

SEPTEMBER 2025

Bentley & Binsted

PARISH MAGAZINE

FEATURING

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Vicar of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle

Rev'd Matt Boyes (Day off - Friday)

matt@benbinfro.co.uk | 07469 270590

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

Website: www.benbinfro.co.uk

Assistant Priest

Christopher Ogilvie Thompson (Day off - Tuesday)

Tel: 07776 178690 | email: christopherot@me.com

Benefice Administrators

Lucinda Edwards 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

Fran Harrison 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

Jonathan Bourne, Sunnycroft, GU34 4PF – 07766206278

Parish Safeguarding Officers: Bentley and Binsted

Jill Kiely, Bentley Parish Safeguarding Officer

safeguardingbentley@benbinfro.co.uk

Susan Bourne, Binsted Parish Safeguarding Officer

safeguardingbinsted@benbinfro.co.uk

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)

Editor: Benefice Team

Designer: Mike Hammerton

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

Distribution: Bentley – Gill Thallon: gill.thallon@outlook.com

Binsted – Linda & John Kenward: lindawellsuk@yahoo.co.uk

A class of children were once asked to write a question they wanted to ask God.

Kevin wrote, “Dear God, Did you mean for giraffes to look like that, or was it an accident?”

Jane wrote, “Dear God, In Sunday School they told us what you do for a job. Who does it when you are on holiday?”

One of the greatest privileges we have as a parish is the work we do with both primary schools, our Children’s Church and Messy Church. Helping children to explore their spirituality and to provide space for their questions is so rewarding.

We all have questions. If you could ask God something, what would it be? I’m sure that most would begin with the word, “Why?” Often these questions arise out of our deepest hurts, losing a loved one, a devastating illness, loss of a job. We might even be prepared to ask these of God in our prayers. The problem is that such deep questions are not often answered swiftly or clearly. We have to live with them, sometimes for our whole lives. We are not guaranteed in this life, that we will understand everything or have everything neatly boxed away and resolved. Our souls hurt with the pain of these questions and God’s answers seem enigmatic at best. What are we to make of this?

Jesus’s disciples had huge questions when they witnessed his crucifixion and death. Two of them were walking and seeking to make sense of things, when they are joined by someone else on the road who asks why they are so upset? They reply, “*Jesus was a mighty teacher, highly regarded by both God and the people. But our leading priests and other religious leaders arrested him and handed him over to be condemned to death, and they crucified him.*” Luke 24:19-20. The other person then takes them through the Bible to explain why the Messiah had to die. He answers their questions and “Their hearts were warmed.” They finally realise that they

are talking to Jesus himself, that he is alive again.

God treasures our questions. They force us to consider bigger things than we usually think about. Life, death, the meaning of both. They can awaken in us a soul hunger for something true and which gives us the strength to carry on. In short, they can bring us to him. In this life God does not promise to explain himself in every way. He does promise that in eternity, he will. His answer to us as we wrestle is not with facts, but with the challenge to put our faith in him. Jesus says, “*Do not let your hearts be troubled, Trust in God and trust also in me. In my Father’s house there are many rooms and I go to prepare a place for you.*” (John 14:1-2)

The place for answers is not while we are still struggling to get through life. While we are still fighting against evil. While we are distracted by duties and all the stuff of life. The place for answers is at journey’s end. When we are safe from the storm, sitting by a roaring fire with a drink in our hand and where we can rest from the arduous journey. The place for answers is in God’s presence, in his home (and ours) and when we are surrounded and filled with his love.

In the meantime, we are told to trust. To hold on to God despite and because of everything. This is what faith means. It is a vicelike grip on God, a refusal to settle for platitudes and easy answers. It is a longing for the time when our hearts too will be warmed as everything is revealed. Faith sounds so weak in English, but it is an act of supreme will, of complete trust and a knowledge that with God, we are ultimately safe. Mark Twain said “the two greatest dates in our lives are the day we are born, and the day we discover why.”

