

## The Good Life – Jobry Style – Month 7

What a month! After last month when all was relatively quiet apart from the cruise on the floating retirement village, this month has been quite hectic.

You will be surprised to know that Jo now has a kid, at her age too. Bobby is his name and he was born last Saturday morning. The story, well since we have been down here Joann has wanted a pet something or other. You might recall I went to see baby pigs that turned out to be the size of elephants, so pet sheep or goats became an option. Last week the lady rang and said she had a baby goat whose mother had no milk, so of course, Florence (Jo) Nightingale has to come to the rescue. On Saturday when we went to pick the kid up, twins had been born to a mother 2 hours earlier and the mother had insufficient milk for 2 babies, so Flo Jo became the owner of 2 kids. Fortunately Margaret (our shed dweller) wanted one so she got the older one now named Billy and we have Bobby.

Talk about take over Easter! Feeds every so many hours, is it ok? It seems to be walking funny, it sounds funny, is it alright. Bloody kids will never know what it is like to be on the outside if they are not careful. At this stage they don't need legs, they get carried and nursed all the time.



Billy is the one with the chocolate head and the all chocolate one is Bobby



Any way, getting back to normal things, I had a cousin (Joe) come over from Wales to visit Australia, so we had him down here for a week. Took him to the treetop walk at Walpole and Albany and back via Mt Barker and Frankland. The fact that Goundrey and Alkoomi Wines are located on that road had nothing to do with that, of course. Joe wanted to see a kangaroo in the wild, well he nearly had one in his lap whilst we were in the car. Middle of the day and this roo jumped out in front of Joann and her new car. Quick action by Joann saved the car (and roo). Joe was more attentive after that too. He also got a long distance shot of a wedge-tail eagle's backside. Why don't tourists keep their cameras at the ready! This beauty was standing on the edge of the road.

We also had our first paying customers, which was a good test for us. Had to come during the week when Jo was at work didn't they. Guess who had to arrange breakfast. Fortunately they didn't want a cooked breakfast. I had 'Fawltly Towers' running through my mind when preparing the breakfast and

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the pikelets Joann insisted I make. But we survived and the couple enjoyed themselves. They even left me more money than I asked for, whether they took pity on me or whether it was for cooking lessons I am not sure.

John and Maria came for Easter and, as normal, played about 4 rounds of golf down at Manjimup Golf Course. Remind me to tell you about that course some time. It's one of the best kept secrets in the South West.

Bridgetown, as usual, has been bustling with activity. There were dance lessons at the Town Hall, so guess where we ended up on a Monday night. The Instructor was good but insisted that we did warm up exercises prior to commencing the lessons. Bloody near killed me just doing the exercises – sure my body is not supposed to flex that much! I was almost too exhausted to partake in the lessons. Then the local repertory club had an excellent play on for two weekends. There is some good talent down here.

We now have some bookings for May, which is good. (weekends too, which is even better)

Autumn has arrived down here and the colour is brilliant this year due to the mild summer and late rains that we had.



It is the time of year to visit this part of the world!!

This weekend we are working a stall at the Balingup Small Farm Field Day for the Blackwood Valley Small Landholders Group, of which Brian is the Treasurer. That is a great day for people like us, although Joann may find an alpaca or some other supposedly quiet animal to bring home. On the following weekend 6-7 May we have the Festival of Country Gardens open gardens to highlight the colour down here. This includes a Fungi dinner at one of the local restaurants, a walk along the river to spot the many varieties of birds. It's all go!

Meanwhile on the block here there's plenty of work to be done. The sweet peas and snow peas are in. There's 40 1 metre long limestone blocks on site to start the garden. The second water tank is in and needs connecting to the

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house down pipe system. The screen and projector for the home theatre need to be put into position. The reticulation pipes need to be re-laid. I must go back to the dictionary and see what retirement means. Although as a break from this hard labour I have volunteered to help out at the local tourist information centre on a regular basis. Let's face it after 40 odd years in the public service I am used to confusing people. There could be an increase in people getting lost in the south of the State. I've always wanted to tell people where to go!!

Now that the driveway is in you can actually walk around outside without getting taller each step. With the return of the wet clay it must be time for the grand children to come and visit – great fun that clay stuff!!

In finishing for this month, I have been playing around with a web site, it's not finished in any way but if you would like to have a look, go to [www.jobry.com.au](http://www.jobry.com.au) I have inserted some photos of the area in it as well.

For those of you that know me well I can tell you that Ebay works from down here too. I Bought an excellent old crystal radio from the 1920's that you should come and have a look at. Might even have the headphones by the time you get here.

As I type this it is 7.00am and the temperature is 7.5 here in Bridgetown and it is 6.6 in Perth. Don't you guys tell us it is too cold to visit here!!  
Regards to all,

Joann & Brian