

Well, it's been 3 months since we have done a newsletter and a few people have asked when the next edition would hit the emails. Strangely enough the newsletter is read by more people than I realised. I do put it on the website but did not think that anyone would bother to read it, but some do! Poor souls obviously have something missing in their life. (only joking).

It has been busy down here with guests nearly every week at some stage or another. We have been getting people who are building in the Bridgetown Gardens area staying with us whilst checking on the progress of their house. The Visitor's Centre has also been booking people in from time to time. We did provide Curtin FM radio two nights free accommodation as part of their Radiothon a while ago. This has provided us with some good publicity and a number of bookings.

The other week we had 4 ladies (The Golden Girls) come down for 3 nights to play cards (Canasta). We had to pick them up from the bus stop and then provide all meals until they left. They were great fun although during the card games you would not have thought them to have been friends. They also adjourned every afternoon to watch a movie in the home theatre. I am sure that Joann was exhausted by the time they left.

As you know I normally do what I am told by Joann but when I'm outnumbered 5 to 1 the shed was comforting! The youngest of the ladies was my age (unmentionable) and the oldest, well I cannot say for fear of retribution.

We also had a full house over Easter including a great couple from Sydney who had booked through the Visitor's Centre. By the time they got to our place they decided to stay around and relax. They must have watched 5 or 6 movies whilst they were here and did not see any of the SW sights.

We have been lucky and have met some really nice people so far doing the B&B bit. Our repeat business is building quite well.

This time of year down here is attractive with the land back to green and the mist filling the valleys.

It is cold though! The wood fire in the family room glows brightly these nights, and I think the heated floors get a beating when we have guests in.

Bridgetown is a great place to live, although the Council seem to make decisions that the majority do not like. I suppose it is the same in the Metro area but you don't notice it because there are more things to worry about.

I had been considering nominating for Council but when you think of the meetings, in addition to the formal Council meeting each month, I think I'll leave it to some of the younger ones. I might just agitate from time to time from the outside, that way I can't get out voted every time I open my mouth.

Around the house the planting continues with Joann planting 60 trees and shrubs last weekend and plenty to go. The holding bay still has a number of plants in it, I notice. We have constructed some arches for the roses and wisterias to grow over. There is plenty to go too, if I check the number of holes we have on the block for things to go into. How do I ever get that woman to relax?

We have been to Perth on the odd occasion for a quick journey when Joann has some work to do but we quickly retreat back to the peace and solitude of Bridgetown. Funny when you aren't living in Perth you really notice the traffic, the red lights and just how busy it is up there. We cannot get home quickly enough.

Do we miss Perth? No we don't. We do miss the ability to catch up with friends and going out for meals but for the rest we are better off down here.

Newsletter re commenced on 22 July. Life's just getting too busy to do newsletters, either that or I am more disorganised than I ever was. I'll leave you guys to make that decision.

Well, last weekend Joann cooked for 48 people from the Bridgetown Garden Club for a Xmas in July function. The day went extra well, except that it was a warm day and not the cold frosty day we had hoped for. The event was held in the shed and the cooking was done on 2 BBQ's, the Weber and the Pizza Oven. We decorated the shed and had a lot of the

Xmas decorations that we used to put up in Connolly. The local paper dedicated a page to photo's of the event, so it can't be all bad.



We even had Santa along to help out, of course Joann had to get in early for her present!!



I think I might have mentioned that both Figaro and Milo have died, within a month of each other. Figaro was 20 and Milo was almost 22 so they had a good life.

Harry is still causing havoc around the place. If you ever visit us do NOT leave your shoes outside! I have been hopping around this morning on one foot looking for my other boot. I'll bet it is full of rain water by the time I find it. Meanwhile Zara with her shorter hair enjoys wearing a coat these days.

We might not have had much rain this winter so far but both our tanks are full so we are storing 270,000 litres of water. It seems a shame to see the runoff now every time it rains. You don't realise how lucky you are until such time as you are totally dependant on the weather. Mind you, we don't miss the Water Corporation bill each year!!

I mentioned that we donated two nights accommodation to Curtin FM 100.1 for their Radiothon, well since I started this newsletter some weeks ago we have heard from the person who paid \$1300 for the accommodation and they are coming down this weekend!! Peter Newman the breakfast announcer and his wife will be with them so Jo is currently getting into a controlled panic mode. Perhaps I shouldn't have included all meals as part of the deal. Oh well, she cooked for 48 last week, so what's the big deal?

Here it is 5.45 in the morning and I am wondering how long before my finger joints get back to normal. Whilst Jo was pruning the roses I decided to weed the lawn area. The only good thing about cape weed is that it is big and easy to grab, but why does it have to cling to the clay under the soil? It does make you wonder how come weeds are so resilient, if you ignore one of your favourite plants for a short period of time it dies, so why don't weeds?

I may as well finish off with a recent photo showing one of our regular misty mornings.



Well, that's it folks, take care of yourselves.

Regards

Joann & Brian