

Parish News

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF FRANT, ERIDGE & BELLS YEW GREEN



A Dartford Warbler at RSPB Broadwater Warren by John Phillips. See page 10

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From the Rectory



One of the things the pandemic taught me was the importance of being with each other and meeting together. As humans we are built for relationships and friendships, it is part of who we are, so when the pandemic made that difficult, it affected us very deeply.

The campaign to End Loneliness found that people were lonelier now than before the pandemic, and it might surprise you that young people are generally more likely to be lonely with over 1 million 16-29-year-olds who are chronically lonely.

The governments Tackling Loneliness Annual Report this year, showed that people have less life satisfaction and self-worth than the year before, and 5% of people said that if they needed help, they had no-one who would be there for them. With increased anxiety over cost of living I can only imagine this will be compounded. I find it deeply sad that this is such a big issue for people in every place and age bracket.

Off the back of this, one of the things we are trying to do in church is invest in our pastoral care work. "Pastoral" I think is a lovely word, because it has its roots in the idea of a shepherd caring for sheep, looking out for them and bringing them what they need. Jesus said "I am the Good Shepherd" in John 10, as such, Jesus leads us, provides for us, cares

for us, and he even says he lays down his life for the sheep, looking towards the cross he would go to.

As a church we want to be inspired by the example of Jesus, to pastorally care for those around us. I am very aware that people are so often struggling physically or mentally, and we want to care for the whole person. Although our NHS tries to support some of those acute needs, it can sometimes be hard to find help in those more enduring everyday struggles. We don't want that to be the case here.

This year as a church we commissioned Caroline Creedy Smith, a qualified nurse, to be our voluntary Pastoral Care Coordinator. We have a vision to build a pastoral care team and try to offer everyone in our villages the care that they need when they encounter difficulties or when life is a struggle. We aren't professionals who can do counselling, but we want to be a listening ear and a friend.

My prayer is that no-one in our villages would be able to say that they had no-one to turn to if they needed help. My prayer is that no-one will feel isolated or lonely as part of our community. We will endeavour to help if we can. If you want someone to speak to, Caroline, myself or a dedicated member of our team would love to help. Just get in touch with the church office.

— Reverend Brendan Martin

News from the Pews

Our major concern during the last two months has been the theft in June of lead from the south side of the church roof (pictured right). The big questions have been - should we replace with lead or, in light of the possibility of theft again, choose an alternative material? Who will we employ to carry out the work; how can we protect it more adequately in the future? And of course in view of the short fall in insurance cover, how will we find the money to pay for it? An important element in all these deliberations is the time scale. The roof, which is at present covered by heavy duty plastic, has to be weatherproof before the winter or we risk the very serious damage that ingress of rain water would cause to the fabric of the church. This has come at the worst possible time when our reserves are significantly depleted on account of the sudden decrease in our income during the times of lockdown when we were unable to raise funds in the usual way. No Sunday collections in church, no income from letting the Stables and no concerts or other fundraising events, so in order to pay the bills we dipped deeply into our reserves. Although things are now picking up, we're still running at a considerable deficit each month. The routine maintenance of the fabric of any historic building is always an expensive and ongoing business, in this case a deliberate act of vandalism



and destruction for gain has added to the burden. You may have had a flyer dropped through your door explaining the situation and asking for your support or seen publicity for the concert in October by the Budapest Café Orchestra (pictured below).

On a happier note, in the last few weeks we've had three more weddings and a baptism. In July Emma Gibson and Samuel Jones were married at St Albans, and in August Hannah Murphy, whose family have lived in Frant for many years, married William Stephens. A week later on one of the hottest days of the summer, Samuel Drury and Amy Grenham were married. On 7th August, baby Alice Willing brought her family and friends along to the morning service to witness her baptism. Alice accepted the whole procedure very calmly and by the end of the service was fast asleep.

Youth worker Ed reports - At the end of term there was a service in church for the year six school leavers and their families. Each pupil was presented with a Youth Bible which we hope will sustain and guide them in their growth and walk with Jesus.

On the last Sunday before Festival Church broke for the summer, we held a Festival Church social in the paddock. We shared a time of worship, ate our picnics and played games in the glorious sunshine. Festival Church returns in September, why not come along and give it a go?

