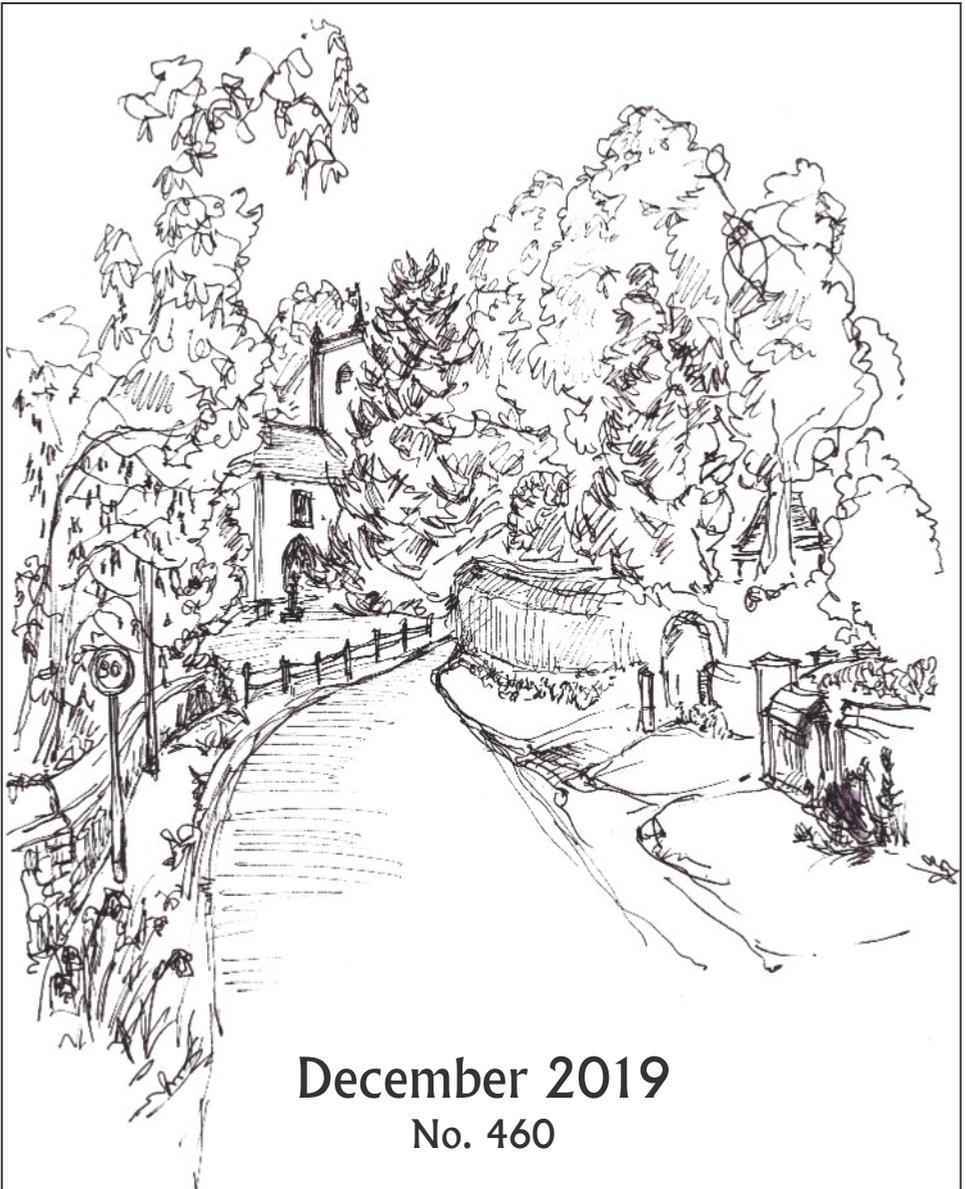


Froyle Village Magazine



December 2019

No. 460

<http://www.froyle.com/magazine/magazine.htm>

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PARISH NEWS & VIEWS

Parish Clerk - Andrew Potter - 01420 520294

Email: clerk@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk.

Web: www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk

Froyle Parish Council (FPC) news round-up

The FPC met on Monday 11th November and welcomed Andrew Aldridge to his first Council meeting as a Councillor. Many residents will remember Andrew when he previously lived in the village and am sure you will look forward to engaging with him and his family again.

Councillors were very pleased to support the **Froyle Archive** and the **Baby & Toddler group (B&T)** with the provision of grants.

- The Froyle Archive is an extremely valuable resource capturing the life and times of Froyle which is maintained by Chris & Annette Booth. You will no doubt have enjoyed the regular articles published in the Parish Magazine and are encouraged to visit the Froyle.com website to further explore the fascinating history of the village, its residents and infrastructure.
- The B&T was reformed last year under the guidance of Molly Scotton. Molly provided an insight into the number of families now attending and the type of activities being undertaken. This grant is specifically to provide Molly with funds to develop a book corner.

Village infrastructure continues to be addressed with work ongoing by the Council to investigate the ditches in the village and seek to improve water flows after heavy rains.

Resident concerns were raised at the meeting with respect to the quality of the grit bins as winter approaches and the deep mud on the footpath just before the turning into Westburn Fields. Actions to address these issues were agreed although it was pointed out that neither the bins nor the particular footpath are owned and maintained by FPC .

