

FECKENHAM

MARCH 2018

News

Published by Feckenham Church for the Village
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A. Pullen

• MEMORIALS •

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MARCH Diary



Tues 6 th	12.30am	Lunch Club	Village Hall, Back Room
Wed 7 th	7.30pm	Gardening Club	Bradley Village Hall
Thur 9 th	7.30pm	Feckenham WI	Village Hall, Back Room
Tues 13 th	7.30pm	Feckenham Forest History Society	Feckenham Village Hall
Fri 16 th	8pm	FeckenOdeon-2	Back Room Village Hall
Thurs 15 th	2pm	Great Feckenham Bake Off	School Hall
Wed 21 st	10am	Visit to Envirosort	Norton
Thur 22 nd	7.30pm	Charity Easter Pub Quiz	Rose & Crown
Sat 24 th	7.30pm	FeckenOdeon	Village Hall
Sun 25 th	10.30am	Palm Sunday Procession	From Village Car Park
APRIL			
Sun 1 st		EASTER DAY	
Sat 7 th		Spring Flower Show	Village Hall

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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.

Front Cover

Forsythia, a true sign that spring has sprung.....

Photo by Ian Bellion



Church Services MARCH

PARISH CHURCH
of ST. JOHN
THE BAPTIST



Priest-in-Charge: Rev Wyn Beynon **07595 313035**

Church website: www.feckenhamchurch.org.uk **Email:** info@feckenhamchurch.org.uk

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

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

at - The Wychebrook Group, The Parish Centre, St Andrew's Street, DROITWICH, WR9 8DY

Sunday 4th 11.00am Sung Eucharist

Lent 3 Exodus 20:1-17
Corinthians 1:18-24
Intercessor

Readers and intercessors

Alison Crellin
Jeff Matthews
Cyril Warrilow



Sunday 11th 8.00am Holy Communion

Lent 4 Galatians 4:21

John Pulsford

11.00am Mothering Sunday service

Exodus 2: 1-10
Colossians 3:12-17
Intercessions

Doug Curtis
Carol Onions
Ian Hunter

Sunday 18th 6.30pm Evensong

Lent 5 Jeremiah 31: 31-34
John 12: 20-33
Intercessor

Carol Price
Erica Dilger
John Calvert

Sunday 25th 10.30am Palm Sunday procession from the village car park at 10.30am

Isaiah 50: 4-9a
Philippians 2: 5-11
Intercessor

Walter Richards
Muriel Richards
Archdeacon Nikki

HOLY WEEK

Monday 26th 9.00pm Compline
Tuesday 27th 9.00pm Compline
Wednesday 28th 9.00pm Compline
Maundy Thursday 7.30pm Communion and washing of feet
Good Friday 10.30am Stations of the Cross at the Catholic Church
7.30pm Evening service

“Mixed Bag”

6.30pm
in Feckenham Church
Wednesday
14th & 28th March

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

Feckenham C. of E. First School

The Great Feckenham Bake Off

Thursday March 15th

Calling all bakers.....

Pupils, family, staff, governors and villagers. Please enter and help us raise funds to assist Feckenham Church in cleaning their beautiful stained glass windows.

Following the judging, all cakes and bakes will be on sale along with tea, coffee and soft drinks in the school hall from 2pm until approximately 3.30pm.

RULES: All entries need to be in school on the day of the Bake Off, no later than 1pm.

Judges will 'blind taste' the cakes and bakes before declaring the winners.

Winners will be informed on the day and later announced in our newsletter.

All winners will be presented with a small, token prize.

Categories:

Best Victoria Sponge

Best Flavoured Cake (for example, lemon, coffee, ginger etc)

Best Chocolate Cake

Best Scones (sweet or savoury)

Best Biscuits

Best Cake made with fruit or vegetables

Best 'Showstopper!'

Please note all cakes and bakes should come with a list of ingredients so allergens can be identified and made known.

All entrants will need to complete an entry form, which can be obtained from the school office.

Good Luck!

