

NOVEMBER 2021

# BENTLEY & BINSTED

PARISH MAGAZINE



# **Vicar of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle: Yann Dubreuil**

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# Vicar's Letter

Dear All

Towards the end of the summer, when the first advertisements for Christmas goods began appearing, there was a collective groan from the team. It was far too early to think about December, but more recently, with supermarkets urging us to book Christmas delivery slots and tempting us to order from their so-called 'festive menu' the team has had to begin thinking about plans within the parish. Not only have we agreed to run the Binsted Advent windows programme for the third consecutive year, but but, Sam and Gemma's online advent calendar will return, and so will carol singing in Froyle.

So with Christmas plans well under way in Benbinfro, there was then some discussion about why seasonal events are so important to us. In the last three months of the year there is such a flurry of traditional activities; Harvest, Halloween and Guy Fawkes, followed by the intensity of the Christmas fairs, carol singing and Nativities leading up to December 25. But other times of the year also have their special days and holidays, such as Shrove Tuesday, then the preparations for the Holy Days of Easter with its own traditions.

Of course, the church calendar is full of significant dates, but then so is everyday normal life. One of the consequences of the restrictions of the last 18 months has been the absence of recurring events,

whether it be on a grand scale like the Chelsea Flower Show or parochial like the flower and produce shows at village fetes around the country.

We missed these occasions not just because it was a chance to socialise or, in the case of village shows, exhibit our prowess as gardeners, but because all these events reassure us that there is a pattern to life and that there is continuity. In times of uncertainty, it is comforting to know that key dates will always be respected whenever possible. For most of us, recent months have been the most challenging we have ever known, but older generations and displaced families can confirm the reassurance that comes from celebrating traditions during and after times of hardship. Aid workers in the refugee and resettlement camps in Germany in December 1945, noted the efforts being made to celebrate Christmas that year, after all the Christmases that had been missed or lacking in provisions.

So this year, whatever is thrown at us, be it cold winter flurries, flu or fuel queues, let's suppress those groans, let us be grateful we are here and let's support every seasonal activity the benefice has to offer. No Bah Humbug in Binsted, Bentley or Froyle, but the resounding sounds of fireworks, crackers and carolling!

*Yann and the team*

**The following announcement was made in Bentley, Binsted and Froyle churches on Sunday 24th October:**

Dear friends,

It is being announced this weekend that I will be leaving BenBinFro at the end of February. My last Sunday as Incumbent of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle will be 27th February 2022. Hannah, Sophie, Toby, Max, Scooby and I will be moving to the Parish of All Saints, Headley where I will become Rector.

I am excited by the prospect of what I will be doing, but I will also be very sad to be leaving this fantastic Benefice. We moved here with three young children aged between 2 and 7 and by the time we leave we will have lived and worshipped here for over 11 happy years – longer than I have lived anywhere. I have stayed so long because I cannot imagine there can be many better Benefices in the Church of England. We have made deep friendships and I have worked with some extraordinarily talented, committed and Godly men and women. You are and will always remain an inspiration to me.

The Diocese will begin working with you in the weeks ahead so the process of finding the next Incumbent of Bentley, Binsted, Froyle and most likely Kingsley and Oakhanger, can begin as soon as possible. I appreciate this may not seem like the best time for a change. However, my next step is one I have been considering for some time and feel it is what I am called to do, and there are various logistical reasons that mean I have to announce my move now.

You may have questions to ask, so please don't be shy in asking them – I will answer them, ideally in person, to the best of my ability.

In the meantime, please keep the Staff team, Churchwardens and PCCs in your prayers as they begin planning for the next season in the life of this wonderful Benefice.

Please keep us all in your prayers, as you will be in mine.

Blessings

*Yann*

# Church Register

## Bentley

5th September 2021 Baptism of Felix Meehan

18th September 2021 Wedding of Katie Cooper and Kieran Whittle

## Binsted

16th September 2021 Burial of Beatrice Pilcher

23rd September 2021 Burial of John Hardman

25th September 2021 Wedding of Siobhan Woodcock and Alex McLaren

## Froyle

12th September 2021 Baptism of Everett Dobson

12th September 2021 Baptism of Oliver Tham

24th September 2021 Wedding of Sophie Walsh and Edward Hall

30th September 2021 Wedding of Annabel Nartay and Mark Osei



# A CAROL A DAY

## ONLINE FAMILY ADVENT CALENDAR



Join Sam and Gemma every day in  
December for some Christmas cheer!



Videos will premiere on YouTube at 6am every morning in December.

YouTube - BenBinFro Churches

# YOUTH UPDATE

October saw the return of Children's Church, the continuation of Youth Alpha, the continued launch of four:twelve and a wonderful combined Messy Church and Live@5 Harvest Festival!



It was a delight to have 10 children join us for Children's Church at the start of October where we learned how God provides for us, not just by giving us food and water, but by protecting us, loving us and being there for us when we need Him. We read Psalm 23 and decorated biscuits to look like sheep!

Youth Alpha is going really well, with 6 young people either doing the course for the first or second time. We start each Sunday evening eating together, and we can't thank Belinda enough for providing our weekly meal – the food is amazing!

Four:twelve has seen just 3 sessions since we launched in September, with each week growing in numbers, joy, and volume! Mini Olympics, Balloon Battles and Baking and Tasting have been winners and the young people

are really enjoying themselves. We've spent time talking about Creation, Abraham and Sarah, and David

It seemed a shame in October to have a clash between Messy Church and a Harvest Live@5 service – so we combined them! The children arrived at 4pm and made some harvest crafts, corn on the cob and tomatoes, we sang songs and learned about God's goodness. At 4:30pm more grown-ups arrived to get their harvest supper and at 5pm we started the service.

The photos show what we got up to – it was a busy October!

