

# FECKENHAM

The background of the cover is a photograph of a red brick house. The central focus is a white door with a small window and a brass knocker, set within a white classical portico supported by two columns. The door has the number '8' above it. The house is heavily adorned with purple wisteria flowers that cascade down the walls and over the windows. There are several white-framed windows visible, some with flower boxes. The overall scene is bright and colorful, suggesting a summer setting.

June 2022

# NEWS

Published by Feckenham Church for the village.  
Editor Gilly Cooper - [feckenhamnews@gmail.com](mailto:feckenhamnews@gmail.com)  
(Copy Date 14<sup>th</sup>)

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# Feckenham News in June

## Dates for your Diary

### June

1st	Studley Daytime WI Stock and Bradley Gardening Club
2nd	Jubilee: Lighting of Berrow Hill Beacon
5th	Queen's Platinum Jubilee Picnic
15th	Friends of the Church Charity AGM
20th	Hanging Basket -Judging starts
25th	WAKE Feckenham Horse Show

### July

15th	Feckenodeon 2
------	---------------

### August

20th	Fun on the Square
27th	Feckenodeon

### Regular Sessions

Mondays Restorative Yoga  
Thursdays Bridge; Hatha Yoga; Pilates  
First Tuesday of the month:  
Feckenham Sessions and  
Feckenham Forest History Society

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## Front Cover

Ann and Jeff  
Matthews' house on  
The Square  
resplendent with  
wisteria

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  
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the publishers can be  
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the views and  
assertions contained  
therein.

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## Editor's Note

Now that the wonderfully successful Flower and Garden Festival - amazingly well organised by Cathy Fisher and her team - is behind us we look forward to more summer outdoor events in the village - the Jubilee Picnic and the Wake will be upon us soon. I hope the weather is kind to us. The success of the fundraisers for Ukraine shows what our village can do when we pull out the stops.



We saw a hedgehog in the garden and, though we knew a hedgehog feeding station was best, we put out a saucer of food. Each morning it was cleared so we assumed we had a very healthy growing hedgehog or even a family until we looked out after dusk and, I guess we shouldn't have been surprised to see a rather chubby fox eating the food! Since then we have built a hedgehog feeding station.

I'm grateful to Dave Powell who has stepped up to help oversee distribution of the magazine.

Next month, I shall be away and attempting to put the magazine together from a campsite in France. I have back up from Ian Bellion in case internet access is less than adequate and for this I am very grateful. Talk about working from home or being back in the office: I'm moving from my home office across La Manche - an extreme way of getting away from my desk and the work seems to follow me.

## Recycle for the Refugees of Ukraine

### AN UPDATE

This event was exceptionally well supported by people bringing donations to the village hall during the morning of April 16th. From 8 -30 onwards we had a constant delivery, so much, that by 11 o'clock the Village Hall was crammed and we were struggling to find table tops and hanging space for it all! Thank you to everyone who donated items to the sale.

The helpers did a fantastic job with setting everything out, thanks to their hard work the Hall looked organised by 12 -30.

Selling was steady during the afternoon in spite of a rather disappointing attendance, but at the end of the day we raised approximately £900! Several fairly valuable items remained unsold and it was agreed that they should be sold on 'ebay' and Facebook Marketplace.

In the month since the sale a further £700 has been added to the fund, and recently, the total paid to the Disasters Emergency Committee for the Ukrainian Humanitarian Appeal was £1602!! An amazing amount raised from unwanted items!

Gilly, Martin, David and I send a big, heartfelt," thank you!" to everyone who volunteered to help with this fundraising event. We are contributing to aid of the Ukrainian Refugees - a most worthy cause.

Jill Rowe.

40 years ago I moved to Feckenham on my own and continued with career commitments which included a lengthy period in London as HR director of ITV. I retired at 75 as chairman of a Worcestershire NHS board.

Feckenham together with my involvement with Andrew and Clare, my son and daughter was of real importance to me.

Sadly because of old-age and an ongoing illness which means I am unable to walk without support, regrettably, I have had to decide that I can no longer live at Strands or be involved in the village and community activities, not least the shop and the church.

So I am being looked after in a retirement home, well supported by a small number of friends and particularly by my family who have provided so much help.

I have greatly appreciated the kindness shown in ringing me, calling on me and some very good fruit cakes!

