

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

# Parish Magazine



**Framfield, Blackboys  
and  
Palehouse Common**

**OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@framfieldchurch.org.uk)

Treasurer:

Mrs Gaynor Robson



**From the Church Registers:**

**At Rest:**

Baptism: 7.09.25: Jessica Ellis

## Father James Writes

Spreading the Word.

It feels somewhat counter intuitive to write an article about our church's online presence in a hard copy parish magazine, but the reality is that if we do not have an attractive and informative online presence, then we will struggle to engage with a large number of potential church members.

### *The Weald Way Churches Website:*

For a while now I have been working on a website for our three parishes, which is gradually becoming the main online presence for our three churches, replacing other sites that are still lurking out there in cyberspace!

Please visit [www.thewealdwaychurches.co.uk](http://www.thewealdwaychurches.co.uk) and take a look.

The Home page of the website is updated weekly, and details the services for the current week, so it is always worth checking before you set out on a Sunday.

Rotas containing service provision across our three churches can be viewed or downloaded from the Services page.

These rotas are painfully difficult to 'get right', and I am acutely aware of the importance of giving each church equal consideration when it comes to Sunday services.

I have just started posting rotas, individual to each church, in each church's particular section of the website, so do take a look.

The church's commitment to the safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults is prominent on our website; our three safeguarding officers are introduced on the Safeguarding page, and up to date policy documents for all three churches can be downloaded if required.

The website also contains a What's on page, detailing social, fundraising and other events.

Dedicated sections concerning Baptisms and Weddings give up to date information for those interested in those sacraments.

At specific times in the church year, the website carries addition pages detailing services for Advent, Christmas, Lent, Holy Week and Easter. Contact details for Myself and Janice can be found on the Contact page, and we have already had a number of Baptism and Wedding enquiries through the website.

### *Facebook:*

For many people, Facebook is an important part of their social media diet, and to this end, the Weald Way Churches have a dedicated Facebook page. I aim to post church services, news, and events on the Weald Way Churches Facebook page at least once a week, and the page is attracting an increasing number of visitors.

Each Saturday I update the Weald Way Churches Facebook page, and also post Sunday service information to: my own personal Facebook page, the Blackboys & Framfield Spotlight page, The East Hoathly and Halland Community Page and the Chiddingly and East Hoathly Community News & Talk. If you use Facebook and see any of our posts, please do 'like' and 'share', it really does make a difference.

### *The Future:*

As modern and up to date as all this sounds, there is still work to be done.

The majority of young people, and certainly those under 25 gave up on Facebook ages ago, seeing it as a site that has been taken over by their parents and grandparents!

As we seek to grow our church families, we will need to consider starting a presence on Instagram and maybe even Tik Tok....

Jesus told us to go out and make disciples of all nations. Let's continue this work, both in person and online.

Fr. James

God Bless

Fr. James

June 2025

## The View from the Churchyard – Peter Berry

Hello, it's September already and change is in the air. Mornings are feeling a bit autumnal. Heavier dews. We used to call this hop picking weather closely followed by potato lifting. In rural schools in Kent & Sussex attendance was always down until these jobs were done. Our village schools were no different. Young labour was useful on many farms. Over a century ago. Different days!

Thank you for your support in our efforts in the churchyard. We work amongst those some of whom lived in the times I was referring to and even earlier. We have some tree work to get done but we are making headway. Can I make a suggestion. I feel we owe this lovely spot and those who are there remembered a better fence at the bottom by the concrete road. I am a bit ashamed of the state of the current one. It need not be lavish but should look like we care. The swallows will be off south soon, let's have our new fence by their return in April. If you can help or support us in anyway give me a shout.

Thanks. Peter Berry. 07815459075

## Thank you for continuing to Collect

**MILK BOTTLE TOPS:** These as we said before now go to The National Air and Sea Rescue. Still any colour from the 1pt/2pt/4pt milk bottles although they are mainly clear colour now, they are still needed. Thank you for making sure they are clean too. Hand them into Sandy and Keith at Framfield Markets.

