

From the Vicar's desk

The mysterious life, violent death and reported resurrection of a man who lived in the Middle East some 2000 years ago is once again on all our minds. I say all our minds, because one way or another all will know that it is Easter, regardless of how they mark it.

The much talked about cultural diversity of our nation is reflected in the ways the inhabitants of our little island will spend the Easter weekend. Diverse, certainly, but I think united, in rejoicing in our freedom and tolerance, however we choose to exercise that precious gift. Some will spend time with family or relaxing at home, some will be working;

Christians will stand in reverence at the sacrifice of the Son of God upon the cross, and at his triumphant resurrection.

Followers of Judaism will remember with thanks the release of the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the promised land as they gather together for Passover meals. The Last Supper, of course, was a Passover meal, a tradition observed by Jewish families and communities since about 1300 BC to commemorate the liberation of the people of Israel, who were led out of slavery in Egypt by Moses.

The high point of the Christian calendar, Easter, will draw large crowds to Palm Sunday services across our land, to the Eucharist of the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday and to the solemn liturgy of Good Friday. Outside small churches like ours, and outside the most awesome of cathedrals, the faithful, the curious and a few doubting Thomases will gather on Easter morning celebrating Christ's resurrection, and the triumph of life over death, hope over despair.

Regardless as to whether we celebrate Passover, Easter, neither or both - as many interfaith families do - the four-day holiday affords us precious time to reflect.

Easter is a time to think about 'ultimate things' and not to be cluttered with consumerism and distractions.

Sound religious values such as forgiveness, atonement, hope, tolerance and generosity are also the hallmarks of civilised societies, and encourage us to take stock of our own lives and our own society. Such values prevent us from giving up on complex problems such as how best to help the many victims including children of domestic violence and abuse. How to provide shelter for the homeless, food for the hungry, a new start for the marginalised and forgotten members of our communities.

No one of good conscience, and certainly no one who claims to be a Christian should feel comfortable while such challenges remain unsolved. Many of our problems arise from greed and self-interest and I truly believe that Christ's selfless servant leadership has much to offer to society today as it did to the middle East of 2000 years ago.

It's interesting that here in the UK and in the wider world as a whole; the major religious festivals are attracting an upsurge in younger participants, and the many Holy places in our country and beyond, are becoming increasingly popular places of pilgrimage for young people who want to find, in a world that is so difficult for them to live in, something of the 'other', the Divine, – something of themselves.

I wonder if our young people are more comfortable with secular and religious tradition than their parents; and are more in tune with the enduring power and purpose of sacrifice. It is human nature to wonder about the meaning of life and death, and the overlaps and apparent contradictions between science, faith and reason.

For those who have faith in the gospel that we as Christians proclaim and profess, Easter is about the real expression of God's inexhaustible love for us.

For everyone else, it is a joy, just waiting to be discovered.

Happy Easter!

Yours in Christ

Revd James

Help needed in the Churchyard.

Hello to all parishioners, friends and anyone who has a link of any sort to our churchyard. Such sites are fondly often referred to as "God's acre". Well in our case make that 3+ acres. Apart from inevitably getting a bit larger over the centuries, our plot would be familiar to many generations before us. Like us, they would have walked through and visited, feeling the relative peace and the timelessness of the setting. Thank you so much to anyone who supports and encourages us in any way. We aim to keep it and care for it to acknowledge the history of the parish and those who are remembered there. Also, as a unique corner for the current and future inhabitants of our villages.

Obviously, any help at any time is welcome. But I propose to have a churchyard morning on the first Saturday of the month from March to October. I will be there at 9.30 and any help even just an hour would be great. The next two will be April 6th & May 4th.

We are all volunteers and have limited funds but support and encouragement, enthusiasm and ideas are beyond price. Please help in any way you can. Together we can really make a difference.

I will be there most Saturday AM'S so always help is welcome.

Kind Regards
Peter Berry.

Tel Mob 07815459075

Jenny Pratt and the family would like to say thank you for all the messages of love and support that they have received on the passing of Neville.

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



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

21st April 2024

19th May 2024

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 £12.00 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.s@gmail.com

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 14th April. There is a combined service for all three churches at East Hoathly.

