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

Parish Newsletter



Framfield, Blackboys
and
Palehouse Common

DECEMBER 2018 / JANUARY 2019

Oak Tree Barn, Lewes Road, Blackboys, East Sussex, TN22 5JL

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL CHURCH

Vicar : Revd Chris Lawrence
01825 891090
(after hours **01825 890365**)

Churchwardens : None at present

Secretary to PCC : Mr Barry Richardson

Treasurer : Mrs Patricia Marchant

All communications for church matters should be directed to
the Church Office – 10.30 am – 5.00 pm (closed Wednesday)

Email - rev.chris@btinternet.com

Post - Vicarage Barn, Brookhouse Lane, Framfield TN22 5NH

Telephone/ leave a message - 01825 891090

From the Registers :



Marriages:

8th September: Zachary Little and Emily Golding

22nd September: Michael Turley and Emmanuella Boateng

At rest:

19th September: Lt. Colonel C.N.S Drew

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WHO'S WHO AT THE St THOMAS À BECKET NEWSLETTER

Joint Chair -

For the Church: Rev. Chris Lawrence

For the Council: Mr. Rob Newton

Co-ordinator and Advertising: Ann Newton

Technical Editor: Barry Richardson

Treasurer: Jan Riddle

Distribution: Barbara Trickey, Delia Gillies,
and their teams of volunteers

Printers: "Print Matters"

A bi-monthly Newsletter distributed free to all
homes within the Parish.

Christmas - have we missed the point of this familiar story?

How time flies; another year has virtually passed and Christmas is upon us once again. I managed to fend off the August emails telling me that I should get ready for Christmas! I did send a polite but short reply stating that I really didn't even want to think about Christmas during mid-summer. In my book it's akin to wishing your life away and only serves to dilute the true meaning of Christmas. So it begs the question; has the true meaning of Christmas been lost? I think the answer is 'yes' and 'no'.

No, it hasn't with respect to the giving of gifts and the opportunity to spend time with family and friends. A time to feast, sing carols, decorate the tree and take life down a few notches and relax. Perhaps it's also an opportunity and look back over the year and look forward to the New Year with a fresh outlook and a new hope. However, if we only view Christmas in this way then we have lost the true meaning.

The true meaning of Christmas is to celebrate Jesus' birthday. It's very unlikely that He was born on 25th December but this was the date that was adopted in the early-to-mid fourth century. Unless you have been brought up in a Christian family or went to a church school you might be thinking - so what? The symbols of Christ and the Christmas story are all around us but they can be like the pieces of a jig saw without the box lid that has the picture on it i.e. very difficult to make sense of.

One of my other thoughts was, what do atheists or humanists think about Christmas - do they celebrate it, after all you can't take Christ out of Christmas? In my quest to find an answer I went to Google - *the fount of all wisdom!* Some folk were sort of ok with Christmas though awkwardly so. Others were dead against. Jim Maclver wrote:

I am totally, completely against Christmas. It is a terrible holiday that makes people into greedy consumers. It is even worse if an atheist or humanist celebrates it because we lose credibility. God-worshippers laugh at us because we become "December Christians." How will anyone take us seriously if we can't give up this silly holiday? How often are we accused of really believing in God?

The most damaging thing of all is that for most people, Christmas is the first experience they have with religion. If they cannot see people not buying into Christmas, why shouldn't they? How can we get people to renounce religion if they see us celebrating the biggest holiday on the Christian calendar? They will see us as hypocrites. Jim has a point, but he's missed the point!

Christmas has nothing to do with religion. When I read Jim's reply it reminded me of a common scenario I often find myself in. i.e. during a social gathering. At some point in the course of conversation someone asks or discovers I am a vicar. The first comment is "you don't look like a vicar" to which I reply "what's a vicar supposed to look like?" The next comment is usually "I'm not religious", to which I reply "neither am I"; then comes the, "but you have to be – you're the Vicar!"

When someone can't play the religion card in an attempt to disengage, it opens the door to having a real conversation. Religion is such a terrible stumbling block to faith.

Celebrating Christmas is firstly about God coming to earth in human form so that we can understand what God is like. It doesn't matter whether you are atheist or a humanist or any other category of human being you might like to mention. Human beings are all made in the image of God and what you believe or don't believe is irrelevant. Just like you can't take Christ out of Christmas you can't take the image of God out of a person. Secondly, the clues in Jesus' name i.e. When the angel appears to Joseph he says - "**Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the One conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a Son, and you shall give Him the name Jesus, because He will save his people from their sins**". (Matthew 1:20-21) The bottom line - Sin separates.

