

# OVERSEAS BAG – SPRING & AUTUMN 2016

## “HERE & THERE” (Overseas Bag)

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Firstly an apology. I failed to publish on the website a Spring 2016 Overseas Bag. This edition and the 2016 Yearbook therefore contain a bumper crop of articles from over 500 emails received/sent. Genuinely many thanks for giving me such a huge editing task to do!

After a large number of overseas reunions to mark the College's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2015, we have understandably had a much quieter year for reunions, with them just taking place in Dusseldorf, Hong Kong, Florida and a very small one in Toronto. A huge thank you to the organisers who came forward to get these off the ground and to everyone who was able to attend.

I hope after a break in 2016 we will see an increased number of reunions being organised in 2017. As always I will help with mailing list and publicity but can't promise to be able to attend them all! **If you are interested in helping/attending then please get in touch with me.**

Please keep your messages and news flooding in, especially with your photos.

Happy reading!

## AUSTRALIA

**Brett Bailey (K58-65)** I was in touch with Brett shortly before Christmas 2015 to ask him to pass on to his father Peter, a biography I had compiled on a school contemporary of his, **Air Vice-Marshal Peter King GCB OBE (S36-39)** who had sadly recently died. I thought the Peters' may have perhaps come in contact with each other their time in the RAF. Brett replied saying *"We've just come back from visiting dad. I read your information about Peter King to him. He said he didn't recall him from Fram and had not come across him in his career. Dad is pottering along at Twin Waters. Our plans for visiting the UK are underway. We'll let you know when we confirm dates. All the best to you and Eryl."* I understand that Brett has not been well during 2016 and I'm not sure if he and Sue made it across to the UK and to see their daughter in Ireland. We are grateful to **John Gates (S44-48)** and **Neville Marsh (S53-61)** for regularly keeping in touch with **Peter Bailey (K34-38)** who is 94. See photo of Brett, Peter and Neville below.

**Chris Bartlett (K60-66)** provided a new email address in September 2016 and after checking out who he said he was for data protection purposes, we got his records updated. He currently lives in Palmyra Western Australia, not far from Perth where quite a number of OFs enjoy the sunshire. He was a Training & Development Coordinator for Onslow Salt but has recently been reemployed in another capacity.

**Peter Bartlett (K58-65)** another resident of Western Australia, wrote to OF Co-Ordinator Jane Easey saying that unfortunately something over 14,470km was just a little too far to attend the OF Sports

Weekend. He also notified us of a change in email address as his current one will be delisted at the end of June when he leaves.

**Andrew Bennett (G74-81)** was good enough to get in touch in May 2016 from New South Wales to check his contact details were up to date.

**Michael Bentall (G62-70)** responded to my invitation to attend the 12970s reunion at the College in June 2016. When I told him who was coming he responded *"Thank you for the updated information on who is attending. I recognize some of the names mostly the people leaving in 1971 - Stiles, Mayhew, Ellerby, Larwill, Hogg and Limer. Unfortunately I will not be attending as I will not be in England at that time, however I do visit England at different times and will make every effort to attend/meet up at a different occasion. Once again thank you for keeping me up to date. I'm currently busy repairing damage from the floods in Tasmania. The good news is no livestock lost from my property. Even better news, England won the rugby last night."*

**Andrew Birt (S55-58)** attended his brother John's funeral in Koh Samui which according to his other brother Stewart was *"quite some event. His Thai staff and friends have put up Thai style memorials in Bophut, Koh Samui and in the corner of his Baan Tak garden by the river."* Stewart went on to say that Andrew, following his car accident in 2015, had permanent loss of sight to his right half of his field of vision in both eyes so will never drive again. He apparently has an indent in his head where they operated which his kids call "his USB Port"! We wish Andrew all the best in his recovery.

**Phil Bower (G65-74)** was a regular corresponsder as usual, finding time despite his huge travels around Australia once again driving a large truck.

In November 2015 he reported *"Been home a month or so. Since returning I've worked on Fleetwood Mac, Robbie Williams & Neil Diamond. Don't think there's much else twixt now & the new year – maybe Oprah depends on whether she wants to be in the limelight. Next Australian tour is scheduled for April & runs through till July. Doing all states except the Northern Territories this time – will be going over to Tasmania again- for one whole show!"*

In December he was in touch about a Taylor Swift concert he had helped on at Hamilton Island. He describes the time immediately following the concert like this *"We found there were no hands/crew to pack the piano & load the truck. Around 2200 the promoter assured us that there would be in the morning around 0730-0800. I crawled into the sweatbox about 2230. 3 hrs later the Kyoto drummers woke me up - it was actually a tropical storm..... eventually got back to sleep and about an hour later the local wildlife decided to have a party outside the truck door - I shoo'd them away and eventually got back to sleep. An hour or 2 later the Kyoto drummers were back....."*

*By 0600 I figured pointless trying to sleep any more so I found some locals and negotiated a forklift to help load the truck, which happened and I packed my truck to ensure that it was done properly - the locals are not stagehands and this is expensive gear.*

*The 1230 barge eventually departed just after 1400 and hit the mainland just after 1500. I now had a 12 hour drive to rendezvous with another driver to take the truck into Brisbane - I am only allowed to drive 12hours in any 24hour period. I am currently waiting for my mandatory rest period to finish so I can start the trek back to Sydney, having delivered Hugh Jackman's piano. Then on Monday I have to return the stuff to the suppliers.*

*I was/am carrying a \$100k piano, 2 \$250k audio consoles, 2 \$60k lighting consoles, moving lights, cables, speakers, yadda yadda. I probably have almost \$1m in the back. Welcome to the glamorous side of rock n roll!! “*

Just before Christmas Phil was back in touch to say that his house was undergoing major renovations – 2 bathrooms, master bedroom, new back door, new kitchen, rain water storage tanks & a heap of ancilliary stuff that just seems to pop up as you go along.

In terms of concert support the next weekend he was working on the Wiggles (kids troupe)! We had also started to discuss the 1970s reunion and he didn't think he would be able to make it, although there was a slim chance. He has kept in touch occasionally with **James Barry (G70-75)** and **Pete Long (S70-73)**. Over Christmas they were looking at decent temps so he hoped to dust off the kayaks and go a-paddling in between the sharks at some point!

He was back in touch when the Framlinghamian arrived to say “*many thanks. It's an interesting read as always. Managed, at last, to have a butchers at James Barry's fartbook page. The bastard has got more hair on his head than I have these days! Yes, my ageing genes have decided that it's time to release the volume so that my neck muscles can carry a little less weight..... Still can't complain, I've been abusing the stuff for years with colours & bleach so it was always inevitable that at some point it was going to thin out a little!*

*We almost did some kayaking in the new downstairs bedroom last weekend – following 4 or 5 days of constant rain (and I do mean constant) the under house drainage system got a little overwhelmed when the ground became completely saturated. Water being water, it just took a different route to reach the bottom of the hill upon which we live..... however, a little bit of digging and jackhammering soon re-routed the gentle flow and now the rain appears to ceased for a while, the drying out process is going well with no apparent long term damage. At least my 2000ltr rainwater tanks are full.....several times over! And now it's back to the paintbrush and roller to carry on with the long established art of spreading paint all over everything, whether it need painting or not! Thank heaven for plastic sheeting.....”*

May he was in touch to say that we better send James Barry some painkillers (assuming he's still as avid a Leicester City fan as he was at Fram. He was currently on his national tour and at the time of writing was in Mandurah prior to heading up Geraldton at the weekend. He also had news that after renovations of his home they were hoping to have the house sold by Xmas and be relocating to Western Australia. He went on to say that from Geraldton he was heading to Bendigo via Adelaide and then on to Tasmania, before heading home for a week while the show is in Sydney. After that he was back up to Queensland before back to Sydney for a week, then return to Adelaide via Mildura.

In June he sent hearty greetings and deep apologies for not being able to make the 1970s reunion. He was still on tour but despite visiting Townsville in Queensland he was not able to meet up with **Chris Shaw (K50-56)**. So far his tour had covered 18,000Km with to the best of his knowledge no speeding tickets! He describes his drive back from Townsville to Sydney “*this was an interesting excursion. Initially had intended going down the east coast, which I did until I hit Rockhampton. Then decided to reprogram the gps direct to home and thus ended up refuelling at a one horse location called.... Banana! Funny thing was I had a cup of gas station coffee (not to be confused with anything actually resembling the genuine article) in Mackay (on the way to Rockie) and I can only assume that it was magically enhanced because I left Townsville at 0500 and eventually stopped for a sleep at 2230 just south of a major truck stop town called Goondiwindi when I was just some 725km from home. The*

*total distance of the trip was 2000km. Long day and yet a rather fun one! Needless to say, I did take regular breaks so it wasn't one long drive....I long ago discovered the trick to enforcing rest breaks every couple of hours – water! Have a few serious glugs and eventually the choice is stop & empty yourself or face something rather less pleasant, at which point have a few more decent sized glugs and so on.”*

He went on to say that there was a reasonable possibility that he might be returning to the UK in the next year or two as his father is very aged and suffering from late stage Dementia. He's 92.

At the end of August he reported that his house near Sydney was sold and then in October he provided his new address in Wandina, Western Australia.



Here is Phil's story as to how the house move went *"I flew to Adelaide to pick up the truck (cheap rate) 2 days drive to Hornsby [old home], 2 & a bit days loading lock stock and barrel, 5 days driving to Wandina, 1 & a bit days emptying truck (plus a trip to airport to collect remaining feline – travelled 1<sup>st</sup> class in a box, no slumming it in a truck & car eating at outback "motels" for this pampered fur ball!)) then 4 days to return truck to Adelaide before flying home (new one, not old one). En route from old home to new home (in South Australia to be reasonably exact) a kangaroo committed hari kari on the truck – that cost me \$1k to fix. Of note – all other animals not of SA managed to move away from oncoming truck, thus proving that SA roos are the dumbest in town! Also, over 10 days I travelled through 6 timezones of which 2 decided to change their internal times whilst I was travelling, so what day/time is it? Not a freaking clue. Time is measured in 3 parts – light, dark and the bits in between! Also, had to get a few chosen plants treated & certified and checked over at the border quarantine (yes, Oz has its' own internal quarantines!). One country? Don't kid yourself, this is a series of fiefdoms with their own different ways of doing the same thing – to change my driving licence from NSW to WA I have to provide – birth certificate/passport + citizenship papers + existing driving licence (which is good for proof of ID for just about everything except getting a new one from WA!) + a current bill to prove I actually live in WA – which begs the question, why would I need a WA licence if I didn't live here? If it was for nefarious purposes I wouldn't be getting a genuine one, would I?!!*

*Currently ensconced in new abode and on the voyage of discovery as to what the previous owners managed to not do or do very badly..... Currently having lighting changed to led's, awaiting the solar power company to get its' (regional) arse into gear, then there's a little bit of plumbing to do – old owners installed 3 water storage tanks totalling approx. 15k litres....with no way of actually getting the water out of the tanks!! I cannot countenance the brilliance of the mind that installs tanks but fails to install the ability to use the contents! And, of course, this was the wettest WA winter in decades so they are all full..... Enter one internet water pump....when it gets here.....then some inventive temporary plumbing to use said rain water and then we start the actual fixing of them..... ”*

After a few days of settling in Phil sent the following update on his initial experiences *"Having arrived, sort of unpacked (ongoing) a few minor reno's (ongoing), applied a little paint to some walls*

*(ongoing), fighting the snail infestation (ongoing)..... But, prior to emptying the truck I snapped a few pics of the empty place.*

*In getting to know the property I've realised that the previous owner is a bit of a "half-a-job-Harry" ..... eg – 15000ltrs of rainwater storage – all input, no outlet..... go figure cos it's beyond me! But when the water pump arrives and some tubular items are purchased, that will be rectified..... And then there's the kitchen – we have the noo cooker/range but until the plumber gets it together to actually install the pipework so we can get the gas bottle company to rock up with a couple of bottles.....yadda yadda..... There's no rush here (really?!). Had the sparkies in to change the lights to led downlights – nice job it is too – start time? 0830.....sparkie arrival time.....0900..... plus the town is shut on Sundays, and I mean shut. It's either Bunnings (not much good if you need some milk and cornflakes) or .....I'm still looking for the "or"!!*

*Anyway, when the wind dies down (has to someday!) I'll get the drone out & shoot some aerial video and put that somewhere where it can be viewed (you'll need sound cos I already know the soundtrack!)"*

**Nick Carlton (G63-70)** was in touch just before Christmas 2015 from the bridge of Sapphire Princess in Asia. He was spending Christmas Day anchored off Cambodia. He reported that he had met up with **Chris Hall (G62-69)** in Hong Kong recently and went for a long walk from his apartment on The Peak to Repulse Bay which was enjoyable and it was great to catch-up with him. Unfortunately he would not be able to make the 1970s reunion in June as he was due in the UK just beforehand.

