

Townsend's News 2016

13 Dec 2016

We'll let the kids say their bits first -

Susannah & Matthew



We've had a brilliant year, the undoubted highlight was getting engaged in March and we are busy planning our wedding in May, so much to do! We went to Barcelona in April, and to contrast have also made a couple of trips to Aberdeen. Both fine cities but one with a slightly more agreeable climate and native cuisine (I'll leave you to decide which one).

Susannah has been working hard at Inspire cafe, the place is still thriving under her leadership with record takings seemingly every month. I (Matthew) refereed at the Touch Rugby European championships in Jersey during July and despite getting sunstroke and having to run round after people half my age (and twice my speed) managed to complete the tournament without my dodgy knees giving up. I can recommend Jersey as a holiday destination, especially if you liked living in the 1940s.

We are now looking forward to our first Christmas together and what the New Year brings. Hopefully a kitten but I feel I still have some work to do on that one (Susannah isn't keen!).



Tim & Izzy

We have had an eventful 2016, moving back from Dubai in July, after almost four years there, to new jobs in London. We had a busy first half to the year entertaining family in Dubai for their last trips before we relocated. We also managed to fit in a trip to the lakes in Northern Italy for a friend's wedding and went on to Venice and Verona which were beautiful. Since being back we have popped up for a family weekend in Aberdeen. It was lovely to all be at home at the same time (Susannah & Matthew were there too). We are close to completing on a house in South London and then look forward to family visiting us. To end the year, we enjoyed a long weekend in Austria with family to see some Christmas markets.



Naomi

Having returned to Scotland in February, I have been sucked back into the Aberdeen charm!! Central and South America was an incredible adventure but the need for friends and family was calling me. It was an eventful few months on my return with the naming ceremony of my goddaughter, 3 hen parties and 2 Irish weddings!! I initially settled back into my old social work job and began my new post in Adult Mental Health



Services in November. The transition is going well so far with no crazy workload as of yet. I had a quiet summer; enjoyed trips to see family and friends in England, participated in Notting Hill carnival and enjoyed the Scottish hills and countryside. Looking forward to the arrival of the snow and getting back up into the mountains for some much needed ski time.

My Goddaughter, Hannah

Steve & Jenny

Well as you see from the kids' news we have had an interesting year and an exciting one to come!!

In January we had another trip to Dubai - we wanted to get in one more trip before Tim & Izzy came home. What a lovely time of year to go - we were able to walk about comfortably and found some new parts to explore including a visit up to Abu Dhabi to visit the Grand Mosque.

We have had one or two trips down South to celebrate 80th. birthdays and a wedding party for a nephew. Over Christmas we will be down there to celebrate Jenny's Mum's 90th! and her sister Rachel's 60th. In the summer we went to Bournemouth for 4 nights with Jenny's Mum & Dad and enjoyed some lovely weather and visiting some interesting places. In October we spent a few nights in the Lake District with one of Steve's sisters and her husband. We spent time looking around the area and a day in Blackpool to see the lights. We were very impressed.

In November we had all the kids up for a weekend with their other halves - a real highlight as we don't manage to be together very often. Although it was cold it was lovely and bright and we had walks and visits to castle ruins and some lovely views of the coast. That's why we live in Scotland!! Sometimes we ask ourselves when it is wet, windy and dark!

We enjoyed time in the garden in the summer - our success this year was purple mangle tout! and building a decking area. We were able to make good use of the summerhouse too during the cooler weather and showers.

We are kept fairly busy with church activities and encouraged by the new folk who have joined us, 2 Alphas which Jenny has helped with by doing some of the catering and two baptisms in our local swimming pool!



We are thankful to God for His goodness to us in the past year.

We are aware some of you have had a difficult year but we do pray that you will know God's presence with you this Christmas time and in the year to come.