I know what I like

lovely mug ugly mug

Sleepy

Lovely Mug

I like it because I'm always asleep. So out of the seven dwarfs, I must be Sleepy.

I like it because it's bone china. It's not too heavy. I like the smoothness of it and the size of it. It's nice in the evening, when I have my cocoa when I don't want to drink too much, because otherwise my bladder will play me up.

I was very pleased, because I bought it online. I was very pleased with it because I like the Seven Dwarfs, I've got them all. The cuddly toys from the Disney store. It wasn't very expensive. Some of the Disney ones would be a lot of money. This one was only £5 but it's a Disney original product. It's new.

I like the green because It's quite an Art Deco green. It's quite a simple mug but green is my favourite colour as well.

DOZY

SNOOZY

They all seem to be similar. Oh, there's a different one! Dozy is on there as well. I just noticed that, and Snoozy? It must be Snoozy.

I didn't think there was one called Snoozy? Oh, maybe that's why it was cheap? Maybe they make a mistake? Because there's only one Sleepy. There can't be a Snoozy as well?

That's odd. I have never noticed that. It's probably because they're all to do with sleeping. So you've got Snoozy, Dozy, and Sleepy.

SNEEZY

I've got the soft toys. I've got the film Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs.

But they're not on display at the moment, because we've got so much mess.

My favourite mug

I have got three of them. They're all slightly different. They are unusual sort of like Clarice Cliff themes. They are quite an unusual make as well.

I've got another one of the same, which has got an Art Deco theme on it, and it's the same make. They're called Royale Garden, and you don't see a lot of them. They're also bone china, and they're from Staffordshire.

They're obviously not that old. They're re-production, you know, and it's three different themes. I bought them a while ago. Sometimes you have to buy things when you see them because you will never see them again.

I am more of an arty person and because we are supposed to drink a lot, you know it's important to have a nice mug.

I didn’t open them until I moved in here. Then for the first few days, every day I was getting a different mug and it was really exciting because each one is slightly different and I like them all.

Bone China

It's just much more fine. It's lighter. You can get more in it, because it's thinner material.

When you're an expert like me in Art Deco you should pick up on these things straight away when you go to buy anything modern.

It's also got a little flower inside. A little poppy that's really sweet as well.

I'M SEXY
KNO
IT.

Ugly Mug

It's one of those pugs drinking a cup of something or other in a thong. A leopard skin thong: I was clearing out someones bungalow for them a couple of years ago, where I used to live and I came across this in a box. So I thought, well, it's brand new, I better give it a home.

But it's not my cup of tea really. So I don't think it'll be here long. I think it'll have an accident one of these days. Or I might take it to the charity shop actually, because it's in nice condition. Well it looks like it? Because some of them, they get scratched by the spoon don't they? They start turning a bit grey.

SEXY
AND
KNOW
IT.

So what I don't like about this mug. It's not bone china. It's obviously pottery and it's very heavy. So by the time it's full of tea it's exceedingly heavy. People don't think about that when they buy a mug. They just think about maybe the writing on it makes them laugh or something. But they don't think that when that's full of coffee you've got to have a very strong wrist to pick the bloody thing up.

The handle's a bit, it's not too bad, but it's not as nice as (my favourite mug). I think that basically it's just too heavy. If this was full of tea I wouldn't even be using it. I'm not sure why its got into the cupboard to be honest. It will be going to the charity shop now I've discussed it with you.

Being an expert in Art Deco

I've been doing it for over 30 years. I used to go to all the antique shops all over the country. So I'm an expert in Clarice Cliff. When I first came to Brighton, I started going down to the Lanes mainly for furniture, but then I started going further afield.

I used to belong to the Clarice Cliff Collectors Club. The guy that ran it had a big collection and he did a few books as well. I know that he had a lot of the expensive stuff but I was a bit embarrassed because I couldn't really afford the expensive pieces, you know, because I was only in my twenties and of course I was ill. But it's fascinating that the bits that I like are the cheaper range. Because to pay £700, or £800, or even £2,000 for one piece of Clarice Cliff, I mean, I would just be too frightened to drop it.

I think she was born in Staffordshire? I think she worked for a few of the pottery companies. I went up on a tour of the old potteries, which have all more or less closed down now.

My first piece of Clarice Cliff I bought in an antique shop in East Grinstead and it cost me £18.

