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

# Parish Newsletter



Framfield, Blackboys  
and  
Palehouse Common

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2018

Oak Tree Barn, Lewes Road, Blackboys, East Sussex, TN22 5JL

**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 Barry Richardson**

**Treasurer :**              **Mrs Patricia Marchant**

**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:**

**21<sup>st</sup> July:            Murray Heywood and Stacey Clements**  
**28<sup>th</sup> July:            Christopher Spelman and Sonia Edmondson**  
**4<sup>th</sup> August:          Thomas Willett and Teresa Lillian Muller**

**At rest:**

**6<sup>th</sup> August:         John Temple Gore (Jack)**

**FREE SMOKE ALARMS**

Your local Fire Service personnel are happy to make an appointment to visit your home and discuss fire safety issues that are specific to you. They will also ensure that you have working smoke alarm(s) within your home and where you do not, they will supply and fit 10 year smoke alarms.

To request a **FREE** visit call **0800 177 7069** (call is free).

**USEFUL WEALDEN TELEPHONE NOS.**

ESCC contact centres

Call our contact centres during normal working  
hours 9.00 am to 5.00 pm (4.30 pm on Fridays).

Adult social care – 0345 60 80 191 - HSCC@eastsussex.gov.uk

Buses – 0345 60 80 194

Children and families – 0345 60 80 192 (see latest news above)

Library renewals – 0345 60 80 195

Library enquiries – 0345 60 80 196

Roads and paths – 0345 60 80 193

Street Lighting: 01825 890182

Trading Standards – 0345 04 05 06

Waste – 0345 60 80 194

Main Switchboard – 0345 60 80 190

From overseas – +441273 336000

Crimestoppers, report crime anonymously 0800 555 111

Police, non-emergency: 101

East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service: 0303 999 1000

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HOWEVER, ENDORSE ANY PRODUCTS OR SERVICES  
SPECIFIED

## 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.

### **It's a matter of death and life!**

I've been to a Funeral Exhibition! It's the first one I've attended and been part of. Some of you may also have been as it was organised by local funeral directors CPJ Field at the Civic Centre, Uckfield. It was titled 'More than just a funeral' and indeed it was. There were various organisations and companies represented : HOSPICE CARE • OFFICIANTS • FUNERALS • FLORISTS COUNSELLING • PETS AS THERAPY • SOLICITORS - WILLS & PROBATE • CARE FOR CARERS • MASONRY • WEALDEN CREMATORIUM • AND MUCH MORE...

In all honesty there weren't that many members of the public who were either brave enough or whose curiosity got the better of them to come through the doors! Quite understandable in the circumstances. Death is probably the biggest 'Elephant in the Room' that nobody really wants to talk about until it happens.

However, as I often mention in the funeral services I have conducted – we all end up in the box at some point!

Personally, I think that a healthy discussion about life and death isn't a bad thing as it enables us to gain a more rounded picture of the world we live in, our lives and our hopes and aspirations for this life and beyond.

The exhibition also gave a good opportunity to chat to others who have a role in end of life care, personal beliefs and the purpose and structure of a funeral.

However, within all the nicety and tiptoeing around the whole matter of death there is conflict! The conflict boils down to what you believe and the matter of faith. If you happen to have a belief in God (however sketchy that may be) and the hope that heaven is a possible future destination after death the you might well have a Christian funeral; either in church or a crematorium. If you don't have a belief that God exists and neither do heaven or hell then your send-off may well be taken by a humanist celebrant.

Personally, I have a problem with the whole humanist viewpoint of life and death and when it comes to a funeral the celebrant has really got nothing to say with regard to 'hope' for those who are left to carry on with their lives.

From a Christian perspective the basic outline of a funeral is twofold. To honour the person who had died and to give hope to those who are left behind. A humanist celebrant can wax lyrical about the person but they have nothing to say that will give any hope to those who are grieving. Pastoral care and any thought of godly comfort are therefore non-existent. In my book just feeling sorry that someone has lost a loved one simply doesn't cut it. Promoting the mandate that God doesn't exist, that there is no eternal judgement or the hope of heaven degrades the life of every human being.

