

Parish News

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF FRANT, ERIDGE & BELLS YEW GREEN



End of an Era:

Frant Nursery School closes its doors after 35 years

See our memorial pull-out section

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From the Rectory



Bringing good out of a bad situation.

What a few months it has been. For me it seems strangely long and strangely short at the same time, with less traveling about but just as busy! I know for many of you this will have been a hugely unsettling time, with isolation, loneliness and worry.

I want to encourage you through this of some of the good things that I have seen. I have seen a community step up in an amazing way to the local challenges we faced. From joining each other to clap for carers on Thursdays, to our shops and pubs going above and beyond to continue serving us, to the many volunteers who stepped up to help those they didn't know, to each household keeping an eye out for neighbours, to the conversations we have all had with those we didn't know as we pass them. Most of us will likely have missed that human interaction, and the villages have in so many ways sought to bring that. In some ways we have all made sacrifices to protect and help others.

As churches we have had many people ask for help through this. People who needed help for food, medicine, friendship, love and care.

I can tell you we have been able to meet that need in and through our community. People went to the pharmacy for others, went shopping, dropped off post, kept in touch by telephone, dropped off flowers with notes of care.

Much thanks and appreciation for all of you making our villages the welcoming, caring and incredible places that they are. My prayer is that through this we can even build on that community spirit we have had, so that good things can come out of a bad situation.

God loves to bring good things out of a bad situation. The ultimate example of that is when Jesus died on the cross, out of that pain, evil and death God brings us salvation and life by Jesus' resurrection from the dead, bringing a sure and certain hope to us who need it.

I am aware though this is not over. People are still shielding and vulnerable, people are losing loved ones and it might be that a continued effort of love and care will be needed for the longer term. I hope we are well placed as a community to meet that.

Do get in touch with us if we can help you in any way. —Rev Brendan



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News from the Pews

In these strange times there is not so much to report as usual, but it's surprising how much has been going on. Some things have been made possible through social media, but there has also been personal contact and support through 'phone chats to try and keep everyone in touch.

The weekly Sunday services put together by Brendan and Ed have been very much appreciated. At the beginning of each service the aerial views of the 2 churches and surroundings have shown us views that only the birds would normally see. We've had lego characters with suitable sound effects acting out bible stories which are imaginative and entertaining as well as illustrating very well for the children the important points of the talks. One of the best of these was someone being baptised by water pistol from a distance of 2 meters! It has been lovely to see members of the congregation taking part in the services, reading the lessons and leading the prayers from their own homes or gardens. Those who are able can now also meet for coffee after the service via zoom.

PCC and other committee meetings have also been able to take place thanks to zoom.

Roy Buchanan has been faithfully continuing to email a weekly bible study, and Roy Goodship has each week emailed us some thought provoking

reflections.

On 10th June we received the welcome news that Churches could be open for private prayer, quiet contemplation and 'small' funerals. At the time of writing measures are being put in place to allow limited use of the church, initially on 2 days a week.

Youth Ministry News

Following the lockdown which resulted in the rather sudden end to all meeting up in person, the Encounter Youth Group has been relaunched in "hub style"! These are a run through of the ever popular Zoom Meetings on devices across the Parish.

We currently have 5 hubs happening each week, plus a couple of one-to-one Bible Studies. The hubs have between 2-5 young people in each group, with 14 young people involved, and are all going through Youth Alpha. They're each at different stages of the programme, which lasts for 13 sessions that explores topics such as Life, Jesus, prayer, the Bible, the Holy Spirit, Church and more.

Rev. Brendan Martin is 'making the rounds' by joining each group for a one off 'Grill-the-Rector' session. It's great for the young people to have a chance to get to know him, and vice versa, especially as he's fairly new here.

It has been great to stay connected with the Encounter Youth Group over this lockdown, especially as it is a very uncertain time. We will continue

these groups until we are able to all meet together again, but our hope is that some of these group may continue into the future as they give more of an opportunity to go deeper into faith on a personal level.

