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St Thomas à Becket Church
and Framfield Parish Council*

Parish Magazine



**Framfield, Blackboys
and
Palehouse Common**

JUNE / JULY 2022

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL CHURCH

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

Churchwarden : Mr Graham Seldon

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: None

Weddings: None

At rest: 11 May: Norman Jones

God's faithfulness

Greetings everyone, I do hope you are all getting along ok.

This article will be my penultimate one as I'm due to retire on the 31st of August after being Priest in Charge and Vicar of the parish for a little less than fifteen years. The time has certainly flown by and the family and I will miss Framfield, Blackboys and Palehouse Common, the many friends we've made here and the beautiful countryside.

The wonders of the countryside and the natural world remind me of Paul's words from his letter to the Romans. His words are somewhat uncomfortable mainly due to their directness i.e. **18 The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness,¹⁹ since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.²⁰ For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities--his eternal power and divine nature--have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.**

It's a classic 'can you see the wood for the trees' passage. If you can observe the wonders of the created world, then it should lead you to accept that there is a Creator, simply because the living natural world cannot create itself.

So here lies the choice. In spite of the evidence do we ignore God, or do we embrace the fact that God wishes to have fellowship with us, individually and collectively?

Life, it appears is never straightforward. We all go through trials and tribulations. However, I can honestly say that God has been absolutely faithful to His word. As some of you know I came to faith at the age of 39 so I'd lived on the other side of the fence for many years. Made my share of mistakes, learned the lessons, and moved on. However, I can honestly say that the past twenty-seven years have been a lot better for having God in my life.

This may sound a bit random, but I've enjoyed ministering at funerals; it is a privilege. However, taking the funeral of a believer is generally straightforward, especially in the knowledge that the person who died is Heavenbound. But what of the unbeliever?

No one can judge the state of another person's soul, that's God's prerogative but a funeral can be a gentle wake-up call to those who are left on earth for the time being.

At last week's Bible study we were looking at a passage from Luke's gospel i.e.

22 Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem.²³ Someone asked him, "Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?" He said to them, ²⁴ "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to.²⁵ Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.' "But he will answer, 'I don't know you or where you come from.'

26 "Then you will say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.'

27 "But he will reply, 'I don't know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!'

28 "There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out.²⁹ People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.³⁰ Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last."

In this passage Jesus is addressing the religious folk of his day. Yes, they know about God from the scriptures and follow a religious lifestyle, yet they don't know Him. This was the wake-up call and with it a warning that at the final judgement they would find themselves locked outside, not just for a while but for all eternity! Although Jesus also points out that the gentiles, folk like you and I, would find a way in if we accepted Jesus as our Lord and Saviour.

I haven't written about it for a while, but God hates religion. He said of the Pharisees - you look like whitewashed tombs, good on the outside but rotten to the core. In the final analysis all will be exposed and God will ask each of us the same question "Do you know my Son"? So, we do have a choice to get to know Jesus, but the offer is only valid while we have breath.

We only have so much time on earth and the day of our departure is unknown so I'll close with a few words from St Peter - **He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9)**

May God's blessing be upon everyone in the parish.

Rev'd Chris Lawrence

Diary of Church Services

Any remaining Covid precautionary measures are in place to make your visit a safe one. The latest information is always on the Church Website: <https://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk>

JUNE 2022

05 Pentecost

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
2.30 pm **Rose Lancaster Jubilee Concert in Church**
(Parish event - All welcome)
4.30 pm **High Tea in the Vicarage Garden (Parish event – All Welcome)**
See church website for further details and/or The Framfield Community Facebook page

12 Trinity Sunday

- 10.00 am Family Service with the Blackboys School Choir

19 First Sunday of Trinity (Father's day)

- Post service – Vicar buys Dad's a beer in the Hare & Hounds!**
8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)

26 Second Sunday of Trinity

- 10.00 am Morning Praise

JULY 2022

03 Third Sunday of Trinity

- 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)

10 Fourth Sunday of Trinity

- 10.00 am Family Service

17 Fifth Sunday of Trinity

- 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)

- 24 **Sixth Sunday of Trinity**
10.00 am Morning Praise
- 31 **Seventh Sunday of Trinity**
10.00 am Morning Praise

(Everyone is welcome at any of the church services)

BCP: Book of Common Prayer. CW: Common Worship

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE
BY 10th JULY 2022
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



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

**12th June 2022 with The Blackboys School Choir
10th July 2022**

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 £10.00 per hour.