Matt Boyes

Rector of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle



Sunday 21st September

Froyle Church

9:15am – change of time!

Breakfast included!

FREE



Decorate a Sukkah



We are moving the time of Messy Church for September to link in with our harvest celebrations taking place in the morning. These include decorating a Sukkah (see above!), family activities, a tractor display, a baptism, and a short service.

We will start with breakfast, serving bacon baps, croissants, and coffee from 9.15 am and go from there.

So something for all ages – do come along – if only to find out more about what a Sukkah is...

For questions or offers of help, please contact a member of the Froyle Messy Church team: William Knowles (23164), Jane Macnabb (23195) or Sarah Roberts (520041).

four: twelve

YOUTH CLUB



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

**WHEN? FRIDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER, 5 - 6:30PM.
FRIDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER, 5-6:30PM.**

WHERE? BENTLEY SCHOOL SPORTS HALL.

**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!

**5-6:30pm, Thursday evenings
(fortnightly)**

Starting Thursday 18th September

admin@benbinfro.org



Meet the Team

Matt Boyes



1. Quick-fire questions!

Tea or coffee? Most definitely a strong coffee without milk

Winter or summer? Summer

Sunrise or sunset? Sunset

Sweet or savoury? Savoury

Apple or android? Apple

Air guitar or air drums? Air guitar

Movies or books? Books

2. What's your favourite way to start the day?

Sitting at my desk with a coffee watching the dawn break behind Binsted church. Xanthe is always the next to wake and she always comes in and gives me a hug.

3. Tell us more about your role at Benbinstro and how you ended up here?

I'm the Vicar. I spent 11 years as a Prison Chaplain and felt God calling me back into parish ministry and especially rural ministry. The job here wasn't even formally advertised, but following contact with the Bishop of Basingstoke, he asked the PCC to interview me. God always makes a way where there seems no way. Officially, my role is to have "the cure of souls" to all that live in our villages. That means to care, love and serve everyone, whether they attend church or not, and to point everyone to God who loves us and saves us.



Pictured: Matt and Becky

4. What things in your role do you look forward to the most?

I love the variety of all the things I do, but my favourite thing is to have deep and meaningful conversations about life, the universe and everything. Preferably over a beverage.

5. Outside of parish life, what things do you get nerdy or excited about?

I am very nerdy about history and love discovering new things, or seeing them from different angles. I am a lifelong supporter of Southampton FC, so that teaches me a lot about resilience! I also am nerdy about the Marvel Cinematic Universe and can't wait to introduce my girls to the films when they are old enough.

6. What's your most embarrassing moment?

Meeting someone with an unusual first name and saying, "Oh that's a difficult name to go through life with!" (I was 18 so please forgive me)

7. If you could invent one thing to make your life better, what would you invent and why?

Expandable bookshelves that can fit all my books without looking messy and which you can just keep pulling out to find the one you want.

8. To finish, what is your go-to bible verse when you need some encouragement, and how can it help encourage others?

Jude 23,24 "To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy - to the only God our Saviour be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen." It reminds me that God has taken on the job of getting me safely home and it's not about what I do, but all about his love that I open my life up to.

ALTON HERITAGE DAY

Saturday 13th September

**In the Assembly Rooms, 10am to 3pm.
Courtesy of Dementia Friendly Alton.**

Saturday 13th September is the date of Alton's first **Heritage Day**. This will be a part of the national 'Heritage Open Days' that are held in September each year and give people a chance to 'try out new experiences' which are **FREE** to explore. According to the heritageopendays.org.uk web site – these events are part of 'England's largest festival of history and culture'.

Thanks to the generosity of Dementia-friendly Alton, we will have the use of the Assembly Rooms and we have invited local clubs, groups, societies and businesses to join in and have a table where they can share their

history with everyone. The national theme this year is **Architecture** but we also hope to feature the history of our brewing industry as well.

Alton has a rich and varied history of which we are proud and that we need to preserve and publicise while at the same time supporting the valuable work being done by Dementia Friendly (for whom donations will be very welcome). Do join us between 10.00am and 3.00pm. Refreshments will be available.

