

FECKENHAM

FEBRUARY 2017

News



Published by Feckenham Church for the Village
Editor: Jane White Tel.:01527 893281 (Copy date 14th)
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FEBRUARY Diary



Wed 1 st	7.30pm	Stock & Bradley Gardening Club	Bradley Village Hall
Tues 7 th	12.30am	Lunch Club	Village Hall, Back Room
Tues 7 th	7.30pm	Feckenham Forest History Society	Feckenham Village Hall
Thur 9 th	7.30pm	Feckenham WI	Back Room Village Hall
Sat 11 th	7.30pm	"A Fistful of Spookies"	Village Hall
Fri 17 th	8pm	FeckenOdeon-2	Back Room Village Hall
Thur 23 rd	7.30pm	A.G.M. Of the Flower Show & Over 60's Party Fund committee	Village Hall Back Room
Sat 25 th	7.30pm	FeckenOdeon	Village Hall
Sat 25 th		"Blingo"	Cricket Club
MARCH			
Sat 3 rd	3pm	Meeting to discuss the 2018 Flower & Garden Festival	Village Hall Back Room

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www.feckenham.com

Front Cover


The team of Hand Bell ringers who played at the Carol Service. See page 9 for details of the renovation required. Photograph by Thea Matthews

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

Readers and intercessors



Sunday 5th

Lent-4

11.00am Sung Eucharist

Isaiah 58:1-9

1 Corinthians 2:1-12

Intercessor

Doug Curtis

Jane White

Alison Crellin

Sunday 12th

Lent-3

8.00am Holy Communion

Antonia Pulsford

11.00 am A Romanian reflection

Sunday 19th

Lent-2

6.30pm Evensong

Genesis 1:1-2:3

Matthew 6:25-end

Intercessor

Stephen Cox

Carol Price

Erica Dilger

Sunday 26th

Lent-1

11.00am Eucharist

Exodus 24:12-end

2 Peter 1:16-end

Intercessor

Walter Richards

Angela Fletcher

Barbara Wheatley

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

Newshound



Engagement

Jamie Hubball, son of Gilly Cooper and Henry Hubball is now engaged to Emma Ballard. Jamie now lives in London and is a maths teacher. Emma previously from Inkberrow, also lives in London where she works at the Science Museum. Congratulations to them both.

Please no more dog mess!

It has been noticed that there has been a significant and very unpleasant increase in the amount of dog poo deposited on the pavements along the Droitwich Road in Feckenham.

This is a fairly recent problem so maybe there are new dog owners using the paths? Please do remember to pick up and dispose of your dog's leavings appropriately. Thank you.

This is one of two comments received on the same problem in this particular area. Editor

Notices

Found

A sum of money has been found in Mill Lane. If you know who it belongs to call -01527892285.

Mum & Baby Group.

A friendly group that meets every Wednesday at 9.30 in the back room of the Village Hall. Activities for a small fee payable weekly. Just come along or call Danielle on 893508.

Feckenham Flower Show & Over 60's Party Fund

Margaret East

The A.G.M. Will be held on Thursday 23rd February in the back room of the Village Hall at 7.30pm

We are looking for extra committee members to join us. Why not come along and find out more about this valuable village group.

Flower & Garden

Festival 2018

 Cathy Fisher

MEETING TO DISCUSS THE 2018 FLOWER AND GARDEN FESTIVAL - Sat. 4th March

With next year's Festival on the horizon I would like to invite all garden owners who have opened in the past and those who might like to open in the future, the Flower Group and WI representatives, all volunteers and anyone else who may be interested, to tea/coffee and biscuits in the back room of Village Hall at 3pm on Saturday 4th March 2017.

I hope that this 'get together' will provide the perfect opportunity for further discussion and some most welcome feedback from you all. It will also be great to catch up!

If you are unable to join us but would like to express any views or thoughts, please send an email to: catherine.fisher@talk21.com
Hope to see you all on the 4th March.

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Folk Music - Tuesday, 7th February

Valentines Suppers - Tuesday 14th February

3 course special menu - £18.50 - includes glass of bubbly

North African Themed Menu

Thursday, 23rd February - 6pm - 9pm

www.roseandcrownfeckenham.co.uk

Local Policing

PC Paul Downes joins Redditch South West and Rural Policing Team New year, new changes!



January 2017 saw the retirement of long service Police Officer, Richard Waterhouse. After 24 years of Policing the patch, Richard hands over the reins to another experienced Neighbourhood Police Officer, Paul Downes.



