

Froyle Village Magazine



December 2020
No. 471

<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

Web: www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk



The Parish Council (PC) met virtually on 9th November with the main topic being a presentation of **the new Parish Council website**. This is now available and can be found by searching for **Froyle Parish Council** or typing www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk in your browser. We hope that this website will be a community resource for Froyle residents providing a single point of access to all information about life in and around the village. (See article on page 3).

1. Following the quarterly inspection of the play area equipment in September the PC authorised expenditure to repair the ship and tunnel. Also on the Rec, the removal of dead branches from two poplar trees were authorised following a review by a local tree surgeon. The recommended action on these trees was discussed and agreed with Froyle Wildlife.
2. A review of noticeboards around the village has been undertaken in conjunction with the local volunteer group, Alton Mensshed. The PC decided to acquire a new noticeboard to replace the rotten one opposite the end of Gid Lane in Upper Froyle. This will have doors to make notices more weatherproof. A cover will also be added to the centre panel of the map noticeboard on Jubilee Green and a softer backing appended to the noticeboard at Hadwick's Corner. Froyle's District Councillor, Tony Costigan, has offered to provide funding for the new noticeboard. Action regarding noticeboards in Lower Froyle will be considered next year. Finally, the PC has asked the PCC (Church Council) to consider the future of its noticeboard by the Village Hall.
3. Following an earlier request by the PC to Linden Homes, EHDC intervened and the flags and banners have now been removed from the site entrance. At the request of the PC and District Councillor, Froyle Park has removed unsafe branches from the trees overhanging both Hen & Chicken Hill and along the Avenue. We hope that the restoration of the views from Hen & Chicken Hill has been enjoyed by all Froyle residents.
4. Preparation of the 2021/22 PC budget has commenced with the final budget to be signed off at its December meeting. If any resident would like to put forward a suggestion for a PC project please contact the Clerk at clerk@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk, before 8th December.

5. Around the village

- Seven new planning applications have been received since the last PC meeting. The PC decided not to make any comment on six, relating to tree pruning and felling (must be that time of year!) and listed building consent for internal works. The final application was an amended proposal for the side extension to a property in Upper Froyle. The PC remain concerned about the visual impact of this extension and resubmitted its previous comments that the principles contained in the 2016 Froyle Village Design Statement should be taken into consideration. A link is available on the new Parish Council website to the EHDC planning portal where applications can be viewed and comments made.
- Some of you may have been inconvenienced by the recent closure of Froyle road by Hampshire Highways for surface repairs. This work is understood to be a precursor to a resurfacing programme in 2021 (Operation Resilience) using a new process. More details of this and any resultant road closures will be advised when available.

6. Other news and information alerts.

- The PC submitted a response to the Government's Planning White Paper consultation - a link is available on the new Parish Council website.
 - Hampshire Police have issued an alert entitled Secure Outbuildings to Prevent Thefts of Equipment after a spate of thefts in the area surrounding Froyle (contact the Clerk for more details). If you see anything suspicious please contact Hampshire Police on <https://www.hampshire.police.uk/ro/report/>
 - The PC regularly receives information about scams with the latest being re Fake Paypal Emails. Please remain alert to any suspicious email or phone call. If you think you've been a victim of fraud, report it to Action Fraud online at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040.
7. Those receiving FPC email alerts will have seen the launch of the 'Protect Your Passw0rd National Campaign' by Neighbourhood Watch. Details of this campaign are at <https://www.ourwatch.org.uk/passwords>.
8. Hampshire County Council are reminding parents with children starting school in Sept 2021 that applications are now open and will close on Friday 15th January 2021. More information at www.hants.gov.uk/admissions
9. The next PC meeting is scheduled for **Monday 14th December**.

If you wish to sign up to receive FPC email alerts re service disruptions, alerts etc please send your details to fpc@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk with YES in the subject line (or STOP if you wish to be removed!). Please check your Spam folder to allow emails if you have signed up.

Froyle Parish Council website goes live!

You will have seen elsewhere in this issue that the new Froyle Parish Council website has been launched this month. The content of the website not only includes details about the Parish Council (which we are legally obliged to do) but also provides links to activities and services in and around Froyle.

We hope that the website will be a community resource providing village residents with a single reference point for news and information.

Some examples of links included are:

- EHDC and HCC services and planning portals;
- Alton tip booking;
- Local doctors, dentists, hospitals and pharmacy contact details;
- Footpaths & rights of way;
- Public transport guide and timetables.

To save you having to remember the web address every time, why not bookmark the Home page in your browser when you first access it then you are only a click away when wanting to return.

The website has been checked for compliance with accessibility regulations that came into force for all Councils in September.

Do give us your feedback if you have any difficulties viewing the site or accessing information but also what you think and where it could be improved – there is always room for that!

The website can be found by googling Froyle Parish Council or typing www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk in your internet browser.

(Froyle Parish Clerk)

PLEASE NOTE
THE EARLY DEADLINE FOR NEXT MONTH'S MAGAZINE
IS
ON FRIDAY DECEMBER 11th
IN ORDER TO GIVE TRELOAR PRINTERS TIME TO
PRODUCE IT



Bookings:
Sarah Zorab
01420 520361

www.froylevillagehall.co.uk

NEWS FROM THE VILLAGE HALL

In line with government lockdown regulations the Village Hall closed on 5th November to all activity and the Friday morning meet on the patio was suspended. We had hoped that we would be able to reopen on 3rd December when the period of lockdown ends. We have refunded all hiring fees paid in advance with apologies for the inconvenience. We have a Zoom Committee meeting scheduled for 1st December to discuss reopening, although clearly we will have to adhere to the restrictions imposed upon us under Tier 2. At the moment our plan is to continue the 50% discount for hirers up to the end of January 2021. We are keen that the hall should be used as much as possible next year so, if you are planning a party, want to run a class of some kind, start a debating society or have a bright idea for a community event, bearing in mind the need to maintain social distancing, hand-washing, and mask-wearing, do get in touch. It's not easy is it?

