

Parish News

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF FRANT, ERIDGE & BELLS YEW GREEN



'Bayham Abbey', by Lindsey Renton, via Flickr

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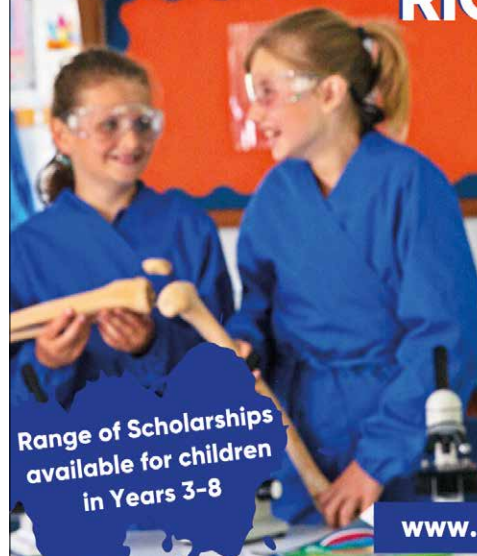
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From the Rectory



Roll on summer!

I write to you as lockdown eases (we pray for the final time!). It has been incredible to see the rate of work and progress with the vaccinations, and I know a number of people who have been involved in administering the vaccine program locally, which has been amazingly well put together. In the midst of the tragedy of sickness and loss, a triumph of science and community. Prayers for the continued safety and rollout over the next months.

My aim this year is to savour the everyday things which we lost. The blessing of the everyday we took for granted, but now we must savour our meeting together with friends and our communities. I don't think till now I appreciated the wonder and God's goodness shown in our everyday experience.

Summers coming, and already some people can meet outside, which is fantastic. At our churches we are keen to do as much as we can outside, not only as it's safer with covid, but it's just great to be outside together, particularly as the weather improves into summer. Eridge

church will meet outside on warm days in the memorial garden, which gives an amazing relaxed and inviting space to meet and worship.

Festival Church is also back in May, our outdoor service 5pm in the rectory paddock. Last year this was hugely popular with up to 30 children split into two groups joining us for outdoor Forest School style Sunday club, with Bible stories around the fire, and woodland crafts and games. Booking will be needed for children, but adults can just turn up.

The Stables Hall will be back we hope later in May for groups and bookings as our community begins to be able to come together.

In 2021 we have designated at church as a "year of community". Join with us as we rebuild the community that has been on hold for so long, and as we seek to grow back a deeper and stronger community than ever before! I am so looking forward to seeing everyone again.

After a year of YouTube services and Zoom meetings, I really look forward to seeing you in person over the summer!

—Rev Brendan

News from the Pews

From 14th March we were back in church for services, one year to the day from when the church was closed for the first lockdown. We were still only permitted to have services of said morning prayer, with social distancing and no singing, but after six months it was good to welcome people back into church. On Maundy Thursday a very beautiful service commemorating the Last Supper, was conducted on-line by Imtiaz and members of the charity Release International. On Good Friday and Easter Sunday there were services in church as well as on-line. The main Sunday service continued to be on-line with viewing numbers remaining consistently high. Ed continued to do short illustrated and very imaginative presentations of the bible readings for the children. At the time of writing, we are looking forward to May 2nd, from which date the main services including communion will be in church. Festival Church, which is held in the Rectory paddock and which children will once more be permitted to attend, will also resume at 5pm on that Sunday.

You may have noticed the activity on the piece of land in the north west corner of the churchyard, which for many years has been overgrown and inaccessible. It is hoped to utilise this area for youth and other activities while retaining as far as possible the bio diversity of the land. Archery is one activity for which the land may be used, as Ed Pascoe has now completed the training and is qualified as an archery instructor, if you'll forgive the obvious pun, this has given Ed yet another string to his bow! Along with Forest School and Festival church we see this as an important addition in developing a unique rural ministry in Frant. As mentioned in earlier Parish News items, we are probably the smallest Parish numerically in the Diocese, making it a constant challenge for us to compete with the big town Parishes which have far more staff, resources and facilities than we can offer, so we see this lively and flourishing rural ministry as our future.

