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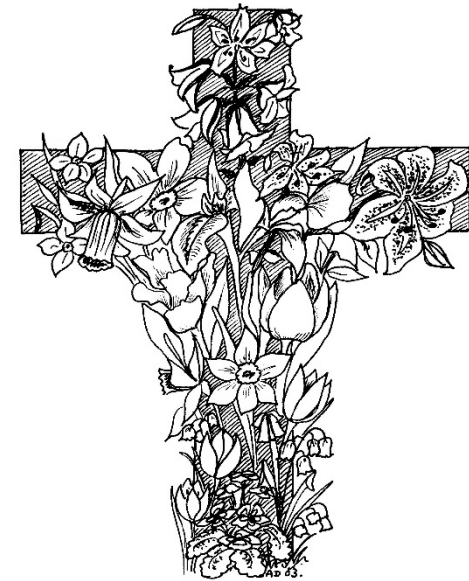
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*Published jointly by  
St Thomas à Becket Church  
and Framfield Parish Council*

# Parish Magazine



**Framfield, Blackboys  
and  
Palehouse Common**

**APRIL / MAY 2021**

## 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:**

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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"**

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## **The face of Jesus is our face; time to start again?**

Imagine a billboard 1000 kilometres long x 491 metres high, covered with A4 photographs. Each photograph is a portrait of every person who is currently living on the planet. If you were to add them all up the number of photographs would total approximately 7.9 billion. In its entirety this vast collage of humanity would represent the person of Jesus for as the Bible says **we are all made in the image and likeness of God** (*Genesis 1:26-27*).

In our increasingly godless society try as we may there is no getting away from God. Every time you look in a mirror the face of Christ is looking back at you; challenging but true all the same.

Image is very important in today's culture. What you look like and what you wear and how you conduct yourself is part of the image that we project onto our fellow man; but is that the real you? As scripture reminds us **'Man looks at the outward appearance but God looks on the heart'**. (1 Samuel 16:7)

As we journey toward Easter perhaps the most vivid image that we associate with the season is of Jesus dying an agonising death on a rough wooden cross over 2000 years ago. Without any background knowledge, the death of this innocent man would appear to be pointless. Even in Jesus' day his death was seen as pure foolishness to some religious groups. However, there is always more to life if we choose to stop and ask ourselves a few questions and look beyond the superficial.

Personally speaking, I view the Cross of Christ as a culminating point in history where the waywardness of human nature stained with sin is brought to an end. Here we see the mercy and grace of God being lovingly brought to bear on us and for us.

Jesus' crucifixion horrendous as it was is almost overshadowed by the flogging and scourging that preceded it. The detail is seriously distressing and anyone who has seen Mel Gibson's - 'The Passion of The Christ' could not fail to be moved. In fact the prophet Isaiah foretells Jesus' suffering in Chapter 52:14 **'His appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any man and his form marred beyond human likeness'**.

There is always a price to be paid for sin but thank God literally that Jesus has already paid the price. The ugliness of sin that over the years had marred the perfection and beauty of God's creation once seen in humanity could now be transformed. It's there for everybody, but if you are to benefit from it you have to understand Christ's sacrifice and not dismiss the Cross as purely a symbol associated with Easter.

So what of appearance you may ask; is God in the makeover business? If you were to accept that through Jesus God has paid the price for your sin would he also make you beautiful, after all, the Cross is a place of divine exchange? The answer is no and yes!

For a woman, if you think you may go to sleep one night and wake up looking like a super model then you will probably be disappointed and no chaps you're unlikely to wake up miraculously transformed into the likeness of George Clooney! However, if you were to wake up with a new heart brought back to life and overflowing with love and joy; the burdens and trauma of your old life erased then you would be beautiful indeed - and yes, that would be written on your face for all to see! This is where the transformation of beauty takes place and it is firstly when your inner-self is renewed that you start to radiate the beauty and love of God that is truly wonderful and attractive.

