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Oak Tree Barn, Lewes Road, Blackboys, East Sussex, TN22 5JL

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



Framfield, Blackboys Palehouse Common

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2017

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL CHURCH

Vicar: Revd Chris Lawrence

01825 891090

(after hours 01825 890365)

Churchwardens: None at present

Secretary to PCC: Mr Peter Tomsett

Treasurer: Mr Norman Jones

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

Email - rev.chris@btinternet.com

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

Telephone/ leave a message - 01825 891090

From the Registers:



Marriages:

27th May: Rachel Rosie West and Daniel Matthews

3rd June: Michelle Payne and Peter Hulse

At rest:

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WHO'S WHO AT THE St THOMAS À BECKET NEWSLETTER

Joint Chair -

For the Church: Rev. Chris Lawrence

For the Council: Mr. Rob Newton

Co-ordinator and Advertising: Ann Newton

Technical Editor: Barry Richardson

Treasurer: Jan Riddle

Distribution: Barbara Trickey, Delia Gillies,

and their teams of volunteers

Printers: "Print Matters"

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

How are you bearing up under the heat of the last few weeks? I can't speak for you but when it's really hot I tend to move a little more slowly! Despite the hot weather everything in the countryside appears to be on rapid grow. I'm convinced that you can actually see weeds growing before your eyes. The positive side is that crops will be in abundance and winter feed for cattle more than plentiful. We shall have much to be thankful for at harvest time.

Personally, I really enjoy the long days and being able to sit outside at 10pm with still a reasonable about of light is a joy. At the moment we seem to have been adopted by a Blackbird who sits on the chimney top serenading us with a considerable repertoire of songs most evenings. When it eventually gets dark the stars are magnificent; as scripture says:-

The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. ² Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. ³ There is no speech or language where their voice is not heard. ⁴ Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world. (Psalm 19)

Scripture is often a mixture of fact and poetry, but who could deny the work of the Creator God when looking up into the sky or seeing the wonder of nature before one's very eyes? Well quite a large number it appears!

I love the wording of verse 2 'Day after day they pour forth speech;

night after night they display knowledge'. God's creation is silent yet it shouts at everyone worldwide every time a person looks at it. The billions and billions of stars display the glory of God yet their creation is mentioned in a single line of scripture. After creating the sun and the moon to govern the day and the night it says 'He also made the stars' (Genesis 1:16). It's almost a throwaway line or a by-the-way statement.

Part of living is to take time to stop and stare, ask questions and meditate on the things around us. We are connected to the world around us and whether we acknowledge it or not we are all made in the image of God. The point is can you see it? When you look in the mirror what do you see or better still, who do you see?

When Christ walked the earth He was an enigma, even members of his own family had trouble accepting that he was God's son. In all of the Bible there is no description of Jesus. All the drawings and paintings of him are mere guesswork.

The old adage of 'actions speak louder than words' came in to play. Even his fiercest opponents and critics never denied that he could perform miracles they just couldn't get their head past his physical appearance. The only reference to Jesus' appearance and his mission was prophesied by Isaiah where he writes:-

Who has believed our message and to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

He grew up before him like a tender shoot, and like a root out of dry ground.
He had no beauty or majesty to attract us to him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering.
Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

⁴ Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted. ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

⁶ We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way;

This is basically the problem we have today when it comes to Christ and His church. When we fail to see past the ordinary or fail to see the Creator in the creation and we become blind. As Isaiah says in verse 6 'We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way'. Have you noticed in life that the more God is squeezed out the worse we have become as individuals and as a society? Where have the moral absolutes gone? We should be absolutely shocked at some of the things that go on today but little by little we are sliding further into the moral gutter and who seems to care?

One day we will all have to give an account of our lives but I wonder how many will be able to look God squarely in the eye? Despite what we may think of ourselves or how far we may have strayed, God is always on the lookout for those who wish to return to Him, those who wish to be part of His eternal family. When the prodigal son returned home after his season of wild living his father wasn't interested in his excuses or his prepared speech he was just so glad to have him back. This really is the message of personal grace that Christ extends to us; He accepts us as we are.

If you have been away from Christ and His church for whatever reason do consider joining us for 'Back to Church Sunday' 10am -24th September - you will be most welcome. I'll close with the encouraging words from Jude.

To him who is able to keep you from falling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy- to the only God our Saviour be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen.

