

JUNE 2026

# Bentley & Binsted

PARISH MAGAZINE

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| Big Sleep Out | 08 |
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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

### Licensed Lay Minister

Steve Fice (Day off - Friday)

Tel: 07876 767990 | email: steve.fice@btinternet.com

### Anna Chaplain

Fran Harrison annachaplain@benbinfro.co.uk

### Benefice Administrators

Lucinda Edwards and Gemma Ball

(admin@benbinfro.org) 01420 23339

### Honorary Assistant Minister

David Perryman, Treetops, Upper Froyle

Tel. 07710 699183 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

**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, 07876 767990 steve.fice@btinternet.com

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

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

**A**fter the major Christian festivals of Easter, Ascension Day, Pentecost and Trinity Sunday in May, we move into what the Church calls “ordinary time”. No big festivals, no seasons of reflection or celebration. However, in June a number of significant Christians who have made huge contributions to our history and culture are celebrated.

1<sup>st</sup> June remembers Justin Martyr who died in 165. He was one of the earliest defenders of Christianity from a philosophical and theological point of view. One of his arguments was that the ethics that Christians follow are a benefit for society and not a threat. This at a time when the early followers of Jesus were seen as a danger by persuading people to not worship the old gods and thus threatening social harmony.

5<sup>th</sup> June is the feast of Boniface. Born as Wynfrith in Crediton in Devon. Boniface was a Saxon missionary bishop whose ministry spread the Christian faith throughout Germany. He is credited as introducing the idea of the Christmas Tree as being more powerful than the oaks that pagans worshipped, because they are evergreen. He was martyred in Frisia in 754.

16<sup>th</sup> June is the day of Richard of Chichester 1253. Another bishop, he is famous for his prayer which says, “Dear Lord, of thee three things I pray: To see thee more clearly, Love thee more dearly, Follow thee more nearly, Day by day.”

22<sup>nd</sup> June commemorates St. Alban d,250, the first British saint. Alban sheltered a priest and was executed in his place on a hill above the Roman city of Verulamium, where St. Alban’s cathedral now stands.

28<sup>th</sup> June celebrates the theologian, Ireneaus of Lyons d,200 who described life as “the vale of soul making”. As we go through life the soul we will live with in eternity is formed. All of our choices and decisions count.

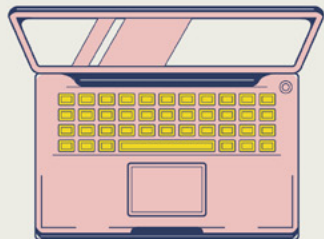
So this June, may we think about the legacy we will leave. The bravery we will need to stand for what is right. The influence we have on others, for good or bad. May we pray the prayer of Richard of Chichester and allow God to lead us into, and by, his love.

Matt Boyes

*Rector of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle*

# Work from home

## at Bentley Church Hall



Come along to our 'working from home' sessions at Bentley Church Hall. We have structured days with quiet times for focussed work through the day and the opportunity for a social lunch to beat the loneliness, share ideas, and cheer each other on.

Come any time between 9am - 5pm to suit you.

Don't worry if you need to take calls or sit in a meeting - we have a separate space set up so you won't disturb the others!

9am - 5pm

Dates:  
9th June  
23rd June

Bentley Church  
Hall  
Church Lane  
GU10 5NA

FREE lunch

Structured but flexible  
work days

Tea & coffee

WI-FI

chat to Becky or Gemma  
or email [admin@benbinfro.org](mailto:admin@benbinfro.org) for more info

# Work from home

*at Bentley Church Hall*



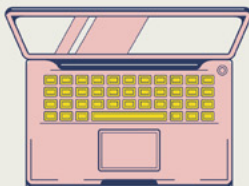
We want to hear from you! Our Working from Home days are very popular with new people coming to work in the church hall all the time. But we want to serve our community in the best way we can.

***Have your vote!***

What DAY of the week would you come work from the church hall?



chat to Becky or Gemma  
or email [admin@benbinfro.org](mailto:admin@benbinfro.org) for more info



# Meet the Team

*Andrew Hunter Johnston*



*Pictured: Andrew Hunter Johnston*

## 1. Quick-fire questions!

**Tea or coffee?** First one, then the other - each at the appropriate moment: good breakfast tea to start the day, strong black coffee during the morning and, ideally, Darjeeling in the afternoon.

**Winter or summer?** I'm not good at hot weather but I love sunshine and colours, so can I opt for Autumn instead?

**Sunrise or sunset?** Sunrise on a fine morning every time!

**Sweet or savoury?** Ah, my big weakness: any kind of pudding, cake or chocolate!

**Apple or android?** Apple: it just works!

**Air guitar or air drums?** Neither: why have either when you have the majesty of an organ?

**Movies or books?** Books forever.

**2. What's your favourite way to start the day?** A mug of tea, say hello to the dog and go for a swim.

**3. Tell us more about your role at Benbinfo and how you ended up here?** When our children grew up and left home (then in Wandsworth), we wanted a permanent home in the country, but within reach of family and other activities in London. We had friends in Hampshire who encouraged us to look here and, after some searching, we found a perfect house in

Wyck and quickly met many wonderful people here. My role has been mainly to help support the worship by playing the organ in services, preaching occasionally and by chairing the group seeking to install much-needed loos in Binsted church. We also plan to improve disabled access and enhance the church's facilities for hosting after-service refreshments and other events.

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

Meeting visitors and sharing life stories with them is always a joy. Playing for major events like benefice services or carol services is also very rewarding, especially when everyone joins in singing rousing music.

