

Challow News

November

AUTUMN

2023

Lest We Forget



*When you go home
Tell them of us and say....*

"For your tomorrow, We gave our today"

St. Nicholas Church

East Challow. OX12 9SH

Parish Eucharist

Sundays - 11.00 am

Weekday Eucharist

Thursdays - 10.00 am

(30 minute said service)

Vicar: Rev John Durant

01235 766484

**The Vicarage, Main Street,
Grove. OX12 7LQ**

Email: vicar@valebenefice.org.uk

Associate Vicar: Rev Alec Gill

07739 563894

Email: vicaralec@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

St. Nicholas Church

Churchwarden

Mrs Liz Belcher: 01235 763966

Deputy Churchwarden

Dr. Jeff Penfold: 01235 763173

Churches of the Vale Benefice

St. Johns - Grove

St. James - West Hanney

St. Nicholas - East Challow

St. James - Denchworth

**Weddings ~ Baptisms ~ Blessing &
Thanksgiving**

For further information please contact:

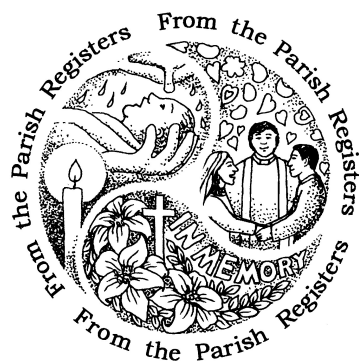
Vale Benefice Office

Grove Parish Church, Main Street, Grove.
OX12 7LQ

Monday - Friday 10.00 - 12.00

01235 771479

Email: office@valebenefice.org



Funeral

Norah Grover

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

St. Nicholas Church - Rotas

Date	Sides Person	Sacristan	Reader	Prayers	Organist
November 5 th	Frances & Nigel	Philip	Alan / Ruth	Philip	Ruth
November 12 th	Linda & Noel	Mary	Graham	Mary	Ruth
November 19 th	Liz & Jeff	Jenny	Jeff	Jenny	Graham
November 26 th	Tricia & Sue	Nigel	Nigel	Juliet	Graham

~ If you are unable to attend please arrange cover for your week ~

Date	Coffee	Flowers	Cleaning
November 5 th	Mandy	Heather	Linda / Liz
November 12 th	Jan & Hillary	Mary	Linda / Liz
November 19 th	Val & Barbera	Jenny	Mandy
November 26 th	Linda & Janet	Mandy	Mandy

Thursday Sacristan

November 2 nd	Mary
November 9 th	Jenny
November 16 th	Juliet
November 23 rd	Mandy
November 30 th	Nigel

Pastoral Support

To help our Vicars Rev John Durant and Rev 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

St. Nicholas Church

Coffee Morning



10.30 - Midday

~ on the 1st Thursday of the month ~

If you would like some refreshments
or just like to sit down and have a
chat with friends
you are most welcome

St. Nicholas Church

11.00 am Sunday Services Information

November 5 th	Trinity 22 Green	Rev Alec Gill	Joshua 3: 7 - 17 *(Micha 3: 5 - 12) 1 Thessalonians 2: 9 - 13 <i>Gospel Reading ~ Matthew 23: 1 - 12</i>
November 12 th Remembrance Sunday	Trinity 23 Red or Green	Rev John Durant and Sue Powditch	Joshua 24: 1 - 3a + 14 - 25 *(Amos 5: 18 - 24) 1 Thessalonians 4: 13 - 18 <i>Gospel Reading ~ Matthew 25: 1 - 13</i>
November 19 th	Trinity 24 Green	T B A	Judges 4: 1 - 7 *(Zephaniah 1: 7 + 12 - 18) 1 Thessalonians 5: 1 - 11 <i>Gospel Reading ~ Matthew 25: 14 - 30</i>
November 26 th	Christ the King Red or White	Rev Alec Gill	Ezekiel 34: 11 - 16 + 20 - 24 * Ephesians 1: 15 - 23 <i>Gospel Reading ~ Matthew 25: 31 - 46</i>
December 3 rd	Advent Sunday Purple	Rev Alec Gill	Isaiah 64: 1 - 9 * 1 Corinthians 1: 3 - 9 <i>Gospel Reading ~ Mark 13: 24 - 37</i>

*Denotes alternative 1st Reading



Act of Remembrance
11.00 am

The Village War Memorial
Lych Gate

Service of Remembrance
11.10 am

~ Vicars Letter ~

Dear Friends

The beginning of November is a time for remembering with All Saints Day, All Souls Day and Armistice Day.

On Armistice Day do you remember a specific person or people?

My twin brother (who was a submariner in the Falklands conflict) and I were named after our uncle,

Squadron Leader Thomas Musgrove Nicholls.

He was killed aged 22 on the 30th/31st March 1944 flying on a mission to Nuremberg. He was the pilot of a Lancaster III and with his crew was shot down having previously completed nearly 20 successful missions.



Having been an army chaplain and with a son in The Kings Royal Hussars there are several people I recall both those currently serving as well as those who have sacrificed their lives and health. But if you do not have someone personal you remember, the situation in The Ukraine and what is happening in Israel and the Gaza strip must surely spur us on to reflect on the sacrifices people make when the terror and destruction of war devastates us.

It certainly makes me grateful for the relative safety, security and freedom we enjoy in our country and renews my determination to pray for peace and the end to conflict.

As a Christian I trust in God's ultimate good purposes where love, loyalty, justice and prosperity will be perfected causing war, hatred and evil to cease but I also believe his promise that this will be completed only when the Lord Jesus returns.

Which leads into the season of Advent at the end of this month and start of December, when the church begins to focus on what the bible teaches about the last days and Christ's return as King of Glory. It is more than a preparation for Christmas; it specifically encourages us to hope in a good ending even when we experience the sad loss of loved ones and the sacrifices many of them made.

Who will you remember with hope and love?

