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Challow News

MERRY
Christmas
and
Happy
New Year

December 2020
~ ~ ~ ~ ~
January 2021



'Challow News' is the Community Newsletter of St. Nicholas Church, East Challow

St. Nicholas Church, East Challow.

OX12 9SH

(Vale Benefice)

Parish Eucharist

Sundays: 11.15am

Family Service

Temporarily Suspended

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: Rev Chris Ashton

Email: curatechris@valebenefice.org.uk

Licensed Lay Minister: Sue Powditch

Email: llm@valebenefice.org.uk

Benefice Office: Grove Parish Church, Main Street, Grove. OX12 7LQ

Open: Mon - Fri 10.00 - 12.00

Tel: 01235 771479

Email: office@valebenefice.org.uk

Churchwardens

Mrs Ruth Pepler: 01235 762197

Mrs Linda Hopkins: 01235 767121

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



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Grins and Grouses



Our Fellowship meeting provided many laughs and reminiscences. After a stumbling start, we could not find out how to hear Janet on her tablet. Nothing we tried gave her a voice. We ended up with five participants, one of whom had to convey her ideas by nods and hand signals.

Here are some of the grouses we voiced. The use of leaf blowers, which only put the leaves elsewhere. Tubes you cannot squeeze empty. When cut open you discover enough for several more applications. The words, "This call is important to us", followed by short snippets of "music" before it is repeated, while you wait to be connected. Tea bags that do not compost even though they are said to be compostable. Plug tops and push and squeeze bottle tops that those of us with arthritic hands find impossible to remove.

Things that made or make us smile included, reading bedtime stories to grandchildren while snuggled up in bed with them. The school bus driver who used a napkin to protect his rather large stomach from the rather large steering wheel. Being able to name a piece of music or a flower. Seeing the first aconite pushing through the soil soon after Christmas. The patterns revealed when slicing fruit and vegetables. We may have been a small group, but we had a great evening. M.M.



Solutions



PARISH COUNCIL

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

REFUSE BINS

A reminder: Please could you ensure that you remove your waste/recycling bin from the kerbside as soon as possible after the waste collection. Thank you

WASTE BIN COLLECTIONS OVER CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR:

Usual Date	Revised Day	Which bin?
Monday 28 December	Wednesday 30 December	Black & food
Monday 4 January	Wednesday 6 January	Green & food No garden
Monday 11 January	Tuesday 12 January	Black & food

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Please take your old Christmas tree to East Challow Village Hall car park for recycling by **Sunday 17 January 2021**. Trees larger than 6ft must be cut down in size.

SEASON'S GREETINGS!

The Parish Council send best wishes to all residents for a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

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

VICAR'S LETTER - A PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

Dear Friends

Will Christmas be cancelled? I doubt it but who knows what may happen this year with Covid-19.

Will Christmas be different this year? – very likely especially if the restrictions continue.

It is not as bad as in 1644, though, when an Act of Parliament banned Christmas celebrations. This was because the government made up of mainly English Puritans viewed Christmas as a dangerous excuse for excessive drinking, eating, gambling and generally bad behaviour. That may even have been true but people weren't even allowed to go to church to worship God on Christmas Day.

Does it make you reassess what Christmas is about?

Christmas has always been celebrated in a variety of ways throughout the world but what, of course, has not changed is Christians rejoicing that God sent his Son to be born our Saviour to save the human race and all of creation. The first part of his rescue plan – a joyful message of peace and hope and a wonderful event heralding an effective solution to the mess we are making of our lives.

Certainly food and drink plays a large part in our celebrations which is not surprising since **Bethlehem** means **house of bread** and **Ephrathah**, which sounds like a swear word but is the original place name that distinguishes the Bethlehem where Jesus was born, means **lots of fruit**. Comforting food as well as bright lights and blazing fires in these dark days of gloomy winter, and the security of a loving home in cheerless cold nights are all heart-warming and give a sense of joy.

So if Christmas feels different, however you might manage to celebrate especially if you are able to prepare and consume lovely meals, perhaps it will inspire you to be fruitful and creatively generous. A donation to an organisation like the Salvation Army is always effective for they provide meals to the homeless or giving to the local food bank also feeds the hungry. When Mary learned she was to be the mother of God's Son she praised the Lord of the Universe – *He has filled the hungry with good things!*

Whatever way you celebrate Christ's birth I pray that God's light will shine in your darkness and his love warm your hearts so that you share His blessing with others.