**5. Outside of parish life, what things do you get nerdy or excited about?** We have a large number of grandchildren, who bring a lot of pleasure and laughs. I also love reading, listening to music, sailing, swimming and walking.

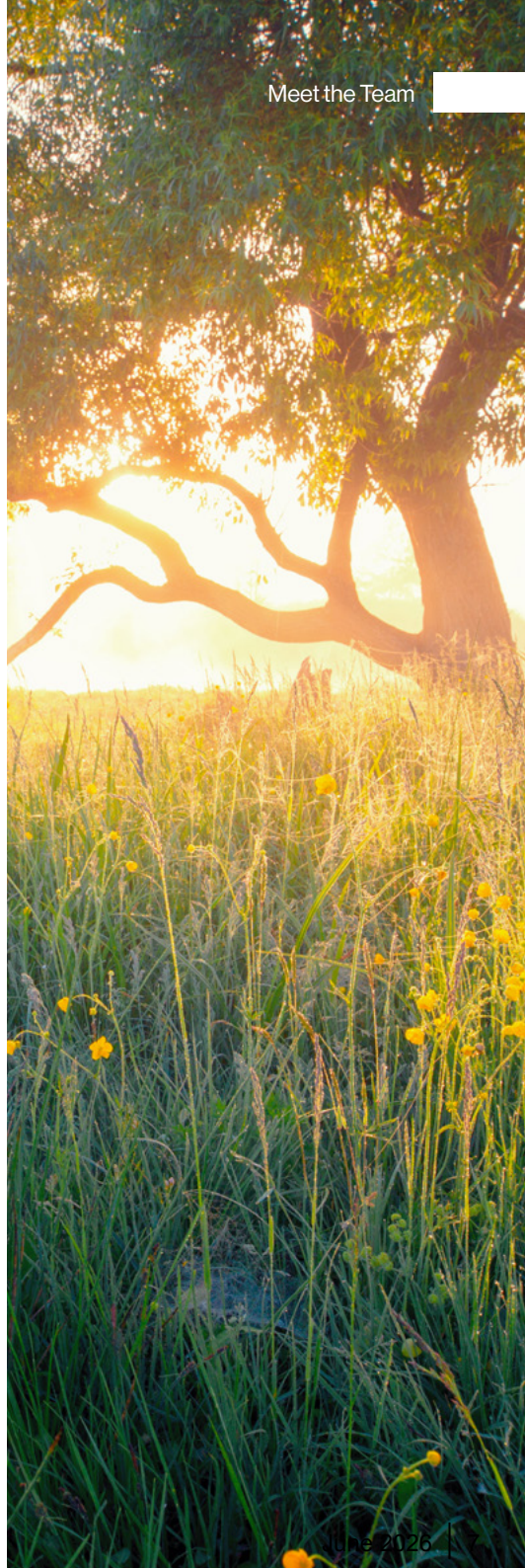
**6. What's your most embarrassing moment?** Oh, too many! Regularly when

I lose concentration in a service and play the wrong number of verses in a hymn. Otherwise, I remember a smartly-dressed couple arriving one evening expecting a dinner party but we had completely forgotten we'd asked them and had to offer impromptu kitchen supper instead.

- 7. If you could invent one thing to make your life better, what would you invent and why?** An effortless way to keep fit without having to visit the gym. I fully appreciate the benefits of going regularly but it is torture every time!

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

Definitely Psalms 121 and 122: *I will lift up my eyes to the hills and I was glad when they said to me let us go into the house of the Lord. We sang these at school at the beginning and end of every term so they have remained with me ever since. The reading was always Philippians 4:4-9 - Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let everyone come to know your gentleness. The Lord is at hand. <sup>6</sup> Be anxious for nothing, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with gratitude, make your requests known to God. <sup>7</sup> And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will protect your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> Finally, brothers, whatever things are true, whatever things are honest, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue, and if there is any praise, think on these things. <sup>9</sup> Do those things which you have both learned and received, and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.*





## Trinity's Big Sleep Out 2026

### Friday 19th June 2026

### Winchester Rugby Club

Something big is coming...

Trinity's Big Sleep Out is back for 2026, bringing our community together for one powerful night under the stars to raise awareness and vital funds for people experiencing homelessness. This year is even more significant as Trinity marks its 40th year in service.

**On Friday 19th June 2026, the youth group at BenBinFro will be sleeping out at Winchester Rugby Club — challenging themselves, building community, and making a real difference.**

Please consider sponsoring our young people as they spend the night out in cardboard boxes to raise money for Trinity Winchester - thank you!



<https://www.justgiving.com/page/benbinfro-youth>

# four: twelve

YOUTH CLUB



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

**WHEN? FRIDAY 5TH JUNE - 5-6:30PM  
FRIDAY 19TH JUNE - 5-6:30PM**

**WHERE? BENTLEY CHURCH HALL**

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

[admin@benbinfro.org](mailto: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 11th June - 6-7:30pm  
Bentley Church Hall**

**Friday 19th June - Big Sleep Out!  
Winchester Rugby Club**

[admin@benbinfro.org](mailto:admin@benbinfro.org)



## A PRAYER FOR

# FATHER'S DAY

Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>

Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>

### We pray today for dads:

- + New dads, granddads, stepdads, adoptive dads & solo dads.
- + Baldy ones, beardy ones, skinny ones & cuddly ones.
- + Dads who tell bad jokes & dads who dance to YMCA.
- + Dads who know how to fix things, & dads who just pretend.

