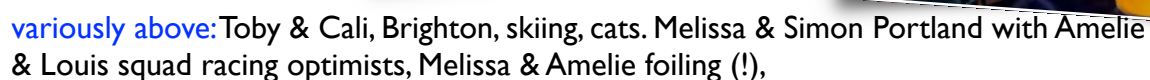


*We're off skiing - the Three Valleys as usual this year - but the newsletter is being edited in Riyadh, and then Madrid, where it's rather warmer! Once again, huge thanks to Lys for printing and posting. Meanwhile, hello to every one around the world reading this - thanks for your interest. If you just want to look at pictures and move on, then you're in the right place this year because our new Xmas format is largely pictures and captions - on the "a picture paints 1,000 words" principle - we'll see how that goes...*



**Christmas Newsletter 2018 from all of us in Brightlingsea, Portland and Brighton,  
to all of you, everywhere, with a very happy and festive season's greeting.**  
**The Anchorage, George Avenue, Brightlingsea, Essex. CO7 0NE [www.heppell.net/christmas](http://www.heppell.net/christmas)**  
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variously above: our 1907 oyster smack, our Brightlingsea One Design, Josie on paddleboard, Juliette's [BeachSchool.org](http://BeachSchool.org) , Grandad & Josie racing their Mirror, Josie & Elodie in the hot tub, and first day at school / nursery school,





so quick txt summary: houses in B'sea, Portland and Brighton not quite finished yet (hah!) - Toby reflects it might be a longer job than was first planned! But all three are looking lovely so worth the effort.

Juliette's Beach School is booming here in B'sea, Melissa is vice-principal of a big all-through school, Toby is all over the place writing for Yachts & Yachting (which included sailing on J class boat this year!) the kids in Portland are racing at squad level in Oppies and everything else too, and doing well - they are going to be very good! Their schoolwork remains flippin excellent too!

The oyster smack had a fab season - seemingly she is going faster each year. We collected a few winners pennants in 2018. Lots of competitive but lovely little events as we race against other centenarians.

Stephen's work is all over the world: Brazil, Peru, Saudi, Australia - that's just between now and Easter - and it's booming. He remains a professor in Madrid so we live in daily horror at the Brexit shenanigans!!

Carole's navigation is a big part of the smack's success but beyond that she has her hands full with two grandchildren at home. Of course, the Elodie and Josie have settled in wonderfully and are now full-on seaside pirates with a mass of good friends and a life on the beach & water, in clean air and great security.

The old 1931 car is running soundly and even "did" a show this year!, The various cats in all three houses are spoiled rotten and seem to like it that way.

And that's about it for 2018. Hope you like the picture rich format. Have a great Christmas and New Year.





variously above: Austin 7, Pinball machine, Saudi dresses (!), Sailing Club Carol singing (E far left with no boot and J in blue hat), Carole getting help cooking, Toby and Cali Hong Kong Holiday, oyster shell angel, ski school badges...

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