

# FECKENHAM

JUNE 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)



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# JUNE Diary



Tues 2nd	12.30am	Lunch Club	Village Hall, Back Room
Wed 3rd	10.30am - noon	"Drop in" for coffee and a chat	Parish Church
Wed 10th	7.30pm	Stock & Bradley Gardening Club	Coach Outing
Thur 11th	7.30pm	Feckenham WI	Back Room Village Hall
Tues 14th	7.30pm	Feckenham Forest History Society	Walk around Worcester
Wed 17th	10.30am - noon	"Drop in" for coffee and a chat	Parish Church
Sat 20th	1.00pm	The Wake	The Square
Sat 27th		Feckenham Horse Show	Berrow Hill Lane
Sat 27th & Sun 28th		Neighbourhood Plan Exhibition	Village hall

## Front Cover

The open day for the renovated Water Mill at The Brook House. (Details next month)  
Photo by Ian Bellion



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## Production Team

**Ian Bellion** – What's On  
892130 whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk

**Chris Fletcher** – Newshound  
894568 cefletcher44@gmail.com

**Antonia Pulsford** – Reviews 892268

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

**Jane White** – Letters, Reports etc.  
893281 ejw55@hotmail.co.uk

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

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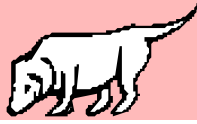
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# Newshound



**Wedding** On Saturday 25th April Adam Blake and Rebecca Styler were married in Feckenham Parish Church. Rebecca has family connections in the village. The reception was held at Gorcott Hall and the couple will be going away later.

**Christening** During the morning service on April 26th Patrick Bayliss was baptised. He is the third child and only son of Rebecca & John Bayliss and grandson of Malcolm & Vanda Cookes.

## Mission Morogoro

Tricia Mortimer

### CALLING LADIES WITH A SEWING MACHINE!

**D**o you have a sewing machine and sewing skills?

Would you be willing to help with a small sewing project?

We are looking for ladies who would be interested in helping with a sewing project to support girls and women in Tanzania, and would value any help, even with cutting out!

This simple project will be completed by the end of June and all help, however small, will be appreciated.

The sewing can either be done at home with instructions and materials supplied, or you can join us for a 'sewathon' with coffee/tea on a day – to be arranged - in June.

We are also looking for 100% cotton dress (not curtain) fabric, if you have any tucked away in a drawer!

For more information please contact

Tricia Mortimer 01527 402302

[triciamortimer@gmail.com](mailto:triciamortimer@gmail.com)

## A Plea To Dirty Dogs and Mucky Pups and their Owners.

**A** few weeks ago I was taking a walk in the churchyard when I was met by a very distressed lady. She had found that a dog had fouled on her mother's grave. She asked if I knew who she should report this to. I told her that she was speaking to the right person and went to get a shovel to clean it up. This is not an isolated problem, it occurs all the time. I explained that on the gates to the churchyard are notices welcoming pets to our churchyard but they must be kept on a lead and not be allowed to foul the area. As well as this the council have provided bins around the village for dog waste. What more can be done? Only to ask dog walkers to always keep a plastic bag in their pocket at all times and use it clear up after their dog. I understand that both the football and cricket fields also have reason to complain about this problem.

Carol Onions

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

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**WHAT'S ON at The Rose & Crown**  
**20th June - The Wake**  
Serving food 12 until 9pm. Music in the evening.  
**21st June - Father's Day**  
Special Menu - 2 courses £12.50, 2 courses £15.50  
Bring Dad out for a Pint and Lunch!  
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# World War I Centenary Commemoration

Jeff Matthews

WORLD WAR I



FECKENHAM

With this edition of the Parish magazine we have included a copy of the Commemorative Walk leaflet, produced by Kathy Gee, Steve Fletcher with key information provided by Richard Pearce. Craig Bird of creative design agency Wonkey Donkey provided the creative input, with layout and print skills to produce an on time and on budget publication. We were glad to have it available in time for the Garden Festival weekend, where we were able to hand out many to the visitors to the village to give them a sense of context for the names on the memorial.