May God's blessing be on everyone in the parish - Revd Chris Lawrence

Jonquil King (Executive Headteacher: St Thomas a Becket Church of England Federation)



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07469 197430 amphandmade@outlook.com met regularly over the year to assess and evaluate the impact and success of our Federation and of course to support both schools to develop in so many ways. We say a sad farewell to Mrs Alison Sparks who has been a governor with us for many years and was part of the group who led the transition to a Federation.

Both of our schools are also losing valuable members of the teaching staff: at Framfield we say a fond farewell to Miss Lauren Maidman who is moving on to other challenges in her life, while at Blackboys we wish Miss Jessica Stevens all the very best as she moves on in her career to take up a post in Eastbourne. Both members of staff have been with us since they were NQTs and will be greatly missed by the whole Federation community.

With taking leave and with farewells in mind, I would like to end on a personal note: many of you will be aware that this year has been my final year as a Headteacher and Executive Headteacher. I have spent over ten years as part of this wonderful community and would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for all the support and help you have given both the schools and me personally over those years. This is a very special community and it has been a privilege to work with you all to ensure that the children in our parish get the best possible experiences in our schools.

Many thanks to all the staff, children and governors for another successful year; I wish the whole school community all the very best for the future and know that with Mrs Jacqueline Davies and Mr Graham Sullivan at the helms of both schools, the future looks very exciting and I know that both schools will continue to work towards the Federation vision: Be the Best You Can Be: Life in all its Fullness (John 10.10)

We all wish everyone a wonderful summer break and that we will see some of you at the Horticultural Show in August where work from this year will, as always, be on display!

Diary of Church Services

AUGUST 2017

06 Eighth Sunday after Trinity

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
(with prayer for healing)

13 Ninth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Family Service
6.30 pm Evening Holy Communion (CW)
(with prayer for healing)

20 Tenth Sunday after Trinity

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Communion (CW)
No Messy Church this month

27 Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Morning Praise6.30 pm Evening Communion (CW)

SEPTEMBER 2017

03 Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)

10 Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am Family Service
6.30 pm Evening Holy Communion (CW)
(with prayer for healing)

17 Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)
10.00 am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
4.00 pm 'Messy Church' for all the family

Thomas a Becket Church of England Federation. Blackboys and Framfield Schools

I really cannot believe that we are approaching the end of the academic year; the time has simply flown by and although I always seem to be saying it, we have just been so busy! What with class assemblies and trips locally and further afield along with a full sporting calendar and many other projects alongside the day to day life of the two schools, the children have certainly had an enriching year.

Years 3 and 4 in both schools had a wonderful day out in June at the Road Safety Day organised by Uckfield Town Council. Both sports days had to be postponed due to inclement weather, but when the Sports Days finally took place, they were both wonderful events. The children had a fantastic time as did the parents and teachers.

Year 6 from both schools went to All Saints Church in Crowborough for their Leavers' Service. The theme was The Bible - it being the year of the Bible - Your Word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path. Psalm 119:105. Our Federation pupils formed a choir and sang brilliantly - indeed several other participating schools congratulated us on our contribution. As is part of our Leavers experiences, our year 6 leavers also visited Chichester Cathedral - the home of our Diocese.

The PTA and the PTFA held wonderful summer fairs that were well attended and added a real buzz to the local community. Lots of staff, pupils and Governors attended both events and so had double the fun! We are waiting to hear how much money was raised. Both organisations work so hard to support the schools and the money raised allows us to provide activities and resources that children would not otherwise experience.

As we come to the end of the school year, we say goodbye to valuable members of our schools' community. As you know, our Governing Body has

24 Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am 'Back to Church' Sunday

6.30 pm Evening Holy Communion (CW)

BCP: Book of Common Prayer. CW: Common Worship

COPY FOR THE NEXT ISSUE PLEASE BY 10th SEPTEMBER 2017 TO ANN NEWTON – 01825 890182

framfieldpc@gmail.com

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

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR PARISH COUNCIL –

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL Mrs Ann Newton (Parish Clerk) Telephone/fax: (01825) 890182.