We only have a balanced society and judicial system that supports the right and punishes the wrongdoer because of God's Ten Commandments. The problem of accepting a humanist viewpoint on life and morality and what is acceptable within society is nonsensical. Human beings are basically corrupt by nature. Left totally to our own devices our society would fall apart. Who has the authority to decide what is right and wrong? Without God in the picture you can make up your own morality. Think about Hitler for example. To build a new Germany it became acceptable to exterminate millions of Jews, gypsies, the disabled etc; basically anyone he didn't like or who he perceived as unacceptable in the new Germany. Only in hindsight do we see the lunacy of the man and the embarrassment and shame of all those who agreed with him and followed his ideals.

The human heart is capable of being easily deceived even in the face of overwhelming evidence and those who teach such things are the epitome of self-deception i.e. Paul writing to the church in Rome (*Romans 1*)

**<sup>18</sup>The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, <sup>19</sup>since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. <sup>20</sup>For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--his eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.**

You may not feel the urge to find God in a church building but step into the countryside and you will find plenty of evidence to support His existence.

The bottom line. Our lives are of finite length; but **God is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance (a change of heart).** (*2 Peter 3:9*)

God's blessing to everyone in the Parish – *Revd Chris Lawrence*



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

The Pre-School is open weekdays from 07.45-6.00pm operates in line with the school's terms allowing for inset days where applicable.

Full Time Day Care for 2-4yrs  
Breakfast & After School Club for 2-11yrs

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Rated OUTSTANDING by Ofsted May 2017

For details or to arrange a visit to discuss your individual requirements:

Call Sarah on: 01825 890943

[www.framfieldpreschool.co.uk](http://www.framfieldpreschool.co.uk)

## Restaurant in Heathfield

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[www.holycrosspriory.co.uk](http://www.holycrosspriory.co.uk)

Holy Cross Priory, Lewes Road, Cross-in-Hand, Heathfield, TN21 0DZ

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## Diary of Church Services

### OCTOBER 2018

- 07 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
**11.00 am** Harvest Thanksgiving Family Service  
*Service followed by Harvest Lunch in the Church Hall*  
**Please book in; Sign-up sheet in church or leave a phone message**
- 14 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am Parish Communion (CW)  
6.30 pm *No Evening Service this week*
- 21 Twenty First Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30 am *No BCP (HC) This week*  
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
- 28 Last Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am Parish Communion (CW)  
6.30 pm *No Evening Service this week*

### NOVEMBER 2018

- 4 Fourth Sunday before Advent  
(All Saints' Day)**  
8.30 am *No BCP (HC) This week*  
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
- 11 Third Sunday before Advent  
(Remembrance Sunday)**  
10.00 am Remembrance Service  
6.30 pm Evening Holy Communion (CW) with  
Prayer for Healing

- 18 Second Sunday before Advent**  
 8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
 10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
- 25 Sunday next before Advent**  
 10.00 am Morning Praise  
 6.30 pm Evening Holy Communion (CW)

BCP: Book of Common Prayer. CW: Common Worship



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)

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE  
 BY 10<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2018**

**TO**

**ANN NEWTON – 01825 890182**

**Please note new email address:**

[clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk)

**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.**

**Please note new Email: [clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk)**

**Postal Address: ‘Highlands’, Framfield Road, Blackboys,  
 East Sussex TN22 5LR.**

**Parish Council website: [www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk](http://www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk)**

We are a non-profit making pre-school registered with Ofsted.

Open Monday to Friday from 7.45am to 6pm, we welcome children between 2 to 5 years old in the preschool and those between 2 to 11 years old in our Breakfast, After School and Holiday Clubs.

Our friendly staff are trained in Montessori and Forest School principles and we have an allotment located just next door to the pre-school, where our chickens are kept. We also use this space for our forest school activities. Our After School Club runs from 3.30pm to 6pm during term time, with a pick-up service available from local primary schools.

This term we are running our excellent Holiday Club from 3rd-13th April. Open from 7:45am until 6pm, each day will be packed full of fun forest school, cooking, art and free-play activities.

For more details, organise a visit or book for our Easter Holiday Club, please contact us:

Call Jenny on: 01825 891113 / 01825 749820

Or email: [enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org.uk)

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

Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> October, and Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November.