The Wednesday Group comprising 5 girls was asked how they have been finding the course and the current set up. Here are some of their comments:

"Weekly sessions following the Youth Alpha series have created a space, for us young people, to engage with deeper topics surrounding Christianity such as Faith, Prayer and the Bible, and to discuss them more freely within our small group" —Emma Torr

"These small group sessions have been a great way of encouraging one another in our faith despite not being able to all be in the same place. It's been brilliant to connect with each other in this way every week, and the smaller sized groups have allowed us to discuss relevant topics in a more personal way." —Jemima Kinley

"Although I found Encounter a very fun way to end the week on a Friday night, I find these smaller groups are easier to manage with everyone getting a chance to have a conversation with each other making it a more inclusive, enjoyable and personal way of exploring and discussing subjects surrounding faith".

—Francesca Kinley



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

Stephen Barnes—861302

Services for

July/August 2020



Despite the restrictions during this present time, things are still happening behind the scenes.

We want to let you know about these and keep in touch with you.

Please see our websites for the list of articles and to get up-to-date news and information.

Videos of Services and Sermons on YouTube are also available via the websites.

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Effects of social isolation in Covid-19 pandemic

Here in East Sussex we have been spared the worst of the physical side of C-19, but 'shielding' and 'social distancing' implemented in March 2020 to interrupt viral transmission and delay the spread of infection, have created their own problems. Isolation can be deleterious to mental health, causing psychological distress and PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder). The symptoms can be low mood, anxiety, stress, fear, frustration and sheer boredom.

Over the last 3-4 months some have experienced restriction of movement, social disconnection, loss of income, or employment; and the fear of infection, and lack of access to basic needs like medicines and food just aggravate the situation. Fortunately, in this aspect, the government, local councils, medics and even royalty have recognised the potential harm lockdown could cause, at an early stage.

The government have provided funding to local councils to support communities and Wealden have created a 'Community Hub' both on-line (www.wealden.gov.uk) and phone line (01323443322) as points of contact. Princes William and Harry have both got involved in making mental health issues 'acceptable' particularly to arrogant young men!

Telephone and on-line video consultations are available from primary care, and that support can be extended to counselling and befriending. The new term of 'social prescribing' can improve the well-being of patients by drawing on community resources.

But most of all communities themselves have pulled together to support the house-bound and isolated. Neighbours have spoken to neighbours for the first time, telephone contact and reassurance have helped enormously, and technology has enabled video connections to friends and family for users to experience for the first time. Local shops in Frant and Bells Yew Green have provided lifelines by delivering supplies, and pubs have adapted to provide both food and drink on a take away basis.

Groups have formed on WhatsApp in Bells Yew Green and far-off Little Bayham so that sharing deliveries and

exchanging goods is becoming the new norm.

Extra advice for those in isolation: stay connected to your social networks; keep your daily routines as much as possible; pay attention to your own needs and feelings; try and exercise regularly and eat healthily; avoid watching frequent news bulletins and listening to rumours that make you feel uncomfortable.

Writing this in late June, we are entering a time of phased unlocking, but must steel ourselves for possible future spikes of infection, but now you can be reassured help is available to mitigate future psychological distress.

—Dr Andy Macdonald-Brown

John Hodson

» A tribute from Bob "the Cat" Bevan MBE, Past President, Bells Yew Green CC

When I moved to Bells Yew Green almost 27 years ago and became a regular in the Brecknock Arms a very nice chap used to pop in off the train on his way home from the City. John Hodson was probably one of the first of the locals with whom I shared a pint. We would share many more but sadly no longer as John passed away unexpectedly at the end of April.

He was a great supporter of much that went on in the village the detail of which others may be more able to provide. My own connections with him, apart from personal friendship, were with the local cricket club.

Soon after I moved in I was asked to speak at their annual dinner and soon after invited to become President. I made the mistake of going to a Committee meeting at which I heard the ground was under threat from house building.

We managed to stop some of the houses, buy a 125-year lease and build a new brick pavilion. It took £250,000 raised over 14 years during which John was a major benefactor. It was the talk of the pub during that time and if you were a customer you couldn't miss it. You would be sold the latest fund-raiser or tickets for a star-studded dinner – seven in all.

Very early on John took me to one side and asked what was needed immediately and produced a cheque book. It wouldn't be the last time.

Often I had to hold him back as I was

keen not to take advantage of this most generous and kind man blessed with a strong community spirit. It wasn't just financial gifts, his wise advice was often there to help. We had an interest-free loan scheme in which he placed £10,000 and he became a Trustee along with Martin Athey, of Core Law, who became our honorary solicitor, and myself.

