

## Overseas Bag

I have received an interesting Bag of mail for this magazine; I say “Bag” though many of the letters have not been near a postbag in their journey to my desk as they have come by e-mail. The e-mail has become a major form of communication in recent years - and I believe it will help to increase communication amongst the SOF. Chris Garrard (K41-47) – caj.garrard@btinternet.com - has offered to assist in the setting up of a register of OF e-mail addresses like a “directory enquiries” so as to help OFs to keep in touch - especially as e-mail addresses were not included in the recent update of the College Register.

However, I am pleased to hear news of all OFs from around the world by whatever means they wish to communicate. James Ruddock has recently given me his list of about 400 OF overseas addresses; but it is already apparent that some of these are out of date. This often means that many OF fail to receive their magazines and fall out of touch. In my own region of the world, Hong Kong, I have lost contact with several OFs as a result of my 18 months away; but the records also show 7 recent College leavers with Hong Kong addresses with whom it would be great to have contact. So where-ever you are, please keep in touch by phone, fax, post or e-mail; and please include news of any other OFs that you know. Maybe a few more regional dinners with the appointment of regional OF supper secretaries would help keep the contact list up to date. (p.s. please note my new postal address though the old address will still reach me for a few more months). Address: 7/f Circle Tower, 28 Tang Lung Street, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong; Tel: (852) 9238 3799; Fax: (852) 2900 8107; E-mail: richardrowe@compuserve.com

p.p.s. At the 11<sup>th</sup> hour before the deadline, **IAN SEELEY (57-64)** e-mailed again to give the address of an OF e-mail address web page that he has set up on the Internet. ([www.chromian.com/of\\_address.htm](http://www.chromian.com/of_address.htm)). I will be happy to have comments on this page, future developments, procedures and concerns - but it is an excellent starting point.

## Australia

**L R PEEK (33-38)** sent a cheque for £50 in May 1998 as his contribution to the OF magazine subscription (*thank you very much - cheque forwarded to Hon. Sec. V N Bromage*). In his letter, he continues: “ I enjoy the magazine but am sad at the relatively sparse news from or about my contemporaries; but in view of what happened to most of us, I suppose that is not to be unexpected. However, I am glad to see a few familiar names among the Past Presidents and Vice Presidents. Please give my regards to **JOHN CLYMER** (we did time together!), **PETER BAILEY**, **DENIS KINELL**, **GENERAL SIR PAT HOWARD-DOBSON**, **NORMAN BORRETT**, **KEN MAYHEW**, and **PAT STILES** when you catch up with them.

Ron was unable to travel to the Perth supper in November but the Editor (JGR), who was visiting WA at the time, had a long & interesting conversation by telephone and regretted that they were unable to meet personally and chat over old times. Ron spent 30 years in Singapore with his own transport and warehousing company before moving to Australia in 1968. It was extremely difficult to get jobs at that time. Ron retired in 1973 when he was under 50 years of age. As part of his war service, he had been a PoW in Burma. Address: 1 Palmer Street, Attadale, WA 6156, Australia.

**PETER HOLLINS (70-75)** sent an e-mail to me at the beginning of November: “I was searching for your address at the end of last week as James Ruddock is due in Perth at

the end of November which I am looking forward to. His visit served as an incentive to track down an OF here, **JONATHON AMOS (??-71)**, who was one of my first prefects in Moreau House in 1971. I also tracked down **MIKE STEWART (K72-76?)** who is a Major in the Australian Army in NSW. His parents live in Perth.

In a Christmas letter, Peter went on to say “We have had an exciting year with the major event being the addition of a fourth signatory to this letter – Matthew James Allatt. Matthew was born on the 20th of June on schedule and in full volume! Mum and Dad were in Perth to organise the family for the occasion and I think that they were almost excited as Sal and I were. Matthew almost immediately caught a cold off Emma and for weeks snuffled and sneezed with his parents listening intently to the monitor, (when one of them wasn’t watching the World Cup Soccer almost intently!) Since September Matthew has been great – he’s a very happy, relaxed baby – always smiling. Even better is that Emma has taken to him and Matthew is now Emma’s “best friend.”

Emma is great fun, though with a strong streak of independence. Only two things really worry her – getting soap in her eyes when washing her hair and, secondly, Father Christmas! Earlier this week Emma was at a picnic when Father Christmas appeared so she promptly hid behind a tree and when her name was called she took off in the opposite direction about as quickly as an English batsman confronting McGrath!

I made a resolution when I started out to write this letter that I wouldn’t mention the “Battle for the Ashes,” (did I write ‘battle?’) as we all know that the English can play cricket but they just don’t choose to play it very often!

I am writing this part of the letter on a Saturday afternoon sitting outside enjoying 28 C – we’ve recently had plastic screens installed around our patio to shut out the sea breeze and we now have a beautiful area to sit outside with a view over the park. It’s a big sporting day here in Australia – Justin Langer is sorting out the English attack, WA have dismissed NSW for 56 and the Internationals lead the Americans in the President’s Cup golf by 14 points to 5. Now if no 7 can win the next race at Ascot I’ll be very happy. Talking horses – the young colt that we had bought to replace Anderida had a lifestyle change earlier this year deciding that life at a riding stable was much better than at a racing stable. (He had two Trials and was so far behind in the second race that we had to send out a search party!)

The early morning running, (other than to Matthew’s room at 3.30am) and swimming ceased with “Maph’s” (Emma’s pronunciation), arrival. There has been an occasional game of golf when I have been able to get the clubs unseen by “she who must be obeyed. I, carried by teammates, have qualified for a State Corporate golf playoff day next year – I will have to get lots and lots and lots and lots of practice,(I hope Sal’s convinced by this.)