To everyone my best wishes,

John Calvert

Dear Villagers,

I wonder if you can help me: I have what might be an unusual request and I'm hoping something might come of it. I was born and brought up in Feckenham until I left in 1981 aged 19. I've listened to some of your "In Conversation" pieces, which are very good, and recognise quite a few names.

My now late parents lived in Mill Lane from 1957 when they married until about 1993 when they moved away. My mum actually lived in the village since she was a child, my dad was from Astwood Bank. Their names were Bryan Powell and Joyce Powell, nee Orton. My name was Joanna Powell but I'm now known to everyone as Daff Richardson.

I would be really interested to talk to anyone who remembers them, particularly in the late fifties and early sixties.

I live in Oxfordshire near Chipping Norton, only about an hour's drive away from Feckenham. I'd really appreciate it if there was any way in which you could put me in touch with anyone who might have known them.

If you can help, please contact me by email [daff.richardson@btinternet.com](mailto:daff.richardson@btinternet.com)


Yours sincerely

Daff Richardson

Alert for dog owners received from Ian Ridley:

Attention all dog owners!  
There was an attempted dog theft recently on Mill Lane by the cricket club by a person in a van. Be on your guard

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✉ [jessicabyatt\\_yogaandmeditation](mailto:jessicabyatt_yogaandmeditation)

# WAKE 2022

your tea; and then a country dancing exhibition by Feckenham Primary School.

## Countdown to Wake Day 25<sup>th</sup> June...and a plea for help



Now that we are getting towards the business end of our Wake plans, we need to ask all you bakers out there to bring us a cake for our Wake Cakes stall. Bring them along on the day - just large cakes to sell whole on this occasion. We are expecting a performance in the church by All round Voices to entertain you whilst you drink



The Classic Cars show looks like being another blockbuster with vintage cycles too. If any budding petrolhead would like to volunteer to help at the Car show then please contact Chris Nicholson by email [chrisnic9@gmail.com](mailto:chrisnic9@gmail.com) or through their Facebook page Feckenham Wake Car Show.

Any other volunteers to help with running stalls or attractions contact any of the team Julian Bull, Marion Chute, Alan Smith, Ian Bellion, Louise Jordan, Ann Barrett, Charlie Willetts (for the Dog Show) and Erica Guise. Let's make this year special for all of us.



## Feckenham Square Management Committee



Previous Pirates - Alan Smith & Paul Nicholson in 2015

### PIRATICAL FUN!

Patch up your parrots, wooden legs, jolly rogers and dodgy ooo arr accents - the **Pirates of The Caribbean** are heading for Feckenham! The Square Committee were heading South of the Border for this year's Fun on The Square event - but a sudden squall made them veer off into Cap'n Jack Spratt's territory. The result is that, on Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> August, the treacherous waters of the Caribbean will be sloshing around on The Square. There'll be Caribbean music, a privateers' bar, a tavern serving food fit for the King of the Pirates... and all sorts of dastardly games and entertainment. More details next month - but keep the date free!

**Pirates of the Caribbean - The Square - Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> August from 6.30pm.**

#### **HELP FOR YOU if you are self-isolating** From Volunteers Co-ordinated by Feckenham Facebook Group & Parish Council

A group of local volunteers from the village are available to assist you with PICKING UP SHOPPING, or POSTING MAIL, picking up URGENT SUPPLIES (including medications) or just having a FRIENDLY PHONE CALL during this challenging time when many people are being advised to self-isolate if they are either vulnerable or ill.

If you would like some help then please contact JANE BULL, Clerk to Feckenham Parish Council either on 892522 or [clerk.feckenhampc@feckenham.com](mailto:clerk.feckenhampc@feckenham.com) and we will be in touch (& the help is free!). Any goods will be left on your doorstep. More updates on our local radio: [swansbrook.com](http://swansbrook.com)

NOTE: Coronavirus is contagious. Please take every precaution to ensure you are spreading only kindness - Avoid physical contact (keep at least 2m distance from others) and Wash your hands regularly

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**The WAKE - 25th June**

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## Kathy's Collection

Down Mill Lane, where there is a bank down to the cricket pitch, there are three horse chestnut trees. Earlier this year I thought that I could see differences between the size and shininess of their leaves. In mid May, when the buds burst, I thought I'd look into it more closely. But its complicated and I am still only a beginner.

I'm fairly sure that this white version is the Common Horse Chestnut. Native to the Balkan Peninsula, it was first introduced to the UK from Turkey in the late 16th century (Woodland Trust). Excellent for conkers.



I suspect that this may be Sweet Buckeye which originated in the south east USA before being imported to Europe. But I could well be wrong ...



