

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

# Parish Magazine



**Framfield, Blackboys  
and  
Palehouse Common**

**OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2023**

## **HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL CHURCH**

**All communications for church matters should be  
directed to the Church Office:**

**Email:** admin@framfieldchurch.org.uk  
**Post:** Vicarage Barn, Brookhouse Lane,  
Framfield TN22 5NH  
**Telephone:** Please leave a message - 01825 891033

**The Church Office is not staffed on a full-time basis.  
Messages may be left on the Office answerphone.**

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

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### **From the Church Registers:**

<b>At rest:</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> September:</b>	<b>Edward Molesworth</b>
<b>Baptism:</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> September:</b>	<b>Poppy Extence</b>

## From the Vicar's desk

I seem to have been spending an inordinate amount of time on Rotas this month! It was always going to be a challenge meeting the needs of three distinct Churches and It's important that I get it right.

Last month, I said that I was about to embark on Christmas planning, and I'm pleased to announce that I've finally done it!

December had to include:

- Three Carol Services
- Three Crib Services
- Three Christingle Services
- Two Christmas Concerts
- One Midnight Holy Communion.
- And finally: Three Christmas Morning Services!

I'm pretty sure that this is the final version: so for your information, Christmas services are shown on the church website.

### **Rural Ministry:**

Although I grew up in the countryside, all my Ordained ministry has been in Eastbourne town or the suburbs of Stone Cross and Langney.

I am very keen to explore the unique opportunities and indeed challenges of Rural ministry, and with this in mind have been exploring what support and training might be available for a new rural minister.

On Monday the 18th of September Revd. Janice and I are attending a one-day Rural Ministry Conference organised by the Diocese of Chichester. The Diocese writes this:

For hundreds of years village churches have been at the centre of their rural communities. Despite a growing ambivalence about organised religion, a significant number of the rural population still see the village church as their spiritual home, a beacon of hope in an uncertain world, and a symbol of God's unchanging love. This unique dynamic, where the rural church is deeply rooted in the wider community, provides both challenge & opportunity. If rural churches are to survive, they need to recover their role as hubs of community life. And if they are to flourish,

"they need to recover their confidence in the transformative power of the Gospel to change hearts and lives" - Bishop Robert Atwell.

This Rural Conference, building on a similar event last autumn ('How Village Churches Thrive') will provide an opportunity for clergy, churchwardens, and all who want to see their local churches flourish, to be encouraged, to renew confidence, and to be inspired. As well as input from seasoned practitioners

in rural mission & ministry; there will be opportunity to discuss and share with those in similar contexts, as well as receive practical and imaginative ideas to strengthen the life of the local Church, in loving & serving our rural communities.

Following on from this, I have been recommended a residential course this October which I am pleased to say that each of our three parishes have agreed to fund me to attend.

This is an intensive 2-day course that tackles all the issues that I am beginning to identify in our three wonderful parishes.

Sessions include:

#### Rural Contexts: Place & People

The aim is to help participants begin to understand their specific context. Looks at some of the issues faced by rural communities, including housing, poverty, and transport. Considers the different, increasingly diverse groups of people who make up rural communities. This is a more sociological view, also looking at different types of social capital and the church's place in rural communities.

#### Exploring Rural Leadership

How do we lead from a faith perspective? How can we build partnerships with our communities?

#### Rural Mission & Evangelism

For effective mission, context is key: what works in one community won't necessarily work in another. We explore what mission means in the rural context and create space for delegates to share stories from their own communities. What are the overlaps with evangelism? The rural context has its own specific opportunities and challenges which are explored here.

#### Rural Children and Young People

Children and young people are present in rural communities but – as in many suburban and urban communities – not always in churches. This session looks at some of the challenges and opportunities of working with rural children and young people.

#### Rural Mission in Practice

A workshop which creatively explores some ways of working on mission with local congregations. This session enables delegates to identify what connections those in their congregations already have with the wider community and draw on these as a starting point for collaborating in mission.

#### Rural Communities & Agriculture

In this session a representative of the agricultural community shares insights into the rhythm of the farming year, some of the current opportunities and challenges facing farmers, and ways to make contact and build relationships with local farmers.