Jason Smith presented his vision to establish a **Froyle Youth football team**. This was considered to be an excellent community initiative which was warmly supported by FPC. In order to proceed, Jason identified storage for goals and other equipment as a key requirement and expressed his concern that this might not be available under the plans for the football hut redevelopment. It was agreed that such storage should be incorporated into the design specification for the football hut redevelopment given the potential benefits that this initiative would provide to the Froyle community especially the younger age group.

Froyle Park activities received some attention with Councillors keen to better understand both the work that had commenced (and now been deferred) on the Froyle Park kitchen

extractor and the Ryebriidge Lane carpark. Still on the subject of Froyle Park, the quality of the footpath that has been constructed inside the wall down Hen & Chicken Hill is still considered to be unacceptable. FPC will continue to press NJG to finish it to an acceptable standard but our protestations would be strengthened if residents could raise any concerns they have directly with Lee Jackson of NJG (lee@njg.co.uk). Please copy the Parish Clerk on any email.

It is **budget** time again and the FPC challenged itself to review expenditure to ensure that this continued to be focused on ensuring that the FPC was effective in delivering matters that made a difference to the community as well as covering the cost of efficient administration. It was recognised that the increase to the precept in your 2019/20 Council Tax bill was above inflation and the Council is keen to ensure that any increase requested for 2020/21 is consistent with our needs and at a level per household comparable with neighbouring villages.

FPC meetings are open to all and residents are encouraged to raise any concerns they may have regarding village life and facilities either at a FPC meeting, with a Councillor or via the Parish Clerk. **The next FPC meeting will be held at 19.45 on Tuesday 10th December in the Village Hall.**

.... and in the wider community

Do you have a 4 year old? HCC is reminding parents of children who are 4 or will turn 4 before 1 September 2020 that they can start school in September 2020. For more information go to www.hants.gov.uk/admissions

The Wheels to Work scheme provides assistance to 16+ in East Hants who need help getting to work, interviews or vocational training. For details call 01425 482773/07896 212198 or email www.hants.gov.uk/wheels-to-work

Do you want a postal or proxy vote for the upcoming general election then get in touch with EHDC Election Team on 01730 234350 or email electoral.services@easthants.gov.uk and ask for an application form. Postal vote applications must be returned by 5pm on Tuesday 26 November 2019 and applications for proxy votes must be returned by 5pm on Wednesday 4 December 2019.

Those not currently registered to vote should make sure they are by Tuesday 26 November 2019.

Scam warning. Hampshire Constabulary have warned of two new scams going around. If you receive an email purporting to be from **Paypal** do not click on any link in the email to access your account but use your usual log in routine. An email is also being sent out advising people that **Action Fraud** have money for recipients. Under no circumstances would Action Fraud or the police ask you to make a payment to recover money that you may have lost.



**FROYLE
CAROLS AT CHRISTMAS**



MONDAY 23rd DECEMBER
MEET IN THE VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK
AT 5.00 P.M.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS GATHERED
AROUND THE TREE
FOLLOWED BY
MULLED WINE AND MINCE PIES**

**Should the weather be poor we will
simply sing in the hall!**



EVERYONE WELCOME



Hiring the Village Hall

The general rule is please leave the hall in the condition you found it, or better, as it is not always possible to clean the hall between bookings. Please take all your rubbish with you as there is insufficient bin space for two weeks' accumulation. If you wish to use the dishwasher, follow the instructions and remember to rinse the plates first. Before you leave, check the loos are clean, stack the tables and chairs correctly, make sure the floor is swept, close and lock all the windows and French doors, draw the curtains back, turn off the water heater and switch off all the lights. Double lock the front door. Please return the key to the key safe which is located to the right of the front door by the down pipe. Do this as soon as the session has ended because the key may be needed early the next morning.

If you have any comments, suggestions or complaints about the hall other than bookings please let me know. Further information about the hall can be found at www.froylevillagehall.co.uk

Nick Whines (23130) - secretary@froylevillagehall.co.uk

News from the Village Hall

Once again November the fifth saw another successful Froyle Bonfire Party which attracted a large crowd from far and wide. The event takes a good dealing of planning which started as far back as September. Our risk assessment has to be reviewed, task lists and shopping lists drawn up, licenses obtained, pallets ordered, the BBQ cleaned, police, fire brigade and insurance company consulted. In October the village join in bringing vast quantities of brush and timber for the bonfire.



With a week to go there is a great deal of shopping to be done: beer, burgers, cider and wine, mustard and ketch-up, paper cups and napkins. Two days to go and we build the base for bonfire out of pallets and timber. One day to go and the high loader arrives to add the brush. On the afternoon of the party the pace of activity increases. The bonfire is cordoned off to keep the audience at a safe distance. The fireworks are set out carefully and precisely.

No-waiting cones are heaved into position. Picnic benches are moved off the patio onto the grass. Tables are set out from which to serve the food and drink, sweets and glow sticks. Mulled wine and cider are stirred, hot chocolate heated, the BBQ is fired up and cooking begins. As the light fades and clouds gather we watch the sky anxiously for signs of rain. At least the wind is from the north which will take the smoke away from the hall. At six pm the bonfire is lit. The crowd doesn't arrive so much as materialises out of the darkness. One moment there is nobody the next there are hundreds. Some queue patiently for the food, some make themselves comfortable round the picnic tables, others gather at the cordon where you can feel the heat as the fire gathers strength and blazes up into the night. The playground hasn't been this busy since this time last year as children swarm onto the apparatus. At seven the patio lights dim and the first firework bursts overhead and the bang echoes back from the hills. Seven minutes later with a final flourish of golden stars it is all over for another year. The crowd lingers to finish off the burgers and beer and then melts away happily into the night pausing to contribute to the bucket collection for next year's party.