Christmas is the beginning of Jesus' earthly life which will culminate in His death, but ultimately it will enable us all (if we choose to accept it) to have our sins forgiven and wiped out so that we may once again be joined to God. Man cannot save himself but Jesus gives Himself on the cross as a gift to mankind. This is the greatest gift that anyone could offer us collectively and individually but like all good gifts you have to unwrap it, see it for what it is, enjoy it and receive its benefits. This we do when we ask the resurrected Jesus into our lives. As our former Bishop Wallace Benn used to say "We don't worship a dead hero, we worship the living Lord".

Jesus really is the God's gift to mankind and the only genuine gift that keeps on giving. If He comes knocking on the door of your heart this Christmas be sure to let Him in - you won't regret it!

God's blessing to everyone in the Parish – *Revd Chris Lawrence*



We are a community village Pre-School with our own purpose built premises, which are spacious, well-appointed and registered with Ofsted

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Our Christmas Menu:
£17.50 for 2 courses
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Diary of Church Services

DECEMBER 2018

- 02 Advent Sunday**
8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
- 09 Second Sunday of Advent**
10.00 am Family Service
6.30 pm Evening Holy Communion (CW) with Prayer for Healing
- 16 Third Sunday of Advent**
8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
6.30 pm Lessons and Carols
- 23 Fourth Sunday of Advent**
10.00 am Morning Praise
4.30 pm Crib and Christingle Service
- 24 Christmas Eve**
11.30 pm Midnight Holy Communion (CW)
- 25 Christmas Day**
10.00 am Family Festival Praise
- 30 First Sunday of Christmas**
10.00 pm Morning Praise

JANUARY 2019

- 06 Epiphany**
8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)

13 First Sunday of Epiphany

10.00 am Family Service
6.30 pm Evening Holy Communion (CW) with
Prayer for Healing

20 Second Sunday of Epiphany

8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)

27 Third Sunday of Epiphany

10.00 am Morning Praise
6.30 pm Evening Holy Communion (CW)

BCP: Book of Common Prayer. CW: Common Worship



Demelza Children's Hospice Services

We have had a very busy and successful year so far out and about in the Uckfield area. April saw us holding a Quiz Night in Framfield Village Hall (thanks to Paula Bradley and Rob for devising some entertaining questions) hopefully we will programme in another quiz next year to get the grey matter working! In May we were assisting at a fundraising event at Branching Out in Halland which was a great success and also we were invited to hold a bucket collection at Tesco's in Uckfield. A wonderful group of students, on the National Citizenship Scheme, organised a Fun Day in Uckfield raising awareness and supporting Demelza. Our volunteers manned stalls at Framfield Show, which is always a great event, and also for the three days of the Festival of Transport in Hellingly. The most amazing event in our calendar this year was by far an evening of Burlesque, which was put on by the fantastic group of women from Body Fit Revolution, on the 20th October. The effort that went into it was incredible and we are very pleased to say that, so far, it has raised in excess of £5,000.

We will be putting our thinking caps on shortly for 2019 and we are hoping to come up with some great events – so watch this space.....

We are also delighted that the Framfield Stagers have chosen to raise funds for Demelza again at next years panto, Dick Whittington, on 22/23 February. Make a date in your diary for this – we have been involved in the rehearsals and it promises to be, once again, very entertaining. If you've never been to one – it's a must!

Your support is very important to us and we would love to see as many of you as possible at our events. If anyone feels that they have some spare time and would like to volunteer or to hold an event to support us please contact either myself :

Pat Dangerfield 01825 890646 Jean Pidgeon 01825 890658
www.demelza.org.uk

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE
BY 10th JANUARY 2019**

TO

ANN NEWTON – 01825 890182

Please note new email address:

clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk

**CHURCH NEWS ITEMS MAY ALSO BE SENT TO
CHRIS LAWRENCE AT THE CHURCH OFFICE –
01825 891090**

**HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR PARISH COUNCIL –
FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

Mrs Ann Newton (Parish Clerk)

Telephone/fax: (01825) 890182.

Please note new Email: clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk

**Postal Address: 'Highlands', Framfield Road, Blackboys,
East Sussex TN22 5LR.**

Parish Council website: www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk



Blackboys Pre-School
The Village Hall, Gun Road
Blackboys, East Sussex TN22 5JL
Tel: 01825 891113
email: enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org
Twitter: @BlackboysPreSch
www.blackboyspreschool.org.uk

We are a non-profit making pre-school registered with Ofsted.

Open Monday to Friday from 7.45am to 6pm, we welcome children between 2 to 5 years old in the preschool and those between 2 to 11 years old in our Breakfast, After School and Holiday Clubs.

