

WHO'S WHO AT THE St THOMAS À BECKET NEWSLETTER

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

Joint Chair:

For the Church: Revd James Vine

For the Council: Mr Keith Brandon

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

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*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*

Parish Magazine



**Framfield, Blackboys
and
Palehouse Common**

JUNE / JULY 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 01825 840270
Email: 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

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:

At Rest:

16.05.25: Jean Stapley

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.

27 May
(Annual Parish Council meeting [6 pm]
and Annual Parish Assembly [6.30 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

THE ADVERTISEMENTS IN THIS MAGAZINE ARE
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SPECIFIED

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.

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Email; jwgroundmaintenance@hotmail.co.uk

Sing to the Lord a new song:

Amongst my more esoteric hobbies, I collect old Hymn Books, but with two criteria:

They have to be full music copies, and they have to be interesting!

Hymns fall into three broad categories, initially identified by the Apostle Paul as he exhorted Christians in the Church in Ephesus, when they met together, to sing Hymns, Psalms and Spiritual songs to God. Ephesians 5.19

Christian Hymn books therefore still contain the same three categories of music:

1. **Hymns:** Usually addressed *to* God rather than being *about* God these hymns form most of our standard repertoire; from the ancient monastic Office Hymns; Creator of the stars of night, before the ending of the day etc. To the more recent Dear Lord and Father of Mankind, Guide me O thou great Redeemer & Immortal invisible God only wise, right up to date with the 1993 hymn 'Longing for light' that has become something of a favourite from our new hymn book!
2. **Psalms:** These are either sung to ancient, usually monastic plainsong melodies, or more usually, and certainly since the reformation, to more popular metrical tunes; For example; Psalm 100. All people that on earth do dwell, and the many hymn versions of the 23rd Psalm; The Lord's my Shepherd & The King of Love my Shepherd is etc.
3. **Spiritual Songs:** As was the case in St. Paul's 1st Centaury Church, Spiritual songs provide the most variety in our Church music, and can be found in all of the last two thousand or so years of church music. Usually sung *about* God rather than *to* God, Spiritual songs give us a huge variety of music to enhance our worship, from the ancient plainsong melodies; 'sing my tongue, the glorious battle'

through the great teaching hymns of John Henry Newman; ‘firmly I believe and truly’ etc. the eleven-verse marathon that is ‘Lift high the Cross’, to modern classics such as ‘I cannot tell’ and ‘seek ye first’.

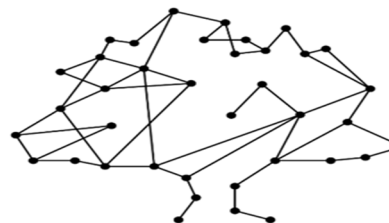
Hymns, and the books that contain them are ever changing, and some hymns will probably never see the light of day again, as they are now, outmoded, irrelevant, overly sentimental or even offensive! Consider The Revd. T. Johnsons 1892 offering ‘There’s a drunkard in the gutter’, as falling into the offensive category; and I leave you with J.M.C. Crum’s delightfully sentimental hymn from the 1926 Church and school hymnal....

*O once in a while
we obey with a smile
and are ever so modest and prudent.
But it's not very long
Before something is wrong
And somebody's done what he shouldn't.*

*In meadow and wood
the cattle are good
and the rabbits are thinking no evil.
The anemones white
are refined and polite
And all the Prim-roses are civil.*

*O Saviour look down
when we sulk or we frown
and smooth into kindness our quarrels.
Till our heart is as light
as a little birds flight
And our life is as free as the squirrel's!*

God Bless
Fr. James
June 2025



NEWLIFE

NEW LIFE CHURCH BLACKBOYS

He who has ears, let him hear

Someone recently asked me ‘what has improved in your lifetime?’ I had to think really hard and the only thing I could think of was medicine. This country has moved so far away from God since the war – that it is no longer a Christian nation.

I’m not saying that everyone was a believer then, just that they were more God-fearing. For example, we are celebrating VE Day as I write this, it probably wouldn’t have happened if our King then (George VI) hadn’t called the nation to prayer in May 1940 over the evacuation of the BEF (British Expeditionary Force) from Dunkirk. Churchill’s plan was deemed futile and many believed that the full destruction of our armies was imminent and that we should sue for peace. But, instead, a miracle occurred. They thought at best they’d be able to retrieve 20,000 men but achieved 338,226 - which in hindsight the cynics can explain away. (Do read about Operation Dynamo if you haven’t).

