

21 May

Before we left (we were up early), Dixie talked to her mother on the phone for a while. We left a bit early (7:10 am), turned back for two plastic glasses but were still there in good time. Reckers had slept in and did not get there until 7:45. The sky was blue and the week looked promising. Scenery was beautiful, traffic was light, the car ran well. About noon, just before Tekapo, we stopped to watch two planes spreading carrots for rabbits, the last bit of about 600 tons, in anticipation of poisoning them with '1080' in a few weeks time. A few km further we walked into a paddock that was completely devastated by rabbits, covered with about 500 rabbit droppings per square foot everywhere, and saw hundreds of rabbits scurrying away from us. Lunch stop was sunny but cool. Near Queenstown we stopped to see the bungee jumping. It does not seem quite as intimidating in real life as when you read about it but I did not feel tempted to try it. Cost \$85. The motel where Paul had booked rooms (US Navy discount) was in quite a good location but the beds were poor. We spent time in the lounge playing cards, after a not so good dinner at a local restaurant.

22 May

Queenstown was quite a pleasant town. We each went our own way today. Stopped at some galleries, met some Hawaiian tourists at morning tea, stopped at a painters' gallery and at 'Patchwood Cottage', along the Gorge Road, saw some beautiful scenery on the way to Arrowtown, where we wandered through the old Chinese miners' village and had a pleasant lunch outside. We drove the Coronet Peak road as far as the start of Skippers' Road but did not take the latter. Instead, we took a good look at the Remarkables and headed south to Te Anau (about 200 km).

After some scouting we found the Explorer Inn, met up with the Reckers again, wandered about the small shopping area, and had a very nice dinner with Paul and Nancy at the Village Inn. A slightly tacky, Wild West style motel but good food and good service.

23 May

Today is the day for Milford Sound (change of plan from Doubtful Sound—we can drive to this one). At first we were going to take both cars but at the last minute we decided to ride with the Reckers. Sunny weather continues—great! The first 90 or so km is quite straightforward, with the last 30 quite steep, including the narrow, unlit Homer Tunnel (1.2 km). Scenery beautiful, complete with low clouds halfway up the mountains. After getting tickets for the 11 am cruise, one back tire on the van was flat. After the cruise, the other back tire was also flat! The cruise was nice, the fjord impressive, complete with waterfalls, sheer cliffs, and feeding seals. The van turned out to have a spare but no jack or tire wrench. A helpful Kiwi from Christchurch provided jack and wrench, the hotel courtesy car loaned a spare and a helpful engineer, and an hour later we were on our way back to Te Anau, followed at a distance by the Good Samaritan Kiwi. Fortunately, both spares held. This time we had dinner at the Vacation Inn, good but not as nice as last night, and later played some more canasta and rook, until well past midnight! The motel was very pleasant, with lots of space, and fine views out both ends while there was daylight.

24 May

We parted company this morning, so said our thank-yous and good-byes. Paul and Nancy's two tires were repaired (stone cuts) and we wished them safe travels back to Christchurch. We, in turn, stopped at the visitors' centre and watched the very nice slide show on Fjordland, then drove to Manapouri and south to Invercargill via the scenic route. For a while we lost the sun, and for 30 km we drove on essentially single-lane pavement. Along the south coast the sun was out again but the sea breeze was quite 'fresh'. Trees around farmsteads showed evidence of constant south or southwest wind, probably along with salt spray.

Invercargill was not very inviting so we pressed on, via Gore, to Dunedin. Lots of nice, rolling farm land. It was still light when we reached Dunedin and found the Alcala Motor Inn downtown. Nice and reasonable. We had a nice dinner at the Cargill restaurant, saw a video on Dunedin, and settled in for the night.

25 May

None of the museums was open in the morning, unfortunately, so we checked out the railway station and wandered along some other buildings. The Otago Museum is nice and has an excellent collection of animals, fish, bird, and Maori things. The Early Settlers Museum was a bit junky, and the Art Gallery this time was disappointing. The 30-40 quilts in special exhibitions were nice but there was very little in the way of paintings on display.

Scenery in the low afternoon sun north of Dunedin was beautiful. We had time to see the Moeraki boulders in daylight (just), bought an excellent take-out pizza at Timaru (though not as good as the special pizza at Partners' for lunch in Dunedin), drove through a fair bit of low cloud or fog the last 1.5 hours or so, and came home tired and satisfied about 9 pm. The weather had been superb for us all week and we were grateful. Our abode was cool but soon warmed up again.

26 May

Don and Sandhya went to church with us this morning and then invited us for brunch at their house. It was very cold there but the brunch and visit were nice. Apparently they had gone to an independent Southern Baptist church in Virginia, a bit more 'lively' than the Bishopdale Reformed Church. They seemed to appreciate the opportunity, though. In the afternoon we stayed home, both tired from the week's travels.

27 May

Back to work to make plans for an experiment. The sun had given way to clouds again and a bit of drizzly rain. At about 4:15 pm we called Mark re his birthday, and talked to him and Debbie for about 45 minutes. In the meantime Dixie has been busy writing some letters, to Robyn, Peter and Anne, and to mother. After supper I went back to the lab for a couple of hours to send off some e-mail messages. One of them was to John Ohala regarding a bed for Elaine. I also asked Hank Bestman to send us a few addresses of people in our church. The New Zealand dollar was quite low this week so it was good time to deposit some more Canadian money.

28 May

Today I got the equipment together for spraying the pots of *Paspalum*. The CO₂-sprayer was less than sophisticated, and walking speed was the criterion for spray output. It was cloudy and a bit windy but we were able to do the spraying in an empty greenhouse compartment. After supper, about 7:20, the power suddenly went off, the first time during our stay. Fortunately, with the aid of a penlight, we were able to find some candles. It took 45 minutes before the power came back on. Not such a nice way to spend the evening otherwise. Yesterday and today I actually met two of the students we got to know on the field trip. Fortunately I still remembered their names.

Dixie made a loaf of beerbread today. Indeed, it had a marked beer flavour. Not too surprising, I suppose, with a whole can of beer in it.

29 May

I spent a good part of the day working on my talk for the August meeting. Received some good material from Ian Morrison and Malcolm Devine. The packages from Al Hamill also helped.

Dixie had her typing class again and I decided to go to the church AGM [annual general meeting]. Gary Milne was in the chair, and John Haverland and Kas De Ruyter also sat behind the table. Absent members sent 'apologies'. Quite a bit of time was devoted to the Christian school tuition support needed to help the 20 families in church. Only a few opposing votes to putting 17,000 on the budget for it. I had to leave to pick up Dixie before the budget itself was discussed. It was quite a tame meeting, with quite good attendance.

Sue and I sprayed the *Paspalum* plants this afternoon. First we had to get a new CO₂-tank but then it went fairly well. The setup was a bit primitive but we got it done.

30 May

Busy day today—meeting with Roger at 1:30, a half hour with the class in the DSIR biotech lab (very impressive), and two seminars. Still left a bit of time for writing. Barry phoned from the Papanui High School with the bad news that the photography class is not on. Only two people signed up, and they wanted twelve. A disappointment because I had looked forward to it.

David Penner mentioned that he would have someone coming from Guelph in September. Perhaps a buyer for our car? Perhaps the TV as well. Apparently he is trying to get them into the flat that we are in now. Since we plan to stay put for a while now, we decided to get the newspaper delivered in the morning. The first plastic-wrapped and hard-to-unwrap paper came this morning (or yesterday morning?). We probably won't get a bill until August.