For more information,
[contact janehurst1@gmail.com](mailto:janehurst1@gmail.com).



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.

Children's Church in September



September marks the start of the new academic year, a new school uniform, and after a good rest, fresh energy to face the exciting year ahead. We miss everyone over the summer holidays, so we are looking forward to the restart of our youth and children's groups. Children's Church is a fun and friendly group for primary age children during the Sunday morning service. With stories, games, songs, and crafts, children learn about God in a way that's easy to understand and enjoy. We hope will see you at Children's Church this term - now 3 times a month!

7th September

9:30am Holy Cross Binsted

BRAND NEW!

14th September

No Children's Church

Holy Cross Day Benefice Service at Binsted

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.

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

SUMMER EXHIBITION:

Ancient Woodland: A celebration of place.

A major exhibition of works by local artists

Mary Waltham and **Jacqueline Amies**.

(Continues until 20th September).

Inspired by and rooted in the ancient woodlands of our locality, the exhibition invites visitors to the Allen Gallery to be curious about these rare and special areas to which we are fortunate enough to have access.

According to the Woodland Trust "Ancient woods are our richest and most complex terrestrial habitat in the UK and they are home to more threatened species than any other. Centuries of undisturbed soils and accumulated decaying wood have created the perfect place for communities of fungi and invertebrates and specialist species of insects, birds and mammals." (Woodland Trust 2024)

Workshops & Events: A programme of activities, supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, accompanies the exhibition, exploring some of the themes presented. There will be opportunities to learn more about some of the stories behind the Allen Gallery's permanent collections and some surprising connections with rural woodland sites and raw materials. The artists will be holding a "in conversation" session on Saturday 13th September, 2pm - 4pm.

Further details on the Gallery website

www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery

Adult Well-being Workshops.

FREE but booking essential

Celebrating the Season with Ceramics

Join Creative Designer & Author Becki Clark for a day embracing seasonal creative mindfulness with ceramics. Becki will introduce air dry clay and how to use seasonal inspiration to craft your own clay nature pressing & jewellery dish perfect for gifting to friends or family in the festive season. After lunch, you'll have a chance to explore combining marbling with ceramics, embracing the mindfulness of creating marbled patterns before crafting your own marbled ceramic coasters. Finally, Becki will demonstrate how to decorate ceramics with paint working in a folk art style to decorate your own ceramic piece to take home. The session is designed for complete beginners and you'll enjoy a day embracing seasonal inspiration to get creative in a like-minded group.

Date: Friday 26 September

Time: 10:00am - 4:00pm

Age: 18+

Celebratory Collage

Michele is an illustrator with a background in education and community projects, specialising in creating collages using recycled materials to create a narrative. She depicts everyday images with quirky twists, which hopefully stimulate

viewers to question or imagine....or simply smile. Over the course of the workshops you will explore how collaging can be used to process and record memorable moments in time to support wellbeing, from simple gestures to more significant events. The aim is to share how this illustrative technique can take away the 'intimidation' of a blank page but present a creative challenge through its use of limited materials within a structured and supported framework. You will also learn about artists who work in this medium, as well as the benefits of being a 'maker'. Open to all levels of artistic ability, each unit will focus on a different method to record a personal narrative, in a supportive and non-threatening way, using easily resourced materials.

Date: Tuesday 30 September

Time: 10:00am - 4:00pm

Age: 18+

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

***How the Victorians Died.* by Mike Grey.**

11 September, 7.30. FREE.

COMING SOON TO THE ALLEN GALLERY- CERAMICUS.

CURTIS MUSEUM

Anglo-Saxon Living History for Alton Heritage Day

We'll be joined by some Anglo-Saxon re-enactors on Alton's first Heritage Day. Come and learn about life in the Saxon period. Saturday 13th September, 11am - 3pm. FREE, donations welcome.

Saxons vs Vikings - Follow our activity trail with two routes, Saxons or Vikings? Choose a side and join its boot camp on this fun family trail.

