



# FECKENHAM

August 2022

# NEWS

Published by Feckenham Church for the village.  
Editor Gilly Cooper - [feckenhamnews@gmail.com](mailto:feckenhamnews@gmail.com)  
(Copy Date 14<sup>th</sup>)

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# Feckenham News in August

## Dates for your Diary

### August

2nd	Feckenham Sessions
3rd	Stock and Bradley Gardening Club
3rd	Studley Daytime WI
11th	Readers Group
15 <sup>th</sup>	Feckenham WI
20th	Fun on the Square
27th	Fecknodeon

### September

10th	Feckenham Flower show
15th	Parish Council meeting
24th	Fecknodeon

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### Regular Sessions

Mondays Restorative Yoga  
Thursdays Bridge; Hatha Yoga; Pilates  
First Tuesday of the month:  
Feckenham Sessions and  
Feckenham Forest History Society  
Third Monday of the month: WI

## Production Team

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## Front Cover

Photo courtesy of  
Ian Bellion

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[www.feckenham.com](http://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.

## Editor's Note

The magazine is put together a couple of weeks before it comes through your letter box as I'm sure you will know. Today, as I write, we are anticipating the hottest day on record. I'm learning not to open the windows on a sunny day and to close the curtains in an effort to keep the house as cool as possible. All very strange. There's been no appreciable rain for weeks and the gardens are showing the effects. So far there's not a rule but there is advice not to use too much water, so everything is looking a bit Mediterranean. I ask myself, "Is this what we are leaving for the next generations?" and feel guilty that we didn't start earlier to mitigate the effects of climate change whether it's caused by human activity or not. Don't forget to leave bowls of water out



for the wildlife while it's so hot.

I'd like to thank two of our Feckenham Artisans. Deborah Watton who sent the picture of the Village Shop in winter, a reminder that it won't be hot for ever and Ros Simons our very helpful delivery lady, whose interview is on page 12.



## THE CAPTAINS CABIN

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millane2020@outlook.com or telephone 01527893967**

# Feckenham Wake 2022



Thanks once again to everyone who helped, joined in, entered their dog in the show, baked a cake or just turned up for another very successful Wake. There will be equipment to replace and accounts to be done before we have any final result but it looks hopeful. I wanted to say a special thank you to the landowners who allow us to use their fields for parking, especially as we now have so many visitors from outside. This year the Car Show donated to us as did the Village Shop and the Rose and Crown and we really appreciate that support. I'd appreciate it if any of our village charities /groups let me know how you got on. It is what it's all about. Fun without feeling as though you've been taken to the cleaners!

Winning Draw tickets were

315 A Reynolds

322 D Jones

343 N Rawlins

575 J Bull

595 J Bird

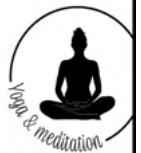
## JESSICA BYATT

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📞 07532282282

📧 [jessicabyatt\\_yogaandmeditation](mailto:jessicabyatt_yogaandmeditation)





This month we can take a look at the world of work in 1916. Here are Mr Luke Collins and Mr George Laight hardening nails down at the mill in Mill Lane. Hard and dirty work in difficult conditions.

## **FECKENHAM CHARITY**

Funds are dispensed from this ancient charity to individuals and organisations within the boundaries of the Ancient Parish of Feckenham, as the Trustees think fit.

Closing date for receipt of applications

**30th September, 2022**

Further enquiries/applications to:

Mrs J. Bate (Clerk to the Trustees)

'Wychway', Droitwich Road

Hanbury, BROMSGROVE

B60 4DB

Tel 01527 821285

## **FECKENHAM EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT**

The endowment makes grants to young people in the pursuit of further education or training. If you are under 25 and live in the Ancient Parish of Feckenham or the District of Redditch you may be eligible for a grant. Any such grants are divided on the basis of 4/5 to the Ancient Parish and 1/5 to the District of Redditch. All applications will be carefully considered. An individual may make a maximum of three applications. The decision of the Trustees is final.

Closing date for receipt of applications

**30th September, 2022**

For more information and an application form contact:

Mrs J. Bate (Clerk to the Trustees)

'Wychway', Droitwich Road

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## FECKENHAM FLOWER AND GARDEN FESTIVAL Garden Owner's View

The Garden Festival was an absolute triumph. Thanks to Cathy Fisher and her helpers in other village organisations, plants were bought, food and drink consumed, and strangers welcomed. Getting up early at 43 High Street, my sister and her partner helped me put up the shower curtains which create a corridor through my house, laid cardboard to protect my wood floor and swept up the sycamore blossoms that had fallen overnight. Having passed the dog over to his dog-sitter for the day, we put the information folder (which was supposed answer questions) on the table down by the pond and, already exhausted, opened the door onto the street, collapsed under the veranda and waited.

