

# Parish News

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF FRANT, ERIDGE & BELLS YEW GREEN



*Bluebells in Frant Woodland - photograph by Roo Froud*

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**From the Rectory**



**From the Rectory**

In addition to my Parish Church responsibilities, a few months ago I was commissioned by the bishop of Lewes to be one of the two Diocesan Disability Advisors. Although this means no more money for myself or the parish, and indeed no more time(!), it is a role that goes right to the heart of my Christian faith, and a huge privilege to serve the wider church across Sussex. Our vision is to help people with disabilities to access the life and worship of the church across Sussex.

Many of you will know our son Malachi who has profound disabilities meaning he isn't able to walk or talk, he is sight and hearing impaired, and required tubes for feeding, medication and more. Despite such challenges, Malachi is a huge joy in our life - he loves people, loves music, and has a gentle and engaging personality. Although Malachi cannot communicate even his most basic needs, Malachi has taught me far more than my theological professors, more than any church leader and more than any teacher - without saying a word!

A lot of people seem to assume our value comes from what we can do. My worth comes from my ability to do my job, or from my skills, or whatever it is. We strive to be independent. We would hate to be dependant or a burden on someone. Some people may worry that being dependant on others, might affect our self-esteem, mental health etc. And yet at the same time people know that their own children or babies, or a parent who is very frail - we know they have innate value beyond measure, no matter their ability.

Christians believe we are made in the image of God, but we ignore that fact when we place our worth on ability rather than inherent human value. I was watching one of those SAS shows on TV and the SAS instructor said this: "People think bravery is running into a doorway full of enemy with bullets

flying everywhere - that's not bravery. Bravery is realising that you have weaknesses you have insecurities - to be honest about that yourself takes courage."

Our Christian message speaks deeply into this because it is a message of finding our ultimate value in a place of complete weakness.

The message of the cross of Christ which we will celebrate at Easter is a message of weakness which overpowers the darkness of evil, sin and suffering. Christ ministers to us in his own weakness, to us in our weakness and brings the power of God's salvation.

2 Corinthians 13:4 says "Christ was crucified in weakness, yet he lives by God's power. Likewise, we are weak in him, yet by God's power we will live with him"

We are not saved because we are clever enough to grasp the mysteries of heaven.

We are not saved because we are good enough to earn our way to heaven.

We are not saved because our works and efforts are so strong as if we could climb to heaven.

The Christian faith is not based on strength, or some sort of survival of the fittest, but rather on weakness and dependency. Our Christian faith is purely based on the love of God who offers salvation - we stop thinking we were self-made, self-reliant people, and in our need of help, we turn to Jesus. I expect Malachi understands that more than most of us.

Ephesians 2:8-9 says, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast."

I would love you to join us in Church this Easter and see how much God loves and values you, no matter ability.

Rev Brendan Martin

News from the Pews



**Eridge Church ceremony**

What an amazing service we had at Eridge on Sunday 18 January with the Bishop. Celebrating 75 years since the reordering of the Church at the end of 1950 as well as our own heating and lighting project – it was a great occasion. What has been particularly good was we finally got the clock running again the week before in time for the service. You will notice now in the dark evenings the clock and church are lit up and it looks fantastic.

We used much of the liturgy from the 1950 service of dedication which the then Bishop of Chichester attended. Our Bishop Martin joked he was always following in the footsteps of his predictors – celebrating all they did! As humbling as that is, there is also the sense in which we too follow in the footsteps of those who went before us.

I thought I would share a little prayer we all said in our service Sunday (taken from the 1950s service), which I thought was very appropriate in our Year of Sacrificial Service – all about blessing God and asking him to build up in us a spiritual house of service – a great prayer for both Frant and Eridge churches as we celebrate the completion of our Building Projects:

*Blessed be Thy name, O Lord, that it hath pleased Thee to put into the hearts of Thy Servants the desire to restore and adorn this Church for Thy honour and worship and for the ministry of Thy Word and Sacraments. Grant, we beseech Thee, that*

*we also may be built up a spiritual house for the offering of service acceptable to Thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Love Your Burial Grounds Week**

This is a National event organised by Caring for God's Acre and this year runs from Saturday 6th June to Sunday 14th June.

St Alban's will be hosting two guided sessions in the churchyard:

*History Walk with Peter Payne*  
Saturday 6th June

*Nature Walk with Dr Ian Beavis*  
Sunday 7th June

There will be a self-guided Prayer Walk available over the whole week.

Further details including times will be in the next issue.

**The Chancel Ceiling, St Alban's Church**

In 1977, a group of local women volunteers undertook the restoration of the nave ceiling in Frant Church. The stencilled Arts & Crafts-style decoration, featuring scrolling foliage and tendrils, has long been a notable feature of the church's interior. Nearly a century after its initial installation—and having withstood damage from a bomb during the First World War that destroyed the adjacent tower as well as flying bombs in the Second World War that shattered most of the windows – the condition of the nave ceiling had deteriorated considerably. Through the

efforts of these volunteers, who carefully repainted approximately 75% of the original stencilled design freehand, the nave ceiling remains an admired feature to this day.

A new generation of volunteers recently contributed to the church by painting the chancel ceiling, located at the eastern end above the altar and choir stalls. This five-bay ceiling, similar in structure to that of the nave, features a distinctive arrangement of carved wooden ribs and beams with plaster roof bosses at their intersections. Previously, only the roof bosses were accentuated with gold set against an indigo background. The new scheme decorates all ribs and beams with a combination of silver and gold on a deep blue backdrop. Blue is frequently chosen for chancel ceilings due to its symbolism of the divine presence and the heavenly realm, and it also happens to be the predominant colour in the chancel's three stained glass windows.

Although our professional decorator, Paul Keineder, was able to paint the blue backdrop, constraints in time and budget required volunteers to undertake the intricate detailing. With only three days remaining before the scaffolding was scheduled for removal, approximately 20 volunteers assisted in completing the task on time.

The generosity of local community members – offering both financial support and volunteer hours – has enabled Frant Church to enhance its features further. Looking ahead, additional projects are scheduled for 2026 and 2027, including the installation of an oak kitchen with granite work surfaces and an extension to the stage. Those interested in participating are encouraged to contact Sarah Davies at Frant Stables or a member of the buildings team.

