

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

# Parish Magazine



**Framfield, Blackboys  
and  
Palehouse Common**

**AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2023**

## HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL CHURCH

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.

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<b>Priest-in-Charge</b>	<b>Revd James Vine</b> <b>01825 840270</b>
<b>Assistant Curate</b>	<b>Revd Janice Bartholomew</b> <b>01323 920321</b>
<b>Churchwarden:</b> <b>(for urgent matters)</b>	<b>Mr Graham Seldon</b> <b>01825 508758</b>
<b>Secretary to the PCC</b> <b>and Church Admin:</b>	<b>Mr Barry Richardson</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Mrs Gaynor Robson</b>

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### From the Church Registers:

**At rest:** 12<sup>th</sup> June: Alfred Allitt

*No Baptisms or Weddings registered*

## **From the Vicar's desk**

Firstly, a huge thank you to all of you for making me and my wife Clare so very welcome.

We are now safely moved into the Rectory and have nearly dealt with all the boxes!

June and July have seen me hitting the ground running, and there has been so much going on and so many people to meet! June began for Janice, our lovely Assistant Curate with her Ordination to the Priesthood by the Bishop of Horsham on Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup>. This was a wonderful, Spirit filled service and it was lovely to see representatives from all three parishes there to support her.

With barely a pause for breath, we were all in church again on Thursday the 8<sup>th</sup> for the Licencing service at Framfield. The Bishop of Lewes presided, and I was humbled and delighted to be licenced as Your Priest in Charge and Janice as your Assistant Curate.

The evening concluded with a spectacular array of cakes in the Church Hall. Thank you!

Two Church Fete's and one school performance later, I'm really beginning to feel part of these three wonderful communities; there is so much that Framfield, Chiddingly & East Hoathly has to offer, and I am really excited by the prospect of, with your help, growing the Kingdom of God in these parishes.

I am slowly starting to get to grips with three churches and four schools, and again I am so encouraged by the welcome I have received and the very real willingness to move forward together on our Christian Journey.

Just briefly, I'd like to take this opportunity to go over the provision of Sunday Services with you:

As far as is possible I think it is important that we have a 10 am Sunday Service in each of our three churches as often as we can. Obviously, I can't be in three places at once so will need to rely on colleagues to make things work. I'm very grateful to the Reverend Peter Francis for his offer of help, and of course to Janice who will also be celebrating some Sunday services.

As far as I'm able I will endeavour to provide a 10am Sunday service in each church on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month. Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday (and the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday when there is one) will be a combined Eucharist in one of our three churches; allowing us to get to know each other better and more importantly worship together as one church family.

Please do keep all three church communities in your prayers and pray that the Holy Spirit will forge strong bonds of love between us all.

*Revd James Vine*

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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](http://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk).

### **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.

The Vicarage is now rented out by the Diocese, though we retain access to the office in the barn and the parking area next to it.

### **Help needed in the Churchyard:**

Since Freddy Pratt passed away on 3rd March, Peter Berry has battled on with the churchyard maintenance, assisted by Malcolm Marchesi and Jerry Pryke. Ideally, these guys need more help, Freddy was virtually full time working in the churchyard before failing health meant he could not continue. Please contact Peter (mobile 0781 545 9075) if you are willing and able to help, even a couple of hours a week, or email the church office.

### **Rewilding and You:**

Tuesday, 10th October, 7.00 pm: Talk by Tom Forward from the Knepp Estate. The ideas, the places leading the way and the part we can all play in the rewilding movement. This event is in the Church in conjunction with the Framfield & Blackboys Horticultural Society. Tickets to include a glass of wine /soft drink. and finger food. More details to follow next issue.

### **A Concert by the Kidbrooke Park Singers**

Sunday, October 15th, 4.00 pm - A Concert by The Kidbrooke Park Singers, a SATB chamber choir ranging from Renaissance music to Classical and Contemporary. A wide range of a capella and accompanied items. In Church. Donations in aid of extending the Garden of Remembrance, and the churchyard fund (Suggested donation £10.00). More details to follow next issue.

