

FRENCH HOUSE DIARY – SEPTEMBER 2022

Tuesday 10 September

The last couple of weeks have been quite eventful, we have a new King, Charles III and a new Prime Minister, Liz Truss. We've recovered from our 8 hours queuing to see the Queen's coffin and are ready to do some jobs at the French House. We thought we would treat ourselves and take the expensive Brittany Ferry route, Portsmouth to Caen. All covid restrictions have now been lifted and we get our Autumn booster vaccine next month.



Many thanks to Don and Helen who visited the house in July and did a great job on the railings and moving the gas bottle to a safe outdoor cupboard. They also checked out the roof repair.



Wednesday 21 September

A settling in day with Julie and Rob joining us for aperitifs. Jen and Hayden also settling into our Climbing house while their house is being completely remodelled and extended. We are in a Cost of Living crisis due to Covid and the Ukraine/Russian war. The French Government have subsidised fuel at the state owned Total garages creating huge queues there. Popped in to see our French neighbour Lise who has been glued to her television all week watching the Queen's funeral and events leading up to it.

Thursday 22 September

Beuvron en Auge, home to artist David Hockney



Beach at Caborg



Deauville Harbour

After years of wanting to visit Deauville we finally made it. It's a playground and beach resort for the rich Parisians. We stayed in an Ibis hotel and had a fantastic meal at the Michelin starred L'Essential restaurant.

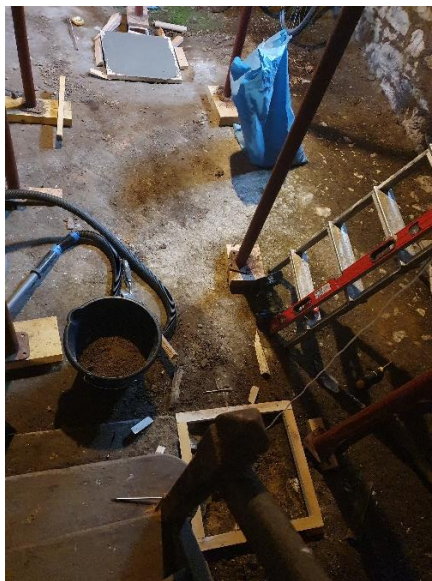


Friday 23 September

Drove along the beach road towards Caen on our way back to the house. Next a visit to Brico Depot to buy the materials to replace the acrow props supporting the kitchen floor. Rick had an embarrassing moment in their car park when several of the long lengths of wood fell out of the trailer when we went over a bump!

Saturday 24 September

Rick started in the cellar. These bottles must be at least 50 years old



Monday 26 September

We had a visit from the mayor. He came on his tractor, word had already spread that we were thinking of selling. He was very friendly.

Cycled to Julie and Rob's for a cup of tea, 3 bottles of wine later we got back in record time.

Tuesday 27 September

Our French hasn't improved much. I asked Gaby if we could borrow their card for the tip but it got lost in translation as "Can I borrow your cat to put in rubbish bin". Rick has applied for a card but it hasn't arrived. It seems they are getting very fussy and Yves kindly used his car to accompany Rick there.





Tidying up the rose; everyone says how wonderful it looks in full bloom. Another broom full of woodworm. Cycled to the start of the cycle path a little past La Roche Mobile.

Wednesday 28 September

I've been holding up huge lengths of wood and my arms are aching. It's a dangerous task as acrow props are falling out here, there and everywhere.

A day for entertaining. Gaby and her mother came for coffee and Rob and Julie came for supper.



Martin and Sue arrived.

Thursday 29 September



Progress in the cellar

Friday 30 September



View from loft window



Entering village



Look, no acrow props

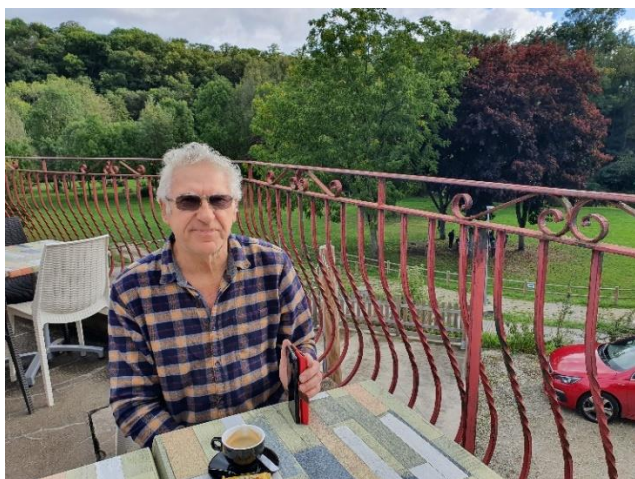
Thought we would try out the new restaurant in Carrouges as reward for the work in the cellar. Would you believe it, no sign of life there or anywhere apart from a pizza machine in the garage. We ended up eating at the Logis Hotel at Lalacelle near Ciral.