I could never afford to buy anything like that when I was younger. It was funny because a friend of mine said: "You'd like Clarice Cliff". In those days we didn't have the internet or anything like that so I didn't know what he was talking about.

We went to this antique shop and I saw this piece of pottery on a high shelf. The shop was quite packed out and I couldn't reach it to get it down. I said: "Ooh whats that? I like that." I asked the shop owner to get it down for me, and it turned out to be a piece of Clarice Cliff! It was the first time I'd seen a piece. It was the same friend that was with me, but he was looking in the other side of the shop, so he hadn't noticed it yet. The only piece of Clarice Cliff in the shop!

It was a yellow piece, the more common colour. It was a tiny little vase about the size of a mug with all the flowers at the bottom.

Clarice Cliff : My Garden

There's a pattern called My Garden, which is the one I collect most of. I've got the trays, these trays in the My Garden, in the red, the yellow, the green. And probably the blue as well.

I always put them in the back of the shelf, standing up, so that people can see them nicely.

They're sort of, you know, to put on your bed side when you had a dressing table in the old days. They come with other pieces in the same pattern, like a powder bowl. I've got them all in my collection.

What do you like about it?

The cheaper range. I just like the colours and the fact that, you know some of the more expensive pieces, they look to me as if they were a lot easier to draw, to paint? The fact that they're abstract, they just appeal to more people for some reason.

Whereas I think that the cheaper bits, more work went into them. In the firing process and the drying process there must have been an awful lot more pieces that never made the shop floor. Because they were more involved. Whereas the abstract bits it was just a matter of drawing a straight line. But that's what people like.

This is actually a bit like my first piece. It's the same colour. But mine is a slightly different shape.

Here's the shape of it here: but not green and yellow at the bottom. That one tends to be cheaper because it's not got so many colours in it.

But I like the more colourful one.

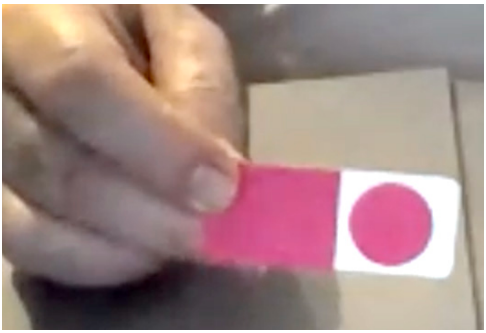
I got this piece yesterday. It just brought me so much pleasure when I opened it The fact that it has survived all these years. It's obviously been in somebody's glass cabinet and you know it looks like it was made yesterday.

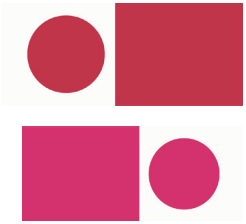
It's the same as the Art Deco green. and, they call this dripware, where they put the brown on the yellow and then leave it to dry drip and dry. That's very much the same as what is on My Garden, which is all the stuff I've got in my cabinet.

I've got another piece in this pattern and that's what made me buy it. Acorns. I've got a lovely big vase with the same pattern. I was thinking of selling it, because I need to cut down my collection a bit. I was just watching it on Ebay, and it didn't sell for very much. This pattern doesn't fetch a lot of money, and obviously it's kind of probably quite rare now. So I might keep an eye out for these pieces. Because obviously, one day they'll be worth a lot of money. Then I could sell the whole collection, or leave it to somebody if I'm too decrepid.

I know what I like

Colour





The colour of the moment

I suppose the colour of the moment is that.

The colour of winter for me.

They both look very similar.

That's the dark red – and that's the other one

I like them at the moment.

The thing is that there's been some lovely sunsets.
We've had some lovely sunsets and some of them have been quite red.

That one with the reds. My cousin took that one.

She lives in Harrow. She went somewhere for a walk, I can't remember where.

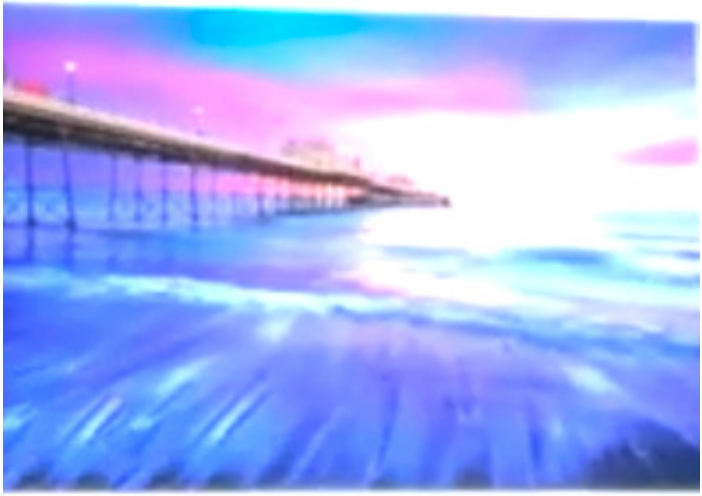
There's a lot of groups on Facebook that do pictures of sunsets and things like that. Some of them are out of this world.

