

FECKENHAM

June 2023

NEWS



Published by Feckenham Church for the village.
Editor Gilly Cooper - feckenhamnews@gmail.com
(Copy Date 14th)

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Feckenham News in May

Dates for your Diary

<u>June</u>	
3rd	Astwood Hill Ho Open Garden
7th	S&B Gardening Club
13th	Readers Group
14th	Church Drop In
19th	WI
24th	Feckenham Wake
28th	Church Drop In

July

8th	John Calvert Memorial
15th	Fun on the Square

September

23rd	George Egg's Set Menu
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Contents

	Page
Editor's note	4
Open Garden	4
Parish Council	5
Wake	6
Village Square	7
Church Matters	8
Introducing...	9
Feckenham Archive	10
WI	11
What's On	12-13
Swansbrook	14
Village Hall	14
Village Shop	16
Gardening	17-19
Football Club	20
Cricket Club	21

Regular Sessions

Mondays	Restorative Yoga
Wednesdays	Playgroup
Thursdays	Bridge; Hatha Yoga; Pilates
Fridays	Meditation Class
First Tuesday of the month:	
Lunch Club, Feckenham Sessions and	
Feckenham Forest History Society	
First and Third Wednesday: Community Choir	
Third Monday of the month: WI	
2nd and 4th Fridays: Erstwhile Morris dancers	

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Barbara Masters at the
Coronation Picnic

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www.feckenham-parishcouncil.gov.uk

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They remain the
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production team nor
the publishers can be
held responsible for
the views and
assertions contained
therein.

Editor's Note

This month I'm again editing while away from the village catching some sun and walking on the very beautiful island of Kefalonia.



Luckily I was in the village for the picnic on The Square which was a perfect village event and the weather was kind to us. I understand that there was financial support from the shop and the Parish Council and thank them for their generosity. The village green looked at its best as the committee put in time sprucing it up: mowing, strimming and putting up bunting, gazebos, sound system and the bar. If anyone else would like to join them, please let Jay Neale, the chair, know by emailing janieneale@hotmail.com.

Fantastic feedback on the magazine! Here's a photo of Oscar, who's mum, Chloe Hughes, says, "He always loves reading through the magazine and he has a collection of old issues in his toybox."



Friends of Feckenham Charity



FRIENDS OF
FECKENHAM
CHURCH

OPEN GARDEN

ASTWOOD HILL HOUSE, ASTWOOD LANE

3RD JUNE 2023 2.00 – 6.00PM

Roger and Felicity Burman are kindly opening their garden in support of The Friends of Feckenham Church (raising funds for the maintenance of our Parish Church and Churchyard).

Please come for an enjoyable afternoon in this interesting and special garden. We look forward to seeing you.

Parking available
Refreshments

Admission: £6.00
Children: Free

Please don't bring your dog

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COUNCIL UPDATE - BESS

It was standing room only at the Parish Meeting called by the Parish Council on 16th May to discuss the Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) which is proposed for a site off Astwood Lane. Cllr. Hugo Hammersley briefed residents about the nature and extent of the proposals as well as the dangers associated with them. There then followed a lively public discussion chaired by Cllr. Alan Smith. The consensus was that this was not a desirable proposition and that it should be opposed.

At the Council's meeting on 18th May it was formally agreed to object to the BESS planning application. A detailed objection will now be drawn up and will be available to view on the Council's website (feckenham-parishcouncil.gov.uk). There will also be explanatory notes to give guidance to help individuals write their own comments for submission to the Planning Authority at Redditch Borough Council.

It is emphasised that people should submit individual comments. The more objections there are, the more effective they're likely to be. You can find the details of the proposals on the Parish Council website: select "Planning" under the "Parish Council" tab.