Frant Church Buildings Team – David Torr, Ian Holton, Peter Payne and Rev. Brendan Martin

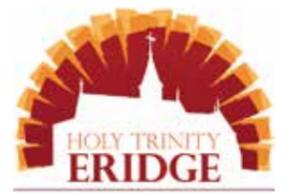


St Alban's, Frant & Holy Trinity, Eridge



www.frantchurch.org  
**Churchwarden**  
Juliet Nightingale—01580 200403  
Kyle Laidler—07775 855866

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



www.eridgechurch.org  
**Churchwardens**  
Jonathan Lynn—07788 597051  
Stephen Barnes—861302

**Services for**  
**March / April 2026**

10.30am	Frant as One (All Age)	1st March	Holy Communion	9:15am
10:30am	Holy Communion	8th March	Morning Prayer	9.15am
10:30am	Mothering Sunday Morning Worship	15th March	Mothering Sunday – Holy Communion	9:15am
10:30am	Morning Worship	22nd March	Holy Communion	9.15am
10.30am	Palm Sunday Communion	29th March	Palm Sunday	9:15am
		2nd April	Maundy Thursday Tenebrae	8:00pm
10:30am	Good Friday as One	3rd April	Good Friday – Last Hour at the Cross	2:00pm
10.30am	Easter Sunday as One Holy Communion	5th April	Easter Sunday Holy Communion	9.15am
10.30am	Holy Communion	12th April	Morning Prayer	9.15am
10.30am	Morning Worship	19th April	Holy Communion	9.15am
10.30am	Morning Worship	26th April	Holy Communion	9.15am

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*Viewing and booking appointments*

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**MUSIC IN FRANT**

*We have the following exciting concerts booked for 2026*

All concerts will be in Frant Church starting at 7.30pm.

Doors will open from 6.30pm and there is a licensed bar area.

**20 March 2026:** Fenella Humphreys | **26 June 2026:** Jess Gillam

**14 November 2026:** Caroline Tyler with Harriet McKenzie & Surround Sound

Tickets will be on sale at Brittens Music Shop in Tunbridge Wells

and online at Frant Church website.

*We look forward to welcoming you! 'Music in Frant' Team*

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**Eridge Village Hall Update**

Over the past few months, there has been plenty happening behind the scenes at Eridge Village Hall, with a number of improvements designed to make the hall more comfortable, accessible, and fit for the future.

**Refurbished toilet facilities**

The main focus has been a full refurbishment of the toilet and WC facilities. These have been modernised to provide a cleaner, brighter and more user-friendly space for all hall users, whether attending regular classes, children's parties, community events or private hires. Improving accessibility and reliability was a key aim of the project.

**A refreshed hall website**

[www.eridge-village-hall.co.uk](http://www.eridge-village-hall.co.uk)  
Alongside the physical improvements, the hall's website has been refreshed and updated. The new site makes it easier to find information about events, regular activities, bookings and contact details, and will allow the Hall Committee to keep residents better informed about what's going on.

**Floor re-varnishing**

The main hall floor has also been re-varnished, helping to protect it for years to come while giving the space a fresh, smart appearance. This makes a noticeable difference for everything from exercise classes to social events and celebrations.

**Behind-the-scenes technical upgrades**

There have also been quieter but important technical improvements, including upgrades to heating controls and other systems, helping the hall to be warmer, more energy-efficient and easier to manage throughout the year.

**Supporting community events**

In addition to these improvements, the Hall Committee is pleased that the hall is now able to fund and support at least three community events each year. These include the popular Winter Warmer, a Family Fun Day, and the Harvest Supper, which is held in partnership with Eridge Church. These events are an important part of bringing the village together and ensuring the hall remains a welcoming hub for the whole community.

The Hall Committee would like to thank all hirers, volunteers and residents for their patience while these works were

carried out. We hope the improvements and events programme make Eridge Village Hall an even better place for everyone to enjoy.

**Parish past**

Strange how names bring memories. Take Sham Farm, Eridge, which actually remembers an old village joke. A past Marquess was apparently annoyed by the sight of a distant working farm when viewed from his terrace and ordered a wall erected to shield it, to the astonishment of the village, and their mocking nickname of Sham Farm has survived the past hundred and fifty years or so. Danegate was originally a 'den' or enclosed area for livestock, and many local villages have the same appendix - Biddenden or Rolvenden for instance, but our particular den was too remote from reliable water and the villages grew elsewhere. The nearby farm cottages were rebuilt in the late 1940's after the originals sadly suffered a direct doodlebug hit with loss of life - incredibly unlucky in otherwise open country. Moving to Frant, we have Mastigate which remembers the old word 'mast' which described gatherings of fallen nuts and acorns suitable for autumn pig-grazing. So here was a gated enclosure surrounded by oak and chestnut trees where the villagers could release their pigs to fatten them free for winter after months of being confined to tiny gardens. But the oldest name belongs to Bells Yew Green where Sunninglye denotes a settlement by the "followers (or ing) of Sunni," a wandering group who came upon an open dell in the forest and decided around 1500 or more years ago it would be a good place to end their travels. Incidentally Hastings has the same derivation, "the followers of Hasta" settled there.

Pat Wright



**News from Nusrat Ghani, MP**

The beginning of the year often brings spells of icy weather, and this year was no different. While our countryside can look magical with a little bit of frost, the vulnerabilities in our infrastructure are always exposed as a result.

Sadly, we are all too familiar with South East Water (SEW) letting down their customers. Since first being elected as your MP in 2015, I have been dealing with water issues every year, and we've had some major outages most recently in June and December of 2023.

In early January, there was yet another series of incidents and disruptions to water supply across Sussex Weald, especially in Frant, Eridge, Hellingly, Lower Horsebridge and Crowborough. I understand that this was caused by a series of burst water mains in Sussex which meant that service reservoirs have begun to run to very low levels of storage. I know that parts of Kent have struggled for days without water and East Grinstead had over 16,000 houses impacted, so I have been holding my breath to see how terrible our water supply would be this time.

Throughout the incident, I have been in continuous communication with SEW CEO and attended daily Strategic Response Group meetings chaired by DEFRA Minister. I raised issues in all impacted villages and stressed to SEW leaders the importance of having the vulnerable customer registers up to date and unified across stakeholders to ensure that nobody is left behind and water is delivered to them as a priority.

This is just another example in a long line of continuous failures, where residents are left without water. I did all I could to fight for compensation for you in the past, and I will continue to fight your corner now.

