

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

Parish Magazine



**Framfield, Blackboys
and
Palehouse Common**

JUNE / JULY 2023

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL CHURCH

Note: The Church remains in interregnum until 8th June 2023.

**All communications for church matters should be
directed to the Church Office:**

Email: admin@framfieldchurch.org.uk
**Post: Vicarage Barn, Brookhouse Lane,
Framfield TN22 5NH**
Telephone: Please leave a message - 01825 891033

**The Church Office is not staffed on a full-time basis.
Messages may be left on the Office answerphone.**

Churchwarden: Mr Graham Seldon
(for urgent matters) 01825 508758

**Secretary to the PCC
and Church Admin:** Mr Barry Richardson

Treasurer: Mrs Gaynor Robson



From the Church Registers:

At rest: 13th April: Jordie Edwards

25th April: Arthur Roberts

No Baptisms or Weddings registered

A new chapter

From June we will be part of a new benefice including Chiddingly, East Hoathly and Framfield.

The new incumbent, Revd James Vine, will initially be appointed as Priest-in-Charge of all three churches in the new benefice and will live in the Rectory at East Hoathly. This is a central location to work from. Revd James will also have the part-time assistance of a Curate, Revd Janice Bartholomew. There will be a Licensing Service for both on 8th June at Framfield at 7.30 pm.

In the edition of this magazine for February/March this year we published an introductory letter from Revd James Vine as read out on 22nd January in church. It is repeated below:

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I am so excited to have been called to serve you all in your three wonderful communities. Now that the official announcement has been made, I though it would be good to introduce myself....

I was born and brought up in the Village of Westham, and attended schools in Westham and Eastbourne. I began a nursing career in Hastings in 1985, qualifying as a Registered General Nurse in the May of 1988, working initially in paediatrics, then moving on to Adult Cardiac Care. I responded to a call to Ordained ministry towards the end of the 1990's, attended theological college at St. Stephen's House Oxford, and was ordained in the summer of 2000.

Having served my Curacy at Eastbourne Parish Church, I have been Vicar of Saint Luke's Stone Cross with North Langney since 2003 and Priest in Charge of Pevensey Parish since September 2021. I am married to Clare and we have two grown up children; Chloe who is a Piano Teacher and lives with her husband in Rye, and Sebastian who lives with his Fiancé in Bournemouth and manages a large Wetherspoons in the town centre.

We have two dogs;

Zorro, a Border Collie and Wicket, an English Cocker Spaniel. We also have a lone cockatiel called Eccles!

I am eager to begin this next chapter of my ministry with you all, particularly working with the schools in the Parishes as well as continuing the excellent work achieved by Chris and Phill. I hope to strengthen the links between the churches and the communities that they serve and can't wait to get to know you all over the coming months.

I'm also very pleased to announce that Bishop Martin has agreed for me to continue my role as training to my current Curate, the Reverend Janice Bartholomew. Janice is a part time, self-supporting minister, currently in Deacon's orders. Janice will be ordained as a Priest in June and is looking forward to continuing her training with you all in Framfield, Chiddingly and East Hoathly.

Please be assured of my prayers for you, and I look forward to meeting you all in person following our move to East Hoathly.

With love and every blessing.

James (and Clare)

James and Clare have now moved into the Rectory at East Hoathly, as of April 25th.

New service pattern and combined services

First, Third and Fourth Sundays - a service in each church at 10.00 am

Second and Fifth Sundays – combined service - rotating between the three churches.

This will come into effect on June 11th (a second Sunday) with a combined service at East Hoathly.

Family Service will now be on the third Sunday of the month.
Morning Praise continues on the fourth Sunday of the month.

A combined service will also be held on 30th July – this is at Framfield.

https://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk/benefice_rota.html

Church Office:

We will still have the Church Office at Framfield. All communications for the church should be addressed here and **not to the Vicarage.**

Graham Seldon, Churchwarden and Barry Richardson, PCC Secretary

Giving to the Church.

