

# Parish News

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF FRANT, ERIDGE & BELLS YEW GREEN



Window detail from St. Albans Church, Frant

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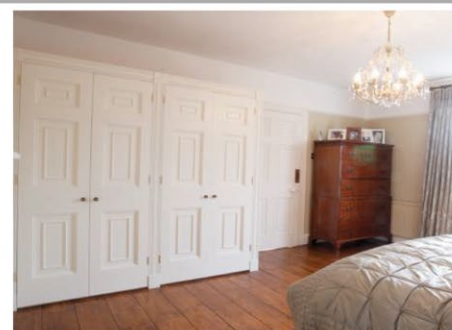
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## From the Rectory



Autumn has always been my favourite season. I think I chose it as my favourite when I was perhaps 8 years old (although the relentless rain we had in October is rather unsettling that decision currently!) The reason it was my favourite was, I think, for a couple of reasons; firstly, because Autumn was when I have my birthday and I had the impression that it must be my favourite because of that, but more than that, autumn for me always confirmed for me a sense of home and belonging.

I'd spend my summer days out of the house from dawn till dusk, but as the nights drew in I would recede to the comfort, warmth and security of the home. There was something novel about being snuggled up on the sofa after seemingly having hardly been there for months. We loved our fire at this time of year and my family would spend a great deal of time warming our backs to the fire!

And so autumn confirmed a sense of home, of warmth, family and security, and it became a favourite. Plus, I love sweet chestnuts which you only get at this time of year, that helped too!

What is a home? It's so much more than where you live, we've lived in 4 houses in 7 years (I hope not to keep to that regularity ever again!) Home also isn't really about where you live or

the number of beautiful things you have in your house, some of my happiest times have been some of the simplest times.

Finding home, I think, is an inbuilt longing for all of us, and it's especially painful if we lose that sense of home, which too often can happen. Nothing lasts forever, that sense of home I had as a child has to many extents gone.

But what if there was a home for us that never came to an end?

Jesus talks of heaven like a home. That place of unending warmth, security and family with each other and God. Isn't that what we long for?

My prayer is that our earthly homes might reflect that heavenly home, giving a glimpse of the heavenly home God makes for us. But more than that, I pray that our churches can be a home for all to know that sense of family, security and life. We have been reflecting these last few weeks at church on how the Bible helps us to know what community and church can be like, and in many ways at its best, church is like a home, which reflects a heavenly home of peace, light, life and family with God.

However you cope with the drawing in of the nights, as we move into winter, I pray that you might know a deepening sense of home in your heart. —Brendan



News From The Pews

If you live in the village or nearby, you will have heard our church bells being rung rather more often than usual in the past two months. We have had four visits by visiting ringers from other churches who were keen to come and ring the bells at St Albans. We have a peal of six bells in our tower and it's great to hear them. We have our own small but loyal band of ringers who ring on Sundays, for weddings and on special occasions.

August was a busy month. In preparation for the service to install and license our new Rector, and because it badly needed it, the church was treated to a major spring clean. The team spent all day cleaning with a midday break for a picnic lunch, then followed the inevitable trips to the tip and the Charity shop. A wonderful effort, thank you team.

Since the last edition, we have had one baptism, one wedding and one funeral.

In August Archie Paton was baptised by the Reverend Stella Halmshaw. Archie wasn't impressed, but his sister Rosie really enjoyed it.

Joan Hawkins, a lovely lady who lived in the village for nearly 70 years, died in August. Joan, who lived in Warren Ridge until failing health necessitated her move to a care home, was very involved in the life of the community. For many years she worked in The George pub and among her many other activities she was a member of the Pantomime Society, a life member of the Bowls club, a member of the Garden Club and a member of the Frant Friendship Group. If there was anything happening in the village Joan was there, and by being there she played her part in making Frant a healthy and thriving community.

In September, Chloe Blake, who lived for several years in the village, married Nathan Massini. We wish Chloe and Nathan every blessing in their life together.

In August, our Youth Worker, Ed, with the assistance of Emma Torr, took 12 young people to a Christian youth camp, 'Soul Survivor' in Peterborough. They had a wonderful, exciting and exhausting time, having the opportunity to hear excellent speakers, meeting other young Christians and partying. Ed and Emma survived!

September began with the very formal and traditional service of licensing, conducted by the Bishop of Lewes,



for our new Rector, Brendan Martin (pictured above with his family). Having been eighteen months without a Rector it was a great relief and an occasion of great celebration.

On 22nd September our Bishop, Richard Jackson, conducted what will probably be his last services with us in Frant and Eridge, as he is leaving to become Bishop of Hereford in the new year. He has been incredibly helpful and supportive to us over the past eighteen months, we're sad to see him go and wish him every blessing in his new post.