31 May

Some more Canadian weed material arrived, this time from Harker and Darwent and Moyer. They are all helpful. Most of the script for the printed version is together now but a bit of reorganization is still needed. Dickson's oral exam is set for next week Thursday. I am not looking forward to that just yet but will make sure I am well prepared.

No mail from friends or children this week. Too bad. On the other hand, we also have not sent any letters the last week or two.

In the meantime we have been back to playing a bit of canasta.

1 June

At first the sky looked good for a trip to the mountains but then it began to cloud over. So, instead, we went to Christchurch and wandered about the Arts Centre. Things have changed quite a bit, and Worcester Blvd is beginning to take shape. In the meantime the weather turned beautiful. Saw some nice wooden things and pottery. Most of the paintings we saw were not so great. I walked in the Botanical Garden for a few minutes—should come back here again. Also spent a bit of time in Ernest Rutherford's den in the Arts Centre (the old Canterbury College buildings). The discoverer of radioactivity. Born in Nelson. Later in Cambridge, then McGill, then Manchester.

The Whalons (Mark, Sherry, Jenny, Bethany) came over for hamburger supper. We had a nice time and talked about many things.

2 June

This morning it was quite frosty, this time with a bit of ice on the water puddles. It soon melted in the sun but when I went running it was a bit chilly on the hands. We did not get ready to make it to church quite in time but were about 10 minutes late. John Haverland was away and Jos Bosma led the service. After coffee and sweets at church we had more coffee and sweets and sausage rolls at Bosmas. Jack De Graaf embarrassed Jos a bit by his graphic description of some hospital experiences he had a few days ago. Afterwards stopped briefly at an open house across the street and got a few ideas about New Zealand real estate.

Wrote letters for several hours and made good progress (five letters).

3 June

Even more frosty this morning. Today was a public holiday. I took some pictures outside, of hoarfrost on leaves, and experimented a bit with Ektachrome 200 and the Kako flash, to finish the roll of film in the camera. I am down to the last roll of Kodachrome 64 now. Spent most of the afternoon at ARTEX, looking at some woodworkers' products, paintings, rugs, pottery, antique Korean chests, and other antique furniture. Some of the nice pottery comes from Nelson, and we'll have to make a trip there again. We saw several things that might be worth buying.

4 June

Received Ann de St. Remy's thesis today. More reading material. I took a look at the plants we sprayed last week. Results were encouraging but a bit variable. At night back to the woodworking class. Only six attended. I put the sides of the box together with some tape, started working on a top and on internal shelves. It looks like it will come together alright, and enough of it should be finished by the time we go back to Canada.

[*Dixie*] The coffee party was at the home of Chris (from France). Lots of little kids, some with the sniffles—nothing really exciting happened.

5 June

[*Bill*] I spent most of the day preparing for tomorrow's oral exam of Ross Dickson, and by about 9:30 pm most of it was together. Also took pictures of the glyphosate-sprayed plants. We had a very nice piece of filet steak for supper, and then Dixie went off to her typing class. Apparently it was a bit slow if the typing was to be 'good'. At noon listened to Mark Whalon talk about the Bible and science. He did a good job, had a good-sized audience (about 60?), including a few outspokenly critical 'naturalists'. I should go have a talk with him about it all.

Weather was dull and cloudy today but it meant that the temperature was up a bit (quite a bit). Certainly feels different inside.

Anne Gifford from the Henderson Galleries called to say that we can come look at the painting and prints tomorrow night.

[*Dixie*] The typing room was cold—our instructor talked about a movie she saw recently (about a Christmas scene in North America). She was fascinated by the Christmas lights on the houses and shrubs.

6 June

Today is our weeding anniversary! A good day. Dixie had picked out a nice card for me and I found nice one for her. AT 4:15 Elaine phoned with best wishes. Very thoughtful. Nice to hear from her. Fortunately I had come home early and, unfortunately, Dixie came home too late.

All morning was taken up by Ross Dickson's oral exam. It did not follow my script exactly but otherwise went quite well. I don't imagine Roger Field was overjoyed but there was little I could do about that. After our supper we looked at the tangelo painting and a few linocuts (John Foster) but decided not to buy any just yet. Saw the movie *Green Card* (nice) and relaxed with a glass of wine for a while at home afterwards.

7 June

It took a while to get my letter and report about Ross Dickson's oral together. On Monday I'll take another look at it. Perhaps I am still tired of yesterday's strain. Don Kulasiri came by to talk about his recent (and unhappy) experiences in the hiring process of a new faculty members. In the process he asked me if I would come and talk to the CCB group about the role of (and criteria for) a department head/professor. I said I would, without any clear idea of what I would say to them. I thought of some possible examples—the rest hopefully will come together somehow.

Went to see *Weed* at Court Theatre. Full house. A nice play about the financial plight of a farmer and how a quick-cash proposal via growing marijuana did not succeed all that well. We may have missed a few fine points of kiwi comedy but I think we got most of it.

8 June

I worked through the first 60 or so pages of ADSR's thesis (second draft) this morning. That part (Intro and Lit Review) is in good shape now. If the rest is as good, that's real progress.

At night we visited Kees and Joke De Ruiten (her birthday a few days earlier). Also there were Jos and Alison Bosma, Rob and Henny Moot, and Ruud and Helene Vanden Brink.

Part of the time was spent in an exciting (mildly) discussion about GRI (guaranteed retirement income) and the government plans for it.

9 June

Jos Bosma was on duty again, with the Haverlands away at ministers' conference. We left soon after church, and in the afternoon went to visit John and Petra Lammerink. He worked for DSIR until 1989, mostly as a plant breeder. Had met Zen Kondra at U of A in 1971, on a tour of North American rapeseed breeding centres. We looked at a couple of nice paintings they have, talked about Ivor and Mieke and about their son Wilfred who is in Calgary. They have some Dutch connections but evidently no church or Christianity connections.

[*Dixie*] The Lammerinks have a very nice house. I made the mistake of choosing a leather chair (imported from Honduras) and consequently never warmed up.

10 June

[*Bill*] Sent off a message to Cliff Ellis in Guelph about the 'for sale' availability of our car. I should send a letter also. It would be nice if they would buy it—one less problem to think about. I do need to get some more experiments planned—Sue has planted more *Paspalum*, and Gerry has brought some ryegrass seed.

Early this morning (about 8) Joan and Andy called to wish us a happy anniversary. It was nice to talk to them for a while. Andy is getting good grades but received a rejection letter re law school (U of A). Now he'll finish his BA first. Joan will not teach at all next year. Her pregnancy seems to be going well. The doctor wants her in hospital for a while in September, for observation.

I revamped my letter re Dickson a bit and left it in the office for typing.

11 June

Anis Rahman phoned yesterday with some editorial changes, mostly good suggestions, for my New Zealand Weed and Pest Conference paper. I made the changes, printed a new version, and sent it off.

A bit more progress on the jewelry box. I got carried away a bit with the sander on the top but it should be OK. Began to get pieces together for the drawer and trays. Most of it should be finished before we leave.

12 June

Spent about two hours looking at most of the slides we have accumulated so far. Most of them are a good record of places we have visited, a few need to be thrown away, and some are just very fine photographs. It will take a while to sort and select a bunch that we could show to family and friends when we return to Edmonton.

