

“HERE & THERE” (Overseas Bag)

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Through the wonders of e-mail, I've kept in touch with all OFs living overseas, who have registered an e-mail address on the SOF website. I would strongly encourage everyone to ensure that they register their e-mail address on the website, so that we can keep in touch.

My thanks to everyone who has contributed to yet another bumper edition of the Overseas Bag. Although it gives me a lot of editing headaches its great to hear from so many of you and I trust that my editing skills have done your messages proud. It's also great through the website to be able to include your messages and photos in full, whereas space constraints mean that the OF Newsletter has only a very small section on the Overseas Bag.

Please keep your messages and news coming in, along with your photos and don't be too shy to let me know if you think you or someone else should be included in the Distinguished section of the SOF website.

AUSTRALIA

John Bennett (G34-42) got in touch with Richard Rowe (S65-74) in January 2007 to say that he had just had ten days in the Canberra Hospital with an unidentified cancer. “Life always has its uncertainties but there are many blessings at being home again. “

Phil Bower (G65-74) has been in regular touch. He turned 50 on 22 September 2006 [*shortly after me*] and had a bash at The Eastwood Hotel, Eastwood, Sydney (as opposed to Eastwood, Derby!!). He provided the following update :-

“As you've gathered I fled the UK for this Fatal Shore and have become a citizen, allowing my UK passport to lapse (technically I have dual citizenship, but the UK never asked me to swear allegiance, so Oz is now my country).

Currently I work as a local roadie (stagehand if you prefer) doing whatever shows come to town - The Stones, Eagles, Meatloaf, Tom Jones, Fleetwood Mac, Kiss, Inxs, Peter Frampton, Sarah Brightman, Psychedelic Furs to name but a few!

My band is intent on recording an album this summer (be Nov/Dec for release in 07) and there will be mates rates for any OF's who might be wanting a copy. This will be a broadcast quality item - no dodgy deals with mikes at the back of a room!!

I'm still married to my only wife and we're just about to hit 13 years together (I'd get less for armed robbery!). No kids, we have cats instead.....

I lost all my OF email addy's when the sasser worm managed to trash my system drive (along with NSW state rail, MacQuarrie Bank and a few others) so I'd be extremely grateful if you could put something to that effect in the next issue of the mag. I'd particularly like to re-establish contact with **Pete Long (S70-73)**, **James Barry (G70-75)***[I provided his e-mail address]*, **Jon Beverley (G64-74)**, **Simon Narroway (G72-75)** et al. “

He adds a little later :-

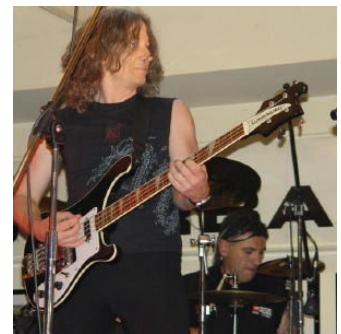
“I hooked up with Simon a couple of years ago - I was temping at the time & he was enjoying the fruits of early retirement (ie, retrenchment!). Funnily enough, I found that he was/is pretty much unchanged, just older with the experience that only age can bring. Whereas, I've moved a loooooong way away from who I was at Fram! I always enjoy hooking up with OF's - not least because I love people watching and I find it quite fascinating to see where my contemporaries have gone and who they've become over the past 30 years or so.

I've done the corporate office thing and having been "retired" a total of 4 times in my life, I found after the last one (last November and by the French) that, frankly, I don't care for it any more. I've set up, and run, credit depts for companies, I've managed a team of 10 staff, taken debtors to court, repossessed their cars and caravans, hired and fired staff, yadda yadda. I have no negative feelings towards the corporate route - it's safe, predictable and allows people to "fit in" - something that I, personally, do not give a fig about! I guess my overall attitude is:

Life shouldn't be a journey made with the intention of arriving at one's grave in an attractive and well preserved body, but rather one should slide in sideways, chardonnay in one hand and a smoke in the other, with the body thoroughly used up, totally worn out and screaming "Woo Hoo, what a ride!"

And that is pretty much NOT what Fram tried to instill in me!! But, hey, the best laid plans and all that.....

So my hair is now where it should be - long - and I totally enjoy the grunt of being a roadie, even though the money is pretty ordinary and the hours are crap! Mostly, they're a great bunch of people and when I had a nasty car accident (other person at fault!) they all chipped in and let me do only the easy stuff for a month whilst my body healed - that way I was able to keep earning. The sad truth is that in corporate land, I never experienced the same kind of camaraderie (maybe that's because of who I am, maybe not). You see, being on a crew is like being at Fram - you have to understand teamwork, you have to support your colleagues and there's a big pride in simply getting the job done quickly, cleanly and to the highest standard. This week I'm working the INXS show - they are VERY big here in Oz. Coming up in November I have U2, Kylie & Billy Joel - they will be major shows.”



In a further update – “doing 3 nights of follow spots for Eric Clapton, recently did Roger Waters and have the Scissor Sisters coming up. Last year I worked a week on the Kylie show humping the various props etc during the shows. Also did U2, Rolling Stones, Billy Joel, Robbie

Williams, Elton John, Dixie Chicks, Living End, INXS, Psychedelic Furs, Deep Purple, Diana Ross - it goes on and I lurve name dropping!! Basically - it's the same boxes with the same stuff inside them. Doesn't matter who's using them this time round.....the show goes on.

His planned album [group is called Dar Quarter] was delayed by studio problems (field trips & holidays and someone managed to delete an entire song so that had to be re-recorded – “it's only a 6 min epic so it'll be a doozie!”) but optimistic hope is end of March 07. May go for a live recording somewhere depending on the usual things! Otherwise he's recently done spot ops for Il Divo (who kept them waiting for 30 minutes at rehearsal - not terribly amusing when you're 30 metres up in a spot chair suspended from some scaffold tubes which in turn is suspended from a truss, which in turn is suspended from an I-beam grid which is suspended from the roof structure!!)

You can see some pictures of his band performing at the Arncliffe Hotel in Sydney on 2 February 2007 by clicking here <http://users.tpg.com.au/adslxsxa/arnc.html> You can here some music by his Dar Quarter at <http://www.uncharted.com.au/bands/bandDetails.do?band.id=10860>

Nick Carlton (G 63-70) on a cruise up to Alaska, where he was Captain, was joined by **Bryan Pearson (S45-47)** and his wife Celestine again. See full report from Bryan below.



He was off on leave on 24 August 2006 and returning to Western Australia. On 12 September he left with his wife and two year old son for England. They still have a house in Ipswich and his sister has a cottage near Framlingham. This was their first visit to Suffolk. Then going to Livorno in the Mediterranean to become Captain on the Grand Princess from 23 September to 5 November 2006.

Nick was kind enough to arrange for us (OB Editor Chris Essex, wife and family) to have cocktails with the Captain and visit the bridge, when we cruised on the QE2 in August 2006.

