries as well.

A World-wide Appeal

In the last Overseas Bag and Events Section there was much coverage of the fantastic initiative by **Chris Shaw (K50-56)** and **Mike Garnett (R53-55)** to organise an Australian/NZ-wide event in 2015 to mark the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the first boys at Framlingham College. This also happens to tie in with 100th anniversary of ANZACs in Gallipoli. As you will read below, this planned celebration has already attracted huge support from OFs across Australia and New Zealand as well as from much further afield.

It would be great to organise a number of similar events in countries across the world for around March/April/May 2015. What better way of linking together Framlinghamians from across the planet! **If you would be prepared to try and organise an event in your country, then please get in touch with me and I'll provide all the help and support I can in terms of mailing lists etc.**

Finally I would strongly encourage everyone to ensure that they register their e-mail address on the website, so that we can keep in touch. Please keep your messages and news flooding in, **especially with your photos** and don't be shy to let me know if you think you or someone else should be included in the Distinguished section of the SOF website.

AUSTRALIA

As you will read below, correspondence with OFs in Australia has again been dominated by discussions about the April 2015 Reunion.

Brett Bailey (K58-65) got in touch for the first time about possibly attending the April 2015 function with his father, distinguished OF **Wing Commander Peter Bailey (K34-38)** – can read Peter's fascinating life story here <http://www.oldframlinghamian.com/images/articles/WINGCOMMANDERGEORGEPIETERBRETTBAILEYK34-38.pdf> Brett is currently living near Canberra and wanted to get registered on the SOF website.

Phil Bower (G65-74) is always a rich source of stories for the Overseas Bag and this edition is certainly no exception. Just before you read what he's been up to, I would just mention that I have also been in touch with Phil's brother Nigel who is also an OF (xx). I recounted to Phil that I had just been see Bruce Springstein in Cardiff and Nigel replied saying *"he's forwarded your mail to me seeing as he knew I'd also been to Cardiff then onto Leeds Arena. Cardiff was a 20 out of 10 show wasn't it? Leeds Arena was much different in set & feel but equally brilliant & it just shaded it for us due to the crowd surf and the extra pit walkway - Mrs & I are Pit junkies & we got to touch all parts of the Boss & the guitar!"* Nigel clearly shares Phil's love of music.

So now onto the story from Phil, which we will title **"Phil Bower on Tour!"**

Most of us have fairly static jobs based around working at a desk, with maybe a bit of travel to get to the desk each day. At the other end of the scale a very few of us are involved in the airline industry or shipping and the like and cover many tens of thousands of miles each year. But how many of us drive 12,000 miles/20,000 km to complete a single job?



Phil has recently become a truckie in the wide expanse of Australia and has just completed his latest trip, which has lasted an amazing 3.5 months.

The actual tour was broken into 3 legs :-

1. Melbourne up to Albury, New South Wales then Sydney to Cessnock, Orange and up to Nambour in Queensland then all the way back down to Melbourne again
2. Sydney to Canberra to Adelaide(Mt Gambier) and right across Australia to Perth (Bunbury), then on to Port Hedland in Western Australia before going on to Darwin in the Northern Territory.
3. Returning to Melbourne, via the likes of Alice Spring and Uluru, to drop off the gear before finally returning truck back to Sydney.



As well as the distance and time, the trip saw him go from sub zero temps in the south to 36C in the tropics. He crossed the Nullabor National Park in the south, just above the Great Australian Bight and gone up both seaboard on the continent and crossed over the top. The only state boundaries he didn't traverse were the Northern Territories/Queensland border and over to Tasmania and the only

Australian state he didn't visit was also Tasmania.



Phil describes one particular incident in his own inimitable style “I had a relief driver to cross the Nullabor & again across the top end. He was a complete dickhead! To whit; having just crossed the WA/NT border at about 0230 in the bush on a single track road that has been clearly signed as unfenced and therefore wandering stock is to be expected at any time (day or night) I awoke to find him hammering along at 115kph, no streetlights, personal headphones inserted, looking at his iPhone being held in one hand in his lap. He didn't see the cattle beside the road which, if they'd spooked, could have bolted into our path, which would have resulted in the serious trashing of machine and occupants (wouldn't have done the cows much good either!). He was under instructions not to exceed 100kph and to be alert for livestock - there are camels, roos & cattle wandering loose up there. Needless to say he was instructed to get the f... out of the driving seat and then discovered he had a brand new a...hole because I ripped into him good and proper. Nobody is going to risk my life without facing the consequences! Anyway, his work was basically over and I did the rest of the drive with him stuck in the passenger seat sulking.....”

The local aborigines at Nundroo on the Nullabor (means treeless plain) christened Phil the Rainbow Man when they saw his hair and he's fine with that – see photo to see why!



He says “The long trips across country are ok, every few hundred kms it gets a bit dicey when I have to negotiate some slight bend in the road.....! Geography is extremely varied and going from tropical to temperate etc is fascinating - the change in vegetation is both subtle and yet stark. Alice Springs was nice, albeit only a brief spell there.”



This trip was to support the tour of Uncle Jack Jones, called "Jack Jones vs The Crown". Jack is a 5ft nothing aboriginal elder who is well known down under. He spent 20 years at HM's pleasure, all up. Phil says “Fascinating story, he's a smashing feller & the band are nice peeps as well! During the show there's song & dance (without the dance aspect), tea & pottery making, anecdotes, video. He turns 70 in September but hasn't lost that spark! Jack & I had a good laugh when I remarked that 200 years ago, the Poms were shipping all their crims out here and now we're shipping one back and he's making money out of it!” This is reference to the

fact that Jack is playing at the Barbican in London in 2014. The show is brought to the stage by the Ilbjerri Theatre Company, which is the longest running Indigenous Theatre company in Australia.



