

Our year has been very full. So much has been achieved, so many experiences have been enjoyed and shared.

After the loss of both John and Jackie last year, Lez and Grayhame have cleared their parental bungalow, and it is now being enjoyed by a new owner. Lovely.

Some of the Orlebar "archive" still needs to be sorted and shared, but the administration is now complete. The weekly (sometimes more frequently) drive to Earl Shilton is now becoming a memory.

Thanks are due to Heather and Janet for arranging for Lis' and Andrew's mother's grave to receive a marker stone. Another "to do" achieved. The memory of George W, Eliza A & Gladys A Spencer, Phyllis Parker and Mary Bullwer is now marked. Lives from 1869 to 2011.

Lez has put lots of energy into music. Two musical highlights were going to Rutland Winds and Malvern Winds. Lez is now playing French Horn and has added another flute to her "stable/menagerie".

Art has been a big part of Lez's life for a while now, and this year we have started the process of "refitting" her current "home office" into a space for art and music. Whilst this process isn't yet complete, this is already becoming a special place.

We went together to a watercolour day at Burghley House, looking at light on copper in the kitchen there.

We've been to Tolethorpe and to Rutland Musical Theatre this year. As well as numerous concerts and performances, both with Lez performing and with us both enjoying.

Andrew has been concentrating on music and is stretching himself. He played a solo piece (unaccompanied) on his violin at Malvern winds. He has regular lessons and is becoming a better musician.

We both participated in a musical masterclass at The Fleece near Evesham with Peter Knight and many other musicians.

Whilst much "stuff" has again left the house, the decluttering project still has much more to share and to give and is making progress.

Andrew hasn't made time to do any cycling this year. He hasn't been particularly social, either, but is looking forward to meeting up with lots of peeps this coming year.

Andrew has taken part in his final annual electoral canvass exercise for the County Council. He is due to receive his state pension next year.

Olie Cat has had another "dental" and seems happier now that this is complete.

We changed the Suzuki Celerio for a Suzuki Ignis, and we still have the Smartie.

We decided to replace our kerosene central heating system this year, even though it was still working, using a local heating supplier. The new boiler is still outside in the garden, but much pipework that had previously been outside has been moved into the "music room".

We have FTTP (fibre to the premises) data communications. For a few weeks we had a Stamford landline number. Our older rotary landline phones still work - to a degree.

As we move into the new year, we hope to continue to stretch ourselves with new experiences, Lez concentrating on music and art. As space becomes available (after more decluttering) Andrew hopes to also work on art.

With our love and best wishes

Handwritten signatures of Lez and Andrew in black ink.

Available online (in colour) at: www.bullwer.co.uk/xmas/xmas.html

Some of Lez's art is available at: www.tinyhareart.cmuk.shop and at: <https://crafters.market/shop/tinyhareart>



Copper pot



A collection of walking sticks



Olie Cat



Lez with seasonal
Concert Dress



Andrew and Edward



Found picture of
Jackie and John



Friends