

# FECKENHAM

JANUARY 2015

*News*



Published by Feckenham Church for the Village  
Editor: Jane White Tel.:01527 893281 (Copy date 14th)  
e-mail: [jwhite@thewhites55.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:jwhite@thewhites55.wanadoo.co.uk)  
or: [ejw55@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ejw55@hotmail.co.uk)



- Hardy Home Grown Bedding Plants
- Trees, Shrubs, Roses, Alpines & Perennials
- Glazed & Terracotta Pots
- Fresh Cut Flowers, Wild Bird Feed
- National Garden Gift Vouchers Accepted

## Your Local Plant Centre!



Evesham Rd (A441), Cookhill, Alcester, Warks., B49 5JR

Tel: 01527 894 111 [www.ridgewaynurseries.co.uk](http://www.ridgewaynurseries.co.uk)

Open Mon-Sat: 9am-5.30pm, Sun: 10am-4.30pm



## JEFF LYNN

### Painter and Decorator

Interior and Exterior  
Work



Inkberrow (01386) 792198

## ANDREW SMITH CHIMNEY SWEEP

Traditional and Power Sweeping  
Clean, reliable and fully insured  
smoke test, CCTV and certificates.  
Evening and weekend appointments  
also available



Member of the  
Institute of Chimney  
Sweeps

Based locally in Inkberrow

Phone: 01386 793248

Mobile: 07789 721303



## Tapcast Ltd

COMPUTER SERVICES

Tapcast is a family business, based in  
Inkberrow, with over 20 years  
experience, supporting computer  
systems in businesses and homes



For: Computers, Laptops, Networking, Broadband, Email,  
Upgrades, Repairs, Support and more

web: [www.tapcast.co.uk](http://www.tapcast.co.uk) tel: 01386 792196  
email: [jane.neal@tapcast.co.uk](mailto:jane.neal@tapcast.co.uk)

## A. Pullen

• MEMORIALS •



Additional Inscriptions  
& Renovations

*All work is to the Highest Standard*

Burcot Forge, Unit 4, 338 Alcester Road,  
Burcot, Nr Bromsgrove B60 1BH  
Tel: (01527) 876200 Mobile 07710 976744

*An Independent Family Owned Funeral Directors*



## Thomas Brothers The Funeral Directors

*The only family owned funeral homes in Redditch, Wythall & Alvechurch.  
We provide a friendly, dignified service  
paying special attention to detail.*

01564 822 001  
100 Alcester Road,  
Wythall.  
B47 5HA

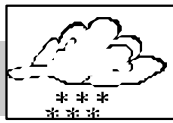
01527 547777  
Birchfield House,  
494 Evesham Road, Redditch.  
B97 5JF

0121 445 3422  
12A Red Lion Street,  
Alvechurch.  
B48 7LF

[www.thomasbrothers.co.uk](http://www.thomasbrothers.co.uk)  
*A family concern*



# JANUARY Diary



## Happy New Year

Tues 6th	12.30am	Lunch Club	Village Hall, Back Room
Wed 7th	10.30am - noon	"Drop in" for coffee and a chat	6 Mill Lane
Thur 8th	7.30pm	Feckenham WI	Village Hall, Back Room
Tues 13th	7.30pm	Feckenham Forest History Society	Webheath Village Hall
Wed 21st	10.30am - noon	"Drop in" for coffee and a chat	6 Mill Lane
Sun 25th	7.30pm	"Rumplestiltskin"	Village Hall
Sat 31st	2.30pm	FeckenOdeon	Village Hall
Sat 31st	7.30pm	FeckenOdeon	Village Hall

## Front Cover

'Snowman' by Ed Chute, photo by Marion Chute.

## Production Team

**Ian Bellion** – What's On  
892130 [whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk](mailto:whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk)

**Chris Fletcher** – Newshound  
894568 [cefletcher44@gmail.com](mailto:cefletcher44@gmail.com)

**Antonia Pulsford** – Reviews  
892268

**Jo Warrilow** – Advertising, Mags by post  
892059

**Jane White** – Letters, Reports etc.  
893281 [ejw55@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ejw55@hotmail.co.uk)

**Magazine online at**  
[www.feckenham.com](http://www.feckenham.com)

Many articles in Feckenham News are contributed by members of the public. They remain the responsibility of the writers and neither the production team nor the publishers can be held responsible for the views and assertions contained therein.