Following his visit to the UK he was back in touch to say that he had attended a course at Warsash near Southampton but managed the weekends either side in Suffolk. Had a nice visit to Framlingham which included a stroll around the Mere and a visit to see Philip De Whalley and his wife June for tea. Philip is his old Garrett housemaster and is now 92 and he sent a picture of his meeting.

He went on to say that he planned to retire in September after 46 years with P&O and Princess Cruises. He said his next tour of duty would be his last – these are cruises from

China (Xiamen and Shanghai) to Japan and Korea.



In terms of the reunion he sent the following message “*I hope the event goes well, it would have been great to catch-up with so many contemporaries but hopefully in the future I'll be able to make it to some events. I hope you have good weather ... I saw the Mere at its best as you can see from the photo and I also took a stroll along the Lower Road ... something I did many times with **Will Piper(G61-68)** when we used to discuss what we would be doing in the future.” He spent a day meeting up with him when he was over – see picture. He lives in Little Maplestead, Essex.*





**Ian Cottingham (R61-66)** was in touch with **Chris Shaw (K50-56)** in January to say that Ian and Lyn had met up with Brett and Sue Bailey in Canberra at the arboretum. They had last all met up at the wonderful 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary reunion in the Hunter Valley in 2015. They enjoyed a coffee and lots of chat. In the picture left to right is Brett, Sue, Ian and Lyn.

**Keith Dann (S48-50)** in January Norman Porter had received a lengthy letter from Keith, both updating him on his treatment for prostate cancer, and enclosing a generous donation to cover the cost of his future Yearbooks etc to Australia.

In June he was in touch with **Mike Garnett (R53-55)** to give him the following update *“Things with me just wander on. I have been on a drug called Zytiga, (four big pills every night) for a couple of months now and have been having blood transfusions as my Haemoglobin count goes down fairly quickly. My GP was quite pleased with me yesterday so I shall make my 82nd birthday next week. The next target is 22nd September our Diamond Wedding Anniversary. Congratulations on the Gong whilst they didn’t site all you do for the OFs that on its own merited the award.”*

Following his birthday in early July he sent the following message to us *“Thanks everyone for your good wishes. Unfortunately the day turned out to be the worst I have had so far so there was no partying. A visit to the doctor after lunch and two shots of morphine was the extent of the celebrations. Fortunately my family had visited us on the Saturday and Sunday so we had a good meal together. Since then I have been wanting a blood transfusion that our relieving GP felt was not needed, today he has admitted that I should have had one last Thursday so now it is three packs this Thursday. Why temporary doctors think they know better than your normal GP I don’t know. Fortunately he will be back from a quick trip to Equador next week. I would like to be a fly on the wall when he discusses why his arrangements that he made before he left were not followed ! All being well I should be presented my 50 years membership of the Company of Master Mariners Wednesday night next week.*

*Peter will come over from the AMC to take me to the meeting and bring me home then fly off to the West next morning. Fortunately it is still all systems go at Woodside. Pat sends her best wishes I would not be able to manage without her so being at home would not be possible.”*

Sadly in August, Mike Garnett was back in touch to say that Keith had passed away on 17 August 2016 just a month before their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Many of us will remember catching up with the Danns at the Hunter Valley reunion in 2015 and over many years at other OF get togethers in Melbourne. In his professional life he was I believe, referred to as Captain Dann due to his maritime work over more than 50 years. He was a long and dedicated member of the Mission to Seafarers of Victoria and involved in seafarer’s welfare issues.

**Bob Fox (R66-71)** contacted me to say that he had moved country and was now living in Sydney. I noticed that he was now “Professor & Deputy Director Learning & Teaching Unit and Adjunct Professor of Innovation in Higher Education” at the University of New South Wales. As he had joined

the illustrious ranks of a professor, I said that I wanted to add him to the Distinguished section of the SOF website and would he mind providing a biography, which he duly did and can now be read on the website. Bob has become our 10th OF Professor.

**Mike Garnett (R53-55)** as you will already have seen, has been in regular contact with news of himself and other OFs. In November 2015 he congratulated Chris Shaw on his new grandchild and the size of the fish he had caught – see below. Mike also had news that his fifth grandchild had arrived that very day - Isla Grace Garnett - and both she and mother were doing fine. Mike was heading into the hospital tomorrow to say 'g'day'!

In January he commented to Chris and Rebecca Shaw that he was amazed as the floods once again play havoc in the Hunter Valley. “ *The poor grape growers and those who rely on tourism are having a bad time for sure. The floods in April 2015 were not supposed to be repeated in January!! When we organise the next OF Dinner in fifty years time, I think we need to select somewhere else (maybe the Barossa Valley)!!*” He also commented on another good quality Framlinghamian magazine just received, and was interesting to see (page 105) a picture of **Chris Keeble (S53-59)** who did such a good job with the special book to commemorate 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

In April Mike and Chris Shaw were planning a possible OF in Canberra in October 2016 but sadly this didn't get off the ground. Mike was due at a RAAF Dinner on the evening of Saturday 8 October at the Southern Cross Club.

On 3 June 2016, Mike was delighted and honoured to additionally be awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the General Division. This was approved in Australia by the Governor-General. Here is a cutting from a local paper. Mike had already been awarded the Australian Sports Medal in 2001 for his services to tennis in Australia.

He also had a call a couple of weeks earlier from **Chris Bellamy (G54-64)** who was travelling around Victoria with his partner Janet. As a result they called in and stayed the night and had a most enjoyable dinner in ‘downtown Romsey’. He had also had an email from **Stephen Sayer (S58-63)** from Muscat requesting they get together for dinner when he comes to Melbourne in July. Mike thought that Stephen and Aileen were then flying on to Sydney to stay with the Lipmans.

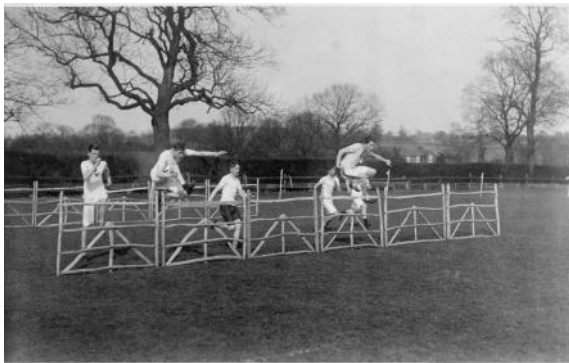
As previously reported, Mike was then in touch in August 2016 with the sad news about Keith Dann.

**John Gates (S44-48)** confirmed his new email address and went on to say that luckily he was still reasonably well apart from a very bad left knee. Orthopedic Surgeons have declined to replace his knee as although badly swollen with fluid. Fortunately it does not hurt. They consider his age of 85 this September as too dangerous for a major Op. So now he has a walking stick for support, but still goes to the gym 4 times a week.

He went on to report that he visits **Peter Bailey (K34-38)** every so often and always finds him cheerful at the age of 94. He and Ruth were planning to take another cruise around Japan & China on 18th March 2017 - this will be their 24th cruise and will last 42 days. Regrettably due to his knee & other health problems he didn't think he would be visiting the UK again.



**Peter Hollins (K70-76)** had come across from Perth to the 2015 Hunter Valley reunion and had been at Fram with the Editor. I was therefore delighted to hear in February 2016 that he and Sally were planning on coming to the UK and would be able to come to the OF Annual Dinner at the RAF Club. We arranged to both stay at the same hotel and a great night was had. Peter keeps threatening to organise an OF event in the Perth area, where quite a number of OF live. Watch this space.



**Rob Goodale (K58-66)** contacted us to say that he had in his possession about 50 photographs, mainly team and sports day photos with a smaller number of individual or group photos, mainly 1920, but all from that period. Most of them had names hand written on the back of the photos. He wanted to donate these to the school.

We arranged for Rob to scan the photos and these are now included in the Gallery on the SOF website. The

College also now have an archivist who would be delighted to look after these items if he was prepared to post them across.

Rob went on to comment *“I refer to the OF website where you list the deaths of OFs Charles Benson and Jeremy Lee. I know the website outlined C Benson playing with the Dennington Road All Stars at the 2000 Millennium Ball, and you may have these enclosed photos. However, Jerry Lee was the drummer of the band, and in fact it was he who organised the band members getting together (he even got me over from Australia!). They are both well featured in these photos. In photo 3 you can see McGuire on guitar, so in that photo you get three members of the 1963/64 College Jazz Band. (me on trombone).”*



**Kenneth Mackenzie (K45-53)** Chris Shaw, with a great memory of over 60 years ago, wrote the following to him in December 2015, which also gives a potted history of Chris's life so far. *“Hi Mac, you will have to exercise all the remaining little grey cells to bring me to mind - I was a very junior shack when we had a conversation in Kerrison, probably in 1953, the year of your leaving Fram! My name is Chris Shaw, and apart from being Mr Average in just about every facet of School life, I won the Arts Cup with my violin for Kerrison every year bar one, when Oboe Stevens won it playing the ‘saw’ of all things!*

*That apart, I'm very pleased to learn that you are in WA, as I have lived in Cairns since 1973, and I gather you are a Doctor - Medical?, GP?, or specialist? I also gather from a communication of yours that you have some sort of respiratory problem, the ppO2 being a no-no on aeroplanes. That's about all my sleuthing will bring forward, so I ask you to perhaps fill in some details. I was instrumental, with others, in organising the Hunter Valley bash for the 150th anniversary of the opening of the college. That seemed to have gone off quite well, but took far too long to organise. There were far too*



*many distractions from the dinner itself, like organising a book to accompany the dinner, trying to organise wine labelling and purchasing to raise funds for the college (which fizzled), and a gift bag full of 'goodies' that all had to be sourced, etc. etc. However, a great time was had by all, and there was some good (old talk) as it is called elsewhere, and some fine relationships formed, and reformed.*

*I left college in 1956, did an apprenticeship at Boots in Ipswich, went to Leicester Tech, then Portsmouth to get my Pharmacy qualification. I became a Medical rep for Parke Davids in NW London, then was appointed to the Caribbean for Roche (of Valium fame), in 1965, working out of Trinidad and travelling the British islands and talking to all the doctors and specialists until 1972. Came to Cairns in 1973 and have been here ever since, Two wives, two children, two houses and two pharmacy businesses, and I'm basically broke but blissfully happy with my Rebecca in a timber cottage about 12 km outside Cairns, in a gorge of rain-forested hills. I write a bit, and Rebecca fosters cats, does some amazing cross-stitch and has an interest in English Tudor history, although she was brought up in Sydney.*

*There you are Mac, fifty years in a paragraph! If you are interested in occasional correspondence, let me know how you are going. I don't want it to be too arduous, and some of our background don't want anything to do with their college time - me for forty years for example - so I don't wish to intrude in to your private life.*

*I'm attaching a couple of recent pieces I wrote, that will let you know more about what makes me tick."*  
Cheers, Mac, and keep well, Chris and Rebecca Shaw

**Neville Marsh (S53-61)** is again one of our regular corresponders via email. Just before Christmas 2015 he was in touch to say his *Framlinghamian* had arrived yesterday and he was going to take this away and read it on the beach (in the customary Queensland fashion) on Christmas Day. He says "Since the Hunter Valley, we have been somewhat quiet on the OF front. I have heard from Chris and Rebecca Shaw, who are going well, and John and Ruth Gates, likewise. They will see Peter Bailey on Boxing Day."

In early January he wrote "I should have mentioned earlier that Peter Bailey is poorly at the moment. He had a fall before Christmas and fractured two vertebrae. Currently, he is in the Sunshine Coast Private Hospital at Buderim. We saw him last week and he had picked up somewhat after a shaky few days. John Gates has been in to see him a couple of times and son Brett and partner Sue are up from Canberra to keep an eye on him. We all hope he can move into rehab. in the next week or so. I'll keep you posted.

