

April 2026

The Forester

April 2026

The Friends of Challock Church
Present....



Friday 17th April 2026

The Quiz will be preceded by our AGM at 7.00pm to which all members are invited

**7.30pm - Challock Village Hall,
Blind Lane, Challock**

Full details on Page 4



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The Forester

April 2026



Welcome to the April issue of the Forester, the parish magazine for Challock & Molash. Happy Easter, enjoy the Easter Egg Events at Badgers Hill Farm and Chilham Church.

This issue is packed with forthcoming events including details of Challock Quiz Night on page 4, The 5 Church Walk in early May on page 29, Challock Open Gardens in June and The Summer Fair in September.

The winner of the Sudoku Prize Draw competition this month is **Dawn Law**, congratulations. Remember you can always enter the competition by photographing your completed entry and emailing it to forestermagazine@gmail.com, with your contact details. This month's Sudoku puzzle is on page 26, last month's puzzle solution is on page 40.

Great News and result - Advertising in the Forester does generate results as proven by *Holiday with Lisa* who gained a new client directly from her advertisement in the Forester. Hope you get another client from the Forester this month, Lisa.

The Editor

Please use this Email: forestermagazine@gmail.com address in future for submissions of the Sudoku Puzzle and/or editoroftheforester@gmail.com for any articles or information you want including in the Forester.

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**The Friends of Challock Church
Present....**



Friday 17th April 2026

7.30pm - Challock Village Hall

Blind Lane, Challock

**The Quiz will be preceded by our AGM at
7.00pm to which all members are invited**

£6 per person - Cash or Card on the night

Bring your own drinks and nibbles as usual

Raffle during the interval - Donations Welcome

**To book your tables (maximum of 8 per team)
please phone or email John on 0790 495 0704
j.burden2@sky.com or Geraldine 0777 210 0790
geraldinehennessey52@yahoo.co.uk**

What's on at The Methodist Chapel?

- Sunday** Services at 10.30.am at the Chapel on 2nd & 4th Sundays.
Zoom services on other Sundays at 10.30.am
- Tuesday** **Ladies Singing Group** - every Tuesday 2.00 - 4.00pm
- Wednesday** 9:30am **Pebbles - Parent & Toddlers**
Roaring Twenties - 1st and 3rd Wednesdays each month
2.00 - 4.00pm - Over 55's Club
- Thursday** Morning - private group
Notices will go on Chapel noticeboard if there are any changes to above. Any enquiries to - Jill Jones, **01233 714610**

Local Post Offices



- Wye Post Office** opening times: Monday – Friday 9am – 5pm,
Saturday 9am – 12.30pm.
- Chilham Post Office** opening times: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
9am – 1pm / 2pm – 5.30pm.
Wednesday & Saturday 9am – 1 pm.



Save The Dates Join us at our 2026 events

**All dates and times are subject to change and Forestry England permissions.
Please check advertising nearer the time.**

Friday	24th April	dusk	Pond Survey 3/3
Sunday	26th April	10am – 11am	Bluebell walk
Sunday	3rd May	4am-5.15am	Dawn Chorus!
Saturday	16th May	10.15am-12.15pm	Balsam Bash 1/2

All events are free for members, £5 per event for non-members
(Except the Annual Fundraising Quiz)

New members welcome.

2026 membership runs 1st January – 31st December. **£10 single / £15 joint** – both include children free of charge.

Please contact enquiries@friendsofkingwood.org to register for events and membership enquiries

You can now find us on Facebook, Instagram & TikTok!

King's Wood Benefice News

Challock, Chilham, Crundale, Godmersham and Molash



From The Rector

Happy Easter – He Is Risen Indeed



Easter is the time when we are called to remember the cross and resurrection. It's part of the flow of Jesus's story.

Christmas we have his birth; Easter we have his death and resurrection.

When I was a child at Sunday School we use to sing this song: Jesus Love Is Very Wonderful. The emphasis of this song was that His love was there for everyone and he waits for our response to turn to him and be forgiven and receive that Love.

All of us have fallen short of the Kingdom of God, but the Good News is that Jesus has not given up on us.

Holy Week takes us from Palm Sunday illustrating the triumphal entry into Jerusalem. We then come to Maundy Thursday and traditionally we Wash Feet, take Communion and Strip the Altars in silence, with only the cross left on the altar. Some sit quietly afterwards to wait with the Lord. Good Friday there sometimes are walks of witness. In our Benefice we have an Hour at The Cross from 2pm to 3pm the time Jesus died, with meditation and hymns and silence. Some on Easter Saturday will have an Easter Vigil and then on Easter Day we come together to worship the Risen Christ. Christ's Passion is not just something that we regard once a year as Christians but as a reminder of what we carry through our lives with the hope of eternal life.

For the children they look for their Easter Bunnies and Chocolate Eggs, all symbols of New Life. May we remind them that Jesus brings New Life to all who believe in Him.

Ask yourselves who is Jesus to me? Do I believe? His love is unconditional, waiting for us to receive. His arms are held out wide for us to run into.

May you all have a Blessed Easter

Alleluia Christ is Risen

He is Risen Indeed Alleluia.

