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

Parish Magazine



**Framfield, Blackboys
and
Palehouse Common**

DECEMBER 2020 / JANUARY 2021

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL CHURCH

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

Churchwardens : **None at present**

Secretary to PCC : **Mr Barry Richardson**

Treasurer : **Mrs Gaynor Robson**

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

Email - revchris.framfield@gmail.com
Post - Vicarage Barn, Brookhouse Lane, Framfield TN22 5NH
Telephone/ leave a message - 01825 891090



From the Registers:

Baptisms:

Weddings:

At rest:

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From overseas – +441273 336000

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WHO'S WHO AT THE St THOMAS À BECKET NEWSLETTER

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For the Church: Rev. Chris Lawrence

For the Council: Mr. Keith Brandon

Co-ordinator and Advertising:

Ann Newton

Technical Editor: Barry Richardson

Treasurer: Marie Owen

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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

The Crisis of Christmas.

As we approach the end of the year we do so with a modicum of renewed hope. Trials of the various Corona virus vaccines are proving positive. We may not be quite out of the woods yet, but we do appear to be one step closer.

There has been a lot of talk around the 'new normal', for life can never be quite the same again. Unfortunately, lives lost and shattered dreams cannot be replaced. Now is a time to mourn the losses and rightly so. However, perhaps the beginning of 2021 will be the time to look forward with renewed hope and optimism. Solid ground is once again on the horizon.

2002 has been a year when many have had to take stock of their lives. What has been good, what has been bad or what has been just plain ridiculous? Relationships have been tested. Some have remained strong, others have foundered. Whatever the crisis, good can come out of it - provided we are prepared to be bold and not live in fear. I'm not advocating recklessness but with age comes a certain sense of urgency and freedom. A freedom to make the most of our remaining years and an urgency to do the things that we may have been putting off for years, for we know not what tomorrow may bring.

At this point you may be wondering where we are going but could we see the first Christmas as a point of world crisis? God in His wisdom often lets humanity go from bad to worse so that when we have nowhere to go we fall back onto God. Even in the heart of the hardest of atheists, when the chips are really down the words that almost magically rise up from the depths of one's being; 'O God help me'!

The familiar Christmas story is one such event that encapsulates the end of a crisis and the beginning of a new era. The religious order of the Old Testament had in effect had its day. Not that there was anything intrinsically wrong with the hub of testament i.e. the familiar Ten Commandments. It was the simple fact that left to our own devices mankind cannot keep them. Due to man's corrupted nature and the propensity to sin (*miss the mark*) God had to intervene to get mankind back on track so that we didn't destroy ourselves and the world God created for us to live in. St Paul puts it like this in his letter to the Galatians - '**For if a law had been given that could impart life then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. But scripture declares the whole world is a prisoner of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe.**

Before this faith came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed. So the law was put in place to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law'.

In effect, God through Christ was re-establishing the relationship between himself and all mankind.

Paul's words speak of being a prisoner. I don't think anyone would like the label of 'prisoner' but that is what we are. Rules and regulations have been put in place throughout the pandemic, all for the common good, but how many have actually kept to the rules 100% of the time? We may write the various transgressions off as human nature, although basically it's our sin-nature kicking in; we don't like being told what to do. If you can break man's propensity to sin then our shackles come off and our individual and collective lives greatly improve.

So what changed when Jesus came to earth on that very first Christmas?

Firstly, as part of the rescue package, Jesus came to earth to live as one of us and to show us what God is like.

Secondly, in order to break the stranglehold of sin so that we could be freed, Jesus would have to die - unless there is the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sin. The covenant of faith is then instituted in place of the old law for all who will receive it. Freedom is there but we have to ask for it as God never goes against our natural will. We have to make a choice.

Simple faith enables God to credit righteousness to every believer and the resurrection of Christ graphically shows us that Christ's self-sacrifice for sin was effective and qualifies us take hold of the promise of life after death in heaven.

Finally, the sending of the Holy Spirit. To all who will believe and invite Christ into their lives. God comes and takes up residence within the individual by his Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the agent of positive change, transforming the waywardness of our thinking, attitudes and actions from the inside out. In this new life you don't need to be told what to do. Free people are able to exercise genuine choice.