I just click everybody elses. They do so much better than me.

You can't help but click and save them because they make you feel so warm inside.

That's a lovely one of Brighton look, the West Pier.

It's just amazing.



That's Brighton pier

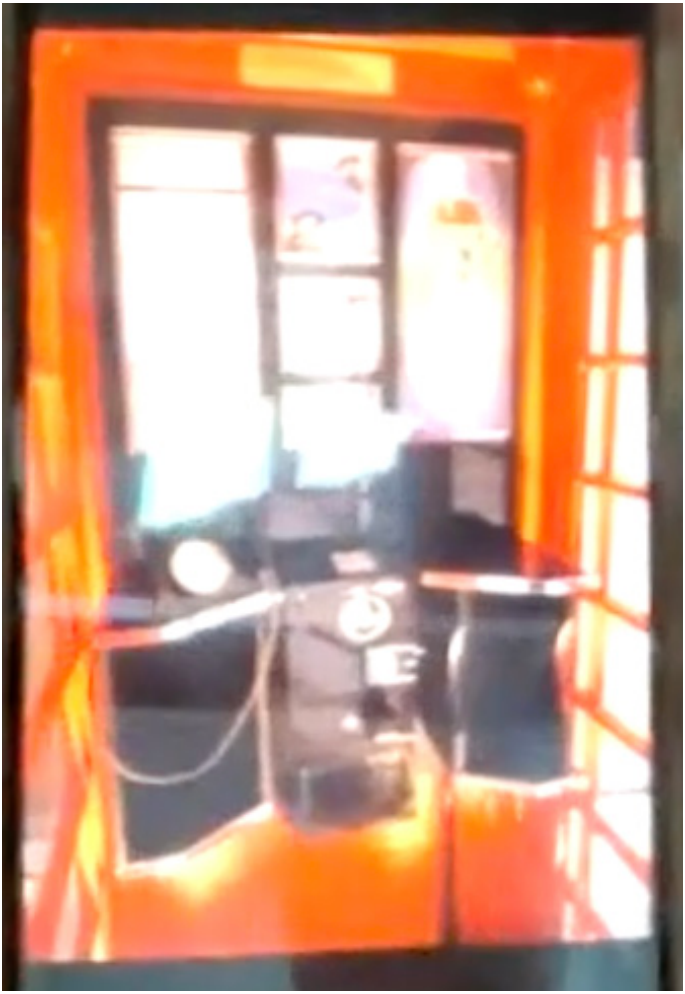
And there's that thingummyjig you know, in Brighton, the bandstand.

That’s Shoreham.

It could be Brighton or it could be Shoreham.

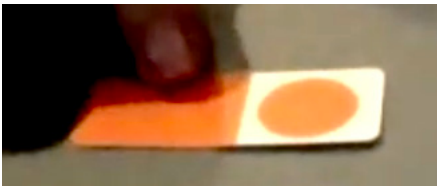
This really lovely one is on the way to Worthing on the main road.

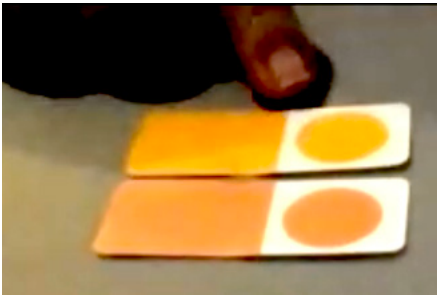
Along there they sell fish.



Do you remember those old things?

Weird isn’t it?





I think my favourite colour is this one,

also this one.

Clarks
Clarks

They're supposed to be slippers, but I wear them out because they're just comfortable and they've got a nice big rubber heel on them.

I've got a pair of shoes and slippers in that colour which I wear out. People must wonder what? You know, think I'm a nutter, but I don't care anymore. I'm too old to care! Have you reached that point yet?