John



The Activities of the Open the Book team for term 2 at St Nicholas School.



Our virtual stories this term are about the Old Testament prophet called Moses. Moses was a great prophet who was a faithful follower of God.

The Secret Baby Read by Jenny Penfold <https://youtu.be/a-VLx7kr1Qk>

The Great Escape Read by Peter Rumsey <https://youtu.be/UmT2BOdmswg>

A Long Journey Read by Mary Mann <https://youtu.be/k1C0Ooe9mig>

The Walls Fall Down Read by Linda Hopkins

During the first week of December Rev Alec Gill is organising a virtual **Christingle service**. A community Christingle had been arranged in church but, Covid has prevented this being possible.

A collection will be made at this service where 50% of the donations will be given to St Nicholas School and 50% will be given to the Children's Society for their work in the UK 'to fight for the hope and happiness of young people when it's threatened by abuse, exploitation and neglect'. In December the children will also have the opportunity to listen to the Open the Book Christmas story entitled:

The First Christmas Read by Nigel Langford

During the last week of the term the Rev Alec Gill will be conducting a virtual Christmas service which had also been planned to take place in St Nicholas Church.

Also at a convenient time, each child will be given a book produced by the Bible Society entitled 'It Begins in Bethlehem' by Bob Hartman as a little present from the Open the Book team. This story can be listened to on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D06k9vulAVQ>

**Happy Christmas to all staff and pupils
at St Nicholas School from the OtB team**

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

District Councillor Report

Cornhill Lane and BOATs

Our Cornhill Lane is one part of a network of Lanes (BOATs) which are open to all traffic. Ours is shared with West Challow and acts as a border to the parishes. Green Lane is a border between Letcombe Regis and West Challow parishes and its continuation, Shelley's Lane, borders Childrey and Letcombe Bassett. There is also Harwell Lane further west between Compton Beauchamp and Knighton which is also closed and will also be repaired. You may have heard that the concrete blocks used to close Green and Shelley's Lane have been stolen (!!!) and the 4x4s have been down there already. If anyone knows anything about the theft please leave a message for me – anonymous or otherwise!

BOB ICS (Bucks, Ox, Berks Integrated Care System)

This isn't specifically a parish issue but, mainly for cost saving, Oxfordshire, Bucks and West Berks are sharing some of their administrative and clinical activities, particularly to rationalise some high-cost treatments and procedures across the three counties to prevent unnecessary duplication. We think that this may affect no more than perhaps 20% of activity. Clearly cost saving is important but we are concerned that decisions may be made elsewhere which will affect Oxfordshire patients. Our scrutiny committee (HOSC) is discussing with the other counties how best to provide county-level scrutiny – not an easy task. I would be happy to get your views on whether you think this is a good idea or not.

North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (NWD AONB)

You may know that a tiny part of the parish lies within the North Wessex Downs AONB and there is some opinion that East Challow and the other villages in the ward should be included – that's a question for the future! There is also a big discussion nationally about the status of AONBs as National Landscapes bringing them up to the level of national parks with greater control over planning. See https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/833726/landscapes-review-final-report.pdf if you are interested.

Planning committee

Two planning applications within the parish were discussed in the planning committee on November 11th.

P20/V1395/FUL – Land at Park Farm. This was to replace several larger houses with 13 smaller dwellings. The application was rejected.

P20/V0225/FUL – Former Scout Hut. The decision on the application to build a house on this site has been deferred until a site visit by the committee can take place, probably in January.

Please contact me if you have any issues or problems that I might be able to address – even if I can't fix them completely – at paul.barrow@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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All entries for the February 2021

Issue of the Challow News

Must be submitted by 15th January 2021

Email: nigel.langford@me.com

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I would also consider a small plot of land where I could put a garage.

