

FREE SMOKE ALARMS

Your local Fire Service personnel are happy to make an appointment to visit your home and discuss fire safety issues that are specific to you. They will also ensure that you have working smoke alarm(s) within your home and where you do not, they will supply and fit 10 year smoke alarms.

To request a **FREE** visit call **0845 230 0252** (call will be charged at a local rate).

USEFUL WEALDEN TELEPHONE NOS.

General Enquiries: 01273 481000

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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*Published jointly by
St Thomas à Becket Church
and Framfield Parish Council*

Parish Newsletter



**Framfield, Blackboys
and
Palehouse Common**

APRIL/MAY 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:

8th February 2008

Pamela Mary Napier Allen

15th February 2008

Adrian Pearce

27th February 2008

Ailsa Durrett

4th March 2008

Louis Charles Coppard

10th March 2008

Imogen Victoria Brown

**WHO'S WHO AT THE
St. THOMAS À BECKET NEWSLETTER.**

Joint Chair -

For the Church: Rev. Chris Lawrence

For the Council: Mr. Eryl Thomas

Editor: Sue Whitehead

Technical Editor: Barry Richardson

Secretary and Advertising:

Ann Newton

Pat Herbert

Treasurer: Jan Riddle.

Distribution: Derek Thorogood
and his team of volunteers.

Printers: "Print Matters"

*A bi-monthly Newsletter distributed free to all homes
within the Parish.*

MAY 17th at 6.30pm.
in the
UCKFIELD HOLY CROSS
CHURCH

**The LONDON CENTRAL FELLOWSHIP
BAND OF THE SALVATION ARMY
will play music from the shows/films light
classics and religious tones**

Tea and Coffee after

**A BIG Retiring offering will be taken for the
Funds of THE HOLY CROSS CHURCH**

AND

**WE ARE MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT
Do come and support - ALL WELCOME**

For more information
Sandy Rogers 840648

From the Vicarage

Hooray for the Easter Bunny?

Easter is upon us and with it the symbols of new life. The countryside and verges are filled with bright yellow daffodils and the shops are filled with Chocolate bunnies and Easter eggs. Surely a feast for the eyes and stomach and so soon after Christmas! Did you buy that gym membership with the best of intentions? It's tough wrestling with temptation and trying to drown out the little voice that says, "see, your eyes were bigger than your stomach".

However, Easter as we know is not about chocolate eggs or indeed the Easter Bunny. As nice as they are they can deflect us from the real meaning – the death and resurrection of Jesus. The gospel writers paint a gloomy picture of Christ's death on the cross on Good Friday. It would seem that the great hope that Jesus promised to bring, had suddenly been swept away by his untimely death.

In one sense, Jesus' sacrificial death for the sins of mankind is 'good news', despite the awfulness of Jesus' suffering, as the price for our sins (*short comings*) had been paid. This alone allowed for the restoration of the relationship between God and man to be made possible. However, better news was to come. During the third day following His death Jesus was raised to life. The Bible refers to death as 'the last enemy' which Jesus defeats as death could not hold Him.

The resurrection of Jesus (*a well documented historical fact*) has great significance to everyone, as the promise of eternal life is given to all who believe.

The resurrection is also unique to Christianity. All of the other major world religions focus on a philosophy, or a charismatic individual now deceased.

But it begs the question, 'can the following of a set of rules fill the emptiness of the human heart, and what's the point in worshipping a dead hero'? Think about it; the application of a set of rules is of little

comfort in a crisis or can you imagine going to a religious place and praying for help to a dead person or to some form of man-made idol? You could be there a long time waiting for an answer!

Perhaps what is not often spoken about is the coldness of having no hope for the here and now, or the future. From a human standpoint to be known and loved by others is of great value and brings warmth, joy and meaning to our lives. John Lennon was right when he wrote 'All you need is love'. The Apostle John reminds us that '**God is Love**' and to be known, accepted and loved by the living God is the ultimate pinnacle in human experience. It's a relationship that is real and vital every day of our earthly lives and for all eternity. **Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me"** (John 14:6).

Whether we choose to acknowledge it or not Easter is about the Son of God dying for us wayward human beings so that we could be bought back into a right relationship with God. For that is why we were created. Can anyone not even consider the implications this has for their life?

