

*Published by  
Framfield Parish Council*

# Parish Magazine



**Framfield, Blackboys  
and  
Palehouse Common**

**AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2026**

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

**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**

## 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)

## **Father James Writes - The Gift of Wholeness and Healing:**

In the busyness of modern life, it is easy to compartmentalise our health. We visit the doctor (if we can get an appointment) for physical ailments, seek support for mental wellbeing, and sadly often suffer in silence when it comes to spiritual weariness.

Jesus however never compartmentalises, never separates the body from the soul. His earthly ministry was a glorious mix of teaching, preaching, physical and psychological healing. He offered a radical, holistic care that restored people to their communities and to God.

Today, the Church of England continues this vital, life-giving work. The church's healing ministry should not be an historical relic or a fringe activity; it is a core expression of God's enduring love for us. It recognises that every person experiences brokenness, whether through physical illness, emotional trauma, bereavement, or the everyday anxieties of a fragile world.

Through prayer, the laying on of hands, and anointing with oil, the church creates a sacred space for individuals to encounter the comforting, transforming presence of the Holy Spirit.

Healing in the Christian tradition is rarely a 'magic wand' that instantly deletes life's difficulties; rather it is a gentle process of restoration. Christian healing is inclusive, moving, calming and invigorating. It brings peace into our chaos, strength into our weakness, and a deep reassurance that we are never abandoned in our suffering. It works hand-in-hand with modern medicine, giving spiritual support alongside physical care.

If you are carrying a heavy burden, seeking comfort, or simply longing for a quiet moment of spiritual refreshment, you are warmly invited to a special Healing Service at St. Thomas à Becket Framfield, at 10am on Sunday 9th August.

This service will offer a peaceful, reflective hour filled with gentle worship, scripture, and space for quiet reflection. During the service, there will be an opportunity to engage with the traditional Christian ministry of the laying on of hands and anointing, for those who wish to receive it.

You do not need to be a regular churchgoer or have a profound faith to attend. Whether you are seeking healing for yourself, praying for a loved one, or just searching for a sense of peace, our doors and hearts are open to you.

Come exactly as you are, and discover the gentle, restorative power of God's love.

Christ has no body but yours,  
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,  
Yours are the eyes with which he looks  
Compassion on this world,  
Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,  
Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.  
Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,  
Yours are the eyes, you are his body.  
Christ has no body now but yours,  
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,  
Yours are the eyes with which he looks  
compassion on this world.  
Christ has no body now on earth but yours.

Teresa of Avila (1515–1582)

**Fr. James August 2026**

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## **The View from the Churchyard – Peter Berry**

Eggs and bacon in the Churchyard?? Whatever next. Don't pitch up with a plate we are not organising a breakfast, although it's a thought.

No, the Birds foot Trefoil has run riot this year. The yellow petals of this small pea like flower are everywhere in the Churchyard. Hence the popular name eggs and bacon or butter and eggs. Along with daisies and other wild flower this summer has been a real picture. In June-July butterfly's, slow-worms , birds and insects help it to look peaceful and reasonably natural. Now everywhere is really dry and it is very hot, (shades of '76).

I am hoping to get from Churchyard funds the marble war memorial cleaned this year. Every year we do our best but being white marble it needs a proper professional clean every 6-8 years. It is not a simple job but should look good and reflect our wish to remember and honour our own.

In the last heatwave before this at various times I found people sitting in the church where it is so much cooler, with one chap actually doing some paperwork (his home office was apparently like an oven). After a few days of intense heat even the church fabric starts to warm up and then some of the advantages are lost, although it remains a building with a quiet presence reflecting years of history and our people's faith. In a sense it stands there for us all in the parish. Our ancestors us and our descendants.

Thank you for any support and encouragement you give us.

**Peter Berry** 07815 459075



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

## 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.

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### August 2026

- |           |                                |                                                                              |
|-----------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>02</b> | <b>Trinity IX</b><br>10.00 am  | Wealdway Eucharist, Chiddingly - Revd James                                  |
| <b>09</b> | <b>Trinity X</b><br>10.00 am   | Weald Way Healing Service, Framfield - Revd James                            |
| <b>16</b> | <b>Trinity XI</b><br>10.00 am  | Wealdway Eucharist, East Hoathly - Revd James                                |
| <b>23</b> | <b>Trinity XII</b><br>10.00 am | Morning Praise, Framfield - Peter Berry Eucharist, East Hoathly - Revd James |

