

# Froyle Village Magazine



February 2022

No. 484

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

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# PARISH NEWS & VIEWS

*Parish Clerk - Andrew Potter - 07979 030571*

*Email: [clerk@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk) Web: [www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk)*



met on 10<sup>th</sup> January and draft minutes are available on the PC website. The PC welcomed our new Parish Councillor, Charlie Inskip, to her first meeting – her picture and bio can be found on the PC website. Charlie has kindly offered to step into Ian Macnabb’s role on the PC as focal point for footpaths and she will also assist with communications and social media. As a resident on

Froyle Park, Charlie is happy to be the first point of contact for residents there to assist with any matters that they wish to bring to the attention of the PC.

The main business of the meeting was to approve the 2022/23 budget and Council Tax precept that funds the work of the PC. After discussion it was agreed to set the precept at the 2021/22 level plus a less than current CPI inflationary increase of 2.9%. In addition to the ongoing operating expenditure maintaining the public areas and facilities, insurance, administration etc it was agreed to include a sum of £2000 as the PC contribution to the ‘Big Lunch’ celebration of the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee in June. More details about this event will be shared by the organising team as they become available

The work to cut the hedge and bramble removal along Ryebriidge Lane up to the Village Hall has been completed and hopefully this will help reduce the prolific bramble growth witnessed last summer. As residents may have noticed this has left a gap in the hedge where the brambles had killed off the hedge. This will be filled with similar hedging material in the coming weeks but will clearly take a little while to fill out.

On the subject of maintenance, you may also have noticed that the gate to the recreation ground has been replaced as the old one was rotten. The work to upgrade the noticeboards should also be completed in the next couple of weeks with a new self-healing pin board surface being stuck on the Hadwicks Corner noticeboard.

The PC is seeking to arrange a meeting with the Froyle Estate owners to follow up on a number of outstanding items re drainage and footpaths, in particular the agreed works to reduce the risk of flooding on Ryebriidge Lane in Upper Froyle. The problem of flooding down Husseys Lane during wet weather was also discussed and possible solutions to this are under consideration with Hampshire CC.

The electricity supply to the football hut has now been disconnected and new quotes have been requested from demolition contractors to remove the building down to slab level. Fencing will be erected to prevent playground users running onto the car park or vehicular access to the Rec over the slab. With the football hut removed, the PC believes that a decision on what to do with that area and the optimal location of

the community facilities that were proposed in the renovated hut can be better determined. In the first instance the PC has requested the Village Hall Committee to consider whether the externally accessible toilet should be located within the Village Hall building.

**Around the village** – three new planning applications were received since the last PC meeting. The PC agreed to comment on the applications for felling a willow tree in Upper Froyle and a roof extension in Lower Froyle. In the case of the willow tree, the PC only accepts felling of trees within the Conservation areas if there is independently verified evidence of disease which had not been provided with the application, although it was subsequently confirmed that this was the case. The PC commented that the roofing materials used on the extension in Lower Froyle should match the existing roof. Concern was also expressed about the increase in floor area compared to the original building on the plot as planning policy limits this to 50%.

Concerns continue to be expressed about the application to ‘create a new highway access, area of hard standing with a turning area to support an existing agricultural use’ on the land along Froyle Road and Main Road, Bentley, opposite the A31 slip road. Additional information about the ownership of the land has been provided by the applicant and this is being reviewed and commented on by Bentley PC within whose boundary the field is located.

Planning permission for the new extraction system at Froyle Park has been submitted and can be reviewed on the EHDC Portal ref 55541/015. The PC welcomes this proposal and is keen to see the odour problem resolved but has expressed concern that the information provided is too generic to determine whether the proposed solution will work and/or not create additional noise as well as the extent of the screening proposed. The PC has requested that the technical details are reviewed in detail by the Environmental Health office and has proposed screening by the Conservation Officer, as it is being erected on a listed building.

Discussions have also progressed with Froyle Park to improve the signage at the entrance to Froyle Green and updating the directions to the venue provided on their website. The next meeting with Froyle Park management to review progress on these and other matters is planned for later this month.

The PC has agreed to join the Hampshire wide ‘20’s Plenty for Us’ campaign that is seeking to introduce a 20 mph speed limit where people live, work, shop or learn. This campaign builds on the recent change in speed limit policy in other counties.

**Please note that the next PC meeting has been rescheduled and will now be held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February at 19.00 in the Village Hall.**

For information about PC meetings, Parish Councillors, useful contacts and events around the village visit the PC website [www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk).



Bookings:  
Sarah Zorab  
01420 520361

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

## NEWS FROM THE VILLAGE HALL

2021 ended on a high note for the committee with a festive supper in the Hen and Chicken to which I was able to contribute some prize money for coming 4<sup>th</sup> in a photographic competition run by one of the village hall insurance companies. Yes, I know it sounds like one of those 'Chance' cards you get when playing Monopoly. I, of course, apologised for not coming first which would have earned the hall ten times more.