The reference number is **23/0417/FUL**

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

It's now easier to find and access Planning Applications. The Parish Council's website now automatically displays all applications for planning permission within the Parish of Feckenham. It's no longer necessary to trawl through all the applications submitted to Redditch Borough Council in order to find the one you're interested in. This connects to the Redditch Planning Portal so you can view plans and submit comments directly.

COUNCIL ELECTION

Seven seats on the Parish Council were up for grabs at the local government elections on 4th May. In the event only six candidates put their names forward and they were therefore elected without contest.

The Council then advertised the remaining vacancy which was to be filled by co-option. One person applied and that person was duly co-opted at the meeting on 18th May. Officers were also elected at that meeting and the Council now consists of the following:

Chairman:	Alan Smith
Vice-Chair:	Hugo Hammersley
Councillors:	Ian Bellion
	Quintus Cary
	Patricia Dormer
	Erica Guise
	Robert Oaten

Slade Arthur retired from the Council at the election and tributes were paid to him for his long and distinguished service, particularly in the field of highways and traffic management.

TRAFFIC WORKING PARTY

The Council has decided to re-establish its Traffic Working Party. Despite some success in reducing speeds through the village on the B4090, speeding still gives considerable cause for concern. The Working Party will be seeking solutions to speeding on Astwood Lane and High Street as well as looking at making further improvements on the B4090. Councillors Erica Guise and Robert Oaten will represent the Council and other members include Jacqui Barrett-Mead, David Rowe and Steve Fletcher. If you are interested in assisting in this work please contact the Clerk in the first instance.

CONTACT THE COUNCIL

To contact the Parish Council please email the Clerk at clerk@feckenham-parishcouncil.gov.uk or call **01527 892522**

Check out our new website at

feckenham-parishcouncil.gov.uk

Coming soon: The Parish Council is working towards setting up it's own facebook page with the aim of getting information to residents more quickly.

Feckenham Wake



Not long now 'til the fun begins on 24th June 1-5pm

The Wake Committee (Julian Bull, Alan Smith, Erica Guise, Ian Bellion, Maggie Stephens, Simon Statham, Jon Ratcliffe, Charlie Willets) are as usual all committed to running a high quality traditional family event that is FREE TO ENTER. In addition, the attractions, food and drink are all provided at affordable prices so all in our community can enjoy a great day.

We still need a few volunteers to help for an hour or 2 looking after one of the attractions (if you can help email julianbull.777@gmail.com)

So what do we have on this year? All the favourites:

Classic Car Show also including vintage bikes and a traction engine
Many children's attractions from bouncy castles to crazy golf and face painting
Traditional Punch & Judy
Fun Dog Show
Several Craft and Small Retail Stalls
Prize Draw
Arrow Valley Brass Band
Village Groups
Hog Roast, Samosas, Pizzas
Full service bar and Prosecco bar

And NEW for this year Morris Dancers in the form of local group ERSTWHILE MORRIS. Remember the fantastic giant Ducks and Cake Ladies from last Year? - Well this year we have some giant red squirrels – THE NUTKINS!

Feckenham Wake – All the fun of the fair...

John Calvert

Passed away peacefully on
Sunday 14th May, 2023
aged 85 years.

**A service of Thanksgiving
for the life and work of John
will take place at
St. John the Baptist Church,
Feckenham
on Saturday 8th July, 2023
at 12 noon,
followed by refreshments
and a time to share
memories at
Redhouse Barn, Shaw Lane,
Stoke Prior
B60 4BG**

Please wear colourful clothing

Donations if so desired to
**Worcestershire NHS Mental
Health Trust**
**(where John was chairman for
fourteen years)**
may be sent via telephone or
cheque to:
Thomas Brothers
The Funeral Directors,
Birchfield House,
494 Evesham Road,
Redditch.
B97 5JF
01527 547777

CROWNING GLORY

The King had got his crown, the pomp and ceremony was over and Feckenham came out to play on The Square on the afternoon of 7th May. Picnics of various sizes appeared... and disappeared, Alan Smith and his band added a bit of jollity to the occasion, the bunting flapped merrily in the sunshine, the bar did a roaring trade and a good and convivial time was had by all - royalists and republicans alike. A lovely Feckenham occasion.

