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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.

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

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SPECIFIED

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

Parish Newsletter



**Framfield, Blackboys
and
Palehouse Common**

APRIL/MAY 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 :



Marriages – those whom God has joined, let no one divide:

17th January 2009: John Heywood Duffie / Sandra Elizabeth Hall

20th March 2009: Jason Lee Starling / Georgina Claire Everest

At rest: 4th February 2009: Judith Carol Tomsett

**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.*

Parish Magazine: Deliverers needed

Since one of our Blackboys helpers is unable to continue with his round, we are in need of one or two volunteers to deliver magazines in Stonebridge Lane (10 houses) and Lewes Road (10 houses)

If you can help, please contact Pat Herbert on 01825 890247

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR

Contributors, Advertisers and Distributors

from the editorial team

**without you the Newsletter would not be the popular
bi-monthly read it has become.**

Our thanks also to our Printers

"Print Matters"

**who by not increasing prices have enabled us to
maintain ours at last years rates of**

£60 per 1/4 page. £120 per 1/2 page

and £240 for a Full Page in this years 6 editions

*My own special "thanks" go to Ann & Barry for their collating
and "tweaking" of the items and adverts, to the band of
volunteers under Derek Thorogood who deliver the Newsletter
in all weathers and Delia Gillies collector of the Newsletters
from the Printers.*

*I would also like to thank our joint Chairmen: Rev.Chris & Eryl Thomas
for their constant support and guidance. It is much appreciated.*

Sue (Ed)

What's inside your Easter egg?

Personally I am not much of a winter person. Short days and long cold nights, ice and snow are not my idea of fun especially when you have to get up early in the morning. The countryside has gone to sleep and everything looks dead and barren. In the depths of winter have you ever wondered whether the trees will ever have leaves on them again or will the shrubs in the garden ever produce new shoots when they just look like dead brown sticks? And then it happens, spring arrives and with it the miracle of rebirth, green shoots appear and the bright yellow daffodils adorn the verges once again. The sunshine and the flowers certainly give joy to the heart and the hope of a great summer.

The seasons of the year and particularly the season of Easter have many parallels. The life of Christ in his last few weeks on earth is perhaps the most poignant. At the height of Jesus' popularity we see him riding on a donkey into Jerusalem thronged by crowds of people waving palm branches, shouting "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" This was indeed the height of summer for Jesus. But how quickly winter came upon him; within four days Jesus was betrayed, arrested, given a false trial, and sentenced to death. Before the Roman Governor Pilate and an angry crowd the once joyous shouts of "Hosanna" are now replaced with "Crucify him!" Jesus is mercilessly flogged and crucified and by 3pm he is dead!

It was bad enough for Jesus, but what of his disciples? All their hopes had been dashed. They had left everything to follow him. He was the man who held so much promise for the future and now he was dead! For them this is the depth of their winter, the longest and coldest of nights.

Despite Jesus telling them on many occasions that He must die and be raised to life again after three days they never really understood. But spring was about to happen and despite the seeming impossibility of the situation Jesus was raised to life again. Not in his previous battered body but in his new resurrection body. The first to

be told and accept the good news are Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James when they visit the tomb and find it empty. *'The women hurry away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell the disciples'* (Matt 28:8).

You may be wondering what all this has to do with the contents of Easter eggs? Easter eggs all look roughly the same from the outside yet some are full of sweets or chocolate and others are just empty. Human beings all look roughly the same from the outside yet some are full and others are empty. From a spiritual perspective the human condition cannot tolerate a void. There is a constant desire to be filled with something that satisfies and people try various ways to fill the gap i.e. money, possessions, drugs, alcohol, sexual promiscuity etc; the list goes on, yet none of these give long term satisfaction. Only in relationship with God do we find the void totally filled and experience lasting satisfaction.

The death and resurrection of Jesus was the turning point in history that enabled every human being to cross over from death to life. We are by nature sinful people but through Christ our sins have been wiped out by him on the Cross and new life can begin again – it's there for the asking, and when we do God comes to live in us by his Holy Spirit.