**Also USED STAMPS:** Thank you again for handing in so many, always leave good bit of envelope around stamp.

These now go to Eastbourne DG Hospital, (they only collect stamps) Also some go to SGA (Slavic Gospel Association). We are pleased to say our Friends Mary and Ben (Hickman) help us with this now, as we are delighted to say we receive so many stamps from you all. Again, Hand them into us at Framfield Markets. Keep collecting so we can help these worthy causes. Thank You All.

Sandy and Keith (Rogers) 01323 833121



19<sup>th</sup> October 2025  
16<sup>th</sup> November 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](mailto:hoss.graham.s@gmail.com)

## Diary of Church Services

**Note:** The latest church service information will always be on the New Church website: <https://www.thewealdwaychurches.org.uk>. This site, developed by Revd James, covers all three of the churches and will soon replace the Framfield Church site, which is being retired.

### OCTOBER 2025

- 05 Harvest Festival - Sixteenth Sunday of Trinity**  
10.00 am Parish Eucharist (CW) – Revd James
- 12 Seventeenth Sunday of Trinity**  
10.00 am Wealdway Eucharist at Framfield – Revd James
- 19 Eighteenth Sunday of Trinity**  
10.00 am Family Service – Revd James
- 26 Bible Sunday - Nineteenth Sunday of Trinity**  
10.00 am Morning Praise - Peter Berry)  
5.00 pm Evening Prayer at *Chiddingly* – Revd James

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

### NOVEMBER 2025

- 02 All Saints' Day**  
10.00 am Parish Eucharist – Revd James
- 09 Remembrance Sunday**  
10.00 am Remembrance Eucharist – Revd Janice
- 16 Second Sunday before Advent**  
10.00 am Family Service – Revd James  
5.00 pm Evening Prayer at *Chiddingly* – Revd James

- 23 Sunday next before Advent**  
10.00 am Morning Praise - Peter Berry)  
5.00 pm Evening Prayer at *East Hoathly* – Revd James
- 30 Advent Sunday**  
10.00 am Wealdway Eucharist – Revd James

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

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

<https://thewealdwaychurches.co.uk/framfield-parish-church/>

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE  
BY 10<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2025  
TO**

**ANN NEWTON – 01825 890182**

**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.**

**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.

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

**2025**

**27 September**  
**25 October**  
**29 November**  
**20 December**

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

**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](mailto: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.

**Nature Notes**

September – the seventh month? (Latin *septimus* meaning seventh). So, why is it the ninth month, if we start from January? Because it comes before October – the eighth month (*octava* Latin for eighth), and it follows that November (Latin *novus* for ninth) and December (Latin *decimo* – tenth) conclude the year. So, January to August are alternative month names in sequence. Incidentally, I will just mention that the name of March comes from *Martius*, the first month of the earliest Roman calendar. It was named after Mars, the Roman god of war, and an ancestor of the Roman people through his sons Romulus and Remus. Similarly, August comes from the Latin word *augustus*, meaning "consecrated" or "venerable," which in turn is related to the Latin *augur*, meaning "consecrated by augury" or "auspicious." In 8 B.C. the Roman Senate honoured Augustus Caesar, the first Roman emperor, by changing the name of their sixth month (*Sextilis*) to *Augustus*. It follows that Augury included a Greco-Roman religious practice of observing the behaviour of birds, to receive omens. When the individual, known as the augur, read these signs, it was referred to as "taking the auspices". "Auspices" can mean "looking at birds". Auspex, another word for augur, (Latin: *auspicium*) "one who looks at birds". It augers well if you do!

