

SEPTEMBER 2023

Bentley & Binsted

PARISH MAGAZINE

FEATURED IN THIS EDITION

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Vicar of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle: Revd Matt Boyes

matt@benbinfro.co.uk | 07469 270590

C/O Church Office, St Mary's Church, Bentley, Farnham, GU10 5NA

Website: www.benbinfro.co.uk

Assistant Priest – Christopher Ogilvie Thompson Tel: 07776 178690
email: christopherot@me.com

Benefice Administrators – Lucinda Edwards (admin@benbinfro.org) and
Gemma Ball (admin@benbinfro.org)
01420 23339

Honorary Assistant Minister – David Perryman, Treetops, Upper Froyle
Tel. 520647 david.perrypeople@gmail.com

Parishes Prayer Chain – Nick Carter
01420 489122 or nick.carter1945@outlook.com

Pastoral Care Team – Nick Carter
01420 489122 or nick.carter1945@outlook.com

Anna Chaplain – Position vacant
annachaplain@benbinfro.co.uk

Readers – Harold Fish, 6 Bonners Field, Bentley. 22947

Bentley: St Mary's Churchwardens:

Jill Kiely, 11 Broadlands Close, Bentley, GU10 5LE - 22735

Nick Caddick, Tanners, GU10 5NE - 23229

Binsted: Holy Cross Churchwardens

Cathie Weldon, Malms House, GU34 4NU – 01420 525276

Stella Croom-Johnson, 4 Foresters Cottages GU34 4PS – 07740 861256

Youth Leader - Gemma Ball - gemma@benbinfro.co.uk

Worship Leader - Sam Ball - sam@benbinfro.co.uk

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Editor: Benefice Team

Designer: Mike Hammerton

Treasurer: Steve Fice, 01420 22197 steve.fice@btinternet.com

Distribution: Bentley – Harold Fish Tel 22947

Binsted – Alan and Anne Shelley Tel 520960

Benefice Letter

“What is truth?” is the famous question Pontius Pilate asks of Jesus during his trial and before condemning Jesus to death. Jesus doesn’t answer and we’ll come back to why in a bit. Truth is something that seems very slippery in our culture. Prince Harry has become known for speaking what he calls “my truth”. Is truth an opinion dressed up in formal clothes? Or is it something more tangible and real?

Marcus Aurelius, a Roman Emperor after the time of Pilate wrote his “Meditations” which are a description of his view of the world and a brilliant exploration of what we call Stoic philosophy. He writes, “Everything we hear is an opinion, not a fact. Everything we see is a perspective, not the truth.” Perhaps the Duke of Sussex has been reading him, or then again, perhaps not!

Scientific truth is something that explains the phenomena that we see around us. It helps us to progress and make new discoveries and inventions. But all scientific knowledge is partial. It is the best explanation we can give until we have more evidence. For example, the age of the universe was calculated from what we could see of it. The James Webb telescope is able to see further into space than ever before and we have discovered thousands of new galaxies and is forcing us to revise our understanding of the origins and age of the universe.

Is all truth like this? Is it personal opinion, or the best guess until something better comes along? Can we speak of something being the truth at all? Some philosophers conclude we can’t. Yet without truth we are adrift in an ocean of ideas without any way to say even what is real or not. As Bertrand Russell concluded, “Henceforth, we must build our lives on the foundation of unyielding despair”.

Instinctively though, we hold to a desire for truth, and even an experience of it. The sun is warm on my face, I love my children, water is wet. These are truths and we don’t want to let go of them.

Religions also speak of truth. For the Buddha, the search for the ending of suffering led him to the idea that all desire must be overcome. This Dharma, or truth, is part of the core of Buddhist teaching. Does it describe everything we face as humans?

For Muslims, the Qu’ran is the literal truth of Allah revealed to Muhammed. It cannot therefore contain any errors, if they were discovered, it would discredit the whole.

For Christians truth is found somewhere else. The Bible can be relied on as revealing God to creation, but for Christianity, truth is to be found ultimately in a person, in Jesus. We can therefore

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have a relationship with truth, knowing that what we hear and experience can be relied on. That we can ask questions and expect answers. That just as Jesus lived a human life, so we are affirmed and known by God. That as he challenged the religious authorities for placing burdens on people, so he promises true freedom to us. Freedom from fear through his love. Freedom from our mistakes, by his forgiveness and freedom from confusion by putting our trust in him. Jesus said, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life" John 14:6. Not just his truth, but he IS truth and therefore utterly trustworthy and a firm foundation to build life on.

Why didn't Jesus answer Pilate? Because Pilate was looking for a concept, or an idea of truth. Instead Truth was standing in front of him as a flesh and blood person and Pilate couldn't recognise him. Then by dying for us, Jesus even reveals the truth of what happens to us after death, because he rose from the dead in order to draw us all to him. St. Augustine said, "All our hearts are restless until they find their rest in Him". May you know the Truth and may the Truth set you free.