Father to the fatherless, we pray for those for whom this day is sadder than it is happy:

- + Those who feel they have failed
- + Those who are grieving children, including those they never had
- + Those missing their dads, or their children, even more than usual.

Father God, in a world where some dads are distant, absent or even abusive we lean into your ever-present love. You are faithful, especially to those of us orphaned, abandoned & hurt. *"Even if my father abandons me, the Lord will hold me close"* Ps 27:10

Father of Comfort, heal our wounds. Restore the dignity, integrity and centrality of fatherhood in our nation. *"I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. And I pray that you may know love."* (St Paul)

And finally Lord, for all those poor souls everywhere who forgot that today is #FathersDay, we ask you to bless them, in your abundant grace and manifold mercy, with the discovery of chocolate and a half-decent card in surprisingly well-stocked convenience stores.

Amen.

c. Pete Greig

# Children's Church in June



A friendly and fun group for children during our Sunday services. With stories, games, songs, and crafts, children learn about God in a way that's easy to understand and enjoy. All ages are welcome – come and join us!

**7th June**

9:30am Holy Cross, Binsted

**14th June**

9:30am St Mary's, Bentley

**28th June**

9:30am St Mary's, Bentley



[admin@benbinfro.org](mailto:admin@benbinfro.org)

[admin@benbinfro.org](mailto:admin@benbinfro.org)

**FREE**



**Sunday 21st June**

St Mary's Church, Froyle  
GU34 4LB

9:30am (during the morning  
worship service)



Messy Church is a brilliant time of fun, crafts, games, messy play, singing and stories. The whole family are invited and there is something for everyone. We'd love to meet you!

**This month it is Father's Day! Come along for some Father's Day themed crafts and games, stories and songs. Let's celebrate the men in our lives who love and support us in every way.**

It's free and brunch is included for everyone (even for the grown-ups!)



**Bentley Lodge**  
Care & Nursing Home

**SUMMER  
FAIR**

**Saturday 13th June**  
**2pm to 4pm**

**BENTLEY LODGE CARE & NURSING HOME,  
BENTLEY VILLAGE , GU10 5LW**

**FREE ENTRY**

**JOIN US FOR LOTS OF FUN!**

- raffle •
- tombola •
- BBQ and refreshments •
- home tours •
- live entertainment •
- market stalls •
- and much more!

For more information call: 01420 23687

# Binsted Fete

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2026**

**12-4pm**

## **Binsted Recreation Ground**

This year at The Binsted Fete we'll have all the usual  
children's activities plus;

Drinks from The Beer Box Bar

Teas and Cakes

Gelato and sprinkles

Music from Francesca

Bake off Competition

Raffle

Photography Competition

Fun Dog Show

Stallholders and Young Entrepreneurs  
and much more.

[info@binstedfete.co.uk](mailto:info@binstedfete.co.uk)

### **Sudoku May Answers**

Sudoku EASY

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

Sudoku MEDIUM

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

Sudoku HARD

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

# 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 40 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](mailto:bentleymemorialhall@gmail.com).

## The Bentley Memorial Hall 100+ Club

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

1st Elizabeth Roach    2nd Roger Puncher    3rd Belinda Barfoot

**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](mailto:bentleymemorialhall@gmail.com).

For room bookings and additional information about the Hall, please visit our website  
[www.bentleymemorialhall.org](http://www.bentleymemorialhall.org).

[illegible]

(You must be registered at the surgery and be over 18)

# Prayer Week

*17th – 24th May 2026*

**We had a wonderful time in May joining in with the Church of England's Thy Kingdom Come initiative where churches and organisations across the country spend time in prayer in the week leading up to Pentecost. This year the theme was God With Us. Members of our church family put in so much time and effort into creating some thoughtful prayer stations to fill Bentley Church Hall. Each prayer station was an activity which encouraged us to think about what it means for God to be with us in our everyday lives and give us creative and engaging ways to talk to God.**

The prayer stations included crafts like making windmills to remind us that the Holy Spirit is always with us, and cutting out sandpaper footprints, reminding us of the wonderful