September contains the autumn equinox, about the 21<sup>st</sup> when daylength equals night length. Nature responds by forcing our deciduous trees to *decide* to shed their leaves, the insects they support either die, or hibernate, as do other animals such as dormice and hedgehogs. Many bird species such as swallows and the various warblers fly back to Africa, at least most of them do. With global heating, more birds are deciding to stay all year round. As insectivores, this means that more insects are also remaining active all year as well. It also follows that the plants the insects feed on are continuing to grow. Am I the only one who has noticed a few roses or primulas still flowering in December? Roses support aphids, which are a favourite insectivorous bird food. As I write now it is August. The world is buzzing with insects, it is frequently hot, and many plants of all sizes are wilting in the drought. The reservoirs are running short of water, and we are told to use it wisely. This spring, I took advantage of the offer by South East Water to purchase another water butt from them at an amazingly low price. It is useful now as I can water my roses etc to keep them alive through the drought. The mosquitos also seem to be benefitting from them as a breeding site. Another SEW initiative was to offer a reduction in our water bills if we have a soak-away (we do) in the garden to cope with surface run-off. It reduces pressure on the drains and can reduce flooding risk, it also keeps rainwater in the garden to support the trees and other plants. Many people may not even realise they have a soak-away, but it may be recorded in the house documents. *Auspicium Melioris Aevi*. (Latin for 'Hope of a Better Age').

October 2025:

Just as an addendum to September Nature Notes, January (named after the Roman god Janus, who was the god of beginnings, endings, doorways, and transitions) and



February (from the Latin word februum or februare, meaning "to purify," and from Februa, a Roman festival of purification and atonement held mid-month). These were added to the monthly calendar by Numa Pompilius, the second king of Rome, around 713 BC. The additions were made to account for the full lunar year and the period of winter that was previously left unassigned. This part of ancient Rome's lunar calendar considered winter to be a monthless period, which originally only had ten months starting with March. The word 'month' should be 'moonth' as a lunar month accounts roughly as the period from one 'new moon' to the next, which is approximately 29.5 days. This period is also called a synodic month and represents the time it takes for the Moon to go through all its phases and return to the same alignment with the Earth and Sun. A harvest moon is when the moon is particularly bright, such that farmers can harvest crops during the night and usually occurs in September, but sometimes early October.

August, September and October are months when many birds migrate south to escape the short cold days of winter. Maybe the most remarkable of these is the arctic tern (*Sterna paradisaea*), which breeds in the northern Arctic zones and spends the winter in the Antarctic. I am also fascinated by cuckoos (*Cuculus canoris*), who never meet their biological parents, but instinctively know where and when to go (Africa) for the winter after fledging in late summer. Other bird species can at least migrate in mixed age groups, often with their parents, but most cuckoo adults leave Europe in June before their offspring have fledged the host's nest. The other thing to look out for in the autumn is spiders' webs. They often show up with dew or frost in cold mornings. Most insects die at the end of the summer, and nature is never wasteful, there is always a use for its products. Some insects lay eggs, and then die with the first frosts or are eaten by spiders or birds. Others hibernate as larvae, pupae or adults, and some such as painted lady (*Vanessa cardui*) butterflies migrate south like some birds.

One of my specialities is the blue tit (*Cyanistes caeruleus*). I studied how they planned their families to optimise breeding success for my doctorate. What I found has been published in my book called 'The Blue Tit'. One relevant thing is that female British blue tits often migrate for short distances, maybe 100 miles or so from where they bred, usually southwest and near the coast. The south-west of England is probably the warmest place on our island in the winter due to the relatively warm Atlantic Conveyor current flowing from the Gulf of Mexico to Britain. Male blue tits tend to remain at their nesting sites.

**Martyn Stenning**

**All monthly Nature Notes are also available on the Parish Council Website at: <https://www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk/naturenotes.html>.**

## **Sussex Wildlife Trust**

### **September 2025 – Woodlice and Dead wood**

*By Kerry Williams: Communications Officer – Conservation, Sussex Wildlife Trust*

A minibeast staple of childhood bug hunts, and comprising of 30 UK species, woodlice can be found in gardens all year round.

Not lice at all, but terrestrial crustaceans, meaning they have hard exoskeletons, woodlice are related to crabs and shrimp. Favouring damp habitats to avoid drying out, these helpful critters can be found under rocks, logs and in compost heaps, doing what they do best, recycling. Nothing is off the menu, as woodlice will consume dead plant and animal matter, fungi, lichen, and with full zero-waste commitment, even their own faeces.

Woodlice have an extraordinary series of common and nicknames, with a survey once collecting 250 regional variations; chuckypig, slater, pillbug, monkeypea and woodpig, to name a few. It's not known why woodlice have so many alternative names, but a lovely theory is that it's due to their accessibility to children playing in gardens, who come up with imaginative names which stick over time.

