#### Winter Solstice

## The Sallie and Theo Times



#### **Rules of Acquisition**

"So when one is in the wealthiest country in the world one faces it's dichotomies", the newly earning Altadena alien stated. "They may not know how to count votes here , but they sure know how to count money, and I for one, will be jumping in head first" she went on to say. Rumor has it, that the plastic surgeon has been paid and they only owe a small amount of money to his cranial assistant. A cellular phone has finally been added, along with a new music number cruncher, a garage door opener, and a new hair color. "Oh yes", she added, "I also bought the boy a new car."

### Mediaeval Wedding Rocks Borthwick Castle

A small but rowdy group of travelers converged on the south of Edinburgh to help celebrate the marriage of the good Doctors Booth and Thaller (yes, it appears they ARE rocket scientists). The prime location, and once refuge of Mary Queen of Scots, Borthwick Castle was scenic and historic, but thankfully without the authentic plumbing. All comers where adorned with attire



appropriate to the gathering which included, a period quartet, sumptuous surrounds, wild bore on the menu, copious and tasty wine, ceiligh music, and the namby pamby dancers. The couple looked the part and the jester did his best. Other outings included a meal in a pub older than the countries most English speakers live in, navigations between bed and food, and general exploration of the beautiful surrounds. "The occasion should be deemed a great success" one visitor observed, "despite the whinging tight arsed Scottish bastard renting the kilts".

#### Large Crowd Gathers for Array Opening

"I really didn't think we where going to get the silly thing working in time", remarked a tired CHAROID while another quipped "I still don't see how they could tell". With time running out the CHARA team worked late into the night chasing not only a laser beam but their own tails. Still it all came together in the end with some rousing speeches, some classy T-shirts, some excellent food (for most), a tour, and pictures of the moon. The leader of the group, Prof. Hal McAlister, managed to mention every-

one in his speech, and embarrass a few, without being The CHARA Array pithy and the Forestry representative surprised one and all by awarding McAlister with an award for his environmental efforts. The staff went all out and devised special DAP functions in the operating system, although they were reluctant to explain this TLA any further.

#### **Dragon Update**

Emboldened by their early induction into the Thrax Navy, our intrepid adventurers sailed on the stormy brine in search of the head of Captain Orange Beard. "He did the Tll have you're liver on a stick' routine a lot" boasted first mate Tim, "but we got him in the end". Trouble is, while they have found his body they have yet to find his keys or map. One Peater was heard to say "I wondered how he keep moving from one side of the ship to another, and how he took so much damage for a Mage". Our troupe now continue on to Treasure Island in the hope that they are not followed.

#### King of Jesters and Jester to Kings

Taking badly timed soporific chemicals in their stride, the visitors from Australia embraced many local customs including tipping ('be good to your mother'), interstate driving ('just remember when to get off'), shopping ('try TJs') and festive holidays like Halloween ('dress up, eat candy'). "We had planned to stay for thanksgiving", said the women posing as Endora, "but we got a better offer". "Exactly," whipped her fool



hardy and faked toothed companion, "a cheaper fare". The appropriate shrines were visited including the pedal impressions of our favorite actors and singers, the beaches, the mountain top and, of course, the all important Lucky's Bar and Grill.

#### **Nessie Spotting Is Just the Beginning!**

Taking advantage of their time in the UK, our travel consultants happened upon Scotland (and no... there's no prize for working out how they happened to be there). "So long as you learn a few important things like the importance of a `pint of heavy' it's

an easy place to get around" summarized our agent. 'Bed and Breakfasts' supplied the housing and fried food, while various towns supplied the petrol (on occasion), the gifts and the fried food. "Breakfast was great, though sometimes a bit overwhelming," she said, "but the people were friendly and we loved the beer and the fried food."



# Photo Gallery



SUSI meets CHARA.



Boy meets Girl.



Work sky flyby.





Sallie gets in touch with her masculine side and gets modernly mobile.



Theo gets in touch with his feminine side and sits down.





Jan shows her grape style, along with a bit of leg...



Brummelaar... ten Brummelaar!



On the soggy soggy banks of Loch Lomond!!



Lucky's gang subset.

We'll kick your arse!