

SEPTEMBER 2021

BENTLEY & BINSTED

PARISH MAGAZINE



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Parish Magazine

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Vicar's Letter

Dear All

Although January is traditionally the time for new starts, with the making of resolutions at the beginning of the year, September is a time of new challenges for many of us. Facing a new term at school or college, maybe a new job acquired following graduation or other exam results, the month following the long summer holiday can be when many of us are breaking in new shoes and sharpening fresh pencils.

So, are you feeling refreshed by a vacation, vitalised by a change in routine and ready to face new challenges? Or are you apprehensive about the future as we emerge from restrictions and come to terms with how the last 18 months or so has affected everyone? Maybe, like some of the team here, you've been thinking that the limitations on travel have been a good thing, encouraging everyone to appreciate the less well-known delights of our own country for a change. Maybe you've breathed a sigh of relief that international travel is off the menu and enjoyed your garden and local walks instead.

We've all had to adapt to the pressures of recent times and we are very conscious that the past year or so has been hard for

many people. But we have tried to rise to the challenge of working in different ways and hope you have been able to enjoy some of the initiatives that have been developed. For instance, our youth team developed the well received Creation Trails in August, allowing anyone, but especially our younger residents, to follow the story of God's creation through QR codes on their smart phones. And Froyle has successfully housed a whole shipload of quirky animals with the highly creative Froyle Ark project. At the same time, the return of traditional summer events, such as the extremely well attended Binsted Fete in July and the Froyle Open Gardens scheme in June, showed that we hadn't lost our appetite for old favourites.

Moving forward into the new term and then on into next year, we hope that we can keep innovating with fresh ideas, that we can keep responding to whatever challenges the future may bring and that we can blend the new with the old. And hopefully we have inspired you to do the same. Enjoy the month ahead, whether it's back to school, back to work or back to weeding the garden.

Yann and the team

YOUTH UPDATE

September is here and I feel so happy reading all the notices and articles in this magazine, the news on social media and through newsletters - there is so much good news and so many community initiatives either starting or restarting after a long time. There are coffee shops, community cafes, organised walks and picnics, church services and much more!



And it isn't any different when it comes to the youth and children's work within the benefice. Take a look at the image above which gives you a good idea of the amount of provision we have for our youth and children – it's so exciting! And that's not everything either – year 6 at Bentley have a lunchtime club on Fridays and we run small groups for our teenagers on Sunday evenings.

If you keep reading through the magazine, you'll find lots of information on most of these things, but if you can't find what you're looking

for, take a look at the church website (<https://www.benbinfro.co.uk/youth-children/>) where you should find everything. If not then get in touch and I will help you out.

I'm super excited for September, for all of these clubs and gatherings, but most of all to get to know you and your young people.

Gemma Ball

*Pastoral Assistant (Youth) and
Administrator gemma@benbinfro.co.uk*

Church Register

Bentley

4th June 2021	Cremation for Peggy Garratt
6th June 2021	Interment of Ashes for Olave Wade
12th June 2021	Wedding of Robyn Dickson and Joe Baulf
25th June 2021	Interment of Ashes for Olive Morley
3rd July 2021	Wedding of Tom Rule and Catherine Broadway
10th July 2021	Wedding of David Ellis and Katharine Oak
12th July 2021	Interment of Ashes for Roger Clay

Binsted

1st June 2021	Interment of Ashes for David Montgomery
28th June 2021	Funeral and Burial for Hayden Sharp
1st July 2021	Wedding of John Weldon and Liz Land
4th July 2021	Baptism of Penthesilia Westlake

Froyle

2nd June 2021	Wedding of Kirsty Mason and James Young
28th July 2021	Cremation and Thanksgiving service for Beatrice Mayhew

Thank you

Binsted PCC would like to thank Kemp & Stevens for repairs to a crumbling memorial tablet in the Lady Chapel, and for levelling the tablet above Viscount Montgomery's grave, both of which they have carried out to a high standard, and free of charge. These look very much better than they did before and we are truly appreciative of their advice and work on these items.

You are invited to...

four: twelve

1 TIMOTHY 4:12

1 TIMOTHY 4:12

1 TIMOTHY 4:12

1 TIMOTHY 4:12

YOUTH CLUB

STARTING IN SEPTEMBER 2021

WHEN? FRIDAY EVENINGS.

WHERE? BENTLEY VILLAGE.

**WHAT? FUN & GAMES,
SHORT BIBLE
TEACHING, GROUP
ACTIVITIES, TUCK
SHOP.**

1 Timothy 4:12 – “Do not let anyone treat you as if you are unimportant because you are young. Instead, be an example to the believers with your words, your actions, your love, your faith, and your pure life.”



Contact Gemma for more info
on times and location:
gemma@benbinfro.co.uk

An update from our Anna Chaplain

It's been a while since my last update... through what feels like a marathon 6 months for all of us... and with many of us carrying mixed emotions about the next season ahead. Some of us are still feeling quite anxious about getting out and mixing with people, others less so.

But I'd like to share my huge joy and relief that I've been able to restart regular home visiting as well as visiting residents at our two care homes: Bentley Lodge Care & Nursing Home and Pax Hill Care Home.

Although my amazing team of Anna Friends and I have kept up regular communication with our friends in the care homes, nothing beats a warm, friendly smile (through a mask) and a face-to-face conversation. So, it's been absolutely wonderful catching up with old friends, as well as starting to get to know new residents, over the last couple of months. We've also been fortunate enough to be able to start leading worship services in the care homes again – which has brought joy, and has lifted spirits.

I'd like to thank our fantastic team of Anna Friends who continue to serve faithfully in this community: Liz Carey, Sarah Roberts, Marilyn & Richard Greenway, Nick Carter and Steve Fice.

If you know anyone who would appreciate a phone call or visit from myself or one of our Anna Friends, please get in touch.

“The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you;

the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.” (Numbers 6. 24-26)

Keep safe and enjoy the sun when you can!

Nicky

Rev. Nicky Smallwood (Anna Chaplain)
annachaplain@benbinfro.co.uk
07765 058593



is back in person! Yay!



Sunday 19th September at 4pm

Our location will be sorted soon – keep your eye on the church website for this

www.benbinfo.co.uk/youth-children/messy-church/

We can't wait to see you for fun, games, crafts and singing! All are welcome.

