

JULY & AUGUST 2025

Bentley & Binsted

PARISH MAGAZINE

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Parish Magazine

Articles and Advertising: Any copy or advertising enquiries should be sent to Gemma Ball on the **5th** of the month, by email (magazine@benbinfro.org)

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On 7th June we had our first meeting of “Matt’s Chats” over breakfast in the Binsted Inn. We had nearly 20 people there and very generously, the Pub didn’t charge us! We looked at the question, What does a good life look like? I began with a quote from Socrates who focused on this question throughout his life. Socrates said “The unexamined life is not worth living.” According to him, we need to lift the lid and see what is going on. Life is not something that happens to us, but something that we shape by the thousands of choices we make every day. How do we know what to focus on? What is genuinely going to do us good? If you are interested, the next gathering will be in October, so keep your eyes open for more details.

Socrates taught for 40 years and his student, Plato, taught for 50 years and finally his student, Aristotle taught for 40 years, including being the tutor to Alexander the Great. These three are acknowledged as the greatest philosophers in ancient history and echoes of their work are still with us. 130 years of teaching, debating and writing is a remarkable legacy. But compare them with Jesus and things take on a very real significance. Instead of decades of teaching, Jesus taught for 3 years, but the Sermon of the Mount is acknowledged as the most profound ethical statement of how humans should live ever made.

Jesus painted no pictures, yet the finest paintings of Raphael, Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci are all inspired by his

life. Jesus wrote no poetry, but the writings of Dante, Milton, Eliot and Auden among others were shaped by him. Jesus didn’t compose any music but Haydn, Handel, Beethoven and Bach reached their highest talents in hymns, symphonies and oratorios composed in his honour. Jesus is quite simply the greatest teacher who has ever lived.

In 1926, the Rev James Allan Francis wrote a piece called “One Solitary Life”. I won’t quote it in full but it can be easily found on the internet. In it Francis writes about Jesus, “He never had a family, or owned a home. He never set foot inside a big city. He never travelled two hundred miles from the place he was born. He never wrote a book or held office. He did none of the things that usually accompany greatness...”

“All the armies that ever marched,
All the navies that ever sailed
And all the parliaments that ever sat
And all the kings that ever reigned
Put together
Have not affected the life of man
Upon this earth
As powerfully as this
One Solitary Life.”

May God bless you all and I look forward to hearing your thoughts

Matt Boyes

Rector of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle

Sunday 21st September

Froyle Church, GU34 4LB

4-6pm

Supper included!

FREE



This month we are celebrating HARVEST! Think tractors, fields, fruit and veg... See you at Messy Church for some messy, sensory fun, thanking God for all that He provides.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

If not for the tests in our lives some of us would not learn to pray.



four: twelve

YOUTH CLUB



WHO? OPEN TO YOUNG PEOPLE IN SCHOOL YEARS 4-6

WHEN? FRIDAY 4TH JULY, 5 - 6:30PM.

WHERE? MILL COURT

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

admin@benbinfro.org

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."

UPAGEAR

Youth group

School years 7+

A welcoming and fun space for young people to gather,
to build friendships,
and explore Christian faith and values with significant snacks!

Thursday evenings
Bentley Church Hall
6-7:30pm

admin@benbinfro.org



PRAYER WEEK 2025

At the start of June, we joined in with churches across the nation to pray in the lead up to Pentecost, the day we celebrate when the Holy Spirit came as written in Acts 2.

Our brilliant church family put together a wealth of prayer stations, set up in Bentley Church Hall, to guide, encourage and inspire our thoughts and prayers. Our theme this year was Peace. Prayer stations included placing candles on world maps, throwing our worries into a basketball hoop (for God to catch), adding a pebble to the 'beach of peaceful places', and creating prayer spirals. There were many more! Each prayer station focused on a piece of peace, whether that was learning more about it, praying for peace in our world, or simply giving our anxieties and fears to God.

We adored welcoming the children from Bentley and Binsted schools to the prayer room, and they adored visiting! The children were incredibly well-behaved and so respectful. They

took their time and engaged with each station with thought, and found the time spent there very valuable.

It's hard to find peace in our busy lives, but it was great to take some time out to pause and reflect. We have heard so many stories of how lots of those who came enjoyed the prayer stations, here's one:

A beautiful testimony,

"When I came into the church hall this morning, the candles were still lit over the world map from yesterday. It felt so special to know that although the hall was empty overnight, the prayers were still being prayed over these countries and that God is always at work."

**Did you visit the prayer room?
Pop us an email and tell us how
you got on!**

Blessings,
The BenBinFro Team

admin@benbinfro.org





Saturday Café

Bentley Memorial Hall

Saturdays 10.30am – 12.30pm

Coffee, tea and cakes



We look forward to seeing you for a catch up and lively chat.



On most Saturdays. Look out for the banner outside the Hall.

SAVE THE DATE

Children's Church in September

We sadly haven't got any Children's Church sessions over the summer due to our outdoor services and the summer holidays.

