



La gare de Sos  
47170  
Sainte Maure de Peyriac  
France

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## Lee & Tracey "Green for Go France" Newsletter



Primrose Princess...*nous profitons du soleil*

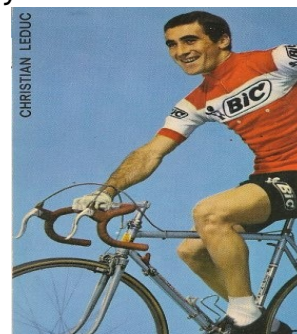


The verges & banks are carpeted in primroses just now and Daffers is doing a lot of "flopping down" on our walks as the temperatures rise. We don't appear to have any bluebells around here though and Tracey is really missing harvesting wild garlic which was abundant in Shropshire at this time of year.

Feels like we haven't stopped all year - another busy month with some bigger jobs being tackled as well as the continuous sanding and decorating. We have done some major excavating to start managing the land drainage and have started excavating around the pool to extend the patio area. Additionally we have done trenching work to install our railway lamp-posts on the driveway and lots of big tree management. Lee has driven a huge Renault tractor, done lots of digging, lots of chopping and lots of burning, as well as being admonished by "The Wife" for the absence of risk assessments after hitting water pipes, drainage pipes & electric cables! The zinc work for the toilet block roof has arrived which will be one of the jobs to complete in April.



A day out & stop off on the homeward leg at Plaisance. We had been to Tarbes, at the foothills of the Pyrenees, to collect some outdoor seating - we turned up at a bar, got served a coffee & beer, and got to meet a 1968 Team BIC Paris-Roubaix rider, still going strong with the whitest teeth you've ever seen -



Seriously looked like he could still get up the Tourmalet. He even knew who Geraint Thomas was & went on to "converse" with Lee for a good 10 minutes, in French of course, about hunting in Ireland. Lee smiles & nods & throws in "Guinness" - brilliant!



Have you isolated that hun?



We have had the station and warehouse roof cleaning done to remove the accumulation of moss and hopefully prolong the life of the clay roof tiles. Tracey has revamped several pieces of furniture, some that we brought with us, others that were already here, but tired & dull looking. Working in the station waiting room is like being in an episode of Money for Nothing or The Repair Shop - (I used to have finger nails). I wanted to upcycle an old Witton & Co Piano into a wine bar but Lee couldn't bring himself to take it apart for me - he had piano lessons in his youth - even passed an exam - but sadly "pas de talent musical" in either of us so it's now gone to a couple of young lads in Sos village who were absolutely thrilled with it. We received an eye watering, whopping gas bill which had Tracey sniffing about for a gas leak - *"there must be a leak - haven't I been saying I can smell gas - obviously a leak"*. No such leak - just another extortionate utility. The heating is now off in the Warehouse and costs will hopefully balance out over the year with little use during the next 6-7 months. You pay just for the privilege of having utility accounts here - it's just cost 42 euros to set up the water account & we haven't paid for a drop yet - I could go on moaning but we're slowly accepting that the French charge for absolutely every bureaucratic process they can think of, and then barely provide a half decent service - someone ask Lee about the Gator tyre valve!

*The pic above is Lee in the pool patio excavation site - we're extending the tiles to give a wider seating area which will catch more rays. We were expecting a horde of railway treasure to be unearthed but just found a meat cleaver so far - grisly!*



*Our boy Clarence, we have some lovely tulips in this flower bed. In the back ground is "L'ancienne Station de Pompage" - or The Pump House where the water for the steam engines came from. The enormous well is still in the garden here and we'd like to make a feature of it eventually. Previous owner's dog had to be rescued by the Sapeur Pompiers (Firemen) after falling down the well - Tracey would quite like to see the Sapeur Pompiers in action - watch out Daphne & Clarence!*



*Tracey in the vines with the Welsh Dragon - denied a Grand Slam by Les Bleus, cruel, but victorious in the end. "Da lawn Cymru". Fabulous tournament.*

Thanks for reading, stay protected and we hope to see family & friends when it's safe to start travelling again, with our best wishes from Lee & Tracey, staying safe in la gare de Sos

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