So is it time to start over; time to give to God your old life, and with it the pain and grief that you have lived through or may be currently living through? If it is time then 'seize the day' with this prayer:

**Lord Jesus Christ, I am sorry for the things I have done wrong in my life.**

*(take a few moments to ask His forgiveness for anything particular that is on your conscience)*

**Please forgive me. I now turn from everything that I know is wrong.**

**Thank you that you died on the cross for me so that I could be forgiven and set free. Thank you that you offer me forgiveness and the gift of your Spirit. I now receive that gift.**

**Please come into my life by your Holy Spirit to be with me forever.**

**Thank you, Lord Jesus. Amen**

*A very happy Easter to one and all in the parish - Rev Chris Lawrence*

## **NEWS FROM YOUR WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

Local Plan – planning applications. I wanted to clarify the reasons for the failure of the Local Plan. Wealden believed they had enough evidence to constrain our housing numbers across the District because of the protection we felt the Ashdown Down as a Special Area of Conservation within the Habitats Regulations was entitled to. This was something on which our neighbouring authorities did not concur with us and ultimately when it came to the Public Examination in front of a Government Inspector, neither did she. She failed our Plan and automatically increased our numbers in line with a Plan without any constraints.

I wanted to make it clear because there seems to be a great deal of mis-information on social media that Wealden have caused the recent flurry of planning applications. If we hadn't taken the stand that we did, we would have those housing numbers in any case and much of the District including Framfield Parish would still be 'open season' for developments. We are putting together a new Local Plan with the higher numbers but that does take time – and has a timetable set out by Government. However, as we progress into next year the Plan will have some weight so will be able to be used as a guide for the delivery of housing etc.

In the meanwhile, there has been and no doubt will continue to be applications submitted which are unpalatable to residents. These will be determined by Wealden in line with the fact – would they be putting them in the Plan in any case? and if so, all things being equal, will receive a recommendation for approval. If they don't 'make the grade' refusal will be given. Wealden are not approving everything which crosses their desks.

Much of the Parish is designated Low Weald and therefore has no protection against development such as the AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) which does cover some of Blackboys in the east. Therefore, development proposals will be considered seriously by planners, although I would like to think that Blackboys has had its share of housing for the time being.

Please don't hesitate to contact me – I am happy to explain in more detail.

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

Telephone - 01825 890103.

Email – [aenewton1965@gmail.com](mailto:aenewton1965@gmail.com)



# Framfield & Blackboys WI

## REASONS TO BE CHEERFUL

Signs of spring are all around us. The snowdrops and daffodils have popped their heads out heralding better days to come. Many of us have had our first vaccine jab and hopefully the roadmap out of lockdown will run to timetable.

Meantime members have been keeping busy. **Angela Manning** says: 'I have been doing quite a lot of knitting Together with other Trefoil members I've been knitting squares. Members have been leaving these on my doorstep to sew up for runners. They will be delivered to the hospitals as and when we're able to, so that confused patients can identify their beds more easily and then they will be able to take them home. The Trefoil Guild is Guiding for Adults and is part of the Girl Guiding Association'.



One of the colourful quilts

And from **Sylvia Webb** a favourite recipe:

### APPLE CAKE INGREDIENTS

- |                         |                             |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 145g Soft Margarine     | 1.5 teaspoons Baking Powder |
| 225g Caster Sugar       | 6 drops Almond Essence      |
| 3 x Medium Eggs         | 285g Cooking Apples.        |
| 225g Self Raising Flour |                             |

### METHOD

Heat oven to 170c. Well grease a 20.5cm (8") round cake tin with butter. Approx. baking time 1 hour.

Peel and chop apples - small cubes are ideal, place in water with lemon juice to stop apples turning brown.

Place the other ingredients apart from the apple together in a mixing bowl. I use an electric whisk to beat the mixture. Once mixed place some of the mixture in the baking tin. Strain and dry apples and place a layer into the baking tin, then add more cake mixture. Carry on layering, finishing with cake mixture on the top. Bake in the top of the oven.

After baking leave cake in tin for about five minutes. Remove onto a wire tray until cold. Sprinkle with icing sugar.

Keep cake in refrigerator and eat within 3 days of baking - if it lasts that long!!.

