



**PAYNES**

The only call you ever  
need to make for:

- Heating & Plumbing
- Oil Heating Systems & Tanks
- Installation, Repair & Maintenance
- All Boiler Types & Heating Systems
- Renewable Energy & Solar

## **EXPERT & RELIABLE**

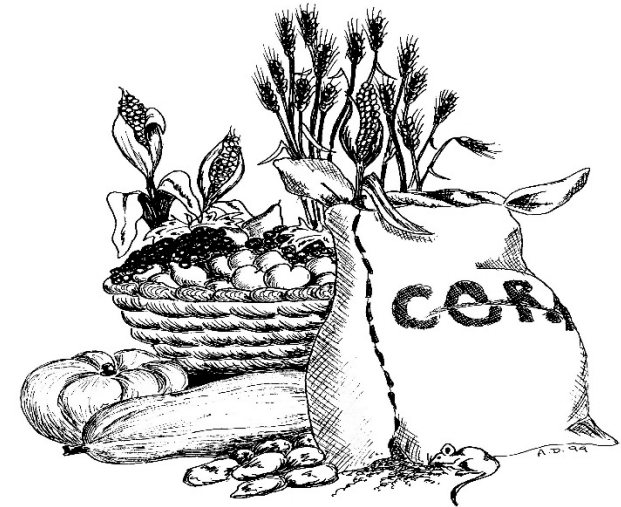
Your Local Family Run Business, serving  
our community for **over 35 years**.

For a **FREE**  
quote call: **01825 891720**

[paynes-heating.co.uk](http://paynes-heating.co.uk) | [sales@paynes-heating.co.uk](mailto:sales@paynes-heating.co.uk)  
Oak Tree Barn, Blackboys East Sussex TN22 5JL

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

# Parish Magazine



**Framfield, Blackboys  
and  
Palehouse Common**

**OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 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:**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> August:** Olivia Burnett-Hitchcock

**Weddings:** None

**At rest:**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> September:** Roy Douglas Hudson

## 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

THE ADVERTISEMENTS IN THIS MAGAZINE ARE PUBLISHED IN GOOD FAITH. THE PUBLISHERS DO NOT, 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. 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*

---

## **Is there any point in going to church?**

Before we can discuss the title of this magazine's article we need to establish what exactly is the church? In my experience knowing the true definition of a single word has time and time again brought a greater understanding, and in some cases a complete revelation. So, what is the church? To some it is the archetypal stone building decked out with Victorian bus seating (pews) on the inside. Churches of this nature are found in many towns and villages up and down the country.

Additionally, we may have a host of Christian denominations who legally own church buildings but they are not the church either. In reality, the church is synonymous with Christ as it's His possession – He alone is the Head of the Church. Paul confirms Christ's headship in Colossians 1:18 - **And he (Jesus) is the head of the body, the church.**

In essence, those who genuinely believe in Christ and have a relationship with God through Christ are members of the church. It is this family of believers, each one a spiritual brick under Christ that forms the genuine church. This is reflected in scripture which also confirms that church is the body of Christ. Paul writing in Colossians 1:24 - **Now I rejoice in what was suffered for you, and I fill up in my flesh what is still lacking in regard to Christ's afflictions, for the sake of his body, which is the church.**

We may have static buildings, but the church is a spiritual structure that is pre-programmed to grow as more believers are added to its number.

When Jesus asked the disciples 'Who do you say I am? Peter replied "You are the Christ the Son of the living God". Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by man, but by my Father in heaven.<sup>18</sup> And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church (Matthew 16:15-18). So, Jesus is in the building business for the sake of all believers so that they may grow to maturity as human beings. Paul writing in Ephesians 4:11-13 - **So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole**

**measure of the fullness of Christ.** To become fully human is to become Christ-like.

Hopefully, we have a better understanding as to what the church is, but is there any point in attending the church building? The answer has to be a resounding ‘yes’ – going to church does you a power of good!

As we have navigated through the pandemic many churches have (hopefully temporarily) lost some of their members. There may be good reasons or it could be a break in habit. Unfortunately, that can be to one’s personal detriment. On occasions I have stated at the beginning of a Sunday service that if you are feeling a bit low, you feel a lot better when you leave the service, and there are good reasons for that.