Make a Shield to blend in with your chosen team. Only £2 per shield with craft materials provided. 2nd September - 24th October, 10am -4.30pm.

Dotty the Dodo's Autumn Fact Hunt - a free Family Trail. Dotty has hidden some more facts from the natural world around the Museum. Can you find them all and earn your Dotty the Dodo sticker? 2nd September - 29th November.

Sudoku July/August Answers

Sudoku EASY

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

Sudoku MEDIUM

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

Sudoku HARD

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



Binsted Parish Council

A message from Binsted Parish Council's new Chair

I'm Dominic Hearne and I want to introduce myself, having taken over as Chair of Binsted's Parish Council in May. I live in Blacknest with my young family and a menagerie of animals. We moved to this area three years ago and we love living here - we were made to feel very welcome by the community, and the local villages, hamlets and open spaces are really beautiful. It's an idyllic place to live and to bring up a family - except, of course, for the speeding traffic along Blacknest Road! My life is hectic - I run my own business, have three children to run to various clubs, and I do some sports coaching and umpiring myself. But I felt I couldn't complain about the traffic if I wasn't prepared to step forward and help, so I joined the parish team.

I'm very grateful to Alison, our outgoing Chair, that the Parish Council is in good shape for me to take over. In 2021, when Alison took over, she inherited a difficult situation: the council team had only three councillors, the Clerk and Finance Officer were both in the process of retiring, and there was a big backlog of projects after Covid. Alison's hard work means we're now in much better shape. We have eight councillors from across the parish, much more participation by parishioners in the council's Working Groups, and better governance and communications. We've raised significant amounts of grant income and delivered a wide variety of projects: resurfaced bridleways and

carparks; new cricket nets and storage for Binsted Rec's sports teams and Fete; and unloved parish land has been turned into an award-winning wildlife reserve at Blacknest Fields. We've even had some planning victories.

But of course a parish council is like a home: there's always something new to be done to look after it, working out how to provide the best possible services and ensure money is spent wisely. It's great that Binsted Rec is very well used and the council will continue to subsidise a portion of the sports clubs' costs. With that said, recent increases in the costs of maintaining the buildings and land have not been

balanced by increases in the revenue we receive from clubs and users. So, during the past year, we have been renegotiating contracts for all the groups involved, to ensure the percentage of subsidisation the parish makes to users remains affordable. We want to make sure the Precept doesn't need to be increased unduly in the future and remains competitive with that in surrounding parishes.

We are also working hard with Hampshire Highways to obtain traffic calming and road safety measures. Work is progressing on traffic calming for Frith End and Blacknest, which will be funded using s106 funding from the Bordon and Whitehill regeneration. We are also working with the two schools in our parish, and with residents in Isington Road, Station Road Bentley and Bucks Horn Oak, to see if safety improvements can be made there.

We'd like you to support our work by stepping forward to help, as part of this community. People in the UK give great amounts of time and money to charitable causes. And your community needs your help too – we're looking for people who can put some time in to help, in various ways:

- We need another councillor, to bring our friendly team up to its full quotient of nine. Someone who's willing to take a role in community projects and help us deliver the various projects we've got on the go. Ideally, someone from one of the outlying hamlets who also can bring their community to the table.



- We also need extra volunteers to help us with things like Speed Watch and traffic projects, the wildlife projects at Blacknest Fields, and help our Local Plan Working Group. Just giving an hour or two of your time every so often would make all the difference.
- Last but not least, we need everyone to be vigilant in reporting problems that you see - if you don't, that problem will undoubtedly get worse. The police have asked us to emphasise how important it is for people to report collisions, burglaries and any incidents of antisocial behaviour, because their resources get allocated to the areas and issues where problems have been reported. Equally, it's very important to report problems like blocked footpaths, broken signposts and other road problems, because otherwise authorities like the Countryside Service and Hampshire Highways have no idea that such a problem exists. If in doubt how to report things, you can always ask Mike, our Parish Clerk.