The new year has started less well. A Saturday evening party left the worse mess that we have seen for years. It is so disappointing. Cindy keeps the hall looking bright and sparkly clean. It must have been awful for her to see her work so completely undone. There was some evidence that an attempt had been made to clear up but it had in fact only made matters worse, spreading grease and stickiness everywhere. The condition of the floor was such that several days later members of the Parish Council were literally stuck to the floor. It may well need expensive professional cleaning. We have explained to the hirer the problem they have created and retained their deposit of £50, which normally we are very loath to do. We have now decided to increase the deposit for parties for non-residents to £100. The rule is very simple: leave the hall as you found it or better. If you think you might make a bit of a mess, book time the next day to come back and sort it out.

The Parish Council has asked the committee if they would consider providing an externally accessible toilet within the foot print of the village hall. A plan was provided to suggest how this might be achieved. Although several members of the committee felt a new loo on the recreation ground would be a good idea, the majority questioned the need and raised practical considerations about how it would be managed and maintained.

On the narrower question of incorporating a new loo into the hall, there was unanimous objection on the grounds that there was insufficient room to build it to Building Regulation standards, it would result in a diminution and downgrading of the existing facilities, the outward opening doors would be dangerous to passers by and that viewed from the car park it would be unsightly. Although the project had not been costed it did not appear cost-effective.

The last week of January was National Village Halls Week which is designed to draw attention to the role of community halls. No, I don't expect you noticed. Last year after we failed to celebrate the event I thought it might be an idea to purchase a banner

which we could hang over the front of the hall so you didn't miss the opportunity to take part. But again I forgot. However, it is important to remember that there are at least 10,000 halls across the country providing a focus for community activity, each one with a hard working committee keeping it going. This year we are being encouraged to broaden our support base so please read on.

The committee have been discussing arrangements for the Platinum Jubilee, which will be celebrated over the long weekend 2-5 June. A sub-committee has been set up to organise the BIG LUNCH that will take place on the Sunday that will be open to all Froyle residents and their families. Given the experience of the Froyle Festival more organisers and helpers will be needed. If you would like to join in please contact Karen Potter or any member of the committee. Each of the following activities or events are being promoted nationally. We will need someone to make them happen in Froyle. Might it be you?

Beacons will be lit across the country on the evening of 2 June. A vast amount of information can be found here: <https://www.queensjubileebeacons.com/guide>

Inside the hall we hope to show all the broadcast state events on our large screen.

The Platinum Pudding: given Froyle's reputation for cake baking I hope some residents will enter this competition or perhaps someone can organise a Froyle version which can be eaten at the BIG LUNCH. See <https://www.fortnumandmason.com/platinum-pudding>

The Green Canopy is a tree planting initiative. Should we plant a Jubilee tree? Or is there somewhere in the village for a Jubilee Grove. More on this here: <https://queensgreencanopy.org/get-involved/communities-and-groups/>

I am sure nobody really thinks I am a monarchist, but can we come up with a permanent reminder not only of this unprecedented Jubilee but of the Queen's long reign? I look hopefully towards the football hut and ponder.

Finally evidence that someone does read my monthly missive. In the January Magazine I wrote about the problem of reducing the hall's carbon footprint. Step forward Doug Johnson who lives in Lower Froyle. He has kindly offered to have a look and see how we can improve.

*Nick Whines*  
[secretary@froylevillagehall.co.uk](mailto:secretary@froylevillagehall.co.uk) 23130

To book the hall please go to our website at [www.froylevillagehall.co.uk](http://www.froylevillagehall.co.uk) . The new tariff can be found on page 22.



# The Meeting Place

This takes place every Friday morning in the Village Hall from 10.0am - 12 noon, everyone is very welcome to join us.

We are hoping to re-introduce our small lending library by the beginning of the month and we would welcome any good books that you would like to donate. We shall be passing on or disposing of some of the existing ones!

## February Kitchen Helpers

4 <sup>th</sup>	Roger Cooper	Linda Cooper
11 <sup>th</sup>	Barbara Graham-Clarke	Caroline Findlay
18 <sup>th</sup>	Jennie Topping	Sara Watkine
25 <sup>th</sup>	Katherine Gilmore	Brian Jones

Please organise swaps yourselves, but do contact us if you have a problem

## February Cake Bakers

4 <sup>th</sup>	Anne Blunt	Barbara Graham-Clarke	Marje Heyhurst
11 <sup>th</sup>	Sue Carr	Laura Ozelyte	Jennie Thomas
18 <sup>th</sup>	Alison Lopes	Loise Marston	Pam Green
25 <sup>th</sup>	Cherida Cannon	Ann Wood	Jane Stewart Smith

It is always helpful to know in advance what cake you are making and please let us know if you can't bake for any reason. Cakes can be left in the porch at Wykeham House, Lower Froyle on Thursdays or at the Hall after 9.30 am on Fridays.

*Gill Bradley 520484, Jenny Gove 23697, Susie Robertson 520820  
gabbradley@gmail.com govejenny@gmail.com sjrinfroyle@gmail.com*



## Lent Lunches 2022



Our lunches begin this year on March 2nd and continue each Wednesday until April 6th. They consist of bread, cheese and home made soups with all donations going to the charity chosen by the hostess. Thank you to all of them for agreeing to host this year.