As I may not have been made aware of other locations where issues took place at the time, I have set up a platform on my website where you can let me know whether you were impacted; whether SEW did their job and communicated with you; and whether you think you are owed compensation.

Share your views here: [www.nusghani.org.uk/SEWsurvey](http://www.nusghani.org.uk/SEWsurvey).

I share everyone's frustration at the lack of planning and the speed of response when such disruptive events take place. While water bills soar, our services get worse. I have made it very clear to the management team at SEW that they are failing customers in Sussex Weald again and again. It is time they took responsibility and invested into their infrastructure to ensure the quality of service that its customers deserve.



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**SPRING FEATURE**

As the days get longer and the new growth starts to appear, we can all breathe a sigh of relief that Spring and all its beauty is on the horizon. To live in such a beautiful Parish is a privilege but to keep it that way, requires careful consideration and care for our fauna and flora. This feature gives some helpful advice from parish residents and local businesses/charities on how we can preserve and support nature's gifts that surround us every day

**A Simple Way to a Healthier Lawn This Spring** by Jim Scully of Wealden Mowing



As winter loosens its grip and spring approaches, many lawns in Frant and the surrounding villages are left looking tired, mossy and uneven. March is the perfect time to give your grass the right start to the season – and it needn't be complicated or costly. At Wealden Mowing, we specialise in high-quality, reliable lawn mowing for local homeowners, with a focus on doing the simple things properly.

A healthy lawn is built from good early-season care and consistent mowing through the year.

Start the season with a thorough clear-up. The first mow of the year is about far more than just cutting the grass. An early-season lawn clear-up removes winter debris and fallen leaves, allowing light and air back down to the soil. This sets the stage for stronger growth and a more even lawn as temperatures rise.

Tackle moss early – the natural way. Moss thrives over winter and can quickly dominate a lawn if left untreated.

Early spring is the ideal time to deal with it. We use Viano MO Bacter, an effective organic granular fertiliser and moss eater. It works by digesting moss and thatch, naturally improving soil conditions, discouraging moss while feeding the grass – no harsh chemicals required. The result is a lawn that looks better and grows healthier as the season progresses.

Regular mowing makes all the

difference. Consistent weekly mowing is one of the simplest ways to maintain a great lawn. We carefully cut grass to the appropriate height for the time of year, helping it stay dense, green and resilient. We either collect or mulch clippings depending on the conditions at the time of cutting – we favour an organic approach and the particular benefits of mulch mowing, which returns fine clippings to the soil, improving moisture retention and soil health, while reducing green waste and the need for synthetic fertilisers. Good lawn care doesn't require complex treatments or expensive programmes. With the right early-season attention, expert mowing and regular care, your lawn can look its best all year.

If you're based in Frant or the nearby villages and would like dependable, high-quality lawn mowing this season, Wealden Mowing would be delighted to help.

**Bees, Back Gardens, Honey and an Unwelcome Visitor**

*Notes from a parish beekeeper*

If you've ever paused under a cherry blossom tree in Spring or by a flowering hedge on a warm afternoon and noticed the gentle hum of activity, you'll know there's something quietly reassuring about bees going about their business. For thousands of years, they've been part of rural life, and here in our Parish

of Frant they're an integral part of our AONB.

I'm a hobby beekeeper; I currently have the honour of being president of the High Weald Beekeepers Association (www.hwbka.info), a body that brings together hobby beekeepers who offer training, share ideas, good practice and support each other to improve skills and the survival rate of honeybees which are so much under threat from many quarters.

I don't wear a white suit every day, I don't produce industrial quantities of honey, and I certainly don't have all the answers. What I do have is a front-row seat to the extraordinary lives of bees, and a growing appreciation of just how important they are to all of us, whether we keep hives or simply enjoy a garden, an allotment, a walk through the fields, to fill a vase with flowers or to eat locally produced food.

**What does a hobby beekeeper actually do?**

At its simplest, beekeeping is about stewardship. A beekeeper provides bees with a safe, dry home, checks on their health, makes sure they have enough food, and intervenes only when necessary. Most of the time, the bees are perfectly capable of running their own affairs.

For small-scale beekeepers like me, it's less about honey (though a few jars are a nice bonus) and more about supporting local pollinators. Honeybees aren't wild



animals in the strictest sense – they're livestock – but well-managed hives can be a real asset to the local environment, especially when surrounded by bee-friendly planting.

Beekeeping also makes you notice the seasons more keenly. You become acutely aware of early blossom (the goat willow catkins are out in January this year), sudden cold snaps, dry springs, and long wet summers. Bees are sensitive little barometers of environmental change, and they tell us – very clearly – when something isn't quite right. You can be working with your bees on a bright sunny day and their "hum" changes and they start to get a bit tetchy... you can be sure a storm is heading this way!

#### Why bees matter (far beyond honey)

We often hear that bees are "important," but it's worth saying why. Around a third of the food we eat depends on pollination, much of it by bees. Apples, pears, soft fruit, beans, courgettes, oilseed rape, clover for livestock – without pollinators, our countryside and our diets would look very different and very depleted.

Beyond farming, bees help maintain biodiversity. Wildflowers rely on them, and wildflowers in turn support birds, insects, and mammals. It's a chain, and bees are a vital link.

The good news is that you don't need a hive to help. In fact, for most people, the single biggest contribution you can make is right outside your back door.

#### Planting for bees:

##### a garden that works all year

Bees need food from early spring right through to late autumn. Honeybees typically forage within a 1-2 mile (1.6-3.2 km) radius, but can fly up to 5 miles (8 km) if resources are scarce, balancing energy cost with food rewards.

A gap in flowering can be a real problem, especially for early emerging queens or late-season workers trying to build up their winter stores which may have to last five months. Like us, bees need protein, which they get from pollen, and carbohydrate, which comes from nectar. Again, like us, they need a wide variety of food sources.

In general, bees are attracted to single, open flowers planted in clumps. But it's not just garden flowers; do not underestimate our native trees, like the humble



willow for early spring pollen/nectar, fruit trees for abundant spring blossoms, and later-flowering trees such as lime and sycamore for summer.

In the heat of summer, fill a shallow pot with grit or gravel, add some water and leave it amongst your flowers so the bees can re-hydrate.

To support bees throughout the year, plant a variety of flowers, shrubs, and trees that bloom in different seasons. And if you can bear it, let a corner of the garden go a bit wild. Let dandelions and clover grow in your lawn for vital early pollen and nectar: even nettles play a role in the wider ecosystem (more advice on this later in the feature!).