Recently we took part in a county-wide Zoom meeting of representatives from village and community halls. Many are experiencing real difficulty, particularly those with high overheads or significant maintenance costs. In Froyle we are lucky to have a modern hall and a healthy bank balance so we are able to ride out the storm. When the sun shines, our solar panels provide a small income and the Government has just announced that we are entitled to receive an additional payment of £1,334 to cover loss of income during lockdown.

But no one really wants to see the Hall empty.

Bonfire Night could not go unmarked so the Committee funded our resident pyrotechnicians to stage a magnificent firework display. Rockets were launched simultaneously from sites in Husseys Lane and Saintbury Hill lighting up the sky above both Upper and Lower Froyle. By some miscalculation I found myself directly between the two and had to spin like a Catherine Wheel in an attempt to take in both. As the last spark descended the clapping and cheering indicated just how much the event was appreciated. So thanks are due to all who contributed: sorting insurance, giving permission and not least lighting the blue touch paper. Let's hope that next year we can have our bonfire party back safe in the knowledge that we have all been vaccinated. It was after all the Great Fire of London which finally put paid to the ravages of the bubonic plague.

Two days after the Fireworks came Froyle's Virtual Quiz Night, another triumph of Froyle's organisational and technological prowess. Sixteen teams with highly improbable names competed for a hamper of super-abundant excess. The teams of up to six maintained contact with each other by means of Zoom, Facebook and WhatsApp using computers, iPads and mobile phones. The rumour that in one instance two tins and some string were used is, as the BBC would say, baseless. The questions were delivered via a YouTube Channel by Mastermind-in-Chief, Ron Lafferty, from an undisclosed location in cyberspace cunningly disguised as a field. The questions were enormously diverse with some nicely local, including calculating the acreage of the Rec and identifying a Straw Dog in Lower Froyle. I felt my team should have got a prize for the best name. 'Nerd-immunity' still makes me laugh. Well done, Karen! We certainly didn't deserve any other prize as we crashed and burned in the music round. The final winners were the multi-generational 'Quizzzy Rascals' that contained elements of the Mills family. Underlining the importance of including all ages in your quiz team if you want to win. The hamper, groaning under the weight of so many goodies was I understand delivered by fork lift truck.

The event didn't quite match the drink-fuelled exuberance of the atmosphere in the Hall when things are neck and neck with one round to go. But it was a considerable achievement to involve so many people when the alternative was watching another round of Strictly. So I hope we can do something similar in the New Year. Again lots of people contributed to making the Quiz happen including those who organised, set the questions, filled the hamper, sorted the comms, calculated the scores and most of all those who forewent Strictly and took part. All should be thanked.

In many ways at a time of difficulty and, it has to be said, depression, the organising of an event like the Fireworks and the Quiz is as good for the community as the event itself. We are very lucky in Froyle to have in our midst such excellent organisers who are willing to take on the anxiety and stress that goes with the job. Well done them.

Finally I am happy to report that the Quiz raised substantially more than expected for the Alton Foodbanks which is a great result. (*See next page for details*).

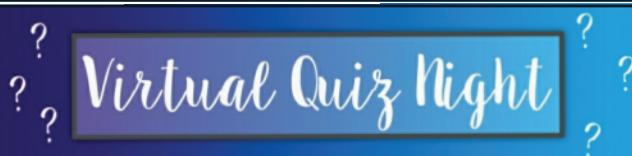
The newspapers are reporting that lockdown is resulting in a surge in online shopping. Ros was commenting the other day that she was going to need a wheelbarrow for some of her customers. That being the case the Village Hall can benefit if, when you next use Amazon, you visit via <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/> and register Froyle Village Hall as your charity of choice. Thereafter 0.5% of all your purchase costs will be donated to the Hall, provided you visit by the smile portal. 0.5% may not sound very much but it will mount up particularly over the Christmas period. The only problem is remembering to smile! More information can be found on the Village Hall website at

www.froylevillagehall.co.uk , along with details of the Giving Machine which operates a similar scheme with many other retailers.

Christmas is coming and who knows where we will be. It is just possible that things might ease a little when the new restrictions imposed upon us from December 3rd are reviewed mid-month. However for logistical reasons, it is with a heavy heart that we have decided not to have our traditional carol singing evening outside The Village Hall this year. You will though see elsewhere in the magazine (*pages 7 & 25*) that the Church is hoping to organise something on December 21st , so fingers crossed the unique sound of “Oh Little Town of Bethlehem” and “Away in a Manger” will still echo around the lanes and houses of Froyle.

Last year our Christmas lights were, to be honest, somewhere between subtle and subdued. This year we need to make a bolder statement and have allocated funds to do just that. What we need is a theme. The Adoration of the Magi might be a bit ambitious, a full scale representation of the Veolia MRF would endanger low flying aircraft, Santa and his reindeer has been done before, so what about an animated hypodermic syringe pursuing a Covid virus round and round the Hall. Suggestions welcome.

(Nick Whines *secretary@froylevillagehall.co.uk*)



You will recall that our aim was to raise at least £200 for Alton Foodbanks from the 16 teams competing in the Virtual Quiz Night last month, and I am delighted to report that our target was exceeded...by a country mile! Although we cannot be absolutely precise about the final amount - a couple of payments to the Charity were unattributable - we do know **we raised at least £850** and probably quite a lot more.