Phil sums it all up by saying “*There's plenty of places I didn't get to visit but at the end of the day, I got paid to do a road trip most people only dream about!*”. Here are a few more of his photos and you can see them all here <http://www.flickr.com/photos/99112964@N08>

Just what it says on the tin!



Why no overtaking?



A considerate neighbour!



Nick Carlton (G63-70), given his role as a captain at sea, can't yet confirm what his movements will be in April 2015, but he sent the following message to Chris & Mike *"If I am off in April 2015 I would certainly like to attend ... today the 2014 leave plan came in so it will probably be this time next year when the 2015 one is published ... so I will have to confirm nearer the time .. anyway it should be easy for me to come over. I don't plan on retiring before then. Hopefully my wife, Raquel, will make it too. Currently (October 2013) on leave at home in Western Australia having got back from Alaska 10 days ago but off to England on the 16th for a week or so in Suffolk before a course in Amsterdam ... then back here Nov 5 ... then back to sea (join Sapphire Princess in Honolulu Dec 6) ... My sister has a cottage near Fram so will no doubt spend some time there ... **Bryan Pearson (S45-47)** is visiting then too so may see him in Suffolk which will*

make a change from Hawai'i! Thanks again for the email and organising the event ... I will keep in touch."

At the time of going to press, Nick has just confirmed that he's going to attend the Suffolk Supper on 19 October 2013 with his sister. I look forward to meeting up with him again there.

Mike Garnett (R53-55) – most of my correspondence with Mike has been in connection with the April 2015 big event (see under **Chris Shaw (K50-56)** below), but there has been time for a few other pieces of news.

In July 2013 he had a visit from **Stephen Sayer (S58-63)** to Melbourne and they managed to fit in a game of Mike's beloved Real Tennis "*Here is a pic of a couple of oldies! Interestingly Stephen and I have met intermittently at various parts of the globe through the game of real tennis. He was a few years after me at Fram, but we met up through the game of real tennis (or royal tennis as it is known in Australia). I recall meeting Stephen for my first game in England when I visited his club at Hatfield House probably in the early '80's. Since then we have competed with or against each other at such diverse places as Aiken, South Carolina, at Melbourne (at least twice), at Seacourt (Hayling Island), at Queen's in London and probably elsewhere. I have also had the pleasure of staying with Stephen and Aileen at their lovely home in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman.*



If we had both lived in England, we could have represented Framlingham at the annual Public Schools Doubles at Queen's for the Henry Leaf Cup, and played against teams from Radley, Rugby, Eton, Lancing, Harrow, Charterhouse and others. But it's probably a bit late for us now!!"

The picture shows Mike on the left and Stephen on the right, ready for a game at Royal Melbourne Tennis Club in July 2013.

In July 2013 I put up a news story on the SOF website about **Richard Johnson (S2003-05)** and his friend Patrick Hutton attempting to complete the first unsupported human powered crossing of Papua New Guinea (PNG) in March 2014. As Mike had lived in PNG and had recently read that a small group of Aussies doing a survival walk in PNG had been attacked by a jungle gang with machetes, with 2 of the carriers being hacked to death, he thought he would pass on some words of wisdom to Richard and his friend. Here is some of what said "*You will find it very tropical and humid, and if you get cut or scratched by the long grass it is almost impossible in that climate to stop from turning septic, so maybe wear trousers or long socks for protection (and take bandages). You will come across small villages, basically thatched huts within compounds where you will find thirst quenching watermelons - also pineapples, bananas and paw-paws. As you walk through the interior you could (out of curiosity) ask the locals whether they know of any crashed aircraft from the last war. I came across five during my time in PNG and where possible, I jotted down identification numbers or other details that I passed on to the*

authorities in Australia. There are still scores of undiscovered aircraft and often the whereabouts are known to the native villagers. Whatever you do, don't stray into West Irian which is run like a colony by Indonesia who treat the indigenous population very badly, and jail any Australian who has the misfortune to stray into their territory. With your military background, I'm sure you could get some advice/assistance from the PNG military which has close ties to Australia. There used to be (and probably still is) a large cantonment based just outside Wewak (north coast). If you keep going south to Australia - and Melbourne in particular - give me a call and I will gladly join you in a beer or two and take you both out to dinner!"

In a long and detailed reply, Richard responded *"My time in Framlingham was amazing, along with my home up bringing it helped shape my career and continuous drive for excellence. I intend till a ripe old age to participate in activities and expeditions which majority of people would not even dream of, so that when my time comes, near or far, I have not a penny to my name but a battered old body, infinite amount of stories and endless full passport pages. 'A woman's face is her free meal, a man's face is his biography', quote from a Retd Lt Col I was fortunate enough to treat. I hope my face tells a few tales people will want to listen to. " You can follow their progress at www.pngexpedition.com*

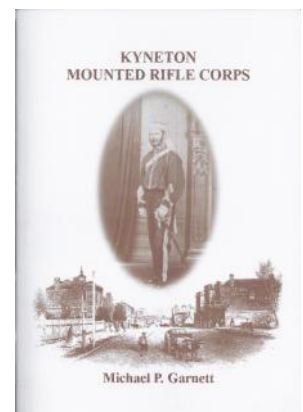
Mike was in touch again late August to tell me about a leisurely 3 day drive (!!) to Adelaide to catch up with old friends. To his surprise he came across the little hamlet of Rendelsham (his old house) near the town of Mount Gambier, South Australia – see picture. Mike says *"Clearly it is basically the same as when it was settled in the 1880's – I doubt that a new house has been constructed here in the last hundred years! Although spelt slightly differently, it was almost certainly named after the Suffolk village."*



Mike also reminded me that fairly nearby is the hamlet of Framlingham, which was photographed on a previous trip, but which Mike believes was subsequently virtually destroyed by bush fires.