We are so grateful for any donations you are able to make. In a rapidly increasing cashless world, we are excited to announce that the church is now equipped with a cashless giving machine. Donations can be made easily using a credit or debit card. Simply select the cause you would like to donate to and the amount you wish to donate and tap your card on the top of the machine. We are currently collecting for the general church fund, and the churchyard.

Gaynor Robson, Treasurer

Contacting us

For urgent enquiries please contact the Church Warden, Mr Graham Seldon, on 01825 508758, email :
warden@framfieldchurch.org.uk

Please do not hesitate to contact us to discuss any baptism, wedding, funeral, visiting or help which is needed in the parish.

Please note that the latest notices and information are always posted on the church website. - www.framfieldchurch.org.uk.

Diary of Church Services

Note: The latest church service information will always be on the Church website: <https://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk>

Please note there are no services at Framfield on 11th June, or 9th July. There is a combined service for all three churches. These will be held on a rotation – Framfield hosts on 30th July.

JUNE 2023

- 04 Trinity Sunday**
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
(with Revd John Cleaver)
- 11 First Sunday of Trinity**
10.00 am Combined Eucharist Service at East Hoathly
(with Revd James Vine) **(Note: no service at Framfield)**
- 18 Second Sunday of Trinity**
10.00 am Family Service (with Revd Janice Bartholomew)
- 25 Third Sunday of Trinity**
10.00 am Morning Praise (with Peter Berry)

JULY 2023

- 02 Fourth Sunday of Trinity**
10.00 am Eucharist (with Revd James Vine)
- 09 Fifth Sunday of Trinity (Sea Sunday)**
10.00 am Combined Eucharist Service at East Hoathly
(with Revd James Vine) **(Note: no service at Framfield)**
- 16 Sixth Sunday of Trinity**
10.00 am Family Service (with Christine Hayler)

23 **Seventh Sunday of Trinity**
10.00 am Morning Praise (with Peter Berry)

30 **Eighth Sunday of Trinity**
10.00 am Combined Eucharist Service at Framfield
(with Revd James Vine)

(Everyone is welcome at any of the church services)

Note: The latest church service information is always on the
Church Website: <https://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk>

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE
BY 10th JULY 2023**

TO

ANN NEWTON – 01825 890182

Please note new email address:

clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk

**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

**CHURCH NEWS ITEMS MAY ALSO BE
EMAILED TO THE CHURCH OFFICE:
admin@framfieldchurch.org.uk**

**This bi-monthly Newsletter is distributed free to all homes (around 1100)
within the Parish.**



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

18th June 2023

16th July 2023

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 children's birthday parties. Our rates are £11.00 per hour. For one off users (parties, wedding receptions etc), the hourly rate is £15.00.

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

Nature Notes

It is a sad reflection on our islands that the UK is recorded by the World Wildlife Fund as “one of the most nature depleted countries in the world”. 30% of our native bird species are “threatened with extinction”. Most of this loss is due to human activities that degrade the natural environment. A motto of the RSPB is “giving nature a home”. The RSPB establishes nature reserves in partnership with other organisations. These reserves give nature a home which in turn supports birds that depend on ecological biodiversity hot-spots. Birds fly from disturbed areas to undisturbed areas. However, they are then in competition with other birds that are already in those areas. The only way to stop this degradation is to recognise local biodiversity hot-spots and save them.

All habitats have what is called a carrying capacity. If animals are forced to move from one location to another, they become refugees. As such, they have to compete with others for food, nesting sites and just space. The result is density dependent mortality due to this competition. The total population is reduced to the carrying capacity of the habitat, for example a woodland or a meadow or a pond, lake, or river.