At the end of September our youth ministry moved forward into a new venture when Youth Worker, Ed, who has been training for many months as a 'Forest School' leader, took 9 children whose ages ranged between 3 years and 12 years, into a wooded area of the Rectory paddock for their first session of 'Forest School', where over the next six weeks they'll experience many and

various aspects of outdoor living. I'm pleased to say that at the end of the session, he returned 9 children to their parents, all rather grubby and with only two very minor injuries!

The long awaited day finally came on 6th October when Brendan conducted his first service as our new Rector. There were just over 100 people in church to welcome him. The fact that it was Harvest Festival made it even more special. With the gifts brought by the school children to their service, and gifts brought on Sunday morning, we were able to give a good amount of food to the Diocese of Chichester Family Support Work Group and the West Kent Women's Refuge.

Finally, to all those who gave donations to our appeal for help with churchyard maintenance and the further appeal to restore the Lych-gate, please accept our grateful thanks. Your support is greatly valued. Thank you.

St Alban's, Frant & Holy Trinity, Eridge

Rector

The Reverend Brendan Martin — 01892 752003; rectoryfrant@gmail.com



www.frantchurch.org  
Churchwardens  
Jane Emler—532233  
Crawford Burden—07789 170275



www.eridgechurch.org  
Churchwardens  
Jonathan Lynn—864304  
Christopher Hall—750385

Services for

November/December 2019

9:30am	Family Service	3rd November	Traditional Communion	8:00am
			Morning Prayer	11:15am
10:45am	Morning Service	10th November	Morning Prayer	10:45am
		Remembrance Sunday		
9:30am	Morning Service	17th November	Communion Service	11:15am
9:30am	Morning Service	24th November	Communion Service	11:15am
9:30am	Family Service	1st December	Traditional Communion	8:00am
		Advent Sunday	Morning Prayer	11:15am
9:30am	Communion Service	8th December	Communion Service	11:15am
4:00pm	Christingle Service			
9:30am	Morning Service	15th December	Communion Service	11:15am
6:00pm	Carol Service			
9:30am	Morning Service	22nd December	Carol Service	4:00pm
4:00pm	Crib Service	24th December		
11:00pm	Midnight Communion	Christmas Eve	Midnight Communion	11:00pm
9:30am	Family Celebration	25th December	Christmas Celebration	11:15am
		Christmas Day	with short Communion	
10:30am	Joint Morning Service	29th December		
9:30am	Family Service	5th January 2020	Traditional Communion	8:00am
			Morning Prayer	11:15am

There is a Sunday Club for 0-14 year olds at Frant when it isn't a family service—all welcome!

WORSHIP AT BELLS YEW GREEN

Sunday Services: 10.30am  
Good Friday service at 10.30am; Bible Study & Prayer: Thursdays, 7.30pm  
Enquiries: Ken Davies, 01732 357791



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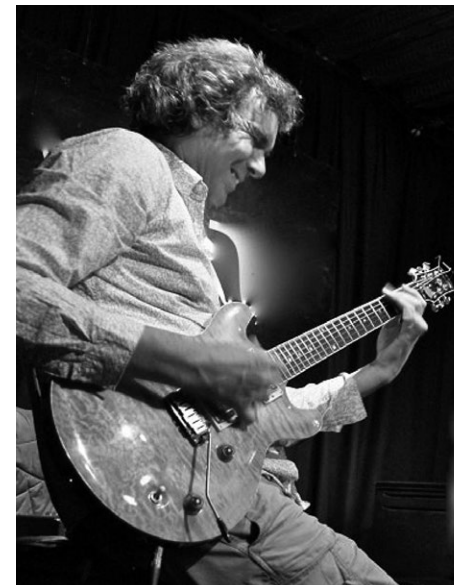
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### John Etheridge returns to Frant!

On Friday 22 November at 8pm, John Etheridge (probably one of Frant's most loved musician) returns to perform together with the wonderful violinist Chris Garrick.

The concert has been organised by Stuart Jackaman and Rosemary Froud and the doors open at 7.30pm, tickets are £16 from Frant Stores or Britten's Music Shop Tunbridge Wells, or online at [www.wegotickets.com](http://www.wegotickets.com). Telephone enquiries 07950 286864. There will be a licensed bar.

### News from our MP, Nus Ghani

Recently I supported a new campaign by the children's charity Barnardo's to recognise and tackle the impact of domestic abuse on the lives of young children and families. As the MP for Wealden, I am too familiar with distressing cases of domestic violence and over the years I have seen an increase in both the levels of abuse and the impact on victims when their testimonies have been dismissed. It's not easy coming forward to seek help and it takes a lion heart to take on the perpetrator.