Matt Boyes

Vicar of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle



BINSTED COFFEE SHOP

@ THE WICKHAM INSTITUTE

(Church Street, Binsted GU34 4NX)



WEDNESDAYS 10am – 12noon (during term-time)

**PLEASE COME ALONG AND JOIN US
COFFEE, TEA and HOME-MADE CAKES**

ALL WELCOME

(CHILDRENS' TOYS AVAILABLE)



FREE WI-FI



Youth Update

We have had a fantastic summer with our young people. In July, there were lots of activities to wrap up the summer term including our four:twelve summer BBQ (in the rain!) I also went to numerous leaver's services, assemblies and plays for our year 6s – now year 7s – which was just brilliant. Our year 6s have worked so hard at primary school and really enjoyed their last few weeks of term rehearsing for their plays, Pirates of the Currybean at Binsted and Robin and the Sherwood Hoodies at Bentley. Both were wonderful, I couldn't stop smiling! Well done everyone and good luck in September, we're rooting for you.

So after the busyness of July, August was very quiet except for a few activity days which were very full on. For our younger youth, we have three activity days on the 10th, 11th and 12th August where we had a pool party, made pompoms, climbed trees at GoApe, watched the new Mario movie, played water balloon volleyball, made pizzas and played spud – the three days were packed! We also looked at the story of Nicodemus in the Bible and how very often we read about people who are transformed instantly by Jesus, or at least pretty quickly, but Nicodemus took two or three years to fully realise his faith. And it's refreshing to hear that sometimes it does take time. It's very human to worry about what others might think of us, and it's a nerve-wracking think to stand up for Jesus in front of our peers but in the end, Nicodemus is one of the men who took Jesus down from the cross and buried him in the tomb, openly showing his support for Jesus' ministry and the Christian faith. Nicodemus took a while to choose Jesus, and no matter how long it may take, it's the best choice we can make!

We also spent a day with our older youth, going go karting and eating pizza (pizza seems to be a recurring theme here). It was brilliant to spend time with them, racing and getting a little competitive! After go karting we then had time to chat with Matt our vicar, hearing more of his story and the time Matt spent working in prison. It was a great day.

We had a great summer and we're very much looking forward to the joys a new term will bring. I'll be back in our schools with collective worships, we'll have Messy Church every month from now on (alternating between Binsted and Froyle) and children's church twice a month(!), four:twelve is back on the 22nd September and we can't wait to see what God has in store for us this year.

Have a great September!

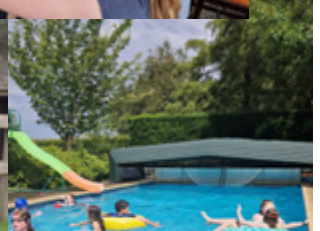
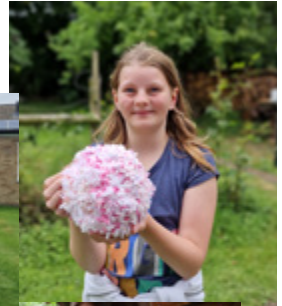
Gemma Ball

Pastoral Assistant (Youth) & Administrator

gemma@benbinfro.co.uk

Youth Update

Activity days



BINSTED PLACE GARDENS OPEN IN AID OF BINSTED CHURCH SPIRE APPEAL

The gardens of Binsted Place will be open on the afternoon of

Sunday 3rd September 2 - 5 pm.

Entry is by donation.

Teas will be served. Dogs on leads welcome.

Parking available on site.

Youth & Children

at Ben Bin Fro



WHAT'S ON IN SEPTEMBER?

Contact Gemma for
more details:

gemma@benbinfro.co.uk

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1 September	2 10am Youth and Children's Team Training (all leaders and helpers + others interested)	3 6:30pm Bentley Praise Service (youth+adults)
4	5	6	7 12:30pm Binsted lunchtime club with Gemma (in school)	8 12:30pm Bentley lunchtime club with Gemma (in school)	9	10 9:30am Bentley Morning Worship & Children's Church (all ages) 6:30pm Kingsley Praise Service (youth+adults)
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 4pm Binsted Messy Church (families)
18	19	20	21 12:30pm Binsted lunchtime club with Gemma (in school)	22 12:30pm Bentley lunchtime club with Gemma (in school) 5pm four:twelve Youth Group (year 5-7)	23	24 9:30am Bentley Holy Communion & Children's Church (all ages) 6:30pm Upgear (Year 8+)
25	26	27	28 12:30pm Binsted lunchtime club with Gemma (in school)	29 12:30pm Bentley lunchtime club with Gemma (in school)	30	1 October

Church Registers

Bentley

Friday 2nd June 2023	Cremation of Joy Mary McMullen
Sunday 4th June 2023	Baptism of Carmen Roberts
Saturday 10th June 2023	Wedding of James and Clare
Monday 26th June 2023	Thanksgiving Service for Lily O'Connor
Sunday 2nd July 2023	Baptism of Charles Bruce
Sunday 2nd July 2023	Baptism of Barnaby Oliphant
Saturday 8th July 2023	Wedding of Michaela and Jacob
Saturday 15th July 2023	Wedding of Stephanie and Geoffrey
Saturday 22nd July 2023	Wedding of Victoria and Samuel

Binsted

Thursday 15th June 2023	Thanksgiving Service for Trevor Blaber
Thursday 21st June 2023	Funeral of Eric Crumplin
Monday 3rd July 2023	Interment of Ashes of Anthony Boswood
Friday 7th July 2023	Wedding of Tegan and Shane

Froyle

Friday 2nd June 2023	Wedding of Clarissa and William
Tuesday 4th July 2023	Funeral and burial of Ronald Figgins
Saturday 22nd July 2023	Wedding Blessing of Emma and Andrew

Kingsley

Sunday 23rd July 2023	Baptism of Oliver Stenlake
-----------------------	----------------------------

You are invited to...

four: twelve

YOUTH CLUB / SCHOOL YEARS 5-7

**WHEN? FRIDAY EVENINGS -
5-6:30PM.**
(next 22nd Sept)

**WHERE? BENTLEY PRIMARY
SCHOOL SPORTS
HALL.**

**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.”

gemma@benbinfro.co.uk



School News - Binsted CE Primary

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

It has been a fantastic end to the term in Year 6 at Binsted Primary School. The children have visited Winchester Cathedral, had a brilliant Activity Week and produced a jaw-dropping Summer Performance as Pirates! The school has also celebrated its 150th Birthday in style with a visit from Bishop David- who explored the many Victorian artefacts in the school and on loan from Hampshire History Centre.