A critical habitat for woodlice is dead wood, whether fallen or dead trees, rotting stumps, logs or stick piles. A sometimes-overlooked environment, dead wood is often a microcosm bursting with life.

Fungi are a hugely important partner in the dead wood cycle, by both contributing to the decay process and feeding on the dead wood itself. Many insects rely on this habitat, including Saproxyllic Beetles, which burrow into the softer surfaces to avoid predators, their grubs feeding on the decaying wood. Insectivorous birds, such as woodpeckers, then benefit from this. Bats utilise holes in standing dead wood to roost, and feed on flying insects attracted to the damp environment it can create. And the decaying wood itself recycles nutrients back into the soil.

With such an impressive ecosystem to support, it is important to leave dead wood and resist any temptation to clear it away. On a large scale, it can contribute to a diversity of woodland understory, creating different angles and textures as you peer through the forest, increasing not only the ecological value, but the mystical aesthetic of our ancient Ebernoe reserve, for example. On a smaller garden scale, it can provide a bug-hotel-style feature and a vital home for the important wildlife we don't always notice; a chuckypig paradise.


Sussex Wildlife Trust

July 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](https://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
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- Pickleball membership

**Email us today to find out more information!**  
[crossinhandtennisclub@live.co.uk](mailto:crossinhandtennisclub@live.co.uk)  
<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/CrossinHandLTC>

## Blackboys CE School

As we step into a new term, there's much to celebrate from Blackboys CE Primary School. The summer months and start of the autumn bring fresh energy — here's a summary of what the children, staff, and community have been up to.

Over the summer, the school hosted a multi-activity holiday camp, in partnership with BrightSpark Sports. Targeted at children aged 5-12, the camp ran during the last week of July and into early August. It offered a wide variety of activities — sports, arts & crafts, archery, inflatables, Nerf games, zorbing, and more. It was clearly a hit, with children enjoying many new skills and plenty of fun. Popular Dance Teacher Miss Zara also ran dance workshops based on popular films and musicals. The Frozen workshop was particularly well subscribed, and it was brilliant to hear that our pupils stayed active over the summer break.

There was a happy occasion for the school community in August. Much loved Class 4 teacher Miss Mayhew got married and was joined in her celebration by members of staff. We're all now desperately trying to remember to call her Mrs Taplin. Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Taplin!

We were proud of our work display and competition entries to the Framfield and Blackboys Show. We scooped 2 first places and a host of other placements. We enjoy supporting this happy occasion. With the new school year, normal routines and curriculum endeavours have resumed. The school retains its emphasis on a broad, stimulating curriculum including strong work in reading, singing, sport, and outdoor learning. Our Christian value of Perseverance helps make a strong start to 2025/26. Our Year 6s have completed their bikeability scheme and a team building workshop. Our new Reception children have settled well and are bringing a vibrancy to school. Upcoming PTA coffee mornings, parent workshops and Harvest Festival show strong engagement with our parents/carers. By the time of publication, our year 5 and 6 children will have completed their 5 day residential trip to PGL Windmill Hill. Living



away from home, taking part in adventurous activities and working together as a team combine to set the tone for the entire school year. You can keep up to date on all things Blackboys School, including details of our popular open days, via our Instagram feed @blackboysschool.