Local Matters

Antonia Pulsford

An opportunity to visit EnviroSort in Norton - 21st March

It has been possible to arrange a visit to this plant where the contents of all our green bins are sorted for recycling on Wednesday 21st March at 10 a.m. There is no charge for the visit but anyone wishing to go will need to make their own way there – car-sharing? I think the visit will probably take about two hours. If you would like to take part in this visit please contact me on 892268 or by email pulsford.forcot@talktalk.net, as soon as you can, certainly before 12 March. So far as I know there is no limit on numbers, but if there turns out to be one it will obviously be first come first served.

Parish Council

Jane Bull

NEED TO GET TO AN APPOINTMENT?

Are you having difficulty getting to the Alexandra or Worcester Hospitals for appointments? There is now a pilot scheme called Community Transport Connections, which can help patients who are eligible because of mobility limitations or who have no other means of transport available. For more information or to register for this service, you will need to call 0300 3239965, Mon-Fri 9am-4pm. Once registered, you will be able to use this service, provided by Volunteer drivers in cars. There is a charge for each journey.

Community Transport to hospitals wider afield (i.e. Birmingham) is also available (often much cheaper than a taxi) and transport to GP and Dental appointments, shops, visiting friend and relatives is also provided.

For further information on this and other Parish Council matters please contact the Clerk at: clerk.feckenhampc@feckenham.com.

Friends of Feckenham Church



Update

There will be a much fuller article next month, but we are making exciting progress

- Mid Feb pews being altered to improve their comfort.
- 19th Feb saw the installation of the new sound system.
- Windows appeal is going very well. There are a few left if you would like to sponsor. Contact Louise Denne, Louiseddenne@aol.com , at the Old Vicarage.
- Tower access project is well in hand work planned for later this year, to mean access to the roof and the return of the flag.
- Funding options for the roof are being investigated. More next month.
- More on how you can get involved next month. In the meantime, thanks for supporting the events run to date. The Garden Festival is the next big one, of course.

Church Flower Group

Margaret Perry

Easter Lilies

Easter Sunday this year falls on 1st April for which the Flower Group will once again be arranging lilies.

Anyone wishing to make a contribution towards the purchase of lilies in memory of loved ones, please send their donation to Ann Matthews, 8 The Square, B96 6HR. (Cheques payable to "Feckenham P.C.C.") Please



Margaret & Marg

From the P.C.C.

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS

will be held in the Church
on Thursday the 19th day of April 2018
at 7.30 pm

For the election of **two** churchwardens, **four** Parochial representatives of the laity to the Parochial Church Council and **two** representatives to the Droitwich Deanery Synod.

Nomination forms are available at the back of the church.

The Meeting will consider reports on the Electoral Roll, the proceedings of the PCC, activities of the parish, the proceedings of the Deanery Synod and the Financial Statement for 2017.

Formal notice of the meeting will be displayed on the Church Door for at least two Sundays before the meeting and may also be found on our website

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

Ian Hunter PCC Secretary

LENT *together*

St John the Baptist Church, Feckenham
Ss John Fisher & Thomas More Church,
Feckenham

'The Joy of the Gospel'

Thursday evenings (7.30pm – 9.00pm)
15th February – 22nd March 2018
Ss John Fisher & Thomas More RC Church

for more information, please contact
Revd Barbara Wheatley - 01527 892969

Thought for the month

Rev. Wyn Beynon

Dear Friends,

Three people walk into a pub and sit down to watch a football match on the big screen.

Sipping a large glass of Pinot Grigio the first, who is a physicist, says, "it's because of scientists like me that we can watch this TV".

The second, sucking her cocktail through a straw says, "Well if it wasn't for mathematicians like me you would never be able to do any science at all".

The third, half way through downing his pint of bitter, says, "If it wasn't for engineers like me you wouldn't know where to hit the telly when the picture goes fuzzy."

I heard a young man tell a meeting I was at last week about the statistical work he had been doing on the make-up of the Church. It was interesting and informative. But then he said something that made me stop and wake up. He said, "Wisdom needs information".

And I thought, "Really? Surely it's the other way around... information needs wisdom?"

Wisdom is not about knowing lots of things. Wisdom is not about being clever. Wisdom is something else. Being clever is knowing how to get out of a fix. Wisdom is not getting into the fix in the first place! Being clever requires a fair amount of self confidence. Wisdom requires a fair amount of self knowledge.

