

# FECKENHAM

AUGUST 2012

*News*

SWANSBROCK LYNE  
BRIDGE

Published by Feckenham Church for the Village  
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# AUGUST Diary



Tues 7th	12.30am	Lunch Club	Village Hall, Back Room
Wed 8th	10.30am - noon	"Drop in" for coffee and a chat	Parish Church
Sun 12th	2pm	Craft Workshop	Hanbury Church
Sat 18th	From 10am	Come and help redecorate	Village Hall
Wed 22nd	10.30am - noon	"Drop in" for coffee and a chat	Parish Church

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## Front Cover

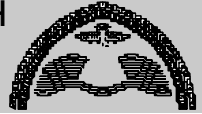
The newly planted wildflower area at the corner of Swansbrook Lane in full glory recently. Photo by Ian Bellion. (see pages 6 & 17)

## Production Team

Ian Bellion – What's On  
892130 [whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk](mailto:whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk)  
Adrienne Newland – Newshound  
821760  
Antonia Pulsford – Reviews  
892268  
Jo Warrilow – Ads, Mags by post  
892059  
Jane White – Letters, Reports etc.  
893281 [ejw55@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ejw55@hotmail.co.uk)

# Church Services AUGUST

PARISH CHURCH  
of ST. JOHN  
THE BAPTIST



**Priest-in-Charge:** Canon John Green 01905 345242

**Churchwarden:** Ann Matthews 01527 892180

**Parish Office:** Tel: 01527 821826 email: [bowbrookgroup@btinternet.com](mailto:bowbrookgroup@btinternet.com)

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

at West End Office, Upper Berrow Farm, Feckenham, B96 6QS

Readers and Intercessors

## Sunday 5th

Trinity 9

### 11-00am Sung Eucharist

2 Samuel 11 : vs. 26-12 : 13a

Ephesians 4 : vs. 1-16

Intercessions

Jeff Matthews

Angela Fletcher

Pat Onions



## Sunday 12th

Trinity 10

### 8-00am Holy Communion

1 Corinthians 12 : vs. 1-11

Peter Horsley

### 11-00am Family Service - Summer Praise

## Sunday 19th

Trinity 11

### 6-30pm Evensong

1 Kings 2 : vs. 10-12, 3 : vs. 3-14

John 6 : vs. 51-58

Intercessions

Oliver White

Doug Curtis

John Calvert

## Sunday 26th

Trinity 12

### 11-00am Family Communion

Ephesians 6 ;' vs. 10-20

Intercessions

Ann Matthews

Carol Onions

### X Box Sunday School

Will be held in Church on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August. All children will be warmly welcomed.

### Morning Fellowship

This lay led prayer service continues weekly on Wednesdays for 30 minutes in the Parish church. **All welcome.**

## Feckenham Roman Catholic Church

St John Fisher & St. Thomas More



Mass is celebrated every Sunday at 10.15am in the Church

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

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

# Obituary



## Joan Hawkins – 1919 –2012.

The funeral of Joan Hawkins took place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July at Feckenham Church. She had lived in the village, on Astwood Lane since 1994; latterly she was cared for in a nursing home in Redditch.

Joan was born in Leiston , a few miles from Aldeburgh on the Suffolk coast. She was the eldest of five children whose grandparents and uncles were all farmers. Her father was an engineer at Garretts engineering works in Leiston and after finishing school Joan went to work in the accounts office there too.

During the war Joan was employed by the communications company Marconi in Chelmsford. This company was a prime target for the German bombers and ‘doodle – bugs’. One night they successfully destroyed part of an adjoining factory, killing many women who were working there. Despite the dangers Joan often said that she enjoyed some of the war years because of the camaraderie, music and dancing of that era.

Marriage to a soldier in the Royal Artillery - Philip Hawkins - meant Joan spent the following years moving from place to place, having to adapt quickly to different locations. It was during this time that Jillian and Diana, her two children, were born.