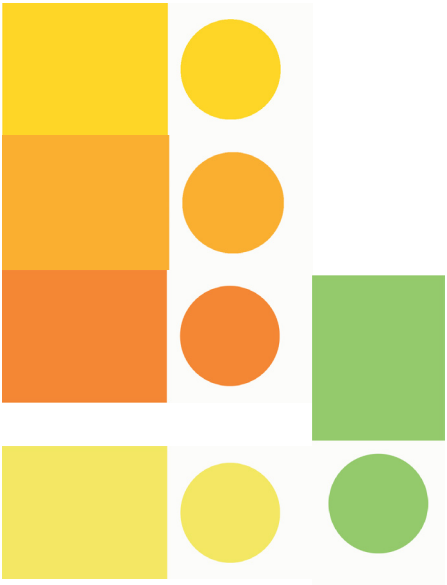
Zampiere
ZAMPIERE
Zampiere
ZAMPIERE

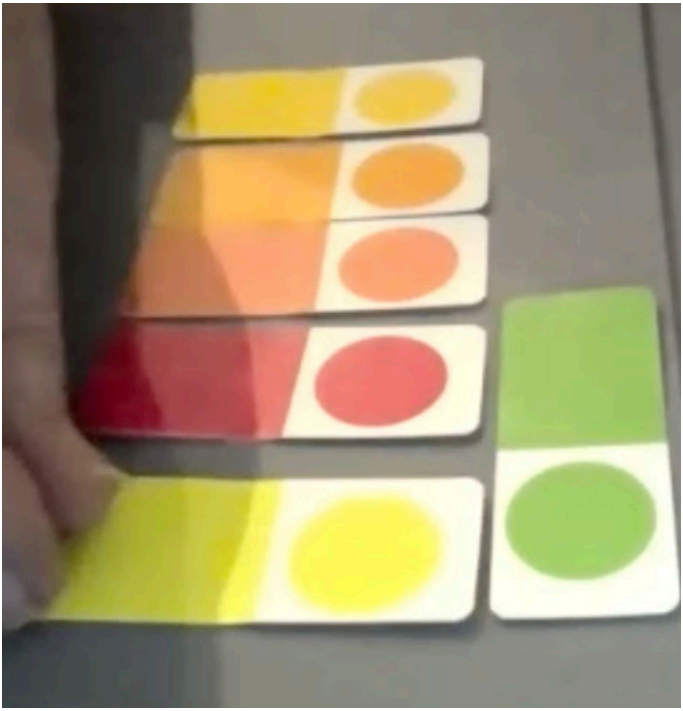
My lovely red, not red, orange shoes.

Bit of a nutcase, but never mind.

I'm a bit conscious of the orange shoes, but I haven't got anything else at the moment because there's no point me buying a pair of winter shoes, I don't go out enough. So I'll buy something nice in the spring.

I used to be very fashionable you know, back in my day.





Colours I like

I think the associations for me is that I feel like when we were younger that we didn't have the choice of colours that we have now. Zara's a very good shop for lots of colours.

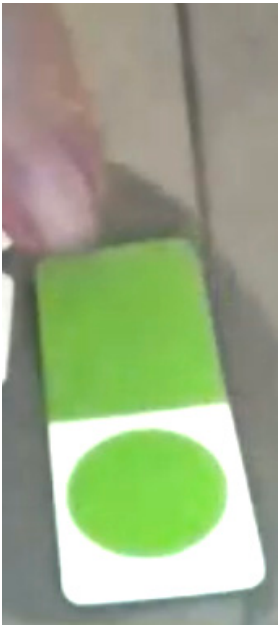
These are reminding me of paint things. You know when you go you go to a DIY shop, trying to choose a colour for your room. I can never do it!

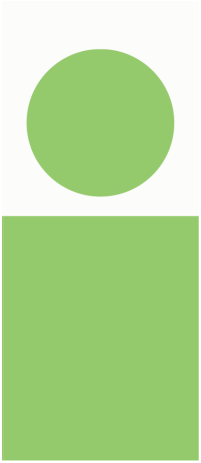
It's a little bit crowded but I mean you can't, you know, when you're sending something in the post. What could you do?

That's a nice colour really, quite like that one.

I think it's like a lemony green isn't it? Lime green, I suppose.

We went through a stage in the shops, and they did a lot of posters and kettles in that sort of shade, didn't they?





