

Overseas Bag

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This magazine features an enormous Overseas Bag covering over 15 countries at last count. Many of the letters have been as a result of OF's sending messages to me by e-mail when registering on the new "OF e-mail address list" web page (www.chromian.com/of_address). The size of the Bag is also a reflection of the ease with which many OF's from around the world do communicate by e-mail. The "OF e-mail address list" web page has proved to be an enormous success judging by the comments that I have received. Many thanks to **IAN SEELEY (57-64)** in Connecticut who is putting in a lot of hard effort as the Webmaster. I am aware of several OF's who have rediscovered old friends – even one OF Grandfather commented that he only discovered his overseas OF Grandson's address through the listing! If you have not already visited the web page, please do so and encourage all OF's with e-mail (Overseas or UK) to register their e-mail address.

I have an apology for everyone who sends me letters by post - and I still receive many excellent letters - I have changed my postal address again! This is now my third address in three magazines since I took over the editorship of the Bag. My new address is listed above. Don't worry if you have written to my old addresses as these are still re-directed to me – but the new address will be more direct and faster. My e-mail address remains the same – richardrowe@compuserve.com.

Many OF's may be interested to know that the SOF are in the early stages of creating an SOF website (www.oldframlinghamian.com). **JONATHAN OWEN (K93-98)** has volunteered his computer expertise to help create the site but it is hoped that several OF's may be able to share the burden of maintaining sections of the site through password access. The intent is to initially keep the site simple but new ideas could be added later. Use of the site should help increase communication amongst OF's and thus strengthen the Society.

Work on the new College Register database continues to make good progress through the enduring efforts of **JOHN WHIPP (Hon OF, ex-Master)** and **ANDREW CURRIE (R38-43)**. The Society owes a huge debt of gratitude to John and Andrew who have been tackling this challenging task since 1995 - and there is still some way to go. However their work should bring some early benefits through the computerisation of the SOF address list. It is already apparent that the list has many errors and omissions which will take time to correct; but once up and running this list will eventually increase the efficiency and effectiveness of distributing the OF Mag and generally assist in promoting the objectives of the Society, namely:

- To enable past members of the school to keep in touch with one another;
- To promote a bond of union between past and present members of Framlingham College; and
- To promote an interest in the School in every possible way.

If anyone would like to act as Regional Secretary for their part of the world, we would be more than pleased to hear from you so as to help maintain communication with all OF's in your area. **NEVILLE MARSH (S53-61)** has already volunteered to coordinate the Australia area. Anyone for Canada or South Africa or elsewhere?

Australia

In his Christmas 98 letter to Tom Saul, **JIM MACBRIDE (S40-43)** reflected on how quickly time flies. Since he last wrote, he had had a hip replacement which had been successful but it had curtailed his activities somewhat. He was now feeling fitter and that, when his doctor had passed him fit, they decided on a cruise from Osaka in Japan to Hong Kong including visiting a number of ports in China. It had been a lazy way of having a look round but it was certainly cultural education. It was all very interesting and they had particularly enjoyed Nagasaki and Shanghai. They had also had a stay in Melbourne to see his brother **DAVID MACBRIDE (S39-42)** and also their son, Craig.

In sending their seasonal good wishes to Tom, Jim said that they had been corresponding for 27 years, starting in September 1971. (*Please keep it up, Jim - TGS*)
Address: 15/319 Macquarie Street, South Hobart, Tasmania 7004

Tom Saul says that he owes **MIKE GARNETT (53-58)** an apology for a case of bad filing in that his Christmas 98 letter went astray and was not dealt with at the time of receipt. When he wrote, Mike seemed to be fully occupied with real tennis and the many tournaments which were taking place and attracting visitors from the UK and USA. All to participate in the many events including the World over 40's, 50's and 60's singles & doubles. Mike just qualified for the latter event. He hoped to meet up with **STEPHEN SAYER (58 -63)** who would be playing in one of the events. Mike was also hoping to see **JIM MACBRIDE (40-43)** and his wife Patricia he was going to Tasmania for an alternative real tennis meeting in mid-January. He was also involved in an exciting project in Romsey - the construction of a new real tennis court at a winery close at hand with an outlay of some Aus\$500,000.

Mike added that his eldest son was now assistant professional at Petworth House and doing well but he does not think much of our weather! Real tennis took up a lot of Mike's life and he would keep involved in the game as long as he was able to.

Address: The Chase RMB, 1175 Main Road, Romsey 3434 Victoria Australia

BOB MUNRO (R54-60) wrote to **CHRIS BELLAMY** in December 98:

"Christmas again already! The years really are slipping by at a fast rate, and it seems such a short while ago that I was typing the Newsletter for 1997! Oh! Well, better get on with it, then! At first it seemed to have been a fairly uneventful year, but on reflection it has been in fact quite a full one for us here "down-under".

In no particular order the major events affecting our lives have been (as I guess they have for most people), Political, Sporting, Weather, House & Garden and work.

We had a Federal Election in October, where the incumbent Liberal National Party were returned with a greatly reduced majority on the platform of Tax Reform, the major component of which will be a GST (Goods & Services Tax {VAT?}). Supposedly a better system as everybody will have to pay their fair share. And when a Politician says it is going to be good, it will be, right? Hmm, we will see! There are still a lot of unexplained details which the pollies take great pains to avoid talking about. The GST Bill will have to pass the Upper House (Senate) before it actually comes into law and that is currently-controlled by two or three Independent and Minor Party MP's.

In local (State) Politics we still have a leader who is very much a "doer", but in so doing has ridden pretty roughshod over a lot of people and will be paying for it, I suspect in about twelve months when the we have the State elections. There have been many goings on which smack of corruption in one way or another, such as projects being given the "Go Ahead" with little or no discussion in the Public Forum, jobs for the boys, embarrassing gaffes and /or suspect behaviour from some ministers being hushed up or glossed over and so on. Enough of that, you no doubt have your own bunch of MPs to delight you or upset you, depending on which side of Politics you are on.

Motor Sport in various forms has held my interest as usual. Once again the Formula 1 motor race in Melbourne (the first for the 1998 season) was great fun and a thrill to watch. I still cannot get over just how much (beautiful) noise modern racing cars make! In 500cc Motorcycle Racing, Aussie Mick Doohan showed just how much better he is than all the other riders by winning his fifth World Championship. I went to the Phillip Island circuit to see the Australian round of the series, and the atmosphere at the track was electric. Terrific crowd, magnificent circuit and thrilling motorcycle racing. It was at Phillip Island that "mighty Mick" actually clinched the World Championship crown for 1998. A very exciting and a most popular win of course, with the very biased Aussie crowd.

And now to the "Footy". My team, the North Melbourne Kangaroos made it to the Grand Final this year after a superb winning streak of Twelve wins in the Home and Away games and the Finals series. Virtually unbackable to win, they were favourites by a long shot. At half-time in the Grand Final the 'roos were comfortably in front of the opposition, the Adelaide Crows ('foreigners' from another State, no less), and theoretically had the game in the bag. But the Crows hadn't given up and North were eventually thrashed by a side that was far, far superior on the day. I am not normally superstitious, but it was the 13th. Game after the winning streak of twelve! And of course when you have that many wins in a series that is pretty even for the dozen or so clubs taking part, sooner or later you are going to come a cropper! But why Oh why! choose the Big One to fall over?

Weather wise it has been yet another dry year, and at the time of writing (late November) we have not had our Spring rains. Obviously we have had rain, but not the really useful soaking rain that continues on for two or three weeks or more and fills the dams. At the moment the water storage dams are just over half-full on average in our state, so I think we may possibly have some water restrictions some time during the Summer, especially if it is a hot one, and it probably will be.

Interestingly the Spring blooms were especially magnificent this year, with our Wisteria and Rambling Roses in particular being quite the best they have ever been. Unfortunately I was not able to get a photo as there was a pile of builders rubble in the foreground from some work we were having done, and when the rubbish was removed only a few days later the blooms were all past their best. Such a shame that the Wisteria lasts for so short a time, but how beautiful it is when it is out.

Gas Explosion

At the end of September, (on the last Friday to be precise) we had an explosion and fire at the ESSO gas plant in Gippsland on Victoria's South East coast. Two unfortunate souls were killed, and a few injured but thankfully not too badly. Due to the explosion, the manufacturing of gas came to a virtual halt in Victoria, and for over two weeks we were unable to use any gas

either in businesses or in homes. Now, over 83% of households here rely on gas for cooking and/or heating. Consequently we had no hot water for showers or for washing, and no gas for the cooking stove. The morning shower in cold water was diabolical for Christine and I, although we did rig up an emergency arrangement with a piece of tubing, a garden hose rose-spray and a plastic bag filled with hot water boiled in our electric kettle (kept for emergencies) and a litre or two of cold water to just make it safe. Provided you were VERY quick you could have a lukewarm "shower" before the bag ran out. It was awful! Fortunately the weather had just turned quite mild after a cool winter, so the lack of gas central heating was not too bad, the electric fan heater doing the job OK in the mean time when necessary. For cooking, we used the barbecue in the back yard (it uses bottled gas of which we had plenty) and an electric fry-pan. Our oven is electric anyway so at least that wasn't a problem, and the micro-wave was used for a lot of things we didn't know it could do! For people with young children, the elderly, or those with disabilities it must have been a nightmare. Many small businesses such as restaurants, bakeries, engineering specialists and all sorts were devastated because they were simply not allowed to use what gas was available (this was kept for Hospitals and critical service only, not even some Elderly Citizens rest homes were exempt). Indeed, several cheats who were caught had their gas supply meter completely removed and were the last to be allowed to resume gas use when supplies were recommenced.

Even the "turn-on" was done over several days to avoid a sudden and catastrophic overuse of the supply in one huge drain on the system. No system in the world has ever been shut down before to the level we had in this catastrophe - and there were fears that if too many people all turned the gas on at more or less the same time, there would be a dangerous vacuum induced into the pipeline. The turn-on was done in stages and fortunately all went well. There is still the possibility of gas shortages next winter if the plant can not be made fully operational by then. Questions are now being asked as to why there was no apparent back-tip or emergency plan of action by ESSO for just such an eventuality. The cause of the explosion is still being investigated.

Address: From July 1999: 2 Gordon Court, Rosanna East, Victoria 3084 (previously 4 Medhurst Court, Greensborough, Victoria 3088) Australia

In an e-mail in May, Assoc Prof **NEVILLE MARSH (S53-61)** wrote:

I never thought I would be contributing to the Mag via email, but that's progress, as they say. In academic circles, we live and breathe by it and none more so than in Australia where the distances (for STD phone calls) are so great. I am a Professor in the School of Life Sciences at Queensland University of Technology where I teach cardiovascular physiology and research into disorders of haemostasis (bleeding and thrombosis).

I am pleased to report on a successful visit to Fram last December when over in the UK catching up with the family. We were greeted by a car-cleaning gentleman on the Front who rather than being a caretaker-type turned out to be the Stradbroke housemaster! It was nice to see the College Mere in such good shape as I spent what seemed to be interminable hours trudging through muddy puddles doing my A Level Biology. My wife (Alison), son (Alex) and I stayed with good friends in Huntingfield, in fact, I had no idea that their cottage was just below Huntingfield Hall, the "ancestral" home of the **CREASEY** family (OF's **WILMOT, NOEL, ANTHONY, MARK** and **ROBERT**). It was not surprising, therefore, that the only person having a pint in the local pub, Nick Halley, turned out to be a relative by marriage of Mark. We

took the opportunity to visit Stradbroke village, something that I had never got round to doing when at School. There is an important connection for us Brisbane-ites, in that one of the early Earls of Stradbroke discovered much of the local coast line, hence Stradbroke Island off the mouth of the Brisbane River (not to mention a horse race and cigarette brand named after the same man!). Whilst in London, Alex and I had a great time at the Imperial War Museum where I was proud to show him the display on Augustus Agar (only a few VC holders are featured in the Museum). We were then able to see all three OF VC's in the College Chapel. My brother **IAN MARSH (S49-53)** keeps in good health and reports that he went to Varsity Day at the National Hockey Stadium when **NORMAN BORRETT** was there celebrating the 60th Anniversary of his appearance in the 1939 Varsity Match. Ian reports that despite his advancing years, Borrett was still standing bolt upright watching the match as opposed to some of his younger contemporaries who were happy with more sedate seating.

