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HAMMONDS GREEN, FRAMFIELD, UCKFIELD TN22 5QH

Published jointly by  
St Thomas à Becket Church  
and Framfield Parish Council

# Parish Newsletter



Framfield, Blackboys  
and  
Palehouse Common

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2015

**HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR  
LOCAL CHURCH**

**Vicar :**                    **Revd Chris Lawrence**  
**01825 891090**  
**(after hours 01825 890365)**

**Churchwardens :**        **None at present**

**Secretary to PCC :**     **Mr Peter Tomsett**

**Treasurer :**              **Mr Norman Jones**

**All communications for church matters should be directed to  
the Church Office – 10.30 am – 5.00 pm (closed Wednesday)**

**Email -    rev.chris@btinternet.com**

**Post -       Vicarage Barn, Brookhouse Lane, Framfield TN22 5NH**

**Telephone/ leave a message - 01825 891090**

*From the Registers :*



**Marriages:**

**August 8<sup>th</sup>: Edward Matthew John Naylor and  
Emily Katherine Beeching**

**August 31<sup>st</sup>: Benjamin Peter Whitmarsh and  
Kaysha Jane Renvoize**

**At rest:**

**July 3<sup>rd</sup>: Robert (Bob) Whyte**

**FREE SMOKE ALARMS**

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# WHO'S WHO AT THE St THOMAS À BECKET NEWSLETTER

Joint Chair -

For the Church: Rev. Chris Lawrence

For the Council: Mr. Rob Newton

Co-ordinator and Advertising: Ann Newton

Technical Editor: Barry Richardson

Treasurer: Jan Riddle

Distribution: Barbara Trickey, Delia Gillies,  
and their teams of volunteers

Printers: "Print Matters"

*A bi-monthly Newsletter distributed free to all homes  
within the Parish.*

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## The problem with bereavement.

Bereavement is a word that we usually associate with someone who has recently lost a loved one. Someone has died and there now exists a period of time to adjust to not having that person around anymore.

During 1969 Swiss psychiatrist Elisabeth Kübler-Ross wrote her famous book *On Death and Dying*. A work inspired by her interaction with terminally ill patients. Elisabeth Kübler-Ross postulated that there were five stages in the cycle of bereavement — denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance.

Since the publication of "On Death and Dying", the Kübler-Ross model has become accepted by the general public; however, its validity is not consistently supported by the majority of research.

Kübler-Ross noted that the stages are not a complete list of all possible emotions, and can occur in any order, and that not everyone who experiences a life-threatening or life-altering event feels all five of the responses.

However, the effects of bereavement are much wider than the emotional challenges faced when someone dies. Kübler-Ross later expanded her model to include any form of personal loss, such as the death of a loved one, the loss of a job or income, major rejection, the end of a relationship or divorce, drug addiction, incarceration, the onset of a disease or chronic illness, an infertility diagnosis, the onset of older age and even minor losses (e.g. losing your car keys) etc.

Although we are speaking about bereavement the repeating factor is in fact 'loss'. Whether a loss is perceived as small or significantly large they all have a cumulative effect. If we are able to come to terms with our losses through life and reach the point of acceptance then we tend to regain our zest for life and look to the future with hope. However this isn't always the case. Some folk appear to be trapped in a cycle of depression or perpetual sadness or the cycle can be more of a spiral, not being sure if they are spiralling out or going further down.

Bereavement or loss affects us emotionally and as individuals we all react in different ways, what may be a big deal to someone may be a minor annoyance to another. However, the problem with emotions is that they are not under our direct control. With the Will we can decide what we are going to do but not so with the emotions. Emotional upsets tend to play on our minds, so how do we deal with them to regain our mental health and wellbeing?

When we speak about the mind or mental health we are also referring to matters of the heart. Not the physical heart but the centre of ourselves. In the case of the end of a relationship through betrayal or death people often say they feel broken hearted. The loss is deeply felt and can be devastating. When someone is terminally ill a period of time exists where a spouse or the close relatives are able to start on a journey to accept the inevitable so that when the person actually dies the shock is lessened. However, dealing with the news of sudden death for example the response is totally different. We can only imagine how the relatives may have felt when they received the news that their loved ones had died in the recent air crash at Shoreham. A freak accident, but devastating news. It is perhaps in these instances that we can begin to understand the five stages of bereavement.

On the other hand, the question needs to be asked; does anybody really get over a life event that wounds very deeply? In my experience I would probably say 'no and yes'. My answer is not to evade the issue but from a natural point of view the answer is generally no. A legacy of emotional damage appears to be ever present. It is said that time is a healer, but this too is not the case. Time helps you to come to terms with the loss but it can never take the emotional pain away.

From a 'yes' perspective I have seen men and women totally set free from deep rooted emotional pain. If we look at one aspect of Christ's mandate in Isaiah 61:1 we read that God has sent Him **'to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness'**. Through prayer Jesus supernaturally removes the emotional pain so that the cycle is broken and with it joy and lightness of heart restored to the individual. Life may truly begin again. In reality Christ does not appear to give total amnesia, although this does happen in the long term but rather when you think about a painful event the sting has gone; where there was once a negative emotional response there is neutrality and peace within.

I can only speak from experience for experience is the 'proof of the pudding'. I believe counselling has its place and talking things through may give a degree of relief and the coming to terms with the difficulties of life but it is unable to fully engage with the heart. This is the province of God.

If you are reading this as a person who is struggling with bereavement or loss, whatever the cause, then you owe it to yourself to give Christ a chance, after all what do you have to lose?