Following the death of the Duke of Edinburgh, we had intended to have a book of condolence available in church for people to sign, but in the present circumstances this was not permitted. However the church remained open during the day for personal prayers and quiet remembrance. At the service on



Sunday 11th April prayers of thanks were said for the life and service of the Duke and prayers were said for the Queen at this time of great loss sadness. Also a time of silence was observed.

Over the past year, I have written several brief obituaries for members of our congregation and community, some of whom have been in their 80s and 90s and 2 of whom were over 100 years old. Earlier this year Betty Leefe, a member of our congregation and community for many years, died at the age of 102. Her niece, Caroline Auckland, passed on to me a few details of Betty's life which brought home to me how interesting and varied were the lives of these, who we only knew when they were old and frail, who lived before and through the war years. Betty's story is particularly interesting.

She, with her late husband Craggs, was one of the first residents of Home Farm Court, where she lived until the inevitable frailty of age caught up and she moved to Cornford House Care Home in Pembury for the last years of her life. That life started during the Spanish flu pandemic in 1918 and ended during another pandemic the Covid 19 in 2021. Betty was born in Rochester in April 1918 two weeks after her father's death in action in Flanders. The family moved to Hove in 1938 then to Bedfordshire after the bombing. She was employed as a civilian at Bletchley Park in hut 3, where, being a fluent German speaker, she translated German naval codes, and worked on the Enigma codes coming from the German submarines. She didn't even know that she was in a place called Bletchley Park so secret was the nature of the work and so rigorous the training. However, at weekends she and her friend Liz were able to go into the nearest town, which we now know was Newport Pagnell for lively evenings in the bar of the stylish but very respectable Swan Hotel. They were also able to go to London to meet officers

on leave for wild but stylish evenings at the Embassy Club, The Berkeley Buttery and the Savoy Hotel, where they danced the weekends away. They wore their most glamorous civilian dresses and had to invent plausible stories of who they were and what they did. Betty rather mysteriously left Bletchley Park after being ostensibly recruited to the FANY (First Aid Nursing Yeomanry), a cover for those women who were actually recruited secretly into SOE (The Special Operations Executive). The stories of these brave women, all working undercover in occupied Europe were later published with some being made into films.

In later years she worked at the Thomas Delarue School for gifted disabled young people in Tonbridge acting as an amanuensis (writer and aid) for students. She worked there for 25 years during which her talent for languages enabled her to learn both Greek and Hebrew in order to assist one student to take her preliminary Exam in Divinity at the University of London. Some of us will remember well Betty's high standard when it came to appearance, with clothes and make up always co-ordinated and correct, so she didn't receive visitors before 11am when she was always ready with a smile, greeting visitors with the words 'now tell me what has been happening'. Betty had a fine singing voice and served our church in many ways including as a member of our choir. She could talk about any subject with knowledge and confidence and also had a sharp and quite saucy sense of humour which often spiced up meetings and choir practices. Betty had her share of personal sorrow in her life which she carried quietly and with dignity. I'd like to think that the positive attitude and zest for life shown by Betty and so many of her generation will inspire and encourage us through our own struggles and challenges.

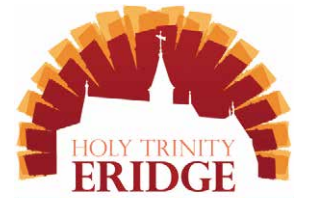
St Alban's, Frant & Holy Trinity, Eridge

Rector

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



www.frantchurch.org
Churchwardens
 Jane Emler—532233



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

Services for

May / June 2021

Our main services are back in person in May:

St. Albans, Frant	9:30 am
Holy Trinity, Eridge	11:15 am
Festival Church	5:00 pm

No need for adults now to pre-book services, just turn up!

Festival Church Kids need to sign up through the website as limited numbers.

Plus a short online service on our YouTube channel - search Frant Church.

WORSHIP AT BELLS YEW GREEN

Sunday Services: 10.30am
 Good Friday service at 10.30am; Bible Study & Prayer: Thursdays, 7.30pm
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Married for 65 years – Congratulations!

