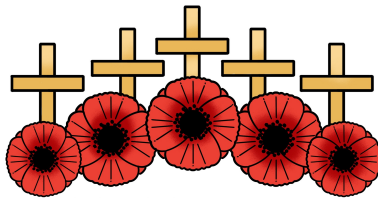




Challow

NEWS

~ NOVEMBER 2025 ~



REMEMBRANCE

SUNDAY 9th NOVEMBER

Act of Remembrance

11.00 am

Lych Gate War Memorial

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM



Main Street, East Challow.
OX12 9SH

Churchwardens

Mrs Liz Belcher: 01235 763966
Dr. Jeff Penfold: 01235 763173

Vicar: Rev Alec Gill

07739 563894

Email: vicaralec@valebenefice.org.uk

Associate Vicar:

Rev Dr. Miriam Jones

07474 095190

vicarmiriam@valebenefice.org.uk

Licensed Lay Minister: Sarah Shackleton

07587 776609

Email: SarahLLM@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



Details of all Services and Festivals
can be found on the

St. Nicholas website page of

A Church Near You

[www.achurchnearyou.com/
church/5811/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/5811/)

East Challow Parish Council

clerk@eastchallowpc.co.uk

Cricket Club - 01235 763335

R B L Club - 01235 763430

Village Hall - bookings.ecvh@gmail.com

Challow News - nigel.langford@me.com

Mably Way Health Centre

Church Street - 01235 770245

Newbury Street - 01235 639521

3 - Digit Numbers

999 - Emergency

111 - NHS (non emergency)

101 - POLICE (non emergency)

105 - NATIONAL POWER CUT
SERVICE

Introducing our New Associate Vicar

Rev Dr Miriam Jones

As I write this, it is almost exactly two months since my family and I packed up the last of our belongings in Newcastle upon Tyne and set out on the long drive south to our new home in Grove, where I was to become the new Associate Vicar of the Vale Benefice, covering the villages of Challow, Denchworth, East and West Hanney, and Grove.

When we got here in the middle of a hot, dry spell, it was still very much summer. Today, as I sit in the vicarage with the heating on and a hot drink close at hand, it is clear that autumn has arrived! The intervening weeks have been full to the brim with new places and people: new schools for the children (two at primary and two at secondary), a new office for my husband, and four new churches and parishes for me!

I am so grateful for the warm welcome my family has been given here, and for the amazing work done by so many volunteers to keep the benefice running while the vicar team was down from two to one during these past two years. It has been a joy to start exploring our new surroundings, getting to know people and making friends. There is still a lot to discover, but already I can see how lucky we are to have landed in this beautiful place.

Over the past few weeks, our churches have been celebrating the harvest season, giving thanks for all the good things we enjoy, and offering donations of food and money to share with others in need. These beautiful celebrations have been a reminder for me that we are called to live all year round with gratitude and generosity. As I continue to get to know this new place, I am very thankful for the opportunity to serve here, and hope that

I can contribute in turn to the flourishing of my communities.

God bless,

Miriam

Email: vicarmiriam@valebenefice.org.uk

Phone: 07474 095190



Next Parish Council Meeting

will be held in the Village Hall

Wednesday 12th November at 7.00pm

All villagers are invited to attend Parish Council meetings as observers and there is a 10 minute public discussion time early in the meeting where you can raise any matter you wish with the council.

The minutes of each meeting are available on the website.

www.eastchallowpc.co.uk

Allotments

It is that time of year when your allotment rent is due, the Parish Council would appreciate prompt payment of the fees. If you have received your invoice, you will have seen that the Parish Council have slightly raised the rents.

Whole plot £25, half plot £12.50 and a starter plot £7.50.

We appreciate your cooperation.

Reminder

This is a polite reminder that the barrier gate in the Parish Council car park, adjacent to St Nicholas School is closed daily at dusk or 9.00pm, whichever comes sooner. With the winter coming the gate will be closed quite early in the evening. It is opened by 7.30am the next morning.

Public Art in Hedge Hill Road, East Challow update



The public art takes the form of a village sign paid for from S106 funding administered by Vale of White Horse District Council from developer contributions. The public art will be located on the open grass area between the A417 and Hedge Hill Road. The artwork is now complete and it is planned to install it during November. A small celebration will be held at a time to be advised. A time capsule is being prepared by St Nicholas C of E Primary School and will be placed at a later date.

