FECKENHAM NEWS

January 2026

Published by Feckenham Church for the village
Editor Gilly Cooper - feckenhamnews@gmail.com

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Feckenham News in January

Dates for your Diary

January

3rd	Tree Felling
	Messy Church
7th	S&B Gardening Club Meeting
8th	PC Meeting
13th	Readers' Group
19th	WI
29th	Burns Night at Rose and Crown
31st	FeckenOdeon

February

7th	Village Hall Show
13th	FeckenOdeon 2

Regular Sessions

Mondays	Dance Academy
Tuesdays	Tai Chi
Wednesdays	Playgroup (term time)
Thursdays	Bridge; Hatha Yoga

Second Monday of the month: Mobile Library
First Tuesday of the month:
Lunch Club, Feckenham Sessions
First and Third Wednesday: Community Choir
Second Wednesday Art Club
Third Monday of the month: WI
1st and 3rd Fridays : Erstwhile Morris Dancers

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Front Cover

Photo: by the editor

Alan Jones' tree with festive baubles.

Magazine online at www.feckenham-parishcouncil.gov.uk

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.

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Editor's Note

By the time this edition of the magazine drops through your letterbox, Christmas will have come and gone. I hope everyone had a wonderful time and, those who feel that it's a stressful time, are relieved it's all over. It's certainly not easy for everyone for so many reasons.

I received a letter from Chris West suggesting we have an announcements section. It could be called "Hatched, Matched, Dispatched" or a more serious name such as "Announcements". It will only work if villagers let me know of anything relevant to anyone connected with the village. Please bear this in mind, and let me know if you have information to share. Neil Evans has sent an obituary about Alan Watkin which is in the Cricket Club section. Perhaps this could start a trend.

On the subject of life events, I hear that we have new residents at 14 High St. More on this next month.

Whatever I am doing, I am on the lookout for people with interesting things to tell that have some connection to the village. Recently, I met Jason Waine, someone I know through his profession as a vet in Redditch and his colleague Ken Barber, a very old friend of mine. I had no idea that Jason has been enthusiastically mothing. Please see his article on the moths he has spotted locally, especially at the Wylde Moor. If you have a hobby or expertise which might be of interest to locals, please let me know. If you aren't a writer, just tell me about it and I'll write it up.

Hoping you have a wonderful 2026 and keep to your New Year's resolutions, at least for now.

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Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Having lived in Feckenham for over 50 years I am always saddened to hear of the passing of someone whom I have known for many years. Sadly I often only hear months after the event. For the younger and newer residents of our lovely community the marriages of their contemporaries and the prospect of new additions to the village would no doubt be of equal interest. There currently seems to be no way of communicating these life changing, or ending events widely. I am sure that a 'hatched, matched and dispatched' column in Feckenham News would be a useful way of keeping us all in touch with these important happenings in our village.

Chris West

The FeckenOdeon Cinema Socety

P-PICK UP A PENGUIN

Inspired by the true story of a disillusioned Englishman who went to work in a school in Argentina in 1976. Expecting an easy ride, Tom discovers a divided nation and a class of unteachable students. However, after he rescues a penguin from an oil-slicked beach, his life is turned upside-down. He hoses the bird down and then the blighter won't stop following him. Steve Coogan tries to star but it's the penguin who deserves top billing. *(UK 2025)*

THE PENGUIN LESSONS (12A)

Saturday, 31st January at 7.30pm

BAND OF BROTHERS...

Thibaut is an internationally renowned conductor who travels the world. When he learns he was adopted, he discovers the existence of a younger brother, Jimmy, who works in a school cafeteria and plays the trombone in a small marching band. Everything seems to set them apart, except their love of music. Sensing his brother's exceptional talent, Thibaut decides to remedy the injustice of fate. Jimmy begins to dream of a different life... A funny and moving film from France. *(FR 2024)*

THE MARCHING BAND (12A)

Friday, 13th February at 8pm

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

Feckenham Village Hall

TOP ROCK STAR ON STAGE

Many readers will remember the halcyon days of the 1970s and early '80s when a great Brummie band were never out of the hit parade. The Electric Light Orchestra (better known as ELO) were an international sensation... and for much of that time a young man called Dave Scott-Morgan was on stage and on record with them - playing guitar and singing. Dave also played and wrote music with The Move, The Uglys and other top bands of the era. We're delighted that Dave will be revisiting those days with his trio, Morganisation, in a show at the Village Hall - memories, music of the time... and a few new tunes too.