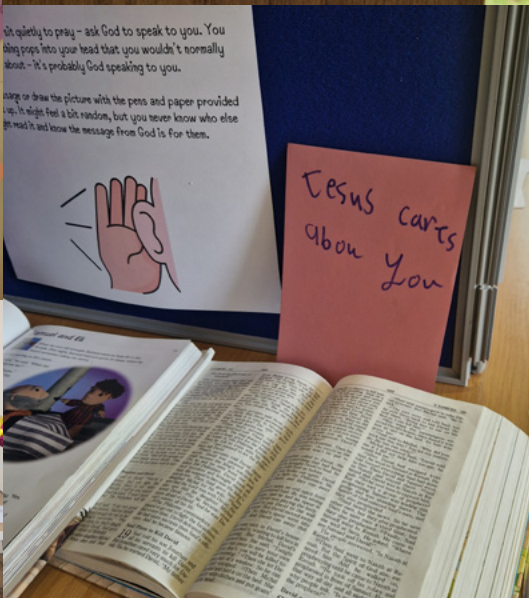
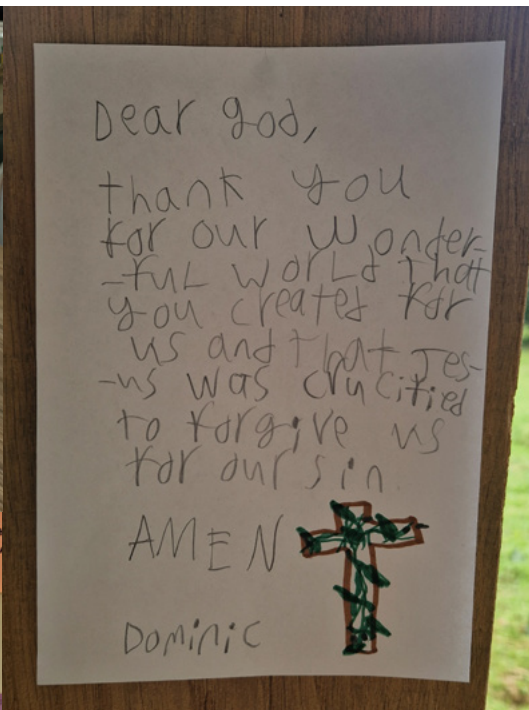
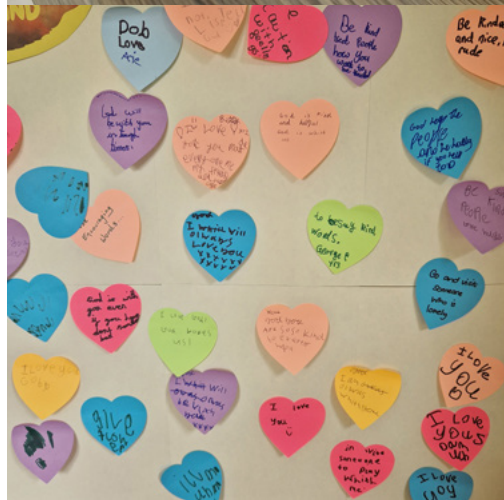
Footprints in the Sand poem. There were activities to encourage stillness, to prompt prayer for others around the world, to have a cup of tea with Jesus, and more! There were things to touch, feel, craft, read, listen to and think about.

We invited Bentley and Binsted schools to visit the Prayer Room too. The children were incredibly well behaved, respectful and thoroughly enjoyed their visit. It was a joy to see the children engaging in the activities and learning more about how God can be with us each day. Some of the prayers and comments written by the children, and displayed throughout the week, were beautiful.

A huge thank you to everyone involved in creating the prayer stations and volunteering to support the children during their visits. We hope that everyone who came along to the Prayer Room found it inspiring and encouraging, and came away with a renewed sense of what it means for God to be with us and with new ideas of how to talk to God.

A number of the prayer stations have been moved to Binsted and Froyle churches so do make the most of them while they are there.

The BenBinFro Team x



## Footprints in the Sand

One night I dreamed I was walking along the beach with the Lord.  
Many scenes from my life flashed across the sky.  
In each scene I noticed footprints in the sand.  
Sometimes there were two sets of footprints,  
other times there were one set of footprints.

This bothered me because I noticed  
that during the low periods of my life,  
when I was suffering from  
anguish, sorrow or defeat,  
I could see only one set of footprints.

So I said to the Lord,  
'You promised me Lord,  
that if I followed you,  
you would walk with me always.  
But I have noticed that during the most trying  
periods of my life  
there have only been one set of footprints  
in the sand.  
Why, when I needed you most, you have not  
been there for me?'

The Lord replied,  
'The times when you have seen only one  
set of footprints in the sand,  
is when I carried you.'

*Mary Stevenson*

***We make a living  
by what we get.***

***We make a life  
by what we give.***

**Winston Churchill**



**‘SAVE THE DATE’  
TEAS ON TUESDAY IN JUNE**

**ST. MARY’S CHURCH,  
UPPER FROYLE**

---

**Tea, Scones, Cream & Jam**

**will be served**

**every Tuesday afternoon in June:**

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup> June.**

**2.30 – 4.30 PM**

---

**EVERYONE WELCOME**





**Bentley**  
PARISH COUNCIL

## News from Bentley Parish Council

**The Bentley Annual Parish Assembly is always an opportunity to catch up on everything that's been happening in the parish over the past year. Our meeting on Monday 20th April at the Memorial Hall was no exception and as enjoyable as ever.**

We began with a review of parish council business, which included an update on drainage maintenance and improvements from Cllr. Gordon Tillett, and a report on planning applications and the making of our new Neighbourhood Plan from Cllr. Chris Mace. The district's Local Plan and proposed development in the parish was also covered: Given the substantial changes to the Local Plan since it was first published, we believe it demands a further public consultation at Regulation 18. We feel that in the current economic climate the rush to make a new Local Plan to avoid speculative development is not justified and lacks democratic accountability.

We also heard reports from our district councillors, particularly on policing in the district and anti-social behaviour (I will expand on this topic in a future article). The meeting also marked the retirement of our county councillor, Mark Kemp-Gee, who due to illness was not able to join us. A report from Mark was read out by our Clerk and, on behalf of the council, I expressed our thanks and appreciation for Mark's service to the parish over the past two decades, particularly recently through

his support in improving the village crossroads signage and markings.

Whilst speaking of departures, I must include Cllr. John Wilson, who has retired from the council for family reasons. John has provided an ebullient presence to council proceedings and we thank him for all his work on transport and highways in the parish, especially overseeing the installation of the new bus shelter outside Bentley Lodge.

