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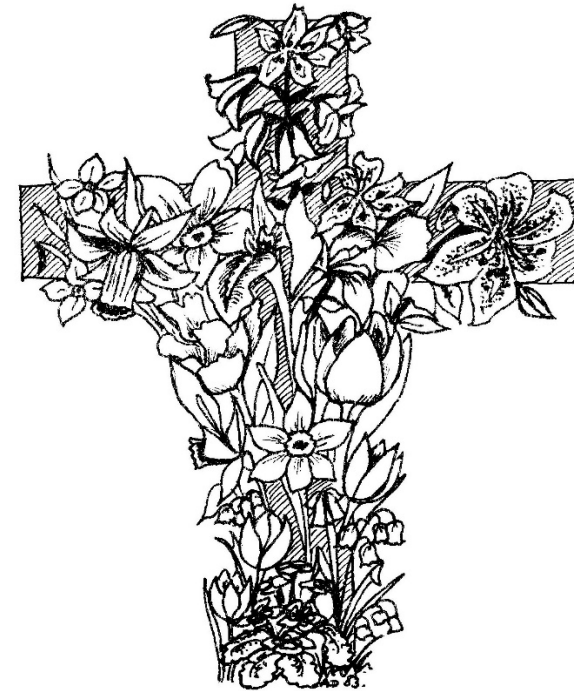
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*Published jointly by
St Thomas à Becket Church
and Framfield Parish Council*

Parish Magazine



**Framfield, Blackboys
and
Palehouse Common**

APRIL / MAY 2020

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 Gaynor Robson**

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

Email - revchris.framfield@gmail.com
Post - Vicarage Barn, Brookhouse Lane, Framfield TN22 5NH
Telephone/ leave a message - 01825 891090



From the Registers:

Baptisms:

Weddings:

At rest:

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.

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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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WHO'S WHO AT THE St THOMAS À BECKET NEWSLETTER

Joint Chair -

For the Church: Rev. Chris Lawrence

For the Council: Mr. Keith Brandon

Co-ordinator and Advertising: Ann Newton

Technical Editor: Barry Richardson

Treasurer: Marie Owen

**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.**

CIRCULATION:

This magazine reaches over 1100 households in the parish.

It is therefore an ideal way to reach a wide customer area.

Contact the Clerk, Ann Newton for advertising details and rates.

clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk

A time to get Hope in perspective.

We certainly live in challenging times with the cases of Coronavirus on the rise and according to government predictions, not likely to peak before late April/middle of May. Prime Minister, Boris Johnson gave a sobering talk to the country where he said that the Coronavirus is the worst public health crisis for a generation and many more families are going to lose loved ones before their time.

So how do we cope in this period of uncertainty? Should we just adopt a fatalistic approach and 'hope for the best'?

We need to stop there and ask ourselves the question – 'what exactly is hope'?

There are various dictionary definitions but in essence it is a chance that something desirable will happen or be possible. But as we know from a worldly point of view this is no more than wishful thinking; no guarantees.

Now consider Hope from a Christian perspective. The reality is not some form of gamble as Hope may be defined as 'A confident, unwavering expectation of good'. Our confidence is not in the uncertainty of the world but in Christ.

The Bible has many references to Hope - Ps 42:5 says ⁵ **Why are you downcast, O my soul? Why so disturbed within me? Put your hope in God,**

Romans 5:5 **And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.**

Life was never meant to be lived as a day-to-day game of chance with all the associated stresses and strains, but hand in hand with God and in the sure knowledge that He wants the very best for each one of us. That is the essence of His nature - the unconditional love of God that surpasses all things and that is available to every man, woman or child through Christ.

Perhaps the greatest discovery any person can make in this life is in the knowledge or revelation that the creator of the universe absolutely loves them just for who they are, warts and all!

Although we are living in a crisis situation, a crisis can be a good thing as it certainly focuses our attention. When life is going along swimmingly well the natural mind and heart self-deceives to convince us that we have no need of God.

However, whatever thoughts we may have and whatever happens, God does promise eternal life for those who believe in Him through His Son Jesus Christ. That's the Good News of the Gospel.

St Paul writing to the church in Thessalonica - ¹³ **Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope.** (1 Thessalonians 4:13).

