

Vestvollen, 21/12-2015

Dear friends,

This Christmas will be the end of a "normal" year as our base has been Vestvollen and we have been without major health issues. Christmas eve and the first Christmas days will be celebrated with Magnar and Oddbjørn here at Vestvollen. After that we will spend a few days at our mountain cabin.

As our Christmas greeting we offer this collection of pictures with some few comments added:



Christmas will not be white this year. However, it was white last year when we were visited by our Australian relative Gene de la Hunty.

At the end of January we went to Paris. The town was in sorrow mourning the killings of staff members in the satire journal Charlie Hebdo. We stayed near the Place de la Republique, the center for the commemorative celebrations.



There has been a lot of works out-doors at Vestvollen this year. In April the drainage of our farmland was restored. In May work on renovation of our yard commenced . The work was handed over to us early July, and then we started work on the adjacent lawn. Well into September all grass was green.



From our new beds in front of the barn, we have enjoyed flowers and home grown salads almost until Christmas!



We experienced an exceptional harvest of plums this year!



Throughout the year we have had pleasant visits to and from Einfrid who turned 98 this year.



In October we went on vacation to Zambia and met with our maid, Queen, and other friends.



Oddbjørn took us to Toulouse where he studied for one year. The trip was a celebration of his final graduation as economist.



We visited Liuwa Plains National Park and saw large herds of wildebeest there.



In Mayukuyuku we met with old friends and they showed us African bush-pig. It was our first close-up encounter with this pig.

Finally, Oddbjørn now works as an advisor in the Ministry of Fisheries. Magnar is a partner in Alibier AS and develops role-plays there on a part-time basis. This autumn, he has also been a student at the Stockholm Academy of Dramatic Arts.

Thank you for good companionship and hope that there will be more in the coming year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

*Gunnvald and Anne Marie*