We have begun work on the website – there's a holding page, at the moment, but you can get a pdf download of the commemorative walk, if you like. The website is: [www.feckenhamwww1.org.uk](http://www.feckenhamwww1.org.uk) . It will be developed in the coming months.

## Commemorative sculpture

The commemorative sculpture has now been placed in the Church, in time for the Garden Festival. Fabricated by James Barrett and installed by him and his sons, Adam and Tom and initiated in a creative session with Barbara Wheatley and Jeff Matthews, it represents a moving symbol to the fallen. Over the coming four years, a poppy will be added on the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their death.

Barbara Wheatley writes, "This is a truly collaborative and contextual piece of work. It is the culmination of many conversations village-wide: a piece to honour those who gave their lives for others; a piece which also attempts to draw together images, echoes and resonances of the historical, physical and spiritual context in which this very simple, but immensely profound piece now rests in this prayerful place at the heart of our community."

For James it was a particularly moving experience. "I felt as a practical man with practical skills, a very strong connection with those that went and served. As I started work on it, with the barbed wire, I took my gloves off, so I could actually get a real feel for the material. Barbed wire is such vicious stuff. It was a very moving experience to make the piece. I finished with a very strong sense of the people who served and those who didn't come back."

The ceramic poppies were kindly bought with a grant from the Parish Council and are ones from the installation at the Tower of London.

Rev Wyn Beynon has observed; "I have been telling as many people as I can about this piece of work and what you are doing here. It will be an interesting journey, a challenging one in the next four years. You may decide as a community that it has done its job, and time to move on, or you may decide to keep it. Either of those decisions will be understandable as we try and come to terms with those events of 100 years ago."



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# Thought for the month

Rev. Wyn Beynon

Dear Friends,

Community. I experience lots of community both within the villages I serve and within the Church. Community is about living together in cooperation, sharing, doing things, making things happen. There's so much going on. But it's changing.

I am as aware of what's happening in Bujumbura, Burundi, as I am about what's happening in Redditch. Perhaps more so. At least I am when there is something deemed newsworthy. If there was coup in Redditch I'd hear about that too!

This weekend I've enjoyed a village fete at Wychbold, Open Gardens at Feckenham and a choir concert in Wychbold church. There's been a community lunch and there are drop in and coffee mornings. Community is alive and well. But it's changing.

Increasingly people make their community with those they share interests with, rather than with their geographical neighbours. This is both a good and a bad thing. It means we mix the social "gene pool" as we travel around. But it also means we can miss the obvious right next door, if we're not careful. But, of course, we CAN be careful and enjoy BOTH!

Jesus toured his country a lot and made a mobile community. We're not so new after all. The Church is changing. Many of our young contacts don't live in our parishes - they are looking for a special place to be married, to have their children Christened, and many look for a special place to lay to rest the loved ones they have lost. Let's welcome them. My mother would have been 98 this year were she still alive, and my father 100. They both taught me that I must change with the world around me. That's a denial of nothing, but an embrace of life. I think that's much closer to the way Jesus lived than the static world which we sometimes yearn for, but, I suspect, never really existed.

Summer is a coming' in - and new life is everywhere. Let's embrace it!

Best wishes, Wyn



'Sensing God in Creation'  
**Sunday June 14th**  
**at 11am**  
At St John the Baptist Church  
refreshments served after

## INVITATION

Please join me for my of ordination as Priest to serve within the United Parish of Stoke Prior, Wychbold and Upton Warren with Feckenham and Bradley Green, and across the wider Wychebrook Group of Parishes.

I will be ordained as a Priest by Dr John Inge, Lord Bishop of Worcester at Worcester Cathedral on **Saturday 27th June at 2.00pm**

My first Eucharist (Holy Communion) where I will preside and preach will be at St John the Baptist Church in Feckenham **on Sunday 28th June 2015 at 11am refreshments afterwards.**

All are welcome to attend the service in the cathedral on Saturday 27th June 2015 or join with me and my family on the next milestone of this ministerial journey at Feckenham Church the next day.

Every blessing **Rev Gary Crellin**

# Feckenham C. of E. First School

Sharon Simpson

The children returned for the summer term to beautiful weather and high spirits on April 13<sup>th</sup>.