APRIL 2024

- 07 **Low Sunday**
10.00 am Parish Eucharist (CW) (Revd James)
- 14 **Third Sunday of Easter**
10.00 am Combined Eucharist at East Hoathly (Revd James)
No Service at Framfield
- 21 **Fourth Sunday of Easter**
10.00 am Family Service (Revd Janice)
- 28 **Fifth Sunday of Easter**
10.00 am Morning Praise (with Peter Berry)

MAY 2024

- 05 **Sixth Sunday of Easter**
10.00 am Eucharist (Revd James Vine)
- 12 **Seventh Sunday of Easter**
10.00 am Combined Eucharist Service at Chiddingly (Revd Janice)
- 19 **Pentecost**
10.00 am Family Service (Revd Janice)

- 26 **Trinity Sunday**
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 10th MAY 2024**

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.**

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

Nature Notes

Back in France now to work on our conservation project there. We were delighted to see thousands of Eurasian cranes (*Grus grus*) flying over our place on migration mainly from Iberia and North Africa. Cranes fly in V-shaped formation in groups of up to c. 500 birds, making memorable and fluty croaking calls, often heard before the birds come into sight. When setting off, cranes will often find thermals, rising currents of warm air on which they spiral to an altitude of up to ten thousand metres, before flying north to their breeding grounds. Cranes are closely related to coots (*Fulica atra*) and moorhens (*Gallinula chloropus*), both common British breeding birds. When you hear these birds call it is understandable that all 3 species are related with similar complex vocal apparatus. However, their external body forms are of course quite different. All three are wetland birds in the taxonomic order of Gruiformes (crane-like birds). The French word for crane is **grue**, also true for mechanical cranes.

Cranes breed across Northern Eurasia, with small numbers in Norfolk and Somerset. Their main breeding range includes Scandinavia, Siberia, Mongolia and Northern China. Cranes spend winter in the sub-tropics of NW and NE Africa, parts of Iberia, Northern India and SE Asia. The experience of thousands of cranes flying on migration is one of the most moving and spectacular phenomena of the bird world. Many East African wintering cranes migrate via Israel. Autumn migration south is from August to October, and then north to breed from February to early March. Cranes are omnivorous foragers, eating a wide range of food from roots and seeds to small mammals and birds. They particularly like maize and frogs. Small numbers of cranes over-winter on a maize farm c. 40 km from our place in Aquitaine where they glean un-harvested seeds. Cranes are well known for their courtship dances with much strutting and head bobbing. Cranes pair for life, but if one dies, the other may repair with a new partner. The normal annual clutch is 2 blotchy brown eggs taking about 30 days to incubate before hatching. Crane eggs are often preyed upon by members of the crow family and foxes among others, but adults put up a strong defence. Removed eggs are often replaced within a few weeks. The precocial hatchlings develop rapidly, running around with their parents and swimming within about 24 hours. Breeding begins at the age of 3-6 years and life expectancy is up to 30 to 40 years, but in practice, most wild cranes are thought to live from just 5 – 12 years.

Nature Notes 2

Nature likes to redress an imbalance. If a tree falls over, a dozen or so young ones will compete to replace it. If you cut off the branch of a tree, a new one will grow quite quickly. If a female blue tit loses her mate to a sparrowhawk, a new young floating male will often move in to take his place. If you plough up a meadow, the plants are replaced by opportunist weeds of cultivation unless they are controlled by a weedkiller and a crop is planted instead. Any change generated by humans will generate a natural response. Even the monoculture crop will generate an influx of organisms wanting to consume it. To get the crop, these arrivals will have to be controlled by pesticides, that will also be lethal to other organisms.

Nature is also attempting to redress the imbalance caused by human induced (anthropogenic) climate and other changes in some most extraordinary ways. For example. We are burning more fossil fuel now than ever before, especially due to the global number of vehicles being driven increasing daily. A consequence of this is that the carbon dioxide produced is acting like a greenhouse and heating up the atmosphere and global surface. More ocean is being exposed as the ice caps are melting.

