

Yoko & Phil's 2019 News of the Year

What a year it has been... here are the highlights!

After enjoying Machiko and Isaac's company with us in Feilding for the last few months of 2018 Machiko's new job meant they moved to Auckland. She is now at the North Shore hospital so found a house to share in Torbay, North Shore. Yoko, Nathaniel and I drove up with a trailer to help with the move... and have a chance to look around the house they are sharing and get a little exposure to the 'big' city. They have settled in now. But we do miss them, and Momo their cat.

Phil's niece, Kelsi, got married to Cameron in February. It was a wonderful outdoor wedding. Just so happened to be her younger brother, Jordan's, 21st birthday. I'm sure it is a date they won't forget.



Though Machiko has already finished her nursing training and started work in Auckland she returned for her graduation ceremony. So proud of her.

As it is our 25th anniversary getting married in May Phil felt to celebrate this milestone with an epic overseas trip and saw many cities and meet people, making new friends and reconnecting with friends of old.

11 days in Europe with a bus tour. We started in Rome and ended in London. We drove through five countries, visiting 8 cities. Of all the highlights having dinner with Yoko in a random bistro in Paris was the best.



11 days in the UK visiting Phil's friends from when he lived there in the late 80's. We drove every other day a distance of 2000 km from London to Wales to Scotland to Norfolk Birmingham and back to London. The first meetings for Yoko and catch ups for Phil made this a very special time. We met with 2nd cousins, "adopted" mum and dad (and fam), and friends we've met in other countries but who are resident in the UK now. All a bit of a whirlwind tour.



11 days in Japan on the way home visiting family and friends. We visited Yoko's mum in Japan and saw that she is happy and being looked after very well. It has been three years since we last visited so she got a big surprise to see us, she is 90 now. It was all so busy and being the northern summer, very hot!



Phil's mum and dad are doing well and taking life at a slower pace now but.

Nathaniel had his 21st party at the end of November. His friends were great in helping him get all together for a wonderful celebration. It was nice to see some of his old friends who used to come to the house again. He has finished his first year at university and busy with youth group responsibility as well as study.

Yoko continues to be busy with all her activities and Hebrew studies.

Phil is still a welder at Fruehauf Trailers. There has been a few new guys to train who are replacing those who have retired, moved or found other opportunities.

Lastly, Gateways Christian Fellowship is going well and we continue to host a connect group.



May God bless you in 2020.

With our love
Phil & Yoko