Some very brave parents (myself included) took part in (and completed) the 'Wolf Run' in Leamington Spa on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April- a 10km run consisting of obstacles and a swim across a freezing stretch of water. They were running in aid of the Brain Tumour Research charity- a very worthy and massively underfunded cancer research charity. A Just Giving webpage set up by one of the brave runners raised a fantastic £1027.59 with monies still coming in! A fantastic achievement!

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> April our year 4 swimming team took part in the Redditch Schools Swimming Gala and came 5<sup>th</sup> out of 9 schools. In the words of our Year 4 pupils, "We have achieved well considering the size of our school compared to the others taking part." We are very proud of their efforts and the great sportsmanship shown.

All of Year 4 enjoyed their annual residential trip to Blackwell Court at the end of April 2015 led by Mrs. Welsh and Miss Tyler. A great time was had by all participating in the many activities on offer and as usual their behaviour whilst away was exemplary.

On 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015 we learned that Mrs. Howard had announced her intention to retire from teaching following her 'special' birthday celebrated in January. The whole school joined to thank her for all her hard work and commitment to Feckenham First School where she has spent so much of her teaching career. We will miss her very much but have been assured that she will stay in close contact with the school.

The whole school was also invited to take part in a recent fundraiser in aid of the NSPCC by completing various activities in school for which

they obtained sponsorship. The children were also awarded badges according to the amount of monies raised.

A fabulous sum of £1200.00 was achieved.

The recent Active Kids campaign run by Sainsbury's has now come to a close but if you have any unwanted vouchers in your purses or lying around at home we would still be very grateful to receive them.

With best wishes from all at school!

Sharon Simpson Community Parent Governor

## Local Matters

Jen Clements

### Superfast Update

Back in March Worcestershire County Council (WCC) signed a contract with BT to provide more coverage of Superfast Broadband (fibre optic broadband) across Worcestershire, using money from the Government's Superfast Extension Programme (SEP). Looking at the map on WCC's website, Feckenham has been included in the roll-out plans, which is great news as we were worried that because of funding for Airband, we wouldn't be included. At the moment, we are in the plans to get Superfast Broadband by the end of June 2018, which feels like a long time to wait, I know. However, it is very unlikely we will have to wait that long. We'll let you know when we hear more.



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# Flower & Garden Festival 2015

Cathy Fisher

Once again we awoke to the sound of rain the morning after this year's Festival, having enjoyed a warm and rain free weekend. What a success the weekend was but as always, what a challenge!

A warm, sunny April heralded an early Spring with some cold nights and late frosts unlike 2012 when saturated ground was the main problem. Walking around the village, some of the later Spring flowering plants, in particular the wisteria, looked quite magnificent.

Visitors arrived in their dozens from all over the country (as far away as Lincoln and Norfolk and some from overseas). We also welcomed coaches bringing members from Swansea, Coventry and Hall Green Horticultural and Gardening Clubs.

After many months of hard work a record 37 gardens opened to visitors. I am extremely grateful to all those who so generously agreed to open their gardens and for their enthusiasm, hard work and support - thank you. Once again the Flower Group produced another outstanding Flower Festival themed 'Reflections of Village Life' which inspired much animated discussion and, indeed, reflected our special community so well.

Over two thousand visitors came to the Festival during the weekend and I cannot thank enough our car-parking and admission volunteers, for their superb dedication, efficiency and organisation. A huge thank you to them all and to Lionel Hill, Winfields, Simon Sharp and Pat Dormer for the use of their fields. Our thanks also to all the residents, who helped to make the Village look at its best.

The WI were magnificent, as usual, in providing a warm and friendly welcome in the Village Hall and sustenance for all our visitors. At times the numbers were overwhelming, creating the necessity for an unplanned replenishment of supplies for the next day! This was supplemented by the hugely successful pig roast and BBQ at the Catholic Church. The Square

was busy both days with numerous stalls and ice cream sales - many thanks to all the stall holders who have contributed to our funds. Both pubs and the Village Shop were also kept busy all day.