Now, 71% of the global surface is water. The amount of water leaving the oceans and entering the atmosphere as vapour is proportional to the temperature, so global warming is causing much more water to be held within the atmosphere. The more water vapour there is in the sky, the more clouds form which also store energy that can be manifest as lightning and wind. The consequence of this is more powerful storms and heavier rainfall. This rainfall causes erosion of our tarmac roads, often by freeze and thaw of water in cracks and fissures. Also, by simple flow erosion. This in turn causes pot-holes. In turn, the pot-holes cause damage to the tyres and structure of vehicles, and while those are off the road, they are not burning fossil fuels. Nature tries redressing an imbalance. Meanwhile, car owners rush to get their vehicles repaired or replaced and so the cycle goes on. Man has become a geological force of nature. This has caused geologists to suggest renaming the epoch that we are living through as the **Anthropocene** (*human new*) epoch. Officially, we are in the **Holocene** (meaning *wholly new*) epoch.

Martyn Stenning

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The Wheatear by Michael Blencowe for Sussex Wildlife Trust

It's been a long winter, but rest assured that our summer migrant birds will soon be with us. As you read this, beating hearts and beating wings are powering tiny bodies through north African skies.

Wheatears are our earliest returning African migrants. It's a fast 3,000-mile flight from sub-Saharan Sierra Leone to Sussex for a 1-ounce Wheatear, and they've been recorded migrating at 500 miles a day. The dashing males arrive first, their soft, sun-bleached shades of pink and buff topped with a dapper black bandit's mask. At Sussex Wildlife Trust's Southerham nature reserve near Lewes, you'll see them scurrying over the grazed downland turf or perched along the valley's fence lines. When they fly, Wheatears flash the white rump which gives them their name. Because Wheatears have nothing to do with wheat or ears. Their original name...well, courtesy prevents me from writing their old English name in such an upstanding publication – but let's just say they were named after their white behinds. Victorians and vicars bird watching in mixed company blushed when they were called upon to identify one, so their name was subtly censored.

Wheatear is a more palatable name for a tragically palatable bird. In Sussex, Wheatears were considered a local delicacy and were served at the finest banquets in Lewes, Brighton and Eastbourne. Sussex shepherds would trap them to increase their income; in the late 19th Century the birds fetched 3/6d a dozen (£17.50 today). Shepherds could earn £14 per season (£1,260 today) trapping Wheatears - half their annual wage. Around the town, shepherds were eventually banned from trapping Wheatears as it distracted them from their sheep.

Gluttonous gourmets were so desperate for fresh Wheatear that they would prowl the downs and take birds straight from unmanned traps, leaving a pile of coins for the shepherds. In 1900, outspoken and outraged Sussex conservationist W.H Hudson wrote, "It is not fair that Wheatears should be killed merely to enable London stockbrokers, sporting men, and other gorgeous persons who visit the coast, accompanied by ladies with yellow hair, to feed on them at the big Brighton hotels."

But the damage was done. Trapping and the gradual loss of their sheep-grazed downland habitat caused the birds to disappear from the Sussex downs. The Wheatears we now see around Lewes unsurprisingly don't hang around. Each spring they briefly return to their old downland haunts, flash their behinds at the people of Sussex and keep on moving. From Lewes, they'll head onwards to breeding sites in northern England and northern Europe. But for some of these birds, their amazing migration continues for a further 2,000 miles across cold oceans to Greenland and Arctic Canada.

The South Downs by Michael Blencowe for Sussex Wildlife Trust

I love heading out at the weekends for a hike over the Downs - but 90 million years ago, this part of the planet wouldn't have been a safe place to be. I'd have been busy avoiding the teeth of hungry aquatic predators like the 10-metre-long Mosasaurs as I cruised through a shallow sea. But it would be much smaller, less fearsome prehistoric organisms that would shape Sussex. The calcium shells from microscopic marine algae slumped to the sea floor and millions of years of pressure and erosion moulded them into the curvaceous chalk hills that form the familiar foundations of the South Downs.

It only feels like yesterday (well, about 6,500 years ago) that we humans showed up and got to work. The wild Sussex woods were chopped down and eventually sheep grazing became the dominant activity on the cleared hills for many centuries. The sheep-nibbled short downland turf is an internationally rare habitat, rich in flowers and the creatures that depend on them.

And, as chalk downland is such a rare habitat, the species that live here are also uncommon. Our butterflies are a prime example. Species like the Grayling, Silver-spotted Skipper, Small Blue, Adonis Blue and Chalk Hill Blue are restricted to this special habitat.