Our friendly staff are trained in Montessori and Forest School principles and we have an allotment located just next door to the pre-school, where our chickens are kept. We also use this space for our forest school activities. Our After School Club runs from 3.30pm to 6pm during term time, with a pick-up service available from local primary schools.

This term we are running our excellent Holiday Club from 3rd-13th April. Open from 7:45am until 6pm, each day will be packed full of fun forest school, cooking, art and free-play activities.

For more details, organise a visit or book for our Easter Holiday Club, please contact us:
Call Jenny on: 01825 891113 / 01825 749820
Or email: enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org.uk

Waldron Country Market at Holy Cross Priory, (Possingworth) (on the B2102 between Cross in Hand and Blackboys, near the Tunbridge Wells turn)
Thursday 13th December, and Thursday 10th January.
For more information contact Roy Wilkinson 01435 812931

ST. THOMAS A BECKET CHURCH FRAMFIELD THE CHURCHYARD

Many hands make light work ..

The golden autumn leaves are now falling thick & fast onto the churchyard garden and its paths and of course they need clearing! We would really appreciate some extra help. Often on a Saturday afternoon around 2pm we meet up to do these sort of tasks. Will you please join us? Even a one-off would be unbelievably helpful and so appreciated.

If so, please contact Jerry Pryke on 01825 760787 or Freddy Pratt on 07791 731021

Or perhaps you would like to help by a donation to upkeep your wonderful churchyard?

This can be done either with a direct payment to our **HSBC Bank** marked "**Churchyard**"

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Account : 91456369

Or by cheque payable to **Framfield PCC** delivered or posted to the church office.

The Street, Framfield, East Sussex, TN22 5NH

More Plans For The Building Restoration Work on St. Thomas A Becket Church

We will start further restoration work next year ensuring we continue to maintain our Church to its present high standard. More information will follow so watch this space!

Meanwhile.....

WE NEED A DRONE!!

During recent renovation on the rainwater systems we realised that we have some very high level valleys which are particularly inaccessible for inspection to see what (if anything) needs doing...and that is why we need a drone!

Do you know someone who would be both a competent pilot and willing to assist us in this initial task?

If so please contact John Mordaunt on 01825 890443 or 07989 587459

And if you would like any further information on any of the above please contact me anytime.

John Mordaunt (Chairman of the Fabric Committee)

And finally...We want to take this opportunity to thank the kind donor of a brilliant vacuum cleaner last month, we are very grateful. Thank you so much!

Please respect your Churchyard

We have recently seen an increase in dog mess being left in the Churchyard. This is very distressing for visitors in general, and especially for those with family buried in the churchyard. It is also unpleasant for those who volunteer to keep the churchyard maintained.

Please be prepared to clean up after your dog, and keep it on a lead, so you are aware of what it might be up to!

Thank you.

Framfield and Blackboys Wives Group

We have had a very successful year with various interesting speakers and other events e.g., walk, barbecue, dinner etc.

We are busy planning for next year with some good events planned.

If anyone would like to join us please ring Ann Dawe - 01835 890506.

We wish everyone a happy Christmas and healthy and happy New Year.

Colonel Nigel Drew

My beloved father, Col. Nigel Drew passed away peacefully with his family around him, on the 1st September 2018, at Copper Beech Nursing Home, at the age of 96.

He was a great contributor to village life, involved, amongst many other things, as a local magistrate, manager of the village flower show finances and organiser of the British Legion poppy appeal.

He always sought to help others, and apart from many individual acts of kindness, converting Gate House into five affordable flats, to enable local young people to get a foot on the housing ladder, was evidence of his commitment. He will be sorely missed by both family and friends.

Tina Dade

FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS MONDAY CLUB

December 3rd Christmas Party - Framfield Memorial Hall 2.30pm
Entertainment by: Framfield CE Primary School
and also "Framfield Stagers Entertain"

May we wish you all a very "Happy Christmas" from all our Members and Helpers

January 21st AGM - Summary of accounts and New 2019 Programme
Collection of Subs - Framfield Memorial Hall 2.30pm

"HAPPY 2019 TO ALL - From All our Members and Helpers.

If you are looking for something to do in 2019 and would like to be a HELPER At our Monday Club, please contact Sandy Rogers - 01825 840648
My New Mobile 0759 284 1275 - sandyrogers77@gmail.com

Gods to Ancient Greeks, Gauls and Romans have been trying to claim that the first snog under the mistletoe was their idea.

In the wild Mistletoe plants look like bushy green pom-poms which have been tossed into a tree by an over-enthusiastic cheerleader. Birds feed on their juicy white berries, which appear to be as messy to eat as a treacle and melted mozzarella pizza. Goopy beaks have to be wiped on a nearby branch, allowing any seeds to stick and sprout someplace new. Either that, or the birds disperse the seed in the more traditional intestinal way.

