

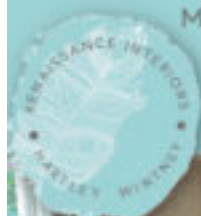
Froyle Village Magazine



September 2026

No 531

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



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News from the Parish Council (PC)

Parish Clerk - Andrew Potter

E: clerk@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk

W: www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk



The PC met on 13th July to review and considered a number of outstanding matters for approval including felling the diseased 'cherry' tree on Hadwick's corner, Lower Froyle; provision of dog poo bags and dispensers; signage on footpaths; a second Speed Indicator Device (SID) including new locations; and an application for a grant for new goal posts to support the re-establishment of football on the Rec. Recommendations for approval were made on all these items subject to receipt of additional information, some of which is still to be received. The date of the next meeting of the PC has been changed and will be held on Tuesday 15th September at 19.00 in the Village Hall - all residents welcome to attend.

Over the summer, the PC has continued to work on a variety of matters. Members of the PC and the project's sponsors, Froyle Amateur Football Club (Eddie Hatcher and Jason Smith), met with representatives of EHDC and Hampshire Football Association to discuss the return of football to the Rec. This included provision of equipment, pitch placement and maintenance. The PC has now been given approval for a grant of £750 by the Football Foundation to part-fund new full-size goalposts and nets. Further details of the return of Froyle AFC to follow.

The opening hours of the toilet in the Pavilion have been changed to provide access during the longer evenings. Until end August the door will remain open until 21.00, then 19.00 to end October, and 17.00 over the winter to end March. If you are inside the toilet around the time the door automatically locks, you can still exit by turning the thumb lock and pushing the door. In case of emergency, the red emergency cord can be pulled which will activate a siren outside to attract the attention of any passers-by. Assistance can also be sought by phoning 07590 467646.

A variety of maintenance works were carried out over the summer including repair of a water leak in the Village Hall (VH) car park. Road safety issues have been reported to Hampshire Highways and landowners including pothole repairs, hedges that need cutting, and overhanging trees but not all of these have yet been actioned. Potholes are an increasing hazard through the village. The PC understands that only those which have been reported to Highways will be addressed so if any resident has concerns about potholes or any other road safety issue, these should be advised directly to Highways via

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/transport/highways/report-a-problem>.

Other activities undertaken since the last meeting include repairs to the VH bus shelter with a grant from Hampshire County Council, and investigating how the heritage finger signpost to Yarnhams on the triangle opposite the Church that was knocked over by a vehicle last year can be restored.

Several planning applications have been issued for consultation including outline planning permission for a proposed development of 25 properties at the top of the field above the Hen and Chicken pub (ref EHDC-26-0619-OUT). As this application is only for outline planning at this stage, the primary considerations are the principle of developing this site and access onto Ryebidge Lane. Details such as design, landscaping, etc will be put forward in subsequent applications. NJG (the developer) has been consulting with EHDC regarding their plans which has resulted in a reduction in the number of houses being applied for with a higher proportion of smaller properties, including some affordable housing. The PC is still reviewing the application ahead of the deadline of 6th September for submission of comments. Its response is likely to focus on ensuring the protection of the rural nature of this part of Froyle, impact on nearby historic buildings and the conservation area, and traffic and highway issues on Ryebidge Lane. Planning applications can be viewed and commented on by accessing the [EHDC Planning portal](#) via this link.

The PC stall at the Village Fete on 4th July provided a great opportunity for Parish Councillors to talk to residents and visitors about the work of the PC and especially to supplement the previously received feedback about the Rec. with the views of our younger residents. Some of the most useful feedback came from simply chatting to children, young people and parents about what they like, what they use and what they would like to see in the future. Accessibility to the Rec. to make it easier to get around with pushchairs, wheelchairs and other mobility aids, and bicycles came up several times as well as better seating and more sociable places for older children and young people to meet. For younger children, replacing the climbing frame and providing more varied play equipment was seen as a priority. Sport came up too with suggestions for football, basketball, netball, cricket and fitness equipment with support for a flexible multi-user games area that could accommodate different activities rather than being dedicated to just one. There was also a suggestion to install a water bottle refill point in the Pavilion which is being investigated.

All of this feedback is helping the PC to determine what is most important to residents as it continues to look at ways to make the Rec. accessible, useful and enjoyable for all ages in the community. Thanks to everyone who shared their thoughts and ideas with us and particularly to those who offered to help the PC deliver its plans or even to consider becoming a Parish Councillor (we do currently have a vacancy or two!).

Apart from the Clerk, members of the PC are all volunteers who are keen to ensure that their time is focused on the issues considered of most importance to residents. Previous residents' feedback has been reviewed over the summer to identify priorities for the coming years, and a review of PC working practices is also underway to help streamline its work. The results of this review will be discussed at the next PC meeting and priorities identified will also feed into the preparation of the 2027/28 Parish Council budget through the Autumn.

Next month we will provide further thoughts on how you can help the PC improve village facilities by getting involved in such areas as footpath improvements, ditches, and road safety, or more specific projects such as upgrades to the Rec. facilities.

Finally on a very sad note, the PC was notified that our former Hampshire County Councillor Mark Kemp-Gee passed away peacefully at home on 16th August. The news of his passing came as a shock to all who knew him.

Mark had been Froyle's County Councillor for 20 years until he stood down at the elections in May this year during which time he had been a great supporter and friend of the village and all its residents. He played a particularly important role in supporting the village and led the 'No Wey Incinerator' campaign that resulted in Hampshire County Council rejecting Veolia's proposed Alton Energy Recovery Facility (AERF) incinerator, which was to be located beside the A31, in February 2022. The PC wishes to express its condolences and those from all the Froyle community to his family, friends and colleagues.