**30 Trinity XIII**  
10.00 am Wealdway Eucharist, 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.***

## **September 2026**

**06 Trinity XIV**  
10.00 am Eucharist, Chiddingly - Revd Peter  
Eucharist, East Hoathly - Revd James

**13 Trinity XV**  
10.00 am Wealdway Eucharist, Chiddingly - Revd James

**20 Trinity XVI**  
10.00 am Family Service, Framfield - Christine Hayler  
Wealdway Eucharist, East Hoathly - Revd Peter

**27 Trinity XVII (EH Harvest)**  
10.00 am Morning Praise, Framfield - Peter Berry  
Harvest Eucharist, East Hoathly - 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> September 2026**

**TO**

**ANN NEWTON – 01825 890182**

**Email address:**

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

## HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

**Mrs Ann Newton (Parish Clerk)**

**Telephone: (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)**



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## Allotment Plots Available in Blackboys

Do you live in the parish and fancy growing your own fruit and vegetables?

The Parish Council currently has a small number of allotment plots available in Blackboys.

Allotments are a wonderful way to enjoy the outdoors, keep active and perhaps even grow the biggest courgette in the village!

For more information or to apply for a plot, please contact the Parish Clerk,  
**[clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk)**

Water is the medium of life. No liquid water – no life. We notice this if we do not water our house plants, visit the Sahara Desert or an arctic frozen landscape. If you like to encourage nature in your garden, install a bird bath or pond. With both we have a regular stream of birds bathing and drinking, especially on our increasingly hot days! Frogs and invertebrates breed in our pond. Preferably, no goldfish in the pond, maybe small fish such as sticklebacks would not hurt. Non-native goldfish tend to eat everything else. Tadpoles in my pond have metamorphosed into frogs, now in the garden eating slugs. However, a neighbour still has fat tadpoles in her pond, even in July. Not all ponds are the same. The spawn will have been laid in both ponds during February/March.

In July as I write, England is full of flowers and insects. It is a good year for day flying moths, butterflies and bees. Many more gardens and public areas allow wild native plants to flourish, rather than mowing them to death. The common term for this is rewilding. Incidentally, there are other commonly voiced terms that are usually not used in scientific ecology. One of these is seagulls. This word is not usually found in bird books, there are just gulls. There are several species of gulls in Britain. The term should be limited to referring to Brighton and Hove Albion footballers. Another is 'weeds'. This derogatory term is generally used for plants growing where they are not wanted. However, most "weeds" are simply good native British plants naturally growing among the exotic alien species that are cultivated for show rather than ecological value. However, there are books on the 'weeds of cultivation', these are British wild plants that have adapted to growing among the barley, wheat, and oats of farmers' fields. These are wonderful species such as poppies, forget-me-nots, wild pansies, camomile and many others. However, most of us do "weed" our gardens, extracting buttercups, daisies, speedwells and scarlet pimpernels to cultivate our exotic rose varieties, bred mostly from Asian and Middle Eastern species, hydrangeas, also mostly from Asia, and dahlias, mostly from Mexico and Central America. There can be a place for both. What some of us do is to allow parts of a lawn to succeed into mature nature reserves of whatever wants to grow there. In our garden we get white and red clover, bird's foot trefoil, bluebells, primroses and cowslips. Many of our native insects' time their reproduction to coincide with the flowering of these plants, so in consequence we get more insects. Plus, more insectivorous birds such as robins, blackbirds, dunnocks, wrens and goldcrests. Frogs are insectivorous, so it helps them also. A grass snake was also in the garden whose favourite food includes slugs and frogs. The song thrush likes to feed on snails. In short, we have a functional ecosystem comprising many trophic (nourishment) levels. What we are talking about is increasing the wonderful natural biodiversity of our local areas. But also, increasing our own personal knowledge of these fantastic residents.

**Martyn Stenning**

*All Nature Notes are available at: [www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk/naturenotes.html](http://www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk/naturenotes.html)*

## **Blackboys CE School**

The final months of the academic year are always busy, but very rewarding. Following the May half term each of our 5 classes have enjoyed school trips to locations such as Newhaven Fort, Branching Out and Herstonceux Science Centre.

We hold school trips and visits very close to our heart at Blackboys. The opportunity to spread our wings a little and learn in a different environment is not to be under-estimated. Our pupils get so much out of visits. Some of our annual visits such as our day trip to France are a real part of our school DNA.

The heatwave weather delayed, but didn't cancel, our annual sports day. We enjoyed a traditional, competitive sports day with the children earning points for their house through races, which range from sprints to egg and spoon, sack races and the highlight of inter-house relays. Congratulations to Green House, St George, who retained their title for another year. At the end of Sports Day our super PTA provide everyone with a well deserved ice pop.