### **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*

# 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 is no service at Framfield on 13th August. There is a combined service for all three churches at Chiddingly. These will be held on a rotation – Framfield hosts on 10<sup>th</sup> September.

## AUGUST 2023

- 06 The Transfiguration (Ninth Sunday after Trinity)**  
10.00 am The Eucharist (CW) (Revd James Vine)
- 13 Tenth Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am Combined Eucharist at Chiddingly  
(Revd James Vine) **(Note: no service at Framfield)**
- 20 Eleventh Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am Family Service (with Christine Hayler)
- 27 Twelfth Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am Morning Praise (with Peter Berry)

## SEPTEMBER 2023

- 03 Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am Eucharist (Revd James Vine)
- 10 Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am Combined Eucharist Service at Framfield  
(Revd James Vine)
- 17 Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am Family Service (with Christine Hayler)

**24 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am Morning Praise (with Peter Berry)

*(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 10<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023**

**TO**

**ANN NEWTON – 01825 890182**

**Please note new email address:**

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

**CHURCH NEWS ITEMS MAY ALSO BE  
EMAILED TO THE CHURCH OFFICE:**

**[admin@framfieldchurch.org.uk](mailto: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.**

**20<sup>th</sup> August 2023  
17<sup>th</sup> September 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](mailto:hoss.graham@outlook.com)



## Nature Notes

As an ecologist, I am constantly wrestling with my conscience concerning life decisions. The world, like individual life forms, is fragile and can be damaged by meteors, volcanos, and life-form occupants. However, the biosphere is also robust and will change in response to an insult from the life forms that occupy it. An insult can be a physical abuse as well as a vocal one. Currently, humans are insulting the planetary biosphere by digging up the composted, fossilised material of past life and burning it in the atmosphere for energy that destabilises in the global climate. With this in mind, we all have to make day-to-day decisions that may *contribute* to this condition or *ameliorate* it.

I am committed to working for the maintenance of biodiversity and a healthy globe, and I regret any consequence of my actions that may lead to the death of some life form. Examples include insects killed in collision with my car as I drive, or damage to ecosystems when I release pollutants. However, sometimes self-preservation kicks in and I find myself having to deliberately control some organism or other. I always mentally express my regret for doing so. The other day, I noticed a paper ball being formed in my garage roof. It was an Asian hornet (*Vespa velutina*) colony forming. There was a queen and about 20 workers building this nest. However, a sting from this species has been known to kill a human, so I had to make a decision to stop this colony from increasing. Therefore, sadly, I had to humanely send them to the great hornet's nest in the sky. Asian hornets have only recently found their way to Europe (c. 2004), and this is almost certainly due to human activity. However, European hornets (*Vespa crabro*) are altogether more passive, more so than their sometimes-aggressive smaller common wasp (*Vespula vulgaris*) cousins, and I for one am content to leave the native hornet species, even though it is larger, to complete its life cycle. Generally, they will not bother a human if a human does not bother them.

So how do I try to offset my negative consequences? Well, I try to adjust my lifestyle, for example, planting and cultivating new trees, establishing nest-boxes for animals, recycling as much as possible, mowing as little as possible, reducing meat consumption, using legs, cycles and public transport when appropriate, but not flying in planes if it can be avoided.

*Martyn Stenning*

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

As is always the case it has been a busy yet rewarding end of the academic year at our 2 parish schools. Both Blackboys and Framfield pupils have 'been the best that they can be' this school year and we are very proud particularly of our year 6 pupils who will be making their way to various secondary schools in September.

At Framfield School, our older children have performed a summer production called Rock Bottom, an amusing Stone Age musical. There were many memorable lines and the singing showed just how confident our pupils can be. Thank you to our key stage 2 staff for rehearsing and running the performance. Our year 6 pupils have been super busy passing their Bikeability course, visiting Bowles Outdoor Centre for Safety in Action and going on their residential trip to PGL. PGL at Windmill Hill is great fun, with the children living together in cabins and taking part in exciting activities such as zip-wire and giant swing. The children impressed instructors with their positive, can-do attitudes. All our classes have enjoyed school trips this term, with our youngest pupils attending the Van Gogh exhibition in Brighton, traveling there by train. The school is now very excited about welcoming their new Headteacher Mr Bradbeer in September. We do though say goodbye to long serving TA Mrs Pat Neal, who is going to enjoy and relaxing retirement and also MDSA Mrs Christina Petroe who is moving to a new job. Both have been great members of staff.

