

*We hope you have had a great year. This year, as the milestones come and go for us, the frantic pace of the year is overcome by the special things that happen (on most days!).*

*Rob and I turn 45 about now. As our children grow up and become more independent, we find that we have more time together on a daily basis (including doing the shopping together, just like when we were first married!). We actually got to a concert this year - we heard Richard Strauss's "Alpine Symphony" for the first time. As Rob said at the time, "It was HUGE".*

*Tristan turned 15 this year. He is taller than Rob and I, and keeps very busy. His schoolwork is fitted around his hockey, music, rock-climbing, model-making, reading, computer games, Cadets, cross stitch and tapestry. During the year Tristan has played in 9 hockey teams; his ambition is the "goalie from hell", which he achieves on a good day! His saxophone teacher advised him to take an exam this year to expand his practice and knowledge of music theory. At the expense of playing a wide range of music Tris did well in the exam, but will not repeat the exercise. He and his teacher are looking forward to getting back to their regular "jam sessions" (lessons) in 1996. Cadets and Venture have provided some very enjoyable (but tiring) outdoor and camping experiences. Tristan's efforts to keep up with our treks when he was younger are paying off now - he helps a lot of other boys who have never slept under canvas. Rob and Tristan have had a number of rock-climbing trips this year, mainly to the Stirling Ranges. They both enjoy these times immensely - Tristan to get away from peer pressure, Rob to share time with his son. Tristan's efforts in enthusiastically taking part in, and sometimes excelling in, such a wide range of activities have earned him a Merit Prize at Christchurch and a scholarship for 1996-7 from the Subiaco City Council (which will go towards school fees). NOW he is ready for a rest!*

*Elwyn has survived her first year at UWA with the engineering students. Her final results are excellent, although hard-earned. University life has provided a lot of challenges for her. The biggest 2 have been learning to work with boys every day (after coming from an all-girl school) and surviving in an environment which does not appear to care at times. She has a male friend at Uni, to share the trails and tribulations of University life. However he is even busier with sport than she is, so they do not see each other outside Uni hours. Elwyn played hockey in winter, and cricket in summer. The boys at Uni were in awe of her aggressive way with a hockey stick - some even tried to copy her. Her height (5' 11") and her determination on the field seems to keep the boys at bay! Elwyn's cricket went very well last summer - her last season in the under 18s State Team. This season she has joined the adult "A" cricket team at her Subiaco Club, and has been selected for the adult State Team. She will be going to Brisbane in January 1996 for the national competition, with her team and her new hand-made cricket bat (a present from Mum for surviving a VERY hard year). This higher level of cricket has resulted in the need for 2 personal cricket coaches for Elwyn (she listens to them more than she listens to Rob!), who also give her some of the moral support she needs. When not playing cricket or studying, Elwyn watches sport and plays on the computer (flight simulators). BUT she came home with some new recipes the other day - there is hope for her yet!*

*Jeanette has just celebrated her first anniversary of joining ERG as a Component Engineer. It is a very hard job, being the "meat in the sandwich" between the designers and producers of the high-technology ticketing equipment sold by ERG. Her people skills have improved out of sight, but she has got very tired. She had a 2-week break recently which included a trip to Adelaide to see her close school friend and bridesmaid, and a trip to Kalgoorlie with Christopher. She will have another break over the new year, and she and Christopher will join Rob, Tristan and I at Pemberton for a week. Now that Jeanette is learning to pace herself so that work does not take all her energy, she is getting her sparkle back. She plans to use some of it for her (large) 24th birthday party on New Year's Eve. Jeanette*

and Christopher celebrate their second wedding anniversary on December 18. It is hard to believe that so much time has passed under the bridge since their wedding day. They remain great friends, but give each other the space they need. This year we all took part in their move from Como to Wembley Downs. They have a duplex with an external spa - the yuppies are coming! The duplex also has 2 spare bedrooms, which they have converted into offices - one each. Christopher's contains several computers and books galore. Jeanette's contains sewing, her oscilloscope, their new Mac computer, etc. In other words, both "offices" are full of technojunk! They are both keen gardeners, and are always putting in new seeds and plants. Jeanette's sparkle has also converted into an energetic new hobby for them both - night club dancing lessons. This is in addition to her personal fitness trainer at the local gym.

Christopher is doing very well at his programming job at ERG. He is a very keen programmer - it is his major hobby, so I suppose he has achieved the ultimate job objective - being paid to do what he loves best! He found time to accompany Tristan (on the piano) in his saxophone exam this year, and drove Tristan around for the many practices they had together. Tristan achieved a very good result A with Honours, and some of this was due to his accompanist.

Rob has enjoyed his rock-climbing expeditions this year, and is planning to go to New Zealand again next year. Due to injuries from his training, he is not sure which mountain he will climb with his guide. However, whichever one he climbs, he will reach one of his favourite environments - the top of a snow-capped mountain. Rob's desk is gradually being surrounded with snow-climbing gear - we already have snow boots, crampons and an ice axe (burglars beware!). To come are another ice axe and special water-proof trousers that fit over all this stuff. When he has finished his climbing, I will meet Rob and we will have some "tramping" time together in the lower mountains and valleys of New Zealand. Rob's work continues steadily, but we are not sure for how long. The nationalisation of the medical system is very close, and the outcome uncertain.