Mr G Sullivan  
Headteacher, Blackboys School

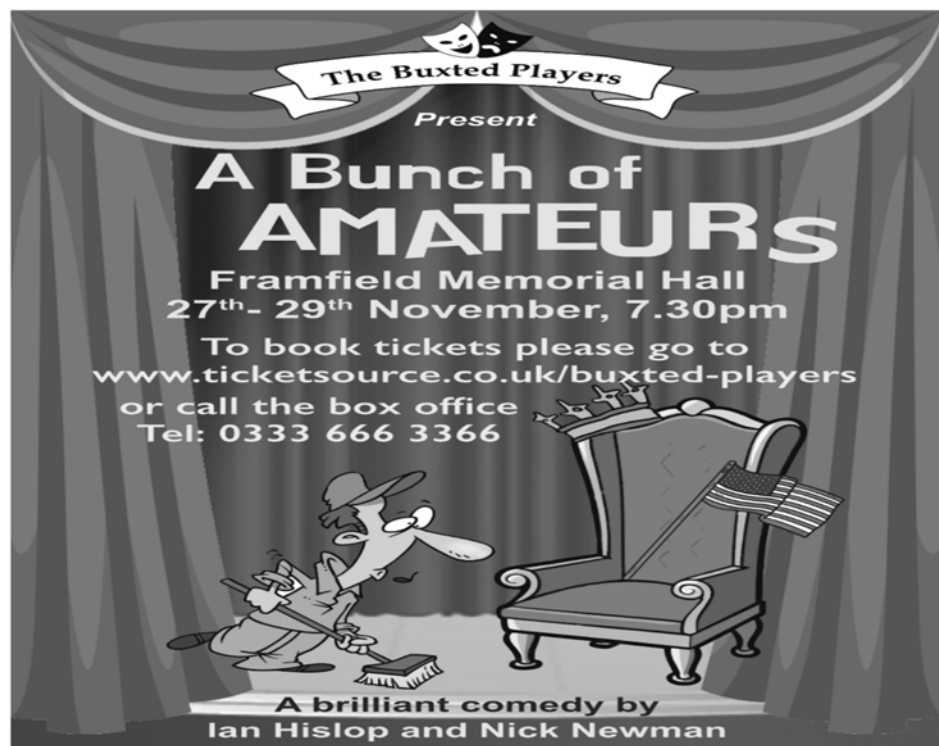
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## GRASS SQUARE – TOP OF BECKETS WAY, FRAMFIELD

**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**

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## Summer Show 2025 – Quite An Event!

As the sun came up on Framfield Recreation Ground on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August, the quiet field was revealed with a light dew coating the blades of grass, to have been transformed the day before from an empty field (admittedly with a large white marquee in the centre) into our Summer Show! Thanks must go to the Summer Show Committee, the Framfield and Blackboys Horticultural Society Committee and the army of volunteers who emptied the container, moved items around the field and erected the hardware of the Summer Show. Without these many hands, the show would just not take place.

Slowly people arrived to set out their entries in both the marquee and the Memorial Hall. With over 600 entries into this competitive part of the event, the diverse skills of the parish were on full display with a spectacle consisting of vegetables, fruit, flower arrangements, handicrafts, cookery and photographic entries. The Children's section was again well supported by both Framfield CE and Blackboys CE Schools along with additional entries from the parish. The results of the show are at the end of this article.

By the time we reached midday, the slight drizzle had departed and the field was buzzing. The gates began admitting the over 900 visitors to the show who enjoyed the wide range of stalls. The refreshment tent opened with a huge array of cakes making your choice so tricky but oh so tasty! The bar of course, despite the cloud cover, did brisk business. Competitive events such as the bra-pong, welly-wang, bowling, egg-throwing as well as the luck-based raffle, tombolas and hoopla continued the traditions from previous years.

The central arena, with the Scarecrow entries around the edge, saw Hollie sing a range of popular songs, CMA Martial Arts demonstrations, the Uckfield Ukulele Band perform as well as, for possibly the last time, The Return of the Red Barrows. The afternoon concluded with the Children's Races and the now annual Egg Throwing Championship. The voting for best Around the Village photograph continued through the day having begun with the exhibits on show in the entrance of the Hare and Hounds (who kindly donated the prizes for this category).

The Show profit will again continue to be divided and provide a Community Fund that can be bid for later in the year. The support of visitors and the money they spend serves to increase the size of the funding available and 2025 will be much the same in size as the previous year.

The show runs on volunteers, and I would like to thank the very long list of those who have made the show take place. From the Summer Show Committee to those who did a stint staffing a stall or an entrance gate: thank you for your time and commitment to allowing our Summer Show to be the highlight of the parish's calendar where it brings together so many people for the afternoon.