Since then there’s been a gradual eroding of faith in this country. As in Biblical times when man chooses his own way – society breaks down – to the point that God has become an inconvenience in our lives. He was to mine, until I had a revelation of His love for me and all mankind. I can hear some of you scoff as I write this, but there is nothing that can change what I have experienced.

I confess I often moan about this generation, but there is hope! There is a new hunger for God among Generation Z. An increase in religious interest and church attendance is being reported, particularly in the UK. This shift is driven by a search for community, meaning and a desire for something real and eternal. This next generation then, could turn our nation back to God.

My prayer for you is that you have ‘ears to hear’ (Matthew 11 v 15). It is never too late to grasp eternity for yourself.

Brendan Hammond (one of the New Life Church Leaders)

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

Website: newlifeblackboys.com



Framfield & Blackboys WI

CAKES & COMMEMORATION



Our May meeting coincided with the VE Eightieth Anniversary celebrations. Master bakers, Angela Manning and Carole Marchant produced some delicious themed fairy cakes which we all enjoyed with a cup of tea.

Beryl Venables entertained us with some interesting and less well known facts about local National Trust properties and the families who built and owned them in the past.

SPRING POSIES

One of our recent competitions was to create a spring posy. Members selected the winner by placing coins beside their favourite entry. Funds raised go to the Associated Countrywomen Of The World. This charity supports projects run by women in third world countries. The winner was Margaret Bond



FRAMFIELD SUMMER SHOW – 16TH AUGUST

Come and join us at the Summer Show. It's a lovely village event where we will have a wonderful selection of scrumptious home made cakes for sale.

FUTURE MEETINGS 2 PM - FRAMFIELD CHURCH HALL

13th June	AGM & Garden Party, Charity Speaker TBC
11th July	Meeting. Speaker: David Allen, Victorian Etiquette
8th August	Members Lunch, Hare & Hounds

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

Delivering Parish Magazines: - Cross in Hand

A Deliverer is needed for the Parish Magazine. Would need to be a driver - 22 houses from Waldron Down to Brownings Farm, Blackboys.

Six times per year.

Please contact Delia on 01825 890825.

The View from the Churchyard – Peter Berry

What a lovely spring this has been. The colours seem to be more vivid than ever. We are doing our best to keep the churchyard looking cared for and in its own unique way peaceful. It can never look like a classical garden but hopefully sits comfortably within its setting which is timeless. It is encouraging to see a steady flow of people visiting to remember those who rest there and others enjoying the walk through.

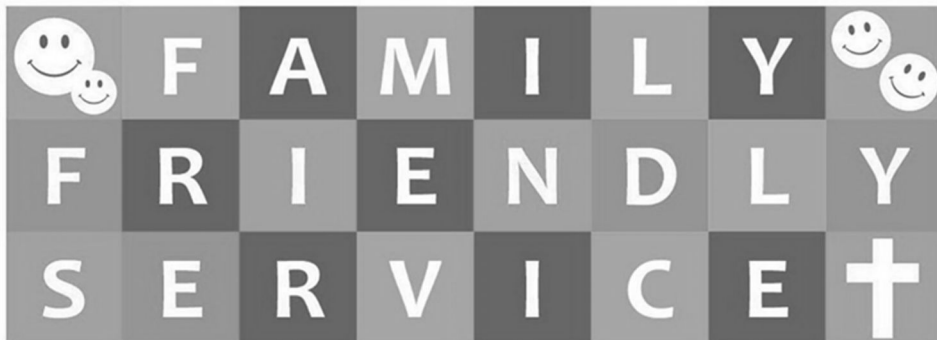
The last two months have seen a good show of butterflies: Brimstones, Speckled Wood, Orange Tips and others. Signs are better this year following the cold wet conditions of last summer. We are seeing the slow worms which live amongst the stones basking on warm days. They are harmless and lovely to see. They are mis-named actually being our only legless lizards.

Our volunteers are about to be supplemented by two Framfield lads working for their Duke of Edinburgh Gold awards. It is their initiative and they are very welcome. Following last year's successful Flower Show the Horticultural Society have agreed funding for a new strimmer which is very kind and is a big boost. So, the whole project is very community based.

If there is any way you can support us or have any ideas, please do ring on 07815459075. Or come and spend a few minutes sitting or walking round and take it all in. The church is open every day as well and also exudes its own peace and history.

