



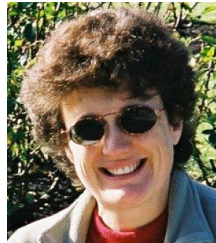
Norris



Rita



David



Diane



Karen



Andrew



Kate



Adam



Andrea



Logan



Liam

Greetings from New Zealand ——— November 2003

Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year. We are pleased that we will soon be heading into Summer and we have started the change over from Winter with some warm Spring days and the grass growth has taken off. Much to the pleasure of all the lambs in the paddocks. The vineyards around us are growing well although the warm days are still bringing cool nights. The helicopters are sometime heard hovering over the vines in the middle of the night to keep the air moving so frost doesn't damage the plants. We had late heavy frosts last year spoiling 60% of the crops.

As you can see the grandchildren are growing up. Diane children, Kate (8 in January) and Adam (5) are both at school in Wellington and we expect another little one too in the near future. Diane who is now head of Cell Pathology at Wellington Hospital took leave from work in October. Andrew has had a busy year as President of the NZ Optometrists Association and when he has been away at conference we have been flying down to Wellington to help out.

David and Karen have two at school now, Andrea (8) and Logan (5) while little Liam will be two in February. We all met in Wellington in the school September holidays and the cousins had a lovely time together.



On the Beach in Wellington

Island Bay where Diane lives



Here we are (yellow area)



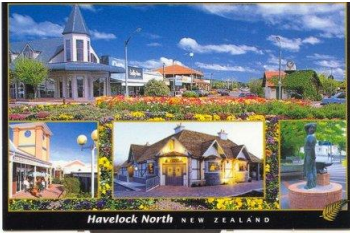
Norris's telescope



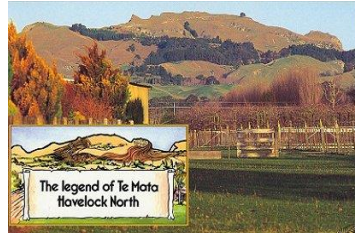
Fishing at the local wharf



and dressed up for Art Deco Weekend



Our Village



Te Mata Peak



TukiTuki River



Other side of Te Mata Peak



Views of the front and back of our house



These are views of around where we live

David has had several interesting projects with his research team this year including visits to Las Vegas to install “Card Shuffling and Counting “machines. Last month he was in Australia at a large timber mill installing lasers that automatically measure processed wood and adjust the saws. He still builds and flies radio control aircraft and does amazing aerobatics. Norris gets a try when he visits and has just finished building a scale model of the “Spirit of St. Louis “ for David. Karen has been busy organising a kindergarten association and likes organising programs for the little ones.



David with his Bleriot



Norris with the Spirit



Views of Rita in Melbourne – modern Art gallery there



We visited Melbourne early in the year and admired a modern well planned and cultural city. When not visiting the children we keep fit by 6km walks to the village and back. Often we drop in for a hot drink or lunch. Rita has a circle of older English friends she visits and spends much of the time listening to their reminiscences of pre and post war Britain. They look forward to her visits. Besides Astronomy and fishing Norris has become involved with Senior Net; a voluntary computing association for the over 55’s. He tutors in several programs and especially graphics showing people how to change their old coloured slides into prints.

Next March we head to Australia again with Diane and family. Diane and Andrew have conferences there and we look after the children as well as having a holiday. We even hope to visit England again next year—fingers crossed. We have had visitors from the Isle of Man this year and are always happy to see people visiting.

So Best wishes for the coming Seasons.

Have a good Christmas and New Year and keep well.

Rita and Norris

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