In times of hardship we need to persevere. The writer of Hebrews says this (10:22-25 ) **let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.**<sup>23</sup> **Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.**<sup>24</sup> **And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.**<sup>25</sup> **Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another- and all the more as you see the Day approaching.**

When believers meet together, they encounter the living God. Jesus speaking in Matthew 18:20 - **For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.**”

During church services or smaller church gatherings the presence of God buoys you up. It is as if the very presence of God breaks down our stress and strain and lifts you up. His presence as the psalmist states in Psalm 23 **‘Restores my soul’** (your mind, will and emotions) and as a tangible result we feel a lot better about ourselves and our circumstances.

If you can relate to the above why not give ‘church’ a go? After all the proof of the pudding is in the eating!

Blessings to one and all in the parish - *Revd Chris Lawrence*



**Holmes Hill**  
— Furniture —

Holmes Hill Estate  
Whitesmith East Sussex,  
BN8 6JA



[www.iwantfurniture.co.uk](http://www.iwantfurniture.co.uk)  
01825 873607  
[sales@iwantfurniture.co.uk](mailto:sales@iwantfurniture.co.uk)



**Opening times:**

Mon, Weds to Fri: 9.30am – 5pm  
**CLOSED ALL DAY TUESDAY**  
Sat: 10am – 5pm  
Sun: 10am – 4pm



**Just off A22 between Uckfield & Eastbourne / Free Parking / Free delivery in East Sussex over £500 / Instock items to take away**





1st Buxted (O'Brien's Own)  
Scout Group

# Fireworks Night

Saturday 13th November

Buxted Scout Hut

From 5.30pm

- Licenced bar
- Barbecue
- Light toys
- Raffle

Entry by advance ticket purchase.  
Visit [buxtedscouts.co.uk](http://buxtedscouts.co.uk) for details.

Photo credit: Jo Unruh 2018

## Diary of Church Services

Many thanks to everyone for their support over the past year. Any remaining Covid precautionary measures are in place to make your visit a safe one. The latest information is always on the Church Website: <https://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk>

### OCTOBER 2021

- 03 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)  
**Prayer for physical healing at this service – all welcome**  
**'Taste and see that the Lord is good' (Ps 34:8)**
- 10 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am Family Service – Harvest Festival - Followed by lunch in the Church Hall (**Please book in for Lunch via the Church Office or sign-up sheet in Church**)
- 17 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity**  
8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
- 24 Last Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am Morning Praise
- 31 Fourth Sunday before Advent**  
10.00 am Morning Praise

### NOVEMBER 2021

- 07 Third Sunday before Advent**  
8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
- 14 Second Sunday before Advent (Remembrance Sunday)**  
10.00 am Family Remembrance Service

- 21 Sunday next before Advent**  
 8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)  
 10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)  
 5.30pm Churches in Uckfield 'Christ the King'  
 Service Holy Cross, Uckfield 5.30pm  
 – All Welcome

- 28 Advent Sunday**  
 10.00 am Morning Praise

BCP: Book of Common Prayer. CW: Common Worship

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE  
 BY 10<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 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 MARKET RETURNS!**

Framfield Memorial Hall

**We're back. The dates for the rest of the year are detailed below and the market will run from 10 am to 12 noon unless the situation with Covid-19 changes and new restrictions apply.**

A variety of stalls, with all proceeds from the cake stall, raffle and 'café' going towards the ongoing maintenance of the Hall.

Bring/meet your friends for a coffee and a chat or have a stall.

But to be blunt – 'Use it or lose it'. A lot of effort goes into the running of the market and unless we get good footfall, the continuation of the market will be reviewed.

**30 October**

**27 November**

**18 December**

Contact me for full details.

Ann Newton – [clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk)  
 01825 890182

---

Litter bins – our Parish litter bins have become targets for fly-tipping mainly of domestic waste. If anyone has any information could they please me know. Everyone is entitled to a bin collection paid through their Council Tax. No one should have to use our Parish bins for their own waste.