We are fortunate to have so many who dedicate their time to organising events and activities for the benefit of the whole community. Over the past twelve months several initiatives have begun or developed through the efforts of residents and I shall mention three in particular that were reported at the meeting:

Although we had a setback with the Recreation Ground renovations last year, the dogged persistence of the Bentley Archers has succeeded in rectifying the glass problem, and we look forward this summer to cricket again being played on the ground, this time on a new wicket. We also look forward to junior football starting later in the year. The surface has been

much improved by the renovations and this will benefit not only Bentley Archers but also the School, the Scouts and, not least, the Fete and Flower Show.

The Old Recreation Ground, which has now been renamed Bentley Green; this restores the historical name to this part of the village. The field is now being revived as an orchard and wildlife area through the Bentley Green Community Group. This has proved to be a hugely popular venture with many residents already getting involved.

Finally, another new venture, a Bentley history walk. The first was held in April and proved so popular that two further events have been organised later in the

summer to handle the numbers. If you'd like to know a little more about the history of the parish I can highly recommend it.

For details of these and other activities in the village, please consult our website and as always, if you have any questions, comments or requests, please do get in touch.

**John Fuller**

Chairman, Bentley Parish Council

For further information on the parish council and parish events please go to [www.bentleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.bentleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram:  
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[clerk@bentleyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@bentleyparishcouncil.gov.uk)



## **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**





# COME AND SAY HELLO

We are excited to meet you at the church stall at each of our village fetes this year - come and say hello!

The stall will have a prayer tree, face painting & crafts - all free!  
And there will be plenty of information about our churches, services, events & groups. Chat to some friendly faces and get stuck in!

Saturday 4th July - Froyle Village Fete

Saturday 11th July - Binsted Village Fete

Saturday 18th July - Bentley Village Fete

---

Every Sunday following the fetes we run a special service in each village, it would be great to see you there!

Sunday 5th July, 11am - Froyle Pet Service on the Rec

Sunday 12th July, 11am - Binsted Pet Service in the Church

Sunday 19th July, 11am - Bentley Marquee Service on the Rec



# Save the Date

## BENTLEY FETE

&

## FLOWER SHOW

SATURDAY 18TH JULY 2026

1PM - 5PM

THE REC, SCHOOL LANE,  
BENTLEY, GU10 5JA



1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> June

# VOLUNTEERS' WEEK

**Volunteers Week is an annual celebration of the remarkable contributions made by volunteers across the United Kingdom. Not only is it an opportunity to recognise, appreciate, and thank the millions of people who generously give their time and skills to help others and support their communities, it is about encouraging others to get involved.**

Volunteering has a long history in the U.K., dating back to medieval times when it was encouraged to help the poor and sick. Today, volunteering is a vital component of UK society, with millions contributing their time and skills annually, bringing people together and strengthening communities.

There are many reasons why people volunteer – it can provide an opportunity to develop new skills, build confidence, foster a sense of connection and empathy with others, and make new friends whilst giving something back (and adding to your CV!). It can also improve mental well-being, as helping others often brings a sense of purpose and satisfaction.

So many of our village organisations rely on volunteers: our two Parish Councils, Bentley Memorial Hall, the Wickham Institute, our Fete and Flower Show Committees, the Care Group, the Binsted Community Garden and the Bentley Green Community Projects, the Scouts and all those who lead and co-ordinate the various clubs and groups within our villages. Our schools also often need people to go in and hear children read or similar. Slightly further afield, the local foodbanks and charity shops are often looking for people who can a hand, even if only for an hour or two.

Some of you reading this are already involved with these or other volunteering opportunities, and for this, we are truly grateful – thank you for helping make our villages the wonderful communities that they are.

If not, and you would like to volunteer some time, you can find contact details for many of the village organisations on the inside back cover or take a look at <https://govo.org/search> or one of the other volunteering search engines.



**14.2 million people in the UK have formally volunteered at least once a month**



**Volunteering added £4.6 billion in productivity gains to the UK economy in 2024**



**25 million people in the UK volunteered informally at least once in the year**



# 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.

## Sudoku Games

Sudoku game EASY

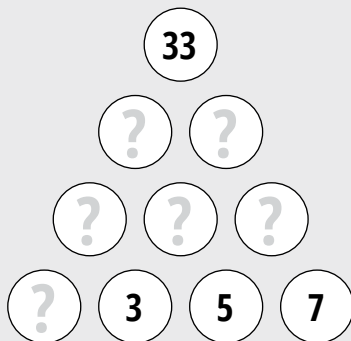
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 6 | 7 |   | 2 |   | 1 |   |   |
| 8 |   |   | 3 |   | 5 | 2 |   | 4 |
| 2 |   | 3 |   | 1 |   |   | 5 |   |
| 3 |   | 5 | 6 |   | 1 | 9 |   | 2 |
|   | 9 |   | 8 |   |   |   |   |   |
| 1 |   |   |   | 9 |   | 5 |   | 3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

What are the missing numbers?





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**CASTLE STREET FLOWERS**  
&  
**BENTLEY SATURDAY CAFÉ**

# BENTLEY FLOWER & PRODUCE SHOW

Please visit our **website [www.bentleyfete.co.uk](http://www.bentleyfete.co.uk)** to register your entries online by **8pm on Friday 17 July 2026**. You can also register in person at Saturday Café on Saturday 11 July **between 1030-1230**. There is no charge for entries. Please sign in and bring your exhibits to the Flower & Produce Show marquee on **Saturday 18 July 2026 between 8.00-10am**, when the tent closes for judging. Tent reopens at **1pm**. See full schedule for all details – available locally.

