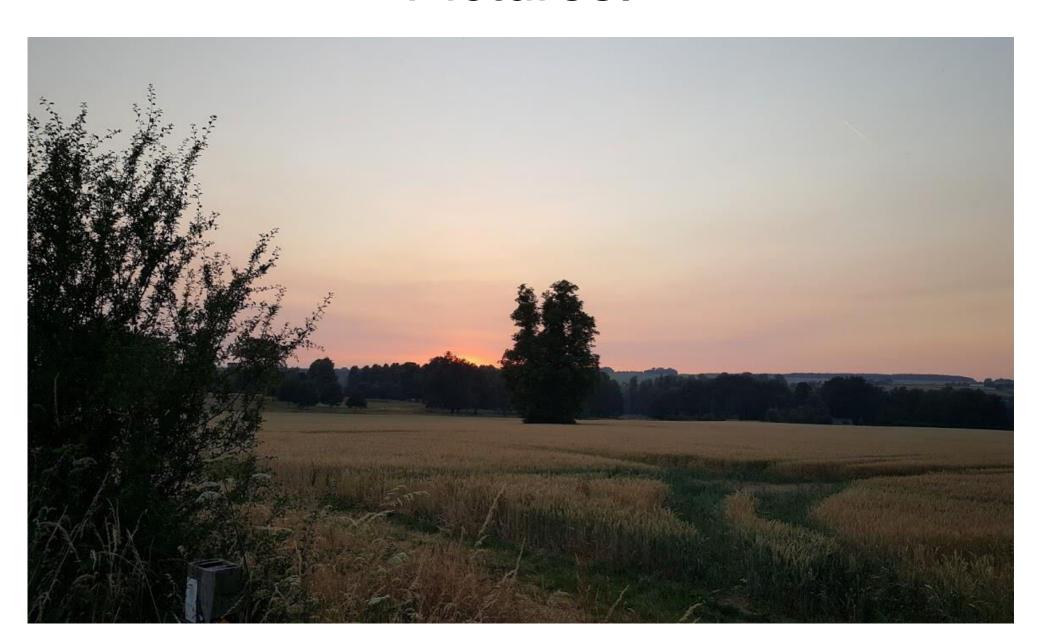
2018 – Paul's year in Words and Pictures.



January

- 1st Jan Start the year as I mean to go on with the Knacker Cracker – Britans toughest 10K – Fancy dress – 1:05:30 for 20/230
- Farnborough Half Marathon Snow Sleet and very cold 1:33:58 for 192/1620.
- Plenty of long runs and cycling in preperation for the year ahead, followed by hiding inside in front of the fire.

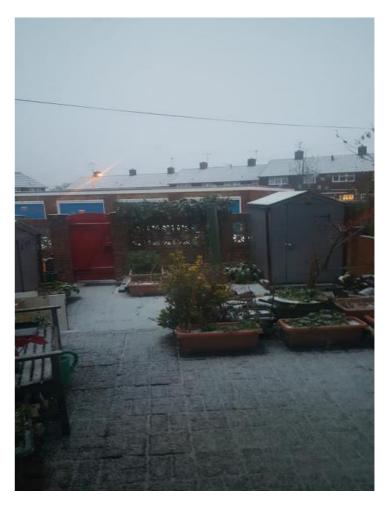
January

There's not much to show for January

 Stopped for lunch whilst out cycling,
 not sure if I can get many more clothes
 on!



Brrrrr!



Febuary

- Bramley 20 Mile 2:41:10 for 252/684 on a pretty cold and windy day – Ran at Marathon pace to see how the training was going - On track for Marathon and bang on the time I was aiming for despite being caught in the wrong place at the start.
- Not much else to report and apparently its a short month so maybe this was OK?
- My thoughts have turned towards work on the kithchen.
 Plenty of running going on so lots of time for thinking and planning.

Febuary

• Nothing to see here. The only photos are of kitchen stuff.