Every Blessing

Rev Sue Martin

01227 531758 revsuemartin@btinternet.com

CHURCH SERVICES – CHALLOCK, MOLASH & METHODIST CHAPEL

APRIL 2026

See website: kingswoodbenefice.co.uk

FRIDAY 3RD APRIL GOOD FRIDAY

2pm – 3pm An hour at the Cross at Crundale Church

SUNDAY 5TH APRIL EASTER SUNDAY

9.30 am Holy Communion at Challock Church led by Rev. Brian Chalmers

10.30 am Holy Communion at Challock Methodist Chapel

SUNDAY 12TH APRIL EASTER 2

9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) at Molash Church led by Rev.Sue Martin

10.30 am Methodist's Zoom Service

SUNDAY 19TH APRIL EASTER 3

10.30 am Family Service at Challock Church

10.30 am Holy Communion at Challock Methodist Chapel

SUNDAY 26th APRIL EASTER 4

9.30 am Morning Worship at Molash Church led by Simon Martin

10.30 am Morning Service at Challock Methodist Chapel

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What's on in April 2026

Thur 2nd	Maundy Thursday	Godmersham Church	7pm
Fri 3rd	Good Friday - Easter Eggstravaganza	Chilham Church	10-12noon
Sat 4th	Easter Bunny Egg Hunt	Badgers Hill Farm	1-3pm
Sat 4th	Last Day of Lent		
Sun 5th	Easter Sunday Communion	Challock Church	9.30am
Wed 8th	Art Society Egerton	Millenium Hall	2.30pm
Thur 9th	Molash Council Meeting	Molash Village Hall	7.30pm
Fri 10th	Library Van	by The Chequers	10.10-10.55am
Thur 16th	Challock Council Meeting	Challock Village Hall	7.30pm
Fri 17th	AGM Friends of Challock Church	Challock Village Hall	7pm
Fri 17th	Quiz Night Friends of Challock Church	Challock Village Hall	7.30pm
Fri 24th	Friends of King's Wood Pond Survey 3/3		Dusk
Fri 24th	Library Van	by The Chequers	10.10-10.55am
Sun 26th	Friends of King's Wood Bluebell walk		10am – 11am

.... and in May 2026 so far

Sun 3rd	Friends of King's Wood	Dawn Chorus!	4am-5.15am
Mon 4th	5 Church Walk	From one of 5 churches	All day 10am until 6pm
Thur 14th	Molash Parish Council AGM	Molash Village Hall	7.00pm
Thur 14th	Molash Council Annual Meeting	Molash Village Hall	7.30pm
Sat 16th	Friends of King's Wood	Balsam Bash 1/2	10.15am-12.15pm
Tue 19th	Challock Council Meeting AGM	Challock Village Hall	7.30pm



Pet Portraits

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your photo

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or email: louise.barton05@googlemail.com



Advertising in

The Forester

Are you a local small business owner?

Have you ever considered supporting your local parish magazine?

The Forester is delivered to every house in Challock and Molash for free. There are 540 copies printed and distributed between those two villages plus there are copies in the Barn Shop. There is also an electronic version and a mailing list so people can receive it by email. Local people like to use local tradespeople.

And the Forester is very good value

Advertising costs for 2026

1/4 of a page is only £70 for a whole year

1/2 of a page is £120

Or a full page is only £220

Having a grand opening or need just a one off advert?

1/4 page £10 1/2 page £20 and full page £30 single month prices

We can help with the design of your advert and
you can change it as often as you want with no extra cost

Just email forestermagazine@gmail.com or call **07895 494851**



What is going on **CHALLOCK CHATTER** on Facebook



Challock Chatter's Facebook definition is *"A group for people local to, or connected to Challock to share news, ask for support, promote local businesses or just keep in touch with each other!"*

Challock Chatter is the place to go to find a recommended tradesman. Whether a plumber or electrician just ask to find the go to guy.

Challock Chatter has well over 1000 members and is doing well with lots of questions and advice being asked and given. It really is useful as you can get other villagers opinions and experience of local tradesmen and suppliers.

People, please remember that although **Challock Chatter** is a closed group you should be careful about any information shared on here, for example, do not give out your full address publicly, private message people instead.

The admins of **Challock Chatter** are working hard to prevent "undesirables" joining but can only go by the information they are given and hoping people are honest!

So if you have not joined get on Facebook and join in the chatter!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1375301012739934/>



Parish Council News

The Parish Council meetings: Challock Parish Meeting to be held on Thursday, 16th April 2026 at 7.30 pm in the Audrey Allen Room, Village Hall.

Mobile Library Service

Mobile Library Service stops adjacent to the Chequers, Church Lane on the following dates:

10 and 24 April 2026

Now selling 1st & 2nd Class book of stamps.

The William Oure Charity - Challock Parish Council Are Trustees for the William Oure Charity

The Charity can provide financial support, items and services to villagers who are in need. To support parishioners who have suffered a tragic accident or bereavement. If you are a parishioner or know someone who is suffering financial hardship in the village, please contact Di Sandy on 07895494851 or email

parishclerk@challockparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Highways Report a problem - parishioners can use the KCC online reporting system (www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/report-a-problem) to make sure KCC are aware of defects/potholes in our village. Parishioners can also notify the Parish Clerk of any pothole or kerb road damage who will report it online.

Want to report a Pothole?

There is a dedicated pothole page on KCC website

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/what-we-look-after/roads/potholes>

KCC Public Rights of Way – Report a problem on a Footpath.

To help keep our footpaths clear and trouble free please report any problems by using the online reporting tool by visiting www.kent.gov.uk/prow and follow the links. For general enquiries email prow@kent.gov.uk. In an emergency (something on a public right of way which can cause injury or an accident) call 03000 417171 (Monday – Friday 9 am to 5 pm).

Challock Parish Council Website

challockparishcouncil.gov.uk. Parishioners are welcome to email the Clerk photographs of the village to add to our gallery. There will be a business/club's link page. Businesses or clubs can email the clerk requesting to add their link to the page.

Facebook Page - For up-to-date information and important announcements you can visit Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Challock-Parish-Council>.

Communications - Parishioners can email directly to the Clerk on clerk@challockparishcouncil.gov.uk or via Facebook Page.



Village Speed Watch Campaign Calling for new Speed Watch Co-ordinator

The Village Speed Watch Team needs a new a Co-ordinator(s) & Volunteers

The co-ordinator's role is to attend speed watch sessions along with other volunteers. To book speed watch sessions, co-ordinate volunteer rota and to report on-line speed offenders. If you can spare a couple of hours once a week/fortnight to join our team you would be most welcome. Training will be given.

Can You Help email Challock Parish Council
clerk@challockparishcouncil.gov.uk

**Speed Watch forms part of our campaign for lower speed limits and safer roads
in our village.**



A huge thank
you to the 2
ladies who
created this
lovely Easter
Display!