If you would like to find out more about our WI, Please contact **Mary Short** on 01825 890854

## Diary of Church Services

In line with current Lockdown measures it is planned to reopen the church on **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> May (the first Sunday after the implementation of Stage 3)**. We will be open for funerals as and when the need arises, but attendance is limited to 30 persons. We will continue to produce and upload a service at 10am each Sunday. **There is a link on the church website <https://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk>, Alternatively the service may be viewed via Facebook or YouTube (East Sussex Church Services). Latest information is always on the Church Website.**

### APRIL 2021

- 04 Easter Day**  
10.00 am On-Line Service  
Theme: Good news for everyone
- 11 Second Sunday of Easter**  
10.00 am On-Line Family Service  
Theme: Don't be a Doubting Thomas!
- 18 Third Sunday of Easter**  
10.00 am On-Line Service  
Theme: On the road to Emmaus
- 25 Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
10.00 am On-Line Service  
Theme: Jesus the Good Shepherd

### MAY 2021

- 02 Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
10.00 am On-Line Service  
Theme: Philip meets the Ethiopian Eunuch
- 09 Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
10.00 am On-Line Family Service  
Theme: Friends of Jesus

- 16 Seventh Sunday of Easter (Sunday after Ascension Day)**  
10.00 am On-Line Service  
Theme: Jesus ascends back to Heaven
- 23 Pentecost (Whit Sunday) – In Church**  
10.00 am Parish Communion Service  
Theme: The Fire of Pentecost
- 30 Trinity Sunday – In Church**  
10.00 am Morning Praise  
Theme: Life through the Spirit

BCP: Book of Common Prayer. CW: Common Worship

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE  
BY 10<sup>th</sup> MAY 2021  
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)

**FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS MONDAY CLUB**

Sending Greetings for Easter from our Members & Helpers, Monday Club still on Hold, due to Covid-19 and Sandy still recovering from her operation. Although the outcome is a very good result, she will need much time to recuperate, and then the main decision on Monday Club is to yet be decided.

In the meantime if anyone is interested in taking this rewarding job on that I have done for 16yrs do give me a ring, and also several of our Helpers are questioning if they want to go on due to their age too. So decisions to be made. But Spring is coming, enjoy the sunny days, which are helping us through this time.  
HAPPY EASTER TO YOU ALL.

Sandy Rogers 01825 840648 [sandyrogers77@gmail.com](mailto:sandyrogers77@gmail.com)



**ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2021**

I am probably moving away and will not be able to organise the Poppy Appeal or Remembrance Service this year, so need to find a replacement to take over the Appeal and the Framfield Branch of RBL.

Neither involve a great deal of time.

The Framfield Branch of RBL is essentially inactive and just does the annual Poppy Appeal and the Remembrance service in conjunction with the Church. Remembrance involves liaising with the church, arranging wreath layers, standard bearer and bugler. All of last year's participants have said they will be available again.

The Poppy Appeal involves a few hours work either side of Remembrance Day, ordering supplies from RBL in August, making up the collection boxes for a band of willing collectors in October, collecting them and the Home Collecting boxes after Remembrance Day, and passing the proceeds to RBL. If anyone is interested, or would just like more information, please contact me.

David Jenner  
01825 890632 07881 786785  
[davidjenner@outlook.com](mailto:davidjenner@outlook.com)

## Framfield School Charity Clothing Collection

We have organised another clothing collection at Framfield Memorial Hall on Tuesday April 20th. All funds raised go to the school. It is run through the same company called Ekokids Project that we used before.

We can drop empty bags to people or they can use their own, preferably white or clear sacks or bin liners. Filled bags need to be dropped at Framfield Memorial Hall by 9am on the day of the collection or we are also happy to collect filled bags if required. Contact number is 07979 805329.



The poster features the EcoKids logo at the top left, which includes a stylized airplane and the text 'eco kids'. The main headline reads 'FUNDRAISING HAS NEVER BEEN SO FAST, FUN AND HASSLE-FREE!'. Below this, it says 'ecokids WILL PAY US UP TO £500 FOR EVERY TONNE OF UNWANTED GOOD QUALITY CLOTHING!'. A cartoon crocodile character is on the left. At the bottom, it says 'THE MORE BAGS YOU BRING, THE MORE MONEY WE RAISE!'. There are two columns of text: 'YES, WE TAKE:' and 'SORRY, WE CAN'T TAKE:'. The 'YES' column lists: GOOD QUALITY, DRY, CLEAN CLOTHING; PAIRED, CLEAN, UNDAMAGED SHOES; HANDBAGS & ACCESSORIES; COSTUME JEWELLERY; TOYS IN NEW & WORKING CONDITION; COSMETICS. The 'SORRY' column lists: POOR QUALITY, DAMAGED, WET, STAINED, MOULDY OR RIPPED CLOTHING; ALL TYPES OF UNDERWEAR, SOCKS & TIGHTS; VINTAGE/OUTDATED CLOTHING; LONG TERM STORED ITEMS; NIGHTWEAR & SCHOOL UNIFORMS; BED LINEN & TOWELS; QUILTS, DUVETS, PILLOWS & CURTAINS; CARPETS, MATS & RUGS; BRIC-A-BRAC; FURNITURE; BOOKS, TEXTBOOKS & MAGAZINES; CD'S, DVD'S, AUDIO & VIDEO TAPES; ALL ELECTRICAL ITEMS. A small crocodile character is at the bottom right.

