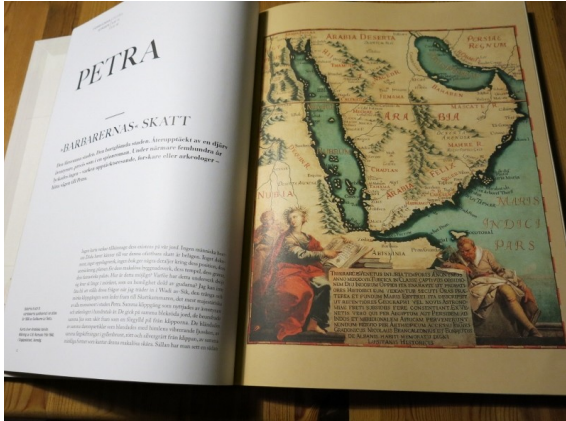


What did Anna and Bengt do in 2017? Some of it all below :

In Januari there was no stress. We kept warm by cosy logfires and long outdoor winter walks. Good books were enjoyed. Anna did bobbin lace and some weaving while Bengt sold / bought old carparts on Tradera (swedish Ebay). In came the IP-telephone and out went the old copper wire. Now everything is by fibre.



In **Februari** 15 cubic meters of ground insulation was handshoveled in place under the "East wing". On the brand new floor beams special "fibre cement" panels were installed to support the insulation - this material will never rot! Finally the carpenters moved the entrance door.



In **March** the ceiling of the upper floor and all walls were prepared for the new insulation. After that the two carpenters took a long pause until 2018. Then the house has to be finished! We enjoyed the painter Leif Ahnlunds opening exhibition and a huge local farm auction.



In **April** Bo came and took care of our old apple trees - resulting in huge piles of branches and firewood! Our summer cars as well as our bikes were serviced and started up. It was spring in the air, but the traditional Easter Art Trail was a very cool event.



May came with green trees and lovely tours with our bikes on small country roads. There was also a lot of fiddling with a stubborn 40 years old Rover V8 - finally Bengt won!



On our national day 6 **June** the sun was shining and the old Rover was a dream to drive. First Classic outing this year was soon followed by many more Rover road-trips. But to the old local market in Härnevi we used our bikes - nowadays that is a tradition. And the midsummer weekend we were invited to friends in the Stockholm archipelago, very nice despite some rain.



July had 3 fine days of travelling north with friends to the landscape of Dalarna - looking at beautiful textiles and genuine handicrafts. Some weeks later we drove the same Rover west to the landscape of Dalsland. We met Bengt's brother Alf with his family and visited many special places we never had seen before! In summer Sweden has so much to offer visitors!



August was almost hectic - many nice roadtrips with our 40-year old Rover SD1. Three days back and forth to Rättvik taking part in the Classic Rally and another three days in Karlsborg with British Motor Meet. There was also time for locally very popular "Rebusrundan" and "Kulturer i Möte" with lots of artists. But there was no time for cutting the lawn!



September offered many activities. It started with "Trädgårdsdagen" in Enköping and one of Swedens most interesting art trails in "Nora Bergslag". "Kulturnatten" in Uppsala, "Mat & Människor" in Fjärdhundraland and "Klassiker på Wenngarn" were all very special events, that we hope will be repeated in 2018. And in the "East Wing" we succeeded to uncover the very old ceiling in the bottom floor. We also had EPS-cement applied all along the stone base (to stop wind and mice entering the floor insulation) - a real milestone in our planning!



In **October** there were many autumn duties. More than 20 classic cars (all places rented out this year) to squeeze into the garages. All our big trees produce a volume of autumn leaves (around 30 cubic meters when put in a huge pile) that needs moving. And finally it was time to pack our suitcases and say goodbye to friends and neighbours before....



...flying to Madeira 4 **november**. Five lovely weeks. All kinds of weather and many memories richer. We stayed as always at *Quinta do Conde de Torre Bela*, "our" little banana plantation with a long and historic name. Home again in Gästre since 10 **december**.

Soon we will go away again - but just for a couple of days over Christmas. And then we promise to stay at home "for the remaining part of 2017"!