BUT you can look forward to Children's Church returning in September with an extra session every month!

7th September

9:30am Holy Cross Binsted

BRAND NEW!

14th September

9:30am St Mary's Bentley

28th September

9:30am St Mary's Bentley



Bentley & Binsted

PARISH MAGAZINE

The parish magazine for Bentley & Binsted is distributed to all the houses in our two villages. Most of the costs for producing the magazine come from advertising revenues, in 2024 we had a shortfall of over £3,000, which Bentley and Binsted PCCs need to cover.

It costs us around £1 to produce each copy of the magazine and we publish 10 editions per year. If you feel that you are able to contribute towards the costs of producing the magazine, please contact the magazine treasurer at bentleytreasurer@benbinfro.co.uk or you can donate online by either:

- scanning the QR code below
- or go direct to our donations page at: <https://tinyurl.com/2tv9rtxu>.



Thank you for helping us keep the magazine as something for everyone in Bentley and Binsted.

BENTLEY AND BINSTED

CHURCH STALL AT THE FETES

VISIT THE CHURCH STALL AT THE VILLAGE FETES!

Come and say hello at our church stall, where there's something for all ages to enjoy! We'll have free face painting for the children, refreshing alcohol-free mocktails to sip and savour, and a relaxed, welcoming space for a friendly chat. It's a great chance to meet others in the community, find out what's happening at your parish church, and enjoy some light-hearted fun. Everyone is welcome — we'd love to see you there!

Binsted Fete

Saturday 12th July
1-4pm

Bentley Fete

Saturday 19th July
1-5pm

www.benbinfro.co.uk
admin@benbinfro.org
01420 23339



SEE YOU THIS

ALL ARE WELCOME

SUNDAY

We love the summer!

With our annual village fetes held during the first three weekends of July, we like to make the most of the villages coming together and hold our July services outside.



Sunday 13th July **11am Binsted Pet Service** 🐾

Come along to a joyful service at **Holy Cross Church** to bless and give thanks for our animal companions. All pets—furry, feathered, or scaly—are welcome at this family-friendly gathering filled with sunshine (hopefully!), prayer, and hymns. Come share in the joy and give thanks for the creatures who bring so much love to our lives.

Sunday 20th July **11am Bentley Marquee Service** 🌿

Worship in the heart of the village

You're invited to a special church service under the marquee on **Bentley Rec**. This outdoor service offers a straightforward time of prayer, music, and community. Whether you attend regularly or are just curious, all are welcome to come and take part. Rain or shine. Come as you are.

www.benbinfro.co.uk
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Binsted Parish Council - Update

After four years as Chair of Binsted Parish Council, Alison Melvin has decided to stand down in the role. Everyone at the Parish Council and I'm sure many parishioners would like to thank her for her hard work and dedication over this period. Alison has given huge amounts of her spare time and energy into enhancing the life and environment of the parish, and her dogged determination to sort out problems and pursue many and various organisations and people to get things done (or indeed stop unwelcome things from happening!) is an inspiration.

I'm pleased to say though that Alison will be staying on as a Parish Councillor, and one of our other councillors Dominic Hearne has agreed to take on the role of Chair- contact details for all of the councillors can be found at <https://binstedparishcouncil.org.uk/parish-council/parish-councillors>

One of the things that Alison has been instrumental in driving forward is Blacknest Fields, so it felt like a good opportunity to highlight what's going on there.

July and August are the best months of the year to enjoy the

stunning sights of the butterfly meadows at Blacknest Fields, the site for nature recovery managed by Binsted Parish Council and located in Blacknest. The weather this spring has been much kinder to the butterflies and bees than last year,





so the volunteers who help manage the site are hopeful that July and August will allow us all to enjoy a brilliant display of summer residents. From the stunning and powerful Silver-washed fritillary to the elusive Purple Hairstreak butterflies high up in the oak trees, it is certainly worth a walk to Blacknest Fields on a sunny summer day to see what you can spot.

The site is adjacent to Alice Holt Forest in Blacknest, 300 metres north of the Jolly Farmer crossroads. It is best reached by Bridleway 41, as there is no public car parking on site. A handy map detailing a four mile circular walk from Gravel Hill carpark (or Bentley Station) to Blacknest Fields can be downloaded from the Parish Council website:

<https://binstedparishcouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Butterfly-Meadows-Circular-Walk-Printable-final-form-June-2024.pdf>

Picnicking at Blacknest Fields is welcome, but BBQs and fires are prohibited. Dogs on leads are welcome in the front 'Oak Tree Meadow' enclosed area, but not elsewhere on site, where sensitive wildlife needs protecting. Please do let us know what you spot if you visit by sharing photos on the Facebook page for Blacknest Fields - "Blacknest Fields Community Page".



Bentley
PARISH COUNCIL

News from Bentley Parish Council

Firstly, I'd like to thank all those who attended the Annual Parish Assembly at the Memorial Hall in April. It was a very informative and enjoyable evening, particularly hearing all the reports from the clubs and groups in Bentley. We are fortunate to have so many who dedicate their time to organising events and activities for the benefit of the whole community.