I do love green

That's kind of bit like (art deco green). Actually, it's sort of more pastely than the others. More of an art deco green than the other three.

When I bought my first house I had green carpets all over the house because they said you shouldn't break the colour up and because it was a new build it, the rooms were quite small. It wasn't too bad downstairs, because it was all just one room. It was a little bit darker than that, not so pastely. But it was really nice, and it had a bit of a tinge of white in it but it wasn't major. I was very happy with it.

We decided we would just buy a few nice things, rather than lots of cheap things. So then I went to see the woman in the shop who helps you with planning your room out and she said to me that the best thing was to go for a green carpet because the sofa was green and if it was in a small room.

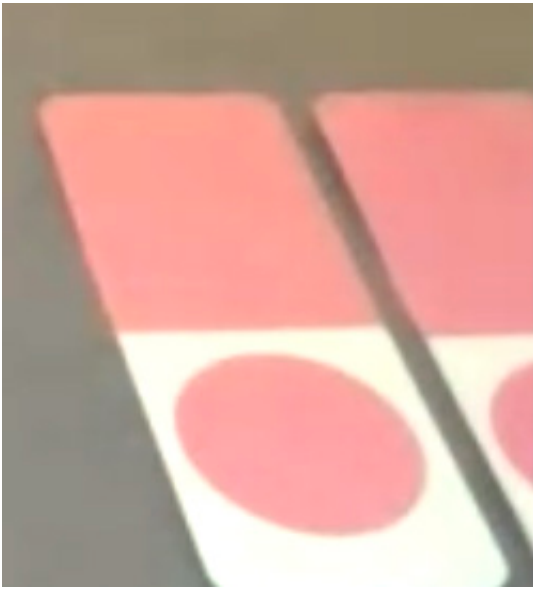
I was happy with that green. Actually, if I change the carpets here (but it's difficult with the dog) I might have another green one. It's a very nice colour to have.

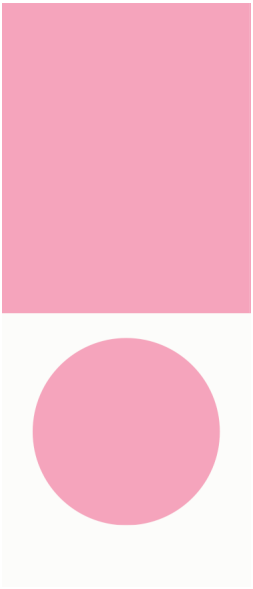
I went to John Lewis in London. I bought my sofa set from there which happened to be quite art deco, with those sort of odeon arches type of thing? Not like a shell, you know, like half a saucepan lid. More like that sort of green (left).

They had exactly the same suite in Harrods, on the shop floor, but it was a lot more expensive in there. So I went back to John Lewis, and they still had it. So I bought it. It was a make called Derwent. Have you ever heard of them? I've got a feeling they still make sofas but these days you don't really hear about the make though, because people just go by the look, don't they?

They used to have all these big posh shops where they had loads of furniture, lots of suites with all those nice materials on them. Do you remember them?

And then one is a bit of a boring green here, this one.



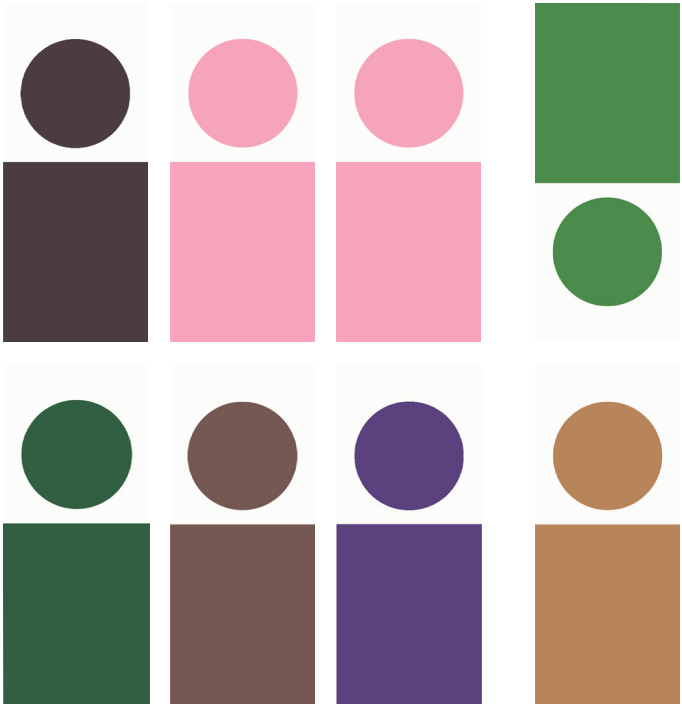


I’m not a fan of pink

I’m thinking more of home furnishings and that. Carpets and I wouldn’t want pink for.

