

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).

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

Parish Newsletter



USEFUL WEALDEN TELEPHONE NOs.

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: 0845 6080193

Recycling sites: 01273 481000

Street Lighting: 0845 6080193

Trading standards (consumer issues): 01323 418200

Crimestoppers, report crime anonymously 0800 555111

Police, non-emergency: 0845 6070999

East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service: 0845 130 8855

Home Safety Visit Helpline: 0800 1777 069

THE ADVERTISEMENTS IN THIS MAGAZINE ARE
PUBLISHED IN GOOD FAITH. THE PUBLISHERS DO NOT,
HOWEVER, ENDORSE ANY PRODUCTS OR SERVICES
SPECIFIED

**Framfield, Blackboys
and
Palehouse Common**

FEBRUARY / MARCH 2009

**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 Brian Champion (01825 765634)

Secretary to PCC : **Mrs Pat Herbert**

Treasurer : **Mr Richard Hill**

**All communications for church matters should be directed
to the Church Office – 9.15 am – 5 pm (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: 13th January Alice May Harris

**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.*

Welcome Baptist Blackboys

The members of Welcome Baptist Church eagerly awaited **Rev Chris Lawrence's** visit on Sunday 23 November 08. We were not disappointed. First Chris outlined his service with the Ministry of Defence as a highly qualified civilian researcher in Naval weapons. He specialised mainly in undersea weapons, which he saw as being part of the defensive arm of the Navy, to protect our shores from any aggressor. This part of his talk was very instructive and illustrated with slides. He went on to tell how he came to faith in Christ, after attending with a friend, Holy Trinity Brompton – the church where the Alpha course began. Later he was called into the Anglican ministry. Thank you Chris, we look forward to further visits.

Friday December 12 was the day for the Crusader's Nativity Walk from Blackboys school. Teachers from the school and local residents ably assisted in this annual event, following Mary & Joseph and the donkey around the village, calling at inns and encountering shepherds and kings on the way. In spite of the wet weather, everyone arrived back at the stable to sing around the manger where baby Jesus (Alfie Burton) lay.

Sunday December 14 our Countdown to Christmas service was enjoyed by a good number and the Welcome Heathfield puppets "Where Puppets Dare" were superb.

We meet every Sunday at 5pm in the Blackboys Village Hall for informal worship, tea and cakes. Everyone welcome. For further information Tel: Barbara Solly 01825 765178, or look on the website www.blackboys.org.uk

Theft (Borrowing) from the Churchyard.

Since my own experience with dog—fouling on the graves I have been told of "un-authorised borrowing" or put plainly "theft" of vases and/or stands for flowers from a grave in the churchyard.

It was assumed that the items were removed perhaps for mowing, but searches have found no trace of them. This is especially heart-breaking as the grave is that of a baby. Please show some respect and compassion for those of us who grieve.

Sue Whitehead. Ed.

From the Vicarage

2009 – A 'Go it alone' year or the year to 'Go with God'?

There is a saying that says 'When I thought things couldn't get any worse, they did!'

This is certainly the position that many are already finding themselves in as we enter this New Year.

The economic down turn is biting hard; who would ever have thought that some of our long standing high street stores would be shutting up shop and be reduced to selling off the remaining shop fittings?

A gap on the high street is one thing but the loss of a job and the stability of a regular income quite another. In our material world serious financial worries are perhaps the number one concern of most families trying to make ends meet.

In the western world the true 'God' has been replaced by the 'Money God'. The more you have the more secure you feel. And although money can't buy you love or happiness it can certainly make life more bearable and enjoyable providing you have enough of it.

Unfortunately, as we are all aware reliance on money is a falsehood; it's just that we largely choose to ignore the fact. But an overdrawn bank account or the words 'redundancy', or 'negative equity' quickly reawaken our senses.

A crisis situation however is not all bad news as it forces us to readdress our priorities in life and look at the big picture. When your back is firmly against the wall and all human help has failed you then God may come to mind. Obviously calling upon God shouldn't be a last resort, someone that we keep like a fire extinguisher in a red box on the wall with the notice above it that says 'In case of emergency, break glass'. On a sinking ship or a plane that is spiralling to earth there are not many passengers who are not praying 'God, help me!'

