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Adult Education: 01273 481497

Bins and Recycling: 01323 443322 or 01892 653311

Crimestoppers, report crime anonymously 0800 555111

Education, general 01273 481000

Leisure centres, swimming pools and parks: 01323 443322

Planning, development, building control: 01323 443322

Police, non-emergency: 0845 6070999

Road maintenance: 0845 6080193

Recycling sites: 01273 481000

Street Lighting: 0845 6080193

Trading standards (consumer issues): 01323 418200

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HOWEVER, ENDORSE ANY PRODUCTS OR SERVICES
SPECIFIED

St Thomas à Becket Church

Parish Newsletter



**Framfield, Blackboys
and
Palehouse Common**

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2008

**HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR
LOCAL CHURCH**

Priest-in-Charge : Revd. Chris D. Lawrence
01825 891090
(after hours 01825 890365)

Churchwardens : Mrs. Pat Tindall (01825 890761)
Mr. Peter Tomsett (01825 763460)

Secretary to PCC : Mrs. Pat Herbert

Treasurer : Mr. Norman Jones

All communications for church matters should be directed to the Church Office – 9.15 am – 5pm (closed Wednesday)

Email - framfieldchurch@btopenworld.com.
Post - Vicarage Barn, Framfield TN22 5NH
Telephone/ leave a message - 01825 891090

Details of Operation Godsend are printed elsewhere in the magazine.

From the Registers :



At rest:

19th December 2007 Barry Eastoe
10th January 2008 Margaret Hall

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The Friends of Ashdown Forest

The 46th Annual General Meeting was held in Nutley on Friday 19th October, attended by 100 of our members. The past year has been a very busy one, with our New Year recruitment campaign resulting in 480 new members to date. Membership now stands at 1,167.

Our Chairman, David Streeter, announced that earlier in the year the Friends had bought 5.6 acres of land at Chuck Hatch, now known as Friend's Field, lying within the historical Pale of the Forest. Other expenditure this year included the purchase of a new vehicle and a contribution towards Forest signage.

Following the business section, we were pleased to welcome John Barnes for the first time to our meeting as the new Chairman of the Board of Conservators. Mr Barnes warmly thanked the Friends, not just for their financial support, but also for all the work done by Friends on the Forest and gave a talk on the background to the Conservators' policy of forest management and the make-up of the Board.

The Forest Superintendent, Dr Hew Prendergast, then gave a comprehensive and illustrated talk on last year's activities on the Forest. A special mention must go to an exciting new project, which has seen the employment of Louise, the new shepherd, who has field work experience on the Scottish moors, the Falkland Islands and Argentina. Together with her working dogs, she will lead her flock of 56 Hebridean sheep (plus one new ram!) to graze unfenced areas, and the results will be monitored. A new exhibition at the Forest Centre is being planned for next Easter, on the association between the Forest and warfare throughout the ages. Dr. Prendergast appealed to members to contact the Forest Centre if they have any old maps, photos, artefacts, or even memories they could contribute to the exhibition.

For more information contact Mrs P Arnold - 01892 611414

From the Vicarage

Love- keeps no record of wrongs (1 Corinthians 13:5).

How was your Christmas, peaceful, hectic? Many of us seemed to be very busy; no shortage of social events, school productions, family gatherings and a variety of church services to attend (*hopefully something to suit all tastes?*).

Overall it was all very enjoyable and a great opportunity for myself and the family to meet so many, and be genuinely welcomed and accepted. Thank you all very much. Coming into a different community has its pluses and minuses. The plus side is in the objectiveness in seeing things as they currently are. The parish has what I call, 'lots of smiley people' - those who greet you with a smile and a friendly welcome. Even when you are feeling a bit down, a 'smiley hello' brings an instant lift to your day. Additionally, we have so much to be thankful for. There is a lot of goodwill and hard work going on that makes this community thrive. This is a very positive place to live and it is a blessing for all of us to be part of it.

The minus side is in not knowing the history of a community. Life would be wonderful if peace and harmony existed all the time, but as we know conflicts do arise. People fall out with each other, cross words are said or actions taken that cause others upset. Unfortunately, not all issues are resolved. Harsh words can leave deep emotional wounds that if left to fester can leave a lifelong mark and a breakdown of relationships. It would be unreasonable to get it right all the time as to err is part of our humanity. What is important when conflict arises is that it is sorted out in a timely manner. The apostle Paul writing to the church at Ephesus says **"In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.** (Eph 4:26)

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Divide and conquer is still the order of the day and the devil's mandate if we let it be that way; the choice is ours. Paul's words are equally valid in dealing with conflict within a marriage, between friends or different institutions within a community. In a village context one person's offence can quickly gather negative support. The writer of Hebrews says **'Make every effort to live in peace with all men... see to it that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many** (paraphrase Heb12:14-15).