And they came. First a woman on her own, apologising for interrupting our coffee, then a couple of fellow garden-owners, then the multitude. By midday it was mayhem. Traffic jams in the corridor, people queuing to ask questions, lovely, lovely people.

My sister gave me regular 'releases', so I did get out to see most of the other small gardens while she fielded questions. After the 29<sup>th</sup> person had asked how I keep the slugs off my Hostas (plant the right variety) and what the blue flower spikes down the end were (ajuga) I began to think that we should have prepared some more inventive answers.

Now, it's over for another three years. Two days constant praise are very good for the ego and, like many neighbours I have bumped into since, I was on a high which took three days to wear off. What an amazingly creative village we live in.



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# AUGUST CHURCH SERVICES



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Priest-in-charge: Fr Glenn Reading 01527 894436

Church Warden: Ann Mathews 892180

Please contact Ann for Weddings at [ann@the-madison-group.co.uk](mailto:ann@the-madison-group.co.uk)

Glen for Baptisms & Funerals at [glenn.reading@googlemail.com](mailto:glenn.reading@googlemail.com)

Website: <http://feckenhamchurch.org.uk/>

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



PARISH CHURCH  
OF  
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
FECKENHAM

## Services for August 2022

7 <sup>th</sup> August	10.30am	Eucharist	Rev Barbara Wheatley
14 <sup>th</sup> August	9.00am	BCP Eucharist	Rev Barbara Wheatley
2 <sup>1st</sup> August	6.30pm	Evensong	Fr Glenn Reading
28 <sup>th</sup> August	10.30am	Eucharist	Fr Glenn Reading

## FECKENHAM ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH St John Fisher & Thomas More

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

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

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

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

Local contact: Phylis Mott, Feckenham. Tel 893898

## The FeckenOdeon Cinema Society



### BIG, BOLD, BOND!

A special bank holiday extravaganza! Daniel Craig in his last outing as Ian Fleming's James Bond. 007 is enjoying a tranquil life in Jamaica after leaving active service. However, his peace is short-lived as his old CIA friend, Felix Leiter, shows up and asks for help, leading Bond onto the trail of a mysterious villain armed with dangerous new technology. A visually stunning, emotional showdown of the Daniel Craig era. Contains all the usual 007 ingredients, but still goes a step further! No Time to Die was released in mainstream cinemas in Autumn 2021 – just in time for the Omicron variant of Covid-19 to take hold. If you didn't get to see it on the giant screen at a time when masks and social distancing made cinema going an uncomfortable experience, now's your chance! The film will be shown in High-Definition Panavision with Dolby Surround Sound – you may be shaken and stirred!

### NO TIME TO DIE

Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> August - 7.30pm

### OUR 21st SEASON

Subscriptions are now on sale for the 2022/23 FeckenOdeon Season. Just £30 buys you a seat for eight Saturday night films from September to April. Full details can be found at [www.fecknodeon.co.uk](http://www.fecknodeon.co.uk) and in leaflets to be found in most venues around the village.

*Tickets for all 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](http://www.fecknodeon.co.uk)**



The FeckenOdeon Cinema



# An invitation....

Come and join our team  
The FeckenOdeon Cinema is run by a small band of volunteers and we'd love to welcome new team members.

You could be

- an usherette
- a bar steward
- a film booker
- a projectionist
- a rigger
- a film researcher
- a publicist...
- or do any other job that helps keep the reels turning.

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*We aim to create a fantastic cinema experience for our audiences - but we also have a great deal of fun in the process. Meetings are informal and often held in the pub. A sociable group running a great community facility.*

If you'd like to find out more just email us at:

[films@fecknodeon.co.uk](mailto:films@fecknodeon.co.uk)

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



Feckenham's Own...



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[www.swansbrook.com](http://www.swansbrook.com)

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Feckenham Square Management  
Committee



## PIRATICAL FUN!

Patch up your parrots, wooden legs, jolly rogers and dodgy ooo arr accents - the **Pirates of The Caribbean** are heading for Feckenham! On **Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> August**, the treacherous waters of the Caribbean will be sloshing around on The Square. There'll be Caribbean music, a privateers' bar, a tavern serving food fit for the King of the Pirates... and all sorts of dastardly games and entertainment.

The favourite attraction will certainly be THE PLANK! Just pay us a dubloon or two and we'll make your Dad, your teacher or your granny walk the plank into the shark infested sea.

High above the poop deck the daring swash bucklers of Cirque D'amour will amaze with a gravity defying aerial display.

This is Fun on the Square - the annual fundraising effort that keeps The Square all scrubbed up and in fine financial fettle - so please **DON'T bring your own food and drink** - there'll be plenty of sensibly priced rations at our tavern and bar - and every penny will go to look after The Square.