The Bible says something quite startling about wisdom. It says "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." I don't for one moment think that means we are to be 'scared stiff' of God. It means rather that we are to approach the truth of God with awe and wonder. We receive God's love in humility learnt through life's humiliations.

Being clever is what we are when we constantly get things right. Wisdom is more often learned through our mistakes.

This Lent please don't give anything up. Take something up. Like doing nothing and staring

out of the window. Like taking time to acknowledge just how daft we all are, and learning to laugh at ourselves. Like learning to notice other people and their foibles and loving them anyway.

Life is more like engineering - practice - than a set of theories. We need the theories, but they are background. The foreground is just getting on with it. Not getting busier but doing less.

Do less this Lent. Watch. Listen. Seek wisdom not information. Like Jesus in the wilderness.

Best wishes,

Wyn

Foodbank

It has been another successful year for our collection activities for Redditch Foodbank. In 2017, across the church and school for the community, we collected over 235Kg of food. Thanks for your continued efforts, and to the school for coordinating onward collection to the Foodbank for the village.

Rev Gary Crellin

The Wychebrook Group of Parishes

Holy Week Services

Mon 26th

9pm Compline Feckenham

Tues 27th

9.15am Living Communion Stoke Prior

9pm Compline Feckenham

Wed 28th

9.15am Living Communion Upton Warren

9pm Compline Feckenham

Maunday Thursday 29th

11am Holy Communion Stoke Prior

7.30pm Holy Communion Feckenham

9pm Compline Feckenham

Good Friday 30th

10.30am All-Age Activities Wychbold

2pm 1 Hour's Reflection Bradley

7pm Evening Service Feckenham

Flower & Garden Festival 2018

Cathy Fisher

Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th May

The arrangements for this year's Festival are progressing well and I am extremely grateful to all those who have kindly volunteered to participate, without whom this kind of event could not take place. This hugely successful triennial Festival, now in its 33rd year, raises funds for the maintenance of our Parish Church and Churchyard.

In 2015, over 30 gardens opened to the public. It was a great weekend with a real buzz around the village. I am extremely grateful to those garden owners who have already agreed to open their gardens once again or have agreed to do so for the first time. Please do get in touch with me if you might also be willing to open your garden or if you want any more information about the Festival. For those who may be unsure and might think your gardens are not show gardens, this Festival is not about "show gardens" - this is not Chelsea!! Please call or email me if you would be willing to open your garden 11am - 5pm, Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th May 2018. 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.

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.

I should be most grateful if all garden owners could confirm their email addresses to catherine.fisher@talk21.com for ease of communication.
Catherine Fisher Tel: 07931 338291

Village Shop

Jeff Matthews

New Range of Exciting Ready Meals now Available at the Shop

For 30 years 'Life Fork & Spoon' have produced & supplied high quality fully cooked 'sous vide' dishes to restaurants and gastro pubs. I'm guessing the cultured masses of Feckenham know what that means, but I had to look up 'sous vide' on the tinterweb and found this: "Once limited to the pros, sous vide (pronounced sue-veed) is a cooking technique that utilizes precise temperature control to deliver consistent, restaurant-quality results. High-end restaurants have been using sous vide cooking for years to cook food to the exact level of doneness desired, every time." So, they are going to be rather good.

The M.D. lives in Coughton and learned the process working for Albert Roux. You can now access a wide selection of these at The Village Shop (you can find them in the freezer). They contain no artificial flavours, colours or preservatives. The ingredients are vacuum sealed then cooked in a water-bath ensuring tender moist meats & delicious sauces. There are vegetarian and gluten free choices.

Mothering Sunday is on 11th March, we have cards, chocolates, wine & toiletries.

Our special Specials continue, this month – Soup and a Roll £2.95; Teacake and Hot Drink £2.50

Village Hall

Improvement Fund 2017/18



February Winners

20	Richard & Rebecca Eost	£25
97	Toby Denne	£15
152	Steve & Jenny Dalloway	£10

The March Draw will be held in the Village Hall at 8.00 pm on Tuesday 6th March 2018

Pub Quiz

FUNDRAISING FUN

Over the past year many readers will have enjoyed the pub quizzes at the Rose & Crown. They're organised by Tracy Cater and fronted by quiz master Alistair Healey with the enthusiastic cooperation of Mel and Matt at the pub and with Arthur Hind's support. We're delighted to report that the Christmas quiz yielded record breaking proceeds of £397 – all of which has been sent off to the Birmingham Children's Hospital to help improve their play equipment.

