

Froyle Village Magazine



February 2025

No. 515

<https://www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk/village-magazine>



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MEMORIES THAT LAST A LIFETIME



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NEWS & VIEWS

Parish Clerk - Andrew Potter

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The Parish Council (PC) has met twice since the last Magazine was published on December 16 and again on January 13.

The main item discussed at the December meeting was the setting of the amount required from Council Tax 'precept' to fund the 2025/26 PC budget. Having maintained below inflation increases over the past three years, it was agreed to increase the annual precept for the coming year by 7.5% (c.£5 per year for a band D property). The main reasons for this higher than inflation increase were the requirement to pay Employers National Insurance for the first time (c.£500), and to replenish PC reserves allowing new projects to be funded in the coming years. More details on these projects and what the PC has spent its precept on in 2024/25 will be shared with residents at the Annual Parish Meeting (APM). This is currently scheduled on April 16 - look out for further details on the noticeboards and in future issues of the Magazine. The other matter was to set the objectives for a meeting in late January between the PC and representatives of EHDC Planning, Licensing and Environmental Health to discuss how nuisances and complaints about events at the Froyle Park wedding venue are being dealt with and whether changes could be made to the licensing and planning conditions under which the venue operates. These were originally set for a country house hotel with an occasional wedding not a dedicated wedding venue with no limit on the number of weddings per year.

A number of residents attended the meeting in January to express their concern about dog walkers using the Saintbury Hill field boundary on the Lower Froyle side and invading their privacy. The PC agreed to take this matter up with the landowner. The Froyle Tree Warden reported that it had been agreed with the Eggars School Eco-committee and landowner to plant three groups of 9 native species trees on land off Well Lane. This is in addition to the donation from Hampshire County Council of eight disease-resistant elm trees which were planted by volunteers in mid January on the Rec, off Husseys Lane and in Upper Froyle. The PC were pleased to agree a request from the family of Ted and Olga Crowhurst to have a bench erected in their memory either by Husseys Lane pond or on the Rec. A number of signage options to address speeding through the village were received from Highways and are being considered by the PC. A shortlist will be prepared for consultation with residents.

The planned pruning of the beech hedge beside the Rec was undertaken in early January. This significant pruning of the height and breadth will greatly contribute to the future health of the hedge - it will look a little higher when it starts to grow in the Spring.

Discussions will be held with the Froyle Archivist, Chris Booth, before he moves to Dorset to ensure that access to the hard copy and digital Froyle archive that he and Annette maintained over the years is kept in the village. There is an article in this edition about 'Lending a hand' and the archive project would be a great opportunity for anyone interested in the history of the village to get involved in.

As some of you may have discovered public access to the EHDC Planning portal was not available from late November to early January and as a result new applications could not be accepted or commented on. Only one new planning application was received over this period for a new barn on land at West End Farm. EHDC planners decided that full planning permission was required for this and refused the application for automatic approval.

There has been ongoing discussion between Froyle Estate and EHDC planners about their applications for more buildings at Home Farm above Upper Froyle. The PC was asked to confirm whether its concerns regarding the location of the straw barn had been taken into consideration and particularly its location on a high point in the landscape. Since then Froyle Estate has appointed consultants to undertake a Landscape Visual Assessment of the straw barn location. EHDC has also included as a condition of approval to extend another barn on the Home Farm site that an approved Masterplan is undertaken to provide a long term strategic view of the farm development over time. These landscape studies are welcomed by the PC as they allow future applications for buildings on the site to be considered on a more holistic, rather than the current piecemeal basis.

The next PC meeting will be on **Monday 10th February at 19.00** in the Village Hall to which all residents are encouraged to attend. This meeting will include an update from the developers of the proposed Eco-retreat in woodland above Lower Froyle; consider the initial scope of a project to upgrade community facilities on the Rec (on which a consultation with residents will be launched at the APM); and feedback on the outcome of the meeting with EHDC about Froyle Park licencing, planning and nuisance management.

There is still one **vacancy** on the Parish Council - if anyone is interested in joining please contact the Clerk for details of the role and time commitment.



Bookings:
Sarah Zorab
01420 520361

www.froylevillagehall.co.uk

NEWS FROM THE VILLAGE HALL

Christmas is now a fading memory, but I am happy to record that the Committee enjoyed an excellent festive supper in the Anchor, who as always were most welcoming. Thanks also to Froyle Estate for a splendid tree which survived the storms lashed to a convenient telegraph pole. Should the gift ever be repeated I believe we could do better with the fairy lights. The battery powered variety wasn't quite sufficient for the task. And thanks to all who turned out to enjoy the final visit of Santa's Sleigh: mulled wine, mince pies and a burst of rowdy carol singing. Yes, it's sad but true: the Sleigh which has been such a great innovation has jingled off into the past. Thanks are due to all concerned. So, the opportunity arises for new Christmas happenings.

Sadly, Katie Jones has decided to resign from the Committee. We warmly thank her for her contribution and wish her well. Her departure raises our average age.

2025 has started with mixed concerns for the Committee. We contemplate an end of year deficit of over £3000. This has resulted from the unbudgeted expense of repairing the timbers on the front of the Hall but also the spiraling cost of gas, water and electricity. We have decided to increase hire charges for evening bookings to bring them into line with daytime charges. We last raised our charges in March 2024 and will have to consider a general uplift in 2026.

We will continue our policy of supporting start up activities as generously as we can. For example, Easter will see a Camp for 5–11 year-olds. It will run all day for two weeks: there will be songs, games, films and fun and it will all be conducted in Spanish.