Slough was the place where the family settled after leaving the army. Joan returned to work once the children were settled into schools and continued in employment until retiring at the age of 60.

In 1979, a move to Frome in Somerset was the beginning of retirement. Joan joined the Townswomens’ Guild and the W R V S. She helped to deliver ‘ Meals on Wheels’ for nearly 10 years .She grew vegetables and soft fruit, made her own bread, jams and pickles and really enjoyed the freedom retirement gave her. During this time Joan and her husband,

Philip travelled to many different places in the world. Unfortunately her eyesight began to deteriorate and in 1992 she was widowed.

Moving to Feckenham in 1994 gave her a fresh start. She enjoyed her life in Feckenham. She worshipped at the church, joined the W I and took part in numerous activities until infirmity prevented her. Just before Christmas she said she would like to be buried here, she felt at home here; content among old friends and neighbours too.

## Newshound



Benedict Reynolds was **Baptised** on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> June in a service conducted by Canon John Green with the organ being played by his grandfather Dudley Fowkes. The service was followed by refreshments at Feckenham Cricket Club where Benedict’s father plays, when the pitch is not waterlogged!

**The wedding** of Kevin Turner and Emma Dewane took place in the parish church on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June. The service was conducted by Canon John Green. Kevin, grandson of Pearl Harris, spent much of his childhood in Feckenham.

Miranda Harman, daughter of Shirley and Tom, **married** Stephen Hooper on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June. The service was conducted by Rev Mark Badger.

After a **funeral** service in church, conducted by Canon John Green, Joan Hawkins was buried in the churchyard on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Joan , the mother of Jillian Rowe, lived happily at Primrose Cottage in Astwood Lane for several years before moving into a nursing home in Redditch.

## Date for Your Diary

Sat 20th October

Children’s Society Coffee Morning

# Thanks

## Hands of Compassion Coffee Morning.

Carol and Pat Onions would like to thank all those who supported their Coffee Morning on 14th July. So many generous donations of Cakes, Bring and Buy, Raffle prizes and cash. The final total should be over £300.

Wendy Ely the Director of Hands of Compassion Community Centre in Ndola, Zambia writes that she is hoping to go back to Zambia very soon but is still waiting for her Work Permit to be re-newed. The roof is on the new classrooms and the toilet block and the money we raised will go towards desks, chairs, books and teachers salaries.

Thank you again,

*Carol and Pat.*

**Thanks** I think most people know that I resigned from the Parish Council in April for personal and family reasons but last month, I had a lovely and totally unmerited surprise, as the Parish Council has given me a leaving present, or rather several leaving presents, a beautiful card featuring a mulberry tree, flowers, theatre ticket vouchers and a splendid guide book to the 1,000 Best Houses in England. It's quite overwhelming, and though of course I have thanked everybody individually, I wanted to say thank you publicly as well.

At the same time I would like to say how much John and I enjoyed the Over Sixties' outing to Bath today and to thank Angela, Richard, Gerry and the Over Sixties in general for organising it. A very good choice for a trip in spite of the rather iffy weather, but what else can you expect this summer?!  
*Antonia*

**Thanks** Jillian and David Rowe and Diana and Michael Chisholm and their families thank everyone who supported them and sent condolences following the recent death of Joan Hawkins.

**A BIG THANK YOU** I would like to say a big 'thank you' to everyone who contributed to the very enjoyable (and very delicious!) Farewell Lunch to mark my

retirement as Administrator for the Bowbrook Group of Parishes. It was an extremely thoughtful gesture and it was lovely to see so many of you there. You have all been such an important part of my journey over the past seven years, and your very generous gift will be used to purchase a stole, which will travel with me throughout my future ministry - our journey together continues . . .