Contact - Matt 07826 915554

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East Challow Village Hall

Booking Secretary: D Knight - 01235 766933

THANK YOU

*After 20 years of cleaning the Village Hall, Bob Webb has decided to retire.
He always went the extra mile - cutting the grass, putting out the tables and chairs
for the congregation after a church service so that they could all enjoy a coffee
and a chat.*

*The Village Hall has always been a popular and clean venue for hirers
Enjoy your retirement Bob.*

Challows Royal British Legion

Children's Christmas Party

(mid 1960's)



CHRISTMAS SERVICE

20th December at 10.00 am

Come and enjoy

The Christmas Story, Readings, Poems and Prayers

Colouring in for children

There will be a retiring collection for The Children's Society

Due to COVID 19 restrictions on numbers attending

This service will be a PRE BOOKED only service

Seating will be in spaced "Family Groups"

~ Masks must be worn ~

RESERVE YOUR PLACE TODAY

(Last day for bookings is 14th December)

Bookings are available from Philip & Ruth Pepler

Phone: 01235 762197

email: pepler@waitrose.com

Should Covid 19 health regulations change, we may have to cancel.
If so we will inform everyone who has PRE BOOKED should this happen.

St. Nicholas Church 200 Club - Monthly Draw

November Results

£50 - N° 169 - Mrs Westgate

£20 - N° 34 - T. Penfold

£10 - N° 75 - N. Grover

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

St. Nicholas Church, East Challow.

If you wish to attend our Services we will require you to

Book your seat prior to attending

This is required because of Covid 19 regulations limiting the maximum number of persons allowed in the Church

Contact details will also need to be recorded for Track & Trace

Please contact a Church Warden to book your seat

R. Pepler 01235 762197 or L. Hopkins 01235 767121

St Nicholas Church, East Challow.

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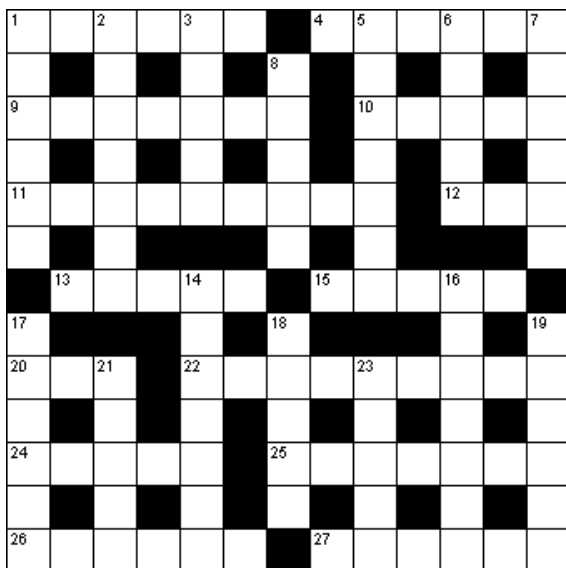
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Email: chrismeads@yahoo.com

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Crossword Puzzle



Solutions on Page 22

Across

1. Pub (6)
4. Take for granted (6)
9. Weird (7)
10. Take place (5)
11. Expiation (9)
12. Sense organ (3)
13. Stage whisper (5)
15. Paragon (5)
20. Sphere (3)
22. Vortex (9)
24. Tine (5)
25. Ameliorated (7)
26. Cure (6)
27. Extremely bad (6)

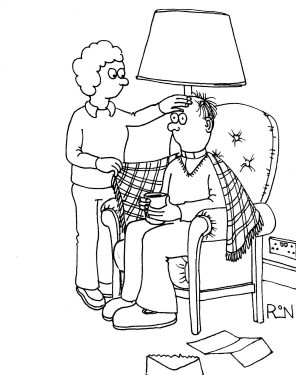
Down

1. Tropical bird (6)
2. Asinine (7)
3. Ambit (5)
5. Yelled (7)
6. Relative (5)
7. Mistakes (6)
8. Varieties (5)
14. Injured (7)
16. Foreshorten (7)
17. Barrel maker (6)
18. Wild and savage (5)
19. Blot (6)
21. Flower (5)
23. Part of a play (5)

Cartoons



"Nice idea, Amelia, but I don't think that the Angel of the Lord Zooming with the shepherds would have the same dramatic effect."



Martin received the latest Christmas coronavirus regulations from the diocesan office.

TOPICAL TALK

Mistletoe

This time of year you can see all sorts of traditions played out with regard to Christmas decorations. Strict adherents use holly, ivy and of course, mistletoe. While holly and ivy are to be found in gardens and hedgerows, mistletoe usually only appears in greengrocers' shops, or high in a tree well out of reach.