If you're lucky enough to cultivate an allotment or veg patch, squash, cucumbers, pumpkins, beans and sunflowers, as well as flowering herbs such as dill, chives, borage, and mint, providing both nectar and pollen, are fantastic for the bees; root vegetables like carrots, onions, and beets also offer great forage if you let them flower so keep a few back from the pan! Tomatoes and peppers benefit from bee visits for better fruit set.

Above all, avoid pesticides; use natural methods and avoid chemicals that harm bees.

#### Honey: the Bees' Bounty

Bees make honey by collecting nectar from flowers, adding enzymes in a special honey stomach to break down sugars (sucrose into glucose & fructose). They then pass it from bee to bee in the hive to reduce water content, fanning it with their wings to thicken it. Once the moisture content is below 20% they cap it with wax in honeycomb cells for storage. As a hobby beekeeper we want to ensure the bees' larder is full enough to prevent winter starvation. This means in a poor year there is no surplus honey to harvest. By contrast,

2025 was a significant mast year in the UK, characterised by a bumper crop of tree nuts and fruits, driven by cyclical biological patterns and favourable conditions, providing abundant food for wildlife. One of the beneficiaries was our honeybee with the result that beekeepers were able to harvest far bigger crops of honey without depleting winter stores.

Personally I love to be able to gift honey to family and friends as, raw honey, direct from the hive, is a precious commodity. In good years I sell surplus honey.

I'm often asked why it costs so much more than supermarket honey. So here's the thing: raw honey from your local beekeeper is minimally processed; it is spun out of the honeycomb in a centrifuge, filtered minimally to ensure there are no alien particles in the honey, then poured straight into the jar you buy. This way it retains vital enzymes, antioxidants, pollen, and nutrients which are otherwise lost during the heating (pasteurisation) and filtering common in commercial honey. Supermarket honey is often blended, with honey derived from European countries (or as far as China) with no traceability, and may even be diluted with sugar syrup. In addition to the health benefits of local honey there are environmental & economic perks. Buying from the beekeeper supports your local economy by keeping money within the community, helping local beekeepers thrive. It helps sustain healthy bee populations, vital for pollinating UK crops and wildflowers, and it reduces food miles cutting down on transport emissions associated with imported honey, improving sustainability.

In my case every penny of profit is used to replenish equipment and nurture my bees.

#### A shared responsibility

Whether you're 25 or 85, whether you garden, walk the dog, or just enjoy sitting outside with a cup of tea, bees are part of our shared parish life. Supporting them doesn't require specialist knowledge or expensive equipment – just a bit of awareness, a few thoughtful planting choices, and vigilance against new threats.

As a beekeeper, I can say this with confidence: when bees thrive, the countryside feels healthier. And that's something worth looking after, together.

#### A serious note: the threat of yellow-legged hornets

No article about bees in 2026 would be complete without mentioning the yellow-legged hornet (also known as the Asian hornet). This is not scaremongering – it's a very real and immediate threat. The map below shows verified sightings of yellow-legged hornets in 2025. They will come to Frant in 2026!!



These hornets are efficient predators of bees. They will sit outside hives and pick off returning workers, which can devastate colonies and put huge pressure on wild pollinators too. Once established, they're extremely difficult to control.

The key thing to know is this: early detection matters. A single reported sighting can make a big difference – so here are images of the hornet and the nest.



#### What should you do?

Do not try to tackle a nest yourself. If you think you've seen a yellow-legged hornet:

- Take a photo if you can do so safely
- Report it via the Asian Hornet Watch app (Apple or Android versions available) or, email photos and videos to: [alernonnative@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:alernonnative@ceh.ac.uk). Please ensure you include full location and contact details as well as a photo.

Reports go directly to specialists who can investigate and, if necessary, act quickly.

For more information on identification and reporting: [www.bbka.org.uk/identify-report-asian-hornet](http://www.bbka.org.uk/identify-report-asian-hornet)



#### The gift of wildflowers

The benefits of wildflowers are numerous to all of us. They are vital for supporting a diverse range of wildlife, providing nectar and pollen for pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and hoverflies, which are essential for the reproduction of many plants and crops. Birds and small mammals also rely on wildflowers for food, shelter, and nesting materials. By planting wildflowers, you help sustain these species and promote biodiversity in your local ecosystem.

The natural soil management system provided by wildflowers protects the ground in areas which are prone to heavy rainfall or drought. In the South of England, we are increasingly experiencing both. The deep root systems of wildflowers also stabilise soil, prevent erosion and retain nutrients. Native wildflowers are well-adapted to local climate and soils, making them hardy and low-maintenance. Once established, they require little watering, no fertilisers, and minimal care compared to traditional lawns or exotic plants. This makes wildflower gardens an eco-friendly and cost-effective choice for gardeners.

Wildflowers add vibrant colour and beauty to landscapes, enhancing visual appeal and providing a sense of tranquillity. Spending time in wildflower-rich environments has been shown to reduce stress and improve mental well-being. In addition, they help cleanse the air by absorbing pollutants and releasing oxygen. This natural purification process contributes to a healthier atmosphere.

Barty Meredith-Hardy is based in Wadhurst and has worked in gardens for twenty-five years. He says, "bringing a garden lawn or field that has been

depleted for wildlife back to a state full of life is slow and at times frustrating, but very rewarding when it does happen." Barty holds the RHS Master of Horticulture, is a member of the Chartered Institute of Horticulture, and is a Judge for South and South East in Bloom. His current work focuses on creating and maintaining wildlife gardens. For over the past five years, he has been concentrating on wildflower meadows and has equipment suitable for managing areas in gardens and small fields.

#### Spring Gardening Tips From Frant Garden Club

When Frant Garden Club was asked to provide some tips on preparing gardens for spring the committee (Susan Piccioni, Dianna Tennant and Sandra Thomas) got together to draw up a list of things that sprang to mind, so here we go:

First and foremost a reminder that we should try to look upon gardening not as a chore (sometimes difficult when weeds seem to be getting the better of us), but an opportunity to just be outside, creating and enjoying our gardens, whether they be small, large or just a pot full of colourful blooms, of which we can say, "I grew that!"

Take note of the weather forecast and beware of FROST. Don't be in a hurry to plant anything out, just remember "the Beast from the East".

Now is the time to spread leaf mould or any organic matter onto your vegetable patch and on your borders. This not only nourishes and improves the soil, it also suppresses weeds before they establish, and helps to protect roots before the heat of summer.

