

# Parish News

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF FRANT, ERIDGE & BELLS YEW GREEN



*Hoar Frost, Frant Green; January 2021*

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## From the Rectory



### 2021: A Year of Community.

I write to you from my study as we are again in lockdown, praying that with the vaccine it will be the last one. At this point we must encourage each other to continue to stay at home and only go out for essential reasons. The numbers of cases and deaths this week has shown the terrible cost of this disease once again and we must do all we can to help and protect our community and in light of this our church services will remain online.

I hear a lot of people talk in terms of individuals making choices to put themselves at risk of covid, but I think this disease has shown us more than anything else that there is no individualism when it comes to covid, our choices help or hinder the whole community, not only ourselves. It is strange that at a time when international travel has been curtailed, when movement has been reduced, when people are isolating, we actually realise just how truly connected we are. We realise how important meeting up with people is.

As we see a way out of covid, through lockdown and then vaccines, it is right to be hopeful about the future. That connection that made covid spread so quickly and easily, can be utilised again to build the community that

has been on hold. Will you join us (when the time is right after covid) to make 2021 a Year of Community?

Restarting, rebuilding, reimagining community is going to be our church vision for 2021, and we would love everyone to get involved!

It will require a lot of initial energy and effort, and right now we are planning and preparing for how we can help build community again as we look past covid. Community is something everyone can get involved in.

We will re-establish groups that were lost, we will innovate from what we had, and we will get new groups established.

Not yet! For now, we stay at home. For now, we keep each other safe. For now, we prepare for when we can come back together again. And when we do... what a joy it will be, to be together in community again.

I look forward to a time we can meet together, without restrictions. Having got to the end of 2019 I have spent more time in Frant in Lockdown than not, and I look forward to getting to know people better in 2021.

If anyone needs any help for any reason, please contact our church office.

—Rev Brendan

### News from the pews

In a year when one would think that not much can have happened due to lockdowns, isolations, limits on travel etc, it's amazing when we look back at what an awful lot did happen, not perhaps in the way that we're used to, but in different ways which have been super creative and imaginative.

All the online services have been good, but in November, the Remembrance Sunday on line service in which so many members of our two churches ranging in age from 2 to 96 years participated, was very special and was watched and appreciated by over 170 people. It was a moving moment when a trumpeter, standing at the heart of the community outside the Memorial Hall, sounded the last post.

The Sunday afternoon Festival Church services and Junior Church Forest School which were held in the Rectory paddock, continued to grow in popularity but had to stop during the November lockdown when we had to go back online.

In spite of the rain, another very special event was the open air Carol service, to which people came wrapped in many layers and carrying flasks of hot drinks. The paddock was divided into 'pens' for groups of six, separated by strings of lights and torches, there were also two blazing fire pits which gave the impression of warmth!

An excellent brass quintet playing arrangements of a good selection of well-known carols certainly lifted the spirits, and a scratch choir of nine provided some singing which was encouraging after nine months without live singing. We also heard the well-known Christmas Bible readings and Rev Brendan gave three short reflections on Christmas - the first Christmas when a child was born to suffer, the traditional Christmas as we have always known it, and then how very different this Christmas would be for everyone.

He spoke of the suffering of the homeless and the hungry, but this year especially for those who have been grievously and seriously affected by the covid virus, for them Christmas was likely to be a sad and anxious time. It was an unusual but truly uplifting Carol service. Arrangements for other services over the Christmas period were well in hand, with the Christmas eve

Crib service, which has always had an attendance of around 200 people, to be held in the Paddock.

Then on 19th December on account of the escalating number of virus cases, we heard that Kent was now in tier 4 category and no one from Kent was permitted to attend church in another area. This brought home to us how many of our congregation including Imtiaz, our Curate, live 'over the border', so once again Brendan had at short notice to do some quick rethinking and reorganising. After much thought the difficult decision was made to cancel the outside crib service, and put it online. The result was a charming presentation of the Christmas story done outside by our children and young people which was watched by 222 households. On Christmas morning services were held in both Churches, but I don't think it would be an exaggeration to say that for the first time in living memory there was no midnight Communion service in the Parish as most of the advanced bookings were cancelled. As Imtiaz, who was to have led morning services on December 27th was unable to 'cross the border', we were very grateful to Lesley Lynn who led a joint morning service in Eridge church. Our Ministry team met all these challenges brilliantly, and in spite of everything Christmas was celebrated in both of our churches.

Christmas is the time when most of us enjoy a bit of self indulgence, but it's also the time when our thoughts and prayers are with those who for whatever reason are in need. This year our Christmas giving supported The Diocese of Chichester Family Support Work, a charity which provides help to all kinds of families in Sussex, those of all faiths or none. Families which are struggling with issues such as poverty, ill health, learning difficulties, bereavement, family break up and domestic abuse. We were able to send gifts of food and also items suitable for Christmas gifts for all ages.

