

**THE
BENTLEY
BUGLE**



COMMUNITY & CHURCH NEWS



ISSUE 84 DECEMBER 2021 – JANUARY 2022

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Copy for Feb 2022 – Mar 2022 should reach us by Friday 21st Jan.

Parish Diary

DECEMBER 2021

1. Whist - Village Hall at 7.30 pm.
1. Comrades - Village Hall Committee Room at 7.30 pm.
2. Parish Council meeting - Village Hall at 7.30 pm.
7. Tuesday Club - Entertainment by Ivan Cole - Village Hall at 2.30 pm.
8. Bentley Bluebells WI - Guide Dog Puppy Raiser - Village Hall at 7.30 pm.
9. Scrabble Club - Village Hall Committee Room at 2.30 pm.
9. Open Mic at The Case.
16. Link Lunch - Christmas Lunch - Village Hall at 12 noon and 12.30 pm.
16. Mulled Wine, Coffee and Carols - Village Hall at 7.00 pm. See page 7.
17. Horticultural Society - Brook Telling, Folk Singer - Village Hall at 7.30 pm.
18. Quiz night at The Case.
19. Carols at The Case.
23. No Scrabble Club.

JANUARY 2022

For Other Events at The Case see page 13 & 14

5. Comrades - Village Hall Committee Room at 7.30 pm.
6. Parish Council meeting - Village Hall at 7.30 pm.
12. Bentley Bluebells WI - AGM - Paper Sculpture - Village Hall at 7.30 pm.
13. Scrabble Club - Village Hall Committee Room at 2.30 pm.
13. Open Mic at The Case.
18. Tuesday Club - AGM - Village Hall at 2.30 pm.
19. Whist - Village Hall at 7.30 pm.
20. Link Lunch - Village Hall at 12 noon and 12.30 pm.
20. Village Hall AGM - Village Hall at 7.30 pm - All welcome.
21. Horticultural Society - Wildlife & Landscape of the North Norfolk Coast - Village Hall at 7.30 pm.
27. Scrabble Club - Village Hall Committee Room at 2.30 pm.

EDITOR WANTED FOR BENTLEY BUGLE

The current Editor of the Bugle is retiring in March 2022 after publication of the February/March 2022 issue. If there is anyone who would be interested in taking over this post please contact any of the Bugle team whose contact details are given on page 4.

OTHER ACTIVITIES IN THE VILLAGE.

CARPET BOWLS - Every Tuesday 7.30 pm & Wednesday 2.30 pm – Village Hall.

AEROBICS CLASS - Tuesday morning at 9.45 am (Term Time only) – Village Hall.

PILATES CLASS - Tuesday 11.00 am to noon (Term Time only) – Village Hall.

Contact Mrs Jill Sharp for information – 01473 311546.

TODDLER GROUP - Monday and Wednesday mornings 9.30 am to 12 noon (Term time only) at Village Hall.

BENTLEY DIRECTORY

PARISH, DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILS

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

Police Community Support Officers	Stephen Cooper, Melissa Cohen	101
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BENTLEY ORGANISATIONS AND CLUBS

Bentley Primary School (Head Teacher)	Mrs Jo Austin	01473 310253
(Chair Governors)	Mr Simon Hurst Simon.hurst@copdock.suffolk.sch.uk	
(Chair PTA)	Aimee Louis	07906 696454
Bentley Community Pub (The Case)	Mrs Kate Spicer	01473 314187
Bentley Comrades	Mr Ray Savage	01473 311122
Bentley Community Stores	Mr Bob Feltwell	01473 310182
Bowls Club	Mrs Lillian Calvert	01473 808652
Carpet Bowls	Mrs Jill Mills	01473 311103
Case Book Group	Mr John Wheals	01473 310569
Coffee and Company	Mrs Sandra Mehen	01473 310383
Computer Clinic	Mr John Blackmore	01473 310655
Footpath Society	Mr John Wheals	01473 310569
Footpath Warden	Mr Tim Hamstead	07748 821594
Friends of St. Mary's	Mr David West	01473 327900
Horticultural Society	Mr John Blackmore	01473 310655
Link Lunch Group	Mrs Veronica Howe	01473 310344
Maritime Football Club	Mr Jon Haines	08442 023130
Parent and Toddler Group	Mrs Pam Rayment	01473 310283
Recorders	Mrs Moira Usher	01473 310322
Scrabble Club	Mr Robin Owen	01473 311844
Tree Warden	Mr Colin Hawes	01473 310678
Tuesday Club	Mrs Veronica Howe	01473 310344
Village Hall - Bookings	Mr John Blackmore	01473 310655
Village History Recorder	Nicky Moxey	01473 313125
Whist Club	Mrs Veronica Howe	01473 310344
Womens Institute	Mrs Sandra Ford	01473 310072

ST MARY'S CHURCH, BENTLEY

Rector	Rev Annette Shannon	01473 807674
Benefice Administrator	Ms Hayley Purnell	07904 972116
Churchwarden	Mr Peter Day	01473 310518
Assistant Priest	Revd Don Mehen	01473 310383

BENTLEY BAPTIST CHURCH ADMIN. 07814 465222

Bentley Parish Council website is at <http://www.bentleypc.onesuffolk.net>

Other Village Web sites are listed on page 25

THE BENTLEY BUGLE - COMMUNITY & CHURCH NEWS COORDINATORS

The Bentley Bugle is published and distributed bi-monthly on a voluntary basis for the benefit of the local Village and Church community. Information is published in good faith and we reserve the right to edit copy submitted. Errors and exceptions are regretted.

