

Kath and Phil Walton celebrate

50 years at 55

26th June 1976 - 26th June 2026



55 Longdown Road

The First 50 Years

26 June 1976 - 26 June 2026

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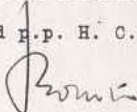
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Acknowledgements - First and foremost our lovely children, grandchildren and extended family who gave us so many fond memories. Our friendly neighbours many of whom have shared our journey. In particular our next door neighbours - Janet, David (sadly no longer with us) & Christopher at number 57 and Diana, Don, Rob & Jenny at number 53. They have been with us for most of our 50 yearsKath & Phil Walton

Kath's initial thoughts

Some things in life are meant to be. One day in the Autumn of 1975 Phil & I went for a walk around the estate. We went into the wooden builders site office just being curious. We looked at the plans of future plots and couldn't believe the generous size of them. I got very excited thinking of all the possibilities a big garden could bring.

Everything went smoothly and before too long the deal was done and we were the proud owners of the plot. Building commenced and the house was completed by June 1976. As well as a new house we also had a baby on the way so the saying "new home new baby" was very true.

H. C. Janes (Homes) Ltd		H.C. JANES (HOMES) LTD	
CONTRACTS FOR EXCHANGE		REGIONAL OFFICE: 1165 Melton Road, Syston, Leicestershire. Telephone: Syston 5490	
REGIONAL OFFICE: 1165 Melton Road, Syston, Leicestershire. Telephone: Syston 5490		VARIATION SHEET NO. 0002	
Estate (02/0253) Firs Plot 0510 Type Bromley		Estate (02/0253) Firs Plot 0510 Type Blenheim	
Postal Address 55 Longdown Road, Congleton, Cheshire.		Purchaser Mr. P. Walton, 2 Naseby Road, Congleton, Cheshire.	
Purchaser Philip Walton Kathleen Walton		Variations	
Address 2 Naseby Road, Congleton			
Occupation Engineer			
Price of House		Advance required £11,000	
Price of Land		Deposit paid £50.00	
Total Contract Price £		Ack. Slip No. C. 560	
17,500		To Price Adjustment as agreed Credit £1,000	
Garage Yes inclusive			
Space Heating Boiler and Radiators			
Increased price clause operative /not operative			
Solicitors Name and Address Mr. J. Hamilton, Blunt, Hayward and Berry, Bank House, 54 High Street, Congleton, Cheshire.			
Building Society and Branch (H) The Leek, Westbourne and Eastern Counties Building Society, 21 High Street, Congleton.			
Source of enquiry (E) Category (B125)		Credit £1,000	
Date contracts forwarded 10th December 1975		31st May 1976	
Distribution: Purchaser Head Office Sales Waltons Site Sales Plot File		Signed P.P. H. C. JANES (HOMES) LTD  Date: 10th December, 1975	
		Distribution: Purchaser Head Office Sales Site Sales Plot File Site Foreman Head Office Accounts Department J. Johnston	
		Date 17th February, 1976	

What a difference a week made!

Correspondence with Janes
builders in early 1976 -
also an advert from the
Crewe Chronicle in June
1976

H. C. JANES (HOMES) LTD
Builders & Estate Developers

Reg Office: P.O. BOX No. 5, JANES HOUSE, LUTON, BEDFORDSHIRE, LU2 7XJ
Telephone: Luton 31181 - TELEX 82297 - Registered in England No. 783323

**The
JANES
Group**

Please reply to: REGIONAL OFFICE: 1165 MELTON ROAD, SYSTON, LEICESTER LE7 8JR
Telephone: Syston 5490

Mr. P. Walton,
2 Naseby Road,
Congleton,
Cheshire.

3rd February, 1976

Dear Sir,

Plot 510 First Estate, Congleton

Now that you have entered into a contract to purchase the above property, we take this opportunity of enclosing our confirmation of sale note which please check for accuracy.

Possession of the property usually follows from seven to ten days after it has been surveyed, but this point is dealt with more fully in the accompanying booklet of Advice to Purchasers, and we draw your attention in particular to the authority you will require in order to obtain the keys.

We wish to advise you that we are still awaiting planning approval from the Local Authority for the change of house type from a Blenheim to a Bromley and we expect this to be approved within the next 14 days. On receipt of this we shall then proceed with the construction of your property.

Solicitors have been instructed to proceed with the legal matters in connection with your purchase and we are at your service to assist in every way possible.

Yours truly,
P.P. H. C. Janes (Homes) Ltd.

J. Souster
Regional Manager
North Midlands Region

H. C. JANES (HOMES) LTD
Builders & Estate Developers

Reg Office: P.O. BOX No. 5, JANES HOUSE, LUTON, BEDFORDSHIRE, LU2 7XJ
Telephone: Luton 31181 - TELEX 82297 - Registered in England No. 783323

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Telephone: Syston 5490

Mr. P. Walton,
2 Naseby Road,
Congleton,
Cheshire.

17th February, 1976

Dear Sir,

Plot 510 First Estate, Congleton

Further to our correspondence regarding your purchase of the above and your recent discussions with our Mr. Symonds concerning the House type which is to be built on this plot.

We are pleased you have seen your way clear to accept the Blenheim type as previously approved, as you are aware in view of Building Regulation requirements there would have been a lengthy delay in the supply of joinery to the Bromley type.

For your information we have attached amended confirmation of sale documentation indicating the reversion to the Blenheim type.

Assuring you of our personal attention at all times.

Yours truly,
P.P. H. C. Janes (Homes) Ltd.

J. Souster
Regional Manager
North Midlands Region

Encs.

H. C. JANES (HOMES) LTD

P.O. BOX No. 5, JANES HOUSE, STOPSLEY GREEN, LUTON LU2 7XJ Tel: Luton 31181 Telex 82297

Mr. P. Walton
2 Naseby Rd.
Congleton, Cheshire

Deposit against Plot
510 Congleton. 50.

Subject to Contract

No. HSG1 0768
The Company's official receipt only will be recognised
Date 17.2.76
Received from Mr. P. Walton
per pro. H. C. JANES (Homes) LTD.
£50.00
With thanks

(G.34)

copy for retention

H. C. JANES (HOMES) LTD

FINISHING SCHEDULE

REGIONAL OFFICE:

1165 Melton Road,
Syston, Leicestershire.
Telephone: Syston 5490

Estate (02/025) First Congleton

Plot 0510 Type Blenheim

Purchaser Mr. P. Walton, 2 Naseby Road, Congleton, Cheshire.

Requirements:

1. Gas/Electric point for cooker
2. Fireplace and/or Hearth Standard
3. Decorations - Internal

	Woodwork	Walls	Ceilings	Floor Tiles	Remarks
Hall, stairs and landing	STANDARD WHITE	Magnolia	STANDARD WHITE	MEM 501	Stairs and Landing NOT floor tiled
Kitchen	STANDARD WHITE	Buttermilk	STANDARD WHITE	MEM 510	
Lounge	STANDARD WHITE	Magnolia	STANDARD WHITE	MEM 501	
Dining Room	STANDARD WHITE	Magnolia	STANDARD WHITE	MEM 501	
Bedroom 1	STANDARD WHITE	Buttermilk	STANDARD WHITE	-	
" 2	STANDARD WHITE	Buttermilk	STANDARD WHITE	-	
" 3	STANDARD WHITE	Pale Yellow	STANDARD WHITE	-	
" 4	STANDARD WHITE	Pale Yellow	STANDARD WHITE	-	
Bathroom Upstairs	STANDARD WHITE	Iceberg	STANDARD WHITE	-	
Downstairs	STANDARD WHITE	Sandstone	STANDARD WHITE	MEM 102	

Distribution:

Purchaser
Site Sales
Plot File
Site Foreman (2)

Checked and agreed

Purchaser's signature _____

Date _____

25th February, 1976/IB

Janes

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For
Life**

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Tel. Syston 5490

If your standards are as high as ours, come and inspect our super homes. We've built them to last a lifetime, and it shows. Experience and care are rare qualities, but we think you'll find them on our estate at
FIRST ESTATE CONGLETON.
Tel. Congleton 2562

3 Bedroom Houses with garages £28,610
2 Bedroom Bungalows £28,960
3 Bedroom Linked Houses with part central heating and Carport £28,580
3 Bedroom detached houses with garage £17,105
3 Bedroom detached bungalows with garage £14,515

Sales Office open daily, including weekends.
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★ NHBC Top-up Cover
★ Maximum Mortgages Available.



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of the
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2/25 x

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H. C. Janes (Homes) Ltd

CONTRACTS FOR EXCHANGE

REGIONAL OFFICE:
1165 Melton Road,
Syston, Leicestershire.
Telephone: Syston 5490

Estate (02/0253) Firs Plot 0510 Type Bromley
Postal Address 55 Longdown Road, Congleton, Cheshire. Elevation
Purchaser Philip Walton Occupation Engineer
Kathleen Walton
Address 2 Naseby Road, Congleton

Price of House	
Price of Land	
Total Contract Price £	17,500
Garage Yes inclusive	
Space Heating Boiler and Radiators	

Advance required £11,000
Deposit paid £50.00
Ack. Slip No. C. 560

Increased price clause ~~operative~~ / not operative

Solicitors Name and Address Mr. J. Hamilton,
Blunt, Hayward and Berry,
Bank House, 54 High Street, Congleton, Cheshire.

Building Society and Branch (H) The Leek, Westbourne and Eastern Counties
Building Society, 21 High Street, Congleton.

Source of enquiry (E) Category (B125)

Date contracts forwarded 10th December 1975 Estimated Completion Date 31st May 1976

Distribution: Purchaser Head Office Sales
Waltons Site Sales
Plot File
Signed P. H. C. JANES (HOMES) LTD
Date: 10th December, 1975

H. C. JANES (HOMES) LTD

Reg. Office: P.O. BOX No. 5, JANSEL HOUSE, LUTON, BEDFORDSHIRE LU2 7XJ
Telephone: Luton 31181 · Telex 82297 · Registered in England No. 789328

The
JANES
Group

Please reply to: REGIONAL OFFICE: 1165 Melton Road, Syston, Leicestershire LE7 6TR
Telephone: Syston 5490

Mr. P. Walton,
2 Naseby Road,
Congleton,
Cheshire.

10th December, 1975

Dear Sir, Plot 510 Firs Estate, Congleton

We are writing to confirm that we have prepared and forwarded draft contracts to our Solicitors who in turn will pass them on to the Solicitors nominated by you. You will appreciate that the above property cannot be held in your name indefinitely and we are therefore prepared to wait 4 weeks for an exchange to be effected. This information will also be passed on to your Solicitors.