Dominic Hearne,
Chair, Binsted Parish Council



Alton Camera Club

Although we've taken a break for the summer, Alton Camera Club members are still out and about enjoying the fine weather and attending regular field trips. Recent outings haven't taken us to Arundel Wetlands Centre, Exbury Gardens and a not-so-sunny Southsea. Most recently we took advantage of the glorious weather and made a trip to the Isle of Wight. As if the ferry to Ryde wasn't exciting enough, we took a bus to Quarr Abbey, a train to Shanklin, walked the coastal path to Sandown and returned by train to Ryde. It was a great day out and we're itching to go back and explore further.

As a club, we're anticipating the start of our 79th season of photography and we look

forward to welcoming new and not-so-new members to an exciting photographic year ahead.

What can we offer? The club is part of the Southern Counties Photographic Federation (SCPF) and has access to a wide range of judges and speakers, with presentations from experienced photographers. Practical workshops are held throughout the season, with hands-on demonstrations and expert advice on various techniques and genres of photography including (but not limited to) portraiture, macro, astro, wildlife, landscape and street photography. The opportunity to enter friendly club competitions every month, where digital



images and prints are assessed by qualified judges who score and provide constructive feedback, ensures that your photography is continually improving and gaining recognition. We also enter images into regional SCPF competitions. We have a thriving bi-monthly Field Trip programme with past trips including the Thames Barrier and Thames Path, Brighton, and Autograss racing at Four Marks. We work closely with local initiatives including the Alton Arts Festival, Broadlands Riding for the

Jo Hawkes Exbury



Jo Hawkes Exbury



Steve Emmerson IoW



Wendy Davies Arundel



Alton Camera Club

Founded 1957

Andrew Sorrell IoW



Kelvin Perry Arundel



Disabled, Alton Operatic & Dramatic Society and Holybourne Theatre.

The 2025-26 programme has been finalised and we have an exciting programme ahead. In Autumn we welcome Jon Hawkins for a talk on Wildlife Photography and Michael Berkeley will talk about Sports Photography. Caroline Preece will introduce us to a new way of thinking about composition in her talk 'Tools not Rules' and Richard Brayshaw will get us thinking with his talk 'But How Does It Make You Feel?'. Suzie Kirkby will lead a workshop on 'How to Make AV's'. We look forward to our annual Safari competition where we tour Hampshire looking for clues and taking photographs. Our competition season kicks off with a challenge competition, 'Song Titles' at the end of September.

Our new season starts on Wednesday 3rd September. We meet every Wednesday from 7.30pm at

Holybourne Village Hall, GU34 4HD and offer a welcome to people of all ages and abilities whether you use a mobile phone, a digital or film camera.

To allow potential members to sample our club before committing to membership, up to 3 club evenings may be attended prior to joining. A £5 fee will be levied for practical and speaker evenings; this is refundable against future membership.

For further information and our full programme, take a look at our website www.altoncameraclub.org.uk.

Email chair@altoncameraclub.org.uk or fieldtrips.ACC@yahoo.co.uk

Follow us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/altoncameraclub>

Instagram @altoncameraclub

Ann Pitman Isle of Wight



Renee Smith Exbury





Suckers!

In June I visited Lacock, a National Trust property in Wiltshire. The Abbey and other buildings looked interesting, but I only had time for the trees.

There are some amazing trees in the gardens, most importantly a Caucasian Wingnut, *Pterocarya fraxinifolia*; *Ptero* – winged, *carya* – nut; *fraxini* – Ash like, *folia* – leaves. Scientific names can sometime be informative, however the leaves are the only similarity to an Ash, and the wingnuts after which the tree is named, don't seem to have a useful purpose as they are mainly sterile. The tree, instead, favours root suckers as a means of prolonging the lifespan of its genes. These sprout from the ground some distant from Mother and grow to be as large eventually.

