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HAMMONDS GREEN, FRAMFIELD, UCKFIELD TN22 5QH

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

Parish Newsletter



Framfield, Blackboys
and
Palehouse Common

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2014

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

Vicar : **Revd Chris Lawrence**
01825 891090
(after hours 01825 890365)

Churchwardens : **None at present**

Secretary to PCC : **Mr Peter Tomsett**

Treasurer : **Mr Norman Jones**

**All communications for church matters should be directed to
the Church Office – 10.30 am – 5.00 pm (closed Wednesday)**

Email - rev.chris@btinternet.com

Post - Vicarage Barn, Brookhouse Lane, Framfield TN22 5NH

Telephone/ leave a message - 01825 891090

From the Registers :



Marriages: **Those whom God has joined, let no one divide:**
16th August: Amy Long and Harry Buckingham
30th August: Christine Luck and John Sullivan

At rest: **15th August: Mary Anne Smith**
22nd August: Jeane Sophia Williams
26th September: Elizabeth Rosa Thorogood

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 **0800 1777 069** (call is free).

USEFUL WEALDEN TELEPHONE NOs.

ESCC - General Enquiries: 01273 481000

Adult Education: 01273 481497

Bins and Recycling: 01323 443322 or 01892 653311

Education, general 01273 481000

Leisure centres, swimming pools and parks: 01323 443322

Planning, development, building control: 01323 443322

Road maintenance: 0345 6080193

Recycling sites: 01273 481000

Street Lighting: 01825 890182

Trading standards (consumer issues): 01323 418200

Crimestoppers, report crime anonymously 0800 555111

Police, non-emergency: 101

East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service: 0845 130 8855

Home Safety Visit Helpline: 0800 1777 069

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HOWEVER, ENDORSE ANY PRODUCTS OR SERVICES
SPECIFIED

WHO'S WHO AT THE St THOMAS À BECKET NEWSLETTER

Joint Chair -

For the Church: Rev. Chris Lawrence

For the Council: Mr. Rob Newton

Co-ordinator and Advertising: Ann Newton

Technical Editor: Barry Richardson

Treasurer: Jan Riddle

Distribution: Barbara Trickey, Delia Gillies,
and their teams of volunteers

Printers: "Print Matters"

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

The Vicar's been a fool!

I hope that everyone in the Parish had a good Summer Break. As good as it may or may not have been the new school term has started. The quiet few weeks in the main road though Framfield and Blackboys replaced by the hubbub of children returning to school. The beginning of the new school term heralds the start of a new academic year. A time of change and transition. Children starting school for the first time and others moving on to secondary education.

Beginning something new brings with it a mixed bag of emotions. Some children are really excited about starting school; others may be somewhat distressed about leaving their parents. Thankfully the children starting school generally have a Taster Day so they can at least have an inkling of what is waiting for them. I was 4 years and a month old when I started primary school. In those days Taster Day's hadn't been invented! On the appointed day my elder sister walked me up to the gates and pointed to the entrance and left me to get on with it. In hindsight I must have been petrified as I can still remember it to this day; those fearful steps into the unknown!

In a similar vein when Jesus called the first disciples, they immediately left their known life behind and stepped into the unknown. The only advantage they had, although they weren't aware of it, was that God was walking with them. Nonetheless, the early months that the disciples spent with Jesus must have been fantastic. Who could imagine what Jesus would and could do on a daily basis?

The first miracle that Jesus performed was turning water into wine at a wedding at Cana in Galilee. Apart from the wedding guests receiving more wine than they could possibly handle St John records that the event revealed Jesus' glory and the disciples put their trust in Him (John 2:11). This was the beginning of a new relationship that the disciples, individually and collectively would have with Jesus. Similarly, in our own circles of friendship, trust is the true foundation on which a relationship can grow.

Mark's Gospel is rapid-fire when it comes to Jesus' performing miracles. In the first chapter Jesus heals many who had various diseases including leprosy and drove out many demons. Chapter two - Jesus heals a paralysed man and forgives him of his sins. The crowd who witnessed the event were amazed and praised God saying "We have never seen anything like this!" Chapter three - Jesus restores the hand of a man whom we are told had a shrivelled hand.

Jesus' popularity is growing daily, so much so that wherever He went crowds arrived pushing and shoving each other just to touch him and be healed of their illnesses and disabilities. Jesus' healing and deliverance ministry was in a nutshell, awesome!

But stop for a moment and consider the disciples? They were the insiders, they witnessed first-hand what Jesus could do but they still had their doubts. In Chapter four there is the account of Jesus calming the storm. When the furious squall threatens to sink the boat Jesus is asleep in stern. The disciples (some hardened fishermen) are literally in fear of their lives and wake Jesus with a passionate plea "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" Mark records that - He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, 'Quiet! Be still!' Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. ⁴⁰ He said to his disciples, 'Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?' ⁴¹ They were terrified and asked each other, 'Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!' (Mark 4:39-41). They would be even more amazed when in a short while they would witness Jesus raising a little girl who had died, back to life.

