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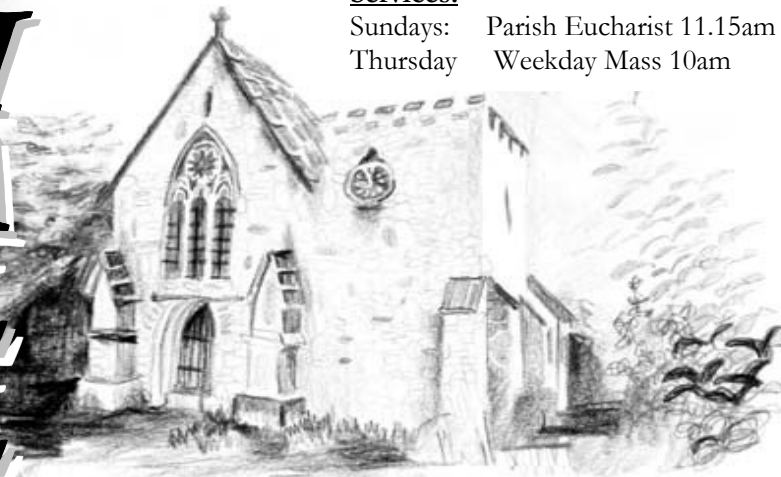
# March 2017

**St. Nicholas Church, East Challow  
( Vale Benefice )**

### Services.

Sundays: Parish Eucharist 11.15am  
Thursday Weekday Mass 10am

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**Vicar Rev John Durant**

**The Vicarage Main St Grove OX12 7LQ**

Telephone: 01235 766484 Email: [vicar@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:vicar@valebenefice.org.uk)

Associate Vicar Alec Gill,

Tel: 07739 563894 Email: [vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk)

Curate: Revd George Moody,

Email: [curate@valebenefice.org.uk](mailto:curate@valebenefice.org.uk)

### Churchwardens

Mrs Sue Swift tel: 01235 770542

Dr Jeff Penfold. tel: 01235 763173

### Parish Council

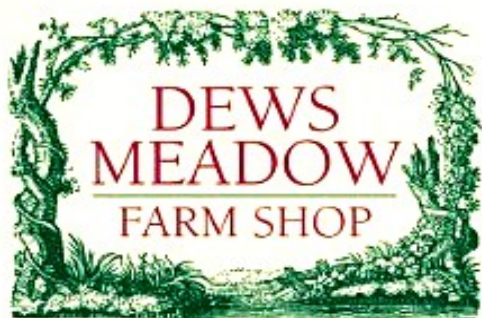
Chair: Ms V. Bosley, Coach Row, Main Street, East Challow  
Telephone: 01235 764068

Clerk: Julia Evans Moorcroft, The Greenway, West Hendred,  
OX12 8RG Tel 01235 833466  
Email [eastchallowpc@gmail.com](mailto:eastchallowpc@gmail.com)

The Parish Council Meeting takes place in the Village Hall at  
7.30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.  
Villagers are invited to attend.

Village Hall Booking Secretary: Denise Knight 01235 769933

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All entries for **April 2017** Challow News  
to be received by **March 15th** please.

If you would like to place an advert for your business in Challow News  
or just send in an item about things happening in the village .  
please contact us for more information.

To :- Pat & Dave Hudson (01235) 760526. mob 07787 120044  
Westview House, Faringdon Road, East Challow, OX12 9TH.  
Email entries can be sent to [david66hudson@gmail.com](mailto:david66hudson@gmail.com)

# Vicar's Letter

Dear Friends

We went for our regular dental check up recently. Both the dentist and hygienist asked us very detailed personal questions about our teeth cleaning habits.

- How often and for how long do you brush our teeth?
- What sort of toothbrush do you use?
- Do you use interdental brushes?
- Are you pregnant?

And then, of course, followed the intimate and personal investigation in our mouths which we allow because we believe good teeth and oral hygiene are important.

It did make me wonder whether people would undergo a **spiritual** checkup?

Answering such questions as:-

- How often do you pray?
- When do you read the Bible?
- Do you give time to reflect and meditate , especially about God's love?
- Do you meet with others to praise God?
- Are you generous?

Lent which begins this month is traditionally a time for spiritual checkups. The equivalent of a Christian spring clean or religious MOT.

This year for Lent to encourage healthy spiritual lives we are offering a 5 week Lent Course to be held jointly in the Benefice of our 4 churches looking at the call from The Archbishops of Canterbury and York to pray for "thy kingdom come". It actually begins with a meal at 7pm in the St John's rooms, Grove; then a presentation at 8pm and time for discussion.

Every one is welcome, though to help with catering there are sign up sheets in our churches. For more information about what we will be thinking try on the internet [www.thykingdom.co.uk](http://www.thykingdom.co.uk) .

Whether you can come or not why not have a spiritual checkup this Spring?

