

Froyle Village Magazine



April 2026

No 527

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



Made-to-Measure Curtains, Blinds, Upholstery
Interior Design
Concept to Completion Service
Extensions, Conversions & New Builds

Scan to book
your FREE
design
consultation



AWARD-WINNING INTERIOR DESIGN

On Your Doorstep



Over 30 years
experience!



Award-winning
customer service



Inspirational
designs



www.renaissanceinteriorshw.co.uk



hello@renaissanceinteriorshw.co.uk



01252 220 400



Virginia Villas, High Street, Hartley Wintney, Hampshire, RG27 8NW



News from the Parish Council (PC)

Parish Clerk - Andrew Potter

E: clerk@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk

W: www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk



The PC met as scheduled on 9 March when the main business was to update and approve PC policies and procedures including its annual risk assessment and agree its comments on a planning application.

The Rec facilities project team have been working hard on identifying design contractors to put more details and costs on the items which residents identified as highest priority in the questionnaire and identifying sources of grants. We hope to have some display boards with concept pictures available at the Annual Parish Meeting (see later for details).

The work to repair the zipline has been delayed a little due to the Rec being too wet for the contractor to access the site with his vehicle. Hopefully it will be back in operation next month.

The first of a regular monthly meeting between PC representatives and Froyle Estate has been scheduled for 24 March when topics including footpaths/Rights of Way, Estate works and future developments, and communications with the village will be on the agenda. If you have any topics that you would like the PC to raise at these meetings especially re footpaths across the estate please contact Phil Roberts (phil.roberts@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk) or any other member of the PC.

A second meeting with NJG who own the land along Hen & Chicken Hill has been scheduled for end-March to obtain an update on their plans for the overflow car park and the field along the Alton side of the road.

While there was no significant progress to report on the Westburn Fields to Park Lane footpath upgrade and flooding pending a response from Hampshire County Council (HCC) on ownership, the HCC funded 'lengthsman' contractor did some clearance work on the ditch beside the footpath. The bus shelters by the Rec and Hen & Chicken were also tidied up. Funding for this scheme has now been approved for a further 2 years. A grant to repair the roof and generally upgrade the bus shelter next to the Village Hall has been applied for.

Members of the Parish Council and a number of residents attended a meeting of EHDC's licencing sub-committee on 16-18 March at the Alton Maltings to undertake a Licence Review of the Froyle Park wedding venue. The outcome of the review was that a significant number of legally enforceable conditions will be added to the venue's licence. Following discussions with residents and our EHDC Councillor, the venue has agreed to take down the lights along the Avenue.

The PC submitted comments on a planning application to undertake works on the garage at the corner of Well Lane. Concerns were identified about possible over-development in that area if a number of different applications for works on that property and the neighbouring bungalow currently being considered were also approved.

The next PC meeting will be on Monday 11 May @ 19.00 in the Village Hall and all members of the public are welcome to attend. Any resident can request an item be included on the agenda by advising the Clerk five days in advance of the meeting. This meeting is also the PC Annual General Meeting when a number of procedural matters will be discussed including approval of the 2025/26 accounts and the appointment of a Chair and Deputy Chair for the coming year.

Prior to the PC meeting in May, we will be having our Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 15 April from 19.00. This provides an opportunity for the PC and Village Hall Committee to present residents with a summary of the year gone by along with their plans for the coming year. In addition to the Rec (see above), the PC would like to obtain residents' views on how to reduce speeding through the village such as investing in a second speed indicator device; Neighbourhood Watch scheme; and identification of further footpath works. Maybe we can inspire someone to step forward and fill the vacancy on the PC? Drinks and nibbles will be provided, and all residents are encouraged to attend. We will also take the opportunity to say farewell and thank you to our HCC Councillor Mark Kemp-Gee who will be retiring in May having served our community for over 20 years. Mark has been a longstanding friend to Froyle using his influence to tackle local issues and was particularly effective in his support for the successful No Wey Incinerator campaign in 2022. His support and wise counsel will be greatly missed. Although a new HCC Councillor will be elected in May, this role will be short-lived as the Local Government reorganisation will see both the County Council (HCC) and District Council (EHDC) disbanded and replaced with a new mid-North Hampshire Unitary Authority from April 2028.

As always, don't forget to visit the Village website www.froyleparishcouncil.org.uk to find out news, information about activities in and around Froyle, the village calendar, and useful contacts including your Parish Councillors and elected representatives. There are over 200 residents signed up to the Froyle Residents' email distribution list who receive info about current village matters e.g. call-outs for volunteers, bin collection date changes, road closures and repairs etc. If you wish to join (or leave) please contact the Clerk (clerk@froyleparishcouncil.org.uk)

Thank you

Upper Froyle residents who requested the recent Licence Review for Froyle Park would like to thank all those who supported them. The review resulted in more than 40 new enforceable conditions. Although the licensing sub-committee did not agree to a reduction in the intensity of weddings, they accepted the owners' commitment to better management. We welcome this and look forward to the owners' promise of a more constructive relationship going forward.

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.

The Easter Meeting Place will be on Good Friday, 3 April, so come and eat a hot cross bun and hopefully win a prize in the raffle, which will be in aid of Naomi House & Jackspace, hospices for children and young adults.

April Kitchen Helpers

(No need to be at the Hall till 10.00am)

3rd	The Meeting Place team
10th	Sarah Roberts
17th	William Knowles
25th	Brian Jones

Please organise swaps amongst yourselves, but do contact us if necessary.

April Cake Bakers

3rd	Emma Archer-Perkins	Jenny Matthews	
10th	Barbara Starbuck	Tina Massam	Gill Bradley
17th	Barbara Graham-Clarke	Brian Jones	Sue Lelliott
24th	Deborah Addison	Lisa Bowler	Jo Mills

We try to remind the bakers, but please do let us know if you can't bake for any reason. And you can always bake in advance and we can freeze your cake! It is helpful to know, if possible, what cakes are coming so that we don't get three of the same.