I have spent 5 years trying to get the law to recognise all forms of domestic abuse as a crime and get more resources and support for victims. Progress was made recently with the Government's Domestic Abuse Bill and I was pleased to see it had its Second Reading and is well on its way to the statute books.

The Bill is a momentous step in protecting the rights of domestic abuse victims as it extends the statutory government definition of domestic



abuse to include more complex forms of abuse. This includes groundbreaking recognition of economic abuse, coercion and controlling non-physical abuse, which will also challenge any outdated ideas of what domestic violence is or what a victim should look like.

For example, I am presented with cases where the perpetrator has used their power, threat of violence or intimidation techniques to dehumanise the victim over a period of time for control and abuse. This Bill will recognise these crimes as well as providing additional protection for victims of domestic abuse in Family and Criminal Courts. My MP surgeries are open to all and sometimes a brave soul walks in and shares their horrifying private life and we both need tissues to wipe away our tears, and at the back of my mind is the concern that the system may let this vulnerable victim down. This new legislation will help enormously and take on stereotypes which will allow for more victims to come forward.

It is also important to recognise that domestic abuse also affects children and people in same-sex relationships, and as a community we should be more vigilant in seeing signs of abuse and providing the support and help we can. We have a long way to go in tackling domestic violence with the shocking fact that 2 women are killed each week by a present or former partner. I will continue to campaign on behalf of victims and most importantly, victims of domestic abuse should be encouraged to take action by contacting the police or through the National Domestic Violence Helpline

(0808 200 0247) or the Men's Advice Line (0808 801 0327).

I am proud to be part of a Government that supports domestic abuse victims and will continue to give it all my support.

### Eridge Garden Club

All are welcome to our events. If you're not a member you can sign up on the evening and pay our annual membership which is £5 per year.

Our AGM takes place on Wednesday 20 November at 7.30pm in the Eridge Village Hall. This will include a talk from Jonathan Lynn on 'English Gardens since the 17th Century'. Refreshments will be available.

### Clubs in the Eridge Village Hall

» Yoga with Wendy. Mondays from 5.30-7.00pm and Fridays 9.00-10.15am. Please email [yogawithwendy.co.uk](mailto:yogawithwendy.co.uk) for more information.

» Yoga by Jane Allworthy, 11am to 12.30am on Tuesdays and 7pm to 8.30pm on Thursdays. Please visit [www.yogawithjane.net](http://www.yogawithjane.net), call 07738 100275 or email [janemuir@yogawithjane.org](mailto:janemuir@yogawithjane.org) for more information.

» Upholstery with Caroline Rance, 7.15pm to 9.30pm on Tuesdays and 9.45am to 12.45pm on Thursdays.

» Tai Chi class on Tuesdays mornings from 9.15-10.45 with Damien. Please contact [damien@artofchangestaichi.co.uk](mailto:damien@artofchangestaichi.co.uk) for more information.

Don't forget you can book the Eridge Village hall for special events. Please contact Gail Clarkson on [bookevh@gmail.com](mailto:bookevh@gmail.com).

### Community support for the Parish

Dial2Drive has been set up to enable residents to access GP and hospital appointments. Please contact Andrew Macdonald-Brown for a home visit or to discuss over the phone - 01892 891273.

### LEAVES... LEAVES...

Our churchyard with all its trees is beautiful, but fills up with leaves in autumn. Please come and rake, blow, cart leaves every fine Saturday morning in November 10-1pm. Any time you (and family?) can spare will be a huge help. If we don't clear up now, the volunteer mowers can't keep it how you would wish next year.

## Encounter – the more the merrier!

Our well established youth group in Frant, Encounter, continues to thrive and grow!

If you/your children are at secondary school and live locally, you may like to hear about us. We meet every Friday evening in The Stables, next door to the Church/Rectory from 7-9.00pm. There are approximately 15 regular attendees ranging in age from 12-18. The doors open at 7pm and the fun starts with some games for those who want to run off some steam. Some teens just enjoy catching up and mingling – it's all very relaxed. Shortly after this, there is a home cooked meal for all. Another great opportunity for good conversation. After supper, there is time to reflect on the week's theme, which is led by Ed Pascoe, the Youth Leader. Contributions from all are welcome and it is a great forum for being open, honest and exploring the Bible and discussing any questions that arise as a result.

We also have a worship band. If you love music like us and want to be involved then do speak to us and you'd be more than welcome to come and join.

It's a great end to the week where teenagers can relax, socialise and make new friends in a fun, safe and engaging environment.