Paul joined West Mercia in April 2002 and has worked within the local communities of Redditch and spent three years on Roads Policing, before returning back to Redditch as the Local Policing Officer for Matchborough. Paul has been in the role for the last ten years and has a firm footing within the communities of Matchborough and Winyates. He is very community focused and believes that the empowerment of the community is fundamental

and paramount to the feel good factor within the local area.

Paul is keen to bring all his skills and experience to Feckenham and the surrounding areas. Paul will soon be a regular sight in Feckenham and will be looking to introduce himself around the area, so if you see him on patrol, please feel free to stop and say hello.

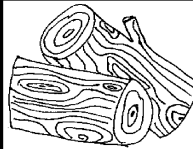
“Together, we do make a difference”

**To contact Paul Downes
Neighbourhood Police Officer**

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e-mail:

paul.downes@westmercia.pnn.police.uk



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

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 1st | BREAKAWAY
History of the Regal Cinema
with Rob Hemming - 10.30am |
| 1st | GARDENING CLUB
A YEAR ON THE VEG PLOT - 7.30pm |
| 12th | WALKING CLUB
Meet at Bradley Church - 10am |
| 22nd | Defibrillator Training
Village Hall - 7 to 9pm |

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

Friends of Feckenham Church



Some eagle-eyed attendees at last year's WWI concert may have noted the stand at the back of the Church advertising the 'Friends of Feckenham Church'. This is a newly formed group that has been set up to assist in the repair and maintenance of the magnificent Church, which we are fortunate to have in our village. Once upon a time there was a chancel levy imposed on villagers to ensure the upkeep of that part of the Church. Whilst the levy has now disappeared, unfortunately the requirement to maintain the building, overall, has not.

The 'Friends' is a registered charity with the aim of raising money to help pay for the ongoing upkeep of the church. Rather dauntingly this amount has been set at approximately £250,000 over the next 10 years. A large mountain to climb you might think, however broken down into specific projects it is perhaps less so.

Apart from raising funds, the Friends wants to help to establish an even closer bond between the church itself and the residents of the village and surrounding areas. We believe there are other opportunities for the Church's use that would augment the excellent work that takes place at the village hall. The Church and its grounds are a facility that should be available for the whole community regardless of anyone's religious persuasion. Given its scale and acoustics, hosting musical events like the magnificent WWI concert, would for example be the type of event well suited to the church. However, over time we are hopeful to find other uses that will benefit the pastoral life of the village.

The first two maintenance projects the Friends will be undertaking are some steps to make the currently somewhat uncomfortable pews a little easier to sit in for longer events, as well as an upgrade of the sound system to enhance the listener's experience.

There are larger scale projects planned. In addition to fund raising activities we shall be applying for grants that are available and the Friends has also been offered donations to undertake specific works on the church. The requirement for general maintenance activities, such as gutter cleaning, also remains so it's not just about giving money, volunteering your time and/or your expertise is just as welcome too. We plan on setting up a website to let people know the work schedules that are planned.

You will find a leaflet enclosed in this edition that lays out in more detail information about the Friends. We would like to encourage as many of you as possible to get involved to assist the Friends with the upkeep of the village's most prominent architectural landmark and to share with us any ideas that you may have about its use. Our plan is to communicate regularly with you as things develop.

A talk by Reverend Gary Crellin
Sunday 12th February

at 11 am

At
St John the Baptist Church

*"Love is all you need -
and a few hundred shoeboxes -
A Romanian reflection"*



Refreshments served after the service

World War I Centenary Commemoration



Albert Edward Fisher

The life of Albert Edward Fisher, who died on 2nd February 1917, will be commemorated on Sunday 12th February 2017 at the Family Service to be held in the Parish Church of Saint John the Baptist, Feckenham.

Albert Edward Fisher was born in Feckenham in early 1880, one of eight children of George and Anne Maria Fisher, nee Dyson. His siblings were Mary Ann, John George, Arthur Amos, Elizabeth, Jane Maria, Rosanah, and Henry Herbert. He was Christened in Feckenham Church on 25th January 1880, and attended Feckenham School.

When Albert Edward was born, his family were living at Mutton Hall Farm, but by 1901 they were living in High Street Feckenham. He married Rosella (Rosetta?) Ellens in Feckenham Church on 15th February 1902, and they had three children; Albert, Greta Millicent (who married Reginald Yates in 1930), and Iris. By 1911 he had moved to Evesham Road Astwood Bank, when he was a nickel plate finisher for a local cycle manufacturer.