The one sour note came from those who disapproved of the bar making money for The Square. The Square isn't owned by a Council or other public body. It's owned by a charity and that charity has to make money in order to cover the considerable costs involved in keeping our village green in good condition - so making a few bob whilst providing an obviously well appreciated facility at a village event can hardly be classed as rampant profiteering - but, you can't please all of the people all of the time...

FUN, FUN, FUN!

The well established village event known as **Fun on The Square** is making its annual appearance on the evening of **Saturday, 15th July**. The Wake draws in folk from near and far but Fun on The Square is just for Feckenham folk. It's our yearly night out on our very own village green. There'll be food and drink aplenty, some entertainment, some games for the youngsters and the chance to relax outdoors amongst friends and neighbours on a balmy summer evening. This too is a fundraising occasion and if we all spend a little it'll add up to enough cash to pay for another year's worth of insurance cover, tree maintenance, mower repairs, plants for the planters, etc., etc. Pop it in your diaries - there'll be more details in next month's edition of Feckenham News - but it will be FUN - guaranteed!

FUN ON THE SQUARE
Saturday, 15th July
From 6.30pm



CHURCH SERVICES



PARISH CHURCH of ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Vicar: Fr Glenn Reading 01527 894436

vicar@feckenhamchurch.org.uk

Church Warden: Vacant

For Weddings, Baptisms & Funerals please contact
Fr Glenn

Website: www.feckenhamchurch.org.uk



PARISH CHURCH
OF
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
FECKENHAM

Services for June 2023

4th June	10.30am	Morning Prayer	Fiona Carter
11 th June	9.00am	BCP Eucharist	Fr Glenn Reading
18th June	6.30pm	Evensong	Fiona Carter
25th June	10.30am	Eucharist	Fr Glenn Reading

**Saturday 24th June – Feckenham Wake
Tea & Cake in the Church: 1pm-5pm.**

Drop in (In church)
Wednesday at 10.30am- 12.00pm
14th and 28th June
All welcome

FECKENHAM ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH St John Fisher & Thomas More

Due to illness, Mass will not be held at St John Fisher and Thomas More until further notice.

Mount Carmel 6 pm Sunday Mass is now the Live Streamed Mass.

Link: www.eventcast.uk/live (Type the link into the browser)

Fr. Anthony Rohan, The Presbytery, Redditch. Tel 63096

Local contact: Phylis Mott, Feckenham. Tel 893898

Introducing... David Rowe

If you are at all familiar with the village, you will have seen the results of David's design skills without realising it. Whether you visit the shop, the Feckenodeon, or have bought a ring or other piece he has made and sold as a member of the Feckenham Artisans, his work is all around you.

He and his wife Jill, have lived in the village since 1983 - the same year as I arrived here by the way - so we have known each other a long time but having the opportunity to hear about David's life and career has been eye-opening.



Before coming to the Midlands, they lived in Lancashire where David worked for the county architect designing furniture and interiors for public buildings. He then taught design at Birmingham City University to degree level as well as doing freelance design work. He and a colleague were commissioned to design the seating for the CBSO in Birmingham's new Symphony Hall in

1988. They came up with the Opus Chair which is now used by orchestras all over this country and worldwide. He is still designing chairs with advanced postural qualities for a wide range of purposes in different materials, with an eye on sustainability.

He has much more time available in the village since he stopped commuting to Birmingham for work, not that he has retired, far from it, but now he works from home.

His particular niche in the village is linked to his design skills which are many and varied.

