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Challow News

February 2020



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

Services

Parish Eucharist

Sundays: 11.15am

Family Service

2nd Sunday 9.30am (Monthly)

Weekday Eucharist

Thursdays 10am

Vicar: Rev John Durant

The Vicarage, Main Street, Grove. OX12 7LQ

01235 766484

Email: vicar@valebenefice.org.uk

Associate Vicar: Rev Alec Gill

07739 563894

Email: vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk

Curate: Chris Ashton

Email: curatechris@valebenefice.org.uk

Licensed Lay Minister: Sue Powditch

Email: llm@valebenefice.org.uk

Churchwardens

Mrs Ruth Pepler: 01235 762197

Mrs Linda Hopkins: 01235 767121

PARISH COUNCIL

Chair: Vanessa Bosley: 01235 764068

Clerk: Sheryl Sanders: 01235 760394

Email: eastchallowpc@gmail.com

Web: www.eastchallowpc.co.uk

The Parish Council meeting takes place in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Village Hall Booking Secretary

Denise Knight: 01235 766933



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Dear Residents,

Between East and West Challow and in the northerly part of Letcombe Regis are Byways Open to All Traffic (BOAT) which are used by walkers and riders all year round, and not only by residents of these parishes. However, they are also used by Multi-Purpose Vehicles (MPVs) – mainly 4x4s - for what is effectively joy-riding. These are not locals and come from as far away as Northampton! With the weather that we have had recently these churn up and rut these byways such that it becomes almost impossible to walk and ride along them.

We have had 4x4s using Cornhill Lane (between the Challows) during the night. Two were trying to force their way up at 2 am on the night of December 28th, disturbing the local residents and causing some distress. Videos have been taken but registration numbers are almost impossible to read.

Yvonne Constance has been moving OCC in the direction of regulating and restricting traffic on these byways to prevent their use by MPVs during the winter months. We need to ensure that those who use/want to use these byways, but are prevented from doing so, complain to add pressure to get them closed to inappropriate traffic.

Please mail Yvonne at Yvonne.Constance@oxfordshire.gov.uk and Paul Fermer, Assistant Director Highways and Transport Operations paul.fermer@oxfordshire.gov.uk and, if you think of it, copy me in to the mail paul.barrow@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Thanks

Paul Barrow
Councillor for Ridgeway Ward
Vale of White Horse District Council

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – Section 14(1)

Notice of Temporary Traffic Order

Wantage – A417, Challow Road

Prohibition of Through Traffic

Date of Order: 27 April 2020

Coming into force: 04 May 2020

This Order is being introduced because of carriageway resurfacing works which are anticipated to be completed on 15 May 2020. This closure will operate between 07:00 and 19:00 hours.

The effect of the Order is to temporarily prohibit any vehicle proceeding in the whole length of A417, Challow Road

Appropriate traffic signs will be displayed to indicate when the measures are in force.

Cornhill, Green and Hardwell Lanes – Byways Open to All Traffic (BOAT)

Following a site visit to Cornhill Lane the County Council has decided to close these Lanes to all traffic because of damage mainly as a result of inappropriate use by 4x4s. The BOATs will be closed by concrete blocks and will remain closed until the weather is suitable for the surface to be repaired.

We are hopeful that sometime this year a longer term solution involving closure during winter months will be implemented.

Paul Barrow

District Councillor for Ridgeway Ward

PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE YOUR VEHICLE IDLING IN THE PARISH COUNCIL CARPARK (ADJACENT TO ST NICHOLAS SCHOOL)

What is idling? Idling is the act of leaving a vehicle's engine running while it is stationary.

While this is often the result of traffic, there are some instances, such as waiting for children outside of schools and in traffic jams/long traffic pauses, when idling is not necessary and should be avoided. Idling increases the amount of exhaust fumes in the air.

These fumes contain a number of harmful gasses including carbon dioxide, which is bad for the environment and contributes towards climate change, as well as a range of other harmful gasses including nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons which are linked to asthma and other lung diseases.

CORNHILL LANE

Temporary Footpath Closure at: East Challow, BOAT (Footpath) - 3 (196/3)
Byway Open to All Traffic) on the west of the village between the A417 and St Nicholas primary school.

In the interests of public safety it will be necessary for Oxfordshire County Council to continue to close the footpath 196/3 to facilitate surface repair & maintenance works to make the footpath safe for public access. The estimated duration of the works is 6 months.