Mark's funeral will take place on Thursday 3rd September at 3.00pm at St Peter's Church, Basingstoke Road, Brown Candover, New Alresford, SO24 9TR. Froyle Parish Councillors and residents who knew Mark would be most welcome to attend and pay their respects but please note that the church capacity is limited to a maximum of 190 so it could be very busy.

Donations can be made to St. Michael's Hospice in Basingstoke via its website <https://www.stmichaelshospice.org.uk/>.



Bookings:
Sarah Zorab
01420 520361

www.froylevillagehall.co.uk

I hope you all had a very enjoyable summer. Thank you to all who attended the Pint and Pizza evening at the end of July. It was a new event at the village hall:



the turnout was fabulous and the pizza delicious. Based on the great feedback, we hope to bring you more events like this, so watch this space.

The fete seems like a long time away now but never too late to give a huge congratulations to Charlie B and the whole fete committee for a fantastic day. Thanks also to the band of volunteers who turned up and helped make it happen. Without you all events like these would

not be possible. See page 9 for more details.

As the weather turns a just a little cooler (it's all relative!) and we start to see some of that water falling from the sky called rain again, it's a good moment to remind you all of what's coming up!

- Safari Supper - back by popular demand on Saturday 26th September, please contact David Robertson at darinfoyle@aol.com to book your tickets. (see separate ad, on page 6).

- Bonfire and Fireworks on Thursday 5th Nov. (Please do start collecting wood, hedge cuttings etc – details in next edition on delivery arrangements.)

The committee's focus for the months to come is twofold. First, encourage more use of the hall with new clubs or societies. You might have seen on Facebook some surveys from Wendy Munt asking for interest so we can gauge potential demand. Wendy is actively working to see what we can make work, so please do vote. Meanwhile, we welcome the new art and Pilates groups.

Second, Chris continues to focus on maintenance, trying to make the front door a bit easier to unlock and fixing the patio doors amongst other things. Remember if you see anything that needs fixing to write it in the blue book in the kitchen.

The more eagled eyed amongst you, may have noticed that we have made the Wi-Fi at the hall password free. This is a trial in partnership with the Parish Council but we hope it helps you enjoy the terrace and pavilion a little more.

The hall will still have a private network for sum up machines, central heating controls etc., but if you have previously connected to the hall Wi-Fi then you will need to reconnect to the free link to be able to make use of it. A big thank you to Mike B for donating the equipment, his time and technical know how to make it happen.

Enjoy the bank holiday weekend and the last few weeks of the summer.

Gillian

Gillian Paul, Chair

The Meeting Place



The Meeting Place takes place every Friday morning in the Village Hall from 10am - 12 noon, so do come and join us for delicious home made cake, hot drinks and good conversation. Well behaved dogs are welcome too. Treats provided! We also now have an ever changing selection of books and jigsaws to borrow.

September Kitchen Helpers

4 September	Jenny Bryan Brown
11 September	Caroline Findlay
18 September	Jane Macnabb
25 September	Caroline Wilkinson

September Cake Bakers

4 September	Louise Marston	Cherida Cannon	Jane Stewart Smith
11 September	Sarah Roberts	Madeleine Black	Charlie Baikie
18 September	Julie Southern	Sue Sharman	Gillian Pickering
25 September	Chris Muddiman	Corinna Whines	Janet Dobson

Please organise swaps amongst yourselves, but do contact us if necessary. We try and remind the bakers, but please do let us know if you can't bake for any reason. It's also helpful to know what cakes are coming, just so we don't get three of the same variety!

Cakes can be left in the porch at Wykeham House Lower Froyle on Thursdays or bring to the hall after 9.30 am on Fridays.

Gill Bradley 520484
gahbradley@gmail.com

Susie Robertson 520820
sjrinfroyle@gmail.com

Jenny Gove 23697
govejenny@gmail.com

FROYLE 2026 SAFARI SUPPER



AND YOUR PRESENCE IS REQUESTED...

On Saturday 26th September from 6.00 pm

In aid of the Froyle Village Hall

TICKETS £20 per guest (hosts free)

For those of you who have not attended one before, a Safari Supper is a shared meal, where several residents of the Village each cook a single course; guests then eat each course with different people at a different house (that's the safari bit).

What is more, it is a terrific opportunity, not only for some of our more seasoned residents to catch up with friends old and new, but also for those of you who may have moved in to the village more recently to get to know some more of your neighbours. **SO DO JOIN US, IT WILL BE GREAT FUN.**

The plan is as follows:

1. **All meet at 6.00 pm at Park Edge**, Upper Froyle, courtesy of William and Mary Knowles, for a welcome drink and to receive the name and address of your first-course host; Wendy Munt will be selling raffle tickets @ £5 per ticket for three amazing prizes to be drawn at around 10.15 in the Village Hall;
2. You then all make your way to the first house for 7.00 pm; as you finish that course, you will be told the address for your next one;
3. You should be there by 8.15 pm;
4. By 9.45pm, you need to be at the last venue, the Village Hall, for pudding, coffee, a final drink and the raffle draw (bar closes 10.45).

We are delighted to have had a terrific response from many who have agreed to host a course, although we could do with a couple more - **ESPECIALLY IN UPPER FROYLE; so if you haven't already informed us and would like to host a single course for 6/8 people, ie you + 4/6 guests, please get in touch.**

Finally, **PLEASE LET US KNOW ASAP IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE PART OF THE FUN AS GUESTS** and NB you will be going round in couples – either by email to David Robertson on DARinfoyle@aol.com or telephone 520820, **by September 23rd at the latest** to let us know numbers. Tickets are £20 per head, payable in advance. BACS details: "FROYLE VILLAGE HALL", a/c 01305140, Sort Code 30-90-15, and please mark your payment "[Surname] Safari".



