

# FECKENHAM



APRIL 2013

*News*

Published by Feckenham Church for the Village  
Editor: Jane White Tel.:01527 893281 (Copy date 14th)  
e-mail: [jwhite@thewhites55.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:jwhite@thewhites55.wanadoo.co.uk)  
or: [ejw55@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ejw55@hotmail.co.uk)



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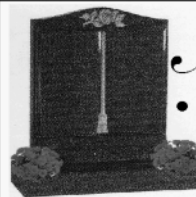
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# APRIL Diary



Tues 2nd	12.30am	Lunch Club	Village Hall, Back Room
Wed 3rd	7.30pm	Gardening Club	Bradley V.H.
Sat 6th	2.30pm	Spring Flower Show	Village Hall
Tues 9th	7.30pm	Feckenham Forest History Society	Feckenham Village Hall
Wed 10th	10.30am - noon	"Drop in" for coffee and a chat	Parish Church
Wed 10th	7.30pm	Feckenham W.I.	Village Hall Back Room
Sat 13th	7.30pm	"MuHa"	Feckenham V.H.
Fri 19th	8pm	FeckenOdeon2	Village Hall Back Room
Sat 20th	7.30pm	"Denim"	Feckenham Village Hall
Wed 24th	10.30am - noon	"Drop in" for coffee and a chat	Parish Church
Thur 25th	7.30pm	Parish Church Annual Meeting	Parish Church
Sat 27th	7.00am	Feckenham 40 Walk	start at R. & C.
Sat 28th	7.00pm	FeckenOdeon	Village Hall

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## Front Cover

Alan's pear tree, in flower last spring. Photo by Jan Holmes

## Production Team

Ian Bellion – What's On  
892130 [whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk](mailto:whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk)  
Chris Fletcher – Newshound  
894568  
Antonia Pulsford – Reviews  
892268  
Jo Warrilow – Ads, Mags by post  
892059  
Jane White – Letters, Reports etc.  
893281 [ejw55@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ejw55@hotmail.co.uk)

*Magazine online at*  
[www.feckenham.com](http://www.feckenham.com)

# Moors Lane ALLOTMENTS

There are currently a few vacant plots available at the Moors Lane Allotments. If you'd like to take up one of these (just in time for the start of the planting/growing season) please contact Pauline Jennings on 01527 892956.

# Church Services

## APRIL

PARISH CHURCH  
of ST. JOHN  
THE BAPTIST



**Priest-in-Charge:** Rev Wyn Beynon

**Churchwarden:** Ann Matthews 01527 892180 **Church website:** [www.feckenhamchurch.org.uk](http://www.feckenhamchurch.org.uk)

•• **Email:** [info@feckenhamchurch.org.uk](mailto:info@feckenhamchurch.org.uk)

**Parish Office:** Telephone: 01905 778181 Email: [bowbrookgroup1@gmail.com](mailto:bowbrookgroup1@gmail.com)

Mon. Closed: Tues., Wed. & Thurs. 10am-1pm & 2-5pm: Fri. Closed

at - The Bowbrook Group, The Parish Office, St Andrew's Street, DROITWICH, WR9 8DY

### Readers and Intercessors



**Sunday 7th**

Easter 2

**11-00am Sung Eucharist**

Acts 5 : vs. 27-32

Revelation 1 : vs. 4-8

Intercessions

Alistair Mcnaughton

Jenny Snel

Cyril Warrilow

**Sunday 14th**

Easter 3

**8-00am Holy Communion**

1 Peter 2 : vs. 19-25

Antonia Pulsford

**11-30am Family Service - "Celebrating our Gifts"**

**Sunday 21st**

Easter 4

**6-30pm Evensong**

Acts 9 : vs. 36 - end

John 10 : vs. 22-30

Intercessions

Tim Powell

Alan Colley

Pat Onions

**Sunday 28th**

Easter 5

**11-00am Family Communion**

Revelation 21 : vs. 1-6

Intercessions

Harriet Crellin

Carol Onions

### X Box Sunday School

Will be held in Church on Sunday 7th April. All children will be warmly welcomed.