It is noted that you have paid a deposit of £ 50.00 subject to contract. The total deposit required when contracts are signed is 10% of the purchase price of land and building unless requested variations exceed this figure, when the deposit must be increased to cover their cost.

In the event of any unforeseen difficulties arising, please contact our office - 1165, Melton Road, Syston, Leicestershire, LE7 6TR.

Assuring you of our personal attention at all times.

Yours truly,
P. H. C. JANES (HOMES) LTD

J. SOUSTER
Regional Manager
North Midlands Region

No. HSG10768

The Company's official receipt only will be recognized

Date 11.12.75

Received from

per pro. H. C. JANES (Homes) LTD.

£50 :-

With thanks

(G.34)

(G20)

Firs Estate, Congleton

Plot 510 PRICE £17,500 Approx.



The
JANES
Group

THE BLENHEIM

A SPACIOUS
FOUR BEDROOMED HOUSE

The
JANES
Group

THE BLENHEIM

A SPACIOUS
FOUR BEDROOMED HOUSE

THE BLENHEIM



	Imperial	Metric
1. Dining Room	11' 4" x 12' 3"	3 500 x 3 200
2. Lounge	11' 4" x 12' 3"	3 372 x 3 012
3. Kitchen	10' 6" x 10' 6"	3 097 x 3 200
4. Cloaks	5' 8" x 4' 1"	1 660 x 1 260
5. Fuel Store	15' 10" x 6' 3"	4 800 x 1 885
6. Hall	17' 9" x 9' 0"	5 180 x 2 738
7. Garage	17' 9" x 9' 0"	5 180 x 2 738
8. Lobby	13' 10" x 9' 10"	4 270 x 3 035
9. Bedroom 1	13' 10" x 9' 10"	4 270 x 3 035
10. Bedroom 2	13' 10" x 9' 10"	4 270 x 3 035
11. Bedroom 3	13' 10" x 9' 10"	4 270 x 3 035
12. Bedroom 4	13' 10" x 9' 10"	4 270 x 3 035
13. Bathroom	6' 9" x 9' 4"	2 029 x 2 851
14. Linen Cupboard	6' 9" x 9' 4"	2 029 x 2 851
15. Landing	13' 9" x 4' 11"	4 150 x 1 450

A spacious four bedroomed house. The large lounge can be combined with the dining room to provide an interesting 'L' shaped through room.

Leading off the hall but with direct access to the dining room is a kitchen fitted with melamine covered units. Also off the hall is a cloakroom with handbasin and low level toilet.

A gas boiler in the kitchen provides domestic hot water and heats the radiators and towel rail/radiator in the bathroom.

Luxury specification includes:

- Stylish kitchen units with doors and drawers faced in laminated plastic and working surfaces topped in the same material.
- Stainless steel sink top.
- Choice from selected range of colours of bathroom suite and tiling.
- Choice from superior range of thermo-plastic floor tiles.

PRICE including Freehold Land and Road Charges.

LEGAL CHARGES will be paid by the Company in accordance with the accompanying notice. These particulars and drawings provide only a brief description of the property, and are not to be taken as part of any contract. Elevations may vary from plot to plot.

H. C. JANES (HOMES) LTD · JANSEL HOUSE · LUTON LU2 7XJ

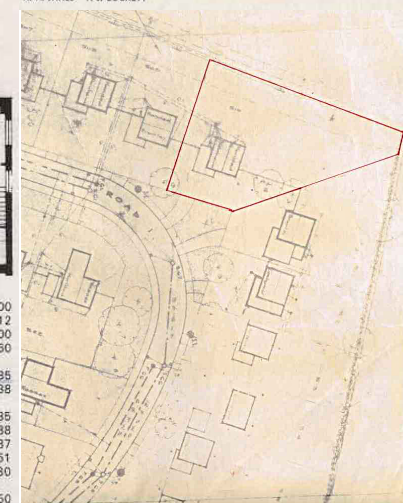


THE BLENHEIM



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15. Landing	13' 9" x 4' 11"	4 150 x 1 450

DIRECTORS: LESLIE B. SELL, M.B.E., F.I.O.B. (Chairman) R. C. JANES, F.I.O.B. H. W. JANES, F.I.O.B. A. BEBBINGTON (Secretary)
K. A. JANES F. L. LOCKETT



H. C. JANES (HOMES) LTD

Builders & Estate Developers

Reg. Office: P.O. BOX No. 5, JANSSEL HOUSE, LUTON, BEDFORDSHIRE, LU2 7XJ
Telephone: Luton 01181 - TELEX 82297 - Registered in England No. 783323

Please reply to: REGIONAL OFFICE: 1165 MELTON ROAD, SYSTON, LEICESTER LE7 8JR
NM/EK/1B/FE/510 Telephone: Syston 5490

Mr. P. Walton,
2 Naseby Road,
Congleton,
Cheshire.

3rd February, 1976

Dear Sir,

Plot 510 Firs Estate, Congleton

Now that you have entered into a contract to purchase the above property, we take this opportunity of enclosing our confirmation of sale note which please check for accuracy.

Possession of the property usually follows from seven to ten days after it has been surveyed, but this point is dealt with more fully in the accompanying booklet of Advice to Purchasers, and we draw your attention in particular to the authority you will require in order to obtain the keys.

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Solicitors have been instructed to proceed with the legal matters in connection with your purchase and we are at your service to assist in every way possible.

Yours truly,
p.p. H. C. Janes (Homes) Ltd.

J. Souster
Regional Manager
North Midlands Region

Encs.

DIRECTOR: LESLIE B. SELL, M.B.E., F.I.O.B. CHAIRMAN: R. C. JAMES, F.I.O.B. H. W. JAMES, F.I.O.B. A. BEBBINGTON, (SECRETARY) E. A. BRYANT

H. C. JANES (HOMES) LTD

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Mr. P. Walton,
2 Naseby Road,
Congleton,
Cheshire.

18th December, 1975

Dear Sir,

Re Plot 510 Firs Estate, Congleton

In answer to your letter of the 12th December re the price for the above property. We are prepared to offer you this property for the sum of £16,500 on the condition that we receive signed contracts by the 31st January 1976.

We cannot offer a satisfactory explanation why the Leek, Westbourne and Eastern Counties Building Society valued the property at £15,000 in view of the plot being twice as big as any previous plot and inflation affecting our building costs.

We would be obliged if you would inform us of your intentions as early as possible.

Assuring you of our personal attention at all times.

Yours truly,
p.p. H. C. Janes (Homes) Ltd.

J. Souster
Regional Manager
North Midlands Region

The
JANES
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H.C. JANES (HOMES) LTD

VARIATION SHEET NO. 0002

REGIONAL OFFICE:
1165 Melton Road,
Syston, Leicestershire.
Telephone: Syston 5490

Estate (02/0253) Firs Plot 0510 Type Blenheim

Purchaser Mr. P. Walton, 2 Naseby Road, Congleton, Cheshire.

Variations

To Price Adjustment as agreed Credit £1,000

Credit £1,000

Distribution: Purchaser
Head Office Sales
Site Sales
Plot File
Site Foreman
Head Office Accounts Department
J. Johnston

Date 17th February, 1976

FIRS ESTATE CONGLETON
Tel. Congleton 2562



4 BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSES WITH GARAGE AND CH.
FROM £14,395



3 BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOWS WITH GARAGE AND CH.
FROM £13,365

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H. C. JANES (HOMES) LTD.
Regional Office,
1165 Melton Road, Syston,
Luton, Tel. Syston 5490.

WE PAID UP TO £125
TOWARDS YOUR
LEGAL AND
MORTGAGE
COSTS

H. C. JANES (HOMES) LTD

Builders & Estate Developers

Reg. Office: P.O. BOX No. 5, JANSSEL HOUSE, LUTON, BEDFORDSHIRE, LU2 7XJ
Telephone: Luton 01181 - TELEX 82297 - Registered in England No. 783323

Please reply to: REGIONAL OFFICE: 1165 MELTON ROAD, SYSTON, LEICESTER LE7 8JR
NM/EK/1B/FE/510 Telephone: Syston 5490

Mr. P. Walton,
2 Naseby Road,
Congleton,
Cheshire.

17th February, 1976

Dear Sir,

Plot 510 Firs Estate, Congleton

Further to our correspondence regarding your purchase of the above and your recent discussions with our Mr. Symonds concerning the House type which is to be built on this plot.

We are pleased you have seen your way clear to accept the Blenheim type as previously approved, as you are aware in view of Building Regulation requirements there would have been a lengthy delay in the supply of joinery to the Bromley type.

For your information we have attached amended confirmation of sale documentation indicating the reversion to the Blenheim type.

Assuring you of our personal attention at all times.

Yours truly,
p.p. H. C. Janes (Homes) Ltd.

J. Souster
Regional Manager
North Midlands Region

copy for retention

H. C. JANES (HOMES) LTD

FINISHING SCHEDULE

REGIONAL OFFICE:
1165 Melton Road,
Syston, Leicestershire.
Telephone: Syston 5490

Estate (02/0253) Firs Congleton Plot 0510 Type Blenheim

Purchaser Mr. P. Walton, 2 Naseby Road, Congleton, Cheshire.

Requirements:

1. Gas/Electric point for cooker
 2. Fireplace and/or Hearth
 3. Decorations - Internal
- Standard

	Woodwork	Walls	Ceilings	Floor Tiles	Remarks
Hall, stairs and landing		Magnolia		NORM 501	Stairs and Landings NOT floor tiled
Kitchen		Buttermilk		NORM 510	
Lounge		Magnolia		NORM 501	
Dining Room		Magnolia		NORM 501	
Bedroom 1		Buttermilk		-	
" 2		Buttermilk		-	
" 3		Pale Yellow		-	
" 4		Pale Yellow		-	
Bathroom upstairs		Iceberg		-	
W.C./Cloakroom/downtstairs		Sandstone		NORM 102	

Distribution: Purchaser
Site Sales
Plot File
Site Foreman (2)

Checked and agreed
Purchaser's signature
Date

25th February, 1976/IB

(G19)

H. C. JANES (HOMES) LTD

Builders & Estate Developers

Reg. Office: P.O. BOX No. 5, JANSSEL HOUSE, LUTON, BEDFORDSHIRE, LU2 7XJ
Telephone: Luton 01181 - TELEX 82297 - Registered in England No. 783323

Please reply to: REGIONAL OFFICE: 1165 MELTON ROAD, SYSTON, LEICESTER LE7 8JR
NM/EK/1B/FE/510 Telephone: Syston 5490

Mr. P. Walton,
2 Naseby Road,
Congleton,
Cheshire.