In addition, I would like to thank all the special people (you know who you are) who have helped me with the enormous amount of preparation required for the Festival and without whom this kind of event would not be possible.

I hope to announce the total sum raised for the Maintenance Fund next month, once all the figures have been completed and the numerous donations have been made.

## Village Shop

Yes, summer is here! Cafe specials of Cream teas at £2.40 - that's a scone, jam and cream with a hot drink at a great price. You can also get a regular size ice-cream or a Schmoo with sprinkles & cream £1.95. So, something for everyone.

For outdoor eating we have some lovely colourful Fairtrade Bamboo Ware from disadvantaged producers in Vietnam including large and small salad bowls, trays and servers. From India there are waterproof picnic rugs.

### What's On this month in STOCK & BRADLEY

- 3rd Breakaway**  
Visit to Slimbridge
- 10th Gardening Club**  
Visit to 2 Hereford Gardens
- 10th & 24th Drop In**  
Drop in for a Coffee and a Chat  
10 am - 12noon  
Bradley Green Village Hall
- 14th Walking Club**  
10am - meet at Bradley Church

For more information see  
**STOCK & BRADLEY CHRONICLE**

# WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

feckenham ENTERTAINMENTS Committee

By ye Commande of Kinge John

# A <sup>not very</sup> Medieval WAKE



Grande Fayre and Feaste  
from 1pm

on Ye Square at Feckenham  
Satyrday, 20th June

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# WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

## FECKENHAM HORSE SHOW



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## EXHIBITION

and make sure we get it right.

Feckenham Village Hall

Sat & Sun, 27 & 28 JUNE - 10 am to 4pm

**theWI FECKENHAM WI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN At FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL  
THURSDAY, 11th JUNE - 7.30pm  
COURTYARD GARDENS



## PILATES

at Feckenham Village Hall

Every Thursday

Sessions at 7.30pm & 8.30pm



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Friday, 14th August: SUNSHINE ON LEITH

Saturday, 29th August:

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# The FeckenOdeon Cinema Society

Ian Bellion



## YOUR ROOM'S RESERVED

No films in June - but The FeckenOdeon is back in action in July.

On **Friday, 10th July at 8pm** "The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel" will be open for business. Sequels don't always work - but this one has! Book early for this chance to see a splendid team of seasoned actors proving that you're only as old as you feel...



The Summer Season continues with:

**14th August - "Sunshine on Leith"** A jubilant and gutsy Scottish musical with music by The Proclaimers.

and on **Bank Holiday Saturday - 29th August** - direct from Sydney Harbour, Australia - Bizet's "**Carmen**". Join thousands of Sydneysiders for a spectacular open air production relayed to our big screen. We're making a party of it - **bring a picnic!**

Tickets for all of these Summer Season 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 ENTERTAINMENTS Committee

## CROWS' REST

Following a less than enthusiastic response to our requests for help in running the Scarecrow Festival we've decided that the crows can run riot this year. The Scarecrows will not be coming to the village in the Autumn. As this is a well established and well liked event, the Committee has agreed to explore other ways of running it with a view to bringing it back in 2016.... so don't throw out the straw just yet.



## SERF YOU LATER



As The Entertainments Committee won't be rounding up scarecrows this autumn, it has been agreed that the **Serf's Supper** (originally planned for early August) can now move to October - and indoors.

Quite apart from avoiding the vagaries of the British climate, it gives us the chance to create a much more authentic medieval atmosphere, avoid potential medieval food poisoning and allow our guests to enjoy their wanton medieval frolics without offending passing gentlefolk. Details will be announced soon.

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# Wake - 20th June

## A WAKE FOR ALL AGES

In days of old when knights were bold Feckenham was far from the rural backwater it is today. Royalty used to drop in to the Hunting Lodge in the middle of Feckenham Forest. They were so impressed with the village's hospitality that one of them issued a charter giving the Feckenhamsters the right Royal right to hold a great big party every year... and it's been happening ever since.