## Framfield & Blackboys WI

### *Celebrating Our 95th Anniversary!*

On 1st September we all donned our glad rags and assembled at the Hare & Hounds for **afternoon tea with all** the trimmings to celebrate the founding of our Federation in 1926 by Mrs Dorothy Haire, whose husband was vicar of Framfield at the time.



Every member brought a birthday card, many of them hand-made, all of which will go into a special album. Philomena made the cake. President, Delia Gillies made a fun and light hearted speech and dealt expertly with some heckling (What is the WI coming to?!) It was a great pleasure to be together for a celebration after the long months of lockdown. Our thanks to the Committee for organising such a lovely event, and for all their support over the past 18 months.

#### **NEW MEETING TIME AND VENUE**

**2 pm      Second Friday of Every month      Framfield Church Hall**

If you would like to find out more about our WI, why not come along to one of our meetings as a visitor. Please contact

**Delia Gillies on 01825 890825 or Jackie Samways on 01825 890417.**

**Follow us on Facebook or Google Framfield & Blackboys WI**

### **Framfield Church – Coronavirus Update - Wealden.**

With the vaccine programme continuing to reduce cases of Covid across the region the current situation continues to improve. At the time of writing (16.9.21) there were 34 hospitalisations and zero deaths across Wealden.

However, nationwide the picture is a little less rosy.

It would be great to get rid of all the Covid restrictions but alas we will maintain caution for the time being i.e.

1. When arriving at church please use the Track and Trace NHS QR code if you can, if not then please sign in.
2. Continue to use the hand sanitiser on arrival.
3. We will sing hymns and songs but with facemasks in place.
4. All the pews are now open but please seat yourself at a respectful distance from those around you or from those who are not part of your family group. You may remove your facemask while seated.
5. During Holy Communion services we will stay in our places to share the Peace.
6. Holy Communion will be given in one kind only i.e. wafers. We will not share the Common Cup of wine for the time being.

We hope the measures are agreeable to everyone and that the church is seen as a safe place to come to.

#### **Service Live streaming – GDPR Regulations**

We remain committed to live streaming services. If you are self-isolating or have limited mobility, our streamed services are for you. We hope to provide a viable church experience for the housebound. The link for the Sunday 10am service may be found on the front page of church website [www.framfieldchurch.org.uk](http://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk). Broadcasting usually starts a few minutes before 10am.

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.

**Note for those attending services:** - In keeping with GDPR regulations if anyone would rather not appear in the on-line broadcast please seat yourself in the pews at the rear half of the church.

### **Supporting you during the pandemic**

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 also 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.

### **Supporting the Church**

During the pandemic 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 lovely as they are, the upkeep of historic buildings is expensive and at the moment we are just about covering the monthly bills. Many of our parishioners support the church financially but the use of cash has been seriously curtailed over the past year. However, we have set up an online giving page at: [www.framfieldchurch.org.uk/donate.html](http://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk/donate.html) We would be very grateful for your help – like all organisations our costs have continued, but our income has diminished significantly. If you are able to help financially and keep the church viable for the future please donate through the 'Give a Little' icon. Thank you.



**We really, really, need some additional help in the Churchyard and some financial help as well** – We are very grateful to everyone who works diligently in the churchyard. At three and a half acres it is a mammoth task. However, it is greatly appreciated by us and the local community but we really could do with more help as our current workforce is small in number and isn't getting any younger or healthier. Even if it's for the odd hour it all makes a difference. If anyone in the local community is willing to lend a hand do please speak to Freddy Pratt (Tel: 07791 731021) as to what is required – thank you.

### **Bonfire Night – Friday 5th November**

The annual parish Bonfire Night party in the Vicarage Paddock is to be resurrected this year. Kick-off is 6.30pm with hotdogs, cakes etc and sparklers for the children – all welcome.

We're Covid aware, with a system of red, amber and green badges to help people identify how they wish to be treated re Covid regulations, on arrival, including hand sanitisers, socially distanced tables, etc - all in place.

We look forward to welcoming you if you're free to drop by on any/either of these two Sundays in each month (2nd & 4th).

With every blessing

Clive - Leader, New Life Church.