FLOODS ALERTS AND WARNINGS

Residents can keep an eye on the Environment Agency's webpages, which include details of flood alerts and warnings:

<https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/warnings>

For more information on what to do during flooding, head to the Oxfordshire Flood Toolkit: <https://www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com/>

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will take place in the meeting room at East Challow Village Hall at 7.30 pm on **Wednesday 12 February 2020**. 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 matters with the council. The minutes of each meeting are available on the website.

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Vanessa Bosley: (Chair) 01235 764068

Frances Webb: (Vice Chair) 01235 765176

Sarah Parker: 01235 762565

Iris Game: 01235 770412

Trevor Hayes: trevorhayes805@btinternet.com

Paul Barrow: Paul.Barrow@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Wende Blowfield:

Sheryl Sanders: Clerk to East Challow Parish Council. e-mail: eastchallowpc@gmail.com.

Tel: 01235 760394

At the end of February, we mark the beginning of lent, a forty-day countdown to Easter. During which we will go over the events of Jesus' life that lead up to Easter week, reflect on Jesus' death and resurrection, while exploring its impact for us today. This is what we do in Lent, this is what we do every lent. Which made me think about the different things in life that we keep coming back to.

Do you ever struggle with doing the same thing over and over again? We can get bored of repeating the same things; familiarity breeds contempt. We can long for something new, exciting or just different.

Yet, the difficulties that we can experience with going over the same ground again and again, is held in tension with the reality that the more we do something the better we get at it and the greater we can understand and appreciate it; repetition is the mother of study. What are the films, songs, books or activities that you keep going back to? Where are the places that you keep going to; who are the people that you continue to spend time with? These are things that we don't just enjoy once, but that we keep enjoying, year in and year out.

Lent offers us this reminder and challenge. That if something is important to us, we need to keep coming back to it; to get the most out of it. While also being aware that at times we need to motivate ourselves to keep doing those things that we have done before.

The message of Easter does not change; the events of Jesus' life remain the same and they are still life changing. Rediscovering them each year allows us to be changed by the God of Easter and for us to continue to engage with the Lord as we grow and develop through life.

What are the things in life that you keep coming back to that sustain and refresh you?

What are the things in life that you struggle to keep doing or working at?

How can you find new ways to engage with old commitments?

What are the things that you need to keep working at?

God bless,
Alec

Pastoral Support

To help our Vicars Revd John Durant and Revd Alec Gill in the pastoral support of the village, Liz Belcher will be acting as the 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

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Firstly we would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year.

Our thanks go to everyone who helped decorate our Church with flowers, install the Crib and also the Christmas Tree's, it really did look wonderful and to all those who contributed in other ways.

Our Carols around the Crib Service was very well attended on Christmas Eve and enjoyed by all who participated in the Nativity Play as well as all those who just watched and sang.

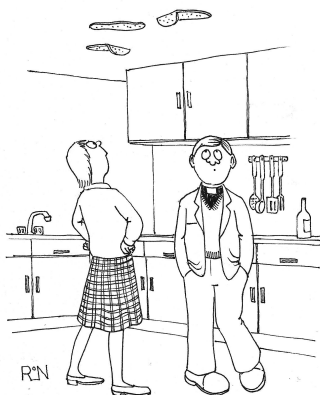
Thank you to Pat and Dave Hudson for their production of the Challow News over the past few years.

Our Family Service for all ages will be on Sunday 9th February at 9.30am.

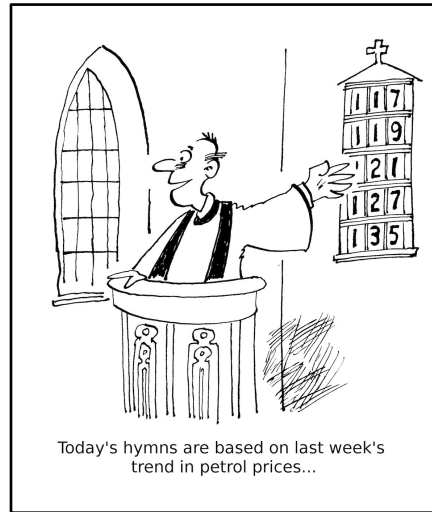
We are looking for volunteers for Jobs in and around the Church, please feel free to speak to Linda or Ruth or any PCC member if you feel you could help out with any duties.

Thank you.