MUGA/Tennis Court

Please note the MUGA/Tennis Court will be closed from the 1st week in November for the winter months. This will be opened again around Easter. This will allow for cleaning and maintenance and the Parish Council hope to be able to repair the basketball hoops.

East Challow Community Warm Spaces has now resumed



please join us for a Hot Drink and a chat at Challow and Childrey Cricket Club from 11.00 am on any of the following dates.



Friday 31st October

Friday 14th November, Friday 28th November

Friday 12th December

Road Closure

Please be advised of two overnight closures 20:00 – 06:00 on 27th and 28th November of the A420, between the A417 roundabout and the unnamed road to Littleworth.

The closures are to allow the construction of a traffic island adjacent to the London Road junction, with associated high friction surfacing and road markings.

The works will be carried out by MGroup, and emergency contact numbers will be shared nearer the time.

A diversion route for traffic, including the S6 and NS6 bus routes, will be signed via the A338 and A417.

Advance warning signs will be placed at each end of the closure two weeks prior to the works.

Three Variable Message Signs will also be deployed throughout the scheme. These will be placed at either end of the A420 (Acorn Bridge and Southmoor) and on the A417 approach.

Wantage Community Survey

Here at Wantage Town Council, we have recently launched a Town Survey - a key opportunity for the local community to shape the future of Wantage.

We are seeking views from those who live, work, or visit Wantage to better understand local priorities and how we can improve services, infrastructure, and life in the town.

As an added incentive, everyone who completes the survey will have the opportunity to enter a prize draw to win a voucher worth up to £50.

The survey is open from 9th September 2025 and will remain live until early January 2026, giving residents plenty of time to take part and share their views.

The survey can be completed here:

<https://forms.gle/8EEDs6957oUUvSa29>

Dear all,

I am afraid that I am mailing you today to let you know that I resigned on Friday 26th September as District Councillor essentially for health and family reasons. I had hoped to give some notice of this but in politics, even our little local politics, that was not possible.



I think you all know that my health is not the best in the world. Following my diagnosis of prostate cancer in 2019, I had surgery in Jan 2020 which was fine for 3 years. Unfortunately, it came back with a vengeance and the GPs, bless them, didn't pick up with the result that it spread quite widely. I had chemo in 2023 and also went immediately onto hormone therapy. Apart from the side effects this has been fine but with the combination of medicines that I am on it was expected that the status quo would be maintained for ca. 3 years and then the cells usually mutate and the cancer takes off again. I am therefore expecting it to start getting "interesting" in late 2026 or early 2027!

We had always planned to retire to Suffolk where we have a son with a veterinary practice. Our other son is moving to Cambridge. What I didn't want to happen was for me to become seriously ill and leave Anna to have to sort everything out, including the move. We are therefore planning to move within the next 12 months before the disease gets going again, giving us enough time to settle in over there before things again get "interesting". I am giving you all this background to explain my decision to resign as district councillor. A few of you will already know this but this mail is being fired out to everyone!

Thank you for your support over the last 6 years. I will miss the work which has been fascinating and very rewarding, although time-consuming (how councillors with full-time jobs manage beats me). It has allowed me to really get involved in our 7 amazing villages and parish councils and their business and businesses and occasionally to be able to help individuals. The work with the parish councils has felt very much like a partnership. The work on the county health scrutiny committee was important to ensure local input into county and wider health issues and it helped push the developments at Wantage Hospital. During Covid I produced a report to improve Infection Control (my background) in Care Homes which unfortunately was not adopted by OCC, which was a shame! I also sat on the North Wessex Downs Partners committee and although I would have loved and still would love to see the Farmer Cluster idea spread further north into the Vale, this hasn't happened yet. It was fascinating work and I feel that I always got more out of it than I put in.

Thank you again for your support and input which has always been important, most locally here with our flooding problems which are still not fully resolved.

I informed the district council Friday but thought it also best to let you all know. I will remain on the East Challow Parish Council for a few months yet. I understand that there will be a by-election. I will be returning the laptop in a few days and my email will then stop but I can be contacted at paul.barrow@surrey.ac.uk.

