

Overseas Bag

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Some interesting letters and several new correspondents from the past. Although many OFs are renewing their contact through finding the SOF website, there is news of two OFs found through chance meetings. I hope you enjoy reading the correspondence as much as I do.

RMR

Australia

David Bonner (G62-66) sent some news and details of the next Melbourne Supper (details were put on the OF website in June – www.oldframlinghamian.com):

“I have been guilty of not having arranged an OF supper since taking over the reins from **Mike Garnett (R53-55)** but hopefully will change that with the following invitation:

“All OFs in Victoria are invited to take their seats to cheer on the MCC at the Melbourne Cricket Ground on the night of December 15 when a day-night fixture will be played. **John Saul (R49-56)** and his wife will be in Melbourne for a few days and it would be a good excuse to catch up and renew acquaintances. I do not have all the addresses for those living in the State (*RMR – I will e-mail you the latest list*) and even if you cannot make the game, please let me have your contact via e-mail or mail. Times and meeting arrangements will be provided when we know numbers concerned - no doubt we will have a meal somewhere and if you let me know early enough we can ensure all seats are together in the Southern stand.

“Life continues much the same at the Police academy after the flurry of activity following a huge intake of recruits - we had some 20 squads at one time and we were feeding them with two sittings at each meal. Numbers on the streets are now up to target and attrition has been slowed dramatically - so I would advise visitors to err on the side of caution when in Victoria - "they are everywhere!"

“My two brothers, **John (G57-62)** in Queensland and **Paul (G61-64)** in W.A., are well and enjoying life. Paul is contemplating moving over to live in Tasmania - can't understand why, too jolly cold for me!

“Have heard from **Ed Henry (G57-66)** from my year at Fram. He lives fairly close by and is keen to join a supper meeting when we next get together. I would be delighted to hear from any OFs in Victoria – and anyone else from my years at Fram.”

Address: 13 Kolora Crescent, Mount Eliza, Victoria 3930; Tel 03 9775 4141; E-mail: foodplans@rabbit.com.au

Keith Dann (S48-50) sent news in July:

“Greetings from Corinella, if you cant find it on the map it is at Lat. 38.25S Long 145.26E, a peaceful spot on the shores of Westernport Bay with one shop and a full time population of around 250. An ideal spot for retirees providing one is mobile and has good health. It is actually an historic spot. In 1827 a detachment of soldiers and a party of convicts were sent from Sydney to set up a base because it was thought the French were on the way to set up a colony. In fact the French had already been and gone on a scientific expedition. So after two years the settlement was abandoned, the administration in Sydney calling the party back before the orders from London arrived saying it should remain. In 1846 when the first permanent settlers arrived, the only remaining evidence of the settlement, which included Victoria's first Government House, were some bricks and cattle.

“I retired in 1989 and started to seriously work for the establishment of a Seafarers Centre in Hastings and we have just completed our tenth year of operation. We are an entirely volunteer operation and are an ecumenical one being linked with local parishes of the Anglican, Catholic and Uniting Churches and of course The Mission to Seafarers and Apostleship of the Sea. I have been the Chairman and Lay Centre Coordinator since we started and it does take up a fair amount of my wife’s, Pat, and my time. Like so many groups we find that our volunteers are all involved in other volunteer activities so that if we open in the daytime for the crews of tankers that only have a short stay in port it usually falls on us. I of course normally do all the initial ship visiting and handle any problems that come up with crew welfare and justice. Fortunately we don’t get too many of those as we only have about 100 overseas ships calling a year. There are times when we have nothing for two weeks and others when all four working berths in the port are occupied and we have ships waiting at anchor. That is part of the fascination of the shipping industry. The Centre is 75 kilometres away so we cover quite a lot of driving in a year apart from normal shopping and visits to the family.

“We also travel a little, Lord Howe and Norfolk Islands last year, Central Australia this year and next week are off to Tasmania for a week. Initially to attend the ordination as a priest of the Mission to Seafarers chaplain in Hobart then to visit friends and also to sail on some of the last crossings of Bass Strait aboard the "Spirit of Tasmania" which is due to be replaced by a pair of ex Greek ferries in a few weeks.”

Address: 2 Wright St, Corinella, Victoria 3984; tel: 056 78 0581; knpdann@bigpond.com

Chris Shaw (K50-56) offered some photos from circa 1953 for the website:

“I found the website after a chance meeting with **Peter Hughes (G50-56)**. I can probably provide you many Fram stories, but the meeting with Peter Hughes was definitely one of those Stanley/Livingstone things, and went something like this:

‘I work as a pharmacist in the small town of Cairns in Far North Queensland, Australia, which is a very, very long way from anywhere. It is a Sunday afternoon in 1998, and the outside temperature is a blistering and humid 37C (100F), and nothing moves, squeaks, chirps or in other ways wastes energy. Inside the Pharmacy, the fans are barely keeping the outside conditions at bay. The Pharmacist listlessly completes routine paperwork for the Government’s Department of Health, about as exciting as watching paint dry. The phone rings and I answer:

‘Good afternoon, Cairns Day and Night Pharmacy, this is Chris Shaw, how can I help you?’

‘Hello. This is Peter Hughes at the Mulgrave Road Day and Night Pharmacy. I was wondering if you had any Flucloxacillin 500mgm I could borrow?’