For more details about the hall and its events please get in touch with Graham Seldon on 01825 508758. mobile 07973 685992 or email: hoss.graham@outlook.com

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebration



Parish Event - Sunday 5th June 2022, 2.30pm

Framfield Parish Church

Vintage Singer, Rose Lancaster, will be taking us on a journey through the timeless classics of the 1920s, through the swing, and jazz of the 30s, 40s and 50s.



Rose's performance will be followed by a traditional English tea (sandwiches, cakes & scones) in the Vicarage Garden at approximately 4.30pm - All welcome

(do bring a picnic rug)

Contributions of a cake, a dozen scones or a plate of sandwiches would be appreciated; we'll provide tea, coffee, soft drinks etc.

Nature Notes

Nothing is permanent in nature. Even the surface of the planet is forever moving and changing with tectonic plate movements, usually too small to notice. A forest is a climax community and if humans allow it, satellite images of forest will show no apparent change over a human lifetime. However, most trees have an expected life span. Birches live for about 60 years, beech for about 300, oaks for about 600 and yews over 1,000.

When an old tree dies and falls over, it forms a clearing. Gradually, it will rot away and let the sunlight reach the floor. From that time, there is a period of succession as the ground becomes recolonised. The same happens within an abandoned field. Incidentally, the word field is derived from ‘a felled area of forest’. On bare ground, the first visible organisms are the herbs, usually grasses and other seedlings. Second come the larger plants such as nettles and brambles, following on from that come the woody saplings of shrubs and small trees such as heather, gorse, hawthorn and elder. All these have a low maximum height so that eventually birch, beech, oak, yew and others can push through to the light and out-shade everything below that has gone before.

If the canopy of the forest is not completely closed, parts of these layers can persist, and it is interesting to see how this succession happens every year concerning the leafing and flowering in some woodlands. In a balanced ancient woodland, first the wood anemone leaves appear followed by their white flowers as the bluebell leaves push through and then flower, taking over from the anemones. After that, the hawthorn leaves and May blossom break bud with the honeysuckle and eventually the leaves in the giant trees burst and grow to form a shadowing canopy resulting in a decayed forest floor. The insects follow this succession and pollinate the flowers in all these plants including the trees, which are sometimes also wind pollinated, and eventually form seeds through the summer and autumn. They drop their seeds, then (if deciduous) their leaves and the cycle starts again. Everything green in the plant world is a solar panel, converting carbon dioxide into oxygen and organic material. It is lovely to see the breeze gently coaxing the mature fresh green leaves during May as I write these notes.

Martyn Stenning

Framfield Parish Council – Update

The Parish Council are aware of some petitioning and complaints to East Sussex County Council regarding various highways and safety matters within the Parish. At a previous Parish Council meeting a few residents spoke up about their concerns, to which the Parish Council agreed with in principle. Whilst highway and safety matters are the jurisdiction of East Sussex County Council, we have, and still do have meetings with various stakeholders regarding such issues, with a view of making our Parish as safe as possible.

It will be of little comfort that the Parish Council are not able to procure changes alone and can only influence higher authorities in their decision making. Residents should be assured that we are doing all we can to address concerns that have been raised within our community.