Best wishes

Paul

Pause for Thought

November is the month for remembering some of the difficult things that have shaped our world: like the Gunpowder Plot on 5th November. Guy Fawkes and his friends failed to blow up Parliament, but the fear of this kind of treason haunted Britain for centuries. It made the lives of ordinary Catholics in England very difficult for years to come. Fanatical young men often make life miserable for the ordinary people they are trying to save!

On Remembrance Sunday we will be thinking of the millions of lives lost in two World Wars and so many other conflicts around the world. We will be reflecting on how these wars have affected our lives down the generations. My own Mum married the boy next door in 1939. He was in the Royal Navy and was killed when HMS Coventry was sunk in 1942. My Dad was captured by the Japanese in Hong Kong on Christmas Day 1941. After nearly 4 years as a Prisoner-of-War, he was released after the Atom Bombs forced Japan to surrender in August 1945. He met my Mum after he was demobbed in 1946 and they had 60 years of marriage together – a long period of healing after the traumas of war.

Making sense of our stories is the work of a lifetime. I have found this story from ancient China helpful: "There was a farmer in a poor country village. He was considered very well-to-do because he owned a horse that he used for ploughing and transportation. One day his horse ran away. All his neighbours exclaimed how terrible this was, but the farmer simply replied, 'Maybe.' A few days later the horse returned and brought two wild horses with it. The neighbours all rejoiced at his good fortune, but the farmer simply replied, 'Maybe.' The next day the farmer's son tried to ride one of the wild horses, but the horse threw him and broke the son's leg. The neighbours all offered their sympathy for his misfortune, but the farmer again replied, 'Maybe.' The next week conscription officers came to the village to take young men for the army. They rejected the farmer's son because of his broken leg. When the neighbours told him how lucky he was, the farmer replied, 'Maybe.'"

As we tell our stories, we set them in a frame that makes them sad or hopeful stories. Sometimes we can see that good things come out of suffering, and that God has been at work in our lives despite everything. As I look back, I see that my Dad had PTSD after the War, and I was afraid of his outbursts. I can see that God did not send the troubles we had, but that he has always been bringing good things out of the harm that others caused.

Geoff Maughan

Retired Minister living in West Hanney

Come and be part of our
vibrant Christian community at...

**Framland Care
Home, Wantage**

Call us on **0300 303 1470** or email
wantage@pilgrimsfriend.org.uk

 **www.pilgrimsfriend.org.uk/framland**



Hello Everyone...

November already, this year has seemed to slip by very quickly, we will soon be preparing for Christmas.

I can now let you know that the money we raised at the Harvest Festival for Water Aid was £253.00 and we were

able to donate a substantial amount of goods to the local food bank, so it was a good result. Thank you to everyone who donated.

The amount raised on the Ride and Stride by Jeff Penfold was £450.00 this will be divided between the Historic Churches trust and our own St. Nicholas Church. So well done Jeff and thank you to everyone who sponsored him.

On 9th November we will as always be inviting people to join us in the Act of Remembrance at the lych gate, to commemorate all those who sacrificed their lives for their country in conflicts over the world. We will gather at the lych gate just before 11.00am please try to join us, I feel it is such an important ceremony.

For the Love of Dogs...

I told you about the first dog we adopted Mitch, well when we lost him, I couldn't face the thought of trying to replace him, and it took two years to think about getting another dog, but both my boys were leaving home and we didn't want an empty house. We contacted a local rescue kennels and went to look at the dogs there. We immediately saw a nine-month-old neutered, black Labrador crossbreed named Ned. He took one look at Chris my son and it was love at first sight, that was the one for us, when we got home, he was renamed Dex. What a contrast to Mitch, Dex was just a naughty, lovable boy, with a sense of humour. He would hide behind things, jump out and nip your bum, then run off, you could almost hear him laughing. There are many things in my house with Dex teeth marks on them to this day, he liked a good chew at things. He would gallop along the field like a racehorse thundering along when we were on walks. We used to take him to visit Chris in Cosham, where he was at college, Dex loved it, they had a really special relationship. When Chris got his own accommodation Dex would spend holidays with him. Dex never had a bad bone in his body; he just loved being naughty. Once I went out to the garden, at twilight and there was hair everywhere I thought the dog had killed something. On closer inspection I found the bald remains of my husband's wallpapering brush that he had carefully washed and was drying. There were a few bristles left at each end. My first reaction was to hide the evidence, but Les would need it the next day, so I showed him. He went potty at first, brandishing it at Dex, who ran off taking refuge behind me. It was really funny, and even Les saw the amusing side of it eventually. On another occasion Dex rearranged the turf that Les had just laid but we managed to put it back before Les knew about it. He was a beautiful loving dog, he just liked a good laugh, I covered up many of his misdeeds. We had him for thirteen years until he succumbed to cancer, breaking our hearts yet again. Having Dex made me realise that you never replace a dog, because they are so different in personality, you just re home another lost soul.

