

16th December 1986.

Dear Prakash & Swati,

I was about to write a note to bring our warmest good wishes for 1988, when your very pretty card came. What a nice W.W.F. Card of the Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, a bird which we saw in various places. Thank you for the card and ^{for} its message.

Swati, I thought that you might be amused to see a photograph of John McManus and others at a stand to illustrate the Tay Estuary Research Centre's studies of "Reservoir Sedimentation in Eastern Scotland". The Royal Society of Edinburgh held a "Conversazione" in Dundee University's Bonar Hall - a rare and prestigious event in the Scottish academic calendar - as the Dundee newspaper recorded it. The title of the Conversazione was "Academia et Industria" - to show how academic research is helping industry, and - hopefully - to get Industry to give more money to finance academic research, - as our Government is "cutting back" on university grants from public funds. The Conversazione was held quite a long time ago, but the photographs were delayed. The people are (left to right) Robert H.S. Robertson (a consultant in raw materials development), Bruce Mary Neville (wife of the ^{Dundee} University Principal & Vice-Chancellor), John McManus, J.B., Andrew Houston (University Court, Scottish Rep. European Landowners, etc) - sadly, his charming wife is not on this print.

Considerable interest was taken in the sedimentation research. About 350 visitors, national and international, visited "our" stand, I was told. I am sorry that reprints of the Paper you, Swati, wrote with John McManus were not available, as I had hoped. John McManus had tea with me here at Tayfield last Thursday; he said he had written to enquire when your Paper would be published, and was told that there was a 2 year delay! Yet, John McM. said the Journal was ^{the} most prestigious and "worth waiting for".

My "hip-replacement" (prosthesis) operation has been a success in removing the arthritic pain. I still have some pain from my "Paget's Disease" but I have had that for years. It was a "Surgery major plus" operation - very painful and I had to have big blood transfusions, but now I am hobbling about with two sticks and I expect to walk well in a month or two when new muscles have grown!

Our very warmest good wishes to you all for 1988.

John and B. Hilde

Dear Prakash and Swati,

19th April 1988.

Your letter, dated 15th March was awaiting our return from our visits to the 'Middle East'. We sent one or two postcards to you from our cruise ship, but we are not sure if postcards put in a box on the ship, to be posted at the next port of call did reach their destinations, - so I had better explain our trip.

Both of us had influenza. I had a rather bad attack, which 'got me down' a bit. So we decided that we needed some warmth and sunshine. A brochure of a "Swan-Hellenic" cruise to the Red Sea attracted us. The ship was comparatively small with about 250 passengers. "Guest lecturers" (really, eminent specialists on archaeology, history, etc) would be on board to tell us about places to be visited and to act as guides, and special concessions had been arranged for visits to some sites not normally accessible to tourists. One guest lecturer was Mike Everett, of the R.S.P.B. - to talk on migration of birds to be seen in March, especially in the Gulfs of Suez and Aqaba. The sort of people who want to go on a "Study Tour" like that are mostly interesting to meet, as well as interested. "Senior" participants were especially welcomed, with a qualified British doctor-surgeon on board. In the event, we found our fellow participants most congenial. And there were many ornithologists, some quite eminent whom I was glad to meet.

We only had one night away from the ship, - a night in a hotel in Cairo, to give more time for the Pyramids and other sites on the lower Nile, while our ship returned up the Suez Canal by night. We had come down the Canal by day. But we had some very long excursions, leaving the ship before dawn, in buses, and returning late at night, sometimes. Some bus trips were hundreds of miles, - for example, to Mount Sinai, from Sharm el Sheik, at the southern tip of the Sinai peninsula, to Petra, in Jordan, from Aqaba, and, longest of all, to Luxor, Thebes and Karnak, in the Upper Nile Valley, from Port Safaga, port on the Red Sea coast.

I loved the heat and brilliant sunshine in the desert mountains, = 38°C. +? (in the shade - if one could find any shade). In Singapore 38° felt oppressive with 100% humidity, but in the very dry desert air, I did not feel too hot. And there were many birds unusual for us, and "old friends" - e.g. Lesser Kestrels (*F. naumanni*) breeding on the ruins at Karnak, as we had seen them at Persepolis, in Iran. Perhaps most spectacular were great mobs of Storks drifting north up the Gulf of Suez.

