Ingersoll Pipe Band

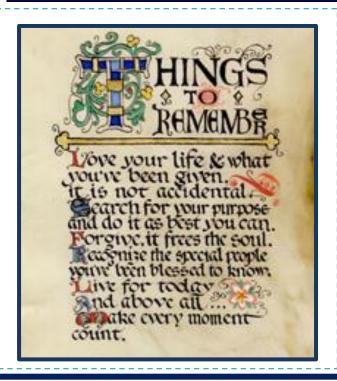






Volume 11 Issue 4 December 2021

Celebrating 111 Years



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The Ingersoll Pipe Band is all set to leave 2021 behind and enter 2022 with enthusiasm and energy! Despite all the unanticipated and anticipated variables that affected the band's practice and performance schedule over the past year, we were very fortunate indeed to take part in several parades and retirement/nursing home presentations.

The Band saw several learners progress through the ranks both in the drumming and piping units. A few folks took a leave of absence from playing for health reasons and we wish them all the best in their recovery journeys. A few others decided to "retire" from public performances and become "associate social" members. Once we get to hold some real social events in the hall we look forward to gathering with everyone again.

The capable leadership of Pipe Major Doug Collins and Drum Major Gail MacKay kept us all focussed on the music and the logistics of attending parades and other events. We also had to make sure that we looked after our home base – the IPB Armoury Hall, and Mary Ellen Muterer, our hall rental coordinator, made sure that we were on top of all the Covid protocols when we ventured into the building for practices.

Thanks to all the Executive members who so capably did their tasks over the year and in particular our Secretary Lisa Gardner, and our Treasurer Jane Muterer.

We will wait to see what curveballs 2022 throws our way but rest assure, the IPB will be fielding a full team roster!

- Editor - Veronica

A Message from the Pipe Major

"To all Fellow Members and Loved ones! Happy holidays to all of you.

As we close out another year we are so grateful we have managed to survive without Covid hitting our membership. I want to thank you all for doing your part to keep us all safe.

Along the way we were able to make music and have limited performances.

The Christmas parade season has been a blessing to our bank account and we have seen some returning faces into the fold in 2021. The turnout, as allowed at practices have been

The turnout, as allowed at practices have been fantastic and the band has sounded better than ever.

We are a bit unsure what will transpire in the New Year and it is possible we may have to return to Zoom online sessions.

In the meantime I want to thank John for his teaching of the beginners, Charlie for helping with the main band and Jack for help with the intermediates.

Thanks to Lisa and Dave for their work with the drummers and Gail for his support and guidance. Our executive has done a fine job this year and I look forward to what we can accomplish in 2022. Don't forget the annual meeting Sunday January 9 / 22.

The band exists because people step up to be involved and we are fortunate to have such members.

I want to wish everyone all the best, and a Happy New Year!

Band, By the Right Quick March!" - PM Doug

A Message from the Pipe Sergeant



"On behalf of my family and myself, I would like to thank the band for the lovely card of condolence on the death of my Mum. It was very much appreciated". - **Charlie**

Other Messages of Note



A Message from our Richmond, Michigan friend Christine Gatt:

(Your editor sent your Season's Greetings Messages to Christine. Here is her response)

"Hi Veronica, thanks so much for this, it is so beautiful and heartening to see such a wonderful connection with the IPB and all their friends over the years, I so enjoy your newsletters, always! and I miss you all so much, this pic is me trying to get over the border to see you all, hahahahaha, I don't think anyone is going to pick me up, poor me! so sad!

Christmas love to you! "- Christine

A Message from our Plymouth, Michigan friend Ellen Carr Tucker:

"I'd like to wish all of the members and friends of the IPB a wonderful Holiday Season and a healthy and happy 2022. It has been a real gift to be able to learn about the Band and its activities through the kindness of Veronica Jackson. I "discovered" the IPB on Facebook in the spring and have enjoyed watching the Band perform once restrictions were eased. Thank you for all the wonderful memories you've all brought back to mind. It really has been a wonderful gift you've given to me. Thank you and a VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL!"