# BMS

**Bray Maintenance Services Limited**

**Your LOCAL Gardening Service**

**Lawnmowing - Turfing**

**Garden Clearance - Fencing**

**High Pressure Surface Cleaning  
of driveways, patios, etc.**

For FREE quote call Carl Bray

**01527 453163 or 07970 271653**

## COLOR CODE MOTORS

ACCIDENT & REPAIR SPECIALIST  
COLOUR MATCHING 100% GUARANTEED  
LOW BAKE OVEN  
FIBREGLASS & RESORATION WORK  
FLEET & COMMERCIAL REPAIRS

**LEE HALL-ANNISON**

Unit A, Green Lane, The Slough, Studley, Warks. B80 7EY

**TELEPHONE: 01527 854155**

# The Village Shop

...drop in to sample our deli  
fresh local produce on your doorstep

**Monday - Friday** 8am - 6pm    **Saturday** 9am - 4pm    **Sunday** 10am - 1pm

Droitwich Road, Feckenham, Redditch, B96 6JE.

Telephone: 01527 894475

**Open Now**

Coffee • Tea • Cake • Fresh Sandwiches



# Church Services JANUARY

PARISH CHURCH  
of ST. JOHN  
THE BAPTIST



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

**Churchwarden:** Ann Matthews 01527 892180 **Church website:** [www.feckenhamchurch.org.uk](http://www.feckenhamchurch.org.uk)

•• **Email:** [info@feckenhamchurch.org.uk](mailto:info@feckenhamchurch.org.uk)

**Parish Office:** Telephone: 01905 778181 Email: [bowbrookgroup1@gmail.com](mailto: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*

## Readers and Intercessors



**Sunday 4th**

Epiphany

**11-00am Sung Eucharist**

Isaiah 60: vs. 1-6

Ephesians 3 : vs. 1-12

Intercessions

David Street

Muriel Richards

Cyril Warrilow

**Sunday 11th**

Baptism of Christ

**8-00am Holy Communion**

Romans 12 : vs. 1-5

John Pulsford

**11-00am Family Service "Hope"**

**Sunday 18th**

Epiphany 2

**6-30pm Evensong**

1 Samuel 3 : vs. 1-10

John 1 : vs. 43-end

Intercessions

Oliver White

Carol Price

Pat Onions

**Sunday 25th**

Epiphany 3

**11-00am Family Communion**

Revelation 19 : vs. 6-10

Intercessions

Doug Curtis

Lin Preece

## X Box Sunday School

Will be held in Church on Sunday 4th January. All children will be warmly welcomed.

## Partners in Prayer

Ecumenical service of prayer for the community, Wednesdays at 9.15am for 30 minutes at the Catholic Church. **All welcome.**

# Feckenham Roman Catholic Church

St John Fisher & St. Thomas More



Mass is celebrated every Sunday at 10.15am in the Church

**Fr. Anthony Rohan**, The Presbytery, Redditch. Tel. 01527 63096

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

## Communal Christmas Card

The 2014 Village Christmas Card raised the splendid sum of £609, which has been given to the Redditch Food Bank. Thank you all for your generosity. The church paid for the printing and we hope you enjoyed Arthur's picture.



Thank you all, *Jane & Ann*

## Feckenham Church ALLOTMENTS & Conservation Garden Lynn Wells

**Feckenham Parish Church Allotments and Conservation Garden would like to send out a warm invitation to new members.**

**Is it your New Year Resolution to get fit and healthy in 2015?**

**Then why not try an allotment?**

We have some vacant plots for you to choose from. Get in touch with Lynn Wells, Society Secretary on 07551851008, or drop in a note at 68 High Street.



the linea clinic

---

Cosmetic and Laser Specialists  
Call for Friendly Advice

---

Barbourne Health Centre  
44 Droitchich Road, Worcester. WR3 7LH  
01905 26918 · [www.lineaclinic.co.uk](http://www.lineaclinic.co.uk)

## Thanks

### "Escaped Pig"

We would like to thank all the villagers who "apprehended" our Gloucester Old Spot Sow, Daisy, who escaped and decided to make her way into the High Street.

In particular we wish to apologise to the lady whose garden Daisy decided to "cultivate"

Thanks also to the local police who gave Daisy a police escort home complete with blue flashing lights!

She arrived home none the worse for her little adventure.

The Hill Family, Dunstall Court.

### Christmas Party

John and I, who have ben enjoying these occasions for many years, would like to say thank you to the Flower Show Committee and all the other people involved in this year's splendid celebration on 6th December. • The hall looked fantastic, the food was delicious and most professionally served, and Alan Smith's band was delightful – music not just noise! Thank you all very much.