Looking ahead, November brings us more Children's Church, more four:twelve sessions and the thing the youth group all look forward to – the Youth Alpha Holy Spirit Weekend! We're planning a weekend of activities including testing our skills in an Escape Room, dispersed with the Youth Alpha videos teaching on the Holy Spirit, New Life and Evil. We've also invited a good friend of mine, John Barlow, to share some of his story on how God and the Holy Spirit has changed his life for the better.



As always in all of this, we cannot run groups without the help of volunteers. If you like the sound of what we get up to then please get in touch, your help will be appreciated by so many.

**Gemma Ball**

*Pastoral Assistant (Youth)  
& Administrator*  
[gemma@benbinfro.co.uk](mailto:gemma@benbinfro.co.uk)

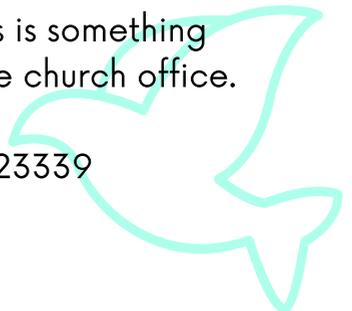
# Confirmation Service

Sunday 13th February 2022 - Live@5 Big Praise

We're very excited to welcome back Bishop David Williams in February to confirm the young people who are currently taking part in the Youth Alpha course.

And this is not just for teenagers, if this is something you'd like to explore, please contact the church office.

[admin@benbinfro.org](mailto:admin@benbinfro.org) / 01420 23339





# Remembrance Sunday

## Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Please join us at Bentley, Binsted or Froyle for an Act of Remembrance and service. The details for each church are below:

### **Bentley**

Outdoor act of remembrance and service at 10:50am by the war memorial at the Bentley Memorial Hall.

### **Binsted**

Outdoor act of remembrance and service at 10:50am by the war memorial outside the church.

*(We ask people bring their own chairs to Binsted please)*

### **Froyle**

Act of remembrance at 10:45am by the memorial, followed by a service in the church.

The outdoor services and acts of remembrance are weather permitting, but there will be an online remembrance service premiering at 10:45am on our YouTube channel.

# BINSTED CHURCH CHRISTMAS CARDS



**After last year's success with Christmas cards sold last year in aid of Holy Cross Church we have produced three completely new cards for Christmas 2021.**

Two of the cards are pictures from our 2020 Real Nativity on YouTube featuring Mary and Joseph on the donkey and the Full Stable. The third card is based on one of the line drawings by Jo Stronach used for our church notelets but now with a Christmas flavour. The wording inside each card reads 'With blessings for Christmas and the New Year'.

The cards are on sale at the back of the church for £5 for a pack of 5 of the same design with all proceeds going to General church funds which support the day-to-day running and maintenance of the church. Alternatively if it's easier for you please contact me on [binstedwarden@benbinfro.co.uk](mailto:binstedwarden@benbinfro.co.uk) (or PM me on Facebook) to arrange a purchase. The cards will also be on sale at our Christmas Fair in December.

*Stella Croom-Johnson*

# Binsted Church Christmas Fair



***Saturday 4th December 2-4pm***

This year the stalls will be spaced out between the Wickham Institute and inside the Church

Please support this Church community event as funds will be going towards the continuing upkeep and vital repairs needed for Holy Cross Church

There will be the regular favourite stalls and more including a book stall and Santa's grotto [organised by FOBS]

Offers of homemade cakes, books, old jewellery, mince pies, nearly new gifts and raffle prizes are needed... and any extra pairs of hands

Please contact [angela1dunne@sky.com](mailto:angela1dunne@sky.com) or 01420 22922

**Christmas wreaths available for pre order by 25th November**

**Small £10 Medium £15 Large £20**

Contact Angela 07799094088 or Sam Barrow 01420 23365

# BINSTED VILLAGE ADVENT CALENDAR

Advent windows are back again this year!



Starting December 1 at Binsted School and ending at Holy Cross Church Binsted on December 24.

WANT TO MAKE AN ADVENT WINDOW?

BOOK YOUR DAY

Contact

Angela1dunne@sky.com or Suemsteph@gmail.com

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

MAKING SURE CHRISTMAS HAPPENS

IN BINSTED

FROYLE CHURCH

# *Advent by Candlelight*

SATURDAY 27TH  
NOVEMBER 6:30PM

This candlelit service of Advent anthems, hymns and readings in Froyle church is a beautifully atmospheric occasion. It was cancelled last year, but is happening again this year!

Do come along, particularly if you enjoy choral music – or just to get a special foretaste of the Christmas season to come.





# We are going to be taking a short break for November, December '21 and January '22

We have found that as we are slowly returning to holding services and activities following the lifting of pandemic restrictions, quite a number of people don't feel able to help in the ways they did at the beginning of 2020.

The Messy Church Team has shrunk and some rethinking needs to take place.

Please do get in touch if you have any comments or thoughts on how we return to providing Messy Church in Binsted

AND / OR

## **Complete our short survey online**

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TMY5PDK>

If you are willing to help us in any way – please do let us know.

We are considering the day of the week and time that we currently meet – would a change make it easy for your children to attend?

Hoping to get Messy Church back up and running asap

**Kathleen Digby**

kathleen.digby@talk21.com

**Nick Carter**

nick.carter1945@outlook.com

**Kathy Ogilvie Thompson**

kathyot1984@gmail.com

07710 623784



# School News - Binsted CE Primary

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

The children have started their year brilliantly at Binsted. The children have been creating fabulous Autumn collages for homework:





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



We are busy preparing for our harvest service at The Holy Cross Church. The whole service will be organised and presented by Silver Birch class and the whole school will be there to present a range of songs and poems on the theme of Harvest of the Hedgerows!

