

FECKENHAM

JANUARY 2014

News



Published by Feckenham Church for the Village
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• MEMORIALS •



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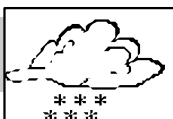
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JANUARY Diary



Tues 7th	12.30am	Lunch Club	Village Hall, Back Room
Thurs 9th	7.30pm	Feckenham W.I.	Village Hall, Back Room
Tues 14th	7.30pm	Feckenham Forest History Society	Webheath Village Hall
Wed 15th	10.30am - noon	"Drop in" for coffee and a chat	Parish Church
Sat 25th	8 - 11.30am	The Bradley Green Big Break- fast	Bradley Green Village Hall
Sat 25th	7.30pm	FeckenOdeon	Village Hall
Wed 29th	10.30am - noon	"Drop in" for coffee and a chat	Parish Church

Happy
New
Year



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Front Cover

A busy Sunday morning in the Village Shop, 5 years on.
Photo by Ian Bellion

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Magazine online at

www.feckenham.com

The Village
shop

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

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THE BAPTIST



Priest-in-Charge: Rev Wyn Beynon

Churchwarden: Ann Matthews 01527 892180 **Church website:** www.feckenhamchurch.org.uk

•• **Email:** info@feckenhamchurch.org.uk

Parish Office: Telephone: 01905 778181 Email: bowbrookgroup1@gmail.com

Mon. Closed: Tues., Wed. & Thurs. 10am-1pm & 2-5pm: Fri. Closed

at - *The Bowbrook Group, The Parish Office, St Andrew's Street, DROITWICH, WR9 8DY*

Readers and Intercessors



Sunday 6th

Epiphany

11-00am Sung Eucharist

Isaiah 60 : vs. 1-6

Ephesians 3 : vs. 1-12

Intercessions

Doug Curtis

Ann Matthews

Carol Onions

Sunday 12th

Baptism of Christ

8-00am Holy Communion

Romans 12 : vs. 1-5

Peter Horsley

11-00am Family Service - "The Spiritual Journey"

Sunday 19th

Epiphany 2

6-30pm Evensong

Isaiah 49 : vs. 1-7

John 1 : vs. 29-42

Intercessions

Oliver White

Gerry Eost

Erica Dilger

Sunday 26th

Epiphany 3

11-00am Family Communion

1 Corinthians 1 : vs. 10-18

Intercessions

Carol Price

Cyril Warrilow

X Box Sunday School

Will be held in Church on Sunday 6th January. All children will be warmly welcomed.

Partners in Prayer

Ecumenical lay led service of prayer for the community, Wednesdays at 9.15am for 30 minutes in the Parish church. **All welcome.**

Feckenham Roman Catholic Church

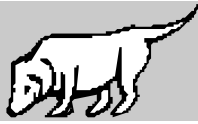
St John Fisher & St. Thomas More



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



Farewell to:

John and Sally Roundell and their children Oscar and Orla. They have been part of Feckenham life for over ten years; John was an active member of the parish council and very much involved with the setting up of the parish plan and Sally's excellent drawings were on the front of the Feckenham News for a long time. They have now moved to Stoke Prior and we wish them every happiness in their new home. They both say how much they will miss Feckenham and hope to return to take part in future events here.

Andrew and Sally Roberts and their children Alexander and Lucie have also moved from the High Street after renting the cottage next to the Rose and Crown for nearly two years. They have now found a suitable property near Bidford which will afford more space for Andrew to work from home. They too will be very much missed and we wish them well.

Welcome to:

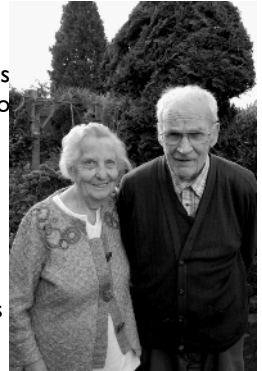
Jay and Katherine Neale who, together with their daughters Isla and Molly, Mavis the dog, two cats and four chickens have moved into the Old Courthouse on the square. It is some years since there were young children living on the square so an added reason to extend a hearty welcome to them all. Jay has a software business and Katherine is a photographer with a studio at Jane Bird's house. They have moved here from Elcocks Brook.

Alistair and Andrea Scott, with their two girls Ella and Florence, are the new owners of 46 High Street. They have moved here from Worcester. Alastair works for Jaguar Landover and Andrea is a teacher at Alcester Grammar school. We hope that they too will have many happy years in Feckenham.