To highlight a few of the actions that we are taking:

- We have regular meetings with our County Councillor – Chris Dowling, who acknowledges our concerns on several matters, not just highways and road safety.
- We have regular meetings with other local councils and Sussex Police to look at policing and safety as whole.
- We have regular meetings with other local councils and Wealden District Council to look at planning matters and processes.
- We have meetings with developers and applicants for planning applications to look at options that can be put forward in the interest of the community, including amenities and safety. This does not mean the Parish Council will support the application, but it is vital that we engage with them at a pre-application level, as it can encourage developers to take onboard local factual concerns across the Parish when they submit their application to Wealden District Council. This also does not mean that applicants or developers will embrace or facilitate our comments.
- We have regular meetings with ESCC departments at all levels. This may be in the format of planned regular meetings, bespoke concerns within the Parish, or drive arounds with the Highways Steward.

Our current top highways and safety issues in the Parish are:

Palehouse Common. The Parish Council are in regular talks with owners and occupiers of the Enlightened and Squires Farm industrial estates. The businesses are aware of concerns with HGV movements through the hamlet and have taken measures to reduce traffic through the area. New signage has been supported to remind commercial vehicles to take specific routes that avoid the narrow roads. The Parish Council are also undertaking a feasibility study with ESCC to look at a wider signage scheme leading from the arterial routes such as the A22 for HGV vehicles. Unfortunately, it is not just a case of replacing or installing a new sign without the study, as certain legal and technical requirements need to be met in line with local and national policies. We are in constant communication with Cllr Chris Dowling in order to facilitate this. However, ESCC are experiencing delays in conducting the study due to other higher priority works. This study is not supported by ESCC financially and will be at a cost the Parish Council. Until this study is complete, we will not know the next steps available or achievable.

B2102, Framfield Road (High Street) through Blackboys. The Parish Council is liaising with ESCC at all levels including with Cllr Chris Dowling regarding the issue of the speed limit, road and path safety through the area. The road is not classified to be of high priority from a road safety perspective that allows intervention and funding. We are aware that some residents are also in communication with ESCC as well. Local and national policies on highways and road safety are used to evaluate works that are needed, and this particular road does not meet the levels that could see reduced speed limits. However, the Parish Council continues to petition ESCC in this matter. Maintenance works are continuing to be done throughout the Parish where issues such as obstructed pathways have been identified. We have also had meetings with a local developer for an approved (in principle) application for 50 houses within Blackboys. The applicant and developer are keen to support the local community and are looking into options available to assist a funded project to reduce the speed limit. This is not a quick or easy process as it is subject to approvals across the District

and County Councils, along with legal and financial commitments. We will continue to explore this opportunity with the relevant stakeholders as it could be an opportunity that is unlikely to be presented again in the near future. We are grateful to the applicant and developer for looking into this and supporting the concerns of local residents.

B2192, Lewes Road through Blackboys. The Parish Council continues to petition the County Council about local residents concerns of speed through this area of the B2192. A recent poster campaign by the Sussex Safer Road Partnership was implemented, although we are unsure of the effectiveness it has had. ESCC have also conducted a strategic study on the entire length of the B2192, with a view of implementing some minor changes and improvements. It should be noted that as part of their study, the speed limit reduction of the B2192 through Blackboys has been dismissed as not required because it does not meet their criteria and standards to effect the change.

The Parish Council are therefore in communication with ESCC to look at a feasibility study for a Community Match funded project to look at the possibilities of reducing the speed limit and interventions such as signage and village gateways to support a lower speed limit. This can present a partially funded scheme (of up to 50%). Again, this is not deemed a high priority area within East Sussex, but the process is underway to establish what options would be available. The Community Match scheme is cyclic annually, and therefore it could be a considerable time to get this information back.

In summary, the Parish Council is taking all opportunities to look at Parish safety, whether it be hedges blocking footpaths, potholes, or bigger speed reduction schemes. We engage with the various Council departments to report concerns, but also encourage residents to reports issues through the various Wealden District Council and East Sussex County Council reporting processes.

Sadly, we have been made aware that some stakeholders that we engage with have received some abusive and inappropriate

communications from individuals. This is not only unacceptable, but it can also hinder our (and your) petitioning for support within the community. We encourage all residents to be clear and polite in their communications whether it be to a councillor, staff or organisation.

