

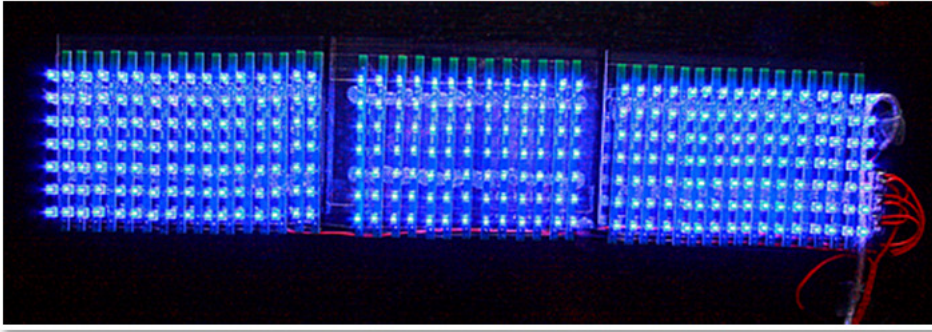
26<sup>th</sup> June...

Hi all, another month has passed by already ... so, what have we been up to ?

### Monday 27<sup>th</sup>

Darren cut and fitted the venetian blind in the ensuite.  
We are now able to use our new bathroom. Yeah !!

This one's actually the blind in the gym, same as our ensuite and guest toilet.



Darren went off to the Men's Shed. While there he made three blue LED panels. These are to go behind the TV's and give a blue glow to the wall behind. They also seem to help reduce the glare from the TV.

### Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup>

Darren surmised that the USB output on the TV may come on with the TV power, so he has made some USB cable connectors to run his blue LED panels behind the family TV. He was right and the panels now come on when you turn the TV on and switch off when you turn it off.

The blue LED strips (45 of them) are actually the backlights removed from broken LCD modules we've replaced in handheld computers at work. I just glued them all onto a piece of Perspex ... quite effective.

### Thursday 30<sup>th</sup>

Darren mounted the blue LED behind cinema TV and set up the IP switch to control the heated towel rail.

### Saturday 2nd July

Darren sanded the ceiling near BBQ and painted two coats surf mist on to it. He also painted two coats on guest toilet and gym window architrave and two coats of surf mist on ceiling on upper deck.

He mounted the two upstairs ceiling deck lights.

I cut and hemmed new sheer curtains for the laundry, downstairs toilet and bathroom, gym window and the four pool room windows.



I was going to have these pointed up, but found aimed down onto the deck gave a warmer feel.



### Sunday 3rd July

Secured hand rail on the privacy screen. We hung the sheer curtains in all upstairs rooms and rehung block out curtain in downstairs music room. Jan sewed the master bedroom sheers. Darren cut and hung venetian blind in upstairs guest toilet.

### Monday 4<sup>th</sup>

Darren organised for Council to come out and do an inspection on Monday 11<sup>th</sup>. So we are now full steam ahead to get occupancy. He also organised a skip bin to be delivered on Wednesday. I am on holidays this week, so I know what I'll be doing. I then cleaned all the new windows in the house.

### Thursday 7<sup>th</sup>

Darren had two days off, working towards occupancy inspection. I sorted out all the rubbish in back yard into piles; metal, lumber and general rubbish. I started filling the skip bin with lumber and brick rubble, taking care to pack it well and get the maximum in.

Darren used 'no more gaps' on the stairs and new architrave around guest toilet door and rehung the door. Strikers were put on all sliding doors. He cut, fit and secured the final boards on the privacy screens. We moved lumber from under back deck and put it in the gazebo.

Rod and Marion came for lunch (heading home after a holiday in Port Macquarie) they helped Darren hang the BBQ range hood. We built a back step for one of the sliding doors, levelled and laid pavers under BBQ, put the BBQ back in place and installed the security light on the garage. Darren made the man hole in WIR larger and reinforced it ready an architrave frame around it.

### Friday 8<sup>th</sup>

We had another busy day. I finished removing the rubbish from the backyard and put it in the skip. It is a full as I could get it. I then felt the need to do a little gardening and tidied up the front pavers and emptied some dirt out of pots in the backyard. Darren started moving tools, paint tins etc, out into the garage and the yellow room. He put an eave sheet back in out the front, hung security light on garage, sealed the space under the stairs with a board of MDF and sealed the back of the AV panel in the WIR. He used polyfilla to fill the gaps in the door frames of the guest toilet. Darren made the manhole frame and gave it a coat of paint. He fit the security camera at the front door and had fun making it work using the AV on the TV. He then connected the down pipe near the garage, back into the tank and reassembled the support that was there before the build.

Yeah had some fun playing with the camera.

So now, if we don't answer then ...  
I guess you're trying to sell us something.