By 1916, he was working as an insurance agent for the Prudential Assurance Society.

He enlisted in the Army on 4th September 1916, training with the 2nd Brigade, 6th Battalion on Lord Lichfield's Estate on Cannock Chase, probably at Rugeley Camp, where he completed his training and was allocated to the Royal Field Artillery as a driver.

Before Albert was able to go on active service he became ill and was admitted to Rugeley Camp Isolation Hospital with Meningitis, and died there on 2nd February 1917, aged 37. He is buried in Edgioake Cemetery, Astwood Bank.

Albert is remembered on the Feckenham, Feckenham School and Astwood Bank War Memorials, and the Astwood Bank Baptist Church Memorial, now at Cookhill Baptist Church.

Suite for the Fallen Soldier: CD & DVD now available

We have been overwhelmed by the positive response to the inaugural performances of 'The Suite for the Fallen Soldier' which took place over Armistice weekend in November. Thank you for those that took the time to give their personal feedback. Certainly, for both performer and audience alike it was something rather special, and for many a genuinely moving experience, that seemed to transcend just a performance. We have now been able to produce the CD and DVD of the performances, a blend of Friday and Saturday, and we can now offer them for sale. So if you missed it, or would like to hear and/or see it again it is available. The production qualities of both are rather good, if we say so ourselves, and for that we can thank Clare Furey's father, Chris Jones (an ex-BBC sound engineer) and brother Rich Jones (similarly accomplished film and video editor). A CD will cost £7.50 and the DVD £10. It will come with a 6 page leaflet in a cellophane wrapped CD box or a DVD case, making it an excellent gift or keepsake.

It will be available in the shop (definitely), and via the website (we hope) via a link to Amazon, should people at a distance want to order it. At time of writing we are in the middle of the technical aspects of all that but are on schedule for a launch on 14th Feb.

We would ideally like to have got it out before Christmas, but that did not prove possible. However, it has given us an interesting opportunity to contrast 11th Nov, the date of the performance and its position in the calendar with a launch of the recordings on 14th February. Remembrance against St Valentine's day, beginning of winter and end of winter, and grieving as opposed to love – deep stuff, but in some ways, it does capture the journey represented in the work. So, if you'd like a CD or DVD (we have produced 200 of each) please get along to the shop or go to www.feckenhamwwi.org.uk.

Feckenham Hand Bells

John Eaton

There is evidence that the tradition of hand bell tune ringing especially at Christmas goes back many years in the village. The origins of the current collection of hand bells now kept in the church tower are lost in the mists of time. We do know from Pete Masters that he remembers the bells being kept in the house when he was a small child and that his Uncle Ned and Grandad told stories of ringing about the Parish at Christmas time and the state of the ringers after many invites to celebrate the season and imbibe. Eric Styler lead a band of ringers in the early 1960's who gave hand bell concerts and helped raise the funds to repair the church bells at that time unringable and bring them back into regular use.

There is now a regular band of hand bell ringers who meet on a Tuesday evening at 6.30 to practise before the main tower bell practise at 7.45

The restricted nature of the current hand bells in use means that there are many popular tunes that cannot be rung so an enhancement and refurbishment of the set is long overdue, to give accidentals and scope for work in different keys.

The hand bells are in three groups. The regular set being used at present, some old bells which have not been used for some time and a set of eight bells which belong to The Badger family. They have always been in their house and it is believed were part of the sign when it was a public house known as "The Eight Bells". That is 28 bells in total.

None of the groups of bells make up a full chromatic octave and all the bells need refurbishing to bring them up to a satisfactory standard.

There are now enough bells to have two chromatic octaves (25 Bells). We have been in discussion with John Taylor & Co Bell founders of Loughborough and they are in the process of giving us a written quotation for the work. Some of the bells will have to be re-tuned but

we are hoping there will be enough so that it will not be necessary to have the two cracked bells recast. (A very expensive process)

We have already raised £1,294. £500 has come from the Feckenham Charity and a further £794 has been given in memory of Eric Styler.

We believe the final cost of the renovation will be in the order of £5,000 but we will not get the final quote until the new year. We would like to raise the remainder of the cost by donation. Donors may wish to dedicate a hand bell to a past or present family member.

