

THE BENTLEY
BUGLE



COMMUNITY & CHURCH NEWS



ISSUE 102 DECEMBER 2024 JANUARY 2025





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Saturday 6pm - 10pm

Sunday 12pm - 3pm

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www.thecasepubbentley.co.uk

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The Bugle Team would like to wish all readers and businesses a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



We also give many thanks to the kind sponsors who have generously donated to the printing costs for future issues of the Bentley Bugle.

If you want to view a digital version of the Bugle these are uploaded to the Parish Council website - see bentleysuffolkparishcouncil.gov.uk/the-bentley-bugle/

Front cover

Crossing Cottage, Church Road in Winter by Bob Mawkes

If you have any suitable photos for future issues, please forward to Christine at christine.bugle@gmail.com

COPY FOR THE FEBRUARY - MARCH 2025 ISSUE SHOULD REACH CHRISTINE BY NOON ON WEDNESDAY 22ND JANUARY 2025. Copy can be submitted either on paper or electronically (preferred). Please try to ensure that any copy submitted electronically is in a standard format e.g. .doc, .docx, txt, .jpg, .png, or .pdf and the preferred font is Arial 14pt.

Bentley Directory

PARISH, DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILS

Parish Council - Chair	Marianne Munday	07808 259331
Parish Council - Clerk	Joy Scott	01206 298174
Babergh District Councillor	David Busby	07855 777147
County Councillor	Georgia Hall	07955 434445

BENTLEY ORGANISATIONS AND CLUBS

Bentley Primary School (Headteacher)	Jo Austin	01473 310253
(Chair Governors)	Simon Hurst simon.hurst@copdock.suffolk.sch.uk	
(Chair PTA)	Sarah Hawley	07894 294319
Bentley Community Pub	Kate Spicer	01473 314187
Bentley Comrades	Ray Savage	01473 311122
Bentley Community Stores	Bob Feltwell	01473 310182
Bowls Club	Lillian Calvert	01473 808652
Carpet Bowls	Jill Mills	01473 311103
Case Book Group	Sandie Utton	01473 328241
Footpath Society	John Wheals	01473 310569
Footpath Warden	Tim Hamstead	07748 821594
Friends of St Mary's	Bob Feltwell	01473 310735
Horticultural Society	Mark Usher	01473 310322
Maritime Football Club	Jon Haines	08442 023130
Parent and Toddler Group	Pam Rayment	07970 741581
Recorders	Moira Usher	01473 310322
Scrabble Club	Robin Owen	01473 311844
Tree Warden	Colin Hawes	01473 310678
Tuesday Club	Veronica Howe	01473 310344
	Catherine Sweeney	01473 310095
Village Hall - Bookings	Veronica Howe	01473 310344
	Mark Usher	01473 310322
Village History Recorder	Nicky Moxey	01473 313125
Whist Club	Veronica Howe	01473 310344
Womens Institute	Emma Finney-Hewitson	07485 017293

ST MARY'S CHURCH, BENTLEY

Rector	Rev'd Chris Willis	
Benefice Administrator	Michelle Jowers	07955 329341
Benefice email address	michelle@constablebenefice.org	
Churchwarden	Tom Hill	01473 311119
Assistant Priest	Revd Don Mehen	01473 310383

BENTLEY BAPTIST CHURCH ADMIN 07814 465222

Bentley Parish Council website - <http://bentleysuffolkparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

Bentley (in Suffolk) Community Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/292599697915731/>

Other village websites are listed in the publication.

Parish Diary

DECEMBER 2024

- 3rd - Tuesday Club - The George, Hintlesham 12 for 12.30 pm
- 4th - Comrades - Village Hall - Blackmore Room at 7.30 pm
- 4th - Whist Drive - Village Hall from 7.30-9.00 pm
- 5th - Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall from 7.30 pm
- 7th - Food Vendor - Suffolk Spice Fusion - Case is Altered - 5-8 pm
- 11th - Bentley Bluebells WI - Village Hall at 7.30 pm
- 12th - Scrabble Club - Village Hall Blackmore Room at 2.30 pm
- 12th - Open Mic Night - Case is Altered at 8.00 pm
- 13th - Mulled Wine Coffee and Carols - Village Hall at 7.00 pm
- 17th - Tuesday Club - Village Hall at 2.30 pm
- 20th - Horticultural Society - Village Hall at 7.30 pm
- 21st - Christmas Raffle Draw - Case is Altered at 8 pm
- 22nd - Carols at the Case - Case is Altered at 4.00 pm

JANUARY 2025

- 1st - Footpath Society Walk - from the Case is Altered at 10.30 am
- 8th - Comrades - Village Hall Blackmore Room at 7.30 pm
- 8th - Bentley Bluebells WI - Village Hall at 7.30 pm
- 9th & 23rd - Scrabble Club - Village Hall Blackmore Room at 2.30 pm
- 9th - Parish Council meeting - Village Hall from 7.30 pm
- 9th - Open Mic Night - Case is Altered at 8.00 pm
- 14th & 28th - Tuesday Club - Village Hall at 2.30 pm
- 15th - Community Lunch - Case is Altered from 12 pm
- 15th - Whist Drive - Village Hall from 7.30-9.00 pm
- 16th - Village Hall AGM at 7.30 pm
- 17th - Horticultural Society - Village Hall at 7.30 pm
- 18th - Food Vendor - Dolly's Pizzas - Case is Altered - 5-8 pm
- 25th - Monthly Quiz - Case is Altered at 8.00 pm

