

FECKENHAM

FEBRUARY 2018

News

Published by Feckenham Church for the Village
Editor: Jane White Tel.:01527 893281 (Copy date 14th)
e-mail: feckenhamnews@gmail.com



A. Pullen

• MEMORIALS •

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FEBRUARY Diary



Tues 6 th	12.30am	Lunch Club	Village Hall, Back Room
Wed 7 th	7.30pm	Gardening Club	Bradley Village Hall
Thur 8 th	7.30pm	Feckenham WI	Village Hall, Back Room
Sun 11 th	7.30pm	“The thing That came From Over There”	Village Hall
Tues 13 th	7.30pm	Feckenham Forest History Society	Webheath Village Hall
Thur 15 th	7.30pm	“LENT <i>together</i> ”	Feckenham R.C.Church
Fri 16 th	8pm	FeckenOdeon-2	Back Room Village Hall
Sat 17 th	7.30pm	“A Night at the Musicals”	Village Hall
Sat 24 th	7.30pm	FeckenOdeon	Village Hall

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Production Team

Ian Bellion – What’s On
892130 whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk

Chris Fletcher – Newshound
894568 cefletcher44@gmail.com

Antonia Pulsford – Reviews
892268

Jo Warrilow – Advertising, Mags by
post 892059

Jane White – Editor 893281
feckenhamnews@gmail.com

**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

Winter Sunset over Berrow Hill
Photo by Judy Hooker



Church Services FEBRUARY

PARISH CHURCH
of ST. JOHN
THE BAPTIST



Priest-in-Charge: Rev Wyn Beynon **07595 313035**

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 Wychebrook Group, The Parish Centre, St Andrew's Street, DROITWICH, WR9 8DY*

Readers and intercessors

Sunday 4th

Lent -2

11.00am Eucharist

Proverbs 8: 22-31

Colossians 1: 1-14

Intercessor

David Street

Angela Fletcher

Fiona Carter



Sunday 11th

Lent -1

8.00am Holy Communion

1 Corinth. 13:1

Antonia Pulsford

11.00 am Informal Worship with Mission Morogoro

Ash Wednesday 7.30pm Communion and Imposition of ashes

14th February

Joel 2: 1-2, 12-17

2 Corinth .5: 20b – 6:10

Intercessor

Barbara Wheatley

Pat Onions

Ann Matthews

Sunday 18th

Lent I

6.30pm Evensong

Genesis 9: 8-17

1 Peter 3: 18 -22

Intercessor

Ian Hunter

Patricia Collins

Carol Onions

Sunday 25th

Lent 2

11.00am Eucharist

Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16

Romans 4: 13-25

Intercessor

Jane White

John Calvert

Erica Dilger

Feckenham: Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

Initial contacts for these should be directed to Rev. Wyn Beynon:

My mobile number is: **07595 313035** or email wynbeynon@gmail.com Thank you! Wyn

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

World War I Centenary Commemoration

Steve Fletcher



The life of the Feckenham villager **Harry Wakefield Richmond**, who died a hundred years ago in World War One, will be commemorated on Sunday 11th February 2018 at the Family Service to be held in the Parish Church of Saint John the Baptist, Feckenham.

Harry was born in 1892 to Lizzie Richmond, the daughter of Henry and Harriet Richmond, and was baptised in Feckenham Church on 1st May 1892. Lizzie Richmond married Richard Haines in Feckenham Church on 26th December 1896.

In 1901 Harry was lodging at the home of James and Elizabeth Bryan. By 1911 he was still lodging with James, who by then was a widower living in the Church Road / Feckenham Road area of Astwood Bank, and Harry was working as a cycle finisher.

He enlisted in the Worcestershire Regiment on 1st September 1914, seeing action from spring 1915 in the Neuve and Vermelles areas.

From mid July 1915 onwards Harry suffered extensive periods of illness, with hospitalisation, and in 1916 he was gassed. He had further periods of illness and was admitted to hospital in Rouen for some weeks before being sent back to England by ship and admitted to hospital in Taplow, Berkshire until he was - after 2 years and 218 days service - discharged on 6th April 1917 as he was considered to be no longer physically fit for war service.

He returned to Crabbs Cross where he was cared for by his aunt Catherine Richmond, but he was still quite ill, and he died in Smallwood Hospital on 31st January 1918. He was buried in Feckenham churchyard on 5th February 1918, but his actual burial location is not known. However, thanks to the work of Ben Russell in 2009, there is now a Commonwealth War Graves Commission headstone for Harry

in the churchyard with the inscription "buried elsewhere in this churchyard".