John Gates S44-48 got back in touch to tell me about his long trip abroad – “We spent many happy weeks in the UK - had our 1st cottage near Newport in Pembrokeshire, then another just south of Shrewsbury in Shropshire, then another at South Luffenham at Rutland not far from Nottingham. Then on to various cousins & nieces in Suffolk & Norfolk and friends in Essex. We then took a cruise in the Med visiting Cadiz, Alghero, Civitavecchia, Naples, Messina, Corfu, Dubrovnik, Malaga and then home to Southampton. Seventeen days in all - had a great time. We then had another 10 days with friends in the UK and then home via Dubai on the 28 September.

Have already booked another cruise (Arora) from Brisbane to Southampton visiting Darwin, Hong Kong, Singapore, Vietnam, Osaka, Yokohama, Honolulu, San Francisco, Acapulco, Aruba, Barbados and the Panama Canal starting on 1 March 2007 for 53 days in all - plus about 6 weeks in the UK.

John also suggested to me that Peter Bailey might be a candidate for inclusion in the list of distinguished OFs. *[This I've followed up and with Peter's help, his distinguished air force career is now included – see*

<http://www.oldframlinghamian.com/images/articles/WINGCOMMANDERGEORGEPIETERBRETTBAILEYK34-38.pdf>]

Mike Garnett (R53-55) contacted me in March 2007 to say that he had watched the 'Antiques Roadshow' on Foxtel TV the previous night and one of the presenters, Paul Atterbury, appeared to be wearing an OF tie! *[I replied that there was no Atterbury listed as going to the College, so he must just think that the design of the OF tie is the height of sartorial elegance!!]*

I also commented on my sadness at the apparent murder of Bob Woolmer. Imagine my surprise when he responded as follows “the Bob Woolmer episode is very sad , particularly so for the Garnett family. The Woolmer family and the Garnett family lived next door to each other at Cawnpore (now Kanpur) on the Ganges in India. Although Bob was born there in 1948 after the Garnetts had departed, his parents and grandparents were close to my family for many years and were members of the same club. The Garnetts lived there from about 1880 until the Second World War, and my father was born there. Quite a coincidence.”

Later in March he got in touch again to say that **Stephen Sayer (S58-63)** had been out to Australia for a real tennis tournament in Melbourne in January. This picture shows them in the changing room at the Royal Melbourne Tennis Club (RMTC) *[Stephen is on the left and Mike on the right]*. Stephen, who now lives in the Persian Gulf, was playing for an RMTC team (as he is an honorary member) and Mike was playing for an English team from Moreton Morrell, Warwickshire with whom he is an honorary member.



Mike has also asked that next time I visit the College I take a picture of the sundial donated by Melbourne OFs many years ago, which I will happily do.

Peter Hollins (K70-76) sent a Christmas message to Richard Rowe, which said that he had been diagnosed with testicular cancer at the start of 2006. However, after a quick operation and some radiotherapy he's now “better than new”. In September he visited the UK with his family.



Neville Marsh (S53-61) made contact a number of times during the last year and started off with news that he was retiring as Deputy Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide and settling back in Brisbane. There he was looking to meeting up with a small group of OF's (John Gates, Peter Bailey, Peter Simpson). He also hoped to do a little consulting but wanted to keep time free for traveling.

He also provided me with some help on distinguished OFs in the medical field and gave me with the following update on his own career :-

“My background is cardiovascular physiology. I qualified at Kings College London and the Royal London Hospital before heading out here as Head of the Anatomy and Physiology Department in Brisbane. I then went to Adelaide University as Dean of Graduate Studies, Deputy Vice Chancellor and then acting as Vice Chancellor. My research interest is bleeding disorders cause by snakebite!”

He was next in touch on 15 February 2007 to report on the lunch with **Peter Bailey (K34-38)**, **Peter Simpson (K32-40)** and **John Gates (S44-48)**. His report and photos are as follows :-

“Hot off the press, here are some photographs from today's highly successful lunch: we were joined by Peter Simpson so that made eight of us with partners. The group photograph shows (from left to right) Peter and Hetta Simpson, Neville and Alison Marsh, Peter and Joyce Bailey, John and Ruth Gates.



In fact, Peter Simpson shamed us all by turning out in jacket and OF tie whereas the rest of us looked decidedly tropical! Sadly, the day was overcast so we could not provide you with a clear blue Queensland sky for background to the pictures. This picture shows (from left to right) Peter Simpson (K32-40), Peter Bailey (K34-38), Neville Marsh (S53-61), John Gates (S44-48)



I am pleased to report that all are well: after champagne and canapes in the Gates' penthouse, we repaired to a local restaurant for a most convivial lunch before returning for coffee and chocolates. A rough tally over lunch revealed a total life span of 596 years with an average of 74.25 years! John and the Peters', as well-trained retirees, spent some time advising me of the "do's" and "don'ts" of retirement. My early efforts reveal a lack of planning and inability to keep from getting under Alison's feet! We spent some time going over the Simpson family tree which you have worked up for the OF families part of the website and added a small amount of detail. We managed to glean some information from a modest Peter Bailey over his RAF exploits [*Peter subsequently helped put together a piece for inclusion in the Distinguished OF section of the website – see <http://www.oldframlinghamian.com/images/articles/WINGCOMMANDERGEORGEPIETERBRETTBAILEYK34-38.pdf>]. He goes off to the UK on 22 March for a five week trip to catch up with friends and RAF colleagues. Ruth and John leave on 1 March for a 51-day halfway-around-the-world cruise and then a lengthy holiday in UK. The Marsh's and Simpson's will stay put this year! “*

Bob Munro (R '56-'60) responded with an update to his piece in the last Overseas Bag.

“Thanks for your message. Yes, our downsize house move was effected on 16 October 2006, although it was several days before we had our phone re-connected, the computer back on line and a myriad of other things completed. We are still trying to slot in a mountain of 'stuff' collected over the years (including an almost complete set of O.F. magazines from my first term at Brandeston in 1954 to the present!). My wife says I never read them (true) so get rid of them! But she misses the point, its a part of who I am and what I was (or rather, did). At least that's my story, so I am sticking to it. When I "go", no doubt the mags and other stuff will be unceremoniously dumped into the garbage! But by then, it will no longer be my problem!

Your email was eerily timed regarding "Charlottes Web", as the world premiere was held here in Melbourne last Sunday the 26 November 2006. My special ticket must have gone astray, as I didn't receive one. Funny, that. But then neither did any of the other 1,000 extras get theirs either! Apparently the film was very well received, with the official opening date at the cinema being 7 December 2006. It will be fun to see if I can be seen anywhere in the background of the fairground segments, but I am not holding my breath. I have not been pursuing an acting career as a result of this experience. It was fun, I enjoyed it, and I would do it again, but there is no way I want to go on a list and wait for the agent to call!

I have absolutely no interest in cricket, but just recently our newspapers, radio and TV have been full of stories about the Ashes, Barmy people and Tragics. Any game or sport that takes five full days of play to get a result, then can end in a draw just doesn't cut it for me. I prefer fast and furious.

All the very best to you and yours for the upcoming festive season, and of course have a great new year.”

Tom O'Donald (S '51-'57) and I have regularly corresponded over the last year. He started off by expressing his sorrow at the death of **Martin Wolferstan (G52-57)**.

