



At Barnsdale Gardens

Andrew

—studied an OU course on Change (he passed). The bookshop has computer facilities again. He is going to church in Oakham and is cycling around Knossington. Plans for 2009 are to have a drop kerb fitted, to finish boarding the loft, build a filing system and have a shed in the rear garden to reclaim the conservatory.

Andrew

Lez

—did a bit of studying with the OU with a digital photography course (she passed). She now has a new job (still with the Council) with more responsibility. She has also been walking around the village in the summer. In 2009 she plans to finish decorating the house by painting the bedroom and the hall, stairs and landing.



Home grown fruit

Lez



CHRISTMAS 2008

BULLWER NEWS



KNOSSINGTON



HOLIDAY



St Ives Bay

Cornwall—Ports and Gardens. We visited St Ives, Polperro, used the Boddnick-Fowey ferry, drove through Mevagissey and Portmellon (an experience!), saw the Treffrey aqueduct and stayed in a manor house wing nearby. Enjoyed the Eden project gardens and found the lost gardens of Heligan (at Heligan, oddly enough!).

Church Stretton—Lez for a week, Andrew at the edges of the week, including a stay in the bridal suite in Wem. We visited Hawkstone Park, Haughmond Abbey, Acton Scott working farm, Stokesay Castle and the Long Mynd.

London—We visited the Ideal home Exhibition, Science Museum and Phantom of the Opera musical and we now have Oyster cards.

HOME

Jack Cat has had a thyroidectomy. Jill Cat enjoys 'shrewing'. They often escape in the house.

Wood cutting—worn out 2 jigsaws this year!

Decorating. Lez did more decorating in the kitchen and has painted the fronts of the units a light apple green, decorated her study in smart pink, the office in off-white, the bathroom in off-white and taupe and the living room in a rich green. Andrew has finished-off the edges as he struggles to keep up.

Our Living Room



Home improvements—We had the wiring loom on central heating system replaced and had a woodburning stove fitted. Andrew built a woodstore to tidy away the piles of wood and boarded half the loft. We bought ladders so that we could replace 4 outside lights and moved slabs into place ready to create a level base for the planned back garden shed. Andrew's father has made 3 doors shut properly and done other small carpentry jobs for us.

OTHER STUFF

Family and Friends—Mary and John, Andrew's parents celebrated their golden anniversary and Mary was in hospital. Jackie and John are settling into their bungalow. Jackie has had a replacement shoulder, we assembled and fitted IKEA bedroom wardrobes for them. Andrew went cycling with the boys from the family round Rutland Water.

Friends—had a Summer garden party and we had lots of visitors.

Garden—Lez has done lots of work here, trying to gain a little control! She has tidied and cut back, the rear garden looks much tidier. There are many wonderful 'discoveries' that sprang up this year. We had flowers on our clematis this year. Andrew now has a petrol mower.



Blossom in our front garden



Jilly, waiting for someone to turn the tap on!



Jack just after his operation



The local residents