25th February, 1976

Dear Sir,

Plot 510 Firs Estate, Congleton

A furnishing schedule covering the selection of decorations, floor tiles and fireplace for your house is enclosed.

As this forms the basis of our instructions to site staff will you be good enough to check it to see that it conforms with your requirements. Please advise us of any error or omission when returning the checked and signed copy of the schedule in the envelope provided.

Yours truly,
p.p. H.C. JANES (HOMES) LTD.

J. Souster
Regional Manager
North Midlands Region

H.M. LAND REGISTRY

CH

ORDNANCE SURVEY
PLAN REFERENCE

SJ8363

SECTION

COUNTY CHESHIRE

CONGLETON DISTRICT

SOMERFORD
PARISH

LONGDOWN ROAD

MERE





Goodbye to 2 Naseby Road. Top left photo late 1975 all the others early June 1976 includes final lawn trim, tomatoes ready for moving, resting and posing by the front door



Construction of Number 55 on Plot number 510 -- February to June 1976





The photo's above shows a Houghtons van hired for the day with Fred and Dave loading at 2 Naseby Road and Phil with Dave unloading at 55 Longdown Road. Above on the right is the view from the front lounge window as it appeared on 26th June 1976. The final picture here shows the back of 55 just after we moved in. Winnie is with Kath and Phil and the tomato plants thriving during the 1976 drought. The back of the garage provided access to a "Fuel Store". The boiler was wall hung in the Kitchen on the back wall.







photo's on the opposite page start with Kath leaving Longdown Road on the 13th July 1976 on her way to the Maternity unit at Macclesfield West Park Hospital (before the West Park and Infirmary hospitals combined) James arrived the following day. He can be seen leaving West Park with Kath. The arrival pictures at number 55 include the kitchen with it's "Hygena" kitchen units, the corner of the lounge and outside of the back door. On this page we see Toby dog who arrived around the same time as James.





The photo's on these two pages date from 1976 - 1977. Includes James sitting up enjoying the sun (Edit this is Mary out of sequence, sorry!) - the greenhouse being rebuilt by Phil & Rob after a new base installation. Christening in Biddulph Road Chapel (now a house) & Christmas 1976





James helping with leveling the lawn also shows a massive roller borrowed from somewhere and a scaffold pole left by the builders being used as a washing line post.



James - memories:-
55 Longdown Road

My thoughts by James Phillip Walton age 49 and three quarters.....

Favourite room?

After considering many options I have settled on the dining room. This is where we had the original Sunday Lunch, Christmas dinner and birthday parties. All of the main family moments were around the dinner table there.

Favourite spot?

2 main options - the lawn directly behind the house and the tree that used to be outside the garage that was the perfect shape to wash and repair my bike against. The lawn used to be used for everything and was big enough to play football, cricket, camp and have all the old gym frames and things.

The tree was a spot that I used for many hours fixing and washing bikes with all the bits I kept in the corner of the garage.

Best home-cooked meal?

Either Sunday dinner - Roast Beef or Christmas dinner

Old furniture you remember well?

The grandad chair that I now have...and I now know is not a 1 off piece of furniture!

The rug in-front of the fire i used to play cars on

The bang & olufsen TV

My Captain bed

The door that was made into a desk

The kitchen table we fought over the foot rest at

Winter memory?

Eating ham and salad cream toasties while watching scores come in on ceefax

Making snowmen in the garden and on the field

Summer memory?

Watching the FA Cup final with the curtains drawn and watching the '86 World Cup with the shadow across the pitch

Birthday parties in the garden

What's the biggest difference between how it looked when you were 10 versus how it looks today?

It is so much more modern, there was more carpet and warm wood that gave it a much different feel to the hard floors and white

Best feature of the house?

The openness - the french windows into the garden from the dining room

Practically - The driveway and the caravan parking area

The greenhouse has always been great for tomatoes

The garden in general

The window from the back bedroom overlooking the garden and the farm is an underrated feature

Being able to move around in a circle, not living in a box was amazing

Mary - memories:-
55 Longdown Road

My thoughts by Mary Kate Walton (as was) James's little sister....

Favourite room?

The lounge

Favourite spot?

The rug by the fire and in the kitchen looking what's in the fridge!

Best home-cooked meal?

Sunday roast dinner - specifically the yorkshire puddings and then Mum's apple pie

Old furniture / things you remember well?

The maroon sofas, the tiled top coffee table made by grandad, small kitchen stools, the captain's chair, the built-in wardrobes in my bedroom. The spongy wallpaper in the hallway and lounge that we could peel bits off. The red front door.

Winter memory?

Christmas Day mornings waiting to go downstairs together when we were allowed. Sitting on the rug by the fire watching tv - Last of the Summer Wine

Summer memory?

Playing outside and in the garden - on the climbing frame, spinning on the bars. Obstacle courses made by Dad. Going round the paths - up and around the side of the greenhouse.

What's the biggest difference between how it looked when you were 10 versus how it looks today?

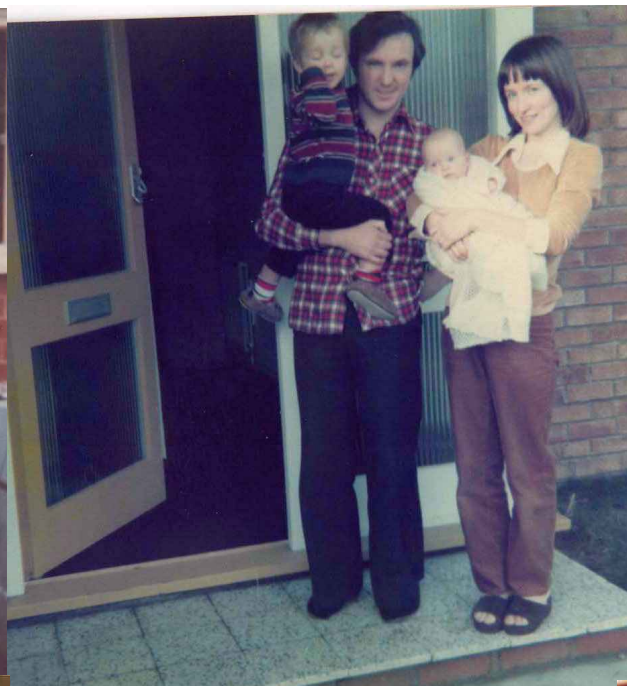
I think it's much tidier now! The furniture and everything has been upgraded too since we left home.

Best feature of the house?

The garden, and curved driveway. Views from the back - peaceful and quiet.

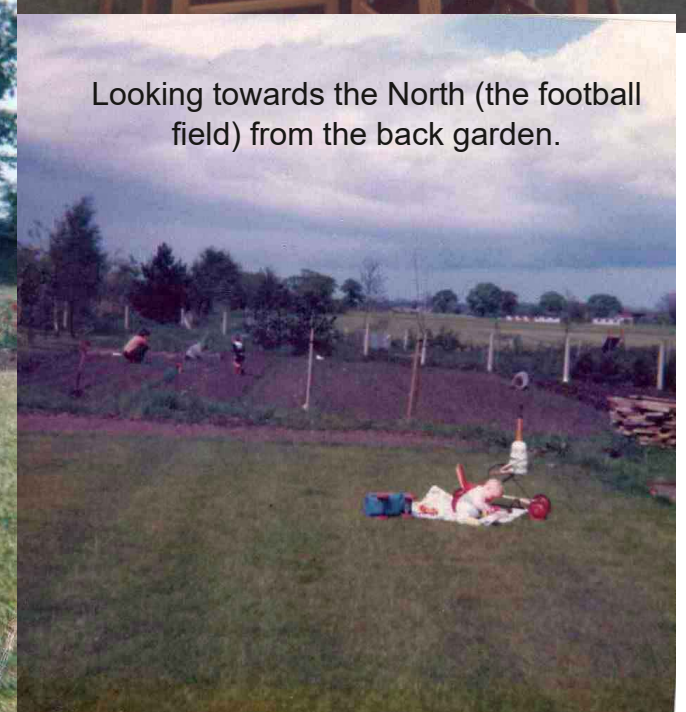


Leaving Congleton War Memorial. The nurse handing over Mary is Gwen Brown the step daughter of Mabel Brown (Phil's God Mother!)



Here comes Mary. 1978 and the house at number 55 has hardly changed. Opposite James's 3rd birthday party.







1979 - 1980 - The garden is taking shape and the first shed appears. made with second hand timber from Rushton Spencer and Wavey Larch Lap boards from Macclesfield Forest.



The early 80's were full of childrens parties and Foster children (see next page). The garden improved and a home made conservatory was added behind the original garage.