But is there a way back when it's all gone pear shaped and long-standing grudges are still in place? The good news is 'yes'. Jesus' brother James writes **'confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed'** (James 5:16). A straightforward apology and the asking for forgiveness breaks the hold and opens the door for restoration within a relationship.

One of the reasons for writing the above is that it has become apparent that in the not too distant past the Church has caused offence through its action or inaction within the parish. I don't propose to go into detail but by way of accepting responsibility and seeking forgiveness a Service of Reconciliation will be held as part of the 10am Parish Communion on the 24th February 2008 (3rd Sunday of Lent).

Confession is indeed good for the soul and a catalyst for a bright and positive future.

Keep smiling!

Chris Lawrence

Each year at this time I am able to tell you of the result of our parish Poppy Collection leading up to Remembrance Sunday in November. After having been the organiser, and a collector, for Framfield Parish for 29 years I am very pleased, and indeed proud that we have achieved the excellent result of **£3641** this year. I am always so grateful to my dedicated 16 house to house collectors who cover the parish, 8 of whom exceeded £100 this time, whilst others including "businesses" were not far behind.

This year's total has been greatly helped by the Legacy of £415 in connection with the death of Ralph Foregard of Willows Rise earlier in the year, and our gratitude goes to his family.

Once again I emphasise the success of "Home Collectors", who now number 27 and who achieved a total of £466, an increase of £175 over last year. I have said before how much I would welcome more Home Collectors who would keep a collecting tin, which I will supply, to absorb small change throughout the year. I here has been a small increase in numbers who have come forward but I feel strongly that more parishioners could join our team to support those now suffering from the dangerous situations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Royal British Legion is totally involved in the vital need to help the families of those killed as well as so many of our troops seriously wounded, with those losing limbs at such an early age.

Please let me know (890208) if you will help, or come and see me at Gate House Cottages.

Lieut Colonel Nigel Drew

Blackboys Baptist Church

Welcome Baptist Church Blackboys meets every Sunday 5 pm – 6 pm in the Village Hall, Gun Road for a cafe-style time of friendship, worship, Bible teaching - and cakes.

You are always welcome.

There are groups of all ages every Sunday, and once a month is our family time together.

We are passionate about children and young people and are responsible for the following groups in Blackboys village:

LITTLE STARS (baby and toddlers) Fridays 10.30 am – 12 noon:
Village Hall: Emma Doherty (01825 890029)

CRUSADERS (4-11s) Fridays 3.15 pm - 4.15pm:
Blackboys School: Suzanne Hammond (01435 868846)

L1EE2THEMAX (11-16s) Weds 6.30 pm - 8.00 pm:
Village hall: Brendan & Suzanne Hammond (01435 868846)

NO PARKING PLEASE !

We have recently been reminded that people are using the Southern Water drive to gain access to the Churchyard. May we remind you that there is no access via that route. The route must at all times be kept open for Southern Water and residents to obtain access. We would appreciate the courtesy to these parties by using the main entrance to the churchyard off Church Approach.

Thank you for your cooperation

DIARY OF CHURCH SERVICES

FEBRUARY

- 03 Sunday next before Lent**
8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Family Service
6.30 pm Evening Communion (CW)
- 10 1st Sunday of Lent**
10.00 am Parish Communion (CW)
6.30 pm Evening Praise
- 17 2nd Sunday of Lent**
8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Family Service
6.30 pm Healing Service
- 20** 11.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 24 3rd Sunday of Lent**
10.00 am Parish Communion
(Service of Reconciliation)
6.30 pm Evening Praise

MARCH

- 02 4th Sunday of Lent**
8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Mothering Sunday Family Service
6.30 pm Evening Communion (CW)
- 09 5th Sunday of Lent**
10.00 am Parish Communion (CW)
6.30 pm Evening Praise

- 16 Palm Sunday**
 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
 10.00 am Family Service
 6.30 pm Healing Service
- 17** 7.00pm Holy Week Meditation (1)
18 7.00pm Holy Week Meditation (2)
19 7.00pm Holy Week Meditation (3)
- 19** 11.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 20 Maundy Thursday**
 8.00 pm Parish Communion (CW)
- 21 Good Friday**
 10.00am Service of the Word
 (followed by Hot Cross Buns in the Church Hall)
- 23 Easter Day**
 10.00 am Family Festival Communion
- 30 2nd Sunday of Easter**
 10.00am Holy Communion