## **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) or Day Lily
- 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 Tomatoes – loose or on the vine (min 3 with calyx intact)
- 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
- 31 Five Carrots, washed with tops left on
- 32 Three Beetroots, washed, 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 A cake made with fruit
- 49 6 Chocolate Brownies
- 50 A Banana Cake
- 51 6 savoury scones
- 52 6 home-made biscuits
- 53 A jar of Honey

## **Section E Children's Classes**

- 54 11 years and under Cress grown in a recycled container
- 55 Yr R Animal artwork, using items from nature (A4)
- 56 Yr 1 Castles (max cereal box size)
- 57 Yr 2 Lighthouses (max cereal box size)
- 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)

## **Section F Arts & Crafts**

- 62 Photography "My Bentley" - under 16s
- 63 Photography "My Bentley" - 16 & over
- 64 Handicraft – a textile item
- 65 2027 Schedule Cover poster competition
- 66 Scarecrow – staked, no higher than 2m

# CURTIS MUSEUM

(01420 82802)

## OPENING TIMES

Tuesday to Saturday  
10am – 4.30pm

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

## CURTIS MUSEUM 2026

### Forthcoming events

### The Curtis Museum is holding two themed trails in June -

#### For Alton's Regency Week -Jane Austen's High Street Trail

Join a FREE themed trail around the Curtis Museum and find out more about the writer's walks from nearby Chawton to Alton, what she might have seen on her route, as well as her connections with the Curtis family.

Friday 19th June to Friday 17th July, 10am - 4.30pm. Drop in from 19th June and throughout Alton's Jane Austen Regency Week to pick up your FREE trail sheet, the trail will continue until Saturday 17th July.

**In honour of Dolls House Day,** (which will be held in the Alton Assembly Rooms on the 27th June) a **Miniature Items Spotter Trail** This trail runs from Tuesday 2nd June - Saturday 27th June, 10am - 4.30pm. FREE ENTRY.

Can you spot the miniature items we have hidden around the museum? If you're up to the task they will reveal a secret word!

### UPDATE on the Allen Gallery from Hampshire Cultural Trust Allen Gallery Redevelopment

We're delighted to share that construction has officially begun on site. This is a major milestone for the project and an exciting step towards the venue's transformation. The venue closed at Christmas as planned, and all activity has now successfully transferred to the Curtis Museum while works take place.

Alongside this, the wider project continues to make strong progress. Our community engagement programme remains active, with family activities running during school holidays, artist residencies underway with local creatives, and a range of opportunities helping our volunteers stay closely connected and involved throughout the redevelopment.

To stay up to date with project related activities and events, keep an eye on the Curtis Museum website.





## THE WICKHAM INSTITUTE (VILLAGE HALL), BINSTED

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



LOTTERY FUNDED

### ***The Wickham Institute 100+ Club***

As promised, listed below are the  
lucky winners of the May 2026 draws:

#### May 2026

1<sup>st</sup> prize Trish Cardy

2<sup>nd</sup> prize Hilary Spicer

3<sup>rd</sup> prize Graham Jones

Details of the June 2026 draw will appear in the next magazine.

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](mailto:treasurer@wickhaminstitute.co.uk)



## School News - Binsted CE Primary

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

At Binsted School, Year 1 and 2 children in Rowan Class have been busy learning all about Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole. We visited Fort Nelson on a very windy and cold day. We participated in three workshops to learn all about Florence Nightingale and what she did to make the profession of nursing and how hospitals are run and managed today.

We learned the signs for unhygienic/dirty and order because Florence found the conditions in the Crimean War were unhygienic and she liked everything in order.





Rowan Class also visited Wisley when the blossom was out and we all had a 'blossom fight' which was much warmer and softer than a snow fight!

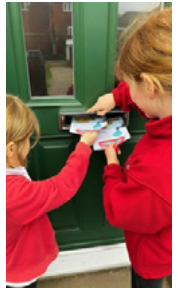
Whilst at Wisley, Rowan class saw lots of different plants and flowers, as well as lots of wildlife. We enjoyed watching the fish and birds in the pond but did not enjoy the ducks trying to take our lunch right out of our hands. We particularly loved the Glass House and the park. A lot of children said it was,



***"THE BEST DAY EVER!"***

**Miss Pidden**





## South East Water have partnered with Binsted School to turn Binsted's water-savings into a community award.

If the Binsted community can collectively reduce water use by five per cent between 1 April and 30 September, South East Water will award **£5,000** to the school to fund new outdoor wooden lockers, gardening tools and plants.

The funding will buy:

south east water

- Two large outdoor clothing storage units.
- Two-tiered outdoor storage units.
- Plants and tools for the school's volunteer-run Gardening Club.

It is an investment which will benefit Binsted pupils for years to come - and they need your help to make it happen!

Please visit this link to see how you can help and to pledge your support for the school

<https://www.southeastwater.co.uk/help/save-water/binsted-water-saving-challenge/>

south east water



Thank you!