Memories - Fostering

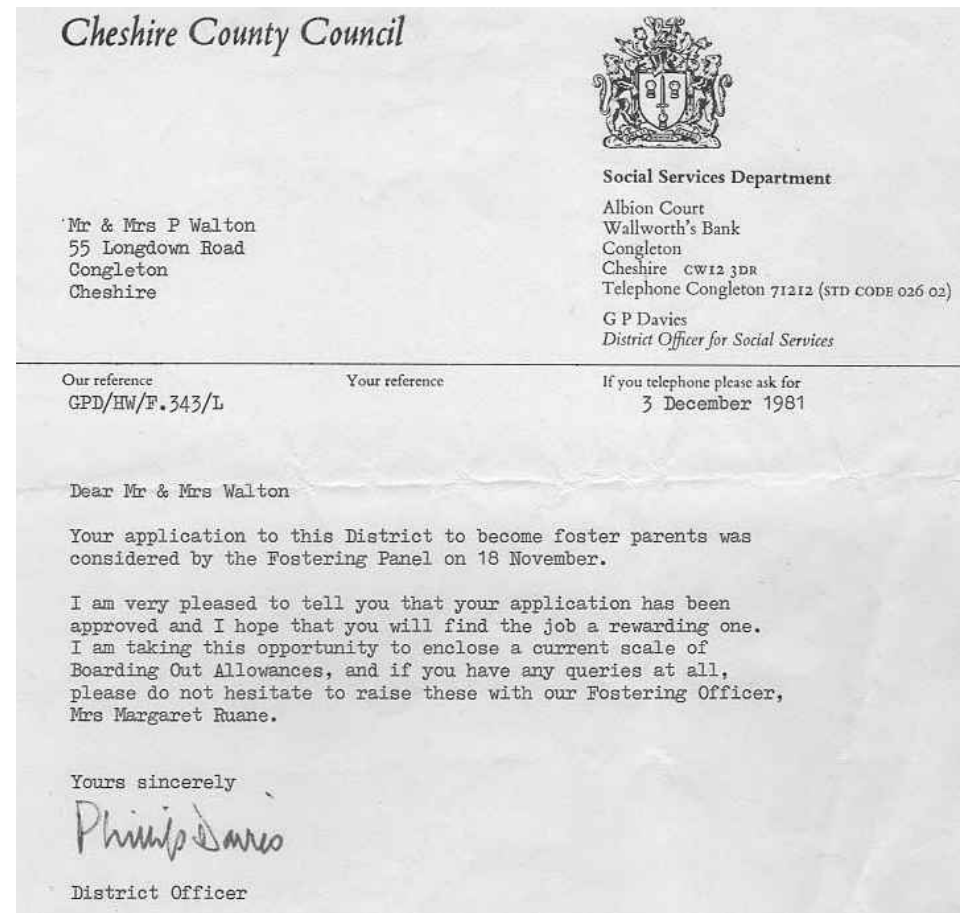
55 Longdown Road - Foster Home - thoughts of Kath & Phil :-

During 1980/81 we talked about becoming foster parents and joined a group of other prospective foster carers for training and assessment. At the end of 1981 we recieved a letter copied here which set us on our way. Before this happened and while Kath was teaching at Cranage Hall Hospital school we gave respite care for one of her students, Vincent was 5 and stayed with us over one Christmas and for a few weekends. We believe it was challenging and very rewarding for all of our family. There weren't many children arriving but when it did happen it was always taxing. First to arrive in 1982 were a brother and sister Simon (age 3) and Susan (age 10 months) for a short stay after they had been placed for adoption. They were happy smiling children - keeping them together was definitely the best option. An abiding happy/sad memory was Simon's love of ice cream, a big smile when the sweet flavour arrived but this was short lived as he winced in pain when the ice cream hit his rotting teeth. We then cared for Anne as part of "Home from Home" respite care, Anne had Cerebral Palsy which was testing for Anne's parents. Anne was primary school age and was able to undertake some activities including joining her local Brownies.

Philip (age 10) came to stay with us late in 1983. Philip was a lookalike for broadcaster/DJ Chris Evans. He was part of a large family who were having trouble controlling him. During his change of scenery with us there were no real issues, he was lively though and in need of time and support. He attended Black Firs School especially liking Maths and we gave him an electronic "maths type" electronic puzzle game at Christmas which he liked. He also went with us to a pantomime show at the Theatre Royal in Hanley (a foster carers outing trip). Fortunately he was able to spend Christmas with his family before going back home in the new year.

Lee (age 7) was a cheerful "knockabout" sort of child, he was also part of a large family and attended a special school leaving each morning in a taxi.

Lyn (age 4) arrived in a whirlwind. The whirlwind stayed with us until Lyn left. She didn't seem to pick up on the needs of others, Chaotic visits to the Stoke Garden Festival and the expressions on other visitors faces watching Lyn in action in the childrens play area will always remain with us!



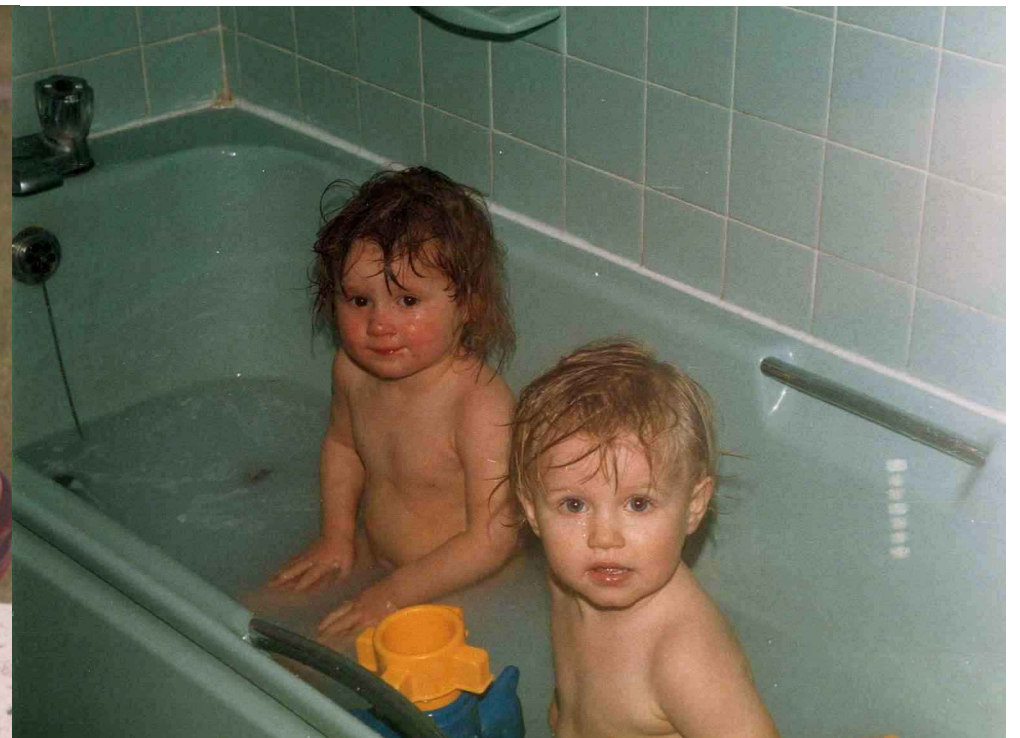
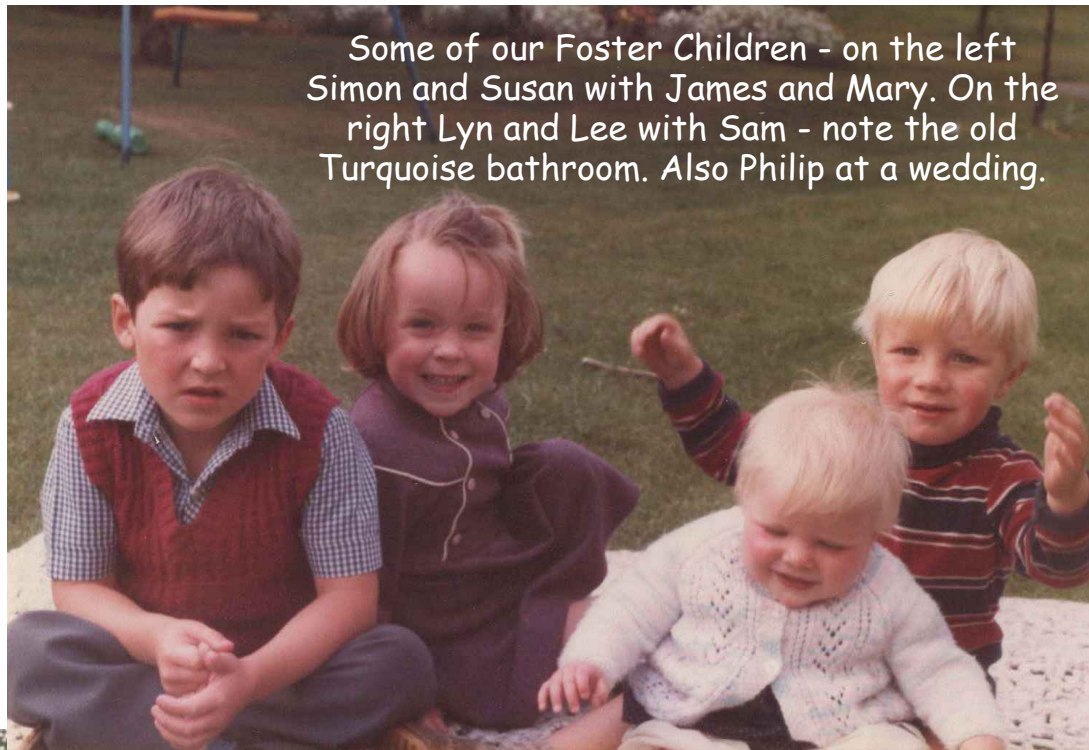
(Baby) Jonathan (Age 7 months) stayed with for a few days while his mother was in hospital

Danny (age 3) was with us for a short time, this followed an accident at his home and he arrived needing some time elsewhere.

Robert (age 4) had physical disabilities and came for respite care - he was very smiley and very popular with our own children.

We decided that it was time for us to stop fostering. However, one day we had a request as a 15 year old girl who had home problems needed a place to live until she finished school at 16 when other options would be available. At that time James was 16 and Mary 14. Joanne's time with us was extraordinary and her time with us deserves a separate entry - see entries for 1993

Some of our Foster Children - on the left Simon and Susan with James and Mary. On the right Lyn and Lee with Sam - note the old Turquoise bathroom. Also Philip at a wedding.



Sam - memories:-
55 Longdown Road

My thoughts by Samantha Jane Walton (as was) - the girl with the big brother and big sister

Favorite Room?
The Lounge

Favourite spot(s)?

Where I used to play on my
Sega Mega Drive in the lounge.
Also the grass path beside the Greenhouse

Best home-cooked meal?

Roast Beef Dinner - especially Mum's Yorkshire Puddings
Dad's Omlettes - also the way Dad spread butter to the edges of the bread for sandwiches.

Old furniture you remember well?

The kitchen table where James and Mary were always arguing over the foot rest.

The Maroon heavy curtains

The alcove by the front door - always full of things

The Dresser with the blue cups and plates

Record player on the cabinet with all the records and tapes underneath.

Very heavy metal TV remote with orange font. (Edit - Bang/Olufson)

Picture by the toilet that used to scare me everytime. (edit - see photo above - actually a nice old photo of Margaret Bowers)



Winter memory?

Toasties on Sunday's with Ceefax on in the background
All walking down together on Christmas day mornings and in age order. I was always first and turn the lights on - exciting.
Santa Claus coming on Christmas eve ringing his bell up the driveway.

Games that Dad and Uncle Dave did on Boxing Day (Edit - There were two "Treasure Hunts" alternating each year on Boxing Day & New Years day)

Summer memory?

Being in the garden on the blue slide.