Many species depend on habitat diversity for their homes, such as song thrushes. Thrushes forage in grass-lands as well as nesting and singing in trees. Herons also nest in trees but hunt their food in water-bodies. Where large numbers of species live (biodiversity hot-spots), we need to follow the current national initiative to reverse this trend of species loss. In Uckfield we have such a dilemma. The northern perimeter of Uckfield is such a biodiversity hot-spot with protected areas like Buxted Park SSSI, Lake Wood LWS, West Park LNR LWS, Uckfield Cemetery LWS and many more. There is an application to make Lake Wood and Downlands Farm an SSSI like Buxted Park. However, some folk want to build a housing estate there. This would destroy the habitat mosaic and reduce biodiversity. If you would like to see the site saved for the rich biodiversity of plants and animals etc that it contains, please sign the petition at <https://www.change.org/p/wealden-council-uckfield-town-council-stop-building-on-downlands-farm-uckfield>.

I personally have recorded 70 different bird species using this site and have a 20 page list of all species that I have recorded there, including kingfishers.

Martyn Stenning



To make a booking contact Mike on:
07713 646 914 | hello@rebalanceuk.co.uk
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;

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



Buxted, East Hoathly and Manor Oak Surgery, Patient Participation Group

Would you like to receive the Buxted, East Hoathly and Manor Oak Surgery, Patient Participation Group Newsletter?

The newsletter is distributed by email every quarter and is full of useful advice about a range of health issues. The next copy is due out in June, but the spring issue is still available and will be sent with you application to join the distribution list.

Please email behppg@live.com with your NAME for your email to be added to the circulation list which will always be BLIND COPIED.

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

Since last writing, there has been a lot of positive news coming from both Blackboys and Framfield Schools.

Framfield School has been without a full time Headteacher for nearly a year now, but Governors are pleased to announce that we will be welcoming Mr Keiran Bradbeer to the role of Headteacher in September. Mr Bradbeer will be visiting the school in the final term of the year to meet staff, children and parents and is very excited about getting started.

Joining Mr Bradbeer will be a new teacher for our year 3 and 4 class. Ms Stephanie Lancaster impressed the interview panel with her passion for teaching and will make a big impression on the community.

There will also be a new teacher at Blackboys School. In July we will say goodbye to Miss Reis who has been a teacher with us for 2 years. Arriving will be Miss Caitlin Rietdyk, who will be teaching our year 3 pupils. Again, Miss Rietdyk delighted our interview panel during a rigorous selection process.

We wish all new members of staff a warm welcome to our happy Federation.

Before that we have the excitement of the summer term! That involves statutory assessments for years 2 and 6, the phonics screening check for year 1 and the multiplication tables check for year 4. To add to our busy-ness, there are some super school trips planned; the ultimate being the year 6 trip to France. Each year the citizens of Boulogne are astounded by our pupils' conversational French while we visit for the day.

There has been some excellent fundraising taking place recently. Thank you to everyone who put blue tokens in the correct slot in Tesco Uckfield, earning £1000 for Blackboys PTA, who are looking to revamp our library. Both the Blackboys PTA and Framfield PTFA have recently run very successful quiz nights too. Good fun and raising vital funds for both schools.

Thank you for continuing to be interested in our 2 parish schools. Remember you can see regular updates on our twitter feeds @blackboyschool and @framfieldcep

*Mr Graham Sullivan, Interim Executive Headteacher
St Thomas a Becket Church of England Federation*



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Earlybird tickets before 29 May
£10 (under 3yrs free)
All tickets from 30 May £15

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Nightingale

by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

My bottom desk drawer is a graveyard, the final resting place for the obsolete. A broken calculator, foreign coins, buttons and a Maxell C90 cassette given to me a few years ago. I had no means of playing it until I recently discovered my clunky cassette deck hiding in the garage.

An accompanying note says the tape contains “the song of a Nightingale in the churchyard of St John sub Castro, Lewes, spring 1985”. It was recorded by a lady called Barbara from an upstairs window in neighbouring Lancaster Street. After some dusting, re-wiring, buzzing and hissing the sweet sound that swirled from my speakers transported me back over three decades to a time when Reagan negotiated with Thatcher, Paul Hardcastle’s na-na-na-Nineteen topped the charts and a Nightingale sang in St John sub Castro.

