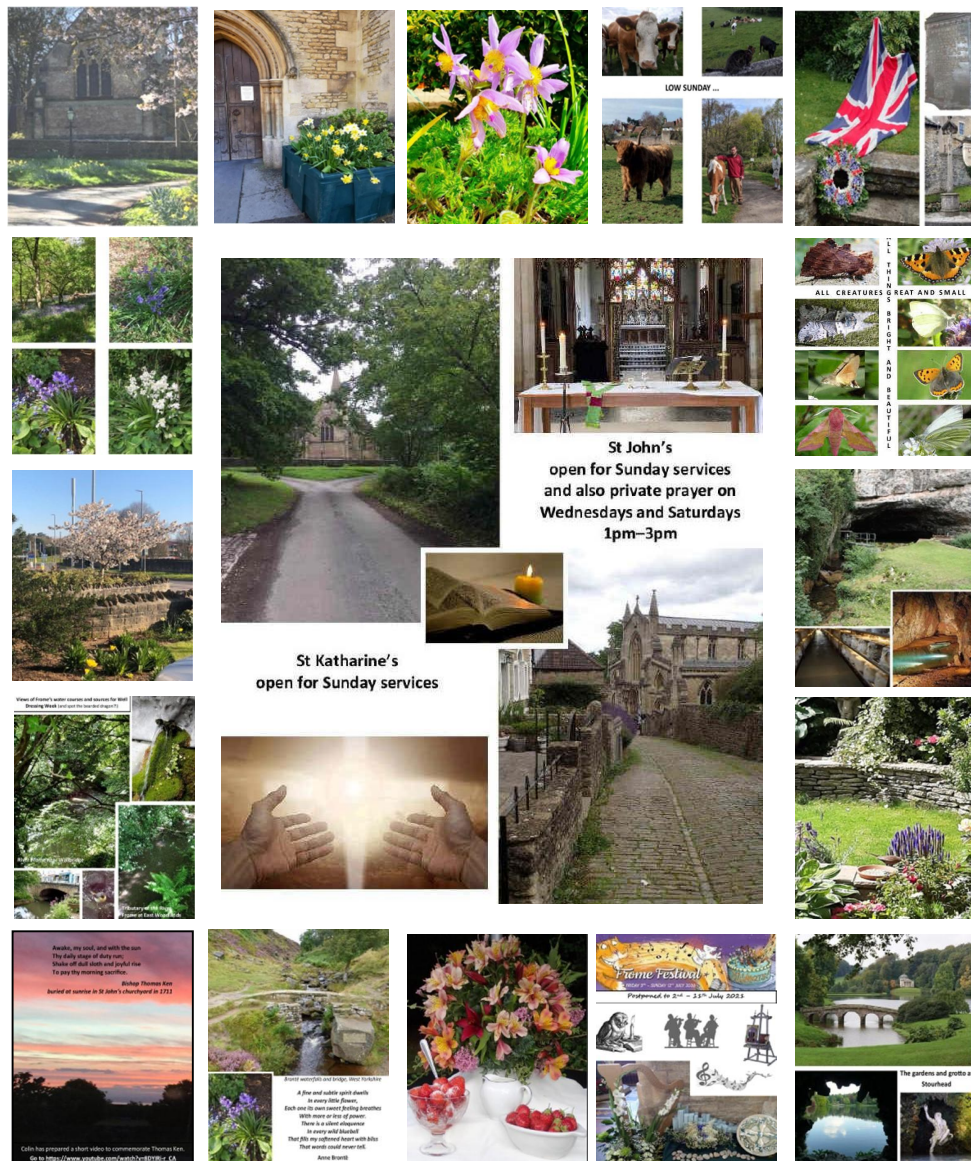


St John's and St Katharine's OUR FINAL WEEKLY EXTRA! Monday 24th August 2020



Happy Birthday to Elijah Pitman and Emily Doherty this week

From the editors!

At the start of Weekly Extra, we'd thought in terms of a four page spread for 6-8 weeks. It wasn't long before it settled into its 10-page format, and the end date was put back to the end of June ... then July ... and now August. Hopefully the Weekly Extra stopping now is a sign that things are indeed getting back to something approaching 'normal'.