Going up and down the drive on my blue tractor.

Riding my Coco bike with Jen (Edit - Jenny Fletcher lived next door - they had identical bikes and identical head bands!)

Pooch the dog with pink fluffy ears.

Obstacle courses with canes and plant pots.

What's the biggest difference between how it looked when you were 10 versus how it looks today?

More modern, fresher feel, more organised.

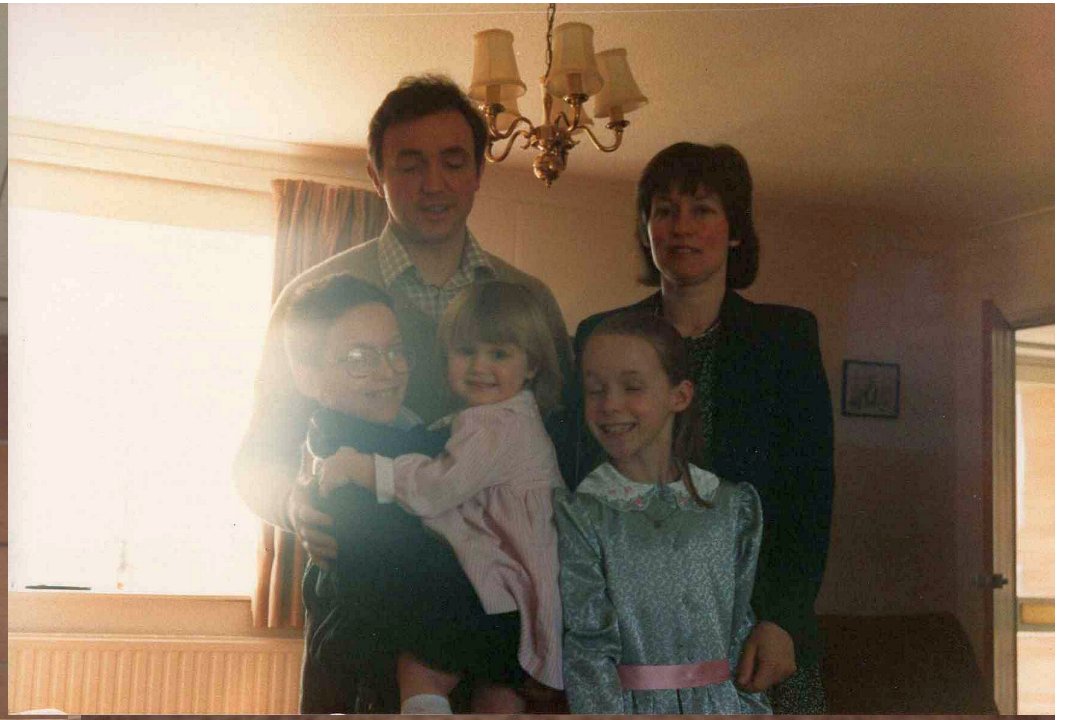
Best feature of the house?

The garden.

Access to back lane through the gate. (Edit - gate that opens onto the playing field and gives access to track (footpath behind the garden)

French door to patio.

View at the back of the house



1984
Sam arrives in September. .



1985



Camping out photo shows old patio door





Samantha's Christening

Cousins

Family
Guests

All Guests



The back garden of 55 Longdown Road about 1989
Back Row - Ray Walton, Megan Walton, George Kennedy, Kath Walton, Harold Walton, Miles Walton, Emma Walton, Dave Walton, Lorna Walton, Bill Mayer
Front - Phil Walton, Mary Walton, James Walton, Sam Walton, Ada Walton, Julia Kennedy.



©waltonsfamilyhistory.co.uk



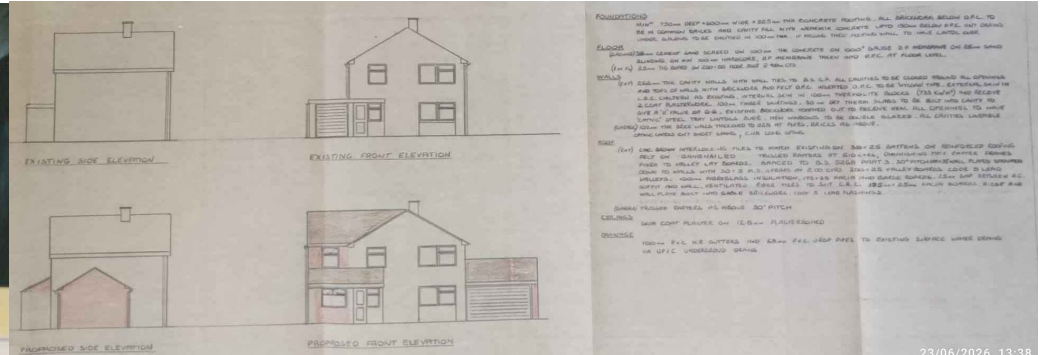


1986

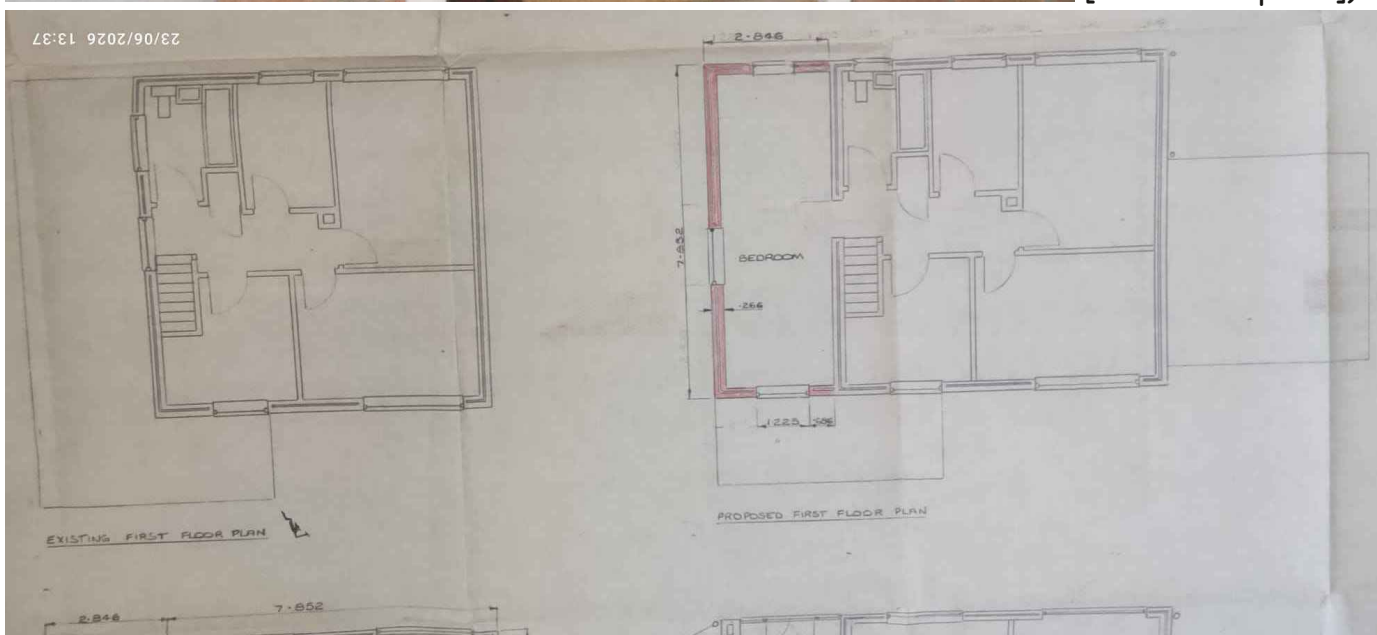
A large photo showing what was often chaos in the back garden -- a well constructed shed but built with cheap materials - the long softwood fence difficult to keep upright - the "ramshakled" compost bins - the natural stone crazy paving flags which came direct from a quarry in Pott Shrigley - the vague boundary between the flower and vegetable gardens - one of many apple trees which produced loads of fruit..

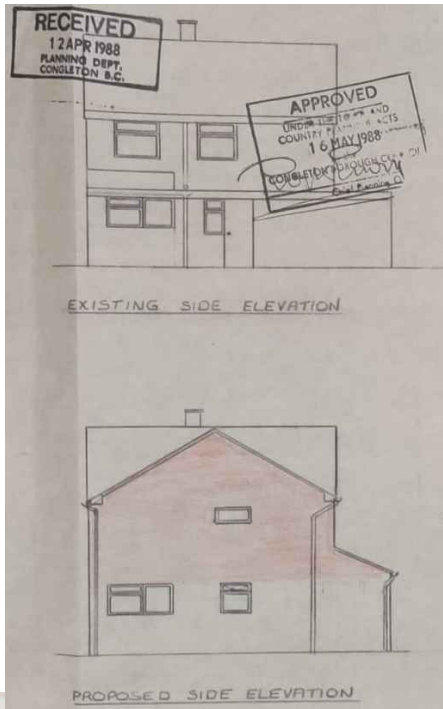


The two lower photos are in the back garden Sam and Jenny riding identical (Poppet) bikes, James is with Danny one of our foster children in the front garden.



1988
 Sam is off to school
 Phil is back to a
 drawing board with
 advice on building an
 extension from
 friends Fred and
 Rex (a building
 expert at Hartford
 [Phil's workplace])





Town and Country Planning Acts, 1971 and 1972

Application No. (for official use only)

Householder Planning Application

Use this form only if you want permission to extend your house, or to erect other buildings for domestic purposes within the boundary of the property.
FOUR COPIES OF THIS FORM AND THE PLANS ARE REQUIRED (PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS)

Applicant (in block capitals)		Agent (if any) to whom all correspondence will be sent (in block capitals)	
Name	P. WALTON	Name	P. WALTON NONE
Address	55 LONGDOWN ROAD CONGLETON, CH13 9QH	Address	
Tel. No.	0260 277243	Tel. No.	