Who will you give thanks for?



God bless

John



Challows Royal British Legion

Opening Hours

Monday - Friday from 7.00 pm
Saturday - 12.00 am - 12.00 pm
Sunday 12.00 am - 10.30 pm

Snooker & Pool Tables

Darts

Poker every Monday
(Redtooth)

Bingo every Sunday

Eyes down at 8.00 pm

Challows Afternoon Club

meets monthly on every
3rd Thursday from 2.00 pm

Monthly Dance Night

11th November - Fraud Squad

£7.00 on the Door

~ Non Members welcome ~

Planning an Event or Party
our Main Hall with Kitchen facilities
are available to Hire
01235 763430
during opening hours

Teenagers given one million Antidepressant Prescriptions

For the first time in the UK, doctors have given out more than one million antidepressant prescriptions to teenagers - in just one year.

Leading mental health experts believe it is "further evidence of a significant decline in the mental health of young people on the back of the pandemic."

The figures reveal that in 2022 one in 300 children aged 13 had been prescribed an antidepressant. By the age of 19, one in 10 teenagers were taking them.

Dr Susie Davies, founder of Parents Against Phone Addiction in Young Adolescents says:

"The pandemic appears to have exacerbated an already strong, downward trend in well-being which corresponds directly to the increased popularity of the smartphone and social media."

NHS data reveals that one in 10 of 17 to 19-year-olds had a "probable mental disorder" before the pandemic, but this rose sharply to one in four last year.

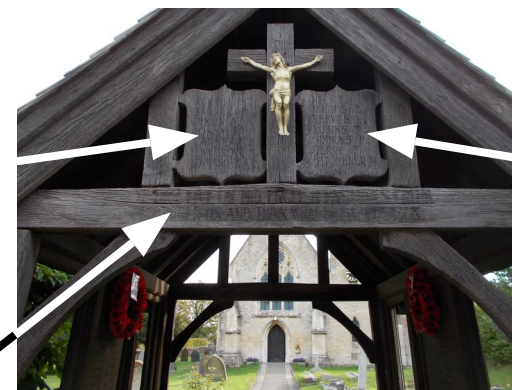
Marjorie Wallace, founder and chief executive of the mental health charity SANE, said that normally children should only be given antidepressants "as a last resort", but GPs were "left with no choice because child and adolescent mental health services are overwhelmed."

She said: "We urgently need more specialist units, better training for mental health staff and early response to cries for help from teenagers and their families."

More than 432,500 under-18s were referred to children and young people's mental health services in the six months up to February 2023, more than double the same period pre-pandemic, or three years earlier. Antidepressants are prescribed for a range of mental health conditions, including depression, anxiety, eating disorders and obsessive-compulsive disorder.

East Challow ~ Lych Gate ~ War Memorial

Ackrill E
Barker P
Dixon A
Josey F
Lanfear S
Lovegrove A
Lovegrove H



?
Norris E
Reeves L
Robins W
Simmons P
Terry F
Titchener W

Photographs © Valerie Andrews (WMR-31570)

YE THAT LIVE ON ENGLISH PASTURES GREEN
REMEMBER US AND THINK WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN



IN MEMORY OF THE MEN
OF EAST CHALLOW WHO
SERVED IN THE GREAT
WAR 1914 - 1918

SERVED & RETURNED

74 Names in two columns on
two boards

DIED

14 Names on two shield
shaped boards with a Crucifix
between



This record comprises all information held by IWM's War Memorials Register for this memorial. Where we hold a names list for the memorial, this information will be displayed on the memorial record. This information is made available under a Creative Commons BY-NC licence.

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A full list of the 88 names and further information is available on the Imperial War Museum website

<https://www.iwm.org.uk/memorials/item/memorial/31570>

November has come round so quickly, goodness knows where this year has sped away to, but it has, and winter is looming.



As promised I said that I would report on our Harvest Festival back in September. St. Nicholas Church was decorated with flowers, foliage and garden produce. It looked really beautiful. A huge thank you to all who donated produce and flowers, and of course all those who made such amazing arrangements. The service was conducted by John Durant our vicar and we had a Harvest Parade of our village Cubs and Beavers who marched behind their Standard. It was really very moving. The service was very informal with traditional hymns and also action songs that the youngsters enjoyed, they also participated in a light-hearted enactment of the parable of the vineyard workers. After the service we had refreshments. It really was a joy to have the Cubs and Beavers with us for such a thankful celebration. With the collection taken at the service and the money from the sale of fresh produce, we are able to donate £272.60p to the David Knott Foundation, which I think is wonderful. We were also able to give a substantial donation of the non perishable goods to the local food bank, and the perishable goods went to the Cornerstone, nothing was wasted.

So thank you to everyone who gave towards our Festival.

Walking up the footpath by the village hall I saw there were several molehills, and it reminded me of when our garden was invaded by moles, at first we thought how lovely and rustic it looked, but as more and more hills appeared the novelty wore off, it was destroying the lawn. We did not want to poison the jolly little moles so took advice from various sources. Putting mothballs down the holes, didn't work, sticking little kiddies wind mills in the holes (the vibrations will send them away) didn't work, we bought a battery operated mole scarer, we still had the moles. At around the same time we had to have some major digging done in the garden, a JCB arrived and carved up part of the lawn, and took away the excess earth and the moles disappeared, probably in the bucket of the JCB... a bit drastic but very effective....

Firework night or Guy Fawkes night is celebrated on 5th November. It commemorates the failed plot to assassinate King James 1st and his parliament in 1605. Barrels of gunpowder were placed in the cellars of the House of Lords to be ignited when the government assembled. It is believed that someone sent an anonymous warning to one of the people telling him not to attend. This alerted the guards and the barrels of gunpowder was discovered. Guy Fawkes was found at the scene and after days of terrible torture confessed and the other plotters were arrested, tortured, tried and eventually executed.