He has been a member of the FeckenOdeon team from the start, over 20 years ago. He talked to me about the Village Hall and the challenges of turning it into a picture house regularly through the year. He designed shutters for the windows which now can be set up in a few minutes compared with an hour's work previously. He is also responsible for the screen, including building the box which holds it, the sound system and the footlights. The projector has been renewed over the years as technology has changed and the type of films available has altered. First there was 16mm, then 35mm and now digital projectors.

The appearance of our lovely Shop is also down to David, both the interior and exterior. The latest refurbishment including the covered terrace was designed and implemented by him following a survey of volunteers' opinions. He is very much 'hands on' for all difficulties with the shop from the air conditioning to the chillers and I must say that his calligraphy on the signage suits the shop's appearance well. As he said, the purpose of the shop is to be a convenience store, a meeting place and to put money back into the village by supporting village organisations. It's success is in no small part due to his hard work and I'm sure we are all very grateful.



The Old Forge on Alcester Road with Blacksmiths in attendance as well as a customer with quite a smart looking horse. The one smith has huge holes in his leather apron, worn through by use. It must have been very dark inside the building to try and work, to say nothing of hot!



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millane2020@outlook.com or telephone 01527893967

Feckenham WI

Our May meeting this year was a lot dryer than last year's! We had a lovely evening walk around Fosters Green Meadows, one of Worcestershire Wildlife Trust's nature reserves where we saw carpets of green winged orchids and cowslips and some beautiful old farm buildings. There isn't any parking at the reserve so many thanks go to Max for letting us park in his yard.

Our next meeting is on Monday 19th June and will be air rifle shooting again because we enjoyed it so much last year that we decided to repeat it this year. The venue will probably be different to last year, so contact Jen for details (07773 883 039). It will be at 8pm as usual though and members are free, guests are £5. Please bring your own chair, flask of drink, and about 5 tins or cans as targets. If you have your own air rifle, please bring it along but there will be a couple provided.



Kathy's Collection



Found by the picnic tables at Winfields



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WHAT'S ON IN

Feckenham

WAKE

Saturday, 24th June

PUNCH & JUDY - Fun DOG SHOW 1pm to 5pm
CRAZY GOLF - FARM BOUNCE
STRONGMAN STRIKER - NERF SHOOTOUT On The Square and Recreation Ground

PIG ROAST - Real Ale BAR - CREAM TEAS - PROSECCO Bar
Woodfire Baked PIZZAS - Home made SAMOSAS - CANDY FLOSS - ICES
TOMBOLA - Craft and other STALLS

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FECKENHAM



THE
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First Tuesday of every month from 8pm
NEXT SESSION: Tuesday, 6th June

Feckenham Square
Management Committee

FUN
On The Square

Saturday
15th July

More details soon!

The Feckenham Forest
History Society

GREAT WHITLEY CHURCH

An illustrated talk by Howard Robinson
Tuesday, 13th June - 7.30pm
Feckenham Village Hall

THE
FECKENODEON CINEMA
SOCIETY

WE'RE TAKING A SUMMER BREAK

We'll be back in September

Our 22nd Season is now open for
bookings and subscriptions.

Our films include:

MRS HARRIS GOES TO PARIS
THE SPY WHO CAME IN FROM THE COLD
ELVIS

MY FAIR LADY
OPERATION MINCEMEAT
THE MAN WHO KNEW TOO MUCH
A MAN CALLED OTTO

More to be announced soon.

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ERSTWHILE



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2nd and 4th Fridays - 7pm

Feckenham READERS GROUP

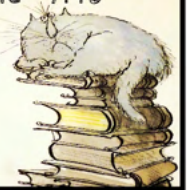
Meets on Tuesday, 13th June - 7.45

This month's book:

THE LAST RUNAWAY

By Tracy Chevalier

Details: 892285



whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk or call 892130

Feckenham Village Hall

BROKEN EGG...

We were all geared up for a spectacular display of anarchic cooking on Coronation day when fate intervened in the form of an email informing us that George Egg was unwell and unable to perform. George had gone down with a nasty case of flu/covid and was incapable of preparing anything other than a cup of Lemsip with a side order of Paracetamol. The show was cancelled at very short notice.