This Christmas keep looking high in the treetops for mistletoe, I haven't seen any yet as I walk around Sussex – but I've seen plenty of proof that it's still working its ancient magic on the people down below.

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 www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join or over the phone on 01273 497532.

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Mistletoe – helping shy people snog since 1817

by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

Christmas Eve 1989. After months of completely misreading the direction in which our friendship was going, I made an ill-informed attempt to snog Anna from accounts under the mistletoe at the work's Christmas party. It was all a bit embarrassing but, in my defence, I was just doing my bit to uphold what has been described as 'the last surviving remnant of plant magic in the sophisticated western world'.

There are other plants which could claim similar magic powers. Half a bottle of fermented French grapes or a tumbler of Scottish malted barley will conjure up enough Dutch courage for some botanically inspired Christmas smooching. But what special power compels us to kiss under the mistletoe? It's certainly easy to see why mistletoe could appear to hold mystical qualities. As autumn strips a tree back to its bark bones it reveals an evergreen mistletoe heart; a beacon of life in the dead of winter. This apparent immortality inspired many ancient fertility rituals. Druids, armed with gleaming golden sickles, would perform a mistletoe harvesting ceremony under a waxing moon (and maybe slaughter two white bulls for good measure).

The plant's secret to eternal life is that it is a hemi-parasite, obtaining its water and nutrients by vampirically sucking them from its host tree. It still has the decency to do a bit of photosynthesis itself (so it's not 100% evil). In fact, research has proved that mistletoe is an ecological keystone species. Without it, there just isn't as much life in a woodland.

The practice of hanging mistletoe at Christmas didn't turn up in a written document until the 1600s and mention of lips meeting underneath it didn't appear in print until 1817. Unsurprisingly, any 'tradition' involving kissing quickly became popular and since then everyone from Norse

Funding available for local community projects

The Framfield and Blackboys Summer Show is enjoyed by many in the community and now it is hoped that it can benefit the villages in other ways. The profit from the shows will be split three ways: one third to the Horticultural Society, another to the Show Committee and the final third set up as a 'Community Fund' to support projects which benefit the local community.

There is £400 available from the 2018 Show but how it will be spent depends on which project is chosen from the proposals that you put forward. Application can be made via a simple form available from the people listed below. The form also sets out the rules of the scheme, for instance the 'local community' means the residents of Blackboys, Framfield and Palehouse Common. Applications need to be submitted by 30th April 2019 and if awarded funding can start from November. There is no specific remit for the fund other than to help provide 'benefit' to the community; for example this might be to buy equipment for a play group, support an activity that helps the elderly or something that marks a significant event for the community. As an example of the latter, money from the 2017 Show, in conjunction with funding from the Parish Council, is being used to plant an oak tree on each of the three village recreation grounds to commemorate the centenary of the end of World War I.

You know what is needed and which projects deserve help so please put in an application.

Forms are available from:

Fiona Fidler	fhbsmail@gmail.com or tel. 01825 890719
Trevor Hince	trevor.hince at gmail.com or tel. 01435 863364
Ann Newton	clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk or tel. 01825 890182
Terry Everitt	terry.everitt@outlook.com

Framfield Parish Council now has a social media account with Facebook (www.facebook.com/framfieldparishcouncil) where useful and pertinent information will be posted. This method proves very useful in today's technological society and can often be a rapid way to disseminate information rapidly. The Parish Council are trialling this for 6 months but would like to stress that if residents have any concerns or issues, they should contact the Parish Council either by phone or email in the first instance. We also have a website for those that are unaware, which can be visited at www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk

Nature Notes

I am in France again monitoring the autumn movements of birds in Aquitaine. We have seen chevrons of hundreds of European common cranes flying over and calling to each other as they go with little mechanical 'purrs'. We have also had a grey heron in our garden, I think it was hunting the moles that punctuate the lawn with their hills of graded soil. This morning we saw a flock of about 40 northern lapwings landing in a ploughed field. These elegant waders often feed together on worms and other invertebrates and seeds, unusually for birds, they like to feed at night by moonlight.

There are currently large flocks of common chaffinches here forming winter foraging flocks, searching out seeds in the arable fields, especially those fields that were used to grow sunflowers. Chaffinches go into eclipse during the winter, which means that their colourful feathers are obscured by brown extensions rendering them cryptic in the brown winter fields. However, these brown feather tips get sloughed off in the spring revealing the pink breast and slate blue head.

We have a resident pair of ciril buntings living in the garden all year round. In France these are called bruant zizi because the male ciril bunting sits at the top of a tree calling zizi – zizi – zizi all day. Bruant simply means bunting. Ciril buntings are rare in Britain.