For many years now St Albans has supported the West Kent Women's Refuge and it has become traditional at Christmas to send them toiletries, items suitable for everyday use, but also luxury items to be given as gifts. We also have a special collection in the weeks before Christmas to enable us to

send them a gift of money which helps to buy the ladies and children some special Christmas treats. The sending of shoe boxes to eastern Europe which we have done for many years had to be suspended this year, instead we were asked to send money. The response was as always good and we were able to send £300 to enable families with very little to receive a little Christmas joy.

Anyone who has been to the Stables recently will have seen that we now have a new studio building in the grounds. This is to be the Church Office which has been made possible by donations from generous individuals for which we are very grateful. It will make a huge difference to the smooth running of the Parish.

In November we heard the sad news that Roy Dicker, husband of Audrey and former member of our church family had died. Roy served in the Royal Air Force ultimately as a Group Captain, then as a teacher in London, and in later years as a Lay Reader. He had been ill and frail for a long time, so although we can give thanks for his life and that he is now at peace, it is still a very sad time for Audrey to whom he was married for 60 years, and for his family.

Then just before Christmas it was a great shock when our Lay Reader, Roy Goodship died suddenly and unexpectedly. Roy who lived in Sevenoaks with his wife Gifty, had been a regular member of our congregation for about 10 years. As a Lay Reader, he gave us some very good and well informed sermons and was a tremendous help and support during the 18 month period of interregnum. Recently during lockdown he sent us regular scriptural reflections online. A solicitor by profession, Roy worked as a volunteer for the international charity The Gideons and he also led Sunday services in care homes in the Sevenoaks area. He was a scholarly man with a dry sense of humour, who used his gifts and abilities to serve others, we will miss him terribly.

At the beginning of the new year, In view of the sharp increase in cases of covid, the PCC made the difficult decision to discontinue services in our 2 churches until the situation improved. Frant church will still be open every Wednesday and Sunday for private prayer.

## St Alban's, Frant & Holy Trinity, Eridge

### Rector

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



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Churchwardens  
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www.eridgechurch.org  
Churchwardens  
Jonathan Lynn—864304  
Stephen Barnes—861302

### Services for

January/February 2021



**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.**

WORSHIP AT BELLS YEW GREEN

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### Woof Meanderings

Well here we are all again in our strangely surreal new world... The Owner is not amused having no jollities and seeing friends, which I am finding troubling as I am missing out on seeing furry paw friends of mine too.

I am also rather baffled as now I am finding myself stuck inside for far too much of the day as The Owner huffs and puffs away with The Child moaning about Home Schooling. Papers seem to fly everywhere with pencils and pens constantly dropping on the floor which annoys me as the 'ting' sound they make as they land on the tiles, wakes me up from a snooze and everyone seems a bit grumpy. The Husband arrives back in the evening asking if it is 'safe to come in' after there has been grumbling through the day.

We don't seem to be going on the School runs either now and I always enjoyed that as it was fun to say hello to everyone on an early morning outing. Sometimes also, we would meet friends for a walk somewhere new.

As I sit and write this now to you, I am watching Petula The Chicken outside in her run having all her copious feathers blown up and ruffled by the huge wind we are having today, she looks most discombobulated. The smaller bantams are almost been carried up in the air with the gusts. Goodness the rain was so shocking yesterday and I was in big trouble as carried in copious amounts of mud and water on my paws leaving huge trails. I just don't understand why it is so wrong to go and roll all over the carpet and push myself against the edge of the sofa to dry all the water and mud off. Seems a perfect choice of a new type of towel to me, but I was in big trouble for it yesterday.

It has been lovely to see the primroses starting to emerge again to lift everyone's spirits... I think The Owner has rather a soft spot for them as is horrified if anyone drives too close to them or dare they drive over them. My friend Sid the other day decided to have a pee on most of them and The Owner was then in hot pursuit of him trying to get him to stop. I know I should not have, but it did make me chuckle as he scurried off clearing sniggering to himself as The Owner nearly slipped over on the grass.

It turns out (one of my moments I actually decided to listen to The Owner

as she tried to educate The Child with some gardening chat on a walk), that the name of Primroses comes from the word 'primus' meaning 'first', so the name refers to them being one of the early plants to come to life and bloom in the Spring and have many lovely beliefs associated to them.

Although, coming out in early January is rather confusing to me as that is not yet Spring and some of ours were out in late December. Apparently, the leaves and flowers of a Primrose are edible and can be used in a salad (anything to try and encourage The Child to eat a salad clearly here I feel). The Owner went onto say that young Primrose flowers can be used in wine making. Trust her to know that...