I'll let you know how I get on in a later issue!

Yours,



Fr. James  
Revd James Vine

Please note that the latest notices and information are always posted on the church website. - [www.framfieldchurch.org.uk](http://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk).

### Help needed in the Churchyard

Please contact Peter Berry (mobile 0781 545 9075) if you are willing and able to help, even a couple of hours a week, or email the church office ([admin@framfieldchurch.org.uk](mailto:admin@framfieldchurch.org.uk)).

**Garden of Remembrance:** The extension is now complete – and will provide for interments of ashes well into the future. We are staging the two events in October to help cover the costs. Please support these events - see centre pages.



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

15th October 2023  
19th November 2023

## Diary of Church Services

**Note:** The latest church service information will always be on the Church website: <https://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk>

**Please note there is no service at Framfield on 8<sup>th</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup> October. There is a combined service for all three churches at East Hoathly (on 8<sup>th</sup>) and at Chiddingly (29<sup>th</sup>).**

### OCTOBER 2023

- 01 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am The Eucharist (CW)
- 08 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am Combined Eucharist at East Hoathly (Revd James Vine) **(Note: no service at Framfield)**
- 15 Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am Family Service (Revd James Vine)
- 22 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am Morning Praise (with Peter Berry)
- 29 Bible Sunday**  
10.00 am Combined Eucharist at Chiddingly (Revd James Vine) **(Note: no service at Framfield)**

### NOVEMBER 2023

- 05 All Saints Sunday**  
10.00 am Eucharist (Revd James Vine)
- 12 Remembrance Sunday**  
10.00 am Parish Eucharist Service at Framfield (Revd Janice Bartholomew)

## Nature Notes

### 19 Second Sunday before Advent

10.00 am Family Service

### 26 Christ the King

10.00 am Morning Praise (with Peter Berry)

*(Everyone is welcome at any of the church services)*

**Note:** The latest church service information is always on the

Church Website: <https://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk>

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE**

**BY 10<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**

**TO**

**ANN NEWTON – 01825 890182**

**Please note new email address:**

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

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

**FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Mrs Ann Newton (Parish Clerk)**

**Telephone/fax: (01825) 890182.**

**Please note new Email: [clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk)**

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

**Parish Council website: [www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk](http://www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk)**

**CHURCH NEWS ITEMS MAY ALSO BE**

**EMAILED TO THE CHURCH OFFICE:**

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

This bi-monthly Newsletter is distributed free to all homes (around 1100)  
within the Parish.

It interests me that last summer, the British Isles experienced record-breaking high temperatures and a drought. This year, temperatures have been generally below the average norm. Also, it has been unusually wet. So what is happening to the climate? These islands have not experienced any general disaster this year so far. The fact is disasters have been experienced elsewhere. For example, more than a million displaced people and dozens dead after record rain drenches north-eastern China.

May 2023 was the world's third warmest May on record in 174 years. We are already seeing devastating fires in North America. Global sea ice has reached a record low. This will reduce the albedo effect. Ice reduces global heating by reflecting the sun's rays into space. July 2023 was the hottest global month on record. Global average daily sea surface temperatures (SST) hit 20.96 Celsius in early August, breaking the record of 20.95°C, reached in 2016, according to the Copernicus climate modelling service. Scientists say the record will continue to be broken. It is usual for oceans to be at their global hottest in March, not August. This is because most of the global ocean is in the southern hemisphere.

It is encouraging that the BBC is beginning to regularly mention climate relevant facts on the news, because I feel too few people in Britain are aware of them. We have heard many reports of how thousands of British holiday makers have gone on holiday to Mediterranean countries only to find they need repatriating to Britain because of the heat and fires. It also helps us to understand that many folks from "hot countries" are trying to migrate to Britain because of our more temperate climate. Sadly, rich people in those countries invest in air conditioning in their homes, which incidentally, contributes to climate change by using fossil fuel generated electricity to export heat from their rooms to the world outside. But poor people who maybe cannot afford such a luxury decide to migrate north.

The British Isles has its own air conditioning system that may keep us warmer than our continental neighbours in the winter and cooler in the summer. This is called the Atlantic conveyor, or the North Atlantic Drift. This is a current of water that flows from the Caribbean Sea to the British Isles. This is accompanied by our prevailing, rather wet, SW winds.