For more information contact Roy Wilkinson 01435 812931

## Allotment Life!

It was certainly a long hot summer at the Blackboys Allotment in 2018! With the hottest summer recorded in the UK, we all faced challenges with the drought following the wet start to the planting year, but it was certainly worth it as we have had bumper crops of fruit and vegetables.

The apple trees were heaving with crisp juicy apples (mine are being pressed into cider!) and we have shared our spoils of blackcurrants, raspberries and blackberries, to name a few.

It is now the start of harvest time and we are either storing our rewards for the winter or enjoying the fresh fruit and vegetables with our dinner!

The Parish Council were also busy clearing plots ready for new tenants and we are really pleased to see lots of new faces. There are still a few available and it's a good time to take a plot, so you can get it ready for spring over the winter months. Digging in fresh manure now will prepare and improve the soil ready for your seeds and plants next year.

If you take on a plot in October 2018 you will be charged half of the annual rent until April 2019 (this will be £12.50 per plot – it is usually £25 per plot per annum). Please contact Ann Newton, Parish Clerk on [clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk) for more details.

We hope to see you up the allotments soon!

Denise Taylor

[This article and Denise's photos are on the Parish Council Website at: <https://www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk/allotments.html> ]

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## Churchyard Appeal on behalf of

### St. Thomas a Becket Church Framfield.

We would once again like to convey our special thanks to those who have made further donations towards the cost of maintaining our magnificent Churchyard.

Our splendid Churchyard is looked after by a dedicated voluntary team of Church and other members. At the moment our mowing machines; maintenance and the fuel costs is sponsored from our Church funds. Our costs amount to around £1200 a year.

If you feel that you would like to make a donation to our cause this can be done by a direct payment to our bank marked "**Churchyard**" or by a cheque made out to **Framfield PCC**.

To HSBC Bank: Direct debit to account: **91456369** sort code **40-45-32** marked Churchyard

By Cheque payable to: **Framfield PCC** and delivered or sent to Church office; The Street; Framfield; East Sussex TN22 5NH.

For more details about the Churchyard work please contact **Jerry Pryke** on 01825 760787.

If you wish to learn more about our appeal please contact **John Mordaunt** on 01825 890443 or Mobile 07989 587459.

John Mordaunt  
(Chairman of the Fabric Committee)

## Plans for new restoration work at St. Thomas à Becket Church Framfield

Some six years ago we embarked upon a major restoration project for our Church. This entailed decoration of all the internal walls; new lighting and external works to rainwater pipes and gutters and also other repairs to the building structure.

We also took the opportunity to create a "Children's" play area to the south aisle which has been a great success. Several other improvements were made to make the Church a very pleasant place for our congregation and for visitors to the Church.

We Plan to start further restoration work to the building next year to ensure that we continue to maintain our Church to its present high standard. More information will follow later this year so watch this space.

**Help please:** we are in need of a replacement upright vacuum cleaner so if have one you no longer need please get in touch with me on the number below – thank you

If you would like to find out more about our work do please contact me; John Mordaunt on 01825 890443 or mobile 07989 587459.

(Chairman of the Fabric Committee)

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### Framfield and Blackboys Wives Group Jumble Sale

Please support our jumble sale at the Framfield Memorial Hall on Saturday 13th October at 2.00 pm. Proceeds to The Cats Protection League. Jumble can be left outside the hall. Any queries please ring Jenny Pratt on 01825 890526.



## THE FESTIVE SEASON IS FAST APPROACHING

Large Restaurant, traditional open fire and cosy atmosphere, perfect for all your Christmas celebrations.

### Pre-Christmas Party Menu £29.50

Available from 1st to 24th December 2018,

Group bookings welcome lunchtime and evenings

### Christmas Day, 4 Course Menu £69.50

Limited places available so book now!

We'd love to see you this Christmas. Why not come and enjoy great food and drink with us. We are open throughout the Christmas period so please visit our website at

**[www.hareandhounds.net](http://www.hareandhounds.net)** to view our menus and download a booking form



### Santa's Grotto

Sat 15th Dec & 22nd Dec 2018

Between 11am & 2pm

Santa would like to welcome all the little people to visit his Grotto.

**£5 per ticket** to include a soft drink, Santas Treemendous Cookie and a personal gift from the man himself.

**BOOK NOW ON 01825 890118**

The Street, Framfield, Uckfield, TN22 5NJ





**Framfield and Blackboys  
Summer Show 2018**



With help from many people we had another very successful show. It is not possible to put on these events without your support. **THANK YOU** so much to everyone who gave their time to help.

