

Bridgetown - November 2006

Whoever said 'life gets tedious don't it' didn't live in Bridgetown! Some of you will be thinking damn, thought we'd seen the last of those newsletters from the Moore's, well this is probably the last except for the occasional update. We reckon the reminder now and then might tempt a few of you to come and visit this part of the World.

I know life is getting more hectic for all of us, but we certainly have struck a busy patch in the last month. 32 people have stayed here in the past 3 weeks. We are looking forward to a quiet weekend this weekend but there is not much accommodation down here because of the Festival of Country Gardens, so we may get some overflow from other B&B's. We haven't done too bad considering we haven't joined the local Tourist Association and don't advertise yet.

Apart from that, there is plenty of work being done and to be done. The 'to do' list is getting larger all the time. I just think I am getting on top if it and then another project materialises! Take yesterday for example, I was working on the reticulation and Fred up the road arrives with his excavator. It appears Joann wanted a trench dug along the top (about 25 metres long) so she can plant roses. Now I have to get soil to prepare the hole and get rid of the clay soil left by the excavator.

Joann has done wonders in the garden. Here are two photos taken in the same area. The first was as the removalist was unloading on 29 December 2005 and the other taken last weekend 12 November 2006.



My garden is tucked away near the shed. It consists of raised ground held in place by sleepers and covered in bird netting. Inside, there are raspberries, red and white currants, English gooseberries, blueberries and rhubarb. Joann has planted some lettuce and corn in it as well.

Recently we have had the Blackwood Marathon, the Festival of Country Gardens and the Blues at Bridgetown weekend down here. The Blues weekend is a real community effort. Joann and I did our bit, doing 14 hours volunteer work each as well as Jo cooking breakfast for our 12 guests. We did the 1.00 to 5.00 pm shift at the Visitors Centre and then the 10.00pm to 1.00am shift selling drinks tickets near one of the marquees. It's good fun being sober and watching people wander up to buy tickets, some seem to take a windy route to the van.

A funny story from the weekend. Prior to starting I decided to visit the Gent's, well when I got in the place there were two inebriated youngish ladies in there peering over the shoulders of the guys standing at the urinal. I snuck into a corner but did hear one girl say to a bloke, 'that's not very big', to which he responded that it was cold outside! I must agree with him, it was cold!

There seems to be a number of events that involve long table lunches down this way. We went to a garden event recently where Sabrina Hahn from the ABC came down to talk. The day included lunch on a farm property.



As you can imagine it was an excellent day. One of the local wineries, Shedleys, provided the liquid refreshments.

There is another long table lunch coming up in December at Manjimup for the Cherry Festival. This is an excellent day and definitely a taxi transport event.



Since our last missive, Milo had his 21st Birthday party, celebrated with cake and white wine (Milo doesn't like red wine).

It's a great snake year. We have seen plenty, but not on our block, mind you I did find a rather large skin down the block. Someone saw a fox on our block the other morning. Zara is a great watch dog when it comes to animals on the block, quite simply they are not allowed - it is her territory.

Fred in the shed and his wife Margaret have received the keys to their house and will move out once their painting, carpeting and tiling have been completed. So the shed will become an ironing room for Joann, a retreat for me and a place where feral friends and relations can stay should they opt!

Well, that's enough from us down here. Best wishes to all, and don't forget where we are if you need a break or want to do some work like weeding, mowing, whipper-snipping, digging or reticulation laying, all good fun and healthy stuff!!

Kind regards from Joann & Brian