

## Overseas Bag

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A much shorter Bag this time but partly on instructions from on high so as to keep the cost of the Mag under control. I particularly enjoy receiving contact from new contributors – both from our younger OFs as well as from OFs who have not had contact with the SOF for many years. The Address Feedback forms come across my desk, so I see many new overseas addresses over the year. If you live overseas, I would enjoy hearing from you on any topic - social, business, family and contact with other OFs. But then I always enjoy the messages from the many friends that I have built up over my few years as OB Editor – so keep the mail coming so as to keep the Bag full!!

RMR

## Australia

**John Gates (44-48)** sent a brief message in December:

“Compliments of the season to you and your family-and a healthy 2002. My wife and I have just returned from a lovely week on Lord Howe Island off the NSW coast. Plenty of cycling and walking. Weather not too good for the first 3 days as we caught the tail end of the cyclone that swept through Sydney causing bad damage. However we played plenty of Bridge with our friends.

On Monday 7th January 2002, we had a small OF gathering with **Neville Marsh (53-61) and Peter Bailey (34-38)** and our wives Alison, Joy,& Ruth. We enjoyed a very satisfying B.B.Q. luncheon in some 34°C heat-consuming numerous bottles of very good Australian wine at the Gates's Roof top garden at Maroochydore. Neville is going to try to contact any other OFs in Brisbane with the view to arranging an OF Brisbane get together. If you could let us have any names & contacts, it would be of great help. *(RMR – we currently have about 70 OFs in Australia with 9 in Queensland – I will send you a list)*

Address: P.O. Box 476, Maroochydore, Qld 4558; johngates@aceconnect.com.au

**Bob Munro (R56-60)** sent news in January of his latest hobby:

“I have recently been in contact with **Chris. Burras (K54-59)**. He gave me my first ever ride on a motorbike years ago in the late ‘fifties. (I managed to have my first accident, too). It was a BSA Bantam owned by Chris. He let me loose on one of the many disused WWII airfields that used to abound in East Anglia at that time. After that, I didn't go near any two-wheeled motorised machinery.

Now, at the age of 56, I decided to buy a motorbike. Basically you could say I am a silly old bugger, but what the hell, I enjoy it immensely. We have a social motor cycle club here in Oz called "Ulysses", which caters for the like me. You have to be at least 40 years old to join, but you cannot become a full member until you have reached 50. The club currently has about 15,000 active members Australia wide, and its aims are for the over fifties to enjoy their motorcycling activities in a friendly and convivial atmosphere. And it works! My current steed is a Yamaha Virago XV 535, not fast but a pleasant enough machine for my purposes.

This year in May, the AGM of the club was at Southport on the Gold Coast in Queensland. A group of four of us rode up North together, and what a memorable ride it was.

Great roads, especially through the Snowy Mountains, and parts of New South Wales. The Gold Coast in Queensland was reached after five days on the road, having covered a distance of just over 2,000 kilometres (about 1,245 miles). So you can see we didn't hurry all that much. The AGM itself was great, with over 4,000 "bikies" in attendance.

We had the traditional massed ride through the streets on the Saturday with a Police Escort (always fun and the locals love waving to the motorcyclists as they ride past), local rides into the Gold Coast hinterland (magnificent tropical rain forest): a dinner dance, etc. etc.

On the Sunday evening the Ulysses Club members had free exclusive access to the "Seaworld" theme park. It was opened for our exclusive use. Nearly made myself sick on some of the more hairier rides, such as the "Corkscrew", "Mad Mouse", Pirate Swing etc. but boy was it fun! Oh, I forgot to mention that the Ulysses Club motto is "Grow Old Disgracefully"!!!! A motto that we all try to live up to!

The ride home again back to Victoria (different route) was also quite memorable, because we encountered the same rain band (in the hills) as we had on the way up. But this time we had two consecutive days of solid rain without let-up. But eventually the rain stopped and the rest of the ride home was in sunshine. Due to the poor weather we opted for the direct route home, straight down the main highway. Boring but fast !!! Our longest day of travel was from just North of Newcastle in NSW to Albury on the NSW - Victorian border, just over 700 kilometres (440 miles). Sore bum day, that one !! The total "miles" covered was 2,800 in round figures.