**FUNDRAISING HAS NEVER BEEN SO FAST, FUN AND HASSLE-FREE!**

ecokids WILL PAY US UP TO **£500** FOR EVERY TONNE OF UNWANTED GOOD QUALITY CLOTHING!

THE MORE BAGS YOU BRING, THE MORE MONEY WE RAISE!

PLEASE FILL THE **ecokids** BAGS AND/OR WHITE BIN BAGS WITH:

**YES, WE TAKE:**

- ✓ GOOD QUALITY, DRY, CLEAN CLOTHING
- ✓ PAIRED, CLEAN, UNDAMAGED SHOES
- ✓ HANDBAGS & ACCESSORIES
- ✓ COSTUME JEWELLERY
- ✓ TOYS IN NEW & WORKING CONDITION
- ✓ COSMETICS

**SORRY, WE CAN'T TAKE:**

- ✗ POOR QUALITY, DAMAGED, WET, STAINED, MOULDY OR RIPPED CLOTHING
- ✗ ALL TYPES OF UNDERWEAR, SOCKS & TIGHTS
- ✗ VINTAGE/OUTDATED CLOTHING
- ✗ LONG TERM STORED ITEMS
- ✗ NIGHTWEAR & SCHOOL UNIFORMS
- ✗ BED LINEN & TOWELS
- ✗ QUILTS, DUVETS, PILLOWS & CURTAINS
- ✗ CARPETS, MATS & RUGS
- ✗ BRIC-A-BRAC
- ✗ FURNITURE
- ✗ BOOKS, TEXTBOOKS & MAGAZINES
- ✗ CD'S, DVD'S, AUDIO & VIDEO TAPES
- ✗ ALL ELECTRICAL ITEMS

## Framfield Church – Coronavirus Update

We remain committed to live streaming services again as soon as regulations will allow us to do so. If you are still isolating or have limited mobility, our streamed services are for you. We hope to provide a viable church experience for the housebound.

We are also hoping to stream all our main services in future – see our website [www.framfieldchurch.org.uk](http://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk) for further details. You can also visit our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/framfieldchurch> for updates. All services are archived so that they remain available after the stream finishes. They will be stored on the Vimeo service, which you can access for free.

### Supporting you during the Coronavirus crisis

As a church we are committed to supporting you, the parishioners of Framfield, Blackboys and Palehouse Common. The pandemic and its effects pose a physical health risk as we all understand but times of isolation and uncertainty can significantly affect our mental wellbeing. If anyone would like a chat then do please call. I'm usually in the Church Office Monday to Friday 10am-5pm (except Wednesday) on the office telephone number (01825 891090). If you get the answer machine, do please leave a message.

### Support us during the Coronavirus crisis

In light of the current world situation and the subsequent need to suspend all services and close all churches, we have been looking at ways in which we may mitigate the financial loss to the church and at the very least cover our basic overheads. As the use of cash has curtailed we have set up an online giving page at: [www.framfieldchurch.org.uk/donate.html](http://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk/donate.html), look for the 'Give a Little' icon. We would be very grateful for your help – like all organisations our costs have continued, but our income has diminished significantly.

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









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**Nature Notes**

From about 21<sup>st</sup> March to September 21<sup>st</sup>, days will be longer than nights. We are still learning how important this is to us and the natural world. Many of us suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) or low mood due to a lack of day light. A tortoise, dormouse or hedgehog will hibernate and sleep through the dark months. Humans evolved in the tropics where animals don't need to hibernate. We tend to retire into our houses to keep warm and cosy on dark winter days and nights. Many of us take vitamin D tablets to make up for the lack of sun.