I don’t mind a pink shirt. But I don’t know, I wouldn’t go mad about one.

That’s probably my least favourite colour.



Strong dislikes

I'm not very keen on dark colours. They just don't seem to do anything for anybody. Some people like dark colours.

If you have a dark suit, it shows up all the white bits and it shows up the all the fluff. And if you've got dandruff it shows up. I have bought things in dark colours. But it tends to be things like a wallet or a pair of shoes possibly.

I definitely wouldn't wear a dark coloured suit. Grey, possibly, or blue, or light brown. Brown was very much a seventies colour. When we were growing up things tended to be navy or blue.. and that sort of thing maybe and brown probably. And there was a lot of beige around wasn't there? It's very much a seventies colour. You used to get a lot of furs didn't you, in those colours? Women used to wear mink and ermine and you used to see them coming out of Harrods.

Especially for men. But a lot of things tend to be unisex these days. The modern man is changing because they don't go to war really much anymore. There's no conscription.

A painting that my brother did. He painted it himself.

He used to have exhibitions in the Lebanon. He's not famous or anything. He used to have exhibitions but he's a bit weird. He didn't like meeting the public. He didn't like describing his work, he just liked painting it.

He painted it for me. No, I didn't give him any specification or anything. but it was done a long time ago. Well, I like it, because obviously my brother did it. But do I like it? I think it's a bit underrated considering the amount of work that's gone into it. It's amazing to have a talent isn't it?

I might put it in the spare bedroom. But it might give people nightmares!

Personal Space

Organising my space

I'm still varnishing these shelves. I don't know if I was doing it. ..do you remember how far I had got last time when I spoke to you? Well he has put them up now, but I've been lumbered with the job of varnishing them, because obviously it's going to cost more money if if he does it. He charges by the hour. So I've just been doing them one at a time, because once you do one side you have to leave it to dry, before you can turn it over sort of thing because otherwise you're gonna ruin it.

It is a big job, because I bought new wood, and it was very expensive. Wood's gone up a lot in price since since COVID, but I thought because I was buying new wood that it would be like in perfect condition, but for some reason it's got a bit knocked here and there, and pencil marks and God only knows what. So I've had to sand it quite a bit, which is kind of quite disappointing, because there's no point painting it if you're just painting a load of crap on to it.

I'm only putting enough up to just see me through the woods, and when I sort of settle down a bit and see what boxes are left that need shelves for.

There's no point rushing into these things because it's very expensive for one, and also I don't want to clutter up the flat too much. I'd rather get rid of some stuff. I can sell some things on eBay. It just takes time, but it's a lot easier now to sell on eBay.

SHERLOCK HOLMES
THE PHANTOM GROUP
William Tell
TINTIN
ALL 7 VOLUMES
The Edgar Wallace ANTHOLOGY
ZATHURA
JOHN MILLS
STAR TREK
BAD EDUCATION
Merlin

Where I spend most of my time

I've got my DVD Cases up now in the bedroom. That's my new shelves. Very expensive they were. They came fully varnished. I think they're oak effect.

It took 12 boxes of DVDs, those big plastic boxes.

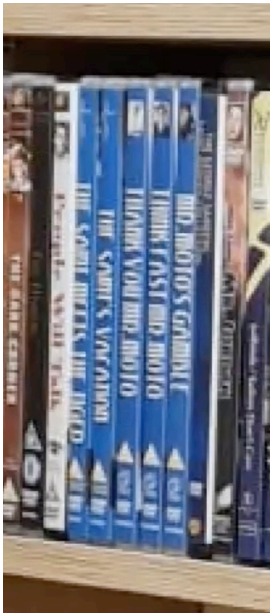
It is a relief but once you do one thing another thing needs sorting out. But at least it's been done, I must be happy about it.