- Ellen Carr Tucker

Granddaughter of Pipe Major Thomas Johnston



Taking Care of Our Hall



Since the weather was unseasonably warm at the beginning of November, we were able to get outdoors and "clean-up" our Armoury Band Hall on a lovely sunny Sunday afternoon. As the expression goes, "Many hands made light work" and within a couple of hours several major jobs were completed. Those included – power washing the siding; raking leaves; cleaning out eavestroughs; pruning shrubs and trees; sweeping cobwebs away indoors; vacuuming; wiping down countertops; etc. Thanks to the following for coming out: Angus, Doug T, Doug C, Lois, Nancy, Harold, Joanne, Mary Ellen, Ron, Gail, and Veronica. Here's a few photos of most of the crew.

INGERSOLL PIPE BAND



Inside the Hall at Practice



Thursday night practice at the band hall is taken VERY seriously. You couldn't get much more serious than some of these pipers and drummers trying to learn new Christmas tunes for the upcoming Santa Claus parades.















Of course not everyone takes it so seriously. Some of our drummers are known for "fooling around".

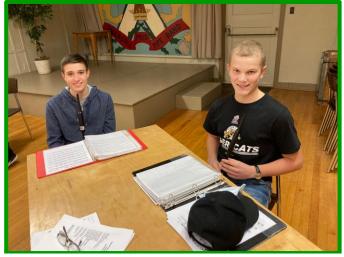


(There are smiles behind those masks)



These folks are all smiles as they show off their new acquisitions –Stewart tartan scarves made by Drummer Jane Watt.
From left to right-Lee, Bonnie, Lana, and Kathy They will need them for all the Santa Claus parades in 2022!

No way can you be **all that serious** when you are in high school and you get to swap out homework for practice chanters....Sam (on the left) and Liam (on the right) have got the correct piper's attitude- enjoy the challenge of learning and memorizing new tunes. Added advantage – they have nimble fingers and very sharp brains – lots of grey cells in the memory banks.



Pipe Sergeant Charlie loves to find unique Hallowe'en costumes. This year he tried out his dinosaur suit the week before Hallowe'en on the gang at the pipe band hall. (This was prior to scaring his grandchildren). Of all the drummers to choose from, he decided that Dave Haycock was the best victim for his attack.PM Doug is trying to ward Charlie off but the rest of the drummers -Dave's wife, DS Lisa, and Scott, Harold and Doug G were willing to sit back and let Dave take one for the team!





Piper Steve Shepherd's partner, Heidi and the boys were out trick or treating in the rain on Oct. 31st. Say hi to theMario Brothers.



"Billy had a super crappy game in Waterford tonight. On the way home about 8pm we noticed a few houses with their lights still on. He asked if we could go hit a few houses. So we pulled over and got out on some very stinky wet equipment and filled up a glove and a bag fairly full in a mad dash before everyone closed up! It was awesome. " - Catherine



Charlie and The Grandkids

Remembrance Day Ceremonies November 11th, 2021 This year, November 11th fell on a Thursday so

This year, November 11th fell on a Thursday so not all our pipers and drummers were available to take part in the annual event in Ingersoll. Several members were at work, or at school or were busy piping or drumming in other locations. Despite this, we had a good turnout – 8 pipers, and 5 drummers and our drum major.

Our PM Doug tuned us up and then we marched the short distance to the Town Hall cenotaph where the service open to the public was held this year. As in the past, it was organized by both Town and RC Legion Branch119 representatives. The weather cooperated and the pipes and drums sounded great.



PM Doug tuning Jack's pipes above and Ron's pipes below





Pipers Mary Ellen, Pipe Sgt. Charlie, PM Doug C, John



The Marshalls - Ron & Wendy



Pipers Catherine and Steve S



Drummers Doug G, Harold, Doug T, Jerry



"On parade" on Oxford St. with DM Gail Right click on the photo above to access a video of the Nov 11th march



Hillcrest Legion Members Branch 119



Catherine and her mom, Joanne



Cheryl piped outdoors in Aylmer at one of the long term residences at a service held for its residents



Angus piped in Embro at that community's Remembrance Day Service





Scott played on Nov 11th in Kitchener
Scott Munro is a drummer for the Royal
Highland Fusiliers of Canada(RHFC), 31
Canadian Brigade Group, 4th Canadian
Division, Canadian Armed Forces.
The Fusillers are based out of the Colonel J.A.
McIntosh Armoury in Cambridge but they had a
smaller scale (no parade) service at the
Kitchener Armoury.



