

NEW LONDON ADDRESS

4- STANHOPE COURT HOTEL

46 STANHOPE GARDENS

LONDON SW7-5RT

AUSTRIA
HOTELS

AL SOLE DUMP
HOTEL

Venice Italy

29-3-77

Dear Roy,

Here we are in Italy and it's only 18 days until we get out of Europe! Yes you may not believe it but we are counting them! This GLOBAL trip has been a big disappointment (and expensive) - save your money Roy! It is not worth it, but don't ask me what to do with it! - Very disappointed with Belgium & Holland - dead and cold - Germany interesting but dead & Austria wonderful but unreal for costs. This dump is cheaper and nastier - crumbling buildings & people who don't care a hoot - no service at all - strikes everywhere in a small way.

Weather has been cold for Spring - we came through a heavy snow storm from Austria yesterday - just like the Xmas cards. Joy has a bad cold I have lost mine - 3 of our 25 have had to get a Doctor (no English). The hour is a flog - Courier a real English dude - have had a few rows over the poor hotel rooms - food only fair. A group from THAFALGAR are full of similar complaints. Don't come to Europe Roy - Vienna was a great experience but Venice is far from the glamorous place it is painted to be (no paint anywhere in Europe) - just 18 days!! Can't see too well - one globe has gone & they couldn't come less - I pinched one from the Hall but it was a different base. Note you got my card with new London address for 11/0. Join letters 20/1 \$2 AUST from Austria Coke up to 70c - Coffee from 30c to \$1-40 a cup!!!

Nothing is priced reasonably in Europe. This causes people to say England is cheap. Britain is falling apart. The man in the street is fed up with the Leyland style of strike but the Independence movements in Scotland & Wales will finish them for good.

we have been amazed at the amount of land under cultivation in England & Europe - they don't have any deserts like us. - All the buildings are 200 to 900 odd years old & they look like new. - cars are plentiful even though petrol is up to A.\$1.50 a gallon - fruit very cheap in Europe - I used my last Australian money to buy 2 apples - 48c each.

We have the best country in the world. Boy if we only realized it. No news from Australia at all - in fact no news as we can't understand it.

Rules vary a lot and the Australian Dollar is worth less than US instead of about 10% more - something must have happened - Most Frontier Banks are robbers & Hotels worse - I find BANCA COMMERCIALE ITALIA the best - even get a smile & they know of us quite well. Have had news earlier that Tokyo is

quite well. Have had news earlier that Toby is
going for a walk with Pat Campbell Ok.
This is a great load off our mind -
not many dogs in Italy - mostly muzzled for
Rabies - In Belgium Holland Germany & Austria
they are allowed into Hotels & Cafes - In
London you can take them on the bus &
Train Ok. - 8p. English in bus. - Sorry to
use both sides but no paper at most
Hotels now - some no scabbies about come
over boy. Best wishes to you & LeNile.
Regards to all at work. Love 18 days!!

15