We have met our new Reception starters a good number of times now and have recently enjoyed our 'move up morning' when children move to their new year group. It was great to see our newest pupils mingle and make friends with the rest of the school at playtime and our family focused ethos shone through. We know that our September Reception children will make a happy and settled start to life at Blackboys School, especially under the tutelage of Mrs Booth and Mrs Nobes.

At the time of writing we are part way through the 3 performances of our whole school production. This year we are performing Treachery at Traitors' Quay, a World War 2 based spy mystery. Our older children take the main speaking roles, while our younger pupils go on stage to perform a dance or are mainstays in our vocal harmonies. It is a truly inclusive production with every child happily taking part.

We are excited to be putting entries into the Framfield and Blackboys Show again this year and we hope residents will have a chance to look at our children's work in our display too. We greatly value the opportunity to be involved in community events. Linked to this we are delighted that local vicar Father James has rejoined our Governing Body after taking time out on workload grounds. His input with the spiritual development of our pupils is always appreciated.

Thank you for your continued interest in Blackboys School. You can keep up to date via our school Instagram feed, @blackboysschool

**Mr Sullivan - Headteacher**

# **Ceri Stenner**

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### **OPPORTUNITY**

**An Independent Assisted Living flat has come on the market in Five Ash Down, for the over 65's.**

**It is a very spacious, has two bedrooms, the main one with a wet room, a utility room, kitchen, lounge and an extra toilet.**

**There is a well-kept spacious communal garden at the back for everyone's use with a large cafe on site, where hand-made cakes are made fresh every day to enjoy with a cuppa.**

**If you are lonely and crave company this is place for you, organised activities take place three or four times a day. It is on the market for £230,000, if interested and would like more information please ring 01825-826101 and ask for Carol.**



# NEWLIFE

## NEW LIFE CHURCH BLACKBOYS

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Equipping the church to serve the Community & Share the Good News of Jesus

### The Ploughboy

Recently I have been reading about William Tyndale. For those that don't know – he was a scholar in the 16<sup>th</sup> century who went to both Oxford and Cambridge. He was a brilliant linguist whose heart was to translate the Bible so that everyone could read or hear it – his actual words were that it was 'for the ploughboy.' He had to flee this country under persecution as it was considered heretical at the time that anyone could read the Scriptures, other than priests. He managed to translate and print the New Testament for the common man, whilst dodging the authorities and having the Scriptures smuggled back into England. He was betrayed and eventually martyred.

What struck me was his term 'the ploughboy' – that's you and me. I get the feeling some people think that becoming a Christian is for the learned and for those that live a good life, which of course the opposite is true. One of my favourite stories in the Bible is about the thief on the cross next to Jesus. After hurling insults – he said 'Jesus remember me when you come into your Kingdom.' Jesus answered 'Truly I tell you today you will be with me in paradise.'

He was the first person to arrive in Heaven because of Jesus dying and yet he hadn't been schooled, he hadn't been good – and yet he recognised Jesus for who He was, had a repentant heart and accepted Him.

You see the gospel IS 'for the ploughboy.' It is simple and available to all – 'because of the man on the middle cross.'

**'I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'** John 14 v 6

**Brendan Hammond** (New Life Church Deacon)  
**Blackboys School, School Lane : 10.45am – 12 noon**  
**Email: [newlifechurchblackboys@gmail.com](mailto:newlifechurchblackboys@gmail.com)**  
**Website: [newlifeblackboys.com](http://newlifeblackboys.com)**  
**Facebook: New Life Church Blackboys**

## **Parish Council Update**

I hope everyone is keeping well during this exceptionally hot weather.

We recently wrote to ESCC requesting updates on various parish matters and have received an update of sorts. The previous position regarding the potential speed limit reduction was that ESCC was considering engineering options for a possible scheme. The Parish Council has been clear that this would be funded by the Council using developer contributions.

In its recent update, ESCC has now suggested that, if we wish to pursue a speed reduction scheme, the Parish Council should enquire with the Transport Development Team. We had already moved beyond this stage, so it is very disappointing that the matter now appears to have been reset.

By the time you read this, we will hopefully have met with our new County Councillor to discuss the situation and push matters back towards the position we had previously reached, with the aim of progressing the available options. I know this is not what some residents will want to hear, but the transition to a new council appears to have caused a setback. I hope to provide a further update soon, which will initially be shared through our social media.

Palehouse Common residents have been keen to see new HGV routing signs installed for some time, and the Parish Council has supported this. ESCC's Road Safety Team is now finalising the sign designs with a view to providing quotations to the Parish Council. Its current planned timescale for this work is over the summer period.