Messy Church Co-ordinator: Nick Carter –
nick.carter1945@outlook.com

Holy Cross Binsted *Reordering Update*

The Reordering Committee has taken a break over the summer so things have been very quiet with no new developments. We are awaiting revised sketch plans for the different options for the proposed toilet block which will then be sent to the Diocesan Advisory Council (DAC) for consideration and recommendations on the proposed design and location

The reordering section on the BenBinFro website (www.benbinfo.co.uk) holds the formally approved minutes of all meetings which are uploaded once the PCC have seen them.

We welcome feedback from anyone and everyone on the discussions and plans as they evolve, preferably via email to the address binstedreordering@benbinfo.co.uk. All feedback received will considered and discussed at our next meeting and a response given.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

The Reordering sub-committee

Andrew Hunter Johnston (Chair of the Reordering sub-committee)

The Rev Yann Dubreuil (Vicar)

The Rev Christopher Ogilvie Thompson (Assistant Priest)

The churchwardens - Stella Croom-Johnson and Kathy Ogilvie Thompson

Angela Dunne (PCC Secretary)

Kay Hunter Johnston (PCC member and Reordering secretary)

Piers Wilson (PCC member)

Nick Carter (PCC member)

Ron Neil

Helen MacDonald

Claire Fargeot (Co-opted)

Ben MacDonald (Co-opted)

LIVE@5

Holy Communion • Big Praise • iPad • YumYum

Live@5 has had a few different outfits over the years, the most recent being on YouTube with our tea over Zoom, but now the time has come to rethink what Live@5 is and where it is going. The exciting news is that Live@5 is returning in person every week! Yes, you heard me, every week. This is really exciting but I'm sure you can understand it takes a lot of work to put Live@5 on weekly. Therefore, we have come up with a plan which means Live@5 is something a little different each week.

Week 1 – Holy Communion

This is a more relaxed Holy Communion service for the whole family.

Week 2 – Big Praise

This is a worship focused service with a full band and fun for everyone!

Week 3 – iPad

This is a more relaxed service using our pre-recorded worship songs and online content.

Week 4 – YumYum

This is Live@5 in the Church Hall, full of food and fellowship. We'll have one or two unplugged worship song and a short Thought for the Day style talk.

Join us every Sunday at 5pm for Live@5 at St Mary's Bentley.

Light refreshments will be served every week, and a full tea provided at YumYum. Please do bring tea for your children if you need to.



WHAT'S MY
PURPOSE IN LIFE?

PROBABLY NOT
THE BEST QUESTION TO
ASK YOUR DOG...

#AskAtAlpha

ASK AT ALPHA

ONLINE
& IRL



When? Weekly, starting Sunday 26th September 2021

Where? Bentley Church Hall (in person)

Who? For young people in year 8+

What? A place to explore those big questions (and there's food!)

**Contact Gemma to register your interest -
gemma@benbinfo.co.uk**

Outdoor Services

We had so much fun at our outdoor services in July! We sang together for the first time and it was so lovely to have so many people come along and join the fun. The children and young people stayed on after the service at Bentley for a picnic and loved it – despite the heat!

Blessings,

The BenBinFro Team



Holy Cross Binsted Church

Help still needed...

You may be aware that we've been working hard behind the scenes during the last year of lockdown and have made good progress with the Quinquennial repair programme to ensure the church is structurally sound and weatherproof as well as restarting the Reordering project which will ensure the church is fit for purpose for years to come.

All of this costs money and although we already have a number of established fundraising activities our main income for these projects will need to be from organisations who offer grants for work on churches, such as (but not exclusively) Heritage Lottery Fund or the All Churches Trust.

To make this easy for everyone – and we hope fun – the PCC would like to bring together a small team of 2-3 people to work with the PCC to organise and co-ordinate our fundraising activities. Please pray about whether you, or someone you know, might like to be part of this. It would be lovely if we could get a mixture of people from both the church and the village involved.

The work falls into two categories which will probably appeal to different people:

1. Identify organisations offering grants, and complete their application forms. There is already a spreadsheet with a lot of information on it, so you wouldn't be starting from scratch. Some members of the PCC already have experience of completing similar forms and would be happy to work with the new team.
2. Organise events to help raise funds for one or both of these projects, or even just towards the day-to-day running and maintenance of the church. One of the questions the grant organisations ask on the application forms is about our local fundraising and it would be good to have plenty to put in there.

There's a lot more background information but I'm trying to keep this article as short as possible. If you think you or anyone you know might be interested, or if you just want to know more then please do feel free to contact me by email (binstedwarden@benbinfro.co.uk) or telephone (07740 861256) and I will try to answer your questions.

Stella Croom-Johnson, Churchwarden,
Holy Cross Church Binsted

BELL RINGING AT BINSTED AGAIN



After nearly 18 months we are now able to ring the bells again in Binsted, and it was obvious from the comments on the village Facebook page after our first practice in July, that many in the village enjoy the sound of our very special bells.

My introduction to bellringing started after a notice appeared in the Parish Magazine before Christmas a few years ago and I braved a cold January evening and turned up at the door of Binsted church bell tower to find out about church bell ringing.

I was met by a very friendly enthusiastic group of bell-ringers eager to show me round the tower and to see the actual bells. When the band of ringers (yes, that is what they are called not campanologists!) rang for us, they made it look so easy. When I was allowed to have a go at ringing a bell myself, I quickly realised that there was a lot more to it.

I decided to give it a go and started to join the regular Thursday evening practice sessions. Progress was a little slow, but with friendly encouragement and tutoring I slowly got to grips with the intricacies of following the bell ringing before me and at a steady rhythm. There were many things I did wrong (and still do) and some hairy moments in this journey, but everyone has been very patient and supportive.

I have now progressed so that I can hold my own when ringing changing sequences (well just!) and I now help to ring before the 9.30 Sunday Service at Binsted, at weddings and have even rung bells at Winchester Cathedral.

We are only a small team and are always looking for more bell ringers and if I can do it (as a pensioner!!) then most of you can! Why not come and see what it is all about and meet a very friendly group of people who are continuing a tradition of church bell ringing that goes back more than 4 centuries. It is fun, keeps you active and helps you to make friends, whilst encouraging concentration, perseverance and teamwork.

We meet every Thursday evening from 7.30 until 9. Just come to the tower door at the back of the church. We look forward to meeting you. If you want any further information then please give me a call on 07740 861153. Andrew



School News - Binsted CE Primary

At Binsted we believe in the Christian values of Faith, Hope & Love.

Our Year 6 leavers have created these lovely art works to sum up their Lockdown experiences! We also wrote poems to commemorate our final year. We read these out at our- socially distanced-Leavers Service at The Holy Cross Church here in Binsted.