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

Gill Bradley 520484
gahbradley@gmail.com

Susie Robertson 520820
sjrinfroyle@gmail.com

Jenny Gove 23697
govejenny@gmail.com



Don't Miss the 1st Annual Froyle Village Hall Fun Run!!!
Saturday, 11 April

- **A 10k timed trail run loop along the footpaths to the south of the village, up to the top of Holybourne Down and back**
 - **A fun and exciting Colour Dash for kids around the Rec**
- **Or, a walk following the same route as the 10k for those of us who are not quite up to the run.**

This is a new event for the community, with something for the whole family. Athletes can run, the keen can walk, and everyone can cheer as the kids (and the young at heart) skip, stroll or dance around the rec through clouds of crazy color. Hot drinks and homemade cakes will be on sale in the hall, and Phil Spencer has graciously agreed to join us to start things off with a bang.

8am registration opens 9:45am colour dash 10:30am run start
10:40am walk start

For detailed information and advance registration go to www.blendedtrails.com



APRIL ACTIVITIES AT THE VILLAGE HALL

Meeting Place 3 April (Friday) 10:00-Noon
Meeting Place 10 April (Friday) 10:00 - Noon
Fun Run 11 April (Saturday) 8:30 - 2:00
Life Drawing 12 April (Sunday) 16:00
Pilates 13 April (Monday) 9:30 & 10:30
VHC AGM & PC General Meeting 15 April (Wednesday) 7:00
Pilates 20 April (Monday) 9:30 & 10:30
Meeting Place 17 April (Friday) 10:00 - Noon
Life Drawing 21 April (Tuesday) 10:00-Noon
Meeting Place 24 April (Friday) 10:00-Noon
Car Boot 25 April (Saturday) 9:30 - Noon
Pilates 27 April (Monday) 9:30 & 10:30

FROYLE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 15 April, 7:00pm

Come hear what we've been up to in the last year, and about our plans for this year.

See following page for a summary of our 2025 finances.

The AGM will be followed by the Parish Council Annual Meeting. See page 2 for details.

!!!! Save the Date !!!!

3RD ANNUAL FROYLE ART FAIR & EXHIBITION

2 and 3 May 10am - 4pm

Work by more than 25 local artists will be on display for view and purchase.
Paintings | Photographs | Cards | Ceramics | Jewellery.

Tea, Coffee, and Homemade Cakes too.

FREE ADMISSION

For more information or if you would like to join us as an exhibitor, please be in touch with Sally Turvill or David Birm at froyleartfair@gmail.com

Froyle Village Hall : Treasurer's Report for 2025

2025 income increased by 40% to £15,216 as a result of an increase in charges and more out-of-village parties and commercial users, supported by great marketing by the Booking Sec.

2025 costs were £18,731, up 14%. Curtains were cleaned and the Hall was 'deep cleaned'.

The net Operating Deficit was £3,515, as income rose faster than costs.

£3,000 from the 2024 Fete arrived in January 2025 so this is included in the 2025 Accounts. £2,500 was received for the 2025 Fete, bringing the 2025 total from the Fete to £5,500.

The 100 Club raised just over £600, Bonfire and Fireworks £299.

After including a couple of other events, our net Surplus from Donations and Events was £9,164.

Projects: During 2025, we paid for initial Engineering Designs for a vaulted ceiling. We installed a sign in the glass above the main doors.

The overall Surplus was £3,159, vs a 2024 Deficit of £3,714, clearly helped by the 'double' Fete contributions.

The Hall's financial reserves are strong, still substantially boosted by the Covid grants, therefore, we are budgeting to break even.

Froyle Village Hall									
Actual vs Budget 2025 - and 5 year averages, this year only 2024, 2023 and 2022 to remove Covid years.									
	Actual 2025	Budget 2025	2024/23/22 Average	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts	15,223	11,700	10,625	11,202	9,590	11,082	6,027	3,876	
Payments	- 18,730	- 14,345	- 14,503	- 16,456	- 16,987	- 10,067	- 9,264	- 5,533	
Operating Surplus/Deficit	- 3,507	- 2,645	- 3,878	- 5,254	- 7,397	1,015	- 3,238	- 1,656	
Donations, Fund Raising and Events	9,157	4,655	1,045	2,849	1,428	1,142	109	118	
Operating + Donations	5,650	2,010	- 2,833	- 2,405	- 5,969	- 126	- 3,346	- 1,774	
Projects - One-off/"Capital"	- 2,491	-	- 1,867	- 1,310	- 5,000	709	6,608	12,034	
Surplus - Grand Total	3,159	2,010	- 4,700	- 3,714	- 10,969	583	3,261	10,260	
Year End in Bank	20,786	19,637	23,759	17,627	21,341	32,310	31,727	28,465	

Book the Hall!

Sarah Zorab 01420 520361 bookings@froylevillagehall.co.uk
www.froylevillagehall.co.uk

FROYLE 100 CLUB – MARCH DRAW

The winners in the March 2026 draw were:

1st	Jo Wallis
2nd	Caroline Findlay
3rd	Linda Bulpitt
4th	Phil Roberts

William Knowles

Tel: 07775 928933, email: wbk@wbknowles.com

Calling all artists and would-be artists!

We are planning an exciting new art class starting in April at Froyle Village Hall on Monday afternoons

For more information please contact me.

Barbara Wheatley

barbara@thewheatleys.co.uk



SAVE THE DATE

FROYLE VILLAGE FÊTE AND FLOWER SHOW
SATURDAY 4 JULY 2025 – 1pm-4.30pm

We look forward to seeing you for the annual village fête and flower show...

We'll have the ever-popular Dog Show, kids' races, delicious barbeque and drinks, bouncy castle, stalls, raffle and other attractions.

Details to follow in future editions of the magazine.