Linda Hopkins
Ruth Pepler
Church Wardens



"Pancake party?" said Simon,
"What Pancake Party?"



Today's hymns are based on last week's
trend in petrol prices...



From the Registers

Back by popular demand

~~~~~

This feature space  
will be returning in the  
March Issue

~~~~~

All Information / details are held as Public
Records within the Vale Benefice



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All entries for the March 2020 issue of Challow News

Must be submitted by 15th February 2020

Email: nigel.langford@me.com



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Church Rotas

Date	Reader	Readings
February 2nd Candlemass	M. Mann	Malachi 3. 1 - 5 Hebrews 2. 14 - End
February 9th 3rd Before Lent	P. Rumsey	Isiah 58. 1 - 9a (b - 12) 1 Corinthians 2. 1 - 12
February 16th 2nd Before Lent	C. Swift	Genesis 1. 1 - 2.3 Romans 8. 1 - 25
February 23rd Next Before Lent	R. Pepler	Exodus 24. 12 - 18 2 Peter 1. 16 - 21
March 1st Lent 1	A. Tranter	Genesis 2. 15 - 17 + 3. 1 - 7 Romans 5. 12 - 19

Date	Sacristan	Sidesperson	Coffee	Cleaning
2-Feb	J. Penfold	S. Giles V. Brewster	M. Perkins	J. Penfold
9-Feb	S. Swift	P. Rumsey G. Parker	L. Hopkins J. Parker	
16-Feb	P. Pepler	F. Webb L. Belcher	Ody Family	M. Perkins
23-Feb	L. Hopkins	S. Swift T. Shand	J. Brown H. Smith	
1-Mar	M. Mann	S. Giles L. Belcher	M. Perkins	S. Giles

Date	Intercessions	Flowers	Thursday	Sacristan
2-Feb	J. Penfold	J. Penfold	6-Feb	M. Perkins
9-Feb	M. Mann	J. Teare	13-Feb	M. Mann
16-Feb	P. Pepler	M. Perkins	20-Feb	M. Mann
23-Feb	J. Teare	S. Swift	27-Feb	J. Penfold
1-Mar	Clergy	NO FLOWERS	5-Mar	J. Penfold

If you are unable to take your turn, please arrange to swap or ask someone to step in.

It would also be very helpful if you could also amend the copy on the church notice board

Haynes of Challow

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Used modern and antique furniture		Games & Books	
Brassware ornaments			
China figurines & plates			
Mirrors			

ITEMS BOUGHT AND HOUSE CLEARANCE UNDERTAKEN

Roadside, East Challow, Wantage. Telephone (01235) 763839/762747



Sunday 9th February at 5.30pm

Please join us for a Service at The Mission, East Challow

Followed by free refreshments

For more details, please contact:

E-mail contactthemission@challowmission.org.uk

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Village News

~ ~ LIB SHAW ~ ~

St. Nicholas Church would like to say a very big Thank You to Lib Shaw for the vital role that she has played in the distribution of the Challow News over the last 25 years. During that time she has put the pages together, folded, collated and organised a team of deliverers as well as having a delivery round of her own.

She has now decided to call it a day and her commitment will be a hard act to follow.

THANK YOU

Church Fellowship Meeting

Our Church Fellowship meeting will be an **afternoon meeting on Tuesday 18th February 2-4pm at Kemgisel, Sarajac Avenue.**

This meeting is important as we shall be discussing the future of the Church Fellowship, so please come along, even if you do not normally come to Fellowship.

Before the meeting will you please think about: Should the Fellowship monthly meetings continue? Should there be a new format? Should we change the time of the meetings? Should our group be more outward looking, and if so, in what way? What would encourage you to come to Fellowship more regularly? And any other ideas.

Please come along to this afternoon meeting to discuss your ideas but if you can't make the date, please give your views to one of the churchwardens.

EAST CHALLOW VILLAGE HALL

Take advantage of our newly refurbished Village Hall for your Group Activities or Events

Bookings Available

Monday - Morning & Afternoon

Tuesday - Morning

Friday - Morning & Afternoon

Contact: Denise Knight 01235 769933

Womens Institute

Happy New Year from East Challow WI

EAST CHALLOW WI NEEDS YOU

Open Evening Tuesday 11th February at 07.30 East Challow Village Hall.

Everybody welcome, an opportunity to meet new people and become part of a community.

The WI promotes empowerment of women and undertakes campaigns on many serious issues.