As the bells are not large we would suggest the name followed by the years of their life (e.g. 1940 – 2016) if they have passed on. Such detail would be inscribed on the crown of the hand bell under the leather circular base below the handle.

The total cost of the refurbishment will be about £200 a bell so we are seeking to raise a further £4,000, say donations of £150 a bell or more if you would like a dedication on a hand bell.

Please contact one of the bell ringers if you are interested in this project or if you would like to become a hand bell tune ringer. We are also hoping to encourage the involvement of some younger people.

John Eaton 07831 434330

john@eatonconsulting.co.uk

Tim Haslam

timhaslam@quartzzip.co.uk

Vivian Hunter

vehunter@blueyonder.co.uk

The band shown on the cover rang in church at the end of the Carol Service. Editor.



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WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM



THE
FECKENHAM
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NEXT SESSION: Tuesday, 7th February

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FECKENHAM WI
At FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL
WHERE EAGLES FLY

Thursday, 9th February - 7.30pm
FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL
Visitors Welcome at all meetings - £4

Feckenham Readers Group

Wednesday, 15th February - 7.45

This month's book: CURTAIN CALL
by Anthony Quinn

Details from Marton Gate - 892285



Feckenham Forest History Society

THE REAL DADS ARMY

with Malcolm Atkin

Tuesday, 14th February - 7.30pm
Feckenham Village Hall

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



Stock & Bradley GARDENING CLUB

A YEAR ON THE VEG PLOT

by Mick Pountney

Wednesday, 1st February - 7.30pm
Bradley Village Hall - 01527 821355

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

WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

FeckenOdeon 2

The Cinema in the Back Room



Friday, 17th 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

FECKENODEON CINEMA SOCIETY

DUSTIN
HOFFMAN

THE
GRADUATE



ANNE
BANCROFT



MUSIC by SIMON & GARFUNKEL

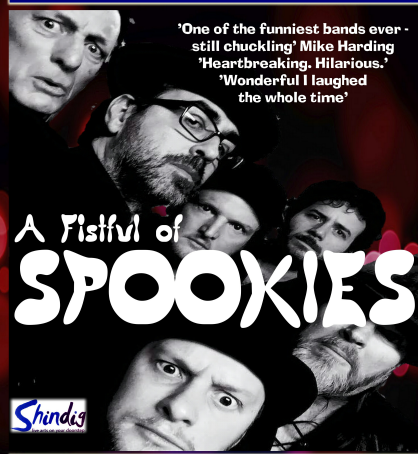
Saturday, 25th February - 7.30pm

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

FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL
 SATURDAY, 11TH FEBRUARY - 7.30PM

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

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

Phone and Online Booking - avoid the fee - book in person and in person!



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

The FeckenOdeon Cinema Society

A HOOT FROM NEW ZEALAND

We've enjoyed a good number of Australian films at the FeckenOdeon -



but we've never had one from their nearest neighbour. We're delighted to remedy that with the hilarious "**Hunt for the Wilderpeople**" - described as a comedy adventure, this fast moving romp tells the story of Ricky, the foster child nobody wants to foster. Social services are at their wits end - he's a real handful and none of their placements work... until somebody has the idea of placing him with a country couple... far from the mean city streets he comes from... and it works... for a while. Fate takes a hand and Ricky and his foster dad (Sam Neill) find themselves on the run... in the bush - and, if you thought the bush was in Australia, think again. This is a refreshing delight of a film.

"The Hunt for the Wilderpeople" showing in FeckenOdeon 2 at 8pm on Friday, 17th February.

GRADUATION GAMES



Shocking in its day - and still a bit edgy today, "**The Graduate**" tells the story of Benjamin Braddock (Dustin Hoffman), a recent graduate returns to his Los

Angeles home after graduation and his parents throw a party so they can boast of their son's academic achievements. Mrs. Robinson, a lady of his parents' generation, persuades Ben to drive her home and seduces him... It's of its time and of its place but there are themes still relevant nearly 50 years later... and the music of Simon and Garfunkel is a reminder of what was and what might have been.

"The Graduate" showing at 7.30pm on Saturday, 25th February.

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

Feckenham VILLAGE HALL



NOT AT ALL SPOOKY!

The message is "don't be spooked by the title"! The next show in the Village Hall's collaboration with Shindig features "**A Fistful of Spookies**". Some explanation is necessary: The Spooky Men's Chorale is an international male chorus which originated in Australia. The British members perform as "A Fistful of Spookies" because there are five of them... (five fingers, one fist... geddit?)

