

Dec 00
sevensts@pathcom.com
petermat@pathcom.com

1173 Rushbrooke Drive
Oakville, Ontario
Canada, L6M 1H8

Hi

Despite the unseasonable cover, it is Christmas, and Sue and I wish you a Happy Christmas and a super New Year.

I think the main event this year has to be Sue's decision to study TCM (that's Traditional Chinese Medicine in case you did not know) with an emphasis on Acupuncture. This is a four year full time course - the last year as an Intern. We are just getting towards the end of the first term - only three more exams to go this year! Money'wise this move was not so smart - but it is worth it to see Sue smiling as she worries about the next exam, instead of being dragged down by stupidity at work. Unfortunately, some of this work style has emerged at Pratt and Whitney, but so far I think I will be able to cope. I have stopped my involvement with TOWARF (the search and rescue outfit) altogether, and wound down my involvement with the local Canadian Powerboat Squadron. However, I did another art course this Fall, and that proved quite time consuming.

Wendy and John might almost be said to have fallen into a rut - no changes of boy / girl friends or job. Wendy moved apartment - just down the road. However I suspect things look more exciting from closer up. John paid a flying visit while on a brief training course a few weeks back, and he will be in our area for around three months come January. His company has the contract for the sprinkler system in the big new terminal (4) at Toronto airport.

We did not manage a joint holiday this year - but Sue managed to get to Halifax for the Mothers Union Conference. This was very nice and she enjoyed the Conference and liked the town. Just East of there Prince Edward Island (PEI) the average house price is \$65,000 - in greater Vancouver it is \$650,000). Sue missed the Women's Martial Arts training camp this year - it clashed with the start of college.

The weather this year was a little more English than usual. A cooler, longer, wetter Summer, no snow here so far. The lake level went up and down almost like tides, though slower, and is now very low again. We did have a short break in Montreal during February. Cold but very nice. This was courtesy of a free train ride as a door prize. Shortly after I spent a short time in Slovakia, and stayed in Vienna en route. This was for business, (which came to nothing) but was very interesting. Shortly after that, a School bus collided with Sues car whilst she was driving (very slowly) fortunately without serious damage to any one. In August we had a long weekend trip to one of our National Parks - Killarney - very beautiful. (Did you know that the Parkland in Ontario is bigger than all of Texas?)

All our Love

Sue & Pete