Harry is remembered on the Feckenham and Astwood Bank War Memorials.

Thanks

Rous Lench and Inkberrow Royal British Legion branch would like to thank all those who contributed to the £9014.22 raised for the Poppy Fund in 2017. This amount includes poppy boxes in shops and businesses, individual donations and our loyal band of house to house poppy collectors. Also included are proceeds from our three coffee mornings and A Night to Remember concert, which was again a sell-out event.

Chris Bonehill, Poppy Co-ordinator.

How we all enjoyed (year 2017) Paul Furey's "Christmas Tree" at Belmont House. Every time we passed by we thought what a skill in creating this. "Marvellous"! Best tree in Feckenham. Thank you. What next Christmas Paul? Best wishes for 2018
Ann & Doug

Friends of Feckenham Church



Friends of Feckenham Church are delighted to announce "**A Night at the Musicals**" which will take place at **7.30pm on Saturday 17th February 2018 in the Village Hall.**

Tickets at £10 are available to purchase from the Village Shop.

Doors open at 7.00pm, there will be a licensed bar and a raffle with all proceeds going towards the maintenance of our Parish Church.

We hope you can join us and we look forward to seeing you there.

Reg. Charity No. 1168889

Feckenham Parish Council

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN ENDED

Following a review of the results of the Neighbourhood Development Residents' Survey, the Parish Council has decided that the project should not continue. It was agreed that no conclusions as to the wishes of Parishioners could be drawn from the small number of responses. Only 27% of the consultation forms issued had been returned and, although these indicated a small majority in favour of very limited development within the Parish, this could not be taken as a mandate to prepare a Development Plan

It was also noted that the areas proposed for development by many respondents were not open to building because of Government Regulations and Local Area Plan restrictions. The Council felt that it was not justified in spending further funds on a project that obviously had little chance of success.

For further information on this and other Parish Council matters please contact the Clerk at: clerk.feckenhampc@feckenham.com.

NEW CLERK

Feckenham Parish Council is pleased to announce that Mrs Jane Bull, MBE has been appointed to the post of Clerk to the Council. Mrs Bull will take up the post with immediate effect. Councillors expressed their gratitude to Cllr. Erica Guise who took over the job on an acting basis following the unexpected departure of Sean Arble. The Parish Council can be contacted through the Clerk at clerk.feckenhampc@feckenham.com

Village Shop

Jeff Matthews

The Village Shop is participating in the Greenreedeem scheme launched by Redditch Borough Council. You can register on their website and gain points by pledging to recycle which can then be exchanged for vouchers. These can be printed off and used against various offers. This month's offer at the shop is 'spend £5 and get a free hot drink'.

We have logs, kindling & firefighters to get you through the cold weather.

Cafe specials this month Soup & a Roll £2.95
Teacake & a small Hot Drink £2.50



St John the Baptist Church, Feckenham
Ss John Fisher & Thomas More Church,
Feckenham

'The Joy of the Gospel'

Thursday evenings (7.30pm – 9.00pm)

15th February – 22nd March 2018

Ss John Fisher & Thomas More RC Church
Feckenham

for more information, please contact
Revd Barbara Wheatley - 01527 892969

The Wychebrook Group of Parishes

Stoke Prior Church are currently running an appeal for their church tower, below are two upcoming events you may like to support.

EASTER DRAW

FOR STOKE PRIOR TOWER APPEAL

The first prize is £500.00 in cash and there are 19 other good prizes.

Tickets £2.00 each from Tower friends, regular 6pm congregation, or phone Christine Huzzey 01527 831706 e-mail

cwahuzzey@btinternet.com for any queries.

The draw will be made at **Stoke Prior Social Club at 7.30pm on Friday 16th March.** PLEASE PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARY.

There will also be a tombola and a free bread and cheese buffet supper. The Social Club Bar will be open. Do patronise it. The room is free to the Tower Appeal organisers.

A HUGE CONCERT

at the **Château Impney** on:

Thursday, 26 April 2018

at 6.30pm for 7.30pm

The performers will be the **Band of HM Royal Marines** and **Alcester Male Voice Choir** (who sang at Worcester Cathedral for us last year).

