

FECKENHAM

NOVEMBER 2016

News



Published by Feckenham Church for the Village
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NOVEMBER Diary



Tues 1 st	12.30am	Lunch Club	Village Hall, Back Room
Wed 2 nd	7.30pm	Stock & Bradley Gardening Club	Bradley Village Hall
Fri 4 th	6.45pm	Village Bonfire Night	Cricket Club
Tues 8 th	7.30pm	Feckenham Forest History Society	Webheath Village Hall
Thur 10 th	7.30pm	Feckenham WI	Back Room Village Hall
Fri 11 th & Sat 12 th	7.30pm	Concert:- Suite for the Fallen Soldier	Parish Church
Mon 14 th		Last day for copy for Magazine and Card	
Wed 16 th		Last day for Shoe Boxes to be left in Church	
Thur 17 th	7.30pm	Feckenham Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
Fri 18 th	8pm	FeckenOdeon-2	Back Room Village Hall
Sat 26 th	2.30pm	FeckenOdeon "The BFG"	Village Hall
Sat 26 th	7.30pm	FeckenOdeon	Village Hall

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Front Cover

"Autumn Angel", the 1st prize winner for the Burton family in the recent Scarecrow Competition. Congratulations. Photo by Judy Hooker.



Church Services NOVEMBER

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 Bowbrook Group, The Parish Centre, St Andrew's Street, DROITWICH, WR9 8DY

Readers and intercessors



Sunday 6th

Trinity 24

11.00am Sung Eucharist

Job 19: 23-27a

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-end

Intercessor

Oliver White

Jane White

Tony Mortimer

Friday 11th

10.50am A Service for Armistice Day

Sunday 13th

Trinity 25

10.45am Remembrance Day

Malachi 4:1-2a

2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13

Intercessor

Richard Hillman

Shirley Harman

Jeff Matthews

Sunday 20th

Christ The King

6.30 pm Evensong

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Luke 23:33-43

Intercessor

Mark Wheatley

Carol Onions

Barbara Wheatley

Sunday 27th

Advent I

11.00am Family Communion

Romans 13:11 - end

Intercessor

Vanda Cookes

Ann Matthews

Feckenham: Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

Initial contacts for these should be directed to Rev. Wyn Beynon:

My mobile number is: **07595 313035** or email wynbeynon@gmail.com Thank you! Wyn

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

Friends of Feckenham Church



We are able to announce that the group coming together to establish the Friends of Feckenham Church has been able to achieve Charitable Status. A bank account is in the process of being opened, together with ideas for fund raising and how to involve the wider community in this important building and community space that is represented by the Churchyard. Too early to be included in this edition of Feckenham News, we are hoping to be able to launch the group at the WWI concert in November.

A priority list of projects is being established, together with target funds and grants that can be applied for.

Trustees are Andrew Fisher (Chair), John Eaton (Treasurer), Toby and Louise Denne, Lionel Hill, MBE, David Street, Simon Sharpe, also Ian Hunter (Liaison with PCC) and Jeff Matthews (Secretary but not a Trustee).

Church Flower Group Margaret Perry

Harvest Festival flowers were arranged earlier this year which meant they could be enjoyed both by the villagers attending the MacMillan coffee morning together with the visitors to the Scarecrow Festival held the same weekend.

Thank you to all our flower group ladies for their beautiful and colourful displays.

Thanks very much again to Mr Crump for supplying us with his superb dahlias twice! For both weekends - some of which were sold at the coffee morning to add to their funds

Margaret Perry & Marg Kings co-ordinators

Christmas Shoe Box Collection

This years campaign for shoe boxes for Romania is now under way across the parishes and associated schools. Please ensure your shoe boxes are in church by the **16th November**.

A date for your diary - A Blessing and Sending Family Service will take place on Sunday 20th November at 10.30 at WYCHBOLD Church. A vote of thanks will be offered by Mr Bob James, Teams 4 U Local Co-ordinator. A human chain will be used to fill the teams4U van to send the boxes on their 1000 mile journey to Romania.

Parish Memorial Service Sunday 30th October 2016

The list for names is still available in the plastic wallet at the back of the church. Remember - this is for all those that you wish to remember, **not just** those that died in the past year or whose funeral was officiated by the parish clergy. A generous donation from Thomas Bros has allowed for some after service refreshment to be organised with the WI and a floral tribute, created by our flower ladies, will be in situ. The service is open to all and from all denominations.