Last January we went to Sanctuary Cove in Queensland for a few days with AMCAP. We took Emma and her nanny of the time, Debbie, and it was a great hit. Em’s a pretty good flier and has the stewardesses pretty much under control. She loves swimming and the resort was just the place with a huge lagoon – with a lot of fellow AMCAP persons to look after her. The trip back from Sydney to Perth was appalling as Emma was not well, fortunately I was on a plane later in the day.

We are currently planning a trip to the UK in April to see that Dominic gets properly married after spending the last two decades reviewing the situation. Sally’s Company may be opening in the UK in Summer 1999 so she would be across for a longer period and would take both Emma and Matthew at that time. So it may just be me for Dom’s wedding.

Sal and I went to a WA Old Framlingham dinner which was inspired by the visit of JGR coming out in the hope of seeing the MCC Touring Party last for five days of entertainment at the WACA! At least the dinner went on as long as the first England innings! After this OF dinner it has inspired me to track down a few of my fellow Fairbridge scholars

who came out to Perth in the early 80's, a BBQ lunch is planned for the 27<sup>th</sup> December.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and New Year. We look forward to seeing more OF's in 1999.

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 (??-71)** sent a Christmas note just in time for the deadline. "As usual Christmas finds me with the best intentions but lacking enough self-discipline to do everything I would like to. I had hoped to spend Christmas in UK for a big family reunion but work commitment did not allow.

The big news from me came in May when I resigned from Grant Thornton and set up my own business from home, working alone, as an M.Y.O.B. consultant. MYOB is a computerised accounting system for small to medium sized businesses - and has really taken off in Australia. Five years ago, it would have been a big step for a small business to buy a computer and even bigger step to buy an accounting system. Price and complexity were big issues but these are reducing. However, most businesses do not have the time or the skills to set up the system and teach their staff all the features. That's where I come in, typically spending between 5 hours and 5 days with new clients. I find the work very satisfying, being a blend of accountancy, computers and teaching. In the early days, I needed a lot of advertising to get new clients and most seemed to only want to use me once in order to get their system set up. However, I am now finding a few clients are asking me back, maybe many months later to resolve problems, train new staff, teach them to use a new part of the system or even carry out the annual roll-over. I have also become an MYOB Quality Consultant which means that I am on a recommended list of consultants who receive copies of all parts of the software. Next March, I shall make my first trip to Queensland for a MYOB QC convention on the Gold Coast - and tax deductible! I also continue to teach at a couple of Adult Education centres on MYOB, Windows and Microsoft Office. Very enjoyable and sometimes brings a new MYOB client!

I have again been active in three different choirs during the year, performing Mozart's Coronation Mass in C, Faure's Requiem (in my opinion, an incredibly beautiful and moving piece of music), Peroglesi's Magnificat, Sibelius' Finlandia, Brahms' Requiem (many people say they prefer this to Faure's but I can't understand them!) and now it is Christmas - carols - and I can't get enough of them! I shall be one of 200 singers up on stage in the Supreme Court Gardens looking out on an audience of thousands, all waving candles in the dark!

Tristan (8) and Sonja (6) are fine, spending more time with me than with their mother. I have a workable relationship with my former wife who lives 8 kilometres away. One advantage of being self-employed is that I can arrange my time to suit their needs of trips to and from school, etc. We all love cycling which is fun when we can get out on to the relatively safe back roads. They also love swimming and we go to the beach a lot during summer.

Last month, I had a call from **PETER HOLINS** to attend an OF dinner in Perth. I thought I could manage one such dinner every 28 years! As a boy sent off to boarding school at the age of 13 on my father's order, I did not view the school as anything special; but from another perspective and another age in life, I can now appreciate that the College was and still is an institution of impressive standing.

As for my other keen interest - gardening, I seem to have too much land and not enough time to improve my garden while I am setting up my own business. I pay a man \$20 to cut the front lawn once per month and try to do the rest myself. I have a fig tree, a mandarin tree, a grape vine which fruits quite well, about 20 other trees and a fair number of

shrubs. Unfortunately, I haven't got the time at present to do much more than to keep things under control with my electric chain saw and hedge trimmer!

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

One of the names that JGR brought back from Australia on his update of addresses was **BOB FOX** who I believe is **RMK FOX (66-71)** formerly of Hong Kong. A lot of your contemporaries are quite keen to hear your news but unfortunately, we were unable to locate you in Hong Kong and now we only have an e-mail address in Australia which was returned as "address unknown".

Address: e-mail?: bfox@cca.kurtin.edu.au.

## Canada

**JOHN STEVENS (S51-52)** e-mailed in December enquiring after **TIM WALWYN (S45-53)**. The last address on the OF list for Tim is: 6857 Laburnum Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, V6P 5M8. John can be contacted at: 15 Bray Road, Stoke D'Abernon, Cobham, Surrey, KT11 3HZ, UK; e-mail: john@chez-stevens.demon.co.uk

## Ghana

**ROSIE SKINNER (M93-96)** wrote in October 98: "I am just writing to let my old friends from Fram know how I am getting on and what I am doing. I am currently in Ghana and will be for 4 months. I am working for the Ministry of Food & Agriculture in their veterinary services department. I vaccinate the animals and assist the vets during surgery. I am having a wonderful time here in Accra. Ghana really is a beautiful country, if a bit hot! Next September (1999?), I plan to go to Bristol University to study veterinary science. If anyone is planning to go to Africa, then Ghana is the country to visit. The people are friendly, the beaches are stunning and the night life is great! (and I am not employed by the Ghana tourist board!). Good luck to everyone.