So as we look forward 2021 is it time to ditch the old life and live the life you were truly destined for?

To everyone in the parish - have a great Christmas and a very happy and prosperous New Year. Blessings to one and all, Rev Chris Lawrence

NEWS FROM YOUR WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Wealden District Council (WDC) was beginning to put in place a recovery programme for a 're-start' following the pandemic and now as I write this we are back in lockdown! Not to be flippant – the recovery process is in place to build us back to better future going forwards. And now there is news of a vaccine – I have everything crossed for that!

All updates on help and advice during this time are on the WDC website but also please do contact me with any queries particularly those who do not have access to the internet.

Local Plan – the first consultation document on the Local Plan will be published in mid-November – 'Wealden Local Plan - Direction of Travel'consultation. The SHELAA has also been published – Strategic Housing Economic Land Availability Assessment. This is a statutory part of the Local Plan process whereby planning authorities have to ask landowners to put forward any land they potentially wish to develop. This gives WDC the opportunity for options on where development can go and will give a better result in the end for the District. I MUST emphasise that contrary to what the local Press have been saying, just because land has been submitted into the SHELAA this does NOT mean it will ultimately be suitable and chosen for development.

Also I wanted to highlight something from the Parish Council report this time – WDC are no longer issuing letters to adjacent neighbours when a planning application is submitted. Please read the article and contact me with any queries.

Digital Waste Calendars for 2021 – once again the waste and recycling calendar for 2021 will not be sent out to residents. It has to be downloaded from the website. Residents can also receive weekly reminders by email through 'MyAlerts' which residents can sign up for on the WDC website. Anyone in any difficulty again, please contact me.

Wishing everyone a happy Christmas and New Year.

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



Framfield & Blackboys WI

Thank you to all our members who have remained loyal over the past difficult year, a very special thank you to Lorraine and Peter at the Hare & Hounds who have kindly allowed us to use their marquee for socially distanced Committee meetings.

**Wishing Everyone A
Happy Christmas
And A Safe Healthy
New Year**



If you would like to find out more about our WI, please contact Mary
Short on 01825 890854

Follow us on Facebook or Google Framfield & Blackboys WI

Diary of Church Services

We should be reopening for Services from 6th December. Please check the Church Website for updates and on-line services each week - <https://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk>

DECEMBER 2020

- 06 Second Sunday of Advent**
8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW) with Prayer for Healing
- 13 Third Sunday of Advent**
10.00 am Family Service
6.30 pm Pre-recorded Lesson & Carols **(On-Line) ***
- 20 Fourth Sunday of Advent**
8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
- 24 Christmas Eve**
4.30 pm Crib and Christingle
(Join us on-line via Zoom) *
11.30 pm Midnight Holy Communion (CW)
- 25 Christmas Day**
10.00 am Family Festival Praise
- 27 First Sunday of Christmas**
10.00 am BCP Holy Communion Service
(* Online links will be available on the Church website)

JANUARY 2021

- 03 Second Sunday of Christmas - Epiphany**
8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW) with Prayer for Healing

- 10 First Sunday of Epiphany – Baptism of Christ**
10.00 am Family Service
- 17 Second Sunday of Epiphany**
8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
- 24 Third Sunday of Epiphany**
10.00 am Morning Praise
- 31 Fourth Sunday of Epiphany – Presentation of Christ**
10.00 am Morning Praise

BCP: Book of Common Prayer. CW: Common Worship

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE
BY 10th JANUARY 2021**

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

FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS MONDAY CLUB

Hello Everyone, Seasons Greetings from our Members and Helpers. We are on 2nd Lockdown but looking towards Christmas, and hoping that we can somehow meet with our families and loved ones, even if it's just for a short while, this Christmas time.

In the meantime we have been sending Monthly Newsletters to our Members, with a Members Letter, Recipes, Poems, Topical Articles, Funny Page, etc, Anything to raise spirits, and to keep in touch, until we can all meet again. This will be reviewed in January 2021.

