

FECKENHAM

APRIL 2016

News



Published by Feckenham Church for the Village
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APRIL Diary



Sat 2nd	7.30pm	FeckenOdeon	Village Hall
Tues 5th	12.30am	Lunch Club	Village Hall Back Room
Wed 6th	7.30pm	Stock & Bradley Gardening Club	Bradley Village Hall
Sat 9th	2:30pm	Spring Flower Show	Village Hall
Tues 12th	7.30pm	Feckenham Forest History Society	Feckenham Village Hall
Thur 14th	7.30pm	Feckenham WI	Village Hall Back Room
Fri 15th	8pm	FeckenOdeon-2	Village Hall Back Room
Tues	7.30pm	Feckenham Forest History Society	Village Hall
Thur 21st	7:30pm	Parish Council	Village Hall Back Room
Thur 21st	19:30pm	Annual Parochial Church Meetings	Parish Church
Sat 30th	7.30pm	FeckenOdeon	Village Hall

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Many articles in Feckenham News are contributed by members of the public. They remain the responsibility of the writers and neither the production team nor the publishers can be held responsible for the views and assertions contained therein.

Front Cover

Feckenham circa 9am
on 9th March.

Photo sent by Phil Guise
of Mill Lane.



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

•• **Email:** info@feckenhamchurch.org.uk

Parish Office: Telephone: 01905 778181 Email: bowbrookgroup1@gmail.com

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

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

Readers & Intercessors



Sunday 3rd April

Easter 2

11.00am Sung Eucharist

Acts 5: 27-32

Rev 1: 4-8

Intercessions

Oliver White

Alison Crellin

Sue Barrett

Sunday 10th April

Easter 3

8.00am Holy Communion

1 Peter 2:19-25

John Eaton

11.00am All Age Worship - "Amazing Grace"

Sunday 17th April

Easter 4

6.30 pm Evensong

Acts 9:36-end

Rev 7: 9-end

Intercessions

John Calvert

Ann Matthews

Jeff Matthews

Sunday 24th April

Easter 5

11.00am Family Communion

Rev 21: 1-6

Intercessions

Angela Fletcher

Walter Richards

"Mixed Bag"

Will be held in Church on Sunday 3rd April - a group for young people and activities for younger children. All children will be warmly welcomed.

Feckenham Roman Catholic Church

St John Fisher & St. Thomas More



Mass is celebrated every Sunday at 10.15am in the Church

Fr. Anthony Rohan, The Presbytery, Redditch. Tel. 01527 63096

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

From the P.C.C.

Eric Styler: a lifetime of service

On 25th February, Feckenham turned out in force to attend the funeral service of Eric Styler and to celebrate his life. At such a time of reflection, the Parochial Church Council (PCC), on behalf of the congregation of St John the Baptist Church, would like to acknowledge and give thanks for Eric's sustained contribution to our church over his lifetime.

Eric's involvement with Feckenham Church started very early in his life, as he joined the choir as a treble aged seven, progressing to become Head Chorister in the Junior Choir. This set the pattern for later years – Eric was a 'do-er'; someone who recognised when there was a job to be done and then willingly gave his time, energy and skills to see it through to completion.

He was a member of the PCC, not for years, but for decades. In the early 1960's, after many years of the church bells hanging in silence, Eric involved himself in the challenge of re-establishing bell-ringing in Feckenham. Before this could happen, damaged bells would need to be repaired and to this end fund-raising was implemented. The result of his dedication to this task is the joyful sound that we are all so familiar with today. As Tower Captain, Eric initiated many into the ancient art of campanology, including his daughters, Angela and Karen, and his grand-daughter Katie. If a working party was required, then Eric was there, whatever the task; from lime-washing the interior of the church, to overseeing churchyard bonfires. He was also a co-founder of the "100 Club", the aim of which was to raise money for the Church fabric.