When you consider the nature of Jesus, his compassion and capabilities; the One 'who went around doing good' why is that so many consider Him to be irrelevant today? When I was thirty years old I spent six weeks in the Kent & Sussex Hospital on traction. That was the treatment for prolapsed spinal discs at the time - not a pleasant experience. One day the Chaplain came to visit but I told him I wasn't interested and he went on his way. Knowing what I know now I was a fool to dismiss him without even giving him the opportunity to speak? It wasn't that I didn't have the time! How ironic that nine years later I would come to believe and start to see God performing miracles of healing in response to my clumsy prayers.

It's not a good practice to dwell on past regrets but I have often wondered how much personal suffering I may have been spared if I had given the Chaplain the time to explain to me just what this Jesus could do in response to a simple prayer. At the very least my circumstances would then have had the potential to be radically changed by this Jesus whom I (and so many) was so quick to dismiss without a second thought. That classic song just came to mind by Frank Sinatra 'I did it my way'. Personal pride and ignorance got in the way!

If you are currently suffering physically, mentally or spiritually or perhaps you have a very uncertain future then maybe it's time to get in touch and give Jesus an opportunity - after all, what do you have to lose?

Blessings to one and all in the Parish - Revd Chris Lawrence



Blackboys Pre-School
The Village Hall, Gun Road
Blackboys, East Sussex TN22 5JL
Tel: 01825 891113
email: enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org
Twitter: [@BlackboysPreSch](https://twitter.com/BlackboysPreSch)
www.blackboyspreschool.org.uk

Want to look around? Free taster sessions available now

We recently held a fantastic Open Day to give prospective parents an insight into some of our activities – including music, cookery and taster sessions on our allotment. But don't worry if you missed it. If you're considering your Pre-School options, places are filling up quickly so why not give us a call to arrange a look around at your convenience.

What's on for families in the area?

Details of family-friendly events are included in our weekly email newsletter. To subscribe, click on the "get newsletter" link at the bottom of our website.

Recycle for Blackboys

Having a clear out? Got any old clothes looking for a home? Look no further! As a registered charity, we do regular recycling collections to raise money for our activities. You can drop any donations off to us during school hours at Blackboys village hall. Call or email us if you'd like us to pick up from you.

Want to give something back to the community?

If you want to put your business skills to good use for the benefit of a local charity, we are always on the look-out for enthusiastic committee members. If you're interested in getting involved, we'd love to hear from you.

A little bit about Blackboys Pre-School

Open Monday to Friday during school term time from 8.45am to 3.30pm, Blackboys Pre-School applies Montessori principles and practices to activities and provides a nurturing environment for children aged between 2 and 5 in a fabulous rural setting.

More details can be found in our prospectus, available to download from our website. To book your child in for a no-obligation free trial or to arrange a visit, call Jenny on 01825 891113 or email us at enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org.uk.

A Bedtime Check could save your life, according to East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service

East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service is encouraging people to adopt a simple Bedtime Check to help avoid having a fire while you are asleep - and to spread the word to family, friends and neighbours.

☐ Turn off and unplug electrical appliances unless they are designed to be left on.

☐ Turn off the washing machine.

☐ Turn heaters off and put up fireguards.

☐ Put candles and cigarettes out properly.

☐ Make sure exits are kept clear.

☐ Close inside doors at night.

☐ Check cooker is off.

☐ Keep keys where everybody knows. You can print out a poster here:

<http://www.esfrs.org/communitySafety/ageingasafelyWeek.shtml>

The Service is also calling on people to ensure they have smoke alarms on every level of your home and test them regularly.

Find out more about smoke alarms here:

<http://www.esfrs.org/communitySafety/advice/smokeAlarms.shtml>

Home safety visits

If you believe you or someone you know is at greater risk of a fire in the home due to factors such as a lack of mobility, drug or alcohol use, dementia or smoking, East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service can help.

Find out more <http://www.esfrs.org/hsv.shtml>



Messy Church!

SUNDAY 19th OCTOBER @ 4pm

SUNDAY 16th NOVEMBER @ 4pm

(We gather and register in the church)

Messy Craft activities and Songs, followed by the most filling and delicious afternoon tea.

Fun for all the family.

Don't miss out and do join us, with your friends too.

We look forward to seeing you!!!

