

I know we are a bit late this year but at least we did it...

One reason this card is so late is that this is the first weekend since before Xmas that we have not had anyone staying overnight – so remember us on your drive north – we have plenty of room and won't be going anywhere for at least a couple of years.

We started off the year in a house in Aspley, it was like living in a steel tin. We found a lovely house in Narangba, 39k' s north of Brisbane and 30k' s from my work. We moved in March 04 and have been as busy as little bees ever since. We put in a pool and have spent the last 8 weeks in it. Aircon is on the way. Pictures of the house are on our website – it is now very different with a pool and furniture but it is a lovely little house that is easy to maintain. <http://addison.homedns.org/>

John and I left on 7 September (my 48th birthday) for a 3 month round the world trip – so the best place to start it was at Rooty Hill RSL having dinner with family and friends and then onto Hong Kong, Rome, Paris where Cheryl (my sister) had her 50th birthday, 5 weeks to drive from Dublin to Heathrow with a stop in UK with the Eve' s. We then went to visit the Eve' s in Florida, then onto Las Vegas, San Diego, Los Angeles and a week in Waikiki. Our trip was wonderful and we got home very tired with 2 weeks to prepare for Xmas.

Sadly in those 2 weeks my father died and we had to travel to Sydney for the funeral which put a real dampener on Xmas and thus the reason why there were no Xmas Cards.

Wherever possible I have contacted people by email but the people without I had to resort to this very late Xmas card. I apologise for all your cards going astray this year as we didn' t let anyone know where we were.

John: was working for Wesley Mission and then driving a water truck between Brisbane and the Gold Coast but with the trip away it is a bit difficult to find work – so hopefully he will find some now we are back. John.castle@telstra.com

Helen: still slaving away in the public service. The move to Qld was just what I needed and I am really enjoying my job. I am still working in compliance in GST. helencastle@yahoo.com

Evan: moved to Brisbane and got work last March, he commenced his first permanent job in Sept 04. Jack came down to spend Xmas with us and we had a lovely time. Evan has purchased his first brand new car and is working with Australian Air Express. evan.castle@optusnet.com.au

Pat: He still lives in Blackbutt and is working at the Steelworks Hotel at Port Kembla. When visiting the other week Pat advised that he was moving back home so the house must meet his approval. pat.castle@hotmail.com

This Xmas card never made it as I was affected by my fathers death more than I expected.

from: John, Helen, Evan & Pat
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