But the work goes on. Next morning the fire must be raked together. The cordon removed. The litter (very little) picked up. The dustbins emptied. The picnic tables returned to the patio. And then when the fire is finally out there is ash to be barrowed into the hedge. Our magnet-on-wheels picks up nails by the bucketful which must be taken to the tip along with all the metal hinges, hooks, handles and latches which have survived the fire. Finally when the site is cleared grass seed is sprinkled and raked in.

So it goes without saying that there are a large number of people to thank for making the party such a success. Thank you one and all.

It says a great deal about the village that so many residents are prepared to work so hard to make it happen. And it says something about the event that so many people attend and give so generously in the hope that we will do it all again next year.

I'm pleased to report that we again more or less broke even.

The hall has continued to be busy during November hosting a wide variety of events and activities including art classes, baby ballet, shoot lunches, flower arranging and a party of home-learners.

External redecoration of the windows is now complete along with running repairs to some of the windows. The store has recently been tidied. Please make every effort to keep it tidy.

Carols round the Christmas Tree will take place on Monday 23 December at 5.30 pm. Please come. New residents particularly welcome. Mince pies and mulled wine will be served.

On behalf of the Village Hall Committee can I thank you for supporting the hall during 2019 and wish you a very happy Christmas.

Nick Whines Hon Sec Froyle Village Hall (23130)

The Meeting Place

The Meeting Place takes place every Friday morning in the Village Hall from 10am-12 noon. All are welcome to join us for delicious home made cake, hot drinks and to catch up with the local news.

As from January 2020, there will be a small increase in our prices. Cake and filter coffee £1 each. Tea and instant coffee 50p.



THE CHRISTMAS MEETING PLACE

Friday 20th December 10-12.00 noon

As well as the usual tea and coffee, we shall be serving mince pies, cakes and nibbles, washed down with something seasonal! Hopefully we shall not be too overcome to stop us from singing some carols, and there will be a grand Christmas raffle and quiz. We will be asking for donations to the Winchester Nightshelter.

Cake Bakers for December

6th	Susie Robertson	Clare McMullen	Mary Chaplin	Sarah English
13th	Marje Heyhurst	Caroline Findlay	Helen MacDonald	Ann Netherway
20th	Jenny Gove	Madeleine Black	Jo Mills	Lisa Bowler
27th	Freezer cakes			

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO BAKE. IF YOU COULD ALSO TELL US WHAT CAKE YOU ARE PLANNING TO BAKE, IT WOULD BE MUCH APPRECIATED!

Kitchen Helpers for December

6th	Marje Heyhurst	Yvonne Irvine
13th	David Robertson	William Knowles
20th	Meeting Place Team	
27th	Jane MacNabb	Ali Maude

Please arrange swaps amongst yourselves, but do let us know if there are any problems. With the later start time there is no need to be at the Hall before 10.15am.

Gill Bradley (520484) gabbradley@gmail.com
Susie Robertson (520820) sjrinfroyle@gmail.com

Meeting Place continued

ROSTERS for 2020

To all our Cake Makers and Kitchen Helpers.....your rosters for next year will be emailed to you at the beginning of this month (those few who have requested a hard copy will also receive theirs).

Should you not receive your list by 7th December please let me know and I shall make sure that you get one.

Once again a BIG Thank You to you all. And a Merry Xmas and Happy Baking New Year.

Lori Taylor (22148) lorijitaylor@hotmail.com



**The Froyle Games Club
2019 Christmas Party!!!
Monday 2nd December
2.30 – 4.30pm in the Village Hall**

In November we were delighted to have a record number of players, which really is wonderful news; the word is spreading...! We play any card or board game that anyone would like to play; our regular slot is **the first Monday of the month at 2.30pm**; as usual, the charge is only £2 per head, to include tea/coffee and biscuits and of course, because it's Christmas, something bubbly!!! So why not come along on the 2nd and join us for some really good old-fashioned fun.



*Caroline Findlay (22019)
David Robertson (520820)*



Happy Christmas from The Froyle Archive



A seasonal photograph this month to wish you all a Happy Christmas and preview January 2020's story about a building that stood on the corner of Well Lane. The "Mission Church of St Joseph" in Lower Froyle was demolished in 1967 and we believe this photograph was taken around 1900. *See the full story next month.*

Chris & Annette Booth (22364)

U3A Alton

There is no Monthly Meeting in December, but instead a date for your diary is December 20th at 2.00pm. Come and enjoy a festive cup of tea and mince pie, to celebrate Christmas, at the Community Centre. There will, no doubt, be a song or two and even a quiz, come and relax and prepare for the spirit of the Time of Year! More information can be found on the U3A Web Page.

On behalf of The Committee may you have a peaceful Christmas and a Knowledgeable New Year.