An emotional time but we are looking forward to new challenges and a clean slate to start next year.



To finish an aerial photo of our lovely Leavers!



BENTLEY VILLAGE SURGERY

Are you registered with Bentley Village Surgery?

Would you be interested in finding out more about the Patient Participation Group?

Do you think you think that you could be involved with this group, to share ideas and to help to shape your local health services going forward?

If so, email us at - bentleysurgeryppg@gmail.com or drop a note of your details in to the surgery reception (marked for the attention of the PPG) and we will get back to you.

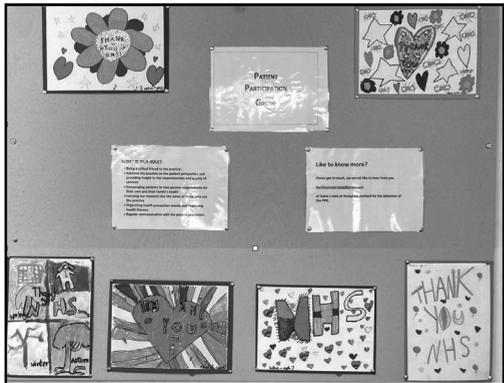
We look forward to hearing from you.

BENTLEY VILLAGE SURGERY & BENTLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Bentley Village Surgery brightens up their entrance lobby and their noticeboards with help from Bentley Church of England Primary School, in the form of uplifting artwork.

An overwhelming response from the children means that there are enough pictures to have a second display later in the summer.

The Patient Participation Group, who worked with the school, is extremely grateful for the children's hard work.



RIDE + STRIDES

for the heritage of churches

SATURDAY
11 SEPT.
2021

Over 400 churches & chapels in Hampshire & the Isle of Wight will be open.



join us

- Have a family fun day out and discover the beautiful churches and chapels on your doorstep, by taking part in a sponsored cycle or walk.
- Enjoy a warm welcome along the way!
- Help to preserve our churches for future generations.

Sponsor forms and more information are available from:



or contact the County Coordinator Team at rideandstride@hihct.org.uk

find out more at www.hihct.org.uk

HAMPSHIRE & THE ISLANDS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST
Registered Charity No. 1181370



Bentley and Binsted churches will be providing refreshments. Binsted church will be opened and manned too for people to visit.



THANK YOU BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL!

Due to the extension of the football season as a result of the Pandemic and a clash with cricket matches, Binsted Football Club found ourselves without a home pitch.

You have been so supportive and we are beyond grateful.

At a time when fun has been in short supply, football for our young players from U7s through to U10s has been the highlight of the week and they have thoroughly enjoyed their time down at Bentley Recreation Ground building their skills, teamwork & confidence.

New Players always welcome to join our friendly local grassroots football club.
www.binstedfc.org.uk Email: binstedfootball@gmail.com



THE WICKHAM INSTITUTE (Binsted Village Hall)

www.wickhaminstitute.co.uk



BINSTED COFFEE SHOP REOPENING

WEDNESDAY 8th SEPTEMBER 10am – 12noon
(and then weekly during term-time)

Please come along and join us
Coffee, tea, home made cakes, childrens' toys
All are welcome – modest prices!

All covid regulations in place at the time will be observed

Willow

We are being urged to grow more trees because:

1. They draw carbon dioxide out of the air such that half their dry weight is carbon.
2. They reduce the damage done by flood waters by holding back run-off.
3. They shelter wildlife at a time when so many species are disappearing.
4. They make us feel good.

Willows certainly tick all four boxes. We have 18 native species and members of the family *Salix* can be found anywhere from the Cairngorms to hereabouts. They were among the first trees to recolonise our landscape after the Ice Age, and humans have made use of them from their first encounters. The word 'willow' comes from the Anglo-Saxon *welig* meaning pliancy or willingness. Flexible new shoots are ideal for woven structures, such as the Celtic oracle boat. The bark and leaves are rich in salicylic acid, the main ingredient in aspirin, and twigs were once chewed as a natural painkiller. The wood is light and springy and there is even a Cricket Bat Willow *S.caerulea*. Artist friends tell me the best drawing charcoal comes from willow.

One of my future projects is to perfect the process for producing charcoal, revisiting my youth, when I used my father's empty 2 oz. tobacco tins and a methylated spirit burner (the under-60's may need to Google this).

The various species differ in size and leaf shape, but they all bear catkins, indeed whether the tree is male or female. The goat willow *S.caprea* is perhaps best known and loved for its kitten-soft catkins that give it its other name, 'Pussy Willow'. When the catkins are shed it can be like a snowstorm in spring.

They are the easiest plants to propagate, after pelargoniums of course. Cleanly cut

a twig and just stick it in the ground. Unless it dehydrates it will probably take root. I do this every year with my Coyote Willow *S.exigua*. Starting with one plant I now have a hedge as stylish as any bamboo.

They inhabit our literature, from 'Wind in the you-know-whats' to 'The Lady of Shalott'. I was actually prompted to write this piece having come across a reference in 'The Grapes of Wrath' by John Steinbeck, which I am revisiting for the first time since I was a teenager. Two Oklahoma migrants are being harassed by Californian deputy sheriffs and they escape by hiding in a willow grove beside a river. It seems tick box 3 above can apply to humans too.

Rivers are important to willows. They use more water than most other trees, save alder perhaps. Their roots are specially adapted to tolerate even permanent submersion. Hence they tick box 2. Go anywhere along the banks of the Wey, from Holybourne to Wrecclesham, and you will soon encounter one dipping its toes in the stream. I think the finest example I have found is by Isington Mill.

Rivers may be important to willows, but seemingly not essential. I found a particularly fine White Willow, *S.alba*, in Bucks Horn Oak, near the end of Back Lane, which had no visible water supply. Perhaps its roots have found a subterranean solution.

CURTIS MUSEUM & ALLEN GALLERY

(01420 82802)

OPENING TIMES

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday Curtis 10am – 4pm. Allen 10.30 – 3.30pm

IN THE ALLEN GALLERY AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

Dinosaurium: Re-imagined Creatures

Every dinosaur you have ever seen, on film, TV, in books or exhibitions has been, at least in part, a work of the imagination. Since the first dinosaurs were identified there has been a desire to put flesh on the bones and a glint in the eye of these amazing animals. This exhibition looks at the long history of our relationship with dinosaurs, from ancient legends of mythical winged beasts in the deserts of central Asia, to the creatures brought to life in Jurassic Park.

