

Christmas 2015

Dear 'Family' and friends

This year was somewhat better than 2014. We didn't have to take Gilly to the hospital. Al was given a 5 session course for carers put on by one of the Suffolk Charities. Suffolk is full of these, some funded only by donations and some with additional funding from the government. The charities only give advice, no physical help. The course opened up the door to knowing what's out there, plus put us both on some mailing lists we didn't want to be on.

February, we went to a Masonic Dinner Dance. Gilly liked the music and dancing, but tired before midnight, so we went home. The picture at the right was from three years ago during happier times.

Gorete, our Brazillian helper, takes two one-month long holidays a year to go back to Brazil to see family, her house, and her pet cats (fed automatically). In May we took advantage of this time and went on a Leger Holiday.



It was to the four capitals, Prague, Bratislava (Slovakia capital), Budapest, and Vienna. It became quite tiring for Gillian and me, looking after Gillian. As usual we met some very nice people, but as we're somewhat handicapped, socially, there was no follow through into the year. There are pictures on our website, www.wilsonpeabody.com/al

In the summer, Gilly's daughter, Nicola Greenfield and I agreed that Gillian's long term interests were to go into a care home. Nicki then started looking for a home near her, in Bromley, Kent. I started contacting real estate agents and settled on the small local outfit that was extremely helpful with some problems with Willisham Lodge's title. As of December, there have been no lookers. If there is nothing cooking by late March, I'll go with an international real estate firm. In the meantime, I've redone the driveway, put in a new logstore behind the garage, cleaned out the greenhouse, recarpeted the masterbedroom and dressing room, and tried to make it as good looking as possible. If you wish to see it as now advertised go to:

http://paulwright.co.uk/more_details.php?profileID=100309000448

For an aerial view, go to: <https://youtu.be/tJa9ztOfaPl>

Throughout the year, Gilly's main two friends, Pat Robinson and Jo Stock, have visited Gilly to keep her familiar with her longtime friends. Nicki has been a godsend, coming up every couple of weeks, or sooner, to take Gilly out for a ride or help her do things, like nails. Gilly's son Justin came for a couple of weeks in October, staying here for a few days while he also visited with his sister, Nicki in Kent. All of us try to keep Gilly from slipping out of this world (which will eventually happen anyway).

In September, Al travelled to SD to visit family, staying with Peary and Eileen Wilson in Custer. It was great respite for Al. As it turned out, their son, Dr. Brian with wife Petra and two children, Zachery and Reina were staying as well as Brian had changed jobs and will now be in Hot Springs, about 40 miles from Custer. During the two weeks, Gorete stayed 24/7 with Gilly. Al couldn't have gone without her.

Christmas will be a little dull, although we did get a Christmas tree. Since Gilly has lost confidence/interest in decorating, it looks a little sparse, but at least it's Christmas. Al never was good at these artsy decorating things.

We hope your Christmas will be a great one and that 2016 will be even better for you. /s/ Al and Gillian