The success of last year's Fete has borne fruit for the Village Hall with a most welcome donation of £3000. But how should it be spent? This was robustly discussed at the January meeting. For some it was clear that this would nicely fill a fairly obvious hole. For others this wouldn't properly recognize the huge community effort that goes into staging the Fete. Something more tangible is needed.

The Hall curtains, perhaps? Now, when it comes to curtains some people simply do not see them any more than they see the glass in the windows they drape; others notice they are striped; for some their importance lies in helping to make the Hall feel warm and comfortable; others see all the signs of long usage: the missing hooks, the frayed seams, the soiled edges.

Given such differences of perception, deciding about the curtains will not be easy. So, all I can report is that the matter is under serious consideration: quotes to replace or

repair will be sought, to line or not to line will be debated as will the likely cost. At least another successful Fete, if not two!

The Committee takes pride in maintaining the fabric of the Hall. This means that we must redecorate regularly and refurbish the floor every few years. If the Hall is clean and well presented, runs the argument, then hirers will look after it. It doesn't always work but usually it does, and this is borne out by the very positive feedback we receive.

In the longer run there is the question of the future financial viability of village halls. During Covid, generous Government funding kept our nose above water and we emerged from that crisis relatively strongly. However, rising prices combined with the disappearance of sources of funding from local government will not make things easy. There is a suspicion that people go out less, partly because of cost-of-living issues, but also because home can now provide so much more entertainment than previously and all without stirring from the sofa. It will therefore be down to communities to decide the extent to which they want to support and finance their local meeting place.

In Froyle we have always enjoyed a strong sense of community based round the Church and the Village Hall and an equally strong tradition of organizing and volunteering: two centres, one community. But is that sense weakening? Should we be seeking ways to pull us together?

When Treloars School left the village in 2010 and plans were set out to redevelop the site, there was some anxiety among the sociologically minded that with the arrival of so many new residents the two villages, Upper and Lower would gradually drift apart. This in turn would inevitably result in a reduction in the relevance for some of the Village Hall. I wonder if this is beginning to happen.

Cllr Katie Snowball joined our recent meeting to discuss communication within the village and the importance that everyone knows what was going on and how to join in. I was struck by her general observation that Lower Froyle read the Magazine but that Upper Froyle with its younger demographic made greater use of social media for their information. Almost certainly the Village Hall needs a stronger social media presence but isn't quite confident how to achieve this. There is an opportunity for someone with social media skills and interest to join the Committee.

Community spirit is not automatic: it must be nurtured. A good sign that this is happening is the decision to hold a liaison meeting next month between representatives of the Village Hall Committee and the Parish Council to discuss matters of common interest and to ensure successful communication around the village. And who knows what bright ideas and innovation might follow.

Thinking back to that Fete donation. It would be just enough to purchase a skittle alley. Anyone for skittles?

*Nick Whines (writing as usual in a personal capacity) 23130
secretary@froylevillagehall.co.uk*

Froyle Village Hall: hire charges

From 1st March 2025

To check availability and make a booking, please follow the link on the website <http://www.froylevillagehall.co.uk> or email bookings@froylevillagehall.co.uk.

Please complete a Hiring Agreement for each event and agree to the Standard Terms and Conditions, available on the website. The Hall is hired out for a whole morning, afternoon or evening session. Shorter periods can be booked by the hour.

	Resident	Non-Resident	Others
Weekday			
Morning (0830-1230)	£35.00	£55.00	£75.00
Afternoon (1330-1730)	£35.00	£55.00	£75.00
Evening (1800-2330)	£40.00	£65.00	£85.00
<i>Effective hourly rate</i>			
<i>Morning/ Afternoon</i>	£8.75	£13.75	£18.75
<i>Day (9hrs)</i>	£7.77	£12.22	£16.67
Weekday Hourly Rate	£17.50	£27.50	£37.50
Weekend			
Morning (0830-1230)	£40.00	£65.00	£85.00
Afternoon (1330-1730)	£40.00	£65.00	£85.00
Evening (1800-2330)	£50.00	£80.00	£100
Weekend Hourly Rate	£20.00	£32.50	£42.50

Resident: Froyle residents for not-for-profit events. (Approx. 40% discount)

Non-resident: Other individuals for not-for-profit events.

Others: All others.

FROYLE 100 CLUB

The winners in the **December and January Draws** were:

December

- 1st – Ann Figgins
- 2nd – Faith Richards
- 3rd – Vivian Sexton
- 4th – Simon Archer-Perkns

January

- 1st – Martin Wimshurst
 - 2nd – Anthea McRiley
 - 3rd – Elizabeth Sealey
 - 4th – Brian Jones
- Congratulations to all!

William Knowles Tel: 07775 928933

email: wbk@wbknowles.com

LENT LUNCHES



This year Easter is late, so the details for Froyle's Lent Lunches will follow in the next magazine, but this is a 'heads up' that the lunches will begin on Ash Wednesday, March 5th, and continue for the next 5 weeks.

Each one takes place in a different house and the donations go to the charity chosen by the hosts.

The Meeting Place



The Meeting Place continues every Friday morning in the Froyle Village Hall from 10am to 12 noon. Do come and join us for homemade cakes, tea and coffee and good conversation. We also have a selection of books and jigsaws to borrow.

The crochet group are still making blankets and welcome new members; tuition is given!

February Kitchen Helpers

7th	Roger and Linda Cooper
14th	Caroline Findlay
21st	Jane MacNabb
28th	Caroline Wilkinson

February Cake Bakers

7th	Sue Carr	Laura Ozelyte	Kate Skerrett
14th	Alison Lopes	Louise Marston	Ali Malone
21st	Cherida Cannon	Susie Robertson	Jane Stewart
28th	Sarah Roberts	Madeleine Black	Charlotte Inskip

Please organise swaps amongst yourselves in possible, or contact us if you have a problem.