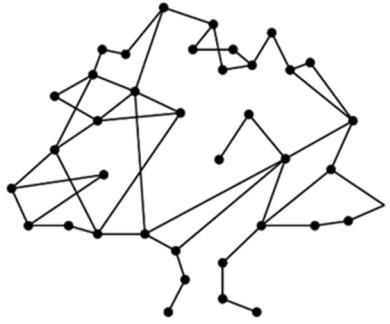
RURAL DRAINAGE EXPERTS  
IN SUSSEX

We take care of mess  
so you don't have to!

**FREE**  
no-obligation  
quotes and advice.

Call today for your free home visit:  
07857462809 / 01435 850220  
Fast lead times available in 2021.  
WWW.SUSSEXWATERDRAINAGE.COM

**Addendum to Little Goldsmiths dog grooming -**  
«««««««««« Telephone: 01825 890181  
Email: [mazbecvar1985@gmail.com](mailto:mazbecvar1985@gmail.com)



# NEWLIFE

## NEW LIFE CHURCH MID SUSSEX

Dear readers

As we gradually come out of the restrictions caused by the Covid pandemic, our church, New Life Church, which meets at Blackboys Village Hall, is opening the Hall on the second and fourth Sundays in each month through the Autumn into Winter, as a sort of community hub, a place where anyone can drop in to meet friends, have a good chat over coffee or a cup of tea and enjoy some delicious cakes. We've called it our 'Hope Hub'.

The timings of this social event are from 10.30am to 12 noon. It's very chilled and relaxed - we hope that people will free to drop in, for however long or short a time during the morning.

The other Sundays in each month are our usual Sunday meetings at 10.45am onwards at the Hall.

There's no charge at all. We simply want to provide a resource where people can meet to chat and enjoy each other's company again after the sense of isolation, and for some, the very real difficulties of lockdown, Covid challenges and their effect on daily life. For some, hope has been in short supply, as the pandemic has made its mark on people's lives. By opening the Hope Hub locally, like this, we're pleased to be a focal point, for our local community to regather, enjoy proper social times again and reconnect happily via cake and coffee.

### Churchyard mowers

Unfortunately, we have had to replace one of the mowers and the 'ride-on' is in need of some major refurbishment in order to keep it going. As a church we only have limited resources and the Church Yard fund has all but run out as recent expenditure ran into several hundred pounds. Helping with the maintenance cost does ensure that the churchyard is a pleasant place to come to when visiting the graves of loved ones. If anyone would like to give a donation or set up a small standing order it would be gratefully received - thankyou.

The churches bank details are:-

HSBC- Account name: Framfield PCC

Sort Code: 40-45-32

Account Number: 91456369      Reference - Churchyard Fund

---

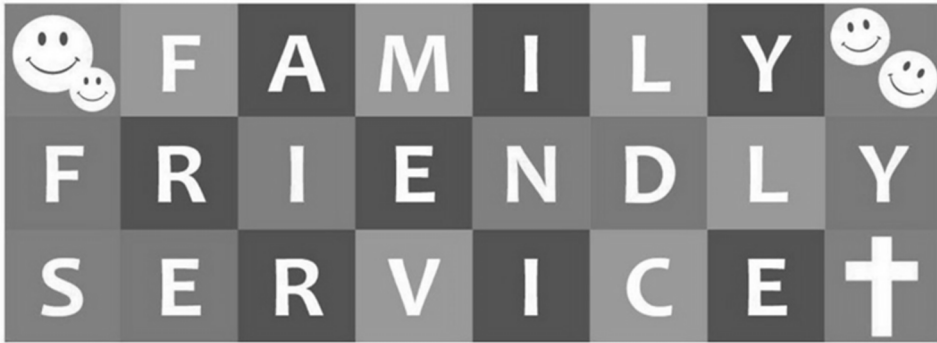
### Follow the Countryside Code

Rights of Way (footpaths) – the Parish Council has been approached by concerned residents about the increasing incidents of walkers diverting away from the statutory footpaths across land, and in some case gardens, sometimes leaving gates open allowing livestock to roam. Could residents please make sure that they stay on the proper routes and keep their dogs on leads where appropriate. Footpath maps are available from the Parish Clerk or accessed on line via this link:

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/leisureandtourism/countryside/rightsofway/map/>

Countryside Code leaflet:

well? [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/973254/countryside-code-leaflet.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/973254/countryside-code-leaflet.pdf)



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

**10<sup>th</sup> October 2021 10.00 am  
7<sup>th</sup> November 2021 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 & business 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, Karate Presentations and Childrens' birthday parties. Our rates are £10.00 per hour.