The bend on the B2192 near the junction with Pound Lane is another matter that we have been pursuing for several years. ESCC is finalising a quotation for the proposed work, which we hope will help to reduce the number of road traffic collisions that frequently occur there.

Some of you may be aware that a planning application has now been published on Wealden District Council's planning portal. The application relates to land north of Bird in Eye Hill and seeks outline planning permission for up to 215 dwellings. This is the field on the left-hand side as you travel towards Framfield from Uckfield, opposite the separate Bird in Eye Farm development site, which already has permission for up to 195 dwellings.

The new application is in outline form and, at this stage, only access to the site is being considered, with all other matters reserved.

You can view the application online at:

**<https://planning.wealden.gov.uk/Planning/Display/WD/2026/1348/MAO>**

Unfortunately, due to the timing of the application and the magazine publication date, we were unable to advise of the planning meeting that we had recently to consider the application. However, you can submit your comments to the planning authority before the 14<sup>th</sup> August 2026.

Please be aware that our website and Parish Council web address will be changing in the coming weeks. This will also include changes to the Council's email addresses, including those used by councillors. These changes will bring the Council more closely into line with the compliance requirements and regulations applying to local authority websites.

We will provide further information in the next magazine and through social media. There will be an overlap and redirection service in place for a period of time for anyone who continues to use the old details. The new website is currently in the early stages of development, and we anticipate that it will take approximately four to eight weeks to complete.

As part of the new website, we would like to update our photographs. If you have any parish-specific photographs that you would be happy for us to use, please email them to us and we will try to include them when the new website goes live.

If you see a pothole, an overgrown tree or bush, a blocked footpath or a blocked drain, please report it directly to ESCC. You can report issues online at: **[www.live.eastsussexhighways.com/report-problem](http://www.live.eastsussexhighways.com/report-problem)** or by telephoning 0345 60 80 193. This is the most effective way to report highway matters. You can also use the FixMyStreet app, which is available for Android and Apple devices through their respective app stores.

I hope to have some more constructive updates for the next magazine.

Finally, I would like to say a big thank you to all the volunteers, local residents and visitors who came to our June market at the Memorial Hall. It was extremely hot, but the coffee and bacon rolls were still very much in demand!

**Remember** - there is **NO** market in August.

**Best Wishes, Keith - Framfield Parish Council**

# Framfield & Blackboys Horticultural Society News

I'm writing this article in the middle of the second heatwave of the year. It is very hard to water everything in this exceptional weather so it is best to concentrate on your tubs, pots, hanging baskets and vegetables and water first thing in the morning or late evening for maximum effect.

Also any newly planted small trees and shrubs require watering regularly in their first year. Lawns are very resilient and although they look a disaster they quickly green up when it cools down and we get some rain.

I hope that those of you who are growing sunflowers for the John Rider Sunflower Cup are looking at healthy specimens and you have managed to photograph the plants with your children/grandchildren. We are looking forward to seeing the results at the show and awarding the John Rider Sunflower Cup.

## Jobs to do in August and September:

**Harvesting:** During August pick your crops such as Courgettes, Runner, French beans, tomatoes and chillis regularly to encourage the plants to keep producing.

**Bulbs:** It is a long way off but September is the time to start planting your spring bulbs, such as daffodils and Hyacinths. It is best to leave your tulips until November before planting.

## Sowing & Planting:

**Sow:** Winter lettuce and plant out in a sheltered spot for some green leaves through Autumn and winter. Hardy annuals such as sweet peas do well if sown in September/October and can be overwintered successfully ready for planting out in spring.

**Pruning:** Prune Apples and pears to maintain shape. Prune the long stems of Wisteria by shortening to around 20 cm.

**Deadheading and Propagating:** Deadhead spent blooms on roses and perennials and how about taking some softwood cuttings of your favourite herbs and tender herbaceous perennials.

**Greenhouse:** September is the time to take down or wash off shading to maximise light as the nights get longer. Also clean out any cold frames ready for overwintering plants.

# NEWS FROM YOUR WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Councillor Ward Budget Scheme – another 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.

As anticipated, we have just received the government decision in relation to Local Government Reorganisation. In summary government has decided to proceed with the modified option albeit with another slight tweak. That tweak sees Falmer parish staying within the East Sussex council boundary but the other areas of Lewes that were originally proposed within the modification (so Saltdean, Peacehaven and Telscombe) are still moving into Brighton and Hove.