Margaret Grinham to Raymond Norton at St Alban's Church, Frant on 31st March 1956. The reception was held at The Abergavenny Arms.

Margaret lived in Down Lane and went to Frant School aged 5, then won a scholarship to Tunbridge Wells County Grammar School leaving at 16 to work in the animal research laboratories in Ely Grange.

Raymond farmed with his father, Arable and Dairy, at Dodhurst Farm, Hawkenbury. They met at Frant Young Farmers Club which, with Raymond being the Chairman, was laughingly called the marriage bureau by the locals. He was also Chairman of The Frant National Farmers Union.

They were blessed with two daughters Sheila and Angela who were both Christened at St Alban's Church. They moved to Surrey in 1969 and, following their retirements in 2000, now live very happily in Godalming.

Frant Parish Friendship Group

If everything goes according to plan we will be returning to our monthly meetings in the Autumn. With this in mind we have booked dates for September 23rd and October 28th in the Stables and will be arranging speakers. Of course this all depends on the Government's Road Map and we will be updating members accordingly.

However in the meantime just to keep the little grey cells active we are setting out below a quiz – unfortunately no prizes but hope this does give some pleasure!!

1. Which Cathedral did the Victorian art critic John Ruskin consider "out and out the most precious piece of architecture in the British Isles"? Picture clue below.
2. Which living author has had the most films adapted from his or her work?
3. Who did Diana Mitford- of the Mitford sisters marry at the home of Joseph Goebbels, with Adolf Hitler as guest of honour?
4. Who until February was the manager of Celtic?
5. At the start of Hamlet, who's the king of Denmark?
6. Which long-running cartoon cat was created by Jim Davis?
7. "Take me Out" – taken from their prizewinning eponymous debut album of 2004 – is the biggest hit single by which Scottish band?
8. Who was the only woman among four presenters of the 1980s prank show Game for a Laugh?
9. Which salad invented in Mexico in 1924- now usually contains anchovies, even though they weren't in the original recipe?

10. What became the highest mountain in the US in 1959 when Alaska joined the Union?

Answers on Page 13.
 Valerie Palmer 01892 750559

The Weald Federation – caretaker vacancy

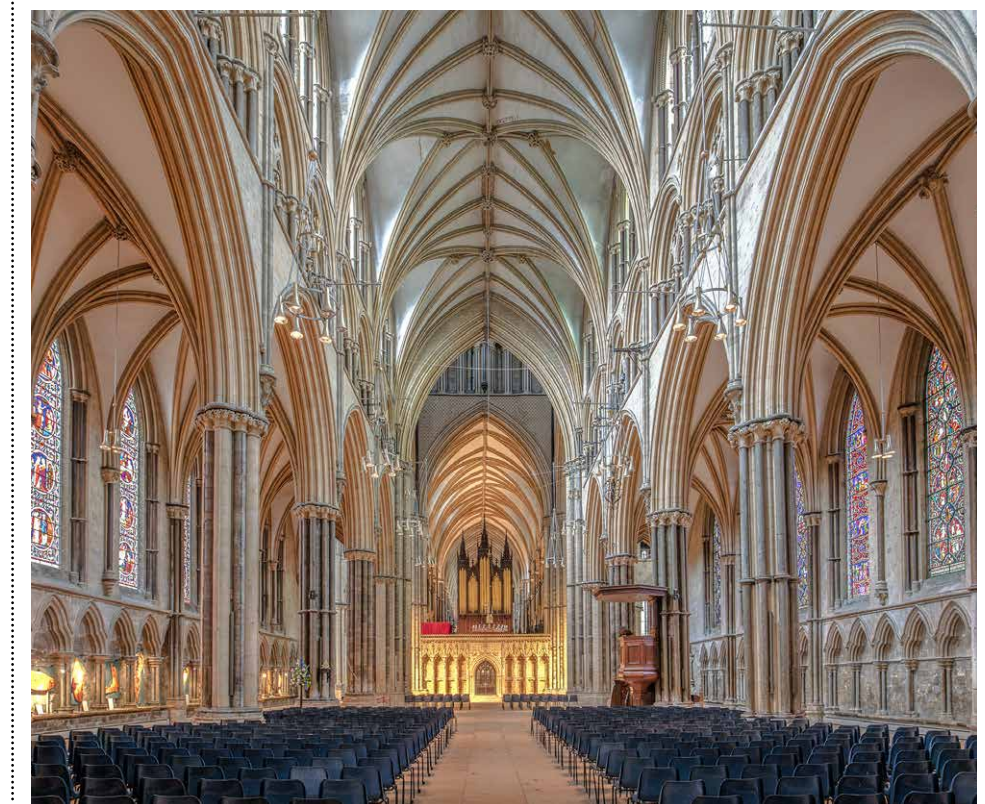
The Weald Federation of schools includes Frant and Mark Cross Schools, Five Ashes and Mayfield Church of England Schools.