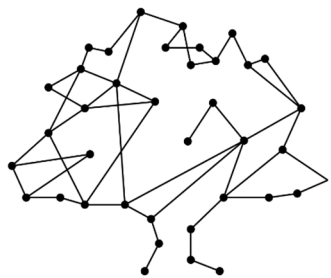
I'm glad to say, our members at present, have escaped Covid-19, and apart from usual ailments, are keeping well.

Again I will say if anyone would like a wonderful worth while job, in serving the Community and helping others, then do come forward and shadow me, I'm 72 now, and have been leader for 15 years, but am finding I need to be more up to date with things like computers, to be able to Zoom, and apply for Grant's etc. and also to keep up with Regulations, we always need Helpers, too.

We do wish you A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS, we've been waiting for this Family time, use it wisely, and REALLY spend time with each other.

Do Stay safe and Take Care,

Sandy Rogers 01825 840648 sandyrogers77@gmail.com



NEWLIFE

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www.newlifemidsussex.com

Dear readers

We are surrounded by conspiracy theories these days, fuelled by social media, from the weird and wacky, to subtle suggestions which hint at a grain of truth in them - from politics, to secret organisations. The Covid pandemic doesn't escape such theories. It's sometimes difficult with the seemingly more plausible ones, not to allow a '*what if that were true?*' thought to slip past our defences.

The Cambridge Dictionary defines a conspiracy theory as: '*A belief that an event or situation is the result of a secret plan made by powerful people.*'

The most sensational conspiracy theory (if I can call it that) may well have been about a man who claimed to be God. Jesus was so controversial to the religious elite. He hinted at something so radical, so hidden, so astonishing, that it must have felt like a subversive theory to those listening.

In John's gospel, in response to Philip's question, 'Show us the Father (God) and that will be enough for us', Jesus answers, 'If you've seen me you've seen the Father.' In other words, 'You're looking at the Father, Philip. This is God is standing right in front of you. I am God incarnate.' Only our wackiest conspiracy theorists would try that one on, surely!

As we approach Christmas, you could be forgiven for thinking that the claims of Jesus are one huge conspiracy theory of sorts, '*a secret plan made by a Powerful Person.*' And in a sense it's exactly that - a '*true conspiracy*', Love, conspiring in all gentleness and openness, without coercion, to win your heart and bring you home. The truth, hidden in plain sight, yet able to be found by us all - like the truth in the parables Jesus loved to tell. '*Veiled* in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the Incarnate Deity' - sung by carollers, is a statement revealing hidden, absolute truth.

The religious leaders' hard hearts found it so difficult to look past the words and deeds of Jesus to his true identity. The truth of Christianity is deliberately 'veiled', so that you have to search with a humble, open heart to discover that something that looks so crazy and subversive, is actually the Way, the Truth, the Life - all found in the objective reality that is Jesus.

In these protracted days of Covid, my prayer for us all is that we take refuge in the omniscient, omnipotent love of God, found in Jesus, trusting our present and future to him, not giving in to fear. 'The eternal God is your refuge and his everlasting arms are underneath you' Even and especially in these uncertain days. (Deuteronomy 33:27)

Merry Christmas everyone.

Clive Cernik

Leader, New Life Church Mid Sussex.

www.newlifemidsussex.com

Framfield Church – Coronavirus Update – Christmas Services

Closed again

We opened the church for our first formal service, Parish Communion on Sunday 6th September. Our last service in Church was on 1st November. We are now in Lockdown 2. Although, we did live manage to live-stream a service for Remembrance Sunday which was outdoor only. Many thanks to everyone who attended. If you missed it, it is posted on Facebook.

Between now and December (when we hope to reopen on 6th with 8.30am BCP & 10.00 Parish Communion) we will produce a weekly Sunday service distributed on Vimeo, as used between March and August. Access is via the church website front page and/or the churches Facebook page.

We remain committed to live streaming services again as soon as regulations will allow us to do so. If you are still isolating or have limited mobility, our streamed services are for you. We hope to provide a viable church experience for the housebound.

We are also hoping to stream all our main services in future – see our website www.framfieldchurch.org.uk for further details. You can also visit our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/framfieldchurch> for updates. All services are archived so that they remain available after the stream finishes. They will be stored on the Vimeo service, which you can access for free.

