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Police, non-emergency: 0845 6070999

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Home Safety Visit Helpline: 0800 1777 069

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

Parish Newsletter



**Framfield, Blackboys
and
Palehouse Common**

JUNE/JULY 2010

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

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

Churchwardens : **Mr Peter Tomsett (01825 763460)**
 Mrs Joan Burne

Secretary to PCC : **Mrs Diana Kentish-Barnes**

Treasurer : **Mr Norman Jones**

**All communications for church matters should be directed
to the Church Office – 10.30 am – 5 pm (closed Wednesday)**

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

From the Registers :



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

8th May 2010: Kevin Ware/ Steffany Hubbard
16th May 2010: Gerald Ferrier / Rachel Dye

At Rest –

6th May 2010: Vera Bentley Moulds
19th May 2010: Dallas Percy Hills

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

Joint Chair -
For the Church: Rev. Chris Lawrence
For the Council: Mr. Rob Newton

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.*

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REGULAR AND CASUAL BOOKINGS.
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FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

BLACKBOYS CRICKET CLUB

East Sussex Cricket League - Division 12 - Fixtures

08-May Seaford 4th XI 102 bt Blackboys 2nd XI 53 by 49 runs
15-May Blackboys 2nd XI 240-6 drew with Sidley 3rd XI 126-9

22-May Blackboys 2nd XI v Hellingly 4th XI
29-May No League Fixture
05-Jun Blackboys 2nd XI v Bells Yew Green 4th XI
12-Jun Tunbridge Wells Borderers 3rd XI v Blackboys 2nd XI
19-Jun Blackboys 2nd XI v Little Common Ramblers 3rd XI
26-Jun Rye 3rd XI v Blackboys 2nd XI
03-Jul Blackboys 2nd XI v Willingdon 3rd XI
10-Jul Blackboys 2nd XI v Sidley 3rd XI
17-Jul Seaford 4th XI v Blackboys 2nd XI
24-Jul Hellingly 4th XI v Blackboys 2nd XI
31-Jul No League Fixture
07-Aug Bells Yew Green 4th XI v Blackboys 2nd XI
14-Aug Blackboys 2nd XI v Tunbridge Wells Borderers 3rd XI
21-Aug Little Common Ramblers 3rd XI v Blackboys 2nd XI
28-Aug Blackboys 2nd XI v Rye 3rd XI
04-Sep Willingdon 3rd XI v Blackboys 2nd XI

Other Fixtures

19-May Blackboys v Hellingly – Oakshott Cup 1st Round
04-July Blackboys v President's XI - Friendly
15-Aug Blackboys v The Invalids - Friendly

Off the field, we have managed to secure a £5,000 grant from the Grassroots Sussex Community Foundation. We are a small club run by volunteers and this grant has been awarded to help cover our running costs. This grant is most welcome indeed and we of course cannot thank enough the foundation for their generosity. It is not easy task running the club and it is quite surprising how quickly the money gets swallowed up. We are most grateful.

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

Do our perceptions of God do justice to His character?

One of the questions Jesus puts to his disciples is “Who do people say I am”? You could equally ask the same question of yourself to someone who has known you for some time and as Jesus did get a variety of answers. Our perception and judgement of others depends mainly on two factors.

Firstly, we view others through a ‘personal lens’ based on our upbringing and experience of interacting with other human beings. Typically when meeting someone for the first time we make a value judgement solely on whether you received a smile or a cheerful hello; whether you were comfortable in their presence or did they have defensive body language and ‘shifty eyes’!

Secondly, we judge over a longer period of time i.e. on what they say or do how they treat you and others, are they kind, trustworthy etc.

Through personal experience it has often been the case that my initial perception of someone has turned out over a period of time to be exactly the opposite. The really chummy ones when you first meet them turn out to be not very nice at all, whereas the ones who you were not quite sure about end up as trusted, lifelong friends.

So much for human relationships, but what about God whom we cannot see yet we still need to make a value judgement on his character; because it is on this judgement that we decide whether we are going to have any sort of relationship with Him.

When Jesus says “Follow Me” He asks us to pitch in everything with Him. To trust Him with everything in life whether it be for us, our family, health, housing, job, finance, food etc. For many that’s a bridge too far and the chief reason for not trusting Him is due to the projection of failed human relationships that are transposed onto God’s character.

