

FECKENHAM

APRIL 2015

News



Published by Feckenham Church for the Village
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APRIL Diary



Wed 1st	7.30pm	Stock & Bradley Gardening Club	Bradley Village Hall
Sun 5th		EASTER DAY	
Tues 7th	12.30am	Lunch Club	Village Hall, Back Room
Wed 8th	10.30am - noon	"Drop in" for coffee and a chat	Parish Church
Thur 9th	7.30pm	Feckenham WI	Back Room Village Hall
Sat 11th	2.30pm	Spring Flower Show	Village Hall
Tues 14th	7.30pm	Feckenham Forest History Society	Feckenham Village Hall
Fri 17th	8pm	FeckenOdeon-2	Back Room Village Hall
Sat 18th	7pm for 7.15	"Together in Song"	Parish Church
Wed 22nd	10.30am - noon	"Drop in" for coffee and a chat	Parish Church
Sat 25th	7.30pm	FeckenOdeon	Village Hall
Sun 26th	11.30am	Starting of new Waterwheel	Brookhouse Droitwich Road

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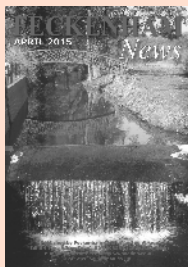
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Magazine online at
www.feckenham.com

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

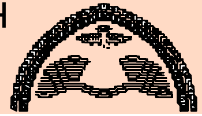
This month's shows the weir and the new bridge at The Brookhouse. Enid invites you to the starting of the new Waterwheel at 11.30am on Sunday 26th April. See p 5.



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

Readers and Intercessors



Friday 3rd	8.00pm GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE	
Sunday 5th Easter Day	11.00am Sung Eucharist Acts 10: vs.34-43 1 Corinthians 15: vs. 1-11 Intercessions	Doug Curtis Alison Crellin Mark Wheatley
Sunday 12th Easter 2	8.00am Holy Communion 1 John 20: vs 19-23	John Eaton
	11.00am Family Service	
Sunday 19th Easter 3	6.30pm Evensong Acts 3: vs. 12-19 Luke 24: vs.36b-48 Intercessions	Tim Powell Carol Onions Jeff Matthews
Sunday 26th Easter 4	11.00am Family Communion 1 John 3:vs. 16-end Intercessions	Muriel Walters Cyril Warrilow

X Box Sunday School

Will be held in Church on Sunday 5th 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
Feckenham Parish Church. **All welcome.**

Feckenham Roman Catholic Church

St John Fisher & St. Thomas More

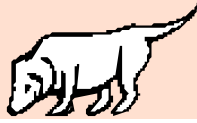


Mass is celebrated every Sunday at 10.15am in the Church

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

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

Newshound



Parlez - vous Francais?

Did you learn French at school but have forgotten most of it? Do you holiday in France and wish you could speak with confidence? Does that sound like you?

If you have a smattering or more of French and would like to improve your knowledge and fluency of the language, then look no further than the back room of the village hall on Tuesday mornings.

Two classes, beginners and advanced, are held each week. The atmosphere is welcoming,

relaxed and informal with a mixture of basic grammar and conversation.

There are limited vacancies in both groups for next term. If you think you might be interested then have a chat with the teacher, Vicki Nicod, on 01527 892459, to find out more.

Enid Whitehead is delighted to announce that the **Brook House Waterwheel** is due to start turning on Sunday 26th April 2015 about 11:30 am.

Unfortunately the production of sea fishing hooks and needles will have to be on hold for the foreseeable future!

She invites us to please come and share a toast to celebrate the history of the village.

From the P.C.C.

The Annual Parochial Church Meetings will be held in the Church on Thursday 30th April 2015 at 7.30 pm.

Nominations are invited for two Church Wardens, one Deanery Synod representative and one PCC representative.

Church Flower Group



Easter Lilies

Easter is nearly upon us and anyone wishing to have lilies arranged in church in remembrance of loved ones may do so by giving their donation to

Ann Matthews • 8 The Square B96 6HR
[cheques made payable to Feckenham PCC]

Thank you

Margaret and Marg Co-ordinators.

Macmillan Cancer Support Shirley Harman

Sad News, the Macmillan shop in Redditch is to close at the end of the month after more than twenty years. It has always been run on a purely voluntary basis, with Jill Taylor at the helm, aided and abetted by her wonderful band of loyal, cheerful, energetic, hardworking helpers. Together in that time they have raised £850,000 for Macmillan. What a fantastic achievement. • Well done to the team.