Scott is in the photo above, second from the left





Piper Liam McCreery is not only into music but also baseball. As a member of Embro's Under 14 Boys team, Liam and his mates finished first in their league and were runner ups in the A division. Below is a photo of the team posted on the Embro Minor Baseball Association Facebook page.





Liam is in the centre holding the team trophy. Congrats, Liam



Intermediate piper, Sam Bell, when not practising tunes is busy perfecting his swimming strokes. Sam attends practice for the Ingersoll Speed Sharks swim team every Thursday evening. So frequently his mom, Lisa MG has to depart practice to go and pick up her speedster and bring him back to the band hall.



Sam was kept busy during parade season volunteering to assist Lois carrying the IPB Banner





Doug Glover submitted the next sports item for the newsletter-



"Sarah and I went to the Alouettes game on Friday in Montreal. Before I left London, I set my TV to record the game. When I checked the recording, Sarah and I were on for 5 seconds (I could tell by the recording time stamp). There was an injury on the field and I guess we looked concerned and so the TV director left the camera on us." – Friday 22nd October





IPB pals Steve Shepherd and Harold Matthews are showing their team spirit for The Leafs at a recent hockey game at the Scotiabank Arena in Toronto. They cheered loud enough to spur the home team onto a 5-4 win over the Columbus Blue Jackets.



At the end of October we weren't all that sure how many Santa Claus and Holiday events that we would take part in during November and December 2021. AS it turned out, there was a number of them.

We began with the "Lighting of the Lights" event in Woodstock; this was followed by pipers playing at the Museum Square in Woodstock to entertain folks waiting for Santa Claus wagon rides. The next event was in Embro, followed by parades in Ingersoll, Belmont, Innerkip and then back to Woodstock. Some of these were afternoon events while others were evening events. We went from relatively fair and seasonably warm conditions to snowy, freezing rain, and BRRR cold conditions. Such is the fate of pipe bands trying to have a little fun by entertaining parade goers, spreading holiday cheer and working hard to add a few dollars to their band coffers.

The next few pages will take us "Down the Road" again to all these events and demonstrate our true Scottish Canadian grit!



Woodstock Lighting of the Lights Friday November 19th



The holiday lights in downtown Woodstock will soon be on display. (Kathleen Saylors/Sentinel-Review file photo) From the Woodstock Sentinel Review November 17, 2021

"City officials are inviting Woodstonians to join them for the unofficial kickoff to the Christmas season with the annual lighting in downtown's Museum Square. This year, the square in front of the Woodstock Museum National Historic Site will be brighter than ever, promised city community services manager Brad Janssen, with hundreds of lights and dozens of spectacular displays. The early evening familyfriendly fun begins at 6 p.m. with the traditional Woodstock Museum scavenger hunt, followed by a singalong of holiday hits with the Woodstock Collegiate Institute Voices. After an official greeting from city officials, and a cameo by two very special guests arriving with the help from Woodstock firefighters, the switch will be flicked for the lighting of the square. The free event will conclude with a seasonal performance by the Ingersoll Pipe Band."

The agenda for the night is below: - 6:00pm: Scavenger Hunt at the Woodstock Museum -6:45pm: Sing-along with the WCI Voices H.S. choir

- 7:05pm: Official greeting
- 7:10pm: A cameo by a couple very special guests arriving with help from the Woodstock Fire Department
- 7:15pm: Lighting of Museum Square
- 7:20pm: Ingersoll Pipe Band

A special thanks to Band Associate Member Kevin MacKay for sending on many of these terrific photos from the evening.







More Woodstock Museum Square Photos





Santa's Wagon Rides Woodstock Nov. 26th& 27th

The Woodstock BIA requested us to send a couple of pipers to the Woodstock Museum Square area on Friday the 26th and Saturday the 27th. On Friday night, John Lynes and Liam McCreery provided the piping and on Saturday afternoon, Doug Collins and Veronica Jackson piped some seasonal and favourite Scottish tunes.



