

2173 Tryon Rd, North Saanich, B.C. V8L5H6 Canada

December 2006

Dear Friends

Here are some snaps showing what we've been doing this year, as Christmas draws near.

At the time of writing we are recovering from a snowfall - power cuts, desperate trips to buy lamp oil and propane, icy roads, music gatherings cancelled, the usual story... We know in theory we can get weather like this but it always comes as a surprise.



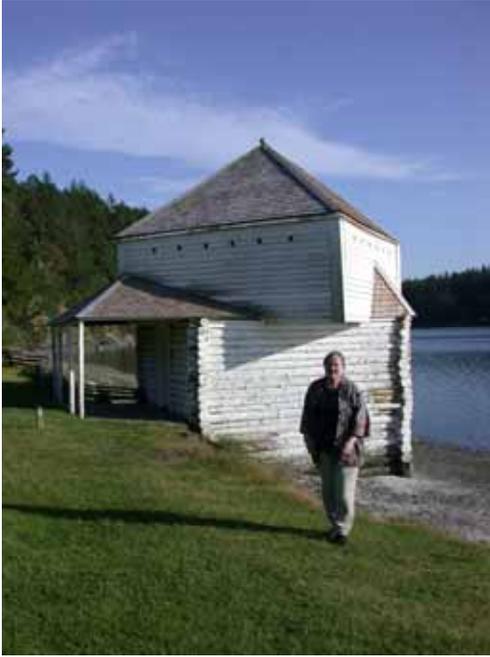
Back to sunnier times, spring at Friday Harbor



Gilli worked on her articles and quilts, George did research on baby squid, inspired by reading chapters from a forthcoming opus by Andrew Packard. Had fun with the hatchlings but haven't pursued it further. These annual pilgrimages to FHL are so much part of our life now that's its hard to imagine giving them up, so I expect we will be there again in 2007. Besides, its popular with the grandchildren, (Al's kid Parssa, 12)

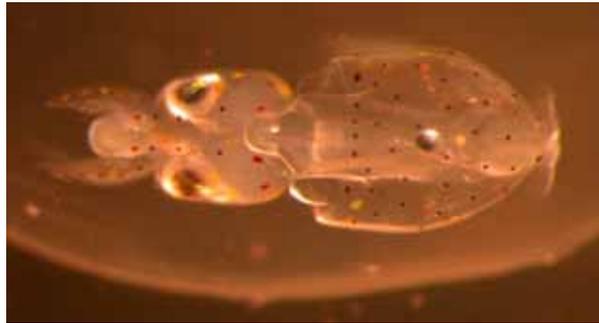


Spring at Friday Harbor



Here above is one of Gill's quilts made at Friday harbor this spring, and the quilter herself at the old blockhouse at English Camp on San Juan Island, built in 1859 during the Pig War with the Americans.

Meanwhile back at the lab, the squid started hatching. This one is still in its egg capsule.



Summer.

We had visits from Tina (from London) and Rachel and Alice (from Cabriès). It was Tina's 50th birthday and a good year for her work, with the Tate buying two of her pieces. She will also be making something new for the summer sculpture park at Tate Britain. Tina's flight from Gatwick was on the very day the British authorities pounced on 26 suspected terrorists, creating general confusion at the airport but she got off safely 4 hrs late and we met her in Vancouver and went straight up to

Sugar Lake. Joined there later by Quentin (above), Charlotte and a friend. Parsa was there too, and helped a lot with splitting wood for the kitchen stove.



Here is Tina at Sugar Lake and at home with Alice (14), both tipsy on champagne.



Richard's kids Raffi, Rupert and Juliet came over and we took the boat out in the bay. Lots of cool stuff on these rocky islands, seals, otters, dead fish, sea urchins, clams, abandoned nests of Canada geese (the seagulls eat the eggs).

Pottery 2006

Joint efforts, G & G



Gillian – “Delft” ware



George- dead languages



Rachel – raku



Finally

Gillian and Kjerstin in the Kitchen at Tryon Rd, after a session of Christmas baking.

With love and best wishes from us all

George