The result is that we are not quite sure that this perfect, all loving God, as described in the Bible and personified by Jesus is in fact all that He is cracked up to be. Sad but true. How often have you heard the comment that ‘religion is the source of all wars’, result, ‘I don’t want anything to do with religion’. The door is firmly closed in God’s face.

Thankfully Jesus never came to earth to establish another religion; in fact God hates religion and pious religiosity for its own sake because it inhibits the intimacy of relationship and turns it into a lifeless performance.

God's heart yearns for a genuine relationship/friendship with each one of us. He is the source that meets our deepest needs that no one or anything else can satisfy and yet we still try to run away, but as the saying goes 'You can run, but you can't hide'.

In the parable of the prodigal son when the younger son has demanded his inheritance from his father, left home for a distant land and spent all his money on 'wild living' and is now destitute and hungry he finally comes to his senses. He realises that even the servants at the family home now had more than he did so he decides to return home and make a grovelling speech to his father in the hope that he will accept him back in the role of a servant. But what happens? - Luke 15:11-32

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

²¹"The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.

²²"But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. ²⁴For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'

The son clearly misread the character of his father and the reaction he was likely to get when he came home. How many of us can identify with the son? Put our hands up and say 'yes, I have messed up', done things and said things I shouldn't have and now have to live with the regret and the heartache of a broken relationship.

Clearly, the father in the parable is God. But note that despite the son's speech the father isn't really listening, there is no word or thought of chastisement (*he knows everything anyway*) he is just so happy to have his son home. In this light, like the son how many have given God a bad press based on faulty perceptions about His character?

The essence of God's character is unconditional love and as the bible says 'Love covers over a multitude of sins'. It is time for you to come home and let your heavenly Father greet you?

Blessings - Chris Lawrence

BLACKBOYS CRICKET CLUB

In 2009 Blackboys Cricket Club entered two teams in the East Sussex cricket League. Our first team played in division 3 and held their own to finish mid-table in sixth place. The second team played in division 12 and will be looking to improve on last year's results.

We have moved away from friendly cricket and we now concentrate on running two teams that play in the East Sussex Cricket league. Hopefully both teams will have enjoyable and successful campaigns

Early days of course in our 2010 season but both our league teams are searching for their first wins.

East Sussex Cricket League - Division 3 - Fixtures

08-May Bells Yew Green 1st XI 239-3 v Blackboys 1st XI 0-0 - Abnd
15-May Laughton 1st XI 119 bt Blackboys 117 by 2 runs

22-May Polegate & Stone Cross 1st XI v Blackboys 1st XI
29-May Blackboys 1st XI v Rotherfield 1st XI
05-Jun Wadhurst 1st XI v Blackboys 1st XI
12-Jun Blackboys 1st XI v Herstmonceux 1st XI
19-Jun Pett 1st XI v Blackboys 1st XI
26-Jun Blackboys 1st XI v Robertsbridge 1st XI
03-Jul Tunbridge Wells Borderers 1st XI v Blackboys 1st XI
10-Jul Laughton 1st XI v Blackboys 1st XI
17-Jul Blackboys 1st XI v Bells Yew Green 1st XI
24-Jul Blackboys 1st XI v Polegate & Stone Cross 1st XI
31-Jul Rotherfield 1st XI v Blackboys 1st XI
07-Aug Blackboys 1st XI v Wadhurst 1st XI
14-Aug Herstmonceux 1st XI v Blackboys 1st XI
21-Aug Blackboys 1st XI v Pett 1st XI
28-Aug Robertsbridge 1st XI v Blackboys 1st XI
28-Aug Wadhurst 1st XI v Rotherfield 1st XI
04-Sep Blackboys 1st XI v Tunbridge Wells Borderers 1st XI

From the Editor

Since moving from Framfield I have begun to feel "out of touch" with all that is going on in the Parish and so I have, regretfully, decided that it is time to hand over to Ann and Barry, the two people who really do all the work on the St Thomas à Becket Newsletter.

I have had a wonderful time and enjoyed working with "the team" of Barry, Ann, Matt, our printer, and all the faithful volunteers who go out in all weathers to ensure that you get your Newsletter delivered directly to you.

To all of you a very big "THANK YOU"!