May God bless everyone in the parish and beyond. *Revd Chris Lawrence*



Blackboys Pre-School  
The Village Hall, Gun Road  
Blackboys, East Sussex TN22 5JL  
Tel: 01825 891113  
email: [enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org](mailto:enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org)  
Twitter: @BlackboysPreSch  
[www.blackboyspreschool.org.uk](http://www.blackboyspreschool.org.uk)

#### **\*EXTENDED HOURS AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB\***

The Pre-School now runs an after school club for children up to 11 with new opening times from 7.45am until 6pm and offering a range of fun activities. Drop us a line for more information.

#### **MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING – 25 SEPTEMBER**

We are hosting a Macmillan coffee morning on 25th September with the toddler group Little Stars as part of Macmillan's World's Biggest Coffee Morning event. The children will be baking biscuits and cakes all week. Any donations of cakes would be warmly received to support this fabulous cause. Please join us for coffee/tea and cakes/ biscuits between 10.30am and 12pm

#### **RECYCLE TEXTILES AT BLACKBOYS VILLAGE HALL**

Look out for the textile recycling bin at Blackboys Village Hall, which allows us to raise money for our charity from unwanted clothes, textiles, soft toys and shoes. Next time you're having a clear out, please think of us – thank you!

#### **WANT TO TRY US OUT FOR FREE?**

To book your child in for a no-obligation, free taster session or to visit the pre-school at your convenience, contact Pre-School Manager Jenny Novkovic on 01825 891113 or email [enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org.uk).

#### ***A little bit about Blackboys Pre-School***

*Open Monday to Friday during school term time from 8.45am to 6pm, we combine Montessori principles and practices and Forest School activities with our own allotment and a great outdoor area in a fabulous rural setting for children aged between 2 and 5, and an afterschool club for children up to 11. See our website at [www.blackboypreschool.org.uk](http://www.blackboypreschool.org.uk) or find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/blackboyspreschool](http://www.facebook.com/blackboyspreschool).*

## From your Wealden MP Nus Ghani

It's now been over a hundred days since you elected me as your MP – it's been frantic, exciting and humbling all at the same time!

I'm here to help, so if there are any questions you want to ask, or any issues you want to raise, please just drop me a line at [nusrat.ghani.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:nusrat.ghani.mp@parliament.uk). It doesn't matter whether you voted for me or not, however trivial you feel the issue may be – it's my duty to try and help everyone who asks.

You can also ask for my help by attending one of my surgeries. Given that demand for my surgeries can be high, it might be easier to email me. However, if you would prefer to speak to me in person, the details of my next surgeries are on my website at [www.nusghani.org.uk](http://www.nusghani.org.uk). Please book in advance by giving my office a call on 020 7219 4619.

I held a series of mobile surgeries across Wealden on 18 and 19 August, travelling around in an ice-cream van to suit the summer sun! In my maiden speech in Parliament, I quoted the most famous Wealden resident, Winnie the Pooh, who once said, 'You can't stay in your corner of the Forest waiting for others to come to you. You have to go to them sometimes.' I'm glad that I followed those wise words, as I met over 100 people across the two days, so thanks to everyone that came along for making them a success!

One of the things that people have contacted me about is the fact that there are too many dangerous drivers on our roads. With 9 fatalities and 97 serious injuries in 2013 alone, Wealden's roads are the most dangerous in East Sussex, and we won't tolerate this any longer. I have highlighted this issue in Parliament, and will continue to do so until those who endanger their fellow road users with their recklessness are punished more severely.

There is also continuing poor service on the railways, particularly on the 'misery line' between Uckfield and London. This is not good enough for commuters, and I have called for an inquiry into the management of Southern Rail and for better dialogue between Southern and its customers. Levels of passenger satisfaction with Southern are incredibly low, and I will keep doing all I can to make them listen to you.

Don't forget, I'm here to help, so please get in touch!

Nus

## Diary of Church Services

### OCTOBER 2015

#### 04 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

- 8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 11.00 am Harvest Festival Family Service
- 12.30 pm Harvest Lunch (*sign-up sheet in church*)

#### 11 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

- 10.00am **New Format** Family Service - All welcome
- 6.30 pm Evening Holy Communion (CW) with Prayer for Healing

#### 18 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

- 8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
- 4.00 pm Messy Church

#### 25 Last Sunday after Trinity

- 10.00 am Morning Praise
- 6.30 pm Evening Holy Communion (CW)

### NOVEMBER 2015

#### 01 Fourth Sunday before Advent – All Saints' Day

- 8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.00 am **New Format** Family Service - All welcome

#### 08 Third Sunday before Advent – Remembrance Sunday

- 10.00am Service of Remembrance
- 6.30pm Evening Communion (CW) with Prayer for Healing

#### 15 Second Sunday before Advent

- 8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
- 4.00 pm 'Messy Church' for all the family

**22 Sunday next before Advent**  
10.00 am Morning Praise  
6.30 pm Joint 'Churches in Uckfield' - Christ the King Service  
at Holy Cross, Uckfield

**29 Advent Sunday**  
**11.00 am** Café Service followed by:  
12.30 pm Lunch in the Church Hall

BCP: Book of Common Prayer. CW: Common Worship

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE  
BY 10<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2015**

**TO**

**ANN NEWTON – 01825 890182**

**framfieldeasthoathly@gmail.com**

**CHURCH NEWS ITEMS MAY ALSO BE SENT TO  
CHRIS LAWRENCE AT THE CHURCH OFFICE –  
01825 891090**

**HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR PARISH COUNCIL –  
FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Mrs Ann Newton (Parish Clerk)**

**Telephone/fax: (01825) 890182.**

**Email: framfieldeasthoathly@gmail.com**

**Postal Address: 'Highlands', Framfield Road, Blackboys,  
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**Parish Council website: [www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk](http://www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk)**

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**Waldron Country Market** at Holy Cross Priory, (Possingworth) (on the  
B2102 between Cross in Hand and Blackboys, near the Tunbridge Wells turn)

Held every 2nd Thursday of the Month, **11.00 am to 1.00 pm**  
**Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October, Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November**

All produce is homemade and includes, cakes, pies, preserves, local cheeses,  
honey, greetings cards, pottery, hand knitted items, hand sewn gifts,  
vegetables, plants and more.