## Parish past

A hundred or more years ago the parish was almost semi-industrial as well as agricultural. In the early 19th century Frant was rather surprisingly described as a "thriving town" and remained a bustling place into the mid 20th century. There were many trades including tilers, millers, bakers and brewers, many employing others and training apprentices. There were even water-carriers - no mains water until 1935! Sixty plus domestic staff were employed around Frant and more in Bells Yew Green and Eridge. Dances, sing-songs and Sunday gatherings on the Green were normal, the latter often turning into romances. In and around Bells Yew Green Leafwood Brewery employed around 50 workers until it shut in 1940, there was also a timber mill (employing 8-10), Bartley Mill rather unexpectedly in certain seasons employing up to 50 including clerks, and Camden Estate Yard where around 25 men worked in a



variety of trades. The station & signal box too, employed 4-5.

At Eridge the estate yard was similar and also possessed a temperamental sawmill driven by steam, selling building timber as well as supplying the estate, which also meant a team of foresters. At one time there was even a gasworks. In Frant itself we find a wheelwright, a blacksmith who also produced cast ironwork and manufactured tools, a saddler (above), a coffin-maker, a cobbler who made as well as mended shoes, a slaughterhouse and a working water tower. Historically, there is also mention of lathe-turners, a fletcher (arrow maker), a rope winder, narrow weavers, a trug maker and of course countless iron workers. In addition, right across the parish there would have been around 100 or so agricultural workers - hops in particular (a speciality of Hamsell Wood, Eridge) were seasonally labour intensive involving stringing, picking, drying, pressing into specially made hop-pocket sacks, carting. And all of the above made good trade for the pubs! —*Pat Wright*

## Frant Pantomime and Dramatic Society

Frant Pantomime and Dramatic Society is celebrating 50 Years of Amateur Dramatics this year and warmly request the pleasure of your company at our Pantomime 'Cinderella', by Alan Frayne. As always the Society encourages

audience participation, so as well as the boos, cheers and singing, we are hoping to make this a special and fun occasion by inviting the audience to dress for Prince Charming's 'Fancy Dress' Ball – although dressing up is not compulsory! The show is on Thursday 28th Friday 29th and Saturday 30th November at 7.45 p.m., with a Matinee on Saturday 30th at 3.00 p.m. For the first time this year tickets will be available on-line at [WWW.frantpanto.co.uk](http://WWW.frantpanto.co.uk), or via the telephone on 07923 298301 or for further information email [frantpanto@gmail.com](mailto:frantpanto@gmail.com)

The first production of the Society in 1969 was 'Cinderella', by Iris Glover, so it seemed fitting to repeat the tale of a beautiful Heroine with her charming Prince, despicable Dames, and a cast of many others all striving to cheer you on the way to Christmas.

As always, the Society is only as good as it's Members; as the years have gone by the membership has spread far beyond Frants' boundaries, but the heart of the Society is in Frant, at the Memorial Hall. We would love to increase our membership from the Village and are especially looking for someone who could help with Lighting and Sound this year, and next year a Wardrobe Mistress/Master. Would you be interested?

I am proud to admit I was in the first pantomime, and in 50 years I have had so much fun taking part in Pantomimes,

Plays, Revues and Music Halls, both on the Stage and in the Wings. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have been Members of the Society, and to the hundreds of you who have been the audiences to our performances. If you feel you could contribute to the next 50 years please get in touch.

We look forward to seeing you all at the Pantomime

—*Jackie Manktelow*

## Remembrance Sunday

At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.

Sunday 10th November, St Alban's and Holy Trinity at 10.50am, Service of Remembrance and at Bells Yew Green at 10.30am. At Frant Memorial Hall at 3.00pm there will be a Village Commemoration for those who served in the two World Wars and in more recent times. It will be led by the Wadhurst Branch of the British Legion and Rev Brendan Martin.

Everyone is welcome to the commemoration and afterwards to the Hall.

## Christmas concert

Kent Chorus, under the direction of Richard Jenkinson and organist Chris Harris, will be performing their annual Christmas music program at St Alban's Church on Friday 6th December at 8pm.

There will be a good selection of carols for choir and audience, and 4 part choral items including Peter Gritton's 'Follow that Star' and 'The Little Newborn Jesus Child' by Dieterich Buxtehude. Refreshments will be available in the interval.

Tickets from Frant Stores, Brittens and on the door at just £12.

## Frant Nursery School

Since the start of the new term we have welcomed 3 new families to the nursery community. All the children are settling in well and beginning to make friends and have lots of fun.

We harvested all the vegetables we had planted in the summer and had some interesting shaped carrots and lots of little potatoes from just one large one planted in the tractor tyre! We were invited to watch Frant Primary School's Harvest Festival held at the Church. The nursery children we very good during the service and it was lovely to see lots

of familiar faces there too. We have been busy with messy play recently, investigating play dough, shaving foam and gloop. The children have also been talking about volcanos, so we made our own eruptions during our craft sessions last week!