Other Activities in the Village

- Toddler Group - Mon & Weds 9.30 am to 12 noon (Term Time only) - Village Hall
- Holistic Yoga - Every Mon 7.30 - 10.00 pm - Village Hall
- Aerobics Class - Tuesday 9.45 am (Term Time only) - Village Hall
- Pilates Class - Tuesday 11.00 am to noon (Term Time only) - Village Hall (contact Jill Sharp for information - 01473 311546)
- Carpet Bowls - Every Tues 7.30 pm & Weds 2.30 pm - Village Hall
- Coffee at the Case - Every Friday between 10.30 and 12.00

BENTLEY VILLAGE AT CHURCH NEWS

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR SERVICES

SERVICES IN DECEMBER 2024

Sunday 1 st	10am Connect at Bentley with Rev Chris Willis
Sunday 8 th	10am Christingle Service
Sunday 15 th	10am Carol Service & 9 lessons
Sunday 22 nd	10am Morning Worship with Communion
Tuesday 24 th	3pm Crib Service
Wednesday 25 th	10am Christmas Day Worship and Communion Service

SERVICES IN JANUARY 2025

Sunday 5 th	10am Connect at Tattingstone with Rev Chris Willis
Sunday 12 th	10am Morning Worship with Communion
Sunday 19 th	10am Morning Worship
Sunday 26 th	10am Morning Worship with Communion



Christingle Service



**10am Sunday 8th
December**

Come and meet St Nicholas and bring him gifts for homeless families. The collection during the service will be for The Children's Society. Please let Sandra know by Thursday 5th December if you are coming so we have enough Christingles



Carol Service and 9 lessons



10am Sunday 15th December

Come and hear the familiar readings and sing carols as we prepare to celebrate Christmas and the birth of Jesus our Saviour

Mulled Wine, Coffee and Carols

Sing familiar Carols and hear some light-hearted Christmas Readings. You will be welcomed with a glass of mulled wine or fruit juice and there will be coffee and mince pies in the interval. **Friday 13th December at 7pm Bentley Village Hall only £4, accompanied children free.**

There will be also be a raffle draw. Donation of prizes appreciated.

Crib Service - for children of all ages!



Tuesday 24th December at 3pm



Come and help us tell the Christmas Story
Dress up as your favourite person in the story
an angel or a shepherd, Mary or Joseph, a king or even the grumpy inn keeper!!

Christmas Day Worship and Communion Service

At Bentley Church on Christmas morning at 10 am

Led by Rev Chris Willis

**Please join us for this very special service as we celebrate
and give thanks for the birth of our Saviour**

SUNDAY SERVICES

If you would like to help at one of our services by reading the Bible or leading prayers please let us know. New voices are always welcome. Please speak to Jane Day, Ken Felgate or Sandra Mehen. Thank you.

EAST VILLA

Continued thanks for the donations of towels and bedding that we take regularly to East Villa for those made homeless. They are always very gratefully received. Please feel free to contact Sandra on 01473 310383 or leave donations on our doorstep at 19 The Link. Thank you, your generosity is much appreciated.

We are also hoping to take small, unwrapped Christmas gifts for both adults and children this year so they do not feel forgotten as others celebrate Christmas. Gifts can be left at 19 The Link or at church on a Sunday. Please may we have all gifts by Sunday 15th December so we have time to deliver them.

ST MARY'S CHURCH, BENTLEY

It costs £300 a week to keep your beautiful and historic church open. One way to support us is by giving via this QR code using your smartphone. There is also a link in the church building. Thank you for your support. It means a great deal to us as we try to keep the Church in good repair.



Church Contact Details for weddings, baptisms and funerals or other queries

Church Warden – Tom Hill – 01473 311119
Rector Constable Country Benefice - The Rev. Chris Willis
Assistant Priest – Rev Don Mehen – 01473 310383
Administrator – Michelle Jowers michelle@constablebenefice.org
Treasurer – Ken Felgate - k.felgate108@btinternet.com
PCC Secretary – Sandra Mehen – 01473 310383

BENTLEY CARPET BOWLS

Five matches have been played since our return to the 1st Division and we have made a very promising start. Our first game against Barking at home was a close affair but we eventually lost 4-6. Elmsett away were our next opponents and this was a bit disappointing as we lost 2-8 in a game in which we should have got more.

In our next match versus Copdock & Washbrook at home we recovered from losing the first two carpets to win the next two to record a 6-4 win. Against champions of last season Claydon at home a team of 10 county players we played very well and only lost by 4-6. Our last game against Hintlesham & Chattisham at home and we really excelled recording an 8-2 success. We were drawn against Copdock & Washbrook in the Joe Rice cup which is played over two legs. The home leg was won by 7-3 and we play the return match next week. Our last two matches of the year are against Chelmondiston and Belstead away.