From 1986, Eric opened and closed the church daily and took responsibility for winding the church clock. This required him to climb the steep tower stairs every few days, a task which only stopped a few years ago when the

automatic winding mechanism was fitted. He also contributed to the needlework for producing the millennium kneelers in the church and it seems very fitting that one of the kneelers (not made by him) celebrates his 40 years of bell-ringing in 2000. Eric also helped raise the flag on the tower flagstaff and, when required, went down into the cellar to check the boiler; he knew our church from top to bottom – literally.

A lifetime of service to our parish, for which we give heartfelt thanks.

Mark Wheatley.

(Lay Chair of Feckenham PCC)

Annual Church Meetings

The **Annual Parochial Church Meetings** will be held in the Church on **Thursday 21st April 2016 at 7.30 pm.**

At the **Vestry Meeting** the churchwardens will be elected. Anyone on the church electoral roll or anyone resident in the ecclesiastical parish and who is on the register of local government electors is entitled to vote.

There will follow the **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** which will elect representatives to the Deanery Synod and the Parochial Church Council and appoint an Independent Examiner of the Church Accounts. Anyone on the church electoral roll is entitled to vote.

The meeting will consider reports on:-
Changes to the electoral roll.

Proceedings of the Parochial Church Council.

Financial Statements for the preceding year.

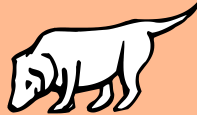
Proceedings of the Deanery Synod

Activities of Church Groups.

The formal notices of these meetings will be displayed on the church door from the 12th April.

Ian Hunter PCC Secretary

Newshound



New Babies

Charlotte and Paul Maxwell of High Street Feckenham are delighted to announce the arrival of their son, Henry Maxwell, on February 19th. He is a little brother for Ava May and a grandson and great grandson for the Davy's who live in Moors Lane. Many congratulations!

Steve and Chris Fletcher now have a third granddaughter, Heidi Elizabeth Frances, born to Tom and Claire Fletcher on March 12th in Ormskirk. She will be a much loved sister to Lucy and Madeleine who were both adamant that the new baby would be a girl!

And, stop press, but born before the others:

Zoe and Richard Burgess welcomed baby Emily, who arrived on Monday 30th November 2015, weighing 10lbs 14oz. Her brothers Ben and Henry absolutely dote on their new sister.

Moors Lane ALLOTMENTS

GROWING OPPORTUNITY

If you fancy healthy fresh veg, home grown crispy salads and fruit bursting with Feckenham flavour - here's your chance! You can grow all the high quality ingredients needed for smoothies, NutriBullets and Spiralizers yourself! There are plots of various sizes and suitable for various abilities available at the Moors Lane Allotments. Glorious gardens with a view of the Malvern Hills - at very reasonable rentals and the first year is FREE. Contact Pauline Jennings on 01527 892956 or e-mail: pauline.h.jennings@bopenworld.com for full details.

Feckenham Bell Ringers

Ron Russ

On Saturday 5th March some special ringing took place in memory of **Eric Styler** who was captain of the tower for over 40 years. We rang a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples, 1,260 changes in 48 minutes. This was Eric's favourite method of producing changes, and it was particularly fitting that both his daughter Angela and his grand-daughter Katie took part.

The ringers were Katie David treble, Jane Haslam 2, Angela Fletcher 3, Sheila Lawes 4, Ron Russ 5, David Jones 6, Tim Haslam 7, and Robin Dale Tenor. Conducted by Tim Haslam, it was rung 'open' that is without any muffles being used, in celebration of Eric's long life of 92 years, and to mark his many years of devoted service to Feckenham Church, its tower, clock and bells. A shining example to us all, may he rest in peace.

Amazing Grace!

Grace - what is it ?

At

St John The Baptist Church

Feckenham

Sunday 10th April

11am

please stay after for refreshments

World War I Centenary Commemoration



Arthur Watton

The life of Arthur Watton, who was killed on 5th April 1916, will be commemorated in the Family Service at the Parish Church of St John The Baptist on Sunday 10th April 2016.