‘Hang about, I’ll check....Yes! I can help you with that. By the by, you sound as though you have a Pommie accent.’

‘Yes. I was born in Kent.’

‘Well, I was born in Felixstowe, in Suffolk.’

‘I went to School in Suffolk.’

‘Really, where?’

‘A place called Framlingham College!’

‘Er-when?’

‘God, you’re going back a bit now. Let me think, I would say 1950 to 1956.’

At this point there is a slight pause before I announce:

‘Your name is Peter Hughes, you were in Garrett House, and you had red, wavy hair!’

To paraphrase Peter's reply, 'How did you do that?'

'Well, you see I was there one year behind you. And you also became a Pharmacist, and basically we meet in such an incredibly isolated area on the other side of the world some 50 years later! Nice to see you Dr. Livingstone! How about a quiet chat over a very cold glass of Chardonnay?

'Beautifully done, Mr. Stanley!'

"The rest of his story, and mine, came out over a number of whites and reds of extraordinary quality over a period of time. Wives met, stories and lies exchanged, parallels in decisions, life experiences, changes and geographical locations were compared. I have recently done a 12-month stint in UK. This was to spend some quality time with my 95/93 year old parents still residing in Felixstowe. Also, we were doing some work and having some holiday. Peter and Janet came to UK to do a similar 12-month stint and we met on a couple of occasions. I also caught up with **Paul Williman K51-57** and his wife, Pat. Paul was in Kerrison at the same time as I was, and the beds and the Roll Call always went: 'SHAW, THOMAS, WILLIMAN'.

"I hope this is of some help. Fram seems a long time ago, but then I suppose it is!"

Address: P.O.Box 145, Stratford, Queensland 4870, Australia; tel: 07-4039-1927; e-mail: crshaw@austarnet.com.au

Jonathan Amos (S67-71) sent message in June:

"I almost feel as though I have gone back to school myself this year, now that my son goes to Guildford Grammar School, which is my local equivalent of Framlingham College. It is only with one's own children that one can fully appreciate the benefits of a good school. I felt that both my son and I would be served better by a private school rather than a State school. From the moment I began my inquiries last year until the present, I have never ceased to be impressed with the service I have received from Guildford and feel that I am quite simply an extremely valued customer. Of course, much of my appreciation is based on my years at Framlingham, which gave me my model for how a good school should be run and it seems to me that it is only at a private school that many of those values are still upheld.

"As a self-employed MYOB accounting software consultant, I have had another good year. Although I qualified as a chartered accountant after school, I was never cut out to be your average accountant and after many miserable years as such, I have finally landed on my feet as an MYOB consultant. In this role, I can be one third a teacher, one third a computer consultant and one third an accountant, as well as run my own business from home, which is the best job I've ever had!

"This month, I sang bass in the WA Symphony Chorus singing Orff's Carmina Burana in the Perth Concert Hall. I've sung it twice before but Vladimir Verbitsky, our guest conductor from Russia, made sure it was a thrilling experience yet again. In September, I shall be switching to music theatre when I play Mr Sowerberry in Bart's musical, Oliver! And at home I have a Les Paul guitar and Marshall amp to rock with. As I said, I was never cut out to be your average accountant."

Address: 202 Shaftesbury Avenue, Bedford, Western Australia 6052; Tel: 08 9375 3335, Mobile: 0407 990 933, Fax: 9375 3331; jamos@space.net.au

Neville Marsh (S53-61) sent a note in June:

"I am pleased to report that the gallant band of three active Queensland OFs are all alive and well. We spend much of our time commuting between UK and Australia: **John Gates (44-**

48) will shortly be going over with his wife, Ruth, whilst **Peter Bailey (34-38)** and his wife, Joyce, are on their way back; and my wife Alison is actually in England as I write. We have met up with John and Ruth Gates for a pleasant lunch in the tourist village of Montville, situated in the hinterland behind the Sunshine Coast where John has the good fortune to live. I shall be staying with them again at the end of the month and then in the spring we shall get together for our annual gathering.

“We are all caught up with World Cup fever, particularly after England's 3-0 victory over Denmark. This is one of the few times in Australia when we can call "soccer" by the name of "football" and everyone knows what you mean. For the other 3.75 years of the cycle, "football" means Australian Football League (Aussie Rules or "footy") in South Australia but (rugby) league in Queensland. Clear so far? Then of course, there is (rugby) union which is called "rugby" in New South Wales and Queensland but I prefer "rugger" so that there is no confusion! England's cricketers are now putting on a bit of a show as well although my Australian friends do not fancy their chances yet against a "real" team. I had to dig deep into my memory bank to work out why, in the last Test at Edgbaston when Jayawardene was "caught" by Hoggard, a no-ball was called by South African umpire Dave Orchard. This was because there were three men placed behind square on the legside and apparently the rule stems from the Bodyline series when Bradman thought that packing the leg side with fielders was unfair! Such are the vagaries of sport, stemming from Fram, I wonder?