Email: framfieldpc@gmail.com

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

Parish Council website: www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk



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www.framfieldpreschool.co.uk

FRAMFIELD AND BLACKBOYS MONDAY CLUB

NO MEETINGS in AUGUST

4th September Chairbased Activities with Louise Knight

Framfield Memorial Hall - 2.30 pm

25th September Birthday Lunch at Buxted Pavillion

1.00 pm - Fish & Chips /Quiche /Salad/Trifle

Any further information contact Sandy Rogers, 01825 840648 - sandyrogers77@qmail.com



It is good to report that the Parish raised more for Christian Aid in 2017 than we did in 2016. Thank you to everyone who donated, to the volunteers who delivered the envelopes round the Parish, and to those who ran our Collection Points. The results were:

Framfield collection £208.49
Gift Aid £16.25
Framfield total £224.74

Framfield total last year: £135.95

Uckfield area collection £2047.60 Gift Aid £262.75 Total for area £2310.35

Total Uckfield area last year: £3016.71

Derek Thorogood



Tree removals Garden maintenance Hedge cutting Crown reductions Felling Crown lifting Crown thinning Deadwooding













FRAMFIELD

No Messy Church in August Sunday 17th September

Messy craft activities, followed by a short bible story, a song & then the delicious afternoon tea!

STARTS @ 4 PM



RACE NIGHT

HARE & HOUNDS - FRAMFIELD

Run in conjunction with Framfield & Blackboys WI

Friday, October 6th 2017 - First Race 7.30 £10 Including Seat & Supper

Proceeds in aid of Kent, Surrey & Sussex Air Ambulance

Get your tickets at the Hare & Hounds or telephone 01825 890459 or 01825 890216



DIANA: HER FASHION STORY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH

Just a few seats remaining on our trip to Kensington Palace to see the major new exhibition of Diana, Princess of Wales wonderful collection of clothes.

Transport by luxury coach with various local pick-up points. Cost: £35. Includes coach and exhibition entry but not lunch.

Framfield & Blackboys WI

CANAL CRUISE & ARUNDEL CATHEDRAL CARPET OF FLOWERS

On 15th June almost 50 members and friends of Framfield & Blackboys WI joined our narrowboat cruise on the Wey and Arun canal followed by a visit to Arundel to view the carpet of flowers in the Cathedral. There was free time to explore the delightful town, have lunch, drink coffee, and of course to check out the shops.

VISIT TO FARLEY'S HOUSE

On Thursday 23rd May a group of members visited Farley's House at Chiddingly, home to Surrealists Lee Miller and Roland Penrose for 35 years. Their home became a magnet for contemporary artists including Picasso, Man Ray, Max Ernst, and Joan Miro. Some of the works on display were created during their visits.

SUMMER SHOW

Visit our stand at the Summer Show on 12th August on the recreation ground. Have a go at the Great WI Wine Challenge or Guess The Weight of the Cake.

If you would like to join our WI please contact our President Philomena on 01825 800216.

Follow us on Facebook or visit www.framfield & blackboys wi

Framfield and Blackboys Horticultural Society

Interested in horticulture? Love gardening? Or just simply want to get involved in a local, friendly and social group? The Framfield and Blackboys Horticultural Society brings together people united by their interest in a wide range of garden activities in a welcoming and relaxed environment.

Full details of our events can be found on our website at www.fabhortsoc.org.uk. And if you'd like to join, membership is just £5, or £8 for a family, which gives you some discounts at selected local garden centres. See a talk you fancy but not a member? No problem! Just turn up.

Calendar of events, August/September 2017

12 August – *FRAMFIELD & BLACKBOYS SUMMER SHOW* From 12.30PM, FRAMFIELD RECREATION GROUND & MEMORIAL HALL

In addition to some great entertainment and family fun, it's not too late to get involved with some of the 124 different classes for all ages and standards across 8 different categories including plants, flowers, cookery and photography and specific competitions for children. Full schedule and entry details at www.fabhortsoc.org.uk. Deadline for entries - 9 August. This year's evening event is a family barn dance starting at 7pm with a bar and food available.

If you'd like to help set up, run a stall or clear away, please contact Sarah Hince 01435 863364/sarah.hince@btinternet.com to volunteer. We are also looking for donations of cakes and plants to sell. See you at the show!

Thursday 14th September 2017 - The Gardens of Gertrude Jekyll talk

Garden Designer Lesley Chamberlain tells us the story of the life and gardens of influential garden designer, artist and writer Gertude Jekyll, who created more than 400 garden in the UK, Europe and the US. Free to members, £3 to non-members. Framfield Memorial Hall. 7.30pm.