We have also seen flocks of cattle egrets in the fields nearby. These birds are usually associated with zebras and wildebeest in Africa, but are becoming increasingly common in Europe, including occasionally in Britain. Cattle egrets are similar to the little egrets that we now often see in coastal Britain which started colonising southern England about 30 years ago. Little egrets have black beaks and yellow feet and are usually solitary, but cattle egrets have yellow beaks and black feet and are usually seen in groups. Both are a type of white heron but are smaller than our common grey heron.

We have also seen many very large flocks of woodpigeons flying over as they head south for the winter. These are seen as fair game by the hunters of France who are referred to as Palombiers or pigeon hunters.

Martyn Stenning



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The Framfield Stagers are back!



Presenting another family pantomime

'DICK WHITTINGTON'

at Framfield Memorial Hall

on Friday 22nd & Saturday 23rd February 2019 @ 7.30pm

with a Saturday matinée at 2.30pm.

Tickets will be on sale from 1st December.

Call the box office on 01825 761233 or 01825 890101.

Come and have a fun time and support your local am-dram group...

"Oh, yes you will!" ☺

All money raised will be donated to Demelza Hospice Care For Children.

See our website: www.framfieldstagers.homestead.com
or connect with us on Facebook



Trophy/Section/Award	Winner	
The Hobbs Barton Cup	Philip Manning	
The John Dann Cup	Jenny Bacon	
The New Whyly Perpetual Challenge Cup	Philip Manning	
The Trevor Horscroft Cup	Fiona Fidler	
The Cyril Jeffery Memorial Plate	Philip Manning	
The David Hazelden Plate	Philip Manning	
The Peter Butler Plate	Fiona Fidler	
The Dennis White Memorial Cup	Jenny Bacon	
The Elsie Jeffery Jug	Richard Chapman	
The Geddes Rose Bowl	Jenny Bacon	
The Williams Cup	Not awarded in 2018	
The Frank Leeves Perpetual Challenge Cup	Trevor Hince	
The Gordon-Wilson Cup	Alison Wright	
The Askew Perpetual Challenge Bowl	Chantal Roser	
The Colonel Nigel Drew Cup	Freddie Day	
The Whitewood Perpetual Challenge Cup	Freddie Day	
The Henry Cup	Margaret McSheehy	
The Don & Wilma Diplock Memorial Cup	Margaret McSheehy	
The New Place Perpetual Challenge Cup	Jackie Birks	
The Barbara Briault Cup	James Williams	
The Moore Miniature Challenge Cups	Up to 4 yrs	Iris Adamski
	5-7 yrs	Margot Rabson Stark
	8-10 yrs	Joseph Williams
	11-16 yrs	Not awarded in 2018
The Sampson Bowl	Joan Turner	
The Barbara & Horace Moore Cup	Jane Barnett	
The Burton Bowl	Jane Barnett	
The Jeffery Victor Ludorum Trophy	The Birks / Williams Family	
Diploma for Excellence in Horticulture - Fruit & Vegetables	Fiona Fidler	
Diploma for Excellence in Horticulture - Floral Art	David McSheehy	
Junior Competitor's Award of Merit - Fruit & Vegetables	Myla Penny	
Junior Competitor's Award of Merit - Floral Art		
The National Vegetable Society - Silver Medal & Diploma	Dominic Geer	
Bronze Banksian Medal from the Royal Horticultural Society	Fiona Fidler	
Pedigree Best in Show - Pedigree	Woody owned by Hazel Haffenden	
Novelty Best In Show - Novelty	Freddy owned by Glenys Thomas	
Scarecrow Competition	The Holland Family	

display. In the Memorial Hall the Cookery, Children's exhibits, Handicrafts, and Photography classes showed the expected quality and variety. This is always an area where I hope more and more people will consider "having a go" each year.

New for 2018 was the inaugural Scarecrow Competition, which with free entry and a £50 prize, attracted 14 entries of such a range and variety that it was both smile raising to look at and difficult to judge! The eventual winner after much deliberation was "Kier" from the Holland Family. I hope this will return next year with even more wonderful entries, that ideally will be displayed outside houses in the lead up to the show!

As the show moved on, the races took place in the arena, with the usual unpredictability of the children's races capably organised by Chris and Jean Judge. In the middle of the races came the Framfield Stagers Handicap with the air of pantomime that only people in horse costumes can bring. The Adult Egg Throwing became increasingly hilarious as the pairs separated and the inevitable sticky end was reached for many with last year's champion couple beaten into second place!

The show itself rounded off with the presentation of the certificates and trophies by the Framfield and Blackboys Horticultural Society to those who have been particularly successful. A winners list is below. The traditional very last part is the auctioning of exhibits where huge bargains of flowers and produce are available at very knockdown prices. You would think more would stay for such an event!