We never had a letters page, and it is with some embarrassment – given some of its content – that we now finish with a letter from Janet below. We would like to add our thanks to St John's School and to all our contributors who probably don't realise how vital they were: the articles, snippets, puzzles and photos entertained, informed and inspired us, and kept the Weekly Extra going far longer than any of us envisaged. We hope you enjoy this last issue ...

.. and now it's goodbye from me and it's goodbye from her! See you in church!

Elaine and Mandy

Letter to the editors: Farewell!!

On 31 March the very first *Weekly Extra* popped into my in-box. In the days before, I had been included in some of the exchanges between Elaine and Mandy as they worked together, virtually, to put together something which from the start was designed to 'lift up our hearts'. What was it to be called? what sort of items should be included? Would anyone contribute?

Well, 18 editions later we know the answers! And how I shall miss it! All those unexpected snippets ... all those glimpses into people's back gardens ... all those happy memories ... all that wild life.



Rover gets a sneak preview of the final Weekly Extra!

Please don't misunderstand me: I hope and pray that it doesn't become necessary to restart *Weekly Extra*; that we don't return to those dark days when we can't meet at all; when we really don't know what is going to happen next.

But thank you to all those who have contributed long pieces and little pieces, all those lovely photos, the puzzles. In the words of someone who phoned as I was writing this, 'It has really made us feel that we are together even though we are apart.'

And everyone in our parishes and beyond, who wanted to, has received this – by email certainly, but also by post, or hand-delivered. And it has had an even wider audience on St John's website!

So a final thank you to Elaine and Mandy whose imagination and creativity encouraged so many of us to share: thank you for giving us something to look forward to, something that has reminded us of people we couldn't meet face to face, something good to treasure in what has been a difficult and dark time. Thank you from us all.

Janet Caudwell

Woodlands Cream Teas 2014 – a very special year

August 2014 marked the 300th anniversary of St Katharine's at East Woodlands – happily coinciding with the month-long Sunday afternoon Cream Teas – so this was always going to be a very special month.

The *Inspire* magazine said at the time:

The hectic month of August has passed. Five cream-tea Sundays this year – a challenge but well overcome by everyone concerned. The scones and cakes were delicious as usual, thanks to their creators. The 'wooden spoon' system worked a treat, good ideas from the committee put into action. Many willing, cheerful and friendly workers, whether serving, washing up, waiter/waitressing or helping in any way were greatly appreciated. The setting was lovely, as always, and the weather was very kind



too. Altogether a huge success and the final amount made, after expenses, was a whopping £1,633.10 which was divided between the Hall and the Church. Very well done to everyone! And not only that ...

...the fifth Sunday in August was a very special day for us all. As well as it being the 5th cream tea day, it was also our annual Songs of Praise, AND, to top all that, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, The Rt Revd Peter Hancock, along with his wife Jane, joined us for our celebrations.

The church was looking her best, with the beautiful display of floral art, for which thanks and congratulations to Vera, Sue and others for all their hard work, and with the late afternoon sun bathing the congregation in light ... an altogether wonderful setting. The choir and the congregation sang their hearts out with six hymns, three anthems, a psalm and the Lord's Prayer. Thanks indeed for the sterling work of the choir, but especially to Diana, for all her patience, dedication and hard work. Bishop Peter delivered a very interesting sermon, and took time to meet everyone after the service. A truly memorable day.

This photograph of the Bishop and our own Colin was taken outside the church after the service.

Colin wrote in his letter: *It was a great encouragement to see so many enjoy the 300th anniversary Songs of Praise at Woodlands and to welcome our new Bishop and his wife for the occasion. The weather was kind to us, the hospitality of the cream teas much enjoyed by many, and the music, led by the choir, helped lift our hearts.*





HARVEST HOME



In Harvest Festivals past we have brought our harvest offerings into church – sadly, that's not allowed at present, but here's a selection of fruit, vegetables and produce gathered from our own gardens, greenhouses, allotments and fields during lockdown.



The Lockdown Lifts

Eds. We've come a long way since lockdown began – and our Poem of the Week reflects that ...



There's life in the town!
No longer 'locked down'!
The people stroll out in the
sun
The majestic trees
Sway in the light breeze
Like they wanted to join in the
fun!