Blue tits are tightly connected to phases of the sun. Male blue tits start singing on 22<sup>nd</sup> December and from then to March 21<sup>st</sup> demonstrate potential nest cavities to females. Female blue tits start to take nest material such as honeysuckle bark and moss into the cavity around the 21<sup>st</sup> March. They aim to have their nestlings fledged and flying by 21<sup>st</sup> June. Humans have celebrated solstice and equinox for thousands of years and Christian liturgy links its major celebrations approximately to these times (Christmas, Easter, Feast of the Sacred Heart, Harvest Festival). Grasses mature and flower in June and farmers know that June is the time to cut good hay. That is when the grass pollen count is highest. Wind pollinated grasses don't need the help of insects for that.

In temperate zones, the growing season is from the spring equinox to the summer solstice. Most terrestrial temperate organisms know that, even deciduous trees. I find it fascinating that most trees in the tropics and arctic zones are evergreen, but most trees in temperate zones are deciduous. They *decide* to shed their leaves in the autumn and grow new ones from the spring equinox to the summer solstice. During this time most folivorous insects such as moth caterpillars flourish and feed on the juicy young arboreal leaves and in turn the birds, such as blue tits, feed the caterpillars to their nestlings. Plant leaves are the solar panels of the planet, generating stored, carbon rich, energy and oxygen for all life. They can also regulate the water cycle as they take water from the soil and release it into the air from their leaves often making it rain in the tropical and temperate rain forests of planet earth.

*Martyn Stenning*

## My Back Pages by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

I love old natural history books. It's not just the information they contain. I love the smell, I love the binding. For the past twelve months I've avoided Covid anxieties by burying my head in old books, scientific papers and traveller's journals. I've been researching a book of my own, an account of my travels in search of what remains of the world's iconic extinct animals. A journey which took me from the dark forests of New Zealand to the ferries of Finland and finally to an inflatable crocodile floating on Widewater Lagoon in Shoreham.

After spending long lockdown nights writing at my computer it was somewhat surreal to receive an advance copy of my book in the post this morning and to run my hands over its embossed cover. I finally filed it on my bookcase where it rubbed shoulders, and spines, with *On The Origin of Species* by Charles Darwin and *Animal Magic* by Johnny Morris.

My bookshelves sag with old natural history books. Just holding these tomes transports me to another time. Tucked away inside my battered (but beloved) copy of *The Butterflies of Eastbourne* (1928) by Robert Adkin is a map, which I always unfold eagerly as if I've discovered the concealed directions to some long-lost buried treasure. Indeed, in the book Adkin describes bounteous butterfly riches which could be found in the woodlands and downland coombes between Lewes and Eastbourne. You can almost hear Rudyard Kipling whisper of "something lost behind the Ranges. Lost and waiting for you. Go!" At the time, many young explorers answered the call and Adkin claimed that "almost daily during the summer, one meets small armies of schoolboys each armed with a butterfly net."

Perhaps Adkin's eager Eastbourne entomologist army had been inspired by another of my favourite books. *The Outdoor World* (1900) by William Furneaux aimed to distract children from "victimising their schoolmates" and give them "a taste for something better." Back in 1900, it seems pinning butterflies and collecting birds' eggs fell into the "something better" category. Furneaux encouraged young naturalists to make "killing bottles" in which they could dispatch butterflies, and instructed children to ask the local chemist for some cyanide. The chemist will, Furneaux assures you, sell you cyanide if "he is satisfied with your intentions." Although it all sounds rather macabre now, this popular book went on to inspire a generation of young naturalists (and probably one or

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.

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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### MEETING SCHEDULE 2021 - These dates/times are provisional.

During the Covid 19 pandemic all meetings will be held remotely.  
Anyone wishing to attend a meeting should contact the Clerk once the agenda has been published.

All planning applications are dealt with under delegated authority.  
On each date detailed below, an informal Trust update will be held at 7 pm followed by the Parish Council meeting at 7.30 pm.  
30 March - 25 May - 27 July  
28 September - 30 November

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### **ALLOTMENTS RENTS – ARE DUE**

All tenants will receive the renewal documentation by email where an email address is held on file.

Please check your spam boxes if you haven't received an email by 1 April 2021 and make contact with the Parish Clerk.

## FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – REPORT

The Parish Council met remotely and agreed the budget for 2021/22. Some items currently under discussion are – the refurbishment/repair of two bus shelters and the possibility of replacing all the benches on Framfield recreation ground with new ones. Any memorial plaques would be transferred to the new benches. If anyone wishes to discuss this who might have a connection to any of the benches please get in contact with me.

We have also been instructed by East Sussex County Council that our streetlights might no longer conform to current standards by way of the number, positioning and design. Therefore, we are in the process of commissioning a survey to look at the issue in more depth. Framfield Parish has an extraordinarily high number of streetlights for a relatively rural Parish so any changes are going to be very costly.

Planning applications – residents are no longer being sent letters by Wealden District Council (WDC) as part of the consultation process, only advice notices will be on sites/households – this is all part of WDC’s ‘Drive to Digital’. If any anyone, whether the applicant in an application or an interested party wishing to make representation to the PC, please contact me at the earliest opportunity The Parish Council receives weekly lists of applications which can also be accessed on the WDC website so I can easily pinpoint if an application has been submitted. [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).

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. The play areas are still being sprayed with an anti-bacterial agent, Zoonax, on a monthly basis.

two aspiring Dr Crippens). Back on my bookshelf, I look at my book and wonder if — in 100 years from now — my own story will seem as distant and ridiculous as a world where schoolboys wielded butterfly nets and 10-year-olds could pop to the chemist to buy deadly poison.

---

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

### **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.**

**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).**



## FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Notice from the Chair of the Framfield and Blackboys Summer Show Committee.

Over recent months we as a committee have watched the developing Covid-19 situation and how it is impacting our lives and more specifically for us as a Committee, the Summer Show in August 2021.

It is with regret that with so many unknown variables still at play, we have decided to cancel the Summer Show in 2021. With the insecurity of the situation and the need to make certain bookings well in advance of the day of the show it was, after a lengthy discussion, the only sensible way forward.

Last year we put on a Virtual Summer Show with entry by photograph. We intend to do the same in 2021 so that you will have that outlet for your creative and horticultural endeavours.

More details will follow in the Parish Newsletter and on the Horticultural Society's website soon.

Rest assured, there is every intention to have a show in 2022. And with that thought in mind, we do need TWO new Summer Show Committee members so that we can put on a successful Summer Show in 2022. If you would like to be involved in helping put on Framfield and Blackboys biggest event of the year, then please contact me on [terry.everitt@outlook.com](mailto:terry.everitt@outlook.com) to discuss the two vacant positions.

Yours faithfully

Terry Everitt  
Chair, Framfield and Blackboys Summer Show Committee

came out from its hiding place, through the doorway, past me, and then ran up the nearest Oak tree looking fit as a flea.

We had been so looking forward to relaxing in our warm and cosy sitting room but by then we were exhausted and the room was freezing cold.

Hazel Carter 01825830477

[info@hazel-carter.co.uk](mailto:info@hazel-carter.co.uk)

[www.hazel-carter.co.uk](http://www.hazel-carter.co.uk)

### FRAMFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

AVAILABLE FOR HIRE  
LARGE HALL WITH A CAPACITY OF 150

VERY COMPETITIVE RATES FOR BOTH  
REGULAR AND CASUAL BOOKINGS

CONTACT MARY SHORT ON 01825 890854

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

FOR FURTHER DETAILS

We had to change our tactics. We have double French doors leading out into the garden but in the winter the doors jam shut. After a herculean effort by my husband the doors were at last open, but the noise of this operation terrified the squirrel who dived behind the cupboard. By now it was nearly lunchtime. We thought it would be diplomatic to leave the poor creature while we retreated to the warmth of the kitchen. With both window and the French doors open it had a choice of escape routes. We decided to give it plenty of time to make up its mind. That gave us a good excuse to linger over lunch and relax in the warm. Eventually I wandered back into the sitting room. Looking round all was peaceful and quiet, just to be sure I looked behind the log basket, the arm chairs and Sofa, nothing, thank goodness it had gone. I was just about to go and give my husband the good news, then stopped remembering an earlier episode with a baby rabbit that hid behind the chest. I peered with difficulty round the back. My heart sank when I just glimpsed a bit of brown fur!