*We have temps in the low to mid 30s and very sticky: almost as unpleasant as dreary skies and impending snow!"*

In an update in February he said "I spoke to Peter on Sunday and he sounded quite chipper. He has been in rehab. now for a week or so and is making progress. He is eating well, which is great, but long term prospects of independent living are still unclear. He is rationed a glass of wine with his evening meal which will help to raise his spirits (pun unintended). John Gates has been in to visit and keeps us up to date, as does Brett's partner Sue, and indeed Peter has been having quite a number of visitors, if not too many! Brett may need to return to Canberra soon and we shall then go up to Buderim and stay overnight so we can see Peter and support Sue. "

Back in early 2015, Neville sent me a photo and most importantly the names for the 1961 Titans XV, a scratch side which was a sort of 3<sup>rd</sup> XV. I put this up on the Gallery on the SOF website and Neville then wanted to try and track down all those in the photo. Sadly of the 15, 2 have been notified to us as dead and 6 we have no contact details for. One of those he managed to track down was **Andrew Allington (K56-63)** who attended the West of England Supper I organised in May 2016. Neville also tracked down **Michael Minchin (G58-62)** in Tasmania as you will read below. Neville is still on the trail of **Graeme Osmond Lacey (S56-62)**. He lived first in Toowoomba, then moved to rural Melbourne, but the trail has gone cold for the moment. If anyone knows his whereabouts please let me or Neville know.

In October Neville responded to receiving the Council minutes in an email from Norman. Whilst giving his apologies he commented that this is an excellent way for Vice Presidents to keep abreast of the inner workings of the SOF and College.

In terms of goings on “down under”, Neville said *“I am pleased to report that our nonagenarians **Peter Bailey (K34-38)** and **Peter Simpson (K32-40)** are keeping well for their ages. We are in contact on a regular basis. Peter Bailey’s son Brett has been quite poorly but is now on the road to recovery. He hopes to get back to his painting soon. **John Gates** and **Chris Shaw** are both well. Chris has recently been in touch with **Michael Minchin** in Tasmania, one of our “lost” OFs from my era. Michael has been living on his yacht for many years but now has a permanent home on dry land. [see below]”*

It was great to hear the Peters’ are keeping well for their age. It always amazes me to think that they were next door to each other in a dorm at Fram over 80 years ago! I was concerned to hear about **Brett Bailey** but Neville now tells me that he has just heard that Brett and Sue are coming up next week to see Peter. They will try to meet up and report back.

Neville was in his words “*working through one of life’s major dramas – house building!*” He and Alison have decided to downsize as “*early old age creeps up*”, to a single storey place, no stairs etc with low maintenance garden. As you can see from the photo work is well underway and they expect to be in well before Christmas.

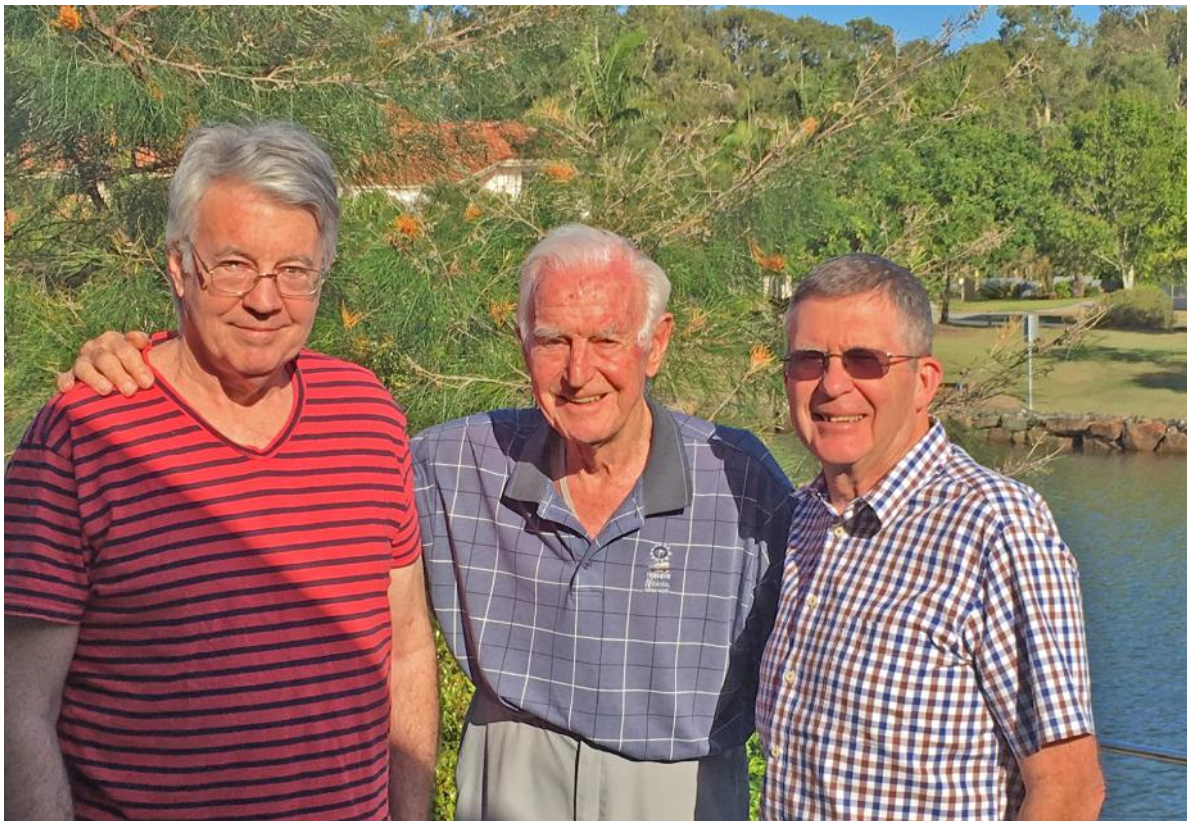


He also had news that he has just published another book, this time celebrating the sesquicentenary [150<sup>th</sup> just like the College!] of our local primary school – see front cover. They have been associated with the school for many years, having had a succession of children and now grandchildren passing through.

Below is a picture of Neville with his five grandchildren currently at the school.



Towards the end of October 2016 Neville met up with Brett and Peter Bailey and reported “*As promised, a pic. of our gathering yesterday. As you can see, Brett and Peter look (and are) well. We went out to lunch at Marcoola Surf Club and had a very pleasant day to together. Despite our disparity in years, we managed to find common ground over Fram memories. Brett told us that he remembers great Sunday lunches on exeat at their family home in Snape with good friend Nigel Burnip. Peter told us how the old mill on his farm was rented out to Benjamin Britten and remembers sounds of the piano drifting across. Peter moves around really well with his wheelie-walker, looks after himself with a little help and enjoys a glass or two in the evening. Brett and Sue go back to Canberra on Wednesday and Brett is looking forward to picking up a paintbrush in earnest.*”





**Michael Minchin (G58-62)** as reported above, was tracked down by Neville Marsh at the start of 2016. He managed to speak to him aboard his ocean-going yacht 'Ara' somewhere off the Tasmania coast. Neville reported that *"He is alive and well and somewhat taken aback by my phone call!"*. He tracked him down by reading the school mags for the 1960s and 1970s and found a letter written by his father saying that he had sailed to Australia via the West Indies. Further research revealed two long articles written by Michael in *The Framlinghamian* Summer Term 1971 Vol. XLIV (2) page 51 and Autumn Term 1971 Vol. XLIV (3), p. 45, which tell the whole story. He has been a leading light in the Huon Folk Festival on Tasmania for the last 15 years.

Michael responded to being "found" with the following fascinating update to Neville *"I am amazed at your powers of investigation and detection! Thank you for the photo. I have come back to an interest in Rugby Union since the 1990s .... losing quite a lot of sleep during the recent World Cup. But I don't recall anything about a team called the Titans - some kind of 2nd 15? My best memories of Framlingham are :-*

*(1); the musical life of the school. While I have never played an instrument, I am indebted to the musical director, Derek Cox for introducing us singers to so much wonderful music ....mainly church music of course ... but much else. While rocking on to The Everly Brothers in the house room, we, in the choir, were learning to sing Britten! The experience gave me enough confidence to audition for the Melbourne Chorale in 1982, when living in Melbourne, with whom I sang for 2 years. Such formal singing is one thing .... a team thing ....but I have really admired the individual performer brave enough to strut their stuff on their own or in a small group. I was introduced to folk music through listening to Sunday Night Folk on Radio National as early as 1967-8 in Australia and have attended folk clubs and folk festivals all over Oz and the Whitby festival in the UK. Yes, this weekend we have the 34th Cygnet Folk Festival in action, but I attend as a punter, albeit with a free ticket! I was treasurer for many years and served as president for 2 years. I have a summer mooring for the boat in Cygnet.*

*(2); having been brought up on the books by Arthur Ransome (strange man!) and my mother buying me a 9ft fibreglass sailing dinghy when I was 14, I was an early member of a fledgling sailing group at Framlingham. I forget the name of the staff member who started it. The first outings were at Snape, then I remember the long bike rides to Orford on Sundays during the summer term when I could get out of playing cricket! I had by then acquired a 14ft Enterprise sailing dinghy which my parents trailed to Orford for one term.*

*I have heard from Chris Essex this morning. I will reply to him shortly. Well perhaps we will catch up one day. I would be one of your poorest old boys.....not owning a house or land and living on the Govt pension. Ara is my home really....having lived aboard for most of the last 30 years. I am twice divorced with a daughter by Rosalind Minchin (nee Love), a Brisbane girl I married in 1970. Sailing and family life are not easily compatible. I have a share in a boat moored in Auckland and am now spending time over there enjoying exploring the Hauraki Gulf north to the Bay of Islands. I will be attending the National Folk Festival in Canberra at Easter, flying to Auckland afterwards and staying with friends in Sydney in May after returning from Auckland.*

*This is a picture shows one of my more embarrassing moments .. aground in Port Cygnet!"*





Neville responded about the prowess of the Titans and a similar story about how Derek Cox had also had a big influence on him musically throughout his life *"The Titans were a scratch rugby XV, equivalent to a 3rd school team. We played two matches and won both. You have been modest over your musical talents. The school's production of The Mikado in 1961, in which you starred, and directed by Derek Cox, set me on a life-long interest in musical theatre and G&S in particular. I am either a remarkable record keeper or more likely a sad-o living in the past but I kept the program and newspaper cutting of the show (attached). You look rather fetching in a chonmage wig! Later that year, we did Macbeth in the town assembly hall and I designed the sets. After leaving Fram, I started an amateur operatic society and acted as stage director for many productions at Watford Palace Theatre. Then, with seemingly too much time on my hands, I leased an old Victorian pumping*

THE MIKADO			
or			
The Town of Titipu			
DRAMATIS PERSONÆ			
THE MIKADO OF JAPAN	...	MICHAEL McGUIRE	
NANKI-POO	...	MICHAEL MINCHIN	
(his son, disguised as a wandering minstrel, and in love with Yum-Yum)			
KO-KO (Lord High Executioner of Titipu)	...	JOHN ODELL	
POOH-BAH (Lord High Everything Else)	...	RICHARD SLESSOR	
PISH-TUSH (A Noble Lord)	...	ROBERT LE ROUGETEL	
YUM-YUM	...	DAVID ARGENT	
PITTI-SING	Three sisters, ...	NIGEL REES	
PEEP-BO	Wards of Ko-Ko ...	NIGEL SIMPSON	
KATISHA (An elderly Lady, in love with Nanki-Poo)	...	STEPHEN LLEWELLYN	
Chorus of School-Girls			
Edward Belcher	Nigel Burnip	Nicholas Flowerdew	
Mark Mitchell	Michael Nipe	Ian Sedley	
Philip Barralet	William Ridley	John Gueli	
Richard Guttridge	George Keason	Michael Waldren	
Chorus of Nobles			
Anthony Davis (Go-To and leader of Chorus)	...	Gerald Oliver	
Warwick Hare	Paul Roseblade	Niel Utting	
David Palmer	David Hughes	John Stott	
Peter Goodarham	Nicholas Rutter	Neville Boughton-Thomas	
Graham Belcher			
Attendants on Mikado:	David Spencer	Simon Spencer	
Guards and Attendants:	Nigel Smith	Christopher Brock	
ORCHESTRA			
Pauline Adly (Leader)	Violin	Rachel Kittermaster	Flute
S. Goddard	Violin	Janet Scott	Oboe
I. J. M.	Violin	Ian Craig	Clarinet
Kyle Holmes	Violin	A. Fraser	Bassoon
David List	Violin	David Newson	Trumpet
W. Scott, Esq.	Viola	R.N.P.R.	Horn
Cynthia Clark	Cello	C. E. Hulford	Trombone
		W. Owen	Tinpani & Percussion
Director of Music	...	D.H.C.	



station from the council and converted it to an arts centre. I was Chairman of that for 10 years ([www.pumphouse.info](http://www.pumphouse.info)). Again, with a bent for keeping boxes of what my kids will treat as