TWINKLING AND GURGLING...

These Spooky Men seek to commentate on the absurdity and grandeur of the modern male armed only with their voices, a sly collection of hats and facial hair, and a twinkle in the eye. They're capable of rendering audiences moist eyed with mute appreciation or haplessly gurgling with merriment - sometimes both at the same time. Their repertoire ranges from thousand year old Georgian songs to sensational new arrangements guaranteed to woo, charm, cheer & delight. Such as... "Don't Stand Between a Man and his Tool", "It's Out There Somewhere Doris" and "Sometimes I forget Things" ... as well as sonorous classics. All totally unaccompanied and without the aid of a safety net..

Fine singing combined with a great sense of fun!

A Fistful of Spookies

Saturday, 11th February at 7.30pm

'one of the funniest bands ever - still chuckling'

Mike Harding

'guaranteed a good night out. Good stories, spectacular singing!' Mark Radcliffe, Radio 2

Tickets for this show 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

BIGGER, BETTER, BRIGHTER!

Yet again the annual Carols on The Square has exceeded all expectations. More people than ever before came out onto The Square on Christmas Eve to welcome the Festive Season in rousing style. More Mulled wine was served, more mince pies were eaten and more good cheer was evident... and generosity was the most abundant feature. The Committee's collecting buckets, wielded by Peter Masters and Ian Ridley, were filled to overflowing - so much so that a record £770 was donated to the Worcestershire Air Ambulance - an astounding achievement for an event that lasts just over an hour. The Committee would like to thank everyone who contributed and who, by so doing, helped keep a vital service in the air.

MORE PEOPLE TO THANK...

The evening was kicked off in explosive style by Neville Collis, Postman (Retired) and the twin rockets which erupted magically into the sky were courtesy of Phil Tricklebank. The ad hoc choir which led the singing was a jolly combination of Community and Church Choirs - thanks Phil, Jerry and Amanda... and the rest of the lusty choristers for keeping us on track despite the erratic efforts of MC, Ian Bellion. Many of you made and gave mince pies, cakes and fancies - thanks for those. You were kept warm and jolly by logs generously donated by Nick Banham (07931 165052 if you need to top up your log stock) and Alan and Pat Moore donated the gallons of electricity needed to keep the lights on - thanks also to Pat, Max and Sue for pie and punch warming facilities.

The Catering was under the command of Judy Hooker working with Dawn Southwell and Barb Masters. The lights, brass band and snow were conjured up by Alan Smith and the rocketeers were Tim Smith and Barry Hamilton. Many, many others helped and encouraged - thanks to you all. It was a great start to Christmas and, if you're not careful, we'll do it all over again on Christmas Eve 2017.



SUPERFAST SWANSBROOK

Listening to Swansbrook Radio just got even easier! With the introduction of Superfast Broadband to Feckenham you can hear us without all those stutters and drop offs. It's also made making and transmitting programmes much easier for us - before Superfast it took us 45 minutes to upload a programme to our servers... and now it takes just 35 seconds - a pretty dramatic improvement! We urge you to join the revolution - not only will you be able to enjoy Swansbrook but you'll also be able to view high definition TV and other radio stations (perish the thought!) are available instantly. Get in touch with your internet provider now to see if you can upgrade!

WE'RE OUT AND ABOUT...

Our wonderful lightweight digital recording equipment makes it easy for us to report "from the field". We've broadcast from fields and showgrounds, halls and huts - we've ranted in Romania, stuttered in Sri Lanka and bothered people in Bromsgrove - so, if you have an event or happening you think would make good radio, please let us know about it.. although inviting us to a silent vigil would be counter productive. Just e-mail us on radio@swansbrook.com and we'll mobilise our machinery.

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Go to www.swansbrook.com and follow the instructions you'll find there. You'll also find programme times and details of how to register for updates. Many programmes are now available for you to play on demand - listen when and where you like. To contact us please e-mail radio@swansbrook.com.

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Broadband

Jen & Q Cary

Feckenham Goes Superfast!

Hi everyone,

After three and a half years of campaigning against Worcestershire County Council's decision to leave us off their plans for fibre broadband, we've now got it!!! Everyone who is connected to cabinet 6 on The Square can now order it. For full details though of all the options for broadband in Feckenham (whether you are connected to cabinet 6 or not), please read the leaflet that was delivered to you all in mid-January that was produced by the Parish Council's Broadband Working Party.