There were also Geography field trips to Stubbs Farm, Cricket victory in the Alton School Cricket tournament, Molly winning the Best Photograph in show at the Binsted fete and too many other fabulous events to mention. This year Silver Birch have been absolute superstars and there have been so many brilliant experiences to reflect on. Please visit our website to see pictures of these brilliant events and many more.

Our Amazing Girl's Cricket Team which won the Alton Schools Cricket Tournament:



At Binsted we cannot wait for another amazing year next year packed with performances, Sport, Learning and great experiences!

Sudoku July/August Answers

Sudoku EASY

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

Sudoku MEDIUM

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

Sudoku HARD

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



Come along to Messy Church!

Messy Church values itself on being Christ-centred, for all ages, based on creativity, hospitality and celebration.

Sunday 17th September at Binsted, 4pm

3rd Sundays at 4pm

Swapping each month between Binsted and Froyle

Binsted - Wickham Institute, GU34 4NX

Froyle - Froyle Village Hall, GU34 4LG

(Keep an eye on our website and parish magazines to check the venue)



We have brilliant crafts and activities to get stuck into - you may get messy! Learn Bible stories and how they relate to us today, sing songs and spend time together as a family.

A hot supper will be provided to save you the trouble - yum!

Email: Nick Carter - nick.carter1945@outlook.com

Binsted's Harvest Festival

*Service to celebrate Harvest Time and our Farming Community, will be held at
Holy Cross Church, Binsted
on Sunday 24th September 2023
at 11:00 a.m.*



Binsted Churchyard

We are looking for someone to oversee the care of our beautiful churchyard in Binsted.



It is a greatly appreciated and popular space in the heart of the village, containing both the new and old graveyards and Garden of Remembrance. A public footpath runs through the churchyard from the lane into the fields beyond. So, we have many visitors to the churchyard as well as dog walkers and ramblers.

It is cared for by a contractor for regular grass mowing and strimming, but also by the church community who hold Spring and Autumn working parties.

Would you consider the role of Overseer, to co-ordinate the care of this important and much loved space that is such an important feature of our village?

Please contact one of the churchwardens for details on:

binstedwarden@benbinfro.co.uk or
churchwardenbinsted@benbinfro.co.uk

Service Pattern Change

As of September, the schedule of services in our churches is slightly changing. We have included our new pattern so that you know where and when services are happening each month. We have kept our most popular services so hopefully there won't be any disappointment.

In making the changes, we wanted to increase the number of services with elements aimed at children and young families. We are delighted to announce that we are looking to extend our very successful Messy Church service by running one every 2 months in Froyle, alternate to the existing one in Binsted. We also are doubling our Children's Church provision at Bentley, so we now have 2 services where children can go to age-appropriate groups.

Another development will be occurring when we have 5 Sundays in the month. On these occasions we all come together in one of the churches of the Benefice, but from now, we will have some interesting and thought-provoking speakers and there is an open invitation to you to come and try. For the first of these on 29th October in Binsted, we have invited Major General Tim Cross to come and talk on "Morally Courageous Leadership". He will be drawing on his career in the army and especially the humanitarian work he did in Bosnia working alongside UNHCR.

It is important for us to continue to offer a range of services in terms of style and content so that there is something for everyone. Our aim is to be excellent in all we do and are very willing to listen to suggestions and new ideas as we seek to serve our villages and communities.

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
8am		Binsted Holy Communion			
9.30am	Binsted Holy Communion	Bentley Morning Worship & Children's Church	Froyle Morning Worship	Bentley Holy Communion & Children's Church	
11am	Oakhanger Holy Communion	Froyle Holy Communion	Kingsley Holy Communion	Binsted Morning Worship	Benefice Service
4pm			Messy Church (Binsted & Froyle)		
6.30pm	Bentley Praise	Kingsley Praise		Froyle Evensong	

Monthly Service Pattern

We've got a new service pattern - beginning September 2023



Ride & Stride 2023

Every year Hampshire and The Islands Historic Churches Trust holds a 'Ride & Stride' Event to raise funds for the maintenance of churches in this area and this year's event will take place on Saturday 9th September.

Please join in if you can – it's great fun and you don't have to cycle or walk: you can Ride (or drive) in a car and Stride up the church path. If that doesn't appeal any form of transport (bus, motorbike, horse etc) is perfectly acceptable!

The important thing is to get your friends and family to sponsor you. Half of the money raised goes to Hampshire and The Islands Historic Churches Trust and is then given out in grants. The other half is kept by your nominated church to help maintain its fabric.

Once again I will be Riding and Striding for Holy Cross Church Binsted, this year for the Spire Appeal, so if you're unable to participate on the day but would like to sponsor me please contact me on binstedwarden@benbinfro.co.uk.