And then this could be Red Horse Chestnut which is a hybrid of the other two. Its seeds are less spiny than those of the Common Horse Chestnut – so, can any conker collectors tell me whether I am right?



And which one is which? Well, you'll have to go and have a look!



# JUNE CHURCH SERVICES



## PARISH CHURCH of ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Priest-in-charge: Fr Glenn Reading 01527 894436

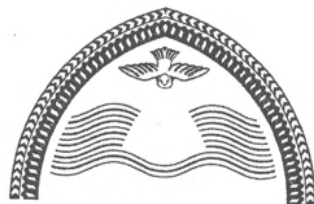
Church Warden: Ann Mathews 892180

Please contact Ann for Weddings at [ann@the-madison-group.co.uk](mailto:ann@the-madison-group.co.uk)

Glen for Baptisms & Funerals at [glenn.reading@googlemail.com](mailto:glenn.reading@googlemail.com)

Website: <http://feckenhamchurch.org.uk/>

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



PARISH CHURCH  
OF  
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
FECKENHAM

5 <sup>th</sup> June	10.30am	Eucharist	Rev John Green
12 <sup>th</sup> June	9.00am	BCP Eucharist	Fr Glenn Reading
19 <sup>th</sup> June	6.30pm	Evensong	Fr Glenn Reading
26 <sup>th</sup> June	10.30am	Patronal Festival	Fr Glenn Reading

## FECKENHAM ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH St John Fisher & Thomas More

Due to illness, 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](http://www.eventcast.uk/live) (Type the link into the browser)

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

Local contact: Phylis Mott, Feckenham. Tel 893898

## Fr Glenn writes

It's finally starting feel warmer, after what has seemed a long cold start to the year the days are getting longer and the sun has some real warmth to it, Spring has truly sprung.

Wednesday this week as I wrote this article brought much needed rain after a dry spell much to the relief of our lawns and gardeners everywhere and just in time for the Flower Festival and Open Gardens Weekend that is almost here. The weather for the weekend is looking dry and bright!

As Spring progresses slowly into summer, life everywhere bursts forth, trees come to full leaf, plants and flowers fill the air with their sweet fragrances and people spend more time outdoors enjoying the weather and each other's company. Here we see God's creation in all its glory. It is fitting that our Easter celebrations where we recall the resurrection of Jesus a few weeks ago mark the beginning when the whole of creation springs back to life.

This time of year is perfect for a Flower Festival and Open Gardens, I have been looking forward to the chance of meeting new people and to admire the gifts, talents and hard work that has gone into each garden, each tended flower bed each arrangement and flower display. You may well have seen me wandering around with one or more of the children.

We'll have finished our weekend with a service of thanksgiving in church singing some of those wonderful hymns of creation. If I didn't see you then, please remember everyone is welcome to any of our services and you'll often see the talents of the flower group on display.

I hope that you enjoyed the Flower and Garden Festival and be assured of my prayers for our community at this time.

God bless, Fr Glenn

## Church Flower Group



Well - what a spectacular event! An explosion of colour and greenery filled the church and it was greatly appreciated and enjoyed by the hundreds of visitors.

Our flower group ladies excelled themselves once again and after 4 years since the last festival and a pandemic it was quite a challenge.

A huge thank you to each and everyone of our ladies for all the thought, effort (and sleepless nights) which you have put in, not only in assembling your displays but also the immense job of clearing up afterwards.

Our theme of 'Thankfulness' was so well interpreted and very well received.

Margaret Perry

Feckenham's Own...



Listen at  
[www.swansbrook.com](http://www.swansbrook.com)

**SWANSBROOK** Radio

## GARDENS ON THE AIR

Swansbrook Radio was out and about during the recent Flower and Garden Festival. Our microphones ventured into hidden gardens, grand gardens and surprising gardens. We talked to garden owners and found out what makes them do it and what they get out of it. We chatted to some of the hundreds of visitors and found out what they thought of us.

We also learned how difficult it is to organise this sort of event and we ponder upon what the future may hold if more volunteers don't come forward.

The result of all this nattering is a programme called **"Happy Hour : Garden Fest Special"** which you'll find in the On Demand section of our website - [www.swansbrook.com](http://www.swansbrook.com) - have a listen and see if we caught your friends and neighbours!