In August we put on our first 'Dads and kids' event. We had archery competitions, cooked burgers and sausages over a fire pit and enjoyed a great time together. It was good to see the dads getting to know each other and seeing the dads and kids as family groups.

Ed says a huge thank you to all the volunteers who have helped with our Youth Ministry over the last academic year and hopes that a good summer has been had by all.

Fundraising for the church roof: A very successful fundraising supper was held at Woodside on Friday 19th August. Over fifty guests enjoyed the beautiful lakeside view while chatting to old and new friends over a glass of wine and a slice of quiche. £1200 plus was raised in aid of repairing the church roof after the theft of lead.

Thank you to all that attended and donated, and to Oenone and George Warr for hosting.



St Alban's, Frant & Holy Trinity, Eridge

Rector

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



www.frantchurch.org

Churchwardens

Jane Emler—532233

Juliet Nightingale— 01580 200403



www.eridgechurch.org

Churchwardens

Jonathan Lynn—864304

Stephen Barnes—861302

Services for

September / October 2022

9.30am	Frant as one (All Age Service)	4th September	Communion Service	11.15am
9.30am	Communion Service	11th September	Morning Prayer	11:15am
5.00pm	Festival Church			
9.30am	Morning Service	18th September	Communion Service	11:15am
5.00pm	Festival Church			
9.30am	Morning Service	25th September	Communion Service	11:15am
5.00pm	Festival Church			
9.30am	Harvest Festival	2nd October	Communion Service (All Age Service)	11:15am
9.30am	Communion Service	9th October	Harvest Festival	11:15am
5.00pm	Festival Church		Morning Prayer	
9.30am	Morning Service	16th October	Communion Service	11.15am
5.00pm	Festival Church			
9.30am	Morning Service	23rd October	Communion Service	11.15am
5.00pm	Festival Church			
9.30am	Communion Service	30th October	Morning Prayer	11.15am
5.00pm	Festival Church			

WORSHIP AT BELLSYEW GREEN

Sunday Services: 10.30am & 3.00pm / Bible Study & Prayer: Thursdays, 7.00pm / Enquiries: Peter Arrowsmith, 01892 610309



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Frant Bowls Club
» Finals' Day 2022

A close finish was just what was needed. The finalists fought long and hard. Gradually the victors overcame tough competition in the heat of the day. But, I hear you say, this is not the FA Cup Final, no, but it is our Finals... Frant Bowls Club has just had its first Finals Day after the Covid epidemic.

The day comprised four competitions namely the President's Cup, the Drawn Pairs, the Two Wood and the Open. The entrants' names of all those who wished to enter the Drawn Pairs, the Two Wood and the Open were drawn at random. These three tournaments are played over the previous couple of months. Those members who didn't get through to the various finals had a another great opportunity to compete for and win the President's Cup.

This is a knockout match with names randomly drawn and is played on the bowls green alongside the main competitions. All of the competitions require concentration. The factors which influence the results of a match are the weight of the bowl, its biased trajectory, the effort used to send the bowl down the green and of course the unpredictable characteristics of the bowls green.

A team of members arrived early on Saturday morning to set up the green with score boards, mats, various markers and the little white ball - the jack - which is the target. We even put up some bunting to jolly things along and add colour to the occasion. This annual fixture was well supported by playing members, their partners and other non-

playing guests.

One of the main attractions, apart from watching excellent bowling, was the splendid lunch in the Memorial Hall. Members provided pies, made a variety of salads, dressings, summer pudding, pineapple upside down cake, chocolate cake and fresh strawberries and cream. The lunch which was thoroughly enjoyed by all was accompanied by wine, beer and soft drinks. The day actually began with the Drawn Pairs competition which is played by two couples with four bowls each. This match can take quite a while which was why it started mid-morning.



Top left: Frant Bowls Club in action. Top right: Winners of the Drawn Pairs competition, Audrey Hall and Jeff Holloway. Above: Last end in the Open competition: Michael Freestone (winner), against Chris Hall.