**April  
2026**

WEATHER STATISTICS



**Temperature**



**Daytime maximum**

26.3°C (8<sup>th</sup>) to 13.1°C (13<sup>th</sup>)

8 days above 20°C and 10 days below 15°C



**Nighttime minimum**

- 4.8°C (25<sup>th</sup>) to 9.8°C (15<sup>th</sup>)

12 nights below 0°C

**Rainfall**



**Total for month**

0.46 inches (11.8 mm) over 9 days



**Wettest days**

0.13 inches (3.4 mm) (27<sup>th</sup>)

**Wind**



**Dominant wind direction**

West South West



**Maximum gust**

26 mph (5<sup>th</sup>)



# Binsted Parish Council

## Parish Councillor Vacancies

**The Parish Council currently has two vacancies that we'd love to fill to join our friendly team. There are a lot of misconceptions about the role of a councillor that I often hear- that it will involve giving a lot of time, or that it will mean sitting through lots of long and boring meetings on subjects that don't interest them or require specialist knowledge (such as planning applications). The reality is very different- we keep formal meetings to a minimum and keep them short. Instead we try and focus on getting things done, with our councillors getting involved in a wide range of projects benefitting the community that they have an interest or background in. It might even be an opportunity to get involved in something new and different, obtain new skills or enhance your CV?**

And the role really doesn't require you to devote a lot of time- all of our councillors are busy people with other commitments- whether that be family,

work, running their own businesses, and other hobbies, interests or voluntary work. A few hours a month is all that's needed in the role, and we try hard to make it a rewarding experience that fits around busy lives and other commitments, whilst making a real difference to our residents. We believe we are a stronger council when we have a team with a wide range of skills and backgrounds and diversity of thought. I can safely say that our current councillor team doesn't fit the stereotype many people might think a Parish Council "looks like". And we're all the better for it- it's an effective and varied team that works well together to get things done- it would be great if we could fill our current vacancies so we can achieve more for the parish. So we'd love to hear from you if you're interested in getting involved- pop in to see me at the pavilion at Binsted Rec for an informal chat or drop me a line at [clerk@binstedparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@binstedparishcouncil.org.uk)

# **Binsted Parish Council: Community Grants**

**Each year the Parish Council sets aside some funding (typically around £5,000) to award as small grants to local organisations, for activities that benefit people living in the parish.**

Any organisation which contributes to wider community life can apply, including community associations, clubs, local charities and local branches of national charitable organisations. We cannot though provide grants that only benefit specific individuals, or to commercial enterprises.

Last year grants ranged from £300 to nearly £1,000, benefitting our local schools, churches, and a variety of local charities such as East Hants Citizens Advice, Bushy Leaze and Home-Start who provide support to local families.

The Parish Council is keen to ensure that these grants contribute towards the life of our community in a wide variety of ways. So we welcome grant applications big or small, for existing activities and initiatives, or for a new project, idea or event.

To apply for funding you will need to complete a short form that can be found on our website <https://binstedparishcouncil.org.uk/news/community-grants-from-binsted-parish-council> that asks for information about what you want funding for, how it will benefit the community, and some financial information about the activity and the organisation you are applying on behalf of. The closing date for applications is 31 July.

If you are unsure about whether you can apply, want to discuss an idea for an application, or have any questions about completing the form then please contact me at [clerk@binstedparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@binstedparishcouncil.org.uk), or call on 07483 310631

**Mike Mordecai**

Binsted Parish Council Clerk



# Bats and Trees

Bats emerge from hibernation around April. Females will already be pregnant, and will give birth communally in June. The pups will be weaned and independent by July. Hibernation begins in November.

All UK bat species eat insects, so they look for places with lots of insects to hunt. Some bats prefer waterways, others prefer woods or grassland. Woodland margins are the most used. Then, around 5,000 years ago, humans began to build attractive alternatives, like belfries for instance. Still a woodland will provide different accommodation for different purposes, together with bed and breakfast. Being active at night, of course, breakfast is taken at dusk.

Most bats in the UK evolved to roost in trees. Trees, woodlands and their

associated shrubbery attract a wide variety of insects for bats to prey on. The elusive Bechstein's bat is one of our rarest species, living in woodland areas in parts of southern England and south east Wales. They roost and forage in suitable woodlands of 25 to 50 hectares or more in size, and very rarely venture further afield.

Grasslands and farmlands can also provide good hunting for bats. Dr Roger Ransome has investigated one surprising connection between horseshoe bats and alpaca farms! Some bats come out of hibernation for brief periods in winter to forage for food – but

where do they find insects? Dr Ransome's research in Gloucestershire suggests that alpaca dung dropped in the colder months attracts heat-seeking dung beetles – and dung beetles attract hungry horseshoe bats!

Bats use woodland edges, hedgerows, rivers and other linear features like tree-lined footpaths as corridors to commute from one area of countryside to another. These features act as navigational landmarks and can also provide some protection from predators. As bats fly through the night, their echolocation calls bounce off these landscape features, helping the bats find their way to and from their roosts and foraging habitats.

The place a bat lives is called its roost. Bats need different roosting conditions at different times of the year and they will often move around to find a roost that meets their needs. They do not build nests, and they are vulnerable to predation if they stay on the surface. Trees such as oak, beech and ash are particularly suitable for bats, but any woodland tree has potential for a bat roost, if it has cavities in the trunk or branches, woodpecker holes, loose bark, cracks, splits or thick ivy.

For several weeks in summer, female bats gather in a maternity roost to have their babies. The young bats are suckled by their mothers for four to five weeks until they are old enough to fly. They then begin to venture out from the roost to forage for food.

In winter, bats go into hibernation, which is an extended period of deep sleep (or torpor) that allows animals to survive cold winters with harsh weather. A bat's body temperature lowers and their metabolic rate slows, meaning they use less energy and can survive on the fat they have stored up

instead of trying to forage for food. During hibernation, bats need roosts that are cool and remain at a constant temperature. They will seek cavities deeper beneath the surface of the tree. Pipistrelles are our commonest bats, but we don't know where they all go in winter! We have not found enough hibernation roosts to account for the numbers we see in the summer months.