To be frank, Nightingales aren’t much to look at. Small brown birds; a Robin without the redbreast. But when they open their beak there’s a Susan Boyle-like transformation. These drab birds become the world’s most celebrated vocalists. For centuries, poets have praised their performance. Homer, Shakespeare, Coleridge, Wordsworth, Clare, Keats, Dylan and Cohen. Shelley claimed, “A poet is a Nightingale who sits in darkness, and sings to cheer its own solitude with sweet sounds”. Trust young Percy Bysshe to believe the bird was wallowing in its own self-pity. The Nightingale’s song is actually both an aggressive war-cry and a sweet, structured sonnet. A hymn to the silence in the hope of enticing a passing female.

The Nightingale’s optimistic warbles have inspired everyone from the late Vera Lynn to Roxy Music. A BBC recording of a bird singing in Oxted in 1942 inadvertently captured the roar of Lancasters, Wellingtons, Stirlings and Halifaxes passing overhead laden with bombs destined for Germany. The contrast between innocence and beauty, terror and destruction make it the most powerful sound I have ever heard.

Nightingales will sing by day but are most famous for never letting up when the sun sets, their beautiful phrasing carrying loud and clear over the muffled grunts and hoots of other nocturnal animals. Once the Nightingale has hooked a partner his nocturnal performances will stop, so there’s a narrow window to hear them. Our Nightingales spend the winter south of the Sahara in a wide belt between Senegal and Kenya, usually returning in late April.

Due to habitat destruction the UK population of this amazing bird –so entwined in our cultural heritage – is in a steep decline. The sound of a Nightingale singing in the centre of Lewes may have been relegated to the bottom drawer of history but we are blessed to still have this bird performing in our Sussex woodlands. We must never let their song of hope be silenced forever.

Stag Beetle

by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

I’ve only ever had one sporting hero. In the red corner, standing 6ft 6 and weighing in at 365lbs, Big Daddy kept my Gran and me glued to the TV set on wet Saturday afternoons as he wrestled Giant Haystacks or Kendo Nagasaki in his sequined spandex.

In June, Stag Beetles – the big daddies of the beetle world – are emerging from the ground and getting ready to rumble. There’s around 3,000 different species of beetle in Sussex and an estimated 29,000 species across Europe. Just as Big Daddy’s 64-inch chest earned him a place in the Guinness Book of Records, the 2.5 inch long Stag Beetle holds the coveted title of Europe’s Biggest Beetle. And, like a 26 stone man in a spangly leotard, the adult male Stag Beetle is equally impressive and ludicrous. Its 3-segmented black and maroon armoured body is crowned with a ridiculous pair of trademark stag-like ‘antlers’. They are actually modified mandible mouthparts and are used to impress the antler-less females and to grapple rival males.

Before these tiny titans step into the ring they have to put in some long hours in training. The beetle’s larvae spend an incredible 5-6 years munching on a deadwood diet of buried logs and roots, building the bulky body that will sustain them to survive above ground. As adults

they will live for just a few weeks without feeding, relying solely on the fuel tanks accumulated underground. In early summer, after pupation and transformation, they burst from the ground and go looking for a fight. I always find it incredible that these chunky, bulky beetles can fly but on warm evenings they whirl through the air with the grace and subtlety of a Chinook on aerial reconnaissance for females. But if another male beats them to it that's when things get nasty.

In my fantasies I imagine these beetle brawls to play out on a dead tree stump. A crowd of over-excited elderly invertebrates gather round; the grasshoppers and crickets chirping in with a chorus of "We shall not be moved" while the earthworms and earwigs chant "Eas-eh! Eas-eh!" The fighters face off before charging and locking antlers. With incredible strength a Stag Beetle can lift his opponent into the air, holding him there heroically before spectacularly body-slamming them down onto the stump.