COST

ADULTS

£15.00

CHILDREN

£7.00

TIME

7 pm

for

7.30 pm

FROYLE HARVEST SUPPER

FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2026

FROYLE VILLAGE HALL

EVERYONE WELCOME

A great way to get to meet more residents

For tickets please contact: GILL BRADLEY, 01420 520484

JENNY GOVE, 07974 522587

Or can be purchased at The Meeting Place

★ Froyle Annual ★ **CHARITY QUIZ**



7.00pm



**Saturday
17th October**



**Froyle
Village Hall**

Supporting

Victoria's Promise



**Table of
6 maximum**

£12.00
per person
including
supper



raffle

**Great evening of competitive
★ and fun quizzing ★**



To book a table email

ian.whitmore1@gmail.com



Victoria's Promise

Victoria's Promise is a charity dedicated to supporting young women through cancer and beyond. It offers in-person support and services for young women diagnosed with and/or treated for cancer at Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital, The Royal County Hospital in Winchester and Frimley Park Hospital. The charity also offers clients nationwide peer support from other young women who are experiencing similar challenges due to their cancer diagnosis and a range of on line activities including yoga classes and webinars.

FROYLE FETE, FLOWER AND DOG SHOW



The Froyle Village Fete returned on the 4th of July, bringing villagers, families and friends together for a wonderfully enjoyable afternoon.

There was something for everyone, with children's games, face painting and plenty of traditional fete fun. The raffle and bottle stall proved as popular as ever, while the tug of war provided some lively competition between Upper and Lower Froyle. Our four-legged friends also took centre stage in the ever-popular dog show, with some very worthy winners!

Thank you to all those who helped set up on the day, run stalls and pack away. A special thank you also to everyone who donated raffle prizes including the Hen and Chicken, The Anchor, Froyle Park, the Bell ringers and RedBrown. A special thanks goes to the committee who work tirelessly to organise the fete each year.

The fete is always a special part of village life, providing an opportunity for the community to come together, have fun and catch up with friends and neighbours. It takes a great deal of time and effort behind the scenes, however, to organise all the activities and make the day happen.

Looking ahead to 2027, we really need more people to get involved. If you have ever thought about helping, whether by joining the committee, running a stall or game, helping on the day, or simply offering a little time beforehand, please do come forward. Without more volunteers, there is a real risk that the village fete may not be able to continue.

So please consider getting involved and helping us keep this much-loved Froyle tradition alive in 2027. Every contribution, however small, makes a difference and it is a great way to meet people and be part of village life.

Charlie Baikie
charlie.baikie2@gmail.com





FROYLE SUMMER FLOWER SHOW



Thank you to everyone who entered and supported this year's Summer Flower Show! Here are some of the highlights and winners.

Vegetables, Fruit & Flowers - Our wonderfully generous and cheerful judge, **John Negus**, had his work cut out for him. Calculators were needed to tally up all the points across the different classes!

- **Winner (Vegetables & Fruit):** Vivienne Sexton
- **Winner (Flowers):** Jane Harrap
- **Best Exhibit & Combined Entries:** Pam Walls
- **Graham Blunt Award:** David Robertson for magnificent spring onions

Flower Arranging: **Anne Blunt** has run inspiring flower arranging classes and she was delighted with the number of entries this year. Anne invited professional judge **Marina Dewey** to give her expert opinion. She spent all morning carefully looking at every arrangement and providing thoughtful comments. She was very impressed by the high standard of all the entries.

- **Overall Winners:** Gill Blackman and Brenda Milam

Baking, Creativity & Home Brews: The competition was fierce in our culinary and creative categories, showcasing some very impressive skills!

- **Star Baker:** Pam Walls (for her cake, jam, and biscuits)
- **Creative Prize:** Sally Cousin (for her cross stitched spotty dog)
- **Best Drink:** Alice Ghinn (Special cheers to Alice, who bottled the winning beverage yet again!)

Photography: Our photography section was an outstanding display judged by popular vote. The exhibits were so popular that we had to rush off to find more voting slips!

- **Overall Winner:** Barry Clark

Looking Ahead: The Autumn Show

We are already looking forward to receiving your entries for the upcoming **Autumn Show!**

Please don't forget that we welcome entries from **all ages**. We highly encourage our younger residents to get involved—there is a **special cup and prizes** for anyone **under 15** in the Creative Class.





Froyle Gardening Club

Apple Cinnamon Loaf Cake Recipe

We hope you enjoy making this Autumn recipe from Jane's Patisserie. If you would like to enter class 53 in the Domestic Section of the Autumn Show, this is the recipe to use. It will last 3 + days at room temperature, or in the fridge if it's still hot! Can be frozen.

Ingredients

For the Crumb

- 90 g plain flour 65 g light brown soft sugar 50 g unsalted butter (melted)

Cake

- 225 g unsalted butter/baking spread 225 g light brown soft sugar
- 4 medium eggs 225 g self-raising flour
- 1 tsp vanilla 0.5 – 2 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 2 cooking apples (200g chopped weight) cooking/Bramley apples for best results

For Brown sugar/cinnamon mix (see Assembly) 50g light brown sugar 1 – 2 tbs. ground cinnamon. In a small bowl mix together.