It will take place in the Regent suite and we have 1,000 seats available for sale. Two bars will be open before the performance. The ticket price is £35 each. Tickets are available from Christine Huzzey telephone number 01527 831706 email cwhuzzey@btinternet.com

Cheques payable to Stoke Prior Tower Appeal please.

“Mixed Bag”

Young people's group (school years 4-10)

We hang out, explore the bible and its relevance for today, watch videos and have small group discussions about faith. And yes, there also are snacks! Last term we explored Homelessness, Refugees, Relationships, Faith in Action.

Meeting fortnightly in Feckenham church.

Next: Wednesday 7th February 6.30 to 7.45pm

Contact - Fiona Carter tel. 07864 867313

Email fiona-carter@hotmail.co.uk

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VALENTINE'S DAY - 14th Feb

Come Out and Romance Someone! - Try our "LOVING" specials

CIDERS AND SAUSAGES WEEKEND

23rd - 25th February

www.roseandcrownfeckenham.co.uk

Thought for the month

Rev. Gary Crellin

It seems no time at all since Christmas – all that busyness and celebration. Decorations down, sorted and up in the loft. Gym memberships on direct debit to get the best rate to tackle the seasonal weight gain. My low mileage mountain bike serviced for a busy year on the road.....(not).

I'd like to say thank you to all those who helped to make Christmas across Wychebrook so enjoyable – those who contributed in so many ways to the way our churches looked and the smooth running of events. The Christmas Trees across the churches in particular were the best I have seen in many a year, the floral decorations were a delight. We should be aware and be thankful that some people do a lot which is unseen by others. I have had many positive comments about the various services and other events put on across our communities for Christmas. Our choirs put in the hours for some lovely music and puppets made a reappearance at the Feckenham Crib. We had fun at the nursing homes and Avoncroft. We raised a good wodge of cash from our Crib and Carol services for Crisis at Christmas, which I am sure has helped or pumped primed that charity's work with the homeless. It was a pity the wintery weather made our school Concerts a bit of a no go. A sign of the times - 'no council cash for grit cancels Carol concerts'. There's a freebie for the editor! But there is always later this year - for the concerts to happen and a better siting if our yellow grit bins across the parishes. A lasting memory of the winter so far was sledging on Berrow Hill on Sunday morning after the Christingle Service - fantastic. I am sure there will be more of the white stuff to come.

Now the Church's year hurries on and we approach Lent again. February 14th is Ash Wednesday! This year it is upon us rather early. It seems that now that the Christmas season is over, things return to "normal" – and

this can seem very bleak and grey at this time of the year. We may experience our own period of dark and cold, but like the bulbs, we are not dead. We can be preparing, during this quieter time, for when the spring comes and everything seems to come back to life. If we use the season of Lent properly then it will help us to prepare ourselves for the great festival of Easter, which we celebrate this year at the beginning of April.

Lent is so often seen, both by churchgoers and those outside as a season when we give things up. I wouldn't dispute the value of that, but it is rather a negative way of looking at things. I would rather encourage everyone to take up something for Lent. That could be attending church more regularly, or coming to something extra - volunteering across our communities or taking something new up - more time in prayer etc. Or it could be visiting someone who is lonely, making more time for others. There are many opportunities. As Lent kicks off on Valentine's Day, why not start loving each other a little bit more..... love is more than a chocolate, expensive roses, or tacky card. Love needs to last and us not confined to one day a year. Let's go back to Christmas again.....

On Christmas morning, after Wychbold's Service, I popped into a community centre to witness the first Christmas lunch for those on their own at Christmas. They could have been on their own for a variety of reasons but a gang of willing volunteers, marshalled by Tina, put on a splendid Christmas lunch and raffle for people who would otherwise be in their own. What a great thing to do, and something perhaps we could also consider supporting later in the year. These things do take a while to plan so I will plant that seed in your minds now. It also very clearly showed love and compassion in action.

Whatever you decide to do - love someone better, do something different, revisit your church, I'd like to urge you to make a good start to Lent by coming along to the services on Ash Wednesday at Wychbold (1045am) or Feckenham (7pm). And don't forget to use the gym membership....

Rev Gary Crellin

The Children's Society

Ann Matthews



The total collected from the Children's Society house boxes was a magnificent £894.42. Together with the proceeds of the coffee morning in October of £489.05 this makes a grand total of £1383.47. This is absolutely amazing and due to your generosity last year The Society were able to work with more than 18,000 children and young people, and their campaigns contributed to positive changes for more than 5.6 million of them.