I firmly believe that a simple honest prayer always gets God's attention. But what then, does God say 'why should I help you, you only want my help because you are in a situation you can't solve yourself? Such a suggestion however would be unjust and not even enter the mind of God simply because it is not in keeping with His nature – 'The Lord is full of compassion and mercy' (James 5:11) and as St John reminds us 'God is love'.

God's intention is that each one of us should be living in a right relationship with Him rather than attempting to go it alone. Knowing God as your helper and provider, ever present in times of trouble is not just a great comfort but a living reality for all those who have invited God into their lives.

In times of trouble or great distress many utter the words 'If God really does exist why doesn't He do something'. Well He will, but God (like the perfect gentleman) never forces Himself into our lives but graciously and patiently waits for our invitation. That's the choice. So the question remains; is 2009 going to be another 'Go it alone' year or the year that you 'Go with God'?

In the final book of the Bible Jesus said - Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me.

Can you hear Him knocking on your door?

Have a happy and blessed New Year.

Chris Lawrence

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

ON COURSE FOR WILDLIFE

In the darkest depths of winter it's always nice to look forward and plan exciting days for the coming year, so we at the Sussex Wildlife Trust are here to help you do just that!

The courses brochure for 2009 is available and this year we have expanded the programme even more, widening the variety of subjects, spreading the geographical area and bringing in more tutors to inspire and enthuse you! Sussex is still a wonderful county and, despite the pressures on its countryside and wildlife, one of our aims is to show people there is still so much to see and enjoy. Also we have linked up with some landowners and farmers who are doing some exciting wildlife and landscape restoration projects that also have some excellent indoor facilities to base a whole day there.

Wildlife can be enjoyed through a variety of medium and we have incorporated a number of arts-based courses into the programme. Our wildlife photography courses and safaris have been running very successfully for a couple of years now and this year we have added a 3-day botanical illustration course open to anyone with a desire to learn about drawing plants. As well as budding artists we are also catering for would-be writers who want to extend their literary skills into writing about wildlife and the environment, while another course looks at how the landscape of Sussex, particularly the Downs, has been interpreted in word and song over the last 200 years. Plus there is a day on learning to make willow bowers for your garden.

Finding out about wildlife as a family can be a real treat and it is amazing how young ears and eyes spot and hear things that elude us poor adults. I recently ran an afternoon on owls principally for adults but one of the group brought along his 7-year old grandson who was just brilliant and so enthusiastic. Included in the programme are a couple of identification courses for families, one based in Ashdown Forest the other at Ninfield in East Sussex.

One of the main reasons that the Trust runs these courses is to give people the confidence to go out and apply their newly acquired knowledge to their own local area, so there are a number of training courses covering amphibians, surveying for otters and water voles, spiders, how to survey a hedgerow and many more. These will be open to anyone but we will particularly encourage people from local conservation groups, 'Friends Of groups, parish councillors, or anyone who is interested in learning to gain the skills to volunteer for organisations like ourselves!

Of course there will be a whole range of courses to come and to see, enjoy and hopefully inspire people about our wonderful wildlife. Much of it continues to be under threat and our hope is that you will be inspired enough to help us to conserve it for others to enjoy it in the future.

If you would like a copy of the courses brochure, please contact Filma Dyer on 01273 497561 or e-mail filmadyer@sussexwt.org.uk or look on the website at www.sussexwt.org.uk.

Mike Russell - Sussex Wildlife Trust
January 2009

DIARY OF CHURCH SERVICES

FEBRUARY

01 4th Sunday in Epiphany

8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Family Service
6.30 pm Evening Communion (CW)

08 3rd Sunday Before Lent

10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
6.30 pm Evening Praise

15 2nd Sunday Before Lent

8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Contemporary Service
6.30 pm Joint service with congregation and musicians from St Michael's & All Angels, Eastbourne.