This mature Wingnut is these days more like a thicket than a single tree. From 20 metres away you weave through the saplings, and earlier, larger generations. I have to say-and this may just be me-it felt like the scene from the film *Alien* where a scout party discover the brood chamber on a crashed spaceship. Fortunately no-one in our group was attacked, as John Hurt was on that occasion!

Traditionally, many trees were propagated using root cuttings. A spade would be used to cut through roots. The cut roots would throw up shoots or suckers and these would then be used to produce new trees. Elms were propagated widely in this way because they do not produce reliable viable seed. Root cuttings are still worth considering for elm, willow and poplar.

In nature, only a few species sucker profusely. Other species of wingnut, like the Chinese Wingnut *Pterocarya stenoptera*, carry on quite 'normally', releasing their fertile nuts on the wind. There has to be an explanation for this difference. After all *fraxinifolia* is missing the opportunity to share its genes with another by cross-pollination. Every one of the suckers in that brood chamber at Lacock is a clone of Mother. If anybody knows why it adopts this inferior survival strategy, I'd like to know the explanation.

Locally I have seen another ‘sucker’, the Eastern Balsam Poplar *Populus balsamifera* growing in someone’s garden. It has just produced what I take to be its first flush of suckers. It’s on its way to becoming a thicket like the Lacock Wingnut. The spread of the saplings is a fascinating illustration of the underground extent of this big tree’s roots. As before, there is a close relative that is more sensible. In this case the **Western Balsam**, which is more popular (excuse the pun) and you can see why.

A more common sight is English Elm *Ulmus procera*, notwithstanding the ongoing scourge of Dutch Elm Disease. They often skulk in hedges, so their suckering is just a convenient way to

thicken up the hedge. But on the south coast, from Eastbourne to Worthing, you can still see the magnificent full-grown version. And in early spring the streets are littered with seeds that look not unlike wingnuts. But, guess what, the seeds don’t work. My friend has an English Elm that is not yet more than 6 metres tall, yet it has already sprouted three generations of sucker. There is a bewildering array of elm species, but unarguably more English than English Elm is Wych Elm *Ulmus glabra*. It has no trouble breeding in the usual manner. It is also said to be more resistant to DED.

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





NEED A SCHOOL PLACE FOR SEPT 2026?

Binsted CE Primary School

Join us for a tour of our lovely village school, where our community feels like family. We are a small rural primary school with small class sizes and strong Christian ethos, based on our school values of Faith, Hope and Love.



Dates

Monday 29th September 2025

Monday 13th October 2025

Wednesday 12th November 2025

Wednesday 26th November 2025



Tours at:

9:30 - 10:30 or 11:00 - 12:00



Location

Binsted CE Primary School, Church Street, Binsted GU34 4NX

Contact the school office on
01420 23200 or
adminoffice@binsted.hants.sch.uk
to book your place!

We look forward to meeting you
soon!





School News - Binsted CE Primary

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

Here we are in September already, a new school year starting. We have said goodbye to our last year 6 cohort and wish them every success as they embark on new adventures at their secondary schools. We are excited to welcome our new Oak Class to Binsted – some families are a part of our school community already, but some are new and we are looking forward to getting to know them over the coming weeks. We say a special hello to Ivy, Tommy, Wilf, Emily, Emmie, Hunter-James, Ophelia, George, Archie, Ella and Thomas!

We have lots of amazing things planned for the children this coming year.

We have exciting school trips in the pipeline, including a Key Stage 2 trip to London to join the Young Voices Choir at the O2. Rowan class will be visiting the Titanic Museum in Southampton. The whole school will be going to the Sustainability Centre in East Meon for a variety of workshops to develop their understanding of our impact on the world around us. We have a school residential trip to PGL Little Canada on the Isle of Wight in the diary for March. We are continuing our Eco drive with Eco Club and our Eco Reps. We are also thrilled to continue with our amazing gardening club, with big plans for a garden redesign and forest school area. We will also be visiting Holy Cross Church for our usual church services and each class will be going on lots of topic related trips.