Peter Fleming called and came over to borrow some of my North Island Field Trip slides for use in class. I gave him a copy of the notes I had written also, for his information and for correction of errors I had made. Apparently a bill for our share of the costs will still be forthcoming. We had thought that it might be forgotten!

[*Dixie*] My typing is going slowly—it's hard to type when the room is cold and your back aches. The classrooms are equipped with portable electric heaters.

13 June

[*Bill*] I took a few more pictures of the colored leaves that are still on a few trees, and also one of a pile of firewood. That finishes the last roll of Kodachrome I had brought from Canada. I'll use a few rolls of Agfachrome 100 ('Professional') that I can buy at the U bookstore (\$18.95 for 36 , plus \$11 for processing). The one roll I have tried gave quite pleasing results.

Dixie talked to Air New Zealand and found out that there were no seats on Honolulu flights for the days we were interested in. Perhaps we can do better if we go directly to their office next week.

I skim-read through the book on *Alternative Agriculture* (US-NRC) and the agricultural scientists' responses. Most of the responses are quite critical, but three or four of them are very thoughtful and helpful. Phil Westra has a good response in it also.

14 June

Beautiful sunny day. We decided to drive to Arthur's Pass (about 150 km) to look at the snow-covered mountains that look so nice in the distance. It was close to 2 when we left and we did not get back until about 6:30. The trip was nice but not as good as I had expected. A fair bit of snow at Porter's Pass but very little after that, and we did not get that close to the snow-covered peaks. Perhaps my expectations had been too high. I did not take any pictures at all, though I probably could have if I had taken the time for it. Perhaps we should have gone in the morning already. We had a pleasant cup of tea and some conversation in the new Bealey Hotel (about 6 months old) on the Waimakiriri River.

Dixie went to AP Travel—there do seem to be some possibilities for flights to Honolulu—we'll have to pursue that next week.

[*Dixie*] I wasn't very good company on the trip to Arthur's Pass—I was really tired and slept and dozed a lot on the way to the pass. Got home at 6:30 and had leftovers for supper. Bill's was Swiss steak and I had pork and some fish (not very appetizing, that is, mine wasn't).

15 June

[*Bill*] Most of the morning was devoted to Ann de St. Remy's thesis. Part way through I called her on the phone and told her about my progress and how much improved the thesis was. She was quite surprised to get a call from me but, hopefully, was encouraged by it.

I was going to write some letters but did not get started on it. Instead, I read part of a book on Science and Creationism edited by A. Montager (Princeton University) that dealt mostly with the 1981 or 1982 Arkansas court case about teaching creationism. Quite a helpful book (some parts). Also watched Agatha Christie's *Murder on the Orient Express*. Quite good, with a rather different ending.

We had contemplated going to Banks Peninsula but it was quite dull so we decided to wait.

Peter Maher has moved out today so we are the only ones in the flats for a while.

16 June

We are ten days behind again in writing in this diary. It seems to be difficult to keep it up. And then, Dixie seems to have given up writing in it, which is too bad because that second perspective or dimension is important.

Karen phoned today—it was good to talk to her. She is contemplating buying a house—good idea! I confirmed that we would be able to lend her some money to help with the purchase.

Communion service this morning—it was good to be there and to be reminded in a visible way again of God's love for us. Afterwards coffee at church, and more coffee with Ruud and Helene VandenBrink. He teaches computing and systems design at Christchurch Polytech.

It was frosty and cool this morning before the sun came up, and I used a pair of socks to keep my hands warm when I went running.

17 June

Dull day today (weather, that is), and worse forecast for tomorrow. I sent off a bundle of stuff to ADSR and made some more progress. A bunch of West End bulletins came (May) and I sent off a message to Hank Bestman about some items. It is interesting that the proposed new church structure is to be implemented in September.

Had a friendly chat with a New Zealand Immigration Officer about our stay here—we'll make the formal request tomorrow.

We have been watching *Candid Camera* quite often recently. Some quite imaginative stunts, others only so-so.

[Dixie] Checked at the Community Relations Office re the jerseys they are selling. Julie will try to get some color samples.

18 June

[Bill] Got through most of ADSR's thesis by noon. Chapter 4 needs the most work, I think. After lunch went to New Zealand Immigration, found a friendly clerk, and were finished in 15 minutes. Visitor permit extension should be in the mail next week. Air New Zealand flight changes were a different story. That took at least an hour. We did not get exactly what we hoped for but it should all work. Six days in Hawaii and three in Los Angeles. Edmonton on Sunday August 25 (via Calgary, of course!). Very helpful Air New Zealand agent (Murray George).

Picked up a ribbon for the borrowed typewriter and bought a Woolly Winkie underlay (86x183 cm).

Some more progress on the jewelry box. Next week it should be glued together. Finally! Ron did not cut the thin strips yet but hopefully will have it done next week.

Today was a shitty day as far as weather went. Rainy and cold (5-7C). No sun. Fortunately our flat stayed warm, at least in the lounge.

[Dixie] Sometimes my shoulder bones ache from the cold. I just can't relax my body when I am cold. Went to the coffee in Lincoln and listened to Sandhya talk about Sri Lanka. She wasn't too hopeful about the political situation right now.

I am not thrilled at missing the summer in Edmonton. This more or less means that we will have two winters in succession.

19 June

This afternoon was my Computing Centre talk about department head (professor, chair) selection and responsibilities. I spent a good part of the morning getting ready for it. It went OK, I think, and Don seemed happy with it. Should give the group some food for thought. They are quite divided between service responsibilities and academic interests and don't seem to know how to see their future.

I drove Dixie to her typing class and then went on to see Ian Popay again (about 25 minutes and 23 km beyond Hornby). Had a nice visit for about 45 minutes. He is to go home in 10 days or so and is a bit fearful of how life in a wheelchair will go for him and his family. Understandably so.

20 June

Spent most of the day sorting out the reference material that has accumulated since January, mostly from Current Contents. Dixie is going to photocopy some of it the library for me. Finished the last bit of ADSR's thesis and sent comments to back her. I invited ourselves over to Dick and Margaret Lucas to look at their private art collection on Saturday and, in turn, was invited to come for lunch.

Finished re-reading *My name is Asher Lev*. Excellent book. Reading it again, after the sequel, made it come alive as a whole new book. Dixie started a bit of typing for me but was soon sidetracked by an Agatha Christie movie on TV. Two pages got done. A cold, rainy, and sleety day—the worst we have had. Snow in the mountains and roads closed in several places.

21 June

Put together all the reference material in a convenient list for Dixie to use. The sort system on WP works quite well once you get the hang of it.

Got a couple of faxes from Gene Hogue and tried e-mail to him. No response so far.

By 5 it was frosty outside and nearly dark. The shortest day today, and the coldest at this time of day. I went running at 5 and got cold hands. Paul and Nancy Recker came over, and we talked and played canasta until 12:30. Had a nice time. Dixie had bought an electric underlay so we installed that, removed the boards from under her mattress and put Woolly Winkie in my bed. We should both be comfortable and warm now.

[Dixie] Today was the winter solstice, the shortest day of the year in the southern hemisphere.