Diary of Church Services

OCTOBER 2014

05 Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity (Harvest Festival)

8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

10.00 am Harvest Festival Family Service

12 Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Family Service

6.30 pm Evening Holy Communion (CW) with Prayer For Healing

19 Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)

4.00 pm Messy Church

26 Last Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Morning Praise

6.30 pm Evening Holy Communion (CW)

NOVEMBER 2014

02 Fourth Sunday before Advent

8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

10.00 am Family Service

**08 7.30pm Theatrical production by the Covenant Players
'The Messenger' (see separate note for details and tickets)**

09 Third Sunday before Advent

10.00 am Service of Remembrance

6.30 pm Evening Communion (CW) with Prayer for Healing

16 Second Sunday before Advent

8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)

4.00 pm 'Messy Church' for all the family

23 Sunday next before Advent (Christ the King)

10.00 am Morning Praise

6.30 pm Evening Communion (CW)

30 First Sunday of Advent

10.00 am Café Service in The Memorial Hall

BCP: Book of Common Prayer. CW: Common Worship

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE
BY 10th NOVEMBER 2014**

TO

ANN NEWTON – 01825 890182

framfield.pc@virgin.net

**CHURCH NEWS ITEMS MAY ALSO BE SENT TO
CHRIS LAWRENCE AT THE CHURCH OFFICE –
01825 891090**

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

Mrs Ann Newton (Parish Clerk)

Telephone/fax: (01825) 890182.

Email: framfield.pc@virgin.net

**Postal Address: 'Highlands', Framfield Road, Blackboys,
East Sussex TN22 5LR.**

Parish Council website: www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk

Please contact Peter Berry (01825 890339), Dixon Press (01825 890400) or John Mordaunt (01825 890443).

Thank you for all your kind comments on the restoration work so far and for your continued support of the work of 'The Friends'.

Peter Berry

Chairman, The Friends of Framfield Church

BLACKBOYS & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Sadly we now only have 3 meetings left before we close down. At our meeting on October 7th John Turley will be giving us a Brief History of Lewes Racecourse. The November meeting on the 4th will be a talk about the Commonwealth War Graves Commission with Ian Everest.

Our December event will be our last meeting and Chris Butler will be talking about the Roman Villa at Barcombe. As this is a "special" meeting entrance will be by tickets bought in advance only. Numbers will be limited as we will be enjoying a two course meal beforehand. If you would like more details please contact me by 1st November at the very latest.

The October and November meetings will be held in Blackboys Village Hall at 7.30 for 8pm start. If you would like to know more about the above please contact the secretary on 01825890359 or email: bturner.18maple@btinternet.com

Ann Turner, Secretary

Framfield Church embarks on second phase of restoration work

Thanks to wonderful support from the parish the major renovation of Framfield Church was completed last December and, after a three-month closure, was re-opened in time for the Christmas services. If you have visited the church over the past few months you will have seen for yourself how the redecoration, new lighting, and restored windows and stonework have enhanced the lovely building.

However, in a 13th century church there is always work to do. That's why 'The Friends' are now embarking on a second phase of internal and external works.

A priority task is the repair of damaged plasterwork and the complete redecoration of our fine Gage Chapel. The tower and clergy vestries will also be repainted.

The tower clock is, literally, in for a facelift! The renovated clock will have numerals and hands detailed in gold leaf on a black painted background. Also in the tower, the louvres will be repaired or replaced.

The final task in this second stage of works will be the repainting of all the gutters and downpipes that were not painted during last year's renovation.

The cost of these works will be around £17,000, most of which will be covered by the remaining money in our Restoration Appeal fund. However, we still need to raise some additional funding so, if you would like to support this second stage of renovation, 'The Friends' would be delighted to hear from you.

FRAMFIELD VILLAGE MARKETS

The market opens from 10 am to 12 noon.



27 September
25 October
22 November
13 December

Please contact Ann Newton with any queries – 01825 890182 or email framfield.pc@virgin.net

Looking for a local venue?

Looking for a local venue? Then look no further.

Framfield Church Hall has just undergone a major refurbishment programme and is the ideal venue for regular meetings, special occasions, corporate training, parties and village events. The hall typically seats up to 60 persons and has full kitchen facilities and facilities/parking for the disabled.

Hire Rates: £9.00/hour with reductions for regular users and church members.

Tel the Church Office for further details 01825 891090; visit the website www.framfieldchurch.org.uk or e.mail rev.chris@btinternet.com

We have had a busy summer making and selling cakes and tea at various open garden locations. We are delighted to say that the total monies made amounted to £3776. Our lovely annual walk across the Ashdown Forest, which is arranged by one of our committee members, was a huge success. A great many people enjoyed it, along with the beautiful weather, the refreshment afterwards and of course being able to catch up with old friends and meet some new ones. A total of £462 was raised.