Address: c/o Mrs Eva Agyeman Berko, Projects Abroad, PO Box 12953, Accra North, Ghana.

## Hawaii

**BRYAN PEARSON (S45-47)** e-mailed in December with his greeting: "Aloha from Hawaii. Great to learn that the E-mail is working and that there is talk of a directory, I am all for it. In my last letter to James Ruddock, which was published in the Spring 1998 mag., my E mail address was printed wrong which is actually worse than not printing it at all. I wonder if any of my contemporaries tried to reach me and wondered why they received no reply! (*I have electronic copies of all e-mail addresses printed in the OB, so OF's may always check with me. Eventually, these will be copied to the "Keeper of the OF E-mail Register" – RMR*)

"Hawaii is a bit of an anomaly. The economy in the U.S. is roaring along, on the Mainland that is, while Hawaii is in the doldrums with the worst economy of any State, highest number of business failures, bankruptcies etc. Being in the aviation business I am

directly affected as the number of tourists, particularly from Asia, is way down.

“I had no idea that you were in Hong Kong. You must have some interesting tales to tell about the change of command over there and how does it affect your freedom as far as things like the Internet are concerned? I saw in the paper just this weekend where a Chinese on the Mainland was being investigated for providing E mail addresses of other Chinese to an organisation in the U.S. that is anti -government.

“There are no other O Fs in Hawaii that I know of. In fact, the only one I ever saw here was **JAMES RUDDOCK** who came through a few years ago and we had an unofficial O F Dinner with our respective ladies. I have been to Australia and New Zealand several times but always on short business trips with no time to arrange any meetings. Prior to moving to Hawaii over 20 years ago, I lived in Tahiti where I managed several hotels. Had many interesting guests pass through, from high government officials to show business people and authors, Michael Crichton and James Mitchener among them, but no OFs ! Let me know if there is anything I can do to spread the word among any OFs on the mainland US, perhaps E mail is the answer. *(I shall be delighted with any assistance to keep in contact with OF's around the world - RMR)*

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

## Hong Kong

**RICHARD ROWE (S65-74)** writes: “It has been a busy year. I eventually made the step back to Hong Kong in March to set up my own project management company – AIM Group. The Far East economy has been awful but is showing some glimmers of hope. However, now that my partner, Ballah Daw’Elbait (he is Sudanese but very English – and we have worked together for several years) has eventually joined the company full time, we have forged a strong team and are going from strength to strength. Those with Internet might like to give comment on our latest initiative of a web site at [www.aimgrp.com](http://www.aimgrp.com) which should be up and running by Christmas. We have decided to get it launched without further delay - but no doubt there will be some improvements needed over the next few months.

One advantage of working for myself is that I have managed to fit in a fair amount of travel (I hesitate to say holiday as it normally ends up with some business as well). In April, I took part in the annual South China Sea race from Hong Kong to Subic Bay in the Philippines. We eventually retired after 5 days due to lack of wind; but the follow on Presidents Cup regatta in Subic Bay was competitive & fun. That was when I fell for a young lady, Denise, from Florida wanting to be carried ashore because she had hurt her ankle - and 8 months later, we are engaged!!

In July, we had 3 weeks in the USA. Great fun –but the Americans seem to go a little overboard on the 4th July about how they whacked the Brits over 200 years ago. In 3 weeks we covered Austin, Boston, Cape Cod, Nantucket and Florida – by which time, I think I had been presented to most of the family.

We had two of the BT Challenge boats visit HK on a promotional tour in July. It felt great to be back aboard and to feel the power of those boats again. I did persuade one of them to take part in a local race and then blew their spinnaker – seems to be becoming a habit!

In October, Denise and I had a week in China visit Xian and Guillin. Xian used to be the largest city in the world at the time of the Silk Route traders - the terracotta warriors are still worth a visit. However, the area south of Guillin is very picturesque with all the limestone hills surrounding the river Li. We spent a few fun days “mountain biking” on Chinese boneshakers around the very simple farming villages.

In November, I had a weekend visiting my 80 year old “Uncle” Mike Wigglesworth in Kota Bharu in Malaysia before flying on to Singapore to take part in the Singapore Straits regatta – I was actually paid to attend in return for writing an article for the local HK yachting magazine “Fragrant Harbour”..

I was also hoping to do the Raja-Muda and King’s Cup regattas in Malaysia and Thailand but the pressure of work was at last beginning to tell. But when I was offered to be flown to Phuket just for the last 2 races as long as I could still piece together a story for the magazine, I gave in to temptation.

Address: 7/f Circle Tower, 28 Tang Lung Street, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong; Tel: (852) 9238 3799; Fax: (852) 2900 8107; E-mail: richardrowe@compuserve.com

We have had a few OF visitors to Hong Kong. **BARRY LORKIN** and his wife were here in October visiting relatives and traveling in China and Sabah, Malaysia. Denise & I met them early on in their visit but we were sorry to miss them on their return from Sabah, my home for 6 years, to hear of their adventures. **NICK JACOB (67-75)** was here in October on business. I normally manage to meet up with him at least once but this time, due to tight schedules, we only managed to exchange telephone messages!

**JAMES RUDDOCK** stayed for 3 days in November on his way to Perth via Indonesia. We managed an impromptu OF dinner at the Yacht Club attended by James, Denise and myself, **IAN FIDLIN (73-77)**, **CHARLES MICKLEWRIGHT (66-77)** and his charming wife, Aziza, and **CHRIS HALL (62-69)**.