Back to square one. After a long discussion we decided to make a runway from the cupboard across the corner of the room leading to the open door. We were rather pleased with our ingenious set up made up from laundry baskets and other containers. After some gentle persuading with bangs and prods from a walking stick the squirrel made a dash for it casually leaping over the top of our runway, right past the open door and hid behind the log basket again! By now it was nearly tea time so we went back to the kitchen and cheered ourselves up with hot tea and my home made rock cakes. After a while I went back to the sitting room. The wretched animal had decided to walk right past the open door and was hiding behind the cupboard again. Using a torch I could see it apparently wedged between the back of the cupboard and wall. I edged as close as I could. Was it all right or had it died? It was very still. I poked it very gently with the walking stick to see if it was alive and much to my surprise it actually growled at me. It sounded just like a dog. I know they have a wide variety of sounds but I had never heard that before.

I was running out of ideas by now then had an idea. I could stand outside hidden from view and carefully, round the wall, prod the squirrel with the walking stick. Much to my amazement this worked. The squirrel seeing the coast was clear

## March 2021

Spring is on its way! It feels as though Spring is finally in the air after a very long, wet and cold winter and it looks like we are slowly moving back to a more normal way of life. Hopefully, you have enjoyed the displays of daffodils, snowdrops and crocuses around the villages as there are certainly a lot around this year.

There are plenty of jobs we can do in the garden now and with the weather warming up, there is no better time to get out and enjoy some fresh air.

If you only have a small garden or outside space there are lots of ways of growing flowers or vegetables in small spaces such as in containers and tubs or up walls, known as “vertical gardening” – the joy of growing your own flowers, fruit or vegetables is good for the soul and gives you a great sense of achievement. We are putting more information on our website about growing in small spaces and would love to show your pictures of innovative ways of growing and your hints and tips of what worked and what did not!

You will see that there is a notice from Terry Everitt, The Chair of the Framfield and Blackboys Show Committee and we are all very disappointed that we have had to make the hard decision to cancel this year’s Summer Show but here is another reminder that you can start sending in your photos for our “Just for Fun” Spring Show from 10<sup>th</sup> April 2021. The full schedule can be found on our website [www.framfieldandblackboys-hort-soc.com](http://www.framfieldandblackboys-hort-soc.com)

We hope that this community event will be as successful as our Virtual Summer Show last year.

If you would like to contact the Society for membership, please email Emma Page at [fabhs.membership@gmail.com](mailto:fabhs.membership@gmail.com) and entries to the “Just for fun Spring Show” [fabhs.info@gmail.com](mailto:fabhs.info@gmail.com)

For any other queries please contact me, Denise Taylor on [Denisetaylor.77@gmail.com](mailto:Denisetaylor.77@gmail.com)

Wishing you all a Happy Easter.

Denise Taylor

Chair, Framfield and Blackboys Horticultural Society

# Rural Nursery Places Available Now!

Welcoming children of all abilities and needs



Focus on forest school activities and child-led outdoor learning



Building your child's confidence, skills and relationships



Everyone loves playing in our garden and allotments!



## Contact us to arrange a visit!

01825 891113  
enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org.uk

Open term time only for 2-5 year olds, 8:30am - 3:30pm, Blackboys Village Hall

We relaunched in January 2020 with a new manager, Marian Brooke, who is an experienced, qualified teacher with an MA in Early Years Education.

## LIVING WITH FUR AND FEATHER

### ESCAPE FROM THE FIRE

We had been enjoying our wood burning stove during the chilly winter weather but when it suddenly turned very cold my husband decided to clean out the wood ash and use coal that would keep the stove going all night. This involved lots of banging and clattering of bucket and shovel before the fire was ready to light. It was usually lit when we retired to the sitting room after dinner. However he decided to light it early in the morning so it would be lovely and warm by the evening. The paper and kindling were burning well so he opened the door to put on some coal and much to his amazement out shot a Squirrel. Incredibly it looked fine and raced across the sitting room, taking refuge behind the log basket. Why didn't it jump out of the stove while it was being cleaned out? It must have retreated back up the chimney.

Having a selection of uninvited wild creatures in the sitting room over the years we had some experience with this kind of problem so we calmly discussed our plan of action. It was quite simple. Squirrels are extremely agile. We could make an easy escape route for it. There was a big sash window just behind the sofa. My husband kindly placed a stool next to the sofa. All we had to do was to gently persuade the squirrel to come out of its hiding place, run across the floor, jump on the stool, then on the sofa and jump out of the opened window, simple!