One of the young people that the Society helped was Katie. When she was 14 she was removed from her home due to neglect. She was separated from her brothers and sisters, and spent the next few years being transferred from one foster home to another. "They just came and took us all. Me, my brothers and my sisters got put in separate cars and the cars went different ways. It was very hard emotionally. No sisters, no brothers, no mother and father, no nothing." Katie began to run away from her foster placements to spend time with her sisters. She started going to parties where older men were present. Police would find Katie and take her back to her placement, only for her to go missing again, so eventually Katie was taken to live in a secure unit for her own safety. She was introduced to a project worker from the Children's Society, and they began to meet regularly for one-to-one sessions.

"At first I thought that she was just one of these people who know everything, but then I got to know her and yeah she does, I've learned a lot."

Thanks to her project worker Katie began to realise the dangers of running away and how to keep herself safe. Although Katie is still recovering from her past, she is no longer at risk. She is now hoping to attend college to study mechanics.

If you would like to have a box to put you loose change in please contact Ann Matthews 892180 or email ann@the-madison-group.co.uk



No, Not a Spelling Mistake!

This photograph was sent to me by Mike Timmins who said -

My Wife, Pam, & I have recently been helping our youngest daughter Zoe, her husband Geoff and our grandson Jacob move into their new Self-Build House in the village of FRECKENHAM in Suffolk.

Editor

Village Hall

Improvement Fund 2017/18



January Winners

41	Doris Burley	£25
72	Rob & Diane Cole	£15
39	Ailbhe Clarke	£10

The February Draw will be held in the Village Hall at 8.00 pm on Tuesday 2nd February 2018

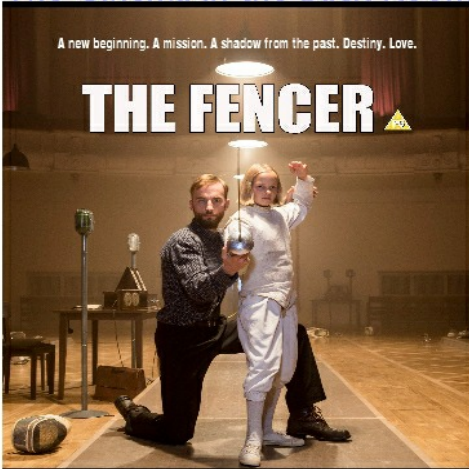
What's On this month in STOCK & BRADLEY

7th	BREAKAWAY THE HISTORY OF TOWN CRYING Village Hall - 10.30am
7th	GARDENING CLUB Talk by Gary Leaver Head Gardener at Hill Close Village Hall - 7.30pm

For more information see
STOCK & BRADLEY CHRONICLE

WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

FeckenOdeon 2 The Cinema in the Back Room



Friday, 16th February 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.fecknodeon.co.uk

*Booking fee applies to phone and online bookings & avoid the fee - book in person.



FeckenOdeon 2 at Feckenham Village Hall

THE FECKENODEON CINEMA SOCIETY



Saturday, 24th February - 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.fecknodeon.co.uk



*BOOKING FEE APPLIES TO TELEPHONE AND ONLINE BOOKINGS. AVOID THE FEE - BUY IN PERSON. LOCAL PHONE RATES APPLY.

FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

Shindig! GONZO ADHOSE
in association with THE POORBOY ARTS CENTRE, THE PEGASUS THEATRE presents

THE THING THAT CAME FROM OVER THERE

WRITTEN BY ABIGAIL ANDERSON

WILD, CRAZY... DEVILISHLY FUNNY
Liam

A RIOT FROM START TO FINISH
Liam Haggart

GRABS YOU BY THE LAPELS AND DRAGS YOU ALONG FOR A RIDICULOUS, RIOTOUS AND GENUINELY INSPIRED RIDE
Paul Haggart

FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL worcestershire
SUNDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY - 7.30PM
TICKETS £11 From The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown.
Phone 0333 666 3366 Book Online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham

Phone and Online bookings subject to 50p handling fee - Book in person and save money!

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

WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM



First Tuesday of every month from 8pm
NEXT SESSION: Tuesday, 6th February

Feckenham Readers Group



Thursday, 8th February - 7.45

This Month:

IN AMERICA

by SUSAN SONTAG

Details from Marion Chute - 892285

Celebrating our 20th Anniversary!

