

Bridgetown - February 2007

A few of you have emailed and asked where the newsletter is, well I felt we had bored you enough with our tree change and what was happening down here away from the maddening crowd.

You all know that Bridgetown gets cold, well guess what it also gets HOT!! Our hottest day in January was 40.1 and our coldest night for the same month got down to 3.1. Our highest minimum was 19.4, so we do get the extremes. Normally though the weather is great as soon as the sun sets. (Who wanted Daylight Saving??) I think these extremes come as a result of our altitude and terrain. I notice that Perth is 25 metres above sea level whilst Bridgetown is 154 metres. So in the old language we are 505 feet above sea level whilst Perth is 82 feet. We must be getting the 'rare' air.

Whilst we are busy keeping things alive in the garden, it has become fairly quiet down here accommodation wise and we must admit that Summer is not the best time to visit Bridgetown with all those rolling hills covered in dry pasture.

We had guests stay for 3 nights between Xmas and New Year and they wanted a tour of the wineries and brewery so Jo's vehicle got christened as a tour vehicle. BUT on the trip we came across a distillery just out of Pemberton that also made chocolates. Just imagine Liqueur chocolates - 6 to the standard drink!! Very nice too, so we are looking for an excuse to go back there if anyone is thinking about a trip down.

Jobry is now registered with the local Visitor Centre and bookings can be made online or by any Tourist Bureau, this has made a big difference 'cos so far we have not received any bookings! We have also applied for an official star rating to see how we rank. The purpose of telling you this is to let you know that if you want to come down please let us know with some notice so we can block rooms off on the 'system', but as we said, apart from the March long weekend we are free until October at the moment. With all this income Joann should be able to retire in 2015.

We had Sharon, Steve and the children here for Xmas day and then Bruce, Sharon and the demolition team came down to stay in the shed between Xmas and New Year, that was fun.

This lizard came wandering through the carport one hot afternoon then climbed the steps and went on his merry way. The dogs were asleep and did not even see it. I don't think it stayed on the block due to the dogs wandering everywhere.



The parrots, once again, have managed to polish off most of the fruit on the trees. We have covered a peach tree and two apple trees so that we can have some fruit. The peaches have been delicious, although a bit sweet for Joann. The olives are getting large, so all you budding olive processors should come and get some later this year.

I am currently doing two days a week at the Visitor Centre whilst the Manager is on leave and Joann is still doing 3 days in Bunbury. The daylight saving means that she is still driving up in the dark avoiding the 'roos and trucks.

We have made a few quick trips to Perth but it still looks better in our rear vision mirror - how do you guys put up with all that traffic, if we get 3 cars in front of us at the main intersection into town, that's busy!! AND your traffic lights, why are they always red longer than they are green? Actually I got stuck behind a tractor on the road yesterday, it reminded me of the freeway to and from work each day.

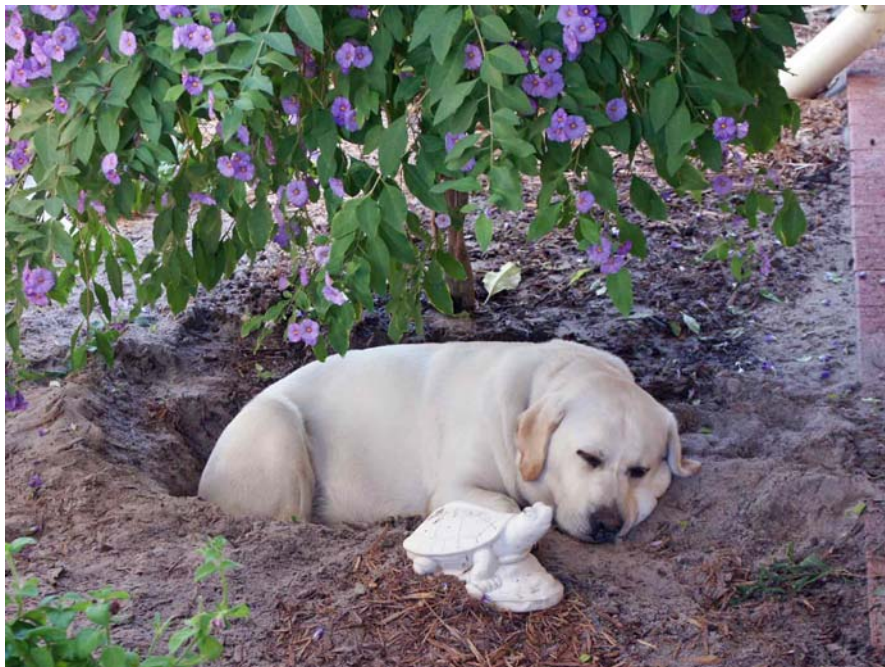
You know how exciting life is when you check Council Minutes each month (God, what is life coming to), but from the Minutes of our last Council meeting was this statement from one of our esteemed Councillors

“Cr Oaks stated that when he had his motorbike accident he was mindful of the talk given at Local Government Week by Alison, the young lady from South Africa who had spoken of her ordeal. This gave him the strength to pull himself up to the roadway where he was finally found. Cr Oaks thanked Council for the flowers and well wishes, and the emergency services personnel for their assistance. Cr Oaks stated he wanted to dispel rumours that were circulating in the community that he had been out checking his marijuana crop at the time of the accident.”

No Comment!!

You may recall that we had another Councillor who resigned to go on a compulsory holiday as a result of his gardening activities, perhaps it is a requirement down here.

Give us the peaceful life where our daily exercise is filling in the holes that Harry (Joann's dog!!) keeps digging.



Well, that's it from us for a while. As soon as something happens (anything), we'll be sure to let you know.

Regards

Joann & Brian

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