### Partners in Prayer

Ecumenical lay led service of prayer for the community, Wednesdays at 9.15am for 30 minutes in the Parish church. **All welcome.**

## Feckenham Roman Catholic Church

St John Fisher & St. Thomas More



Mass is celebrated every Sunday at 10.15am in the Church

**Fr. Edward Clare**, The Presbytery, Redditch. Tel. 01527 63096

Local contact—Phyllis Mott, Feckenham. Tel. 01527 893898

# Newshound



**Special Congratulations** must go to Ian Ridley who has recently been elected as a member of the Birmingham Watercolour Society. (B.W.S) This is a great honour for Ian and a tribute to his remarkable self taught skills as an artist.

Ian would very much like to take this opportunity to thank Lew Howe-Bennett for his help, support and inspiration over many years.

There will be an exhibition at Weston Park in the Granary Art Gallery from March 29th to April 25th and Ian hopes that two of his paintings will be included. Admission to the Gallery is free.

**The wedding** took place of Chris Goodman and Carol-Anne MacDonald on 16th February followed by a reception in Stratford upon Avon. The groom's parents live at Shurnock Barns and the couple live in Reading. The couple spent a few days in Italy and are planning to take a longer honeymoon to Canada in the summer.

# Obituary



## Tony Flanagan

On the 15th February the burial of Tony Flanagan took place in the churchyard following a service in the church attended by about 400 family, friends and colleagues.

Tony began his career as a photographer in 1972 as a trainee at the Birmingham Evening Mail. He worked for them for about 15 years winning many awards. In 1987 he became a freelance, working for National and Regional press and also for many Midland PR agencies, public bodies and business organisations.

He died aged 60 after a six month battle with cancer and will be sadly missed by a great many. We send our best wishes to his son Alex.

# Local Policing

Richard Waterhouse

Following the PACT post box in the village shop, the Camera safety partnership have obtained speed data of vehicles through the village.

As a result of this Feckenham has been added to the Camera safety partnerships community concern programme. They will commence enforcement at some point in the not too distant future. With regards to the potholes in the area, I note that Highways have identified holes that need to be repaired.

We have had a spate of crime in the area including thefts from vehicles and farm buildings. I would ask that residents be extra vigilant and report any suspicious vehicles/persons in the area and not to leave property in vehicles. A reminder that Redditch residents can obtain smart water kits, (a property marking system) from Redditch Town Hall for £15.

The new Police number for non emergency calls is 101. Alternatively information can be passed anonymously to crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Regards, Richard

# Sponsors Wanted

## Charity Skydive

Colin Hunt is taking part in a sponsored Skydive in aid of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. His daughter Adele, who has Type 1 Diabetes, is also taking part. They will be making their tandem jumps from 15000 feet over Lincolnshire on Saturday 13th April 2013. They would welcome sponsorship which can be done online at

[www.justgiving.co.uk/jdrfskydive](http://www.justgiving.co.uk/jdrfskydive), by visiting "The Rose & Crown" and signing the sponsorship form on their noticeboard or calling at "Emanjays", School Lane.

# Village Shop

Jeff Matthews

With the sun, finally starting to warm things, we are planning a **coffee morning on 3rd May** to raise funds for various village activities – not least “Wake Radio” which will make an appearance at this year’s event in June. The other part of the proceeds will go to the Tanzanian fund that is being supported by several people in the village who are planning to climb Kilimanjaro in late August. More of that elsewhere, in due course.

There will be a raffle, some stalls and most importantly, a chance to catch up with friends and neighbours, as we come out of hibernation.

## Cath Daly

It is with great sadness that we report the sudden death of stalwart shop volunteer Cath Daly. Cath had joined the team relatively recently, but had embraced the role of team leader with great enthusiasm and had been prepared to stand in on all sorts of days at all sorts of times. Her loss comes as a great shock to the team. She will be greatly missed. Thoughts go to John and her family, at this sad time.

## Small Ads.

**WANTED** - 2 bedroom cottage, for cash buyer. Please ring 07714209463.

**LOST** in the vicinity of The Rose and Crown - my favourite striped scarf. It's of great sentimental value. If you have it please call Annabelle on 07801042013. I'd be happy to reward the finder.

