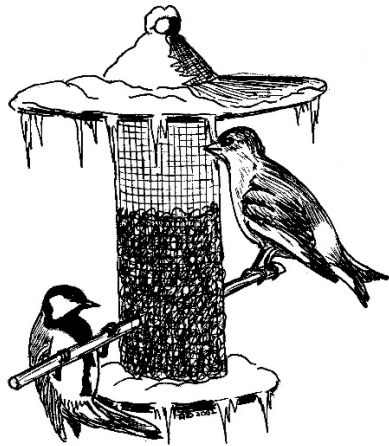


*Published jointly by
St Thomas à Becket Church
and Framfield Parish Council*

Parish Magazine



**Framfield, Blackboys
and
Palehouse Common**

FEBRUARY / MARCH 2025

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL CHURCH

**All communications for church matters should be directed
to the Priest in Charge:**

Revd James Vine
Email:

01825 840270
jamesdavidvine@gmail.com

**Please note Revd James lives at East Hoathly Rectory and
works from there.**

**Postal Address: The Rectory, Rectory Close, East Hoathly,
Lewes BN8 6EG**

Assistant Curate:

Revd Janice Bartholomew
07955 754118

Churchwarden:

Mr Graham Seldon
01825 508758

**Secretary to the PCC
and Church Admin:**
Email:

Mr Barry Richardson
admin@framfieldchurch.org.uk

Treasurer:

Mrs Gaynor Robson



From the Church Registers:

No entries for this issue.

Candlemas Day – A Celebration of Light and Hope

If Candlemas Day be fair and bright,

Winter will have another flight;

If Candlemas Day be wind and rain,

Winter has gone and will ne'er come again.

Candlemas Day, observed on February 2nd, marks an important milestone in the Christian calendar. This ancient feast, also known as the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, celebrates the moment when Mary and Joseph brought the infant Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem, in accordance with Jewish law.

The words of Simeon, have become enshrined in our liturgy. In the Book of Common Prayer's service of Evening Prayer and in the even older night service of Compline.

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,

Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

(Luke 2:32).

Candlemas is primarily associated with light.

In many churches, it is the day when candles are blessed, symbolizing Christ as the Light of the World.

These candles, often distributed to the congregation, remind us of the presence of God's light in the darkness of our lives and the world.

The name "Candlemas" derives from these rituals, blending the theme of light with the spirit of purification and presentation.

Historically, it has also been seen as a bridge between the seasons, falling halfway between the winter solstice and the spring equinox, which is why the day was traditionally used as one of the 'weather predicting days' in the church's year.

For your information and amusement, the others are Saint Swithin's day on July the 15th

Saint Swithin's day, if thou dost rain,

for forty days it will remain;

Saint Swithin's day, if thou be fair,

for forty days 'twill rain no more.

and with a far more fanciful rhyme, Saint Paul's day on the 29th June!

If St Paul's day be fair and clear

It does betide a happy year

But if it chance to snow or rain

Then will be dear all kinds of grain

If clouds or mists do dark the sky

Great store of birds and beasts shall die

And if the winds do file aloft

Then war shall vex the kingdom oft.

But back to Candlemas....

The Candlemas themes of transition, from darkness to light, from winter to spring, from cold to warmth; mirrors the spiritual message of the day: just as the earth is inching toward spring, so we too are encouraged to grow in faith, hope, and readiness to receive Christ's light.

In our parishes, Candlemas offers a wonderful opportunity to come together for reflection, prayer, and thanksgiving.

It is a chance to renew our commitment to being bearers of Christ's light in this increasingly dark world.

Please do bring a candle to one of our Candlemas Eucharists at Chiddingly, East Hoathly or Framfield on Sunday the 2nd of February; and as they are blessed at the start of the service, let us remember that each of us is called to shine with love, compassion and kindness; reflecting God's light in our homes, our communities, and beyond. May this Candlemas be a time of blessing and renewal for us all.