We will endeavour to update local residents as we receive progress on the issues mentioned. Updates can also be found in Parish Council minutes from meetings and on our website.

Some of you may have noticed that we now have a Community Speedwatch team active in the Parish. We thank these proactive individuals who do this in order to improve safety within the community and promote driver awareness.

Chairman – FPC.

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

Both Blackboys and Framfield Primary Schools have made strong starts to the exciting Summer Term. Since Easter there has been a flurry of learning, sport and school trips.

In the second week of May, Year 6 pupils took their National SATS tests. Pupils take a Reading Test, a Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Test and 3 Maths Tests. It was the first time these tests have been conducted since the Covid-19 Pandemic and everyone showed a resilient and hardworking attitude. On top of this, our Year 2 pupils have also taken their end of Key Stage 1 SATS tests and we have upcoming Times Table Checks for Year 4 and a Phonics Screening Check for Year 1. We are certainly going to be busy!

In terms of sport our Federation Football Team, a combined effort from both schools, qualified for the Sussex Finals of the Albion Cup; a competition organised via Brighton and Hove Albion FC. Playing the

finals at Brighton's training ground was a great experience for the team, but they narrowly missed out on reaching the semi-final stage despite winning one of their group games. Further success has come in events organised by Uckfield College: A Hockey tournament, a Rounders Tournament and also a Boccia Tournament. It was a first ever Boccia Tournament for both schools! Boccia is a fast-paced precision ball game, much like lawn bowls.

At the time of writing both schools' Year 6 pupils are preparing for their annual French Trip. We take the Year 6s to Boulogne-Sur-Mer for the day, in order to put into practise the conversational French they have learnt. It's a long day, but one that the pupils remember for a long time.

On Saturday 21st May, Framfield School enjoyed its annual May Fair, organised as a fund-raising event by the PTFA. A great time was had by all, and plenty of funds were raised. Blackboys have a Summer Fair on Saturday 2nd July running from 12-2:30pm. You would be very welcome to attend.

Thank you for your continued interest in our schools.
Mrs Lisa Pestell, Headteacher Framfield
Mr Graham Sullivan, Headteacher Blackboys.

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.

Rural Verges as Wildlife Corridors – A Reduction in Rural Grass Cutting Trial

The Parish Council have agreed to take part in a trial to reduce the number of rural verge cuts during the year. ESCC conducted a similar exercise in 2021 and involved twelve Parishes.

The trial reduced the grass cutting service of rural verges in those areas to:

- One visibility cut undertaken around May/June
- One 1 metre Swathe with Visibility cuts in the Autumn

This change meant that they would not cut rural verges (except for visibility) at a time when flowering is often at its peak and it is the most beneficial time for pollinators. Flowering plants would then be able to complete their lifecycles and set seed, providing further biodiversity benefits.

However, safety issues remained their priority, with any visibility or access issues being picked up and rectified through the usual process.

If during the year there are concerns about visibility or access issues they should be reported to ESCC via their website.

Ann Newton
Parish Clerk
Framfield Parish Council
(01825) 890182
www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk



NEWLIFE

NEW LIFE CHURCH BLACKBOYS

New Life Church is a family-friendly church with a big heart for the local community. We are a group of people learning to follow Jesus and to share His love and truth with others. We aim to have an informal, welcoming atmosphere where people can discover more about Jesus and grow in their faith.

We meet every Sunday at Blackboys C E Primary School : 10.15-10.45am for coffee & cake followed by our meeting from 10.45-noon. There is a group for children and young people at the same time and we share lunch together once a month - picnics and BBQs being our favourite in the summer!

We believe that God has called us to be an outward-looking church which proclaims the Good News of Jesus Christ by living out our lives as best we can by serving each other and those we know and care about in the villages. We encourage each other in developing our own faith by reading the Bible, worship and prayer on Sundays and in mid-week groups in homes.