Returning to the email theme, I would be happy to put together a "nickname" for all OF's in Australia who use electronic mail. In fact, it might be useful if we circulated names and addresses of all those on the island (sorry, continent). Whilst we have State-based groups in Queensland and the slightly more populous Western Australia which meet regularly, it's always useful to know where everyone is, since we fly between States from time to time. What do you think? (*RMR – great idea! the SOF strongly support the creation of Regional Secretaries to help promote contact and communication amongst OF's. I will send you all our Australia address information asap.*)

I must search our local medical research institute where there is a **CHENEVIX-TRENCH** - must be related to **RUPERT (71-75)**.

Address: 258 Sugars Road, Anstead, Brisbane, QLD 4070, Australia; tel (work) 07 3864 2495, (home) 07 3202 6086, fax 07 3864 1534, email n.marsh@qut.edu.au; ; web: <http://www.life.sci.qut.edu.au/biomed2.htm> .

In one of his e-mails to me, **PETER HOLLINS (K71-76)** related:

“We certainly did meet at **NICK JACOB'S (1967-75)** house in 1989 with **DAVE CARR (??-74)** and **SIMON BLOOMFIELD (??-74)**. (any Email addresses?). Your memory serves you well as at that time both Sally & I were working for Jenny Craig Weight Loss Centers in the UK. Since we moved back to Perth several years ago, I have been with AMCAP (stands for Austin, Morris, Chrysler Automotive Parts) and is a long established distributor of replacement parts. We now handle parts for General Motors, Mitsubishi, International Trucks, ICI Dulux Automotive paints, KTM bikes (Austria), Husaberg bikes (Sweden) and a variety of other products. We basically distribute in WA except for the bikes which are nationally based. We have our own mainframe and software company to assist our distribution networks.

WA is as spectacular as ever to live in, a beautiful 31°C today. You should make sure that you visit our state on your next visit to this country and you would be welcome to stay with us. p.s. my younger brother, **ANDREW HOLLINS (74-77)** is in UK and can be contacted on: andrew@hollinsa.freemove.co.uk

Address: 32 Camborne Avenue, City Beach WA 6015, Australia. Tel: (61) 089 2850002; Fax: 089 285 0006; E-mail: pholl@amcap.com.au

JONATHON AMOS (S67-71) sent an e-mail in January 99 to register his e-mail address

on the OF web page:

I am very happy for you to list my email address. My university, Exeter, has listed my address for some time and I have had no problems. In fact, I have had no feedback from it whatsoever! I suppose there is a risk that the list could be used to send junk email to people, but I think this small risk is worth the advantages.

Twenty-seven years after leaving Fram, with very little contact since then, I have recently been swept up into the SOF again thanks to **JAMES RUDDOCK'S (G46-52)** sojourn out here. There were only a few of us at the Perth OF Supper, and I only shared my time at Fram with one, **PETER HOLLINS (K71-76)**, whom I could not remember. But I remember you! So it is nice to hear from a contemporary.

I do remember **MARTIN HOGG (S63-71)**. He stood up in chapel one Sunday and argued with the vicar in the pulpit and many other stories I could relate! Last time I met him, he seemed to have swung from being the school's biggest rebel to being a model of conservatism, running china shops in East Anglia. I have not heard of him in Australia (*RMR – I was given an address of 8 Princess Mary Street, Dee Way, NSW but that might be out of date*).

If finances permit, I hope to visit England sometime this year and if I do, I would like to catch up with some friends of old. I can't say I ever imagine living in England again. The quality of life is fantastic here: for example, I live in a big house on a quarter of an acre in a quiet suburb just 6 km from the city centre, 8 km from the beach and I am very ordinary!!

Well done for taking on the position of Overseas Bag editor. I look forward to the next copy of the magazine.

Address: 202 Shaftesbury Ave, Bedford, WA6052, Australia; tel: +61 8 9375 3335; fax: 9375 3331; e-mail: jamos@space.net.au

RMK (BOB) FOX (66-71) also made contact from Perth but too late for the “first” Perth supper.

Address: Senior Lecturer, Centre for Educational Advancement, Curtin University, GPO Box U 1987, Perth 6845, Western Australia; Phone: + 618 9266 7329; Fax: + 618 9266 2777
E-mail: bobfox@cea.curtin.edu.au ; Web: <http://cea.curtin.edu/staff/bob/>

JOHN SIMPSON (K32-36) was prompted by a letter from his brother **PETER SIMPSON (K32-40)** in Australia to write in January:

The last Overseas Bag mentions that **PETER SIMPSON (K32-40)** had been staying with **PETER BAILEY (K34-36)**. Before he decided to emigrate, I used to see Peter B from time to time at **JAMES RUDDOCK'S (G46-52)** West Midlands suppers. Shortly before I made a visit to Australia and the Philippines this time last year, Peter S had been house-sitting for Peter B in Noosa (just north of Brisbane) while Peter B was in Germany celebrating the anniversary of the Berlin Air Lift. Much taken by the place, Peter S & his wife have bought a plot there & put their house in the Blue Mountains on the market – no news of any nibbles yet, but it's the close season, I gather.

Peter B's son **BRETT BAILEY (K58-65)** was a contemporary and close friend of my son, **JEREMY SIMPSON (K56-64)**, and a regular and welcome visitor to our house in school days and later. Brett has recently held an exhibition of his work at the Sydney Town Hall & Peter S has sent me the summary of Brett's career that he picked up there. This is the document I

am faxing to you. Peter (S) is not on the e-mail but says that Brett is and that he (Peter) has sent his address to Jeremy.

(RMR - the career summary for Brett Bailey is an interesting document chronicling his career from 1966 with a Short Service Commission in 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment (8th of Foot) including painting desert landscapes while on service in Libya; study and teaching at several London Art Colleges; photography and paintings resulting from tours in Europe, Japan, America and Australia; and a list of various exhibitions. Brett's paintings are held in private collections in UK, USA and Japan, and in the collection of the Menzies Centre, Institute of Commonwealth Studies, London and the ANZ Bank, London. It would be excellent to be able to publish more detailed information and examples of his work in a future magazine if Brett will contact us with further information and permission).

The Baileys' father was well known at Framlingham before his boys arrived at the College. When not farming at Snape, he used to bat for Campsea Ash – then one of the better club sides in the area and a regular College fixture.

Addresses: John Simpson, 36 Pembroke Road, Framlingham, Suffolk; tel: 01728 724080, fax 621074.

Peter Simpson, 54 Jersey Avenue, Leura, NSW 2780; tel 47 84 1613 (but moving soon closer to Peter Bailey);

Peter Bailey, 3 Seacove Court, Noosa Waters, Noosaville, Queensland, 4566 Australia

Brett Bailey - e-mail: brettb@mania.com.au *(RMR - this address may be incorrect as I tried e-mailing Brett but with no reply)*

PETER RISK (R55-60) wrote in an e-mail in February:

My wife, Lynda, and I live in a south east suburb of Perth in Western Australia and have lived in this area since our marriage in 1969. My O.F. brothers **DAVID RISK (R48-55)** and **JOHN RISK (R52-58)** both live in East Anglia. David is the eldest and used to farm next to Brandeston Hall. John is the third eldest and lives in Norfolk. I am the youngest.

Did **JAMES RUDDOCK (G46-52)** tell you of our recent OF Supper here in Perth? He was staying with us at the time, so it was thought to be too good an opportunity to miss so we gathered up half a dozen OF's and enjoyed, what we believe, was the first Perth Supper. Right up until the time we sat down to dinner, we were not really sure how many would turn up. Now that the ice is broken I think it will be a lot easier. I seem to remember that **MARK CREASEY (G55-63)** was elected as organiser for this year.

I am looking forward to the magazine, although it seems to take ages to get here, usually just about closing date for the next issue!!

In another e-mail in April, Peter continued:

So sorry to have taken so long in replying to your e-mail, but we have been pretty busy, mostly with 'projects' thought up by my wife to keep me out of mischief!

We have had a wonderful summer, not too hot, it was made all the better as my eldest brother **DAVID (R48-55)** and his wife Ruth spent Christmas and New Year with us, I think it was quite an experience for them! In fact David wrote a piece for the Brandeston Church magazine about his holiday, perhaps he could be persuaded to send it to you. During my brother's visit the 'Second Sixty Years' arrived, this certainly gave rise to some lengthy reminiscing!!

You may have heard of the HM Endeavour Bark replica. Well the same team that built her have recently launched their latest craft the Duyfkin. She was launched just before Australia Day and was towed up the Swan river to take part in the Australia Day celebrations.

On things nautical - we have had a lot of liners come into Fremantle, the Oriana, the QE11, the Rotterdam and about four others, all in the space of a couple of weeks. Very tempting to pack a bag and embark on a world cruise, maybe in a year or so.

We appear to be getting our fair share of cyclones this year, one in particular, cyclone Vance, was a category five storm and caused lot of damage to the town of Exmouth. Only a week or so before that the remnants of cyclone Elaine flooded part of the west coast and now the news is that there is another cyclone bearing down on the northwest coast.

Talking of news - what a sad and sorry world it is, hardly a continent without some form of conflict and the horrors that go with it.

I seem to remember in my last e-mail that I said the OF magazine always seemed to take ages to reach me, well I must eat my words, not only did I receive my copy hot of the press, I actually received two copies!! Can't complain at that.

We have just had a very enjoyable Easter, and prior to that our local town had its annual festival, trade fair and art exhibition. The next few weeks will see us concentrating of our garden, getting ready for winter, although if you look at the weather at present - sunny 90 Deg. F. you wouldn't believe it was autumn! I suppose I had better get on with it. All the best.

And in an e-mail in June, Peter wrote:

When **JAMES RUDDOCK** suggested that we try to arrange a Perth Supper in Dec 98, he sent us a list of OF's addresses. Unfortunately a lot of them were out of date, so Lynda spent some time tracking them down. In case she missed some she inserted a piece in the "Can You Help" section of the West Australian newspaper. There were several replies, a Miss Winifred Self being one of them. She was fairly sure that her father **GEORGE SELF (87-90)?** attended Framlingham College, could I find out for her? If it turned out that it was so, she wanted to donate her father's Boer War and WW1 medals to the Society or the College as she is in her 70's and in her opinion, her next of kin (a nephew) would not appreciate them and probably sell them. Lynda made contact with James who very kindly did some research and found a George Self of the right vintage but of differing second name. Lynda informed Miss Self who said that she would like to correspond with James direct. Hopefully that has happened.

Address: PO Box 135, Armadale, Western Australia 6992; tel: (61) 08 9399 3332, fax: 9497 3359; e-mail: bassrisk@ca.com.au

Although technically UK, I thought I should include here the description by Peter's brother **DAVID RISK (R48-55)** of his and his wife, Ruth, visit to Perth:

Having planned the trip in Christmas '97, the 3 November 98 was soon arrived and we were on our way to Hong Kong. We put our watches forward eight hours and after twelve hours of flying, we landed at the new Hong Kong airport. Our hotel at Causeway Bay overlooked the harbour where old and modern boats seemed to be on the move continually night and day; and all the lights provided a magnificent spectacle at night. During the four days we stayed, we used the Star Ferry to cross the harbour to Kowloon. We took coach tours around Hong Kong Island and into the New Territories up to the border with China. We enjoyed our sampan tour of the harbour with its floating homes and restaurants. Our lasting impression will be of the continuous

traffic and preponderance of skyscrapers that seemed to be competing to reach the sky.

We reached Sydney in pouring rain but this soon cleared to hot sunshine. A quick car trip around Sydney with my cousin included sights of Sydney Cricket Ground, the new Olympic Stadium, Opera House, Bridge and Botanical Gardens.

We spent two days more in Sydney and visited some of the magnificent beaches and even ventured into the huge rollers of the Pacific Ocean.

Train across Australia

We then took the Indian-Pacific train over the Blue Mountains with many twists and turns through ten tunnels. The train was pulled by two engines that acted as generators when going downhill. On reaching flatter ground the next morning, we saw our first kangaroos running wild like rabbits in a Suffolk field. On approaching Adelaide, the countryside changed from bush to fruit crops and vegetables and corn. Our stop in Adelaide included a coach tour around this clean and interesting city. Continuing on the Indian-Pacific, we crossed the Nullabor Plain including one straight stretch of 478 miles. We stopped at Cook for fuel and water, now almost deserted although three people are said to still live there. It did seem a shame that a good school building, several houses and a fine swimming pool should all be deserted and unused. At the "Gold Rush" town of Kalgoorlie, we took an after dark coach tour which showed us huge machines of 120 tons capacity moving tons of earth every minute of the night and day.

Next morning, we approached Perth through harvested wheat fields, many with sheep grazing the stubble that did not seem to provide much feed but the sheep looked happy. We finally reached East Perth 63 hours after starting, a memorable journey.