**Save the date: Saturday, 10 August, 2019**

If anyone from the parish (or beyond!) can help next year we would really appreciate it.

Many thanks, *The Show Committee*

**FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS MONDAY CLUB**

- 1<sup>st</sup> October Beetle Drive with Reg and Joan Jeffrey, and Heather Ridley: Framfield Memorial Hall - 2.30 pm
- 15<sup>th</sup> October Speaker - Gilly Halcrow "The History of Food and Table Manners": Framfield Memorial Hall - 2.30 pm
- 5<sup>th</sup> November Visit to "Hilliers" Stone Cross, Shopping, Tea/Cake: times to be confirmed
- 19<sup>th</sup> November Singing with "Gem Stillman" -Vocalist: Framfield Memorial Hall 2.30 pm

For further information: 01825 840648  
sandyrogers77@gmail.com

We are also looking for another Volunteer Helper, if interested contact above.



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**MON - THURS: 8am - 6pm (5pm FRI)**

**FIRST SAT OF THE MONTH: 9am - 12 noon**

## Nature Notes

The days are getting shorter as the equinox approaches on about 21<sup>st</sup> September when the day time will equal night time the world over. Then, the northern hemisphere days will be shorter than the nights and the southern hemisphere will experience the opposite, until the spring equinox next year on or about 21<sup>st</sup> March.

These landmarks in time will be recognised and reacted to by organisms the world over. Deciduous trees start losing their leaves, summer visiting birds will leave Britain and winter visiting birds arrive. Britain probably hosts more wintering bird species than summer ones.

There are many species that use British coasts as a winter larder, birds such as curlew, grey plover, golden plover, knot, dunlin, sanderling, redshank, greenshank, ruff. Meanwhile, in the woods and fields redwings and fieldfares arrive along with wintering chaffinches, bramblings, blackbirds and song thrushes, the latter four, largely from Scandinavia, augment our resident populations. Many of these birds will have been moulting after about the summer solstice which is the longest summer day on or about 21<sup>st</sup> June. Moulting usually takes several weeks and results in a strong bright plumage ready for tough autumn and winter weather and migration flights. Some birds, such as the waders mentioned above, have a winter plumage that is a different colour compared with their summer plumage. Most waders become grey during winter and flock together on muddy foreshores to hunt marine invertebrates such as shellfish, crustaceans and lugworms.

There are flowers that bloom in the autumn also such as the tiny white spiral flower stems of autumn ladies tresses, which is a type of orchid, and the purple or white flowering wild cyclamen whose flowers appear before the leaves do. Ivy too flowers in the autumn and provides some late nectar and pollen for honeybees, butterflies and bumblebees.

As the nights get colder, some animals prepare to go to sleep for the winter such as all the reptiles; snakes, lizards and tortoises also amphibians; frogs toads and newts and some insects such as tortoiseshell and peacock butterflies.

*Martyn Stenning*



## FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

As I write this article the hot summer seems to have faded and autumn taken over with rain and windy conditions, as well as the evenings closing in. It has been a challenging year for gardening – a cold wet spring, followed by a very hot summer with almost no rain, but these conditions did not prevent many of you producing some wonderful produce and flowers on display at The Summer Show. A full report from Terry Everitt on The Show may be found elsewhere in this magazine so I shall not duplicate that here other than to say that it was a really great day and to thank all those who volunteered to help before, during and after the event.

One of the stalls remarked on by many visitors and that did well at the show was the Society's plant stall – not surprising as it offered some fabulous plants at extremely reasonable prices with local and expert advice on how to grow them! Better still you do not have to wait until next year's show for the chance to buy more great plants as there is a plant stall at each of the Society's meetings – another very good reason to come along!

The last meeting of the year will be the Society's AGM on 6th November when the guest speaker will be Graham Blunt who runs 'Plantbase' in Wadhurst which specialises in plants from South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and South America. We all know how colourful and flamboyant some of the plants from these countries can be so what better antidote to the onset of an English winter can there be than learning how to create an exotic jungle in your own garden! The meeting will be in Framfield Memorial Hall starting at 7.30pm with a glass of wine on arrival and coffee later in the evening.