## WAKE WIRELESS

We'll be popping up our pop-up studio at The Wake. Please drop in for a chat. As always, we're looking for new broadcasters, technicians and reporters. If you've ever wondered about working in the media, we'd love to meet you. If you just want to say hello and ask for a record request, you'll be equally welcome!

## LISTEN TO THE SWANS

Go to [www.swansbrook.com](http://www.swansbrook.com) and follow the instructions you'll find there. Our programmes are available for you to play ON DEMAND - listen when and where you like - as often as you like.

**FECKENHAM'S OWN Local Radio**  
[www.swansbrook.com](http://www.swansbrook.com)

## The FeckenOdeon Cinema Society



The FeckenOdeon takes a break in June - but it's full steam ahead from July...

### SUMMER SCREENINGS

**Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> July** - FeckenOdeon 2 reopens with Benedict Cumberbatch playing an eccentric cat loving artist in **"The Electrical Life of Louis Wain"**. This film has been described as "A charming Triumph" and "Completely and Utterly Delightful". It's a whimsical comedy based on a true story.

**Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> August** - a Bank Holiday treat as the latest Bond movie roars onto the screen. **"No Time to Die"** stars Daniel Craig in his final spectacular outing as 007. If you missed it when it came out during the pandemic or have only seen it on the small screen at home, this is a chance to enjoy all the action in full high definition, surround sound glory!

Tickets for both summer films are on sale now

### OUR 21st SEASON

Subscriptions are now on sale for the 2022/23 FeckenOdeon Season. Just £30 buys you a seat for eight Saturday night films from September to April. Full details can be found at [www.fecknodeon.co.uk](http://www.fecknodeon.co.uk) and in leaflets to be found in most venues around the village.

The programme includes: The Duke, In the Heat of The Night, Belfast, Shirley Valentine, Phantom of the Open, Gaslight and Saving Grace.

*Tickets for all 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](http://www.fecknodeon.co.uk)

# FECKENHAM FLOWER AND GARDEN FESTIVAL





# WHAT'S ON IN

**Feckenham**  
**WAKE**  
Saturday, 25th June  
1pm to 5pm



*All the traditional attractions and more!*  
**PUNCH & JUDY**  
Arrow Valley BRASS BAND - Fun DOG SHOW  
CRAZY GOLF - TRACTOR BOUNCE  
STRONGMAN STRIKER - Grand DUCK RACE  
PIG ROAST - Real Ale BAR  
PROSECCO Bar - Woodfire Baked PIZZAS  
Home made SAMOSAS - CANDY FLOSS - ICES  
TOMBOLA - Craft and other STALLS  
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FREE entry  
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PLATINUM JUBILEE  
BEACONS

2<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2022

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**JUBILEE BEACON**  
ON BERROW HILL

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**WHEN**  
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**6:30pm**

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guestlist.

**First come, first  
served**

**Feckenham READERS GROUP**

Meets on

Thursday, 9th June - 7.45

This month's book:

**A SONG**  
**FOR**  
**SUMMER**

By Eva Ibbotson



Send details of events for FREE listing to:

# FECKENHAM



**THE FECKENHAM SESSIONS**  
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NEXT SESSION: Tuesday, 7th June

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IN



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FeckenOdeon 2  
Friday, 15th July at 8pm

The FeckenOdeon Cinemas  
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Tickets for all shows from The Rose & Crown and Village Shop  
Telephone Booking 0333 666 3366\* Online Booking\* & full information at  
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\*Booking Fee applies to Phone and Online Bookings  
\*Phone calls answered by Ticketsource and charged at standard rates - NOT a premium line



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FOR HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S  
PLATINUM JUBILEE

70 YEARS



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BRING YOUR OWN REFRESHMENTS AND  
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MUSIC PROVIDED

PLEASE NO BARBEQUES

**theWI** **STUDLEY DAYTIME**  
INSPIRING WOMEN **WI**

Wednesday 1st June  
2pm to 4pm - Studley Village Hall

**GAMES AFTERNOON**  
Visitors always welcome

Feckenham Square Management Committee

FUN ON THE SQUARE

**PIRATES**  
Of the CARIBBEAN



Saturday, 20th August  
From 6.30pm

MORE DETAILS NEXT MONTH

[whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk](mailto:whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk) or call 892130

# Feckenham Village Hall

## The Great Fecken Breakfast Saturday 23rd April



The idea was spawned by Peter and Maggie Stephens, Peter is the newest member of Feckenham Village Hall Committee. After a few days, it started to sink in that this event would be an enormous

undertaking. A sub-committee was created and formed the overall outline of the plan. We were fortunate to have the Village Shop in cooperation.