2020 will start with John Stubbington talking about how Winston Churchill used information gleaned from the Enigma machines. What a brilliant start to the years Monthly Meetings, on January 17 at 2.00pm at the Community Centre.

Penelope Kennedy (85888)

Armistice Day: D Day Veterans at the Anchor Inn



On Monday 11 November the Anchor Inn at Froyle hosted its annual Remembrance Event in support of the Royal British Legion. Veterans attended a short service of remembrance and then enjoyed a three-course meal, hosted by staff from the Anchor and volunteers from the village.

On the 75th Anniversary of D-Day, amongst those attending were Joe Parker from Alton and Pops Chandler from Holybourne, both D-Day RAF Veterans. Pops was a flight engineer on Lancasters and was in action over the beaches on D-Day. Joe Parker landed on Juno Beach, supporting the 3rd Canadian Division. Both veterans were awarded the Legion D' Honneur by the French Government in recognition of their service, on that critical day, in the liberation of France.

Other veterans attended, representing those who have served in almost every conflict of the last 70 years, including Korea, Suez, Malaysia, Cyprus, Northern Ireland, Kosovo, Bosnia, the Gulf War, as well as Iraq and Afghanistan.

DECEMBER TEA @ 3



We will be holding our annual Craftafternoons throughout December at Bentley Church Hall each Monday in December from 3.00pm-5.00pm.

Along with the usual delicious cakes, healthy fruit & welcome tea you will find mince pies & other festive treats.

There will be festive crafts for children and adults alike. Tell your friends.

We would love to see you...



Froyle Baby and Toddler Group

Thursdays, 9:45am -11:45am (during term times)
Froyle Village Hall

5th December 2019	Christmas crafts - cards and decorations
12th December 2019	NOGROUP!!! - General Election
19th December 2019	Father Christmas visit!

All babies and toddlers welcome with carers - only £ 2 per family.
Come and join us for crafts, songs, stories and lots and lots of toys in a
lovely, relaxed setting.

Any questions please call or message Molly on 07595354619.
Please search "Froyle Baby and Toddler Group" on facebook.



December Report for the Froyle Magazine

Our speaker last month, Geoff Peach, has spent many holidays exploring the south west corner of Ireland and his talk gave us an in depth insight of the atmosphere and character of that region.

Photos showed us coastal and inland scenery, villages, stately homes and gardens, wild flowers and fauna, much of which the average tourist would not get to see.

This month our meeting on 13th December at 7.30pm is our AGM, followed by our own Geoff Hawkins with his talk and pictures of the Italian Lakes.

Subscriptions for 2020 (£10) are due and membership cards available at this meeting.

Anne Blunt (22262) a.blunt247@btinternet.com

Stay warm this winter

Heating your home can be expensive and sometimes difficult.
Get help with staying warm and well with the **Hitting the Cold Spots** advice line, open to all Hampshire residents.



Freephone: 0800 804 8601

Email: staywarm@environmentcentre.com

Hitting the Cold Spots can provide:

- Home visits from Advisors offering advice and practical support.
- Support with temporary electric heaters if you are without heating.
- Help to access funding where available for insulation and heating repairs and replacements.
- Eligibility check for the Warm Home Discount and local energy efficiency schemes.
- Assistance to switch your energy provider or fuel tariff to help save money on your fuel bills.
- Information about other help available, such as benefits and debt advice, home safety visits and healthy living services.

How to stay warm at home:

- Several thin layers of clothing will keep you warmer than one thicker item.
- Drink regular hot drinks and make sure you have at least one hot meal a day.
- Keep active; even when you are sitting down arm and leg exercises can help your circulation.
- When you are sitting still, fingerless gloves, thermal socks, a blanket and a hot water bottle will all help to keep you warm.

Be prepared for cold weather and check the forecast. Look out for friends and family who might be vulnerable to the cold and may not be able to get out so easily in bad weather.

For more information, contact your local Village Agent,

Madeleine on 23371

Village Agents are volunteers who can help you find information and local services that will enable you to stay living safely and independently.





LOVE IN A BOX APPEAL 2019

It is with great pleasure that I have to tell you that on Tuesday 5th November, we sent off the grand total of 79 “Love in a Boxes” to orphanages and hospitals in Moldova; thanks to the support of families and friends from Bentley and Binsted Schools; and the congregations of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle Churches.

I should love to see the smiles on the faces of the 79 children/teenagers who receive the shoe boxes. Can you imagine the excitement as the large truck arrives containing the shoe boxes? These disadvantaged children would not otherwise receive a gift at Christmas.

I should like to say a big “THANK YOU” to all those who took part in the Love in a Box scheme; and also my personal thanks go to Lynda Cake (Farnham Rock Choir); Cathy Winter (Farnham Computer Course); Ann Wilson; Val Gill; Kathy Ogilvie Thompson; Jill Kiely; Mary Desmond; Belinda Barfoot; Katy Pinchess; Jane Tasker, all of whom gave up their valuable time to help me plus Bentley and Binsted Schools and Bentley; Binsted and Froyle Churches who gave us tremendous support.

A very Happy Christmas to you all.

Love and Blessings,

Glenda Powell

GOOD NEWS

I would like to thank those who sponsored me on my 'bicycle sojourn' round a number churches in Hampshire on the Ride and Stride day last September. Ride and Stride is one way in which Hampshire and The Islands Trust raise money for grants they give to churches. On this occasion we raised £435 of which half comes directly to St Mary's and the other half goes to the Trust.