22 June

[Dixie] Got up late (at least I did) and soon after 10:30 we headed for Christchurch. Bill took some pictures of the sports activities in Hagley Park, and also of the Cornwall St. Reformed Church. Went for lunch to the Dick Lucas home. Margaret Lucas cooked and served a nice lunch of zucchini soup and cheese buns. We viewed their lovely art collection and got some ideas of artists we might investigate further: Hanley prints, Don McAra, Jan (?) Chaffey (Tai Taipu). Afterwards went to Bush Inn until 5:40 when we met at the Reckers' and went with the Reckers and Wim Bouman and his kids for a Mongolian meal at the Southern Comfort Club (the US military club). Trudi Bouman was visiting her sister in Tasmania.

23 June

[*Bill*] Dull weather today with light rain in the afternoon. John Haverland preached on God as Creator and Jesus as Lord – two good sermons. In the afternoon we spent a bit of time at the Canterbury Gallery, mostly talking to the owner and looking at some of his not-for-sale art books. He graciously offered to lend us one that we, of course, took home with us. We have more reading material than time to handle it all.

New neighbours moved in yesterday. We saw them outside but have not talked to them yet. The neighbours, Pete and Sharon, came over for coffee at 9 and stayed a couple of hours. Ex-Englishmen who have been at Hobart for 7 years, in economics. He is slated to be Head of Economics and Marketing in 1.5 years here. She is a clinical psychologist and has a job in Christchurch.

24 June

A fair bit of sunshine today, and quite pleasant. Roger is back but I did not talk to him yet. I spent some time gathering references from the 1990 CAB disk and got some things ready for Dixie. In the evening we went to the library for a while and Dixie started some photocopying for me. Rainy again by this time. Our passports came back, with visa extensions approved, so that is taken care of. Apparently quite a lot of snow in the mountains, with weather about the coldest in ten years.

25 June

Ross Dickson came in today to talk about his thesis. He has to decide by Friday. I don't know yet what he is going to do. A miserably rainy day today. Dixie went to a coffee party and to the doctor also. I ordered a Lincoln U 'jersey', XL, navy. Should be here in a few weeks.

At woodworking I glued the box together and got the pieces for the tray cut to size. More progress.

We played three rounds of canasta and I lost all three badly. Total lack of skill, of course. Lincoln U friends sent us a power bill that seemed intended for someone else. Good thing, because we just paid ours. Got a long e-mail letter from Hank, with news about church and about King's. Things are happening, apparently. Nice to get a bit of news once in a while.

[*Dixie*] I went to the doctor today–started my hormone replacement (using the disc method). It turned out to be another rotten day weather-wise. Went to a few antique shops, found some Cornish kitchenware saucers.

26 June

Mail from home today! An 11-pager from Mark and 2 pages from Elaine. Nice to hear from them again. Today the sun shone again and brightened things up. Dixie made some more photocopies and washed our dirty clothes.

I drove Dixie to typing class and then went to listen to Frank Van Dalen's talk about his missionary work in Pakistan. He did an excellent job. The ministry must be different, especially to the Muslims. Afterwards we had a cup of tea with Mark and Sherry Whalon (and Bethany and Jenny) and said our good-byes. It was very nice to get to know them here, and good mutual Christian support.

[*Dixie*] I finally lost a decent amount of weight this week and that will be the trend from now on.

27 June

[*Bill*] Received a cheque for my examiner's duties today, **less tax**, and returned it with a request for the full amount. Dixie arranged a nice fruit basket and I took a picture of it. I sorted through some reference material and spent some time in the library. In the evening both of us went to the library to photocopy some references. It's quieter there in the evening, without lineups by the machines.

The Whalons returned the borrowed duvet. Perhaps we'll have to use it since I was cold in bed last night. Karen called around 5 o'clock—her house-buying plans are on hold because the price was too high.

[*Dixie*] I was much happier with my fruit and vegetable arrangement than with my flowers of previous class. Spent a lot of time looking at jewelry and learned a little more. It seems that the sparkly stones, e.g., zircons, aquamarine, tourmalines, and diamonds, etc., are very expensive. It is better to buy solid gold chains etc. as these can be repaired.

28 June

[*Dixie*] Today I sorted through a few magazines trying to decide if there are any things I want to save. In the afternoon I went to have my hair done and when I was finished it was raining outside again. Bought a couple of sympathy cards, for Van Reede and Ruby Eerkes. Got a letter from Jean, which was very nice. I think that she is very a busy woman these days. We are still having the leaking problem in the bathroom. We now put a thick bath towel on the floor to soak up the water and protect the bathroom rug from the water.

29 June

[*Bill*] A sunny and beautiful day. We went to a 'factory clothes outlet' but bought nothing, ate an apple for lunch and got some books from the library, including some art books (New Zealand painters). On the way home the sky looked very strange and eerie. Weird-colored clouds. Then quite a strong wind blew in, with a few raindrops. But it soon settled down again. In the evening we went to visit John and Harriet Haverland and had a nice time with them.

30 June

John preached on the God of the sparrows (Matthew 10:27(?)) and borrowed a bit from the Knoppers sermon tape we had given him. His approach was a bit different but he did an excellent job and we got a copy of the tape of that service. Had coffee and lunch at Fred and Marguerite Braam's and had a tour of Emmanuel Christian School afterwards. It was a bit late to go back to Lincoln so we drove to New Brighton along the Avon and then made our way back to church. Frank Van Dalen preached but was not as inspiring as John had been in the morning. Earlier we also stopped at the Canterbury Art Gallery and talked some more to proprietor (Pete . . .), later called a BS'er by Dick Lucas.

1 July

I made some hotel and tentative flight bookings for Tauranga. Dixie went to an antique shop and picked up an art book from the library.

At supper time Ann called, out of the blue. She sounded quite cheerful and wanted to know if she could use our car for a trip to Vancouver. She had appreciated our letters. It was good to have a bit of voice contact again. Earlier in the day I had sent a fax to Cliff Ellis at Guelph about our car. After all, we do have to sell it somehow.

2 July

Today the weather was rainy again. According to all, June has been a cold and miserable month. Dixie went to see the Osteryoungs, new people in #72.

At my woodworking class I made some more progress. I need to press on because there are only about five classes left, with another midterm break next week. The box is glued together now, though, and is beginning to take shape. It is a better size now, with about 30 mm cut off the top. I'll have to cut off some more because it did not come off even.

3 July

A fax from Ellis expresses interest in our car, and he wants a bit more information. David Jackson was asked for an opinion so I showed the car to him and took him for a drive. Encouraging developments. Let's hope it works out into a deal. I went in for a haircut from Jan and that was an improvement, no doubt, except that I could feel the cool air at the back of my head, even in the sun.

After Dixie's typing class we went for coffee and cake to Saji and Claudia's place next door and talked about Brazil and Canada. Good opportunities to meet people from other parts of the world. He is working towards a Master's with Alastair Nicol in Animal Science.

4 July

Dixie spent most of the day in Christchurch and came back with a beautiful arrangement of sticks and stones and flowers. I spent some time typing up notes from last August's safener meeting in Budapest, prepared experiment plans for next week, and looked at the last lot of Kodachrome slides that came back.

At noon I decided to go for a run. It seemed to be a better time than doing it in the dark in the early morning. In the shade of the shelter hedge the grass was still frosty.

Spent time in the evening sorting out details for the jewelry box. I am reading *Freedom at Midnight* (Larry Collins and Dominique Lapierre), a fascinating account of India's independence in 1947 and the great difficulty of separating out Pakistan. Earlier I read Lapierre's *City of Joy*, also very well written, but a very different book.