# Local Matters

Antonia Pulsford

## SAVE OUR FLOWERS!

Last November several children from the First School, helped by officers from the Borough Council, worked very hard planting bulbs in the grassed areas at the junction of Swansbrook Lane and Astwood Lane. In spite of the weather and the poor condition of the soil a lot of these bulbs have produced growth and the crocuses are looking very pretty.

**BUT** the overall effect has been considerably damaged because somebody, or some people, have driven a vehicle/s on to the planted area and another person has ridden a horse over it. The daffodils especially have suffered.

There is a wide tarmac approach to the field and a wide tarmac footpath along the site, which surely could be used by a rider in case of emergency, while cars and other wheeled vehicles should keep to the road.

PLEASE do not destroy the work of the children of the village and **KEEP OFF THE PLANTED AREA!**

## What's On this month in STOCK & BRADLEY

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| <b>3rd</b>  | <b>BREAKAWAY</b><br>Easier Gardening - Mike Dунnent<br>10.30am                                    |
| <b>3rd</b>  | <b>Gardening Club</b><br>Annual Bulb Show<br>Bradley Village Hall - 7.30pm                        |
| <b>10th</b> | <b>Drop In</b><br>Drop in for a Coffee and a Chat<br>10 am - 12noon<br>The Bird in Hand           |
| <b>14th</b> | <b>Car Boot</b><br>The Bird in Hand   |
| <b>24th</b> | <b>Drop In</b><br>Drop in for a Coffee and a Chat<br>10 am - 12noon<br>Bradley Green Village Hall |

For more information see  
**STOCK & BRADLEY CHRONICLE**

# Thought for the month

Wyn Beynon

Dear Friends,

Easter! Curiously, the great Christian celebration has, in English, the name of a pagan goddess! As a little boy in Wales I called it "Pasc", because the Welsh had adopted the Latin name.

I embarrassed myself at Christmas by writing that the name "Jesus" had the same roots as Joshua (which indeed it does) and Joseph - which an eagle eyed correspondent spotted as not true. I knew I should checked before going to press! Thank you to them. So I'm not going to get involved in the roots of Easter or the roots of the Latin term "Pascal".

Fortunately for me this is one story that doesn't hang on the name:

Resurrection! I have no idea what physics or biology we're talking about here, and for once I don't care. To get into that discussion might be interesting, but, I would suggest, it is quite pointless. We just can't know.

What I do know that, despite our human habit of slipping in to cynicism, pessimism and negativity, in fact the universe is otherwise. It is full of new possibilities, new ideas, new life, just waiting to burst out of the darkest spaces. Jesus lived the life of resurrection from the day he was born.

He showed that every moment, whatever was happening, was full of new possibilities. Wineless wedding receptions became the best party ever (water in to wine), illnesses became the basis for a healthy life (lots of healing), the workplace provided insights for the meaning of life (carpentry, fishing and farming), law breaking became opportunities for forgiveness and fresh starts (the woman caught having an affair) and so death itself turned out to be no match for someone who was bursting with real life. The Christian hope isn't just for the afterlife. Like the Christian Aid advertising slogan said, "We believe in life BEFORE death"!

Finding new life, forgiveness and resurrection in THIS life, now. That's my experience and it's what keeps me a Christian.

We are Christmas people, because we discover God is with us in the everyday. We are Kingdom people because we discover he reigns in ordinary places. We can discover new life is possible in the darkest places. As Augustine, a Christian writer in the 4<sup>th</sup> Century, said, "We are an Easter people, and Alleluia is our song!"

I pray it is the everyone's experience to find new life, resurrection, beyond the negative things that happen to us all. Happy Easter!

## Celebrating Our Gifts:

At  
St John the Baptist  
Feckenham

April 14<sup>th</sup>  
11am



Recognising the talents  
we receive from God



The first in a series of three services

**Please stay after for refreshments.**

## HAVE YOU RECENTLY CHANGED YOUR MOBILE PHONE?

Is there an old one lurking in the bottom of the drawer? Would you donate them to us? I know a man who will be able to make them suitable for use in Tanzania. In many rural areas there is not an alternative to mobile phones for communication. He is also willing to take laptops that you have no further use for. Please contact Ann Matthews 892180. THANK YOU.