At Blackboys School, all our pupils were involved in our school production of Hoodwinked, a light hearted music based on the story of Robin Hood. The children performed to 3 packed audiences with the finale of the Sherrif of Nottingham receiving a custard pie proving the most popular moment. All classes have been on school trips as varied at Branching Out climbing centre to Newhaven Fort for the study of Sussex in World War 2. Term ends with our traditional cup assembly and leavers assembly where will also be saying goodbye to popular class teacher Miss Reis who is relocating following a period of travelling.

This is my final parish news as Interim Executive Headteacher working across both schools. In September I return to being the headteacher at Blackboys, but with happy memories of the 14 months I have spent at Framfield too. Thank you for welcoming me into your community. Have an enjoyable summer.

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

## **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



## **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](mailto:behppg@live.com) with your NAME for your email to be added to the circulation list which will always be BLIND COPIED.

# TAXPlus

Your small business partner

*Loose the tax hassle!*

**Help with accounting, taxation and business management for new business entrepreneurs and established traders - SMALL business doesn't need BIG accountants!**

*Taxplus* takes away the hassle of tax compliance and ensures your accounting and management controls are effective, empowering you to manage better.

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- Be on your side.
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- Ensure on-time compliance – saving penalties and spats with the authorities.
- Offer current effective advice in managing your business.
- Ensure your accounting and management systems proactively assist you to manage.
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- Provide clarity on where that journey is leading you.

If you are new to business, or would like to discuss reducing your compliance fees – or simply would like a change:

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Take up your **FREE - NO-OBLIGATION** friendly initial meeting to discuss your needs and how we will be able to help-

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mob: 077746 777156

e:service@taxplus.org.uk

## **Water Shrew** by Michael Blencowe for Sussex Wildlife Trust

I love Jaws, the 1975 movie which sent three men out into the Atlantic on a fishing boat in search of a marauding Great White Shark. There's another aquatic monster hunting in the ponds and shallow streams of Sussex. But to find a Water Shrew...you're gonna need a smaller boat.

Water Shrews weigh 15g and measure just 16cm. Unlike other shrews they have an amazing ability to swim and hunt underwater. They're covered in dense fur – vital insulation against the cold and wet. This sleek wetsuit also traps air bubbles, transforming the shrew into a furry Aero helping it stay buoyant. Powerful, extra hairy hind feet propel this tiny torpedo through the water.

Water Shrews and Great White Sharks have a common feature that sets them apart from their close relatives. They both have a striking demarcation between their dark upperparts and their white underparts. Looking from above, their black backs blend with the pond bottom or seabed. From below, their pale bellies make them invisible in the sunlit water. It's a submarine survival strategy that helps conceal both hunters and hunted. And the Water Shrew is both.

With sharp, red-tipped fangs, a Water Shrew's jaws are as fearsome as any shark's. But the Water Shrew has a trick up its teeth. It's Britain's only venomous mammal. When it bites it injects a stupefying saliva which subdues its victims. In Jaws, the grizzled skipper Quint (Robert Shaw) relates the chilling true tale of the torpedoed WWII cruiser Indianapolis, which sank leaving hundreds of sailors adrift in shark-infested waters. Well, my mate Barry was once bitten by a Water Shrew in Newhaven and his finger went all tingly for about two hours. OK, it doesn't exactly compare, but the fact that a tiny shrew can make such an impact on a human is pretty impressive.