The Easter Bunny may be cute but he can't save you. His chocolate cousin may make you wide eyed with desire. But when you see through the smoke screen there you will find the Cross of Christ, this is the point of focus and as the writer of the letter to Hebrews reminds us '**Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of God**' (Hebrews 12:2).

Happy Easter

Chris Lawrence



1288 – 2008
720 years, 63 Vicars

A Parish Celebration
St Thomas á Becket Church

June 6th, 7th and 8th 2008

Friday 6th June 7pm
Concert -The Weald Singers

Saturday 7th June 10am - 4pm
Open House

Find out about the history of the church
Share your memories and photographs of local events
Search for ancestors on the gravestone list
Discover the plants in the graveyard
Can you solve the number trail?
Ring the Jubilee Bell
Displays of work from the Parish Schools
See historic documents
Churchyard bug hunt
Tea and cake available all day or bring a picnic

BBQ 5pm-7pm, Vicarage Garden

Sunday 8th June
Sunday Service & Sunday Club 11am
And afterwards a bring and share picnic in the paddock
Hot drinks provided

No tickets required – donations appreciated.

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

DIARY OF CHURCH SERVICES

APRIL

- 06 3rd Sunday of Easter**
8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Family Service
6.30 pm Evening Communion (CW)
- 16** 11.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 13 4th Sunday of Easter**
10.00 am Parish Communion (CW)
6.30 pm Evening Praise
- 20 5th Sunday of Easter**
8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Family / All Age Service
6.30 pm Healing Service
- 27 6th Sunday of Easter**
10.00 am Parish Communion
6.30 pm Evening Praise

MAY

- 04 7th Sunday of Easter**
8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Family Service
6.30 pm Evening Communion (CW)
- 11 Pentecost**
10.00 am Parish Communion (CW)
6.30 pm Evening Praise

- 18 Trinity Sunday**
 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
 10.00 am Family / All Age Service
 6.30 pm Healing Service
- 21** 11.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 25 1st Sunday of Trinity**
 10.00 am Parish Communion
 6.30 pm Evening Praise

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

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

**HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR
 PARISH COUNCIL**

Mrs. Ann Newton (Parish Clerk): 01825 890182 (fax/answer machine). Email: framfield.pc@virgin.net. Messages will be picked up during office hours. All communications for Parish Council matters should be directed to the Secretary

Details of Operation Godsend are printed elsewhere in the magazine.

Framfield & Blackboys Horticultural Society News

The next 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. Everyone is welcome, members and non members, wine and nibbles will be available.

Our next garden forum is at the kind invitation of Maria Andrews at Highlands, Etchingwood Lane, 11am on Thursday 8th May, please let Maria know if you able to come Tel 07792 298818. As I have mentioned before the garden forums offer an excellent way to meet other gardeners while enjoying a stroll around a local garden that you would not normally get the opportunity to see.

You should all receive a copy of this year’s Summer Show Schedule with your Parish magazine. Please do take a look at the Schedule as we have made a few changes including some extra classes. I would like to pass my thanks onto Derek Tafft for all his hard work arranging the advertising in our 2008 schedule.

Many thanks also to those that have volunteered to get involved with the Summer Show, still more spaces available so if anyone else can help, please give me a call or drop me an email.

Happy Gardening

Jenny Bacon, Chair
 01825 890236
 email j.bacon@zen.co.uk

**FRAMFIELD MEMORIAL HALL 200 CLUB
WINNERS 2007**

*WE ARE SORRY IF YOUR NAME DOES NOT APPEAR ON THE LIST
BUT HOPE THAT YOU WILL CONSIDER JOINING FOR 2008
IT IS STILL £15 AND THE TOP PRIZE £400*