“In an earlier e-mail, Neville mentioned that: “I'm meeting up with **Ian Cottingham (R61-66)** later this week who comes up to Brissy from time to time from Canberra. I also keep in contact with **Prof. Allan Brown (S57-62)** by snail mail but have just found his e-mail on the hospital database for Ann Arbor, Michigan - allanb@med.umich.edu” (*Thanks for the contact information as we were able to get Allan back on the SOF Address list – RMR*)
Address: 258 Sugars Road, Anstead, Brisbane, Queensland, 4070; n.marsh@qut.edu.au

Keith Newhouse (R43-50) found the SOF website and sent in a brief message to say that he was interested to find out what was happening with the SOF after his living for so many years in Australia. However, we had no further communication to our reply.
Address: e-mail: knewhous@rivernet.com.au

Canada

Tim Walwyn (S45-53) sent a message from Vancouver:

“My wife and I took two trips in 2001: one to the island of Hawaii in Feb. (I had always wanted to see a volcano in action!); and one to go on a theatre tour in London in Dec. (five shows and a trip to Paris on the chunnel). Since then we have stayed fairly close to home. I still play tennis 3/4 times a week (mens' doubles at 8:00am). We are still in our family house and

(RMR – photo attached of PB, NM & JG from their last get-together in Jan 2002)

file name: Bailey, Marsh & Gates - Jan 2002 Australia.jpg

p.s JGR - I know Neville Marsh is in the middle but I am guessing at Peter Bailey and John Gates.

have not "downsized" yet, so there is gardening and other maintenance to occupy my time. We also have 3 grandchildren who live in town. Add in an interest in the financial world and it makes for an adequately busy life. I really don't know how I ever had time to go to work each day!"

Address: 6857 Laburnham Street, Vancouver, B.C., V6P 5M8, Canada; e-mail: twalwyn@telus.net

Raymond HT Wang (R75-77) sent in an Address Feedback form:

"I really enjoyed my time at Fram and made some good friends. I would like to hear from any of my old school mates".

Address: 6 Fairholme Drive, Unionville, Ontario, Canada, L3R 7R1; tel: 416 918 1245; e-mail: Brgdriver@hotmail.com

Whilst guessing at missing names for photos on the OF website, we decided that one might be **Thomas Wolever (R71-72)**. Unfortunately Tom was not listed on the SOF database for us to be able to contact him to confirm. However, a quick search on Google on the Internet and – hey presto!:

"Yes, that's me alright (1972 2nd XV - front row, left)! I went to Framlingham as an English Speaking Union exchange student in the fall of 1971. I came from Harvard High School in Los Angeles (actually North Hollywood), California. I had a great time at Fram. I fondly remember playing rugby (I was on the wing), especially one very wet and muddy day when no one could hold on to the ball, and I scored the winning try after kicking the ball all the way down the field and diving onto before anyone else got there. The other treat at Fram was running cross-country with the final few hundred metres across the meres, jumping the river (too wide to actually make it!) and then up the hill.

Lorie Rimmer was the new headmaster and he persuaded me to stay on for another term after my first year to take the entrance exam for Oxford University (Corpus Christi College of course, his old alma mater). I got in and went up to read medicine in 1973. I came to Toronto in 1981 to do a PhD, and married a Canadian, and now have 3 children, am a professor at the Dept of Nutritional Sciences at the University and just became a Canadian citizen last week!"

Address: Dept of Nutritional Sciences, University of Toronto (Medicine), Fitzgerald Building - Room 434, 150 College Street, Toronto, M5S 3E2, Ontario, Canada; e-mail: thomas.wolever@utoronto.ca

Bruce Blacklock (S54-62) found the SOF website and sent in an Address Feedback form:

"Greetings from Nova Scotia. I am very impressed with how things happen quickly on the SOF website. You are correct that the other two Blacklocks listed are my younger brothers.

Nova Scotia is a lovely Province. I emigrated here in 1967 and traveled throughout North and South America for two years, before coming back here to settle. Briefly I have two businesses. One is an aquaculture operation. Freshwater recirculation, land based, growing arctic char fingerlings. The other business is an electronic bird deterrent system manufacturing company. We have dealers in many countries. Our market is primarily the fruit industry, but also industrial sites and airports. We have a few U.S airports that have our systems installed. San Francisco, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Salt Lake City. We actually had an inquiry for Fort Myers Airport (*where RMR lives*) a few years ago, through a dealer. You can see a bit about my

company in the website www.phoenixagritech.com".

Address: R.R# 1, Debert, Nova Scotia, Canada, B0M 1G0; tel: 902-662-2992; e-mail: bruce_blacklock@hotmail.com

France

Brian Rosen (S40-46, BH78-93) e-mailed a letter in June:

"Despite all the political trials and tribulations, the continuing strikes, the passage to the euro and the extraordinary administration, France continues to provide us with a higher standard of living than we could enjoy in the UK. Couple that with the climate, the good food and wine and the welcome given to visitors and residents from England and there is no desire to go back - not that we could afford to now anyway!

We are both fairly busy - Dominique with her Chiropody practice and an ever increasing demand for orthopaedic soles (fabricated by yours truly), - and myself with the house, the pool, the garden and yet another bigger (and of course better) motorbike. There is also a fair amount of my time spent on the affairs of the British Legion, the RAF Association and various other organisations that I find interesting.

We were particularly pleased to see **Bob Williams** for a short visit to pick up a car that I had purchased here on his behalf, still much cheaper than in the UK. He was enjoying the first months of retirement, only to be lured back into harness by Orwell Park.