Parish Councillor Vacancy

Challock Parish Council welcomes our new parish councillor Patrice Astell.

We still have a vacancy for a parish councillor. If you can spare a few hours per month and would like to get involved in our village, why not become a parish councillor. See our main advert for more details on how to apply. We are a very social, enthusiastic and care about our village!

See page 31



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What is Maundy Thursday

Maundy Thursday is the 5th day of Holy Week. 'Maundy' comes from the Latin word for command, 'mandatum'. On this day the Church looks back to Jesus' command to His disciples that they should: "Love one another as I have loved you."

On the evening of Maundy Thursday Jesus shared the Last Supper with His disciples, before going on to the Garden of Gethsemane and being arrested. It was the last evening He had with them before His crucifixion.

Maundy Thursday is famous for two things. The first is one of the final acts that Jesus did before His death: the washing of His own disciples' feet. His disciples were to love through service, not domination, of one another.

But Thursday was also important because it was on that night that Jesus first introduced the Lord's Supper, or what we nowadays call Holy Communion. Many churches hold evening services featuring Communion, foot washing, and the stripping of the altar, often followed by a period of quiet contemplation.

& Maundy Money

The tradition dates back to the Middle Ages, with roots in Jesus washing the disciples' feet, though it has evolved from washing feet and giving clothes to just giving money. The first official ceremony of this type was in 1662. The monarch distributes two purses - one white, one red—to selected pensioners. The number of recipients corresponds to the monarch's age.

Join Your Local Cricket Club – New Players Welcome!



With the new cricket season fast approaching, we are looking for new players of all abilities to join our friendly and welcoming cricket club. Whether you're an experienced player, returning to the game after a break, or completely new and keen to give cricket a try, you'll be made very welcome.

We currently run indoor net sessions every Thursday from 7.00pm to 8.30pm at the John Wallis School until 16th April. These sessions are a great opportunity to meet the team, improve your skills, and get ready for the upcoming season. The cost is £10 per session, and all are welcome.

If you're interested in joining or would like more information, please get in touch by emailing challocksportsclub@gmail.com.

We look forward to welcoming new faces and growing our cricketing community!

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A huge Congratulations to Peter Franklin-Bourne on his very Special Birthday

The Friends of Molash Church Quiz Night

On the 21st March, The Fiends of Molash Church held its first Quiz Night, which was well supported by Molash and Challock residents.

What a great evening, with the winners, Pontus Pirates top of the leader board closely followed by Les Grands Fromages. The Village People won the 2 face Montage and everyone else were just fabulous.

A wonderful selection of questions, posed by Paul Brewin with the marking completed by Irini, many thanks to you both for your tireless efforts.

The number of prizes for the raffle was

amazing, thanks to The George and Molash Garage for their generous prizes.

The evening raised a healthy sum of money, over £500, to assist in the required repairs to St Peter's Church Molash.

The Friends of Molash Church will be organising another quiz later in the year and other events, including the very successful Strawberry Tea in the summer. Watch out for the adverts.

Thank you to everyone who attended and had their grey matter tested and to those who assisted in the organising and running it.

Easter Bunny

will be here on

Easter Saturday
4th of April

**Between 1.00pm
and 3.00pm**

**Enter the Easter
egg hunt via Fable and Ren
in the shopping village.**

£3.00 per child

each child receives an
Easter egg.
(Whilst stocks last)

**At Badgers Hill
Farm**

No booking necessary



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Challock Parish Council are increasingly receiving complaints of dog fouling on the Lees and cricket ground. This is causing a nuisance to parishioners and a potential health risk especially to children.

If your dog fouls in a public place,
PLEASE CLEAN IT UP.

Several dog bins have been provided around the village
PLEASE USE THEM.

Challock Residents Oil Syndicate

If you wish to join the syndicate or require further information
please contact

Di Sandy on **07895 494851**

or email parishclerkchallockpc@gmail.com

Please see below for your information on forthcoming ordering dates. The oil order will be placed first thing the following Monday morning. Please ensure your oil request reaches us by the dates given. Please send the completed form to

C/O 14 Chapmans Close, Challock, Kent TN25 4AX,

email parishclerkchallockpc@gmail.com or leave them at the Post Office.

Please note deliveries will take place up to 2 weeks after the last day for placing an order and that during bad weather orders can take longer to be delivered.

Name			
Address & Contact Details			
Please Tick which date suits you and approximately how many litres would be required. <i>If you would like to join the next order please try to be accurate with the amount required.</i>			
24th April 2026	19th June 2026	18th Sept 2026	
Litres	Litres	Litres	

THE COUNTRYSIDE CODE

The UK Countryside Code focuses on respecting, protecting, and enjoying the outdoors by following three core principles:

respecting local communities, protecting the environment, and safe, responsible enjoyment.

Key guidelines include keeping dogs under control and on leads near livestock, leaving gates as found, taking litter home, and keeping to marked paths.

Key Guidelines for Visitors:

Respect Everyone: Consider people living and working in the countryside.

Keep to marked paths, park responsibly without blocking gateways, and say hello.

Protect the Environment: Take all litter home, including dog poo (bag it and use any public bin). Do not light fires or use barbecues, except in designated areas.

Respect Livestock and Wildlife: Do not feed livestock, horses, or wild animals, as it can cause harm.

Keep Dogs Under Control: Dogs must be kept on a short lead around livestock and in most open country between March 1st and July 31st to protect nesting birds.

Follow Signs: Always follow local signs and waymarkers.

Key Guidelines for Land Managers:

Access: Ensure public rights of way are clear and not blocked.

Safety: Maintain stiles and gates, and display signage regarding livestock or ongoing work.

The Countryside Code applies to all green spaces, including parks, waterways, and the coast.



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A Message from Katie Lam, MP for the Weald of Kent



We're very fortunate to live in such a safe and beautiful rural area, but in the crime survey I ran last year, hundreds of you shared concerns about issues that chip away at that sense of security – including fly-tipping, speeding and dangerous driving, antisocial behaviour, shoplifting and unauthorised encampments.