Slice open a dead shrew's stomach and rummage inside and you'll find bits of beetle legs, snail shells, and fishbones. They are relentless, frenetic hunters. If the shrew goes without a meal for more than an hour it will die. What we are dealing with here is a perfect engine, an eating machine. All this machine does is swim and eat and

make little shrews. Between April and September, the mating of the shrew can produce 2-3 litters of 3-15 young. They live a fast, brief life. Few of them will survive for more than a year.

The best way to see a Water Shrew is to sit by a Sussex stream as the sun sets. Bring a couple of friends and some Apricot Brandy, share some tall tales, and wait for a shrew to strike.

*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 guidebook, Discovering Wildlife. It's easy to join online at [sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join](http://sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join).*

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## **THE FRAMFIELD STAGERS**

The Framfield Stagers are soon to be back doing what they do best, Performing Pantomimes.

Our next panto - our 15th, will have a Western theme with the usual mixture of laughter, slapstick, song and dance for the whole family. Rehearsals are due to start in late September and we would love a few more members to join us. If you want something to do on the dark winter evenings, why not join us in the fun of Pantomime.

For details contact; [cdjudge@btinternet.com](mailto:cdjudge@btinternet.com), 01825 890632 or [www.framfieldstagers.homestead.com](http://www.framfieldstagers.homestead.com)



# Bevern View News



## Sail away...

As it starts to get warmer, our resident's timetables are full of trips out and about in order to enjoy as much of the sunshine as possible and explore our beautiful surroundings.

On a sunny day in May, we returned to one of our favourite places – sailing with our friends at CYE Sailing Centre, based in Chidham, near Chichester. Our residents love this special trip and look forward to it with eager anticipation. It's a huge undertaking to organise taking all eleven residents, including all activity, support and clinical staff, medical and feeding equipment, portable changing facilities and everything we might need for a day out.

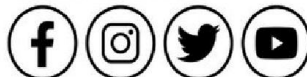


At CYE, the residents loved being out on the water, feeling the spray and seeing the other boats in the harbour. Back on dry land, they also had the chance to go crabbing and take part in an archery tournament. It was a wonderful day out and we're already looking forward to next year.

It's quite a distance for us and another reason why we're working hard at fundraising for a new minibus!



Donate: [www.beverntrust.org](http://www.beverntrust.org)  
Email: [info@beverntrust.org](mailto: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.

# MY LIFE WITH FUR AND FEATHER

## POTHOLES

Back in May I had my brother staying with me and we went for a walk along the lane, dodging all the holes I casually remarked that one day I would fall over. We headed back home and I tripped over a pot hole in the lane and fell heavily and knew I had broken something. I was taken to hospital where it was confirmed that I had broken my wrist and a rib. It was very painful having my arm and wrist pulled into the right position!

I am writing this in July and still struggling but recently have had a willing helper. Nothing is too much trouble for her. She picks up anything I drop, finds my slippers, shoes or boots and gently pulls off my socks for me. So many tasks I have found very difficult including putting things in and out of the washing machine. My helper seems to really enjoy takings out of the machine and carefully putting them into the laundry basket.

Terrified of having another fall I am very careful going outside and take one of my hiking poles. Unfortunately, I got outside and dropped it, but quick as a flash my companion picked it up carefully and handed it to me. I always like to give the bird's nice clean water in their bird bath so scrub it out with a special brush. Trying to walk with hiking pole watering can and brush with painful rib and only



one hand was difficult but my helper was happy to take the scrubbing brush for me that made things easier.

One day I was just sitting in the kitchen when I heard a crash, then another one and then odd banging noises wondered what on earth it could be. Another big bang then my helper appeared struggling to carry a red long handled broom. I then remembered optimistically that I could sweep the floors with one hand but decided I could not manage it and left the broom propped up in the hall thinking I would put it away later. Knowing it was not in the right place my attentive helper decided to bring it to me in the kitchen.

Sadly, my helper who is a twelve year old Cocker Spaniel has gone back home now as she belongs to my son.

