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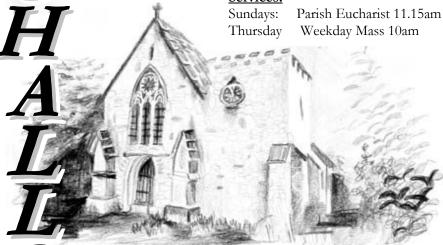




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May 2016

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





Vicar Rev John Durant The Vicarage Main St Grove OX12 7LQ

Telephor Email: v

Telephone: 01235 766484 Email: vicar@valebenefice.org.uk

Curate: Revd George Moody,

Email: curate@valebenefice.org.uk



Churchwardens

Mrs Sue Swift tel: 01235 770542 Dr Jeff Penfold. tel: 01235 763173

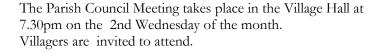


Parish Council

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

Clerk: Julia Evans Moorcroft, The Greenway, West Hendred, OX12 8RG Tel 01235 833466

Email eastchallowpc@gmail.com



Village Hall Booking Secretary: Denise Knight 01235 769933



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Visit our website:www.thewindmillnursery.co.uk





Grove Free Evangelical Church

'Building a community of people who live out God's purposes'

Sunday Service @ The Mission - 8th May at 4pm Topic: What's Church About? Lessons from the church at Philadelphia

There will be a meeting at The Mission, with friends from Grove Free Evangelical Church, for an all-age Service on Sunday 8th May at 4pm.

The service will be followed by free refreshments.

All are welcome to attend, whether you usually go to church or not.

For more details, please contact: E-mail:, contactthemission@challowmission.org.uk Telephone (, 0795 860 2364 or 01235 771322

Celebrating Her Majesty the Queen's 90th Birthday at St Nicholas CE Primary School East Challow

On Thursday 21st April the staff and pupils at St Nicholas celebrated the Queen's 90th birthday in style. We all came to school dressed as kings, queens, princes and princesses (with a few knights and soldiers in attendance too).

After a morning of lessons, the whole school gathered in the hall for a traditional, royal birthday lunch. The hall was festooned with red, white and blue decorations: we had bunting, Union Jack flags and photographs of the queen on every wall. The children sat down to a selection of sandwiches (with the crusts cut off) followed by scones, jam tarts and biscuits – a lunch fit for a queen!

We then split into groups to play some 'classic' party games... pin the crown on the corgi, pass the parcel and egg and spoon races. We held a raffle and prizes were awarded to the best dressed boy and girl. Congratulations go to Janey Down who won the prize for the best dressed girl (her princess dress was amazing) and her name was drawn first in the raffle winning her a fabulous cake, kindly donated by Karen Lamble. The prize for the best dressed boy was won by Liam Hale who came to school dressed as the Queen – complete with handbag and high heels. The children also took part in quiz about the Queen (which was won by Robyn Sulley) as well as drawing birthday cards for Her Majesty which have been sent to Buckingham Palace.



We ended the day with a patriotic singing of God Save the Queen with enthusiastic flag waving.

Many thanks go to Tina Gillies and her team at St Nicholas. Mrs Gillies was the creative and operational mastermind behind the day's celebrations and the day would not have been such a success without all her hard work.

It is moments like these that makes me proud to be a head teacher. The children will remember the Queen's 90th birthday for the rest of their lives and I hope that one day they will tell their grandchildren how they celebrated the 90th birthday of Great Britain's longest reigning monarch. Andy Browne April 2016

Vicar's Letter

Dear friends

I looked down at my feet and there on the stone floor a couple of inches away was a very still butterfly. It's wings were folded up and it may well have been dead. I was in church on Good Friday just after the passage about Jesus being laid in the tomb had been read when I noticed this little insect.

I mentioned the butterfly in the following meditative prayer contrasting this dead looking creature that might suddenly rise and fly, with the burial of Christ and the hope of his resurrection.

We then stood to sing the hymn "Were you there when they crucified my Lord?-were you there when they laid him in the tomb?" and suddenly a red admiral butterfly started fluttering and flying in front of the stained glass windows which included scenes of Jesus' death and resurrection.