In 2002 the AGM is in March at Mount Gambier, South Australia, which is only a short 450 klms. (270 miles, max.) from home .Can't wait."

Address: 2 Gordon Court, Rosanna East, Victoria 3084; munror@craneaus.com.au

**Peter Hollins (K70-76)** sent a long and amusing Christmas message from Perth (*due to limitations on space, I have had to edit it down – RMR*):

"Peace may not reign around the rest of the globe, but for a few precious moments, peace prevails at 32 Camborne Avenue. Our children, Emmy and Maffy, have grudgingly retired to bed and my wife, Sal, is off baby-sitting. 2001 has accelerated with a new HSV V8 (they are pretty quick); and the cellar is stocked with 1998 Australian reds, supposed to be outstanding vintage - ceremonial openings in 2005, so mark your diaries!

Our holidays this year took us to the Club Med on the island of Ria Bintan - 45 mins from Singapore by ferry. It has excellent facilities, located on a superb beach. We stayed in Singapore for 3 days on the way home. The cable car to Sentosa and the monorail ride was a big hit, but not as big a hit as when Maff toppled over backwards off a fence at Singapore Zoo. Blood was everywhere - and we were right in front of the lion's cage - who obviously thought a meal delivery had arrived.

My parents are coming out for Christmas and we are all very excited particularly E & M who are anxious that the supply chain for presents has not broken down! Sal's now on 4 weeks leave to get events organised for Christmas and her big 40th birthday celebration early in 2002. I will be taking time off in the New Year for the beach, golf and cricket - those are my plans!

Address: Camborne Avenue, City Beach, WA 6015; e-mail: peter.hollins@amcap.com.au

## Canada

**Wilbert Ip (K84-88)** sent a brief message from Vancouver:

“I am now living in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. It is a beautiful city for outdoor activities. I am currently working for an international telecommunications equipment manufacturer as a quality assurance auditor - mainly making sure that everything is not too wrong! I still have contact with a few OFs: **Gareth Davies, Thomas Macpherson, Giles Gooding, Andrew Spong, Allen Teh** and **Stuart See** (*the SOF Registrar would like to hear from Macpherson and Teh to update their address details - RMR*). I would like to hear news from anyone else that remembers me.

Address: 3175 Charles Street, Vancouver, B.C., V5K 3B9, Canada; e-mail: wilbert\_ip@telus.net

**Nigel Hart (S68-75)** sent a brief message with his Address Feedback from Toronto:

“I’m not sure which address you have on file as I have moved many times in the last few years! Are there any other OFs in Toronto? Maybe we could organise a dinner? (*I have sent Nigel a list of the known OFs in Canada of which there are about 5 in the Toronto area. Maybe we will have a Toronto supper report by the next mag – RMR*)

Address: #301 - 1 Columbus Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M6R 1S1; tel: 416-941-7374; e-mail: hart\_nigel@hotmail.com

## **France**

**Brian Scrivener (K48-54)** sent a Christmas message to JGR:

“We have had visitors virtually non-stop from May to September, from UK, New Zealand, USA, all over!! So, in October, Valmai and I decided to take a holiday to Switzerland to visit some friends and former work colleagues in Geneva and Morges, Then went down, via Annecy, through the French National Parcs du Vercors and du Queyras and on to other friends in the Vaucluse/Luberon area. This was followed by a stay with a niece who lives in Monaco and then a leisurely drive home via Aix, Arles, Avignon, Albi - I hope that Bob Gillett appreciates the alliteration!!

We had a big fright five weeks ago when Valmai had a series of angina attacks. An ECG by our local doctor showed an anomaly, confirmed the next day by the cardiologist. So it was down to Bordeaux where an exploratory probe showed that the main artery to the heart was almost completely blocked! Luckily the heart muscle was still in good order and keyhole surgery (through the arm) cleared it out, inflated it and inserted a spring to keep it open. Now she's fighting fit but complaining about the amount of walking that she has to do - we have a 'treadmill' indoors for when the weather is too inclement to go outside. We have high praise for the French Health System - everything happened so quickly, unlike the UK where a relative has a similar problem but has had to wait three months before seeing the cardiologist!