Thankfully Mr Egg has now recovered and arrangements have been made for him to come to Feckenham for a performance on 23rd September and we again anticipate a gloriously crazy display of unconventional culinary wizardry. Tickets are now on sale.

Ticket holders who booked for the original show (6th May) online or by phone will have been reimbursed by TicketSource. If you bought your ticket through the Village Shop or The Rose & Crown and haven't yet had your money back please use the contact form at feckehall.org so that we can arrange a refund. Alternatively, you can retain your tickets and re-use them for the new date.

GEORGE EGG'S SET MENU

Saturday, 23rd September at 7.30pm

Tickets for shows at Feckenham Village Hall are on sale at The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown.

You can also book by phone (through TicketSource) on 0333 666 3366 or online at www.feckhall.org

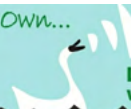
IMPROVEMENT FUND DRAW

The February draw took place following the meeting of the Trustees on 3rd May with the following results:

1 st (£25)	74	Shirley Harman
2 nd (£15)	2	John Harrison
3 rd (£10)	78	Peter & Maggie Stephens

To enquire about hiring the Hall call Liz Teisen on 01527 821233 or check www.feckhall.org

Feckenham's Own...



Listen at www.swansbrook.com

SWANSBROOK Radio

LIVE AT THE WAKE

Feckenham Wake (June 24th) is the village's biggest event of the year and Swansbrook Radio will be there - in the thick of the action. We'll be popping up our pop-up studio and reporting on everything that's going on. We'll be live on air from The Square for at least part of the proceedings - chatting to all and sundry and playing some music to make the day bounce along. Colin James will be on hand with his encyclopedic knowledge of marvellous music and he'll be delighted to play your requests. If you can't listen on the day, there'll be a compilation of the best bits available to listen to from the Monday morning after the Wake.



Drop into the studio or send your requests and dedications to radio@swansbrook.com Swansbrook's team will also be booming out over The Square and Recreation ground as they make announcements for the event - so, if you find a lost child (or can't find your mummy), we're your first port of call! Come and see us even if you haven't got an emergency - we'll be delighted to chat and you might even find yourself on the air - your five minutes of fame!

LISTEN TO THE SWANS

Go to www.swansbrook.com and follow the instructions you'll find there. Our programmes are available for you to play ON DEMAND - listen when and where you like - as often as you like.

FECKENHAM'S OWN Local Radio

www.swansbrook.com

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SCHOOL AGE

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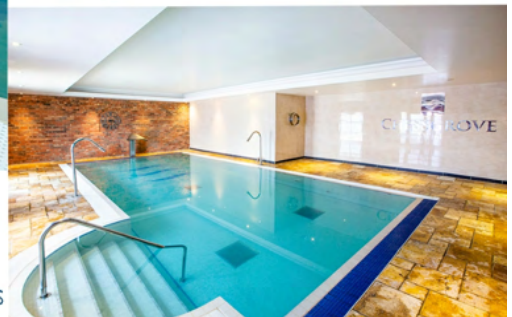
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Feckenham Village Shop - Alan Slater

Our competitiveness is one of the major reasons why we have enjoyed yet another successful trading year. The accounts for the year ending 31st March 2023 show that our total sales, gross margin and net profit are all comparable to 2021/22 which was a record breaking year. We have been able to transfer surplus profit to the balance sheet which has increased by 13%. This excellent performance has enabled us again to financially support many community events and village organisations during the past year. On behalf of the Management Board may I thank you for your continued support of your Village Shop. There will be a detailed presentation of the accounts at the Annual General meeting in September to which all shareholders will be invited. If you aren't a shareholder why not become one? It only costs £10 and you can pick up a form at the Shop..... simples.