We're fortunate that southeast England is a hotspot for these Herculean heavyweights but sadly our Stag Beetles are on the ropes. The loss of old trees from the countryside has had dramatic impacts on the survival of the beetles' underground larvae and their numbers are declining. My tip for spotting a Stag Beetle is to look for them in June in Henfield churchyard in West Sussex or around Ringmer in East Sussex.

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

MY LIFE WITH FUR AND FEATHER

BEAKY THE PHEASANT

A few years ago, I had a pair of pheasants that that regularly came to visit. The male was quite bold but the female was very shy at first but gradually came nearer for her food. Sometimes she was busy elsewhere so I would call her after a moment or two I would hear a flutter of wings and she would fly down to see me that was wonderful. After some time she stopped coming and very sadly I found her dead in our wood.

Earlier this spring another cock pheasant arrived so I threw him a few peanuts and seed some distance away so he would not be frightened. Gradually he came a bit nearer and came up the steps to the back door. I then sat on the step and he would eat from my hand. The problem started when he demanded breakfast at 6.30 am, shouting loudly. Thinking how clever he was, I immediately jumped out of bed in flimsy night attire and sat shivering in the cold then it started to rain. Balancing uncomfortably on the step my legs getting wet I was getting fed up with this routine. It also gave me back ache. I decided that he would have to come into the hall but left the door open in case he was worried. I did this very slowly, so he soon became confident. I was still rather cold, but it was better than perching on the step getting cold and wet.

Now he was more confident I decided he could at least wait until I was dressed before he had his breakfast, needless to say I fed him before getting my own breakfast! I called him beaky as his beak was slightly crooked, he would not have won a prize in a pheasant show! He quickly learnt his name and would come when called wherever he was. Before long he decided to demand three meals a day, breakfast, lunch and tea. The problem was he would be waiting for lunch when I drove back from shopping, he worked out I was in the car and I had to be careful not to run him over.

He hated the wet weather and would stand all hunched up and miserable and also felt the cold and would pathetically pull up one leg,

tuck it into his feathers to warm it up then swop over and warm up the other leg.

I am always amazed how very intelligent animals and birds are. Recently I had guests staying and went upstairs to take them mugs of tea and stayed for a chat, suddenly I heard footsteps walking along the landing. It was strange for there was nobody else in the house, I crept out and there was nobody on the landing, but through the window looking out at the flat roof was a very familiar face. Beaky hearing my voice had flown up onto the flat roof and was peering at me through the glass. I went downstairs and he quickly flew down to the ground and asked for his breakfast!! He did not approve of guests and kept well out of the way but when he saw them drive off, he gave me a look as much as to say, thank goodness they have gone, now I can come in and have my lunch in peace

Recently I have had suspicions he has another woman somewhere. Having eaten my food he has been sneaking off down the drive and into the lane. I feel like the wife who has carefully ironed her husband's shirt and cooked him his favourite meal and then he goes off to meet his mistress. I have just found out my suspicions are correct as he has been seen with another woman!

Recently we lost all the electric power to everything outside; this involved digging a trench right across the entrance to the cottage so the power could be reconnected. that was very difficult for humans and Beaky the pheasant. He eventually found a way across the trench but not to the door. I opened the window in the hall, lent out and optimistically called him. Hearing my voice he appeared round a large bush and came up to the window so I was able to throw his food out to him. Thankfully it was not too long before everything was back to normal so now I can sit comfortably on a stool in the hall and Beaky can come in and enjoy eating his peanuts out of my hand again. I met someone the other day who remarked that pheasants were not very bright but I have found that they are highly intelligent.

Hazel Carter
01825830477

VENUE: FRAMFIELD VILLAGE SCHOOL, THE STREET, FRAMFIELD

SAT 24th JUNE

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12 - 3pm

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Framfield & Blackboys WI

2023 PROGRAMME IN FULL SWING

At our March meeting we had an interesting talk from William Shaw, investigative journalist. He has recently turned to crime fiction and his latest book 'The Birdwatcher' is a good read.