We are already planning next year's calendar and visits to Hever Castle and its gardens as well as to RHS Hyde Hall Garden in Essex are on the cards as well as talks and a chance to look around a local garden, so do come along in November and if you are not already a member join up to enjoy next year's events – you will be most welcome.

All Society Events are free to members and £3.00 for non-members. For more information about the Society and its activities please contact either:

Fiona Fidler (01825 890719; fhbsmail@gmail.com )  
or Trevor Hince (01435 863364; trevor.hince@gmail.com ).

Trevor Hince (Chairman)

by one of our contractors, any additional notification is important to the Council.

All agendas are put on the village noticeboards and website. The full minutes of all meetings are also on the website. Please do not rely on the contents of this magazine for meeting dates etc as the website and noticeboards are more up to date. Particularly if you have any queries regarding potential or live planning applications.

Ann Newton (Parish Clerk): 01825 890182.  
Email: [clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk).  
Postal Address: 'Highlands', Blackboys TN22 5LR.  
Website: [www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk](http://www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk).

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FRAMFIELD VILLAGE MARKET  
Dates for 2018  
Memorial Hall, Framfield  
The market opens from 10 am to 12 noon.

29 September  
27 October  
24 November  
15 December

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## PC MEETING SCHEDULE 2018

On each date detailed below, generally two meetings will be held plus an informal Trust update.

(Planning Committee may be cancelled if not essential):

- **Planning Committee – commencement time will vary (6/6.30 pm)**
- **Trust update - commencing at 7 pm**
- **Parish Council - commencing at 7.30 pm.**
  
- **Tuesday, 25 September (PC meeting) – Memorial Hall, Framfield**
- **Tuesday, 27 November (PC meeting) – Village Hall, Blackboys**

## Family Activities A fun filled day at Chichester Cathedral



Time Travellers – Family Activities at Chichester Cathedral, PO19 1PX

### Friday 26 October 2018

10am – 3pm (last entry 2.30pm)

- ❖ Follow our themed Cathedral trail and collect your prize when you finish!
- ❖ Design and Make Creative Crafts

No need to book just drop in - £2.50 per child.

Ages 3 – 12 – accompanied by an adult

Suitable for children aged 3 – 12 years, accompanied by an adult. There will also be a carpeted area available with toys for children under 3 years, who come along with their older brothers and sisters.

Take advantage of the Cloisters café offer of child's meal for £1.50 when an accompanying adult buys a lunch item, with a valid voucher that can be collected on arrival.

**Come along and join in all the fun!**

For further details contact Luna on

01243 812986

[luna.russell@chichestercathedral.org.uk](mailto:luna.russell@chichestercathedral.org.uk)

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

**NEXT FAMILY ACTIVITIES:** Wonderful Water - Friday 22 February 2019

St Thomas a Becket Church of England Federation.  
Blackboys and Framfield Schools News September 2018

It has been an exciting start to the new term in the St Thomas a Becket Federation of Schools. At Framfield School, Mrs Lisa Pestell has been welcomed as new Headteacher and has already gone about making a positive impression with children, parents and community members alike. At Blackboys, Mrs Jo Nobes has begun work as a job share teacher in Class 1 and the children there are appreciating her experienced and thorough teaching.

Our new pupils in Reception have settled in brilliantly and already feel part of the schools' community. In both schools, a buddy system operates, so that the eldest pupils pair up with one of the new Reception children and offer them wise words and deeds in those all important formative weeks. It is a pleasure to see. However our minds are already on next year's Reception intake and plans are in place for open mornings for new pupils in 2019! Please keep an eye on both school websites to learn more.

Both schools are focussing on Perseverance in Acts of Worship. Keeping going and showing resilience in difficult circumstances is something that needs to be taught and practised and we are sure that these skills will be vital to the children all through their lives. We continue to enjoy Rev Chris Lawrence's fortnightly assemblies when he speaks about this theme.

Finally, both schools are busy preparing for their first church service of the new academic year; the Harvest Festival. The quality of singing, presentations and readings will be really high and we know

**FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – REPORT**

The Parish Council has a new Responsible Financial Officer. Her name is Marie Owen and we welcome her to the Parish Council.