Advertising in these pages does not constitute a recommendation.

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Sandra Mehen

19 The Link, Bentley

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COPY FOR THE FEBRUARY 2022 - MARCH 2022 ISSUE SHOULD REACH ROBIN OWEN BY NOON ON FRIDAY 21ST JANUARY. 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, .JPG, .PDF or .TXT, and the preferred font is Arial 14 pt.

AMEN TRUST SHOEBOX APPEAL

The Amen Trust is a Christian charity which was formed in 1995, to support Christians who are working to make a difference in their own country.

The Amen Shoebox Appeal began in 2009. Supporters are asked to fill a shoebox with gifts suitable for a family.

Doreen and I would like to thank all those from Bentley and the surrounding area, who generously responded to our shoebox appeal. We collected a marvellous total of 40 boxes & £150.50. These boxes are on their way to needy families who will receive them in time for Christmas.

Thank you all once again.

Doreen Savage & Julia Shoebridge.

Cover Photo

**THE BUGLE TEAM WISH ALL OUR CONTRIBUTORS AND READERS A
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR**

Bentley Village at Church News

SERVICES IN DECEMBER

5th	Christingle Service	10.00 am
12th	Carol Service	10.00 am
19th	Communion service	10.00 am
24th	Crib Service	3.00 pm
25th	Christmas Morning Communion	10.00 am



CHRISTINGLE SERVICE

Sunday 5th December at 10am

Come and meet St Nicholas and bring him gifts
for homeless families

Collection for The Children's Society

**Please let Sandra know by
Thursday 2nd December**

If you are coming so we can have enough
Christingles for all the Children



We hope that virus infections do not rise over the festive period so we can hold our services safely. We may need to take contact details if this does happen and encourage the wearing of face masks as we want to make sure that everyone is safe.

.....

Carol Service – a special service of nine lessons and carols for people of all ages. A chance to hear the story and sing the carols. Everyone welcome and refreshments will be served after the service.

.....

Crib Service is a special service on Christmas Eve for children of all ages as we look forward to Christmas Day.

.....

Christmas Morning Communion Service. Children (and adults!) are invited to bring a gift they have received to show at this special Christmas Service.

SERVICES IN JANUARY

2nd	Holy Communion	10.00 am
9th	Family Service	10.00 am
16th	Holy Communion	10.00 am
23rd	Morning Worship	10.00 am
30th	Benefice Communion	

At time of going to press we have no information as to venue or time of the Benefice Service.

See In Touch for details and for all other services in our group of parishes.

ZOOM SERVICES

Unable to come to church? Then join us for our Zoom services.

12th December - 6pm.

26th December there will be no service.

(The Bishops have decided that holding a service on the day after our Christmas Day Communion is unnecessary and service leaders should relax).

9th January – 6pm.

23rd January – 6pm.

These are simple evening services and if you would like to join us and do not receive log on details already please contact sandramehen@gmail.com or ☎ 01473 310383.

.....

Just a Thought

Do you sometimes find that abbreviations are very confusing or annoying? I know that I have. And abbreviating Christmas to Xmas is a case in point, it takes Christ out of Christmas. But I have heard of one way of explaining it that at least gives me pause for thought. A quick way of expressing love on a card is to put some Xs after the sender's name. So the X in Xmas remind us that God loved us so much he sent his Son; It is also called a cross and reminds us that Jesus loved us so much that he took the path from the stable to the cross for us. So let us show love this season and remember the true meaning of Christmas.

.....

The Reverend Annette Shannon
and all at Bentley Church
would like to wish everyone
in Bentley a Blessed Christmas
and a good New Year



.....

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

Rector - Rev Annette Shannon – 807674

Church Warden – Peter Day - 310518

Assistant Priest – Rev Don Mehen – 310383

Administrator – Hayley Purnell

northsamfordbenefice@gmail.com or 07713 863 023

Treasurer - Ken Felgate - k.felgate108@btinternet.com

PCC Secretary - Sandra Mehen - 01473 310383

Bentley Church Christmas Cards

Christmas cards will be on sale in our community shop from the beginning of December at a bargain price of 50p each or 5 for £2. If you would like a personalised card for a special person or occasion please contact Sandra ([see contact details list](#)). Cards will also be available at church.

Apricot Jam

For all those who enjoyed our Church Preserves Home Made Apricot Jam and have missed it it is finally available again. Bentley Grape Jelly is also available. They can be bought from Church or please contact Sandra ([see contact details list](#)).

Churchyard

Despite the departure of Dick, Bentley Churchyard still continues to be well looked after so very many thanks to all those who help. If you would like to be involved please contact Peter Day our Church Warden on 01473 310518.

Church Quiz

Many thanks for everyone who took part in the Church Quiz this year and for helping us raise money for the upkeep of our beautiful Church. It has been good to get back to some face to face fundraising this year and we are very grateful for your support over the two events we have been able to hold. We look forward to seeing you at the Mulled Wine and Carols on Thursday 16th December in the village hall.

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 with coffee and mince pies in the interval Thursday December 16th at **7pm** Bentley Village Hall only £3, accompanied children free. There will be also be a draw.

West Villa - once again very many thanks for the bedding and towels that have been left at our house for homeless families. We took another load up recently and they were very grateful.