With my love and thanks to you all,  
*Barbara Wheatley*

## Local Matters

*Antonia Pulsford*

### Wild Flower planting at the junction of Astwood Lane and Swansbrook Lane

**A**fter a rather doubtful start this has come good and there is a lovely mixture of wild flowers on the triangle and the adjacent verge, which makes the rest of the verge by the tarmac path to Yeates Acre, which was not remade and planted, look rather drab. I wonder if it would be possible for the Parish Council to get something done about that next spring?!

Our thanks are due to Chris Franklin and Wayne Beard of Redditch Borough Council who organised the planting and who have revisited the site and cut back the docks - their roots are too deep to dig out. This has greatly improved the approach to the village, and we look forward to their advice on how best to maintain it.



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# Wake 2012

*Marion Chute*

## A Sun Sandwich?

How lucky that the weather on 23rd June was a sunny day sandwiched between some of the wettest weather ever seen in June.

After an anxious week, the Committee met and decided that we had to go ahead but we anticipated that the parking fields would be unusable and thus we would make quite a loss. By Friday the winds were too blustery for us to put up our new marquee and thus, when Saturday dawned there was everything to do. However the wind had dried one of the parking fields and the playing fields too so our fall back arrangements were shelved. Many thanks to Mr and Mrs Sharp and Feckenham First School who had been part of that plan B. Then the usual Feckenham magic happened and the tents and gazebos were up thanks to the small army of helpers that just appeared.

The rest, as they say, is history. I am pleased to be able to tell everyone that we did not make a loss, in fact we made a small profit when a kind donation payed for our new Marquee. Our decision not to charge any village or charity organisations the usual 20% meant that our own stalls had to be successful and we are very grateful for the 'Splat the Rat' income and the Wake cakes.

So it's a big Thank You to everyone who helped to make this happen, to Lionel Hill and Winfields for the use of their fields, to Ragley meats and the team of Hog Roasters, to Feckenham First School children for their lovely performance and to everyone who came.

Fingers crossed for 2013!

## **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 parish you may be eligible for a grant.

Closing date for receipt of applications  
**31st August, 2012**

For more information and an application form contact:

Mrs J. Bate  
(Clerk to the Trustees)  
'Wychway', Droitwich Road  
Hanbury, BROMSGROVE  
B60 4DB  
Tel 01527 821285

## **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  
**31st August, 2011**

Further enquiries/applications to:

Mrs J. Bate  
(Clerk to the Trustees)  
'Wychway', Droitwich Road  
Hanbury, BROMSGROVE  
B60 4DB  
Tel 01527 821285

# Thought for the month

*John Green*

## **NO MAN, OR EVEN NO WOMAN, IS AN ISLAND!**

**A**s some of you know, we have recently been on holiday on some islands which have given me considerable pause for thought. Ever since I was a child, I have loved the thought of islands, read about islands, romanticised about islands and, over the years, have visited many. Whilst on holiday, I sat thinking about why it is that islands cast such a spell over me and whether there is anything that this can tell us about the meanings of our life and its relationship to the world of faith.

Pondering this whole question from the vantage point of a few weeks of switch-off holiday, I began to be aware that it was much easier for me to have a greater awareness of the very small territory on which we were perched. It felt as if I could get to know the whole area in a way which is impossible in mainland living where we are confronted with huge areas of territory and a bewildering number of choices for the directions in which we might be travelling. It seemed as if I was able to gather far more of a sense of perspective on what might be the really important things of life, rather than be drowned in a ceaseless kaleidoscope of T junctions, crossroads and signposts. I guess that all of us would like our lives to be really fulfilling, and releasing our gifts and using our potential to the full. Sometimes our very creativity is overburdened with just too many things which are good in their own right but which choke our creativity in the areas that really matter.