One of the most common things I heard was that people rarely see police officers locally, and that reporting crime can sometimes feel pointless if nothing seems to happen afterwards. I completely understand that frustration, but we must continue to speak up when these problems occur. Reporting incidents helps ensure the police know where issues are happening and where their attention is needed.

That's why over the past month I've been bringing local people and businesses together with the police to discuss these

concerns directly and make sure officers hear first-hand how people in our area are feeling.

I hosted two meetings on crime and policing through my clubs – one focused on rural crime with the police rural taskforce and people from our farming community, and another looking at shoplifting and antisocial behaviour on our high streets, with the Police and Crime Commissioner and local shop owners in attendance.

Alongside this, I've been highlighting to Kent's senior police leadership and local beat officers the areas where people have told me they want to see more visible policing and better follow-up when crimes are reported.

Particularly across a large rural area like ours, it's naturally difficult for the police to be everywhere at once. But many of the problems people are worried about are already illegal – the real challenge is enforcement. That's why it's so vital that the police know where problems are happening so they can respond effectively and I'll continue to highlight to police areas in the Weald that need better support.

So please do continue to report incidents, even when it feels frustrating. And as always, if you're experiencing an ongoing issue and need help, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me at katie.lam.mp@parliament.uk.

Godmersham Church Wellness Morning

Godmersham Church is hosting a Wellness morning
each **Tuesday** from **10:00-12:00**

Together we can..

Get our life back Create calm Move forward Engage
Enjoy the outside Embrace change Achieve more Thrive

Learn about ourselves

...On a Tuesday

This group is about exploring and engaging each other with dance, activities, drinks, biscuits/ cakes. We have a quiet space where we can be alone but not lonely .

Please contact Caroline for more info on **07540 066974** hardencl@hotmail.com



#Challock #Speedwatch

Scheme are looking for volunteers to support them in reducing speed and improving the safety on their **local** roads with the support of the police.

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Challock Open Gardens Sunday 7 June 2026

Fundraising in aid of
British Heart Foundation - Registered Charity 225972
The Friends of Challock Church - Charity No. 606027

Can you help please, we are looking for volunteers

We need:

- **Helpers to sell entrance and raffle tickets on The Lees and at the Village Hall**
- **Volunteers to help in gardens on the day**
- **Plants for the plant stall**
- **Cake bakers**

Please join us raise funds for charity and help make a real difference in our community.

To get involved, contact - Jayne or Richard Walpole on 07584 341160 or email challock.opengardens@gmail.com.

Win a £10 voucher with our Competition Sudoku

Sponsored by The Barn Shop in Challock

(Grid on the next Page)

The winning entry will be published along with the Sudoku solution in next months Forester

How to Enter

Complete the puzzle on the next page, fill in the form below, cut it out put it in an envelope marked "Forester Sudoku" and take it to the Barn Shop or take a photo of the completed puzzle and email it to forestermagazine@gmail.com

The winner will be the first correct puzzle drawn from a hat

Name..... Phone Number.....

Email Address (optional).....

Disclaimer. By entering this competition you agree that your name may be published in the Forester if you are a winner.

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Challock Parish Council Minutes

Did you know you can look at the Parish Council meeting minutes
online at challockparishcouncil.gov.uk and then click on Parish Council.

Competition Sudoku

The objective is to fill a 9×9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 sub-grids that compose the grid contains all of the digits 1 to 9.

The same single integer may not appear twice in the same 9×9 playing board row or column or in any of the nine 3×3 sub-regions of the 9×9 playing board.

Last Months Solution page 40

Sponsored by

The Barn Shop, Challock

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

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St. Mary's Chilham

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for Children**

(must be accompanied by a Parent/Guardian)

To Book

Please contact Rev Sue Martin

01227 531758

revsuemartin@btinternet.com



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St Mary, Chilham

St Lawrence, Godmersham

All Saints, Boughton Aluph

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Challock Parish Councillor Vacancy Invitation for Co-option



The successful applicants will serve as a Councillor until May 2027.

If you are interested in representing your community and would like to serve as a Parish Councillor, please apply in writing or by email to the Clerk, providing a brief summary of your background and explaining why you would like to join the Council.

Applications should be emailed to:

clerk@challockparishcouncil.gov.uk

Closing date to receive applications **10th April 2026**

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Be a British subject aged 18 or over.
- Be an elector.
- Reside in, or within three miles of, the Challock Parish boundary; or
- Occupy land or property in the parish (as owner or tenant); or
- Have their principal or only place of work within the parish.
- Not be disqualified from holding office as a Councillor.

If you would like more information about the role,
please contact the Clerk or visit our website:

<https://challockparishcouncil.gov.uk/the-role-of-a-parish-councillor/>

Challock & Molash Gardening Society

Our Super Spring Show was held on the evening of Saturday 28th March in Molash village hall. Daffodils proved to be a very popular class with many being entered and filling the hall with colour. Their range of varieties were amazing. Tulips and flowering shrubs were also very colourful and a welcome sign of Spring. The baking class of chocolate cake gave us a delicious offering with all the cakes being declared mouthwatering by the judges. The way they were all generously sampled by members after judging proved the point!

The winners of classes were Jim Watson, Kim Lowe, Mike Hopkins, Sarah Williams, Delenda James, Christine Drage and Margaret Franklin-Bourne. Congratulations to all and thanks to everyone who took the time to enter an exhibit.

Margaret was awarded "Best in Show" rosette for her stunning flower arrangement depicting the forthcoming football World Cup tournament.

A lovely buffet and a Spring-based raffle were also enjoyed by attendees as well as a variety of quizzes to perplex and frustrate most people. No change there! A coach trip to RHS Wisley on 16th May is our next event.