The eventual winners were Audrey Hall and Jeff Holloway. Their challengers were Glenys Dean and Diane Young who put up a strong defence. The three teams for the President's Cup played all their matches with great humour and banter before lunch. The semi-finals and finals of this competition were played after lunch. The winner of the Cup was Elizabeth Holloway.

The Open is the most prestigious competition with all entrants playing their best and hoping to get through to the final. It was an exciting and tough final match between Michael Freestone and Chris Hall both accomplished bowlers. The winner this time was Michael. The Two Wood competition is a tricky one. Each player has only two bowls and has to make each bowl count by placing one or both nearest the jack. Misdirect a bowl and the opponent has an opening to take the lead.

However, this year's worthy winner was Audrey Hall. The Finals Day was a very satisfying event and the winners of the all the competitions were loudly applauded and congratulated. At the end of the afternoon there were many comments on the close finishes and final scores. But then we all relaxed with celebratory drinks and nibbles and congratulated ourselves on another successful event.

It really goes without saying that the members who prepared the lunch, which was excellent, deserve the club's grateful thanks in helping to make the day so successful. Frant Bowls Club Bowling in Frant for more than 100 Years 1922 - 2022

Hospice Run and Starlight Stroll are back!

Hospice in the Weald's much loved Hospice Run, supported by Savills, takes place on Sunday 18th September.

There's something for everyone, with a family-friendly 5k route and a 10k route for those who like a bigger challenge.

Starting from the Lower Cricket Ground, Tunbridge Wells at 9.30am, the circular closed-road routes take in country lanes with chip timing for each runner and a post-run celebration.

The Hospice is also hosting a 6 mile 'Starlight Stroll' on the 15th October to celebrate, remember and honour loved ones. Beginning and ending at the Pembury Hospice, the evening walk, scenic Kent countryside and starlit sky will ensure a magical experience.

Every penny raised through both events will help Hospice in the Weald to provide free life changing care and support to those facing terminal illness and their families in west Kent and East Sussex, so sign up today. For full details, visit www.hospiceintheweald.org.uk

National Association of Flower Arrangers

The Sussex Area of NAFAS (National Association of Flower Arrangers) are holding the Sussex Areas Show at Crowborough Community Centre Crowborough, TN6 1FE on Friday October 28th and Saturday October 29th, 9.30 to 5.30. Entry fee on 28th to view the floral exhibits and craft stands £2. Area day tickets for Saturday £20 for a morning talk and afternoon demonstration by National Demonstrator Dr Christina Curtis. Tickets available: sussexarea2022show@yahoo or call 01903 817187. Refreshments available, cash only.

Frant Parish Friendship Group

The Group visited Battle Abbey (pictured right) on the 16th June on one of the hottest days of the Summer!! However this was a great success in no small part due to Hams Coaches and their wonderful driver who delivered us right to the Abbey Gates and agreed to pick us up earlier than booked due to the heat. In the Abbey grounds there was plenty of shade, a nice cafe and we were able to wander in and out to visit the town and explore the Abbey grounds at

our own pace. The overall result seems to be that everyone had a great day out and probably kept cooler than they would have done in Frant especially peering out at the baking countryside from an air-conditioned coach.

We will be starting the Autumn season with a Tea Party at the George in Frant on 8th September, exercise classes with Alison are due to begin on the 15th September and our first monthly meeting will be on the 22nd September. Our Speaker for the month will be Michael Smith the subject being Captain Francis Crozier's expeditions to the Arctic. Our October meeting will be on the 27th and the subject will be 'More and More Wizardry' given by Chief Wizard Anne Bambridge!

We look forward to seeing everyone again and of course would love to see new members. We meet on the third Thursday of the month in the Stables (next to Frant Church) at 2.30 pm all welcome. Enquiries to Valerie Palmer 01892 750559

Parish Council News

I hope you all have had a good summer and not suffered too much with the heat! It seems such a long time since we enjoyed the Queen's Jubilee celebrations. Hopefully, we will be able to have a street fair and music for Christmas!

The Parish Council have agreed to plant three trees as part of the 'Queen's Canopy' and we will be inviting our MP, Nus Ghani, Christopher Abergavenny and children from Frant School. We propose to plant fruit trees in the parish field.

