A detailed historical map of Froyle village, Hampshire, England. The map shows the River Test flowing through the center, with several mills and inns. Labels include 'Sheepwood Coppice' at the top, 'St. Bury Mill', 'Anchor Inn', 'Brockhurst', 'Cohtry', 'Froyle', 'Froyle Mill', 'Isington Mill', and 'Falling Mill' at the bottom. The map is framed by a double-line border.

# FROYLE

## VILLAGE MAGAZINE

DECEMBER 2017

No: 438

The Beehive is a beautiful rural Montessori pre-school. Set in the village of Shalden.  
We provide high quality education in a nurturing environment.



For further information or to arrange a visit call Annette or Jan  
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## 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 and £5 for a third of a page in the inside covers**.

All advertising must be requested and paid for through the Parish Clerk at  
*[froyleparishclerk@yaboo.co.uk](mailto:froyleparishclerk@yaboo.co.uk) and copied to [magazine@froyle.com](mailto:magazine@froyle.com)*



**FROYLE  
CAROLS AT CHRISTMAS**

**THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER**

**MEET IN THE VILLAGE HALL CAR PARK  
5.00 P.M.**

**Christmas carols gathered around the tree  
mulled cider and mince pies in the village hall**

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

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



# PARISH NEWS & VIEWS

*Parish Clerk - Philippa Cullen Stephenson*

Crabtree Gate, Well Lane, Lower Froyle *Tel: 01420 520102*

*Email: froyleparishclerk@yahoo.co.uk Web: www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk*

## **Report from the Froyle Parish Council (FPC) meeting Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November, 2017**

### **1. Froyle Parish Council.**

We were pleased to welcome Mr Garth Heyhurst to his first meeting as the new Parish Councillor.

As advised last month there remains a further vacancy on the FPC. If you are interested in being a parish councillor please write to The Clerk, Crabtree Gate, Well Lane, Lower Froyle, GU344LR, or froyleparishclerk@yahoo.co.uk before 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2017. Applications will be considered at the next FPC meeting.

### **2. Froyle Park**

On 31<sup>st</sup> October FPC attended the Alton Community Forum and asked why no answer had been provided to the question posed by Cllr Alex Roberts at the June Community Forum concerning the enforcement investigation into activity at Froyle Park and the subsequent report. EHDC Councillors present said that they had done all they could on this matter and were unable to help any further. FPC believes this position to be wholly unsatisfactory and intend to raise the matter with the Leader of EHDC.

### **3. Parish Council Budget 2017/18**

The budget for 2018 was reviewed in the meeting and will be further reviewed at the next meeting. The 2017 year to date figures include the cost of the new playground, whereas the 2018 budget will include the funds identified for the Football Hut part of that project.

### **4. Local Government Boundary Commission – EHDC recommendations on electoral arrangements.**

In October earlier this year EHDC advised us of their draft recommendations for a new pattern of wards for East Hampshire, and that they were now seeking consultation with local people. Under these draft recommendations Froyle is to be linked with Bentworth. Further information and a map is available at <https://www.easthants.gov.uk/consultation-boundary-recommendations-east->

hampshire

Recently Bentley Parish Council have contacted the FPC proposing that, rather than Bentley being linked with Binsted alone, perhaps a better match would be a ward of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle for the following reasons:

- a) Froyle is another of the “villages to the North of the South Downs National Park” and has also suffered from the planning system protecting other villages in the National Park.
- b) The parishes share Bentley C of E primary School.
- c) Bentley, Binsted and Froyle are the members of the same C of E Benefice.
- d) Bentley station is in Binsted, and many residents of Station Road treat Bentley as their social centre.

The FPC’s initial reaction is to agree with Bentley PC, and will discuss this further. Meanwhile residents are encouraged to have their say. There is a ‘have your say’ link on the above EHDC web-site. Consultation ends on 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2017.

#### **5. FPC donations to The Froyle Archive, and to Victim Care.**

The FPC meeting was attended by Chris Booth who has provided a report on the activities he and Annette have undertaken to maintain the Froyle Archive. The FPC have again this year agreed to continue its support of the Froyle Archive with a grant of £600.

The FPC also agreed to continue its support this year of Victim Care Hampshire & Isle of Wight with a grant of £50.

#### **6. War Memorial**

We have had a positive response to our pre-application submission to the War Memorials Trust (“WMT”) for minor repair and enhancement work to the Froyle War Memorial. It has already received a light clean, but this has revealed that some of the inscriptions were wearing away and that the surrounding paving and brickwork is cracked and in need of repointing. We are now obtaining quotes for this work prior to making a full application to the WMT. Hopefully, we will be able to undertake the works in the New Year.

#### **7. Permissive Footpath alongside Hen & Chicken Hill on Ryebidge Lane.**

Discussions are underway for the implementation of the permissive footpath to run from Fiennes Lane down the hill to the A31, on the park side of the wall, using the small gate opposite the Hen & Chicken for access back to the road.

#### **8. The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2017, at 7.45pm.**



Bookings: Gill Bradley

01420 520484

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

## Hiring the 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

**Don't forget you can keep up to date with Hall news on Facebook (Froyle V Hall) and Twitter (@froylevhall)**

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## NEWS FROM THE VILLAGE HALL

Another Froyle **Film Night** took place in October and was well attended, although there was room for more. We shall be arranging Film Nights again next year. Suggestions for films are always very welcome.

