## **Summary of ECD Global Alliance Chat 03 December 2011**

## 5 Members present

- Members started off by discussing the current weather in their parts of the world. There was no snow in the North of the UK yet, although a road-gritter had been seen out one evening. There had been some snow in the Americas.
- Everyone expressed sadness about the passing of one of our members, and sent condolences to their spouse.
- There had been an "extra" chat on the Sunday of last week, which some members had attended and enjoyed. Another member would have liked to have been there but missed it.
- A wedding dress has been chosen, and ordered, by our member who is about to get married. And her husband-to-be has chosen a smart Calvin Klein tux to wear.
- A current member and her husband had had a nice visit, and dinner that week with the parents of one of our members who had died about a year ago.
- The current "state-of-play" regarding Christmas decorating (this is called "trimming up" in Yorkshire) was discussed. One member had a few decorations up and a couple of small trees. The member had made the ornaments himself. OTOSOTP a Christmas Wreath was on the front door, and there were some flashing lights. Preparations for cake-making were underway. All the fruits, spices and stimulant flavourings (=booze) had been mixed up, and simmered for 10 minutes ( a "boil-up" is what its called in UK). Then all this has to get acquainted for a week, and then you bake the cakes. After they are done, they need wrapping up, and putting in a dark cupboard, so that their headaches (due to the booze) can get better!
- The recipe is going on a TransAtlantic trip, so that the OTSOTP can taste test it!
- Another member arrived. There had been difficulties in getting to the chat due to hardware problems. This member is about to visit NIH. Recently the member's schedule for the week had been sorted out during an hour long phone call with Hose Salas at the NIH.
- A member stated they have have used CCC (Cincinnatti Computer Cooperative Cin., Ohio) as a supplier of good quality rebuilt hardware.