Mistletoe is *hemiparasitic*, meaning that although its leaves enable it to feed itself through photosynthesis, its roots invade the host tree or shrub to extract water and other nutrients. Its favourite host trees are apple, lime, hawthorn, poplar or oak and it normally hangs as a large globe, tantalisingly high and totally visible once winter arrives and it is the only green left on the tree. There are some spectacular examples in Windsor Great Park, clearly visible from the path on the opposite side of the River Thames.

We all know about the almost translucent white berries, fleshy and sticky, which form in the forks of mistletoe's many branches. While they are toxic to humans, they are attractive to birds. When birds have enjoyed the juicy flesh, they wipe the remaining seeds off their beaks onto the nearest branch [somewhat like small children wiping sticky hands on any surface close by – mummy's face or clothes?]. With luck the seed remains stuck to the bark and solves mistletoe's problem of reproduction.

In Greek mythology, mistletoe gave access to the Underworld. Romans thought it represented Peace, Love and Understanding and perhaps that is how it has sidled into our Christmas celebrations. The earliest documentary evidence for kissing under mistletoe dates from the sixteenth century. Some people think a berry should be removed after each kiss. Given the small size of pieces generally available these days, perhaps that is a practice not to be pursued!

How to impress the cat this Christmas

If you are going to spend Christmas in a house with a resident cat, it may be worth knowing how to win its favour on the big day.

Recent research at Sussex University has found that humans become more attractive to a cat when they slowly blink at it, and mimic what is known as a 'cat smile.'

Cats are more likely to slow-blink at their owners after their owners have slow-blinked at them. Cats are also more likely to approach an outstretched hand after a person has slow-blinked the cat.

As one professor said, this is something 'you can try yourself with your own cat at home, or with cats you meet in the street. It's a great way of enhancing the bond you have with cats.' (Presuming you want such a bond!)

'Try narrowing your eyes at them as you would in a relaxed smile, followed by closing your eyes for a couple of seconds. You should find they respond to you in the same way. You might even start a sort-of conversation.'

The one benefit of a Covid Christmas?

A Covid Christmas (no more than six) could actually help take some financial pressure off you, according to Martin Lewis, the personal finance expert.

The Money Saving Expert founder recently pointed out that because of the enormous pressure on people to spend, spend spend at Christmas, the festive period has become one of the 'biggest causes of debt and misery' in the UK.

This year, though, could be different. Most of us will be visiting fewer people, buying fewer presents and having smaller dinners. So, 'it might just take the pressure off people.'

Going to church in the coronavirus pandemic

More than 17,000 online services and events have been provided by Church of England churches since the introduction of the lockdown and restrictions on public worship earlier this year.

Figures from the Church of England's [A Church Near You](#) website, which allows people to search for church services and events, show that more than 17,000 online services or events are now listed, including Sunday Communion services, Bible studies and morning or night prayer. Many of these services take place regularly and this figure represents a snapshot of the likely total number.

The statistics do not include the Church of England's national online weekly services broadcast on Sundays and shared on Facebook and YouTube. There have been nearly three million views of the national online services and posts about the weekly broadcasts have been seen 23.6 million times. Contributors have included the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Duke of Cambridge and Pope Francis.

The national online services are being watched by a wide range of ages and around one in five people viewing go to church infrequently or not at all.

Other figures in the report show that official Church of England apps from Church House Publishing – the most popular being Daily Prayer, or the Daily Office of morning, evening and night prayer – have been used more than seven million times so far this year, up from five million in 2019. Church of England social media posts have been seen 86 million times so far, nearly double the total for last year.

The growth in online services has been helped by the Church of England stepping up its digital training programme for congregations. More than 4,200 vicars and local church leaders have taken part in remote digital training courses so far this year, four times the number as in 2019.

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, said: "At a time when many have felt isolated and fearful, Church of England parishes and clergy have broadcast thousands of online church services and events, seeking to bring comfort and hope to their communities. We know that tens of thousands of those tuning in will never have had contact with their local Church of England parish before and may never have heard the Christian message. Their welcome presence is a sign of the great hunger we all have for spiritual meaning in our lives."

Over two million homes with no smoke alarm

Government figures for 2018-19 showed that nine per cent of households in England – about 2.17 million – did not have a working alarm. And only 26 per cent of people who *do* own an alarm bother to test it at least once a month.