- Running in the Snow Not just once but twice including 16
 Miles on the day they cancelled the Reading half marathon
 due to snow The beast from the East can't stop me.
- 200k Audax The Kennet Valley run still snow on the ground but a good day out.
- Weekend away cycling Home to Podimore (100 Miles) and back – Training for London Wales London

 No sense some people – Great fun though!



This one says it all!



Emma's birthday. Mmmmm Cake!



 On the way to Podimore - 1st 100 miler of the year. Closely followed by the second to get back home again!



 Im sure thats not right, Wales 1/4 and who's the Queen Camel? seemingly lost on the way back from Podimore.



April

- Easter Weekend Weekend cycling 100 Miles to Ayelsbury and back in a monsoon – Plenty of flooding around and cycling in washing up gloves with boots full of water.
- Manchester Marathon 3:24:16 for 1530/9342 Average of 7:45 per mile – Big smile on my face after this one and very happy with the time.
- 1st weekend camping Walked along the canal from Odiham to the Canal campsite (16 Miles) cold but beautiful days out.
- Weekend cycling Home to Stroud and back (100 Miles) pretty hard going this one - Training for London Wales London

April

 Manchester Marathon – Very happy with that time – Ran well and really enjoyed the run.



 1st weekend camping – Walked along the canal from Odiham to Canal centre campsite – Cold nights but beautiful days

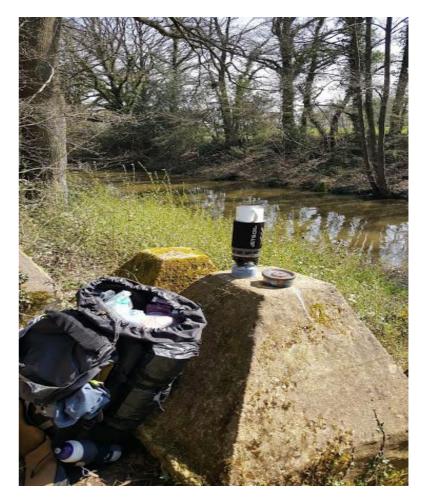


April

Chilly mornings



Luchtime brew



- London Wales London 400K Audax An amazing day out – 20 odd hours of Cycling across some stunning terrain on a beautiful day.
- Weekend camping and walking on the South Downs Way
 Beautiful hot days with cold and clear nights.
- Evening 10K 42:40 for 23/341.
- The big kitchen job Possibly the hardest I've worked for many years with a big effort from Emma too – No where near finished but livable for the time being.

 400 KM in miles – London Wales London Audax – Fun day out.



 Sun shine on the South downs (old winchester hill), tea break on the way to and from campsite.



What lifes really all about!







 Either woodpeckers or a big old drill bit. Preperation works for the kitchen job,



The only way to make a big hole –
 Big drill bit – Big boys toys!



Ready, steady, go.





Dust!



• Errrr, what have I done?



Swiss cheese ceiling.



 It only took 20 years to teach myself how to do this – Another possibly useless skill!



 Proper number of holes in the ceiling now – Couldnt have done that without Emma's help.



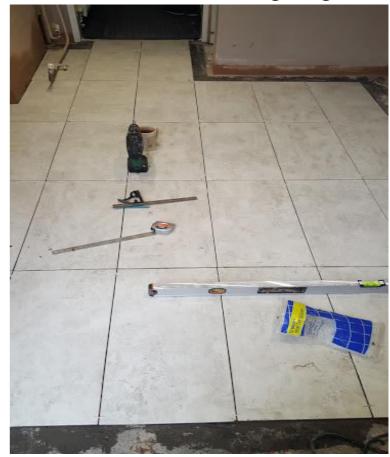
 Shame we chipped 2 of these within 2 weeks of them going in!



