



*Froxfield and Privett Parish
Magazine*



November 2024



Three photos of the Harvest decorations in High Cross. Edward says 'The display of fruit and vegetables at the table was made by some of the children from Year 6 at Froxfield School, with the support of Mrs Hollis - it is very good, isn't it?' Yes, we think it is. The Altar display was made by some of the Year 6 children.

Froxfield and Privett Parish Information

Parish Magazine

All articles, news and for sale items: froxfield.parish@btinternet.com
 Phone: Evenings & weekends: 827476 Editors: Caroline & Steve Dillon

Contact Details for Parish Clubs & Societies

Froxfield Village Hall: Contact: Angela Hiscock 01730 827 066 or enquiries@froxfieldvillagehall.co.uk

Privett Village Hall: Secretary: Alex Raphael 01730 828461

www.PrivettVillageHall.co.uk

Froxfield & Privett Garden Club: Elizabeth Houghton-Connell 01730 828889

Darts Teams: Angela Hiscock: 01730 827066

Cricket Club: Kevin Hiscock: 01730 827066

Froxfield Choir: NICO JACKSON nicola.jackson2@btopenworld.com

Ladies Friendship Group: Ursela Legg 01730 828324

Froxfield Ringers: Teresa Brown: 828003 or 07799 831426

Country & Western: Viv Barnett 01730 268306

Parish Clerk: 07396722442. clerk@froxfieldandprivett.org.uk

Froxfield Stores & Post Office: Howard & Charlotte 01730 827778
www.froxfield stores.com

Parish website: www.froxfieldandprivett.org.uk
 Defibrillator access code: C0147X

Bin Days Thursday Unless Otherwise Indicated

7 th	14 th	21 st	Friday 29 th	Jun 4 th
Recycling	Refuse Bin	Recycling & Glass Collection	Refuse Bin	Recycling

Poppy Collection In Froxfield And Privett – 2024



With door-to-door collection becoming more difficult, last year we trialled a hub system, which seemed very successful, and which we will repeat this year.

There will be a number of collection hubs where the Froxfield and Privett community can buy poppies. These

hubs will be:

Froxfield Drive – Kate Adams – in her absence a door-to-door collection on 26 and 27 October.

Froxfield Green – Jane de Halpert will host the hub.

Froxfield Stores, Dellfield, High Cross

Fawley Farm Feeds, Fawley Farm, Privett

The Old Dairy Tea Room, Fawley Farm, Privett

The Trooper and **White Horse/No Name** – as before.

Froxfield School – restricted to supporting staff and students, as before.

High Cross and Froxfield Green **churches** – will have poppy boxes available in November services.

Thus we will have about 7 static hubs within easy reach of residents for all to contribute to the Poppy Collection. Please support this arrangement.

The start date for the collection will be 21 October, and the Annual Remembrance service will be at Froxfield Green on Sunday 10 November.

Many thanks for your support.

Jeremy de Halpert and Michael Farrell

Cover

This month's cover photo is courtesy of Mike Broughton, who took a photo of a poppy in the field by his house. Thanks Mike. Very topical. Please give as generously as you can to Michael Farrell's and Jeremy de Halpert's poppy collection see above



Christmas Wreaths and Table Decorations at Privett

Once again at Privett Village Hall we are holding a seasonal and popular event, a morning where you can make your Christmas wreath or table decoration with assistance from those who know how to do it! It will be held on **Saturday 7 December**, from **9.30 am**.

Wreath holders and greenery will be provided, but if you want to include any special decorations (such as candles or baubles) bring them along. If your garden has interesting foliage, bring that, too, to share with the group. And don't forget to bring your secateurs.

The cost is £15, and coffee, a light lunch and mulled wine are included. Let Teresa Brown know in advance if you are coming (tel. 828003; email: teresa.mbrown2011@gmail.com). So that the right wreath holders can be ordered, let Teresa know if you would like moss and wire; oasis and a wreath ring; ivy or willow; or anything else you have in mind to form the basis of your wreath.



Wednesday 13th November

Froxfield Village Hall 7.30pm

A talk by Ray Broughton 'FLOWERING SHRUBS'

Non-members are very welcome £3

www.fpgarden.club

The Parish & Village School "Reverse Advent Calendar" this December

Once again, in the run up to Christmas, the parish and the village school are setting up in the church a Reverse Advent Calendar in order to provide festive food and also essentials for the PACT Foodbank in Petersfield. The demands made on the Foodbank are as great as ever, both throughout the year and especially at Christmas time, when household budgets in some families are especially under pressure.