We have spaces available for children aged 2-5 years old. If you would like further information on Frant Nursery School or to arrange a visit please email [Frantnurseryschool@yahoo.com](mailto:Frantnurseryschool@yahoo.com)

We are now open from 8.30am Monday to Friday! Our NEW extended open hours (subject to child's age) are:

**Monday 8.30am - 3pm**

**Tuesday 8.30am - 3pm**

**Wednesday 8.30am - 3pm**

**Thursday 8.30am - 1pm**

**Friday 8.30am - 1pm**

## Advertising in Parish News

Interested in advertising in this magazine? Our advertisements are set for the year in January. Prices start at £60 for all 6 editions, for the "business card size" advert. The magazines are delivered to households within the Parish and left in local stores, pubs etc so great coverage for as little as £10 per issue. Please contact Sue Piccioni for further information on 01892 750285

## Bonfire Night!

Frant School PTEFA have been working behind the scenes preparing for the annual Bonfire and Fireworks Extravaganza, to be held in the field behind the School field on Saturday 9th November.

The approximate timings for this year's event are:

**4:30pm Bar, BBQ Food, Mulled Wine, Hot Chocolate & Novelties will be on sale all night**

**5:00pm Lighting of the bonfire!**

**6:00pm Firework Display begins!**

An entry charge of just £5 for adults and £2.50 for children (under 12) makes this an excellent value-for-money evening, so please bring along family and friends.

Limited parking will be available in the Glebe field at £4 per car (this will be signposted on the night) and lighting is limited so bring along your torches and if it's cold remember to wrap up warmly! Please can we ask that for safety reasons

you do not bring sparklers.

Once again we are very grateful to all local residents in Frant for their understanding of the disruption caused by the additional number of cars and people around the village on this evening.

## Frant Parish Friendship Group

The Group was off to a good start with the first meeting of the Autumn season which was also our AGM. Andy McDonald-Brown commenced the meeting with a talk on the Smith Charity which Frant Parishioners have benefited from for hundreds of years. Henry Smith was born in Wandsworth in 1548, he was a City merchant and alderman and he left a detailed will establishing various charitable trusts. One such trust was to the poor of various parishes in the South East; Frant being one of these. The trust continues to this day due to Henry's foresight in buying some marshy land just outside the City of London in a little place called Kensington! Andy McDonald-Brown explained that the Parish Council manages the bequest and this is distributed to various worthy causes within the Parish.

After tea and cake we then got down to the serious business of the AGM. Brian Gill our Chairman welcomed members and also welcomed our new Administrator Cheria Ledward who had taken over from Gill Barnes. Then after the reading of various reports and acceptance of the Treasurer's accounts, it was agreed we had had a very interesting and busy year. As to the future it was hoped to arrange another Theatre trip in the New Year and a Christmas shopping expedition in November. Our annual Christmas Lunch was booked for Sunday 15th December at 1.00 pm in the Village Hall and back by popular demand we have Bertie Pearce entertaining us. The 'Young at Heart' exercise classes continued to be successful and the Chairman urged all members to come along and give it a go! The classes take place in the Stables on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month at 2.15 pm.

The November meeting will be on the 28th at 2.30 pm in the Stables when our speaker will be Mick Flynn on 'Christmas Customs in Days Gone By'. New members are always welcome to just come along and meet us.

—*Valerie Palmer 01892 750559*



### David Addey

Long term Frant resident, David Addey recently passed away. He was very much loved in the community. A long term friend, wrote the following tribute:

"I don't think that it is very often that you can remember the first and last time you met a person. But, in David's case, I can.

Anne and I moved to Frant on the 20th September 1975, from the Cotswolds, but Anne was from Canada and I was from South London. We didn't know anyone in the area. We were huddled around the solitary damp log burning in the fireplace, there was no oil for the central heating, and we had virtually no furniture. There was a knock knock at the front door (the bell didn't work) and there was a charming lady with the Parish Magazine. It was Shirley Addey getting a look at the new, young folk who had bought their friends, the Slattery's house. The Slatterys had moved to Chiddingfold and invited us to a party in mid November.

It was a Saturday and we were dithering about whether to go or not. Shirley phoned and insisted that they gave us a lift and so they picked us up, that was fortunate as it was a party for us specifically, to introduce us into Frant society. That was when I first met David, he was the dedicated driver, well he would have been if anybody cared then.

He was driving a nice new car, the one he was still using, just a few weeks ago, which brings me onto the last time that I saw David. This was on 15th June this year, the day of Frant Open Gardens. He drove into our drive in his vintage car. The others in their Mercedes, BMWs, Audis, all looked terrified. He shunted back and forwards I don't think he bashed anyone. He only wanted to see us and our garden, which he did, then had a cup of tea and a piece of cake followed by a snooze in our conservatory. I did not watch him depart, it probably resembled dodgems!