**Wednesday March 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Susie Robertson at Wykeham House  
Charity: Piam Brown children's cancer ward at Southampton Hospital

**Wednesday March 9<sup>th</sup>:** Jane Macnabb at Copse Hill Farm  
Charity: Lighting refurbishment at St Mary's Church Froyle

**Wednesday March 16<sup>th</sup>:** Cherida Cannon at Stowells  
Charity: Helen Arkell Centre for Dyslexia Frensham.

**Wednesday March 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Gillian Pickering at Warren Cottage  
Charity: Crohn and Colitis UK

**Wednesday March 30<sup>th</sup>:** Lara Spier at Brocas  
Charity: Wheels within Wheels

**Wednesday April 6<sup>th</sup>:** Sarah Roberts at The Old Dairy  
Charity: Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice

If anyone has any questions or needs directions to a particular lunch venue, do call me.

*Jenny Gove 23697  
govejenny@gmail.com*

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## FROYLE 100 CLUB

The winners in the first 2022 draw for January were:

1<sup>st</sup> – James Hudleston

2<sup>nd</sup> – Marge Heyhurst

3<sup>rd</sup> – Ann Netherway

4<sup>th</sup> – Annette Eyre

Congratulations to all!

*William Knowles Tel: 07775 928933  
wbk@wbknowles.com*



## February in the Potting Shed

Christmas and New Year are now over and we can now look forward the new gardening season. However, beware of sudden cold snaps. It was mild around the end of December and some plants have already started into growth which will get caught by sharp frosts. So be ready with the fleece to protect vulnerable plants.

Spring planting garlic can be planted now, but do not be in a rush to plant onion sets, as the cold may make them bolt. Sow seeds of Sweet Peas if you did not do them in the autumn. They can be kept outside after germination as they are hardy annuals. Keep an eye on the slugs though.

Keep checking the borders and slowly tidy up old stems on herbaceous plants. Remember to put all the old stems into the compost heap after chopping them up into small bits. When working in the borders remember not to tread on any bulbs that may be just emerging. If you have large clumps of snowdrops, then as soon as they have finished flowering is a good time to lift them and replant. Pick 2 to 3 bulbs in a clump and plant to the same depth they were originally planted and space the clumps around 4in (10cm) apart.

February is a good time to tidy up Wisteria. Cut back the side shoots to around 3 buds as these will produce the flowers for this year. Remove long stems that are not required and tie in any replacement stems for future flowering branches.

Sowing Tomatoes, Aubergines and peppers in a heated greenhouse can go ahead now. Give the seedlings plenty of light once germinated. Also order your potatoes and start chitting them for planting later in March and April.

Enjoy all the winter flowering plants, both with the floral display and fragrance.

*Geoff Hawkins*

### Diary Dates

The decision was made to postpone the new Year Party for a few months when we hope that all can enjoy it without many restrictions.

### Next meeting

Friday 11th February 7.30 pm.: Barbara Allen will be speaking about herbs, their history and many uses including culinary and medicinal.

Visitors are welcome.

*Although at the time of writing Covid restrictions are soon to be lifted, we would still like you to wear a mask and observe social distancing.*

*Anne Blunt*

## The next generation

We are blessed in this parish with loads of lovely trees. They nearly all started life as either seeds or nuts. But they won't live forever. If they can they will produce their own seeds or nuts and employ their preferred strategies for getting their offspring into the ground. If there weren't so many of us, so willing to shape our environment, we could just stand back and watch this all happen. We could safely assume that subsequent generations of us would have as many trees to enjoy as we do.

However we are not always content with where the next generation of trees sets up home, and we do tend to cover a lot of ground with surfaces that make it difficult for trees to get started. We have a responsibility to help the next generation find a home.

### Here's how you can help:

If you have healthy trees near you they will be dropping their seeds or nuts in your garden. If necessary, they will be using their allies, squirrels, jays, and others, to bury them just below the surface. Within a year of this happening you see young trees springing up in all sorts of places.



In my own garden this year I found holly, hazel, hornbeam, oak and yew. It's OK to object to where these seedlings sprang up. It's not OK to dig them up and toss them on the compost heap (or worse). Binsted Parish Council has granted me a plot in the Recreation Ground allotments (to the left as you drive/walk into the car park) and I am using it as a young tree rescue centre.

If you have seedlings you want rid of, please pot them up, or even just put them in a carrier bag, and leave them by the allotment fence. I will plant them and care for them.

And I am now looking for homes for these orphans, somewhere where they can grow and give joy. If you have room for one or more please get in touch

*Ben Hamlin, Tree Warden  
binstedtrees@gmail.com*

Post-Christmas and you may be inundated with toys..... No problem until they're broken or outgrown, then there is the issue of what to do with them. Obviously if they are in reasonable condition, they can be donated to charity shops, local nurseries or toddler groups and there are many of these in the area around Froyle. For reuse and sharing to be effective, toys need to be repairable when they become damaged. 90% of all toys are currently made from plastic which can be a highly durable material but is often fragile, and broken toys are the first to be thrown away. What to do with Barbie who had one prosecco too many, tripped over her plastic spaniel and broke her arm? Instead of throwing her in the bin, you could consider trying a clever website called [toy-rescue.com](http://toy-rescue.com). Here, you can search for spare parts for your toy that can be 3D printed for you.

Terracycle.com run a few schemes for recycling toys, one being the Mattel Playback Programme which allows you to recycle your Barbie, Matchbox or MEGA for free. There is also a drop off location for Hasbro toys and games just this side of Odiham with the Village Magpies' purple wheelie bin which is very easily located at Buryfields Infant School, RG29 1NE. [Villagemagpies.co.uk](http://Villagemagpies.co.uk) is well worth a visit as they recycle a huge amount of materials that not only save litter, landfill or incineration, but also raise money for local causes.