*rubbish, I found the school mag Sailing Club report for 1962. The club was started in 1959 by Froggie Irving, I think. Both he and De Whalley [see earlier report from Nick Carlton] had small boats.*

*You say that you might be one of the poorest OFs but I am sure that in terms of life experience, you must be one of the most enriched! Many of us would give a right arm to have a life on the ocean, although there may be some downsides. Tassie is very much on our list of holidays (as is Auckland and NZ), so let's hope our paths will cross. A cold beer sounds perfect."*

In an exchange of emails I had with Michael he went on to say *"I would rather not receive The Framlinghamian, particularly a print version [I have shown him how to look at electronic version via SOF website], on the basis of saving paper and postage and printing costs and that I do not own a house and live on a boat with limited storage space. I would much rather the money was spent on the school and/or the younger generation. Yes, we are in the midst of the Cygnet Folk Festival - the 34th - and a feast of music it is! I was raised at Shaftesbury in Dorset and went to prep school at Tockington Manor School, nr Bristol. My father was headmaster at Shaftesbury Grammer School for many years*

*and when he retired in 1954, we lived at Minchinhampton near Stroud in Glos until moving to West Sussex in 1958-9.”*

**Chris Shaw** also established contact with Michael, following Neville’s research and Michael provided further detail on his fascinating life following Framlingham *“Thanks for your email and g'day to you too! I have spent some time in Cairns [where Chris and Rebecca Shaw now live] over the years. I passed through in 1968 in an attempt to go prawning on the Gulf of Carpentaria, at Karumba, then some years later attended a National Folk Festival at Kuranda (don't know what year that was), then had my boat there during the cyclone season 1987/8. We were the first yacht to take a birth at the new marina on the right of Trinity Inlet as you come from the sea. They were still building the hotel at the time. Worked for a firm of Chartered Accountants while there. Joined the Cairns Walking Club and attended a folk club night in a room at the old railway station. Cairns was a beautiful quiet tropical backwater in 1968 with some fine old buildings. Mostly gone now. Enjoyed the wonderful market....all those tropical fruits! My daughter and partner bought a house in Machins Beach (?) north of the airport around 2001/2. My oldest grandchild was born in Cairns. I flew up from Hobart round about then and spent 2-3 weeks with them. They have since relocated to Tasmania.*

*Well...Framlingham is a long time ago. It is difficult to know which are the more important years of schooling.....primary or secondary. I was a minor scholarship entrant to Fram ...my mother was battling to pay the fees as Dad had retired on a modest pension and she worked to get me through school. I repaid her by failing all my A levels (writing a letter to my girlfriend in the Chemistry exam). No uni for me....and she desperately rang around to get me an articled clerkship with Chartered Accountants in the City! Poor Mum.....she imagined me going to Dartmouth College and having a glittering career in the Navy! But I have to admit that my education has helped me even if the employment office at Mt Isa Mines refused my request for a job as a miner ('we don't employ accountants underground, lad!') in 1968. I ended up driving pegs, then cooking for a railway survey gang camped 15 miles east of Cloncurry! My life has been a tremendous ride and one could do it nowhere else but Australia. Right now I have a half share in a cheap yacht moored in Auckland. Last April/May explored Gt Barrier Isle and on up to Opuia in the Bay of Islands. Did the haul out and painting last September and due over there after Easter this year. Where do the Newsons live? I won't have a car over there this time.....jumping straight onto the boat and off! It may or may not be possible to see them.*

*Well Chris....as you can see.... don't talk chemistry to me! I wonder if you and I had the same Chemistry teacher. He obviously inspired you! I like Cairns but too hot for wooden boats and too hot for Taswegians! Enjoyed sailing down to Fitzroy Island fairly often at weekends. In 1988 resigned the job and set off for Perth in WA via the Kimberley....but that is another story.”*

Chris responded as follows *“Hi Michael - you don’t get CV’s like that nowadays! Well done indeed, and since I have been retired for seven years there’s no chance of my talking chemistry with you - if there ever was! Your Mt Isa story reminds me of **Len Evans (G42-48)**’ story of going in to the dining room at the hotel in the Isa for dinner and asking the proprietor for a glass of wine with his meal. He was told, in no uncertain terms that THIS was the Dining Room, where you ate your meal, and THAT was the bar where you went to drink. I can imagine his tone of voice and superior attitude! This was in the late 50’s I believe. He became the doyen of wine makers, tasters, judges and enthusiastic swallows of wine in Oz and NZ. His lovely wife Trish was our guest of honour at the dinner in the Hunter.*

*David Newson lives in New Plymouth, which is not the longest drive from Auckland, and should you be sailing to NZ and wish to connect with him, I will send him a message to see how he is fixed. He's due to retire soon so may have more time and freedom in the future.*

*There's a chance that we will visit Tassie sooner or later. We did the campervan thing on the east coast somewhere around 2007, which was splendid, but found ourselves in Salamanca Market at 36C and nicked off back to Cairns to get cool! So we haven't been to the west coast, which we would like to see."*

In late September 2016 Michael was in touch again from Whangarei Harbour in NZ with his good friend Mick. *"We share the ownership of a Stewart 30 purchased in NZ in 2014. We are waiting to go on the slip this coming week to do the annual maintenance. We have come up from Auckland where the boat is moored because it is cheaper here and all the facilities are within walking distance so we can do without a car. We flew over from Tassie last Wednesday. Will be in NSW in Sydney and Coffs Harbour in late October early Nov before returning to Tassie on the 4th Nov."*

**Bob Munro (R54-60)** on receipt in October 2015 of a CD of photos from Chris Shaw taken at the reunion in the Hunter Valley wrote the following *"Firstly, I must apologise for the delay in contacting you to thank you for the 150<sup>th</sup> celebration CD, which was awaiting us on our return from a trip to Italy and England which we took in September. It is a great record to have of the occasion! Thanks to all those responsible for its production.*

*Our overseas trip merely confirmed the well-known and the obvious - Oz is the best place on earth! Of course, Mildura is the best place in Oz, but you lot might not agree with me on that one! The road traffic in Rome and other major Italian cities (except Venice of course!!) is beyond horrendous, and equally so in London and over much of England. Indeed, (incredible as it may seem) I have never been to Oxford, so it was high on my 'to do' list, as was a return visit to Bath. However, we never got to see either place; what with 'Park 'n' Ride', 'Residents Only Zones', etc. etc. and traffic, traffic, traffic we just kept going to the places less travelled - and had a good time anyway! You really couldn't (or want) to live there!*

*I have read, and enjoyed, the **Len Evans** books which were part of our 150th 'package'. Most informative and entertaining reading. However, I still think a 'good wine' is one I like to drink, regardless of cost or any of those other parameters such as nose, bouquet etc. Chris's "My New Country" book, once started was only put down for sleep or a glass or two of wine! I was fascinated, in particular, with the experiences he had with the various varieties of local fauna, both in and out of the ocean! Recently, I re-read the collection of short stories which you put together in the little booklet which we were given at the anniversary dinner - and thoroughly enjoyed re-visiting the tales contained in it. I was particularly taken by the story of the amazing meeting with **Peter Hughes (G52-56)** (p.64 - 65), as I have experienced several "you won't believe this" meetings whilst in Australia.*

*The first was literally only a couple of days after I had arrived in Sydney, Australia April 1968 off the ship (yes, I am a Ten Pound Pom). It was a public holiday on the Monday, so I took myself off to 'explore' Sydney and see what I had let myself in for; the weather was magnificent, so it was a jolly good start. I went to the Taronga Park Zoo, and spent a great afternoon there. As you may know, the zoo is sort of on the side of a hill, and the best way to enjoy the exhibits is to start at the top and wend your way downhill to the water's edge of Sydney Harbour. I was nearly at the bottom of the hill, ready for the ferry ride back to Circular Quay when I saw a young family (Mum, Dad and a youngster in a pram) looking at one of the exhibits. 'Dad' looked familiar, so I moved closer for a proper look.*

*Amazingly it was a chap called **Patrick Leech (K54-61)**, who was in the same class with me at Framlingham! But wait, there's more! It turned out he was living in the very next block of flats (sorry, Home Units) to me in Ashfield. Regrettably we lost touch after a while - I went to Melbourne, and I think Pat returned to England [we've lost touch with him].*

*The second instance was at a party given by a Kodak work colleague, a few weeks after arriving in Australia. I was introduced to a chap who was also a Pom, but who had been in Oz for about 2 years. We got to talking, and (get this!), when he left England for Oz he left a job vacancy at a company (Hunting Aero-Surveys) in Boreham Wood. And guess who filled that vacancy!!!*

*Some years ago, around 30 or so I think, and in a previous life, I used to sail a modest 18 foot trailer-sailer trailable yacht. And every year in March on the labour day week-end there was held near Bairnsdale in Victoria, the Marlay Point Overnight Yacht Race. In one particular year I was drifting aimlessly through the McLennans Strait with probably nearly 100 other trailable boats of various shapes and sizes; it was after mid-night, completely wind-less, and hardly 'exciting' sailing. There was a lot of chatter amongst the yachties, and my ears pricked up when I heard someone call across the water "how are you, **Keith Dann?**" So I joined that conversation by asking "would that be the Keith Dann who went to Framlingham College?" And of course, it was!*

*And lastly, when I was attending an induction / training session for volunteers at the Commonwealth Games in Melbourne in 2006, again I saw someone I thought I knew. My eyesight is not the best, and I frequently make a complete goose of myself by saying "Hello" to complete and utter strangers whom I thought were someone else! So I waited until our lunch break to get closer to the individual concerned, and confirm this person's ID. I even tried to read his name badge to be sure. And guess what? It read '**Mike Garnett**'. Do you know him? Sorry, I must be boring you to tears, so I'll end this missive."*

*Bob added "You may have noticed that my contributions to the Overseas Bag tend to be a bit few and far between, but when I do write I hope that it is with subject matter that people find interesting. I still haven't learnt to keep it short and to the point, as I really do like a bit of detail – in what I read, and what (when) I write. I don't do Facebook (even though in a fit of extreme stupidity, I did open an 'account'), so whatever I have for breakfast, or what time I get out of bed will remain forever my secret. And Maria's, of course! See, I'm boring the pants off you all already!"*

**Chris Shaw (K50-56)** has been brilliant at keeping in touch with me and even more importantly with OFs who live in Australia and NZ. I'm very grateful for all the time he spends keeping in touch with our OF family over there. As you can tell by the proportion of this Overseas Bag dedicated to Australian OFs he's doing a great job. So here is just some of the correspondence I have had with Chris and Rebecca this last year.

In November 2015 he was in touch to say that they had just received the amazing gift of a fourth grandchild. He went fishing with his son Shean, just prior to his going away to Denmark to spend Christmas with his out-laws. He penned a small article for the Overseas Bag to mark the occasion.