As the psalmist says ( 26 : 2),

*Test me, Lord, and try me, **examine** my heart and my mind.*

God bless                      John

## Pastoral Support

To help our Vicars Revd John Durant and Revd Alec Gill in the pastoral support of the parish Liz Belcher will be acting as local contact within the village for those who are in need of a home visit, home communion or other support that we as a church may be able to provide. If we can help please contact Liz on 01235 763966

**St Nicholas Church 200 Club February 2017 Winners**

£50	No	139	M. Betteridge
£20	No	68	R. Kay
£10	No:	169	N. Day

We would welcome any new members to the 200 club.  
If you would like to join, please contact Tricia Shand—01235 764222  
or email: [the.shandies@btinternet.com](mailto:the.shandies@btinternet.com)

Christian Aid House to House Collection in East Challow

We have organised the house to house collection for this charity for a number of years but feel we are unable to continue. There is an active group for this charity in Wantage who organises an annual house to house collection and various other fund-raising events.

If you feel able to organise a house to house collection, or any other event in East Challow for Christian Aid please contact the chairperson of the Wantage group, Pam Martin tel. 01235 764754.

Thank you for all the support you have given us over a number of years from Jenny and Jeff Penfold

Trip to the Watermill theatre, Newbury

Thirty tickets have been reserved at this theatre on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 7pm to see a production of a 'House and Garden' by Alan Ayckbourn. This pair of linked comedies will be performed simultaneously by the same cast between the theatre and a marquee in the beautiful theatre gardens. Tickets cost £15.50 each. Please sign up at the back of church as soon as possible or telephone Jenny Penfold 01235 763173 if you wish to come.

**2017 Seville Marmalade**

Freshly made orange seville marmalade is now for sale at £2 per pot in aid of St Nicholas Church. If you would like a delivery please ring Jenny Penfold on 01235763173



**Community Policing cont.**

6. Double check the facts. Make sure you fully understand the total costs of the transaction -including estimates, delivery and installation and the arrangements for after-sales servicing.
7. Talk to someone you trust for a second opinion.
8. Don't hand over a cash deposit. Avoid handing over money before work is started. A reliable trader will never ask you to do this.
9. Think very carefully before you agree to a trader starting any work straight away. If you agree to have any work done or goods delivered within the seven day cooling-off period, you may have to pay if you later change your mind and cancel the contract.
10. Trust your instincts. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

**Please use 101 to report any 'Non-Urgent' Crime related matters...Report it so that we know about it.**

If you'd like to receive FREE crime alerts and info about where you live by Email, Phone or Text then please contact me on 101 or when you see me on patrol and I will be happy to 'sign you up' alternatively please register at [www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk](http://www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk) and please use [www.thamesvalley.police.uk](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk) to visit our Website.

Useful Numbers

The 24-hour non-emergency number for Thames Valley Police is '101' or 999 in emergencies

or use email to contact me/Policing team

**[WantageandGroveNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk](mailto:WantageandGroveNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk)**

Regards Howard.



## Community Policing - PCSO Howard Pack C9600 - Thames Valley Police

Over the past few months there have been a number of incidents where residents have been offered Goods or Services at their front doors and being abused when they politely say 'No thank you', these persons are commonly known as 'Nottingham Knockers'.

Traditionally Nottingham Knockers go door to door selling dusters, cloths, tea towels etc, but could be anything. Traditionally they come from Nottingham, but could be anywhere.

They were flash ID at the homeowner, and ignore cold caller stickers. Many residents find them intimidating and are pressurised into buying items from them.

Door to door sellers, or their correct term Pedlars, require a permit which they get from the Chief Constable FROM THE AREA THEY LIVE IN. The permit lasts for a year. Often they present a home made permit that has been printed off from the net, and, as most people do not know what a real permit looks like they think they are genuine.

**Regardless of whether they show you a permit, real or not, I would like you to call the police.** You do not need to tell them you are calling the police. Just say 'no thanks' or don't answer the door, and call us on 101. We will then come out and do the rest. We take all of their details, check them out and will deal with any offences. This is how you can help us, and we will do the rest.

**Could residents also be aware of other Doorstep Traders with the following advice;**

1. Never sign on the spot.
2. Check the trader's identity. Always ask for an identity card and look up the organisation to check the salesperson's identity is genuine.
3. Be wary of special offers or warnings about your home.
4. Always shop around for the best price.
5. Read the small print. Always read documents carefully before you sign them and make sure you fully understand your rights.

Cont .

## Readers

Mar 5	G. Parker
Lent 1	
Mar 12	P. Hudson
Lent 2	
Mar 19	C. Swift
Lent 3	
Mar 26	J. Brown
Mothering Sunday	
Apr 2	J. Teare
Lent 5	

## March Rotas

Genesis 2.15-17,3.1-7
Romans 5.12-19
Genesis 12.1-4a
Romans 5.1-11
Exodus 17.1-7
Romans 5.1-11
1 Samuel 16.1-13
Ephesians 5.8-14
Ezekiel 37.1-14
Romans 8.6-11

Date	Sacristan	Sidesman	Coffee	Cleaning
March 5th	R. Bustany	R. Bustany S. Giles	M.Perkins	
March 12th	M.Mann	L.Hopkins K.Culverwell	J.Penfold/ H.Smith	M.Perkins
March 19th	S.Swift	T.Shand F.Webb	J.Parker J.Brown	
March 26th	L.Hopkins	J.Penfold L.Belcher	M.Mann D.Mann	J.Penfold
April 2nd	R.Bustany	R.Bustany S.Giles	M.Perkins	

If you are unable to take your turn, please arrange to swap or get someone to step in. It would be very helpful if you would amend the copy on the church notice board. Thank you.