Our pairs competition was held recently at the Village Hall after a delicious lunch provided by the committee. Six pairs played in a round robin tournament and after all the matches were played there were three pairs on four wins. Therefore shots were taken into account after which Colin Rose and Sandra Mehen were declared the winners. A thoroughly enjoyable afternoon. **David Howe**

TUESDAY CLUB

I can't believe that we have almost reached the end in 2024 and this is our last entry for this year. I hope that our Members have enjoyed the entertainment and speakers we have had throughout the year.

Josie from J Candles brought a selection of candles made by her. She let members into the secret of her making them and there were candles for members to purchase. Our next meeting was a games afternoon where board games and curling was enjoyed by all. Unfortunately Frazier our Chair Aerobics Teacher informed us that he could not continue due to work commitments. We are now looking for someone to take his place. It would be 5/6 times throughout the year for one hour at a time, if you know of such a person who would be willing to take over from Frazier please contact me.

Sonya was due to give a talk on Drought Gardening but due to illness she was unable to attend. Fortunately Kevin Pigney, Photographer was able to step in at the last moment. Pip Wright gave a very interesting talk 'It happened here in Suffolk'.

In the last few weeks before the end of the year our Christmas Lunch will be held at The George, Hintlesham 12 for 12.30pm on 3rd December. Lastly our Christmas Party on 17th December 2.30pm when we will be entertained by Brian Mann.

Our AGM will take place on 14th January 2.30pm. So that just leaves me to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a New Year that will bring Peace and Happiness to you all. **Catherine Sweeney, Secretary**

BENTLEY BOWLS CLUB

We have had our presentation dinner at the Brantham Bull where we had a lovely meal and trophies were presented to the Club Competition winners. Our race night was a great success and we thank all those who helped on the night and those who came along to support us.

Our next fund raiser is our quiz on **Saturday 3 May 2025** in Bentley Village Hall. We hope you can support us as this brings in much needed funds to keep the green in good order.

Our season will start again next April/May and we really do need some more players to keep the Club going so please do think about coming to join us.

Lillian Calvert Secretary 01473 808652

AMEN

Christmas Family Shoebox Appeal

A message of thanks to everyone who has supported the appeal this year. The response throughout the village has been incredible and on behalf of the charity, Doreen & Alison would like to thank you so much for your support.

Due to your generosity we were able to deliver, 70 beautifully wrapped shoe boxes to the area collection point in Capel St. Mary, where they were received with grateful thanks. The boxes have joined 329 others and we finished with a final total of 399 boxes, 12 blankets, 1 bag of baby clothes and enough money to cover the transport! These have been loaded on the transport and are now on their way to Romania, where they will be given to the poorest of families in time for Christmas.

We can only imagine the excitement and happiness on the arrival of our gifts, especially as it's most likely the only Christmas gifts they will receive, so thank you again for supporting & caring about these needy families

**Wishing you all a Very Happy Christmas.
Doreen and Alison, Local Co-ordinators**

Bentley CEVC Primary School PTA 100 Club

We would like to thank everyone who has supported our 100 club this year.

We are pleased to announce we have raised £396 for the school children.

Congratulations to the winners

September 2024

1st - Sandie Utton
2nd - Gill Leafa
3rd - Garry Daynes

October 2024

1st - Shelly Rickwood
2nd - Diann Goodwin
3rd - Jane Mark

BENTLEY (SUFFOLK) HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the society was held in the Village Hall on Friday 15 November 2024. The chairman explained that as speakers are getting more expensive it was proposed that the cost of membership would be raised to £10. This proposal was carried. Therefore this will come into effect on renewal.

The monthly meeting on 20 December 2024 is a musical evening with the choir Da Capo conducted by Jane Gould. There will be popular music and Christmas music. Come and join us for what will be an entertaining evening.

The meeting on Friday 17 January 2025 is "Flowers from the Islands" by one of our members Emma Finney - Hewitson. The meetings are held in the Village Hall and commence at 7.30pm

The Chairman and Committee of the Society wish all of our members and readers a Happy Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year. **Pam Lovell**

WI BENTLEY BLUEBELLS

Our last meeting saw our secretary, Sandra, resign after 41 years of service to our group. We would like to thank Sandra for her devoted service to our group. Emma was elected as our new secretary.

Diane, our treasurer, also resigned. We thanked her for her work. I was elected as her replacement.

Our next meeting, in December, will be a Christmas surprise. Angela Ashford, one of our members and a local artist, will be our speaker. I will let you know, in the next issue, what the surprise was.

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy Christmas and New Year.

Ladies, we are always open to new members. For more information, please contact our secretary **Emma on 07485 017293.**

New! - The Bentley Events Diary 2025

Is your group/organisation planning a public event for 2025? If you are then you may find it useful when choosing a date to have a look at the new Bentley Events Diary.