On the morning I learned we had won a £35,000 grant from the now defunct Foundation for Sports and the Arts he was the first person I called. He was as delighted as I was and added "by the way, I shan't want that loan back." Our final dinner starred Sir Ian Botham and rugby international and broadcaster, Martin Bayfield, who was sponsored by John. That night alone we raised £20,000.

John delivered the Loyal Toast and enjoyed his evening next to the cricketing legend. He was especially amused to learn that Sir Ian had arrived only an hour before the start by landing his helicopter in my field.

At the opening of the brand new pavilion by Lord Seb Coe, the club made John a Life Member. Recently the current officers of the club have said that they want a permanent memorial to him at the ground and his family is currently considering what form it should take.

With our cricket duties over we continued to enjoy pints and lunched locally. At this time I had become friendly with a senior partner of St James Place and ended up on their mailing list for their magazine. I was surprised to see John featuring in it as one of their key investment advisers.

He was, of course, too professional to give me any tips and I used to pull his leg about it and tell him about another friend and great supporter of Kent Cricket, Claude Duval. He was the racing correspondent of the Sun for 49 years and if you asked him for any tips he would always say "look both ways before you cross the road."

John was such a lovely man and great company too. When Sarah called me with the sad news it was only a few days after I had emailed him telling him that the Brecknock was to re-open and suggesting a meet as soon as we were allowed out.

When that day arrives I shall raise my first glass to him in the pub and dearly wish I was able to do it with him in person.

Frant Nursery School 1984 – 2020

» Frant Nursery School Closure, Official Announcement: 10 June 2020

It is with great sadness that Frant Nursery School will be closing its doors for the last time on 22nd July. The Frant Nursery School Committee have made the very difficult decision to permanently close down Frant Nursery School at the end of this school term.

Unfortunately, the nursery school has been extremely low in numbers this year and has sadly seen a steady decrease in numbers joining us for the past few years. Come September, once our older 'Rising 5' children leave us for Primary School and we also lose two families as they are relocating, the number of children left on the register means our nursery is no longer financially viable and very importantly, wouldn't be the best possible environment to provide for the few children remaining. We are of course very sad that those children will not be able to continue their pre-school journey with us and realise this news will be particularly disappointing to those parents who our closure will directly affect going forward. We understand this news will not just be sad for our much loved staff and the families who were returning in September, but also for the wider community. Frant has been fortunate to benefit from our wonderful Nursery School, that was established in 1986 in the heart of the village, for the past 34 years!

Closing our doors permanently has been an incredibly hard decision for the Committee to make, but regrettably, we have been left with no choice as, despite our best efforts to keep our much loved nursery open for as long as we could, the demand for a small village nursery, in this area, is no longer there. Being a very small village setting on the border of Tunbridge Wells, where there is such an array of childcare settings that can offer the longer hours to fit in with many diverse needs of families at present. Unfortunately, we simply couldn't compete with those nurseries, in terms of the hours they can offer or the services and facilities they provide. We have also found that as the years have passed, the demand in the immediate community is no longer there, as well as a number of low birth rate years, all contributing to our low numbers.

Another aspect in our decision to close

has been the impact of having so few children attend the nursery has meant we have been unable to operate with a full committee of volunteer parents, who kindly run the nursery and tirelessly fundraise. A full committee of volunteer parents is a requirement we need to meet for Ofsted and to continue operating as a business and registered charity.

We would like to thank our current amazing Staff; Denise, Rian and Donna for their care, hard work and dedication and for making the nursery such a wonderful place for the children over the many years – and of course all the previous staff, committee members, volunteers, donators and supporters, not forgetting the Trustees of the Memorial Hall, where we have made home for the nursery for so many years. Everyone, past and present, speaks so highly of the nursery and holds it close to their hearts.

Whilst we are currently unable to meet up and return to nursery, we simply cannot close at the end of term without a big celebration of Frant Nursery School and an opportunity to come together and say good bye to the staff and our friends! When social distancing is relaxed and larger groups are allowed we would love to organise a gathering, perhaps a picnic on the green to ensure the nursery gets the send-off it deserves.

