

This Year: Clanset to explode! Hoots mon, put that haggis down!



Issue 4 (the best yet)

December, 1994

The Year In Review

It's been, it's gone. What happened to it? Didn't I do one of these last week? How was yours?

Study

It has been a busy year on the study front, with both Michelle and I vying for study time and seeing who can come up with the best excuse for getting out of the housework (I won).

Poor Hannah has been caught in the middle, but she does learn quick. Now if she wants to avoid doing something she simply announces "Well - I can't. I have to study and do my assignments".

This year sees both of us complete 3 years of hard slog, short tempers and late nights! Next year Michelle will have her coveted Bachelor of Health Science and I will have a piece of paper that says I can carry on managing.

We have both promised faithfully to do something for ourselves next year. I am looking forward to doing some of these promised renovations.

Upstairs, Downstairs

We are slowly getting the house in some semblance of order. Michelle stripped, sanded, patched and painted our bedroom in the July semester break and it has come up a treat. Michelle is very pleased with herself.



She is not so pleased with me. While I have almost finished the toilet, there is still the painting and tiling of the floor. It has only been 18 months.

At least she is thankful that she can now 'go' without the wind whistling around her, ah.... knees! It has come up pretty well.

The upstairs bathroom is at last on the way. It will be a relief (punintended) not to have to trek downstairs and through the house in the middle of the night.

Although at the moment the upstairs looks like a battle zone, with bits of wall knocked out, the bath in the spare room and the loo and basin in the sewing room. We'll get there, eventually!

Next it's the kitchen, dining room and laundry! Who's idea was it to buy an old place anyway!

At least the garden is looking a treat at the moment, with all the things (well I don't know what they're called) planted in the past year finally coming into bloom and blossom.

Hannah Happenings

She is doing really well, she's had at few upsets this year, but certainly nowhere near last year's efforts. Thank Goodness.

February saw her commence her life of study at the local preschool. She goes for a full day each Wednesday - and would go every other day if we let her. She was no problem to leave there, it was us fretting not her.

She has taken to it like a duck to water and is enjoying it immensely, it has been a huge success. She is going again next year - 2 days a week, although she still insists that she is going to big school.

Walking is still a struggle but she battles on and is improving - oh, so slowly, but getting there nonetheless. Nothing ever seems to get her down.

Baby Boomers

Another blasted Jewell, or two! Well, yes. We've decided to add to the population growth and are expecting another baby in May (or April or March). Hopefully all will run smoother that the last effort!

At the moment it looks like being a race. My sister, Barbara (remember her - short temper, long hair - yeh that's her) and Russell are expecting their first in late March. I hope she wins.

Weather Watch

Everyone warned us about the cold Blayney weather, it has certainly lived up to its reputation at times this wear



We have had snow in April, August, September, and Getober - so much for the beautiful spring weather! We certainly never have the chance to become complacent!

Engaging News

Michelle's mother autounced her engagement in November to long time beau Brian. They are tying the knot on the 4th February, 1995.

They will move into a new home on the central coast next year, it is in the process of being built now.

Hannah is starting to lose track of grandparents, at last count she had six.

Work Woes

Michelle is still at Wontama Nursing Home in Orange, working five evenings a fortnight on a job share basis. They've been very good to her with study and Hannah's frequent hospital visits. She has to leave in January because of the danger of dropping her bundle a bit early.

I'm still enjoying life at Central Tablelands County Council - well most of the time anyway. I started on a 5 year contract on 1st January.

It has been a very busy year, what with new Local Government Act and user pays water pricing, introducing some new equipment and technology, finally learning what a pump is and what it is used for - the list goes on and on, as indeed I do!

Christmas Cheer

We're off to Gilgandra this year to celebrate Christmas on the farm. We asked what they wanted us to bring - "just water" was the answer.

This could be the last small family Christmas get together. With the number of new arrivals hitting the streets it will be big family get togethers from now on.

Michelle's family with be coming to Blayney to celebrate the New Year. We are hoping for snow to help the celebrations!

Moving Right Along

Well the time has come for the annual camping trek into the unknown, or at least into the not known very well.

Off up north this year, braving the elements in our trusty tent. Usually travelling north at this time of year wouldn't be much of a drama. But with the weather the way it has been we need to be prepared for everything from droughts and dust storms to cyclones and snow falls.

Jokes aside, it will be a well earned break for all of us. Rest, relaxation, sun and surf. The cat can look after himself, I'll leave the door to the next door neighbour's aviary open.

The plan is to drop in at Scone and say hello, then on up the north coast, probably at least to the border, then we'll see if we have any money left before carrying on past there.

Hallelujah

Still with me? Good. Actually that's about it for this year.

I hope that the season brings you all that you want and only a moderate sized hangover and mastercard bill.

Stay tuned for the 1995 edition of Cheers, you lucky devil.

And then there's the video, out soon. But send no money......