If you can't bake for any reason please let us know - cakes can always be frozen.

If possible tell us what you are making so that we have a variety.

Cakes can be left in the porch at Wykeham House, Lower Froyle on Thursday or before 9.30am on Friday or brought to the Village Hall on Friday morning after 9.30.

*Gill Bradley 520484
gabbradley@gmail.com*

*Susie Robertson 520820
sirinfroyle@gmail.com*

*Jenny Gove 23697
govejenny@gmail.com*



Froyle Gardening Club

February from the Potting Shed

Hooray, we have had some frost and snow. Always good for killing off all those bugs. Well, it also kills off the good bugs as well so that is why we should have homes for wildlife in our gardens. A safe place for ladybirds, lacewings, hoverflies, butterflies (yes I have seen my first red admiral) and wild bees to keep warm over the winter. They will then be ready to come out and predate any pests that might attack our treasured plants.

In the veg department we have leeks, parsnips along with brassicas still available to pick. But we must get going for the following season by sowing broad beans, peas, getting onion sets and garlic started to plant out when a little drier. If you have space in the greenhouse why not get some early potatoes going in pots. These could be ready by April/May.

As soon as you can safely tread on the garden get out and apply mulch to the moist soil so that it retains the moisture for the rest of the season. Improving the soil structure by the addition of compost etc will also allow the soil to drain better. Organic matter holds the soil structure together allowing water to be retained and also creates pathways for the rain water to penetrate deeper into the soil and not just run off the surface and erode the soil surface. Worms also enjoy the organic matter.

Snowdrops are just starting to show colour. Always a lovely site when fully out. Do not forget planting the snowdrops in the green is one of the best ways of enlarging your collection. Just plant clumps of 3 or 4 bulbs spaced around 4 in. apart and your display will be even better in a couple of years.

January New Year Party

The second Saturday of the month saw FGC hold its first activity of 2025, The New Year Party. Over 40 members and friends enjoyed a lovely social afternoon. What could have been better – good food, some wine, lots of sociable people and a fiendish foody quiz. Well done everyone.

February 14th 7.30 pm – The History of Chocolate: Jacqueline Aviolet

A talk about the history & cultivation of the world's favourite fruit! There will be samples...Also general shrubs & perennial plants for sale.

Wednesday 19th February 6.30pm - Talk by Iris Lynch 'Best use of space for Growing vegetables' in aid of Treloar's. Special offer for FGC members. Details of the discount are available in the February newsletter which was emailed out to members last week.

Geoff Hawkins

Froyle Gardening Club Events

2025

Feb 14th 7.30 pm The History of Chocolate

A talk about the history & cultivation of the world's favourite fruit! There will be samples!

Mar 14th 7.30 pm Propagating & growing Dahlias

Practical demonstrations on everything you'll ever need to know to grow Dahlias successfully.

Apr 12th Spring Show

A new look Spring Show with lots of opportunity to join in for all the family. Details on our website.

May 9th 7.30 pm Bees, wasps & hornets

All about bees, their habits, biology, management and synchronicity with plants and seasons.

Jul 5th Froyle Fete & Flower Show

See our website or the Froyle Village Magazine for more details.

Sept 13th Autumn Show

See our website or the Froyle Village Magazine for more details.

Oct 10th 7.30 pm Wildflower hot spots of the world

A talk about hiking and photography, using collected images of wildflowers .. what's not to love?

Nov 14th 7.30 pm The Wild Gardener

The creator of Gravetye Manor in Sussex. "the best garden in England" gives us insights into his work.

Dec 17th 7.30 pm AGM

Review of 2024 and plans for the next 12 months, subscriptions are due.

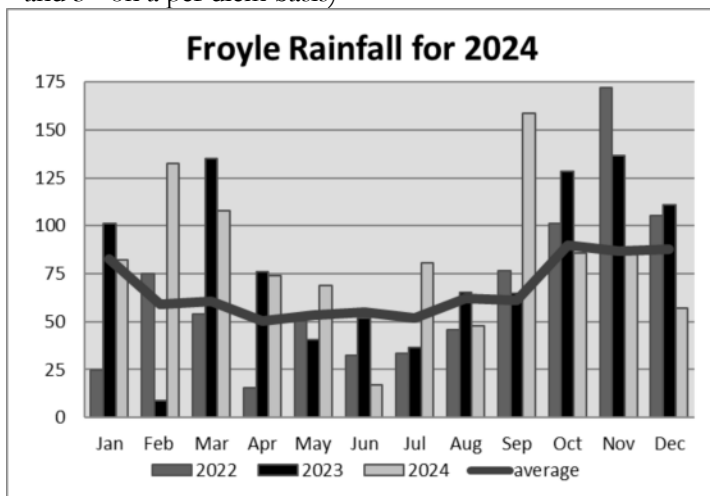
Non-members are welcome to our talks at Froyle Village Hall, GU34 4LG
£3 per talk or simply join the club for £10 on the door, refreshments provided.