Well, clearly I have to update you on the unruly Pug... ohhhh I try to ignore her, but how honestly can one. So annoying as she always makes a beeline to find the warmest part on the kitchen floor and has the audacity to pull her cushion onto it, then nests down not to be budged. The Owner then has to move her back and forth on it each time she needs to get into the cupboard, but The Pug always gets her way and parks off there. I was rather incensed the other day as some new waterproof jacket arrived for her with a fleece lining that looked so toasty, but if I am honest, I would have looked silly in it, but her smug look does annoy me but her snoring still even more so. With all the doors and windows closed at this time of year, it seems to echo around so much more.

I was slightly horrified the other day when I overheard a conversation The Owner was having with a friend saying that you can get rough hairy coated pugs as someone had sent her a photo of one... oh no, imagine if another one arrives. I do hope not... I think The Husband would faint with horror at two of them snoring away plus arriving home to that sight.

More importantly, I am hoping that I will see Dolly soon... her Owner has been lying very low recently, hence I have not seen her for ages and ages. Maybe that is why I am also feeling a bit grumpy and baffled too like everyone else.

I think I need to hold onto one of the Primrose beliefs... I shall share it with you... apparently as The Fairies are guardians of Primroses, some people believe that if you bring Primrose flowers into your home it will bring you

good luck (but it needs to be 13 only, as any more or less may bring you bad luck). So if I could snaffle 13 flowers without The Owner spotting them and hide them under my bed and wish for Dolly to come and visit soon, perhaps it may come true, I so hope it would...

### The Arts Society Ashdown Forest » The Guggenheim Museum, Bilbao and the Architecture of Frank Gehry 11th February 2021 at 2pm Lecturer: Sian Walters

The Guggenheim, designed by the Canadian architect Frank Gehry and opened to the public in 1997, is one of the most exciting buildings of the 20th Century. The lecture begins with an introduction to the Guggenheim foundation and how it came about, and then moves on to describe the very particular circumstances that led to the commission in Bilbao. It examines the architecture of Frank Gehry using illustrations from his work in Europe and America, and describes, with some beautifully detailed slides, how the vast asymmetrical, apparently chaotic and fragmented structure was created. It also discusses the use of titanium – the unusual and eye-catching material which is used to clad a large surface area of the building. The lecture ends with an introduction to the collection of paintings, sculptures and installations contained within the museum, covering the permanent collection as well as providing up-to-date information on current and future exhibitions. Projects for a new Guggenheim are also discussed.

The lecturer, Sian Walters, studied at Cambridge University. She is a lecturer at the National Gallery and The Wallace Collection and taught at Surrey University, specialising in 15th and 16th century Italian painting, Spanish art & architecture, and the relationship between dance and art. Also teaches private courses, and organises lectures, study days and art holidays abroad. Has lived in France and Italy, where she worked at the Peggy Guggenheim Museum in Venice.

Lectures are available to Members only at this time, but you are welcome to join us by contacting our Membership Secretary Donald Speedie in advance of the lecture on 01892 663388 or email [ADFASnews@gmail.com](mailto:ADFASnews@gmail.com)

## 2020: Some positive reflection

In what is unarguably one of the most challenging times for all of us, I wanted to reflect on some of the positive contributions and pictures from last year's magazines. I hope they help to

inspire us all to imagine how wonderful it will be again when things are back to normal if we, as a community, are able to reflect on how we managed when things were so different.

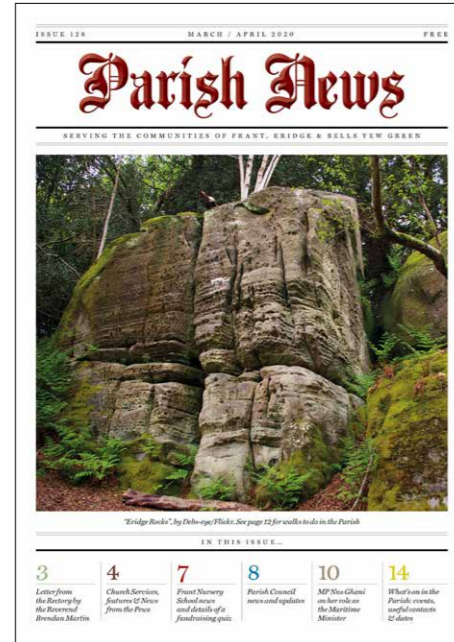


### January/February

Launch of the Forest School. Youth Leader, Ed Pascoe, qualified as a Forest School instructor. The timing could not have been better as later in the year the church services had to be held outside. It was a win win situation!