Sue Whitehead

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Wealden Online Events Calendar

Find out about events held in and around Wealden. The **Wealden Online Events Calendar** continues to grow in popularity as more local businesses and community groups and organisations advertise their events for local people and visitors to the area to enjoy.

Add your own event, for FREE, to the event listings service on Wealden District Council's website, www.wealden.gov.uk. You can submit your event details online anytime of the day, and your details should go live within 24 hours. To add your event online, visit www.wealden.gov.uk/events.

DIARY OF CHURCH SERVICES

JUNE 2010

06 First Sunday of Trinity

10.00 am Parish Communion (CW)
6.30 pm Evening Praise

13 Second Sunday of Trinity

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

16 11.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

20 Third Sunday of Trinity

10.00 am Parish Communion (CW)
6.30 pm Evening Service with Prayer for Healing

27 Fourth Sunday of Trinity

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Morning Praise
6.30 pm Songs of Praise

JULY 2010

04 Fifth Sunday of Trinity

10.00 am Parish Communion with Prayer for Healing
6.30 pm Evening Praise

11 Sixth Sunday of Trinity

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

18 Seventh Sunday of Trinity

10.00 am Parish Communion (CW)
2 to 5 pm 'Funday on Sunday', Luxford Field, Uckfield

- 21 11.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 25 **Eighth Sunday of Trinity**
 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
 10.00 am Morning Praise
 6.30 pm Evening Communion (CW)

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

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE
 BY 10th JULY 2010
 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.

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AND

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PARISH NEWSLETTER

FOR A YEAR

6 Bi-Monthly Issues

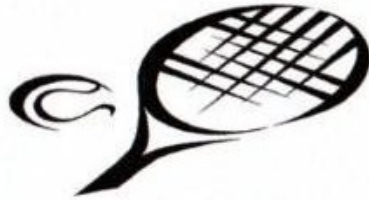
E.g Chess Somewhere. Someday 6.45 Village Hall
 Charge. Contact.

**If you are interested in advertising in our
 NEW CLUB PAGE**

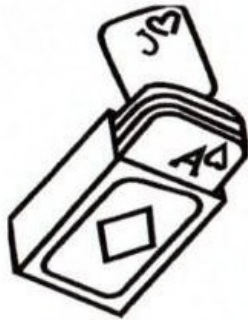
Please contact Sue Whitehead 01825-840411

The NEW "CLUB" PAGE

East Hoathly & Halland Tennis Club – Friendly village club - all standards welcome – club evenings Tues & Thurs (18.00 start) – social/competitive play. More info: www.easthoathlytennis.co.uk or Jean Guest (01825 872675)



Heathfield Rubber Bridge Club Every Monday 6.45pm Cross in Hand Village Hall
Guests £1 Players of all strengths welcome. Tuition given if requested.
Phone:- Con - 01435 862472 or Brian - 01435 810426 for details or just turn up.



To advertise your club ring Sue Whitehead

01825 840411

From PCSO Simon French

At the end of March, we suffered a spate of vehicle crimes in the parish, the target being works vans that held tools in overnight. Please be aware of people in the area acting in a suspect manner around properties and vehicles, if you have any concerns please contact the police and please, please try to write down a vehicle index. Any information that you can provide us with goes a long way to disrupting criminals.

With the summer just around the corner I also want to make you aware of break ins to sheds and outhouses. At the time of writing we have not had any reported incidents this year of thefts and I would like to keep it this way. I know things are never that simple but there are 2 things that we can do to deter criminals, 1. Place all the items you have had out in the garden away, when you have finished with them and 2. Buy and fit and a decent lock/padlock to the shed/ building.

I have available at the station at present, bicycle marking equipment, which can be put on bicycles very quickly and acts as a visible deterrent to bike thefts, if anyone is interested in having this fitting, please contact me via email or phone and I can sort it out on my patrol rounds.

Lastly, I wanted to thank the members of Framfield Speedwatch who continue to do an excellent job and let everyone know that Neighbourhood Policing Officers are in the Wealden area, assisting and where needed handing out speeding fines and points on driving licenses, 3 motorists were caught and fined last week, which helps hammer home the message.