If you feel like getting sponsored and doing a 'church crawl' either on your own or with a group of friends then please contact me for more information and a sponsorship form.

Stella Croom-Johnson

RIDE + STRIDE
for the heritage of churches

SATURDAY 9th SEPT 2023

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

- 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.

join us

Sponsor forms and more information are available from:
Stella Croom-Johnson
E: binstedwarden@benbinfro.co.uk
T: 07740 861256

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

www.hihct.org.uk

HAMPSHIRE & THE ISLANDS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST
Registered Charity No. 1156410

WE'RE HIRING!

Grounds Manager & Treasurer



Holybourne Cricket Club

If you're passionate about cricket and would like to be our Grounds Manager or Treasurer, email Chair, Jane Taylor, holybournecc@holybournecc.com



SCAN TO BECOME A MEMBER

HOLYBOURNECC.COM

NEW YOUTH SPONSOR



DUMMER DOWN

BBQ | BAR | EVENTS

"Tales of the Unexpected"

at Holy Cross Church, Binsted
on Saturday 16th September 2023
4:30 – 6:30pm

Come and discover more about the heritage and history of our village church. Hear some fascinating facts about the building, discovered during past few years!



Come at 4:30 p.m. Grab a glass of 'something' and a nibble and hear a brief introduction before exploring the church. Enjoy the challenge of a photo quiz! Helpers will be around to answer any questions and share some of the tales.

Look forward to seeing you there.

Donations gratefully received for the Spire Appeal.

TICKETS ON SALE FOR
SUDDEN DEATH AT BENTLEY TOWERS
13 & 14 OCTOBER 23
BENTLEY MEMORIAL HALL

BAD CO.
BENTLEY AMATEUR DRAMATICS

Treading the Boards this Autumn: Bentley Amateur Dramatics (BAD) Company

Rehearsals are in full swing for Bentley Amateur Dramatics (BAD) Company's production of **Sudden Death at Bentley Towers**. Ahead of two performances on the 13th and 14th of October at Bentley Memorial Hall, the company have been immersing itself in the 1950s and the golden age of radio drama.

Treading the boards in this murder mystery play are some familiar faces and names. Sophie Chalk, Antonia Demetriadi, Catherine Gatenby, Katherine Murphy and Emma White make up the female cast, while Luke Correa, Dick Davies, Julian Eckersley, Mike Ewin, Jim Goebel, Jim Munro and Robin Welland-Jones form the male. Maybe not famous actors yet, but certainly household names in the Bentley area!

So who is practising their very best death throes? And who is the murderer? You'll need a ticket to find out where you'll also get a chance to play the detective, interrogate the suspects and decide who is the guilty party.

Tickets for Sudden Death at Bentley Towers are now available online priced at £7 each: <https://bit.ly/43G6BUA>

Alternatively, you can buy tickets on the door at £10 per ticket. There will also be a bar, raffle and a prize for one lucky audience member who successfully works out who the murderer is!

For further information please contact Antonia Demetriadi at antonia.edits@btinternet.com



Jumble Sale



2nd Bentley Scout Group
Saturday 16th September 2023

Scout Hut,
School Lane,
Bentley
GU10 5JP

Doors open at 2:00pm
Entrance Fee 50p

Patrons are requested to take any contributions
to the Scout Hut by 12:00 noon on the day

Large item pick-ups available evening before
or between 8 am and 10 am on the day:
Please call Bob on 07769 906745

(Unfortunately, we are no longer able to
accept beds, TVs, 3-piece suites or cookers)

White Elephant, Bric-a-Brac, Electrical, Furniture, Books, Toys,
Garden/Workshop items and jumble stalls proposed.

Please help support your local Scouts
and make this another bumper sale!

We would love anyone that would like to help us to get in touch - Melissa 07974377736



One of Hampshire's most successful fairs, The Dummer Fair, opens its doors again this October.

Join us at Dummer Cricket Ground, on Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th October with the event set to feature over 85 stalls ranging from crafts and food to clothing and gifts. This year sees the return of our popular café on Thursday lunchtime and there is also a delicious real coffee pop up van.

There is ample parking on site - RG25 2AR.

There will be plenty of items to tempt you as early Christmas gifts, birthday/special occasion presents or just to treat yourself and your loved ones! All proceeds go to Treloar's, a local highly specialist school and college supporting young people with physical disabilities.

Tickets are due to go on sale early August.

For more information, please contact – The Treloar's Events Team: events@treloar.org.uk or see the website: www.dummerfair.org.uk



BINSTED VILLAGE
AUTUMN / HARVEST SUPPER
SATURDAY OCT 21ST 2023
@ 7.30 PM

Join us for a homemade cottage pie with crumble dessert supper at the Wickham Institute.

Vegetarian main and gluten free dessert options will be available.

Tickets cost £20 per person

To book your tickets, please telephone 01420 23157, email treasurer@wickhaminstitute.co.uk or call in at the Wickham Institute Wednesday morning Coffee Shop.

Net proceeds will be split between the Wickham Institute and Binsted Church Spire/Tower appeal.

Please bring your own drink and there will be some fun fundraising games on the night, so please remember to bring some cash with you.

We look forward to seeing you.