In times of uncertainty we really need Godly hope and base-line truth as it prevents our emotions from being blown all over the place. You won't find absolute truth in the world, it is too messed up, but you will find it in God as the writer of Hebrews testifies. ¹⁷ **Because God wanted to make the unchanging nature of his purpose very clear to the heirs of what was promised, he confirmed it with an oath.** ¹⁸ **God did this so that, by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled to take hold of the hope offered to us may be greatly encouraged.** ¹⁹ **We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.** (Hebrews 6:17-18)

I was praying in the office asking for a word to share with you all – Psalm 65 came to mind, so here it is:

¹ **Praise awaits you, our God, in Zion; to you our vows will be fulfilled.**

² **You who answer prayer, to you all people will come.**

³ **When we were overwhelmed by sins, you forgave our transgressions.**

⁴ **Blessed are those you choose and bring near to live in your courts!**

**We are filled with the good things of your house,
of your holy temple.**

⁵ **You answer us with awesome and righteous deeds, God our Saviour,
the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas,**

⁶ **who formed the mountains by your power, having armed yourself with strength,**

⁷ **who stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves,**

and the turmoil of the nations. ⁸ **The whole earth is filled with awe at your**

wonders; where morning dawns, where evening fades, you call forth songs of joy.

I am convinced God will turn this situation around and we will praise Him for it. I don't know how, but I do know that God works in ways we cannot yet imagine.

May God draw you to Himself and protect one and all – Revd Chris Lawrence

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Framfield Parish Council

MEETING SCHEDULE 2020

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, 28 July (AGM of the Trusts and PC meeting) – Memorial Hall, Framfield

29 September (PC meeting) – Village Hall, Blackboys

24 November (PC meeting) – Memorial Hall, Framfield

Public welcome. For further details, please telephone the Parish Clerk, Ann Newton, on 01825- 890182 / clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk 'Highlands', Blackboys TN22 5LR.

Agendas will be published on all noticeboards and the website - framfieldcouncil.org.uk

FIND US ON FACEBOOK:



Framfield Parish Council now has a social media account with Facebook:(www.facebook.com/framfieldparishcouncil) where useful and pertinent information will be posted.

Diary of Church Services

NB – Currently all Services are postponed until further notice.

Please check the Church Website for updates

APRIL 2020

05 Palm Sunday

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW) with
Prayer for Healing

6,7 & 8th Holy Week Meditations 7.00-7.30pm
(Music, readings and prayer – Open invitation to all)

09 Maundy Thursday

7.00 pm Holy Communion (CW)

10 Good Friday

10.00 Churches in Uckfield - Walk of Witness
and Service in the Old Post Office Square
(Meet at Cornerstone Church, Uckfield – 10am)

12 Easter Day

10.00 am Family Service ***(inc. Children's Easter Egg Hunt)***

19 Second Sunday of Easter

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)

26 Third Sunday of Easter

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

MAY 2020

03 Fourth Sunday of Easter

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW) with
Prayer for Healing

10 Fifth Sunday of Easter

10.00 am Family Service *(Rogation Sunday)*
Followed by BBQ lunch - Church Hall

6.30 pm Evening Holy Communion (CW) with
Prayer for Healing

17 Sixth Sunday of Easter

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)

24 Seventh Sunday of Easter

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

31 Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

10.00 am Morning Praise

BCP: Book of Common Prayer. CW: Common Worship

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE
BY 10th MAY 2020
TO**

ANN NEWTON – 01825 890182

**Please note new email address:
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

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

Parish Council website: www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk

NEWS FROM YOUR WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

The WDC Community Grants scheme has received an extra boost of £5,000 this year. Clubs and groups run by volunteers can apply for a grant – twelve community organisations have already benefitted this year and the next round will take place in September. Details can be found on the WDC website.

As reported last time, we are now working on a new Local Plan which will give us the opportunity to take more account of climate change. WDC declared a Climate Emergency in July and work is already underway to find out exactly what we can do to meet our goal of making Wealden carbon neutral by 2050 or preferably earlier.

WDC has approved an increase averaging less than 10p per week for its share of the Council Tax for 2020/21. Amazingly the net cost of providing Wealden's services in 2007/08 was £17.77 million. In the coming year, the net cost will be £17,752. This was £18,000 less despite 13 years of inflation – a pretty good record to me. I am pleased to have been a part of the Council during that time and hope that we have continued to provide a good level of services over these years. WDC's share of the overall Council Tax bill is just 9% which helps pay for refuse and recycling collections, planning, street cleaning, environmental protection and car parking.

Lastly the East Sussex Joint Waste Partnership is now able to provide kerbside collections of small electrical items for recycling. Residents are asked to leave them in a plastic carrier on their rubbish or recycling bin on collection day. Only one carrier bag can be taken at any one time and only electrical items that can fit into a carrier bag can be recycled. Larger items must be taken to a Household Recycling Site. Batteries can be left in a separate bag – the plastic bags will also be recycled.