5 July

With McNeil returning from leave, I'll have to move to a different office next week, between Lucas and Jarvis. In the morning I went to a demo on Harvard Graphics with Draw Partner and did a bit of an exercise. Lots of options, and a bit like MacDraw II. Could be very time-consuming.

Also spent time composing and sending e-mail and fax letters to arrange for Ann de St. Remy's Ph.D. thesis defense. It all takes time. Found that Bruce McKenzie will spend leave time with Al Slinkard in Saskatoon. Interesting.

At 5 I went to the pub with Dick Lucas and Roy Bickerstaff and met about ten other Lincoln U staff. Most have no difficulty downing a jug of beer (about 1 liter?). It is more than I want to drink. Got home about 6:10. It is probably good for communication but I don't really want to do it every Friday afternoon.

6 July

Went to three different art galleries this morning, met Dick Lucas, the 'art gallery junkie', at one of them, and brought back two paintings on approval ('on appro'), both by Trevor Moffitt. One was a Southland landscape, a bit cold and harsh, and the other the artist as solo father, darning socks. The third small one we'll almost certainly buy (cheap at NZ\$ 75).

In the afternoon I spent 1.5 hours shooting a roll of Agfachrome film—should yield some nice slides. At 8 pm we were at Roger and Anne Field's for dinner, along with George and Roberta Hill and David and Linda Bullock. The food was good, the company interesting, dinner was formally over at about 11:45, and we were home about 1:30 am. We had given them a book on Canada and a carrot loaf Dixie had made in the afternoon.

7 July

John Haverland preached a second sermon on God's providence, and a very good sermon on the plagues in Egypt. My mind wandered a bit so I did not get the full benefit. I finished reading *Freedom at Midnight*, an excellent book on India's struggles before and after her 1947 independence and separation into Moslem Pakistan and Hindu India. The long typed letter to Elaine got finished and sent off.

8 July

I spent most of the morning in the lab getting ready for a few more experiments. Also had to 'shift' offices because David McNeil had returned from his leave in Australia. Fortunately I don't have a lot of stuff to move so it did not take long. Today was pleasantly mild. Dixie went out to collect some bark for her class on Thursday. Got a letter from Wilco today—that was nice. At night wrote notes and cards to Mr. Van Reede, Ruby Eerkes, and Bertha.

[Dixie] Got up early enough to call Joan and Andy. It was nice to hear their voices but somehow it's hard to have a good conversation with more than one person. I think it would be better to talk to each one individually.

9 July

[Bill] Via a fax letter, Cliff Ellis wants more information about the car-inspection and evaluation reports. At supper time Simon Hedley came over to invite me to go skiing with them tomorrow afternoon. My first reaction was to say no because of my experiment plans, but I'll reserve decision until tomorrow. At night we went over to Reckers and played canasta. Also heard about the problems they had with the house when they first moved in, and about Paul's unhappiness with the Navy and what they were doing with his position and other support staff positions.

[Dixie] Spent most of the day in Christchurch. Started off at the doctor—everything seems to be OK. Have to check my blood pressure next week. Returned the two Moffitt paintings to the Brooke-Gifford Gallery, picked up the three saucers at the antique shop (got the price down to \$30 for the three instead of \$36). Located another Moffitt and brought it home ‘on appro’ which is a term used in NZ for approval or trial. Lots of great art at Ritchies Gallery but unfortunately most of it is very expensive. I still spend a lot of time looking at the map when I’m in Christchurch, I just can’t get my directions straight. Checked in at the Nova Gallery to see if they had some nice rugs. On the way home from the Reckers we talked about the things that needed to be done in our house in Edmonton. I think we need to discuss this during the day.

10 July

It looked like a beautiful day coming up and I decided to go with the Hedleys. Borrowed gloves and ‘woollie’ hat from Simon, and we left at 10:30 am. Rented skis and bought a cut-rate lift ticket and skied with Simon and Julie about 3 hours. Very nice ski area, but a crummy road to get to it. Chains were required, more for mud than for snow on the road. Snow conditions were good, with some icy areas. The skiing went well, and I was tired when we got home again. At night we went to the district Bible study at Kas and Bep De Ruiter, on listening, speaking, and anger (James 2).

Dixie spent part of the day cleaning up the car, inside and out. It looks sparkling clean now, ready for a buyer.

[Dixie] Was happy to find out that had lost 800 grams this past week—hope this will continue. Tacked up a few ‘car for sale’ notices. Cleaning the car was quite a job—getting the tar off the sides was the problem. Had lamb chops for supper—done under the grill—they were very good. After Bible study we admired Elizabeth De Ruiter’s lace making and box making. She offered to teach me to make boxes. I think I’ll take her up on her offer.

11 July

[Bill] Dixie came home with another beautiful arrangement today. I managed to complete an experiment and am ready for another one tomorrow. Dixie will take the car in for the AA inspection. This week the car has been into Christchurch twice every day it seems. But then, that is why we have it.

At night we had Chinese department dinner at the Shangri-La, with about 35 people present. A pleasant occasion, with good food, and an opportunity to meet some more people, particularly spouses of people who work in the department.

12 July

[Dixie] This morning I took the car to the AA inspection place—it’s amazing all the things they could find wrong with the car. Later in the afternoon Bill and I took the car to a second-hand dealer and auctioneer place to determine a selling price— a real downer. We’re not feeling very positive regarding Norm Looney and his selling price right now. We visited Gerry Meijer and his wife Leonie for the evening. Had a delicious meal. It was good to get away from the flat and forget all about our car problem. It’s a little hard to keep things in perspective and to remember that the price of the car is not a matter of life and death. Earlier in the afternoon Bill and I stopped at a few art galleries.

13 July

I went to work about 9 to finish the two experiments I started yesterday. It took until noon, partly because of problems with the transfer pipette tips. However, I got all the samples into the counter, and by 11 pm they were all counted.

In the afternoon we picked up three paintings 'on appro' at the CSA Gallery (Moffitt, Coley), got some art books from the library, stopped for groceries, and went home again. It seemed cold outside, though well above freezing. Bought a TIME magazine with a special on France—interesting, though by 12 I fell asleep and, consequently, did not read anymore.

At the Arts Centre market we bought a kiwi jewelry box, tentatively a gift for Joan and Andy. The small painting we bought last week Saturday will be a nice gift for mother.

14 July

David Bayne preached this morning. Not a bad sermon on 'The Word became flesh' but we both agreed that his voice and presentation made it easy to tune him out. Dixie dropped the heater and it quit on the spot—turning up the floor heat from D to G made the place very comfortable, though. We stopped at Caut Gallery before afternoon church to look at the Nigel Brown show. Several of the small paintings look very nice. No decision yet between the two small ones we put green stickers on.

Only four weeks until we leave. Time to make a list of all the things that need doing before then. I started reading Charles Darwin's autobiography but did not get very far with it yet.

15 July

I took the afternoon off to go to Christchurch with Dixie. Car rear seat belts proved OK, contrary to AA report, and we had the muffler replaced at Magoo (\$110).

At noon we talked to Elaine, Karen, Joan and Andy for a while. They are all fine apparently. It was good to hear their voices again.

Briefly met Nigel Brown and a blabbermouth Alan Person. We'll probably buy one of Nigel Brown's paintings.

Made the necessary arrangements with Air New Zealand to get our tickets changed. Everything seems to be in order now for that end of it. The next four weeks will no doubt go by quickly, with barely enough time to do all the things we want to or have to do.