Date	Intercessions	Flowers	Thursday Sacristan
March 5th	P. Pepler	No Flowers	March 2nd M. Mann
March 12th	L.Parker	No Flowers	March 9th M. Mann
March 19th	P.Hudson	No Flowers	March 16th J.Penfold
March 26th	J.Penfold	Everyone	March 23rd J.Penfold
April 2nd	M.Mann	No Flowers	March 30th S.Swift
			April 6th S.Swift

### Celebrating the Work of the Open the Book Scheme

On the first Sunday in February a service was held at St Nicholas Church to celebrate the work of the Open the Book. For five years members of the congregation have been visiting the school each week to tell the children a bible story. Various props are used to help the story and the children love to take part.

The children (and staff) were invited to join the congregation for the service and also to take part in two stories. Fifty adults and about twenty children attended the service and there was a wonderful atmosphere with the children excited about performing and the adults keen to learn more about the Open the Book scheme.

After the service everyone enjoyed going to the village hall for a drink and delicious homemade cakes.



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## Village News

### EAST CHALLOW – THE FUTURE OF OUR VILLAGE

The Parish Council has appointed a Steering Group to lead the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for the village of East Challow. The completed plan, which will be the subject of a village referendum in the near future, will set a vision for the future of our village and will include planning policies for the development and use of land in the parish.

The Steering Group invites all villagers to a meeting to explore and contribute to the ideas and vision behind the plan on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at East Challow Cricket Club. Starting at 7.30pm. If any villagers would like transport to and from the meeting, please call the number below.

For further information please contact Peter Rumsey (Chair of Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group) on 07580 291258.

### EAST CHALLOW VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE NOTICE

#### REPEATED UNAUTHORISED PARKING

With respect may we ask that you park your vehicle in the Parish Council Overflow car park opposite?

This car park is for users of the Church & Village Hall.

Compliance with this notice is requested as we would prefer not to have to enforce costly parking restrictions in the future unless we have no alternative.

BINGO—FRIDAY 24TH MARCH 2017

EAST CHALLOW VILLAGE HALL

EYES DOWN 7.00PM

ALL PROCEEDS TO GROVE 1st BROWNIES

THANK YOU

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# St George's Day Concert

followed by cake in the Village Hall

St Deny's Hand bell Ringers will perform  
a selection of music, with some  
audience participation on...

## April 23rd @ 3pm

Adult Tickets £5.00

Children Free

**Money raised goes towards  
Challow Church  
internal improvements  
(New Entrance, Toilet & Servery)**

Get your tickets from  
Linda Hopkins at The Funky Teapot,  
3 Grove Street, Wantage  
or call  
**Sue Swift on 01235 770542**

## **PARISH COUNCIL**

### **LITTER BINS**

It has been noted that the litter bin by the bus shelter on Main Street is being filled up with bags of household waste. Please do not put household waste in public litter bins. It should be disposed of in your grey wheelie bin.

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

There will be an open meeting for villagers to share thoughts and visions of East Challow.

13 March 2017, 7.30pm, Challow & Childrey Cricket Club.

### **GET EXTRA SUPPORT DURING POWER CUTS – SCOTTISH & SOUTHERN**

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Register for priority services today. Call **FREE** 0800 294 3259 or 0800 316 5457 textphone. Find out more at [ssen.co.uk/priorityservices](http://ssen.co.uk/priorityservices)

### **APPOINTMENT OF PARISH COUNCILLOR**

The Parish Council is pleased to welcome Ruth Vigor-Molyneaux as a councillor to East Challow Parish Council.

### **VACANCY FOR PARISH COUNCILLOR**

We still have a vacancy for a parish councillor.

The Parish Council represents and serves the whole community of East Challow and is responsible for maintaining the local environment and amenities. If you are interested in joining the team please contact the deputy clerk for more information.

## **PARISH COUNCIL cont**

### **PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

The next Parish Council meeting will take place in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 8 March. All villagers are invited to attend Parish Council meetings as observers and there is a 10 minute Public Discussion Time early in the meeting when you can raise any matter you wish with the council.

The minutes of each meeting are available on the website.

### **PARISH COUNCILLORS:**

Vanessa Bosley (Chairman), 764068;

Frances Webb, 765176;

Iris Game, 770412; Pat Gill 07807 914833

Julia Evans, Clerk to East Challow Parish Council;  
e-mail: [eastchallowpc@gmail.com](mailto:eastchallowpc@gmail.com) Tel. 833466

Sheryl Sanders, Deputy Clerk to East Challow Parish Council.  
e-mail: [eastchallowdc@gmail.com](mailto:eastchallowdc@gmail.com). Tel 760394

cont.