I have also been told that saucepans, in good condition, can be accepted too. We will also be encouraging supporting West Villa for Christmas; for example, toys, scarves, hats, gloves, toiletries, boxes of sweets or biscuits all welcomed and much valued at this season. Please may we have any donations by Friday 10th December so we can get them to West Vila in good time for Christmas. Please contact Sandra (see contact details list). Very many thanks for your help.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 14TH NOVEMBER



The service was conducted by Sandra Mehen and was well attended by parishioners from around the Village. Once again the road was closed for the service thanks to the Parish and County Councils.

John Wheals read the names of the Fallen and laid a chaplet on behalf of the Village and Parish Council. Wreaths were laid on behalf of Bentley Comrades, the Baptist Church, and Royal British Legion, and parishioners were able to lay their own personal Crosses of Remembrance around the memorial. **(Photo page 12).**

BENTLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Nothing further to report at the moment.

Nicky Moxey
chair, Bentley Neighbourhood Plan team.

BENTLEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

We have at least been able to hold some of our monthly meetings this past year and can only hope that this will continue.

Our meetings are held in the Village Hall and commence at 7.30pm.

The final meeting this year is on Friday 17th December 2021 when we will be entertained by Brook Telling a local folk singer.

The first meeting in 2022 is on Friday 21st January when Alec Bass will talk and show photographs of the Wildlife and Landscape of the North Norfolk Coast.

Non-members are welcome on payment of £3 why not come along and enjoy the evening.

The Chairman and Committee wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful New Year.

Pam Lovell



BENTLEY CARPET BOWLS

It looks as if things are beginning to move forward, after consultation with Clubs the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association have organised a Suffolk Triples League to be played between 1st November and the 15th April. The entrants have been divided into four geographical groups and Bentley have been placed in the South Group and will play against Belstead, Chelmondiston, Harkstead and Hintlesham and Chattisham.

It will be good to meet up with fellow members from other clubs and try to get to grips with other clubs' carpets and floors.

We managed to play a friendly match away at Chelmondiston and the outcome was a resounding win for them, but it was great to try and get to grips with their floor!

We are always looking for new members and if you fancy having a go why not come and give it a try on a Tuesday Evening or a Wednesday Afternoon, we will be very pleased to see you.

Jill Mills,
Bentley Carpet Bowls Secretary.

TUESDAY CLUB

We have had a good month and started it off with an entertaining talk on 'The History of Magic' by Colin Hopper.

On the 9th November we welcomed the 'Phoenix Handbell Ringers' who played a selection of Christmas Carols as well as other well known songs getting us in the mood for Christmas.

On 23rd November we had a talk by Barbara Faulkner, on 'The Man in Red'.

Our final meeting of 2021 is on 7th December at 2.30 pm when we will be entertained by Ivan Cole.

Our first meeting of 2022 is the AGM on 18th January at 2.30 pm.

It has been decided not to revert back to 2pm during the Winter months but carry on as we are doing which is 2.30pm.

It would be great to see some new faces so please come and join us for a chat, Tea and Biscuits.

Catherine Sweeney.
Secretary.

S	C	R	A	B	B	L	E	The next meeting of the Scrabble Club is on Thursday 9th December. There is no meeting on 23rd December but we will restart on 13th January. We meet on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 2.30pm in the Village Hall Committee Room. Anyone who would enjoy a gentle game of Scrabble, a cup of tea or coffee and a chat is welcome to join us.
<u>2022 SEASON</u>						C		
						U		
						B		

BENTLEY BLUEBELLS W.I.

The evenings are drawing in and feel so much longer, so now is the time to decide to get out once a month and join us at the WI to help the long winter go more quickly. Over the next few months on the second Wednesday of the month at 7-30 we will be at the village hall enjoying Paper Sculpture, The Night Sky and Silk Flower making, not to mention Haunted Pubs. Interested come along.

Our last two meetings saw us Kurling, and meeting a Guide Dog puppy raiser and a Guide Dog user, both of whom told us of the joys and sometimes difficulties encountered when training and using Guide Dogs. A worthy charity if you want to support them, sponsor a guide dog puppy as a Christmas gift and watch its progress.

Theresa

LINK LUNCH GROUP

We are happy to report that the Link lunches have now resumed. In October we served 36 people, Cottage pie Savoy cabbage & mixed vegetables followed by peaches & cream and the usual tea or coffee.

November's lunch was Sausage & mash with peas & carrot swede mix, followed by rice pudding & jam, tea & coffee and was served to 40 diners. After the Xmas lunch on December 16th we will donate any surplus to a local charity.

Veronica Howe

VILLAGE HALL AGM

This will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 20 January. All Bentley residents are welcome to attend, especially hall users.

As always nominations are invited for Charity Trustees – seconded nominations must reach Mark Usher (musher@care4free.net or at Samburu, Capel Road) or John Blackmore (jblackmore92@gmail.com or at Southlands, 7 East Mill Green) before 14 January. Please ring Mark on 310322 if you'd like information on Trustee responsibilities and what's involved in looking after this valuable village asset.

BENTLEY BOWLS CLUB

Many thanks to all who supported our race night, we were able to top dress and seed the green and send a cheque for £170 to Marie Currie charity. Thanks must go to Colin, Ray and Deirdre for organising this for us.

Our next fund raiser will be our quiz - so put the date in your new diary - Saturday 7th May 2022 in the Village Hall. Charles will once again set the questions and we hope it will be successful as previous quizzes.

We will start the new season at the end of April next year, why not think about coming to join us.

We play on Monday evenings in the Samford League and Wednesday evenings in the Ipswich Triples League. Games start at 6.45pm or earlier if we are all present. The green is in Grove Road, the entrance is just beyond the old shop and building plot.