The idea is simple but forgive us for reminding you once again how this works: in a reverse of the usual idea of an Advent Calendar (opening a "window" in the calendar for each day of December and taking a gift) you bring a gift and put it in the calendar for that day. The "calendar" in this instance is a display in the church of carrier bags, each marked with a day of the month and the particular gift for that day – boxes of mince pies; chocolate; tins of soup; Christmas puddings; nuts; toothpaste; shampoo; stollen and other goodies for Christmas plus essentials for everyday life.

This December we will be opening up once more the Reverse Advent Calendar, again as a joint endeavour by Froxfield School and the parish, and all are encouraged and truly welcomed to make donations to the Calendar. As in previous years, children from Froxfield School will be visiting the Foodbank to see for themselves how the Foodbank operates, and the nature and extent of its work in our area.

From the end of November, the 24 large bags will be set out at the back of the church (the church is open every day from 8.30am to 5pm), and you can bring your gifts whenever it suits you. In December's Parish Magazine we will list the days of the month and the gifts for each day, but there is no rule about this – come when you can and all the bags will remain available throughout the month. Please note that the bags will be emptied very regularly to reduce the risk of theft.

Some may prefer to make a cash donation to the work of the PACT Foodbank, and in December's Parish Magazine we will give details of how you can do that by cheque or online.

Reverse Advent Calendar continued

The PACT Foodbank has been really grateful in past years for all the donations received from our Reverse Advent Calendar. We are sure that they will be just as grateful this year, and in advance we thank you for your thoughtfulness, care and generosity.

**Rob Hollis – Churchwarden
Governor**

Edward Sadler – School

Froxfield Choir – November Concert



Our next concert is on Saturday 23rd November, 7.30pm, at St Peter's Church, High Cross, when we will be performing Pergolesi's Stabat Mater and Haydn's Little Organ Mass. It's the perfect music for a convivial evening in a surprisingly warm church! We'd be delighted to see you there. Tickets are available from One Tree Books, via members of the choir, or on the door (though we strongly advise you book).

A reminder that this year the popular service of Nine Lessons and Carols in Privett is on a **Saturday**, 21st December at 6.30pm.

We continue to welcome new members to our amateur choir, particularly tenors and basses. We sing a mixed repertoire - ancient and modern, secular and non-secular. If you'd like to come along to a rehearsal and see if you'd like to join us, please contact Lesley Howe at lkhowe58@gmail.com who can provide you with more details. We're a friendly bunch and we'd love to see you. If you're unsure of your voice part we will help guide you, and nothing is set in stone.

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and X, formerly known as Twitter, @Froxfield Choir and on our website <https://froxfordchoir.co.uk>

Drop In



The next Drop In will be held on Saturday 9th November from 10.30 to 12 noon at Froxfield Village Hall. Please join us for tea, coffee and cake and a chance to catch up with friends and neighbours. All are welcome! Children 16 and under to be accompanied by an adult please.

Any queries to Susanna on 07743 690331

Film Night Plus at Privett – Friday 22 November – *The Fall Guy*



Our first winter Film Night Plus at Privett is on Friday 22 November (note, **Friday**), where we are showing the film *The Fall Guy*, starring Ryan Gosling and Emily Blunt.

When it came out earlier this year the film had great reviews: "A gloriously fun action film" was The Spectator's view, and

in the US, *Time Magazine* had this to say:

"The Fall Guy is an ode to the stuntpeople who drive cars at death-defying speeds, fall from dizzying heights, and get set on fire, all in the service of the fantasy of movies. But its biggest selling point is its duo of leads, Ryan Gosling as a once-swaggering stuntman struggling to make a comeback, and Emily Blunt as the fledgling director he's trying to romance... Charm is in short supply at the movies these days, but Gosling and Blunt give us every reason to believe in it."

We haven't had an action-packed film before, but this, with a RomCom background, is classy and entertaining. It has a 12A certificate, so kids should enjoy it, too.