A slight pause in my activities at the end of last year to have an artificial carbon fibre aortic valve fitted. No great drama as I was not yet in desperate need and now I feel fitter than ever - should have had one 60 years ago and I might have been a great cross country runner like my brother, **Michael (S40-46)**. The health service here may be expensive for the taxpayer BUT the possibility of having an operation like this when and where you wish and by a surgeon of your choice makes it easier to accept the high taxation rates. All cost covered by the state including wine with meals!

Our daughter Sarah (BH 88-93) has successfully completed her first two years of a Degree in Human Genetics at Nottingham University; Now, somewhat to our surprise, she has decided to finish her studies in Lyon and is busy at present looking for suitable accommodation. We thought when she started at Nottingham that it would provide us plenty of excuses to visit the UK but in fact she found it very easy and cheap to fly back home whenever she wanted. Thus, since our trip when we fitted in the Suffolk Supper last year we have not been back. The trip by car to Calais is easy - but from Dover onwards it has become increasingly tedious. Next visit will be by air plus hired car I think but exactly when I am not sure.

Address: 15, Chemin des Murieux, 38200, Vienne, France; Tél. 00 33 474 85 49 95;
brosen@club-internet.fr

Germany

Stephen Rosenberg (G73-79) sent news in June having been put back in contact with the SOF by his brother, **Andre (G71-78)** (*RMR – Andre did promise to try and send an article by the deadline, since he is very interested in finding out what old friends are doing and they would*

probably be interested in what he has been doing these last 20 or so years – Andre’s contact details are below):

“I received your e-mail address from my brother André. After leaving Framlingham College, I joined my family in Virginia, USA and attended Virginia Episcopal School in Lynchburg, Virginia (1979-1981) where I received my high school diploma. In 1981, I attended University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia for 4 years where I received a Bachelor of Arts degree in German and Rhetoric and Communication Studies.

In 1985 I was involved in a practical internship for 1 1/2 years with a major German paper manufacturer (Zanders Feinpapier) located by Cologne, Germany. This was followed by various jobs back in Lynchburg, Virginia USA working as a waiter, as a sales intern, and as a department store sales representative before returning to Germany in 1988. Since 1988 I am employed as a sales service representative with Mead Verpackung GmbH in Trier, Germany (a subsidiary of Mead Packaging in Atlanta, Georgia, USA). I have been married since 1990 to Nicoline, née v. Thaden, who grew up in Mexico City, and we have 4 daughters (10, 8, 5, 1 years of age).

I would be pleased hear from friends from my time at Fram.

Address: Kapellenstr. 5c, 54293 Trier-Ehrang, Germany; e-mail: shr@meadwestvaco.com
(Address for Andre: c/o 207 Huntingdon Blvd, Lynchburg, Virginia 24505, USA; e-mail: ARosenberg@oca.vbgov.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 Bob’s 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.

(RMR – photo attached of Rowe, Holland & Seagrove at the Penang Club in Jan 2002)

file name: Penang SOF - Rowe Holland Seagrove - 18 Jan 2002.jpg

(RMR – photo attached of Jack Maulden’s grave

file name: Jack Maulden 01.jpg

Bob was interested in the article in the recent OF Mag about **Jack Maulden (R33-38)**, cousin of John Maulden. Jack 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. True to his word, 4 photos of Jack’s grave arrived within a week with the following note:

“John's cousin Jack is buried in the Commonwealth War Graves at Cheras South of KL. The site is particularly pleasant and peaceful, and well maintained. It is visited regularly and the previous signature in the Visitors book was that of Brian Cleghorn, the British High Commissioner, who had visited the site just a few days before us.”

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

Bob Holland: 29 Cangkat Ria, Mount Pleasant, Batu Ferringhi, Penang, 11100, Malaysia; e-mail: dutchpn@pc.jaring.my

I have included the contact details of **Neil Oh Ching Han (K98-2000)** in the hope of receiving news from Neil for future Overseas Bags. The OB Editor was based in Sabah for 6 years from 81-87 and it is one of his favourite parts of the world.

Address: No:66, Luyang Phase 8, 88300 Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia; e-mail: neiloh81@hotmail.com

New Zealand

Where would the Bag be without a letter from **Lloyd Kenyon (26-29)**. Lloyd wrote separate letters to both JGR and RMR:

“I have decided that you and I are unique – I because I do not have an e-mail address and you because you enjoy trying to decipher my hand-written letters! (*Keep the letters coming – though I hope you will excuse me for “creating” an e-mail address for you by sending an e-mail to you via your local museum – www.waimate.org.nz/museum - RMR*).

I am still going to the museum twice per week. On good days, I potter in the garden and on bad days I work on my new project – trying to record all those from Waimate District who have served in any armed force in any war.

I enclose a recent newspaper cutting that shows that at least our rugby teams are proving victorious after the off-pitch fiasco that resulted in NZ losing its role in the 2003 World Cup. NZ teams have recently won the Super 12 final, the international sevens and the women's world cup. And we have just thrashed South Africa in the first round of the Tri-nations. Roll on the Bledisloe Cup.”