Lowenna from Silver Birch has written this beautiful poem to celebrate the arrival of Autumn:

## Autumn Is Here

Through the cold glass of the window  
I see the whispering wind caressing the  
trees,

I see the crimson leaves swirling,  
twirling, elegantly dancing, drifting down  
to the ground.

I feel the soft sweet tasting square  
of chocolate in my mouth, the taste  
warming my whole body,

I hear the crackle of the fire as its rusty  
scarlet flames rise up devouring the  
crisped newspaper.

Summer has passed and now autumn  
has finally come.

**Mrs Morton, Head Teacher at Binsted CE Primary School is delighted to share some exciting news:**

*Recognition for our amazing  
Chair of Governors*

Sally Hibbert and I attended the Hampshire Education Awards ceremony in Winchester last night and I am delighted to let you know that Sally won the Governance Award, which was presented by the Rev. Richard Coles, in recognition of all her hard work and support for the school over the years. I'm sure that you will join with me in echoing congratulations and that this was richly deserved. **Congratulations Sally.**

# CURTIS MUSEUM & ALLEN GALLERY

(01420 82802)

## OPENING TIMES

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Curtis 10am – 4pm. Allen 10.30 – 3.30pm

[www.hampshireculture.org.uk/curtis-museum](http://www.hampshireculture.org.uk/curtis-museum)

[www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery](http://www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery)

## ALLEN GALLERY OCTOBER EXHIBITIONS

We are fortunate enough to have the exhibition by local artist **Alex Loach** with us until 29th November. (FREE in the Café area.)

**Alton Camera Club** will be exhibiting in the main Exhibition area from 6th November to 5th December. FREE

## TALKS

### Alton's Big Dig (Part 2)

Keith Baker and David Quick fill us in (sorry) on what they and their colleagues discovered at the second Big Dig, in July this year, following on from a very successful first Dig in 2019.

Thursday 11th November 7.30. FREE but donations most welcome.

**Christmas Card Workshop** Wednesday 1st December. Bookable online, please see the website for further details nearer the time.

## CURTIS MUSEUM

**Get Ready for Christmas. Late Night Opening** to tie in with the switch-on of Alton's Christmas Lights. Why not explore the Museum following our special Bauble Trail. Then buy some early Christmas presents and stocking-fillers. 19th November, 5pm -7pm.

# Weekend Welcome Volunteers

## CURTIS MUSEUM & ALLEN GALLERY, ALTON

### **Are you looking to give back to your local community while being part of a supportive team?**

This public-facing opportunity is key to caring for Hampshire's heritage and making it accessible through your Community Museum. As a Weekend Welcome Volunteer you'll provide our visitors with a warm welcome and ensure they have a great experience. You'll also help our Museum Manager with the opening and upkeep of the site.

**Who we are** The Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery are managed by Hampshire Cultural Trust which is an independent charity. The Museum explores the history of Alton and the local area, while the Gallery features the South's finest collection of ceramics, an award winning garden, café and two exhibition spaces.

### **You'll be involved in**

- Welcoming and interacting with the public to ensure all visitors have the best possible experience
- Assisting with retail and café sales, this would include cash handling and record keeping
- Touring the galleries and assisting visitors, while helping to maintain security for the museum
- Assisting staff with the setting up and the maintenance of events, exhibitions and activities
- Supporting the implementation of evacuation procedures and following guidance to help maintain safety and security on site
- Assisting with cleaning, preparation and the presentation of the museum, gallery and garden

**A bit about you** You'll bring strong customer service and communication and interpersonal skills, and use them to interact with visitors with confidence and enthusiasm. You'll enjoy being part of a small team and able and willing to help us maintain a safe environment. If you are familiar with cash handling and sales it would be an advantage, but we can provide training if this is new to you.

**What we can offer you** We will provide appropriate information, coaching, training and ongoing supervision to support you. You'll be part of a friendly and dedicated team with the opportunity to meet new people, learn new skills and pass on your own experience. You will build skills and abilities which, if you wish, will transfer to a career situation. Most importantly, you'll be playing a part in keeping these very special sites open.

**More information and contact** Volunteer slots are available on Saturdays and Sundays with the following approximate timings: 09:45 – 13:30 and 13:30 – 17:00 (Curtis Museum) and 10.15-13:30 and 13:30-16:30 (Allen Gallery). We are very flexible about when you volunteer, with most volunteers on average giving their time once a week. You are welcome to apply for more than one volunteer position. You can specify as to whether you want to volunteer at just the Curtis Museum or Allen Gallery, or both. For more information or if you are interested in applying contact [volunteer@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk)

# Which tree

It's that lovely thing. A society grows great when old men plant trees, the shade of which they know they will never sit in. Good people do things for other people. That's it. The end. *Ricky Gervais*

Of course, you don't have to be an old man to plant trees. In fact everyone should plant and care for at least one long-lived tree during their lifetime. That way we would be planting about 600,000 trees every year. This is well below the government target, so don't feel limited to just one.

If you are going to do your bit, what will your plan be?

- a) Have a place you own, or the owner will allow, where your tree can grow to full size.
- b) Ideally have the intention of staying close to your tree in order to look after it. It will probably outlive you, but the first twenty years are the critical ones.
- c) Choose a species that does well in the soil you have chosen. What is doing well in the neighbourhood?
- d) Choose a species that will give you joy.

Now is make-your-mind-up time. One good strategy is to choose a tree that is doing well enough near you that it is spreading its seeds/nuts/cones on the ground or bearing a crop of berries.

Early November is a good time to collect them. Growing saplings from them is surprisingly easy. The Tree Council has published some useful help at <https://treecouncil.org.uk/take-action/seasonal-campaigns/seed-gathering-season/>. In scouting around for such a tree you also get to see what it will be like when it grows up. Very important information, for you and your neighbours.