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Challock Open Gardens



SUNDAY 7 JUNE 2026
10am - 5pm



Entrance £7, under 16s free

Fundraising in aid of

British Heart Foundation - Registered Charity 225972

The Friends of Challock Church - Charity No. 606027

A great day out for all the family

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Advance tickets from 15 May, at The Barn Shop, Challock

Miniature garden competition

Free to enter, prizes for all, 7yrs & under and 8-12 yrs

Drop off gardens 10-12 noon on Sunday 7 June 2026 at the Village Hall



Further information www.opengardens.co.uk

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Need to talk to a Molash Parish Councillor ?

Here are their names, they are all contactable via the parish clerk:

Sarah Williams (Chair)
Julia Phebey

Graham Wethered (Vice Chair)
Val Smith

Angela Goodsell

Parish Clerk Tina Cobourn, contact - molashpc@gmail.com or 07759 816757

Molash Parish Council Minutes

The minutes for Molash Parish Council meetings can now be found by visiting the
Molash Web site on www.molashpc.org.uk

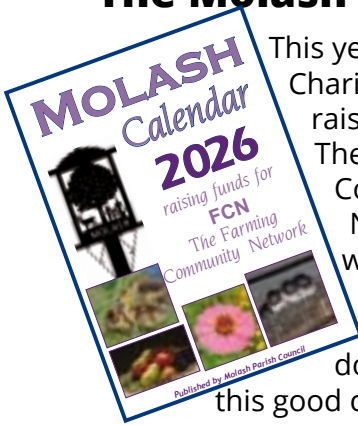
Molash Matters

See these pictures in colour on our MOLASH WEBSITE
molashpc.org.uk

Our Facebook page can be found at [Molash Parish Council](#) and follow us to receive updates on what's happening in the village.



The Molash Calendar



This year the Molash Charity Calendar raised funds for 'The Farming Community Network' and we are pleased to announce that we have donated £260 to this good cause.

The next Council Meeting is on 9th April, 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Speedwatch sessions will start soon, all volunteers welcome, contact Sarah 0771 2527 434

Help in planting a hedge

The Woodland Trust have donated 120 hedgerow saplings to us to fill the gaps in the hedge of the Ruck Trust Field in Molash.

Is there anyone who can spare some time to assist in the planting of them? We have everything we need to plant them and hope to get them planted sooner rather than later whilst the ground isn't too hard.

PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY OFFICER NEEDED (PROW)

We are keen to fill the vacancy for a new Molash Footpath Representative.

If you enjoy walking in Molash the responsibilities are to walk the footpaths we have through the village and report any problems you encounter or are told about by other residents.

If interested please contact the clerk for further details on molashpc@gmail.com

Please contact Tina Cobourn, Molash Parish Clerk, on 07759 816757 with any matters you would like addressing.

Visit Molash Web site on www.molashpc.org.uk

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Challock Artists Group Details

The Challock Artists' Group has been meeting regularly since 2016 and is a non profit making art/social group that comes together simply to paint, draw, work with pastels, create object d'art, or whatever - basically to create Art among a group of people who have a love of art in general. So, a social group, where people chat to one another about their work, learn new ideas and techniques from others, or just to pass the time of day, whilst creating Art in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.

Everyone is welcome from beginners to masters.

Meeting arrangements: - on Wednesdays between 9:45am - 12:30pm

Venue: - Challock Memorial (Village) Hall TN25 4DH

Maximum Group size: - 30 (5 places currently available)

Cost: - £14 every 7 sessions, (just £2 per week), which includes hire of the hall, tea, coffee and biscuits.

You must provide all your own art materials and subject matter.

The Group is **NON TUTORED**, occasionally we have exhibitions.

Contact Rob - 01233 742670 or E: rjff@btinternet.com
for further information.

Please Visit the Church Website
www.kingswoodbenefice.co.uk

MOLASH VILLAGE HALL

Available for hire for parties/events, seats 80 people
Reduced rates for local people

For more details call 01233 740592



Countryways Quilters and Stitchers

I hope you'll come join us and try your hand at something new or just enjoy the company, have a chat and a cup of tea. An enjoyable way to spend an afternoon.

We have our meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of every month except December and would love to see you.

We meet usually in the Osbourne room in the Lenham Community Centre from 1:30 to 4:30.

If you would like more information on our group or would like a copy of our 2025 program please contact me, Pamela Gillard at **07914 809946** or e-mail **moonbeamspinner@gmail.com**



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Alternate Friday 10:10am - 10:55am.

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Tell Us What You Think!

Do you have a comment to make on life in Challock or Molash?

Want something done? Write to The Editor, The Forester, and email it to
forestermagazine@gmail.com or editoroftheforester@gmail.com

Letters may be published in the following Forester.

We reserve the right to edit letters or use only an extract dependant on space or content.



55 PLUS CLUB

The Club meets twice monthly
on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday in the
Methodist Church Hall on The Lees, 2-4pm.

We would pleased to see any new members.

Contacts - Mrs Jill Jones - Secretary - 01233 714610



Recycling Information

www.recycle-more.co.uk

Want to know more about recycling? Go to this website, it's a one-stop recycling information centre. You will find help and advice on all aspects of recycling at home, at school and in the workplace right here! Simply explore the site or try their recycling search facility.





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March's Sudoku Solution

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

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A history of Easter Chocolate

Chocolate - Just a mention of the word can trigger off all kinds of emotions: craving, greed, passion. Few foods have the ability to get such a hold on people. As you buy your Easter eggs and bunnies and whatever else this month, here are some of the facts of chocolate:

Where does chocolate come from?

Chocolate is made from the seeds of the tropical cacao tree, *theobroma cacao*. The Greek word 'theobroma' means literally 'food of the gods'. The Cacao Tree is found in Latin America.

Who first discovered it?

The Aztecs. The cacao beans were used to prepare a hot, frothy beverage with stimulant and restorative properties, something like hot chocolate.

Who was (probably) the first chocoholic?

The Emperor Montezuma. He drank 50 goblets a day of the frothy drink.

Who used chocolate as currency?

The Aztecs. 100 cacao beans would buy a slave; 12 cacao beans bought the services of a courtesan, etc.

When did chocolate as we know it today begin?