I was also in touch with Mike about the visit to Australia of immediate past President **Simon Dougherty (G60-67)** and his wife Maggie, in October 2013. As always Mike was only too pleased to help. Simon is visiting Maggie's brother in Bulangarook, outside Gisbourne, which is less than 40km away from Mike in Romsey. He also got in touch with **Mike Selby (Z83-93)** who lives not far away and he has confirmed that they would be delighted to join them for a dinner with Simon and Maggie on 8 October 2013. We look forward to publishing the photos in the next Overseas Bag.

Next I was delighted to receive in the post a copy of Mike's latest book, which surprisingly was not on the subject of Real Tennis! It was an excellent book on the Kyneton Mounted Rifle Corps. Mike joined the committee of the Kyneton Returned Services League in 2012 and took an



interest in the town's historic contribution to the formation of the LightHorse regiments that date back to 1860. He has also worked to establish a suitable monument to Kyneton's association with the Light Horse. A copy of the book has been donated to the College Library.

John Gates (S44-48) is also now booked in for April 2015 event and keeps in touch with Peter Bailey. He provided the following update *"I have engaged a Speech Pathologist to help our daughter, first session tomorrow, so keeping fingers crossed that Jill will respond and hopefully we may get her to speak even partially. Life would be so much nicer for her, and it would help the Nursing Home staff if she could communicate. **Hugh Richardson (S43-48)** came for lunch a couple of weeks ago, he was in Stradbroke at the same time as myself, he even showed me a photograph of both of us- it was very nice to meet up with him once again."*

In late September 2013 John was in touch with Chris Shaw and I about a travel warning that I'd certainly not seen before but certainly looks genuine and I'll pass on to others

HOTEL KEY CARDS

Always take a small magnet on your vacation, they come in handy at the end of it (read on). This is good info. Never even thought about key cards containing anything other than an access code for the room!



Ever wonder what is on your magnetic key card?

Answer:

- Customer's name
- Customer's partial home address
- Hotel room number
- Check-in date and out dates
- Customer's credit card number and expiration date!

When you turn them in to the front desk your personal information is there for any employee to access by simply scanning the card in the hotel scanner. An employee can take a hand full of cards home and using a scanning device, access the information onto a laptop computer and go shopping at your expense.

Simply put, hotels do not erase the information on these cards until an employee re-issues the card to the next hotel guest. At that time, the new guest's information is electronically 'overwritten' on the card and the previous guest's information is erased in the overwriting process. But, until the card is rewritten for the next guest, it usually is kept in a drawer at the front desk with YOUR INFORMATION ON IT!

The bottom line is: Keep the cards, take them home with you, or destroy them. NEVER leave them behind in the room or room wastebasket, and NEVER turn them into the front desk when

you check out of a room. They will not charge you for the card (it's illegal) and you'll be sure you are not leaving a lot of valuable personal information on it that could be easily lifted off with any simple scanning device card reader.

For the same reason, if you arrive at the airport and discover you still have the card key in your pocket, do not toss it in an airport trash basket. Take it home and destroy it by cutting it up, especially through the electronic information strip!

If you have a small magnet, pass it across the magnetic strip several times. Then try it in the door, it will not work. It erases everything on the card.

Chris Shaw responded with the following little story “Rebecca and I were in UK for my mother's funeral in April 2009, just after I'd had a pacemaker implanted just below my left shoulder. There was a gap of about a week prior to the funeral proper and Rebecca took the time to visit nine (9) castles in seven (7) days! It became more of an SAS Training Course than a gentle convalescence for me, and I was quite proud of the fact that I only baulked at one set of stairs - 136 up to a set of battlements at Arundel Castle! However, on our return to our hotel in Staines, we found the Key Card would not work, requested, and got, a new one, which did. After our second skirmish, the Key Card once more refused to work, and once again the hotel replaced it. As we were on our way out for a third sortie, Rebecca caught me putting it in the top pocket of my shirt, right over the pacemaker. It was the magnetic properties of the pacemaker that was wiping our Key Card. So, apart from keeping me alive, a useful side effect is the wiping of our personal information from Key Cards in general - at the appropriate time, of course!”

Lynn Jenkin (nee Holben) (Non OF)

It might seem strange to include news from a non OF in the Overseas Bag, but she spotted that we were organising a dinner in the Hunter Valley. As she lived only about an hour and a half away she wondered if she could attend, which were happy for her to do. She attended Mills Grammer School in 1976 and used to sing in the College chapel and remembers **Peter (Blue) McAuley (R70-74)**, **Jim Mehta (S67-75)**, **Richard Jenkinson (K69-76)**, **Dick Sheldrick (G66-76)**, **Peter Rodulfo (R70-75)** who she remembers was an artist who used to paint landscapes on stones, David and Nigel (twins?) and **Niall Foster (G73-75)**. This is a picture of Lynn around 1977 to remind some of you.