God Bless

Fr. James

The View from the Churchyard – Peter Berry



It's me again. I notice in the Feb-March edition of the Parish Mag I proposed the first Saturday of the month as a good time to come and give us a hand. Maybe not my best suggestion because I think all but one in this summer have been at least damp if not downright wet. I am very grateful to all who have helped in any way. What appears to have evolved is the freedom for anyone to come whenever they can. Also perhaps 2-3 people getting together to keep an eye on an agreed smallish area. We can take care of the mowing, It's the keeping tidy and making it look a bit cared for. It helps us and we will support you. I must admit in 50 yrs + of farming I cannot remember a growing season like this summer. It has been a challenge but gradually we are getting a measure of control. Hopefully as it looks more cared for it will encourage others to join in. I know what we are trying to do is appreciated and in spite of a testing summer, there is great beauty and peace in this special place in our parish. If you can and would like to be involved in any way no matter how small, then please do give me a ring on 07815 459075




Many Thanks
Peter.

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

Delivering Parish Magazines:

We are very grateful to those volunteers who have recently come forward to fill vacancies for delivery of the Parish magazines. We would like to thank all those who help distribute this magazine.



	F	A	M	I	L	Y	
F	R	I	E	N	D	L	Y
S	E	R	V	I	C	E	

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

**16th February 2025
19th March 2025**

Looking for a local venue ?

Then look no further!

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

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

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

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

Diary of Church Services

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

FEBRUARY 2025

- 02 Fourth Sunday of Epiphany (Candlemas)**
10.00 am Parish Eucharist (CW) (Revd James)
- 09 Fourth Sunday before Lent**
10.00 am Wealdway Eucharist at East Hoathly
(Revd James)
- 16 Third Sunday before Lent**
10.00 am Family Service (Revd James)
- 23 Second Sunday before Lent**
10.00 am Morning Praise (with Peter Berry)

MARCH 2025

- 02 Sunday next before Lent**
10.00 am Parish Eucharist (Revd Janice)
- 05 Ash Wednesday**
6.00 pm Wealdway Eucharist at East Hoathly
(Revd James)
- 09 First Sunday of Lent**
10.00 am Wealdway Eucharist at Chiddingly
- 16 Second Sunday of Lent**
10.00 am Family Service (Revd Janice)
- 23 Third Sunday of Lent**
10.00 am Morning Praise (Peter Berry)

- 30 Mothering Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent)**
10.00 am Wealdway Eucharist at Chiddingly
(Revd James)

(Everyone is welcome at any of the church services)

Note: The latest church service information is always on the Church Website: <https://www.framfieldchurch.org.uk>

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE
BY 10th MARCH 2025**

TO

ANN NEWTON – 01825 890182

Please note new email address:

clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk

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

Mrs Ann Newton (Parish Clerk)

Telephone/fax: (01825) 890182.

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

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

Parish Council website: www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk

**CHURCH NEWS ITEMS MAY ALSO BE
EMAILED TO THE CHURCH OFFICE:**

admin@framfieldchurch.org.uk

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

Nature Notes

Fields. Uckfield, Framfield, Heathfield, Isfield, Maresfield, Rotherfield, Mayfield, Hartfield, Henfield, Cuckfield, Itchingfield, Staplefield, Lindfield, Netherfield, Westfield, Mountfield, Catsfield and Ninfield, are all places nearby where the trees have been **felled**. It is (was) our great Albion's *Andredes weald*, meaning "the forest of Andred" a Roman region reduced and renamed Pevensy by Anglo-Saxons meaning "River of [a man named] Pefen". Anderida Forest extended over Sussex, Surrey and Kent. Settlers felled trees forming clearings to build villages. The clearings maybe got the local name first, assigned by the folk who created them. The village names then followed. Now, we have more clearings (fields) than forest, because further clearings allowed the ground to be farmed to provide food for the villagers. However, most food we now eat from day to day is no longer grown in a felled area down the lane. Much of it even comes from different lands, the Americas, Africa and Eurasia. Now, just short of 14% of the UK is woodland, up from about 9% in the 1980s. This increase is good, because it shows we are making progress with planting trees and allowing some ecological succession to progress from fields back to woodland.