Surprisingly, not until 1879. That year Rodolphe Lindt had the inspired idea of triglyceride cocoa butter. The cocoa butter in chocolate contains saturated fat, but a normal level of consumption doesn't have any bad effects.

At what point does a chocolate lover become a chocoholic? It is generally considered to be when a person feels

impelled to consume 12 or more 60 gram bars of chocolate per week. Chocolate contains its own cannabinoid (a chemical that prolongs pleasurable sensations) and when you eat chocolate, there is an increased blood flow in areas of the brain which are also activated by addictive drugs such as cocaine. But scientists agree that occasional over-indulging will cause no long-term problems... except perhaps around your waistline!

How to get the best from your chocolate:

Keep your chocolate cool (16 – 18 degrees Centigrade) and in a dry, airtight place.

Never put your chocolate in the fridge (if you already have, let it warm to room temperature for a couple of hours before you eat it).

Bring out the full flavour of chocolate by drinking water with it.

If you are drinking tea or coffee, don't bother with expensive chocolates – you won't be able to appreciate them properly!





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Challock Ladies Singing Group

Every Tuesday Methodist Chapel 2 - 4pm

A very informal singing group in the village, this is a regular social event at which you can sing some lighter material such as pop and songs from musicals etc.

The main aim is to enjoy singing and being in each other's company.

Please do come and join us – no previous singing experience required.

Further information call: Jill **07899 993328** or Brenda **740474**



CHALLOCK PARISH CLERK

Diane Sandy is the Parish Clerk and can be contacted
on **07895 494851**

or email [**parishclerkchallockpc@gmail.com**](mailto:parishclerkchallockpc@gmail.com)



John Betjeman was another of our Poet Laureates. He was born in 1906. As well as a poet he was a committed preservationist of historic architecture, particularly of the Victorian period. His most well known association is pioneering the saving of St Pancras station for which we must all be grateful. A most impressive bronze statue of him dominates the platforms. Unlike last months rather sad tale of our little lamb today's poem is much happier.

Indoor Games near Newbury

In among the silver birches,
Winding ways of tarmac wander
And the signs to Bussock Bottom,
Tussock Wood and Windy Break.
Gabled lodges, tile-hung churches
Catch the lights of our Lagonda
As we drive to Wendy's party,
Lemon curd and Christmas cake

Rich the makes of motor whirring
Past the pine plantation purring
Come up Hupmobile Delage.
Short the way our chauffeurs travel
Crunching over private gravel,
Each from out his warm garage.

O but Wendy, when the carpet
Yielded to my indoor pumps.
There you stood, your gold hair streaming,
Handsome in the hall light gleaming
There you looked and there you led me
Off into the game of Clumps.

Then the new Victrola playing;
And your funny uncle saying
"Choose your partners for a foxtrot.
Dance until it's tea o'clock
Come on young 'uns, foot it feetly."



***Clumps** is a fast-paced icebreaker game designed to create energy and split large groups into smaller ones by having participants quickly form groups of a called-out number. As players mingle, a leader calls out a number (e.g., "Clumps of 4!"), and participants must find that many people to form a group.*

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*The Arts Society brings people together through a shared curiosity
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We meet at 2.30 pm (doors open from 2.00) at Egerton
Millennium Hall, Elm Close TN27 9DS

Wednesday 8th April:

POTS AND FROCKS – THE WORLD OF GRAYSON PERRY

presented by **Ian Swankie**,
*guide at Tate Modern, Tate Britain,
the Guildhall Gallery and St Paul's
Cathedral and London Tour Guide*



Wednesday 13th May: THE ART OF THE CARTOONIST

presented by **Harry Venning**,
*cartoonist for several UK publications
and UK Strip Cartoonist of the Year for
'Clare in the Community' which he
adapted into a Radio 4 sitcom*

Visitors are always very welcome at £8 (just turn up and pay
on the door), refunded if you join. For further information
please contact Christine Willis, our Membership Secretary via
cmwillis75@gmail.com or 01233 756377.

See also our website www.theartssocietyegerton.org.uk



2026 events Challock Church

All events with which the PCC or Friends have an association

Friday April 17th FRIENDS AGM AND QUIZ NIGHT Village Hall.

Please note the corrected date here: 17th April.

AGM 7pm, Quiz 7.30 pm. Entrance to quiz £6 pp.

BYO food and drink

Friends event Church fabric funds

Monday 4th May FIVE CHURCH WALK Bluebell woods marked walk.

Start and end any of the five churches, anytime. Entry fee to local charities and participating churches, with refreshments on sale (for church funds) at several churches including Challock.

Five Church Walk Committee event

Sunday 7th June CHALLOCK OPEN GARDENS Private gardens

Village Hall refreshments (Friends), Church open.

Entry fee to charities.

Challock Open Gardens Committee event

Friday 3rd July MIDSUMMER QUIZ NIGHT Village Hall

7.30 pm. Entry £6 pp. BYO food and drink. *Friends event Church fabric funds*

Sat 29th August, Sunday 30th August, Monday 31st August BH

CHALLOCK FLOWER FESTIVAL at the church

10 am to 5pm each day. Wonderful flowers, super food, lovely music.

PCC event General church funds

Fri 16th October AUTUMN QUIZ NIGHT Village hall

7.30 pm. Entry £6 pp. BYO food and drink. *Friends event Church fabric funds*

Sun 15th November CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR Village hall

Mid morning to late afternoon. Craft stalls and refreshments.

Sat 12th December CHRISTMAS CAROLS SING-ALONG in the church

Friends event Church fabric funds

Crossword Puzzle Solution (on page 53)



Enquiries regarding PCC events to Clare 01233 740356

Enquiries regarding Friends of Challock Church events to John 07904 950704

Heh! everybody

Advance notice !!

THE FIVE CHURCH WALK 2026

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY, MAY 4th

We are holding this successful event again this year.

The proceeds from walkers' donations go towards the running expenses of the churches of Challock, Molash, Chilham, Godmersham and Boughton Aluph and also to the Kent Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance and The Pilgrims' Hospices - it's your decision which.