We still seem to have a lot of people

parking on the Green in Frant. This is prohibited. We are working towards installing more bollards as a preventative measure and we will also put forward a list of works to restore the Green by Shernfold, which has taken a bashing from the developments nearby.

Eridge Green is to be enclosed with a fence and we hope to have an official opening later in the year. Bells Yew Green has taken measures to protect the bund around its green and will be planting up with bulbs for the spring very soon.

We are always looking for new councillors to join the Parish Council. We meet twice a month, once for Full Council and then once for planning. If you would like to join us please contact the Clerk for details (clerk@frant-pc.gov.uk).

Finally, as a spin-off from the Jubilee, the Clerk and I will be holding parish 'surgeries' starting this month, midday on 28th September at the George in Frant. This will be confirmed and appear on our website. Then we will set up future dates at the other pubs in the villages. It is not a formal meeting and no decision can be made, but we can listen to your concerns.

—Johanna Howell

Eridge Summer Concert

On Friday 23rd September, do join us at Eridge Church for a concert enjoying "Songs from the Musicals" by Jennifer Maslin and Friends accompanied by Ophelia Gordon.

Tickets are £20 and include drink and canapes from 6.30pm. To sign up go to <https://frantchurch.churchsuite.com/events/treevgh>



Frant School News

As you read this the children will have returned to school to start a new academic. We welcome our new families as they start on their education journey and wish our leaving pupils all the very best as they move to secondary school within East Sussex and Kent.

We said goodbye to a few staff at the end of the summer term – Mrs Elliott to take up a headship role in Kent, Miss Marshall who will continue on the start of her teaching journey and Mrs Lawrence, our Executive Headteacher.

I am pleased to welcome Mrs Snelling to our teaching team who will be the full-time teacher in our Hazel Class (years 3 and 4). With the departure of Mrs Lawrence I will be taking on responsibilities across the Weald Federation over the coming year and will be supported with leadership responsibilities in Frant by Mrs Davey.

I am delighted and very proud to announce that we were successful in achieving the Platinum Award for Sports this summer. The School Games Mark is a government led awards scheme launched in 2012 to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community. The Platinum Award is the new fourth level of the award scheme, introduced earlier this year to celebrate schools who had shown consistently high-levels of enthusiasm and commitment to school sport. Applications were only open to those schools who achieved five successive annual gold awards.

I would like to thank all the pupils and parents for supporting us in this achievement and the staff for consistently delivering and encouraging all pupils, whatever their sporting level. In particular, I would like to praise Amanda Douch, our PE teacher, for her dedication to sport at Frant School. Amanda works tirelessly to promote the active involvement in PE for all pupils in all year groups from Reception to year 6. We are very much looking forward to a full year of sporting events both in and outside of school, competitive and non-competitive.

Our curriculum is full of exciting topics and events over the coming terms. Please do take a look at our website to find out more. I look forward to sharing our news in the next edition of the Parish 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. With very best wishes.

—Mrs Joanna Challis, Acting Executive Headteacher - Weald Federation

News from Nus Ghani MP

With the summer coming to a close, it's back to school for many Wealden pupils. I am pleased that a number of these pupils will be returning to better facilities that will enhance their learning experience.

Following a fantastic investment of £12.5 million, the Uplands Community College in Wadhurst has constructed a new building with brighter classrooms, new theatre and much improved IT and D&T facilities (pictured above). I was also pleased to officially open their new polymer pitch called Jubilee Court, which was completed as part of the improvements.

Furthermore, I am incredibly proud to have secured government funding for building upgrades at three Wealden schools: Beacon Academy in Crowborough, Hailsham Community College and St Mary's School in Maynard's Green. These allocations are in addition to the £1.3 million already secured for Beacon Academy last year, following two years of continuous campaigning and meetings with the Department for Education. This boost in

funding is a fantastic win for Wealden, and it will be of great benefit to many students and teaching staff.

September also means back to Parliament for me. I look forward to another busy term ahead and to welcoming more Wealden schools to Westminster. Since the parliamentary estate reopened to visitors following the pandemic, I was pleased to host Blackboys, Fletching, Park Mead, Framfield and Hartfield's St Mary The Virgin primary schools, who quizzed me on my role and work as an MP.