Tracy and Alistair have organised three of these quizzes so far – at roughly three monthly intervals and they've sent well over a thousand pounds to various good causes – including Cancer Research and the Air Ambulance. A remarkable success story considering that there's no formal organisation – just a few people who want to do some good and have some fun at the same time. **The next Quiz, on 22nd March, is a special Easter Quiz...** and the quiz master is expected to be dressed as a Fluffy Easter Bunny.

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Moors Lane ALLOTMENTS

IN AN ENGLISH COUNTRY GARDEN...

What could be nicer than sitting down to a really tasty meal in the knowledge that you're eating the fruits of your own labour... and safe in the knowledge that you know exactly what went into that meal... and what could be nicer than putting a vase of fresh cut flowers on the table... alongside a bowl of luscious fruit picked that very morning... and not many things are nicer than enjoying the fresh air, the birdsong... and the view of the Malvern Hills from a productive plot on the Moors Lane Allotments.

THERE'S A PLACE FOR YOU...

There's now a chance to join the Moors Lane Gang - there are a number of plots vacant - and they're available in sizes to suit your ambitions and abilities. Whether you want to feed a large family or just grow a few flowers, there's a plot for you.... and you can try it out for free! The first year on any plot is rent free - and after the first year you'll be surprised how low the rents are.

WE CAN PROMISE YOU A ROSE GARDEN...

The Moors Lane Allotments are owned on behalf of the village by a charitable trust - they're run by villagers for villagers to enjoy. Now's the time to start - your plot can be up and running in time for planting in April and May - and you can look forward to enjoying your own produce in the summer and autumn. Wholesome, fresh food - and just think of how much you won't be paying the supermarkets!

Just call Pauline Jennings for a chat - she'll explain what's involved and, if you're still interested, you can visit the allotments and choose your patch.

Call Pauline on 01527 892956 or email: pauline.h.jennings@btopenworld.com

WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM



First Tuesday of every month from 8pm
NEXT SESSION: Tuesday, 6th March

THE GREAT FECKENHAM BAKE OFF

Victoria Sponges - Scones
Chocolate Cakes - biscuits
SPECTACULAR
SHOWSTOPPERS!

THURSDAY, 15th MARCH - FECKENHAM FIRST SCHOOL

Entries to the School by 1pm please

Details of classes and entry forms from the School Office

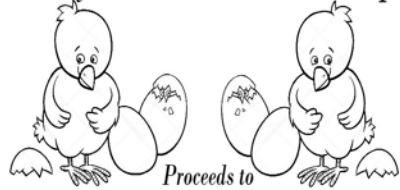
After judging all the cakes and bakes will be on sale (along
with Tea, Coffee and Soft Drinks) - from 2pm to 3.30pm
Proceeds to Feckenham Church window restoration fund

theWI **FECKENHAM WI**
INSPIRING WOMEN At FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL
ALL ABOUT ALPACAS
with Victoria Barrett
Thursday, 8th March - 7.30pm
Visitors Welcome at all meetings - £4

Feckenham Forest History Society
THE VERNONS OF HANBURY
Talk by Andrew Harris
Tuesday, 13th March - 7.30pm
Feckenham Village Hall
www.feckenham-forest-history-society.org.uk

The Rose & Crown Easter Quiz

Thursday 22nd March 2018 - 7.30 p.m.



The Royal National Lifeboat Institution

Any prize donations will be appreciated

Teams of up to six. £2.00 each member

Lists in the Lounge and Bar at the Rose & Crown

Log fires still burning !!

