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Eastbourne and Wealden  
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*good old-fashioned service!*



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

# Parish Newsletter



**Framfield, Blackboys  
and  
Palehouse Common**

**JUNE / JULY 2011**

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

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

**Churchwardens :**      **Mrs Joan Burne**  
**Mr John Mordaunt**

**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 – 5.00 pm (closed Wednesday)**

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

*From the Registers :*



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

**28<sup>th</sup> April :**             **Ashley Bunning / Clare Slater**  
**21<sup>st</sup> May:**              **Steven Holness / Penny Gent**

**At rest :**  
**8<sup>th</sup> March :**            **Eileen Fanny Hills**  
**29<sup>th</sup> March:**         **Alice Dann**

**FREE SMOKE ALARMS**

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

To request a **FREE** visit call **0800 1777 069** (call is free).

**USEFUL WEALDEN TELEPHONE NOS.**

General Enquiries: 01273 481000  
Adult Education: 01273 481497  
Bins and Recycling: 01323 443322 or 01892 653311  
Education, general 01273 481000  
Leisure centres, swimming pools and parks: 01323 443322  
Planning, development, building control: 01323 443322  
Road maintenance: 0345 6080193  
Recycling sites: 01273 481000  
Street Lighting: 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**

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

Joint Chair -

For the Church: Rev. Chris Lawrence

For the Council: Mr. Rob Newton

Co-ordinator and Advertising: Ann Newton

Technical Editor: Barry Richardson

Treasurer: Jan Riddle

Distribution: Derek Thorogood

and his team of volunteers

Printers: "Print Matters",

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

## **We may not call ourselves 'religious' but we all have a religion!**

As you might suspect being a clergyman can provoke various reactions when meeting different people. Some are serious in nature, others highly amusing! Shortly after arriving in the parish one of the mum's at school wouldn't talk to me as she was convinced that I could read her mind. It took quite a while to reassure her that this was not the case. As a result she is now a lot more relaxed that the innermost secrets of her heart are not laid bare before me! Others immediately assume I want to talk about religion or that in some way I want to 'convert' them. My usual reaction is 'it is only God that brings revelation to the individual and a change of heart (*conversion*)' and as far as discussing religion goes - this is the topic I have the least amount interest in. Perhaps the last comment may surprise some but Jesus never came to earth to start another religion; in fact he probably despised many of them as they are a hindrance to our understanding of what life is all about and a hindrance to our growth as human beings. So what is life all about?

*According to Dr M. Scott-Peck 'As human beings grow in discipline and love and life experience, their understanding of the world and their place in it naturally grows apace. Conversely, as people fail to grow in discipline, love and life experience, so does their understanding fail to grow. Consequently, among the members of the human race there exists an extraordinary variability in the breadth and sophistication of our understanding of what life is all about. This understanding is our religion. Since everyone has some understanding - some world view, no matter how limited or primitive or inaccurate - everyone has a religion. This fact, not widely recognised, is of utmost importance: everyone has a religion.'*

Scott-Peck's point is that we tend to define religion from a very narrow perspective and with the assumption that religion must include a belief in God or some ritualistic practice or that religious people belong to some form of church. But the fact of the matter is that everyone has an explicit or implicit set of ideas and beliefs as to the essential nature of the world we live in.

We need to ask ourselves the question - "what do I think the world is like?" i.e. is it basically chaotic and without meaning? Is the world a dog-eat-dog place where ruthlessness is essential to survival? Is the world basically a nurturing place where good prevails? Or perhaps a place that owes us a living no matter how we conduct our lives or a universe of rigid law that if we step out of line something bad will happen to us? Etc. We may hold some of these views in our conscious or unconscious mind but we all have a world view (or religion) and we live our lives accordingly. So how do religions develop; what determines a particular world view?

In essence it comes down to culture. If we are European we are likely to believe that Christ was a white man. If we are African then he was a black man. If you were born in India then you are likely to have Hindu beliefs and possess a pessimistic world view. We tend to believe what the people around us believe and we tend to accept as truth what these people tell us about the nature of the world as we listen to them in our formative years. Perhaps what is less obvious is the fact that the most important part of our culture is our particular family; Scott-Peck writes *'The most basic culture in which we develop is the culture of our family, and our parents are its 'culture leaders'. Moreover, the most significant aspect of that culture is not what our parents tell us about God and the nature of things but rather what they do - how do they behave toward each other, toward our siblings and, above all toward us. In other words, what we learn about the nature of the world when we are growing up is determined by the actual nature or our experiences in the microcosm of the family. It is not so much what our parents say that determines our world view as it is the unique world they create for us by their behaviour.'*

In order to grow as human beings we all need to question our beliefs and actions from an adult perspective and not just go with the flow of hand me down values from our parents. Some learned behaviour will be good; some may be extremely destructive to us and others. The responsibility of parenting or nurturing children is profoundly great, but from time to time we all need to question our own actions and motives and ask ourselves if they are the very best for our children and the community we live in.