## From the Church Warden

### ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

7.30pm in Church on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April.

Nominations are sought for the position of Churchwarden.

The PCC are also looking for people willing to join them in the running of the church. The only qualification needed is to be a member of the church's electoral roll. Nomination forms can be found at the back of the church.

The meeting will be followed by cheese and wine and an opportunity for a chat with our vicar Wyn Beynon.

We look forward to welcoming you.

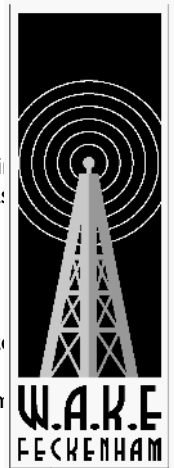
### Curate

**S**adly our curate Sally Morris has come to the end of her time with us and will be licensed by the Bishop of Gloucester to a church in Chipping Camden. Sally has recently taken up a post as Deputy Head of a school in Chipping Camden and with the retirement of John Green this was seen as the best way forward for Sally in her ministry. The licensing will take place on 28<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30pm. Sally's final service with Bowbrook Group will be Evensong at Himbleton on 12<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm. If you would like to go to either service or would like to contribute to a gift for Sally then please contact Ann Matthews on 892180.

## W.A.K.E FM

### COUNTING DOWN TO TRANSMISSION

**M**any thanks to those of you who have already been in touch. If you'd like to be involved in getting Feckenham's very own FM radiostation get back on the air please make contact as soon as possible - e-mail us, phone us or pop a note through our letterbox. If you'd like to present on air, produce programmes, research, operate equipment... or just make the tea... we want to hear from you. Similarly if you've ideas - full programmes or



news items or just an interesting subject we can chat about - please get in touch. WAKE FM will be on air for four days. It's your station - for Feckenham, about Feckenham, by Feckenham - so please get involved! There'll be a meeting soon to discuss practicalities and programme ideas - watch this space.

**Call us on 01527 278448,**

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# Feckenham 40

## Help Wanted for a 40 Mile Charity Walk on April 27th

The fourth annual Feckenham 40 is set to be bigger than ever this year, with more than 30 walkers taking part. We will be leaving the Rose & Crown pub at 7am on Saturday 27th April, and will follow the 40 mile route through 20 villages including Hanbury, Stoke Prior and Inkberrow.

We are still looking for volunteers to join us on the walk and tackle as much as they can. We will be taking a short break at the 30 mile mark at Inkberrow Village Green at approximately 2.30pm.

People wishing to walk the final 10 miles can join us at this point, and younger walkers can meet us at the top of Dagtail Lane for the final 5 miles. We should reach this point at approximately 3.30pm.

We would also love for people to welcome us home at 4.30/5pm, back at the Rose & Crown.

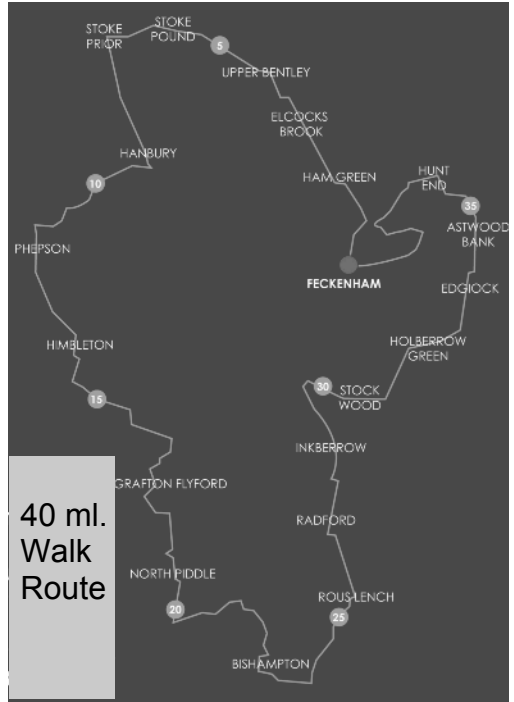
As well as fellow walkers, we are also looking for volunteers to man feeding stations and drive support vehicles on the day.

