

This Year: As usual, nothing stays the same. A house has been purchased. We look to be a little more settled!



Cheers!

Issue 2

December, 1992

Welcome to 1993

Almost anyway. This is the second edition of the Jewell Xmas newsletter, if you were lucky enough to be on the mailing list in 1991 then you know what to expect. If you weren't on the mailing list, then congratulations - you've made the grade!

Okay, so it's not as nice and personal as a letter, but think about it. How many letters have I sent you in the previous 12 months (or previous 30 years for that matter)? That's right, not many. And if you were hanging around waiting for a letter with your Xmas card you may have been hanging a while, hence the newsletter.

Hannah Happenings

Hannah is progressing at the rate of knots. She has developed into a little personality in her own right and is much better known around Blayney than her parents. Probably because she goes out of her way to introduce herself to everyone, a bit of an embarrassment at times. She has the art of talking down pat, or I should say down parrot. Every slip of the tongue is faithfully repeated twenty times. People who haven't seen her for a while can't get over just what a little chatter box she is.

Although she is 2½ now she still hasn't quite mastered the art of toddling. It turned out that she had high muscle tone, good for athletes, not for little kids. A bit of a twist in her right foot hasn't helped matters. She is seeing a physiotherapist every week to try and cure the problem.

The Optometrist confirms that her eyes are coming along well. No chance of needing glasses we're told. She will have to go into hospital in the new year to have her shunt lengthened, then hopefully the next time she sees the

A house in Blayney ! Why would anyone buy a house in Blayney?



*24 Church Street, Blayney
Built circa 1883.*

inside of a hospital will be when she has kids of her own!

Touch of history

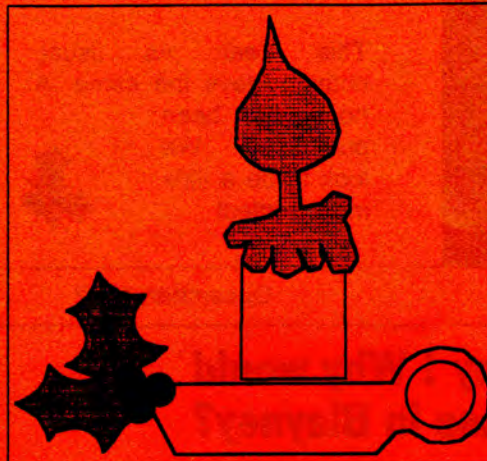
We've moved again. After twelve months in Blayney we eventually got sick of the renting syndrome and decided it was better to live in our own house. We sold the house in Scone and bought one in downtown Blayney. Close to shops and all that sort of thing. A bit too close to the office, being next door but one. Still it is convenient. No worries if you need to duck home and pick something up.

The photocopied photo above gives you some sort of idea what we have got ourselves into. Very nice, circa 1883 and it's all ours. We have also got ourselves a bottomless pit for spending money as all these old houses seem to beg just a little bit more restoration or alteration.

We have half finished putting up a front fence - pickets of course, half finished doing up one of the rooms out the back, half finished building a barbecue, half finishedneed I go on. Never mind next year's newsletter will hopefully see all these jobs ticked off the list.

One down - two to go

Michelle was accepted into Charles Sturt University at Wagga to study her Bachelor of Health Science (Nursing) this year. The first year has gone off okay, but the exam results are being nervously awaited at present. Half year exam results were good - a pass and a credit. The dreaded chemistry subject in the second semester has had quite a few out slashing their wrists after the final exam, so we wait with bated breath. Only two years to go.



The whole business of assignments and residential schools was somewhat of a new experience for Michelle, but she has coped well. I am a nervous wreck, but Michelle is going okay. I took time off during the year and looked after Hannah while Michelle attended residential. That was a great deal of fun. I'm not sure what Hannah made of it all.

What's a Wontama?

Michelle has given up the job in Bathurst working for the Challenge Foundation. She started working at the Wontama Nursing Home in Orange on a casual basis early in the year and was offered a permanent job in September. It is a job share arrangement whereby I get to look after Hannah two evenings one week and three evenings the next. I'm not all that sure what Michelle does.

She likes the work, although I think they are working her darned hard, as she rarely seems to get a tea break. By the end of the Wednesday night shift Michelle and Hannah seem to be missing each other.

Not quite summer yet....

Well everyone keeps reminding us how cold it is. Funny really why people keep doing that when it's us that live here and we are already quite aware of the temperature? The offset for cold winters, of course, is cool summers. This summer has been a little cooler than most. 29° is the hottest we've managed this year. It has still been blanket weather every night. It got down to about 4° one night, a bit brisk.

It hasn't stopped raining long enough for us to get much done

outside. The rain seemed to start about June and hasn't let up. I don't think that we have gone a full week without rain since June. Every single leak has now been documented. The plan is to use the time over Xmas-New year to get on the roof and fix up a couple of suspect gutters. That sounds easy but the roof is 6 metres off the ground.

Study at Deakin

I know I said I was finished studying, but I have decided to do just one more. This time a postgraduate diploma in management through Deakin University in Melbourne. It seemed like a good idea at the time, now that I want to call myself a manager.

It is only an 18-month course by correspondence. Provided of course that I get on and get the work done. I have only elected to study one subject first up. At that rate it would take three years to finish. This is *definitely* the last one.

Roughing it

We're a tough lot out Blayney way. A tent has been bought and locations 'x'-ed on the map for our camping adventures. The first outing will be to the Weddin Mountains National Park (home of Ben Hall the bush-ranger) at Grenfell for an overnight trip. After that we will probably sell the tent and go back to motels, but we've talked about camping for years, now it looks as though we are finally going to do something about it. I haven't mentioned the snakes to Michelle yet.

Whereabouts

For those of you who still don't have the particulars of our current whereabouts, or foolishly threw out last year's newsletter without jotting this vital information down, the postal address is still:

P.O. Box 61,
Blayney, 2799

The street address is now:
"Cavan"

24 Church Street,
Blayney.

We haven't changed our phone number, its still:

(063) 68 3370 at home, or
(063) 68 2208 at the CTCC office.

If you really, really want to send a fax, try sending it to: (063) 68 2451

It is already over 18-months since we left Scone and came to Blayney, although it doesn't seem that long.

Where to this year?

Christmas will be spent in Sydney this year, with Michelle's relatives spoiling Hannah rotten. She is just big enough now to really enjoy the spoiling too.

New Year will be spent in sunny downtown Gilgandra with my family. I suppose that means another cricket lesson for the rest of the foolish sods who think they can get me out cheaply.

Furthermore

That's it, there isn't any more. The rest you either already know, or I'm not going to tell you. Still you have done well reading this far.

**MERRY XMAS AND HAVE
A HAPPY NEW YEAR IN
1993. ALL THE BEST FROM
THE JEWELS AT
BLAYNEY.**

