



Christmas 2021

Hi,

This time last year, Dan & Jenn had just moved house. This year Jon is expecting to get the keys to a flat in Chesham that he and Ella will live in once they are married. So what happened between moves?

The year began with what was 'usual', then. We were producing videos for Sunday Club (until Palm Sunday), running House group on Zoom, doing Quiz Night on Zoom on Sunday evenings. Church services restarted and we mixed attending with live-streaming services. Elijah was here on Tuesdays doing his online learning until School resumed on site. COVID-19 vaccinations punctuated the spring (and booster this autumn and, of course, the Flu Jab) so we are used to having a dead arm for a day! (That's got COVID talk out of the way!)



Rare chance to meet up with 5 of the grandchildren

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<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6pGbqLhxrfI4cao4jR1bHA>

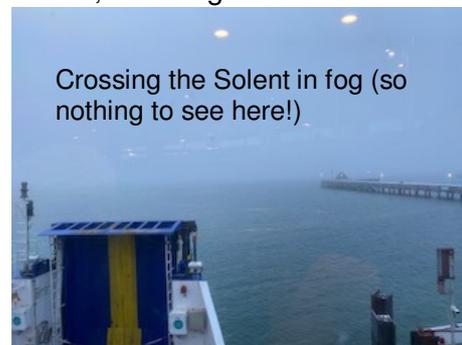
The regular features of our weekly routine involve: Mondays - Zoom call with Xining Platts (Tim & family); Tuesdays - looking after Cowley Platts (Dan & family) grandchildren, Thursdays - Sainsburys delivery and House group (alternate weeks), which has evolved to include people on Zoom, even though we meet in our home most weeks. Liz goes Scottish Country Dancing on Friday evenings, Phil does the Parkrun Saturdays. Church on Sunday Morning, Quiz or just chat on Zoom in the evening.



The big events of the year were being able to meet up 'in the flesh' with people. We took a cottage in Dronfield, Derbyshire and met with the Bolton Platts (Becky & family) outdoors in the Peak District for one day and spent another day with Liz's sister, Louise, in their garden in Skellingthorpe. We took a cottage in June, near Romsey, and visited Phil's sister, Ros, on the Isle of Wight one day and Phil's

brother, John, in Colyton, Devon another.

During those holidays, and generally, we enjoyed lots of NT gardens and local walks. Becky & family arrived at the first opportunity in the school summer holidays.



Crossing the Solent in fog (so nothing to see here!)



Pontyclyst Viaduct, Trevor, Wales

We took a lodge in Corwen, in Wales (nr Llangollen) and visited friends in Rhyl (N. Wales) and Nesscliffe (Shropshire) in September.

During the summer, we came to the decision to reduce our involvement in SRCF, which has been our spiritual home for many years and still is. But we have divested ourselves of many responsibilities, giving opportunities for others and space for ourselves. Teddy Bear Club is now led by Sandra (although Liz still helps out), Job Seekers Club is no more, Phil is handing over the Treasurership and we have both resigned from the Leadership Team. We have

set out to 'declutter', having lived here for 37 years and will look to move ourselves next year to somewhere more suitable for us. Well, that's the ambition!

We are looking forward to your letters, emails, etc. Celebrate that Jesus has come with joy, look forward to spending eternity without COVID restrictions!

Yours in Jesus,

Phil & Liz Platt