

Holiday Greetings 2014... and Best Wishes for 2015

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Jaffrey, New Hampshire. The Horsesheds, the Old Burying Ground and Mt. Monadnock beyond.

All's well in Jaffrey. Snow outside as Christmas approaches. ¶ A fair amount of travelling this year: Out to Arizona and Nevada in March, enjoying a few days in the bizarre world of Las Vegas. July saw me for a long weekend in Port Clyde, Maine, where periodically a hundred or so Antarcticans show up to talk shop. In August I was off to Plymouth, England via Ireland, for the centenary of the departure of Shackleton's *Endurance* to the Antarctic. Back to Ireland in October for the annual polar gathering in Athy and then over to England mostly to do some work in the archives at Scott Polar Research Institute in Cambridge. ¶ In Jaffrey I've kept busy on historical matters—planning a traditional building to house the Historical Society's two historic hearses (wheeled and sleigh); researching the infamous Dean Murder the centenary of which we're observing in 2018; preparing for publication the biography of Jaffrey's first minister, Laban Ainsworth; overseeing a grant to document the 1775 Jaffrey Meetinghouse. ¶ Now in the throes of planning the SouthPole-sium v.2 to be held 1-4 May 2015 in Craobh Haven, Argyll, Western Scotland. Will follow that with a week's cruise to the Outer Hebrides, then a week or so in Spain for yet another SIAFU reunion (those with whom I travelled through Africa back in 1972-73). ☺

2014 trip reports:

<http://home.comcast.net/~rs4l/ariz2014a.htm>

<http://home.comcast.net/~rs4l/plymouth2014a.htm>

<http://home.comcast.net/~rs4l/athy9a.htm>

This year's cartoons: <http://www.rs4l.org/cartoon.pdf>

Rob



Joe O'Farrell and Barbara Martin with daughter Sarah in Bray, Ireland, in August.

Jonathan Shackleton and Rob at The Station pub in Kells, Ireland, in November. I guess we're 'Draft Beer Rebels!'

Lower left: Rob pulling a pint at O'Briens in Athy in August. That's the publican, Frank, and his daughter Judith. Traditional Irish pubs like this are disappearing—grocery in front, then a pub then the back room.



Upper right: The day before Thanksgiving in a snowstorm having just installed my gravestone in the Old Burying Ground! Not needed just yet. Below right: A gathering at the Davies in Devon following the *Endurance* centenary celebration in Plymouth. Perfect weather!



Thanksgiving at the Munroe's in Bolton, Connecticut. No outside photo because of the snow. L to R: Mara, Rob, Bob flanked by friends, Rob, Katie, Donna and Eleanore (Photo supplied by Donna.)