COVID 19 - If anyone knows of anyone who needs assistance with shopping etc please contact me – details below – or indeed needs assistance themselves. Also if anyone can volunteer to shop, pick up prescriptions etc could they contact me.

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

Telephone - 01825 890103.

Email – aenewton1965@gmail.com

Framfield Village Market:

There will be no village market in March, April or May. If you have any concerns or wish to book a table for future events, please contact the Clerk. Dependant on the current situation, closures may be extended.

All other matters:

The Parish Council will continue to answer all queries and concerns by email and telephone. Please note that due to an increase in queries, it may take a little longer to get back to you.

KEITH BRANDON – CHAIRMAN

PARISH CLERK – clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk / 01825 890182.

www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response

www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19>

www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk

BLACKBOYS CRICKET CLUB JUMBLE SALE

2pm Saturday 4th April

at Framfield Memorial Hall

THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED

Contact Sue Turner 01825 8906

Framfield Church – What we will be doing during the Coronavirus crisis 17.3.2020

In line with government guidelines The Church of England has suspended all regular church services for the time being. However, the suspension of public worship does not currently apply to weddings and funerals. These should go ahead with as few people in attendance as possible. Clergy should use their discretion on what limits to apply. For example, it would be reasonable to limit attendance to the immediate family, excluding anyone who is at risk from infection.

Framfield Church will remain open during the day so folk can sit and reflect and pray if they so wish. There will also be an area set up where prayer candles may be lit – these will be supplied. There will also be prayer request cards.

As a church we have a list of folk who are willing to shop for those who are self-isolating. Points of contact will be on the noticeboard and on the church website. I'll be on the Church Office telephone number (01825 891090) if you need to contact me or leave a message. If it's urgent please ring the Vicarage (01825 890365).

Hopefully, we can all stay well during this challenging period and help each other out where it's appropriate to do so.

May God bless One and All – Revd Chris Lawrence

Please respect your Churchyard

We have recently seen an increase in dog mess being left in the churchyard. This is very distressing for visitors in general, and especially for those with family buried in the churchyard. It is also unpleasant for those who volunteer to keep the churchyard maintained.

Please be prepared to clean up after your dog, and keep it on a lead, so you are aware of what it might be up to! Thank you.



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

**12th April 10.00 am
10th May 10.00 am**

Looking for a local venue?

Then look no further !

Framfield Church Hall is well placed in the village next to the Church. It is ideal for regular meetings, social & other events, special occasions, keep fit, exercise groups, birthday parties and other activities.

The Hall can be used as an open space or with tables / seating for up to 60 persons. There is a fitted kitchen with catering equipment & crockery etc, a large AV screen, sound system, two loos (one with disabled facilities) and two disabled parking spaces directly outside the Hall.

Currently it is used for Art classes, Pilates, Exercise groups, Drama, Singing, Presentations, Training events and birthday parties. Further Mother and baby fitness classes start on the 22nd of March. Our rates are £10.00 per hour.

For more details about the hall and its events please get in touch with John Mordaunt on 01825 890443; mobile 07989 587459 or email: johnmordaunt1@gmail.com

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Framfield Parish Council Coronavirus Covid-19

17th March 2020

As you will be aware, the coronavirus is affecting everybody in one way or another. The Parish Council follow the instructions of official government advice, which is changing daily. It is therefore important that all residents keep apprised of the current situation and safeguards put in place.

If you are, or know of somebody that is elderly or vulnerable within the Parish that may need help through this period, please contact the Clerk. The Parish Council will do what it can to support residents. Please follow all official guidance and advice from the Government.

Please make sure you, your family, friends and neighbours are ok, especially if they are alone or elderly. Please see links below for up to date information.

With immediate effect:

The Council buildings (Framfield Memorial Hall, Blackboys Village Hall and the Pavilion) are closed with the exception of statutory school use. This will be in place until at least 31st May, 2020. Bookings can be made for June onwards, but they may be subject to cancellation depending on the situation with the Coronavirus and advice issued by the government.

Planning Applications/meetings:

All planning applications will be debated by delegated authority. If you do wish to make a representation to the Parish Council, this can be done by email or letter. For the planning application process – this will continue to be managed by Wealden District Council and you should refer to them for all other matters including making official representation/comment to an application. Of course, you can always contact our District Councillor, Ann Newton, who may be able to advise – aenewton1965@gmail.com / 01825 890103.