*John and Antonia*

## Local History

### Feckenham Forester

Following the success of the first Feckenham Forester local history magazine (2014), the new 2015 issue is now on sale at Feckenham Village Shop and other outlets. It has a variety of articles about the local history of the area including Feckenham fairs and Shurnock Court.

See website:

[www.feckenham-forest-history-society.org.uk](http://www.feckenham-forest-history-society.org.uk)

or contact

[rachurchley@totalise.co.uk](mailto:rachurchley@totalise.co.uk)

# Flower & Garden Festival 2015

Cathy Fisher

## 16th - 17th May 2015

Plans are now under way for this year's Festival to be held over the weekend of the 16th and 17th May.

This hugely successful triennial Festival, which is now entering its 30th year, raises funds for the Church Fabric Fund (general maintenance of our parish church of St. John the Baptist).

In 2012, over 30 gardens opened to visitors and I do hope that we shall be able to repeat that again this year. If you would like to open your garden 12 noon - 6pm, Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th May 2015, please do contact me. However, due to safety, traffic and other regulations, the boundaries for open gardens fall between Winfields of Feckenham, Moors Lane and Brook House on the B4090.

Many of our gardens are hidden and vary enormously in size and style. This variety creates a huge amount of interest and an element of surprise.

I am extremely grateful to the W.I. who have once again agreed to provide their wonderful teas in the Village Hall and there will be a pig roast/ barbecue at the Catholic Church. We hope to have three local nurseries selling plants, another stall selling garden accessories and related products and Feckenham Forest History Society all on The Square.

A highlight of the weekend is the magnificent flower festival in the Church for which the theme this year will be 'Reflections on Village Life'.

This is a wonderful village event with an enormous number of jobs to be done so, if you feel you can help in any way, your assistance would be most welcome.

Catherine Fisher

Tel: 01527 821412

Email: [catherine.fisher@talk21.com](mailto:catherine.fisher@talk21.com)

## Drop In



The fortnightly Drop In Coffee Morning will continue into 2015. However, it will start the New Year in a new venue- 6 Mill Lane. Our first Wednesday is on 7th January, 10.30am until noon, all welcome.

## From the Rural Dean

Sheila Banyard

### Parsonages Committee representative

Could you represent Droitwich Deanery on the diocesan Parsonages Committee, responsible for managing all clergy housing in the diocese of Worcester?

Its brief includes work to be done during vacancies, the buying and selling of houses, quinquennial work, curates' housing and budget control. Meetings are held during the day at the Old Palace in Worcester (currently at 1.30pm on Tuesdays in the middle of the month). No specific skills are required, although experience of managing property or finance would be an asset.

If you are interested please contact the Rural Dean, Sheila Banyard: 01905 773134  
[sk.banyard@virgin.net](mailto:sk.banyard@virgin.net)

## Stop Press FANCY A DAY IN LONDON ON 9th FEBRUARY?

We have 2 spare seats on our coach trip to London: Cost £25. Depart Feckenham 7.45 am. Drop off/pick up in London at Palace of Westminster. Leave London for home 6 pm Please ring Tricia Mortimer on 01527 402302 or email [tricia.mortimer@gmail.com](mailto:tricia.mortimer@gmail.com)

## DOGGY PADDLE Canine Hydrotherapy



Earls Common  
WR9 7LB

01905 391501

[www.doggypaddle.net](http://www.doggypaddle.net)

## Feckenham Parish Church



of St. John the Baptist  
seeks a new Choir Leader.

We have a thriving and enthusiastic RSCM-affiliated choir comprising 16 adults and 8 juniors. There is a sung service every Sunday of the month as follows (currently practicing before each service and sometimes on a weekday evening):

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday – Eucharist

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday – Family Service (led by the Junior Choir)

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – Evensong (led by the Senior Choir)

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday – Family Eucharist

The choir also sings regularly for weddings, special services and at occasional village events. There is scope for a wide variety of music to be sung but with an emphasis on maintaining traditions of an Anglican church choir. The choir is supported by three experienced organists and there may be opportunities to share aspects of the role with other choir members. Choir Leader's fees are in line with current RSCM rates.

Please contact Clare Furey to find out more, or for an informal chat.

(tel: 01527-894849; e-mail: [cf@paulfurey.com](mailto:cf@paulfurey.com))

Further 'Job Description' details are available on our church website

(<http://www.feckenhamchurch.org.uk/new-choir-leader/>), or can be obtained from Clare Furey.