The current campaigns are Don't Fear the Smear and increasing local bus services.

This Christmas East Challow WI donated to the Porch instead of exchanging a Secret Santa. Each member provided either a savoury snack or warm item of clothing, socks, gloves and hats. We did not forget the dogs and included dog biscuits.

The topic for the Open Evening is a talk titled Guns and Roses to Hearts and Flowers telling the story of one woman changing careers from military to a writer followed by refreshments.

Coffee morning 25th February 10.30 The Beacon everybody welcome.

For further details: Avril Pile 07790568238 or eastchallowwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk

or Barbara Lovegrove 01235 763858



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St. Nicholas C of E Primary School

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Life in all its fullness John 10:10

Community Respect Hope Forgiveness Courage Friendship



We have had a busy few months at St Nicholas CE Primary. The Year 3 and 4 class enjoyed a one night residential to Hillend in Farmoor in September. In November the Year 5 and 6 class went on residential for a week to Wales. They enjoyed a range of activities such as mountain walking, canoeing and high ropes.

December was a particularly busy month. We started off the term with the community Christingle at the Church. Year 3 and 4 children made the Christingles with some of the volunteers from our Open the Book team. The whole school enjoyed the visiting pantomime Aladdin.

Reception and KS1 performed a fantastic performance of The Inspectors at the village hall with great acting, singing and dancing. Finally, the Christmas festivities were finished with a lovely Christmas lunch and on the last day of term we had the Christmas Church service led by Reverend Alec Gill.

We are very grateful for all the volunteers from the school and village community that help on a weekly basis. We are now looking for any volunteers that would be able to help with developing and maintaining our sensory garden. Have you got some time you could spare to help us? If you can, we would like to hear from you. Please contact the office by phone or by email 01235 763858 or office@challowce.org



Finally, I would like to invite you to our **Bears and Books session at St Nicholas Church on Thursday 6th February 5:30-6pm**. We have held similar sessions for a number of years at school which have proved very popular by children and adults alike!

If your child is pre-school age (3 or 4 years old) they are welcome to join us but must be accompanied by an adult. Children can come to the Church in their pyjamas and bring their teddies. The children will be able to listen to a couple of stories with some of the other younger children from St Nicholas. You can also look at our website under the Pupils heading for Books of the month that we are suggesting for children of different ages.

Warm regards

Elise Keymer



HAPPY 8TH BIRTHDAY

The Open the Book team has visited St Nicholas School
every Thursday morning for eight years.



The Open the Book scheme is a national programme which offers the opportunity for primary school children to hear the major stories of the Bible in an enjoyable way during assembly times. A team of Christians from local churches tell the stories in a 10-15minute presentation. Storytellers use drama, mime, props, costume and involve children and staff to present Bible stories in ways that are lively, engaging informative and great fun for everyone involved!

In January 2012 with the permission of the head teacher, Mrs Margaret Kelly the group, with some trepidation went into school for the first time. The children and staff were so enthusiastic, giving us the confidence and encouragement we needed, that the scheme was very soon a success. Various villagers responded to our pleas for various materials and props and even made some of the costumes we needed. We are really overwhelmed by the support we received and have continued to receive over the eight years. I think special thanks are deserved by Mary and David Mann. Mary's artistic ability and David's practical skills have earned us the reputation for the group with excellent props by the other local groups!

Without a doubt, our best encouragement comes from the pupils at St Nicholas School who always listen so intently and are always keen to take part in the stories as sheep or lions, kings, robbers or disciples. Sometimes stories are very quiet while others, like when the walls of Jericho come tumbling down, are very exciting.

The team would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and pupils for their continuing support and we hope that we are able to continue with this excellent work which we all enjoy so much.

We will tell the next generation.....and they in turn would tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God.....Psalm 78:4,6

St. Nicholas Church, East Challow.

FAMILY SERVICE

Sunday 9th February
9.30 am

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The Methodist Church

COMMUNITY CHAPLAINCY

The Wantage and Abingdon Methodist Circuit invites applications for a new post of Community Chaplain (working 8-16 hours per week, to be agreed with the successful applicant).

This is an exciting opportunity to join our existing Community Chaplaincy Team and be part of an innovative and focussed expression of ministry.

We are delighted to be expanding our work based at Great Western Park in Didcot to now cover the new housing developments in Wantage and Grove.