Of course, no decision is as straightforward as it seems, and choosing the right tree is no exception. It is unlikely that in a hundred years, when your tree is in its pomp, that it will be surrounded by the same varieties as you see today. In the last hundred years we have witnessed the near-extinction of British elms due to disease. The ongoing plague of dieback is expected to wipe out 90% of all ash. Yet, nurseries now have varieties of elm that are disease resistant, and the official advice is to leave infected ash for

as long as it is safe to do so, only clearing autumn litter away, as this is where the fungus will spend the winter. If it's ash you really want then gather seeds from the healthiest specimen you can find. Who knows, you may be the discoverer of the strain of disease-resistant ash that will be named after you.

Perhaps as important as whether or not your tree will live on through present and future epidemics may be whether it will thrive in our changing climate. Therefore we also need to be improving our biodiversity even if we don't yet know which will be the future winners. But if you want to introduce an exotic tree be aware it is likely to need more 'tlc' than a native species. If you are willing to rise to the challenge at least be sure that your newcomer has a plant passport from a reputable grower.

If it helps, here's what I have chosen (so far):

## Gingko biloba

25 years ago I did not know what I know now. I went against all the advice I have just given, but I was lucky. My gingko is strong, healthy and beautiful.

## Catalpa (indian bean tree)

A little more common round here than gingkoes, and as stunning as horse chestnuts for their bouquets of sweet-scented blossom in high summer. They grow vigorously. Few trees can be as efficient as they are at capturing carbon dioxide from the air.

## Hornbeam

Well when I say I chose it, actually it chose me, about 30 years ago. When a sapling appeared in the front garden I let it grow and now it is as tall as the house. It is my favourite, and every year I find new self-sewn saplings to pass on to friends and family!

# Luminosa Voices Prepare for Energising, 'Glorious' Return



LUMINOSA  
VOICES

NOVEMBER 2021



**T**here is a certain charge and energy in the air each Tuesday evening at The Maltings in Alton since the successful choir, Luminosa, returned to live singing in preparation for their winter concert. Thrilled to be singing together once again after many months of Zoom choir rehearsals, there is unmistakable vitality and spirit in their collective sound.

With much to celebrate, not least an abundance of new members, the two adult choirs, Luminosa Voices and Chamber Voices, are relishing their singing community and the vibrant programme of music which they are eager to share with music-lovers, friends and supporters after their absence from live performance for almost two years.

Antonio Vivaldi's Gloria and John Rutter's Gloria will be the explosive and energetic centre of the programme, celebrating the return of the Choirs in a wall of exhilarating sound. The two pieces performed as companion pieces make for a positive and uplifting experience. Vivaldi's Gloria RV589, celebrated as 'the' Vivaldi Gloria, crackles with excitement and tension and marks a seminal moment in the history of sacred music in early 1700. With the opera genre flourishing, audiences were beginning to expect church music to live up to the dramatic, expressive, theatrical music they heard in the opera house and Vivaldi delivers that and so much more.

Rutter's Gloria is also electrically exuberant but very different, making a powerfully stirring impact. Contrasting intimacy with drama is a hallmark of Rutter's work. His gift for harmonising proclamatory, prayerful and joyful melodies creates moments of reflection and haunts the memory.

A selection of James Macmillan's *Stretchclyde Motets*, to include the electric 'O Radiant Dawn' will be performed by Luminosa Chamber Voices whose clarity and refinement of singing accentuate the moods created by Macmillan and highlight words with dignified and profoundly moving effect. The harmony of ancient and modern is the essence of the selection of motets from his two collections.

The concert will also feature Luminosa's two youth choirs, Young Voices and Rising Voices, performing a range of works based on the theme of Gloria!

Luminosa is delighted to be performing at St Andrew's Church, Farnham on Saturday 27th November at 7.30pm. The choirs have performed there many times and are excited to once again fill the beautiful, spacious and welcoming church with a 'glorious' sound which will bring joy, energy and hope.

Tickets are available on TicketSource  
<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/surrey/st-andrew-s-parish-church/gloria/e-kvgzxy>



## Angel's 18th

Remembrance Fundraising Event on  
**13th November, 2021**

5.30 to 9.00 pm

at  
BENTLEY WAR MEMORIAL HALL  
Main Road  
Bentley, Farnham  
GU10 5NB

## REMEMBRANCE FUNDRAISING EVENT

For Angel's 18th Birthday, we would like to raise money for three charities.

- The charities are: Tejus home , Brain tumour charity and Action and Compassion for Tanzania.

Donate via **PayPal** (Ref. Angel):  
[angeli.hope32@gmail.com](mailto:angeli.hope32@gmail.com)

- 100% of your donations goes to the charities
- We will provide Angel's favourite Sri Lankan and Indian food.
- Dresscode: Smart.

RSVP by October 20th 2021 to

✉ [angeli.hope32@gmail.com](mailto:angeli.hope32@gmail.com)  
☎ 07737 760574

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION!



”  
The key to happiness starts with giving.

THE BENTLEY BONFIRE NIGHT IS  
BACK!

FRIDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

You remember what the fireworks were like, the spectacle, the crowd! See you at Carter's Meadow for more fun - gates open at 6pm.



# BENTLEY GARDEN CLUB



## NOVEMBER MEETING – TALK ON SISSINGHURST GARDENS

It was so heart-warming to have such a good turnout for our first meeting in 18 months in October. It was lovely to meet up again and to welcome so many visitors at the meeting.

Encouraged by the turnout, we will go ahead and hold our November meeting and have already booked the speaker.

The speaker on **Tuesday 2nd November 2021** will be John Negus, who will be giving a talk on the gardens of Sissinghurst.

As usual, the meeting will start at 8pm in the Denis Smith Room at Bentley Memorial Hall, followed by coffee and biscuits.

At this meeting, we will restore the “outdoor flower of the month” competition as well as our raffle.

The committee hope to see as many of you as possible on the 2nd November and once again we are opening the meeting to anyone who might be interested. There will be no entry fee, just a donation of 50p for coffee and biscuits.