After a fine spring, although perhaps a little too dry for the gardeners, summer is with us. In speaking about the dry spring, I should mention it has been both a blessing and a curse for the Recreation Ground renovations. During the winter we were hoping for a dry March and early April so that the contractors could get on with the ground works. The dry weather that followed was perfect for scarifying, levelling and reseeded, and also laying a new cricket square; so far so good. Unfortunately, at the point where we needed a little precipitation the rains failed to appear. Although, as I write at the beginning of June, the outfield is starting to turn green the square is well, rather bare. However, we are hopeful that, with the rain forecast in early June, by the time you read this article the outfield will be fully recovered and ready for this year's fete and flower show.

Back in February you will remember we reported that Footpath 13, which runs from Rectory Lane to the Station, was blocked after a sink hole appeared in the section below the sewage works. The cause was discovered to be a collapsed pipe carrying clean water from the works to the river. Thames Water have now repaired this pipe and reinstated the footpath. However, walkers will notice that alongside much of the footpath there is also a temporary pipe. This is replacing another damaged pipe which carries sewage from the Station Road side of the river up to the works for treatment. We understand that surveying is underway and a permanent replacement pipe will be installed (underground) later in the year.

One further note on Footpath 13. We were contacted a couple of years ago by Hants County Council

regarding plans to give the footpath an all-weather surface to make it a more usable in wetter weather. We received a message recently from HCC that delivery is planned for later this year.

Turning now to a serious matter concerning Carters' Meadow. Bentley Wildlife has brought to our attention an infestation of Mare's Tail, or Horsetail, in the field, near the pond. Some of you will know, from experience, how invasive this weed is. It can spread rapidly through underground runners and needs to be controlled with rigorous management. Apart from the potential damage to the ecology of Carters' Meadow, we are also concerned that spores from the plant can be spread by dogs and walkers to other parts of the village, so we would ask residents to avoid the field for the time being. We will be working closely with Bentley Wildlife, who have contacted other groups with experience managing such infestations. We'll keep you posted on progress.

We are still in need of a School Liaison Officer: As mentioned previously, the objective of the role is to keep a line of communication between the school and the parish council such that both parties can

effectively support one another, so if there is a parent who would like to take on the role, please get in touch with our Clerk, Emma Wadey, 07795 326539, clerk@bentleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Finally, after passing external examination our Neighbourhood Plan has now been forwarded for review by EHDC prior to its formal adoption. We expect this to take place in July. This has become a critical document for planning in the parish since its counterpart in the Development Plan for Bentley, the district council's Local Plan, is still no closer to completion as EHDC wait for the government to clarify its nation planning strategy. This has been further complicated by the local council reorganisation in Hampshire.

As always, if you have any questions, comments or requests, please do get in touch.

John Fuller
Bentley Parish Council

Please visit us on
www.bentleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram:
[@bentleyparishcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/bentleyparishcouncil)
[@bentley_parish_council](https://www.instagram.com/bentley_parish_council)
clerk@bentleyparishcouncil.gov.uk



GARDEN OPEN & CRAFT SALE
WHEATLEY HOUSE GU35 9PA
(Between Binsted & Kingsley)

Saturday 16th August 1.30 - 5.30pm

Sunday 17th August 12.30 - 5.00pm

Colourful, sweeping borders with interesting and unusual plant combinations, the garden has panoramic views over the South Downs and beyond

Local crafts including Wood Turning, Cards, Paintings, Pottery, Local Honey etc in Old Barn

Stone Sculptures and Garden Ornaments

PLANT SALE

Teas with delicious homemade cakes available in the Barn
(Proceeds to Binsted Church)

Well behaved dogs on leads welcome

Entrance: Adults £6.00 Children Free

Entrance Proceeds to National Garden Scheme Charities
(Main beneficiaries Marie Curie Cancer Care and MacMillan Nurses)

Church Registers

Binsted

Monday 12th May

Interment of Ashes of Elsie Brown

DISTRIBUTORS NEEDED for Binsted Parish

A huge thank you to everyone who has been involved with the distribution of the Parish Magazine in the past, present and future, in both Bentley and Binsted.

We do however have a big gap in distributing the magazine to Binsted Parish as of this May.

We are looking for somebody local to volunteer with the Binsted team to sort and co-ordinate the Binsted magazines. You will be part of a team so at most you should be needed just five times a year to bundle and distribute the magazines to the wider delivery network.

The Parish Magazine is valued by so many in our villages and this role is vital in ensuring our much-loved magazine continues to get in the hands of every household in Binsted.



Please email the church office at admin@benbinfro.org or call us on 01420 23339.

Sudoku June Answers

Sudoku EASY

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

Sudoku MEDIUM

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

Sudoku HARD

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



It's been a galling time

You may place your own interpretation on these words, but I am referring to the galls that grow on trees.