BENTLEY MEMORIAL HALL CENTENARY CELEBRATION

1923 - 2023

Friday 22nd September 2023

7.30pm for 8.00pm

Brigid Fice will give a talk about the history of the Memorial Hall & other Bentley events to mark this special occasion.

Please come along and learn more about your village whilst enjoying wine and nibbles.



*James & Trustees:
Thomas. Eggar.
R. D. Eggar. Chair.
G. Harrap. Hon Treas.
W. Richards Hon Sec.
Myn Sir Robt. Baden-Powell
G.C.O. K.C.B.
H. Sanderson.
T. H. Eggar. O.B.E.
J. Graham Eggar. M.C.
The Rector of Bentley.
Henry Lillycolite*

Those attending the opening of the main hall in 1952.

Recognise anyone?

Sudoku Games

Sudoku game EASY

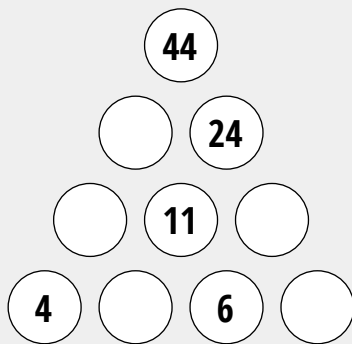
5								1
		1	4	7				
8		9			2	6		7
			9		7	8		
	9							2
		8	5		4			
1		7	6			2		8
				4	5	1		
6								5

All you need to do is to fill in all of the squares in the puzzle so that each column of 9, each row of 9 and each 3 x 3 square includes every number from 1–9.

No prizes – just a huge amount of satisfaction!

Number Pyramid

Complete the empty circles.



Sudoku game MEDIUM

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

Sudoku game HARD

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



WAYMARKS...

Maintaining Binsted's Rights of Way

The warm weather in June, followed by the cooler, wetter weather in July has meant that vegetation has grown at quite a rate this summer, leading to some parts of the Rights of Way network becoming rather overgrown. The Binsted volunteers have been out regularly, cutting back vegetation to make the paths more accessible. In some cases, the scale of the problem requires a work party to address it properly – many hands make light work – and we are in the process of organising

those. We hope you have noticed the difference, since some of these issues were reported directly to us using the contact details at the foot of this piece, which we always welcome.

Wyck Lane is an “Other route with public access” with a serious mud problem – it does not fall under the jurisdiction of HCC Countryside Services, who are the contact point for this volunteer team, but that did not stop us reporting it, with photographic evidence, on the HCC website. Sadly, this approach has resulted in absolutely

no return communication. Our next step is to escalate this to the HCC team directly responsible for this route – which is not easy to identify. Wish us luck!

In the June issue of this magazine, I mentioned the major project to resurface parts of Bridleway 62 between its eastern end in Frith End and the end of the Straits Inclosure. Following a volunteer work party to successfully install tree guards on some particularly vulnerable oaks, the contractors were able to start the resurfacing work on time. The project was completed towards the end of June and the Bridleway has been open since then. It is a complete revelation – a route that used to be rutted and muddy, even in summer, and sometimes impassable in winter, is now a smooth, firm path suitable for all bridleway users, covering a distance of over 2.2km from Frith End to The Straits. As if to prove the point, I was walking back along 62 after an afternoon trimming vegetation up near Wheatley, when I encountered my neighbours heading the other way in the evening sun, adults walking the dog and the children on their bikes – certainly not something that would have happened last summer! This is an important east – west route, linking the

two halves of the parish. It is so nice to have it back!

The Binsted volunteers are regularly inspecting the parish's paths, but if you would like to report a problem on any of the Binsted Rights of Way, whether it is a fallen tree, a broken stile, a collapsed fingerpost or simply some overgrown vegetation, you can do so online on the Hampshire "Report a problem on a right of way" page – this requires you to create an account and log in to the site first. Alternatively, you can use the volunteer team's own email address to do so – it is BinstedRoW@gmail.com. One final way of reporting a Rights of Way problem is to do so on the Binsted Community Facebook group. The volunteer team will try to identify problems reported there and deal with them promptly if we can – in all cases, please give as much location information as possible.



CURTIS MUSEUM & ALLEN GALLERY

(01420 82802)

OPENING TIMES

Tuesday to Sunday

Curtis 10am – 4.30pm. Allen 10.30 – 4pm

www.hampshireculture.org.uk/curtis-museum

www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery

ALLEN GALLERY EVENTS

All Fired Up

The exhibition detailing the rediscovery of the Allen Gallery with help from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, continues until 12th September. FREE

'China's Influence on English Ceramics'.

A talk by Professor Nigel Wood presenting

a fascinating insight into how Chinese export wares helped to drive the development of ceramics. Local potters' responses to Chinese export wares have helped to drive the development of Eurasian, East Asian and South East Asian ceramics since the ninth century CE, with a common pattern of importation and imitation, closely followed by innovation. English ceramics are no exception to this principle. They show a particularly rich response to imported Chinese wares in areas as various as design, material, technology and organisation of production. The Allen Gallery's collection illustrates this story well, with its important holdings of Staffordshire red stoneware, tin glazed earthenware, white porcelain and twentieth century studio ceramics of the 'Leach School' -- all of which draw on Chinese originals for their particular characters. Wednesday 6th September, 7pm - £6 bookable in advance from the Website.



Staffordshire red stoneware teapot

Alton's 20th Century Market

A talk by Jane Hurst on the changes to the Market brought about by wars, foot-and-mouth disease and the replacement of large animals by small; the "dead stock" auctions; the families whose records and photographs form an invaluable guide to the Market's history.