The aim of the diary is to enable groups within the village to arrange events so they do not coincide with other groups; thereby attracting the best possible audience numbers.

The diary will be kept at **Bentley Stores**. Please enter your event on the appropriate page giving the group's name, the time and location for the event.

The use of a village diary has been discussed for a few years now and we hope you and your organisation will find it helpful when planning an event.

NOTES FROM THE CASE



Suffolk's first Co-operative Pub!
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<http://www.thecasepubbentley.co.uk/>
<https://www.facebook.com/TheCaseBentley/>
email: chair@thecasepubbentley.co.uk



Christmas really feels as if it is approaching us very quickly now and here at the Case we are certainly getting ready for it. So now that the days are getting much colder, why not pop in to the Case and see just how cosy and welcoming it is. Our selection of Christmas real ales will be on sale from the first week of December and throughout the Christmas holiday period. We have a lot going on and will be open right through the festive season, as follows:

Christmas Opening Times

Christmas Eve - (Tuesday 24 December): 6pm – 10pm

Christmas Day - (Wednesday 25 December): 12 – 2pm

Boxing Day – (Thursday 26 December): 12 – 2pm and 6 – 10pm

New Year's Eve - (Tuesday 31 December): 7.00pm – Late

New Year's Day – (Wednesday 1 January): 12 – 2pm and 6 – 10pm

All other opening times between the holiday dates are as normal.

Christmas Raffle

After the huge success of last year's Charity Christmas Raffle we are holding another one, this time in aid of our current charity of the year the **Alzheimer's Society**. Again we have many prizes including a **£100 Amazon voucher; a family ticket for Jimmy's Farm; a Spa day for 2 with two treatments; a £25 B&Q voucher; wines packages; a bottle of Adnams Gin, and even a round of Golf for 4 people at Hintlesham Golf Club** and many more besides. **See the posters around the pub for the full list of prizes!** If you would like to buy a ticket please pop in the pub during opening hours. Tickets are £1 each or buy a book for £5. The draw will be held on **Saturday 21 December at 8pm.**

Carols at the Case

To really get you into the Christmas mood we will be gathering in the pub on **Sunday 22 December** for our annual Carol singing. We will be starting at around **4pm**, so come along and start your Christmas with a **pint, or mulled wine, or even a hot chocolate** and join us for some traditional carols and songs.

Open Mic Nights

Our very popular Open Mic Nights will continue through out the winter months. As always they are on the second Thursday of each month. The bar opens at 6pm; the music will start around 8pm. We look forward to seeing our regular performers and also welcoming new ones. Sound system is supplied. If you would like to take part please contact **Dave on 07885 963882** or just turn up. The next two dates for your diary are **Thursday 12 December** and **Thursday 9 January**.

Quiz Nights

This year our December quiz night is on **Saturday 28 December**. £2 entry per person, maximum team size 6. The winning team will receive vouchers to spend at the pub; the lowest scoring team receive a wooden spoon! All profits from the quiz will go to the **Alzheimer's Society**. The January quiz will be held on **Saturday 25 January**.

Street Food Vendors

On **Saturday 7 December** one of our favourites **Suffolk Spice Fusion** will be with us again serving their excellent Northern India cuisine. Then in the New Year **Dolly's Pizzas** will be back on **Saturday 18 January**. As always the food can be eaten in the pub. If you wish to bring your own cutlery, please do. Both will be serving from **5pm - 8pm** from their kiosks in the pub car park. Menus will be available closer to the time or look on their Facebook pages. **The pub will be open from 5pm. Families welcome.** *Dates for 2025 are almost complete but if you have a favourite Street Food Vendor and would like to see them at the Case please contact the chair (see above) and mention their details.*

Community Lunch at the Case

Last January we re-introduced our weekly coffee mornings and we are now delighted to announce that for 2025 we are re-introducing our community lunches. Our first date will be **Wednesday 15 January**. Everyone is welcome but places are limited therefore booking is essential. A booking list and menu will be available in the shop closer to the time. We hope to announce further dates in the New Year.

Charity of the Year 2026

Do you have a charity you would like to nominate as our charity of the year? Each year at around the time of our anniversary – late April, we change the charity we are supporting. So far this year we have raised an amazing **£2,569.80** for the Alzheimer's Society and we still have 5 months to go! Our recent **Charity Book and Craft Sale** raised another **£353.71 to add to the total**, so a huge thank you to all who attended it. In addition to this we also received a further **£214.50** for the charity from our Jacket Potato and Chilli sales after the fireworks display on bonfire night. We are keen to hear from anyone who has a particular charity close to their heart which they think we at the Case could support next year. If you do then please mention it to one of our volunteers at the bar and leave your details or contact the chair, (see above).

We at the Case is Altered would like to wish everyone a very Happy and Healthy Christmas and New Year! See you soon!