Unfortunately we can't sit back on our laurels as we face a very challenging year ahead. We are no different to any other retail business in the country as we are experiencing a substantial increase in our overheads. For example this month our electricity costs are going to increase by 50% which will have a tremendous impact on our profits this year. We are doing everything we can to mitigate the increases and you can help us by continuing to use the Shop as frequently as possible. We are keeping our prices as attractive as we can, so please continue to give us your support.

Finally, like many Villagers I was saddened to hear of the recent passing of our former Chairman John Calvert. John was a driving force when the Shop was established in 2009 and throughout the last thirteen years he has been a great supporter of the Shop

and all of us who volunteer in its management and operation. His advice and encouragement will be sorely missed and behalf of the Board I send condolences to his family and many friends.





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An Organic Allotment by Pete Delaney

June, the Midsummer month. At last everything in the plot is thriving after a cold May held the growing season back a bit this year. It seems the only certainty in gardening is that the weather will be uncertain.

Looking around the allotment, last month's plantings out are all settled in and on the grow. Peas that I planted growing up netting will be yielding their first harvest by the end of the month. I sowed an early dwarf variety (Kelvedon Wonder) and some mangetout, that we shall soon be eating and then did a later sowing of a main crop type (Ambassador) and some more mangetout to harvest later in the season.

Broad beans also will soon be ready to begin harvesting, June is the main month for Black fly. They arrive all of a sudden overnight in a large cluster at the tops of broad bean plants. The top is the only part they are interested in. Cut off the whole top of the plant below the black fly infestation and the problem is removed.

Runner beans and climbing french beans are growing up their canes and the dwarf french beans are all in flower, I find the dwarf french beans are a crop that keeps on giving: once its harvest starts you can hardly keep up.

June is the month of one of my favourite harvests: 'the first earlies' spuds. I timed my potato plantings to get new potatoes by Midsummers Day, followed by the 'second earlies' at the beginning of July.

Courgettes started slow but the plants are catching up now. Cucumbers are finding their way up netting alongside mixed peppers and banana peppers in the polytunnel. Tomatoes are growing in grow bags I fill with a mix of my own and quality brought in organic compost. Squashes: I have been growing inside go out in June, as do the leeks which have been growing in individual pots. I bring them outside for periods of time to acclimatise them to the natural elements before planting them in prepared and compost fed beds. Dabbing a hole for each pencil sized leek without back

filling with earth as the leek will soon expand to more than fill the hole. Growing up nicely at the back of my plot is my favourite 'new' crop, Jerusalem artichoke, a great winter harvest that was a handy replacement for potatoes when our spud crop ran out in mid winter. Another veg grower remarked, "Once you have them you can't get rid of them." but I think "why would you want to get rid of them?" a bountiful winter harvester.

This month is the last time I shall mention the marvelous winter lettuce crop that was sown last September. Once spring came we could hardly keep up harvesting the outer leaves. The heads grew as big as footballs. I don't harvest the whole plant until it starts to grow up to seed, incredibly we are still finishing off the last couple. I shall certainly try to repeat the crop again this year... if only I could be certain of the weather! Happy Midsummer harvests.



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Rob Cole's Gardening Tips

Some Plants We Have Discarded

Some plants which we thought would be a valuable asset eventually proved to be unworthy of their space in the garden, not because they ran riot, but because there are better ones to be had. I keep a list of plants which we have discarded, and here are some of them.

The many varieties of *Hemerocallis* are a favourite of ours, but we have discarded both *H.* 'Strutter's Ball' and *H.* 'Stella d'Oro' because in our garden they produced plenty of leaf but hardly any flowers. There are so many really outstanding varieties to choose from, which means that keeping poor ones is a waste of garden space.

We raised *Lonicera syringantha* from seed, having seen its beautiful soft pink flowers on a young plant somewhere on our travels. But after a few years of growth in the garden it became leggy and woody, and its brief flowering period meant that it came up for review (and pruning) quite frequently. Finally it had to go to make way for something more worthy of the space it occupied.