MORGANISATION

HOW THE BEATLES GOT ME A JOB WITH ELO

Saturday, 7th February at 7.30pm

TICKETS for shows at the Village Hall are on sale at The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown. Book online through www.feckhall.org Book by phone on 0333 666 3366

IMPROVEMENT FUND DRAW

Many thanks to all of those who subscribed to this year's Improvement Fund Draws. The Hall's Committee is grateful to you for contributing £12 each - and even more grateful to those who contributed multiples of £12. The total collected at the time of going to press is exactly the same as it was for 2024/25 but you can still join in if you forgot to send your entry in time!

The results of the first 2 draws are below.

Draw results

Feckenham Village Hall Improvement Fund draws. Carried out on 2nd December 2025.

November:

1st (£25)	45	Andrew & Karen Henson
2nd (£15)	121	Brian Robson
3rd (£10)	54	Cyril & Jo Warrilow

December:

1st (£25)	66	Mike Davis
2nd (£15)	88	Carol Onions
3rd (£10)	92	Ed Chute

Feckenham Parish Council

FLOOD DEFENCE WORKS

The Parish Council has been working with multiple authorities and agencies to ensure that work to prevent flooding in the Astwood Lane / Swansbrook Lane area is carried out. A scheme of works has been agreed and the Council is doing its utmost to ensure that this solution to a long-standing problem is implemented in summer 2026. Contrary to information residents may have received in a recent leaflet drop, funding has not been withdrawn by the County Council. A problem has been encountered resulting from a reduction in the budget of the Environment Agency. The council is currently working with other funders to make up the shortfall.

HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

The Council is grateful to parishioners who responded to the recent survey which sought to establish the need for new housing in the Parish. A draft report has been received and is being studied. The final report will be published on the Council's website in a few weeks' time. What is abundantly clear is that respondents do not think that large scale housing estates should be built in Feckenham.

PRECEPT

At this time of year the Parish Council is obliged to set its precept for the coming financial year. The precept is the money that the Council uses to pay for services, projects and the running of the Council. It is collected as part of your Council Tax. The precept was not increased last year as this followed a substantial increase in the preceding year. After much deliberation the Council has decided that an increase of 10% is unavoidable. This is because the Council is faced with substantial expenses relating to large planning applications, flood defences and other remedial work. It should be noted that the Parish Council's budget accounts for a very small proportion of your total Council Tax Bill

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

The subject of Battery Energy Storage Systems and Solar Installations is extremely complicated. The Council faces multiple planning applications relating to these schemes. A great deal of research has been undertaken by or on behalf of the Council alongside work undertaken by the action group FABBSSS. It has decided to make this research available to the public by posting the papers produced on the Parish Council's website - feckenham-parishcouncil.gov,uk

It should be noted that these are research documents and do not necessarily represent the Council's policy on these matters.

NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday 8th January at 7.30pm in the back room at the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend. There is an "open forum" section at the beginning of all Council meetings where you can raise matters of concern or ask questions of the Council.

GET IN TOUCH

If you have queries or need help with local problems you are very welcome to contact the Council. Initially you can call the Parish Clerk on 01527 892522 or Email:

clerk@feckenham-parishcouncil.gov.uk

NEED INFORMATION?

Visit the Parish Council's website for information about the Council, planning issues, local organisations and useful contact details to help you solve problems. You'll also find digital editions of Feckenham News going back to 2012.

feckenham-parishcouncil.gov.uk

CHURCH SERVICES

PARISH CHURCH of ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Vicar - Vacant following the appointment of Fr Glenn to the Arch Benefice near Evesham.
Assistant Curate - The Rev Fiona Carter (unpaid volunteer - part time only)
Church Wardens - Vacant.
Weddings and Baptisms please contact the Rev Fiona Carter on fiona-carter@hotmail.co.uk
To arrange a Funeral please contact your Funeral Director
For all other enquiries please contact Ian Hunter, Secretary to the Parochial Church Council preferably by email to secretary@feckenhamchurch.org.uk or 07874 800108.
Website www.feckenhamchurch.or.uk

