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North Balwyn 3104

Wed. 29 June '88

Dear Lois & Peter,

The second last day of the (Australian) financial year.

Sam, Ronie, Lynn, Rachael have arrived back safe and well. We met them at Dulamaine last night. Their flight from Christchurch was due in at 8.50 PM, but didn't land until 11.40 PM, so it was almost midnight by the time they cleared customs. We brought them back to our place and they went on from there in Sam's car - which we had been minding since he left. Sam was to start back at the surgery first thing this morning. What it is to be young!

They had a great holiday, including their time with you. Lynn tells me that he has volunteered to mind the shop any time you want on holiday.

Mountain View lead is in a mess at present. The painters/paper hangers arrived first thing Monday morning and have now stuffed the walls of the lounge/dining room, Hall, and our bedroom. The walls are being re-plastered to give a better finish, and there is a bit of additional repair work to be done. One of the two working here would make you look a midget, like. He doesn't need a ladder to reach up to the ceilings. He stands 9' in his socks and is built in proportion. I think we had better pay the bill without argument when they finish. The estimate is that it will take 2 weeks from Monday to complete. I hope they finish in time, otherwise it is going to be crowded in your room. Mum & I have shifted in for the duration of the alterations. We got a little over 24 hours notice that the workmen would be starting, so most of last Sunday was spent shifting furniture and contents, dismantling & removing beds etc., interspersed with some rose-pruning. Saturday

morning we went with Graeme and Graeme's van to the office to pick up a couple of surplus typists' chairs for our home office. (Graeme also scored a few odd bits which he intends to re-cycle.) With our extra two chairs, plus the contents of the front of the house, we are somewhat overfurnished in the back half of the house at present - however we are assured that everything will be back in full running order by the time you arrive. We are looking forward to our next run out to Inllamarine in a fortnight's time (sorry hair, I forgot that you don't count in fortnights in the U.S. - make that two weeks).

The weather is still behaving itself remarkably well with long sunny periods. Hope that we don't use up all the good stuff before you arrive. Generally the winters here are not too bad as long as we don't have too much wind - which can be quite cold if there is snow on the highlands.

This week is our annual hard-rubbish collection by the Council - at least it is intended to be collected by the Council. We put out the old battered pedal car which had just about fallen to bits under the weight of various grandchildren. We also put out a small car which once housed a calculator. Both disappeared almost immediately. It would appear that North Balwyn rubbish is in demand.

Love to you both,

Jane & Len.