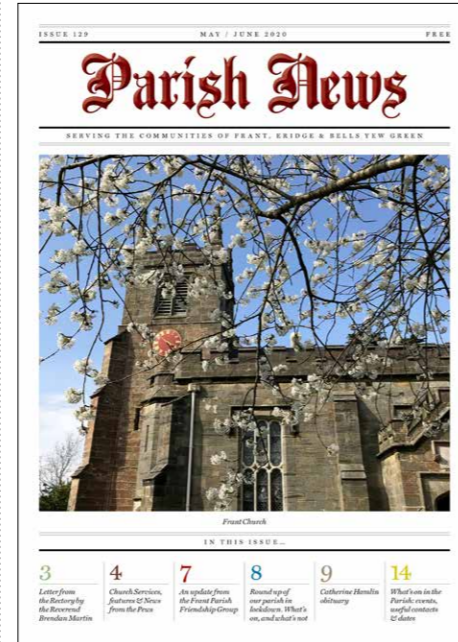
A summer of Encounter Youth Group "hub" meetings by Zoom, the children wanted to thank the Pascoe's for all of their dedication. The message was delivered by cup cake mail!

Friends of Bells Yew Green coming together for a fabulous Hand Craft Fair which raised just under £1000. A great effort.



### March/April

This edition had a feature focusing on the beautiful surroundings in which we live, with particular emphasis on walks in the Parish. Walking is one of the few things we can do in full lockdown... so even lockdown cannot take away the access we have to nature on a day to day basis.



### May/June

Lockdown does not get in the way of blossom in the spring!

An article was submitted from a resident who had received a delivery of flowers and a note from a stranger. In fact, many residents who lived alone received a delivery like this – an act of thoughtfulness at a very challenge time.



Throughout the year, one of the consistently uplifting contributions come from "Woof Meanderings". A regular piece looking at life through the eyes of a Parish pooch. Stories of



### July/August

Despite the very sad news announcing the closure of Frant Nursery School, the special edition also highlighted some really endearing and positive endorsements of what being part of this community means. With tributes pouring in from those whose children had attended the school, dating back to the 1980's until the closure 34 years later, the most astonishing message of all was how the school's ethos and approach was remained largely unchanged throughout with staff, volunteers and parents all forming a huge team to give our new generations a great start in life.

Frant School were very surprised to receive an unexpected gift from Elizabeth Togstead, the great niece of the Headmaster in early 1900's, Robert Woods. These embroidered pictures were created by pupils at the school all that time ago and left to the school as part of a will.



lovely walks, simple and charming observations on friendship, travels and daily "concerns" all delivered with excellent humour.



### September/October

Festival Church! Rev Brendan Martin's initiative in response to the restrictions on indoor worshipping get off to a flying start. It was so good to all get back together, even at a distance.

There were many notes of thanks from residents to all those who have stepped out and made a difference to the lives of so many who may have felt isolated. A special tribute was made to our post lady, Deidre, following her return to duties with reference to her consistently cheerful manner and the positive impact this has on all those she sees.



### November/December

Frant the Fantastic: A heartfelt contribution from a resident thanking the villagers for their kindness and care. What a fitting end!

—Carmel Kinley



### New from our MP, Nus Ghani

Regrettably, we are in our third national lockdown. I've worked tirelessly to keep Wealden out of the toughest level of restrictions under the tier system and it is regrettable to be in a third national lockdown. However, with infection rates of the new strain increasing and one person in 50 now infected, we must abide by the strict lockdown rules and prevent further spread.

We have some good news with the numbers of people vaccinated already greater than those across Europe, which is a tremendous achievement by the Government. But we must keep up the speed and scale up vaccinations to ensure that the top 13 million of the most vulnerable people are vaccinated by mid-February.

The Government have said that the restrictions will begin to lift once the most clinically vulnerable people, and front-line health and care workers are vaccinated. So, despite the logistical difficulties in rural areas like ours, my absolute focus is getting the vaccine into every part of Wealden as fast as possible. I am pleased that the Uckfield Meads Medical Centre was amongst the first local hubs for community vaccinations, and more sites will be introduced soon.

Many Wealden residents are being contacted by the NHS to have their vaccinations in Brighton or East Grinstead. Please honour these appointments and get vaccinated.

Please note that the vaccination list is managed centrally, and I cannot fast track your vaccination nor can your GP.

### » Vaccination

Some sites have been easier to prepare and so could go live more quickly, whilst other sites have needed more preparatory work to ensure teams can safely offer the vaccine in line with national guidance. GP practices are working at pace to make sure the preparations and checks take place as quickly as possible so that sites can go live as soon as possible all across Wealden and East Sussex.

Please be patient and note that the NHS will let eligible patients know when it is their turn to have the vaccine.

Here's more information about the process and answers to frequently asked questions.

- In the UK, there are two approved COVID-19 vaccines. They both require

two doses to provide longer lasting protection. Both have been shown to be effective in clinical trials and have a good safety record.

- When more vaccine becomes available, the vaccines will be offered to other people at risk as soon as possible.
- People most at risk from the complications of COVID-19 are being offered the vaccine first. This includes older adults in care homes and frontline health and social care workers.
- The COVID-19 vaccination is only available through the NHS to eligible groups and it is a free vaccination.