Then, 'Feckenham' pulled out an amazing array of skills, which helped drive the event on to a huge and resounding success.

Who'd have thought architect Alan Smith was a chef? Peter and Alan cheffed in unison, with the two Judy's (Hooker and Underwood) and Ann Matthews joined the crew to complete the kitchen.

Front of house was organised by Maggie in a military style operation. Maggie kept our numerous volunteers and helpers in order, and the view which Trish and I had when we were not chained to the kitchen sink was of a 'well oiled machine', working in glorious harmony together.

Our punters seemed and sounded happy, and the day had a lovely buzz about it.

A very dapper Ian Bellion welcomed and ticketed our guests at the door. Ian of course, put a massive amount of work in to the project in the weeks before the event. Including publicity, ticketing both physical and on line, sourcing and hanging flags and decorations, and leaflet design and production, to name a few. And, as I've

worked alongside Ian on the Village Hall and various other committees for more than a quarter of a century, I know there will be many more things which Ian has done quietly in the background.

On a technical note, Alan brought in a vast array of additional catering equipment to the event, and as the Village Hall's power supply is limited to 14KVA we had to hire in a 12KVA generator and patch in power from the neighbouring properties, Shirley and Jeff on one side, and Robin and Nadia on the other. There were a couple of power loss emergencies which were stressful and hair raising, but once overcome, the kitchen worked a treat.

There has been a huge amount of work and effort put in by everyone involved, both on the day and during the weeks before. It is not possible to name everyone, but THANK YOU to Feckenham Village Hall Committee, Feckenham Shop, Feckenham community and all others.



Finally, thank you to everyone who attended the event which of course couldn't have happened without you all.

We are proud to have raised £3625.92 for the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

Phil Tricklebank (Chair)  
Feckenham Village Hall

**The Improvement Fund Draw for May, 2022 was made at the meeting of The Trustees on 3<sup>rd</sup> May.**

Winners:	26	Penny Swinson	£25
	42	John & Sue Ross	£15
	23	Danielle Chute	£10

## Feckenham Artisans: Jackie Berry

As you will be aware, there's a new group in the village call Feckenham Artisans and I thought it would be a good idea to introduce the members to you all.

This month I'd like to introduce you to Jackie Berry who makes exquisite stitched pieces such as bears.

Jackie moved to Old Rectory Cottage here in Feckenham about 5 years ago. She started making again during lockdown after a gap of a few years when she had lost her incentive and confidence. Her daughter, Anna, felt she should share what she did with others so she set up an Instagram account called **buttonsandthread** to do this and to make a start selling some pieces. Since then she has sold at a series of craft fairs including one at Botany Bay Nurseries.



All her creations are hand-stitched. She mainly uses German mohair or wool felt. A lot of her designs are her own, though some are commissions. She loves the challenge of making something individual.

Her interest began when she was bought a felt brooch covered in vintage buttons. She loved it and thought she could make one herself but even better. Since then she has honed her skills and will always include a vintage button on her creations.

Her creations are priced to include the cost of her expensive fabrics and a very small proportion of the price is for her time which will be many hours for a typical little bear.

She is very glad to be a part of the new artisan group where they can share skills and their ideas.



## Feckenham in Bloom Gaye Bligh

Who, What is Feckenham in Bloom? No, we are not about to enter the village into the national competition Britain in Bloom. Well, not just yet! Feckenham in Bloom is a group 'born' out of the Parish Council. The group is chaired by Councillor Erica Guise and consists of Jane Bull (clerk to the PC) and volunteers Gay Bligh, Gwyn Bradley, Gilly Cooper, Judy Hooker, Jill Rowe, Peter Stephens and Chris West. Our aim is to enhance the appearance of our lovely village by supporting current planting projects and to suggest new planting projects around the village. We have a small annual budget from the Parish Council in addition to potential extra income from the Village Shop, Feckenham Charity Trust, Redditch Borough Council, and small local businesses and charities. We are working closely with the village's Biodiversity Enhancement Group. To this end wherever possible we aim to plant native wildflower bulbs and plants around the village. Likewise, any trees planted will be of native species.

### Projects to Date

We hope you all enjoyed the wonderful Spring display of purple crocuses on the village Square, along Astwood Lane and at the junction of Berrowhill Lane. Back in October 2021 the group with the help of additional volunteers from the village planted some 4,000 crocus corms donated by the Rotary Club of Redditch as part of their Purple4Polio project. Over the years



the corms will multiply further enhancing the overall appearance.