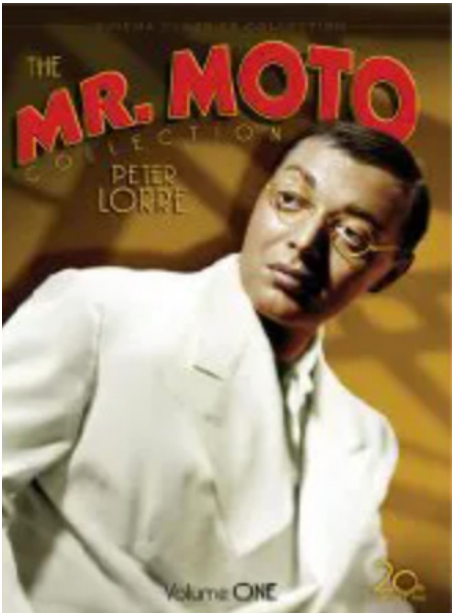
I went through them all, and I've taken a lot to the charity shop. I checked a few of the ones I thought might be more expensive, and I had a look on Ebay. I've advertised on Ebay and I've already sold 4 box sets. And we took loads and loads of stuff into the charity shop.

Domaine du
Trill

One of the dwarfs

My Christmas slippers. I was going to give them to the charity shop, but Natsu likes playing with them. That's one of two that he plays around with. It's one of the dwarfs. I can't remember which one that she's got a big nose. He might be what's his name? Sneezy?


THE SECRET MEETS THE EYED
THE SECRETS VACATION
THANK YOU MR. MOTO
THANK YOU MR. MOTO
MR. MOTO'S GAMBLE


THE
MR. MOTO
COLLECTION
PETER
LORRE
Volume ONE

The bedroom is where I watch my DVDs

SH2-14CX is a diffferent age group so he likes different things to me.

I like all the old black and white things, back in the day. Humphrey Bogart, and that Peter Lorre. Do you remember him? He was a bit sneaky and scary. He was a bit like a villain type. He's kind of a one off. He was just short man. He'd left his home country because of war or something. But he managed to get into movies, and he did very well in the movies. I like anything he does but it's just because he's a little bit different to all the the normal sort of bad guys. He's quite casual and sly about it.

He did a series called Mr MOTO. He was the star of that series, and they're really great. I am looking forward to watching them again. I'll save them for a special occasion. I should imagine that probably was quite lucrative for him. He always played the sort of bad man sort of thing. He was never a gentleman He was always a bit sly.

ALFRED HITCHCOCK'S
The Birds

From ALFRED HITCHCOCK
with
sex and
suspense
"MARNIE"
Starring
SEAN CONNERY
'TIPPI' HEDREN
Co-starring DIANE BAKER MARTIN GABEL
TECHNICOLOR
Screenplay by JAY PRESSON ALLEN From the Novel by WINSTON GRAHAM
Directed by ALFRED HITCHCOCK A Universal-International Release

Hitchcock

He's on at the moment, I enjoy him. He's always into the murder side isn't he? But there's a lot of things that I found that I never knew existed, you know. I think they're just releasing old things now to make money out of it. There's a lot of things that I didn't know about. I thought he only did the films, you know, like **The Birds** and **Marnie** and **Shadow of a Doubt**.

Alfred Hitchcock,
Rope (still), 1948.

And that one with the two gay actors: **Rope**. It was very good, it was set in their living room. They had a dead corpse in the a chest in the lounge, and they were were playing cat and mouse with each other, and nobody would open the chest, and it was all there.

They are amazing, and they never really age, because it's lovely to see all the the old appartments, the old cars, and the old furniture and everything. How it used to be in our youth, sort of thing.

But now it's all so standardised when you go to these places. It's just a variation on a theme. I mean you can get this table, and you can get it with a frosted top. You can get it with a clear top or get it in the gold, or you can get it in silver, and that's about it. Whereas years ago you used to get, you know, a lot of different things. They all look the same. Even the cars, if you don't look at the the label on it. You just think they're all the same. I don't like that. I think it's just a stupid. I mean how can they get away with doing that? You know if they are different companies? They should be doing their own models, not copying.

The other really good one is Dial M for Murder

If you get a chance to see that you'll love it. It's the way they catch the killer at the end. It goes right through the movie. And then the very last time when they're about to give up they catch the guy by mistake by a fluke. They say: "Oh, its over, we can't get you", and then all of a sudden just as he's leaving the flat something happens, and he gets caught.

