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### THE INGWELL SAGA - CHAPTER 34

Greetings to all. Another year has raced by and I begin to wonder if the whole earth is spinning faster these days. We are by no means ready this year for all the festivities as we have workmen in again rearranging the walls in our little home. Nevermind we're nearly there. Eventually it will be right. At least I hope it will be right before Charlotte gets married next year on July 17th. Right now we are having fun trying on dresses in bridal shops and choosing veils and shoes.

Dan, Jo and the children are enjoying themselves in Sydney and are managing to cope with all their visitors. We miss them a lot. Last March we made the trip over there to stay with them and it was great. We loved Sydney and we had a trip further north staying in a log cabin amongst the real wildlife, kangaroo possums, parrots, lizards and snakes. We had a "stop over" in Singapore both ways and we were very impressed. We would very much like to go again once the wedding is over. Joanna, Dan's wife, misses her family very much but her relatives visit regularly in spite of the distance and the long flight. Hopefully the Dan, Jo and the children will come back in July for the wedding. After all we shall need a little bridesmaid and a page boy to complete the wedding picture.

Life seems pretty hectic here in spite of the fact that I am now fully retired and Stuart is doing just a three day week. We are spending the odd hour or two on the golf course each week in an effort to stay fit and in spite of this regular practice we are still pretty much a liability on any course. There are no handicaps looming because we are still so inconsistent but we do keep trying. I am still playing tennis of sorts! I play more often for the veterans team than the ladies' team but who cares! In between the sporting activities we manage to do a good bit of decorating and gardening. No wonder the old back keeps playing up!

We still go to France regularly to enjoy a few days sampling good wine and french cooking. We had hoped to take grand children over there for holidays as they grew up but I guess that's just not going to happen for the next few years at any rate. Our latest gem is to find a flight to Biarritz for £1 on 29<sup>th</sup> December this year (thank you Ryanair) so I guess we shall have New Year at Labenne. We may try a little skiing again over New Year but we're making no promises. Recently some very good friends have bought a house in the Dordogne region so I guess that over the next few years we shall get to know this area quite well too.

Can we thank you all for your letters and cards with their annual greetings and news items. We love to keep in touch with you all. During the holidays the letters are read and re-read in our house by various members of the family and friends who call or who come to stay over the Christmas period. Have a wonderful Christmas everyone