Coming up in the next few weeks we will be holding some open events for anyone who is looking for a Year R place for their child for September 2026. We have the following dates available if you would like to visit:

Monday 29th September

9:30 – 10:30 and 11:00 – 12:00

Monday 13th October

9:30 – 10:30 and 11:00 – 12:00

Wednesday 12th November

9:30 – 10:30 and 11:00 – 12:00

Wednesday 26th November

9:30 – 10:30 and 11:00 – 12:00

We would love to show you around our lovely little school. To book a place a place on a tour please contact Mrs Lucas in the office on 01420 23200 or drop us an email to adminoffice@binsted.hants.sch.uk

Holy Cross Day

Sunday 14th September 2025

Holy Cross Church, Binsted



What is Holy Cross Day and why do we celebrate it?

Helena Augusta, the mother of Emperor Constantine, discovered what many believed to be the empty tomb and true cross of Christ during a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. According to tradition, the discovery was made on September 14th, 330. Five years later, after the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was built on the site, it was dedicated on September 13th or 14th, 335. From as early as the seventh century, the Church commemorated September 14th each year with a Feast of the Holy Cross.

On **Sunday 14th September 2025**, we are commemorating Holy Cross Day, where we remember and celebrate the significance and power of the cross in our Christian faith.

Part of our celebration will be the recommissioning of the East Window which has been restored in recent weeks. The East Window, of Holy Cross, Binsted, depicts Jesus on the cross, so Holy Cross Day is a fitting celebration to bring it all together and remember the sacrifice Jesus made on that cross.



Binsted Church needs your help.

Help preserve the building for generations to come.

Become a Friend of Binsted Church and...

- HELP** provide essential funding for the maintenance of this historic building
- HELP** preserve the church for generations to come
- HELP** retain the character and heritage of our village

Your friendship will enable you to...

- ✦ Sponsor the cost of maintenance of the building and churchyard for a day, currently £35
- ✦ Choose a day of special significance to you and your family
- ✦ Have your name and day recorded formally in a Book of Friends kept permanently displayed in the church, next to a lit candle

For more information and a sponsors' form, please visit www.benbinfro.co.uk/friends-of-binsted-church or scan the QR code.

The Friends of Binsted Church is under the jurisdiction of Binsted PCC, a registered charity in the name of The Parochial Church Council of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Cross, Binsted, Hampshire.

Registered Charity Number 1207775.



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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 July and August draws of the Bentley Memorial Hall 100+ Club are:

July: 1st Bill & Chris Whitfield 2nd Helen Curwen 3rd Bruce & Lizzie Powell

August: 1st Hugh and Sue Chissell 2nd Sarah Ward 3rd Jim Munro

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.

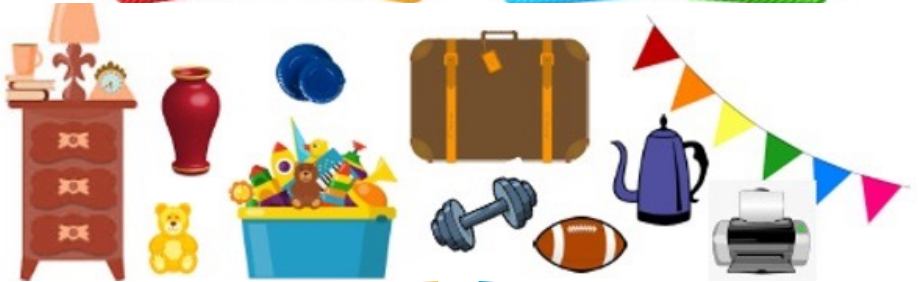
For room bookings and additional information about the Hall, please visit our website

www.bentleymemorialhall.org.

2nd Bentley Scout Group

JUMBLE

SALE



SATURDAY
20th September
2025

Doors open at 2pm

50p Entry

Scout Hut

Come & get your bargains!!