Revd Chris Lawrence

## Welcome Church Blackboys

Welcome Church Blackboys continues to meet at Blackboys Village Hall at 5.00pm on Sundays for an informal family service followed by tea and cake at 6.00pm. All are welcome to come and visit.

Email: [welcomchurchblackboys@googlemail.com](mailto:welcomchurchblackboys@googlemail.com)  
Tel: 01825 840 020

### PLANNING A FUNCTION? - NEED A VENUE?

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**CONTACT SANDIE SMITH ON 01825 890644 FOR FURTHER DETAILS.**

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](http://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](http://www.wealden.gov.uk/events).



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*Experienced teacher (BWY Dip, BA Hons) fully insured.*

*Mixed ability classes - all levels welcome*

Daytime and evening classes in East Hoathly, Uckfield and Crowborough

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Yoga Teacher  
**Julie Stannard**

T: 01892 664883 E: julie.yoga@btinternet.com

**ROY RIDLEY & JASON PARRINGTON**

Tel: 01825 891023

Tel: 01825 831971

Mobile: 07881581637

Mobile: 07834787298

**LOCAL BUILDERS**

**ALL ASPECTS OF BUILDING WORK UNDERTAKEN**

**FREE ESTIMATES**

**Diary of Church Services**

**JUNE 2011** BCP: Book of Common Prayer. CW: Common Worship 2001

- 05 Seventh Sunday of Easter**  
10.00 am Parish Communion (CW) with Prayer for Healing  
6.30 pm Evening Praise
- 12 Pentecost**  
8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
10.00 am Family Service
- 15** 11.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)
- 19 Trinity Sunday**  
10.00 am Parish Communion (CW)  
6.30 pm Evening Praise
- 26 First Sunday after Trinity**  
8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
10.00 am Morning Praise

**JULY 2011**

- 03 Second Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am Parish Communion (CW)  
6.30 pm Evening Praise
- 10 Third Sunday after Trinity**  
8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
10.00 am Family Service
- 17 Fourth Sunday after Trinity**  
10.00 am Parish Communion (CW)  
2-5pm 'Funday on Sunday' Luxford Field, Uckfield
- 20** 11.30 am Holy Communion (BCP)

- 24 Fifth Sunday after Trinity**  
 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
 10.00 am Morning Praise
- 31 Sixth Sunday after Trinity**  
 10.00 am Matins Service with Holy Communion  
 6.30 pm Evening Praise



**FRAMFIELD PRE-SCHOOL**  
**THE STREET**  
**FRAMFIELD**  
**TN22 5NR**  
**TEL: 01825 890943**  
**www.framfieldpreschool@gmail.com**

Wonderful news we recently had our Ofsted inspection. We were judged as "Good" overall with 3 areas of "Outstanding", which we are really pleased with, especially being in our lovely new building, a great way to start the new era of Framfield Pre-School.

We had our official opening ceremony on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May, which was attended by the High Sheriff Kathy Gore, past playgroup committee members, local councillors & staff from East Sussex County Council who provided the funding for the new Pre-School. The ribbon was cut by Carol Wells (a past playgroup committee member)

As we have a lovely garden now, we have developed a vegetable plot with the generous help of Jimmy James, the children are all enjoying planting and watching the produce grow. I am sure they will enjoy tasting all that we have grown.

We still have places available for morning and afternoon sessions. Please telephone Sarah Ridley on 01825 890943 for further information, or to arrange a visit. We are open every day from 9-6pm, including optional breakfast club 07.45-08.45 and after school club 3-6pm for children aged 2-11 years.

**OFSTED Registration No. 415265**  
**Charity Commission No. 1139563**  
**PLA Member No. 29899**

**COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE  
 BY 10<sup>th</sup> JULY 2011**

**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.**

Framfield and Blackboys WI extend our thanks to Betty Davy's family who very generously donated Betty's prize collection of orchids and craftwork equipment to raise funds for our WI

In April we were welcomed by Buxted WI to join them for afternoon tea and a very interesting talk on London through the ages. We attended a Mah Jong taster session run by the Leisure and Learning Committee at Headquarters and at our April meeting the speaker was 'Harry the Wheelbarrow man' – Mr Townsend gave us an interesting and humorous talk on his walk pushing a wheelbarrow, from one end to the other of the North Island of New Zealand, to raise money for melanoma research.