*Martyn Stenning*

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

Both schools in the St Thomas a Becket Church of England Federation have enjoyed exciting starts to the new academic year.

At Framfield, we have welcomed new Headteacher Mr Bradbeer who has quickly settled in and impressed families with his knowledge and commitment. New Puffins Teacher Ms Lancaster has also made a very positive start with her class. Ms Lancaster is joined in Puffins by a new Teaching Assistant Mr Hills and the children are benefitting from his experience too. At Blackboys, new Class 3 teacher Miss Rietdyk has shown great enthusiasm which has already rubbed off on her class.

We have also welcomed our brand new pupils. Our Reception intakes have settled brilliantly and have enjoyed their first 2 weeks exploring their new classrooms and making friends. Already though we are planning for September 2024! Blackboys have their first open morning for prospective Reception pupils on Tuesday 10th October and Framfield have theirs on Thursday 12th October. Please see both schools' websites for further details.

Classes from both schools started the term by completing English work based on the same book. Seeing all age groups enthused and focussed on the *The Invisible* by Tom Percival, and producing some excellent written responses has been a joy. All classes also took part in a Hula Hoop workshop! With our shared Christian Value being Perseverance, we were keen to challenge the pupils to learn new skills; one they would really have to persevere with. We enjoyed a great workshop and the number of children who mastered hula hooping in a short space of time was impressive.

New Priest in Charge at St Thomas a Becket, Father James has visited both schools, meeting both staff and pupils. He led an assembly/act of worship based on Perseverance and made quite an impression. We are currently gearing up for Harvest Festivals in early October. As rural schools, we feel the importance of celebrating this Festival and will involve both the Uckfield Community Fridge and Uckfield Food Bank in our collections.

At the time of writing the year 5 and 6 pupils from both schools are preparing to head off on their residential trip to PGL Windmill Hill. Spending 5 days together taking part in challenging activities always creates amazing memories and the camaraderie generated has a lasting impact on the rest of the academic year. We hope they have an amazing time.

Thank you for your continued interest in our schools. You can keep up to date on news via our school websites.

*Mr Sullivan and Mr Bradbeer - Blackboys and Framfield Schools*

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**Mike Churchyard is a Sports & Massage Therapist based in Blackboys, East Sussex. Mike can help with:**

- Treatment and Prevention of Injuries
- Reduction of Stress and Tension
- Improved Sleep
- Reduction of Scar Tissue
- Postural assessment and improvements
- Muscle Maintenance
- Improved Movement
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## Hoverflies by Michael Blencowe for Sussex Wildlife Trust

Everyone loves bees, don't they? Knowing that our bees are in decline has prompted protests and petitions and highlighted the important service these buzzing pollinators provide to our planet. Without them our crops and ecosystems would collapse. Yet many other pollinators that provide the same service don't get the same level of public support. So today I'm waving my flag for the hoverflies.

For some reason, they're not as loveable as bees. Perhaps it's because most of the time people mistake them for wasps. This isn't totally our fault because that's exactly what the hoverflies want you to think. The 283 species of hoverfly in the UK come in many shapes, colours and sizes but most of them sport yellow and black stripes, making them easily confused for wasps, bees, hornets and bumblebees. It's a strategy called Batesian mimicry and was first proposed by Leicestershire lepidopterist Henry Bates in 1861. Hoverflies are harmless. They don't sting and can't bite but they have discovered you don't actually have to be dangerous to deter predators – you just have to look like something that's dangerous.

Yet their devious mimicry isn't the most incredible thing about them. Their wings are the things. Hoverflies (like all flies) have just two wings (half as many wings as bees and wasps). Whereas other flies keep their wings straight, hoverflies incline theirs to create an angled downward stroke at a remarkable rate of 120 beats per second. This allows hoverflies to fly to a most amazing place: nowhere. Hoverflies have become the motionless masters of mid-air.