Instructions

Crumb

1. Add the flour, sugar and melted butter to a bowl and mix to combine until lumpy
2. Chill in the fridge for now.

Cake

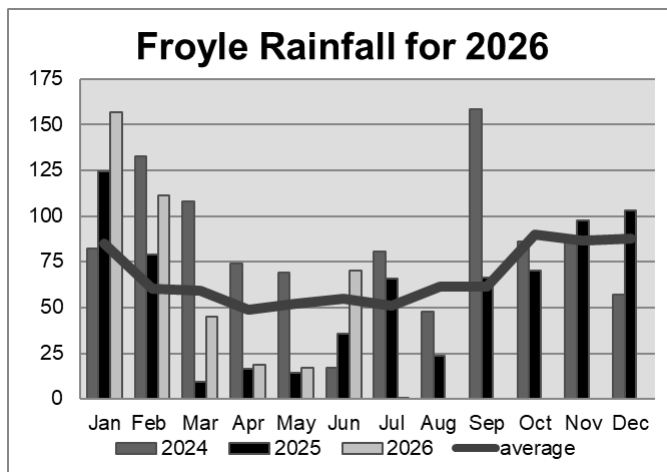
1. Preheat the oven to 180°C/160°C fan and line a 2lb loaf tin.
2. Peel and chop the apples into cubes, about 2cm in size.
3. Add the butter and sugar to a bowl and beat until light and fluffy.
4. Add the flour, eggs, vanilla, and cinnamon and mix until smooth.
5. Add the chopped apple and mix through.

Assembly

1. Put one third of the cake mix in the lined tin, and sprinkle half of the brown sugar/cinnamon mix over the top.
2. Repeat with another third of cake mix, and the rest of the brown sugar/cinnamon
3. Top with the last third of cake mix
4. Grab the crumb mixture, and fluff it up slightly with a fork to break it up into smaller pieces, and then sprinkle over the top of the cake
5. Bake the cake in the oven for 55-65+ minutes, until baked through. If towards the end it's starting to brown a lot, cover with foil until baked fully.
6. Remove from the oven and cool fully in the tin.

Froyle Rainfall for June and July, 2026

	June		July	
This year	70 mm	2.8 ins	0.5 mm	0.02 ins
Last year	35.5 mm	1.4 ins	66 mm	2.6 ins
Wettest (2012/2007)	155.5 mm	6.1 ins	139.5 mm	5.5 ins
Driest (1995/2026)	5 mm	0.2 ins	0.5 mm	0.02 ins
Long-term averages – the 4 th driest and 2 nd driest month	54.5 mm	2.1 ins	51 mm	2.0 ins
Total rainfall for the year so far			418.5 mm	16.5 ins
Long-term average for the year so far			411.1 mm	16.2 ins



Lest anyone needs reminding, since 15th June, we have had precisely 2 mm of rain. But for the record:

- (i) twice in the last fifty years - April 2007 and April 2011 – have we had 1 mm but never less...until this year; and
- (ii) surprisingly we still remain very close to the long-term average for the year



“The Umbrella Man”



Froyle Gardening Club

SEPTEMBER FROM THE POTTING SHED

Wow! What a summer. I hope you are not stressed out with your garden? Hopefully by the time you are reading this we will have had some rain.

This type of weather pattern is going to make us change the way we garden and also the types of plants we can grow. I am afraid some of our good old favourites will have to go and be replaced by ones that can survive the heat. At these temperatures no matter how much you water, the plants will not survive. So, make a note of what has done well and what has suffered. Then it will be a case of making a decision on which way you want your garden to go. Beth Chatto made a great dry garden which has stood for many years. It is near Colchester which is in a very dry area of the country.

Looking after our soil is one of the main ways we can build resilience in our gardens.

An increase of 1% soil organic matter can result in an increase of 16,500 gallons of plant-available water per acre. Compost will improve the soil, build in greater water holding capacity as well as allowing better drainage in wet weather and very importantly increase the biodiversity that has been lost in our soils by constant cultivation and no organic material being added to it. This increase also aids carbon sequestration.

As to the rest of the garden, keep deadheading, forget about the lawn until we get some moisture in the soil and just look at what is doing well and enjoy that.

Geoff Hawkins

Harvest at St. Mary's

Our Harvest Festival will be held on Sunday 13th September, we shall be decorating the church on Saturday 12th from 9.30 am. Please come and join us. Fruit, vegetables, flowers and foliage will be most welcome! We would also welcome donations for the Food Bank. Coffee will be available!

Our Village Harvest Supper will take place the following Friday - details elsewhere in this magazine.

We look forward to seeing you.

Froyle Community Group

FROYLE 100 CLUB – JULY AND AUGUST DRAWS

The winners in the July 2026 draw were:

1st Linda Bulpitt
2nd Barbara Wheatley
3rd Wendy Munt
4th Gordon Grant

And for August...

1st Sue Sharman
2nd Mary Wilde
3rd Jennifer Evans
4th Barbara Graham-Clarke

Mary Wilde was always a strong supporter of the Meeting Place – see the tribute to her on [page 25](#). She died a few days before the August 100 Club draw was held, so she was of course on everybody's mind at the Meeting Place that day. How extraordinary – and lovely – to have her name called out among the winners. Her winnings have been conveyed to her family!

William Knowles Tel: 07775 928933,

email: wbk@wbknowles.com



ALTON FOOD BANK PLEASE SUPPORT

Thank you for your continued support of the Alton Foodbank. We have seen a large drop in donations recently, with colder weather approaching, please can you generously donate if you are able from the following list:

Tinned vegetables
Tinned soup
Toilet roll
Sponge puddings
UHT milk

Tinned Meat
Washing powder
Cereals
Peanut butter
Tea bags

There is a donation box in the village hall, or you can drop off at Froyle, Bentley or Binsted churches, and at all local supermarkets. If you have any queries, please call me.