Learn about the animals that were around at the time of the dinosaurs and are still with us today, find out about the passion and dedication of the fossil hunters with this fun, family friendly exhibition. FREE (but a donation would be much appreciated)

DINOSAUR HAT-MAKING

7th August to 19th September

Drop in and create your own dinosaur hat. All materials provided. This activity is suitable for ages 2-11.

DINOSAUR GARDEN

(Till 5th September)

Drop in and make your very own dinosaur to go into our Dinosaur Garden. Templates and materials available. This activity is suitable for ages 5 to 11. FREE but donations welcome for these activities.

OTHER EXHIBITIONS AND TALKS

We welcome back **Ceramicus**, the local ceramics artists, whose exhibitions are always popular and stimulating, 25th Sept to 31st Oct. (FREE in the Main Exhibition area.)

Local artist **Alex Loach** will be exhibiting from 26th Aug to 10th Oct. Primarily his work explores mood, mental health and feeling; through the medium of



abstract paintings. A self-taught artist, Alex started his creative journey in late 2019 and his work documents the personal value of a creative outlet throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. (FREE in the Café area.)

TALKS in the Gallery will restart on Thursday 9th September at 7.30, when Jane Hurst will be speaking about **East Worldham and King Edward's Hill**. FREE, but a donation to the Friends will be welcome.

Kevin Davey will tell us about **Theatre 'Practitioners' and their impact on modern theatre**. 23rd September at 7.30. £5 pre-booked, tickets from the Gallery.

DINOSAURS ARE INVADING THE CURTIS MUSEUM as well **DINOSAUR TRAIL** - follow the trail round the Museum to complete the puzzle. **DINOSAUR CRAFT PACK** – make your own paper plate dinosaur, plus activity and colouring sheets to do at home or in the Museum. £1.50

NEW DINOSAUR GAMES AND TOYS to play with in the Childhood Gallery.



**BINSTED
ECO
NETWORK**

New term, new you: how to use September as your springboard for taking local environmental action

The last warm days. The first crunch of brown leaves. The curious urge to buy a new pencil case. We may have finished school years ago, but for many of us the rhythm of the academic year never quite leaves us.

When it comes to making positive changes in our life, the crisp blank page of September is also a great moment to get take stock of what we can do for the environment.

We hear such a lot about the need to 'take action' on climate change and we're bombarded by reports of ecological armageddon. This summer, almost everywhere seems to have been affected by violent extreme weather events that've smashed heat and rain records, killed hundreds and raised fears that the full fury of the climate crisis is closer than previously thought.

The feeling that the situation's out of control can leave us feeling there's nothing we can do about it. Well, it is clearly impossible to fight climate change alone. And a handful of people doing sustainable living perfectly may not make much of a difference either.

But this is where Binsted Eco Network comes in. Acting together, the whole local community can certainly make a difference. The network was formed to make it easier for people in Binsted and its surrounding area to connect with others interested in taking action to support the environment - whether this is by adjusting our personal habits, or by getting together to tackle particular issues.

We want to get as many people as possible involved! Our philosophy is that we don't need a handful of people doing sustainable living perfectly. Instead, we need millions of us doing it imperfectly. We're serious about finding ways to live more lightly on the planet, but we're searching for lifestyle changes that feel positive, not punishing. Feelgood ways of living more sustainably.

Unlike school, autumn resolutions aren't compulsory. But after many weeks of enforced downtime, the fresh energy of a back-to-school mindset could be your perfect springboard for an autumn environmental reset.

So we invite you to join in:

Join the distribution list for our fortnightly newsletter The newsletter's full of information about local events and activities, and it's completely free and uncommercial. To subscribe, all you need to do is to email binstedeconetwork@gmail.com. (And you can easily unsubscribe if you decide it's not for you!)

Join us for a cuppa at our 'First Friday' of the month coffee rendezvous. We meet every First Friday of the month, between 10:00 and 12:00, in the Tipi at the West End Flower Farm, Upper Froyle, Alton, Hampshire GU34 4JG. There are no formalities, and no agenda, other than to get to know kindred spirits. Don't be shy, just turn up! Whether you're 17 or 87, you're guaranteed a friendly welcome.

Support 'Plastic Free Binsted'. Launched in July, this initiative is tackling single-use plastic in the parish. We're working with local businesses who can become 'plastic-free champions' by making three 'swaps' away from single-use plastics to other options. Do get in touch if you're interested to find out more.

Gift us your children's outgrown wellies!

Preparations for Binsted Eco Network's Children's Welly Swap are developing well. Ahead of starting the swap service (later this autumn), we're building up our 'stock'

of wellies to trade. We've already had some lovely donations, but we still need more, so we can reliably offer wellies in any size a child might need. So, if you've got any unwanted wellies that're still in good condition (up to adults Size 6), please drop them into the box in the Binsted Pavilion veranda, bring them to our next 'First Friday' coffee, or simply email binstedeconetw@gmail.com so we can arrange collection.

**There's a lot going on locally.
Don't miss out!**



BENTLEY GARDEN CLUB



MONTHLY MEETINGS TO RESTART ON 5TH OCTOBER 2021

We are pleased to announce that we are intending to start our monthly meetings again from October. The Memorial Hall Denis Smith Room is booked, the speaker is booked and all we need now is you, members or guests, to come and join us.

Our meetings are open to all.

Our speaker on 5th October 2021 will be Geoff Hawkins (a previous Head Gardener at Mill Court), who will be giving a talk entitled "All year-round colour in the garden".

As before, the meeting will start at 8pm, followed by coffee and biscuits.

The committee hope to see as many of you as possible on the 5th October.

From the Committee.



News from Binsted Parish Council

Your invitation to a community picnic at 'Blacknest Fields' ...

Binsted Parish Council owns 8 acres of land at Blacknest, near the Jolly Farmer pub. For decades, nothing much has happened there.

The council wants to re-imagine the site, for low-key local greenspace and as a place for nature recovery, to generate better community value. The Working Group, and the wider community, are already suggesting lots of great ideas.

Do get in touch to add to this conversation; there's also lots of information about the Blacknest site and its history on our website,

As few people know the site, a lunchtime community picnic - and an evening woodland walk - are being organised in September, to 'introduce' Blacknest Fields to the community. [Do join in! - See opposite for details.]

New signage at the A325 Shipwrights Way crossing

The safety of cyclists and other users of the Shipwrights Way at the A325 crossing point in Bucks Horn Oak is a big worry. Following the speed reduction made around the Bucks Horn crossing earlier in the year, we're pleased that Hampshire Highways has also now improved signage at the Shipwrights Way crossing too.