Government has confirmed that they wish to stick with the original timetable. This means we are expecting the statutory changes order to be laid before parliament before the end of this calendar year. Elections to the shadow unitary authority will then take place in May 2027 with the district and borough elections that were originally scheduled for that time being cancelled (town and parish elections will still take place). 1 April 2028 will still be the vesting day for the new authority and therefore the day on which Wealden District Council will cease to exist

Wealden Local Plan, Regulation 19 – this is the next part of the process in the formation of a Local Plan and it is hoped that this will be put before Full Council in the middle of September followed by a consultation period before the document is sent to the Planning Inspectorate for Public Examination.

*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  
Tel: 07762 746334  
Email: [cllr.ann.newton@wealden.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.ann.newton@wealden.gov.uk)

## **GRASS SQUARE – TOP OF BECKETS WAY, FRAMFIELD**

Residents are reminded that the grassed area at the top of Becketts Way, including the footpath around it, is privately owned.

Please do not use the area as a shortcut, and please ensure that children and pets do not play on or use the land

### **FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL**

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

#### **2026**

August – no market

26 September

31 October

28 November

19 December

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

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### **Polite request**

The amount of pavement and verge parking seems to have increased particularly in more ‘challenging’ locations such as at the top of roads near to a junction, and often near to schools.

This causes possible dangers and is inconsiderate to all pedestrian users.

**Please think before you park**

## **FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE 2026**

All meetings are held at the Village Hall, Blackboys, at 5.30 pm due to a regular booking in the Memorial Hall.

Although every agenda should be checked should this change.

**29 September**

**24 November**

**Public welcome.** For further details, please telephone the Parish Clerk, Ann Newton, on:  
01825 890182 or email [clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk)  
Or write to '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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## **Looking for a venue?**

Blackboys Village Hall, Blackboys Pavilion and Framfield Memorial Hall are available to hire for regular activities, community groups, meetings, parties and other events.

Blackboys Village Hall offers two heated rooms, seating up to 100 and 50 people respectively, while Framfield Memorial Hall provides a spacious hall with capacity for up to 150 people.

Both regular and one-off bookings are welcome, with very competitive hire rates.

For availability, prices or further information, please contact:

Email: [clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk) Phone: 01825 890182 (answerphone)



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# Framfield & Blackboys WI

FROM AN ENGLISH GARDEN TO THE  
EGYPTIAN DESERT

## AGM & GARDEN PARTY

We gathered in Delia's lovely garden to deal with the business aspect of running a WI and the all important election of the Committee. We're delighted that all the members of the current Committee have agreed to stand again. Then we had a gorgeous afternoon tea and



were entertained by Beryl Venables who gave a fascinating talk on Capability Brown who reshaped entire landscapes around the mansions of wealthy clients and became rich along the way.

The June competition was any garden related arrangement and members rose to the challenge with the creative entries pictured left.

## JULY MEETING AND TUTANKHAMUN

Jacqui Horton told us about Howard Carter's early life and family background. He was a talented painter and originally went to Egypt to paint tombs and artefacts as they were discovered but his organisational skills led to him being put in charge of whole excavations. He was engaged by Lord Carnarvon for some years before he made the fabulous discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb.

## FUTURE MEETINGS - 2 PM FRAMFIELD CHURCH HALL

- |             |                                                                                                  |
|-------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 14th August | Members' Lunch                                                                                   |
| 15th August | Framfield Summer Show                                                                            |
| 11th Sept   | Our <b>100th Birthday</b> with tea and cake and Tim Bartholomew Speaking about 'The Acting Lark' |

**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

## **News from your East Sussex County Councillor Peter Griffiths, Uckfield South with Framfield.**

I thought it was time to provide an update on the work I have been doing since the election. For the last seven weeks I have been receiving two or three briefings a day to bring me up to speed with what the Communities, Economy and Transport Portfolio entails. The largest part is transport and this includes all aspects of Highways, (repairing and maintaining roads, pavements, Rights of Way and Footpaths, Street Lighting, Road Signs and Verges), Waste Disposal, Buses, Flood Prevention, Libraries, Coroners Courts, Gypsy and Traveller Sites and the Council Property Planning Portfolio. Enough to be going on with!

Potholes being the subject I receive most emails about; I would encourage you to report them on the East Sussex Highways website. The Highway Steward will inspect them and if they reach the intervention level, they will be logged for repair. If you go onto the following website:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/77d47bdf12e940c684e30a07b6ec5410> you will see which potholes are due for repair and the date.

I would love to be able to repair every one, but the brutal truth is, I don't have the money. Until two years ago we spent £31M on our 2,000 miles of roads. I now have £21M, of which £2.8M is for pothole repairs. It is, however, the season for road resurfacing, and you will see road repair gangs out, all over East Sussex, resurfacing, patching and tar and chipping.