Lastly a quick mention for little plastic bricks, as it is LEGO's 90th birthday this year. Made from a difficult to recycle material, it needs to be carefully disposed of if damaged. In good condition, it is always popular donated or try [Brickbin.co.uk](http://Brickbin.co.uk) which will buy entire collections, loose LEGO or even single figures from you, based on weight and condition.

Happy New Year.

*Alex Roberts and Anthea McRiley*  
*[alex.roberts@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:alex.roberts@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk)*



## Froyle Wildlife

**National Nestbox Week** runs from February 14th each year and aims to encourage us all to put up more nest boxes in our local area. Nest boxes can also be used for shelter in cold weather; wrens are especially known to congregate in them for warmth. Find out more about why nest boxes matter including buying, making, caring for and positioning them at [www.nestboxweek.com](http://www.nestboxweek.com).

### Wildlife in February

Whatever the weather brings this month there is plenty of wildlife to see. Birds will be flocking to our feeders and as the days gradually lengthen their songs will become more noticeable as they bag and defend their territories. Last year wren, robin, dunnoek, skylark and song thrush were heard singing in Froyle on 6th February. Two little owls were heard calling in Husseys Lane on 23rd February, with one of them spied atop a telegraph pole.

Honey and bumble bees will venture out on warm days to forage. Plants to help them in February include hellebores (*Helleborus foetidus* is the earliest to flower), shrubby winter flowering honeysuckle, early crocus (*thomasianus* is good), winter aconites, snowdrop, heather, mahonia. The first honeybee seen in our garden last year was on 2nd of February. You may also see a one of the species of butterfly that overwinters as an adult either tempted out by a warm spell or disturbed from undergrowth by gardeners.



*Yellowhammer*

Leafing through some of my old wildlife diaries I saw that on **29th February 1991** we had 5 Yellowhammers in our back garden eating birdseed that I'd thrown onto a path cleared of snow. The end of our garden backed onto the farm yard of Husseys Farm, then a working farm. Roy (Norkett) later recollected seeing a hawthorn tree near the farmyard covered with Yellowhammers.

Another memorable sighting was of a female Lesser Spotted Woodpecker in local deciduous woodland on **4<sup>th</sup> February 1992**. On hearing a call I eventually saw a small bird with an off white face and white barred back sitting parallel to a branch. I had a further sighting in the same wood on **7<sup>th</sup> February 1994**, this time of a male. The Lesser Spotted Woodpecker is a small bird, only the size of a greenfinch, and is on the Birds of Conservation Concern Red List having declined dramatically since 1980. The exact causes for their decline aren't fully known. For more information see [Birds of Conservation Concern | BTO - British Trust for Ornithology](#). I can't recall seeing any since then. **5<sup>th</sup> February 1993** - A beautiful Green Woodpecker was on our lawn "Having watched the greater spotted for a few weeks the difference in size was noticeable, the green being larger with a huge bill. It hopped with both feet together around the base of the bird table probing into the soil with its bill". On the **2<sup>nd</sup> February 1998** we had frost, but not long after, on the **13<sup>th</sup> February**, the temperature rose to 15C which brought some butterflies out of hibernation and June Trim noted a brimstone butterfly in her garden. A walk on **7<sup>th</sup> February 1999** took me down to the footbridge over the River Wey where I sat watching the birds, among them Moorhen and Tree Creeper, but the best sighting was of a Water Rail, the only time I've seen one in Froyle. In the garden on **19<sup>th</sup> February 2001** a Bullfinch was noted and on the 20<sup>th</sup> I had a surprise sighting of a fox descending down an ivy clad hawthorn tree in Husseys lane. During sunny intervals on **15<sup>th</sup> February 2004** twenty or more honey bees were foraging over *Helleborus foetidus* and winter flowering honeysuckle.

Do let us know what you have seen in Froyle by email [info@froylewildlife.co.uk](mailto:info@froylewildlife.co.uk) or Instagram [www.instagram.com/froylewildlife/](https://www.instagram.com/froylewildlife/).



*Inside willow dome*

You can help to benefit wildlife and the community by volunteering. The living willow dome is due for its annual 'haircut' on Sunday **27<sup>th</sup> February 10am-12 and 1-3pm**.

Constructed in 2020 on Froyle Recreation Ground, it is a lovely natural place for residents (mostly the younger ones!) to use. Willow domes are also beneficial for wildlife, specifically insects and birds.

Contact Jenny Matthews  
[info@froylewildlife.co.uk](mailto:info@froylewildlife.co.uk) if you can help or see  
[www.froylewildlife.co.uk/news/](http://www.froylewildlife.co.uk/news/).

*Sue Clark*

## St Mary's Church: Project Apollo

On Monday January 3rd 2022, as planned and with the agreement of the Winchester diocese, the Parochial Church Council closed St Mary's Church for a major upgrade of the fabric of the building. Project Apollo: Repair, Rewire and Redecorate.

The church wiring was condemned as being unsafe in 2021 so the PCC was faced with the luxury of no choice: We had to rewire the electrical system, or the church would have to close permanently.