This is despite experts warning that people are around eight times more likely to die in a fire in a home with no working smoke alarm.

The Local Government Association, which represents councils and fire authorities in England, points out that fire risk goes up in the winter months, as people use heaters and open fires. They strongly urge people to buy a smoke alarm for themselves, and for any less-able family member or neighbour.

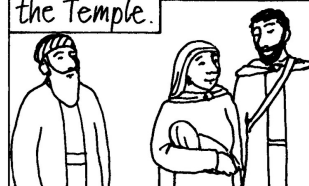
Bible Bite

A short story from the Bible

It can be read in the Bible in
Luke 2 verses 22-38

God promised the Jews that when times were bad, He would send a leader to save them. He told Simeon it would happen in his lifetime.

God told Simeon to go to the Temple.



He saw a couple with a baby.

Mary and Joseph had come to give their offerings for their first-born, Jesus, and for childbirth.



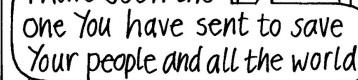
Simeon held Jesus and praised God.



I can now die in peace because You have kept Your promise.



I have seen the one You have sent to save Your people and all the world!



Mary and Joseph were amazed! Simeon blessed them, but said...



This child will show what people are really like inside and this will mean pain for you as well.

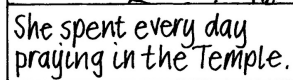


Anna the prophet was also in the Temple.



Her family was from the north of Israel and she was very old.

She spent every day praying in the Temple.



When she saw Jesus she praised God.



Anna spoke about Jesus to everyone who was waiting for God's Saviour.

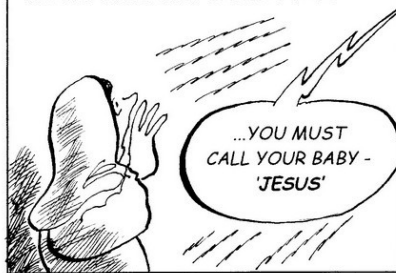
"Parish Pump" content throughout this issue has been kindly sponsored by David & Mary Mann



JESUS WAS BORN ABOUT 2,000 YEARS AGO IN THE SMALL TOWN OF BETHLEHEM, NEAR JERUSALEM.



AN ANGEL HAD TOLD MARY SHE WOULD HAVE VERY SPECIAL BABY



MARY AND JOSEPH MADE THE LONG JOURNEY FROM NAZARETH TO BETHLEHEM. THEY HAD BEEN ORDERED THERE BY THE CENSUS.



BUT THE TOWN WAS FULL... THE ONLY SHELTER THEY COULD FIND WAS A STABLE...



...WHICH IS WHERE THE BABY JESUS WAS BORN.



SHEPHERDS IN FIELDS NEARBY RACED TO SEE THE BABY. AN ANGEL HAD TOLD THEM WHERE JESUS HAS BEEN BORN.



400 years ago, on 21st December 1620 that the first landing party from the British ship *Mayflower* arrived at what would become Plymouth Colony (now Plymouth Massachusetts). They began building houses there two days later.

300 years ago, on 31st December 1720 that Charles Edward Stuart, commonly known as 'Bonnie Prince Charlie' was born. Stuart claimant to the British throne and leader of the unsuccessful Jacobite rebellion of 1745-46. Grandson of King James II of England and Ireland (also known as James VII of Scotland).

250 years ago, on 16th December 1770 that Ludwig van Beethoven, German composer and pianist was born.

90 years ago, on 2nd December 1930 that in his second State of the Union address, US President Herbert Hoover announced a huge public works programme to stimulate the economy and create jobs during the Great Depression.

80 years ago, on 29th December 1940 that Germany dropped thousands of incendiary bombs on London, causing the worst fire damage since the Great Fire of London in 1666. About 200 people were killed.

75 years ago, on 27th December 1945 that the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development were formally founded.

70 years ago, on 14th December 1950 that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (also known as the UN Refugee Agency) was established.

65 years ago, on 1st December 1955 that African American civil rights activist Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat to a white man in Montgomery, Alabama, violating the city's racial segregation laws. This incident led to the birth of the modern American civil rights movement.