Louise Marston

07785 350381

Helping your trees to recover.



Well, I'm sure that you don't need me to tell you that this summer, we have experienced a very hot and dry summer in Hampshire. If it has been hard on you, imagine how it has been for your trees and shrubs, which have not been able to head for the shade, or get themselves a drink of water!

It's very likely that you will have trees and shrubs in your garden suffering from drought stress: the signs of drought stress vary according to tree species, but some common early signs are;

- Older leaves and needles looking brown, faded or yellow.
- Leaves curling at the edges, or with brown blotching and brown edges.
- Leaves dropping prematurely, or appearing brown and shrivelled.

More extreme symptoms include;

- Many or all leaves turning brown and shrivelled
- Whole shoots or branches dying back
- The canopy appearing to have thinned because branches in the upper canopy have died
- Splits appearing in the bark.

Another telltale sign is if the soil around the tree becomes cracked and split.

Most mature, healthy trees have extensive root systems that allow them to access moisture deeper within the ground. This means they can generally tolerate periods of dry weather without intervention. However, problems can arise when exceptionally dry conditions continue for longer periods or when the tree was already under stress before the heatwave arrived. Compacted soil, previous root damage, disease, construction work and poor growing conditions can all make it harder for a tree to cope.

Drought stress can also contribute to or accelerate the decline of trees already suffering from other problems. Plant diseases and insect pests weaken trees by damaging leaves, branches, stems, or roots. This damage makes it hard for trees to absorb and move water and nutrients, worsening the effects of drought.

So, significant dieback, large dead branches, changes to the tree's structure or a noticeable deterioration in a tree that was already struggling, are worth investigating.

An experienced tree surgeon can assess the condition of the tree for you, and determine whether remedial pruning, ongoing monitoring or another course of action is appropriate. Importantly, this can also prevent healthy trees from being unnecessarily pruned or removed. Don't over-react to brown or withering branches by chopping them off now, as this could stress the tree further, and prevent possible recovery.

Sue Lelliott, Froyle Tree Warden



Village Football to Return to Froyle?

The re-emergence of a Froyle village football team is now on the horizon following the Parish Council meeting on 26 June, at which the Parish Council agreed in principle to the funding and reinstatement of a football pitch on the Recreation Ground.

Football was last played in Froyle between 2004 and 2012, when the club was mothballed. My intention has always been to reinvigorate football upon returning to the village, at the end of my military career — and it, finally, appears the time may be approaching.

Subject to securing the appropriate funding and resolving a few minor issues, I am hopeful that the football pitch will be reinstated on the Rec over the summer.

The initial plan is for an Alton Under-16 boys' team to utilise the pitch. This is a team that I currently coach and includes players from Alton and surrounding villages, including Froyle. This arrangement will help address any teething issues relating to pitch maintenance, funding, equipment storage and administration.

While no Froyle village team will play competitive football this season, I will be resurrecting the village club, AFC Froyle, from an administrative perspective and ensuring that it is affiliated with the Hampshire Football Association.

I will use this season to fine-tune the club's administration and pitch management and, most importantly, to canvass for players. As the season progresses, I will also look to arrange friendly matches in preparation for entering a team into the Aldershot & Camberley District Sunday Football League in the 2027/28 season.

AFC Froyle will be an adult men's team (for male players aged 16 and over). However, the facility is intended for everyone and, in due course, there will be opportunities for other residents who are keen to foster and encourage football among different age groups and sections of the community.

If you are interested in playing, or would like to find out more, please feel free to contact me.

Jason Smith
jason_smith01@hotmail.com
07500 512769



Froyle Wildlife

Events over the summer

Wildlife Pond and meadow open day

A lovely sunny day in July brought out 13 species of butterfly most of which were Gatekeepers – 39 recorded. Others included Meadow brown 32, Painted lady 3, Small Copper 2, Clouded yellow 1. Two day flying moths the Mint Moth and the hovering Hummingbird Hawk-moth were also spotted. The pond was busy with 8 species of dragonfly noted in all. This included two male Emperor Dragonflies plus a female Emperor egg-laying. Twelve male Azure damselfly plus 3 pairs were also recorded. 7 species of bird were seen: a Buzzard, Heron and Woodpigeons overhead, Wrens, Goldfinches, Blue tits, and a Blackbird. 15 visitors came and enjoyed the meadow and pond area. The most unusual sighting of the day was a Downland Villa Bee-fly (*Villa cingulata*), listed as a nationally rare species and a first for here.



Rare Bee-fly (Villa cingulata)

Sue Clark

Froyle flora walk



Tufted Vetch

In June's heatwave, we postponed the planned date to a cooler evening for our stroll in Froyle to identify local flora. The walk was led by Isobel Girvan, an experienced botanist who works for Surrey Wildlife Trust. Meeting outside St Mary's Church, Upper Froyle we were met with the sight of the mower cutting the churchyard. So there were virtually no wildflowers remaining to see and identify. An area that in previous years had been allowed to grow long had also been cut. It leaves me question whether there is any space for nature in God's acre.

After our initial disappointment, we visited the Lime Avenue public footpath, there was White Bryony; the pink flowers of Field Bindweed and the white flowers of Greater Bindweed (that has a traditional childhood nickname of 'granny pop out of bed'). Arriving at the wildlife pond and meadow near Gid Lane, we saw a wonderful diverse range of British native wildflowers, including Wild Carrot, Tufted Vetch, Hops, Birds-foot Trefoil, Marjoram, Water Mint, Meadow Crane's-bill, Teasel, Lady's Bedstraw, Purple Loosestrife and Meadow Sweet.