Spring turns to summer and the trees produce fruit and likewise the Holy Spirit produces fruit in our lives. The Apostle Paul tells us of the fruit we can expect to be growing in our lives in relationship with God. *'But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness and self-control'* (Galatians 5:22-23).

What would you prefer to be in your Easter egg?

Happy Easter

Chris Lawrence

Welcome Baptist Blackboys

On Sunday February 1st we cancelled our service, so that we could all attend the Induction of John Goodway as minister of Forest Row Baptist Church. John has been a valuable member of the leadership team here in Blackboys and it was with mixed feelings we attended this very special celebration. We wish him well and will continue to pray for him and his wife Avril in this new appointment.

We run a Baby and Toddler Group for the village and surrounding areas called **Little Stars**. It is held in the Blackboys Village Hall on Friday mornings during term-time and is open from 10.30am – midday. The cost is a donation towards Hall fees and refreshments. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet with other parents (including Dad's!) and carers and for the little ones to have a play time and interact with each other. The group is very friendly and informal. We always welcome new faces – we would love to see you there. For further information, please contact Emma Doherty on 01825 890029.

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 ww.blackboys.org.uk

Road closure in the Parish in April/May.

B2102 Blackboys Road, Framfield, will be closed from the entrance to Oaks Farm to its junction with the U7509 Stonebridge Lane. The closure is expected to be for **6 days** from the **28th April 2009 to the 6th May 2009**. The total extent of the works is 1097 metres.

The alternative route for traffic will be via the B2102 The Street, the B2102 Hammonds Green, the B2102 Bird In Eye Hill, the B2102 Framfield Road, the C26 New Town, the C26 Eastbourne Road, the A22, the B2192 Heathfield Road, the B2192 Lewes Road and vice versa.

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – REPORT

Mark Moore has been co-opted onto the Parish Council to complete the total number of councillors required - eleven. He will bring his expertise in groundsmanship to assist in looking after the recreation grounds and play areas.

As there are other reports elsewhere in the magazine covering the bigger issues of the moment – the result of the Uckfield Appeals, Council Tax and the Speedwatch Campaign – this report will be kept brief.

Due to the downturn in planning applications, if anyone is interested in attending a scheduled Planning Committee meeting, could they please contact me first, in case it has been cancelled.

I have been asked to offer our recognition and give our thanks to two people who give a great deal of their time to the Parish – namely, Nigel Drew and Sandy Rogers.

Nigel's never-ending, quiet, but determined enthusiasm to protect and enhance our villages for the people that live in them is remarkable. I am convinced that his perseverance on the appeals covering Bird in Eye helped save the day. If only the appropriate authorities would listen to Nigel's common sense over the issues of flooding in Uckfield, the threat of flooding would diminish

Sandy Rogers seemingly unstoppable energy in all the activities for residents within the Parish she involves herself in is astonishing – Farmers' Market and Monday Club to name only a couple. Although no longer a Parish resident, the efforts she makes on our behalf are superb.

I am sure, on behalf of all the residents of the Parish, I can offer an overwhelming 'thank you' to these two people.

Eryl Thomas (890360); David Andrews ((07826 835295); Myran Eade (890507); Peter Friend (01435 867126); Brian Hodge (890199); Mark Moore (890166); Maria Naylor (890946); Rob Newton (890103); Ian Paisley (890904); Rita Redman (890276); Fred Thurston (890071).

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

AEN/24 March 2009

DIARY OF CHURCH SERVICES

APRIL

05 Palm Sunday

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

06 7.00 pm Holy Week Meditation (1)

07 7.00 pm Holy Week Meditation (2)

08 7.00 pm Holy Week Meditation (3)

09 Maundy Thursday

8.00 pm Holy Communion

10 Good Friday

10.00 am Service of the Word

12 Easter Sunday

10.00 am Family Festival Communion (CW)

15 11.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

19 2nd Sunday of Easter

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Contemporary Service
6.30 pm Evening Service with prayer for healing

26 3rd Sunday of Easter

10.00 am Parish Communion
6.30 pm Evening Praise

MAY

03 4th Sunday of Easter

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

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL -- FINANCE

- 10 5th Sunday of Easter**
10.00 am Holy Communion (CW)
6.30 pm Evening Praise
- 17 6th Sunday of Easter (Rogation Sunday)**
8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Contemporary Service
6.30 pm Evening Service with prayer for healing
- 20 11.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)**
- 24 7th Sunday of Easter**
10.00 am Family Service
6.30 pm Evening Communion (CW)
- 31 Pentecost**
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 MAY 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 Ann.