In April Trevor Weeks of the East Sussex Wildlife Rescue Ambulance Service (WRAS) came to speak to us about their work - which



Trevor Weeks

is amazing. From ducklings to deer, badgers to seals, hedgehogs to swans, they will rescue any creature in distress, and if at all possible nurse the it back to health, ready to be released back into the wild. East Sussex WRAS was established as a voluntary group in 1996. and was set up in order to provide a front-line rescue service for wildlife casualties. They now have a well equipped hospital with Operating Theatre, X-ray Room, First Aid, Casualty, Orphan and Isolation Rooms, Reception and Rehabilitation Area, plus a special Hedgehog Suite. It is capable of holding over 250 casualties at any one time depending on the size of the

patients and the severity of their injuries. All this has been totally financed by WRAS own fundraising efforts.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- June 9 Garden Party** - Our summer get together at our President's lovely garden with delicious afternoon tea prepared by members.
- July 14 Major John Hamill** speaks on The Battle of Lewes which took place in 1264 between Henry III and his barons, led by Simon de Montford, Earl of Leicester.

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



www.bag2school.com

FRAMFIELD SCHOOL

Bag2School CLOTHING/SHOE COLLECTION HAS BEEN ARRANGED FOR

TUESDAY 20th JUNE 2023

9AM FRAMFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

Acceptable items - re-useable/re-wearable only

Adult/children's clothes/footwear

Belts, scarves, hats, gloves, nightwear, bags

New/un-used lingerie/underwear

PTFA

ptfaframfield@gmail.com

NEWS FROM YOUR WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Firstly, it is great pleasure to continue to represent the Framfield & Cross in Hand Ward on Wealden District Council. I now enter my fifth term, some 16 years with the Council.

The election was the most vicious from the five I have been involved with – the conundrums for residents – the three ‘P’s’ – ‘Parliament, Planning and Potholes’!

The Conservatives ran candidates in 44 seats. Out of 41 wards, the number of candidates from the Greens and Lib Dems who stood against each other was just 3 seats. The number where all parties were represented was zero. This is to enable tactical voting which appears on this occasion has duly worked. Some I suspect will be pleased to bring down the former administration but the implications for the new Council are still very much unknown even as I write, some 10 days since the election.

As now an opposition leader, I shall be holding the new administration to scrutiny at every turn. I also want to leave you with a few facts about the position of WDC as left under the previous administration.

1. We are in the top 5 of district/borough authorities in the country.
2. The recycling rate of Wealden District Council is 49.5% - the highest recycling in Sussex. Less than 1% of our waste goes into landfill with just under 50% going to the incinerator which in turn generates electricity.
3. The charge for brown bins is £50.00 per annum.
4. The Wealden District Council proportion of Council rose by 2.99% and the Council was in a good financial position.
5. The Council has maintained free car parking in Wealden car parks to support the local economy. We were also opposed to on-street car park charging (parking meters).

6. We have created a new modern Crematorium which serves the local community and generates an income for the Council.
7. The Council had passed a motion to write to the Secretary of State for DEFRA with regard to bring forward requirements to make Southern Water accountable for Sewage infrastructure upgrades which the Green Party abstained or objected to.

Finally, if anyone would like me to attend an event or come to a meeting to address them regarding Wealden District Council or I can assist as your elected representative please do not hesitate to contact me.

Contact details – Ann Newton, ‘Highlands’, Blackboys, TN22 5LR.
Telephone - 01825 890103.
Email – anewton1965@gmail.com

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FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – REPORT

Elections – the Parish Council election was uncontested. We can welcome David Jenner back onto the Council – his third stint – and a welcome addition. We also said goodbye to Peter Friend who decided after many years on the Council to retire – thanks to him for his long service.

Roads – as I write neither Gun Road, Chapel Lane or Sharlands Lane in Blackboys are open. The Parish Council is making strong representation to the County Council to get the repairs done.

Lewes Road, Blackboys – again at the time of writing it very much looks like ESCC will be agreeing to Community Match Funding to reduce the speed limit between Hollow Lane and Brownings Farm. The design and costings still need to be finalised.