Arthur was born towards the end of 1885, the son of Enos Watton and Lucy (nee Webb) Watton of Holberrow Green, Inkberrow, who were married in late 1880. Enos was a Waggoner, and Lucy was working in the needle trade making packing envelopes. They had 11 children, all of whom lived at Inkberrow, where there were quite a lot of other family members. By 1901 Arthur was an Agricultural Labourer, but the family home was not large enough so he was living next door to his parents at his grandfather William Watton's house, where his uncle William also lived.

It is thought that by 1911 Arthur had moved to Hampshire, and possibly then to Earlswood. He enlisted in the 9th Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment at Stratford, possibly shortly after his older brother Harold had died in France on 13th March 1915.

Arthur was deployed with the 9th Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment from Port Said to the Persian Gulf at the end of February 1916, disembarking at Basra ready for their northward advance up the Tigris River, where he was killed in fierce fighting near Falahiyeh on 5th April 1916, aged 30. Arthur's body was never found, and he is remembered on the Basra Memorial to the missing in Iraq. He is also remembered on the War Memorials in Feckenham, Holberrow Green and Inkberrow.

Arthur's father died in early 1915, so this period was especially traumatic for his mother Lucy, having lost her husband and two sons within a year. This illustrates how difficult life could be for those left behind in the Feckenham area.

Village Shop

Jeff Matthews

This month's featured new products are Doisy & Dam organic chocolate bars, which have apparently been "Great Taste" award winners. I'm not sure what you have to do to win that, and who awards it, so it sounds like a good excuse to try them out and see if you agree.

If you are consumed by guilt at eating chocolate then what could be better than the highly worthy and also very tasty Wasabi and Pumpkin healthy snacks. These I have tried and can recommend.

Next up in the new product line is Jacky's Jams and Marmalade. These are made in Redditch and come in a very charming package, making then a great idea for a gift or a special occasion.

New to the deli is a new supplier The Outdoor Pig Company. One assumes their pies and pasties are pork based, and something else to try out.

The shop also has in stock now a wide range of gluten free products.

Aware that very many villagers have pets there is a range now of pet foods and accessories including shampoo bars for dogs and cats.

Cafe offers this month hot drink and Easter teacake or hot X bun – yours for £2.20 plus delicious homemade in the village cakes. Also you can take advantage of free and secure wifi in the coffee shop. So catch up with your e-mails with decent cup of coffee and a teacake. See you there.

Village Hall

Improvement Fund 2015/16



March Winners

8	Ed & Vicky Nicod	£25
78	Chris & Marie West	£15
110	Mark & Lisa Hackett	£10

The April Draw will be held in the Village Hall at 8.00 pm on Tuesday 5th April 2016

Thought for the month

Rev. Gary Crellin

Café stops can be common in my day job as a Healthcare Consultant. Recently, at a hospital café in Wakefield, the cashier asked me a question. Maybe I am getting old and my hearing is not quite what it was, but I am sure she took a good look at me and then asked "Are you ok, dear?". I'd never met an NHS Yorkshire Café cashier who spoke with such care and genuine concern. Why would someone ask me if I was ok, unless I looked ill, past it or about to lose it. Cagily, I managed to answer- "Yes". It got more bizarre because she said: "That'll be a pound then". I owed £1.60. This cashier has just jumped from kindly angel to gracious super-archangel as she was now letting me off 60p. "Thanks" said I.

My brain started to recalibrate - I realised what the cashier had actually asked.....her first question had not been "Are you ok dear?" but "do you work here?" Sadly the great price for my coffee was not an act of great grace on the part of the cashier, but because she thought I got the hospital employee discount.