This year **Feckenham Wake** (as it's been called since before anyone can remember) is on **Saturday, 20th June** and there are a few attractions that the medieval kings might recognise. A display of falconry is one of them, the medieval climbing wall's another... and their subjects were probably all too aware of the stocks. There'll be a hogge roast washed down by traditional ales and a tournament of games including a tug-o-war and some medieval obstacle races.

The old kings would be baffled by the flight of hot air balloons due to take off from the Recreation Ground (weather permitting) and the enormous display of classic and vintage cars. In fact, as well as being a historical event, this is a great family day out with something for all ages. There'll be Punch and Judy shows, bouncy castles,

The Arrow Valley Brass Band, an art exhibition, teas in the church ....and much, much more.

**It all starts at 1pm on The Square at Feckenham.** Entrance is free.

The balloons are likely to take to the skies at about 7pm - and there'll be live music at the Rose & Crown to round the day off.



## SALTWAVE RADIO

A couple of months ago we asked readers to help us name Feckenham's radio station. We put suggestion boxes in the Village Shop, the Rose & Crown and the Village Hall... and, showing admirable restraint, waited (without peeking) until the beginning of May before tipping out around 40 suggestions. Many were inventive, some were funny.... and a couple were downright disgusting!

After much agonising and argument we can announce that the winner is.... "Saltwave" - suggested by "Horseley" - we're not sure if that's Peter or Philippa but we'll invite both to the studio to receive the promised bottle of bubbly when the station goes on air. The name is a clever combination of the Saltway, which runs through the village, and airwave - which is what we shall transmit over. Thanks to everyone who took the time to make suggestions - even the rude ones.

We're now working on funding and licence applications so it's not clear as to when Saltwave Radio will actually go on air. Watch this space!

The logo for Saltwave Radio features the word "saltwave" in a stylized font. "salt" is in green and "wave" is in blue. A blue wave graphic arches over the letters "t" and "w".



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# Garden Fever.....with apologies to John Masefield from Newshound

I must get into the garden again, to the weeds and prickly thorns  
And all I ask is a rain free day so I can cut the lawns  
And feed the grass, and trim the edge, and cut the moss away  
And prune the rose, so much to do! For it is early May!

I must go down to the nursery for there are gaps to fill.  
My gardens just not good enough! I haven't got the skill...  
So all I ask is a lot of luck and a flash of inspiration  
And all I need is a strong back and real determination.

I must be in the garden today; Ms Fisher is on her way...  
Smiling and cajoling: "please open your garden in May,  
It does not have to be perfect, no rival for Chelsea indeed!  
Just do your best dear owner and banish every weed!"

I must go into the garden again for time is passing by  
And all I ask is for sunshine and the joy of a deep blue sky.  
I do not want a windy day with dark clouds flying,  
Or flattened blooms and puddled lawns and the sound of gardeners crying!

Instead I long for a merry day with a laughing fellow grower  
And we'll raise a glass on Sunday night ... thank God the damn thing's over!

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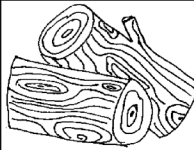
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"MEMORIALS THAT REFLECT A LIFETIME"

# Parish Council

Sean Arble

## MAY 2015

Cllr I Bellion: 01527 892 130

Cllr M Chute: 01527 892 285

Cllr A Jones: 01527 893 463

Cllr A Slade: 07860 240 331

Cllr P Dormer: 01527 892 960

Cllr A Smith: 01527 893 967

**Future Meeting Dates:** 2015: 16 July, 17 Sept, 19 Nov and 17 Dec

A changing of the guard took place at the May meeting. Cllrs Williams, Atkins, Eaton and White decided not to run for election. Four newly elected members joined the Council: I Bellion, M Chute, A Jones and A Pulsford - but, due to her success in the Borough Council Election, Mrs Pulsford was unable to take up her seat on the Parish Council. At the May meeting Cllr A Smith was elected Chairman and Cllr A Jones will act as Vice-Chairman.

The Parish Council budgeted £1750 for grants to local groups or clubs. A £500 donation has already been promised for the refurbishment of the War Memorial. The Council is keen to help other groups so please do download an application from the parish website [www.feckenham.com](http://www.feckenham.com) under Parish Council, then Procedures. Alternatively, contact the Clerk.