Saturday 1 October



All stained

Sunday 2 October



Visited St Ceneri -Gerei & St Leonard des Bois

Monday 3 October

Lise to tea, she is so interesting and has been our saviour on many occasions. I hope she thinks my accent has improved a bit.



Tuesday 4 October



Strange tree on the way back and the Cider Factory next to Logis Hotel



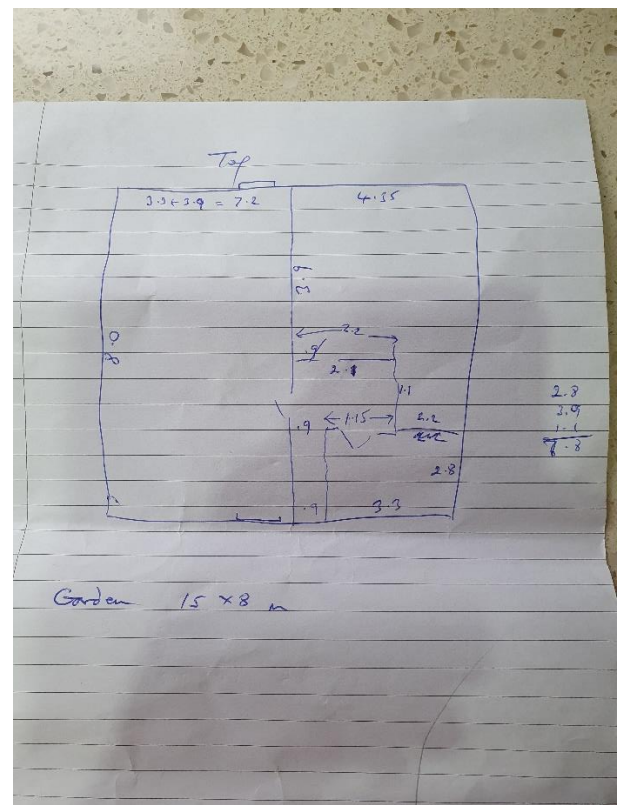
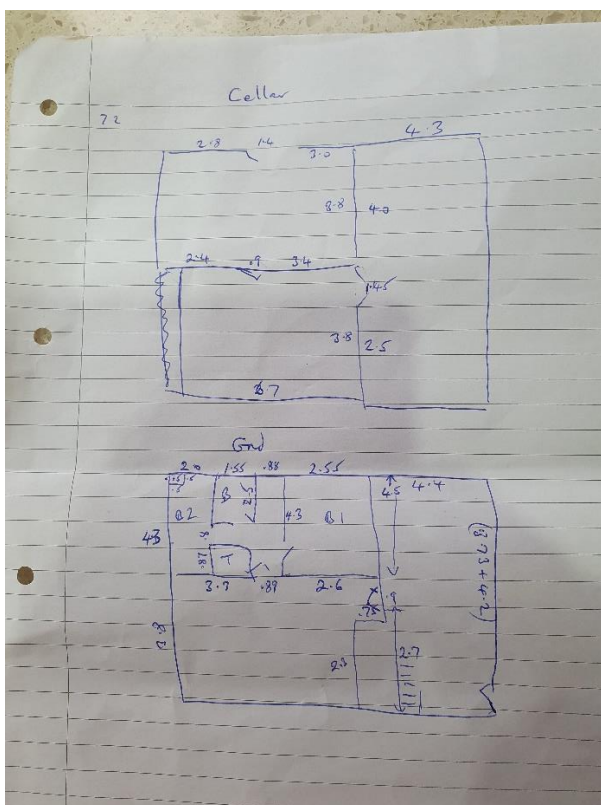
Fondue night with Julie and Rob

Wednesday 5 October

Cycled from La Roche Mobile to Logis Hotel for lunch – the cycle path wasn't as flat as we expected but we did the journey back in record time. Stopped to pick some chestnuts.

**Thursday 6 October**

The family are in agreement that perhaps as we are now all of pensionable age we should think about selling. Thought I should take a few pictures and measurements.