Congratulations to Fred and May Badger who have just celebrated their Platinum wedding anniversary! They were married during the war in 1943. Fred at the time was serving on the Atlantic convoys and had a 24 hour pass to get married at Bromsgrove register office. Fred was born in a cottage on the square in 1922 and May was born in Birmingham in 1924. In 1951 they became licensees of the Eight Bells Public house on the High Street until its closure and have lived here ever since. They have 4 children, 3 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren.

Even at the age of

91 years Fred still tends two allotments and also lovingly cares for their own extensive garden! We join with Her Majesty the Queen in sending them our sincere congratulations and continued good health and happiness.



Philippines Emergency

We are so grateful to all of you who responded so generously to our appeal for torches, children and baby clothes. All of these items have been sorted and dispatched in Aqua boxes (which also act as water purifying containers) and have been sent to the disaster areas.

A huge thank you from us both, *Catherine Fisher and Nichola Dean*

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Village Shop

Jeff Matthews

The Village Shop: Five Years Old

January 31st will mark a significant anniversary in the life of the village shop. We will be five years old. Profitable and thriving, the venture represents an extraordinary comment on the community spirit of Feckenham.

It was the Parish Plan, produced in 2007, which provided the impetus to create the venture, initially. That, along with the Flood Group, were two key projects that the Village said it wanted. Sure enough when the right vehicle was created, a Social Enterprise, as opposed to pure for profit business people, flocked to support it. 300+ as shareholders, 120+ as volunteers and countless thousands as customers.

As the enterprise has settled down, so a smaller group of volunteers have emerged at the core, each prepared to gift time to the "business", bringing their professional specialisms in finance, design, marketing, administration, training, practical skills or just plain common sense, to make it work. Too many to list here, and with the danger of forgetting some, I will not do that here. If you have used the shop, many will be familiar to you as they serve you. However, a number may not, buried in the back office doing finance or other support roles. We would like to acknowledge those volunteers, too.

What has been particularly gratifying is seeing people take on and learn new skills, both young and old. For several youngsters it has provided support to their Duke of Edinburgh Awards. For others, a springboard into paid employment – we know Morrisons, Waitrose and other retailers look very favourably on folk who can not only show the skills of retail, but have chosen to gift time to support a community venture. It shows a set of values and a commitment they like to see in their staff.

So, to our volunteers, to our shareholders, to our regular customers we say "thank you" and here's to the next five years.

Communal Christmas Card



Thank you to all those that have supported the communal christmas card). A total of £463 was raised to help the community of Tunguli in rural Tanzania. The printing was paid for by the P.C.C.

A.M. & J.W.

From the Church Warden

Church Support for Food Bank

You may have read in the local newspaper recently about a food bank that has been set up in Redditch in the last few months. It was set up to ensure a constant supply of food for those in crisis. Referrals for emergency food has increased by nearly 300% since April. The majority of people seeking help are single and range in age between 25 and 64 years old.

Our Parochial Church Council (P.C.C.) agreed at it's last meeting that they would like to help.

If you feel able to support this cause there is a box at the back of the church where you can leave your donations. The request is for in date, non perishable food and basic toiletries.

Many thanks

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Square Management Committee

Family Service

Jeff Matthews

LUMBERJACKS ADD SPARKLE

When you get this magazine the village Christmas tree should still be twinkling away on The Square. This year's pine is a bit special in that The Square Management Committee actually harvested it themselves. It's the gift of Gary Simpson's mum Joan - and it was, until very recently, growing at the bottom of her garden in Matchborough. It started out as a 4ft domestic Christmas tree but had grown to over 20ft and

was dominating the area - it had to go. The Square's team sprang into action and, lead by chainsaw wielding Tim Smith, made sure the tree was felled without demolishing the house. It was born away on a chariot supplied and driven by Slade Arthur and son-in-law James and re-erected the very same day, complete with glittering lights and flashing red star. It's generally thought to be the best shaped tree we've ever seen on The Square.

The Committee is most grateful to Joan for donating the tree and to Slade and James

without whom it would still be waiting in Redditch.




The Spiritual Journey: Where are you going? (And who are you taking with you?)

