

## **Smale Mail 6-8-01**

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*Latest from Woodend.*

Dear All

How are you? We are all ok but all sporting the usual winter colds and coughs.

The kids have been back at school for 3 weeks and I have been back teaching at Victoria University for 2 weeks. As you know, the girls competed in tap and jazz competitions in Bendigo during the holidays. It was fun but really hard work. We stayed at this great place in Bendigo, a B+B right near the Cathedral. It didn't cost much more than a Motel and had 3 bedrooms, kitchen, lounge, laundry etc. Made my life much easier. Mum also came with us and she is always a big help. They are quite good and the music and dance is great fun to watch. Both the girls got various placings with our best being Catie who got third out of 10 competitors for her jazz solo. This was a good result as it was the first time she had danced it in public. They have their annual concert on Tuesday 11th December - in case anyone wants to come.

Apart from the dancing we went skiing with some friends at Mt Hotham for three nights. We probably had the best snow of the season up until last week. It was great fun and I was able to ski with the girls down some of the more advanced slopes. Brendan looked after Andrew and life was good.

Delia visited from Switzerland last weekend and it was really nice to see her again. She flew into Darwin and then drove one of those big Britz campers down to Melbourne stopping on the way. She flies out of Melbourne on Friday 10th. We went and visited mum on one day and just enjoyed each others company the rest of the time. Luckily her children speak some English.

Well that's about it. I hope you are well and I'll try and catch up with you soon.

Lots of Love and kisses from Sina and the other Brendan Smales