As I looked out from the island upon which we were based to the ocean flowing into the far distance, it was easy to perceive how sometimes living on the margins of the world gives us a sense of openness and perspective on the frenetic way in which we so often live. In a world where sea and sky merge, there is a sense of living on the borderlands and, of

course, it was from the borderlands of society that the prophets of old spoke so powerfully and vehemently about another world and another kingdom of which we, as people of faith, are citizens. In the midst of the rush and clamour of so many endless possibilities and claims on our time, it is easy to become completely lost. Indeed, the prophets of both the Old and the New Testaments spoke words of challenge to a society that had lost a sense of justice and truth. These words were spoken from the borderlands of civilization, so often from the desert areas. Today we need to look also for prophets who challenge our own ways of living, and our own lack of generosity and obsession with money and personal success. The point is that so many of us are now living on a wasteland but imaging that we are in the King's palace.

Who challenges you? Who confronts you about your life? Indeed, does the Church of today, speaking as it does from the borderlands of contented and so-called successful life, have a word of prophesy that might cause our eyes to lift from our self-preoccupations, or has its message become muted by a host of pressures that threaten to overwhelm it?

Be still and listen! The God of the ages is still speaking to us through the words and lives of those who love and serve, giving of their lives so generously, openly and selflessly. Maybe there is somebody you know who is gently challenging the way you live, and maybe God is trying to break through into your life. What a pity if you are so submerged by the pressures of living that you never really hear.

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# Family Service

Gary Crellin

Well we did get cats and dogs -• not the rain this time, but real cats and dogs, plus a guinea pig and a duck to celebrate the companionship of pets at our first Pet service last month. • For many, this was a lovely service that gave thanks for the love and joy pets give us -• and no doubt our pets felt the same about us too. The spiritual words of St Francis certainly calmed some of the barking.

This month,•our Family service will be the **Summer Songs of Praise** for a Summer Sunday. I did think about describing it as "wet Sunday" but that would be tempting fate. The service will follow the traditional pattern of a choice of hymns, selected by the congregation, interspersed with readings, poems, tall stories and the like. • If you have any pieces that you would like to read or participate with in the service, let me know via the signing sheet in the church. • See you @ 11am on the 12th August.

Church Newsletters are an important way to communicate God's word and are a valuable resource to the community -• how would we know what was going on (or not) in Feckenham without ours? • I sense that some folk see "published by the Church" and immediately put it down. • Well if you did, perhaps you would be missing on these outtakes from a review of Church Newsletters (not from ours - our Editor would never let these bloomers•drop.....these are real entries so apologies if any offend.....) :-

*The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.'* *The sermon next Sunday: 'Searching for Jesus.'*

*Ladies, don't forget the•Wl jumble•sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping*

*around the house. Bring your husbands.*

*Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.*

*Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.*

*Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.*

*Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get..*

*At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice..*

*Eight new choir robes are currently needed due to the addition of several new members and to the deterioration of some older ones.*

*Bring & Share supper Sunday at 5:00 pm - prayer and medication to follow.*

*Low Self Esteem Support Group will meet Thursday at 7 pm. Please use the back door.*

*The Village diet group •will meet at 7 pm at the•church hall •Please use large double door at the side entrance.*

*And finally,• as the church continues on its mission to raise much needed funds for the church and Tanzania,• let's hope that any posters etc are better than this offering:*

*The church will host an evening of fine dining, super entertainment and gracious hospitality.*

This is my last column for a while as I am off on placement. • The Family Service will be taken forward by Jeff Matthews. • May I take this opportunity of wishing all God's blessing in his•taking forward of the Service, and give my thanks and to numerous folk that have supported my ministry in this way.

God Bless.

# WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

## Feckenham Readers Group



Wednesday, 8th August - 7.45

This Month: THE ELEGANCE OF THE HEDGEHOG  
by Muriel Barbery

Details from Marion Chute - 892285

## A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

CHARITY EVENT

**SATURDAY, 22nd SEPTEMBER**

From 4pm 'til LATE

**At FECKENHAM FOOTBALL CLUB**

*LIVE MUSIC from*

*HAPPY ACCIDENT and accompanying bands*

All ENTRANCE FEES of £5 will be donated to  
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In Feckenham & Webheath

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FAMILY (2 adults, 2 children) £20

Additional Child: £3



Ticket includes a glass  
of wine and refreshments

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# WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

## Feckenham Village Hall

A PROGRAMME OF PROFESSIONAL SHOWS FOR 2012-13

### ZULU TRADITION

Sunday, 21st October - 7.30pm

### Zulu Tradition

From KwaZulu Natal to the world's stage, rekindling the spark of Zulu culture and heritage through traditional drama, song and dance. A Fantastic high energy performance!