**Bonfire Night** was a huge success. The weather was perfect. The Bonfire was immense. The fireworks were spectacular. The food was great. A bigger-than-ever crowd thoroughly enjoyed themselves and donated generously. And it was good to see so many children enjoying the new playground. So we'll do it again next year. Thanks are particularly due to Tom Porter and his staff for help build the bonfire and to several dozen residents who worked hard to stage the event and clear up afterwards.



The bigger-than-ever crowd on Bonfire Night thoroughly enjoying themselves...!

**Quiz Night** had to be postponed this year but we are hopeful that it will be resurrected at the end of January. We should be able to give more details in next month's issue.

**The Hall now has a new up-to-date heating control system** which we are learning to use. So please bear with us if the hall isn't always up to temperature or is too hot. You will find there is now a wall-mounted thermostat in the main hall which displays the current temperature and which will allow you to increase the temperature if you are cold or turn it down if you are too hot. If you do make a change, at the end of the session please reset the temperature as you found it.

The Committee meets on the second Monday of each month and we have had to say goodbye to one of our number, namely Sarah Zorab who has a meeting clash. Also retiring from the Committee is Jo Mills, who for nearly ten years has acted as Booking Secretary, a role she has conducted with great efficiency and dedication and for which she deserves the thanks of the whole village. Happily Sarah and Jo have both emphasised that they want to continue to support the Hall in the future. So the residents of Froyle will continue to enjoy Jo's catering prowess.

**We are therefore looking for a couple of new people to join the Committee - see the next page for details.**

There is a great deal involved in running a community hall and keeping it bright and busy: fund-raising, cooking, maintenance, publicity and promotion, organising events, house-keeping, etc. We therefore are always looking out for a wide array of talents and interests. We would be particularly interested to hear from younger residents and those who have recently moved to Froyle. Do not be shy: the Village Hall Committee is a relaxed and open group.

With Christmas coming **we have purchased a new Christmas Tree** which will be much easier to put up. The old one is going free if you would like it, although it does require patience to assemble. As usual we shall illuminate the oak tree by the Hall although this year we shall eschew solar powered lights and revert to using the tried and tested products of Mr Ever & Mr Ready.

Finally, why get into the festive spirit by joining us at the Hall to **sing carols at 5pm on Thursday 21st December?** It always immense fun, particularly as we keep plan to keep everybody's spirits and temperatures up by offering mince pies, mulled cider and of course jolly good company.

*Nick Whines, Hon Sec Froyle Village Hall*



...as **we have two vacancies** we are looking to fill.

They are not for any specific role, although it would be great if you would like to get involved with something that interests you, such as fund raising, catering, publicity etc.

More importantly, **we are also looking to fill the role of Booking Secretary** – ex officio on the Village Hall Committee - to maintain the Hall diary and collect booking fees, the most recent holder of which having just retired after 10 years' sterling service (although we are not expecting anyone to undertake it for that long). If you want to know what is really going on in Froyle, this is the role for you!

The Village Hall Committee meets for about 1½ hours on the second Monday of the month, the next one being on 11<sup>th</sup> December.

We have a lot of fun and are graced with some truly dynamic members who have great ideas for Village events, centred round what has been described as one of the best halls for hire in the district.

Aside from one-offs like the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday tea party last year, we organise many successful regular events, such as the Bonfire Night, Film Nights, and Racing and Bingo Nights besides hosting many other functions organised by local organisations, clubs and societies.

Please do let me know if you are interested in coming on board – I promise you will not regret it.

*David Robertson, Chairman Froyle Village Hall Committee*  
01420 520820 [DARinfoyle@aol.com](mailto:DARinfoyle@aol.com)

## Froyle 100 Club Winners

The winners for November were:

1st - Bill Stanford 2nd - John Dobson

3rd - Mrs T Whelan 4th - Gordon Mitchell

Congratulations to all!

HOWEVER, the eagle-eyed among you will have spotted that Bill also won first prize last month - extraordinarily, this is the second time this year that the same person has won first prize two months in succession! So Bill and Margaret, like Caroline Findlay in January, have very kindly declined the prize, which means that **THERE WILL BE AN ADDITIONAL "CHRISTMAS BONUS" FIRST PRIZE AWARDED IN THE DECEMBER DRAW...**

### **2018 FROYLE 100 CLUB REMINDER.....**

There can never be too many members of the Froyle 100 Club – if you are not a member, December is the best time to join, since membership is renewed as from 1<sup>st</sup> January each year. The first 2018 draw is on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January!

For anyone wondering what the 100 Club is, it is a club which any adult resident of Froyle can join – the more members we have, the more money we raise for Froyle Village Hall and the more cash we hand out in prize money at each monthly draw.

Upon joining, you pay a subscription of £12 a year; you are given a number and entered in the draw made at the Meeting Place in Froyle Village Hall on the first Friday of each month (no need to be present to win). We pay out half our takings in prize money - a pretty good bet - with the balance going to the village hall. Each month in 2017 there have been four prizes, with a top prize of £30. You can subscribe in cash or by annual standing order.

For existing members who subscribe in cash, please let me have your loot by the end of December – I will try to nag people, but I am not very systematic about it, as you will have noticed....

For existing members who subscribe by standing order, thank you! It makes my life easier. However, I do not help myself in that I have failed to set up standing orders for some of you who have asked to do so. I shall try to rectify this in December...