We had a sad time in the middle of the year, when Rob's father passed away. He had been in a nursing home for a year or so, which was difficult for him to deal with. Earlier this year, he and Rob had spent quite a lot of time just talking about his life before he was married, and about the times when Rob and his brothers were young. Rob was glad to have had this special shared "time window" before his father passed away.

My business, The Glastonbury Company, has been very up and down this year. We had a few bad experiences with computer systems that we had supplied to clients. The supplier stopped supporting them, and left us with several non-functional sites to sort out. This took a lot of time and money, but all clients are now happy. The outcome is that we no longer supply computer systems. The company is now focussed on needs-based computer training programmes, mainly for businesses, with a range of consultancy services available to set up the optimum environment for the training programmes. Now that we have put our loss-making areas behind us, we have taken on a number of new larger clients and expanded our services to existing clients. So things are gradually looking up. The move into office space has been put back a bit, but we will get there! The staff have been tremendous this year as we dealt with our "challenges", including the resignation of our services manager and the hiring of a new one.

I had a lovely 2 weeks in England in September with my Aunt Judy. We travelled to Cornwall and the Lake District, and shared many experiences including many walks and her car being stolen in Glastonbury! It was a special time to get to know Judy better and have time to "find myself". The challenge is to keep this going and not get swamped with everything again. I can only try....

We wish you, your families and friends a joyful and memorable Christmas, and a happy New Year for 1996.  
Rob, Wendy, Jeanette, Christopher, Elwyn and Tristan Campbell

*Scenes from the Victorian Alps...*



*Wendy thinking about crossing the snow,  
led by Elwyn and Tristan (as usual)*



*Tristan on the top*



*We really enjoy our blizzards!*





*On Mount Bogong*

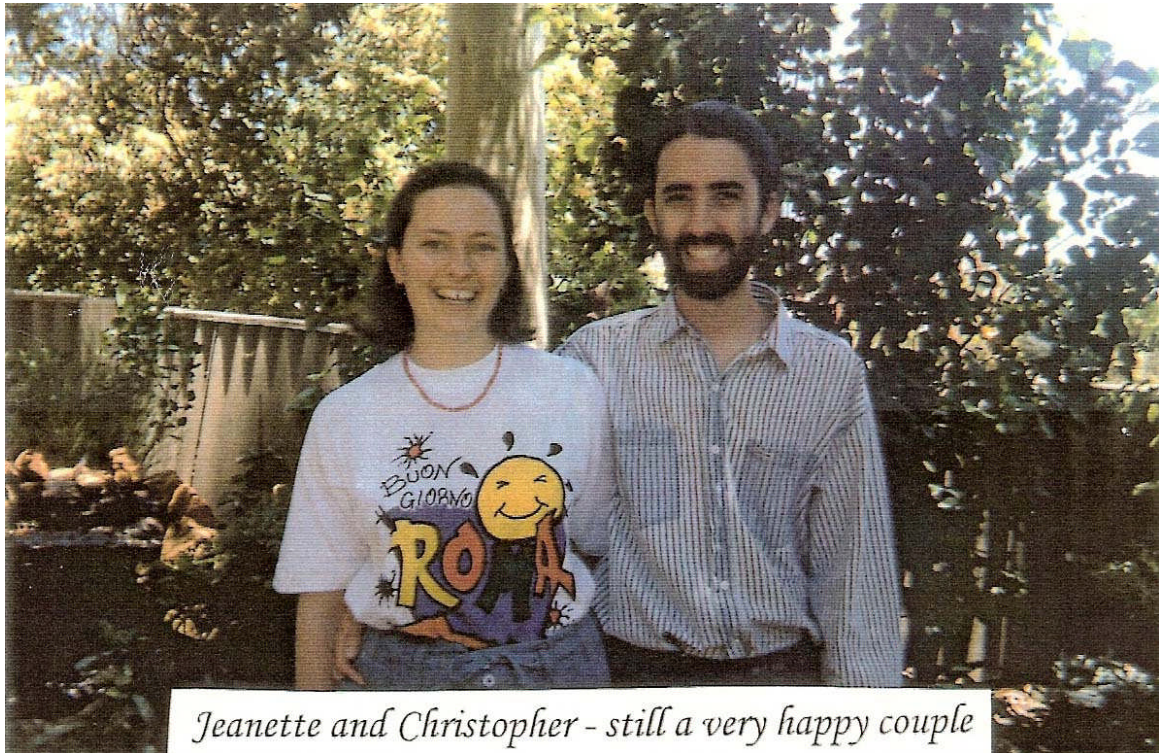


*Elwyn showing us that we are not really lost*



*Tristan is not really scared of the spider*





*Jeanette and Christopher - still a very happy couple*



● Elwyn Campbell

WA: Angele Gray (capt.),  
Julianne Langley (vice-capt.),  
Sherie Bambury, Elwyn Campbell,  
Louise Carver, Avril Fahey,  
Sue Slett, Vicki Foote, Zoe Goss,  
Sarah Maher, Narelle Morrison,  
Heather Taylor, Theresa van  
Lieshout. Coach: Murray Robins.  
Manager: Yolande Baldwin.

*The National Open Womens'  
Cricket Team for 1995/6,*



*Wendy somehow scambled up to the top of Skiddaw,  
Lake District, England*