We spent the next weeks at Armadale on the outskirts of Perth with my brother, **PETER RISK (R55-60)**, and his wife, Lynda, who went out there in Nov 1968. We visited the beaches of Perth and Fremantle, the bush farming areas, the grain terminal at Rockingham and swam in the Indian Ocean. Christmas seemed unusual, having cooked the turkey the day before and carried it to neighbours. We then joined them and their relatives and friends from New Zealand and London to eat cold meats and salads followed by hot Christmas pudding and brandy butter. The Christmas cake came a while later having been kept in the fridge to keep the icing hard.

We left Perth and five hours later arrived in Singapore. It seemed strange to cross the Equator at 40,000ft with an outside temperature of -53°C. On landing, it was again pouring with rain. Apparently it rains on 260 days each year, however the temperature was warmer than any we had previously met. During our two days here, we had a ride in a modern rickshaw, visited the Raffles Hotel, Chinatown and Changi prison museum and chapel. We returned home after a thirteen hour flight to a considerable change in temperature and shock to the system. We now realise that Australia is really only a plane ride away and look forward to returning before too long.

Address: Inchmahome, Wriggle Lane, Brandeston, Suffolk, IP13 7AS; tel: Earl Soham (01728 685) 294.

KEITH DANN (S48-50) sent a letter to **NEVILLE BROMAGE** (the letter heading shows "Captain K H Dann - Licenced Compass Adjuster"):

After you have recovered from the shock of hearing from me, I had better give a little news about myself. As soon as I had retired in 1989, I started to try to have a Missions to

Seamen Centre established for the Port of Western Port, now Hastings. In the end it became clear that the only way we would be able to recruit sufficient volunteers to run it would be to move on an ecumenical basis. That, finding a site and obtaining the necessary funds took time so including problems with the builder meant it was June 1992 before we were able to open. I am the Lay Coordinator who tries to keep the Centre running whenever we have an overseas crewed ship in the port, do most of the ship visiting and when it is required call on whichever or the clergy is needed, We are all volunteers and manage to cover all our day to day operating expenses, the Victorian State Council of the Missions to Seamen being responsible for insurances etc.

The port is not as busy as it used to be when I was working. We are down to about eighty overseas ships a year but still have the centre open for around 170 nights and 40 days a year. Last year was affected by a commercial problem and an explosion at the Bass Strait oil field base but things are now starting to improve again. Thanks to a grant from the International Transport Federation Seafarers Welfare Trust we were able to extend the building last year.

I still do some Compass adjusting but will be giving that up in July when I become an OAP. I enjoy it but climbing up and down the side of big ships especially when the attendant launch is bouncing around in a rough sea is starting to become physically trying as is scrambling around the decks of fishing vessels.

Missions to Seamen Conference

We are in the process of arranging a trip to the UK and Norway starting in August after we have attended a Missions to Seamen Conference in Fremantle West Australia. We are traveling across Australia by train which we have been wanting to do for some years and then flying on to London in the middle of August so that we are able to attend my sister's Golden Wedding Anniversary. Then on to Norway for a trip on the Coastal Mail Service and then back to the UK for a month. I am starting to wonder if we will have time to fit all the things in I want to but ten weeks away from home is long enough.

Living as we do in South Gippsland we tend to visit Melbourne as little as possible so I have very little contact with any other OFs - in fact the last we saw was **JIM MACBRIDE (S40-43)** in Hobart two years ago. There was an attempt to organise a supper last year but we would have been away and so heard no more about it. The magazine helps keep one aware of some of the things that are going on. I was rather taken with the picture of the "kipper". I can't imagine Mr Kirkman doing that sort of thing even though it would have been much less stimulating than doing a boat transfer via rope ladders at that speed. The College and staff have certainly progressed a lot since 1948 and it was good to see that some from that time are still looking so well.

That better be all for now. Once we get our itinerary finalised I will have a better idea whether I can include a visit to the College or arrange a meeting.
Address: 2 Wright St, Corinella, Victoria 3984; tel: 056 78 0581

SIMON NARROWAY (??-72) sent a brief e-mail in March apologising that for the first time in about 24 years, he wouldn't be able to attend the Hong Kong Rugby Sevens and so would miss the proposed Hong Kong OF Dinner.

Address: 6 Highfield Road, Lindfield, Sydney, NSW, Australia; tel: +61 2 9988 3231; e-mail: snarroway@westpac.com.au

Canada

DAVID LEBBELL (K41-46) sent an e-mail in January in order to add his address to the OF E-mail Address List:

CHRIS GARRARD (41-47) e-mailed me today about the OF e-mail address web page. But I also had a call from **ALFRED MOLSON (38-43)** in Houston a little while back advising that something of this kind was in the works. This is a great way to communicate and I think you are the first Overseas Editor to have had an e-mail address.

Incidentally, I have forwarded Chris' email message to **PATRICK VINCENT (47-51)** an OF friend of ours in Toronto. No doubt he will be contacting you.

After 40 years in eastern Canada we retired, four years ago, to Victoria, B.C. on Vancouver Island. Do contact us if you ever travel this way.

In a later e-mail, David reported that he had contacted **TIM WALWYN (S45-53)**:

I had a good chat with Tim last night and he is still at the Vancouver address (Tim Walwyn, 6857 Laburnum Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, V6P 5M8; tel: (604) 261 0105). He retired as an electrical engineer from Hydro four or five years ago and has a couple of kids in their 30's. He says he was in UK last summer and stayed at the Crown.

Address: David Lebbell, 3305 Argyle Place, Victoria, B.C., V8P 5R8, Canada; e-mail: lebbell@islandnet.com

PATRICK VINCENT (R47-51) sent three e-mail messages – the first in January 99:

I am an OF and would like to add my address to the register of e-mail addresses. Thanks for doing this. I hope will find some of my contemporaries on the list. I have forwarded your note to **DAVID LEBBELL (K41-46)**, a good friend of mine who lives in Victoria. I was at school with **TIM WALWYN (S45-53)**, but have not been in touch since then. I live just outside Toronto - a long way from Vancouver where Tim lives!

After a mild early winter we have just had a sudden snowfall, with about 15 inches a week ago and then another 6 inches. I love it, because I enjoy cross country skiing and now the season is well under way.

Patrick sent another e-mail a week later:

I have been able to contact **TIM WALWYN**. He was at Fram at the same time as me and his name was quite familiar, but I did not know him really well. He is still in Vancouver at the same address: 6857 Laburnum St., Vancouver, B.C., V8P 5M8; tel: 604 261-0105. He was quite surprised to have a phone call from me after some 45 years. Last year he spent 3 days at the Crown in Fram, visiting old haunts. I gave him **JOHN STEVENS (S51-52)** address. Thanks for helping to make these links between O.F.s Hope to meet you some day.

And a third message in June 99:

You are quite a traveler - from Hong Kong to Florida. Perhaps some day your business

will bring you to Toronto and if so, I hope you will contact me and we can show you around a bit.

We have just celebrated our 40th wedding anniversary and were given a surprise party organized by our daughter. Amongst the guests were two OFs: **DAVID LEBBELL (K41-46)**, a long time friend who now lives in Victoria B.C., and **BRIAN MAYHEW (46-52)**, who lives in Barrie, about 60 miles north of Toronto.

We have also become grandparents recently. Our elder daughter lives in the Yukon and produced a baby boy at Easter time. In about 10 days we are going up there to meet him for the first time. While we are there I am hoping to do a five canoe trip, which requires a fly in. The river we are planning on is relatively easy (so I am told), with just one portage around a waterfall. The days are very long at this time of year, in fact it does not get really dark at night. Previously we have been farther north and experienced the midnight sun in the northern sky. Address: 1915 Delaney Drive, Mississauga, L5J 3L2 Canada; tel: 905 823-5207; e-mail: patrick.vincent@sympatico.ca

Channel Islands

BECCY THOROGOOD (V90-93) sent an e-mail in March:

Well I don't know if you would call Guernsey "Overseas" but the E-Mail is the easiest way of communicating. I have been living out here for almost two years now. After I finished my HND in Hotel and Catering Management at Brighton University I was offered a job out here and am still here. I am also getting married in September of this year; we got engaged back in the Summer and the plans are well under way. I just felt I should send some news as it would be good to here from some old friends. Feel free to give out our E-Mail. Address : thierbecc@hotmail.com

France

I have received a "gone away" returned post from **A F WAUGH** of Hares d'Etreham, 14400 Bayeux, Calvados, France 24 C6. Does anyone know of his whereabouts?

BRIAN ROSEN (S- 1940-46, BH 1978-93) contacted me in January by e-mail:

It is really quite a long time since I wrote to the Overseas Bag, although various bits of letters that I have written to OF's seem to have found their way there. I was very sad to hear of the death of **TIM WOODGATE**. We were contemporaries and met after about 10 years on a dropping zone in Hampshire. We were both in Airborne TA Regiments and having jumped from American 'planes we were fortunate to both arrive more or less on the DZ - many missed it ! Subsequently we were both involved in the SOF and as a previous treasurer I was able to appreciate more than most the considerable efforts he put in year after year.

It was a great disappointment to me that I was unable to attend the anniversary at Brandeston. It was obviously a great occasion and I apologise to all those to whom I wrote promising to meet them there.

I have to take off my hat to you, Richard for completing the BT Round the World

Challenge. Another name to go into the OF Yachting Hall of Fame! - **JACK KNIGHTS (K43-47)** Olympic sailor, **BILL COOPER** round the world cruiser, **PAT HOWARD DOBSON (R33-40)** President of the STA, plus four OF's in the 1992 Challenge etc, etc.).

In this part of France we had a wonderful summer which coincided with the completion of our swimming pool. Knowing what rotten weather was experienced in the UK and Northern France I will not dwell too much on the change of lifestyle a pool can offer. We feel quite settled here in Vienne - just as well because the taxes involved in buying and selling a house do not encourage frequent moves. Lyon is nearby and is a beautiful city with much to offer.

The Magazine is really excellent and I thought the article by **JOHN EDWARDS (K45-55)** in the Autumn 1998 issue was the clearest statement yet of the purposes of the College and Brandeston. Perhaps the only part I find slightly depressing is the 'Looking Back 50 Years' section - as I left a few years before that it makes me feel very ancient. The excellent photos of the Brandeston occasion really make me furious that I was not there ! I look forward to seeing the Rowley Hall, albeit with very fond memories of the 'cowshed' (how dare SHE call it that) it replaced. We certainly turned out some talented cows, didn't we Tom ?

We live in Vienne, just 500 kilometres South of Paris, a useful stopover on the way down to the Midi.

I would be very happy for you to publish my address and also that of two of my sons. **PHILIP ROSEN (S63-71)** is at rosen@club-internet.fr (yes, he pinched it first !) and **TIMOTHY ROSEN (S66-76)** is at tim@rconsult.demon.co.uk . If you are at the London supper tonight you may see my brother **TONY ROSEN (S40-48)** and ask him for his address. I close by sending you my best wishes and of course my thanks to you for taking on this job. Good luck !

Address: Chemin des Murieux, 38200, Vienne, France; E-mail: brosen@club-internet.fr

PHILIP ROSEN (S63-71) also sent an e-mail in January:

I've been in France at Louvres just north of Paris (near Charles de Gaulle airport) for quite a few years now (maybe a few too many!). My wife (Christiane) and I have a gym here - a little description of it can be found at : www.club-internet.fr/membres/rosen . Any contemporaries, don't hesitate to drop in for a workout. We have two children : Charles and Jessica, 11 and 10 respectively. Charles actually spent a year at Brandeston a couple of years ago. I thought it might "sort him out" (he's a fairly explosive Franco-British cocktail with a sprinkling of Vietnamese (maternal grandmother)). Anyway I rather got the impression that he sorted them out!

Address: rosen@club-internet.fr

BRIAN SCRIVENER (K48-54) wrote in June regarding another Albert Memorial (see article in this Mag); continuing on a personal note:

"Never have I been so busy since we retired down here and, unfortunately for the garden but fortunately for the translation work, the weather has been really awful. The longest, coldest, wettest winter that we have known in the twelve years that we have had at "St Martin" is continuing into the wettest spring / early summer and that keeps me at my desk with occasional forays into the garden on the few sunny days we've had.