It has been my experience to discover butterflies (particularly red admirals) in every church I have ministered in - especially during the summer months but even during one December wedding a butterfly appeared. I think they may be attracted by the church flowers but there could be a deeper reason.

I don't know why the Vanessa Atalanta (to give it its scientific name) is called red admiral unless it is because it's distinctive red stripe on a black background is similar to the golden braid on admiral's uniform - perhaps some of our readers might let me know? - but I do know that despite not being mentioned in the Bible the butterfly has strong spiritual symbolism.

Some people link butterflies with angels, others like to use the stages of metamorphosis from Caterpillar, Chrysalis and then fully grown butterfly to teach about the burial and resurrection of Christ.

Many pop songs link butterflies with love - Dolly Parton wrote — "Love is like a butterfly prayer and gentle as a sigh". Johnny Mathis sang about "the bright elusive butterfly of love". I gave my wife Sally a butterfly brooch on our honeymoon with a poem about my love for her.

The beauty and gentle fluttering of butterflies is very peaceful. So may I suggest the next time you see a beautiful butterfly you take time to pray or be grateful or even to reflect on the transforming power of God's love.

With every blessing

John

Rev W John N Durant Vicar of Vale Benefice

Church near you website www.achurchnearyou.com/east-challow-st-nicholas

St Nicholas Church 200 Club April 2016 Winners

£50 No: 21 Mrs H Smith £20 No 79 Donated to Church

£10 No: 168 Mrs M Lovegrove

We would welcome any new members to the 200 club.

If you would like to join, please contact Tricia Shand—01235 764222

From the Register:-

20th March: Blessing and Thanksgiving, Lucas Rory Rusher and Jackson George Lucas Hill.

25th March: Funeral, Hazel Brown

Church Fellowship

Our May meeting will be on Tuesday 17th May at 7.45pm at Windrush, Challow Road. A friend of Ann and Adrian Wilkinson from Zimbabwee, who now lives in Cheltenham, is giving us a talk entitled 'My Two Baby Elephants'.

While living in Zimbabwee I understand he reared 2 baby elehants, which I would think is a once in a life time experience. Therefore, I wouldn't expect this talk to be a once in a lifetime experience for us so please come if you possibly can.

Hazel Brown RIP

On Good Friday we all had the opportunity to say our final goodbye to our friend, Hazel .

Hazel was a faithful member of the St Nicholas Church congregation giving up much of her time to support many activities within the church. She played the organ for many years. Her expert flower arranging involved her in weddings and any festival in church as well the weekly care of any flowers in church. She started the 200 Club, initially knocking on all the doors in the parish inviting people to support the church in this way. In recent years she delivered all the new welcome leaflets to people moving into the parish showing them a friendly, welcoming face. She organised many fund raising market stalls in Wantage raising much needed funds for church, funds she took great care of as parish treasurer. Her teaching experience and sense of humour were important as a faithful member of the Open the Book team taking the bible stories into school.

My last, very happy memory of Hazel is at the Mothering Sunday service, ten days before her death, when she was in church with her daughter, Heather. Although very weak, her spirit was as strong as ever and her smile as big as ever. It was wonderful for us all to see the beautiful kneeler she had made in memory of Ruth and Roy Ody blessed by Fr. Robert Teare, a true work of love and devotion, like all her activities for St Nicholas Church demonstrating her deep Christian faith

JMP

St Nicholas Church—Internal Alterations

Over the centuries St Nicholas Church has served God and the local community in many different ways.

The building itself has been altered and adapted as generations have come and gone. The church is now preparing itself for another phase of alterations, albeit small in scale it will bring much needed facilities.

One of the main aims of the proposal is to introduce a new lobby with a Disability Discrimination Act (wheelchair accessible) compliant toilet and baby changing facility. The existing lobby is draughty and the church lacks some of the basic facilities which are now common place to most public buildings.