At the Trust AGM in July all the items of 'activity' were listed for the year 2017/18. The list is long and many of the items generally go un-noticed but command a lot of time and obviously expense to bring to fruition. To name a few – both halls have been re-decorated internally with a new heating/hot water system for Framfield. Quotes are being obtained for the planting of a single red oak on each recreation ground to commemorate the ending of WW1. Extra cuts were agreed with out grounds maintenance contractor. All the play areas have had new woodchip and there have been new toddler swing seats to both Framfield and Blackboys. The football nets were replaced plus a new goal post for Framfield. Framfield recreation ground is receiving ongoing maintenance work for the rest of the year to improve the facilities. A basketball grant has been awarded to the Trust by Tesco's (thanks to Keith Brandon for pursuing this) to enable the basket ball net etc to be replaced in Framfield. Blackboys Allotments had some attention earlier in the summer and all the vacant plots were cleared – some are still vacant. A surveyor is working on a planning application to allow each plot to have a shed (yes you need planning permission!). Blackboys recreation ground has had six new benches and Palehouse Common one. The list is endless and does not include the administrative side of running the trusts. Of course thanks must go to Mary and Brian Short and Lisa Parsons for their roles at the Halls.

On a different note, the Parish Council have agreed to pay for two extra cuts of the grass verges alongside the Parish roads following on from ESCC reducing the number of cuts this year from six to two.

Parish Magazine. Anyone interested in placing an advertisement should contact me.

Framfield Village Market (usually the last Saturday in the month) – please do come along and have a look at local craft wares and produce and have a cup of coffee. All proceeds go towards the Memorial Hall. Doors open at 10 am. Dates for next year are detailed elsewhere in the magazine.

Recreation grounds, play areas etc. If anyone believes they have discovered a fault or problem with in particular one of the play areas, could they please contact me immediately. Although the areas are inspected on a weekly basis



Building through Blessing in  
Blackboys and Beyond

New Life is a small thriving Church with a desire to grow both in depth and number. At our heart we are a family of people, young and old, who are seeking to deepen our relationship with God, one another and with the people we come alongside in our day to day lives. We are a new congregation formed just over 5 years ago but are part of the Baptist Union of Great Britain a network of over 2000 churches which has its roots back in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century.

We gather together for a weekly service on Sunday mornings at Blackboys village hall starting with coffee and cake at 10.30am. The last Sunday of the month is always an All Age Service often followed by lunch. We also have a Sunday evening prayer meeting and Life Groups which meet during the week.

We hope that you will find our church family relaxed, informal and friendly yet with a desire to live our faith in a way that is authentic and real. It would be great to meet you sometime and if you have any queries don't hesitate to contact me, we could always meet in the Grove for a coffee and a chat.

Revd Guy Partridge

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

*And what does the Lord require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.  
(Micah 6:8)*

that the Uckfield Food Bank will appreciate the kind Harvest gifts from the communities.

Mr Graham Sullivan (Headteacher, Blackboys)  
Mrs Lisa Pestell (Headteacher, Framfield)

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

**BLACKBOYS VILLAGE HALL CAN SATISFY YOUR REQUIREMENTS.**

**2 HEATED ROOMS WITH A SEATING CAPACITY OF 100 and 50 RESPECTIVELY.**

**SECURE OUTDOOR PLAY AREA FOR TODDLERS.**

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

**CONTACT ANN NEWTON ON 01825 890182 FOR FURTHER DETAILS OR**

**EMAIL: [blackboys-hall@framfieldcouncil.org.uk](mailto:blackboys-hall@framfieldcouncil.org.uk).**

**CRICKET CLUB - QUIZ NIGHT**

Blackboys Cricket Club are holding a quiz on Saturday, 20th October at Framfield Memorial Hall to start at 7.30pm. Teams of 6-8. Bring your own nibbles and drink

Gavin and Chantal are our quiz masters and always make it a really fun evening so please come along and give us your support.

Tickets £5 call Sue Turner 01825 890654

## NEWS FROM YOUR WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR



### Mutley's Sussex

Reliable, friendly, experienced animal care. Group dog walking, horse care, cat feeding any sort of animal care catered for.