Like light after dark!
We can walk in the park!
Buy our tea and sit out on the
grass!
We can chat to our friends
As our loneliness ends
And we smile at the strangers we
pass!



Yes there are still queues
Which cease to amuse
But things are no longer so
black!
As they sing in that song –
You miss what is gone,
But it's great when at last it comes
back!

by Nigel Beeton

Places we love to visit Rocky Mountains and Alaska

Eds: We started the Weekly Extras with Lois and Terry on a cruise to Australia – and we end with another of their adventures – many thanks, Lois – sorry we could give you only one spread to cover this big trip ...

Our Canadian holiday in 2012 included a 2-day train trip on the 'Rocky Mountaineer' and an 8-day cruise to Alaska, but it started in Calgary from where we went by coach to Banff, passing the Winter Olympics Park, Rafter Six Ranch (in the foothills of the Rockies) and Bow Falls, as well as the Spiral Tunnels (an engineering feat as the tunnels go through two mountains and turn 230 degrees before emerging 56ft higher). Then on to Hoodoos, Banff Springs, and up Sulphur Mountain (named after its sulphurous hot springs) by gondola with its superb panoramic views.



Sulphur Mountain



Mt Assiniboine from helicopter



The Spiral Tunnels

The next day we took a helicopter ride across Mount Assiniboine – more superb views! We also visited Yoho National Park and saw black squirrels.

Jasper was our destination the following day, on the way visiting Lake Louise (a striking emerald colour), Peyto Lake lookout over the Rockies main range and Mistaya Valley; we also crossed the Saskatchewan River. We took a Sno-coach to Mt Athabasca and drove across the Columbia Icefield Glacier – and we also walked on it.

Again, the scenery was superb. To reach Jasper, we then took a river raft via some small rapids!

At Jasper we boarded the Rocky Mountaineer train for the 500-mile, two-day trip to Vancouver. The scenery was fantastic and dramatic, with lush forests and snow capped mountains; we saw eagles but only the rear of a black bear! The train staff kept everyone informed of the wildlife and the best photos from the vestibule, an open air platform. The journey was a great experience, lots of fun and truly memorable.