Plant gifts are always a problem when they turn out to be less desirable than anticipated. *Iris confusa* 'Martyn Rix' was one such gift, and we grew it on for a number of years hoping that maturity would begin to show worthiness, but it never happened. It produced big fans of sword like leaves, and the odd fleeting and wishy-washy flower. Fortunately, the donor seems to have forgotten giving it to us, so we have never had to confess to shredding and composting it.


Roses are unexpectedly on our 'discarded' list. We rarely buy a rose without having seen it somewhere, or heard it being recommended, but *Rosa* 'Highfield', *R.* 'Glamis Castle' and *R.* 'Teasing Georgia' have all been removed after a few years of trying

to get them to perform adequately. Roses are not my favourite garden plants - although the flowers are delightful, I think that the form of the plant is often very inelegant, and they seem to get every disease and pest going. Many also 'go over' badly and require constant deadheading to keep them looking respectable. Give me a mixed herbaceous border, anytime.

The yellow Tree Peony, *Paeonia delavayi* 'Lutea' was another of those 'must have', but now regretted, plants. The large yellow flowers are gorgeous and induce you to buy when you see it offered, but within a few years the plant grows to seven or eight feet high and the flowers are largely obscured by the foliage. It was eventually grubbed out and its space put to better use.

There are many more plants on our 'removed' list, and we continue to be fairly ruthless if a plant is not performing sufficiently or overfills its allotted space. Don't be afraid to do the same.

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Stock and Bradley Gardening Club Report



Our May 3rd meeting was a talk by Paul Green entitled 'Plants of the Season'. Paul brought along plants to describe and discuss from his Greens Leaves nursery in Gloucestershire where he grows a very wide range of shrubs, bulbs and perennials. His talk featured many plants which look good at this time of year and sales were brisk!

PLANT SALE - at Bradley Green Village Hall, Church Road, Bradley Green

Our annual Plant Sale was held on Saturday 13th May 2023 from 10am to 12 noon and proved to be an enormous success. The plants for sale were all raised by our members, and our visiting nursery and plant supports table both did equally brisk trade. We opened at 10am, entry queues formed, and by 10:30am the majority of the large number of plants on display had been sold! Our visitors enjoyed tea/coffee and cake and went away with boxes crammed with keenly priced plants. Provisional figures recorded a total income of £967.35 for the Gardening Club - an all time record.

NEXT CLUB MEETING - Wednesday 7th June 2023 at 7:30pm

Our next meeting is a talk by Bob Brown entitled 'So Many Plants, So Little Space'. Bob is the founder of Cotswold Garden Flowers nursery, not far away in Badsey, and is renowned as a knowledgeable and entertaining speaker.

The subject for the monthly competition is 'My Favourite June Plant - Flowers and/or Foliage'.

Membership of the Gardening Club is currently by £5.00 annual subscription which becomes due on 1st January each year, so please come prepared to renew if you haven't already done so. Please make cheques payable to 'Stock and Bradley Gardening Club'. We welcome new members to join us at any time throughout the year.

Club meetings are normally held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Village Hall, Church Road, Bradley Green starting at 7.30pm, and are free to members for an annual subscription of £5.00 for 2023. Visitors are made very welcome and may attend for £3.00 per meeting.

If you require any further information, ring Dinny Pynsent (Secretary) on 01527 821355 or Rob Cole (Chairman) on 07544 832052.



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The Millers completed their league fixtures with a home victory against Shipston having secured the division two title at Mill Lane on the Saturday with a 3-1 victory over Tuffley Rovers. The Millers only suffered one defeat during the season and remained unbeaten all season at Mil Lane.

Boyed by the fact the league title was in the bag they travelled to Hereford on bank holiday Monday to face Bourton Rovers from the division above them in the Blue Fin Cup.

