

Christmas eCard 2022 from Jim and Fiona in now snowy Tarbrax.

The gust of cold has arrived from the North and the local high pressure has cleared most of the cloud, so the snow that fell a few days ago is still here. No great surprise but much colder and whiter than it has been for the last few years. Currently (mid-day 15 Dec) it's 5 below and dropping to -15 at night. Celsius. Although I was born late enough to avoid being taught Fahrenheit I was trained to measure in centigrade which always made more sense. Sadly, I have to mentally convert to celsius to remain politically correct, but better than Fahrenheit. Why the US has to misspell, mis-measure or rename everything except Fahrenheit puzzles me, but remember the average man and realise that half the rest are more stupid than him.

Like many I was asked what I'd like for Christmas and couldn't really think of anything beyond world peace and some chocolate. Total power for a week might be useful, so I did some thinking. Starting simply we should convert to base 12, abandon organised religion, guns and investment returns to banks and individuals of greater than 10% pa, change to a 8 day week (4 day weekend) convert the voting process to proportional representation and disconnect the geographical component of national government. By that I mean that you should be able to be French in Thailand, Ukrainian in Russia or Pakistani in Scotland and move your virtual and actual 'nationality' at will. If self driving cars aren't available by then we'll have to all change to driving on the right. On day two I thought I'd get rid of British Summer Time, the House of Lords and second jobs for members of parliament, return stolen or dubious artefacts like the Elgin Marbles, put an absolute ban on nuclear weapons, stop selling weaponry to other countries, backdate fines and prison sentences for corruption, big business falsehood and have the UK apologise to countries and peoples like Pakistan and India, the North American and Australian first Nations, Ireland and most of Africa. There may be a few I've omitted there.

Day three will be for the UK rejoining the EU although the removal of all border, customs and trade tariffs may make it unnecessary. All citizens will be de-nationalised and re-sorted into their tribe of choice with the right to move unhindered. I'll be banning all political parties on day four and allow voters to select candidates on the basis of their personal manifestos which will have to be carried at all times along with their voting record. To facilitate the accommodation of MPs found to have lied I will be releasing all prisoners held on drug charges and legalising all drugs. Drug sale profits will be taxed at 90% but drugs, and foods proven to be harmful or deliberately made addictive will be taxed at 200% with an additional 1 year cryogenic sentence. Scientifically proven significant deliberate environmental damage without mitigating circumstances 10 years and a fine.

I thought I'd move Christmas to the winter solstice and the new year to the summer solstice and rename them accordingly. Druidism is allowed, maybe Zen. All citizens have exactly the same rights and responsibilities.

I was thinking along the lines of asking everybody where they got super-yachts, third homes and other signs of excessive income. This would involve the identification of the actual ownership of all land, houses, major art works and the banning of off-shore and tax avoidance. Anything not identified will be auctioned (although the buyers will have to disclose their source) and while every human being will get a real living wage of £100,000 pa, in a single, electronic planetary currency but savings above £250,000 will return annually to the central fund.

Benefits in kind like company yachts, business holidays, cars and expensive clothing will be taxed and death duties will be 100% and be used to fund part the living wage. Health care, education, transport and counselling for suddenly bereft billionaires will be free to all and nationalised. Citizens will be expected to do 10 hours per (8day) week of useful, charitable or social work and any other work that is needed will be performed by robots. Prison sentences will be cryogenic storage or being forced to watch soap operas. The death penalty is revoked and serious criminals will be frozen and put into a safe parking orbit for 1, 10 or indefinite years. No income paid while there.

I'll cover any shortfall in costs.

Some attempt has been made to offend everybody equally.

Any questions?

Love from Jim and Fiona