1 Address or location of proposed work.
55 LONGDOWN ROAD CONGLETON

2 Are you the: Owner? ☒ Lessee? ☐ Prospective Purchaser? ☐ (please tick appropriate box).

3 Description of proposed work
ERECT ATTACHED GARAGE AND BUILD OVER EXISTING GARAGE TO FORM BEDROOM AND STUDY.

4 State type and colour of proposed:
a) exterior wall facings L.B.C. 'CHILTERN' BRICKS AS EXISTING (RED)
b) roofing materials 'MARLEY' INTERLOCKING CONCRETE TILES (BROWN)

5 Do you propose:
Construction of a new access to a highway? (pedestrian ☒ vehicular ☐
Alteration of an existing access to a highway? (pedestrian ☒ vehicular ☐

6 Do you propose to fell any trees? ☒ Yes ☐ No If Yes, indicate the positions on the plans referred to below.

Plans
Attach to each form the following plans:
A. A location plan to a scale of not less than 1/2500 (preferably on an Ordnance Survey base) showing your site edged in red and relationship to neighbouring properties.
B. A block plan to a scale of not less than 1/500 showing existing buildings on the site. Clearly indicate the proposed buildings/works and the distance to site boundaries.
C. Detailed plans of any building or other constructional works, to a scale of not less than 1/100 (or 1/8 inch to a foot).

Certificate and Fee
Please indicate the certificate and fee enclosed (see notes)
Certificate ☒ A ☐ B Fee £33

NOTE: The appropriate certificate and fee must accompany this application.

Formal Application
I hereby apply for planning permission to carry out the development described in this application and the accompanying plans, and in accordance therewith.

Date 11th APRIL 1988 Signed P. Walton



Below a trench is dug alongside the old garage and conservatory so a new puside wall can be constructed. Spot the "Piper" caravan!





The new garage takes shape, the old shed moved in readiness. Sam and Robert admire Kath's sunflowers.





1988 Converting a garage into a room. Above Harold and Phil are removing the old garage roof. Below Phil is laying a new floor ready for the new "downstairs" room and a nearly finished photo.



23.2.89	Remainder Templebriest	Stoddard	453.50	14,913.78
21.2.89	Paint	B+Q	13.98	14,927.77
15.2.89	Mask / Gouge rake	Payless	3.22	14,931.05
23.3.89	Cushion Floor	Carpet World	54.90	14,985.95
8.4.89	Door knobs	Magnet	25.28	14,991.23
8.4.89	Door Knob / Woodstrip	Texas	20.00	15,011.23
18.4.89	Paint	B+Q	7.99	15,019.22
-	Decorating materials	Various	20.00	15,039.22
March '89	Curtain Rails	Wodworth	19.00	15,058.22
8.4.89		B+Q	6.94	15,065.16
8.4.89	Wharf Plumbing	Valves.	2.76	15,067.92
12.4.89.	+ " " "		1.62	15,069.54
14.4.89	Various	Shed	115.39	15,179.93
26/4/89	Carpet Fitting	Golden	25.00	15,204.93
	Tredure		35.00	15,239.93

Above and below are pages 7 & 8 of our meticulous spending records. Inflation was very high in the 70s peaking in 1975 at 24.2%, so (mostly by chance) the timing of our purchase of 55 was perfect. Our records show that the cost of the extension in 1988/9 was more or less equal to the original purchase cost of the house in 1975/6. Still time for birthdays.

c.f.				15,179.93
21.3.89	Base White	Shed	1.11	15,181.04
14.1.89	Bartol. Gou.	"	0.75	15,181.79
17.12.89	Sand / Cement	"	13.05	15,194.84
16.12.89	Cement	"	3.43	15,198.17
15.11.89	Cement	"	3.43	15,201.60
20.1.89	Yorkshire Goup	"	0.70	15,202.30
			*	15,262.30
29/4/89	North Lodge Timber	Wardrobe Shelves	17.59	15,279.89
" " "	Wharf Plumbing	(Timer)	31.45	15,311.34

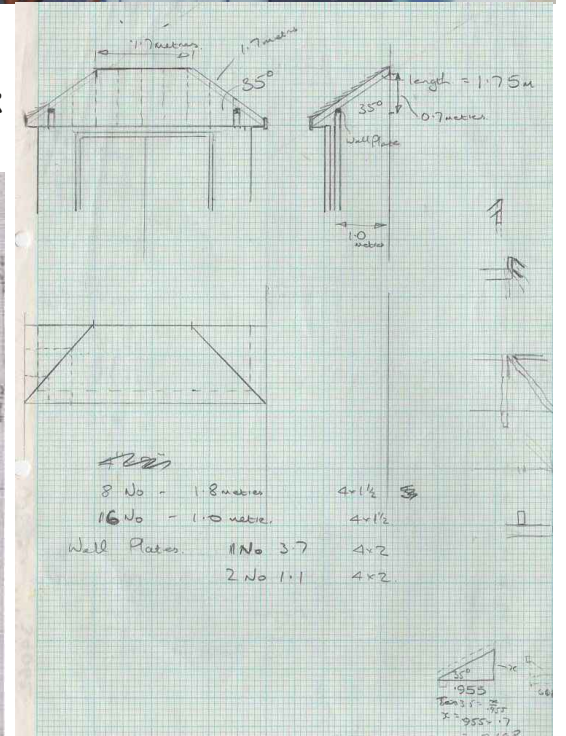
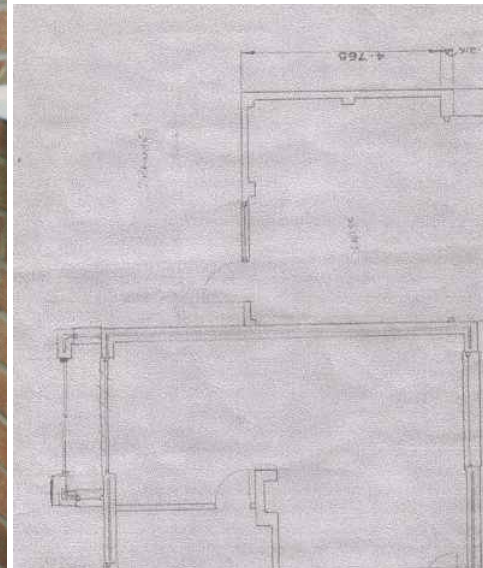






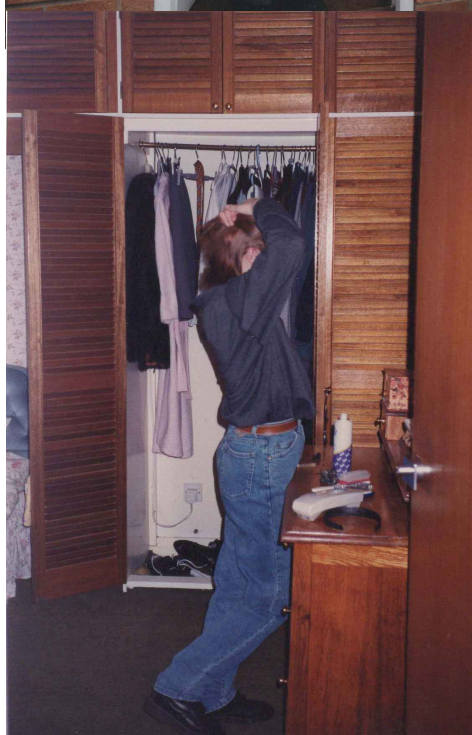


1991 Extension
No planning needed - Phil
labouring & Brian back for brick
laying





1992
James's last day at school and in the "Winchmore" kitchen. Patio building with brick walls and paving blocks. Sam's hamsters arrive.





1993 Joanne

An earlier entry, around 1980, covered fostering at number 55. Joanne our final foster placement happened in 1993 when Joanne was 15. Joanne moved into the room at the front of the house downstairs. She was confident, bubbly and very popular, her age midway between James and Mary so three lively mid-teenagers in the house (or not in the house!). Jo's family problems meant that she needed somewhere to stay until she became 16 when other options would be available. It was good to hear of her progress after she had moved on and she visited us with her young son as a proud mother a few years later. Despite her confidence she was camera shy so all but one of her pictures are in on the opposite page and taken when six of us visited Brittany for a summer holiday in a mobile home rented off one of Kath's work colleagues and Jo became very relaxed. However on one occasion Jo came back to the caravan very upset and distraught. Together with James and Mary they had set off seeking a disco they had heard of and Mary had become detached from Jo. Mary did soon return soon and safely as we expected, it did though highlight the togetherness that I felt existing during Jo's time with us. I recall another occasion Jo returning home early one evening anxious to talk to Sam in a caring way about a story Sam had mentioned that she had been reading at school. There was another supporting gesture of Jo's towards one of her friends in the same school year. Her friend had disagreed with her parents so Jo secretly arranged to sneak her friend into our house to sleep (in a sleeping bag) in Jo's room. It only happened once or twice before all was resolved (discovered!).



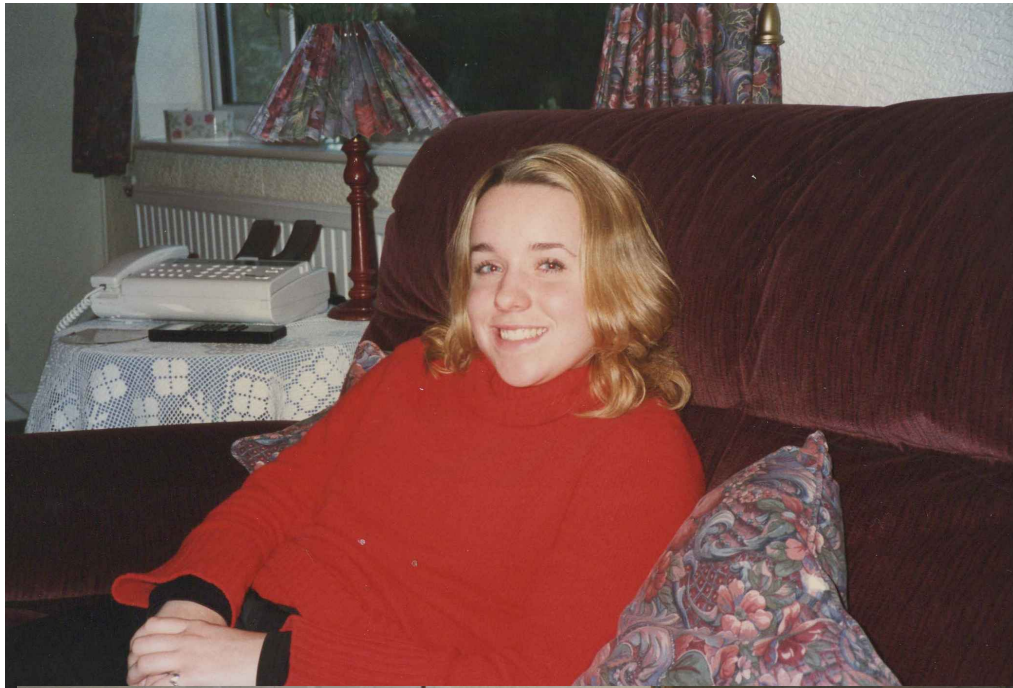


1994
Sam is 10
Mary is 16
Kath is 42



1995





1996 - Mary 18
Sam 12





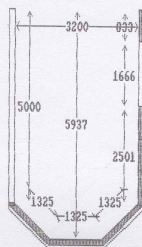
1996 - 1997
Last days - Sam at Black Firs, Mary
at Heathfield - James is 20 and with a
Triumph Acclaim



