

The BLACKBOYS INN

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The Blackboys Inn was used as an overnight stopping place for drivers transporting charcoal from the local woods to Lewes and other surrounding towns. The name **Blackboys** came about due to the colour of the boys who emerged from the wood after burning charcoal. The pub is believed to be haunted and there are various stories as to the identity of the ghost (thought to be female).

But now the **Blackboys Inn** is a far cry from the stopping place for drivers transporting charcoal. Now you'll find a friendly and relaxing environment which has been beautifully refurbished, where you can enjoy fine wine, local ales and excellent cuisine.

The restaurant is available for private parties. The back room seating a comfortable 20 and both rooms together 48. We aim to provide you with not only memorable food, but also the ambience to suit.

Blackboys is a local village within the same parish as Framfield. There are a number of theories about the source of the name '**Blackboys**'. The most interesting theory relates to the ancient industry of charcoal burning.

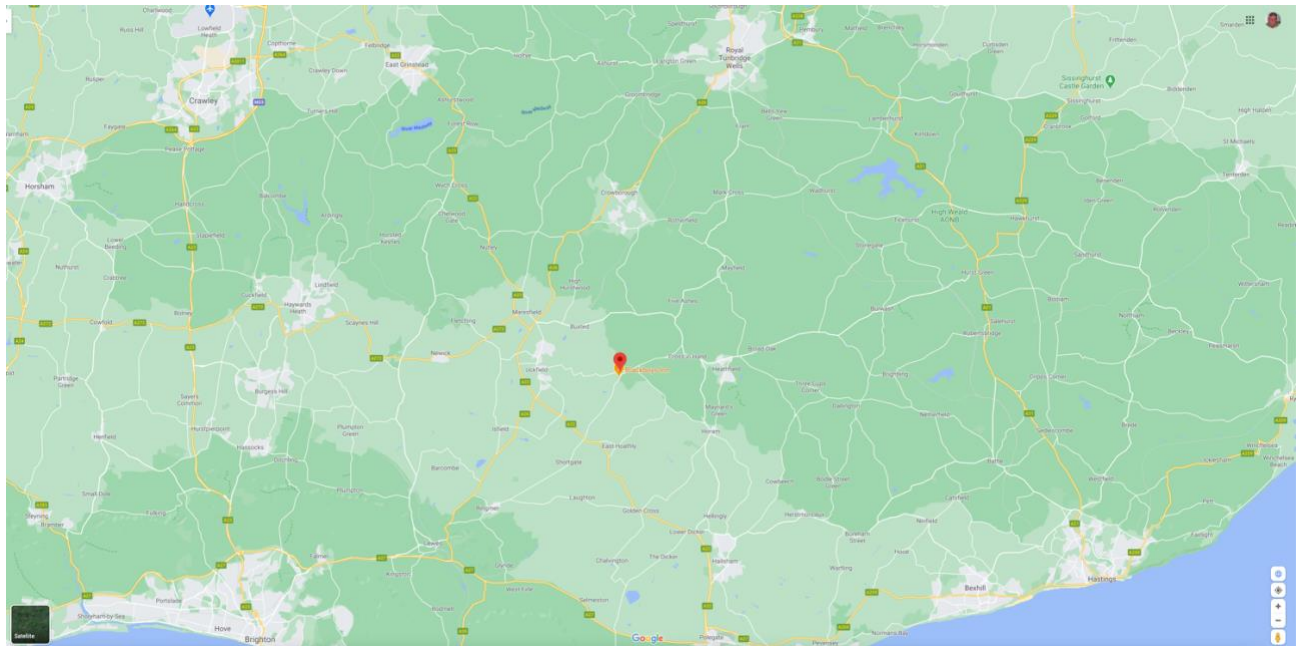
The Blackboys Inn was founded in the 14th century as a coaching establishment. It is possible that the inn was also founded as an overnight lodge for the drivers transporting charcoal from the local woods to Lewes and other towns.

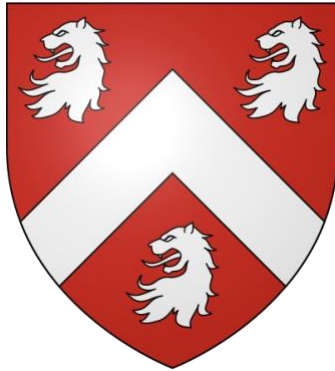
It is likely that the majority of the charcoal was used by the nearby Buxted foundry, where it is believed that the first iron cannon in England was made in 1543. The main business of the village stopped in the early 1800's when the iron industry moved north to the Midlands with their large deposits of coal.

Located near Blackboys is **Tickerage Mill**, which was once the home of the actress, **Vivien Leigh**. After her death, her ashes were scattered on the mill pond.



Blackboys Inn 1935





30. Father SYDNEY JOHN MONK (1911-1970)

SYDNEY was born in 1911 in Emsworth, Hampshire, England. Like his parents and several Uncles, he took up a career in gardening and found work for most of his adult life as a **GARDENER DOMESTIC**, tending to the maintenance of large estates and homes. He was also a producer of plentiful vegetables from his own kitchen garden, as times were hard in the 1900s for the working-class families.

Sydney married **KATHLEEN MAY BUCKLAND** in 1935. Kathleen was born January 3, 1914, the third child of **Alan Leonard Buckland** and **May Allen Buckland** of Baldwins Hill, Lingfield Road, **East Grinstead, Surrey, England**. Alan Buckland came from a large family of hardworking brothers in the farming & construction industry of Sussex and Kent. Alan was a **Bricklayer** (called a "**Stonemason**" in those days).

Like most young teenage girls in 1928, having graduated from Baldwins Hill Primary School, **KATHLEEN** left home at about 15-years old and worked as a resident **General Domestic Servant** at the famous **BLACKBOYS INN on Lewes Road** in the village of Blackboys near Uckfield, East Sussex. There she learned the skills and "**proper**" standards of housekeeping in the post-Edwardian era.

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cannon in England was made in 1543. The main business of the village stopped in the early 1800s when the iron industry moved north to the Midlands with their large deposits of coal.

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A few years later KATHLEEN went to live with her Aunt in Rowlands Castle, Hampshire and worked as a Domestic Servant to a wealthy family in Leigh Park, Havant. It was there she met her future husband, SYDNEY JOHN MONK who worked nearby as a Domestic Gardener.

Sydney & Kathleen had 2 children: Patricia Margaret (1936) and Phyllis Jean (1938). Both girls graduated from Purbrook Park Grammar School and Phyllis also completed a Secretarial Diploma at Portsmouth Commercial College. Pat became the Secretary at her local Emsworth Elementary School and raised 3 children, Michael, Tina & Helen in Emsworth, Hampshire.

The impact of World War I brought a keen awareness of financial prudence to these young ladies.

Kathleen convinced Sydney in later years to save and purchase their modest home at 34, St. James Road, Emsworth, Hampshire which they had rented since 1937. It took many years of saving to reach the purchase price of £1,200.

Sydney died of a heart attack in his kitchen garden in Emsworth in 1970 at age 59-years.

In 1971 Kathleen bought a motorcycle (and a helmet) and married William Cake of Prinsted, Hampshire whose wife Phyllis Cobbett had also just died. William was a Director of a local window manufacturing Company and the couple enjoyed 32-years of married life.

Kathleen died in 1999 in Prinsted, West Sussex and William died in 2003, also in Prinsted.