My contact details are: William Knowles, telephone numbers: 23164 or 07775 928933, email: [wbk@wbknowles.com](mailto:wbk@wbknowles.com)

*William Knowles*

# THE CHRISTMAS MEETING PLACE



**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 9.30 am - 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, as well as holding our customary raffle and maybe even a visit from Father Christmas!

**We would be very grateful for any offers of raffle prizes.**

## **Cake Bakers for December**

01 Dec	Nelle Pratt	Sarah Basey	Pat Gasson	Sarah Khan
08 Dec	Susie Robertson	Jo Mills	Mary Chaplin	Sarah English
15 Dec	Brenda Milam	Jenny Gove	Helen MacDonald	Ann Netherway
22 Dec	Caroline Findlay	Madeleine Black	Jenny Dundas	Jenny Matthews
29 Dec	(from the freezer!)			

## **Kitchen Helpers for December**

01 Dec	Jan Elliott	Mollie Court
08 Dec	Sue Marriott	Maureen Fry
15 Dec	David Robertson	William Knowles
22 Dec	VOLUNTEERS, PLEASE!	
29 Dec	Lori Taylor	VOLUNTEER, PLEASE!

**If you are baking it is a great help if you could let one of us know by Thursday, if possible, what you plan to make. Many thanks.**

And if you need to swap dates, please contact another helper direct to arrange this. Please be at Village Hall by around 10 am.

## **A NOTE FOR OUR HELPERS AND BAKERS.**

Your 2018 rosters will be emailed to you during the first week of December (please check your junk/spam mailbox in case it has ended up in there). For those without internet access, a printed copy will be delivered to you. Should you not receive your rosters by 10<sup>th</sup> December, please contact me and I will make sure you receive your list as soon as possible.

Once again, a BIG Thank You to you all and have  
A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS and A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR  
from Lori 22148 (lorijaylor@hotmail.com)

*Gill Bradley 520484 p.andg.bradley@btinternet.com*  
*Susie Robertson 520820 sjrinfroyle@gmail.com*

## Anchor Inn's Armistice Day Lunch

Now in it's tenth year the Anchor once again hosted 50 service personnel both past and present to an Armistice Day lunch.

The three course lunch was served by local volunteers and, whilst probably not to silver service standards, the meal and the day was enjoyed by everyone present.

This year, as well as veterans, such as "Pop" Chandler from Holybourne, who at 94, served for 35 years in the RAF including as an engineer on Lancaster Bombers, they were joined by a few Froyle veterans including Ron Figgins and David Bennett, as well as Jennifer Evans.

Thanks especially to Kiran and Daisy at the Anchor for organising the day and for their management of a keen bunch of locals, none of whom were subsequently offered further employment.



♪“There’ll be bluebirds over the white wines of the Anchor...”♪



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

Our first AGM of Froyle Wildlife since becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation was held in October. Members received the Trustees' Report and Barry Clark reviewed the year's events. A highlight was the new wildlife pond and surrounding wildflower meadow near Gid Lane that has shown an astonishing increase in local biodiversity. After thanking the volunteers and members for their support, six trustees were elected unanimously by the members present.

*Barry Clark*

In October we welcomed zoologist Dr Francesca Pella for an enthusiastic talk about her work on '**Harvest Mice in Selborne**'. First recorded by Gilbert White in 1767, the good news is that 11 local farmers around Selborne covering 10,000 acres are now working to improve habitats for key species including the harvest mouse. The concern is that harvest mice numbers are declining nationally and the species is considered rare. Fortunately in the recent Selborne study over 400 nests were recorded in the two years 2014/5.

Their latin name is *micromys minutus*, or 'smallest mouse', which is apt as it is the smallest rodent in Europe, with a head and body length of 5-8cm and typically weighing 4-6gms. It is the only British mammal to have a prehensile tail able to grasp plant stems as they move through long vegetation. Nests of Harvest Mouse were also found in Froyle at two locations in 2016.

*Alan Dyos*

Local wildlife enthusiast Alan Wynde gave an informative talk in November about the '**Seabirds of Skokholm**'. The island lies off the south-west coast of Pembrokeshire and despite being only 240 acres it is an internationally important breeding site for many seabirds. It holds 52,000 pairs of Manx Shearwaters and 20% of Europe's population of Storm Petrels.

Some 40 years ago, Alan had helped to remove a herd of goats which were destroying shearwater burrows and stunting vegetation. The pioneering work of Ronald Lockley started the first bird observatory and ringing of shearwaters. It was explained that shearwaters use the position of the sun as a means of orientation and how their highly developed sense of smell enables them to have an olfactory map of the oceans. Various aspects of the biology of puffins, razorbills, guillemots and gannets were described. Gannets use Grassholm - another nearby island - as a breeding site, holding 35,000 pairs. For more information see [www.froylewildlife.co.uk/news/past-events/](http://www.froylewildlife.co.uk/news/past-events/).