We love being involved with running Open the Book at the school, which is a wonderful way for the children to learn about the stories of Jesus by acting them out!

In these uncertain times of unrest in the world it is so good to be reminded of these words from the Bible:

*'God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.*

*Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea ...*

He says, 'Be still, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations,

I will be exalted in the earth.'

The Lord Almighty is with us;

the God of Jacob is our fortress.

— Psalm 46

Whoever you are - you are so welcome to join us at New Life Church.

*Please phone us if you would like someone to pray for you, or if you
would like to be kept informed of what is happening in our church
community.*

Contact: Suzanne Hammond on 07794 869384

Waldron Community Market

The Waldron County Market has become the Waldron Community Market.

Waldron Community Market meets at Holy Cross Priory Village, Lewes Road, Cross in Hand on the 2nd Thursday each month at 10.00am until 12.30pm. Currently we are all indoors with a wide range of quality foods and exciting crafts. If ideas go to plan, we hope to increase our 'offer' of producers with new stalls trading outside as well as inside to create a 'virtual' High Street. Refreshments are served until midday in the elegant Boughton Lounge, so making for a relaxing and pleasurable shopping experience. More information is available on our website:

www.facebook.com/waldroncommunitymarket/

Graeme Mackenzie can be contacted either on the via email gandsmack@uwclub.net or telephone 01435 866419 for details".

Ghost Moth by Michael Blencowe of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

A few years ago, as the sun set over the South Downs, I was wandering through a wood on a twilight hike. Through the trees I noticed about a dozen figures decked out in brilliant white gathering in a small clearing. I hit the floor and, buried amongst the bracken, watched as other white figures joined them. Each individual slowly started swaying, swinging hypnotically like a pendulum suspended on an invisible wire. The whole silent scene felt eerie, otherworldly, ancient. I was spellbound and barely breathing, scared I would be discovered and this mesmerising performance would end. As some of the figures swung fixed to their stations, others oscillated wildly, whirling and crashing into each other. The light was fading fast and as my surroundings dissolved into shadow the swaying white figures seemed luminous against the gloom. Then, as the full moon rose and illuminated the glade, the action slowed, the figures retreated and I was left alone in the gloaming.

The ritual I had witnessed was the dance of the Ghost Moths: elaborate courtship behaviour performed by the males on warm summer evenings across Sussex. That moonlit glade had been temporarily transformed into a miniature moth disco where these incredible insects pirouetted, pranced, swaggered and strutted in an attempt to attract a female. More 'Saturday Night Fever' than 'The Wicker Man'.

And, like tiny Travoltas, the male Ghost Moths know that to stand out on a crowded dancefloor you need a flashy white suit. Their wings are whiter than white and look as though they have been hand-painted with Tipp-Ex. The female Ghost Moth has a more subdued wardrobe and wears pale yellow wings with elegant orange swirls. Males also have another trick up their sleeve (or in this case their trouser legs). Their hind legs contain furry scent-brushes, which release pheromones into the air like an overpowering aphrodisiac. Once the ladies are lured, it's the individual moth's dancing which seals the deal. It can be murder on the dancefloor and scuffles start as the males try to assert their positions. It's a behaviour known as

lekking and the dominant dancers will lead a lucky lady of the lek into the surrounding shadows.

In days gone by the moth's mysterious, ethereal waltz was interpreted as something supernatural and it has been suggested that the dance of the Ghost Moth gave rise to local legends of fairies and Will-O-The-Wisps. If anything, the reality is just as magical and spellbinding to watch.

Sussex Wildlife Trust is an independent charity caring for wildlife and habitats throughout Sussex. Founded in 1961, we have worked with local people for over half a century to make Sussex richer in wildlife.

We rely on the support of our members to help protect our rich natural heritage. Please consider supporting our work. As a member you will be invited to join Michael Blencowe on our regular wildlife walks and also enjoy free events, discounts on wildlife courses, Wildlife magazine and our Sussex guidebook, Discovering Wildlife. It's easy to join online at sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join



Introducing the Anne Robson Helpline - if you or someone close to you is dying, you can talk to us.

