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16th Dec 2014

Happy Christmas and a Happy and healthy New Year for 2015

Our year started with a Wedding for Tamara and Phillip Cottrell on Australia Day. It was a great time to get all the family together in Sunny Canberra.



In June, John and I left Canberra for 10 days tour of China; the plane trip over to Beijing was very long, finally arriving at our hotel around 2am. The high light

while in Beijing were climbing the Great Wall of China at the Juyong Guan Valley in horizontal wind and rain. We looked like drowned rats but pleased to have crossed off The Wall from our to-do list. The Golden Mask

Dynasty show was a WOW! Ending with water cascading over the stage and walls in seconds everywhere was dry and the actors came out to finish the show.



In Xi'an we visited the Terracotta Warriors another

WOW! Moment only discovered 29th March 1974 by farmers. A massive building protects the dig and the warriors; it is a work in process to assemble as many warriors as possible. Another great show was in the evening of that day, Tang Dynasty music and dance very colourful and watched while eating our evening meal. Finishing next day with a walk on the Xi'an city wall which was very wide and bikes and cars drive along it to show the tourists as much as possible of the city on both sides of the wall.

In Shanghia we meet up with John's nephew's wife, Elaine who we meet for the first time and she took us on the Shanghai Maglev train; its fastest time in 2003 was 501 km/h but we managed only 350km/h on the way to the airport.

I was diagnosed with dry Macular Degeneration in both eyes in July; my brother, Noel has wet Macular Degeneration and My Sister Colleen also has dry Macular Degeneration. Only needs checking every 6 months so far.

In August, our first Great Grandson, Cody was born to Tamara and Phillip and they are all doing well. Cody is a happy baby and a delight to everyone.



Hilary is doing well with study and managing her own business and finding lots of time to spend with her grandson, Cody, who she cannot get enough of

cuddling. Hilary's girls are all doing well, Emma and Brad have a new house and Brad's business is picking up. Jessica is doing extra well with her studies at Uni.

Penny and Terry had a trip to South Africa, while their girls were in Malaysia and Borneo with World Challenge doing lots of helping in communities. Both girls have done well in school, Rachel finished year 10 with an ACU academic achievement award and Emily Girl student of the year with other awards.



Catherine is still in Brisbane and working at the Prince Charles



Catherine, Andrew and Samantha

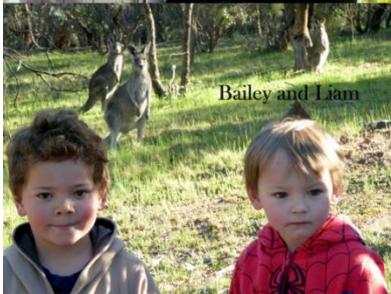
hospital and also studying; Samantha has a full time job and has bought a car instead of getting many busses to get to work. Andrew is still at school and managing to keep up.

Timothy and Sheri are still working at the A/E department at



Timothy, Sheri

the Canberra hospital. Timothy has a back operation through the neck in January and has recovered well. Bailey is at school and enjoys it; Liam will be at preschool next year.



Bailey and Liam

John was asked to take over the president's position at the PCUG (our internet server) as the organisation was going out of business, so they have are in the process of closing the rooms and repairing the building to vacate it on the 20th Dec. He has been flat out and

falling asleep whenever he hits the bed. We have three computers under our house to keep the PCUG running. Hope it will not be for too long and John can have a rest soon.

Well enough of this saga of the Saxon clan. Hope you all have a happy Christmas and a safe New Year.

Love, John and Betty xx