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

FECKENHAM WI
At FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

SUMMAT ABOUT GRUB

with John Morris

Thursday, 8th February - 7.30pm

Visitors Welcome at all meetings - £4

Feckenham Forest History Society

HISTORY OF THE LICKEY HILLS

Talk by George Gascoyne

Tuesday, 13th February - 7.30pm

Webheath Village Hall

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

A NIGHT AT THE MUSICALS



Feckenham Village Hall

Saturday, 17th February - 7.30pm

Doors open 7pm - Licenced bar - Raffle

Tickets £10 from the Village Shop

Proceeds to Friends of Feckenham Church

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

FeckenOdeon Cinema Society

Ian Bellion



ON THE POINT OF A DILEMMA

The first film of 2018 in Feckenodeon 2 comes from Estonia. Fleeing from Stalin's secret police, an ambitious young fencer finds himself teaching small town children. He's so successful that his pupils win a place in a national tournament in Leningrad - but it may be too dangerous for him to attend. Does **The Fencer** put the children before his own safety? A moving and beautiful film in Estonian - but with The FeckenOdeon's unique English "SuperTitles" (at the top of the screen).

"The Fencer"

at 8pm on Friday, 16th February.



FINE FILM - FINE PEOPLE

1940, London, the Blitz; with the country's morale at stake, Catrin (Gemma Arterton), an untried screenwriter, and a makeshift cast and crew, work under fire to make a film to lift the nation's flagging spirits; and inspire America to join the war. Partnered alongside fellow screenwriter, Buckley (Sam Claflin) and eccentric actor Ambrose Hilliard (Bill Nighy), the trio set off to make a film that will warm the hearts of the nation and capture the imagination of the American population. A funny yet touching slice of wartime life, **"Their Finest"** is one of the very finest films of 2017.

"Their Finest"

at 7.30pm on Saturday, 24th February.

Tickets (£5) for FeckenOdeon shows are on sale at The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown. You can also book by phone (through TicketSource) on 0333 666 3366

Village Hall

Ian Bellion



IT'S YOUR HALL - ENJOY IT!

We're delighted to report that, in a recent survey, most people chose Feckenham Village Hall as one of the most important village assets. The Hall hosts activities for everyone - young, old, rich and not so rich. It's run by villagers for villagers and it aims to provide a high quality facility at very modest cost. Many of you support the Hall through the monthly draws, many of you have helped us decorate the Hall ... but there's an easy way to go one step further - just come along to a Shindig show. The Shindig programme, sponsored by the Arts Council, offers high quality professional shows - and, if enough of you attend, they help keep your Hall's finances healthy. They're fun and there's always a bar - who says fundraising can't be fun!!!



A MOOSE ON THE POLE

Less historical fact, more Monty Python, **The Thing That Came From Over There!** tells the story of Reginald Cranston Scot-t-t. Yes, that is Scot-t-t with three-t's... He and his team of intrepid explorers set off to get to the South Pole first. As they get closer to their goal they encounter evidence of an interplanetary meteor strike, bringing traces of alien, slime-eating worms which leads the brave team to mysterious murky caves where something might be hiding. Will they beat the aliens? Will they get to the Pole and live to tell the tale?

The answer to these questions may or may not be revealed in this latest *Shindig* show from Gonzo Moose which comes to the Village Hall on **Sunday, 11th February**. This strangely named company has a reputation for large scale, super realistic, over the top performances - so expect lots of snow, lots of action and lots and lots of laughs!

Tickets (£10) are on sale at The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown, by phone on 0333 666 3366 (local call rates) and online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham

Square Management Committee

KARAOKE KAROLS

The annual Carols on The Square repeated the success of previous events with hundreds of villagers and guests turning out on Christmas Eve to give the old favourites an enthusiastic new lease of life. The customary tanker full of mulled wine was drunk and a dumper truck load of mince pies were eaten. The Christmas tree lights were ceremonially switched on by Margaret Matthews - accompanied by a very brief but explosive pyrotechnic display.. and then they were off - cantering through the snow (yes, there was snow), gathering winter fu-ooo-ell and washing the shepherds' socks by night. The singing was marshaled by a couple of aggressive elves and the roving microphone captured some lovely singing voices... and some that would have been better left unamplified. In all it was, once again, a joyful noise - and a fitting start to Christmas proper.

GENEROUS JOLLITY

The Merry Throng were generous to a fault and the collecting buckets yielded an impressive £830 - every penny has been sent to support the County Air Ambulance. Thanks to everyone who contributed!