There is currently a vacancy for a full time Caretaker. Details as follows:

Federation Caretaker
 at Weald Federation schools
 (Hourly rate - £9.43)

- » Frant - 10 hours a week
 7 – 9 am Monday to Friday
- » Mark Cross - 8 hours a week
 7 – 9 am Mon, Tues to Thur 7 – 8.30 am,
 Fri 7.30 – 9 am
- » Mayfield - 12 hours a week
 7 – 9.40 am Mon, Tues to Fri 7 – 9.20 am
- » Five Ashes - 6 hours a week
 7 – 9 am Mon, Tues to Fri 7 – 8.10 am

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 office@thewealdfederation.org





Parish News: Updates and vacancies

» Deadlines

Believe it or not, there is quite a large team behind the production and delivery of this magazine. To begin with, there would be no magazine without the contributions we receive to publish in each edition. These include our regulars as well as one off articles – all of which are hugely appreciated and ensures the magazine is filled with enough variety to appeal to our diverse readership.

A gentle reminder of the deadlines for each publication is 10th of the month before publication – ie February, April, June, August, October. I do gently nudge those of you who have requested I do so; however, if you could make a note in your calendars to send articles to me by this date it would be really helpful. Carmel.kinley@gmail.com

Once the articles are collated, I send them off to our page designer, Jonathan Christie, who transforms them from a word document to the excellent layout you see in print.

» Advertising

For many years, Sue Piccioni has been working hard behind the scenes to keep our advertising thriving! She has done an excellent job, ensuring that all of our spaces are filled each year which an essential source of revenue to keep the magazine going.

Thank you so much from us all, Sue.

Sue is now stepping down from this role so we are seeking a replacement for her. Here is her note on what the role includes:

“Basically the job falls into 2 parts: The advertising year has traditionally run from January to December so I set up the adverts from mid-October and aim to have this done by early December. I email all current advertisers with the offer of space and take it from there. Also dealing with any enquiries for adverts which can come through from time to time. I liaise closely with Jonathan and the advertisers to ensure the adverts are set up correctly.

Issuing the invoices and checking the bank account for payments - most of the invoices are sent out by email but some are mailed. I normally do this in February but due to the lockdown I’ve

sent them later. I then liaise with the church office to monitor the payments and follow up any that are overdue.

If you have some spare time and the necessary administrative expertise to take this on, we would be extremely grateful. Please email frantchurch@mg.churchsuite.com

» Printing

We have been really grateful to our printer, Colin Webb (a Parish resident) who has for many years been doing a sterling job in printing the magazine. It is through Colin’s gentle persuasion that we went from a black and white magazine on plain paper, to a partial and now full colour glossy magazine. Many have commented on the high standard of the finished article and it has only been possible as Colin has maintained incredible reasonable rates through all of these changes.

If you have any printing requirements (including, for example, banners, flyers, brochures and so much more) do contact Colin. For details visit www.lr2k.co.uk

» Distribution

Thank you to the large team of volunteers who put the magazines through doors throughout the Parish. It really is much appreciated.