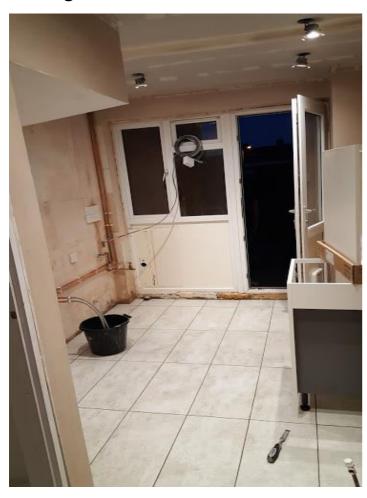
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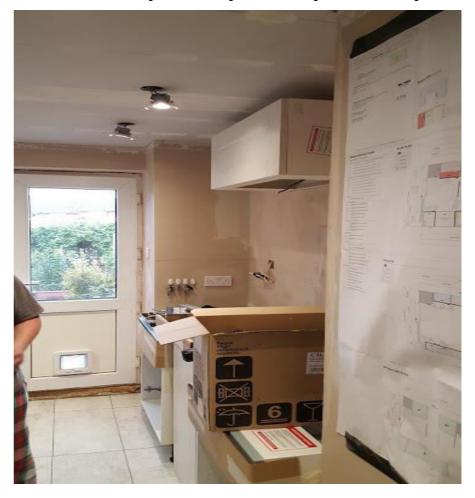
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Progress

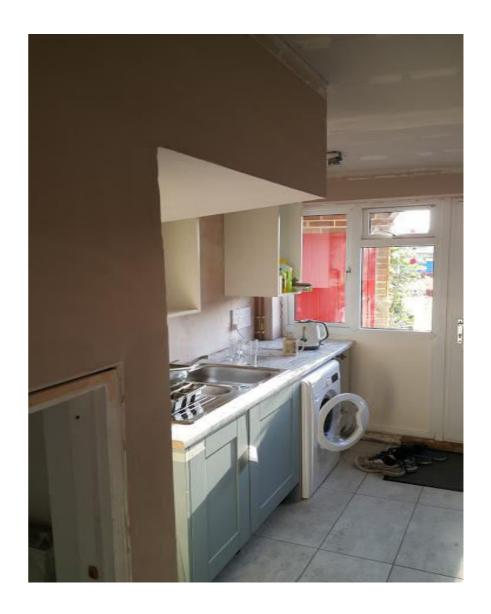


Slowly slowly catchy monkey.



 Little did we know it would take a week to get this far and another 6 months for finish.





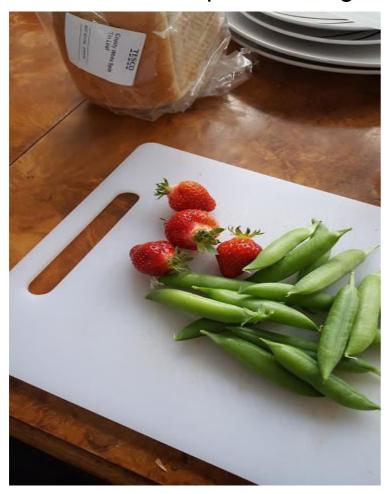
Teamwork

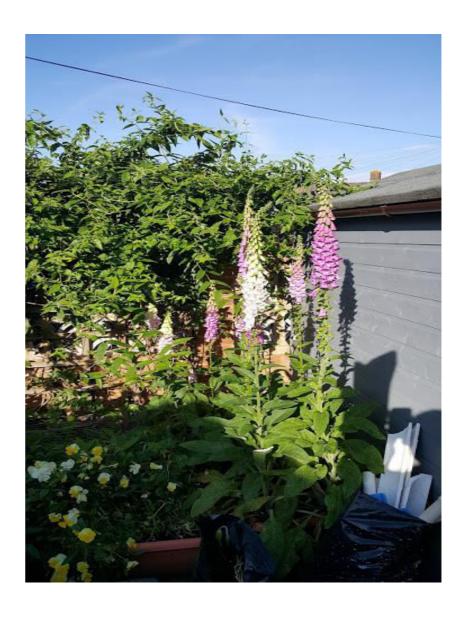


• Think I earned this one.