Do I keep quiet and leave with a 'cheap coffee' seeking pointlessly to enjoy it whilst being wracked with guilt? Or do I 'fess up' and lose the discount. I opted for the honesty route and said "I am sorry - I thought you had asked 'Am I ok dear?'. In response to my confession, the kindly cashier said: "Bless"..... as she touched my arm. "That'll be £1.60 then, love"

Jesus encountered many complete strangers, including those who were sick and in need. One day a leper stopped him in the street and asked Jesus a question: "Lord if you are willing- you can make me whole?" Do you know what the first thing Jesus did? It wasn't to heal the leper, it wasn't even to speak to the leper. No, the first thing that Jesus did was to reach out and touch the leper- and then to say "Of course I am willing - be healed and be free from your suffering".

Just put yourself in the shoes of the leper - how worried are you in case Jesus looked on you

with disgust or turned away or rejected you? Yet the first thing Jesus does to this sad, lonely, leper deprived of human affection is to deliberately reach out and touch him.

I wonder what the lasting memory was for the leper. The fact that he had been healed - or that the fact that for the first time in a very long time - someone, and Jesus at that, had reached out and touched him. The human touch? The God touch?

You and I are not God but we can in very simple ways reach out and kindly help, even simply touch with respect and genuine care, someone who just needs it.....and all this because I needed a coffee.

Saltwave Radio

Things have appeared to go quiet on the subject of Feckenham's local radio station - but, behind the scenes there's been quite a lot of activity. Research has been done into licensing and costs. Efforts have been made to get sponsorship. After a great deal of detailed work the decision has been taken to follow the example of BBC3 and to transmit the station online. The financial difference is quite startling. It would cost around £3,000 to broadcast on FM for a week... against a mere £500 for a full year on the internet.

Before too long it's hoped that you'll be able to listen to Saltwave programmes on demand. Tests are now being carried out and further developments will be reported very soon.

Hand Bells

There is a small group in the village, tutored by Tim Hallam, enjoying the art of hand bell ringing and they are looking for others to join them. Anyone interested in "HAVING A GO" contact Vivien Hunter telephone 01527 402360 email vehunter@blueyonder.co.uk. It's fun and good company.

Square Management Committee

PLANTING FOR THE FUTURE

As this edition goes to press final preparations are being made for the planting of two trees on The Square. You may remember that we reluctantly had to fell two Horse Chestnuts because of the ravages of age and disease. Apart from any aesthetic concerns, The Square is right at the centre of the Feckenham Conservation Area and is the last remaining relic of the ancient Forest of Feckenham. The Square Management Committee is obliged to replant and, on this occasion, thanks to the generosity of two local benefactors, we're able to do the job properly. Replacing the sickly tree near the phone box will be a mature *Tilia Cordata* "Greenspire" (Lime tree). We're aware that some people don't like these because of the sap that lands on cars but they really are the only large and quick growing variety that isn't going to succumb to one of the many nasty tree diseases currently sweeping the country.

The second tree, replacing what was known to many of us as "the stump" which sat right in the middle of the current parking area, will be a mature London Plane tree (*Platanus x hispanica*). This will go right on the corner of the parking area and, though it will take up some space, won't be as awkwardly placed as its predecessor.

The Lime is the gift of Pauline Luget Owen and John Hunt. Pauline's parents lived at Number 12, The Square - hence the dedication which will appear at the tree site: "Donated by John Hunt & Pauline Luget Owen with Happy Memories of Violet & Bruce Owen, 12 The Square & Their Friends & Neighbours: Bill & Mable Lewis, 3 The Square; Phyliss Provey, 1 the Square; May Onions, 10 the Square; Nelly & Alice Roach, 2-4 Mill Lane; Michael Robson, 4 the Square."

The Plane tree is the gift of Louise and Toby Denne of The Old Vicarage. We are immensely grateful to both couples for helping us to maintain the centre of Feckenham as a green and pleasant place.

AUSTRALIAN CHRISTMAS FUN

Just space for a reminder that Christmas will come to Feckenham TWICE this year. July 23rd is the date for Santa's first ever summer time visit!

