

December 20019
604 947 2023
sevensts@pathcom.com; petermat@pathcom.com

1548 Tunstall Blvd.
Bowen Island
B.C. V0N 1G2

Hi everyone, near and far.

We send our best wishes for Christmas and the coming year to you and yours.



The major event of the year was Sue's 40 day trip to Japan. This was almost entirely self organised, and was Sue, on her own, touring around large portions of the country that the guides books ignored. We both take great pride in her achievement. Given that one picture is worth a thousand words – here are 6,000 words describing Sue's trip! The dots on the map show some of the major places Sue visited.



The kids and grandkids continue to thrive. Wendy, JP, Jessica and Jacob's house moving killed doing much else – however take a peek at:

<https://www.facebook.com/wendy.matthews.50>

Of John's family, Sharon is still in Australia with her boyfriend, Winona has taken an in depth course fingernail art – which she excels at, Naomi and Gillian are still sprouting. John is working hard in his new job to create the expansion he was hired for, and Shelley continues to hold it all together whilst working part time at a 3D print shop.

Canada's north has noted the impact of climate change in a very visible way – ice roads becoming unusable, wildlife population decline, glaciers collapsing . . . So it is perhaps not surprising that this was an issue in our last election. Our photogenic Prime Minister lost some of his shine over political issues, but managed to hang on to power – albeit with a minority government.

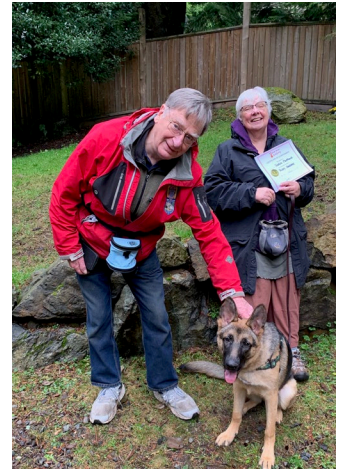
Peter continues in good health, though his hours of sleep per day continue to rise. Cataract surgery has aided his night vision for driving, which we are grateful for. Unfortunately though, Sue has had a diagnosis of hip osteo arthritis.

Paid work has been very intermittent this year, just like last year, so we are hoping for more in the future – though not too much more! Still, with all the uncertainty in the UK we feel we are better off where we are. This sparsity of work has left room for us to volunteer for Rotary, Library Board, and training for the Emergency Support Services (which helps support people after forest fires, earthquakes, etc.). Sue has now taken part in 14 Community Choir Christmas and Spring concerts



Titan still shows no sign of slowing down and has turned into a very good dog indeed – maturity shows! However, Kaleigh's health deteriorated substantially as the year went on. At age 15 – a very good age for a spaniel - Peter (Sue being in Japan) felt it was a kindness to have her put down. This was done very kindly by a home visit vet. So now we have a new

German Shepard puppy – Sophia – to keep the rest of us up to speed. Quite an adventure getting her here from Florida, as the rules about flying dogs around have been tightened up recently. At 6 months, Sophia has just successfully completed her puppy training – Sue proudly holds the certificate.



We had a wonderful visit from Rebeca, the daughter of our Australian friends - which luckily coincided with a open air, farm based supper. She did complain about the heat though! (The dog just happened by!)

This was the year we reached our 52nd wedding anniversary – pause for applause!!

Looking back over 2019 we are very grateful for the health we do have, the political and economic stability that Canada enjoys (touch wood), many interests and wonderful family and friends. We send you all our best wishes.



Susan + Peter

Susan and Peter