In David's obituary, in *The Telegraph* recently, it mentions his career as an architect and then as an artist. Also mentioned were his hobbies and sporting achievements. But what was not mentioned was his work on the memorial hall management committee, from January 1971 to July 1974 as chairman, I see from the minutes of 24th April 1974 that the committee extended their thanks to David for "



*Oasts Near Lamberhurst, David Addey; 1977, Watercolour*

being such a marvellous chairman". During his tenure David found some interesting and valuable artworks under the hall stage. These turned out to be by the Tailor of Frant, George Smart. They were subsequently hung in the hall until their theft in 2015.

Subsequently David served as a trustee of the hall from the 7th July 2004 (although he missed his first meeting), until, I think 2017. David and I served on that committee, together, for about 11 years and it was fun. I remember at one meeting, a discussion about the rental fees, some users were complaining about an increase. David seemed to be dozing, then he looked up and said he can be calculating and the increase was less than the cost of a cup of coffee. We laughed, they didn't.

I also remember a village meeting, a few years ago, about new housing in the parish.

The planners, from Wealden, were all there telling the assembled mob that so many houses had to be built in the 'core area' of the village. David pointed out that the only vacant land in the core was our green. The planners were thrown into total confusion when David asked if they planned to build there.

We often had a glass, or two of wine after meetings to mull over events and life. But not mulled wine, which we

both hated. Then there were the art exhibitions in the garage, the cars had been moved, with the homemade wine. After a few glasses his paintings looked like Picassos!

David was also a founder member of Frant Forum, a group of local intellectuals, who met regularly to discuss topics of the day and put the world to rights. I am told that he gave these talks amongst others:

14/10/92: The Monarchy in Britain, will it last?  
8/2/95: A question of taste.  
13/12/95: Does money corrupt sport?  
10/2/10: Waste disposal.  
9/2/11: Etiquette.

As I am not an intellectual I was not a member and have no idea how his talks went, or the discussion afterwards. But I am sure that they were well received as David was an interesting and well informed chap.

And, of course, he was in the *Telegraph* many times. As he told Sue and was published in his obituary "I have been mentioned in Engagements, Letters, Art, Sport, and Crossword, just the obituary to go". How prescient of him.

We will all miss David, his humour, wisdom, but not the home made wine!"

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### Frant Village Christmas Fair

Good news! After the huge success of the last Christmas Fair, there is going to be another one on 30th November this year.

Frant School PTFA will be running a Santa's grotto, a bottle tombola and holding a raffle from 3pm. There will be a variety of other stalls selling local produce/items and the atmosphere promises to bring a festive cheer to all who attend!

### Parish Council News

#### » New Website for the New Year

The Frant Parish Council website is getting an exciting new makeover. The new site will be launched in the New Year. The Parish Clerk, Rosie Karim, has been working extremely hard to migrate all compliance documents from the old site to the new and we are busy gathering new material so that the site becomes a real font of information for the Parish. Once the site is launched the Parish Council will invite contributions from parishioners in the form of news events, photos, articles of interest etc.

One new feature of the website comes from the Council's desire to support local businesses; there will be a space in which local companies and trades can 'advertise'. If you would like your business to be listed (no cost involved) in our "Local Businesses" section please e-mail [deborah.park@frant-pc.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.park@frant-pc.gov.uk) in the first instance with details of who you are, what you do and how we can get hold of you.

### Parish Survey

Change is a sure feature of our world and sometimes it feels that the pace of change is all too quick. Frant Parish Council is preparing to consult with parishioners on how to manage change in the Parish. In the New Year every parishioner will be invited to give their views on a range of topics that will help the Council make decisions on shaping the future of the parish. At present the local council has only limited powers over new housing development and the like. This means we are subject to the sometimes ambitions plans of Wealden District and East Sussex. We might optionally consider the adoption of a 'Neighbourhood Plan', which gives us more legislative powers over our future but is somewhat limited in scope, or a 'Parish Plan' which can be wide-reaching but packs less legal weight. The option we take will



be determined by your responses to our survey. In the meantime, talk to neighbours, your friends, your children and your grandchildren and prepare to give us your ideas on the future of Frant Parish and how you hope it will look and feel in 2035.

### Knitting Wool

An article recently appeared in Parish News about the wonderful work of the Frant knitting group. They have for some years now been supporting a hospital in Ethiopia by making shawls out of knitted squares.

A lot of time and effort goes into

this cause and it would be a real help if anyone could support their work by donating some wool. This would be much appreciated. Donations can be left in the Church. Thank you.