I write this with a tinge of sadness, as this is my last Summer Show as Chair as I am standing down from the role in October. Over the years that I have held the role, the organising committee have never failed to put their all into the preparations for the show, ramping up their efforts as the date of the Summer Show nears. The appearance of people who assist in setting up the show, feeding us while we work on the Friday as well as the graveyard shift of the show that is packing it all away never failed to impress me. And with that I will also say thank you to all those who have attended the Summer Shows in recent years and enjoyed all that we have put together.

Thank you.

Terry Everitt, Chair, Framfield and Blackboys Summer Show



## Results of the Summer Show 2025

| Trophy/Section/Award                                       | Winner                                   | Awarded for...                 |                            |
|--|--|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| The Hobbs Barton Cup                                       | Chantal Roser                            | Best Exhibit in Show           |                            |
| The John Dann Cup  | Claire Walton                            | From My Garden                 |                            |
| The New Whyly Perpetual Challenge Cup                      | Margaret Bond                            | Most points in Section 1       |                            |
| The Trevor Horscroft Cup                                   | Rachel Owen                              | Best Carrots                   |                            |
| The Cyril Jeffery Memorial Plate                           | Margaret Bond                            | Best Runner Beans              |                            |
| The David Hazelden Plate                                   | Caroline Penny                           | Best Tomatoes                  |                            |
| The Peter Butler Plate                                     | Phil Day                                 | Best Dish of Fruit             |                            |
| The Dennis White Memorial Cup                              | Claire Walton                            | Most Points in Section 2       |                            |
| The Elsie Jeffery Jug                                      | Chantal Roser                            | Best Dahlia                    |                            |
| The Geddes Rose Bowl                                       | Claire Walton                            | Most points for Roses          |                            |
| The Williams Cup   | Not awarded in 2025                      | Best Novice roses              |                            |
| The Frank Leeves Perpetual Challenge Cup                   | Claire Walton                            | Best Sweet Peas                |                            |
| The Gordon-Wilson Cup                                      | Claire Walton                            | Best Hydrangeas                |                            |
| The Askew Perpetual Challenge Bowl                         | Rachel Owen                              | Best Novice exhibit            |                            |
| The Colonel Nigel Drew Cup                                 | Rachel Owen                              | Best Novice collection         |                            |
| The Whitewood Perpetual Challenge Cup                      | Rachel Owen                              | Most Points, Novice classes    |                            |
| The Henry Cup  | Catherine Bayman                         | Most points floral Arrangement |                            |
| The Don & Wilma Diplock Memorial Cup                       | Chantal Roser                            | Best Floral Arrangement        |                            |
| The New Place Perpetual Challenge Cup                      | Rachel Owen                              | Most points, section 5 Cookery |                            |
| The Makepeace Cup  | Rachel Owen                              | Best Cookery Exhibit           |                            |
| The Desmond Gunner Cup                                     | Terry Everitt                            | Winner of Society Tray         |                            |
| The Barbara Briault Cup                                    | Winter Gagola                            | Best Children's Exhibit        |                            |
| The Moore Miniature Challenge Cups                         | Emily Tajsham                            | Under 5                        | Most points in age section |
|  | Alma-Joy Morrison-Hall, Lucy Gathercole  | 5 to 7                         | Most points in age section |
|  | Mia Harvey, Arthur Miller, Winter Gagola | 8 to 11                        | Most points in age section |
|  | Not awarded in 2025                      | 12 to 16                       | Most points in age section |
| The Sampson Bowl   | Chris Williams                           | Best handicraft exhibit        |                            |
| The Barbara & Horace Moore Cup                             | Susanna Tebbutt                          | Most points in photography     |                            |
| The Burton Bowl  | Lakeshia Dennis                          | Best Photographic Exhibit      |                            |
| The Jeffery Victor Ludorum Trophy                          | Wright Family                            | Most Successful Family         |                            |
| Diploma for Excellence in Horticulture                     | Phil Day                                 | Winner of Class 1              |                            |
| Diploma for Excellence in Horticulture (Floral Art)        | Sue Rigby                                | Runner up to Section 4         |                            |
| Junior Competitor's Award of Merit                         | Joni Morrison-Hall                       | Most money won by a Junior     |                            |
| The National Vegetable Society – Silver Medal & Diploma    | Terry Everitt                            | Best Vegetable Exhibit         |                            |
| Bronze Banksian Medal from the Royal Horticultural Society | Claire Walton                            | Most Money in Sections 1 to 3  |                            |
| Best In Show - Champion                                    | Ruby with Woody                          |                                |                            |
| Reserve Best in Show                                       | Holly with Max                           |                                |                            |

Good luck for all winners for 2026 in defending your trophy.  
Good luck to all competitors in 2026 trying to take home a trophy.