Number	Name	Address
£25 winners		
17	H Kerner	The Bees Framfield
24	J 'Espinasse	38 Southover High Street Lewes
36	J Penny	Beggars Barn Framfield
123	D Andrews	Highlands Framfield
154	E Lewis	The Barn Blackboys
59	S Harding	4 Kipling Drive Larkfield
66	Dawn Jenner	103 Bradbury Road Solihull
58	A Newman Brown	Pear Tree Cottage Blackboys
160	B Davy	The Old Stables Framfield
60	A Wickerson	35 Becketts Way Framfield
£50 winners		
70	A Silchenstedt	Framelle Mount Framfield
156	M Malandrino	Little Goldsmiths Bushey Lane Blackboys
135	C Gladwin	2 Ebenezer Cottages Framfield
101	A Marten	The Coach House Framfield Place
141	H Becvar	Little Goldsmiths Bushey Lane Blackboys
36	J Penny	Beggars Barn Framfield
£100 winners		
42	K Riddle	1 The Limes Framfield
145	R Scott	2 Ebenezer Cottages Framfield
84	P Maddocks	2 Preston Grove Framfield
£400 winner		
63	P Friend	Kings Farm Sheepwash Ln Blackboys

To join, renew your subscription or have another number please contact:

Sandy Rogers	Greenacres Halland Park Farm	840648
Mary Short	27 Becketts Way Framfield	890854
Esther Eade	Farriers The Street Framfield	890507
David Jenner	10 Cleve Close Framfield	890632

Remember all numbers are in the draw for every prize.

The Framfield Stagers' Revue

This is written by a Sunday Times journalist, who saw the show on Saturday.

We should have raised around £1,400 and this will be split between the Framfield School PTFA and the Sussex Air Ambulance.

David

Babes and the Hood

It was a sellout crowd, tense with excitement and anticipation — and the Framfield Stagers didn't disappoint. A veritable extravaganza of music, light, laughter and tights, The Babes in the Wood wowed the audience with top-notch comedy and jokes aplenty. Northern Rock, Catherine Tate, the Cadburys gorilla (was it Phil Collins in the monkey suit?) — the references were bang up to the minute, and the gags came as thick and fast as the cream custard pies.

The chorus got us in the mood from the minute the lights went down, with their witty and well-rehearsed renditions of musical favourites. We had the hero, Robin Hood, who saves the Royal Babes, the Henchmen, who made Frank Spencer look intelligent, and the villain, bad Prince John (boo!). And where would we be without the panto dame, Nursie, who even splattered a very game bank manager in a classic slapstick sketch.

Never act with kids, they say, but that was far from the case - the Framfield children, playing babes and sprites, were lively, bright and entertaining. The dancers led the way with excellent choreography and professionalism. And the set and costume designers deserve a special mention too for creating an atmosphere of fun and frivolity throughout.

It was am-dram at its best — Pantoland has never been so rip-roaringly (or tight-rippingly?) funny!

HARD TIME FOR MIGRANTS

Well, migration time is upon us again, a time when all birdwatchers get excited by the thought of our returning summer visitors and the idea that out of all those millions of birds heading towards our shores a few might be off course and some strange and exotic species might end up here.

By the time you read this the monotonous tone of the chiffchaff will be ringing through the hedgerows and woodlands while a very early swallow was reported on the Sussex Ornithological Society website as early as mid-February. Migration in general seems to be a hot topic in the world of natural history and the media at the moment with Radio 4 devoting a whole 40-week series to it.

Sadly though, for many of our migrant species the outlook is pretty bleak, as many of them have declining populations, some drastically, and this is particularly happening in the southern half of Britain. Once common summer visitors such as the willow warbler, spotted flycatcher, cuckoo, turtle dove, yellow wagtail have all seen declines of over 50%, with some much greater, since the 1980's. Those much-loved harbingers of spring and summer the swallow, house martin and swift have also experienced similar falls in their numbers, again all in the south.

So what are the causes of these declines? The British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) is the organisation that monitors our bird populations and analyses the millions of records submitted by thousands of birdwatchers and organisations every year and are looking at the causes of this worrying trend. Of course, it is a complex issue and different reasons may apply to different species.

One common factor is that all the migrants are insectivores and a general feeling prevails, albeit difficult to quantify, that there are far fewer insects around at the moment, especially in the southern half of the country. Just one hypothetical example of this is that the decline in cattle farming allied to the chemical treatment used to get rid of flies has greatly affected the yellow wagtail population as they feed on the insects disturbed as the cows graze.

Surveys at nests of some birds show that many are having smaller broods, some species like the willow warbler are experiencing a greater failure rate at the egg stage so generally fewer birds are emerging at the end of the breeding season to make the hazardous journey to and from Africa, which countless thousands never survive anyway.