Still time for the important things





- 200K Audax Up the Downs Hard day with a strong head wind for a lot of the day.
- Hampshire Hoppit half Marathon Hard going the day after 200K Audax – 1:49:20 all off road for 61/400.
- Walking part of the South Downs way Winchester to Petersfield with a wild camp on the top of Old Winchester hill on a beautiful night with an amazing sunrise.
- 100 Mile cycle to box hill to Marshal for a Marathon Left home at 03:30 and rode into the dawn for a great day out including sitting at the top of Box hill watching the day come to life.

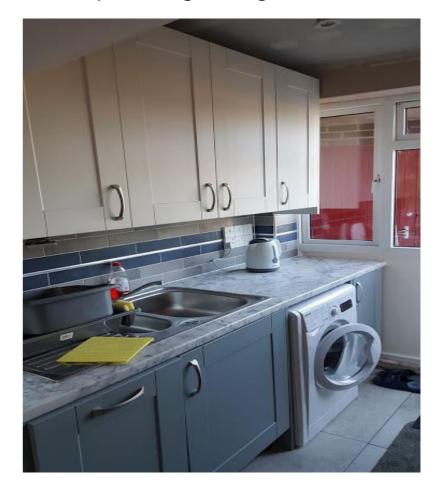
• Wild camping – Top of Old Winchester hill – not long after dawn.



Kitchen progress

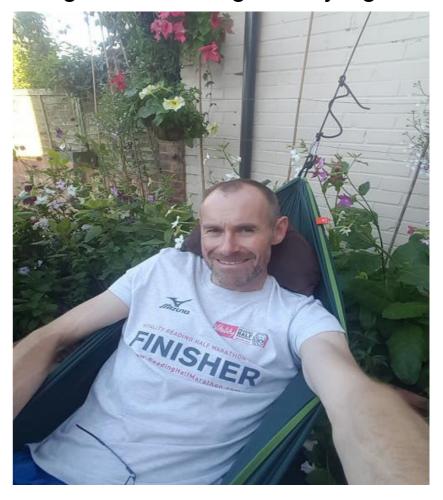


 Tiling is not my favorite job – Still beats painiting though!





Not doing a bad job for a beginner, • Caught me! Chilling in the jungle.



- Weekend walking and wild camping St Swithens way –
 Winchester to Fleet Very hot, very good fun.
- Goodwood festival of speed with Emma Cycled there on the Friday and back on the Sunday.
- Culdorse with work 2 of the best runs of the year along the coast path in beautiful evening sun.
- Weekend walking and wild camping Staunton and Hangers way – Torrential rain on the Sunday.

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Box hill by bike. About 06:00 after an early start.



Back on Shank's pony.



Breakfast.



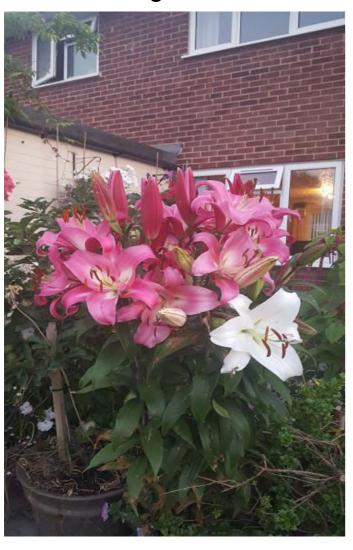
• Sit in front of the TV or this? Not a hard choice.



• Night Night – Wild camping.



Gardens doing Ok too.



• Allotments pretty dry though.



 And then they sent me to Culdrose for work – Not going to let that spoil my fun though!





• I'm sure that there is a garden under here somewhere.



Staunton way



Maybe if I spent less time brewing up I'd get more done!



 Glad I put the roof up – Wild camping on a 45 degree slope in the rain.



The Sun doesn't always shine. Still smiling though.



- Weekend away cycling and camping in Watligton.
- 300K Audax London Orbital.
- Walked the South Downs Way 100 Miles in 5 days self supported wild camping – Serious fun – Got bitten to bits on the last night and woken up by wild deer another night.
- Cycle touring on way to and from holiday cottage 95
 Miles from home to Gloucester 75 Miles in torrential rain
 to Cardiff to see boy 85 Miles from Cardiff to Holiday
 Cottage.
- Week away with Emma at Monmouth Concord museam, Bird of Prey center, Bristol Zoo.
- Cycle touring from Holiday cottage to home 75 Miles to Gloucester – 95 Miles back home.