In some ways, UK leads the way in combatting climate change globally. Our carbon dioxide footprint is better per capita ranked 70th/208 in 2023 (Wikipedia) than many other leading countries. However, our species decline record is not so good. Insect loss is particularly worrying, because they are an essential part of a balanced ecosystem. It is easy to make toxic chemicals that kill insects, and these chemicals are used to maximise crop yields, control flies, ants, and wasps, all to make our lives easier in the short-term. However, many plants and animals depend on insects to survive, including birds such as swifts and swallows that eat nothing else, and just about any land-bird species raising a family. E.g. just **one family** of blue tits requires up to 1,000 insects **per day** for about **20 days** when nesting. Also, a rare bird of prey called a honey buzzard specialises in eating copious bees and wasps. No surprise that this bird is rare, because wild honeybees are also now rare, and we are good at killing wasps. Hot news - I saw a **swallow** (Pevensy Bay) hunting insects on 3rd January 2025!

Also, consider local places called ...hurst; Penshurst, Staplehurst, Ticehurst, Hawkhurst, Goudhurst, Wadhurst, Lamberhurst, Speldhurst, Ashhurst, and Sandhurst. Hurst is probably Anglo-Saxon (German), meaning woodland thicket or wooded hillock. Forests in these localities are probably very old and home to **biodiverse** ancient woodlands. Humans are ecosystem engineers, whose ancestors lived and worked much closer to nature than us now. However, the further we get from nature, the less we consider its welfare, often writing it off as collateral damage as we build towards some "greater goal". Ultimately, nature is our essential life support system. All things originate from nature.

Martyn Stenning

"WE PLANTED A TREE AND GREW A COMMUNITY"

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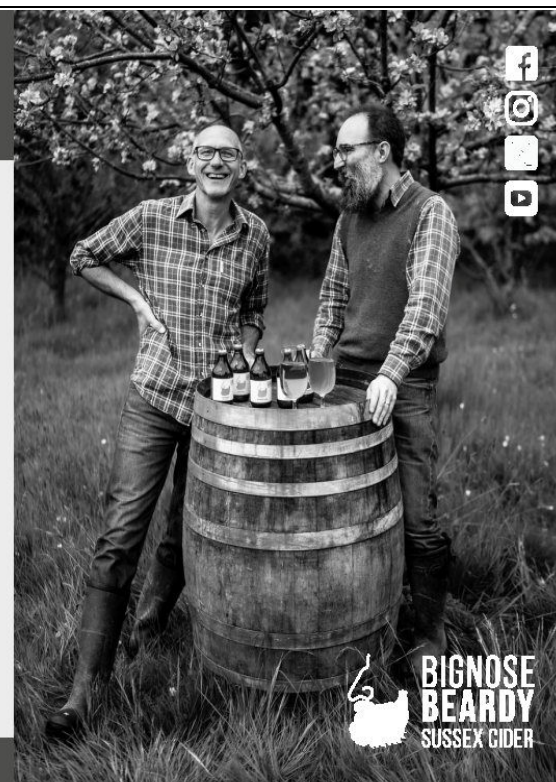
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Volunteer needed:

We need a volunteer to deliver the Parish magazine on Blackboys High Street (around 40 properties).

Please contact Delia on 01825 890825.

Sussex Wildlife Trust

January 2025 - A case of the January News

By Kerry Williams: Communications Officer – Conservation

Happy New Year! I hope you all celebrated the festive period with cheer and are still basking in the twinkly afterglow, hoovering up remaining treats and reminiscing over time spent with loved ones.

As that sparkle fades to a glimmer, don't give in to that looming January chasm of grey-blue doom. Instead, focus on the new. Think of Month 01 as a springboard for all the things that await you this 2025; new wildlife, new experiences, new Parish magazine article authors... and with that shameful segue let me introduce myself.

I'm Kerry, 'Communications Officer – Conservation' for Sussex Wildlife Trust. My role consists of running the Trust's wildlife information advice service, WildCall, and also writing content for blogs, our website, and social media.

In December, Michael Blencowe signed off with his last Parish Magazine article about footprints, fittingly leaving me mighty big shoes to fill. Flicking back through the past library has been a wonderful read, and considering Michael's term of seven years (!), it's a challenge to find a fresh new topic not already covered. Seeing as it's a new year, how about newness itself?

So, to January newness. I'm looking forward to fieldfares and redwings delicately tweezing berries from treetops. Huddling on Brighton Pier, amid ghost train squeals and the smell of sweet doughnuts, to watch Starlings sky-dance. Drops of snow and Snowdrops. Chilly stomps up the Downs on roaring fire Sundays.