Kitchen



Lounge



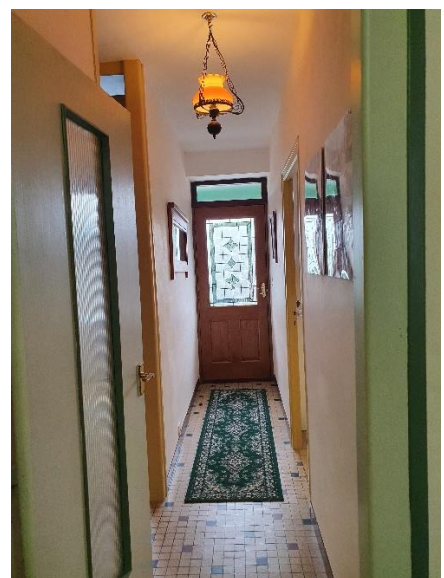
Bedroom No 1



Cloakroom



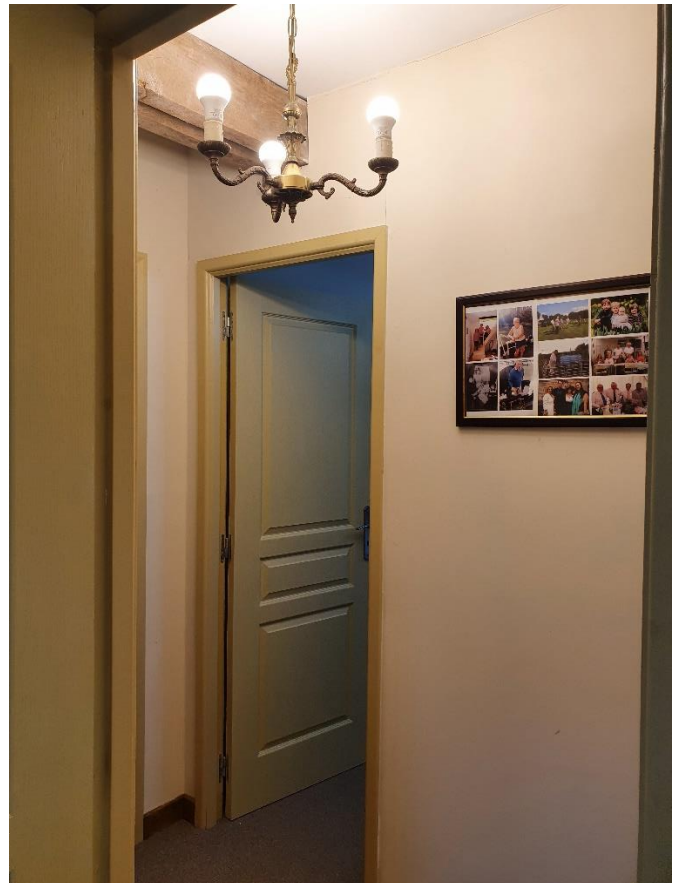
Bathroom



Hallway



Bedroom No 2



Stairs and Landing



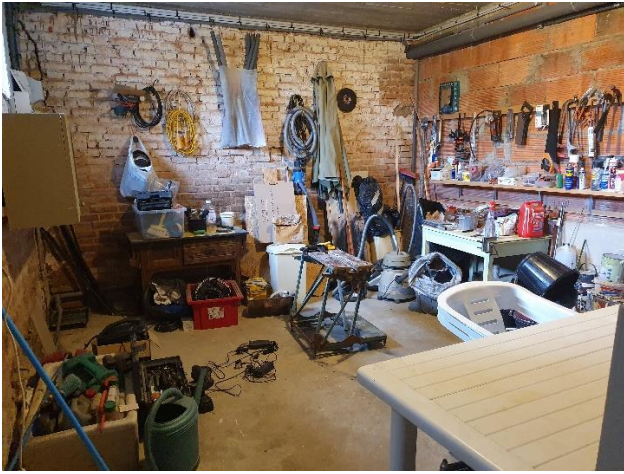
Bedroom 3 in Loft Area



Bathroom No 2 in Loft Area



Loft Recreation Area



Workshop



Cellar



Garage



Garden

The house is in good shape and we are very pleased that Ben, Kat, Daisy, Will, Paul, Kate, Elsie and Ivan had a great time there in the summer holidays. Our next visit is scheduled for May when we hope to formalize putting the house on the market. Hopefully, George, Caroline and Julie will also be able to enjoy it sometime during 2023.