I am sure no one needs reminding of the current financial situation and I regret to have to tell you that the Parish precept is increasing significantly this year. For the last few years our budget for expenditure has been greater than the amount raised by our precept (the amount of council tax allocated for the Parish). We have done this by using our reserves to meet the shortfall.

We have now reached the point where not only has our projected expenditure increased significantly but our reserves are now at a level whereby further encroachment is not advisable.

This coming year our budget is £41,000 and the precept will match this giving an overall increase of some 17% **but** this has to be translated into the actual increase in what you will pay. For the ‘average’ band D property the additional sum payable will be just over £6 for the year or 50p per month. We hope you feel you do get value for money from the Parish Council and we always welcome any constructive input from parishioners about the services we provide. It is possibly opportune to remind everyone that not only do we have to look after 3 recreation grounds and 2 allotment sites (some 16 acres in total) but we also have over 70 street lights for which we are responsible, insurance is an item which regularly increases and even such tasks as dog bin emptying costs over £1,200 per year!

We are very fortunate to have an excellent Parish Clerk who is constantly being asked to do more and more as responsibilities grow and particularly as the amount of beaurocracy is passed to us from central government, County and District councils. Councillors are also being asked to do more and you might wish to know that none of Framfield councillors take any financial allowances to which they could be entitled. In summary we are doing our best in difficult times and as a reminder we do have an annual meeting in May which is primarily for parishioners to raise any issues with the council. Of course, you can come along to any council meeting and raise matters then or get in touch with our Clerk at any time.

Eryl Thomas (Chairman)



NORTH WEALDEN CARERS RESPITE

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY REQUIRED

Children in school? Retired? Time on your hands?
Are you looking for a way to support others in the community?

Then you may be able to help us!

We are looking for caring and responsible volunteers, to support Carers in the community. Full training will be given, travel and out of pocket expenses are paid.

Volunteers can give as much or as little time as they have to spare.

For further information on how you can become a Volunteer for Carers, contact the Service Co-ordinator on

01435 861100

Or

07709 406 472

Framfield CE Primary School

Today is Tuesday 10th March and we have just celebrated the new buildings which were completed in November last year. We were delighted with the number of people who attended our special service and then followed us back to school for tea and an official opening which was done for us by Jimmy James and two pupils - Yazzmyn Funnell and Dominic Ferrari. The day went very well and we were very pleased to be able to dedicate the library to Rosemary James in a special service conducted by Rev Brian Wilcox from Holy Cross Church. It was lovely to have so many friends sharing the day with us.

The school has benefited enormously from the interest and commitment of many people and I am heartened by the local commitment. The Framfield Stagers have contributed significantly to our fund-raising and this, when added to the considerable sums donated by many people in the parish means that we have met our target of £30,000. All members of the school community have played a part in achieving this and it has been particularly fine to have also had the support of so many past pupils of the school and other members of this community who believe passionately in the future of our community's schools.

For those of you who came today but who missed the Visitors Book we would really appreciate it if you could call in at some point to sign it, and add any comments or memories of the school that you have. It was great fun to have you along and we would love to have a permanent record of your visit.

Janet Wilde - Headteacher

Since the last report in this magazine about starting a community based Speedwatch team, there has been considerable activity and movement. There are about 12 volunteers who have been trained by the local police to use the speed-recording device and it has been operating in Blackboys since late- February.