Apart from the Albert Chapel work, the Choral Society (60 French and 6 English voices!) keeps me busy. Two weeks ago we sang Vivaldi's "Magnificat" in Château de Duras with the

Symphonistes d'Aquitaine. This weekend we sang with three other choirs in Laparade Church, each choir singing its own repertoire and all finally combining to sing, in Slav, a part of the Orthodoxe liturgy, "Tié bié paiom". Next year we have been invited to Chester and to Mevagissy, whose choirs have been over here on tour with us, to sing with them as part of their Millenium celebrations.

Valmai is now also involved in a local amateur dramatic society and also helps teach music to some local French school children once a week in addition to having her French lessons, gym sessions, ladies outings.....!

Visits by various friends and family have already started and will continue until mid-October but we would still welcome any OF who would care to pop in for a "pot de l'amitié". Address: "St. Martin", 47410 LAUZUN, France; tel: (+33) 553 94 29 67; fax: 553 94 27 06.

PAT ROGERS (56-60) - see Philippines letter.

Home address: Mas d'Auphan, Le Sambuc, 13200 Arles, France; tel: 0490 972041, fax 0490 972087; E-mail: p.m.rogers@wanadoo.fr

Ghana

ROSIE SKINNER (M93-96) wrote again in January 99 as a follow up to her October 98 letter:

"Sorry about not replying sooner to your letter but I have been busy with work! Projects Abroad is an organisation based in England which arranges work and teaching placements in various overseas countries including Ghana, Mexico, China, Siberia and India. Like most organisations of its kind, they charge vast amounts of money to let us work until we drop! It is quite a good company and is very flexible when it comes to the period of time that you want to work for. They can organise various combinations of work placements as my friends have discovered; and you can choose the exact date that you wish to start on which was ideal for me. The only disadvantage was having to travel here with Egypt Air!

Projects Abroad

"I heard of Projects Abroad through the school that I attended for 6th Form (St Helens, Northwood) and then arranged the whole thing myself - an enormous task for someone of my organisational ability!

"My work placement in the vets is still going well, although I still end each day in a state of numb shock that animals are so neglected here! I am allowed to participate much more in operations and the like here than I would be in England - which is good for me but the dogs probably aren't so lucky!

"I will be back home to UK in March, so don't worry about publishing my address. Address in Ghana until March 99; no UK address provided: c/o Mrs Eva Agyeman Berko, Projects Abroad, PO Box 12953, Accra North, Ghana.

Greece

JONATHAN CAMPBELL(M74-84), brother of **JAMES CAMPBELL (74-82)** in South Africa, sent a brief message in March:

Of course you can add my e-mail address to the list of addresses. I haven't spoken to **JULES ARTHUR (K75-84)** in years so this is obviously a great way of keeping up with people! I was at Fram '74-'84 and in Moreau House. I am now living in Athens, Greece as a banking lawyer – mainly in the shipping market.

Address: Mavromomichali 20, Ano Voula 166 73, Athens, Greece; Tel: +30 1 422 3660; E-mail: jcampbell@wfw.com

Hawaii

BRYAN PEARSON (S45-47) e-mailed in December with his greeting: “Aloha from Hawaii. I hope the sailing was good. I used to sail a lot before I left England, mostly at Waldringfield on the River Deben. At one time, when I was living in Southern California ,and between films, I ran a sailing school at Marina del Rey and also sold yachts there. (*RMR - This had me intrigued, so I asked Bryan what he meant by running a sailing school between films. The result was that Bryan started to write installments of his life history as follows*).

“Go time” (*for writing life history - RMR*) is in the very near future. However, I think I'll have to do it in installments! As a matter of fact, I have had several well known writers ask if they could do my life story but I have never done anything about it. Frankly, I don't think anyone would believe that one person could fit so many diverse professions into one lifetime, or have so many weird things happen to them. Maybe I should write a book, after all I shall be 68 on my next birthday and may not have that much time left to do it, or remember all the details !!

First installment:

I left Fram in June 1947 and obtained my School Cert.A with credits in all subjects but one. Decided that, although only 15 ½ years old, I knew I wasn't cut out for a college education at Oxford or Cambridge and then some sort of academic or office bound career. First job was at Woodall Duckham which was a construction company doing building work for the Ipswich Gasworks, I worked in a trailer doing the payroll and then handing out the pay packets to the men. It was filthy there, coke dust everywhere, and of course the gas smell was atrocious. Through a friend of my father's, I was advised to try and get a job at B X Plastics which was, as far as I can remember, at Manningtree. Started there as an assistant research physicist (!), doing all sorts of interesting tests on the plastic items they produced, abrasion tests on linoleum, tensile strength tests on plastic sheets etc. Quite enjoyed the work, particularly my association with a beautiful young blonde girl who worked in the chemistry lab. Used to travel back and forth to work on my pride and joy, a shiny red Ariel motorcycle, until one day, barreling down a hill on the way to work, I hit a stone in the road and took a frightful spill. Actually I was very lucky as I was wearing a full flight suit which saved me from any road burn, the only injury (apart from that to my pride) was a huge bruise on my back, caused by my shoes which were in a pack on my back digging into me while I was hurtling along on my back.

This brings me to a very important part of my, so far rather uneventful, life. For some reason I can no longer remember, I decided that I wanted to become a merchant marine officer and I persuaded my Dad to enroll me in the Wireless College at Colwyn Bay, Wales. I guess I

had seen one too many movies about the romantic life of seafaring men, strange and exotic ports, sultry women in sarongs etc. but I was determined to get my certificate and hit the high seas. My Dad bought me a gorgeous uniform at Howes in Lowestoft and the college sent me the appropriate badges and cap badge and off I went by train to North Wales.

Morse Code at 200 Words Per Minute

Unfortunately, no-one told me that the training for wireless telegraphy was extremely intensive and that many students couldn't hack it and either quit or went round the bend. Unless you have tried to assimilate Morse Code and send and receive at speeds of about 200 words a minute, you have no idea what it does to your brain. Every type of writing you see is automatically translated into dots and dashes in your head, billboards, street signs, menus....everything! Actually I was doing quite well and outlasted many classmates but then , after joining the Radio Officer's Union, I was told that there was a tremendous glut of trained radio operators due to all the men coming out of the armed services (this was 1948) and that I would probably have to wait several years before getting a seagoing position after graduating from Colwyn Bay. What a bummer !!

2nd installment:

After my second term at Colwyn Bay Wireless College, and realising that my prospects for work in the Merchant Marine were slim to none for the foreseeable future, I returned to Ipswich, planning to re-evaluate my career objectives.

Arriving at Ipswich station from Liverpool Street, it was raining slightly (not uncommon in Suffolk!) and I had missed the last trolley so I decided to walk into Town and catch a tram to Cowper Street where my parents lived. About half way, I heard a car approaching me from behind and, pretty well soaked by now, I guess I looked rather pathetic in my sodden uniform, so the car stopped and I was asked if I wanted a lift into town. Of course I gladly accepted, times being different then and one didn't have to be concerned about accepting a lift.

The driver of the car turned out to be a well known naval architect from Waldringfield and we talked boats all the way to my house, where he deposited me and told me to call him if I felt like going sailing sometime. Needless to say I did just that and we became good sailing buddies, eventually even cruising over to Holland a couple of times on another friend's yacht. Being not long after the war, we were able to bring back all sorts of "contraband" such as steaks, butter, chocolate and cigars !

While sailing one day, my friend Jack asked me what I planned to do in the future, since he knew of my previous endeavours and what had become of them. Before I could really answer, he said "You know, I think you would make an excellent actor, if you had any interest in that sort of thing". In fact ,he said, a very good friend of his was under contract to J.Arthur Rank and he would be delighted to introduce me to him and to ask his advice.

Needless to say, this was quite a surprise and something I had never considered, having managed to evade participating in the Shakespeare play at the Speech Day 1947 in which **JAMES RUDDOCK** made a splendid impression (*JGR – not sure if this was me. I was in Mid Summers Night Dream in 1952; and I think it was Merchant of Venice in 1948 – I can provide cast lists if required*), however it was an intriguing idea and the prospect of working in films was definitely of interest. In those days Rank had a stable of many young actors and actresses under contract, not highly paid but certainly a step above "normal" jobs.

Meeting Dirk Bogarde

The idea rapidly became a consuming passion and so off we went to London to meet Jack's friend, who turned out to be none other than Dirk Bogarde !! This was just about the time that the film "The Blue Lamp" came out and Dirk's name was all over the press, in fact he was rumoured to be engaged to Glynis Johns at the time, although in actual fact, Glynis was married to Anthony Forwood who was Dirk's manager.

The interview went quite well I thought, Dirk Bogarde was just as charming as he is on screen, and he told me some things that I never forgot about the acting profession, in particular that to be a success at it you had to really want it. That meant starting at the very bottom of the ladder, making sets, painting scenery, working the sound effects etc., probably for little or no money, until a break came along, probably in several years. The prospect intrigued me and I agreed that I would do everything possible to achieve the goals that he set for me, and that I would keep in touch to let him know my progress.

Back in Ipswich, I knew that the only hope I had was to become involved with the Ipswich Arts Theatre and, hat in hand, I went to see the manager who told me that I was welcome to help out but there was no money available and I would have to agree to do whatever was required, up to and including playing small parts and understudying, with no guarantee that I would ever be made a part of the resident company.

Naturally I was thrilled with this and couldn't wait to start work, which I did the next day, and meet all the members of the company, among whom was a charming young girl, if a bit of a loose cannon, by the name of Lady Marye Rous, daughter of the Earl of Stradbroke, who was also an unpaid apprentice. We subsequently became great chums and I used to accompany her and her sister Penelope to all sorts of very "county" parties.

Within a very short period of time I was becoming quite proficient in stage management and had graduated to playing small parts in such epics as "Thark", "French Without Tears" etc., the leading lady was Sheila Keith who went on to bigger and better things in London. Needless to say, I was itching to get to play leads and get on the payroll but there didn't seem much chance of that so I took matters into my hands, bought a copy of "The Stage", which is a newspaper devoted to the theatre, and checked the want ads. I was thrilled to find an ad asking for a juvenile lead in a repertory company in Blythe, Northumberland and, without much hope of getting an answer, I sent off a photograph with a resume of my work, very limited though it was, stating that I was currently playing juvenile leads at Ipswich Arts Theatre (!) and that I was available.

Acting Not Worth £5 Per Week

Imagine my surprise when, a few days later, a letter arrived containing a contract and a train ticket to Blythe, salary was 8 pounds per week.

Armed with this, I went to see Warren Jenkins, the general manager at Ipswich Arts Theatre, and asked him if would consider paying me for the work I was doing. I'll never forget sitting there when he asked me what I thought I was worth and I told him 5 pounds a week, at which he cracked up and told me no way could he pay anything like that and he doubted anyone else would either. Whereupon I stood up, offered him my hand, thanked him for giving me a much appreciated start in the business and told him I was accepting the position at the Theatre Royal in Blythe at 8 pounds per week !! His expression remains frozen in my memory as one of

the highlights of my career.

3rd Installment:

After leaving Ipswich Arts Theatre I went to my new employment at the Theatre Royal, Blythe, which was run by a very (in)famous name in the theatre, Fortescue. This was a family affair with Fortescue being the Producer/Director and one of the character actors, his daughter was the leading lady and her husband the leading man. I was juvenile lead and there was a female juvenile lead plus several supporting players. This was a twice monthly rep company, meaning that we presented a new play every two weeks. This involved doing one play, while rehearsing the next and scanning the third...believe me a great training for the stage and one became a very quick study or left the company! I can honestly say that, in those days, if I had had to I could have read a play through a couple of times and gone on the stage and winged it if I had to. We did 8 shows a week, six nights and matinees on Wednesday and Saturday, so we earned our money.

I thoroughly enjoyed myself at Blythe and was becoming quite well known in the community. The, one of the actresses in the company was taking a few days off and said she was going to London to see her agent, which intrigued me no end as I no idea one needed one. She gave me the name of this lady at an agency called International Artists and said that I should go and see them if I went to London and maybe they would take me on.

Not long after that, I was also on a hiatus and given a few days off to rest so I thought I would go to London, catch a couple of West Ends shows etc., and drop in on this agency. Left it to the last minute really, but I remember traipsing up a flight of stairs in Soho and knocking on a window marked International Artists which slid back and I asked to speak to Phyllis Paine (my actress friend's agent) but was told that she was busy and never saw people without an appointment. It sounds rather cocky in retrospect but I remember saying something to the effect of "Look here, I am a working actor and have to get back to my rep. company in Blythe on the train tonight. If Miss Paine wishes to see me it will have to be now or it will be too late". The window slid shut and then flew open again, the secretary stuck her head out and said "Miss Paine will see you now" !!