March is the traditional month

for pruning\* repeat flowering roses (whereas single flowering roses should have been pruned the previous autumn). Also remember that by dead heading your daffodils after flowering goodness will go back into the bulb rather than making seed, and that the addition of slow release fertiliser will aid next year's flowering.

*\*Note about pruning clematis: these should be pruned according to their flowering season*

So, if they flower before June, prune them after flowering, but if they flower after June, prune them back to a strong pair of buds in late winter.

Lift and divide perennials (such as phlox, hardy geraniums, Michaelmas daisies, sedums, grasses) if you have not done so previously in autumn.

Don't forget about wildlife particularly bees who need all the help they can get at this time of year, so include nectar rich plants (e.g. pulmonarias) in your planting plans. Take care when clearing piles of leaves as there may be a hedgehog hibernating there, and remember to feed the birds (all year round is advised).

Keep anything newly planted well watered until established – unless nature does the job for you of course!

If you can provide shelter and keep frost at bay – sometimes even a house wall suffices for this – April is the time to start planting up containers and hanging baskets.

Little tips – to have a crop that will last all year, split your bought-in parsley into clumps and replant into larger pots. Allow your forget-me-nots to self seed so that the following spring you will be rewarded with a carpet of blue to cheer you after the dark days of winter.

Finally, whilst remembering the advice that “right plant, right place” holds true, if you see a plant that you like the look of, buy it or cadge it, put it into the ground and hope for the best – there's a good chance it will give you years of pleasure. Happy Gardening.

**Before You Pick: A Safe Introduction to Wild Mushroom Foraging**

If you walk regularly through fields, woods or parks, or even spend time pottering in your own garden, chances are you've noticed fungi pushing up through the soil, clinging to tree trunks or peeping out from fallen leaves. These are commonly called mushrooms or

toadstools, but in truth there is no scientific difference between the two. Both are simply the fleshy fruiting bodies of a fungus.

And here's the important part: just because we call something a mushroom does not mean it is safe to eat.

Foraging for one's own food has been growing in popularity over recent years. There is something deeply satisfying about finding food in the wild and taking it home to cook.

If only edible fungi came with a green sticker and poisonous ones with a red sticker. Sadly, it is nowhere near that simple. That is why, when I became interested in organising wild mushroom forays, I knew I needed expert guidance.

That expert was John Wright, who has many years' experience leading foraging forays, not only for mushrooms but also along Britain's hedgerows and seashores, and who has written several books on the subject.

One of the first things I learned is just how complex the world of fungi really is. There are around 4,000 species of larger fungi in Britain. Only about a quarter are edible to some degree, and many of those are too tough, too rare, too small or simply not worth eating.

In reality, foragers tend to focus on roughly 100 species, and even within that group, quite a few are tricky to identify correctly. This really brings home how important accurate identification is, even when you are guided by experts.

On our two mushroom forays at Moon Down in 2025, we found 69 different species of fungi. Of these, 54 were either not edible or poisonous, and 15 were edible. Even then, three came with important caveats: one was hard to identify correctly, one could be mistaken for a poisonous mushroom, and another could not be eaten if alcohol had been consumed a few days before or after eating it.

**My top three mushrooms  
Chanterelle**



A beautiful and much-loved woodland mushroom, usually found under beech or oak and often hidden among mossy banks and leaf litter. They grow in groups and, if you are lucky, you might find hundreds carpeting the woodland floor. Chanterelles often return to the same spot year after year. They have a delicate flavour that survives cooking, but they can be confused with the False Chanterelle, which shows why identification is never quite as straightforward as it seems.

**Cep (Penny Bun)**



Often considered the most prized mushroom. In the south, they are found with birch, beech and oak and prefer more open woodland rather than deep forest. They are substantial mushrooms and need cooking for about ten minutes to bring out their depth of flavour. Beware of the Bitter Bolete, which looks similar. It will not poison you, but its bitterness will ruin any dish if it sneaks into the pan.

**Common Puffball**



Usually found in woodland and best eaten when young and firm. When cut open, it should be pure white inside, like a marshmallow. Any hint of yellow or green means it should be discarded. Puffballs are best peeled before cooking, which can be a little arduous, but they are delicious dipped in beaten egg and breadcrumbs and fried in butter.

My tips for amateur mushroom foragers:

- Join wild mushroom forays led by an expert to learn correct identification techniques
- Never eat a fungus if you do not know its name

- Consult reliable books on mushroom foraging
- Choose three to five easy-to-identify edible mushrooms that grow in your area and learn them well
- Whenever you pick mushrooms for eating, use books and trusted online resources to check and double-check that what you have collected is safe. If in doubt, throw it out. A walk in the countryside followed by a meal without foraged mushrooms is far better than risking illness or worse.

If you would like to begin your mushroom foraging journey in a safe and supportive way, you are very welcome to join John and me on either 17 or 18 October 2026. You will spend the day learning about the wonderful world of fungi, foraging for mushrooms with expert guidance, and enjoying a three-course lunch followed by afternoon tea. Contact: T: 01892 535432. M: 07812 155939. [lisa@moondown.co.uk](mailto:lisa@moondown.co.uk) [www.moondown.co.uk](http://www.moondown.co.uk)

**Watch Out – There's a Nest About!**



Spring is finally in the air and, after the long winter months, many of us are looking forward to getting outside. The days are getting longer, the weather is (hopefully!) improving, and gardens across the UK are calling out for a bit of attention.

All of that is fantastic, but before you get too carried away with the secateurs, it's important to pause and think about the wildlife sharing your space. Garden birds have now begun their breeding season, and this is a critical time for them. Disturbing nests can cause parents to abandon their eggs or chicks, and in some cases nests can be accidentally destroyed altogether.

If you were planning to cut back or remove large shrubs, hedges or climbing

plants, the best advice is to delay the job until later in the year, once the breeding season is over. If that really isn't possible, you must make sure there are no nests present before starting work. An easy and surprisingly effective way to do this is to make yourself a cup of tea and stand well back for ten minutes or so, quietly watching the area. If you see birds repeatedly flying to and from the same spot carrying food, that's a clear sign of an active nest. In that case, the work will have to wait until the young birds have fledged, which usually takes around two weeks.