A couple of dates for your diaries: September 29th Coffee morning at Pizza Express, Uckfield in the morning and at Barnsgate Manor in the afternoon. October 10th Lunch at Buxted Park followed by a film on their big screen. November 11th Christmas Bazaar at Buxted sports pavilion.

MCS are celebrating their partnership with M&S by raising awareness of the World's Biggest Coffee Morning. We are able to hold local collections in M&S stores across the UK throughout the month of September.

If you or anyone you know has worries about cancer, if they've just been diagnosed or even if their treatment has ended, the Cancerline, Benefits Helpline, Cancer information Nurse Helpline and Youthline have all been brought together under one phone number: 0808 808 0000 or the website can always be visited on www.macmillan.org.uk. Information can be had over the telephone, or you can request any number of relevant booklets.

Ann Press, Local Chairman 01825 890400



We are a community village Pre-School with our own purpose built premises, which are spacious, well-appointed and registered with Ofsted

The Pre-School is open weekdays from 07.45-6.00pm operates in line with the schools terms allowing for inset days where applicable.

Full Time Day Care for 2-4yrs
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Also now accepting Early Learning places for eligible 2yr olds
For details or to arrange a visit to discuss your individual requirements:

Call Sarah on: 01825 890943
www.framfieldpreschool.co.uk

**Thank you to everyone who supported us at the
Horticultural show on the 9th August**

The Grove, Blackboys ~ Café and Village Stores

- * A wide selection of ethically sourced teas and fresh coffees prepared by our barista trained staff
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- * Morning coffee and pastries
- * Afternoon tea and cakes
- * Children's Menu
- * Convenience supplies
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- * Fresh fruit and vegetables
- * Fair Trade products
- * Stamps
- * Cards and wrapping paper
- * Seasonal gifts and much more!

What's on at The Grove?

- * Community Coffee Morning
- * Scrabble Club
- * Business Networking Breakfasts
- * Themed Evening Dining
- * After-school Games Club
- * Kids Craft Workshops
- * Church Men's Breakfasts

Also available...

- * Bespoke Grove Platter for business or private functions
- * Hire for Private Evening Functions
- * Children's Tea Parties

Summer Events coming up soon...

* Evening Dining Events *

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'The Grove, Blackboys'

Operation Crackdown

You will now find it easier to report incidents of anti-social driving in Sussex. Sussex Police has re-launched Operation Crackdown - a system that enables anyone to report anti-social driving and abandoned vehicles, either online or by phone.

Anti-social driving can be driving that is careless, deliberately aggressive or dangerous. If you see this type of behaviour it is important that you report it, so it can be dealt with in the most appropriate way.

Operation Crackdown is a joint initiative supported by Sussex Safer Roads Partnership (SSRP), Sussex Police and all local authorities in the county. It was first launched in 2002 as a way of reporting abandoned vehicles in Sussex, and was expanded in 2007 to cover anti-social driving reports.

The system for reporting anti-social driving has now been made simpler, to encourage members of the public to easily and quickly report this type of incident and users can now keep track of the progress of their case with a specific reference number provided.

Incidents can be reported, either via:

www.operationcrackdown.org, or by calling 01243 64 22 22, for those who don't have access to the internet.

Members of the public who are reporting incidents must remember, where possible, the registration number of the vehicle, the make, model and the colour, so the police can identify the vehicle concerned and make contact with the offender.

Every report received through Operation Crackdown is viewed and a decision is made against set criteria on how best to deal with it. In the majority of cases a letter of advice is sent to the driver or rider, but a report to Operation Crackdown can also lead to arrest and possible conviction, depending on the seriousness of the offence".

Nature Notes

Autumn is upon us. Nature will exhibit many changes over the next few weeks. Leaf-fall has started with the elder trees; other trees are just starting to turn on 17th September. These are birch, beech, poplar and lime (linden). The horse chestnut leaves have turned brown and will soon fall and hazel is also beginning to turn. Incidentally, horse and sweet chestnut are not related, and are in completely different families. And resemblance between the two is entirely due to what is called convergent evolution. Sweet chestnut leaves are still green today.

Autumn is also the time for rutting deer, and I saw an impressive group of large antlered male fallow deer from the Uckfield to London Bridge train today. We are having a warm dry September, but nature still moves on with peacock butterflies seeking hibernation sites in buildings. Dormice are fattening up for hibernation, and can double in size within a few weeks. Birds such as willow warbler, chiffchaff, swallow and house martin are migrating south in huge numbers. The autumn equinox is on 21st September when everywhere on planet Earth will experience 12 hours of daylight followed by 12 hours of darkness. After that daylight time variation resumes. We will be in for rain and wind, equinox weather, although this usually happens in October with events such as the hurricane force wind of 1987 and the floods of 2000.