Christmas Services – Programme. At the moment we have little information as to what we will be allowed to do at Christmas. However, if Lockdown 2 ends on the 2nd of December and the current measures are still in place, it will be very difficult to socially distance and hold the traditional Lessons & Carols and Family Christingle services. Singing is also currently banned.

In light of the restrictions, we are proposing to pre-record the Lessons and Carols service and upload it to the church website & Facebook by Sunday 13th December - 6.30pm. For the Crib & Christingle service we are going 'live' via Zoom. The children and parents from our two primary schools are very familiar with Zoom so hopefully, we will have the children contributing to the service and we will all be making our Christingles for an 'on-line' lighting of candles. Details of the Zoom link and how to make a Christingle will be on the church website and sent out via Parent Mail.

Midnight Holy Communion on Christmas Eve and the Christmas Day Family Service will go ahead in church as per usual.

Supporting you during the Coronavirus crisis

As a church we are committed to supporting you, the parishioners of Framfield, Blackboys and Palehouse Common. The pandemic and its effects pose a physical health risk as we all understand but times of isolation and uncertainty can significantly affect our mental wellbeing. If anyone would like a chat then do please call. I'm usually in the Church Office Monday to Friday 10am-5pm (except Wednesday) on the office telephone number (01825 891090). If you get the answer machine, do please leave a message.

Support us during the Coronavirus crisis

In light of the current world situation and the subsequent need to suspend all services and close all churches, we have been looking at ways in which we may mitigate the financial loss to the church and at the very least cover our basic overheads. As the use of cash has curtailed we have set up an online giving page at: www.framfieldchurch.org.uk/donate.html, look for the 'Give a Little' icon. We would be very grateful for your help – like all organisations our costs have continued, but our income has diminished significantly.



Hopefully, we can move forward from here and all stay well during this challenging period and help each other out where it's appropriate to do so.

May God bless One and All – Revd Chris Lawrence



UCKFIELD MEN'S SHED

Uckfield Men's shed has now moved to Framfield. We are based at Unit 14, the Oaks Workshops, Blackboys Road, Framfield.

Men's Sheds are a nationwide organisation that aim at dealing with the social isolation of men especially those who have retired although membership is open to all from 18+. They have been set up to offer men the opportunity to meet others in a friendly and supportive atmosphere, to learn, practice or hone skills and to promote their mental health and wellbeing.

Men's Sheds (or Sheds) are similar to garden sheds - a place to pursue practical interests at leisure, to practice skills and enjoy making and mending. The difference is that garden sheds and their activities are often solitary in nature while Men's Sheds are the opposite. They're about social connections and friendship building, avoiding isolation, improving mental health, sharing skills and knowledge, and of course a lot of laughter.



Hopefully, as from December 2nd, the shed will be open again on Mondays and Thursdays 10-4 in a Covid-19 secure environment and we will be offering woodworking, turning, craft activities, board games or quiet reading. At present we have a membership of 25 shedders but are looking to at least double that number.

If you would like more details or would like to visit please contact Chris at uckfieldmensshed@gmail.com or on 07999803233.

office@gmapartnership.co.uk 01825 840932

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Find us on Facebook: GMA Partnership

Framfield and Blackboys Wives Group

Hello members,
 Yet again another lockdown at the time of writing this!
 I do hope you are all keeping well and safe. It doesn't look like we will be able to get together again any time soon.
 Lets hope the lockdown will do some good and we can soon be out of this dreadful time.
 I do hope that everyone will be able to celebrate Christmas with their loved ones and that the new year will bring some sort of normality to our lives although different to what we have been used to I don't doubt.
 Ann 01825 890506

Changes at Brownings Farm – Please see website for details >>>
<https://www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk/ads/brownings.html>





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

13th December 2020 10.00 am
10th January 2021 10.00 am

Looking for a local venue?

Then look no further!

Framfield Church Hall is well placed in the village next to the Church. It is ideal for regular meetings, social & business events, special occasions, keep fit, exercise groups, birthday parties and other activities.

The hall can be used as an open space or with tables / seating for up to 60 persons. There is a fitted kitchen with catering equipment & crockery etc, a large AV screen, sound system, two loos (one with disabled facilities) and two disabled parking spaces directly outside the hall.