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Special this month...

First of the Queen's Birthdays - 21st April
BEST OF BRITISH WEEK

Bangers & Mash, Fish & Chips, Pies & more!
21st April - **CHINESE THEMED MENU**

6- 9PM - £12 FOR 2 COURSES

MAY BANK HOL WEEKEND - BURGER BLOWOUT! Build your own burger!

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WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM



First Tuesday of every month from 8pm
NEXT SESSION: Tuesday, 5th April



Stock & Bradley GARDENING CLUB

**ANNUAL BULB SHOW
& Photo Competition**
Bradley Village Hall
Wednesday, 6th April - 7.30pm

Feckenham Forest History Society

ALFRED THE GREAT

with Max Keen
Tuesday, 12th April - 7.30pm
Feckenham Village Hall
www.feckenham-forest-history-society.org.uk

the **WI** FECKENHAM WI
INSPIRING WOMEN At FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

THURSDAY, 14th APRIL - 7.30pm
FOWLER'S CHEESE
including tasting of 14 cheeses
Visitors Welcome - £3.50

Feckenham Readers Group



Wednesday, 6th April - 7.45

This month's book: NORA WEBSTER
by Colm Tóibín
Details from Marion Chate - 892285



Feckenham Cricket Club

NEW SEASON Starts in April

Home matches:

Sat, 9th April	Studley (1st team)
Sat 16th April	Hagley (2nd team)
Sat, 23rd April	Burghill, Tillington & Weobley (2nd Team)
Sat, 30th April	Chaddesley Corbett (1st Team)

Springtime in Feckenham

FLOWER SHOW

Saturday, 9th April - 2.30pm

Display of Spring Flowers

Stalls - Tombola - Raffle - Cream Teas

Send details of events for FREE listing to: whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk or call 892130

WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

THE **FECKENODEON** CINEMA SOCIETY

JACK LEMMON
VIRNA LISI
TERRY THOMAS



HOW TO MURDER YOUR WIFE

ONE OF THE MOST BRUTAL, FIENDISH, SADISTIC, BLOOD CURDLING COMEDIES OF OUR TIME

Saturday, 2nd April - 7.30pm

at The FeckenOdeon Cinema in Feckenham Village Hall

Tickets: £5 From The Rose & Crown and Village Shop, Feckenham

Telephone 0333 666 3366* or BOOK ONLINE* at

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FeckenOdeon 2
The Cinema in the Back Room

Welcome to the
STICKS



Bienvenue chez les
CH'TIS

THE BIGGEST FRENCH COMEDY HIT OF ALL TIME - HILARIOUS!

Friday, 15th April at 8pm

Tickets £5 (FeckenOdeon Members £3.50)

from The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown, Feckenham
or book by phone on 0333 666 3366 or online* at

www.feckenoodeon.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

MAGGIE SMITH
The **LADY**
in the
VAN

A true story by
ALAN BENNETT



With Alex Jennings, James Corden & Jim Broadbent

Saturday, 30th April - 7.30pm

at The FeckenOdeon Cinema in Feckenham Village Hall

Tickets: £5 From The Rose & Crown and Village Shop, Feckenham

Telephone 0333 666 3366* or BOOK ONLINE* at

www.feckenoodeon.co.uk



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FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

LICENSED TO TRILL!

opera
dudes



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MORECAMBE & WISE

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fun, laughter and
great music of all
styles that will leave
you both shaken and
stirred!

SWING, WEST END, BROADWAY
&
OPERA

Shindies

FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

SUNDAY, 15TH MAY - 7.30PM

TICKETS £10 From The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown.

Phone 0333 666 3366 Book Online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham

*Phone and Online bookings attract a 50p booking fee. Book in person and save money!



