

Love from the Townsends 2015

Some news from the past year

Steve and Jenny continue to enjoy retirement. We have joined the leisure club at a new hotel near us and go swimming 2 or 3 times a week – we enjoy the exercise and I think it's doing us good! In the summer we had 2 weeks on a narrowboat and went round the Cheshire Ring which included going through Manchester and rural areas. It was a mixture of relaxation and hard work as we negotiated 100 locks! It was good to be able to meet up with Susannah at different points on the trip.

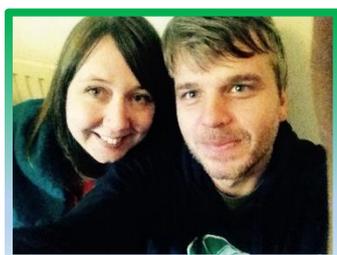
Then in September we had a week in Malta – a really interesting country full of history. We had lovely weather too.

There wasn't a lot of good gardening weather but we did manage to grow a few vegetables in our raised beds including cauliflower which I think could have won a prize!

Our church is busy and there seem to be new people most weeks. It is really encouraging to have such a vibrant youth work. About every 6 weeks Steve is duty manager which involves welcoming outside groups and then locking up at the end of the day. I continue to enjoy helping in the café once a week – it can be very busy at times. We are involved in other areas as well.



In May Jenny's Dad was 90 – we had a party for him when friends and family joined to celebrate. Also their church family put on an afternoon tea for him – so the celebrations lasted a few days! He and Mum then came and spent a couple of weeks with us.



Susannah is busy at work in the café, often catering for various events in the evenings as well as daytime. She had a holiday in Morocco in October and is going to spend Christmas and New Year in Venezuela with a friend that used to live in her house in Manchester. She met the lovely Matthew earlier this year and we are very much looking forward to meeting him later this month.

Tim and Izzy are staying out in Dubai (where they met) for another year. They have enjoyed holidays in Jordan and Italy this year. They have had fun being extras in the new Star Trek film – look out for them! It was lovely to meet Izzy at my Dad's birthday and we look forward to seeing her and Tim over



Christmas.



Naomi has now been away nearly a year! . She is having an amazing time – travelling, volunteering and working in Central and South America. She is now in Argentina. She spent her 30th birthday in Mexico and had a great time – a real Mexican party by the look of the photos! She has at last decided to come home early Feb!

God bless you this Christmas time when we remember Jesus' birth and may you know His peace in the coming year in this uncertain world.

Love from Steve & Jenny