I am pleased to welcome to the team Joanna Bladon who is taking over from Ethne McCrae for the Bells Yew Green round and Liz Cocoran who is going to deliver them to residents at Nobles Wood. Recently, Julia Aisher took over the Eridge round. Thank you all very much. —Carmel Kinley

The Paper “Boy”

He comes to us silently, by night. Few people have ever seen him. But come rain or shine, frost or snow, hurricane or flood, our newspapers are there, on the mat, on the step or in the mailbox.

Delivered, without fail, early each day, by Roger the “paperboy”.

Until recently I could have written that I had never met him, but one morning, during last year’s glorious summer, I was up at dawn and saw this elusive figure. It was Roger, he does exist, not a figment of the collective imagination.

I must add that the news has not always been good, test matches lost, suspect tries scored, goals denied by

VAR. But Roger delivers the news, we must not hold him responsible for the content. And now the latest news, a seismic shock to the community, Roger is retiring, handing in his bicycle and postbag. He has been doing his round for the last 21 years, I have calculated that he has delivered approximately 1.45 tons of newspapers to my home, fortunately not in one drop.

I have no idea how many customers he serves, but the total weight must be staggering (literally). Maybe Roger can work it out in his retirement and let us know. Roger often had a coffee with David Addey, at the end of his deliveries. Sadly David is no longer with us, but I know how much he valued and enjoyed his chats with Roger.

I have often wondered whether Roger reads the paper, maybe he has a Kindle!

So, I certainly wish Roger a happy retirement and I am sure that all his other customers pass the same the same kind thoughts to him. A fan of the printed word. —Greig Bannerman

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

The children are back in school, there is laughter and learning taking place in all corners of the school. It is wonderful to see and hear.

School reopened to all children on the 8th March with eager parents and smiling children. The children have settled back into school life really well. They have enjoyed seeing their friends again and have engaged with the learning in a positive and ‘can do’ manner.

During the latter part of term 4 we focused additional time on establishing school rules, managing friendships and relationships with each other as well as responding to any wellbeing issues. We have been fortunate in being able to set up a few nurture groups across the whole school and will continue with these going forward. Our new laptops (thanks to a kind donation from a former Frant School family), are in constant use around the school and are providing that extra support to the children in their learning. With some added software to develop writing we are able to support children in getting their ideas down onto paper, worrying less about the spelling and the

formation of the letters.

As part of the settling back into school life, we have continued with single year group PE lessons for the majority of lessons with Mrs Douch. We are endeavouring to provide as much team sport, skills enhancement and stamina building as we can over the coming terms. We held inter house competitions at the end of the term and will be arranging more over the weeks ahead. School clubs are running again with a wide range of activities on offer.

Our PTFA organised a very successful Easter Egg hunt in school during the last week of term, which was well received by the children! We also managed to organise for individual and class photos to be taken in school. The children all looked amazing.

At the end of term 4, we said goodbye to Mrs Debbie Bennett, our Executive Headteacher, who will be taking up consultancy posts around the County. We wish her well and thank her for all she has done for the Weald Federation. The Heads of School within the Weald Federation will take on the roles of Acting Head Teachers, working with the Governing Board to ensure continuity and success in achieving our goals until this September, when our new Executive Head Teacher takes up her appointment. Mrs Lawrence’s previous role was that of Head Teacher at the Wells Free School in Tunbridge Wells. She played a major part in its establishment before leaving to pursue further academic qualifications. We look forward to welcoming her to Frant School in due course.

We are still not in a position to invite parents into school for whole school events and so will be continuing to offer events remotely. We have already held virtual meetings covering Online Safety and secondary school applications, which included information on the 11+. Plans for the summer terms include transition to year R and year 7 events as well as a further updates on social media usage for children and parents in year 6. Plans for whole school events for term 6 will be confirmed in the coming weeks.

I hope you have enjoyed reading our news. 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.

Take care and keep safe.
—Mrs Challis, Head of School



News from Nus Ghani, MP

I am sure that like me, you were deeply saddened to hear the news of the death of His Royal Highness Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh, last month. In Parliament, I joined the Prime Minister in paying tributes to His Royal Highness and on behalf of Wealden I humbly sent our heartfelt sympathies to Her Majesty.