We have very recently adopted another little dog name of Roxy, a much smaller dog than I have ever had before. We are getting to know each other at the moment, and we are getting on well, so more about her another time. I am out and about again once more and feel more complete with a furry friend at my side once again.

And finally...

November of course brings Bonfire night on the 5th, with fireworks, which I enjoy and always have, but make sure that your pets are safe and in a calm environment while the festivities are going on. It might be fun for us but not for them. Whether you have your own firework party or go to an organised display please enjoy yourselves safely.

The weather has been very strange this year very wet, then very hot and now a late autumn, a few sharp frosts will soon bring the leaves down, an early morning rustle through the leaves is a good start to the day, I have managed to gather some conkers to deter the spiders in the house which I was pleased about.

A note for your December diary please prepare to limber up your voices for the village Carol's on the Green on 15th December. I know it is a bit previous to alert people but not to worry.

The Church Christmas services will of course be advertised in next month's issue and on the church notice board. Please come and join us, we are a pleasant friendly lot.

That's all for now, so as always stay safe for yourself and others.

All entries for the **DECEMBER 2025 & JANUARY 2026**



Issue of the Challow News Must be submitted by

15th NOVEMBER 2025

Email: nigel.langford@me.com



Would you love to feel slimmer for yourself, your health or an upcoming trip, without going on a diet, or completely cutting out your favourites...? Come along to any of my groups to discover how...

*Saturday
*7:30am & 9:00am
*Challow & Childrey
Cricket Club

*Monday
*5:30pm & 7:00pm
*Wantage Methodist
Church Hall

*Tuesday
*4:00pm, 5:30pm & 7:00pm
*Grove Old Mill Hall,
Dixon Suite



Call or Message Becky on 07359 531030
real food, real support, real results

touching hearts, changing lives

Cornerstone News – November 2025

30th birthday celebrations

- As we celebrate 30 years of Cornerstone we look forward to welcoming you to our Thanksgiving Service to be held on Sunday 16th November at 3pm at St John's. We are hoping to make this a joyful celebration of all 30 years, so if you have any pictures or special memories to share of Cornerstone, do get in touch.
- On Saturday 22nd November we welcome Olivia Warburton as she shares some tips from her new book 'Dreaming of a Green Christmas'. This will be at 3.30pm and we will have hot mulled punch on offer along with other festive treats.



Advent

Advent Sunday is November 30th and we have a selection of books suitable for study during the Advent period.

Christmas lunches

We will be serving Christmas lunches on Friday 5th, Tuesday 9th, Thursday 11th, Monday 15th and Wednesday 17th December. There are just a few spaces left on 9th, 15th & 17th Dec. The last date for bookings, notification of menu choices and any dietary requirements is 17th November.

On other dates in December, we will have our Christmas specials menu running alongside our normal menu.

Christmas

We now have in stock a good selection of Christmas cards, calendars, advent calendars (including the Real Advent Calendar) and diaries, including the ever popular Hannah Dunnett range of cards and calendars. We also have items suitable for gifts as well as decorations for the tree or table.

Prayer resources

We have a number of new items including a wooden prayer labyrinth, as well as the ever-popular wooden holding crosses in various sizes – do come and look at the display.

In the bookshop

We have a new "Take Note" promotion running throughout November. If you were in during independent bookshop week or on bookshop day, you will have collected a £5 book token, don't forget to claim it online. Now would be a great time to redeem it, with so much new stock in the bookshop.