16 July

After the disappointment re the value of the car wore off a bit, we decided to drop the price for Ellis to \$3600. I'll send the info tomorrow. For local ads we'll use \$NZ 5800. For woodworking class I made a detailed list of things to do while in class, and that worked well. Important, because there are only three more class periods for me. Next week I'll ask Ron to cut the box down a bit more (5 mm). Weather has been pleasant yesterday and today. Spent a good part of the day getting slide text material together for the August talk.

17 July

Sent off copies of all car inspection info to Ellis (actually done Thursday [today is Wednesday]). Today I sent him the essential bits by e-mail, after supper.

I was going to do a spray experiment but got busy doing other things instead. Our VISA statements had come (from Joan) and we found an AVIS overcharge and an unknown item from last December. Both need checking out.

18 July

Sent off faxes to Ellis and also one to Looney to ask about his price-setting procedure last November. At first I thought we might have overpaid on the exchange rate, but a phone inquiry to Westpac for last December 3 exchange rates indicated that the calculations had been correct.

We have decided to buy one of the Nigel Brown paintings and I phoned Pat at the Gallery to tell him so. Another decision made.

The rain was back today but it was not very cold. My shoes with holes don't do so well when it rains. The rain pants and large umbrella, on the other hand, work really well.

19 July

I finally got started on by WGRF report and made a lot of progress. That felt good. It was raining and blowing so I could not get the plants sprayed. The computer files with references are finally coming together also.

A fax from Ellis brought good news—They'll buy our car. One less thing to be concerned about. We went to Christchurch about 3:30 to return the painting to CSA Galleries, wrapped in a blanket to keep the rain off. Also picked up our plane tickets—paid \$156 for the route change. We bought a good-sized bag for our extra 'stuff', and should not have to send much separately. Afterwards, a nice dinner at the Park Royal. I walked over and invited Simon and Julie Hedley and Kelly and Laura for pizza Sunday night. Sounded good to them. Later I typed in a couple of tables for the WGRF report and, believe it or not, did not go to bed until 1:15 or so.

20 July

Up at 7 again, because we have to go the 'Small Business' seminar at 8:30. It actually started at 9. Jerry Osteryoung was dynamic and effective, the banker was deadly, and the lawyer somewhere in between. By lunch time we had heard enough, though, and did not go back for more. Instead, we went to Christchurch, returned library books, looked at jewelry (Dixie) and bought a Brown linocut, to be mailed to Edmonton.

I wandered about in the Botanical Garden for almost 1.5 hours, admired the beautiful trees, and took about 20 pictures. It was fascinating to look at all the different trees, including a Japanese apricot in flower (no leaves), some rhodies beginning to flower, and some small daffodils popping up and flowering.

21 July

John Haverland had an excellent sermon on Jesus as Savior. Will try to get a copy of the tape. After church we stopped by the Arts Centre but the box lady was not there. Bought a couple of wood things, then stopped at Recker's and had some lunch. Paul seems quite unhappy about his job and uncertain about his future.

Back home we (mostly Dixie) made four pizzas to eat with the Hedleys (Simon, Julie, Kelly, Laura). Had a good time, and gave them the Rockies' book. They seemed happy with it. They have been good neighbours to us and to all around them. They'll be moving to a home in Tai Tapu just before we leave.

22 July

Dixie and Nancy had a lesson in making paper and cloth boxes. Wrote a 'notice' to Jeremy Draper, 'worked hard' all day, and spent some time sanding jewelry box parts in the evening.

Thought of some names for external examiners for ADSR and sent for phone number information on those people. Results may be back tomorrow. Yesterday and today were nice and sunny—correction: yesterday afternoon was foggy.

23 July

Sue and I sprayed a bunch of plants today. Gale winds outside so with Alex Jones' blessing, we did in inside, on the floor of the teaching lab, covered with newspaper. A bit messy, but it worked.

At woodworking class we cut the box down some more and rounded off the lid. No class next week, so I'll try to do some glueing and sanding at home. Probably can borrow some clamps from Gerry Meijer. Called U of A and talked to Linda. Got some telephone numbers back quite quickly, so I should be able to get something together for ADSE.

24 July

Sent off a fax to Ellis as follow-up on e-mail. Good thing, because he did not receive the e-mail. His friend was out or not checking. The faxes cost money but at least they work. From the Registry received a bank draft in Canadian dollars for my examiner's fee. This time no tax withheld, thought the exchange rate could have been better.

I worked hard on the WGRF report and it is slowly coming together. I might have been better off starting from scratch then to pull bits together from other documents that I did not write. Must get on with the paper for the August meeting also. Still no slides from Malcolm. At lunch time I met Peter Fleming and Bill Amspacher, our neighbour from San Luis Obispo, in Farm Management.

25 July

I got up early to call the US for an external examiner. After several tries got a hold of Steve Radosevich—he'll do it. Good that that is settled. Sent off e-mail to U of A to sort out the details. A fax from Ellis showed payment had been made for the car. Good that that is also taken care of.

I had planned to do another experiment but it did not come off. Worked on the WGRF report and got most of that finished, including several rearranged tables.

After supper we went to look at some pottery but the stock was disappointing. Saw some other nice things, though. Tonight it was quite cool outside. More snow in the mountains apparently also. Went to an abysmal seminar on water use by wheat. Bad data and bad use of them, with very poor biological context.

26 July

I did my last experiment today. The procedures seem much more straightforward now than they did a few months ago. In the morning I got the solutions ready because after lunch I had an appointment with Peter Hida to talk PR. I talked to him for about two hours. It will be interesting to see what he does with it. As a result I did not treat the plants until about 4, and then had to come back for a couple of hours after 'tea' to wash the leaves and finish things off.

27 July

Beautiful day out today. I spent a couple of hours in the lab, finishing the last experiment, and then sat outside in the sun for a while, sanding parts of the jewelry box. It is beginning to look quite attractive now.

We made our usual trip into Christchurch, looked at some leather jackets and looked through the windows of some shops that were closed, but made no major discoveries.

28 July

Gerry Loef preached in the morning. He said some good things but the sermon was not very coherent. According to Paul and Nancy his path out of the bakery into the ministry is turbulent. Nevertheless, a good service. After church we had coffee and talked for a bit, then drove to Jim and Barbara White's bach at Diamond Harbour, all the way around the bay. Had a nice lunch, visit, walkabout, driveabout, and got home about 5:30.

29 July

Spent about an hour talking to Roger about my research finding and some domestic arrangements, including car storage and travel to the airport on the 12th. The car can be stored at Field Services Centre, and Bruce Powell will arrange to get us to the airport. Finally we received an invoice for rent of the flat. Jeremy graciously knocked 4 weeks off so that was even better than expected. I worked away at an NSERC pre-application form and got it ready to send off tomorrow, including names and addresses of referees that I had to dig up in the library.

At night we had Kees and Joke and Kas and Bep De Ruiter over for a visit and had a nice time with them. The men were relatively quiet but the two visiting women more than made up for that.

30 July

By 7:20 I was in the office to finish the NSERC stuff and get it sent off before going off to Nelson. I phoned U of A, talked to Jody, and found things were well in hand for ADSR's thesis defense. Steve's stuff had arrived and the letter to Grad Studies had gone in.