Spring FLOWER SHOW



Feckenham Village Hall

Saturday, 7th April - 2.30pm

Hall open for entries from 10.30am



Feckenham Readers Group

Tuesday, 13th March - 7.45

This Month:

ON THE BLACK HILL by Bruce Chatwin

Details from Marion Chate - 892285



WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

FeckenOdeon 2 The Cinema in the Back Room

THE YOUNG OFFENDERS™

NOT ALL PLANS ARE
IDIOT PROOF

The **FUNNIEST** Irish
film in years! *RTE*

HILARIOUS - an instant
classic! *Sunday World*

Fall on your face **FUNNY!**
 Irish Times

Chris Walley and Alex Murphy
are **BRILLIANT!** *Sunday Independent*

There are two things you need for an adventure,
a treasure map and someone dumb enough to go with you



Friday, 16th March at 8pm

Tickets: £5 (FeckenOdeon Members £3.00)
from The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown, Feckenham
or book by phone on 0333 666 3366 or online* at
www.fecknodeon.co.uk

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



FeckenOdeon 2 at Feckenham Village Hall

THE FECKENODEON CINEMA SOCIETY

Last rites... and wrongs...



Matthew Macfadyen - Rupert Graves - Andy Nyman - Kris Marshall - Peter Dinklage - Keeley Hawes

"A COMEDY TO DIE FOR" *Today Magazine*

DEATH at a FUNERAL¹⁵

A comedy of grave proportions
Directed by FRANK OZ

Saturday, 24th March - 7.30pm

at The FeckenOdeon Cinema in Feckenham Village Hall
Tickets: £5 from The Rose & Crown and Village Shop, Feckenham
Telephone 0333 666 3366* or BOOK ONLINE* at
www.fecknodeon.co.uk



*BOOKING FEE APPLIES TO TELEPHONE AND ONLINE BOOKINGS - AVOID THE FEE - BUY IN PERSON LOCAL PROMOTER MATES APPLY

FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

Shindies KEL ELLIOT
AND HER ORCHESTRA

TRUTH AND TALL TALES

Feckenham Village Hall Worcestershire
SUNDAY, 21ST APRIL - 7.30PM
TICKETS £11 From The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown.
Phone 0333 666 3366 Book Online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham

Phone and Online Booking service a 50p booking fee - Book in person and save money!

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

FeckenOdeon Cinema Society

Ian Bellion



IRISH RIOT... OF LAUGHTER

A runaway success in its native Ireland, this tale of a pair of gloriously feckless 15-year-old aspiring crooks has a homegrown charm that is hard to resist. In "The Young Offenders" teenage best friends Conor and Jock steal a pair of bikes and embark on an epic quest to locate some missing drugs. Unfortunately, Garda Sergeant Healy is on their trail. An enormously funny, energetic romp - the most hilarious thing to come out of Ireland for years! This film has inspired a TV series of the same name - but this is the original, so it is!

"The Young Offenders"
at 8pm on Friday, 16th March.



PUTTING THE FUN INTO FUNERAL

Perhaps not the cheeriest subject for a farce but sad occasions do tend to bring out the worst in people and some people can easily make a crisis into a laughing matter...

When families gather for funerals they tend to talk of the past... but in this rollickingly good comedy there are quite a few details of the deceased's past they'd rather not publicise. Directed by Frank Oz (of Muppets fame) this can only be described as a disrespectful romp of a sort only the British would enjoy. (This is the original British film - not the vulgar American remake!)

"Death at A Funeral"
at 7.30pm on Saturday, 24th March.

Tickets (£5) for FeckenOdeon shows are on sale at
The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown.
You can also book by phone (through TicketSource)
on 0333 666 3366 or online at
www.fecknodeon.co.uk

Village Hall

Ian Bellion



KEL'S COMING TO FECKENHAM

A lively band - or orchestra as they prefer to be called - are coming to Feckenham next month. Fronted by a singer of some repute and with a reputation as great entertainers. Kel Elliott is a double-bass playing singer/songwriter who takes her life experiences and views on the state of the nation, and hammers them out on stage with humour, irony, and with more than a touch of mischief! Kel's vocals are distinctly rich and powerful. It is the impressive combination of voice and double bass that sets her apart from her contemporaries. Drawing from influences as eclectic as Tom Waits, Bonnie Raitt, Regina Spektor and Rufus Wainwright, her set can be soft and sentimental one minute, and unflinchingly eccentric the next. She's backed by her very own 3 man orchestra.