Expectations were high for Bourton as they had finished their season a week before with four straight wins whilst The Millers had played a game in midweek. The bus set off with 50 players and supporters knowing that only our best performance would be needed on the day if we were to lift the cup.

Bourton arrived with two coaches of supporters complete with flags balloons and banners clearly set to enjoy their day. As the

higher ranked team Bourton Stated the better and it took the lads time to settle. Once they did, they gave as good as they got and took the lead through Will Skelton just before half time.

As expected Bourton threw everything at us and equalized shortly after the break. However the Millers regained the league with a great effort from our young 17 year old Curtis Heywood found the top corner of the net. The remaining twenty five minutes was end to end football but the Millers prevailed and the final whistle was greeted with scenes of great delight.

It was a happy bus that traveled back to Feckenham and we were so pleased to have on board with us 92 years old Ramsey Fleeman one of the members of the original club.

So ends our first season back at our ancestral home after many years with a league and cup double something we could only have dreamed about at the start of the season.

All credit to the players and managers Glen Adams and Matt Phillips.

The players will be holding a celebration on the evening of the wake with some music and the trophies will be on display we would love to any one from the village to join in the celebrations.



Cricket was eventually possible later in April, the 2nd team starting the season with a fine win at Kidderminster, with Angus Hardy leading with the bat (57) and Santosh Kokkiralala taking 3 wickets. Unfortunately, the next match was a loss at Five Ways Old Edwardians. On the same day, the 1st team losing to Old Elizabethans in Worcester on their first outing.

The U13 were able to get their Pairs league season off to a great start with a crushing 94 run win against Coombs Wood on May 2nd. There were strong all-round performances from Sam Drumm and Aiden Cunneen with strong batting from Ben Tomlinson.

The U12s won a thrilling Pairs match by 8 runs the following night at Worcester CC (Norton). There was strong batting from Rory Gavin and Rory Freeman and tight bowling from both Tommy Eost and Archie Francis.

The U14s unfortunately lost their first 11a side T20 match to Droitwich on Sunday 7th. Feckenham made 121-5 with key contributions from Liam Banks (24) and Sam Curtis (22). Despite strong bowling from Finn Davies (3-18) and economical bowling from James Claydon, Droitwich accelerated hard in the later stages of their innings to win with just 3 balls remaining.

By the time that you read this, we should have started the 8-week ECB All Stars program that gives 5-8 year old boys and girls with a fun and structured introduction to cricket.

Upcoming home fixtures are:

Sat 03/ Jun	12:30	2nd XI	v	Cookhill CC - 1st XI
Sun 04/ Jun	10:15	Under 12	v	Wightwick & Finchfield CC - Under 12
Tue 06/ Jun	18:15	Under 12	v	Earlswood CC - Under 12s
Sat 10/ Jun	12:30	1st XI	v	Belbroughton CC - 1st XI
Mon 12/ Jun	18:15	Under 13	v	Redditch CC - Under 13
Tue 13/ Jun	18:15	Under 15	v	Bromsgrove CC - Under 15
Wed 14/ Jun	18:15	Under 12	v	Bromsgrove CC - Under 12
Sat 17/ Jun	12:30	1st XI	v	Old Vigornians CC - 1st XI
Sat 24/ Jun	12:30	2nd XI	v	Alvechurch & Hopwood CC - 2nd XI
Mon 26/ Jun	18:15	Under 15	v	Barnt Green CC - Under 15
Tue 27/ Jun	18:15	Under 12	v	Cookhill CC - Under 12
Wed 28/ Jun	18:15	Under 13	v	Kidderminster CC - Under 13
Sat 01/ Jul	12:30	1st XI	v	Martley CC - 1st XI
Sun 02/ Jul	10:15	Under 12	v	Stourbridge CC - Under 12



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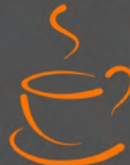
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