74% of our budget goes to Adult Social care and Children's Social Care, which includes Home to School Transport. The are Government mandated services that we must comply with. It does not leave a lot over for everything else. The cost of these two items has risen from £231M to £403M since 2010.

If you can't make it, you can write to: Cllr. Peter Griffiths, c/o Members Services, County Hall, St. Anne's Crescent, Lewes, BN7 1UE  
or email: [cllr.peter.griffiths@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.peter.griffiths@eastsussex.gov.uk)

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# Just two weeks to the Summer Show, Saturday 15th August

## **Will you be available to help this year?**

The Summer show is run entirely by volunteers and now is the time we ask you to step forward and offer just 90 minutes of your time.

### ***Why 90 minutes?***

We want everyone to enjoy the day and by limiting your contribution to this short time we can ensure that you get to enjoy the show together with friends and family.

### ***What will I do?***

There's a variety of tasks, but broadly speaking we need volunteers to :

- help set up on Friday morning
- run the attraction stalls
- steward in the village hall exhibition area
- take entrance money at one of the gates
- serve at the Tea Tent or bar
- assist in the car park and traffic management
- help pack away when the show ends at 4pm

### ***I've got young children so can't help***

Get them involved. Kids love helping on the attraction stalls - volunteer as a family

### ***I can't stand for that long***

Make us aware of your needs: we've got a role for everyone (though we may ask you to bring along your own garden chair)!

In short, every volunteer is welcomed with open arms. This is a community event run by our community. And the more volunteers we have, the more attractions we can put on for all the family.

**Please contact Lin to confirm you can help:**

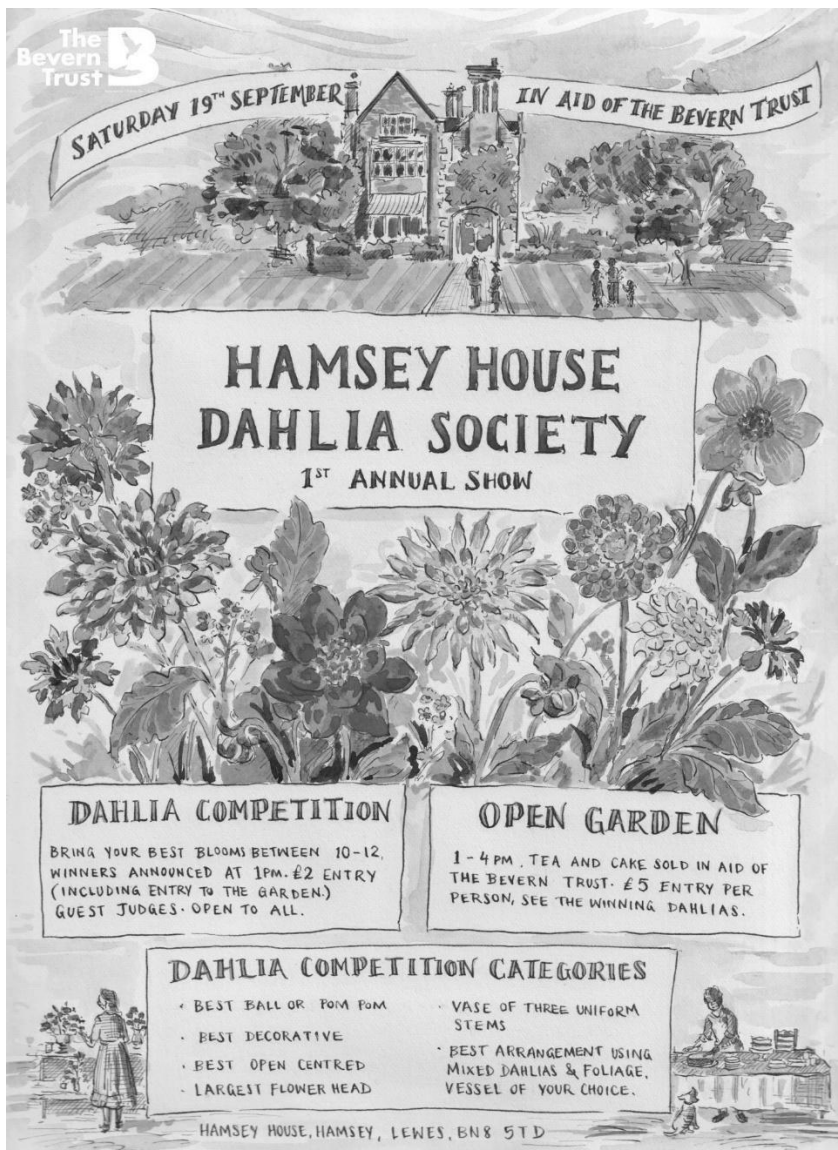
07776 291446 linlucas203@btinternet.com

**Thank you!**

# FREE SMOKE ALARMS

East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service can visit your home to discuss fire safety and check you have working smoke alarms. Where needed, they may be able to supply and fit alarms free of charge.