For more details about the hall and its events please get in touch with Graham Seldon on 01825 508758. mobile 07973 685992 or email: [hoss.graham@outlook.com](mailto:hoss.graham@outlook.com)

It may need to be 3 separate Community Fibre Partnerships due to geographical locations and exchanges, but I am trying to find this out.

It does also rely on members signing up for the right service from their internet provider as well

Under this arrangement, communities can arrange to have speeds upgraded to 'Gigabit' speeds (1000Mbps). In reality this means that speed of over 100mbps upload and download can be achieved, which is far in excess of speeds currently provided to most in the Community and it would be far more stable.

In order to progress this, we would need a large uptake from the Parish, including registering for Gigabit vouchers through the government scheme. These are for a value of £1500 per dwelling or £3500 per SME business.

The Community Fibre Partnership works with suppliers, in our instance BT Openreach, they provide a cost for installing High Speed Broadband to the area. The idea is that we get enough people to claim the Gigabit vouchers to cover the cost of this install.

More information can be viewed at <https://www.openreach.com/fibre-broadband/community-fibre-partnerships>

If anyone is interested 2 things to do.

1: check that you are able to claim the gigabit voucher by going to <https://gigabitvoucher.culture.gov.uk/> and checking you are eligible.

The if eligible and you wish to be part of the Community Fibre partnership, please email me at [fbphcommunityfibre@gmail.com](mailto:fbphcommunityfibre@gmail.com) an email I have set up for this with your Name and address and stating you wish to be included in the Community Fibre partnership and I will start the process with BT Openreach to check what the costs are and the viability.

We do need to know how many people want to be involved in this to work out if it is financially possible.

Any questions please do not hesitate to email on [fbphcommunityfibre@gmail.com](mailto:fbphcommunityfibre@gmail.com)

## Faster Broadband for the Parish- Community Fibre Partnership



Following the challenges of the last 18 months when many people have been working from home during the Pandemic and with many continuing to do so under a 'hybrid-working' system, it's become very clear that the Broadband provision across the Parish is woefully inadequate for today's modern needs with slow erratic speeds making it very difficult to successfully cope with 'WfH'.

Following the challenges of the last 18 months when many people have been working from home during the Pandemic and with many continuing to do so under a 'hybrid-working' system, it's become very clear that the Broadband provision across the Parish is woefully inadequate for today's modern needs with slow erratic speeds making it very difficult to successfully cope with 'WfH'.

There is currently Fibre to the Cabinet, in Framfield at least, but then this relies on the old copper cable connections to each house/business. Unless you are lucky to be living within 10-15m of the BT Cabinet, most are unlikely to be getting any better than 30-30 Mbps download speeds for your internet, with upload speeds averaging between 5-15mbps.

Some are lucky (myself included) to get slightly better speeds, up to 60 Mbps download and 17 Mbps Upload, but it's not common.

So what can be done about this. Framfield, Blackboys and Palehouse common are not highlighted to get High Speed Fibre broadband under the current schemes but there is the option of looking into a Community Fibre Partnership.

## Nature Notes

Planet Earth is changing fast. You and I have both been affected (hopefully not infected) by a minute virus we call COVID-19. In addition, we are all ageing and new babies are being born. Life goes on and the climate continues to change. We all have to adapt to survive.

Circumstances have permitted my wife and I to visit our place in France for a short while after a year of no management or maintenance. Many of you will have heard of the new trend in ecology called re-wilding. This philosophy essentially means letting nature take its natural course with minimal intervention. Unless you try it, you cannot know what surprises nature can present after one year of natural freedom!

Neighbours told us that the colours in the meadows that were our lawns during May were wonderful. However, on arrival in August, the lawns had become hay fields with grass over 1 metre tall in places. We apparently had a visit from a stone marten during our absence who got into the attic, left its calling card and gnawed through a door into the main body of the house. A stone marten is a cat sized relative of the weasel. Apart from a few urine stains no further damage. Indeed, there were no mice in the house when we arrived, stone martens like to eat mice.