Parish Council Meetings:

Parish Council meetings and Trust updates will not be conducted in public until at least 31st May, 2020. Any minor issues will be dealt with by delegated authority. Health and Safety issues will continue to be addressed, and in the first instance please contact the Parish Clerk for any queries.

**FRAMFIELD VILLAGE MARKET
2020**

**Memorial Hall, Framfield
The market opens from 10 am to 12 noon.**

28 March - CANCELLED

25 April - CANCELLED

30 May - CANCELLED

27 June

25 July

August – no market.

26 September

31 October

28 November

19 December

**Please contact Ann Newton with any queries – 01825 890182 or
email clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk**

Framfield and Blackboys Wives Group

We did well for our charity last year so this year we are collecting for the TN22 club.

Due to Covid -19 we have postponed a visit to the Cats Protection in Chelwood Gate, and various talks we had planned

If anyone is interested in joining us please ring me.

Ann Dawe 01825 890506

Nature Notes

As I write in Early March, frog tadpoles have hatched out in our Uckfield garden pond, the hazel catkins are nearly over and the tree's tiny maroon flowers will be generating hazel nuts. Hawthorn and elder are breaking forth into leaf and eventually white pearlesque blossom. Among the birds, the robin and blackbird females are carefully building nests in our hedgerows. Celandines have been flowering for some time, but now look out for the pink flowers of ladies smock, also known as milkmaids and cuckoo flower (Latin *Cardamine pratensis*) a type of cress. These will grow in any exposed damp wayside ditch or bank and adorns the roundabout at Little Horsted in most years.

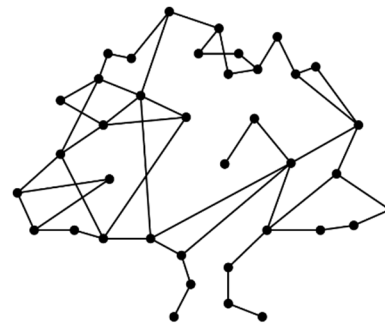
Spring can be a very personal season as we emerge into longer, brighter days, warmer weather and an awakening of the countryside. It is good to spend time just watching the changes, as nothing stays the same for long in spring. Look and watch the different types of tree bursting into leaf. Understorey species like the ones mentioned above are leafing first to 'catch the rays' before the larger ones such as oak, ash and horse chestnut steal their light with their canopy. Listen also, for the singing of the blackbird, robin, wren, song and mistle thrushes, great and blue tit, chaffinch, chiffchaff and eventually cuckoo. They and others will be celebrating the rise of spring with both a dawn and evening chorus. Smell also the fragrance of the wood anemones, bluebells carpeting our ancient woodlands in April and May and eventually honeysuckle or woodbine and wild roses adorning our hedgerows.

Nature abhors a vacuum. So, every damp space on the planet Earth's soil's surface will be colonised by something. Usually, first algae, bacteria and fungi, then moss, grass and broadleaved herbs also known as forbs. Some of the latter are vigorous and grow large like nettles brambles and hogweed. But, beneath these, acorns, haws, beech nuts and horse chestnuts will germinate, protected by these herbaceous bullies, then with autumn the herbs die back, tree seedlings are revealed and continue to put on height and eventually outgrow the herbs, shade them out and form a woodland habitat. This is called succession and will always happen without intervention by humans. In short, in every grassland there is a woodland trying to get out!

Martyn Stenning

The science of Ecology is one of the newest academic disciplines taught at Universities, and did not really exist until about the 1950s. Prior to that, we had nature study, the sort of thing written about by the Reverend Gilbert White in the Natural History of Selbourne published in 1788-9. Prior to that we also had taxonomy (classification of living organisms) in the form of a book called Systema Naturae written by Carl Linnaeus and published in 1735. Later, we also had The Origin of Species written by Charles Darwin and published in 1859. However, most of this was natural history, and most of the animals that were studied were actually shot dead by the people writing about them. The plants were collected and dried and displayed in herbaria and the animals in natural history museums that also contained collections of pinned dead insects. Killing things was excusable and seen as sport.