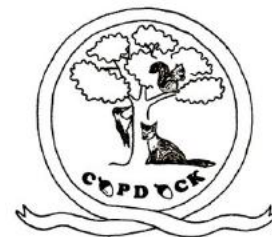
NEWS FROM BENTLEY & COPDOCK PRIMARY SCHOOLS



Bentley Primary 01473 310253
admin@bentley.suffolk.sch.uk

Copdock Primary 01473 730337
admin@copdock.suffolk.sch.uk

<http://www.bentleycopdock.co.uk/>



The second half of the Autumn term saw children going on some trips. The older children attended Royal Hospital School for Sing Up Suffolk and had a great time at a singing workshop culminating in a performance to parents. All the children visited Bury Cathedral as part of our Christian ethos to experience some workshops around nativity and Christmas, and see the cathedral with the festive decorations.

As we race towards Christmas the children are preparing for their festive performances. There will be lots of rehearsals before they perform to families and friends at the end of term.

Children have been attending a Christmas Cake Club, they spent a lovely time mixing and baking their cakes, and then decorating them ready to take home at the end of the term.

The PTA have some festive events lined up. The traditional Christmas Fairs and Christmas Card making amongst others. Our PTAs have joined forces for a Santa Run on Sunday 8th December at Bentley Fields – take a look at our Facebook pages for more information.



Thank you to everyone who donated to the Amen Shoebox Appeal. We handed over 13 boxes to Doreen who has organised along with Alison Partridge, the handover of these special gifts to make someone smile. School Council's in both schools have covered the cost of postage. Well done all, generosity and compassion in action.



WILDLIFE NOTES

Hedgerows and Wildlife

Britain boasts about **700,000 km (435,000 miles)** of hedgerow, a length that surpasses that of its roads. In the 1960's it was estimated that around 500,000 miles of hedgerow existed in England. **Between 1984 and 1990 hedgerow loss increased at a rate of 13,000 miles/year.** Ecologists now view these man-made structures as **important ecosystems.** It is estimated that such structures are home to **1,000 plant species, 1,500 insect species and 65 bird species.** One British Ecologist who spent two years monitoring an old diverse hedgerow, counted an astonishing **2,070 species** visiting and inhabiting it, mostly insects, but also mammals, lizards, mosses and fungi. Birds and mice used the hedge for shelter and nesting. Spring and summer flowers attracted moths, butterflies, flies and beetles, while berries helped nourish birds and small mammals over the autumn and winter.



Hedgerows in the wider countryside

Hedgerows also support a wider community, for example bats and moths use them as navigational guides, and badgers, hedgehogs, ants and spiders use them as byways to commute across the landscape. Dormice use hedgerow corridors to connect with other suitable habitat. Hedgerows are especially important when they are used to connect with other hedgerows and woodland. In 2018, a study proposed that planting new hedgerows could be the most effective way to link isolated ecosystems, enabling species like the hazel dormouse to persist in woodlands and farmland.



Hazel Dormouse in a Hazel tree looking for Hazel nuts

The remarkably rich soil life beneath a hedgerow benefits its surroundings when burrowing creatures such as earthworms move into adjacent fields. Hedgerow plants attract beneficial birds which feed on insect pests, as well as luring flies and wasps that eat damaging insects like greenfly. Bees that are attracted to hedgerow blossom will also pollinate adjacent crops.

The continued loss of hedgerows affects the many species that use them, such that some are closer to extinction. To give just one example, the rural population of hedgehogs has declined by 75% since 2,000. **The International Union for Conservation of Nature (ICUN)** reports that “they are suffering from increasing human pressure, increasing intensive agriculture damages rural habitats”, as a result hedgehogs cross busy roads to find additional hedgerow leading to them being killed by traffic.



Hedgehog, a hedgerow follower

Fortunately, a National Hedgehog Conservation Strategy has recently been launched by **The Peoples Trust for Endangered Species** and **The British Hedgehog Preservation Society**. The Government’s conservation watchdog **Natural England** has also called for an increase in the country’s hedgerow corridor network by 40% for climate and biodiversity benefits.

However, the usefulness of hedgerows for wildlife depends on how they are managed. A recent survey of British hedgerows found that roughly half were not well-maintained. Many are cut too often or at the wrong time of year, and flailing damages them.

Colin Hawes (Ecologist)



Butcher's Broom (Knee Holly) found on ancient hedgebanks



Bentley Fireworks Display

Well after a dry run up to the Bonfire, we had a damp set up morning but we were lucky, and the rain cleared for the event, and it was a lovely evening

We managed a very successful lighting of the Bonfire assisted by the lucky winner Tom.

We tried to keep prices competitive to make an affordable evening. It was great to have such a good attendance, when there are so many events to choose from.

There are too many volunteers who helped set up and took part on the evening to name, but they all deserve our thanks for making the event successful, and for turning up on Sunday to pack up. But this year it was less of a chore due to the new "Pop up Gazebos".

We look forward to seeing you all again next year, we may already be looking through the fireworks catalogue choosing a different set of fireworks, so look out for next year for a different (better) display!