But it's not just wildlife that benefits. Those porous chalk hills filter, store, and provide us with most of our water. They also offer loads of other free services from flood prevention to pollination and food production. The open countryside around Sussex also offers us immeasurable physical, mental and spiritual benefits. The South Downs were designated a National Park in 2011.

While writing this article, I discovered a letter penned in 1915 by the Lewes naturalist, W. E. Nicholson, expressing concern for the future of the South Downs around Lewes, and especially the rare Adonis Blue butterfly and scarce Forester Moth that live there. I'd like to think that Mr. Nicholson would be re-assured to know that, more than a century later, his beloved Lewes Downs, butterflies and moths are still just where he left them and all flourishing under the care of Sussex Wildlife Trust on their reserves at Malling Down and Southerham.

Sussex Wildlife Trust is a conservation charity for everyone who cares about nature in 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. Please consider joining us. Your membership will help us challenge decisions that threaten wildlife, care for more than 30 nature reserves, and inspire the next generation about the wonders of the natural world. It's easy to join online at sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join

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01825 890182

IMPORTANT

Changes to Rubbish and Recycling Collection Days

Rubbish and recycling collections are changing for around 85% of properties in Wealden from Monday 15th April 2024.

Letters and calendars are being sent out in the next few days so please look out for this important information on your rubbish and recycling collections.

Some properties will not have a day change but will have a change in the pattern of their collections so it is very important that you check the letter carefully as it details which bin needs to be put out on which day.

Please ensure all bins are presented at the boundary of your property by 7am on collection day as there may also be a change in the time your bins are collected

Please note that the changes are only on the refuse and recycling collections. **Garden waste collection will remain on the current collection schedule** and will continue as before.

For further information visit www.wealden.gov.uk/collection-schedule-changes

Need a handy reminder as to which bin gets collected when?

Sign up to Wealden Weekly and get an email every week about your collections, visit: www.wealden.gov.uk/wealden-weekly



MY LIFE WITH FUR AND FEATHER

FEEDING THE BIRDS.

One of my pleasures is watching the birds. By the front porch I have for many years hung a seed feeder and another one for peanuts so I can enjoy watching them while sitting at the kitchen table. The feeders I have used have a guard round them so in theory nothing else can get in, but the squirrels are very persistent.

A few weeks ago I noticed mouse dropping in the pantry. I had been quite happy for the odd mouse to squeeze into the feeders by the porch but did not want them indoors. I pondered whether the birds and other creatures might like some different food that gave me an excuse to go to a garden centre that I knew had a good selection of bird feeders and food. I noticed some energy balls full of all kind of goodies. They were displayed by some special containers to put them in. I decided to buy one, in great excitement I went home and put the balls in the container and hung it up and was really looking forward to see what the birds thought of this new food. They were delighted and very quickly found they could peck at the food through the holes in the container. Feeling pleased with myself I got on with other tasks. About an hour later I looked out the window but could not see the new container or the fat balls. I then went out to see what had happened. The energy balls had gone and the container was lying in small bits of chewed up plastic. I spotted the culprit; a rather smug squirrel was sneaking off across the garden!

I decided that I would have to go back to the garden centre again and took the remains of the plastic container to show a member of staff what would happen if an unsuspecting customer bought one if they had squirrels visiting their garden. I had a good look round and spotted a super container all made of metal. It was rather expensive but I decided to buy it. After enjoying some

refreshments in the garden centre tea room I came home, put the container on the table to check it really was squirrel proof. It was perfect except for the lid that it might be possible for a clever squirrel to push it up with his nose. I decided a couple of pegs would hold the lid securely in place but were easily removed when I needed to fill the container.

For the last few weeks I have enjoyed watching the birds feeding and so far the squirrel has not managed to get into the new container.

I have another feeding area fixed to a windowsill, this facility is available to all birds and squirrels and is very popular, also every morning I call the birds and throw some suitable food on to the ground and it is wonderful watching the birds arrive for their breakfast.

I clean the feeding areas and also make sure there is no uneaten food left hanging around that might encourage rats.

Hazel Carter



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St Thomas a Becket Church of England Federation.