PCSO Simon French, Uckfield Police Station 0845 60 70 999 Ext 27400

1st Buxted (O'Brien's Own) Scout Troop

I am the Scout Leader for 1st Buxted (O'Brien's Own) Scout Troop and whilst not in the Parish we do have and continue to attract boys and girls from Framfield, Blackboys and Palehouse Common into the Group. We are struggling with Leaders and other Adult help and could be in danger of closing if things get much worse.

If you feel you could help please email: buxtedscouts@googlemail.com

Ashley Jones - Scout Leader

Framfield & Blackboys WI

In April new members and several visitors joined us in welcoming Mr.R.Harris, who charmed us with his slide show featuring Darwell Reservoir. Situated near Robertsbridge and the A21, the reservoir is not open for public access, which means that the wildlife of plants and animals thrive almost undisturbed.

Our Vice-President Delia Gillies, reported on her visit to the March Annual Council Meeting of East Sussex Federation of WIs in Eastbourne. Horam WIs resolution urging "Her Majesty's Government to rethink policies on importing certain foods....." was discussed and passed by a large majority.

At tea-time we celebrated Betty Davy's 90th birthday with a huge cake beautifully made by Corinne Urben.

During our May Ploughman's Supper we will be examining the background to this year's resolution. A member from Waldron WI will be our delegate at the Cardiff AGM. and vote according to our wishes. More details next time.

In my last report I mentioned WI mandate from past resolutions. Here are two of them:-

(Source - NFWI Public Affairs Handbook)

Genetic Finger Printing.

The NFWI calls upon the government to introduce compulsory DNA testing in those areas where violent crime has been committed."

(Old Heathfield WI. E.Sx. June 1989)

Equal Opportunities

"That men and women should receive equal pay for equal work."

(Bures WI W .Suffolk. June 1943)

On June 8th we will be hearing about the "History of the RNLI".

Come and join us for this, also hear about the Cardiff AGM.

An outing is planned for our July meeting.

Margaret J. Bennett

All our meetings take place in Blackboys Village Hall at 7.30 pm. Please contact me or Frances Brinkhurst our President, (tel. 01825 890759), if you would like more details of our meetings or what being a WI member involves.

We always welcome visitors.

Margaret J. Bennett (Tel. 01825 890416)

FRAMFIELD & BLACKBOYS MONDAY CLUB

**7th June 2010 – Tea with Sue & Eryl Thomas
2.30 pm, at Scaines Farm.**

**21st June 2010 – Tea with Annabel Marten
2.30 pm, at the Coach House, Framfield.**

**5th July 2010 – Tea with Caroline & Glen Swire
2.30 pm, at Grange Farmhouse.**

**19th July 2010 – Tea with Tanya Edmondson
2.30 pm at New Place Farm.**

No meetings in August.

**For more information, call Sandy on 01825 840648.
Helpers always welcome.**

PARISH MAGAZINE – A THANK YOU

Susan, Ann and Barry would like to thank all our new and 'old' advertisers for advertising in this year's six magazines. We have obtained a fabulous new range of businesses and skills. This is the basis of our funding and makes sure the magazine stays in print.

However, thanks must also go to the organisations who regularly make contributions to the magazine (schools, pre-schools, societies, clubs etc) – they have been very generous this year and nearly all given donations to keep us going. This now means that we have built up our 'reserves' and are well on the way to being able to keep the magazine up and running next year.

THE 'STAFF'

Framfield CE Primary School

This term our school topic is called Fitness Factory, and this means that we will be doing lots of exercise and learning about keeping ourselves fit and healthy. One of the things which it is a pleasure to be doing again is gardening. Jimmy James is working with groups of children to plant seeds and set up new gardening areas in the school grounds. Since last summer our plans for the pre-school have moved on significantly and whilst Jimmy is disappointed to lose his well-tended vegetables patches, we have found other ways of gardening so the children can watch food plants grow and use them to cook with.

The building of the pre-school will start on Monday 10th May and is due to be completed by 22 October. This has been possible through the continued support of the community through the Parish Council and Memorial Hall Committee and we are very grateful for this. Framfield Playgroup is now planning the transition to the new premises and we are also working closely with the local authority to prepare for this new and very exciting stage in the long 40-year life of the village playgroup. Plans are on view here in school so please come along to see them.