### ***Celebrating the birth of a grand-daughter By Chris Shaw***

*The birth of our fourth grandchild, of the female persuasion, was as great a joy as the first. She, Ella, does what all babies do, and that's to process milk at a huge rate of knots, and to cry at any apparent slight or discomfort, irrespective of time of day or, and especially, at night. Eating, crying, sleeping and pooing is common to all infants, and poses one of the earliest 'Trials and Tribulations of Parenting*



*and Marriage'. Sleep deprivation, anxiety and irritability at the ineptness of interpreting the cause of each particular crying bout, and the first nascent appreciation of their own parents' experience, are the first signs of entry in to this Stage of Life. (Body piercing, tattoos, puppy love and social media addiction come later). Good luck!*

*I came across a quote fairly early in my retail pharmacy career; 'Grey hair and wrinkles are the medals for having survived parenthood'. I've always taken solace, and not a small amount of pride, in my own signs of ageing because of that quote, and it has certainly soothed anxiety in those parents who came to me in a professional capacity.*

*So, what does my son do to celebrate? He invites me to go fishing! Now, as a grandparent I know that one never, ever gets involved in how deals are negotiated regarding time off for either partner of the next generation with a family. Doing so can have disastrous consequences, and I am not about to cause waves, so I told him I would be delighted, thus making the assumption that his negotiating skills were up to the challenge. He said to meet him at his place at 4.00pm. I arrived to find him holding their latest offspring, Ella, in crying mode. A sheepish look and a shoulder shrug told me he was prepared to wait out the noise until her mother came home, and no, he had no idea of what was wrong with her. Apparently, mother was shopping – so I understood the trade-off – and she arrived with the air of having been on holiday, which, as a past parent, I well understood. Even a small break is like champagne and chocolate.*

*His boat, an aluminium sixteen footer with a 225hp Suzuki motor and 'all the bells and whistles', was ready. He attached it to the Land Cruiser and drove it down a driveway that would have caused heart attacks in the West Country or the Scottish Highlands, being about a 30% gradient. While acting as a social portcullis by keeping out all but the mightily committed, the near vertical driveway was also a constant test of driving expertise, or the use of crampons. The potential for driving through next-door's roof put a whole new interpretation on 'Neighbourhood Watch!' However, the view from the top is a millionaire's view, taking in the whole of Cairns City, the Coral Sea and the surrounding rain-forested hills.*

*Son Shean tows oilrigs all over the world and anchors them over precise GPS coordinates. How? I've no idea, but he's grown in to a careful and logical adult, unlike his messy but creative father.*

*We drove south from Cairns for about 20 minutes and turned west on to the Gillies Highway and negotiated 263 bends, which took us up 3 800metres in 19kilometres. Around 30 minutes later we came to Lake Tinaroo, which holds some enormous Barramundi. These fish are a sort of reverse salmon that live in fresh water and swim to the sea to breed and give birth. The Barramundi in Lake Tinaroo started life as introduced fingerlings, but have no access to the sea, so grow big and fat over a number of years.*

*We fished from dusk to midnight, hooking just one fish, which you might say was not time well spent. Certainly, my wife could see no valid reason why we should spend so much time, energy and expense for so little*



*return, although she did understand the value in the mutual father/son time, which is so very precious at my time of life. Of course, we called the fish, 'Ella', and in answer to your unspoken question, 97cm. (38.19inches), and much to Rebecca's chagrin – not edible. Our best wishes to both Ella's. May you live long and happy lives. I'll leave you to judge whether Old Framlinghamians in tropical Australia are spoilt in their hobbies."*

In December 2015 he was in touch with **Martin Myers-Allen** to wish him all the best for his move from Brandeston back to the College and to say that he would have loved to have gone on one of the overseas tours he organises for students. He noted that Martin's older brother had lived in Australia for many years and offered to get in touch with him, which he subsequently did.

Having loved the 2015 Framlinghamian and especially the coverage of the Hunter Valley reunion Chris and Rebecca had put so much effort into making a huge success, he provided this update after Christmas *"Our current project is to catalogue, by title, author and Dewey Number, all our books, with accompanying photograph of the cover and in some cases the title page too. This is in preparation of selling the entire unique Tudor History collection some time over the next ten years. It should provide sufficient funds for the odd glass of red in our old, old age! It is virtually a complete collection of everything that was published about King Henry VIII and his six wives. It does not, of course, include any of the original manuscripts that abide in the Bodleian Library and other lofty halls of learning, but it does include Agnes Strickland's own collection from Southwold. Now, there's a nice link across the oceans of the world! Once we have finished, we will write to UEA and some of the rich authors in this field, then to Universities in UK, rather than have them exported to Canada or the US. The whole of our collection is about 2,500 books, with about 2000 non-fiction and about 500+ of those represent the Tudor books we have. Since the temperature is going to be 35C today, we shall hide in the air-conditioning and catalogue books."*

Just prior to 19 April 2016, which was first anniversary of the Commemorative Dinner in the Hunter Valley, Chris sent out the following message to all who attended *"Greetings Australian and New Zealand Old Framlinghamians. This is just an excuse to say 'hello' and urge you to raise a glass of your favourite potion on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016. I hope this will bring us together once more in spirit (or wine) to remember the continuing aims of support for Framlingham College (junior and senior schools), and a reinforcement of the Anzac tradition, both of which we celebrated so enthusiastically last year. May you stay well and happy, and be highly successful in all your endeavours."*

In April Chris was in touch with **John Birt (S59-63)** in Thailand only a few weeks before he died. John along with his brother **Andrew (S55-58)** in Australia had not been well enough to attend the Hunter Valley reunion a year earlier. You can see what John had to say that the time under Thailand below.

A month later Chris was in touch to *"brighten up your day over the cornflakes! I do have some strange friends in some strange places. This guy as a herpetologist and likes nothing more than handling and photographing big and very dangerous snakes. On a recent trip to Bali, he sent back some photos, the like of which are probably a tad thin on the ground in Saltford."*

*Have had a call from **Murray Munro (R58-65)** to ask for help for his long time friend **John Stuart-Smith (K57-66)** who wants to come to Oz next Jan/March. We have offered to help but have no room to accommodate them, but will help by sharing food, drink, advice and a sounding board for*



*all their stories. I'll look him up in the Directory, but it's nice to hear from Murray again."*

June brought news that Chris and Rebecca had booked a cruise in October to the South Seas and wondered if I knew about **Bill Orgill (K44-51)**, who was a South Seas trader. He had died in 2001, but had led an exotic life in amongst the people of the Trobriand Islands, among many others. Chris said they were going to Alotau, Kitava, Kiriwina Island and the Conflict Islands. It all sounds very exotic and the ship is the Pacific Eden from P&O. Chris added *"It's a Silver Wedding Anniversary excuse to do no cooking for Rebecca, and for me to experience these exotic places of 'South Pacific' fame. Hopefully it will be warm enough to get my feet wet, and do some snorkelling on some of the most exotic reefs anywhere in the tropical world. Now, if we can save enough to cover the bar bill, we'll be right!"*

In July Chris was once again in touch with Keith and Pat Dann wishing Keith a Happy Birthday, which you will have read earlier proved to be his last.

On our return from holiday in September, Chris sent through a CV of himself he had been working on for some time. It covers how he got from Felixstowe to Cairns. Unfortunately it is too big to include here, as it runs to 18 pages of fascinating snippets like over a 53 year pharmacy career he dispenses around 1,265,000 prescriptions and undertook 120,000 professional interviews with patients all around the world.

As you will have read earlier, with Neville finding Michael Minchin alive and well in Tasmania, Chris was in touch with him and exchanged a number of emails which revealed that they were both in Bridgetown, Barbados in 1966 and had worked/visited many of the same Caribbean around that time. Michael had no plans at present to sail up to Cairns but it's possible Chris and Rebecca will take a trip to Tasmania.

Finally in October 2016 Chris responded to my request for a SOF Council member to come forward to replace Norman as our Hon Sec. Chris, like many others, was hugely impressed with the number of activities that Norman has been undertaking for the Society and the College, but felt that living 10,000 miles away might be a hinderance! He went on to say *"We have a cruise of the South Seas very soon now - you know, dusky maidens and grass skirts, that sort of thing, but I'll be taking my own 'dusky maiden' just in case. A decision otherwise may well lead to another hospital stay!"*

*I have two works on the go at the moment. I started my first novel in 2010 and when I got it critique'd, the report said that: when I understood plot, when I understood dialogue, and when I understood character development, then I should revisit it and re-write it - or not. Having taken six years of getting over that I have re-visited it, and I enjoy it so much that when I have it to MY satisfaction I shall probably get it printed. It's 95k words that I threw down in close to 6 weeks.*

*The other is a small, very tongue in cheek article (15k words), which is a parallel (theoretical) development of a very big hotel that is actually becoming a reality, close to where we live. It's entitled: My Fantasy Hotel, or, How to become Australia's first trillionaire. I'm intending to 'birth' it by reading it to our local Chamber of Commerce, because apart from the 'Business plan in the clouds', it has a large number of entrepreneurial opportunities within it, which should whet the appetite of our local business types, and entertain them rather more than the in-depth subjects of Insurance and Accounting, fascinating as these may be."*

## CANADA

**Julian Bayley (S50-53)** sent congratulations on my 60<sup>th</sup> birthday and my suggestion of an OF reunion when I visited Toronto in early September. I hadn't realised that the time I was suggesting was their Labour Day weekend. Julian write "First, Happy Birthday, certainly a milestone, so celebrate well. I'm afraid you couldn't have picked a more difficult time to meet up. We have an exceptionally busy weekend with events all over the Province. We are also ramping up for the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) which is a major event for us. I will see how the calendar plays out and if I am anywhere close to Toronto. I would like to get together for a lunch. We have been corresponding for so many years now, being able to put a face to the name only makes sense. Please let me know your plans as you get closer to your trip and I can try and work something out. Hope you have a fun cruise." Sadly we were not able to meet up, but Julian runs an ice sculpture business see [www.iceculture.com](http://www.iceculture.com)

**David Barker (K66-71)** received my invitation to attend the 1970s reunion at the College in June 2016 and despite living in Canada was very interested in attending. I'm delighted to say that he was able to make it with his wife and sister and he had a great day meeting up with many contemporaries for the first time in 45 years. Sadly David wasn't able to meet when I visited Toronto in early September.

**David Lebbell (K41-46)** had a bad accident before Christmas 2015 and his wife Faith said *"Unfortunately some while ago he was on a guided walk, slipped on black ice and has been in hospital ever since - improving for sure but still coping with physical and short-term-memory issues. He is having the most wonderful hospital care but is frustrated, of course, although being amazingly patient and working hard with the therapists. We were on the mainland at the time so David was stabilized in a Vancouver hospital and then ambulated over to Vancouver Island. I am able to spend three or four hours with him every day and am noticing daily progress. He is quite determined and is working so hard during his daily three or four and pretty intense training sessions (physio, OT, cognition, etc)."*

David replied to my offer of a reunion in Toronto by saying that he would have liked to have joined us when we are in Toronto but unfortunately its about 4,500 km from Vancouver Island and we don't have any other excuse to go back to Ontario at the moment!

**Peter Macfarlane (Z73-81)** had nothing major to report. He had been canoeing for a week in the Allagash region of Maine late last summer. He had been out a few times this year, starting in April but he said he it was clearly not a hard winter as the water was no longer hard! He was contemplating other long distance canoe trips and has started some outline planning, but nothing is imminent.

He was back in touch in May to say "I've just read the article about **Mark Calvert (K76-84)** and **Henry Simpson (K74-84)** (whose names are lodged in the very dusty recesses of my memory), recalling a College half-marathon in 1983 as probably the first of its kind. I recall an earlier half-marathon, almost certainly in spring 1981 (maybe 1980), which was billed as the first. I was bitterly disappointed to have another engagement that prevented me from taking part, so in the morning I ran the course alone and was awarded an unofficial time, self-timed, of 1h50. Unfortunately, as I was not present at the event itself, I can offer no further details. There must be someone out there who took part in this race ...

**Brian Mayhew (R46-52)** was in touch at Christmas 2015 and then again when I sent out the note about meeting in Toronto. He replied *"My apologies but due to unforeseen circumstances I will not be able to make the lunch on Tuesday after all. I hope you have enjoyed your trip so far and also hope that we can meet up at some other time in the future."*



**David McMillan (K54-58)** along with **Patrick Vincent (R47-51)** tried valiantly to organise a reunion in Toronto when I visited at the beginning of September 2016, but as already mentioned earlier, the clash with Labour Day weekend made it impossible for most OFs to attend, including David himself. We did however discover that both of us shared a liking for Woolacombe in Devon where I had spent many happy family holidays and David had at the time been Assistant Manager of the Woolacombe Bay Hotel. He remembers Peter Sellers stayed with them with his Mum .....and her chauffeur!

David had celebrated his 75<sup>th</sup> birthday with a holiday in Mexico early in 2016.

**Patrick Vincent (R47-51)** was able to meet Eryl and I for lunch at our hotel in Toronto on Tuesday 6 September 2016. Afterwards we walked round parts of Toronto together admiring some of the modern architecture. On our return home he wrote *“By now you will be home again. I hope your journey was smooth and uneventful. You would have had a long wait at the airport, but at least it would be cool there. It is very hot again today, but soon we should have nice fall weather. It was a pleasure to meet you yesterday and thank you for the lunch.*



*I came home and found the 2014 Fram magazine. I must say that it is an excellent production and there are so many activities and interesting accomplishments to report. I read about the trip you had in France and Belgium to honour the accomplishments of Flowerdew and Peter Pickard. The work you described of tracing the resting place of most of the OFs on the honour role at school is a great contribution to the history of the school and its graduates.*

*Thank you for taking time from your holiday to meet OFs on your way. Hope we will meet again.”*

## CAYMAN ISLANDS

**Simon Ray-Hills (S72-77)** was traced down by **Ian Franklin (S72-76)** who attended the 1970s reunion. Although Simon lives in Perth, Western Australia he is apparently on a short term contract in the Cayman Islands with his wife. Ian intend to visit him there and will obtain up to date contact details for Simon. I'm also hoping for a nice photo on a sandy beach!

