

86 Mountain View Road  
North Balwyn 3101  
Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July '84

Dear Peter,

I don't seem to have been exactly showering you with letters recently. Perhaps it's time to drop one on you.

As threatened, we intend to drop in on you next time we are passing. Our timing is a little different to the earlier indication. Brooke is not really on the way to many places, and the frequency of tours ex Darwin is limited. We were not able to get the dates we originally wanted, and will now be calling on you later, on our return journey.

Our bookings are now confirmed as follows —

- July 19 Fly Melbourne - Alice Springs by Ansett. Pick up a Falcon hire car, and book into Alice Federal Casino.
- July 20 (Fri) In Alice & to places within easy range - Starby, Charm etc. In Alice.
- July 21 (Sat) Leave Alice for Ayres Rock, The Olgas, etc. In Four Seasons, Yulara
- July 22 (Sun) Abandon the Falcon to the dingoes at Ayres Rock, & jump on a plane from the rock to Katherine. (Tried to book at Paraway Motel, but on the wait list, with a bed booked at the other motel) Pick up another Falcon.
- Mon. July 23. Drive to Katherine base for a cruise, visit Springvale & one or two other places nearby.
- Tues July 24 Head up the highway to Darwin - probably calling at Pine Creek & or two other places. Book into Mindil Beach Casino (we have to pay for this holiday somehow)
- Wed 25 In and around Darwin & other places within reasonable distance
- Thurs 26
- Fri 27 July (1415) Jump on a Garuda flight to Jakarta (Sari Pacific Hotel)
- Sat 28 - In & around Jakarta
- Sun 29 - Hop over from Jakarta (Java) to <sup>North</sup> Sumatra (Diara Hotel, Medan)
- Mon 30 - On to Lake Toba (Atsari Hotel)

Tues 30<sup>th</sup> July sail across to Samosir Island (in Lake Toba) stay Toba Beach Hotel.  
Wed 1<sup>st</sup> Aug continue on to Rahat/Brastagi overnight Hotel Rundang  
(If the tour works out as planned, by now our creditors will never find us.)  
Thurs 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug Back to Medan and the Diara Hotel.  
Fri. 3<sup>rd</sup> Fly across the straits to Malaysia - staying Golden Sands Hotel, Penang.  
Sat 4<sup>th</sup> } in and around Penang.  
Sun 5<sup>th</sup> }

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> (8.11.) Leave Penang for Singapore, pick up Qantas flight to Darwin  
Tues 7<sup>th</sup> (3.50 AM!!) Arrive Darwin  
Wed 8<sup>th</sup> Fly Darwin - Broote  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Aug Broote - Darwin

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> - Back to sunny Melbourne  
- At this point in the letter you rang from Brisbane. As always, your  
dulcet tones were very welcome. Hope that you regged up well before  
coming that far south in the winter. As I mentioned, Melbourne has been  
having, for it, something of a heat wave for this time of the year. It has also  
been the driest May since 1934 -

Back to the itinerary. I hope that the suggested dates suit you.  
I am not too concerned about upsetting your routine on the last day, 13<sup>th</sup>  
August. After all you upset ours on that date some years ago, and it  
will be good to be able to retaliate.

There doesn't seem to have been anything very exciting happening - fortunately.  
We dined out at Ione & Ian's a week ago, and checked out their new  
wax-to-wax carpet. It certainly makes a difference to the house. The previous  
week-end we went around Graeme & Bronnie's garden with them to help  
them differentiate between weeds and plants. Graeme has just about finished  
restoring the bath-room, and has made a very good job of it. Jo B & kids  
spent the school holidays down at Wannambool near the foreshore

entertainment parks, lake, etc., and thoroughly enjoyed it. The weather of course was perfect.

Mum & I, with uncle May & auntie Fay will be dining and dancing at the Windsor next Saturday night. (I thought that I should take mum out before she got any older). We had better be home before 12 o'clock for her birthday on Sunday I think that mum gets to cook her own party treat for the hungry hordes.

Elsewhere, uncle Wilf joined the 60 and over club during the week. (I am of course much younger.) I had difficulty finding a 60th birthday card and compromised by slightly modifying a 6 years old card in number and age. With any sort of luck we may still be on speaking terms, but I haven't heard yet.

With some help from my dentist I have managed to lose an upper front tooth, which I think adds a distinguished look to my countenance, but the view is not shared by mum. All being well I will have a glass of water next to mum's in the bathroom soon, with my own little plate inside, something else to look forward to!

We are both looking forward to our holiday. It is a long while since I have seen much of the "outback" (not since we had the sewer connected). Mum hasn't been to the parts of Australia we are visiting, and we are in the main breaking fresh ground in Asia. Noote byland is of course something we will be able to boast about. Not many of our friends will have been there.

Love

Mum & Dad,