## **Unusual Gifts**

Field Studies Council (FSC) offer great residential courses set in lovely locations around the British Isles covering natural history, arts and crafts and traditional skills. There are courses for individuals, families, further education students plus professional training for those working in the environment. For example Birds for Beginners, Wild Flower Identification, Identifying Bees, Watercolour: Tips Tricks & Techniques' [www.field-studies-council.org/learn-with-us.aspx](http://www.field-studies-council.org/learn-with-us.aspx)

**The Kingcombe Centre offers similar courses to the FSC and is set amongst the fantastic 1,000 acre Dorset Wildlife Trust nature reserve** [www.kingcombe.org/courses.html](http://www.kingcombe.org/courses.html)

For wildlife-curious children, gift membership to a wildlife charity may be just the thing (for Christmas?). The RSPB offers junior membership to three age groups, each member receives a magazine 6 times a year tailored to their age group plus a starter pack, cost £22 per year. For more information call RSPB on 01767 693690. Activity ideas can be found here [ww2.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-kids/games-and-activities/activities/](http://ww2.rspb.org.uk/fun-and-learning/for-kids/games-and-activities/activities/)

The Wildlife Trusts also cater for younger members with 'Wildlife Watch'. Members receive 4 magazines a year and a starter pack, cost £18 per year: Call Hampshire Wildlife Trust for more information on 01489 774400, for activities see [www.wildlifetrusts.org/wildlife-watch](http://www.wildlifetrusts.org/wildlife-watch)

*Sue Clark*

## ♪ Dum-di-Dum-di-Dum-di-Dum... ♪

### An everyday story of walking folk...

Hi, Me again...

Today was a marvellous autumn day, clear, crisp and sunny, so I managed to do the walk I introduced last month and I have to say the view from Saintbury Hill, with a slight early morning mist, the trees with spectacular colours, was stunning. Now for a much less hilly walk which will take you about an hour but, for those new to the village, it will give you a chance to explore more of their surroundings, so enjoy.

From the village hall, walk diagonally across the recreation field, the Rec, towards the houses you can see in the far corner; at these houses you will come to a narrow path to the east which takes you to Park Lane, turn left down the lane until you meet the main road.

Turn Right and walk past Husseys Lane on your left, continue along the road past the Anchor Inn and then when you reach houses on your left follow the unmade road keeping Coldrey cottages on your left, once past the houses continue through the gate directly in front of you, carry on down the path with Coldrey, a large house on your left.

Go straight on at the end of the garden, again following the path, enter the field continuing across the field and reaching the houses on your right, go across the stile and turn immediately left towards Pax Hill House.

As you near the end of the drive, you will see the path goes to the right along a narrow tree effectively walking around two and a half lengths of the same paddock; you will see a gap in the hedge, go through this and enter a large field with a copse in it, keeping the field on your right and Pax Hill on your left, follow the path firstly over a stile and then along now with the field on your right and a small copse of trees on your right.

Near the end of the field, the path goes left into another field, turn right and follow the path, now with the field on your left and a small copse on your right. Keep following the path through some trees with Coldrey lake, normally empty, on your left.

When you arrive at the end of the wooded area, the path goes to the right and after about 30 yards you will see a newly repaired bridge taking you over the ditch into the next field. Continue to follow the marked path along the left of the field and finally, having gone over two stiles and through a sheep field, you will arrive at Husseys Lane with a large house opposite.

Turn Left down Husseys Lane and when you reach the end you can turn right and then, returning to Park Lane on your left, you can follow your previous route back to the village hall.

*R Ambling*



# Froyle Gardening Club

President: Anne Blunt  
Chair: Brenda Milam

It is very fortunate that we have good friends at our club as Geoff Hawkins filled in at very short notice when our October speaker was unable to attend .

We were treated to fabulous slides illustrating `Colour all the year round`. Superb. Geoff was also kind enough to donate his fee to Children in Need and, as the members also contributed, we were able to send an £86 donation.

It is our A.G.M. on December 8<sup>th</sup> 7.30 in the Village Hall. The A G M will be followed by a Gardeners Question time with Geoff Hawkins and John Negus. Annual subscriptions will be due and tickets for the New Year lunch will also be on sale.

*Brenda Milam*



## **Froyle Baby and Toddler Morning Thursdays 9.45 am – 11.45 am in Froyle Village Hall**

The group is open to all babies and toddlers with their parents or carers and aims to provide an opportunity for the children to play and socialise. We have great wooden toys to play with: a dolls house, a pretend kitchen and even a pretend shop! There is a charge of £2 per family, per week which covers refreshments, craft activities and the rent of the village hall.

**December meetings in the Village Hall are on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> only.**

Bring a friend, do join us for some Christmas craft and a fun-filled morning!  
Any questions please call Sylvie on 520779.



The Better Balance class has celebrated 5 years! We are now having a rest until January (although there is homework!) Please call Sue 22603 if you would like to join in the New Year.

Please call Madeleine on 23371 if you are an older person and you'd like any help in finding information or services in your local community, or if unavailable call Age Concern Hampshire on 0800 328 7154 or email [villageagent@ageconcernhampshire](mailto:villageagent@ageconcernhampshire)

*For ACH Information and Advice 10-3pm, Mon-Fri 0800 328 7154  
<http://www.ageconcernhampshire.org.uk/>*



## Are you getting all the financial help you are entitled to?

- ∂ Are you unable to do daily activities like you used to?
- ∂ Are you caring for a friend or relative and not receiving financial help?
- ∂ Are you worried about money?

