

# A Dynamic Duo

**T**he love story of David Bradley and Gudrun Nienaber sounds like it was scripted by a Hollywood screenwriter. For most of their adult lives, they were on completely separate paths which didn't intersect until one day in 2003 when the force of circumstance brought them together and their existences became inextricably intertwined.

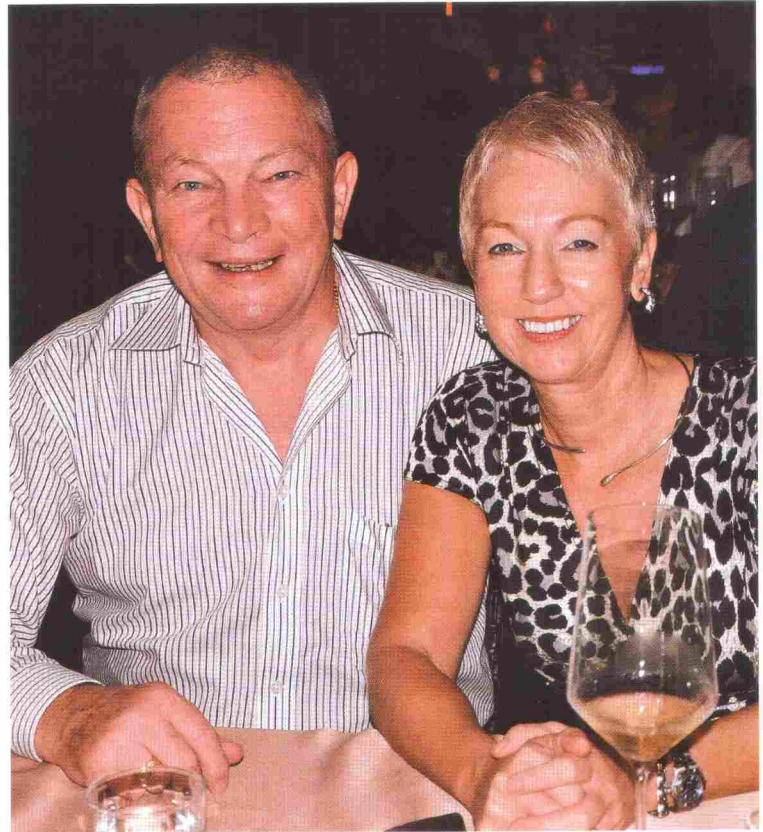
David, who is originally from Australia, was a high-flying corporate executive. He was first posted to Asia all the way back in 1979, when he relocated to Thailand to assume the position of Operations Manager of Coca-Cola.

He then moved on to Singapore, where he spearheaded the Southeast Asian operations of Carnation from 1982 to 1985. When that company was bought over by Nestle in 1985, David was uprooted again and transplanted to Kuala Lumpur. After a short stint in that Malaysian metropolis, he decided to head back to his home country where he (always an industrious entrepreneur) started his own waste management business and four-wheel offroad driving tour company, both of which were highly successful.

Gudrun, who hails from Germany, built a career with news giant Reuters and was posted in many different countries around the globe. From 1996 to 1999, she was stationed in Kuala Lumpur as the company's Managing Director. She recalls that this was an immensely and intensely fascinating time to be in Malaysia. "Everything was happening: the twin towers were built, the Multimedia Super Corridor (MSC) was established, and the financial crisis was occurring," Gudrun remembers. Unfortunately, she was sent back to Europe in 1999, and in 2003 decided to take a "golden handshake" and leave Reuters for good.

Unencumbered by work, Gudrun decided to travel around the world in 2003 and one of the stops on her tour was, fortuitously, the land down under. "I wanted to spend a few weeks in Australia," she says, "and so I booked a tour of Tasmania with David's tour company, which had been recommended to me by a mutual acquaintance." Upon their initial encounter, David and Gudrun found that they shared a mutual affinity and a powerful chemistry. They immediately hit it off and, soon after that Australian adventure, hit the international travelling trail together.

In 2004, after Gudrun had completed her world tour, they decided to settle in Sydney. In 2006, this newly-minted power couple started up a business together marketing and distributing what they describe as "the world's most powerful stored value card which



enables the safe and cheap transfer of funds internationally." Asia was identified as a primary market for this new product and, as they both had fond memories of living in Malaysia, they decided to relocate to sunny Kuala Lumpur in 2008. That same year they tied the knot in Bali. David and Gudrun bought a three-bedroom apartment in the expat enclave of Mont Kiara, and enrolled in the Malaysia My Second Home (MM2H) Programme.

They applied for the MM2H programme using The Expat Group as their agent, and their visas were approved and issued in just six weeks.

The couple has nothing but praise for Malaysia. "There's nowhere better to live," David says, "We love the food, the people, the weather and the fact that overseas assets and income are not taxed here. It is also easy to get insurance here."

Gudrun echoes her husband's sentiments, adding: "The Malaysian people are very friendly, the food is fantastic, the cost of living is low, the infrastructure is excellent. Malaysia is overall a brilliant place to live."

David and Gudrun have a vibrant social life and have established a wide circle of friends in their home away from home. They are regular fixtures on The Expat Group's event schedule, regularly attending the monthly Mingles and Wine Dinners.

So that's the story of David and Gudrun. Through a series of amazingly unpredictable twists and turns of fate, they were led to each other and to Malaysia, their second home. Malaysia has proven to be a strategic base for their commercial operations and a perfectly pleasant place to reside. "There's nowhere better to live," David says, "and we're not going anywhere. We are here to stay." By William Citrin

For more information on the MM2H programme, visit [www.mm2h.com](http://www.mm2h.com).