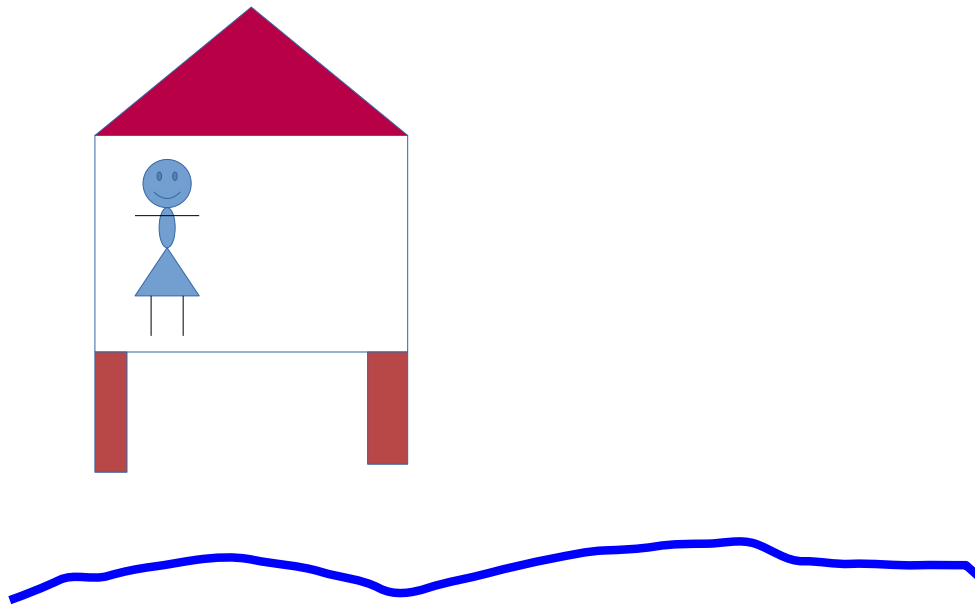


# **Monitoring Mum**

Open-source Telecare

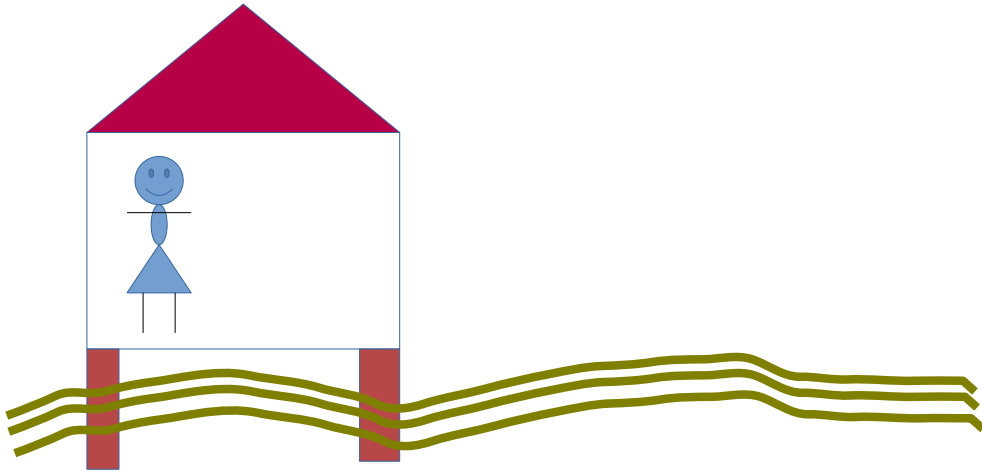
Andrew Findlay  
April 2017

Once upon a time...



Once upon a time...  
Mother lives by the river  
Most of the time this is very pleasant  
But sometimes the rain falls

We can cope with this

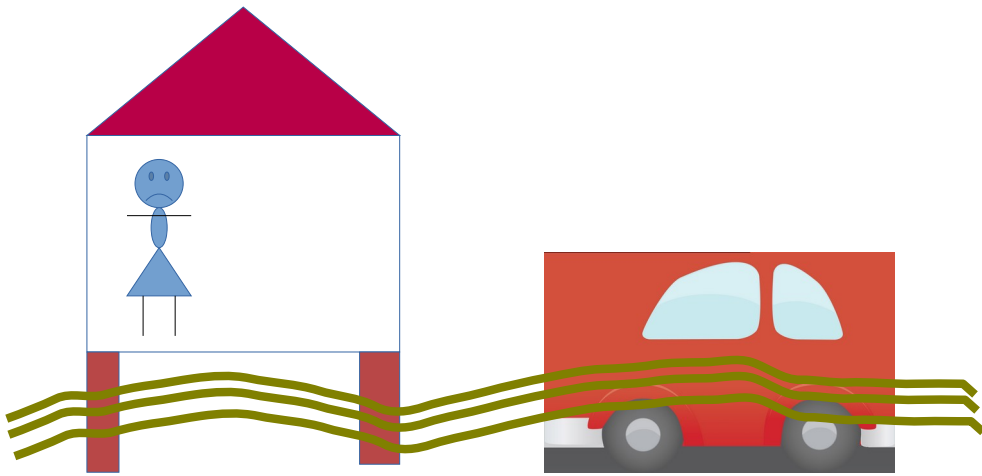


And sometimes the river rises...

