

FECKENHAM

JANUARY 2017

News

A winter scene with a snow-covered field, trees, and a church in the background. The foreground is a grassy field covered in a thin layer of snow. In the middle ground, there are several trees, some of which are covered in snow. In the background, a church with a prominent tower is visible. The sky is a clear, pale blue. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

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JANUARY Diary



Tues 10 th	12.30am	Lunch Club	Village Hall, Back Room
Tues 10 th	7.30pm	Feckenham Forest History Society	Webheath Village Hall
Thur 12 th	7.30pm	Feckenham WI	Back Room Village Hall
Wed 18 th	7pm	Stock & Bradley Gardening Club	Wheelbarrow & Castle
Sat 28 th	7.30pm	FeckenOdeon	Village Hall

Happy New Year

To all our readers



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Front Cover

A frosty Cricket Field.
Photo by Ian Bellion



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www.feckenham.com

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Church Services JANUARY

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 1st

11.00am Sung Eucharist

Naming and
Circumcision of Jesus

Numbers 6:23-27
Galatians 4: 4-7
Intercessor

Tony Mortimer
Erica Dilger
Fiona Carter



Sunday 8th

8.00am Holy Communion

Epiphany

Romans 12: 1-5

John Eaton

11.00 am Songs of Praise

Sunday 15th

6.30pm Evensong

Epiphany 2

Isaiah 49: 1-7
John 1: 29-42
Intercessor

Oliver White
Gerry Eost
Carol Onions

Sunday 22nd

11.00am Family Eucharist

Epiphany 3

Isaiah 9: 1-4
1 Corinthians 1: 10-18
Intercessor

John Calvert
Muriel Richards
Lin Preece

Sunday 29th

10.30am Wychbold

Epiphany 4

All age communion for Candlemas

10.30am Himbleton Group Eucharist

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

Thanks

A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

At the end of October I had the most wonderful night of my life. The lovely people of Feckenham gave me a retirement party to remember. What a night!!!

I would like to thank everyone for all the gifts and kind words given to me. I am overwhelmed by the generosity.

I am sorry if I did not get to speak to you all, but there were as many people outside as there was in. I hope to be down to the village before Christmas.

Many thanks to the people of Feckenham, especially the children of Feckenham School for their fantastic pictures and messages.

Wishing you ALL A very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year

Missing you all loads,

Nev xxxx

THANK you to Alan, Ian, Judy, Mel and Matt for the wonderful evening on Neville's retirement - one we're sure everyone will remember.

Barb & Pete Masters

The Over-Sixties Dinner

Once again the Flower Show Committee put on a fantastic evening for the Over-Sixties, largely financed by the successful Flower Shows during the year. On the actual night, 3rd December, only one member of the Committee was able to be present, Angela Fletcher, and she was recovering from a broken foot, but she was helped very ably by John Morris and his delightful daughters, the Barrett-Meade family, Carly Fletcher and Bruce Willison among others, and this resulted in what the fifty or so guests said was the best Over-Sixties ever. The food was delicious and beautifully presented, the waiting was excellent and the entertainment by Two4One was spot on – songs from the 50s and

60s. We even danced! The only sad thing was that Peter Horsley was unable to be present but Jeremy Lincoln Lewis deputised for him most successfully.

Thank you all very much for giving us such a splendid evening.

Community Archaeology Project

We are pleased to confirm that our application for Heritage Lottery Funding for both the Conservation Management Project and the Community Archaeology Project was submitted in time to meet the 8th November deadline. Heritage Lottery Funding have confirmed receipt of the application and advised us that it will be considered at their meeting on 23rd January 2017. So we are keeping everything crossed for a positive outcome which will hopefully mean we can get the projects started in the Spring/Summer (subject to the Worcestershire Archaeology Services workload!)

We would like to thank everyone involved in putting together the application and for their hard work which ensured it was submitted to meet the 8th November deadline. Particular thanks to Imogen Sambrook at Historic England who was kind enough to read through our draft application and put forward some very helpful suggestions. Huge thanks too to Kathy Gee who has provided invaluable advice and very helpful "pointers" throughout the process. Not forgetting Alan Jones, Jen Cary and Judy Underwood who collated all the information and photos, chased people for letters of support and actually typed up the application form to submit it on line.