• Sunset from the top of Watlington hill – Camping at the bottom of the hill.



Jungle.



 If your going to wipe your face on your T shirt make sure you've had a wash first. (Running after work)



 The dangers of cycling shorts – Tan lines that dont match your normal shorts.



 Waiting for the ferry aross the Thames – 300K London orbital Audax.



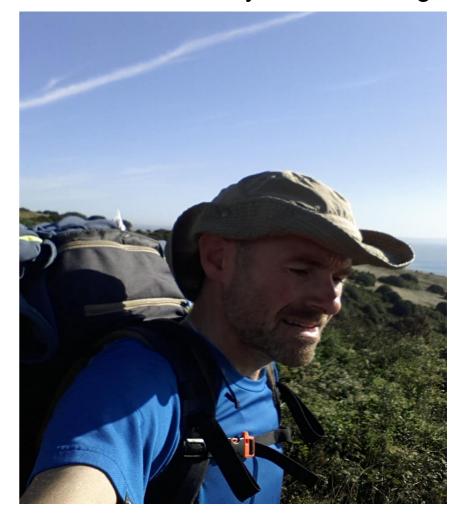
 Lunch stop, somewhere in Wales on the way to holiday cottage.



Eastbourne



Head down – Only 100 Miles to go!



Unusual – Brew on.





Night Night – Wild camping.





Progress



Still smiling or grimacing



One foot in front of the other!



• There it was - Done

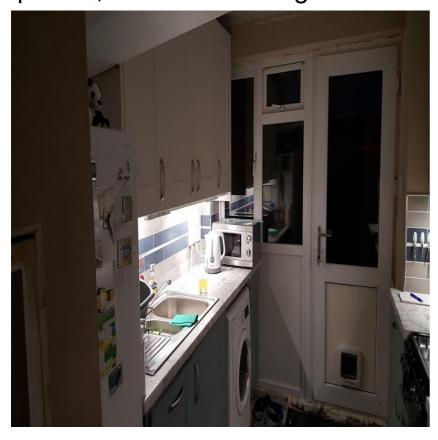


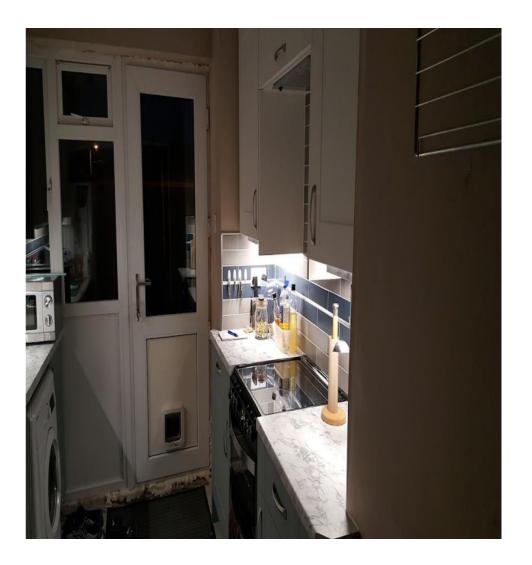
- Went to Cyprus with work for a week and finally decided that I had better look at finishing the kitchen!
- Hatch Warren off road 10K Torrential rain
- 100K Audax Henley Hilly 100 Beautiful autumn day Doesn't get much better than that.
- Bought a van for my next project Pauls Camper Van!

• The allotment finally caught up once we had some rain.



 And work finally resumed on the kitchen – Changing the back door panels, under counter lights etc.





And as the kitchens nearly finished
 time for a new project.