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Bromsgrove and Redditch for Refugees

A few members of the congregation have asked Rev Gary about any future plans to help the refugee situation. As you may have seen in the local press, there is now an organisation - Bromsgrove and Redditch Welcomes Refugees that is working with the charity People in Motion. This organisation is galvanizing support both for the incoming refugees to the area, and to assist with the continued plight of refugees in Calais and Dunkirk.

A CLOTHING collection is taking place on Saturday 5th November and 3rd December between 2pm-5pm. There are two drop off locations - St Lukes Church (Evesham Road Redditch) and Redditch Central Mosque (Jinnah Road Redditch). Please note, our church is not a collection point.

Communal Christmas Card



For entries in this year's communal Christmas card I need entries by 14th November.

For those unfamiliar with the card scheme, instead of sending lots of cards to people you see all the time, you make a donation and send a message (each in it's own box with up to 20 words) to your friends and neighbours. A card is delivered to everyone with the December Feckenham News. I have room for a maximum of 44 messages, first come first served!

This year we are supporting Bishop Chitemo Primary School, Berega. Until recently an American charity were working in Berega and had set up a plantation giving employment to local people who then had the means to send their children to the school. The charity has had to pull out, and the plantation closed. This leaves families without the means to pay school fees. Mission Morogoro is trying to find sponsors to fund these children (£190 per year) Last year the card raised £715 thanks to a full card and your generosity, the same again would be enough to pay for 3 children at least.

The Parish Church pays for the printing and all of your donation will go to their support.

Example message & size of box

A very **Happy Christmas and New Year** to all our friends and neighbours.

..... &

Please deliver your message (20 words max.) and donation, by 14th November, to -

A. Matthews, Chestnut House, 8 The Square, Feckenham, B96 6HR

or

J. White, 55 Alcester Road, Feckenham B96 6JP
If paying by cheque, please make it payable to "**Feckenham P.C.C.**"

Jane White

Remembrance



13th November

10.45 am

This service will be led
By Reverend Wyn Beynon
at the parish church of
St John the Baptist
Feckenham. Gathering around
the cenotaph at 11am



Obituary



Adrian Bedford-Smith

9.2.29 – 15.5.16

Two days after Dad died, a letter arrived at Redditch Council. He had written it just before he died from a brain haemorrhage after a fall. The letter had Feckenham in mind, drawing attention to how housing developments elsewhere might impact on the local area, with a particular concern about flooding. Throughout his life, right up until the last day, he campaigned tirelessly, advocating for social need and thoughtful planning that worked in harmony with the environment. He did this as a Conservative Councilor, elected to represent Astwood Bank and Feckenham in 1971 till 1995, including serving as Chairman of Redditch Council from 1978-1979. Whether you agreed with him, or debated his politics, none of us can doubt his passion and perseverance.

He was born in Birmingham, moved to Hereford and evacuated to Wales during the Second World War, where at 11 he won a county scholarship. He returned to Birmingham to attend George Dixon Grammar School. He loved rugby and cricket playing for the Old Dixonians and the Navy during his National Service in the Fleet Air Arms.

Thereafter, he studied to become an Architect and Town Planner and went on to work for the City of Birmingham, one of the first in the country to be trained in both professions. He worked on the original study for the National Exhibition Centre, and further projects included Birmingham Airport, Birmingham Law Courts, Birmingham Science Museum and the Birmingham School of Music. He was also a Governor at Ridgeway Middle School. He had a great interest and knowledge in many areas including British Military History.

He met and married Mary whilst living in Cambridge Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham. He would have been sad that he wasn't there to celebrate their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on August 10th 2016 and often said, "the best

thing I ever did was marry your mother". He moved to Feckenham in 1963 where he designed and built his home on the Droitwich Road.

Life became busy with children, commuting to work and his involvement with the local Council. Memories of those days include a phone ringing for requests for help with housing, parking, planning, speeding traffic etc. that he tirelessly and willingly attended to. Nothing ever seemed too much for him.

Whilst holidays were mostly camping with the family around UK and Europe, loading up the old Land Rover, he always enjoyed his yearly visits to see his dearest friends in Guernsey whom he'd known for over 60 years. He always said that Guernsey provided the most beautiful light and scenery and he could often be found sitting on the beach at Bordeaux painting for hours.

