

Tales of Yankee Power

Sorry if this is a bit more scatty than usual. Its our last day in New Zealand before we set off on our circumnavigation of the planet.

We were told by Catherine that our trip would reach out and dominate the whole year and I she is probably right. I



have now moved to the mobile team and its fun but bizarre. Its all very hip and trendy in the mobile team, we have stand up desks and Mac-Books. Its good moving to a new team and learn-

ing new things but after four weeks on the team I am now leaving. The new manager of the team was just appointed to I had exactly two days overlap with my new boss. I did manage to grab half an hour with him so I hope he remembers me when I return in September.

We has a great team bond when we all went to the Zoo, it was very very wet so we did take refuge in





the marquee and drank tea and ate cake, very nice. The zoo is really quite good. They have exotic penguins (rescued locally)

and even a couple of lions. Apparently if you live in Newtown you can hear the lions roar in the evenings.

I think we are both ready for a holiday. Well I know we are both ready, I hope we have remembered to pack everything in the correct box. Most of our stuff is staying in the house, some of it we have boxed up and stashed in a friend's garage as we are hoping to be able to sublet the house while we are away. This may or may not actually happen as we have not had any takers yet and we will have to rely on the help of friends here to help get it let.



Steph should be able to work, I think she had finally managed to get all the

pieces of paper in the right order at her agency and will do her training and meet the agency in the first weekl we are back. I am still looking for a contract, apparently the UK economy is thriving according to the BBC so maybe I'll be able to pick up a contract.

It is at last starting to seem real. At last all the prep is done (or its too late), and we are off to see people we haven't seen in ages. Andrew, Liz, Bunny, Allan, Paul, Iona, Andi and Onder on the way back to Manchester. First stop is the US and shopping. Its such a good activity to do with Bun-ny, and the prices and the choice make it hard to resist, I have just weighed my bag and its only 10Kg so lots of room.



We have not been away from here since we arrived almost two and a half years ago, except for Christmas in Melbourne. I hope I remember how we do the travelling thing, in some ways I find that I am excited to be travelling again but I also find myself looking around here and seeing things that I have grown used to and that I will

miss. Smiley graffiti, friends, the wind, the feel of the place.

It's a beautiful Autumn day here and the last load of washing is languishing in the sun while I potter around with the last bits of packing, I have a whiteboard list, while Steph is working. She will swoop down to pick me up after work and then we are off to the airport.