We'd love your help! Anyone who wants to get involved, please get in touch with Charlie at charlie.baikie2@gmail.com



Froyle Gardening Club



Froyle Gardening Club

April from the Potting Shed

April and Eastertime are when we can get out into the garden and push on with all the jobs we have left off doing because of the bad weather in winter.

Moss on lawns should be showing reduction if moss killer was applied in March. Follow the instructions on the packet on how to proceed next and get new grass seed to fill in the bare areas. Having some good loam based soil handy to help cover the seed is also a good idea.

Work in the fruit and vegetable area will be going on. I will be looking out for any shoots on the early potatoes planted in the middle of March and covering them to protect from any frost. I will also be planting more potatoes during April as well. Broad beans and peas can be planted if you have sown them in cell trays or loo rolls. Sow beetroot, parsnips and carrots. I sow mine over a period of a month just in case the early sowings fail.

Annuals can be sown in the garden or in cell trays for planting out later. Sweet peas can be planted from earlier sowings. Tidy up herbaceous plants and mulch. If you need to split and divide up plants then do not forget to save some for the Club plant sales this spring and summer.

If like me you have not been so active in the garden this wet winter then make sure you do not go mad with gardening activities, and pace yourself. Mix up the strenuous activities with easier jobs so that you do not end up getting bad backs and sprained joints.

Geoff Hawkins

Remember Froyle Gardening Club night is now on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm

Wednesday 11 March – Garden Secrets: Katie Blanche

Katie opened the mysterious fascinating world of how plants work. She explained every aspect of plant life, including how they make food, why leaves change colour, why they need water, also plants may have feelings. It was surprising to hear that when we experience the wonderful smell of cut grass or a crushed leaf on a tomato plant, the plant is showing distress. So, talk nicely to all your plants to keep them happy!

Barbara Wheatley



**FREE
parking and
admission!**



Treloar's

The Friends of Treloar's **Plant Sale**

Treloar's, Holybourne, Alton, GU34 4GL

Saturday 9 May 2026

10.00am - 12.30pm



**Masses of brilliantly colourful
annuals and perennials**



Plants donated by local gardeners



Ask experts for help and advice



Joined by Phoenix Perennial Plants



**Amazing gifts made by Treloar's
students**



**Refreshments, raffle and joyful
brass band**



**Buy in the dry! Come and enjoy
whatever the weather**



Huge greenhouse packed with plants



**FREE children's
activities and meet
the animals from
Mill Cottage Farm!**

No dogs except assistance dogs

For more information: www.treloar.org.uk/events

T: 01420 547477 E: events@treloar.org.uk

Charity no. 1082857



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**



FROYLE WILDLIFE

Biodiversity in Froyle

The range of habitats and settings in Froyle supports a variety of wildlife, both rare and common; for example 565 plant and 36 butterfly species have been formally recorded. This biodiversity is locally appreciated, although there is concern regarding the loss of plant, bird and animal species in Hampshire and nationally.

Froyle has several protected and notable species of conservation concern, including:

- Several bat species, brown hare and hedgehog
- Skylark, linnet, yellowhammer, woodlark and kingfisher
- Great crested newt and common toad
- Grass snake, slow worm
- Small blue and silver-washed fritillary butterflies
- Sulphur pearl and cinnabar moths
- White and violet helleborines
- Fine-leaved sandwort.



Small blue butterfly



Mating toads

Some of these species are only just hanging on, hence the need for careful management of their habitat. On a positive note, we are seeing species that until 25 years ago were seldom seen in Froyle, including the red kite and raven.

So do encourage nature into your own garden. Let your lawn grow long like a meadow, leave an untidy corner for bugs and insects, add a pond or an area with flowers for bees and remember 'weeds' are our native wild flowers.

Froyle Wildlife has received an EHDC councillor grant for biodiversity enhancements on Froyle recreation ground. The grant is for bird nest boxes, a large 'Bee and Insect hotel', and wildflower plantings. Volunteers plan to install these in the coming month, so do contact me if you can help.

The nest boxes on trees provide more nesting places for small birds such as great tit, sparrows and nuthatch. The 'hotel' provides solitary bees, pollinators and insects with a sheltered habitat that can be also be seen. The plantings of bulbs such as snowdrops in the shade of deciduous trees should provide seasonal interest. These new items supplement the existing wildflower plots, living willow dome and native tree plantings.

Bee & insect hotel - 4' tall



Date for your diary, see www.froylewildlife.co.uk/news/

- Keith Betton will be leading a bird walk around Froyle on 2 May, starting at 7.30am, for approximately 2-2.5 hours. As anyone will know that has accompanied Keith on a previous bird walk, he has amazing knowledge of birds, and his walks are always very interesting.

Volunteer activities: Many thanks to those who helped to trim the living willow dome last month on the recreation ground. The prolific growth in one year was a challenge to cut and then to tie in side shoots. Some of the cuttings up to 10 ft long have been used to start new living willow elsewhere and shorter cuttings for weaving.

Do join us to help maintain the wildlife pond area and surrounding meadow near Gid Lane on the following Saturdays.

- 28 March 2pm-4pm Mow paths and trim vegetation
- 18 April 2pm-4pm Mow paths - weed and sycamore seedlings

For more information contact info@froylewildlife.co.uk, phone 01420 23520 or just turn up at one of the activities.