During May a number of our members had great fun ten-pin bowling. We also enjoyed a walk through the bluebells, followed by tea and cake by the pond-side on a sunny afternoon. Also in May, some of our members attended a day's instruction on the art of flower arranging.

Our next meeting is to be held at Blackboys Village Hall at 7.30pm on 14<sup>th</sup> June and there will be a talk on 'Witches, Warlocks and Wellies' followed by tea/coffee and biscuits.

In August we look forward to afternoon tea in the garden so ladies if you would like to join us for tea please telephone Corinne to find out where we will be. Or come along to one of our regular meetings and see 'what we are all about', the invitation is open and ongoing: Second Tuesday of the month.

Enjoy the sunshine.

**Corinne Urben**  
**01825 890422**

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## FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL – REPORT

The last Parish Council meeting of the term was held on 29 March 2011 prior to the elections on 5 May 2011.

Parish Magazine – a record number of adverts were achieved this year which keeps the magazine going for another year. Very many thanks to all those who have advertised – I hope you find them worthwhile. Advertising space is also available on the new website – please contact me in the first instance for details.

Website – why not check it out – [www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk](http://www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk). I have received great compliments on the clear and informative design – thanks to especially Barry Richardson, our webmaster, Selina Allen and Richard Brocklebank.

Blackboys – reduction in speed limit – I have had news that the speed limit reduction is back on the cards for Blackboys with the associated traffic calming. ESCC have found a pot of money and are willing to use it. Anyone wishing to peruse the plans should contact me.

After many months of negotiation the Pavilion on Blackboys Recreation Ground has been transferred from the Cricket Club to the Parish Council acting as Trustees. Although Blackboys Cricket Club has priority of use, it is now available for hire. A campaign is underway to fundraise to refurbish it. A similar fundraising exercise is being carried out in Framfield to refurbish the changing rooms in the Memorial Hall also giving enhanced facilities to the Hall. If you can, please support any activities advertised on these two fronts.

*If anyone requires a full hard copy of the minutes for any of the Council meetings please let me know. All our meeting details are available on our website – [www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk](http://www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk).*

ANN NEWTON/May 2011

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Maria Naylor– Chairman (890946); Selina Allen (891110); Richard Brocklebank (0788 9336446); Myran Eade (890507); Peter Friend (01435 867126); Felicity Groves (840341); John Mordaunt (890443); Rob Newton – Vice Chairman (890103); Ian Paisley (890904).

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

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## Living with fur and feather

### POULTRY SHOWS

When our sons were young I was very busy with the chickens. I enjoyed entering the local poultry shows. Before the event the chickens had to be accustomed to show pens so they were happy and relaxed when being judged. My favourite breed was Pekin bantams. The day before a show they came into the kitchen to be bathed. They were carefully washed in the sink and shampooed with Johnson's "No more tears" baby shampoo. This was expensive and reserved just for the poultry. The boys were told they could not use it and had to use the supermarket brand! After being washed the bantams were gently dried with my hair dryer. Come to think of it I never used it but frequently used it on chickens or the dog. I would often have several birds to prepare; as they were done I put them down in front of the Aga to finish drying. They loved this as I sprinkled corn on the old brick floor for them to enjoy. Cassie my Newfoundland was very laid back and lay down surrounded by the bantams who would scratch around often finding corn hidden under her fur.

On the day of the show the chickens were packed in cardboard boxes and off we went. On arrival they were placed in the show pens to await judging. Showing dogs is very intensive as you are handling them in the show ring and looking after them all day, but showing poultry is very different as once they are in their pens the work is over. I often went to the Goward Hall near Heathfield where we were greeted by a wonderful smell of bacon and egg breakfasts being cooked, after an early start this feast was irresistible. Later in the day delicious cakes were another temptation. The boys also loved going to this venue as it was next door to the comprehensive school. They had cleverly discovered a gap under the fence which they could squeeze under and enjoy a game of football on the playing field. Michael - middle son- is now a PE teacher! After all the judging had finished it was time to see if any of my exhibits had won a prize. It was wonderful to sometimes find a red card - first prize - on the front of one of my cages.

We also entered the poultry show at Ardingly agricultural show. This had the great advantage of free admittance to all of the show ground not just the poultry section. The main attractions for the boys were hot dogs and ice cream while I always headed for the livestock.

As my Pekin bantams were so tame I thought the children at Blackboys School might enjoy me coming in to give a little talk about poultry. Mr Watkins the head master liked the idea so a few days later I went to the school accompanied by two Pekins, a

## Framfield & Blackboys WI

The members of Framfield & Blackboys WI have entered many of the classes in this years South of England Show on 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> June. Come along to the WI marquee and see the wonderful craft on display.