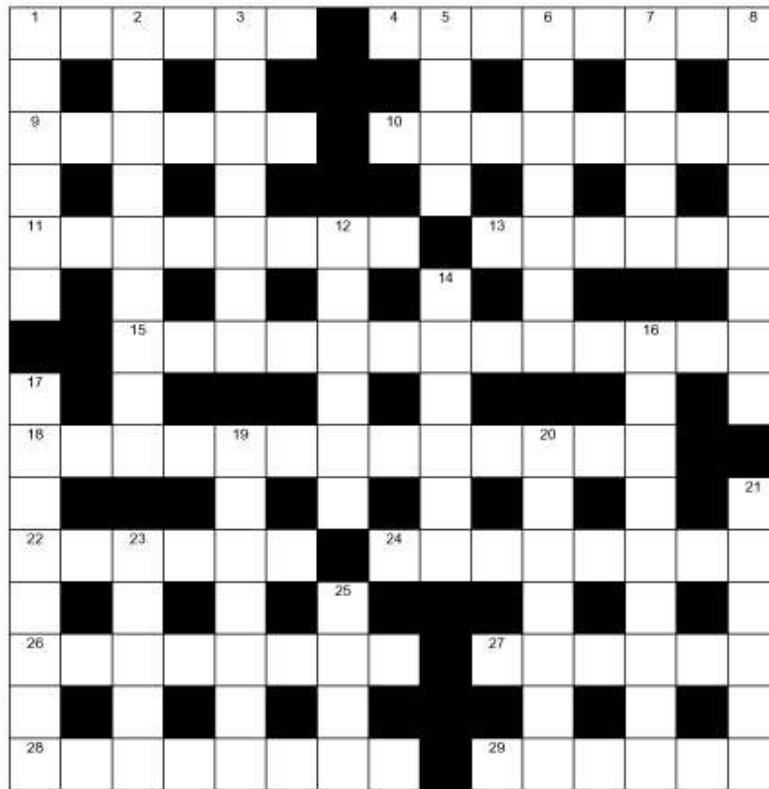
Before the film we will be serving a supper of chilli con carne – just a touch of the Hollywood Wild West heritage. And, of course, a choc ice to follow. There will be a donations bar serving bottled beer and wine.

The evening begins promptly at **7.00pm**, and the film should be finished by 10.15pm at the latest.

Ticket prices for the evening are held at £12, and you are encouraged to reserve them well in advance so that we can cater for the demand. Tickets are available from Gill Chung (tel. 828317; email: gillianchung@btinternet.com) or Alex Raphael (tel. 828461); email: araphael.enamels@googlemail.com).

So come along to enjoy this stylish tribute to those unsung heroes of the movies, the stuntmen, with a charming love story which survives all the death-defying action stunts!

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Across

- 1 Glorifies
 4 Sceptical; suspicious
 9 Remunerate in advance
 10 A raised level surface at a railway station, alongside the lines
 11 An historic county town in the Midlands
 13 E.g. Spring or summer
 15 'Fend a café diet' (anag).
 18 In the Roman Catholic church, a step towards creating a saint
 22 Flee
 24 Young hares
 26 Amulet
 27 A device that detects and responds to changes in the environment
 28 E.g. Apple pie and trifle
 29 Consents

Down

- 1 Disclose; reveal
 2 Former queen of England who married Edward VII in 1863
 3 Vehicles moving on a public highway
 5 Capital of Norway
 6 Amid
 7 Collapses; fails
 8 Soft drink
 12 Fibre made from palm leaves and used to make mats and baskets
 14 Caution!
 16 Southeastern US state
 17 Protested
 19 A deadlock
 20 A large floating mass detached from a glacier
 21 Takes a position of power illegally
 23 Phones; rings
 25 Role



The Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery, Alton

(01420 82802)

www.hampshireculture.org.uk/curtis-museum

www.hampshireculture.org.uk/allen-gallery

Opening Times

Tuesday to Sunday Curtis 10am – 4.30pm. Allen 10.30 – 4pm

November Events

Exhibitions

7 - 20 November: *Mindscales*, an exhibition of paintings by artist Kim Cody. Meet the artist: Kim will be in the Gallery on 8 November to answer questions and talk about her work and techniques, drop in from 11 am - 3 pm.

24 - 26 November: a mini exhibition of artworks by local home educating families.

30 November - 1 January: *Made and More*, an exhibition of artworks and craft by local artists and makers. Find unique gifts to buy - all items will be available to purchase on the spot. (Just in time for Christmas.)

WORKSHOP (bookable in advance online):

Wednesday 20 November, Allen Gallery: Japanese calligraphy workshop with artist Sachiko Mason, 10.30am - 1.30pm, (adults) £30/£24, please book online.