This was a fantastic effort, much appreciated by the charity, so a huge THANK YOU is due to everyone.

(David Robertson)



CHRISTMAS CAROLS IN FROYLE

(subject to restrictions at that time)

Save the Date

**MONDAY 21st DECEMBER
at 6.30 pm (TBC)**

As we all know we are living in strange times, however here in Froyle we will do everything we can to bring some tradition to your Christmas. We therefore hope to have a socially-distanced gathering to sing Carols, in conjunction with the Church, on Monday 21st December at 6.30 pm in Froyle, although final details including the location are still to be confirmed.

Further information will be posted on village social media (Website, Facebook, Twitter) and notice boards once we know exactly what will be workable...

EVERY THURSDAY DURING TERM TIME (WHEN NOT IN LOCKDOWN), 9:45-11:45 AND 12:30-2:15, FROYLE VILLAGE HALL.

Froyle Baby and Toddler Group

WITH LIMITED NUMBERS, THE COVID-SECURE GROUPS ARE SPLIT INTO TWO SESSIONS - 9:45-11:45 AND 12:30-2:15. THESE ARE BY PRE-BOOKING ONLY. PLEASE JOIN THE FACEBOOK GROUP AND MESSAGE ME FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Find "Froyle Baby and Toddler Group" on facebook. -UPDATES WILL BE POSTED ON HERE. AT TIME OF PRINTING, I AM PREPARING TO RE-OPEN AFTER LOCKDOWN #2.

Please do not attend if you or anyone in your household has symptoms of Coronavirus or is in quarantine.

(For the latest news on if and when the Froyle Baby and Toddler Group will reopen, please see our Facebook page.)

FROYLE OPEN GARDENS

As the weather deteriorates and the days grow shorter, it is getting a lot harder to get out in the garden. But there is still much to do. Pruning, mulching, sweeping up leaves and planting the last of the bulbs. Some of the roses are still blooming and when the sun does shine the ornamental grasses look particularly fine, especially the pampas grass which attracts some curious questions from passers-by.

FOG 21 is a long way off but I am pleased to report that we have a new garden. Charlie and Sarah Zorab have kindly (and bravely) joined the group. Visitors will love their garden, its magnificent view and no doubt the opportunity to explore a hidden corner of the village.

The National Garden Scheme (NGS) has just published its Impact Report for 2020 and, despite the fact that many gardens including our own were unable to open, the amounts raised were impressive. The report illustrates all the uses to which the funds were put, including Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie, Hospice UK, Carers Trust, The Queen's Nursing Institute and Parkinson's UK, along with much smaller charities like Horatio's Garden and Maggie's.

HRH The Prince of Wales, who is Patron of the NGS, says:

“The National Garden Scheme Virtual Garden Visits tapped into the theme that we all know to be so important; that gardens are good for everyone’s health and wellbeing. This link between gardens and our health has never been more relevant ...”

NGS calculate that the 180 virtual gardens were seen 600,000 times and raised £250,000 from people all over the world. Our own film has now been viewed 40,000 times and when I last looked we were beating Alan Titchmarsh. It's still available on YouTube if you feel like a reminder of that beautiful summer. The report itself can be found on the NGS website and you should find a link on the new Parish Council website.

So if you do make it out in the garden these dark winter days, remember to strike some cuttings, sow some sweet peas or do a bit of dividing and potting up for next year's NGS plant sales. You will feel tons better I guarantee.

(*Nick Whines*)

CRACKDOWN ON THOSE TIER 2 BLUES!

Things to do during these troubled times...

1. Games to play

‘SHUT UP & SIT DOWN’

You might not think this is the best way to get everyone to play a game...but it is the name of a YouTube channel which does excellent reviews of new games!

Here are some suggestions

Pandemic 2 – 4 players 8+ Can you save humanity – it’s a real challenge, all the players are competing together to beat the pandemic.

Citadel 2-8 players 10+ You choose a different role each round – will you be the Thief, Assassin, Merchant, Magician, Bishop, King or Warlord? A game of medieval cities, nobles and intrigue.

Spyfall 3-8 players 13+ You may be a barman at a casino, a scientist on a space station, a researcher in the Antarctic, wherever you are there will be a spy hiding – can you unmask him or her?

Scattergories 2-6 players— An old favorite and one you can play on zoom! It is recommended for 12+ but you can play in teams of mixed ages. You just have to make lists in different categories beginning with a chosen letter and unusual ones win.

Coup 2-6 players 9+ A bluffing game that is quick and easy to play. Will you claim to be a thieving captain, a rich duke or a contessa who can block assassinations?

(Jane Macnabb)

2. Make a wreath for the Church

St MARY’S CHURCH FLOWERS

In these very uncertain times, and not knowing when we will be allowed back into the Church, and whether there will be Christmas Services, the suggestion is that **our theme this year should be Christmas Wreaths to decorate the Church**. These could be put together at home, delivered to the Church to be hung or propped up on windowsills, or wherever seems appropriate. They can be large or small and don't necessarily have to be circular! I will be in the Church on Wednesday, 23rd December between 2.0 and 4.0 pm to receive and arrange these; if this is not convenient please give me a ring.

Again, because of the current situation we will not be producing a Flower arranging Rota for the coming year at the moment but, hopefully we might be back to some sort of routine by Easter and we will be able to put together a rota in Spring.

Thank you for your help.