Christmas Events

We will be having a stall at St John's Fete on Saturday 29th November and at the Dickensian Evening on 5th December. If anyone is able to help at either of these events please let me know.

Monthly hot meal special

There is no special hot meal in November.

Prayer breakfasts

Our monthly prayer breakfasts continue on the second Saturday of each month. The next one will be on Saturday 8th November at 8.30am and I look forward to you joining us for croissants, tea, coffee, prayer and fellowship.

Cornerstone, 10 Savile Way, Grove, OX12 0PT
Tel.01235 772280 email: office@cornerstonegrove.org.uk



~ Serving persecuted Christians worldwide ~

"A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones." – Proverbs 17.22

How do you keep yourself well during winter? Perhaps you avail yourself of a flu jab, or make sure your medical cupboard is well stocked. Maybe you even have a 'winter wellness plan' to keep yourself going through the darker months: to find warm spaces, or get out for daytime walks, to spend time with people who keep you cheerful, or to amble over to St Nic's for coffee or a service.

Jemal is a Christian in Ethiopia who knows what it means for one Christian to be medicine for another. As a convert from Islam to Christianity, he and his wife initially had a good life. They faced some opposition from their families and neighbours, but it wasn't severe. "We had a very good life," he says. "My whole family and I go to church and worship God." His woodworking and steel manufacturing businesses were flourishing and his customers included both local Christians and Muslims. Life was peaceful.

But all that began to change when visiting Muslim clerics began sharing radical messages at the local mosques. They encouraged the community to isolate them and avoid Christian businesses. Economic exclusion is often used as a weapon to marginalise and impoverish Christians in parts of sub-Saharan Africa. The hope is to pressure them – particularly Christian men, who are most commonly the financial providers for their families – to either convert to Islam or leave the area. Last year, at least 7,100 shops or businesses belonging to Christians in sub-Saharan Africa were attacked, destroyed or forced to close.

In Jemal's community, local authorities tried to intervene and bring back peace but the extremists were furious and the attacks began. Mobs went from house to house, singling out Christian homes and businesses, destroying whatever they could find and setting it on fire. "In a single day, they destroyed everything I owned and had built up over the years," says Jemal. At least 215 homes of Christian families were destroyed. Hundreds of people lost their means of livelihood and at least 375 families were forced on the run. This is the bad news.

The good news is that with the gifts and prayers of Open Doors supporters, local partners in Ethiopia were able to show Jemal and other believers that they had not been forgotten. They promptly rushed to respond with food supplies, but also with spiritual and practical support for the long-term. This included trauma care to help Jemal deal with the psychological toll of the attack, and also new machine and materials to restart his businesses.

"We did not have any other means of surviving, if the ministry had not bought us that equipment," he says. "This ministry helped us to stand on our feet. You helped us feed our children. I really love this ministry and I wish to express my profound gratitude. May God bless you all!"

Over and above receiving aid, the provision of trauma care helped start the process of healing for Jemal. And knowing that people are praying for him around the world is a source of great encouragement. "It makes you happy," he says. "You say, 'Oh, I have people of my own. We have family through Christ.'"

Aside from Jemal, there are millions more vulnerable Christians in Ethiopia and the region who need our help. The Open Doors Arise Africa campaign has a petition to make people sit up and notice, and aims to stop the violence and start the healing for these courageous believers. And you can be part of that process.

To sign the petition, go to www.opendoorsuk.org, or you can ask Claire Page for a petition card.

"Let your aid stand by these people," Jemal implores. "It takes a day for them to be hungry or thirsty. One Christian can be medicine for another Christian."