If you are unable to make online bookings please contact us on 01420 82802 and we may be able to assist you (subject to availability).

The Friends Of The Curtis Museum and Allen Gallery talk for November will be on Butser Ancient Farm, by Thérèse Kearns. Allen Gallery, 14th November at 7.30pm, FREE, donations welcome.

Solution To October Crossword Puzzle

Across - 1 Care, 3 Clockmaker, 8 Amicable, 9 Tokens, 10 Acumen, 11 Falconer, 13 Abducted, 14 Salute, 16 Chairs, 19 Picadors, 21 Sedation, 22 Cherry, 23 Radium, 24 Contends, 25 Pernickety, 26 Thus.

Down - 1 Charabanc, 2 Excommunication, 3 Cabinet, 4 Overfed, 5 Kettles, 6 Acknowledgement, 7 Riser, 12 Eft, 15 Essayists, 17 Hue, 18 Seismic, 19 Panache, 20 Cockney, 21 Syrup.



Clergy Corner: A moment of History

You may have heard the whisper of a momentous anniversary in our neighbouring community that is fast approaching.

Just 59 years after William the Conqueror landed on England's south coast, the community of Steep began a new spiritual journey. In 1125 the first part of a church building was started, giving the village its own place of worship. Here began the gradual development of All Saints into the building that we know and love today.

Then, as now, this became the site of family and community celebrations, of important life-rituals marking births, marriages and deaths. Where they had needed to journey the difficult miles to East Meon, parishioners could now gather to express their Christian faith in their own village.

As in Froxfield and Privett, Steep church has always sought to make a positive difference in the heart of its community, reflecting the world-changing love of God that Jesus shows us. Through our life, worship and actions we hope that the 900th anniversary year will refresh that vision, welcoming everyone, young and old(er!) to step into their shared history and beyond, and to experience God's life and love for themselves.

On Sunday 3rd November we celebrate the festival of All Saints at Steep, after which the church is named. What better day to launch the anniversary year for Steep Church? At our Benefice Service at 10am on that day the Bishop of Portsmouth will be our guest speaker, and a new piece of music by Jonathan Willcocks has been commissioned to be sung as part of the service. Everyone is invited to this very special occasion.

Look out for opportunities throughout the next twelve months to celebrate – to enjoy concerts and other events, and to discover more about the part that All Saints Church has played in Steep's life over the past 900 years, and what it means to us all.

10.00AM Sunday November 3rd 2024 All Saints Church Steep
You are invited to a service celebrating the Church's 900th Anniversary
Canon Susie Collingridge, Priest in Charge



TABLE TOP SALE

(in aid of the Privett Church Tower repairs)

**Come along to buy Christmas gifts,
refreshments & enjoy a chat**

*stalls include leather craft, honey products,
jewellery, & other gift items, adult & children's books,*

SATURDAY 30TH NOVEMBER

10AM - 2PM

at

PRIVETT VILLAGE HALL

GU34 3NU

Stallholders a donation on Sales - General Admission free
Enquiries to teresa.mbrown2011@gmail.com

Get in to the festive spirit

with

Eliza B Flowers
Christmas Wreath
Workshops

Saturday 30 November 2024

10.30am-12.30pm

or

3-5pm

Froxfield Village Hall
High Cross

Petersfield GU32 1EQ

Tickets are £25 and spaces are limited so
reserve your place by emailing

teresa.mbrown2011@gmail.com



Autumn Reflections

Pergolesi's Stabat Mater and Haydn's Little Organ Mass

St Peter's, High Cross, GU32 1EQ
Saturday 23rd November at 7.30pm

Froxfield Choir with SouthDowns Camerata
and organist Matthew Cooke

Tickets £15 (£10 students) available from
One Tree Books, Petersfield, TicketSource or on the door

www.froxfieldchoir.co.uk

Benefice Worship

Truly the Lord is in this place: this is no other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven.