His Royal Highness dedicated his life to public service and devoted himself to The Queen, the country and the Commonwealth. His legacy will continue to provide support and spirit to generations to come across the world. The Duke will be fondly remembered and greatly missed by the people of Wealden as he had so many long links to the area, especially his support for developing young people’s outdoor skills. The Duke was a Patron of two local outdoor youth projects – Hindleap Warren, nestled in the Ashdown Forest, and Bowles Rocks, located near Eridge.

I had the pleasure of meeting His Royal Highness and he was always very charming with a hint of mischief. I was on the receiving end of his frank banter when he shook my hand and declared

that “MPs were just getting younger and younger these days!” – I took it as a compliment! He was one of those rare people that could span generations and backgrounds with his encouragement and infectious optimism.

If our small interactions with The Duke had such a lasting effect, one cannot imagine the impact of the loss on Her Majesty The Queen, having had 73 years of companionship from her loving husband. The Prince was a modern man and recognised his role to his leading wife. In a letter from their honeymoon The Prince speaks of his ambition to “weld the two of us into a new combined existence that will not only be able to withstand the shocks directed at us, but also have a positive existence for good”.

The power of this existence has done a huge good over the last seven decades and we will be forever grateful for the invaluable contributions to public service. The Duke will be fondly remembered and much missed. My thoughts and prayers are with Her Majesty The Queen and the Royal Family. God save The Queen.
—Nus Ghani, MP



Frant Parish Council.

The Parish Council is still meeting by Zoom, but please remember it is easy to attend if you have any issues to raise at the Public Forum, just click the link by way of the Parish Council website and join the meeting! While talking about participation it is worth reminding everyone that the Parish Council is short of Councillors and so anyone interested in becoming a Parish Councillor should contact the Clerk as we want representation from across the Parish.

Since this Monday 12th April pubs and shops in the Parish have opened up again and with Spring arriving, laced with the odd snow shower, we hope warmer weather will be a chance to support these local businesses. In Frant the new buildings at Fern Close (above) are coming out of the ground and the pedestrian crossing scheme is being worked upon, there will be a chance to review the crossing designs that are being drawn up. Also tenders are being sought for work on The Green to replace the wooden sleepers and posts that protect the road verges. Protecting The Green is a continual battle and the Council have looked at a number of options but remedial work is the only affordable option at present.

Planning is busy again after the lull in applications during 2020 and of particular interest to Frant Parish is

the recently published Tunbridge Wells Borough Draft Plan. This is important as there is increasing pressure on the Tunbridge Wells boundary, whether the succession of recent developments on the border of Bells Yew Green or the new proposal to take land next to the A26 by Ramslye out of the Green Belt for housing. It is worth reading this document. Wealden District Council's draft plan should also be forthcoming soon and our MP, Nus Ghani has raised

the issue of housing targets in Wealden with the Housing Minister. Anyone who is interested should write to Wealden District Council and get involved in this process as it will shape the landscape of the Parish.

With the better Spring weather it is worth visiting Broadwater Warren, in particular to hear the nightjars (below) that arrive in mid May, their churring at dusk will be evidence that Summer is with us again.



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The Arts Society Ashdown Forest

Thursday 13th May 2021 at 2pm

Lecturer: James Butterwick

Title: Provenance Matters

With the opening of Russia post-glasnost came a huge surge of interest in the Russian Avant Garde. Previously-unknown artists, Malevich, Popova, Filonov, Kliun and Lissitsky among them, became famous and much sought-after by the new Russian-buying public. With their reappearance however, came an industrial-scale level of faking of their pictures, together with other artists of the period, often with the connivance, unwitting or otherwise, of Western and Russian experts.

Reputed specialists have estimated that as many as 95% of pictures on the market are unacceptable to any leading auction house, museum or dealer. This lecture will examine the evidence for and against such paintings, usually devoid of provenance and exhibition history, including attempts to “sneak them under-the-radar”, through exhibitions in Western institutions, as well as attempts to use the Western judicial system and fake news to help “legalise” the works.