We don't think of that when we hold our parties today, usually have a home made "Guy" to put on the top of the bonfire and it is a fun time, with burgers, hot dogs, toffee apples to accompany a firework display.

If you have a party yourselves or go to a public display, enjoy yourselves safely, and make sure your pets are kept well away from the noise and are out of harms way. I really enjoy bonfire night myself.



We will be holding our Act of Remembrance at the Church Lych Gate on 12th November at 11.00am Please feel free to join us for this moving and important sign of respect for those who serve in the armed forces, and those who have lost their lives in combat defending us. Even if you do not come to our service you are welcome to join us for this.



Saint Andrews Day is November 30th

He was born in Bethsaida, on the Sea of Galilee and was the brother of Simon Peter. He had been baptised by John the Baptist. The brothers were fishermen and were the first called by Jesus to follow him to become "fishers of men." They did not hesitate and were with Jesus all thorough his ministry. After the crucifixion and Ascension of Jesus Andrew went on to preach in Asia Minor along the Black Sea and as far as Volga and Kyiv. He was martyred in Patras in Greece by the Romans. He chose to be crucified on a diagonal cross or saltire, as he considered himself unworthy to die on a cross the same as our Lord. He is the patron Saint of Scotland Russia Barbados, and the Ukraine among others. His flag is a white saltire on a blue background also the flag of Scotland and incorporated in the Union Flag.

Please keep a note in your diary for the Village "Christmas Carols on the Green" despite the somewhat soggy weather we had last year, I would count it as a successful venture, we had fun...

It's for the whole village, no strict format, just turn up on 18th December at 7.00 pm and see how it goes.

Enjoy the month, and as always stay safe for yourself and others.

D. O'SULLIVAN

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~ Paving Slabs ~ Garden Walls ~

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200 Club

Monthly Draw

Is open for everyone to join

You don't have to be regular church goer to
belong to the 200 club

> > Numbers are £2 each < <

Monthly prizes are

£50 ~ £20 ~ £10

[£100 additional prize in December]

Contact Tricia Shand

01235 764222

the.shandies@btinternet.com

St. Nicholas Church

200 Club - Monthly Draw

October Results

£50 - N° 69 - Mr & Mrs Illott

£20 - N° 65 - H. Lindsey

£10 - N° 141 - Mrs M. Dillon

Would you like to join?

For further information please contact

Tricia Shand - 01235 764222



the.shandies@btinternet.com

What new students worry about most

A recent YouGov survey has found that students who began university this autumn were more worried about being lonely than about having enough money, understanding the course, or even finding suitable housing.

So, what can a new student do, surrounded by thousands of strangers? How do they begin to make friends that will last?

The survey found that simply joining a society or club of like-minded students had proved the most successful intervention. 42 per cent of students who did this to alleviate loneliness said that it had been the most helpful action they took.

And there are other things that students can do, to help alleviate loneliness. Spending time volunteering has also worked well for many students wanting to build a stable social network.

Keep your family safe from fireworks!

Every year, thousands of people – including many children – are injured badly enough to require medical treatment following a fireworks-related accident.

While some are injured trying to use professional-grade or illegal fireworks, don't be in any doubt: small firecrackers and sparklers can also cause significant damage.

No wonder, then, that the National Safety Council strongly advise people to "enjoy fireworks at public displays conducted by professionals", and NOT to use ANY fireworks at home. "They may be legal, but they are not safe."

Take sparklers, for example. Young children wave them around each year, with parents seemingly oblivious to the fact that sparklers burn at 2,000 degrees – which is hot enough to melt some metals, never mind ravage a child's hand or foot! Sparklers can quickly ignite clothing, too.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, sparklers account for more than 25% of all emergency room visits for fireworks injuries. For children under five years old, sparklers account for nearly half of the total estimated injuries.

Instead, the NSC advises parents with young children to use glow sticks, confetti paper or coloured streamers.

Meanwhile, did you know? Fireworks start an average of 19,000 fires each year.

If you are still determined to do home fireworks, here are some safety tips:

- Never allow young children to handle fireworks.
- Older children should use them only under close adult supervision.
- Never use fireworks while impaired by drugs or alcohol.
- Anyone using fireworks or standing nearby should wear protective eyewear.
- Never hold lighted fireworks in your hands.
- Never light them indoors.
- Only use them away from people, houses, and flammable material.
- Never point or throw fireworks at another person.
- Only light one device at a time and maintain a safe distance after lighting.
- Never ignite devices in a container.
- Do not try to re-light or handle malfunctioning fireworks.
- Soak both spent and unused fireworks in water for a few hours before discarding.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby to fully extinguish fireworks that don't go off or in case of fire.
- Never use illegal fireworks.
- More tips at www.nsc.org



The vicar got a little carried away with the church's new state-of-the-art PA system



Died in the services

Little Alex was staring up at the large brass plaque that hung on the side wall of the church. The plaque was covered with names, and it seemed to fascinate the seven-year-old. "All those names," he said to the minister. "Who are they?"

"Well, they were people who used to go to this church," explained the minister. "This is a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the services."

Soberly, they stood together, staring at the large plaque. Little Alex's voice was barely audible when he asked, "Which service, the 9 o'clock, or the 11 o'clock?"

The best time to exercise, if you want to lose weight

The two-hour window between 7am and 9am is the best time to go running or ‘work out’, if you want to lose weight.

A recent study by scientists at Franklin Pierce University has found that early morning exercise can help you lose weight more easily, reduce your BMI, and slim down your waist. It is thought that the ‘fasted state’ after you wake up could be the reason for this weight loss edge.

As one assistant professor of exercise physiology explains: “Exercise can burn fat and glucose,” Dr Ma said. “After an overnight fast, the glucose stored in our body is low. Therefore, when we exercise our muscles are likely to burn more fat.” He recommends 40 minutes of aerobic exercise before breakfast, such as running or biking.

The findings have been published in The Obesity Society’s (TOS) journal.