More Info on our website froylegardeningclub.co.uk or
email us at info@froylegardeningclub.co.uk

Froyle Rainfall for November and December, 2024 and for the whole of 2024

	November		December	
This year	88.5 mm	3.5 ins	57 mm	2.2 ins
Last year	136.5 mm	5.4 ins	111 mm	4.4 ins
Wettest (2009)/(1989)	198.5 mm	7.8 ins	167 mm	6.6 ins
Driest (2021)/(1988)	13 mm	0.5 ins	17 mm	0.7 ins
Long-term averages– the 3rd and 2nd wettest months*	86.6 mm	3.4 ins	87.9 mm	3.4 ins
Total rainfall for the year			1001 mm	39.4 ins
Long-term average for the year			799.5mm	31.5 ins

(*but 2nd and 3rd on a per diem basis)



This time last year, probably as a result of too much New Year celebrating, I grandly announced that the total rainfall for 2023 had exceeded 1,000 mm for the first time. In fact I was somewhat inaccurate because the actual figure was only 955! However I can now report that, in 2024, we *have* finally exceeded that milestone, because in the last few days of December we did click over that magical number. But note this was 25% above the long-term average...



“The Umbrella Man”



Wildlife Photography' talk 7th February

Be inspired by some stunning wildlife images of the UK natural world – mammals, birds, insects and landscapes – taken by Jon Hawkins, on Friday 7th February at 7.30pm in Froyle Village Hall.

As a professional photographer, wildlife is his hobby. The talk will describe how he achieved getting the photos in relation to the subject. Understanding wildlife is a key essential to taking pictures in the natural environment. Jon's pictures and associated talk will be a reflection of his appreciation for his subjects and surroundings. Although he shows some settings he used on the photos, there is only brief mention about the technical aspects of photography.



Jon Hawkins is an award winning photographer based in Ash Surrey, see <https://surreyhillsphotography.smugmug.com/Galleries/Wildlife>. His images have been published in various national magazines, newspapers, greeting cards, calendars and websites including use by the BBC, Sky and National Geographic. Before turning professional as 'Surrey Hills Photography' one

of his images was included in the BBC's Countryfile Calendar.

All welcome, Froyle Village Hall, doors open 7pm for talk to start at 7.30pm, teas and coffee.

Jayne Fisher

Froyle recreation ground

The wildflower areas on Froyle recreation ground provide nectar for bees and other pollinators as well as a colourful display for the community. We have changed the cornfield annuals area to perennials last September by sowing perennial seeds. A mixture of British native species that are different to the original wildflower area were sown thus increasing diversity and flowering times.

Here is a list of the species from Emorsgate seeds:- Agrimony; Betony; Lady's Bedstraw; Meadow Crane's-bill; Field Scabious; Rough Hawkbit; Musk Mallow; Sainfoin; Salad Burnet; Selfheal; Bulbous Buttercup; Sheep's Sorrel; Red Campion; Wild Carrot; Meadow grass mixture EG6; and from plants -cowslips, and marjoram.



Wildlife pond area

The meadow area surrounding the wildlife pond near Gid Lane has been grazed by sheep over the winter months. This helps to maintain the variety of native plant species that grow there. Regular visitors have been a pair of stone chats as well as the resident wrens.

Disease resistant elm trees

Froyle once had majestic elm trees along hedges and fields. Suckers from old elms do still grow locally usually for 10-20 years before succumbing to Dutch elm disease. Elm trees provide habitats for wildlife, including birds, butterflies and fungi, supporting local biodiversity. Elm is the sole foodplant of the White Letter Hairstreak butterfly, with Froyle's last record in Husseys Lane in 1997.

An initiative from Hampshire County Council to supply disease resistant elms enabled our tree warden Sue Lelliott to send in an application. In January eight bare rooted trees of the species *Ulmus* 'Ademuz' were collected and then planted by volunteers at three locations in Froyle. Thanks to the land owners for permission to plant and a thank you to all those involved in the planting.



Hampshire Forest Partnership say that these disease resistant elms are specially bred to withstand Dutch elm disease, offering a chance to restore this iconic species to our landscapes. By planting these trees, we're contributing to nature recovery and leaving a lasting legacy for future generations. If repeated next year there may be an opportunity to place elms at additional locations in our parish.

Barry Clark

Water Water Everywhere!

Ditches and Drains in Froyle

The Parish Council is occasionally approached by residents regarding drainage issues - either flooding on roads, or on land and around properties in the village. With the increases in rainfall over recent years - and thank you to Froyle's "Umbrella Man" for their monthly updates elsewhere in the magazine - there is a need to be aware of how to minimise the impacts of this.

Except where the Parish Council is a landowner, the Parish Council does not have legal responsibilities to clear ditches or drains. So who does?

- Ditches and culverts (piped ditches) alongside the road are the responsibility of the adjacent property owner - maintenance of roadside trees and hedges is also the responsibility of the adjacent landowner.
- Ditches between two properties are typically a shared responsibility between the properties, unless landowner records say otherwise.
- Surface water drains (the metal grates in the road) and culverts under a road are the responsibility of the highways authority, which is Hampshire County Council. Issues with HCC drains and culverts can be reported at <https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem/flooding>
- Sewers are the responsibility of Thames Water, and issues can be reported at <https://www.thameswater.co.uk/help/report-a-problem>

Or as shown in this handy diagram (from Devon County Council):



Where the Parish Council can help is with local knowledge and contacts to assist in getting any necessary work done. The village has the benefit of residents with many years of experience of water flows across land and around the village, and we can combine this with up-to-date mapping to identify areas at greatest risk of flooding. You can check Environment Agency flood maps at <https://check-long-term-flood-risk.service.gov.uk/map>

If you are responsible for a ditch, drain or waterway, keeping it clear and free-flowing will help you, your neighbours and the whole community avoid flooding. Similarly, keeping roadside hedges and trees trimmed will maintain safe access along the road.