Works – the Parish Council has various improvement works they wish to carry out to the village halls. If anyone is interested in tendering for the works please contact me.

Sports Pavilion – the works to install a ramp for disability purposes has now been completed.

Thanks to a benevolent resident, some trees are to be planted on Framfield recreation ground.

Emails – if an email has been sent to me and you haven't received a reply please check your spam box. Very often this seems to be where I end up!

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.

All agendas are put on the village noticeboards and website.

Ann Newton (Parish Clerk): 01825 890182

Email: clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk.

Website: www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk

Church Lunch at Chiddingly and East Hoathly

Chiddingly and East Hoathly churches hold a monthly Church Lunch. We would like Framfield people to join us. It's very informal and come as you are as you're able.

The next first Sunday of April, church lunch is planned to be on 2nd April at Burchetts Farm, Whitesmith BN8 6HA, either outdoors or undercover depending on conditions ... so you may need to wrap up warmly.

Everyone is welcome.

The lunch is held on the last Sundays of each month, the dates are:
28th May 25th June 30th July

To book please email Peter and Faith - pf@zereg.com. Please state any dietary requirements.

Bible Study Group

It may also be of interest to your parishioners that we have a Bible study each week of a Thursday evening to which all are welcome either in person or on zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4563211258?pwd=dTVreXJLQXFzdVNrTUp0aVpZUzdJUT09>

at Burchetts Farm, Whitesmith BN8 6HA

We usually look together at the readings for the coming Sunday but during Lent we expect to be following the Chichester Diocesan Lent Course. We look forward to seeing and hearing some of you if you're able to join us.

COME AND HAVE A SING!

Have you ever thought about trying something different but lacked the nerve, woomph, or whatever to do so? You are not alone! Many, many years ago I was the lead alto in my school choir. I could not read music (I still find it hard), but had a reasonably 'good ear', so learning new pieces was not that difficult (as long as they were comparatively easy). Unfortunately (for me) my voice broke in the middle of a concert – the conductor cued me in and out came this odd croak – I moved from alto to bass with no warbling in between! The embarrassment was profound and that was the end of my school singing career.

And so it remained for nearly 50 years – I never thought my voice was good enough to sing with other people, let alone a choir and certainly not a 'choral society'! Then one day a friend persuaded me to come to a rehearsal of the choral society they were a member of – just try it out they said. So I did and, at the risk of making this all sound a bit like an advert, I found it really good. I was no worse (and no better) than other singers in the society. We all found it hard to sing some of the pieces we were rehearsing, but the support from other choral society members and the musical director was amazing. After a while my confidence and, dare I say it, my abilities grew and I looked forward to both the rehearsals and the small performances we gave. Indeed, as far as the latter was concerned I was quite proud I was doing something that others could not / did not do, and which (I hoped) was bringing pleasure to others and, at the same time, fulfilling the aims of the choral society. And this last point is important.

The object of the society is to further the advancement, improvement, development and maintenance of public education in, and appreciation and enjoyment of, the art and science of music, particularly choral music, in all its aspects. As a choral society we truly believe it is vital to acquaint people with music from the past and present that might otherwise be outside their experience, otherwise the enjoyment of that music will be lost forever. Yes, we tend to concentrate on choral music of one sort or another. No, we don't do rap, or much popular music – our friends in the Uckfield Singers do that. So we have sung things such as the Faure Requiem, the Vivaldi

Gloria and pieces by Bach, Stainer and Beethoven. But we have also sung extracts from G&S, songs by Ivor Novello, and songs from the Great Wars. So, it is not all 'high faloutin' stuff.

If you would like to just try things out, or plunge straight in, come along and join us at the Uckfield (Holy Cross) Choral Society. You do not need to be a Pavarotti or Callas to join. We meet every Thursday evening at 8:00 pm at Holy Cross church, Belmont Road, Uckfield, TN22 1BP and you will be assured of a very friendly welcome with no strings attached! Parking is easy – members tend to use the top left corner of the ten hour Luxford car-park, as the walk from the car-park to the church via the exit into Belmont road is only about five minutes.

