

# Townsend's News

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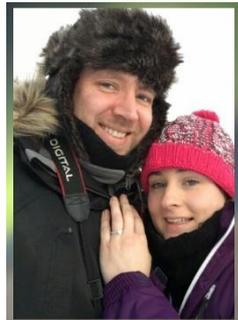
## Over to our kids first...

**Matthew & Susannah** I think it's safe to say that the highlight of the year for both of us was the Lions drawing a test series in New Zealand.... "What's that Susannah?" Oh yes of course, our wedding! We got married on 6th May and enjoyed a wonderful day very grateful for all our friends and family who special day. The wedding reception was swiftly honeymoon in Dubrovnik where we enjoyed a swimming, and spotting 80s Eastern Bloc the beautiful backdrop of the Adriatic coast. Post has been good with new jobs for both of us. I am with learning disabilities at Manchester College town and back most days. Susannah is now community cafe for St Mary's church in Cheadle enjoying a new challenge. We have also been at a pace that can only be described as glacial, new church (Grace Church Manchester), and we



celebrating. We are followed by a splendid relaxing week eating, classic cars all with Lions and wedding life supporting students walking 2.5 miles into managing a and is very much decorating the house getting stuck in at a still haven't got a cat.

**Tim & Izzy** We've had a very busy year! It started with a trip into the Arctic Circle to stay in an ice hotel, see the Northern evening whilst under It turned out to be a in London. Since then house and planning for the world of consulting perspective run a start-up exciting all at the same



Lights, go husky dog sledding and snowmobiling. One the lights, I (Tim) proposed to Izzy who thankfully said yes! busy week as we also finally got the keys to our new house it's been non-stop work renovating and decorating the the wedding. Work-wise, Izzy changed job this year, still in investigations and risk, but this time making a move from a to in-house within a large financial firm. I'm still helping consultancy firm which is proving challenging, stressful and time! Next year will be a little less busy, but we're looking forward to a couple of away weddings and planning the rest of our own wedding in February of 2019.

**Naomi** I started my new job a year ago now and have settled in well to the position; Adult mental health Social Worker. I am based at the mental health hospital which can be interesting to say the least. My boyfriend, Brian, and I are off to Zimbabwe Christmas and New Year with his family. this time with my family, we're really looking counting down the days. Brian's been working with all our plans (main one being a safari)... side relaxing too. And of course the amazing buddies have always commented on my love excited for this one. I also have another ski 2018.



on the 15<sup>th</sup> December to spend Although I will miss spending forward to it and have been hard, making a spreadsheet hopefully we'll have some pool Victoria Falls!!!! My travelling for waterfalls so I'm very holiday booked for March

I bought my first home this year which has been very exciting. I landed extremely lucky with the oil down turn, getting a good deal on a 2 bedroomed flat in the city centre. I've been busy decorating and have managed to rope mum and dad in too.

Merry Christmas and I wish you all the best for 2018. Lots of Love Naomi x x

**Steve & Jenny** Well as you see we've had an exciting year! Matthew and Susannah's wedding day was very special. Earlier in the year Naomi and I went down for a fun hen weekend. We heard of Tim and Izzy's engagement via WhatsApp and a picture of a left hand with a ring on it!! As you see Naomi is off to Africa for Christmas – a continent she hasn't visited before!

Now all 3 kids have their own properties but we still seem to have bits and pieces of their belongings at our house! We have helped a little with some DIY in all three homes, and then in September we ourselves had a new bathroom installed – which then motivated me (Jenny) to decorate our bedroom.

Our successes in the garden this year were apples, beetroot and turnips – something different each year!

In the summer we were down South for a nephew's wedding also spending a few days with my sister who lives in Goring by Sea and with my parents near Witney. My Mum & Dad have visited us twice this year and whilst here we've been away together for a couple of nights each time.

Our church is thriving with lots of new people from several nations and we are very fortunate to have a good spread of ages. We are thankful to God for all the opportunities the church has in the community including a food bank, youth events and running Alpha courses. This year we had a Spanish Alpha. Our church café continues to go well - there is a lovely view of the hills which folk find relaxing. We both find plenty of opportunities to contribute, which keeps us active.

We want to pray that you have a great Christmas and 2018. May you know God's peace, whether you encounter happy or challenging times.

It would be lovely to see folk if you come across the border!

Love from Steve & Jenny