It so happens that galls have crossed my path a couple of times recently, and I can also blame them for starting my obsession with trees.

Let me begin with oak apples, if for no other reason than that the very name for galls comes from the Latin galla, which translates as 'oak apple'. I was recently invited to see two magnificent Oaks in a field near here. The owner loves his trees and these two have played an important part in the upbringing of his children. As we moved around them he spotted what looked exactly like an apple, but was no bigger than a lychee. The more we looked, the more we found. They are not the fruit of Oaks; we all know that's acorns. They have been induced to grow, starting at a leaf bud, by a wasp larva, emerging from its egg and munching on the bud. The larva's saliva triggers a response from the tree which is a kind of cell metaplasia, which is the transformation of a cell type to another cell type. The result is a growth

of Oak cells that looks like it has grown 'naturally'. The larva lives and grows inside the oak apple, feeding on the nutrients it has provoked the tree to provide. Incidentally, they don't taste anything like apples.

Also recently, I was doing my stint on the stall of the Alton Natural History Society when a chap came up with a sprig he had cut from a Hazel. On the underside of the leaves was a rash of small, hard growths that were bright red in colour. These were galls that had been caused by a leaf mite.

I cast my mind back to when I first became interested in tree welfare, and had found a Wych Elm growing in a most unfortunate position, tucked up against the wall of an old cottage.

There were a number of reasons for worrying about the welfare of this tree, but, among these, was the number of leaf galls I could feel, rather than see, on the underside of the leaves. This set me off on a search for the cause of the galls, that led me to the Woodland Trust and the Forest Research Tree Alert resource that have since become a central part of my journey with trees.

But, actually, I don't have to leave my own garden to find interesting galls. I have a couple of failed standard roses where the graft has failed and left only the wild stock. On these I find Robin's pincushion, which is a spherical, red, fibrous growth on the stems of Dog-roses. You are more likely to see the galls than the adult gall wasps or the grubs.

This is a huge subject of study. There are thousands of galls growing on all kinds of plants, and caused by all sorts of organisms. Galls can occur on the stems, leaves, flowers, fruits, seeds and roots of plants, and a wide variety of plants are affected, including many very common species. Oaks and Willows are particularly rich in galls. Whether you are inspired to a career as a cecidologist, or are just curious to identify what strange alien is growing on your tree, you would do well to start at the website of the British Plant Gall Society.

Ben Hamlin *Tree warden*
Binstedtrees@gmail.com



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



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

[Please note the Gallery and Museum will be closed on Sundays until further notice]

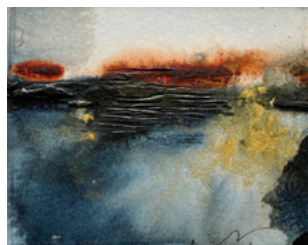
ALLEN GALLERY

Ancient Woodland: A celebration of place (19th July - 20 September)

Local artists Mary Waltham and Jackie Amies respond to the surrounding ancient woodlands of East Hampshire.

Ancient woodlands are the richest land habitat in the UK and home to many threatened species. These distinctive and often small tracts of woodland have been largely untouched by humans since before 1600 and cover just 2.5% of the UK.

Undisturbed soils and decaying wood create conditions that encourage species diversity of plants, invertebrates, fungi, birds and mammals. Ancient woods are also a living record of centuries of interaction and interdependence between man and woodland, they often contain remnants of archaeological features such as wood banks, pits and charcoal kilns. No surprise then that these woods are also home to rich and diverse myths and folklore.



*Mary Waltham,
watercolour on
cradled birch
panel*

The artists will be hosting workshops during the summer and a poetry and art event in September as part of the Allen Gallery Project supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. Further details on the Gallery website www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery

TALKS sponsored by the Friends of the Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery

These start again on 11 September, at 7.30, with Mike Grey telling us *How the Victorians Died*.

Later talks will include Bees (October), Mediaeval Women (November) and to round off the year, our Social Evening (11th December).

Talks will continue to be held in the Allen Gallery until it closes for its refurbishment at the end of December.

CURTIS MUSEUM

The Time Detective Agency

We will be having a series of free Family Spotter Trails throughout the summer, based round the Time Detective Agency. Travel to a different time period each week. Watch this space and the website...

www.hampshireculture.org.uk/curtis-museum



*Jacqueline
Amies, etching on
Somerset paper*



School News - Binsted CE Primary

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

We are having an excellent time at Binsted this summer- Lots of gardening, trips and sport! All the classes have been lucky enough to visit the Bentley Prayer Room and enjoy the wonderful displays and interactive prayer activities. So many of the children have come back from school talking about what a wonderful time they have had. Many thanks to all those involved in making this such a great experience for the children.



Another exciting development at Binsted is the Gardening Club that has begun- Jenny Matthews with the help of FOBs is running it on a Tuesday afternoon. We have already built a fabulous new bug hotel and planted sunflowers and peas. It is so lovely to see the children outside exploring and making a huge difference to our lovely school grounds.