However, a beautiful orchid chooses to flower at this time, it is called autumn ladies tresses (*Spiranthes spiralis*) and as its name suggests, has a spiral arrangement of beautiful small white flowers. Colchicum, the autumn crocus also flowers at this time, but is not native to Britain, but hales from Mediterranean climates around the world. Many plants such as bracken and most water plants will be dying back for the winter.

As well as dormice, bats, hedgehogs and before going extinct in Britain, brown bears, still around on the continent will also all be going into hibernation soon. However, mice, rats, voles, shrews, rabbits, foxes, badgers, weasels, stoats, otters, polecats, martens, deer, reintroduced beavers and before they went extinct in this country, wolves, lynx, bison, elk and wolverines do not hibernate, but continue to roam.

Autumn is a time for spiders, wasps and moths giving us a final flurry of invertebrate animal life before most die in the frost or hibernate.

Martyn Stenning

FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS MONDAY CLUB

| | |
|---------------|--|
| 6th October | Boccia (Bowls) and BRING AND BUY at Framfield Memorial Hall - 2.30 pm |
| 20th October | Chairbased Activities with Louise Knight at Framfield Memorial Hall - 2.30 pm |
| 3rd November | Beetle Drive with Reg & Joan Jefferies & Heather Ridley at Framfield Memorial Hall - 2.30 pm |
| 17th November | Entertainment from the - TN22 CHOIR at Framfield Memorial Hall – 2.30 pm |

We are at present looking for someone able to help with Mini Bus, assisting the Driver.

Also a Helper who can drive too, for more info please contact Sandy Rogers 01825 840648. The Club at the moment has over 40 Members/Helpers.

FRAMFIELD RECREATION GROUND

The Parish Council asks that residents do not drive up the track onto Framfield Recreation Ground from the small car park in The Street.

This is actually a private track.

There is only pedestrian access to the recreation ground with no vehicular access other than for emergency vehicles.

Pilates

Joanna Barraclough

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Nr Uckfield

All levels and beginners welcome

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A great place for
lunch and friendship!



Join us at our friendly and welcoming clubs

Local charity, Engage South East, operates two clubs,
both of which offer a freshly prepared two course lunch,
and meet on Wednesdays at Hadlow Down Village Hall:

- The TN22 Club provides opportunities for fun and socialising in a warm and friendly environment.
- The new TN22 Plus Club provides tailored support for those with memory loss or dementia with the benefit of specially designed activities.
- Transport can be arranged upon request. - 26 -

To find out more about the service, pricing
details or to book a place please call:

07864 533884

If there is no one available to take your call,
please leave a message as we aim to respond
to all calls within 48 hours.

website: www.engagesoutheast.org.uk

e-mail: enquiries@engagesoutheast.org.uk



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Three of the Best

By Mike Russell of the Sussex Wildlife Trust

I've been at the Sussex Wildlife Trust for a long time now, in fact this January will see me begin my 30th year with them, by far the longest serving employee the Trust has had. But even my long-term service pales into insignificance to the length of time some of our volunteers have contributed to the Trust.

There are so many people over the years that have help the Trust develop and grow since its incarnation in 1961, so it seems a bit invidious to single out just a few individuals, but I am going to do that anyway! This summer saw the retirement of one of the great Trust stalwarts, Alf Simpson as our volunteer manager for the Ebernoe Common nature reserve. Ebernoe Common is one of the great gems of the Trust reserves, and Alf has overseen its management since we acquired it in 1980. Alf, along with his wife Iris, has devoted nearly 35 years and has brought his enthusiasm, expertise and drive into making this a wonderful reserve for wildlife and for people.

One of Alf's great strengths has been to gather around him a hardworking and loyal group of volunteers and has now left not only the reserve in great shape but also a band of volunteers who can carry on and build on the foundations that both Alf and Iris have laid. Not only did Alf act as the volunteer reserve manager, but he has also actively taken part as a Trustee of the Sussex Wildlife Trust and given his expertise on our Conservation Committee.

Sadly, earlier this year, the Trust and Sussex lost someone who devoted huge amounts of time and energy to our work. Alan Malpass joined as a Trustee at the same time as I became a member of staff way back in 1985. He immediately threw himself into the role and particularly used his great communication skills to promote us wherever he could. He was equally at home talking to the landed gentry as to small children and used to help me out with my summer holiday programmes for children when I first started as the warden at Woods

NEWS FROM LOCAL COUNCILLORS.

News from your Wealden District Councillor, Ann Newton

'Community Dividend' fund – as reported last time, I hope to install a defibrillator in both halls. This has now been greatly helped by a local resident making the purchase (machine and cabinet) much simpler and I shall be able to afford one for each Hall. There will therefore be some surplus funding which I shall be passing over the local organisations.

