

D.I.Y. KING RULES Okay!?

The Sod Jobber

FORGET MY NOM DE PLUME. I am becoming a dab hand at D.I.Y. Just last week I constructed a rack for audio cassettes out of wood left over from building the conservatory. Piece of cake! Even my plane got used for the first time in fifteen years and G Plan would have envied the result. It's practicable, four square and the corners are close to right angles. Visitors kindly noted that it looked like 5C's handiwork from a Friday afternoon. Such acclaim! As for my compost bin.....

Great lengths of treated timber had found their way off the back of a lorry into my friend's garage. After dark I transferred it to Astra and proudly stacked it in our garage. Over successive weekends it was out with the Black and Decker and before you could even think of shouting "Driller killer", the bin was built in four sections, a back piece and three arms to make a double bin.

A damp Saturday morning saw our triumphal procession as we prepared to erect the bin at the bottom of the garden. First came the back piece. It weighed a ton. Still, the boss in her spring-loaded wellies led the way with mega-wimp bent double at the rear. As we staggered to a halt I rashly stood up. The world swam.

Why did my G.P. sound so annoyingly happy? Humming away to the Helston Floral Dance he expertly inserted five stitches in my scalp as I recovered on his couch.

In, out, knot, in, out, knot, five times like the harmonious tailor of Gloucester. Fancy fainting at my age. As the boss hauled my carcass off the path I felt blood dripping downhill. Swathed in a rapidly discolouring J-cloth I was driven straight to the surgery. Ten minutes from faint to frontal lobotomy - the N.H.S. is wonderful.

Enthusiasm for the compost bin has hit rock bottom.

Undeterred, Captain Blood returned to the garden after lunch. Trailing the extension lead and holding the drill at a rakish angle I was bent on revenge. The bin would be conquered. Screwing it together under the boss's very wary gaze I'd soon got every piece in place and there it stood, eight feet by four by four feet high of eco-friendly space. If it wasn't for the adjacent blood stains I'd have passed it off as the perfect job.

You should see it.

Viewing by appointment only!

W.O.D.C. SKIPS FOR APRIL AND MAY

Ascott	25th April	High Street.
Fifield	25th April	Bus shelter, High St. & Idbury Rd.
Milton	27th April	Church Road layby; Jubilee Lane.
	25th May	Church Road layby; Reade Close.
Shipton	18th May	Ballards Close; Swinbrook Road.