If you can help or would like to join the walk, you can call Jason Manning on 821 045 or email Clare Evans at [clare@superdream.co.uk](mailto:clare@superdream.co.uk).

This year, the walkers are looking to raise more money than ever for Primrose Hospice and Macmillan Cancer Support. You can sponsor the walkers, and help them raise £10,000 for these charities by visiting their JustGiving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/teams/Feckenham40>  
/

We would like to thank everyone in Feckenham who has already signed up for the walk, and would love to see more of you joining in. Please contact Jason or Clare for more information or if you would like to join us.



# BBC

## RESTORATION OPPORTUNITY

Is there a special item you would like to have restored for a relative, friend or loved one? It could be a childhood toy, favourite ornament or even a vintage bike which, with a little work, can be restored to its original glory. TV company Boundless Productions is looking for people who have an object of great personal importance they'd like to restore as part of a prospective new series for the BBC. We have some of the country's best restorers on hand who could bring your beloved items back to life. If you're interested please get in touch:  
e-mail: [therestorers@boundlessproductions.tv](mailto:therestorers@boundlessproductions.tv)  
or call 0207 861 8081.



# WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

## Feckenham Readers Group

Tuesday, 9th April - 7.45

This month's book:

The Hundred-year-old Man who Climbed Out of a Window and Disappeared!

by Jonas Jonasson

Details from Marion Chate - 892285



Feckenham Forest History Society

## BRUNEL

A Victorian Genius.

An illustrated talk by

RAY STURDY

Tuesday, 9th April - 7.30pm

Feckenham Village Hall

[www.feckenham-forest-history-society.org.uk](http://www.feckenham-forest-history-society.org.uk)

## the **WI** FECKENHAM WI

INSPIRING WOMEN At FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

WEDNESDAY, 10th MARCH - 7.30pm

### UNUSUAL VEGETABLES

Jo Shadbolt shows how to cook them.

Non-members welcome - £3.50

Springtime in Feckenham

## FLOWER SHOW

Saturday, 6th April - 2.30pm

Display of Spring Flowers

Stalls - Tombola - Raffle - Cream Teas

“Bonkers but BRILLIANT!”



## in concert

## Feckenham Village Hall

Saturday, 13th April - 7.30pm

Tickets £8.50 From The Village Shop

and The Rose & Crown. Phone 0844 8700 887

Book Online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham)

## FECKENHAM CRICKET CLUB FUNDRAISING EVENT WITH LIVE BAND

### DENIM

SATURDAY, 20th APRIL AT 7.30PM

AT FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

LICENSED BAR - HAMBURGERS & HOTDOGS

TICKETS £10 - INCLUDES FIRST BURGER/HOTDOG

ADMISSION BY PRE-BOOKED TICKET ONLY

TO BUY TICKETS CALL 07944 436450



## Stock & Bradley GARDENING CLUB

### ANNUAL BULB SHOW

Wednesday, 3rd April - 7.30pm

Bradley Green Village Hall

Call 821156 for details

# WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

## FeckenOdeon 2

The Cinema in the Back Room

**Roger Lloyd-Pack - John Hurt**  
**Keith Barron - Niamh Cussack - Terry Molloy**

*Is it the end of the road for the end of the pier show?  
Not if our Norman has anything to do with it!*



## IN LOVE WITH ALMA COGAN

Friday, 19th April at 8pm

Tickets £4.50 (FeckenOdeon Members £3.50)

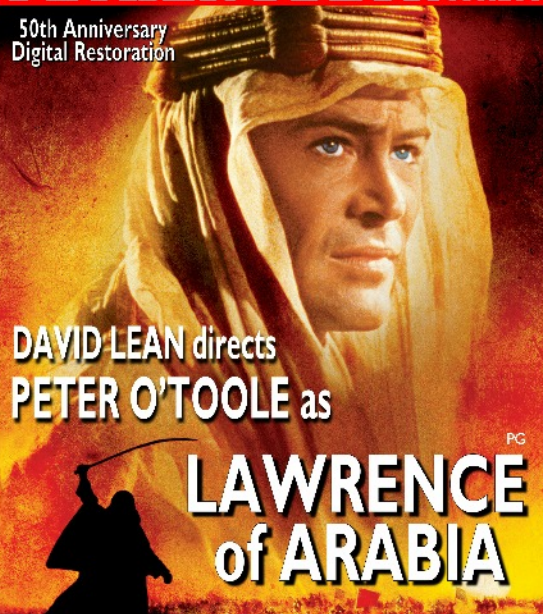
from The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown, Feckenham  
or book by phone on 0844 8700 887 or online\* at  
[www.fecknodeon.co.uk](http://www.fecknodeon.co.uk)

\*Booking fee applies to phone and online bookings - avoid the fee - book in person!