As the poet William Davies wrote, "a poor life this if, full of care we have no time to stand and stare"

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



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

**15th June 2025
18th July 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



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www.bignoseandbeardy.com/collections/events

reviewed, with a possible move toward a Unitary Authority model. While nothing is confirmed (but is likely) much remains unclear, and this will represent a significant shift in how services are managed. We are monitoring developments closely. To reaffirm a common questions, if a Unitary Authority is confirmed, there will still be Parish and Town Councils.

Open Spaces and Community Improvements

We are finalising the draft survey to enable us to gather feedback from residents on how our local open spaces might be improved. Whether it's new play equipment, nature areas, benches, or something else entirely, we're keen to hear what you think. The survey will be made available soon online and in paper form on request.

Street Lighting

If you notice any issues with street lighting in the parish, please contact the Parish Clerk directly by phone on 01825 890182 or via email at clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk.

Councillor Vacancies – Can You Help?

Framfield Parish Council currently has several vacant seats. While a lot of essential work does take place including planning responses, liaising with multiple authorities, and supporting community projects, the small number of active councillors limits what can be done. Much of this work happens quietly in the background, and while we understand the frustration when things appear slow or unresolved, the truth is we simply need more people willing to step up and get involved.

If you've ever wondered why more isn't being done, this could be your opportunity to make a difference. No experience is needed — just an interest in the community and a little time to spare. Full training and support are available.

Allotment Rent Reminder

A final reminder to all allotment holders that rent for 2025/2026 is due by 1st June. After this date, a surcharge will automatically apply. If payment is not received by 1st July, the plot will be forfeited in accordance with the new tenancy agreement sent to all tenants.

As ever, we appreciate your engagement and support. We'll continue to provide updates in future issues and online as matters progress.

Keith Brandon
Chairman, Framfield Parish Council

Diary of Church Services

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

There is now an Evening Prayer Service at 5.00 pm either at East Hoathly or Chiddingly on the fourth Sunday of each month.

JUNE 2025

- 01 Seventh Sunday of Easter**
10.00 am Parish Eucharist (CW) – Revd James
- 08 Pentecost**
10.00 am Wealdway Eucharist at Chiddingly – Revd James *(No service at Framfield)*
- 15 Trinity Sunday**
10.00 am Family Service – Revd James
- 22 First Sunday of Trinity**
10.00 am Morning Praise (with Peter Berry)
5.00 pm Evening Prayer at *Chiddingly* – Revd James
- 29 Second Sunday of Trinity**
10.00 am Wealdway Eucharist (CW) – Revd James

JULY 2025

- 06 Third Sunday of Trinity**
10.00 am Parish Eucharist and Baptism – Revd James
- 13 Fourth Sunday of Trinity**
10.00 am Wealdway Eucharist at Framfield – Revd James
- 20 Fifth Sunday of Trinity**
10.00 am Family Service – Revd James

27 Sixth Sunday of Easter
10.00 am Morning Praise (with Christine Hayler)
5.00 pm Evening Prayer at *East Hoathly* – 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 JULY 2025
TO
ANN NEWTON – 01825 890182**

**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.
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.**

Framfield Parish Council Update

Lewes Road Speed Reduction (B2192)

We continue to raise concerns with East Sussex County Council (ESCC) regarding the delayed implementation of the speed limit reduction from 50mph to 40mph on the B2192. While the works had previously been suggested for June 2025, ESCC have now indicated that design changes, tied in with other Route Study projects have created further delays. They are currently unwilling to commit to a timeline and have only said that a clearer update may be available in the summer (2025). Given the history of delays so far, we are challenging this position robustly but are not confident in the current level of commitment. We will publish any updates on our website and social media as soon as we receive them. Just to be clear, it is going to happen, it is not being cancelled, the issues all lay with their logistical planning of the works on site.

Blackboys Parking Issues

The persistent issue of inconsiderate parking by trades vans around John Dann Close — including parking on kerbs, blocking footpaths, and tactile crossing points remains unresolved. Despite repeated efforts to escalate this, responsibility continues to be passed between Wealden District Council and ESCC. While ESCC have acknowledged the issue and indicated they would liaise with WDC to review any planning enforcement options, this unfortunately does not resolve the immediate problems being experienced now.