Meanwhile I was more concerned for Valmai than for my cold that turned to bronchitis and then to pneumonia so I've been confined to the house for a couple of weeks with daily visits for nasty jabs from the District Nurse. An X-ray a couple of days ago showed the lungs to be clear so at least we'll be able to enjoy Christmas, which this year we are spending here with French and English friends.

Having been a licensed Reader in the Coventry Diocese, I have been roped in to assist now and then in the Chaplaincy of Aquitaine. So far I've taken a Wedding Blessing service,

assisted several times at Communion, taken Matins and the All Saints and Remembrance services at Monteton Church which is kindly loaned to us for our Anglican services by the local Abbé. Our local Choral Society - (80 French and 8 English voices) - of which I have the honour to be Vice-President, goes from strength to strength with a successful year finished off by a weekend of concerts in the Basque country and now in the work-up to cutting a CD in the Church of St. Jean de Duras in February.

Address: St Martin, Lauzun, F-47410, France; e-mail: bavas@easynet.fr

## Ghana

**Esi E Erbynn (V86-88)** sent a brief message with her Address Feedback form:

“I had a great two years at Framlingham, and made some never to be forgotten friends. I've however been traveling the world since I left Framlingham, from UK to USA and finally home to Ghana in West Africa. Now that I'm settled I would love to get in touch with old friends whose addresses I have misplaced. If anyone remembers me, please get in touch. My brother, **Kweku (R85-87)**, is in the USA, so I'll get in touch with him also and have him and his old friends get their addresses to the Registrar.

Address: P.O.Box GP20084, Accra, Ghana, West Africa; e-mail: na2esi@hotmail.com

## Malaysia

**Richard Rowe (S65-74)** visited Penang in January 2002 and was able to meet up with **Derek Seagrove (G39-43)**, **Bob Holland (R57-65)** and his wife, Elena. Bob was very kind to host a dinner at the Penang Club (established in 1868 – not long after Fram!). Apparently **Ian Foster (K46-53)** was also in Penang at the time but was unable to attend the dinner due to being on a cruise.

Penang is a wonderfully relaxing place and one can understand why it is becoming popular under for retirement under the “silver haired” scheme. At 75, Derek keeps himself occupied with interests in dredging and tin mining. And his actress daughter, Jenny, keeps busy with recent plays in the West End and some tv series.

Bob was interested in the article in the recent OF Mag about **Jack Maulden (R33-38)** who was killed in 1954 in the Malaysian Emergency. Bob said that he would try to locate Jack's grave in the Malaysian War Cemetery and provide a photo.

Address: Derek Seagrove, 12-5-10 Seaview Garden, Jalan Bukit Ria, Batu Ferringhi, Penang 11100, Malaysia.

Bob Holland: e-mail: dutchpn@pc.jaring.my

## New Zealand

**Lloyd Kenyon (26-29)** sent a wonderful Christmas card to RMR. Lloyd writes:

“Just a brief message to wish you a very happy Christmas. I feel that I haven't written for ages. As we now enjoy such uneventful lives that I have not much more than the weather to talk about. However, we are both well and wish you the best for 2002.

Address: 15 Oxford Street, Waimate, New Zealand

## Spain

**Philip Saint (S53-58)** sent a message to JGR with his new address:

“For the last 15 years I have maintained a second home in Spain and spent about 25% of my working time setting up trade deals in Spain and Spanish Territories - all related to the Health & Beauty industry. Two years ago my wife and I decided to sell-up totally in the UK and relocate the business to Spain and I am pleased to say that it has been very successful from both a personal and commercial point of view. Our Spanish clients take us very seriously now that we are based on their home territory.

Having passed the 60 mark I only work on average 3 days per week but that tends to be spread over all 5 days. I also go to London for 3 days every 3 weeks (Thanks to Easyjet!) on a long-term consultancy contract handling new product development in the fragrance industry (mainly directed at the Middle East markets).

