

# LOCK CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER 2014

**We must firstly apologise to you as this letter will possibly come to you late as the lead up to Christmas has been extremely busy, particularly as Dave has been drumming in “Miracle On 34<sup>th</sup> Street The Musical”, and everyone else doing 101 other things. Hope you enjoy it belatedly!??**

## **Thomas (Now 20)**

I passed my Theory & Practical driving test, and in the process helped Mum & Dad panic loads and get stressed. I’m continuing to pursue a career in music & drumming, trying to practice 5-6 hours a day to prepare for an audition for Drum Uni /Tech. I have also been working around England setting up Bookshops for Christian Events / Exhibitions & Conferences. A highlight was seeing Stomp & Wicked in the West End with my Girlfriend, Arianne, and also being in a show called The Grimm Tales where we acted and were able to use various instruments that I have learnt over the years was a great experience.



## **Hannah (Now 18)**

I received great AS exam results in the Summer, so was really pleased, and now working towards A-Levels. It was great to meet Jay Cook, Worship leader from Hillsong London, whilst working in the Bookshop at Spring Harvest in Skegness this year. I also really enjoyed the Activity week in Devon with the Youth of the Church. One of the highlights from this year would be running 5k for Race for Life with my friend, Rachel, whilst sharing one t-shirt! We even made the local newspaper the Croydon Advertiser.



During the last few months I have been visiting various Universities with a view to going to one of them in 2016 after a year’s Foundation Course in 2015 studying Fine Art.

## **Naomi (Now 14 and a half)**

I have had a fun year, enjoying Drama, Art and Graphics at School. We went with the School to see ‘Wicked the Musical’ in London (West End) with my year 10 GCSE Drama Class. Also pleased about getting a B in the first mock Drama assessment. I also really enjoyed another summer at CYC Camp in Devon too with my friends from Church. Also had so much fun at Spring Harvest 2014 and excited to go to next year’s. I also loved taking part in a dance skit that Thomas choreographed.



### **Rachel (Now 9 and 3 quarters)**

During 2014 I have mainly been in School, but outside School I have been doing amazing and fun activities including Dance, shows, sometimes taking part in talent shows, Spring Harvest Kids, New Wine Kids, also rehearsals for the Christmas Play at Church.

Recently I have had to say goodbye to my best friend at School who is moving Schools after Christmas. I am looking forward now to more fun in 2015.

**Happy Christmas to everyone.**



### **Angela ( Aged ??)**

Well this has been a busy year. I'm continuing to interpret the services in sign at Church most Sunday, looking into taking level 3 in BSL sometime. Thomas has given me a few more grey hairs with his learning to drive in the Zafira. So pleased he passed first time!

Great meeting Arianne and getting to know her at New Wine this Summer. Working together was fun!

Continuing to care for Aunt Joyce 4/5 days a week with Karen helping with visits on other days – 2 years after she had a close call to death. After 14 admissions to hospital she has finally stayed at home since Bank Holiday Weekend. Still frail and a few falls but the main carer Suzanne is a blessing to her doing well alone at home. Alan her son is in contact via my text as she can't hear him over the phone anymore. Hoping he'll come over again to see her face to face after Christmas.

### **Dave (Over the Hill)**

Really enjoyed 2014, seeing the Kids do really well at School, Home, Dance, Church, Music Sport, (particularly Tennis in the summer) Thomas's driving exploits,, anyone know how to get cheaper car insurance, please let us know.

Most of my year at Manna has been focussed on the New lease that was presented to us in May, with our Landlord wanting a 70% increase in rent, which grabbed our attention but also gave us the determination to share the Vision and Story of Manna over 33 years and get a substantial reduction. My great Team of Trustees worked really hard and met regularly throughout the Summer, and to cut a long story short, succeeded by getting a 35% increase in the end, still a large increase, but a better solution, along with a Fresh Vision to move forward and fully make use of our premises for the Community as a Mission Station.