Lillian Calvert, Secretary.

01473 808652



BENTLEY POPPY APPEAL 2021

I am pleased to report that this years Bentley Poppy Appeal collection raised the magnificent sum of £1436.95.

Many thanks to the volunteer poppy collectors and all who gave so generously.

Nigel Peake



News From Bentley & Copdock Primary Schools



And so the Christmas festivities are underway! December is such a lovely time of the year in school, as we share beautiful songs and hymns, get creative in our classrooms and reflect on how lucky we are to share this special time of the year with our families.

Both schools engaged in Remembrance Services last month, completing some reflective learning to deepen the children's understanding of this important period in our history. Bentley School once again joined our British Legion friends at the village memorial, to lay poppy crosses and hold a two minute silence. At Copdock a service was held in the school hall and Mrs Austin was accompanied by our Service children to lay crosses at the William Henry Hewitt memorial in the village. **(Photos opposite).**

Head pupils proudly delivered their first whole school assembly this term, sharing important messages about Anti-Bullying week and an update on our safeguarding staff within school. It is wonderful to see our pupils taking on their leadership roles once again this year as it really highlights how well they love our school

Following an afternoon of decoration making, we held our annual Advent Tree Service on 29th November. The oldest and youngest children had the special job of switching on the lights following our countdown. Such an exciting day.

Bentley School have enjoyed their Friday morning Christmas Club, preparing a bag of goodies for the end of term. A big thank you to Carlie Fisher for supporting us to run the club this year. **(Photo opposite, top).**

Our PTAs have once again excelled themselves with a range of fundraising activities. We could not do so many fantastic things without these committed and dedicated members of our school communities and we thank them all greatly for their support.

If you are still making final decisions about a school place for your child ready for September 2022, why not come and see our wonderful village schools. We might be just what you are looking for! Deadline for applications is January 15th 2022. We would be happy to show you around and further information is available on our school website [Bentley CEVC & Copdock Primary Federation: Admissions \(bentleycopdock.co.uk\)](http://www.bentleycopdock.co.uk)

Don't forget to keep an eye on our community and school Facebook pages for ways to support our wonderful schools. We are extremely lucky to have such committed parents and community supporters. We thank you all for your kindness and compassion and wish you all good wishes for Christmas.

For more news and up to date information about the schools, please visit our website:

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

[Copdock Primary 01473 730337 admin@copdock.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:admin@copdock.suffolk.sch.uk)

[Bentley Primary 01473 310253 admin@bentley.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bentley.suffolk.sch.uk)



Making goody bags - School photo



REMEMBRANCE
2021





NOTES FROM THE CASE

Suffolk's first Co-operative Pub!

Tel. 01473 805575. www.thecasepubbentley.co.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/TheCaseBentley>

Email: savethecase.bentley@gmail.com

Here at the Case we are now counting the weeks if not days down to Christmas and the New Year! Despite the long lockdown last Christmas and spring, this year has past by really relatively quickly and we are already looking forward to the holiday period. This year we are really hoping that unlike the last year we will be able to open our doors and celebrate with all our customers. Our planned Christmas opening hours are:

Christmas Eve (Friday): 6 - 10pm

Christmas Day (Saturday): 12 - 2pm

Boxing Day (Sunday): 12 - 2pm

New Years Eve (Friday): 7pm - late

New Years Day (Saturday): 12 – 2 pm and 6 - 10pm

Sunday 3rd January: 12 – 2 pm

Christmas Carols

Our traditional annual Christmas Carol singing, just to get you in the mood, will be on **Sunday 19th December**. This year it will be held **inside and outside** and even those inside may wish to put on an extra layer as all the doors and windows will be open whilst we are singing. **This event will take place weather permitting.**

Over the last few months we have continued with our ongoing maintenance and refurbishment plans. All new high level guttering has been installed to the main building and our external wiring and lighting have been improved and upgraded, including the lights to our pub sign. We also have a more 'dark sky' friendly side door light.

We have already been looking at our calendar of events for next year and as it is quite a special year – with an extra bank holiday we are working on ideas to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, including something for the younger members of our community. More details to follow.

CAMRA

We are also pleased to announce that the latest issue of the CAMRA Good Beer Guide was published in November and, for the fifth year running, we're in it. So congratulations to our team of volunteer cellar men for their continued sterling efforts that enable us to consistently serve some of the best real ale around and so warrant inclusion in this important publication. Inclusion in the guide is determined by votes from CAMRA members and is dependent on merit. To quote from the current edition's introduction "No pubs or breweries paid to be in this book".

Our regular events; Quiz Nights, Open Mic Nights and our more recently restarted Meet Up Mondays continue to be very popular each with their own growing group of followers.

Continued on page 14.....

...Continued from page 13

Quiz Nights

For the next two Quiz Nights, **Dolly's Pizzas will be with us**. Dolly will be serving from 4:30pm to 7:30pm, from the car park. The pub will be open from 5pm and to accommodate those that wish to take part in the quiz and have a pizza **the quiz will be starting a little later, at 8pm**. As before please place your pre-orders with Dolly on 07856 070123. Entry to the quiz is £2 per person with a maximum of 6 people to a team. In addition there will be a raffle and all profits from the evening go to St Elizabeth Hospice. Quiz nights are **Saturday 27th November** and **Saturday 18th December**.

