

Ian and Viv's Christmas Newsletter 2018

For unto us a boy is born, unto us a child is given

2018 has been a busy and mostly enjoyable year for us. We continue to live in Bromborough and worship at St Andrew's Church. Ian continues in his roles as lay Reader and as a member of Deanery and Diocesan Synods. Viv continues to be involved in Little Fishes and Messy Church. Ian continues to work for BT in London.

Largely life continues steadily, punctuated by plenty of travel and fun. Ian's year was disrupted when he went flying on a slippery pavement in August and broke his leg. The accident happened just before we were due to go on holiday to Devon and Cornwall with the Gibsons. So, we went anyway, with Ian mostly in a wheelchair. The steep cobbled streets of Cornwall provided a bit of a challenge to Viv who was pushing! Ian was in a cast for nearly 8 weeks and is still wearing a boot for walking outdoors. He is making a good recovery and is again able to manage to the commute to London, after a few weeks working from home.



We have had a few short breaks away this year, the first visiting Belfast and the Antrim Coast, one to Venice to celebrate Ian's birthday and another visiting Toulouse. For Viv's birthday we went to see an exhibition of the Terracotta Army at Liverpool Museum which was inspiring. We have also had the joy of catching up with some friends from overseas, and it has been lovely to see Karla and her family, Bill and Barbara, and Andrew and Christine this year.



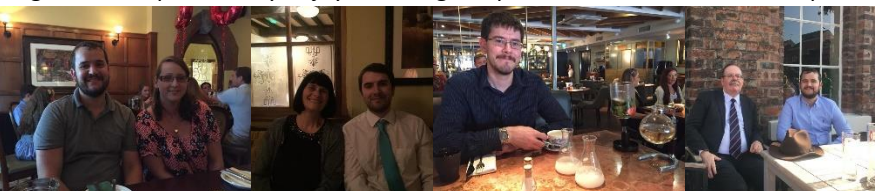
Viv has been on three cruises with her friend Lis. Firstly, a cruise from Southampton to San Francisco passing through the Panama Canal, secondly, a Mediterranean Cruise featuring some of the stars from Strictly Come Dancing and thirdly, a cruise to Iceland and Greenland, which offered spectacular scenery.



Our project to visit all 44 Church of England cathedrals also continues to progress well with another 11 cathedrals visited during 2018. Viv has also been on a very pleasant week's holiday to West Ireland with her mum and some other shorter trips to Wales with friends.



All continues to go well with David, Matthew and Christopher. It is a joy to see them all from time to time, either individually or together. We particularly enjoyed seeing the pictures of David and Christopher's recent trip to Israel.



Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and every blessing for 2019.

Ian and Viv