It was good to see that the Summer Show was such a great success. The exhibition on World War I was second to none. I met up with Pam Allsop who wrote our Parish history book – 'Framfield Through the Ages'. If anyone should want a copy, please contact me as I have a supply. All proceeds are currently being put towards the printing of the second book. The cost is £5.00.

Please don't hesitate to contact me on anything which you think I could help.

Contact details – Ann Newton, 'Highlands', Blackboys, TN22 5LR.

Telephone - 01825 890103.

Email – ann.newton1965@virgin.net.

News from your East Sussex County Councillor, Chris Dowling.

Framfield road safety measures. A meeting is to be held in September with relevant parties to investigate the opportunities for the installation of Vehicle Activated Signs on the Blackboys Road and The Street.

The Council is currently working with the Parish Council, residents and myself, as the local County Councillor, to look for possible solutions and the necessary funding to deliver them.

I live in Uckfield and can be contacted on 01825 767695 or email – cllr.chris.dowling@eastsussex.gov.uk.

school, please do not hesitate to contact the school offices and the Community Police Support Officer. Rest assured, we do take your concerns seriously and do our utmost to emphasise the impact inconsiderate parking can have on our local community.

It is always a busy time as the "season of mists and mellow fruitfulness" approaches and, although both schools pride themselves on the level of reading children reach, this year we mean to develop this aspect of our work even further, striving to ensure that all pupils not only understand the importance of reading, but are truly engaged in it - really losing themselves in a good book. With this in mind, if there is anyone in either Blackboys or Framfield who would like to come in and help us with this, we would be delighted - we always need avid and enthusiastic readers to hear the children read or perhaps work with small groups. Previous volunteers and governors have truly made a big difference to individual children's engagement with reading and general self-esteem. Could you help too? Please contact our school offices if you feel you could make a difference.

So what next? Well, we will shortly be holding our Day of European Languages and a number of school trips have already been organised as well as visits and joint projects in both schools. And of course we have our Harvest Festivals shortly and I know you are all very welcome to attend these if you are able to do so - everyone is welcome. The dates are 3rd October for Framfield School and 6th October for Blackboys. We look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible.

Jonquil King (Executive Headteacher)

Jacqueline Davies (Head of School, Framfield)

Graham Sullivan (Head of School, Blackboys)

Mill. I even made him dress up as a badger when we did our Wind in the Willows weekend many years ago!

He was Chairman of the Trust during the 1990s, a great period of expansion for the Trust but was also very active on many fronts in and around Bexhill where he lived. Sadly he passed away this summer and will be missed by many organisations and people.

Alan and Alf were high profile volunteers for the Trust, but there are those who beaver away behind the scenes but who make an equally valid contribution but perhaps don't receive the wide recognition they deserve. One such person is Roger French who for 43 years has given up so much time for the Trust in various ways, but his particular contribution has been to set up the communications and computer systems at Woods Mill and our satellite offices. Without him it would have cost the Trust thousands and thousands of pounds.

These three people have been an example of so many people that help make the Sussex Wildlife Trust the organisation that it is today. We now have a large staff, but volunteers still continue to be a vital element to what we do. If I was in the habit of wearing one, I would certainly take my hat off to all three of them and all the other volunteers that support us.

www.sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk

Saturday 8th November 7.30 pm – Drama at Framfield Church

Covenant Players presents "The Messenger." In the trenches of WWI, two soldiers search for hope in the midst of despair. Where is God in the midst of suffering and madness? A drama about heroism, camaraderie and God's answer to our most heart-felt question.

Tickets £8.00 Adults, Children £4.00 (Adult Ticket price includes a glass of wine and canapés) soft drinks and other refreshments also available. Please book via the Church Office. Messages 01825 891090 or e.mail rev.chris@btinternet.com Pre-booked tickets to be collected on the evening. Tickets will also be available on the night.

LIVING WITH FUR AND FEATHER

BARKING UP THE WRONG TREE.

Recently we had some disturbing events with Chloe, which were most worrying. One morning she potted outside and wandered through the archway leading to our wood. Suddenly I heard blood curdling screaming, yelping noises and saw to my horror it was Chloe. She sped back through the archway across the garden and back indoors. She was very agitated, with her tail between her legs. She pressed up against me trembling all over. When she had calmed down a bit, I checked her over to see if she had hurt herself but found nothing wrong. It was a complete mystery. After that she was quite normal again and I forget all about it.

Another episode occurred a few weeks later. This time our son was here with his black and white Cocker Spaniel Isla. He had taken both dogs into the back garden to stretch their legs. It was a calm and pleasant evening but just getting dark. Suddenly the peace was shattered by an ear splitting noise. I rushed out to see what had happened. Apparently both dogs had been wondering around quite amicably when Chloe went mad, charging around emitting horrible yelping sounds. While I stood there Isla appeared coming across the lawn, her white coat showing up through the dusky twilight. Once more Chloe repeated her strange behaviour as she sped away, vanishing into the gloom as if pursued by demons.