## COSTA RICA

**David Allars (K47-55)** was our only known OF in Costa Rica but during 2016 we discovered that **Barry Prewett (R70-78)** is also there. David has a place in Florida as well and I had hoped that he might be there when we visited at the end of August but sadly he wasn't. He avoids the summer heat in Miami and will not be back till year end. He added that British Airways has just re-started direct flights between London and San Jose, so that would be an inducement for them to visit the UK again, but not this year.

In May 2016 David was in the throes of moving from a house to an apartment, and going through “*the agonies of hell in the process!*” He offered to get in touch with Barry about meeting up once they returned from taking a month’s “break” abroad, but sadly his new apartment got flooded and this has delayed them getting together.

**Barry Prewett (R70-78)** was in touch with me as a result of receiving an invite to the 1970s reunion. It was then that we discovered he was currently based in Costa Rica. On hear David move from a house to an apartment he wrote “*It seems we are doing the same thing but in reverse. I am moving out of an apartment in Guacepelin to a house in San Antonio Escazu. A nightmare changing services. I am just about done, and to meet up in June would be great as it would seem you would be returning in a week or so from your your break. I look forward to meeting you in a week or two.*”

## CZECH

**Christina Johnston-Myachin (V01-06)** has as always been very busy singing in Prague and in the UK and we have published a number of stories on the website. On 11 February she performed a unique concert to celebrate 400 years of Shakespeare. In May she sung at a private concert for the Chinese President Xi Jinping. Then in July, she posted on Facebook this wonderful picture of her singing with **Sam Crimp (K02-12)** and **Henry Dunham (S01-06)** during their walk from London to Kathmandu to raise funds for brain cancer research. Please support their charity Annie's Challenge at [www.kathmandu-it.co.uk](http://www.kathmandu-it.co.uk) and follow their amazing journey to Kathmandu on YouTube! PS They



don’t normally wear these outfits while on their walk!! In October 2016 Christina performed at Europe’s first ever “four dimensional” concert, alongside more than 100 orchestra and choir members in Robert Jisa’s Illumination Voices show. The concert, which took place at a Czech ice hockey arena before an audience of more than 2,000, was written specifically for Christina’s voice and was accompanied by three and four dimensional effects, such as film projections and lighting.

The show saw her first performance on horseback!



## DUBAI

On one of my frequent visits to the College and the Crown I noticed a gentleman wearing an OF tie and introduced myself. The OF was **Abid Hamid (R78-83)** who was staying overnight in the Crown in order to pick up his son from Framlinghamian at the end of summer term. I found that we had no email and an out of date postal address for Abid so got these updated. He is currently a Director in Dubai of AJJ Capital.

I have put him in touch with **Ed Marr (G85-92)** so that they can hopefully get together and organise another OF reunion in the region. Abid has offered to host at his place in the Autumn.

**Ed Marr (G85-92)** in addition to the above contact I was also in touch with Ed at the start of the year when the big hotel blaze in Dubai was much in the news in the UK. Ed replied *"For some reason the hotel blaze wasn't the front cover story on our newspaper today. I didn't witness it myself as I was avoiding downtown but from my home today I could see the building still smoking in the distance. Its not the hotel we had breakfast in but a sister hotel not far from there."* Ed later suggested that another OF **Tom Lidstone (R86-91)** also lives in Dubai. Also he thinks **Dominic Vipond (Z82-93)** was here but had just moved to Shanghai as an English teacher. Interestingly, the same job his father had at Brandeston.

## FRANCE

**Rob Craig (R63-70)** semi-retired to the south of France from his previous full time job in Oman, Rob provided the following update in November 2015 about life now in France *"I am now happily semi-retired in France. Autumn has been magnificent; warm and colourful, and the Beaujolais and Premeure are of great quality this year. I hear that it has been a good harvest in England, but the reality is that it has also been a long summer and great harvest in France, so the marketing edge is mute from that point of view."*

*I bought two of my Porsches back with me, great driving in spectacular scenery.... attached. To start with I was very "digital" on the accelerator, fortunately no fine ensued and now I'm a tad smoother on these empty country roads.*



*Sorry to miss Nick in Sohar, I hope he enjoys it. It is a small and friendly expat community; we thought it the most welcoming of places with bundles of interesting opportunities.*

*I had "retired" for all of three days when I was contacted by DfID, asking if I would be an advisor for an HE project in Ghana. I said yes, but only for one week each two months and was asked to review their HE strategy. I am however inspecting a couple of unis in Bahrain in Dec and Jan. Although happy to be within the changing seasons, I will be happy to absorb a few more effective rays of ME sunshine."*

In June he wrote to apologise that he couldn't make it over to the UK for the 1970s reunion. The University of Bahrain inspection was brought forwards and so I have already been and returned, but more importantly his wife has scheduled a series of celebrations for her mother who is turning 90. He was however in UK that weekend and planned to try and contact **Martin Hogg (S63-71)**.

## GERMANY

**Kim Dickel (M97-98)** once again organised a brilliant reunion in Germany, this time near her home near Dusseldorf . Here is her report which has been published on the website “*After the hugely successful 150th anniversary event in Hamburg last year (click [here](#) for the full report)* German OFs assembled for the second time over a reunion dinner on May 21<sup>st</sup> in Düsseldorf. We managed to gather a respectable number of OFs - 23 out of the 25 guests present were former pupils of the school - and to undercut even last year’s age record with ALL attendees being below the age of 30 with the exception of yours truly. Amongst the 25 attendees we welcomed 14 guests who were already present last year but also 10 new faces, a good achievement towards our goal to cultivate the powerful network and friendship that connects all of us Framlinghamians well over the boundaries of school years also in adult life. I particularly enjoyed deeper conversations with those I already met last year and was thrilled to learn how actively in touch most of them have been! What a wonderful development and let’s hope a trend for years to come! Getting to know the new additions to our “family” was equally exciting and I was overall amazed by the exquisitely interesting personalities and well-rounded characters I meet during the course of the evening – surely a testament to the excellent education they received.

*The evening started with an aperitif spontaneously baptised “Framlinghamian Summer” at the riverside before we enjoyed a three course menu at insider’s tip restaurant “Segins” directly at the waterfront. The day of our dinner luckily coincided with Düsseldorf’s Japantag, a day celebrating the far Eastern culture that concluded with a spectacular display of Japanese fireworks which lit up the sky above the Rhine after darkness fell. We then headed for a round of cocktails at the close by “Meerbar” before finishing the evening off over a private Gin tasting session at snug restaurant/bar “Shabby Chic” whose owner agreed to exclusively open for us this night.*

*I would like to thank Chris Essex, Norman Porter and Paul Taylor for their generous support and appreciation throughout the preparation of this event. Sadly none of the three could attend, but I keep my fingers crossed to welcome them back in Germany next year. My heartfelt thanks goes also out to everybody who attended or showed interest in this event. Organising these dinners is hugely rewarding because of your enthusiasm. What a wonderful bunch you are, see you all next year!”*

A full list of those attendees were **Philipp Brune (R09-12)**, **Kim Dickel (M97-98)**, **Henrike Haltern (P12-13)**, **Jan-Niklas Hartmann (G11-12)**, **Hanna Haver (M13-14)**, **Thedel Haver (K14)**, **Franziska Hipp (P11-12)**, **Sophie Hufer (V07-08)**, **Nicolas Jacobs (R10-12)**, **Berenike Karrasch (P11-13)**, **Franziska Klinkner (M10-12)**, **Fabian König (R10-11)**, **Maxi König (M07-08)**, **Nicolas Kuhn (K09-10)**, **Lennart Offeney (S11-12)**, **Dominik Scheffer (K12-14)**, **Christian Scherpel (R09-10)**, **Frederik Scheuber (K11-12)**, **Benjamin Scheuber (K08-09)**, **Christian Schütte (K07-09)**, **Antonia von Köster (V10-12)**, **Marie-Christine von Köster (V10-12)**, **Conny Zawadzky (M03-05)**





**Berenike Karrasch (P11-13)** provided the following update to Ruth Noble at the College “*So its nearly May and lots has happened since my last email. I finally got a spot for medicine in Germany. At the University of Würzburg. I am here now for a month and the city is great but I am also missing Budapest a lot. At the end of March I got my Acceptance Email which was really surprising for me. So I left Budapest with many great memories. At beginning of April the new semester started here in Würzburg. So after 5 years abroad (2 years Fram, 3 Budapest) I am finally back in Germany. The city has an amazing hospital so I can’t wait for the practical part of the studies.*

*I sadly read the Mr. Kendall retired. He was such a great teacher. Do you maybe have a post address from him? I wanted to send him a postcard.*

*On the 21 May is the second German reunion in Düsseldorf to which I am really looking forward to. Franziska Hipp and Henrike Haltern are also coming and many more others. I hope it will be great to see them all again. Sadly that is not working out with Inca. I still haven’t seen here since I left Fram which is really sad.*

*I often read the Yearbook and must smile a lot as I remember all the great stories. Sometimes I wish I would be 15 again and do those 2 years over again. I should really visit England soon. Maybe again with Franziska.”*

## **HONG KONG**

**Ian Howard (S57-62)** was in touch at Christmas 2015 to say that they were spending Christmas in HK and would be there till April, apart from a trip up-country in Thailand to see **John Birt (S59-63)**.

In April he once again organised the HK Supper on 7 April and had been expecting up to 11 but flight delays, business commitments etc. meant that he now expected 5 for dinner that evening, including myself. In the end 7 attended with Richard Rowe sadly delayed in Shanghai. Ian left at 10.30pm to board a flight to Dubai that night!

**Moira Theulier (M91-93)** who has regularly attended in the past had to give her apologies as 7 April was her birthday and she planned to be out on the town that night.

**Raymond Wang (R75-77)** was in touch about the reunion weekend *"It's nice to know you are organising a Sport event as to bring the '70s leavers back for a reunion. However, I am sorry to tell you I cannot make it at all. Nevertheless, please share some pictures during the reunion."*

## INDIA

**Richard Gould (K66-71)** made the excellent effort to come over for the 1970s reunion and we met up at the College that weekend. As they were staying for a while he was persuaded to also come along to the OF shooting at Bisley in early July and this is a picture of Richard taking aim.



## JAPAN

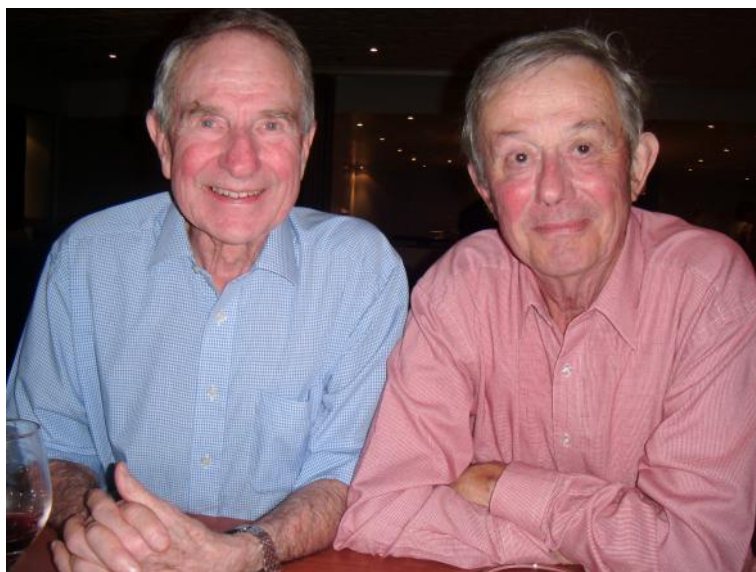
**Jonathan Amos (S67-71)** responded to my invitation to the 1970s reunion with apologies that he would not be able to make it over. *"A 1970s leavers' reunion sounds like a wonderful idea after so long as I would love to travel back to a place and time that are now so distant while at the same time finding out what journeys my old friends have taken during the last 45 years. However, since arriving in Japan eight years ago, I have not left the country once and still feel it would be too disruptive for me to do so. I love every day here in Hokkaido and feel the right time to return to England is not quite yet. When that time does come, however, I'll certainly let you know!"*

In April there were earthquakes in the south of Japan which caused a lot of destruction. Jonathan said that they were a long way from that and in fact earthquakes are very rare in Hokkaido - in 8 years he's only felt a slight rumble twice.