(Gill Bradley 520484)

3. An Excellent Christmastide Suggestion...

MAKE A DECORATION FOR ALL TO SEE

Working in my front garden I realised how much children enjoyed looking for Teddies in windows, or rainbows. I thought that as this Christmas period may be difficult people might like to make a special effort in their gardens. Obviously some people put on great displays already, and we can't all live up to that, but maybe **most of us could do something, even if it's a Father Christmas decoration hanging in a hedge, a Christmas message or a candle in the window.** Give it a thought and let's see what happens. I'm sure a few people will have more time to be creative.

Wishing every one Best Wishes for Christmas and a Happier, Healthier New Year.

(Brenda Milam)

4. Read, Listen, Watch...

MEDICINE FOR THE SOUL THE EDITORS' PICKS OF 2020

(i) A book (or audio book) which charmed me earlier in the year was "**The Penguin Lessons**" by **Tom Michell**. Written as a memoir it tells the story of a callow youth setting out from the rural tranquillity of Sussex to teach in a boarding school in Argentina. All standard stuff until he rescues a penguin from a colony devastated by an oil slick. The resulting tale is enlightening and amusing. It was recommended to me by my son who read it whilst travelling round South America in those carefree days when we could get out and see the world, but I found it just as enjoyable to read here in Froyle.

(Gillian Pickering)

(ii) A radio programme, "From My Home To Yours, with music for troubled times", to be found on Radio 2 at 00.01 on Saturdays (or, more conveniently, on the BBC Sounds app) is a catholic collection of songs **curated and introduced by Bruce Springsteen** from the studio at his farm in New Jersey every week. This week's choice ranged from Marlene Dietrich to Wyclef Jean, taking in Bob Dylan and various others. It's been approachable and relevant, discussing, without getting too heavy, topical issues and picking up numerous aspects of living in an American lock-down, which seems to be both like and unlike ours at the same time. With a personal recorded oeuvre stretching back nearly 50 years the Boss could fill the programme with just his songs, but there are very few of them. Excellent listening.

(Jonathan Pickering)

(iii) Three of the best...

Book of the year:

One Two Three Four by Craig Brown, is just the perfect combo of the funniest and most pointedly accurate observer and diarist around focusing on the best Band ever to have graced the planet (the Beatles in case you hadn't guessed).

TV Show of the year::

"The Queen's Gambit" on Netflix. In a 1950's orphanage, a young girl reveals an astonishing talent for chess and begins an unlikely journey to stardom while grappling with addiction; Uplifting, realistic, beautifully acted, and you don't even have to know how to play the game...!

NADFAS lecture of the year:

"Chatsworth and the Devonshire Collection in the Modern Age", by Simon Seligman, who described, using his own intimate knowledge of the place, particularly how many past treasures are being brilliantly combined with modern commissions.

(David Robertson)

(iv) More TV:

"Staged" on the BBC iPlayer.

A six-part British television comedy series, set during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown, starring Michael Sheen and David Tennant; "a welcome distraction, an eminently watchable portrait of two artists as petulant, egotistical children"; it had our whole family smiling during the first lockdown, which was an achievement.

(Sophie Chalk)

5. ...and somewhere to Visit (when lockdown is finally over)

THE D'ARENBURG CUBE BUILDING IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA



In January, we revisited South Australia and McLaren Vale. The Cube is now open, and a surreal experience as billed. Salvador Dali sculptures frame the entrance path, preparing the visitor for the experience within. Dark rooms with the different aromas used to describe wine, a fluorescent colour film of d'Arenburg history, and an arbitrary collection of wine paraphernalia, are all part of The Alternate Realities

Museum.

On higher floors there is the Cube restaurant, (not to be confused with the separate renowned d'Arrys Verandah) and the wine tasting room at the top. Many Red stripe wines, and others from their Adelaide Hills vineyards can be tasted, in panoramic surroundings (and don't forget to visit the amazing loos!).

Nothing is what it seems, but then Chester Osborn is not your average winemaker! Oh, I don't remember trying THE PICKWICKIAN BROBDINGNAGIAN Shiraz. Next time!

(Madeleine Black)



The Meeting Place

Under the Tier 2 rules, we cannot reopen the Meeting Place for the time being. However it is possible that, when the restrictions are reviewed in the middle of the month, this may change, in which case December 18th is a possible day on which to celebrate a much needed Christmas.

In the meantime our very best wishes and thanks to everyone who has helped this year. It's certainly been an interesting one. And of course A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ONE AND ALL.

(The Meeting Place Team)



In these uncertain times, it is not possible to make any plans for the next few months. December is the normal time for our AGM and renewal of annual subscriptions. Do not throw away your 2020 membership card and programme as I am hopeful that we can take up the 2020 meetings where we left off at the first lockdown.

All the speakers and judges have agreed to come at the corresponding times in 2021 and your 2020 subscriptions will cover next year.

Christmas will be different for many but I wish everyone a happy and peaceful time. I would also like to add a personal thank you to all those who have helped me in many ways this year. Keep safe and well

(Anne Blunt)

Poppy Day 2020

Obviously, this was always going to be a difficult year in raising monies for the Royal British Legion due to the Coronavirus. Door-to-door collections were banned and, as we did not have a church service, there was no donation from the collection. However, against all expectations, **we raised £486.68 for the Royal British Legion**, so a massive thank you again for your kind generosity.

There were some people who stepped up to the mark and I would personally like to thank Susie Robertson and Jo Mills and those at the Meeting Place, Kevin of the Hen & Chicken, Matt at the Anchor Inn, the owners of the BP garage, and West End Farm restaurant.

Hopefully, next year will we all be back to normal and we can remember those who have given their lives so we can enjoy our freedom.