To open slit

By air mail
Par avion



M^{rs} and M^s P. Gole
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Aerogramme

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An aerogramme should not contain any enclosure

As I mentioned in a previous (which may not have reached you), we got the Journal of the Ecological Society just before we left for our cruise. We have not yet finished reading it, but we must warmly congratulate you on it. It is most interesting and extremely useful. Of course, I was most interested in your contribution, Prakash, on Mahabeshwari and Rangdhanu. The "Politics of Environmental Planning" has been so very much my own concern, and we use so particularly interested in your biosphere reserve concept. Do congratulate, with our admiration Tegos for his report on "Oats Around Pune", and our warm appreciation to Shishu Bera for his internationally important contribution on "The Environment Conscious Habitat", and our admiration? Must stop this scribble. It's up to you for the time being.

Tayfield.

July 19th, 1988

Dear Prakash and Swati,

We were so delighted to get your letter of 4th July and thank you very much for it. It came very quickly - in a week - and we are so sorry about John's letter to you which took 5 weeks! Perhaps it had been accidentally put into the "sea mail" post.

Reading of your visit to the Mahabaleshwar area gave us great pleasure, thinking of our wonderful time there with you, and also knowing that you had been able to have a short(?) break from urban routine work; how delightful!

We have had a very busy summer, with a series of functions in the grounds - church picnics from Dundee, Brownies etc. We had beautiful weather in June and often wished that the summer of Swati's visit had been like this one. Now the weather is unsettled, and rain has spoilt the strawberry crop in the garden.

John had an operation last week for cataract in one of his eyes. The sight had partially failed some years ago, and this can't be rectified, but he was advised that a cataract was now making the sight much worse and that an implant could be done. This is a wonderful operation, and now, a week after his operation, he is already seeing better. He is convalescent at home and has been told to avoid tiring exertion. We have pleasant distractions with the tadpoles in our lily-pool, with this year's families of goslings and with roe deer who have returned this year - for the first time since Swati was here - to reside in the park. We see them frequently; there are now two does, and a fine buck who might be one of the twins born here when Swati was with us.

John asks me to say that he much appreciates your renewed invitation to write an article for the Ecological Journal, and he is sorry that for the moment the operation has incapacitated him from such activities, and unfortunately quite a lot of Hydroboard work is awaiting his attention. If a short article would still be acceptable for a later issue, he hopes that he might be able to send something at a future time, after consulting you as to the subject.

I myself must add that I was much interested by the learned

By air mail
Par avion



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articles especially by yourself, Shishu Beni and Tejor. May I say
again also, how very grateful we are to have the fine autobiography
of the late Sabin M. which you so very generously gave us -
I do not think that we shall go to Germany in Jan. 1989, but
we were glad to hear that you may be going to the meeting, and
wonder if there is any chance of your coming on to stay with us,
which would give us much pleasure (both of you, I hope?)
Susan, Duerden came to see us last week, when her Ph.D. the
degree was conferred in Dundee. She has an excellent job in the
Governmental 'Bull' Research branch. With affection from us both
Bodo

5th August, 1988.

Our dear Prakash and Swati,

I think that Bride answered your welcome letter of 4th July, and explained that I was then just home after a week in hospital for an eye operation, for cataract and glaucoma. I have to go on putting drops in my eyes and to wear dark glasses for some weeks, and that hampers my reading. But already I am hopeful of better vision than I have had for the last year or two. My blindness was increasing until this marvellous operation.

Since your previous kind invitation, Prakash, for me to write an article for the 'Journal of the Ecological Society', I have been planning an article, for your consideration, on 'Acid Rain' and atmospheric pollution. This is a subject and research studies with which I have been, and still am, closely involved; I am a representative, officially, for our Hydro-Electric Board, but I am also closely concerned for the South. Elec. Bd and C.E.R.L. (Central Electricity Research Laboratories,) Leatherhead, England, - where I have been several times to see what is being done there. An international place for 'field research' is a Scottish lake, Loch Fleet, which I now know very well. I did begin to write an article, but I stopped until ^{I had received} the proceedings and papers of an open international meeting in Glasgow, which I attended in Glasgow last May. The Report and Papers were awaiting my return from hospital, but reading them (small print) and other checking of documents is not practicable for me at present. So an article on Acid Rain must wait.

Instead of the 'Acid Rain' effort, I have been writing a 'Paper' on "wetland Conservation", which is still my main research and advisory concern. I could write ^{perhaps too!} easily about 'wetlands', and as a result, my article is FAR too long! I had thought of cutting it down, or just sending a small extract. But, I am sending you the whole thing, in case you may find any of it any use for Ecol. Soc. Journal, or anything else. Don't use any of it, if it is no use. I won't be offended!