During the 1950s and 60s wildflower and bird guidebooks started to appear. Then with television came programmes such as 'Look' with Peter Scott (son of Captain Scott of the Antarctic fame). We also had Johnny Morris at Bristol Zoo as a keeper and Desmond Morris with Zoo Time from 1956 and through the 1960s. Meanwhile, schools and universities were teaching Biology along with Physics, Chemistry and Geography, but the subject of Ecology never really emerged on its own until about the early 1970s. Ecology comes from the Greek words 'oikos logos' which mean 'home study'. So, the science is the study of the 'homes' of plants, animals and other organisms such as fungi, bacteria, algae, slime moulds viruses etc. During this time, new kinds of books began to appear such as Rachel Carson's Silent Spring which tells of a terrible world resulting from the over-use of pesticides resulting in the loss of all song-birds – hence 'Silent Spring'. This book motivated biologists to start looking at the human (anthropogenic) effects of our activities on the natural world around us. Not only that, but we started studying the effects of one organism on another and produced the term 'balance of nature'. We looked at the water and carbon cycle, trophic cascades and such things as density dependent mortality. Suddenly we had a mature science and just in time too, because if we did not, we would have run into the seriousness of human activity effects on the planet's ecosystems completely blind.



NEWLIFE

Dear Readers

In view of the current situation with COVID 19 all Church services are cancelled until further notice. We continue to pray for this situation.

Blessings
Clive

FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS MONDAY CLUB

FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS MONDAY CLUB
WISHES TO SAY THAT OUR MEETINGS ARE
CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE BECAUSE
OF THE CURRENT VIRUS SITUATION.
TAKE CARE AND KEEP SAFE.

It's very sad - I was really upset to do this for the first time in 14½ years.
But because of age of our Members we feel we must protect them.

Regards, Sandy Rogers and Helpers.

Tel - 01825 840648 | Mobile - 0759 284 1275 |

sandyrogers77@gmail.com



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November 2019

In October we can notice many changes in Nature. The weather is often unsettled. The days are noticeably shorter and cooler, the leaves on the trees of old England are changing colour and thinning out. Insects are getting scarcer and many are being caught by the seasonal abundance of Arachnids, such as the orb web spiders.

Birds such as willow warblers and swallows are migrating away from us to their summer quarters; many more, such as wheatears and pied flycatchers are passing through on migration to Africa. Other birds such as Brent geese, teal, pochard and pintail ducks plus many species of waders such as dunlin, grey plover and curlew are arriving from their Arctic and eastern breeding grounds to spend the winter on English estuaries and waterways. Mammals, like us, are preparing for the cold winter by storing food, growing thicker pelts and putting on weight by feeding on Autumn's season of plenty. Some of these such as bats, hedgehogs and dormice will hibernate for months. Others, such as foxes, badgers, squirrels and mice will simply feed up and spend more time sleeping and foraging for food. The badger females are likely to mate and be pregnant in October and will suspend embryo development for a while until late December. The badger embryos take 49 days to develop leading to births (about 3 per female) underground in February.

The reptiles such as our common lizards, slow worms, grass snakes and adders have slowed down so much, in the coolness of Autumn, that they are compelled to hibernate in a secure cavity underground somewhere. Reptiles, insects, spiders and other invertebrates are poikilothermic or cold blooded, which means that their body temperature is not internally regulated like ours, our mammal relatives and birds. Likewise, the amphibians such as frogs, toads and newts. These too will slow down with the falling temperature and find somewhere damp and free from frost to hibernate until early Spring.

We humans do not have to mow the lawn so frequently, because the grass has no need to grow very much in the Autumn. We get tired easily, our skin may go paler and we wear more and warmer clothes. Our diet may also change with fewer salads and more hot soups.

St Thomas a Becket Federation; Blackboys and Framfield Schools

Pupils and staff at our 2 parish schools are certainly hoping that spring will come soon, following a seriously wet winter! However despite the weather, both schools have been enjoying getting out and about, and thoroughly involved in sport too.

We are extremely fortunate to be linked to Uckfield College for school sport and have recently enjoyed netball tournaments, indoor athletics and a multi skills event for our younger pupils. It is great to use the facilities at Uckfield and the children love working alongside some of the sports leader pupils from "the big school". A particular success occurred for both schools at a swimming gala in February, with swimmers collecting a range of accolades, including the hotly contested 4 x 25 m relay.

The rain has not put off Forest School sessions for either school, with the gazebo style shelter at Blackboys proving a particularly useful addition to the forest school area. In fact the biggest challenge has been finding dry wood for the campfire, particularly in the week of Shrove Tuesday when the children cooked their own pancakes over the campfire. It is ideal that both schools share the Christian Value of Perseverance!