Send details of events for FREE listing to: whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk or call 892130

The FeckenOdeon Cinema Society

The date of Easter this year has meant that March's main FeckenOdeon show has been nudged into April - as a result there are now no less than three films showing in April...



MURDEROUS FUN

When Jack Lemmon wakes up after a night on the town he vaguely remembers a young woman popping out of a cake... but he doesn't remember marrying her... but there she is, complete with wedding ring, in his apartment and she's adamant that he's her husband 'til death do them part.... which gives the reluctant bridegroom an idea. Assisted by his ingenious butler (Terry Thomas) he decides that the only solution is terminal. The bride (Virna Lissi) must be murdered... but the best laid plans...

"How to Murder Your Wife" (1964) is good fun and it's immaculately acted - particularly by Terry Thomas who narrates the whole thing and guides us suavely through the plot... but we can't give too much away about that for fear of ending up in the gloppita-gloppita machine...

Showing at the FeckenOdeon on Saturday, April 2nd at 7.30pm



IT'S TOOF OOP NORTH

It's not only Britain that has a North/South divide - In France postal manager Philippe imagines he's being relocated to the Cote d'Azur.. but he's actually being sent to...the North! People in the South of France imagine that the North is cold, dull and inhabited by savages who can't speak French. Some of this seems to be true - the food is strange, the weather is cold and the people (known as ch'tis) speak a brand of French all but incomprehensible to southerners - to get an idea

what that sounds like, try speaking French with a Welsh accent while eating an apple. Philippe is in for some surprises as he learns to appreciate life in "the sticks". "Welcome to The Sticks" holds the record as France's most popular comedy - ever - and it's well deserved. It's heart warming, clever and just downright funny. Schimplply hilariouslyhch!

"Welcome to The Sticks" (Bienvenue Chez le Ch'tis) is showing in FeckenOdeon 2 on Friday, 15th April at 8pm



VANTASTIC

Just because you're 82 and a Dame of the British Empire doesn't mean that you want to relax and relish your status as a national treasure! Maggie Smith positively relishes the chance to bring to the big screen a character that she created on the stage in 1999. Dame Maggie plays Miss Mary Shepherd, a lady who arrives on the Campden doorstep of playwright Alan Bennett. Eccentric, cantankerous and ever so slightly malodorous, Miss Shepherd and her rusty old van take up residence on Mr Bennett's drive... and stay for 15 years. This isn't fiction - it actually happened. The lady proved to be a liability but also an asset - in fact, if Miss Shepherd hadn't actually existed, Mr Bennett might have been expected to invent a character very much like her.

It's a film with a great deal of humour - the lady is as sharp witted as she is vitriolic - but there's a tinge of sadness as we learn of the life she might have led... if things had been different. Maggie Smith gives a totally committed performance with great gusto and Alex Jennings as Alan Bennett is indistinguishable from the original - himself a national treasure... **"The Lady in The Van"** - Saturday, 30th April at 7.30pm

Tickets for FeckenOdeon shows 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.fecknodeon.co.uk

Village Hall

Ian Bellion



LICENSED TO TRILL

Looking ahead a little way... On **Sunday, 15th May** The Opera Dudes take to the Village Hall stage in their hilarious “**Licensed to Trill**”. You’ll be shaken with laughter - and stirred by the music! These chaps have amazing voices and sing some stunning songs but nothing is sacred and no tenor is left unturned in their search for the funny side of the world’s greatest music.

Tickets are on sale at

*The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown,
by phone on 0333 666 3366 (local call rates) and
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Save the Date!

The Queen’s 90th Birthday

There will be a Street Party Picnic (bring your own) for village residents on The Square on Saturday 11th June at 5pm in celebration of her majesty’s birthday. More details to follow in next month’s magazine.

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Parish Council

Future Meeting Dates: 2016: 21 April, 19 May (to include Annual Parish Meeting), 21 July, 15 Sept, 17 Nov and 15 Dec

DEFIBRILLATOR - The training session held 15 March went well with an attendance of 15 parishioners. It is hoped that a further session will be scheduled.