Basingstoke Half

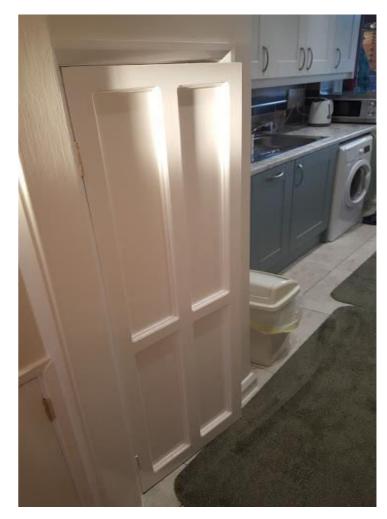


- Basingstoke Half Marathon 1:34:54 for 79/956 Running well.
- 200K Audax The End of Summer Ride from Petersfield Very cold and damp day.
- Finally got the kitchen pretty much finished.
- Plenty of work on the Allotment and made a start on the Van project.

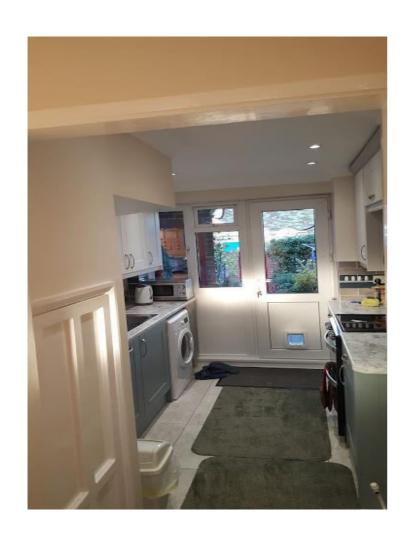
 Can't find a door for a funny size hole – Only 1 option – make one.



Ta-Da



Almost there.





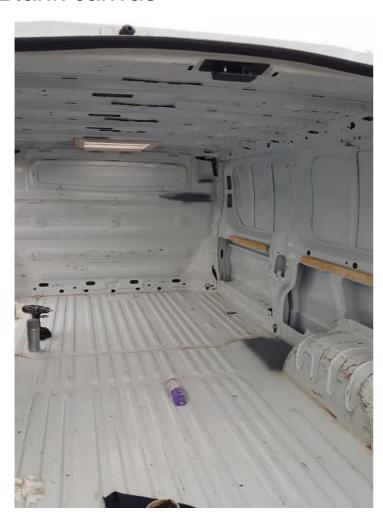
 Took me a while to pluck up the courage to cut a big hole in a perfectly serviceable van.



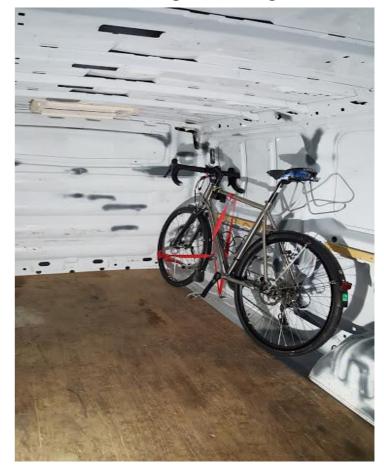
But now its got one of these –
 Fresh air and light.



Blank canvas



 Off to Audax – Just needs windows, cooker, cupboards and a bed and I'll be good to go!



- 200K Audax Upper Thames A better day than last year but strong head wind made for a tiring day.
- Bath Hilly Half marathon Hardest run of the year 1:50:49 for 33/180.
- Cracked on with the van conversion at a pretty slow pace.
- Finally finished the kitchen!!!

Winters coming.





Insulating the van



• Surprising how much insulation fits in.