PARISH CHURCH
OF
ST.JOHN THE BAPTIST
FECKENHAM

Services for January 2026

4th January	**10.30am**	**Eucharist**	**Rev Fiona Carter**
11th January	**10.30am**	**Family Service**	**Phil Tricklebank ALM**
18th January	**6:30pm**	**Evensong**	**Rev Fiona Carter**
25th January	**10.30am**	**Eucharist/Morning prayer**	**TBA**

Drop in (in church)

Wednesday at 10.30am - 12.00pm
14th January and 28th January
All are welcome (coffee and cake)
Coffee Stop (in church) Tuesday **Tuesday January 13th**
All are welcome (coffee and cake)
And toys for children: 2pm - 3.45pm

FECKENHAM ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Mount Carmel 6 pm Sunday Mass is now the Live Streamed Mass.
Link: www.eventcast.uk/live (Type the link into the browser)
Local contact: Phylis Mott, Feckenham. Tel 893898

T4U CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL 2025

I go though such a roller coaster of emotions when I am counting the boxes in readiness for collection. I am always thrilled to see them all full to bursting with so much thought and love, but at the same time sad to know that there are still so many children and families in the world with so little to call their own. Lets hope and pray that our simple gifts will be the start of better times ahead for them all !

Thank you all so much for your support, kindness and generosity! I am absolutely delighted to tell you that together with June Crofts and our Shoebox Friends in Stoke Prior, Tricia Mortimer and Shoebox Friends in Callow Hill Village, Bradley Green and Hanbury. This year we collected 297 boxes. I gave T4U £865 in donations plus £573-65 from fundraising, enabling T4U to make up another 100 boxes on our behalf
Making this years GRAND TOTAL 397. This Christmas our boxes were distributed in UKRAINE

Thank you too, for all of the donations to go in boxes and for the beautiful knitted items, they are always so gratefully received !
On the subject of knitting, Horton Hall retirement Apartments in Droitwich started a knit and natter group last year, all the knitwear was donated to our shoebox appeal, but they have run out of wool and have asked for donations, so if you have any spare wool would you kindly take it to church and pop it in the donations basket. Thank you !
Lin

TOGETHER WE HAVE CHANGED LIVES ONE BOX AT A TIME

Churchyard Mowing

Our thanks go out to all the volunteers from congregation and the wider village community who mow this area as well as the paths in the Lower Churchyard.

Advancing years does mean that the fortnightly mowing rota needs refreshing and we do need new volunteers able to offer a couple of hours once during the growing season. If you would be interested in volunteering, please contact Fred Hicks (who is now managing the mowing rota to find out what is involved.

The Parochial Church Council does not receive any external funding for the maintenance of the churchyard, and we rely entirely on volunteers. We do provide the necessary equipment, and we spend some £300 a year on fuel and maintenance.

Ian Hunter on behalf of the Parochial Church Council

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Messy Church

Join us

on Saturday 3rd January

10 - 12

at St John the Baptist Church, Feckenham

We will be finding out about Epiphany through craft, food and our celebration time.

Messy Church is for everyone, and is free, just turn up and join in.

Feckenham Square Management Committee

CHRISTMAS PAST

At the time of writing Christmas hasn't happened yet - but we'll assume that it did happen and that the Carols on The Square event also happened and was a success. For the time being we'll say a general thank you to all who helped make it happen - singers, bucket rattlers, providers of mince pies, volunteer punch ladlers, etc. We'll have a fuller report in February's Feckenham News.

We must offer an apology to anyone who responded to our appeal for help in erecting the village Christmas Tree on 6th December. We're sorry if you rearranged your Saturday morning ... only to find that the thing was already up and dressed. The tree supplier got the date wrong and delivered it a week early - so the Committee had to set to and get it in place on 3rd December.

TREE FELLING

There's another chance to flex your tree wrangling muscles when the tree has to come down on **3rd January** - you'll be very welcome to join us when we meet at **10am on The Square**.

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MERRY MELODIES

We hope you all had a great Christmas and found something to enjoy in Swansbrook's Christmas programmes. From Colin's Yuletide rockers, Chris's Classical Crackers, Ian's requested rarities to Nick's chilled prog rocks... we hope there was something to your taste. In addition, if you didn't manage to get to the church, we've been broadcasting the Service of Lessons and Carols recorded on 21st December. All of our Christmas output is still available to listen to On Demand - so, if you're feeling like a bit of merry music now the greyness of January is here all you have to do is go to swansbrook.com and your post-Christmas blues will be banished.