However, this is good news for you even if you don't use broadband – as part of the fibre installation our telephone cabinet has been upgraded. It's been there for nearly 80 years and wasn't in good order and so was the cause of lots of faults. We've now got one that uses the latest technology, so if you have a landline off this cabinet, or you do use standard broadband

over copper, your service should now be much more reliable.
Jen and Q Cary

Before → 🖐️



After ↓ 👍



Feckenham Forest History Society



Feckenham Forester, Issue 4 (2017)

Following the success of the first three editions of our annual local history magazine, (which required several reprints to meet demand), the 2017 issue is now available. It may be purchased (price £3.50) direct from the editor (see below) or at Feckenham Forest History Society meetings or from the following outlets: ASAP Printing, Headless Cross; Crabbs Cross PO; Hancox Store, Astwood Bank; Forge Shop, Inkberrow; **Village Shop, Feckenham**, or Nonnykettle Books, Redditch.

The 2017 issue contains many old photographs and new articles on the history of the Redditch, Inkberrow, Feckenham, Hanbury area and surrounding villages in east Worcestershire (the ancient Feckenham Forest area) from Roman times to the 20th century.

Items include:

- Entertainment in Redditch
- The Beoley Skull revisited
- The making of sailor's palms in the Greater Redditch Needle Area
- Draconian punishment for placing stones on the railway line
- Letters between Robert Joseph and John Feckenham
- A rose by any other name?: the use of aliases in local parishes
- The Windsor family of Hewell Grange
- Roman roads through Hanbury
- Old postcards of Inkberrow, Astwood Bank and Feckenham

Copies of Issue 1 (2014), Issue 2 (2015) and Issue 3 (2016) are available from the editor (price £3.50 plus postage).

For more information contact the editor: **Richard Churchley**. Phone: 01527 892361 or email: rachurchley@totalise.co.uk

For details of the society see
www.feckenham-forest-history-society.org.uk

Village Shop

Jeff Matthews

The Village shop is now connected to super-fast broadband so you can take advantage of this in the cafe whilst enjoying a hot drink and some delicious local cake or something tasty from the deli. So if you are still on an old, or intermittent service at home, that could be very useful indeed.

If you're looking for a gift, a range of the lovely spotty crockery is available to buy. Distinctive and lots of fun, it's a great way to brighten up a breakfast or coffee table.

Don't forget Valentines Day! We have cards, speciality chocolates and a selection of wines including bubbly. We are hoping that the DVD and CD from the performance of The Suite for the Fallen Soldier will also be available by then, offering a gift of a different and perhaps more poignant thought.

This month's cafe specials – a small hot drink and toasted teacake £2.50 (this still represents some of the best value around.)

Also, Soup and a roll - £2.95.

And as winter starts to bite, logs, kindling and firefighters are still available.



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Feckenham Cricket Club

Bob Gordon



Following last seasons double team promotions this is the first time in 17 years that the club has competed at this level. Both the first and second teams will be in their respective first divisions of the Worcestershire County League and this will bring the first team club up against teams such as Red-ditch, Droitwich, Stourport, Hagley and two teams from Worcester.

The fixtures having just been released, the first team will start the season with a home game against Cookley on Saturday April 22nd while that day the seconds make the trip to Evesham.

3rd XI fixtures have not been issued yet but usually start in early May and home games for the team will (at least for the coming season) take place at Hewell Cricket Club. Creating another pitch within or nearer Feckenham would of course be ideal but is not a simple undertaking, requiring first that a plot of land is found and then a considerable amount of work to flatten and prepare the pitch and outfield and in particular to prepare several pitches or tracks. If anyone reading this has some land that might be used for this purpose the club would very much like to talk to them!

There will also be a number of Sunday matches, including National Village Knock Out games, the final of which is played at Lords the "Home" of cricket. The 1st XI will also take part in Division One South of the T20 (20 over competition) Worcestershire Sunday League.

PLAYERS NEEDED!

**Age and experience are not important
– if you would like to play just come
down to the club at the weekend and
ask at the bar or telephone Neil Evans
on 07985 214850.**

Players returned to training on 25th January for net practice at Prince Henry's High School in Evesham. New or prospective players are welcome for subsequent nets – call the clubhouse on (01527) 892797 on Thursday or Friday evenings or from noon on Saturday or Sunday.