Also many thanks to everyone who has contributed to the shop's success over the years. They were always glad to receive goods from Feckenham.

Last but not least, thanks to Feckenham News for including our advertisement every month for no charge whatsoever! Everyone's generosity has been overwhelming, so on behalf of Macmillan Cancer Support, thank you all so very much.

Thought for the month

Rev. David Morris

Dear Friends,

I've found myself recently with the time and the inclination to start playing the saxophone again. And at this time of the year when we're thinking of new life, when we're seeing new shoots appearing and blossom starting to show, it's something that sub-consciously I'm probably feeling quite good about.

It's always a delight to re-discover those things that we used to fulfil us and come at them again afresh. The only thing is, my current ability and my memory of that ability are at odds with one another. What I used to find easy is now a challenge as rusty finger dexterity makes things a bit of an uphill struggle. It's the same as my embouchure which after an hour leaves me with a sore lip and an ability to win a gurning contest.

So why bother to try and play to a decent level again? Well, there is something that is beyond the act of making music, something that when the right notes come together is blissful. It has a different dimension to it that is beyond the mundane. Those of you who are musicians will know what I mean; others may find it in art; others may find it in the landscape. But however, and wherever you find it, it is deeply spiritual.

I'll leave you to put your own name on it (you can probably guess what mine would be) and it is always there to be re-discovered. It never goes away, and is always waiting to be re-approached and re-imagined as though it was just beyond consciousness calling to us. And as we approach Easter that's very much the story – new life, universally available to all just waiting to be embraced, within our discernment, and only requiring a little effort from us to be engaged and delighted.

I pray that you may all have a blessed Easter and rejoice in the new life to be found in Jesus the Christ.

God bless,

DM.

Lay Led Service at St John the Baptist Church Feckenham

creed dogma fides troth
trust belief credit fealty
honour honesty loyalty
crede credentia fidelity
devotio devotion religion

Faith

&

Doubt

obedience sinceritas
commitment dedicati
dependence stead
refreshments
served after

11am
April 12th
qualm dilemma suspect
casus hesitate dubious
confused meditation
uneasiness skepticism
uncertain apprehensive



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Flower & Garden Festival 2015

Cathy Fisher

16-17th May

This hugely successful triennial Festival is now in its 30th year. The last Festival, in 2012, was featured in the BBC's Gardener's World programme when we raised approximately £7,000 net. The proceeds go to the Church Fabric Fund (for the general maintenance of our parish church of St. John the Baptist), with many village organisations also benefitting significantly from the weekend.

In 2012, 36 gardens opened to the public. It was a great weekend with a real buzz around the village. I am extremely grateful to those garden owners who have already agreed to open their gardens once again or have agreed to do so for the first time. Please do get in touch with me if you might also be willing to open your garden or if you want any more information about the Festival. As you may be aware, many of our gardens are hidden and vary enormously in size and style from the tiniest courtyard gardens to those rather larger. This variety creates a huge amount of interest, plus an element of surprise. For those who may be unsure and might think your gardens are not show gardens, this Festival is not about "show gardens" - this is not Chelsea!! Please call or email me.

We also need volunteers to assist. If you think you can spare an hour or two on either the Saturday or Sunday between 12noon and 6pm please get in touch.

The W.I. have agreed to provide their magnificent teas in the Village Hall (volunteers to make cakes etc. are needed, please call Linda Harris on 892850). There will be a pig

roast/barbecue at the Catholic Church. On The Square will be plant sales, garden accessories, Churchfield's ice cream and Feckenham Forest History Society.

A highlight of the weekend is the magnificent Flower Festival in the Church and this year's theme will be "Reflections on village life".

If you would be willing to open your garden 12 noon - 6pm, Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th May 2012, please do contact me. Due to safety, traffic and other regulations, the boundaries for open gardens fall between Winfields, Moors Lane and Brook House on the B4090.

This is a wonderful village event with an enormous number of jobs to be done. So if you feel you can help in any way, your assistance would be most welcome.

I should be most grateful if all garden owners and volunteers would contact me by email at catherine.fisher@talk21.com which will enable me to make direct contact with you all - thank you.