Like any parent he was the endless taxi driver from after school activities and nights-out and did so with a glad heart! As with his work, his family was a priority, and his focus was to support us all with our aims and achievements. He used to say, "make sure you enjoy your work, as you will be a long time doing it." He was very proud and adored his grandchildren, Janelle, Cayla and Izzy, enjoying the time he had with them.

We are grateful for all the support and kindness given at this time, especially to those who were involved with the funeral: Gary Crellin, John Calvert, Feckenham Church and the Choir, Thomas Brothers, The Rose and Crown; and to our family and friends, who joined with us from all over the UK, Guernsey and Australia.

'Cordial Thanks'

Rosemary and Rosalind

As a former representative of Feckenham and Astwood Bank on the Borough council I should just like to add my appreciation of all Adrian's hard work on behalf of the villages, as well as my thanks for his support of Redditch Conservatives. We all owe him a lot.

Antonia Pulsford

World War I Centenary Commemoration



Suite for the Fallen Soldier

The concert of specially commissioned music, Suite for the Fallen Soldier is nearing its premier. With performances on **11th and 12th November** there are just 8 tickets left for the Friday performance and 2 for Saturday, 12th.

Rehearsals have been underway since the start of the year, and with the final movements added, it does promise to be quite a performance.

If you are interested in getting one of the final tickets, please contact Jeff Matthews, 894387, jeff@the-madison-group.co.uk.

We are hopeful that we may be able to get further performances in the future, at hopefully, a larger and even more splendid venue. Discussions are underway, but too early to release details.

Opposite, in this magazine, you will see that we continue to commemorate the 100th anniversaries of the death of the fallen, with 2 in this issue of the magazine. The number of poppies on the Crown of Thorns is growing. There will be 8 in place at this Remembrance Sunday Service.

The Memorial Walk created as a leaflet originally, is about to receive a revamp from technology. More in next month's magazine. But expect to see the edition of histories of those that returned, a video and also an expanded audio walk, capable of being downloaded and also to be played on MP3 players which will be available to be borrowed / hired from the shop.

Charles Newman

The life of Charles Newman, who was killed on 1st October 1916, was commemorated in the Family Service at the Parish Church of St John The Baptist on Sunday 9th October 2016.

Charles Frederick Newman was born in early 1896, the son of Charles Frederick Newman, a farmer, and Moira Newman [nee Portman] of Callow Hill. They were married in late 1889, and later moved to a cottage in Astwood Lane Feckenham, where the bungalow 'Willowdene' is now. Charles had two brothers, Henry William and Howard, and a sister Rose Anne.

Little is known of Charles's time in the Army because his service records were probably amongst those destroyed in the WW2 bombing in London, but he initially enlisted in the Somerset Light Infantry in late 1915, and then served in the 20th (County of London) Battalion (Blackheath and Woolwich), London Regiment.

By late September 1916 his Regiment was involved in heavy fighting at Mametz wood in the Somme, culminating in the objective being reached on the 1st October 1916, but Charles was killed in that attack, though his body was never found.

Charles is remembered on the village and the school Memorials, and on the Thiepval Memorial to the missing at the Somme.

Frank Owen

The life of Frank Owen, who died on 5th November 1916, will be commemorated in the Remembrance Sunday service at the Parish Church of Saint John the Baptist on Sunday 13th November 2016.

Frank was born in early 1894 into a Baptist family. His parents were Alfred John Newman, an agricultural labourer, and Eva Newman [nee Kings], a needle box paperer, who were married in late 1891. They had eight children, Alfred William, Frank, Ida May, Clifford John, Wilson Albert, Effie Elizabeth, Albert, and Ethel Fay.

Frank enlisted into the Worcestershire Regiment on 14th September 1914, on the

same day as his brother William, but he became ill and was discharged from the Army in December 1914. After his recovery, on 21st October 1915, he joined the 10th Battalion of the Royal Highlanders (Black Watch) Regiment in Amiens, France, after which they had an arduous journey by train and sea to Salonika, Greece.

The Regiment was part of an Anglo-French force that had been sent to the Balkans to provide help to Serbian forces, but by the time they arrived the major battles were over. During their time there many of the troops became ill in the severe winter weather, and this was the case with Frank. He was admitted to hospital in Salonika, but died there on 5th November 1916, and is buried in the Lembet Road Military Cemetery in Thessalonika, Greece.