You can either take in all five churches on a circuit of 16 miles or any one or more stages of between 3 and 5 miles, so there is something for everyone.

NOTE! If you can't walk or don't walk then come for the refreshments anyway, our resident taseographer tells us they will be delicious.

So!

Make a note in your diaries now

PS

The Challock representative has been at it for a quarter of a century and fancies a rest.

Are you up for it?

Most of the work is done at your keyboard with three or four committee meetings in the year.

If you feel that this is you please contact Martin Hook - 01233 740356

The Five Church Walk May 4th 2026

Challock Representative Wanted

Are you up for it?

This popular Walk has been held almost every year since 1984 and the Challock representative has been at it for a quarter of a century and fancies a rest.

The route is divided into five sections with one of the five churches within each section and we are looking for a new representative for Challock. The Challock section starts at the the George Inn at Molash to the wall at Boughton Aluph, via Challock Church, a total of about four miles, with the walk direction reversed each year.

The representative will attend three or four meetings each year and the work will involve email contact with landowners and other bodies and writing articles for parish magazines, so much of the work is done from the comfort of your computer chair. Others will be putting up the direction arrows for you. The only heavy lifting will be attaching the 5 Church Walk sign to the village sign on the roundabout and putting up four 'Walkers Crossing Today' signs on Buck Street in the morning of the event and removing them at the end of the day.

You will then sit in the church signing walkers in, although other people will relieve you during the day so that you will be able to do the walk yourself if you so wish - and delicious refreshments are but an arm's length away!

As time rolls on you will probably work out your own system.

So

What's not to like !!

If interested then contact Martin Hook - 01233 740356

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Parkinson's UK is the operating name of the Parkinson's Disease Society of the United Kingdom, a registered charity in England and Wales (289017) and in Scotland (SC281661).



Extracts from “The Forester” – APRIL 1972 - 54 YEARS AGO!

Vicar: Rev. F. Haywood. **Churchwardens:** . Miss G.Naismith Mr.D.George

Hon.Secretary to P.C.C: Mrs. J. Percy

Hon. Treasurers: Mr.D. George (Challock) Miss I. O. Rowland (Molash)

Organists: Miss Naismith and Mr. C. White

Please tell the Vicar (Challock 263) of cases of illness

District Nurse: Chilham 240

SUNDAY SERVICES: Challock: Holy Communion 8.00 am (9.30 am on First Sunday)

Molash: Holy Communion 9.30am (8am on First Sunday))

Methodist C:hapel: Wednesday 9am

DiaryApril 1972: 2nd Easter Day Challock 7.30 9.30 11.15, 6pm

Molash 8.30 7th Annual Church Meeting 7.30pm 12th Challock Lees WI 2.30

18th Kingswood WI 7.45pm **Church Flowers** 2nd-9th Mrs Cox 16th-23rd Mrs

Baldock 30th-May7th Mrs Cairnduff

Confirmations: Stuart and Malcolm Lillicrap at St.Mary’s Church of Charity on Sunday March 12th

Holy Baptism : Gareth Stuart Hammon at Challock on March 12th

Reported in Mill Lane Challock A family of long-tailed tits and a pair of Hawfinches

We are sorry that we no longer have Mrs Poynton at Challock,. We hope that she will be happy in her new home in Ashford.

Challock Lees WI Meeting 12th April – The speaker will be Mrs Preston talking about Illustrated Children’s books, past and present.

Gardening Hint: There is just time to sow peas, beetroot and lettuce as well as “annuals” to be ready for the summer show in July

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 ANGEL • MARY • HEAVEN
 RISEN • ALIVE • GOD
 GOOD NEWS • CHRIST
 SAVIOUR • EASTER • JOY

EASTER WITNESS - I WAS THERE

I carried Jesus
into Jerusalem

Read Matthew 21:1-11



I handed Jesus over
to be crucified

Read
Matthew 27:11-26



I nailed Jesus
to the cross

Read
Mark 15:16-32



We watched
Jesus die

Read Mark 15:33-41

I laid his body
in my tomb



Read Mark 15:42-47



I guarded
the tomb

Read
Matthew
27:62-66



We saw the
empty tomb

Read Matthew 28:1-10

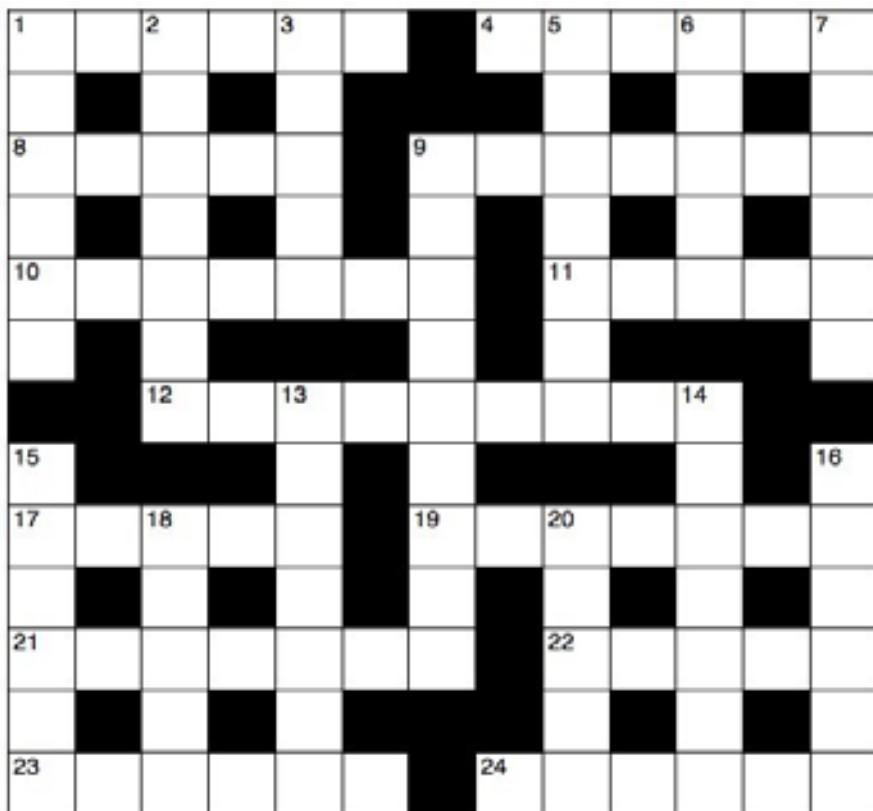


and spoke
to the angel

Jesus is alive!
He ate a meal with me!