**Ben Hamlin**  
*Tree warden*  
Binstedtrees@gmail.com

# Thank You!

Dear Friends of  
The Benefice congregations

Grateful thanks to all who  
prayed for me recently when I  
underwent open heart surgery.

Special thanks for the Prayer  
vigil held when I experienced  
a Cardiac Arrest, 3 days later.

We thank God for miracles  
as I survived and am making  
a good recovery.

*‘Commit your way to the Lord,  
trust in Him and He will act’*  
Ps 37 v5

**Georgina Beare**



## Celebrating Nature at Bentley Primary School

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May was a truly special day at Bentley School, as we were delighted to welcome Louise Purnell, WWF's Teaching Community Manager, to our school.

As part of our ongoing work with the WWF Teaching Community, it was a wonderful opportunity for our children to engage directly with the inspiring "Happy by Nature" programme - an initiative launched to help children connect more deeply with the natural world and experience the many benefits this brings to their well-being, focus and learning.

Louise spent time working alongside our fantastic Nature Guardians, leading a "bioblitz" in our beautiful Attenborough Garden. A bioblitz is a hands-on survey where participants work together to identify as many different species of plants, insects and wildlife as possible within a set time. It was a joy to see the children so engaged, curious and enthusiastic as they explored the area and recorded their findings.

During the bioblitz, the children discovered a range of living things including a huge range of plants and trees planted by the children, blue tits flying in and out of our new nesting boxes and a lovely damselfly by the pond.

Following the bioblitz, Louise also spent time with staff and children from Years R, 2 and 6 as they engaged in the WWF's



Happy by Nature programme. The year 2 children were making micro habitats as part of their science learning, using recycled cardboard tubes as a home for sticks, leaves and pinecones, perfect for our tiny woodland creatures. Years R and 6 then showed Louise the power of our school buddy system where the Year 6 children shared their love of the natural world with their Year R buddies – there were lots of 'wows' to be heard as the

children felt a sense of awe and wonder at finding a range of bugs in our school woods and nature reserve.

We were incredibly proud of how the children represented our school, showing such knowledge, teamwork and genuine excitement about the natural world. Louise herself was full of praise, commenting on how amazing our school grounds are and even saying she could happily stay here all the time! I could only agree. We are so fortunate at Bentley to have such a wonderful outdoor space, quietly tucked away behind the school, offering our children daily opportunities to explore, learn and thrive in nature.



We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to Madame Jones, who continues to inspire so many of our children and staff in caring for our environment. Her passion, knowledge and dedication play a huge part in nurturing a love of the natural world across our school community.

It was a memorable visit that reminded us all just how important it is to nurture a love of the natural world in our children—and how lucky we are to do so in such a special setting.



**Book  
your visit  
now!**

# Find your perfect school place today.

We currently have a small number of places available across the school, including Year R for 2026–2027. Get in touch with our office to arrange a visit and experience our wonderful school for yourself.

☎ 01420 525010    ✉ [adminoffice@bentley.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@bentley.hants.sch.uk)



**Bentley CE Primary School**

School Lane, Bentley, Farnham GU10 5JP

[bentleyprimaryschool.co.uk](http://bentleyprimaryschool.co.uk)



# 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 are covered by income from advertising revenues.**

**Thanks to your generous donations, the shortfall for the last year has reduced to just under £1,500, but Bentley and Binsted PCCs still have to cover this amount.**

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](mailto: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.

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# Bentley Memorial Hall

The perfect venue for celebrations, weddings, children's parties, meetings, specialist classes or exhibitions.

Conveniently located in the centre of the village with kitchen facilities and ample car parking.

Main hall accommodating up to 100 people and two meeting rooms accommodating up to 60 people each. Main hall and one meeting room can be combined for larger events.

For more information and to book the hall, please go to the website [www.bentleymemorialhall.org](http://www.bentleymemorialhall.org)



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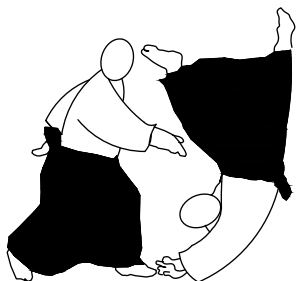
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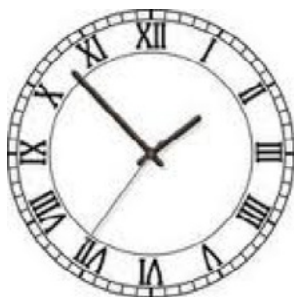
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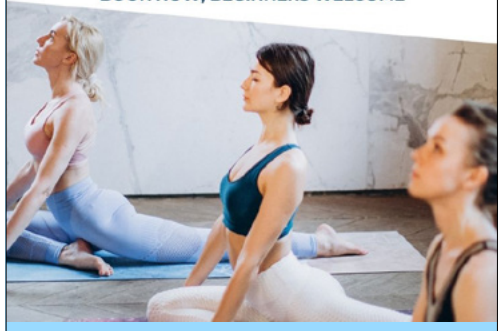
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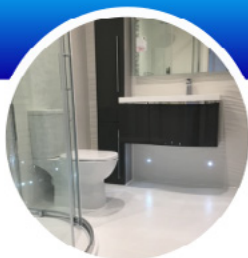
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**6pm** Bentley Praise

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

**21st June**    **9:30am** Froyle Morning Worship & Messy Church  
*Father's Day*    **11am** Kingsley Holy Communion

**28th June**    **9:30am** Bentley Holy Communion & Children's Church  
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