Blackboys and Framfield Schools News

Both Blackboys and Framfield Schools are looking forward to stepping into Spring as the days get longer and the weather gets warmer. It has been a particularly wet winter and the number of wet platinies have certainly mounted up. We look forward to sunny days and using our school fields soon!

In February our year 6 pupils from both schools enjoyed a great day out in London. The focus of the visit is on British Values. We had a walking tour of the major London sites, visiting Trafalgar Square, Buckingham Palace and Horse Guards Parade. Following a relaxing picnic lunch in St James's Park, we visited the Houses of Parliament. The Education Department there does a super job, and gives the children a tour of the Palace of Westminster and follows this up by a workshop on democracy. At the end of the day, before the coach trip home, we visited Pizza Express on the South Bank for a much needed energy boost. It's a day the children truly value and provides a great learning memory for our year 6 pupils before they go off for secondary school in the summer. This group get some great opportunities in their final year of primary school, as we are now gearing up for our annual Federation French Trip in May!

Our super staff in both schools have been working particularly hard at the moment, not just on the teaching and opportunities for the pupils, but also on the leadership of their curriculum subjects. Most class teachers are also subject leaders, meaning that they have responsibility for the learning that goes on in the likes of Computing, History and Art for example. Staff have been tracking the learning that goes on in their subjects, ensuring that the children are well challenged and are using the subject specific vocabulary they need. There has been some amazing artwork taking place in both schools, with some very creative 'Green man' clay models and some extremely delicate river themed pointillism taking pride of place.

As Church of England Primary Schools, we take our RE and Christian distinctiveness very seriously. Recently our RE subject leader, Mrs Sullivan, organised an RE theme day in both schools. Focussing on the concept of Salvation, the children of all ages engaged in creative art, drama, dance and writing tasks over the course of the day. The children worked in their mixed year group house groups. This was backed up by thought provoking assemblies run by Father James.

Thank you for continuing to have an interest in the parish's two schools. For more updates please check out our X (formerly Twitter) feeds @framfieldcep and @blackboyschool

Keiran Bradbeer, Headteacher, Framfield
Graham Sullivan, Headteacher, Blackboys

FRAMFIELD VILLAGE MARKET 2024

Memorial Hall, Framfield

The market opens from 10 am to 12 noon.

27 April

25 May

29 June

27 July

August – no market

28 September

26 October

30 November

21 December

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

**Framfield School PTFA invite you to the
2024...**

QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 18th May

**Doors at 7:30 for
8:00 start!**

**At Framfield Village
Hall**

Tickets £6

- Teams of up to 8!
- Bar card/cash
- Sharing Charcuterie board £12 preorder!
- Raffle on the night!



Parentkind
Member Association

NEWS FROM YOUR WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

The Draft Local Plan has now been published and the consultation will start on 15 March to 10 May 2024. Alongside the face-to-face exhibitions (some of the venues are detailed below), WDC will launch a virtual exhibition accessed via the Council's website so that residents who cannot or do not wish to visit the face-to-face exhibitions can still partake in the consultation. Interested parties wishing to be notified when the consultation commences can register using the consultation portal at <https://consult.wealden.gov.uk/kse>.

This is the Regulation 18 part of the Plan and is very much only a draft. Regulation 19 which becomes the final document could be issued later in the year.

Venue	Address	Date	Time
Maresfield Village Hall	Bridge Road, Maresfield TN22 2HJ	25th March	2-8 pm
Uckfield Civic Centre	Council Offices, Uckfield TN22 1AE	13th April	10 am – 4 pm.
Heathfield Community Centre	Sheepsetting Lane, Heathfield TN21 0XG	17th April	2-8 pm
East Hoathly Village Hall	Church Marks Lane, East Hoathly BN8 6EQ	22nd April	2-8 pm

If anyone would like to meet up to discuss any District-related matters please do not hesitate to contact me. Wealden District Council covers many subjects – Council Tax, Housing, Benefits, Planning, Licencing, Environmental Health to name but a few. I don't always have specific information to hand but can always find someone who would.