The Parish Council is aware of a few specific areas around the village for flooding, and are exploring solutions with the relevant landowners and responsible parties. This includes:

- Near Ryebriidge Cottages in Upper Froyle: where the culvert under the road was partially cleared by HCC but further work is needed, and where in heavy rain the road drains become overwhelmed from water runoff down both sides of the hill. Other approaches to reduce the flow of water into the stream are also being explored with landowners.
- Near Highway House on the road to Bentley, where road drains need regular clearing by HCC.

If you hear from us soon regarding these or other areas, your support would be welcomed so we can keep water where it should be, and away from where it shouldn't!

Mike Blanche



New Year, New You!

Lend a Hand for Froyle!

Froyle is such a great place to live because of the active participation of its residents.

From our bustling Summer fete to cosy winter carols and quiz nights, community events bring us together, foster friendships, and strengthen the unique spirit of Froyle and make it a fantastic place to live. All these events and more rely on the generous contributions of those who live here.

Examples of lending a hand in Froyle can include: put out or clear away tables\chairs in the village hall, cook\bake, serve drinks, marshall car parks, put up tents, marketing\posters, plant trees\hedges, write quiz questions, participate in committees, crunch speedwatch data, litter picking, website updates and marketing and much more.

Even small contributions make a large difference. Every hour counts, whether you can spare a few hours a week or a couple of hours a month, an hour at an event or just an hour every now and then whenever you can.

Why Lend a Hand?

- * Make a difference while having fun * Make new friends
- * Learn new skills * Give back to your community
- * Volunteering can improve mental and physical health

How to Get Involved

We've put together a webpage showing the opportunities here www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk/volunteer. Simply contact the relevant co-ordinator or alternatively just email clerk@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk to offer your services.

Volunteering is a rewarding experience that benefits both the community and the individual. So, why not take the first step and discover how you can lend a hand to your village?

Let's work together to build a vibrant community for everyone!





ALTON FOOD BANK PLEASE SUPPORT!

Thank you for your continued support for the Alton Foodbank.

Your generous donations have enabled them to meet the growing demands that they are seeing locally.

Please continue to support this amazing charity; it is particularly in need of the following items at the moment.

Tinned Vegetables	Tinned Potatoes
Rice (dry)	Sponge Puddings (long life)
Tinned Custard	Tinned Meat (pies, stewing steak, hot dogs)
Tinned Rice Pudding	UHT Milk
Toilet Rolls	Antibacterial Cleaning Spray
Shower Gel	Washing up liquid
Sanitary Products	Loo roll
Shampoo	Shower Gel
Conditioner	Bags of sugar

There is a donation box in the village hall, or you can drop off at Greenfields Cottage, Lower Froyle. There are also collection points in Bentley and Binsted churches, and at Alton Maltings where there is a drop box outside the main door.

They have very good supplies of: baked beans, soup, tinned tomatoes and pasta. Many thanks for your kind and continued generosity. If you have any queries please call me.

Louise Marston 07785 350381

in aid of
Treloar's

Best use of space for growing vegetables

A talk by **Iris Lynch F.L.S MCIHORT**

£15

Includes drinks
and nibbles

Fellow of
the Linnean
Society

Award
winning
gardener



Assessor for
the RHS Green
Plan It
Challenge



RHS
Mentor

Let your vegetables grow up!

Wednesday 19 February 2025, 6:30pm
Froyle Village Hall, GU34 4LG

- Learn expert tips
- Q&A session
- Win a fantastic prize in the raffle!

Event organised by The Friends of Treloar's, in aid of Treloar's.

For more information, please visit www.treloar.org.uk/events
E: janemacnabb@hotmail.com
Charity Number 1092857



Catkins and Coppice

We are well supplied with hazel (*Corylus Avellana*) in the copses and hedgerows of Froyle, and in late winter and early spring, the long yellow catkins are a cheering sight, lighting up dull wet days.

Hazel is monoecious, meaning that both male and female flowers are found on the same tree, although hazel flowers must be pollinated by pollen wind-blown from other hazel trees. The yellow male catkins appear before the leaves and the female flowers are tiny and bud-like with red styles.

Like many of our native trees, hazel has a long relationship with humankind; as it can be twisted, split or woven, it has historically had many uses. These included thatching spars, net stakes, walking sticks and shepherds' crooks, hurdles and furniture, as well as the tasty and protein rich nuts or 'cobs'. Woodland crafts using hazel are also enjoying a resurgence and hazel wattle hurdles have even been used as sound screens along motorways.

Hazel trees frequently grow as a clump of slender trunks and they therefore readily respond to coppicing, a practice which can actually extend and even double the lifespan of a hazel. Today, hazel coppice has become an important management strategy in the conservation of woodland habitats for wildlife.

It is also the preferred wood for many water diviners and may often have been used on our chalk uplands to look for sites to dig wells and boreholes.

Hazel leaves provide food for the caterpillars of many moths, including the large emerald, small white wave, barred umber and nut-tree tussock. In managed woodland where hazel is coppiced, the open, wildflower-rich habitat supports species of butterfly, particularly fritillaries. Coppiced hazel also provides shelter for ground-nesting birds, such as the nightingale, nightjar, yellowhammer and willow warbler. Hazelnuts are also eaten by woodpeckers, nuthatches, tits, wood pigeons, jays and small mammals; it is especially associated with dormice. The flowers provide early pollen as a food for bees.

As may be expected with a tree which we have used from our earliest times on these islands, there is a rich mythology connected with the hazel. The Celts equated hazelnuts with concentrated wisdom and poetic inspiration, as is suggested by the similarity between the Gaelic word for these nuts, 'cno', and the word for wisdom, 'cnocach'.