Currently we are working on making the road entrances to the village more attractive. In preparation for the village Flower and Garden Festival we have temporarily sited containers at the Astwood Lane and Alcester Road entrances but in the long term we will be considering self-watering planters at all three entrances.

Two planted up planters have also been placed alongside the bench adjacent to the Old Vicarage.

### Future Projects

The group has been looking at ways of marking the Queen's Platinum Jubilee by planting a tree or trees. Consideration has been given to planting seven trees, one for each decade of the Queen's reign, opposite the entrance to Feckenham Gardens but unfortunately permission has been declined. So, if you have any ideas how we might mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee do get in touch (see below). Other plans include the creation of a wildflower meadow, the planting of native bulbs and wildflowers (bluebells, cowslips, primroses etc)

around the recreation ground together with the siting of benches, and autumn planting.

### How Can You Help?

If you have any ideas/suggestions please do get in touch with members of the group or by emailing Jane at

clerk.feckenhamc@feckenham.com

Remember it is your village!

And finally, you could enter our competition! We are looking for entries of 'homemade' hanging baskets, mangers/troughs and planters. These should be placed outside your home so that they are readily visible to the judges.

Judging will take place during the week before the Wake (20 – 24 June). Prizes include National Garden Vouchers and a meal for two at the Rose and Crown Pub. Please fill in the entry form below and return it to Jane Bull, Parish Clerk at 7 Droitwich Road, Feckenham by Friday 17 June.



## Feckenham in Bloom – Hanging Basket, Manger/Trough and Planter Competition

Name: .....

Address:

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Telephone number/email address

.....

Please return the completed form to Jane Bull at the above address by Friday 17 June

# Fecken-Crossword by Jamie Hubball

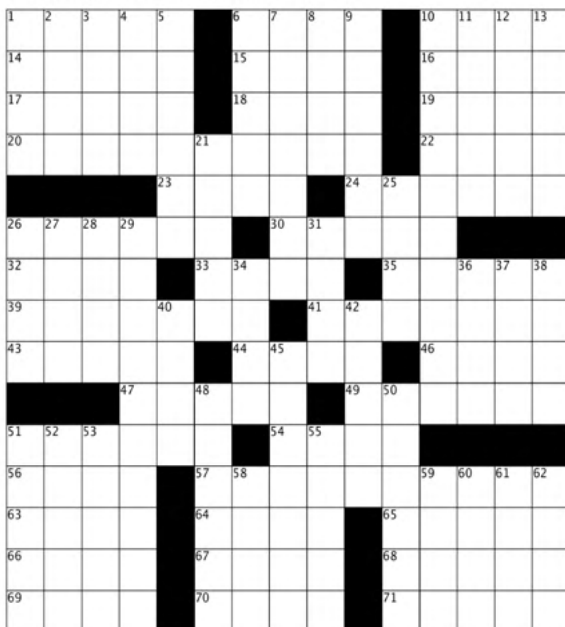
Comments, questions and suggestions welcome: [jamiehubball@gmail.com](mailto:jamiehubball@gmail.com)

## ACROSS

1. Kind of tea from India
6. Slight problem
10. The "A" in U.A.E.
14. Prefix with litre
15. Work out
16. Present tense of 70-across
17. Heavenly hunter
18. Leave out
19. Boys
20. Stayed true to one's roots
22. Drifting ice
23. Mojito ingredient
24. "Hurray for me!"
26. Sculpt
30. Oath locale
32. Slang name for COVID-19
33. Broad valley
35. Program for addicts
39. Black Sabbath hit
41. Style influenced by cubism
43. \_\_\_ Pops, a bygone fizzy drink
44. Nickelodeon "explorer"
46. Many resting places
47. Buckle
49. Unwanted gaps
51. Vietnam War weapon
54. Road trip time-passing game
56. Burden
57. Voldemort follower
63. Carribean-inspired soda
64. Analogy words
65. Still surviving
66. "\_\_\_ never work"
67. On the ocean
68. Arabian Peninsula nation
69. What a relaxed soldier is at
70. Past tense of 16-across
71. Apply, as pressure