Catherine Fisher

Churchyard Working Party

Thank you to those who helped in the churchyard 14th March. If you were unable to join us then don't worry we saved you some jobs! If you might have an hour or so in the coming weeks please let me know on 01527 892180 and we will find you something to do.

We have a number of people who spend about an hour a month strimming an area of the lower churchyard. We are going to be losing a volunteer soon, if you feel that this is something that you could commit to Carol 01527404055 would very much like to hear from you. Look forward to hear from you.

Ann Matthews



Mission Morogoro

The Tractor is going, going and hopefully gone to Tunguli during April!!

Thank you for supporting us all the way along the line. Your response to our appeals has been amazing and this has made it possible for us to send the tractor, trailer and plough as well as:

- ✓ Pre-fabricated building to house the equipment
- ✓ Spare parts and tools for maintenance
- ✓ Sewing machines
- ✓ Masses of fabrics and haberdashery
- ✓ Bedding
- ✓ Textbooks and stationery for primary and secondary schools
- ✓ We have also been asked by Newman University in Birmingham to include 50+ used computers donated by them for the Nursing School

To celebrate we are holding our concert

“Together in Song” on

Saturday 18th April

at 7pm

in Feckenham Church.

Tickets are £10 adults and £5 children and are available from:

Tricia Mortimer (01527) 402302

Ann Matthews (01527) 892180

& Feckenham Shop.

Come and join in with the celebrations

Asante Sana

Tony Mortimer

Thanks

THANKS ONCE MORE TO THE VERY GENEROUS PEOPLE OF FECKENHAM.

Recently the collection in the Village Shop was for Hands of Compassion in Ndola, Zambia and the amazing sum of £95 was raised plus donations of £25 given to me personally. The generosity of Feckenham folk knows no bounds.

Wendy the founder of Hands of Compassion gave an illustrated talk in the church on 8th February. Wendy started the school in 2000 to give a basic education to children mostly orphaned by Aids and now has 400 pupils. Much to Wendy's delight her first ex pupil has just gained a place at University to study science. Pat and I first met Wendy in 1999 when we went to Zambia to help build some classrooms for another school. The people of Feckenham sponsored us on that occasion and also sponsored Shirley Harman when she walked the Great Wall of China for the same Charity. Shirley and Neil Genders who was our leader in 1999 were at that service.

Carol and Pat Onions.

What's On this month in STOCK & BRADLEY

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 1st | Breakaway
Mr Ron Gallivan
Women at War WW2
Bradley Village Hall - 11.30 am |
| 1st | Gardening Club
Annual Bulb Show
Bradley Village Hall - 7.30pm |
| 8th | AGM
Bradley Green Village Hall
8.30pm |
| 12th | Walking Club
Leaving at 10am
Meet at Bradley Church |

For more information see
STOCK & BRADLEY CHRONICLE

Feckenham ENTERTAINMENTS Committee

SERF YOU RIGHT



It's a long time since Feckenham Entertainments Committee put on a Medieval Banquet. The scars have healed nicely and the memory has faded... and then along comes the Manorial Site lot needing to raise funds for geophysical surveys... So we're dusting off the wimples and darning the doublets in time for a **Serf's Supper** which is to be served on The Square on **8th August**. Comand thy scribe to engrave it in thy diary. More details soon.

NO CROW?

For over 10 years Feckenham has enjoyed its Scarecrow Festival in October. It's been a great way to end the outdoor season - enjoyable for those who created the scarecrows and for those who came to see them.

Feckenham Entertainments Committee, a small group, has organised the Festival since it started - and that has meant that the same people have done the same things for ten years - and as the Festival has grown, so has the workload. Last year many of the workers never even got to go round the exhibits because the tea tent was so busy.

The Scarecrow helpers are now revolting!

The time has come for a change.

Would anyone like to rise to the challenge? Perhaps another village organisation would like to take it on? Perhaps a group of parents would like to run the tea tent? Perhaps someone would like to coordinate the efforts of a new Entertainments sub-group? There are many ways it could be done but, unless somebody comes forward to help, the

Scarecrows will have left town for good... and that would be a great shame. E-mail us on entertain@feckenham.f9.co.uk if you'd like to explore ways of keeping the Festival going.

Square Management Committee

Ian Bellion

PIRATE LANDING



Please ignore what you read in Feckenham News last month! The annual "Fun on The Square" event has now reverted to the original date of July 18th - the organisers

have realised that the revised date would clash with another event involving lots of the younger members of the community as well as Astwood Bank Carnival. The new/old date will mean that organisers will be a little stretched when it comes to piratepower on the day - watch this space for appeals for help!