Open Mic Nights

Our Open Mic Nights are still being held on the second Thursday each month and are well attended. We have a Bose F1 PA system provided by a volunteer plus mics, mixing facilities and monitor. If you would like to take part please contact Dave on 07885 963882. The bar will be open 6pm – 10pm. The next two dates for your diary are **Thursday 9th December** and **Thursday 13th January**.

Meet Up Mondays

As the days start to become dark quite early and if you are feeling a bit down, why not come along to our Meet Up Monday sessions. Tea and coffee are provided free of charge and there is lots of good humour and conversation (and sometimes lots of delicious cakes and biscuits provided by those attending). 2 – 3 pm every Monday afternoon.

Finally we'd like to say a huge thank you to all those who have kept The Case going through yet another very extraordinary year, our wonderful volunteers, customers, members and all those who have supported us during these unprecedented times. Without you we could not keep going.

Wishing everyone a very good Christmas and an even better New Year!

SHARE OFFER

We, at The Case, have regular requests from visitors about how they can become more involved in our fantastic community enterprise. Well now you can! Bentley Community Pub Ltd (Case is Altered) is again welcoming those from Bentley and further afield the opportunity to become members through our new share offer.

To take advantage of this offer, just complete an application form, these will be available from December 1. The application forms will be available during pub opening hours and will be behind the bar, just ask a volunteer for a copy.

When completed the forms and payment should be sent to our treasurer, Peter Cross, at the following address: The Corral, Capel Road, Bentley, IP9 2DW. Please ensure you have read the summary points thoroughly before deciding to invest.

If you require further information please contact Peter on 01473 310410



Sample of the Otter Spraint Contents



Otter Spraints



European Otter (*Lutra Lutra*) - Internet photo

BENTLEY WILDLIFE NOTES

Otter highway in Bentley

In late September this year, while about to cross the Stutton Mill Stream from the parish of Bentley into the parish of East Bergholt, I noticed what appeared to be several otter spraints (patches of faeces) on the right-hand bank. Bending down, I detected the musky, sweet smell that helps identify otter faeces. After taking photographs of the spraints, (**page 15, opposite**) one of the spraints was collected in a clean 'doggy poo bag' to bring home. A month or so later, the bag's contents were emptied into the bottom of a shallow dish of water and examined using a binocular microscope. This magnification revealed the contents as several small feathers and some small broken, hollow leg bones, the latter looking as though they had been crunched. Otters feed on a wide variety of prey but mainly fish, especially eels. However, they will also take frogs, crayfish and occasionally water-birds, for example moorhen and duck, especially their young. The feathers and hollow, crunched pieces of bone in the spraint were evidence that a small bird had been caught and eaten, possibly a young moorhen. Otter spraints may be important in communication as they can discriminate between spraints of different individuals.

Other local evidence of otters includes: one seen by the bridge adjacent to Little Dodnash Farm, Bentley; several sightings at Belstead Brook, especially near the sluice close to Bourne Park, and very recently two caught on camera taking fish from a pond in the Copdock/Washbrook area. Otters are essentially solitary but if an otter group is seen it is likely to be a female plus her young of the year.

Otter habitat comprises lakes, rivers, streams and marshes but they are capable of overland journeys between such habitats, sometimes over considerable distances. Home ranges vary greatly in size, depending on food supply. They have very few natural predators but humans are responsible directly or indirectly for most known mortality, they are especially vulnerable to interference from river management, human recreational activities, water pollution, and road traffic.

Otters are protected throughout Britain under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981). Habitat protection is the principal method of conservation.

Please report any sightings of otters or other mammals to suffolkwildlifetrust.org and to suffolkmammals@sns.org.uk

Colin Hawes

BENTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Chair – Cllr M Munday
Bentley Parish Council

Mrs J Scott
Clerk – Bentley Parish Council
Telephone: 01206 298174
e- mail:joyvscott@outlook.com

Bentley Parish Council Meeting (Preceded by a Playing Field Society Meeting) took place at Bentley Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 4th November 2021 –

A risk assessment had been carried out for 9 Councillors and up to 24-28 members of the public with seating 1 metre plus apart.

8 Councillors, County Councillor G Hall, District Councillor D Busby, Tree Warden. Footpath Warden and Speedwatch Co-ordinator were present. **Apologies** were received from Cllr Schumacher.

Items reported under Matters Arising: Reminder of Remembrance Service on 14th November when the road will be closed from 10.50 to 11.30 – notices have been posted on the notice boards and website. Nothing re caravan on Highfield. E-mail thanks to Ray Bloomfield for the work undertaken on the Playing Field.

County Councillor Hall and District Councillor Busby's Reports are displayed on the Parish Council Website. **Public Session** – residents input – Bench requested for Silver Leys – traffic calming measures requested in Capel Road – and County Broadband vs Openreach.

Planning - One planning application was received.

One Planning application was discussed – Councillors **Recommended Approval**.

Reports were received from the Tree Warden, Capel Library, Bentley Long Barn and Speedwatch Co-ordinator.

Matters discussed

- Approval of six month accounts – Deferred
- 2022 grass cutting quote for Closed Churchyard – Deferred
- Parking – Garages Silver Leys – This is now Crown land & is up to residents who use the area to sort it out.
- Projector & Broadband Village Hall – A projector to show planning application details would be useful to present planning documents – the usual printed versions have not been available due to Covid restrictions. Investigating whether the Village Hall has a projector for use by residents.
- To discuss Community Fibre- County Broadband/Openreach – Working Party to be formed to find the best option for the Village – difference between Openreach, County Broadband or any other provider – Parish Council to sponsor leaflet to be delivered to every house in Bentley.
- Dangers of Horse Riding in the Village – measurements to be taken of the road and sent to SCC Highways.