However, further safety improvements are still needed. For example, there's an urgent need to persuade the various authorities and landowners to better maintain the vegetation approaching the crossing!

Hello, yellow brick road!

Bridleway 504 reopened in July, and now looks splendid, after extensive resurfacing work. This Bridleway, which stretches from Kingsley into the Alice Holt forest near Frith End, had become nearly impassable, with deep mud, overgrown vegetation and dilapidated barbed wire fences. The path's transformation was achieved through a collaborative project funded by The British Horse Society (BHS), Tarmac Landfill Communities Fund and local organisations, including Binsted Parish Council.

Next?... working out how to tackle the revolting mud of Bridleway 62!

Would you consider becoming a Parish Councillor?

Several great new councillors have joined the parish council in the past year - Parish Councillors - Binsted Parish Council - but we are again back to only six councillors ... John Retallack and Geoff Woollen recently left the team, having completed a very respectable 56 years and 5 years, respectively.

We're keen to recruit two new councillors, so we can do more for the community. It's more rewarding than you might expect! If you could be interested in giving it a go, have a chat with me, or with our current councillors.

There's lots more information on our website - www.binstedparishcouncil.org.uk. Or you're welcome to visit the council office at the Binsted Pavilion. I normally work Monday to Thursday, from 09:00 until 15:00.

Lisa Spindler, Binsted Parish Clerk

Family fun - everyone welcome!

Blacknest Fields Community Picnic

SAT 18 September | 12:30 - 14:30
Bring your picnic and a rug/chair.
No booking needed.
Meet at Blacknest Fields, GU34 4PZ.
If needed, park at Jolly Farmer pub.

DISCOVER BLACKNEST FIELDS!

AND GET RE-ACQUAINTED WITH YOUR
NEIGHBOURS AFTER THE
LOCKDOWNS!

JOIN US!

Woodland stroll, starting from Blacknest Fields

Tuesday 7 September, 2021
Meet at 6 PM at Blacknest Fields GU34 4PZ
[Look out for Binsted Parish Council's banner.]

Join this walk, led by Ben Hamlin,
Binsted's Tree Warden, to discover some
of the special trees around Blacknest.
Wear suitable walking footwear!

BOOKING ISN'T NECESSARY.
YOU MAY PARK AT JOLLY FARMER PUB
CAR PARK IF YOU NEED.



WAYMARKS...

Improving Binsted's Rights of Way network

The weather this summer has certainly been out of the ordinary, with the regular rain providing perfect growing conditions for all sorts of vegetation along the footpaths and bridleways of the parish. This has kept the volunteer path wardens of the Rights of Way group busy with maintenance. In addition, some larger problems on the network have been addressed by working parties, with the involvement of multiple volunteers and sometimes the Hampshire CC Community Ranger as well. Examples from July involved Bridleway 62, which runs from Frith End to Wheatley and Footpath 58, which runs from the Junction with Footpath 9 near Wyck to South Hay.

As many of you will have seen, all of Bridleway 504 and a small section of Bridleway 62 have recently been re-surfaced and are now of a high standard for all Bridleway users. However, this has served as a rather unflattering contrast to the adjacent sections of Bridleway 62. As such, groups of volunteers came together on two separate occasions to cut back the very heavy vegetation on the section of 62 which runs from the junction with Bridleway 504 north towards Wheatley. The electric brushcutter kindly provided by the Parish Council was extremely effective, and the northern part of the Bridleway is now passable, even though this work will probably be repeated annually.

Near Wyck, at the point where Footpath 58 joins Footpath 9, there is a long descent involving two steep sets of steps separated by a descending pathway. Over time, the soil washed down the steps and the path became narrower and overgrown, making for a nerve-racking descent. Three volunteers spent several hours levelling the existing steps, replacing risers where necessary, installed several new risers to graduate the descent and cleared and widened the path. The finishing touch was a new handrail on the steepest part of the slope. In due course, a new fingerpost showing the way will be installed.

How many volunteers are there in the team? Funny you should ask...

Volunteering opportunity with the Rights of Way group

The Binsted Rights of Way group currently comprises four volunteers. We really need five, but the recent departure of one of our number, due to a demanding new job, means that we are now recruiting.

Binsted is a very large parish and has 44 miles of footpaths and bridleways. We divide them up between the members of the group and individual volunteers are responsible for

walking, inspecting and grading their allocated paths, making light vegetation clearances as necessary and reporting any larger issues, such as broken stiles, fallen trees or missing waymarks. We work very closely with the Hampshire Countryside Ranger group on these larger issues.

As well as the obvious benefits of getting out and about on the local rights of way, the working parties for the bigger pieces of work described above give us the chance to learn some new skills whilst having a good chat. There is training available for any machinery that we use, such as our shiny new electric brushcutter. Hampshire CC also provide more general Countryside Volunteer training.

Our overall general mission is to encourage greater participation in countryside recreation, partly by helping to improve the experience for all users of the Rights of Way. In the process, this may involve some communication with local landowners, including Forestry England.

If you think you might like to join our friendly group and would like to discuss the opportunity, then in the first instance please contact the Parish Clerk, Lisa Spindler, who is acting as our recruitment agent!



The Countryside Code

The COVID lockdowns since 2020 have given rise to a large increase in the number of walkers and cyclists enjoying the countryside. This is a welcome development, but it seems that it also has a negative side – local landowners have reported that some individuals are not respecting the Countryside Code. This can involve straying from the (largely well-marked) official paths and sometimes through crops, a lack of respect for private property and failing to keep dogs properly under control or to clear up after them.

The Countryside Code’s three tenets are Respect, Protect, Enjoy.

So let’s all enjoy our beautiful countryside, whilst respecting everyone who lives and works here and protecting our environment – leave no trace of your visit.

BENTLEY SMALLHOLDINGS AND SHOPS OF LONG AGO *(Part 5)*

Last time, the reflections of Walter Sherfield that appeared in the Bentley Parish Magazine between 1981 and 1982 recalled The Star Inn and The Quinta. Now we move westwards along the main road towards the crossroads.

“The next place we come to along the Village that has something of interest was Clive Cottage the home of Mr and Mrs Fred Coles and family. On the wall by the door was a brass plate which bore the sign PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE AGENT. Mr Coles must have cycled many hundreds of miles on his weekly round collecting the money that people paid then on their insurance policies. And later on when cars and motor cycles had to be insured many went to him to take out their insurance policy. This went on for some years until he was unable to carry on any longer and an agent from Alton was appointed to continue the round.