Initially the team has been operating two days per week at a number of locations in Blackboys and Framfield. To-date the registrations of a number of vehicles being driven at excessive (according to Police guidelines appropriate to the speed limits), have been recorded and reported to the police. The drivers of the vehicles then receive warning letters and if they are subsequently found to be repeated offenders, become a potential "target" vehicle for the traffic police. Additionally, on occasions where we have a policeman with us, he has the powers needed to stop the car and if appropriate, to issue a ticket for speeding.

The times of the day the teams operate as well as the locations, vary and it is intended that the days of the week will be varied as well. The aim of the project is to DETER speeders not to catch them, so if the presence of a group of people wearing yellow jackets in the village achieves this the objectives will have been met. Most of the volunteers are currently from Framfield even though both Framfield and Blackboys are being covered by the scheme. We really could do with some additional volunteers to ease the workload of existing team members and if they were from Blackboys this would be particularly appreciated. Training is minimal and the times of the operation are agreed by the team rostered on for that day to suit their own domestic arrangements; similarly members are only rostered for days that are nominated as being suitable to them....there is no question of "co-erced" rostering.

So if you would like to help reduce the risk of "in-village speeding" through Blackboys and Framfield as well the chance to wear a nice warm yellow jacket supplied by the Parish Council, then please give Councillor Brian Hodge a call on 01825 890199. Having been nominated as the Speedwatch co-ordinator he will be more than happy to give you any information you want and to enrol you.

The Uckfield Appeals

Most parishioners will be aware that the Appeal regarding the development of the two Bird In Eye (north and south) sites has not succeeded so great news for the Parish and particularly those who live in the immediate vicinity. But the Secretary of State's response to and acceptance of the Inspectors findings (which in the real world is the key issue) could be regarded as "for the time being".

The Parish Council has fought against the development from the beginning and whilst welcoming the decision would suggest that developers are more than likely to have another attempt at some time in the future. We need to be vigilant and also make sure all relevant elected representatives are consistently reminded that this development is not wanted by the community.

Parish Council

ARE YOU EXPERIENCING INCREASED AIRCRAFT NOISE?

If so, the first point of contact is Gatwick noise complaint line (free) on 0800 393 070.

Every 'phone call to this number is logged as a complaint and therefore it is important for residents to leave a message and subsequently write a letter to the address below explaining that there has been increased aircraft activity, flying at lower heights than previous years.

: NATS, London Area Control Centre
PO Box 100
Sopwith Way
Southampton SO31 7AY

Some specific details already received from Gatwick noise complaint department indicate that there has been a 50-100% increase in air traffic within 2km of Blackboys.

FRAMFIELD VILLAGE HALL MARKET



NEXT MARKET: 25th April 2009

23rd MAY 2009

10 am-12 noon

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

LOVE IS IN THE AIR

February 17 ; that's the date for this year that has gone down in my diary for the arrival of the frogs in my garden in Small Dole. I had been expecting them to be a little later this year as they have had to survive the coldest winter for quite a few years but looking back to 2008, they have in fact appeared a week earlier.

One particular amorous male couldn't wait to get to the pond and had mounted the female while in the middle of the road outside, so I had to delicately give them a helping hand and move them to a safer place, which did elicit some pretty vocal protests. Numbers have yet to reach the heights of last year when over 30 of them crammed into my little garden pond, but I'm hoping that over the next few weeks, they will get somewhere near that figure; in any event it is great to see them back.

Unfortunately, I don't get any toads in my garden, but not far from Woods Mill there has been a big migration back to their traditional breeding grounds, an event not quite so common these days as toad numbers have been declining significantly over the last 20 years or so. Toads prefer deeper water to lay their eggs and will remain loyal to traditional breeding sites even when those sites have disappeared. They will go back to the same place year after year and will desperately deposit the eggs in totally unsuitable conditions so that none of the eggs will survive. On the other hand frogs will adapt to changing conditions more easily and therefore are much more likely to adopt garden ponds and breed successfully.

If you are unsure whether it is frog or toad spawn in your garden or local pond, then if it is in a clump and resembles the 'semolina' that you used to get for your school dinner then it will be frogspawn, whereas toads lay their eggs in lines.