Kel Elliott and Her 3 Man Orchestra
Saturday, 22nd April at 7.30pm

Tickets for this show are on sale at
The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown,
by phone on 0333 666 3366 (local call rates) and
online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham

What's On this month in STOCK & BRADLEY

- 7th BREAKAWAY**
SPRING LUNCH & BRING&BUY
Village Hall - 11am
- 7th GARDENING CLUB**
A Neurotic's Guide to Planting
Talk by Richard Fishbourne
Village Hall - 7.30pm
- 10th Annual LITTER PICK**
Meet at 10am at Village Hall
or Phone Box in Stock Green

For more information see
STOCK & BRADLEY CHRONICLE

Feckenham's Own...



Listen at
www.swansbrook.com

SWANSBROOK Radio

MELODIOUS MAKEOVER...

Swansbrook Radio has a new sound - warmer, gentler and, dare we say, more sophisticated. Radio stations rely on their jingles and musical beds to give the station an aural identity. Up until now we've been using an "off the peg" set of jingles - and they've done us proud. They've made us sound professional and eased out the bumps between programmes.. but somehow they weren't quite right. Now we have a brand new set - and this time they're specially composed and played just for us. They've been devised by composer and musician Phil Mountford who was behind the "Suite for the Fallen Soldier" premiered in Feckenham a while back. Phil's day job is composing music for films, television, commercials - and radio stations. He's produced four different variations on our new station theme and many different formations - so we now have a brand new bespoke kit of musical parts - and he hasn't charged a penny for it. We are most grateful to Phil - and we suggest that you go out and buy his latest Album (see philmountford.com) or book tickets for a concert by his band "Fordante". The new music is being phased in at the time of writing.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

If there's something happening that you think we should broadcast please give us a shout - an email is all it takes - radio@swansbrook.com is the address to use.

LISTEN TO THE SWANS

Just go to www.swansbrook.com and follow the instructions you'll find there. **Most programmes are now 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



FROM AN
award-winning
GASTRO TEAM



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

1 Droitwich Road,
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Feckenham Spring Flower Show

Saturday 7th April 2018



The '**Springtime in Feckenham**' Flower Show will be held on Saturday 7th April in the Village Hall. Teas will be served throughout the afternoon with home-made cakes and fresh baked scones. The Flower Show Committee will run a cake stall and would be very grateful for donations of cakes of any sort.

There will be competitive entries for the best **spring blooms** (see below for a schedule of classes), and a **Children's Springtime Hat Parade**, with prizes. Other attractions include the usual stalls, cakes and plants for sale, and the ever popular tombola and raffle. Please join us to welcome the coming of Spring - the Show opens at 2.30pm.

SPRINGTIME IN FECKENHAM - COMPETITIVE CLASSES

The Hall will be open from 10.30am until noon for you to stage your exhibits

Adult Classes

- 1 3 cut Daffodils - long trumpet (all same variety)
- 2 3 cut Daffodils - short trumpet (all same variety)
- 3 3 cut Daffodils - double (all same variety)
- 4 3 cut miniature spring flowers (all same variety)
- 5 3 cut Tulips (all same variety)
- 6 3 cut flowers (all same variety)
- 7 A Spring arrangement in any container
- 8 A bowl of Spring bulbs
- 9 A pot plant in flower
- 10 A pot plant for foliage effect (no flower)

Children's Classes

- 1 A Spring Posy
- 2 Make a flower (out of any material of your choice)
- 3 Illustrate 'Springtime in Feckenham' in any way you choose

There are separate prizes for pre-schoolchildren and children under 9 years old

Exhibits in classes 7, 8, 9 and 10 will be returned to you. All other flowers will be auctioned at the end of the Show after prizes have been awarded.

Wake 2018 Marion Chute

Save the date

This year's extravaganza will take place on **Saturday 23rd June** and we are trying to bring all the old favourites as well as to introduce a medieval theme.

The fun dog show and the classic cars are already in the programme and The Arrow Valley Band will be giving the event that special something.