Enjoy coffee or tea and cake in pleasant surroundings.

For more information contact Roy Wilkinson 01435 812931

Trophy/Section/Award	For	Winner
The Hobbs Barton Cup	Best exhibit in show	Terry Everitt ( Class 6 Potatoes)
The John Dann Cup	"From My Garden' exhibit	Jenny Bacon
The New Whyly Perpetual Challenge Cup	Most points in Class 1	Dominic Geer
The Cyril Jeffery Memorial Plate	Best runner beans	Dominic Geer
The David Hazelden Plate	Best tomatoes	David Hobbs
The Peter Butler Plate	Best dish of fruit	Phil Day
The Dennis White Memorial Cup	Most points flower classes	Jenny Pratt
The Elsie Jeffery Jug	Best dahlia	Mark Moore
The Geddes Rose Bowl	Most points for roses	Stephanie Newman
The Williams Cup	Best novice roses	Stephanie Newman
The Frank Leeves Perpetual Challenge Cup	Best sweet peas	Jenny Pratt
The Gordon-Wilson Cup	Best hydrangeas	Alan Buckingham
The Askew Perpetual Challenge Bowl	Best novice exhibit	Kassie Geer
The Whitewood Perpetual Challenge Cup	Most points ( novice classes)	John Tilbury
The Henry Cup	Most points floral arrangement	Catherine Bayman
The Don & Wilma Diplock Memorial Cup	Best floral arrangement	Margret McSheehy
The New Place Perpetual Challenge Cup	Most points cookery section	Terry Everitt
The Barbara Briault Cup	Best exhibit children's section	Joseph Williams
The Moore Miniature Challenge Cups	<b>For most points in children's section</b>	
	4 years and under	James Williams
	5 to 7 years	Joseph Williams
	8 to 11 years	Lakeshia Dennis
	12 to 16 years	Eloise Taberman-Pilcher
The Sampson Bowl	Best handicraft exhibit	Maureen Byford
The Barbara & Horace Moore Cup	Most points in photography	Val Peaty
The Jeffery Victor Ludorum Trophy	Most successful family	The Geer Family
Diplomas for Excellence in Horticulture - Fruit & Vegetables		Jenny Pratt, Lakeshia Dennis, Dominic Geer
Junior Competitor's Awards of Merit		Oscar Rabson Stark, Oliver Geer, Elena Neeter
Certificate of Merit for Floral Art		Sally Pearce
The National Vegetable Society - Silver Medal & Diploma		Terry Everitt ( Class 6 Potatoes)
Bronze Banksian Medal from the Royal Horticultural Society		Dominic Geer
Best in Dog Show - Pedigree	Tyler Bird with...	"Evie"
Best in Dog Show - Novelty	Sue Hewson with...	"Peggy"

**TN22 Club TN22 Plus Club**

**A great place for lunch and friendship!**

**Join us at our friendly and welcoming clubs**

Local charity, Engage South East, operates two clubs, both of which offer a freshly prepared two course lunch, and meet on Wednesdays at Hadlow Down Village Hall:

**07864 533884**

If there is no one available to take your call, please leave a message as we aim to respond to all calls within 48 hours.

**website:** [www.engagesoutheast.org.uk](http://www.engagesoutheast.org.uk)  
**e-mail:** [enquiries@engagesoutheast.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@engagesoutheast.org.uk)

- The TN22 Club provides opportunities for fun and socialising in a warm and friendly environment.
- The new TN22 Plus Club provides tailored support for those with memory loss or dementia with the benefit of specially designed activities.
- Transport can be arranged upon request.

LOTTERY FUNDED The Henry Smith Charities ENGAGE South East Charity No: 1119529

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**FOR FURTHER DETAILS.**

## Looking for a local venue?

Looking for a local venue? Then look no further.

Framfield Church Hall has just undergone a major refurbishment programme and is the ideal venue for regular meetings, special occasions, corporate training, parties and village events. The hall typically seats up to 60 persons and has full kitchen facilities and facilities/parking for the disabled.

Hire Rates: £9.00/hour with reductions for regular users and church members.

*Tel the Church Office for further details 01825 891090; visit the website [www.framfieldchurch.org.uk](http://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk) or e.mail [rev.chris@btinternet.com](mailto:rev.chris@btinternet.com)*



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selling food, and apparently the "excellent cake can't have any calories, it's been cut and they've all leaked away" was overheard by Show Team member Patti Whittaker as testament to the enjoyment and good humour on show.

There was a second outing for the Framfield First World War Historical Research Project that aims to illuminate the lives of those who went to war from the parish at that time, some never to return but honoured by the Memorial Hall itself and the Recreation Ground's trees. This is an on-going archive so hopefully more information will emerge in the coming years.