It's also worth remembering that not all garden birds build neat, obvious nests tucked away in hedges. Some species are far more inventive. Robins are well known for nesting in unexpected places and will happily build a nest in an old bucket, watering can or even a coat pocket if given the chance. Great tits, wrens and pied wagtails often make use of garden sheds, garages, empty flowerpots and nest boxes. There have even been cases of birds setting up home in disused barbecues!

Because of this, it's a good idea to check sheds, outbuildings and stored items carefully before moving or using them during spring and early summer. A quick look could make all the difference.

If, despite your best efforts, an accident does happen and a nest is disturbed or a bird is injured, contact your local wildlife rescue centre straight away for advice. They can guide you on what to do next and help ensure the best possible outcome.

This spring, do your bit for our precious wildlife. Take things slowly, keep an eye out for our feathered neighbours – and always think BIRD!

*Folly Wildlife Rescue Trust*

[www.fwrt.org.uk](http://www.fwrt.org.uk)

The Broadwater Forest Wildlife Hospital, Fairview Lane, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN3 9LU



**Litter Picking in the Parish: Protecting Beauty and Wildlife**

*Cherishing Our Local Landscape*  
The Parish of Frant, Eridge, and Bells Yew Green is renowned for its picturesque countryside, vibrant gardens, and rich biodiversity. Residents and visitors alike treasure the rolling fields, ancient woodlands, and thriving wildlife that make this area so special. However, the beauty of our surroundings is increasingly threatened by litter – discarded packaging, bottles, and other waste that mars the landscape and endangers its inhabitants.

**The Impact of Litter on the Environment**



Litter is more than an eyesore; it has profound consequences for the health of our local ecosystem. Plastic wrappers and containers can persist for decades, breaking down into microplastics that contaminate soil and water. Wildlife, from rabbits and hedgehogs to birds and insects, can mistake litter for food or become entangled, leading to injury or death. Even seemingly harmless items like food wrappers or drink cans can disrupt natural habitats and poison animals.

Community newsletters have highlighted the ongoing battle against weeds and invasive species in local gardens, drawing a parallel to the fight against litter. Just as neglected gardens can quickly become overrun, so too can our public spaces if we do not remain vigilant.

**The Power of Community Action**

Fortunately, the Parish has a strong tradition of community spirit and volunteerism. Local residents are seen out and about collecting litter individually or in small groups clearing

footpaths and roadside verges. These efforts not only restore the natural beauty of the area but also foster a sense of pride and stewardship among participants.

**Protecting Wildlife for Future Generations**

By participating in litter picking, residents help safeguard the Parish's wildlife for future generations. Removing hazardous waste reduces the risk of harm to animals and preserves the delicate balance of local ecosystems. It also sends a powerful message about the value we place on our environment and the responsibility we share to protect it.

**How to Join or Organise a Litter Picking Event**

- **Find a Group:** Use the resources above to locate a group or event in your area.
- **Register or Volunteer:** Many groups allow you to register online or simply show up at the designated meeting point.
- **Equipment:** Frant Parish Council can supply a litter picking pack which includes high vis jackets, gloves, pickers and bags (with a trolley if practical along the roadside). For further information, please contact [carmel.kinley@gmail.com](mailto:carmel.kinley@gmail.com)
- **Stay Updated:** Join mailing lists or follow local councils and groups on social media for the latest event announcements.

**RSPB Broadwater Warren**

Here at Broadwater Warren our winter work is almost finished. Over the last 3 months our volunteers have been helping us carry out the heathland work required on site. On the western and eastern heath silver birch and spruce trees have been cut with their saplings pulled. This helps prevent the heathland from becoming woodland, so ensures this vital habitat is not lost. The work here will halt by February to prevent any disturbance to breeding ground nesting heathland birds like nightjar.

There are also several contractors currently at work on Broadwater, helping us complete our winter management plan. A block of silver birch clearance has been completed on the eastern heath along the edges of the path. The

aim of this work is to open the heath, connecting parts of it and thus allowing species to pass through more easily. Contractors have also started on cutting this year's coppice plot, you may have seen them working along the green route on site towards the veteran oak tree. Each year at Broadwater a different coppice plot is cut to create a woodland with trees of a variety of age and thus a



mosaic of habitats. Lastly for contractor work heather mowing has commenced again to create a diverse age structure of heather. This is particularly good for our priority species woodlark that need areas of young heather to feed.

The new goats are settling in well and have also started to help us with this heathland management work. They have explored the northern heath and are particularly fond of brambles. They will be great at consuming the new growth of the silver birch that has been cut down, in the upcoming years.

With the winter coming to an end, it means that spring is upon us. On site there has already been signs of the season with a brimstone spotted on the main green path. With the season changing expect a change in the birds you are seeing.

**Heathland birds to expect**

*Dartford warbler:* A year-round resident who become very active in spring. You will see them singing from the tops of gorse/heath bushes.

*Woodlark:* These are heard in early mornings in Feb/March and nest on the ground in the heather.

*Nightjar:* Seen from late spring (April/May) as they arrive from Africa. These are nocturnal, camouflaged birds that are found at dusk and make a distinct churring sound.

*Stonechat:* These birds have black heads with white collars and are year-round residents but become more active in spring as they go into the breeding season as they nest at the on or close to the ground in dense vegetation like heather or gorse

*Yellowhammer:* These distinct birds with their yellow heads prefer open heathland where gorse and heather plants are scattered.

*Linnet:* These are year-round residents but become more active in spring, males have distinct red breast.

*Meadow pipit:* one of the more common birds in heathland areas, although with their brown speckled coat they can be harder to spot.

**Woodland birds to expect**

*Blackcap:* These can be seen all year round as some don't migrate now but typically migrate from north Africa/southern Europe.

*Chiffchaff:* These birds return in early March but some now stay all year round  
*Woodpeckers* – Spring is the time for drumming to mark territory, so listen out!

These birds are not an inclusive list you may see several other species. Birds in spring are best heard during the dawn chorus which peaks in May. These calls are a result of the breeding season as they are for territory defence and mate attraction.

Although changes to the birds you see won't be the only changes spring brings. Plants will begin to grow and flower. On heathland gorse is one of the earliest flowering plants with their bright yellow flowers seen from a far. Later in spring the very pretty heath milkwort will also start to flower. On woodlands snowdrops, primrose and wild garlic often flower first in spring so expect to see these soon.

Spring brings about so many changes so keep any eye out!