If you wish to assist, or have any suggestions or comments, especially regarding the date, please get in touch with us. **Tim & Jan Hamstead**
timhamstead@yahoo.co.uk

****Support your local Community Store this Christmas****

Boxed chocolates, toiletry gifts, wrapping paper and "Wildlife Trust Charity Christmas Cards" all available for those last minute gifts



BENTLEY COMMUNITY STORES

The days are flying by and Christmas is just around the corner. Bentley shop is gearing up for the festive season too. For our avid village bakers, we stock everything you need to bake your delicious fruit cakes, puddings, mince pies etc. If you are not inclined to bake your own, we also have a range of tasty cakes and goodies.

Looking for that last minute gift? Pop in and check out our boxed chocolates and toiletry gifts and wrapping paper to wrap them in! We are stocking "Wildlife Trust Charity Christmas Cards". We also have the stamps.

Come and have a look at what we have to offer. You may be surprised, as we are not as expensive as you may think!! One of our customers recently pointed out that our prices are competitive with a "local grocer" in some cases cheaper. Our volunteer buyers certainly do their best to keep prices as low as possible.

Also, by shopping locally you are reducing your carbon footprint.

We are open 7 days a week:

Monday to Friday 9 am to 1.30 pm

Saturday 9 am to 12 noon

Sunday 9 am to 11 am

By shopping with us you are safeguarding a valuable village asset, which can only thrive with your support.

Happy Christmas Everyone.

Hopefully we will see some new faces in the shop.

You can contact us at info@bentleystores.co.uk We look forward to seeing you soon.

FOOTPATH SOCIETY

The next walk will be the New Year's Day walk.

From the Case at 10.30 am

The Village circular walk.

Please have stout shoes etc.

Have a Happy Christmas.

John Wheals 01473 310569

MAJOR PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Brockley Wood Quarry and Waste Processing Plant - SCC/0105/22B

Bentley and Copdock & Washbrook Parish Councils and Babergh District Council have submitted strong objections on this re-submitted application with concerns regarding impact on our Valued Landscape, HGV movements and noise and light impacts on nearby residents.

The National Landscape team, despite not being consulted by SCC, have also objected on similar grounds.

National Highways have recently raised concerns about the haul road adjacent to the A12. They await a response from the applicant and recommend that planning permission is not granted before 28 February 2025 to allow sufficient time for these matters to be addressed.

Grove Farm Solar Farm

The Parish Council have been told that a decision on the above application will be made by Babergh District Council in the next couple of weeks.

The Parish Council will keep residents updated on both applications via the Bentley Facebook page, Parish Council meetings and The Bugle.

Marianne Munday, Chair Bentley Parish Council.



Bentley Poppy Appeal 2024

I am pleased to announce that Bentley residents donated the amount of **£1135.71** to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

Thank you to the volunteer poppy collectors for their sterling work and to all who gave so generously.

Nigel Peake, Honorary Poppy Appeal Organiser



The Scrabble Club meets on the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 2.30 pm in the Village Hall Committee Room.

If you would like a gentle game of Scrabble, a cup of tea or coffee and a chat please come along and join us.

Dates of the meetings are shown on the Bugle diary page. **Robin Owen**

BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Bentley Parish Council Meeting took place at Bentley Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 7 November 2024 – Preceded by a Playing Field Society Meeting @ 7pm

Eight Councillors, County Councillor Georgia Hall, District Councillor J Wyatt, Tree Warden, Footpath Warden, Speedwatch Co-ordinator and 7 members of the public attended the meeting. Apologies were received from District Councillor Dave Busby & District Councillor H Davies.

Planning – There were no planning decisions – Planning Application re Brockley Wood Re-submission was discussed and Councillors proposed that we would continue to object to the unchanged application that has been re-submitted – as the four grounds in the Judicial Review are still live and to base Bentley Parish Council’s response on those grounds.

Reports were received from County Councillor Georgia Hall, District Councillor J Wyatt & Speedwatch Co-ordinator.

Matters discussed-

- Diversion of footpath to the East of Church Road following future closure of The Island crossing and associated works.
- Installation of a safety barrier at Bentley bridge Church Road. Has now been delayed until next year.
- Bentley Historic Core Appraisal was discussed. It was agreed to fund further work jointly with BDC on the Conservation Area Appraisal following advice from BDC. Their independent heritage experts have agreed that the area is suitable for designation and once the recommended additions are made to the Appraisal, BDC will put our request for a Conservation Area to full Cabinet at their meeting in December. If agreed, this will be followed by a public consultation.
- Alison Farmer Report – Landscape Advice on Brockley Wood application – Cost of this report is being met by a group of residents for which we thank them very much.
- Flooding – Station Road was discussed – SCC deem it low priority
- Elan City Warranty Extension for SIDS was discussed
- Funding for Bentley Bugle was discussed – Accounts have been sorted out and offers to sponsor printing costs – so should now be self funding
- Horse Chestnut Tree – Junction Grove Road/Capel Road – Tree Warden will choose replacement tree
- Lorry Watch – 5 lorries reported for October.
- Affordable Housing – Zoom meeting to be deferred until the New Year
- Traffic calming /Weight Restriction – Recent Surveys undertaken by SCC show clear evidence of an increase in traffic through the village coming from the A12 when traffic queuing towards Copdock Interchange.
- Playing Field Society – Firework Event on 2 November was a huge success.