**IAN FIDLIN** is a Senior Manager with Commerzbank and has been in Hong Kong with his wife and two children for about 18 months.

Address: Flat 1A, Belgravia, 57 South Bay Road, Hong Kong; Tel: (852) 2592 4773.

**CHARLES MICKLEWRIGHT** is still a partner with Lloyd Wise, Patent Attorneys - but has decided to “retire” in May 1999 and move back to UK after having been born and lived in Hong Kong for all his life except for his education at Fram and University. Charles & Aziza have been living aboard their large motor yacht but his father, **BRUCE**, is helping to deliver this back to the Med soon. His younger brother, **ASHLEY**, is an accountant in Hong Kong.

Address: Senior Partner, Lloyd Wise & Co., 2003 Peregrine Tower, Lippo Centre, 89 Queensway, Central, HK; Tel: 2526 5654; fax: 2868 5438.

**CHRIS HALL** is a tax partner with Grant Thornton Byrne. He was born in the Sudan and lived in many countries as a boy since his father had a knack for working in countries that later became independent, so had to leave fast! He has been in Hong Kong with his parents for many years. Chris had us enthralled with details of his collection of antique Chinese silk textiles. His collection is probably the largest private collection in the world; and one of the top three when two American Museum collections are included. Some of his collection is on show in Singapore but most stays carefully stored away in complete darkness in order to preserve the condition. Chris brought along a fascinating book which catalogued a recent exhibition in which his pieces made up about 50% of the display. Some of the designs and colours are so bright and artistic that one might be tempted to think that they were from a modern design studio - only to find the description shows them to be over 500 years old! Chris was once asked how he judged whether a piece was worth buying. His answer was by the “Wow! Factor”; if after considering a piece for rarity, beauty, condition and age, it still says “wow” to him, then he will buy it.

Address: Grant Thornton Byrne, 37/f Wu Chung house, 213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai, Hong Kong; tel: 2838 0099; fax: 2591 4978; e-mail: chh@gthk.com.hk

## Malaysia

An e-mail in October from **ROBERT HOLLAND (R55-65)** who writes:

“How are you finding life ashore and how are you enjoying Hong Kong? We still receive the OF Magazine, and recently made contact with **DEREK SEAGROVE (G39-44)** in Indonesia. Our situation is that Elena and I both retired prior to the Handover, and moved down to Malaysia, where we are still in the process of changing our status from that of visitor to something slightly more permanent. Life here is just as good as we had hoped it would be, and after spending so many holidays around Malaysia there were no rude shocks that often greet retiree's to a new country.. The range of food is incredible and the weather constantly warm, so that I have been able to resurrect my old hobby of scuba diving, which originally started in the icy waters of the Berlin Lakes while I was in the Army. Being in Penang has meant that we are never short of visitors, both from Hong Kong and from Europe. This trend looks like increasing as the air fares are still dropping, making a holiday here cheaper than one in Spain.

“CNN has made much of the recent disturbances in Malaysia since Anwar was arrested, but it total they don't amount to more than a quiet cup of tea with four Manchester City Supporters.

“As most retirees find out, you seem to be busier than when you were working, although this is probably due to the loss of drivers, typists, secretaries and gophers. Fortunately, with the convenience of email we have been able to successfully market a Florida development in which we are involved. The houses are five bedroomed, fully furnished and come complete with pool and heated Jacuzzi. As they are located less than 10 minutes away from Disney World, we have found two companies who are giving guaranteed rental returns of approximately 9%. As all these are short term rentals, the company takes care of all the routine cleaning and administration, and also allows owners to stay in their homes at any time, the guaranteed rent merely being deducted on a pro-rata basis. The properties are both a very good investment bearing in mind the current US\$ deposit rates of 4.5% and they also provide a self financing (the mortgage is more than fully covered by the rent) holiday home with none of the usual problems of maintaining a property from a distance. We have bought a couple for our selves and have a third starting in 1999. Hence our visit to America next year to look for a site for a new development, as the current development at Pinewood Estates, will be fully completed by January 1999.

“I have been back to Hong Kong twice, but will probably miss the next OF dinner (if you hold it prior to the Rugby 7's) as we are leaving for America in early February 99 and then plan to visit the UK in early April before returning to Penang in late April or early May. If you are ever visiting Penang, please get in touch.

Address: 72-14-06, Jalan Scotland, 10450 Penang, Malaysia; tel/fax: (60) 4- 827 1290;

e-mail: dutchpn@pc.jaring.my

## New Zealand

**LLOYD KENYON (26-29)** wrote to **Tom Saul** in July and October. In the July letter, Lloyd said that they had had a very easy winter but the North Island had experienced severe gales with flooding from very heavy rain. He thought that the weather had generally gone mad around the world.

Politically and financially, they seem to be in a similar muddle . For years there had been complaints that the high value of the NZ dollar was causing low incomes for farmers and other exporters; but as soon as the dollar falls, they are told that it is too low. Lloyd made

no pretence about understanding such affairs.

He said that one morning a few weeks back, he had woken up to find that he was stone deaf but fortunately, within a few days his hearing had returned to normal. In the meantime, he had referred his trouble to the hospital who notified him two months later that there was a waiting list and they would contact him again in about 18 months! (sounds like the UK – JGR).

Sportswise, they were not making too much of their All Blacks' wins in view of the weakened side sent over from the UK. Their cricketers continued to be inconsistent whilst the net-ballers did well against the Aussies. Lloyd's health continued to be good but he did find that walking was beginning to be a problem at times.