**Pirates of the Caribbean - The Square -  
Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> August from 6.30pm.**

### A TROUPE OF TRUSTEES...

At the Hall's AGM on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> July the following people were elected to serve as Trustees and Committee Members: Phil Tricklebank (Chair), Peter Chute (Treasurer), Ian Bellion (Secretary), Liz Teisen (Booking Secretary), Ann Matthews, Peter Stephens, Judy Hooker, Linda Harris, Ian Ridley and Claire Cull.

If you'd like to join the Committee or otherwise help keep the Hall running and in good shape please get in touch by emailing [hall@feckenham.f9.co.uk](mailto:hall@feckenham.f9.co.uk)

The Hall is now fully operational and available for bookings - contact Liz Teisen on 01527 821233 for details. See also: [www.feckhall.org](http://www.feckhall.org)

### DRAW

The **Improvement Fund Draw for July, 2022** was made at the meeting of The Trustees on 5<sup>th</sup> July.

Winners:	33	Barbara Baylis	£25
	95	Hugo Hammersley	£15
	137	John & Pam Eaton	£10

People living on Feckenham's High Street had a bit of a shock when they drew back their curtains on the morning of Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> July. A couple on a tandem and a gentleman on an ordinary cycle gently pedalled through the village. Nothing unusual about that, you might think – but this trio had neglected to put their clothes on. They were stark naked. Shocked resident Ivor Mason described his experience to Swansbrook Radio's Happy Hour listeners: "It was a sight for sore eyes", the sprightly pensioner said, "There was a gentleman and a lady on a tandem and a single man following behind. They seemed totally unconcerned as if they did this as a normal thing. I know one thing, I shall be looking out for them if they come back again next Saturday".

Further investigations reveal that the couple were doing it for charity Fifty-two-year-old Colin Unsworth and Sadie Tan, who's thirty-one, are cycling from John O'Groats to Land's End in the nude to raise money for mental health charity Mind and eco charity Rewilding Britain. The "third man" remains a mystery.



## Feckenham Artisans: Ros Simons

On the hottest day, I sat in the shade for a chat with Ros Simons to hear about her life and particularly why she took up painting. Most of us will know her as our very friendly and helpful delivery lady. She has worked for Hermes - now Evri - for a few years and she became well known around the village during lockdown. When we were stuck at home, online orders were a life line and Ros was the person we saw on the lanes, often with her granddaughter, bringing our parcels to our doors. Her current work is only one facet of her life. First and foremost she is a grandmother. Her three grandchildren live locally and she helps a lot with them. Previously she was a social worker having gained two degrees on the way. The first was through the Open University - which we agreed is a fantastic institution - in Social Science and the second in Social Work.



Recently she was very pleased to be at her grandchildren's school fete in Astwood Bank seeing the happiness in the children's faces when they looked at her pieces. I'm sure she sold a few - putting a smile on her face too.



Her journey into the world of art started after she was treated for breast cancer nearly five years ago. Previously she did knitting and cross-stitch but the pain after her operation made this difficult so she took up drawing and painting. First with chalk and then with acrylic paint. She does this mainly for her own enjoyment but sells pieces as it helps buy more paint. Joining Feckenham Artisans has boosted her confidence and the support from others in the group has helped her organise her stall at craft fairs: from setting up, to accepting electronic payments. She is self taught, picking up ideas from other artisans and watching art programmes on the telly. Her ambition is to be able to paint portraits. Currently she is making tote bags to give as teacher presents at the end of term.

Ros's themes in her art are very varied. She showed me a selection including one of the Queen with Paddington and another of a bride and groom, as well as the picture included here. They are often abstract. Some take minutes to form and others take hours.

**theWI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN

**STUDLEY DAYTIME**

Bring Your Own  
**Picnic**

To:  
**Studley Sports and Social Club**  
(The Entaco), Eldorado Close,  
Studley, B80 7HP  
on  
**WEDNESDAY 3rd AUGUST 2022**  
**2.00 - 4.00 P.M**

VISITORS AND NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!

## Feckenham WI

each per meeting. For more information please contact Jen Cary:  
[Jennifer.clements@openreach.co.uk](mailto:Jennifer.clements@openreach.co.uk)

**Meeting dates:** August 15<sup>th</sup>; September 19<sup>th</sup>

For our June meeting we took advantage of the extended daylight and did an evening's air rifle shooting. Paul Furey very kindly and skillfully acted as our Range Master and we were grateful to our wonderful hosts Iona and Jon Ratcliffe. Most of our members had never fired anything before but under Paul's excellent tutelage several women came away with bull's eyes! We all very much enjoyed doing something new and a bit different and thankfully we were very lucky with the weather this time.

Our next meeting is on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July when we will hopefully be playing rounders on the recreation ground if the weather is good, or if it is raining we will be doing a 'make and mend' session in the back room of the village hall.

