

# The Notley Review 2015

Well, another year has flashed by and as usual I've left it far too late to write a comprehensive newsletter. I imagine that this will be a huge relief to many of you. So, a brief synopsis...

Adam is still living and working in Warwick. He's still playing football, but he's now taken up running ... seriously. Laura and I went up to Warwick in March to cheer him on in his first half marathon, and he's done two more since - all in a shade over one and a half hours. Not bad. For 2016, he's already signed up to run the Surrey Half Marathon in March and the Nottingham (Full!) Marathon in September. Good luck!



Mark completed his acting course at Peer Productions in the summer. He'd spent the year taking plays highlighting social issues into secondary schools throughout Surrey. (Mark, on the left below, with Aedan, his doppelgänger, in *The Teenage Pregnancy Project*). In January he joins another theatre group on a six month tour of Italy. They will be performing plays and



running workshops to teach English to Italian children. He's also auditioning, once again, for three-year acting courses to start in September. Fingers crossed.

In March, Laura managed to escape to Rome for a few days, meeting up with her sister, Debbie who was working there. Having seen the sights a couple of times before, I think her highlight was the Italian cookery course. And now, with Laura the proud owner of a pasta maker, we're all reaping the benefits!

In July, Laura and I went to see Liz, Paul, Tristan and Tom at their new pied-à-terre near Carcassonne in the south of France. Sadly, we missed Matt – he was on a US road-trip at the time. Lovely to see them, and great weather too.



I believe Liz is now taking bookings for 2016, so get in quick!

Not quite en route, but we managed to stop off at the Viaduc de Millau on the way back to the airport at Montpellier. Awesome.

The wedding of the year was in September, when Andrew and Shenda tied the knot near Battle in Sussex. Thomas looked every bit as smart as his dad in his tails!



Later in September, we set off on

another walking holiday with our great friends, Peter and Rachel. This time we chose a route through the hills of Liguria in northwest Italy. I think this was our toughest walk yet – about 85 miles over six days, similar to previous walks, but some really long climbs and descents, and rough terrain too. The spectacular scenery, the welcome from all of our hosts, and the fantastic food and wine compensated nicely, but we really felt that we'd earned our three nights R&R in Camogli to finish.

Last Christmas I gave Laura a membership card for the

Woking theatre. We've made really good use of it this year, seeing *Arcadia*, *Spamalot*, *Return to the Forbidden Planet*, *The King's Speech*, *Constellations*, *The Producers* and *The Shawshank Redemption*. And for our twenty-somethingth wedding anniversary in December, Laura took me to see U2 – I got to see them at last, just 32 years after the stolen ticket debacle at the University of Exeter!

And finally, a plug for Laura's nephew, Tom who graduated with a graphic design degree from Swansea this year. We gave Tom his first commission, to recreate the iconic "worth waiting for" scene from the end of *Ice Cold in Alex* for us. We are absolutely delighted with the result. Please get in touch to arrange a private viewing! And if you're interested, I'm sure



Tom is taking orders...

We hope you've had a great year, and wish you all a very Happy Christmas. Let's hope we get to see you in 2016.

*With love,  
Richard, Laura,  
Adam and Mark*

*xxx*