From now on, the days ever so slowly get longer again, giving more precious minutes to get out there and explore. Last year I visited Ebernoe for the first time, searching for Fungi in early autumn. I look forward to heading back to experience its Old-England-come-fairy-whimsy in the crunching frost. I'll head back to Rye Harbour to hole up in hides, be-gloved and binocularled, to spot winter waders and hovering Marsh Harriers.

I will search for paw and hoof prints in the snow or the mud. I'll be vigilant for too-witting and wooing Tawny Owls and scan darkened woodlands to see one; I never seem to succeed, but maybe this is my year.

Whatever you choose to do with this often-condemned-as-miserable month, I hope it instead brings you joy. Let your only January blues be that of the sea and sky. Here's to 2025!

Sussex Wildlife Trust

January 2025

About Sussex Wildlife Trust

Sussex Wildlife Trust is a conservation charity for everyone who cares about nature in Sussex. Founded in 1961, we have worked with local people for over half a century to make Sussex richer in wildlife.

We rely on the support of our members. Please consider joining us. Your membership will help us challenge decisions that threaten wildlife, care for more than 30 nature reserves, and inspire the next generation about the wonders of the natural world. It's easy to join online at sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join

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

Both schools in the St Thomas a Becket Federation would like to wish a Happy New Year to all local residents. But before talking about all the new plans and resolutions for 2025, it is important to share some exciting news from the end of 2024.

We were all delighted to hear from our MP Nus Ghani that Framfield School pupil Suki had her artwork chosen as the front of Nus's Christmas card. Suki's beautiful visual depiction of a Christmas song was chosen from a whole host of quality entries, thus ensuring that her artwork was sent to the Prime Minister, the King and also the President of the USA! Suki enjoyed meeting Nus and receiving a prize as well. On the back of the card appeared another piece of Framfield artwork, with year 6 pupil Vanya being a highly commended artist.

Framfield School also had great success in the Uckfield Lions ROAR 2024 competition. Their Flumper Jumper idea and design, a jumper that included a number of calming devices for children who may be dysregulated, triumphed in a competitive field of local Uckfield schools. Congratulations to the Framfield team.

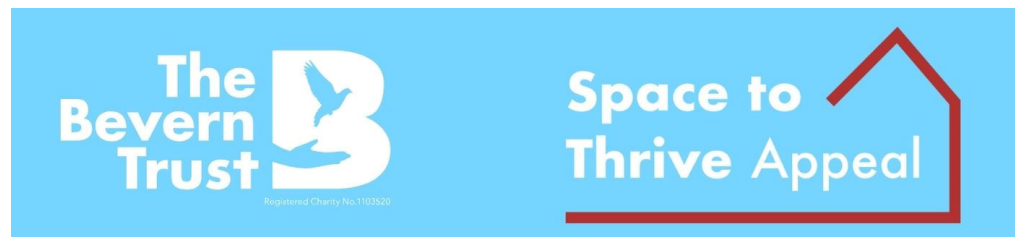
On the sports pitch, our Federation boys' football team, began their Sussex County cup campaign with a significant 10-0 win against Barcombe School at the beginning of December. This victory was made sweeter bearing in mind Barcombe had knocked us out in the quarter final stage last year. The team play brilliantly together and look forward to meeting Forest Row in the next round.

In the penultimate week of the Autumn term, inspectors from Ofsted visited Framfield School. The report is not available at the time of writing, but will be on the school's website soon. It's safe to say that the community lived up to our 'be the best we can be' motto during the inspection, including Framfield's therapy dog Douglas, who rightly charmed the inspectors.

Both schools begin 2025 focussing on the Christian Value of courage. Supporting our pupils to show courage and resilience when learning new things is vitally important and we are pleased to be supported by our vicar Father James in doing this. The spring term always sees the children make great progress with their work as well as enjoying some memorable school trips. So far we have visits to the Ashdown Forest, Brighton Museum and Hove Museum planned as well as the year 6's annual trip to London and the Houses of Parliament.

Thank you for your continued interest in our 2 schools. You can keep up to date with news and views via our two Instagram feeds. Just search Blackboys School or Framfield School.