From the Committee.



**THE WICKHAM INSTITUTE**

(Binsted Village Hall)



## **BINSTED COFFEE SHOP REOPENED**

**WEDNESDAYS 10am – 12noon**

**(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



# As the winter nights draw in, let's celebrate and protect our star-studded skies

There's nothing quite as amazing as standing outside at night, staring up, and seeing millions of stars spread across the dark expanse of sky. It's a reminder of the enormity of the galaxy and our minuscule position in the universe.

A hundred years ago, no matter where you lived, you'd be able to see millions of stars. Today, huge patches of the globe are lit so powerfully that they're aglow from space. And, for many city dwellers, the full night sky is now completely unknown. During a Los Angeles power cut, emergency services received calls expressing alarm about strange clouds hovering overhead. Which were, of course, the Milky Way.

Our area is fortunate to still enjoy properly dark and star-studded skies. In fact, since 2016, the South Downs National Park has been a designated International Dark Sky Reserve - one of only 16 in the world.

As well as enjoying their amazing beauty, effort is also required to keep these dark skies dark. Badly-directed lighting is a big problem, and one that particularly affects wildlife. For example, brightly-lit roads can effectively become a permanent barrier to bats trying to commute to their feeding areas.

The South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) is using its role as a planning authority to help minimise light pollution. It's introduced policies about lighting

requirements that developers need to meet, and local lighting authorities are gradually replacing the National Park's 2,700 streetlights with models that comply with Dark Sky standards.

It has also published guidance to help householders to choose outdoor lighting that will help protect the dark skies. If you're thinking of installing or replacing outdoor lights, do take a look at SDNPA's simple guide to choosing outdoor lighting, which is now included on our Binsted Parish website ([www.binstedparishcouncil.org.uk/dark-skies-reserve](http://www.binstedparishcouncil.org.uk/dark-skies-reserve)). Additional, more detailed guidance can also be found on the South Downs website, in its publication *Towards-A-Dark-Sky-Standard-V1.1.pdf* ([southdowns.gov.uk](http://southdowns.gov.uk)).

There's lots more information on our website  
- [www.binstedparishcouncil.org.uk](http://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**

**Woodlands. Trees. Hedges. Wildflower meadows. Verges. Pollinators.**

**In the battle against climate change and wildlife decline, we need more of them - lots more!**



## **What can we do locally to make it happen?**

Round here, we're extremely lucky. We have an abundance of marvellous forest, woodlands, farms, hedgerows and gardens. Yet even in this lovely area, wildlife's in decline, and huge numbers of mature trees are lost to development every year. And although people agree on the importance of planting more trees, it isn't always obvious where this new planting can go. Or how to get the councils to adopt more wildlife-friendly verge-cutting approaches.

November is a great time of year to give these issues some thought. It's the start of the bare-root tree planting season. A key time for hedge and wildflower management. And, amidst all the focus on the COP-26 climate talks, it could also be a good time to suggest changes we'd like to see from our various councils.

**Therefore, on 5 November, instead of holding our 'First Friday' coffee morning at the Froyle flower farm, Binsted Eco Network will be meeting at the Binsted Sports Pavilion, to host a special event that's focused on stimulating new planting initiatives in the area.**

Drawing on the green-fingered expertise available from local groups and individuals, we're going to see if we can get some new planting underway and start to join up pollinator corridors. We need to share ideas, knowledge and resources. We'll be looking at the parish map, to identify local opportunities for new tree planting; and at Buglife's 'B-Lines' map ([B-Lines South of England | Buglife](#)),

to see how the best existing wildlife sites for invertebrates can be linked by new wildflower-rich planting. Since a B-line route runs right through Bentley, Blacknest and Dockenfield, there should be scope for some exciting new initiatives.

**We're inviting you to get involved. Do join us on 5 November, at any time between 10:00 and 12:00 (even if you can only spare half an hour.) As usual, the event will be very informal. Everyone is welcome to drop in and share a cuppa and a cake. If you can't join us on 5 November, drop your suggestions into an email, to [binstedeconetwork@gmail.com](mailto:binstedeconetwork@gmail.com).**

**And if you don't already receive our fortnightly newsletter, why not subscribe?** You'll find articles about a wide range of environmental topics, plus information about lots of local events. It's completely free and uncommercial. To subscribe, just send an email to the same email given above.

# **Binsted Fete, Flower & Photography Show 2021 Report and AGM Invite**

**A massive thank you for the hard work from the Fete Team for putting on what turned out to be the busiest Fete I've ever been involved in!**

It was touch and go whether any Fete was going to be possible as the COVID lockdown easing date was pushed back. The team were not going to be beaten easily – we got out our shears and pruned back the fete to its essential components. Whilst we sadly had to postpone the Marquee and events like the bouncy castles and welly wanging. We expanded the Dog Show and continued with the Flower, Produce and Photo competitions.

Those stall holders who were brave enough to sign up were rewarded by the biggest ever footfall for a Binsted Fete. We sold out of Raffle tickets with over an hour of the fete to go. We had over 110 different four legged friends compete across 14 Dog Show categories. The Ice cream seller not only sold her allocated stock – but the stock she'd planned to sell at a wedding that night AND the next day's event! As a result we've already had stall holders and sponsors asking to book their places for 2022 – email [thebinstedfete@gmail.com](mailto:thebinstedfete@gmail.com) if you would like to have a stall, or to discuss sponsorship options.

As the Fete was such an unknown quantity this year, we didn't sell programs or charge for entry. We were without some of our seasoned favourites like the tea & cakes, the bar and bbq. However people's generosity into our donation buckets on their way home really blew us away. Binsted Fete 2021 did manage to cover it's costs and will be able to make some small gestures to local causes – but more than that we are so proud to have been able to put on a day that allowed the village and our neighbours to remember what it was like to have fun together.