'Amphibian and Reptile' talk

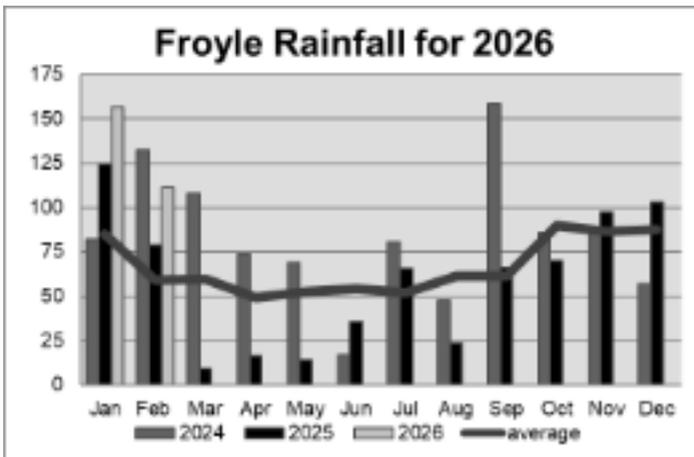
At the end of February, we heard a talk by Pete West from Hampshire's amphibian and reptile conservation group (HIWARG). Features to identify species are free to download from www.arguk.org/info-advice/id-guides. Froyle has common toads and frogs plus recent evidence of non-native pool frogs that have distinctive calls. The grass snake and slow worm are sometimes seen in Froyle gardens or sunny roadside verges. Smooth newts and Great Crested newts are found in or near ponds in Froyle

HIWARG focuses on conservation of native UK species essentially around habitat management, surveying, public engagement, volunteer training and doing as much as possible to understand and protect the native species in the county. Pete West is the Amphibian Officer and has carried out surveys locally at seven ponds in Froyle. In the last 15 years there have been a number of newly constructed ponds in Froyle with some in gardens and fields. Work has also started to restore an historic dew pond. These ponds help to increase local biodiversity and provide habitat for species such as amphibians and dragonflies.

Barry Clark

Froyle Rainfall for February, 2026

This year	111 mm	4.4 ins
Last year	79 mm	3.1 ins
Wettest February (1990)	157 mm	6.2 ins
Driest February (1993)	5 mm	0.2 ins
Long-term average for February – the 5 th wettest month	60.3 mm	2.4 ins
Total rainfall for the year so far	267.5 mm	10.5 ins
Long-term average for the year so far	145.2 mm	5.7 ins



I mentioned last month how much wetter the four winter months (October – January) had become this decade – some 20% higher on average than the previous 40 years. February has continued this trend: only 4 times since 1978 have we had more rainfall in the second month of the year; and further, the long-term average for February 10 years ago was 56.1 mm; it is now more than 60.



“The Umbrella Man”

Birches and Besoms

Pretty, graceful silver birches, tossing their new green leaves and dancing in warm Spring breeze – what a lovely cheering sight! But don't be deceived – despite their delicate appearance, pollen records show that birches are among the oldest and hardiest of trees, and will grow higher up mountains than any other deciduous species.

We don't see many birch trees around Froyle – they are not native to our alkaline clay and chalk, preferring acid sandy soils. However, where they are at home, they are a 'pioneer' woodland species, rooting quickly in poor soils and open ground. Birch leaves are small and thin, so they rot down quickly (after a lovely autumn show of deep gold), and enrich the soil for more demanding species such as oak and beech to follow.

There are two varieties of birch native to Britain, the silver (*Betula pendula*) and the downy (*Betula pubescens*) and they crossbreed very freely to produce hybrids that have the characteristics of both.



Silver birch provides food and habitat for more than 300 insect species – the leaves attracting aphids which provide food for ladybirds and other species further up the food chain. The leaves are also a food plant for the caterpillars of many moths, including the angle-shades, buff tip, and Kentish glory. Birch trees are particularly associated with specific fungi, such as birch milk cap, birch brittlegill, birch knight, and the birch polypore (razor strop). Woodpeckers and other hole-nesting birds often nest in the trunk, while the seeds are eaten by siskins, greenfinches and redpolls.

Birch bark is light and waterproof, and peels easily away from the trunk, so it was much used by native Canadians to make the outer skins of canoes: Canada is still known to them as 'the land of Birch and Beaver'. In Britain, the smooth, heavy wood was once much used to make hardwearing bobbins, spools and reels for the Lancashire cotton industry.

In Celtic mythology the birch symbolised renewal and purification. Bundles of birch twigs were used to drive out the spirits of the old year, and clean sacred spaces. This tradition lives on in birch twig brooms (besoms), and in the christianised tradition of 'beating the bounds', still celebrated in some parishes. Birch or Beithe is the first tree of the Ogham, the Celtic tree alphabet.

Sue Lelliott, Froyle Tree Warden

ST MARY'S CHURCH NOTES

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



Church Wardens:

Simon Marshall 07734 214419
sm517@icloud.com

Jack Stephenson 01420 23216
romanhorse@hotmail.co.uk

Anna Friend: Sarah Roberts
07831 294852 sarahfroyle@gmail.com

Benefice Pastoral Care

Nick Carter 01420 489122
nick.carter1945@outlook.com

Anna Chaplain:

The Rev Fran Harrison 07765 058593
annachaplain@benbinfro.co.uk

APRIL SERVICES

Thursday 2 April Maundy Thursday	6.30pm Froyle	Choral Communion
Friday 3 April Good Friday	12 noon Binsted	Good Friday Reflection
Saturday 4 April	9.30am Froyle 9.00pm Bentley	Easter Garden Making Easter Night Vigil
Sunday 5 April Easter Day	6.15am Bentley 9.30am Bentley 9.30am Binsted 11.00am Froyle 11.00am Oakhanger	Sunrise Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion
Sunday 12 April	8.00am Binsted 9.30am Bentley 11.00am Froyle 6.00pm Kingsley	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship Holy Communion Praise

APRIL SERVICES (ctd)

Sunday 19 April	9.30am Froyle	Morning Worship
	11.00am Kingsley	Holy Communion
	4.00pm Froyle	Messy Church
Sunday 26 April	9.30am Bentley	Holy Communion & Children's Church
	11.00am Binsted	Morning Worship
	6.30pm Froyle	Choral Evensong

St Mary's News

This year, our Mothering Sunday service was a little different, with a shorter format and children's activities including posy making taking place at the back. This seemed to work; the service was well attended and well received.

