

Townsend's News 2014

1st December and our first Christmas cards have arrived and now it's time for us to touch base with you. We know that this past year will have been an exciting year for some and for others it may have been difficult. As we celebrate Christ's birth may you know the peace He brings and the knowledge that He will be with us in 2015.

Wow! What an interesting year we have had – including travels, ruby anniversary & moving into our new church building – here are a few highlights!

On Easter Sunday we moved into our new church building – we are very thankful to God for the building. It is now in good use by the community as well as church activities. In October the church café opened and that is proving to be a great ministry. Jenny has been helping one morning a week.

On May 29th we set off on our travelling adventure. A missionary from our church had asked us to help with the children's work at a conference in Thailand – so after saying 'yes' we decided to make it a long trip and visit other places as well.

DUBAI



So first stop – Dubai – to see Tim. It was lovely to spend a few days with him – he found us some lovely places to eat! We enjoyed the lovely weather too.

Then onto Thailand – in Chiang Mai. We were on a team of 32 folk from about 11 nations – what a privilege it was to look after the kids and meet folk from all over the world. Thailand is a lovely

country and we had some time to visit one or two places including an elephant ride!

THAILAND



Our next stop – Singapore – staying with some family friends who spoilt us and showed us some of Singapore in 2 days!! Another lovely country – never seen so many different types of orchids in the

SINGAPORE



botanical gardens.

Finally as a ruby wedding anniversary treat we went to The Maldives – what a wonderful place to rest, relax, swim, snorkel & eat!! We were able to upgrade to a water bungalow - quite an experience looking out into the huge ocean beyond.

MALDIVES



In August we celebrated our anniversary with friends, in September we celebrated it again with more friends and in October we had a few days in the Lake District with

LAKE DISTRICT



Susannah & Naomi as a celebration. We are very thankful to God for His faithfulness over the years.

To end the year Jenny is going into hospital for a hysterectomy – been told to rest afterwards but not vegetate! (It's now 13th Dec and I've had the op and home 2 days later feeling ok but will have to be pampered for a while!!)

We ought to mention our kids too!

Susannah is now into her 2nd year as café Manager and glad to have more staff on the team. She had a holiday to Dubai and Kuwait earlier in the year.

Tim continues to live and work in Dubai – enjoying the cooler temperatures at this time of year when he can comfortably be involved in activities outside!

Naomi is going to Central America at the end of December to spend some time volunteering and travelling – sure it will be a great adventure for her!