Music Quiz

Last month saw our third annual Music Quiz and once again what a great success. Our grateful thanks go to Terry, Richard and their team who put on a fantastic evenings entertainment. Thank you also to everyone who attended or supported the event which helped us raise nearly £300 on the evening towards covering the travel costs of school trips.

Framfield C of E Governors

*Janet Wilde
Headteacher*



FRAMFIELD PLAYGROUP
The Memorial Hall, The Street,
Framfield, TN22 5NR



OFSTED Registration No: 511222
Charity Commission No: 1040794
PLA Member No: 29899

After many months of planning and waiting we now have the confirmation for the start of the building project to add a pre-school setting to the school's accommodation, which the playgroup will move into, the build is due to be completed by Oct 22nd and the playgroup will move in over the Oct half term, this will mean that we can ultimately offer full-time childcare including before and after school clubs, plus holiday clubs, this is such an exciting time for the playgroup, watching and documenting the build is an excellent learning opportunity for the children, seeing it grow which ties in with our theme of "New life and growth".

As we have to raise £10,000 towards the cost of the build, some of which is already in place, we have organised some fundraising events, a quiz night is planned for Friday May 21st in the memorial hall and along with our regular chocolate tombola stall at the village market in may we will be running a clothes, toys and book stall at the schools may spring fair on the same day.

This term to extend the children's learning we took a trip to the library for a story session with the children's librarian who normally comes out to us, we travelled to and from the library on the local bus service, all the children really enjoyed the bus journey and having a picnic in Luxford Fields, our next trip planned for the end of may is to Spring Barn Farm nr Lewes, as we are learning about all the new life spring brings.

We still have a few places available for this term, please feel free to come and visit us, drop in any morning Mon, Tues, Weds at the memorial hall and Fridays at the church hall between 9 - 12pm we would love to see you or call Jo Rayner on 07975567766 (supervisor) or Selina Allen on 07949426917 (secretary) for further playgroup information.



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

As we enter the summer term at the preschool refreshed after the Easter holidays, we have started to look at gardening and wildlife this term. We are very lucky that we have robins nesting in the gazebo, so we will be looking at birds, butterflies, worms and ant farms in particular, with a visit from animal magic.

We are continuing our fundraising this term and we are looking into hosting an 80's disco night, so keep an eye out for posters around the village or telephone / email the Preschool for further information about upcoming events.

We still have a few places available for morning and afternoon sessions. Please telephone 01825 891113 for further information on these. We have sessions Monday – Friday mornings including optional lunch club and afternoon sessions Monday – Thursday.

Welcome Baptist Blackboys

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

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Anger is like a pan of potatoes

Anger is like a pan of potatoes. When you put it on the stove it is quiet, unmoving, controlled. Then you light the gas and the water begins to heat up, slowly and unseen by the naked eye.

Anger builds up gradually and at first no-one can see that underneath something is building up inside.

When we see the water in the pan begin to bubble we know it is time to turn down the heat and bring it under control.

In the same way, if we recognise the warning signs of anger it is possible to reduce the tension and bring the anger under control.

If we ignore the signs of boiling and leave the pan to continue uncontrolled it will boil ever more furiously spitting out water and starch and could even boil dry leaving a damaged pan and the cooker in a dreadful mess requiring much effort to restore it to its previous clean state.

Likewise if we do nothing to stem the anger it can become much more intense and cause a lot of damage which it will take much effort to repair.

Heather Morris

If you or anyone you know has worries about cancer, if they've just been diagnosed with the illness or even if their treatment has ended, the Cancerline, Benefits Helpline, Cancer Information Nurse Helpline and Youthline have all been brought together under one number: 0808 808 00 00 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
Maureen Byford, Secretary 01825 831882

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MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

We held our St George's Day event back in April and although we were down on numbers to previous years we would like to thank everyone who did come along and tell you that £1,231 was raised for MCS. We are also now frantically baking for people who like to look around all the local gardens under the Open Gardens Scheme and who fancy a break to enjoy cup of tea and a piece of cake. We will be at Hobbs Barton, Framfield on 5th, 6th and 7th June and Hundred House, Framfield on 2nd July, both gardens open between 2.00 - 5.00pm.