We decided this was a great opportunity to invest in a series of much needed building improvements to ensure St Mary's church continues to be at the heart of Froyle's Christian and community life over the coming years.

We are undertaking a huge and delicate task on an eight-hundred-year-old building. It has taken many years of planning, fund raising and organising to get to this point. The schedule of works will take three months to complete which means we'll be able to open the doors again for Palm Sunday and Easter. This is our target, unforeseen technical challenges permitting... watch this space!

The first week of work was very intensive as the church had to be emptied of its precious and historically important contents. These were inspected, individually wrapped, catalogued, and removed by a specialist conservation team to safe and secure offsite storage.

The next stage has been to wrap and protect all of the items that are remaining in the church such as the pews and our magnificent organ.

As we go to press, the scaffolding and temporary site lighting has just been installed. The church interior is now completely filled with a scaffold that will enable the specialist contractors to work safely on the ceiling and the walls. For the first time in decades we can get really close to the detail of how an ancient building was put together. It really is fascinating and remarkable, all done with simple hand tools, string and lots of skill. There are some real gems the craftsman of yesteryear left for us to enjoy.

The next stage will be for the decorative contractors to remove damaged and decayed paint and plasterwork, the electrical team will then start to install new vermin-proof cabling and switches; after them the specialist lime plasterers will come and complete their lengthy task. The last stages of the project will see the final decorative finishes applied and the lighting experts install the new lighting system. The final job will be a deep clean of the nationally important, medieval stained-glass windows, and the other precious icons and objects as they are returned to the church.

Until the tasks are completed the church is officially a building site as there are many hazards within the building that need to be avoided and compliance with Health and Safety requirements is not optional. Sadly this means the church is closed completely to all visitors.



Packing the treasures carefully for storage



Almost ready to start





View from on high!

The holes where the jackdaws were coming in

Repairing the ceiling



During this period of disruption we are keen to keep everyone as involved and informed as possible and here are three things we'll be doing:

1. A monthly update will be published in this fine magazine.
2. There are photographs of ongoing works on the outside of the church for you to enjoy.
3. I will be hosting occasional Friday morning visits at 11:00am as works allow. These will be limited to thirty minutes. Please contact me directly for further details at: [nigelsouthern@mac.com](mailto:nigelsouthern@mac.com)

By Easter we hope our ancient rural parish church will once again be a sparkling gem for us all to appreciate and enjoy. We have many other significant projects in early development that we hope will make St Mary's even more attractive for the community to use. These projects will be covered in more detail in the next edition of this bulletin.

To continue to improve and maintain these facilities we need the community to support us along the way, so do come and get involved in our fund-raising events if you can. We'd also be really delighted to see you at some of the project Apollo celebrations we're planning for later in the year.

*Nigel Southern and the PCC*



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**Do you have some spare time and want to help make a difference in the Froyle Community? If so there are two roles that the Parish Council is seeking to fill:**

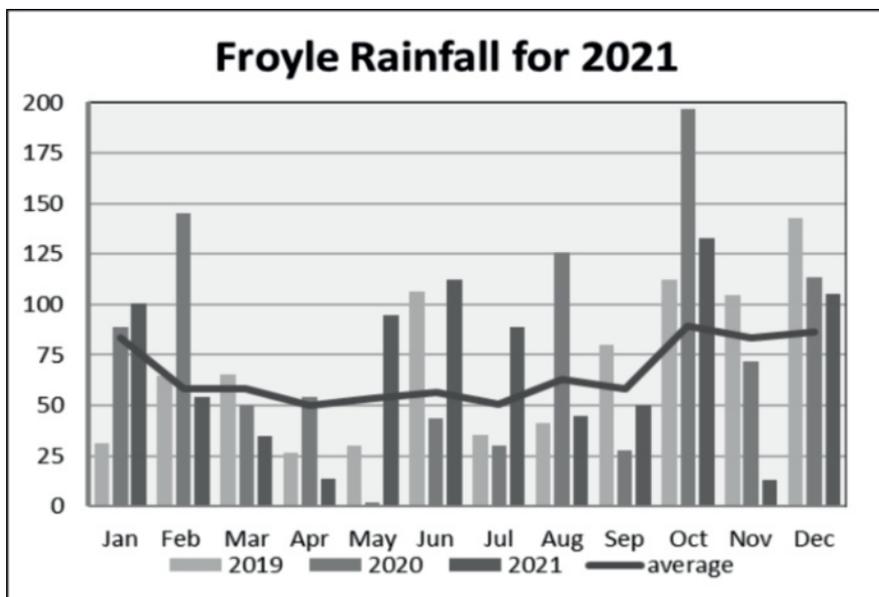
**1. Parish Councillor** – a vacancy exists on the Parish Council where you can get involved in making decisions about life in the parish. You would be responsible for an area of the Parish Council's activity, comment on planning applications, determine future community facilities and much more.

**2. Tree Warden** – the Tree Warden is the local tree champion who plants, looks after and stands up for the trees in the parish. Whether you want to get your hands in the earth and plant trees, raise awareness about trees in your local community, or simply be the eyes, ears and voice for the trees in your community, you have what it takes to be a Tree Warden. The Parish Council also looks to the Tree Warden to assist it in commenting on any planning application associated with the pruning or felling of trees in the village. The Tree Warden is part of a volunteer network across the County whose work is coordinated by the Tree Council <https://treecouncil.org.uk/> where you can find more details of the role.