The Whites have unfortunately decided to step down as Parish Paths Warden(s) and will be missed. Anyone interested in volunteering to help keep the paths tidy should contact the Clerk. Whilst on the topic of footpaths, there has been a success; a new bridge was recently built on Mill Lane!

The Council, in cooperation with the Village Hall Committee and the gratefully received help from Karina Round, have secured a grant to provide a defibrillator at the rear of the Village Hall. Due to the largesse of Phil Tricklebank the cabinet was recently installed free of charge. The Council is awaiting delivery of the defibrillator from the British Heart Foundation which is due to arrive in early July. It is anticipated that within a few months of installation, there will be training provided for any interested parishioners.

There is good news concerning Superfast Broadband. Worcestershire County Cllr, P Gretton, reported that Feckenham can expect to be upgraded sometime between 2016 & 2018.

The Clerk would like to thank Tim Smith for his much appreciated work on updating the Parish Council section of the Feckenham website. I encourage all parishioners to peruse the site and make suggestions as to how it can be improved. For those that wish to keep informed as to Council business, the Draft Minutes of Council meetings are posted once approved by the Chairman.

## FECKENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

### VACANCY FOR A COUNCILLOR TO BE FILLED BY CO-OPTION

Following Antonia Pulsford's election to Redditch Borough Council, there is now a vacancy on Feckenham Parish Council. The rules for filling vacancies under this sort of circumstance say that the Council must fill the seat by co-option.

If you'd like to serve your community by joining the Council you can get further information and application forms from the Clerk to Feckenham Parish Council, Sean Arble.

email:

[clerk.feckenhampc@feckenham.com](mailto:clerk.feckenhampc@feckenham.com)

Formal notices for this vacancy can be found on the Council notice board (next to the post box on High Street) or at [www.feckenham.com](http://www.feckenham.com)



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# Stock & Bradley Gardening Club

Rob Cole

## THE NEXT CLUB EVENT - COACH VISIT TO TWO HEREFORDSHIRE GARDENS - Wednesday 10th June 2015

We will visit Westonbury Mill Water Garden in Pembridge and then pay a return visit to Stockton Bury Gardens near Leominster. Pre-booking and payment is essential, so if you haven't yet booked and would like to join us, please contact Sheila White for more details on 01527 545572.

## The Following Event

### Evening Visit to Bretforton Manor, near Evesham - Wednesday 1st July 2015

Bretforton Manor is an outstanding garden of 5 acres, recently redesigned and replanted. Note that this visit is by private cars, and not by coach.

*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 Dinny Pynsent (Secretary) on 01527 821355 or Rob Cole (Chairman) on 01527 821156.*



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# Feckenham W.I.

Jane White



**Our June meeting** is on **Thursday 11th** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Back Room. The subject is **“Courtyard gardens - history, design and influence”**. Adrian James traces the history, design and influence of courtyard gardens from early origins in Taj Mahal, through Moorish Andalusia, early and modern gardens in Morocco, early UK monastic influence to modern enclosed garden spaces in UK. Visitors are very welcome £3.

On the 18th June, we shall have our Midsummer Picnic. The 9th of July is our Member's Meeting. And on 17th July we have a garden visit to “The Woodlands” Stone - open to non members, ccontact Vivien 01527 402360.

The Committee would like to say a big thank you to all those members who worked so hard over the Festival weekend, many of us were there from 10am to 6pm both days. Also the villagers who swelled our work force to help us cope with the phenomenal numbers this year.

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

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

## Village Hall

Improvement Fund 2014/15



### May Winners

152	Richard Fletcher	£25
139	Dave Mitchell	£15
63	Neil & Ann Johnson	£10

*The June Draw will be held in the Village Hall  
at 8.00 pm on Tuesday 2nd June 2015*

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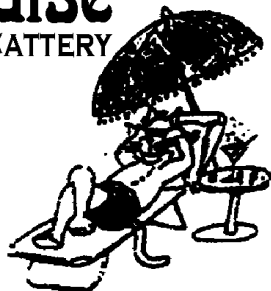
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