



**W**elcome to issue 10, which features our younger people and what they've been doing during lockdown. I'm pleased also to include an item from Revd Dr Catherine Shelley, Vicar of St Edwards on their food bank, an initiative worthy of our support. Our thanks to all who helped make this year's unique **Christian Aid Week** so successful, particularly Diane Hudson, who co-ordinated all activity on behalf of Churches Together In Nottingham (CTIM). You will find direct links to the key reports, answers to the 2020 TV Quiz and donating on the home page <https://www.standrewandstalban.org.uk>. - there's still time to encourage others to donate! Finally, you can view **all** issues here - <https://www.standrewandstalban.org.uk/keep-connected> and print copy for those who don't have internet access. Don't forget to view the new garden gallery while you are there!



**D**iscover what our children and young people have been doing at home during the lockdown and unable to attend school. Have they been bored or have they loved it? How have they continued to learn and what have they been doing to keep occupied? Read on and find out!

**E**liza says, "I've got two new guinea pigs called Podge and Winnie. They really like their food and they always want more! We got them from the Ark Guinea Rescue Centre which is not far from here.



Also this week I went back to school. I was really, really excited to see my friends again. It's a bit different at school but I still love it. It's different because we're in bubbles and we don't have the same teacher. And we have packed lunches now - hooray! Also last week I made a model of the solar system and I learned the names of the planets by remembering this sentence "my very elegant mother just sat upon Nelly's pram!"



Today was exciting because our garden was dug up. Daddy got a mini-digger and I got to go on it! I miss everybody at church and I hope you are all well! Love, Eliza xxx

**R**osa has heard lots of stories recently about her friends getting new pets. She's always asking Mum & Dad for one but as they are not really 'pet people', Rosa sometimes has to find other solutions! She discovered a great feature on Google where you can use your smart phone to put an animal of your choice into your house and then take photos or videos of yourself with them. Rosa's Mum & Dad thought she might choose to do this with a cat,



guinea pig or maybe even a gerbil, but as you can see from the photos she was a little more creative!

Rosa says, "I liked lots of the animals I had in my house. Some of them were very big and scary so I had to be brave to sit close to them so Mummy could take a picture. I went back to school this week and it was fun and I was happy to see all of my friends, but I missed my brother Roman. He is not very happy when I leave the house and wants to come with me."



**S**amuel says, "Home-schooling is very different. Sometimes it's fun and sometimes not, because I prefer my teachers teaching; sorry Mum! I have created cakes with Mum and made my own bread with Dad's help. Dad and I go on evening walks to play Pokemon after he finishes work. The best bit of home-schooling is spending time with Mum, having lessons outside, playing in the garden and in the pool. I have kept in touch with family and friends online, like my friend, Robbie, whilst we're



in lockdown. We play Minecraft online together. We can also chat with each other over headphones whilst playing which is the best. I'm used to being busy but now I do things online, like scouts and church. Here is a poem I wrote during the lockdown; *Put My Mind At Ease* -



Why are my elbows not my knees?	...Why do buses come in threes?
Why do my feet smell like cheese?	Will I grow as tall as trees?
Why do my eyes close when I sneeze?	Why do wasps look like bees?
Which is best a hug or a squeeze?...	Can you cartwheel in the breeze?

If you know, can you tell me please?

**T**he **Birds and the Caterpillars**. Like many other people during lockdown we've been working hard in the garden and have

created a raised bed to grow our own vegetables, which the kids have loved helping with. First building the wooden frame, then filling it with mud, planting seeds, watering etc. Our cauliflowers have been doing well with someone/ something else enjoying a nibble here and there too! About two weeks ago we found the culprits - caterpillars! We decided to make a home for them somewhere else so we could watch them and see if we could grow a butterfly and this week we finally did! Atticus and Austin have loved feeding the caterpillars cauliflower leaves and were so excited to come down on Thursday



morning to a butterfly! We released him to the world today. Atticus painted this beautiful butterfly painting (*An artist in the making!* - Ed).



**L**ockdown, a kid's eye view! - the lockdown narrative of Theo, Rafe and Sophia Day as dictated to Mum, Imogen in answer to her questions.

**Theo** (age 7): I like home school because I get to stay with one adult and get to have special time with just my brother and sister and an adult. Mum usually teaches, my favourite subject is literacy [English] but I don't like doing my spellings. We've been on some bike rides and I jump on the trampoline a lot. We've had lots of family movie nights, where we get to watch a good movie and have pizza and posh salad, and we

eat in front of the TV. I really, REALLY like doing our traditional Sunday lunch.

It's bad that I don't get to see my friends any more but I sometimes chat with my friends on Zoom, and we've been having our ballet classes over Zoom too. My favourite thing has been spending lots of time with my loving family.

I like it when I get to go and do the shopping just me and mum. We wear a scarf on our face when we are inside so we don't catch Covid19.



**Rafe** (age 7): We've had lots of fun; Theo, Sophia and sometimes Mum jump on the trampoline with me. I like our traditional lunch, playing Wii on the weekends and playing the piano whenever I want. My favourite thing in home school is Art and Maths. We've done lots of 'Draw with Rob' (YouTube) and in Maths we have done lots of mental [arithmetic]. And I like doing Duolingo, I am learning French and I like the stories. I'm on a 63 day streak because I practise every day.

I don't see that much of my friends and we can't go out to a café for our lunch, but we've had some good BBQs at home. Mum cut our hair into a Mohawk; I look like a rock star. I've built a massive house out of Lego and I put new things in it every day.