FeckenOdeon 2 at Feckenham Village Hall

## THE FECKENODEON CINEMA SOCIETY

50th Anniversary  
Digital Restoration



DAVID LEAN directs  
PETER O'TOOLE as

## LAWRENCE of ARABIA

Saturday, 27th April - 7pm

at The FeckenOdeon Cinema in Feckenham Village Hall

Tickets: £4.50 from The Rose & Crown and Village Shop, Feckenham

Telephone 0844 8700 887\* or BOOK ONLINE\* at

[www.fecknodeon.co.uk](http://www.fecknodeon.co.uk)

\*BOOKING FEE APPLIES TO TELEPHONE AND ONLINE BOOKINGS - AVOID THE FEE - BUY IN PERSON



# The FeckenOdeon Cinema Society

## CRABBY IN CROMER

Nobody likes to feel that they're past it - as we get older we tend to resent new blood telling us how to do the job we've done for 40 years. This is certainly the case when it comes to Norman.



Norman has been running the pier theatre in Cromer since George Formby was in short trousers and he doesn't take it kindly when the council brings in a 50 year old youngster to help him. Things get worse when the newcomer books a tribute act who looks and sings just like Alma Cogan.... and Norman is still **"In Love with Alma Cogan"** This delight of a comedy won't be showing anywhere else in the district. It hasn't been shown on the big cinema circuits even though it stars Roger Lloyd Pack, John Hurt, Keith Barron and Niamh Cussack and even though it was funded by the UK Film Council and the National Lottery using public money. It's the sort of film the British excel at - gentle, funny and very well acted. You can catch the West Midlands premier of **"In Love with Alma Cogan"** on **Friday, 19th April in FeckenOdeon 2.**

...and for the youngsters among us: Alma Cogan was a sensational singing star of the 1950s. She was known as "The Girl With the Giggle In Her Voice" and was the highest paid British female entertainer of her era.

## MR LAWRENCE GETS THE HUMP

Some films are BIG - and they don't get any bigger than David Lean's **"Lawrence of Arabia"**. This sweeping account of the war in the desert hasn't been seen on the big screen for 35 years. Now the original 70mm negative has been unearthed and painstakingly restored in time for the film's 50th birthday. On **Saturday, 27th April** there's a chance to see it in its full glory. It's the film that launched the career of Peter O'Toole, the film that made big



star of Omar Sharif. It's unbeatable for spectacle, visually unsurpassed - and yet it gives a sensitive and subtle insight into the motivation of one of Britain's most unlikely war heroes. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to see one of the greatest British classics exactly as its director intended it to be seen - in its original giant screen format, with its original multi-track sound. It would be a crime to miss it!

*Please note early start - 7pm*

Tickets for these shows are on sale at The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown. Book by phone on 0844 8700 887 or online at...

[www.fecknodeon.co.uk](http://www.fecknodeon.co.uk)



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# Village Hall

Ian Bellion



## BRILLIANTLY BONKERS

Live music at the Village Hall this month comes with an international flavour. **MuHa** (pronounced as if you're air kissing Edina from Ab Fab) are a lively, ebullient 5 piece acoustic band from Birmingham... well, that's where they live but their roots are in Bohemia. MuHa describe their music as "New Roots from Eastern Europe". This is a phrase that may turn a lot of people off, but don't fear, as this isn't some kind of tie-dyed folksy troupe. MuHa mix the history and sounds of Eastern European folk music with Indian and Western European influences to create a sound as refreshing as a dip in the Volga. The sound has been described as being much like Pentangle on a diet of Russian phrase books... there are heady flamenco rhythms, jazz influenced riffs and passionate Ukranian vocals... In other words, it's impossible to describe - except to say that it's highly enjoyable. One commentator wrote "It's so bonkers yet so beautifully brilliant you simply cannot fault them".