### *EAST & WEST SUSSEX FEDERATIONS OF WIs SOUTH OF ENGLAND SHOW - ARDINGLY*



*In An English Country Garden*



## **A RIGHT ROYAL WEDDING**

*Joan Jeffrey has kindly given us an insight on how the royal wedding affected their family. As we all know THE Royal Wedding was on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> but on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April a very interesting 'mock' wedding took place..... Here's Joan's report.*

A couple of weeks before the royal wedding, our daughter-in-law Clair told us that our Rev. Chris Lawrence and Framfield School were going to act out a mock wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton. All the children drew lots as to what part they would play in this ceremony. I was so pleased to hear that Freya, my five year old granddaughter was to be 'the bride'.

You can just imagine all the excitement when Clair ordered the wedding outfit on line. When the dress arrived, however, Freya decided she didn't like the short veil that accompanied it, so I came to the rescue and found a longer one which my daughter had worn at her wedding. Needless to say, it was perfect!

Thursday arrived and there was such an aura of excitement in Framfield Church. All the parents had gone to so much trouble, some were even wearing hats. The children, of course, loved the dressing up and the expectation was high! I took so many pictures as they all arrived. First came the bridesmaids and flower girls, there were even guards to defend 'the royalty'; and the Groom arrived looking extremely smart. Finally Freya arrived with her mum. By this time I was a bundle of nerves worrying about whether Freya, being so young, would be overawed by what was happening, and hoping she would be able to remember all that she had to do, and say. My worries were completely groundless - she was wonderful.

The music played, all eyes turned to the Church door and in came Freya. A little bundle of joy wrapped up in chiffon and tulle. She looked beautiful and so very happy and considering her age, she really acted out her part as Chris led the service. In fact, the whole occasion was excellent with so many children taking part as they all left in a procession I couldn't help feeling so proud of them all.

Well done, Parents, Teachers, Chris and, of course, ALL the children of Framfield School. *J. Jeffrey - Freya's Nanny*

hen and cockerel. I gave my talk in the hall and I was on the stage where the children could all see me and the bantams. I talked about looking after them properly and their eggs and chicks. I showed them the difference between the cockerel and hen. During this short and simple talk they all sat attentively. I felt quite pleased with myself. One little boy sitting at the front was especially interested. As I finished I asked if anyone had a question they would like to ask? No hands went up, I was disappointed, and then I brightened as I noticed the little boy who had so enjoyed my talk put his hand up. "Yes what would you like to know?" I beamed happily at him. "Miss" he said in a clear loud voice, "why have you got gold in your mouth?" Rather taken aback by this personal question I tried to recover my composure and explained that it was a gold bridge on my teeth. I wondered sadly if all the little darlings had been sitting there trying to get a glimpse of this fascinating feature!

Hazel Carter  
www.hazel-carter.co.uk  
info@hazel-carter.co.uk

## **OUR NEW PCSO:**

Hello, my name is PCSO Chris Hardstone and I am pleased to advise you that I have recently been appointed to your area as your local Police Community Support Officer, taking over from Simon French. I am currently into my 7th year with Sussex Police and have recently been serving on a specialist Counter Terrorism Unit at Gatwick airport for the last 4 years. Life has now gone full circle for me, as I first started my police career in Uckfield where I have now found myself again having transferred from Gatwick.

When I was last at Uckfield I was one of the town's officers and am pleased to have this opportunity to come out into the rural parishes. It is very much my intention to get involved with the community to truly reflect the Sussex Police Neighbourhood Strategy.

I look forward to coming into your parish in the not too distant future and hope that I can get to know many of the parishioners.

Christopher.Hardstone@sussex.pnn.police.uk  
Job mobile (Only on when I am on duty) is 07787685768 or 0845-6070999 Ext 33219  
Chris Hardstone 20551  
Police Community Support Officer  
Framfield - East Hoathly - Chiddingly - Laughton



**Blackboys Pre-School**  
Blackboys Village Hall,  
Gun Road, Blackboys,  
East Sussex, TN22 5JY  
**Tel: 01825 891113**  
[www.blackboyspreschool.org.uk](http://www.blackboyspreschool.org.uk)

We're keeping our fingers crossed for continuing good weather in Blackboys as we look to transform our recently acquired allotment into a hotbed of horticultural activity! Situated just next door to the Pre-School, having the allotment means we can incorporate growing plants, vegetables and fruit into our weekly activities. Not only will this allow us to nurture the children's green credentials from a young age, but it also gives us a wonderful and safe environment for them to explore their natural environment.

Enjoying the outdoors is an important part of our ethos. We offer free-flow play at the Pre-School, allowing children to choose for themselves between indoor or outdoor activities, and helping them to develop their decision making skills.