But we knew that when we built the house

OK for a day or two, but sometimes it lasts longer

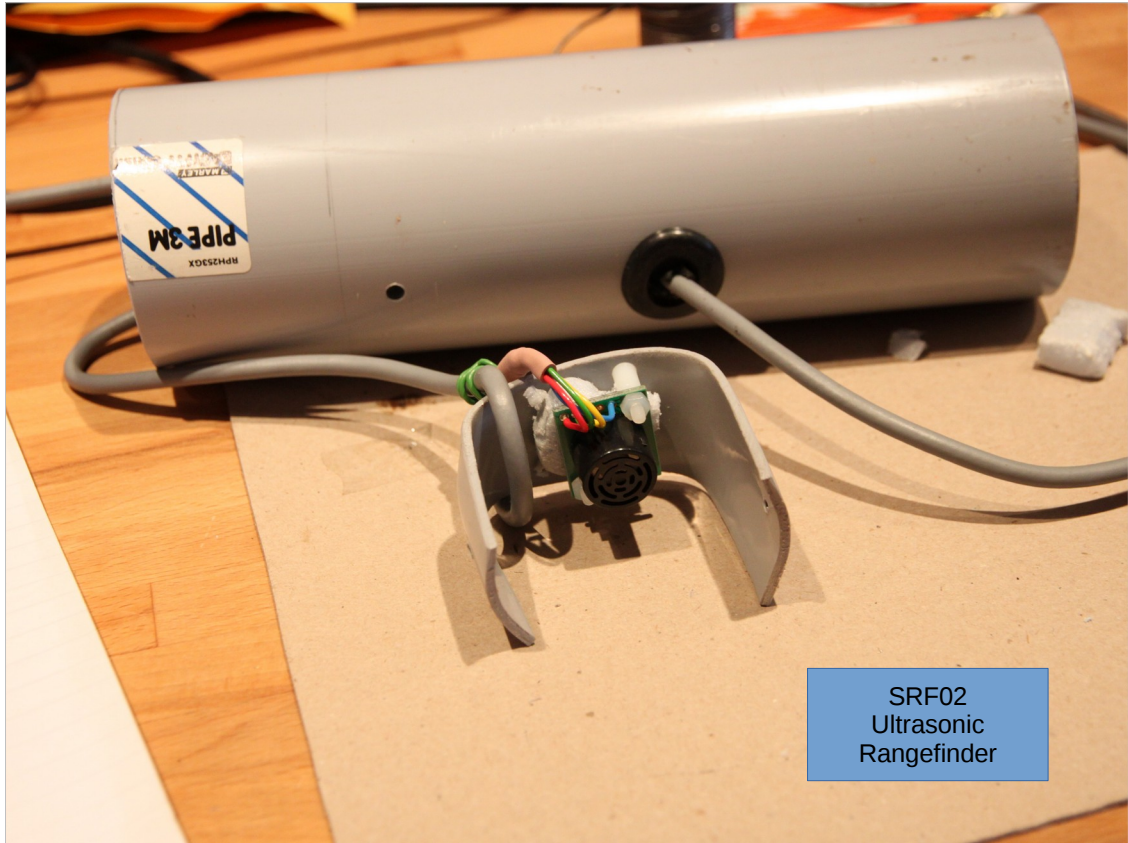
But not this

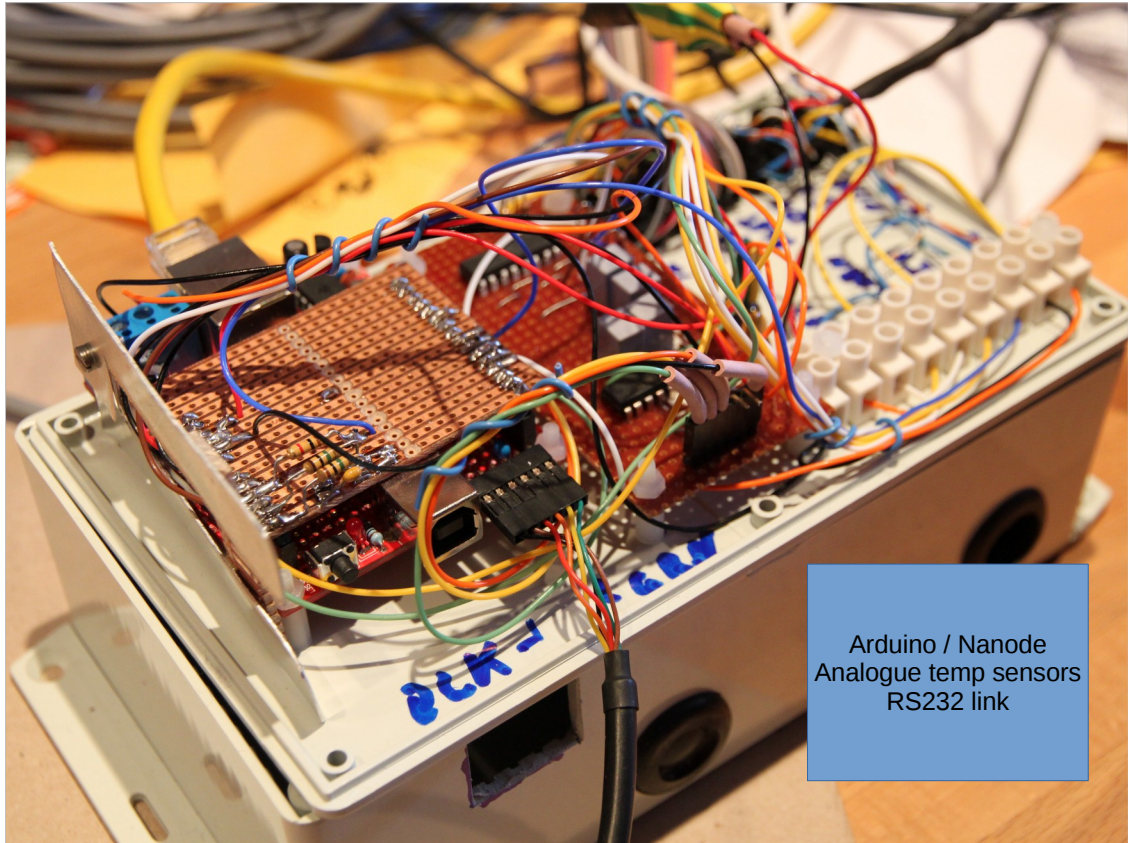


If we had better warning, maybe...

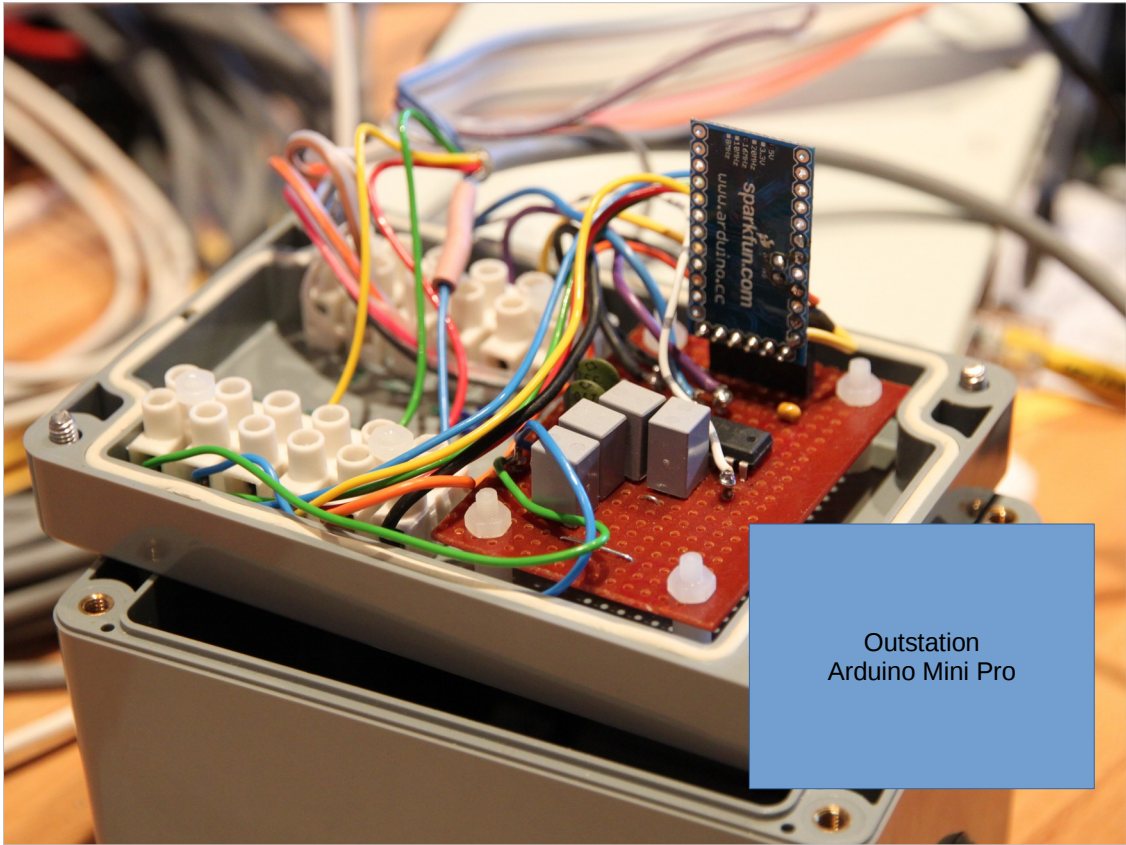
## IoT to the rescue

- Monitor the river
- Monitor the mother
- Raise the alarm
- Keep the trend data





Arduino / Nanode  
Analogue temp sensors  
RS232 link



Outstation  
Arduino Mini Pro

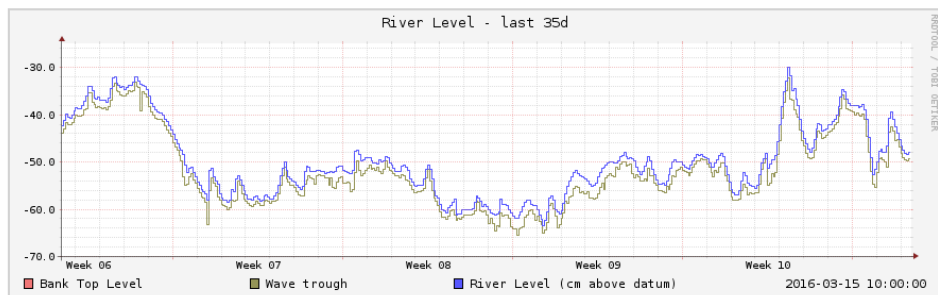
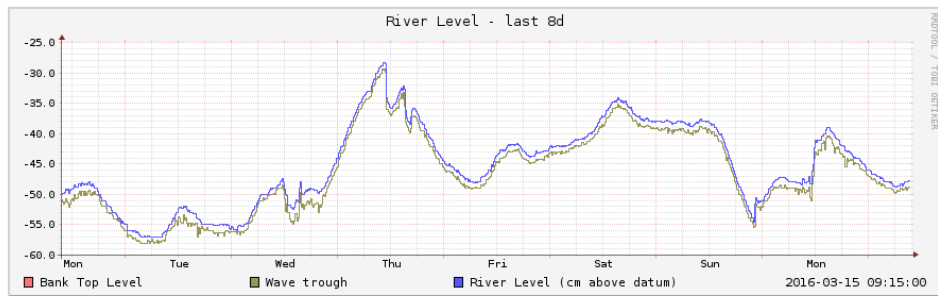