I have to say a thank you to the long list of helpers, volunteers, stallholders, visitors, but most of all the wonderful Summer Show Committee for making this year's show a particular success. Many comments were heard in the field about how it keeps improving as each year passes while retaining the feel of the show from year's past.

So if you came along and enjoyed yourself, we do need a few more helping hands for 2019 to make the show better than ever. If so, please contact me on terry.everitt@outlook.com or on 01825 891392. We especially need someone experienced in organising our Dog Show for 2019 as Geraldine has had to step down from the role.

So we shall be creating a whole new Summer Show again on Saturday 10th August 2019 but hopefully bigger and better. See you there!

*Terry Everitt - Summer Show Chair
Framfield and Blackboys Horticultural Society*

St Thomas a Becket Church of England Federation. Blackboys and Framfield Schools News September 2018

Both Framfield and Blackboys School have begun the school year embarking on exciting projects to further develop the children's writing. Staff have enjoyed working on really exciting writing opportunities and thus the pupils have been really engaged. It's great to see the quick progress our youngest pupils make and conversely the realisation older children get when they start to explore paragraphs or gain their pen licenses. We hope to get children's writing to be a main feature of an all new arts event taking place after Christmas. Please watch this space!

Talking of our youngest pupils, both schools joined together for a trip to Hever Castle recently. No one ever forgets their first school trip and we know how much our 4 and 5 year old children enjoyed their trip to a real castle. Thank you to the staff for making this trip a reality.

Even though this report is written in early November, already the Primary School minds are turning to Christmas! Both schools put on brilliant nativity shows and carol services at St Thomas a Becket Church and please look out for the schools on Friday 7th December, as they perform on the Uckfield FM stage for Late Night Shopping.

Seasonal wishes and a happy new year

Mrs Lisa Pestell (Headteacher, Framfield) and Mr Graham Sullivan (Headteacher, Blackboys)



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FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Three Villages Come Out to Play

On Saturday 11th August all the fun of the Framfield and Blackboys Summer Show took place, bringing together the residents of Blackboys, Framfield and Palehouse Common for the biggest event of the year. Whilst a little damp underfoot early on due to Friday's rain, when the sun climbed higher, the weather set to be perfect for a day outdoors on the Recreation Ground in Framfield as well as in the Memorial Hall.

The show opened at 12.30pm with the first of the classes in the Fun Dog Show. All so capably organised by Geraldine Fribbens. Spritely dogs of all shapes and styles paraded before the judges. With 16 classes there was something for everyone. Best in Show (Pedigree) was Woody, while Best in Show (Novelty) was Freddy.

Shortly after the opening, the 1066 Pipes and Drums took to the arena for the first of their displays. Looking so very smart, the high level of musicianship was enjoyed by the gathering crowd. The first of the active displays by Uckfield Colts Football took place next with all sizes of participants attempting the ball skills required. Emma Naylor inspired those with a desire to keep fit with audience participation to music in the arena.

All the while, the array of over 40 stalls of all kinds kept young and old amused. From the traditional Hoopla with its fiendishly difficult requirements to win to a seemingly simple Welly Throw. There was bowling and china smashing as well as stalls from a range of charitable causes, commercial enterprises and some just to amuse the children.

Our bar, serving Harvey's bitter, Bignose and Beardy Framfield Cider as well as Pimms, quenched the thirsts of our visitors. The more traditional afternoon refreshment of tea and cake tent kept up a steady trade for those feeling peckish.

The centrepiece of the show is the 124 classes of exhibits from the residents of the locality. Entries were as impressive as ever with some stunning vegetables, beautiful flowers and plants and intricate and creative flower arrangements on

FRAMFIELD VILLAGE MARKET

Dates for 2018

Memorial Hall, Framfield
The market opens from 10 am to 12 noon.

24 November

15 December

And 19 January 2019
(Further 2019 dates to follow)

Framfield Parish Council

MEETING SCHEDULE 2019

On each date detailed below, generally two meetings will be held plus an informal Trust update.

(Planning Committee may be cancelled if not essential):

Planning Committee – commencement time will vary (6/6.30 pm)

Trust update - commencing at 7 pm

Parish Council - commencing at 7.30 pm.

Tuesday 29 January (PC meeting) – Village Hall, Blackboys

Tuesday, 26 March (PC meeting) – Memorial Hall, Framfield

Tuesday, 14 May (Annual Parish Council Meeting, and Annual Parish Meeting [8 pm]) – Village Hall, Blackboys

Tuesday, 25 June (PC meeting) – Memorial Hall, Framfield

Tuesday, 30 July (AGM of the Trusts) – Village Hall, Blackboys

24 September (PC meeting) – Memorial Hall, Framfield

26 November (PC meeting) – Village Hall, Blackboys

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

Looking for a local venue?