Church Services : BCP – Book of Common Prayer.
 CW - Common Worship 2001

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE
 BY 10th MARCH 2008
 TO
 CHRIS LAWRENCE AT THE CHURCH OFFICE –
 01825 891090
 OR
 ANN NEWTON – 01825 890182**

Report on the FRAMFIELD VILLAGE HALL MARKET February/December 2007

**Many thanks for your support in this venture to Framfield, Blackboys,
 Uckfield people, etc
 and Stall Holders.**

**In 11 Markets and 1 Clothes Show
 we have raised
 £2713.93**

for the Village Hall (less £25 float held)
 It's lovely to see Framfield etc villagers together.
 Tea/Coffee/Bacon Rolls

A time to share each others company
 WE DO NEED YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR 2008

WELL DONE ALL

**FRAMFIELD VILLAGE HALL MARKET
 10 - 12 noon 2008**



23rd February

22nd March

And every following 4th Saturday of the month
ALL WELCOME
 Come and enjoy the Market stalls, tea and company
 Sandy - 840648

JANE ESPINASSE RETIRES AS CHAIR OF FRAMFIELD & BLACKBOYS MONDAY CLUB

This is my final speech to you all, after five years of organising the Monday Club. To look back over 2007, we have had some good times: the Bat Lady, I think we all enjoyed that very much, our outings to have tea in all the gardens round about, Valerie Clark, Tanya Edmondson and Kathy Gore have all been so welcoming; and then there has been Kevin Markwick kindly coming to set up so many films for us! (when he wasn't in Los Angeles selling his own films). For some reason I have strong memories of Wuthering Heights, which all the ladies liked and all the men found very silly and boring, but oh how I loved it!

The thing I have enjoyed most about the Monday Club is the members. When I look back over the last five years, I remember such warm hearted and interesting people and I will never forget them: Helen Sadler, Greta Anderson, Margaret Galtress, Joyce Kent, and of course Ted and Gladys. Even though I have moved to Lewes, I will never forget the people of Framfield and how well we all got on. That is another side of the Monday Club. As I introduced new members over the years, they have always been welcomed in and made to feel at home by you.

When I applied for grants for us, I always had to give a little paragraph about the aims of the Club, and I said that it was to allow people in the Parish to meet and chat and socialise and sometimes have an informative speaker and sometimes just have fun. I think that we fulfilled this role and I hope you all feel that you have enjoyed the meetings as much as I have. I hope you will continue to play Boccia in my memory, I have fond memories of Doris Blanchard's eagle eye and Nancy's great aim! While as for Mary, if only her aim had been as good as her enthusiasm!

I want to thank especially all the helpers who have supported me over the years, Lilian, Eve, Jenny, Mary and Jean. You have always volunteered so willingly and uncomplainingly with helping with food and arrangements and put up with my quirks and forgetfulness! Thank you all.

I am handing the club over to Sandy Rogers today, who has most kindly volunteered to take it on. I hope you will enjoy it as much as I did, and if you need me, please don't hesitate to ask me for any little jobs! I shall miss you all, but I want now to wish us all a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year of 2008!

Church Office - Administrator

It is with regret that from the beginning of January 2008 the Church will no longer be able to support the post of Parish Administrator. As many are aware Mrs Anita Long has filled the post over that last five years and we have been very grateful for Anita's work. On behalf of the church we wish Anita every blessing for the future.

The Church Office will still be the focus for the day-to-day business of the church. Revised opening hours are 9.15 am to 5 pm Monday to Friday (closed Wednesday).

Written correspondence to Rev'd C Lawrence at the usual office address.

Yet another "farewell"!

This time to Anita Long, who is not returning to the Church Office. Though I only got to know her following the sudden death of my husband, Tom, she has become a friend. She was so kind and sympathetic then, with an inexhaustible source of tissues and tea, both provided with sound, practical common sense.

She made our time on the Parish Newsletter (which can be fraught) into fun. For that, and so much more Anita - thank you! Sue W.

From the Editor to all our Contributors –

Please can I have your items **BY 10th of the month**. It is getting increasingly difficult to put the Magazine together for the printers to start work so as to get it back for distribution by our worthy volunteers.

The items should be A5 size with Font 12. The heading can of course be a larger font. The type should be Times New Roman or Arial, as some of you have found that the more "fancy" script does not reproduce well, and I will not alter fonts or content. What you send in will be considered what you want to be included .