BAKER'S REFUGE

One of the best things about an Internet radio service is that it knows no boundaries - people all over the world can hear our programmes. It's really quite gratifying when people from far off lands take the trouble to get in touch. One example is a gentleman by the name of Ken Hamilton who lives in Marshall, North Carolina. Ken used to work as a cookie baker and had Swansbrook playing as he mixed the dough in the early hours of the morning. Now he's retired from that side of the business to specialise in the making of intricate cookie and confectionary moulds based on antique designs. The moulds are finely detailed and take a great deal of concentration to make but Ken finds that Swansbrook radio helps. If you'd like to see some of his work go to cookiemolds.wordpress.com - he's happy to export to the UK!

LISTEN TO THE SWANS

Go to **www.swansbrook.com** and follow the instructions you'll find there. Most of our programmes are available for you to play ON DEMAND - listen when and where you like - as often as you like.

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WHAT'S ON IN

FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

MORGANISATION

Former ELO musician leads trio in original songs, rock 'n' roll classics and ELO hits.

Saturday, 7th February at 7.30pm
Book online at feckhall.org
by phone 0333 666 3366
or in person at The Rose & Crown
or The Village Shop

Feckenham READERS GROUP

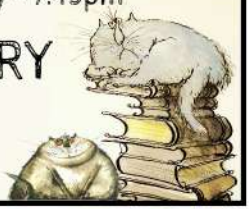
Tuesday, 13th January - 7.45pm

This month's book:

THE HUNGRY TIDE

By Amitav Ghosh

Information: 01527 892285



ERSTWHILE

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at Feckenham Village Hall
2nd and 4th Fridays - 7pm

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FECKENHAM

THE FECKENHAM SESSIONS

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at THE ROSE & CROWN

First Tuesday of every month from 8pm

NEXT SESSION: Tuesday, 6th January

Stock & Bradley Gardening Club

BRING & SHARE SUPPER

and a

GARDENING QUIZ

Wednesday, 7th January - 7.30pm

Stock & Bradley Village Hall

Feckenham Parish Council

MEETING

Thursday, 8th January - 7.30pm

Feckenham Village Hall

(Back Room) All welcome

Meetings include a Public Forum where parishioners can bring matters to the attention of the Council and ask questions.

Feckenham's Own...

Listen at www.swansbrook.com

SWANSBROOK Radio

THE FECKENODEON CINEMA SOCIETY

STEVE COOGAN

in

The Penguin Lessons 12A

FeckenOdeon 1 Saturday, 31st January at 7.30pm

THE MARCHING BAND 12A

FeckenOdeon 2 Friday, 13th February at 8pm

The FeckenOdeon Cinemas

at Feckenham Village Hall

Tickets for all shows from **The Rose & Crown and Village Shop**

Telephone Booking 0333 666 3366* **Online Booking*** & full information at

www.feckenodeon.co.uk

*Booking Fee applies to Phone and Online Bookings

*Phone calls answered by Ticketsource and charged at standard rates - NOT a premium line

theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN

Next Meeting: Monday, 19th January

NUTRITION

8pm - Feckenham Village Hall

Contact jen@thecarys.co.uk for details

whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk or call 892130

Feckenham Archive - Marion Chute

Memories of summer days to cheer us up. These photos came from Wake 2005 when much fun was had with the Feckenham coracle pool.

Which turned into a general pool for everyone later in the day…. and then in the evening our home grown band performed!

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Feckenham WI

Our December meeting wasn't very festive this year (except for Barb's Christmas jumper!) as we did a self defence class with the excellent Pete Martin from Redditch Self Defence Association.

After a very mis-spent youth, Pete has dedicated the last 35 years to improving people's safety and campaigning against knife crime. Working from the association's centre in Britten Street by the station in Redditch, Pete and the team run all sorts of classes on self defence and martial arts. For our session, he took us through the best ways to avoid a confrontation in the first place (avoid bad people, bad places, and bad times), the legalities of self defence, and some practical tips on warding off unwanted attention. We asked him to cover a lot in a very short session and he rose to the challenge magnificently. We all feel much more informed on how to avoid bad situations and what to do if we get in one. We now also know that putting your key in between your knuckles is pretty useless!

We look forward to seeing Pete again next year for a session on how to safely and effectively intervene when you see a stranger being harassed or attacked, skills which would greatly benefit both sexes.