## Other bits

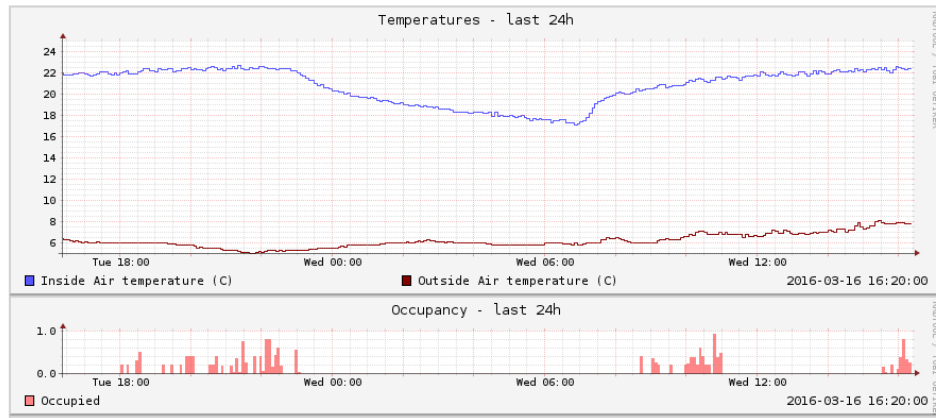
- Linux webserver
- Arduino IDE
- RRDTool
- Movement sensors

RRDTool – constant-size time-series database with graph-generation tools

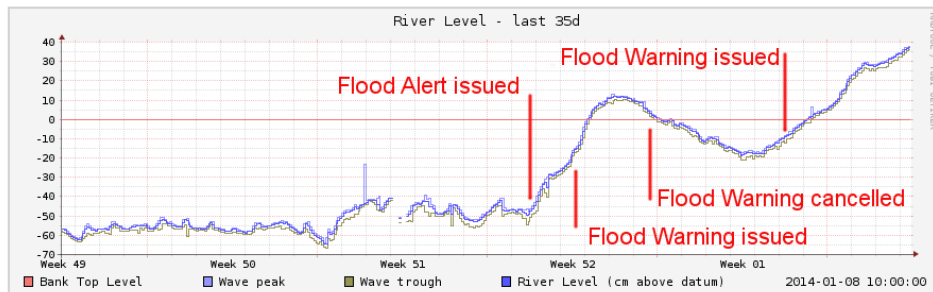
# Web page for the river



# Web page for Mum



# December 2013





Christmas eve 2013

A flood warning has just been issued

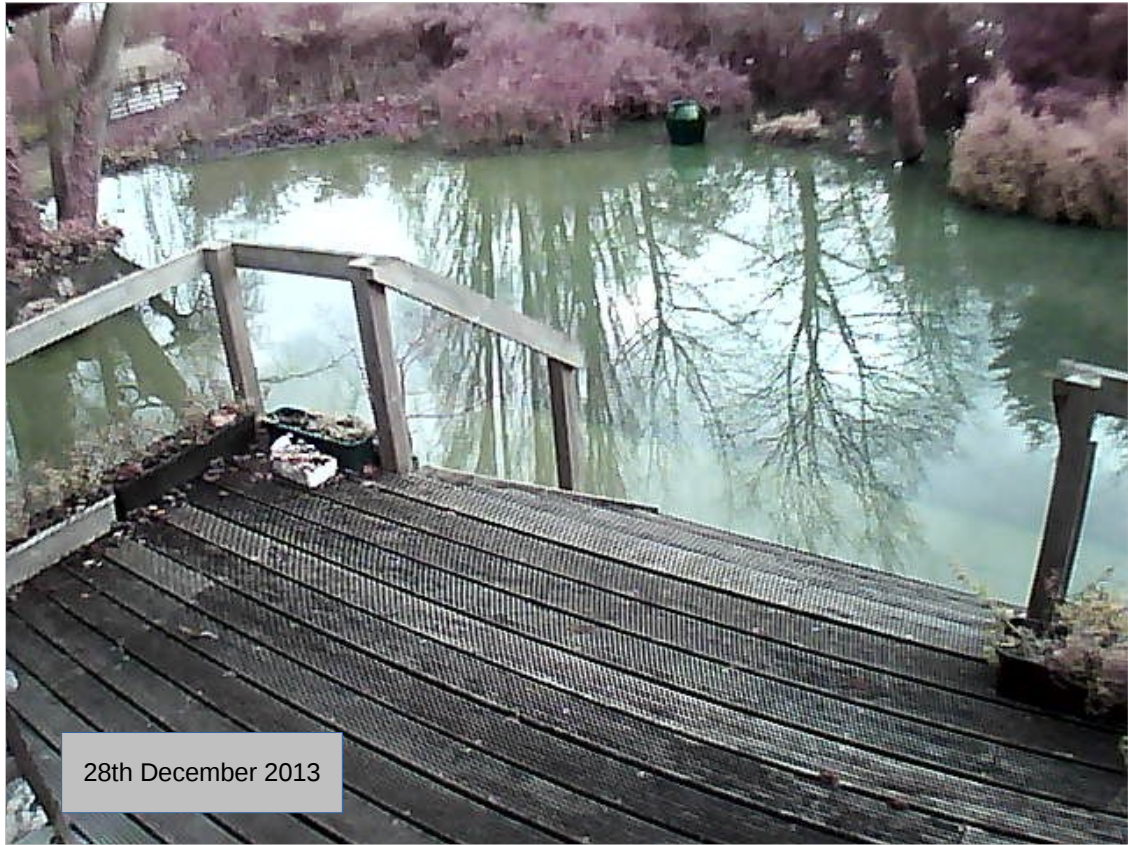
**Watch the green pot – it is waist-high**