**Bring any contributions to the
Scout Hut by 12:00 noon on the day.**

**For further information
contact Bob on
07769 906745**

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LITTLE WOMEN

FROM GRETA GERWIG
THE WRITER AND DIRECTOR OF LADY BIRD



Bentley Memorial Hall Association Presents

Little Women (Brilliant new 2020 version)

Starring: Saoirse Ronan, Emma Watson, Meryl Streep

Fri. 10th October, at the Memorial Hall

Doors/bar open 7.15.

Film starts at 8pm

Buy tickets at the door, £7

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great things, I can
do SMALL things
in a great way.”**

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Sudoku Games

Sudoku game EASY

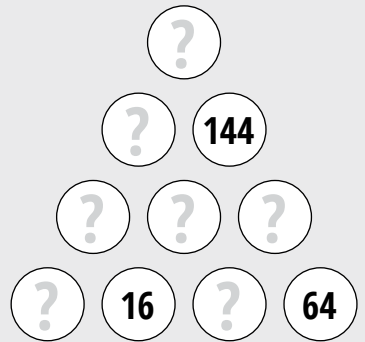
			1			4		2
			7	2				5
9		6		3		7	1	
1		8					2	
6								3
	3					1		4
	1	7		5		2		6
5				8	1			
4		9			6			

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

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

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



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
July & August 2025 draws:

July 2025	August 2025
1 st prize Claire Fargeot	1 st prize John Beadle
2 nd prize Patricia Knight	2 nd prize George Read-Ward
3 rd prize Catherine Hadfield	3 rd prize Christine Dance

Details of the September 2025 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

06

June
2025

WEATHER STATISTICS



Temperature



Daytime maximum

32.2°C (30th) to 16.5°C (5th)

6 days above 30°C, and 6 days below 20°C



Nighttime minimum

6.1°C (4th) to 18.4°C (28th)

12 nights below 10°C

Rainfall



Total for month

1.46 inches (37.2 mm) over 9 days



Wettest days

0.46 inches (11.8 mm) (7th)

Wind



Dominant wind direction

West South West



Maximum gust

17 mph (3rd)

Parish Weatherman

07

July
2025

WEATHER STATISTICS



Temperature



Daytime maximum

34.2°C (11th) to 20.2°C (29th)
7 days above 30°C



Nighttime minimum

4.1°C (3rd) to 16.7°C (17th)
9 nights below 10°C

Rainfall



Total for month

2.91 inches (74.0 mm) over 12 days



Wettest days

1.46 inches (37.0 mm) (31st)

Wind



Dominant wind direction

West South West



Maximum gust

19 mph (15th)

Parish Weatherman

Colouring In





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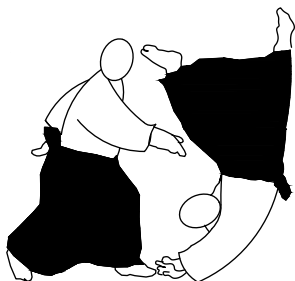
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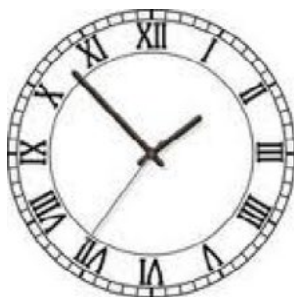
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www.bentleymemorialhall.org

Badminton Club: Martin Fox 07710 035913
martin.fox62@yahoo.co.uk

District Council

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

Parish Council

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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

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2nd Bentley Scout Group General Enquiries:

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BINSTED

Website: binstedparishcouncil.com

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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

SEE YOU THIS

ALL ARE WELCOME

September

- 7th Sept** **9:30am** Binsted Holy Communion & Children's Church
11am Oakhanger Holy Communion
6pm Bentley Praise
- 14th Sept** **11am** Binsted Holy Communion - Holy Cross Day
6pm Kingsley Praise
- 21st Sept** **9:30am** Froyle Morning Worship & Messy Church (*see inside for details*)
11am Kingsley Holy Communion
- 28th Sept** **9:30am** Bentley Holy Communion & Children's Church
11am Binsted Morning Worship
6:30pm Froyle Evensong

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