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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.**






## NEWS FROM YOUR WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Councillor Ward Budget Scheme – a new community grant funding scheme has been launched by WDC to give each elected councillor a budget of £10,000 to support community projects, events and organisations within their ward. The scheme is open to non-profit community and voluntary organisations to apply for a grant of up to £5,000 in support of projects that will benefit Wealden residents. If anyone is interested, please make contact with me.

Local Government Review – the latest timetable is detailed below. Consultants have concluded that the most cost-effective way to progress is to go forward as East Sussex rather than a mixture of smaller unitary authorities so the various councils involved will be putting forward their decisions on this during late September.

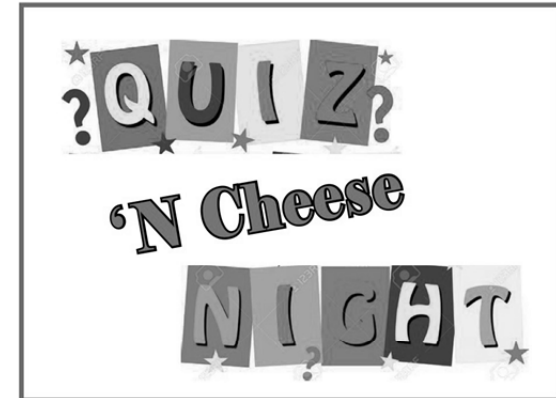
- 26 Sept 2025 – submission to the Government of Unitary Authority proposals by East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton & Hove
- May 2026 – election for Mayor of Sussex
- May 2027 – elections to the Shadow Unitary Authorities
- April 2028 – Vesting Day for new Unitary Authorities (at which point existing County, District and Borough Councils will cease to exist)

*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



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**Friday 10th October 2025**

**Luxford Centre, Uckfield**

**7.30pm start - doors open at 7.00pm**

**Teams of 4 - 6**

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## Framfield Parish Council – Update

A few updates to share with you in this edition.

### Lewes Road speed limit scheme

The long-awaited Parish Council scheme to reduce the speed limit on the B2192 Lewes Road has once again been delayed by East Sussex County Council (ESCC). This time, the setback is due to clashes with other scheduled works, and, as always, the project remains at risk of being pushed back further if emergency works arise elsewhere.

The Parish Council has made repeated representations to ESCC to express our frustration, understandably so, as it is now over three years since the project began. Despite our efforts, we are told there will be no extension of the scheme beyond Hollow Lane past the Stonebridge Lane junction.

At present, works are pencilled in to start in the last week of September, with additional measures such as High Friction Surfacing (HFS) and advanced signage programmed for mid-October. After that, a number of legal processes must be completed before the new limit can formally take effect, and as yet we have no confirmed date for when this will happen. Updates will be shared via our website and social media as soon as we have firm news, or in the next edition of the Parish Magazine if we experience another delay. ESCC continue to assure us of their commitment to deliver the scheme as soon as possible.

### Blackboys–Framfield (B2102) footpath

Many of you will be aware, particularly if you follow our online updates or attend the Parish Council meetings that the condition of the footpath between Blackboys and Framfield has become a real concern. In some stretches the path narrows to as little as 30cm, making it impossible for those with mobility aids or pushchairs to use. While we recognise this was never designed as a wide, urban-style pavement, its state has deteriorated to the point where it is often unusable.