In his October letter, Lloyd said that they were experiencing some excellent weather which would be welcomed by the farming community. Sportswise was not too good – Rugby had been a disaster but the Commonwealth Games had been satisfactory on the whole. The Equestrians were wonderful and finished up as World Champs.

Economically, things were getting worse with some firms closing down and workers being made redundant. Their Government had not helped by taking off the import duties, especially on cars, making it cheaper to import than manufacture in New Zealand.

Life with them had been quiet and they had a very easy winter which had not been to the liking of the ski field operators. In September, they had been to see their daughter in Christchurch where more of the family had made a surprise visit.

The mild winter had caused the fruit trees to blossom early but so far there had not been any frosts. There were also not many bees to be seen and as a result they would not get much fruit.

Address: 15 Oxford Street, Waimate, New Zealand

## Singapore

RMR visited Singapore in November 1998 and tried to meet up with Kevin Horrocks and Julian Taylor but both were out of town. However, both made contact by e-mail a couple of weeks later.

**KEVIN HORROCKS (65-73)** sent: "Good to hear from you and that you are back from the round the world jaunt. It's a shame that you missed us last week. For future trips, you're always welcome to stay.

"I left Coutts and Co, Hong Kong, at the end of 1996 having been headhunted to join Credit Suisse in Singapore as a member of the senior management team in the region with specific responsibility for our business in Singapore, Indian Subcontinent and international trust and fiduciary services. It's a pleasant change working for a large bank with substantial resources.

"Chris and the kids are here as well. Michael (8) and Richard (5) are happy at the Tanglin Trust School which is British curriculum and seems to do a good job. We were on holiday in the UK in 97 and took them for a look around Fram. It was the first time I had been back for over 20 years and the place has certainly changed. Michael seems quite keen to go there!

"I see **NICK JACOB (K67-75)** fairly regularly and had dinner with him a couple of weeks ago. He is on good form. I am also planning on visiting **CHARLIE BLACKMORE (65-75)** when I am in Karachi in mid December.

"I have no idea where **RUPERT CHENEVIX-TRENCH (71-75)** is. I had heard that he had gone to Perth after he left Bentley's, but am not sure. I have seen **JOHN BIRT (59-63)** in Bangkok a couple of times and **GEORGE KNIGHT (R??-70)** with whom I used



to work at Coutts. He now works for West LB in London.

“Apart from that I have not seen anyone since I left Hong Kong. If there are any other OFs in Singapore, I would be happy to see them and arrange a dinner. Also, I would be glad to make it to HK for the Rugby Sevens next year especially if you are planning a Hong Kong dinner (*seems a good idea – end of March 99 – RMR*)

“I am still not receiving a magazine from the SOF despite having paid my dues on leaving. Please can you ensure that I am put on the mailing list.

“We are enjoying life in Singapore. It's a big change from HK but far more user friendly for the kids. We aim to stay for at least another three years, but after that who knows! The world of banking is pretty dynamic these days and I suppose that I could end up anywhere.

“I wish you all the best with the OB editorship. I think it can be a tough job, especially if one is as unconnected with the old network as I am. Perhaps you have a list of OFs in this area. If so please pass it on. I have no objection to you publishing my e-mail addresses and would welcome contact from old friends.

Address: 14 Farrer Rd, #01-02 Waterfall Gardens, Singapore 268825; Tel: (65)467 0947, Fax: (65) 467 0146; e-mail: horrocks@pacific.net.sg

**JULIAN TAYLOR (??-71)** sent a brief e-mail to say that he would be pleased to meet up next time I was in Singapore.

Address: Daxin Petroleum Pte Ltd, 65 Chulia St, #39-05/07 OCBC Centre, Singapore 0104; tel: (65) 535 9933; e-mail: juliantaylor1@compuserve.com.

## **South Africa**

**ALAN B RICHARDSON (34-40)** wrote to **Tom Saul (R19-24)** in August in which he again notes that his magazines are still being incorrectly addressed. He was very sorry to hear of Tim Woodgate's death. However, he was pleased to know that the 50th anniversary celebrations at Brandeston had been so successful.

Alan and his wife are going up to **TOM ADNAMS (S28-37)** home towards the end of August while Tom would be away in UK for about a month. Alan and his wife had recently returned from a six week “house selling” holiday in Margate helping out friends. He had heard from **OLIVER BRIDGES (45-50)** who was hoping to visit them at the end of August.

A further letter to Tom Saul followed shortly after. Alan said that as a result of listening to a radio broadcast of the England / South Africa test match at Edgbaston, he was appalled at the background noise of shouting and chanting from all those louts which must make it quite impossible to have top class batting and bowling in such conditions (*I quite agree Alan, Edgbaston is noted for its noise - I have been there and do not like it at all. Lords is quite different - TGS*). Alan added that they had a similar problem with coloured bands in South Africa plus the curse of advertising every few minutes just as an exciting incident occurs. He was pleased that young Adams had done so well with his spin bowling.

Alan was interested in the Hintlesham Hall photograph that appeared in the Spring 98 magazine (p.68) as all the OF's are his contemporaries. He had heard recently from **ALAN DODS(??)** who had given him some particulars of the last AGM and Dinner held at the College. His own brother, Hugh, was in the UK at the time and phoned on Alan's birthday. Alan concluded by saying that if any OF was out here at any time, he would be delighted to hear from them.

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

In a letter to Brom dated November 1997, **IAIN FERGUSON (Hon. OF)** stated that his son, **SIMON FERGUSON (74-84)** was now living in Cape Town, South Africa.