Fully insured and qualified.  
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Becky 07742012915

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Wealden District Council is calling on the Government to increase the amount of money it can borrow so it can build an additional 214 council houses. The 214 new council homes would be built between 2019 and 2022 and includes rebuilding Streatfeild House in Uckfield. This retirement living court is in need of modernisation. The proposal will increase the number of retirement living homes on the site by 11 to 55 and get rid of its existing outdated bed-sitting room stock.

There was an opportunity to find out more about the facilities that will be offered by Wealden's new Crematorium being built in Horam at the 'More Than Just A Funeral' exhibition on 13 September. The facility is hoping to be operational during the early part of next year and will be the District's first ever crematorium. The progress can be viewed on the WDC website.

Spot checks on Wealden's roads have resulted in one waste carrier left with no vehicle to drive home. Last month's combined operation by Sussex Police and Wealden District Council's Street Scene Team found the driver had no insurance or Waste Carrier's Licence. If you have any concerns about waste carriers or fly tipping, please contact the Street Scene Team on [street.scene@wealden.gov.uk](mailto:street.scene@wealden.gov.uk) or 01892 602735

And lastly but not least missed bins. The situation is still not good within the Parish at the moment. I am ringing and emailing relevant officers trying to keep the Parish Council website updated. There are also updates on the WDC website. Please don't forget to always contact Wealden District Council if your bin is missed and if you have any concerns please let me know particularly with ongoing problems.

Contact details – Ann Newton, 'Highlands', Blackboys, TN22 5LR.  
Telephone - 01825 890103.  
Email – [aenewton1965@gmail.com](mailto:aenewton1965@gmail.com)



## Framfield & Blackboys WI

### GUNWHARF QUAYS & HISTORIC DOCKYARD - HERE WE COME !!!

**WEDNESDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER**

Christy, Denby, Samsonite, Le Cruset, Bedeck, French Connection, Ralph Lauren, Cadbury, Lindt, Kath Kidston, M & S Outlet are just a few of the wonderful shops, all under cover at Gunwharf Quays shopping centre – plus there are masses of lovely places for lunch and coffee. Better still it's just a stones throw away from Portsmouth's Historic Dockyard. See The Mary Rose, HMS Victory (Nelson's legendary flagship), HMS Warrior, & submarine HMS Alliance.



**ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US**

Cost: £25. Does not include admission to Historic Dockyard or lunch.

Usual local pick up points. Please ring Gill Roberts - 01825 890459

### **TABLETOP SALE**

SATURDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER - FRAMFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

Quality toys, clothes, collectables, books, bric-a-brac, china, glass & gifts

**HOME-MADE CAKES FOR SALE - TOMBOLA**

Tea, Coffee, Bacon Rolls, Etc Available

Free Entry - Doors Open: 9:30 am. Sale Ends 12:30 pm

**TABLES: £10. BOOK YOURS NOW - RING VALERIE : 07740 256272**

or e-mail [valerie.letley@btinternet.com](mailto:valerie.letley@btinternet.com)

All Proceeds in Aid of Framfield & Blackboys WI

If you would like to join us, please contact Philomena on 01825 890216.  
Follow us on Facebook or Google Framfield & Blackboys WI

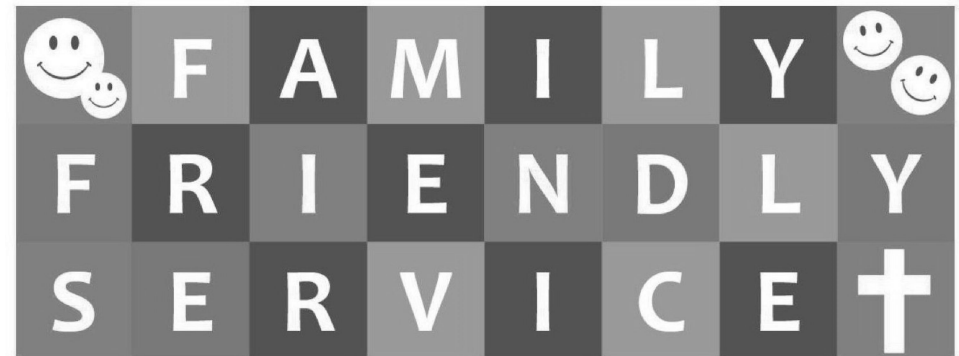
## Looking for a local venue?