At the Anne Robson Trust we aim to be there to listen to anyone who faces dying or the imminent death of someone they care about. We know that facing the end of life can leave you feeling isolated and alone.

Being able to access support is so important. Gaining knowledge of what may happen towards the end of life and being prepared helps both the person dying and their loved ones to feel a sense of control.

Calls are free and confidential. **Call us on 0808 801 0688 - we have time to talk**

Please visit www.annerobsontrust.org.uk/helpline-service to find out more.

SPEEDING TRAFFIC IN BLACKBOYS

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

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

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

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

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

NEWS FROM YOUR WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

As I write, we are in the middle of a bin strike. Wealden are putting daily updates on their website as are the Parish Council but do contact me if you cannot obtain this information.

Some of you may have heard that I was elected Leader of the Council in May. This is a great privilege but a daunting task – my predecessor, Bob Standley, had been Leader for many years and due to his expertise in finance the sole reason the Council is in such a healthy financial position particularly compared to other authorities.

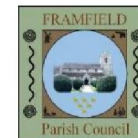
Also, as I write, news is slowly emerging on the Government's intentions regarding housing numbers. Hopefully this will be good news for us and something I can write about next time.

For the eighth year running Wealden District Council's visitor attractions guide is back by popular demand. The new 2022/23 attractions guide showcases over 80 attractions within the District offering many 'hidden gems' for visitors to explore. Distribution of the guide will be to businesses within a two and a half hour drive time of the Wealden area. The guide is also sent to tourist information centres nationally. Outlets including attractions, accommodation providers, hospitality and leisure venues, as well as libraries, leisure centres, retail shops and garden centres.

The Wealden Community Lottery is expected to be introduced in Autumn 2022 and is part of the Council's strategy to help support charities and other good causes. The lottery sees players purchasing tickets for £1 and choosing a good cause they want 60% of their donation to go to. The remainder will go on prize money – there are prizes ranging from £25 to £25,000 - and management fees.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact me with any queries.

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



Thinking of becoming a Parish Councillor?

What is a Parish Council?

Framfield Parish Council is the local authority that makes decisions on behalf of the people in the parish of Framfield. It is the level of local government closest to the community, with the district authority (Wealden District Council) and the county authority (East Sussex County Council) above it in the hierarchy.

Why become a Parish Councillor?

By becoming a parish councillor you become someone your community will look to for help, guidance and support - a community leader with the power to influence decisions for the benefit of the people you support.

What decisions do Parish Councils make?

Framfield Parish Council make all kinds of decisions on issues that affect the local community. Parish councils have limited powers to make decisions but they do have the ability to negotiate with, and the power to influence, those other organisations that do make the final decisions (such as the district or county council, health authorities, police etc.). In this respect parish councils are extremely powerful. The organisations that make the final decisions know that a parish council gives the best reflection of how a community feels about something and its views will be taken seriously.

How much time does it take up?

Framfield Parish Council meets up to 12 times per year for the council meeting to which members of the public are also invited. Meetings may last two or three hours, depending on what's on the list of items to discuss. We also have working groups and committees to deal with specific subjects, such as highways, planning or environment. In addition to the regular meetings Councillors are also Trustees for the local village halls, recreation grounds and allotments, which generally meet to coincide with the council meetings.

How long does a Parish Councillor serve for?

Once elected, parish councillors sit on the council for a maximum of four years. If they then want to stay in the post they can stand for re-election. This does not mean that you have to stay for four years. If you find it's not for you, or you can no longer meet the commitment, you can stand down.

Am I eligible to be a Parish Councillor?

To stand for election on a parish council, you must:

- be a British citizen, or a citizen of the Commonwealth or the European Union, and;
- be at least 18 years old.

To be eligible to stand for an election for a particular parish, you must:

- in the past 12 months have occupied (as owner or tenant) land or other premises in the parish; or
- work in the parish (as your principal or only place of work); or
- live within three miles of the parish boundary.