Throughout the past year, I was pleased to visit Uckfield College, Ashdown Primary school in Crowborough, Danehill Primary school, Grove Park in Crowborough and Bede's in Upper Dicker, and I hosted the COP26 President at Hailsham Community College. I am always impressed by the topical questions from the floor. It is encouraging to see our young residents engaged in learning more about our democracy, and it is a great testament to the great education that they are receiving at Wealden schools.

I want to ensure that every child in Wealden gets the same education funding and opportunities as pupils across East Sussex and the rest of the country, and I will continue to campaign for more government support for Wealden to ensure that our pupils can thrive in an improved environment and reach their full potential.



Clockwise from top left: Konik ponies grazing on the heath by Alan Loweth. Dormouse by Alan Loweth. Goats by Phil Henderson. Norfolk Hawker by John Phillips. Black Adder by Barry Richardson.

News from RSPB

» **Broadwater Warren Nature Reserve**

It's almost 12 years since work began at Broadwater Warren to restore rare lowland heath and woodland habitats after the area was managed as a commercial conifer plantation and subject to decades of seeding, thinning and cutting that decimated the heathland in particular. The reserve is a remnant of Waterdown Forest, one of the medieval hunting forests of the High Weald. In those days the term "forest" described an open heathland area interspersed with pockets of woodland.

What is the reserve like now?

Today visitors will find that the reserve comprises roughly 50% open heathland and 50% mixed woodland. There are two trails, one 1½ miles long which takes in some of the heath and a wet woodland ride, and the other which is 3 miles and gives a taste of the whole reserve.

At this time of year the most striking feature is the heather in full bloom forming a carpet of rich purple. The heather seeds that had been dormant for decades under the conifer soon germinated once the conifers were removed and they had access to sunlight and moisture, but maintaining the heath is a tough job which involves controlling vigorous birch and bracken regrowth. All the heathland management work has to be squeezed into the months of October to January because Woodlark, which are

ground-nesting heathland birds, start breeding early in the year and Nightjars are present from May to September. That's when you'll see the reserve's volunteers out on the heath removing birch saplings one by one. The saplings don't go to waste because they are tied into tight bundles which are used to strengthen riverbanks and create leaky dams to alleviate flooding at a number of local projects.

The woodland has also seen a lot of activity in recent years. Contractors have continued thinning the remaining conifer stands and this has already helped generate more mixed habitats with native trees such as rowan springing

up and a healthy understorey developing where before there was just barren ground beneath the dark conifer canopy. In addition, RSPB staff and volunteers have been busy coppicing in the sweet chestnut woods and producing hundreds of fence and gate posts, not only for use in Broadwater, but also at a number of RSPB reserves in the south-east.

Conservation Grazing

Our small herd of semi-wild Konik ponies is an attraction for many visitors. They are beautiful animals and Drina, Mucky, Glen and Max are doing a valuable job controlling the growth of grass on the heath which, without



their munching away, would start to overwhelm the heather. We had hoped that they might also take a liking to birch but it doesn't seem to be to their taste. We have therefore recently taken on a herd of rare-breed goats who are in an area of heathland not open to the public because they aren't used to people or dogs. It's too early to assess what effect they are having, but they are certainly eating small birch trees and we'll all be very grateful if they relieve us of some of the tedious birch sapling removal that has been a feature of the winter work over many years.

How is the wildlife faring?

The greatest success in the last couple of years has been Dartford Warblers starting to breed on the reserve. This is a result of the development of the heather which is now dense enough to provide suitable habitat for Dartfords to nest in and survive during the winter. Unlike other warbler species Dartfords don't migrate to warmer climates in the winter and so they need plenty of shelter where they can find their invertebrate food in the coldest weather. From having no evidence of breeding in 2020, our surveys suggest that there are 10 pairs this year with both staff and visitors spotting adults feeding their fledglings. Out on the heaths Woodlark and Nightjar numbers are certainly holding up, although Tree Pipits have declined quite considerably in recent years, a trend that seems to be mirrored across the country. Nightjar activity has passed its peak, but we were treated to some fantastic displays in June with birds



flying past as night fell and the heathland throbbing to the unique "chur" of several male Nightjars.