Claire Roberts, Interim Headteacher Framfield
Graham Sullivan, Headteacher Blackboys



Bevern Dinner & Auction: An Evening to Make a Difference

As we embark on 2025, we're thrilled to take significant strides toward our vision of creating new spaces that will benefit everyone in the Bevern community. This year, we're kicking things off with our much-anticipated annual Dinner & Auction on **Friday 7th March, 7pm, Barcombe Village Hall**—a night of celebration, connection, and generosity.

We warmly invite everyone from our local communities to join us. Featuring a delicious three-course dinner, our much-loved charity auction, and an audience with the internationally renowned soprano Danielle de Niese, this will truly be a night to remember.



Credit Sven Arnstein

The evening will be hosted by our patron, Natasha Kaplinsky, and connecting to our musical theme, our Auction promises a selection of exceptional experiences, including tickets to see Oasis live!

Together, we'll celebrate the power of community and raise vital funds to support a cause that transforms lives. Don't miss the chance to be part of this unforgettable night!

With your help, the exciting Space to Thrive appeal project will enable us to create:

- A dedicated activity room to stimulate and engage our residents
- A refurbished lounge for comfort and connection
- A staff break room and new office to support our incredible caregivers.

Book your tickets at beverntrust.org

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

**Thank you
for your
support!**

Donate: www.beverntrust.org
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NEWS FROM YOUR WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

If anyone was caught up in the early sanctioning of the direct debit for Council Tax over the Christmas period and has not yet been refunded any fees for bank charges etc or had other issues sorted out, please let me know.

I thought the statement from East Sussex County Council regarding the devolution proposals might be of interest so I have added it in full within the magazine. Please contact me with any questions. Town and parish councils won't be affected by the proposals although they will remain and possibly take on an extended role as being the authority with the closest links to the residents. I do suspect that some services could be devolved down to them as well although if this happens it would be hoped that the funds to cover those services would accompany them.

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

Contact details – Ann Newton,
'Highlands', Blackboys, TN22 5LR.
Telephone – 07762 746334 (please note change of number).
Email – aenewton1965@gmail.com

Statement on Sussex Devolution from East Sussex County Council

In December, a week before Christmas, the Government published a paper on Devolution. Unusually they did not choose to publish a consultative Green Paper but a White Paper which sets out what they plan to do. It was much more specific than expected and with a tight timetable. This note sets out the facts and corrects the widespread misunderstanding about Devolution.

In the White Paper, the government invited councils, including East Sussex, to submit expressions of interest to be considered for the Government's Devolution Priority Programme indicating support for a Sussex Mayoral Strategic Authority. This could unlock new money and powers for the region.

The expression of interest, which was sent on Friday 10 January, is from the leaders of East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton and Hove. East and West Sussex would each have a unitary authority, taking on responsibility for the services provided by the Districts and Boroughs which, along with the county council, would cease to exist. (Brighton is already a unitary authority). Staff from the Districts and Boroughs are expected to transfer across.

The Government's White Paper sets out in detail the key areas that a strategic authority would be in control of to drive growth and provide support on shaping public services. These include:

- Transport and local infrastructure
- Skills and employment support
- Housing and strategic planning
- Economic development and regeneration
- Environment and climate change
- Health, wellbeing and public service reform
- Public safety.

The most likely model is that the Mayoral Strategic Authority would be 'light touch' with most of the services for residents provided at unitary level.

The expected timeline following the submission of the proposal is:

- A more detailed discussion and proposal before the end of March 2025.

- Further extensive discussions with councils and others in Spring 2025 following which a Ministerial decision will be taken as to whether to proceed with a Mayoral Strategic Authority (prior to unitary re-organisation). The Spending Review will then confirm future mayoral investment funds for new mayoral areas.
- Relevant legislation will be laid before Parliament in relation to the creation of Strategic Authorities.
- In March 2026 notice of mayoral elections will be given for a Mayoral election in May 2026. A decision whether to move to a Mayoral Strategic Authority under the reorganised arrangements would follow.