18 11.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

22 Sunday Next Before Lent

10.00 am Parish Communion (BCP)
6.30 pm Evening Praise

MARCH

01 1st Sunday of Lent

8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Family Service
6.30 pm Evening Communion (CW)

08 2nd Sunday of Lent

10.00 am Holy Communion (CW)
6.30 pm Evening Praise

FRAMFIELD VILLAGE HALL MARKET

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL



10 am - 12 noon

NEXT MARKET: 21st FEBRUARY 2009
(Note: 3rd Sat due to Pantomime on 28th Feb)

28th MARCH 2009

ALL WELCOME

Come and see the Market stalls,
ENJOY TEA/COFFEE/BACON ROLLS & COMPANY
Sandy – 840648

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

- 15 3rd Sunday of Lent**
8.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Contemporary Service
6.30 pm Evening Service with prayer for healing
- 18 11.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)**
- 22 Mothering Sunday - 4th Sunday of Lent**
10.00 am Family Service
6.30 pm Evening Communion (CW)
- 29 5th Sunday of Lent**
10.00 am Parish Communion (CW)
No Evening Service

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

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE
BY 10th MARCH 2009**

**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.

BLACKBOYS CRICKET CLUB

Our Saturday Second Team league fixtures are as follows:

09/05/2009 - Sat - Rye 3rd XI v Blackboys 2nd XI
16/05/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 2nd XI v Heathfield Park 3rd XI
23/05/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 2nd XI v Bells Yew Green 4th XI
30/05/2009 - Sat - Hellingly 4th XI v Blackboys 2nd XI
06/06/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 2nd XI v Seaford 4th XI
13/06/2009 - Sat - Willingdon 3rd XI v Blackboys 2nd XI
20/06/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 2nd XI v Little Common 3rd XI
27/06/2009 - Sat - Newick 3rd XI v Blackboys 2nd XI
04/07/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 2nd XI v Pevensey 2nd XI
11/07/2009 - Sat - Heathfield Park 3rd XI v Blackboys 2nd XI
18/07/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 2nd XI v Rye 3rd XI
25/07/2009 - Sat - Bells Yew Green 4th XI v Blackboys 2nd XI
01/08/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 2nd XI v Hellingly 4th XI
08/08/2009 - Sat - Seaford 4th XI v Blackboys 2nd XI
15/08/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 2nd XI v Willingdon 3rd XI
22/08/2009 - Sat - Little Common 3rd XI v Blackboys 2nd XI
29/08/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 2nd XI v Newick 3rd XI
05/09/2009 - Sat - Pevensey 2nd XI v Blackboys 2nd XI

Our AGM takes place at the end of January and we should have some indoor net practice arranged during March/April.

With a new pavilion on the horizon these are exciting times for our club.

If you would like to get involved with Blackboys Cricket Club please do not hesitate to get in touch. As I have said before, we want some new players to help take our club forward.

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

Framfield CE Primary School

I am very pleased to be able to report that I am writing this newsletter from the comfort of my new office. The building work is now complete and we are enjoying our new classrooms, group rooms, cooking area and library. The outside areas are also much improved and we are thoroughly delighted with the overall results. As you are probably aware we have raised a considerable sum towards the costs, though do need to continue to fund raise over this year. The response of the community has demonstrated considerable support for us and we are immensely grateful for this. We will be holding a special thanksgiving service in March when members of the community will be invited to share our celebrations and view the changes.

Towards the end of term we performed our Christmas play to parents and friends. The title 'Tinsel and Tea-towels' gives a clue to the content and it was a very amusing play with a very serious and joyful message. The children were all involved and performed and sang to a very high standard. I was very proud of them, particularly as many were struggling with winter colds and coughs.

This term has started very well with everyone back at school full of energy for the New Year. Our focus is Water (even if it is frozen), and we are also planning a special Book Week and a Reading project. As always there will be a number of sporting activities and cultural events, including a Drum Workshop for the year 3 children. When the weather has warmed up a little, we will be starting a Gardening Club to build on the ongoing work of Bloomin' Bulbs.

On behalf of the school I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year.

Janet Wilde
Headteacher

Malawi Orphans Day Centre

To all friends who may still be interested in our Malawi project.