This woman was really marvelous. She took me in to her office and said that she was most impressed with my aggressiveness, that she really didn't need any more young leading men but, if I would leave her a picture she would "see what she could do". I left her office and went straight to the station and caught the train back to Blythe, thinking that I would probably never hear from Miss Paine again.

Two days later I got a phone call (or it could have been a telegram, I don't remember), saying that she had arranged an interview for me if I could return to London that weekend (the theatre was of course dark on Sundays), have breakfast with the producer, audition, and return to Blythe that afternoon. Of course I was ecstatic, very nervous, and agreed to make the trip without telling the management that I was going back to London again.

It turned out that Jevan Brandon Thomas, the son of the author, was doing a revival of "Charley's Aunt" and they were casting the part of Charley. The real lead in the play is Fancourt Babberley, not Charley, but it is a huge part nevertheless and Charley is on stage virtually the entire play. I met Brandon Thomas, auditioned with the actor playing Jack, the other lead, and went back to Blythe convinced that I had screwed it all up, particularly since I looked a lot younger than "Jack" and was told that the youngest actor to play Charley was 29. They asked my age and I said 22 although, at the time, I was 19 !!

Back at Blythe I was in the middle of rehearsals on the Wednesday after my audition

when a telegram came for me which I ripped open and read "Have offer 24 pounds a week to play Charley, please reply immediately".

You can imagine my excitement and the genuine thrill that the other members of the company got when I told them that I had graduated to the West End. Everyone was very happy for me and full of congratulations although, of course, I had to give my 2 weeks notice and leave all my friends behind.

More in the 4th Installment soon.

Address: 45-501 Apiki Street, Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744-1919, USA. E-mail: bpear26848@aol.com

Hong Kong

RICHARD ROWE (S65-74) (also see USA). I thought that I should write a few lines here although my wife, Denise, and I relocated to Florida in May. Having got married in February in Sri Lanka, my wife decided that after ten glorious years in Hong Kong, it was time to move on. So she grabbed a good opportunity when it presented itself to sell her company – and off to sunny Florida.

We have had a few OF visitors in Hong Kong during the first few months of 1999. I managed to meet up with **NICK JACOB (K67-75)** for dinner one evening during his hectic schedule of business meetings. **CHARLES BLACKMORE (K65-74)** arrived the week before the Hong Kong Sevens in the hope of convincing his employers that he had found a replacement for his position in Pakistan. Although he did miss the Sevens, Charles, **IAN FIDLIN (73-77)** and myself did manage a very long and enjoyable evening which started with watching one of the Rugby Internationals on tv and carried on long into the next morning. It was good to be back in contact with Charles – by some coincidence, he and his three sons and mother-in-law were on the same flight out of Heathrow in January. Although I hadn't seen him in 22 years, his blonde hair was unmistakable. We managed about 2 minutes in Dubai to exchange addresses before they vanished on their connection to Karachi and I on to Hong Kong.

We did try to hold a Hong Kong dinner on the eve of the Rugby Sevens which is normally a favoured date for visitors but this year was not to be with everyone out of town for one reason or another.

I have been in contact with **CHRIS HALL (62-69)** and **IAN FIDLIN (73-77)** (who keeps promising to send details of his brother **FRANK FIDLIN** who is apparently doing photographic work in Germany). I spoke briefly to **STEPHEN NGAI(75-79)**. **CHARLES MICKLEWRIGHT (66-77)** was planning to "retire" in May 99 and return to UK although his brother **ASHLEY MICKLEWRIGHT** is still in Hong Kong as an accountant. **STEPHEN LLEWELLYN(57-64)** is believed to have moved to California (I was given an e-mail address: spl@iscweb.com but was unable to receive any response). I had dinner with **JONATHAN HANCOCK(81-86)** in May – he had just returned from an amazing trip to the secluded country of Bhutan and had lots of stories to tell.

Address from May 99: PO Box 07264, Fort Myers, Florida 33919, USA; tel/fax: 1-941-765-5911; e-mail: richardrowe@compuserve.com

Italy

DAVID MAYHEW (86-92) sent a letter in February 99:

I thought that I write an article to you regarding my whereabouts for the Overseas Bag. After departing from Fram College I studied at Loughborough University along with numerous other Framlinghamians. I studied Product Design and Manufacturing Engineering for 4 years, including a years placement with Northern Foods in Greater Manchester. After receiving a 1st class pass I worked to save for my travels.

On November 10th '96 I set off around the world for 19 months in Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Hawaii and Canada. Working to support my travels I found myself in various roles from hostel work to preparation for a Michael Jackson concert! Not only did I brave all the dangerous sports I could find (Bungy, diving, skydiving, hang gliding, rafting...) but saw many spectacles of nature such as crossing the most active volcano in the world and standing 20 metres from a lava flow, climbing glaciers, being caught in a hurricane and swimming with dolphins in the wild.

Soon after my return on 9th July '98 I found work with Fiat Group being trained for the position of international manager in a variety of countries.

Hopefully in June/July time there will be a large charity party at my parents farm organised by my brother **ALAN MAYHEW**. I would love to invite all members of my year for a reunion there and then, and any other friends from school if they so wish. I would also be happy to hear from any of them.

Congratulations, although late, to **ANDY TWITE** and Stella on their marriage as well as **DONNY STEWART** and **ZOE WRIGHT**. I would also like to know what **RICHIE BOWYER** is still doing down under and what on earth **DAN WILSON** is doing in the police force!!

Address in Italy: Presso Odasso Andrea, Corso Brunelleschi 91/D, 10141 Torino, Italy; tel: +39 11 7707 355.

UK address: Old Hall, Helmingham, Stowmarket, Suffolk; e-mail: djmayhew@hotmail.com

Malaysia

DEREK SEAGROVE (G39-43) wrote to the Editor (JGR) in April and May 1999 to report a change of address. (*JGR - It was a pleasure to have met Derek in Jakarta between riots in November and before he left Indonesia after so many years*). Derek continues:

"I have left Jakarta with sorrow and yet with relief. Although I never felt any personal danger in Jakarta, there was for ever (and still now) that dread feeling that something awful could happen at any time without notice which would thoroughly upset one's daily life routine. I hope that I am proved wrong; but I can tell you that in Penang there are already hundreds of Indonesian Chinese families here from Medan in Sumatra, just in case. It is a sad thing. Regrettably, it will be like the latest elections in Israel, i.e. no one party in Indonesia will win more than 30% of the total vote. Thus the winner must put together a coalition and that is always fraught with problems. There are 11,000 candidates from 48 parties standing throughout the Archipelago.

Even then, that is not the finish. A government will be formed, but not until Oct/Nov is the new President elected. And it won't be Habibie, the incumbent, though he remains in office

sitting over a set of Ministers who hate his guts! The Indonesian President is politically like the US President, i.e. the boss. Chaos can still ensue; and of course, violence.

Meantime, here in Penang, everything is rosy. The Anwar case is under the carpet although new charges of sodomy are being tried in July. He is finished politically, win or lose, and Mahatir rules on, especially as the country seems to be well on its way to recovery.

I am at the end of two months here and have to leave the country for Immigration renewal next week. I do not foresee any problems. Things are so much more free and easy in Penang, it is a well run state – but still people moan and groan about this and that. I can go on a bus or train with ease and no hassle. There is a good bus service into town – about Ringgit 1 for 10 km. Everyone speaks English and for the most part it is good English. Next month I hope to have a vehicle of my own, small like the Fiat used to be but quite good enough.

Flat 1000ft Up

I have a two bedroom flat, fully furnished and looking across the Straits of Penang from about 1000ft up – all for £210 per month. No year in advance rent like Jakarta. Times are hard in Penang for property owners – too many blocks built ready for occupation just as the SE Asian economy collapsed. But Malaysia has not collapsed like Indonesia. There are traffic jams in town because the roads are not wide enough and because Penang drivers prefer to go in one line where there would be three in Jakarta.

So next trip, come to Penang, full of beautiful Chinese class houses and still full of oldie worldie buildings. One eats in old fashioned coffee shops and has nice Chinese food. Water can be drunk safely from the tap. I have a two bed air-conditioned spare room so invitations are welcome but I should wait until I have a car as it is a long walk from the road.

I am helping a tin mine Chinese friend of mine part-time which keeps me occupied. And I have met **BOB HOLLAND (R57-65)** who is a committee member of the Penang Club.

Address: 12-3-11 Seaview Garden, Jalan Bukit Ria, Penang 11100, Malaysia; tel: 60-4-8903616

BOB HOLLAND (R57-65) sent a brief e-mail in June:

Delighted to hear that the move went well, and you are happily ensconced in Florida, which we find to be a really lovely place. We will probably be over in the Orlando area sometime in the year 2000, so we may see you then!

Since we returned from the States and the UK, I have met up with **DEREK SEAGROVE (G39-43)** several times at the Penang Club, and if we can persuade someone else from Framlingham to retire here, we should be able to set up an OF Dinner!

Address: Flat 14-06, 72 Jalan Scotland, 10450 Penang, Malaysia; Tel / fax: 60-4-8271290; e-mail: dutchpn@pc.jaring.my

New Zealand

LLOYD KENYON (26-29) wrote to **TOM SAUL** before Christmas. Lloyd said that he had posted off his Christmas mail to the UK in time to catch the surface mail, only to find that they had all gone by air! Thus he was getting replies well before Christmas. They had not seen much of the sun. It was generally dull and there had been a threat of hail which he hoped would

not materialise as the strawberry season was just getting into full swing.

There was not much to report so far as the sporting world was concerned; but he was glad that the England rugby players had ended the Springboks run of wins.

For Christmas they were going to their daughter in Christchurch and this would be their first excursion since September. As their family was not too keen on them taking long journeys, they were going by Catch-a-bus which was very handy they pick one up and deliver you to the door using small eleven seaters.

1999 promised to be quite interesting with another great-grandchild due in January, cousins from Scotland visiting in February and a grand-daughter due to be married at Easter and another in October.

His garden would continue to interest him, while his other interests - historical society, forest and birds and church groups - would keep him occupied throughout the year.

Address: 15 Oxford Street, Waimate, New Zealand

RMR writes: Whilst searching the internet under "Framlingham College" trying to find the College web site, I found a web site for the Wizard of New Zealand (<http://www.wizard.gen.nz/>) which is the alias for **IAN BRACKENBURY CHANNELL (42-45)**, Christchurch, NZ. I have tried to contact Ian through his web address (wizard@avatar.co.nz) but so far no reply!

Pakistan

CHARLES BLACKMORE (K65-75) made contact by e-mail after our surprise meeting in Dubai airport:

Thanks for your message , it is a real pleasure being in touch again. Thanks for the e-mail from **JULES BRIGHT(40-46)**. I contacted him and he replied with a delightful note about my late father – **ALLAN BLACKMORE(K39-46)**. If you are penning a note for the Overseas bag for the next edition then I had better give you a couple of lines!

*(RMR - **JULES BRIGHT(40-46)** had e-mailed me in Jan 99 with the following message:*

*“**DAVID LEBBELL** kindly gave me the www.chromian.com/of_address name and I was quite pleased to see one or two OFs that I remember. I shall in due course write to them. I was at Fram from 1940-1946 in Kerrison house. Rather uniquely I was one of the few Jewish boys that went there. I was in the house rucker team when we won the inter-house cup when **BLACKMORE** was captain. This was a miracle!! I remember my time at Fram very well but cannot remember what I did yesterday. I suppose that is the price of getting older. Yes it was 52 years ago that I left. I am in constant correspondence with David Lebbell and we have met a few times in the past years and have visited him in Victoria BC. I hope to hear from others of my contemporaries”.*

I had copied this message to Charles Blackmore and he and Jules had corresponded about Charles' late father, Allan Blackmore. Sadly, Jules passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on 29 April 1999)

Met Prime Minister

I came to Pakistan with Jardine Fleming in June 1996, originally for about 6 months to a year. Nearly 3 years, and 3 governments, later....we all know how that happens! I have the responsibility of being Country Manager which means that my aim is to find direct and indirect foreign investment flows and generally look after our investment banking activities. Living in a city of 14 million people in Karachi has not been easy but I expect you need 15 years in the British Army and a few desert trips under the belt to really enjoy it! Last May I had the pleasure of an hours' meeting with the Prime Minister, Nawaz Shariff, the morning after India detonated its second tranch of nuclear devices. We spent most of the time discussing Pakistan's options and sadly, though predictably, he paid no heed to the advice of a British banker with financial interests at heart! The subsequent damaging economic sanctions following Pakistan's response in kind has blown a hole in our business here but the country is slowly coming out of it, thanks to some generous multi-lateral donors. There is plenty to do for the adventurous spirit: walking in Baluchistan; pig shooting (with AK-47s!) in the Sind interior; trekking in the Hunza valley; a trip up the Khyber and more besides. It has been colourful and enjoyable, even though it is a "dry" posting (except for black market whisky) and the violence in Karachi has been a little tight at times. That said, I have only been shot at twice, neither intentional I believe: one at least, as my Patan guard at the house had a negligent discharge with his AK-47 on automatic and the subsequent perforated decoration on my front door is most fitting. He is still my guard! We are not on the tourist route but any visitors will be most welcome - just ensure you bring a bottle of vino.