There are several variations on a celtic tale that nine hazel trees grew around a sacred pool, dropping nuts into the water to be eaten by some salmon (a fish revered by Druids) which thereby absorbed wisdom. The number of bright spots on the salmon were said to indicate how many nuts they had eaten and the fish was regarded as a magical creature with the gift of divination.

If you have hazel in your garden, try coppicing it yourself; you will extend it's life and health, introduce more biodiversity into the garden – and source yourself some excellent plant stakes and bean poles!

Sue Lelliott, Froyle Tree Warden

In memory of Ted Crowhurst (6 July 1928 - 2 December 2024)



Ted Crowhurst, a long-term former resident of Lower Froyle, and known to many around the village, sadly passed away on 2 December, aged 96.

He and his wife Olga set up home in Coquet House in 1986, staying there until Olga's passing in 2017 and Ted's decision to downsize to his Brendoncare flat in Alton two years later.

They had a glorious time in Froyle. Ted retired from his role as an area bank manager aged 60 in 1988 and, together with Olga, built a very happy life in retirement. They fully embraced village life and built a strong network of friends.

They got involved in all the activities the village had to offer, joining the Gardening Club, volunteering at village events, and hosting garden open days and Lenten lunches. Ted was also Parish Clerk for a period of time.

In retirement he rediscovered the joys of writing, penning children's stories about Russ the Penguin that he would read on local hospital radio and self published. He was a regular contributor to the Froyle magazine and taught adult literacy. Many hours would be spent in their garden, walking their dogs around the parish, and in reading.

Olga was diagnosed with Alzheimer's around 2012. And for her remaining years Ted focused on being a dutiful and devoted husband supported by their family and a team of carers.

Although Ted moved away from Froyle in 2019, he never truly left. He built a great life for himself at Brendoncare supported by his carers, but remained a frequent visitor to The Meeting Place, kept in touch with his Froyle friends and was thrilled to be given one of the first Froyle blankets.

Ted was a bright, charming, funny and caring man who will be missed, but not forgotten, by family and friends alike.

RECIPE

Durham Pikelets



8 oz plain flour

1 1/2 oz sugar

Pinch of salt

Pinch of bicarbonate of soda

Buttermilk or sour milk

Mix the flour, sugar and salt. Make a well in the centre and pour in enough milk to make a batter with the consistency of thick cream. Dissolve the bicarbonate of soda in a little water and add to the batter. Beat well and fry on a griddle or in a frying pan with butter until golden brown on both sides. Spread with butter and serve hot.

Good Health Matters to us all!

The pressures on our NHS have never been greater and consequently more and more of us feel that there is a growing need to take some responsibility for our own "health and well-being"



Our 60+ activity groups already contribute as they provide regular opportunities for our members to stay active physically and mentally but above all socially. Indeed, an outing to London is already arranged to see Christmas Cracker 2025 in December!

Taking regular exercise is very popular with our u3a family, with over 20 groups offering a range of physical activities - some having multiple groups e.g. there are three Pilates groups. However, before we sound too good to be true, there are five Wine Appreciation groups!

Increasingly, however, it is being recognised that our "**Lifestyles**" play an important part in our well-being. So, we are now planning a Health and Wellbeing Study Day in April with the focus on '**Ears, Eyes and Other Essentials**'. We hope this will lead to regular 'Lifestyle' presentations.

Loneliness can also be a major factor affecting our well-being and our long-established MOTO group offers regular opportunities during the month for 'Members on their Own' to socialise. They also organise special events e.g. they celebrated the Chinese New Year with a meal, and there are even MOTO holidays, which are becoming increasingly popular.

Underpinning so much of our understanding about health is science. The Science and Technology's January presentation was about '**Vaccines**' with Dr Stephen Lockhart, who recently retired from a senior position in Pfizer.

If you would like to get involved, we would love to hear from you.

To find out more, please visit our website.

<https://odiham.u3asite.uk/>





Saturday 22nd March 2025 at 5pm

Beethoven: String Quartet in C minor
Op.18 No.4

Shostakovich: String Quartet No.4

Philip Glass: String Quartet No.3 'Mishima'
IV: Mishima/Closing

St Mary's Church, Froyle GU34 4JY

Suggested voluntary donation: £20.00 per person.
Under 18's free when accompanied by a paying adult.
Wine and nibbles

To reserve seats please contact Karen Potter

Email: kwilson2525@btinternet.com or Phone: 01420 520294

HELPING AT THE CHURCH

One of the many blessings of a thriving church is that we always need more support!

We would like to involve as many parishioners as possible in the management of our services: would you be able to help?

We are holding an Introduction and Training evening on the 10th March at 7.00 pm, at the Church.

The main duties involve helping with setting up for a service, meeting and greeting attendees, and helping with refreshments.

Please let me know if you are interested.



Thank you to all those who made the Advent and Christmas periods so successful in Froyle and across the benefice, with much to look forward to in 2025. We have already held a very entertaining 'Messy Church' for the young and their parents in Froyle Village Hall.

The next Messy Church in Froyle will be held in the church on Sunday 16th March, and there will be much else happening in addition to our regular services as we move into the Easter period in March and April.

Many thanks

Simon Marshall, Church Warden

sm517@icloud.com 07734214419

STORIES

Crafting will be inspired by the theme of love and the bible story of the Good Samaritan.

GAMES

SONGS

CRAFTS

Aimed at Reception - Year 3 children, younger/older siblings welcome.