(Jamie Stewart-Smith)

FROYLE 100 CLUB – NOVEMBER DRAW



So guess who did the 100 Club draw for November – no, not the dog (this time), and no, although she is looking very cheery, Roz did not pick her own number. The numbers she picked were:

1st – Margaret Robinson; 2nd – Roy Norkett
3rd – Anthea McRiley; 4th – Phil Roberts

And it is that time of year again when all members have to come up with next year's subscription amount of £12. Those of you who do not pay by standing order will (if you are unlucky) hear from me. Some of you, I know, have asked (some more than once...) for details of how to pay online. I shall be in touch.... And anyone who is not a member of this exclusive club should join. You get to participate in a monthly draw. Half the subscription money is paid out in prizes, the other half goes to Froyle Village Hall. So the more members we have, the better for the village and the more entertaining it all is. So let me know....!

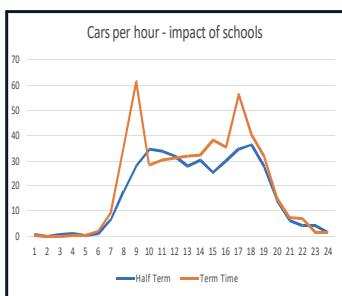
(William Knowles Tel: 07775 928933, email: wbk@wbknowles.com)

Froyle Parish Council's Speed Indicator Device (SID) - first report

Up to 1 in 3 drivers are breaking the law

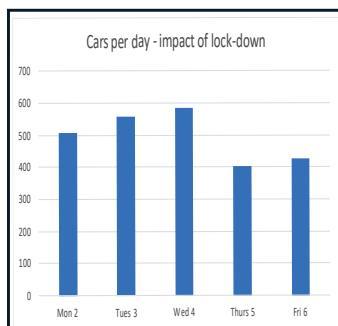
When this edition of the magazine is published, SID will be on, settling down in its 9th site. So, now, we have something to report!

Term time:



As you can imagine traffic changes when school is in, not just the volume but the concentration around the beginning and end of the school day. This chart shows data from Park Lane over the recent half term.

Second Lock Down:



SID was able to spot the imposition of the latest lock down with everyone increasingly rushing to get stuff done and then a 20% reduction starting on Thursday 5th November.

However, overall, the results so far have been quite a shock.

1. **One in five vehicles coming past the Anchor from Bentley are over the speed limit;** some even registering ~55mph.
2. **On the road by the Rec, one in three heading towards Upper Froyle is breaking the law** with the *average* speed nearly 30 mph, rather than that being the maximum.

Meanwhile, our Speed Watch team are locked down but hoping to get back on the road in the Spring, with an increased focus on the areas with the most speed-related, dangerous driving.

(Gordon Mitchell & Charlie Findlay)



HCC ASKS PROBING QUESTIONS

Hampshire County Council has finally issued Veolia with two formal Regulation 25 notices, requiring them to submit further evidence on their environmental statement and air quality. We understand that a third Regulation 25 notice, asking challenging questions about the impact on landscape, will be issued shortly. The questions asked in these notices have been largely informed by the 3,300 submissions to HCC by residents, elected representatives and consultants in response to this application.

This development means that Veolia's application cannot be considered any further until the applicant has responded to these requests. HCC advises that there will then be a further consultation regarding the additional information and that this must be conducted before a final decision can be made. The application is therefore most unlikely to go to the Regulatory Committee for a decision before Spring 2021.

The No Wey action group welcomes HCC's thorough examination of the incinerator proposal and points out that no amount of additional information can alter the fact that this is an inappropriate site for such a development. Amongst other questions, Veolia are being asked why they have not considered any alternative sites, which planning procedures require them to do. No Wey will continue to keep a close eye on developments and will update their website and Facebook page with further news as it becomes available.

(Sue Stephenson)

(Editor's comment: you may have seen the open letter to the Prime Minister about transitioning to a circular economy without more waste incineration.

But if not you can read it here: <https://www.xrzerowaste.uk/view-the-letter>.

You can also see the evidence behind it, "How energy-from-waste incineration undermines circularity and the net-zero carbon target", here: <https://www.xrzerowaste.uk/the-evidence>).

The Twelve Days of Christmas



Some believe that The Twelve Days of Christmas was written in code. It had a hidden message, and for a good reason. After you find out what the code means, you'll never listen to this favourite Christmas song in the same way again...

The Twelve Days of Christmas was created in England during a time of religious persecution when Catholicism was outlawed in the 16th to 18th centuries. The song was written as a kind of secret catechism that could be sung in public without fear of arrest – a learning or memory aid to Christians in fact. Each element in the song is a code word for religious truth: (*see over*)

1. The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus.
2. The two turtledoves are the Old and New Testaments.
3. Three French hens stand for faith, hope and love.
4. The four calling birds are the four Gospels.
5. The five gold rings recall the Hebrew Torah (*Law*), or the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Old Testament.
6. The six geese a-laying stand for the six days of creation.
7. The seven swans a-swimming represent the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.
8. The eight maids a-milking are the eight Beatitudes.
9. Nine ladies dancing are the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit.
10. The ten lords a-leaping are the Ten Commandments.
11. Eleven pipers piping represent the eleven faithful Apostles.
12. Twelve drummers drumming symbolise the twelve points of doctrine in the Apostles Creed.

Whether you believe this or not, it still makes fascinating reading.



*Froyle Carol Singers at "Adams Field"
December 2015*

Happy Christmas from The Froyle Archive!