Underpinning the problem though is the loss or changes in habitat, both here and at their wintering grounds in Africa. The relationship between species and their habitat has evolved over thousands of years but the rate of change of the landscape over the last 50 years or so means that many species can't adapt. Now they have the additional problem of climate change to contend with. The hatching of the bird's chicks coincide with the emergence of huge numbers of insects, particularly caterpillars, but these can now emerge earlier before the chicks are ready. Consequently there is much less food available so far fewer youngsters are raised.

Our skies are not in imminent danger of becoming empty of birds, but the threat to some of our summer visitors is becoming critical and if they continue as they are the prospect for the future does look very bleak.

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

“Breast Cancer Charity” Sponsored by Playtex

As reported in a previous magazine Christine Thomas of Blackboys is taking part for the 3rd time in the 26-mile night time circular walk round London from Hyde Park. There is a raffle holding event at The Star, Waldron, on Sunday 25th May starting at 8pm with a variety of gifts from local businesses, family and friends and a professional local guitarist providing some music. Those of you who didn't come along last year missed a real treat which was also followed by a rendition of George Formby songs by a local punter. Any sponsorship money or if you have any unwanted items worth raffling would be gratefully received. Raffle tickets available on the night or by contacting Christine in advance on 01825-890809."

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

BLACKBOYS CRICKET CLUB

Non-League - Fixtures

26/04/2008	Maresfield v Blackboys
03/05/2008	TBA
11/05/2008	St Lukes v Blackboys
18/05/2008	TBA
22/05/2008	Heathfield Park v Blackboys
25/05/2008	TBA
01/06/2008	Blackboys v Rottingdean
08/06/2008	Wadhurst v Blackboys
15/06/2008	Blackboys v W G Gracefully
22/06/2008	Summerdown v Blackboys
29/06/2008	Laughton v Blackboys
06/07/2008	Moulscombe Wanderers v Blackboys
13/07/2008	Blackboys v President's XI
20/07/2008	Buxted Park v Blackboys
27/07/2008	Blackboys v St Lukes
03/08/2008	Blackboys v Waldron
10/08/2008	Buxted Park Six-a-Side Tournament
17/08/2008	Blackboys v The Invalids
24/07/2008	Ripe & Chalvington v Blackboys
31/08/2008	Pevensy v Blackboys
07/09/2008	Tunbridge Wells II v Blackboys
14/09/2008	Blackboys v Wadhurst
21/09/2008	Blackboys v Summerdown

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

**Colin Eade, Secretary. 01825 761028, colin.eade@gmail.com
www.blackboyscc.co.uk**

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2008

At both meetings the subject of the Uckfield Appeals was at the forefront of discussion. Keith Riddle made representation to HM Inspector on behalf of the Parish and the Appeals have now been adjourned until June. The Parish Council intends to make further written representation between now and that time.

Chris Dowling reported on his involvement over the issues with the Uckfield school bus which many residents are concerned about. Chris further reported on the details of the ESCC Review of Rural Speed Limits and although there appears to be little in the report for the Parish the PC intends to have a public meeting shortly to discuss what the Parish requires and then further lobby ESCC with their wishes. The PC were pleased to learn that moves are under way with road haulage associations and satellite navigation providers to try and adapt 'SatNavs' to alert drivers to roads which are unsuitable for HGV's as many roads in the Parish suffer at the hands of drivers only consulting the software.

At the January meeting the PC set the precept for the year 2008/09 at £35,000, a raise of £3,000. The PC's financial dealings are relatively small, 1% of our precept is worth only £350. As such even a modest increase in our expenditure translates itself into a significant % sum. We are faced, as everyone is, with rising costs for services and when additional requirements come along. This current raise is due to extra expenditure on the recreation grounds for woodchipping the play areas, assistance with production and accounts for the parish magazine, extra dog bins and their regular emptying and increased staff costs as more administrative effort arises. However on the positive front a 3 year, fixed price contract for cutting the recreation grounds and associated hedges has been negotiated and whenever appropriate we engage in competitive procurement.