## DOWN

1. Run \_\_\_ (go wild)
2. Title for a king
3. Freudian mistake



4. Very much
5. Dr. Evil's little clone in Austin Powers
6. Derision
7. 90s genre featuring Limp Bizkit and Slipknot
8. Opera highlight
9. Become excited, in modern slang
10. Very excited, in less modern slang
11. Author Dahl
12. "Same here"
13. Under attack
21. Actress Swinton
25. Zip
26. L.A. gang member
27. Dance at a Jewish wedding
28. Wise to
29. Holiday construction
31. Shakespearean king
34. No ifs, \_\_\_, or buts
36. Word on a towel
37. Teenage plague
38. Chief
40. Sheltered promenade
42. "Lord of the Flies" protagonist
45. Many substances used to treat pain
48. Feature of old car radios
50. "Yes, captain!"
51. "It's true!"
52. Baker with the 1986 hit "Sweet Love"
53. Draws
55. Type of weasel
58. Bygone fuel brand
59. Antihero of "A Clockwork Orange"
60. Prisoners do it
61. Until now
62. Lease

## Feckenham Village Shop Alan Slater



At the time of writing, we are just a few days away from one of the main events in the Feckenham calendar: the Open Gardens Weekend. At the Shop we have been keen not 'to let the side down' and we have made a determined effort to present the Shop in the most attractive way possible. So we have installed some new trough planters, new hanging baskets and refreshed the flower tubs. I hope you approve of what has been done and my thanks to David and Jill Rowe and Eunice O'Brien for their hard work with the planting. Thanks also to Botany Bay Nurseries for giving us a generous discount on all our purchases. The Shop is proud to be a sponsor of this event, which not only enhances the attractiveness of our lovely village, but also provides a busy weekend of trading for our Shop. My thanks to all our Volunteers who worked extra hours during that weekend.

The Open Gardens Event is only one of many opportunities we have to use our profits to support the Feckenham Community. Over the last twelve months the Shop Board has agreed funding for many similar initiatives such as,

The Feckenham Horse Show

The Feckenham Wake

The Feckenham Ukrainian Appeal

The Feckenham Senior Lunch Club

The Feckenham Cricket Club

The Hanbury Countryside Show

I'm sure there will be other sponsorships during the months ahead, so it's vitally important that we all continue to support our Shop as the more successful it becomes, the more we are able to reinvest in our local community.

We are now making preparations for the Jubilee celebrations and we hope you will join us that weekend for either a morning coffee or afternoon tea on our café terrace. Fingers crossed for the lovely weather to continue.

**STOP PRESS .....** We have broken our weekend trading record during the Open Garden Event. Well done to our Volunteer Team.



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Looks like it could be something off the set of 'Peaky Blinders' but in fact it's Wake Day with everyone dressed in their best and sitting at the top of the field. Thanks to Pete and Barbara Masters for this photo.

### Fecken-Crossword Solution

A	S	S	A	M		S	N	A	G		A	R	A	B			
M	I	L	L	I		C	U	R	E		L	O	S	E			
O	R	I	O	N		O	M	I	T		L	A	D	S			
K	E	P	T	I		T	R	E	A	L		F	L	O	E		
						M	I	N	T		I	D	I	D	I	T	
C	H	I	S	E	L		A	L	T	A	R						
R	O	N	A			D	A	L	E		R	E	H	A	B		
I	R	O	N	M	A	N		A	R	T	D	E	C	O			
P	A	N	D	A		D	O	R	A		U	R	N	S			
						C	L	A	S	P		L	A	P	S	E	S
N	A	P	A	L	M		I	S	P	Y							
O	N	U	S			D	E	A	T	H	E	A	T	E	R		
L	I	L	T			I	S	T	O		A	L	I	V	E		
I	T	L	L			A	S	E	A		Y	E	M	E	N		
E	A	S	E			L	O	S	T		E	X	E	R	T		



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## Feckenham Cricket Club

With the ground looking rather splendid in the spring sun, games are coming thick and fast. The first team have won two out of four games as I write, a particularly satisfying result coming after a gritty late stand by Ed Wormington and Matt Kings brought us victory by one wicket, with only a few balls left. Jamie Reddish topped the batting with a fine 70 and followed that with 72 in an away win at Brockhampton.

The seconds set a target of 322 against Stone and finished as winners by 27 runs following a magnificent innings of 145 from Davey Banks.

The junior teams have begun their season and there are frequent games at Mill Lane (see below) which are always a joy to watch, with boundless enthusiasm and skill on show. Drop by to catch a game, you won't be disappointed.