Thursday 14th September at 7.30.

FREE - sponsored by The Friends of the Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery.

Allen Gallery Cinema

On Saturday 23rd September we will be showing **Love and Friendship** (PG), a witty adaptation of Jane Austen's novella *Lady Susan*. There will be a short introductory talk at 7pm followed by the film. The café and garden will be open for drinks from 6.30pm. Tickets £9.50 standard; £6.00 concessions, available online or from the Gallery.

Family Drop-in Craft sessions

Wednesday and Saturday mornings, starting in mid-September. £5 per child.

Please visit the website for details.

www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery

CURTIS MUSEUM

There is a small exhibition about the (old) Alton Sports Centre Health and Fun Club. It was formed in 1979, and offered a wide range of activities to anyone from the surrounding area who was over 50. The then manager of the Centre, Bob Tedder, was instrumental in the early days. The club featured as a role model for the National Sports Council's 50-plus campaign, and inspired other sports centres to set up similar schemes. The exhibition is on the first floor of the Museum.

Museum Trail

We regularly have a free trail for children to follow while exploring the Museum - this Autumn's is called Match the tree to the leaf. Unscramble the letters on the clues to find which leaf matches which tree, and discover some fascinating facts.



BENTLEY GARDEN CLUB



Tuesday September 5th - as usual in the Denis Smith room at the Bentley Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm when Ray Broughton will be giving a talk on Growing herbs.

Ray is a very experienced plantsman, Wisley trained and having spent many years as head of horticulture at Sparsholt, he now is now Chief Examiner at Wisley Botanic Gardens. Don't miss this!

Visitors are welcome at a charge of £2.

Note for your diary:

Tuesday October 3rd - as usual in the Denis Smith room at the Bentley Memorial Hall at 7.30 pm. Our speaker will be Pauleen Weeks who will give a talk entitled "You, your garden and climate change".



The book tree

In these long, hot spells we are having to get used to, shade is so important. The UNESCO standard is that 30% of our environment should be shaded. Beech woodland is shady and characterised by a dense carpet of fallen leaves and mast husks which prevent most woodland plants from growing. Only specialist shade-tolerant plants can survive beneath a beech canopy. Oh, and overheated humans and their panting dogs.

Beech trees are big. The tallest native tree in the UK is a beech that stands at 45m (2018) at the bottom of Hagg Wood, along the River Derwent in Derbyshire. Round here you

get the impression that they are one of the commonest species, but, actually, common beech is only considered truly native to south-east England and south-east Wales.

They grow in woods or as single trees, usually on drier, free-draining soils, such as chalk, limestone and light loams. They often hold on to their leaves throughout winter, a trait known as marcescence. This makes them popular as hedging, especially as marcescence is encouraged by trimming. It's certainly a word worth committing to memory if you want to impress your friends.

Young leaves are lime green with silky hairs. As they mature they become darker and hairless. Unless, of course, it's a copper beech. Also known as purple beech, this is a cultivated form of the same species. Apparently some people don't like the purple colour, but I can't think why. The colour puts the tree's metabolism under stress, as purple leaves are less efficient at photosynthesis. If you walk under a copper beech you will see that the shaded leaves have reverted to green in order to improve their take up of the limited light.

Based on the appearance of the leaves only, they are easily confused with hornbeam (another tree prone to marcescence) but the two are told apart readily by their fruits. Female beech flowers grow in pairs, surrounded by a cup. The cup becomes woody once pollinated, and encloses one or two beech nuts (known as beechmast). Meanwhile, female hornbeam catkins develop into festoons of papery, green winged fruits, known as samaras.

The scientific name is *Fagus sylvatica*. In Celtic mythology, Fagus was the god of beech trees. Beech is associated with femininity and is often considered the queen of British trees, where oak is the king.

The tree was thought to have medicinal properties and its leaves were boiled to make a poultice which was used to relieve swellings. Forked beech twigs are also traditionally used for divining.

For me, though, it's the book tree. Some scholars believe that the name beech is derived from the Saxon *boc*, which also gives us 'book'. Tablets of beech bark were used for early writing. Carving initials into trees goes back thousands of years. The Romans had a saying *Crescunt illae crescant amores*, meaning 'as these letters grow, so may our love'. The smooth bark of the beech particularly lends itself to such starry-eyed vandalism. In the 1880's Joseph Tubb from Dorchester carved an entire poem of his on the trunk of what has since been named the Poem Tree at Wittenham Clumps in Oxfordshire. It was inspired by his love of the local landscape and its history, and it goes like this:

*...Around this hill the ruthless Danes
intrenched
And these fair plains with gory slaughter
drench'd
While at our very feet where stands that
stately tower
In days gone by up rose the Roman power..*
(It probably looks better on the original bark!)

Ben Hamlin
Tree Warden
binstedtrees@gmail.com

Bentley CE Primary

We have been really busy at Bentley CE Primary school during the summer term and have achieved lots of things that we are really proud of.

Our nature reserve is really taking shape in the woods. Nature Reserve Club (led by our French teacher Madame Jones) have worked very hard on this over the summer term and the area is well on the way to being established. The children made a dead hedge to create the reserve's boundary and have created areas such as Buginham Palace, Pollen HQ and Hedgehog Hideout to encourage a diverse range of species. It is a lovely, calming space to be and the children have already spotted a family of five squirrels in a drey in one of the trees as well as lots of different caterpillars and minibeasts! Naturalists from local wildlife groups including Froyle Wildlife and Alton Natural History Society visited the club to inspire the children and help them create the reserve too.