It's not all sitting around in the sky though. During their few days of life, hoverflies fight, fornicate and feed and while busy collecting energy-giving nectar and protein-rich pollen they inadvertently provide that vital pollination service to our flowers and crops. And hoverflies have earned the title of 'The Gardeners Friend' because about 40% of them have a larval stage which is basically a tiny crawling stomach that roams around your flowerbed eating aphids. Pollination, pest control – next thing you know these beneficial little insects will be mowing the front lawn for us too.

So why not thank these friendly flies by planting some of their favourite flowers in your garden - parsley, fennel, borage, hebe, sedum and alliums - and consider putting in a pond no matter how small. Do your bit for the pollinators and they'll keep the world working for us.

## FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



### Cooler, Bigger and Better Than Ever

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August saw the Framfield and Blackboys Summer Show 2023 take place on the Recreation Ground and in the Memorial Hall.

With the weather turned down a notch from last year's scorcher, the attendance was up and the whole show grew in size. There were more stalls to peruse, more entries to see in both the marquee and the hall and more visitors enjoying it all.

Stuart Bligh provided entertainment at the bar with arena fun from the Bradford Alpacas and the return of The Framfield Stagers as "The Red Barrows" who, with tongues firmly in their cheeks, carried out their intricate moves to music while wheeling the red wheelbarrows of course! It wasn't exactly Airbourne but it was at least the same weekend and proved to be as popular and humorous a display as we expected! The entertainment concluded with the traditional children's races and the annual egg-throwing competition.

There was a wide array of stalls populating the field, from the traditional hoopla, raffle, china smashing and tombola to private stalls supplying a variety of goods, edibles and information, many of them from local charities and small-scale local businesses. There were jams and chutneys, jewellery, and a range of other crafts. Also in attendance was a collection of intriguing cars of various ages and some fairground activities to keep the younger ones amused.

The now annual Scarecrow Competition resulted in the area being surrounded by an impressive selection of creative entries making judging difficult! As you may recall, this was the focus of Marcus Wareing's attendance with a film crew last year and you may have seen our Summer Show 2022 on episode 10 recently. The episode is still on iPlayer!

The marquee was filled with more entries than last year with a remarkable display of vegetables and fruit along with some stunning flowers and floral arrangements. As usual the growing year suited some plants more than others but there are always some truly eye-catching examples.

The Memorial Hall contained a selection of impressive photographs and handicrafts made from a range of materials as well as the cookery section with its usual mouth-watering preparations.

Overall the Summer Show 2023 was a great success with more to do, more visitors and a growing number of stalls. There were so many lovely comments about the whole event, its atmosphere and the variety of things to do and enjoy. For that I have to thank the hard-working Summer Show Organising Committee for all their efforts throughout the year, the Show Volunteers who work tirelessly on the day itself and anyone who attended and spent money to support our local event. With our increased profits from the show this year we will again be releasing details of the Community Fund (with funds from the show profits) in due course.

If you would like to help make Summer Show 2024 an even greater success then please contact me on [terry.everitt@outlook.com](mailto:terry.everitt@outlook.com) to help out in any way on the day or to be part of our friendly organising committee.

We hope to see you there in 2024. And why not consider an entry or two next time round! Look out for the Summer Show Schedule in early 2024.