Continued on p.18.....

.....Continued from p.17

- CPR Training re Defibrillators – 30 people had responded via the Bentley Facebook Page
- Possible extension to a Bentley Footpath – Landowner preferred to keep things on hold at the moment as sheep would be going on that field this week.
- Tree on Silver Leys – Clerk to contact Suffolk County Council
- SID is performing well – ANPR is ongoing.
- Playing Field Society – Drainage of the field has been completed by Terrain Aeration Services – a CIL application has been submitted to Babergh re Outdoor Gym Equipment and a Draft Policy for use of the field has been drawn up and accepted by Trustees.
- Nothing to report on Neighbourhood Plan – The Inspector is back and picking it up again. Consultation has been given an extension to the end of next week for comments.

The meeting closed at 9.40 p.m. Full draft minutes are available on the PC website - www.bentleypc.onesuffolk.net.

BENTLEY FIREWORKS 2021



Well by all accounts we came back with a Bang judging by all the comments we have received. After a wet build up, the evening was dry and warm and from my position I had a great view of all the light novelties being enjoyed by the children.

The evening went off with only a minor hitch of one of the generators running out of fuel, and then deciding it had had enough. However, we had sufficient power due to the generosity of a local resident who allowed us to use theirs,

so, “Thank you”.

Prices were deliberately kept at the same level as all the previous years to welcome the village back together following the all the difficulties we have endured through Covid and Lockdowns. So it seems that another great night was had by all the attendees.

There are too many volunteers who helped set up and took part on the evening to name, but they all deserve all our thanks for making the event successful. I shall have to mention one volunteer for who it was his last appearance. David West, who has helped the Firework team from year one is moving away, so thank you. However, we have a replacement already!

We look forward to seeing you all again next year.

If you wish to assist, or have any suggestions or comments please get in touch with us.

Tim & Jan Hamstead

PLANNING DECISIONS ARE EASY AREN'T THEY?



By the time you read this COP26 will have come and gone but the debate will rumble on. Of course, we are all behind saving the planet and therefore will do whatever it takes to keep temperature rise to no more than 1.5 degrees. **Or are we?** We hear the arguments, that all countries put forward as to why they should be excluded or allowed more time, but we dismiss them - it is for the greater good after all. But what if our County Council discovered huge reserves of oil under their land and promised a much-enhanced bus service to all villages and a new, state-of-the-art hospital from the proceeds of drilling? Do we still support climate change whatever the loss of benefits to us?

This is part of the dilemma that Lincolnshire County Council face as millions of barrels of oil is believed to lie beneath an area of natural beauty in the Lincolnshire Wolds. The promises of buses and hospitals haven't been made so of course there are objectors, action groups and petitions trying to get it stopped.

The point of this article is not to highlight the issue of cost v benefits and the balance that planners and committees have to make on every application. No, it is show how councils have their hands tied by central Government. ***Lincolnshire Council planning officials said that they were unable to consider climate change when assessing the development.***

Despite being challenged, no ordered, by Government to become carbon neutral by 2030 we are not allowed to refuse applications because of climate change, energy inefficiencies or insufficient attention to biodiversity. We know that our refusals will be overturned in court at great expense to the taxpayer. How can we possibly achieve our goals with this level of joined up thinking?

The decision on this controversial application was

Dave Busby - District Councillor for Bentley

BENTLEY REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

Jesus said: I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the
Father, but by me
(John 14:6)

Weekly Services

Prayer and Bible Study via Zoom – Thursdays 7pm

Sunday at 10.45 am and 3.00 pm – Worship Services

At the chapel by arrangement

For further information:

Telephone Admin: 07814 465222

www.bentleyreformedbaptistchurch.com

e-mail: info@bentleyreformedbaptistchurch.com

Or find us on Facebook

THE GOSPEL – GOOD NEWS FOR SINNERS

God is holy, and all of us are sinners:

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; (Romans 3:23)

All of us deserve God's eternal punishment because of our sin, but there is a way out:

For the wages of sin *is* death; but the gift of God *is* eternal life
through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Romans 6:23)

For all those who believe and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, there is
the guarantee of forgiveness of sin and eternal life:

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever
believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)

And for these, the ultimate promise is this:

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no
more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain:
for the former things are passed away. (Revelation 21:4)

We would be delighted to see you at one of our services.

However, we continue to be mindful of health and safety during the COVID pandemic.

Therefore, if you would like to come, please contact us first via email:

info@bentleyreformedbaptistchurch.com, or by phone: 07814 465222, so we can
make sure there is a place for you.

Be assured for our continued prayers for the people of Bentley.