About Framfield and Blackboys Horticultural Society

The Society's main aim is to promote horticulture and to try and encourage and support as many people as possible to grow their own flowers, fruit and vegetables.

Find out more at www.fabhortsoc.org.uk/ where you can download a membership form. For any enquiries, please feel free to email our vice chairman Fiona Fidler at fhbsmail@gmail.com or 01825 890719



Our committee is now well and truly into tea and cake making at a number of NGS open garden venues. We continue to have huge support and raise large amounts of money for our charity. We have another six days in July and August, so hope for clement weather! Two more future events will be our Ashdown Forest Walk, followed by a delicious ploughman's lunch on the 30th of August. Pizza Express have very kindly offered their restaurant, yet again, for the Macmillan National Coffee Morning on Friday 29th September.

Macmillan Cancer Support is now working closely with East Sussex Age UK, with home support. Volunteers offer help and support, for a period of time, to people in later life, who are receiving cancer treatment. The service is for people over 55 years of age, who are living in East Sussex, undertaking cancer treatment and living alone, with a carer or someone who is physically unable to help. A Macmillan Home Support volunteer could carry out light housekeeping, collect prescriptions and shopping, prepare a light snack, change bedding and provide information.

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

Ann Press, Local Chairman 01825 890400

Nature Notes

The woodlands of the British Isles have had a strange and interesting history. The Younger Dryas ice age lasted for about 1300 years during the late Pleistocene from about 12,800 to 11,500 years ago. During this ice age, a vast ice sheet covered Britain down as far as about the Thames Valley. South of that, it was still too cold to support the lush forests we see now. The habitat was probably tundra as experienced now on places like Svalbard where just a few dwarf willows grow in the summer when the ice melts. By about 10,000 years ago, Britain was experiencing temperatures slightly warmer than now.

As ice retreated, the forests of Europe spread into the land we now call Britain. This process took hundreds of years and was probably begun by various willows, Hairy and Pendulous Birches, Juniper and Scots Pines. Our two native oaks were probably introduced by the Eurasian Jay. Often also called the Oak Jay, this bird obsessively collects acorns in the autumn and carries them to open areas and buries them in the ground. Many of these acorns are forgotten about by the birds and they germinate to form new oak trees. It is thought that by doing this, oak trees spread through northern Europe at a rate of about one kilometre per year. Once everything had moved in, the English Channel formed.

Woodlands develop by a process called succession. From bare ground the first plants to grow may be mosses and grasses, then broad leaved herbs such as daisies, dandelions and thistles. Then small shrubs arrive, like hawthorn, Hazel and field maple followed by birches, willows if it is damp and then high forest trees such as Scots Pines, Pedunculate and Sessile Oaks, Sycamores, Ash, Hornbeam and Elm. This process can take 50 years or more, and the woodland will not be properly mature until it is at least 100 years old. Indeed, we cannot refer to woodland as truly ancient until it is about 400 years old. By that time it has built up a huge biodiversity of dozens of species of ground flora like Bluebells, Wood Anemones, Wood Sage, Wood Sorrel, Bramble and ferns such as Bracken and Broad Buckler Fern. Also, the wood becomes full of hundreds of species of fungi, bacteria and animals such as Spring-tails, Woodlice, Wasps, Moths, and other insects. Then spiders, frogs, snakes, bats, birds, Wood Mice, Dormice, Weasels, Hedgehogs, Foxes and Badgers arrive. Finally, maybe, in come Deer and Wild Boar.

Martyn Stenning

MEETING SCHEDULE 2017

On each date detailed below, generally three meetings will be held as follows (although the Planning Committee may be cancelled if not essential):

- Planning Committee commencing at 6.30 pm
- Trust commencing at 7 pm
- Parish Council commencing at 7.30 pm.

Tuesday, 26 September (BB Trust) Blackboys Village Hall

Tuesday, 28 November (FF Trust) Framfield Memorial Hall

Public welcome. For further details, please telephone the Parish Clerk,
Ann Newton, on
01825- 890182/framfieldpc@gmail.com
'Highlands', Blackboys TN22 5LR.
Agendas will be published on all noticeboards and the website framfieldcouncil.org.uk

For what is a momentous year for the club, we are formally opening the new pavilion on the day our President, Mr Bob Ruthven, challenges his team against the club's XI. This game commences on Sunday 13th August 2017, at 12pm, Blackboys Recreation ground. Please come along to witness the exploits of your local cricket club.