***Terry Everitt, Summer Show Chair  
On behalf of the Summer Show Organising Committee 2023.***

## Summer Show Results 2023

Trophy/Section/Award	For	Winner
The Hobbs Barton Cup	Best exhibit in show	Terry Everitt
The John Dann Cup	Best "From My Garden" exhibit	Terry Everitt
The New Whyly Perpetual Challenge Cup	Most points in Class 1	Terry Everitt
The Desmond Gunner Cup	Best exhibit in Class 2	Terry Everitt
The Trevor Horscroft Cup	Best carrots	Terry Everitt
The Cyril Jeffery Memorial Plate	Best runner beans	Margaret Bond
The David Hazelden Plate	Best tomatoes	Terry Everitt
The Peter Butler Plate	Best dish of fruit	Saffron White
The Dennis White Memorial Cup	Most points in flower classes	Jackie Argyrou
The Elsie Jeffery Jug	Best dahlia	Chantal Roser
The Geddes Rose Bowl	Most points for roses	Valerie Letley
The Williams Cup	Best novice roses	Valerie Letley
The Frank Leeves Perpetual Challenge Cup	Best sweet peas	Terry Everitt
The Gordon-Wilson Cup	Best hydrangeas	Alison Wright
The Askew Perpetual Challenge Bowl	Best novice exhibit	Caroline Harrison
The Colonel Nigel Drew Cup	Novice Plate of Produce	Valerie Letley
The Whitewood Perpetual Challenge Cup	Most points (novice classes)	Valerie Letley
The Henry Cup	Most points floral arrangement	Cody Rabbett
The Don & Wilma Diplock Memorial Cup	Best floral arrangement	Patricia Whittaker
The New Place Perpetual Challenge Cup	Most points cookery section	Rachel Owen
The Arthur Makepeace Trophy	Best Cookery Exhibit	James Drewett
The Barbara Briault Cup	Best exhibit children's section	Saffron White
The Moore Miniature Challenge Cups	<b>For most points in children's sections</b>	
	4 years and under	Alma Morrison-Hall
	5 to 7 years	Isabel Johnson
	8 to 10 years	Saffron White
	12 to 16 years	<i>Not awarded in 2023</i>
The Sampson Bowl	Best handicraft exhibit	Ann Finch
The Barbara & Horace Moore Cup	Most points in photography	Jane Barnett
The Burton Bowl	Best photography exhibit	Rachel Owen
The Jeffery Victor Ludorum Trophy	Most successful family	Hall / Morrison family
Diploma for Excellence in Horticulture – Fruit and Vegetables		Terry Everitt
Diploma for Excellence in Horticulture – Floral Art		Margaret McSheehy
Junior Competitor's Awards of Merit		Saffron White Indi Adamski
The National Vegetable Society – Silver Medal & Diploma		Terry Everitt
Bronze Banksian Medal from the Royal Horticultural Society		Valerie Letley
Best in Dog Show – Pedigree		Maria Williams with <i>Blaze</i>
Best in Dog Show – Novelty		Pat Miluam with <i>Summer</i>
<b>Note on Trophies and Special Awards</b>		
<i>Trophies are kept for one year, other awards are yours to keep in perpetuity.</i>		
<i>You will be contacted about returning the trophy in July. It should be given back clean and polished please.</i>		

## KNEPP REWILDING & YOU

Framfield & Blackboys Horticultural Society & Framfield Parish Church

### Community Event

Please Join Us at

Framfield Parish Church (TN22 5NS)

**Tuesday October 10<sup>th</sup> 2023**

7pm for drink/chat/raffle.

Talk Starts 7.30 - 8.15

with 15 mins Q & A



## Tom Forward - Knepp

"Rewilding and You "

the ideas, the places leading the way and the part we can all play in the movement.

### Limited Tickets

Book Early to Avoid Disappointment

Price per ticket

**FAB Horti member £ 6.00 - non Horti member £ 10.00**

Inc Glass of wine/soft drink and nibbles.

Plus Tea or Coffee after the talk

**For more Information,**

**email [fabhs.event@gmail.com](mailto:fabhs.event@gmail.com)**

with how many tickets you would like.

Proceeds to be shared between Framfield Parish Church & FABHS



# THE KIDBROOKE PARK SINGERS

**Director: Diane Howard**

**Organist: Chris Harris**



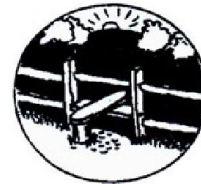
**Autumn Benefit Concert for Parish Funds at the  
fine 13th-century Church of**

**St. Thomas à Becket, Framfield**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 4.00 p.m.**

Please join us for a mixed programme of sacred and secular pieces  
ranging over four centuries

Tea in the Parish Hall after the performance ▪ Suggested donation: £10



## Framfield & Blackboys WI

### GOOD MEMORIES OF SUMMER

**July Meeting:** Speaker Joanne Foat told us of the lives of the Women's Land Army and the Lumberjills, who made such a significant contribution to food production during WW2. Over 22,000 women volunteered and they worked in all weathers and conditions throughout the war to help feed the nation.

**Our annual August lunch** at the Hare & Hounds was a lovely get-together with the excellent food and service we can rely on from Lorraine and her team.