The afternoon moves on with the awarding of trophies and medals for successful entrants and then the daytime evens close with the auction of exhibits. The whole day was blessed with perfect weather that brought over 1000 onto the field to enjoy this quintessentially British Style of village show. The Show Committee chairman, Phil Day said "what a fantastic show and evening event - all taking place so smoothly and so well -organised by the team. Well done to all involved!"

All hands to the deck followed in order to clear the field and marquee and set it ready for the Evening Music Event which goes from strength to strength each year with much with Noble Jacks performing their alternative folk tinged country rock followed by local country rock band Louisiana Lightning giving a range of well-known tunes to enjoy and dance to.

So it appears the show continues to go from strength to strength and visitors were heard to state "It is such a lovely day out for everyone in the family" with a stallholder saying "Everyone here is so nice - the organisers, the other stallholders and all the visitors. I've had a great day!

All in all a very successful day for Framfield and Blackboys! Same again next year?  
I should think so. So put Saturday August 13<sup>th</sup> 2016 in your diary and we'll see you there!





### *As The Sun Sets On A Wonderful Day*

Country rock sounds closed the events for the day of the Framfield and Blackboys Summer Show that took place on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August. The marquee was filled with people enjoying the musical end of show party after a day of fun and competition for the parish that took place in full sunshine.

So how does a show like ours unfold? It all begins fairly low key with the identification of where the marquee corner will go on the Thursday and the strapping ( and not so strapping) lads from Four Jays Hire do their stuff. From that the field plan is put into action and laid out. Then the villages assemble on Friday morning to set out and put up all those essential components and by lunchtime we have the bare bones of a show.

The day of the show itself begins with the many exhibitors arriving with plants, vegetables, crafts, jams, cakes and all manner of other things to exhibit in the 124 classes of entry for the show. All entered in expectation of achieving that red stickered First prize. By 10 am, the marquee and village hall are packed with entries and then the secretive judging begins.

As the field fills with stallholders from the hog roast to woodcarvers, the show begins to take shape.

Here has to be a big thanks to all those who turn up to build the show on an empty Framfield Recreation Ground on Friday and Saturday as well as those who help staff the show stalls throughout the show day. By 12.30 we have a show ready to open.

Events begin with the Fun Dog Show, with both pedigree and "less than pedigree" getting a good run out so to speak! Much more goes on all afternoon with a sequence of events in the main area including Diddi Dance for Toddlers, Birds of Prey and assorted fun races for children and adults alike. All very traditional of course but with plenty around the field to occupy all ages such as fairground rides, bouncy castles plus classics such as hoopla, plate smashing and bowling - "I **have** to have beat my Granddad's score" says one young visitor). The phrase "best roast pork bun **ever!**" was heard as a glowing endorsement of the quality of the food available on the day and that explains the roaring trade done by all those stalls

One of our committee members kindly organises a walk, from her house across Ashdown Forest, every year in August. This year it fell upon the wettest day imaginable! However, despite the terrible conditions, about 40 brave souls ventured out in wellies, carrying umbrellas, to battle against rain, thunder and lightning. We were rewarded with a lovely ploughman's lunch, a lot of laughter and £450 for our charity.

We had a successful collection outside Tesco's in Uckfield and raised £453. The date for our biannual golf day event in Ticehurst is Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2016. Any interested golfers, please contact Ann. Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September is the Macmillan coffee morning. Events will be held all over the country. The Uckfield committee will be returning to Pizza Express in Uckfield, where we hope to have our usual great support.

Marks and Spencer are supporting this MCS event, by allowing different committees to collect money outside their stores during the month of September.

If you or anyone you know has worries about cancer, if they've just been diagnosed or even if their treatment has ended, the Cancerline, Benefits Helpline, Cancer information Nurse Helpline and Youthline have all been brought together under one phone number: 0808 808 0000 or the website can always be visited on [www.macmillan.org.uk](http://www.macmillan.org.uk). Information can be had over the telephone, or you can request any number of relevant booklets.

*Ann Press, Local Chairman 01825 890400*

## Nature Notes

Between about 65 and 130 million years ago, the ridge where Whitemans Green near Cuckfield now exists was part of a huge river delta, as were large parts of Sussex including where Uckfield and Framfield now sit on the sandstone ridges of the High Weald. This delta was very wet, sandy and silty with marshes, swamps and bogs. The rivers brought huge amount of sandy silt from other parts of the huge tectonic plate that makes up what we know as Eurasia. Britain did not exist as an island but was part of a great alluvial plain. Also at that time, most of the animals that roamed this plain were reptiles, great big ones like the *Iguanodon*, a plant eating dinosaur about 10 metres long.

Then about 20 million years ago another tectonic plate that we now call Africa moved closer and crashed and folded into the land where Spain and Portugal make up the Iberian Peninsular, thus the Mediterranean basin was created, but also the Pyrenees, Alps, Dolomites and – the High Weald of Sussex and Kent which with the Chiltern Hills, make up the outer rim of this vast crumple zone. The alluvium that was the river delta was heaved up and became a mountain of soft rock – sandstone, clay and chalk. If it reached its full potential height it would have been as high as Ben Nevis in Scotland, namely 1,000 metres. In this soft rock remained the bones of many dead dinosaurs, but as the rock was being pushed up, the rain wind and frost was eroding it and washing it away again into the sea. The mountain was reduced to the sandstone ridges, clay plains and chalk downs of the south-east of England.