Then look no further

Framfield Church Hall is brightly decorated and is the ideal venue for regular meetings, special occasions, keep fit and exercise classes, corporate training, parties and village events. The hall typically seats up to 60 persons and has full kitchen facilities and facilities/parking for the disabled.

Hire Rates: £10.00/hour with reductions for regular users and church members.

Tel the Church Office for further details 01825 891090; visit the website: www.framfieldchurch.org.uk



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

9th December 10.00 am

13th January 10.00 am

WE ARE MACMILLAN. CANCER SUPPORT

Uckfield Macmillan Cancer Support Fundraising committee have had some very successful months during 2018. We have, as ever, been serving tea and cakes at various NGS open garden days. This resulted in raising just over £3,000. We also participated in a rather “windy and soggy” three day flower festival at St. Margaret’s Church in Buxted Park. On day one we thought our marquee would take off at any minute! However, despite the weather, our teas raised nearly £600, while we were also able to take time to enjoy the fabulous flower arrangements in the Church.

Some of our team helped with the dog show at Framfield Village Show and we received a generous donation of £650. Our coffee morning at Pizza Express in Uckfield raised over £700 and, as always, we are so grateful to the staff who work so hard on our behalf. Tesco ran a money raising event in memory of one of their staff and we received just over £1,000 from that.

The Cinder Hill salmon and trout fishing syndicate also donated nearly £300 after a charity event, where people were invited to fish and enjoy a barbecue. They are hoping to repeat this event next year and attract new members.

If you or anyone you know has worries about cancer, if they’ve just been diagnosed or even if their treatment has ended, the Cancerline, Benefits Helpline, Cancer information Nurse Helpline and Youthline have all been brought together under one phone number: 0808 808 0000 or the website can always be visited on www.macmillan.org.uk. Information can be had over the telephone, or you can request any number of relevant booklets.

Ann Press, Local Chairman 01825 890400



Building through Blessing in
Blackboys and Beyond

NEW COMMUNITY VENTURE

Recognising that Sundays are often difficult days for people who find themselves living on their own, we are delighted to be launching a new venture. Beginning on the 18th of November and then taking place on the third Sunday of every month we will be hosting a lunch held at The Grove Café in Blackboys starting at 1pm.

There will be a two course set meal, with vegetarian option, followed by tea/coffee all for only £6 per head. If you interested please contact Gillian Clark on either of the following;
mad_auntie_gill@hotmail.co.uk or 07729478797 or 01825 890888

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

After a very successful time last year we will again be holding our all age Christmas Carol service at the Crockstead Farm Hotel in Halland. This will start at 4.30pm and will be followed by mulled wine and mince pies. On Christmas Day we will be meeting at our usual venue of the village hall in Blackboys. The service will begin at 10.30am.

It would be lovely if you could join us for either of these service both of which will last for an hour.

Revd Guy Partridge
guy_newlifechurch@btinternet.com
01825 891133 or 07702 836057

And what does the Lord require of you?

To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. (Micah 6:8)

NEWS FROM YOUR WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Wealden District Council is looking for nominations for the Chairman's Community Volunteer Awards. The successful nominees will be presented with their awards at the Chairman's annual Civic Reception on Friday, 1 March 2019 at Herstmonceux Castle.

The three categories for the Community Volunteer Awards 2019 are:

- Community Volunteer Hero (someone who makes an outstanding contribution to running a voluntary group or groups or its beneficiaries).
- Young Volunteer of the Year (under 25 years old).
- Volunteer Group of the Year.

In the first two categories, the winning individual will receive a £100 donation to an organisation of their choice and £25 in gift vouchers. The winner of the group/organisation of the year award will receive a £125 donation to the organisation.

All details including nomination forms and eligibility conditions can be found on the Chairman's page of the Wealden website: http://www.wealden.gov.uk/Wealden/Council/Councillors_and_Committees/Chairman_of_the_Council/Democratic_Services_Chairman_of_the_Council.aspx

The deadline for nominations is noon on Thursday 20 December 2018. For further information, please contact the Civic Office at Wealden District Council on 01892 602435 or email Amy Evans, PA to the Chairman, at chairman@wealden.gov.uk

And lastly but not least bins. Thankfully the situation seems to have improved within the Parish at the moment for most people. Even with the disruptions Wealden continues to achieve the highest recycling rate in East Sussex. We currently achieve a 50% recycling rate which we are always looking to improve upon but I can assure everyone that the waste that we can't recycle goes to the incinerator in Newhaven where it is converted into electricity for the National Grid.