Then the vaccine will also be offered in age order to:

- Those aged over 80 years
- Those aged over 75 years
- Those aged over 70 years
- Adults on the nhs shielded patient list
- Those aged over 65 years
- Adults under 65 years with long term conditions (see list below)
- Those aged 50-64 will be offered it later.

### Clinical conditions list:

- A blood cancer (such as leukaemia, lymphoma or myeloma)
- Diabetes
- Dementia
- A heart problem
- A chest complaint or breathing difficulties, including bronchitis, emphysema or severe asthma
- A kidney disease
- A liver disease
- Lowered immunity due to disease or treatment (such as hiv infection, steroid medication, chemotherapy or radiotherapy)
- Rheumatoid arthritis, lupus or psoriasis
- Have had an organ transplant
- Had a stroke or a transient ischaemic attack (tia)
- A neurological or muscle wasting condition
- A severe or profound learning disability
- A problem with your spleen, e.G. Sickle cell disease, or you have had your spleen removed
- Those seriously overweight (bmi of 40 and above)
- Those severely mentally ill

**At the same time the vaccine will also be offered to:**

- Adults who provide regular care for an elderly or disabled person
- Younger adults in long stay nursing and

residential settings

Please wait your turn. If you are not in the groups above, you will have to wait for a COVID-19 vaccination until more supplies are available.

When more vaccines become available, they will be offered it to more groups of the population.

### » Frequently Asked Questions

**I am in one of the listed groups above, why do I have to wait?**

The COVID-19 vaccines will become available as they are approved for use and as each batch is manufactured. So, every dose is needed to protect those at highest risk. You will be called in as soon as there is enough vaccine available. Some people who are housebound or live in a care home and who can't get to a local vaccination centre may have to wait for supply of the right type of vaccine. This is because only some vaccines can be transported between people's homes.

### Where can I get my COVID-19 vaccination?

Vaccines will be offered in a range of settings. Some vaccination teams will visit people to offer the vaccine, for example in care homes, other people may have to go to the nearest centre. Because some of the vaccine has to be stored in a very low temperature freezer, you may not be able to get the vaccine in your normal GP surgery.

### What if the centre I am offered is not easy to get to?

Please try to attend the vaccination centre you are offered. If you cannot attend that centre, you may have to wait to get the vaccine in a more convenient location.

### » Contact

I am holding weekly virtual surgeries (including Saturday and Sunday) throughout the lockdown period to help with urgent cases. If you would like to make an appointment, please visit my website, fill in the appointment form and return it to me by email.

If you do not need an appointment, but need urgent assistance regarding coronavirus, please email nusrat.ghani.mp@parliament.uk and provide as much detail as possible about your query.

My website [www.nusghani.org.uk](http://www.nusghani.org.uk) is kept updated daily with the latest Government guidance.

Take care and stay safe, Nus

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### Frant Bowls Club is 100 years old.

We need your help - do you recognise any of these long forgotten Frant bowlers? Mashewick, Cambridge, Bassett, Field, Price, Plume, Grinham, Manktelow, Rhode and Morris were all original Frant Bowls Club members in the 1920s. Do these names bring back old memories of bowlers past?

Have a look at this photo which was taken in 1925. Can you identify any of the people in the picture? They might be your great-grandfather or a forebear's gardener, chauffeur or even the local postman, baker or cobbler. You can also see just how small the original Memorial Hall was.

Frant Memorial Hall, built as a memorial to Frant villagers who fought in the Great War, was opened by Lady Henry Nevill on the 15th December 1920. The land on which the bowls green and Hall stands was given to the village by the Marquis Camden. In the early days of the Club the membership comprised local people from all walks of life.

Frant bowls green was laid by volunteers during 1920 to encourage the local community to participate in social activities after the devastating WW1. Local newspapers indicate that Frant's first match was played on Friday July 15th 1921 against Rusthall Bowling Club. Frant won after a keenly contested game.

This year is Frant Bowls Club's centenary year. But Covid-19 has put paid to any celebrations this year which are now planned to take place during 2022.

As a result the Club wants to gather information about the early days and of course the personalities involved. We are planning to produce a centennial chronicle which will include photos, newspaper clippings and stories.

If you have any of these items please send them to Michael Freestone at [md.freestone@btinternet.com](mailto:md.freestone@btinternet.com) or by post to Firs, The Green, Frant TN3 9DS. All original material will be returned if requested.

### Dial 2 Drive

Dial 2 Drive is a volunteer car service based in Tunbridge Wells. If you live in Frant Parish and need help to get to a medical appointment locally, including for a Covid-19 vaccination, you can be registered for free transport paid for by the Parish Council. For further details ring Andy Macdonald-Brown on 01892 891273 or 07989555957, or email [Andrew.macdonald-brown@frant-pc.gov.uk](mailto:Andrew.macdonald-brown@frant-pc.gov.uk)

### Stay at home

You must stay at home and you are only allowed to leave your homes for the following reasons:

- Shop for basic necessities, for you or a vulnerable person.
- Go to work, or provide voluntary or charitable services, if you cannot reasonably do so from home.
- Exercise with your household (or support bubble) or one other person. This should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area.
- Meet your support bubble or childcare bubble where necessary, but only if you are legally permitted to form one.
- Seek medical assistance or avoid injury, illness or risk of harm (including domestic abuse).
- Attend education or childcare - for those eligible.