If you are interested in either of these roles and would like more details, please contact any member of the Parish Council or the Clerk.

## Froyle Rainfall for December 2021 and for the whole of 2021

This year	105 mm	4.1 ins
Last year	113.5 mm	4.5 ins
Wettest December (1989)	167 mm	6.6 ins
Driest December (1988)	17 mm	0.7 ins
December long-term average – the 2 <sup>nd</sup> wettest month	86.6 mm	3.4 ins
Total rainfall for the whole of 2021	843 mm	33.2 ins
Long-term average for the year as a whole	790.4 mm	31.1 ins



In each of the last five years the total rainfall for December in Froyle has been consistently above the long-term average. And interestingly this has been echoed for the years as a whole: anything from +1% above the average in 2017 to +20% in 2019.



“The Umbrella Man”

## THE VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE

### *Dear all,*

I am writing this on a beautiful cold, frosty morning that began with an amazing sunrise beyond Binsted Church which has been a regular sight from the Vicarage.

My family and I have been so blessed during our 11 years here by the incredible surroundings we live in. Hannah and I have continuously told our children that they are unlikely to live in such a beautiful place again and to make the most of it! We have experienced great local schools for our children and made excellent relationships through them. We have had the joy of living in rural village communities and we even ended up with the almost obligatory rural Hampshire accessory – a dog (Scooby)!

My role here has been a truly privileged one. I have had the opportunity to share in people's lives, whether it has been through a chat in the pub, passing on a dog walk, in people's homes or after a church service. There have also been those key moments in families' lives preparing for funerals, weddings or baptisms. These are such profound events - I never cease to feel so honoured to be involved with these. Particularly precious to me has been my involvement with Binsted and Bentley C of E Primary Schools – working with the staff and children has been really rewarding.

I've also enjoyed seeing our three churches go through exciting changes as our worshipping community has grown. We now have a homegrown Associate Priest, Benefice Administrators, Youthworker, Worship Leader, Anna Chaplain and Church Manager – and with all the volunteers including our Churchwardens and PCC members and the myriad others on our many, many rotas who have done so much over the last few years - what a team!

We've seen new services start: Bentley's live@5, Binsted's Messy Church, and Froyle's Evensong alongside the old regular favourites on Sunday Mornings; we've even gone online with our Thought for the Day each weekday and Online Sunday Services. And, we've continued with many special services and amazing events through the year such as the Maundy Thursday service, Passover Supper, Good Friday Meditation, Pet Services, Marquee Services, Remembrance, Advent Carols, Christmas Carols, Real Nativity, Journey to the Stable, Christingle, Crib Services, Church Weekend Away, etc.! I can't finish this paragraph without also mentioning the homegroups that meet during the week and that have regularly put on Alpha Courses through the year enabling people to discover more about Christianity.

However, it is now time for us to move on – which we will do with a whole mixture of emotions – sadness at leaving a place of such great blessing for us but also excitement at the opportunities that lie ahead.

We're not going very far – only 15 minutes down the road – so although we will on the one hand be missing our local friends and acquaintances we shall doubtless continue to bump into familiar faces from BenBinFro over the coming months and years.

When we do see each other - will our conversations change in nature – or will it be just like old times?

Hopefully, we'll be able to carry on as we have in the past, but whatever, my sincere and deeply felt hope is that in the midst of the chat and gossip, our friends from BenBinFro will be able to give testimony of God's blessing in their lives – that somehow, despite the sometimes very difficult times we all experience, through the work of the church, through the relationships in the village communities, through the beauty of this place, all will be able to testify that they have been blessed by God.

So I leave you with an ancient blessing:

The Lord bless you and keep you;  
the Lord make His face shine upon you  
and be gracious to you;  
the Lord turn His face toward you  
and give you peace.  
Amen.

Au revoir!

***Yann, Hannah, Sophie, Toby, Max and Scooby xxxx***

---



A huge thank you to the church parishioners who so kindly contributed to the vouchers we were given at Christmas. It was unexpected and very gratefully received. Thank you for your generosity.

Best wishes from Yann and Hannah, Christopher and Kathy, Sam and Gemma and David and Mary.

---

## **NEW BENBINFRO STAFF MEMBER**

Hi, I'm Lucinda, and I've just started work in the BenBinFro church office as an administrator. I'm excited to be working with Gemma and to become part of this great team! I'll mainly be dealing with the pastoral side of admin – so Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. Perhaps our paths may cross if I can help you with one of your important life events.

After university, I started my working life in team secretary/PA roles, and in between a fair bit of travelling and exploring, I decided to train to be a teacher. 10 years in varying teaching roles, at home and abroad, a husband and 2 children later, and here I am!

We moved to Bentley in 2015, and love our home and the village. Both my girls are very happy at Bentley Primary School. When I have any spare time I love to be out in the garden or on a walk, or starting a sewing project.

