

This Week @Foxland

16 January 2011

	
1 months & 25 days Oasis of the Seas	2 months & 6 days Seabourn Legend

WHAT A TRAGIC START TO A YEAR ..

A quick synopsis of the Australian weather today has; half the country flooded, the other half baking in high 30c temperatures, and 2 states looking over their shoulders to see if the cyclone is going to hit.

Our thoughts do go out to the folks in Queensland however who have been simply inundated with water and mud and refuse. Looking at the pictures on the TV and Papers I have to say that I would have no idea where to start to clean up if it happened to us .. and just how terrible it must feel to have lost so many 'things', destroyed or lost forever, so quickly.

I was listening [on the radio] to a man tell the story of how he and a complete stranger attempted to rescue a family from a car. They saved one boy but lost his mum and brother when the car was washed away. It was absolutely gut wrenching and the tears just ran down my cheeks as I drove.

The TV reports today showed an army of volunteers being bussed around Brisbane to go and help complete strangers. <http://news.google.com.au/news/search?aq=f&pz=1&cf=all&ned=au&hl=en&q=queensland+floods> Man kind can be wonderful sometimes !

ON A HAPPIER NOTE

During the week Robyn and I celebrated both our 36th and 37th anniversaries. Married for 36 years and 37 years that we have been together. These momentous events managed to generate quite a few [mainly] positive comments plus an excellent suggestion from "Lady T" .. What about a web page of wedding photos from our friends around the globe ?

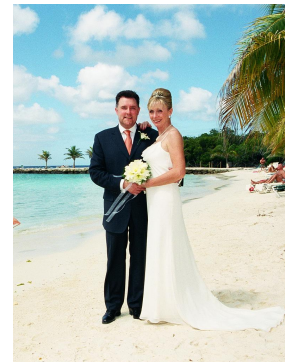
Note: In answer to one of the queries and according to the website [Stupid Laws http://www.stupid-laws.net/Stupid-Laws-USA-States-and-Countries/Stupid-Laws-in-Australia.htm](http://www.stupid-laws.net/Stupid-Laws-USA-States-and-Countries/Stupid-Laws-in-Australia.htm) a Life Sentence in Australia is 200 years. But I also read that a life sentence in QLD is only 15 years and NSW is 25 years.



So to kick things off here is the official Happy Snap from our Big Day. We were married at Nuneaton, Warwickshire, England, January 1975.

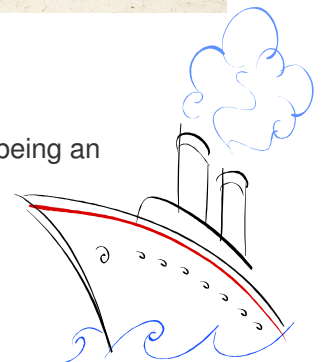
Lord John and Lady T were married on the beach in Aruba, January 2003 [no, it's not photo shopped] and we celebrated their first anniversary on the Aurora in 2004 when we visited Aruba. Champagne all round.

So the gauntlet is laid down .. send me a photo from your wedding and a few words explaining the setting .. and we'll start a new page / group on the web site ..



CRUISING COUNTDOWN

The next cruises are getting closer, just over 2 months before we fly, and of course being an inveterate 'planner' I have lots organised but still have heaps of things to do.



For example these burning questions remain unanswered and your assistance is welcomed, if not veritably encouraged;

- How do we get from Fort Lauderdale to Jupiter and back, about 60ml, to see the Florida Marlins play ?
- The everglades appear to be about 100ml to the left of Fort Lauderdale ? Is there anywhere closer, where can we go to get a ride on an airboat in a swamp ?
- Is it better to have a car pick us up after we get off the Oasis of the Seas [with 6000 other folks] or rely on taxis ?
- What's the chance of arranging to go Shopping with the Chef in Madeira ?
- How many different jackets do I need for 13 nights 'country casual' on Seabourn ?
- Will Seabourn stock Kilkeny for the passage, if I ask nicely ?



GENERAL STUFF

Life goes on and there never seems to be a time when I wonder to myself 'what shall I do ?' ..

- I have been watching the NFL playoffs for the past couple of weekends; it's a bit decadent really. I mean the game is played for 60 minutes but it takes about 3 hours to complete and if there are 2 games on it really begins to take some time to watch the whole thing, even if I start at 05.30 as I did this morning. [didn't actually get up to watch it, just awoke early, and only watched most of the game].



Here's my tip: I'm rooting for the Green Bay Packers – because back in the 70's I used to have a Wisconsin Green Bay Packer shirt that I bought when I worked at sea. I would like to go to a Super Bowl one year. How about next year ? Anyone interested ?

- Work continues to be busy .. and I even get to spend time with my daughter occasionally. No super cars in the past couple of weeks but I did detail the Ford F350 King Ranch on Friday, which is a very impressive machine – check out this video on You Tube http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BPMM-w_tuAs

FAMILY AFFAIRS

Robyn is starting to sort out her wardrobe for the cruises, having a couple of items made, and searching through her favourite stores for other items.

Lea has been down south for the past few days, probably coming home tonite. In any event she is making the most of being her own boss and taking time off when she wants. Have fun babe.

Adam is counting the days until 'Belle' gets back from Switzerland –very early on Thursday. I'm hoping she brings chocolate – because Adam isn't eating it right now – BUT Robyn and I are.

Bob and Carol should be due home any time now, from their NZ cruise with the grandchildren, can't wait to hear all about it Bob.

And that, my friends, is the end of the newsletter for this week, so until next time .. Ciao ..

Allan & Robyn

The World is 70% water ... how much have you travelled if you haven't cruised ??

