

47a Froghall Drive
Wokingham
Berkshire
RG40 2LE

Website: www.ingwell.com
E-mail: stuart@ingwell.com
bridget@ingwell.com

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THE INGWELL SAGA CHAPTER 48.

Happy Christmas. - Hope this finds you well. This has been a big year for our family and for Bridget in particular, as she celebrated another birthday ending in zero. We continue to travel, and as insurance costs escalate year on year we try our best to outrun them!

The highlight for 2017 was a trip to Sydney to stay with Dan and Jo. We were in Oz for 3 weeks and for the middle bit we travelled North to spend a night on the Great Barrier Reef – tick-in box). Later, on the actual birthdate, Dan and Jo treated us to a lunch in The Sydney Cafe – a lovely venue with magnificent views over the harbour.



Shaun was (joint) best man for his friend Paul in the summer and the girls (Rosie & Maria) were bridesmaids for the first time.

In October we went away with them to a rural cottage in the Wye Valley - we were right on the river bank and had to catch a ferry to the nearest pub! Needless to say that didn't stop us and we shared a great meal there on Charlotte's birthday.

Maria is in training as a candidate for 'The Bake-off' (Pavlova's perfected) and Rosie has a fine voice and was chosen to play Oliver in her school's production.

During the Summer, Jo finished packing-up their home in UK and joined Dan in Sydney. It's good to see them together after having to live apart for 6 months. Sam also decided to emigrate to Oz with them and now has a job there - in recruitment. Lorna is staying in UK for the present to take her economics degree at Cardiff.

Jo has taken-on a temporary job with the Sydney Arts Council and likes the freedom this allows her to travel with Dan on his work assignments to Singapore and India.



We lost a lifelong friend in September when Christine died. With Eddie, we did our courting together as teenagers – a sad loss.

Mum was 97 yrs in June. She is unusually fit and healthy in body for her age but her mental skills are noticeably declining. But, Mount St Joseph's is an excellent care home with lots of facilities and expertise, and the nuns and staff look after her very well.

We look forward to hearing from you and we wish you a Happy Christmas and all the best for 2018.

Lots of Love.