Address: "Kalani Place", 15 Hillwood Road, Bishops Court, Cape Town, South Africa.

**ADAM PHILLIPS (78-83)** sent an e-mail in November: "Just had a very relaxing week in Plettenberg Bay, playing golf and forgetting about the financial markets. The last six months have been very busy trading in the forex market. The Rand like all other emerging currencies has suffered, but has clawed back some of its losses and generally things are not too bad. Our company was recently taken over and I now work for The Board of Executors (BOE for short), which is the third largest bank in South Africa. The culture is very English, which suits me as Afrikaans is difficult to pick up! Saying that my wife thinks I speak far too much Afrikaans.

"We sold are restaurant business recently, although we still own the property. We have a small patch of red wine grapes and hope to produce two hundred cases in a year's time.

"Otherwise we are looking forward to the West Indies playing cricket here. It is obvious that SA cricket is back on track after the wins at the Commonwealth Games and the Wills Cup in Bangladesh. No Englishman can be comfortable about beating us, after all those dreadful umpiring decisions? We are also looking forward to watching the Springboks in action against the home nations.

"I don't know if you are into SA wine, but Fiona's (my wife) website is now nearly finished. The address is: [www.cybercellar.co.za](http://www.cybercellar.co.za)

"I have contacted **SIMON FERGUSON (74-84)** and hopefully we will meet up soon. We could start an OF cricket team, as **TIM SMART (75-82)**, Fergie and myself all played for the first team at school.

"From a sunny South Africa".

In an brief e-mail in December, Adam said "I have still not received my OF magazine. What do I do about it? (*I have contacted the Hon Secretary, Neville Bromage. - RMR*). I met **SIMON FERGUSON (74-84)** the other day. He is a director of a newly listed company called Whetstone Holdings. Despite the horrible market conditions, they are definitely the flavour of the month. Since listing early this month they have gone from 50 cents to R2.65."

Address: The Country Elephant, Simondium Village (at the T-junction on the R45), PO Box 132, Simondium 7670, South Africa; tel: 021 874 1355; e-mail: [aphillip@boland.co.za](mailto:aphillip@boland.co.za)

In an e-mail that arrived after Christmas, **JAMES CAMPBELL (74-82)** wrote "Whilst in England recently, my brother, **JONATHAN CAMPBELL (74-84)**, kindly showed me his Autumn 1998 copy of the Old Framlinghamian Magazine. I think the SOF have long since ceased sending me a copy; chiefly due to my many moves around Africa since leaving Framlingham in 1982! However, after a couple of recent visits back to Framlingham, as well as being stimulated by an excellent magazine, I have decided to actively rekindle my interest in the SOF and request that you kindly add me back onto your mailing list.

I would be more than happy for you to publish my details under your overseas bag. Herewith a brief resume of life since Framlingham: After leaving Framlingham, I studied for a degree in Mining Geology at the Imperial College of Science and Technology in

London and on completion found myself in South Africa working for De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited in diamond exploration. After some time in exploration, I moved down the "value-chain," working in evaluation and later mining, where last year I developed De Beers' and Botswana's first small-scale (*mine / production?* - RMR) at a place called Tswapong. I recently moved to Johannesburg and have moved right out of the technical area and am now Personal Assistant to the Chairman of De Beers, Nicky Oppenheimer. Framlingham gave me many things, one of which is the constant desire to learn outside of the formal work environment (much to the chagrin of my wife!) and since graduating from Imperial, I have completed a post-graduate diploma in statistics and two weeks ago graduated with an MBA (by distance learning) from Durham University. I fell for the charms of a South African lady and am now blessed with two daughters, aged nine and seven.

I still keep in touch with **IAN DYBLE (??-82)**, although very sporadically due to the vast distance, but would like to resurrect old friendships through your magazine. If the opportunity presents itself, I would also like to visit Laurie Rimmer and others on my next visit to Framlingham. Is the SOF magazine / contacts etc available on the internet? (*Hopefully this will eventually happen - but needs volunteer input - RMR*)

Wishing you and the SOF magazine all the best for 1999!

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.

## **South America**

**CHRISTOPHER CAPPUCINI (89-94)** wrote to give a change of UK address and to say: "I shall be going to South America for the first six months of 1998 and am looking forward to writing an entry for the magazine explaining all (*I look forward to hearing from you - RMR*).

Address: Snowhill House, Fifield, Oxfordshire, OX7 6HJ

## Thailand

**JOHN BIRT (59-63)** sent me a fax in November:

“Welcome back (from the BT Global Challenge)! I trust you have your land legs again. The situation in Thailand is not good. The Government is doing a great job convincing everybody including the IMF, that recovery is imminent while the truth is they have created a smokescreen and are hoping things WILL recover before they have to get serious. They avoid doing this because it will affect the politicians themselves as their family businesses will have to go into receivership and their properties will be foreclosed if all the IMF stipulations are enforced.

“On a personal note, my contract is up on 31st October 1998 and is not being renewed due to the economic situation. I am going to take the rest of the year off and see if there is anything around in the New Year. I am not hopeful and expect to have to take a long hard look at life and decide on my priorities as far as life is concerned.