We are busy preparing our KS2 performance of Porridge as well. We will be performing in our lovely grounds at the end of term. We are all so excited to see what the children come up with. It will be amazing!





PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

The photography competition at the Binsted Fete attracts entries from far & wide and always captures our past year's experiences perfectly!

Keen amateur photographers of all ages are welcome to enter in the following categories:

GO WILD

BEST OF BINSTED

PORTRAITURE

IT'S ALL BLACK AND WHITE

SPORT

DUSK 'TILL DAWN

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

All competition details can be found
at **www.binstedfete.co.uk** or email
info@binstedfete.co.uk



Binsted Fete



12TH JULY 2025

FLOWER, PRODUCE & CRAFT COMPETITION

The creative heart of the Binsted Fete is the traditional Flower, Produce & Craft competition - an important aspect of the event since the 1800's!

There is something for everyone to enter whether you are 4 to 104. It's a perfect way to show off your green fingers, home bake specialties and craft creations with a chance to take home one of our beautiful trophies.

All competition details can be found
at www.binstedfete.co.uk or email
info@binstedfete.co.uk



Saturday 12th July 2025

1-4pm, Binsted Recreation Ground

Help Needed...

Last year we welcomed over 1000 visitors and 100 dogs to join in the fun activities on offer. We were thrilled to be able to donate £4,000 to local charities and good causes. We can't do that without YOUR HELP!

Let us know if you can be part of the team and volunteer to take a shift on a stand or help to set up/ clear down for the Fete?

Donations Needed...



Bakes & Cakes - we are looking for Tray Bakes (to be cut), Chocolate Brownies, Decorated Cupcakes and Biscuits for the tea rooms. **Whole Cakes** are also needed to sell. Anything goes...Sponges, Fruit Cakes, Lemon Drizzles, Gingerbread Loaves. GLUTEN & DAIRY FREE cakes also welcome! NO NUTS OR FRESH CREAM PLEASE.

Chocolate & Sweets - this year we are running a chocolate and sweets tombola - please help us by donation some treats for this stall.



Bottle Stall - all donations of fizz, wine, beer, spirits, soft drinks, olive oil, shampoo ... anything UNOPENED & IN DATE is very welcome!

Plant Stall - Do you have a glut of seedlings growing or just too many vegetable plants than you know what to do with? If so, please donate these to our plant stall!



Pre-loved Books - A great excuse to de-clutter your bookshelves.

If you can help or donate, please contact Alix Arrowsmith on
07717 753346 or email info@binstedfete.co.uk

Find full Fete information on www.binstedfete.co.uk



Scan Here



Saturday 12th July 2025

1-4pm, Binsted Recreation Ground

Important Dates & Times...

Thursday 10th July

Flower, Produce, Craft & Photograph Registration, Binsted Recreation Ground, 6-8pm Come along & meet the fete team for a chat, a glass of something cold (BYO) & to register your competition entries. Please bring ALL photography entries with you (no other entries should be brought at this time)

Friday 11th July (daytime) & Saturday 12th July - (8am-midday)

"All Hands on Deck" - Fete Set Up, Binsted Recreation Ground

Can you spare an hour or two to help with putting up gazebos, setting out chairs and tables and hanging bunting? All hands (young & old) very welcome! Please call Matt on 07717 753346 if you can spare some time.

Saturday 12th July

7.30am-midday - Final Set Up on Binsted Recreation Ground.

Bring your Flower, Produce, Craft and Children's competition entries to the marquee for judging **by 9.45am**. Entries arriving after this time aren't guaranteed to be judged. All cars cleared from the Recreation Ground by midday.

The Fete...

12.30pm - Dog Show Registration Opens

1pm - Binsted Fete OPENS

1.15pm - Dog Show Commences

3.15pm - Competition Awards Ceremony outside the Pavillion

3.30pm - Grand Raffle Draw by the Raffle Tent

4pm - Fete Closes

**All offers of help to clear up after the fete will be
GRATEFULLY RECEIVED!!**

Find full Fete information on www.binstedfete.co.uk



Scan Here

BENTLEY MEMORIAL HALL



The perfect venue for celebrations, children's parties, meetings, exercise classes or exhibitions. The Hall is conveniently located in the centre of the village and has kitchen facilities and ample car parking.

Downstairs accommodates events for up to 100 people across two rooms.

Upstairs accommodates events for up to 20 people and is ideal for meetings.

Your Hall Needs You



We are always looking for new Trustees to help run the Memorial Hall. Without new blood, the existing Trustees will wither away with age and the Hall will die.

If you want the Hall to continue to be part of village life, please consider becoming a Trustee.

For more information, please contact
bentleymemorialhall@gmail.com.

The Bentley Memorial Hall 100+ Club

The winners of the June draw of the Bentley Memorial Hall 100+ Club are:

1st Rebecca Bladon 2nd Penelope Robinson 3rd Helen Curwen

Congratulations to the winners.