Currently it is used for Art classes, Pilates, Exercise groups, Drama, Singing, Karate Presentations and Childrens' birthday parties. Our rates are £10.00 per hour.

For more details about the hall and its events please get in touch with John Mordaunt on 01825 890443; mobile 07989 587459 or email: johnmordaunt1@gmail.com

Nature Notes

I have commented that there is no such thing as disaster in nature, only change. Many changes run in cycles, just like the daily cycle of night, dawn, morning, afternoon, evening and the yearly cycle of winter, spring, summer and autumn (fall). Incidentally, although fall is used in the USA instead of autumn, it is actually an ancient English word commonly used up to the 17th century when it was largely replaced by the Latin word *autumn(us)*. The climate is also changing.

There is also the carbon cycle, water cycle and of course life cycle of every organism that lives. Diseases also tend to go in cycles, and there is a commonly quoted cycle of rabbits and myxomatosis caused by the rabbit *myxoma virus*. Rabbits control this disease by changing their behaviour. As the population of rabbits breeding underground in warm burrow nurseries increases, the transmission of *myxoma virus* by the secondary host, which is the rabbit flea, increases. This causes many rabbits to die. Then, those rabbits that breed above ground under bushes, as some do, are more likely to survive because the (cold blooded) fleas are more likely to die of cold during frosts. These rabbits then increase in number but sometimes produce offspring that resume the underground breeding strategy in order to avoid predators such as foxes. This allows the *myxoma virus* to increase again and so on.

Similarly, there is a well-known cycle of Arctic foxes and Arctic hare numbers. As the hare numbers increase, so fox numbers increase until too many survive to be supported by the over hunted hares and many foxes die of starvation, allowing the hares to increase again and so on.

These population cycles, regulated by climate, disease or predation control the numbers of animals that we see around us. There is no reason to suppose that the same cannot happen among humans. It was predicted by Thomas Robert Malthus (1766 – 1834). We are unlikely to be controlled by predators because we are the planet's top predator, but we have less control over climate and microbes. In the end, each living thing dies, which is sad for those around it, but then there is room for others to be born, providing joy for those around the birth event. *Martyn Stenning*

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – REPORT

Covid 19 – as I write this report we are back in lockdown. Even once out of it, please do not hesitate to contact me with any concerns. I am still involved in the food box scheme for the Parish for anyone in need. I also have a list of volunteers who can help with shopping etc.

The play areas are still being sprayed with an anti-bacterial agent, Zoono, on a monthly basis and the village halls have still not been opened to anyone other than the School (Framfield) and Pre-school (Blackboys). This will continue until the end of the year unless Government guidelines change. This means that unfortunately Framfield Village Market has been cancelled until next year.

Planning applications – residents are no longer being sent letters by Wealden District Council (WDC) as part of the consultation process, only advice notices will be on sites/households – this is all part of WDC's 'Drive to Digital'. If anyone, whether the applicant in an application or an interested party wishing to make representation to the PC, please contact me at the earliest opportunity. The Parish Council receives weekly lists of applications which can also be accessed on the WDC website so I can easily pinpoint if an application has been submitted. http://www.wealden.gov.uk/Wealden/Residents/Planning_and_Building_Control/Leaflets_And_Publications/Weekly_List_of_Planning_Applications/Planning_Weekly_List.aspx.

Whilst on the subject of the 'Drive to Digital' I will do my best to publish anything of interest in this magazine and/or noticeboards which is otherwise only available on a website. Please look for the bin emptying timetable for the Christmas period which is published elsewhere in the magazine.

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

Blackboys Allotments – tenants please only drive up onto the allotments in dry weather conditions.

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.

The Parish Council sends its best wishes for the Christmas season and a better 2021.

Ann Newton (Parish Clerk): 01825 890182/

Email: clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk.

Postal Address: 'Highlands', Blackboys TN22 5LR.

Website: www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk.