Also raising money for MCS are Amy and David Starnes of Framfield, who are running the Stockholm Marathon on 5th June and who would never turn down the offer of sponsorship! Andrew Starnes is also raising funds on 2nd July with a performance of Pride and Prejudice at Oast Acre House, Pounsley, Blackboys. Please see the advert elsewhere in the magazine for more information.

You may have seen some advertising for MCS on the television recently or pages in newspapers or on large hoardings - sometimes we wonder why such a huge amount of money is being used for something like this when it could be spent on nurses and specialists, BUT it appears that it is proving to be very successful. Just advertising the new phone number and website meant that 26,000 calls were received last October and November, twice what is normally received, and over one million visits to the website were recorded in the same period. However, some of the money we help raise has also gone on funding new urology nurse specialists as prostate cancer is the most common male cancer of all.

FRAMFIELD VILLAGE HALL MARKET

LIST OF MARKET DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

26th June 2010

10-12 noon.

24th July 2010

10-12 noon.

No market in August.

ALL WELCOME

Do come and support.

Come and enjoy the market stalls,
tea/coffee, bacon rolls and company.

Helpers always welcome.

Contact: Sandy 01825 840648



Community College; Rev Chris comes to us every fortnight of course and we often also have visits from Mr Rod Trickey as well. We would welcome visits from other members of our local community - let us know if there is something that you could come in and talk to us about!

Our Healthy Schools Committee are still working hard on the car-parking problem; we have organized a once a week Park and Stride from the Inn to school to encourage parents to part in the car-park; it is increasing in size and we are now running it for two days a week from term 6. We hope that it eventually becomes a daily event that will alleviate the problems our neighbours have with parking at the start of the school day.

J K King
Headteacher

BLACKBOYS & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Our meetings take place in Blackboys Village Hall at 7.30pm for 8pm start, (unless stated otherwise). Visitors, and prospective new members are always welcome, entrance costs £3. (£1 for members) and includes tea or coffee and biscuit. On Tuesday 1st June Mike Smith will be talking about Sussex and The Bayeux Tapestry. On Thursday June 10th we will be having a society group visit to Saddlescombe Farm, near Brighton, and we have some spare places if you would like to take this rare opportunity to visit “the farm that time forgot”. At our meeting on the 6th July we will be welcoming Janet Pennington to talk to us about the Adur Valley. We do not have a meeting in August but watch this space to see if we add any “last minute special events” to our calendar.

If you would like to know more about the activities of the society, or would like to come along on the Saddlescombe Farm visit, my contact details are below.

Ann Turner, Secretary
Tel: 01825 890359 or email: bturner.18maple@btinternet.com.

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – REPORT

In March, Richard Brocklebank, from Blackboys, was co-opted onto the Council. This makes the Council once again a full contingent!

With my District hat on I reported on the publication of the SHLAA Results (Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment). It must be emphasised that the land areas shown have only achieved ‘suitable’ status and may never have allocations of housing development imposed upon them. Most of the development will be centred on the District’s towns (exactly where the emphasis will be will be guided strategically in the Core Strategy to be ratified later in the year). Villages will be allocated minor amounts and the sites in the SHLAA far outweigh any expectation for Framfield. There had been two discounted sites and a few sites had been allocated incorrectly to Uckfield and these were to be corrected (generally sites off the Eastbourne Road).

The PC has approved that Jan Riddle, their Responsible Financial Officer, takes on the role of Treasurer to both the Memorial and Blackboys Village Halls. Great thanks must be given to both Sue Thomas (Blackboys) and Norman Jones (Framfield) for their unstinting efforts up until now.

The WDC recycling event to be held in the Memorial by Wealden to present the new kerbside recycling scheme has been cancelled and the implementation of the scheme delayed due to a problem in supplying the bins. This should nonetheless only delay the scheme slightly.

The public meeting in Blackboys to present the proposals for traffic calming was very well attended. Everyone seemed to support the redesign of the junction of the B2102/B2192 although some residents had concerns over the ‘furniture’ to be used in the general traffic calming. No one liked the idea of extra streetlights and an exemption can be made to remove them. ESCC are to take the comments on board and will present further proposals to the PC in June.