We welcome new members to the 100+ Club. Each number costs £12 per year (£1 per month) and there are three prizes every month! 50% of membership fees go to the 100+ Club prize fund while the remaining 50% goes to the Memorial Hall to help with our running costs. The more people who join the 100+ Club, the more money paid out in monthly prizes.

To join the 100+ Club, please e-mail a request to bentleymemorialhall@gmail.com.

For room bookings and additional information about the Hall, please visit our website
www.bentleymemorialhall.org.

THE BENTLEY FETE & FLOWER SHOW

SATURDAY 19TH JULY 2025

1 PM - 5 PM

THE REC, SCHOOL LANE, BENTLEY, GU10 5JA

JOIN US FOR AN AFTERNOON PACKED WITH
EXCITEMENT FROM 12.45PM AT THE
MEMORIAL HALL FOR THE STARTING OF
THE PROCESSION & CAVALCADE!

🌸 FLOWER SHOW

🐾 DOG SHOW

🏠 GUEST STALLS

🏆 EXCITING NEW EVENTS IN THE ARENA

👤 PUNCH AND JUDY SHOW

🍔 BBQ, BAR & REFRESHMENTS

DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS INCREDIBLE DAY OF FUN AND
ENTERTAINMENT!



WWW.BENTLEYFETE.CO.UK



Bentley
Flower & Produce Show
Saturday 19 July 2025

www.bentleyfete.co.uk

Proudly sponsored by



& Saturday Café

BENTLEY FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW

Please visit our **website www.bentleyfete.co.uk** to register your entries online by **6.00pm on Friday 18 July**. There is no charge for entries. Please sign in and bring your exhibits to the Flower and Produce Show marquee on **Saturday 19 July between 8.00-10am**. *The tent will then be closed for judging.*

Section A Flowers

- 1 One stem of your favourite Rose
- 2 One stem of a Floribunda (Cluster) Rose
- 3 One stem of a scented Rose
- 4 A bowl of Roses
- 5 Five stems of Dahlias, one or more varieties
- 6 A bowl/vase of mixed Flowers from your July Garden
- 7 A display of Flowers, all one colour, with at least 6 stems, mixed or single variety
- 8 A vase of Sweet Peas
- 9 One stem of a Lily (Lilium)
- 10 Five stems of annuals and/or biennials
- 11 Five stems of Herbaceous Perennials
- 12 Three tall flower spikes (e.g. Delphinium/ Acanthus /Foxglove/Hollyhock, mixed or not)
- 13 Five Violas, Pansies, Pinks, mixed or all one variety
- 14 A bunch of fresh Lavender – tied, no vase
- 15 Three stems of a Flowering Shrub
- 16 Five Clematis blooms – one or more varieties, sprays acceptable
- 17 A succulent/cactus in a pot
- 18 One named flowering Pot Plant (indoor or outdoor)

Section B Floral Arrangements

- 19 An arrangement of flowers/foliage in a recycled container
- 20 A small Posy
- 21 A Summer table arrangement
- 22 A vase of flowers from a wild area in your garden (must be from your garden only)

Section C Fruit and Vegetables

- 23 Display of any July Produce on a tray/trug/basket/box from your vegetable garden or allotment
- 24 A Lettuce
- 25 Three Onions as grown, washed but not peeled or plaited
- 26 Five Shallots up to 50mm diameter as grown, washed but not peeled or plaited
- 27 Seven pods of a Legume variety, mixed or not (Peas, Beans – Broad, French, Runner)

- 28 Five Potatoes
- 29 Three Courgettes (not round) – max 15 cm
- 30 A Cucumber – longer than 20 cm
- 31 Five Carrots, washed with tops left on
- 32 Three Beetroots, washed with leaves left on
- 33 A Cabbage
- 34 Little and Large – one small, one large of the same vegetable
- 35 An unusual or wonky vegetable
- 36 Three sticks of Rhubarb, leaves trimmed to approx. 7.5 cm
- 37 Collection of soft fruit (Quality not Quantity)
- 38 Collection of five different named Herbs – displayed in a pot or jar
- 39 Home Garden Compost, displayed on a paper plate, covered

Section D Produce

- 40 Your favourite Pickle or Chutney
- 41 One pot of Jam
- 42 One pot of Jelly
- 43 One loaf of Artisan Bread
- 44 One pot of Marmalade
- 45 Drink (alcoholic) – One bottle (e.g. Sloe Gin or Wine)
- 46 Drink (non-alcoholic) – One bottle (e.g. Elderflower Cordial etc.)
- 47 6 decorated Cup Cakes
- 48 An Apple Cake
- 49 6 Chocolate Brownies
- 50 A Banana Cake
- 51 6 savoury scones
- 52 6 home-made biscuits
- 53 6 fresh eggs, attractively presented

Section E Children's Classes

- 54 11 years and under Cress grown in a recycled container
- 55 Yr R Under the Sea artwork (A3)
- 56 Yr 1 Castles (cereal box size max)
- 57 Yr 2 Space rockets (cereal box size max)
- 58 Yr 3 Roman Mosaics
- 59 Yr 4 A design for a Viking artefact
- 60 Yr 5 An Egyptian sarcophagus
- 61 Yr 6 Pop Art (A4)