Next door was the house called THE CLUB HOUSE; what part that played in the Village I do not know, but it was occupied sometime around the turn of the century (maybe just before) by Mr and Mrs Brownjohn and over the door was this sig H. BROWNJOHN Sadler and Harness-maker. (They were at John-O-Pease before moving to The Club House. Mr and Mrs Brownjohn and family were staunch church-goers and he was a choir man for years.) Now here was a man who at that time had a very good business as there were many horses and ponies in the village and surrounding district. Heavy horses on the farms, Hunters and carriage horses as well as children’s

ponies. And the small Cob type that was useful to put in the Trap or Dog Cart to go shopping in Farnham, or to go to the Alton or Farnham markets. Mr Brownjohn was a very experienced man at this job, as saddles and bridles had to fit perfectly or else they could cause a horse or pony to suffer. I know he had to see and measure the animal before starting to make any sort of harness, and the heavy farm horse harness needed a very great deal of work and perfect fit and it was also very heavy to take round the farms. All he had was a strong bicycle with a metal frame carrier at the front to take the harness wherever he had to go. What a sad time it was

for him when cars and farm tractors came into being. Fewer and fewer horses were needed and his shop became an oddment shop selling tobacco, sweets, aspirin and other small items. Finally it closed, Mr Brownjohn moved away and it became a Men’s Hairdressing salon and then an antique shop. That was soon demolished and Sheldon House was then built on its site but further back from the path than The Club House which was right on the path edge.

The corner house at the crossroads, LINDEN HOUSE, was for some years a very useful place. Mr and Mrs Trotman lived here for many years. Mr Trotman was

Chauffeur at Holt Hatch before coming to Bentley. He ran a Taxi business and also employed another driver as two cars were often needed and between them they did all the running repairs. This was, I think, between 1920 – 46. Mrs Trotman was also a very busy person using the house for Bed and Breakfast and Afternoon Teas etc. For some time she also prepared tea for the cricket matches, using the W.I. hut which was across the main road and in the field at the top of Station Road. Bed and Breakfast around 1935 was 2/6d in old money [equivalent to 13p] and then this was often disputed as being a high charge.

Just for the record, across the road where now stands the Memorial Hall was the 'Village Institute', a brick building of just one fairly long room, used mostly for Jumble Sales etc. The Bentley Boy Scouts also used it as their Headquarters and, of course, for band practice. Oh yes, we had a Scout Band. It consisted of four side drums, 1 big Bass drum and 8 bugles. Church parade was quite an occasion as well as a march around the village. After the First World War this Institute was demolished to make way for the front part of the Memorial Hall and the main room was added 1952-53".

(to be continued)



NEWS FROM THE WICKHAM INSTITUTE, BINSTED

Our lovely village hall is looking good, with its new floor and very effective acoustic panels in the ceiling, which deal very effectively with the problem echo. There are a plethora of exercise classes to choose from on a weekly basis, including:

Yoga, Pilates, Flexercise, Standing Pilates, Ballroom dancing.

All these classes will be benefitting from our smart new laminate flooring and acoustic ceiling panels, which have much improved the problematic echo in the hall. For times and contact details, please see the village hall website, which is regularly updated. www.binstedvillagehall.co.uk. Hiring charges and contact details are also available there.

Every **Wednesday** during termtime, commencing on 8th September, we hope to resume our regular **Village Coffee Shop**, open to all and manned by a team of villagers who provide delicious coffee, tea and home baked cakes. For the young families in the village, there is a well stocked toy cupboard and pre-school children and babies can come and enjoy the space and socialise with others on an informal basis, while their mums/carers have a brief respite to meet other local people.

All this for a modest £2 per person, which contributes to costs and to hall funds. Do come and join us at this important village hub.

JUNE WEATHER STATISTICS



Temperature



Daytime maximum 28.4°C (14th) to 15.0°C (19th)
6 days above 25°C and 7 day below 20°C

Nighttime minimum 2.9°C (23rd) to 15.9°C (17th)
16 nights below 10°C and 6 nights below 5°C



Rainfall



Total for month 2.39 inches (60.6 mm) over 13 days

Wettest days 1.07 inches (27.2 mm) (18th)



Wind



Dominant wind direction North North West

Maximum gust 16 mph (1st)

JULY WEATHER STATISTICS



Temperature



Daytime maximum 30.9°C (20th) to 18.8°C (30th)
8 days above 25°C, 4 days above 30°C and 7 days below 20°C

Nighttime minimum 8.3°C (16th) to 14.8°C (3rd/24th/25th)
2 nights below 10°C



Rainfall



Total for month 3.25 inches (82.6 mm) over 16 days

Wettest days 1.11 inches (28.2 mm) (6th)



Wind



Dominant wind direction South West

Maximum gust 20 mph (30th)

Parish Weatherman

Update from Bentley Parish Council



Bentley
PARISH COUNCIL

Meetings

Despite lockdown, business carried on as usual (of sorts) at Bentley Parish Council, with Parish meetings carried out via Zoom. These have now resumed to physical meetings in the Memorial Hall on the second Monday of the month. Please come and contribute, we would love to see you if you have a concern or an issue to raise about the village. The Agenda is posted on the website and the three Parish Council notice boards on the Wednesday prior to the meeting. The Minutes are posted after they have been approved at the following meeting.

New Look

We hope you have noticed our fantastic new logo! We wanted to keep the designer local, and following our logo competition, Mike Hammerton from our village won with his impactful image and branding. Well done, Mike!

New Members

In the last year we have been joined by Kerri Marlow our Communications Representative, who has been managing our new Facebook and Instagram pages. Do look them up and join, as this is the most direct way for us to communicate news and activities and to hear your views. We are currently working on a new website which should be ready by the end of the year. Please use it for information about local news if you can.

We have also had some more new recruits, Lucinda Edwards is our new Schools Liaison Representative, and John Wilson our not-so new Parish Councillor, has re-joined us. Also, I was appointed Parish Clerk last year. I am delighted to be part of the Parish Council team, so please direct all correspondence to me and I'll try to help and liaise with our Councillors regarding your suggestions or concerns.

My contact details are: clerk@bentleyparishcouncil.co.uk; Tel: 07795 326539; Mon-Thurs 9am-3pm.

Village Survey

We would appreciate Bentley residents completing the survey enclosed in this edition. We want to hear from you! Let us know what you want from the village and how we can improve it.