Our success has a price in terms of increased costs – an example being the need to provide two new balls for each home match for three teams rather than two. The bill for the new season's balls is in excess of £1,000 and this is a factor in our plan to hold a fundraising event every month – more on this

below.

Work has continued to prepare the Mill Lane ground for the coming season and the cricket pitches had their annual deep aeration procedure in the second week of December during a mild spell, thus avoiding frost damage. This procedure punches thousands of holes into the grass surface to a depth of six inches to enable the grass roots to grow deeper and stronger after a year of heavy rolling which compacts the soil and hinders grass growth.

The aeration was of course preceded by an exercise to evacuate as many worms as possible, in order to avoid harm to these important creatures. Many lobworms in particular are encouraged to the surface by "charming" them through the vibrations caused by tapping a carefully-inserted garden fork. Experiments have found that greenworms more readily appear when music is played. There were high hopes for "Up, Up and Away" by 5th Dimension but in fact it was found that anything by Status Quo had them bursting out of the soil at a considerable rate. As an arctic blast hits the UK in mid-December the club wormery has been receiving more visitors needing to overwinter in more clement environment but there are hopes that all but the most frail will be released into the outfield in early March.

The cold weather has also had an effect in the clubhouse, causing damage to the showers in the changing rooms, requiring repairs to be made ahead of the season start. This once again highlights the need to constantly search for ways to bring income into the club.

To address this, the club has plans for an event to be held every month and we hope that villagers can join us in the fun that we have planned. By the time that you read this, a "horse racing" evening will have been held on January 28th and there are plans for Valentines Night on Saturday 11th February – contact the club for more information. On Saturday 25th February we will have a **Blingo** evening. Not a misspell, this is bingo but players are encouraged to come dressed up to the nines in glamorous, over the top clothing and far too much jewellery. In addition to the bingo games, there will be a prize for the individual judged to be in the most OTT attire. Bingo was chosen because of the important role that it played in raising money to establish the club almost 60 years ago. Events beyond February include laser clay shooting provisionally booked for Saturday 25th March, Mother's Day teas, Easter Egg hunt, Mexican themed evening (dress, food and music!) etc. etc.

Stock & Bradley Gardening Club

Rob Cole

THE NEXT CLUB MEETING - On Wed.

1st Feb. at 7.30pm Mick Poultney will give a talk entitled 'A Year on the Veg Plot'. Mick is an experienced vegetable grower and will entertain us with his experiences and advice. The theme for the monthly competition is 'A Winter Flower (single specimen)'. To take part, just bring along an exhibit for judging by the speaker. 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 be awarded a prize of a year's subscription to the Gardening Club, at the AGM in December.

The annual subscription for 2017 (due 1st January 2017) should be paid at this meeting, please, if you haven't already renewed or joined.

The following Club meeting - Wednesday

1st March 2017 at 7.30pm is a talk by Paul Green of Green's Leaves nursery in Gloucestershire. His theme for the evening is 'Choice Plants for Early Season Interest' which he will demonstrate by using live material.

Club meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Village Hall, Bradley Green and are free to members for an annual subscription of £10.00 commencing and renewable on 1st January. Visitors are made very welcome and may attend for £3.00

Feckenham W.I.

Jane White



This month's meeting is on **9th February** at **7.30pm** in the Village Hall Back Room. We will be welcoming back Rosemary Morris and Bas Yates for another enjoyable evening with their wonderful wildlife photography. The talk is "**Where Eagles Fly**", about the wildlife on Lewis and Harris. The evening includes light refreshments, visitors welcome (£4)

Village Hall

Improvement Fund 2016/17



January Winners

131	Warwick & Beverley Bladon	£25
10	Margaret Matthews	£15
40	Eileen Newman	£10

The February Draw will be held in the Village Hall at 8.00 pm on Tuesday 7th February 2017

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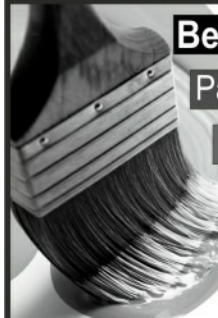
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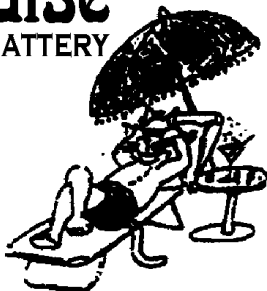


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