As soon as we have any further information from the Heritage Lottery Fund, we will be back in touch

Jen Cary, Chair & Judy Underwood, Secretary

Mission Morogoro

Tony Mortimer

Chickens, Sewing Machines and Women's Empowerment!

Our small group of MM trustees has just returned from a hugely successful fortnight in the village of Tunguli in Tanzania. We were able to meet the women's groups in the Tushikamane project and see the progress made in the villages and Health Centre. Tushikamane means "together" in Swahili and the project aims to reduce the shockingly high infant and mortality rates in the area by empowering and working with women. Eleven women's groups have been established involving more than 600 villagers and through these they receive health education and can express their needs and wishes for the future. These include healthcare and practical projects to benefit the community such as raising chickens and pigs and learning to sew. We were able to make each group a gift of Tzs150,000 (£55) to invest on together on projects they consider important and will watch with interest to see how they invest this money. We also gave each group a solar lamp and asked them to trial it to see if they felt it was of benefit. For many their only source of light is kerosene lamps, which are polluting, dangerous and costly to run. If they decide that the solar lamps are a better option we will look for ways in which we can help to spread their use. The women are highly enthusiastic about Tushikamane and greeted us warmly. We were given gifts of huge watermelons and live chickens, which helped to feed us during our stay - good news for us but bad for the chickens. The new motorcycle ambulance has been greatly welcomed and is already very busy. During its first month of operation it transported almost 30 patients for



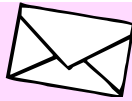
life-saving procedures such as caesareans or to treat malaria and pneumonia after which it returned them to their homes. We were also able to see the new toilet blocks and upgraded laboratory, both of which greatly enhance hygiene standards at the Health Centre. Our immediate focus for the HC is now security and we hope soon to be able to provide a perimeter fence and security lighting. This will eliminate unauthorised visitors and provide true safety for the patients and staff while securing HC resources such as the water stored in the rainwater harvesting tanks.

The tractor is in fine form and is being well cared for. It is working both on cultivation and to transport water and building materials. There has recently been a change of village leadership in Tunguli and it is great to see that they are energetically working to improve farming methods. We were also pleased that the tractor has been contracted out to other farmers to earn money to support Tunguli projects. The villagers have engaged with local government support workers to help them as they learn about and trial new, more sustainable methods. MM's role is to provide limited finance for quality seeds and to cover travel costs for the government support workers to visit the women's groups. Of course unreliable rains remain a major challenge and a future project we hope to work on with the village is the creation of a lagoon to store rainwater for irrigation during the long dry periods.

The sewing project is proving a great success. Twelve women are approaching the end of a 3month course using the hand sewing machines MM provided previously. There is a waiting list of almost 30 ladies who wish to attend future courses and we hope to begin a second course early in 2017. Further machines will be made available to those who graduate from the course so that they can continue to make items for their families, particularly school uniforms, which are needed for children to attend school. For more see www.missionmorogoro.org.uk Again we thank you all for your continued support and encouragement. We look forward with great optimism and hope that you are as pleased as we are by the latest news.

Asante Sana, Tony Mortimer

Letters



SUITE FOR THE FALLEN SOLDIER | 11th/12th
November 2016

Some of those who attended or took part in these two performances have asked why the village doesn't produce similar events more regularly. If you came to the village in the last few years, you may not know the history. Some years ago the church choir with other performers and singers sang three of Roger Jones oratorios including 'Jerusalem Joy'. He is a distinguished Birmingham composer and on one occasion came to the church together with his band to accompany us. Village school children were involved in every performance. In 1984 Sir Benjamin Britten's great opera 'Noyes Fludde' was played in the church for three evenings with a small orchestra in the North Aisle. Over 40 village children fully disguised as pairs of animals and birds were on the ark's deck which was built of wood and stretched from the pulpit across the chancel to the altar.

In 1997 we performed 'HMS Pinafore' over three nights in the Village Hall involving the church choir and other helpers.

In 1999 'The Importance of Being Earnest' by Oscar Wilde was played for three evenings in the Village Hall.

In 2005 TS Eliot's 'Murder in the Cathedral' was presented in the church.

We sang as a church choir several performances at Easter of Sir John Stainer's oratorio 'The Crucifixion' and again on another occasion with a church choir from Kidderminster.