This has led to another piece of good news. As some people will know we are planning to improve the lighting in St Mary's in the near future and we have been applying for a number of grants. I am very pleased to say that the above charity, Hampshire and The Islands Trust, has just awarded us along with the Hampshire County Council, a Grant of £7500 towards this project.

So with the thought that the £200+ from our share of the Ride and Stride day is just about enough to buy a dishwasher for the proposed 2020 kitchen project in the Vestry, and the £7500 from the Hampshire and Islands Trust towards the lighting, it turned out to be a very worth while bicycle ride in September!

Linda Bulpitt



Medicine for the (Christmas) Soul 2019



A few favourite books for your Christmas list:

For all those nostalgic for the Sixties:

“Rock Stars Stole My Life” by Mark Ellen

(who was brought up in Fleet and believe it or not actually mentions going to parties in...Lower Froyle...!!!);

A gripping spy thriller with a difference:

“Transcription” by Kate Atkinson;

An inspiration...how nature does best when left to itself:

“Wilding: The Return of Nature to a British Farm” by Isabella Tree;

A murder mystery and much more, from the Italy’s Patricia Highsmith:

“The Bishop’s Bedroom” by Piero Chiara.

(All are available in audio book form as well as hard copy)

(ex libris Dusty Tomes and Inky Pages)

Pheasant and Partridge from the Froyle Shoot to buy

With the shooting season under way, there are packs of frozen pheasant or partridge breasts available to buy. In each pack there are either 4 pheasant or 6 partridge breasts, each costing £3 per pack. It is also possible to buy fresh packs by prior agreement.

Anyone interested should contact the keeper, Paul Edwards, on 07719914850.

PS For a great website about cooking and eating game see:

<https://tasteofgame.org.uk/why-you-should-eat-game-meat/>

Jenny Gore

Froyle Wildlife



We welcomed Hugh Milner in October for an informative talk about our wonderful Ancient Woodlands and trees. Hugh worked for many years at nearby Alice Holt for the Forestry Commission as Head Forester. He told us that ancient woods have been his passion for nearly 30 years and with sympathetic management they can create ecological impact, enhance biodiversity and benefit ancient trees.

The age of a woodland can be estimated by surveying for indicator species such as spindle, butcher's-broom, wood-sorrel, hart's tongue fern and by physical features such as ditch and bank boundaries. Ancient semi-natural woods are woods that have developed naturally, often managed for timber and other industries over the centuries they have had woodland cover for over 400 years. Hugh had also visited some of the woodlands in Froyle, many of which are SINC's (Site of Importance for Nature Conservation).



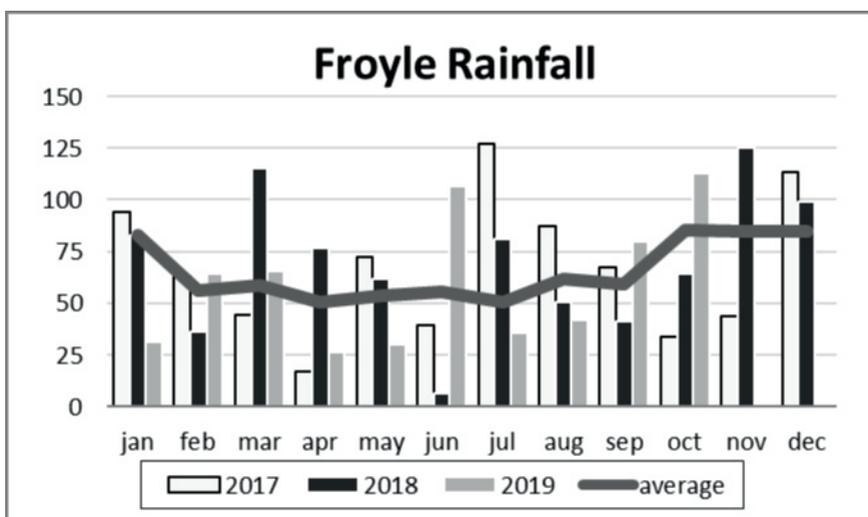
Wood-sorrel

Froyle Wildlife is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and we held our AGM prior to the talk. Members had been sent the Trustees Report and there was a short pictorial review of the year's events with slides. For more information see <http://froylewildlife.co.uk/about-us/>.

Barry Clark

Froyle Rainfall for October 2019

This year	112.5 mm	4.4 ins
Last year	64.5 mm	2.5 ins
Wettest October (1987) – the wettest ever month	226 mm	8.9 ins
Driest October (1978)	7 mm	0.3 ins
October long-term average – the wettest month	85.5 mm	3.4 ins
Total rainfall for the year so far	594 mm	23.4 ins
Long-term average for the year to end October	614.5 mm	24.2 ins



Back in September, I suggested that, following an average second quarter, this was likely to continue into the second half, which is currently almost exactly where we are. Perhaps surprisingly then, the recent seemingly non-stop deluge will have to continue until the sound of Auld Lang Syne is ringing in our ears for us to have even an average year's rainfall (as a whole) in Froyle...