Our January meeting is on Monday 19th and we are having a talk on nutrition - very apt as we all begin our post-Christmas diets! We meet in the back room of Feckenham Village Hall. Doors open at 7.45 and the meeting starts at 8pm. Members are free and guests are £5 - all are welcome.

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Moths at Feckenham Wylde Moor - Jason Waine

I have been studying moths since I was about eleven years old. They have always fascinated me; their sheer numbers and their variation as well as their life histories. For some years I have run a couple of moth traps regularly in my home garden which backs onto a wood. This is quite productive and the records gained have been submitted to the County Recorder for verification and then on to the National Database. These records help to monitor moth populations which are a sensitive indicator of environmental change. There are several types of moth trap but they all consist of a light source which usually emits a bright, high ultraviolet light component, a body in the form of a drum or box (into which I place egg trays for the moths to hide in) and a small entrance which the moths can't find to escape from. The aim is to record numbers of each species without harming the moths. I photograph each moth in case there is any query about identification and then I free them. For the past five years I have increasingly been trapping outside of my garden in reserves, mainly in Worcestershire, and one of the reserves I have used (with permission) is Feckenham Wylde Moor. This is a particularly interesting site as it consists of boggy fen peat, a rare habitat, with scrapes, a pool and fenland flora but also with a lightly wooded north edge. I use three small, mobile, 20 watt actinic traps powered by batteries and I have recorded some rare and unusual moths here. The varied landscape also results in a wide range of species. Moths found here include Elephant and Poplar Hawk-moths (large and gaudy types)

Elephant Hawk Moth

Poplar Hawk Moth

The rarer but maybe less spectacular moths include migrants such as the Dark Sword-grass, European Corn-borer and Rusty-dot Pearl. Less common residents include Brown-veined Wainscot, Large Wainscot, Silky Wainscot, Southern Wainscot, Bulrush Wainscot, Obscure Wainscot, Small Rufous, Brown Plume, Pale Eggar, Blackneck, and Round-winged Muslin.

Feckenham Wylde Moor always delivers unusual, fen-land related types of moth that I don't see anywhere else in our area - many of the moths listed above are indeed fen and bog specialists.
This year has been a pretty spectacular year for the moth-trapper with large numbers of usually uncommon species and who knows what the future might bring!

Merveille du Jour

Swallow Prominent

Swallow-tailed Moth

Orange Sallow

Pale Eggar

Black Neck

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Village Shop - Alan Slater

As we step into a new year, I would like to extend warm thanks to everyone, both volunteers and customers, who have supported us throughout the past twelve months. Whether you pop in daily, weekly, or only occasionally, your visits, conversations and encouragement are what keep our little shop thriving. Being volunteer-led means we rely heavily on the people who give their time so generously, but it also means we rely just as much on those who choose to shop locally. Together, you help sustain a place that is far more than a shop – it is a genuine community hub.

During the run-up to Christmas and into the New Year, we have been working behind the scenes to refresh our stock and bring in some appealing new lines. One of the highlights is the introduction of pickles, jams, marmalades and dressings from a local award-winning producer. These artisan products have already caught the attention of customers, and we are pleased to champion such high-quality goods made right on our doorstep.

We have also expanded our range of biscuits, offering more choice to complement the much-loved varieties from Frank's that many of you already enjoy. Whether you are looking for something classic, something indulgent, or simply something to accompany a cup of tea on a chilly afternoon, there is now plenty to explore.

To accommodate our growing selection, we have recently reorganised the shop layout. Shelves have shifted and displays have been refreshed, so can I encourage you to take a little extra time during your next visit to browse the new arrangement. You may discover items you hadn't noticed before.

We remain firmly committed to keeping prices fair and stocking products that offer good value for money. Your feedback plays a big part in helping us achieve this, and as a result of recent comments, we have made a change to our deli supplier, after being forced to find an alternative to the very popular offering from Fladbury. Let us know what you think of the new pies and the tasty sounding lamb and mint pasty.

Most importantly, the Village Shop continues to be a meeting place – somewhere to exchange news, enjoy a friendly chat, or simply feel part of village life. Every purchase helps keep this space alive, vibrant and welcoming.

From myself, to all the volunteers and customers, thank you for your ongoing support, and we look forward to serving you throughout 2026.