Meetings are on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month and if you would like to join it is £44 for the year's 11 meetings but guests are welcome to come to any meetings at £5



**BABIES**

**NURSERY AGE**

**SCHOOL AGE**

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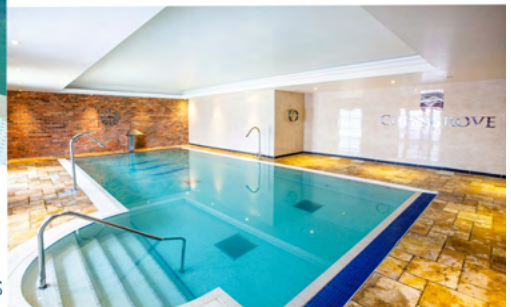
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Ditchford Bank Road, Hanbury, Bromsgrove, B60 4HS

# WHAT'S ON IN

Feckenham Square Management Committee

FUN ON THE SQUARE

# PIRATES Of the CARIBBEAN



**Saturday, 20th August**

**FROM 6.30PM**

**WALK THE PLANK  
AND OTHER PIRATICAL GAMES**

**CIRQUE L'AMOUR  
SPECTACULAR AERIAL DISPLAY**

**STEEL BAND  
CARIBBEAN FOOD  
REAL ALE BAR - FINE WINES**

PLEASE NOTE - this is a fundraising event for The Square.  
There will be food and drink on sale at reasonable prices.  
Please DO NOT bring your own!

**ALL PROCEEDS USED FOR THE UPKEEP OF THE SQUARE**

Send details of events for **FREE** listing to:

# FECKENHAM

Feckenham READERS GROUP

Meets on

Thursday, 11th August - 7.45

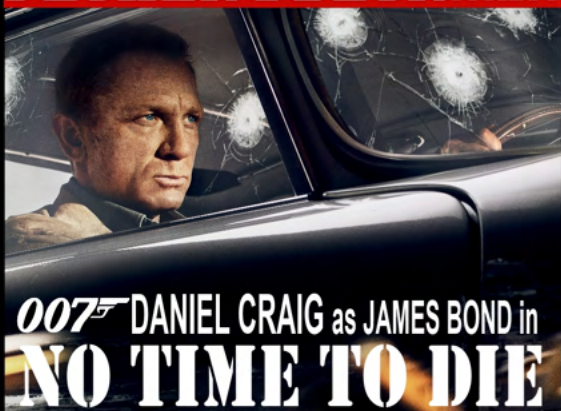
This month's book:

**DARK,  
SALT,  
CLEAR**

By LAMORNA ASH



THE FECKENODEON CINEMA SOCIETY



**007 DANIEL CRAIG as JAMES BOND in  
NO TIME TO DIE**

FeckenOdeon 1 Saturday, 27th August at 7.30pm



Feckenham Flower Show

Saturday, 10th September

2.30pm - Feckenham Village Hall

Displays of Flowers and Produce

Teas - sale of produce.

Exhibitors - staging from 10am to 12noon



New Season opens 24th September  
Jim Broadbent & Helen Mirren in

**THE DUKE** 12A

The FeckenOdeon Cinemas  
at Feckenham Village Hall

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\*Booking Fee applies to Phone and Online Bookings

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THE  
**FECKENHAM  
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First Tuesday of every month from 8pm

NEXT SESSION: Tuesday, 2nd August

**theWI**  
**INSPIRING WOMEN**

**FECKENHAM WI**

Next Meeting - 15th August

8pm - Feckenham Village Hall

**STUDLEY DAYTIME WI**

Next Meeting - 3rd August

2pm - Studley Village Hall

[whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk](mailto:whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk) or call 892130

# Kathy's Collection

During June, the village green was heavily scented with lime flowers for several weeks. It always takes me back to the streets in a small Italian town, Lucca, where I actually bought perfume in a fancy lime wood container. Of course, lime trees are not unadulterated pleasure. Once the aphids find them, their resin (or honey-dew) is a menace to cars parked underneath.



Meanwhile, close examination of the grass beneath Winfield's picnic benches reveals a short version of deadnettle (purple picture), and birdsfoot-trefoil (yellow picture).



Birdsfoot-trefoil is actually named after its three-lobed leaves, but it has over seventy common names including bacon-and-eggs, ladies slipper, Tom Thumb and Granny's toenails, which I suspect refer to the flower shape!



## FECKENHAM READERS GROUP

Last month's book was *The Girl with the Louding Voice* by Abi Daré. It was written in the voice of a young girl who was forced into marriage at 14 years of age to help with the family finances. The story is about how she escaped that life and, against the odds, will be able to gain an education. She uses non-standard English which is a delight and really brings the characters and their situation alive. The group universally agreed it was a very good read. An excellent choice.