60 years ago, on 9th December 1960 that the first episode of the television soap opera *Coronation Street* was broadcast in the UK.

40 years ago, on 8th December 1980 that John Lennon, rock musician and peace activist and a member of the Beatles, was shot dead, aged 40, outside his New York City apartment by Mark Chapman, a deranged fan.

30 years ago, on 1st December 1990 that British and French construction workers on the Channel Tunnel broke through the last wall of rock separating the two halves, and Britain and France were linked for the first time in thousands of years.

25 years ago, on 13th December 1995 that the Brixton riot took place in south London. Hundreds of youths rioted on the streets following the death of a black man in police custody.

20 years ago, on 13th December 2000 that George W Bush finally claimed the US presidency, 36 days after the election was held, following a legal battle over disputed votes in Florida.

15 years ago, on 19th December 2005 that the Civil Partnership Act came into effect in the UK. The first civil partnership under the act was formed in Belfast, that same day. The first in England and Wales were on 21st December.

10 years ago, from 18th December 2010 to December 2012 that the Arab Spring took place in North Africa and the Middle East. The Tunisian Revolution spread and became a wave of demonstrations, protests, riots, coups, foreign interventions, and civil wars in North Africa and the Middle East. The leaders and governments of several countries were overthrown and ousted, and Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi was killed (October 2011).

East Challow Village Hall Management Committee

~ ~ We are a charity run by volunteers ~ ~



At present we have 5 people on the East Challow Management Committee.

Our Treasurer is standing down after many years of diligent support and we need someone to step into the roll.

We are also looking for a new Booking Clerk / Secretary

The Village Hall has always been and remains a valued part of our village life, which will now be intensified by the increased new housing.

We are looking for new members

Can You Help? - We need your support now!

**Join us in the Main Hall at our next
'Socially Distanced' meeting**

Wednesday 9th December at 7.30pm

Please contact: Mandy Perkins (Secretary) 01235 764374

Cleaner Required

for East Challow Village Hall

*to work within the Government Covid 19 Deep
Cleaning guidelines*

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor.

Due to an Increase in Anti Social Behaviour the Parish Council intend to purchase a Barrier / Gate for the entrance to the parish car park.

(adjacent to St Nicholas School)

It will be locked at night and opened in the morning.

E.C.P.C

Please send any " Letters to the Editor " to be considered for publication

to the following email address

nigel.langford@me.com



Thank you

To all our Advertisers and Supporters of the Challow News

and especially to **The Loyal Band of Volunteers** who deliver this newsletter through the letter boxes of everyones home throughout the year.

Happy Christmas

and a

Peaceful New Year

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

As we find ourselves in lockdown again we are unfortunately unable to attend Church for the moment but hope to be able to again in December.

We will keep you posted with the Benefice Newsletter and also on the Church door and also on the Churchyard gate and the Lych gate.

In the meantime I hope you can join us for Zoom Services again on Sundays until we can meet again together in our collective Churches.

I am pleased to let you know that the AGPM took place following our Harvest Service on October 11th successfully in Church .

We have now had our last PCC meeting of the year via zoom.

We are also planning a Christmas Celebration on December 20th and we will keep you posted as to the time and how to book your place as we need to monitor the numbers attending.

I have now completed the Rotas for January but if you are unable to do your duty could you please rearrange a swop or failing that let one of us know.

Thank you.

May we take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy and Peaceful Christmas with all Good Wishes for the New Year.

Stay well and keep Safe

Linda and Ruth

Church Wardens

Church Fellowship

Knitted Angels in East Challow

Some people from East Challow may have heard that people from the village and members of St Nicholas Church congregation have been knitting angels which we had hoped to distribute around the village in early December as little gifts.

When Covid initially struck in the spring, members of St Nicholas congregation thought that villagers may be particularly pleased to receive an angel to show them that someone was thinking of them at the end of a year which has been difficult for most people in so many different ways.

However, at our October meeting, the Church Fellowship decided that since there is still a lot of anxiety about Covid, people may naturally be reluctant to pick up an angel and take it home. We therefore decided that it was probably best to wait until everyone could feel more relaxed about picking up an angel.

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has kindly knitted angels and reassure them that we shall be distributing them, hopefully in December 2021 or, as soon as we feel it would be safe to do so. If anyone wishes to continue to knit angels, please feel free to leave them at the back of church in a plastic bag where I will collect them, so that they will be able to join the other 80 angels already sitting on our spare bed!