What do girls really want?

The majority of young girls would rather own their own house than have a husband by the time they are 30. They also prioritise ‘having a worthwhile job’ and ‘earning a lot of money,’ before ‘having children’.

These are some of the findings of the latest annual Girls’ Attitudes Survey by Girlguiding. More worrying, the poll also found that girls’ happiness is at its lowest level for 15 years.

Angela Salt, CEO of Girlguiding said: “It’s clear that girls are feeling pressures from all angles, from harm online, to appearance pressures to sexual harassment at school.”

Nearly two thirds of 13-to-21-year-olds have received sexist comments online, and nearly half said they often feel sad or depressed, after spending time online or on social media.

More than a third of young girls would even consider some form of cosmetic surgery, after seeing images of influencers or celebrities getting them.

**UPDATE
Used Pill Foils**



A big thank you, to all of you who have been collecting and bringing them for recycling. Unfortunately we no longer have a source that recycles them.



Please now put them in your Black Bin.

Mary Mann



A new kind of Remembrance Poppy

For the first time in 28 years, there is a new kind of poppy for Remembrance Sunday this year: it is plastic free.

Director of the Poppy Appeal, Andy Taylor-Whyte explains: “We are very proud to introduce the plastic-free poppy. It will not only enable people to support our Armed Forces community but also continues the RBL’s commitment to sustainability.”

The new poppy has been three years in the development and making. The aim was to reduce the use of single-use plastic and to “be economical, sustainable, and less impactful to the environment.”

The new poppy design has a 40% smaller carbon footprint, and it made from “bespoke red and green paper.” The paper comes from a blend of renewable fibres, 50 per cent of which has been recovered from the waste used in the production of coffee cups.

The plastic-free poppy will be available alongside remaining stocks of the current poppy, to reduce any waste of poppies already produced.

Open Invitation for all Village Residents,
Councillors, Clubs and Society Representatives
to assemble at the Lych Gate War Memorial

for the

Act of Remembrance at 11.00 am



Remembrance Sunday

November 12th

11.00 am ~ Act of Remembrance

at the Lych Gate War Memorial

11.10 am ~ Service of Remembrance



*They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old,
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn,
At the going down of the sun, and in the morning,
We will remember them.*


J J Woodage
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Job Vacancy: Kitchen Manager
Are you an experienced Cook with the skills to lead a team?
 This is a rare opportunity to join our small but friendly team as Kitchen Manager and become part of the Cornerstone family. Cornerstone is a Christian organisation supported by four churches. You will be leading a very experienced team of cooks in our 5-star rated kitchen producing a variety of food from our menu; creating delicious specials, hot meals, cakes and occasionally catering for outside events. You will have experience in all the relevant legislation and be trained to a minimum of Food Hygiene Level 2.
 The hours are flexible up to a maximum of 35 hours which must include two Saturdays a month. The current hourly rate is £11.60 per hour.
 Cornerstone,
 10 Savile Way, Grove
 OX12 0PT
 01235 772280
 For more details contact Sarah Shewring at:
office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk
 

Cornerstone News

Christian Bookshop of the Year

We are delighted that we were awarded Christian Bookshop of the Year by the Christian Booksellers Association at their conference last month. To put that into context there are 189 Christian bookshops in the country so quite an achievement. You may have heard Sarah on BBC radio Oxford talking to Katie Tyler about it. If not, you can find her show on the BBC Sounds App – the interview was 1hr 20min into the show on 1st October.

Fairtrade

We have found a new source for Fairtrade goods and at the moment have tea, coffee, hot chocolate and chocolate.

Christmas Goods

We are now starting to fill the shelves with Christmas goods – we have a number of Christmas cards and Advent calendars and candles on display.

This includes the ever popular Hannah Dunnett calendars as well as mugs and coasters.

Volunteers

We are looking for a number of volunteers both on the till and the counter for various shifts. If you are interested in volunteering please do contact us.

01235 772280

PRIZE
BINGO
 SATURDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2023
 AT
 EAST CHALLOW VILLAGE HALL
 EYES DOWN 7.00pm
 (DOORS OPEN AT 6.15pm)
 IN AID OF
 1ST GROVE BROWNIES


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November


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Pause for Thought

26th November

The excitement of the Sunday of Christ the King

The last Sunday in November is the last Sunday of the church year, and in some ways the most important. Why? Because everything else in the Christian year looks BACK on what happened 2000 years ago. The Sunday of Christ the King looks FORWARD to what we can expect next.... the return one day of Jesus Christ to this earth, as King of Kings.

Does the idea of Jesus of Nazareth literally returning to earth seem a bit quaint to accept, in our computerised world of e-mails and the internet? Well, that is what the Bible says will happen – it is promised more than 250 times!

The Bible is quite clear: the return of the Lord Jesus Christ as King of Kings will take place personally, powerfully, bodily, visibly, publicly – and INSTANTLY. (Read Matthew 24:30,31, or 1 Thessalonians 4:13 – 5:3.) Here are words of Jesus Himself:

For the Son of Man in his day will be like the lightning, which flashes and lights up the sky from one end to the other. (Luke 17:24)

This will be no local story for a BBC TV reporter to cover if he gets time. That day he won't be interviewing the Carpenter of Nazareth, wearing Galilean homespun. Jesus will be in His incandescent brilliance as the 'Son of Man' – a bit of a challenge even for TV reporters! Certainly when Peter, James and John were witness to their familiar Master 'transfigured', as the same irradiated Person – in a dramatic preview of Christ's triumphant final rule (Luke 9:28-36), they did not feel very confident.

The martyred Stephen, about to die, had a similar glimpse: "Behold I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God" (Acts 7:56). The exiled apostle John on the island of Patmos saw the same figure: '...His face was like the sun shining in full strength' (Revelation 1:16.)