The Square Committee would like to thank everybody who made mince pies, helped before the event, served the grog and helped clear up - there are too many to list here but you are very much appreciated. Particular thanks to Maxime Melson for kitchen facilities, Judy Underwood for pie dispensing, Tim Maynard (apprentice rocketeer) and Phil Talbot (tree monkey).

The Carols are organised for the village each year by The Square Management Committee which consists of Ian Ridley (Chairman & Head Bucket Rattler), Barry Hamilton (Vice-Chairman & Chippy), Dawn Southwell (Treasurer & CupCake Maker), Ian Bellion (Secretary, MC & Choir Wrangler), Judy Hooker (Caterer & Grog Mixer), Tim Smith (Chainsaw Artist & Rocketeer), Alan Smith (Head Elf & Snowmaker), Peter Masters (Bucket Rattler & Dispenser of Liquid Gold), Slade Arthur (Santa's Little Helper).



A NICE CHAT...

From time to time the hard news of Swansbrook's current affairs programme, "The Broadsheet", is replaced by something a little more gentle - like a nice chat over a cuppa. "In Conversation" takes a leisurely look at the lives of local people. At the time of writing, the subject is Marie Morgan. Mrs Morgan is 91, the same age as the Queen and she's lived in Feckenham for many years. Born between the wars, Marie tells Paul Furey about her love and marriage (1949), life after the war, her working life, her family and she recalls stories about Feckenham life - long ago. She remembers the abdication and the Coronation and presents her own choice of music. Prepare to smile and to be surprised!

E IS FOR HEPHALUMP

Colin James is a foreigner... well, he lives in Astwood Bank... but he's been broadcasting for many years and has a winning way - specially when it comes to the popular music of the 50s and 60s. He's decided to work his way through the alphabet of pop - but not necessarily in that order. Currently he's playing music relating to the letter E which everyone knows comes after T - and stands for Hefalump, Helvis and Hethel Merman... or maybe not... Join Colin for his ramble through the list of tuneful letters - all presented with hexemply 'elpful hexplanations...

LISTEN TO THE SWANS

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Feckenham Spring Flower Show

Saturday 7th April 2018

Margaret East

The 'Springtime in Feckenham' Flower Show will be held on Saturday 1st 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 Hat 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 3 cut Daffodils - long trumpet (all same variety)
- 2 3 cut Daffodils - short trumpet (all same variety)
- 3 3 cut Daffodils - double (all same variety)
- 4 3 cut miniature spring flowers (all same variety)
- 5 3 cut Tulips (all same variety)
- 6 3 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 Feckenham' 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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Feckenham Cricket Club

Bob Gordon



January tends to be a grey and somewhat melancholy month after the full-on nature of Christmas and New Year, however it does have historical interest. St Agnes' Eve (January 20th) for example.

This was the day on which girls and unmarried women who wished to dream of their future husbands would perform certain rituals before going to bed. These included transferring pins one by one from a pincushion to their sleeve whilst reciting the Lord's Prayer, or abstaining from food and drink all day, walking backwards up the stairs to bed, and eating a portion of dumb cake (previously prepared with a group of friends in total silence and often containing an unpleasantly large portion of salt) before lying down to sleep.

I suspect that this tradition has fallen into disuse.

Cricket is however now on the horizon - the first and second team fixtures for the have been published for the coming season and the juniors held their first indoor practice session last week. Senior players have their diet and training schedules and are working on removing any seasonal weight gains while rebuilding muscle and lung power.

As you may know we have three players in Australia, playing for clubs over there over their summer. One of our blossoming junior players, 13-year old Sam Blackburn, was also in Australia and caught some of the recent Ashes series. His trip was capped at the end of the drawn fourth test when Sam was singled out in the crowd by England's wicket-keeper Jonny Bairstow, who presented the delighted lad with his pads. A lucky boy indeed!

At the other end of the age spectrum, I would like to offer the first part of Steve Daniels' story - I had thought about editing it but I hope that you agree that it is too good to leave anything out. These are Steve's own words (part 1).