We advanced towards the log basket. It shot out, but not towards the open window but made for the book case in the corner of the room, one quick bound it was on the top. I looked nervously at one of my very old oil lamps and a cut glass decanter wondering if they would crash to the ground. I glanced round the room. It looked rather pretty as we still had all the Christmas decorations up. The squirrel then decided to make another dash for freedom, raced across the room in the direction of the open window, took one suspicious look and leapt sideways on top of the chest among the Christmas cards ornaments and another old lamp with a glass globe.



Three Acre debuted at the Blackboys Inn Beer Festival in 2019. The brewery can be found on a working farm nearby, where they make beers inspired by the brewing history of Sussex. Having grown up in the countryside surrounded by farmland, best of friends Chester, Peter and James have always had a great respect for the outdoors, good beer and the British country pub – and this is reflected in the beers they brew.

Their flagship beer is the Best Bitter – a Sussex staple – but the Hazy Pale is fast becoming a new favourite, with its mango aroma and caramalt undertones. They also brew a Porter, an Extra Pale and a West Coast Pale, with their Spring Golden soon to come.

Getting beer in the glasses of local people has always been the aim at Three Acre, and their free lockdown delivery service is still going strong.

## Did you know that Framfield and Blackboys are home to a Cidery, Vineyard and a Brewery?

*There can't be many other parishes that can boast that fact!*

Welcome to your award-winning local drink producers

### **Bignose & Beardy Cider, Tickerage Wine and Three Acre Brewery**

All three provide free local delivery or you can call to arrange collection directly from the cidery, vineyard & brewery. Head over to their website or give them a call to place an order and give them a try.

*As small producers in the heart of the village, they especially appreciate all the local support received during the last year. Every bottle and pint sold really does make a huge difference – thank you!*

[www.bignoseandbeardy.com](http://www.bignoseandbeardy.com) - 07842 749205

[www.tickeragewine.co.uk](http://www.tickeragewine.co.uk) - 07976 464343

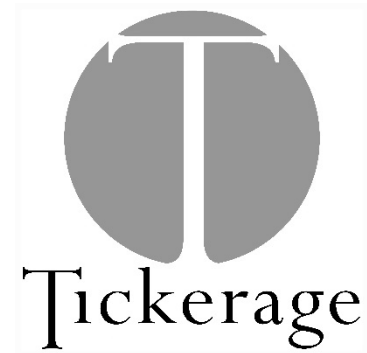
[www.ThreeAcreBrewery.com](http://www.ThreeAcreBrewery.com) - 01825 891144



Since 2015, Bignose (Phil) & Beardy (Steve) have been specialising in producing award winning small batch ciders in Framfield. Every batch is a one off, at just 1000 litres each, never to be repeated – once it's gone, it's gone!

We collect dessert, cooking and cider apples from local farms, gardens and a few commercial orchards, all within 15 miles of Framfield. Each Autumn, through our annual 'Apple Appeal', we swap unwanted fruit for cider - this year we saved over 10.5 tons from going to waste, with apples donated from the gardens of our villages forming the basis of our batch named 'A Bit of OMFF'.

Fermented in their natural wild yeasts and left to mature for at least ten months. These ciders are unpasteurised, unfiltered and uncarbonated. It's a simple, straight forward and fuss free process that makes a light, refreshing and natural product.



Set up from scratch 15 years ago, Tickerage is a boutique family owned and run vineyard making still and sparkling wines situated along the Wealdway in the heart of Blackboys. It is a hidden gem - you may have walked past without even realising it!

Having retrained in viticulture at Plumpton College, Anthony undertakes every aspect of the vineyard work from pruning to picking. From 5 acres under vine, Zena and Anthony handcraft their gold and silver award-winning wines including a Rosé, Blanc de Blancs and Classic Cuvée. Their latest developments include a White Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, the latter has recently been awarded Silver by the independent and prestigious IEWA.

If you are keen to find out more about the life of a Blackboys viticulturist or would like a day out tasting local wine, then Tickerage offer curated private tours and tastings. They are now taking bookings for the forthcoming season in accordance with Government guidelines.