#### Framfield Show

The 2023 Summer Show was surely our most successful ever with record numbers of people visiting our stand. We had our ever popular selection of home-made cakes and jar tombola. People could win an adorable bear, **hand made by Angela Manning** by guessing its name. There was also the chance to win a super grocery hamper worth in excess of £40. Both were won by local Framfield people



#### September Meeting

Peter Gillies gave us an entertaining and informative Magic Lantern show on hop picking from the early 1900's. Women and children from the East End of London would journey to Kent in September to pick hops. Many saw it as a holiday and a welcome change of scene as well as a chance to earn some money.

#### Coming Up Next

Oct 13th

Speaker: Major John Hamill

The Battle of Lewes

**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**



## NEWS FROM YOUR WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Don't lose your vote – the annual canvass which allows Wealden to keep the electoral register up to date is underway. Keep an eye out for an email or letter.

There are still two dates left to make an appointment for a free health check if you are aged between 40 and 74 – 6 and 13 October at Heathfield and Uckfield respectively. Appointments must be booked in advance by emailing [martyn.reynolds@oneyoueastsussex.org.uk](mailto:martyn.reynolds@oneyoueastsussex.org.uk) or [sam.bentley@oneyoueastsussex.org.uk](mailto:sam.bentley@oneyoueastsussex.org.uk)

As I write, I have been attending the public inquiry into the appeal for non-determination at Bird in Eye Farm.

'Let's Talk Wealden' has gone live on the Wealden website where residents can find out about the latest proposals, have their say and ask questions etc. Residents do not need to sign up if they wish to view the site but need to register if they wish to comment, discuss or ask a question.

Wealden has switched to hydrogenated Vegetable Oil replacing diesel in all of the waste collection and street cleansing vehicles operated by the council's contractor Biffa. This reduces the carbon by up to 90%. A successful trial was operated earlier in the year with Biffa also sourcing the HVO for the vehicles which is much more expensive than diesel.

Finally, if anyone would like me to attend an event or come to a meeting to address them regarding Wealden District Council or I can assist as your elected representative please do not hesitate to contact me.

Contact details – Ann Newton, 'Highlands', Blackboys, TN22 5LR.  
Telephone - 01825 890103.  
Email – [aenewton1965@gmail.com](mailto:aenewton1965@gmail.com)

## FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – REPORT

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This time I have included some important updates effecting the Parish.

**New bus service.** This is a new seven days a week route 29A linking Brighton, Lewes, Uckfield, Framfield, Blackboys and Heathfield. Hourly, including up to mid evening on Mondays to Saturdays. I do have a few hard copies of the timetable although there is a timetable on each bus stop.

**Gun Road, bridge repairs.** The outline programme for the works is dictated by the Environment Agency (EA) permit which can take 6-8 weeks, should have been applied for by the design consultant in the first week in September but has now been delayed until the third week. This follows some lengthy ecological site surveys and watercourse related assessments that were needed to inform the permit application.

Assuming all is well with the permit and the EA don't come back with any potential "deal breakers" ESCC are aiming to start the works as soon as the permit is confirmed. The initial work will be to dam the watercourse and provide a diversion channel off to one side of the bridge location, demolish the existing bridge, before excavating and preparing the foundations for the new precast box and retaining walls.

Concurrently with the permit submission, ESCC are looking to order the precast items in advance. This will be done "at risk" in order that they can speed up the programme, but as mentioned, if the EA do have any issues related to the permit, this would be a potential issue.

The precast units themselves have a long lead-in time of up to 14 weeks. This is because ESCC are opting for skewed boxes rather than square end standard ones to avoid encroachment onto private land and the associated potentially lengthy legal processes involved.

With this lead in time for the units, delivery to site may not be until mid-December and, as such, it is unlikely that the precast installs and backfill needed in order to get the road opened before Christmas will be achievable.

The other significant risks ESCC face are related to the water levels, which may hamper the start.

**CMF (Community Match Funding) – Lewes Road, Blackboys.** The Parish Council was successful in its application to reduce the speed on the B2192 between Hollow Lane and Brownings Farm to 40-mph. This means that ESCC will match fund up to 50% of the cost. Currently the scheme is with ESCC designers and a deadline for completion cannot be confirmed.