Address: 15 Oxford Street, Waimate, New Zealand

Dave Simms (R64-71) made contact from Wellington:

I was at Fram during the rock 'n roll era of the late 60's/early 70's - Cream, Led Zep, Pink Floyd and Santana - Crazy times - the antithesis of Latin lessons and Rugger in the rain!

I've always kept in touch with two good mates: **Neal Wills (S69-70)** and **Glynn Shipman (G64-71)**. Both have been out here to visit. I have also recently met up with **Bob Craig (R63-70)** that has been superb. I will try to get more news by your deadline including some good recent photos of a hunting trip that my son and I went on. (*Hopefully we can get your news and photos into the next mag – RMR*)

Address: Rivendell, Akatarawa Road, RD2 Upper Hutt, Wellington, New Zealand; tel: 04 526666; e-mail: Dave_Simms@westpactrust.co.nz

Nick Marsden (G72-76) also sent a message from NZ:

After years of peripatetic roaming, I am now a permanent resident in New Zealand. With so much moving, I had previously only kept a contact address in UK; but I am now contactable here. I extend warm greetings to all my contemporaries at Framlingham College and would welcome news from anyone who remembers me.

I am a teacher trainer at a technical college here; I also work with immigrants, teaching them English; plus I do a little bit of writing.

NZ is a great place to be - especially now that it's summer when I try to do as much fishing and kayaking as I can.

Address: 13 Cambourne Road, Sandringham, Auckland, New Zealand; e-mail: nick.m@clear.net.nz

Saudi Arabia

Graham Walsh (R72-78) sent message:

“I am currently work for a Telecoms Consultancy in Saudi Arabia. I have previously worked in Hong Kong, Budapest Hungary and Kuwait. I recently got in touch with a few guys from my year at Fram. Its rather odd looking at guys who when you last saw them were young men but now are in their forties. Anyway we supped a few drinks and reminisced about Fram and all the things we got up too. I would be happy to hear from anyone else who remembers me.”

Address: PO Box 2026, Riyadh 11451 Saudia Arabia; tel: (+966) 1478 2024 extn 389; e-mail: gwa@norconsult.com.sa

South Africa

Adam Phillips (G78-83) sent a brief e-mail to say:

“I am currently on 'gardening leave'. I left BoE in mid May and join Investec on 1st July. I will let you know my new e-mail once I get settled in.”

Address: House No.9, Watervliet Farm, Simondium, Western Cape, South Africa 7670; temp e-mail: adam@cybercellar.co.za

James A.H. Campbell (M74-82) sent news from Pretoria:

"Towards the end of last year my Fram friend **Ian Dyble (M77-82)** emailed the De Beers website to see if I still worked for there. Little did he know that I helped build the website. So within minutes, I had set-up an email exchange with Ian. I hadn't seen or spoken to Ian since 1988, when I stayed with him and his family in Norfolk very soon after my wedding. Following the email exchange, Ian and his wife and two kids came out to South Africa to do some voluntary work on an AIDS project in Cape Town on behalf of his local parish in Norfolk. They also spent a delightful long weekend with my family in Pretoria. It was amazing that after not really seeing each other for any length of time since 1982 that we managed to rekindle our old friendship and importantly our respective families got on so well with each other. Following this successful visit, we committed to ensuring that it was not another 20 years where we should properly see each other again!

My brother, **Jonathan (M74-84)**, still a maritime lawyer but has moved back from

Athens to London and is now working for Holman Fenwick."

Address: e-mail: james.campbell@mhs7.tns.co.za

Alan Richardson (S34-40) sent a short letter just after the deadline with details of his new address:

"I am writing to you to advise of my new address as I see there is no name against the Secretary's job – that will be a difficult post to fill – the Bromages will be greatly missed. I am still in touch with **Tom Adnams (S28-37)** who lives at Salt Rock; **Oliver Bridges (S45-50)** moves between his home in Harare, Zimbabwe or with his brother in Henley. My brother, **Hugh (43-48)** lives in Sydney (*Please let me have an address for Hugh so we can get him back on the mailing list – RMR*)"

Address: 7 Pineland Place, Pinetown 3610, KZN, RSA; tel: 031 702 6601

Spain

Nick Cook (S80-87) sent in an address change from Menorca:

I have been living on the Island of Menorca in the Med for nearly four years and work as an estate agent. Any one visiting the island by all means get in touch.

Address: Avda Fort De L'Eau 44A 2A, Mahon 07701, Menorca, Baleares, Spain; tel: (+34) 649 40 61 40; e-mail: nickcook@fincasmoncloa.com

Tanzania

There are two reports from **Michael Thomson (K52-59)** – this one from Tanzania in June 2002; the other is under Zimbabwe:

"I was commissioned to go to St Anne's hospital in Tanzania for a charity which has been supporting this mission hospital for many years. They wanted an assessment of medical needs to aid their decision making for continued support.

It was remote! 1200 kilometres from Dar-es-Salaam took 3 days to travel. The last 200 km took seven hours by some of the roughest roads I have ever been on.

The hospital of 100 beds is situated on the shore of Lake Nyasa / Malawi and serves approximately 200,000 people who survive on subsistence farming, mainly cassava, and fish from the lake. Currently all of the medical work, including operations and anaesthetics, is done by clinical medical officers - essentially upgraded nurses. Getting doctors, even Tanzanian, is an increasingly difficult task in the developing world. They do not want to work in isolated areas without financial incentives, free cars, internet access etc.