Please do feel free to contact us regarding the news of our closure – or even if you would like to send some words of best wishes to staff, perhaps you were a pupil of the nursery or your children/ grandchildren attended at some point over the last 34 years? We would love to hear from you!

—*Frant Nursery School Committee*

» See our memorial pullout to Frant Nursery School with this issue of Parish News

Frant School News

As I write this we are about to say goodbye to our year 6 children and are soon to welcome our new Reception children in September. School has been a different place over the last few terms but it is really nice to update you on what has been happening. Since the start of the outbreak of the Coronavirus, our aim was to provide the best education we could for our children whilst keeping everyone safe and abiding by the rules. We kept our doors open throughout

the Easter holidays for children of keyworkers, we delivered online lessons in small groups and 1 to 1 on a regular basis, we sent out daily lesson plans in a consistent format with high, but hopefully realistic, expectations for families. Follow up phone calls and support was given wherever and whenever possible. I have been very impressed with how our children adapted to the change and continued week after week to share their home learning with us. You will find so many examples of the work the children completed on our school website – do take a few minutes to have a look. www.frantcep.e-sussex.sch.uk.

As soon as schools were allowed to open to years Reception, 1 and 6 we were ready and we saw from day one a high attendance. Seeing the children walk up the windy path with smiles on their faces was an absolute delight and joy. Everyone followed the rules and to be honest just got on with the new 'norm'. One child from Reception could be heard shouting at their parent as they left for home on day one, 'that was the best day ever' and on the second day they shouted, 'that was even better than yesterday'. We could not have asked for more. As the rules relaxed, we again looked at ways we could invite all the other year groups back to school before the end of term. We felt strongly that time in school for all children was

important; they needed to see their friends, their classroom and their teacher. The parents may have needed a break from home teaching too! All children in years 2, 3, 4 and 5 had a week in school with their class teacher. Again, the smiles were in abundance.

It has not always been easy, the daily guidelines from the Department of Education and East Sussex have been challenging, meeting the needs of staff, parent, children and the wider community has been paramount and keeping everyone as safe as we can our overriding aim. Thank you to all our staff for always giving 100%, our children for all the fantastic learning they have been doing, coming back with such positive attitudes and to our parents for taking on the role of home teacher so magnificently.

I would like to wish our year 6 children all the very best at their secondary schools. It has been lovely to have them back in school this term enjoying putting



together their production of Hairspray, having fun with their peers and preparing for year 7. They will be missed around school.

I look forward to seeing everyone in September. Have a lovely summer.

—*Mrs Joanna Challis, Head of School*

Parish Council News

Like everyone in the country the parish council has had to make some changes to how it operates in recent months. We are now meeting virtually via Zoom at the slightly earlier time of 6.30. Virtual meetings have several advantages, but it can be more difficult for members of the public to make their voices heard at our meeting. If you wish to attend virtually then please follow the link on the Parish Council website to join the meeting. Alternatively contact the Clerk or your local parish councillor and they will ensure that any questions are asked and

answered. Thanks to residents' recent questions the parish council has been looking into what can be done about littering on the Greens, particularly when the public bins are full, and also nuisance parking across the parish.

The lockdown has been a boon for internet communication and also internet shopping, but in rural areas like ours not everyone has access to acceptable broadband speed. Recently the parish council agreed to support a Community Fibre Partnership Scheme, to bring faster broadband connections to an area of Bells Yew Green. It will take some months to complete the project, but the council is optimistic that the process may serve as a blue print for getting other areas of the parish upgraded in due course.

Not everything, however, can be done online. Sadly, the current restrictions have meant that the Village Fair has been cancelled this year. We were

also unable to publicly commemorate the 75th anniversary of VE Day. The Second World War left its mark on our landscape here is Sussex. The pillbox fortification on Frant Green is now an obvious wartime landmark, but when it was built in 1940 it was disguised as a wooden hut, in the hope of deceiving any invaders! There are several other similar fortifications dotted around the parish which can occasionally be glimpsed through the hedges in the winter. A timely reminder that we have faced and overcome greater threats than the current virus.

Frant Parish Friendship Group

Unfortunately there is nothing to report, however, hopefully things will be back to normal for our September meeting on the 24th at the Stables, 2.30 pm. We look forward to welcoming everyone then. Enquiries Valerie Palmer 01892 750559

The Brecknock Arms Is Open!