Our MP has offered some limited advice but confirmed there are few options at present. Meanwhile, Sussex Police have made it very clear that parking enforcement is not a priority for them and that they will only intervene if a vehicle is considered to be dangerously parked. Disappointingly, the developer of the adjacent site to the recreation ground has not responded to any of our communications on the matter, although on a more positive note, the larger development further down the road has now arranged on-site parking for all contractors, which has reduced disruption there.

We continue to raise the issue at every opportunity and urge residents to report:

Obstructive or illegally parked vehicles: via Operation Crackdown
(<https://operationcrackdown.org>)

Dangerously parked vehicles: by calling Sussex Police on 101

Changes in Local Government Structure

We are starting to receive some communications about the current two-tier local government system in East Sussex, comprising County and District councils is being



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.



Update - Framfield Roof & Tree Works appeal

As you are aware, it has been necessary to carry out some essential works to both the church hall roof and the field maple tree. I am delighted to report that, thanks to the extreme generosity of our congregation and online community, we have been able to reimburse all of the funds. A heartfelt thanks goes out to all those who have donated.

FRAMFIELD VILLAGE MARKET **Memorial Hall, Framfield** **The market opens from 10 am to 12 noon.**

2025

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

Nature Notes

My wife and I are currently in France. It is early May as I write. Summer here is experienced several weeks earlier in Aquitaine than it is in Sussex. The wheat and barley have already formed their seed heads, and the weather is very summery. We went for a walk this morning and encountered at least 5 European brown hares (*Lepus europaeus*) chasing each other and running across fields. Plus, several species of orchid in flower. We also identified several birds calling/singing to mark their territories; these included a black woodpecker (*Dryocopus martius*), golden oriole (*Oriolus oriolus*) and nightingale (*Luscinia megarhynchos*).

The environmental scenario that generates the highest biological diversity, as here, is habitat diversity, such as a mix of woodland, grassland, heathland, wetland and arable. This has also been the tenet of good gardening, and this is what we are trying to generate on our patches in both England and France. However, the two ecosystems are strikingly different. The human population density of Britain is about double that of France. Also, Great Britain is an island, but France is part of a giant continent stretching from the Atlantic Ocean to eastern China on the Pacific Ocean coast. Much of this land has not been modified by humans. Many species cannot or will not disperse across water, so Britain's biodiversity is always going to be isolated and limited. Most of it became trapped when the Channel separated Britain from the continent about 6,100BC. Then, Britain became an archipelago of offshore European islands that broke free of mainland Europe for good. This was during the Mesolithic period - the Middle Stone Age. There are relicts of a human Mesolithic settlement located NW of Uckfield spanning what is now West Park Local Nature Reserve and Lake Wood Woodland Trust reserve. Here Mesolithic rock shelters can be seen and about 10,000 flint tools have been found. Many of these people would have been the ancestors of truly British people still living.

Island populations generally have lower species diversity than continents, but also generate endemic species that are found nowhere else. For example, I have been studying blue tits (*Cyanistes caeruleus*) for many years, and the British population of this bird (*C. caeruleus obscurus*) is a sub-species unique to Britain. Also, the Canary Island blue tits have generated 4 further populations of distinct species (not sub-species) of blue tits (*C. ombriosus*, *C. degener*, *C. palmensis* and *C. teneriffae*). Their ancestors initially came from Africa, and before that from China where true blue tits no longer exist.

Back to France, and our walk. We were also delighted to see a large green and blue lizard (*Lacerta bilineata*), possibly Eurasia's largest and most striking lizard. Later, we saw one of these running, dinosaur like, across our front lawn.

Martyn Stenning

NEWS FROM YOUR WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

I just wanted to give you advance notice that the Wealden Electoral Services Team will be sending emails to 15,300 postal voters over the next few months. The email will be sent via their Gov.UK Notify account. This email is genuine or if you have any worries please contact the Electoral Services Team (01892 602407) or elections@wealden.gov.uk.

The implementation of the Elections Act 2022 means that a postal vote arrangement cannot last longer than three years. 2025 is a transitional year for the Postal Vote Renewal Process and the majority of postal voters will fall into the Renewal Process this year. Overall, there are 22,700 postal voters (WDC has email addresses for approx. 15,000) to contact before the end of January 2026. If these electors want to continue to vote by post, they will need to reapply by 31 January 2026.

To try and 'flatten the peaks' and reduce the number of letters and forms that will need to be sent, returned and manually processed, WDC are hoping that the email will encourage voters to reapply early and online.