When Christ one day returns, the whole world will finally witness this same spectacle (Revelation 1:7). His return will mark the end of history, as we know it. It will inaugurate the final Judgment. It will reunite the Lord with His Church on earth.

Jesus' return to us will bring about the new heaven and the new earth. Pain, death, persecution, privation and sorrow will all be banished. The entire edifice of evil that has raised itself against the rule of God will be dismantled in a moment.

We have been warned all along not to place a date or a time upon the Second Coming of Christ. (Matthew 24:42-44) Sadly, many people ignore this warning and waste endless time in calculations. The way in which we should be spending our days before the end is to work, watch and witness to our Lord Jesus – whether or not ours is a world of computers, e-mail and all the rest!



In the meantime, where is Jesus now? The Bible writers tell us that Jesus has returned to the place of privilege and power, and is 'seated at the right hand' of the Father (Ephesians 1:20-21; Colossians 3:1; Hebrews 1:3), and is waiting for the Father's timing for Him to return to earth in glory (Mark 13:26-27,32), to raise the dead (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18), and give them their resurrection bodies (1 Corinthians 15:35-44).

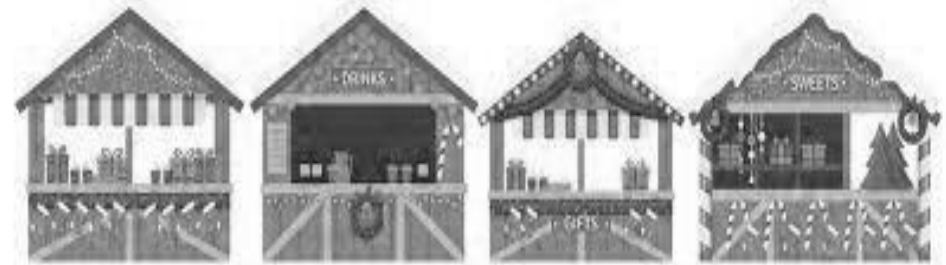
Jesus will never be a baby again.

He is now Christ the King – today, tomorrow, forever...



St Nicholas School Christmas Fair

Saturday 25th November
1pm to 4pm

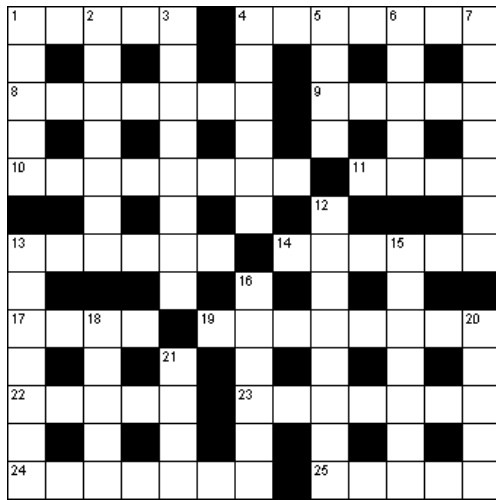


Entry: £1 per adult, children free

Please join us for Christmas crafts, games,
refreshments and stalls from local businesses



If you would like to run stall on the day,
please email friendsofstnics@outlook.com



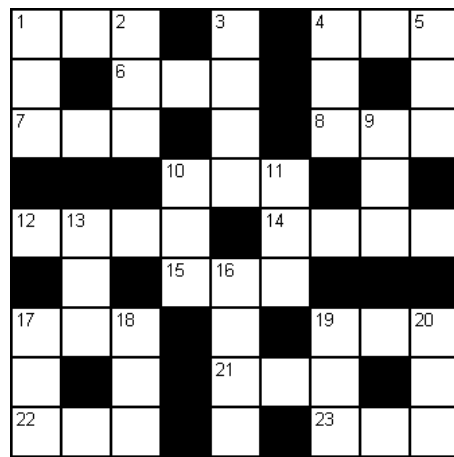
Crossword Solution on page 26

Across

1. Topic (5)
4. Environment (7)
8. Layer (7)
9. Soda water (5)
10. Cheap passage (8)
11. Sport (4)
13. Six feet deep in water (6)
14. Invalidate (6)
17. Artifice (4)
19. Glorious (8)
22. Torpid (5)
23. Quantities (7)
24. Aged (7)
25. Covers a wide area (5)

Down

1. Chores (5)
2. Sincere (7)
3. Outside (8)
4. Respectful deference (6)
5. Computer memory unit (4)
6. Latin American dance (5)
7. Diplomatic (7)
12. Famished (8)
13. Surreptitious (7)
15. Brilliant musical passage (7)
16. Bee house (6)
18. Velocity (5)
20. Measured portions of medicine (5)
21. Celestial body (4)



Number Cruncher Solution on page 24

Across

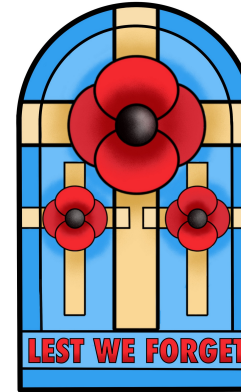
- 1) 17 across plus fourteen
- 4) 12 across minus 2198
- 6) 14 across divided by six
- 7) 13 down plus eighty
- 8) 1 across times five
- 10) Dozen in nine gross
- 12) 19 down times three
- 14) 12 across minus three
- 15) 12 across divided by eleven
- 17) Months in twelve years
- 19) 11 down plus fourteen
- 21) 1 down doubled
- 22) Minutes in three hours
- 23) 21 across plus twenty

Down

- 1) 20 down minus 115
- 2) 8 across plus fifty-four
- 3) 23 across times eight
- 4) 6 across minus 184
- 5) 9 down minus 770
- 9) 2 down plus eighty-six
- 10) Hours in eight days
- 11) 5 down plus 669
- 13) Three times 1 across
- 16) 15 across times seven
- 17) Three times forty-seven
- 18) Seconds in seven minutes
- 19) 8 across plus thirteen
- 20) Minutes in five hours

Editor: by David Pickup, a solicitor.

