



Sandy Moring (now Thorburn)

Worked with EO	from July/1982 to February /1986
Age on joining EO	20
Nationality	British
Role at EO	Travel Consultant – EOL, Sales, Operations – Africa and South America Desks
Expeditions/Brief Encounters etc. led or taken	Tunisia Training Trip – July 1982 London – Kathmandu : June – Oct 1983 Conquistador : Quito – Rio : November 1985 – February 1986
Why did you want to work for EO?	First job opportunity in travel – 2 weeks summer cover that ended 3.5 years later
Occupation before joining EO	Business School
Occupation after leaving EO	Business Travel Management
Now living in	Holmer Green, Bucks, UK

Then photo(s)	Now photo(s)
1982	2022
	

Memories or anecdotes

So many memories and stories from my time at EO! During my tenure as an EOL Office Wallah, I was involved in making and recording sales, transferring bookings onto the trip manifests, preparing truck paperwork and insurances, creating and sending out pre-departure information, booking flights and hotels, ordering medical supplies for all trips, supporting drivers on the road (including despatches of Mars Bars, shampoos, etc. and keeping their families updated), preparing and responding to telexes, keeping up to speed with trip reports and so the list goes on.

It was an amazing experience for someone coming straight from Business School – nothing there prepared me for this world! But I loved it and benefitted greatly in gaining so many new competences and learning some fantastic life skills. My training trip, just after I joined in 1982, was to Tunisia, led by ALJ and Martin Watkinson. How great to still be in contact four decades later. A year later I went on Dave Harrington’s London-Kathmandu trip with Annie Bradshaw as his trainee. What a great time we had, and both were fantastic in their own ways. Between my Asia trip and moving onto the South America desk, I ran the Africa desk which was a great new challenge with so many visas to obtain, ensuring they did not expire too soon, and with the additional volume of Brief Encounters in the Sahara and East Africa, there was never a quiet moment.

Just before I left the office (1985), I went to South America, having run the desk for the previous year or so, and decided the Conquistador trip would be just amazing – and it was! Unfortunately, Radar took seriously ill with hepatitis before we made it into Lima so had to get him hospitalised upon our arrival and Mr Suti, with two trainees, Allardes Hoiting and Robbie Whelen, continued to lead the two trucks that now had to travel in tandem. Many of my closest friends today were on those trucks.

I recall the jokes flying around when Himalaya Overland started trading regarding it being a soft option..... The regular film shows Derek Biddle and I delivered across London, the arrival of Cosmic Christ and his Mary Magdalen coming into the office trying to convince me that he wanted to go to Macchu Picchu but didn’t need a passport because he was Divine. The numerous pre/end of trip socials at the Troupadour, the send offs at The Drayton Arms, the time I was left at the airport with the Wren Park transit van to navigate out of the multistorey car park and into London via the M4 not knowing what double de-clutching was (to the great amusement of Gerry Creamer and Neal Inwood as they slipped away into passport control!).....

Special times and all instrumental in my personal and professional development. All these experiences definitely changed me as a person and I’m forever grateful they did.