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.
Tel: 07762 746334. Email: aenewton1965@gmail.com

Making Waves at Bevern View



We're currently recruiting **support workers**, and if you're looking for a role where you can truly make a difference, we'd love to hear from you.

As Immy, one of our team, puts it: *"You can see when you've helped make our residents more comfortable—their whole body relaxes, you might get a smile or a touch—and in that moment, you know you've made a real difference."*

Our much-loved hydrotherapy pool at Bevern View has long been one of the most important spaces for our residents. For people who are profoundly disabled the chance to be supported in water — free to move, stretch, and simply be — is nothing short of transformative.

After 14 years of use, the pool recently needed urgent re-tiling, and thanks to a huge effort, we were able to get the funds and complete this.

But as is often the way with essential facilities, one fix revealed others: a failing chemical dosing machine and a hidden underfloor leak have caused fresh challenges, meaning more time out of the pool and even more funds needed.

Despite this, we remain determined. Every moment our residents spend in the hydro pool improves their physical health and mental wellbeing. It's central to helping them live fuller, more joyful lives—something at the heart of everything we do.

For further details visit www.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

Email: info@beverntrust.org

Follow us on social media:

    [@thebeverntrust](https://www.instagram.com/thebeverntrust)

Sussex Wildlife Trust

Sward Wardens: the incredible role of dung beetles

By Kerry Williams: Communications Officer - Conservation

There's a subject we're not great at talking about in the UK; poo. However, there's a group of creatures that are far more celebratory of the topic, with their diet testament to their appreciation. Aptly named, dung beetles eat poo. And they are amazing.

You are likely to conjure the image of Heliocopris, giant dung beetle species which reside in Africa and Asia, manoeuvring huge droppings kindly deposited by some of the Earth's spectacular megafauna. Although these beetles don't match the size of the one that rolled a football into the 2010 World Cup opening ceremony, they are hefty for a beetle, reaching lengths of up to 7cm.

Our dung beetles are more diminutive, but no less vital. The UK is home to around 60 species, which are split into three groups: **Aphodiines**, or the 'dwellers', sized 3-13mm who live directly in dung, **Onthophagus**, at 4-11mm; 'tunnellers' who tunnel up to a metre below the dung, pulling down small amounts to lay their eggs in, and the largest 'tunnellers' at 8-26mm, the **Geotrupes**.

Mostly, they consume dung of herbivores and omnivores. The ultimate recyclers, dung beetles are ecosystem engineers, meaning they modify their environment to provide services to other species with whom they share the ecosystem. In the case of dung beetles, this is a poop removal service.

Not only do they improve grazing pasture by clearing grasslands of waste, but they also recycle vital nutrients, keeping soil healthy. Tunnelling aerates the soil and prevents compaction, which in turn mitigates against flooding. Whilst this waste processing keeps down the population of flies, the beetles also remove parasites living in the dung. The beetles are, in turn, prey to others, such as birds, bats and Hedgehogs. It's all rather harmonious and, as nature does best, it's a perfectly symbiotic relationship.

Yet, like most of our native wildlife, dung beetles are in trouble. Largely this is due to modifications in agricultural practices; changes in land-use and an increase of pesticides, whether this be directly onto fields or via livestock ingested worming medicines. These chemicals disrupt the brilliantly balanced natural process, especially when used large scale and

preventatively. Landowners can support dung beetle populations by reducing pesticides; more dung beetles mean fewer parasites, so by protecting these species a free service is being retained.

We owe a lot to our dung beetles and must protect them. They're a critical part of our ecosystem, yet many of us don't know they exist here or appreciate their unglamorous and thankless work. To be frank, without them we would be up to our knees in poo. Metaphorically and literally.

Sussex Wildlife Trust

May 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



Cross in Hand Tennis Club

We are a fun, friendly club that provides five quality clay courts and a pickleball court.

We welcome players across the age and ability range.

What we offer:

- Social club sessions
- Adult group coaching sessions
- Men's & Ladies' match practice
- Internal doubles ladders
- Annual club tournaments
- Junior coaching and tournaments
- Pickleball membership

Email us today to find out more information!

crossinhandtennisclub@live.co.uk

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/CrossinHandLTC>

Framfield & Blackboys Horticultural Society News

We hope you are all making the most of the lovely sunshine and getting outdoors into your gardens and enjoying other open spaces.

The Show Committee and Horticultural Society have been busy preparing for our main event of the year "The Summer Show" to ensure this is the best it can be with an Exhibitors Schedule full of different classes and categories to enter into and a programme of entertainment for the day itself which is on Saturday 16th August 2025 from 12 O'clock.