### We may be able to help

Please contact Age Concern Hampshire

**Freephone**

**0800 328 7154**



Age Concern Hampshire

St George's House  
18 St George's Street

Winchester

SO23 8BG [info@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk](mailto:info@ageconcernhampshire.org.uk)

# **BENTLEY, BINSTED & FROYLE CARE GROUP**

## **CAR SERVICE - CHRISTMAS CLOSURE**

The Care Group - Car Service, that takes local residents from Binsted, Bentley & Froyle to health-related appointments, will be closed over the Christmas and New Year period. The closure will be from 5.00pm on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2017 until 9.00am on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2018. We apologise if this causes any inconvenience.

## **TRAVEL VOUCHERS**

Travel Vouchers, issued by East Hampshire County Council as an alternative to a bus pass for disabled or older people, are valid from 1<sup>st</sup> April each year until 31<sup>st</sup> March the following year, up to a value of £32.00. The Binsted, Bentley & Froyle Care Group are now in a position to accept these Travel Vouchers, should any resident wish to use them. They should be presented to the driver, as with cash, at the end of a journey.

## **NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The 2017/18 Annual General Meeting of the Binsted, Bentley & Froyle Care Group (Hospital Car Service) will be held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2018, at 12.30pm, in the Wickham Institute Hall in Binsted. All are welcome.

A buffet lunch will be served after the meeting.

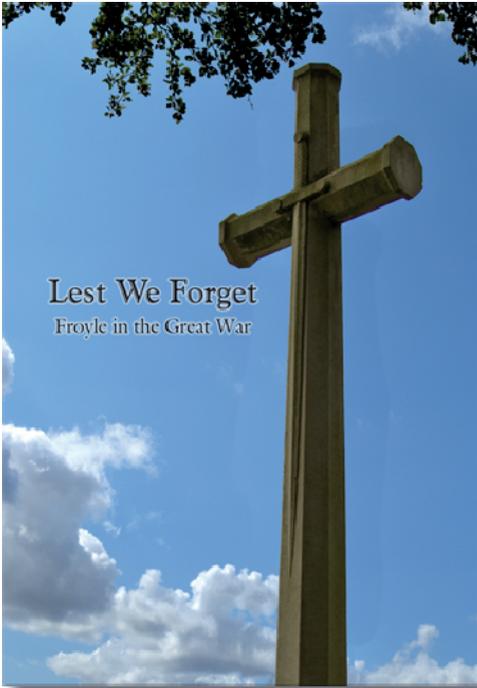
The Care Group booking number is 01420 23440.

Thank you.

*Cathy Smith*

*Secretary, BB&F Care Group*

## Lest We Forget - Froyle in the Great War



If you are looking for a unique Christmas gift for someone, this year, why not buy them a copy of “Lest We Forget”, the story of the Froyle men who gave their lives in World War One. The hardback book was commissioned by Froyle Parish Council to commemorate the Centenary of the start of World War One.

It also includes chapters on the Home Front as well as some fascinating photographs of Froyle Park when it was a Military Hospital.

The book can be purchased at £10 per copy from:

Annette & Chris Booth,  
Adams Field, Lower Froyle,  
01420 22364.  
archive@froyle.com

*Cheques made payable to  
Froyle Parish Council*

*Happy Christmas from Chris & Annette Booth at The Froyle Archive*

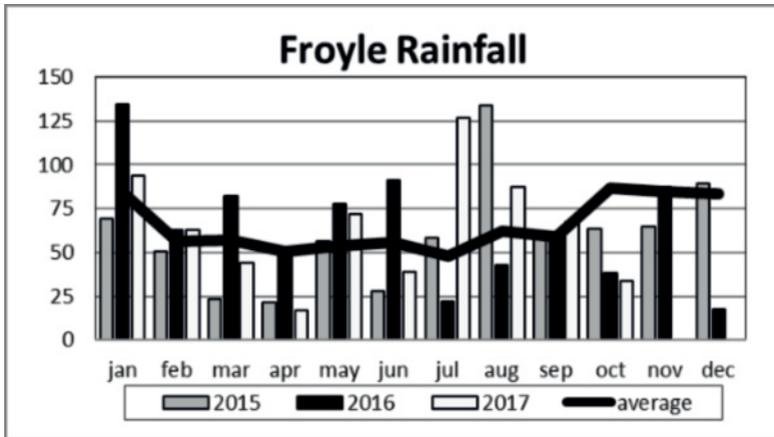
## The Alton Branch of the U3A

There is no Monthly Meeting in December, instead why not start the Christmas Festivities at the Annual Christmas Party. This will be held on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December** from 2 till 5, at the Community Centre. There will be a quiz, a cuppa, a mince pie and a chance to catch up with other members. The charge will be £3.00 and all are most welcome.

*Penelope Kennedy*

## Froyle Rainfall for October 2017

<b>This year (the 2<sup>nd</sup> driest October in 40 years)</b>	33.5 mm	1.3 ins
<b>Last year</b>	38 mm	1.5 ins
<b>Wettest October (1987) – the wettest ever month</b>	226 mm	8.9 ins
<b>Driest October (1978)</b>	7 mm	0.3 ins
<b>October long-term average – the wettest month</b>	86.6 mm	3.4 ins
<b>Total rainfall for the year so far</b>	644 mm	25.4 ins
<b>Long-term average for the year to end October</b>	614.9 mm	24.2 ins



This time last year I wrote: “At 38mm, this was the driest October in Froyle since 1985...”, but after this year we now have to go back to 1978 for a drier one, indeed the driest for decades (see table). So does my above-average-for-the-year prophecy still hold water? Well, just about; but we will now need a couple of proper downpours for it to be so; not unprecedented – as in 2009, 2012 and 2013 for example – but the odds are lengthening.