Address: Charles Blackmore, Country Manager, Jardine Fleming Pakistan (Private) Limited, 2nd floor Bahria Complex II, M T Khan Road, Karachi - 74000, Pakistan. tel: (+92) 21 5610867; fax: 5610261; residence: 5852849; e-mail: charles.d.blackmore@jfleming.com

Philippines

JEREMY SIMPSON (56-64) e-mailed me in January:

I am very sorry to not reply to your e-mail earlier. I go to live in one of the laid-back places in the world and try to import the energy and drive of Hong Kong - so I run around like a wet hen most of the time with no time to sit and cogitate!

I have the e-mail address of **BRETT BAILEY (K58-65)** a contemporary of mine. I got it a day or two ago and still have not written to Brett, but will as soon as I get a phone line in my new house! er- not new - I have just moved to another but older house. Brett's address is brettb@mania.com.au . I saw Brett last in 1985 I think.

Also met a young man who just moved to the Philippines from Hong Kong and now working for Campbell Alexander in Manila - you could try his boss's e-mail campbell@info.com.ph. His name is **TIM FOOTER (82-90)**. We met on a sailing boat in Subic and, as is the way of the world, he turns out to be the guy who was assigned to look after my son **BENJAMIN SIMPSON** for his first term at Brandeston.

Ben is bush-piloting in Kenya (coming to Subic on Monday for three days holiday and then going back to Kenya on a new job) and has an e-address benjoyman@hotmail.com

I have a new website (kind of beta test stage because uploaded only two days ago). Take a look at www.simpsonlequeux.com

Address: Subic Bay, Philippines; e-mail: cambium@svisp.com

TIM FOOTER (82-90) also replied to my e-mail in January:

Its good to hear from you. I was at Framlingham from 1982-90, I am at the moment living in Manila. I bumped into another OF quite recently, Jeremy Simpson here in the Philippines.

Address: Manila, Philippines; e-mail: timfooter@yahoo.com

PAT ROGERS (56-60) sent an e-mail message in April:

Early evening in Puerto Princesa. Darkness has fallen fast, as it does in the tropics. You can see a mile or more down Rizal Avenue, the main drag. There seems to be a sparkling at the far end. We stroll on in that direction. The sparkling becomes thousands of little dancing lights moving gently towards us. Gradually the little dancing lights become candles lifted high with song. The candles are enchanting . A procession lead by song. The song is quiet and mysterious, but not for long. It is soon drowned by a circular tape played over a Tannoy, and the tape has evidently gone around so many times it is stretched and worn out. Three Saints pass by, plus Jesus in a glass coffin. Saints with long noses, my companions comment. Gaudily painted saints with halos of Christmas lights. The rear of the long procession – most of the town must be here – is brought up by the Virgin Mary. It is Good Friday, and early on Easter Sunday morning her veil will be lifted. I had good intentions of getting up to watch this morning, but got no further than half hearing the Rosary being chanted over a Tannoy somewhere, and was grateful at least that this is not a Muslim land.

The Philippines is largely a catholic country, although non-conformist sects are scattered widely. The procession scene is enacted in every town and village on Good Friday – the whole country is full of little dancing lights that evening, which has been preceded by a solemn quietness since Wednesday. Or it used to be like that until the widespread appearance of the two-stroke engine whose shrill roar seems to permeate the town air day and night. People are a bit less religious now, but even so Good Friday is pretty quiet, the only day of the year when everything is closed – the little corner store selling beer and pan de sal, Jollibee (local version of Macdonald's), NCCC. Every other day of the year they will be open, Christmas Day included. Indeed come Sunday all the people who were carrying lighted candles seem to be in NCCC, the local department store. All of them!

NCCC (New City Commercial Center) is an excellent store. Puerto would be a bit lost without it. Manila is packed with huge American-style shopping malls, but not Puerto, which a more or less quaint little place with an intriguing bits American influence left over from the days when the Philippines was an American possession – odd for a country which declared UDI over two hundred years ago to throw off its own colonial yoke. You can buy just about anything in NCCC - supermarket food, household hardware, furniture, school supplies, transformers, tractors, industrial dough mixers...

The countryside is different. Paddy, water buffalo, jackfruit, bananas, fish. Delicious little bananas, not those great big yellow phalluses conforming to EC curves which last two or three meals (for those over age 40). Houses built of wood and bamboo, often on stilts. No wheels. The local transport is water buffalo dragging its load on a sledge. Slowly. Beaches aplenty, lined with white sand, coconut palms and San Miguel beer. Pumpboats skimming noisily over clear blue water, a kaleidoscope of coral populated with brightly coloured tropical

fish. Sadly many of the reefs have been destroyed by dynamite fishing, or cyanide fishing. Illegal, of course, but it continues because enforcement is rare. A few tourists, mostly Filipinos. Long may it so remain! Tourism may appear to be seductively good for the economy, but it is destructive of everything else, and unreliable for the economy.

Palawan has forests too, which are close to my business. Palawan (island and province, of which Puerto Princesa is the capital) is the westernmost island of the Philippines, geologically linked more to Borneo than to the rest of the country. It has an unfortunate reputation as the Philippines Last Frontier, because there is still forest here (most of it has gone in the rest of the country), and all the land is not yet occupied by the county's burgeoning human population.

North West Water in the Philippines

I am employed by the Northwest Water Board (of England, believe it or not) through their consulting company, ULG, to work, at the moment, for Palawan Tropical Forestry Protection Programme, an EU-funded project, as a protected areas specialist. I spent a year, off and on, working to protect St Paul Subterranean National Park, a small but fascinating park which includes 8km of river, half of it navigable, running under a spectacular block of limestone karst. Now I am working on Mt. Mantalingahan, which rises to over 2000m, not so high but the slopes are steep, spectacular and, for the most part, forested. Our job is to keep them so. So out with the Last Frontier, and in with the Last Refuge! – my new public awareness campaign. The purpose is not tourism and amenity, but water. Destruction of the forests will mean floods followed by drought, a destructive combination for an agricultural economy.

Soon I will move to look at Mt. Malindang, in NW Mindanao. You may remember that an airliner tried to knock it over a year or two back. Of Malindang, I know nothing yet, but intend to know a great deal more by the end of the month, working for another EU-funded project (National Integrated Protected Areas Project) when I put in a few months for another consulting company, this time in Rome. Before coming here I was in Lithuania for a company in Florence, and before that in China for a French company.

Here in Palawan I am with Palawan Tropical Forestry Protection Programme, I am here (well, sort of) until the end of April, home for May, then back again until end-Sept as far as I know. I tend to be in and out, or is it up and down, like a yo-yo

PO Box 270, Puerto Princesa City, 5300 Palawan. Tel: +63 48 434 3310. At the end of the week I will be with NIPAP - National Integrated Protected Areas Project, PO Box 1614, QC CPO, 1156 Quezon City tel. +63 2 929 2034; e-mail: nipap@mail.iconn.com.ph

How many of those you put in the mag. I don't know! Life is a matter of e-mail these days!

Home address: Mas d'Auphan, Le Sambuc, 13200 Arles, France; Tel: +33 490 972041, fax: +33 490 972087; e-mail: p.m.rogers@wanadoo.fr (I only use Kalabaw@mozcom.com here in the Philippines – but either will do)

South Africa

ALAN B RICHARDSON (34-40) wrote to **Tom Saul (R19-24)** in April 99 to say that he would soon be a great grand father. He and his wife were then looking forward to the visit of two old friends from Zimbabwe who were neighbours when Alan and family lived in Salisbury

(now Harare). They had also been doing some house sitting for **TOM ADNAMS (S28-37)**.

Alan thought the last two magazines had been most interesting and he could see from the photographs that the "broad stripe" was being worn by the majority of OF's. He had also been interested to read that a Munnings had been found; one had been sold recently for 7.1 million (*RMR – currency not stated*)!!

Alan said that it was a small world - his son had attended a funeral in Ipswich and the service had been conducted by an OF whose name he could not remember but he understood he was shortly retiring and going to live in France.

He still heard from **KEN BOSSERT'S** daughter now living in New Zealand and she and her family seemed to have settled down well.

The cost of living continued to rise in South Africa and it was going to get worse. Alan very kindly enclosed a cheque towards the magazine fund and this has been duly passed to the Treasurer.

Address: 5 Alexandra Drive, Winston Park, Gillitts 3610, Natal; tel: (031) 7673010

CHARLES ROSSITER (S49-55) sent a note to JGR to register his change of address which he says is for a sort of "active retirement".

Address: Charles & Janey Rossiter, 902 Helderberg Village, Private Bag X19, Somerset West 7129, South Africa; tel: (+27) 21 855 3777; fax: (+27) 21 855 0279; e-mail: rossiter@iafrica.com

ADAM PHILLIPS (78-83) keeps in regular contact:

Many congratulations on the announcement of your engagement. With the Spring 99 Mag, we now know what you look like! By the way our address is still the same, but as the Country Elephant has been sold, anything with that name on gets sent to someone else.

If I ever make it back to Framlingham I would probably get lost, as there seems to have been a huge amount of building done since I left.

Well, it is still sunny and hot here. We had a period in February when it did not go below 40c. Fortunately, it has cooled down quite a bit. I have watched a few games in the Super 12 rugby competition. The refs are killing the game.

Fiona's business is going really well (www.cybercellar.com). Thanks for spreading the word, we really appreciate it. On Saturday, we were invited to the Nederburg Auction, which was a grand affair. You would not think we were in a recession, as the price of wines (especially reds) were scarry. There were over 2000 people there and the organisation was unbelievable. We have sold a tiny stake in the business to two private investors. The money will help to position the company in the e-commerce market.

So what sort of business are you folks going to run in Florida? Florida is a great place, especially the Keys. You should not find the humidity a problem coming from HK.

Address: PO Box 132, Simondium 7670, South Africa; tel: +27 21 874 1355; e-mail: aphillip@boland.co.za

JAMES CAMPBELL (74-82) sent an e-mail in March:

I am just returning from the UK at the moment. Due to the poor reliability of the mail to South Africa, I have the SOF magazine sent to my parents home in Felixstowe. I greatly enjoyed

reading the magazine on the long return flight and am amazed about the level of progress with both the College and the SOF. It indeed would be very useful to have a "formalised" e-mail listing of OF's and I think the web-site you referred to is a step in the right direction. I am just on my way back from the Harvard Business School Global Alumni Conference in Cape Town and the management of their alumni over the internet is very impressive. Maybe we could learn a thing or two from them?

I noted from the history section from the Spring 99 OF magazine (pg 34-35) about a "missing" (from Framlingham) glass diamond replica of the famous Cullinan Diamond from the Premier Mine in South Africa. Maybe I could ascertain the whereabouts and value of the remaining 12 glass replicas? (*RMR - Any information on the glass diamonds would be most interesting*).

I intend to return again to the UK in late April and all things being equal would like to visit Framlingham with my brother, **JONATHAN CAMPBELL (M74-84)**, though as my father is rather sick at the moment this may have to wait. Jonathan mentioned something about a major ball next year; do you by any chance have any details on this? (*RMR – Sat 1 July 2000 – I will send you an application*)

I had planned to meet up with **TIM SMART (75-82)** at the press conference, where De Beers' 1998 results were released, but unfortunately he could not make it due to intense work pressures. Another time.....

I have also spoken to **ADAM PHILLIPS (78-83)** (from Cape Town) on the telephone and communicated to him by e-mail and intend seeing him (if possible) when I visit Cape Town for a more extended visit later this year.