You may remember me telling you of our project and asking for ideas some time ago for the raising of funds and more recently my suggestion that this project might be your Christmas charity this Christmas just past. To date we have raised £12,257 and are well on route to raise the total amount of £20,000 which will build the Malawi Orphans Day Centre and will also supply a Maize Mill and Hulling unit which will enable the day centre to be self supporting. The Maize Mill and Hulling unit have been financed and the Day Centre waits for the remaining funds to be in place for building to commence.

Our next money raising project will be a Victorian Evening, entitled "Ballads, Songs and Snatches" on 31st January 7.30 at All Saints Parish Church, Crowborough with tickets at £6 with refreshments in the interval but no other food." **Wreck of the Hesperus**" will be part of the show.

A "GOLF DAY" and "BRASS BAND CONCERT" will also take place in the Crowborough area.

THANK YOU for your ideas and donations. They have gone into World in Needs' account, and from there to Bishop Davies in Malawi.

Peter Collins

Framfield and Blackboys Monday Club

All meetings at 2.30 pm Framfield Village Hall

2nd February: Boccia - Tea and Cakes

16th February: "Sussex Views" by Reg Lanaway

2nd March: Bring and Buy

16th March: Speaker Brian Dingate – "Saga Holidays"

Transport can be arranged. For more info ring Sandy on 01825 840648.

BLACKBOYS CRICKET CLUB

Blackboys Cricket Club had another excellent year in 2008. In our second season in the East Sussex Cricket League, we were runners-up in Division 4.

We had a strong second half of the season but our slow start meant that we could not catch Plumpton who were the deserved winners. However, we did gain promotion to Division 3. A tough new season now lies ahead.

Moving forward, due to lack of interest from our own players and our opposition we have decided to all but scrap our Sunday fixtures. We are going to concentrate on Saturday cricket and we will be running a second eleven in the league. The seconds will be playing their games in Division 12. Please do not hesitate to come and join the fun to help our club progress. Young or old, we would like your support.

Our Saturday First Team league fixtures are as follows:

09/05/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 1st XI v Robertsbridge 1st XI
16/05/2009 - Sat - Wadhurst 1st XI v Blackboys 1st XI
23/05/2009 - Sat - Pett 1st XI v Blackboys 1st XI
30/05/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 1st XI v Herstmonceux 1st XI
06/06/2009 - Sat - Ringmer 2nd XI v Blackboys 1st XI
13/06/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 1st XI v Bells Yew Green 1st XI
20/06/2009 - Sat - Crowborough 1st XI v Blackboys 1st XI
27/06/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 1st XI v Plumpton 1st XI
04/07/2009 - Sat - Newick 2nd XI v Blackboys 1st XI
11/07/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 1st XI v Wadhurst 1st XI
18/07/2009 - Sat - Robertsbridge 1st XI v Blackboys 1st XI
25/07/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 1st XI v Pett 1st XI
01/08/2009 - Sat - Herstmonceux 1st XI v Blackboys 1st XI
08/08/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 1st XI v Ringmer 2nd XI
15/08/2009 - Sat - Bells Yew Green 1st XI v Blackboys 1st XI
22/08/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 1st XI v Crowborough 1st XI
29/08/2009 - Sat - Plumpton 1st XI v Blackboys 1st XI
05/09/2009 - Sat - Blackboys 1st XI v Newick 2nd XI

The Royal British Legion

Each year at this time I tell you of the result of our parish Poppy Collection leading up to Remembrance Sunday in November. I am very pleased and proud to be able to say that we achieved another excellent result of £3318 this year. I am always so grateful for all who help me - 30 years this year - with this collection.

In my recent notices, of 2008, I have always drawn attention to the vital need to help the families of those regularly being killed in Afghanistan and in Iraq and the large number of our troops being severely wounded. The Royal British Legion is totally involved in this urgent need.

I have also emphasised the value of "Home Collections" to absorb small change over the year and we now have 36 home collectors who contributed, in 2008, the splendid total of £683 - hardly "small change" when two of the tins absorbed £109 and £101.

I am now asking if you will join the team and further increase the number of home collectors. Please contact me (890208) or come and see me at Gate House Cottages and I will supply and deliver the collecting tin required.

Lieut Colonel Nigel Drew.