You cannot be a Parish Councillor if you...

- are the subject of a bankruptcy restriction order or interim order;
- have, within five years before the day of the election, been convicted in the United Kingdom of any offence and have had a prison sentence (whether suspended or not) for a period of over three months, without the option of a fine;
- work for the council you want to become a councillor for.

You don't have to be connected to a political party. Framfield PC is inclusive and not a Council that is defined by party politics.

Are you interested in becoming a Parish Councillor?

If you do become a parish councillor you will have to sign up to the Code of Conduct.

The best way to find out what it's like to be a parish councillor is to talk to someone who's doing it now. Come along to a parish council meeting, speak to one of the councillors and find out what they think of the job. For further information, please contact the Clerk – clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk



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FOR COLLECTING
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AND RAISING
£ **221.65**



Framfield Parish Council
MEETING SCHEDULE 2022

On each date detailed below, an informal Trust update will be held at 4.30 pm followed by the Parish Council meeting at 5 pm.

At the time of issuing this notice, all meetings are to be held at the Village Hall, Blackboys, 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.

31 May

26 July

27 September

29 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



**FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS
HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**

Hello all

We are very excited to share our Summer Show 2022 Schedule with you finally – there is something for everyone so why not give it a go. There are classes in fruit, vegetables, flowers, plants, cookery, preserves as well as children’s classes, handicrafts and photography. In addition, there is the ever-popular Dog Show with 17 different classes.

Elsewhere on the Recreation ground there will be musical entertainment from the 1066 Pipe and Drums, fun racing events and the now well-established egg throwing contest. A fun day out for all the family!

The entry forms and full details are in the schedule so you can start your planning now. The schedule is being delivered to homes in the parish and additional copies are available from various points in Framfield and Blackboys. Full details are available on our website, and you can download a copy from the schedule from our website. Please visit [Summer Show 2022 | Framfield and Blackboys Horticultural Society \(framfieldandblackboys-hort-soc.com\)](https://framfieldandblackboys-hort-soc.com)

This is an important community event, and we are proud that we use the profits from the show to support local community projects with our “Community Fund”

The date for your diary **Saturday 13th August 2022 at 12.30pm to be held at Framfield Recreation Ground and Memorial Hall.**

We are always looking for volunteers to help with the planning, setting up and running the show so please do contact Terry Everitt on terry.everitt@outlook.com if you are able to help in any way. Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for updates www.facebook.com/Framfieldandblackboysshow

We are looking forward to seeing you at the show.

Denise Taylor - Chair, Framfield and Blackboys Horticultural Society

Gardening Hints and Tips from Jenny Bacon

What a dry Spring we have had which makes the expression right plant, right place even more important especially if the trend for dryer Springs and Summers continue. If your plants are happy where you have planted them and the conditions are right, they should thrive, if they are struggling its worth having a rethink and possibly move them. It's always worth checking your soil type before you purchase new plants to ensure your soil is suitable. If unsure what to choose, look around and see what flourishes in other gardens nearby, the chances are it will also do well in your garden.

For anyone that has planted trees in commemoration of the Queens Platinum Jubilee remember to keep them well watered for up to a year after planting especially during the dry months.

I know it's only just Summer but give some thought to bulbs you would like to plant in the Autumn. In recent years I have been buying species tulips which may not be as fancy as the cultivars but live so much longer. My favourite is Sylvestris which has a lovely yellow flower and once it has gone over in the pot plant them in your garden and they will naturalise to give even more joy for years to come. Camassia are also a great addition to the garden, flowering in May and can be planted in a damp area of grass and will flower year after year. One of my favourites is Quamash which is one of the smaller varieties and the leaves die down gracefully.

With everyone having to tighten their belts, June is a good time to sow biennial seeds such as Wallflowers, Sweet Williams and

Honesty, they will reward you next spring and summer for a fraction of the cost of buying the plants. Alternatively try your hand a growing vegetable such as leeks, sow the seeds in a tray and when they are big enough plant them into the garden they don't take up much room and you can enjoy eating them over the winter months.