Then look no further

Framfield Church Hall is brightly decorated and is the ideal venue for regular meetings, special occasions, keep fit and exercise classes, 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: £10.00/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)



**Our Family Friendly Service is a lively short happy service, where the children are actively involved.**

14th October 10.00 am  
4th November 10.00 am

## LIVING WITH FUR AND FEATHER

### PICK YOUR OWN

One of my pleasures is walking round our own little fields picking blackberries. Last autumn it was too wet to cut the hedges. This resulted in incredible growth this year with a profusion of wild roses, blackberries and cover for nesting birds. Chloe is an expert at pick your own. While I pick the higher blackberries she skilfully pulls off the lower ones, selecting the ripest tastiest ones. The only problem is her long fur gets tangled in the trailing brambles.

There has been a succession of edible goodies for all the wild life. Growing in thickets of brambles in the wood were masses of wild raspberries before the blackberries ripened. Later the ripe damsons dropped from some old trees on to what we optimistically call the front lawn. I used to pick them while mowing the grass. It was handy, stopping the mini tractor briefly, reaching up to pick one, and enjoy eating it as I continued round the lawn. I stopped this practise after discovering, too late, some maggot type creatures hiding inside them! I now leave them to my large furry canine and visiting foxes that are not so fussy. A year or so ago I had a lovely display of roses. Looking out the kitchen window I watched as a deer helped herself to some pretty pink blooms. I thought that was taking "pick your own" too far and felt quite cross, until I spied a young fawn hiding behind her. It was such a lovely sight I left her to continue the drastic pruning of my rose bush.

Later in the year there are hazel nuts and acorns. Sometimes there are lots of acorns. There are masses of them, thickly carpeting the ground and raining down like shot on our flat roof; covering the garage and clogging up all our gutters. I gather this is called a "mast year" The news quickly spreads through the wildlife network and they all arrive to take advantage of this abundant pick your own bonanza. Chloe also eats them and has not come to any harm. A few years ago I discovered a pigeon that had gorged on acorns. It was very sick so I had to humanely dispatch it to save it suffering. On another occasion someone used our fields for his flock of sheep and I found one that had collapsed and was very ill. I contacted the owner who said that was acorn

poisoning. I have just been reading about the danger to horses from sycamore poisoning as the leaves fall in autumn if they eat the seeds.

Living in the peaceful countryside with the wildlife sounds so relaxing and stress free but I do not always find that is so. After the bluebells have finished flowering, flopped over, and distributed their seed I like to take the mini tractor up in the wood to keep open a few paths. After the long dry spell we had heavy rain and the grass took advantage and shot up. I drove slowly along, cutters turning, scanning the long grass ahead just in case there were any unsuspecting creatures hidden there. All was going well, and then I spotted a slight movement. I immediately stopped to see a shiny black beetle scurrying away holding what looked like a tiny white egg in its mouth. I then continued cutting, suddenly right in front of the tractor I saw the tiniest little yellow coloured frog desperately trying to escape from the lethal cutters by climbing a blade of grass. By then I was stressed out so gave up and took the tractor back home and put it away!

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

## GreenThumb LAWN TREATMENT SERVICE

### Our lawns have had a lot to put up with this year.

Give your lawn some extra TLC this Autumn to help restore it to full health and prepare it for next Spring.

#### Aerate for better root development

All soil types can become compacted, especially in periods of dry weather. Hollow tine aeration removes small cores of soil, reducing compaction, improving root development and therefore the overall health of your lawn.

#### Scarify to allow fresh growth

If your lawn has suffered from the dry weather this summer, feels spongy underfoot or has excess moss, it may need scarifying. Scarifying removes excess thatch enabling the better flow of oxygen, nutrients and moisture to the roots, resulting in a healthier lawn and creating space for new fresh grass to grow through.

#### Not all fertilisers are the same!

- GreenThumb's exclusive Nutragreen® fertiliser is a bespoke, controlled-release formula developed over 30 years specifically for UK lawns
- GreenThumb's fertiliser is not only more nutritious for the grass plant than anything you can buy off the shelf, but it also provides a scorch-free result

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or email: [lewes@greenthumb.co.uk](mailto:lewes@greenthumb.co.uk)