BLACKBOYS CE SCHOOL

Maths Visit - A very exciting and important event that took place in our school: a visit from Andrew Jeffrey, a well-known expert in the field of maths teaching. He came to our school to interview children about their attitude to maths and to make a video of their responses. The video will in turn be used to support his lecture at the Numeracy conference this Year. Our school was chosen for this exercise as a result of our good attainment in mathematics and Mr Sullivan will be attending the conference in the new year. I have no doubt he will report back regarding the video! Well done to all those who took part.

International Week - or One World Week— took place in November and ended on a real high. The children had a wonderful experience working with Darren Lea from the London-based Education Group. Although each group had only 50 minutes to work on their chosen dance, the standard that was achieved was fantastic. We had a short assembly where the children were able to share what they had learnt with each other. They really gained a great deal from the week and broadened their awareness of the world outside and the different cultures that go to make up community and life here in the UK.

Christmas Celebration - The lead up to Christmas was very exciting. We had a wonderful Christmas celebration at Thomas a Becket Church where the whole school contributed to a nativity with a twist. The singing and the acting were first rate. Our orchestra and recorder groups were led by Mrs Bayman and Mrs Turbett and everyone agreed that the standard of music was very high. Many thanks to all the staff for their support and to parents who helped provide costumes etc.

Tea-Party - Class 4 organised a Christmas tea-party for the elderly people in our community. They made sandwiches and cakes and ran a game of Bingo for them, as well as entertaining them with singing along with the Reception and year 1 class. We have received many letters and cards of thanks and hope to be able to organise another before too long. The children enjoyed themselves as much as our visitors!

Christmas Fair - The PTA ran a very successful Christmas Fair. They worked incredibly hard and managed to raise a fantastic £1,500 for our school. Many thanks go to Mrs Caroline Peck and her team.

Thanks - It is amazing to think that with the start of the new term I will have completed my first complete year here as headteacher at Blackboys School. It has been really busy and the time has flown. I have made so many new friends and feel really privileged to be working in such a lovely school and community. Many thanks to all those who have been so supportive of me in these early days especially the staff and governors of the school.

Jonquil King

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Not only does MCS provide nurses, doctors, specialists, funds, information etc. etc., as a Charity it campaigns for changes to be made within the law. Over recent months MCS has pushed hard for prescription charges to be changed, the result being that *as from 2009 prescription charges will be scrapped in England for people suffering from cancer*. Also following the hard work of Macmillan supporters, car parking charges are to be scrapped in Scottish hospitals for cancer sufferers – Macmillan is campaigning hard now for England to follow suit. *If you would like to help cut the cost of parking in hospitals in England for cancer patients, join the e-campaigner network at: macmillan.org.uk/campaigns.*

For help or advice on matters relating to cancer please ring the *Freephone Macmillan Cancerline on 0808 808 2020* or visit: www.macmillan.org.uk.

Our committee will be meeting to discuss fund raising events during 2009 – please watch out for information because if you wish to support MCS we would love to see you!

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

ST GEORGE'S DAY
SATURDAY 25TH APRIL 2009
RINGMER COMMUNITY COLLEGE
3 COURSE MEAL
COUNTRY DANCING TO THE SPINNING
JENNIES
DISPLAY OF CLOG DANCING
IN AID OF MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

The Framfield Stagers
Present
A Family Pantomime
CINDERELLA
Framfield Memorial Hall
Wednesday 25th / Friday 27th / Saturday 28th February
7.30pm
Saturday 28th (Matinee) 2pm
Adults £6.00 / Cone. £5.00 / Children £3.00
BOX OFFICE 01825 890931

Framfield Memorial Hall 200 Club Winners

Prize	Winning Numbers	Name
£400	101	A Marten
£100	24	J Espinasse
£100	128	Mr King-Mason
£50	90	R Overy
£50	109	R Marten
£50	136	M Cogger
£50	64	L Breeds
£50	127	L Kerner
£25	83	P Newman-Brown
£25	64	L Breeds
£25	42	K Riddle
£25	87	S Rogers
£25	187	P Neale
£25	75	K Riddle
£25	130	R Marten
£25	59	S Harding

the need for more affordable housing for parishioners, especially in Blackboys. We have also been concerned at the lack of consultation with the council by WDC regarding allocation of the houses. This has put us and our District Councillor in the difficult position of being questioned and criticised but without having been involved in the actual process. WDC officials are aware of our views.