The lifestyle in Spain is unequalled. The weather is superb. Even a bad day is mild and tolerable. The wine is excellent and half the UK prices or less. Petrol is 50p per litre. TV Licences are non-existent. Annual car tax is around £25. An MOT is about £18. Cars are around 15% cheaper than UK. In fairness telecommunications are costly but as the Telefonica monopoly is dismantled the competitive pressures are starting to erode prices. Electricity is fairly expensive but then we hardly use any!

We are renting a villa in the country while we have a new house built nearby. That should be ready next Summer. My dear old Mother is now 93 and spends 3 weeks with us 4 times a year to get some sun on her arthritic bones. At this present time we are looking forward to a family invasion for Christmas. When you live in Southern Spain you are never short of visitors!

Address: C/Silvia 26, Urb. Villacana, Playa de la Cancelada, 29680 Estepona, Malaga, Spain; e-mail: psaint@tele-1.net

## Switzerland

**Phil Carton (G86-91)** sent a brief e-mail in December:

“I am currently working for the Swiss Post office as financial advisor in Geneva, I have been married for nearly five years and we have two wonderful daughters: Kassandra (4) and Laurynn Gillian (1). Unfortunately, I have not heard from any OFs for about 10 years and it would be really great to have some news and organize a get together sometime.

Address: Chemin des Semailles 13b, 1212 Grand-Lancy, Geneva, Switzerland; tel: 00 41 22 743.09.78; e-mail: cartonp@post.ch

## USA

**Bryan Ivory (K48-52)** send season's greetings in a Christmas card to RMR. Bryan writes:

“We are back to earth again after an enjoyable but tiring 4 week trip to the UK. We

managed to visit many friends including **James Ruddock (G46-52)** who got tickets for us to see the Australia rugby match at Twickenham. We also got to meet up with **Barry Wilson (G48-52)** a couple of times; the second time was with Barry and his wife, Gill, in York for a good old chat over lunch. I also got to talk over the phone with **Mike Brown (S48-53)** who was in my class at Fram but again schedules prevented us from getting together. I only wish we had more time to visit everyone and to see Fram. However, I did manage to take a few photos and will send them to the Editor for possible inclusion in the mag. In our travels, I did manage to pick up an original of the cigarette card of the “Old Framlinghamians”.

Address: 3529 Lake Shore Drive, Shallotte, North Carolina 28470, USA; tel: 1 910 754 5692

**Ian Seeley (S58-65)** e-mailed in September with a copy of an article from his local Connecticut newspaper. The article was about increased Anglo-US unity following the 11 September tragedy and featured pictures of Ian and his wife, Deirdre, and of their son, William, a US Marine Corps Sergeant. At that time, William was on “active alert” for duty. *(Unfortunately I haven't been able to reproduce a good copy of the pictures for inclusion – RMR)*

“Britain has always looked to support America in difficult times just as much as America has always supported Britain,” said Ian Seeley, whose father served in Britain’s Royal Air Force. “I think there’s a comfort level between the two countries and an inner knowledge that mutual support will always be there without question. This is very important between friends.” “A lot of people remember the last war (World War II) and how America helped us out,” said Deirdre Seeley. “Now it’s our turn.” Deirdre’s father was a British Royal Navy commander in World War II.

Address: “Four Gables”, 135 Chestnut Ridge, Bethel, Connecticut, 06801, USA;  
chromian@chromian.com