TRAFFIC - Traffic through the village is a source of many complaints and we are now in advanced discussions with the County Council, County Highways and Local Land owners to hopefully bring about some constructive improvements which will improve this situation.

Recently, several parishioners joined the Traffic Working Party with the aim of improving pedestrian safety, resurfacing the B4090 and reducing parking on pavements.

PATHS - Feckenham has a new Parish Paths Warden. Much to our delight Mr Bob Gordon volunteered for the position and completed the training course. Mr Gordon has a massive list of inherited issues with the paths. The Council would request parishioners to be patient and allow Mr Gordon to settle into the role.

The Council has made representations to Worcestershire CC regarding path 672(c). This is the path running along the Forest pub parking lot. The Council is concerned about patrons blocking the path with parked vehicles and requested WCC intervene.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 19th May. Parishioners who would like to submit reports should email the Clerk by 12 May. However, the Council intends to devote the meeting to two issues; broadband and flooding. Mr Tom Curwell, a water management officer, plans to attend the meeting to present a flooding model of Feckenham. It is also hoped that a presentation on broadband will be on offer - confirmation of this is awaited.

CRIME - Mr David Rischmiller, Rural Business Crime Co-ordinator accepted an invitation to attend the 21 April Council meeting. Mr Rischmiller will give a short presentation on rural crime prevention. All are welcome to attend the meeting.

Sean Arble, Clerk to FPC : 01789 490501
clerk.feckenhampc@feckenham.com

Feckenham Spring Flower Show

Saturday 9th April 2016

Margaret East

The 'Springtime in Feckenham' Flower Show will be held on Saturday 9th 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, cakes and plants for sale, and 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-schoolchildren and children under 9 years old

Exhibits in classes 7, 8, 9 and 10 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 cake stall and would be very grateful for donations of cakes of any sort.

Small Ads.



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What's On this month in STOCK & BRADLEY

- 2nd SKITTLES MATCH**
STOCK Green V Bradley Green
Bradley Green Village Hall - 7.30
- 6th Gardening Club**
ANNUAL BULB SHOW - 7.30pm
Bradley Green Village Hall
- 13th Village Hall AGM 6.30pm**
followed at 7.30pm by
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Bradley Green Village Hall

For more information see
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Feckenham C. of E. First School

Sharon Simpson

After a lovely Christmas break the children were keen to get back to school and 'got stuck' in to their learning straight away!

Our school secretary got married over the Christmas period and we now have Mrs. Lynne 'Joynes' keeping us in order!

The School Council decided that our new school value for the term would be 'kindness and understanding others'. They also decided to continue running the 'Healthy Snack Stop' for every class in the school to visit once a week to choose from a range of complimentary fruits and vegetables as an alternative to less healthy sugary snacks.

The Community Club in school joined forces with other local schools to collect food for the Syrian refugees in Calais following on from the success of the Christmas collection for the food bank. (Normal collections for the Redditch food bank resumed from February.)

We are also happy to report that following a lot of hard work by the school governors and Miss O'Donnell our IT Co-coordinator, the school has a brand new updated website- please visit for more news on what goes on in and around school!

On February 5th, Year 3 & 4 competed in the Redditch Hockey semi finals. They represented the school brilliantly and their success means that they will now be competing in the Worcestershire Winter Games final. Our cross country team also had success in the semi finals held at the beginning of February securing our runners with a place in the forthcoming finals. What fantastic sporting achievements!

Congratulations are also the order of the day to Mrs. Malone and her husband who are expecting their first baby in July. We wish you both well with your new addition.

We would also welcome any unwanted Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers which we are busy collecting. Please pass on to anyone in the

village who attends school if you have any!

At the time of writing, Mrs. Howard (former teacher/present governor) will soon be planting daffodil bulbs around the church with the Community Club – a sure sign that spring is in the air!