## THE IRONING CENTRE



16 Feckenham Road  
Astwood Bank  
(Next to the old Coach House pub)

**IRONING  
LAUNDERING  
DRY CLEANING  
REPAIRS & ALTERATIONS  
SHOE REPAIRS  
COLLECTION & DELIVERY**

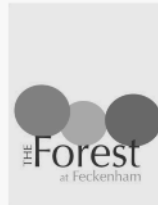
**01527 894040**



FROM AN

*award-winning*

GASTRO TEAM



The Forest offers imaginative cuisine, fine wines and real ales all in a friendly atmosphere.

1 Droitwich Road,  
Feckenham, B96 6JE.  
01527 894422

[www.theforestatfeckenham.com](http://www.theforestatfeckenham.com)

**Rose  
& Crown**

48 High Street  
Feckenham  
B96 6HS

01527 892188

A traditional freehouse village pub  
with Food - owned and run by the  
Clarke family

**Proper Pub Food  
at Proper Prices**

*Special Dishes - every day*

**Quality meat from the Stables Farmshop**

Full Menu available daily

Lunch & Evenings (*not Sunday evening*)

**Real Ales & Ciders**

*4 real ales on hand pumps every day.*

*Traditional ciders - fine wines*

**We're in the GOOD BEER GUIDE**

Large Beer Garden

**THE ROSE ROOM**

can be booked for your functions and celebrations  
and we have marquees available for larger events

**Special this month...**

**Curry Night - 22nd January**

*Call in or visit our website to see the menu.*

[www.roseandcrownfeckenham.co.uk](http://www.roseandcrownfeckenham.co.uk)

# WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

## Feckenham Readers Group

Wednesday, 7th January - 7.45

This month's book:

**ARRABELLA**

by Georgette Heyer

Details from Marion Chate - 892285



## Stock & Bradley GARDENING CLUB

### ANNUAL DINNER

at The Flyford Arms

Wednesday, 21st January - 7.30pm

Call 821355 for information

Feckenham Forest History Society

## ABBERLEY HALL

& CLOCK TOWER

with Jo Roche

Tuesday, 13th January - 7.30pm

Webheath Village Hall

[www.feckenham-forest-history-society.org.uk](http://www.feckenham-forest-history-society.org.uk)



## theWI FECKENHAM WI

INSPIRING WOMEN

At FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

THURSDAY, 8th January - 7.30pm

### BUDDY HOLLY

With DAVID SLATER

Non-members welcome - £4



Feckenham and Astwood Bank Conservatives

### QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 24th January at 7 p.m.

Feckenham Village Hall

Tickets £12.50 to include a light supper with puds  
in advance from Antonia on 892268

Pay Bar

PRIZES

Raffle

What's On this month  
in STOCK & BRADLEY  
For more information see  
**STOCK & BRADLEY CHRONICLE**


31st January at Bradley Village Hall

## THE BRADLEY GREEN BIG BREAKFAST

Tickets available at The Village Shop

# WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

northumberland theatre company presents...



**Rumpelstiltskin**  
Written by Mike Kenny  
Directed by Gillian Hambleton  
Designed by Michelle Watson

The poster features a stylized illustration of a woman in a pink dress spinning a wheel of gold, with a green ogre-like figure nearby. The background is a castle with a large wheel and a sunburst.

## FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

A MAGICAL SHOW FOR A DARK WINTER'S NIGHT  
Suitable for anyone over 6 years old

**SUNDAY, 25th JANUARY - 7.30pm**

Tickets £10 - Under 14s £7

from The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown  
Book online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham)

Phone bookings: 0333 666 3366

Presented in association with SHINDIG

THE FECKENODEON CINEMA SOCIETY

**Julie ANDREWS**

**Glynis JOHNS Dick VAN DYKE**

**David TOMLINSON**

WALT DISNEY PICTURES



Digitally restored  
and back on the  
BIG screen

**MARY POPPINS**

**Saturday, 31st January - 2.30pm**

SEE HOW MARY POPPINS WAS MADE IN "SAVING MR BANKS" AT 7.30PM

at The FeckenOdeon Cinema in Feckenham Village Hall  
Tickets: £5 (£3.50 under 14s) from The Rose & Crown and Village Shop, Feckenham

Telephone 0333 666 3366\* or BOOK ONLINE\* at  
[www.fecknodeon.co.uk](http://www.fecknodeon.co.uk)



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

THE FECKENODEON CINEMA SOCIETY

TOM HANKS

EMMA THOMPSON



Disney

**SAVING MR. BANKS** PG

PAUL GIAMATTI JASON SCHWARTZMAN COLIN FARRELL

WHERE HER BOOK ENDED THE REAL STORY OF MARY POPPINS BEGAN...

