

Family  
Adventures



**GEOCACHING ON THE BEACH**



**MICHAEL'S HIGH FLYING ADVENTURE**



**EDINBURGH FUN!!!**

# HAPPY NEW YEAR



Picture from our trip to the states. Thank you Heather Ojala for the picture! Love and Miss you!

## What an Amazing a Year!

We have been able to see so many places... Paris, Wales, Scotland, Germany, even a trip home to the States. Sorry if you missed us but there just didn't seem to be enough time nor money to be everywhere. The New Year is gearing up to be another amazing year. We are planning on exploring York, Ireland, and Cornwall, just to start the year. Hopefully off to Greece and the Mediterranean in the summer. There will also be a trip to Amsterdam to visit the Anne Frank museum. We are joining with the Boy Scouts in April for the 70th Remembrance of D-Day by camping in Normandy, France. The Boy Scouts arrange a D-Day campout every three years so we are excited that as a family of scouts we get to participate in such an occasion.

**Mark**

Mark is still working for DIA in England. His job has changed over the year and we still can't talk about it but he loves living overseas. The time spent with family makes it all worth while. Also, the ease it is to visit other countries and places of significant historical value fills his curiosity meter. He is thinking of extending his time here for an additional two years and that will be the last extension possible.

**Heather**

Heather is working for the same company, Babybond, performing ultrasounds. She is looking for ways to expand her experience and may return to school especially if Mark extends. She is very active in Girl Scouts and enjoys taking her girls on new experiences. She is also going to learn to ride a motorcycle. Mark bought her one in November. The plan is to join Mark on short trips. Her's won't be as comfortable as his though.

**Michael**

Michael is still tolerating his time here but does enjoy working on his engineering school work and all the places it takes him. Just before Christmas he went on a three day tour of CERN near Geneva, Switzerland to see the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) and in February will be touring the geological features of Iceland. He is still involved in Boy Scouts and had the opportunity to attend the BSA National Jamboree at its new location in West Virginia. For his 16th birthday he went skydiving and lived!

**Kaitlyn**

Kaitlyn is busy as usual. She still practices ballet and is looking forward to learning pointe in the years to come. She continues to play soccer, both thru the school and the city league. She has also picked up field hockey and basketball. She of course is active in Girl Scouts and wishes we'd go on more camp outs. She has started to work on her Silver Award (the highest award at the Cadette level) by trying to get approval to build stairs in front of the local village school so the kids don't have to walk thru the graveyard or up a muddy hill.

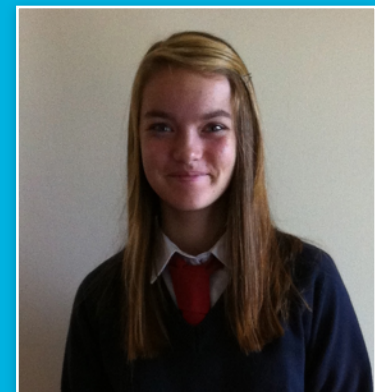
**Max**

Max is learning to play ice hockey and is getting pretty good, it won't be long until he is geared up and playing a real game. He has finally been able to join Cub Scouts and is so excited to follow in his older brother's foot steps. We are working on his first Pine Wood Derby.

**Pets**

Lastly but not least, our pets. Amazingly Patches, our cat, is still with us at 19+ years but unfortunately can't hear anymore so complains very loudly. Skye, our Newfoundland mix, is doing well but getting old. She thinks she is a young pup but then does too much and hurts her poor hips. Callie, our other cat, is still Callie, a typical silly fat cat.

*First Day of School*



Michael is entering 6th Form (11th grade in the US but here is sort of like tech school) and is no longer required to wear a uniform. Kaitlyn is in year 8 (7th grade) and has to wear a tie for her house colors. Max is in year 2 (1st grade).