Ver 6.21 PJ Harrison

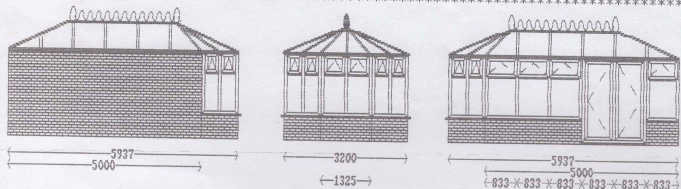
CUSTOMERS NAME
CUSTOMERS ADDRESS
TODAYS DATE 24/11/1998
JOB NUMBER
***** DELIVERY DATE *****

Base Layout

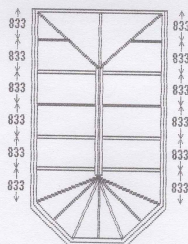


Area enclosed	16.77 m ²
Perimeter of wall	7.31 m
Height of wall	600 mm
Area of brickwork	8.77 m ²
Angles at front	135°
Angles at end of side	135°

CUSTOMERS NAME
CUSTOMERS ADDRESS
TODAYS DATE 24/11/1998
JOB NUMBER
***** DELIVERY DATE *****



Ht to ridgebeam	2212 mm
Roof pitch	25°
Overall ht	2950 mm
Truss rise 1	1700 mm
Height of wall	600 mm
Midrail height	600 mm
Ridge length	2800 mm
Record No	80



Elevation dimensions with solid lines show dimensions to the rear of cills.



1998 - plans for new conservatory



1998 - 1999 Deceptive calm?



1999



24th June 1999

Celebrating the 80th birthday of Ada Walton (Yates)
From the left Neil Shenton, Eric Foden, Irene Bell,
Kath, Pam Shenton, Alan Bell



2000 and the conservatory is built - and so is a new fireplace



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Telephone/Fax: (01260) 297194 • E-mail: PJH297194@aol.com
V.A.T. Registration No.: 576 7675 15

06 January 2000

Dear Mr Walton,

Thank you for your further enquiry. Please find detailed below our revised quotation for the work as discussed with our representative during our visit to your home.

To Supply and Fit

Victorian Conservatory approx size 3200mm x 5000mm

£9978.03 incl. VAT

Specifications

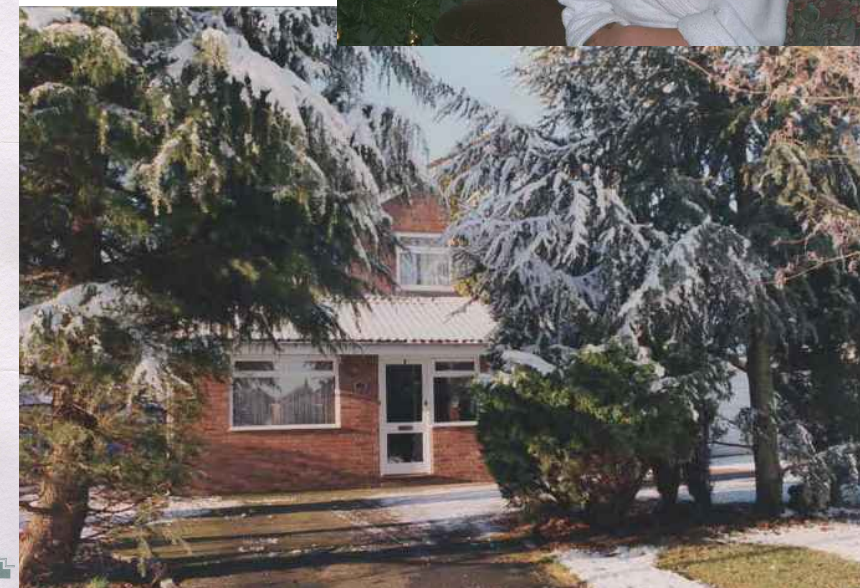
All frames to be "Spectus" internally glazed, white PVCu, with aluminium reinforcing to manufacturers specification. Door locking mechanism to comprise of six point lock, two rollers, two hook bolts, one latch and one dead bolt. All glass to be 4/16/4 cavity, with toughened safety glass to doors and lower panes and to be from the " Pilkington" clear or textured range, excludes acid etched "Orial" range. Roof to be "Ultraframe" pre-ventilated ridge system with colour co-ordinated trims.

Yours sincerely,
P.Harrison.

Please note our new address: 2nd Avenue, Radnor Park Industrial Estate, Congleton, Cheshire, CW12 4XS

Reply to confirm 25/1/00
Builder to visit 29/1/00 - 1:30

Directors: P. Harrison, J. Harrison Registration No.: 2563866





2001





2002
Sam is 18
Kath & Phil 30th Anniversary
Megan, Ray Cody Sam over
from Canada. Jenny & Dave





2003

Removal of the
"old" shed,
Sophie Eve Bell
visits with
mother Helen and
Grandmother
Irene

Out with the Winchmore "Maple" kitchen
In with the IKEA "Adel" kitchen
Brother Ray over from Canada assisted with the new Lintel install
He was also much better than Phil at plastering





2005





2006 Hello Jacob
and Isabella Pinkett with Kath



**Jacob - memories:-
55 Longdown Road**

My thoughts by Jacob Walton Williams (first Grandchild of Kath & Phil Walton)

Favourite room?

Study because I used to play on the computers in there all the time with Isaac.

Favourite spot?

The garden because it's so big to play proper football

Best meal at Granny's?

Jacket potato cheese and beans

Old furniture toys or clothes toys you remember well?

I don't have a toy but a thing I do remember and loved was a kid was the Fort.

Earliest memory of Granny's house?

I kicked a tree on the front of the house and ran away from a wasp nest and got stung twice.

Favorite activity game inside and outside?

Has to be playing football with William

Winter memory?

Building snowmen with the kids in the garden

Summer memory?

Not quite summer but doing the egg hunt at easter time with everyone

What's the biggest difference between how it looked when you were younger to how it looks today?

Upgraded a lot of things like the furniture in the lounge and a newer kitchen

Best thing about Granny's house?

Best place for chilling out and getting lots of Ice Cream and chocolate as a kid.

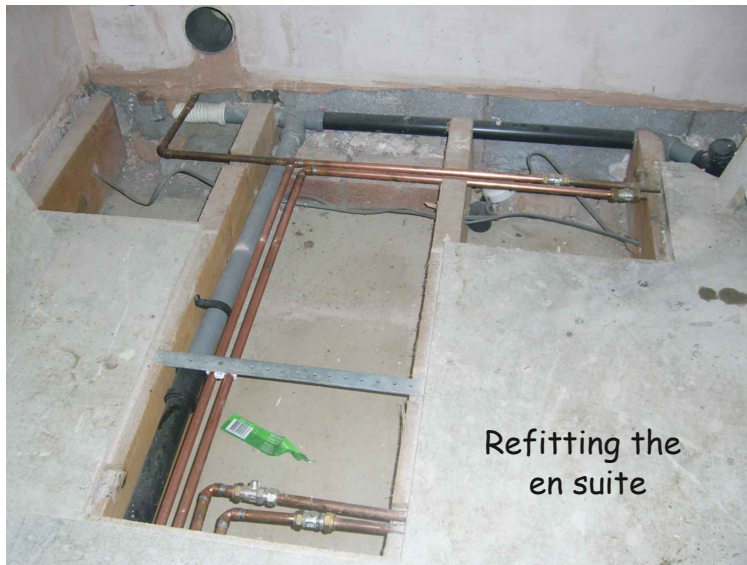
Anything else that you remember well?

That's all I think - Thank you.....Jacob



2007
Jacob visits as does little Sam





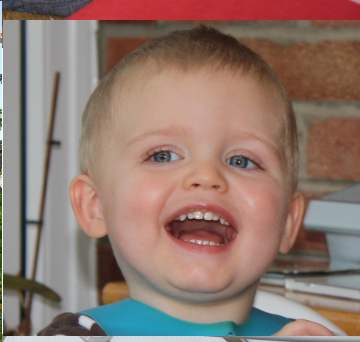
Refitting the
en suite



2008

Ben & Isabella checking on
the Hamsters >>>>





2009





2010 - Here is Isaac



Isaac- memories:-
55 Longdown Road

My thoughts by Isaac James Walton (second Grandchild and second Grandson of Kath & Phil Walton)

Favourite room?

It didn't take much deliberation to narrow it down to either the Kitchen or the Dining Room. Both hold a large array of memories – yet if I had to pick one, I would pick the Dining Room. The memory of sitting around the table with all the family to eat Christmas (or any other celebratory) dinner is something that I feel would be simply impossible to recreate.

Favourite spot?

When I was younger, probably sitting on the carpet in the living room. Some amazing memories there. As for more recently, I reckon the left side (when facing the fireplace) of the sofa immediately present on the right when you enter the living room from the front door. Always has been my favourite spot to sit in.

Best meal at Granny's?

I feel more so that the best meal wasn't for the meal itself (although amazing) but the memories and atmosphere of eating it. This is obviously the Christmas Dinner (specifically in the dining room).

Old furniture toys or clothes toys you remember well?

My two favourites are pretty undisputable – both the Fort that I used to play with Jacob in alongside the swings in the corner of the garden. Many memories with Molly, William and Poppy here.

Earliest memory of Granny's house?

Two things immediately pop to mind here – playing Roblox with Jacob in the study/office room upstairs, and this game I used to play

with Granny in which there would be a tray of items, before a tea towel was placed over them and one item removed at random. I can't exactly remember when either of these were, but it is as far back as I can remember.

Favorite activity/game inside and outside?

I'd say my favourite activity inside is pretty variable – most things we did were always fun. As for outside, I used to really enjoy the swings.

Winter memory?

Again, this has to go to the Christmas dinner. Nothing really beats a roast with all the comedic party hats and jokes.