She also remembers Gilbert & Sullivan performance in the castle which I think was The Pirates of Penzance. She has offered for us to visit her horse stud while staying in the Hunter.

James Hurlock (R2001-06) got in touch with news of his wedding and a photo. He married Heidi Stacey on 10th August 2013 in Newfoundland, Canada. James met Heidi



in Sydney in 2008 where they currently reside in Manly, Australia. James was joined by his mum and dad, **Terry (R66-73)** and friends and family from Australia, England, France, Chile, America and Holland. Following the wedding James and Heidi took a honeymoon through Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Zanzibar, India and the Maldives before returning back to Australia.

Neville Marsh (S53-61) in the last Overseas Bag (and copied as a news item on the website) posed the question as to why Stradbroke OFs have always attended the London Suppers in the largest numbers. **James Ruddock-Broyd (G46-52)** and more recently **Chris Shaw (K50-56)** have suggested fascinating reasons why this may be the case, which can be read on the website here <http://www.oldframlinghamian.com/article.php?story=20130401104649538> Any others?

During July Neville agreed to organise an OF gathering for the visit of Richard Sayer, President of the SOF. He is visiting Queensland in January 2014 with his wife Georgina to watch the Ashes. They are planning to get together on Tuesday 14 January 2014 in Brisbane. If you fancy joining them then please contact Neville at neville.marsh@adelaide.edu.au



In September Neville's brother **Ian Marsh (S49-52)** and his wife Christa came over to visit and they embarked on a fair bit of driving! Here's his story and a few pics "*We drove down from Brisbane to Sydney to collect Ian and Christa, making our way back though the Blue Mountains (see picture) and then to the Hunter Valley. We were keen to seek out evidence of Len Evans' legacy but alas, the last winery, Evans Family Wines*

has now closed. We found an ageing sign pointing the way (see picture, with Neville doing the climbing). After some R&R in Brisbane, we set off for the Outback and treated Ian and Christa to everything the Outback has to offer – drought, dust, heat ... and kangaroos, koalas, emus,



echidnas and the inevitable snakes! Our last port of call was the Sunshine Coast where we had three days in Coolum enjoying the beach and fantastic weather (New Picture 1). In all, 5340 kilometres in 21 days."



They didn't get time to look at hotel in Hunter Valley that will host the extravaganza in April 2015. But they did find a delightful winery to stay overnight so they may go down again before 2015.

Chris Shaw

the Hope with one before his has a picture

In September arrange to President who were 2013.



commented that as a matter of record, Estate Winery has a Great Barrel room, signed by Len Evans about 2 months passing. Also the Tower Estate Winery of Len Evans in their foyer.

Neville was again good enough to meet up with immediate past SOF **Simon Dougherty** and his wife Maggie coming to Brisbane on 15 October

Murray Munro (R58-65) was another Aussie OF to re-establish contact as a result of the 2015 celebrations. He provided updated details for Bundaberg, Queensland and the all important e-mail address! I'm delighted that he is now coming in April 2015.

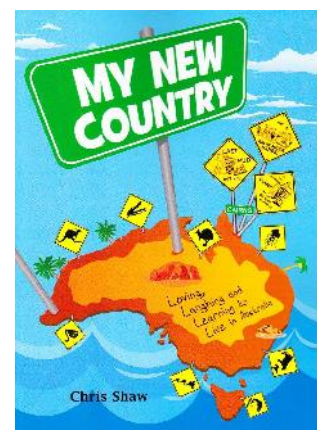
Mike Selby (Z83-93) has confirmed that he will be delighted to meet up with **Simon Dougherty** and his wife Maggie, when they visit Melbourne in October 2013.

Chris Shaw (K50-56) and **Mike Garnett (R53-55)** have been virtually inseparable recently via e-mail!! They have both done a fantastic job organising an event on 19 April 2015 to mark 150th anniversary of first boys at the College and 100th anniversary of ANZACs in Gallipoli. This is bringing together OFs and their partners from across Australia, New Zealand and further afield. So far confirmed as attending are **Mike Garnett (R53-55)**, **Chris Shaw (K50-56)**, **Chris Essex (K69-75)**, **David Summers (G48-56)**, **Robert Craig (K55-59)**, **Bob Munro (R54-60)**, **Marc Newson (G76-81)**, **Murray Munro (R58-65)**, **David Bonner (G62-66)**, **Keith Dann (S48-50)**, **Stephen Sayer (S58-63)**, **Phil Bower (G65-74)**, **Merrick Mutimer (S67-76)**, **Colin Lipman (R53-61)**, **Neville Marsh (S53-61)**, **Michael Bentall (G62-70)**, **Peter Bailey (K34-38)**, **Brett Bailey (K58-65)**, **Jon Newbery (R79-84)**, **Peter Simpson (K32-40)**, **John Gates (S44-48)**, plus hopefully **Paul Taylor**, along with 17 partners, making 39 in total.

With over 18 months to go at the time of writing we are confident that the final numbers will exceed 50. If you would be interested in attending and haven't yet been in touch with Chris/Mike, then please e-mail them on garnettm@bigpond.net.au and cjrshaw@bigpond.com as they would love to hear from you.