MuHa will play, courtesy of Shindig, on **Saturday, 13th April at 7.30pm**. There will be a licensed bar (supplies of Slivovitch are not yet confirmed!)



*Tickets (£8.50) on sale now at The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown. Telephone bookings 0844 8700 887 and you can book online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham)*

## ABSURDITY IN MAY

Enjoy live comedy—but fed-up with stand-up? Enjoy stagey humour—but sick of cocky, middle-class egotists holding a microphone? Over 40 but not yet senile? If so, then this satirical sketch show could be right up your street. "**From Here to Absurdity**" comes direct from the Edinburgh Fringe to the village hall on **Saturday, 11th May** at 7.30pm. More details next month. Tickets £8.50 are already on sale.



## SNOW FUN

Photographer Maxime Melson caught these Feckenham children enjoying the most recent snowfall - it's an ill wind!

# Feckenham Flower Show & Over 60's Party Fund Spring Flower Show

Rob Cole



## SATURDAY 6th APRIL 2013

The 'Springtime in Feckenham' Flower Show will be held on Saturday 6th April in the Village Hall. Teas will be served throughout the afternoon with home-made cakes and fresh baked scones.

There will be competitive entries for the best **spring blooms** (see below for a schedule of classes), and a **Children's Springtime Bonnet Parade**, with prizes. Other attractions include the usual stalls selling bric-a-brac, cakes, and plants, as well as the ever popular tombola and raffle. Please join us to welcome the coming of Spring - the Show opens at 2.30pm.

### SPRINGTIME IN FECKENHAM - COMPETITIVE CLASSES

The Hall will be open from 10.30am until noon for you to stage your exhibits

#### Adult Classes

- 1 5 cut Daffodils - long trumpet (all same variety)
- 2 5 cut Daffodils - short trumpet (all same variety)
- 3 5 cut Daffodils - double (all same variety)
- 4 3 cut miniature spring flowers (all same variety)
- 5 3 cut Tulips (all same variety)
- 6 5 cut flowers (all same variety)
- 7 A Spring arrangement in any container
- 8 A bowl of Spring bulbs
- 9 A pot plant in flower
- 10 A pot plant for foliage effect (no flower)

#### Children's Classes

- 1 A Spring Posy
- 2 Make a flower (out of any material of your choice)
- 3 Illustrate 'Springtime' in any way you choose

There are separate prizes for pre-school children and children under 9 years old

Exhibits in classes 6, 7, 8, and 9 will be returned to you. All other flowers will be auctioned at the end of the Show after prizes have been awarded.

The Flower Show Committee will run a bric-a-brac stall and a cake stall and would be very grateful for donations of good quality bric-a-brac items, please, and cakes of any sort.

Any items can be left in the car port at 'The Paddocks', High Street, Feckenham, at any time, or at the Village Hall on the day from 10.00am until 12 noon. (or call Rob Cole, 01527 821156)

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## Community oil buying project We're OIL in this together!

As you may know, as a charity committed to stronger local communities, we at Community First for Herefordshire and Worcestershire have launched a bulk oil buying scheme across the two counties.

We are well on our way to saving our first £1000 for customers.

Under the scheme we collate our heating oil orders around the 28<sup>th</sup> of each month and shop around for the best prices. By ordering large quantities we are able to attract good deals – do our bit for fighting fuel poverty and, by developing efficient clusters of delivery sites, help cut the number of road miles used for the delivery of oil.

The scheme, launched in November 2012, is open to anyone in Herefordshire or Worcestershire and the charity charge a £20 annual administration fee.

Since launching in November its been great to be contacted by members of our oil buying group to be told of the savings they are making. The biggest savings are for people who order 500 litres but it is not unusual for people to tell us they have saved 5p a litre or more. Our prices since November have been 58.4p 59.5 and 61.4p a litre plus VAT at 5% on a 5 day delivery basis.