Opening times:

Mon, Weds to Fri: 9.30am – 5pm
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LIVING WITH FUR AND FEATHER

OLD DOG NEW TRICKS

Sadly I have not got a dog at the moment and still miss Chloe, my Newfoundland, who I lost before Christmas last year who always helped me both in the house and garden. However I do have our son's Cocker Spaniel round to stay quite often. She and Chloe always got on well together. At dinner time there was a special routine that Isla the Cocker Spaniel knew perfectly. She would run into the utility room and stand in the corner knowing where her bowl would be placed, while Chloe carried her little bucket of food to the sink in the kitchen ready for me to put it in her bowl. The feeding routine for breakfast was different. After their early morning walk Isla would rush to the gate leading to the back garden knowing her dried food would be scattered on the terrace. Meanwhile Chloe would have her food in the front garden. Even though Chloe is not here now Isla still goes through the same routine.

It was always Chloe who helped me with practically everything I did while Isla, if she was here, just pottered about doing her own thing. Recently I was thinking how much I missed my very special canine helper and wondered whether I could train Isla to help. It would give me a project and be fun for her. There were two problems; one the difference in size, a large Newfoundland can do lots of things a little dog cannot do, for example carrying a big heavy bag of shopping. Also Isla will be ten next birthday. Can an old dog learn new tricks? One big advantage was that our son had already taught her lots of things including fetching and a game she loves, finding hidden objects. Another advantage was she loved to be busy. Even after a long walk she was ready to do something interesting.

I started with something easy, finding my sock. Being so enthusiastic she was inclined to throw it towards me rather than carefully giving it to me. This progressed into hiding it further away and giving it nicely. Next I tried shoes. It is important when doing this to start by making it as easy as possible making it clear exactly what you want to avoid any confusion. Very quickly she learnt to bring me one shoe then go back and get the second shoe. Another popular game she

likes is to take dirty undies to the wash box and drop them in, being small she finds this difficult. Holding a treat just above the box encourages her to do it.

Each time she comes to stay we play some of these games and add a few more variations. As well as finding my socks she can now take them off for me. She loves helping with the washing, enthusiastically rummaging in the wash box to find something for me to put in the machine. I am at this stage just showing her how to put the washing in herself; I'm still working on that. However we have made great strides with the tumble dryer. I leave a selection of suitable items in the machine for her to take out. She loves this and was so keen to get a sock that was right at the back of the dryer she practically climbed in to reach it. The next stage will be to take things out and put them into the laundry basket.

As well as her proper walks she loves to help in the garden finding tools or a dropped glove. She loves to carry the brush, unperturbed by the prickly bristles, while I carry the watering can to clean out and refill the bird bath. Does she wonder why I throw the brush away after cleaning the bird bath? Off she goes racing down the lawn to retrieve it and carries it back to the house. Another job is to carry a container to the greenhouse to put the tomatoes in. She can't carry the one with tomatoes in so I give her an empty one to carry back to the house so she still feels useful!

When I had Chloe she would always carry my washing up bowl for me to put the weeds in. being so big it was easy for her to carry it. Last time Isla was here I looked at her and wondered if she could carry it for me? I carefully showed her how to hold it by the edge and walked off. There she was coming along behind me head up high, proudly carrying the bowl that was nearly touching the ground.

Hopefully we will be able to see some of our relations at Christmas. Whatever happens I am sure Isla will come and brighten us up as she opens her presents with great excitement, ripping the paper up into tiny shreds.

Hazel Carter 01825830477
info@hazel-carter.co.uk
www.hazel-carter.co.uk



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891113**

Email: enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org.uk

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

 **Blackboys
Pre-School**

only) will be sent to members in the next week or so with a date sometime in December

For the latest information on Society events, helpful gardening advice and useful tips and information please go to the Society's website - www.framfieldandblackboys-hort-soc.com. If you would like to contact the Society about events please get in touch with Sarah Hince at fabhs.events@gmail.com ; or for membership then e-mail Emma Page at fabhs.membership@gmail.com . For other enquiries please contact, me, Trevor Hince (01435 863364; trevor.hince@gmail.com).

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Waldon Country Market

Waldron Country Market is cancelled until further notice.

For more information contact Graeme Mackenzie 01435 866419.
There is also a Facebook link - [@WaldronCountryMarket](https://www.facebook.com/WaldronCountryMarket)

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

FIND US ON FACEBOOK:



Framfield Parish Council now has a social media account with Facebook: (www.facebook.com/framfieldparishcouncil) where useful and pertinent information will be posted.