As well as the main Decoy Pond there are several ponds across the reserve, some natural and some created in recent years, and also wet heath and woodland. These have attracted damselflies and dragonflies to the extent that Broadwater is one of the best places in the UK for these insects. Our volunteer surveyors have recorded an impressive 28 species, most recently a Norfolk Hawker, a rare dragonfly officially listed as endangered, which was historically restricted to Norfolk and Suffolk, but which has spread south over the past few decades. It's been recorded in Kent and

on a few occasions in Sussex.

Other species that are surveyed regularly include reptiles and dormice. Slow worms and Common Lizards are fairly common on the reserve, Adders and Grass Snakes less so and the occasional sighting of a Black Adder is very special. Dormice which never fail to look cute are found from May to October in the 170 nestboxes across the reserve, but overall numbers are in decline, as they are nationally. A problem at Broadwater is that deer numbers have increased significantly and their browsing is preventing coppiced trees from re-growing and providing the habitat that dormice thrive in.

Visitors

In February we announced that dogs should be kept on leads on the reserve throughout the year which is so important in reducing disturbance to all the wildlife both on the heathland and in the woodland. We are very grateful to all our visitors who enjoy the reserve with their dogs and respect our dogs policy.

Volunteering

If you'd like to join our team we are looking for a Volunteer Co-ordinator to champion and coordinate the Weald Reserves volunteer team, based at our office near Tunbridge Wells. Full details are here - <https://volunteer.rspb.org.uk/opportunities/33724-volunteer-coordinator-weald-reserves-2022-06-09>





Parish Past

It may come as a surprise that High Rocks Heritage site (pictured left) is actually in Frant Parish not Tunbridge Wells, and it would have been from there, most probably, that our first regular visitors came. Archaeology has shown early settlers using the overhung rocks there as shelter from as early as 5000/4000 BC; flint arrowheads, scrapers to fashion skins into clothes, antlers and bones used as tools have all been found there. We can imagine these early peoples hunting and also gathering berries and plants through the dense forest and on climbing our hill finding a welcome pond there where wild animals gathered to drink through the ages and in doing so had trampled an open ferny glade around it. A place of easy foraging, a place where the sun could reach through the trees and you could rest, drink and decide on your next move. This pond used to be where the children's play equipment on the Green now is, so just occasionally cast your mind back and imagine that scene, still vaguely the geographical centre of our parish, from around 7000 years ago!

—Pat Wright

Free First Aid Course

A free First Aid Course open to the residents and workers in our community is taking place in The Stables on Saturday September 24th from 10am to 2.30pm. The course is run by a British Red Cross trainer and limited to 12 participants – I have a few places left. If you are interested, or require more information please contact: Andy Macdonald-Brown – 07989555957 or 01892 891273 or Andrew.macdonald-brown@frant-pc.gov.uk

Frant Garden Club

It has been a summer of mixed joys for gardeners with lots of sun so that we can be outside enjoying ours and other people's gardens, and an on-going lack of rain so we can be outside worrying about them!

The Garden Club took advantage of the first and enjoyed an afternoon visit to Chiddingstone Castle - somewhere many of us had not visited before despite it being so close! We enjoyed the Castle's eclectic mix of art and antiquities collected by Denys Eyre Bower, the last owner, and the traditional courtyard Tea Room provided us with refreshment



in very pleasant surroundings. All this left little time to explore the extensive grounds, so that will have to wait for a future trip.

In July a delightfully air-conditioned Ham's coach took us to Loseley Park near Guildford. Many of us knew of Loseley icecream (now no longer produced on the estate) but were surprised to visit a house so steeped in a history of over 860 years and will owned, and lived in, by the More-Molyneux family. The garden seemed to have survived the heat and lack of rain remarkably well and was looking very colourful, particularly the White Garden and a bed of Hollyhocks which, the head gardener proudly told me, started out with just a scattering



from a packet of seeds and a lot of hope.

Our next trip is planned for Tuesday, 6th September, when we shall be heading off to Chartwell in the afternoon to enjoy the last of the summer garden there.

We head indoors again on Tuesday, 18th October, for a talk by Irene Eltringham-Willson entitled "Heaven or Hell, being the NGS County Organiser" - it will be interesting to hear which it is. This meeting will be held in the Frant Memorial Hall from 2.30p.m. and you will be offered a warm welcome if you wish to come along.