As for the current 2017 season, we are on something of a roll. We play our cricket in Division 6 of the East Sussex Cricket league and at the time of writing we are unbeaten. We sit proudly at the top of our league and we are in with a very good chance of winning a trophy.

With a mixture of experience and some youngsters are consistently playing better cricket than our rivals. With the ability to bowl teams out we have always set up a platform to win our matches. In fact, out of the 9 league games we have played, we drew our opening match away at Robertsbridge but then have beaten the teams from, Selmeston, Eastbourne, Willingdon, Lewes St Michaels, Brighton St Peters, Mayfield, Hadlow Down and the return home fixture versus Robertsbridge.

If you would like to know more about the club or had thoughts about perhaps wanting to play or help, then please do not hesitate to get in contact with us. Please contact the secretary, Colin Eade, at colin.eade@gmail.com.

Our results and statistics can be found at: http://blackboyscc.play-cricket.com/

The league tables can be found at: http://escl.play-cricket.com/website/web_pages/166856

Thank you for your support.

Colin Eade. Secretary.

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Blackboys Cricket Club

The reporting of the exploits in the parish magazine lapsed about seven years ago. This next installment is therefore long overdue.

One of the oldest references to the game of cricket being played in our parish was for a game at Eason's Green, Framfield, in September 1756 as chronicled in the diary of Thomas Turner of East Hoathly. Cricket in Blackboys was played frequently during the 1800's with earliest references to an actual formalised club being found in newspaper reports from the 1880's. The ground where our club plays cricket has not really changed that much since those early days although hopefully the wicket plays a bit better than it did in the 19th century.

Like all small village clubs we face the challenges of other modern life distractions and there is a constant fight to try and keep the club in the spotlight to maintain its survival. This year, after a several years of fundraising, backed by some generous benefactors, our hard-working committee has overseen the building of a new pavilion which we are now able to use. From a humble tent, to a converted chicken shed that stood for over 60 years, we now have facilities to encourage new and future generation of Blackboys' cricketers. For anyone who has ventured on to Blackboys Recreation Ground this year they cannot have failed to notice this new building enhancing the parish landscape.

We want to use the new sports pavilion as a platform to improve our engagement with the community around us. To this end, this year we are trying to set up a cricket based fun day for the primary school children in the parish. This will take place on Blackboys Recreation Ground on Sunday 30th July 2017, from 2pm to 4pm. Please come along for cricket based fun games, bouncy castle, children's tombola, etc, tea and cakes as well.

FRAMFIELD PARISH COUNCIL - REPORT

Over the School summer holidays various refurbishment works will be carried out in the Memorial Hall. A new heating system is to be installed which will provide a better and more economical way of heating and providing hot water for the Hall. This will be followed by some alterations to the rear corridor and a tidying up exercise in the changing rooms etc. This entire area will also be deep cleaned and redecorated. The main hall will also be repainted where necessary. Hopefully by the time the School reopens in September the Hall will really look very good. The next task is to sort the external areas out, in particular the rear steps and tarmac.

Framfield Village Market (the last Saturday in the month excluding August) – please do come along and have a look at local craft wares and produce and have a cup of coffee. All proceeds go towards the refurbishment of the Memorial Hall.

The new sports pavilion on Blackboys recreation ground is now complete. This is a Parish asset in a similar way to the Village Hall and Memorial Hall, although it will only be available for sports activities and will not have a premises licence for music etc. If anyone has a sporting event that when they believe they could use the Pavilion please contact me in the first instance.

Recreation grounds, play areas etc. If anyone believes they have discovered a fault or problem with in particular one of the play areas, could they please contact me immediately. Although the areas are inspected on a weekly basis by one of our contractors, any additional notification is important to the Council.

If anyone wishes to advertise in the Parish Magazine please contact me in the first instance. Over 1,100 are printed and distributed by volunteers to all households in the Parish.

All agendas are put on the village noticeboards and website. The full minutes of all meetings are also on the website.

Ann Newton (Parish Clerk): 01825 890182.

Email: framfieldpc@gmail.com.

Postal Address: 'Highlands', Blackboys TN22 5LR.

Website: www.framfieldcouncil.org.uk.