Butterfly walk

Our walk at Magdalen Hill Down in August was guided by reserves officer Fiona Scully. This 46-hectare chalk downland reserve near Winchester is managed by Butterfly Conservation. An amazing 34 species of butterflies have been recorded there, making it a flagship site. We relished spotting the numerous Adonis Blue and Chalkhill Blue butterflies that shimmered with the sunlight in flight, although few settled for a closer viewing. Also seen were Small Heath, Common Blue, Meadow Brown, Gatekeeper, Green-veined white, Small white, Clouded Yellow, Painted Lady, Holly Blue and Treble-bar moth. Overhead there were Kestrel and Red Kite, whilst some noticed Grass snake and Common Lizard before they vanished into the vegetation.



Adonis Blue

Dates for your diary

- Wednesday 28th October, White-tailed Eagle reintroduction talk by Imogen Lloyd and AGM, 7.30pm Froyle Village Hall.

Do tell us about wildlife that you see in Froyle. We have a new Froyle Wildlife WhatsApp group for news, information and your photos, send me your mobile number if you would like to join.

Can you help continue restoring an historic pond in Froyle?



On Saturday 12th September 10am to 1pm we plan to remove about a quarter of the vegetation and silt to benefit the known population of great crested newts as well as other protected species. School pond (also known locally as Dew pond) was shown on the 1845 tithe map of Froyle. We recommend appropriate

clothing, gloves and footwear for digging and moving silt. The quadrant that we dug last September was the first to fill with water and the last to dry out this year. If you can, do fetch a spade and ideally a wheelbarrow. For more information see <https://www.froylewildlife.co.uk/school-pond-upper-froyle-restoration-sat-12th-sept-2026//>. Please let me know if you can come along (even for just 1 hour) by contacting info@froylewildlife.co.uk or 01420 23520.

IN THE BARN YARD

It has been a melty summer for our avian population in the barn yard and beyond, but standards must be maintained for health and survival. Whilst dust baths help, water is essential for body and feather perfection.

You probably didn't know that there is an exclusive little lido here, attracting a feathered membership both large and small for poolside sips and dips. There is a definite pecking order that emerges as the sun ascends and regular refills are required as temperatures soar.

We have great tits and blue tits who splish, splash, splosh and dart off. Sparrows are on trend this year with their brown plumage; they come in gangs and loiter chattering on the rim. Cleverly camouflaged dunnocks sneak in to join the brown party.



We admire a limousine linnet with its subtle rose pink breast from our kitchen window, not like that flashy, feisty bright red robin. The wagtails look very posh in their monochrome outfits, more defined after a bobbing preen and a clean ready for their next black tie event.

A surprising flock of starlings have evolved over the summer shiny and gleaming with their iridescent plumage. They behave like the Jets and Sharks from West Side Story preening and posturing around each other.



Oh, there's a flash of gold and scarlet as three gold finches whizz in dip, drink and whizz off.

The collared doves politely coo and await their turn whilst the Antonov-sized pigeons just sit in the water holding everyone up. Lift one wing, wash under, roll over, lift other

wing, wash under etc.. filling the pool with their dander.

Time for another refill and scrub out. Lucky they have such good pool attendants!

Who else comes by? Chaffinches, blackbirds and if we are very lucky our thrush and if there are no feathered friends then the insects take a turn. It's a fine balancing act between the water of life and the water of death for them.

As dusk descends it's all quiet at the lido, deck chairs and towels packed away for another day. A final refill ready for the dawn rush.



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Charity
Q&A



Exhibition
matches



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giveaways

Enter with your own partner, or book as an individual and we'll match you with another player. Every pair is guaranteed timed matches before the top performers progress to the finals.



Wednesday 30 September 2026

10:30am - 5:00pm

Advantage Padel - Kingsley, Bordon, GU35 9NG

£75 per person | £150 per pair

Spectator tickets £20 (inc. lunch)



 **Treloar's**

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ST MARY'S CHURCH NOTES

Vicar: The Reverend Matt Boyes 07469 270590 E: matt@benbinfo.co.uk
Administrators: 01420 23339 E: admin@benbinfo.org W: www.benbinfo.co.uk



Benefice Pastoral Care

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Anna Chaplain:

The Rev Fran Harrison 07765 058593

annachaplain@benbinfo.co.uk

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Jack Stephenson 01420 23216

romanhorse@hotmail.co.uk

Anna Friend: Sarah Roberts

07831 294852 sarahrfroyle@gmail.com

SEPTEMBER SERVICES

Sunday 6 September	9.30am	Binsted	Holy Communion & Children's Church
	11.00am	Oakhanger	Holy Communion
	6.00pm	Bentley	Praise
Sunday 13 September	8.00am	Binsted	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Bentley	Morning Worship & Children's Church
	11.00am	Froyle	Holy Communion - Harvest
Sunday 20 September	6.00pm	Kingsley	Praise
	9.30am	Froyle	Morning Worship
	11.00am	Kingsley	Holy Communion - Harvest
Sunday 27 September	4.00pm	Binsted	Messy Church
	9.30am	Bentley	Holy Communion & Children's Church - Harvest
	11.00am	Binsted	Morning Worship
	6.30pm	Froyle	Evensong



ST MARY'S NEWS

Whilst everything slowed down during July/August, there were some notable events, the highlights being:

- **Village fete:** the church had a stall at the Froyle fete, which proved very popular. We also had stalls at all the other fetes in the benefice. They were all very busy and much enjoyed.

- **Pet service in Froyle:** held this year in the village hall to escape the heat. It was particularly entertaining this year: in addition to our much-loved dogs and cats, we had chickens, a ferret, a rabbit and a horse! Matt blessed all our animals and pets individually. Three very talented children also gave readings – see below for Ted Matthews' poem, written and read out by him.

