



La Serena Newsletter - February 2006

So, as you can see, work is progressing very well. We have also met quite a few new people over here - and because we all have something in common (moving to Italy) it seems that friendships are made more quickly with some quite colourful characters. Derek and I have vowed that once we move to La Serena, we will try to make some Italian friends. Hopefully, our Italian language will be up to short conversations by then - we'll see! Indeed, everyone we have met, English, Dutch or Italian has been so friendly we feel so much at home already...



The new kitchen - complete with marked-out cupboards - and Josie again of course!



Believe it or not, this is the loo and bidet in our apartment - not quite complete as you can see!



Something very large being delivered...



Yep - you bet! Our solar panels and hot water storage tank - all 1,000 litres of it!



This will be our own little kitchenette - or mini-cucina in Italian



And some electrics, you might be relieved to know!



La Serena Newsletter - February 2006

And now, as they say, for something completely different!

And then there were three...

Well we had, after all, decided to get another dog (maybe two) as Josie really needs the company that she had become used to when our other dog, Corby was around. We were going to look out for rescue dogs, as usual, but then heard about this family whose 2 dogs (Coco and Jake) turned into 8 when they didn't realise that neither of them had been spayed/neutered!!

So they are 'rescue' dogs in a way, aren't they?!?!? They will be staying with the rest of the family until we move into La Serena... hopefully by the end of April! It is a happy coincidence for us as we were looking to have smaller dogs as we want all our visitors to be comfortable with our dogs. They will have their own 'play area' in the small fruit orchard we plan to plant at the back of the house - and they will come indoors overnight. Derek is looking forward to putting his dog-training skills to good work, although they are both already very friendly, cuddly and adorable - as you can see!



Please meet Lucy (with Steph) and Archie (with Derek) our new additions - from May/June anyway!



Lucy watching proceedings from a safe distance!



The Proud Mum - Coco!



The Exhausted Dad - Jake!

Next month, more plumbing and electrics, this time on the ground floor. Walls will be rebuilt and under-floor heating pipes laid and floors screed. Plans are still going ahead for us to be in our apartment by the end of April, but with the rest of the house still to finish off. Exciting!!

More next month...