Santa House & Carriage Rides

Starting November 26, 2021

Enjoy a ride on a horse-drawn carriage, and get your Christmas shopping done early through select weekends in November and December in Downtown Woodstock! Cancelled - December 11

View Schedule



Liam and John looking stylish in their Santa gearDoug trying out Santa's chair in Santa's hut

Christmas in the Square

Carriage Rides with Santa - Live Music - Art Market

Friday Nights (5-8PM) & Saturday Afternoons (12-4PM)

Embro Christmas Parade November 27, 2021





The Embro Community was out in full force to cheer on all the parade participants on a very snowy, stormy evening. The weather conditions were quite a contrast from those at our performance at The Woodstock Square the weekend before. The snow definitely put everyone in the Christmas mood. If you right click on the photo to the left, you will hear the IPB playing its favourite Christmas tunes: "Jingle Bells" and "Good King Wenceslas".



Pipe Sergeant Charlie with pipes all lit up



Drummers Freya and Doug G



Drummers Doug and Wendy



By the right, march (slowly please watch those slippery streets)



"Oh what fun it is to pipe"

Rotary Club Ingersoll Christmas Parade December 4, 2021



As per usual, band members congregated at the OPP / Ingersoll Fire Department parking lots on the corner of Mutual Street and Wilson Street. It was quite windy but the sun was shining. We had an excellent number of members come out to play in the band's hometown. The crowds were very large and very enthusiastic. Like most communities, the locals were so happy to get back to an annual event that had not been permitted in 2020. Thanks, DM Gail and bro' Kevin for shuttling us!











Marching South on Thames Street crossing over King Street





Jack took a tumble near the end of the parade but brushed himself off, straightened his glasses and soon looked ready to do another parade! We will have to ask the Public Works Dept. to fix the crevices in the pavement.



Harold decorated his "real estate" car for the parade. A few of the IPB gents thought that it was definitely decorated like a "boy's toy". I wonder what they meant by that!?



If the Ingersoll parade on Saturday was bright and sunny, the Belmont parade was dark and rainy. In fact, by the time the parade finished everything was very wet and cold including all the instruments and the musicians' hands. The pipes and drums have definitely sounded better but hey, the crowd still loved it. Check out the FB feed.



While most of the pipers and drummers braved the elements outdoors under the overhang of the Community Centre and Arena complex, we did have a few individuals who took cover inside the building.







Say hello to Harold, Don, Al and Steve S.

Despite the pouring rain, PM Doug managed to get us all tuned up! Also happy to report everyone made it safely home despite the freezing rain.





Belmont Lions Club Facebook page December 5 10:08 PM ·

What a great parade! Congrats to the organizers and all the participants - the Belmont Lions club is always happy to be involved and to support our community events. Thanks to Lion Andrew and Demary drainage for the float and accessories. A little damp but the Christmas spirit was very evident by the large number of spectators Merry Christmas everyone.



Innerkip Parade December 10 2021



What can we say about this parade?! It will definitely go down in IPB history as the **windiest** parade ever (well at least in the present day band members' memories). Gusts of wind all afternoon caused multiple power outages in the surrounding areas so we were relieved to see that the village of Innerkip still had lights at parade time –6pm.

Past Weather in Innerkip, Ontario, Canada — December 2021

December 10th

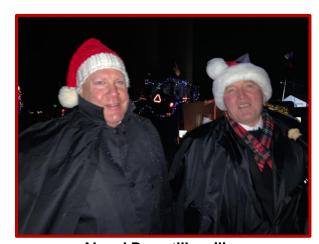
5:00 pm	4	4 °C	Mostly cloudy.	59 km/h
5:14 pm	*	4 °C	Light rain. Overcast.	54 km/h
6:00 pm	*	3 °C	Light rain. Overcast.	46 km/h
6:33 pm	*	2 °C	Light rain. Mostly cloudy.	43 km/h
7:00 pm	***	2 °C	Light rain. Mostly cloudy.	54 km/h
8:00 pm	***	2 °C	Light rain. Mostly cloudy.	50 km/h



Steve S and Lisa MG huddling in their rain capes



Nancy and Catherine



Al and Ron still smiling

It was harder standing around waiting but once we got moving we warmed up a bit. We were blown about a but Santa hats stayed secure. The end of the parade was something else as we turned into a parking lot to retrieve our cars and found ourselves trying to march facing due west into a storm! But that's how memories are made. Again a HUGE thank you to Kevin and Gail for showing up to shuttle us from parade end to the start.