The following weekend, many in the benefice were at the church Weekend Away, and the only service was Froyle's evening service, unusually, a sung Eucharist.

We do not have to look far ahead to Easter, with Palm Sunday on 29 March. As the fifth Sunday of the month, this means it will be a joint benefice service in Binsted.

Lent then ends with our Maundy Thursday service at 6.30pm on 2 April. This is a solemn and moving service that includes the (optional) washing of feet by our clergy and the stripping of the altar.

In contrast, on Saturday 4 April at 10.00am, we expect fun with our traditional Easter Garden making and egg hunt, also including coffee, tea, croissants and hot cross buns for grown-ups – to be held entirely outside, weather permitting. See page 19. On Sunday 19 April, we are hosting Messy Church at Froyle Church, 4 – 6 pm. Do come and say hello; we love welcoming new faces.

And don't forget the Car Boot Sale on 25 April at the Village Hall/Recreation Ground (see page 18).

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

On a more formal note, we will be holding our APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) on Wednesday 29 April at the Church, 6.30 for 7.00 pm. Please make a note in your diary. Refreshments will be available.

Jack Stephenson
Churchwarden

THE VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE

Flags have become a major talking point over the last 6 months, with many supporting the “Raise the Flag” movement. The flag of England is the famous St. George’s Cross, of a red cross on a white background, and it is a flag with a rich history but which also stirs controversy. St. George, the patron saint of England, is celebrated on 23 April and is honoured by many countries, cities and territories around the world. His story is a mix of history and legend.

The most famous story about St. George is his defeat of the dragon. The medieval legend is that a dragon terrorised a country and was only appeased by the people by offering human sacrifice. St. George meets a princess who had been chosen to be the next victim; moved by her tears, he fights and defeats the dragon and saves the country.

St. George was, by tradition, a soldier and a member of the Praetorian guard, the personal bodyguards of the household of Caesar. He was martyred for his faith under the anti-Christian persecutions of Diocletian. As a soldier-martyr he caught the imagination of many Christians in the Middle Ages, who valued his bravery and sacrifice. The story of the dragon was much later and reflects the ideas of chivalry, but also significant Christian themes.

St George’s Day comes a couple of weeks after Easter this year. Christians celebrate the sacrifice of Jesus for the sins of the world, that God himself lived among us and laid down his life to save us. In the book of Revelation, Satan is portrayed as a dragon seeking to destroy Jesus. Jesus describes the whole work and agenda of Satan as “to steal, kill and destroy” all that God has made and loves. As Jesus is betrayed, arrested, tortured and killed, Satan believes that he has won and is secure as prince of the earth.

Yet, on Easter Sunday, the tomb is empty and Jesus is alive. He has broken death and defeated all that was thrown against him. He in turn “leads captivity captive” and will destroy all the works of the evil one. Jesus defeats the dragon, the enemy of life, so we can be set free if we believe and trust in his death and resurrection.

The flag of St. George is a martyrs’ flag, showing he died for his faith in the one who restores all things and rescues us. It is a fitting flag for a nation that believes in God and in the unconquerable love of God. May we live up to these values.

A very happy Easter to you all

Matt Boyes

Rector of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle

Easter 2026

Palm Sunday

Sunday 29th March



11am Benefice Holy Communion at Binsted

Maundy Thursday

Thursday 2nd April



6:30pm Choral Service at Froyle

Good Friday

Friday 3rd April



12pm Good Friday Reflection at Binsted

Easter Saturday

Saturday 4th April



10am Easter Garden Making at Froyle

9pm Easter Night Vigil at Bentley

Easter Sunday

Sunday 5th April



6:15am Sunrise Holy Communion at Bentley

9:30am Holy Communion at Bentley

9:30am Holy Communion at Binsted

11am Holy Communion at Froyle

11am Holy Communion at Oakhanger



St Mary's Church, Froyle

We shall be decorating the church for Easter on

Saturday 4 April from 9.30 am.

We would welcome as many as possible to come and help us fill the church with Spring Flowers. Decorated crosses, baskets or other containers of flowers will be most welcome.

There are lots of baskets of various sizes in the church. Either bring an arrangement or help us to organise the decorations that arrive. All flowers and foliage gratefully received.

We look forward to seeing you.

Coffee will be available!

Many thanks

Gill Bradley 520484



Car Boot & Fresh Village Produce

Saturday 25 April 2026, 9.30 – 12 noon

Froyle Recreation Ground & Village Hall

We go again! This will be the 4th year of holding a Car Boot in Froyle. We hope the weather is kind and you use the opportunity to sell some vintage treasures to earn some extra pocket money, and find time to shop too!

Fresh produce, tombola and raffle donations will be very gratefully received. *Please note we do not take jumble or electrical goods.*

Contact Janet Dobson (23340) if you can donate plants and spring seedlings, Sally Turvill (23289) with promises of homemade biscuits, bread, cakes, chutneys and jams, Jane Macnabb (23195) for bric-a-brac and Lauraine Bourne (22159) for books/games. Lori Taylor (22148) would like contributions for the tombola stall, and Sarah Zorab (250361) for the raffle.

Sarah Roberts (520041)

Julie Southern (520620)



Froyle Church



CAR BOOT

+ FRESH VILLAGE PRODUCE

Saturday 25 April

9.30 - 12 noon

Froyle Rec & Village Hall
GU34 4LG

(Gates open from 9.00am for stall holders)

Car boot pitches plus children's playground and loos

Village Hall will host fresh produce from the

local community including

homemade bread, cakes, jams, plants

+ spring seedlings, books

Café serving breakfast baps, sausage

+ veggie rolls, hot drinks

£10 per car vehicle/pitch for sellers

£1 for adults, 50p for children (includes free drink voucher)

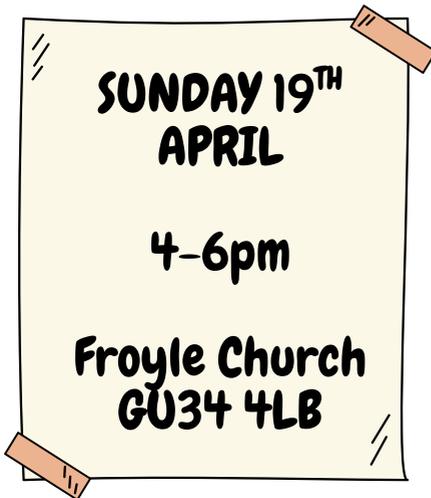


Messy Church celebrates faith with creativity and hospitality.