Best Wishes from all the children, staff & governors of Feckenham CofE First School

Sharon Simpson

(Community Governor)

Feckenham W.I.

Jane White



Our meeting this month is on **Thursday 14th April, at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall Back Room. Our speaker is David Fowler who will be talking on **“The History and production of Fowler's Cheese”**.

Do come and learn about the history of your local cheesemakers and sample their fifteen cheeses. Visitors welcome, £3.50 including refreshments.

As well as monthly meetings members enjoy theatre and cinema visits. And in warmer times of the year, enjoy garden visits. Do come and find out for yourself.

Jane White 893281 (email on front of mag)



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Feckenham Cricket Club

Bob Gordon



The ground was completely underwater following heavy rain during the night of March 9th - a challenge to groundsman Steve Daniels in his efforts to get the pitch up to its customary pristine standard in time for the first match just a month later...

Assuming the waters have abated, the season gets underway on 9th April. All matches start at 1pm unless otherwise stated – April-May fixtures are below, the highlight perhaps being the knock-out match against local rivals Astwood Bank on 15th May – this is the National Village Cricket competition where the final is played at the home of cricket - Lords.

For those liking the shorter game there is a T20 match against Barnt Green on Sun 8th May

Date	Fixture
Sat 9th April	Hagley (2nd team)
Sat 16th April	Hagley (1st team)
Sat 23rd April	Burghill, Tillington & Weobley (2nd team)
Sat 30th April	Chaddesley Corbett (1st team)
Sat 7th May	Oldwinsford & Stour Social (2nd team)
Sun 8th May (3pm)	Barnt Green (T20)
Sat 14th May	Redditch (1st Team)
Sunday 15th May	Astwood Bank (Knock-out Cup)
Sat 21st May	Rushwick (1st team)
Sat 28th May	Alevechurch & Hopwood (1st team)

Stock & Bradley Gardening Club

Rob Cole

Wednesday 6th April 2016 - 7:30pm is the 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 Show. For the flower arrangers, there is a Class for "A Spring Arrangement including at least one bulbous plant", and there is also a Class for the best photograph depicting '**A Beautiful Border**'.

Note that there is no monthly competition at the April meeting, but the scores from the Bulb Show will count towards the totals.

It has become a tradition that we each bring along a few nibbles to share, so please feel free to do so !

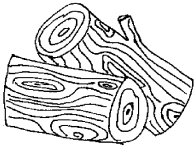
THE FOLLOWING CLUB MEETING - Wednesday 4th May 2016 - 7:30pm

Howard Drury is a regular speaker at our Gardening Club, and this time he will talk about his favourite fragrant and aromatic plants and how to use them in the garden. The monthly Competition theme will be, appropriately, 'A Scented Flower or Leaf'.

ANNUAL PLANT FAIR - Saturday 7th May 2016 - 10.00am to 12.00 noon

at the Village Hall, Church Road, Bradley Green. Plants grown by members will be for sale, and two specialist local nurseries will also be in attendance with an interesting range of plants. The event is an ideal opportunity to buy excellent plants at keen prices and is open to everyone. There will coffee and tea available, and home made cakes. There is no charge for entry, but we do appreciate it if you would buy a raffle ticket at the door.

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 Dinny Pynsent (Secretary) on 01527 821355 or Rob Cole (Chairman) on 01527 821156.



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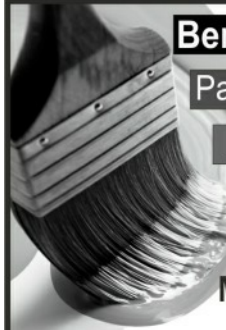
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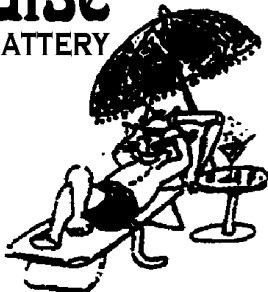


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