WELL DONE!

eco kids

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT!
A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE AT
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FOR COLLECTING
915 KG OF TEXTILES
ON **THURSDAY 8th OCTOBER 2020**
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For more information please visit www.ecokidsproject.co.uk or call 0330 9994500

f t



The Framfield Stagers (1999 – 2020)



Unfortunately, the Covid 19 regulations have meant that the Framfield Stagers are not in a position to rehearse and therefore unable to perform their customary pantomime at the Framfield Memorial Hall. Hopefully we may all get back to some normality in the not too distant future, when the Stagers will look forward to performing their 15th pantomime for villagers, relations and friends.

If you would like to join the Stagers, further details can be found online:

See our website: www.theframfieldstagers.homesteadcloud.com

or connect with us on social media:



[facebook.com/FramfieldStagers](https://www.facebook.com/FramfieldStagers)



twitter.com/FramStagers

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Your Christmas Recycling and Rubbish Collections 2020/21

Normal Collections			Revised Collections	
Friday	25 December 2020	➔	Monday	28 December 2020
Monday	28 December 2020	➔	Tuesday	29 December 2020
Tuesday	29 December 2020	➔	Wednesday	30 December 2020
Wednesday	30 December 2020	➔	Thursday	31 December 2020
Thursday	31 December 2020	➔	Saturday	2 January 2021
Friday	1 January 2021	➔	Monday	4 January 2021
Monday	4 January 2021	➔	Tuesday	5 January 2021
Tuesday	5 January 2021	➔	Wednesday	6 January 2021
Wednesday	6 January 2021	➔	Thursday	7 January 2021
Thursday	7 January 2021	➔	Friday	8 January 2021
Friday	8 January 2021	➔	Saturday	9 January 2021

*Happy Christmas
Thank you for all you have recycled this year!*

Garden Waste collections are suspended from Friday 25 December and resume on Friday 8 January.

<<<<< BLACKBOYS VILLAGE HALL

Please note: The secure play area for toddlers is no longer available.



FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

In my last article I said that a little rain would be welcome for the gardens; I now apologise for that since, in Blackboys, we then had just over 200mm during October making it one of the wettest autumnal months on record! Now we have some more typical November weather although the temperatures are well above average – who says climate change is not affecting our weather patterns?

As gardeners we are always preparing for the next season, so at this time of year we have Spring firmly in our sights since it is now bulb planting time. Daffodils are probably already planted and it is time for Tulips to go into the ground or pots – there are so many varieties and wonderful colours. The range is amazing from the little species tulips like the brilliant ‘Red Hunter’ which are only 15cm tall, then the traditional mid-season tulips like the wonderfully named ‘Suncatcher’ at 40cm tall (you can guess the colours) through to the tall and elegant tulips like Maureen (70cm and pure white). For a little added ‘excitement’ try the Parrot tulips with their large flowers of folded and frilly petals or the unusual ‘Viridiflora’ varieties which all have green streaking on their petals like ‘Doll’s Minuet’ whose long tapering petals are an elegant deep rosy red with a wide purple green streak which, when open, curl into fascinating shapes. There is a tulip variety to suit all tastes so do plant some. An added incentive to do so is so you can enter photographs of them in the Tulip class of the new “Just for Fun” Spring Show. More details of the show and the schedule of classes appear elsewhere in this magazine – do look.

The “Just for Fun” Spring Show will help to fill the gap in our activities as we wait to see if and how we might be able to resume our regular meetings in the New Year – we have a schedule of talks etc. ready to go! Arrangements and details of our much reduced AGM (formal business



The “Just For Fun” Spring Show 2021

It seems that in these difficult times, our Just For Fun Summer Show last summer captured the imagination of a wide range of people in the parish.

In the past, the Framfield and Blackboys Horticultural Society ran a Spring Show that over the years has drifted into memory. So following a discussion about what next after the summer for the society, the idea of resurrecting the Spring Show was mooted.

We hope that you would like to join us in celebrating the “Spring of 2021” with a similar type of entry by photograph.

There are 18 classes of entry.

