

Christmas 2010 Bullwer News



Snow and scaffolding at home



Door handle at Lincoln Cathedral



Jill and Jack at home

2010 was a year of many ladybirds and few shrews. Oh, and cold and snow. We had fruit from 3 trees this year, apples, pears and greengages.



Home

This year we have been concentrating on the fabric of our home. We had the boiler and the roof replaced, and are currently enduring intermittent building activity to finish re-pointing the walls. Much of what we had planned to do (create a filing system, finish boarding the loft, decorate the bedroom, clear out the conservatory and get a dropped kerb) has been left. But we now have a garden shed, fitted with racking, and the loft is better insulated and items stored there are now accessible. Andrew's father has given him two boxes of tools. Andrew has fitted an overbath shower and curtain track, and re-grouted the bath to stop an overflow through the kitchen ceiling. We've had another burst pipe mended. Currently it's frozen (again), even after boxing in the outside pipes! Andrew learnt that bricks come in slightly different sizes whilst filling a large hole where the boiler was fitted. The village pub has re-opened. Grayhame, Lez's brother visited when our village had an open gardens day. We were able to view many neighbours' gardens. We haven't yet the courage to open up *our* garden.



Our own hole-in-the-wall

Cats

They are still enjoying country life. Jilly hasn't brought us many shrews this year. Jack's tail no longer works properly, the result of losing a fight, he's on blood pressure tablets to prolong the life of his kidneys, and he's gone deaf. They both regularly visit Andrew's parents on vet days.

Study

Lez has completed and passed her Open University management course and is in full swing with the next one. Andrew will do another Information Technology course in 2011.

Holidays, Days out and Fun Stuff

We've been to a re-union (UCCF), where we worked 20 years ago. We've visited Pitsford Water, Rockingham Castle, and Hedgehog Hall (at Tilton) Gardens,

Lez spent a week in Eastbourne whilst Andrew entertained builders, Andrew went to a conference in Windermere.

We spent a week in a cottage on Lizard, Cornwall. We saw friends (Jan and Paul) again, who had moved to Cornwall a millennium ago. There were coastal walks, cafes, pubs, a lighthouse and other communication heritage, lifeboat stations, St Wynwallow's church, Bonython Estate Gardens, Trebah Garden, Trevano Estate and Gardens, and also Porthcurno.



Trevano Garden boathouse



Signal station at Lizard

We went to Lincoln for the weekend (it's hilly to the Castle, Cathedral and the Bishop's palace) and visited the Gardens at Saxby. We saw *Feast of Fiddles* whilst there and later at The Musician Leicester saw *Peter Knight*. We spent a weekend in Norwich, with almost a day in the cathedral, visiting a theatre to see *Snake in the Grass*. We saw *House and Garden* at Oakham School Theatre We've seen *Hot Stuff* at Leicester's Curve. Lez also saw *King and I* there with her Mum.

Cars and Bikes

The Volvo serves well in the snow. It grips very well when filled with half a tonne of bookshelves. Lez's Smart (an automatic) stays at home. Andrew has worn out the rims on his MTB bike, and lost his back light. He's still to mend the latest puncture. A puncture every other month this year! Andrew has cycled around Rutland Water and along the canal from Wigston to the Space Centre.

Andrew

Is still at the University Bookshop, but has itchy feet. He's been on a weekend away with his local church (finally starting to get to know the people there), and is considering playing violin there in 2011. He's lost his purse, and broken his 'phone and camera.



Andrew at Trevano Estate

Lez

Is still with Leicester City Council, and enjoys being a manager. She is very aware of the fragility of her job there. She's trying to get Andrew to do jobs around the home, and in desperation has tidied his office.



Lez at Lizard Point

With our love and best wishes,

Andrew and Lez