Join us for an afternoon of fun, crafts, activities, mess, singing and Bible stories!

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

All families are welcome!



**ST MARY'S CHURCH, FROYLE
INVITE YOU TO A.....**

**SEA SHANTY EVENING
WITH THE
KINGSPOND SEA SHANTY MEN**

FRIDAY 8TH MAY - 7 PM



Enjoy a rollicking good musical evening in the Church with wine and seaside refreshments in the interval.

**Suggested donation £15 per person
(under 12's free)**

**FOR CATERING PURPOSES
Please let us know if you plan to come
by either:**

Emailing : Karen Potter (kwilson2525@btinternet.com)

or

Calling: Linda Bulpitt 01420 22725

FROYLE OPEN GARDENS (FOG 26)

Saturday and Sunday 6-7 June 2026

Last month I attended a lunch for the owners of gardens in Hampshire who open for the National Garden Scheme (NGS). It was a jolly event. Awards were handed out for long service: 40 years was the record! I was pleased to receive an award on behalf of Vivienne and John Sexton who have clocked up ten years in their lovely garden in Husseys Lane. Mark Porter the county organiser took the opportunity to praise the whole village operation in Froyle where we are among the top money raisers. Last year the NGS donated an amazing £3,875,596 to a wide range of health and gardening charities. What is really impressive is the impact when converted into hours of hospice nursing care, the funding of community gardens and the support of individual people. There is a full report here: <https://ngs.org.uk/app/uploads/2025/12/2025-Impact-Report-pages.pdf>. Do have a look.

This year nine gardens will be opening over the weekend 6-7 June from 1.30 to 6pm, two in Upper Froyle and seven in Lower Froyle. We are holding the ticket price at £10 with children under 11 free. If there is too much to see on Saturday you can come back free on Sunday!

So this is a first call for volunteers. If you helped last year, please make a note of the date and let us know about your availability. If you haven't been involved before, please join in. The more volunteers we get the shorter the shifts. We need help with parking and stewarding. Visitors always comment on the friendly greeting they get on arrival. We need help with catering in the village hall including yet more cake baking. A large chunk of the money we raise comes from donations for teas. The same is true for plant sales. If it is in a pot our visitors will buy it. So, start propagating now. We need help with promotion. Our visitors come from far and wide. So there is a real job to be done here. Do have a look at our website at www.froyleopengardens.org.uk where you can still see the video we made during lockdown.

Next year is the centenary of the NGS. It started in 1927 to raise money for district nursing by exploiting the national obsession with gardening. Sir Thomas Combe Miller opened his garden as did Winston Churchill at a shilling a head. Plans to celebrate the centenary are progressing. There is talk of a service in Westminster Abbey and almost certainly there will be plenty of publicity. It would be wonderful if in Froyle we could increase the number of gardens opening for visitors for this centenary year. Or at least replace the gardens which for whatever reason are no longer able to keep opening. I understand it is a daunting prospect but one which can be enormously rewarding. Size doesn't matter. Visible enthusiasm for your garden does. Given the trend to wilder gardens, perfection is not important. Weeds don't matter. Love does.

If you would like to discuss what is involved in opening, please contact me or any of the other open garden owners. Similarly, if you have ideas for how we make the centenary special, do let me know.

Nick Whines 01420 23130 info@froyleopengardens.org.uk

Law changes strengthen protection for livestock

Have you heard that The Dogs (Protection of Livestock) (Amendment) Act 2025 came into force on 18 March 2026? It updates the Dogs (Protection of Livestock) Act 1953, clarifying the distinction between worrying, and attacking, livestock, and giving farmers greater protection when their livestock is worried or attacked.

There are several changes including the introduction of new powers for the police enabling them to seize and detain dogs and investigate whether they may have worried or attacked livestock; the changes also allow for an unlimited fine where previously the maximum was £1,000.

The law strengthens the tools available to police and the courts so they can respond more effectively when incidents happen.

This change to the law is not about restricting dog walking. It is about making sure people can continue to enjoy the countryside while keeping livestock safe, protecting animal welfare and supporting the work farmers do every day.

[Here](#) is a link to the Government's Farming blog which provides more background and detail.

Rupert MacInnes
07920 010623

Looking for another television?

We have a TV and DVD/HDD recorder needing a kind home. Not the biggest, or the latest tech, but "smart" and well-looked after.

They are

TV: Panasonic LED TX-40ES500B

DVD/HDD Panasonic DMR-EX773EBK

Cables and remote controls included.

Donation to St Michael's Hospice, Basingstoke, please, in lieu of payment.

Thank you

Jonathan Pickering
Warren Cottage, Lower Froyle
07808 143858



Life Beyond the Classroom at Bentley Primary School

At Bentley Primary School we believe that learning does not stop at the classroom door. We are incredibly proud of the wide range of opportunities we offer our children to enrich their experiences, develop new skills and create lasting memories.

One of the things that makes our school particularly special is that we are fortunate enough to have two school minibuses. This allows our pupils to regularly get out into the wider world and bring their learning to life. Our trips range from outdoor adventures at Hogmoor to educational visits such as Pizza Express, where children can learn about food and cooking. We have also enjoyed exciting trips further afield, including Marwell Zoo and even Legoland. Having our own minibuses also means we can keep the cost of trips as low as possible for families, as hiring coaches can significantly increase the price for parents. These experiences help children connect their classroom learning with the real world while having lots of fun along the way.

