

FROM THE EDITOR

I start this month with two apologies. First, my apologies to Emma at Finishing Touch for putting the wrong advert into the August issue of the **NEWS**. Second, my apologies to all those readers who saw the Finishing Touch advert for Halloween decorations and thought that they had fallen asleep in July and woken up in October! All I can say is, it must be a sign of old age.

On a different subject altogether, this month I received a renewal quote from my breakdown cover provider (Start Rescue). Now, I think all of us expect renewal quotes to be higher than what we paid last time and in most cases this is exactly what happens. Sometimes the quote is so much higher we are quite shocked, as was the case with my car insurance (I have never made a claim in 45 years of driving but that didn't prevent a 40% price hike). Not so with the breakdown cover. My already very reasonably priced breakdown cover is going to be even cheaper this year because, the letter says, "we appreciate your loyalty". Wouldn't it be nice if all insurance providers rewarded us for our loyalty?

John Smallwood told us last month about the wood mouse that got stuck in his birdfeeder (page 30 of the August issue). Unfortunately, he wasn't able to get a photograph of it. But...the mouse returned and doesn't seem to have learned anything, as you can see from the photograph here.



Happy reading!
Dorothy Russell