The event will certainly involve pirates, boats, planks, parrots and lots and lots of water. You have been warned!

TREE PROBLEMS

The Square Management Committee is sorry to have to announce that one of the chestnut trees on The Square has become potentially unsafe and will have to be taken down. It's the one immediately next to the telephone box and it has been showing signs of disease and weakness for some time. At the same time the dead tree in the parking area will also be removed. The work is likely to take place during the summer.

Both trees will be replaced and it's hoped that, thanks to the generosity of a village, one of the replacements will be a mature tree.

WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

Feckenham Readers Group

Wednesday, 15th April - 7.45

This month's book:

I KNOW WHY THE CAGED BIRD SINGS

by Maya Angelou

Details from Marion Chate - 892285



THE FECKENHAM SESSIONS



TRADITIONAL
MUSICMAKING

at THE ROSE & CROWN

First Tuesday of every month from 8pm

NEXT SESSION: Tuesday, 7th April

Stock & Bradley GARDENING CLUB

ANNUAL BULB SHOW

Wednesday, 1st April - 7.30pm

Bradley Village Hall



Feckenham Forest History Society

Shropshire Churches

with Tim Bridges

Tuesday, 14th April - 7.30pm

Feckenham Village Hall

www.feckenham-forest-history-society.org.uk

Together in Song

Raising funds for Tanzania

Come and join us for an evening of music and song with an African Flavour
featuring the talented children from

All Round Theatre School
and All Round Voices

adult Community Choir and guests

Saturday, 18th April - 7pm for 7.15pm

St John the Baptist Church Feckenham

Licensed bar

Tickets £10 adults £5 children - from Tracy Mervin 01527 402302 Ann Matthews 01527 892180
or from The Village Shop



FOLK IN THE BACK ROOM THE RHYTHM PIRATES

with very special guest

STANLEY ACCRINGTON

Eccentric Comedy Genius

"A leg-end in his own trousers"

Sunday 19th April - 8pm

The Rose & Crown, Feckenham

Tickets £5 in advance from The Rose & Crown or £6.50 on the door.



theWI FECKENHAM WI

INSPIRING WOMEN

At FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

THURSDAY, 9th APRIL - 7.30pm

CRAFT EVENING

Demonstrations & a chance to have a go

Non-members welcome - £4



FECKENHAM FLOWER & GARDEN FESTIVAL

16th & 17th May, 2015

12noon to 6pm

Approximately 30 Gardens Open.

Flower Festival in the Church

Homemade WI Teas - Hog Roast

Admission £5 (Under 16s free).

Ample parking - Feckenham is on the B4090

Alcester to Droitwich Road - B96 6QH

Proceeds to Feckenham Church Maintenance Fund



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

WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

FeckenOdeon 2

The Cinema in the Back Room

280 MILES BY LAWNMOWER



No Crime
No Sex
No Violence
Life in the Slow Lane
Perfect!

The STRAIGHT STORY^U

Richard Farnsworth & Sissy Spacek
in a film by DAVID LYNCH
An amazing but true story

Friday, 17th 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.feckenodeon.co.uk

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



FeckenOdeon 2 at Feckenham Village Hall

THE FECKENODEON CINEMA SOCIETY

RALPH FENNES FELICITY JONES KRISTIN SCOTT THOMAS TOM HOLLANDER



Charles Dickens was the most famous writer in the world.
His greatest story was the one he could never tell.

12A

THE INVISIBLE WOMAN

Saturday, 25th 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.feckenodeon.co.uk

*BOOKING FEE APPLIES TO TELEPHONE AND ONLINE BOOKINGS - AVOID THE FEE - BUY IN PERSON! LOCAL PRICES MAY APPLY!



FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

Shindig

BUFFALO GALS STAMPEDE

All strummin', All Dancin' - Yee Hah!

FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

SUNDAY, 10TH 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

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

The FeckenOdeon Cinema Society

Ian Bellion

If your copy of Feckenham News arrives early there's till time to catch "Paddington" and "Laughter in Paradise"



LIFE IN THE SLOW, SLOW LANE

Eighty year old Alvin Straight wants to visit his brother. His brother lives 280 miles away. Alvin doesn't have a car... but he does have a sit on lawn mower. This is based on a true story and is a beautifully photographed and straightforward account of Alvin's journey and the characters he meets along the way. David Lynch is the last director you'd expect to make such a gently beautiful film - no crime, no violence, no sex - just a Straight Story expertly told. It's filmed by veteran (82 year old) British cameraman Freddie Francis who may well have known that this film would be his last - every shot is a minor masterpiece. "The Straight Story" is showing in Fecken-Odeon 2 on **Friday, 17th April at 8pm.**

"Leaves other road movies stranded on the verge while the mower moves inexorably on" Empire



WHAT THE DICKENS?

Genius is rarely unflawed and all great men are prone to human foibles. Such was the case with the Great Novelist and Social

Reformer Charles Dickens. On the face of it Mr Dickens was a very respectable married man... but then there was a young actress called Nelly.... "The Invisible Woman" tells the story of an affair through the eyes of the young lady - always present, but never publicly acknowledged. It's a very handsome film directed by Ralph Fiennes who also plays the philandering genius. The story is based on Claire Tomalin's book of the same name. Felicity Jones plays the unfortunate Nelly, Kristen Scott-Thomas is her strong minded sister while Joanna Scanlon is the long suffering Mrs Dickens.

"The Invisible Woman" can be seen at **7.30pm on Saturday, 25th April.**

Tickets for these shows are on sale at The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown. You can book by phone (through TicketSource) on 0333 666 3366 or online at www.fecknodeon.co.uk

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B96 6HS

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We're in the GOOD BEER GUIDE

**WHAT'S ON at The Rose & Crown
EASTER WEEKEND**

Egg Painting - Egg Hunt - Special Menu - Call for details

STEAK NIGHT - Thurs, 23rd April

2 Courses £15 - 3 Courses £18

GARDEN IS READY TO GO!

COME AND ENJOY THE SUNSHINE!

www.roseandcrownfeckenham.co.uk

Village Hall

Ian Bellion



RACING FOR THE ROOF

Despite promises of immense gambling fortunes to be won, a mere 48 punters turned out to the Village Hall's Gold Cup Race Meeting on 14th March. Their enthusiasm outshone their numbers and an exciting and (for some) lucrative evening was thoroughly enjoyed.

The event was in aid of the Hall's Leaky Roof Fund and a substantial dent was made in the unexpected £5,000 bill for replacement of the flat roof over the Main Hall's store. Precise figures are not available as we go to press but, not counting donations, it is expected to be in excess of £1,000.

The Hall's Trustees are most grateful to everyone who attended and betted so enthusiastically, to everyone who gave money and everyone who gave food - and, in particular, to everyone who gave practical assistance. Space forbids naming individuals - but members of Feckenham Entertainments Committee, The FeckenOdeon and The Square Committee were at the fore.

Races and horses were generously sponsored by the following: Electrodyne Ltd; The Steps Guesthouse; Teisen Products; The Rose & Crown; The Village Shop; Libby Mitchell Treatments, Malcolm Hawkes Building Contractors; The Madison Group; Mini Direct; JW & AJ Barrett Ltd.

By the time you read this the work will be complete - but the fundraising continues!

TABLECLOTHS AWOL

The majority of the Village Hall's tablecloths are missing. If you've taken them home to wash and forgotten about them please return them! The lack of cloths has caused difficulties for a number of users recently so we'd be most grateful for their return.

Wake 2015

Marion Chute

Storm the Ramparts at Wake 2015!

A date for your diary in a busy summer is Saturday 20th June when a day of medieval family fun will take place in all the usual venues: church, village hall, recreation field, square and an evening in the cricket club.

Anyone who would like a stall please contact any of the the committee, Marion Chute, Alan Jones, Julian Bull, Charlie Barrett Meade, Louise Jordan, Gilly Cooper or Alan Smith. Remember that charities and local Feckenham groups will not be charged.

Events will include a Falconry Display, the ever popular Punch and Judy show, a chance to storm the ramparts on a giant climbing wall and much more.

THE WAKE NEEDS YOU

The famous Wake Hog Roast needs volunteers to help for a couple of hours on Wake day 20th June. If you can help to carve or serve please contact Marion on 892285.