Recent research suggests that many of us think that there is "something" beyond ourselves, quite what, well we don't appear to be sure. Only 13% of us, apparently, believe that we are "just matter" and believe in absolute materialism – that this is all there is. Whatever we think of organised Religion, it seems like many of us are on some form of spiritual journey. Over the next three months we will be exploring this theme in the All Age Worship. Held every 2nd Sunday in the month this informal lay led service seems to be becoming increasingly popular.

We'd love to see you and your family there.

The Spiritual Journey

Where are you going {and who's going with you}?



Feckenham
Church
All Age
Worship

January 12th

at 11am

refreshments after

WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM



Stock & Bradley GARDENING CLUB

ANNUAL DINNER

at The Flyford Arms
Wednesday, 15th January
Details - 01527 821355

Feckenham Readers Group



Wednesday, 15th January - 7.45

This month's book:

REVENGE by Tasmina Nasrin

Details from Marion Chate - 892285

Feckenham Forest History Society

AN ENGLISHMAN'S CASTLE IS HIS HOME

An illustrated talk by Keith Cattell
Tuesday, 14th January - 7.30pm
Webheath Village Hall

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

theWI
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Saturday, 25th January - 7.30pm

at **The FeckenOdeon Cinema** in Feckenham Village Hall

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The FeckenOdeon Cinema Society



DUSTIN'S DELIGHT

The first FeckenOdeon film of 2014 is **"Quartet"** - showing on **Saturday, 25th January**. This lighthearted drama, adapted by Ronald Harwood from his own play, marks the directorial debut of Dustin Hoffman, 75, which is as strong an argument as any offered by the film itself for the good work we can still accomplish in our dotage.

In a luxurious home for retired musicians, two questions circle each other. One involves former opera stars who were once married, stormily and briefly. The other is about a gala that may be able to raise enough money to keep the home from closing. It's directed with love by an man who loves films - and it's also evident is that he loves the stage, loves show business and has a heart full of affection for these elderly survivors. He also loves his location, Beecham House, and scenes are bridged with many shots of the elegantly landscaped grounds. It's not the greatest of great dramas - it's not entirely believable... but it is great fun. Tom Courtney (no stranger to Ronald Harwood's work - The Dresser to mention but one), Maggie Smith, Pauline Collins and Billy Connolly attack their roles with gusto and it all goes to prove that it's not over until the fat lady can't sing anymore.

MUSIC FROM DOWN UNDER

The first showing of 2014 in FeckenOdeon 2 will be on Valentine's Day (14th Feb). An Aussie antidote to all the saccharine Cupid worship - **"The Sapphires"** is about a group of Aboriginal ladies who find the blues - and sing them spectacularly. Hilarious and thought provoking.

Tickets for these shows are on sale at The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown. Book by phone on 0844 8700 887 or online at www.fecknodeon.co.uk

Village Hall Ian Bellion



FOOD FOR MIND AND HEART

To get us in the mood for Valentine's Day, on **February 9th** we present an evening of seductive stories from Italy. Telling these stories of **"The Hungry Heart"**

is an internationally famous performer universally acknowledged to be the very best in the business. Cat Weatherill travels the globe enthraling audiences wherever she goes with her hypnotic telling of stories ancient and modern.

This show is filled with tantalising tales and glorious singing... sensazionale!! Love, lust, adultery, murder - Italian folk tales are as full bodied as their wine! So fill your glass, relax, and fly away with Cat to the warm heart of the most romantic country in the world. We'll even offer you a bowl of pasta so leave some room after your Sunday tea.

Still to come in the *Shindig* season:

6th April - Shooting the Moon

Strangeface Theatre Company with the story of Georges Melies - fantasy and magic aplenty.

Tickets (£10) for all shows are on sale at The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown - you can book online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham or by phone on 0844 8700 887

COMING SOON: Returning to Feckenham is the rootsy, rocky, folky band **WHALEBONE**. This time they're joined by American singer/songwriter **Kelley Mcrae**. Tickets at £10 are on sale now. More details soon.



Parish Council

Sean Arble

Chairman R Williams: 07812 034 455

Cllr E Atkins: 01527 542 063

Cllr K White: 01527 458 395

Cllr P Eaton: 01527 894 272

Cllr F Hawker: 01527 894 171

Cllr L Jordan: 01527 893 074

Cllr A Slade: 07860 240 331

Future Meeting Dates: 20 Feb, 17 April, 15 May, 17 July, 18 Sept, 20 Nov & 18 Dec

The Parish Council met on 21 November in the Village Hall and was delighted the meeting was again well attended by parishioners. Thank you for your support!