Birds currently in our garden would *wow* even hardened bird watchers and include pied flycatchers, chirl buntings, stonechats, wheatear, whinchat and black redstarts. That list itself is a good recommendation for rewilding. However, in order to access to the ground, we have had to do a certain amount of de-wilding. Even nature reserves need managing to make room for humans and control alien invaders such as (here) American *Robinia pseudoacacia* trees and bamboo. In doing so, we discovered some interesting insects including praying mantids, coneheads, fritillary butterflies and wart-biter bush crickets.

We hear owls calling at night, they also like to eat mice. We also hear a chorus of crickets and other insects calling to each other in the hope of reproducing, as they have done for 300 million years! This morning I watched a roe deer quietly walking across a neighbouring field and a fox left its calling card on our (now) newly mown lawn.

*Martyn Stenning*

**BIGNOSE  
BEARDY**  
SUSSEX CIDER  
MADE IN FRAMFIELD



Cider - Vinegar - Gifts  
[www.bignoseandbeardy.com](http://www.bignoseandbeardy.com)

Or call 07842 749205 - Free local delivery - 10% off with PMAG10

## Blackboys Village Hall, Blackboys Pavilion and Framfield Memorial Hall

With immediate effect, if anyone is wishing to hire one of our halls, please note that we now have a single point of contact for all of them:

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

Or

Phone (Office Hours) **01825 890182**

*(Please leave a message on answerphone with your contact details)*



**New registrations available!**

Where children experience an enriching environment, strong relationships, and the freedom to learn through play.

Children are welcome from 2-5 years old and accept government funding for all 3+ year olds, and 2 year olds who qualify.

Open Monday - Friday  
8.30am to 3.30pm,  
morning/afternoon sessions available.

To find out more or to visit this special setting, please telephone

**01825  
891113**

Email: [enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org.uk)  
We are currently looking for new committee members, please email or telephone for more details.

**The Village Hall, Gun Road,  
Blackboys, TN22 5JY**

 Blackboys Pre-School





## NEWS FROM YOUR WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Housing numbers - dialogue continues with our MP's and Government ministers about our inappropriate housing figures. This isn't assisted by mixed messages from various quarters. Please do contact me if you hear something you don't like or understand.

Wealden Walks are a collection of self-guided walks available throughout the district. They have recently been tried, tested and improved to help explorers of every age discover Wealden's hidden gems. The new set of walks will launch on Saturday 11 September. View and download a description, including the historical significance of the walk, route details and a map from the Healthy Wealden website [www.healthywealden.co.uk/walks](http://www.healthywealden.co.uk/walks) or call 01323 443322 for a leaflet.

Street Learning is a project run by the Council in partnership with a number of different training providers. Courses are free of charge and available to all Wealden and Eastbourne residents aged 19 years and over. Find our more via [www.wealden.gov.uk/streetlearning](http://www.wealden.gov.uk/streetlearning) or call 01323 443322.

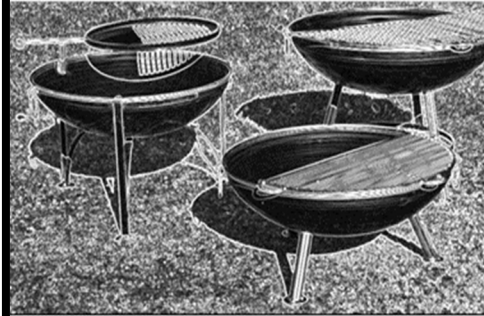
Freedom Leisure is receiving more help from the Council through the National Leisure Recovery Fund. The Council has been successful in securing a total of £352,657 from the fund administered by Sport England.

Solar Together Sussex – following on from last year's successful scheme, the Council is once again collaborating with local authorities across Sussex on the Solar Together Sussex group-buying project. The scheme is open to all homeowners, landlords and small/medium businesses. The more people register, the better the offer is likely to be, reducing bills and carbon emissions. Any queries should be sent via email to [sustainability@wealden.gov.uk](mailto:sustainability@wealden.gov.uk) or call 01323 443322.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me with any queries.