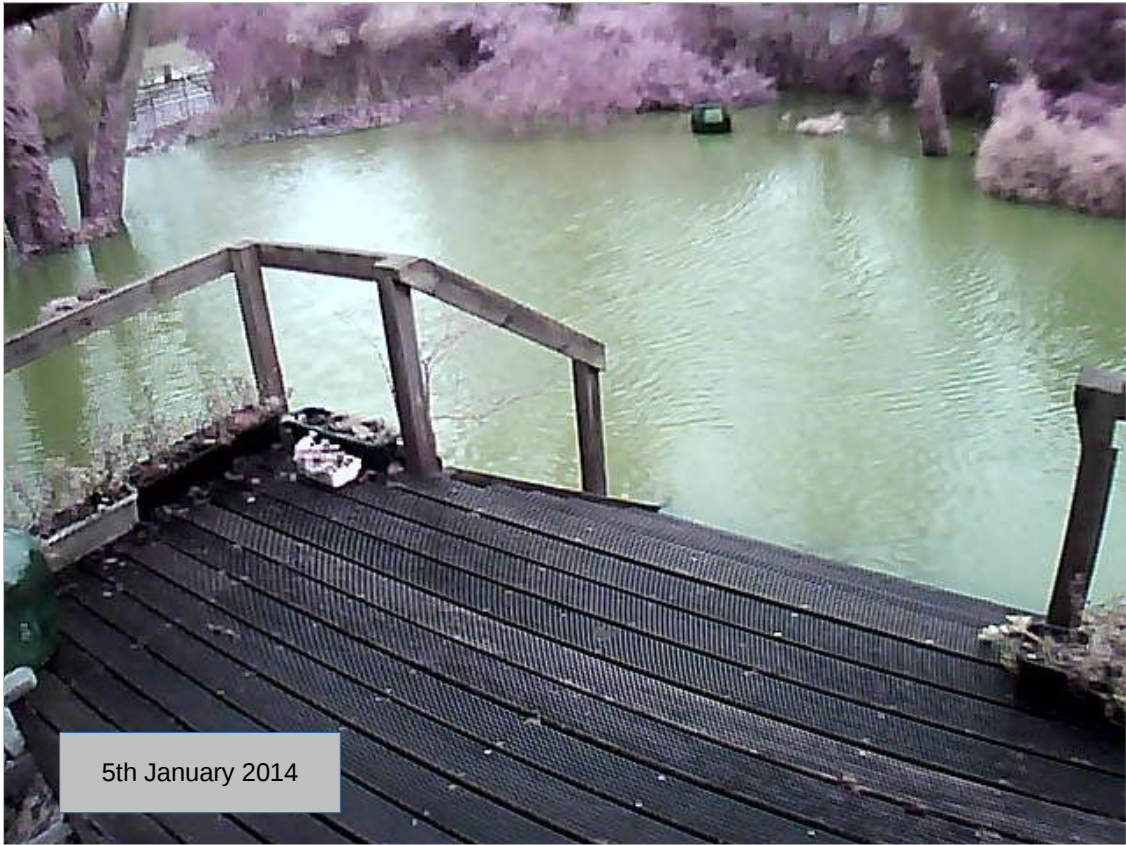


26th December 2013

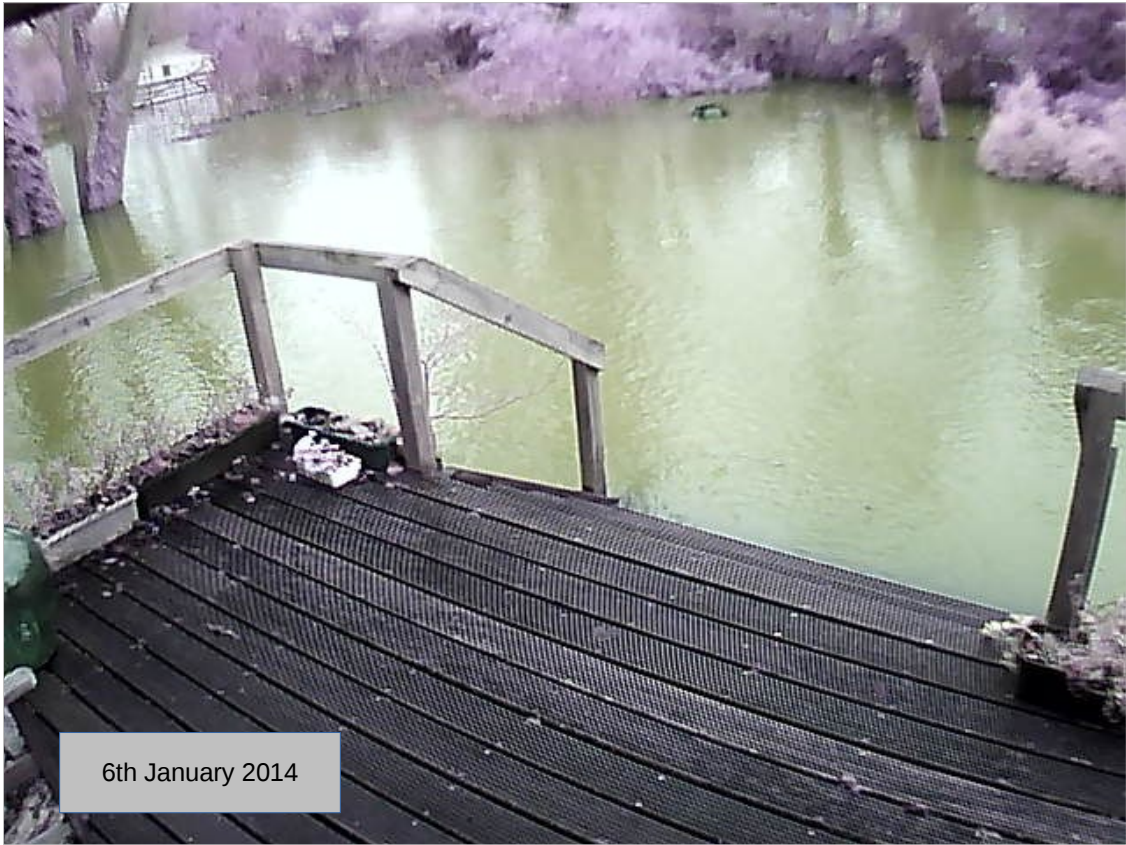


28th December 2013





5th January 2014



6th January 2014



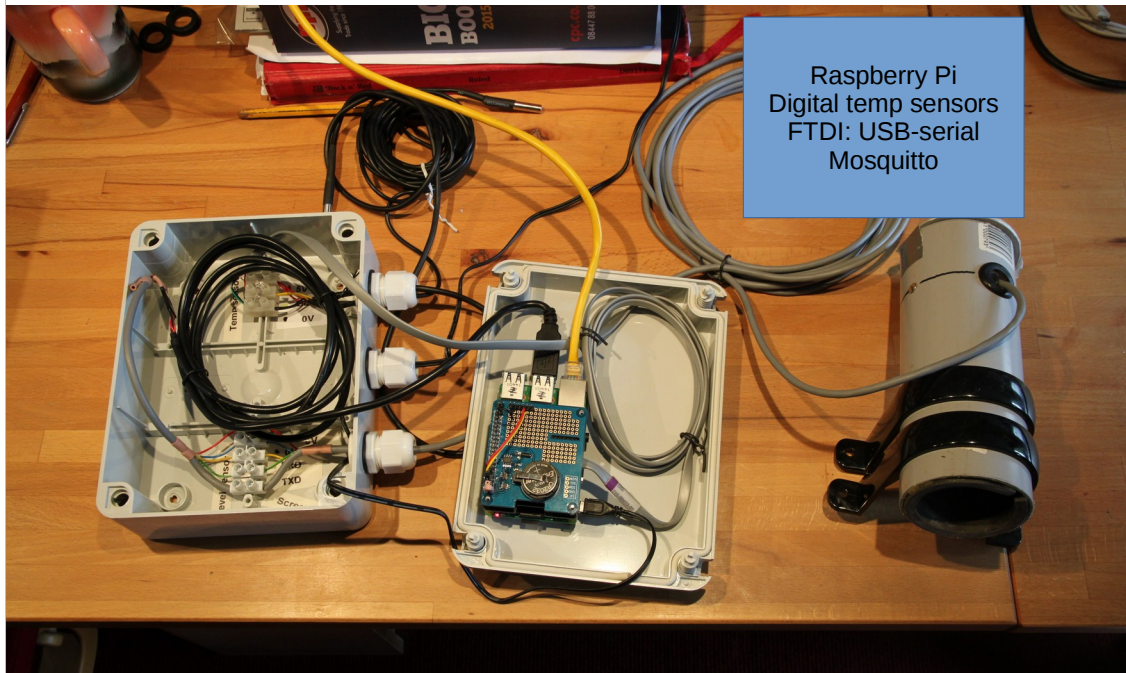
7th January 2014





It stayed like this for weeks...