“The Umbrella Man”

History & Geography at Bentley CE Primary School

Bentley has a wide curriculum which allows children in every year group – from Year R to Year 6 – which includes access to History and Geography throughout the year. Both subjects help the children to develop their knowledge of people and places and the processes that create and affect them. Our inclusive school values of ‘Community, Love and Courage’ reflect the philosophies we teach in these subjects.

We promote a skills-based, enquiry approach to history and geography, encouraging our children to be curious; to question, discuss and problem solve, and provide opportunities to develop their social, moral, spiritual and cultural development. The Junior history curriculum is chronological. Our school visits enrich all the children’s understanding and are extensions for learning outside the classroom. Here is a taster of what has been going on.

Our youngest class, Reception, take part in local walks around the community, learning about where they live. They learn about the weather patterns and seasons through the year. During their most recent trip to Alice Holt, they followed the Stick Man trail, taking with them stick men they had made from sticks gathered during their weekly outdoor learning time. Later this month, they will make their first trip to St Mary’s Church to learn about the history of the building and see the amazing lime trees outside. Arundel Castle is the destination for Year 1 in the summer where they will enjoy the beautiful architecture and learn about the historical importance of the castle and its features.

The Royal Victoria Military Hospital at Netley gave our Year 2 children the perfect chance to gain hands on experience of Florence Nightingale’s job – they bandaged limbs and scrubbed floors just as she had done – and were able to see just how influential her work was in nursing today. “She must have been very brave”, said Phoebe.

With an Iron Age Day at school later in the year and a visit to Butser Ancient Farm, Year 3 are embracing the past, learning about how communities were formed and covering many interesting historic times right through to the Roman settlements in the UK.

Year 4 recently visited Dapdune Wharf in Guildford to build on their river studies undertaken at the Gordon Brown Centre during their residential visit last year. Their visit included a boat ride on the Dapdune Belle, a towpath walk and a scientific experiment involving oranges being dropped into the River Wey to see if the middle or the edges of the river move faster. “The activities were amazing and the staff were really friendly” said Eva.

Residential visits later in the school year to the Calshot Activity Centre in Southampton will provide the perfect opportunity to study the coast and physical geography for our Year 5 and 6 classes.

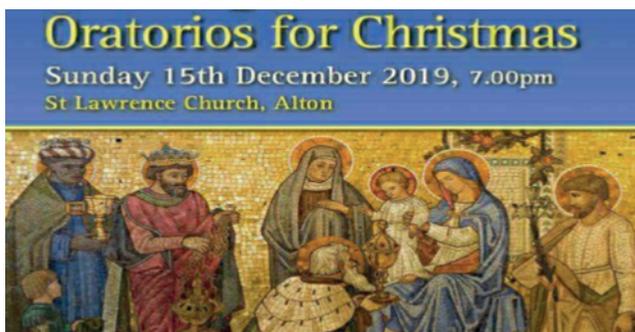


Year 6 spent a really interesting day at the Houses of Parliament; their tour included both the House of Lords and the chance to watch a debate in the House of Commons. It was a great opportunity to see democracy in action and have a Q&A session with our local MP, Damien Hinds. Charlie was fantastic in his role as the Speaker of the House during their workshop!

We feel our curriculum reflects our school - we embrace our small rural community but we endeavour to encourage our pupils to explore the world around them and beyond.

Miss Hand, History & Geography Subject Leader

WAVERLEY SINGERS with the Covenant Youth Choir and Covenant Training Choir, Alton



Extracts from Bach's Christmas Oratorio and Handel's Messiah

Advance tickets **£15** (students/U18s **£5**, under 16 free if accompanied by responsible adult) from

- ∂ Waverley Singers members – contact Gillian Pickering on 23209
- ∂ Newbury Building Society, Alton
- ∂ e-mail tickets@waverleysingers.com
- ∂ Online (no card charges) <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/waverleysingers>
- ∂ **Tickets on the door £17**

Froyle 100 Club November Winners

1st – Paul Cousins
2nd – Gill Bradley
3rd – Maureen Fry
4th - Madeleine Black

Congratulations to all winners!

....**AND PLEASE NOTE, ALL FROYLE RESIDENTS** (particularly anyone in Upper Froyle and others who may not know about this very non-exclusive village ‘club’) that the beginning of the calendar year is subscription time for the 100 Club.

Any adults living in Froyle are welcome to take part and be allocated a number. The subscription cost is £12 a year. Half the subscription money is paid out in prizes under a monthly draw at the Meeting Place – no need to be present to win (although it is a good reason to come along to the Meeting Place on the first Friday of the month). The other half goes to help finance the Village Hall.

Each year I promise myself I shall be more efficient in

- (a) collecting the loot from those of you who do not pay by standing order, and
- (b) providing details to those of you who would like to pay by standing order but to whom I have failed to provide the details.

AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, anyone who is not a member and would like to join, do please get in touch with me - preferably by the end of the year (although you can join at any time).

The 100 Club supports the Village Hall and the odds of winning something back are pretty good (currently four prizes a month, £30 for the first prize).

William Knowles Mob: 07775 928933 wbl@wbknowles.com

THE VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE

Dear all,

The Big Day will soon be here, with all the feverish anticipation that accompanies preparations for Christmas. And here in the Benbinfro churches, we try hard to offer moments of peace, reflection and fun amidst the flurry of preparatory activities, to help us think about the real meaning of Christmas. We have some wonderful engaging events in our benefice, such as the beautiful candle-lit Advent Service in Froyle, the Christingle service in Bentley and in Binsted we enact The Real Nativity, often with a real baby as well as a real donkey (or two!).