I am delighted to report that the Brecknock Arms is now open again.

Under the new management of Bells Yew Green locals, Niall and Zoe McGregor-Gould and family, the pub has had a significant facelift and is no longer just a pub. The new enterprise has so much on offer for our community and it is clear that a huge amount of thought, research and hard work has been invested to ensure there is something to appeal to everyone.

The Bar

The new layout (right) has built in surfaces along the walls where punters who enjoy their tippie whilst standing up can spread out and socialise whilst having somewhere to set down their glass. In the middle of the floor is a new table which was made out of old timbers! This new layout will give a far more spacious feel and make access to the bar easier - where previously there could be a bit of a log jam! For those people who like to sit down and have a drink, there is ample seating space outside in the garden.

The Restaurant/Tearooms

A work of genius! The pub will continue to offer food in the traditional sense of good pub grub but now has the additional option of a tearoom for those who want to pop in of a morning or afternoon. The decor is charming with a dresser displaying fine china crockery and teapots, tables draped in white table cloths and decorated with vases of flowers all set off with a background of newly decorated walls and pretty curtains. The cakes will all be home made and families are welcome.

The Farm Shop & Boutique

The buildings formerly used as garages and storage are unrecognisable! Zoe and Niall, with the help from all of the family, have now opened a farm shop (right). Selling an impressive range of goods include fresh fruit and vegetables, eggs, honey and baked goods amongst other things, the prices are really reasonable and the staff always welcoming.

In addition, local designer, Rachel Branson, will be selling her designs in the other outbuilding. If you are in need of a gift, something to wear or just want to pop in on impulse, it really is worth a look.



The Garden

Access to the garden has now been made much easier with the installation of a ramp (below right) from the pub. Wheelchair users and families with little ones in prams no longer have the hassle of negotiating access via steps. Once in the garden, the landscape is much more spacious as pictured during the clearing out. The garden has plenty of picnic

benches and space to walk around and enjoy family time.

Thank you to the McGregor-Goulds! The transformation of this pub and the hard work this has involved deserves our support. Please do come along and raise a glass, have a cup of tea or coffee or buy some delicious food from the menu or farm shop.

—Carmel Kinley



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Parish Past

Perhaps it's time to recap on the historical significance of some local names.

Frant: A corruption of Anglo-Saxon Fern-ethe or ferny heath. You can imagine a small clearance surrounded by heath like modern Ashdown Forest. Bells Yew is almost certainly a corruption of the French Belle lieu a beautiful place. Bayham was founded by French monks who came from a much less attractive monastery on the marshes, so they rejoiced in its dry situation.

Eridge: Probably the ridge where eagles fly, so totally unreclaimed at the time its name first appears ie early Middle Ages. Warren Farm (Eridge): rabbits were rare 7/800 years ago and their warrens valuable and guarded against poachers as a source of meat.

Danegate: Nothing to with Danes but 'Den' an early word for a small fenced reclaimed area. Many local villages reflect a similar beginning eg Benenden, Frittenden etc. Ely from the Saxon aelan (to burn) from early burning, smelting of iron ore. Shernfold a direct translation of 'dirty fold' and indeed the soil there is heavier (and would have

been muddier) than that around the church and High Street, which in places is quite sandy. Court Lodge is literal and where the landowner would have held his legal hearings and exercised his power over his tenants and serfs. Nearby Sunninglye is probably one of the earliest names in the parish meaning 'the wooded glades/clearings of Sunni's people.' Probably dating from hundreds of years before the Norman Conquest. Tangier Lane area most likely not cleared until the 17th Century when it was probably so named because it was big news that Charles II's wife gifted the city of Tangier to England as her dowry - a valuable trading base. Saxonbury was pre-Saxon, inhabited by iron age people before the Romans came and only so named by romantic Victorians!