Hope to see you soon!

Brian Redman Chair U(HC)CS

Volunteers Needed for Delivering Parish Magazines:

We are very grateful to those volunteers who have come forward to fill vacancies for delivery of the Parish magazines.

We now have two routes which are available:

1. High Cross Lane, Crockstead, up to all houses opposite the speed camera, Crockstead Farm Homes, Bradford's Lane, the Bentley estate, and all points in between.
2. Preston Grove, Framfield - only 12 copies,

Someone will gladly escort you on the round to acclimatise you to the route.

It is only six times a year and helps to bring the community together. If you feel you could help, please ring Barbara on 01825 891172.

SPEEDING TRAFFIC IN BLACKBOYS

There are concerns amongst residents in Blackboys about speeding traffic in the High Street and on Lewes Road. Local County Councillor Chris Dowling is working with Parish Council and a community group to press East Sussex County Council and Sussex Police to review the speed limits and take action.

To help address the speed issues in the High Street, a Community Speed Watch (CSW) group of volunteers could be set-up. The CSW system is a Police project and it is robust, with speeding motorists who are 'caught' by the CSW team reported online to the Police. The system has a rising level of contacts and warnings sent to offending motorists. Motorists who offend repeatedly and are reported can face Police prosecution.

Unfortunately, due to Police procedures and insurance cover, CSW cannot operate in Lewes Road.

The Parish Council would like to see a CSW set up in the Parish again, but a group of volunteers is needed - approximately 6 people. Training, equipment and support is provided.

Interested and want to help with road safety in Blackboys? Please contact the Parish Clerk, Ann Newton - 01825 890182 email - clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk

Bevern View News



Bevern Challenges

We at The Bevern Trust believe we are so fortunate to be involved in our residents' daily lives, and working to embody our four values: *Committed, Care, Choice & Community*. Through the outstanding work of our staff, volunteers and families, we are able to ensure our residents can live 'life to the full'.

"The incredible residents of Bevern View inspire me every day! It is a huge privilege to be a part of the residents' lives by helping them to experience and achieve things that they ordinarily wouldn't be considered able to. At Bevern, dreams really do become a reality", says Katie, a Bevern staff member.

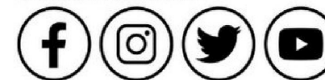
But we couldn't do any this without your ongoing support, including our amazing champions undertaking **personal challenges** to raise funds - maybe running a full or half marathon, taking a dip with a 2 mile lake swim, committing to a 1000 mile horseriding hack. Would you take on a Bevern challenge and help fundraise for us? Choose whatever inspires you! Contact us for ideas or support - info@beverntrust.org.



Huge thanks to Freddy, who recently ran the London Marathon, raising over £2400!



Donate: www.beverntrust.org
Email: info@beverntrust.org
Follow us on social media:
[@thebeverntrust](https://www.instagram.com/thebeverntrust)



Bevern View is a purpose-built residential home in Barcombe providing life-long care for 11 young adults with profound disabilities.

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING SCHEDULE 2023

At the time of issuing this notice, all meetings are to be held at the Village Hall, Blackboys, at 4.30 pm due to a regular booking in the Memorial Hall.

If there are planning applications which require the convening of a Planning Committee meeting these times may vary.

25 July

26 September

28 November

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

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

FRAMFIELD VILLAGE MARKET 2023

Memorial Hall, Framfield

The market opens from 10 am to 12 noon.

27 May

24 June

29 July

August – no market

30 September

28 October

25 November

16 December

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

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.

WHO'S WHO AT THE St THOMAS À BECKET NEWSLETTER

Joint Chair:

**For the Church: Mr Graham Seldon
(Churchwarden)**

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 volunteers**

Printers: "Print Matters"

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*



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