But none of these well attended, much loved activities can truly convey the reality of the birth of Jesus. Those of us who are parents, can never forget the excitement, trepidation, joy and sometimes sadness that accompanies the birth of a child. Even with the help of modern midwifery, we are all aware that complications can arise. And around the world there are many mothers and babies exposed to risks in childbirth much more akin to those Mary would have faced, giving birth without the help of her own mother or another knowledgeable helper.

Let's imagine for a moment, her reaching the end of an uncomfortable and arduous journey, not to a clean hospital or even to a familiar home, but to a damp stable, spread with straw, smelling of animal dung. She was heavily pregnant, tired and almost certainly frightened as she faced the birth of her first child. The location was not hygienic and there was probably no way of heating water or providing warm clean towels. She had not attended ante-natal classes, bought a layette for her baby or been given second-hand outgrown clothes and a baby bath. She had nothing to sustain her but her husband, her faith and the knowledge that she was carrying a very important child, for as she had been told by the Angel Gabriel, *'you have found favour with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus.'*

We don't know how long she was in labour, but we know her child arrived in the world and was loved by both his parents. Mary had also been told by the angel that her baby *'will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end.'* But significant as these words were, how could she have fully understood their meaning and the impact that her son's life would have?

There she is, a new mother, resting after a tiring journey and a painful labour, checking that her newborn has all his fingers and toes, holding him and kissing him and falling in love with him, as we all do with our children. She cannot know what the future holds for him and her blissful ignorance is very beautifully captured in the lovely worship song, 'Mary Did You Know, which contains extremely poignant lines, including: 'Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod? When you've kissed your little baby, then you've kissed the face of God.'

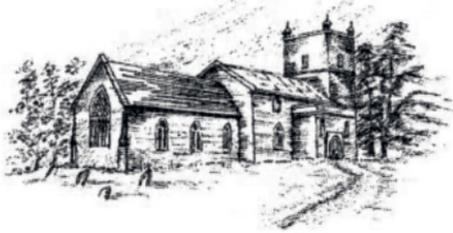
Think about those words this Christmas and feel wonder that Mary, a young first-time mother, gave birth and loved her baby, so that He might die for us.

**Blessings,
Yann & The Team**

ST MARY'S CHURCH NOTES

Vicar: The Reverend Yann Dubreuil Tel: 07777 684 533 yann@benbinfro.org

Administrator: Tel 01420 23339 e-mail admin@benbinfro.org



Churchwarden:

Mr. William Knowles

Park Edge

Upper Froyle

Tel: 01420 23164

wbk@wbknowles.com

Benefice Pastoral Care:

Nick Carter (472861)

Anna Chaplain:

Nicky Smallwood

07765 058593

annachaplain@benbinfro.co.uk

December Services

Sunday 1st

8.00am	Froyle	Holy Communion
9.30am	Binsted	Holy Communion
5.00pm	Bentley	Live@5 with food served at 4.30 pm
6.00pm	Binsted	Advent Vigil

Sunday 8th

9.30am	Bentley	Morning Worship with Children's Church
11.00am	Froyle	Holy Communion
3.30pm	Binsted	Messy Church at Binsted School

Friday 13th

6.30pm	Binsted	The Real Nativity
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Sunday 15th

9.30am	Binsted	Holy Communion
11.00am	Froyle	Holy Communion
5.00pm	Bentley	Live @5 with food served at 4.30pm

Sunday 22nd

8.00am	Binsted	Holy Communion
9.30am	Bentley	Holly Communion with Children's Church
6.30pm	Froyle	Carol Service

Tuesday 24th - Christmas Eve

4.00pm	Bentley	Christingle
5.30pm	Froyle	Crib Service
11.00pm	Bentley	Holy Communion
11.00pm	Binsted	Holy Communion
11.00pm	Froyle	Holy Communion

Wednesday 25th - Christmas Day

9.30am	Bentley	Holy Communion
9.30am	Binsted	Holy Communion
11.00am	Froyle	Holy Communion

Sunday 29th

11.00am	Bentley	Joint Benefice Service
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Church Round-Up

St Mary's Church Froyle - Christmas Decorations

The theme this year is BELLS - big ones, little ones, coloured ones, shiny ones, knitted ones, cardboard ones, fabric ones - your choice. We would also like holly, ivy and any other suitable greenery, also red and yellow flowers.

We shall be decorating the Church on Saturday 21st December from 9.30am and look forward to having your help!

Church Flower Rota

We shall be compiling the list for next year in December and we would love to hear from anyone who would like to join our little team. We usually ask volunteers to do 2 consecutive weeks, probably once a year.

If on the other hand, you are already on the list but no longer wish to be, please let us know.

Sarah Thursfield 23294 / Gill Bradley 520484

Continued from Church Round-Up

St. Mary's Church - Churchyard clean-up

We are planning a churchyard clean-up on Sunday 19th January starting at 2.0p.m. Please join us to help weed, cutback, remove moss etc. etc. and possibly have a bonfire. Please come equipped with gloves, secateurs, fork, trowel or whatever is your favourite tool.

Many hands make light work so we hope to see as many of you as possible.