With our grateful thanks to all angel knitters, Jenny Penfold



From the Registers

Funeral

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Grace Hopkins

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Roland Bustany



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

St. Nicholas Church, East Challow

20th December

Christmas Family Service - 10.00 am

(see page 6 for details)

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

CHRISTMAS EVE

Midnight Mass - 11.30 pm



CHRISTMAS DAY

~ Benefice Zoom Service ~

Christmas Celebration with Holy Communion

Please contact the Benefice Office for the Zoom Link details

Services

Everyone is very welcome to attend our services, but we just ask that you contact one of the Church Wardens if you intend to come along.

Ruth Pepler: 01235 762197

Linda Hopkins: 01235 767121

This is required for the current legislation regarding Track & Track

CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR

DATE	READER	READINGS
December 6th Patronal Festival Advent 2	P. Rumsey	1 Timothy 6. 6 - 11 Mark 1. 1 - 8
December 13th Advent 3	A. Tranter	Isaiah 61. 1 - 4 8 - 11 Thessalonians 5. 16 - 24 John 1. 6 - 8 19 - 28
December 20th ~ 10.00am ~ Christmas Service	G. Parker	TBA
Christmas Eve Midnight Mass 11.30 pm	R. Pepler	Isaiah 52. 7 - 10 Hebrews 1. 1-4 [5 - 12] John 1. 1 - 14
Christmas Day	10.30am Benefice Zoom Service	

All Readers must bring their own Bible to read from

Date	Sacristan	Sidesperson	Coffee	Cleaning
06-Dec	M. Mann	P. Rumsey V. Brewster	~	L. Belcher L. Hopkins
13-Dec	N. Langford	P. Shand L. Belcher	~	
20-Dec	J. Penfold	J. Penfold N. Langford	~	J. Penfold
24-Dec	P. Pepler	F. Webb V. Brewster	~	
27-Dec	10.00 am SERVICE AT DENCHWORTH			M. Perkins

Face coverings must be worn or an exemption badge worn & clearly visible

Date	Intercessions	Flowers	Thursday	Sacristan
06-Dec	J. Penfold	All (sml Vases)	03-Dec	J. Teare
13-Dec	J. Brown	Advent	10-Dec	M. Perkins
20-Dec	P. Pepler	Advent	17-Dec	M. Perkins
24-Dec	Clergy	All	24-Dec	M. Mann

CHURCH ROTAS

DATE	READER	READINGS
January 3rd	P. Rumsey	Jeremiah 31. 7 - 14 Ephesians 1. 3 - 14 John 1. 10 - 18
January 10th Epiphany 1	P. Rumsey	Genesis 1. 1 -5 Acts 19. 1 - 7 Mark 1. 4 - 11
January 17th Epiphany 2	G. Parker	1 Samuel 3. 1 - 10 [11 - 20] Revelation 5. 1 - 10 John 1. 43 - 51
January 24th Epiphany 3	M. Mann	Genesis 14. 17 - 20 Revelation 19. 6 - 10 John 2. 1 - 11
January 31st Epiphany 4	TBA	Deuteronomy 18. 15 - 20 Revelation 12. 1 - 5a Mark 1. 21 - 28

All Readers must bring their own Bible to read from

Date	Sacristan	Sidesperson	Coffee	Cleaning
03-Jan	N. Langford	L. Belcher P. Pepler	~	
10-Jan	M. Mann	P. Rumsey L. Hopkins	~	M. perkins
17-Jan	J. Penfold	S. Giles P. Shand	~	
24-Jan	P. Pepler	V. Brewster F. Webb	~	L. Belcher L. Hopkins
31-Jan	TBA	TBA	~	

Face coverings must be worn or an exemption badge worn & clearly visible

Date	Intercessions	Flowers	Thursday	Sacristan
03-Jan	J. Penfold	J. Penfold	07-Jan	S. Swift
10-Jan	J. Penfold	H. Smith	14-Jan	S. Swift
17-Jan	M. Mann	M. Perkins	21-Jan	J. penfold
24-Jan	J. Teare	M. Mann	28-Jan	J. penfold
31-Jan	TBA	TBA	04-Feb	J. Teare