In 'References', I have only given a few, to corroborate or to indicate sources of research studies for some points.

There are too many references to 'Berry, J.' because I had reprints of those easily to hand, and I knew what I wanted to quote without rereading my own stuff. The 'References' could all be omitted.

Typing has been difficult as my typewriter was not working properly and got progressively worse. The last page was typed with one hand while I guided the ribbon with the other! Now the wretched machine has broken completely, hence this scribble in my poor writing. I hope you can read it!

Apart from the eye operation, we are both well. I am being given more consulting work for the Hydus. Board than I can cope with easily. - I can do most of it by telephone, but I hope to attend an important meeting in Edinburgh next Wednesday. It is rather gratifying to be 'in demand' at my age - today is my 81st birthday!

With warmest regards from Bride and from me.

Yours ever.

John

JOHN BERRY.

TAYFIELD, NEWPORT-ON-TAY, FIFE, SCOTLAND, U.K. DD6 8HA.

22nd September, 1988.

Our dear Prakash and Swati,

I am much relieved, as well as delighted, to have your letter of 30th August. There has been a stupid, vexatious and most unusual postal strike in the U.K. We have had no posts, in or out, for weeks. It began in London and I feared that, - for what it was worth - my article for your Journal was stuck in a London overseas mail sorting office with (so our newspapers informed us) 2 or 3 million letters and packages! However, all is well. I gather that London mail is still delayed because of the 'back-log', but Scottish mail is almost normal this week.

I feel very flattered and honoured that you may think my 'wetlands stuff' worth publishing, and I very much like the title "Balancing the Uses of wetlands" - just right. Thank you! On looking through a carbon copy of the article, I found an important typing error which I may not have corrected in the copy I sent to you. On p.3 of my draft, paragraph 3, line 4, I wrote about the Mill Owner in Scotland who devised a "salmon stair" or "fish ladder". The date was 1 8 30, not, as typed 1930! Some difference! I apologise. Could you please check that before publication?

We have had a good summer - much better weather in East Scotland than in most of the U.K. We had our daughter, Margaret, and her family to stay, ~~then~~ ^{after} Bride's younger sister, Katharine, from the Netherlands. She has made her home there after retiring from Utrecht University. Then a very nice visit from our younger son Peter and his family. Peter could only come for a 'long weekend'. He is exceedingly busy as he has been made Director and Chief Executive of our Government's "Crown Agents". It is a ^{very} senior job for a "youth" (by my standards!) of 44. We had Paola, his Italian-born wife and their three children for a lovely time. They are keen on natural history. Richard-John Berry, our youngest grandchild is 9. I got him interested in Butterflies when we were staying with them in Singapore, where they had many big "Bardwings" in their garden. Even in this country, where many butterflies have (sadly) been exterminated by "chemical pesticides" we have enough to provide family outings to look for scarce ones.

Did we inform you about our departure from Tayfield House? It will be a big psychological step for me. Apart from war and travelling abroad, I have been in the same bedroom here for 81 years! I am very conscious that the next two generations - William & Elizabeth and their boys, Johnnie & Robert should learn to regard this old house ~~as~~ their HOME. Now seems the time.

To open slit here

By air mail
Par avion



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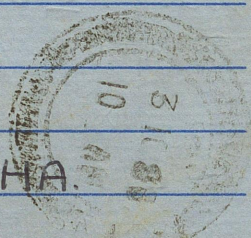
John & Bride Bery

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Birds and I will be being married at the corner of the
walled garden. Jim Smith, William's head teacher, and his family are
living there, where Jim was born. It will be a search for Jim this
week to move, but then the children are grown up now. Jim stayed village
to Seamybrae Cottage, where Susan Duerden lived. We are making
some structural changes there for them. That work will take a few months
so we may not be able to move until about March, because we
plan to join Jim + Thel's house to the adjoining house we made
for Jim's mother out of the former east shed. Old Mrs Smith is in an
old people's "home" now, too, but we have to live without attention.
I shall miss the views - and seeing grass and deer from our
kitchen. Instead, I am planning an insect-greenhouse for
kitchen and big motto on the ^{glass} south wall of our new abode.
I hope to be able to walk through a plain of my "sheds" directly into a
warm climate with six. I prefer this to a plain, but it is at least a plain.
Our affectionate greetings to your mother, John.

To open slit here