Arrange a visit online: [www.esfrs.org/hsvs](http://www.esfrs.org/hsvs) or call 0800 177069



**The Bevern Trust**

**SATURDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER**

**IN AID OF THE BEVERN TRUST**

**HAMSEY HOUSE  
DAHLIA SOCIETY  
1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL SHOW**

**DAHLIA COMPETITION**

BRING YOUR BEST BLOOMS BETWEEN 10-12.  
WINNERS ANNOUNCED AT 1PM. £2 ENTRY  
(INCLUDING ENTRY TO THE GARDEN.)  
GUEST JUDGES. OPEN TO ALL.

**OPEN GARDEN**

1 - 4 PM. TEA AND CAKE SOLD IN AID OF  
THE BEVERN TRUST. £5 ENTRY PER  
PERSON. SEE THE WINNING DAHLIAS.

**DAHLIA COMPETITION CATEGORIES**

- BEST BALL OR POM POM
- BEST DECORATIVE
- BEST OPEN CENTRED
- LARGEST FLOWER HEAD
- VASE OF THREE UNIFORM STEMS
- BEST ARRANGEMENT USING MIXED DAHLIAS & FOLIAGE. VESSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

HAMSEY HOUSE, HAMSEY, LEWES, BN8 5TD

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## BRASS INSTRUMENTS AVAILABLE

If you have a child who has expressed an interest in learning a musical instrument or perhaps it's something you have always wanted to do, Uckfield Concert Brass opens that opportunity for you.

We cater for all levels through running a beginner band right through to higher level Brass playing. Instruments are available to borrow and we have a group of friendly teachers to assist.

We meet on Tuesday evenings in the function room behind the Alma Arms, Framfield Road  
Brass Rascals: 6:30pm, Main Band: 8:00pm

Any enquiries please contact us through facebook or our website: <https://uckfieldconcertbrass.com/contact-us/>

## MILK BOTTLE TOPS

We collect milk bottle tops from four-pint, two-pint and one-pint bottles in red, blue, green and gold. Although most bottle tops are now clear, we are still pleased to receive them. Please ensure that all tops are clean.

Many thanks to everyone who drops off their milk bottle tops at the Framfield Memorial Hall Market. Please note that there will be no market in August. We are pleased to say that each time we deliver the collected tops, we average more than ten bin bags. Our collectors then forward them to Friends of Water, Search and Rescue, which receives funds once it has collected a tonne.

## STAMPS

Many thanks also for all the stamps you donate. These are now passed to our friend Mary from Hailsham. Once they have been prepared, they are sent to either Eastbourne District General Hospital or the Slavic Gospel Mission.

Thank you all once again. Please continue to save your milk bottle tops and stamps - they are helping others.

**Sandy and Keith Rogers**  
01323 833121

## **Chalk Reef Jester – the Tompot Blenny**

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

When it comes to engaging people with our natural world, the marine environment can be one of the more challenging stories to sell. Our oceans provide thriving biodiverse ecosystems and play host to the fascinating lives of some of the most weird and wonderful creatures and organisms on earth. But, for most of us, we can't see it.

We, as mammals, like things with a face. We like a good story, characters with big personalities. We like cute. Enter the Tompot Blenny.

A regular acquaintance of divers, Tompot Blennies have made a name for themselves as a bit of a comedian; a jester of the reef. With antler-like orange tentacles, big eyes and a curious, feisty attitude, this fish doesn't blend into the background.

Their sassy attitude comes from their territorial nature. As crevice dwelling fish, Tompot Blennies can be found on guard in holes in rocky reefs. Here, the males will spruce up the place, hoiking out mud and silt, and await passing females. If the hidey-hole meets her standards, she will lay her eggs, which the male then fertilises and guards for a month or more, before the young hatch and float off to live their best fishy lives. Job done.

But the drama ensues with interloping males who try to fertilise the eggs behind the homeowner's back. The females also keep their options open by laying eggs with several different hosts. With farce a-fin, it's understandable that the males might like to keep an eye on who's passing by, hence their penchant for investigating divers.