The successful applicant will work with and alongside, our existing chaplains to be a Christian presence and act as a chaplain to those who live, work and play in these areas of new housing.

The chaplain will be supported by the Methodist Church and will use a converted motor home as a mobile base.

The successful applicant will be undertaking pioneering work, in collaboration with other Community Chaplains as well as ecumenical partners and will seek to develop the chaplaincy, expand the work and approach and inspire others to become volunteer chaplains.

It is an occupational requirement for the person appointed to be a professing and practising Christian (Equality Act 2010.)

Enhanced DBS and references will be required.

For more details and an application pack, please contact:
Rev'd Keith Underhill (01235) 763321
keith.underhill@methodist.org.uk

Closing date for applications is 12 noon, Friday 7th February 2020
Shortlisting Friday 14th February 2020
Interviews to be held on Thursday 27th February 2020



Closing date: 7th Feb
Shortlisting: 14th Feb
Interviews 27th Feb

The Wantage & Abingdon Methodist Circuit are looking to appoint a third Community Chaplain working in areas of new housing as we expand our work from Great Western Park in Didcot to Wantage & Grove.

For more details and an application pack please contact Rev'd Keith Underhill on (01235) 763321
keith.underhill@methodist.org.uk

25 February - SHROVE TUESDAY: Pancake Day

Ever wonder why we eat pancakes just before Lent? The tradition dates back to Anglo-Saxon times, when Christians spent Lent in repentance and severe fasting.

So on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday, the church bell would summon them to confession, where they would be 'shriven', or absolved from their sins, which gives us *Shrove* Tuesday. At home, they would then eat up their last eggs and fat, and making a pancake was the easiest way to do this. For the next 47 days, they pretty well starved themselves.

Pancakes feature in cookery books as far back as 1439, and today's pancake races are in remembrance of a panicked woman back in 1445 in Olney, Buckinghamshire. She was making pancakes when she heard the shriving bell calling her to confession.

Afraid she'd be late, she ran to the church in a panic, still in her apron, and still holding the pan.

Flipping pancakes is also centuries old. A poem from Pasquil's Palin in 1619 runs: "And every man and maide doe take their turne, And tosse their Pancakes up for feare they burne."

Some people have noted that the ingredients of pancakes can be used to highlight four significant things about this time of year: eggs stand for creation, flour is the staff of life, while salt keeps things wholesome, and milk stands for purity.

Shrove Tuesday is always 47 days before Easter Sunday and falls between 3rd February and 9th March.

26 February - ASH WEDNESDAY: mourning our sins

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. But why 'Ash' Wednesday? The reason has to do with getting things right between you and God, and the tradition goes right back to the Old Testament.

In the Old Testament, the Israelites often sinned. When they finally came to their senses, and saw their evil ways as God saw them, they could do nothing but repent in sorrow. They mourned for the damage and evil they had done. As part of this repentance, they covered their heads with ashes. For the Israelites, putting ashes on your head, and even rending your clothes, was an outward sign of their heart-felt repentance and acknowledgement of sin. (See Genesis 18:27; 2 Samuel 13:19; Job 2:8, 30:19; Isaiah 58:5; Jeremiah 6:26; Jonah 3:6)

In the very early Christian Church, the yearly 'class' of penitents had ashes sprinkled over them at the beginning of Lent. They were turning to God for the first time, and mourning their sins. But soon many other Christians wanted to take part in the custom, and to do so at the very start of Lent. They heeded Joel's call to 'rend your hearts and not your garments' (Joel 2:12-19).

Ash Wednesday became known as either the 'beginning of the fast' or 'the day of the ashes'.

St. Nicholas Church 200 Club - Monthly Draw

December Results

£100 - N° 135 ~ Mrs S. Swift

£50 - N° 18 ~ Mrs S. Giles

£20 - N° 8 ~ Mrs I. Game

£10 - N° 122 ~ Mr D.H. Lindsey

January Results

£50 - N° 96 ~ Mr R. Bustany

£20 - N° 141 ~ Mrs M. Dillon

£10 - N° 168 ~ Mrs M. Lovegrove

We are looking for more members ~ Would you like to join?

Subscriptions to the 200 Club contribute towards the £20,000 which is required annually to keep our village Church open, in good repair and available for all who wish to use it.

The 200 Club is a monthly draw with 3 prizes each month - £50, £20 and £10

There is an additional prize of £100 in December.