**Nicholas Penny (G52-62)** sent an e-mail in December:

We returned from our Bechtel project in Villahermosa, Mexico this time last year, and have since been in Frederick, Maryland (Near to Washington D.C.), and have now just returned to Houston. Mexico was a very interesting experience. I was assigned as QA Manager for a very large offshore oil production project for Pemex involving the engineering and construction of 20 new offshore platforms, revamp of approx 30 existing platforms, 250 miles of new submarine pipelines and a huge (largest in the world) onshore nitrogen injection plant. The project doubled Pemex's oil production capacity and had a major impact on their economy, coming at the right time with the election of the new President, Vincente Fox. During the four and a half years we managed to visit just about every city/town of significance, including every Mayan archeological site, with trips also to Guatemala, Belize and Cuba. My wife, Sarah and daughter, Elizabeth gained fluency in Spanish, while mine also improved, but not to the same extent. Elizabeth spent 6 months attending the University of Campeche that was an excellent experience for her. We suffered with many others when our home was flooded in October 1999, but fortunately we did manage to save most of the furniture by moving it to the upper floor. However, the company moved us into a luxury hotel, so compared to all the poor people, we really had no reason to complain. After a year in Frederick, Maryland, working on a Telecoms project that was deferred/cancelled due to the economy, we returned to Houston. I have changed employers to

ABB Lummus Global Inc and have started work on another major onshore/offshore oil project for Exxon Mobil in Sakhalin Island, Russia. This is very interesting and challenging but fast track, so we are working a lot of hours. We were in Frederick during the attacks of September 11<sup>th</sup>; the impact has been tremendous and the events have really united everyone and rekindled the National pride.

Address: P.O. Box 42460, Houston, TX 77242, USA; tel: 011-713-821-4850; e-mail: nicholas.penny@us.abb.com

**Aragon Burlingham (Z81-86)** e-mailed in December:

The family moved to California in 1986. I studied Aeronautical Engineering at USC in Los Angeles. After graduating, I return to the UK (Leicester) for a year before going to graduate school back in California (Stanford). I currently work in 'Silicon Valley' in Research and Development for a firm called Toolz that makes hi-tech tools for the construction industry. My sister, Pilar (Z81-86), is also in the US at: 367 4th Ave, #4, San Francisco, CA 94118, USA; e-Mail: pillyb@prodigy.net

It would be great to make contact again with some of my old classmates.

Address: 237 Pierce Street, San Francisco, CA 94117, USA; e-mail: aragon@toolz-inc.com

**Richard Rowe (S65-74)** writes from Florida:

It has been another wonderful year for us – particularly with the birth of our second son, Joshua, on Valentine's Day. Josh beat the doctor's estimate on birth weight by over 2lbs – weighing in at 9lbs 5oz and he hasn't stopped growing.

This year has been busy with traveling – a three day yacht race from Tampa to Isla Mujeres off Cancun, Mexico in April, 4 weeks in UK in June to see my family, and a week in Cape Cod in August where I met up with **Simon Gardner (G68-73)** (e-mail: reddevil@capecod.net ) To my amazement, Simon managed to find some pubs on Cape Cod selling good old Suffolk brewed Abbott Ale!! Simon is enjoying life on the US East Coast. He arrived in the US about 4 years ago, having worked at a senior level for various UK contractors in different parts of the world. He has recently been made redundant from being Chief Financial Officer at Radcliff (the ladies part of Harvard) with a sweet handshake and is biding his time as what to do next.

**James Ruddock has photo of RMR and Simon Gardner**

In November, I was off to Mexico and Peru followed in December by Bangladesh, Bangkok and South Korea. In Bangkok, I tried to set up an OF Bangkok supper but in the end, pressure of work on all of us meant that I could only meet **Michael Regan (M77-79)** (e-mail: iep@thailand.com ). Michael has been in Bangkok for about 9 years and is about as native Thai as a westerner might get. Michael is in the Hotel industry and came out to Thailand on holiday having had his job in a UK hotel removed through someone else's business collapse. He is now director of a hotel training institute in Bangkok and looking to expand to other regions. Michael has been trying to contact **Stephen Van Aardt (S74-78)** but we don't have any contact details for you, Stephen, wherever you are (send details to SOFRegistrar@oldframlinghamian.com ).

On 1<sup>st</sup> January I am off again to Indonesia, Malaysia, Vietnam and possibly India later in the year. As my travels take me to Penang, **Bob Holland (R57-65)** (e-mail: dutchpn@pc.jaring.my ) has kindly promised me dinner at the Penang Club where, hopefully, we will be joined by **Derek Seagrove (G39-44)**; I am looking forward to the evening.  
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