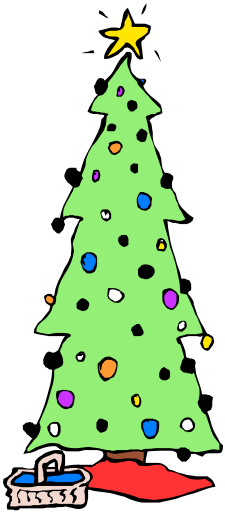


Christmas 2001



Hello, it's Christmas time again so here is our latest news...

Our letter last year started with the statement:

"It has been all change again for us this year."

Well although this year has been fairly consistent—loads of travelling and we haven't changed jobs, massive changes are looming ... read on for the details!



■ *Holidays*

This year has been Africa year... we travelled to Ethiopia for nearly 4 weeks in February. We went to see the work of a Christian aid organisation and find out if we might possibly go out long term. It was a great experience though we are still no clearer as to whether we should go again or not.

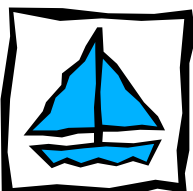
In May Julian had a job in France so we booked a cottage near by and Lesley and her Mum went along for a holiday! We had great weather (for the most part) and Julian even managed to have a short break as well once the work was over.

Having had all the injections and bought all the medications for Ethiopia we decided it would be a good idea to go back to Africa before they all ran out. We had been planning to go on safari for a number of years so at last we got on with it. We went to Kenya first for a few days and then took a bus (rather basic & very hot) to Tanzania where we met up with our tour group. There were only 9 of us with a guide a driver and two camp staff. We stayed in lodges for 3 nights and camped for 7. The camping was great, you could hear the lions around the camp at night and hyena would just wander by the camp while you were sitting around the camp fire.

■ *Sailing*

We still didn't do as much sailing as we would have liked mainly due to travelling too much. We

were away for most of June and most of September. However, we did make the most of July and August and even camped up at the club a few times.



■ *Work*

Work was pretty busy at the beginning of the year, at least it was for Julian! He travelled around earning the money while I stayed at home writing a new training course.

In June we both went to China (Shanghai) for 2 weeks with work. Then we took a weeks holiday to see the city and the surrounding countryside. It certainly works well when you can see somewhere and not have to pay for the flight!



July and August were very quiet with work, the summer usually is. We had a number of jobs in September including me travelling to Denmark 2 days after getting back from Tanzania—not the best idea! However, work has now pretty much dried up now, most telecoms companies are doing very badly at the moment and the first things to go are always travel and training so we are having to take stock of the situation.

■ *The big change*

Well due to the big downturn in work we are wondering what comes next and where our next crust will come from. We are having a few ideas, one being to move to the south coast and buy a property which needs renovating. This will keep us busy while potentially earning us some capital. We can of course enjoy the sailing and walking on the beaches and cliffs—it's a hard life!



20 Wharf Road, Wroughton, Swindon, Wilts. SN4 9LB
Tel: +44 (0)1793 845008
Email: julian_lesley@singletoncomms.com
Web: www.singletoncomms.com