We were horrified. The dogs had always been good friends, although Chloe often found her young bouncy companion, who always wanted to play, a bit tiring at times and would occasionally take herself off for a peaceful rest. We brought Chloe indoors and Isla followed. Chloe looked terrified and retreated to the corner of the kitchen where she sat shaking, staring wild eyed at Isla, who we quickly removed to a different room. We were shocked and puzzled by this unusual behaviour. Gradually, as before, Chloe calmed down and returned to her normal relaxed character. When Isla came on her next visit the two dogs resumed their friendship and everything was fine.

However I was still very worried about these two unexplained episodes. Had she had fits or could she have a brain tumour that might have caused the dramatic change in behaviour? Could she have been in terrible pain? Was it anything to do with the old injuries she had when a youngster? These troubling thoughts went round and round my head. I had recently made an appointment with the vet for her regular injections and check up, so decided to talk to him about my concerns. Our normal peaceful routine continued. We enjoyed our walks. She helped me indoors and in the garden

The FAB Partnership (Framfield and Blackboys Partnership Schools)

Here we are again at the start of a new academic year! This one promises to be busy and exciting with both schools working together on a number of super projects.

The new reception pupils in both schools have made confident starts; this successful start to their school career is always a tribute to the way the staff in both schools ensure that the new pupils are well used to the schools through the regular taster sessions in term 6. They are a confident and cheerful bunch and are already well versed in our routines.

New staff have been welcomed in both schools: at Framfield Mrs Nicky Kent is teaching our youngest children while Mrs Amy Clarke returns to a full-time post in Puffins class. Miss Pemberton will return to us shortly as Mrs Bouzon after her wedding during the summer. At Blackboys School we welcomed Mr Russell Boorman who is taking over year 5 and 6 from Mr Graham Sullivan who will now be teaching in years 3 and 4. Mrs Hayley Wells returned to us as Mrs Vance and again we wish her all the very best as she begins married life. We know you will make the new members of our team very welcome and I am sure you will get to know them soon.

The horticultural show was a great success in the summer holidays and both schools created a wonderful display of pupils' work in the Memorial Hall. We always appreciate being able to show off our work at such an event and many thanks must go to Mrs A Jenkins and her team for all the support they give both schools in allowing them to take part.

Traffic and parking is always difficult in both villages: we all worked hard last year to make everyone aware of how their parking and driving through the village impacts on village life and the safety of everyone. However, should you have any concerns about parking issues at either

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and had lots of cuddles. She was relaxed and happy but the niggling worrying thoughts kept returning.

A day or so before the appointment Chloe was lying sleepily on the front steps, a favourite spot, cool and shady on a hot day, where she can look across the garden and down the drive. I was in the kitchen looking out of the window and was surprised to see a most beautifully marked cat stealthily crossing the lawn towards the old pear tree. Suddenly there was an explosion of the now familiar, blood curdling noises. Chloe had spotted this strange wild looking creature. After running a few yards towards the cat as it made for the tree, she changed her mind and ran indoors. My massive eleven stone Newfoundland was terrified. She leant against me, staring at the open door quivering all over. Was she trying to protect me? I strongly suspect she hoped I would to protect her from the strange looking animal that had frightened her so much. At last the mystery was solved. It was such a relief to know the answer. I had certainly been barking up the wrong tree!

Hazel Carter

01825 830477
info@hazel-carter.co.uk
www.hazel-carter.co.uk

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Poppy Appeal 1914-2014

In this special year I still need several more house to house collectors to cover the parish, particularly in Blackboys and Palehouse Common.

Please contact me if you can spare an hour or so at the end of October or early November.

David Jenner, Royal British Legion
01825 890632 (home); 01444 443030 (work); 07881 786785 (mobile)



CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR
Framfield Church Hall

Saturday 22nd November
1.30 pm to 4.00 pm

All sorts of crafts
Lovely Christmas gifts

plus
Refreshments

Raffle

Busker

Come and enjoy
All very welcome

Enquiries Tel: Penny 01825-769758

Email: pen.stapleton@virgin.net



FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – REPORT

Road Safety in Framfield. Following on from my last report, a meeting is to be held in the middle of September with representatives from ESCC, Framfield School and residents to look at the potential for the installation of vehicle activated signs. More news next time.

School Lane, Blackboys. Our local Police have agreed to send letters for parents to the School asking people not to park in an anti-social manner which is detrimental to the School and local residents alike. Let's hope the new school year started off well in this regard.