The Two Minutes Silence



Remember, Lord, Your great mercy and love, for they are from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth and my rebellious ways; according to Your love remember me, for You, Lord, are good. (Psalm 25:5-7)

I love the Psalms, as they cover every emotion and religious experience, from despair to praise and from fear to rejoicing. Some say they are difficult, but life is difficult, and so the book of Psalms is great for dipping into and finding the right one for you. This one is about remembering – remembering the past failures in our lives, and dealing with them.

What do you think about during the Two Minutes' Silence on Remembrance Sunday? Perhaps you do not think about anything. I find it helpful to make an effort to think about the war dead. I used to do some research into local men who were casualties. I had some photos taken from newspapers or sent home. These memories added some personalities and characteristics to the names on memorials.

I also think of members of my own family, who lived through the wars, and the experiences they had. Most did not go off to serve away from home, but lived through the blackouts, blitz, and evacuation and rationing. My grandfather left a photo of some comrades and had written on the back a request to 'keep this safe'. And so we have, for over one hundred years! I also remember, with thanks, the comparatively peaceful lives we have had.

There are some things we do not want to remember, usually bad things we have done or had done to us. When we turn our memories over to God, we are asking God to be merciful and loving, for although we make mistakes we can appeal to His enduring love.

The poppies of Remembrance Sunday

In late 1914, WW1 erupted across Northern France and Flanders. Great swathes of previously green fields and forests were blasted and bombed, leaving them bleak and barren, with seemingly every living thing destroyed.

But then in the Spring of 1915, something beautiful began to come out of all the destruction. Tens of thousands of bright red Flanders poppies began to put out tentative shoots across the endless vistas of mud. These resilient little flowers had actually flourished in the middle of so much chaos and destruction, because their seeds grow when exposed to sunlight, through disturbances to soil.

We all know that these endless fields of cheerful poppies, growing in the midst of such misery and destruction, were what inspired the Canadian doctor, Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, to write the now famous poem 'In Flanders Fields'.

And it was McCrae's poem which inspired an American academic named Moina Michael to adopt the poppy in memory of those who had fallen in the war. She got it adopted as an official symbol of Remembrance across the United States, and worked with others who were trying to do the same in Canada, Australia, and the UK.

A French woman, Anna Guérin who was in the UK in 1921, caught the same vision, and planned to sell the poppies in London. There she met Earl Haig, the founder of the Royal British Legion, who was persuaded to adopt the poppy as its emblem in the UK.

The Royal British Legion, which had been formed in 1921, ordered nine million poppies and sold them on 11 November that year. Ever since then, the red poppy has been a symbol of Remembrance, of support for the Armed Forces community, and also of hope for a peaceful future.



OUR AUTUMN / WINTER OFFERING

Bar opening times through this period will generally be

Monday	CLOSED
Tuesday	CLOSED
Wednesday	4pm – 7pm
Thursday	4pm – 7pm (10pm when Darts match is on)
Friday	4pm – 7.30pm
Saturday	CLOSED
Sunday	11am – 3pm

The clubhouse is available to hire for a range of events through the 'close season' either during the day or in the evening, and makes a superb setting for your birthday, anniversary, christening or wake. Please contact us to discuss your function requirements, we will always look to do whatever we can to make your event a success.

If you would like to join the club as a member it's just £20 for the year, you can do so via our website.

We also require bar staff to cover some of our bar openings both during the weekday evenings and occasional outside events when the clubhouse has been hired on weekend evenings. For full details and rate of pay please e-mail us in first instance.

Remember that everyone is welcome at Challow, membership is not required to enjoy the facilities (although it does mean we can keep you up to date with news and events at the Club)
www.challowcricket.co.uk
admin@challowcricket.co.uk
01235 763335

Editor: by the Ven John Barton

Looking back on the 2023 cricket season

The 2023 cricket season ended on a jarring note. A widespread review of the game in England found it suffered from racism, sexism, elitism and class-based discrimination.

Older cricket fans will wince. They recall the days when each county side was divided into amateurs and professionals, called Gentlemen and Players. They had separate changing rooms. Gentlemen came from wealthy families, so didn't need the wages paid to the others. You could distinguish them on cricket scorecards, where Gentlemen's names were printed with their initials in front of their surnames, whereas Players' names were the other way round. The team captain was always an amateur.

For centuries, women have played cricket, using a smaller ball, but it wasn't until 1976 that they were allowed to play at Lords, where schoolboys from Eton and Harrow had played for years. Twenty five years later, Ebony Rainford-Brent became the first black woman to play for her country, and was subject to racist abuse. "As soon as I walked into the world of cricket the comments started", she said.

In the early days, a few Indian cricketers who were members of noble families, played for English counties and even for the national team. But by and large the game in England was played by white people. Class distinction was accepted without question.

In church, they were still singing,

The rich man in his castle,

The poor man at his gate;

God made them, high or lowly

And ordered their estate.

Although the Bible acknowledges distinctions between rich and poor, employers and workers, kings and their subjects, it gives priority to the poor and powerless, and places grave responsibility on those who are wealthy and wield power. No reference is made to their skin colour. Adam and Eve are presented as non-ethnic and non-national because they represent all people of all ethnicities.

One outstanding cricketer, who lived by these biblical themes, was David Sheppard. He captained England, both before and after he was ordained in the Church of England. He chose to minister only in the most downtrodden areas, wrote *Bias to the Poor* as part of his campaign for social justice and refused to play against South Africa when their team was controlled by apartheid. All sports need players of principle like him.

Book of the Month

Enjoying God - experience the power and love of God in everyday life

By Tim Chester

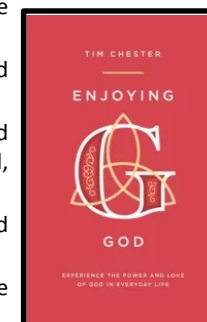
We believe in God, we serve God, we love God – but do we ENJOY God as much as we can? Does our head knowledge translate into affection of the heart?