## Datalogger Version 2



2015

Built for a neighbour on the other river

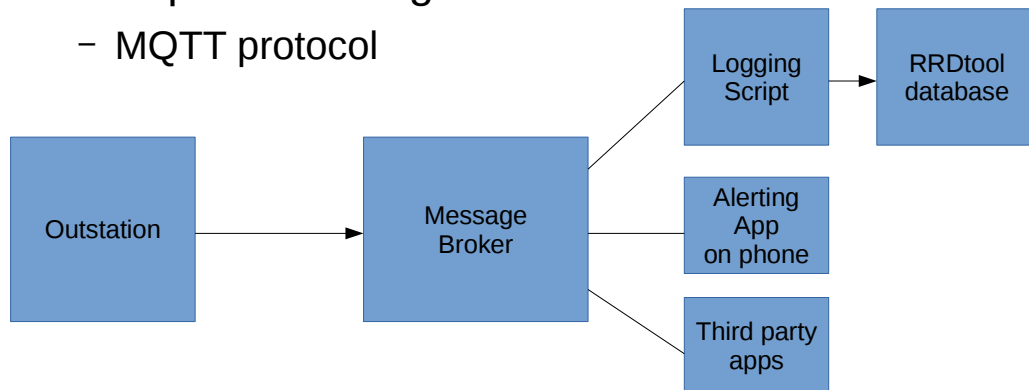
Raspberry Pi now easily available

Encapsulated DS18B20 temp sensors

Ultrasonic rangefinder giving more trouble this time

# Publishing live data

- Message Queues
  - Publish/Subscribe model
  - Allows multiple consumers to use the data
- Mosquitto message broker
  - MQTT protocol



## MQTT: Topic and Data

Topic	Data
sensor/thames1/temp/air	11.5
sensor/thames1/temp/river	11.75
sensor/thames1/level/river	{ "count" : 10, "max" : -55, "time" : 1493046748, "mean" : -55, "min" : -56 }
sensor/loddon1/temp/air	12.5

## We have data

- [dl1.findlays.net](http://dl1.findlays.net)
- River data is public – Oct 2012 onwards
- House data protected by ACLs
- Achievements
  - Detected several heating failures
  - Helped to get mother out before some floods
  - Provided data series for heat-pump project planning at Henley Management College

Started describing the datalogger at technical conferences

Jan-Piet Mens got interested and started making suggestions



## Mother is getting older

- More forgetful
  - Sometimes forgets to eat
  - Family worry more about falls
  - Family worry more about cooking accidents
  - Family worry more about unscrupulous visitors and phone-calls
  - Refuses to carry phone or panic button
- Mother is not worried at all!
  - We need reassurance that she remains safe...
  - Resist pressure to move her to 'a home'

# Fix the phone

- Commercial product: TrueCall Care
  - Fit between master socket and house phones
  - Transparent to calls from registered numbers
  - Can intercept or block calls by rule
  - Optional Web-based management service
  - Downloads numbers and rules each night using dial-up modem

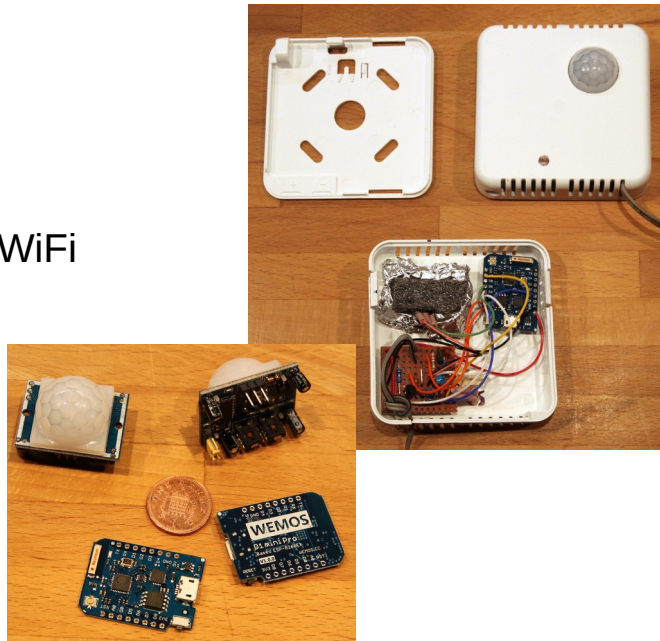


## Improve in-home monitoring

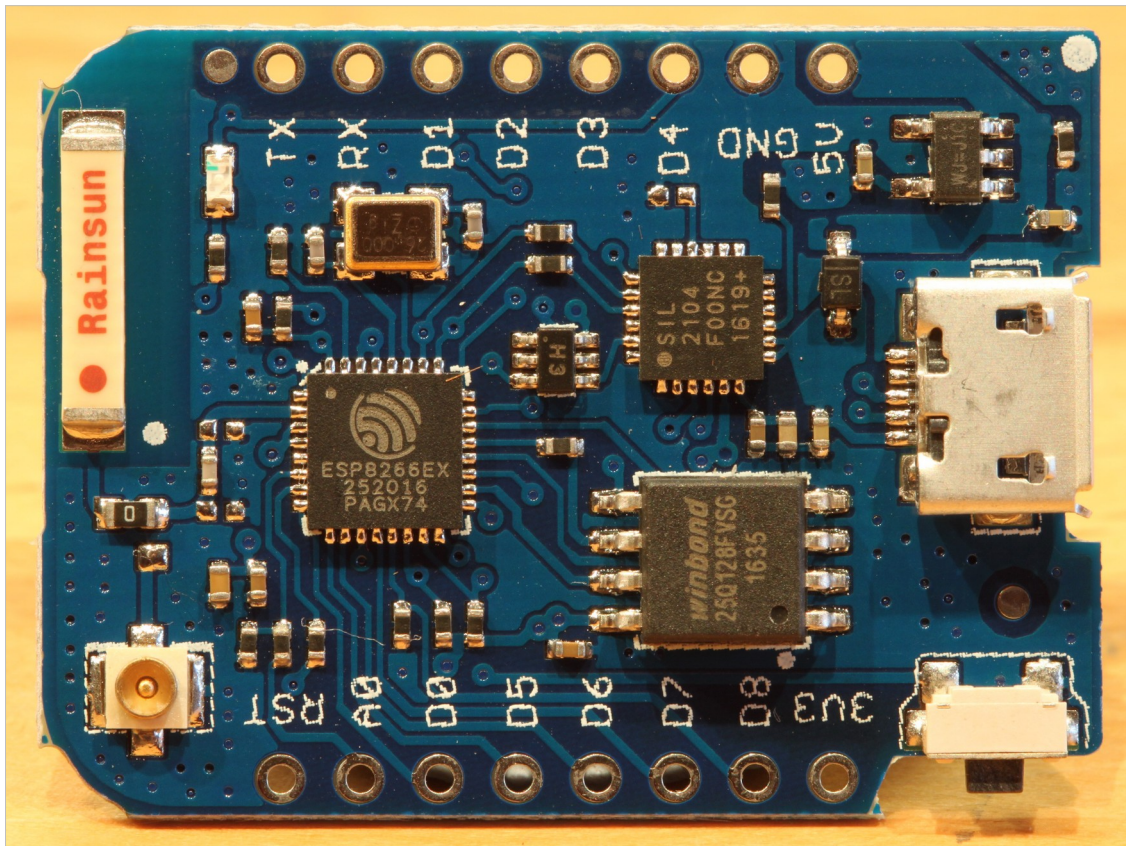
- Cameras too intrusive, and cannot give alerts
- Cannot ask mother to carry any devices
- Lots of people need this, so:
  - Open Source / Open Hardware project
  - Design as a product
  - Design for easy installation (wire free)
  - Consider security and privacy from the start
  - Alerting is complex: can we harness AI?
  - Most homes will need a lot of sensors

## Room-node

- Temperature
- Movement
- Light level
- Prototype using WiFi
- ESP8266 chip
- WeMOS D1
- Needs mains...
- ZigBee?