The various attempts by specialists untainted by scandal to cleanse the market will also be examined with special attention paid to the 2017 exhibition of Russian Avant Garde at the Ghent Museum of Fine Arts which was closed by Belgian Police.

James Butterwick began collecting and selling Russian Art in 1985 and has established himself as one of the world's leading experts. He moved to Moscow in 1994, becoming the only foreign member of the Russian Society of Private Collectors and began forming collections, taking part in museum exhibitions and lecturing on Russian Art, including at the Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow and the Museum of Russian Impressionism.

James acts as a source of museum quality paintings with flawless provenance of both the Russian and European School and has access to all the leading experts, private collections and museums in any area of the arts. He travels regularly to Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan where, in October 2013, he opened an exhibition of leading Impressionist paintings.

In 2015 James became the first gallery



Above: *Sharpening Saws*, 1927, Alexander Bogomazov. Below: James Butterwick

dealing in early 20th century Russian Art to be invited to exhibit at TEFAF, Maastricht – selling four works to the Kröller-Müller Museum. The following year saw a much-heralded personal exhibition of the Ukrainian avant-garde artist, Alexander Bogomazov (1880-1930) with further sales to both Kröller-Müller and subsequently to the Arkansas Art Centre. James also exhibited at the first TEFAF New York fair in 2017.

We look forward to hearing what we should look for when buying our next Russian artwork!

Our lectures are currently available to members via Zoom, but if you would like to join please contact our Membership Secretary on 01892 663388 or email afdfasnews@gmail.com



Woof Meanderings

Ohhhh I write this with much sadness, Julio The Brahma Cockerel was attacked by a very brazen fox early yesterday morning as he was having a morning pootle around the run. There was then a rushed call to the Emergency Vet and a flying journey over to try and get him treated. It seemed as though possibly with some stitching there may have been a possibility, plus The Owner's determination to keep him going. Having begged the Vet to please try anything to save him as he was so special to everyone, after the Vet took him off she came back to say his neck was dislocated on closing inspection. The Poor Owner and The Child were both so upset. There were many tears, but we all had to be brave and to let him go. I was not really sure what to do, but sat in the back of the car quietly and tried to be comforting with my being there, feeling rather sad myself too as there was a rather wonderful, kindly presence always about Julio and everyone admired his 'handsomeness' so much.

There is such a subdued feeling and sad aura surrounding home still today, particularly poor Petula whose feathers even seem to have rather deflated. Although many will say, 'well he was

only a cockerel' but he was such an uplifting and joyful energy to everyone as he was so gentle and despite being so enormous, never once did he ever try and be pushy or obtuse to anyone and most surprisingly not to me, as I would quite often try and nab some of his treats. Dear chap, he had lifted everyone's spirits in these tricky times.

As I pottered around the garden today, I was warmed by the sun that was out and the daffodils surrounding us in the garden and drive are quite spectacular. Every year as you will recall, The Owner gets so over excited about them and marvels at all the different variations and colours that we are so blessed with as they come back year after year after all the rain and frosts of the winter. There is always much huffing and puffing though when it comes to mowing around them, as much patience required to let them die right off in order for them to come back the following year, hence lots of manorvering with the mower. Mind you, The Pony did push through the fence today eyeing up the longer grass (he is currently on a diet) and had a lovely munch on it. Although, he then nearly launched through the large flower bed planted last Spring, but fortunately The Child went off in hot pursuit of him and a catastrophe was avoided.

The Geese have been laying well still, but there is much scrapping going on with the two ganders Martin and Stan. The victor does seem to be Stan as he is enormous and is quite fierce suddenly. Even The Owner gets pecked by him when she goes to collect the eggs, but refuses to run away holding her ground and with some gentle persuasion, slowly steps away from the nests managing to persuade him that she does need to leave the stable quietly and not run at speed! Frankly, I stand well back as they keep trying to peck at my tail suddenly. I did hear even The Owner saying that she may have to find Stan another home with some new wives, as he is so beastly to Martin who was the original gander and Stan was actually brought as a goose not a gander!