Do we have a meaningful relationship with someone we can't see? Do we feel excited about God every day, in every context?

Tim Chester shows us how to relate to each of the three persons of the Trinity, and what this looks like in practice. Readers will discover that as we engage more with God, and understand how awesome He is, we can enjoy Him more.

This isn't a book *about* the Trinity. It's a 'how to' book exploring how we relate to God (for which we need a true understanding of the Trinity).

In day-to-day life, how do the three persons of the Trinity relate to us, and how do we respond?



Community Bus Service

An e-survey has been sent out to the Parish websites/newsletters etc. to gauge opinion, likely use and preferred destinations for a community bus service. OCC are also now exploring a reinstatement of a limited service of the old community bus route covering our villages west of Wantage supported by central government funds. This has already been put out to tender and one of the proposals accepted! It is not official as yet but I am told that we should expect, in the near future, a resumption of the community bus from further west via the Sarajac estate into Wantage and back to Faringdon. I had suggested that it should include the Mably Way Health Centre but this amendment was not taken up. More on this when we hear officially.

Wantage Hospital

I have updated you on the continuing discussions about the future of Wantage Hospital. Major points for discussion have included (i) hospital beds and whether these could be replaced by a combination of care at home and use of care home beds, (ii) having a minor injuries unit with x-ray based at the hospital, and (iii) continuation of the existing out-patient clinics.

Not many people know that the Mably Way Health Centre already has a minor injuries unit! I didn't know until I took part in a recent Focus Group on the hospital. The Surgery is trying to publicise it – not before time!

Roads, Drains, Weeds and Speed!

By the time you read this we in this ward will have had a visit from Cllr Andrew Gant, the county councillor with responsibility for Highways. Apart from (i) the state of the roads generally and several roads specifically, I was anxious to talk to him about (ii) the road drainage in several villages, and (iii) the gradual encroachment of weeds along the roadsides and pavements in most of our villages. It will be important to speak to the relevant councillor because Highways have responded to me about the encroachment of weeds on the highways (Including the pavements) with the advice "Please put it on FixMyStreet"!!!!!!

East and West Challow are also now looking at traffic speed along the B4507 and the A417. Pulling out of Vicarage Hill (from East Challow), Windmill Hill (from Letcombe Regis) and Silver Lane (from West Challow) on to the B4507 is difficult with traffic approaching at up to 60 mph and limited visibility. Similarly, pulling out of Silver Lane (from West Challow) and from Haynes on to the A417 is difficult for the same reasons. These junctions would benefit from traffic speed on the B4507 and A417 on these stretches being restricted to 40 mph.

Plans for Abingdon Reservoir continue despite local objections

(from VOWHDC Communications)

Plans for an expanded controversial reservoir near Abingdon have again been criticised by local communities, with Vale of White Horse District Council urging water providers to consider alternative solutions.

The council has reaffirmed its objections to the reservoir in a formal letter to Thames Water following submission of their revised Draft Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) to government. The alliance of the six water companies in the Southeast (Water Resources Southeast or WRSE) also submitted its revised draft Water Resources South East regional plan to government at the same time.

The draft WRMP not only progresses plans for the reservoir, known as the South East Strategic Reservoir Option (SESRO), but proposed to increase the capacity by 50% from 100Mm³ to 150Mm³!!! Meanwhile, the proposed Severn to Thames Water transfer has been downgraded as an option.

The council argues that the plans fail to consider fully the long-term impacts to the local community and the environment, both during a decade of construction and the irreparable damage to the countryside. A reservoir would also come at the expense of significant carbon emissions which the council argues would impact the district's ability to become carbon neutral by 2045. Clearly. The Vale and County Council continue their objections.

The revised draft Water Resources Management Plan will now be reviewed by Government and, if endorsed, will be finalised and published in 2024. Thames Water will continue with the development of their SESRO project, focusing on environmental data collection and ground investigation surveys over the coming months, with engagement and updates to stakeholders to be held in Autumn this year.

Childrey Way/Bridleway

By the time you read this we are hopeful that the stretch of Childrey Way between Cornhill Farm and Silver Lane/Whitelands Rd between the B4507 and West Challow will have been repaired and should make walking to Childrey, with or without a dog or children, cycling or hacking much easier.

Cllr Dr Paul Barrow

If you have any issues/problems please feel free to contact me

Paul.barrow@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Mob: 07557 953862

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Cllr-Dr-Paul-Barrow-104943001583284>

Instagram: [Dr Paul Barrow](#)

Challows and Childrey Hedge Group



The Challows and Childrey Hedgerow Group are looking for volunteers to help with planting a new hedge along Silver Lane, West Challow on **November 26th and January 13th next year.**

Please contact me if you are interested

paulbarrow@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

07557 953862



On using Glebe land for allotments

The Rectory
St James the Least of All

My dear Nephew Darren

I hear you have joined the committee which wants to convert the waste land between the abandoned soap factory and canal in your parish into allotments – although I would have thought there were holier sorts of conversions you could have concentrated on. I am sure you will soon be caught up in arguments which make that little disagreement over an apple in the Garden of Eden seem quite trivial.



Some years ago, we similarly decided to let part of our Glebe land become allotments; the outcome was not wholly as may have been anticipated. Colonel Wainwright saw it as an opportunity of re-living his War years and was only just restrained from digging trenches around his plot; no doubt he would have offered to play football with neighbouring allotment holders on Christmas Day.

It caused some surprise when the Earl of Stowe applied for a plot, but it has become something of an attraction to see his daily procession, preceded by his gardener pushing the wheelbarrow, the under-gardener carrying the tools and following him, his butler with the newspaper, a deckchair, and a flask of coffee. He then settles down for a comfortable hour while occasionally supervising the work, once reports on the local hunt have been read.