In conjunction with the event, Chris Shaw is compiling a number of short stories, written by him and fellow OFs in Australia/NZ about the experiences they have had since arriving in Australia/NZ that couldn't happen back in the UK. There are some cracking tales!!

Despite the many hours organising this event in 2015, Chris also finds time for much else, including his writing. His latest publication, 'My New Country' has just been released and it includes some highlights and lowlights of one immigrant Pom in Far North Queensland! The introduction gives the following explanation by Chris "When he



emigrated to Australia in 1973 from England, via seven years in the Caribbean, he thought he was well equipped to assimilate in to his new society. However, he found he was ill equipped to deal with the vast variations of weather, and the enormous number of creatures out to 'get' him and his little family.

His first drink was also his first encounter with his first murderer, his milkman won beauty contests and he very nearly died at sea, having sunk the 'tinnie' he was in, miles from civilisation. As if crocodile and snake handling, savage geese, and a one in a million chance with some spiders wasn't desperate enough, his attempts to foil gravity, by falling off a ladder and out of an aeroplane, make him either a pioneering hero or a complete idiot. Make up your own mind; he's still not sure!"



Sticking with a literary theme, this is the latest pictures of the Dynamic Duo! This was at someone else's book launch, where Chris was asked to MC, and Rebecca was asked to read a sonnet.

Family also kept them busy "*We are basking in the glory of a second grandchild, Maggie Anita Hammond, although, apart from keeping the mother, my daughter, alive and drug free and out of the modern mischiefs to the present day, I can't claim much kudos. Mother and baby are doing well*

and this old man is as proud as punch!"

Chris also had his sister over from Norfolk in September 2013 with a friend and Rebecca unexpectedly got called for jury duty for 4 weeks. He also has another grandchild due in October to bring the total to three. He also has in-laws arriving from Denmark, so he and Rebecca are keeping busy.

Like a number of other OFs in Australia, Chris has also been good enough to help Simon Dougherty and Maggie organise a visit to Cairns and Port Douglas. They are due to meet up on 13 October at Barnacle Bill's in Cairns. Chris describes "*It's walking distance from your hotel where we'll meet you, and gently perambulate along the Esplanade in the short tropical twilight to a destiny with superb seafood and a cold, white, Semillon, Sauvignon Blanc to wash it all down. Great conversation, great stories and a wish to meet again in 2015 in the Hunter, where the emphasis may be more towards the red wine varieties.*" Don't we all wish we were there???

Finally, as you will have read earlier, Chris has offered his own thoughts on Neville's questions as to why more Stradbroke OFs attend the London Suppers than any other house. Here is Chris's theory :-

First and foremost, the hypothesis, the numbers/percentages/statistical analyses are taken as a given, that more Stradbroke OF's do in fact attend more London Suppers than OF's from other Houses. It is taken on trust that this is so.

The 'why?' is now fairly simple if you know a bit about the world, the personalities contained therein, and the wisdom of the ages as practised by our forebears at the college.

Importantly, first came the colours. James Ruddock-Broyd (G46-52) tells us in his, (to my view,) spurious account that Mr. Stocks, in his capacity as Headmaster in 1914, introduced the four colours representing the four Houses. My opinion is that Mr. Stocks was an extremely wise man, knew his colours and their relevance to personality types, which then served to separate the Houses in character.

The four houses he designated had four colours: three being primary colours, Red, Blue and Green, with Maroon being a mixture of Red and Blue. Only later, did someone, who obviously had no idea about that wisdom, or lack thereof, assign names of people to those colours, thus trivialising the importance of the wisdom of colours.

Framlingham College's equivalent to the Hogwarts' Sorting Hat has done a thoroughly brilliant job over the eons, placing like-minded students together in Houses that complement and foster their innate abilities. Imagine the influence on a natural Kerrisonite, a grounded, loyal, introverted gentle boy being thrust in to Rendlesham, known for its individual, inspirational but somewhat aloof characteristics. It could sweep the legs right out from under him.

Thus, to understand the reason for Stradbroke's magnetic attraction to London, we must therefore look at the personality of the average Stradbroke student in comparison to the personalities of students from the other Houses.

As I said earlier, it is the colours that are important as they are fixed points of personality description. (As above, names associated with the colours mean nothing in this respect, but probably made the names feel important at the time.)

According to the Wisdom of the Ancients, the Rendlesham colour Maroon/Purple relates to imagination and spirituality. It inspires ideals and allows them to get in touch with their deeper thoughts. Being a mix of Red and Blue, it has some leeway in interpretation, which is especially optimistic when referring to wine and the plethora of varieties available. (See Australia, 19th April 2015). Maroon is the colour of Royalty and endows Rendlesham students with an impression of aloofness, occasionally bordering on arrogance. When such a charge is levelled at them, their reply is usually of the, 'Certainly not, you idiot!' variety.

The Kerrison colour Blue is one of trust, loyalty and honesty, reserved and quiet, bordering on introversion. Blues hate confrontation, yet can be relied upon to take control and do the right thing in difficult times. A Blue seeks peace and tranquillity; reducing stress being a major component in their lives.

Garrett Green is the colour of balance and harmony. It creates balance of the heart and the emotions. It is also the colour of growth and re-birth, as in Spring. Green is a sanctuary, a positive colour that gives us the ability to love and nurture ourselves, and others. Garrettonians

are observers, and relate to counselling and social working, do-gooders and all-round good eggs.