As a result of my "posting" in the OF magazine, a great friend from Framlingham of my brother got in touch with me to ask his whereabouts. They have now renewed their friendship "across the miles." Jonathan is in Athens and **JULES ARTHUR (K75-84)** is in San Diego. Jules' web-site is <http://home.earthlink.net/~mrrarthur/> and e-mail address mrrarthur@earthlink.net
Address: James A.H.Campbell, PA to the Chairman, De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited, Corporate Headquarters, Post: Private Bag X01, Southdale 2135, RSA; (Street: De Beers House, Cnr Amethyst & Crownwood Rd, Theta, Johannesburg 2013); Tel: +27 (11) 374 7104; Cell: +27 (83) 457 3724; Fax: +27 (11) 374 7058; e-mail: jcampbell@debeers.co.za.

USA

RICHARD ROWE (S65-71) - I thought that I had better write a few more words under the USA country heading, so that everyone will realise that I have moved. I have just about been here a month and it has been pretty hectic re-establishing the business (Business consulting – particularly implementing good management practice such as ISO 9000 – www.isotec1.com). We are currently renting a small apartment off Denise's parents while we look for something bigger. A shame it is so small as it is in a great location in a quiet area overlooking a nature reserve. We are only 30ft from the water's edge and regularly have ospreys, pelicans, herons, spoonbills and egrets. We have regular visits by dolphins and there are supposedly manatee and otters.

Next week we are driving up to Cape Cod in preparation for the family's celebration of 4th July (I can't understand all the fuss about celebrating victory over the British!) – and then on

to visit some friends in Maine. By the time we finish, we should have driven up most of the Atlantic seaboard.

Address: PO Box 07264, Fort Myers, Florida 33919, USA; tel/fax: +1-941-765-5911; e-mail: richardrowe@compuserve.com ; www.isotec1.com

BRIAN IVORY (K48-52) wrote two long letters in December 1998 and May 1999 including reporting a change of address:

It's been about two months since I received the school mag, so it about time that I brought you up to date with the latest news of the "Ives"!

Regarding your report of the Perth Dinner, I really don't recall the episode of the "Potty in the Clock Tower" that **KEN MACKENZIE (45-53)** spoke of. I think he must have been really enjoying the occasion and had a slip of memory!! Anyway, I wonder where the potty came from? Maybe the Rev. Knease!!!! Only kidding – probably the San.

On 31 December 1998, I finally retired from Turner Construction Company – my thirty years with the company having been acknowledged earlier in the year. It was goodbye to many friends in the company and throughout the construction industry and very hard to realise that I was walking out the door for good. The company were very generous throwing a sumptuous farewell party at the Hyatt Regency Hotel complete with a limo door to door!

Building in Shallotte

1st February saw us signing final papers on our home at Orchard St, then off to N. Carolina to start a new adventure in Shallotte. Our house at 219 Orchard Street sold two days after the For Sale sign went up in October. It is exciting times – a little scary too with all the decisions about the move, new house, choice of builder, bank accounts and temporary accommodation. The bonus for us is to sense the buyers great enthusiasm about moving into what has been our home for thirty years. We have rented a condominium by the sea while we have a new home built. The design drawings of the house have been developing for the last few years and now it is interesting and exciting to see it come to fruition. Hopefully we will have it completed by sometime in October 1999.

Shallotte is a small town of only about 2,000 but it is surrounded by several developments (which they call "plantations") which increases the population considerably. We are located about 2 miles south of the town on a 35 acre lake adjacent to the Shallotte river. The development is called "Rivers Edge" and is presently adding an 18 hole golf course designed by Arnold Palmer. Though I am not a golfer, it looks pretty good to me. Hopefully when the house is done I'll be able to get in some serious fishing.

Since beginning retirement I have been kept fully occupied which is great and I don't miss getting up at 5.45 a.m to go to the office! In between working on the house, I have put together a couple of ship models which I just pick up and down when it suits me. Yvonne has made progress on her 19th century letters. Each month has brought new surprises. The Archival Department in the City of Glasgow provided some fascinating information on one batch of letters from 1820's between a Scottish family and a friend in Philadelphia.

Everyday we try to get in our exercise walking two or three miles along the beautiful hard sandy beaches here in Carolina. The big plus of being down here is being near my sons and their families especially the Granddaughter! They are just 2 hours away which beats the 900 mile

separation we had in Boston. Neil's company has kept very busy. He, as an individual, was invited to spend 6 weeks in Abu Dhabi, UAE in early Fall. It was a contract for the US State Department that proved to be most successful with talk of a return trip in 1999. Glen too has traveled extensively – he spent three interesting months in the Sarajevo area at the beginning of 1998. It was very disappointing to have to cancel his planned family trip north to be with us for Thanksgiving as he was off again to we know not where. Now he is in Poland.

With all the family effects in store, I haven't been working on my railroad memorabilia for a while. There are a couple of shows in Charlotte and Raleigh later in the year. Wilmington, 30 miles north of here has a pretty good railroad museum (almost as good as mine). It was very interesting to read the article in the last OF Mag on the "Fram" line – it brought back many memories.

Next year is going to be the big celebration and get together at Fram. I would really like to attend but whether it will be possible I'll have to wait and see. It's always terrific to receive the school Mag and read up on all the latest news. Incidentally, say "hi" to **BARRY WILSON (G48-52)** from me, he was in my class and we were good pals with **MICHAEL BROWN (S48-53)**. Somewhere I have an old photo of the three of us on the Dennington Road complete with school hats and scarves!

The years certainly have seen many changes from when we were at the school. Certainly they now have some lovely facilities which should allow each student to do his or her thing.

Next time you come across the "lake" to visit, hopefully you will be able to stay with us here in Shallotte. We'll have to teach you the North Carolina accent and introduce you to "hush puppies" (balls of deep fried corn flour). Keep up the great work you are doing.

Address: PO Box 1786, Shallotte, NC 28459, USA

RMR - I have regular communication with **IAN SEELEY (57-64)** in order to update the "OF E-mail Address List" (www.chromian.com/of_address). So I hope Ian will excuse the bits and pieces that I have extracted from our many messages over the past six months:

I am trying to teach myself the skills of building web pages, so this is a perfect opportunity to put up a new page for the OF E-mail Address list. Normally I might not be able to respond so quickly, but I think it makes life interesting. Hope you like the castle photo on the web page. Enjoy your trip in Ceylon. I expect they're big on tea. My favourite is Sainsbury's Extra Forte. Brother in law brings kilos of it over for me.

Snow/freezing rain last night, brilliant blue skies and strong sun this a.m. 34°F. Saw your picture in the mag. Very handsome my wife says. Now I can put the face to the email. I am just revising my own website for this nerve gas thing. I may have to go out to Chicago or Indiana for some field testing of it. I'll attach a picture of the office as it was this week (*RMR – photo by e-mail showing a building almost lost under snow*). I lost most of my precious cherry tree, the source of the best cherry heering that you've ever tasted. (A Russian lady in one of my training classes gave me the recipe years ago, and it makes a lovely liqueur.)

Monster rain storm last night. I still have to get out and chainsaw up the chunk of maple that just missed the house, and the bits that the snow cracked off my lovely cherry tree. The snow was so heavy that night that many trees and limbs came down.

Was very pleased with my trade fair in Orlando. A group from the US army came by my booth and wanted to buy my unit for desorption of nerve gas samples - no expense spared. So I've got to get that mailing out. Then the Germans from Muelheim generated a lot of interest in

the mass spectrometer software, and that's red hot as well. All in all it was quite a trip.

Brother in law arriving Friday for the weekend, hopefully the bearer of tons of Marks and Sparks Extra Forte tea, the only thing that gives us the strength to overpower the colonists. He also brings Daily Telegraphs and other mental sustenance.

Well, another weekend with computer in bits, but I think I am all set now. The problem is that Plug N Play is really Plug & Not Play. Anyway, I am wiser for it (or at least better educated). There are certain programs (Maxtor) that almost act like computer viruses in Windows98.

Address: Chromian, 135 Chestnut Ridge Road, Bethel, CT06801, USA; tel: 1-203-798-8549; fax: 1-203-792-8879; e-mail: seeleyir@ix.netcom.com

TONY CURTIS (circa 1975) wrote in December '98 and just too late for the last Bag:

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year! Christmas once again, and, only one more year to the big dome millennium! So, I thought I would draw up a few lines and make the most of my computer before it no doubt crashes on 31stDecember 1999!

It's been so long since I wrote to the OF Society, the years just seem to slip past too quickly these days and nostalgia starts setting in.

I'm still 'registered' in the UK at the below address for mail; however, I work in Miami now for Royal Caribbean International (RCI) Cruise Lines as Food & Beverage/Hotel Manager on board a 70,000 ton vessel, Splendour of -the Seas.

I was working in Nassau, Bahamas for Sandals Resorts for three years, but received a call from RCI back in January this year. The deal is 4 months on board sailing around the globe and 2 months vacation - sounds great, though I found it tough & strenuous (the 4 months that is!)!

Christmas this year will be spent in Cayman Islands and Cozumel, Mexico. I'm glad to be back in the warmth at this time of year, but you always miss the family spirit whether in bottle or in person.

Anyway, have a fantastic Christmas & Prosperous New Year, and hopefully we will see each other before the year 2000 or I hit 40 whatever!

Merry Christmas & please could you send me details of joining the OF Society as a paying member after reading about the decline in numbers. I will be in the US/Mexico from December 4th - April 4th 1999, then on vacation until June 4th 1999. (*RMR - I sent information in a letter to Southwold in Dec98. Do you have a US contact address or e-mail?*)

Address: c/o Cutis's Restaurant, 51A High Street, Southwold, Suffolk, IP18 6DJ, UK; tel: UK - 0780 125 7547; USA - 1 407 427 1724.

JULES ARTHUR (K75-84) made contact from San Diego:

What do you do in Hong Kong? I spent sometime there & in Macao.

I was in Kerrison. Started at Brandeston in 1975 and finished Fram in 1984. We have two other OF's in San Diego. **DUNCAN LUMSDEN (Z84)** and **NICHOLAS JOHN ARTHUR (APPROX 63-66)**. Nick Arthur lives in La Jolla, San Diego. He is married to a Californian Paddi with two sons Julian and Christopher. He used to President for Wimpey/Morrison Homes in Southern California. He now has his own real estate/investment company. He had two brothers. **BRIAN ARTHUR (K52-58)**, my father, who was killed in a DC 10 plane crash in Paris in 1974 and **IAN ARTHUR (K56-64)** who resides in Norfolk with his wife and family.

Ian does not have an E Mail. I will write in detail on what they are up to at a later date. (*JOHN SIMPSON (K32-36) notes that The Society founded a prize in memory of BRYAN ELLIS (49-55) and BRIAN ARTHUR, both were part of the Bury St Edmunds Rugby Team killed in the DC10 crash. It is now included in the Speech Day prize list but it fell to me, as the then President, to make the first presentation).*)

DUNCAN LUMSDEN is a wine dealer in San Diego and the godfather to my eldest. Again I'll submit an article on the San Diego contingent in the next magazine.

I am a qualified Chartered Surveyor who emigrated to the US four years ago. I am now an commercial real estate broker specializing in multi-family investments. What I actually do is sell big apartment buildings \$1,000,000 - \$100,000,000. It's a far cry from being a surveyor but significantly more lucrative. I know **JOE HANCOCK (81-86)** who is out in Hong Kong with you. His brother was a good friend of mine and his father used to play rugby with mine. I spent sometime in Hong Kong & in Macao.

Duncan & I both used to play rugby for OMBAC the six time US national champions. Duncan along with Joe is one of the better rugby players to have gone to Fram. He played in the Dubai Sevens for the U.S. and could have played for the US if he had been a legal resident. We've played against Sale, LLaneli and Orrell. 1-1-1. Our most prominent teammate was Dan Lyle who now plays for Bath/Barbarians/US.

Other OF E mail addresses:

GORDON ELLIS (G76-84) gordon.ellis2@virgin.net

SARAH CLARKE (NEE BELL) (P79-84) sarah@bellgroup.demon.co.uk

MARK CALVERT (K75-84) mark@adler-allan.freeseerve.co.uk Mark also has a website for his company.

HENRY SIMPSON (K74-84) henry@adler-allan.freeseerve.co.uk

I have a few more at work which I'll forward on to you. (*RMR – I look forward to receiving more information on your OF colleagues*)

Address: e-mail: mrrarthur@earthlink.net

Zimbabwe

MICHAEL THOMSON (K55-59) sent an e-mail as promised in May:

It is astonishing that I have now been in Zimbabwe for 5 months working as a General Medical Officer in a rural Mission hospital. Some of your readers may recall that my wife and I spent 2 years in Namibia working in a small isolated part of the Caprivi strip and much of the work that I am doing in Murambinda is similar. Babies and the delivery of them is still a large part of the workload although a liberal and strongly promoted contraceptive Government programme had made an impact on fertility rates. Most African women, and Saudi Arabian it is interesting to note, have 6 children but this has been reduced to 4.3 in Zimbabwe. It means that our maternity unit delivers 6 or 7 babies a day (and an equal number are delivered at home) and inevitably some will need Caesarean sections. I have done more in 5 months here than I did in two years in Namibia. Happily our maternal mortality rate is quite low (by third world standards) and of those that do die many have other diseases such as malaria.

