

Every couple needs a workshop for making and mending.



For years we used the old shed we inherited with our bungalow. After more decades the woodworm arrived, then the rats, then one day the door fell off! It was time to re-think. Many sketches and lengthy discussions later, nothing actually happened except the presence of an ever-growing heap of old bricks. On the sunny VE day anniversary on 8th May 2020, near the beginning of the lockdown, all our neighbours socialised delightfully with tea and cakes outside our houses. We showed our neighbours our plan and they gave it their approval. The sun continued shining and in days, the old shed was recycled into wood for our stove. Underneath we were delighted to see a nice concrete base. Other neighbours gave us 25 concrete slabs that made the final base. One of our sons gave us several large old triple-glazed windows. Another



neighbour gave us an old hardwood glazed door

Early on, Mo offered to help with the concrete mixing, and it became a truly joint project. Her method of using rubber gloves (as in cake mixing) worked really well. Bricklaying was next, and her light finger touch under the rubber gave a finish to her "beds" between the bricks which delight the eye. The sun continued and we worked together late into the evening as the

walls rose up.



We found something truly satisfying in bricklaying. Much of our normal day's work disappears at sunset, but the bricks are there, stronger than ever next day.



On Colin's birthday in June, the bricks were half-way up. Mo's gift was the careful drawing that inspired us to keep on going.

Now in August it is very nearly finished. (It still awaits a 260 watt solar panel)