Sunday Night Cash Bingo



(Eyes down at 8.00pm)

Monday Night Poker



Challows

Afternoon Club

for all over 60's
we meet every month
2.00 pm
on the 3rd Thursday

Everyone Welcome

Planning an Event or Party

Our Main Hall
with Kitchen Facilities
are available to hire

~ **Contact** ~

01235 763430

Saturday Night Entertainment

8th November

FRAUD SQUAD

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

8.00 pm

Admission £10.00

~ ~ ~ ~ ~



LIVE - Super Sunday Football

SKY SPORTS

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New Years Eve

live music with

LOCARNO BEAT

Tickets available
£15 per person



Hand Bell Ringers

10.30 am Every Tuesday
New Members Welcome

01235 763430

~ For more details ~

Opening Hours

Monday - Thursday

7.00 pm - Close

~ ~ ~

Friday - 6.00 pm - Close

Saturday 1.00 pm - Close

Sunday 1.00 pm - Close



Saturday 6th December

from 7pm

You will need to book your
seat with a £5.00 deposit
per person

Club Membership is NOT a requirement to attend any events here ~ Everyone is Welcome

CHALLOW & CHILDREY



CRICKET CLUB

OUR AUTUMN / WINTER OFFERING

SKY Sports now shown LIVE

Bar opening times through this period will generally be

Monday	4pm - 9pm
Tuesday	4pm - 9pm (unless Bowls when Closed)
Wednesday	4pm - 9pm
Thursday	4pm - 11pm
Friday	4pm - 10pm
Saturday	11.30am - 6pm
Sunday	11am - 6pm

If you would like to join the club as a member it's just £20 for the year.

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

Planning for safer communities

My work as Police & Crime Commissioner is not just about working alongside the police. There is collaboration with other blue light emergency services; each county has a body called a Combating Drugs Partnership which is a collection of police, NHS and public health and a huge overlap into the world of local councils, such as the work of Youth Offending Teams who will become involved when children are arrested by the police.

Although not a statutory consultee, there is a particular involvement in the planning process that many people are not aware of. Thames Valley Police employ Crime Prevention Advisors who are consulted on planning applications and major developments. Small changes, such as making sure parking areas are overlooked by neighbouring properties or that alleyways are well lit can help to both reduce crime and make people feel safer.

Sometimes this involves commenting on major projects such as the safety plans at the long awaited new stadium for Oxford United, or seeking to secure funding for policing when significant new housing developments add to local infrastructure needs.

Most recently I have submitted comments to the Vale on the plans for a new traveller site at Challow Station which has caused significant concerns for residents. The scale of the plans would mean a 50% increase to the tiny population already there and would be contrary to the Vale's own Local Plan on a variety of grounds, including road safety.

Ultimately these planning decisions are for local councils to make, but it is important that local people have their say and that safety concerns and issues raised by the police are taken into account. This is why I have recently raised the potential risks of turning off many of the county's street lights.

In a large number of our smaller villages, including mine, we do not have street lights, and no-one is arguing to introduce them, but even those of us who are happy without lighting in more rural locations will want to see well lit streets in our more urban areas.

It was a significant win to ensure that parish and town councils will now have to agree to any proposals to turn off street lights as a result of public pressure.

Matthew Barber
matthewbarber.co.uk



Community Notices

KING ALFRED QUILTERS

Programme for November 2025

5th November – Sarah Fernandez
from Rose Hill Quilts

Talk - Working with your Longarmer Supplier to
get the best results

7pm - 9pm - East Challow Village Hall

Visitors and New Members are always welcome.
You do not have to be a member to come along to
one of our evening talks and demonstrations,
(£5.00 entrance fee for non-members)

~ We look forward to seeing you ~

19th November – Sewing Day

10am to 3pm - Challow & Childrey Cricket Club

For more information please contact

Helen East: 07763 923000

Janice Miller: 01235 771552

www.kingalfredquilters.org.uk



Save the Date



Christmas 2025

Community

Carol Singing

on the Village Green

~ ~ ~

Monday 15th December

7.00 pm

St. Nicholas Church

Coffee Morning

FREE Coffee, Tea
and Biscuits



Thursday 6th November

10.30 - Midday

Everyone is welcome to our warm
and safe place for company and
friendly conversation

Take advantage of the opportunity
to meet up with friends and
neighbours in the village



2025-2026

East Challow Village hall
committee meetings

29th September
24th November
26th January
30th March
18th May
Start at 8.30pm

AGM - 27th July @7.30pm

*Wantage
Art Group*

7.30 Wednesday
November 19, 2025
East Challow Village Hall
OX12 9SR

Painting an interior scene in pastels



Kevin Scully trained at Wimbledon School of Art; basically a
figurative painter, experience has led him to find new ways
of saying more with less. Much detail is eliminated, with
some elements suggested rather than specified.