The meeting closed at 9.05 p.m. Full draft minutes are available on the PC website - <http://bentleysuffolkparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

BENTLEY VILLAGE HALL

c/o SAMBURU CAPEL ROAD BENTLEY IPSWICH IP9 2DW

Registered Charity 1080262

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 16 January 2025

All Bentley residents (and especially representatives from users of the hall) are invited to the Village Hall's AGM.

There will be the usual reports, accounts, election of Trustees and the opportunity to raise issues and ask questions. There are currently no known non-routine issues.

Any proposal for formal consideration at the AGM, including any nomination to stand as a Charity Trustee, must be delivered to the above address no later than 8 January 2025. The existing Trustees are all willing to stand again, but any other Bentley resident wishing to stand as a Trustee and contribute to the running of the hall would be welcome. Please feel free to ring Mark Usher (Secretary – 01473 310322) or refer to the Charity Commission's website for further details of the role and obligations of a Charity Trustee before nomination. **Mark Usher**

COMMUNITY LUNCH AT THE CASE

Tired of turkey?

Wednesday 15 January 2025

Enjoy a two course lunch at the Case is Altered

The menu:

Lasagne with garlic bread and salad (veggie option available) followed by fruit crumble and custard. Tea or coffee.

Price £12.00 pp.

As always booking is essential as places are very limited.
A booking list will be in the shop.

ALL WELCOME!

Save the date!

GROVE ROAD HORSE CHESTNUT TREE

This year, when the Horse Chestnut tree at the entrance to Grove Road was in leaf, I assessed its growth to make sure that it was growing well after its branches had been cut back. As expected, it was growing well. However, viewing its leaves using binoculars, I noticed that these were suffering from an attack by a moth grub which causes brown patches that have a clear middle. This 'disease' has already spread to many Horse Chestnuts and is impossible to get rid of. It does not kill the tree but does look very unsightly.

Bentley Parish Council has therefore decided to have the tree removed and replaced with a smaller, more manageable, columnar tree.

Colin Hawes Tree Warden



Photo of Grove Road Old Post Office circa 1900. We think the tree in the foreground is the same tree that is there today.



CAPEL ST MARY LIBRARY

Capel Library welcomes everyone! We are a small and friendly library based in the heart of the Capel community. We offer books, internet access, children's activities, tea and coffee, all with a friendly smile.

Warm Welcome

Suffolk Libraries have always provided safe, warm spaces for anyone to come and spend time in or find support and resources. This winter, as part of the national Warm Spaces campaign, we'll be bringing in new initiatives to help people stay warm, stay safe and stay connected. At Capel Library you can come and enjoy a free hot drink, charge your devices, collect some free essential items like period products, hand soap, cereal bars, and we always have friendly faces!

Christmas Toy Appeal

This Christmas, Suffolk Libraries is teaming up with BBC Radio Suffolk for a special toy appeal as part of our Warm Welcome cost-of-living support campaign. All 45 of our libraries are accepting toy donations to pass on to children who'd appreciate an extra present this Christmas. We are working with local charities and organisations to ensure these toys reach the families who really need them.

Last year, we collected nearly 2,500 toys for local children. All toy donations must be new. Please help make our toy appeal even bigger this year and spread festive joy to more Suffolk children and families.

Christmas Crafts


On Saturday the 21st and Sunday the 22nd December we'll be doing some Christmas craft sessions between 10:30-12:30! Keep an eye on our Facebook page or look out for a poster in the library for more details.

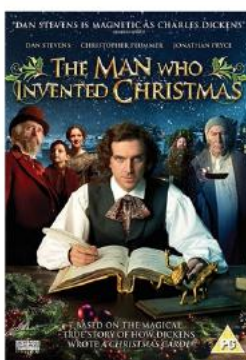
The Friends of Capel Library Community Cinema

December's film: The Man who Invented Christmas, Tuesday 18th December


December's film is The Man Who Invented Christmas: "In 1843, celebrated British novelist Charles Dickens is at a low point in his career with three flops behind him and family expenses piling up at home. Determined to recover, Dickens decides to write a Christmas story and self-publish it in less than two months. As Dickens labors writing on such short notice, his estranged father and mother come to bunk with him. Still haunted by painful memories of his father ruining his childhood by his financial irresponsibility, Dickens develops a seemingly-unsolvable writer's block."

As a thank you for your support over the last few years, the Friends of Capel Library will provide up to 60 free tickets for the December film. Please pop into the library as usual to book your ticket.

The Friends of Capel Library
Community Cinema 



Tuesday 18th December 2024 at Capel Library
Doors Open: 7pm, film Starts: 7.30pm
Please get your **FREE** ticket from the library
Tickets are limited so don't miss out

Fully Licensed Bar & Air Conditioning 

Please keep an eye out on the Capel Library facebook page for details of what January's film will be!