For more information, please visit: [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus).

If you need medical help, please use the 111 online coronavirus service for non-emergencies.

If you need support, please reach out for help:

- Samaritans | 116 123
- Mind | 0300 123 3393
- Calm | 0800 58 58 58
- Women's Aid | 0808 2000 247
- Age UK | 0116 2992239
- Childline | 0800 1111
- SHOUT mental health charity text support | text SHOUT to 85258

### Support for businesses

In light of the national restrictions, the Chancellor has announced an additional support to the most affected businesses across the country, worth £4.6 billion.

Retail, hospitality and leisure business premises forced to close can claim a one-off grant of up to £9,000. This one-

off grant is in addition to the existing monthly closed grants of up to £3,000 per month that businesses continue to be eligible for. Businesses can receive multiple grants, as they are eligible on a per premises basis. Local authorities will receive the funding for these one-off grants next week and make payments to businesses as soon as possible.

Local Authorities in England will also be given an additional £500 million of discretionary funding to support other businesses not eligible for the grants.

### Frant Parish Council

#### » Stay in touch

As for many of us, Zoom Meetings have now become the norm for Frant Parish Council...a new way of working and, due to the woeful inadequacy of broadband services, sometimes very frustrating. However, the work goes on and you can catch up with council activity on the Frant Parish website: [frant-pc.gov.uk](http://frant-pc.gov.uk).

Now that staying in is the new norm, you may wish to "attend" a meeting and/or make representation in the Public Forum. If so, please contact the Parish Clerk at [clerk@frant-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@frant-pc.gov.uk)

#### » Frant Parish Survey 2020-21

Due to the COVID pandemic, the Parish council was thwarted in its efforts to widely distribute the survey last year. Although we had well over 100 responses these came very largely from Frant villagers and from older members of our community. Frant Parish Council feel, therefore, that the voices of a wider, more varied cohort should be heard and to that end a decision has been made to re-launch the survey. Royal Mail will pop hard copies through your doors early in February; please do take the 10 minutes it will take to feedback your views so that plans for the future can reflect these...and don't forget to get your teenagers involved too - after all it is their future too.

#### » Erosion on The Green

As a result of the combined effect of frequent, heavy rain and inconsiderate drivers Frant Green is looking a little dishevelled at the edges. As Trustees of the Green, Frant Parish Council recently engaged the services of a local consultancy to take advice as to what might be done to mitigate the effects of erosion and prevent further damage in the future. Consideration of options and recommendations is now underway

and the Council will report further once there is an affordable way forward. In the meantime, we must impress on all that:

- Wilful damage (i.e. when a person was aware of the risk of damage) e.g. by vehicles, bicycles, horses etc.
- The driving of a vehicle across grassed areas.
- Parking of a vehicle on the grass unless with permission from the Parish Council.

**Are all prohibited.** Should the Council have to carry out its own works in relation to repairs or reinstatement, or employ a contractor to do so, all costs (including legal) incurred will be automatically charged to those individuals responsible for the damage or alteration.

#### » COVID-19 Support

Unfortunately, we are now in a further lockdown but with hope on the horizon in the form of the vaccine roll out. The latest information on the vaccination programme in Sussex is available on the Sussex Health and Care Partnership website, <https://www.sussexhealthandcare.uk/keepsussexsafe/sussex-covid-19-vaccination-programme/> including an FAQ, public leaflets and a list of vaccination sites.

Wealden District Council continue to provide their Community Hub service which can be accessed through <https://www.wealden.gov.uk/press-and-media/coronavirus-covid-19-latest/community-support/>

Shielding guidance is now in place for clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) people across the country. Those in the CEV group should not attend work, school, college or university, and limit the time they spend outside the home. They should only go out for medical appointments, exercise or if it is essential. People in the CEV group can once again register on NSSS for priority supermarket deliveries, and request free pharmacy deliveries, whilst shielding guidance is in place.

East Sussex County Council will again be contacting CEV people in Wealden and throughout East Sussex by phone, letter and email during the new national lockdown to ensure they have the support they need. They aim to have contacted all identified CEV residents we have details for within the next few weeks.



### Frant School News

‘Train up a child in the way they should go and when they are old they will not depart from it’ Prov. XXII v6

Although we are now in lockdown and schools are closed we are still busy and providing as much learning as we can both in school for keyworker and vulnerable children as well as remotely. As always, please look at our school website for more photos and news from each class.