A letter from the two county council leaders has also asked for a delay in the May 2025 elections. This has caused some debate, but the rationale as expressed by council officials as well as leaders is:

- Given the timescales set out by the government, much of the work involved in consultation and writing proposals for devolution would be at the same time as the build up to, and follow on from, the May 2025 elections. This could not be done during an election period.
- Other local government reorganisations generally have a delay in elections. The white paper specifically mentions delaying elections.
- Local elections invariably lead to a turnover in council membership across all parties. This would give a new set of councillors who would need significant work by officials to bring up to speed, at a time when their workload would be dominated by the reorganisation and continuing to manage services.
- The resulting county councillors would only be in office for 2 years, could only pass one meaningful budget and could not make any fundamental changes to council policy.

A debate on this was held in an emergency meeting of the full council in East Sussex on 9 January and rejected a motion to continue to hold the elections. A subsequent cabinet meeting agreed to submit the letter including requesting a delay. On the same day West Sussex and Brighton also agreed to submit the letter. However, the decision as to whether to delay the election is made not by councils but by Government ministers and parliament.

Calling all Women Crafters and Makers!

The Oaks Workshops, in Framfield, is home to a fantastic new creative space for women crafters and makers.

Regardless of your existing knowledge or experience, if you're over the age of 18 years, we would love for you to join us at our dedicated workshop, equipped with hand tools, benches, machinery and materials.

Some of us women makers have never picked up a screwdriver before, arriving with just a spark of curiosity and the urge to try something new. Some of us have defined plans – a desire to learn and develop specific skills that we want to utilise in our family, home, garden or work life. Others amongst us are potters, dress makers and painters who want to broaden our horizons, only to discover that what we make in the workshop inspires, informs and shapes fresh ideas across mediums.

But all of us, be we young women, mothers, grandmothers and much more, have found incredible value in working shoulder to shoulder with other women, forming new friendships and creative bonds, building confidence and becoming more empowered along the way.....one day constructing something functional and purposeful, and another day creating something beautiful and unique.

The 'Women's Shed' is open on Wednesday and Friday from 10 – 3pm and is hosted by Men's Shed, Uckfield. After joining the annual membership of £20 and receiving an induction, each workshop session is then charged at just £3, thanks to Men's Shed funding.

Experienced makers (male and/or female) are always on hand for mentorship and support, as well as safety. The site also has a small kitchen, social area and free parking. It is open throughout the year.

Please email us at uckfieldmensshed@gmail.com

The Men's Shed is an inter-generational (18yr+) and international movement originating in Australia in the 1980's. It supports wellbeing and

social connection through the 'shoulder to shoulder' activity of craftsmanship.

'Shedagogy' is a coined expression, used to describe people informally learning together in a shed-like setting, and Men's Shed users are sometimes known as 'shedders'.

The Men's Shed has a range of hand-crafted items for sale at our new store located at Babylon Eco Centre, Duddleswell TN22 3JP. You can also find our products at local markets and events throughout the year, or contact us about commissions. All proceeds go directly into the running of Men's Shed, Uckfield.

FRAMFIELD VILLAGE MARKET

Memorial Hall, Framfield

The market opens from 10 am to 12 noon.

2025

25 January

February – no market

29 March

26 April

31 May

28 June

26 July

August – no market

27 September

25 October

29 November

20 December

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

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Precept/budget – at their November meeting the Parish Council (PC) reviewed the expenditure for the current financial year which had been as expected. They set the budget for the 2025/6 year at £84,464.24 but decided to keep the precept the same at £81,805.00 covering the extra expenditure with reserve funds. Councillors decided that increasing the precept would be more appropriate when more of the approved houses have been built out and contributing towards Council Tax, thus diluting any increase across a greater number of households.

The Parish streetlights are now being maintained by an alternative facilitator and repairs are ongoing. A new energy supplier is also being sourced.

Councillors agreed to once again pay for four extra cuts to the ‘urban’ grassed areas by ESCC. These are generally areas within the villages. The areas in between the villages are cut twice a year although if the height of the grass becomes a hazard ESCC will do remedial works if contacted.

Planning – although refused at WDC committee, a revised application for the Cysleys Farm site on the Eastbourne Road is now live and an appeal for non-determination has been lodged on a new application on land at Bird in Eye South. This latter appeal will be heard as a public inquiry but the date is yet to be set. The PC has made comments on the 58-house application on land at the Old Nursery House, Framfield. Determination by WDC is awaited.