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/19 March 2008

The Office Village
River Way
Uckfield
East Sussex TN22 1SL

Office: 01825 762807
Fax: 01825 767181
E-mail: chiefexecutive@uckfieldcab.cabnet.org.uk



CREDIT WHERE IT'S DUE

Wealden Citizens Advice has received funding from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs via ESDA (East Sussex Disability Association) to highlight the fact that many people may be entitled to and not claiming the following welfare benefits; Working Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit and VAT relief on adaptations needed by disabled people.

Working Tax Credit can be claimed by people in receipt of low incomes who are in work for a minimum of 16 hours depending on individual circumstances. As the rules are quite complicated it is better to enquire about eligibility rather than miss out on money that may be due to you or your staff. To find out about eligibility or to submit a claim please telephone the HMRC hotline on **0845 010 9000**. If independent information and assistance are required contact an adviser at your local Citizens Advice Bureau.

Child Tax Credit can be claimed by anyone with children and a household income under approximately £50,000, depending on individual circumstances. Claims and information can be accessed in the same way as for working tax credit.

If you are an employer please bring the following information to the attention of your staff so that they can contact HMRC, their local Citizens Advice Bureau or East Sussex Disability Association. If you or your company does the payroll for local firms please contact **Caroline Mack, on 01825 762807**, as she will be able to provide you with some posters and slips to be put into wage packets encouraging people to claim. Posters are available for all companies for staff rooms.

You may not be aware that adaptations that disabled people need to make to their homes or gardens to make them more accessible and that will enable them to live a better life attract relief from V.A.T. For more information on how to claim please contact ESDA, East Sussex Disability Association, on **01323 514530**, your local Citizens Advice Bureau, or HMRC on **0845 300 3900**.

Crowborough Citizens Advice Bureau – 01892 655303
Hailsham Citizens Advice Bureau – 01323 842336
Uckfield Citizens Advice Bureau – 01825 764940

BLACKBOYS CRICKET CLUB

We start our campaign in Division 4 of the East Sussex Cricket League with a match at home to Mayfield. A team we have not played since our days in the old Cuckmere Valley Cricket League.

East Sussex Cricket League – Division 4 - Fixtures

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 Chilmington 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 1 st XI
26/07/2008	St Peters 2nd XI v Blackboys
02/08/2008	Blackboys v Maresfield 1 st XI
09/08/2008	Little Common Ramblers 1st XI v Blackboys
16/08/2008	Blackboys v Plumpton & East Chilmington 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

Unfortunately, over the past year, due to various reasons, the number of players that we have available, especially for our friendly fixtures on a Sunday, has dropped. We are therefore very much on the lookout for some new-blood. We need some more local players to join our ranks and we would like to here from you. Our contact details are as follows:

Gary Funnell, Club Captain: 01825 890781 – gary.funnell@googlemail.com
Colin Eade, Secretary. 01825 761028, colin.eade@gmail.com

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

BLACKBOYS & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

If you are interested in history, Spring is a good time of year to get out and about, and indulge that interest. Churches and churchyards are often at their best on a warm day when wild flowers are in season, and can also be a good source of information, whether you are interested in the history of a village or particular area, or are trying to find about your ancestors. If you would like to know more, Elizabeth Hughes will be talking about “God’s Acre” at our meeting on Tuesday 1st April.

On 6th May we will be welcoming Geoff Hutchinson to tell us about Rudyard Kipling, and our talk on June 3rd will be entitled “The Rose in History”.

If you would like to know more about the events above or the society in general, please call me on 01825 890359 or email: baturner.18maple@btinternet.com

Ann Turner
Secretary

Thank you to all those who supported our Burns Night in February – it was a most enjoyable evening and we raised £2,600. During 2007 1.4m people contacted Macmillan for a number of different reasons: 414,000 were helped by Macmillan nurses; 242,000 were supported through the Helpline; and 24,000 people were awarded grants to assist them while living with cancer. There are over 200 forms of cancer, many of which nowadays can be cured due to modern technology, especially when caught early on.

Cancer Bacup has recently merged with Macmillan. Under the umbrella of Macmillan one of the advantages will be far more comprehensible help and advice given out by qualified nurses on our phone lines.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

Music for a Spring Afternoon – St. Margaret’s Church, Buxted on Sunday 13th April at 3.00pm – Mozart, Handel and Gershwin with cream teas served in the interval.