Frogs and toads are for more conspicuous when they emerge in the early spring for their mating rituals whereas the other members of the amphibian family treat the whole event with a lot more decorum and are therefore far less often observed. Newts have also spent the winter months in hibernation somewhere dark and dank but often a long way away from winter. One thing that distinguishes amphibians from reptiles is that they still need to lay their eggs in water so they have to make that long overland journey back to their breeding grounds. Once there the males perform an impressive tail wagging dance to attract the females and if successful and

mating takes place, the female will lay individual eggs on the underside of the vegetation.

Newts will quite happily colonise your pond and although 'newtlets', or efts as they used to be known, and frog tadpoles will quite happily feast on each other the likelihood is that enough will survive to return to your pond to breed in the following years. Frogs in particular lay thousands of eggs on the premise that if only half a dozen survive then that is enough to maintain the population.

The croaking of frogs at night in your garden is a sure sign that winter is receding and that everything is just waiting to burst into life and you can take pride that your little pond is a significant factor in the wonderful natural cycle of life.

**Mike Russell Sussex Wildlife Trust
April 2009**

The Trust is running a day course 'Introduction to Amphibians and How to Survey for Them' at Woods Mill on Sunday 5th April. Members/concessions £7.50, Non-members £12.50. To book please ring 01273 497561 or e-mail filmadyr@sussexwt.org.uk

ENJOY YOUR LOCAL COUNTRYSIDE

Annual Bluebell Walk

Saturday, 2nd May - Bluebell Walk from the Blackboys Inn with a gentle stroll through local woods and return by 1.00 pm. Easy short cut to get back earlier. Children and Dogs Welcome. Please phone Desmond Gunner on 01825 733211 to advise numbers.

We are blessed with superb wooded countryside and are approaching the short few weeks when it is at its best, with the Bluebells in flower, and hopefully the winter mud has dried up. So why not join me in a leisurely stroll through the woods, starting from the Blackboys Inn at 10.00 am, returning there by 1.00 pm. You can take a short cut if you need to be back earlier and you are welcome to bring Children and Dogs, Free of Charge. However, I ask at least £2 per adult as a donation to the ITF Tree Nurseries in Rwanda. Please phone Desmond Gunner on 01825 733211 to advise numbers.



Do you understand the strain of being a parent?

Susan has just given birth to twins and has an autistic son. She is feeling lonely, exhausted and overwhelmed. Could you volunteer 3 hours a week to visit parents like Susan?

HOME-START SOUTH DOWNS

The next *****FREE*****

Volunteer Preparation Course begins

21 April, Tuesday (Crowborough)

9 September, Wednesday (Newhaven)

4 November, Wednesday (Heathfield)

for 10 weeks, *one* day a week 9.30 am - 2.30 pm

(excluding school and bank holidays)

Ring 01273 612025 or homestartsouthdowns@btinternet.com
for information

Registered Charity 1108855
Company 5368531

From the Editor to all our Contributors –

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

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

Thank you for supporting us. Sue W. Ed

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

Other fixtures are as follows:

21/05/2009 - Thur - Blackboys v Heathfield Park – Oakshott Cup
12/07/2009 - Sun - Blackboys v President's XI – Friendly – TBC
16/08/2009 - Sun - Blackboys v The Invalids – Friendly

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

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Looking back to last September it turned out that over 40,000 coffee mornings were hosted with around 1,600 taking place in Sussex. The target nationwide of £8 million is being approached and people in Sussex created enough of a stir to raise nearly £225,000.

A recent Macmillan survey found that two thirds of cancer patients struggling financially, say paying fuel bills is their biggest money worry. In November 2008 MCS successfully launched a campaign to push the Government to give **Winter Fuel Payments to people with cancer**. In 2009 we look forward to the Government's response to this campaign and MCS will also be calling on energy companies to offer better tariffs to people with cancer.

Our committee continue to fund raise and very much appreciate the support of local parishioners. Apart from our new venture of celebrating **St. George's Day on 25th April at Ringmer Community College**, we will be serving **Afternoon Teas** under the auspices of the National Gardens Scheme.