“The Umbrella Man”

## Bentley CE Primary December News

We had a wonderful time at our 'Big Build Opening Party' on Friday 20th October. It was a super event and we were so glad that so many families, neighbours and friends of the school could make it.

We asked each of the children to invite a special guest and have been delighted that so many lovely people took the time to reply to the well written letters of our pupils. Sadly we had quite a few apologies (Nick Sharratt, The Queen, Mary Berry, Greg Wallace, Phil Spencer, Prince George, Alan Titchmarsh, JK Rowling, Jonny Wilkinson, Alistair Stewart, the Bishop of Winchester, Supervet Noel, Alastair Cooke, Julia Donaldson, Mrs Staitte and Yaya Toure.)

We have still been receiving letters and emails back so perhaps Taylor Swift, Blue Peter and Stormzy may still be planning their replies...we will wait and see! We are however expecting a few VIPs still as they were so impressed with their invitations that they wanted to make a new date to visit when they could not make the party event. Max Pryde, Chief Executive of the Scout Association on 1st December and also Scott from Aldershot Town Football Club and Duncan from Bright Bricks would love to come and meet us. Big Build champions Amanda Sinclair and Suzie Honey came for a special showround before the party and were WOWed by what has been achieved.

BUT! We were delighted to welcome several of our nominated VIPs and they all seemed very pleased to attend. These included...Rev Yann Dubreuil, The Very Rev Catherine Ogle, Alton Mayor Dean Paul Phillips, Councillor Glynis Watts, Councillor Ken Carter, MP Damian Hinds, Georgie Hermitage, ANoah in Year 1's monkey and Matej in Year 1 (who kindly volunteered to step in if required).

Some of our former pupils - Rhona and Catherine, Georgina and Jess - came and served the drinks for us at the event, Millie Powell and Sarah Stanley organised all the bubbly and set up, Mrs Siers, Mrs Vogel and the super PTFA came and ran the refreshments and the PTFA organised magician Jelly Kelly to entertain everyone. Their help was much appreciated!

Thank you to everyone who came along! It was a super evening and we are so proud of our lovely new classroom and toilets but were glad to hear that you agreed that the whole school is looking amazing!

Mrs Katy Pinchess  
Headteacher



“The Big Build” Opening Party

**PLEASE NOTE**  
**THE *EARLIER THAN USUAL* DEADLINE**  
**FOR CONTRIBUTIONS**  
**TO NEXT MONTH’S MAGAZINE**  
**WEDNESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER**

## "Advent 1955" by John Betjeman

The Advent wind begins to stir  
With sea-like sounds in our Scotch fir,  
It's dark at breakfast, dark at tea,  
And in between we only see  
Clouds hurrying across the sky  
And rain-wet roads the wind blows dry  
And branches bending to the gale  
Against great skies all silver pale  
The world seems travelling into space,  
And travelling at a faster pace  
Than in the leisured summer weather  
When we and it sit out together,  
For now we feel the world spin round  
On some momentous journey bound -  
Journey to what? to whom? to where?  
The Advent bells call out 'Prepare,  
Your world is journeying to the birth  
Of God made Man for us on earth.'

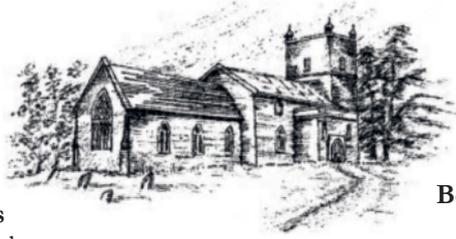
We raise the price of things in shops,  
We give plain boxes fancy tops  
And lines which traders cannot sell  
Thus parcell'd go extremely well  
We dole out bribes we call a present  
To those to whom we must be pleasant  
For business reasons. Our defence is  
These bribes are charged against expenses  
And bring relief in Income Tax  
Enough of these unworthy cracks!  
'The time draws near the birth of Christ'.  
A present that cannot be priced  
Given two thousand years ago  
Yet if God had not given so  
He still would be a distant stranger  
And not the Baby in the manger.

And how, in fact, do we prepare  
The great day that waits us there -  
For the twenty-fifth day of December,  
The birth of Christ? For some it means  
An interchange of hunting scenes  
On coloured cards, And I remember  
Last year I sent out twenty yards,  
Laid end to end, of Christmas cards  
To people that I scarcely know -  
They'd sent a card to me, and so  
I had to send one back. Oh dear!  
Is this a form of Christmas cheer?  
Or is it, which is less surprising,  
My pride gone in for advertising?  
The only cards that really count  
Are that extremely small amount  
From real friends who keep in touch  
And are not rich but love us much  
Some ways indeed are very odd  
By which we hail the birth of God.