Chris & Annette Booth (22364)



Froyle Wildlife

It's been lovely to see flocks of fieldfare and redwing feasting on the hawthorn berries growing in the many hedgerows in the village. Being omnivorous they can also be numerous on fields looking for invertebrates and earthworms, whilst berried shrubs/trees and windfall apples can attract them to our gardens. These birds are winter migrants from Scandinavia and northern Europe arriving here in October/November and flying back March to May to breed



Listen out for the '*chack chack chack*' call of the fieldfare. (Not to be confused with the 'jack' call of the Jackdaw) A few apples thrown out on the lawn when the ground is frozen will help these birds and others from the thrush family.

Recommended Bird food :

Vine House Farm

Over the years Nicholas Watts and team have won many awards. In 2006 Nicholas was awarded an MBE for his services to farming and conservation in Lincolnshire. They have given 1.3 million pounds to the Wildlife Trusts over the years from their sale of bird foods. You can buy bird food direct from the farm by visiting <https://www.vinehousefarm.co.uk/> or ring for 01775 630208 for a catalogue.

Christmas present ideas

Do you know someone with an interest in the natural world? Why not **sign them up to membership of a wildlife charity**. There are many to choose from including the RSPB – where you'll get a welcome pack, free gift and Nature Home magazine four times a year (this covers all sorts of wildlife not just birds) Or sign a child up, to receive Wild Times, Wildlife Explorer or Wingbeat magazine. The last day to order for Christmas delivery is 14th December. <https://www.rspb.org.uk/join-and-donate/gift-membership/>

Or how about The Wildlife Trusts? There are 46 Wildlife Trusts covering the whole of the UK, usually one per county, where the recipient can discover nature in their local area. As members you'll get a regular magazine full of tips, ideas, events and walks. <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/join>. Others to consider include Plantlife, Bumblebee Conservation Trust, Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust.

(Sue Clark)



Down Your Country Ways With R. Ambling



December Walk Two Options between 1 and 1½ hours

Well, everyone I hear walking at present, whether taking their lockdown exercise or walking their dogs, complains about the muddy fields. (*But isn't that part of living in the country? Ed.*) Some are venturing further afield, to Alice Holt and the like, to get better conditions.

So this month I suggest perhaps a road and track walk, or one that can be completed all the way on the road. This is also a route that joggers may like, but I can assure you I have never tried that mode of exercise so am unable to tell you how long it takes.

Leave Lower Froyle to the North West, walking along the lane towards the Golden Pot. This is quite a wide lane so from experience is quite safe for cyclists and motorists to pass at a safe distance. It is also a pleasant, tree-lined route. You follow the road for approximately one mile, passing the road to Long Sutton on your right. Carry on until you reach a small lane on your left signposted Yarnhams. Turn left and follow this narrow lane until you reach the large Farmhouse and buildings, Yarnhams.

Now there are two options, the shorter, but one that can be quite muddy in places, is to turn left just prior to the house. Follow this track for about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile and you will finally come to a farmyard, go through the gate onto the road and you then follow the road, past Saintbury Hill, walk down what is now Bamber Lane and at the end of Bamber Lane you are now back in Lower Froyle, opposite Westburn Fields.

The alternative and longer option is to stay on the lane which veers right past the Yarnhams farmhouse, past some bungalows on the right and carry on until you reach a T-junction. Turn left and if you follow this lane downhill - with some magnificent views to admire en route - for about 1½ miles, you will finally come out by the church in Upper Froyle and from there you can walk back to wherever you started.

This would certainly be a decent walk for Christmas and hopefully by then you'll be able to walk with more than one other person!!

If there is more rain, I will have a couple of other suggested walks which I'll share with you in January.

(R. Ambling)

Bentley CE Primary Update from the Headteacher

“We all need some extra help sometimes” is something I often say to parents coming for showrounds, as I talk about the support systems we have in place for children for many reasons. This year our systems have stretched to support many more children with our ‘Recovery Curriculum’ after the six-month lockdown. We have noted our youngest children are less independent and are a little more emotional than we would usually expect. It is not surprising that resilience and attachment have become more apparent areas of need since the lockdown, when families were together for such a long stretch of time. Academic needs have cropped up for some children and it has taken readjustment for everyone to get back into good school habits, as well as to adjust back to sharing and taking turns within a larger class situation.

I thought you might be interested to know a little more about some of our excellent programmes used to help children in school and the super staff who deliver them.

ELSA



We are very fortunate in Hampshire to have ELSAs (Emotional Literacy Support Assistants) who are trained adults who help children deal with all sorts of issues. Children have time to talk with a kind member of the staff team. They can work on anger management, friendship issues, bereavement work or just have some time to talk through feelings. This service is highly regarded by many other services we work with, from CAMHs (Child and Adolescent Mental Health) to doctors, Educational Psychologists to Social Services. In an ideal world, I think we would all benefit from an ELSA session!

Academic Support

At Bentley we know being in class with your own teacher is the key factor to progressing, but sometimes children need some extra help to practise or catch up with specific area of learning. Some children struggle to retain information or others may have specific learning needs. We have several programmes designed to support children with rapid catch-up learning, predominantly in mathematics and reading. Children are identified for support by teacher assessment and whole school screening. They will take part in catch-up programmes, usually in a small group but sometimes on a one to one, with our brilliant team of Learning Support Assistants, who are led by our SEND Leader.

This year the vast majority of children in Years 3-6 were out of school from March until September. For all year groups we have noted some gaps and teachers have planned this year's lessons with rapid review of the skills and curriculum that were missed during lockdown. Pupils at Bentley were really lucky to have had a lot of great support in lockdown from their teachers online and from parents and grandparents at home. We have noticed less gaps than we have heard reported nationally. Where individual pupils have gaps, teachers are giving them 'Keep up, Catch up' type support as well as specific programmes to support their learning.