Back at school, we offer a fantastic range of after-school clubs for all year groups, from Year R through to Year 6. There really is something for everyone. Pupils can explore their interests through clubs such as Magic Club, Science Club and Art Club, or take part in one of our many sporting activities. These clubs provide a wonderful opportunity for children to discover new passions, build confidence and spend time with friends.

We are also pleased to support busy families through our extended wraparound care. Our provision runs from 7.45am until 6.00pm each day, offering both a breakfast club and an after-school club. Children enjoy a variety of food and activities in a safe and welcoming environment, and our prices are very reasonable to ensure the service is accessible for families.

At Bentley Primary School we are committed to providing opportunities that help every child thrive, both inside and outside the classroom. We are incredibly proud of the welcoming community we have built and the many experiences our pupils enjoy throughout the school year.

Vicky Hallett
Headteacher, Bentley School

Waverley Singers

St Lawrence Church, Alton

Sat 27 June 2026

7pm

Crowning Glory

Join us for an evening of magnificent coronation music featuring Mozart's Coronation Mass and much more.



SOPRANO - BETH STIRLING MEZZO SOPRANO - NIAMH KEARNEY

TENOR - JACOB COLE BASS - WILLIAM JOWETT

ORGAN - PHILIP SCRIVEN CONDUCTOR - RICHARD PEARCE

ticketsource.co.uk/waverleysingers



£17 in advance, £19 on the door

£5 students

u16 free subject to conditions



Retiring collection in aid of Treloar's





Personalised, Relationship-Led Care in your Community

At Home Instead, we support older adults across Hampshire with care that's personal, consistent and unhurried.

Our Care Professionals are carefully matched and given the time to build real relationships, offering support with daily routines, companionship, outings, home help, specialist dementia care and many other needs.

We keep our teams small so families know exactly who is visiting, and every care plan is shaped around the individual – their routines, preferences and what matters most to them.

As part of the local community, we work closely with charities, wellbeing groups and local partners to help people stay connected and supported. Whether it's a friendly chat or practical help, we're here to make life at home safer, easier and more enjoyable.

Contact us today to discuss how we can help you, we're always happy to talk.



01420 543214



Physiotherapy

In the centre of Bentley
by

Pippa Blizzard

Chartered Physiotherapist
MCSP HCPC BAHT AACP

physiotherapy@pippa-blizzard.co.uk 07714 239644 www.pippa-blizzard.co.uk 

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?

Or indeed services you can offer, or are trying to find?

Just email your text - and photo if you have one - to froylemageditor@gmail.com.



What's On At The Anchor



Exciting change in Management!

We are delighted to welcome Kevin as our new GM: with his wealth of knowledge in all things Hospitality we can't wait to see how he and the team continue to make The Anchor a successful community minded pub, and we wish him all the luck in his new position.

Monthly Quiz Night

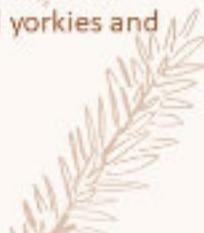
Join us on Thursday 2 April for our free quiz night, maximum tables of 6, booking essential.

Easter weekend

Bring the family along and take part in our easter egg hunt trail (there's also a beer hunt for the grown ups!), pop in to pick up a map of the local walk

Epic Sunday Roasts

Prime cuts of responsibly sourced meat, fluffy crisp potatoes, seasonal vegetables and unlimited yorkies and gravy!!



Professional Foot Care, Right in Your Community

Gentle, respectful treatment for:

- Diabetic foot health checks
- Corns, calluses and hard skin
- Fungal nails and athlete's foot
- Nail trimming and ingrown toenails
- Verrucas (children and adults)
- Foot pain, bunions and plantar fasciitis
- Recovery after injury or surgery
- Routine foot maintenance to stay comfortable

Supporting your **mobility, comfort and independence** — one step at a time.
Appointments held locally in village halls. No long NHS waits. No need to travel to town.

DBS checked • Qualified Foot Health Practitioner and Injury Rehab Specialist

Joanna DipFH BSc (Hons) ☎ 01420 343 130 ✉ Joanna@BalancedBodiesSport.com

The Foot Health Clinic by Balanced Bodies
Bringing expert care to the heart of your community

Fine Framing

Picture Framers

4 Weyside Park Newman Lane

Alton GU34 2PJ

Tel: 01420 82324

Email: info@fine-framing.co.uk

Opening Times:

Tuesday-Friday 9.30am-5.00pm

Saturday 10.00am-12 noon

Closed Monday

- Domestic / Commercial Wiring
- Fuse Board / Consumer Unit Upgrades
- LED Lighting & Fixtures
- Sockets & Smoke Alarms
- PAT Testing & Fault Finding
- Inspection & Testing
- New or Refurbished Builds
- Earthing & Bonding
- Electrical Surveys
- **All Work Guaranteed & Fully Insured**



Get in touch for your free estimate today:

Tel: 07917680479 (24 hrs)

info@e-tekelectrical.com

www.e-tekelectricalservices.co.uk



RACHEL'S HOMEOPATHY

NEW ALTON CLINIC

"Homeopathy restoring your health naturally"

Treating physical and emotional symptoms of asthma, hay fever, depression, anxiety, skin conditions, arthritis, menopause and hormonal imbalance, pregnancy, migraine, IBS, chronic fatigue and many more.

RACHEL CHANCELLOR, RSHom. (Registered Homeopath)

Appointments: 07766-524 877 or rachel@rachelshomeopathy.co.uk

www.rachelshomeopathy.co.uk

Registered member of



Society of Homeopaths



athertongreenart
Creating vibrant contemporary collections

Be inspired by our unique collection of contemporary art including paintings, prints, sculptures and ceramics by a selection of artists in our gallery at Farrington Place.

