



Townsend's Christmas Letter 2007

In the past week or so Christmas cards have started to arrive and although I thought we were early posting presents to family near and far, it's only now that we're getting down to our letter and sending our cards!!

As usual it has been a busy year! Steve has had 3 visits to other countries promoting Aberdeen University - Greece, Poland & Faroe Islands. The last two were new to him and he found them interesting places to see. Also this year he has written a novel on the story of Esther and has published it himself - just yesterday the first copy arrived for him to check!

I continue working 3 days a week in a primary school This year I am working with older children and also taking a maths class once a week. We have also had interactive whiteboards installed - a great resource when you get the hang of them and when technology works!

We continue to be involved at the Episcopal Church in Westhill. It is a growing church with a good number of young people. Steve has some extra responsibilities as part of the leadership team since our Rector had a heart attack in November. He is recovering but will need to have time to recuperate. I help in the Sunday School, and in the Practical Care group that helps to support people in the community as well as those in our congregation. Plans to build a church are moving forward, it will be very exciting to see the plans taking shape.

In the summer we had a lovely weekend on the Isle of Bute with my parents. It was a good relaxing start to the summer. Later on we had a week in St Andrews at CLAN (a Christian conference). We decided to camp - but the tent we bought was a disaster and poles began to bend and snap before we got it up! Steve went off to buy another one that proved to be much easier to put up! We had some great meetings but it turned out a wet, cold week - not ideal for camping!

Susannah has been up a couple of times this year and she joined us in St Andrews. We spent a weekend with her and Naomi in Manchester. For a birthday present for Naomi and I she took us to the Turkish Baths in Harrogate. It was a great day out.

Unfortunately Tim and Andrea have had a difficult time and have separated. We feel very sad for them. Tim has had a couple of trips down to the Manchester area for work. Naomi is in her 3rd. year at Chester and will graduate next year. She is looking to do some further study or get an assistant psychologist post. She did her usual travelling in the summer - this year nearly 3 months working in Corfu.

Whatever experiences you have had in the past year -happy or sad - we pray that you will know God's peace, joy and hope this Christmas time and in 2008!

Love from

Steve, Jenny & family