Thank you for supporting us. Sue W. Ed

OPERATION GODSEND

A SERVICE FOR ALL PARISH
RESIDENTS

Examples of the services available are:

Transport

Essential journeys - Visits to doctor's surgery or
hospital, essential shopping, collection of
prescriptions
Changing library books

Resources

Small handyman/woman tasks - eg changing fuses,
altering clocks etc.
Visiting/befriending.

Requests will be received on an answer phone
Tel. No: 01825 891072

Messages will be checked daily (evenings) and callers
contacted within 24 hours

FRAMFIELD & BLACKBOYS MONDAY CLUB

2.30 Framfield Memorial Hall

4th Feb "Childhood in Uckfield" by Roy Fuller

18th Feb: Boccia (*form of sit down Bowls*) tea & cake

March 3rd AGM + Bring & Buy

March 17th: " Miniatures in mind" by Mrs Bates
(Dolls Houses)

ALL WELCOME - 50-100!

for Transport or more info: 840648

<<<<< Note new mobile number for Inside Out 0791 569 7304

"PLAYTEX MOONWALK"

A Blackboys resident has successfully gained
a place on the 26-mile marathon walk starting
at midnight on a circular route from Hyde
Park on Saturday 17th May 2008 raising
money for breast cancer and cancer care.

This will be her 3rd 'walk' and she would be
glad to hear from anybody in this Parish who
is also walking or for that matter anyone who
may like to accompany her whilst training.
Last year she raised £1,500 with various
fundraising activities and hopefully this year
will be another success.

Her name is Christine on 01825 890809 and
she would be grateful for any raffle prizes.

Framfield Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting Schedule for 2008
(all meetings commence at 7.30 pm)

Tuesday, 29 January	Blackboys Village Hall
Tuesday, 26 February	Blackboys Village Hall
Tuesday, 25 March	Framfield Memorial Hall
Tuesday, 29 April	Framfield Memorial Hall
Tuesday, 27 May (AGM)	Blackboys Village Hall
Tuesday, 24 June	Framfield Memorial Hall
Tuesday, 22 July	Blackboys Village Hall
August	No meeting
Tuesday, 30 September	Framfield Memorial Hall
Tuesday, 28 October	Blackboys Village Hall
Tuesday, 25 November	Framfield Memorial Hall
December	No meeting

Planning Committee Meeting Schedule for 2008

All Meetings to be held in Framfield Memorial Hall on Wednesdays at 7 pm as listed.

January	9	30
February	20	
March	12	
April	2	23
May	14	
June	4	25
July	16	
August	6	27
September	17	
October	8	29
November	19	
December	10	

Public welcome. For further details, please telephone the Parish Clerk, Ann Newton,
on 01825-890182.

***BLACKBOYS & DISTRICT HISTORICAL
SOCIETY***

Our Christmas event was a great success, Don Dray's presentation; the Dancing Decades, from Ragtime to Swing proved a popular choice for all who attended. And the music even brought back memories for some of us! Next December we will be entertained with a "Victorian Christmas" evening.

In February Jenny Wooton will be speaking about Wannock Gardens, near Polegate, which faded into history several years ago but will still be remembered by local people as a popular stop for afternoon tea up until their demise.

Our March meeting will include a talk about Michelham Priory with Helen Poole. Luckily, and thanks to the Sussex Archaeological Society, the Priory, and its lovely gardens are still there for us to visit in the summer months.

On 1st April, Elizabeth Hughes will be telling us about "God's Acre" which I am sure will be of interest to those who like visiting graveyards, from people interested in family history, to those who just like to use them as a "peaceful green space".

Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month in Blackboys Village Hall. If you would like to know more about the activities of the society or are interested in joining, my contact details are below.

Ann Turner

Secretary

Tel: 01825 890359 or email: [email: baturner.18maple@btinternet.com](mailto:baturner.18maple@btinternet.com)

Framfield & Blackboys Horticultural Society News

I must apologise for the problems in reading the last edition from the Horticultural Society News I have been assured that this has now been resolved.

We have a few events lined up for the next couple of months the first being a 'get together' at Jenny Homewood's garden at Acorn Cottage Bird in Eye to view her wonderful collection of snowdrops on Tuesday 5th February 11am - this is always subject to the weather and therefore please phone either Jenny direct on 01825 763794 or myself before hand. The second event is a talk by Patrick Coulcher on 'The Natural History of the Isles of Scilly on Thursday 27th March 7.30pm at Framfield Memorial Hall. Please do come along, Patrick has been with us before and is an excellent speaker. Everyone is welcome, members and non members. Wine and nibbles will be available and it will give you a chance to meet other members of our Society.