NEWS FROM YOUR WEALDEN DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

A few items which might be of interest:

Wealden District Council (WDC) is inviting all local businesses to reserve a free space at the Wealden Works Careers Fair taking place at the East Sussex National Hotel on Monday, 2 October to promote their firm to young adults from across the District. The event is also a really good opportunity for young adults to go along and speak to the various exhibitors.

You may have seen on the local news how seriously WDC takes flytipping, with the prosecution of two prolific fly-tippers. Please let WDC know if you see any flytipping immediately.

The Wealden Disability Involvement Group (WDIG) is looking for new members. The Group meets every month and advises the Council on how to make services accessible to our residents with disabilities and can provide transport for representatives and their carers to attend the afternoon meetings. If you would like to find out more about WDIG or know of anyone who would be interested in joining the Group, please contact WDC's Equalities Officer, Debbie Peters on 01323 443204 or email debbie.peters@wealden.gov.uk.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me and WDC (through the formal channels) if you have any missed bins or other bin problems.

If anyone wants to contact me, please don't hesitate to get in touch. My details are below.

Contact details – Ann Newton, 'Highlands', Blackboys, TN22 5LR. Telephone - 01825 890103.

Email – <u>aenewton1965@gmail.com</u>

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From your Wealden MP Nus Ghani

Taking Action on Tobacco

Now that summer is truly upon us, I very much hope that you are enjoying the parks and green spaces of Wealden, as well as the wonderful Ashdown Forest.

As we come together in these common spaces, what also becomes more visible is smoking. Whilst it is encouraging that smoking rates amongst adults and young people are at their lowest ever level, I am sure we all hope to reduce the amount of smoking that we encounter. This is particularly important in our constituency, as Wealden has the highest number of smoking-related deaths within East Sussex, as well as having a higher than average incidence of new cancers and cancer-related deaths in relation to the rest of England.

As such, I am extremely pleased that the Government will soon be publishing a new 'tobacco plan.' As a Government, we have already done a large amount to prevent the uptake of smoking and to reduce its harm, including introducing standardised packaging, banning cigarette displays in many shops and making it illegal to smoke in cars with children.

With this new tobacco plan, we will build upon previous success and continue to support people to quit. In particular, the plan will focus on tackling health inequalities and supporting priority groups - for example people with mental health problems, where smoking rates remain high.

I am determined to play my part in promoting health in Wealden. On Tuesday 4th July I was present for the House of Commons' 'Health Questions' session, and asked Steve Brine, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Health, how equal awareness of the Government's plans and equal access to its benefits could be assured in rural communities such as ours.

Mr Brine quite rightly stated that East Sussex County Council will be responsible for designing a local tobacco control plan. This is apt, as smoking rates vary considerably across the country, and it is right that local councils have the flexibility to consider how best to respond to the unique needs of their local population. I will be sure to work with the Council to create a plan that will see Wealden served as well by the tobacco plan as other parts of the country.

I am heartened that by 2021 councils will have received £16 billion of public health funding since 2016, and that the United Kingdom is a world leader in tobacco control. I know that this is an issue that concerns a great many people, and I am determined to making Wealden a healthier place for all.

FRAMFIELD VILLAGE MARKET 2017

Memorial Hall, Framfield

The market opens from 10 am to 12 noon.

August – no market. 30 September 28 October 25 November 16 December

<u>Please contact Ann Newton with any queries - 01825 890182 or email framfieldpc@gmail.com</u>

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Framfield and Blackboys Wives Group

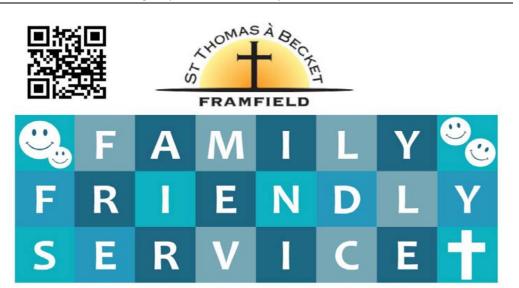
Our March meeting at the Fire Station turned out to be exciting as well as informative. They had a shout whilst we were there, so we stood to one side while the Firemen came dashing in.

One had to leave his dinner on the table! Fortunately it was not serious, a smoke alarm going off. They pressed the point that they will come out free of charge and give and fix smoke alarms.

