Greetings from Owlsbury Oast. December 2022.

Here's wishing you a Happy Christmas and New Year. It is good that things are getting more or less back to normal after the lockdowns and problems of the last three years. We are even hoping to have the family round on Boxing Day this year. Last Christmas we met up for a walk on the Ashdown Forest, to see the memorial stone of A. A. Milne, (author of Winnie the Pooh etc.), in the rain, but did not join the others for a meal.







In fact, we did not go out too much at the beginning of the year, but waited until June, when we were invited to the wedding of our friend, Joanna to Joel. I had been asked to make the cake flowers and decorate the cakes. Philip reached a special birthday this year and several visitors came to spend the day with him. In July the family booked, as a Birthday present, a boat trip for us to go and see the wind turbines, about eight miles out to sea. The weather was sunny, making it a very enjoyable outing.







Philip has been busy rebuilding a website for the Crowborough Ploughing Match, and has worked quite hard on it. It now seems ok after various 'teething' problems. You can find it here: … www.crowboroughploughingmatch.co.uk A Ploughing Match was held again at Eridge, after a two-year gap, so it was good to catch up with a few people and attend the usual dinner. Philip has also had a few farm jobs, mostly hay-making and hedge-cutting, and has grown quite a few vegetables, and fruit, which seem to have survived the pests and diseases this year. In fact, we had some really long beans and large beetroot this year.





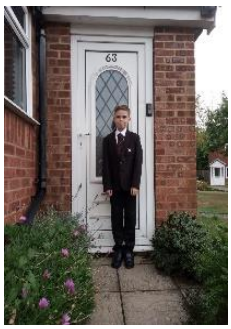


I have just made a display of 'Christmas over 70 years' for the Heritage cabinet, but that work is being taken over by Crowborough Historical Society next year. Most other things with which I was involved have ended, either through the pandemic, or terms of office running out! However, I have done some writing, mainly leaflets, which started during lockdowns, for Daylight Christian Prison Trust, and also attempting to write my Life Story! We enjoyed a holiday at Pevensey Bay in September. It was great to be back again after three years, and the weather was quite good too. We were able to have our friend, Margaret Burch, along one day, as she now lives in a Care Home nearby. We also had a visit from some of the family one day.









Two of the grandchildren, Michael and Jaseth, have just started Secondary Schools, so are looking smart in their new uniforms! There have been some changes around here, one being that the small Jarvis Brook Chapel at the end of our road, which had been closed for several years, has re-opened. We attended the Opening service, which was quite packed, as you can see! Philip also again laid the wreath at the Remembrance Day service at Jireh Chapel, Lewes. Best wishes for 2023.