Streetlighting – Fred Thurston has worked so hard to try and find a solution on what the PC should/could do about our streetlights. We have a vast number of lights compared to other areas and two serious problems to face up to – ultimately the cost of energy/maintenance and our carbon footprint. Having now made the move to ESCC, they have provided information which now means that much of the previous work that has been done has to be shelved! ESCC are able to swap out the soon to be obsolete mercury bulbs with 23 watt fluorescent lamps which burn a quarter of the electricity of the current lamps. The cost of the swap is £45 per lamp (as opposed to £220+ per lamp previously); once done the cost of electricity per annum per light will be £4.00 as opposed to £14.65 making the overall annual cost of electricity £285.00 instead of £1,114. The total cost of the change over will be £2,655 instead of the predicted £16,750. As the lights will be considerably dimmer, this goes a long way to alleviate light pollution thus perhaps reducing the

need to remove the lights in the planned phased programme. As a trial run, two lamps are to be swapped over in Mount Pleasant, Blackboys, fairly soon to give residents an idea of the effect. Fred agreed to report this latest information at the Annual Assembly; hoping to then swap all the lights over in one go, which meets the EU regulation. A decision can then be made on the 5-year programme with this revised information.

Action in Rural Sussex are campaigning to get BT to improve Broadband in rural areas. If anyone is dissatisfied with the current Broadband service they receive please let me or AIRS know directly.

Lastly, the PC has for sometime pondered on the idea of a website which could then compliment, for keen internet users, much of the information which is given in the Parish Magazine and a lot more. A separate note appears below this report asking for interested parties to come forward who would be willing to tender for the design and setting up of such a website.

If anyone requires a full copy of the minutes for any of the Council meetings please let me know.

ANN NEWTON/May 2010

Rob Newton – Chairman (890103); Selina Allen (891110); Richard Brocklebank (0788 9336446); David Andrews ((07826 835295); Myran Eade (890507); Peter Friend (01435 867126); Felicity Groves (840341); Brian Hodge (890199); Maria Naylor – Vice Chairman (890946); Ian Paisley (890904); 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.

PROPOSED NEW PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

THE PC IS TO COMMENCE A TENDERING PROCESS FOR THE DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A NEW WEBSITE FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN TENDERING, SHOULD CONTACT THE PARISH CLERK, ANN NEWTON, IN THE FIRST INSTANCE.

01825 890182/framfield.pc@virgin.net

Blackboys Church of England Primary School

We have had a very busy couple of months with many trips and visits.

Class 1, our youngest children, had a wonderful trip to Uckfield where they visited Tescos and did some real shopping; it was then on to the Fire Station where they learnt about the jobs of these important members of our community. They were able to sit in the engines and use the hoses and generally had a fantastic time.

Our older children have had interesting time too including a "Rotten Roman Day" - where we were all able to visit the class to see what they had been learning about and to view some of the wonderful DT projects they have been working on at home and in school - and a visit from a member of staff from St Dunstan's to support a topic on eyes and sight. We have had assemblies and were entertained by Class 2 with science investigations, historical facts and figures as well as stories! The children had worked very hard on every aspect of their topic with real engagement and this came over very well in their presentations.

Our year 6 pupils took part in the Ringmer Dance Festival earlier in the term. It really was a fantastic experience and our children excelled themselves. The quality of their dancing was stunning and everybody worked hard throughout the day. This hard work was rewarded last week as the school was selected from schools across the South Down Sports Partnership as one of only 5 to showcase their work at the East Sussex County Dance Platform which takes place at the White Rock Theatre in Hastings! This is a fantastic opportunity and I know the children will do us proud at such an event.

Just before Easter we held our Easter Service where Rev Chris once again gave us a thought-provoking talk accompanied by a very clever balloon trick which the children are still trying to work out! Many thanks to our music teachers for the super singing and instrument playing, and thanks too to the team and the Church for allowing us to attend - the service really adds to our focus at this important time of the year.

Our assemblies are of course a very important part of school life here at Blackboys and we have had a variety of visitors to lead these including Gillian Clark of the Quicken Trust to launch the campaign "Sow a Seed of Hope", and a very entertaining assembly from the French Department of Ringmer



Don't Tolerate It... Report It!

By working together in Sussex we can crackdown on

Anti-Social Driving

How does it work?

Operation Crackdown provides the opportunity for members of the communities within Sussex to report incidents of dangerous, careless or anti social driving or riding on the road. This information allows Sussex Police and its Partners to focus on those who present the greatest risk.