### Friends of Bells Yew Green

Broadband has reached most of the village, but there are still one or two significant gaps in service which are being addressed. An application has now been submitted to Openreach - via the Community Fibre Partnership - to bring fibre broadband to the 1% of the local community which has so far been overlooked in the roll-out. Their motto is,

"Our engineers work in every community, every day - because we believe everyone deserves fast and reliable broadband". That's handy, isn't it?!

We were very sorry to note that a serious crime was committed overnight in early October, after a break-in at Station Bridge Yard, Bayham Road, when two hundred tons of waste was dumped on private property. The Police and the Environment Agency are now involved. Anyone with any information should please contact the Police.

The Village Hall Committee is applying to Wealden Community Grants Programme for funding for further upgrades there. Let's hope this a story with a happy ending! Additional funds from the Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday, 16th November should certainly bolster the funds too.

To keep up-to-date with what's happening in our village, please contact us to let us know and join our mailing list by contacting: [friendsofbyg@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbyg@gmail.com). Sign up on Facebook via Friends of Bells Yew Green and Bells Yew Green Village.

—Sue and the Friends of BYG; 01892 750635

### Frant Memorial Hall

On 12th May 1921 the Village received "a Deed of Gift by the Most Hon, the Marquis of Camden of the site of the War Memorial Hall as a memorial to Parishioners of Frant who served in the Great War 1914-1918"

There must be records of the building of the Hall and of its usage in those early days. That this happened just three years after the end of the War, and in memory of those who served, must have made it a very special place in the hearts of the people living in the village.

Fast-forwarding to Sunday 11th November last year, one hundred years on from the end of the First World War, it was fitting that the Hall became host to a special commemoration of Remembrance Day with input from the Village, the Parish Council and the School.

The Memorial Hall website, thanks to some skilled background technology, is comprehensive and approachable, with the aim of making bookings a user friendly procedure.

The Hall is run as an independent charity by and on behalf of the villagers of Frant

Last year, following many successful

years as our chairman, Phillip Goodwin felt it was time to stand aside. Since then the Management Committee, though depleted has, through the energy and enthusiasm of its members and the goodwill of supporters and users, been successful in maintaining the firm foundation on which the future of the Hall depends.

### » A Request

Wanting to be fully representative the Committee would welcome some new members to join us, sharing responsibilities and shaping the way ahead.

Present Committee: Brian Gill, Acting Chairman, Patrick Godfrey, Trustee, Kate Gale, Secretary with Terry Muckleston and Marion Mansfield as committee members. We are currently seeking someone to fill the role of treasurer. Technology Consultant: Colin Steadman

If you would like to know more, please contact Kate Gale, Secretary tel: 07967 056028

### Women's Refuge, Christmas collection

At St Alban's Church, Frant, one of the local charities supported is the Women's Refuge. The charity takes in women and children who need to escape domestic abuse in the home. Sometimes, these women take the brave step in the middle of the night to slip away to the safety of The Refuge with nothing but the clothes on their backs.

The Church supports The Refuge through financial collections, at Harvest time with a large donation of produce and at Christmas time by collecting toiletries. These can be day to day necessities or luxury toiletries. Donations can be left throughout November in a clearly marked box which is at the back of the Church.

It is worth remembering, that what may seem like ordinary day to day items for the rest of us, may well feel like luxuries to these women and their young children.

### Frant Garden Club

It was with great sadness that the Garden Club lost one of its founder members last year with the death of Mary Boorman. Mary was involved with the Club from its inception and was a loyal supporter right to the end of her

life. She was a keen and knowledgeable gardener and is much missed. As a fitting tribute to her we have arranged a talk from the Air Ambulance Kent Surrey Sussex (a charity that was dear to Mary's heart) to follow the business part of our AGM on Wednesday, 20th November, at 8 p.m. in the Frant Memorial Hall.

The Club will be making a donation on the night, and we would like to invite anyone who is interested to come along to learn about the valuable work of the local Air Ambulance, with the opportunity to make further donations in Mary's name if wished.

### Paddock Wood Choral Society

Paddock Wood Choral Society invites you to join us for "Christmas through the Ages", with carols for choir and audience on Saturday 14th December, 7.30 pm at St. Andrew's Church, Maidstone Road, Paddock Wood.

Tickets £12.50 (Under 19's free).

Online from our website: [www.paddockwood-choral.org.uk](http://www.paddockwood-choral.org.uk). From Box Office: 01892 836250. Email: [tickets@paddockwood-choral.org.uk](mailto:tickets@paddockwood-choral.org.uk)

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## Parish Diary November/December 2019

» **Saturdays throughout November**  
Leaf clearing in Frant Churchyard  
10am – 1.00pm

» **Saturday 9th November**  
Frant School Bonfire Night  
(see page 9)

» **Saturday 16th November**  
Friends of BYG Christmas Craft Fair  
(see page 12)

» **Wednesday, 20th November**  
Frant Garden Club: AGM and talk from  
Air Ambulance Kent Surrey Sussex:  
Memorial Hall; 8p.m.