If you have any brilliant ideas, especially if they have a medieval connection, please get in touch with any of the committee: Marion Chute, Julian Bull, Charlie Barrett-Meade, Julie Bennett, Louise Jordan, Alan Smith, Charlie Willetts (for dog show), Chris Nicholson (for classic cars) or Lucie Demetre. Alternatively have a look at our Facebook page at Feckenham Wake.

Square Management Committee

NITTY GRITTY

The Committee is still grappling with insurers and contractors but progress is being made to get everything straightened out on The Square following the accident last year. The aim is to have it all spick and span in time for the Garden Festival in May.

BRONCO DANCE

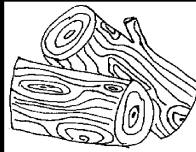
Appropriately enough this year's Fun on The Square will take the form of a Square Dance. There'll be all sorts of attractions - possibly even a bucking bronco. More details soon - but put the date in your diary: 14th July. Be there or be Square!

Review

A Night at the Musicals

I nearly headed this Carol's Fantastic Concert as Carol Corden was the organiser and prime mover, though with tremendous input from local choirs, members of Studley Operatic Society, and Feckenham residents who helped with setting up the hall etc. The hall was packed with a very enthusiastic audience of Feckenham residents and Studley Operatic supporters and the programme was brilliantly chosen from a variety of old and new musicals. The purpose of the performance was to raise money for St. John the Baptist's church which is in need of quite a lot of repairs to keep it viable as a place of worship and a focus for the village. This is being managed by the Friends of Feckenham Church, a non-denominational organisation, who are delighted by the success of the evening, not only from the considerable financial point of view, but as a splendid social occasion with a purpose. Our heartfelt thanks to all involved.

Antonia Pulsford



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St PADDY'S DAY - 17th March

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EASTER QUIZ - 22nd March - 7.30

MALAYSIAN THEME MENU - 29th March

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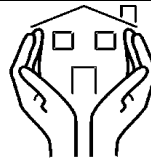
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Feckenham Cricket Club

Bob Gordon



The appearance of snowdrops is always a welcome sign that we are at last moving on to the final stages of winter, with spring only being weeks away, in fact daffodils are already blooming in sheltered spots and buds are appearing on some trees and shrubs. What will March bring – as the old saying goes: “When March comes in like a lion it goes out like a lamb” - we'll know in a few weeks!

The cricket pitch always looks rather forlorn over the winter, particularly one in which we have seen plenty of rain. The club's ground-staff can hope to begin preparation for the new season (which starts mid-April) in March, with first rolling of the square taking place, if not still too damp.

In the clubhouse, work is underway to refurbish the changing rooms, which suffer from the cold and damp during the winter. As the weather (hopefully) dries out members will be spending the last weekend in March to tidy up the outfield, involving the seasonal ritual of painting the perimeter boards. Meanwhile, players are working on their fitness in preparation for pre-season training and checks by the club's team of physios. Juniors have already started training, having held practice sessions starting in January.

55 Years at Feckenham Cricket Club by Steve Daniels – part 2 of 3

Last month, Steve told us how he became involved when still a schoolboy in helping at the club in its earliest days when the ground was being prepared. Now read on...

I started playing the occasional game whenever a vacancy cropped up. Other school friends, especially Paul Penzer and Gary Morgan were persuaded to join with John and me and we soon had enough players to start a 2nd XI by 1967. With the influx of so many junior players the Club formed its first Junior Section and I was appointed captain of the team which played games against Astwood Bank, Studley, Alcester & Ragley and also Ridgway School. I had trials with the Worcestershire Under 15 team in 1966 playing as a batsman and wicket keeper and had the teams highest batting average. We played games against Warwickshire, Gloucestershire, Shropshire, Staffordshire and Oxfordshire.

When some of the initial Captains and Administrators of FCC began to retire from their positions by the end of the 1960's I volunteered to take on the position of Fixture Secretary in 1971, a role I have retained for 47 years. I was also elected

as Saturday 1st XI Captain in 1972, a position I held for 15 seasons until 1987.