We are now looking forward tour Barbeque in June and a visit in July to Lewes Little Theatre where we will see how it is run and visit the wardrobe department. Let us hope that summer has arrived by then.

We will be having a Jumble Sale in October so please think of us if you are clearing out. Our main charity this year is The Hospice in the Weald.

For information on the group contact Val Peaty. 890677



Our Family Friendly Service is a lively short happy service, where the children are actively involved.

Sunday 13th August at 10.00 am Sunday 10th September at 10.00 am



Blackboys Pre-School The Village Hall, Gun Road Blackboys, East Sussex TN22 5JL Tel: 01825 891113

email: enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org
Twitter: @BlackboysPreSch
www.blackboyspreschool.org.uk

We are a non-profit making pre-school registered with Ofsted. Open Monday to Friday from 7.45am to 6pm, we welcome children between 2 to 5 years old in the preschool and those between 2 to 11 years old in the After School and Holiday Clubs.

Our Summer Holiday Club is running until 25th August. Children aged 2-11 years can join us for fun in the holidays whether or not they attend during term time! We offer a variety of activities and access to age appropriate resources, including our very well resourced outdoor play area, and use of the allotment area.

Activities planned for this summer include making sheriffs badges, salt dough creatures, s'mores on the camp fire, cooking octopus cakes and much more.

Our staff are trained in Montessori and Forest School principles and we have an allotment, located just next door to the pre-school, where our chickens are kept. We also use this space for our forest school activities. Our After School Club runs from 3.30pm to 6pm during term time, with a pick-up service available from local primary schools.

For more details, or to organise a visit, please contact us:

Call Jenny on: 01825 891113 / 01825 749820

Or email us: enquiries@blackboyspreschool.org.uk

LIVING WITH FUR AND FEATHER

HOUSING SHORTAGE

I know there is a housing shortage in our local area but we found it very stressful when a couple decided to move in very close to us. There were much more suitable places where they could have lived for a while. Our lives were been turned upside down by these newcomers. First they spent ages fixing up their accommodation. They then made us feel guilty every time we ventured outside.

As time went on we found the proximity of these neighbours more inhibiting each day. We started creeping about our grounds as though we were the interlopers. Going to our dustbins upset them, even though we were careful to close the bin lids quietly. We then gave in and moved the bins further away. Then it was the wheelbarrows trundling up and down with gardening tools and logs, they didn't like, so they had to be moved. Life was getting very difficult we couldn't even use the hosepipe even though it was very dry then.

As usually happens in similar cases, they produced several offspring. The parents were even more fussy, when their precious babies arrived. I will say this about them, they were devoted parents. Dad was very attentive right from the start and certainly did his share of the work, even before the big event, to give Mum a welcome break. I am always hearing about parental skills and importance of early development and upbringing of babies, so with their family complete we had to be even more carful during this crucial period. The newcomers, having dictated how we lived, were fine but we were stressed out and nervous wrecks. It also upset our visitors. They had previously enjoyed wandering round the grounds, but now they were firmly told not to go any were near the new family and they were startled when I suddenly shouted, "Don't let him off the lead. They don't like strange dogs". Our visiting dogs were

also fed up with these new rules. Strangely the fussy parents were not at all bothered about Chloe who as usual just plodded around Newfoundland style.

At last our neighbours decided to move out, taking their offspring with them. We could relax once more. We triumphantly trundled the dustbins back into the open fronted barn, the wheel barrows were put away. At long last the hose pipes, which were kept neatly coiled, hanging on a hook in the open fronted barn, could be used again. Why did our Blackbird pair decide that was the perfect place to build their nest and rear their family? Did they know that was likely to be a water shortage during the long hot spell?

They didn't move far and it was lovely to see all the family in the garden, Mum and Dad busy feeding the growing youngsters.

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

Waldron Country Market at Holy Cross Priory, (Possingworth) (on the B2102 between Cross in Hand and Blackboys, near the Tunbridge Wells turn) Held every 2nd Thursday of the Month, 11.00 am to 1.00 pm. Thursday 10th August, and Thursday 14th September.

All produce is homemade and includes, cakes, pies, preserves, local cheeses, honey, greetings cards, pottery, hand knitted items, hand sewn gifts, vegetables, plants and more. Enjoy coffee or tea and cake in pleasant surroundings.

For more information contact Roy Wilkinson 01435 812931