# ST MARY'S CHURCH NOTES

Vicar: The Reverend Yann Dubreuil Tel: 07777 684 533 [yann@benbinfro.org](mailto:yann@benbinfro.org)

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



## Churchwarden:

**Mr. William Knowles**

Park Edge, Upper Froyle

Tel: 01420 23164

[wbk@wbknowles.com](mailto:wbk@wbknowles.com)

## Benefice Pastoral Care:

Gill Thallon (23528)

## Prayer Chain:

Nick Carter (472861)

Tel: 01420 520041

<b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December</b>	<b>6.30pm</b>	<b>Froyle</b>	<b>Advent by Candlelight</b>
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December</b>	<b>08.00am</b>	<b>Froyle</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	05.00pm	Bentley	Live@5
	09.30am	Binsted	Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Froyle</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	09.30am	Bentley	Morning Worship
	03.30am	Binsted	Messy Church
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December</b>	06.30pm	Binsted	The Real Nativity
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b>06.30pm</b>	<b>Froyle</b>	<b>Carol Service</b>
	05.00pm	Bentley	Live@5
	09.30am	Binsted	Morning Worship
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December</b>	06.30pm	Bentley	Road to the Stables
<b>Christmas Eve</b>	<b>05.30pm</b>	<b>Froyle</b>	<b>Crib Service</b>
	<b>11.00pm</b>	<b>Froyle</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	04.00pm	Bentley	Christingle Service
	11.00pm	Bentley	Holy Communion
	09.30am	Binsted	Said Eucharist
	11.00pm	Binsted	Holy Communion
<b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Froyle</b>	<b>Christmas Communion</b>
	09.30am	Bentley	Christmas Communion
	09.30am	Binsted	Christmas Communion
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December</b>	<b>11.00am</b>	<b>Froyle</b>	<b>Benefice Service</b>

# THE VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE

## ***Dear all,***

As I write this during October half term, the supermarkets and garden centres are full of pumpkins and goodies for Hallowe'en, there are posters advertising public firework displays and displays of Christmas decorations and gifts are already stacked high in our shops. These annual events all seem to tumble into one another with such haste, I sometimes wonder if we have the time to stop and wonder what it all means.

And yet, in the commercial rush that speeds us all towards December 25<sup>th</sup>, in the midst of all the present buying, the card writing, the mince pie baking and the last minute gift wrapping, there are precious moments when we can stop, breathe and sense the true and wondrous meaning of Christmas. It might happen in the midst of one of our family events, such as the Road to the Stable in Bentley (December 21<sup>st</sup>) or it might be during the beauty of the Advent Carols in Froyle (December 2<sup>nd</sup>).

Thomas Hardy's poem, *The Oxen*, expresses such a sense of wonder that it might as well have been written with reference to Binsted's Real Nativity (December 15<sup>th</sup>) when we stand in the barn next to Holy Cross:

Yet, I feel,

If someone said on Christmas Eve,

'Come; see the oxen kneel...'

I should go with him in the gloom,

Hoping it might be so.

We want everyone to feel that sense of wonder and awe this Christmas and involve everyone in our celebrations of Christ's birth. And another way in which you can feel involved is by helping us to fill Holy Cross with angels. We want to see how many different angels the community can make and send flying into our church this year, so we will truly have 'angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold'.

I hope however you celebrate Christmas you will feel that sense of awe this year. And now I must get on – I need to find the glue and the glitter and get cracking with my angel!

***Blessings,  
Yann***



## St Mary's Church Christmas Decorations

This year's theme will be "Christmas Carols" and we would like as many as possible to

**Do an arrangement representing a carol!**

So far we have "the Holly and the Ivy" and "Ding, Dong Merrily on High". Please contact Sarah or Gill if you would like to contribute – and we do hope you will. The decorations will be put in place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December in the morning, starting at 9.0 a.m each day, so that they will be ready for the Carol Service on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup>.

*Sarah Thursfield 23294  
Gill Bradley 520484*



You are invited to join us on

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December**

**and 14<sup>th</sup> January '18**

**from 3.30 till 5.30pm**

**In Binsted School Hall, Binsted Village**

for a time of

**Fun, crafts, celebration & food**

All are invited - young & old alike, adults, children, teenagers, carers, grandparents, come as friends, families or partners, or come on your own, everyone is welcome.

If you are a child you will need to bring an adult with you.

**Come along and join us !**

Entrance free

Messy Team Co-ordinator: Nick Carter 01420 472861  
messychurch@beninfo.org

## A Seasonal request, from one dog owner ...

In the past, we have had a couple of pleas from residents that dog-owners don't leave dog poo all over the village and bag it up and put it in a bin.

This dog-owner is delighted to have found over the last few months that the incidence of dirty shoes, for reasons other than mud and rain, seemed to have reduced markedly. But, and yes there always has to be a but...

On more than one occasion have I found dog poo very carefully and correctly put into a plastic bag.... and then the bag left on the ground, or, on two occasions, the bag hung up in a bush and on a fence!

My immediate reaction was, those dog-owners must be barking!

But, to state the rather obvious, is it asking too much to make a seasonal request to please take those offending bags home or put them in a bin and help prevent us other dog-owners from getting a bad name? You know it makes (doggy) sense...

*David Robertson*



## *Christmas Eve at The Hen and Chicken*

All at the Hen & Chicken would love to invite you and your family to our Christmas Eve 'get-together' from 730pm onwards.

Enjoy a welcome drink and mince pie and start your Christmas celebrations with us.

We look forward to welcoming you all.