Also available on: www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y3X6RC9

Please post all replies into the box at the Bentley Stores or Parish Council letterbox at the Memorial Hall or email to me by **8th October**. The results will be published on our website.

Emma Wadey

(Clerk & RFO for Bentley Parish Council)

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram:

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Meet the Councillor



Bentley
PARISH COUNCIL



John Goodyear (Chairman)

My wife and I moved to Bentley in 1983, and a few years later we had two daughters who attended Bentley School and during that time I served as a parent governor. The 'children' are now grown up, left home and are married and we now have three grand daughters ranging from 2 years to 6 years.

I have been a member of the Bentley Fete and Fireworks committee for a number of years and served as treasurer for three years. I am also a member of Farnham 41 Club (ex Round Table), we support Round Table with their fund-raising events and we meet up once a month.

My hobbies and interests include walking with Farnham Ramblers, pottering in the greenhouse, attending classic motor sports events, skiing and travel. We have a holiday home in Spain near the Portuguese border, and we are really looking forward to when we can go back again.

I retired from my IT business nearly 5 years ago which has given me much more free time and so I am pleased to put this experience to use by being involved with the Parish Council and to help ensure that the village we all love is a great place to live.



THE WICKHAM INSTITUTE (VILLAGE HALL), BINSTED

www.wickhaminstitute.co.uk



The Wickham Institute 100+ Club

As promised, listed below are the lucky winners of the July & August 2021 draws:

July 2021

1st prize Helen MacDonald

2nd prize Deborah Leventon

3rd prize SarahJane Cardy

August 2021

1st prize George Read-Ward

2nd prize Graham Clague

3rd prize Julie Atkinson

Details of the September 2021 draws will appear in the October magazine.

Each number only costs £12 (£1 per month) and you have three chances to win each month!

50% of the monthly purchase price of each number goes in prizes and 50% to the running costs of The Wickham Institute. The more people that participate in the 100+ club, the more money that is paid out in monthly prizes.

If you would like to participate an application form can be obtained from Andrew Croom-Johnson on 01420 23157 or email a request to Andrew at treasurer@wickhaminstitute.co.uk.

BOOK REVIEWS

Author of the month: Eugene H. Peterson

Eugene Peterson was an American Presbyterian minister, theologian and author. He is perhaps best known for his highly acclaimed paraphrase: “The Message: The Bible in Contemporary Language”. More than 20 million copies have been sold.

Books of the month (at the time of writing, good copies are available from www.bookfinder.com at the prices shown, including postage and packing):

Book 1: “Praying with Jesus: A Year of Daily Prayers and Reflections on the Words and Actions of Jesus”, HarperCollins, 1993, small format paperback, 365+ pages, £3.64.

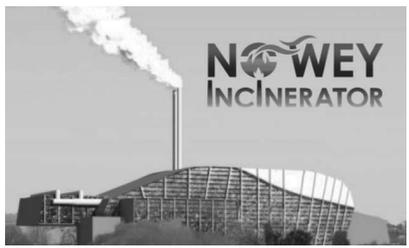
These readings from the Gospels of Matthew and John encourage us to slow down, and to pray with Jesus himself. We observe, we listen to his prayers and his teachings, and we learn to pray regularly and frequently, as he himself prayed.

Praying, writes Peterson, isn't about following instructions out of a manual. It's more like getting a feel for God, picking up rhythms and inflections. And it's only possible to do this “on the job”: watching Jesus do it, listening to Jesus do it. By doing this, we can discover a new world of companionship with the risen Son of God, Jesus Christ.

Book 2: “Praying with the Psalms: A Year of Daily Prayers and Reflections on the Words of David”, HarperCollins, 1993, small format paperback, 365+ pages, £7.16.

These readings from the Psalms encourage us to pray even when we don't feel like it, and if we find our prayers clumsy and undisciplined. The book can help us to become more fluent in the language of prayer.

This, writes Peterson, is a book to guide and encourage the daily prayer that clarifies and deepens our perception of God's will. It is a book that nurtures the true, the beautiful, and the good so that we will live at our best with and before God.



INCINERATOR DECISION DELAYED

Hampshire County Council's Regulatory Committee will not consider Veolia's application for an incinerator in the rural Wey Valley until mid-September at the earliest. HCC says it is delaying the decision to allow more time to consolidate their report on this hugely controversial and complex application

While we would all like to see a final positive result to our campaign, the No Wey campaign team will use this extra time to continue making preparations. Various developments, including the UN Climate Change Conference in November, will further the debate and prompt questions about whether additional incineration is the right answer.

We are monitoring the situation very closely and will inform our supporters of any further news. For the latest updates, you can follow this mailing list, our website www.noweyincinerator.com, Facebook and Twitter

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT



BENTLEY MEMORIAL HALL 100+CLUB

The winners for the August draw of the Bentley Memorial 100+ Club are below

Contact Steve Fice, Chairman Bentley Memorial Hall 01420 22197
steve.fice@btinternet.com

Congratulations to the Winners

August 2021

1st Prize	Ellen Saunders
2nd Prize	Bentley Garden Club
3rd Prize	Roger Puncher

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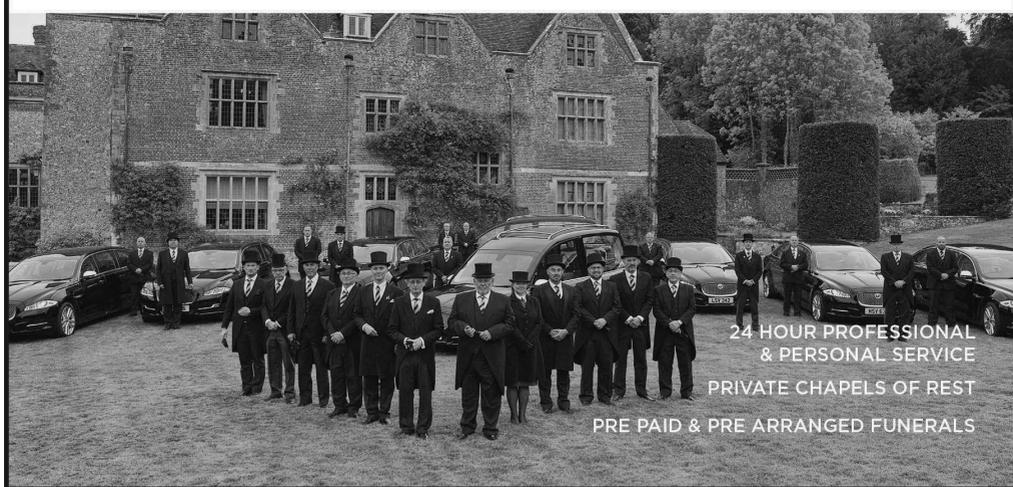
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& DAUGHTER