Big Band Music – Holy Cross Church, Uckfield on Saturday 17th May at 6.30pm – the Salvation Army Band playing a selection of tunes from shows, films, light classics and religious themes.

Open Gardens/Teas – Sun 27th April, Warren House, Crowborough
Sun 4th May, The Grange, Framfield. Mon 5th, Sun 18th, Mon 26th May, Warren House, Crowborough. Sat, Sun, Mon 7/8/9th June, Hobbs Barton, Framfield. Gardens open 2.00pm – tea and homemade cakes served by the Committee.

Please contact us on one of the numbers below for more information.

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 School

My first term at Blackboys School has been a busy and lively time! Here is a taste of what we have all been up to!

We have formed the Blackboys Green Group as many of the year 6 children are very aware of environmental issues and have formed a group to co-ordinate Blackboys efforts in this area. The children have also elected an active school council who are responsible for getting the opinions and ideas of the children and representing them to the rest of the school ensuring that the pupil voice is heard in many ways around the school.

The School has been awarded an Activemark Award for 2007 for exceptional delivery within the National School Sport Strategy. Many thanks must go to all members of staff and parents who support sport throughout the school. It really is a team effort and we could not have achieved it without everyone's commitment! Congratulations to the children too!

I feel very lucky to be working in a school where such an active PTA exists: they are tremendously supportive and raise valuable funds for our school. Recently they financed the reinvigoration of our school pond which is shortly to be restocked. Thanks not only goes to the PTA for this, but also to Saverton Nurseries for all their hard work.

We have had many activities including a quiz night and a jumble sale.

FRAMFIELD VILLAGE HALL MARKET DATES



26th April

24th May

10am - 12 noon

and every following 4th Saturday
of the month

ALL WELCOME

Come and enjoy the Market stalls,

TEA/COFFEE/BACON ROLLS & COMPANY

Sandy - 840648

**FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS
MONDAY CLUB
ALL WELCOME
TRANSPORT CAN BE PROVIDED
50-100!**

APRIL 7th (Reg Lanaway)

"Sussex Woodlands Through the Seasons"

APRIL 21st *"Musical Event"*

**at "Green Acres" Halland Park Farm
East Hoathly (840648)**

12th May *This is our OUTING to
"BLUEBELL RAILWAY"
for a cream tea on the train.*

Leave Hall at 1.30 for 1.45 pm

On this event I MUST be informed if you are
coming
Sandy 840648

*We are looking for one other driver to pick up
from Uckfield at 2pm and run to Memorial Hall
then return at 4.15pm to take people back to
Uckfield. Contact Sandy 840648*

Don't forget the Easter Fair which is coming up very soon!

Along with the new pond, we have also had a new Sports Pavilion built: although finance for this new building has come from the submission of our travel plan, we will also be able, not only to use it to change from wet clothes when we have walked to school, but also changing for sports clubs!

There have been some wonderful class assemblies and of course our vicar Rev Chris Lawrence comes in to take our Church Assembly every other week. This is greatly appreciated and enjoyed by all members of the school community.

Our children have also attended many enrichment activities at other schools: these include working with ICT, Maths Master classes, cross country events, as well as football and net-ball matches. Year 6 children are performing a wonderful dance sequence at Ringmer CC on Friday. We have ourselves hosted two music enrichment days and our recorder groups and orchestra are thriving.

We are in the process of setting up a breakfast club to provide parents with early morning provision for child care should they need it. We hope to work with the pre-school in this.

J K King - Headteacher

Welcome Baptist Blackboys

On Sunday February 24 Martin Batstone, the chaplain of Lewes prison, came to speak to us. Against a background of national concern with disturbing reports of violent and foolish behaviour among young people – it was most helpful to gain a deeper and positive insight into the functioning and work of Lewes Prison. The chaplain gave a most interesting insight into the life of the prisoners and staff, and indicated ways in which our community could be involved in ‘Sussex Pathways’ helping to change the outlook and circumstances of prisoners seeking to be received back into the community, putting the past behind them, making restoration to their victims and breaking the cycle of repeated convictions.