Following the fantastic collaboration with the Mohair Centre in Chiddingly, we are also looking to further visits to the Forest School this term. The children will be looking at castles and fairy tales over the next few weeks as well as starting to prepare for their leavers show and sports day.

We always enjoy opportunities to engage with the local community. There are a few events coming up over the next few weeks including a coffee morning and open day on 25 May, an allotment dig over and barbeque on 12 June and a Summer Fete on 9 July. Full details are on our website at [www.blackboyspreschool.org.uk](http://www.blackboyspreschool.org.uk). Please come along, enjoy the fun and support this important part of our local community!

If any of you have any unwanted garden tools or seeds you would be happy to donate to our allotment project, or if there are any allotment holders who would be keen to help the children understand simple gardening techniques, please contact the pre-school.

We have places available for morning and afternoon sessions. We are open Monday to Friday from 8.45am to 3.30pm including early bird and lunchtime sessions. Please telephone Pre-School manager Jenny on 01825 891113 or email: [enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org.uk) for any information, to arrange a visit or to book your child in for a no-obligation trial (see the flyer in this issue of the Parish Newsletter.)

Registered charity: 1026132 - Ofsted registration number: 109388.

## FRAMFIELD VILLAGE HALL MARKET LIST OF MARKET DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Saturday – 25 June 10am - 12noon

Saturday – 23rd July 10am - 12noon

No market in August

**ALL WELCOME**

**Do come and support.**

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

**Contact: Sandy 01825 840648.**

Needed - someone to help with the teas for 4/5 months as one of our ladies - Katherine is expecting her third child, (congratulations) and would of course like a break at this time.

Also the signs for the market are in needed of a paint - any offers.  
Thank you all for your support at the markets.

**FRAMFIELD MEMORIAL HALL  
AVAILABLE FOR HIRE  
LARGE HALL WITH A CAPACITY OF 150.  
VERY COMPETITIVE RATES FOR BOTH  
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CONTACT MARY SHORT ON 01825 890854  
FOR FURTHER DETAILS.**

faster than other birds which then gives the cuckoo chick an advantage in that it will hatch out first and will immediately push all the other eggs out the nest. It is able to do this because it has an almost flat disc on its back which makes the eggs more stable as it shoves them out!

The feeding of the single chick is another story in itself, but the final question the programme asked was 'How does a cuckoo know it's a cuckoo?' By the time the young cuckoo has fledged and ready to leave the nest, its parents have long been back in Africa, so it has no references to other adult birds. Well, the researchers answer was that they didn't know but the cuckoo just does! It knows it has to go somewhere else in winter and therefore as soon as it is ready will flow south to Africa probably individually rather than in a flock. If it makes it to Africa then it will catch up with the adult cuckoos and the process of learning how to be a cuckoo is completed. Basically it just knows it is one, it has all the basic attributes and then fine tunes itself over the winter ready to migrate back to Europe in the spring.

To hear a cuckoo is a wonderful sound, part of the soundscape of our natural world, but to know a little bit of the story behind this mysterious bird just enhances that experience so much more. Sadly cuckoos have been declining in numbers for a few years now, let's just hope that such a sound doesn't disappear from the landscape forever.

**Mike Russell**  
**Sussex Wildlife Trust**

[www.sussexwt.org.uk](http://www.sussexwt.org.uk)

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### **Polite Notice Board:**

**Could horse riders please not ride along Public Footpaths - horses have rights of way only where there are designated Bridle Paths. The distinction is there for the safety of all concerned.**

**Could dog owners please not allow their dogs to chase walkers and cyclists in the lanes. Dogs should be kept under close control at all times and especially near livestock when they need to be on a lead.**

## **Friends Remembered**

It is always a sad occasion when the time comes for us to say a fond farewell to old and trusted friends. Framfield has recently lost two lovely sisters, whose lives spanned almost an entire century in the village.

I am, of course, referring to Eileen and Ida Hills, known more affectionately by many as the "Hills Girls". As you can imagine, they had lots of stories to tell about the village having attended Framfield School and, of course, St. Thomas a Becket Church.

It's not surprising that their lives evolved around the village as everything they needed was here, including the grocer, butcher, Post Office and even a sweetshop next to the Church! When people needed to go into Uckfield, or to catch the train, the Landlord of the Hare and Hounds with his pony and trap, was always willing to oblige with a lift. That was, of course, before the luxury of the autocar's arrival.

Eileen and Ida's father, Frank Hills, was the village blacksmith and Parish Clerk who, no doubt, made plenty of iron hoops for the children to play with. They lived at The Nook, opposite the school before moving to Rock Cottage where they were joined by their sister Kath, recently returned from Canada having been made a widow. Their brother Doug worked for Nicholls and Shoemith and lived in The Bungalows.