Joint concerts were enjoyed with Arrow Valley Band, with the choir and organ soloists.

We organised several Arts Festival weeks with art exhibitions around the village and performances of poetry and prose in the church.

Every year the village pantomime was performed at Christmas and several Victorian

Music Hall concerts. Everyone in full Victorian dress.

In 2000, as the church celebrated the Millennium, over seven months on Monday evenings we learnt and at Easter with a choir of 100, perched on scaffolding, we sang Handel's 'Messiah' - firstly in Hanbury on Good Friday and a week later in Feckenham.

At the request of the choir we learnt and performed in 2001 Mendelssohn's masterpiece 'Elijah', firstly in Hanbury and secondly in Feckenham.

All these occasions were hugely enjoyed by those involved in them and by the audiences. We played to full houses on most occasions. When I am asked why people don't organise similar events now, I don't know. Perhaps the recent fine performances of the 'Fallen Soldier' may generate some interest. I hope so.

John Calvert

Square Management Committee

THANKS!

This edition of Feckenham News is going to the printers far too early for us to report on the Carols on The Square event but the Committee would like to express its gratitude to Liz and Peter Teisen who donated the magnificent Christmas Tree now gracing The Square. It was one of five small trees imported from Peter's native Denmark and planted at the Teisen home on Berrow Hill. It had outgrown its allotted space and we were delighted to arrange for its removal.

We'd also like to thank to two other anonymous donors who generously offered to pay for the purchase of a tree and who have allowed us to use their donations for decorations for the tree and supplies for the Carols event. Thanks also to Phil Tricklebank for his generous assistance with pyrotechnics.

.... and, if you have a large Christmas Tree that you don't need please let us know - as long as you don't need it removed until the second week in December 2017.

Thought for the month

Rev. Gary Crellin

There's something deeply hopeful at the beginning of a New Year. Like in the days when we got a new diary for Christmas rather than renewing an App on our phones, there was promising emptiness of the diary - blank pages to be filled in. Or perhaps you used it as a scrap book or journal - adding to it with perfect handwriting, faultless spelling, inspiring thoughts and creative stories, exciting things that had happened....

The old diary that we didn't manage to keep after the second week of January can be thrown away. We can start again!

The making of New Year resolutions holds that same spirit of hopefulness for an improved life or way of living., Making resolutions in the New Year is a very ancient custom.

More than 4,000 years ago the Babylonians celebrated the New Year in March with the making of resolutions, promises to their gods to return things they had borrowed or to pay their debts. The Romans made New Year resolutions to behave well. Today, as many people make New Year resolutions of all kinds to improve their lives, lose weight, exercise more , be kinder - all of the above. May be it is to save more, help around the house (if my daughters are reading this) or to put a bit more in the Foodbank box in church. Or all of the above.

Research shows that more than 88% of people fail to keep them. Most of them fail by February!

What about resolutions with a faith twist? I remember whilst I was on a training placement in Bromsgrove, the parish followed a Methodist tradition of making a distinctive resolution in a Covenant Service. The service brings to mind God's desire to make and keep a covenant (loving relationship) with his people. The people resolve to follow the way of Jesus, loving God and loving those amongst whom we live.

To live fully in loving relationship with God is only possible through the grace of God. However sincere we are in our commitment, we won't always succeed. But God still loves us, which inspires us to keep persevering.

It won't be long into a New Year until we've messed up again, or the troubles we thought we could put behind us at the end of the last year have returned to get us down. Or new problems rise up to challenge us.

A really good New Year's resolution is to take any opportunity to make a new start when we need to, and to find and keep that same sense of hopefulness for ourselves and our world that we feel at the beginning of a New Year.

We can become the people we're meant to be. At any time we can put past mistakes behind us and begin again with a 'clean slate'. Or page of that exercise book. Good will come out of adversity. Whatever happens, God will be with us.



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Pre Theatre Dining
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Teams4u Shoeboxes for Christmas 2016 Appeal

Gary Crellin

Romanian Shoe Boxes - Showing love - one box at a time

Having just returned from my mission trip to Romania, it is still a bit early to reflect on the visit - what I saw and how it relates to my ministry. However, it is important to give some feedback to all of those that supported my trip and wanted to know more. In the end, over 440 boxes went over to Bihor County in NW Romania to be part of a c10,000 box delivery to that country on the run up to Christmas 2016.