Where possible, both schools share school trips, making it a far more enjoyable experience for the children. Recently our year 6 pupils enjoyed the annual trip to the Houses of Parliament, including a very thorough walking tour of the sights of London. The children were thrilled to meet the Speaker of the House of Commons, Sir Lindsay Hoyle, watch proceedings from the viewing gallery and have a Q and A session

At the time of writing all allotment tenancy renewal letters have been sent out to current tenants. If anyone thinks they might like a plot, please let me know and once the rents start coming in I will be in a better position to see what plots are available.

I have also completed the renewal of the advertisements for the Parish Magazine but I also take adverts during the year so if anyone wishes to advertise or knows a business which would like to please let me know.

COVID 19 – further article also elsewhere magazine.

Framfield Village Market (usually the last Saturday in the month) – please be advised that there will be no market in March, April or May due to concerns regarding the Coronavirus. The situation will be reviewed in June to see if that one can be held.

All Parish Council meetings are cancelled until further notice.

If anyone knows of anyone who needs assistance with shopping etc please contact me – details below – or indeed needs assistance themselves. Also if anyone can volunteer to shop, pick up prescriptions etc could they contact me.

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

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

Website: www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk

The Body Shop at Home
We are still taking orders
Hand Soaps and Gel Cleansers
are available*



*when preparing this ad.

WE ARE STILL OPEN!

I can still take your orders as The Body Shop at Home warehouse is still working and following strict hygiene procedures.

Many orders placed will have discounts!

You can still collect your orders from me and I am still able to deliver locally.

The ONLY thing that has changed is I can't do physical parties

If and when this changes I will update you but for now I want to thank you for your continued support.

I can be contacted on lerrynfarm@btinternet.com 07752098849

Let me know if you would like to see the latest catalogue

Ask to join my Facebook Group for the latest news

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/thebodyshopwithdrawn/>

[We will be back at Framfield Village Market when it resumes](#)

with our supportive local MP Nus Ghani. Followed by a slap up Pizza meal, the children have a great experience in London. Other year groups have some great trips planned, including visits to Uckfield High Street and Waitrose, Drusillas, Woods Mill and Hastings.

Both schools are currently in the throws of an exciting Science Week. The children all love Science and it is a week where staff can allocate additional time to this vital subject.

As Spring comes, the mind turns to our Easter Services. As church schools, this is an important event for both and we are grateful to Rev Chris and his team at St Thomas a Becket, Framfield for their continued support and enthusiasm.

Mr Graham Sullivan, Headteacher Blackboys and Mrs Pestell, Headteacher Framfield

Orange-tip Butterfly by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

The future's bright

At this time of year I'm often asked "What's that butterfly with the orange tips on the end of its wings called?" "Well," I reply "its scientific name is *Anthocharis* meaning 'flower grace'; probably because this beautiful butterfly lends a certain grace to the flowers it frequents. In the 18th century it was 'The Lady of the Woods' –a seductive title well deserved by the best-looking butterfly of the spring. The Germans celebrate its beauty in the name Aurotafalter; the sunrise butterfly. The French honour it with the poetic title L'Auroré - the rising sun." "So what do the British call it?" "Well, we call it the Orange-tip – because it has orange tips on the end of its wings."

Whoever gave this exquisite insect such an unimaginative name should be ashamed. It's more than just a pair of orange tips. Forget your Bluebells and Skylarks, the emergence of the Orange-tip is nature's confirmation that spring has officially sprung.

Only the male Orange-tip has those road cone orange wing-tips that visually scream “Look at me! Look at me!” as he cruises the countryside’s hedges and edges. You’d think this flamboyant display would land him on the menu for any passing bird - but he has an unsavoury secret. He tastes absolutely disgusting. His orange tips make birds recoil when they recall last eating something that colour. To predators he is a flying pot of lime pickle; if you’ve eaten it once, you’ll never eat it again.

The grey-tipped females are more secretive. Once mated they search the hedgerows for their food plants; Cuckooflower and Garlic Mustard. They tap-dance on the plants and identify them with taste buds in their feet. Once their six soles are satisfied they lay a single, tiny, orange, rugby ball shaped egg. The egg’s shell emits a pheromone which deters other females from laying here because the cute little caterpillar, which hatches out a week or so later, is a cannibal.

This caterpillar gets to work eating the flower’s seed pods, and it eats so many that it starts to look like one (my Mum once warned me a similar phenomenon would happen with me and Monster Munch crisps). Disguised as its diet, it merrily munches throughout May and the plant toxins it ingests will help to flavour the bitter butterfly it will become. In July, the caterpillar constructs a curious chrysalis, a bizarre bit of angular architecture attached to a stem by a single string. Inside this post-modern pupa the caterpillar melts into a cellular soup. And then the natural world’s greatest regeneration takes place. This biological broth builds a butterfly and the April sunshine encourages the Orange-tip to emerge; that simple flash of orange signalling that an even greater regeneration has finally taken place. Winter has turned to spring.