Hazel Carter

01825830477

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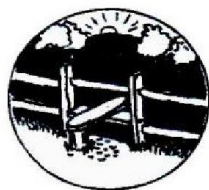
### **Uckfield Art Group - The Results.....**

Thank you everyone who came to support Uckfield Art Group's Summer Exhibition recently. There were joint winners with eleven votes each for Sam Bromley's "Sleep Tight Koala" and Denise Revell's "A Quick Snack". They will share the trophy until the next Exhibition on 11th November when voting will begin all over again! Images can be viewed on [www.uckfieldartgroup85.com](http://www.uckfieldartgroup85.com) Please put the date in your diary. There will be a theme section for "Remembrance" as well as a wide variety of other subjects.

Uckfield Art Group has joined the Wealden Lottery with a top prize of £25,000. Please consider supporting the group if you decide to play as they will receive 50% of ticket sales.

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

*Fiona Flower*



# Framfield & Blackboys WI

**DESPITE DROUGHT AND DOWNPOUR  
WE STILL ENJOY AFTERNOON TEA**

## **Celebrating The Coronation Of The King And The Queen Of Crime Fiction**

We celebrated the Coronation at our May meeting with afternoon tea and Angela's patriotic cupcakes followed by a talk by Beryl Venables on Agatha Christie. The creator of Hercule Poirot, Miss Marple and the Mousetrap is the best-selling fiction writer of all time. During both World Wars, Agatha worked in various hospital dispensaries, acquiring a thorough knowledge of the poisons featured in many of her novels.



## **June Garden Party**

It was parasols and sunshades at the ready when we gathered in Delia's lovely garden for our annual garden party and afternoon tea prepared by members.



## **FORTHCOMING EVENTS - FRAMFIELD SHOW**

We have lots of exciting things planned for our stand at the summer show including:

- Name the Teddy Bear:** The winner will receive a gorgeous hand made Teddy Bear.
- Cakes & Jams:** A range of delicious homemade produce.
- Jar Tombola:** Our every popular Jar Tombola.
- Bric-a-Brac:** Browse and bag a bargain.
- Fantastic Raffle** Your chance to win super grocery prize worth in excess of £40

**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**

## Nature Notes

By the time you read this (in July) we will have had the longest day (21st June), but that does not mean that it will be any cooler. Sometimes we get our warmest weather as late as August. As I write, we have had about 2 weeks of persistent north-easterly wind and no rain. We are being effectively blow-dried. The prevailing wind here in England should be a wet south-westerly. Therefore, I am finding it a bit odd, and I expect the rest of nature is too. I have been filling my bird water-baths daily.

The lovely thing about June is that days are long, but it is not normally too hot nor too cold. It is a good time to be out and about. I was watching 4 well grown fox cubs from our upstairs window this morning at about 06:00 h. just playing with anything they could find. We have seen them with their mother on previous evenings. Sadly, our singing male blackbird has been caught and part eaten by either the foxes or one of the neighbours' cats. However, that is nature, and I am sure he will soon be replaced. The female is still foraging, presumably for her offspring. I was also watching some swifts feeding on flying insects over Uckfield's houses this morning. These aerial wonders arrive from Africa in early May, breed in buildings or cliffs, then return with their youngsters to Africa in August. They are among the last spring migrants to arrive and the first to leave after raising normally 2 offspring per pair. However, they are one of our longest-lived small birds, regularly living 10 and sometimes as long as 21 years, during which time they rarely land. They feed, drink, sleep and mate while flying, stopping only to care for young.

I was alarmed to see the news yesterday about the forest fires in Canada, covering 40,000 hectares, that is 98,000 acres. The smoke from these fires was making it hazardous for breathing as far away as New York. I fear this may be a harbinger of things to come in other parts of the planet this summer. It has been predicted that we may have record breaking temperatures this year. We all need to be prepared for that.

One way that we keep our roses lush is to put fresh lawn clippings around them. If lawns have to be mown, the very best thing to do with the clippings is to put them, fresh, around the roses. This may not work for other shrubs and trees as it can induce fungal infection, but not on roses. .

*Martyn Stenning*

**FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS**

**HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**



Talk by Tom Forward from the Knepp Estate

"Rewilding and You "- the ideas, the places leading the way and the part we can all play in the movement.