The works to reduce the speed limit on the Lewes Road, Blackboys, between Brownings Farm and Hollow Lane are due to commence in the Spring. This is being funded under the Community Match Fund initiative (ESCC) whereby the PC pays half of the cost - £30,000. This will come out of CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) funding.

Options to reduce the speed limit on Blackboys High Street continue to be explored. It is hoped that ESCC will review the decision not to reduce the speed limit outside the 50-house site to 40-mph which will assist with

any initiative to then lower the speed limit in the High Street. Again, subject to the costs, the funding could come from the CIL funds.

Following a routine tree survey, two trees are to be removed from Framfield recreation ground – a Scots Pine, which is dead, and an Ash sapling with Ashdieback. One tree has to be removed on the recreation ground at Palehouse Common.

A new work surface has been installed in the kitchen at the Memorial Hall and the kitchen at the Blackboys Village Hall has been completely refurbished – the latter is better than it has ever been!

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

Ann Newton (Parish Clerk): 01825 890182

Email: clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk

Website: www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk.

THE FRAMFIELD STAGERS

PRESENTS

ROBIN HOOD

BY TOM WHALLEY

A PANTOMIME THAT’S RIGHT ON TARGET

FRAMFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY 2025 at 7.30PM

SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY 2025 at 7.30PM

SATURDAY 22ND FEBRUARY - MATINEE at 2PM

TICKET INFORMATION: 01825 890101

ADULTS £12.00 CHILDREN £5.00

PROCEEDS TO MACMILLAN NURSES & MIND

www.theframfieldstagers.homesteadcloud.com



Deer Aware



When are deer around?

Deer cross the roads all year round. However their presence peaks in April and May when territorial deer and young deer are dispersing and from October to November when deer will be on the move for the autumn mating season. This is around the times the clocks go forward and back. Take particular care at dawn and dusk.



Seen one? Look for another

If a deer crosses in front of you, it is likely that another will follow. If it is safe to do so, slow right down or stop and wait. Deer are unpredictable, drive with caution.



Be aware

Deer often cross the roads in the same locations. Deer warning signs are put up where deer are known to cross regularly.

When you see a warning sign or are travelling through a heavily wooded stretch of road, slow down, stay alert and be prepared to stop.



What to do if you hit a deer

Call the emergency services on 999 if:

Anyone is seriously injured or there is a danger to others using the road e.g. a deer (alive or dead) is blocking the road or is a danger to the traffic.

Call the non-emergency line on 101 if:

The deer is injured and on the side of the road not causing a danger to traffic. The police will deal with any traffic issues and have access to specialists who will know the best course of action to take if the deer is still alive.

What to say

Give as much detail as possible about your location, perhaps using an app such as what3words if you have it.

Give them your mobile number, if possible, so they can call you back.



Framfield & Blackboys WI

LOOKING FORWARD TO SPRING

As I write with bitter winds howling outside and news of flooding and snowstorms, we all look forward hopefully to warmer temperatures and snowdrops and daffodils. But most of all we're looking forward to our annual Quiz Night - an evening of off the wall brain teasers with ploughmans supper and delicious home made cake:

QUIZ NIGHT

With Quizmasters Terry & Hayley

SATURDAY, 8TH MARCH 2025

FRAMFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

7pm for 7.30 Start

Tickets: £12 each (first price increase EVER)!!

Fun Quiz with Ploughmans Supper and CAKE!!!

Bring along your own tippie and glasses

Tables of 6. Tables will be made up for smaller groups

RAFFLE

For tickets call Jackie on 07950 954827 or Gill on 01825 890459

(if no reply, please leave a message & contact number)

Admission by ticket only. All proceeds to Framfield & Blackboys WI

MEETINGS COMING UP SOON

2 PM - FRAMFIELD CHURCH HALL

14th February Bring & Buy Plus Quizzes

14th March Meeting with Speaker:
Mike McKenzie, Retired High Court Judge

11th April Meeting with Speaker:
Brian Gee, Retired Police Forensics Officer

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

Delia Gillies on 01825 890825 or Jackie Samways on 07950 954827.