Lake Louise



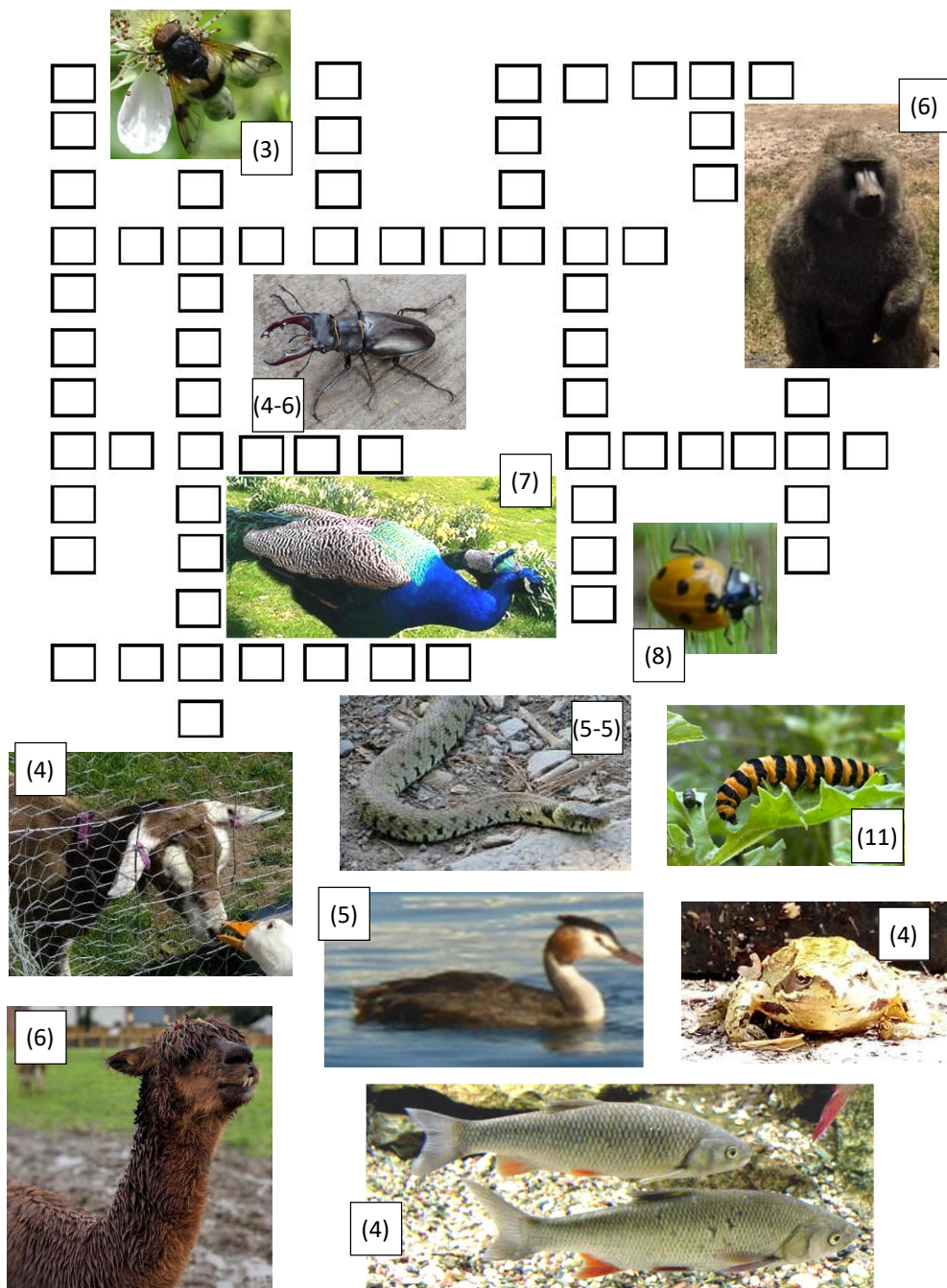
Mendenhall Glacier

After a day in Vancouver, visiting Stanley Park, we boarded the *MS Zuiderdam* to sail 800 nautical miles up the coast to Alaska – specifically Juneau (named after Joe Juneau who first struck gold in 1880), where we took a trip ashore and panned for a tiny piece of gold ourselves! We also saw beautiful husky dogs, and lots of salmon jumping. Sailing on to Skagway, we took a helicopter ride onto the Mendenhall Glacier, after donning various protective gear, and tasted the fresh waters running through it; the colours of the ice were quite incredible. Sailing through Sea Glacier Bay, we got really amazing views of the glacier from our balcony, and you could hear the strips of ice breaking off and falling into the ocean. At Ketchikan we went snorkelling: because of the bad weather the water was gritty and visibility was poor, but it was quite an experience – including pouring cups of hot water inside our wet suits to heat us up afterwards, before the hot chocolate!

Once back in Vancouver we had a further chance to explore and visited the Maritime Museum and also Granville Market with vast arrays of beautiful fruit. A truly amazing and memorable trip with incredible scenery, which seemed to get more amazing every day!

Lois Bushell

PUZZLE: ANIMAL KINGDOM – *with thanks to our wildlife photographers.*
Fill in the tiles using the photos as clues. Answers in next week's Inspire



Secret Worlds – hidden in these photos are two doors, some hungry caterpillars, one fledgling robin, and (eyeglass at the ready) his road-side cafe ...



GARDEN FLOWERS puzzle answers

	I	F U C H S I A	
S R	Y		
N I G	D		
A L S T R O E M E R I A			
P L	A N		
D D	G	L L	
R D E	C L E M A T I S		
A A N	A V		
G H R	E Y		
H O L L Y H O C K	N D		
N I	R O S E R		
A			

This week's SUDOKU

			1			8		
		8		2		5		
	2				7		9	
		9					8	5
	4	6				9	3	
5	3					1		
	1		3				4	
		4		9		6		
		7			8			

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Song titles answers: I'm leaning on a lamp-post at the corner of the street;
Somewhere over the rainbow; Every breath you take, every move you make, I'll be
watching you; Cruising down the river (on a Sunday afternoon)

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