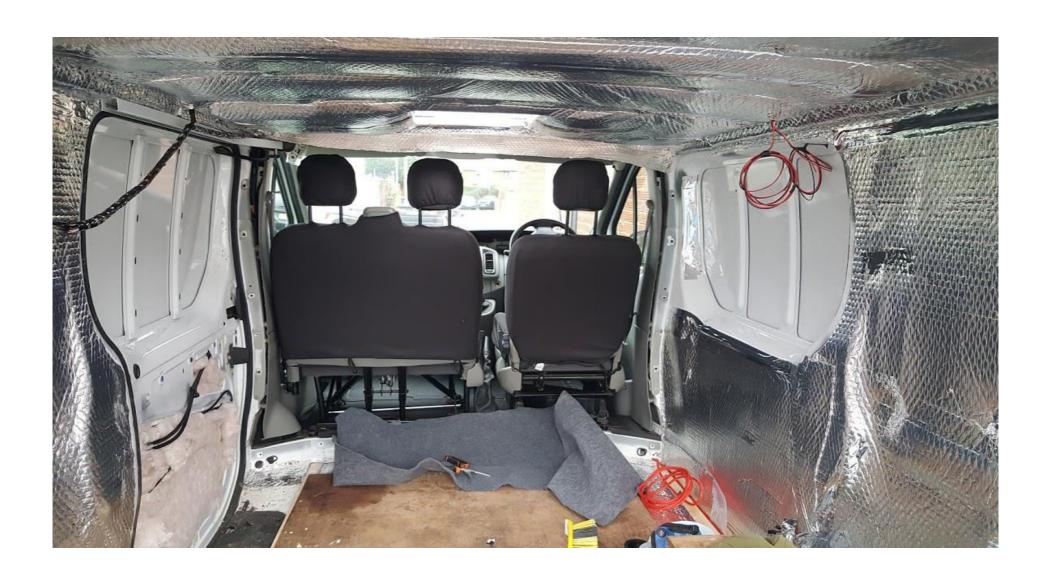
And more Insulation.



• 180 Odd days after starting I finally finished the kitchen.



- Mapledurham 10 mile cross country 1:10:35 for 17/259.
- The Muddy welly 10K 40:08 for 18/395
- The Gut Buster 10 Mile on 30 Dec See out the old ready to bring in the new – Did Not Finish (DNF) – Just to prove I'm human and things don't always go to plan – Didn't feel 100% in the days before and felt rough before the start – Thought I might be OK once going and started well but felt awful by mile 4/5 so made the decision to stop and jog back to finish at 10Km instead of pushing on for the full 10 Miles.



Cracking on with the van between downpours.





 Van windows – Not been looking forward to this as theres no way back if it goes wrong!







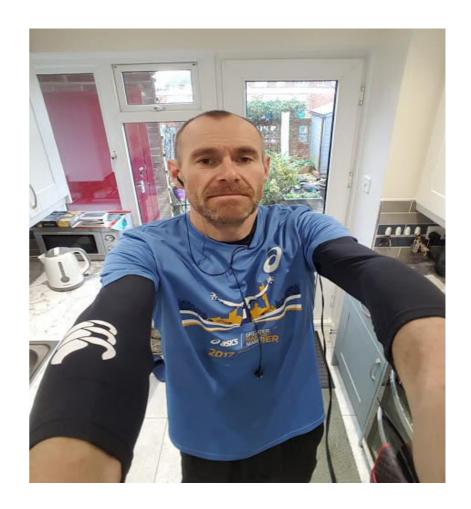
 Maybe not as bad as I feared, just hope they stay in!



 Annoying the boy with comedy Christmas presents



Christmas day.



Waiting to go to Dad's – Might as well make use of my time.





Cycling – Kennet and Avon canal.







2018 Totals

- Total Miles Cycled 3815 (over 10 per day average).
- Total Miles run 1438 (ish).
- Total Miles Hiking Dont really know but I'd guess at 250 to 300 (Ish).

2018 Best Bits

- Running along the South Coast path in Cornwall whilst there for work.
- Standing on Beachy Head watching a Spitfire fly past whilst walking the South Downs Way.
- Christmas Day Just a really nice day with Emma.
- Evenings sat in the garden with Emma during the heatwave.
- Too many other things to list.

2019

- 2 Marathons The Steyning Stinger (off road) and Manchester again – Just need to stay injury free and on top of the training.
- 400 and 600Km Audax's booked (never been above 400Km before so this will be a new experiance).
- I suppose I'd best crack on with my camper van and get some use out of it over the summer.
- Allotment, Gardens, cycling and running and I suppose I had better go to work occasionaly too!
- And Man V's Train in August (http://www.racethetrain.com/event-description/)