Following on from a previous Nature Notes, we pick up the life of a young doctor and amateur naturalist who lived in Lewes called Gideon Mantell, who in 1822 was walking in the Quarry at Whitemans Green with his wife Mary (nee Mary Ann Woodhouse) when she found what looked like a huge fossilised tooth which she passed to her husband. It turned out to be the tooth of a terrible lizard (Dinosaur) later called *Iguanodon* – this was the first evidence in the world that any of these creatures had ever existed. All the knowledge that we now have about dinosaurs was begun by that humble country doctor from Lewes whose son went to school in Uckfield and was a friend of the Streatfeild family who owned The Rocks estate which included Lake Wood and what we now call West Park Local Nature Reserve.

*Martyn Stenning*

## NEWS FROM YOUR WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

By the time this issue of the magazine hits the doorsteps, the first meeting will have happened at Wealden discussing the issues, options and recommendations of the Local Plan, the first stage of the Core Strategy Review. This will include the housing numbers for the District and recommendations as to where they will go. The documents are available on the WDC website ([www.wealden.gov.uk](http://www.wealden.gov.uk)) and are clubbed together within the agenda for the Local Development Framework Sub-Committee held on 25 September. There is also a recommendation to extend the Conservation Area in Framfield. A public consultation will run from approximately 19 October 2015 for six weeks and the Parish Council will be making comments on the recommendations. Anyone can be involved in the consultation process including representations from individuals. Comments can be made via the WDC website or written. There will also be public exhibitions – our nearest one will be in Uckfield.

Unfortunately, there have still been some refuse bin issues around my Ward. Anyone who does have a missed bin should contact Wealden in the first instance by telephone (01892 653311) or email and also let me know.

Lastly, if anyone wishes to know what planning applications are currently live, they are all listed on a weekly basis on the Wealden website. If you follow this link [http://www.wealden.gov.uk/Wealden/Residents/Planning\\_and\\_Building\\_Control/Leaflets\\_And\\_Publications/Weekly\\_List\\_of\\_Planning\\_Applications/Planning\\_Weekly\\_List.aspx](http://www.wealden.gov.uk/Wealden/Residents/Planning_and_Building_Control/Leaflets_And_Publications/Weekly_List_of_Planning_Applications/Planning_Weekly_List.aspx) - you will find the current and previous lists.

Please don't hesitate to contact me on anything which you think I could help.

Contact details – Ann Newton, 'Highlands', Blackboys, TN22 5LR.

Telephone - 01825 890103.

Email – [anewton1965@gmail.com](mailto:anewton1965@gmail.com)

<<<<<<< PLEASE NOTE: The email address for Downlands Design and Surveying has changed to [ashley@downlandsds.co.uk](mailto:ashley@downlandsds.co.uk).



**Guy Partridge 07702 836057**  
 Building through Blessing in Blackboys and  
 Beyond

**A Spacious Place**

In books and in magazines like this one there is 'white space'. That is the room between the lines of type, the margins and the extra space at the beginning and end of each chapter or article. It allows the words to breathe as it were and gives the eye and the brain a place to rest. We are not normally aware of white space however if it were not there we would notice its absence straight away. Indeed we would find it very hard and tiring to read without it.

In a similar way our busy hectic lives need white space, room to pause and think to reflect and to wonder. God has designed us this way with the word rest appearing in the Bible 508 and times and busy only on 5 occasions.

One of my favourite verses in the Bible Psalm 18:19 reflects this emphasis.

<sup>19</sup> He brought me out into a spacious place; he rescued me because he delighted in me.

The psalmist speaks of how God knows us and loves us and desires to rescue us and lead us into a spacious place- A space where we find God and in doing so ourselves also.

The New Life Church family have recently moved into a wonderful new mid-week space on Brownings Farm, a converted bull pen/cowshed, with all the original metal architecture in place. We can be found immediately adjacent to the Grove Café on your left as you walk in.

We have decided to call this new building 'The Space'. Our hope is that it will become a 'spacious' one for the community in Blackboys and beyond.

Why not pop in sometime for a coffee and chat it would be lovely to meet you. Or perhaps you would like to join me on Wednesday and Friday mornings for silent prayer? Contact me for more details.

Revd Guy Partridge  
 ([guy\\_newlifechurch@btinternet.com](mailto:guy_newlifechurch@btinternet.com) or 07702-836057 or 01825 891133)



**Framfield & Blackboys WI**



Members and friends can reflect on Golden Memories of our WI's Summer Centenary Luncheon at Pashley Manor with Guest of Honour the Lord Lieutenant of East Sussex Peter Field who praised the lifelong values of friendship and close community spirit promoted by the organisation. Many thanks are also due to owners Mr & Mrs Sellick whose hospitality and support made the event such a memorable occasion.

We enjoyed an exclusive Garden Tour, and glorious sunshine was a bonus. Our Calendar Girls Cake, by Corinne Urben, was a hit, featuring on the Lord Lieutenant's website.



Our recent Sussex Police Training Centre tour at Kingstanding was a fascinating insight into its WWII and Cold war associations including a nuclear bunker built to house essential government personnel. More visits are planned presenting an insight into the range of police training resources.

Christmas being round the corner, book now for our festive Coach Trip to London on December 2nd to visit a **Christmas Market**, see the **Christmas Lights** with Blue Badge Guide, a carvery meal at the Strand Palace Hotel leaving 1900 hrs @ £40-45 inc. open to all, members and friends alike; local pick ups: **Contact Gill on 01825 890459**

By publication we will have enjoyed our Salisbury trip so report in next issue concerning the Magna Flower Festival at Salisbury Cathedral.