If you would like to find out more about the Fete, to see how we raise & allocate funds, or to join the team for 2022, please join us for Drinks & Nibbles in the Wickham (Binsted Village Hall), from 8pm on Thursday the 18th November 2021.

Many thanks

Matt Arrowsmith  
*Fete Chairman*

# SEPTEMBER WEATHER STATISTICS



## Temperature



Daytime maximum 29.3°C (7<sup>th</sup>) to 15.4°C (30<sup>th</sup>)  
no days below 15°C & 22 days above 20°C

Nighttime minimum 1.6°C (30<sup>th</sup>) to 16.1°C (10<sup>th</sup>)  
20 nights below 10°C and 3 nights below 5°C



## Rainfall



Total for month 1.65 inches (41.8 mm) over 9 days

Wettest days 0.82 inches (20.8 mm) (28<sup>th</sup>)



## Wind



Dominant wind direction South West

Maximum gust 20 mph (27<sup>th</sup>)

*Parish Weatherman*



# BENTLEY MEMORIAL HALL 100+ CLUB

## Congratulations to the Winners

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

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

### NOVEMBER 2021

1st Prize Ian & Melissa Salisbury

2nd Prize Christine Goodyear

3rd Prize Carolyn North

# BENTLEY SMALLHOLDINGS AND SHOPS OF LONG AGO *(Part 7)*

The last in our series of the reflections of Walter Sherfield that appeared in the Bentley Parish Magazine between 1981 and 1982 looking at the Drift, Bentley Station and further afield.

“ Now we go back down the village into the Drift to Green Farm. This farm was owned by the Eggar family. I can remember taking tea down there for my father and Mr Barratt after school during hay and harvest time, they were the thatchers for the farm. The farm was later rented to tenant farmers and Mr Randall lived in Clements Cottage with his son-in-law in the early twenties. I became a farmers boy in 1922 after a summer as garden boy at Cedar Cottage. Early milking at 5 am 7 days a week. I joined the Navy in 1924. The farm changed hands a few times until Mr and Mrs R White came and stayed there for many years.

The station has always been known as Bentley Station, although at that time not in the borders of Bentley. The Railway Arms at that time was occupied by Mr and Mrs Pitkin and son Alfred. Mr Pitkin also had two horse cabs at the station before cars came into being. Mr and Mrs Pitkin, on giving up the Railway Arms and horse cabs moved up to the village to Hawkins Farm, now known as South Green Farm, on retirement then moved to the Willows, now known as Pepperstitch, the horses Popit and Jewel went to Baileys Farm for Mr R B Eggar.

Going back to the Station, this became a very important station during the First World War. Many Red Cross trains came to the Station and horse and motor ambulances assembled there to take the wounded to various house hospitals in the area. We always got warning when a Red Cross train was coming in, as we would see the ambulances going towards the Station, off we would run through the fields, a box of matches and a few coppers to buy Wild Woodbine cigarettes at the Station for the injured as they lay on stretchers

on the platform. No matter how injured they were, they always wanted a smoke.

Bentley Mill on the River Wey at Groveland, by the road to Alice Holt Forest. Mr Frederick Turk farmed here for many years up to the 1920-30 period. I do not know for how long the mill was used, but I do not remember it working and the water wheel has gone, however, the other water mills from Holybourne to Willey Mill have been in use in recent years.

One small holding very close to home that I have missed out is Inwoods Farm, now Field House, the home of Mr and Mrs Coulton and family. I do just remember Mr Fisher who farmed it, but lived at Bay Tree Cottage. There were a few acres of grassland and hops. Pitters Field was hops, Babs Field and the other large field by the farm was grassland. Mr Percy Sherfield and Mr

Charlie Sherfield worked there until Mr Fisher passed away and the farm was then taken over by Mr R G Eggar and my uncle worked on at Baileys Farm. The hop drying kilns are still at Inwoods and are of the old type where the fires were kept going by the small passage ways, causing a strong draught and forcing the hot air up through the hops. For some time the top

part of Babs Field where Mr and Mrs Pike live, became allotments. The upper class of boys at school had the first allotment by the footpath. We spent one or two afternoons each week working there and shared the produce as it became available, this was around the 1920 period, but became farmland again soon after, until Bowerlands was built.



## INCINERATOR DECISION AWAITED

Hampshire County Council has confirmed it will not publicise a decision on Veolia's planning bid until the Secretary of State has had an opportunity to consider and respond to the request by the No Wey Incinerator campaign to call-in the application. A Regulatory Committee meeting is scheduled for October 20, but at the time of going to press the agenda was not available.

The No Wey Incinerator action group has asked the Secretary of State to take over the controversial application to build a commercial waste incinerator in the rural Wey Valley near Alton, because of the serious long-term impact its potential approval would have on nationally important issues such as climate change.

The application resulted in over 5,000 objections from local residents and businesses, plus strong objections from three district and borough councils, Alton and Farnham Town Councils, 19 parish councils, two members of parliament, the South Downs National Park Authority, CPRE Hampshire and Historic England.

For news of latest developments, go to [www.noweyincinerator.com](http://www.noweyincinerator.com)

# Thank you from 2<sup>nd</sup> Bentley Scouts



**A massive THANK YOU to everyone that volunteered, donated or bought at the September Jumble Sale!!**

What a day! We were blessed by a gorgeous September day, jumble turned up all morning, there must be lots of tidy houses out there! The army of volunteers needed turned up for action to help sort and put out the jumble and later sell to people who were so glad to be out and about and back to 'Jumbling'. We raised a terrific amount for the group which will go towards the next year's activities and running the group.

As I write we are all back to being able to do our normal Scouting activities and have been spending as much time outside as possible which we have all been loving. By the time you read this we will have been on our first expedition in over 2 years. A group of Scouts are travelling to South Wales for a mountain adventure in the Brecon Beacons. We are also looking ahead to more adventures next year for all the sections.