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

## Enjoy Summer at Home



With a Firepit  
from  
[sussex-forge.com](http://sussex-forge.com)

Free local delivery  
0797 3327314



### Mobile reflexologist

Specialist Fertility & Maternity  
Reflexology

Reflexology Lymphatic Drainage

Aromareflex

Facial Reflexology/Acupressure

Thai Foot Massage

**CAROL BURGESS MAR/MARR –**

**07921 381761**

**[WWW.HEAVENLYSOULS.CO.UK](http://WWW.HEAVENLYSOULS.CO.UK)**



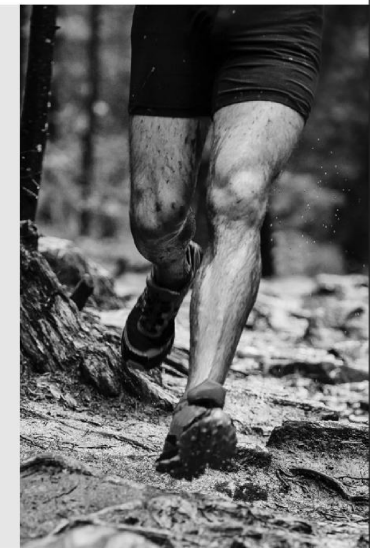
To make a booking contact Mike on:  
07713 646 914 | [hello@rebalanceuk.co.uk](mailto:hello@rebalanceuk.co.uk)

[rebalanceuk.co.uk](http://rebalanceuk.co.uk)

## INJURED? STRESSED? ACHES AND PAINS? SPORTS MASSAGE THERAPY CAN HELP!

Mike Churchyard is a Sports & Massage Therapist based in Blackboys, East Sussex. Mike can help with;

- Treatment and Prevention of Injuries
- Reduction of Stress and Tension
- Improved Sleep
- Reduction of Scar Tissue
- Postural assessment and improvements
- Muscle Maintenance
- Improved Movement
- Reduction of Chronic Pain



## FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – REPORT

---

Palehouse Common – issue with HGV’s. Following a meeting with ESCC officials, the Parish Council has asked ESCC to commission an estimate of costs to erect some new signs at the western end of Palehouse Common asking any HGV’s accessing either industrial estate to re-route and use the access from the east. Once the Council has those costings both owners of the estates are to be asked for a contribution towards the cost.

The Parish Council is still waiting for a date for a meeting with ESCC Streetlighting over the issues in the Parish.

Permission has been given the go-ahead by ESCC to adopt three further finger posts so that they can be insured and repaired/replaced. This is excellent news for the future of these historic white posts.

Improved storage for the books etc which have been collected in two village bus shelters is being sought.

The use of Zoona spray on our three play grounds has been stopped in line with the Covid-19 restrictions.

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).

and reach the best berries? A few decades earlier he’d probably have sent me down a mine or up a chimney. But my Grandad wasn’t some Fagin-like character. Now I think of it, I never once saw him actually drinking any of his sloe gin. Perhaps just being out in the countryside in the autumn sunshine, on an adventure with Betsy and his grandson, was the truly intoxicating ingredient.

*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)*

---

## FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

FIND US ON FACEBOOK: Framfield Parish Council now has a social media account with Facebook:



[www.facebook.com/framfieldparishcouncil](http://www.facebook.com/framfieldparishcouncil)

where useful and pertinent information will be posted.

---

## Waldron 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

---

## Sloes by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

From up there, it felt like I could see the whole world: the Oak trees adorned in summer's fading leaves, the fields at harvest, the city far in the distance. Each October, my Grandad would load me and a bucket into Betsy, his faithful 1963 Ford Anglia. Together we'd cruise the county's back roads. Every few miles he would ease Betsy to a halt and inspect the landscape until finally declaring "this is the place." My bucket and I would be hoisted high up on his shoulders and from there I'd get my Grandad-stand view of the world. More importantly though, it'd put me within reach of the treasure. The jewels we sought on our expeditions were sloes, the round, purple-black berries that bedecked the Blackthorn bushes. My Grandad was convinced that the finest fruits were located high on the hedge. And the best sloes made the best sloe gin.