After working on the Eco-Schools Award during the year, we are very proud to announce that we have been awarded the Eco-Schools Award, passing with a merit. The report was very thorough and looked at a lot of evidence. The final few sentences of the report sum up all the hard work that has gone into achieving this award:

"I hope you and your Eco-Committee take great pride in your achievements, when listed it's surprising how many there are – however, the improvements to your school environment with the litter reducing and biodiversity initiatives and, most of all, your really superb community work (we loved those) all nicely stand out!"





At the time of writing this, we only have a few weeks left at school before the summer break but we still have lots of things planned between now and then and we are all really looking forward to welcoming our new Headteacher, Mrs Vicky Hallett, in September.

If you would like to know more about our school or would like to visit our nature reserve, then please do get in touch. We always welcome visitors and the children are keen to show how proud they are of their school. We also still have a few places left for September's new Year R intake as well as some places in various year groups across the school. If you are looking for a school place for your child, or know someone who is, why not come and visit us? We would love to meet you!

Mrs Becky Miffing
Acting Headteacher

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laugh,
live

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ALTON u3a's AUTUMN EVENTS WHICH ARE OPEN TO ALL

Our new 2023/24 programme kicks off in September with x55 different groups and activities; but if you're not sure about joining us yet, why not come along to one of our Coffee Mornings or Afternoon Talk & Teas? We meet in the charming Allen Gallery from 11am on the second Friday of each month, so that will be Friday 13th October, Friday 10th November, and Friday 8th December.

And the programme for Talk & Teas, which starts at 2.30pm in the Alton Community Centre is:

- Friday 15th September "History of Winchester Pt 2" by Andrew Negus
- Friday 20th October "The Role of the Town Crier" by Jonathan Jones
- Friday 17th November "The Butler's Christmas" by Dr Bob France.

There is no need to book, just turn up on the day, and tell us if you'd like a copy of the programme as well – we look forward to meeting you!

The Scaffolding is Coming Down!



At the time of writing, the scaffolding is coming down! It has been quite a journey with a number of problems being encountered during the work, including finding that the condition of the apex of the spire and the weathervane constituted a Health and Safety issue. The additional repair work could not therefore be postponed.

With all the extra work, the original quoted costs have inevitably increased, the scaffolding on the tower alone has been costing nearly £4,000 per month as it had to be specifically designed because the church is Grade 1 listed. In order to complete the works, we have had to use all our available funds and have also had to take out a loan.

We have already had donations to the Spire appeal that was launched at the beginning of the year amounting to just over £17,000 (as at end July) and Binsted PCC would like to extend their gratitude to everyone who has generously donated so far.

We need however to raise a further £40,000. We are therefore having to renew our appeal for donations.

If you would like to donate:

- please use the QR code below,
- or you can contact the Treasurer, Andrew, on binstedtreasurer@benbinfro.org who will be able to give you information on ways to donate without using the QR code,

- or please follow the following link:
<https://givealittle.co/campaigns/96d1ee85-9f66-4b76-94b9-b299f4c1eab4>

For more information, please contact one of the Churchwardens, Stella on binstedwarden@benbinfro.co.uk or Cathie on churchwardenbinsted@benbinfro.co.uk

It would be wonderful if you felt able to make even a small donation as every little counts:



£40,000 = 1000 donations of £40
OR 400 donations of £100
OR 160 donations of £250

THANK YOU



Bentley Flower Show 15 July 2023



www.bentleyflowershow.weebly.com

Thank you to everyone who took part in Bentley Flower Show. We had more than 300 entries from over 100 exhibitors. Well done to all of you, and particularly to this year's prizewinners:

Lady Baden Powell Cup	Best Overall in Show	Mascha Tyrrell
Mr and Mrs Powell Cup	Flowers	Mascha Tyrrell
Sir William and Lady Pike Cup	Flower Arrangement	Melanie Wedlock
Henry Thomson Cup	Fruit and Vegetables	Sue Chissell
Mrs Coke Cup	Produce	Dominique Lucas
Dick Holmes Cup	Bowl of Roses	Mascha Tyrrell
Sherfield Cup	The People's Prize for Best in Show	Lesley Bower
Mrs J. C. Holcroft Cottager Cup	Best Allotment	Michael and Debbie Newstead
Jack Bowyer Award	Allotment Runner Up	Peter Scott
Frank Joy Cup	Best Cake in Show	Charlotte Thompson
Bentley WI Cup	Best Entry in Yr R	Heidi Thompson
Paul Barron Cup	Best Entry in Yr 1, 2 & 3	Alexandra Edwards
Mrs Tompson Cup	Best Entry in Yr 4, 5 & 6	Willow Bingeman, Georgia Smith and Flora-Rose Wilson

Thank you to Bentley Stores, The Star and Jenkyn Place for kindly donating prizes and to our generous sponsors, the Saturday Café and Carl Willson of Castle Street Flowers.