Exciting news, that you may have seen nationally, is that the Scout Association have launched a new section, Squirrels. Squirrels will be for children aged 4 to 6, beginning a scouting adventure that they can continue into Beavers and beyond. As usual these activities are run by amazing volunteers. We are hoping to open a new Drey in 2022 so watch this space for more information. For more information, please go to [www.scouts.org.uk/squirrels/](http://www.scouts.org.uk/squirrels/)

Our contact details are on the back page should you wish to get in touch. Thanks!

Please contact us if you would like more information about Scouting in Bentley, contact details on the back page.



# 2nd Bentley Scouts Christmas Craft Fair

*Change of date - Monday 22nd November 6.30pm to 9.30pm*

Apologies but we have had to change the date of the Christmas Craft Fair being held by 2nd Bentley Scouts due to unforeseen circumstances to Monday 22nd November.

We have a fabulous range of local crafters who will have some lovely items and gifts available. We will also have a brilliant raffle to raise funds for the Scout Group who are currently raising funds to support the current beavers, cubs, scouts and explorers and also the start up of our new Squirrels Drey next year. This is the brand-new section for children aged 4 to 6.

Entry will be by donation to include a welcome drink. Please come along and invite your friends to support our local group. There are a couple of tables available if you would like a stall. Please contact Aspen on [byaspencrafts@gmail.com](mailto:byaspencrafts@gmail.com)

Thank you, we look forward to seeing you!



# WAYMARKS...

## Maintaining Binsted's Rights of Way network

The volunteers of the Binsted Rights of Way group regularly inspect their allocated footpaths and bridleways, cutting back any overgrown vegetation that may deter walkers, cyclists and horse riders. They use hand and power tools provided by Binsted Parish Council, Hampshire CC and the Binsted Fete Committee. They also identify problems that are too large to address on their own, such as fallen trees, broken stiles or bridges, steps that are deteriorating, or fingerposts that need replacing. In these cases, other members of the group will join a work party to address the problem, and often we rely on the involvement of our Hampshire Community Engagement Ranger, who will provide tools, materials and expertise. Our Ranger also arranges any training that is required, which may be general volunteer training or specific training on the use of power tools.

The COVID pandemic obviously interrupted many of these activities, and this was compounded over the last few months by two other factors. Our group, normally five volunteers, had shrunk to four. Secondly, our long-standing Community Ranger, Adam, got a well-deserved promotion to the Queen Elizabeth Country Park in August.

But there is good news! Firstly, our appeal for additional volunteers has resulted in no less than three new members of the Rights of Way group! We will have our first meetings during October to agree how to organise our responsibilities. Secondly, a new Community Ranger has started recently – we look forward to meeting and working with Lou.

Now we can get on with some of those long-standing projects!

## Walk Alton

The latest copy of Walk Alton's newsletter is an excellent read. It has pieces on using public transport links to create walks that may not otherwise be easily accessible. It has plenty of ideas for walks that are further afield, as well as walking-related recommendations for books and local milkshakes, no less. I heartily recommend that you sign up for it, if you haven't already. All you need to do is request it at <https://tinyurl.com/7kdsdyvf>

Likewise, the Walk Alton website [walkalton.org.uk](http://walkalton.org.uk) is a goldmine of information about walks, walking groups and local history. It has links to some longer, themed walks, such as the Writers' Way from Chawton to Selborne. It is a great source of ideas for a different autumn day out.

## Don't Lose Your Way

Did you know that there are over 1,000 miles of “lost paths” in Hampshire alone? These are paths that many people used historically, but that were missed off when the definitive Rights of Way maps were created in the 1950s and 1960s. They will be lost forever if they are not recorded and reinstated by 2026, which may seem a long way off, but the work involved is painstaking. Fortunately, the Ramblers have already co-ordinated the hard work of documenting many of the missing paths. If you would like to find out more, or even get involved, search online for “Ramblers Don't Lose Your Way” – there is an excellent section of the Ramblers website that includes maps of the work already done, as well as informative video clips.



## Bentley's Neighbourhood Plan

In the last few months there has been little to update the village on in respect of the Neighbourhood Plan but that is about to change. Recently, the EHDC Planning Department signalled that its “Local Plan” should be in place by April 2022 and, therefore, it is now time for the Bentley Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group to resume its work after a period of enforced hibernation.

Just to recap, where and how many new houses are to be built in Bentley, as in all other parishes in East Hampshire, is determined and approved by the District Council, in accordance with the EHDC Local Plan. Following instructions from the UK Government to increase the number of new houses to be built across the UK in 2019 EHDC started to update its Local Plan, which in turn requires Parish Councils to update their Neighbourhood Plans.

With the direction we now have from EHDC the Neighbourhood

Plan Steering Group, along with the Working Group, will now work towards putting together Bentley's Neighbourhood Plan. When this is approved it will sit alongside the EHDC Local Plan and provide direction on the future of our village, which may include direction on the type and number of houses that can be built.

An opportunity to comment on our Neighbourhood Plan will be part of the process and further updates will be provided as the work progresses.

## Network Rail Bentley Station Crossing Closure & Footbridge Proposal



**Bentley**  
PARISH COUNCIL

The second public consultation meeting to discuss Network Rail's plans to build a new footbridge and lift at Bentley Station will take place on:

Tuesday 23rd November 2021 at 7.30pm

*at Bentley Memorial Hall*

[clerk@bentleyparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@bentleyparishcouncil.co.uk)

[www.bentleyparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.bentleyparishcouncil.co.uk)

## Hedgehogs



### **October's the month when hedgehogs start hibernating.**

Keep a lookout for any small hedgehogs: if young ones (hoglets) are underweight they won't survive the winter. Contact [Hart Wildlife Rescue](#), who should be able to take the hoglet and build it up, until it can be safely released next spring. Also be very careful with strimming and bonfires. Bear in mind that hedgehogs think bonfires are great places to sleep, so check bonfire piles carefully before lighting them. Other seasonal checks to make your garden safer for hedgehogs include: ensuring ponds have easy 'exit' ramps; creating a wild corner; and stopping using chemicals. More information can be found on the 'Hedgehog Street' [web pages of the People's Trust for Endangered Species](#).