FAMILY MEALS

FREE ENTRY

www.benbinfo.co.uk
adminebenbinfo.org
01420 25359
#benbinfo_churches

Benefice Messy Church at Binsted Village Hall
(Wickham Institute) GU34 4NX

BINSTED

Sunday 16th February

Starting at 4pm, supper provided

THE BENEFICE OF FROYLE BINSTED

THE VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE

All Church schools have values that sum up the qualities that the school seeks to model and develop across the curriculum and ethos of that school. For Bentley school, the values are: Love, Courage and Community. Binsted school has Faith, Hope and Love.

Until recently, one of the striking things about Binsted, were the 3 large chickens who roamed free range around the grounds, named after their Values. Then one weekend it was discovered that Hope was lost. I was asked in to do a special Collective Worship to help break the news that this special member of the school community was gone.

It was poignant to me to speak of the loss of Hope, the hope that Hope might be found, and that we might have to adjust to living without Hope. Incredibly deep and powerful concepts when you stop to think about them. What place does hope play in your life? Do you have a strong hope and vision of something you want to achieve, or has life left you jaded and that to hope for something seems risky, better to just live one day at a time?

I think part of our problem in the English language is that the word itself has become devalued. “I hope it doesn’t rain.” “I hope you get better”. It sounds like a weak, well meaning wish. But hope in the Bible is a strong, vigorous virtue. Early Christians used a number of images to show others, that knew the codes, that the person you were speaking to was a fellow Christian. The cross was too obvious and in times of persecution, too dangerous. So images like the fish became popular. So too was the symbol of Hope, the Anchor. Anchors have a cross piece at the top and a big sweeping curve at the bottom.

Anchors hold you fast and stop you being swept away. Anchors speak of strength and stability. Hope is truly all these and more. One writer in the Bible tells Christians to always be ready to speak about the hope they have in God. To speak of God’s promises, his love, his protection and provision.

We need to rediscover hope for today, especially in such a confusing and shaken world that we currently live in. The loss of hope is devastating and we are diminished. To find something worth putting our hope in, is liberating and fills us with courage. In the school a new Hope will be found to replace the one that was lost. May we find hope in God as we step into this New Year and all that lies ahead.

May God bless you and yours richly.

Matt Boyes, Vicar of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle

ST MARY'S CHURCH NOTES

Vicar: The Reverend Matt Boyes 07469 270590 email: matt@benbinfo.co.uk

Administrators: 01420 23339 E: admin@benbinfo.org W: www.benbinfo.co.uk



Church Warden:

Simon Marshall 07734 214419

sm517@icloud.com

Anna Friend: Sarah Roberts

07831 294852 sarabrfroyle@gmail.com

Benefice Pastoral Care:

Nick Carter 01420 489122

nick.carter1945@outlook.com

Anna Chaplain:

The Rev Fran Harrison 07765 058593

annachaplain@benbinfo.co.uk

Youth Leader: *Vacancy*

FEBRUARY SERVICES

Sunday 2 Feb	9.30am	Binsted	Holy Communion
	11.00am	Oakhanger	Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Bentley	Praise
Sunday 9 Feb	8.00am	Binsted	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Bentley	Morning Worship & Children's Church
	11.00am	Froyle	Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Kingsley	Praise
Sunday 16 Feb	9.30am	Froyle	Morning Worship
	11.00am	Kingsley	Holy Communion
	4.00pm	Binsted	Benefice Messy Church
Sunday 23 Feb	9.30am	Bentley	Holy Communion & Children's Church
	11.00am	Binsted	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Froyle	Evensong

Waverley Singers

Platinum Celebrations

Save The Dates!

Mendelssohn - Elijah

Saturday 22 March 2025, 7:30pm
St Andrew's Garrison Church, Aldershot

Summer Concert

Sunday 22 June 2025, 5pm
St Mary's Church, Frensham

The Waverley Sing

A celebration of the joy of choral singing
Saturday 12 July 2025, 1030am - 4:00pm

Opera Gala

Sunday 26 October 2025, 6:00pm
Farnham Maltings

Britten - St Nicolas

Saturday 6 December, 7:30pm
St Thomas-on-The Bourne



waverleysingers.com

FROYLE SMALL ADS

Don't forget - Small ads are *free* to all Froyle residents (one per month)
So why not advertise items you no longer need, or are looking for, right here?
Or indeed services you can offer or are trying to find?
Just email your text - and a photo if you have one - to froylemageditor@gmail.com

Carer Available

Carer available for work, outstanding references and DBS.
I was with my last family for 10 years. Please contact me if you need
any further information.
Kate
Tel: 07592802829

HOW TO MAKE YOUR MAGAZINE CONTRIBUTION LOOK GOOD


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

- If you want a full page design your page in portrait layout. For half pages use landscape.
- You can send your copy in any size but it will be resized to fit on A5. The easiest way to see how it will look is to design a full page as A5 portrait and a half page as A6 landscape.
- The magazine online is in colour but remember the printed version is in black and white.
- Our software struggles with complicated layouts so they may not transfer well: so please save the copy ideally as a JPG/PNG picture or PDF file, and send this along with the original Word or Powerpoint document.
- **Please remember to embed all fonts.**

Articles

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

All magazine contributions should be submitted to froylemageditor@gmail.com. Please refer to the back cover for next month's magazine deadline.



LIFE DRAWING

at the FROYLE VILLAGE HALL

1st Sunday of every month 4-6pm
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upcoming dates: Feb 2, 18, Mar 2, 18

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THE ANCHOR INN

Thursday 6th at midday = **PETALS & PROSECCO**

Monthly flower arranging Workshop. Ticketed event.