WEATHER STATISTICS



06

**June
2023**

07

**July
2023**

Temperature



Daytime maximum

32.1°C (10th) to 19.1°C (30th)
15 days above 25°C,
and 1 day below 20°C

Daytime maximum

29.8°C (7th) to 18.1°C (22nd & 24th)
Only 1 day above 25°C,
and 3 days below 20°C



Nighttime minimum

13.1°C (4th) to 14.7°C (12th)
11 nights below 10°C,
and only 1 night below 5°C

Nighttime minimum

4.9°C (4th) to 18.7°C (31st)
16 nights below 10°C,
and 1 night below 5°C

Rainfall



Total for month

1.30 inches (33.0 mm)
over 6 days

Total for month

2.49 inches (63.2 mm)
over 22 days



Wettest days

0.90 inches (22.8 mm) (11th)

Wettest days

0.40 inches (10.2 mm) (22nd)

Wind



Wind direction*

South West

Wind direction*

South West



Maximum gust

16 mph (25th)

Maximum gust

23 mph (15th)

Parish Weatherman

*Dominant



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www.wickhaminstitute.co.uk



The Wickham Institute 100+ Club

As promised, listed below are the lucky winners of the July & August 2023 draws:

July	August
1 st prize Claire Fargeot	1 st prize Judith Stephens
2 nd prize Keith Mentzel	2 nd prize Jasmine Raynesford
3 rd prize Ann Mann	3 rd prize Stella Croom-Johnson

Details of the September 2023 draw 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.



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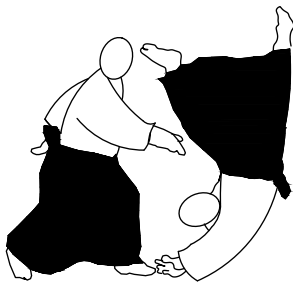
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A woman with long, curly brown hair, wearing a dark blue hoodie, is smiling and looking down at a white and red sneaker she is holding. The background is a bright, modern gym with various pieces of equipment. The text 'mintcondition' is in the top right corner. The main headline 'Your Fitness Experts' is centered over the image. Below it, a dark green banner contains the text 'Personal training | Pilates Classes | Injury Rehabilitation'. At the bottom, contact information is listed: 'WWW.MINT-CONDITION.COM', 'GYM@MINT-CONDITION.COM', and '01420 590590'. The address 'Mint Condition, Steyne Farm, Binsted, Hampshire, GU34 4NU' is at the very bottom.

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GRAPHIC DESIGN SERVICES

BENTLEY

Website: www.bentleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Memorial Hall

(Bentley Memorial Hall Association):
Malcolm Macnaghten Tel. 01420 521291
Email: bentleymemorialhall@gmail.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

Phillip Davies
Email phillip.davies@easthants.gov.uk

Parish Council

Chairman: Mr John Fuller 07768 558751
johnfuller@bentleyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Clerk: Emma Wadey 07795 326539
Email: clerk@bentleyparishcouncil.gov.uk
Facebook: [@bentleyparishcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/@bentleyparishcouncil)
Instagram: [@bentley_parish_council](https://www.instagram.com/@bentley_parish_council)
Bentley Memorial Hall, Hole Lane,
Farnham GU10 5LP
Parish Office Hours
Monday to Thursday 9am to 3pm

Bentley School

Headteacher: Vicky Hallett 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: Linda Fuller 07891 825410
email: lindafuller1105@gmail.com

Bentley Rec Ground

Chair: Stephen Whowell
stephenhowell@bentleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Joint Parish Organisations

Care Group (car service)

Bookings: 07775 458873
Secretary: 01420 590697

Girl Guides (at Holybourne)

Lucy Yendell 01420 80560

2nd Bentley Scout Group General Enquiries:

admin@2ndbentleyscouts.org.uk 07974377736
www.2ndbentleyscouts.org.uk

BINSTED

Website: binstedparishcouncil.com

The Wickham Institute

Chairman: Catherine Hadfield 01420 23146
Bookings: Ann Mann 01420 22388
email: annmann074@btinternet.com
www.wickhaminstitute.co.uk
Treasurer: Andrew Croom Johnson - 23157

County Councillor Mark Kemp Gee - 01420
563550, email - marknkempgee@aol.com

District Council

Phillip Davies
Email phillip.davies@easthants.gov.uk,
David Ashcroft, 07966 511 868.
Email DavidAshcroft@easthants.gov.uk,

Parish Council

Chair: Alison Melvin, 07851 677 057
a.melvin@binstedparishcouncil.org.uk
Vice Chair: Chris Meade,
c.meade@binstedparishcouncil.org.uk
Clerk Mike Mordecai
Email: clerk@binstedparishcouncil.org.uk
Website: Binstedparishcouncil.org.uk
Facebook: [@Binstedparishcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/@Binstedparishcouncil)

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 - Graham Jones 07825 201 541
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)


fobs.binsted@gmail.com

September Services


Our service pattern has changed so please take careful note of the times and locations of our upcoming services.

3rd September **9:30am** Binsted Holy Communion
11am Oakhanger Holy Communion
6:30pm Bentley Praise

10th September **8am** Binsted Holy Communion
9:30am Bentley Morning Worship
& Children's Church 
11am Froyle Holy Communion
6:30pm Kingsley Praise

17th September **9:30am** Froyle Morning Worship
11am Kingsley Holy Communion
4pm Binsted Messy Church 



24th September **9:30am** Bentley Holy Communion
& Children's Church 
11am Binsted Morning Worship
6:30pm Froyle Evensong

Children's Provision

While all of our services are family friendly, the services indicated are especially catered towards children.

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