Ps if you have any spare seedlings, we will be having a plant stall at the Summer Show and we are always very grateful for plant donations.

Follow the Countryside Code

Rights of Way (footpaths) – the Parish Council has been approached by concerned residents about the increasing incidents of walkers diverting away from the statutory footpaths across land, and in some case gardens, sometimes leaving gates open allowing livestock to roam. Could residents please make sure that they stay on the proper routes and keep their dogs on leads where appropriate. Footpath maps are available from the Parish Clerk or accessed on line via this link:

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/leisureandtourism/countryside/rightsofway/map/>

Countryside Code leaflet: well?

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/973254/countryside-code-leaflet.pdf

NOTICE OF ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDEN

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 26th April 2022, Mr Graham Seldon was elected as Church Warden.

We welcome his appointment and look forward to working with him to further God's work in the Parish..

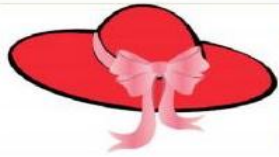
Barry Richardson - Secretary to the PCC



Framfield & Blackboys WI

Getting Ready For Our Jubilee Celebrations

Preparations are in full swing for our garden party in celebration of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee to be held in our President's garden. As ever, there will be a delicious afternoon tea followed by Jubilee Pudding.



We've all been instructed to wear Jubilee themed hats - so will it be the age of elegance or the Mad Hatter's tea party? Only time will tell!



April Meeting

We heard an inspirational talk about Herstmonceux Castle from Melinda Stone. Herstmonceux, which dates from the 15th century, is one of the oldest significant brick buildings still standing in England and was one of the first in the land to be constructed using that material. Built by Roger Fiennes, the castle was the setting for the colourful lives of subsequent generations until it eventually passed out of family ownership in 1708. Early in the 20 century it became home to the Greenwich Observatory and is now owned by Queen's University, of Ontario, Canada.

May Meeting

Daniel Rodrigues from Southern Water gave a most entertaining talk on our waste water system, backed up by an animated loo! The most frequent cause of domestic blocked drains are wipes of all varieties - no matter what it says on the packet! And we're still creating fat bergs. Pour excess fat into your bin and wipe greasy pans with kitchen paper while still warm.

Upcoming Events

Saturday	13th August	Framfield & Blackboys Show
Friday	16th September	Quiz Night

If you would like to find out more about our WI, why not come along to one of our meetings as a visitor. Please contact

Delia Gillies on 01825 890825 or Jackie Samways on 01825 890417.

Follow us on Facebook or Google Framfield & Blackboys WI

FRAMFIELD MARKET 2022 at Framfield Memorial Hall

The remaining dates for 2022 are detailed below, and the market will run from 10 am to 12 noon unless the situation with Covid-19 changes and new restrictions apply.

A variety of stalls, with all proceeds from the cake stall, raffle and 'café' going towards the ongoing maintenance of the Hall. Bring/meet your friends for a coffee and a chat or have a stall.

But to be blunt – 'Use it or lose it'. A lot of effort goes into the running of the market and unless we get good footfall, the continuation of the market will be reviewed.

28th May	25th June	30th July
24th September	29th October	26th November
17th December		

Contact me for full details.

Ann Newton –
clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk
01825
890182

Litter bins – our Parish litter bins have become targets for fly-tipping mainly of domestic waste. If anyone has any information could they please me know. Everyone is entitled to a bin collection paid through their Council Tax. No one should have to use our Parish bins for their own waste.

WHO'S WHO AT THE St THOMAS À BECKET NEWSLETTER

Joint Chair:

For the Church: Rev. Chris Lawrence

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 teams of volunteers

Printers: "Print Matters"

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

CIRCULATION:

This magazine reaches over 1100 households in the parish.

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Contact the Clerk, Ann Newton for advertising details and rates.

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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).

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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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