We welcome visitors to our meetings so ladies please come along. We meet on the second **Tuesday of the month Meetings start at 7.30pm**. You can come along as a visitor for 3 months at £1 a meeting before deciding to join. **To join your local WI in 2015 contact President Delia on 01825 830319**

## Wildlife at the Heart of our Culture

By Mike Russell of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

Birdsong seems to be all over the place these days. 'Tweet of the Day' in the morning on Radio 4 has generated a great following amongst the early risers, while a recent television programme on BBC 4, part of a 'Slow Season' series, showing the dawn chorus without any commentary or intrusive music was deemed a popular success. Contemporary folk singer Sam Lee has this summer has organised live performances alongside nightingales, following on from the famous live broadcasts of the 1920s and 1930s of Beatrice Harrison accompanying a probably somewhat perplexed nightingale on her cello in a Surrey woodland.

I went to a very interesting art installation as part of the Brighton Festival this year. Composer Marcus Coates had recorded the song of a number of common bird species and slowed the speed right down to individual notes and then got human singers to sing those notes while videoing them. He then speeded up the notes to the original song of the birds, resulting in some remarkable footage of the humans not only sounding like the birds but also moving a bit like them as well. In fact, nature was the underlying theme of the whole Brighton Festival programme.

There is no doubt that wildlife has been such an inspiration for musicians, artists, authors and poets as far back as when man started drawing what they saw around them in their caves and a resurgence of interest in this is very evident today. Just think how poor our cultural heritage would be without all the nature that surrounds us in our daily lives, but that is what faces artists in the future as much of our wildlife is in serious decline.

To take just one example, the nightingale. Nightingales have declined by 43% in the last 40 years and there is evidence that the decline is slowing. We still do quite well in Sussex but the clear evidence is that their population is shrinking into the southeast corner of England. When John Keats was inspired to write 'Ode to a Nightingale' he was listening to nightingales on Hampstead Heath, but it's a long time since any sang there. Thomas Hardy would be hard pushed to hear one in Wessex now. An even worse scenario awaits the turtle dove, as



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## THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

SUNDAY 18th OCTOBER @ 4pm  
 SUNDAY 15th NOVEMBER @ 4pm

(Gathering game and register in the church 4pm)

**Messy craft activities and songs, followed by the most delicious afternoon tea.**

**- THIS IS FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY -**

**A warm happy invitation for you join us, of course please bring a friend.**

**FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MEETING SCHEDULE 2015**

**On each date detailed below, generally three meetings will be held as follows (although the Planning Committee may be cancelled if not essential):**

- **Planning Committee - commencing at 6.30 pm**
- **Trust - commencing at 7 pm**
- **Parish Council - commencing at 7.30 pm.**

**Tuesday, 24 November – 7.30 pm                      Framfield Memorial Hall**

Public welcome. For further details, please telephone the Parish Clerk,  
Ann Newton, on

01825- 890182/ [framfieldeasthoathly@gmail.com](mailto:framfieldeasthoathly@gmail.com)

‘Highlands’, Blackboys TN22 5LR.

Agendas will be published on all noticeboards and the website -  
[framfieldcouncil.org.uk](http://framfieldcouncil.org.uk)

**FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS MONDAY CLUB**

- 5th October - Kevin Gordon - Talk on Sussex Churches at Framfield Memorial Hall - 2.30pm
- 19th October - Chairbased Activities with Louise Knight Framfield Memorial Hall - 2.30pm
- 2nd November - Beetle Drive with Reg and Joan Jeffery and Heather Ridley - Framfield Memorial Hall – 2.30pm
- 16th November - Entertainment from THE UCKFIELD SINGERS Framfield Memorial Hall - 2.30pm (Open to Non Members)

For Further information contact - Sandy Rogers  
01825 840648 - [sandyrogers77@gmail.com](mailto:sandyrogers77@gmail.com)

their decline has plummeted by 90% in the same time period and is in serious danger of becoming extinct in the UK within a decade if this decline continues.

So, the need to link that inspiration and the conservation of the landscape and species needs to be made much more apparent. Every artist who has been inspired by the natural world, every person who has enjoyed the result of that artist's inspiration should stand up and rail against those who have so much disregard for our natural world.

Wildlife is essential to life, the natural world provides everything we need to exist, but it also provides for our soul. I hope those in the future will still be able to have their soul nourished by the song of a nightingale.

[www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk](http://www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk)



**PLANNING A FUNCTION? - NEED A VENUE?**

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**SECURE OUTDOOR PLAY AREA FOR TODDLERS.**

**VERY COMPETITIVE RATES FOR BOTH REGULAR AND CASUAL BOOKINGS.**

**CONTACT JILL GOGGIN ON 01825 890691 FOR FURTHER DETAILS**



## POPPY APPEAL 2015

It is nearly Poppy time again.

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to the Appeal last year and I hope you will feel able to support us again this year.

The total collection last year was just over £2000 and I am sure we could beat that if we were able to cover the whole parish with house to house collections. To do that I need several more collectors.

Home collection boxes are a also really good way of collecting all your loose change and it is amazing how much you can collect over a year from just a few coins a day.

Please contact me if you could spare a couple of hours at the end of October to cover a house to house collection in a small area or if you would like a home collecting box.

David Jenner

01825 890632; 07881 786785; davidjenner@outlook.com



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## FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL Grounds Maintenance

The Parish Council is seeking tenders for the annual grass/hedge cutting maintenance to the three Parish recreation grounds and allotments.

Anyone interested in tendering for the work should contact the Parish Clerk, Ann Newton. They will then be sent the works specification. A contractor may apply to tender for any one or all the areas. The deadline for receipt of the tenders by the Parish Council is 30 November 2015. Contractors must have their own public liability insurance up to the value of £5,000,000 and must include a copy of their current insurance schedule with their tender. Each contract is for a period of three years (2016, 2017 and 2018) and the season runs from April to October (inclusive). The Parish Council will also reserve the right to extend the contract for a further 2 years at their discretion.