Parishioners may have noticed there is a short section of Mill Lane which is very potholed and rutted. Much of the problem is the high volume of traffic using that spot to three-point-turn after visiting one or other of the properties down there – or getting lost. The road is un-adopted and the cost of improvement to adoption standard would be very high. The Council is attempting to facilitate a solution and if villagers are interested in helping, contributing to the cost, however modestly, or have any questions, please get in touch. The matter will likely be discussed in more detail at the December meeting.

The Council has distributed grants to The Allotments Society and The Village Shop. There are still funds available for 2013/14 financial year. Further grant funding is allocated for 2014/15. Complete details of the budget can be viewed on Parish Council Page of the village website.

At the October meeting, E Baker, representing Redditch Borough Council, delivered a lengthy statement regarding drainage for the proposed Webheath development. For those interested, please see the October Minutes on the parish website.

The Environment Agency have contacted us to ask that we encourage everyone to check their

heating oil tanks – groundwater pollution if a tank leaks can be very serious and of course the cost of losing a tankful of oil is considerable. Please check your tank!
<https://twitter.com/DaveThrouPEA/status/398130330588041217/photo/1>

Our local Police Officer, PC Richard Waterhouse, attended the November meeting. Burglaries are on the increase in our area. There is some useful general information and advice on the West Mercia Police website <http://www.westmercia.police.uk/saferneighbourhoods/> Parishioners are invited to call 101 and speak to the police if suspicious characters are spotted around our homes. Richard advised putting a light on a timer switch if you are out early evenings and drew our attention to the availability of Smart Water available at a discounted price of £15 at the Town Hall.

Worcestershire County Council is currently consulting on the proposed withdrawal of Subsidized Bus Services. Due to the high cost per head of bus service #354 (Tues & Thurs), the route is at risk of being withdrawn. For those interested in commenting, more information and a download of the questionnaire can be obtained via the link provided on the Parish Council Notices page on the village website. Alternatively, visit <http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/transport-and-highways/transport-review.aspx>

Parishioners may have spotted the speed camera on the main road through Feckenham Village which has already claimed some victims: let's hope it slows the traffic down and makes this a safer place to be.

There have been two new co-options in recent weeks; A Slade and L Jordan. Unfortunately, Wreide Poole stepped down from his Council role; his wit and no non-sense style will be greatly missed.

We are *your* Parish Council, here to serve our community. We would love to see you at our meetings, hear your comments and concerns, and work with you on behalf of all our neighbours, families and friends.

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Friday, 14th February

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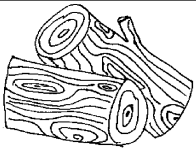
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"MEMORIALS THAT REFLECT A LIFETIME"

Feckenham W.I.

Gay Bligh



Thursday 9 January 2014 at 7.30pm –

My Big Adventure – Stephan Natynczuk will give an illustrated talk about the work of My Big Adventure, a social enterprise working with people to help reshape their lives by skilfully blending adventure, counselling, mentoring and education.

Please note that annual subscriptions (£34.70) are now due.

All meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the back room of Feckenham village hall. Visitors are welcomed to join us for any meeting at a cost of £3.50 per visit. If you require further information please contact Jane White 01527 893281 or Gay Bligh on 01527 893321.

Village Hall

Improvement Fund 2013/14



November Winners

6	Doug & Mona Hickman	£25
125	Stuart & Val Moberley	£15
150	Richard & Linette Herd	£10

December Winners

125	Stuart & Val Moberley	£25
13	Carol Onions	£15
126	Jeff Matthews	£10

These are the first 2 draws of the 2013/14 Fund. Thank you to everyone who has joined this year. We have 171 members and will have raised over £1400 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 7th January 2014

Rous Lench & Inkberrow Royal British Legion inc. Feckenham Roger Hunt

The branch meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 8pm at The Wheelbarrow & Castle, Radford. This is an open meeting, all interested persons are welcome. The chat is good and the bar is open.

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What's On this month in STOCK & BRADLEY

8th	Drop In Drop in for a Coffee and a Chat 10 am - 12noon The Bird in Hand
8th	Breakaway Tuneful Tubes
15th	Gardening Club Annual Dinner at the Flyford Arms
22nd	Drop In Drop in for a Coffee and a Chat 10 am - 12noon Bradley Green Village Hall
25th	THE BIG BREAKFAST 8 am - 11.30 am Bradley Green Village Hall

For more information see
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