Village Hall

Improvement Fund 2014/15



March Winners

152	Richard Fletcher	£25
28	Margaret Matthews	£15
93	Jeremy & Fiona Hawker	£10

The April Draw will be held in the Village Hall at 8.00 pm on Tuesday 7th April 2015

Feckenham Spring Flower Show

Saturday 11th April 2015

Margaret East

The 'Springtime in Feckenham' Flower Show will be held on Saturday 11th 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.

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Sharon Simpson

The children from the School Council chose this half terms values as 'Kindness and Grace' and it was lovely to see so many of the children from all year groups had been recognised as demonstrating these values during school time.

On February 6th the school became 'a sea of red' with the children donning red clothes in support of The British Heart Foundation and raised £84.00 for their efforts.

On February 22nd, Year 2 children had an evening experience at the Forest School site with their families with lots of fun around the camp fire and enjoyed savouring Mr. Howard's homemade soup.

This half term also saw the opening of schools 'healthy snack stop'. Children from each year group are now able to visit the snack stop once a week and choose from a range of fruit and vegetables with lots of encouragement to try something new.

The 'Soul Night' held on 21st February at Abbeydale Community Club was a great success and a fun night was had by all dancing to The Official Receivers Soul Band and enjoying a fantastic hog roast. Many thanks to The Friends of Feckenham School for organizing the event and special thanks to those who attended from the Redditch community or donated an auction/raffle prize. A net profit for school was made of £2903.55!

Year 4 represented our school at the Worcestershire Winter Games at the beginning of March – a huge event including inspirational speakers from the world of sport. We are proud to report that our school came 1st in their group and went on to become overall champions in the final

after winning all seven of their matches. A fantastic effort and well done to all who took part and to the staff for their hard work training and supporting you.

Mrs. Bayliss held her Fish & Chip lunch on March 11 in aid of The School of Hope & Kindness in Kenya and all agreed that this was a huge hit with the staff and children.

At the time of writing, the children are looking forward to participating in the Comic Relief fundraising day on March 13th. This year, in addition to wearing something red, the children have been asked to create a funny face or something comical and Mrs. Dennis is also staging an 'open mic' session for the budding comedians in school.

We are also looking forward to the special Mothering Sunday service to be held in church on Sunday, 15th March at 11.00 when we are able to thank our mothers or those for care for us.

We are still collecting the Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers at school and would be very grateful to receive any unwanted vouchers if you would care to pass them on to a parent/member of staff.

With best wishes from the children, staff and governors of school.

Sharon Simpson

Community Parent Governor

RADIO WHAT?

Last month we asked you to help name Feckenham's very own radio station. There are boxes at The Village Shop, The Village Hall and The Rose & Crown for you to slip in your suggestions. There have been a number of responses so far (and some have been unsuitable for a family audience!) but we'll keep the boxes in place until the end of April. Have a go - there's a bottle of bubbly for the suggestion we use!

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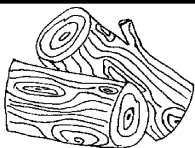
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Jane White



This month's meeting is on **Thursday 9th**. Fellow members will be demonstrating different crafts and there will be chances to have a go yourselves. We shall have crochet, Origami, Material Manipulation, Knitting and Rag Rugging. We will be in small groups and able to move on from one craft to another - or stick with on all evening if you prefer. We hope this will be a fun and sociable time with a bit of learning along the way! If you don't know what material manipulation is - come and find out. It looks interesting and certainly very unusual!

Stock & Bradley Gardening Club

Rob Cole

THE NEXT CLUB MEETING -

Wednesday 1st April 2015 - 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 also a Class for "A Spring Arrangement including at least one bulbous plant".

There will also be a Photographic Competition for the best photograph depicting '**Effective Foliage**'.

Note that there is no monthly competition at the April meeting.

THE FOLLOWING CLUB MEETING - **Wednesday 6th May 2015 - 7:30pm**

Caroline Tait will talk about the past, present and future of 'The Garden at Coton Manor'

in Northamptonshire, where she is garden manager.

ANNUAL PLANT FAIR - Saturday 9th May 2015 - 10.00am to 12.00 noon

Our annual Plant Sale will be held on Saturday 9th May 2015 from 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 be 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.

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

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

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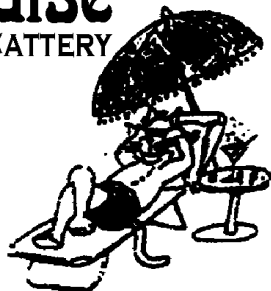
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