Red is the Stradbroke colour of energy, passion, action and agitation. Confrontation is the bread and butter of a Stradbroke student, and with passion comes rage and they tend to carry the flags and banners at marches for perceived injustice. They love noise, movement and action. If you want to find a Stradbroke student, look for the nearest disco or 'Ban the Bomb' march. Red is the colour of sexuality and lust, being associated with Valentine's Day and Red Roses. They love attention; no shrinking violets, these people. (See? Violet = Maroon.)

From the foregoing, it will then become obvious why there are more Stradbroke OF's at the London Supper than OF's from other Houses.

- *Maroons, with their imagination, spirituality and deep thoughts have no place in the essentially venal philosophy of the average Londoner.*
- *Blues, with their dislike of confrontation, their reserved introversion and their honesty, likewise have no place in London society, with its turf wars, distrust of the police, and lack of words to describe the way most Londoners make their living.*
- *Greens like balance and harmony, conspicuously absent in London, a city that cannot be described as a sanctuary either. The reverse of the loving and nurturing nature of Greens is the cut-throat competition that is found in London at every level of society, from the barrow-boy to the Little Old Lady of Threadneedle Street.*
- *This brings us to the Reds, who are almost groomed for London society, which demands energy, passion and action. The more confrontation the better, the more passion in belief systems the better. There is sin and lust aplenty; negotiable affection abounds.*

Gentle Blues, like myself, shrivel up in city environments, but we come in to our own during the last kilometre up Everest, or defusing the huge bomb in the High Street.

Aloof Maroons stay alone with their thoughts and want nothing much to do with society, London or otherwise.

Nurturing Greens also have no place in London society since Londoners are so busy they are never sick, until they keel over with a heart attack in their mid-40's, wondering where they went wrong. There's no candle left; that's where you went wrong.

Thus, it is self-evident as to why more Stradbroke OF's go to the London Suppers than OF's from other Houses. Conversely, it's amazing that any Stradbroke OF's go to Suppers in Suffolk, Norfolk, Essex or the West of England. These are designed, subliminally, for the Greens of natural harmony, the Blues of gentle introversion and the Maroons with their introspection and deep thoughts.

The logical conclusion to this is that the London Supper should be a Stradbroke Supper only, although guests should be allowed, leaving the rural Suppers for the gentler of heart and soul. Everyone would be much happier.

And if you think that after reading this you were put in to the wrong House then blame it on the Framlingham Sorting Hat. In my mind it didn't make many mistakes: hence the preponderance of Stradbroke OF's at the London Supper.

Quad erat demonstrandum.

CAYMAN ISLANDS

Bridget Kidner (V93-95) is I think the first OF to contact me from the beautiful Cayman Islands. She gave the following update *"Since leaving the hallowed halls of Framlingham with A-levels in English literature, Theatre Studies and History, the obvious career choice for me was...to end up working as an offshore investment funds lawyer in the Cayman Islands.*

And how it came to be? After being admitted as a solicitor in Australia in May 2002 I spent a fair few years working in a large commercial law firm in both their Brisbane and Sydney offices. After slogging it out for a few years I decided I had had quite enough of dinners at the office and so accepted a job with Walkers, which is a global offshore law firm. I spent 3 years or so in the Walkers Dubai office advising on offshore fund structures of all types, having a ridiculously good time and generally trying to stay out of trouble. The latter part with some degree of success as I am happy to say that I am not writing this entry from a prison bunk bed in Al Aweer. Itchy feet (possibly from all the sand?) prompted me to move with the same firm to the Cayman Islands in around April 2010 and I have been there ever since, continuing my lifelong ambition to never have to put on a jumper for as long as possible...Living in the Cayman Islands has been and continues to be pretty fantastic. I am lucky enough to have a house on a canal 2 minutes from the famous 7 mile beach which is aptly named. My house is always open to visitors, so if you ever find yourself either thinking about a trip to the Cayman Islands (and don't mind dogs and, soon...a kid) then please do drop me an email. Best email to get me on is Bridget.Kidner@walkersglobal.com and, like the rest of the world I am also on Facebook.."

Great to hear from Bridget and I look forward to receiving a photo of Mum and baby in January! She would love to hear from anyone she was at school, particularly Libby Ferris who the SOF have lost touch with as well.

CHINA

Gareth Morris (K90-98) has been really busy with work and studies (a part-time Ed D), but has promised to write an update in 2014.

FRANCE

Terry Hurlock (R66-73) let me know that **Brian Scrivener (K48-54)** had died on 21 July 2012 in sheltered accommodation in Sigoules, France. See Obituaries for fuller report. He also had news that his son **James (R2001-06)** had got married in Newfoundland to a Canadian girl on the

10 August 2013. Finally in October he reported “*We have just spent a great week in Kent staying in a very pretty village called Lyminge. It is very near to the Channel Tunnel and easy to get to for us and convenient for our daughter who lives in London and not too far to Suffolk to see my aged parents who live in Woodbridge. It is a long drive of nine and a half hours from home in France.*”

John Stuart-Smith (K57-66) got in touch via LinkedIn. He tells me that he has now retired and is living in the Tarn in SW France. He’s provided updated details, which means that sadly he’s no longer on my West of England Supper list!

HONG KONG

Ian Howard (S57-62) was enjoying a few months in the South of France so was unable to meet up with Simon Dougherty and Maggie when they visited Hong Kong briefly in October 2013.