**Saturday, 31st January - 7.30pm**

SEE THE FILM THAT INSPIRED MR BANKS - MARY POPPINS - MATINEE AT 2.30PM

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](http://www.fecknodeon.co.uk)



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

# The FeckenOdeon Cinema Society



## POPPIN IN FOR THE DAY

What better way to pass a dull winter Saturday than in the warm comfort of your local cinema. The FeckenOdeon is offering you a chance to enjoy two films with a single theme - and it's guaranteed to be supercalifragilistic. On **Saturday, 31st January** you can spend the afternoon wallowing in sweet nostalgia in a restored family classic - and in the evening you can see the battles and clashes of monster egos that got that classic made.

## FLYING A 50 YEAR OLD KITE

The classic is of course Walt Disney's "**Mary Poppins**" - 50 years young and not showing a single wrinkle. Disney's technicians have sprinkled the old girl with magic and spruced her up so it looks (and sounds) as if she was born yesterday. Despite her age Mary Poppins is still a true delight and is more than capable of energetically entertaining the young of heart of all ages. Cracking music numbers, spectacular dances and magical special effects (who needs CGI?) make for a warmly wonderful experience... leaving aside the little matter of Dick van Dyke's questionable cockney accent - there are dancing penguins too! Mary's broolly will fly her in at **2.30pm on Saturday, 31st December**. (Adults £5 - under 14s £3.50)



## NEARLY POPPIN OFF

In the evening you can find out how Mary Poppins nearly didn't make it to the screen. Emma Thompson plays the notoriously prickly author P L Travers and Tom Hanks is the equally irascible Walt Disney in "**Saving Mr Banks**". It's a clash of personalities right from the start and, if Ms Travers hadn't been strapped for cash, one of the greatest

family musicals would have existed only as one of Uncle Walt's pleasanter pipe dreams. Disney's daughters had begged him to make a movie of their favourite book, and he agreed - little did he realise that it would take 20 years to fulfil his promise. The curmudgeonly, uncompromising Travers had absolutely no intention of letting her beloved magical nanny get mauled by the Hollywood machine. It's a sharply told and amusing story cleverly played - particularly by Emma Thompson who seems to be making a career out of English eccentric ladies of a certain age.

The show starts at **7.30pm on Saturday, 31st January** and there'll be a supporting programme of Disney shorts to whet the appetite.

*Make a Poppin day of it! Why not enjoy both shows and poppin to one of the pubs for dinner in between films?! Expialidocious!*

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

# FECKENHAM GARAGE



## MOT Testing Station

*Servicing & Repair to all makes*

# Tel: 01527 892483



## MAIDS WITH CARE

Maids with Care is a family run cleaning company for the domestic and commercial business sectors.

**Our services include:**  
 Regular and one-off cleans • Deep and spring cleans  
 Moving in and out cleans • Property letting  
 Holiday cover • Oven cleaning • Window cleaning  
 Ironing • Carpet and upholstery cleaning  
*We employ, insure and CRB check our staff.*

To arrange a sparkling clean ring **01527 401822**  
 e-mail: [info@maidswithcare.co.uk](mailto:info@maidswithcare.co.uk)  
[www.maidswithcare.co.uk](http://www.maidswithcare.co.uk)

# Village Hall

Ian Bellion



## ALL THAT GLITTERS....

'Straw turns to gold, magic and mayhem are in the air...'

It's a while since we've had a live family show at the Village Hall so we're delighted that the amazing **Northumberland Theatre Co** are returning with their lively and imaginative telling of "**Rumpelstiltskin**", the classic tale of magic and monsters. Rumpelstiltskin tells the story of a King whose kingdom is going to rack and ruin as crops fail and his subjects are getting really cheesed off. When he's helped out by a Miller's daughter who can spin straw into gold, little does he know her secret bargain with an odd stranger who's promised to help her out.

This show rattles along with some dark and deliciously scary moments.... so we suggest that brave children think very hard about bringing accompanying adults of a nervous disposition!

There's plenty of music, dance and lots of that essential ingredient for a family entertainment - comedy.

Northumberland Theatre Co are a professional company based in Alnwick. They've been spreading their magic throughout the land for 35 years.

**"Rumplestiltskin" is at Feckenham Village Hall on Sunday, 25th January at 7.30pm**

You can get tickets (£10 - Under 14s £7) from The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown, by phone on 0833 666 3366 or online at

[www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham).

or from any Village Hall Committee Member

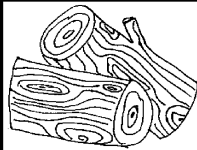
## PILATES BOUNCES BACK

We are delighted to announce that **Pilates will re-start in the Village Hall on 8th January at 7.30pm**. We're even more delighted to announce that the tutor, Suzanne, has fully recovered from her very serious illness.