Open: March 20th-22nd
April 10th-12th and 23rd-25th 11am-4pm
Other dates and times by appointment

Art Gallery: Atherton Green Art is situated in a lovely Victorian home in the village of Farrington in Hampshire and brings the exciting talents of a select group of emerging and mid career artists to collectors and new buyers of art.

'Whether you want to start a collection, build a collection or commission a piece of art, we are here to help'

Work is available online at www.athertongreen.art

+44 (0) 7890 098 036
sue@athertongreen.art
[@athertongmart](https://www.instagram.com/athertongmart)

Farrington Place Church Road, Upper Farrington, Alton Hampshire, GU34 3EH

The Beehive Montessori pre-school.
Settings in the villages of Shalden and Lindford
Providing high quality education in a nurturing environment
with experienced staff.



Funding for 2, 3 and 4 years available.
For further information call Annette or Jan 07795 270184
or join our Facebook pages.
www.beehive-alton.co.uk



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 private terrace which offers beautiful views across open fields.

There is a generous bedroom with a super-king sized bed (two singles can be arranged on request), comfortable sitting room, together with a small but very well-equipped kitchen and a luxury shower room.

Fresh bread and milk, juices, jams, cereals and yoghurts will be provided for your breakfast along with a selection of teas and coffees.

Consistently awarded 'guest favourites' on Airbnb.

Contact Alice for further information on
07768 465233 or ghinns@gmail.com
Instagram @acornsbnb

Pilates with Tegan

CLASSES FOR ALL ABILITIES

£10

PER CLASS

£50

6 CLASS
BUNDLE

SAVE £10

Monday

9:30

Intermediate

10:30

Gentle

Pilates

Froyle Village
Hall

Wednesday

9:30

Mixed ability
class

Bentley
Primary School

Friday

9:15

Mixed ability
class

Wickham Institute
Binsted

GET IN TOUCH



07761209998



teganhansensa@gmail.com

R. A. CROFT LTD
*Bespoke
Building & Joinery*



All Aspects of Building Work Undertaken

01420 521152

Listed Buildings	Refurbishments
Extensions	General Maintenance
New Houses	Registered House Builder

*Unit 2F, Blacknest Industrial Park, Blacknest Road,
Alton, Hampshire GU34 4PX
Email: info@racroftltd.co.uk*

R. A. CROFT JOINERY
*Bespoke
Building & Joinery*



*We are proud to announce that we have now merged with
Bentley Joinery*

- Windows
- Staircase.
- Doors
- Bespoke Projects
- Bespoke Furniture
- Mouldings

*Unit 2F, Blacknest Industrial Park, Blacknest Road, Alton,
Hampshire GU34 4PX
T: 01420 521152
E: info@racroftltd.co.uk*



**DOWNIE &
GADBAN**

Solicitors & Notary Public
Est. 1905



Residential Conveyancing - Wills - Power of Attorney - Probate - Commercial Property - Property Development - Dispute Resolution

Instant conveyancing quotes available on our website
www.downieandgadban.co.uk

Why Choose Us?

We pride ourselves on being friendly, approachable and professional. We have been in our current building at the end of the High Street in Alton (close to M&S, The Ivy House and The White Horse) since 1962 and have been serving generations of families in the Alton area since 1905.

To discuss how any of our team could help you please give us a call and we will be happy to discuss your requirements.

Tel: 01420 82879

Email: info@downieandgadban.co.uk

Website: www.downieandgadban.co.uk

Andrew Wood

Heating and Plumbing Engineer



Gas Safe No. 15316

- BOILER CHANGES
- BOILER SERVICING
- POWER FLUSHING
- CENTRAL HEATING SYSTEMS
- GAS INSTALLATIONS
- GENERAL PLUMBING

For free estimates or advice telephone **Bentley (01420) 22637**

Paul Pascall

Painter and Decorator
Estimates and References
Available

01252 328965 Evenings
07803 723530 Daytime

Advertising rates 2026/2027

Our costs have increased over the year and so we have increased our rates a little, to help defray the costs of production and printing. The new rates are:

For Froyle businesses: £41+VAT/year, £25+VAT/half year for advertisements of **up to half a page/a third of a page on inside covers.**

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.

*** ❖ ***

PAX HILL Care Home

*** ❖ ***



Provides the highest level of care, stunning accommodation with beautiful views and excellent facilities.

There are four separate care environments, enabling residents to share their lives with those of similar needs.



PAX HILL

*** ❖ ***

01420 525882 | www.paxhill.co.uk
Bentley, Farnham, Surrey GU10 5NG

Village Events April 2026

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
			1	2 <i>Garden Waste</i>	3 <i>1000-1200 Meeting place</i>	4 <i>0930 Easter garden making</i>
5 <i>1100 HC</i>	6 <i>Recycling & Glass</i>	7	8 <i>1930 Gardening Club</i>	9	10 <i>1000-1200 Meeting place</i>	11 <i>0830 Fun Run & 10k</i>
12 <i>1100 HC</i> <i>1600-1800 Life drawing</i>	13 <i>Rubbish</i>	14	15 <i>1900 VHC AGM & PC General meeting</i>	16 <i>Garden Waste</i>	17 <i>1000-1200 Meeting place</i>	18 <i>1400-1600 Froyle Wildlife at Gid Lane pond</i>
19 <i>0930 Morning Worship</i> <i>1600 Messy Church</i>	20 <i>Recycling & Glass</i>	21 <i>1000-1200 Life drawing</i>	22	23	24 <i>1000-1200 Meeting place</i>	25 <i>0930-1200 Car boot sale</i>
26	27 <i>Rubbish</i>	28	29	30 <i>Garden waste</i>		

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

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  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  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 Noticeboard*
Froyle on Instagram *#froylevillage @froylevillage*

Key:  Telephone  Email  Facebook  WhatsApp

MAY DEADLINE: FRIDAY 17 APRIL 2026

For Notes to Contributors, please see page 35.