Here are a few of our highlights;  
 • During this lockdown the children are now being taught through live online lessons using Google Classroom. During term 2 staff had training on how to use



this, never expecting to actually put it into practice so soon. The teachers from day 1 of this term have delivered these lessons to all children every day. Feedback from parents and children has been very positive – the children have benefited from seeing their teacher, their friends and being able to ask for support immediately. Without doubt, this provision is a step change from the last lockdown when the technology was not available to us.

- Mrs Douch has continued to support the school with PE – critical worker children in school have lessons twice a week and activities are provided via the school website for children to do at home. We had also taken part, very successfully, in virtual events organised in term 2. We are hoping for a return to sporting events at some point this year!
- Although it seems a while ago, our online Nativity and Carol Concerts were absolutely amazing with the children performing so well. Parents, although clapping from home, managed to watch their children live and enjoy these wonderful events. Christmas lunch went ahead in two sittings with staff serving and cleaning up, the Christmas post-box was used safely and the PTFA kindly organised for selection boxes for all children and funded class Christmas parties. So, all in all a happy end to term 2.
- Our new children in reception class have settled in so well and are also thriving with online lessons, sharing their work and chatting to their teacher.

I continue to be grateful for the support from the staff, parents and

our PTFA who all seem to find ways to remain kind and supportive. The children deserve their own mention as they keep smiling, they adapt and they try their very best with their learning. I know it is hard for them, but I am sure they will be more resilient and independent learners as a result.

Please do contact the school at any time if you have any questions or would just like to say hello. I am in school every day and will always find time for a chat. At some point we will welcome people back into school. Take care and keep safe. —Mrs Challis, Head of School

### Frant Parish Friendship Group

What a year 2020 was!! Let's hope in 2021 we can return to normal. Unfortunately we are still unable to hold our monthly meetings but will be reviewing the situation in February. Fingers crossed.

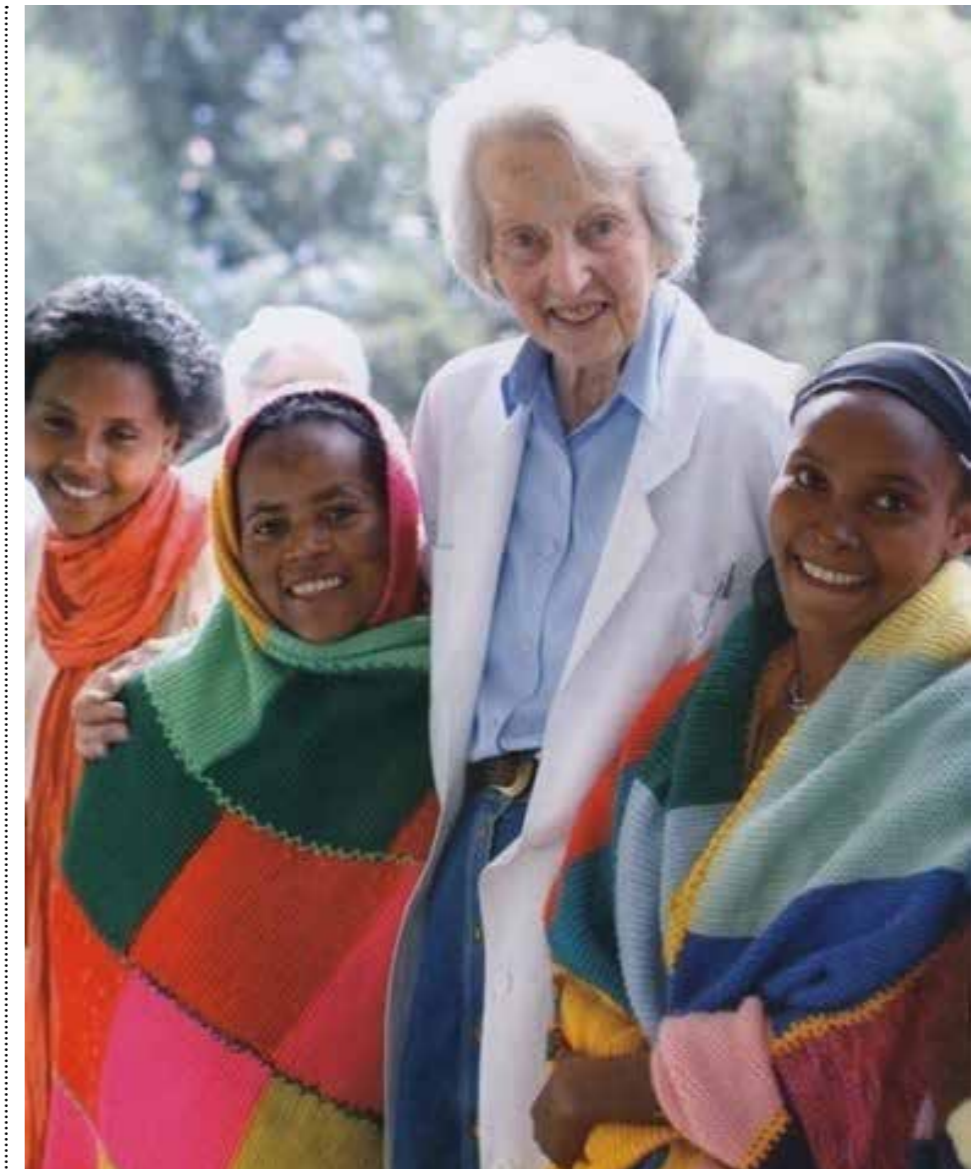
We would very much like to continue the 'Young at Heart' exercise classes when the situation allows but this will depend on sufficient numbers to make this worthwhile. Anybody interested in these classes should contact Valerie Palmer on the number below.