For many years, the Parish Council has been proactive in taking forward residents' complaints on matters such as this. Unfortunately, ESCC have informed us that, according to their records, they have not received any complaints from residents at all. We will, of course, continue to work with residents on parish matters, but in light of ESCC's rather selective awareness, we would also strongly encourage you to report any highway issues to them directly, just so there can be no possible doubt.

You can phone them on **0345 6080193** or visit - <https://live.eastsussexhighways.com/report-problem> or report using the website or app [www.fixmystreet.com](http://www.fixmystreet.com)

The Parish Council has been pressing ESCC Highways to treat this as a priority, especially with further housing developments planned in the area. Despite several site meetings and discussions, we were recently dismayed to receive a response from ESCC stating: *"Much of the area currently covered by verge has been in this condition for so long that there is no longer a hard surface beneath. Given this, we will not be proceeding with further works at this stage."*

We found this reply deeply disappointing and have now lodged a formal corporate complaint. We await their response, but our position is clear: this situation is not acceptable.

### Blackboys High Street speed limit

We are continuing to look at the feasibility of reducing the speed limit on Blackboys High Street from 40mph to 30mph. A meeting with ESCC has been requested so we can explore what options might be available, and we will share more information once we have it.

### Framfield Memorial Hall car park

A polite reminder about the Memorial Hall car park: this is private and reserved for hall users only. We have noticed an increase in vehicles parking there without permission. While some may assume that using an "empty" car park causes no harm, the reality is that it encourages others to do the same. The hall is hired at various times throughout the week, and those bookings rely on all spaces being available for their use. Please help us to respect this rule, it makes a real difference.

### Palehouse Common Playground

The toddler swing has now been replaced and is in use again. Apologies for the delay in not rectifying this sooner.

### Sussex Police, PCSO Street Meeting

There will be a street meeting in November outside Framfield Memorial Hall where you can pose questions relating to policing issues. At time of press, it is only pencilled in for 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2pm-4pm. We will clarify online, once confirmed. A member of the Parish Council will also be there, should you wish to discuss a parish matter with us.

Thank you for your continued support. Any updates on other matters will be communicated as soon as we are able to provide them.

Best wishes,

**Keith**

Chairman, Framfield Parish Council  
and Hall & Recreation Ground Trusts



**A BIG CHANGE FOR TAX FILINGS!****SELF EMPLOYED or HAVE RENTAL PROPERTY INCOME?****MTDITSA –**

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(replaces the current annual tax return).
3. Key to the system is that it is expected that records be kept in a digitised format  
(replacing the tradition paper-based systems).

Compliance requires the use of financial software to record the digital records and make the filings.

The system also carries with it **FINANCIAL PENALTIES** for late filings.

If you would like more information about our solution to compliance with the new system and what it could do for you –

Contact us: e: [service@taxplus.org.uk](mailto:service@taxplus.org.uk) t: 07746 777156

(We focus on service in the East Sussex / Uckfield general area)



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## Framfield & Blackboys WI

### AUTUMN IS UPON US

After a summer of droughts, downpours and a hosepipe ban, here we are in the run-up to Halloween and Christmas. It seems appropriate that our speaker for our October meeting is Chris Horlock who's going to tell us about Sussex Witchcraft.

### SUMMER SHOW

Taking part in the Summer Show is one of the highlights of our year. We baked cakes, some of us made jam, we all donated prizes for our tombola and Gill Roberts got together a wonderful array of edible goodies for our hamper raffle. The weather was kind, attendance was good and our thanks go to Terry Everett and his team for making it all happen.

### MEMBER'S LUNCH

We had a very cheerful gathering for our August lunch at the Hare & Hounds. The new team are maintaining the friendly service and excellent food. It was really nice to get together and have a catch-up while other people took care of the food and drink.



### FUTURE MEETINGS - 2PM - FRAMFIELD CHURCH HALL

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 10th October  | Speaker: Chris Horlock - Sussex Witchcraft                     |
| 14th November | Christmas Craft with Jackie Samways                            |
| 12th December | Christmas Party. Speaker: Beryl Venables<br>Plus Entertainment |

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

## 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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## 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 6 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.

30 September

25 November

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

01825-890182 / [clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk)  
'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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## 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.*  
[clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk)

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