**Sophia** (age nearly 10): I've been enjoying spending more time with my family, having a lot more free time to really think, and I like how you get a lot done - you can do things as part of school. Home school is a bit annoying because it's online. It's hard to settle down to do it because nobody is actually monitoring. My teacher is online at the same time as me but she can't actually see us. My favourite thing about home school is that it's more relaxed. I jump on the trampoline a lot. I really like getting lunch for everyone. I've been doing a lot of reading and I've been really enjoying family movie night. I've read the 'Witch Wars', all the Harry Potters, some poetry, lots of 'Horrible Histories' and all the Storey Treehouse books I have. On family movie night we eat pizza or pasta and watch a movie; everyone has to attend, including Mum and Dad.



The worst thing about lockdown has been learning more about my family, because we don't usually spend that much time together when we are at school for six hours a day. I loved dyeing my hair purple and like not having to wear a dress (school uniform).



*Editor's Note:* I'm sure you will agree that the contributions from our younger families are truly inspiring. We are fortunate to have such a wide array of talent in our midst. Sadly, there are far too many photos to include here, but head on over to the Keep Connected page of our website to see the full gallery - <https://www.standrewandstalban.org.uk/keep-connected>

**A** **nswers to last week's Mottingham Post Box Quiz:** The Victorian post box (1) is in Mottingham Lane (there is another in West Park), the George V post box (2) is outside Eltham College main gate, the George VI post box (3) is opposite the Coop on the estate and the Elizabeth II post box (4) is on Grove Park Road opposite Foxes Field. Henry VIII began the Royal Mail, Charles I extended it to the public and the first adhesive stamp was introduced by Victoria (Penny Black).

*Addendum* - Do you know where there is an Edward VII post box in Mottingham?

This week's quiz, courtesy of Radio 4's *More or Less*: Where in London would you see this descending order sequence of Roman numerals - **MDCLXVI** ?

Jane Cornish tells me the following people have **June birthdays**: Betty Walsh 8th; Sophia Day 10th; Imogen Roose 15th; Shawmine Donaldson 17th; Alex Bird 22nd. On behalf of all our readers I wish you all a *Happy Birthday!*

## **M**ottingham Food Bank - a response to need and a journey of discovery.

Revd Dr Catherine Shelley writes, St Edward's Church, Mottingham, has provided food parcels on a small scale for a while, thanks to donations from harvest festivals and surplus from the Co-op. Covid-19 has caused a huge upswing in need and community response, including partnerships with Fareshare, Chislehurst Rotary and local schools. We are now seeing over 120 families per week and have helped over 220 households in the past two months. The majority of help is food and household supplies but we also provide a few cooked meals, shopping, IT access, bill payment and collect prescriptions. If you or someone you know needs help the hall is open 9:30am to 1pm Monday to Saturday or you can phone 07711 611201 for delivery.

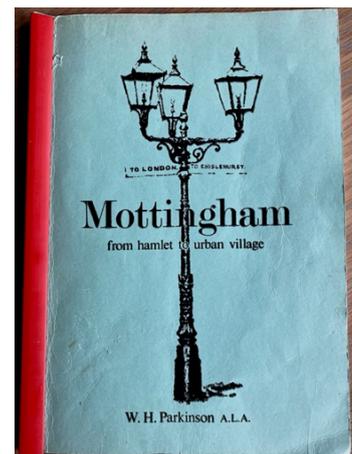


Alison Lawrie adds, as well as being open for collections, donations of tinned and packaged food, toiletries and household essentials e.g. washing-up liquid would also be gratefully received in the hall between the hours above. The Kimmeridge Road Co-op has a box near the checkouts in which any contributions can be placed. If supporting the project by donating money is a more convenient option for you, posting your donation (cash or cheque) through the rectory door would be much appreciated. Please make cheques payable to **St Edward's Church Council**.

Our local community has always been very generous in it's support of the Eltham Food Bank, so St Edward's could now provide an outlet for that generous spirit of charitable giving.

## **L**ocal History.

Court Road neighbour, Ray Andrew, who was born and brought up in Mottingham, lent me his copy of *Mottingham; from hamlet to urban village* which was written by local librarian, W H Parkinson and published in 1977. It briefly charts the rise of Mottingham from the earliest then known reference to 'Modingahema' in 862 AD in the Charter of King Ethelbert. According to the author, there are various interpretations of the name ranging from the Saxon 'proud home' to 'swine pasture of Moda's people'! Whatever it meant the name Mottingham was certainly in existence when George Stoddard built Mottingham Place in 1562. The book refers to early landowners and includes a couple of early maps, one of which is dated 1741-5 and includes 'The Porcupine' (now closed and owned by Lidl). There are also references to Fairy Hill, Cold Harbour, Mottingham and Chapel Farms, as well as the parish and church of St Andrew's, "built and consecrated in March 1880". And, of course, there are references to other notable Mottingham places and people. It seems that Mottingham's divided arrangement between two boroughs goes back some way! Well worth a read, if you can find a copy! More on this in due course.



**I**n closing this issue I would again like to thank those readers who have contributed and especially the children who have made it possible. Do take time to look at the **Keep Connected!** page on the website. In next week's issue I am hoping to feature your accounts of what brought you to Mottingham and the life you have experienced since you came here, including any photos if possible! So please send me your contributions and any ideas you may have on content for future issues.

Geoff Howard sent me a string of amusing cartoons under the heading *Wholly Holy Humour* and I include these to keep you smiling in lockdown! Until next Sunday,



Bob Lawrie

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