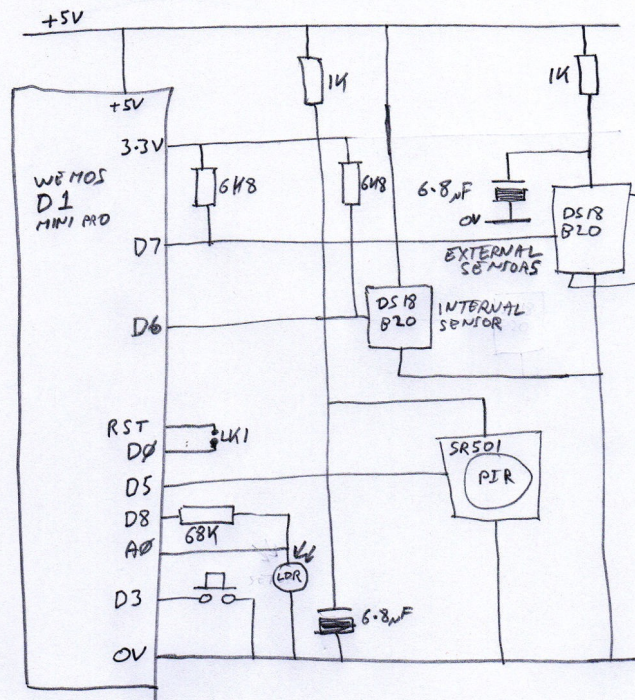


WiFi not ideal – needs power – but easy to prototype  
ZigBee or other low-power radio system would allow  
battery operation – need at least 2 years battery life  
Hoping that other projects will produce something  
useful: Olimex already have demo boards that  
come close (but use too much power). The  
MyMultiSensors board from the MySensors  
universe looks good but is not ready yet.



ESP8266 wonder-chip: 32-bit CPU, 64K instruction RAM, 96K data RAM, WiFi on chip, 16 IO pins  
WeMos D1 modules cost about €5  
Adds USB, 16MB Flash, ceramic antenna etc  
Modules also made by Olimex and others

# MONITORING MUM ROOMMODE (WIFI)



# Homie

- IoT framework using MQTT
- Unconfigured node runs a WiFi access point
- Send messages on event or on timer
- Auto sends housekeeping data
  - Software version
  - Signal level
  - Uptime
- Accepts command messages
- Supports over-the-air software update

<https://github.com/marvinroger/homie>

```

void loopHandler() {
    unsigned long now = millis();

    // Start temperature conversion
    if (!thermoConverting && (now - lastTemperatureSent >=
                                temperatureInterval)) {

        // We need to request a conversion
        internalSensors.requestTemperatures();
        thermoConverting = true;
        // DS18B20 does 12-bit conversion in 750ms so give it 1000ms
        thermoReadyAt = now + 1000UL;
    }

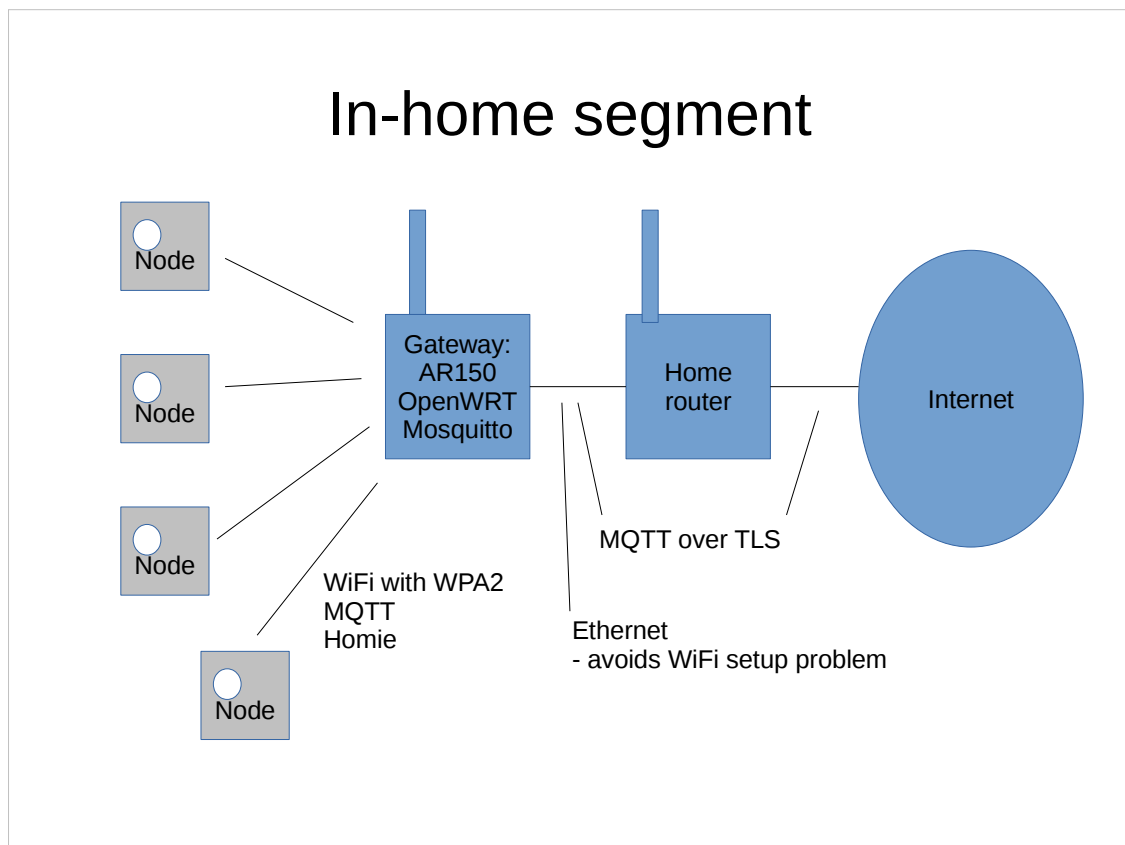
    // Read temperature
    if (thermoConverting && (now > thermoReadyAt)) {
        thermoConverting = false;
        // Read the temperature
        float internalTemperature = internalSensors.getTempCByIndex(0);
        // Send the temperature
        temperatureNode.setProperty("internal").send(
            String(internalTemperature) );

        // Record the time
        lastTemperatureSent = now;
    }
}

```

Part of the event loop for the roomnode





We don't use the home WiFi: need to shield the roomnodes from malicious devices

Gateway runs OpenWRT router code but does not forward IP packets.

Homie does not yet support TLS, so we add that in the gateway

GL-Inet AR150 routers: OpenWRT, £20, can add Mosquitto etc.