Common Seal by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust *Here be monsters*

Legend has it that it’s been visiting Lewes for years. There have been sightings from Southease all the way up to Barcombe. In January, John glimpsed it vanishing into the murky waters of the River Ouse near Tesco. A few months later, Barry was on his way to work when he encountered the creature hauled out on a pontoon by the Cuilfail cliffs. You’ll find 38 species of wild mammal living in or around Lewes. Badgers, foxes, stoats, weasels, shrews, rabbits, hares, moles, voles, dormice, bats, rats, hedgehogs, mice and mink all form the mammalian fauna of a landlocked South Downs town. Yet there’s one salty surprise on the list; the Common Seal, an animal that’s typically found in Britain’s coastal waters 12 kilometres away.

FROM 1ST MARCH 2020 PUBLIC ACCESS RESTRICTED TO WAY-MARKED PUBLIC FOOTPATHS

- **Crouch’s Farm, East Hoathly**
- **Newplace Farm, Framfield**
- **Possingworth Farm, Blackboys**

Due to a change in our DEFRA Environmental Scheme there will be NO PUBLIC ACCESS around the boundaries of fields at Crouch’s Farm, East Hoathly, Newplace Farm, Framfield and Possingworth Farm, Blackboys from 1st March 2020.

We know that this permissive access has been used and enjoyed by many of you for several years and so it is with regret that this is being restricted. The six-metre boundary will not be farmed, but must be kept as an “environmental area” for the benefit of wildlife, flora and fauna only. This is in keeping with the Government’s future policy to improve the environment.

The gates will be closed and it will be clearly marked that there is no longer access. We politely ask that you respect these restrictions and do not try to force the gates or climb over them to gain access.

The only areas you will be able to walk on from 1st March 2020 are the way-marked Public Footpaths. Please refer to an Ordinance Survey map to ensure that you only walk along these routes.

Please contact me if you have any questions on 01825-840242 or by e-mail at office@courtneygroup.co.uk.

Anne Courtney

Waldon Country Market

Waldron Country Market is cancelled until further notice.

For more information contact Graeme Mackenzie 01435 866419. There is also a Facebook link - [@WaldronCountryMarket](#).

Society then please get in touch with Emma Page at fabhs.membership@gmail.com . For other enquiries please get in touch with Trevor Hince (01435 863364; trevor.hince@gmail.com).

STOP PRESS

The Summer Show now has its Dog Show thanks to Rebecca Hobden coming forward to run it – Many Thanks!

£300 AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS – APPLY NOW

Money from The Framfield and Blackboys Summer Show is now available to support projects which benefit the local community.

There is £300 available from the 2019 Show but how it will be spent depends on which project(s) is chosen from the proposals that you put forward – so come forward now with your applications.

Application can be made via a simple form available from the people listed below. The form also sets out the rules of the scheme, for instance the 'local community' means the residents of Blackboys, Framfield and Palehouse Common. Applications need to be submitted by 30th April 2020 and if awarded funding can start from November. There is no specific remit for the fund other than to help provide 'benefit' to the community in the widest context. If you are not sure whether your particular project, activity or group is eligible and would like to talk about it, please contact Trevor Hince (details below).

You know what is needed and which projects/activities deserve help so please put in an application. Forms are available from:

Trevor Hince - trevor.hince at gmail.com or tel. 01435 863364

Ann Newton – clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk or tel. 01825 890182

Terry Everitt – terry.everitt@outlook.com

And the seal's certainly a surprise to any Lewes residents who, while innocently strolling along the Ouse, encounter their local leviathan. I've never seen the legendary beast myself but have received plenty of excited tweets, emails and mobile phone photos from amazed observers who can't believe what they've seen. Throughout history, sailors (without the benefit of smartphones and a Twitter account) have confused seals for mermaids and sea serpents and, as Sussex mammals go, this seal is a real monster.

Common Seals can weigh up to 150 kg; twice the weight of a Fallow Deer, the second biggest wild mammal in this area (and 50,000 times heavier than the smallest; the Pygmy Shrew). As you'd imagine, on land this blubbery behemoth is about as agile as Peter Ustinov trapped in a sleeping bag but underwater they're as balletic as Baryshnikov, gracefully swimming at speeds of up to 25 mph as they hunt fish, shellfish, squid and octopus.