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Rob Cole's Gardening Tips

TWO GOOD SNOWDROPS
Rob Cole

Despite the current irritating craze for glorifying minutiae in snowdrops, I still love them. Not because I can boast that I have some rare forms, or that I found a plant in a Garden Centre that was a wee bit different, but simply because they are beautiful and are so welcome when very little else is in flower in the cold, dark days of January and February.

Two snowdrops have done particularly well for me, one is fairly commonly available and the other less so. Snowdrops do not really like our heavy clay soil, but these two cultivars stand out each year as being particularly strong and successful.

The first is the readily available *Galanthus* 'Lady Beatrix Stanley'. From a single bulb purchased for £1.50 at an Alpine Garden Society meeting in January 1994, it had increased to 55 bulbs when I split the clump for the first time in February 2007, and has continued to increase wherever I hadivided them and spread them around. (Why is it that the expensive ones don't do this !). Although this clone has been around since the 1950's, it was only given the cultivar name of 'Lady Beatrix Stanley' in

1981 (by Richard Nutt, an avid snowdrop authority), and commemorates the owner of the garden in which it is thought to have arisen. Its flowers are gently double, and the tips of the inners are marked with two small dots.

The second good doer is *Galanthus elwesii* 'Sickle' which I purchased for £9.00 from Roger and Sue Norman's 'Ivycroft' nursery in February 1994 and was one of the first 'more expensive' snowdrops which I began to buy. It has formed a good clump in a herbaceous border where it is challenged by surrounding Sedums and other herbaceous perennials, and yet still flowers lustily and increases steadily year on year. The last time I split it there were over 40 bulbs. According to Matt Bishop's book entitled 'Snowdrops', it is "rather slow to increase and consequently very rare at present", so my experience seems to be out of the ordinary.

Stock and Bradley Gardening Club Report

CLUB MEETING – Wednesday 3rd December 2025

Our meeting at the Village Hall on Wednesday 3rd December started with a short AGM, followed by a practical display and talk about 'Vintage Garden Tools' by John and Carole Matthews. John brought a large collection of garden tools, some over 100 years old, and described their uses and methods of manufacture in a most entertaining way. Some of the tools were for sale, and many of them found new homes with our members.

NEXT CLUB EVENT – Wednesday 7th January 2026

Our next meeting at the Village Hall will be on Wednesday 7th January 2026 and will be a 'Bring and Share' supper followed by a 20 Questions Gardening Quiz.

The subject for the monthly competition is 'Something Flowering Today'.

Club meetings are normally held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Village Hall, Church Road, Bradley Green starting at 7.30pm, and are free to members for an annual subscription of £5.00 for 2026. Visitors are made very welcome and may attend for £3.00 per meeting.
If you require any further information, ring Rob Cole (Chairman) on 07544 832052.

Feckenham Cricket Club

A sad day has arrived that we must announce the passing of a long standing member of the cricket club, Alan Watkin.

Alan was born in Enfield in 1932, his fathers factory job being transformed into aeroplane manufacturing in the second world war, during which young Alan mixed sports between football with his mates and sprint training to Anderson shelters when the sirens went off. The family settled in Ewell, near Epsom, where Alan attended Epsom Grammar & first became interested in cricket playing for Old Grammarians. After national service & undertaking various jobs as diverse as accounting & tree surgery, he settled in Holberrow Green in 1965, where he married. The marriage didn't last but the couple remained friends, sharing sunday lunch every week until his wife passed away a decade ago.

Alan appeared at Feckenham when Ken Burley persuaded him to play whilst delivering groceries to his house, and a lifelong connection was made. Mainly a second team player, but in an age where cricket was more widely played, Alan took on several key roles within the club including captain, secretary for over ten years & club president for 20 years, only standing down earlier this year due to his inability to travel to the club.

Alan was inseparable in his later years from his companion, Jill Irons, the wife of his great friend, Fran, after Fran passed away, and they were often seen at club functions together and helping out whenever they could. Whilst still driving Alan could often be seen ferrying stuff around in what became a living reincarnation of the scooby doo van.

Alan passed away on Sunday November 30th, 8 days before his 94th birthday. There is no direct family in the UK, only a distant niece and nephew in Australia, so it will be a pure cremation with no service. We are expecting to receive his ashes January 9th where they will be scattered on the ground at 1pm saturday January 10th where a celebration of his life will be held. All are welcome.

Vale Alan, and thank you

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