He is the author of several books on painting including 'Still Life in Gouache',
'Drawing and Painting on Location', and 'Painting Landscapes'.

*New members and visitors always welcome
Only £5 for first visit!*

You can contact us on wantageart@gmail.com

For more info see www.wantageartgroup.co.uk or tel. 01235767829

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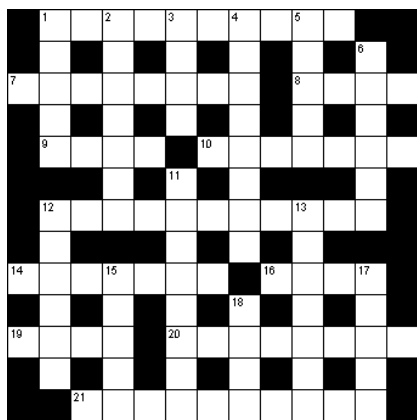
The Croft,
Letcombe Hill, East Challow
Wantage, Oxon. OX12 9RW

01235 769728

07831 247130

sjackrill@gmail.com





Across

Down

- 1 Exultant (10)
- 7 Finally (2,3,3)
- 8 Clothed (4)
- 9 Precious stone (4)
- 10 Daydream (7)
- 12 Star-gazers (11)
- 14 Edicts (7)
- 16 Potato (4)
- 19 Wharf (4)
- 20 Flying (8)
- 21 Teacher (10)
- 1 Male singing voice (5)
- 2 Dwell in (7)
- 3 Submissive (4)
- 4 Spiny creature (8)
- 5 Mother-of-pearl (5)
- 6 Half the diameter of a circle (6)
- 11 Forbearing (8)
- 12 Tree-lined road (6)
- 13 Heroic feat (7)
- 15 Artificial silk (5)
- 17 Giver (5)
- 18 Language of Pakistan (4)

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.



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Waste & Recycling Information



Tuesday 4th November	Green + Brown + Food
Tuesday 11th November	Black+ Food
Tuesday 18th November	Green + Brown + Food
Tuesday 25th November	Black+ Food
Tuesday 2nd December	Green + Brown + Food



Please ensure your Waste & Recycling Bins are placed on the kerbside before
06.00 am to ensure your bins are emptied

* * * * *

Please return your bins to your property ASAP after collection to ensure they are not blown onto the road causing an obstruction or damage to other vehicles

Please help to keep our Village Tidy and free from Fly Tipping

Please take any Large Items to the Waste & Recycling Centre at Stanford in the Vale

Faringdon Road, SN7 8LD

There is a Recycling Bin for Clothing situated in the car park off Canal Way

There is also a Recycling Bin for Shoes etc. at the Cricket Club on Vicarage Hill

A Message of Thanks – Phone Box Book Swap

Many thanks to everyone who has left such kind messages on the Challow Facebook page regarding the recent painting of the Phone Box Book Swap.

I would like to extend a special thank you to Christine O'Brien and Steve Terry for their help with washing and painting the phone box, and to Jason Hale for his valuable painting advice. A big thank you also to East Challow Parish Council for their kind donation towards the cost of the paint.

Although I don't personally use Facebook, I've been updated with all your lovely comments and likes—it's truly heart-warming to hear how much people enjoy using the Book Swap. I'm also very grateful for the face-to-face support and kind words I've received over the past five years. Your encouragement really does mean a lot.

If there's anyone in the village who, like me, enjoys reading but is unable to get to the Book Swap, please don't hesitate to get in touch. I'm more than happy to deliver books to you.

Sue Terry



Volunteers Needed – Share Bible Stories with Children

Do you have a heart for children and a love of storytelling?

We're looking for volunteers to join our Open the Book team, taking Bible stories into St Nicholas School, East Challow once a week.

What's involved?

- Visiting the school with a small team
- Bringing Bible stories to life through simple drama, props, and storytelling
- Just 1 morning (Thursday 8:30 - 9:30) a week during term-time

Who can join?

Anyone who enjoys working with children, and can spare a little time each week, and is happy to be part of a team. Training and resources are provided — no acting skills required!

Why volunteer?

It's fun, it's rewarding, and it's a wonderful way to share God's love with the next generation.