In June when I sent him a list of those attending the reunion he was very impressed that his leaving year (1971) had the largest representation of all at 9. He went on to say *"Did you know we have a little email group of about 25 who all left in 1970 or 1971 who communicate once in a blue moon? It seems to have done the trick this time with **Barker** flying over from Canada and **Hogg** being enticed all the way from Bury St Edmunds by a free buffet! I would have thought from the rebelliousness nature of many of our number from that time that they would never want to set foot in the place again. Just the fact that we have our own little email group suggested to me that we were OF deviants who did not want to be seen to be involved directly with the Society but who still had a bond we wanted to maintain. But perhaps other years were even more rebellious than us. Or perhaps our year has a particularly strong bond. And perhaps our secretive little email group actually directly supports the Society too. I'm sure that analysis of the statistics of the Society over the years must reveal some interesting trends. Perhaps the size of the Society puts some people off and perhaps this 70s leavers event is an opportunity to ensure that participants can be assured of meeting someone they know rather than a crowd of strangers from different generations. I congratulate you on a great idea to arrange this special reunion."*

## NEW ZEALAND

**Roy Farman (K47-55)** met up with **John Rankin (K47-56)** in Wellington on a visit on 18 February 2016. John reports *"As you may remember we have recently returned from hols in New Zealand and whilst there we did see Roy Farman and Angela and I had a memorable evening with him. We were on a Tour and so did not have a car. He met us at the James Cook Hotel in Wellington where we were staying at that time. He had been to the Edinburgh Tattoo the previous evening in the City and stayed with one of his daughters who brought him over to the Hotel."*



*We have a lot in common, he being a retired vet and me having been in GP! We also both had a little difficulty with an early exam or two but found it much easier when we got into our chosen fields. My thanks to you and to **Chris Shaw** because their contact made me aware of where Roy is and has spent a very happy and successful life."* Pictured is John on the left and Roy on the right together with the obligatory glass of red!

**David Newson (S54-63)** was briefly in touch to thank me for my Christmas email and say it was great to have met up in the Hunter Valley in April 2015.

**Richard Warner (Z88-96)** had updated his details in the online Directory. He was working on the West Coast of New Zealand and was interested in trying to find OF's that are in the South Island. I responded saying that he was one of 14 OFs who we currently know are in New Zealand. I reminded him that as a registered user on the website he could go into the Directory and look these up.

Unfortunately since then Richard has not had time to meet up with any OF's, but was still living on the West Coast of New Zealand.

## OMAN

**Nick Dowling (G73-78)** provided an address update for Oman in late 2015 and provided the following update *"I have been here since January of this year and work as Engineering Manager of ORPIC, a downstream refining and petrochemicals company. Sohar is indeed small town with an enormous industrial port attached. At this time of the year however the temperature falls to an appallingly low 23C. If there are any OFs in the immediate vicinity then it would be good to set up a Dubai dinner. Dubai is only 2.5 hours across the mountains and border post. We (wife, 3 daughters) are planning to go to an end of year bash there."*

I therefore put Nick in touch with Ed Marr over in Dubai and I hope they will shortly meet up.



## QATAR

**Chris Subba Row (R74-78)** was in touch for the first time as a result of receiving my invitation to the 1970s reunion. Whilst apologising that he wouldn't be able to get over, he provided the following update *"I have just arrived back this afternoon from Qatar where I currently work as the Group Insurance Manager for Qatar Airways. I am in contact with **Andy George (K74-79)**, **Simon Chapman (R74-78)** via LinkedIn and also **Marc Slatter (M73-78)** who is working in Saudi. It would be great to catch up with the old guys, even 40 years down the line.*

## SOUTH AFRICA

**Mike Bullock (R55-59)** in May 2016 started to think about organising another South African OF reunion. Mike was much better, having had a back operation for spinal stenosis, and was back playing bowls, doing his woodwork etc. At one point his situation became so bad that he could hardly walk so it is a complete turnaround. Also his cancer is totally in remission. In order to decide when to hold the next supper Mike asked Senior Deputy Head **Susan Wessels** when she might be next coming out to South Africa. Unfortunately timings have not yet enabled this to happen as Susan hasn't been able to get out.

In July, on receipt of the last electronic newsletter, he thanked Norman for the latest newsletter and for all the work that he has put in over the years. He said he receive the news that this would be the last newsletter with missed feelings as he did enjoy it and with a poor postal system the Yearbook has in the past not reached him. However he felt *"if the OF News Digest is continuing, the new arrangement will work well as the Digest serves as a reminder to go to the website which I otherwise overlook as I am not very good at these things. Also to receive the Hatches, Matches and Dispatches once a year in the Yearbook would be a little belated as it could be almost 2 years since the event. I realise an awful amount of effort goes into Fram work on a voluntarily basis which I for one really appreciate, and only wish that I was closer and could do more."*

## SPAIN

**David Ensor (G60-63)** had just received Framlingham magazine in December 2015 and wondering what luck I had had with getting someone to organise an OF reunion in Spain. I reported I'd had no luck progressing. He said *"My time problem (my wife's cancer, now in remission - hope it stays that way) is at least minimised. "*

In March he sent through a photo of the 1962 Colts XV with a few of the names he'd been able to remember. Sadly we had no contact details for **G.A. Reason, D.J. Pinney, D.A. Green, M.A.B. Vansittart** but were in contact with others he recalled, including **I.D. Treadaway, Chris Aps, ADU Hardy, Alain DE Cadenet and Robert Le Rougetel.**

He said he was still somewhat preoccupied with his wife's health issues although she is actually at least for now in the clear which is nearly a miracle after stage 3 cancer. They were also considering moving from Axarquía to the city of Malaga to be nearer to civilization and be somewhat less dependent on the motor car.



**Ian Foster (K46-53)** confirmed that he would be attending the South East Supper in October 2016.

## THAILAND

**John Birt (S59-63)** in November 2015 provided some help to a friend of a friend of mine who had got hospitalised in Thailand. He had seen **Ian Howard (S57-62)** a couple of times ... and **Brian Williams (G72-75)** kindly had a complimentary bottle of wine delivered to his room as he was not in Hong Kong then.

I heard from John for the last time in April 2016 when he told me the following *“I have been busy recently as I fulfilled a long held wish to visit the battlefields of Imphal and Kohima where one of my Regiment won his VC in 1944. The trip was for 3 weeks and I took in side visits to Shillong ( where my parents married in 1940 ) and then went up to Darjeeling where I had arranged to meet up for lunch with a group of retired Gurkhas living there who served with me at some time or another. I really enjoyed the trip, although the cold and the altitude of Darjeeling made me struggle a bit as my lungs were damaged by last year’s pneumonia. Climbing 4 sets of stairs to my hotel room was a test ... and in the morning I made sure I had all that I would need for the day as I was not keen on returning to my room for some forgotten item!! I am still trying to shake off the cough I picked up but otherwise life is pretty well back to normal. I had **Ian Howard (S57-62)** and his wife, Marie, to stay along with my other brother **Stewart (S56-61)** who has recovered well from his bowel cancer surgery and post-operative chemotherapy. He lost a fair amount of weight but we got him on the golf course!*

***Andrew (S55-58)** is doing fine but still suffering from limited peripheral vision and his short term memory is not that good. But he gets around on his bike and he and Anne have just celebrated her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday with their 4 kids, assorted grandchildren and a host of friends. So life goes on ... I still get in a visit to the office each day but, if the truth be known, I do not do much work as the younger members of my team have taken on most tasks from me!”*

In May **Ian Howard** came through with the very sad news that John had died in Bangkok on Saturday 21 May 2016. Andrew and Anne went to John's funeral in Koh Samui which was quite some event. His Thai staff and friends had put up Thai style memorials in Bophut, Koh Samui and in the corner of his Baan Tak garden by the river. A memorial service was held in the UK at the Royal Military Academy Chapel at Sandhurst on Friday 30th September 2016 and was attended by a number of OFs and around 150 others. From left to right, **Rupert Chevenix-Trench, Chris Essex, Stewart Birt, Richard Sayer, Stephen Sayer and Ian Howard**



## TURKEY

**Jonathan Ash (S80-82)** became the first OF I can remember getting in touch from Turkey. He said he had been prompted to get in touch after reading the last Overseas Bag. His news was *“I’m now living*

*in Turkey, after my third stint living in Singapore. My wife Dina is a Singaporean diplomat and we have been posted here by her embassy to Ankara. After the calm and order of Singapore some of the local ways here take a little adapting to, but we are settling in well. Something of a surprise is how cold it gets here in winter, especially after the tropics; that said now into March I'm hoping we're done with the winter snow, and can get planning some local and regional travel."*

## USA

**Nick Allan (R59-63)** has always loved "boys toys" as we would say in the UK and the receipt of my Christmas message prompted him to send me a picture of his latest one, a new hot rod truck - pictured! Sadly he tells me that 'management' has made him sell his wonderful looking speed boat that featured in the Overseas Bag a few years ago.



**Aragon Burlingham (Z81-86)** wanted to check that we had up to date contact details for him, which we did and he was registered on the website. He had set up the We Teach Science Foundation [weteachscience.org](http://weteachscience.org) about 8 years so I asked him for an update on what he had been up to. Aragon has spent the past decade in Silicon Valley in executive management positions at a diverse range of



companies taking products from concept to production. He has a multidisciplinary engineering background, touching on fluid mechanics, structures, controls, and mathematical modeling. Prior to forming the We Teach Science Foundation, Aragon served as President of D2M, a product design consultancy in Silicon Valley. Preceding D2M, he was Director of Operations at Speck Product Design, where he managed engineering operations in the Palo Alto and Shanghai offices. Aragon spent six years at RoboToolz, a manufacturer of laser-based measuring tools for the construction industry, managing R&D operations for products from concept development through design and transition to mass production in China. Aragon has a Master of Science in Aeronautics & Astronautics from Stanford

University, and a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Southern California. The only OF he keeps in touch with is **Tim Church (R78-87)**. Hopefully Aragon will attend a future west coast OF reunion.

**Antho Cowan (R55-64)** heard about the sad death of John Birth and wanted to make sure that the Society was aware. At the time of the Memorial Service at the end of September he was planning to be at their farmhouse in Le Marche, Italy, so he thought it may be possible to attend.

**Jane Hendrix (nee Larter)(P77-82)** responded to my invitation to meet up in Miami on 1 September 2016 when I was visiting with my wife. Sadly Jane was unable to attend as she lives 5 hours north of Miami and has to work till 5pm.

**Miguel Heinonen (K01-03)** is CEO of Heinonen International ([www.heinoneninternational.com](http://www.heinoneninternational.com)), which is a management consulting firm who support companies make important decisions on operations,



strategic planning, organization, and technology. He is currently based in the Los Angeles area but would like all post sent to an address in Oxford. He says *"If there are any network events, I shall definitely be up for it. I will keep an eye on the site to see good dates. It sounds great to be featured in a magazine later this year. I am very proud that I went to Framingham and I defiantly credit some of my success from having mentors such as Mr Kendall (Kerrison House), Major Myers-Allen, Chief Warrant Officer Page. They were strong role models and great guys all around."*

**Ivor Noel Hume (37-39)** thanked us for the newsletter and confirmed that his contact details were unchanged. Noel is now 89 and as you can see on the OF website he has been a prolific writer so I asked him what he was working on at the moment. His response was *"My writing has more or less come to an end due to the fact that I am losing my eyesight. It is a curious malady that prevents me from reading one digit in four. Thus 1485 comes out as 145 and "cool" reads "col." Before this happened I finished another novel, The Lightfoot Legacy about a blue-collar American family that inherits a Wiltshire Estate. It is now in the hands of a New York agent. I also managed to finish a couple of articles for Ceramics in America before the blow fell. My Tudor book has still not found a publisher. An American university press thought it too popular and an English publisher thought it too erudite!"* I responded saying that this was a very curious disability he had and how cruel that it affects his love of reading/writing.