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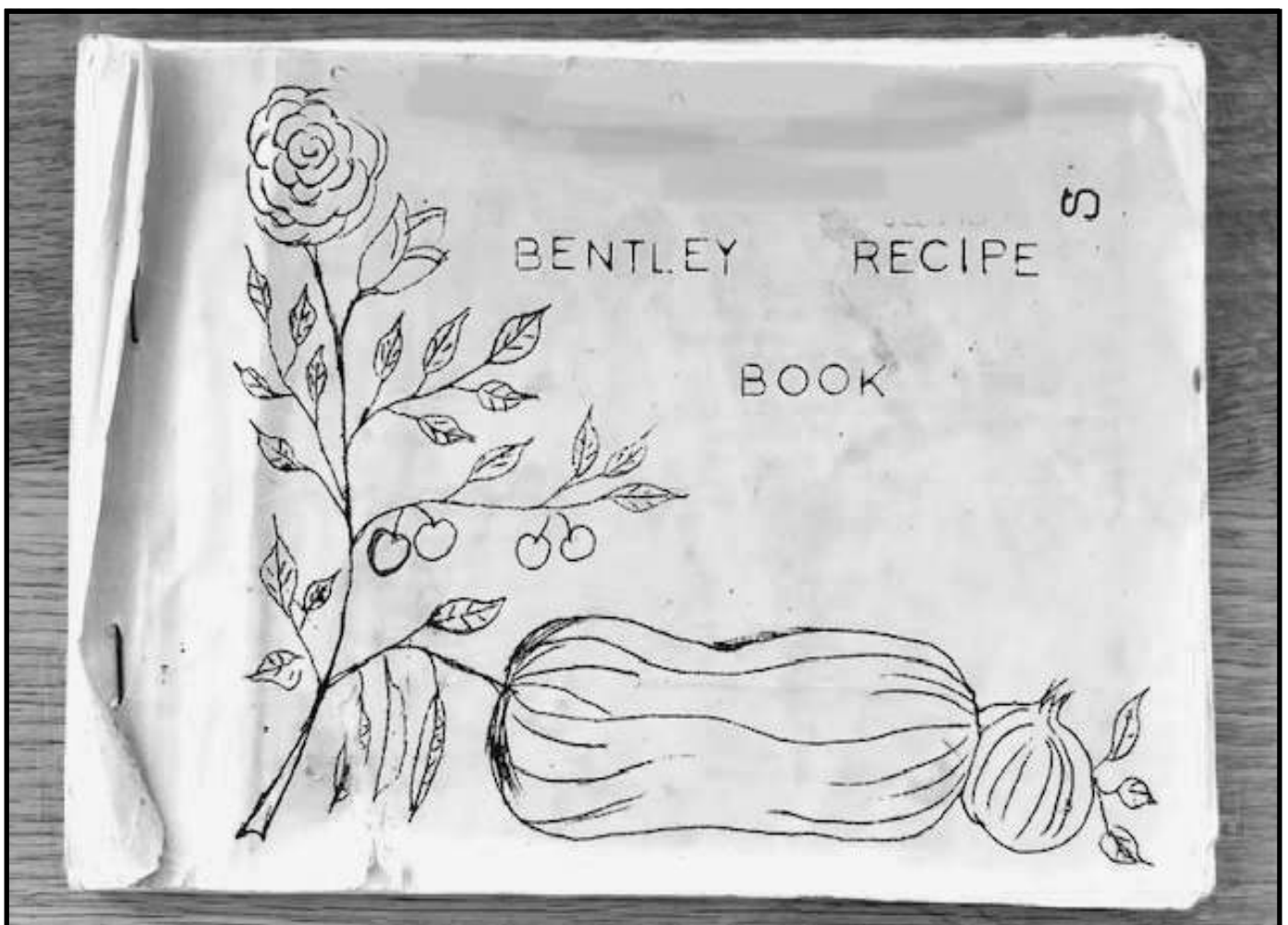
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BENTLEY RECIPE BOOK

We all know that there are many living in Bentley who love to bake a cake or two - or three. You have only got to look at the mountain of cakes and savouries that are donated to the Macmillan coffee morning in September each year, to know this. But did you know that back in the 1970s Bentley residents were just as eager to share their cookery skills. Yes, almost 50 years ago a group of keen cooks and bakers produced the Bentley Recipe Book, (Photo opposite). The group, mostly connected by the then village play group, put together a cookbook of their tried and tested recipes. It included savoury, dessert, cake, biscuit and miscellaneous dishes. Given the quantities, some of the recipes were definitely war time and ration booked based, such as Cheese Pudding (which has very little cheese) but they were obviously all family favourites. Others were influenced by more cosmopolitan ingredients such as soy sauce and green peppers that can be found in the recipe for Liver Risotto and some are still being used today by their authors, as 'go to' family culinary favourites!

Do you have a favourite dish you would like to share? The Parish Council is considering printing a new Bentley Recipe Book, hopefully in time for the Queens Platinum Jubilee next summer. We will of course be keeping some of the more interesting older dishes, such as Crundle Pudding and Snickerdoodles along side a selection of today's standby dishes from the village's cooks. If you have a family recipe that you think others should know about and would like it included in our new cook book then please contact Cllr Spicer on 01473 314187 for more information.



BEST WISHES FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR FROM BENTLEY STORES.

As usual we will be here to support the village through the holiday season and our hours are shown in the panel below.

We need more Volunteers for 2022

Our volunteers have been wonderful but we are still looking for a few more to keep us going through next year as some residents move away and to cover for any holidays etc.

Volunteering is surprisingly good for us and you do meet more people around the village who you would normally just wave to as they pass in their cars!

We are only talking of a couple of hours a week serving in the shop or doing some buying if that interests you? Full training and on going help is available.

Refresher Training

We have been open since July 2016 and over the years things change so we are offering Refresher Training to anyone who would like an update or reminder about anything to do with our community shop. It is a really enjoyable way to spend a few hours and in doing so help our community. This can be planned out of normal shop hours at your convenience so you can "play shops" as one of our regular volunteers says!