We are excited to announce we are arranging a community evening event at Framfield Parish Church on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023 .

Meeting will start at 7pm for drink/chat/raffle.

Talk 7.30 - 8.15 with 15 mins Q&A

Ticket price will include a glass of wine or soft drink and refreshments/nibbles.

Once we have finalised the details more information will be available from Framfield Parish Church and the Horticultural Society, look forward to seeing you there.

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

**Waste collections** - Wealden District Council have been formally told that the dispute between BIFFA and the Union is now full resolved. For the record this was very different dispute to the previous strike and not related to pay.

**Water Outage** – Large areas in the north of the district were affected by a water outage earlier in June. This followed with similar in Polegate and more recently Buxted. The actions and explanations from SEW water have been woefully inadequate and their Chief Executive has been asked to attend our next Scrutiny Committee where he will be questioned on the recent failures and their failure to maintain an adequate supply of water to residents. There is no shortage of water but when demand is high, the equipment which cleanses the water cannot work in the necessary speed to supply it. This is due to lack of maintenance of infrastructure and lack of funding for new infrastructure. We also understand that the regulator, OFWAT, is now investigating.

### **Wealden Local Plan - Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic**

**Environmental Assessment - Scoping Report Update** - To support the development of the new Local Plan, the Council is required by law to undertake a Sustainability Appraisal (SA). The SA is an integral part of the plan making process and from the outset; it must consider ways by which the plan can contribute to improvements in environmental, social and economic conditions as well as a means of identifying and mitigating any potential adverse effects that the plan might otherwise have.

The Consultation on the SA Scoping Report runs from 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023 to 05.00pm on the 7<sup>th</sup> August 2023 and all parish and town councils have been advised.

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

# FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – REPORT

Annual Report from the Chairman of the Parish Council

I would firstly like to inform everybody that Councillor Peter Friend has decided to retire from the council after just over 16 years' service to the Parish Council. Peter will be greatly missed from the team who has offered a wealth of experience and wisdom over the years. "Thank You Peter, we wish you well, and hope to see you at the village markets".

We also welcome new councillors to the team – Councillor Trishia Blewitt and the return of Councillor David Jenner. We had an uncontested election this year, and still have seats available for co-opting. If anybody would be interested in joining the Parish Council, please pop along to one of our meetings and/or email us for more details.

The Parish Council is financially in a good place. Whilst we have some higher reserves than normal, there are plans for some upcoming major works/projects throughout the parish that will require significant funding.

We have some ongoing projects and issues that are being addressed with various stakeholders. At the time of writing this, I can confirm that I and other councillors that have re-stood for election will be able to continue with this work, avoiding further delay. Details can be read in the meeting minutes. The quickest way to access these are on our website.

Between the Parish Council and Trusts, there is plenty of work to do. Our costs have increased significantly which is why there was a modest increase in the Precept. As already mentioned, if you think that you would like to be a councillor and take some of the workload, please get in touch.

The Wealden Community Lottery has now been active for a few weeks. Unfortunately, we only have 4 supporters at present, and so our hopes of new outdoor gym equipment may take some time.

Whilst the village market was very busy in April, it would be nice to see more engagement from the local community. Funds raised from this go towards to the upkeep of the Memorial Hall.

2023-2024 is going to be extremely busy and challenging. Our biggest challenge at the moment is the campaign to reduce the speed limit in Blackboys to 30MPH. This is an extremely complicated process, and updates will be available in the village magazine, and on our website.

Finally, thank you to the staff and councillors for all of the work put in over the past year and term. Thank you for all of the comments and thanks from within the community, it is wonderful to know that even small differences are appreciated.

*Best wishes, Keith – Chairman, Framfield Parish Council*

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## **Volunteers Needed for Delivering Parish Magazines:**

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

We still need someone for 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. 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.

## **Church Lunch at Chiddingly and East Hoathly**

**Church Lunch:** 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 lunch is held at Burchetts Farm, Whitesmith BN8 6HA, either outdoors or undercover depending on conditions ... so you may need to wrap up warmly (or for a heatwave!). Everyone is welcome.