Genesis 28.16, 17

Sunday 3 November: All Saints' Sunday (White/Gold)

10am 900th Celebration Service and
Benefice Patronal Communion, Steep

Guest preacher: Bishop Jonathan, Bishop of Portsmouth

Sunday 10 November: Remembrance Sunday (Red)/ The 3rd Sunday before Advent

8.30am Holy Communion (BCP, said), Stroud
10.45am Remembrance Service, Froxfield Green
10.45am Remembrance Service, Steep

Sunday 17 November: The 2nd Sunday before Advent

8.30am Holy Communion (BCP, said), Steep
10am Parish Communion, High Cross

Sunday 24 November: Christ the King (Red or White)/ Sunday Next before Advent

8.30am Holy Communion (BCP, said), Stroud
10am Parish Communion, Steep
11am Morning Prayer, Froxfield Green

Sunday 1 December: Advent Sunday (Purple)

8.30am Holy Communion (BCP, said), Steep
10am The Ten AM (less formal worship), Steep
10am Parish Communion, High Cross

Welcome to a variety of services across our benefice

For further information, request our
weekly emailed news sheet at

steepfroxfordprivett@gmail.com,

or visit our website www.steepfroxford.com

(Red or Green) November 2024

Steep: All Saints: GU32 2DD | Stroud Church: GU32 1AT

High Cross: St Peter's, GU32 1EQ

Froxfield Green: St Peter-on-the Green, GU32 1DQ

Privett: Holy Trinity, GU34 3PE



Our Annual General Meeting was held at Privett Village Hall on Tuesday 8 October, which was very successful. Official business was completed in a timely manner before our speaker for the evening, Ben Pope, commenced his talk.

Ben spoke to us on container planting, and he gave us a lot of tips and ideas on the subject, which was particularly useful with Spring bulb planting in full swing. Ben is very inventive with his planting ideas, and he showed us lots of photos of how artistic you can be with your pots and containers.

On the subject of Spring bulbs, Members were reminded that one of the classes in the Spring Show for 2025 is 5 Miniature Daffodils in a pot no more than 15cm (6") diameter so we need to get planting in order that we have lots of entries in this class. The photography classes are 'Wonderful Water' and 'Woodland Walk', so please make sure when you are out and about this Autumn and Winter that you have your phones and cameras ready to capture those shots for your photography class entries next year in the Spring Show.

Our next meeting will be held at Froxfield Village Hall on Wednesday 13 November at 7.30pm. Ray Broughton will be our speaker for the evening and he will be talking to us on 'Spring Flowering Shrubs'. Ray is an exceptionally experienced speaker and joined Sparsholt Horticultural College near Winchester as a Lecturer in 1981. During that time, he has been a Senior Horticultural Lecturer and Head of the Horticultural Department. We always enjoy his presentations and are looking forward to meeting Ray again on the 13th November.

Sue Kinlochan


"Walking Wednesdays".

Do you enjoy walking? If so, you might be interested in joining a new social group I am setting up called "Walking Wednesdays".

The event will take place on the first Wednesday of the month. The idea is to meet at 9:30 at High Cross church (use the village hall car park) and walk to the Old Dairy Privett for refreshment.

Once we have a group, we can sort out ways to return travel from Privett either on foot or by car or bike! For those who might find this too far there will be the option to "peel off" enroute and return to the hall and or catch us up at the tearoom (or not) as they wish.

If you and your friends are interested in joining me, please let me know.
Suzanne Tong: 01730 260430 Tongventhams@gmail.com



Walking

Wednesdays

9:30 am the First Wednesday of each month

High Cross Church to The Old Dairy Tearoom Privett

6th November 2024
4th December 2024
8th January 2025

Contact Suzanne Tong on TongVenthams@gmail.com or 01730 260430 for more information and travel arrangements



Parish Council News

These applications have been discussed by the Parish Council or the Planning Committee this month.

SDNP/24/03717/FUL Land North of Barnet Side Cottage, Barnet Side Lane, Froxfield, Petersfield, Hampshire, Change of use for the stationing of a temporary mobile home for a period of three years **to be used in** conjunction with the charcoal making and forestry business.
It was resolved to SUPPORT the application

SDNP/24/02880/TCA Holy Trinity Privett Three self seeded sycamore trees - Fell. Yew Tree 1 - Crown Reduction - Existing height 8 metres, proposed height 8 metres. Existing spread 5 metres proposed spread 4 metres. Yew Tree 2 - Crown Reduction Existing height 6 metres, proposed height 6 metres. Existing spread 3 metres, proposed spread 2 metres. It was resolved to OBJECT to the proposals. On the grounds that this is the fifth application for tree works since 2017 and whilst it is appreciated that tree management is necessary to preserve the church surrounds, the trees which are the subject of this application are positioned on or around the front boundary and cannot be considered to be having an adverse impact upon the grounds.