Read Luke 24:13-35



Crossword Clues

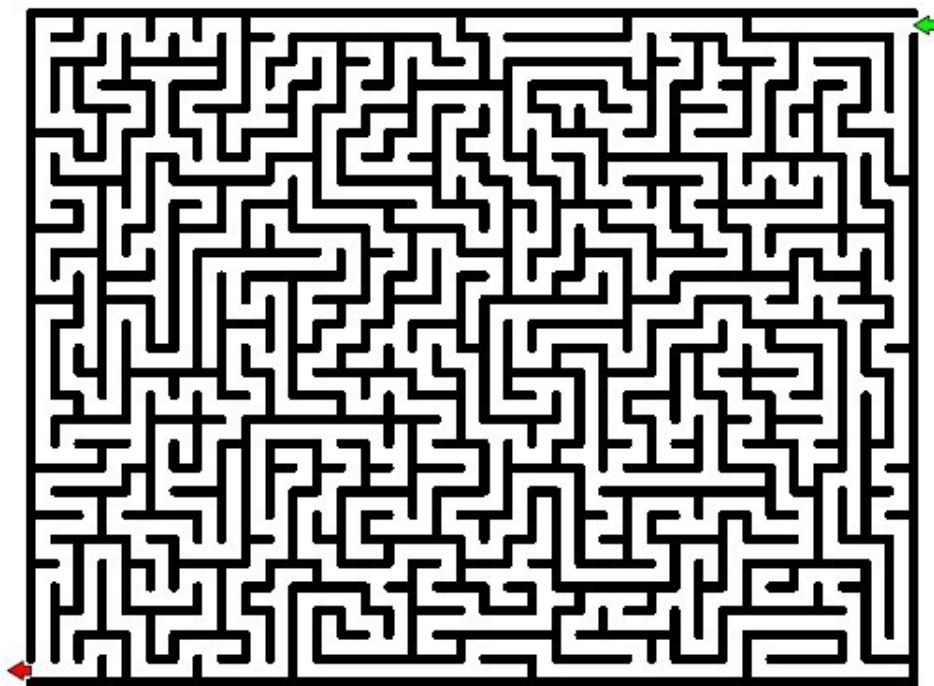
Across

- 1 Relating to the whole universe (6)
- 4 The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
- 8 'Unless I see the nail marks ___ hands, I will not believe' (John 20:25) (2,3)
- 9 He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
- 10 Baptist Minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry ___ (7)
- 11 'Look, here is ___. Why shouldn't I be baptised?' (Acts *:36) (5)
- 12 'Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)
- 17 Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 8:36) (5)
- 19 'Moses was not aware that his face was ___ because he had spoken with the Lord' (Exodus 34:29) (7)
- 21 Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man half-horse (7)
- 22 Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)
- 23 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the ___ apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6)
- 24 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in ___ and you came to visit me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)

Puzzle Pages

(Answers on Page 46)
Down

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Coastal rockfaces (Psalms 141:6) (6) | 14 They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7) |
| 2 Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7) | 15 The human mind or soul (6) |
| 3 Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5) | 16 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is ___' (Graham Kendrick) (6) |
| 5 For example, the Crusades (4,3) | 18 'We played the flute for you, and you did not ___' (Matthew 11:17) (5) |
| 6 11 Across is certainly this (5) | 20 Bared (anag.) (5) |
| 7 He reps (anag.) (6) | |
| 9 Liberator (Psalms 18:2) (9) | |
| 13 Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7) | |



Solve the Maze

then Colour them in

PARISH CHURCH DIRECTORY

Priest in Charge Rev Sue Martin
The Vicarage, 3 Hambrook Close, Chilham, CT4 8EJ
Email: revsuemartin@btinternet.com 01227 531758

Churchwardens for
Molash and Challock Mr Geoff Jenkins 01233 740598

PCC Secretary Mrs Clare Hook 01233 740356
Dene Cottage, Church Lane, Challock. TN25 4BS

Treasurers: Molash Mr Paul Brewin 01233 740051
Challock Mr Roger Spicer 01233 740769

Gift Aid is dealt with by the respective Church Treasurers

CHALLOCK METHODIST CHAPEL

Minister Vacant
Chapel Steward Mrs Jill Jones 01233 714610

CONTACTS FOR VILLAGES' ORGANISATIONS

Challock Forester - Editor	c/o Di Sandy	07895 494851
Challock Badminton Club	John Saunders	01233 740526
Challock Memorial Hall Bookings Secretary	Kathy Stevens	01233 740504
Challock Parent & Toddler Group - Pebbles	Natasha Wootron	07488 354933
Challock Parish Council Clerk	Dianne Sandy	07895 494851
Challock Primary School	- Office -	01233 740286
Challock Youth Club	Annabel	01233 742666
Roaring Twenties	Jill Jones	01233 714610
Cricket Club	Tony Aitken	07739 576647
Family Dog Club	Maddy Norman	01233 740570
Footpath Rep. (Molash)	Vacant	
Friends of Challock Church	Gill Burden	07904 950706
Gardeners' Society	Ray Loftus	01233 740592
Kingswood Players	Donna Ashby	07814 384193
Molash Village Hall - booking	Anne Loftus	01233 740592
Molash Parish Council Clerk	Tina Cobourn	07759 816757
Pre-School Play Group	Rachelle Riley	07940 826366
Challock Ward Councillor	Larry Krause	01233 643497
Molash Borough Councillor	Geoff Meaden	contact via clerk

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