## Square Management Committee

### TREE TREMENDOUS

The Feckenham Christmas Tree will still be twinkling on The Square as this edition of Feckenham News lands on your doormat. The Square Committee would like to thank Mrs Jane Bird for kindly allowing us to chop down one of her prize specimens and we're also grateful to Alan and Pat Moore at No 1 for supplying the electricity for the hundreds of LEDs swathing the branches.



**HARDWOOD  
LOGS  
FOR SALE**

**NO DELIVERY CHARGE**

TREE TOPPING

HEDGE CUTTING

**GARDEN CLEARANCE**

Telephone anytime:

**01905 620934**

Can't think what to do with your garden?  
Let me help!



Claire Ellis

**Complete Gardens**

Design & Planting

Maintenance & Rejuvenation

Consultancy



07773 101750 or 01527 894745

# Feckenham C. of E. First School

Sharon Simpson

The children and staff of Feckenham C of E Primary School enjoyed a very busy end of term with their various Christmas trips, nativity plays and a carol service held in church for years 3 & 4 on December 9<sup>th</sup>. Years 3 & 4 also visited the Old Rep theatre in Birmingham on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014 to see the production of a "Horrible Christmas" as their Christmas treat this year. Whilst the whole school tucked into their festive Christmas dinners on December 11<sup>th</sup> and shared a party day on the last day of term- December 19<sup>th</sup>.

The Christmas Fayre on November 28<sup>th</sup> was very well attended and raised an excellent sum of £777.00 with all proceeds going to the school to purchase valuable resources to aid the children's learning. Well done to the Friends of Feckenham School fundraising team and all those who helped out, donated items and supported the event.

On December 12<sup>th</sup> the children were invited to wear their Christmas jumpers to school and make a donation in aid of Save the Children. School was a very colourful place to be with many festive jumpers on show!

Mrs Bayliss held another of her popular fish and chip lunches in school and raised over £100.00 for The School of Hope & Kindness in Kenya and monies from this and the previous bring and buy sale were presented to Mrs Judy Mott when she visited school recently.

In addition, after a successful nomination of our school to Sainsburys by a parent, we were delighted to learn that we had been awarded over 100 poinsetta plants. It was decided that these would be distributed amongst households in the village and the elderly. Ann Matthews, (Church Warden) very kindly agreed to coordinate this. A lovely gift from school/Sainsburys!"

From all of the children and staff and governors of Feckenham Cof E First School, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Sharon Simpson, Community Parent Governor

# Cool Climate

Air Conditioning Systems  
for your Home, Office or Business

Mr Simon Baker

Tel.: 01527 892823 or 07736 447705

E-mail: [simon@coolclimate.co.uk](mailto:simon@coolclimate.co.uk)

Web: <http://www.coolclimate.co.uk>



## Heating Engineer

Gas appliances serviced & repaired:  
central heating boilers, gas fires, cookers,  
water heaters & warm air heating units.

- Landlord Certification
- Commercial boilers serviced & repaired
- LPG services

Tel/Fax: 0121 258 2941

Mobile: 07973110138



# Landscaping

## Jeff Annand Contracting Ltd.

Blockpaving - Ponds - Patios - Groundwork  
& General Property Maintenance

Free Quotes  
References available  
Fully Insured

Tel: 07968 668906  
or 01527 894745

## As Time Goes By

YOUR LOCAL FAMILY RUN  
MEMORIAL SUPPLIER

Head Stones, Cremation Tablets,  
Additional Inscriptions and  
Renovation Work



Please call 01527 550505

To arrange a home visit or to find out our  
opening times

Unit 5, Dunlop Road, Hunt End Industrial Estate  
Redditch B97 5XP

"MEMORIALS THAT REFLECT A LIFETIME"

# WORCESTERSHIRE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION Launches -

## SURVIVING WINTER 2014

The annual campaign helps older and vulnerable people facing fuel poverty by giving special grants for fuel bills to those most in need.

The Foundation is just one of 33 community foundations running the campaign across the UK and is working with UK Community Foundations (UKCF) the membership body for community foundations on the UK wide appeal also launched today.

Surviving Winter started as a vehicle to recycle Winter Fuel Payment that people had received but didn't feel that they needed, but quickly expanded to take in donations from people of all ages, and of all amounts, which are directed to the local groups supporting vulnerable people in winter. Donations pay for everything from individual bursaries for fuel bills and hot water bottles to lunch clubs for older people and boiler repairs.