You might be lucky enough to see the Tompot's smaller cousin, the Common Blenny (or 'Shanny') in rockpools, and may be luckier still to see a Tompot Blenny at the bottom of the shore at low tide, but mostly they inhabit shallow rocky reefs.

That towering Sussex chalk we're used to associating with cliff and grassland extends under the seabed, creating chalk reefs, a nationally scarce habitat. Teeming with biodiversity, the chalk provides the vital bedrock that Tompot Blennies and many other species rely on for shelter and food.

With this bustling ecosystem just out of sight, we need charismatic species like the Tompot Blenny to welcome us into their underwater world; a fish to hook us, so we might just consider being a little more curious ourselves.

## Uckfield Art Group Summer Exhibition - the Results 2026

Thank you to the two hundred and thirty one visitors who supported Uckfield Art Group's Summer Exhibition. Thirty four pictures have gone to a new home as well as many unique greeting cards - perhaps you will receive one through your door in the coming months!

Many compliments were received regarding the standard of work and how interesting the exhibition was. A new layout was used for the display boards which gave more room to view the pictures without it feeling crowded.

If you voted for your favourite picture I am sure you will be interested to know that First Place and the Trophy was awarded to Samantha Bromley for her very realistic Giant House Spider in coloured pencil. Nineteen votes. Sam will be able to treasure the Trophy until the Autumn Exhibition on Saturday 14th November. In Second Place was Sharon Wright with Van Gogh. It was a framed embroidery of a church in his style which took over forty hours to complete (nine votes). In Joint Third Place were Annie Mills with Reef Guardian (an Octopus) and Bethany Wright with Thistlejacket (a large picture of a brown horse). Eight votes.

Origami was enjoyed on the Have A Go Table and people proudly took home their creations.

The Masters - Re-Mastered was a huge success and proved to be a very interesting topic.

There were only a hand full of cakes left at the end - most having been devoured throughout the exhibition. Some however were taken home in the containers provided to be eaten later so don't forget to ask for this option if you would like to do that!

Thank you everyone who supports the Uckfield Art Group while playing the Wealden Community Lottery. A donation is received every time you play. There is a top prize of twenty five thousand pounds and many other prizes. [www.wealdencommunitylottery.co.uk](http://www.wealdencommunitylottery.co.uk)

The Theme Section idea for the Autumn Exhibition on 14th November has yet to be discussed. There will of course be an amazing selection of pictures to enjoy anyway and the artists will be beaver away on their new pictures by the time you read this!. Watch this space for more information and please make a note in your diaries. Usual place, Luxford Centre, usual time, 10am - 4pm. TN22 1AR. 14th November 2026. **Fiona Flower**

## FREE LIFE-SAVING TRAINING FOR PARISH RESIDENTS

Following the success of our previous sessions, Framfield Parish Council is pleased to be working with St John Ambulance to offer further free first-aid training this autumn.

The sessions will be run by local residents and St John Ambulance volunteers Colin and Tracey Packham.

### **Baby and Child Resuscitation Training**

Wednesday 14th October, 7pm – Framfield Memorial Hall

Thursday 15th October, 7pm – Blackboys Village Hall

Wednesday 21st October, 7pm – Blackboys Village Hall

*(This session will also include other essential family first-aid skills)*

### **Adult CPR and Defibrillator Training**

Saturday 17th October, 2pm – Framfield Memorial Hall

Saturday 31st October, 2pm – Framfield Memorial Hall

The sessions are available to Framfield Parish residents only. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, so **booking is essential**.

To reserve a place, please contact the Parish Clerk, preferably by email:  
**clerk@framfieldcouncil.org.uk**

Our sincere thanks go to Colin, Tracey and St John Ambulance for once again giving their time freely to help our local community learn skills that could save a life.

Did you know there is a Facebook group for residents of Blackboys, Framfield and Palehouse Common?

Residents of Blackboys, Framfield and Palehouse Common have their own community Facebook group - a place for local people to share news, information, events and matters of interest across the parish.

Whether you want to know what is happening locally, promote a community activity, ask a question or share something that may be helpful to other residents, the group is an easy way to keep in touch.

Search Facebook for:

**Blackboys, Framfield and Palehouse Common Community Group**

or visit:

**[www.facebook.com/groups/Blackboysandframfield](https://www.facebook.com/groups/Blackboysandframfield)**

# **WHO'S WHO AT THE Parish Magazine**

**Chair: Keith Brandon**

**Co-ordinator  
and Advertising: Ann Newton**

**Technical Editor:**

**Treasurer: Marie Owen**

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

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**ANN NEWTON – 01825 890182**

**Email address:**

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