

**Greetings, One and All!**  
**Happy Holidays**  
**Happy New Year 2008**



It's that time again. It's time to wish you all that you would wish yourself and more. We hope the holiday season has already started for you and that you are going to have a happy and exciting New Year and following year.

Our's has certainly been a fine year: three months of apartment living, then three months of real travel, and the whole repeated again: We started 2007 in Sydney in an apartment and are ending it in Melbourne in another apartment. In between times, via a very reasonable round-the-world fare we spent nearly three months traveling South Africa, then three mostly settled months in Paris (adding to our waist lines and knowledge of French politics). We followed that with three months of catching up with family and friends in Darlington, New Jersey, and places nearby.

We're breaking our long custom of sending annual greetings just after the year starts; that's because here in Melbourne we have nice broadband internet access and we are about to lose it as we set off for some real travel around Australia in the car we bought in Sydney. You can see a longer version of this greeting, our 2007 in Review, on our website at <http://www.chandlerbates.com/Event/YIR2007/yir2007.html>. It has a score of photos.

As usual at the end of the year we try to look forward a bit and predict where the next year will take us. In early January we should set out for Alice Springs and Darwin, a trip of 3000 km, if we don't deviate too much. Most likely we will be back in Europe sometime between March and June. Right now we toy with the idea of a summer bicycle trip across France, perhaps Paris to Geneva. But then we might change our minds and find ourselves a place to stay in Amsterdam or Madrid or Italy. Check our website or wait for our 2008 letter to find out. In the meantime, whatever happens, we hope that you have all had a wonderful year in 2007 and that 2008 will bring more of the same.

Good on yer!

**Jan and Gerry**