Tickets £8.50 (under 14s £6)

Saturday, 10th November - 7.30pm

### The LIGHTHOUSE on SHIVERING SANDS

North Country Theatre presents a sinister story of sand, sea and strangulation. Based on the novel by J.S.Fletcher

Tickets £8.50



Sunday, 17th March, 2013 - 7.30pm

### Kings of the Cloth of GOLD

Angus & Ross Theatre Company in a not entirely authentic (or serious) historical romp. Laughter guaranteed!

Tickets £8.50

Saturday, 13th April, 2013 - 7.30pm

### MUHA in Concert

A mesmerising musical Feast From Eastern Europe  
Lifting, rousing and unforgettable

Tickets £8.50



### TICKETS For all shows are now on sale at

The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown in Feckenham

Online Bookings at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/Feckenham](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/Feckenham)

Telephone Bookings : 0844 8700 887

*Telephone and online bookings incur a booking fee - save money by booking in person!*

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in ZULU TRADITION



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# Village Hall

*Ian Bellion*



## SOME QUESTIONS....

**D**oes your son or daughter come to the Youth Club? ...or the Nursery ...or the Drama School?

**D**o you play badminton? ...bridge? ...learn French? ...enjoy films? ...plays? ...social functions?

**T**he chances are that, if you do any of these things in Feckenham, you'll do them at the Village Hall.

**The Village Hall** is owned by the village (as a registered charity) and is run for the village by volunteers. It receives no money or assistance from from the Council or indeed from anywhere. The Committee runs a very tight ship and is constantly fighting to keep hire charges to users as low as possible so that activities can continue to be affordable to all who want to enjoy them. Everything from unblocking drains to mending broken furniture is done by volunteers. The only paid workers are the cleaners who work when volunteers are not available.

Paying professional decorators would be ruinous so every year, for the last 10 years or so, we've redecorated the entire building ourselves. We're going to do it again soon. Why not join us?

## PAINTBRUSHES AT DAWN

On **Saturday, 18th August from 10am** we'll be painting the interior of



the entire premises. A year of vigorous (and often youthful) use takes its toll so we'll be filling, sanding and repainting throughout. If you could spare us a few hours of your time we'd be delighted. Come in your oldest clothes - it could get messy. There's no reward beyond a sort of virtuous glow - and we might give you a coffee if you're very good ....and a Chocolate Hob Nob? ...Kit-Kat? See you there?

## LOOKING FORWARD TO SHINDIGS

**A**s you may have noticed in last month's What's On pages, we now have details of the Shindig programme for the year.

Shindig is Worcestershire's programme of professional touring shows sponsored by The Arts Council, the County Council and Redditch Borough Council. The aim is to bring the very best in theatre and music to local venues so that you can enjoy them close to home and with your friends. The subsidy means that ticket prices are low (£8.50 this year as compared to an average price of £18 at nearby theatres). These shows also contribute to the Hall's finances which enables the Hall to effectively subsidise local organisations by keeping hire charges low.

## THE PROGRAMME

**Sunday, 21st October at 7.30pm**

### ZULU Tradition

Direct from KwaZulu Natal to the world's stage, rekindling the spark of Zulu culture and heritage through traditional drama, song and dance. A fantastic high energy performance!  
£8.50 (under 14s £6)



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**Tickets for all shows are now on sale at**  
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...and you can save money by buying a  
**SEASON TICKET** at £30 - save £1 on each

## Concert

### Arrow Valley Brass returns to Feckenham Church

The Arrow Valley Brass was founded 35 years ago by its Musical Director, Dave Stanley, who has conducted the band ever since. They have appeared 4 times in the finals of the National Brass Band Championships and were runners up in the third section in 2005.