In those days entertainment was self-made and sport was a prominent feature with plenty of healthy rivalry between Blackboys and Framfield at football and cricket. The sisters often spoke of dances and socials held in the Memorial Hall during the second world war for the Canadian soldiers stationed nearby.

Eileen, especially, loved travelling and visiting pastures new. Both of them visited Canada on more than one occasion whilst Kath was living there.

Both their love of people and the village of Framfield, remained with them. Ida is still remembered as the Post Lady which she did for a number of years until her retirement. FRIENDS we have known and LOVED remain in our memory and these 'Girls' will do just that. The village cannot be quite the same without them. Passed into history but remembered with great affection by all who were part of their lives.



# The Framfield & Blackboys Summer Show Saturday 13th August 2011

## BIGGER, BETTER with ADDED BEEF

As you may well know, the organisation of the Summer Show passed over to a new committee set up as a result of the meeting back in September 2010. The new committee has met a number of times and plans are now well underway for the show this year. Much will of course remain with the established traditions continuing.

The centrepiece will of course be the incredible range of talents on show in both the marquee and the village hall of the skills and talents in the usual classes. Many of the stall and side shows will continue with Mrs Back-to-Front making a welcome return along with the multi-class Dog Show and the Pig Pat Lotto. However, there will also be a range of new attractions such as Classic Vehicles, Deb's Dancers and the exciting return of Tug-of-War contests.

**So therefore the Summer Show looks like being bigger and better than ever, with added Beef.**

Such a huge and impressive undertaking is not an easy task and many hands are needed. Many have already volunteered to assist, some for an hour, others for longer. All this help is gratefully received and it is part of the way the Summer Show brings the Parish together. Why not join the team.

### ***Like to Enter Something?***

Full details are in the Summer Show Schedule that was delivered with the last Parish magazine. The schedule is also downloadable including an entry form from [www.fabhortsoc.org.uk](http://www.fabhortsoc.org.uk) and if you need any guidance please call Terry Everitt on 01825-891392

### ***To Offer Your Help***

Whether it is to carry tables, make cakes, or help on a stall then please call Katherine Rabson-Stark on 01825-891291

### ***Tug-of-War***

You can be a group of friends, work colleagues or a group of children. With a range of contests including all female and the services of a quality referee secured, this should be a spectacular event.

For more details and to enter the Tug-of-War contests - Call Peter Tipping on 01825-890095.

### ***Would you like to have your own stall?***

For the details, costs and forms to fill in, please call Penny Malloy on 01825-890638 or [pamalloy@btinternet.com](mailto:pamalloy@btinternet.com)

**So that just leaves the weather. We can but hope. See you there!**

Please put the date, Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup> August 2011 in your diary and come along to enjoy the fun whatever the weather!

## The Fantastic World of the Cuckoo By Mike Russell Sussex Wildlife Trust

Every now and again something on the radio catches your attention and you just have to stop what you are doing and listen to it. Such a programme was broadcast last week although by the time you read this it will have been about six weeks ago!

For many people, the sound of the cuckoo means that spring has arrived and though not everyone has heard the call, and even less have actually have seen one, they know about the bird; it is deeply embedded in our aural and cultural heritage. This programme on Radio 4 looked into the fascinating world of this mysterious bird and was presented by Professor Nick Davies of Cambridge University who has been studying the cuckoo for many years at Wickham Fen National Nature Reserve in Cambridgeshire.

Even if you are not interested in birds the majority of people know that the cuckoo is a parasite; it gets other species to raise its young. Knowledge of their behaviour has been known for generations, but it is only in 1922 that the first photographic evidence was published and since then, and particularly through Professor Davies's studies and observations at Wickham Fen, we now far more about their fascinating ecology.

This relationship between the parasite and host is constantly changing and developing and the research now shows that they are now embroiled in an ecological 'arms race' with the cuckoo evolving ever more sophisticated ways of mimicking the hosts birds eggs while they are also evolving new ways of detecting the cuckoo's eggs. A female cuckoo effectively has a territory and, having mated, watches that territory to observe the smaller birds in whose nest she will lay her eggs. In the case of the Wickham Fen study the cuckoos where parasiting on reed warblers so her eggs will have to resemble reed warbler eggs. If she was laying in a wren's nest they would have to look like those eggs.