**High Street, Blackboys – reduction in speed limit to 30-mph.** The design and costings are still being carried out by ESCC with Gold Developments with the latter offering 50% of the costs up to a maximum of £50,000. An important factor is with ESCC Streetlighting and the design/cost of the additional lights. Agreement has come back from ESCC that if implemented, consideration can then be given for a 40-mph 'buffer' out to beyond the 50-house site entrance.

**B2102, east of Pump Lane, Framfield – leak.** Confirmation has been given by ESCC that they intend to carry out drainage improvement works here, starting on the 6 November 2023 for 10 days. These works will include the installation of new pipework and gullies and the reforming of a ditch, as well as carrying out a large repair to the carriageway.

**Treeworks – along the B2102.** Some very disturbing tree works were carried out by ESCC along the B2102 at night without the Parish Council or indeed the landowners being notified. This was carried out after the new 29a bus suffered a broken window. I can now confirm that no further works are currently required. This followed on from some very robust meetings between the Parish Council, ESCC and their contractors. However, we have been warned that if additional communication from the bus company is received that further damage has been caused by branches, ESCC be will be asking for specific locations so that these individual sites can be addressed using the correct traffic management methods.

**Bins –** we are experiencing a high level of household waste being places in the Parish litter bins. This is fly-tipping and illegal. Attempts are being made to find the culprits and if anyone has information please let me know.

Ann Newton (Parish Clerk): 01825 890182

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

Website: [www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk](http://www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk).

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## COMPUTER PROBLEMS ?

- ☑ Computer running slow
- ☑ Blue screen and start-up issues
- ☑ Virus removal
- ☑ Data recovery and backup
- ☑ Software and hardware upgrades
- ☑ Windows re-installation
- ☑ Routine maintenance
- ☑ Domestic and business customers
- ☑ Tailored tuition and support using a computer

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### Contact:

Keith - Tel 07359 337311 or Email [computer-repairs@air-cam.co.uk](mailto:computer-repairs@air-cam.co.uk)

### Makers Market at Christmas:

Saturday November 25th (10am-3pm) & Sunday 26th (11am-3pm) - Brownings Farm Workshops, Blackboys, TN22 5HG - Free Entry - Family Friendly - Parking Onsite - Disabled Access - Charity Raffle - A finely curated selection of your friendly, local Makers...Artists, Ceramicists and Florists have joined together to create a new Christmas Market: on your doorstep! Pop along to meet your neighbourhood craftsmen, and purchase unique Christmas gifts.

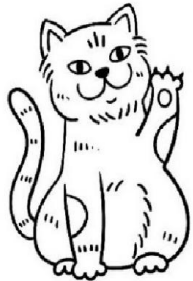


Image by <https://www.freepik.com>

### Palehouse Cattery

Friendly, family run, cattery now open  
in Palehouse Common, Framfield

For booking call:

07834 518729



### Delivering Parish Magazines:

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



☎ Office 01825 371500

✉ [info@formabuild.co.uk](mailto:info@formabuild.co.uk)

📍 [www.formabuild.co.uk](http://www.formabuild.co.uk)

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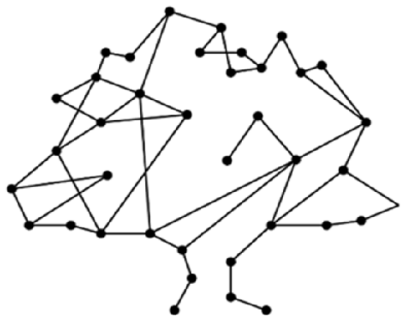
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# NEWLIFE

## NEW LIFE CHURCH BLACKBOYS

### Do you actually believe in that rubbish?

It was great to see so many familiar faces at the Framfield & Blackboys Horticultural Show in August. What a lot of hard work from the organisers and great to see the community coming together. It was nice to have a stand for New Life Church next to Reg Jeffreys - such a privilege to have known and worked with many of that generation - some from Press & Banks and Nicholls and Shoemiths, what characters! There were also those obviously not keen to engage with us - which I get and it got me thinking what is it about faith that offends some people? I then recalled a time at secondary school when someone had a Jesus sticker on their bag and I mockingly asked them 'do you actually believe in that rubbish?' He looked me straight in the eyes and said 'yes I do.' Something inside me felt real animosity and I am moved now when I hear the words of a song called 'How deep the Father's love for us' .. one of the verses says 'Behold the man upon a cross, My sin upon His shoulders. Ashamed I hear my mocking voice, call out among the scoffers. It was my sin that held Him there, until it was accomplished, His dying breath has brought me life - I know that it is finished!'