The May/June Parish News contained an obituary for Catherine Hamlin and we reported her sad death in the Frant Parish Friendship article. She was special to us as her Addis Ababa Fistula hospital was the recipient of our Knit and Natter's blankets.

We were introduced to the need for these blankets by our member Annette Carruthers who was a great friend of Catherine Hamlin.

Our Knit and Natter group are continuing to send their finished blankets to Ethiopia.

The photo above shows some of the blankets in production. Sadly Mary and Jenny are no longer with us, but there are several young Ethiopians who will



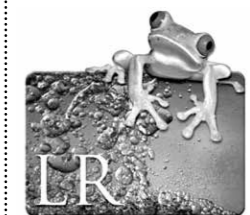
be forever grateful to the two knitters. Anyone wishing to join in this activity please contact Vivienne Waters on 01892 752110. Unfortunately due to Covid and social distancing it is, at the moment, a Knit and Natter group without the natter!

We are also pleased to report that we have been awarded two grants to further our work in the community. One from the Schoolhouse Trust for educational purposes and the other from Gatwick Airport Authority for Group activities. We will be able to use these monies to invigorate the Group's social activities as soon as there is an opportunity. These very generous gifts are much appreciated.

Hopefully things will gradually return to normal and we shall be able to meet again very soon.

—Valerie Palmer 01892 750559

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## Parish Diary January/February 2021

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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:juliedanielle@hotmail.co.uk)  
*Frant Parish Friendship Group*  
Brian Gill: 750266  
*Frant Film*  
Colin Steadman:  
[colin.h.steadman@gmail.com](mailto:colin.h.steadman@gmail.com)  
*Frant and Eridge Church Office*  
01892 752261;  
[office@frantanderidgechurches.org.uk](mailto:office@frantanderidgechurches.org.uk)  
*Frant Open Spaces Group*  
Jan Steadman:  
[steadman.jan@gmail.com](mailto:steadman.jan@gmail.com)  
*Frant Memorial Hall*  
Brian Gill: 750266  
*Clerk, Frant Parish Council*  
Rosie Karim:  
[www.frant-pc.gov.uk](http://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](http://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 Mephram: 891426  
*BYG Village Hall Hire*  
Chris Bacon: [crbacon79@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:william.rutherford@frant-pc.gov.uk)

### Frant Ward

Anne Frances:  
[ann-frances.luther@frant-pc.gov.uk](mailto:ann-frances.luther@frant-pc.gov.uk)  
Johanna Howell: 750141  
[johanna.howell@frant-pc.gov.uk](mailto:johanna.howell@frant-pc.gov.uk)  
Debbie Park: 319906  
[deborah.park@frant-pc.gov.uk](mailto:deborah.park@frant-pc.gov.uk)  
William Rutherford: 752254

### BYG Ward

Stuart Crookshank: 518631  
[stuart.crookshank@frant-pc.gov.uk](mailto:stuart.crookshank@frant-pc.gov.uk)  
Andy Macdonald-Brown: 891273  
[andrew.macdonald-brown@frant-pc.gov.uk](mailto:andrew.macdonald-brown@frant-pc.gov.uk)  
Sue Wallis: 750635  
[susan.wallis@frant-pc.gov.uk](mailto:susan.wallis@frant-pc.gov.uk)

### Eridge Ward

Andrew Best: 5279319

### Clerk to the Council

Rosie Karim: 01892 653357  
[clerk@frant-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@frant-pc.gov.uk)  
or [www.frant.info](http://www.frant.info)

### Wealden District Councillor

Keith Obbard: 07941 578 427  
[cllr.keith.obbard@wealden.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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/](http://www.sussex.police.uk/wealden/)

### Parish News can be downloaded

from: [www.frantchurch.org](http://www.frantchurch.org)  
or [www.eridgechurch.org](http://www.eridgechurch.org)  
Advertising enquiries: 750285 or [susan.piccioni@btinternet.com](mailto:susan.piccioni@btinternet.com)  
Contributions for our next issue should be sent to the Editor:  
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or 01892 750217  
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