# ST MARY'S CHURCH NOTES

**Administrator:** Tel 01420 23339 e-mail [admin@benbinfro.org](mailto:admin@benbinfro.org)



## Church Warden:

Simon Marshall  
07734 214419  
[sm517@icloud.com](mailto:sm517@icloud.com)

## Benefice Pastoral Care:

Nick Carter 489122

## Anna Chaplain:

Nicky Smallwood 07765 058593  
[annachaplain@benbinfro.co.uk](mailto:annachaplain@benbinfro.co.uk)

## FEBRUARY SERVICES

Sun. 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	9.30am	Bentley	Morning Worship with Children's Church
	11.00am	Oakhanger	Holy Communion
Sun. 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	9.30am	Binsted	Holy Communion
	5.00pm	Bentley	Live@5 Big Praise Confirmation/Baptism Service with Bishop David Williams
Sun. 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	9.30am	Bentley	Holy Communion
Sun. 27 <sup>th</sup> Feb.	9.30am	Binsted	Holy Communion
	11.00am	Kingsley	Holy Communion
	5.00pm	Bentley	Live@5 Big Praise

St Mary's Froyle is closed until early April to allow for the replacement of the lighting system and subsequent redecoration. In the meantime, there are services available across the benefice. If you are not receiving it already but would like to receive our weekly digital pew sheet, which includes church news, events and notices, please visit our website and follow the links

**We are continuing to provide online Sunday services at 9.30am and weekday Thought for the Day videos at 6.30am on our YouTube channel - BenBinFro Churches**

For further details, see the benefice website at [www.benbinfro.co.uk](http://www.benbinfro.co.uk);

## Youth at BenBinFro

Looking back to before Christmas, our various youth groups had great fun. We had the Holy Spirit weekend for the Youth Alpha group back at the end of November, and the Christmas film night at four:twelve before the Christmas holidays, when we enjoyed watching *Home Alone* with pizza. There was so much in between it will be impossible to list it all!

January has been a joy to get back to meeting in person, even with some limited restrictions in place. We started back at four:twelve with bench ball and we learned about the Bible. We also learned why four:twelve is called that! Based on 1 Timothy 4:12 where Paul is writing to his apprentice, Timothy, giving him encouragement to lead the church in Ephesus with courage. He tells Timothy to stand up to those who are teaching incorrectly, and not to let people look down on him because he is young. Instead, he should be an example to those around him through his actions and words. Young people are important and at BenBinFro, we believe our young people can and should be great examples of loving, kind and generous behaviour. So at four:twelve, in amongst the fun and games, we aim to impart good things to the young people to help them be the best version of themselves. We also played lots of board games together and we're really looking forward to t-shirt design in February! You might get to see some of our designs in the March parish magazine.

In our Sunday night small group, we are tackling the 'Big Issues'. So far, we have discussed sexism and gender, with the aim to develop our own thoughts and opinions about these in a safe environment. We are looking at these topics through the lens of our Christian faith, and seeing how the Bible can help us with these difficult issues.

The most exciting thing, however, in the youth diary is the upcoming weekend away to the Isle of Wight! We're super excited to be going away with other youth groups from the Alton Deanery and beyond. There will be more to tell in the March issue of the parish magazine, but activities include laser quest, swimming, tree climbing, games, crafts, a trip to the beach, plus a whole lot of worship, teaching and ministry based on Acts 2:42.

Please do continue to pray for our youth team and young people as we venture boldly into 2022!

If you'd like to support what we're doing, we are currently on the lookout for newspaper! Our upcoming 'Construction' night at four:twelve requires a lot of newspaper, glue, tape, string etc. so if you'd like to donate any of those items, the church office is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays (10am-1pm) where someone will be available to collect the items. Thank you!

*Gemma Ball*  
*Pastoral Assistant (Youth) & Administrator*  
*Gemma@benbinfro.co.uk*

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# four:twelve

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**WHERE?** BENTLEY SCHOOL  
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1 Timothy 4:12

Contact Gemma for more info [gemma@benbinfro.co.uk](mailto:gemma@benbinfro.co.uk)

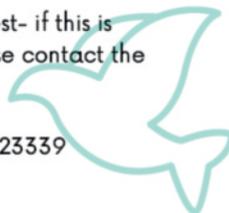
## Confirmation Service

Sunday 13th February 2022 - Live@5 Big Praise

We're very excited to welcome back Bishop David Williams on the 13th February to confirm a number of young people and adults.

It's not too late to show your interest- if this is something you'd like to explore, please contact the church office.

[admin@benbinfro.org](mailto:admin@benbinfro.org) / 01420 23339



### FROYLE SMALL ADS

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Just email your text - and a photo if you have one - to [magazine@froyle.com](mailto:magazine@froyle.com)

## Froyle Village Hall: hire charges (from: 1 January 2022)

Please complete a Hiring Agreement for each event and agree to the Standard Terms and Conditions, available from the website.

The Hall can be hired out for a whole morning, afternoon or evening session of 4 hours.

Shorter periods can be booked by the hour.

Weekends rates apply to Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday.