It's been 5 years since the band last performed in Feckenham Church. Dave has often said that the 2007 visit was one of the best concerts the band has ever played. Well, Feckenham is in for a treat as the band returns on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September. They will be joined, once again, by Clare Furey on the organ, Sue Thomas (Soprano) and Mark Williams (Tenor).

Whether you prefer Purcell's Trumpet Tune, Elgar's Nimrod or music from Les Miserables, there promises to be something to be something for everyone. The evening will be rounded off by a glass of wine, included in your ticket and a selection of delicious eats supplied by the kitchens of Ragley Estates, The Stables Farm Shop and our very own Village Shop.

Tickets from the Village Shop or Ann Matthews.

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# Summer Praise Feckenham Church Family Service



11am

Sunday 12th August



## From the Church Warden

### Retirement of Canon John Green

An opportunity to say thank you to John and Margaret Green for their commitment and hard work over the last four years at a social gathering of the Bowbrook Group:

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> August  
In Crowle Village Hall  
At 7.30pm

Bring your own drinks and some modest refreshments will be provided. Everyone is invited to attend whether you attend church or not. If you could let Ann Matthews know of your intention it would be a great help.

Donations towards a leaving gift would also be welcome, again to Ann Matthews, Chestnut House, 8, The Square, Feckenham.

## Message from the Bishop

The Bishop of Worcester is delighted to announce the appointment of a new Priest in Charge of the parish of Stoke Prior, Wychbold & Upton Warren. His offer of appointment has been accepted by the Revd Wyn Beynon (*pronounced Bye-non*).

Wyn will initially be licensed as Priest in Charge of Stoke Prior, Wychbold & Upton Warren but with a view to eventually becoming Rector of a proposed new benefice which will also include Feckenham and Stock & Bradley Green.

He has extensive ministerial experience having served in parishes in his native South Wales, and in the dioceses of Bristol and St Albans. For five years he was rural dean of Biggleswade.

Wyn and his wife Melissa expect to move in in the early autumn. A date for a licensing has yet to be arranged. He says "Melissa and I very much looking forward to settling in to the parishes and I am delighted to be taking up such an interesting post, getting to know the parishioners, and working with so many able and dedicated people."

## Postcards

I'm still collecting postcards to raise funds for the church in Sudan. I'd be very grateful for any you could let me have by early September to pass to the person who sorts and sells them.

Please contact me on 01527 893929 or 07773 562335 to arrange a hand over.  
Thanks  
Walter Richards, 6 Mill Lane

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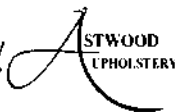
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**"MEMORIALS THAT REFLECT A LIFETIME"**

# Parish Council - July

*Sean Arble*

Chairman R Williams: 07812 034 455

Cllr E Atkins: 01527 542 063

Cllr K White: 01527 458 395

Cllr P Eaton: 01527 894 272

Cllr F Hawker: 01527 894 171

Cllr Pat Hawkins: 07973403707

Cllr W Poole: 07825 947 941

*2012 Meeting Dates: 20 Sept, 15 Nov & 20 Dec*

**A**fter many years of inspirational support to Feckenham and the Council, Antonia Pulsford has resigned as a member of the Council. Antonia's diligent work with the Feckenham Improvement Group was invaluable and she will be sorely missed as person of action. She has been a source of inspiration to all of the Councillors and her considerable contributions to the Parish will be remembered by many of us for as long time to come. Fortunately, Fiona Hawker, Pat Hawkins and Wreide Poole were recently co-opted as members of the Council. The Council is now at full strength for the first time in many months.