“It was with enormous sorrow that I learnt from the SOF website yesterday of the death of Martin. He was probably known to OFs of my vintage as Martin Pipe-Wolferstan but dropped the “Pipe” later in life. He and I were great friends at Fram, sharing an interest in all matters radio. In fact, we set up quite a busy little home workshop in his study making and selling small radio receivers as well as getting the cadet corps into some trouble when we joined in a radio network amongst other cadet corps in Public Schools around the country, giving ourselves a fictitious call sign. Our whereabouts was soon discovered by the powers that be and a severe reprimand handed down from on high.

I maintained contact with Martin for some time after he left Fram. If my memory serves me correctly, he did a BA and a BSc in the UK before going over to the USA to study medicine. Unfortunately as often tends to happen, we lost contact with one another and it was not until I discovered the SOF website that I found his whereabouts and received a phone call from him, following which we had a continual exchange of emails. It turned out that he had specialised in

orthopaedic surgery and, even though he was well beyond retirement age was still standing in as an emergency department consultant surgeon at various hospitals about the country.

Being myself in a terminal neurological condition and confined to a wheel chair he was always there with words of advice and encouragement and support, which I greatly appreciated. He was indeed a man of great humanity and our deepest sympathy must go out to his wife and daughters.”



Following publication of the last Overseas Bag, he sent me the following message :-

“We must stop meeting like this but, having just read your most excellent Overseas Bag I had to congratulate you.

One particular item [*from Niall Foster (G73-75) about his exploits at the Castle pub*] took me back to my time at Fram when, as a senior, I would quite regularly arrange for whoever was supervising the Juniors prep in a downstairs classroom, to leave the window unsecured. Before prep started I would slip out of there, down the hedge row and through the wood on the other side of the Meres and into the rear of the Castle Pub for a quick pint or so, timing my return to arrive between the Juniors going up to bed and the seniors finishing, at which point the classroom block would be locked up. I believe I was the only one who did this so, unless there are any prior claimants, I believe I was the original visitor to that particular establishment.”

Towards the end of 2006 he contacted me in connection with the work I was doing on Distinguished OFs :-

“I have read your piece on OF's of some distinction and I have to congratulate you, not only on being asked to do this, but on what you have provided us with thus far. The hardest of all must be deciding who to include and who to leave out; so very many have passed through the College and each and every one of them have achieved some success which may not be of great interest to all, and may not have reshaped the world, none the less the world has been a better place for their having existed. In that respect I do not envy you your task. Take for instance just those members of the armed forces you have mentioned; these are essentially people who have reached great distinction either through some act of courage or by virtue of their seniority in the services. Even so, there must be many others whose acts of courage have gone unreported or unrewarded.

I feel you have undertaken a forbidding task and I wish you well with it. Really it is one of those projects which could be ongoing for years to come as more any more information comes about.

On a totally different point of view I am glad you and yours enjoyed their cruise last August. We have had the most awful winter here; the driest in recorded times which, given the fact that we live in the driest State in the driest Country in the world is worrying. Nights have been very cold when temperatures have fallen in the city to as low as 2°C although here where I live just 600m from the coast they are nowhere near as low. The consolation has been days of full sunshine to the stage where our plants simply do not know what to do. The worry is that Adelaide, which is supplied by water from a large series of dams in the hills, are going to be in real trouble if the dry

continues, especially given the fact that pumping water from the River Murray is going to be a problem as this is almost as low as it ever has been. Fortunately we had a good wet winter last year which filled our dams to about 56% of their total capacity, but this year the levels are steadily falling which may mean that we will be on even more severe water restrictions. One of the problems is that the large reservoirs that were constructed some years ago have not kept in touch with the growth of population that has occurred over the years. Still, for me personally, I would love a summer such as Europe as I thrive in the warm weather. Until it gets above about 32°C I still have to rug up! Still, given that we have only just entered Spring, today's forecast is for 25°C which cannot be all bad can it."

Tom then recounted the winter of 1947 in the UK when it was so cold that all the water storage reservoirs froze up and hence no water was coming through the mains. "To compensate we had water trucks, which would deliver water to households who could fill a bucket of water twice a day. Then, when everything thawed out the areas were so flooded that the all reservoirs were flooded out and, as the purity of the water could not be guaranteed were only allowed to use the mains supply to flush the toilet. Once again, out came the water trucks. Then, to top it all off we had such a dry summer that, once again, the South of England ran out of water and out came the water carts again, and you think you have problems!"

Towards the end of 2006, Tom and his wife Veronica [see picture] went on a cruise up the east coast of Australia and called in at Cairns where he met up with **Chris Shaw (K50-56)** and **Peter Hughes (G61-66)**. On his return home he got in touch to again :-



"Thank you so much for putting us in touch with Chris and Peter in Cairns. Chris met us off the ship, disembarkation from which was the most nerve-racking experience (I was transferred into a special wheelchair fitted with special caterpillar drive system, strapped in, lowered into an horizontal position and then clunked my way down a 45⁰ angle stairway onto the dock) and there was Chris waiting for us to take us on a trip around Cairns and up into the table-lands. It was a wonderful trip and helped us get a good feel for the area. He returned us to the ship in time for a late lunch and then picked us up again at 7 pm when we headed for one of Cairns' many eateries where we were joined by Chris's wife and Peter Hughes, sadly minus his wife, who was unwell with a severe dose of hayfever which apparently neither Chris nor Peter, despite being pharmacists could cure! We sat down in a private room off the main area where we both ate and drank to excess while talking almost non stop. [In the picture, left to right are Tom, Chris and Peter]



Peter has brought with him an old College photograph, which created a great deal of interest and discussion as to who was who. It was quite a shock to see just how much we had all changed. We consumed enough good red wine that I really didn't care about the ascent to the ship again.

Anyway, we had a wonderful 7 days on the ship and our Cairns experience really was the icing on the cake.”

Just before Christmas he was in touch to say that they were taking to the air again and flying down to Geelong in beautiful down town Victoria. Grant, his eldest son lives there with his wife. He says “if earlier years are anything to go by, this will consist of a steady consumption of the amber fluid all day, most of the night and well into the next day with people just dropping off in any convenient (and sometimes inconvenient) place. These do’s are nothing if not entertaining, especially given that one of their number is a senior member of the Victorian Police force. We are having the rest of the family here for a Christmas bbq on the Tuesday, before we leave so they will not be totally left out of things.

As for our son’s wedding, that is not until March and will be just about 20 km from here, just across the grape growing area where the finest Shiraz wines in the world (in my unbiased opinion) grow so doubtless someone will be tasked to collect Veronica and I up, to take us over to the shindig.”

In early 2007 he got in touch again with a medical update in his wonderful style that we have got used to in previous Overseas Bags :-

“Unfortunately on the 3rd Jan I woke at 5 a.m. totally unable to breathe, which thanks to my extensive training I recognised was not altogether a totally satisfactory state of affairs and hence got immediately dispatched to one of the major Adelaide Hospitals where they saw fit to keep me under lock and key until I finally made enough of a pest of myself to persuade them to let me go, insisting that I spend the remainder of the time left to me with an oxygen supply which comes from a special generator that sounds like a cross between a 50 kVA generator and an old steam engine puffing away at rest. I am tethered to this infernal machine via a 7 metre pipe and am starting to rapidly appreciate how a tethered dog feels. Thank heavens there are no lamp posts in the house or I am certain I would have ended up wound around them so often I would have choked!