Interested?

Please contact the OTB team - **Linda Hopkins 07925 218850**


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The Parish Church of
St Nicholas
Notices



Canon Robert Teare

It is with great sadness that I have tell you that our dear friend, Canon Robert Teare has passed away following ill health bravely endured. Robert was a kind and wonderful person with a lovely sense of humour, who did a great deal for our church. He first came to Wantage after retiring from the Diocese of Winchester and did work at Saint Mary's Convent as Convent Chaplain, caring for the spiritual needs of the sisters living there and those sisters living elsewhere. Robert did work in the parish of Wantage taking Holy Communion to the sick among many other things.

When the parishes of Hanney, Denchworth and East Challow were in an extended interregnum from 2009 – 2013 Robert took charge. He was influential in the Pastoral reorganisation which resulted in the formation of the Vale Benefice, uniting Grove, Hanney, Denchworth, and East Challow. During this time, he revised and modernised our Liturgy. He introduced us to Open the Book and Prayer Space which have had a great impact in our schools. Robert covered many of our services over the years he was living in the area.

Robert and Juliet moved to the Peak District two years ago to be nearer their family and we really missed them both, but our loss was his family's gain. I'm very certain of one thing, that now, if Our Lord in Heaven needs anything doing, the right man has arrived to help.

Rest in Peace and Rise in
Glory Father Robert

Church Service Information & Rotas

Sunday	1st Reading	2nd Reading	Gospel Reading
2nd November Morning Service Jeff & Nick All Saints Day	Daniel 7: 1 - 3 + 15 - 18	Ephesians 1: 11 - End	Luke 6: 20 - 31
9th November Eucharist Rev Dr Miriam Jones Remembrance Day	T B A	T B A	T B A
16th November Eucharist Rev Dr Miriam Jones 2nd before Advent	Malachi 4: 1 - 2a	2 Thessalonians 3: 6 - 13	Luke 21: 5 - 19
23rd November Eucharist Rev Dr Miriam Jones Christ the King	Jeremiah 23: 1 - 6	Colossians 1: 11 - 20	Luke 23: 33 - 43
30th November Eucharist Rev Alec Gill Advent Sunday	Isaiah 2: 1 - 5	Romans 13: 11 - 14	Matthew 24: 36 - 44



SEPTEMBER

£50 - N° 8 ~ Mrs I. Game

£20 - N° 27 ~ Mrs J. Pert

£10 - N° 20 ~ Mr G. Handley

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Would you like to join?

For further information please contact
Tricia Shand - 01235 764222
the.shandies@btinternet.com

- INFORMATION -

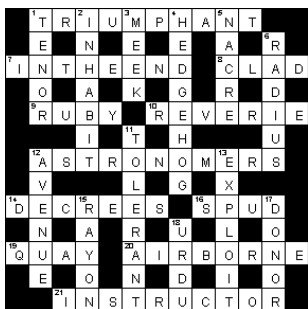
Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals and Blessings
which have taken place at
St. Nicholas Church, East Challow.



Funeral

Marie Betteridge

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



	Date	Sacristan	Sidesperson	Prayers	Readings	Organist
1st Sunday	2nd November	Ruth	Frances / Nigel	Phillip	Ruth	Ruth
2nd Sunday	9th November	Louise / Claire	Linda / Noel	Louise / Claire	Graham	Ruth
3rd Sunday	16th November	Jenny	Liz / Jeff	Jenny	Jeff	Graham
4th Sunday	23rd November	Nigel	Trish / Sue	Paul	Claire / Nick	Graham
5th Sunday	30th November	Nigel	Liz / Nigel	Louise / Claire	Nigel	Graham

	Coffee	Flowers	Cleaning
1st Sunday	Mandy	Heather	Linda / Liz
2nd Sunday	Jan / Hilary	Claire	Linda / Liz
3rd Sunday	Val / Barbara	Jenny	Mandy
4th Sunday	Linda / Janet	Mandy	Mandy
5th Sunday	Sue / Trish / Frances	Linda	Sue / Trish

Thursday	Sacristan
6th Nov	Jenny
13th Nov	Mandy
20th Nov	Heather
27th Nov	Mandy
	Nigel

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