### Saturday 9<sup>th</sup>

Darren went to a church working bee this morning and brought home the perspex door from a server rack that he had previously donated to church. This door has found a new home in our WIR covering up his wiring and networking points. Darren gave the manhole frame a second coat of paint. I washed down our bench seat and gave it a coat of polyurethane. We removed all the tins and tools out of the living areas, generally cleaned up and rearranged some furniture.

### Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>

After church we spent the afternoon putting up the manhole cover and potting around. Gary and Rhiannon came around in the afternoon and we spent some time relaxing. Darren discovered that the venetian blind for the gym didn't need to be shortened so it was put up quickly. Penny came around for dinner and sci-fi Sunday, our fortnightly sci-fi fix.

### Monday 11<sup>th</sup>

The big day has arrived. We had previously invited Josh to be here when the inspector came. He came and spent about 10 minutes looking around and gave us a conditional occupancy certificate. He will be back in 30 days to make sure that we have finished painting all the architraves and the outside of the house. That was very disappointing for Darren. It means we cannot relax just yet, but need to continue painting.

### Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>

We had a pest inspection booked in for today. The pest man came and gave us a clean bill of health as far as termites are concerned. We will have the pest people back when we put down the new sand for the pavers. They will then upgrade our termite barrier around the new section of the house.

### Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>

We have had a rest the last few days. Today was the start of painting for our next occupation inspection on the 19<sup>th</sup> August. We masked and put the first coat of aqua enamel on the gym and upstairs lounge room windows. Darren installed speakers in the garage using a new 2 channel car amp he bought. This allows him to stream music from the computer using the 3<sup>rd</sup> zone output on our Yamaha amp. We fit the flue pipes to the BBQ range hood exhaust and cooked our first BBQ for 6 months. Darren applied the 2<sup>nd</sup> coat of aqua enamel to the outside edges of the windows.



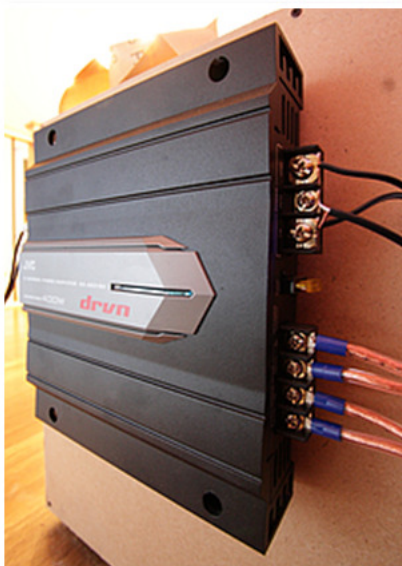
Vs.



I've found the blue tape a lot easier to use and gives better results compared to the edge tool we'd previously bought.

Trick is to paint, let it touch dry and peel tape off again within a day, take your time and have a knife handy.

As Jan mentioned I bolted a 400W car amp to the rear of the entertainment unit, hung some speakers in the Garage and made Zone3 = Garage/BBQ area. The power supply is somewhat lacking at the moment but it works and one of the Yamaha's trigger outputs is configured to turn it on/off as required.





### Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>

After church we had our first guest around to enjoy our BBQ. Darren carefully took the masking tape off the edges of the windows painted yesterday, using a sharp knife. He then applied the 2<sup>nd</sup> coat on the inside of the windows. I bought a new rain gauge and we attached it to the edge upstairs deck.



Jan's new home for her rain gauge.

Our Twin Turbine dual 90mm straight through BBQ fume extractor works well, still some end bits to fit.

### Monday 18<sup>th</sup>

I went back to work today. It was a week of staff development which helps to ease us back into Term Three. Darren removed the tape on the inside of the windows. We reattached and rehung all the curtains. Darren spent time attempting to connect the Wii to the network. After a lot of trying he finally had success.

### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>

Darren went around and touched up the painting, on the walls, where he had siliconed to seal the gaps. This needs to be done and allowed to dry properly (7days) before putting masking tape on and doing the skirting boards.



### Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>

We continued preparation for painting inside. Unfortunately, the weather, all week, has meant that no outside painting has got done. So we are sanding the door ways into the guest toilet and the new down stairs skirting boards. Darren used the mouse sander, much faster, but makes more mess. After Darren sanded, I cleaned up. I went out to a linen party in the afternoon and he had to clean upstairs. We had Josh and Liz around for an enjoyable dinner and fun time. Nerf guns are great...

Jan painted our bench seat we received 7 years ago as a wedding pressie. Came as new and has found a new home up on the deck.

Jan also did a fantastic job moving all the rubbish into the skip bin. The backyard is again starting to look like a backyard.



I reconnected the rain water tanks in prep for council inspection #1



Still some painting  
To be done externally.

And some paving,  
lower deck, some  
landscaping ...