Hence, at the moment I am just trying to rid myself of that ‘stir crazy’ situation that hospitals seem to bring about having been out for almost a week. Hence there is little to report.

One very sad bit of news that I heard this morning was that **Mike Geddes (S51-55)** lost his wife very suddenly last Tuesday following a secondary brain tumour from breast cancer. What an insidious disease this is. Mike and his wife of 40 years had just settled down to retirement and now he finds himself alone. I am starting to believe that perhaps retirement is not all that good an idea after all.”

Peter Risk (R 55-60) got in touch with Richard Rowe and said that the weather had been appalling, very hot for a few days and now humid. “The state government are begging us not to use our air-conditioners as there is not enough electricity to power them. If we do they are going to punish us with rolling black outs. I would have thought that when the weather forecaster says it will be in the low to mid 40's next week that one would guess that quite a few air-conditioners

would be used, and generate more power accordingly. Too simple? Apart from that all is well, my brother David is coming out for a visit in March.”

Chris Shaw (K50-56) sent the following message :

“Greetings Chris, I hope your Mediterranean sojourn was just superb! I have just sorted out passwords and ‘stuff’ so that I can be in contact again, and read other people’s letters. There was one from **Tom O’Donald (S51-57)** who was in my era. He is apparently cruising up the Queensland coast in November and if he is coming to Cairns I would try hard to meet him for a chat. I seem to remember him as always having a smile, a joke and an up-attitude, and had glasses that were permanently at twenty to two, or ten to four, and had sticky tape on them. If I could have his e-mail address, or through you, ask him for these details, I would do my best to be in contact with him [*I subsequently put him in touch with Tom*]. Incidentally, November is the best month of the year to be on the high seas around the Great Barrier Reef! If his ship goes up and down more than two inches I would be very surprised!

Peter Hughes (G51-56) and I, and of course, our respective spouses, are planning at least one more unofficial OF dinners before Christmas. I have some huge Pharmacy hours this month and plan to hopefully share some of the load by working in tandem with Peter, thus converting the load to ‘Gentlemen’s Hours!’”

He then sent me his account of meeting up with Tom and Veronica :-

“Tom and his lovely, loving soul mate, Veronica came to Cairns, having flown from Adelaide to Brisbane to catch the Pacific Star to go cruising for a time. From sundry communications, I arranged to meet them off the ship at 10am on Nov 14th, 2006 and, although I recognised him, he did not know me! When they were safely installed in the car, we spent a leisurely two or three hours looking at the hills and the rainforest, Kuranda Village, the Coral Sea, the beaches and the city. They returned to the ship in the early afternoon.

Rebecca and I met them off the ship again at around 6.30pm and went to a private function room at Verdi’s Restaurant, which did a wide variety of food styles, and a great selection of reds! Peter Hughes, my Pharmacist mate, joined us but with great apologies from Janet, his wife, who was sick. We had a very fine evening, with tasting of fine foods, some fine Australian red wines, and even a 1955 school roll to peruse, thanks to Peter! The talk was of old times, old (now) friends and humorous stories, Australian style! This means-‘never let the truth stand in the way of a good story!’



Tom has an affliction, the name of which has more syllables than I am comfortable with, but it has not dented his great positive attitude, which is a shining example of, ‘how to be, in the presence of very uncomfortable knowledge of the future!’ A man with a magic touch! How his Physics pupils must have loved and respected him! His loving and concerned Veronica watched every move for any potential problem.

When they got back to Adelaide, Tom was put into hospital for a few days and is now on an oxygen supply for life. Still his spirits have not been dented, and he thinks my idea of throwing a big V8 under his wheelchair is great, as long as the disc brakes are big enough! As OF dinners go, it was small, intimate and enlightening.”

BELGIUM

Graeme Dewdney (G86-90) got in touch after an absence of contact for 16 years and provided the following update :-

1990-2 Colchester 6th Form
1992-3 Portsmouth University - bumped into **Darren Dewing (G87-92) & Richie Bowyer (R87-92)**.
1993-96 England- Europe, can barely remember what happened!!
1996-2006 Middle east, primarily Israel, managing operations dept for local aviation handler
2007- Now based in Belgium with DHL

He'd love to hear from anyone at Fram during his time there, especially anyone from Garrett.

BERMUDA

Matt Living (S80-87) got in touch and said that he was still in Bermuda with HSBC (Bank of Bermuda) and all was well there with his wife Lucy. He was in London enjoying the late summer sun when Florence [*hurricane*] passed 60 miles to the west of Bermuda. At the time he contacted me his next threat was from Helene, which was some 950 miles south east of the island, and is predicted to pass to their east. He said “there is always a down side to living in Paradise!”

FRANCE

Brian Rosen (S40 – 46) got in touch with me very shortly after the death of his brother **Anthony Rosen (S40-48)** to give the following update :-

“Well I have put aside some time to give you a little news about life in France. Having just a few days ago come back from a week in Ireland I will be in the UK next week, sadly for the funeral of my young brother Tony – where I know that I will meet a few OF's. Best wishes and many thanks to you personally for having taken over this job – and you cannot even collect the foreign stamps these days!

Life in France continues to be both busy and enjoyable and I am not at all surprised to learn that more and more British are choosing to spend their retirement here. The ‘low-cost airlines’ are

really opening up the country and it is very easy and economical for us to come over at almost any time. At the moment (March) we seem to be almost the only passengers not carrying skis! However it is still not a country that can be considered economically stable and the high unemployment, particularly of young people and the fact that there seems to be some section of the community on strike somewhere every day, indicates that 'our' new president (I have the right to pay my taxes but not to vote) will have a huge task on his (or her) hands! It is a sad situation, at least in my opinion, when about two thirds of the population feel that the ideal employment for a graduate is as a 'fonctionnaire' – to become one of the 7 million government employees! What a contrast with Ireland, which we visited for the first time in March, where the economy is very strong and there are huge opportunities in almost every sector.

Fortunately our daughter **Sarah (BH90-93)** managed to obtain a good position shortly after finishing her studies and now works in Lyon in epidemiology. Obviously being completely fluent in French and English and reasonably so in two other languages was of considerable benefit. Lyon is a beautiful city (if you are not stuck in a 'bouchon' when trying to get through it) and is within easy reach of us here in Vienne, particularly by motorcycle.

My 'work' as chairman of the Lyon branch of the British Legion *and* secretary of the RAF Association ensures that I never have time to be bored. I am still busy manufacturing orthopaedic soles for Dominique's patients, the swimming pool will very soon have to be put back into service, the grass is already growing furiously and I know that Bob Williams will very soon be asking me about my contribution to the history of Brandeston Hall that he is compiling! During the past year I managed to be present at two OF functions – the council meeting and Suffolk supper and the Sussex supper. The last event in October sadly being the last occasion when the three Rosen brothers would meet up, as young brother Tony passed away in March. I will make an effort to get over for at least one of the many SOF events during the coming year."

