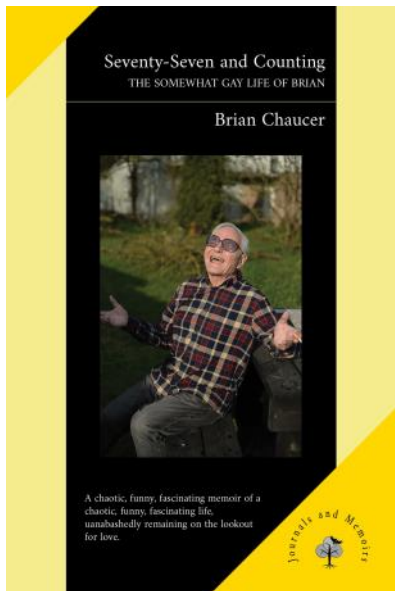


# Seventy –Seven and Counting

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By Brian Chaucer



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The toilet is best described as basic and minimal. A challenge to use and a great learning curve on washing from a bucket on the floor, that when one stood in it, it was not quite wide enough to stand without ones toes crushed at an awkward angle. Let me see, I know, wash my hair first, then my face, working my way down my body, oops forgot to shave first, cold water of course and to add more or flush the loo, pygmy size, I had never seen one so small, you had to scoop water out of the huge water tank with a plastic jug.

It's me again!

What I have been doing this week.

Monday it was my final trip to PMLP office to collect my new ID, "looks like you will all have me around for another 5 years at least.

The immigration department and especially the lady I have been dealing with over several visits has just been so kind and helpful. Within a few minutes of arriving I had my card and I remarked to her that it was a shame that we might not see each other again for 5 years. She laughed, I thanked her for her kindness and helpfulness and as a parting request asked her if she might look at a message I had on my mobile sent from the Post Office that was all in Latvian of course.

## The Author



Brian's life has encompassed surviving often violent siblings, an equally violent father, abuse of one kind or another, hard manual work, running an antiques shop in Spain, a gay guest house in Blackpool, a bookshop in Fulham, a job at the biggest computer company in the UK and heaven knows what else. This is his unusual memoir. Brian is currently living in Latvia but may not be by the time you finish reading this sentence...



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