Contact details – Ann Newton,
'Highlands', Blackboys, TN22 5LR.
Telephone - 01825 890103.
Email – aewton1965@gmail.com



FRAMFIELD SCHOOL

**Bag2School CLOTHING/SHOE/TEXTILE COLLECTION HAS
BEEN ARRANGED FOR**

**WEDNESDAY 8th MAY 2024
9AM FRAMFIELD MEMORIAL HALL**

Acceptable items - RE-USEABLE/RE-WEARABLE ONLY

Adult/children's clothes/footwear

Belts, scarves, hats, gloves, socks, nightwear, bags

**New/un-used lingerie/underwear/swimwear/soft
toys/household linens, curtains, towels, bedding but NO
duvets/cushions or pillows**

PTFA

ptfaframfield@gmail.com

The East Hoathly and District Preservation Society

The East Hoathly and District Preservation Society meets to hear talks on the second Friday of the month at 7.30pm at East Hoathly Village Hall.

Below is the program for this year if anyone would like to join us.

Membership is £12 per person or £20 per couple per year.

Visitors £4 per talk.

We also serve tea or coffee with biscuit for 50p and have a raffle!

April 14th. Jeremy Hodgkinson.

The Importance of iron manufacturing in Sussex

May 10th. Louise Falcini - The Poor Laws and East Hoathly

June 14th. Lynne Dixon - Annabelle Dott. The Architect of Greywood

Sept 13th. Arthur Franklin and Anthony Freeman. LEWES Priory

Marion Salmon,
Talks Organiser.

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

Or

Phone (Office Hours) 01825 890182

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

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – REPORT

Gun Road Bridge, Blackboys - the works to re-build the bridge are now going on with an anticipated completion date of 10 May 2024.

Parish Streetlighting – many residents will be feeling frustrated that the streetlight near to their property may not be working. By of explanation, the new ESCC contractor who maintains the lights, insists that a complicated, and in some parts irrelevant, disclaimer is entered into by the Parish Council before any works commence. The Parish Council is in discussion but cannot enter into the agreement until the content meets the need. It is hoped this will happen soon. There is also an issue whereby if replacement lanterns are required and in the older, more rural style, this will be at an additional cost as the current design is no longer standard. The Parish Council owns the Parish streetlights but contracts ESCC to maintain them. Whilst this continues only minor repairs will be carried out.

A formal complaint has been sent to ESCC regarding the condition of some areas of our roads.

Some new, bigger, better dog/litter bins are to be purchased for the recreation grounds.

If anyone spots any problems in the Parish, please contact me in the first instance and I'll let you know if I can help.

Ann Newton (Parish Clerk): 01825 890182

Email: clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk.

Website: www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk.

Allotment Tenancy Renewals – Framfield Parish Council

Emails have been sent out to tenants of both Framfield and Blackboys Allotments. If you haven't received one, please check your spam box.

Parish Clerk – Ann Newton – clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk

The
Bevern
Trust



25th Anniversary

Bevern View News

As we continue to celebrate and share time with our supporters during our 25th anniversary year, we were delighted to see so many familiar and new faces at our **Gala Dinner & Auction** in March. Many stories from over the years were shared, a delicious meal eaten, and generous bids placed in our auction - successful winners are enjoying their amazing prizes now! We were thrilled to have raised over £30,000 to help us continue to provide outstanding therapies, activities and outings to enrich the lives of our residents.

Looking forward to our next event, we're hoping for vibrant sunshine to complement the beautiful gardens of **Banks Farm**. Come and have a relaxing walk around the grounds and enjoy homemade tea and cakes. The gardens will be open from 11am-4pm, and tickets are £7 per person with accompanying children under 16 free.

BANKS FARM OPEN GARDEN

Boast Lane, Barcombe, BN8 5DY

Saturday 20th April 2024

11am-4pm



Don't forget to mark your diaries for our Summer Solstice evening celebration at the beautiful historical Hamsey House on 21st June.



Donate: www.beverntrust.org

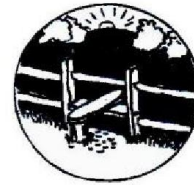
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Bevern View is a purpose-built residential home in Barcombe providing life-long care for 11 young adults with profound disabilities.



Framfield & Blackboys WI

SIGNS OF SPRING – BETWEEN THE DOWNPOURS



It's wonderful to see daffodils, snowdrops and crocus showing their cheerful heads despite the frustration of not being able to do any gardening because the soil is just too wet. Better not complain too much 'though. We'll probably have a hosepipe ban in a couple of months!