What happens with the information I supply?

The information supplied will be checked against a number of databases depending on the severity of the incident that has been reported. We will look to see if the vehicle has been reported within the last 12 months and if the driver fits into one of our Special Priority Groups (Young Drivers, Motorcyclists, Drink Drivers or Occupational Road Users).

What are the potential outcomes?

There are a whole range of outcomes which can be utilised in response to the information supplied depending on the result of the research.

The most frequently used intervention is a letter sent to the registered keeper of the vehicle from the Superintendent of the Road Policing Unit, however other options include a visit to the driver by a member of the Road policing Unit, or for the most serious offences a targeted intervention which can lead to arrest and conviction at court.

What have we achieved so far?

Since August 2007 Crackdown has received over 20000 reports, this has generated over 1800 letters of advice, over 500 intelligence reports which have been disseminated to the Road Policing Unit. 132 uninsured vehicles have been seized. 221 warnings/seizures have been made using S59 of the Police Reform act and 43 drivers have been arrested. Over the last three months we have achieved an intervention rate of 1 in 4.

www.operationcrackdown.org

Sussex Safer Roads Partnership PO Box 2094 Shoreham-by-Sea BN43 6XT
Web: www.SussexSaferRoads.gov.uk

Garden Open Hobbs Barton

Streele Lane, Framfield,
near Uckfield

Sat, Sun, Mon
5, 6, 7 June

2 - 5.30pm

**Adm: Sat & Sun £5,
Mon £4**

Children: free

Plants for Sale



Building project for Chapsinja in Malawi

From the Editors:

The "bricks" which many bought in St. Thomas à Becket from Peter to build this project have now been turned into a reality. We are sorry that we cannot print any of the photographs taken but understand that a DVD is being made. More details later. Ed

On behalf of the children of Chapsinja, Thank You..

We have been successful and there is now a brilliant building in the Village of Chapsinja, nearer the capital, Lilongwe in Malawi.

The village has only recently accepted the Christian faith and the chief is a particularly enthusiastic chief and he is leading many other chiefs and villages away from their previous unchristian ways and towards the teachings of Jesus Christ.

My trip to Malawi was certainly an experience that outshines many previous experiences if only for the need to check the floor at day break for scorpions etc

The story so far: we, *The Crowborough Christian Men's Group* had for three years been raising £15000 for the erection of a day centre for street children in Blantyre.

We had also purchased a maize mill and a Hulling machine that was to be installed to raise finance to sustain the day centre and make it financially independent. Along the way we encountered many logistical problems and we found that we had little control of the situation on the ground in Blantyre and without this control the objective was floundering. Fortunately last Autumn we met up with a charity called Starfish Malawi who was well established in Malawi and were doing much the same as we were trying to achieve. It was obvious to us that we should join forces. They at that time were wanting to erect a centre to be used as a school/

day centre / church for the village of Chapsinja and so we decided that our efforts would go into this.

With the decision taken the bricks were built over December January and February and when we arrived on Good Friday this year, the building was almost complete. (See accompanying photos)

We left the village after a service on Easter Saturday arranging to come back 14 days later for the grand opening. We left Chapsinja and went up country to Salima where Starfish has an office and a large leased house where we all stayed whilst we individually worked within other Starfish projects that were on our agendas.

I became involved with another school called *Chitiwiri*. and worked closely with the children, mainly seeing to a surprising number of horrible wounds on their lower legs. We started with 6 children and by the finish I was dressing and re dressing 12/16 a day. I also managed to teach them the dance called the conger and the other camp fire action song, **Head, shoulders knees and toes**, with all actions and including the dropping of words per verse! A first for Anglo Malawian relations!

!4 days later we came back to Chapsinja and the building was finished and we did the official opening, with me taking a turn on the scissors to cut the tape. Three hours of speeches and singing and we were into a feast of Goats offal. Boiled rice, beans seamer (a white solid from of rice made from Maize) and chicken bits all cooked over open wood fires and eaten with the fingers.

From here we journeyed back to Lilongwe expecting to return to UK the following day. We hadn't counted on the volcano. At the check in desk we were informed that we were not going anywhere! So back to the small hotel and do a deal for a number of days, 10 in fact.

Peter Collins