How does the cuckoo get away with it? Well the female watches over her territory and notices when the reed warblers start laying and then in a process that lasts no more than 10 seconds the cuckoo will fly in, remove one of the host's eggs and replaces it with hers. For a bird the size of a dove she lays an egg to the equivalent size of a warbler and she will do this in a number of reed warbler's nests, as many as 25 visits have actually been recorded by one individual female cuckoo. The embryo within the egg is now known to develop

## MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

We are grateful to all those who contributed to our Uckfield street collection in April, which raised over £500. Teas at Penn in the Rocks also raised £500. During the first week of May, well over £2,500 was raised. A most successful fashion show was held in beautiful surroundings at Buxted Park Hotel. In addition to this, we sold yet more tea and cakes at another of the many open garden schemes we support and one of our committee's daughter and a friend held a "Royal Wedding" tea party! The next main fundraising event will be our ***Golf Day on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June at the East Sussex National Golf Club.***

2011 is an exciting year for Macmillan as it marks our centenary. Since Douglas Macmillan first set up our charity in 1911, we've helped support more people with cancer than we could possibly ever count. We think that's something worth celebrating and that's why the Macmillan charity have got some huge plans for the year.

If you or anyone you know has worries about cancer, if they've just been diagnosed or even if their treatment has ended, the Cancerline, Benefits Helpline, Cancer information Nurse Helpline and Youthline have all been brought together under one phone number: **0808 808 0000** or the website can always be visited on [www.macmillan.org.uk](http://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***

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### **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**

Framfield CE Primary School

Parish Newsletter May 2011

Since the last newsletter I am very pleased to announce that the school has received two major awards. These are the Gold Sing Up! Award and the ICT Mark. Both of these awards are difficult to achieve and we are delighted that the hard work of children and staff has been recognised in this way. We do enjoy singing and take every opportunity to do it. I believe that year 6 will next be entertaining us, and I have also heard of plans for a music concert. The vast majority of children are very competent with ICT skills but gaining the ICT Mark is also about recognising when computers are good to use, when they are not and how to keep ourselves safe when using all forms of technology.

Although we like technology we also like to enjoy the outside environment. Our school gardens are coming along beautifully and the vegetables are growing really well. This term's topic is about Journeys, and so as well as considering unusual and interesting journeys around the UK and the World, we are also taking some. These will include local walks, coach trips and railway journeys. Being blessed with plenty of fine weather recently we have been able to get outside each day and enjoy picnics and learning outside.

Janet Wilde  
Headteacher

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### **Looking for a local venue?**

Framfield Church Hall is available for regular meetings, special occasions, parties and village events.

The hall typically seats up to 60 persons.

Full kitchen facilities are available.

Costs - £7.00/ hour with reductions for regular users and church members. Tel the Church Office for further details and bookings - 01825 891090.

# Manor gardens

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## What is Samaritans as an organisation?

We're an independent charity. We're all volunteers based in towns across the UK. In this area there are branches in Tunbridge Wells, Hastings, Ashford and Maidstone. The Tunbridge Wells area stretches from Heathfield round to East Grinstead, across to Edenbridge and Sevenoaks, then on to Paddock Wood, Cranbrook and Hawkhurst. In Tunbridge Wells we have 145 volunteers, and throughout the UK there are about 18,000 people working in over 200 branches. Between them, they give over 2 million hours of their time each year.

## What do we do?

We offer a 24 hour confidential listening service, every day of the year, to anyone in emotional distress - for whatever reason.

We can be contacted by phone on 08457 909090 or 01892 532323; email via [jo@samaritans.org](mailto:jo@samaritans.org) texting on 07725 909090; by letter to Chris, PO Box 9090, Stirling FK8 2SA; or in person at 7 Lime Hill Road, Tunbridge Wells without appointment anytime between 9am and 9pm.

In the UK, we get a call every 5 seconds. Our service is free for the cost of the phone call, and through our listening service, *Samaritans* provides confidential emotional support to anyone in need.

We encourage those who contact us to talk about their emotions. In today's pressured world, life can sometimes become too much to bear, but we think that talking about the emotional stress behind suicidal thoughts can help find a way forward in life. But we don't give advice and we don't judge - we just listen.

## Would you like to join us?

As a voluntary organisation, we always need support from the community. Our work can be emotionally demanding, but hugely rewarding. We take great care in selecting volunteers with the right qualities, and we give good training. We also have support volunteers who do essential work to keep the branch going. If you might consider giving some time to *Samaritans*, or if you would like a Samaritan volunteer to talk to your organisations, please phone 01892 532323 or email [info@twssamaritans.org](mailto:info@twssamaritans.org). Remember - we're always here.

**We're here for anyone going through a difficult time, having suicidal thoughts, or just in need of someone to listen**

**You can contact us in complete confidence 24 hours a day, every day.**

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## Save energy, save cash: get a monitor from your library

Every East Sussex resident can now keep a close eye on their electricity usage at home by borrowing an energy monitor from their local library.