THE GRANGE, FRAMFIELD WILL BE OPEN 10TH MAY
HOBBS BARTON, FRAMFIELD 6TH/7TH/8TH JUNE

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.

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

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

**ST GEORGE'S DAY
SATURDAY 25TH APRIL 2009
RINGMER COMMUNITY COLLEGE
3 COURSE MEAL £20 PER HEAD
COUNTRY DANCING TO THE SPINNING JENNIES
DISPLAY OF CLOG DANCING
01825 890400**

Framfield & Blackboys Monday Club

6th April – 2.30 pm
At Framfield Memorial Hall
Chair based Activities with Louise / Poems with Evelyn Wickerson.

27th April - 2.30 pm
At Sandy's, Halland Park Farm
'Musical Event'

May 18th
OUTING to EASTBOURNE
Times and Information on this – contact Sandy

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

BLACKBOYS CRICKET CLUB

Blackboys Cricket Club continued its good form in 2008. In our second season in the East Sussex Cricket League, we were runners-up in Division 4 and we gained 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 contact us if you would like to get involved. 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

From our new PCSO:

Hello, if you haven't seen me out on patrol recently let me introduce myself. My name is Simon, your local PCSO for the Framfield/Blackboys ward.

On 25th February in Blackboys, a lady reported that a male had knocked on her door, claiming to work in a bookshop, asking if she had any books which she wished to sell, this lady felt he was acting in a strange manner and contacted the bookshop after he left who knew nothing about him, this may be a innocent matter but I would like to remind everyone of the dangers of bogus callers. Please don't open the door to strangers straight away, see what they want first, make appointment times with tradesmen and service people and most important, ALWAYS ASK FOR ID. If there are any more incidents like this in the future please contact us on 0845 60 70 999.

The allotments in Blackboys have also received unwanted visitors in the past month with chicken thefts being reported to me. I will of course be patrolling this area but being the nature of allotments this area will always be fairly open, any reports of suspect behaviour would most welcome.

On a positive front, I have been attending Framfield and Blackboys Schools once a month, meeting the children at lunchtime, sitting down and talking to them, getting them to feel comfortable with the uniform and answering all there weird and wonderful questions.

If you see me out and about, please come up and say hello, tell me about any issues that concern you or feel may give me knowledge about the area.

Please feel free to contact me at on 0845 60 70 999 Ext 27400

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



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

With spring nearly here we are spending this term looking at eggs and things that hatch from them. The children have already had visits from some quails and snakes. We are also planning a trip to the Raystede Centre to see lots more types of birds and animals that lay eggs, and of course we will be having eggs of the chocolate kind at Easter!

If you are looking for a preschool for your child to attend, why not come along to our OPEN MORNING on Thursday 30th April at 9.30 am – 12 pm.

Come and have a tea or coffee, a chat to the staff and parents and see all the facilities that we have to offer. We are also offering a free trial week, so why not come along and book this?

We are also holding a Fundraising Race Night on Friday 24th April 2009, this is help raise funds for new resources for the preschool. We have just updated the gazebo in the garden, and are looking to make further enhancements to the lovely garden area in the near future. If you can support the preschool by sponsoring a horse or coming along to the evening, please contact the preschool on (01825) 891113.

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, if you would like any further information about the preschool, please visit our website on www.blackboyspreschool.co.uk or give Jenny a call on (01825) 891113.



Framfield & Blackboys Horticultural Society News

Hopefully you have all received your copy of this year's Summer Show Schedule. We have a few additions this year including growing the tallest Sunflower, please see full details in the schedule. We also have a class for a Water Lilly, decorated vegetable, and the children's section includes a poster to keep the village tidy. There are lots of different classes to enter into for all ages and abilities, please have a go and help support the show.

Events for your diary, members and non members welcome.

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

Garden Visit – N. Trust Garden Standen Tues 2nd June 6pm
James Masters, Head Gardener has kindly offered us the opportunity to visit the gardens - please advise Mrs J Graham 01435 812711 if you would like to attend, The private tour will last approx. an hour and a half to two hours. Please travel under your own transport.