The idea is that there will be no monetary prizes with winners for all classes decided by public voting.

You can take the photograph when you think things are at their best and submit the photographs during the entry window. The photograph should be a .jpg file and sent as a full size attachment with your entry details as set out below.

You can enter each of the classes up to 3 times.

The window for entry starts on Saturday 10th April 2021 and ends at 6pm on Monday 3rd May 2021.

Your photographs will be posted on the Framfield and Blackboys Horticultural Society website <https://framfieldandblackboys-hot-soc.com/> (with no names visible this time) and they may be selected for use on the society’s Facebook page.

Details of the voting will be on the above website from the 4th May to the 11th May with notifications made on social media.

Entry Classes – All entries are by photograph and the winner decided by a vote.

1. **A Display of Winter Vegetables from My Garden or Allotment**
A collection of any edible produce from your garden and/or allotment displayed in a way of your choosing, perhaps a plate, trug or even a wheelbarrow!
2. **A Vase of Mixed Spring Flowers from My Garden or Allotment – Adult only**
A collection of flowers picked and displayed in a vase of your choosing. It is the flowers not the arrangement that are important.
3. **A Jam Jar of Mixed Spring Flowers from My Garden or Allotment – Children only**
A collection of flowers picked and displayed in a jam jar. It is the flowers not the arrangement that are important.
4. **A Container with Spring Flowering Plants**
A container planted and in bloom with a range of spring flowers.
5. **A Succulent or Cactus in a Pot.**
An indoor succulent or cactus in a pot.
6. **5 Daffodils in a Vase.**
These can be all the same variety or different varieties.
7. **3 Tulips in a Vase.**
These can be all the same variety or different varieties.
8. **3 Leeks.**
These should be cleaned but look best left untrimmed and set on a dark background.
9. **5 Broad Bean Pods on a Plate**
These should be wiped clean, one should be opened and displayed on a plate.

10. **3 Garlic Bulbs**
These should be wiped clean, and have white papery skins with a long top stem.
11. **3 Onion Bulbs**
These should be wiped clean, and have a dry outer skin with a long top stem folded over and tied down.
12. **A Wooden Spoon Decorated As A Flower – Children only**
Convert a wooden spoon into a flower by adding petals, leaves and anything else you think it needs using materials you have at home.
13. **A Decorated Cake for Spring – Children only**
A cake (you can buy the cake or make it) decorated with Spring items. You could do this at Easter and make it a cake to celebrate Easter.
14. **A Decorated Cake for Spring – Adult only**
A cake you have made and decorated to represent Spring. You could of course do this at Easter and make it an Easter cake!
15. **Signs of Spring**
A photograph taken in 2021 that highlights Spring and the changes that take place at this time.
16. **A Lamb Made of Any Material – Children only**
A lamb created using any material. It could be a model or a painting or any other way you feel suitable.
17. **Something I Made in 2021 – Adult only**
A craft item made in any medium (artwork, handicraft or anything creative) that you have made in 2021.
18. **Something I Made in 2021 – Children only**
A craft item made in any medium (artwork, handicraft or anything creative) that you have made in 2021.

It will be so great to reinstate the Framfield and Blackboys Spring Show, albeit under a very different guise. We hope to continue with a Spring Show of this type in the years ahead.

Most of all we hope you will have fun taking part and please stay safe.

We hope to be back with the full, real Summer Show on 14th August 2021.

Entry Details:

Photographs to be sent from Saturday 10th April – Deadline is **6pm** on Monday 3rd May.

Please email your entries including the photographs attached as **.jpg** files to Denise at fabhs.info@gmail.com by 3rd May, 6pm. (Please contact Denise if you are having difficulties with this method of entry and we will try to help out.)

Include:

- Your photograph(s)
- Class no(s) (from 1 to 18) – make it clear which photograph is for which class
- Name (and age if under 16)
- Your contact details, including your postal address and a telephone number

We are really looking forward to seeing your entries!

By sending your details to the email address above, you consent to your information being stored until the 13th August 2021. I understand that I may be contacted in connection with the Summer Shows in 2021 and 2022. Your information will **NOT** be passed on to any other parties by the Framfield and Blackboys Horticultural Society.