The lunch is held on the last Sunday of each month, the next three dates are therefore: 30<sup>th</sup> July, 27<sup>th</sup> August and 24<sup>th</sup> September 2023. To book please email Peter and Faith - [pf@zereg.com](mailto: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=dTVreXJLQXFzdVNrTUUp0aVpZUzdJUT09>

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.





# NEWLIFE

## NEW LIFE CHURCH BLACKBOYS

Eat, Drink and be Merry!

We live in a world where people don't want to talk about death - as if it will never happen to them, which is weird because most of us are control freaks - everything is organised, down to what coffins we want and how our estate will be divided up. There was an incident a couple of years ago on a shoot where a man who was thoroughly enjoying the day collapsed and died on the spot. Someone commented as all this was going on 'what a way to go, enjoying himself - one minute he's here, next he's not.' Once upon a time I used to think death was just nothing - as in before I was born, once we're gone, we're gone. Until a thought entered my head 'maybe this is not it.' I started to tentatively ponder the possibility that maybe there was something more. Til one night I knelt and basically prayed 'Jesus if you are real, will you accept me?' I suddenly became aware of the presence of God to the point I could not make myself small enough, because of the chasm between Him and me and I found myself saying sorry for stuff I wasn't even aware of before. From that moment on my life has never been the same. My commission since that day has been to try and portray this God that I encountered. I can't say I have always done it right - and I'm not saying for one minute I'm better than anyone else, but what I would say is - my desire is that you realise how much you're loved by God and that you at least explore the reality that He

exists (no matter what you've done or how old you are). Some may say that I found Him because I was looking and seeing what I wanted to see. But in a similar way, when someone told me there were Goshawks in Blackboys, I did not believe them until I looked.

*'Ask and it shall be given, seek and you shall find, knock and the door will be opened unto you.'* Matthew 7 v 7

*(Brendan Hammond - one of the leaders of New Life Church Blackboys)*

*Our desire at New Life Church is to share the peace that we have found to be real and true in our lives - through sickness, grief, troubles - and we want to share that with those around us. Check out our website to see that we are just ordinary people from the villages around Blackboys trying to live out a life that glorifies Him.*

Our Sunday meetings are for everyone. Why? Because all kinds of people were attracted to Jesus and wanted to come and hear him. We welcome you regardless of your circumstances, age, background, or experience of church.

We currently meet every Sunday at Blackboys C of E Primary School.

We start our Sunday meetings with coffee, tea and cake from 10.15am to 10.45am, at which point the meeting follows and usually lasts until 12.15pm. There is a group for children for part of our time together and a family service for all ages once a month, followed by picnic or lunch together - depending on the weather!

*We'd love to meet you .. you are welcome to just drop in and say hello!*

We also have a young people's activity group called Let's Have Fun which meets fortnightly at the weekend and a group for our older members Let's Have Tea - for social outings.

We are also hugely privileged to work in the Primary School using Open the Book - bringing the stories of Jesus alive through acting with the children once a fortnight.

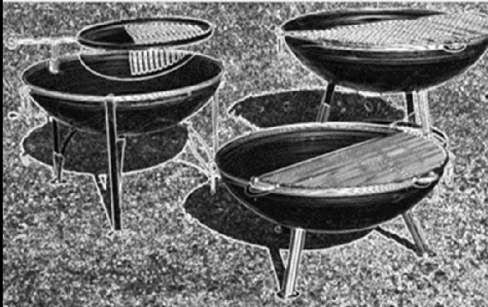
Please phone us if you would like someone to pray for you, or if you'd like to know more about us.

**Email : [newlifechurchblackboys@gmail.com](mailto:newlifechurchblackboys@gmail.com)**

**Call: Suzanne Hammond on 07794 869384 or 01435 661054**

**Website: [newlifeblackboys.com](http://newlifeblackboys.com)**

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

# 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 5.00 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.

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25 July

26 September

28 November

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**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.**

**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](mailto: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"**

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

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