The August meeting will be on 11<sup>th</sup> August when the book will be *Dark Salt Clear* by Lamorna Ash

The Parish Council have continued to be busy with many of the planning issues within the Parish. Feckenham is within a conservation area which has areas of historic importance to Heritage England, and this must not be threatened or damaged.

Feckenham in Bloom; a working party which works under the parish council continues to meet and spread colour throughout our picturesque village. Kate Baylis won the competition for the best hanging baskets and will get to enjoy a meal courtesy of The Rose and Crown.

Unfortunately, the last parish council meeting at the beginning of July had to be cancelled at short notice as the clerk had covid. It is hoped the meeting will take place on the 21st of July. The parish council will shortly take ownership of a new website, a condition of the transparency regulations. It is hoped this will enable anyone with a query regarding the work in the parish to either contact the council or be able to find the answer in previous meeting minutes, accounts, or general governance documents.

There are no meetings in August, the next will be Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> of September at 7.30pm, back room, Village Hall. All welcome.

Organisations are reminded the parish council has grants available which benefit the people of Feckenham. Should you wish to apply, contact the clerk.

If anyone has a concern or question for the council, please do not hesitate to contact the clerk by phone 01527 892522 or email [clerk@feckenham-parishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@feckenham-parishcouncil.gov.uk)

Community Buildings Officer at Community First in Herefordshire and Worcestershire, Richard Timney has sent the following:

Local rural charity, Community First, and Share Energy Consultants are carrying out a project aimed at exploring the issues related to installing car charging points at village halls in Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

The project will look at the nuts and bolts of installing car charging points, solar panels and batteries at halls. Aiming to make the best use of off demand power, renewable energy and supporting electric community vehicle schemes to help with rural transport challenges.

As part of the project we are collecting opinions from individuals in areas around village halls in Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

Please can you consider completing this survey. No personal information will be shared from the surveys or used in any marketing. Here is the link:

<https://forms.gle/ohHRbhn8L1X24JAJ8>

The survey will close in mid September and the more information and views we have about this issue the better will be our advice and support for village halls when they are considering installing car charging points.

**HELP FOR YOU if you are self-isolating**  
**From Volunteers Co-ordinated by Feckenham Facebook Group & Parish Council**

A group of local volunteers from the village are available to assist you with PICKING UP SHOPPING, or POSTING MAIL, picking up URGENT SUPPLIES (including medications) or just having a FRIENDLY PHONE CALL during this challenging time when many people are being advised to self-isolate if they are either vulnerable or ill.

If you would like some help then please contact JANE BULL, Clerk to Feckenham Parish Council either on **892522** or [clerk.feckenhampc@feckenham.com](mailto:clerk.feckenhampc@feckenham.com) and we will be in touch (& the help is free!). Any goods will be left on your doorstep. More updates on our local radio: [swansbrook.com](http://swansbrook.com)

NOTE: Coronavirus is contagious. Please take every precaution to ensure you are spreading only kindness – Avoid physical contact (keep at least 2m distance from others) and Wash your hands regularly

# Stock Green Solar Farm Proposal

## Home of the Hobbits under threat

Jane Neave, the aunt of J R R Tolkien, lived at a farm in Dormston known as 'Bag End'. Mr Tolkien visited her there frequently, and it is commonly accepted that the view from that real Bag End to Roundhill Wood and Inkberrow inspired him to create the Shire, that sheltered region of Middle-earth that featured in his world-famous books – and that provided a home to those diminutive Shire-folk, otherwise known as Hobbits.

That view – over the fields to Roundhill Wood and Inkberrow – is now under threat. As many of you will know, there are proposals to build an enormous solar farm just outside Inkberrow, and this would involve covering all those fields with huge solar panels and large energy storage units. 287 acres of glorious Worcestershire countryside, currently being used to grow essential wheat, and ringed by four SSSIs, would become a solar desert, surrounded by 2-metre-high fencing and ranks of security cameras. It would become a view that would never inspire another Tolkien to write a single word, unless, of course, he was penning a lament.

The generation of green energy is a necessity, but that doesn't mean that other issues shouldn't be taken into account, and particularly issues that underpin our very identity – such as the maintenance of our heritage *and* our being seen to cherish our heritage by the wider world. It will not be only the people of this country who will be outraged by this insult to Tolkien's genius. It will be

people all over the world.

If you too are appalled at the prospect of this industrialisation of our nearby countryside, may I ask you to join those of us who belong to the Roundhill Wood Solar Farm Opposition Group in fighting this terrible threat.

Please, please do help.