My work in the role of Fixture Secretary brought an Award from the Midlands Club Cricket Conference for Services to Cricket in 2008. In the early days of this position I managed to develop a full fixture list for 1st and 2nd XI's against many of the Clubs we still have fixtures with. During the 1970's all of FCC fixtures were played on a “friendly” basis and matches were agreed and confirmed by letter or postcard. League cricket became more popular from the late 70's and obtaining “friendly” fixtures was increasingly difficult. Having failed to gain entry into any of the newly formed Leagues, FCC decided to organise another League with sponsorship from the local newspaper group. I held meetings with other Clubs in a similar situation to FCC and the Bullman League was formed in 1984. The founder members of this League were Feckenham, Worcester, Barnards Green, Stourport on Severn, Stoke Works, Tenbury Wells and Worcester Dominies. FCC was very successful in this League and the 1st XI won its division in both 1984 and 1985 only losing once. This success enabled the Club to gain entry into the next level of League Cricket (The Worcestershire Border League) for Season 1986. Around the same time Sunday League cricket in the West Midlands started and fixtures were soon taking place against Clubs from other counties such as Warwickshire, Staffordshire and Shropshire. Although the cricket was of a high standard, playing against many Clubs with professional overseas international stars, the distances traveled became unpopular with many players. Hence a regional League was formed in 2000, The Worcestershire Sunday Club Cricket League, and I was asked to become Fixture Secretary for the League which I did until 2015 when I changed to the role of Treasurer.

The final part of Steve's story will appear next month.

To close, I feel that I should mention the mess that some dog walkers leave behind on our ground. I know from conversation and from local websites that this is an issue around the village, with regular instances of walkers failing to scoop up after their dogs. This is not only lazy but antisocial and extremely unhealthy, particularly where young children may be playing. The club is considering a number of measures which range from CCTV to identify offenders to the extreme option of fencing off the entire ground. The latter is not a cause of action that we wish to take but may ultimately be the only guaranteed way to prevent this rather nasty practice.

Stock & Bradley Gardening Club

Rob Cole

Wednesday 7th March 2018 at 7.30pm

Our speaker is Richard Fishbourne who will give an inspirational talk entitled 'A Neurotics Guide to Growing Vegetables'. Richard last visited us some years ago now, to talk about his worms and wormeries enterprise and proved to be an entertaining and popular speaker.

For this meeting, the theme for our members' monthly competition will be 'Two Different Flowers from my Garden'. Our speaker will act as judge, and every entry will win a point, and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd will be awarded additional points. The member with the most number of points in the year will then be awarded a prize of a 2019 subscription to the Gardening Club at the December 2018 meeting.

Please note that the £8.00 annual subscription (reduced from £10 for 2018) became due on 1st January 2018 and should be paid at this March meeting if you have not already done so. Please make cheques payable to 'Stock and Bradley Gardening Club'.

The next Club meeting - Wednesday 4th April 2018 at 7.30pm

will be our Annual Bulb Show. Members bring along three blooms each of as many daffodil varieties as they can muster, and everyone judges each entry to decide the winner in each class. Lots of help is available for anyone not sure of which Class to enter, and a list of Classes will be available at the March meeting as well as on the Show evening.

There will also be a Competition for the best photograph depicting "Water", so get snapping !
Make a note in your diary now !

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 £8.00 for 2018. Visitors are made very welcome and may attend for £3.00 per meeting.

Feckenham W.I.

Jane White



We meet in the Village Hall Back Room at 7.30pm on Thursday 8th March Victoria Barrett will be speaking to us on the subject of **Alpacas**, from their ancient origins to their place on the farm and as fleece producers. She will also give a demonstration of felting.

Outings in the near future are

14th March, "Carousel" at The Palace Theatre

24th April, "Oklahoma" at The Palace theatre

5th June, Morton Hall Gardens

Contact Vivien Hunter 01527 402360

"Craft & Natter" afternoons are on 7th and 21st March at 2pm. We are varying whose home we meet in, so if joining us for the first time or you are not sure, please contact Jane 893281.

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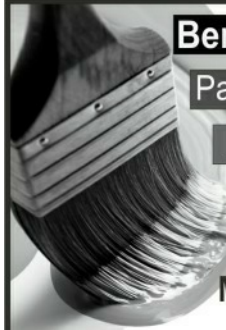
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