Home Library Service

Do you or someone you know struggle to get to the library? We have volunteers ready and waiting who can bring the books to you. Just give us a call at the library and we can discuss how the service can benefit you, a friend, neighbour or loved one.

Regular Events in the Library

Tot Rock & Stay & Play: Every Thursday from 9.30 onwards; songs, and stories followed by a more social play session with free refreshments.

Minecraft: Children of all ages welcome and those under eight must be accompanied by an adult. Please bring with you your tablet or phone equipped with Minecraft Pocket Edition or Minecraft Windows 10 Edition. Try to remember to charge your device beforehand! Contact the library for more details.

Lego: Every 4th Saturday we hold our Monthly Lego Club. It is £1.50 per child, which includes a drink and a biscuit. Each month has a theme, but you can also build you're also welcome to build what you like. So, join us 10.30-12.00 for some building fun!

Sunday Crafts: Every week from 10.30 to 12.30. All children & families welcome, no booking is required and there is no charge. Come and get crafty at Capel Library.

We welcome book donations, and don't forget we sell cards and stamps too!

We also now have a copy of New Scientist magazine to read at the library, just ask at the desk for the latest issue.

OPENING TIMES

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: 9am-12.30 & 2.00pm-5.30pm

Wednesday: 9am-12.30

Thursday: 9am-12.30

Friday: 2.00pm-5.30pm

Saturday: 9.00am-3.00pm

Sunday: 10.00am-3.00pm

Telephone: 01473 311699

e-mail: capel.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk **Web:** www.suffolklibraries.co.uk

THE FRIENDS OF CAPEL LIBRARY

The Friends of Capel Library 100 Club Draw results.

October

£20 Caroline Alder

£10 Melvyn Sutcliffe

£5 Diana Barker

£ 5 Wendy Alcock

November

£20 Carol Lidford

£10 Alan Butters

£5 Janet Fenton

£5 Fiona Wright

Prizes can be collected from the Library as can renewal forms for 2025. Please note that for legal reasons 100 Club members must also be current members of The Friends of Capel Library. Thank you for your support. **Bob Perkin**

BENTLEY REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

“.. Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2v10-11)

All welcome to hear about the birth of our Saviour on:

Sunday 22nd 10.45am &

Wednesday 25th 10.00am

December 2024

We are approaching the time of the year when we celebrate the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ to the virgin Mary in a stable in Bethlehem. But why did Jesus, the Son of God, come to this earth to be born and live as a Man? Was it to teach? To perform miracles? To do acts of kindness? To provide us an example of how we should live?

All of these He did do, certainly, but the Bible tells us the most important reason He came: “... **Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners;..**” (1 Timothy 1v15). In fact, the name Jesus means Saviour!

This He did by living a perfect life, then suffering and dying upon the cross to bear the punishment for sin for all those who will come to believe on Him.

Unlike Jesus, none of us are perfect – we are all sinners. So, everyone of us needs the salvation which is found only in Jesus Christ, that we might be forgiven our sins and go to Heaven.

Regular Weekly Services:

Prayer and Bible Study – Tuesdays 7pm

Worship Services – Sundays 10.45am and 3pm

Admin: 07814 465222 www.bentley-reformed-baptist.uk

admin@bentley-reformed-baptist.uk



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

It's that time of year again, how has it come round so quick?

December can be such a busy time for some, festivities, get together, work Christmas parties, visiting family. For some it's their favourite time of year who will look and see the magic.

For others, it can be terribly lonely and depressing. The evenings last for longer with it getting dark early and it's a lot colder. For some the cost of heating their homes is just too much. They might be on their own without anyone visiting. Loneliness is a real problem. Social contact is so important, but it can be daunting to make that first step. Many of my villages that I cover, have some sort of weekly group. Over the last couple of months, I have had the pleasure of visiting a few of these. Great Blakenham, Bentley, Holbrook, Shotley, and Brantham. There are many more that I've yet to visit. These catch-up groups are vitally important and if you attend, I can assure you, you will be welcomed wholeheartedly.



This next message isn't just about the festive time, however there is an increase due to people attending parties and festivities- can you guess- yes, I'm going to mention drink driving. Most of you reading this, live in a rural location and might think, it's ok to have a few drinks before getting behind the wheel. You might think, Police won't patrol out here, or I only live down the road, I've been doing it for years and no-one's caught me, I've not had an accident! In 2022 over 6000 people were killed or injured in a drink driving accident. All it takes is one split second. Please don't do it, it's not worth it. Take it in turns, have a designated driver, use a taxi but don't drink and drive.

Sadly, my patch has been a target of rural outbuilding/garage burglaries recently. This is not isolated to my patch alone but neighbouring Policing areas as well. Garden tools and machinery is very attractive and easily sold on. We are working hard to identify these culprits but if I could ask you to consider your security measures. Do you have any CCTV? Do you have an alarm? Do you have the items locked away? The culprits are cutting off padlocks, so it needs to be something substantially more effective than a padlock. Property marking your tools/machinery is another good idea.

If you need to report a crime, please use the online service on the Suffolk Police website or call 101. PC Katie Jarrett.

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