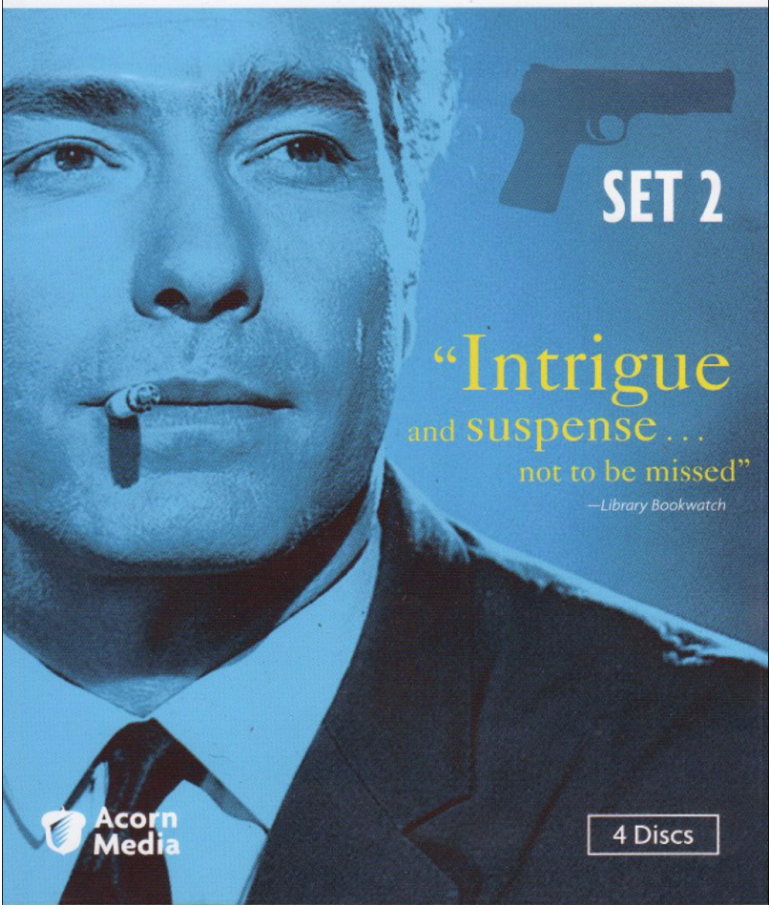
RANDALL
AND
HOPKIRK
DECEASED

That box at the top there is Randall and Hopkirk.

That was a good series. Do you remember it? They were investigators, and they were always broke but one of them died didn't he? He got run over. He was a ghost and his wife was in it. She was really pretty. He had a white suit.

MAN IN A SUITCASE

A ROGUE AGENT FOR HIRE IN 1960s EUROPE



Do you remember Man in a Suitcase?

I haven't watched it for so long. He is still alive that actor. He's quite old now and he's still doing a bit of acting. He looks completely different now, although you can tell it's still him. That's quite a good series. It's a bit of a man's thing. I think it's basically him being a bit of a tough guy. There's not many women in there.

The view up the river.

It's lovely. You just never get used to it. You sort of say every day how lovely this is.

Unbelievable. I never ever thought I'd live anywhere like this. It's like a little island. No nasty traffic or anything. We've got a nice bakery here and we've go a couple of pubs which do nice food.

It's amazing. And also that lovely beach which never gets really busy. Especially it's being a sandy beach as well. Some people take boats down there, the inflatable type ones, but they reverse them down on the back of a car. Then they lower them into the water, and then they go out and have a bit of fun, and then they come back.

the harbour club

That's my balcony. It's bigger than I thought it would be. I can probably get three people out there, and a little table.

There's nothing between me at all and that Harbour Club. and they do lots of events for the local community. Those seats belong to the Harbour Club, where they do food and they do special events.

They do quiz nights and bingo nights. It's lovely, especially the fact that they do food as well. Apparently they've got a really good French chef and they do the best Sunday lunch in Shoreham. They have singers, female singers that come and sing to the customers.

The last Bank Holiday we had they'd organised a couple of events and there was a lot people sitting outside and there's a lot of children playing in the sand. I was out on the balcony varnishing so I was quite happy, because I can't walk very far, it's too busy for me. There wouldn't have been anywhere to sit.

You can have a good sight of the beach.

You see those those sort of like warehouses opposite? They're all being demolished and they're building flats there. They're going to build luxury flats. They've already started one of them.

It's an art deco lamp. I bought that new to put in this flat.

The Brighton Eye is a bit over, you can't see it. It's just there by the window frame.