Contact details – Ann Newton, 'Highlands', Blackboys, TN22 5LR.
Telephone - 01825 890103.
Email – aenewton1965@gmail.com

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – REPORT

The Parish Council lost two long-standing councillors recently – Selina Allen and Rob Newton who had notched up 31 years of service between them. We wish Selina well in her new life in Norfolk. Rob will continue helping out the Council with any handyman-type jobs that he can do.

Following on from the appalling state of the Parish verges this year, the Parish Council have agreed to pay for four extra cuts by ESCC increasing the number of cuts next year to six. We have also been assured that the cuts will start earlier than June.

By the time this magazine is published three red oak trees will have been planted, one on each recreation ground, to commemorate the ending of WW1. A memorial plaque will also be put beside each tree. The red oaks in time will grow very large and it is hoped make quite an impact on each recreation ground.

A grant has been awarded by Tesco's towards replacing the basket ball area on Framfield recreation ground. It is hoped this work will be complete by the Spring.

Parish Magazine. Anyone interested in placing an advertisement should contact me.

Framfield Village Market (usually the last Saturday in the month) – please do come along and have a look at local craft wares and produce and have a cup of coffee. All proceeds go towards the Memorial Hall. Doors open at 10 am.

Recreation grounds, play areas etc. If anyone believes they have discovered a fault or problem with in particular one of the play areas, could they please contact me immediately. Although the areas are inspected on a weekly basis by one of our contractors, any additional notification is important to the Council.

All agendas are put on the village noticeboards and website. The full minutes of all meetings are also on the website. Please do not rely on the contents of this magazine for meeting dates etc as the website and noticeboards are more up to date. Particularly if you have any queries regarding potential or live planning applications.

Ann Newton (Parish Clerk): 01825 890182.
Email: clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk.
Postal Address: 'Highlands', Blackboys TN22 5LR.
Website: www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk.

LIVING WITH FUR AND FEATHER

CHRISTMAS TIPS 2018

I thought this might be useful as a reminder to think about your pets before the hectic Christmas season is here.

CHRISTMAS TIPS.

Keep to your pet's normal routine, feeding, walking and bed times. This will help to keep them relaxed and contented during the excitement of the festivities.

Feed their normal diet. It is tempting to give lots of rich goodies so they can enjoy Christmas, but you may not enjoy Boxing Day cleaning up the results of upset tummies! Just add a few tiny tasty morsels to the food.

Stick to your usual house rules. If your dog does not normally sleep on the bed or sofa, do not allow him to do it for a special treat for Christmas. He could be very confused by this and not want to revert to the normal routine afterwards. Conversely if your dog always has the entire sofa to lounge on, he will be a bit fed up if he has to share it with houseguests. The same rule applies to feeding titbits at the table, if your family do not do it, tactfully tell the guests that it is not allowed.

Do not forget regular toilet trips, especially for the young or old dog.

Provide a quiet retreat where your cat or dog can rest in peace.

With lots of people coming and going do be extra careful that doors and gates are not left open for the dog to run off or even worse be run over by a guest coming up your drive.

Even a well-trained dog might seize the opportunity to steal the turkey if it is left out on the kitchen unit while everybody is partying at the other end of the house. So check everything is put away.

Rubbish bins. Watch they are not overflowing with rubbish with the lid not fully closed, especially if it has turkey bones in it. One, the bones are dangerous, and two, when a dog has had the reward of raiding the rubbish bin just once, he will go on doing it.

The Christmas tree. Another target for the inquisitive pet. Lots of presents to rip open and investigate. Chocolates for humans are dangerous for dogs, do not let them eat it. Only give them dog chocs. It is now known that dried fruit and grapes can be lethal for dogs so do not be tempted to give them any Christmas cake.

Jealousy between two dogs can escalate with the excitement of having presents, or even watching their humans opening presents. This can result in a fight. Separate the dogs while they open their presents if you think it might happen.

A little thought and planning beforehand should mean that both the pets and owners all have a super Christmas.

BEST WISHES AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL

Hazel Carter 01825 830477
info@hazel-carter.co.uk
www.hazel-carter.co.uk

Uckfield Singers – Christmas Concert

The Uckfield Singers will be performing a Christmas Concert on Saturday 8th December, at 3:30 pm (afternoon) in the Uckfield Civic Centre.

Tickets are £8 each, available from Gale & Woolgar Jewellers, High St, Uckfield, or on-line at <https://stagestubs.com/search/location/uckfield>

Proceeds from the raffle will be supporting the Hospice in the Weald.

For more information about the choir, please visit our website at www.uckfieldsingers.co.uk