The malaria season is just ending and does not seem to have been too bad this year in spite of unprecedented heavy rains. Fortunately the cheaper drugs are working well without too much evidence of resistance developing. Resistance to drugs for bacteria and malaria parasites is

becoming a serious worldwide problem much of it the result of careless and unregulated prescribing and over the counter sale of antibiotics. A further problem is the ability of the Zimbabwe Government to purchase drugs. I am sure that you will be aware of the adverse publicity about Zimbabwe in the English press particularly as it relates to the land ownership issue. Although inflation is approximately 18% and many people are very poor there is little evidence of civil unrest although there are critics of the Government policies particularly the war in the Congo. Here in Murambinda the main concern is survival not politics.

In a country that cries out for a National Health Service it is quite beyond the Government to provide. User charges have been a fact of life for years but recently these have been steeply increased in the main towns and reduced access to this level care by a large segment of the population. We are faced daily with patients who require relatively simple services, say cataract removal, but who are quite unable to afford the out patient and inpatient fees or even the bus fare to get to the hospital. Drugs are increasingly in short supply and it is only through the sharp activities of our pharmacy technician (we can not get or afford a pharmacist) that we manage to keep our supplies coming. The debate in England on rationing/priority setting is laughable when compared with the situation here and no doubt in most third world countries.

AIDS pandemic

Underlying and permeating everything in Zimbabwe is the continuing AIDS pandemic. It is still on an horrendous scale. 20% of the population is HIV positive and the proportion is higher amongst the 15 - 49 sexually active age group. Thin miserable babies carried by thinning mothers or brought by grandparents are common place. Intercurrent infections with abscesses and bizarre forms of virus induced skin disease are daily sights. TB, taking advantage of the immunocompromised patients, is increasing alarmingly and with it is coming multiple drug resistance to the bacterium.

It is all a bit doom and gloom but I have to say I love the work. The variety and severity of the clinical signs is fascinating and a far cry from the psychosocial medicine of the Western world. We have overseas medical students regularly for their electives and they spend their first week with their eyes on stalks with so much gross pathology on display. The day is full of hands on activity and there is always something to be doing around the hospital to try and keep it all going. I am 58 this month but I can not see any attraction in retirement unlike many of my colleagues at home in England. Any OF doctor who wants a change (but little income) should give third world medicine a go. They will be seeing all those things that they have only read in textbooks and doing things they would be struck off the register for at home! Any takers? Currently we are looking for a replacement doctor.

Address: PO Box 20, Murambinda Mission Hospital, Murambinda, Zimbabwe; e-mail mthomson@healthnet.zw (or michael.thomson2@virgin.net)

UK

As **TOM SAUL (R19-24)** is a regular contributor to the Overseas Bag with extracts from letters from his OF colleagues from around the world, I thought I should publish his address. Tom says it is always good to hear from any of his contemporaries
Address: 21 Meadway, Harrold, Bedfordshire, MK43 7DR, UK.

JOHN WATTERSON (Hon. OF, MASTER 75-93) wrote in May to describe his six month odyssey in early 1998 through America, New Zealand, Australia and South Africa which brought him into contact with several OF's:

Enclosed is an article outlining my travels in 1998 in which I met or stayed with six Old Framlinghamians. I have written the account in fairly abbreviated style, so I hope you will be able to print it in toto.

In New Zealand, I joined up with **HAMISH JENKINSON (90)** who in 1990 became the first Gap Student to spend a year at Framlingham. He returned to do a teaching course, studying History at Christchurch University. He now teaches at Pukekohe just south of Auckland. Together we visited Lake Taupo, the wine region of Gisborne, East Cape and Tauranga before staying at the Jenkinson family home at Thames. Although we had the use of Hamish's car, we stayed at Backpackers and on one occasion made the most of the beer offer at \$2 a pint (less than £1).

After moving on to Australia I stayed with **ANTHONY BLAIR (Gap Student 1997)** at his parents' home in Canberra where we managed to take in a Super 12 rugby match between A.C.T. Brumbies and Otago Highlanders. The highlight of my various visits in Australia was to the Eyre Peninsula in South Australia. In 1972, I had spent a year on an exchange teaching scheme, teaching at a little country school in Cummins, approx 400 miles from Adelaide. I stayed with four of my former colleagues and met up with eleven of my former pupils who were genuinely pleased that I had made the effort to contact them – the whole experience was very rewarding!

When en route to South Africa, I had to change planes at Perth. The departure lounge was filled with South African Super 12 rugby players: the Western Stormers (Cape Province) on their way to play in Australia and New Zealand and the Coastal Sharks (Natal) including Joubert and the SA Captain Teichmann returning from their tour (and travelling on our plane) to Johannesburg.

At Cape Town, I stayed with another Gap Student, **LUSHANE PREZENS (1995)** and her family. Using Mum's car, we were able to explore many parts of Cape Province: Table Mountain, Cape of Good Hope, the wineries and University at Stellenbosch and Paarl, where nearby was Nelson Mandela's home for many years – the Victor Verster Prison! **ADAM PHILLIPS (G78-83)** lives near Paarl and invited me to call and see him for afternoon tea. This developed from tea to beer to wine and a braai (BBQ) which went on until 1 a.m! A truly great spontaneous party with Adam's charming wife, Fiona and various other friends. Earlier in the evening, Adam had arranged for another OF, **TIM SMART (R75-82)** to ring me. He was a former member of one of my Colts rugby teams and gym club and is now a journalist in Johannesburg. Tim was in Cape Town taking part in a marathon race. We arranged to meet next day at Cape Town's Waterfront where we had some beers and lunch before Tim's return flight to Johannesburg.

My last encounter with an Old Boy was with **GUY BROOKE-SMITH(41-44)**. I had obtained his address from the Overseas Bag of an earlier OF mag in which Guy had invited anyone from Framlingham to visit him and his wife. He lives on the Garden Route area about 450-500 km east of Cape Town. The journey by coach was not without incident as the coach filled with smoke before we reached half way. We had to evacuate the coach before it caught fire. Eventually, six hours later, Guy picked me up in George. The rest of the stay was terrific

particularly the car journey with Guy and his wife Margaret to the limestone caves at Kango and over the Oudtshoorn Mountain pass with breathtaking views in all directions.

All in all it was a wonderful journey with so much variety, beauty and interest. All greatly enhanced by the companionship I experienced from meeting former colleagues, acquaintances, friends and Old Boys – cementing these friendships for all time.

Address: 17 Swainston Way, Dennington, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP13 8DB; tel: 01728 638730.

RUPERT CHENEVIX-TRENCH (71-75) is General Manager at the OXO Tower Restaurant on the South Bank - address: OXO Tower Restaurant, Barge House St, South Bank, London, SE1 9PH; tel: 0171 803 3883; fax: 0171 803 3878.

ADRIAN SMALLWOOD (S84-88) wrote:

My grandfather, **JOHN SIMPSON**, has forwarded to me your e-mail about OF addresses and the website. I'm glad that, at last, there is some kind of directory for contacting OFs even if it still in its infancy. Please add my details to the list and I shall pass the word around other OFs I know in the City so that they can contact you if they wish to be included.

My details are:

Adrian Smallwood, Stradbroke 84-88, a.smallwood@ukonline.co.uk

MARK CALVERT (K75-84) sent an e-mail in March:

My new email address is mark@adlerandallan.co.uk . URL of our company web site is www.adlerandallan.co.uk . Henry Simpson's email address is henry@adlerandallan.co.uk I would be delighted to see our details in the OF listing. I was pleased to see the technological improvements to OF communication!! For your information I would update you as follows:

Mark Calvert (75-84 incl. Brandeston Hall), Constable House at Brandeston and then Kerrison at Fram. Married Nicola in 1993. we now have three children, Thomas (3 yrs), Georgia (2yrs) and Olivia (3 months). We now live in Harrogate.

I have worked for Adler & Allan Ltd for the last six years, a family business based in London. Last year we took on **HENRY SIMPSON (75-84)** who now runs the London office. I moved to Harrogate to expand a Northern operation. So far so good. I still keep in contact with a number of OF's and can supply contact details for: **ALASTAIR MOTION (K82-84); GARETH PAGE (G79-84); GORDON ELLIS (G75-84); JON HEAP(R?-84); JUSTIN OSBORNE (G74-84); SEGUN OSUNTOKUN (K82-84); ADAM FITCH (R80-84)**

I also meet up with a number of other OF's from time to time. I will send an email with better info in due course. I trust this is sufficient for now, but should you require anything at all please let me know.

Address: Foxwood House, 64 Kent Road, Harrogate, N. Yorks, HG1 2NL; tel: 01423-508378; e-mail: mark@adlerandallan.co.uk

My name is **ELIZABETH MARTINEZ (NEE GRODZICKA) (Z78-80)** - one of the early girls. I am also the step daughter of **NEVILLE BROMAGE** and can pass on any e-mail to him (until Sept 99). So until I persuade him to go on-line, there is no permanent e-mail address

for him.

I left Fram in 1980 and went to college, but dropped out, after several years in the catering industry I joined the civil service, working at RAF Bentwaters. I met my husband there and went out to Austin Tx with him in 91, he is in the US Air Force, we had our first daughter in 92, then moved to Panama City Fl, in 95 we had a second daughter. Last June he went to Korea for a year long tour, and I came home, I had third daughter in September. He came over for one month at Christmas and has now nearly reached the end of his tour, though he has to go stateside for three months training before I see him again at the end of September when we will be stationed at Mildenhall. Hoping to retire here. I went to my first Annual dinner for over a decade, and I have to say I thoroughly enjoyed it, though I didn't drink as I was Neville's chauffeur. I will attend functions in the future and who knows may even get more involved in the OF life. I will be in touch again.

Address: Liz Martinez (nee Grodzicka) - e-mail: Lhefenalde@aol.com

CHRIS BURRAS (R55-60) sent a brief e-mail:

A very interesting web site .Would you kindly put my email address on the list. I was at Fram '55-60 in Rendelsham. For the last 23 yrs I am a Care manager, caring for 35 Physically handicapped youngsters at Froyle Alton Hants, at a Special school called Lord Mayor Treloar School.

Address: JCKB@cwcom.net

CAROLINE HUNTER-RODWELL (M91-93) was at Fram between 1991 and 1993. Boarded in Moreau House. I still live in Ipswich, Suffolk, as does my brother **WILLIAM HUNTER-RODWELL (R90-92)**. I still keep in contact with **KATIE KERR** (Victoria), **SAM PHELAN** (Moreau), **JONATHAN PAUL** (Rendlesham), **FRASER WARREN** (Stradbroke), **PADDY BISHOPP**, **DUNCAN BUSH**, and **JAMES GWYNN**.

I would like details of obtaining a new subscription to the OF magazine and other details of people in my year who left in 1993.

Email: caroline@hunter-rodwell.freemove.co.uk

MARK TURNBULL, K 69-73, now lives at "Common Place", Yaxley Road, Mellis, Nr Eye, Suffolk IP23 8DP
E-mail: mark@ivanhoe99.freemove.co.uk

MANSELL H BEARD (House master – Brandeston in the 60's) is still selling copies of his award winning Brandeston Hall films in video format (see notice on page 76 Autumn 98); these starred many pupils at Brandeston during 1962-70 (*RMR – I have seen most of the videos. Although I can hardly recognise myself, I can recognise many of my contemporaries. It is amazing watching them on film at that age not knowing that some of them were destined for senior management in international commerce now!*). Mansell is interested in getting in contact with the **ROSEN** brothers, **BEN COOPER** and **NICHOLAS INNELL**. (*RMR – the Rosens and Nick Innell are known – does anyone know of Ben Cooper – Brandeston approx 66-70?*).

In a note to RMR in June, Mansell continues: I heard from **BRIAN ROSEN** who gave me his son's, **TIM**, address. Framlingham College couldn't help me with an old Brandeston Hall address list – do you know if one exists? I gather from Brian that they had a “50 Years” celebration at BH last year but I didn't know anything about it!!! Do you know where the **PEMBERTON**'s live?

Address: Village Farm, Thirn, Ripon, N. Yorks, HG4 4AU.