I also have an appeal to make, although it may seem along way off we are already making plans for the Summer Show and thought it would be a good idea to start a 'Show Committee' - this will not involve heavy committee meetings or an onerous amount of work for one person, but give the community the opportunity to get involved and help with Framfield and Blackboys Summer Show. This could be just to help sell raffle tickets on the day for an hour or direct traffic into the grounds. If anyone would like to help & get involved please feel free to either give me a call or email me.

Jenny Bacon, Chair
01825 890236 or email: jenny@baconjgw.fsnet.co.uk

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – NOVEMBER 2007

The Parish Council met on 27 November 2007 – the last meeting of the year.

A verbal report was given updating members on the status of the Parish Magazine. The Gillies' have retired from the printing and the treasurer resigned due to family commitments. Thanks were given to both parties for all their efforts on behalf of the Parish. Another meeting in the New Year would decide if there is to be an increase in advertising rates. Letters would be sent to all current advertisers and potential new interested parties.

Naming of the houses on the Nicholls & Shoemith site: the Parish Council had been asked to either support the suggestion put forward by the Historical Society – Craftsmen's Cottages – or think of alternatives. The PC agreed to support the above suggestion.

The budget and precept for next year was discussed with a final proposal being bought to the January 2008 meeting.

The implementation of tenancy agreements for Blackboys allotment holders was taken forward and a final draft agreed in January 2008. All tenants would receive a copy prior to 1 April 2008.

I detail separately the meeting dates for next year. All these meetings are open to the public.

Please contact any of the Councillors or the Parish Clerk, Ann Newton.

Eryl Thomas (890360); Jeremy Bacon (890236); David Andrews ((07765 320116); Myran Eade (890507); Jonathan Fenton-Vince (07943 103224); Peter Friend (01435 867126); Maria Naylor (0780 1230835); Rob Newton (890103); Ian Paisley (890904); Rita Redman (890276); Keith Riddle (890379).

Ann Newton (Parish Clerk): 01825 890182 (fax/answer machine). Email: framfield.pc@virgin.net. Messages will be picked up during office hours.

AEN/30 September 2017

'The Framfield Stagers'

present

The Babes in the Woods

(A Family Pantomime)

on

Friday 29th February 2008
& Saturday 1st March from 7.30pm.
Saturday Matinee at 2pm

Box Office 01825 890931

Adults £5.00 – Children £2.00



BLACKBOYS PRE-SCHOOL
BLACKBOYS VILLAGE HALL, GUN ROAD,
BLACKBOYS, EAST SUSSEX, TN22 5JY

Tel: 01825 891113

Mobile: 07931 978071

Email: blackboyspreschool@googlemail.com

Website: www.blackboyspreschool.co.uk

Happy New Year. The Autumn term ended in a flurry of beautiful Christmas crafts that the children brought home and a wonderful Christmas Carol concert. All the children had learnt their songs and actions and it was a joy to watch for the parents. Party games and a party lunch followed and ended in the highlight of Father Christmas arriving. What a wonderful start to the Christmas holidays!

So here we are in the Spring term of 2008 and lots of exciting things planned for the pre school. In addition to all the fun things planned for the children we also have a fun packed range of events for parents and families to raise additional funds for the pre school, starting with a Beetle Drive on the coming of January. Tickets are £10 and include a fish and chip supper and a drink. Tickets are available from the pre school - why not come and support your local community, enjoy a fun packed evening and help raise money for the pre school.

If you have children coming up to pre school age why not come and see us! We have an experienced manager, caring staff and an enthusiastic committee. We have a Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO), a great relationship with Early Years Service, and a recent OFSTED report that we are immensely proud of. Nursery funding is available, and we welcome children from two to five years of age (and they do not have to be potty trained).

Talk to other mums, chat to people in the village, see the children, look at all the exciting things that the children are doing and learning. We believe that we can offer your child a fantastic start to their education and social development.

To arrange to come and take a look contact us via phone or email - whatever is easiest - we look forward to seeing you.

ADELE LYONS

Framfield and Blackboys WI - Report

At our December meeting Mr. Scholfields' talk on the history of Magic was most suitable being so near to Christmas. We were surprised to learn that "Magic" had been performed for 5000 years. We were invited to join in the various slight of hand demonstrations and also mystified as to how it was done.

Our evening concluded with mulled wine and a delicious selection of sandwiches and mince pies etc.

We are eating out at the Star in Waldron in January, then in February back to Blackboys Village Hall for our usual monthly meetings.

We always welcome visitors, so why not come and see us on the second Tuesday in the month?