Phil Coathup, Chair, Roundhill Wood Solar Farm Opposition Group  
[philcoathup@btinternet.com](mailto:philcoathup@btinternet.com)

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Mary Richards

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01527 522433

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## Feckenham Village Shop Alan Slater

Having just received our annual accounts for the last twelve months I'm delighted to report that we have enjoyed another very successful year's trading. What is particularly encouraging is that the performance is on par with the previous record breaking year when sales were boosted by Covid. Last year's results suggests that the Shop has retained many of its new customers from the previous year, obviously been impressed with the range of products available and of course our café and lovely terrace. The Annual General Meeting which is to be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September at the Village Hall when there will be a full report. Please put the date in

your diary.

Sales may be holding up well due to the soaring cost of fuel. I don't expect our customers to do their main weekly shop with us, but with the cost of fuel at almost £2 a litre, driving to the supermarket for just a few items becomes a major cost consideration. Paying a few pence more for your individual purchases is a lot cheaper than the cost of a twelve mile round trip to either Redditch or Droitwich.

The summer months always present us with a challenge to keep the Shop adequately staffed as our regular volunteers take their well earned holidays. If you could spare us a couple of hours in your week or if any of the younger villagers are getting bored during their school holiday, we would be grateful for your help. Just drop by and have a chat.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and thank you for your continued support.



*Feckenham Village Shop*

*Chelmsford Station Camera Ltd*

## Feckenham Cricket Club - Bob Gordon

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2022 will go down as a very big day in the club's history. At Mill Lane our 2<sup>nd</sup> XI were facing Highley's 1<sup>st</sup> team, who won the toss and elected to bat, finishing their 45 overs with a challenging 233 for 5 wickets.

In the Feckenham team were three 13-year-olds – Sam Curtis, Ben East and Finn Davies. Each of the lads bowled 9 overs, Ben taking a wicket and Sam getting a run-out. The batting started with Sam's dad Sean at the crease with Alex Hardy. Alex was out for 5 and so Sean was joined by son Sam. The scene was set.

Dad and son put on 60 runs together until Curtis Senior knocked a loose ball into the air and was caught. On his way back to the pavilion, Sean passed Ben making his way to the wicket - there were two 13-year-olds at the crease together for a senior Feckenham Cricket Club game and the score was 70 runs for 2 wickets.

Highley's fielders were then subjected to a breathtaking display from Sam and Ben, who knocked the ball all over the field. By the time that Sam was caught, he had scored 66 runs and we were on 167 for 3. We might even win this game!

Euan Hardy joined Ben and scored 11 before being bowled during which Ben deservedly reached his first senior half-century. Even the Highley fielders joining in the applause. 200 for 4.

The remaining 13 year-old, Finn Davies, joined Ben. With overs in hand the two put on a master-class of controlled scoring, calling and running between wickets at electric pace. As the score moved towards the 234 winning total, everyone watching the game was urging the youngsters on, every run was cheered. Of course Ben and Finn saw the game out, Ben finishing with 69 and Finn 9. Unfortunately another talented 13-year-old - Liam Banks - wasn't able to play but would also have been among the wickets and runs.

Well done to the lads, to the rest of the team that encouraged and supported them and to the opposition, who also applauded the boys off the pitch. For all at the club it was a joyous afternoon that will never be forgotten. As for the boys, I understand that Sam, Ben and Finn found it difficult to sleep that night.

### Upcoming games at Mill Lane:

Sat 30 <sup>th</sup> Jul	Feckenham 1st X	v	Redditch CC 2nd XI	12:30pm
Sun 31 <sup>st</sup> Jul	Feckenham Under 13s	v	Bromsgrove	10:30am
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Aug	Feckenham Under 15s	v	Bromsgrove	6:30pm
Tue 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	Mixed U11/U12 Pairs	v	Avoncroft	6:30pm
Sat 6 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Feckenham 2nd XI	v	Harvington CC - 1st XI	12:30pm
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Worcestershire U11s	v	Warwickshire	10:30am
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Feckenham 1st XI	v	Avoncroft CC - 1st XI	12:30pm
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Feckenham Under 13s	v	Wolverhampton	6:30pm
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Feckenham 2nd XI	v	Romsley & Hunnington	12:30pm
Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> Aug	Worcestershire U12s	v	Staffordshire	10:30am
Sat 27 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Feckenham 1st XI	v	Coombs Wood CC - 2nd XI	12:30pm
Sun 28 <sup>th</sup> Aug	Feckenham Under 13s	v	Barnt Green	10:30am

## Flower Show Help Needed Linda Harris

Feckenham Flower Show Saturday 10th  
September 2022

I am sure we are all looking forward to entering our produce at the Flower Show; flowers, fruit and vegetables all tenderly nurtured over the year to peak condition. Meeting friends and enjoying a lovely home-made tea. This year will be a challenge as the committee and friends who usually help, are somewhat depleted in numbers, so if you feel you able to help set up the Hall on Friday night, from 8 o'clock, and clear the Village Hall after the event on Saturday, it would be much appreciated. The Flower Show has been in existence for many years and – like all organisations in the Village – those that have supported and helped over many years, are not always able to now. If you feel that you can spare time to assist, please contact either Margaret East on 893735 or Linda Harris on 892850.