MARCH MEETING

Sadly David Abrahams, our speaker from Michelham Priory was unable to be with us. Instead, Ria Robertson from Wealden Police together with Police Community Support Officers, Joel and Leon, joined us to guide us through the minefield of scams and frauds set up to steal from honest members of the public.



PART OF THE SEWING BEE COMES TO EAST SUSSEX WI
A group of us are planning to attend the East Sussex Federation Annual Meeting in Eastbourne in 28th March where one of the speakers will be Patrick Grant of the Great British Sewing Bee.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Friday 12 April

2pm

Framfield Church Hall

Speaker:

Brian Gee, Retired Scenes of Crimes Officer

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 07950 954827.

Follow us on Facebook or Google Framfield & Blackboys WI



Christian Aid Week:

Collection envelopes will go out with the Parish Magazine for Apr/May. Christian Aid Week: 12-18 May 2024. This year, Christian Aid Week will focus on the cost-of-living crisis faced by many people around the world and the general alleviation of poverty around the World.

Delivering Parish Magazines:

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

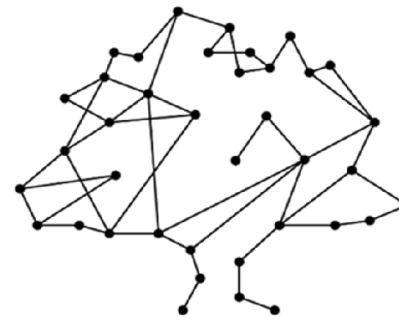
Milk Bottle Tops – Collection News

Hi,
Sandy and Keith (Rogers) are still collecting Milk Bottle Tops (green/red/blue/gold most seem to be white now). We have just recently taken three large black bin bags full to Eastbourne D.G Hospital (shop), where they confirmed (despite the gentleman who used to deal with collection of tops passing away) that his family have decided to continue this work, which has been done for over 16 years.

To date over 28 tons have been collected and as at April 2023 they were getting £50 per half ton (60 sacks) The material is then made into children's play things /dustbins etc.

Thank you all again for the tops that have been collected in this area over the years, and in making sure they are presented clean and silver free.

Milk bottle tops can be dropped off at Framfield Market (Last Saturday of the month). Many Thanks –
Sandy and Keith Rogers - 01323 833121.



NEWLIFE

NEW LIFE CHURCH BLACKBOYS

The WOW Factor

Having lived here for over 50 years now - I am almost a local! I loved growing up in this community of Framfield & Blackboys - just a carefree upbringing playing in the woods and fishing by the streams - thus always being intrigued by nature. Talking to my mate the other day (who shared a similar upbringing and love of creation) we discussed about how everything is so accessible nowadays - at the press of a button - so no one is wowed by anything anymore.

What would it take for you to believe in God? Often people mention the same things - miracles, healing etc - our experience is this is not the case. We have the ability to explain everything away. Many of you believe that basically creation and yourself are an accident. I can assure you - you are not. You are known by God, you are unique and there will never be anyone like you and you are loved. Is this a big enough wow? If not - how about this - God actually coming down to earth and dying for you so that you can have eternal life.

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

It has been great to welcome Phil Cole - our new pastor - this month, enjoying his teaching, pastoral visiting and Janet leading us in worship. You are so welcome to drop in and see us any Sunday to find out more about faith and find a friendly group of all ages from the surrounding villages wanting to live life in all its fullness!

We meet every Sunday at Blackboys C of E Primary School 10.30am – noon

Email : newlifechurchblackboys@gmail.com

Call: Suzanne Hammond on 07794 869384 or 01435 661054

Website: newlifeblackboys.com

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING SCHEDULE 2024

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.

26 March

28 May

(Annual Parish Council meeting [5 pm]
and Annual Parish Assembly [6 pm] only)

30 July

24 September

26 November

Public welcome. For further details, please telephone the Parish Clerk, Ann Newton, on

01825- 890182/clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk

‘Highlands’, Blackboys TN22 5LR.

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

WHO'S WHO AT THE St THOMAS À BECKET NEWSLETTER

Joint Chair:

For the Church: Revd James Vine

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*

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

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