

SUBMISSION 79

Sir,

For the past 40 yrs, I have been an ex-pat.

I left Australia like all my friends in the 1960s for a trip to Europe and back. There was no thought in my mind of not returning to my homeland. My passport stated that I was Australian and a British subject. But as in most of our cases, I stayed on in England and the original two years became twenty.

Then, having married a Spanish lady, I now reside in Spain but have never given up my Australian citizenship and never will.

I, personally, am happy with my lot. I return whenever I can to Australia but because of family ties, I think of Spain and Australia as "home".

To be fair, for those recent ex-pats who have problems when being abroad for more than a few years, I would like to manifest that all passports should be endorsed with law updates as well as what is expected of all Australians when travelling abroad.

Respectfully,

Barry McGinley