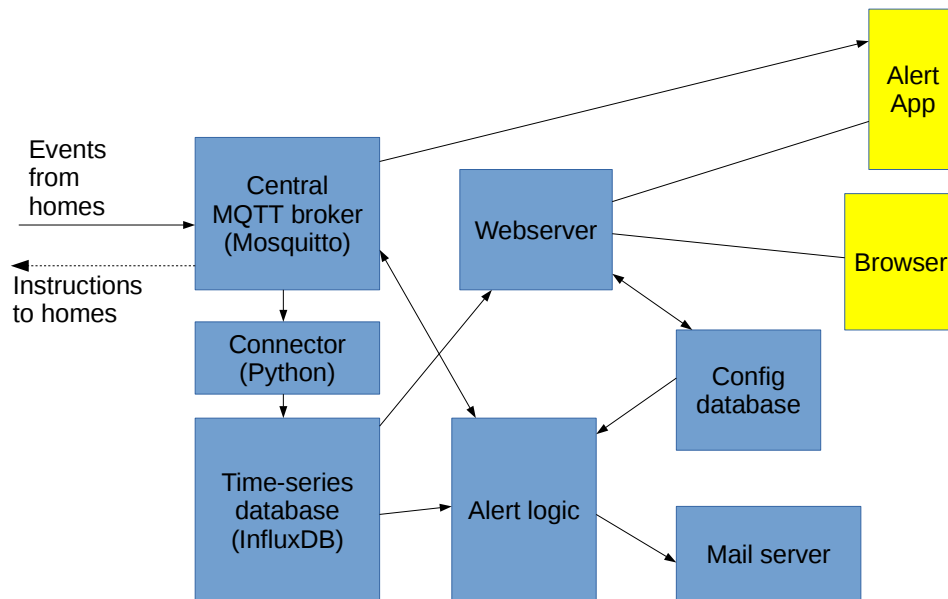
Gateway can also support GSM modem for non-Internet households

# Messages from Room-nodes

- Topic names: mm/<location>/<node-ID>/<item>

mm/granny90/2c19e0ef/\$stats/signal	16
mm/granny90/2c19e0ef/\$stats/uptime	176409
mm/granny90/2c19e0ef/movement/recent	false
mm/granny90/2c19e0ef/temperature/internal	17.12
mm/granny90/1925b6ef/light/level	19
mm/granny90/2c198eef/\$fw/checksum	87317735484734f90d14f2f208e8d1a0

## Shared server segment



Message Broker makes lots of things possible:

Alerting app on smartphone

Remote software updates (a new binary is just a message...)

It gets around the NAT problem as the home gateway opens the TCP session

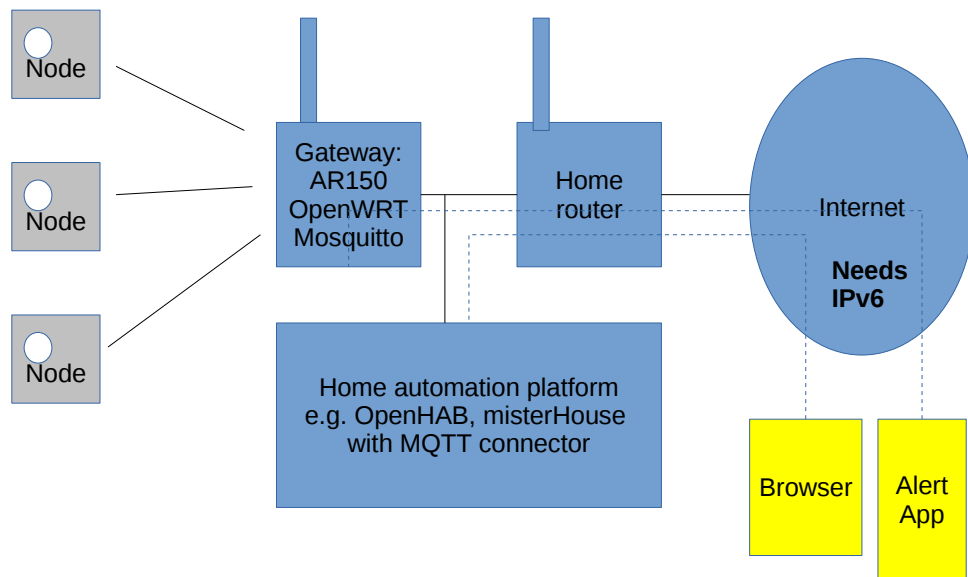
Can potentially allow third-party alerting services to receive messages for particular homes

## Buy it in a shop?

- Box containing gateway and a few sensors
  - Radios and security already configured
  - All open-source so can be re-flashed if desired
- Subscribe to a monitoring service (or build one)
  - Establish connection and trust with gateway
- Securely introduce more sensors if needed
- Securely exclude suspect nodes

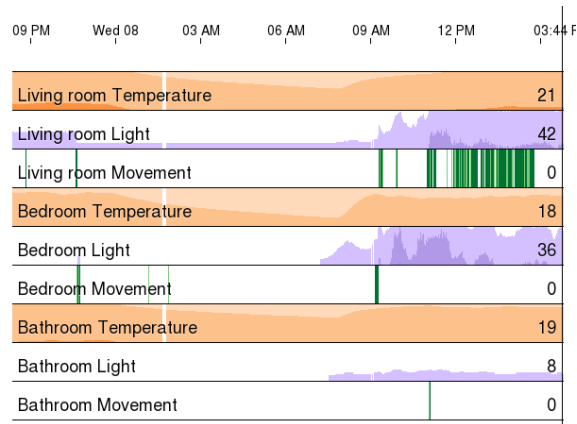
Not such a bad idea, whatever Michael Flanders might have thought...

## Completely in-home variant



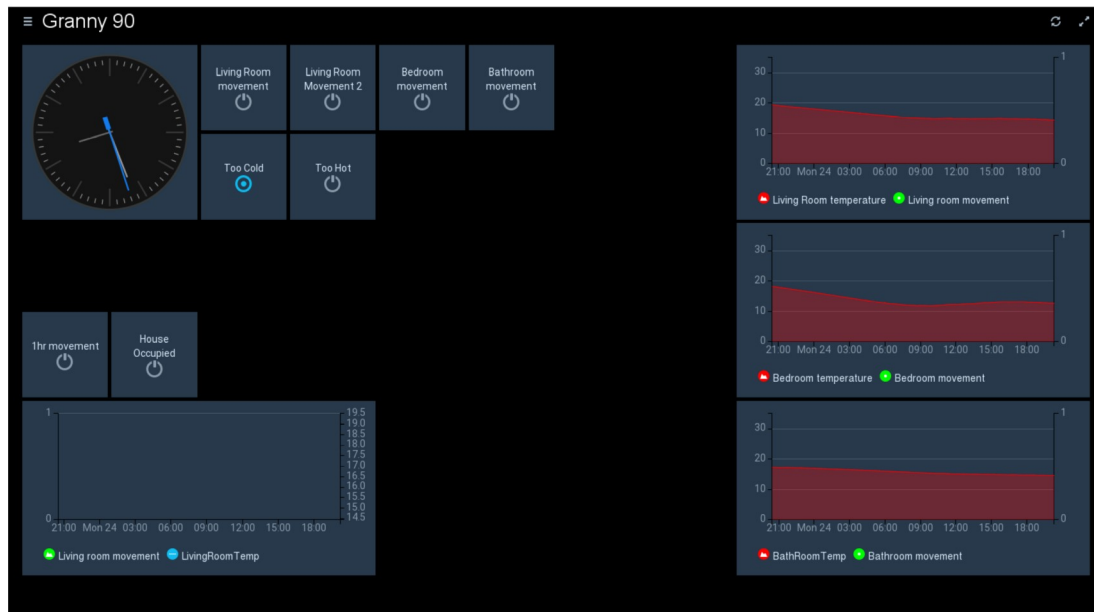
External access depends on making inbound TCP connections. Many domestic ISPs make this very hard. A clean IPv6 connection is the best long-term solution.