GERMANY

Kim Dickel (M97-98) got in touch about registering on the SOF website and said that she would be interested in attending the celebration of "30 Years of Girls at Fram" in September 2007. She said it would also be a good reason to finally visit Framlingham again. She also provided the following update and picture :-

"Since leaving Fram I finished the Abitur in Germany before I decided to study International Business Administration at the University of Mannheim. During my studies I spent one year (05-06) at the Grande Ecole ESC in Montpellier in the South of France. I am currently writing my diploma thesis about "She-E-Os, Gender Effects and Investor Reactions to the Announcements of Top Executive Appointments in Germany, France and Britain".



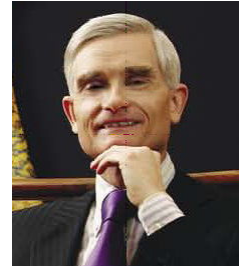
In August I am going to move to London to accompany my boyfriend who starts his employment at JP Morgan. I therefore look forward to meet you sometime at a London supper!

[Kim advises me that the German "Abitur" corresponds to the English A-Levels. German pupils need two more years after lower 6th form to obtain it.]

HONG KONG

Chris Hall (G 62-69) has been good enough to help me considerably with a piece I have included in Distinguished OFs on him – see

<http://www.oldframlinghamian.com/images/articles/CHRISHALLG62-69.pdf> – he is one of the world's foremost collectors of Chinese textiles.



He also visited the College in June 2006 to give a talk on Chinese textiles. In addition to current pupils he tells me that **Martin Hogg (S63-71)** and Peter **Howard-Dobson (R65-69)** attended. He illustrated the lecture with slides of pieces from his collection.

In his Christmas letter he talks about the sad death of his mother on Christmas Eve 2005 at age 91 and how he has adjusted to life subsequently. I was amused to read that his Philippine helper now drives him to work, which he describes as “I am probably the only person to be chauffeur driven to work in a 1992 Ford Mazda – why buy a new car when I can use the money to buy an old textile?” At the start of 2006 he also suffered badly from sciatica, which left him in hospital for 2 weeks. There was an exhibition of his collection of Chinese textiles at the Singapore Museum. They showed 125 pieces of his collection covering the period from 500BC to 1900AD, including 3 robes about 1500 years old. Unfortunately due to his sciatica he missed the opening of the exhibition in January, but was well enough by early March to journey to Singapore and see the exhibition, before it closed. In September there was an exhibition of Chinese Buddhist textiles at the Sudeok Temple in Korea and they borrowed 30 from his collection. While visiting the temple he was presented with a traditional Korean costume, which he wore – see picture.



MALLORCA

Michael Evans (S 45-48) has helped me with research into Augustus Agar VC.

Ian Foster (46-53) was in touch and said “I do not get to the UK that much but hope to be at the London Supper (5 Feb) [I met Ian at this Supper] and as a member of the Farmers Club that's where I stay when in Town and run into Old Boys from time to time. I do keep in touch with several of my generation and will be over staying next weekend with **John Gooderham (K44-53)** (his Birthday) and my brother's [Howard Foster (K42-45)] Golden Wedding. I hope to meet you at one of the functions to say a proper thank you for the work you've been doing.”

NEW ZEALAND

Mark Kendall (Kerrison Housemaster at the College)

I'm indebted to Mark for the following details on Kerrison OFs he visited on a trip to New Zealand in 2006.

RICHARD BEARNE (K59-62) lives on North Island with his wife Jane. After leaving the College, he went to Berkshire College of Agriculture, and later into farm management at East Hendred, Oxfordshire for about 10 years. He then joined Boots Farm Sales as an agronomist, a company which amalgamated with Fisons Agrovista based in West Wiltshire. He had 22 years with them and was a Rotarian in Frome. He got married for 2nd time in 1990 in New Zealand at Mata Mata in the Waikato Valley. Returned to England, but after retirement in 2003 they moved back to Albany, North Shore City, Auckland. He has two daughters in NZ. Today he enjoys his golf at Muriwai Golf Club, a west coast links course. He sails his 18' Precision 185 American boat (a big Laser) and beach walks his dog on the east coast.

ROY FARMAN (K47-55) also lives on North Island with his wife Sandy. He moved out of Masterton in 2000 to a 10 acre 'lifestyle block' and retired in 2003 and sold the veterinary practice. He describes himself as a hobby farmer: Suffolk sheep, alpaca, donkeys, steers, with a pony and trap. He plays croquet at Masterton Club and is with a local choir, the Wairapa Singers. He has been doing post-graduate History courses and an adult literacy course in order to teach local people. He listens to children read at a primary. They have 3 children in NZ.

(Walter) DAVID JUBY (K46-54) also lives on North Island with his partner Fiona. He left College in 1954 to do a veterinary degree at Bristol University and married Sally in 1957. His first job was in a practice in Tavistock, Devon, for 7 years and then in Fordingbridge, for 1 year. Between 1958 and 1973 he and Sally had 6 children, 4 sons and 2 daughters, one of whom is now a qualified vet. In total he currently has 14 grandchildren. In 1967 he emigrated to Ngatea, Hauraki Plains to a veterinary practice there; in 1976 he moved to Thames on the Coromandel Peninsula to run his own practice. He treated all manner of beast, eventually selling the practice but continuing to work part-time until 2004. Today he reads a lot, is a hobby farmer (cattle and sheep) and has a wonderful house with Norfolk Island pine, eucalyptus, and a small citrus grove: grapefruit, mandarin, lemon and orange trees.

SLOVENIJA

Jerry Lee (K59-64) becomes the first OF to contact me from Slovenija, which is part of the old Yugoslavia. He got in touch to give me an update on what he'd been up to.

“I was at Fram 59-64 in Blue from which I had a career in the Royal Navy, Harrods and tourism, finishing up as a wine consultant at The Wine Society. I have recently emigrated to the beautiful, yet unknown, country of Slovenija near Murska Soberta in the east close to Austria, Hungary and Croatia. I bought a farm in a village dirt cheap and have renovated the stables into 2 apartments for holiday let, to which any OF is very welcome to come and stay. My details are under THE STABLES in houses for rent on www.sloveniacottages.com. Have a look and come over everybody. I can arrange a week’s tour of the highlights of Slovenija including the last 3 days at The Stables, close to vineyards, spas, good restaurants etc.”

TURKS & CAICOS (Occasionally!)

Geoff Martin OBE (G46-54) has been a judge/chief justice in many fascinating small countries that are still coloured pink on the world atlas and I initially contacted him for help on a piece I wanted to do on him in Distinguished OF section of the website – see <http://www.oldframlinghamian.com/images/articles/JUDGEGEOFFREYWILLIAMMARTINOBE46-54.pdf>. He is currently spends part of his time as a judge and commercial arbitrator on the Turks & Caicos Islands. He is also a deputy district judge in the UK.

This picture was taken of Geoff and his wife on St Helena, when he retired in 2006 as Chief Justice.

I was also able to put him in touch with old OF and Cambridge contemporaries **Norman Porter (K50-57)** and **Prof Gareth Williams (K46-54)**.



USA

Jules Arthur (K75-84) got in touch to say that he was an affordable housing developer. We currently own 2,300 units in the Western United States and looking to expand nationally. This is our latest project <https://www.cityfeet.com/News/NewsArticle.aspx?PartnerPath=&Id=20417>. He had lunch with **Laurence Pretty (S49-54)** and he came and toured the project. I think I scared him a little! My company is called the Amerland Group and you can google us."

