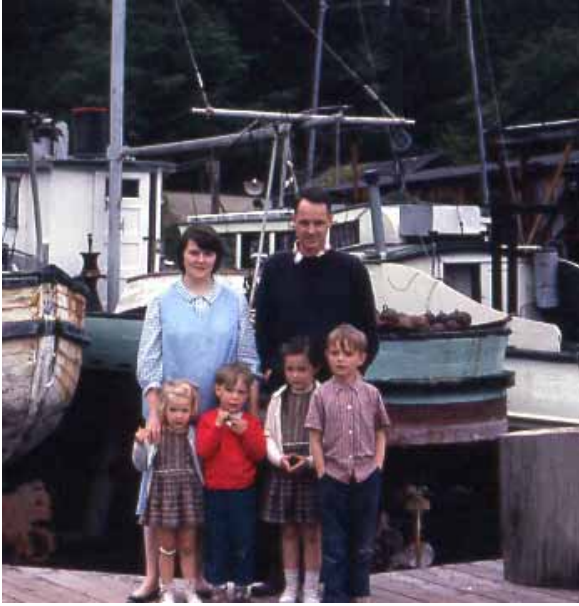


News from Tryon Road, Christmas 2007



It's hard to believe but this was us in 1962. If you are wondering why Gill is wearing a maternity smock it's because she was expecting our son Quentin. He is now at the University of Victoria, teaching and doing research on the archaeology of the Northwest coast of British Columbia, clearly one of the migration routes by which the first humans entered North America. Here he is with a grizzly bear from a very early site in Haida Gwaii (the Queen Charlotte Islands).

Our house is on the waterfront and we have a small boat we use for puttering about in the bay. Here is what it looks like from the sea. The blinds are down in the living room because it was a very hot summer.



11,800 BP 14C raw date, so ca.
14,000 calendar years.

On the next page we will put some pics showing how we spend our time at home but please note we are both still struggling along after a fashion with our work at the university. George uttered a huge sigh of relief at finally getting *The Biology of Glass Sponges* through the press. Written with two others it covers just about everything known about these extraordinary animals. Gill finished her paper on a new interpretation of the 9th century apse mosaic at Germigny-des-Prés and it should be out early in 2008.



Us in bleak midwinter



Quilt by G.V.M.



Marmalade and bread
by G.V.M.



Galena-glazed earthenware bowl
made from clay from a friend's
excavation for an extension to
her house. (G.O.M.)



Juliet
(13)

Parssa (13)



Visiting grandchildren.

Hobbies



We got interested in wild flowers on the sand flats at South Beach, San Juan Island. The black things in the flower are commensal beetles.



Alice (15) making beads at Sugar Lake



Raku box by Rachel



George wishing he could make plates like Picasso's.



Trip to UK and France, Oct-Nov 2007.

Can't begin to do justice to this trip, we saw our daughters Rachel and Tina, Tina's sculptures at Tate Britain and Herald Street galleries, Darwin's house at Downe, reconstructed Anglo-Saxon village (and villagers) at Mildenhall, Suffolk, Scottish National Museum in Edinburgh, the Western Highlands, the Lake District, Dartmoor, Gillian's old school at Westonbirt and many old friends and relatives. Our photofile has over 500 pics in it!



Enough! Enough! We wish you all the best for 2008, Gill and George