We left for Nelson about 10:30. Total distance via Lewis Pass 425 km. The road was good, with lots of snow still around, evidence of last week's mess. But, lots of winding curves. We stopped for a lunch break at Springs Junction, and arrived at Nelson about 4:30. I was very tired. Had a quick look at Paul Laird's pottery and the Hoglunds' glass, both beautiful. Found a place to stay, and rested and listened to Ruth Richardson's budget speech. When we went out to eat at 8:30, several restaurants were closed for special reasons, but Cobb & Co. served a fairly decent meal.

31 July

We visited about ten different potteries and galleries, bought several items and had holds put on some. Paul Laird's things are very nice as is the Høglund glass—perhaps more Swedish than New Zealand. Talked to David Wayne, ex-farmer turned photographer (brother to Diana Macintosh). Some of the pottery we saw was run-of-the-mill but at most places there were also some pieces that were unique and attractive. Landmark Gallery had some nice things.

At 5:30 we headed back to the same motel (Mid-City), rested a while, and had a nice dinner at the Leisure Lodge restaurant. We were both tired, and went to bed early. Tomorrow will be a hard day again—decision-making and travelling.

1 August

I have been reading in Revelation recently but often found it hard to concentrate on it. This morning I decided to read through all 22 chapters—took about 45 minutes. It was a bit easier to concentrate—I'll have to do it again

We bought some painted tiles, made the necessary decisions at Waimea Pottery (Paul and Colleen Laird), had some lunch at a picnic table at Nelson, and headed home. Made a stop at Thackwood Potteries and bought a piece shaped like a boat. Scenery to Blenheim and on to Kaikoura was beautiful. Dixie drove about two hours and I had a chance to look at the hills and the ocean. At Kaikoura (5:30) we stopped to eat at the 'White Morph' (used to be BNZ building). Had a nice dinner and left about 7 for the last 200 km to Lincoln. Reached Christchurch about 9:05 and home at 9:35. There was a lot of winding road south of Kaikoura and in the dark the driving was slow sometimes and needed concentrated attention. It was good to be home again safe and sound.

2 August

The trip must have taken some toll because I didn't hear the alarm this morning and woke up 'late' at 7. Gerry Meijer was surprised to see me—had not expected us back until Monday. In the afternoon we drove to Bates Joinery, exchanged the jewelry box and bought velvet for the other box, picked up Dixie's X-ray at the hospital, and picked up our painting at Canterbury Gallery (Pat Gordon), minus the GST. Talked to Ian Sheridan about termination of the Press and payment of the bill.

3 August

Worked on the WGRF report for a while in the morning, and went to David and Noelene Brokenshire to look at ceramic pottery in the afternoon—bought two nice pieces. He was made redundant as an architect in 1979 at 54 and now uses his abilities in a different way. After supper I went to the office for a while to arrange slides for August 14 and then spent a couple of hours sorting through papers at home. We had picked up the tray at Navajo, and Dixie began putting things in it to arrange for packing. Somehow it will all have to fit, of course.

[Dixie] I'm not looking forward to the packing next week—somehow it seems almost as difficult as wallpapering together—great potential for arguments.

4 august

[Bill] John Haverland had a good sermon again, this time on Jesus' title, Christ. he had some good props, Messiah in Hebrew, and Christos in Greek. We visited Rob and Henny Moot for coffee and talk for about two hours in their new and very nice house. Had a nice time.

Don and Sandhya came over when we were almost ready to go to church and stayed about 20 minutes—they'll come back Tuesday night. We got to church a bit late—'not a problem'. Stopped at Bosma's briefly to look at their huge sheepskin with 4-inch wool.

5 August

[Dixie] Made many calls: Telecom, Southpower, Air New Zealand. Tried making scones—I think I may have left out the salt—maybe next try will be better. Drove into Christchurch to attend the opening of new show at Cave Rock and Salamanca Galleries.

Great quilt art and paintings and prints. Went for supper with Claudia and her husband. Claudia had a ride with me to her English class at Hornby High school. She and her husband have been in New Zealand for about 2 years.

[*Bill*] I cleaned up in the lab and took a last look at the plants we had sprayed two weeks ago, and then started sorting through accumulated papers. The blue sweater has not arrived yet. Requested an invoice from AP Travel for our Australia car hire. Tried Avis again but Cathy was not there.

6 August

Had a pleasant conversation with Avis' Cathy—she says she'll put through a credit for me. I hope that she'll actually do it.

Last woodworking class tonight, while Dixie went looking at sweaters with Barbara White. Fortunately I was able to finish all the things I was going to do there and have only some glueing and sanding left. When we came home, Don and Sandhya were there, and with visited with them for about 2 hours.

7 August

I finished glueing the pieces for the jewelry box together—it looks nice now. Then all the paper in the office had to be sorted out to decide what to send.

After supper we did a bit of a dry run on our packing. It looks like we'll have no difficulty fitting it all in.

8 August

We got the car serviced and I took three boxes of books and paper to the post office—paid out a small fortune to send them to Edmonton SAL. At least they should be there by the time we get home.

We had supper at Paul and Mary Krause's, along with Rod and Ann Blake (?). Had a nice time, and heard a bit more about Lincoln history and local politics. They have spent time in South Korea.

In the morning, before 8, we tried to phone Andy and Joan but no one was home. Then we talked to Karen for awhile.

9 August

Today is the last working day here. One more trip to the bank, a final trip to the office to get the last of my things out.

In the afternoon there was a farewell tea at FSC for us. Most of the people we had come to know were there, and it was nice to be there. Roger spoke some nice word and I responded and we shook a lot of hands. I believe that the people in the department enjoyed having us there. We, in turn, have enjoyed being here.

My new Lincoln U jersey arrived this morning, finally! It is very nice, and I wore it to the afternoon tea.

10 August

We drove to Irwell to buy some more wood thins from Peter Almuth, then to Christchurch to return library books and paintings (and pay a small fine for returning them late), and filled our two good suitcases with our various acquisitions. Went to Wim

and Trudi Bouman's for 'tea'—a very fine meal—and stayed to play one and half rounds of canasta, until a bit after 1 o'clock. We had a nice time, and talked about a lot of different and important things.

11 August

A short night after coming home about 1:30 from Bouman's, but we got to church on time. John preached a good sermon about Jesus as the revealer of God. After the service Fred Braam said a few words to us and I responded with a few words. It has been good to be in the congregation. We said our goodbyes to most of the people we had come to know, during the coffee hour, then stopped at the Arts Centre to buy a few things, and went home to pack for the next 3 hours. At about 6:30 we drove to the Fields to say good bye, stopped to talk to Gary and Carol Milne and to leave our plant, and then had a nice supper with the Reckers. Played a game of canasta afterwards and went home about 11 to start cleaning the place.

12 August

The day of departure has come. After going to bed late (2) we got up again at 7 to finish some cleaning up. Dixie washed some clothes still, I packed the final things, took the car to the Field Services Centre and picked up the van. Stopped in to shake hands with Bruce McKenzie and check for e-mail (none). At 10:30 Sue Thomson walked over and we left for the airport. Roger Field and David Penner were there, and soon Paul and Nancy and Trudi showed up, and also Claudia and Sadi. It was nice of them to come and see us off. Luggage check-in was easy, and after a smooth flight to AKL, a friendly young lady from McDonalds met us with a nice car. The drive to Tauranga was about 2.5 hours (200 km) and I had to stop at least once to sleep, after the two short nights we had.