Niall Foster (G73-75) as a contemporary of mine was dismayed to read that **Simon Cockell (K69-74)** had passed on. He remembered him having sciatica while at Fram and often being in the San. He went on to say :-

“It is a wake up call when we see our peers passing on! My oldest friend from my London days after I left Fram is now a stroke survivor at the tender age of 60. I will be 50 on May 23, but my big milestone will be 52 when I will have outlived my Father, after that I am going for my 100

birthday telegram from King William! We are currently looking at our retirement options and considering whether to move to the location we want to retire in and start to set up a business for retirement, the first step is to determine exactly where, America is a huge and many splendid country!

Other than that life is as usual with the first teasing hints of spring in Ohio and me out in the garden in the cold as I am unable to bear the cabin fever any more. Let me know where you will be in July and August, I travel around the US frequently and you never know which city we may hook up in, at least to break bread and share a few pints.

Bryan Ivory (K48-52) got in touch with Richard Rowe just before Christmas :-

Greetings from North Carolina! I hesitate to say sunny and warm, as we have had some pretty "nippy " weather lately. Not much news on Fram. This summer we visited our younger son in Colorado Springs, then took a bus tour to visit four active Railroads and three National Parks. Great scenery and a lot of fun for a railroad enthusiast, like myself. I imagine the school will shortly be breaking up for the Christmas Holidays. This brings back a host of memories..... packing trunks, tuck boxes, Christmas Service down town and the final walk to the station to catch the train. (" The famous " Franigie Express !") . Time moves on!

Lieutenant Sergio Kontek (S91-93) got in touch about re-establishing contact with the SOF. I was pleased to be able to tell him that he was already a fully paid up member, but shown as "Gone Away". He is now a signed up member on the website.

At Framlingham he remembers some Stradbroke colleagues were **James Kennedy (S91-96)**, **James Corney (S91-96)** and **John Wiseman (S92-94)**. He was also friends with **Rose Berney (M91-96)**, who he is deeply sorry to hear passed away.

Now settled back in Pensacola, Florida, he has taken the time to update us on what he has been up to since leaving the College :-

“I left Fram having completed the Upper 4th and returned to the States with two years of high school left, my junior and senior years. I attended George C. Marshall High School in Falls Church, Virginia, where I ran track and field and played American football.

It was about that time that I had to start thinking about university. I had a clear goal in mind (Naval Aviation), but no clear idea on how to achieve it other than applying to the U.S. Naval Academy. I would later find out through research and interviews that a commission in the Navy could be attained through ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) and other avenues, so I began applying to colleges that not only had a good academic program, but an ROTC one as well. Despite being accepted to Virginia Tech and UVA, I still hoped for acceptance to the Naval Academy, which I knew was the best school for me (at the time, anyway). The admissions process to any federal military academy requires an application to a member of the U.S. Congress or Senate for nomination. My district Congressman unfortunately had filled all his spots for the Naval Academy, but one of his selection panel members suggested that, thanks to my travels abroad, I would be a good candidate for the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York. Kings Point, the more familiar name of the Academy, primarily trains

its students in the field of maritime transportation and engineering, but a few students per year elect to apply for active duty in any branch of the U.S. military. Kings Point's record for student acceptance into the Naval Aviation program was 100%, so going to KP was a clear choice, not only for the benefit of becoming a license "ship-driver" in case I needed a back-up plan, but also thanks to the ease with which I would be able to attain my commission.

I take back the "easy" part about getting my commission. Kings Point was no walk in the park, but it was the perfect environment for me to stay focused. I welcomed the military lifestyle and thrived in that area of my education. Academics were difficult at first, but the rigorous schedule soon became a way of life. Because of Kings Point's unique curriculum, which combines a full 4-year education with a full year of time at sea aboard U.S.-flag merchant ships, 4 years of classroom education has to be completed in 3 years, while the time we spent at sea was filled with real-world education on actual sea-going cargo vessels.

I could go on forever about my time at KP, but that would take too long! I'll cut to the chase and say that I was accepted as a Student Naval Aviator midway through my senior year at KP, which was at that time the best day of my life! Despite acceptance, however, I had some issues with security clearance paperwork, so it would not be until seven months after graduation that I would move to Pensacola, Florida to begin flight training.

My time between graduation and flight school was spent sailing as a third mate aboard the USNS Saturn, a Navy-owned but civilian-operated supply ship, as a Third Officer.

When I was finally called to active duty it was February of 2001 and I could not have been more ready to leave the Norfolk-based USNS Saturn for Pensacola, Florida.

During the two years it took me to finally obtain my wings of gold I trained in Milton, Florida, flying the T-34C Turbomenter. There I met my future wife, Heather, whom I had never met but went to elementary school and part of high school with amidst all the travelling we had both done up to that point. She was finishing college at the time and also happens to have a lot of family living in the Pensacola area. Her immediate family spent many years abroad with the Foreign Service and it just so happened that our paths crossed a few time times before I got the hint and mustered up the courage to introduce myself. We spent the better part of our engagement apart while I was stationed in Corpus Christi, Texas, flying the T-44A Pegasus. Just before starting advanced training in Meridian, Mississippi, flying the T-2C Buckeye, Heather and I got married in Pensacola on April 13, 2002. In Meridian she got to experience the joys of being a Navy pilot's wife by helping me study for flights and memorizing emergency procedures, which we still do to this day whenever I have to learn a new airplane!



The Buckeye was the aircraft on which I landed on an aircraft carrier for the first time and it is an experience I will never forget!

After getting winged we moved to Norfolk, Virginia, where I would learn to fly the E-2C Hawkeye (see pictured in background of above photo), the Navy's carrier-based early warning

aircraft. It took me a year training with the VAW-120 Greyhawks before being qualified as a Third Pilot. I was then transferred to the Tigertails of VAW-125, also based in Norfolk, where I would serve for three years. During those three years I became rated as an Aircraft Commander, flew over 1200 hours in the E-2C, obtained over 150 carrier arrested landings, and flew over Iraq, Afghanistan, and the coast of Somalia over the course of two deployments. I'm fairly sure that I spent over half of those three years away from home. Heather probably has the exact time down to the hour memorized just in case the Navy ever cares to ask how much time it has kept me away from her! Somewhere in there we actually managed to have time to have our first child, a beautiful girl named Olivia Rose, who is now 15 months old. She was born on January 18, 2006.



I left the Tigertails in March of 2007 at the end of my first sea tour in the middle of our deployment aboard the USS Dwight D. Eisenhower. I applied and was accepted to be a flight instructor at NAS Pensacola. Here I will teach Navy and Air Force navigators the basics of aviation and instrument flight to prepare them for further stages of their flight training before they get their wings and move on to their fleet squadrons.

Currently I am undergoing instructor training which will last until late June, after which I will be qualified to fly with students. Heather couldn't be happier to be here with her family and I am doing exactly what I want to be doing on my shore tour: Spend time with family, fly a fun plane, and play many rounds of golf!

My best wishes go out to all my old classmates at Fram. I hope you are all doing well and that I may hear from you soon at sergiokontek@yahoo.com .”

Peter Macfarlane (Z73-81) has re-established contact and provided the following description of his varied and interesting life since leaving the College :

“Here, for all those who thought I had disappeared without a trace, and for those who never gave my whereabouts another thought, is what’s been going on in my life for the last quarter of a century.