In Worcestershire last year's donations were delivered in collaboration with Macmillan to cancer sufferers who, because of their illness face exceptional extra costs for heating and hot water.

*Rob Sykes, Chair of Worcestershire Community Foundation said:*

"Millions of people are battling fuel poverty. What's worse, we know that last year around 30,000 deaths – mostly older people - were due to winter conditions. People are quite simply dying of the cold in this country. The Surviving Winter appeal is a small but important intervention in this cycle, and the community foundation works hard to make sure that the money donors give so generously goes a long way.

"But we can't help more people on our own. We rely on donations of all sizes, and we are constantly amazed by the willingness of people to help those struggling to stay warm and well. We are asking again if people can consider giving any amount to our appeal. We are particularly asking people who get the Winter Fuel Payment, but feel that they can afford the extra heating costs of the colder months, to use that to make a huge difference to the life of someone in greatest need."

The Surviving Winter appeal is being supported by Turn2us, a free service which helps people in financial hardship to access welfare benefits, charitable grants and other financial help.

*Alison Taylor, Director of Turn2us said:*

"Turn2us is pleased to support this much-needed appeal. We hear daily from people who are struggling to pay their energy bills and the devastating impact this has on their lives. We have found that two-fifths of people affected by fuel poverty have been forced to cut back on food or skip meals and over two-thirds have experienced stress.

"We urge anyone who is worried about their situation to visit [www.turn2us.org.uk](http://www.turn2us.org.uk) where they can check what welfare benefits and charitable grants they may be eligible for and find further sources of help."

UKCF also supports the Energy Bill Revolution campaign for a permanent solution to end the fuel poverty crisis. The Energy Bill Revolution is an alliance of 200 national charities, health groups, unions and businesses calling for home energy efficiency to be made a national infrastructure priority. They want all political parties to make a pledge to provide grants to make 2 million low income household highly energy efficient by 2020 (Band C on an Energy Performance Certificate) and all 6 million low income households treated to this standard by 2025.

**To donate, please make cheques out to Worcestershire Community Foundation.**

**Post cheque to: SURVIVING WINTER, Worcestershire Community Foundation, Community House, 52 Prospect Close, Malvern, Worcestershire WR14 2FD**

# Stock & Bradley Gardening Club

Rob Cole

The next Club event - **Wednesday 21st January 2015 at 7:15pm for 7:30pm** is the Annual Dinner at the Flyford Arms, and pre-booking and payment is essential. For those who haven't booked already, it is not too late, and bookings can be made by contacting Jan Bates on 01386 792414.

The following Club meeting - **Wednesday 4th February 2015 at 7:30pm** Our speaker will be Jim Almond who will give a talk on 'Snowdrops and Other Winter/Spring Bulbs'. Jim is an enthusiastic grower of a wide range of bulbs, and a keen and skilled photographer. His talks reflect his passion for both.

Annual subscriptions for 2015 become due on 1st January, and should be paid as soon as possible at any Club meeting. The full programme of 2015 events, visits, and talks will be issued upon renewal.

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

## Village Hall

Improvement Fund 2014/15



### November Winners

55	Pam Eaton	£25
106	Peter & Phil Horsley	£15
51	Geoff Knock	£10

### December Winners

119	Rob & Diane Cole	£25
170	Toby Denne	£15
86	Eileen Newman	£10

These are the first 2 draws of the 2014/15 Fund. Thank you to everyone who has joined this year. We have 162 members and will have raised over £1300 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 6th January 2015

## Feckenham W.I.

Jane White



Our January meeting is on **Thursday 8th** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Back Room. Our speaker is David Slater on "**The Life & Times of Buddy Holly**". David was a teenager when Buddy Holly died and Rock & Roll is in his veins. A life-long fan, in later life he has been able to pursue the legend that is Buddy Holly by visiting the main places in his life and meeting many of the key people in his story. He was the lead vocalist in his college band and has since sung and recorded numerous Buddy Holly songs in England, Texas and Nashville. His talk will include slides and finish with him singing with his guitar. Visitors welcome (£4).