Lyn Malyon

Framfield C E Primary School January 2008

After an exciting and very busy term before Christmas we ended the year on a very high note with two excellent productions of **Five Gold Rings**. This was a musical based on the song 'Twelve Days of Christmas' and provided parts for every child in the school. The children played their parts very well indeed, and we were delighted with the marvellous costumes which the parents and support staff produced for everyone. It was a great joint effort which everyone enjoyed.

Earlier in the term we celebrated our award of Bishop's Commendation in a special service at the church. The service was an expression of the ways in which the children have approached their learning and spiritual experiences in RE in the school and was appreciated by the parents, staff and Archdeacon of Lewes and Hastings, Ven Philip H Jones. Members of the church provided us with tea and biscuits after the service so we all felt spiritually and physically cared for.

As we look ahead to this new year, we are anticipating some very interesting projects based around our pond and a project with Spring Watch, and the RSPCA on habitats. We hope for fine weather eventually so that we can make the most of these projects, as well as our new orienteering course which is shortly to be set up in the school grounds.

Janet Wilde
Headteacher

Thank you very much to all the organisers of the fantastically fun new year's eve party held in Framfield Memorial Hall. There was a very silly Crackerjack competition, and plenty of very silly costumes. Good fun had by all from the very young to the young at heart oldies.

PTFA

Framfield Primary School PTFA wishes to thank everyone who both organised and came along to our Christmas events.

A very healthy £290 was raised from the children's bazaar.
And a record £385 was raised from the hamper raffle.

This year's winners were :

1. Debbie Ferrari
2. Suzanne Johnston
3. Mrs Foskett
4. Jack Hobbs
5. Lisa Dennis
6. Simon Joslin
7. Carol Holmes
8. Zoe Warren
9. Lucy Langran
10. Russell Monk
11. Angela Stephenson
12. Louise Bush
13. Mrs Paterson
14. Marcus

Sadly no one sent in any pictures or items about their Christmas holidays so George and Poppy have come to the rescue (They are awfully good on the computer)

Hello, I'm George, the grey scruffy dachshund. I had a lovely Christmas as I just love food and we had 3 days of turkey dinners- we left the sprouts- Mistress thought that was for good manners but sprouts-ugh! "G"

Good day, I'm Poppy, the red pretty dachshund. I've been writing to my film-star friends in L.A. An elderly Peke called Lord Snuffels and Lady Basha an 18yr.old pug. Their Master is a film-actor who also sings in the USC church. American hymns and harmony. Our Mistress listens to Moari songs and the Fron male voice choir-so it is fairly easy to decide what mood she's in! Do send her your pictures.

Childrens Parish Newsletter
for February and March 2008



Any items contributed to this page by the
children are with full parental consent.

The Memorial Hall, The Street, Framfield, TN22 5RN
Ofsted Registration No 511222
Charity Commission No 1040794
PLA Member No: 29899



We are pleased to return to Playgroup in 2008 following an action packed end to 2007. We had a lovely walk on the recreation ground at the end of November, which gave us the opportunity to discuss our current topic about the Weather.

December then began with us all visiting Father Christmas at the Bluebell Railway whilst enjoying a ride on the train. The children received some wonderful presents and also had the opportunity to have their photograph taken with Father Christmas on his sleigh. He then found time to drop some more presents into our Christmas Party at which we all had a fantastic time.

Reverend Chris Lawrence held a Church service especially for the children on the last Monday before Christmas. This really helped the children understand the true message of Christmas. We were also pleased to have someone from Uckfield Library come in to read us a wonderful Christmas story.

Our Staff have been even busier than usual attending a variety of training courses to further their skills. These have included a Come Outdoors course, a Music Arts and Patterns course and they have also updated their Paediatric First Aid skills.

We are also very excited to be able to offer prospective newcomers a fantastic opportunity. We at Framfield Playgroup are very proud of our setting and the broad range of activities that our friendly Staff offer pre-school children. We are so sure that you will agree that we would like to offer your child the opportunity to join us FREE for a week* in 2008. There is no obligation to come back after the week is up and you will not be charged for the sessions your child has enjoyed whether you decide to enrol or not. So why not come and try us?

If you are thinking of enrolling your child at playgroup, please do not hesitate to give us a call. We accept children from the age of 2 years old and they do not have to be potty/toilet trained.

For more information or a copy of our prospectus, please contact:

Jo Rayner (Supervisor) on 07975 567766 or 01825 763470
Denise Muller (Committee Secretary) on 01825 890546

Alternatively, please feel free to visit us on Monday, Wednesday or Friday morning between 9.00 am – 11.30 am in the Memorial Hall, Framfield.