Many people don't have the time to shop around and don't like ordering large amounts of

oil in one go – our scheme allows everyone in the scheme to know they will secure a competitive price for the oil they need by one simple e mail or telephone call.

We should hit our £1000 saving in April based on our litres delivered matched against the best and the worst prices quotes on the day. Now we want to work towards even bigger savings by increasing our numbers and our bargaining power. That's where local contacts, existing scheme members, Parish Councils, local shops and village halls can play their part – by spreading the word.

**Information about the community oil buying scheme can be found at**

[www.comfirst.org](http://www.comfirst.org),

**by calling 01432 262960**

**or contacting Richard on 01684 312734 or**

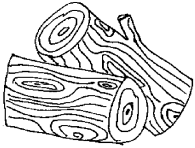
**e mail [richardt@comfirst.org.uk](mailto:richardt@comfirst.org.uk)**

## Review

Antonia Pulsford

### Kings of Cloth of Gold

Once again Shindig has brought us a splendid evening's entertainment. This two-hander, or possibly two and a half hander as a third person did put in an appearance to move some jousting practice scenery, was spoof history based on the abortive meeting of Henry VIII and Francis I of France when they spent about a fortnight trying to upstage each other and show off. Dominic Goodwin and Emanuel Brierley were the two kings but they also played each other's very put-upon right hand men. In fact the scenes between a king and his henchman were some of the funniest, but there was also some splendid fighting practice and then wrestling between Henry and Francis. They played to a virtually full house which they said was a very pleasant change for them, particularly so as it was the last performance of their tour. I do hope they are able to come back again soon with a new production.



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## Feckenham W.I.

Gay Bligh



### Wednesday 10th April at 7.30pm –

Jo Shadbolt, **Unusual Vegetables and How to Cook Them.**

**N.B.** This month there was a clash with our Group Meeting. We have been able to move our meeting to the previous night so that some of our members can attend the Group meeting at Inkberrow on Thursday.

All meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the back room of Feckenham village hall. There is an annual subscription (currently £33.00) but visitors are welcomed to join us for any meeting at a cost of £3.50 per visit. If you require further information please contact Linda Harris on 01527 892850 or Gay Bligh on 01527 893321. Or visit us on the village website [www.feckenham.com](http://www.feckenham.com)

## Village Hall

Improvement Fund 2012/13



### March Winners

130	Peter & Phil Horsley	£25
20	John & Dulci Morris	£15
64	Ali Smith	£10

*The April Draw will be held in the Village Hall at 8.00 pm on Tuesday 2nd April 2013*

## Cookhill & District Gardening Association

hold monthly meetings at Cookhill village hall at 7.30 for all those interested in garden and nature related topics. On **April 17th** we are having a talk on **cottage garden perennials** with plants to buy, then on May 15th a hands on hanging basket evening! We have several trips a year, subsidised for members.

Membership £10 p/a For more information call 07850980063

## Stock & Bradley Gardening Club

Rob Cole

**The April meeting is on Wednesday 3rd 7.30pm** - It will be our Annual Bulb Show.

Members bring along three blooms each of as many daffodil varieties as they can muster, and everyone judges each entry to decide the winner in each class. Lots of help is available for anyone not sure of which Class to enter, and a list of Classes will be available at the March meeting as well as on the Show evening.

There will also be a Competition for the best photograph depicting 'A Tree', so get snapping !

*All club meetings are 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 £10.00. Visitors are made very welcome and may attend for £3.00 per meeting. If you require any further information, ring Rob Cole on 01527 821156.*

## Rous Lench & Inkberrow Royal British Legion inc. Feckenham Roger Hunt

The branch meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 8pm at The Wheelbarrow & Castle, Radford. This is an open meeting, all interested persons are welcome. The chat is good and the bar is open.

14th May - visit to **National Memorial Arboretum** at Alrewas. For tickets contact Roger Hunt 01527 853116.

7th June **Cheese & Wine** 6pm-dusk. The Old Smithy, Worcester Road, Grafton Flyford.

**ARCHIVE** - the Branch produces a quarterly News Sheet, and there is an ongoing archive. This can be viewed on open days. Items of interest, both old and new can be sent to Major Davidson, Branch Chairman, 01386 792772.

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