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**FRANT MEMORIAL HALL**

A beautiful Arts and Crafts style venue in the heart of the village. Our hall offers two flexible spaces to suit every occasion. The Large Hall with Stage is ideal for weddings, anniversaries, family celebrations, performances, and community events. The Smaller Hall, perfect for meetings, workshops, and more intimate gatherings. With seating for up to 120 guests, a fully equipped kitchen, overhead projector, and even inflatables available for children's parties, our hall can be tailored to meet your needs.

Weekly/Monthly classes available in the halls are:

- Pilates,
- Yoga,
- Woodworking,
- Lindy Hop,
- Art,
- Gardening Club,
- Tai Chi
- Tonality,
- Children's dance classes,
- Baby and Toddler clubs and many more

Full details of any of the above classes are available on our website. If you're looking to set up a club or for any enquires contact us.

[www.frantvillagehall.co.uk](http://www.frantvillagehall.co.uk)  
[bookings@frantvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:bookings@frantvillagehall.co.uk)

Whether you're planning a celebration, performance, or community event, Frant Memorial Hall provides the perfect backdrop.

**Ensor Interiors' new home**

The corner of Frant High Street, opposite The George and Church, has changed. The beautiful window displays we have all enjoyed over many years is no longer there – Ensor Interiors has moved. The good news is, they are still located in Frant Parish!

Ensor Interior Design was founded over 30 years ago in Tunbridge Wells, by local designer Mary Ensor and over three decades, the team at Ensor has helped numerous clients around Kent, Sussex and Surrey to create wonderful homes. Current proprietor, Lisa Evans joined the team in 2003, working alongside Mary at the showroom in Frant Village and when Mary decided to retire in 2011, Lisa was the natural choice to acquire the business and take it forward. Over the last 14 years, Lisa has worked closely with many long-standing clients on their new and existing homes, as well as welcoming many new clients to the Ensor roster.

"We've been lucky enough to work with lots of lovely people on their beautiful homes around Kent and Sussex – from large period country houses to contemporary town houses, and from small country cottages to town-centre apartments – and everything in-between" she says. "Indeed, at various times our clients have also asked us to help design their holiday homes in the Alps, on the Solent and even the hospitality businesses they own. We've also worked on client's properties in Dublin, Edinburgh and London. We love this variety and will always offer a creative and considered proposal to any brief we're given."

Ensor is the perfect source for all things "home interiors". Now relocated to a new showroom in one of the company's premises in Eridge, outside Tunbridge Wells (where the curtains, blinds and soft furnishings are also made, by hand). Ensor offers everything from an individual piece of furniture to a complete home redesign.

The welcoming showroom features a wide range of lighting, upholstered furniture and wonderful fabrics from leading designers across the UK and Europe, along with special home furnishings to suit any style. Here is what clients have to say:

"We make all the curtains, blinds and soft furnishings in house, with our own highly experienced team" says Lisa.



"Because we don't subcontract this work, we have complete control over the process from design to installation. We offer a truly bespoke service, giving our clients confidence that everything will be produced to a high standard, specifically for them. We also have a dedicated furniture team, who manufacture lovely sofas, chairs, footstools and various other items to our own exclusive designs"

"Our promise is for our professional, highly experienced design team to provide a friendly, helpful and imaginative service, working with our clients to give them the home style they want. It's always very much a collaborative process and we really enjoy the challenge of bringing our client's input to life"

"Thank you for your creative genius and for helping create a warm welcoming home! Nearly there .... (well kind of!). What am I going to do when we finish?"

Please pass my thanks to those who made the curtains, blinds and pelmet this year. I love everything they've made."

**B. Seaton-Wood, Forest Row**

"Your tastes... I've been walking around the house today with your swatches... you're brilliant. A million thanks." **D. Gilbert, Hove**

"The curtains are gorgeous, they add such a depth to the sitting room, I love them. I'm sad to be running out of rooms!" **Julia McMillan, Tunbridge Wells**

The new Ensor showroom in Eridge (just behind the station, with easy parking) is a fascinating space, full of furniture, lighting and wallpapers. Centred around an extensive library of fabrics, from traditional to contemporary, clients can browse to their heart's content, with input from a

knowledgeable designer when required. There's usually a lovely cup of coffee available too...

"I've worked with Lisa and her friendly team many times over the years, in fact I think our current project is the fifth property we've worked on together. I find her to always be extremely helpful with a real attention to detail. Ensor are not precious. There's no "house style" and we always arrive at the perfect version of the style we'd imagined."

**S. Bartholemew, Tunbridge Wells**

Anyone interested in finding out more about Ensor and how the team might help with enhancing their home, should contact Lisa on 07780 793126, or email her at [lisa@ensorinteriordesign.co.uk](mailto:lisa@ensorinteriordesign.co.uk). Showroom viewings are by appointment only, to ensure a designer can be on hand to help.

"Thanks again for your incredible way of working. You are a breath of fresh air to my soul." **Fiona Lee, Tonbridge**

(for contact details, see advertisement on page 8)

**The History of Frant Book**

This book that I have been working on for the last 3 years has now been printed and is available to buy from myself. I have already sold over 80 books in and around the village. So thank you for all those who have bought a book. I am sure you will enjoy the read and all those photographs.

The book covers the whole of Frant village from around the 7th century when it became a place to remove iron from the many streams and use it to form items etc. A small chapel was placed on the same site as the existing church, as can be seen from the enclosed picture.

The village enlarged due mainly to the local Iron Industry becoming the main English area for making cannons and other iron products with some of these cannons used against the Spanish Armada.

We have had 7 schools and 4 public houses at certain times with many famous people living here, such as the youngest ever soldier Sidney Lewis and also Alan Turing, see photographs.

I made it as a "Coffee Table" book that you can pick up and enjoy over a period of time. So much history for a little village.

If you would like a copy or even view the book before buying please give me a ring on 01892 750608.

Peter Payne.

**The Arts Society Ashdown Forest 'The Very Model of an English Entertainment': the Savoy Operas of W. S. Gilbert and Arthur Sullivan - Lecture by Roger Askew**

Thursday 12 March 2026 at 2.00pm  
Crowborough Community Centre, Pine Grove, Crowborough, TN6 1FE

This lecture, fully illustrated with musical examples, will examine how the peculiar geniuses of these two very different men came together under the guiding hand of the impresario, Richard D'Oyly Carte.