Resilience and emotional well-being

These are areas which we prioritise for all of our pupils through our Personal, Social and Emotional development curriculum (PSHE). We use two great programmes called '1Decision' and 'Heartsmart' to help the children learn. All children take part in PSHE lessons and, if there are particular issues, teachers have a lot of expertise in supporting children as a class and as individuals.

Sometimes children may need some extra support for a particular issue. New babies, moving house, or changes in our family situation affect us all as adults, and children are the same. The class team of adults are often the first port of call for children and sometimes a chat at playtime or a regular catch up make all the difference. We also use programmes led by our ELSA.



This year we have been fortunate to come across a brilliant centre called Huckleberries, which has been set up to support children develop tools for self-esteem. It is in a beautiful rural setting and is described by the children as 'A place to be me'. Yoga, breathing techniques and mindfulness are taught by experienced practitioners and several Bentley pupils have been lucky enough to attend this term. They are making some great progress in their personal development and getting a lot out their visits to the centre.

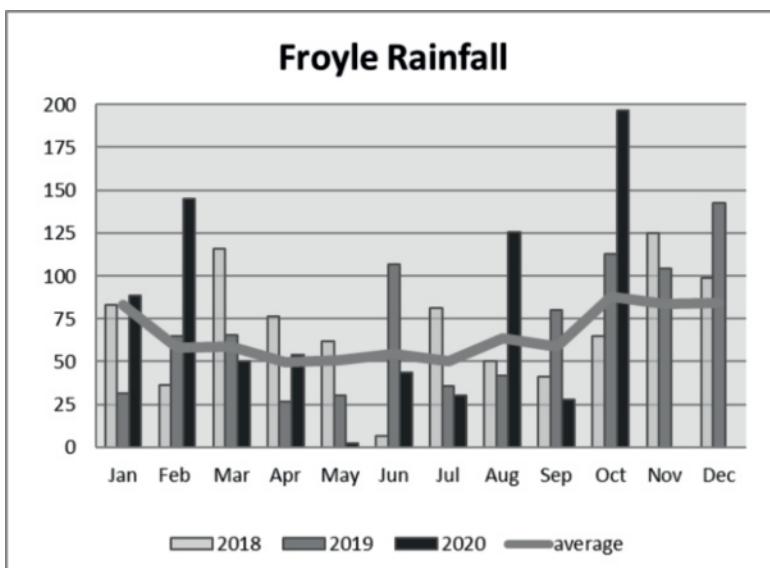
With these support systems in place, we work hard to make sure children thrive at Bentley, both academically and in their personal, social development. Please do get in touch if you would like to know more about our teaching at Bentley CE Primary School.

From the school we wish you a very happy Christmas and a healthy New Year ahead!

(Katy Pinchess, Headteacher)

Froyle Rainfall for October 2020

This year	196.5 mm	7.7 ins
Last year	112.5 mm	4.4 ins
Wettest October (1987) – the wettest ever month	226 mm	8.9 ins
Driest October (1978)	7 mm	0.3 ins
October long-term average – the wettest month	88 mm	3.5 ins
Total rainfall for the year so far	762.5 mm	30 ins
Long-term average for the year to end October	614.4 mm	24.2 ins



So what happened in October, 1987? IKEA opened its first store in the UK, Lester Piggott was jailed for three years for tax evasion, Michael Fish announced there wasn't a hurricane on the way and...Froyle had its wettest month for decades. Since then, 198.5 mm was recorded in November 2009, so October 2020 becomes the 3rd wettest month since my records began. And yes, I did have to re-scale the chart...!



“The Umbrella Man”

THE VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE

Dear all,

Writing this letter on the first day of the nation's second lockdown feels more challenging than normal, though obviously not as challenging as hospital staff and carers preparing for a possible surge in cases, retailers mourning the loss of pre-Christmas trade and many people facing job cuts this winter.

Everyone, everywhere is looking for hope and strength to sustain us all during this immediate period of restrictions and possibly through many weeks ahead. And then, while we were thinking what to write, this very simple but absolutely appropriate prayer was posted on the Binsted Facebook page, accompanied by a request to share with everyone:

"Lord, we need You! Please sweep through this nation and heal this land. Restore our strength, renew our minds, and cast out anything that's not of You. In Jesus Christ's name we pray, Amen."

And we then felt that, strengthened by these words, we can face up to lockdown and what may follow, and that instead of the usual frantic period of mad shopping that precedes Christmas, we must think of these enforced restrictions as a gift. We can still shop for food, we can write cards, we can bake at home and we can order presents online, but we will also have an opportunity to think about the real Christmas. As John Betjeman wrote in his poem Christmas:

*And is it true ? For if it is,
No loving fingers tying strings
Around those tissued fripperies,...
Can with this single Truth compare -
That God was man in Palestine
And lives today in Bread and Wine.*

Friends around the country have told us that November 4th, the day before the restrictions began, felt like Christmas Eve, with shops open till late, pubs and restaurants selling cut-price drinks and all retailers offering discounts. Someone said it was like 'the Last-Chance Saloon' and when lockdown lifts in December there will probably be another mad rush to complete all the shopping and gift-buying. But in the meantime, let us embrace this quiet gift and remember that Christ wasn't born in a shopping mall loud with Christmas hits from the last thirty years, but in a cold stable under a starry sky into the loving arms of his young, frightened mother. We cannot match the gifts that were brought to him, although our local farmers might offer lambs, but we can give kindness, thoughtfulness and help to our neighbours and friends so we all have a special, meaningful Christmas.