The only electricity supply is by a diesel generator; the nearest mains supply being at a distance of 500 km. Fuel has to be obtained from a town 6-7 hours drive away. Even so, emanating from one of the crude brick houses in the town were sounds of the World Cup! A generator, fuel, dish and television set can connect you to the world even in remote Africa.

Whilst the disease pattern in the hospital was fairly typical with malaria, respiratory infections and anaemia predominating, it was interesting to note that the full horror of the AIDS pandemic had yet to hit this community. Perversely their poor roads have protected them from the virus bearing travelers such as lorry drivers. This situation presents a golden opportunity for

amelioration of the pandemic by funding increased health education and initiating schemes to prevent mother to child transmission of the virus.

The Tanzanian government is unable to fund the total cost of staff salaries so retaining staff is difficult. However thanks to an initiative by the Churches in the country, drug supplies are constant although severely restricted in range.

I was left with the impression that Tanzania was much poorer than Zimbabwe but a happier place. The current President, Benjamin Mkapa, seems to be pursuing a policy of rooting out corruption that has already brought benefits in the form of debt relief by the World Bank.

Let us hope they do not squander this fresh start so that hospitals like St Anne's can continue to function on a sound financial footing rather than survive on staff selflessness and foreign donors”.

Address: Little Shannon, 87 Crock Lane, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 4DH;
michael.thomson2@virgin.net

Thailand

John Birt (S59-63) sent more news from his paradise in Koh Samui though he still keeps his main home in Bangkok:

Life on Koh Samui is good and we get a continuing stream of visitors to rent our villas (www.samuivillasandhomes.com) - a market that seems to be a very popular alternative to staying in a hotel for families at least.

I was looking at the Notice Board on the O.F. website and saw the name **Nick Allan (R59-63)** who was looking for **Richard Vaughan-Griffith (K60-64)** plus a couple of others. As I remembered Nick as a very quick left arm opening bowler from my days in the 1st XI, and because I had kept in touch with Richard I put the two together. Nick is living in Texas and I am now on his e-mailing list for an unending stream of jokes!!

Then, shortly thereafter, I was looking at the Notice Board again and saw the name **Simon "Steve" Milner (R60-64)**. As there was a great spin bowler known to all of us as "Steve" in the same cricket XI I contacted him via e-mail, and sure enough it was the same Milner as I suspected. He now lives in Berkshire by the river Thames and seems well, although why he was called "Steve" at school when his name is Simon I do not know!!

So, from my perspective at least, I am enjoying the O.F. web site and contacting old friends who I would surely never have heard from again.

Address: 152 Sukhumvit Soi 20, Bangkok 10110, Thailand; jgbirt@hotmail.com

Trinidad

Andrew Henriques-Brown (S80-85) sent a brief message searching for old colleagues:

“I am interested in finding David Latimer-Jones, David Hanley, Hugo Corrie, Alexander Haig and anybody who remembers me. I am still living in the West Indies as promotions manager for an alcohol company (any one remember the rum?). You can contact me by e-mail and I will reply but it may take a while.”

Address: 1 Knaggs Hill, Lady Chancellor Rd, Maraval, Trinidad; tel: (+868) 685 7075; e-mail: andrewihb@softhome.net

USA

Nigel Rees (S58-63) made contact from Connecticut:

“After Fram, I entered the then esoteric field of computers, as a programmer, then analyst, DP Manager, software-house consultant in 1982, and an independent consultant in 1994. I came to the USA on a 3-month contract that ended 2 years later. I remained here and met my second wife.

“Part of the computer thing was inspired by Mr. John Maynard Smith’s giving us an end-of-term class on binary number in 1963. I recall “Den” Earley, at Brandeston, as an inspiration too, as was Mr. Manthorpe whose style was perhaps unconventional but whose lessons stuck in my mind. I wish I had been able to thank those gentlemen earlier.

“America’s nice. The kids haven’t suffered “comprehensive” education and habitually use words like “eclectic”, “elective” or “gubernatorial” that would produce an uncomprehending grunt from their peers in the UK. A local radio-station’s listeners assume that I am honest, cultured and authoritative because of what they insist on calling my accent, failing to recognize that I speak English and they have the accents! A rapacious Income Tax is an idea the US borrowed from UK in 1913 (the British tax was a temporary measure to fund the Crimean War!) but one seems to end up with something in one’s pocket. The iniquities of divorce had me starting from financial scratch in 1997, despite that I now have more digits in my dollar income than could be achieved with a UK income x 1.5.

Address: 81 Prospect St, Milford, Connecticut, 06460-4802, USA; tel: 1 203 301 0740; e-mail: nigelrees@nigelrees.com

In a letter to JGR, **Bryan Ivory (K48-52)** writes:

“I spoke to **Alan Bewick (K47-53)** today, the first time in 50 years. We had a long chat catching up on the years. Alan has a nephew in Savannah and he is hopeful of visiting some time soon, so hopefully we may be able to meet up. Otherwise we are toying with the idea of visiting UK next spring.”