Booking is essential, call Kathryn Austin Tel. 07802248862

Thursday 6th at 7.30pm = **MONTHLY QUIZ NIGHT**

Free entry, Max 6 people per team. Prizes to be won.

Saturday 8th all day = **PROPOSE DAY**

Receive 2 complimentary glasses of prosecco when you propose at the Anchor inn! 😊

Thursday 13th at 7.30pm = **MONTHLY BINGO NIGHT**

£2 per card – 3 games played each night. Cash prize at the end

Friday 14th from 6pm = **VALENTINE'S DINNER**

We will be offering a lovely set menu of 4 courses at £45 per person.

Booking is essential. Check out our website to view the menu.

Thursday 27th from 5pm = **BOARD GAME NIGHT**

Meet up with your friends and play our many board games all for free. 😊

<p>SIX NATIONS = We will be showing all games. Book your table in advance as spaces are limited.</p>
--



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10-11 Dynamic Pilates

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Wednesday

Mixed Pilates

18:30-19:30

For bookings, contact Tegan on
07761209998 or email
teganhansensa@gmail.com.

£10 per Pilates Class
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Acorns B&B



Acorns is a self-contained guest cottage, located in the picturesque village of Lower Froyle.

It has its own entrance, parking, and a south facing terrace which offers beautiful views across open fields.

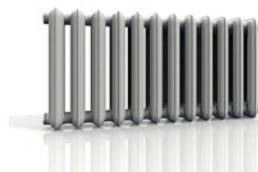
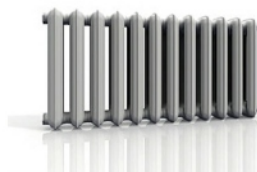
It has a generous double bedroom, comfortable sitting room with a smart TV, and a luxury shower room, together with a small but well-equipped kitchen.

A complimentary continental breakfast basket will be provided for your stay, along with a selection of Twinings teas and Lavazza coffee pods.

Contact Alice for further information on 07768 165233 or ghinns@gmail.com

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Village Events February 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 1600-1800 <i>Life drawing</i>	3 <i>Rubbish</i>	4	5	6 <i>Garden waste</i>	7 1000-1200 <i>Meeting Place</i>	8
9 1100 HC	10 <i>Recycling & Glass</i> 19.00 <i>Parish Council</i>	11	12	13	14 1000-1200 <i>Meeting Place</i> 1930 FGC VH	15
16 0930 <i>Morning Worship</i>	17 <i>Rubbish</i>	18 1000-1200 <i>Life drawing</i>	19	20 <i>Garden waste</i>	21 1000-1200 <i>Meeting Place</i>	22
23 1830 <i>Evensong</i>	24 <i>Recycling & Glass</i>	25	26	27	28 10.00-12.00 <i>Meeting Place</i>	

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For Froyle businesses: £38.50 +VAT/year, £21+VAT/half year for advertisements of **up to half a page/a third of a page on inside covers.**

For non-Froyle businesses: £55 +VAT/year, £30+VAT/half year for **up to half a page/a third of a page on inside covers.**

For both residents and non-residents: £110 +VAT/year, £60+VAT/half year for **a full page, £112.50+VAT for inside cover full page.**

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

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

Froyle Directory

Froyle Parish Council ⑆ www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk

Andrew Potter, Clerk ✉ clerk@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk ☎ 07979 030571

Froyle Residents Email List email to join ✉ clerk@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk

East Hampshire District Council www.easthants.gov.uk

Tony Costigan, District Councillor ✉ tony.costigan@easthants.gov.uk ☎ 07770 666896

Hampshire County Council www.hants.gov.uk

Mark Kemp-Gee, County Councillor ✉ mark.kemp-gee@hants.gov.uk ☎ 07748 945947

Froyle Village Hall ⑆ www.froylevillagehall.co.uk

David Robertson, Committee Chair ☎ 01420 520820

Bookings: Sarah Zorab ✉ bookings@froylevillagehall.co.uk ☎ 01420 520361

The Meeting Place - Fridays 10-12 at the Village Hall Susie Robertson ☎ 01420 520820

Froyle Gardening Club ⑆ www.froylegardeningclub.co.uk

Geoff Hawkins ✉ info@froylegardeningclub.co.uk ☎ 01420 88176

Froyle Wildlife www.froylewildlife.co.uk - Barry Clark ☎ 01420 23520

Tree Warden Sue Lelliott ✉ tree.warden@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk ☎ 01420 22015

Neighbourhood Watch ⑆ Stephen Inskip ✉ stephen.inskip22@gmail.com ☎ 07581 211595

Speedwatch Group Gordon Mitchell ✉ champersg@hotmail.com ☎ 01420 23851

Police Community Support Officers ☎ 101

PC Harvey Bennett ✉ harvey.bennett@hampshire.police.uk or

PC Jess Hornsby ✉ jessica.hornsby@hampshire.police.uk

Froyle Archive www.froyle.com/archive

The Benefice of Bentley, Binsted & Froyle ⑆ www.benbinfro.co.uk

Matt Boyes, Vicar - ✉ matt@benbinfro.co.uk ☎ 07469 270590

Sarah Roberts, Anna Friend - ✉ sarahrfroyle@gmail.com ☎ 07831 294852

St Mary's Church Flower Rota - Gill Bradley ☎ 01420 520484

Bentley, Binsted and Froyle Care Group - Bookings ☎ 07775 458873

⑆ **Froyle on Facebook** - *Froyle Residents, Froyle Advertising*

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MARCH DEADLINE: FRIDAY 21 FEBRUARY 2025

For guidance on formatting contributions, **see page 27**. For advertising rates, please refer to the inside back cover.