Follow us on Facebook or Google Framfield & Blackboys WI

Philomena Whittle



NEWLIFE

NEW LIFE CHURCH BLACKBOYS

Seeing is Believing

What do you think of those that believe? I know what I used to think. Do you think they're fools, unbalanced or wishful thinkers? Do you ever think for one minute that they have seen or experienced something that you haven't? I remember my kids staring at those 'magic pictures' that had another picture within them (used to give me a headache!) it was only my kids assuring me it was there, that I eventually saw the image for myself.

It is a similar thing in nature - I've often seen Lapwing chicks - the only thing telling me they were there was a thermal imager, otherwise they are completely invisible to the human eye. Another example - in the past when in the pursuit of Ptarmigan in the Scottish mountains walking across the scree - I was adamant that there was nothing there - until they took flight at my feet.

What else would make sane men face the flames because they refused to deny Jesus or indeed suffer any manner of torture but would not recant their faith? They had seen something bigger and better than their life was worth. I would be blessed if even one of you reading this would take a sincere look at the gospel.

There was a preacher called John Wimber who started out as a non-believer who saw a man in the street wearing a 'sandwich board'

saying 'I am a fool for Christ' which did not impress him - but as the man turned around it said 'Whose fool are you?'

Do drop in and see us any Sunday at Blackboys C E School, School Lane (10.30am) to find out more about faith and find a friendly group of all ages from the surrounding villages wanting to live life in all its fullness for Jesus!

Email : newlifechurchblackboys@gmail.com

Call: Suzanne Hammond on 07794 869384 or 01435 661054

Website: newlifeblackboys.com

MILK BOTTLE TOPS

You may have heard through the grapevine that Eastbourne District Hospital no longer collect milk bottle tops, after many years of using this to help raise there funds. After much asking we have Managed to find another worthy cause that collects milk bottle tops, and again sells them so much a ton for their worthy funds.

It is The NATIONAL AIR AND SEA RESCUE,

They also collect stamps too, So folks carry on collecting Milk Bottle Tops, please make sure they are clean and hand them in as before to Sandy and Keith or the Framfield Market.

Thank you for your support.

Sandy and Keith Rogers

01323 833121.

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01825 890182

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE 2025

At the time of issuing this notice, all meetings are to be held at the Village Hall, Blackboys, at 5 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.

28 January

25 March

27 May

(Annual Parish Council meeting [5 pm]

and Annual Parish Assembly [6 pm] only)

29 July

30 September

25 November

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

01825- 890182/clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk
'Highlands', Blackboys TN22 5LR.

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

WHO'S WHO AT THE St THOMAS À BECKET NEWSLETTER

Joint Chair:

For the Church: Revd James Vine

For the Council: Mr Keith Brandon

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

Distribution: Barbara Trickey,
 Delia Gillies, and their
 volunteers

Printers: Print Matters

CIRCULATION:
This magazine reaches over 1100 households in the parish.
It is therefore an ideal way to reach a wide customer area.
Contact the Clerk, Ann Newton for advertising details and rates.
clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk

FREE SMOKE ALARMS

Your local Fire Service personnel are happy to make an appointment to visit your home and discuss fire safety issues that are specific to you. They will also ensure that you have working smoke alarm(s) within your home and where you do not, they will supply and fit 10 year smoke alarms.

To request a **FREE** visit call **0800 177 7069** (call is free).

USEFUL WEALDEN TELEPHONE NOS.

ESCC contact centres

Call our contact centres during normal working hours 9.00 am to 5.00 pm (4.30 pm on Fridays).

Adult social care – 0345 60 80 191 - HSCC@eastsussex.gov.uk

Buses – 0345 60 80 194

Children and families – 0345 60 80 192 (see latest news above)

Library renewals – 0345 60 80 195

Library enquiries – 0345 60 80 196

Roads and paths – 0345 60 80 193

Street Lighting: 01825 890182

Trading Standards – 0345 04 05 06

Waste – 0345 60 80 194

Main Switchboard – 0345 60 80 190

From overseas – +441273 336000

Crimestoppers, report crime anonymously 0800 555 111

Police, non-emergency: 101

East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service: 0303 999 1000

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