Moira Theulier (nee Anderson) (M91-93) has posted a number of items on the Old Framlingham – Overseas Network Facebook page – see <https://www.facebook.com/groups/OldFramlinghamians.Overseas/>

OMAN

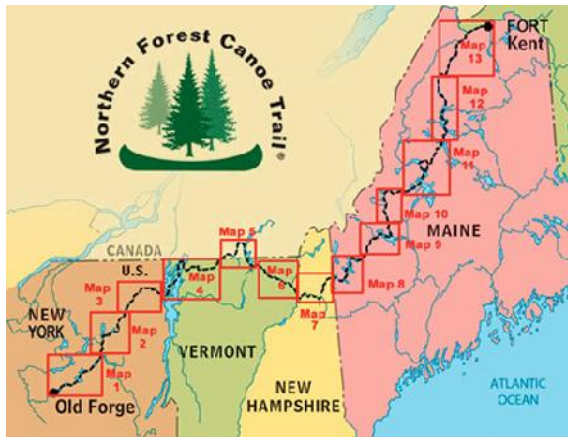
Stephen Sayer (S58-63) confirmed that he and his wife would be attending the 150th event in the Hunter Valley, Australia in April 2013. He also enjoyed his game of real tennis with **Mike Garnett** on 10 July 2013 – see photo elsewhere.

USA

Ivor Noel Hume (37-39) wrote in July that he had enjoyed his on-line copy of the June Newsletter. I am saddened to say that emotionally I belong with the imperialist members on the first page! In my days at Framlingham the relics of that imperialism were still hanging on the dining hall walls. Congratulation on another beautifully designed issue. I asked him for an update on the book he was writing about the early Earls of Southampton “*I am still plugging along with the Southampton book. A long way yet to go. I’ve only reached the accession of Edward VI -- not a very nice little boy. I have heard that the Mary Rose exhibit is very good. I was distressed to learn that in the promotion for it, no one gave credit to Margaret Rule whose project it was. She and I are on Lord Lingfield's committee to save the remains of the wreck of HMS Victory (1744) but are having to battle H.M. Government to let the work go head.*”

Peter MacFarlane (Z73-81) in May 2013 set out on a solo through-paddle of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail, a distance of some 740 miles, including about 55 miles of portage across watershed divides, around unrunnable rapids, around dams etc. Below is the full story I posted on the website

OF completes 740 mile solo paddle on the Northern Forest Canoe Trail



On 15th June this year, Peter Macfarlane triumphantly paddled into Fort Kent, Maine, to complete a successful solo through-paddle of the Northern Forest Canoe Trail. The Trail itself, 740 miles from upstate New York across northern New England and parts of Quebec, was challenge enough, but the four weeks that he took for this endeavour saw some of the most hostile weather for this time of year, which took the challenge to a whole new level.

Peter left Old Forge, New York, on 19th May (see photo of first stroke) in his self-built 14-foot cedar-strip canoe, and paddled anywhere from about 15 to 40 miles per day on large lakes, small ponds, flat-water and white-water rivers and streams, both upstream and down. He carried with him enough camping equipment to be self-sufficient, although managed to spend some nights indoors in some of the communities along the way.



The month before his departure was unusually warm and dry, and he was worried about water levels in the rivers, a worry which proved to be unfounded. The rain started within two hours of his departure.

Thunderstorms started on the second night. There followed days of heavy continuous rain and bitterly cold northerly winds as he crossed Lake Champlain and started to make his way up the Missisquoi River in northern Vermont. This river, swollen to flood conditions was flowing at over 5 mph against him as he made his way up eddies for over 70 miles, sometimes having to portage. Long days of paddling, often 10 – 12 hours, took their toll and he was hypothermic more than once. His reliance on a stove that uses wood to be gathered along the way proved unwise as often there was nothing burnable to be had, and so cooking food was impossible.



Despite the conditions (May turned out to be the wettest on record in Vermont), Peter reached the Connecticut River valley between New Hampshire and Vermont on time to play for a scheduled musical engagement on the one “rest” day of the trip; his wife, Viveka, brought his fiddle, as well as a re-supply of food (and a gas stove as a back-up). His hope that the weather in the second fortnight would be better proved in vain. Of the 28 days he spent on the Trail, only four were without rain, and one of those was the rest day.

The ubiquitous rain clouds did have silver linings, however. Most of the rivers proved to have plenty of water, making for some very enjoyable white-water runs with few encounters with rocks. His canoe suffered a couple of non-life-threatening splits, multiple scratches and scrapes, many of which will disappear on re-finishing, and a broken seat, Peter's own fault and a story in its own right. It performed admirably in highly diverse water conditions and has now been dubbed "The Little Canoe That Could And Did!"

The full story is being posted online at <http://users.gmavt.net/petermac/peterNFCT.html>, a transcript of Peter's journal that he kept, and succeeded in keeping dry throughout. At the time of writing, he is now resuming life in Vermont, looking forward to some less strenuous canoe-camping trips with Viveka, preferably with less rain and wind. What he carries forward is a profound sense of achievement, made all the more poignant for having been shared with a canoe of his own creation, and made all the more rewarding for having been achieved despite all that the weather threw at him. He emerged weatherbeaten, but not beaten by the weather.



This picture was taken at the end with his wife Viveka and friends. The canoe still looks in very good shape and Peter's now sporting a beard.

The beard was still in place, albeit now tamed a little. He said he wasn't ready to relinquish it yet, it being something between a battle scar and a badge of honour!