The next **Special Event** to be held in the Village hall is: **March 30 – A Gardening Special** with seasonal tips from ex head gardener John Goodway and hints and advice from Fiona & Brian of Pure Plants Nursery, Blackboys. Bring your problem plants, questions and a notebook. Tea and cakes.

We continue to meet every Sunday 5-6pm in the Blackboys Village Hall, for a café-style time of friendship, worship, Bible teaching and cakes. All welcome.

Barbara Solly
01825 765178

LINE DANCING

FRAMFIELD CHURCH HALL

TUESDAYS, 2 PM to 4 PM

For more Information telephone Jackie on 01273 812194



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

Blackboys Pre School welcomes a new Supervisor and Deputy. We are all very excited to welcome them and look forward to the pre school moving onto new heights This term is learning all about Spring After the beautiful mothers day cards that were made by the children we can not wait to see the Easter creations This is such a fun and creative time of year.

Fund raising continues with a vengeance and after a lively and successful Beetle drive arrangements are being made for a Jumble sale in April and a Quiz night in June Please look out for the adverts in the local press and shops. All are welcome.

If you have children of pre school age ie from 2 years - why not come and see us We have sessions every weekday morning and two afternoon sessions All sessions are very well attended but come along and see for yourselves The outdoor play area and garden is really coming into it's own with the better weather coming and the lovely spring flowers appearing.

We look forward to seeing you soon!



FRAMFIELD PLAYGROUP
The Memorial Hall, The Street,
Framfield, TN22 5NR
OFSTED Registration No: 511222
Charity Commission No: 1040794
PLA Member No: 29899

Our first topic at Framfield Playgroup this year was titled Myself. We have had a wonderful time looking at pictures of the children as babies and talking about our families. Our current topic is Things That Grow, which is particularly appropriate given the time of year. We have been planting lots of seeds and discussing how they grow. We are then going to also be looking at insect and animal life-cycles.

We are now looking forward to visiting the local woods so we can see some Spring growth to demonstrate what we have been discussing in Playgroup. We also plan to arrange a sponsored walk around the village. This will give the children a chance to discuss the place where many of them live and also allow them to discover our community. We hope to involve some local businesses in the walk as an additional learning opportunity for the children.

Some of our staff have been furthering their training with a "Letters and Sounds" course and they have all attended a meeting which introduced to them the new Early Years "Four Themes". These two new strategies are to be implemented in pre-schools from September 2008 but many of the ideas learned are already being put into practice by our staff at Framfield.

We are also very pleased to still be offering prospective newcomers the fantastic opportunity of trying us for free. 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:

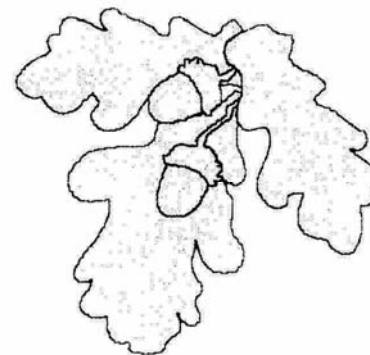
Jo Rayner (Supervisor) on 07975 567766 or 01825 763470

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.*

The CHILDRENS PARISH NEWSLETTER



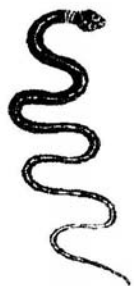
APRIL and MAY 2008

Any picture or item included is
with parental consent.

George and Poppy are delighted not to do messages as we have such a lovely "Spring" picture to put into our Newsletter. They have been very busy unpacking and have been supervising the re-arranging of furniture since they heard that they are not moving after all.

George has located the food storage and Poppy has delighted in the new settee- so much more support for lying on her back contemplating the ceiling! I sometimes wonder if there isn't a little bit of Australian in her!

Why don't you write and tell us about your pet and the tricks they get up to? I know there are lots of lovely animals around the village and even if you do not have a pet of your own- I'm sure you can imagine what your imaginary "Pet" would do. My parents were always horrified by my choice, usually slow worms or the odd lizard which I kept in my dolls house. My schoolteacher was not very pleased either when my slowworm escaped through the hole in the bottom of my desk, causing total panic in the class. All of us thought it very funny, but the grown-ups did not. Nor did my poor parents who were summoned to the Headmistress to explain my behaviour!



DO WRITE TO US