### VEGETABLES

1	RUNNER BEANS	(6 pods)
2	FRENCH BEANS	(6 pods)
3	BEET (long or globe)	(3)
4	CABBAGE (white)	(1)
5	CARROTS (short/intermediate, Trimmed)	(4)
6	CUCUMBER (indoor or outdoor)	(1)
7	TOMATOES	(5)
8	ONIONS (dressed)	(4)
9	PARSNIPS (trimmed)	(3)
10	MARROW	(1)
11	COURGETTES	(3)
12	POTATOES	(5)
13	PUMPKIN (best)	(1)

14	SHALLOTS	(7)
15	LEEEKS (trimmed)	(3)
16	SWEETCORN	(2)
17	VEGETABLES (best display of any 4 types)	

### FRUIT

18	PLUMS	(5)
19	DAMSONS	(10)
20	RASPBERRIES	(15)
21	APPLES (culinary)	(5)
22	APPLES (dessert)	(5)
23	PEARS	(5)
24	BLACKBERRIES	(15)
25	A VARIETY OF WILD FRUIT	(on a 7" plate)
26	UNUSUAL FRUIT or VEGETABLE	(any No.)
27	OTHER FRUITS or VEGETABLES	(any No.)

### FLOWERS

28	CHRYSANTHEMUMS	(3)
29	DAHLIAS (Cactus, any size)	(3)
30	DAHLIAS (Decorative fully double)	(3)
31	DAHLIAS (other than Class 29/30)	(3)
32	ROSE	(1)
33	ROSES (1 of each of 3 varieties)	(3)
34	ASTERS	(3)
35	SWEET PEAS	(6)
36	GLADIOLI (any colour)	(3 spikes)
37	PINKS	(6)
38	GERANIUMS (growing in a pot)	(1 pot)
39	FLOWERS (any other single variety)	(3)

### MISCELLANEOUS FLOWER CLASSES

40	POSY (ready for presentation)	(1)
41	BUTTONHOLE (spray)	(1)
42	POT PLANT (in flower)	(1)
43	POT PLANT (foliage effect, no flower)	(1)
44	POT PLANT (cactus or succulent)	(1)
45	ARRANGEMENT OF FLOWERS (in any container)	(1)
46	ARRANGEMENT OF FRUIT AND FOLIAGE (in any container)	(1)
47	ARRANGEMENT OF EXOTIC FLOWERS (in any container)	(1)

- 48 HERBS (display of 6 varieties, labelled) (1)  
 49 ARRANGEMENT (1 fruit or vegetable  
 and 1 flower) (1)

#### DOMESTIC CLASSES

- 50 JAM (soft fruit) (1 jar)  
 51 JAM (stoned fruit) (1 jar)  
 52 JELLY PRESERVE (1 jar)  
 53 MARMALADE (1 jar)  
 54 PICKLES (any variety) (1 jar)  
 55 CHUTNEY (any variety) (1 jar)  
 56 TEA LOAF (1)  
 57 FRUIT CAKE (1)  
 58 MADEIRA CAKE (1)  
 59 VICTORIA SPONGE (1)  
 60 DECORATED CAKE (1)  
 61 SMALL CAKES (6)  
 62 SMALL TARTS (6)  
 63 CUP CAKES (3)  
 64 SCONES (fruit) (6)  
 65 SCONES (plain) (6)  
 66 Home-made BREAD (fancy loaf) (1)  
 67 Home-made BREAD (machine made) (1)  
 68 Home-made COUNTRY WINE (red) (1 bottle)  
 69 Home-made COUNTRY WINE (rose) (1 bottle)  
 70 Home-made COUNTRY WINE (white) (1 bottle)  
 71 EGGS (white) (6)  
 72 EGGS (brown) (6)

#### CHILDREN'S CLASSES

- 73 MINIATURE GARDEN (under 5 years)  
 74 MINIATURE GARDEN (5 to under 7 years)  
 75 MINIATURE GARDEN (7 to under 10 years)  
 76 MINIATURE GARDEN (10 to 16 years)  
 77 FLOAT GARDEN (under 5 years)  
 78 FLOAT GARDEN (5 to under 7 years)  
 79 FLOAT GARDEN (7 to under 10 years)  
 80 FLOAT GARDEN (10 to 16 years)  
 81 HUMOROUS VEGETABLE  
 ARRANGEMENT(Under 5 years)  
 82 HUMOROUS VEGETABLE  
 ARRANGEMENT(5 to under 7 years)  
 83 HUMOROUS VEGETABLE  
 ARRANGEMENT (7 to under 10 years)