Away from the game, the ground needs constant attention in order to maintain the playing areas, with almost daily work needed to cut, roll and repair the square. With grass growing at a prodigious rate the outfield has to be mowed at least once a week. In the shed, work has been needed to a couple of mowers with one having a new carburetor fitted, which fixed misfiring and sluggish performance. There is a growing suspicion that the move to E10 petrol is having a detrimental effect on some engines. And so we will be trying a fuel additive to see if this resolves the issues.

Finally, the clubhouse will soon be re carpeted and the changing rooms frontages will be refurbished, which will smarten the aging building.

### Upcoming games at Mill Lane:

Sat 4 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Feckenham CC 1st	v	Old Hill 2 <sup>nd</sup> XI	12:30pm
Sun 5 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Feckenham U13	v	Pedmore	10:30am
Tue 7 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Worcs Over 60s	v	Bucks Over 60s	1pm
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Feckenham 2nd XI	v	Martley 2nd XI	12:30pm
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Feckenham U13s	v	Avoncroft	6:15pm
Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Feckenham 1st XI	v	Stourbridge 2nd XI	12:30pm
Sun 19 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Feckenham U11 T20	v	Wolverhampton	10:30am
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Feckenham 2nd XI	v	Highley	12:30pm
Sun 26 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Feckenham U12 T20	v	Wightwick & Finchfield	10:30am
Tue 28 <sup>th</sup> Jun	Feckenham U12	v	Halesowen	6pm
Sat 2 <sup>nd</sup> Jul	Feckenham 1st XI	v	Brockhampton	12:30pm
Sun 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jul	Feckenham U13	v	Wolverhampton	10.30am

# Rob Cole's Gardening Tips

## THREE GOOD ANNUALS

We have always grown a few annuals as colourful fillers for the garden, and I can thoroughly recommend *Cosmos sulphurea* 'Polidor'.



The seed is easy to germinate (I sow it in cell trays, kept outside, in late March) and I plant out the little cell plants around the end of May in groups of threes and fives. By mid-July they have formed a twiggy 75cm bush of ferny foliage, and the semi double flowers are bright orange and showy. To keep the flowering going it is best to deadhead regularly, but I allow one plant to go to seed so that we can collect it for future sowing.

I bought our original seed from Thompson and Morgan, but other companies also have it in their range. You will only need to buy it once as it sets seed readily. The seedhead is a bit like a little chimney-sweeps' brush, the bristles of which are the seed. Let it ripen, and as soon as it falls to the touch, collect it and keep it in a labelled envelope in a cool place ready for sowing next year.

For my second choice of a good, but rarely grown, annual I can highly recommend *Cuphea viscosissima* which I first admired

growing in the garden at Upton House many years ago. It grows to about 45cm, has dark violet flowers consisting of two large and four smaller petals, and as its name implies, has rather sticky foliage. It comes from the Western United States where it is known as the Clammy Cuphea. What I particularly like about the plant is the way the seed is contained in a little horizontal "open boat" and the plant seems to be offering its next generation for easy collection.

My third recommendation is *Calendula* 'Indian Prince', a pot marigold which has the usual bright orange flowers, but with a dark scarlet flush to the reverse. The flowers are slightly double and the plant is easy to raise from the knobbly 'banana shaped' seeds which are set freely. You can even leave it to self sow, which it will readily do.

Annuals are nowadays rather scorned as hard work, or pooch-pooched as being old fashioned, but I have found all three of these hardy annuals fit in well with our herbaceous plantings and do not shout 'annuals' in the way that the 'half hardy' annuals do, and so become an integral part of the late summer display. You should try them - I'm sure you will not be disappointed.





## STOCK AND BRADLEY GARDENING CLUB

Our May meeting was a talk entitled 'Garden Visiting' by Margie Hoffnung, who is the Conservation Officer for The Gardens Trust. She gave an entertaining and amusing overview of this very British pastime which included a historical account of the way gardens have evolved.

### **NEXT CLUB MEETING - Wednesday 1st June 2022 at 7:30pm**

Our speaker for the June meeting will be Josh Egan-Wyer who runs the Plant Centre at Pershore Horticultural College. His talk is entitled 'Spring into Summer' and he will give a demonstration using the many plants which he will bring with him, most of which will be for sale.

Please note that the current £5.00 annual subscription became due on 1st January 2022. Please make cheques payable to 'Stock and Bradley Gardening Club'. We welcome new members to join us at any time throughout the year.

*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 2022. 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 07544 832052.*

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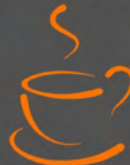
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