Law and Order. Fortunately we have very few crimes in the Parish but as it is generally recognised the fear of crime is very prevalent so Police presence is a welcome feature around the Parish. Our last PCSO, Nick Arthur, was seen around but obviously was so good he has now been promoted to Police officer and reassigned. The delay in filling his vacancy does nothing for support and confidence in the police service but a replacement has just been announced. His name is Simon French and he can be contacted at Uckfield Police Station.

We do hope that our efforts are well directed and appreciate feedback, even criticism from which we can always learn. The Summer Show provides an opportunity for parishioners and Councillors to meet and exchange views but the annual meeting in May is when we formally report on progress and issues. We have a councillor vacancy at the moment so I would really appreciate anyone with an interest in filling this to get in touch.

Eryl Thomas (890360)
Chairman

Notice

The Framfield Big Sing 2009

Regrettably this has been cancelled due to lack of support. We hope to pick it up again later in the year.



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



A very happy New Year to everyone. The playgroup is now back after a very busy Christmas term. We had an exciting trip to meet Santa on the Santa Special Train at the Bluebell Line. This was great fun and got us all in the mood for Christmas, and as we had all been good all year, Santa came to visit us at our Christmas party too. The term ended with us joining the school for the first time at their Christmas service in the church, which was lovely to be part of and hopefully this will be a regular part of the playgroup activities.

Thank you to everyone who supported us at our Christmas food tombola stall at the Framfield Christmas Market, we raised £46.70p and another £21.00p on our cake raffle, thank you to the parents who take turns to run the stall. We are there every other month so please keep supporting us.

We are planning another busy term, our topic for this term is food as well as using all our local resources like the mobile toy library that comes once a month when we can borrow toys relative to our projects. We are hoping to visit some local businesses to expand our learning journey of this topic.

We are open four mornings a week from 9am-12.45pm for children aged between 2 - 5 years old. We are Ofsted registered and inspected. There are four fully trained staff, and we follow the principles of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Please feel free to visit us, if you are interested in finding a playgroup for your child, between 9am -11.30am. No need to call, just pop in, we would love to see you. We do not open Thursdays but the committee run a parent /toddler group between 9.30 -11.30 am at the church on Thursdays. It's a drop in session so you are welcome to just turn up. The Friday Playgroup session is also based at the church hall.

If you would like any further information about the playgroup or a prospectus please call Jo Rayner (supervisor) on 07975567766 or 07960131798 (playgroup hours only)



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

It's 2009 already, and at Blackboys Pre-School we had an excellent end to 2008 with a fantastic Nativity Play. All the children looked amazing in their costumes and they had all worked very hard to learn all the words to the Christmas songs. They did the performance in front of over 80 parents and grandparents - very brave! The staff also arranged a Christmas party, with Father Christmas bringing presents for all the children. All the children had made life size paintings of themselves - these were pinned up around the party room and ready to take home. It was certainly the best nativity we have ever had at the Pre-School!

We are now back at the Pre-School for the third term, in which the children are going to be learning about Chinese New Year and also about different types of Shops. After the half term we will then be looking at Easter and Eggs (both real and chocolate!)

The Pre-School is located in Blackboys Village hall. We are open Monday to Friday, 9.15am to 12.15pm, with an optional lunch-club until 1.00pm. We are also open on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons until 3.30pm. We have very close links to Blackboys Primary School including use of the breakfast club from 7:45am.

We are proud that all of our staff are trained to level 3 NVQ, and are all currently undergoing further training to build on these qualifications. We have high staff to children ratios, and can take children from the age of 2 years (even if they are not potty trained). We would love to welcome your child to our Pre-School, so please feel free look at our new website for more information (www.blackboyspreschool.co.uk), or give us a call to arrange a time to come along and see all that we have to offer.

some monitoring activity will be launched this year using volunteers to collect data which can then be used to persuade ESCC to take positive action to manage volumes, access arrangements etc.