People I met were happy with their lives, even though the conditions that many lived in were so different and so far removed from how we live our lives. I saw people living in a Container Village - the sort of containers we see on the railways or M5 - were used to house the homeless. Gypsies living in wattle and daub cottages - where the walls were strong enough to hold a satellite dish and as warm as toast. Families overtaking our slow minibus in a horse and cart.

It was humbling and amazing to see the joy in the children's faces when they opened YOUR boxes - no iPhone7 or Playstation X, No designer handbag or latest trainers - often it was a woolly hat, a bag of Harribos, a Hotwheels toy car or an old cast off teddy bear or Barbie Doll that lit their faces with joy. Stuff - often stuff we just bung into our shopping trolleys routinely as part of our supermarket shop or have on our regular internet shopping list as daily necessities were given to people who did not see these items as necessities but saw them as luxuries. Think on this: tooth paste - a luxury?

I visited many schools where the broad band connection I used to post photos on social media was far faster than I have EVER

experienced in Feckenham. Ever. But whilst I was posting, I watched intrigued as to why children were carrying 5 litre bottles of water into school. The answer was to flush their toilets. So - we have an EU member state, a member of NATO that still has to use bottled water to flush the loos.....

In so many ways it was a hard trip - hard physically (try moving crates of shoe boxes!) and certainly emotionally and yes, spiritually. But for all this, I am so pleased I went. I know that I cannot change the world, but with your help 440++ children received Christmas Joy from your shoe boxes.

Watch out for a further opportunity to hear more - mean while I have some photos on the Feckenham church website - www.feckenhamchurch.com

From the P.C.C.

Lost Property

Quite a lot of things were left in the church after "The Suite for the Fallen soldier". These will be left by the hymn-book stand for a few weeks; however if not claimed they will be disposed of.

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WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM



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NEXT SESSION: Tuesday, 2nd December

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Thursday, 12th January - 7.30pm
FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL
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Feckenham Readers Group



Wednesday, 11th January - 7.45
This month's book: THE END OF THE AFFAIR
by Graham Green
Details from Marion Chute - 892285

Feckenham Forest History Society

TRIP DOWN THE SEVERN

Bridgenorth to the mouth
Tuesday, 10th January - 7.30pm
Webheath Village Hall
www.feckenham-forest-history-society.org.uk



Stock & Bradley GARDENING CLUB

ANNUAL DINNER

Wheelbarrow Castle
Wednesday, 18th January - 7.30pm
Booking essential : 01527 821355

WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

THE **FECKENODEON** CINEMA SOCIETY



Saturday, 28th January - 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.feckenoodeon.co.uk



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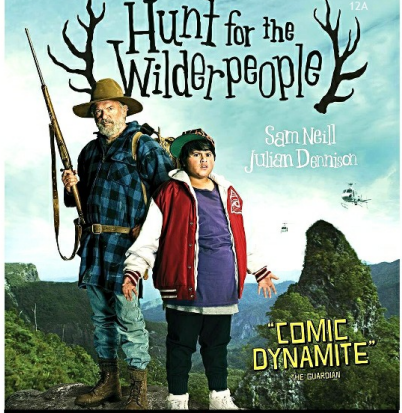
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FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL worcestershire county council
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TICKETS £10 From The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown.
 Phone 0333 666 3366 Book Online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham
Phone and Online bookings attract a 30p booking fee - Book in person and save money!

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.feckenoodeon.co.uk

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

FeckenOdeon 2 at Feckenham Village Hall

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

The FeckenOdeon Cinema Society



EVERYBODY CAN SING....

...it's just that some people can sing better than others. **Florence Foster Jenkins** was one of those who really shouldn't have sung - but who insisted on doing it all the time. The squawks that the lady emitted when straining for high notes sounded as if she was a goose trying to lay an oversized egg after ingesting helium.

In the first FeckenOdeon film of the New Year Meryl Streep (who can sing) gives a hilarious and yet sympathetic performance as this would be diva and her quest for fame - but not fortune because she already had one of those. She paid for her own performances - hiring larger and larger venues culminating in a sell out concert at Carnegie Hall - and never, until the very end, did she realise that audiences were coming to laugh at her rather than to marvel at the beauty of her voice.

