

Halliday Newsletter 2011

"Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. "

2011 has been a busy year for the Halliday family with many milestones to mark and although it is increasingly difficult to gather the whole family together we did all manage a wonderful family holiday in Malta in July.

Ian turned 50 this year and celebrated with a lovely gathering hosted by our friends Angela and Andrew. He and Viv also enjoyed a generous birthday gift of a weekend in Paris. After a very happy period working at RBS in London Ian's contract there came to an end at the end of June and then he had a brief sojourn working for RBS again this time in Edinburgh before taking up another contract with Santander in Milton Keynes where he is still working. As well as all his regular activities other highlights included seeing Das Rheingold at the Lowry in Manchester in September and a growing interest in following the fortunes of the English football team, seeing them play in Sofia, Cardiff and Copenhagen as well as watching many home games at Wembley. Viv joined him for the trips to Cardiff and Sofia but did not attend the games themselves, finally succumbing by attending the home game against Spain in November at Wembley.

Viv has had a year of much coming and going as well as continuing with her many regular activities. In addition to the trips already mentioned to Cardiff, Sofia and Paris she had a pleasant stay in Stratford with her Mum where they saw A Midsummer Night's Dream. She also had a number of short excursions to Wales with friends, destinations including the wonderful Lobster Pot restaurant in Church Bay, Newborough Beach and Penmon Point in Anglesey and Llandudno. She has also made a number of trips to Haywards Heath during the course of the year to see her university friend Lis.

David graduated from Sheffield University this summer and is now living and working in Edmonton in Canada which he seems to be greatly enjoying. He went out there in October and will be there for a year, though he would very pleased to be able to extend his stay there for a longer period. David also managed to get his drivers license just before he left for Canada.

Matthew is in his final year at Lancaster University and has enjoyed little breaks in Dublin, London and Barcelona this year. He is now in the process of applying for jobs and working towards his final exams. In October Matthew became the second member of the family to get his drivers license.

Christopher is now in his upper sixth year at Birkenhead School studying for his A2 exams in English, Religious Studies and History having gained 4 AS levels in the summer exams. He is applying to universities for next year and has already received offers from all five universities he applied to. Chris finished his treatment for leukaemia in September so now is enjoying life chemo free! He has been on a school trip to New York which he thoroughly enjoyed and also went to Bala with a group from church. Chris is also learning to drive.

Wishing all our friends a very happy Christmas and a joyful and blessed 2012

With love and blessings from

Ian, Viv, David, Matthew and Christopher



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