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

Albert Molson (38-43) made contact from Texas:

“You have caught me going out of the door, I am checking on the camper to go fishing this afternoon. We go down to the bays on the Gulf of Mexico and spend the night gigging for Flounder. My friend has a boat the draws 4 inches, is propelled by an old lawn mower motor (Air Boat Style) while we stand up in the bow on a platform (a hunk of plywood) and gig the fish. We have a generator and flood lights up front, the fish are usually under the sand, but you can just make out their outline! The problem is you often get your share of stingrays so you have to be careful! So while you are asleep in your air-conditioned bedroom tonight, I will be on the water in 78 degrees and 100% humidity.”

Address: Post Office Box 721253, Houston, Texas 77272-1253, USA; e-mail: nosloma@swbell.net

Edward Boning (R84-87) sent in an Address feedback form:

“Despite my UK address, I am now working and traveling the world as a tour manager for American bands”.

Address: 474 Earlham Rd, Norwich, Norfolk, NR4 7HP; e-mail: boningrubberduck@aol.com

Bryan Pearson (S45-47) sent fascinating news of a recent cruise:

“I did want to pass along a fascinating story about something that happened on a recent cruise that my wife, Celestine and I took. I am still pinching myself, figuratively of course, to make sure I didn't dream the whole thing but I am attaching pictures to prove it!

‘We boarded the Crown Princess in Papeete on February 17th, having flown down from Honolulu to meet the ship, to start a 12 day cruise back up to Hawaii. This being our second voyage on the ship as we did the reverse last November, sailing down and flying back, and much enjoyed the trip.

“On boarding we picked up the Princess Patter, which is the ship's daily newspaper, and I noticed that the Captain had a house in Suffolk and also a home on Maui, so I made a mental note to speak with him sometime during the voyage and see where in Suffolk he lived. I didn't pursue the matter further until we were invited, about halfway through the cruise, to a party for several hundred previous passengers hosted by the Captain. As luck would have it, he passed right by where we were standing so I stopped him and introduced myself. "I see that you have a house in Suffolk?" I said, "whereabouts?". "Ipswich" he replied. "I'm from Ipswich too" I said "and I also live in Hawaii". At this point he pulled back slightly, looked at me and said "Did you go to Framlingham?"

“Well, you could have knocked me down with a feather! It turns out that the Captain was **Nick Carlton (G63-70)**. Nick left Fram to train in the RAF and then went to P&O as a cadet and has been there ever since, working his way up the ladder to Captain of huge cruise ships (the Crown Princess is 70,000 tons). It transpires that he had read my name, and some of my ramblings, in the OF Mag and then, when we met, he made the connection that I might be the same Pearson.

“Needless to say, we spent quite a bit of time together after that, visited the bridge twice where we met his delightful

Hawaiian wife Cara, and also joined them for cocktails. The attached pictures were taken by the ship's photographer at Nick's request and presented to us, which was a very thoughtful gesture. We didn't technically have an OF dinner but it was the next best thing so hopefully it will qualify.

‘Nick is still on the Crown Princess until March 24th 2002 when he transfers to another ship sailing between New York and Bermuda. After that Nick will take a well earned vacation and return to Ipswich for a while, so we won't see him again until he gets back to Hawaii but will keep in touch by E mail.”

Address: Bryan Pearson, 45-501 Apiki Street, Kaneohe, Hawaii, 96744-1919, USA; e-mail: BPear26848@aol.com.

(RMR – photo attached of l-r: Celestine Pearson, Nick Carlton, Bryan Pearson, Cara Carlton

file name: SOF NickCara2.exe

Address: Nick Carlton, 45 Constitution Hill, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 3RL, UK; tel: 01473 210796; e-mail: PPDCAPT1@princesscruises.com - though the e-address seems to change from ship to ship.

In a later e-mail, **Bryan Pearson (S45-47)** sent the 6th installment of his life and times:

“I see that it was 26 months since my last episode (Autumn 2000 mag) - where did the time go? Anyway, if there are still OFs interested in taking up the thread after all this time, here goes:

There I was, October 1952, in New York, or rather Brooklyn, with \$300 in my pocket and the address of a boarding house where I had booked a room by mail. It turned up to be more of a closet, on the 4th or 5th floor, up a flight of narrow stairs with a bathroom at the end of the hall, and, although very excited to be in the States at the start of new life, I must confess to being rather apprehensive.

I soon discovered that the casting for the Fall shows was complete and television was in it's infancy, although I did meet with General Sarnoff at NBC who suggested that I head for the West Coast as he was sure that an experienced TV actor would be in great demand there, particularly one with technical background such as I had acquired at the BBC. The problem with that being that I knew no-one in California as my American sponsors were still in England, and I did not want to put a further 3,000 miles between myself and a possible retreat to London. Alger Hiss' advice to "go west, young man", notwithstanding, I decided to look for regular work of some kind to tide me over until casting started again for Broadway in the Spring.

