

## **Southern Cross Group E-Bulletin to Members**

13 October 2002

### **Overseas Australians – Register with DFAT**

Dear Southern Cross Group Friends,

Saturday's bomb blasts in Bali, Indonesia, have killed a number of Australians and left many injured. A number of Australians are still missing.

In this post-September 11 world, events in Bali serve as a timely reminder of the importance of the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Online Registration Service for Australians living overseas and those travelling overseas. In an emergency, the information you provide DFAT can help consular staff find you and could also help to put your family's concerns for your safety at rest more quickly.

If you have not registered with DFAT, the link is below. We understand that only some 10% of all Australian citizens living overseas are presently in this database. We urge you to register yourself, and to pass this information on to other overseas Australians, as well as to your family and friends in Australia who may be travelling overseas.

<https://www.orao.dfat.gov.au/orao/weborao.nsf/homepage?Openpage>

Many Australians living overseas regularly travel away from their country of residence for business or other purposes. Even if you have registered your overseas address with DFAT, we urge you, whenever you go away from your place of residence, to leave full travel details, including flight details, contact information and return dates etc with at least one person who is not travelling with you, so that you can be tracked down in the event of a disturbance in the place you are visiting.

DFAT's media release on the Bali bomb blasts can be read at:

[http://www.dfat.gov.au/media/releases/department/d014\\_02.html](http://www.dfat.gov.au/media/releases/department/d014_02.html)

The media release contains hotline numbers to call if someone you know may have been in the area.

Best regards,  
The Southern Cross Group  
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[www.southern-cross-group.org](http://www.southern-cross-group.org)