## Display: horizon graphs



- Compress Y axis by using colour to indicate wraparound
- Scan cursor with mouse to read values

# Display: OpenHab



Message queue allows many data consumers so we can try out new ideas easily  
OpenHAB panel looks good, but has issues with intermittent data sources

# What can we learn?



This is a 'normal' day:

Got up at about 9am

Moved around living room

Visited bathroom twice

Went to bed about 10:30pm and got up at 9:30am the next day

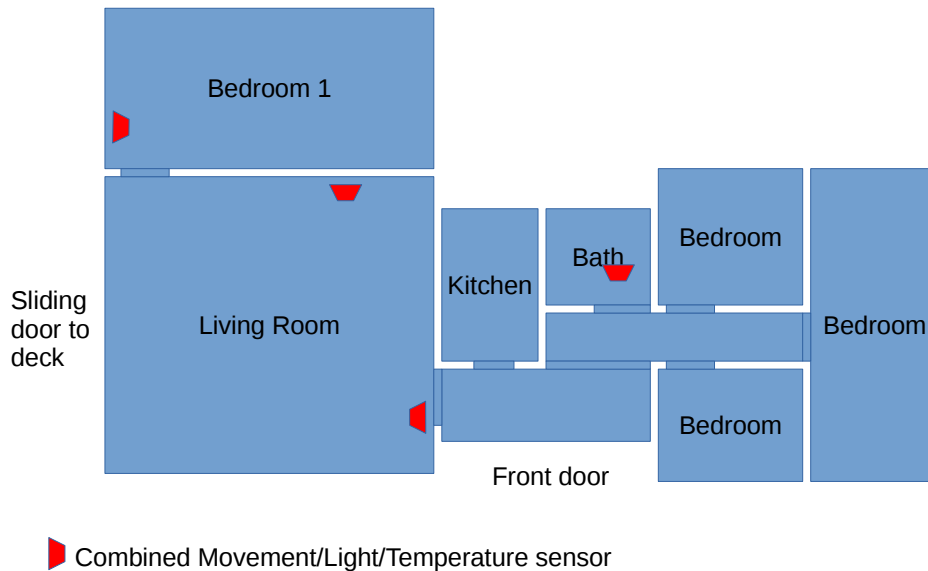
Some lost data on the second morning – maybe Internet connectivity problem?



## Alerting Rules

- House too cold or too hot
- Stuck in one room
- Did not go to bed overnight
- Did not get up in the morning
- Has not visited kitchen in <x> hours
- Has not visited bathroom in <x> hours
- Went outside and has not come back
- Has not taken medicines on time

## Sensor placement and rules



Can we now write some useful alerting rules?

Try these:

- 1) Fallen over and stuck in the bathroom
- 2) Did not go to bed
- 3) Did not get up in the morning

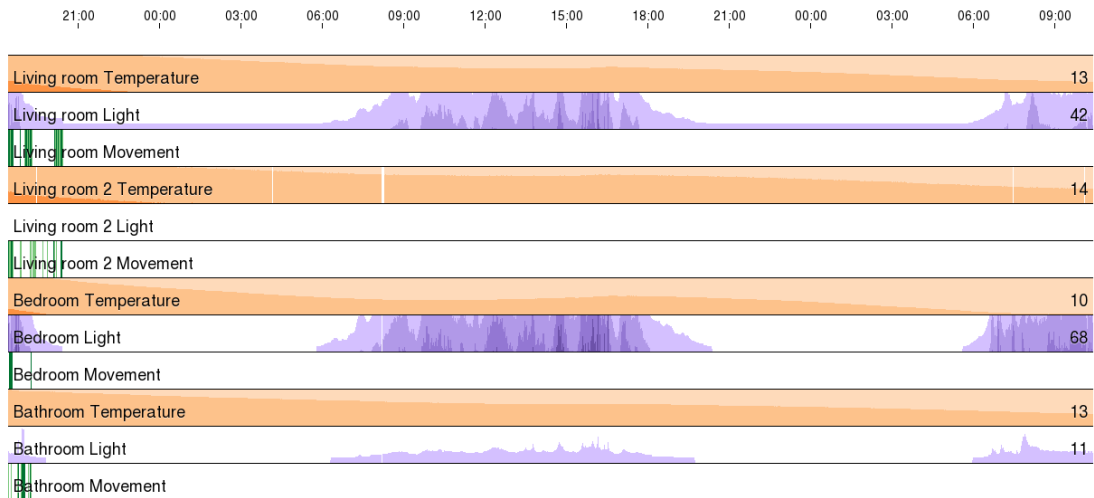
How do we cope with visiting carers and family?

How do we cope with going to stay with family for a few days?

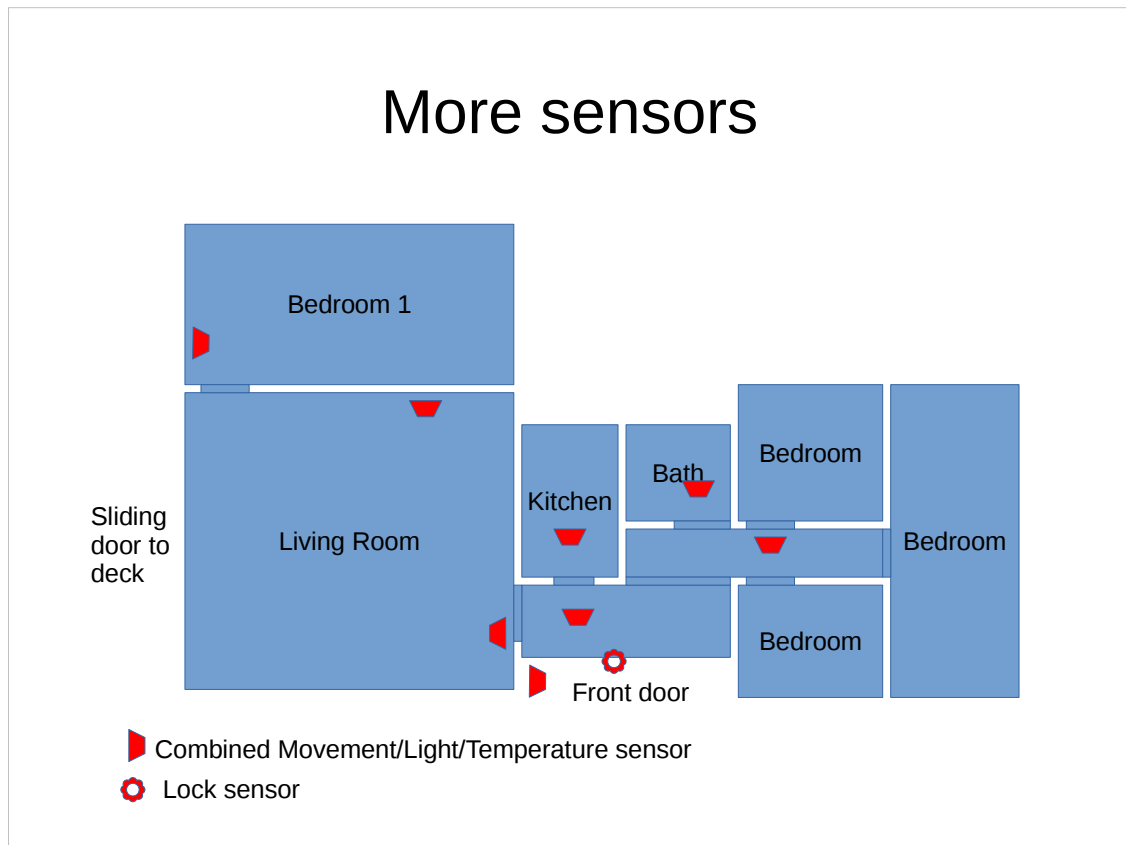
Do we need more sensors?

Can we sense the front-door deadlock?

# Where is Mum?



## More sensors



Now up to 8 movement sensors

Assuming smaller bedrooms seldom visited

Should be enough to work out which room a single person is in at any time

Might be able to detect cooker-left-on incidents from kitchen temp, or could add more temp sensors there

## Behaviour changes

- Older people may not keep regular hours
- They become dependent on others
  - Stop going shopping
  - Stop gardening
- They lose motivation for basic routine
  - Cooking
  - Cleaning
  - Bathing
- Each change will need adapted rules

Andy's gran and the dog...

## A challenging problem

- Writing good alert rules is hard
  - How can we make it possible for carers to adapt rules to requirements?
- Are we doing this for the client or for the carer?
  - Maybe a few robust rules and a good display system would work better
  - Carers must accept that it could take hours to generate an alert
- Issues of privacy and consent

# Monitoring Mum

Now on GitHub:  
<https://github.com/afindlay/monmum>

Andrew Findlay

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[www.skills-1st.co.uk](http://www.skills-1st.co.uk)  
27th April 2017