Contracts will be awarded early in the New Year.

**ANN NEWTON**  
Parish Clerk  
(01825) [890182/framfieldeasthoathly@gmail.com](mailto:890182framfieldeasthoathly@gmail.com)



**LITTLE FOXES**  
DANCE COMPANY



**CHILDRENS' DANCE CLASSES**  
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Classes and times vary depending on level of ability. For more details contact:

01825 891238  
info@littlefoxesdance.co.uk  
www.littlefoxesdance.co.uk

We are already organising trips and visits as well as some really exciting and engaging projects which will support the way we teach the increased demands of the new curriculum.

A highlight for our older pupils is of course the Residential Trips which take place in September every two years. We will report back on these in the next newsletter! We will also shortly be holding our Day of European Languages and of course we have our Harvest Festivals are coming up soon - you are all very welcome to attend these if you are able to do so - everyone is welcome. The date is 5th October for both, although Blackboys School will hold theirs at 9 am while Framfield at 2.15. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

Lastly final thanks to all the governors of both Blackboys and Framfield CEP Schools who made the next step forward and taken the schools into full Federation. This has not been a decision taken lightly and has been a long and complicated process; special thanks must go to Mrs Pat Herbert and Mrs Katharine Rabson-Stark for all the time and effort put into this project - it really is appreciated. As a result of this decision, the schools are now in a more sustainable position and ready to move forwards to an exciting future.

Jonquil King (Executive Headteacher)  
Jacqueline Davies (Head of School, Framfield)  
Graham Sullivan (Head of School, Blackboys)



# CHARITY TABLE TOP



## SALE

**SAT 10th Oct**  
**10am-12pm**  
**BLACKBOYS**  
**VILLAGE HALL**

**\*\*\* FREE \*\*\***  
**Admission!**

## TABLES: £10

Plenty of items to purchase with tea, coffee  
biscuits and cakes available!

**All proceeds from table hire and refreshments going to Quicken Trust**  
**- a Sussex charity transforming the lives of people living in poverty**  
**in the Ugandan village of Kabubbu**

**DONATIONS OF CAKES**  
**WOULD BE APPRECIATED!**



**To hire a table contact Emma Doherty at The Grove, Blackboys**  
**via Facebook or e-mail [thegroveblackboys@gmail.com](mailto:thegroveblackboys@gmail.com)**

N.B No donations please (unless you donate to a stallholder) and  
stallholders must be responsible for taking all unsold items home  
with them.

## FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – REPORT

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Co-option of Parish Councillors - following the uncontested election in May, there are some vacancies on the Parish Council. If anyone would be interested in becoming a Parish Councillor please contact me..

Memorial Hall, Framfield – as mentioned last time we have continued the refurbishment works to the Hall over the summer holidays. The front lobby, side corridor and WC's have all had a make-over. We plan to re-fit the kitchen in the October half term which will greatly enhance the facilities.

Framfield Village Market – please come and support the refurbishment of the Memorial Hall by attending our monthly market. There are all sorts of stalls, a raffle and enjoy a cup of coffee and a bacon roll. We have unfortunately had to cancel the October market (24th) but there are two further markets left this year where we would love to see as many people as possible – 28 November and 12 December. Chairman of Wealden District Council, Councillor Barby Dashwood-Morris, will be visiting us again in December, so it would be a good opportunity to meet Barby and discuss any issues you have.

Bird-in-Eye Hill – speed limit reduction. The Parish Council will be discussing the possibility of funding the provision of a reduction in speed limit on a section of Bird-in-Eye Hill (running down from the Farm to the Bridge). There is an opportunity for match-funding from ESCC to help cover the costs.

Grounds Maintenance Contract – anyone wishing to be included in the tender exercise for the 3-year grounds maintenance contract for our public open spaces should contact me as soon as possible. Contracts will be awarded in January.

Allotments – I still have a few vacant plots on both allotments – Gun Road, Blackboys and Gatehouse Lane, Framfield. There would be no charge for the remaining months of the season.

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Ann Newton (Parish Clerk): 01825 890182 (fax/answer machine).

Email: [framfieldeasthoathly@gmail.com](mailto:framfieldeasthoathly@gmail.com).

Postal Address: 'Highlands', Blackboys TN22 5LR.

**Website:** [www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk](http://www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk).

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of the Horticultural show for all the support they give both schools in allowing them to take part. Thanks to Governors from both schools and to Mr Russell Boorman and Mrs Emma Vernon for coming in to do this during the school holidays.

The Autumn term is always a busy one and especially so with the changes within some of the basic systems that are happening in all schools this year. We have been hard a work developing and adapting the new curriculum and schools within our Alliance have worked hard to organise a robust and effective way of assessing our pupils without the use of levels. This is a big change and will take a great deal of embedding. We look forward to running workshops and information sessions for our parents as this develops throughout the year. Further information on this is available on both schools' websites.

Although both schools pride themselves on the level of reading children reach, we mean to develop this aspect of our work even further, striving to ensure that all pupils not only understand the importance of reading, but are truly engaged in it - really losing themselves in a good book. With this in mind, if there is anyone in either Blackboys or Framfield who would like to come in and help us with this, we would be delighted - we always need avid and enthusiastic readers to hear the children read or perhaps work with small groups. Previous volunteers and governors have truly made a big difference to individual children's engagement with reading and general self-esteem. Could you help too? Please contact our school offices and arrange a visit and to collect the appropriate documentation, if you feel you could make a difference.