*Blessings,
Yann and the team*

ST MARY'S CHURCH NOTES

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

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



Church Wardens:

William Knowles Simon Marshall
Park Edge, Upper Froyle (07734 214419)
(07775 928933) sm517@icloud.com
wbk@wbknowles.com

Benefice Pastoral Care:

Nick Carter (472861)

Anna Chaplain:
Nicky Smallwood (07765 058593)

Christmas Day Services – IMPORTANT Notice

Due to the pandemic there is a limit on the number of people we can accommodate in each of our churches and the exact number is dependent on how many and how big each of the family bubbles are that are attending. So, **we will have to have limit attendance on Christmas Day to only those with tickets.** Tickets can be obtained via the Church Office from Monday, 14th December. We will need to know not only *your* name and contact details but also the names of everyone attending with you for NHS Track and Trace, and which Christmas Day service you are wanting to attend.

Church Office – admin@benbinfro.org (01420 23339)

Thank you for your understanding and Merry Christmas!

(Gemma Ball)

Christmas Services

Friday, 18 th December	6.30 pm	ONLINE*	Real Nativity
Christmas Eve	4.00 pm	ONLINE*	Christingle
	11.30 pm	ONLINE*	Midnight Meditation
Christmas Day	9.30 am	Bentley	Morning Worship
	9.30 am	Binsted	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	Froyle	Holy Communion
	11.00 am	ONLINE*	Christmas Service
Sunday, 27 th December	11.00 am	ONLINE*	Morning Worship

*See our YouTube channel: BenBinFro Churches

Services

It is most inconsiderate of HM Government that they do not time their Covid-related announcements/changes to tie in with the deadlines for publication of the Froyle magazine.....

At the time of going to press, the Government is in the process of imparting to us what we can and cannot do under the three tier system and over Christmas. Our assumption is that the services and other church events over Christmas will still largely have to be online. The services listed in this magazine (*page 24*) reflect that.

As to live services, our current assumption is that we shall have one service in each church on Christmas Day (with or without singing), but no Midnight Mass, and that the combination of the reduction in services and the need to maintain social distancing will put pressure on space availability. There will therefore be a ticketing system for the Christmas Day service at each parish, operated for the benefice as a whole (although of course you choose your church) – as explained elsewhere in the magazine(*page 24*).

Having missed out on celebrating Advent, though, we really hope there will be a live carol singing event of some kind in Froyle – probably outdoors (so no rain allowed), combining elements of the church carol service with the carol gathering we normally have as a village at the village hall; possibly with a choir; definitely on **Monday 21st December**, probably at 6.30 pm but final details, including the location, are yet to be finalised. Again, there is a ‘save-the-date’ announcement elsewhere (*page 7*).

All we can say at the moment is that we shall celebrate the birth of Christ with as much joy as we can muster within the restrictions as to time and activity with which we are presented. Details as arrangements unfold will follow in due course on the church website (www.benbinfro.co.uk) and by email, social media and posters.

(William Knowles and Simon Marshall)

An update from our Anna Chaplain

The last 8 months have been tough for many people; but especially for those living and working in nursing homes, and for older people who live alone at home. Please continue to pray for everyone at Pax Hill Care Home, Bentley Lodge Care and Nursing Home, and for older people within our community.

It's great news that our Anna Chaplaincy team has grown this year, and now includes 6 wonderful volunteer Anna Friends. Sadly, due to Covid-19, we haven't been able to commission our new Anna Friends at a service yet, but this hasn't stopped our team from offering love and support to older people within our community.

If you know of any older people within our community who would appreciate a regular phone call (or any other support), please, please get in touch via my email address or telephone number below.

As we live through our second national lockdown and the uncertainty of the winter months ahead, it's good to remember that Jesus, who is Emmanuel (God with us), was born into the discomfort of a chaotic and mucky stable. He entered the world into uncertainty, and yet He brought us God's gift of peace. And today Jesus lives with us, through our challenges and uncertainties.

I pray that we're able to allow God's love and peace to gently guide us through these difficult and uncertain times.

Wishing you love, peace and comfort this Christmas

(Rev. Nicky Smallwood (*Anna Chaplain*) annachaplain@benbinfro.co.uk 07765 058593)

FROYLE SMALL ADS

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Dear all,

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Yoga- Thursday 5.30pm at Froyle Village Hall
Yoga- Saturday 10am at Wickham Institute, Binsted

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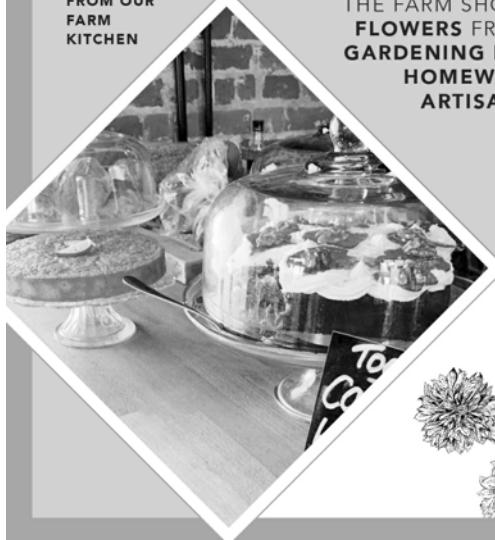


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VILLAGE INFORMATION

USEFUL CONTACT DETAILS

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

NEXT MONTH'S MAGAZINE DEADLINE

NBFriday 11th December, 2020**NB**

For advertising details, please refer to our rates outlined
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>