I took a year out after Framlingham, spending it working locally on a farm and in a small private school, and then traveling around Europe by bicycle, alone, something in excess of 7,500 miles over the course of 18 weeks. It was a growing-up experience, having to be responsible for my own decisions and then living with them. In hindsight, I would have done it differently, spending longer in each place, not moving on every day, but that’s all part of the learning process and should not take anything away from a wonderful experience. The confidence to undertake this had been partly built during a somewhat fractious bike trip in Europe with **Chris Law (Z75-81)**, **John Barton (Z74-81)** and **Howard Murray (Z74-81)** a couple of years previously.

By the time I reached Oxford then, in October ’82, I had a rough idea of how to stand on my own feet, a good thing too as I felt something of a social misfit. Nevertheless, I made decisions there

which have shaped my life ever since. For one, I took up Scottish Dancing - I searched for a Morris side, inspired by **John Schofield's (Z78-81)** example at Southampton, but in vain. For another, I had rather vague ideas about "doing research", knowing what I wanted to do but having no clue as to how to go about it, or whom to talk to, and so, when I graduated with a degree in Zoology and had no research opportunities, I immediately opted for Plan B: teaching. Having left it too late to enter teacher training that year, I found various part-time jobs in local tutorial and 6th form colleges.

Part way through that year I was offered a full-time post at one of these colleges, Modes Study Centre. It was a tough decision to forego gaining a respectable qualification, but I took the job, and for the next 17 years taught Biology and Chemistry A-level there. It was a great job, all-consuming with the amount of marking, but satisfying in the utmost. Our results were amazing, and not through selection - we took many students who had not, for whatever reason, achieved what they required elsewhere, and in many cases restored their self-belief, enabling them to move on to the next stage in their lives, ambitions re-kindled, dreams made real.

Of course, it wasn't all rosy. There were the all too frequent changes of syllabus, until the term "syllabus" eventually had to be replaced; marking into the wee small hours and through the weekends limited my social life; and emerging into the dark rain to cycle home after a long day tested my sense of humour on occasions. But, most of all, despite what officialdom says, standards at A-level were being diluted - drastically. I felt ever more that I was preparing students to whose intelligence the exams were an insult. Whilst I could still take pride in my work with the students, the exams did not allow them to shine, did not stretch them. Mine is not an isolated opinion.

Returning to the Scottish Dancing, I found the music infectious. Having played violin at school, as some will no doubt cringe to remember, I started, for my own amusement, to pick out some of the tunes, and found to my surprise that I was enjoying playing again. I soon played in a large Fiddlers' Rally in Aylesbury, one that I was later to organise and lead for several years, and later that year, when a fiddler was needed to stand in with one of the local dance bands, I was approached. That was the start of another branch of my career - I proceeded to play in several of the Scottish dance bands in the south of England over the next 15 years, playing most weekends, culminating in playing in a duo with a pianist for nearly six years and making a recording of some of our original tunes.

It was through this fiddling that I was invited in 1994 to teach a musicians' workshop at a summer camp in Massachusetts - someone I had met a couple of years previously was responsible for booking the musicians. She invited me to stay with her in Boston and then suggested I visit her friend in Vermont, also a fiddler and playing at the same camp that I would be attending. So I dutifully got on a bus to a place I couldn't pronounce to visit a woman I'd never heard of but who was expecting me. Talk about green, I didn't see the wooden spoon, even when it was being stirred in front of me!

To cut a long story short, she invited me back to Vermont after the camp, then came to visit me that Christmas, and I returned to visit her the next summer, and she visited me at Christmas We then threw an Easter trip into the equation, to coincide with my holidays, on the grounds that

seeing each other three times a year might be better than twice. People tell me that nine years of this seems like a remarkably long time, but I've never been one to rush a decision. There were various factors to weigh up regarding my emigrating to Vermont, notable among them being whether I would resent giving up the life that I had carved out for myself in England. But, as time wore on, I started questioning whether I would still be doing the same thing towards retirement, and my job was losing some of its appeal, so I took a deep breath and totally failed to propose twice! Decisiveness was never my strength - have I mentioned that? Third time around, totally unromantic, at least I got the message across, and in 2003 I emigrated to the USA and married Viveka Fox (no, not Vivica A Fox). In fact, that year I gave up my job, sold my house, got married and emigrated, quite apart from reaching a significant birthday. All that was missing from the list of most stressful life-events was getting divorced!

I had been playing traditional music part-time with the band Atlantic Crossing while visiting the USA, and now play full-time (Viveka and I are the two fiddlers). We're both self-employed as musicians, and each of us has other avenues of employment. Viveka is a fencing coach - she teaches people to fight with swords - and I teach people to play the fiddle and do a bit of science teaching with home-schoolers when I can get the work. And all because Oxford University did not have in 1982 a men's Morris side.

In the late '90s I took up marathon kayaking. This was prompted after a good friend (and former student) re-kindled my rather vague ambition about taking part in the annual Devides-Westminster race. After some years of training, I was ready in April 2003, fitter than I have ever been, and my partner and I set out from Devides into a stiff, very stiff, headwind. Whether it was spray in my face or wind in the eyes or keeping my eyes open for too long at a time trying to see in the dark (we paddled through the night), I effectively went blind. More specifically, everything went cloudy, so much so that I could not see the front of the boat, and my paddle was a mere shadow moving in front of me. My partner was instructing me which way to steer, but we were losing so much time, especially on the portages around locks, that we were going to miss the tide at Teddington and have to wait for several hours. It was more prudent to retire at about 93 miles and get me to the Kingston Eye Hospital. "Never seen anything like that," was the response. I literally could not find the chart to try to read the letters. Fortunately my sight recovered, not without intense pain, in little over a day.



But that left unfinished business. On emigrating, I took my kayak with me, and trained until the local water froze in early November. It didn't thaw until April, too late to train for the race at Easter. So April 2004 saw us at the start line again, I having paddled only six times in the previous six months - not to be recommended. The story from here is one of pain, low blood sugar, pain, misery, pain, blindness again, but I was getting used to it and this time my partner steered, more pain but we made it, 125 miles in just under 22 hours. That was just the beginning of the pain!

I suspect my competitive kayak days are over. These days I prefer to go wilderness canoeing. From our house we look west to the Adirondack Mountains of New York State, wherein lies the

St Regis Canoe Reservation which admits only hand propelled craft. It is wilderness in that there are no roads, no buildings, no motors, only the dip of the paddle, the gaze of the heron, the chorus of loons echoing through the evening. All that detracts from the serenity, apart from the mosquitoes of course, is that our self-restored canoe weighs far too much to carry with any degree of comfort. As I write, I am in the process of building, in our self-built garage / workshop, a cedar strip canoe to my own specifications - elegant (well, I think so) and light. Now, *there's* something T Flem would never have predicted! If it turns out well, I may try to make a part-time business out of building such canoes to order.