**RUPERT CHENEVIX-TRENCH (71-75)** is now in London running a very famous restaurant in Lambeth I think but I cannot remember its name, which is owned by the Hong Kong tycoon, Dickson Poon (*On my visit to UK at Christmas, I tracked Rupert down to the OXO Tower Restaurant on the South Bank where he is General Manager - address: OXO Tower Restaurant, Barge House St, South Bank, London, SE1 9PH; tel: 0171 803 3883; fax: 0171 803 3878 - RMR*). **IAN HOWARD (57-62)**, now living in London (tel::0171-351-3683, Fax: 0171-351-7358). **BOB HOLLAND (55-65)** has retired to Penang, Malaysia (Tel/Fax: (60)(4)827-1290). I have had **CHARLES MICKLEWRIGHT (66-77)** to stay in my house in Koh Samui with his wife, the lovely Aziza, this year; they are on good form.

“Meanwhile I hope all goes well with you. Keep in touch and I shall keep you informed of my actions and whereabouts.

Address: 152 Sukhumvit Soi 20, Bangkok 10110; tel: (66) 2 663 4094/5; fax: (66) 2 663 4096.

## USA

**ALFRED MOLSON (K38-43)** sent a letter to the Bursar, Bob Morris, in June 98. I later replied by fax and received several e-mails in response:

“I would like to know what my options are to rejoin the SOF?

“I visited the UK for the first time in over 50 years in January 1997 and my cousin (**VICTOR HAMMICK, circa 1930**) took me over to visit the school on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1998 - my 72<sup>nd</sup> Birthday !!

“The only contact I have had with Framlinghamians since leaving has been with **LUKE F.S. BENTLEY** - last seen marching out of the transit camp barracks in Halifax, in full F.S.M.O. enroute to Ismalia, Egypt and Palestine in the Fall of 1945. We served together in the North Europe campaign in the Royal Engineers. I stayed behind to go on to Sandhurst. Then about Christmas time 1949 I was in my sisters office ( she was secretary to the directors of Butlins Bahamas Ltd in Nassau) one evening and in walked **GRAHAM RUMBOLD** looking for his air ticket back to the U.K.

“Do you or any other contacts have fax facilities? I use the mails for about three letters a year, too slow and too expensive. I have just got off the phone to my son in London, we talked for over an hour; cost 3p. per minute. I am in the process of getting a new e-mail address which I will give you next time.

In a later e-mail to me, Albert wrote: “While browsing the net last week I got onto a

phone directory (UK) and found **JOHN POWLES**LAND, called on the phone and it was him!! We met before I went to Fram since we both lived in Leiston before the war. We had an enjoyable phone conversation for 45 minutes, the first in over 50 years!! I see his younger brother Michael has been active in the SOF.

Please let me know what topics you would like me to write about for the Overseas Bag? Fifty plus years, travel to 50 plus countries, and working in six or more, is too much to cover in one go.

And in another e-mail to **CHRIS GARRARD (K41-47)** discussing the merits of setting up an SOF e-mail register, Albert stated: "Richard tells me you are interested in getting a register of SOF e-mail addresses up and running. I too think it is past time to get the SOF into the 21st. century. Please share your ideas and maybe between several of us we will be able to get the ball rolling with an announcement in the next Mag.

While our time at Fram. overlaps three years, the Garrard I recall was named Mike if my memory has not completely failed and it does often these days. Must have been a brother or cousin. I went back to the UK in Jan/Feb 1997. My cousin **VICTOR HAMMICK (K-circa 1930)** drove over to the School for Sunday Chapel service, after which we were invited by Madam Headmaster to partake in the ceremonial small glass of Sherry in her study along with her colleagues. It was the first time I had ventured outside Heathrow in fifty years. I don't think I missed much, I found London the be grimy and grossly overpriced. I look forward to your news and let us get something rolling, if we continue to depend on 'snailmail' the millenium will be upon us before we realize what happened.

Yes I do remember Michael (the sportsman) in fact my most vivid memories are of him playing rugger and covered in mud!!! What is he doing now ? I trust still in good health? You are correct, I actually left school in an ambulance on my way to hospital in Ipswich, I had blood poisoning and they were taking no chances. It was about ten days before the end of term. It had its good side, I was given a six month deferment (I had already volunteered in order to have a choice of unit.) and that six months was the difference between landing on D-Day and being thrown in as a reinforcement after they got out of France. !! The unit I joined had been a Beach Assault Company of the R.E.s and had taken heavy losses. Monty said it was expected that we would have been wiped out so we became a Corps level bridge building unit in support of the Second Canadian Div. ( Believe me the rations were a lot better.) I was a radio operator, but my Platoon officer made me his Radio Op/Driver/Batman and chief scrounger because of my knowledge of French !!! Many a can of dehydrated carrots was traded (as Corn Flakes) for live chickens.

I was stumbling around the Internet a couple of weeks ago and ran across a very interesting web page for Culford School !! My ideas are to get Madam Headmaster to have a web site on the Internet. What a powerful worldwide recruiting weapon!! No need to go off to the Arab Emirates and Hong Kong to recruit students. Apart from selling the school, it should have a SOF page with all the names, House, years at Fram, and one line of what they are doing since leaving school etc. The e-mail address would be shown so people could communicate freely. as an option you could click on the name and get their mailing address, phone etc., for those who wanted to disclose the info. OF Dinners, with locations, dates etc., would be posted, some overseas could then plan well in advance to attend when they return to the UK. Such things as Rugby games, Hockey, Cricket fixtures could be posted & followed up with the scores of past games. I am lead to believe that the school now employs highly skilled computer lecturers to instruct the pupils in these modern sciences. If teen age whizz kids in the US can make over a million dollars designing web pages, I would hope the whole thing could be done in house with a minimum of expense. Hold a competition among the students and hang out a cash prize as a carrot. What are the security reasons for not having a

general list available to all SOF members?