**'The Partnership of Gertrude Jekyll and Sir Edwin Lutyens' - Lecture by Tom Duncan**

Thursday 9 April 2026 at 2.00 pm

For those interested in architectural and garden design, the names of Sir Edwin Lutyens and Gertrude Jekyll are inseparably linked together. Each outstanding in their own field, this is a story of friendship and wonderful artistic collaboration.

Lectures take place at the Crowborough Community Centre and there is plenty of parking next to the Centre. Members free. Visitors £8 payable at the door. Refreshments after the lecture.

**Frant Parish Friendship Group**

We said goodbye to 2025 with our Christmas Tea Party in the Stables on 11<sup>th</sup> December. This was very well attended and a great success. We were very honoured to have as our guest Sir Winston Churchill (aka Tony Harris). Immaculately dressed and smoking the ubiquitous, cigar he took us down memory lane and the many ups and downs of his life. Tony as always was so entertaining and rounded off a very enjoyable afternoon. Our thanks to all those who worked so hard on the day with setting up and clearing away.

The exercise classes with Alison started on 15<sup>th</sup> January and will be continuing into May. These are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month in the Stables at 2.30 p.m. New members are always welcome and can have a taster session for £3.00.

The first afternoon meeting of the New Year was January 22nd and our speaker was Gillian Lloyd and her subject Seasons of the Greater Yellowstone Eco System, The Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) is one of the last remaining large,

nearly intact ecosystems in the northern temperate zone.

Gillian, a wildlife photographer, is a regular visitor to the GYE which covers an area of 22 million acres. This includes several National Parks with an abundance of the most stunning wildlife and scenery. Her photographs of which were quite magical. She visits at various times of year so was able to show us the changes through the seasons.

Our March meeting will be on the 26<sup>th</sup> in the Stables at 2.30 pm and our speaker will be Colin Bostock-Smith and his talk 'My Life in Comedy'. Then in April the 23<sup>rd</sup> we have Bertie Pearce and his subject is Charles Dickens.

New members very welcome do come along and try us out.

Enquiries – Valerie Palmer  
[valeriepalmer1500@gmail.com](mailto:valeriepalmer1500@gmail.com)



**Parish Pets # 21 – Pocket**

Hello, My name is Pocket. It is quite complicated even for me – a pedigree labradoodle! I shall try and explain so please pay attention.

My Mum and Dad live in Tunbridge Wells but my Mum's Mum and Dad live in East Sussex and they have a dog – my cousin apparently – who is neither golden like me nor beautifully curly haired like me but black, boisterous, certainly not a pedigree and frankly something of a pest most of the time. Anyway, we are where we are and I try to instil some manners in her but it is an uphill task.

I see her a lot and when the dreaded words 'sleep over' are mentioned by Mum and Dad I fear the worst and I'm usually right. She always gives me a huge welcome – jumping about and dragging me round by my collar in what I try to convince myself is her way of telling me how much she misses me. We love going on walks together as I can easily convince her to ignore the frantic calls



mum or dad as we rush off through the woods in hot pursuit of tantalising smells. Another favourite trick of mine is to bark at some totally fictional intruder. This sets her off wonderfully. All her hackles go up, and she charges round barking frantically, winding everyone up. Naturally I retire to my bed and watch the proceedings in peace knowing that I'm not the one in trouble – again!

I must admit it can be a lot of fun having a cousin – even if they are of a lesser pedigree than myself. We make an attractive pair – one gold the other black. Of course, I raise the bar significantly and attract all the looks – but then I am a labradoodle.

If you would like your pet to appear in the next edition, please email a photograph with a few fun paragraphs to [carmel.kinley@gmail.com](mailto:carmel.kinley@gmail.com).

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**Parish Diary:  
March/April 2026**

» **Saturday 14 March**  
Women's Breakfast  
The Stables, Frant 9.00am

All are welcome to this fantastic event. A delicious breakfast is served in beautiful surroundings giving ladies a chance for a good catch up in a very welcoming environment. A short, thought provoking message from a guest speaker included. No entry fee. Please call 01892 752261 or email [office@frantanderidgechurches.org.uk](mailto:office@frantanderidgechurches.org.uk)

» **Thursday 26 March & 23 April**  
Frant Parish Friendship Group Meetings. The Stables, Frant (see page 17)

» **Thursday 16 April**  
Gardening Q&A Fundraising Event  
Bells Yew Green Village Hall 7.30pm

Renowned gardening expert Helen Yemm and the Head Gardener at Tidebrook Manor, Ed Flint, will be hosting a Question & Answer event.

**Regular Meetings**

**Little Fishes: Baby & Toddler Group**  
Every Tuesday 9.30–11.30am in The Stables, Frant. A warm welcome to all.  
**Encounter (School Years 6–13)**  
Contact Rev Brendan Martin for more information: 752261

**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](http://www.frantchurch.org) or [www.eridgechurch.org](http://www.eridgechurch.org)  
Advertising enquiries: [office@frantanderidgechurches.org.uk](mailto:office@frantanderidgechurches.org.uk)  
Contributions for our next issue should be sent to the Editor: [carmel.kinley@gmail.com](mailto:carmel.kinley@gmail.com) or 01892 750217  
Next deadline: 1st February 2026.

**Useful contacts**

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*Frant CofE Primary School*  
Joanna Challis: 750243  
*Frant and Eridge Church Office*  
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[office@frantanderidgechurches.org.uk](mailto:office@frantanderidgechurches.org.uk)  
*Frant Church Youth and Kids*  
Rev Brendan Martin; 752261  
*Frant Bowls Club*  
Chris Hall, 01892 652483, email: [chairman@frantbowls.uk](mailto:chairman@frantbowls.uk)  
*Frant Cricket Club*  
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*Frant Garden Club*  
Dianna Tennant: 752029  
*Frant Panto & Drama Society*  
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*Frant Memorial Hall*  
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**Eridge**

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*Eridge Cricket Club*  
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Mary Helson: [mary.helson@gmail.com](mailto:mary.helson@gmail.com)

**Bells Yew Green**

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*Friends of Bells Yew Green*  
07944 712000

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**County Councillor**

Johanna Howell: 750141  
[johanna.howell@frant-pc.gov.uk](mailto:johanna.howell@frant-pc.gov.uk)  
Bob Standley: 783579

**Parish Council meetings**

Full PC meetings are usually held at 7.30pm every 3rd Wednesday of the month. Please check the Council's website at [www.frant-pc.gov.uk](http://www.frant-pc.gov.uk)

**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/)

**FULLER'S**  
FULLER'S FARM SHOP  
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