Brian J. Dooley's News and Blues in the 2002s

This Christmas I thought I'd experiment with the newsletter format. So much has happened. There have been ups and downs for the whole family, all marred by the tragedy of Mom's death. But there were a few interesting developments, and many things for which to be thankful.

Rachel Dooley Killed in Automobile Accident Near Orlando

Mom died as a result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident near Orlando, on Friday morning, September 20th. We all miss her very much, and her sudden death has had an immeasurable impact upon the family. It came as a great shock, and will take everyone some time to recover. An obituary can be found on my personal Web site (http://www.crosswinds.net/~bjdooley). She was a friend to everyone in her community of Vero Beach, Florida, and her memorial service filled the church to overflowing, despite only

Local Stuff

Not a lot happening at Leithfield Beach. At the beginning of the year, the Hutchisons sold the Tea Bahn at the end of King's Road, and Alan and Mercia moved to Melbourne. The Bahn was completely refashioned and upscaled by its new owners, and is now the Pukekoe Cafe. It is attracting significant local business and appears to be running out of parking space!
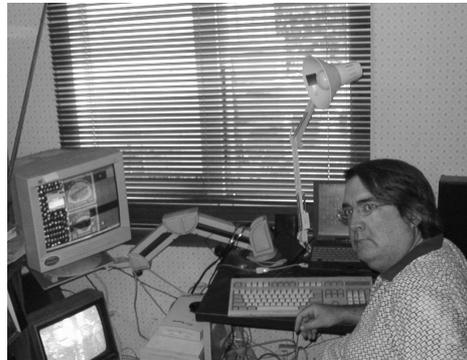
The tiny Post Office was closed down, and operations moved to the Dairy store. Then, the Dairy closed down. The Kirwans decided that it wasn't really profitable, so it is replaced with an office for the Mobile Park.

The plan to put an "aggregate" (sand) quarry in our tiny community has apparently been quashed, at least for the moment. Now, there is talk of establishing a waste facility for the entire region somewhat to the north of us. Local feeling is running 90 percent against establishing such a facility, which would mainly serve Christchurch. But the fate of the proposal is as yet uncertain.

As usual, I can be contacted by email at bjd@bjdooley.com. Be sure to visit my Web pages:
Business Web: http://bjdooley.com
Personal Web: http://www.bjdooley.cjb.net

Me in my Office

Major Projects

This year's big projects included a lengthy report on Enterprise Portal Integration Strategy, which I completed for Cutter Consortium. Quite massive, and their readers apparently liked it—so I'll be doing another report for them, this one on Open Source versus Microsoft. Should be interesting. I have configured a Linux server in the living room, connected to the trio of networked computers in my office. This will be used to conduct tests and research.

I finally had to walk away from the book project on Aviation Security for Private Pilots. The time window to do it disappeared after the family emergency, and I could also see that the level of interest in this subject was simply unlikely to reach expected levels.

Other routine projects turned up throughout the year, with lots of

writing for the local computer press—principally NZ Computer Resellers' News—plus new reports and updates for Faulkner Technical Reports. I did a lengthy series of pieces on computer hacking for an Australian Magazine, via a PR company. Learned a lot of things that I would probably be better off not knowing!

Travel

I was in the US for four months, on a rapidly arranged trip following the accident. Time was spent mainly in Vero Beach, FL. I also travelled up north with Dad to visit sister Michelle, her husband Chris and their young son, Theodore, in Philadelphia. We then visited brother Brendan and his wife, Barb, in Cambridge, where they were preparing to head back to Germany. Next, we visited Dad's brother, Brian, and his wife, Kay, in Red Hook, NY. These were family travels, and I didn't really get a chance to catch up with friends in the region.

After Vero, I visited Bren and Barb in Bremen for two weeks before returning home. They have a large

Roland Statue in Central Bremen

rented house there, and it was interesting to see the city. Photos are, of course, posted on my personal Web site.

Later this year I visited friends in Nelson for a bit of R&R. Then, I went down to Queenstown to cover AsiaCrypt.

AsiaCrypt is a cryptography conference, and it attracts some of the best mathematical brains on the

Queenstown Venue for AsiaCrypt 2002

Poetry Publication

Yup, finally got a poem in print. *The Tortoise and the Hare for a New Age* was selected for inclusion in the Arrow Publishing anthology, Voices of the Silver Fern. Of course, nearly everything sent to them was most likely included, and they did want me to buy the book (I didn't). But, it's better than not getting published, and I really did want to share this one since it turned out so well and I, at least, found it highly amusing.

This, of course, provides me with

New to Who's Who

I have just been listed in two Who's Who books. Naturally, they wanted me to buy the books. Of course I refused, but being listed is still better than a poke in the eye with a sharp stick, to use the local expression.

In February, I got listed in listed in Who's Who of Professionals, a publication of Who's Who Historical Society. This is supposed to be "the definitive work on the world's leaders in commerce, economics, policy, and trade." (Yeah, right!)

In November, I got listed in New Zealand Who's Who in the Literary Arts, a publication of New Zealand Who's Who. This one is meant to

The Tortoise and the Hare
for a New Age

by Brian J. Dooley

Now, my children, listen well,
To this true story of what befell
The tortoise and the hare when they
Began upon a race one day.

The hare was fast, the tortoise slow,
Yet there was a long way to go.
The tortoise knew he'd need to find
Some way to come out from behind.

He saw the hare pull far ahead,
So, yogic bouncing tried instead.
This brought him well into the lead
As he bounced by the hare at speed.

The hare was getting quite annoyed,
So teleportation he employed.
In smallish flashes he nearly flew
To where the tortoise went bouncing through.

And then a stretch of ice they found,
Tortoise sped; hare went around.
The tortoise thought, with any luck,
He'd skim across it like a puck.

He packed into the other end,
And stuck there; hare went round the bend.
Then tortoise chanted for a bit,
And levitated over it.

Meanwhile, the hare, who must not fail,
Engaged bionic cottontail.
It flung him up into the sky,
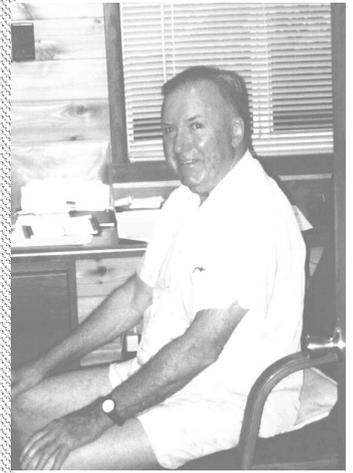Yet still the tortoise passed him by.

So he put on his rocket pack,
And soon was leading down the track.
The tortoise meanwhile cast a spell
That toward the front did him impel.

The hare, with road rage, I suppose,
Cold cocked the tortoise on the nose.
A fight broke out between the two;
Shell and pelt and whiskers flew.

We do not know unto this day
Who would have won, but this can say:

"Fast and slow are much the same,
What counts is how you play the game.
Use art or science, or cast a spell,
If you're going to cheat, you had best cheat well!"

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Dad

Michelle, Theo and Uncle Brian

With Bren and Barb in Germany