Environment. The Council is concerned to see that adequate footpaths are maintained throughout the Parish although the responsibility for this mostly lies with the landowners and a survey has just been undertaken to identify where repairs etc. are needed. Benches and bus shelters are the responsibility of the Council so please report any that need attention, it may take a while to get them repaired as we have only limited funds allocated for such work. David Andrews chairs the Environment Committee and would appreciate any points or suggestions from parishioners.

Recreation. The recreation grounds in the Parish are well used and appreciated by most users, however, on occasions dog mess appears so please do clear up after your dog and, if you observe any fouling, please report it rather than get into personal confrontation. The grounds are a major expenditure for a small Parish and thanks are due to Myran Eade who does such a lot in his own time to keep up standards.

The project to provide pavilions at Blackboys and Framfield grounds has passed another milestone with granting of planning permission, construction costs have been sought and in the next few months applications for grants will be made. It may well be that one pavilion could progress at a faster rate than the other but the Council is still determined to pursue the objective of new facilities at both grounds.

Blackboys allotment tenants have now got formal agreements and everyone concerned should be in no doubt as to their responsibilities, particularly towards other users. The Village Hall now has an extension car park and allotment users should use this now instead of the Hall main car park. Framfield allotments, of which the main users are the organic gardeners, also need to have tenancy agreements and some improvements to facilities are overdue and the Council will be addressing these this year. It had been hoped to do this earlier and so the patience of the users is appreciated by the Council.

Housing. 'Craftsmen's Cottages' is the latest addition to Parish housing and a welcome is extended to the new residents. It should be well known that over recent years the Council has never been convinced of

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

Introduction. On behalf of Councillors and our Clerk may I wish you a safe and peaceful new year. Every council is encouraged to communicate with parishioners on a regular basis and this report supplements the information you get regularly through this excellent magazine.

Two new Councillors have joined us since last years report, Fred Thurston and Brian Hodge, and both have already made a positive impact and got involved with issues. This is also an opportunity to thank fellow Councillors for all their voluntary hard work and support during the year. Many parishioners will already be aware of how much effort and patience our Clerk, Ann Newton, expends on behalf of the community and for this we should all be grateful.

Planning. Almost invariably Bird in Eye features yet again in our annual report, the Government inspector has taken comprehensive evidence and hopes to announce his findings before too long. Whatever happens the council will continue to register its concern that this is not the sort of development appropriate to a rural parish. We have a very effective Planning Committee, under the able chairmanship of Maria Naylor, who put a lot of time and effort into ensuring we contribute sensible input to the Wealden process.

Planning matters often arouse strong feelings sometimes between neighbours and we always recommend people talk to each other before going too far with the process, WDC do offer pre application advice and Ann Newton can always be asked for procedural advice on the mysteries of the planning system!

This year should see the finalising of the Wealden Local Development Framework and this will then be used as the strategic guideline for all future development in the area. We await this with interest and trepidation as it will identify housing prospects and it is unlikely that we will be spared from further development proposals affecting the Parish.

Traffic. We probably all have stories of speeding traffic but equally many of us occasionally transgress so please can we all be considerate and safe this coming year. However, it has become more noticeable that the actual volume of traffic is almost as bad an issue and hopefully

Building Project at Framfield School

This is just to let you know how the fundraising is going for the Framfield School Building Project. The amount raised so far is a massive £20,000. Thanks to all of you for your donations and fundraising events. The total is well above our expectations - remember it has hit this total in less than six months. Due to the present economic situation the country is in, this is a tremendous performance; so now only another £10,000 to go...

The children's nativity play 'Tinsel and Tea towels' was a sell out, contributing £200 to the building project.

Thanks must also go to Joy Moore who is making very attractive "Go Green" shopping bags. These are a snip at £10 each, of which £4 goes directly towards the Building Project Fund. Credit must go to Joy for her enthusiasm and hard work. The Official Opening of the new Classrooms and Library is to be held on Tuesday 10th March 2009, time to be confirmed and we hope that many of you will join us for this unique occasion.

It is good to write such a positive note about our School's marvellous Ofsted Reports. With the dedicated teaching staff, led by Janet Wilde, Headmistress, the children are in very good hands and surely that is what our Church of England Primary School is all about. Both you and I know the children are getting an exceptionally good education.