I ended my last contribution to the newsletter with the verse 'Ask and it shall be given, seek and you shall find, knock and the door will be opened unto you.' Matthew 7 v 7. It was a real privilege to attend the funeral and service of thanksgiving for the life of a friend to me and to many - Bob Thompson who played such a key role in our community over the years

with his passion for cricket and football and I was reminded that here was someone who had been an atheist most of his life - until he started 'seeking' - firstly through his love of religious art and then through those around him unpacking the truths of the Bible - which led him to find a real and living faith. God can reveal himself sometimes to us unexpectedly - like the two friends travelling on the road to Emmaus - chatting away and then realising it was Jesus beside them all along.

There was one particular story that Bob loved to tell when he was in charge of the boys football team at Blackboys C E School. They weren't the best team at the time and the captain of these 10 and 11 year old became so exasperated with them - he said 'you lot are rubbish!' At which point Bob blew his whistle - aiming his talk to the captain he said 'this is a Christian school and we expect Christian values even when we're playing football' at which point the boy turned to Bob and said 'yes you're right Bob' and then said to his teammates

'I forgive you all.'

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Looking for a local venue ?

Then look no further!

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

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

Currently it is used for Art classes, Pilates, Exercise groups, Drama, Singing, Karate Presentations, and children's birthday parties. Our rates are £12.00 per hour. For one off users (parties, wedding receptions etc), the hourly rate is £15.00.

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

**BUXTED SCOUTS**  
**FIREWORK NIGHT**  
**SAT 11TH NOVEMBER**

**TICKETS AVAILABLE ON THE GATE AND IN ADVANCE**

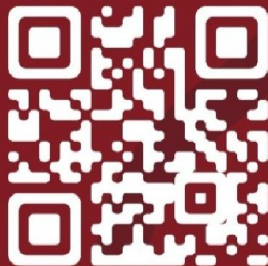
**LICENCED BAR - BBQ - RAFFLE**  
**FROM 5:30 AT THE BUXTED SCOUT HUT**

**INFO AND TICKET SALE AT: BUXTEDSCOUTS.CO.UK**

# **BUXTED SCOUTS CHRISTMAS TREES**

**PRE ORDER ONLINE FOR COLLECTION**

**BUXTEDSCOUTS.CO.UK**



**PREMIUM NORDMAN FIR TREES**

**COLLECTION ON SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER**

**10:00-12:00 @ THE BUXTED SCOUT HQ**

## **FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MEETING SCHEDULE 2023**

At the time of issuing this notice, all meetings are to be held at the Village Hall, Blackboys, at 5.00 pm due to a regular booking in the Memorial Hall.

If there are planning applications which require the convening of a Planning Committee meeting these times may vary.

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28 November

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Public welcome. For further details, please telephone the Parish Clerk, Ann Newton, on 01825-890182 'Highlands', Blackboys TN22 5LR.

Agendas will be published on all noticeboards and the website - [framfieldcouncil.org.uk](http://framfieldcouncil.org.uk)

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### **FRAMFIELD VILLAGE MARKET 2023**

**Memorial Hall, Framfield**

The market opens from 10 am to 12 noon.

28 October  
25 November  
16 December

Please contact Ann Newton with any queries  
01825 890182 or email [clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk)

## WHO'S WHO AT THE St THOMAS À BECKET NEWSLETTER

**Joint Chair:**  
**For the Church:**        **Revd James Vine**

**For the Council:**        **Mr Keith Brandon**

**Co-ordinator  
and Advertising:**        **Ann Newton**  
**Technical Editor:**        **Barry Richardson**  
**Treasurer:**                **Marie Owen**

**Distribution:**            **Barbara Trickey,  
Delia Gillies, and  
their volunteers**

**Printers:**                 **Print Matters**

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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.  
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