Following successful pilot schemes in Eastbourne, Hastings, Bexhill and Lewes, energy monitors are now available to borrow, free, from all East Sussex public libraries across the county. So far, more than 800 residents have tried them out.

The monitors show how much electricity a householder is using at any given moment, how much money this costs and an estimate of the carbon dioxide produced in generating the electricity. You can see immediately the effect on your consumption when you switch off something that is on stand-by, or turn something on, and identify where savings can be made.

The easy-to-fit monitor features a sensor that clips around a domestic incoming supply cable, usually close to the property's meter. This plugs into a transmitter that sends real-time electricity consumption data to a portable display monitor that you can carry around your house or flat.

Energy monitors are can be borrowed for an initial three-week loan with the option to renew them for a further three weeks. There is no cost for borrowing a monitor.

If you are not already a registered East Sussex library user, our library staff will be happy to arrange membership for you. It only takes a minute, and anyone who lives or works in East Sussex qualifies.

Councillor Matthew Lock, Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment said "At a time when we're all trying to save cash, saving energy makes sense. These portable meters are really easy to use and can show you your 'energy devils' - those gadgets that are using electricity on stand-by and appliances that are much more energy-hungry than you thought."

For further information, advice, tips and ideas about green living, travelling and working see [www.eastsussex.gov.uk/environment/](http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/environment/)

**For further information please contact:**

**Kathryn Langley Tel: 01273 482155 Out of hours: 07974 427569**



## Blackboys Church of England Primary School

We have had a very busy couple of months with many trips, visits, competitions and of course lots of hard work!

At the end of term just before our break, we held our Easter Service where Rev Chris once again gave us a thought-provoking talk. 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.

### Visits and Assemblies

The assembly was introduced by two presenters Lottie and Ethan who took the audience on a mountain journey! Parents and staff were entertained with Scottish folk songs and dancing as well as a weaving workshop and puppet show! There was also a big emphasis placed on staying safe when climbing which I hope will stand all our future mountaineers in good stead!

I can't get over how grown up our youngest pupils are becoming! It only seems like yesterday that they arrived in our school and now they are over half way through their first year with us! Their growing maturity was especially displayed on their wonderful class trip to Drusillas where their behaviour was exemplary.

The children especially enjoyed feeding the penguins, visiting the meercats and milking the cow!

Several of our year 6 pupils visited Park Mead School where they were able to meet and question the children's author Victor Watson whose book, "Paradise Barn", is part of the Book Club project. The children enjoyed meeting a real author as well as joining up with other schools to listen to his fascinating talk.

### PTA Success

For several years the PTA have been raising funds to update our "Woodchip Area". And this year's Spring Fair was a real—there had been a consistent flow of parents, friends and members of our community through the gate, but we never imagined that we would raise as much as £713.56! This money has meant that we have been able to go ahead and install new equipment to this site this term so that our Year 6 pupils will have a chance to make use of it before they leave us.

We still have further fund-raising to go to enable us to replace the surface, so the work continues!

### Clubs and Competitions:

Our **Chess Academy** goes from strength to strength and congratulations must go to Connor Filsell and Laurie Beebee: they were the only two attending from Blackboys and played against older children representing their schools in much larger numbers. The boys played really well with Connor winning the Under 8's medal for the morning tournament. Well done to both boys. Further tournaments are to take place shortly.

The school has also had many notable sporting successes: our **football team** – wearing the new kit bought by our wonderful PTA – came second in the Ringmer Area league. This was an excellent result for such a young team.

Our **Girls' team** went one better: the A team won the Laughton Football Tournament with the B team coming joint second! The Girls' team has really blossomed with over 20 members attending training sessions.

**Netball** has always been popular and the team battled to second place in the Ringmer Area League.

Finally our endurance athletes enjoyed a **cross-country** race at Ringmer Community College and me special mention must be given to Ella Mundy of year 6 who came second in the girls' race! Well done everyone and we look forward to further successes in the Summer Term.

Thanks to staff and parents for organising these events – we could not do it without them!

A big thank you to all parents, staff and members of the community who continue to be so supportive in so many ways over the year. We look forward to seeing many of you at our Open Evening and our end of year performance.

J K King  
Headteacher

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## *BLACKBOYS & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY*

Meetings are held in Blackboys Village Hall on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30 for 8pm start, unless otherwise stated. New members are always welcome and although most current members are senior citizens, we would welcome visitors and new members of all ages.

If would like to know more about any of the above, or the society's activities in general, please contact the secretary on 01825890359 or email [baturner.18maple@btinternet.com](mailto:baturner.18maple@btinternet.com)

*Ann Turner*