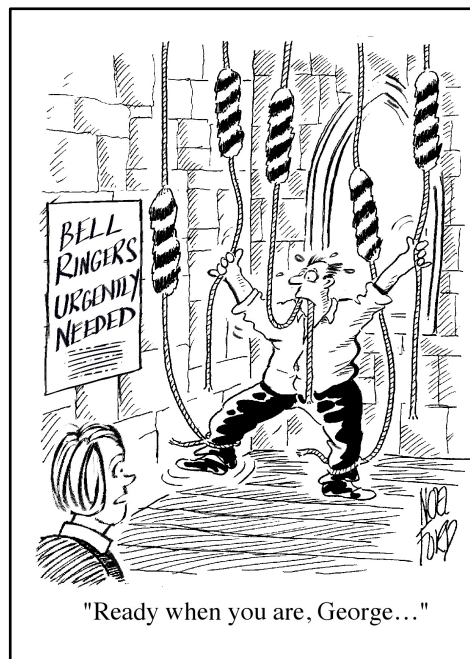
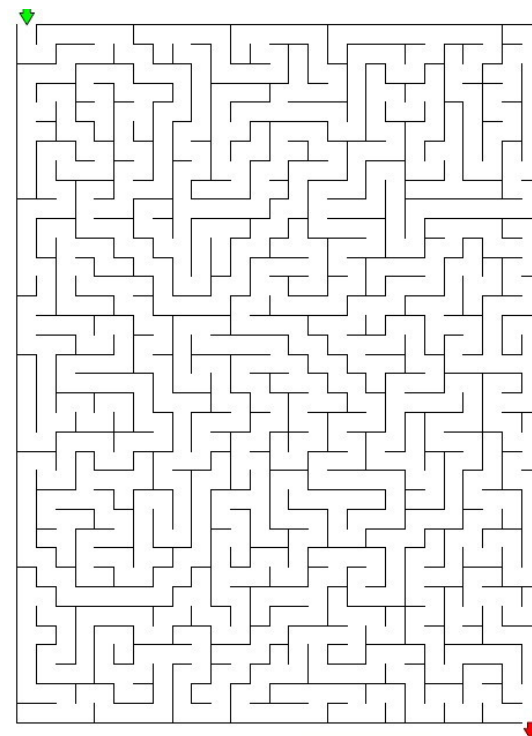
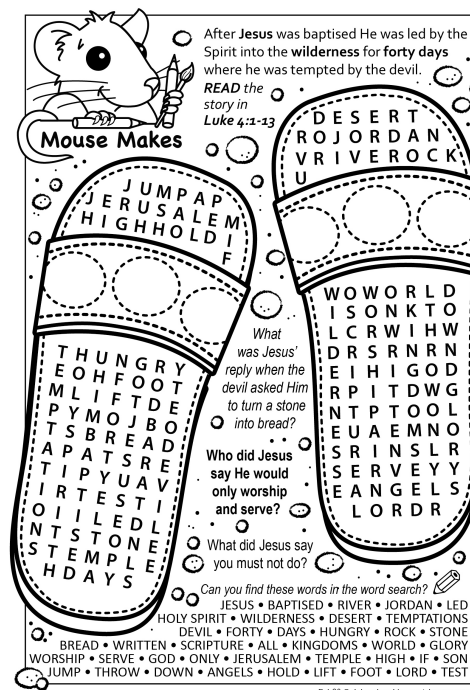
The draw takes place on the first Sunday of every month, during coffee after morning service.

The cost is £2 per number per month, which can be paid monthly, 6 monthly or annually, and can be paid for by Cash or Standing Order.

If you would like to join the 200 Club, please contact Tricia Shand

Email: the.shandies@btinternet.com

Telephone: 01235 764222



m	r	i	g	h	t	s	o	r	r	y	k
o	c	s	j	t	e	p	p	z	h	a	b
r	s	r	k	a	l	e	a	v	e	g	p
n	c	a	l	l	i	n	g	p	a	p	i
i	b	e	o	k	s	w	s	i	r	r	v
n	r	l	r	e	t	d	t	g	d	i	b
g	o	d	d	e	m	a	n	d	e	d	
a	u	j	r	p	n	n	s	o	n	s	d
b	g	i	p	n	i	n	h	r	w	t	d
s	h	o	e	a	n	s	w	e	r	e	d
t	t	v	n	i	g	h	t	d	c	x	j
s	h	i	l	o	h	s	a	m	u	e	l

talked	calling	God
Israel	right	speak
Shiloh	ignored	sons
stopped	priest	answered
night	brought	Lord
Eli	heard	listening
leave	sorry	Samuel
demanded	third	morning