The existing Vestry will be retained in its current location however a refreshment and flower preparation area will be created within it. The new accommodation will occupy a footprint only slightly larger than the existing Vestry and lobby but will be neatly hidden behind a simple oak screen. Another improvement will be the replacement of the existing main entrance door, which has deteriorated and decayed. The new double doors will adapt and reuse the existing hinges and good oak so it has a look similar to that of the current door.

There is now a proposal to keep the existing entrance door with some minor refurbishments work carried out on it.

There is an architects plan drawing of the proposed alterations on display in the church. Please do call in have a look at the proposals.

SATURDAY MAY 7th 10am to 12 midday

There will be an Open meeting in the church where the proposed plans will be on display, and there will be an opportunity to ask questions and to express a view. Everyone is welcome.

Calling all Paddingtons



Pots of homemade Marmalade are for sale at £2 each In aid of St Nicholas Church funds Contact Jenny Penfold, 01235 763173 (will deliver)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF

East Challow Village Hall Management Committee will be held on Wedsnesday 22 June 2016 at 8pm. In East Challow Village Hall.

This is open to all villagers and representatives of organisations who use the hall. We would welcome new committee members to keep the well used hall going !! No committee - No hall !!

So if you have a spare evening on Wednesday 22nd June then please come along. Jan McGill (sec)

IS EAST CHALLOW SIMPLY A DORMITORY?

We remember that in the 1970's and 1980's the village was a thriving community. There were sufficient people to serve on such bodies as the Parish Council, Village hall Committee, Women's Institute and the other organisations in the village. Although working full time people seemed much happier to devote a little of their time to serve the village.

This no longer seems to be the case and we think that this is very sad, because things that have been worked very hard for in the village could easily be lost. We know that both the Parish Council and the Village Hall Committee are short of members and many of those currently involved have given their services over a great many years, for which we are very grateful, but they are inevitably not as young as they were.

Where are the younger people needed to carry this village forward and develop the facilities in the future? We appreciate that many now have long commutes to work and hence have little time available but does this really mean no time? D & M Mann.

NOTE: This note is a personal reflection and is not in any way associated with any village body or organization.

All entries for **June 2016** Challow News to be received by **May 15th** please.

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

please contact us for more information.

To:-Pat & Dave Hudson (01235) 760526. mob 07787 120044
Westview House, Faringdon Road, East Challow, OX12 9TH.
Email entries can be sent to (please note this is a new email address
David66Hudson@gmail.com

Psalm 67 Rev 21.10 22-22.5
Ezekiel 36.24-29 Rev 22.12-21
Genesis 11.1-9 Romans 8.14-17
Proverbs 8.1-4,22-31 Romans 5.1-5
1 Kings 8.22-23,41-43 Galations 1.1-12
1 Kings 17.17-24 Galations 1.11-24
Cleaners
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family Mrs Belcher
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ns Mr and Mrs Parker
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May Rotas

Pandare

Intercessions Rota		Flov	ver Rota
1st May	Jenny		
8th May	Mary	May 7th	M. Mann
15th May	Philip	May 14th	Hazel Smith
22nd May	Linda	21st May	S. Swift
29th May	Jenny	28th May	M. Perkins
5th June	Philip	June 4th	J. Adams

Village News

East Challow Neighbourhood Watch reminder

Our next neighbourhood watch meeting is on Tuesday 10th May2016.

7.30pm at the East Challow British Legion. (Please note the change of venue.) When we will make the decision whether to continue or disband or neighbourhood watch group.

If you can't make the meeting but would like to get involved just give me a call on 01235 764475

Hope to see you there. Sue Woodley

King Alfred's Quilters reminder are having an exhibition of their work on Sat 14th and Sun 15th May, at East Challow Village Hall. On both days, it will run from 10am until 4pm. Entrance £2. refreshments available.

There will also be two local traders should you wish to purchase any fabric or patterns and the chance to buy hand crafted items made by the members.

Raffle tickets will also be on sale in aid of Thames Valley Air Ambulance with some lovely raffle prizes, the main one being a beautiful king-sized quilt.

Christian Aid Week 15-21 May 2016

Jesus calls us to love our neighbour as ourselves, and not just the ones next door or at the end of the street.