55 Years at Feckenham Cricket Club by Steve Daniels

My introduction to FCC was by a school friend, John Hicks, at the local Grammar School (Redditch CHS) which we studied at from 1962. We both loved playing cricket and played for the school team. John lived in Feckenham at the newsagents and grocery shop which was in the High Street, next door to the Village Hall. (Unfortunately it burnt down in the mid sixties). During the summer of 1963 when we were both 12 year olds John suggested I joined him at Friday evening practice sessions with the rest of the Feckenham cricketers at their new ground in Mill

Lane. Practice took place anywhere on the outfield against an old roller with a large wooden board in front to stop the ball if the batsman missed it. After practice the members had to push the old roller up and down the pitch to get it flat enough for a game the following day. While practice was taking place the field was being cut by an old set of gang mowers pulled by Jarv Slades tractor. I recall most of the players in those days came from village families, the Burley's, the Baylis's and the Davis's. along with Neil Johnson, Pete Masters, Chris Bishop, Dave Farmer and several others. Facilities at the ground were in their infancy in those days, a pavilion had been erected and dressing rooms and toilets were in the process of being added. It was noticeable to a newcomer that the enthusiasm of the Founder Members of the Club backed up by the support of the village community promised a bright future for FCC. Dennis Baylis was Ground Manager from the start and spent much of his spare time preparing pitches in the summer months and building the pavilion and making improvements to the ground during the winter period. The Burley brothers Ken and Len both played for the team, Len was Captain for 10 ten years or so, and their influence in organising the Saturday Night Bingo sessions in the village hall was immense as it raised the funds to buy the ground and provide the pavilion and equipment. This enthusiasm encouraged me to join the Club and help out whenever I could. One memorable project in 1967 was to change the direction of the pitches so that the setting sun didn't cause a problem to batsmen. The outfield between the brook and the pitches was also improved at this time with Dennis Baylis hiring a turf cutter and bulldozer and me and the other junior members providing the labour. In a week of our school holidays we cut and lifted the turf off this part of the field while the bulldozer levelled the topsoil and we then replaced the turf. We started playing on the field again within a fortnight and this work enabled the Club to increase the number of pitches on the square from 8 to 14. Further work has taken this to 24 enabling more mid-week games and practice sessions to take place.

To close, I'd like to mention a couple of events taking place at the club over the next month or so. On the evening of Friday February 9th we will have a live performance in the clubhouse from Feckfest favourites NooT. NooT (Nicely Out Of Tune) play songs from Lindisfarne and other popular artists and are great entertainers. We also plan to put on another bingo-related event in the coming weeks, look out for the poster on The Square.

Stock & Bradley Gardening Club

Rob Cole

THE FEBRUARY MEETING is on Wednesday 7th 7.30pm

Our speaker is Gary Leaver, the Head Gardener at Hill Close Gardens in Warwick, who will give an account of the rescue and restoration of these Victorian pleasure gardens, and their development over the last few years.

For this meeting, the theme for our members' monthly competition will be 'A Snowdrop Flower'. Our speaker will act as judge, and every entry will win a point, and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd will be awarded additional points. The member with the most number of points in the year will then be awarded a prize of a 2019 subscription to the Gardening Club at the December 2018 meeting.

Please note that the £8.00 annual subscription (reduced from £10 for 2018) became due on 1st January 2018 and should be paid at this February meeting. Please make cheques payable to 'Stock and Bradley Gardening Club'.

The next Club meeting - Wednesday 7th March 2018 at 7.30pm Our speaker will be Richard Fishbourne who will give an inspirational talk entitled 'A Neurotics Guide to Growing Vegetables'.

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 £8.00 for 2018. 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.

Feckenham W.I.

Jane White



This month we meet in the Village Hall Back Room at 7.30pm on **Thursday 8th February**. Our speaker for the evening is John Morris, his chosen title "Summat about grub". As a professional chef, John has entertained and given us culinary knowledge on several occasions, on this time he will be teaching us how to joint a chicken 'the chef's way', and to make it into a chasseur.

Outings in the near future are
14th March, "Carousel" at The Palace Theatre
24th April, "Oklahoma" at The Palace theatre
5th June, Morton Hall Gardens
Contact Vivien Hunter 01527 402360

"Craft & Natter" afternoons are on 7th and 21st Feb. At 2pm. Contact Jane 893281



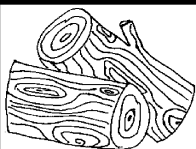
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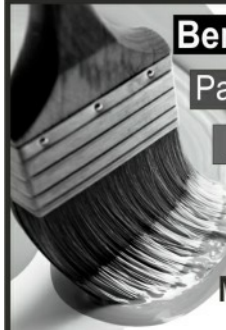
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