SDNP/24/03612/CND 4 Stoner Hill Cottages, Honeysuckle Cottage, Stoner Hill Road, Froxfield, Petersfield, Hampshire, GU32 1DX
Removal of conditions 6 and 7 and variation of condition 4 of 36315/001 to read as - "adequate space shall be provided within the site, for the loading, unloading and parking of vehicles to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority unless or until the parking and turning space approved under application 24/01295 has been provided in accordance with that permission and retained for that purpose".
It was resolved to OBJECT to the proposals.

Parish Council News continued

SDNP/24/03968/FUL Thatchers Farm, Warren Lane, Froxfield, Petersfield, Hampshire, GU32 1BJ Replacement dwelling with associated landscaping together with the consolidation of the existing scrap yard business with associated landscaping. It was agreed to OBJECT to the proposals

At the time of going to press, the yellow flashing signs outside the school at High Cross are still not working due to a delay with the electrical supply connection.

The yellow lines at High Cross were discussed at the October meeting but a final decision would be made until the information collected from other parties has been carefully considered.

Councillor Oppenheimer reported on several county matters. He was pleased to have returned to HCC's Cabinet as Executive Member for Health and Wellbeing. He is looking forward to working with the Public Health team and the NHS to make it easier for people to get healthy and stay healthy He thanked Cllr Rob Mocatta for working hard to prevent the closure of Petersfield Tip. He had discussed with the executive member the speeding issues on C18. His full report can be read on the parish council website.

Village Greening:

Reaching out to our villages on how we can become carbon neutral

Since the launch of Village Greening last year there has been steady progress and some positive developments over recent months. The screening of the uplifting film 2040 was a great success with around 50 villagers turning out to watch - many commented that they felt inspired by the film as to what can be achieved.



Since then, a successful fundraising event - the 'Midsummer Bash' - was held at Privett Village Hall. It was a great evening, enjoyed by all who attended.

This, along with a small grant from EHDC via Councillor Nick Drew, has provided a boost of funds for the movement.

Village Greening continued

Later in the summer an excellent training presentation was conducted by Stuart Mills of Energy Alton on the topic of energy efficiency, the retrofitting of insulation and other energy saving measures. Several Village Greening members plus a few other interested locals attended and we now feel better equipped to discuss those issues with people needing help with their energy consumption.

Village Greening is now considering its next step forward - a Future Energy Landscape (FEL) exercise for the parish. Information explaining what this is can be found at: <https://www.cse.org.uk/my-community/community-projects/future-energy-landscapes-community-consultation-method/>. This community-wide initiative will probably cost about £5,000 to operate so donations are still being sought to help with this.

We'd love to have more villagers join this important initiative and believe that a plan for the villages' transition away from carbon energy is essential. That plan needs real local support. So far local involvement has been stronger in Privett than in Froxfield. Please come along and help us ensure that our villages remain not only beautiful and comfortable but also do their bit for carbon reduction and energy transition.

Taking action locally can help everyone globally.

The members of Village Greening will be holding a meeting on Tuesday 12 November and would like local residents interested in getting involved to attend. Please contact either Mark Wright at markw@theadventureconnection.com or Mike Orchard at orchard.michael@btinternet.com

Froxfield Village Hall

Committee News

Having met in September, the Froxfield Village Hall committee is meeting twice more this year, in October and December, in our ongoing efforts to keep the hall going.

Froxfield Village Hall continued

The good news is that we seem to have found 4 new potential Trustees for the committee, which is fantastic. More news to follow in the next month or two

No Fireworks in 2024

Reminder: The lack of volunteers to lead events has meant that the committee reached the sad decision that there will be no fireworks event this year.

Upcoming Events

November

- Saturday 9th Drop-In 10.30am - 12 noon. Meet over a cup of tea/coffee and a slice of cake
- Friday 15th Country Music Club 8pm. Tickets are £10 on the door, Under-14's free. Licensed bar, tea & coffee available. Filled rolls & hotdogs also available for 80p each
- Saturday 23rd Christmas Craft – Christmas Card making using recycled materials. 10am-12 for younger children and 1-3pm for older children and adults. Tickets £15/head in aid of the Village Hall and available from katherine.armishaw@hotmail.co.uk or theresa@pipershoney.co.uk
- Wednesday 27th Wreath Making Evening for Friends of Froxfield School 6.30-9pm Contact sphiadoe@hotmail.com for more information
- Saturday 30th Wreath making class 10am-3pm (more info elsewhere in this edition)