Jenny Gove 23697 / Gill Bradley 520484

Froyle Church Christmas Fair

This annual event, held this year in Froyle Church on Saturday 23rd November, requires a huge commitment of time, both from stallholders and from organisers. The church is transformed into a warm, bustling mix of happy social chit chat, the search through the wide variety of Christmas goodies displayed on the stalls – something for everyone - and the serving and consumption of yummy soup, mince pies and other delicious stuff. The atmosphere this year, as always, was lovely – Froyle at its best.

A **HUGE THANK YOU** to all involved in making this happen, and particularly to our 'team leaders', Nigel and Linda Bulpitt. If you weren't there, you missed a wonderful event!

William Knowles

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Christmas Services

St Mary's Bentley

Christmas Eve 4pm - Christingle Service

Christmas Eve 11pm - Christmas Communion

Christmas Day 9.30am - Holy Communion

Holy Cross, Binsted

1st December 6pm to 9pm - Advent Vigil at Binsted Church

8th December 3.30pm - Messy Church at Binsted School

13th December 6.30pm - The Real Nativity

Christmas Eve 11pm - Christmas Communion

Christmas Day 9.30am - Holy Communion

St Mary's Froyle

Saturday 30th November at 6.30pm - Advent by Candle Light

24th December at 5.30pm - Crib Service

Christmas Eve 11pm - Christmas Communion

Christmas Day 11.00am - Holy Communion

Advertising in the Froyle Village Magazine

- **The rates are as follows:**

For Froyle businesses: £3.50 +VAT/month for advertisements of **up to half a page.**

For non-Froyle businesses: £5 +VAT/month for **up to half a page.**

For both residents and non-residents: £10 +VAT/month for **a full page; or**
£5 + VAT for **a third of a page on inside covers.**

All advertising must be requested and paid for through the Parish Clerk at *magazine@froyle.com* and copied to *clerk@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk*.

We are pleased that local tradesmen and service providers advertise with us, and hope you support them. However, we don't check or endorse them in any way.

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Binsted Village Hall from January 10

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December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 <i>8.00 Church HC</i>	2 <i>Rubbish & Garden Waste 2.30pm VH Games Club Christmas Party</i>	3	4	5 <i>9.45 VH Toddler Group</i>	6 <i>10.00 VH Meeting Place</i>	7
8 <i>11.00 Church HC</i>	9 <i>Recycling & Glass</i>	10 <i>7.45 VH FPC meeting</i>	11	12	13 <i>10.00 VH Meeting Place 7.30 VH Gardening Club AGM + talk</i>	14
15 <i>11.00 Church HC</i>	16 <i>Rubbish & Garden Waste</i>	17	18	19 <i>9.45 VH Toddler Group</i>	20 <i>10.00 VH Christmas Meeting Place</i>	21 <i>9.30 Church Decorating</i>
22 <i>6.30 Church Carol Service</i>	23 <i>Recycling 5pm VH Froyle Carol Singing</i>	24 <i>5.30 Church Crib Service 11pm HC</i>	25 <i>11.00am Church HC</i>	26	27 <i>10.00 VH Meeting Place</i>	28
29 <i>11.00 Bentley Church Joint Service</i>	30	31 <i>Rubbish</i>				

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VILLAGE INFORMATION

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Clerk to Parish Council	<i>Andrew Potter</i> - 520294 <i>clerk@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk</i> www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk
District Councillor	<i>Tony Costigan</i> - 07770 666896 <i>tony.costigan@easthants.gov.uk</i>
Froyle Village Hall Committee Chairman	<i>David Robertson</i> - 520820 www.froylevillagehall.co.uk/
Froyle Gardening Club	<i>Anne Blunt</i> - 22262
Froyle Vestments Group	<i>Sarah Thursfield</i> - 23294 www.froylevestmentsgroup.org.uk/
St. Mary's Flower Rota	<i>Sarah Thursfield</i> - 23294
Froyle Archive	<i>Chris & Annette Booth</i> - 22364 www.froyle.com
The Meeting Place	<i>Susie Robertson</i> - 520820
Froyle Wildlife	<i>Barry Clark</i> - 23520 www.froylewildlife.co.uk/
Froyle Village Agent for Age Concern	<i>Madeleine Black</i> - 23371
Bentley, Binsted & Froyle Care Group (<i>transport to medical appointments</i>)	- 23440
Alton Safer Neighbourhoods Team	<i>PCSO 12658 David Nops</i> Call 101 (999 in an emergency) or email: <i>david.nops@hampshire.pnn.police.uk</i>
Wildlife Crime Officer	<i>PC Scott Graham</i> <i>Scott.graham@hampshire.pnn.police.uk</i>
NHS non-emergency	111
The Benefice of Bentley, Binsted & Froyle	www.benbinfro.co.uk
Froyle Residents' Facebook Group	<i>simon@watmore.com</i>

NEXT MONTH'S MAGAZINE DEADLINE

Friday, 13th December 2019

For advertising details, please refer to our rates outlined on page 24. All booking enquiries should be addressed in the first instance to: *magazine@froyle.com* and copied to *clerk@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk*. All magazine contributions should be submitted by the above deadline to: *magazine@froyle.com*

**Please remember to check out the magazine online at:
<http://www.froyle.com/magazine/magazine.htm>**