Each spring, the Blackthorn hedges bloom; their brilliant white flowers creating snow-white drifts against the woodlands and along our roadsides. These ephemeral petals soon fall and the Blackthorn becomes cloaked in small, oval leaves, capturing the energy that powers production of the sloes. A Blackthorn bush is a prickly character and as approachable as an enraged porcupine. Each twig is armed with spikes, which deter cattle and Grandads from helping themselves to its leaves and berries. This spiny spinney fortress also safeguards a wealth of wildlife. Nightingales, Turtle Doves and other birds nest under its protection and the elusive Brown Hairstreak butterfly lays its miniature sea urchin-like eggs on the bush's black bark.

Many years after my Grandad and Betsy had departed, I decided to honour them both and concoct my own sloe gin. I found an online recipe and, in what was and still remains one of the biggest disappointments of my adult life, I discovered that the main ingredient in sloe gin...was gin. After watching my Grandad making his moonshine I had genuinely believed that by submerging a load of sloes in a bottle you would magically turn water into gin. It seems my Grandad couldn't perform miracles. Indeed, looking back, our hedgerow pillaging raids could easily be dismissed as forced child labour. Was he exploiting me and my tiny hands to bypass those thorns

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.

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).

---

**Dog waste – the Parish has once again become a common place for dog waste. Some is left unbagged and some is left very inconveniently bagged!! The Parish Council provides dog bins for the very same stuff. Please use them. The problem has become epidemic around School Lane, Blackboys, where children/parents are accessing the School – not a happy thought to walk *that* through the School! Clean up after your dogs – don't let the dogs get the blame! And there is a hefty fine if caught – the Wealden Street Scene Officers have been informed.**

---

## LIVING WITH FUR AND FEATHER

### LIFESTYLE FOR A COCKAPOO

Youngest son lives in Toronto with his partner. They live in what we call a flat. They wanted a dog but his partner is allergic to some dogs. Interestingly when they came over to visit us she had no adverse reaction to our Newfoundland. Originally poodles were crossed with Labradors and some of these did not cause a reaction in people with allergies that made them suitable as guide dogs. At first puppy walkers were not interested in having a cross breed so they called them Labradoodles. The catchy name caught on and everybody wanted one. The person who came up with this idea wished he had not started it as they became much too popular. Also irresponsible breeders were breeding dogs with a variety of health problems and only some helped people with allergies. Again because of the catchy name people started crossing poodles with other breeds including the Cocker Spaniel, now called a Cockapoo. These are now very popular as they are a handy size and are bright and intelligent

Our son and partner decided they would like a Cockapoo and went to a very responsible breeder who bred puppies only from stock that had been checked for health and excellent temperament so there was a long wait for a puppy.

I was concerned that a flat was not suitable for a dog, but how wrong I was. On the ground floor there is a bathing and grooming area. One room has all the equipment for big dogs including baths and hair dryers and another room has suitable equipment for small dogs and outside is an exercise area. Their flat has a balcony and artificial grass is delivered regularly so this can be used as an emergency toileting area for young puppies. Also, every month they have been ordering a wonderful selection of toys.

Every week we have a session on Skype so I can enjoy watching Moxi playing with her toys. Some are incredible educational ones; others are cuddly toys while others are for chewing on.

Now she is older she has lots of socialization. There are other dogs living in the flats and across the road there are special dog areas where they can all play. This is a huge park that leads to a wild area and lakes. I have seen some lovely videos of her playing and swimming there.

As well as all these activities she is starting agility and now she is old enough she has been going on longer treks through wild countryside where there are forests, lakes and even bears.

What a lovely lifestyle for a dog living in a flat.

Hazel Carter 01825 830477

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

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

### **FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS WIVES GROUP**

It is with great regret due to circumstances during the last 18 months we have decided to bring the Wives Group to a close.

The group ( originally called The Young Wives!!) was started in 1961 by Hazel Berry with others. We were well known for our harvest suppers in years gone by with many fund raising events such as jumble sales etc.

Over the years we raised thousands of pounds for local charities which was our main function. We had some very interesting speakers on all sorts of subjects and also some very good outings. However, we intend to keep in touch with each other from time to time.

Our thanks to everyone who supported us over the years.

*Ann Dawe.*