The lady's devoted British husband is played by Hugh Grant who apparently was persuaded out of retirement to give one of his finest performances. A film that could have poked merciless fun - but chooses to treat its subject with compassion... still quite hilarious though!

"Florence Foster Jenkins" showing at 7.30pm on Saturday, 28th January.

WILD AND FUNNY ADVENTURE

Just added to the FeckenOdeon 2 programme is **"The Hunt for the Wilderpeople"** - a comedy adventure from New Zealand. A great deal of fun in the great outdoors!

"The Hunt for the Wilderpeople" showing at 8pm on Friday, 17th 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

Village Hall

Ian Bellion



NOT SO 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...

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..

A Fistful of Spookies

Saturday, 11th February at 7.30pm

*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*

SWANSBROOK Radio



SWANSBROOK NEW YEAR

Everybody at Swansbrook Radio sends good wishes for the New Year to all readers of Feckenham News. We hope you'll all have an excellent 2017 and that this year, if you haven't already done so, you'll join our happy band of listeners. Our schedules are easily accessible at www.swansbrook.com (or Google "Swansbrook Radio") and you can either listen live or go to our "On Demand" page where you can listen when it suits you, pause us when you like and even rewind and hear the bit you missed when the phone rang. You can also play past editions of our programmes and some of our special reports.

WHAT'S ON SWANSBROOK

The simplest way to find out is to go to the website - but you'll always find the following: **Halfshire Happenings** with Stuart Knowles - Local news and local people including a regular chat with our MP.

Happy Hour with Ian Bellion - the lighter and slightly eccentric side of local life. Local events, village reports and even gossip about local doings - and music you may or may not know.

Colin James digging into his enormous archive of tracks from yesteryear.

...as well as conversations with Swansbrook people and outside broadcasts from events.

Our programmes update as fast as we can make new ones - you can sign up to be notified when we add a new one - details on the website.

LISTEN TO THE SWANS

Just 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. To contact us please e-mail radio@swansbrook.com.

**Listen to YOUR Local Radio at
www.swansbrook.com**

Village Shop

Jeff Matthews

A Happy New Year to all our Loyal Customers

As the Village Shop approaches its 8th anniversary since it opened we thank the volunteers, villagers and customers from the wider area for their support and wish you all a very Happy New Year. The shop birthday party is on 26th January, so for those who work in the shop, make sure you get your name down to attend.

On the new products front, a new range has been added to the deli vegetarian section, Parsnipship savoury muffins in a variety of flavour combinations to eat hot or cold.

Remember we stock logs kindling and firelighters, should you find yourself running out, or no time to chop it or collect it.

For those interested in recycling and saving the planet (which ought to be most of us) our buyers have now sourced compostable cups for hot takeaway drinks. This is becoming a substantial issue for chain coffee shops, so we are glad to be leading the way!



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Village Hall

Improvement Fund 2016/17



November Winners

2 Tim & Ali Smith	£25
90 Michael & Kate Wormington	£15
155 Martin & Victoria Blamey	£10

December Winners

22 Kathy Gee	£25
80 Andrew & Cathy Fisher	£15
25 Malcolm & Vanda Cookes	£10

These are the first 2 draws of the 2016/17 Fund. Thank you to everyone who has joined this year. We have 164 members and will have raised over £1360 for Village Hall funds after paying out the monthly prizes.

The January Draw will be held in the Village Hall at 8.00 pm on Tuesday 3rd January 2017

From the Rural Dean

Sheila Banyard

Dementia-friendly communities

The deanery synod meeting on **Thursday 2nd February, 7.30pm at Droitwich Parish Centre**, offers an opportunity to hear about how communities can become more dementia-friendly and what part local churches might play in this. We hope to hear about the work that has been done recently in Ombersley towards becoming a dementia-friendly village and there will be a speaker from the Alzheimer's Society. All are welcome.

Sheila Banyard – 01905 773134 or rddroitwich@gmail.com



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Feckenham Cricket Club

Bob Gordon



A few months ago a battered exercise book was found amongst club paperwork. Showing the date 1959 on the front, underneath was written “This is the original record of the formation of Feckenham Cricket Club”, followed by Dennis Bayliss’s signature.