Miss Simpson managed to unite everyone in communal outrage by using her plot to encourage fluffy bunnies, darling foxes, and sweet squirrels. She seemed to be particularly grateful to everyone else for providing fruit and vegetables for their happiness. Resolution was only achieved when she was convinced to grow potatoes, helping the Colonel in his War Effort. Fortunately, he did not ask her to arrive equipped with the regulation gas mask.

Our local architect seems to spend most of his time beautifying his garden shed, rather than growing produce. With its gothic arched windows, Norman tower and flying buttresses, I do wonder if he may have spent rather too much of his time renovating ancient churches. Neighbouring plot-holders look forward to the agricultural equivalent of the Dissolution of the Monasteries.

I am sure you will find you have committed yourself to many hours of unnecessary work. Just make sure you get a percentage of their produce for your Harvest Festival.

Your loving uncle,
Eustace



Used Garden Patio Slabs

in need of a new home

We have a total of 89 used garden patio slabs which are no longer required.

Slab size is 45 x 45 cm
(17½ x 17½ inches)

They are available for collection locally in return for a donation to St Nicholas Church
If you are interested please contact Jeff Penfold

01235 763173

All entries for the DECEMBER 2023 and JANUARY 2024

Issue of the Challow News

Must be submitted by **15th NOVEMBER 2023**

Email: nigel.langford@me.com



~ Save the Date ~

"Christmas Carols on the Green"

Monday 18th December at 7pm

Meet up on the Village Green
next to the old Red Telephone Box

Carol Sheets will be supplied



Please remember to bring your own torch or a lantern



1	5	8	3	2	1	1
8	4	0	1	1	6	
5	5	4	2	7	9	0
			1	0	8	3
2	4	0	9	2	4	0
	7		2	1	9	
1	4	4	5	8	4	3
4	2		3	7	0	0
1	8	0	3	3	9	0

Have your Advertising Flyers or Leaflets Inserted and delivered

along with the Challow News for only £15

Advertising space is also available

for more information please email nigel.langford@me.com



EAST CHALLOW ~ PARISH COUNCIL

www.eastchallowpc.co.uk

JOB VACANCY: Responsible Financial Officer (RFO)

This is an exciting opportunity to work with East Challow Parish Councillors and members of the public. The RFO will be responsible for the administration of the financial affairs of the Council. This will include management of the accounts and keep all accounts of the Council in a proper manner.

To prepare financial reports; assist with budgeting preparation and to keep sound financial control in preparation for the annual audit.

To maintain the bank accounts, bank reconciliations, payments, and keep VAT records and complete VAT returns. The RFO will prepare reports for the monthly Council meetings. This is a varied role and would suit someone who understands financial accounting systems and likes working with figures.

For more information please contact the Chair of East Challow Parish Council

Telephone 07976 546826

Email: vanessa.lawson.ecpc@gmail.com

Allotment....

We have a vacant allotment plot, should anyone be interested please contact Cllr Webb f.webb@eastchallowpc.co.uk as it will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

November 5th....

We are approaching bonfire night again soon.

Please be considerate when using fireworks, you can find the firework code here: <https://www.britishfireworksassociation.co.uk/firework-advice-for-consumers/>

Autumn Clear Up....

It's the time of year when we are all tidying up our gardens for the winter. Please could we remind villagers to cut back any vegetation overhanging public rights of way.

Vacancy....

We 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 clerk for more information.

clerk@eastchallowpc.co.uk

Public Art....

The image to be used for the Suffolk Sign was approved at the September Parish Council Meeting.

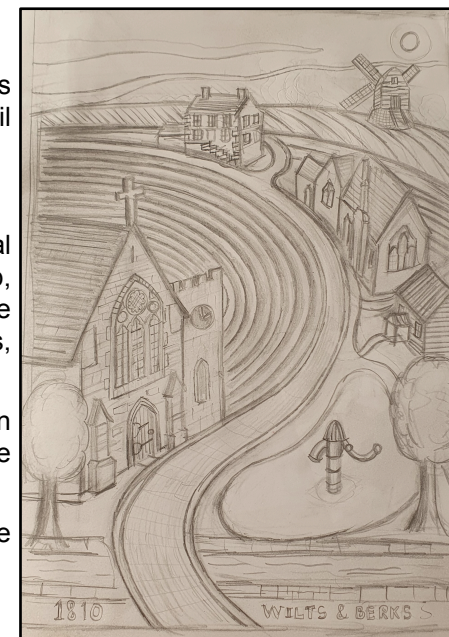
The image is shown adjacent to this article.

The details include: Prominent Historical Buildings, The Village Green and Water Pump, Wilts and Berks Canal and Court Hill in the distance, Ridge and Furrowed Contours on fields, and the Windmill represents Windmill Hill.

The image will be carved in wood on both sides in relief style. The image will be painted with the frame left unfinished.

Further updates on progress will appear in future issues of the Challow News.

Clr Trevor Hayes.



Parish Council Meeting

will take place in the Village Hall on

Wednesday 8th November at 7.30pm

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.

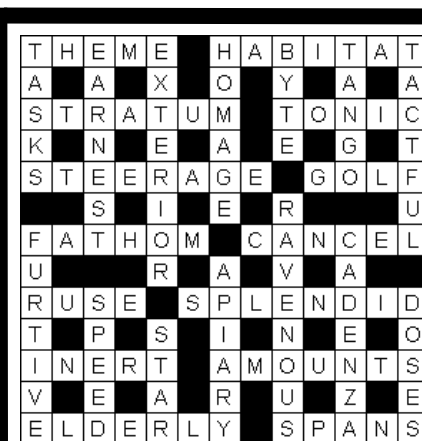


Parish Councillors

Paul Barrow, Vanessa Bosley, Andy Gregson, Trevor Hayes, Bryan Miller, Frances Webb

Clerk to the council - Jane Smith

clerk@eastchallowpc.co.uk



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