If you would like to find out more about any aspect of the shop, volunteering or refresher training please contact either:-

Val Munns on 01473 677072 Or Bob Feltwell on 01473 310735

Or email info@bentleystores.co.uk

2021 Christmas/ New Year Shop Hours

Thursday 23rd December. 9 - 1.30

Friday 24th. 9 - 12.00

Saturday Christmas Day Closed No Papers

Sunday 26th December Closed. No Papers

Monday 27th to Friday 31st 9 - 12.00

Saturday 1st January Closed No Papers

Sunday 2nd January 9 - 12.00

Monday 3rd back to normal hours!

Weekdays 9- 1.30

Weekends 9 - 12.00

FRIENDS OF CAPEL LIBRARY 100 CLUB

October Draw winners:-

Gary Bunkell £25 Sue Whybrow £15 Eddie Coyle £5 Caroline Taylor £5

November Draw winners:-

Linda Phillips £25 June Hall £15 Isla Budgen £5 Bob Perkin £5

Prizes can be collected from the Library.

2022 membership renewal forms are available from the Library.

Thank you for your support.

Bob Perkin (Treasurer)



Why plant trees?

Habitat restoration and woodland expansion across landscapes will play a huge role in addressing the threats we face from climate change and biodiversity loss.

About The Woodland Trust

They work together with partners, landowners and communities to make the landscape-scale changes needed to take us into the future. They're restoring, protecting and creating woodland in focus areas across the UK, planting trees in the right place, and rekindling our love and connection with woods and wildlife at a local level.

Free trees for schools and communities

The Woodland Trust are giving away hundreds of thousands of trees to schools and communities. Together, they plan to get millions more trees in the ground.

What is happening in Bentley?

Our local Tree Warden, Colin Hawes is arranging for the delivery of trees from The Woodland Trust.

So far, 150 tree whips (saplings) were planted in Bentley last year and 150 the year before that. To date that's 300 trees added to the Bentley landscape. The tree species provided in 2019 and 2020 were English oak, hornbeam, wild cherry, field maple and wild crab apple. The saplings provided were 30-60 cm tall and grown in such a way that their roots spread evenly downwards. These were planted throughout the village but mainly at sites where there was plenty of space for them to grow to full size, eventual height and spread being taken into account. The rest were planted either to gap up a hedgerow or as an individual tree suitable for a smaller space.

More will be planted between November and March 2021-2022. The trees, stakes and guards all come free from the Woodland Trust via the Suffolk Tree Warden Network. The tree species provided will be the same except for field maple where birch or whitebeam has been offered instead. The Tree Warden has selected whitebeam as the substitute.

Delivery will be sometime during the third week of November. They will be delivered to the playing field where stakes and guards can be stored in the container; trees will be stored and watered elsewhere until wanted for planting.

Ipswich Rotary have been asked to help with the planting and Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB Work Party Volunteers are also assisting with planting trees and hedging in the newly designated area of the AONB in Bentley.

THE BENTLEY EXCHANGE

Advertise your unwanted goods or requests for items you require, for FREE, in the Bentley Exchange. This service is available to Bentley residents only, no traders. Just call or email your details to: ROBIN OWEN (contact details on Page 4)

FOR SALE - Raleigh bike ...3 speed
Sturmey Archer gear.....dynamo....two
helmets...bike stand ...box of parts
pumps etc some new.
Proceeds to Motor Neurone Charity.
Around £50 Contact john wheals. 310569



WANTED - Wild flower seeds for enlarged garden near to “garden of remembrance” in Bentley churchyard. Contact Peter (Churchwarden) 01473 310518 or mobil 07570 103005 or email peter.d47@hotmail.co.uk.

“Hello from Dogs Trust!”

Your local Dogs Trust branch at Snetterton would like to briefly make you aware of a few services that we provide free of charge:

The first, our Canine Care Card scheme, is a **free** service for dog-owners whereby, in the event of their death or illness, we will look after their dog, providing them with all the care they need until we can find a responsible, loving new home for them. Every year, we care for more than 14,000 dogs at our nationwide network of rehoming centres and we never put down a healthy dog

Secondly I wanted to make you aware that we provide free talks to local community groups. I cover the whole of the East Anglia region, to talk about the varied work of Dogs Trust, where we come from and where we hope to be in the future. There are no speaker fees or travelling expenses so please let me know if you believe that your local club would be interested. (See posters opposite)

If anyone has any further queries, or would be interested in booking in a talk, please contact me by emailing emily.matthews@dogstrust.org.uk or phone 01953 497912.

If you use Facebook you may be interested in:- **Bentley (In Suffolk) Community Page.** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/292599697915731/>

OTHER VILLAGE WEBSITES

Bentley Village Stores - www.bentleystores.co.uk

Bentley CEVC Primary School - www.bentley.suffolk.sch.uk

The Case is Altered - <http://www.thecasepubbentley.co.uk>

<https://www.tapatalk.com/groups/bentleyfreespeech>

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Talks

for Community & Social Groups

We can offer an online version or socially distanced talks - please get in touch to discuss options.



Contact Paige at
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E: paige.pope@dogstrust.org.uk
T: 01953 497912

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Looking for that one thing? Need a film prop? We might have just found what you are looking for as we buy and sell furniture, antiques and collectables. We have a network of opportunity, auction houses and buyers who may be looking for what you have to sell.

storeit

Our own secure monitored storage facility is located near Ipswich but we can also source storage for your belongings anywhere in the world through our working relationship with self storage providers, let us take care of your personal and business storage needs.

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PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL TRADERS

Copy for Feb 2022 – Mar 2022 should reach us by Friday 21st Jan.