

Well another year has nearly come to a close and I, for one am not too sad to see its passing. There is this thing with Humfresses and their legs. October



2016 saw me fall again, tripped over a paving stone in Marlborough and broke my left leg, had the same operation that I had had on my right leg 2 years previously, Anyway the long and the short of it, my left leg is posturally 2 cm shorter than my right leg. This has meant that my left shoes have to

be built up to compensate. This has taken all the joy from buying shoes but I have found a lovely shoe repairer in Salisbury who can build them up. I have had 11 pairs done, only about 392 pairs to go. Imelda Marcos was my middle name.

Anyway, we were just getting through all that and in October we went to a party of an ex Pewsey Girl when Dave (who has always loved dancing and showing off) decided to do some rock and roll and tried and do the splits, to find that he was flying through the air and hit his head, bruised his knee and snapped his Achilles tendon. He now has his foot in a very large boot and can hop a little. He won't be doing that again I can tell you. So, for me I am now his carer doing all the lifting, driving, carrying and everything else. It is such fun here in Mandara House.



Other big sad news is that my brother-in-law David, lost his fight with cancer in August. So sad and we are all trying to come to terms with that loss. Mark and family were back in Europe for about 6 months so along with Jonathan and family managed a few things off David's Bucket list which was good fun. Also, another of my oldest friends Sue (David's younger sister) died a couple of weeks later. We feel bereft.

All in all, 2017 has not been the best of years, but we are hoping that 2018 is going to be a cracker bearing in mind that the older we get the more we seem to fall apart. I just wish that the warnings of old age were given and understood when we were young. I have been a guinea pig for a friend learning about acupuncture and have felt much better and my back has definitely improved, yippee.

The good news from Dave is that his daughter Lisa (who married Lloyd in November 2016) is due to deliver his first grand-daughter in January! That's a statue behind her!



Dave has still been able to work and has found that it is more profitable if everyone brings their computers here as there is no down time travelling. Before his tendon went, he managed to lay a new patio around the conservatory so now the house looks proper smart. Still more jobs to be done but they will have to wait till next year.



We went to France for our annual Amsterdam/UK bridge weekend. We had a lovely time but the return flight was the weekend that British Airways had problems so with flight cancelled we were sent via Spain. This meant we had breakfast in Toulouse, lunch in Madrid and dinner in Pewsey! Next year we will be staying in Blighty. For the rest I did lots of trips to London to help Terry and David, so maybe next year a proper holiday will be on the cards too. I have started going to a Falls and Balance class (through Active Health). Over the last few months I have really found it has helped and I love boxing. It improves the upper body strength and it is such fun though I am not sure whether the other ladies like me punching them. I give it my best.



We have met up with friends and family from far and wide, not always in the best of circumstances but hopefully we will be doing more jollies in 2018. Altogether it has been a busy 12 months and we must take advantage of all the good things that life throws at us because we don't know what is around the corner.

We wish you well in your worlds and that you have a happy and peaceful Christmas time and a joyful New Year. With love.

Lizette & Dave