From your e-mail I gather you are somewhere in the UK. It is a pity that you don't have free phone connection to the www. Until the UK does, it will fall father behind in the computer race. How many e-mail names do you have at this time? I just don't know any people my age in the UK who are computer literate. At least if I become a shut-in I will be able to order the groceries over the internet. Let me know your plans. This is enough for now, I wish you all the best and remember me to your brother Mike.

Address: PO Box 721253, Houston, Texas 77272-1253, USA; tel / fax: 1-713 776-1766;  
e-mail: abmolson26@hotmail.com

**IAN SEELEY (57-64)** replied to my e-mail in December: "Just got back from training some folks at the State of Texas in Houston and Austin, and a satellite lecture session from Research Triangle Park hosted by the North Carolina State University "Distance Learning Network" and the US Environmental Protection Agency. I am rushing to get my reports done and then I'm off to Indiana to talk to the States of Indiana, Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin next week. I am the government consultant for certain air quality monitoring systems that I helped design. I'm going to drive out because I want to talk to some folks in Chicago and Indiana about another little project. Weather here gorgeous and mild. The leaves are down and the scenery is very different - I can now see my neighbours, who are normally shielded by trees. We are keeping our fingers crossed for another mild winter. Some hope. You could also check out my web site at [www.chromian.com](http://www.chromian.com)!! Oh, and my other website at [www.eurospecltd.com](http://www.eurospecltd.com) (my son's car parts business!). I don't have a lot of time to mess with it but it's fun to put together.

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

## **Zimbabwe**

**MICHAEL THOMSON (K55-59)** sent me several e-mails in November including a copy of his letter of 31 July which had just missed the last bag. Michael writes:

"As promised I am sending you an account of my next destination abroad. For the sake of continuity for your readers I have included a reference to the death of my wife which, if you think appropriate, I have no objection to being published. Sadly I have not managed to contact any OFs here in Australia as there are none close to Orbost. I have however carefully retained the Zimbabwe OF address list which I am sure will be useful.

"My last communication was in 1996 shortly before my wife and I left Katima Mulilo in Namibia after 2 very enjoyable and challenging years working under the auspices of Voluntary Service Overseas. I delivered our farewell speech in the local language Silozi which went down well. Sadly on the way to the capital Windhoek to catch the aeroplane home our Land Rover left the road and my wife was killed. I spent 2-3 weeks recovering from my injuries but was able to get home to ensure that the wedding of my son, Simon and his fiancée, Jenny, went ahead as planned. It was an emotional time but we all survived.

"Whilst I replanned the future I took up locum work in England mostly in General Practice but also the Forces and Prison service. I have done a short locum in Germany and one month in Saudi Arabia with BAe. I apologise for not writing from this last destination because the Saudi culture is different again. Now I am doing a 3 month general practice locum in Australia and I thought you might like some impressions of the country and their health services, particularly as we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of the British NHS this

month.

“The GPs in Australia are private practitioners which means that patients must pay to see the doctor even though many, if not a majority, get around 75% of the payments back from a Government Medicare scheme. The patients are not charged the full cost of drugs but the list of allowable drugs is more restrictive than in England. Hospital inpatient services are free.

“Having worked all my life in the NHS the payment for services principle is difficult to come to terms with initially. Although appointment times are 15 minutes I feel duty bound to spend longer with patients than I would at home in order to ‘justify’ the payment. Patients and practitioners complain about how long it takes to get appointments with consultants and are very surprised when I tell them that the service is very fast by English standards. In spite of this the Australian health service, like every other country in the world, is under pressure to reduce costs in the face of an inexorable rise in demand partly because of an ageing population.

“Orbost is a rural town which has to maintain a relatively underused hospital because the distances are so great to the main centres. Finding doctors to work in the rural areas is proving difficult and there are several large towns in Victoria which have no doctors. Combine this with the reduction in jobs in forestry and farming as the Australian economy comes under pressure from the globalisation of world trade and you have a disgruntled rural population who have turned to a new political party called One Nation which has frank racist undertones. The Aborigine land rights question is hot news here and there are many people who feel appeasement of the indigenous population has gone too far. The One Nation party, led by Pauline Hanson, has been able to harness this covert unease and link it to other issues troubling rural Australia. The Australian dollar has taken a hammering in response to the Asian crisis and the weak coalition Government is under pressure to make changes to adapt Australia to the new world economic climate and is having to introduce changes which most of the voters resent. GST, equivalent to our VAT, is a case in point.

“Meanwhile the countryside around Orbost is attractive with large areas of eucalyptus forest and long, sandy and deserted beaches. It is quite possible to drive into the forest and walk all day without seeing anyone. There are kangaroos and I saw my first live wombat last week who pass square stools you may be interested to know! Amongst the attractive birds are several varieties of brilliantly coloured parrots which somehow look incongruous amongst an autumnal landscape. Soon after I got here there were several days of heavy rain which broke a year long drought but which brought violent flooding with bridges and cattle being swept away. The rain has brought out the fungi the study of which has become a major hobby for me in the last few years. I date my increasing involvement in the study of nature from my A level years at Framlingham. I submitted a paper on pond life in the Meres for my Zoology A level much to the consternation of Mr Melsom who was rightly concerned that I might be neglecting the basics.

“I am returning to England in September via 3 days each in Washington and Montreal! After 2 months in England I will be returning to Africa to work in a small Mission Hospital in Zimbabwe. Quite happy for you to publish my e-mail address as it will be rerouted in time to Zimbabwe. More letters to follow once I am settled in.

Address: (from November 98) PO Box 20, Murambinda Mission Hospital, Murambinda, Zimbabwe; e-mail: 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.