There was a sizeable showing for the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council Meeting. The main topic of interest was the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) and the formation of a committee to explore options. Twelve parishioners volunteered to join the Committee. Representatives of Feckenham Neighbourhood Plan (FNDP) met with Alison Grimmett, an officer of Redditch Borough Council (RBC), to discuss the Local Plan 4 now being developed. It transpires that RBC has no plans for development in the parish and invited comments for possible inclusion in the Local Plan. As no development is planned, the FNDP presently doesn't believe there is a need to go through the time consuming and expensive process to develop an NDP. Updates on the progress of Feckenham NDP will be reported periodically.

The work at Swansbrook and Astwood Lane is complete. RBC officers were on hand to sow

wild flower seeds with students of Feckenham 1<sup>st</sup> School. The area is far more attractive and with minimal maintenance the area should remain pleasant. Additionally, efforts will be made to aesthetically enhance the ditch across the street.

On a similar note of Feckenham improvement, the estate gates at the entrances of the village to be positioned near the 40mph speed restriction signs are scheduled to be erected by the end of August. It is hoped the gates will further raise the profile of the village and remind drivers that they are entering into an area where residents care about speed restriction and the upkeep of the village environment.

The Council budgeted £1400 in 2012/13 for local donations. The Council would like to make a decision on grants at the 20<sup>th</sup> of September meeting; consequently, applications are due to the Clerk by 16 September. Any local groups interested in applying for grant should contact the Clerk for an application.

Sean Arble, Clerk to the Council

01789 490 501 [sean.arble@gmail.com](mailto:sean.arble@gmail.com)

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

### 8th DROP IN

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£2 to include:- stalls, raffle etc.

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### 24th Making a Difference Team presents

#### A SUMMER

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

## Feckenham W.I.

Gay Bligh



**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> August** – Lunch at The Rose & Crown – names to Linda or Vivien please.

**Thursday 13 September at 7.30pm** – Guest speaker, Mr Alpren, will talk on 'Antiques – buying and selling at auction'. Members are invited to bring ONE item only for appraisal.

All meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the back room of Feckenham village hall. There is an annual subscription (currently £31.50) but visitors are welcomed to join us for any meeting at a cost of £3.00 per visit. If you require further information please contact Linda Harris on 01527 892850 or Gay Bligh on 01527 893321.

## Village Hall

Improvement Fund 2011/12



### July Winners

75	Peter & Gemma Lane	£25
129	Phil Chapell & Stuart Knowles	£15
13	Gary Simpson	£10

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

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

### EVENTS FOR 2012

**9th September** - Outing to R.A.F. Cosford

**13th September** - Day out at the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas.

Contact Roger Hunt 01527 853116 for details and tickets for any of the above.

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

## Stock & Bradley Gardening Club

Rob Cole

### AMERICAN SUPPER

**Wednesday 8th August 2012 - 7.00pm**

This meeting is hosted by Jan Bates at her 'White Cottage' garden in Stock Green. (*Note that this is a revised date - the original date on the programme sheet was 1st August, but this has now been changed.*)

We will travel independently, and you should aim to arrive at 7.00pm. The full postal address is 'White Cottage', Earls Common Road, Stock Green, Worcestershire, B96 6SZ.

Please bring plate of food to share, a plate, and cutlery. This annual event is always popular and gives our members a social opportunity in a beautiful garden setting.

If you have any queries, please contact Jan Bates on 01386 792414.

All club meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Village Hall, Church Road, Bradley Green starting at 7.30pm, and are free to members for an annual subscription of £10.00. Visitors are made very welcome and may attend for £3.00 per meeting. If you require any further information, ring Jan Bates on 01386 792414 or Rob Cole on 01527 821156.

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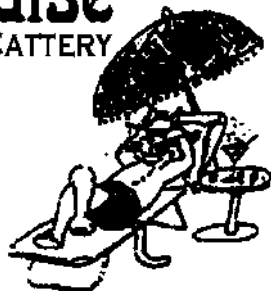
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