—Pat Wright

Woof Meanderings

Ohhh my oh my what a turn of events that has been unravelling ... this is very strange for a pooch like me as my routine has gone all askew. The Child has been persistently around which I have found a tad annoying (if I am really honest), as I am not quite centre stage all day now. Also, she keeps interrupting

my moments of peace to come and plonk down on my bed beside me to attempt to do her 'times tables' apparently, which have been strategically hung above 'the dog bed' for some obscure reason to me, in order to encourage her. Most annoyingly though, I have been far too sedentary as there has been constant 'Remote Learning' going on and so much huffing, puffing and moaning by both The Child and The Owner, so I have been sitting in the kitchen under the table with all the commotion going on and then departing when things become too frustrating for all and taking myself off to a darkened corner.

Walks have not been so exciting as The Owner has been avoiding everyone and ploughing on with things and never ending jobs at home. Most upsettingly though, I have only recently been seeing my glorious Dolly which has been a huge trauma to me missing out on seeing her, galloping through the fields and on lovely walks with my glorious one. It has been strange not seeing many of my friends too, but The Owner did sit me down and explain why things had changed so much and that I had to be patient. I think this was after I was very morose as she took the home clippers to me. I was not amused and although stood patiently initially, after she kept getting the blades jammed in my long coat (thankfully it was not ousey), but I was quite bored and fed up, then refusing to stand still in the hope that she would give up. I had not bargained on the fact that I would end up with a jagged messy cut, so the only positive thing on not seeing everyone for so long was that I was not so embarrassed by the ghastly mis-cutting. Fortunately though, I did hear The Owner on the phone to the lovely trimmer lady earlier confirming my appointment this week and then gave me a 'knowing look' as she ended the call. The Husband is most miffed as it transpires 'the dog manages to get his hair cut, way before me'.

After The Owner's attempts at my trim, The Husband backed right off asking her to trim to his hair and hence is still patiently trying to even get through to his Hairdresser waiting to book his cut. The Owner says she is quite liking his new hair-do, but I am not so sure frankly.

Anyway, enough of all the domesticity in The Hacienda, there seem so many things to update you on.... firstly, I must

tell you great excitement, it transpired that one of the naughty sheep (clearly a floozie) had had an unexpected rendezvous with a local Ram and out popped a dear little lamb some weeks ago. Well, there was much panic initially as Lamby would absolutely not have any milk from 'Muriel' her Mother or a bottle, so was about to miss out on the super nutritious colostrum that is so important within the first few hours of being born, so a rescue mission was in place and a friend came charging up with some and tubed it into The Lamby's stomach and saved the day. I was all set for disaster and The Husband was already raising his eyebrows preparing for the trauma to start happening, but fortunately, all has been joyful and a very spoilt lamb is in fine fettle but rather portly if you ask me.

The next moment The Owner is anticipating is the hopeful onset of goslings. I, like The Child, am not so sure on this one as the geese keep chasing me (and her) and trying to peck at my tail when I stroll past them which I find quite mortifying; do they not realise I am The Boss around here and not them? Anyway, there is some head scratching going on in preparation for yet another poultry house and the next thing to buy is a specific incubator for goose eggs apparently. I have now learnt that the moment a gosling hatches which can take up to 3 days (after the eggs have been brewing under the warm and snugly goose for 28 days), is that Mrs Goose then kicks out the remaining eggs! So as a result, if all goes to plan The Owner will need to wade in and grapple with feisty geese being protective and put the rest of the eggs into the incubator and then all being well bring them up herself with The Child's assistance. I am going to keep well away from this one as there will be huge stress that no rats (hopefully none around) come and chomp them without the protection of the big geese. There is always something going on here...

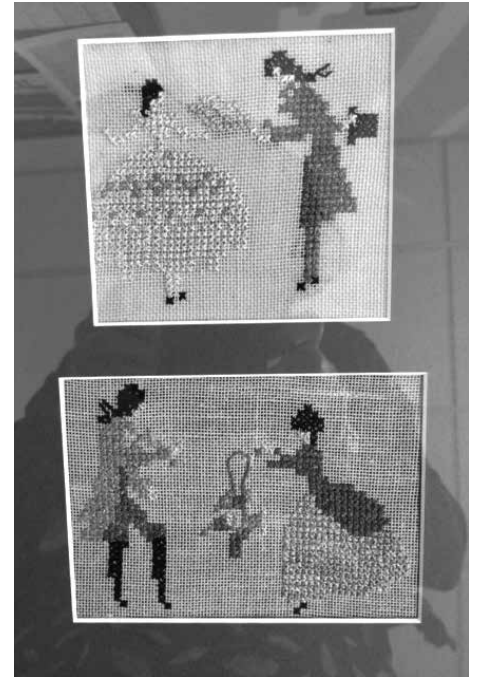
Anyway, onto more exciting things of which I have had some scrumptious new food be delivered, which I am enjoying enormously and am always keen to have some more, but have to keep my waistline trim for The Lovely Dolly, not just from my looks, but for my speed and prowess across the fields in front of her. Talking of speed and prowess, there has been a new chicken arrival called

