

2021, well that went fast!

Yes, I did manage another broken bone. This time my right arm, back in January. It was very painful and the muscles are not completely right, so I must exercise more. I am definitely not planning for all my limbs: I would very much like this to be the last time. As soon as I had landed, I knew I had done something stupid (all Dave's fault as he not only wanted the knives and forks but a bottle of HP sauce as well!). As most people know, it all happens in the blink of an eye and then it takes months to recover. We had to call 999 and during a pandemic that was fun, and added to that, it was the foggiest night of the year. Once I had had my X-ray and they gave me a sling, Dave could come and collect me. It was the middle of the night by the time we got home and Dave was back on nursing duties again. So that was the first couple of months.

The worst thing that has happened this year was the shyster that we employed to do our driveway. I asked for recommendations on our Pewsey Facebook page and stupidly we chose this company who took us for a complete ride. All's well that ends well but it was a nightmare during those 3 months and we have a small claims court case going but that is another story. Other work including new front windows has also been completed, so Mandara House is looking rather good. The icing on the cake will be the new kitchen to be installed in January.



What they left us with!



From Driveway now it's done



Front of house

Dave has finally sold his mums flat (to a Mr Crook of all people) but after 3 years it is great to be free of it. Dave had to pay oodles of money to McCarthy and Stone and also council tax to Sutton council, perhaps the new kitchen will make up for it. Dave thought it might be a good idea to get another car.



← Tesla seemed the favourite, so on a shopping trip in Bristol, he sat in one at the showroom and I took a photo. That is probably the closest he will get to having

one. We've put this off as the availability of cars is ridiculous and prices are high as a result.



So, on other fronts I have a new great nephew, Elijah, who we met a few weeks ago which was fun. Dave has retired (not completely) but his pension has kicked in and I have my UK state pension, and a bus pass. The Dutch state pension arrives next year or perhaps the following one.

I have stood to be a Parish councillor at the election in May. On the voting form there was my name and I could put an 'X' next to it. Oh, it was such a thrill! Council business has kept me busy with me and another newbie organising a cracking day at the end of September called 'Pewsey is Open for business and family fun'. On the right is a picture with the council chairman which appeared in the local paper.



We haven't been anywhere (can't think why!) apart from a couple of trips to London and a few days out to local places, but we will wait until all the off/on has passed. Probably not until 2023; and who knows if then it will be possible.

Staying at home meant more time in the garden which is looking the best it ever has.



Dave has of course been to see his kids and grandchildren regularly and as the proud grandad he is, obviously wants to show you some pictures!



Happy Christmas and wishing you well in your world. Here's hoping to meetup in the not-too-distant future!

Lots of love from us both.

Liz & Dave
X X