**Bryan Ivory (K48-52)** send me his usual very newsy update just before Christmas. *"A beautiful copy of the 2015 Framlinghamian arrived recently bringing all the news of this year's celebrations and accomplishments. It is very heartening to see the new younger generation doing so well and the school moving forward, providing opportunities for each to develop their own talent. It is a tough world out there these days and the students need all the sound guidance they can get."*

*Meanwhile, here in the USA, we have had a somewhat busy year, certainly for us "Oldies". It was very hot during the summer months accompanied by non stop political wrangling and "Gobbledy Gook" to last a lifetime! Thank goodness the Christmas Season arrived to bring a relief from the constant banter.*

*Here in our little town of Shallotte, we continue to watch it grow in a refined manner, thankfully maintaining its charm. The town's Beautification Committee really encourage folks to take a pride in their property. Thanks to an above average rainfall, we have managed to keep the flower and shrubby garden looking respectable, in spite of the deer! A good year for local butterflies, with plenty of use made of a new rearing cage I had made in the winter. The collection of tropical specimens has grown to the point, where I am almost out of space in my display cabinets! Setting the dried specimens from overseas, is also becoming a greater strain on my eyes. I may soon find that photography is my one active hobby.*

*Travel activity this year, saw us in Colorado Springs for our granddaughters high school graduation before she was off to college to study "Interior design". Our grandson, two years younger is hard to keep off the ice hockey rink! In November, my eldest son, who lives near Pensacola Florida, was married to his long time fiancée. The wedding took place in their garden, with the ceremony conducted by a local minister an ex army chaplain. A nice little service, with just a few close friends and relatives.*

*Late in October, saw us off to the south of Spain and the Portuguese Algarve coast for a couple of weeks with "Senior Tours of Canada". It had been some 25 years since we had been there, and many changes had taken place! Gone it would seem, were the charming little villages, many new highways*

*and high rise buildings. Local shops catered to the tourists with shelves of cheap souvenirs. Quality crafts were hard to find.*

*Back to the Magazine. I loved the cover showing the interior of St Edmundsbury Cathedral taken during the special service. I was not, until now, very familiar with the church. Fortunately the Internet filled me in with the details of this beautiful structure. I can remember stopping in Bury St Edmunds, when returning by coach from a school match. I guess it must have been a brief stop, but a welcome look at the outside world !!*

*As we prepare for another year, we wish for peace and civility to return to the world, homes for the homeless and food and water for the needy. Hopefully the sound minded folks in this country will see fit to choose a person of stature and integrity to hold the privileged chief office of this fine nation..... Hopefully !!”*

Bryan has kept in regular contact with **James Ruddock-Broyd (G46-52)** over the years and during the last year. In June James was in touch with Bryan to say “*The French Embassy are dishing out 3,500 Legion d’Honneurs to surviving Normandy veterans. Tony Martin (G47-55) is sending me articles on many groups in East Anglia having received it and the last included an Lesley Ivory of 94 ex RASC now Stowmarket - do not often see that name. Ken Mayhew (R29-34) received his through the post a few weeks ago.*” Bryan responded “*It is certainly unusual to come across the "Ivory" name. I did have an uncle Leslie strangely, but I know of no relatives who lived in Stowmarket. My eyes are holding their own, for which I am thankful. For 81 I can't complain! Really enjoy reading about all the school news. What a wonderful place for students going through their developing years. I hope the gathering in June at the school is warm and sunny and is enjoyed by young and old alike.*”

**Alfred Molson (K38-43)** has been in touch on a regular basis by phone and continues to be the source of amazing stories of his life. In October 2015 Alfred asked me to email local OF the following “*I am writing this email on behalf of Alfred Molson (K38-43) who amazingly has had experience of living in Texas for over 65 years.*

*Alfred regularly rings me in the UK and each call reveals another fascinating fact about his life. This week he mentioned to me that he would be happy to organise an OF get together in Houston if others locally were up for it. Would you be interested in meeting up with Alfred and other OFs ? If so, please give Alfred a ring on 713 776 1766 (he doesn't regularly access email). If he doesn't manage to get the phone in time please leave a message and your number and he'll give you a ring back. Although I have kept your emails protected, I thought you would like to know that I have sent this to the following OFs :-*

**Nick Allan (R59-63)** - Lavernia

**Brook Banham (G89-92)** - New Braunfels (contacted via Facebook as no email address)

**Mark Banham (Z89-94)** - New Braunfels (contacted via Brook as no email address)

**Rachel Bohanan (V97-04)** - Houston

**Camilla Glenesk (P02-03)** - Plano (contacted via Facebook as no email address)

and Alfred who lives in Houston

*I look forward to hearing that you are able to meet up.*

Sadly there was insufficient interest but worth a try and my thanks to Alfred at the age of nearly 90 for offering.



In November he rang to say he was going in to hospital in 10 days for an investigation near his right kidney. I told him that I sat next to **Michael Powlesland (R40-45)** at Norfolk Supper - Alfred was at school with his older brother John and has spoken to Michael. I read out to him some of the mentions he gets in the newly digitised Framlinghamians in the 1940s which covers both his time at the College (mentioned for Colts rugby) and subsequently including his time during the war when he was with the Royal Engineers building bridges in Holland.

In December he rang to provide an update on his planned hospital check up on Monday. They detected something they didn't like the look of, so booked him in for the following day to have a stent inserted in his urethra. He was ringing the following day from home and was experiencing some discomfort that was slowly improving. He hoped the operation would give him another 5 years at least! He noted that the annual dinner was taking place at the RAF Club in Piccadilly in March 2016 and he remembers being a member of the Royal Overseas Club nearby in the last 1940s. He also mentioned that in OB I always say about his stories and memory. He recounted that one of his uncle's used to keep a small card on everyone he knew/met. The cards contained details about them so that the next time he was in touch with them he could look very knowledgeable. I commented that Alfred's memories/stories were more amazing in that they came straight from his head.

In December he rang to say that the Framlinghamian had just arrived and that he thought it was a brilliant production, the best ever. After his operation he was now more comfortable. He wanted to contact **David Allars (K47-54)** in Costa Rica and **Kenneth Painter (K39-45)** who were both mentioned in the Overseas Bag. We also discussed the fact that Alfred, who will be 90 in February 2016, is now the oldest OF in USA, followed by **Noel Hume**.

He next rang at the end of March 2016 when he remarked that it was 32 years ago that he had first been treated for cancer and was still going at the age of 90. He was fortunate to have never really suffered despite frequent treatment and he put this down to the exceptional expertise at his hospital the MD Anderson in Houston.

He had recently been watching a fascinating BBC programme on the treatment of German VIP POWs during WW2. They were kept in large country houses rather than prisons. Unknown to them everywhere they wandered in the house and grounds was bugged and so the British picked up invaluable intelligence information from them.

He was keen to talk to **Brian Aldiss (36-39)** a contemporary of his. We had no contact details for Brian but I said I would try and contact him via his website. Finally he recalled the story of when Whitworth was headmaster and a number of them were having baths in the large bathroom underneath the clock (the current Head's study I think). One of the boys caught Whitworth's daughter spying on them naked in the bath from inside a large basket! He also recalled a time when he got caught stealing eggs on Robinson Farm near the school. Although Whitworth never directly reprimanded or mentioned the incident to him, a couple of days later he and the other boy involved were invited to Whitworth's for Sunday lunch so that they wouldn't go hungry!

At the end of June his eyesight had deteriorated to the point where he could no longer drive, but his son was coming round regularly. With impending visit to Nassau in the Bahamas we talked about his own time there and we talked about his family connection to the Canadian brewer Molsons.

**John Nielsen (R68-72)** was in regular touch leading up to my visit to Miami at the end of August 2016 and he suggested dinner at his favourite restaurant in south Florida, called Jardim de Portugal “for truly exceptional Portuguese cuisine”. It was located a couple of miles north of the Coconut Grove neighbourhood in Miami. **Richard Rowe (S65-74)** and his wife Denise said they would drive all the way across from the other side of Florida but unfortunately **Tony Neubroch (G61-69)** was unable to join us. As you will have read earlier **David Allars (K47-54)** was in Costa Rica at the time.

Afterwards John suggested that next time they could possibly meet up on Florida's west coast, as suggested by Richard.

I was next in touch with John to check that living on the east coast of Florida he had survived Hurricane Matthew. He replied “*Despite preparing for the worst (window protection, generator, extra supplies, etc.) we ended up virtually unscathed in our home 40 miles north of Miami, but I see that thousands did lose power yesterday. Looks as if the brunt of the storm is now pounding the north-east part of the state today and proceed north. Our flight to Lisbon was cancelled yesterday but we managed to reschedule for tonight. Thanks for remembering us*”

Pictured left to right are Chris Essex, Eryl Essex, Richard Rowe, Denise Rowe, John Nielsen and Marta Nielsen



**Bryan Pearson (S45-47)** in between cruises, has been in regular touch. In April 2016 he wrote to say that they were just a week away from heading for Southampton, via Bermuda, Hamburg, Le Havre, Liverpool etc., on the Caribbean Princess. He had heard from **Nick Carlton (G63-70)** that he is retiring at the end of this year and looking forward to some rest and relaxation at home, catching up with "honey dews" and helping with James' education. He said “*Of course, from a purely selfish point of view, I'm disappointed that we won't be sailing with him anymore, and I'm very glad that I was able to sneak in that last memorable Alaska cruise on the Grand Princess. We shall always be close friends, thanks to the connection with Fram, and hope to see him and the family here in Hawai'i from*

In a subsequent email to Nick he they boarded the Caribbean Princess yesterday, scheduled to sail at 16.00, but they were still docked several hours later, when they announced that, due to late arriving passengers, they would not be leaving for a few hours. Then the next announcement said that, due to

winds of 45 knots, the ship could not sail so they would stay in dock overnight. By 15.30 the following day they were still in dock and expecting them to cut out a port, probably Bermuda.

While on the cruise he wrote the following to Nick *“This has been an interesting cruise. Had to wait for 60 late passengers at Houston, which made us late and meant that we got caught in a torrential rain storm which, in turn, caused an additional delay in sailing of about 12 hours. Poured on the coals and made up most of the time to Bermuda but, again, left several hours late for Liverpool.*

*Then, the next day, we had an emergency medical evacuation. The corporate chef of Princess Cruises who had boarded at Bermuda, suffered a massive either stroke or heart attack, and had to be winched into a helicopter and flown to the Azores !*

*Arrived at Liverpool to a freezing cold downpour with gusty winds, so glad to have my heavy orange Hawaiian Airlines jacket with me ! The free bus service to the town centre was very welcome and I was able to find huge jars of my favourite pickled onions for 50p each.*

*Due to heavy seas, we were unable to stop at Holyhead and headed straight for Hamburg, arriving several hours early which was great as we sailed up the Elbe in daylight instead of creeping in during the night, and got some great views. It was Hamburg's annual birthday week and the dockside was packed with locals gorging on beer and wurst, singing drinking songs and having a great time.*

*Left Hamburg almost three hours later than scheduled due to low tide, and now are headed for Le Havre and the Normandy Beach tour tomorrow, I may collect some more sand from Omaha Beach as I did last time.”*

On arrival home in May Bryan sent the following *“Arrived home late last night and I'm trying to get caught up with all the mail, amazing how much comes in just three weeks. We had a great day at Omaha Beach, the museum there was very crowded as it was a Bank Holiday all last week, and we were there on a Saturday. Collected another bottle of sand !*

*Arrived at Southampton Sunday morning, took the first shuttle bus to LHR and were able to get an earlier flight than I had originally planned, worked out beautifully as we got 2 Business/First seats and so gorged ourselves and enjoyed the wines all the way to SFO, 10 1/2 hours went by in a flash.*

*That's when the honeymoon ended . Got two seats on a B757 (narrow body) flight to HNL, stuck in the middle of three seats and not even in the same row, no food for the 6 hour flight, knees under the chin and no room either side...what a reality check that was ! Glad to be back in Paradise.”*

In July Bryan reported problems with the electronic newsletter which I tried to resolve. He was getting the new News Digests fine and I assured him that the Yearbook will still be printed and posted to everyone and will include the Overseas Bag.

In October Bryan had viewed the new College video and reported that he thought it was very well done professionally, even though he couldn't relate to the interior shots, except the chapel and dining hall. I explained a number of the major changes that had taken place since his last visit. He was also surprised by the school accepting children from the age of 2 and the proportion that were girls.

Bryan will be 85 in November he had just booked a cruise for then from Los Angeles, round trip, through the Panama Canal, into the Gatun Lake, and then back out and up the coast of Central

America. They sail on November 16th and return to LA on December 5<sup>th</sup>. They are on the Island Princess and celebrate his 85th on November 19th at sea. Byran says "This means missing Thanksgiving with the family, but also gives me a break as I'm the official turkey roaster every year !"

**Richard Rowe (S65-74)** as a member of the website admin team is regularly in touch and this year we got to meet up in person twice. Once was at the OF reunion just mentioned in Miami and the other was at the College in June, with his whole family, for the 1970s reunion. It was great that he had made the effort to come across to the UK with Denise and the boys to coincide with the reunion.

In March Richard and his family did a short cruise on the Norwegian Escape which co-incidentally my family and I travelled on in August to some of the same ports of call. Prior to us going on this cruise we stayed at one of Richard's wonderful beach front apartments in Fort Myers Beach.

In October he was keeping a very close eye on Hurricane Matthew but fortunately it passed them by. He was up in New Jersey at the time!