Quite by chance I stumbled on an advertisement in the paper that started out "Young man, college degree, willing to travel...." so I followed up with a telephone call and arranged an interview with a company called Prince Matchabelli of which I had never heard but who were quite famous in the cosmetics industry. I shall never forget my first impression of the offices at 711, 5th Avenue. If this was a taste of American luxury, I was all for it. Firstly, since PM was basically a perfume manufacturer, the place obviously was extremely pleasant smelling to say the least, the carpets seemed about six inches deep, soft music was playing and the receptionist looked as if she had stepped out of a Hollywood movie! My interview seems like a blur, all I can remember is the sales manager, Paul Woolard, telling me that they wanted me to start work as a salesman but, due to the time of year, the company was on hiatus and the next few weeks would be taken up with training, trips to the various suppliers of bottles, boxes etc., plus a tour of the factory where we would see the perfumes being made and bottled. Oh yes, and there was also to be a huge Christmas party, followed by a two week (paid) vacation before starting actual work in the field! By the way, I forgot to mention that when the question of the college education came up during the interview, it was waved off with the comment "you were educated in England, that's good enough for us"!!!

The first week of January, I had to go and get my driver's license. This consisted of driving thorough New York City (on the "wrong" side of the road), and I was able to pass with flying colours, much to my surprise. Then I was given the address of a garage to go and pick up my company car, a two door black Chevrolet, into which I loaded all my worldly possessions, consisting of a steamer trunk and a B4 bag, and a few cases of perfume samples, some literature, and a black briefcase. This was to be my traveling "home" for the next three and a half years.

After final training, two of us new salesmen started off for the mid-West, in company with Paul Wollard, first stop Philadelphia. This was to be the acid test as each of us had to give a

"live" sales presentation in a real department store with the other two standing at the side to see how we did. I was chosen to go first and, although my father and grandfather were both in sales, I didn't have the vaguest idea how to go about it so I just looked upon it as just like a part in a play, how would an actor play this? With that in mind I plunged in to my first sales "pitch" and was amazed at how well it went, resulting in congratulations and pats on the back all round..... this was easy!

We dropped the other salesman, John, off in Philadelphia where he was to be based and Paul and I continued on to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where he left me to my own devices, after being sure that I knew where my territory was, how to book hotels and how to keep the company advised of my whereabouts for three weeks in advance which was necessary for mail forwarding, sample and new promotional shipments etc. My salary was automatically deposited in my bank account in New York and for the entire time I was with PM I never saw an actual check. Bear in mind this was before the days of direct deposit and electronic banking and it was most convenient. I should mention that the salary was a magnificent \$220.00 per month (about 54 pounds at the time) but all expenses were covered except cigarettes and haircuts and it didn't take a genius to figure out how they could be included too! Speaking of territory, for anyone familiar with the USA this will be mind-boggling. I was responsible for all stores in Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, Nebraska and Minnesota, as well as the Michigan Upper Peninsular. All of these States are bigger than the whole of England!!

Before the reader's eyes glaze over, I will close by saying that I thoroughly enjoyed my time "on the road", staying in some delightful cities and developing friendships that have endured to this day. During my over three years with PM I traveled back to New York every December and became the second highest producer in the company after Vlad Gretchina, a Russian émigré who was a legend in the perfume industry and quite a wonderful character complete with silver topped cane and cloak. The next episode will start at the Christmas party in 1955 when my life started on a completely different tack that would eventually get me to Hollywood, motion pictures and television again.

Address: Bryan Pearson, 45-501 Apiki Street, Kaneohe, Hawaii, 96744-1919, USA; e-mail: BPear26848@aol.com.

Zimbabwe

This is the second report from **Michael Thomson (K52-59)** – this one from Zimbabwe in April 2002; the other is under Tanzania:

“You will not be surprised to hear that I am back in Zimbabwe! Only for two months but I was here for the election so wondered if the observations below might be interesting to the OFs.

In this rural hospital of Zimbabwe at Murambinda where I am doing a locum the election proved an anticlimax. Many of the nurses who have higher incomes than most and therefore could be considered middle class were very disappointed with the result after such high hopes had been built up that change was possible. In true African manner when the result became obvious they just shrugged their shoulders and returned to work.

‘Some electoral fraud combined with political cunning has seen the President back again with a powerful mandate to change the face of Zimbabwe for the foreseeable future. Undoubtedly some people will have voted for the ruling party out of fear, others in gratitude for financial or positional favours but many will have voted out of conviction particularly those who

live in the rural areas who have been wooed assiduously. White farmers are likely to become an endangered species as they leave the countryside or even country. Sadly for them they epitomise the last remnants of colonialism that the President has vowed to remove. With them will go much of the profitability of agriculture leaving the way for black Zimbabweans to have land but which is likely to be tilled for their own use only.

“With the Commonwealth applying (fairly limited) sanctions it seems inevitable that the country will go through difficult times economically and probably will only survive by being propped up by South Africa. Prices have soared in the last year with inflation last December at 100%. Whilst the government controlled media announce increased exports and the return of tourists on the ground things look different. One very noticeable change is the number of child malnutrition cases admitted to the hospital. There are queues in the town to buy scarce sugar and maize is becoming short in supply. The situation has been made worse by a drought that has left most of the maize crop withered. There will not be any rain now until November and therefore no harvest until next January.

“Perhaps the time has come for the West to step aside and accept that Africa and Africans should be left to solve their own problems in their own way. Whether they can do this in the face of globalization and the AIDS pandemic is open to question. I hope to return from time to time to see how they are getting on and pass my observations to the OF Overseas Bag.

“Three weeks after I return home in May I am off to Tanzania to assess a remote rural hospital there for an England based charity. (See report under Tanzania)
Address: Little Shannon, 87 Crock Lane, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 4DH;
michael.thomson2@virgin.net