



Gill and Mark's 214 on Fleetwith Pike



Harry and Dylan on Low Fell, at the summit cairn we see from our cottage



David, Angie, Sherran, Bill and India

Greetings from Loweswater at Christmas 2015

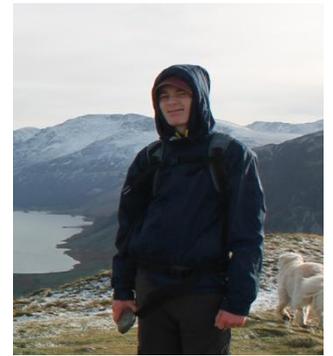
Hi all, just to let you know that our family continues to do well and keep safe in this increasingly fragile and unstable world. That's not to say that nothing changes, it always does, but we are thankfully keeping afloat and swimming nicely with the tide, to use a seaside or for us a Lake District analogy, going with the flow.



Abigail on a cold Low Fell

All our six grandchildren are working hard and enjoying life. Our one granddaughter Abigail is in her penultimate year at junior school and life for her is storming by (would that be why they named the first storm of Autumn after her I wonder?).

Her brother Tom is in Year 11 and will be sitting his GCSE exams this summer. Both were here in Loweswater recently with Paula and Al and all were on good form.



Tom on the same day



Cathy and Alexander with Harry



Sam, Alexander, myself and Matthew when we climbed Hopegill Head at Easter



Jack, Cathy, Bilbo and Harry

Of Cathy and Richard's boys, only one is at home now on a regular basis. Alexander is in his final year of junior school in Pirbright near Camberley, Surrey, whilst Sam, who did really well at his exams, is enjoying sixth form away at the Royal Hospital School near Pin Mill (Ipswich). Matt is in Durham University studying 'Classics' and Jack is over half way through his Medical degree in Cardiff.



Selfie from Jenna at her Graduation

As for our children, Jenna is now teaching Geography in her secondary school. We were able to attend her Sheffield graduation ceremony in January this year. Living on the edge of the Peak District, she seems to be taking advantage of the area for some good local walking. Gareth is happily ensconced with Rhian in Swansea. It is an exciting time for them as they have just put in an offer for a first house of their own. Both have good jobs there and a nice looking house has become available, close to their work and to Rhian's extended family.



Gareth and Rhian at Muncaster Mill Stn.



Paula, Tom and Abi with Sue and myself this November on Low Fell

Paula and Al's life is as complex as ever, juggling school for the children and Paula with foreign trips for Al.

His job takes him round the world on business every couple of weeks. He must be accumulating plenty of free 'air miles' at this rate.

Walking and cycling are Paula and Al's hobbies when they get the time to indulge themselves.

Cathy and Richard seem as busy as ever with Richard's family heading their direction for Christmas. We plan to stay there for a few days in early December and to exchange Christmas gifts in advance, leaving their house free for them and the other in-laws over the festive period. Welcome to new dog on the block Bilbo, company for their Boris.

What of us (I hope) you ask? Well this Christmas I officially get grey hair and this will coincide with the government paying me a weekly allowance. Consequently I'll be leaving Fisher's as there's no point in being paid twice and Ann will have the unaccustomed pleasure of me at home all seven days of the week. Life will enter a new era as we will be able to be more flexible in what we do.



Ann on Ard Craggs in the Autumn



With Ian and Jo on Crag Fell



With Pat in Keyworth



and Liz at Malham

I'm sure we'll still enjoy the ongoing company of visiting family and friends, of local events and happenings here in Loweswater and continue to enjoy Keswick's Theatre by the Lake to the full. Unfortunately our local valley Amateur Dramatic Society folded many years back but there are still some interesting professional players and local speakers visiting our village hall during the year.

Harry and Dylan still get us out every day. Harry at almost twelve is slowing down whilst Dylan at nearly two is speeding up. It makes for interesting walking. As a consequence our holidays this last year have been based in the UK but that is not to say they were not interesting. We've been self-catering in a grand-designs house in the north of Scotland, then b&b'd in the north east at Beadnell, Northumberland and continued on to Malham in Yorkshire. We've enjoyed the sea at Pin Mill with Cathy and spent time in Swansea and Gower with Gareth and Rhian, staying at Sandra and Jackie's.

Our web site, Loweswatercam, continues on with a real social life of its own which allows us to meet or converse by email with so many interesting people. We don't walk the high fells as much as before but we do get out on high level walks, especially when friends or family are here. This next year we'll not be tied by work rotas and pre-arranged holiday dates. We'll be free to do our own thing, constrained only by our desire to fit everything into a busy life.

We hope you are all well. Do stop for a while and enjoy your Christmas and perhaps let us know what drives your life in the year ahead.

Cheers and best wishes for 2016. Roger and Ann, Harry and Dylan.