» **Thursday 28th - Saturday 30th November**  
Frant Pantomime & Dramatic Society  
(see page 8)

» **Thursday 28th November**  
Frant Parish Friendship Group  
The Stables, Frant 2.30pm (see page 9)

» **Saturday 30th November**  
Frant Village Christmas Fair  
High Street, Frant (see page 12)

» **Friday 6th December**  
Kent Chorus Christmas concert  
St Alban's Church, Frant 6.30pm.

» **Saturday 14th December**  
PWCS - Christmas Through the Ages  
(see page 13)

## Regular Meetings

**Little Fishes: Baby & Toddler Group**  
Every Tuesday 10—11.30am in The  
Stables, Frant. A warm welcome to all.

**Ignite (School Years 3–6)**  
meets each Thursday (term time only).

**Encounter (School Years 7–13)**  
Contact Ed Pascoe for more information:  
frantyouth@gmail.com

**Coffee Morning at The Stables, Frant**  
Every Wednesday, 10:30am—12noon.

Come for a hot drink, a cake and a chat.

**Sunday Club** Open to anyone aged 0-14,  
and meets during the 9:30am Sunday  
service at Frant (except for the 1st  
Sunday of each month when the children  
join in with our family service).

## Useful contacts

### Frant

Frant CofE Primary School

Joanna Challis: 750243

Frant Nursery School

Shelley Holdsworth: 890961

Frant Sunday Club

Ed Pascoe: frantyouth@gmail.com

Frant Bowls Club

David Oliver: 611994

Frant Cricket Club

David Pearson: 750789

Frant Garden Club

Dianna Tennant: 752029

Frant Panto & Drama Society

Alan Richardson: 01892 825378

St Alban's Bell-Ringers

Mary Freestone: 750269

Frant Stables

Julie Pascoe: 07850 091428;

juliedanielle@hotmail.co.uk

Frant Parish Friendship Group

Brian Gill: 750266

Frant Film

Colin Steadman:

colin.h.steadman@gmail.com

Frant and Eridge Church Office

01892 752261;

office@frantanderidgechurches.org.uk

Frant Open Spaces Group

Jan Steadman:

steadman.jan@gmail.com

Frant Memorial Hall

Brian Gill: 750266

Clerk, Frant Parish Council

Rosie Karim:

www.frant-pc.gov.uk; 01892 653357

### Eridge

Eridge Garden Club

Jean Howells: 864310

Eridge Cricket Club

Luke Forbes: 670073

Eridge Village Hall Hire

Booking Secretary: 07470 448425

Eridge Choir

Michael Stevens: 852739

### Bells Yew Green

Bells Yew Green Chapel

Ken Davies: 01732 357791

BYG Cricket Club

Andy Brooks: 07876 011782

Short Mat Bowls Club

Pam Mephram: 891426

BYG Village Hall Hire

Chris Bacon: crbacon79@gmail.com

Friends of Bells Yew Green

07944 712000

## Council contacts

### Chairman

William Rutherford: 752254

william.rutherford@frant-pc.gov.uk

### Frant Ward

Johanna Howell: 750141

johanna.howell@frant-pc.gov.uk

Debbie Park: 319906

deborah.park@frant-pc.gov.uk

William Rutherford: 752254

### BYG Ward

Stuart Crookshank: 518631

stuart.crookshank@frant-pc.gov.uk

Andy Macdonald-Brown: 891273

andrew.macdonald-brown@frant-pc.gov.uk

Sue Wallis: 750635

susan.wallis@frant-pc.gov.uk

### Eridge Ward

Andrew Best: 5279319

### Clerk to the Council

Rosie Karim: 01892 653357

clerk@frant-pc.gov.uk

or www.frant.info

### County Councillor

Bob Standley: 783579

### District Councillor

Johanna Howell: 750141

William Rutherford: 752254

### Parish Council meetings

Full PC meetings are held at 7.30pm

every 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Planning meetings are held on the first

Monday of the month.

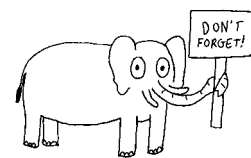
### Police Contact Details:

To report a crime or incident dial 101

For other police enquiries contact the

Wealden unit on 01273 404938 or

www.sussex.police.uk/wealden/



Parish News can be downloaded  
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or [www.eridgechurch.org](http://www.eridgechurch.org)

### Advertising enquiries:

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susan.piccioni@btinternet.com

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