Christmas Greetings to all our dear Family and Friends



Dear All,

We have had an interesting year with a number of highlights on the way. In August 2012 we put our dear Rose Cottage on the market and 15 months on we are here in Carlux in the Dordogne!

We moved out in July and went to stay with dear James, Alayne, Sophie and Katie in their 'Grannex' in King's Heath while our furniture was put in storage to be shipped to France. All the while buying our French house by e mail and recorded delivery!

During our stay in King's Heath we flew out with Matt to Port Harcourt, Nigeria to meet Nemi's family and to attend their 'Traditional Nigerian Wedding'! No one had mentioned it was the rainy season..... We were hit by a wall of heat and rain as we came off the plane. Whisked away from total chaos at the temporary airport terminal we found ourselves in a convoy with armed guards enjoying Praise and Worship on the car cassette player!! The reception at the hotel was amazingly welcoming and Nemi's mum, Rebecca, and family pulled out all the stops to make us comfortable in every possible way - they even supplied our Nigerian Wedding clothes! (Nemi had measured us back at Rose Cottage). It was unforgettable.

At the time of writing this we have returned to the UK for Matt and Nemi's wedding at St Aldates, Oxford. Undoubtedly the Event of the Year! Fabulous Bride, fantastic entrance with Sophie and Katie as flower girls and Toby as page boy followed at intervals by four bridesmaids - one at a time to Pachelbel's Canon. Ooh the suspense!

Annabel read two passages from Colossians and Charlie Cleverly gave a moving and superb address which touched a number of non-churchgoers as did the Worship - the band was terrific. Every detail was perfect and planned by Matt and Nemi themselves. Very Well Done! We even got to stay at The Randolph!

We stayed with James and Alayne and girls before the wedding and now we're in London with Annabel, Steve and the boys before catching the ferry back to our new home.

Our first visitors (James, Alayne, Sophie and Katie) came for 1/2 term and we did battle with leaves to keep the pool open for them! We heated it for four days and nights before they came and the girls had a lot of fun and warm sunshine. James helped Dave put a loft ladder in, drilled deep holes to re-route electric cables and satellite cables and realigned the satellite dish for English tv. Most importantly, although we hadn't seen any other tv for months - we managed to keep up with Downton!

God Bless you all this Christmas and in 2014 - may Grace and Peace surround you :-)

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Steve, Isaac, Harry & Tohv

Matt & Nemi

James, Jan, Annabel, Miles & Dave

> Jan & Dave in our Nigerian outfits

> > Jan, Matt, Nemi & Dave

James, Annabel, Steve & Alayne



James, Matt & Miles

Sophie, Toby & Katie