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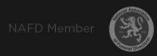


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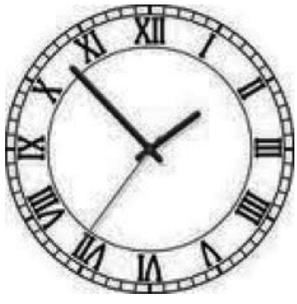


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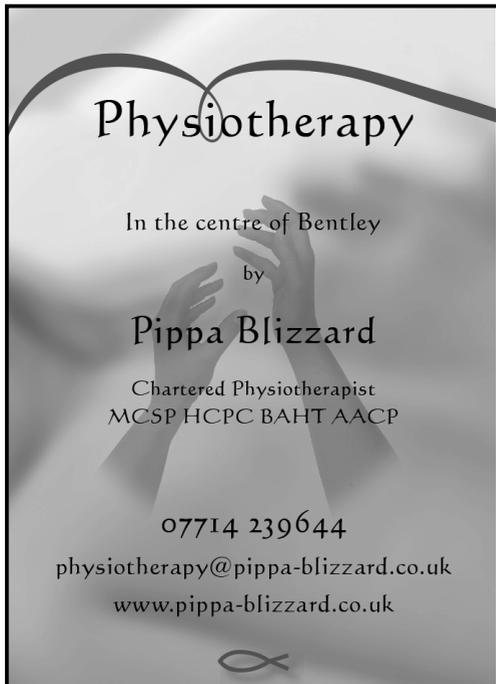
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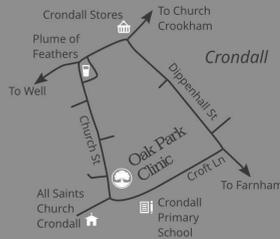


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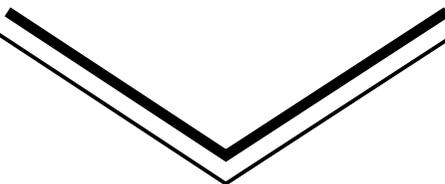
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Website: www.bentleyparishcouncil.co.uk

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Email: steve.fice@btinternet.com

www.bentleymemorialhall.org

Badminton Club: Martin Fox 07710 035913

martin.fox62@yahoo.co.uk

Garden Club Chairman

Andrew Croom-Johnson Tel: 01420 23157

Treasurer Patricia Cardy Tel: 01420 22325

District Council

Ken Carter, Brookfield, Station Road, Bentley GU10 5LA. 01420 22576 Email

kenc@comark-associates.co.uk

Parish Council

Chairman: Mr John Goodyear 01420 22133

johngoodyear@bentleyparishcouncil.co.uk

Vice Chairman: Patric Curwen 01420 520060

Clerk: Emma Wadey

Email: clerk@bentleyparishcouncil.co.uk

Bentley Memorial Hall, Hole Lane,

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Parish Office Hours

Monday to Thursday 9am to 3pm

Bentley School

Headteacher: Katy Pinchess 01420 525010

Email: bentleyschoolptfa@gmail.com

Childcare

Dottie Tots: Karen 07387 576 307

Fête Committee

Chairman: Hugh Chissell, Greystones, Bentley 01420 23117

Flower Show

Chairman: Vanessa Remington 01420 525322

Phoenix Group: Cathy Smith 01420 520169

Bentley Rec Ground

Chair: Stephen Whowell

stephenhowell@bentleyparishcouncil.co.uk

Joint Parish Organisations

Care Group (car service)

Bookings 01420 23440

Secretary: Cathy Smith 01420 520169

Girl Guides (at Holybourne)

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2nd Bentley Scout Group General Enquiries:

admin@2ndbentleyscouts.org.uk 07974377736

www.2ndbentleyscouts.org.uk

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Bookings: Ann Mann 01420 22388

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Treasurer: Andrew Croom Johnson - 23157

County Councillor Mark Kemp Gee - 01420

563550, email - marknkempgee@aol.com

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Ken Carter, Brookfield, Station Road,

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Email ken.carter@easthants.gov.uk,

David Ashcroft, 07966 511 868.

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Parish Council

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07851 677 057

Vice Chair: Ryan France-Moore r.francemoore@binstedparishcouncil.org.uk

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Clerk Lisa Spindler clerk@binstedparishcouncil.org.uk

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Deputy Parish Clerk: Karen Ray 07805 800 373

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Website: Binstedparishcouncil.org.uk

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Binsted School

Headteacher: Sharron Morton 01420 23200

Fête and Flower Show

Matt Arrowsmith

thebinstedfete@gmail.com

Tennis and Croquet Club Chairman:

Chair: Nial Dunne 01420 22922 nial.dunne@sky.com

Secretary - Malcolm Kerry 01420 520400,

malcolmkerry@icloud.com

Website: <http://e-voice.org.uk/btcc/>

Growmore Club Secretary:

Reita Fisher 01483 570996

Bentley and Binsted Police

Police Rural Beat Officer: Jess Hornsby

Alton Police 101

Binsted Cricket Club

Chairman: John Dineen 01420 617814

or mob: 07747878392

Binsted Football Club

Secretary: Tim Winkworth binstedfootball@gmail.com

Friends of Binsted School (FOBS)

@FOBSBinsted 01420 23200 or

fobs.binsted@gmail.com

Chairman: Alice Cowie

September Services



On reflection during Covid and due to many changes going on in our Benefice we are starting a new pattern of services in September. See the separate note in the magazine explaining more about Live@5.

We are continuing to provide online Sunday services at 11am and weekday Thought for the Day videos at 6:30am.

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 5th September | 8am Froyle Holy Communion
9:30am Bentley Morning Worship |
| 12th September | 9:30am Binsted Morning Worship
11am Froyle Holy Communion
5pm Live@5 Big Praise (Bentley) |
| 19th September | 9:30am Bentley Holy Communion
11am Froyle Service of the Word
4pm Messy Church
5pm Live@5 iPad (Bentley) |
| 26th September | 9:30am Binsted Holy Communion
5pm Live@5 YumYum (Bentley)
6:30pm Froyle Evensong |

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