13 August

The meeting got started at an appropriate hour, 10:30, after morning tea. Attendance about 80. We went out to eat at a small restaurant, Colours Café, where we met Ian and Alison Popay and talked for a while, then switched to their table near the fire after they left. Back at the hotel I went to the wine-and-cheese poster session for a while, and spent all my time talking to Phil Rolston, partly recalling Corvallis memories.

14 August

Interesting mixture of weeds, pesticide issues, insect control. A variety of presentation qualities. I felt quite good about my presentation and worked my way through 50 slides in 20 minutes.

Earlier in the morning I went running and took a few pictures of the flowering tree across the street. In the afternoon I skipped out for a while and walked to town. The evening dinner/social was at a converted dairy factory about a 30-minute drive away. It was supposed to be a video sing-along (laser karaoka) but it seemed difficult to get participation. Perhaps if we had known the songs better? The food was good and there was lots of it.

15 August

When I went running this morning I met up with Phil Rolston and we went around the sports field in the domain a few times, on short grass that was very nice to run on. His pace was a bit slower than mine so it forced me to slow down, which made it easier to keep going.

We said our good-bye to Roger Field and Anis Rahman at morning tea, and after another hour of papers we packed up and left. In the meantime I had bought two bright red straps for the box. We drove off, detoured via Thames, had a nice stop for tea, though the town was not inspiring, saw nice scenery along the way, and arrived in Auckland about 4:30. We looked along Remuera Road a bit, phoned Hoeks, ate beef cannelloni at the Italian place in the Victoria Mews, and arrived at Dirk and Hannie Hoek's at 8 (Richard and Jackie were home also). We had a nice visit with them, and bedded down about 11.

16 August

After breakfast and a long conversation with Hannie, went for a ride with her to a 'point' with a recently built-up area, a regional park, and a view of Auckland. More conversation about her life history, their varied hotel experiences, and her life with Dirk. We left at 1, had some lunch at a Dutch-run cafe in Albany, stopped at Albany Pottery and bought a small 'consignment piece'. We returned the car, packed all our gear in a small station wagon, off to the airport. End of stay in New Zealand.

Air New Zealand checked all five of our bags without question, upgraded us to Business Class (excellent service) and we were off—3.5 hours to Rarotonga, a midnight stop, and then 5 hours to Honolulu. We slept quite a bit, ate more than necessary, and arrived at 7 am.

After a bit of effort we found a hotels for the next three nights, found US money, and checked in for a few hours' rest. Suddenly it is warm and quite humid.

17 August

We slept late, looked around in the hotel area a bit, and got a taxi to move from the Royal Islander to the Miramar. Sat in the sun by the pool for a while, swam two lengths, and sat in the shade the rest of the afternoon, shooing away the bar women. I got a bit red from the sun, but nothing serious. Found out the local CR preacher is Al Helder, who used to be in Fort Collins. Not an inspiring thought.

Lots of people everywhere. Apparently this time in August is one of the busiest times of the year, just as busy as December. Looks like we hit it, with yesterday being a holiday, Admission Day.

18 August

We did not go to church and, instead, took a bus to the Ala Moana Center where we wandered among the crowds, ate a couple of times, and went back again. Not a good way to spend Sunday, obviously. It is sad to see those hundreds of people (including us today) spending all day Sunday on the streets and in the shops, and presumably at the beach.

We signed up for a half-day tour Monday morning (had intended to do that today). Pickup is at 7 am. Tried to call Elaine several times but no answer. Called Roy Nishimoto and made plans for Tuesday afternoon. No further hotel confirmation yet. If we have to move, the Hawaiiana Hotel has space and looks good..

19 August

The bus picked us up at 7 for a tour to Pearl Harbor, the Arizona memorial, and the city. At \$20 each, I think we were overcharged, but the tour was OK, although the constantly talking driver got quite tiresome after a while.

Also saw the Punchbowl National Cemetery. At lunch time we got out of the Miramar and moved across the street to the Outrigger West for one night.

A bit of a pain, but probably the simplest solution. We took the free bus to Dole Cannery Square and Hilo Hattie's. The Dole tour was OK and they served excellent pineapple.

Also good food in the cafeteria. Hilo Hattie's was not impressive, and the drivers of the 'free' shuttle buses seemed interested mostly in getting tips. We ate supper a second time at Perry's Smorgy but have had enough of it now. Cheap but not nice and not real good. Talked to Elaine for a while and gave her phone numbers and itinerary details.

20 August

I went for a long walk along the beach, around the zoo, and back along the canal, and got some coffee to have with the corn muffins left over from last night's dinner. Then it was time to move back to the Miramar. Fortunately our room was ready for us, this time on the 20th floor. Roy Nishimoto came to pick us up at 11:30, we had a nice lunch at The Willows, and had a profitable visit with him and a few others until about 4:30 when he drove us back to the hotel. Later we took the bus to the Ala Moana Center and had a pleasant dinner, away a bit from the tourist crowds. Tomorrow will be our last day already!

21 August

Picked up a car from Budget, another voucher from Air New Zealand, and drove around part of the island Oahu. We bought two T-shirts, talked to an orchid breeder/grower, saw lots of traffic, watched pineapple being harvested, stopped at the Dole plantation, and visited the CRC Hospitality House. Met Al Helder, pastor, and Irv and Louis Smit (Artesia, California), volunteer house parents. The property, bought in 1968 for about \$100,000, now is deemed worth \$3.8million. Nice people 'board' there, and 12 to 15 families form a core congregation, but future of the group is uncertain.

We stopped at Pali lookout, returned the car, bought a pizza to eat in our hotel room, and called it a day.

22 August

I woke up before 5, and by 6 we were ready to go. The friendly bellman took our luggage down, and the airport van was already there. We watched the streets, complete with hookers, pimps, and police, until 7, to our dismay, but got to the airport by 7:30. Check-in went smoothly, even though we were 10 pounds 'over weight'. No Business Class this time, unfortunately, and not much leg room. The flight was good, and by 6 (LA time) we were in the not so classy 'First Class' Airport Marina Hotel. We had supper at a small Swedish smorgasbord nearby, used mostly by locals, it seemed. Dixie talked to cousin Sy for a while on the phone.

23 August

At 10 we took the hotel van to Fox Hills Shopping Center, had a nice breakfast at the Holiday Inn café, and wandered around a bit. I took the 12:15 van back, and Dixie stayed to shop. I sorted some bills, wrote a draft study leave report, checked out the local public library, and sat in the sun by the pool for a while. The news is full of the happenings in the Soviet Union. Amazing things are happening there. How will it all end?

We played some cards, ate a mediocre dinner at the hotel restaurant, and watched a cop show. Contemplated phoning Gordon and Ann Pols but decided to leave it until tomorrow.

24 August

I went running, past several churches near the hotel, bought some muffins and coffee, a newspaper, and we phoned Ann Pols to wish her and Gordon well on their 25th anniversary. The actual date is August 26. Dixie got a parcel from Land's End, and I went with her to Fox Hills Mall for a while. We had a nice dinner at an Italian restaurant nearby, watched part of a (repeat) Colombo movie on TV, and then had a nice visit with Sy and Jan Westra, from 10:15 to 12:15. Jan has started her law school, and both were excited about their two-week trip to Holland at the end of June, so we talked about that a lot. They seemed genuinely happy to see us again, and even brought the empty old suitcase along (we asked them to keep it).

25 August

Arrived home safe and sound, and happy to be back.