On **17th January** we shall meet for lunch. (Arrangements will be announced on 8th)

## PETER R. YARNOLD CARPENTRY & JOINERY

*Quality hand made joinery in  
hardwood or softwood.*

*Windows, door, stairs, conservatories  
and furniture*

*Meadow Cottage, Agmore Lane,  
Tarebigge, Bromsgrove.*

**Tel.: 01527 873552**

*Mobile: 07717 102604*



## CORNELL Established Over 40 Years Chimney Sweep

**Clean & Efficient - Brush & Vacuum  
Competitive Prices - Cowl Fitting**

**Graeme Butlin  
0121 445 5913  
0754 587 6475**

46 Oxford Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 9ER

# JW & A J BARRETT LTD

**Craftsmen in Metal**

Traditional Blacksmithing  
Restoration/repair  
Metal work for home & garden  
Mobile Welding

[www.artmetal.co.uk](http://www.artmetal.co.uk)

Tel/Fax 01527 893866

Mobile 07973 517781



# Direct Floors

Home service

Carpets • Vinyls • Wood-floors • Laminates

- Mobile showroom to your home
- Save up to 30% on shop prices
- Over 3000 samples on our van



**01527-894777**



[www.direct-floors.co.uk](http://www.direct-floors.co.uk)

Furniture moved & carpets uplifted  
for OAP'S & disabled free of charge



## CAR AIR CONDITIONING SERVICING



# AUTOTECH

**Motor Vehicle Services - MOT Centre**

**TEL: 01527 892254**

**1 Queen Street. Astwood Bank**

All Car & Light Vehicle Repairs & Servicing  
Free Collection & Delivery - Breakdown & Recovery  
Tyre Fitting While U Wait

**TYRES EXHAUSTS BATTERIES TYRES**

## Bowbrook Gardens

Imaginative high quality landscaping  
Patos & garden walls  
Ponds & water features  
Swimming pool & ponds fibreglassed  
Also Pond & Patio cleaning  
Fencing & Hedge cutting  
*Local, friendly service, references available*  
Call Glenn - Crowle 01905 380128  
Mobile 07792613020

## Perfectly Polished Nails & Beauty

**07785 504 156**

I'm a mobile therapist offering  
a wide range of treatments in  
the comfort of your own home

Find out more about our treatments at my new  
website or get in touch with me and add that little  
bit of luxury to your day today.

I also offer the *Popular shellac/gel polish treatments*  
which offer up to a 14 day high gloss shine.

[w. perfectly-polishednails.co.uk](http://w.perfectly-polishednails.co.uk)  
[e.tracy@perfectly-polishednails.co.uk](mailto:e.tracy@perfectly-polishednails.co.uk)

## Bennett Decoration

Painting & Decorating

Interior & Exterior

First Class Work

Tel: 01527 893162

Mob: 0797 3627269

Free Estimates



## 'Purradise'

BOARDING CATTERY

Earls Common

Himbleton

01905 391648

Jane Moule



## aquaflame

Central Heating, Oil & Gas

Servicing - Repairs - Installations

Worcester Bosch Accredited Installer

0800 542 2025

07801 737 988

[info@aquafamegas.com](mailto:info@aquafamegas.com)

**WORCESTER**  
Bosch Group  
Accredited Installer

Value Through Expertise



# BRAY BROS

## TREE SURGEONS

TREE SURGERY - HEDGE TRIMMING  
LOPPING, PRUNING - STUMP REMOVAL

TEL: 01527 892828

MOBILE: 07970 263779  
67 WESTONHILL CLOSE, ASTWOOD BANK

FULLY INSURED - NPTC CERT. NO.552670



## S.E.DAVIS & SON LTD.

Tel: 892716 & 893343

*Broken Slabs, Brick Hardcore,  
Sand, Gravel, Ashes, Cotswold  
Stone, Cement, Topsoil, etc.*

LARGE OR SMALL QUANTITIES DELIVERED  
PLANT HIRE AVAILABLE



*We supply  
building  
materials  
to help  
transform  
your  
garden*



## THE STABLES

### FARM SHOP & CAFÉ

*For the freshest & finest food from your local  
area visit The Stables Farm Shop and Café...*

- Beef and lamb from the fields surrounding the shop
- Fresh fruit and veg from local farmers
- Lots of tasty handmade foodie gifts and treats
- Delicious homemade food cooked from scratch
- New Farm Park with tractor trailer rides and animal encounters

Open Mon-Sat: 9am-5pm | Sun & Bank Hols: 10am-4pm

The Stables Farm Shop & Café | Astwood Bank Lane  
Astwood Bank | B96 6PS | Tel: 01527 894 167

[www.thestablesfarmshop.co.uk](http://www.thestablesfarmshop.co.uk)

## JONATHAN SPROULE & SONS LTD

### (MASTER BUILDERS)



20 Years Experience  
SPECIALISTS IN  
CHARACTER & PERIOD PROPERTIES  
HOUSE EXTENSIONS & RENOVATIONS  
Mere Green Cottage, Hanbury, Worcs. WR9 7DZ



Tel: 07973 445048 & 07976 826065 Fax: 01527 821452