Summer Show - Saturday 8th August 2009
Framfield Recreation Field and Memorial Hall from 1.30pm

The Summer Show takes place every August but does take a tremendous amount of organising each year. Without the continued help of Horticultural Committee, and all the volunteers, before, during and after the show; we would not have the show we all love and enjoy. If anyone would like to volunteer please contact Edna Abrams on 01825 890976, all help welcome even for just an hour or two.

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



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



It has been a real winter term at last, lots of lovely snow, which the playgroup children really enjoyed building snowmen in the school playground.

Our theme for the term was food, learning about all types of foods - healthy and unhealthy, which was supported by lots of fun cooking activities. We were lucky enough to be invited to visit a real working dairy farm thanks to Claire and Anthony Renwick - Arches Farm.

It was very exciting seeing the cows being milked, but the best bit was the chocolate milk we got to taste afterwards. Thank you cows. We are now in term 4 and our learning journey is New Life, covering all aspects of New Life that spring brings. We have been planting seeds, bulbs and vegetables and watching them grow. We are planning some outings to extend our theme visiting a local Bluebell woods and Blackberry Farm.

Many thanks to all who supported the Playgroup chocolate tombola this month, and everyone who bought ice creams at the panto.

We are open 4 mornings a week between 9am and 12pm (optional lunch club available for 3yr olds up to 12:45pm). For children aged between 2 and 5 years, we are Ofsted registered and inspected. We are situated at the Memorial Hall Mondays to Wednesdays and Fridays at the Church Hall. All our staff are trained to a minimum NVQ level 3 and all are currently undergoing further training.

If you are looking for a pre-school for your child(ren) please feel free to visit us at any time.

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

Framfield and Blackboys WI

Our January meal at the Hare & Hounds was a great success. Lovely home cooked food. My steak and kidney was just as mother used to make. Some members managed a sweet as they were so tempting. Lots of chatter and laughter - an evening to remember.

In February we were given a talk by Mr. Procter from Wealden District Council on Home Energy Efficiency.

Very helpful tips on how to save on our energy bills and also information on various grants available to older people.

Lyn Malyon
Contact No: 01825 890759

BLACKBOYS & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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 baturner.18maple@btinternet.com

Ann Turner



The Childrens Page



Contributors: George Poppy & Sue (Ed) and the children

All contributions by children are with parental consent

Hello - it's us again. We can't believe it's Easter time especially as we have only just finished our choc drops from Christmas. We hope you know that you should never give us dogs ordinary chocolate - it is VERY-bad for us!



Did you have lots of fun in the snow? Neither of us did. We both sank without trace and Poppy looked like a monster with snow frozen solid to her long fur. It took Mistress ages to thaw her out with a towel and hair dryer. I had an even worse time, I'm so short ALL of me was a solid block of icedacshund. I know Mistress calls me "wimp" but I was so cold even my teeth were chattering on their own.

We had to wait 'til the snow thawed to be allowed out for walks after that- but we enjoyed watching Mistress "exercising" by brushing a clear area so we could "spend our pocket money".

We are off to stay with Buddy and Daisy as pack leader is off on her travels again. She's off to Japan with Hiroshima the point of her trip. We've been teaching her some words we learnt whilst listening to Gilbert and Sullivan's "Mikado" but have only got as far as "Hai" and "Konnichiwa" which we think is "Yes" and "Good day" with the odd Kowtow to show how polite we are.

From George & Poppy.

HALLO BOYS AND GIRLS

of Framfield, Blackboys and Palehouse Common

Are you aged between 5 and 11 ?

Would you like to join us on Sunday mornings at
The Church Hall for Sunday Club?

We will be meeting after Easter on these dates

Sundays:- 19th, 26th April & 10th, 17th May

We have all sorts of activities and hear stories about Jesus and paint and draw and cook and play indoor games.

Towards the end of the hour we join the people in church for a short time.

Mums and Dads if you want more information ring

The Church Office on 01825 891090