- 84 HUMOROUS VEGETABLE  
 ARRANGEMENT (10 to 16 years)  
 85 SMALL CAKES OR TARTS (under 5 years)  
 (4)  
 86 SMALL CAKES OR TARTS (5 to under 7  
 years) (4)  
 87 SMALL CAKES OR TARTS (7 to under 10  
 years) (4)  
 88 SMALL CAKES OR TARTS (10 to 16 years)  
 (4)  
 89 PAINTING, DRAWING or CRAFT \*\*\*  
 (Under 5 years)  
 90 PAINTING, DRAWING or CRAFT \*\*\*  
 (5 to under 7 years)  
 91 PAINTING, DRAWING or CRAFT \*\*\*  
 (7 to under 10 years)  
 92 PAINTING, DRAWING or CRAFT \*\*\*  
 (10 to 16 years)

\*\*\* all on the theme **JUBILEE CELEBRATION**

#### RULES FOR THE FLOWER SHOW

- All exhibits shall be either grown or produced by the exhibitor only.
- All exhibits to be exactly as stated in the Schedule and to be staged between 10.00am and 12 noon.
- No persons other than the officials will be allowed in the Hall during judging.
- The Judges' decision shall be final, and they reserve the right to withhold any prize where there are no exhibits of sufficient merit.
- All exhibits shall bear an exhibitor's number.
- All exhibits (**except** those in Classes, 38, 42-49, and 73 - 92) will be sold by auction.
- All exhibits in classes 42, 43, and 44 must have been in the possession of the exhibitor for a minimum of six months.

#### CASH PRIZES - Children's Classes only

First (3 points) £1: Second (2 points) 50p: Third (1 point) 20p.

#### TROPHIES

There are lots of trophies to be won, some open to all, and some restricted to villagers and children attending the schools.

The Committee wishes to thank exhibitors, and all who in any way contribute to the success of the show.

## Rob Cole's Gardening Tips

### Helenium 'Feckenham Ruby'

**H**eleniums are stars of the early summer garden and usually flower from the end of June until late August, especially if deadheaded regularly as the flowers go over. There are many varieties to choose from and we are always looking for new ones to try.

In August 2004 we attended a Plant Fair at Audley End House near Saffron Waldon, and noticed one of the other stallholders had a number of Heleniums for sale. Amongst them was a dark red unnamed seedling which took our eye, and we were told that it had been raised from seed purchased as 'Red and Gold Hybrids'. We bought it for our newly developing garden, little realising that it would become a plant which many of our July and August visitors would admire and ask for.

Because it aroused so much interest, we let it bulk up for a few years, and then began to propagate it for sale. We named it 'Feckenham Ruby' and sold it for the first time in 2010 and it has proved as popular on the sales table as it has in the garden.

Martin Blow, who held a National Collection of Helenium at the time, has told us that the seed strain involved has *Helenium autumnale* in its blood, and that this would account for the late flowering period. A number of other named cultivars have their origins in the same seed strain, too.

'Feckenham Ruby' stands 90cm tall at flowering time, has good clean, fresh green foliage, and the flower colour starts as a dusky ruby red, and pales a little as it matures and goes over. It starts to flower in mid August, and carries on looking good into late October.

We have never dead-headed our plants as

the flowers seem to keep coming from side shoots, but if we had the time it would probably prolong flowering still further. As with most Heleniums, it clumps up readily, and can be easily propagated by division, preferably in April just as the new growth commences. Single crowns quickly make a strong plant which will flower in the same year.



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Our July event was a group visit to the beautiful Bourton House Garden near Moreton-in-Marsh on the morning of Wednesday 13th July. In the afternoon many of us crossed the road to the nearby Batsford Arboretum to finish off a delightful day of indulging our passion for plants and gardens.

## **NEXT CLUB EVENT - Wednesday 3rd August 2022 from 7:00pm**

Rob and Diane Cole are inviting members to visit their new garden, created since their move to Salford Priors in November 2020. The hard landscaping was carried out in January 2021, followed by concerted efforts to prepare and improve the soil conditions before planting commenced in April 2021. Although the planting is entirely new, growth has been remarkable. Tea/coffee and biscuits will be made available.

The address is 11 Priors Crescent, Salford Priors, Warwickshire, WR11 8AN. Some sat-nav devices don't yet recognise this new post code, in which case use WR11 8XD.

Membership of the Gardening Club is currently by £5.00 annual subscription which becomes due on 1st January each year. Please make cheques payable to 'Stock and Bradley Gardening Club'. We welcome new members to join us at any time throughout the year.

*Club meetings are normally held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Village Hall, Church Road, Bradley Green starting at 7.30pm, and are free to members for an annual subscription of £5.00 for 2022. Visitors are made very welcome and may attend for £3.00 per meeting.*

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

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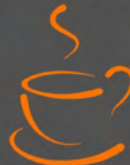
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