## The FAB Partnership (Framfield and Blackboys Partnership Schools)

Here we are again at the start of a new academic year - and a whole new start for both our schools, with both schools and Governors working within the St Thomas a Becket Church of England Federation. This promises to be busy and exciting time for us all!

The new reception pupils in both schools have made very confident starts; this successful start to their school career is always a tribute to the way staff in both schools ensure that the new pupils are well used to the schools expectations and layouts via the regular taster sessions in term 6. They are a happy and confident bunch and are already well versed in our routines. All year groups are going to spend time together early on this term in getting to know each other and making friends in both schools.

New staff have been welcomed in both schools: at Framfield Ms Lauren Maidman is teaching years 3 and 4 children. At Blackboys School we welcome Ms Charlotte Miles who is working across KS1 while, as a temporary replacement for Mrs Peck, our ICT Higher Level Teaching Assistant who left at the end of last term, we welcome Mr Adam King who is working as a TA in years 5 and 6 as well as supporting ICT. We know you will make the new members of our team very welcome and I am sure you will get to know them soon.

The horticultural show was a great success in the summer holidays and the schools created a wonderful display of pupils' work in the Memorial Hall. We always appreciate being able to show off our work at such an event and many thanks must go to the organisers and team



We are a community village Pre-School with our own purpose built premises, which are spacious, well-appointed and registered with Ofsted

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# LIVING WITH FUR AND FEATHER

## WAR ON RABBITS

I have always been very fond of rabbits since I was a young child. My first rabbit was called Benjamin. Sadly he was attacked by my Grandmother's Spaniel when he came to stay, aided by my own Spaniel, who on his own, would not have done it. Benjamin was quickly dispatched by a neighbour who kindly gave me another baby rabbit called Biddy who lived for many years. I then had Angora rabbits that I bred from. The fluffy babies were adorable. There was no commercial food in those days so I spent hours collecting wild plants. The Angora's needed daily grooming and all the rabbit accommodation needed regular cleaning

Over the years I have enjoyed watching the wild rabbits, nibbling the grass on our overgrown lawn and playing chase at great speed. I have often felt guilty thinking of my pet rabbits confined to their hutches and pens. I even watched as a pregnant rabbit collected dried grass to make a nest for her expected young. She carefully gathered up bundles and took them through the hedge into our wood. I had watched my tame rabbits do this but never a wild one. Later it was lovely watching the baby rabbits come out from the wood to join the adults on the lawn. They looked so sweet hopping about; the late evening sun shining through their twitching translucent ears. Of course there have been a few little problems. They decided to explore the lawn behind the cottage where they discovered my newly planted flower beds. That area was then fenced. They then decided to eat all the plants in a new bed adjoining their front lawn. We bought a few rabbit scarers. They made a high pitched noise that was guaranteed to deter them. My helpful husband made several wooden stands so we could fix the devices on the flat tops. We plugged them in, confident of good results. Our hopes of success were dashed one wet day, when we noticed a young rabbit sitting comfortably under the deterrent, the flat top keeping off the rain. The high pitched sound was driving the family mad but the rabbits were not bothered at all! The flower bed by the front lawn was then fenced

We did reach a reasonable compromise; the rabbits could enjoy the front lawn and their woodland territory which comprised the wilder parts of the wood, under the old fallen trees and on the less accessible parts. They were not allowed to trespass in the bluebell areas or on my footpaths. We lived more or less

harmoniously for many years until recently when there was an explosion in the rabbit population. They mounted an aggressive takeover in the wood and a few weeks ago the conflict escalated to unacceptable levels. Bluebell areas were under constant threat and my foot paths were cunningly booby trapped with hidden holes. At first I tried raking back the excavated soil and hoped they would get the message. They didn't! My next tactic was to fill in the holes with soil and stones. There were counter attacks from the invading army, advancing by stealth under cover of night. I was fast losing the battle. They now had the advantage of new, young, fit and strong reinforcements that they had secretly reared underground in their network of tunnels. I was losing on so many fronts but was determined to defend one vital route that was now being taken over.

I retreated to base to consider my options. First I needed to be as fit as possible so rifled through supplies and filled up on tea and toast. What weapons could I use? I decided to raid the rubble heap that should supply plenty of ammunition. Being fair, I left the enemy one escape route on the steep bank adjoining my last stronghold. It was exhausting work carrying stones over a bridge and through the wood trying not to catch my feet in one of the enemy booby traps. Having filled in the holes I retreated for a good night's sleep. The next morning I went to check the conflict zone and found all the stones had been removed. I tried again with bigger stones and broken bricks. This time they tunnelled under my path and had a new hole on the other side. I felt dejected and defeated by the enemy but decided to make one last stand before surrendering. I pulled out huge chunks of concrete and massive stones from the rubble heap and managed to heave them into the wheelbarrow which I pushed as far as the bridge. I then staggered through the wood, stumbling along the uneven narrow path with each piece of heavy rubble clutched precariously to my front. After many journeys I think I could have completed an army assault course with ease! All the exits were reinforced, aided by heavy blows from the sledgehammer. Satisfied with my work there was just one more thing to do, set up the secret surveillance system. The next day I checked, everything was fine. At last I had won the battle and diplomatic relations have been restored. And once more I can enjoy watching the rabbits playing on the front lawn.

Hazel Carter  
01825 830477  
info@hazel-carter.co.uk  
www.hazel-carter.co.uk