- **Baptism of Molly Findlay:** on the 9th August we enjoyed a wonderfully warm welcome for Molly, with a very full church of family, friends and neighbours.

- **Mary Wilde:** there was a very moving service to commemorate Mary's long life in Bentley. The Froyle Meeting Place team organised the wake after the service in Bentley church hall. See page 25 for a tribute to Mary from friends in Froyle – with thanks to Helen for letting us have access to her eulogy for her mother.

Looking ahead to September and October, please note:

- Harvest festival service on Sunday 13 September at 11:00am
- Harvest supper on Friday 18 September at 7:00pm – see page 7.
- Matt's autumn lecture series – see page 28.
- Special service to be held on Saturday 31 October at 3:00pm to remember those we have loved and lost. This service will be similar to a service held last year in Bentley, which many of us found very powerful. All are welcome from across the benefice.

Ted Matthews' Pet Service Poem

Dear God,

Thank you for the gift of animals on Earth.

We are very thankful, especially for our pets. They comfort us when we are sad, always showing us love.

They make us feel happy and greet us with a waggy tail or furry or feathery cuddle.

Thank you for pets that help us in other ways, like guide dogs and therapy horses.

Thank you also for pets that help us, like chicken for eggs and working dogs.

Help people to understand how to care for their pets and look after them properly.

Amen

THE VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE

Sometimes our churches can feel right at the centre of village life, during the school services or the big Christmas services, but there are also times when they can feel a little separated from our day-to-day village life.

During the summer months of July and August, the frequency of church services is reduced with so many of us being away, so we can go several weeks between a service in each of our churches.

It is such a joy to hold different services after the village fetes. We hold pet services in Froyle and Binsted, which can feel a little Vicar of Dibley-esque, especially when a large horse is present.

Every year in Bentley we hold the appropriately named Marquee Service in the Flower Show tent. The Bentley Fete weekend was particularly special for me as it was my first as a Licensed Lay Minister. After announcing at the fete on the Saturday, I then had the privilege of leading the Marquee Service the following day.

The service was intended to have something for everyone. There was an all age drama, we sang both modern worship songs and traditional hymns, the liturgy was suitable for all and we tried to make the core message of the service - "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding." (Proverbs 3:5) - relatable and applicable to all, especially those who don't regularly join us at a service. We wanted to provide a joyful service and show that we are here for everyone in our community.

And that is at the heart of everything we do, showing God's love to all.

Your churches are here for everyone in our villages, whatever your needs. We are all God's people. Each one of us is made in the image of God. As Christians we believe God is the creator of all humanity and he loves each one of us.

Jesus showed us that we should be welcoming to all, regardless of origin, situation and condition. We should discriminate against no one. Jesus spent time with all kinds of people and welcomed them as children of God. Jesus demonstrated his love by his teaching and his actions. The miracles he performed were for anyone who asked faithfully, regardless of who they were.

My prayer for our churches, and the village communities we serve, is that we will be beacons of light, relatable and applicable to all and serving everyone by demonstrating God's love for each of us, whoever we are.

Steve Fice

Lay Minister, Bentley, Binsted and Froyle

Mary Wilde – a Tribute from Froyle



Mary was looking forward to celebrating her 96th birthday back in Sycamore Cottage in October, when sadly she was taken from us in late July. She was a very special lady who showed everyone, whether an old friend or new acquaintance, nothing but love and kindness. Despite the sadnesses she suffered during her long life, she remained to the end a warm optimist. A gentle woman, with a keen artistic eye, she loved nothing better than appreciating the natural world around her and encouraged others to see the same.

Mary came to Bentley in 1956 with her husband Alyn and their first child Bernie. Alyn was the Art & Crafts teacher at Treloar's – later a housemaster there. They bought Kittyshawe and settled happily into Bentley village life as Helen, Sue and Richard were born. The children all went to Bentley Primary School and the family worshipped at Bentley Church. They moved to Treloar's while Alyn was a housemaster, and Mary, also a teacher, joined the teaching staff. They moved back to Kittyshawe in 1981.

In 1983, life changed for Mary when Alyn died unexpectedly. His death led to Mary and Richard moving to Sycamore Cottage near Coldrey, halfway between Bentley and Froyle. From there she rebuilt her life with the support of local friends and family.

She became an enthusiastic supporter of the Meeting Place coffee mornings on Fridays in Froyle Village Hall. Following her retirement from teaching at Treloar's, she became a key member of a group of former Treloar employees living locally who formed a table at the Meeting Place on the first Friday of each month to reminisce and catch up. Mary hated missing any of these sessions; her absence will be sorely missed.

Mary was always willing to help when village events took place in any way if she could. At a service of thanksgiving in Froyle Church in 2022, the Queen's Platinum Jubilee year, we asked all in the community for memorabilia and memories of the coronation itself. Mary spoke most memorably of how on the day of the coronation in 1953 she and Alyn, recent newlyweds, got up very early in Sussex to catch a train to London and were part of the celebratory crowd in the Mall. It really was enthralling to hear from someone who was only 4 years younger than the Queen herself and was there on the day too.

David Perryman led a moving service in a full Bentley church to celebrate Mary's life. The ladies from Froyle's Meeting Place organised the wake afterwards. It was just what Mary would have wanted. God bless you.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM *you!*

Your local churches want to improve how we interact with all those in our local communities, now and in the future. Change is coming, and we want to be ready.

We value our local relationships and want them to grow wider and deeper. To do this, we need to understand local needs, so we've created a **short questionnaire** about how you'd like to receive local church news and information.