Guideposts – two replacement guideposts should have appeared in Framfield by the time this magazine is published!

Allotments, Blackboys. A note to tenants – it is hoped that our grounds maintenance contractor will be able to carry out a more substantial cut of the hedges this autumn so if there is any way, tenants can keep clear the areas nearer the hedges it will make the task easier.

Ann Newton (Parish Clerk): 01825 890182 (fax/answer machine).
Email: framfield.pc@virgin.net. Messages will be picked up during office hours.
Postal Address: 'Highlands', Blackboys TN22 5LR.
Website: www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk

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Framfield & Blackboys WI

It was almost like an Antiques Roadshow as Framfield & Blackboys collectors formed a winding queue for the WI's "Curious about your Curios" tent at this year's Summer Show. The variety was fascinating, with everything from World War I and II memorabilia, a beautiful decorated Edwardian fan, an ancient ladle used for lead making, oriental pots, a samovar and a fascinating hand written religious book. These were just some of the curios brought in for our resident expert, Paul Leader, to whom much thanks for kindly volunteering his services!

The accompanying competition proved testing for everyone and a runners-up prize only could be awarded since no-one remotely matched the pre-sale estimates to the final sale price for the items - showing the huge unpredictability of Public Auctions. In the spirit of the WI we therefore made a donation towards the Macmillan Nurses Charity.



October 14th WI meeting will feature a talk by Anna Astin about how ladies were able to "Keep Young and Beautiful" in the 1940s despite wartime shortages.



An event for your diary...POPPIES AT THE TOWER: October 22nd is the date for a special London outing to the Field of Poppies at HM Tower of London, followed by a shopping trip to Covent Garden. Tickets: £18 for Members and £20 for Non-Members.

Contact: Gill Roberts on 01825 890459 for your ticket as soon as possible as places are limited.

We welcome visitors to meetings on the second Tuesday of the month from 7.30pm – you can be a visitor for 3 months at only £1 a meeting! Telephone our President Delia for details, 01825 830319

Cathy McDermott

Framfield & Blackboys Wives Group

The group have made the most of the lovely summer weather with a barbeque in June to which husbands were invited and in July we visited The Ashdown Forest Centre for a talk by a Forest Ranger. After tea and coffee we had a stroll along the ridge admiring the beautiful countryside.

Our speaker in September is talking about her work as a Quaker in Russian orphanages and the political situation in that country. In October we will visit Waitrose in Uckfield.

Our Annual Jumble Sale is on Saturday 11th October at 2pm in the Memorial Hall.

Our main Charity this year is East Sussex Wildlife Rescue and Ambulance Service.

We will have our usual stalls of bric-a-brac, clothes, tombola and cakes. Jumble can be left at the hall on the morning of the sale.

Any queries phone Val Peaty on 890677.

The Senior Fellowship of Framfield Church

The Senior Fellowship of Framfield Church would like to thank all the people who helped us & attended our afternoon tea in August in the church hall.

We raised **£413.50** for **The Children with Cancer Fund Polegate** this is a small charity which grant wishes for children.

Toni one of the trustee's from the charity came & gave us a short talk about how it was started 16 years ago & about some of the wishes that had been granted.

We hope everyone who came enjoyed the tea & agree that the money raised want to a good cause.



FRAMFIELD
STARRY CHRISTMAS TREE
In aid of MacMillan Nurses

It's time for the "Starry Christmas tree". This is where you buy a star to go on Framfield Christmas tree. You write a message for people who are no longer with us, or people who cannot be with us at this time of year due to distance or work.

Write a message in permanent ink.

Stars will be available to buy for £3.00 from 24 November at Framfield School and Pre-school, Hair by us and direct from me. All money collected goes to Macmillan Nurses at Uckfield Hospital.

A candlelit lighting up service with Peter Berry saying a few words and carols with a cup of tea and mince pies will be held on Sunday 7 December 2014 at 5.30 pm at the Memorial Hall.

Please come along and start your Christmas with your community.

Thank you for your support
Selina Allen



September has always been a month of new beginnings and for New life Church Blackboys we are no exception.

New Ladies and Men's Lifegroups will commence again to equip us as Christians to be of service to the community of Blackboys and beyond.

Crusaders will continue in Blackboys school every Thursday after school

Every Sunday at 10.30am we meet for tea/coffee and cakes before a time of worship and teaching at 11.00a.m Children are also fully catered for during this time.

Men's and Ladies breakfasts at The Grove Café also provide interesting and challenging talks.

For more information on any of the above activities, please contact our minister

Rev Guy Partridge Email: guy_newlifechurch@btinternet.com Mobile: 07702 836057

"God loves us. Not because we are good, but because He is."

Guy Partridge 07702 836057

Building through Blessing in Blackboys and Beyond

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