Jane and Scott



Billy in his camouflage Santa hat



Drummer support team member - Dave H



Steve S and Jack



Doug T, Doug G, and Jane



PM Doug and Angus

The Final 2021 Parade - Woodstock December 12th

The day of the Woodstock Santa Claus parade dawned bright and sunny and relatively warm for a December parade! Usually the IPB is visiting Woodstock for a night time parade so we were immensely happy this year that the parade was moved to a 2 pm start. We tried to let all the organizers know how happy we were with this arrangement. The crowds appreciated it as well!



Just look at all those smiles to match the brilliant sunshine!







Here's Don indicating that he would like to play two sets of pipes



Waiting in the circle for instructions



Uh oh! Lace malfunction for Steve S

And we're off!



Well almost...ready to step off.



"The Woodstock Santa Claus Parade made a triumphant return after a one-year pause".

(photo from the Woodstock Sentinel review file)



Band marching west on Dundas Street (Right click on the photo to hear a couple of our favourite and the crowd's favourite tunes)



The parade favourites

Visit to Paris

Piper Catherine Stark sent along the following pics and info about a recent gig in Paris ON.

"Our little rogue mini band from the Covid Days thought we'd lighten the spirits of those in the Retirement Homes in Paris again before it gets too cold. We started at Wincy Mills. Lois joined us as well and "the kids" too, Aurora and Billy!!!





October 29, 2021

"Pìoban Suas" (Pipes Up)! - Rising to the Occasion...

...an inspiration to us all.

That inspiration is doubled for me when it is done by one of my wonderful bagpiping students.

The challenge thrown down was daunting.

Play every single day for an entire year. That's right. A difficult task indeed.



10 minutes a day, every day. If you miss, we add a day.

Would anyone take on the challenge?

Catherine Stark took it on, and incredibly, has played every day but one.

Catherine has been sending videos and photos of her journey, recording her life as she practices from her home in Princeton, Ontario. She still continued to play on her trips to Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick. Quebec, and Nova Scotia.

The travelling piper is committed.

"Looking back at the year, I believe you have seen me in every state. There have been videos I've cried in, celebrated in, and said really bad words in," Catherine told me.

The challenge started with the idea that we all needed hope and role models to look up to during some difficult time for musicians.

"It was a hard time, getting through this music business while the pandemic swept the nation.

Seeing her morning posts was such a rewarding and inspirational way to start the day. It made me remember that all will be well, and to keep on."

Please join us as we cheer her on through blogs while she races through these last few months of this contest. Her ending date is January 23.

Sincerely,

Mule Anstrony

Heather Armstrong,

Director, Scotia Music www.scotiamusic.ca

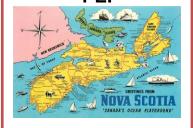
Catherine wrote:

"I had to keep playing everyday for the ScotiaMusic 365 Challenge. Sometimes we just pulled off the highway and while Adam took Sir for a walk I did my practice."

It looks as if Sir found a few microbreweries on his walks!

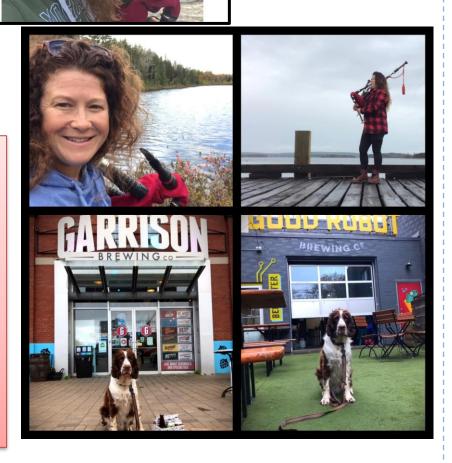


The Stark Family Fall Trip to Nova Scotia and PEI





Catherine, Adam and Sir enjoying the autumn air down East in Sheet Harbour NS



Travels with The Glovers

"Catherine and I have a blended family and we decided for Birthday presents this year we would give each of our children special time with their parent alone.

