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Dear All,

Well it has been quite an eventful year although we have not been very far or done too much mainly thanks to COVID. We are still NOVIDs (Not having had COVID yet) but as David cheekily says "It's because you've got no friends Dad".

The year started with the sad passing of Audrey, Jan's Dad's 2nd wife on the 5th February at the age of 97 years. Her son Paul has been in contact with us and thanks to the marvels of modern technology we were able to follow the funeral over the Internet. David and brother Philip represented the SUTTONs and as the service finished they both turned and faced the camera and gave us a wave!



The other major news is that Jenny and Troy have separated. The arrangement so far has been amicable and no one else is involved. I feel sad particularly for the kids who now share their time between their parents. I won't go into any more detail.

Although we have avoided the dreaded virus the rest of the family have all had it. In the case of Jenny and Emma they have had it twice. We were quarantined as well but so far have not succumbed. Jack had a mark on his leg, which developed into staphylococcal bacterial infection but thanks to some prompt attention, was lanced and drained. However if it had been left it would have been very serious. Then Jenny & I both got bronchitis, which is the first time I have had a chest infection since coming to Australia.

So that is a quick run down of our medical and other problems, other than that we have been spending some of the kid's inheritance. We have had the house painted inside and out by a friend of Steve & Abi's. It was the first time since we have lived here (15 years) and as I am banned from climbing ladders any more (NOT MY IDEA) we were pleased to hand it over to him and he has made a very good job which should last for a few years.

My 3-year-old MAC computer packed up but luckily it was still 7 days within the warranty, but with a few upgrades still cost \$900 to fix. Then Jan managed to drop her mobile phone into the toilet so that was more aggravation to fix and recover all the information!!!



The grand children continue to thrive. Oscar has really settled well at his new school and is doing particularly well at sport. He will have a go at anything and recently



we went to his school when he received an award for his swimming. He has to be up at 5 am two mornings a week to train for this as well as soccer practice two nights a week and a match on Sundays and cricket on Saturday mornings.

Steve has been looking after a couple of old cars for a friend while the friend works in Dubai. The cars are a 1976 Triumph Stag and a 1960's Mini. Both are bright yellow and Steve has use of them at the weekends. They cause quite a stir particularly when he turns up for coffee with me at the marina. I go and have coffee and put the world to rights with some old boys every morning. It's like something out of "The Last of the Summer Wine".



Emma is doing well at her school and she too has received an award for excellent achievement. Her school report was all "A"s and one "B+" in Maths. She is very eloquent in her manner and demeanour. Don't have a discussion with her unless you are very sure of your facts, as she will find you out. I think she should be a journalist or Politian, but at the moment she want to be a real estate agent!!!?

Jack continues to excel at his soccer and this year received an award for being the "rising star" in his group. He also came 5th in the "Player of the Year" award for the under 18's. This is given by the referees allocating points to all the players at the end of each match and is a State wide award. All this is good considering the disruption they have both had in their lives.

Jack is now taller than me and is old enough to start learning to drive!!



David starts a new role in January as the 2nd in charge of Yeovilton Air Base. The first Royal Marine to ever do the job!

David and Sarah continue with their projects in Somerset. They continue with their Christmas event but have branched into providing camping sites for holidaymakers. Judging by the comments on social media it seems to be popular particularly the horsebox they have



converted into a cocktail bar! Their girls are doing well. Heather has just passed her "O" levels or whatever they call them now a days.



Ruby is up to grade 7 in ballet. She is currently with us in Australia and will be here for her 14th birthday and Christmas. We recently took all the children to a place called “Horseshoe

Bay” for some surfing. The weather was very un-Australian but Ruby and Oscar got some surfing in.



Other visitors include brother Pete who recently flew in from Queensland. He was over from New Zealand visiting his eldest son Ben and his family and decided to fly down to see us.

We had a very pleasant few days and he managed to see all the South Australian family.



So that is it for another year. Lets hope the world sorts itself out soon. Keep safe

Love from Bob & Jan