Maybe it's part of the same mid-life crisis that brought me to Vermont, but recently I've begun to wonder a little about some of the people I knew at Fram, so much so that in June 2006 on a trip to Suffolk I at last got round to visiting **John Maulden (G45-50)**. It was a visit I had, for no good reason, been postponing for some time, and turned out to be such a pleasure that I hope to have learnt something about procrastination. It was he who prompted me to get in touch with the OF website. So here I am. If any who remember me wish to get in touch or have a mind to publish your life stories, I'd be interested.



Maurice Metcalf (R20-24) was our oldest living OF until I sadly woke up one morning to the following message from his daughter Anne :-

“My father died today, April 6, 2007 at 2:50 p.m. in his "hundredth year" as he liked to put it. He lived in an apartment right up until this morning when they took him to the hospital and he died a few hours later peacefully - otherwise enjoyed fantastic good health. Thanks for all your cares about him. He appreciated it and so did I.”

Maurice had kindly started to put together a piece for the Overseas Bag and I know had been in touch with **Alfred Molson (K38-43)** and others just before he died. I don't know how far he got with this piece but I have told Anne that I will happily publish it if she comes across it. Also a few weeks before his death I sent him, via Anne, some pictures I had taken of the College during a recent trip, which I know he very much appreciated seeing.

Alfred Molson (K38-43) I had many telephone conversations with Alfred over the last year. He has recovered from having a cancerous polyp removed from his bladder. On a subsequent check up they removed the Stent (about 10 inches in length!) but found a new cancer starting at the top. He went back in 5 March 2007 to have it removed. He also tells me that he has signed up as Guinea Pig for a research protocol just starting on Bladder Cancers, which will mean him being examined every 6 months for a while.

I was also able to provide him with **Arthur Staniforth's (S31-39)** phone number. He called him and “our call lasted well over an hour! While he could not put a face to my name he did remember the Molson name. We talked about The Sudan and other places we both have seen in our travels (The West Indies) etc. He is in the process of writing another book so we will be

hearing more in due time. Regrettably he is not on the internet, but I expect to correspond in the future via snail mail.”

Alfred also suggested, as part of the work I am doing on Distinguished OFs, that I try and ensure that a copy of the numerous books that have been written by OFs are present in the College library. I’m happily taking up this suggestion.

Bryan Pearson (S45-47) first got in touch again shortly after returning from a cruise on the Regal Princess from San Francisco up to Victoria, Canada, and Alaska. The Captain on board was **Nick Carlton (G63-70)** and it was a delightful 10 day cruise and we were, as usual, spoiled rotten by the Captain! Below is Bryan’s write and photos.



“I hope that you had, or are having, a great cruise on the QE 2. We sadly ended our 10 day vacation on the 14th and flew back to Honolulu the next morning very early.

The weather was pretty good most of the time, except for Juneau where it was very foggy, cold and wet. We managed to get up to the Mendenall Glacier, which is amazing and also visited a salmon hatchery which was mind blowing. I didn't think that there were that many fish in the world, huge ones leaping and slithering over each other in vast holding tanks, plus millions more climbing fish ladders from the river to the tanks.

Nick performed a Renewal of Vows ceremony on board for Celestine and me to mark 37 years together, very moving, and gave us a certificate to prove it. It was actually a conspiracy as Celestine didn't know anything about it and thought that we were merely invited to Nick's cabin for a drink before dinner, she was in a state of shock!”



Bryan was also interested to hear my views on the QE2 as he was considering another cruise on board her [*didn't come off in the end*]. Their next cruise was to be in April 2007, on the Regal Princess again, but unfortunately Nick won't be Captain this time. They are sailing from Los Angeles to the Panama Canal and back, 19 days, our longest cruise to date.

I next got in touch Bryan about his illustrious acting career with such actors as Leslie Phillips and Dirk Bogarde. I’ve now included an extensive piece on him in the Distinguished section of the website – see <http://www.oldframinghamian.com/images/articles/BRYANPEARSONS45-47.pdf> He reported that “the family much enjoyed the story, as did many of my friends with whom I shared it over the 'net. Thanks so much for putting it together.”

As well as pictures for the above piece, he also sent in a picture of the Bisley shooting team, with "Toffee" Thomas in 1947. Bryan is sitting in the front row on the right, below **Richard Stokes (S41-48)**.



On the death of Anthony Rosen he wrote the following “Utterly devastated to read of Anthony Rosen's passing. Of the three brothers, he was the one I knew best during my three years at Fram and we continued to correspond sporadically over the years. He never let me forget the night that I got to "sing" on top of three lockers in the dorm, "Let's be kind to our web footed friendsetc. ! Makes one aware of one's mortality, since we were only one year apart.”

This prompted me to ask what singing on top of the lockers was all about! For those of you who don't know, this is Bryan's explanation :-

“it was a ritual to make the new boys climb up on the bedside lockers, piled one on top of the other, facing the top row of beds where the seniors slept. The poor young kid then got to sing a song of own choosing (I think) and, depending on what the seniors thought of the performance, they threw pillows at him and tried to knock him off! I suppose I must have not been too bad as they only threw a couple of pillows and I was allowed to climb down!”

They are off cruising again in November, this time back to New Zealand via Tahiti and Fiji, but on a different cruise line, Celebrity.

Laurence Pretty (S49-54) responded to an e-mail from me. He provided the following update :-

“At the end of 2006, I retired from being a general partner in one of America's largest law firms, where I had been continuing my long career trying patent cases. Trial work has been enjoyable and taken me all over the USA as well as to Japan, China and Europe and I shall miss the excitement. However, to everything there is a season.... I have now started a sole practice in which I am acting as an expert witness in patent cases, mediating and arbitrating patent disputes and so on. I am also continuing as Editor and co-author of the book PATENT LITIGATION, Laurence Pretty, published by Practising Law Institute. New York, N.Y., in print since 2001. It is a widely used U.S. legal treatise in the field—although no one is ever going to make a movie of it!”

As he was interested in some pictures of the College I e-mailed a few of the one's I had taken on a recent visit (which will all be available on the website at some point) and he responded by saying “I can see that the old Tuck Box Courtyard is vastly improved since my day. I am going to be in England on vacation in September and might want to fit in a visit to look at the College if I have time [*I've let him have a contact at the College*]. My wife, who is from California and a former teacher in the L.A. public school system for the First and Second Grades, would be quite intrigued by a private, co-ed English boarding school at the High School grade levels. You asked did I specialize in any particular area of patents. I have litigated patents across a wide spectrum of technologies, for example patents on lithium ion batteries that power cellphones for Sony of Japan, patents on breast implants for 3M, and the pioneer patents for hot melt joining of the seams of wall to wall carpet now used universally throughout the world for an individual.

Rebecca Walden (M91-92) got in contact about registering on the SOF website. She's currently Senior Director, Beverage Programs and Development for Hilton Hotels Corporation. Since leaving the College :-

“After an excellent year as an exchange student at Framlingham, I attended University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia and in 1996 received a dual degree in Psychology and Marketing. Following graduation I moved to New York City where I worked in investment banking and private equity for five years. From 2001-2003, I attended Harvard Business School in Boston and upon graduation I moved to Los Angeles. I worked for Sony Pictures for three years and moved over to Hilton Hotels a year ago. After a year in corporate development, I have recently assumed a role doing restaurant and bar partnerships and beverage promotions and development. I live in California and would welcome old friends from 1992 to get in touch. I send everyone warm wishes.”