Alfred Molson (K38-43) was in touch a couple of times. In July his kitchen had recently flooded from heavy rain and while mopping up the water his 90 year old wife had had a fall and cut her head badly. Fortunately she was now OK. We also talked about his cousin Victor Hammick (K27-30) who used to work for Prudential before the war and then again afterwards after 18 months medical leave on full pay. He was held as POW during the War.

In September Alfred was back in touch to say that he had recently visited MD Anderson for a cancer check up. Unfortunately he tripped over on the way damaging his hand, hip and ribs. I mentioned Roger Last had just died, as contemporary of his. He remembered him well at the College and even back then was something of a loveable eccentric. He apparently used to walk down the main corridor and burst out laughing at something. When asked what was so funny no one could quite understand the reason, but everyone liked him.

We also discussed that apparently rainfall in Texas over the last 10 years had been 72" below normal, resulting in Aquifers dropping an amazing 600 feet!

Bryan Pearson (S45-47) was contacted in August 2013 by **James Ruddock-Broyd (G46-52)** about whether he knew that the "Regal Princess" was being built to first sail on 2 June 2014. Bryan replied saying *"I knew about the new Regal Princess (we sailed on the "old" Regal several times, a lovely ship and we were sorry to see her go) and, in fact, sailed with Nick Carlton on her twice. Nick is on the Sapphire Princess for the foreseeable future."*

He was in touch again with me in September to say *"Well, just over three weeks until we fly to London, spend a couple of days sightseeing, then down to Suffolk for two days. We plan to stay two nights at my brother's house at Winesham then a direct shot to Southampton to board the Crown Princess on October 26th. On the 25th, if all works out as planned, Nick Carlton(G63-70) will be driving me out to Fram (or I may go with my brother), to have a short tour of the College, then a ploughman's lunch somewhere in the country. Nick is having a few days R & R at his house in Ipswich before returning to home in Western Australia before rejoining the Sapphire Princess."* I have liaised with the College to ensure that there is someone to show Bryan around. Unfortunately he doesn't arrive in Heathrow until 22 October so can't attend the Suffolk Supper.

Richard Rowe (S65-74) provided the following comprehensive update to **Chris Shaw** *"Well done with all the organising for the 150th dinner. It seems that you have a lot of momentum to make it into an incredible day. I have put the date into my calendar. I would love to make a stronger commitment but just not possible at the moment. I spend too long away from my growing family as it is. So if I can find a way to add it on to a business trip or even bring the whole family somehow, then I will be there. My eldest boy is stuck on ice hockey and wouldn't move anywhere where there isn't a competitive ice hockey team - but I see Perth has at least two!!"*

I am still traveling a lot - both in the US and worldwide. I was in Dallas a few months ago and the airport was shutdown due to tornado activity. My final destination was 200 miles away, so I rented a car. I guess what you can't see at night, you don't know about - but it was very wet and blustery for the whole 200 miles. Looking at the weather radar afterwards, I think I tracked the tornado cell for most of the 200 miles!!

Just come back from 3-weeks in Pakistan. Actually a very nice country if it wasn't for the small militant problems that most of the country hate. A local politician was shot and killed while I was auditing at one factory. My team decided that there might be consequential rioting so decided to pull me out back to the hotel. I asked how long the disruption might last and the response was - "typically" there will be protests for 3-days. "Typically" - what is typical about a politician being murdered!!! In the event, it was all very peaceful.

Next week off to UK (Reading) for two nights. Then to Brazil for a week. Normally I go to Sao Paulo; but this trip has me right in the north and then right in the south - and it is a huge country - but then so is Oz. After that I have 2 weeks in India in Sept, and then in Oct 2 days in Israel, and then back to India. Nothing planned after that - yet!!

My family are doing well. Denise is doing well on the real estate market as a realtor. Boys just gone back to school, so new teachers. My eldest just started high school, so a whole new experience for him - but seems to be liking his new school.

We did a week sailing in the Exumas in June. This is a chain of islands that is part of the Bahamas. We chartered a catamaran through a private owner. It was an experience - not to be repeated! The weather wasn't at its best, so that limited the sailing. The boat was a retired Moorings charter cat, so past its prime and need a lot of coaxing to keep it operating for the week - but it was great being on a cat in the shallow Bahamian waters. We only did lazy downwind sailing, so very easy. One mile off the Exumas is the oceanic drop off, so good for pelagic fishing, though we only caught barracuda and king mackerel. One island was famed for its swimming pig! A 500lb domestic pig left to forage wild; no hesitation at swimming a 100yds offshore to circle boats looking for food - water just about lapping over its back, and snout turned up like a mini periscope. He kept nudging our inflatable dinghy looking for food; I am just pleased that he didn't use his hooves and rip the dinghy open!! I found out later that the Catamaran owner took the boat out on the week after us; Day 2 he was sailing hard on the wind and brought the whole mast down. Thankfully it didn't happen while we had the boat!! I will stick to chartering from more reputable sources in future.

Got to go. I will try to make the 150th but no promises."

Giles Townsend (K59-67) was back in touch that we had his address correctly in Carlsbad, California, between L and San Diego. He said he was "*still toiling away in the dubious profession of law, wondering why he didn't just retire and sit in the garden instead! It is very sunny out, but I spend all day in the air-conditioned artificial light of our office building, emerging at 6:00 pm each evening for an hour's drive home on the freeway.*" Based on personal experience I encouraged him to retire!!