'Petula'. You have never seen anything like it as she is enormous (I have learnt from my ears wagging listening to The Owner drivelling on, that she is a 'large fowl' chicken) and called a Cochin, who is just one huge ball of the fluffiest feathers ever and vast feet. Her skill is charging cross the garden after any magpies and rooks. It has everyone in stitches laughing and I can't help finding myself amused at the antics and she saves me getting up from a sunny-snooze in the garden to chase them off myself, so I am very grateful.

There are also two other new chickens who arrived on VE Day called 'Vera and Lynn' which everyone thinks are super-special names, but I am just a bit confused on this one. All I know is that VE Day was noisy to me as The Owner kept singing lots of songs (let me tell you, she is no singer) as they played on the radio and television, but I did get some tasty cake as she dropped it all on the floor out of the wrapping when was singing rather over-eagerly, so I was super speedy at getting to it before she scooped it up. Vera is very nosey and has to be involved in everything, which is rather obvious at the moment as she insisted on pushing her way in between the opened paint tin and newly painted wall, so is currently covered in white paint on one side of her, including her slightly askew red cone which was caught in the paint in the process as she had a sniff at the paint tin and is now an additional mixture of red and white.

The Hawthorn trees have been an absolute joy for snoozing under on the sunny days we have had whilst The Owner gets on with jobs across the fields. Apparently, they have flowered wonderfully this year, frankly looking like huge balls of billowness (as does Petula) to me, but there was much waffling about them looking so striking and glorious against the blue of the sky with the green of all the trees around, which I pretended to look interested in hearing. I am not quite sure though why The Owner tries to drink the leaves and flowers as a tea, but she maintains it is very good for her dodgy blood vessels.

Goodness me, here comes The Owner looking for her trainers, this is looking hopeful for a walk I wonder will I be seeing Dolly as she has her car keys in her hand too Oh I do hope so, what a delightful thought for a sunny afternoon.



Embroidery gift

Frant school received a lovely surprise recently when Elizabeth Togstead, the great niece of the Headmaster in the early 1900's, Robert Woods, gave the school some embroidery pictures that were produced by the pupils during his time there. The pictures had been left to the school as part of a will. The pictures have the initials "KW" on them so if any readers may have a clue as to who this pupil could be, please do contact carmel.kinley@gmail.com (01892 750217). It will be interesting to make the connection!

Thank you very much to Elizabeth Togstead for getting in touch.

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Parish Diary July/August 2020

We are all unsure as to how and when the current restrictions are going to be lifted so we have not set out any events in this section for this edition. If you have an event that can go ahead in the next 2 months, do drop me a line at: carmel.kinley@gmail.com and I will pass it on to the Parish Website and relevant Parish Wards for email distribution.

Useful contacts

Frant

Frant CofE Primary School
Joanna Challis: 750243
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
www.eridge-village-hall.co.uk
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 Mepham: 891426
BYG Village Hall Hire
Chris Bacon: crbacon79@gmail.com
Friends of Bells Yew Green
07944 712000

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).

Council contacts

Chairman

William Rutherford: 752254
william.rutherford@frant-pc.gov.uk

Frant Ward

Anne Frances:
ann-frances.luther@frant-pc.gov.uk
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

Wealden District Councillor

Keith Obbard: 07941 578 427
cllr.keith.obbard@wealden.gov.uk

County Councillor

Bob Standley: 783579

District Councillor

Johanna Howell: 750141

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.

MP for Wealden

Nus Ghani MP:
nusrat.ghani.mp@parliament.uk

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

from: www.frantchurch.org
or www.eridgechurch.org
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Contributions for our next issue should be sent to the Editor:
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