Sudoku Games

Sudoku game EASY

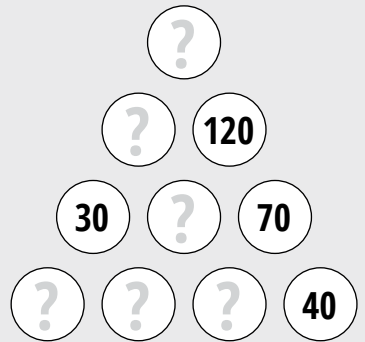
		8				2	1	
			2				3	
9				3		8		6
		3		1	7			
7								4
			6	4		3		
6		9		7				1
	5				4			
	2	1				6		

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

What are the missing numbers?



Sudoku game MEDIUM

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

Sudoku game HARD

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

Sudoku game answers shall be in the next edition of the Bentley & Binsted Parish Magazine

Binsted Church Needs Your Help



**Become a Friend of Binsted Church
and help maintain the heritage of
our village.**

The Church of the Holy Cross is a beautiful mainly Norman church with 13th-15th Century additions. It is a Grade-1 Listed building and a fine example of this country's architectural history with many unique features and an especially fine interior.

However, the task of maintaining the fabric of the building and the churchyard has become very challenging. Members of the congregation continue to look for ways to manage repairs effectively, reduce costs and boost income by holding fund-raising events. Nevertheless, this is not proving to be enough.

A group of us, who are all local residents but are not regular churchgoers, have become concerned and realise the maintenance costs cannot continue to be met primarily by the congregation. We know we are fortunate to have such a significant and historic church in our village. We also like to hear the church bells or simply show it to our visitors, including the grave of Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery.

We therefore believe we should help in the upkeep of the church and have established The Friends of Binsted Church. Our purpose is to help towards the maintenance costs only of the building and not anything connected to the church services or its administrative costs.

We do hope you feel the same way because we would like you to become a Friend of Binsted Church and sponsor, for one day (or days) a year, the upkeep of the building and the churchyard. This currently amounts to £35 per day.

You may like to select a day (or days) marking a wedding, baptism, birthday or some other day of special significance to you or your family. We will record names and dates in a Book of Friends which will be permanently displayed in the church. A candle next to the Book will also be illuminated.

Please join us and help keep our historic and beautiful church a central part of our village and community. A sponsorship form to become a Friend of Binsted Church is available online via the QR code or email friendsofbinstedchurch@gmail.com and we will post one to you.

**We look forward to welcoming you
as a Friend of Binsted Church.**





A Bentley Wildlife Group series... What are Habitats and why they can't stand alone.

Wildlife survives thanks to its habitats. It seems worth looking a bit more at what we mean by habitat.

The term actually has several meanings: in ecology it can refer to the habitat of a species which describes the area and resources of a particular species or, and this is what we will look at, a community of plants and animals together with their physical (abiotic) environment. In our parishes we have various habitats: forest, woodlands, hedgerows, grasslands, lakes, ponds and a river. Some habitats can be at a landscape scale or be a microhabitat like a puddle. Taken individually or together habitats can be considered as ecosystems. Ecosystems are dynamic complexes of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment, which interact as a whole. These definitions I have drawn from EUNIS and they underly the EU Habitats Directive which the UK has retained post Brexit.

Grasslands are a particularly vulnerable habitat. In Bentley these would have been of the more neutral type (ph value 5.5 - 6.5) on old clayey pastures. While these grasslands are not as flower rich compared to grasslands on chalky soils, the number and density of their flowering herbs creates a rich resource for invertebrates. This strong basis to the food web supports foraging birds, mammals and amphibians. The 2018 survey of Carters Meadow East identified the meadow as semi-improved grassland with 20 species of sedges, rushes and herbs. At some stage the removal of grazers, especially cattle, damaged the habitat as they would have maintained a variable sward height essential for a flourishing habitat community. Any use of fertiliser would have altered the grassland by increasing the dominance of grasses and sward height further

reducing its value as a habitat. Nevertheless this modified grassland can be restored to a neutral state by various methods: see the How to Rewild website.

However, apart from the quality of these habitats, the important thing from the point of view of wildlife is their connectivity: they need to be like stepping stones. One may think of invertebrates as firmly terrestrial but in fact bugs move around just as much as birds and animals. As our climate changes there will be more moving around and connecting up isolated habitat hotspots will be increasingly important. As it turns out Bentley is at the intersection of two insect flight ways which Buglife have identified as part of a countrywide system they've named "B-Lines". It appears that not only bees but also the other 4,000 species of pollinators use these flight ways.

I hope notice about the public consultation on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Hampshire reached all households in Bentley: the closing date for comments was 23rd June. It set out proposals to reverse nature's decline across the county. My comment suggested that parish councils might have their own Local Biodiversity Action Plans encouraging stakeholders within and between parishes to collaborate in connecting up habitats through their own Local Nature Recovery Network?

