

HOW TIME FLIES... (CONT'D)

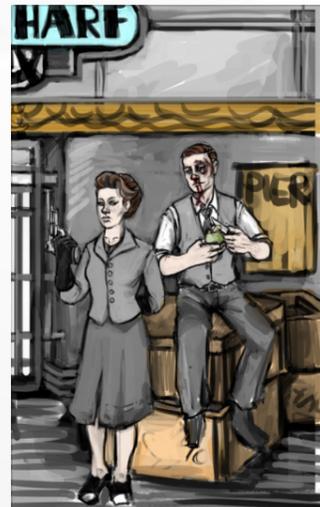
Anne has visited several times while we've been in Australia, and now we're trying to figure out where we'll meet up next. There are still parts of Australia we haven't seen yet, and we also have a pretty straight shot to Europe from here.

So what memories do we bring home from the places we've been? **Tasmania** reminded us of the San Francisco Bay area, while **Perth's** climate (except for a few scorching days) is sort of like San Diego. **Australia** itself is as diverse as California (except for no snow other than a tiny smidgen in the grandly named 'Great Snowy Mountains'). Everyone in the family loved **Venice** and was ready to move there. Tasmania's **Port Arthur**, the largest prison in all of Colonial Australia, still echoes its terrible past — not the least of which is a more recent memory as the site the largest mass murder in Australian history in 1996. Interestingly, within six weeks of that incident, Australia — a gun-loving country if there ever was one — pushed

through a series of gun control measures that has led to the near disappearance of gun crime, and without falling into fascism, socialism (any more than they were already) or chaos. Kinda makes you think, no?

If you ever make it to Tasmania, you'll want to go to MONA (the Museum of New and Old Art), one of the most impressive collections I've ever seen. MONA would not be out of place in a major European capital.

Well, I see we've run out of space before we ran out of things to say. So, from our family to you and yours, the best returns of the season, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and may 2014 bring you fun, joy, and good health in equal measure.



THE GWENDOLEN PORTFOLIO



HOW TIME FLIES...



How long has it been? For the Kritzbergs of No Fixed Address, it's sometimes hard to tell.

Creating this newsletter has always been enjoyable and therapeutic for us, as we winnow the events of our lives into a logical (semi, anyway) story. It was easier when we could do it every year. But life goes on and gets increasingly complicated, and events often overrun us. You too, no doubt.

So now we're living in Western Australia, in a suburb of the only city of any consequence in the whole state of WA, Perth. Factoid: WA is the largest Australian state, about one-third of the continent, and equivalent to California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, Montana, and Wyoming added together — with one city, population about 2 million. It's a nice city, but very remote from everything else. The Indonesian city of Denpasar, on Bali, is much closer to us than Sydney (and lots cheaper to travel to).

We're here because of the Wheatstone LNG Project, which is being built about 1,400 km north of here outside the village of Onslow. It's a big job (about \$30 billion AUD), and we have project offices all over the world (Texas, Perth, Malaysia, two locations in China, and a few odds and sods in Europe), which means a fair amount of travel for Bill, particularly to the site.

We've been here since early 2012, just after Gwendolen completed High School. She remains in Brisbane, sort of pursuing a design education, although fine art drawing is her true passion (see portfolio examples on back), while Richard is at home with us, home schooling in preparation for tertiary education in the US. He's also working pro bono in the world of *Minecraft* (just ask any nearby gamer) as one of their worldwide crew of network administrators.

We've fit in a fair amount of vacation travel since our last newsletter, including the US, Tasmania, Italy, France, and around WA itself, including the getting-pretty-famous wine region of Margaret River. Closer to home, we swam with the dolphins of Cockburn Sound off the Indian Ocean just south of Perth. The dolphins spend a lot of their time frolicking close to the shore for both fun and survival. Unsurprisingly, they enjoy surfing on the wakes of the power boats that cross the Sound, and don't enjoy being eaten by the increasingly aggressive sharks who seem to be responding to global climate change by developing a taste for human (and dolphin) flesh. This last part is a little worrying (to us and the Australian Tourist Bureau both), but there's always hope that the plagues of jellyfish now afflicting the world's oceans will keep the sharks at bay. *Ah, Australia, where they have things that bite the heads off crocodiles.*
[CONTINUED ON BACK]



Christmas Beetle

IMAGES



RTBG, Hobart



Perth, WA



RTBG, Hobart



Santiago, Chile



Balboa Park, San Diego



Araluen, WA



RTBG, Hobart



Araluen, WA



Arc de Triomphe



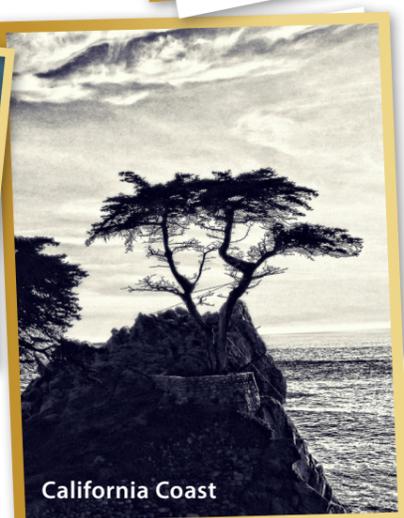
Brisbane, QLD



King's Park, Perth



Great Ocean Road, VIC



California Coast



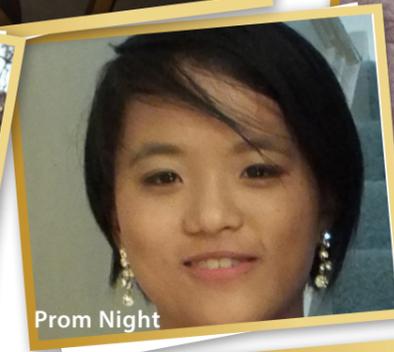
Ghost Kitty



Obligatory Touristic Picture



In Tasmania



Prom Night



November Face



California Coast



Atop the Eiffel Tower



In Venice



A Dog's Life



Yosemite



Aboard the Leeuwin