**Your opinion matters,
so here's what to do**



Scan the QR code below to complete the survey online ☐

Alternatively paper copies can be dropped into one of the collection boxes placed in our churches and village halls ☐

All responses are anonymous and will be used only to help us better meet the needs of our communities ☐



Please complete the survey by Wednesday 30th September.

Your input matters to us. We look forward to hearing from you and your family. Thank you.





The Bereavement Journey

We warmly invite you to our next Bereavement Journey, a 7 week course for anyone who has suffered bereavement, no matter how long ago.

This course provides a safe place to talk with others, as we reflect on the various ways in which our lives are impacted by loss, whilst also exploring how we can move forward, despite our loss.

A light lunch will be provided and all are welcome.

Thursdays, 12:30pm - 2:30pm
Commencing on Thursday 5th November

Mill Court, GU34 4JF

(please contact - see below - for directions if you are unsure where to go)

Please let us know if you would like to join us:

Email: admin@benbinfro.org

Call: Fran - 07709 569262

Call: Kathy - 07710 623784



The Church's Family Tree



Autumn Lecture Series 2026

A dive into Christian Church history.

Branches and denominations: what binds and divides the different parts of the worldwide Christian Church today, and why?

What does our family tree look like and what does that mean for us today?

Come along to each of the 4 talks in October to grapple with Church history - the good, the bad and the ugly!

7:30pm at Bentley Church Hall

- Thursday 1st October
- Thursday 8th October
- Thursday 15th October
- Thursday 22nd October

No need to book, just turn up!





Sunday 20th September, 4–6pm

Wickham Institute, Binsted, GU34 4NX

Come along to the Wickham Institute this September for a spectacular Messy Church afternoon. We will be celebrating harvest and learning about how and why Jesus feeds 5000 people with just a tiny offering.

With crafts for all ages and a free supper for all, Messy Church is not to be missed.

See you there!

Sunday 18th October, 4–6pm

Froyle Church, GU34 4LB

Sunday 15th November, 4–6pm Advent

Wickham Institute, Binsted, GU34 4NX

December

Christmas events

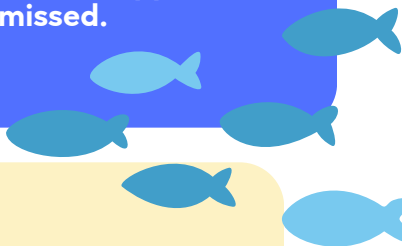
Messy Church celebrates faith with creativity and hospitality.

We deliver Bible stories and crafts for all generations to enjoy together.

A loving and fun atmosphere that includes a shared hot meal. (No cost, just rock up, advance notice of special dietary requirements is appreciated!)

Monthly sessions, 4–6pm, on the third Sunday of the month, alternating between Binsted and Froyle.

All families are welcome!





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God for the lives of those we miss.

For further details: 01420 23339 admin@benbinfro.org

FROYLE SMALL ADS

A reminder - 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?

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SJP Approved 17/08/2026

SJP13984_D6 BI (02/23)

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For non-Froyle businesses: £62+VAT/year, £38+VAT/half year for **up to half a page/a third of a page on inside covers.**

For both residents and non-residents: £125+VAT/year, £75+VAT/half year for **a full page, £140.00+VAT/year for inside cover full page.**

The advertising year begins with the April edition, and the half-year with either the April or October edition.

We are happy to include one-off advertisements or notices free of charge for events associated with or put on by the village, as long as they are not for profit or part of a commercial venture. Otherwise the charge is £12.50+VAT per insertion.

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

We are pleased that local trades and service providers advertise with us and we do hope that you support them. However we do not check or endorse them in any way.

NOTES TO CONTRIBUTORS

The magazine is published in A5 size, portrait orientation, both online and in print. The online version is in colour but the printed version is in black and white.

Posters/Adverts

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 portrait. To see how it will look is to design a full page as A5 portrait and a half page as A6 landscape.

Please submit artwork and copy as a JPG/PNG picture or PDF file, with, if available, the original Word or Powerpoint document and any photographs.

Articles

Please send text and pictures separately as well as in your complete article. As a rough guide a page is about 500 words – with no pictures.

Pictures should be high resolution JPEG or PNG files.

General

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

In the event of any question over including or excluding any item or part of an item, or in relation to any other matter, the Editor's decision is final.

Village Events September 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Garden Waste	4 1000-1200 Meeting place	5
6	7 Recycling & Glass	8	9	10	11 1000-1200 Meeting place	12 0930 Church decorating 1300 FW Dew Pond 1400 FGC Autumn Show
13 1100 HC Harvest	14 Rubbish	15 1900 PC	16	17 Garden Waste	18 1000-1200 Meeting place 1900 Harvest Supper	19
20 0930 Morning Worship	21 Recycling & Glass	22	23	24	25 1000-1200 Meeting place	26 1800 Safari Supper
27 1830 Evensong	28 Rubbish	29	30			

Froyle Directory

Froyle Parish Council ① 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 ① www.froylevillagehall.co.uk

Chair: Gillian Paul: chairman@froylevillagehall.co.uk ☎ 07774880885

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 ① 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

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

Police Community Support Officers ☎ 101

PC Alex Routt ✉ alex.routt@hampshire.police.uk or 07891 484 670

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

Froyle Archive www.froyle.com/archive

The Benefice of Bentley, Binsted & Froyle ① 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

① **Froyle on Facebook** - *Froyle Residents, Froyle Noticeboard*

Froyle on Instagram #froylevillage @froylevillage

Key: ☎ Telephone ✉ Email ① Facebook ② WhatsApp

OCTOBER DEADLINE: FRIDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2026

For Notes to Contributors, please see page 44.