In Bangladesh, Morsheda lives in fear of the river. No matter how hard she works, every year the floods damage her home, leaving her and her children struggling to cope.

'I feel very scared of the river. When I look at it I keep thinking, it is coming.' Just £250 is enough for a Christian Aid Home Safety Package. It could raise Morsheda's home eight feet on an earth plinth, so that she has a safe place to rebuild, keep livestock and grow crops. All of which will give her a long-term income and a solid foundation for a new life.

Christian Aid Week 15-21 May is an opportunity to support this work

Come to the Christian Aid Week service on Sunday 15 May at Wantage Methodist Church at 6.00pm, preceded by tea at 5.15pm, and learn how our neighbours like Morsheda in Bangladesh are being helped to a safer life.

Make your own contribution to Christian Aid's funds.

A house to house collection will be taking place during the week. Please give as generously as you can.

Thank you in advance for the support.

Last year you helped the Wantage area raise over £7400

PARISH COUNCIL cont.

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VEHICLES ON CHILDREY BRIDLEWAY

We are aware that vehicles are regularly using Childrey Bridleway between East and West Challow. This route is NOT a through road; it is a bridleway for the use of pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders. Motorised traffic is prohibited. We have informed the Police and Oxfordshire County Council Countryside department of the situation. Details of any vehicles seen using this route will be sent to the Police for further investigation.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

This year's Annual Parish Meeting is being held on Tuesday 24th May, starting at 8 p.m. in the Village Hall. All villagers are warmly invited to attend. As well as a report from the Parish Council about local issues and the year's events, the evening includes updates from village organisations on their activities. Tea and coffee will be served.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will take place in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 13th May. All villagers are invited to attend Parish Council meetings as observers and there is a 10 minute Public Discussion Time early in the meeting when you can raise any matter you wish with the council. The minutes of each meeting are available on the website.

PARISH COUNCILLORS:

Vanessa Bosley (Chairman), 764068; Sue Terry, 768699; Frances Webb, 765176; Iris Game, 770412; Pat Gill (contact number tba)
Julia Evans, Clerk to East Challow Parish Council;
e-mail: eastchallowpc@gmail.com Tel. 833466



St Nicholas Church, East Challow Special service to commemorate the Queens's 90th birthday Sunday 12th June at 4 pm

With tea and cake in the village hall afterwards

PARISH COUNCIL

VILLAGE HALL

We are still looking for volunteers to help with the running of East Challow Village Hall. Over the years the Village Hall Management Committee which comprises of representatives from the user groups plus elected officers - has become just a handful of helpers. To enable the facilities to continue to run smoothly we need more people to join the committee. Can you give just a few hours of your time to do this? If so, please come along to the Village Hall Committee AGM at 8pm on Wednesday 22nd June. Alternatively you can contact the Clerk (details below) or Mrs Denise Knight, Village Hall bookings secretary at deniseknight15@gmail.com

QUEEN'S 90th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

The celebrations for the Queen's 90th birthday will be held on Sunday 26th June, from 2.00pm – 5.00pm. They will take place at the Cricket Club on Vicarage Hill. We hope that many of you will bring a picnic and join us for the afternoon. There will be something for all ages including a bar, tea and cake, a full size tractor, a raffle, face painting, traditional games and a bouncy castle. It would enhance the celebration if we could acknowledge anyone in the village who might also be celebrating their 90th birthday during this special year. If you or anyone you know in the village was born in 1926, please let us know.

We need volunteers to help with the planning and running of the afternoon. If you can offer any help or would like further information about the celebrations, please contact us.

Please direct all questions, birthdays or offers of help to emmafreebairn@aol.com

VACANCY FOR PARISH COUNCILLOR

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

CORNHILL LANE

We are working to try and improve the situation on Cornhill Lane, which is once again in a poor state. We have been advised that we should maintain a log of all complaints about the state of the lane. We would like to remind you that if you have a complaint about the state of the lane, please email the clerk or send a message via the Contact Us page on the website (www.eastchallowpc.co.uk).

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