Merry Christmas from  
Laura, Kevin and all the Staff

Please be advised we now have a new email address for reservations. Please email [bookings@henandchicken.co.uk](mailto:bookings@henandchicken.co.uk)

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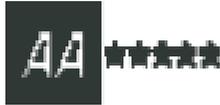
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## Village Events for December 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>31</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>11.00</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>HC</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“On yer bike, 2017”</i></p>					<p style="text-align: center;"><i>1</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>9.30 VH</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Meeting Pl</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>2</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>6.30 Advent</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>by</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>candlelight</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>3</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>8.00 HC</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>4</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Refuse &amp;</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>garden</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>waste</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>5</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>6</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>7</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>9.45 VH</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Toddlers</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>8</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>9.30 VH</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Meeting Pl</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>7.30 VH</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Gardening</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Club AGM</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>9</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>10</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>11.00 HC</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>11</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Recycling</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>12</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>7.45 VH</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>PC meeting</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>13</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>14</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>9.45 VH</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Toddlers</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>15</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>9.00 Church</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>decorating</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>9.30 VH</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>MP</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>16</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>9.00 Church</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>decorating</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>17</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>6.30 Carol</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Service</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>18</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Refuse &amp;</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>garden</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>waste</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>19</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>20</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>21</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>5.00 VH</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Carol</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>singing</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>22</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>9.30</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Christmas</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Meeting Pl</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>23</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>24</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>5.50 Crib</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Service</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>11.00 HC</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>25</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>11.00</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Christmas</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Commun-</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>ion</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>26</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>27</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Recycling</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>&amp; bottles</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>28</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>29</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>9.30 VH</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Meeting Pl</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>30</i></p>

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**KITCHEN APPLIANCES – SALES AND REPAIRS**

Washing machines, tumble dryers, dishwashers, refrigeration and cookers. We are a local company focused on providing a first class service for local people. Any appliance purchased from our showroom comes with the confidence that we can look after you from day one, also during the warranty period. Major brands not stocked by AES can be ordered and are usually available for delivery within the week.

We now stock a large range of electrical spares and accessories, inc light bulbs, extension cables, TV, audio and telephone supplies.

**BENTLEY VILLAGE SURGERY**

Dr M Way & Dr A Evers

The surgery is open from 8.00am – 6.30pm Monday – Friday

The dispensary is open from 8.30am – 12.30pm and

4.00pm – 6.30pm Monday to Friday

(except on Wednesday afternoons when the dispensary is closed)

**BUT NB THE SURGERY AND DISPENSARY WILL BE  
CLOSED ON CHRISTMAS DAY & BOXING DAY**

**When the surgery is closed please call 111**

To register for Online appointment booking and repeat prescriptions,  
please ask at Reception.

**Tel: 01420 22106** [www.bentleysurgery.org.uk](http://www.bentleysurgery.org.uk)

# VILLAGE INFORMATION

## USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

Clerk to Parish Council .....	<i>Philippa Cullen Stephenson</i> -520102 <a href="http://www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk">www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk</a>
District Councillor .....	<i>Glynis Watts</i> - 07747 628333 <a href="mailto:Glynis.Watts@easthants.gov.uk">Glynis.Watts@easthants.gov.uk</a>
Froyle Village Hall Committee Chairman .....	<i>David Robertson</i> - 520820 <a href="http://www.froylevillagehall.co.uk/">www.froylevillagehall.co.uk/</a>
Froyle Gardening Club .....	<i>Brenda Milam</i> - 22216
Froyle Vestment Group .....	<i>Sarah Thursfield</i> - 23294 <a href="http://www.froylevestmentsgroup.org.uk/">www.froylevestmentsgroup.org.uk/</a>
St. Mary's Flower Rota .....	<i>Sarah Thursfield</i> - 23294
Froyle Archive .....	<i>Chris &amp; Annette Booth</i> - 22364 <a href="http://www.froyle.com">www.froyle.com</a>
The Meeting Place .....	<i>Susie Robertson</i> - 520820
Froyle Wildlife.....	<i>Barry Clark</i> - 23520 <a href="http://www.froylewildlife.co.uk/">www.froylewildlife.co.uk/</a>
Froyle Good Neighbours .....	<i>Linda Hagan-Wilkie</i> - 520292
Froyle Village Agent for Age Concern .....	<i>Madeleine Black</i> - 23371
Froyle Friends ( <i>visiting friends in hospital</i> ) .....	<i>Annette Booth</i> - 22364
Bentley, Binsted & Froyle Care Group ( <i>transport to medical appointments</i> ) .....	- 23440
Alton Safer Neighbourhoods Team .....	<i>PCSO 14396 Jess Hornsby</i> 07554 775556 Dial: <b>101</b> Ext: 771 243 or email: <a href="mailto:jessica.hornsby@hampshire.pnn.police.uk">jessica.hornsby@hampshire.pnn.police.uk</a>
<b>NHS non-emergency</b> .....	<b>111</b>
The Benefice of Bentley, Binsted & Froyle.....	<a href="http://www.benbinfro.co.uk">www.benbinfro.co.uk</a>

## NEXT MONTH'S *EARLY* MAGAZINE DEADLINE

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2017**

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

All booking enquiries should be addressed in the first instance to  
[froyleparishclerk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:froyleparishclerk@yahoo.co.uk) and copied to [magazine@froyle.com](mailto:magazine@froyle.com).

All contributions should be submitted by the above deadline to  
[magazine@froyle.com](mailto:magazine@froyle.com)

Alternatively a hard copy can be dropped off The Meeting Place.

**Please remember to check out the magazine online at:**

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