If you have not done so before, please take a look at the schedule which is available online on our website <https://framfieldandblackboys-hort-soc.com> and in paper format that came with the copy of the Parish Newsletter.

For the first time in our history schedule entries are FREE so NO ENTRY FEES! and hopefully there will be something for everyone to enter, we have classes for those with experience and those that are novices including Fruit & Vegetables, Flower & Plants, Cookery & Preserves, Children, Handicrafts & Photography.

Entry Details

Entries forms must be received by Terry Everitt no later than 13/08/2025

All exhibits must be in place by 9.45 am on the day

Exhibits section 1-4 can be put into the Marquee from 6am

Exhibits section 5-8 can be placed in the Memorial Hall from 8am

Unfortunately, we no longer accept late entries on the day

The schedule is packed with information on how to best display your entries including a pull-out entry form you can deliver by hand or email to terry.everitt@outlook.com. Inside the schedule you will find some simple guidance to follow so please enter what you can or if new just have a go you never know you might even win your class.

On a separate note, why not become a member of the Horticultural Society, we are a friendly bunch and always looking to welcome new members. We have regular talks and garden visits when you can we meet other members who all share a passion for gardening and will be only too happy to share tips and advice with you.

For more information about our talks and the Society please take a look at our website.

E+M

PLUMBING AND HEATING

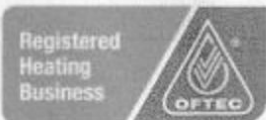
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Skilled professional local plumber in your area , do get in contact for a chat we are a family run business based in Nutley East Sussex.






Noël Coward's

Hay Fever

12TH-14TH JUNE 2025
7.30PM FRAMFIELD MEMORIAL HALL



To book tickets please go to
www.ticketsource.co.uk/buxted-players
or call the box office
Tel: 0333 666 3366

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

As we write this update, our Year 6 children are preparing for their SATs. These assessments are just one way we support our pupils at the end of their primary school career to be secondary ready. After SATs week the Year 6 children across the Federation head off to France on their annual outing to experience a day in another country, apply the French we learn in Key Stage 2 and enjoy French culture. The Federation are grateful to all the staff, especially Mr Sullivan, who intrepidly leads this trip.

At Framfield, our youngest class is heading to the Ashdown Forest to support their topic on spring and growth. Year 4 are undertaking their National Curriculum swimming experience and Year 5 are off to the County Ground for a day of cricket. And our oldest children are learning Bikeability - road safety as they prepare for starting to cycle our roads.

At Blackboys we have exciting trips planned too. Our youngest pupils will spend the day discovering plants and seeds at Wakehurst Place to supplement their Science work on plants. Class 2 are off to discover predators and prey at Drusillas in July. Year 4 and 5 have an exciting trip to Greenwich in June to visit the Cutty Sark and the National Maritime Museum, adding further depth to their history learning about the British Empire. It is a really fascinating History Unit as the children discover the benefits and less positive aspects to empire and colonialism.

Spring really is springing at both schools currently. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of many volunteers, both schools are vibrant with spring colours. Our children are so fortunate to go to school in such rural communities with the outside space we have.

Mrs Claire Roberts, Interim Headteacher Framfield School
Mr Graham Sullivan, Headteacher Blackboys School

ALLOTMENT TENANTS

Tenancy renewals have been sent out by email. If you haven't received yours please check your spam box. Rents must be received by 1 June 2025 or a 100% surcharge will be levied. Any plots where the fees have not been paid by 1 July 2025 will be deemed vacant.

GRASS SQUARE – TOP OF BECKETS WAY, FRAMFIELD

Just a reminder that the grass at the top of Becketts Way is privately owned as is the footpath which goes around it. Residents should not therefore use it as a short cut or let their children or pets play on the area.

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Blackboys Village Hall, Blackboys Pavilion and Framfield Memorial Hall

With immediate effect, if anyone is wishing to hire one of our halls, please note that we now have a single point of contact for all of them:

Email clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk

Or

Phone (Office Hours) 01825 890182

(Please leave a message on answerphone with your contact details)

Blackboys Village Hall: Two heated rooms with a seating capacity of 100 and 50 respectively. Very competitive rates for both regular and casual bookings.

Framfield Memorial Hall: Large hall with a capacity of 150. Very competitive rates for both regular and casual bookings.