The parable of the Shrewd Manager

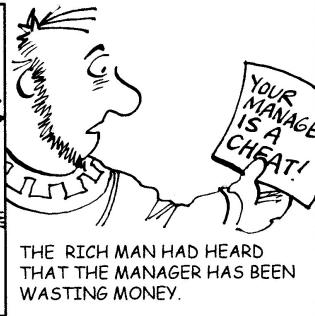


JESUS OFTEN TOLD STORIES WITH HIDDEN MEANINGS



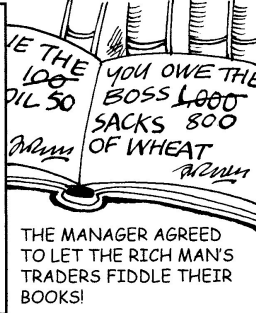
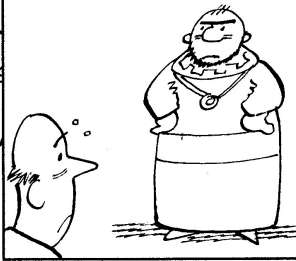
ONCE JESUS TOLD A STORY ABOUT A RICH MAN...

...AND HIS SERVANT, WHO MANAGED THE RICH MAN'S PROPERTY.



THE RICH MAN HAD HEARD THAT THE MANGER HAS BEEN WASTING MONEY.

SO HE CALLED THE MANGER TO ACCOUNT FOR HIMSELF!

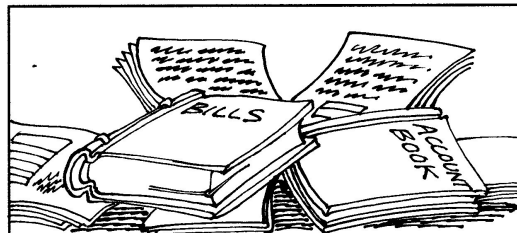
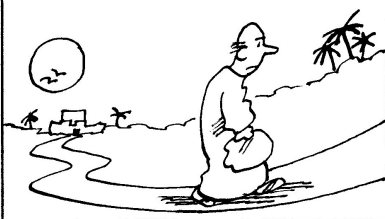


THE MANGER AGREED TO LET THE RICH MAN'S TRADERS FIDDLE THEIR BOOKS!



SO THEY ALTERED THEIR DEBTS - AND STAYED FRIENDS WITH THE MANGER.

JESUS EXPLAINED THAT THE MANGER HAD BEEN WISE IN MANAGING HIS FUTURE... EVEN THOUGH HE WAS BEING DISHONEST.



JESUS WAS TRYING TO ENCOURAGE THE PEOPLE TO THINK ABOUT THEIR OWN FUTURES TOO. BUT IT'S A HARD PARABLE TO UNDERSTAND!

Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

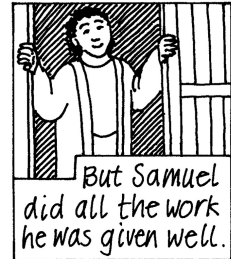
It can be read in the Bible in 1 Samuel 2:11-17, 22-25, 3:1-21

As soon as he was old enough to leave his parents, Samuel went to live at God's temple in Shiloh, with the priest, Eli...

Eli's sons were also priests, but they helped themselves to what people had brought to give to God.



Eli talked to them about it. They ignored him.



But Samuel did all the work he was given well.

One night, after everyone had gone to bed, Samuel heard someone calling him.



He thought it was Eli, so he ran to him.



No, I didn't call you

It happened again.



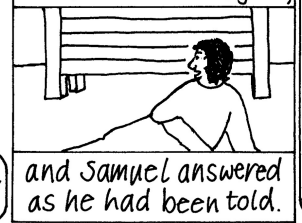
I didn't call. Go back to bed.

The third time, Eli knew it must be God calling Samuel.



You must say, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.'

God called Samuel again,



and Samuel answered as he had been told.



I told Eli his sons had done bad things, but he has not stopped them. Now, even being sorry will not make up for what has happened.

The next morning, Eli demanded to be told what God had said.



Samuel was afraid, but he told him.

He is God. He will deal with us as is right.



God continued to talk to Samuel. He became known throughout Israel.