December

- Saturday 14th Drop-In 10.30am - 12 noon Meet over a cup of tea/coffee and a slice of cake
- Friday 20th Country Music Club 8pm. Tickets are £10 on the door, Under-14's free. Licensed bar, tea & coffee available. Filled rolls & hotdogs also available for 80p each

Robert Shepherd, Chair of Trustees
(robertshepherd.parish@gmail.com)

CHRISTMAS CRAFT CLASS SATURDAY 23RD NOVEMBER

MAKING CHRISTMAS CARDS FROM RECYCLED MATERIALS AT FROXFIELD VILLAGE HALL

Younger children 10am – 12
Older children & adults 1-3pm
£15/head in aid of Froxfield Village Hall

Please bring:

A glue stick, rule & pencil, scissors, felt tip pens, old Xmas cards, boxes from cakes/biscuits/cereal, Christmas stickers, wrapping paper, etc and a paper guillotine if you have one.

Wavy scissors, Christmas stickers & glue sticks will be on sale
U16s to be accompanied by an adult

To book a place contact:
katherine.armishaw@hotmail.co.uk or theresa@pipershoney.co.uk



Encouraging the children to keep fit is something that Froxfield school takes very seriously and despite the lack of a bespoke gym the children participate in a wide range of sports and the school has a great record of success in team sports and in cross country running. Recently the children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 enjoyed participating in the Portsdown Hill Cross Country League for the 2.4km hill run – this is an event that lots of children from across the county join and there were 155 girls and 185 boys on the two start lines. All the Froxfield children ran brilliantly, and the girls' team came an amazing 4th overall. A special mention must also go to Tom Masters, one of our Year 6 boys who came 3rd in the boys' race. I'm sure that the golden mile that all the children take part in at school – even the children in the preschool - really benefits the children's fitness and their enjoyment of sport.

The school held its harvest Festival service in St Peter's High Cross at the beginning of the month and some children in year 5 and 6 helped to put together the wonderful display of fruit and vegetables at the foot of the altar. The children in Class 2 led the service – speaking out clearly and with great confidence and the very well attended service was a joyful occasion. Parents of children from across the whole school donated most generously a range of tinned and packet food and I felt very proud of Froxfield School when I delivered 6 bulging, large, carrier bags to the Petersfield Foodbank the following day.

In case you're wondering what happened to the fruit and vegetables they were all auctioned off by Alex Matcham – a school parent - at the end of the following Saturday's Messy Church session which Katherine Matcham had organised – although Messy Church is open to all there were a great number of Froxfield school children and parents enjoying harvest crafts, songs and prayers.

As well as writing gratitude notes on coloured leaves to hang on the Gratitude Tree - which is now in St Peter's church – feel free to add your own leaf with its message of thanks for what you might feel especially grateful. There is a basket with extra leaves for anyone to write on next to the tree.

I was glad to be able to chat to some of the parents of the new children in Reception the other afternoon – it was very reassuring to hear how delighted they all are with how well their child is settling into school life and how happy they are with Froxfield as their chosen school.

If you, or anyone you know, might be interested in visiting the school prior to making a choice for next year's 2025 September intake, there will be an open morning 10.30 – 12 noon on Saturday November 9th – a chance to see the classrooms, meet Mrs Farrow the headteacher as well as some pupils, parents and even some governors – we will all be happy to show you around our lovely school.

We know it is still only November, but we'd love to draw your attention to some events that we will be holding in the run up to Christmas, which the wider community of Froxfield are very welcome to join us for.

Wednesday 27 November Froxfield Village Hall 7.00-9.00pm

FoFS Wreath Making Evening

Led by two professional florists, Jessie & Sophie

£30 to include seasonal drinks and snacks

All materials provided

Tickets can be purchased here:

<https://app.classlist.com/events/#/events/view/1207081399>

Or contact Sophie on 07734 861491

Saturday 7 December Froxfield Village Hall

Afternoon Tea with Father Christmas

We will be holding three hour-long sessions throughout the day.

A touch of Christmas magic will be cast over the Village Hall with beautiful decorations, crafts, refreshments, live music and a chance to meet FC himself! More details to follow but definitely a date for the diary!

Gilly Hollis – Chair of Governors