Jimmy James

Joan Chalmers, Laura James and Maria James

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26670

Uckfield Police Station

Tel: 0845 60 70 999 Ext: 26670

Email:

simon.french@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Collecting for the Red Cross:

Have you got a little time each month to look after a collection box in your own local shop? It doesn't take long and will help raise vital funds to help the Red Cross continue their valuable work in Sussex. Please contact Hannah Rosalie on 01273 227805 or email hrosalie@redcross.org.uk



Framfield & Blackboys Horticultural Society News

Hopefully the weather has now improved and you can at least get into the garden and start preparations for the year ahead. Many people are now growing their own fruit and vegetables and you do not have to have a large garden to do so. The produce you grow will not only taste wonderful, be full of goodness and will save you money the average cost of a packet of seeds is £1.70 (Remember we want to operate a seed swop so visit us at the Framfield Market) If limited for space grown things in pots like salad leaves or tomatoes which will thrive against a sunny wall. You could grow vegetables like runner beans in your flower garden, why not have a go you may even have something you could enter into the Summer Show.

The 2009 Summer Show Schedule is now well on its way to being completed, if anyone would like to place an advert in this year's addition please let me know as soon as possible and I will pass your details onto Derek Tafft.

We have a few events for you to add to your diary members and non members welcome and please join us for a glass of wine and nibbles.

Tuesday 17th March 7.30pm - Exhibiting at Chelsea, Talk by Award Winning Chelsea Flower Show garden designer Chris O'Donoghue Framfield Memorial Hall

Wednesday 27th May 7.30pm -Talk & Demonstration by RHS Judge Len Stebbings on presenting flowers & plants exhibits for the Summer Show. Blackboys Village Hall.

Jenny Bacon, Chair 01825 890236 email j.bacon@zen.co.uk or visit us at www.fabhortsoc.org.uk

Framfield and Blackboys WI

We held our Christmas Party in January with our new President in the chair. After a short business session we were presented with our usual monthly quiz– unscrabbling Christmas Carols-I'm not sure if the mulled wine helped or hindered! This was followed by party games, food and a lot of laughter.

Although we are few in number we had a wonderful evening and look forward to 2009.

We start with a meal out in January.

Lyn Malyon.

For information about joining our WI or just attending as a visitor, call Lynn Malyon on 01825 890408.

BLACKBOYS & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Our members are looking forward to hearing a variety of speakers at our monthly meetings this year. Their subjects range from English Life in the Middle Ages to Thomas Paine, and the Battle of Trafalgar.

On Tuesday 3rd of February Mr Beavis will be talking about the History of Tunbridge Wells and on 3rd March the subject will be Sussex Landscapes, with Peter Brandon. Our meetings take place in Blackboys Village Hall at 7.30pm for 8pm start. Visitors are welcome, entrance costs £2.00 and includes tea or coffee and biscuit.

If you would like to know more about the society or have information that you think we might be interested in, or if you think we may be able to help you, please contact me on 01825 890359 or email bturner.18maple@btinternet.com

Ann Turner

*Hello—We know it's February but
We didn't wish you all a Happy
New Year in January.*

*We have both earned a "reprieve"
and are both allowed back on the
computer. We had a really good
Christmas with nice presents of
food and Father Christmas collars
with bells on (We both thought
they were silly but "our public"
said we both looked wonderful).*

*We have both decided you had a
good time too as our new e-mail of
doghouse did not have any pic-
tures on. Please do send them to
our "Mistress" as we all love to
chose which ones will go in the
magazine*

*We have a new friend in Framfield
called "Buddy" who now keeps
"Daisy" company since she lost
"Rupert" but we also lost our
American friend "Lord Snuffles" so
"Lady Basha" is very sad and has
to be spoilt more than we are!*

*If you had a pet for Christmas do
look after them. We hate hearing
of all the poor animals thrown out
without love and we all need
plenty of that.*

*Mistress was very unhappy before
Christmas and has penned a few
words overleaf. She knows it is not
the dogs fault but their owners.*

*Have a good 2009,
George & Poppy*

