

This Week @Foxland
14 August 2011



**NO cruises booked ..
But it will be Seabourn ..**

YES: I MADE IT !!

Imagine if you will ... the sun has just gone down, here I am at the keyboard, accompanied by a large bowl of corn chips and an even larger glass of Pinot Grigio. So all in all that means I am at rest and peace with the world, at least for the next hour or so.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING ?

Heaps .. so let's find somewhere to start and I'll get into it.

Birthdays:

Happy Birthday to Lord John .. who celebrated last weekend by taking Terri away for the weekend. *Shame really it seems that they missed most of the street parties in London and the bargain shopping, people were picking up fabulous deals, a steal almost.*

Happy Birthday to Gill .. who is obviously having a great time with Verd because we've been playing Skype tag all week and haven't caught up with each other yet. *Too much partying is dangerous for someone of Verdun's vintage you know, be careful.*

Happy birthday to you both .. have a drink on me !!

Rodents:

Have you ever woke up in the middle of the night to the sound of movement in the ceiling above ?

It is sheer bone chilling frightening the first time that this happens – nowadays we roll over and note over breakfast that we appear to have another Possum in the attic and the trap needs dusting off.

Usually it's a pretty short contest – put trap in attic – add fruit – call back next day and cart away the offenders. However, this time it looks as if I've actually barred them from entry when I repaired the wire hoods around the exposed chimneys and vents because the trap has been empty for a week and the door is still open.

I'll give it a few more days and then declare myself victorious – king of the animal kingdom !

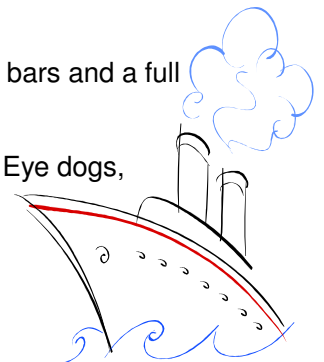
The Odd & Curious:



We took Sean to the State Library yesterday to look at an exhibition of 'odd & curious' stuff. The centre piece was this man sized stilettoed show [taller than me] made of giant liquorice allsorts.

Now if you look closely you'll notice that there's a set of handle bars and a full size tricycle in the sole.

It is said that this item is actually used in the training of Seeing Eye dogs, to judge if they get distracted easily. **Believe it or not !!**



Who's Cruising Seabourn ?



Lord John and Lady T are on the Seabourn Legend as we speak, joined it in Rome [Cittavecchia] for 21 days.

Yvonne and Mike are on the Seabourn Spirit for the Transatlantic crossing November - Malaga to Ft Lauderdale

Chris and Dennis are sailing on the Seabourn Odyssey 20 March 2012 13 nights transatlantic Fort Lauderdale to Lisbon.



Allan & Robyn – have reached the looking stage .. stay tuned !!

THE GREAT WALL OF SWAN VIEW ..

Background: The 'neighbour' complained that Adams retaining wall was falling over; the Shire agreed, and issued us with an order to fix the problem. *OK it was.*

So we spent months looking for a respectable solution [i.e. not too expensive and achievable without Adams pool sliding into the next door yard] and even longer trying to get both Planning Approval and Building Approval.

Note: Building Department is full of blokes – she'll be right, just sketch it by hand on the back of this envelope. Planning Department is full of sheilas – one must deliver crisp white clean plans drawn by a well paid architectural professional. [I did my own with a pencil and ruler, how popular was I ?]

Meanwhile the 'neighbour' in his wisdom, applied for and received requisite approvals to build a garage adjacent to the wall that we're suppose to be replacing. This adjusted the ground levels, increased the cost of our wall, and made it almost impossible to do our work before his *tradies* started. BUT we gave it a go !!

Situation: 1 week to demolish and rebuild the retaining wall.



Complication: It has been bucketing down day and night all week.



Result: We almost made it, but not quite. AND neighbours tradies never even turned up!

That's it for this week .. bye for now guys .. Allan & Robyn

The World is 70% water ... how much have you travelled if you haven't cruised ??