For more information and supporting references, please visit facebook.com/groups/BentleyWildlife/

Rob Simpson, on behalf of
Bentley Wildlife Group.



THE WICKHAM INSTITUTE (VILLAGE HALL), BINSTED

www.wickhaminstitute.co.uk



LOTTERY FUNDED

The Wickham Institute 100+ Club

As promised, listed below are the lucky winners of the
June 2025 draws:

June 2025

1st prize Cathie Weldon

2nd prize Jacci Corney

3rd prize Mark Walden

Details of the July & August 2025 draws will appear in the September magazine.

REMINDER TO TICKET HOLDERS: A Few ticket holders who do not pay by standing order will have needed to renew their subscriptions in June and should have received details by email or in the post. If you still wish to participate and have not yet returned the renewal form, please do so as soon as possible so that you can be entered into the next draw.

Thank you to those that have renewed their subscriptions.

Remember 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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05

May
2025

WEATHER STATISTICS



Temperature



Daytime maximum

30.1°C (1st) to 15.1°C (15th)
18 days above 20°C



Nighttime minimum

-1.7°C (1st) to 13.6°C (29th)
3 nights below 0°C

Rainfall



Total for month

0.66 inches (16.8 mm) over 10 days



Wettest days

0.20 inches (5.0 mm) (24th)

*Only 1.65 inches (42 mm) rainfall in the last 3 months
against 9.05 inches (229.8 mm) in Jan & Feb*

Wind



Dominant wind direction

East



Maximum gust

22 mph (27th)

Parish Weatherman



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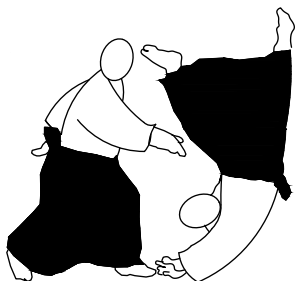
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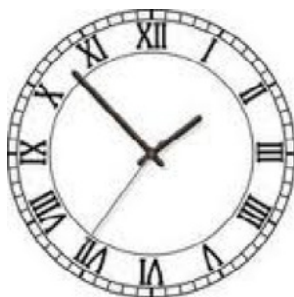
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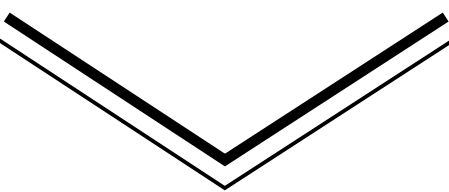
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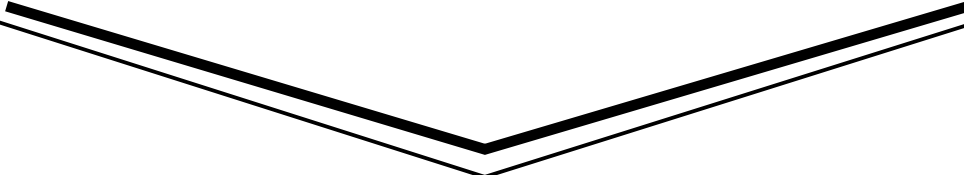
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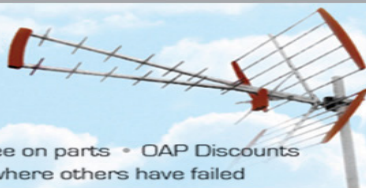
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The Memorial Hall

(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

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 and Produce Show

Contact: Pamela Green-Wright 07720 633 943

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: Graham Jones 07825 201451
email: graham.jones666@gmail.com
Bookings: Ann Mann 07854130955
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

David Ashcroft, 07966 511 868.
Email DavidAshcroft@easthants.gov.uk,

Parish Council

Chair: Dominic Hearne, 07886 581 906
d.hearne@binstedparishcouncil.org.uk
Vice Chair: Jason Lock, 07500 898 387
jason@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: Henry Jennings 01420 23200

Fête and Flower Show

Matt Arrowsmith
thebinstedfete@gmail.com

Tennis and Croquet Club Chairman:

Secretary - Graham Jones 07825 201 451
Website: <http://e-voice.org.uk/btcc/>

Growmore Club Secretary:

binsted.growmore.secretary@gmail.com

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

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SUMMER



6th July 11am Froyle Pet Service (Froyle Rec)

13th July 11am Binsted Pet Service (Holy Cross Church)

20th July 11am Bentley Marquee Service (Bentley Rec)

27th July 9:30am Bentley Holy Communion

11am Binsted Morning Worship

6:30pm Sung Holy Communion

3rd August 11am Kingsley Holy Communion

10th August 11am Froyle Holy Communion

17th August 11am Binsted Holy Communion

24th August 11am Bentley Holy Communion

6:30pm Froyle Evensong

31st August 11am Froyle Holy Communion

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