



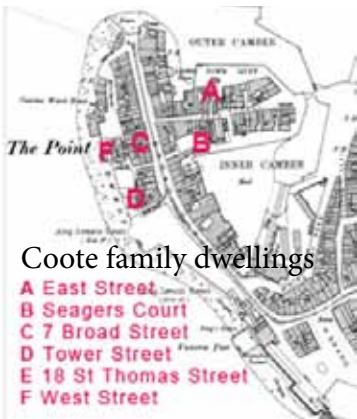
**Allotment, Brixton**  
September 2011



**Olympic team**



**At St Paul's**



**Abseil support team**



**2011:** Pok choi, carrots, and blackberries are the first produce from my allotment just outside Andrew's flat. My Vietnamese neighbours are sharing their recipes, but I like using it in bubble-and-squeak.

Managed to slip my bike in the wet and had my arm in a sling for a month - I was really glad to get back on it as it's better than the tube!

Andrew and I have volunteered to help with the *Olympics* so there's a chance I'll be driving Usain Bolt around London and showing him the sites. We're helping with *Pride House* which will welcome and entertain gay visitors.

The *Cootes Family Tree* has its own web page, and it covers the ancestors of me and my siblings Sarah, Peter and Richard. On my Mum's side there are boot makers from Jersey and carpenters from Dorset, while on Dad's side we discovered the last survivor of the second Afghan war and many generations of Portsmouth Harbour pilots. It appears Cootes have lived on Portsmouth Point since the early 1700s.

Both mum's celebrated their 80th birthdays this year, and mine did a sponsored abseil for St Cuthbert's Church - you'll laugh at the video! And as for the *Cootes Trifle Challenge* - Richard won with a 'black forrest' style concoction.

I have enjoyed welcoming friends and relatives to Brixton, where they have revived the famous market by adding cafes from around the world - my favourite is the Columbian. And the new school next to us won the *Sterling Prize* for architecture.

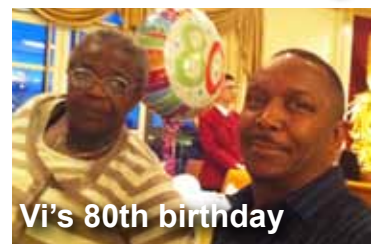
*Love and best wishes*



**Whoops**



**Norah's 80th birthday**



**Vi's 80th birthday**



**Oh Carol**



**Andrew's Sisters**

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**COOTE FAMILY TREE**  
[www.cootehistory.blogspot.com/](http://www.cootehistory.blogspot.com/)

**COOTE TRIFLE CHALLENGE**  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEqzEzHxRPo](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEqzEzHxRPo)

**NORAH ABSEILING**  
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=3P1yJe3daSw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3P1yJe3daSw)

**GAY to Z DIRECTORY**  
[www.gaytoz.com](http://www.gaytoz.com)

**POMPEY PLUCKERS**  
[www.portsmouthukulelegroup.webs.com](http://www.portsmouthukulelegroup.webs.com)