Summer memory?

Playing outside in the garden – especially on the swings or the monkey bars when they were out.

What's the biggest difference between how it looked when you were younger to how it looks today?

I'd say the renovation made the largest difference. It now looks much more modern (although me personally, I do prefer this).

Best thing about Granny's house?

Easily the people. Both Granny and Grandad are some of the kindest people I've ever met and I always used to look forward to playing with my cousins. Obviously it's also a given how much I love my Dad as well.

Anything else that you remember well?

It's pretty niche but I always used to love playing and talking with Mary and Ben – especially Ben's "tickle guns" is a memory that I don't think I'll ever forget.

Thank you



2011



Here comes Molly



**Molly - memories:-
55 Longdown Road**

My thoughts by Molly Samantha Burgess (first Granddaughter of Kath & Phil Walton)

Favourite room?

Computer room upstairs

Favourite spot?

Garden

Best meal at Granny's?

Spag Bol, Salmon

Old furniture toys or clothes toys you remember well?

Pink and white dolls house, dressing up dolls, playing in the caravan

Earliest memory of Granny's house?

Walking outside in Granny's heels, being with Henry

Favorite activity/game inside and outside?

Inside computer, outside sitting with Granny and East egg huntsild

Winter memory?

Building snowmen

Summer memory?

Paddling pool

What's the biggest difference between how it looked when you were younger to how it looks today?

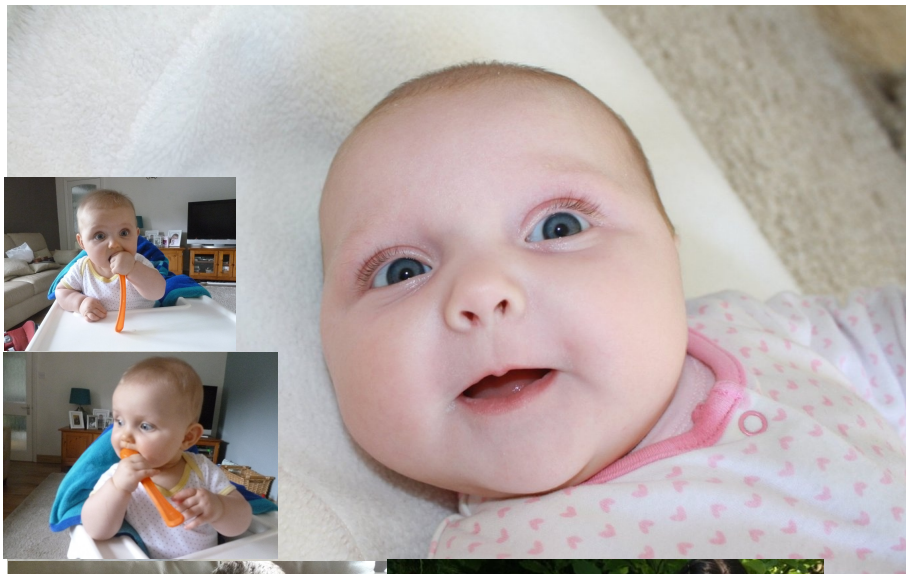
Added a door to the Conservatory

Best thing about Granny's house?

Garden

Anything else that you remember well?

Baking with Granny



2012 - The Drakeford clock should be included somewhere! - Emma's family - Anne, Frank and Claire visit & the Cherry in spring





2012 Ruby Wedding





2013



William - memories:-
55 Longdown Road

My thoughts by William Thomas Burgess (third Grandson of Kath & Phil Walton)

Favourite room?

Computer room upstairs

Favourite spot?

Conservatory

Best meal at Granny's?

Christmas dinner - yorkshire pudding

Old furniture toys or clothes toys you remember well?

Lego, red bike, fort, going round the house on the back of the bike when Molly rode it. (Edit - for a photo of this go forward four pages)

Earliest memory of Granny's house?

Being with Henry

Favorite activity/game inside and outside?

Inside computer, outside outside football, riding my bike.

Winter memory?

Mum pulling me in my red sledge in the snow in the back garden

Summer memory?

Playing football

What's the biggest difference between how it looked when you were younger to how it looks today?

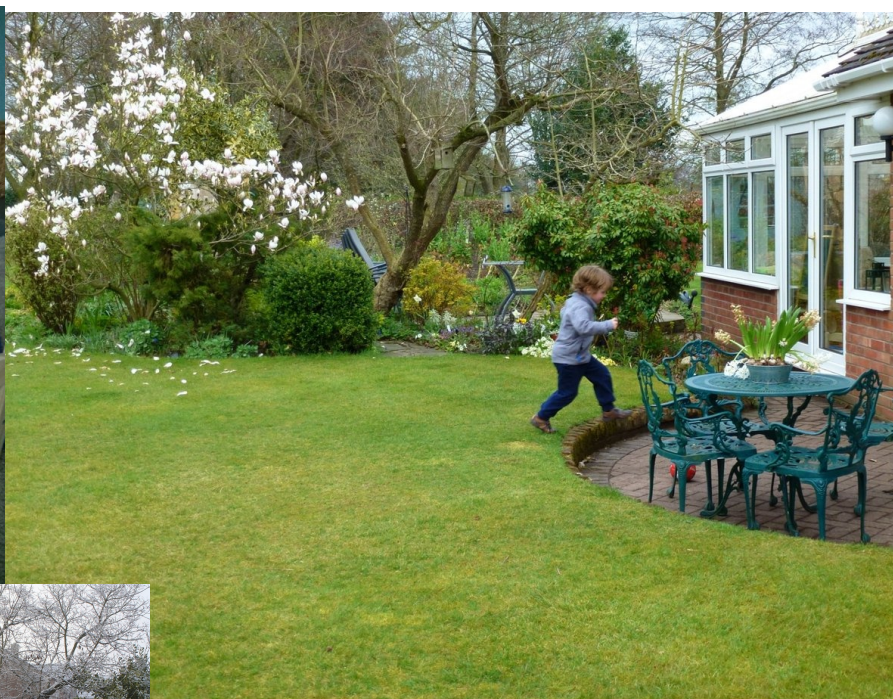
Different kitchen

Best thing about Granny's house?

The Garden

Anything else that you remember well?

Baking with Granny, Easter egg hunt



2013-2014

Poppy - memories:-
55 Longdown Road

My thoughts by Poppy Jaqueline Kate Burgess (second
Granddaughter of Kath & Phil Walton)

Favourite room?

Computer room

Favourite spot?

Garden with J

Best meal at Granny's?

Egg and bacon

Old furniture toys or clothes toys you remember well?

Playing in the caravan

Earliest memory of Granny's house?

Being with Henry

Favorite activity/game inside and outside?

Talk to Granny and Grandad football

Winter memory?

Building snowmen

Summer memory?

Bouncy Castle party. When the ball got hit in my face by Uncle Ben

**What's the biggest difference between how it looked when you
were younger to how it looks today?**

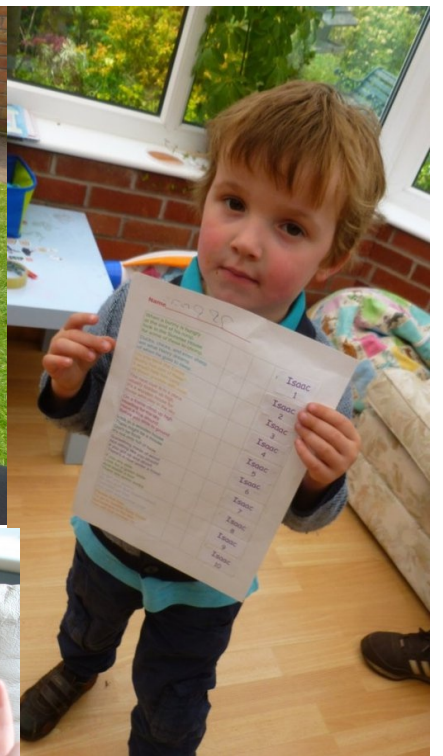
More pictures in the hall now and then

Best thing about Granny's house?

Back garden and biscuit tin. Grannys lollys.

Anything else that you remember well?

Easter Egg hunt decorating Granny's christmas tree



2014





2014-2015





2015





2015

2016





2016 - 2017





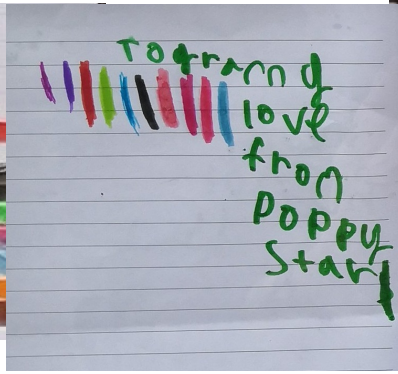


2018 -2019





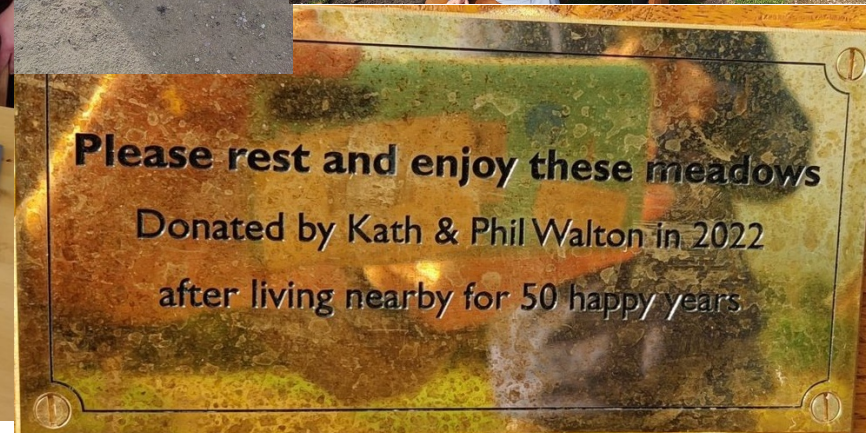
2020







2022
Includes our sponsored
Rheads Meadow bench





2022-2023



A flood while we are in Thailand



2023-2024
More flood pics





2025





2026



Phil's final thoughts - "bring on the next 50!"



Some assorted pictures that missed the main book. Clockwise from top left James just arrived, the big vegetable garden, Ada & Harold 1976, James & Mary dancing & reading, Sam walking @ 11 months, ready for the spring fair in 1986, building the porch in 1987, Mary's birthday party.