** One week of sessions at Framfield Playgroup comprises our opening days which are Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Sessions run from 9.00am to 12.00pm (11.30am for under 2 year olds). We also offer an optional Lunch Club – for children aged 3 years and over – which runs from 12.00pm to 12.45pm. The Trial Week offer is limited to one week per child.*

MACMILLAN CANCER **SUPPORT**

Our Quiz Night just before Christmas was once again a successful and very well supported event, and for those who came along for the evening you helped us raise £648 - thank you very much.

The 'Support' part of our title means just what it says - not only does the charity help those with cancer in providing the necessary doctors, nurses and specialists - the money we raise goes towards the emotional, practical and financial side as well as supporting the entire family of those affected.

Our next fund raising event is ***Burns Night on Saturday 2nd February at Ringmer Community College.*** Please contact us on one of the numbers below if you would like more information. It's a fun evening with a 3 course meal, Scottish dancing and a piper piping in the haggis!

If anyone feels they need personal help or advice on matters relating to cancer or just general information on Macmillan Cancer Support, please ring the **Freephone Macmillan Cancerline on 0808 808 2020** or visit **www.macmillan.org.uk**.

Ann Press, Local Chairman 01825 890400
Maureen Byford, Secretary 01825 831882

BLACKBOYS CRICKET CLUB

On the field, Blackboys Cricket Club had another fantastic year in 2007. In our first season in the East Sussex Cricket League, we won the Divisional title in style and were a clear distance ahead of our nearest rival, Uckfield Anderida. As a consequence, we have been promoted three divisions and in 2008 we find ourselves in Division 4. Our Saturday league fixtures are as follows:

10/05/2008	Blackboys v Mayfield 1st XI
17/05/2008	Rotherfield 1st XI v Blackboys
24/05/2008	Blackboys v St Peters 2nd XI
31/05/2008	Maresfield 1st XI v Blackboys
07/06/2008	Blackboys v Little Common Ramblers 1st XI
14/06/2008	Plumpton & East Chiltington 1st XI v Blackboys
21/06/2008	Glynde & Beddingham 3rd XI v Blackboys
28/06/2008	Blackboys v St James Montefiore 3rd XI
05/07/2008	Fletching 2nd XI v Blackboys
12/07/2008	Mayfield 1st XI v Blackboys
19/07/2008	Blackboys v Rotherfield 1st XI
26/07/2008	St Peters 2nd XI v Blackboys
02/08/2008	Blackboys v Maresfield 1st XI
09/08/2008	Little Common Ramblers 1st XI v Blackboys
16/08/2008	Blackboys v Plumpton & East Chiltington 1st XI
23/08/2008	Blackboys v Glynde & Beddingham 3rd XI
30/08/2008	St James Montefiore 3rd XI v Blackboys
06/09/2008	Blackboys v Fletching 2nd XI

Our AGM takes place at the end of January and we start our indoor net practice at Great Walsted School, Lindfield in April.

If you would like to get involved with Blackboys Cricket Club please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Colin Eade, Secretary. 01825 890507, colin.eade@gmail.com
www.blackboyscc.co.uk

THE FAMILIAR AND THE EXOTIC

For a birdwatcher, one of the great things about going to far away places is the excitement of seeing new and exotic birds, but this is sometimes balanced with the pleasure of coming across familiar birds in unfamiliar surroundings. My wife and I were exercising our lungs in the Himalayas of Nepal recently, and while struggling for breath at nearly 14,000 feet the distinctly recognisable trill of a wren rang out, equally happy in this overwhelmingly beautiful and dramatic landscape as it would be in a garden in Sussex

Similarly, house sparrows were common as were tree sparrows, while it was interesting to note two species that originated in Asia that have made themselves very comfortable in the UK, the ubiquitous collared dove and the ever increasing rose-ringed parakeet, yet to become established in Sussex but probably will in the near future. An interesting conundrum involved an absolute great tit look-a-like which was in fact a green-backed tit while a rather grey looking tit with similar markings was masquerading under the name of great tit.

Occasional glances to the skies gave us glimpses of familiar raptors and while we were there we saw kestrel, common buzzard, sparrowhawk, peregrine falcon and osprey. Mind you they had to share the space with gems like lammageier, crested serpent eagle, black eagle, crested goshawk and hundreds of black kites.

Green sandpiper is a bird I associate with winter walks around Henfield when I occasionally disturb one that is feeding along the muddy margins of the River Adur or its tributaries, but in the Royal Chitwan National Park we were on the back of an elephant in sweltering heat somewhere around the mid-thirties centigrade watching the same bird carefully skirting around a twelve-foot crocodile that was basking on a sandbank. The crocodile was actually the gharial, a fish-eating species, so the sandpiper was quite safe!