In October I traveled to Montreal to be with my daughter Sarah. We spent three days together and had a great time. We walked around Old Montreal and the Old Docks, climbed up to the top of Mount Royal and for our special time had dinner in a restaurant downtown and went to the Montreal / Ottawa CFL game at Molson Stadium. In November Catherine and I both traveled to the Town of Valley View, California for six days to visit Grandkids and so I could have my special time with my daughter Candice. Catherine and I went to the beach with the grandkids, hiked up a mountain to see Silicon Valley, visited the Apple Campus and their Café, went to a few museums and visited the Grandkids school where the cafeteria and hallways are all outside. We had dinner with the family downtown. There are many restaurants downtown with the whole main street is blocked off and covered with patios and strings of lights. For take-out delivery to homes near the downtown, the restaurants uses self-driving robots. Nobody pays any attention to them, it's a California thing. My special time with Candice was her request for just the two of us to go to a restaurant in downtown Mountain View on a different night. Grandma and their Dad played with the Grandkids.

Catherine spent a special day with each of her three kids too. There was a spa day with each of her daughters, Annelise and Vanessa, and a special hiking day with her son, Alex, followed by a gourmet picnic lunch. We were grateful to have this special time alone time with our children".

- Doug

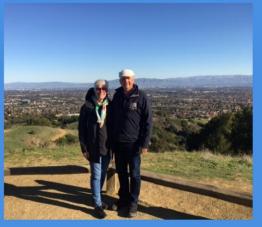


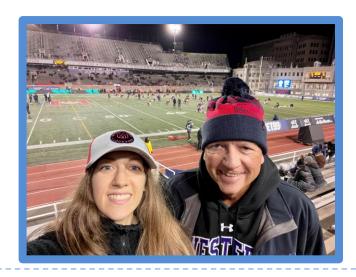












Trivia Round Up 2021



This year we had a total of 9 Trivia Friday Nights. We had three additional families join The Jacksons as Trivia Quizmasters and hosts. Thanks to The Turveys (who took a turn twice), The Marshalls, and The Starks.

Altogether we had 20 different households or individuals take part. There were four family groups that included some very clever "kids" – The McCreery Clan, The Rimington Clan, The Starks and The Gardner/Bell Clan.

Other family groups that occasionally included "adult" children present were – The Marshalls, The Turveys, and The Merrick / McAuslan Team.

Some of our participants had PERFECT attendance! These included the following teams: The Peters, The MacKays, The Marshalls, The Coghills, Team Angus, team Merrick/McAuslan and The Jacksons.

Team Matthews travelled between their home residence and Thamesford so that Nancy's mom, Bernice could take part. (They even had the occasional PSW or neighbour show up on the Zoom feed).

The Nicholls (Doug and Lois' daughter Danielle and husband Gradon) joined us from Guelph. The Rimingtons' daughter (Clarissa) connected from Nanaimo BC while Lee and Bonnie's daughter (Darien and spouse Andrew) connected from Vancouver BC. It was definitely a cross Canada virtual Zoom feed.

The Team with the most Number 1 finishes was – Team Marshall! Congrats, Ron and Wendy and family members (including that very cute grandson). Team Gardner/Bell and Team Merrick/McAuslan had some excellent results as well.

Good job completed by every team: The Starks, The Benedicts, The McEowns, The Gales, The Glovers, The Gillards, The Matthews, A.Thomson, C. Thomson, The Turveys, The

A.Thomson, C. Thomson, The Turveys, The Rimingtons, The Peters, The MacKay Bros., The Coghills, The Nicholls, and The McCreerys. You are all amazing trivia buffs.

Thanks to Doug T for acting as our Zoom set up

- Your Quizmasters - Martin & Veronica

FINAL THOUGHTS



The Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday January 9, 2022 at 2 pm

Stay tuned to your emails for future details – depending on Covid we might need to make this another virtual meeting instead of gathering at the Band Hall.



Without a doubt, the graphic sent the most times by various members and friends! Let's hope we don't see (or hear) it in 2022.



"The Twelve Days of Christmas" Items and Their Cost

Every year, the prices of the items in "The Twelve Days of Christmas" song change. These are the prices established by the PNC Wealth Management Christmas Index for Christmas 2021. Four gifts had to be eliminated because of COVID-19.

Doug G who looks after "Transportation" costs has this sage advice:

"According to the Pennsylvania musicians' union, as reported by Margaret Minnicks, the cost of 11 pipers and 12 drummers is \$6127.10. I think the band's parade fees should go up."

Thanks to one and all who submitted photos and ideas for this final newsletter of 2021.