Inside, handwritten notes described fundraising activities such as bingo and dances which enabled the ground to be prepared and the game of cricket to become established in the village. Although much of the content is faded and illegible, the exercise book provides a glimpse of how a marshy field was transformed into the classic village cricket ground that we know today. When discussing this with a club member born in the village 65 years ago, he recalled that as a boy he used to catch eels on what is now the pitch and sold them around the village!

We are occasionally reminded of the ground's past when the pitch is flooded by water overflowing from Bow Brook. Keeping the pitch and outfield in good shape requires a lot of effort – and this doesn't stop in the winter. Apart from spiking the wickets for aeration and clearing away moss, there was clearing up after Firework Night, hedges to be trimmed and rubbish to be cleared.

Aeration of the soil is important, and although great for a lawn, worms are not encouraged on the wickets themselves. As a consequence, Steve and Neil spend hours each winter collecting lobworms and green worms and relocating to the outfield, using a map and record of worm densities to ensure that the whole ground is covered evenly. In very cold periods, juvenile worms are rescued and allowed to recuperate in the club's wormery until the climate improves and they can be returned to the wild.

In addition to the outdoor activities, the club has been busy in other areas. The annual

Awards Dinner was held at Redditch Golf Club on 25th October, being an opportunity to recall the season and reward playing and non-playing members for their achievements. Around 40 people attended and enjoyed a fine meal.

Inside the clubhouse, a fine Honours Board has been created, covering the last 20 years of the teams' achievements - principally century-makers and bowlers taking 5 wickets in a match. It is notable how the numbers of those recorded in the 2016 season far outnumber those of previous years.

The club's success however requires that we field 3 teams for the 2017 season and work continues on attracting new players.

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 07757 433930.

The players return to training on 25th January at Prince Henry's High School in Evesham, starting with a thorough physical fitness assessment using the latest electronic monitoring equipment. Personal training and dietary schedules are issued and progress is closely monitored in the lead-up to the new season, particularly with regard to restrictions on intake of lager and doner kebabs.

Within the clubhouse, Jane and Matt have Christmas decorations in place and preparations underway for the annual Christmas Party on Saturday 17th December. Plans are afoot for a monthly special social event, the idea for January being a “horse-racing” evening. Regarding opening hours, the clubhouse welcomes members and would-be members over the festive period, as follows:

December

Tues 27th, Wed 28th, Thurs 29th - closed
Friday 30th (Jane Birthday) - 4pm - Midnight
New Year's Eve 12 noon - 5pm
New Year's Day 12 noon - 11pm

As we move into the new year we will once again be looking forward to the annual ritual that is often described as “painting those ***** boundary boards again”.

2017 and Division 1 beckons.

Stock & Bradley Gardening Club

Rob Cole

ANNUAL DINNER - Wednesday 18th January 2017 at 7.00pm for 7.30pm

We return to the Wheelbarrow Castle at Radford, near Inkberrow for our annual dinner event. Note that prior booking is essential and if you have not yet booked, please contact Jan Bates on 01386 792414 to reserve your places. The cost of the dinner is £20.00 per person.

The next Club meeting - Wednesday 1st February 2017 at 7.30pm

When 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.

Club meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Village Hall, Church Road, Bradley Green starting at 7.30pm, and are free to members for an annual subscription of £10.00 renewable in January. 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.

What's On this month in STOCK & BRADLEY

16th WALKING CLUB AGM
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Bradley Green Village Hall

18th GARDENING CLUB
ANNUAL DINNER

28th THE BIG BREAKFAST
8am to 11.30am
Bradley Green Village Hall

For more information see
STOCK & BRADLEY CHRONICLE

Feckenham W.I.

Jane White

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Our January meeting is on Thursday 12th at 7.30pm in the Back room of the Village Hall. Come prepared to enjoy a "Games Evening". This was a great success in 2016 so we have decided to repeat the event. The evening includes refreshments, visitors welcome (£4)

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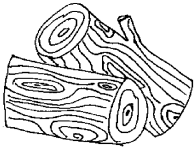
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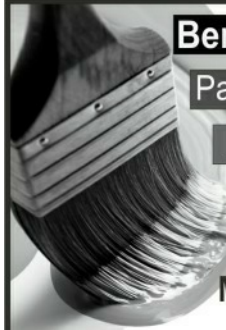
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