# Pumpkin soup

By Barney Desmazery – BBC Good Food

**Prep:** 20 mins

**Cook:** 25 mins

**Serves** 6

## Ingredients

- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 2 onions, finely chopped
- 1kg pumpkin or squash (try kabocha), peeled, deseeded and chopped into chunks
- 700ml vegetable stock or chicken stock
- 150ml double cream

## Method

### • STEP 1

Heat 2 tbsp olive oil in a large saucepan, then gently cook 2 finely chopped onions for 5 mins, until soft but not coloured.

### • STEP 2

Add 1kg pumpkin or squash, cut into chunks, to the pan, then carry on cooking for 8-10 mins, stirring occasionally until it starts to soften and turn golden.

### • STEP 3

Pour 700ml vegetable or chicken stock into the pan and season with salt and pepper. Bring to the boil, then simmer for 10 mins until the squash is very soft.

### • STEP 4

Pour 150ml double cream into the pan, bring back to the boil, then purée with a hand blender. For an extra-velvety consistency you can pour the soup through a fine sieve. The soup can now be frozen for up to 2 months.



## For the croutons

- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 4 slices wholemeal seeded bread, crusts removed
- handful pumpkin seeds

### • STEP 5

To make the croutons: cut 4 slices wholemeal seeded bread into small squares.

### • STEP 6

Heat 2 tbsp olive oil in a frying pan, then fry the bread until it starts to become crisp.

### • STEP 7

Add a handful of pumpkin seeds to the pan, then cook for a few mins more until they are toasted. These can be made a day ahead and stored in an airtight container.

### • STEP 8

Reheat the soup if needed, taste for seasoning, then serve scattered with croutons and seeds and drizzled with more olive oil, if you want.

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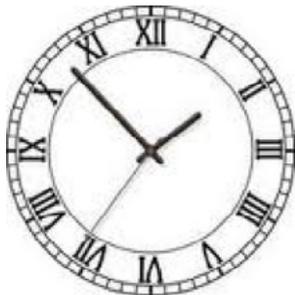


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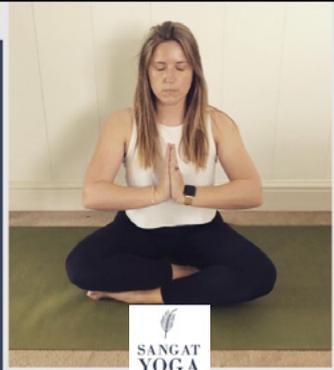


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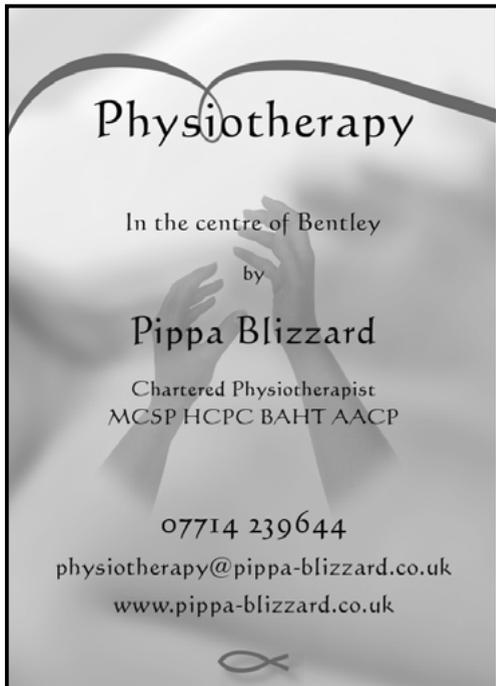
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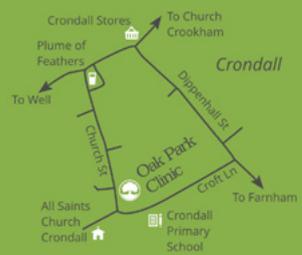


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**Badminton Club:** Martin Fox 07710 035913

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### **Garden Club Chairman**

Andrew Croom-Johnson Tel: 01420 23157

Treasurer Patricia Cardy Tel: 01420 22325

### **District Council**

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### **Parish Council**

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### **Childcare**

Dottie Tots: Karen 07387 576 307

### **Fête Committee**

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**Phoenix Group:** Cathy Smith 01420 520169

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### **Binsted School**

Headteacher: Sharron Morton 01420 23200

### **Fête and Flower Show**

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### **Tennis and Croquet Club Chairman:**

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Chairman: Alice Cowie

# November Services



We are continuing to provide online Sunday services at 9:30am and weekday Thought for the Day videos at 6:30am.

7th November

**8am** Froyle Holy Communion  
**9:30am** Bentley Morning Worship  
With Children's Church  
**5pm** Bentley Live@5 Holy Communion

14th November  
Remembrance  
Sunday

**10:50am** Bentley Remembrance  
**10:50am** Binsted Remembrance  
**10:45am** Froyle Remembrance  
See separate notice for more detail on the  
Remembrance services  
**5pm** Bentley Live@5 Remembrance

21st November

**9:30am** Bentley Holy Communion  
**11am** Froyle Morning Prayer  
**5pm** Bentley Live@5 iPad

27th November

**6:30pm** Froyle Advent by Candlelight

28th November

**9:30am** Binsted Holy Communion  
**5pm** Bentley Live@5 YumYum

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