—Dianna Tennant

News from The Brecknock Arms

A reminder that we are open 7 days a week from 11am. Food served Mon-Sat 11am-8pm & on Sundays roasts only from 12pm-3pm. Do join us!

We now have a games room with pool table and darts board as well as an outdoor bar with a TV and access to Sky and BT Sports.

Do enquire if you are interested in holding a function at the pub. We cater for birthday parties, weddings and celebrations of life. We are also taking bookings for Christmas parties.

Finally, we have a quiz night on the last Thursday every month. Cost is just £2 per person and we have teams of up to 6 people. The quiz starts at 7:45pm and there is a half time buffet. Bookings essential. All are welcome.



Parish Pets #3: Fletcher

To all our friends at The George. It is with sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved dog Fletcher, a constant companion for almost 14 years.

Fletcher loved the pub. He watched families grow up and friends come and go, patrolled the tables making sure that he'd said hello to everyone, but liked nothing more than settling at someone's feet for a stroke and tickle.

Sitting out front he had the stature of a lion and the heart to match. He was a true friend to so many of us and will be sorely missed.

He has seen us all grow up, seen our highs and lows and been there as a constant and friend throughout. Not may have lived like him. He has watched the constant flow of friends and watched us like he knew our every thought. He chased the rabbits, the deer, the ladies and the wind. He's been a brother to our children and a friend to us all. He goes off to chase the deer in the endless forest.

» Like your pet featured in *Parish News*..? If so, send a description and photo to: carmel.kinley@gmail.com

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**Parish Diary:
September/October 2022**

» **Friday 23rd September**
Eridge Summer Concert, Eridge Church.
See page 8.

» **Saturday 24 September**
First Aid Course, The Stables, Frant
(10am-2.30pm). See page 12.

» **Saturday 8 October**
Frant Harvest Supper. The Stables,
Frant.

» **Tuesday 18 October**
Frant Garden Club: Irene Eltringham-
Willson talk: "Heaven or Hell, being the
NGS County Organiser"; Frant Memorial
Hall, 2.30pm

Regular Meetings

Little Fishes: Baby & Toddler Group
Every Tuesday 10—11.30am in The
Stables, Frant. A warm welcome to all.
Encounter (School Years 6–13)
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.
Festival Church Kids During 5pm
outside service.

Parish News can be downloaded
from: www.frantchurch.org or
www.eridgechurch.org
Advertising enquiries: 750285 or
susan.piccioni@btinternet.com
Contributions for our next issue
should be sent to the Editor: carmel.
kinley@gmail.com or 01892 750217
Next deadline: 10th October 2022

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Frant Church Youth and Kids
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Frant Parish Friendship Group
Brian Gill: 750266
Frant Memorial Hall
Sharon Warwick: 750185

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
Tracy Bryant

Bells Yew Green
Bells Yew Green Chapel
Peter Arrowsmith: 01892 610309
BYG Cricket Club
Andy Brooks: 07876 011782
Bells Yew Green Village Hall
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Friends of Bells Yew Green
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johanna.howell@frant-pc.gov.uk
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
Police Contact Details:
To report a crime or incident dial 101
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Wealden unit on 01273 404938 or
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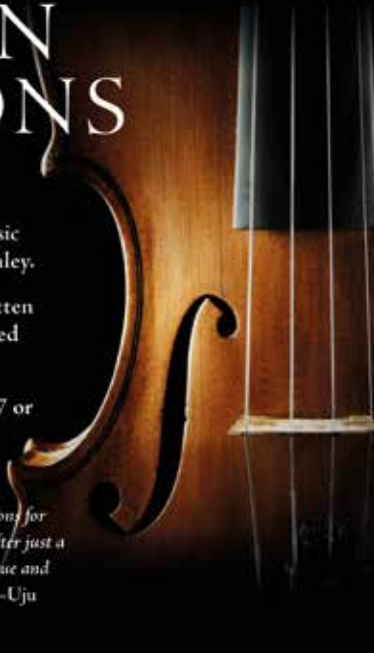





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