I was in such trouble the other day as The Owner met up with The Dear Friend for a walk down at the sea very early on a Sunday morning. They were hugely excited about it all and there had been much planning and Tide Table checking. The Dear Friend (always very organised) had prepared breakfast 'on the walk' in

a jar and armed with their trusty coffee cups off we all went across the glorious beach. As ever, there was much yakking away from them both and I was so enjoying running around with her two dogs, but then Freddie then decided to bound off and go and sniff around a group of Fishermen's bait, so I thought 'oh marvellous, let me investigate also'.

Clearly, I decided not to listen The Owner calling me back as this was highly exciting. I then found a gloriously 'fish wafty' rod bag which I felt (now totally ignoring The Owner shouting at me by this point) was perfectly ready for a quick 'leg lift' on the end of it. Well, most disappointingly, The Grumpy Fisherman whose bag it was, did not appreciate this at all. The Owner apologised profusely, but still this was not good enough, so she took off her glove, strode down to the sea and then came back to wash his bag off with the soaked glove from my tiny pretend tiddle. There was no appeasing The Grumpy Fisherman who was not even accepting her washing it off. So, off we all walked rather deflated as both I and Freddie were on the lead and in big trouble for being so badly behaved and not listening to either Owner.

Fortunately, we have both been taken down the sea again but we are now put on the leads at the mere sight of a Fisherman in the dread of a repeat performance from either of us.

The Owner is slightly obsessed with the morning light and loves the bright start so early in the mornings with the birds all singing so wonderfully. It does give an uplift to the day and I love to go out early rushing around and smelling all the overnight tracks from everyone around. We have a pair of Buzzards and there is much oooing and aaaaahing that goes on watching them first thing in the morning. They are almost waiting in the same spot for us to arrive it seems and then they fly off and start their wonderful 'ballerina dance' as a lovely friend described it. Sometimes if I do decide to listen and go quietly before they spot us, you can see them with their wings stretched out on the ground warming them up in the early morning sunshine drying off the dew that has gathered on their feathers.

I am now feeling most uplifted as The Owner has just told me that we will see My Dearest Dolly tomorrow as her Owner is coming over for a walk and that will definitely mean a glass or two of

wine for them in the garden after. That sounds perfectly lovely, as we can have a snooze laying amongst the daffodils together after our walk as the sun sets on another day and we can think about the symbolism of the daffodil in our minds being the sign of new beginnings, as the broody hens sit on their eggs with hopefully descendants of the lovely Julio brewing away as I nestle to snooze beside Dear Dolly...

Eridge Fair 4th July 2021

The Eridge Fair Committee are thrilled to announce that you can now buy your 2021 advance Eridge Fair tickets online via Eventbrite (search: Eridge Fair 2021). Buy your tickets before 19th June 2021 to be in with a chance of winning tickets to Black Deer Festival held at Eridge Park 25th-27th June!

Donations of good quality items for our stalls can now be delivered to Birchden Farm, Groombridge. Please see our Facebook page for more information.

Answers to Frant Parish Friendship Group Quiz, page 7

1. Lincoln
2. Stephen King
3. Oswald Mosley
4. Neil Lennon
5. Claudius
6. Garfield
7. Franz Ferdinand
8. Sarah Kennedy
9. Caesar Salad
10. Mount McKinley (now called Denali)

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Parish Diary May/June 2021

» Stables Hall reopening

Expected from 17th May, but some groups limited and still require social distancing/rule of 6. From 21st June restrictions are expected to lift for all groups. Subject to the government road map of easing restrictions.

Useful contacts

Frant

Frant CofE Primary School
Joanna Challis: 750243
Frant Sunday Club
Ed Pascoe: frant youth@gmail.com
Frant Bowls Club
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Frant Cricket Club
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Eridge

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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
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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

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/

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Bob Standley: 783579
cllr.robert.standley@wealden.gov.uk

County Councillor

Bob Standley: 783579

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

Parish News can be downloaded

from: www.frantchurch.org
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susan.piccioni@btinternet.com
Contributions for our next issue should be sent to the Editor:
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or 01892 750217
Next deadline: 10th June 2021

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:
frant youth@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).

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