For those who have trouble with their warblers, then a trip to Nepal will just compound your woes The Nepalese Field Guide has about 2 pages of warblers that look just like chiffchaffs, and luckily one did oblige by singing so was at least able to identify that one as a proper chiffchaff. I was quite pleased with myself in that I identified a lemon-rumped warbler, but needed the help of a local guide to put names to some of the others.

Of course for us somewhere like Nepal is full of exotic wildlife whereas for the locals they are just part of everyday life, nothing to get excited about really. We caused some mild interest by standing on one of Kathmandu's busiest streets staring into the tops of 3 trees fascinated by hundreds of roosting fruit bats, completely oblivious to the tumult going on beneath them.

Back home again, the wren has been busy in the garden and when I see him it does bring back memories of a wonderful holiday. The Downs may not be quite as dramatic as the Himalayas, but where you are, the pleasure of watching this little bird is just the same.

Mike Russell
Sussex Wildlife Trust
February 2008
www.sussexwt.org.uk



St Thomas à Becket, Framfield

*** * * FRAMFIELD PARISH LUNCH CLUB * * ***
DATES FOR 2008



IN THE CHURCH HALL - **12.30 pm** - WEDNESDAYS

The cost of lunch is £3.00
except the Christmas Lunch which will be £3.50

- | | |
|-------------|----------------------|
| 16 January | 16 July |
| 20 February | No August Lunch Club |
| 19 March | 17 September |
| 16 April | 15 October |
| 21 May | 19 November |
| 18 June | * 10 December |
| | * Christmas Lunch * |

Mainly for the more mature members of the parish,
but all are warmly welcome.

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ENQUIRIES: Mrs Eve Wickerson (01825) 890481
or Mrs Lilian Hitchcock (01825) 890472

TRANSPORT: Mrs Marilyn Bilson (01825) 733592

COMMUNITY CONTACT WEALDEN BY E-MAIL

If you are online in the **Wealden** area, you are invited to join our **free 'community contact' scheme**.

This scheme provides a safe, efficient and speedy way of exchanging information between Sussex Police, our Partners and the Community. As it is two-way, it allows members to respond quickly with information that could assist Sussex Police.

All messages are sent out as 'blind copies', so members e-mail addresses remain confidential. E-mail information is issued directly from a Police Co-Ordinator to your computer.

You will receive news bulletins from:

Sussex Police on crime, crime prevention, "good news" in the fight against local crime, traffic accident appeals, etc.

The Sussex Police Authority with news, meetings and surveys.

East Sussex Trading Standards regarding scams, rogue traders, etc.

Community Safety Messages from The SWP, WDC, ESCC and ESFRS.



To join, send an e-mail to:
cc.registration@sussex.pnn.police.uk
Please advise us of your postcode and contact phone number



East Sussex Downs and Weald **NHS**
Primary Care Trust



New Headteacher for Blackboys School

Blackboys CE School started 2008 on a very positive note with the arrival of our new Headteacher, Mrs Jonquil King. Mrs King comes to Blackboys from Rotherfield County Primary School where she was Deputy Headteacher. The whole school community - pupils, staff, parents and governors - is very pleased to have Mrs King to lead the school and looks forward to working with her over the years ahead.

Pat Herbert - Chair of Governors

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the local community in making me feel so welcome in these first few days. We really are very lucky to have such a warm and friendly school in our area. I would especially like to thank all the children, parents, staff and governing body for all the support they have given me – they have made this important move for me much less stressful than it could have been. I feel very lucky to have been appointed as headteacher to Blackboys School and look forward to working alongside everyone in the years to come.

J K King - Headteacher

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL URGENT

THE PARISH COUNCIL IS LOOKING FOR A 'HANDYMAN' FOR DUTIES WITHIN THE PARISH TO COMMENCE IMMEDIATELY.

MANY OF THE ITEMS THAT THE POSITION ENTAILS NEED TO BE CARRIED OUT ON A REGULAR TIMESCALE SUCH AS THE WEEKLY CHECKING OF THE THREE PLAY AREAS BUT MANY ARE ON AN AD HOC BASIS AND THE PARISH CLERK IS USUALLY THE FIRST POINT OF CONTACT.

FOR FULL DETAILS, PLEASE CONTACT EITHER MYRAN EADE (890507) OR THE PARISH CLERK, ANN NEWTON (890182).

THIS IS A PAID POSITION AND THE SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT WOULD BE INCLUDED ON THE PARISH COUNCIL'S PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE.