

The Good Life - Month 11.5 (well it is late!)

Sorry folks, here it is, I bet you were thinking thank God, the senile old fool in Bridgetown has gone away. Well life has been so busy that I haven't had time to compose a newsletter. Apart from that I don't think anything funny has happened in the last month.

I think we have finally come to a halt on construction, at least until I can find some more money!! Tony, the brick paver came and built two great limestone retaining walls for us. One wall is between the driveway and shed and the other on the south side of the driveway and carport. Both have steps in them, they look very impressive.



The front part of the house looked great when the judges came for the HIA Awards, it doesn't look as good at the moment with the weeds now showing through. We should find out on 7 October what the judges thought of the house.



Massive plantings have occurred and another 40 shrubs arrived today. The garden, although new, is starting to take shape and there is plenty of colour around. The fruit trees are starting to get their buds so there is lots more to come.



Joann is still working part time in Bunbury but leaves me a list of things to do. Funny how the list never gets shorter and how a woman's

perception of how long a job should take is different to reality! But we are getting there.

There have been plenty of visitors in the past few weeks and every weekend until early October sees someone in the house, so life is never dull. I still haven't managed to separate the social side of visitors from the duties assigned by 'she who must be obeyed'.

The volunteer work at the Visitors Centre is rewarding. I went on an exchange to Busselton/Dunsborough Visitors Centre last week. Joann came along for one day (when the wine tasting was on, of course). Not bad though, I got to see a lot of things I wouldn't normally have done. Did you know there are 701 steps in the Ngilili Cave, I know that now! I even had a Shire vehicle to travel there and back and free resort accommodation, so there life isn't all bad down here.

We went for a short drive to the Donnelly River Holiday Village recently. That's a great place to take overseas visitors. Have a look at the mob waiting to get into the store there.



Our shed residents are still there although their house is not far from completion now if the tradesmen arrive. Building and house and land sales are still very hectic here much the same as in Perth. So we still have the goats and sheep, but thank goodness they now live 24 hours a day outside

on the block. For months they were brought into the shed for the evening. They will move to Fred & Margaret's once they move from the shed. Once this occurs Joann will be able to relax as they tend to eat the trees in preference to the lush grass around the place. I don't think you will find any farm animals here in the future. My suggestion about keeping them in the freezer has never been popular here for some reason.

As this newsletter seems to be photo orientated here's one of the current family



So we have Harry (the Labrador pup), Zara, Bobby the goat (in Jo's arms), Billy goat, Sally (Merino) and Bobby (Suffolk). The cats Milo & Figaro never come outside so they are not included.

For those of you that know Zara you can see that she has lost a lot of weight. The magpies on the block actually tease her. She chases one on the ground only to have it fly into a tree whilst another lands behind her and repeats the process. This goes on for ages and has Zara barking at trees nowadays. Of a night she protects the property, we're not sure what from but it might be foxes. She just hates the mopoke of a night time.

It's getting to that great time of year down here with all the blossoms and gardens coming alive, so think about coming down to have a look and

get away from the city for a while. If you really get bored you could go and visit our web site that I have constructed. Any comment whether critical or constructive would be appreciated - www.jobry.com.au

Coming events:

September	10	Markets
	24	Markets
	30-1	Blackwood Classic Power Boat Race
October	8	Markets
	14	Sons of Gwalia Open Mine Day
	14	MG Car Rally to Bridgetown
	22	Markets
	28	Blackwood Marathon
	28	Harvey Dickson Rodeo Boyup Brook
November	1-5	Festival of Country Gardens
	5	Markets
	10-12	Blues at Bridgetown
	18-19	Festival of Country Gardens reprise
	19	Markets
	24-26	Art happens at Balingup
	25	Bridgetown Agricultural Show
	25	Jalbrook Classic Concert (Balingup)

In finishing, here is a photo of a red winged fairy wren seen locally.



Regards to all, and don't forget where we are, if you feel like a break.