Froyle Resident for 'not-for-profit' events		Non-resident for 'not-for-profit' events		Other	
Weekday hourly rate	£15.00	Weekday hourly rate	£25.00	Weekday hourly rate	£35.00
Weekend hourly rate	£20.00	Weekend hourly rate	£30.00	Weekend hourly rate	£35.00
Weekday session Morning (8.30am-12.30pm) Afternoon (1.30pm -5.30pm) Evening (6.00pm- 11.30pm)	£30.00	Weekday session Morning (8.30am-12.30pm) Afternoon (1.30pm -5.30pm) Evening (6.00pm- 11.30pm)	£50.00	Weekday session Morning (8.30am-12.30pm) Afternoon (1.30pm -5.30pm) Evening (6.00pm- 11.30pm)	£70.00
Weekend session Morning (8.30am-12.30pm) Afternoon (1.30pm -5.30pm) Evening (6.00pm- 11.30pm)	£35.00	Weekend session Morning (8.30am-12.30pm) Afternoon (1.30pm -5.30pm) Evening (6.00pm- 11.30pm)	£60.00	Weekend session Morning (8.30am-12.30pm) Afternoon (1.30pm -5.30pm) Evening (6.00pm- 11.30pm)	£70.00

## HOW TO MAKE YOUR MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTION LOOK GOOD

### Posters/Adverts – please apply in the normal way – see back cover.

- If you want a full page design your page in portrait layout. For half pages use landscape.
- You can send your copy in any size but it will be resized to fit on A5. The easiest way to see how it will look is to design a full page as A5 portrait and a half page as A6 landscape.
- The magazine online is in colour but remember the printed version is in black and white.
- Because of our ageing software please avoid complicated layouts – we have found they may not transfer well.
- Save the copy as a PDF and send both the PDF and the word document.
- **Please remember to embed all fonts.**

### Articles

- Please send text and pictures separately. As a rough guide a page is about 500 words – with no pictures.
- Pictures should be attached as JPEG files with as many pixels as possible!



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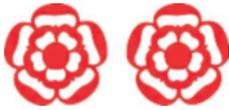
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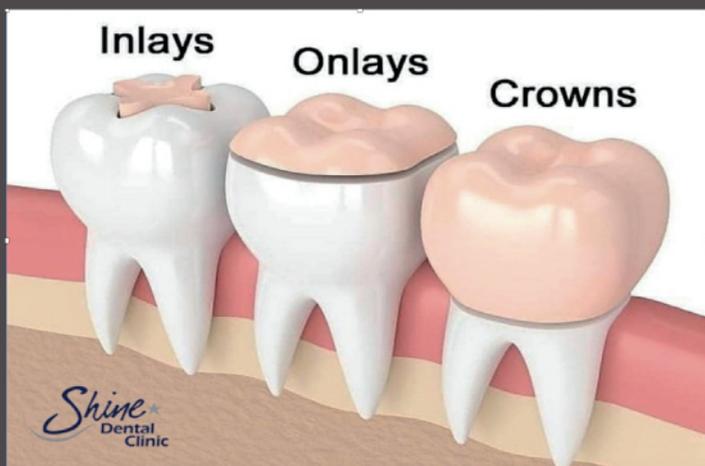
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**February  
Bin Collections**

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Rubbish & Garden Waste
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Recycling
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Rubbish & Garden Waste
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Recycling & Glass

**From the EHDC website, re Garden Waste:**

“Due to the continued national shortage of HGV drivers, which is currently also impacting on Norse South East, there will be a short-term prioritisation of rubbish and recycling collections within the district this week.

Unfortunately this may mean that your usual garden waste collection day could be disrupted, and we would like to apologise in advance for the inconvenience it may cause you.

Please continue to leave your bin out and crews will collect as soon as possible. **Please do not report your garden waste bins as missed at the moment.”**

**[www.https://www.easthants.gov.uk/garden-waste](https://www.easthants.gov.uk/garden-waste)**

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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](mailto:magazine@froyle.com) and copied to [clerk@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto: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.

# VILLAGE INFORMATION

## USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Clerk to Parish Council .....	<i>Andrew Potter - 07979 030571</i> <i>clerk@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk</i> www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk
District Councillor .....	<i>Tony Costigan - 07770 666896 - tony.costigan@eastbants.gov.uk</i>
Froyle Village Hall Committee Chairman .....	<i>David Robertson - 520820</i> www.froylevillagehall.co.uk
Froyle Gardening Club .....	<i>Anne Blunt - 22262</i>
Froyle Vestments Group .....	<i>Madeleine Black - 23371</i> www.froylevestmentsgroup.org.uk
St Mary's Flower Rota .....	<i>Gill Bradley - 520484</i>
Froyle Archive .....	<i>Chris &amp; Annette Booth - 22364</i> www.froyle.com
The Meeting Place .....	<i>Susie Robertson - 520820</i>
Froyle Wildlife .....	<i>Barry Clark - 23520</i> www.froylewildlife.co.uk
Community Information Volunteer for Age Concern Hampshire.....	<i>Madeleine Black - 23371</i>
Bentley, Binsted & Froyle Care Group ( <i>transport to medical appointments</i> ) .....	<i>- 23440</i>
Police .....	Call <b>101 (999)</b> in an emergency)
<b>NHS non-emergency</b> .....	<b>111</b>
The Benefice of Bentley, Binsted & Froyle.....	www.benbinfro.co.uk
Froyle Residents' Facebook Group .....	simon@watmore.com

## NEXT MONTH'S MAGAZINE DEADLINE Friday 18th February, 2022

For guidance on formatting contributions, see **page 22**.

For advertising details, please refer to our rates on the **inside back cover**.

All booking enquiries should be addressed in the first instance to:

*magazine@froyle.com* and copied to *clerk@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk*

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>**