



Seasons Greetings from Owlsbury Oast, December 2016

We hope this letter finds you well.

2016 seems to have been an uneventful year for us in some ways, but it has been eventful in different ways!

Around Easter time Philip was working in a field at the farm at Mark Cross, when he suddenly saw a barn was on fire. He quickly drove back to the farm, and with other workmen managed to open the barn up so that most of the animals inside were able to escape. There were pigs and sheep inside, and the fire was traced to a heat lamp over-heating. The barn has now been rebuilt.

A few days later there was a break-in to the barn where we store our machinery etc. Two people were picked up on the security camera breaking in, but they soon left, empty handed, thanks to the very loud burglar alarm, which was set off.



We attended the wedding of our nephew Joseph to Laura in April, meeting up with most of the Fermor family.



Samuel and Rachael have finally managed to obtain a house with a housing association share-buy scheme, and moved out in the autumn. So I have been sorting out items packed away since they moved back into the annexe. This has kept me busy, along with charity work, which includes arranging outings for Alzheimers' sufferers and their carers, helping organise the Crowborough Heritage Display cabinet, visiting at the local Pilgrim Home, occasional Sunday School or Go Teach lessons and trustee work for Haven Homes almshouses, among other things.

Philip has also been trying to sort out things in the barn mentioned above. He is still busy with farm work, particularly hedge cutting at present. Like the rest of the family, he generally seems to be trying to catch up on a list of jobs! He is also still a trustee for the almshouses and also chairman of the Smith Fermor charity.

We spent a relaxing week at Pevensey Bay in October, and although a bit cold we did see some sunshine. It has been particularly sunny last month, and resulted in the highest November reading for our solar energy supply that we have had so far, and some wonderful sunsets.



We hope to see all of our family at Christmas. Apart from Emily all the grandchildren are at school now. She also attends lots of playgroups etc. They are all growing up so fast!

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year from Elizabeth and Philip