It's this quest for food that occasionally leads seals into Sussex rivers such as the Ouse and the Arun as they follow fish migrating upstream. Common Seals breed in Sussex, where there is a colony at Chichester Harbour. It's a sink or swim situation for seal pups born on the sandbanks exposed during the low tides of summer. Their aquatic life starts as the next high tide rolls in and within hours of their birth they're swimming in the Solent alongside their mother. Mother's milk helps them to double their birth weight in just a few weeks. The name 'common' is a bit of a misnomer. In British waters you're three times more likely to see their larger, Roman-nosed relative the Grey Seal. The patterns on each seal's fur are as individual as fingerprints. Keep an eye out when you're next walking by along a Sussex riverbank and see if a seal is giving the river its approval.

Sussex Wildlife Trust is an independent charity caring for wildlife and habitats throughout Sussex. Founded in 1961, we have worked with local people for over half a century to make Sussex richer in wildlife.

We rely on the support of our members to help protect our rich natural heritage. Please consider supporting our work. As a member you will be invited to join Michael Blencowe on our regular wildlife walks and also enjoy free events, discounts on wildlife courses, *Wildlife* magazine and our Sussex guide book, *Discovering Wildlife*. It's easy to join online at www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join or over the phone on 01273 497532.

www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk



Framfield & Blackboys WI

KEEP CALM AND STAY OPTIMISTIC

Despite the grim weather and the even grimmer news about Covid 19 we do have plans for the year ahead, even though events scheduled before June have had to be cancelled. We certainly hope to run a trip in July, but will finalise the details nearer the time. Please see below our remaining programme in the light of the current advice and the perfectly sensible closure of the village hall.

If we are able to run our programme for the second half of the year, all meetings will take place at 7.30 pm at Framfield Memorial Hall.

June 9 th	Afternoon Tea in the Garden: A lavish afternoon tea with home-made cakes and savouries held in one of our members gardens.
July 14 th	Flower Arranging Demonstration: Watch Phyllis Stevens create a stunning flower arrangement and pick up useful tips.
July TBA	July Outing. Trip by luxury coach with local pick up points. Date and details to be confirmed.
August 11 th	Informal Meeting: Get together and catch-up over lunch at a local venue.
August TBA	Framfield & Blackboys Summer Show: Visit our stand for home-made cakes and 'Every One A Winner' tombola.
September 8 th	Music of the 50's & 60's: Take a musical trip down memory lane with Beryl Venables.
October 13 th	Tales from the Time of the British Raj: An entertaining and light-hearted view of the British Raj through the eyes of a Parsi lady of the Victorian era by great grand-daughter Rukshana Master.
November 10 th	AGM & Anniversary Supper: We celebrate our 94th anniversary and elect a new Committee.
December 8 th	Christmas Party with supper and entertainment.

If you would like to find out more about our WI, please contact Mary Short on 01825 890854
Follow us on Facebook or Google Framfield & Blackboys WI



FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Society's programme of events for 2020 opened with the ever popular Quiz Night when teams of members and guests struggled with the taxing, teasing and often amusing questions set by Terry Everitt. Despite exposing some large gaps in our knowledge it was a great evening enjoyed by all - so special thanks to Terry.

With the odd day of sunshine and some warmth we are now seeing the first bumblebees in the garden as well as a few other pollinators. Even before the early Spring flowers come fully into bloom it is important to have some winter-flowering plants to provide nectar for these early insects; shrubs such as Daphne, Mahonia and Sarcococca are good nectar sources as well having a wonderful fragrance we can enjoy.

The important role of insects and how we can better manage our gardens for them was to have been the subject of our next talk. However, the impact of the coronavirus epidemic and the Government's advice on how we should manage our lives will have implications for all of us, including the Horticultural Society. We have therefore taken the decision to cancel our next talk on Declining Insect numbers (on Tuesday 7th April) and the planned visit to Starborough Nursery on Wednesday 6th May. We shall, of course, be reviewing our future activities as the epidemic develops and in line with Government guidance.

Finally and most excitingly for the Society, by the time you read this article we will have launched our brand new website: www.framfieldandblackboys-hort-soc.com. The site provides news, details of events including, of course, The Summer Show and sections with hints and tips on growing and showing. There is lots more too, with links to our social media sites, the opportunity to join the Society – it will be 'the way' to keep abreast of what is going on in the Society; do have a look.

For details of all Society events and to book places where necessary please contact Sarah Hince at fabhs.events@gmail.com or telephone her on 01435 863364. If you have not yet renewed your membership or wish to join the