

# Prettig Kerstdagen en een gelukkig nieuwe jaar van Hugh en Becky



Taking a 'selfie' in the Mirror Labyrinth on Petrin Hill, in Prague, Czech Republic

## RUSH READ

- Still living in The Netherlands
- Both healthy and happy
- Still doing a lot of traveling
- Hugh making lasting improvements at OPCW
- Becky is President of American Women's Club of The Hague

**Merry Christmas  
and  
Happy New Year**

**Hugh Gregg  
&  
Becky Failor**

## Wishing you happiness and health now and in the New Year

As we are writing this letter during Thanksgiving week we realize that we have so much to be thankful for (ok grammarians – for which we are thankful!). We continue to enjoy our lives in The Netherlands. We are healthy and have good friends here and around the globe. Having each of you in our lives brings us joy, even if we are only in contact at this time of year.

Unfortunately, not everyone is as fortunate as we are. Becky's brother lost his wife, Jeannie, to cancer in October. A dear friend is fighting a battle with a brain tumor. The terrorist attacks around the world have brought death, sadness, and fear to innocent people. Each day thousands of refugees flee war, famine, and terror hoping for safety and a better life in Europe. All of this makes us even more grateful for the peaceful lives we live.



Hugh inaugurated the new training laboratory at his OPCW Rijswijk facility with a party for representatives of the Designated Laboratories. Since the lab had not been used, they had fun drinking out of beakers knowing they would never, EVER, do this after they began to use the lab.



**A nice visit to Brugge, Be**

We were happy to have Hugh's sister, Carol, and nephew, William, visit this summer. They took in a lot of the "standard" things (e.g. Kinderdijk, photo right) and also enjoyed a day at the Park Hoge Veluwe in the center of The Netherlands. For their "extra" country we visited Brugge in Belgium. We have also had the pleasure of having a few friends stay with us this year.



**Becky visits Rio**

Friends we made here were transferred to Rio de Janeiro and Becky took the opportunity to visit them in March. Good thing she did because they have already moved to the USA.

Becky's new bike



Bike art in Voorburg

**Our holidays, so far this year, have been in Europe. So many more places we still want to visit!**



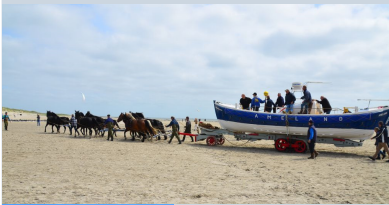
Fuerteventura, Cl. Dec. 2014



Bastogne, Be. Jan 2015



Budweiser in Prague, May 2015



Ameland, NL, has a tradition of launching rescue boats via horse drawn sled over the barrier dikes.

Bikes yield for airplanes!

Indoor skydive for Hugh's birthday:



Without really planning it, this has been our year to pay homage to those who fought in WWI and WWII. We visited the new Bastogne War Museum in Belgium and learned so much more about "the Battle of the Bulge". We walked with friends during the May 4 Dutch Dodenherdenking or Remembrance of the Dead ceremonies where those who died in war from WWI onward are honored. We visited the Ypres WWI battlefields where chemical agents,



such as chlorine gas, were used for the first time in battle. We were moved by the "Last Call" ceremonies that are held each night at the Menin Gate.



It is impossible not to be touched when visiting the American Cemetery at Omaha Beach.



We loved our two week driving trip to Ireland and Northern Ireland. Such beautiful coastlines and verdant lands. Our course we visited the spots we have heard about in Gabriel Duffin's music, like Cushendall.

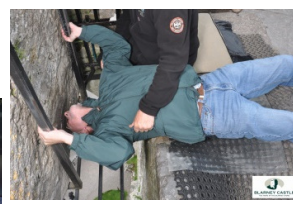
What? Sign at Hard Rock Café in Dublin



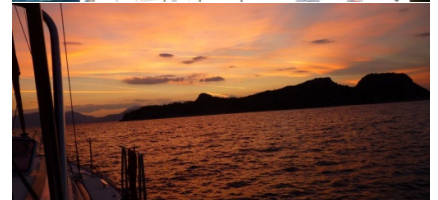
Carriage ride in Killarney; Giant's Causeway



Of course, we went to the Blarney Castle, and got up close and personal with the Blarney Stone.



The end of our summer holidays was two weeks sailing in Greece with Jeff and Karen Richardson. We interspersed sailing with visits to antiquities and the islands.



We have plenty of space and time for your visits, and Hugh's contract ends summer 2017 – so WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

*Hugh & Becky*