Frank is remembered on the village and school Memorials

Square Management Committee

TREE NEEDED



Every Christmas the Square is graced by a large, cheerfully decorated Christmas tree. We've been fortunate in the last few years in that we've been invited to fell and use trees that have overgrown their welcome in private gardens. We're on the look out for one for this year. If you have a suitable tree we'll chop it down and take it away... or, if you're feeling generous, we'd be delighted to accept a donation towards a commercially grown one. Please give us a call if you think you can help - 892130 - or e-mail square@feckenham.f9.co.uk Many thanks.... and Merry Christmas!

PS: Carols on The Square, Christmas Eve, 6.30pm - carols, mulled wine and mince pies.

Put it in your diary!

Village Hall

Improvement Fund 2015/16



October Winners

96	Marg Kings	£25
157	Carol Onions	£15
71	Kate Baylis	£10

This was the Final Draw for the 2015 /16 Fund which raised £1,455.00 for the Village Hall. The first draw for the 2016 /17 Fund will be held in the Village Hall at 8.00 pm on Tuesday 6th December 2016.

Friday 11th November
at 10.50 for 11am
A Service for Armistice Day
 Remembering the 11th Hour of
 the 11th day of the 11th Month.
 with the School and Community
 on the 100th year since the ending of
The Battle of the Somme
 Led by Reverend Garry Crellin
 The Royal British Legion (Cookhill)
 Standard will be paraded and respected.


WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM




THE
FECKENHAM
SESSIONS
TRADITIONAL
MUSICMAKING
at THE ROSE & CROWN

First Tuesday of every month from 8pm
NEXT SESSION: Tuesday, 1st November

theWI **FECKENHAM WI**
INSPIRING WOMEN
At FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL
ROYAL VISITS
Thursday, 10th November - 7.30pm
FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL
Visitors Welcome at all meetings - £4

Feckenham Readers Group
Wednesday, 9th November - 7.45
 This month's book: **WHEN THE MOON IS LOW**
by Nadia Hshimi
Details from Martin Chate - 892285

Feckenham Forest History Society
PIONEERS IN PETTICOATS
with Jo Roche
Tuesday, 8th November - 7.30pm
Webheath Village Hall
www.feckenham-forest-history-society.org.uk

 **Stock & Bradley GARDENING CLUB**
HARDY or NOT SO HARDY
with Vivienne McGhee
Bradley Village Hall
Wednesday, 2nd November - 7.30pm

Feckenham Cricket Club
BONFIRE & FIREWORKS DISPLAY

Friday, 4th November

Fire lit at 6.45pm -

Fireworks at 7.30pm

FREE entrance - collection to cover costs - Barbecue

Feckenham Parish Council
NOVEMBER MEETING

Thursday, 17th November at 7.30pm

Feckenham Village Hall (Back Room)

Every Council Meeting contains an Open Forum session in which you can bring matters of concern to the attention of the Council.



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

WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

Shendys

The **TIM KLIPHUIS Trio** play **GRAPELLI**



"The music of Paganini is unique and well known, the genius of Tim Kliphuis and his associates is original genius!"
 "Tightly rehearsed and technically brilliant!"
 "A judicious blend of harmony for and in the 20th."

FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL Worcestershire

SUNDAY, 11TH DECEMBER - 7.30PM

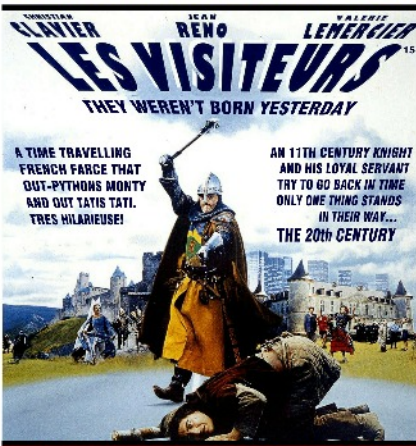
TICKETS £10 From The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown.

Phone 0333 666 3366 Book Online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham

Phone and Online book up to 14 days before the event. £1000+ guarantee and 100% refund.

FeckenOdeon 2
The Cinema in the Back Room

JEAN MARIE LONJANIER JEAN RENO VALERIE LENERGIER
LES VISITEURS
 THEY WEREN'T BORN YESTERDAY



A TIME TRAVELLING FRENCH FARCE THAT OUT-PTHONS MONTY AND OUT TATS TATI. TRES HILARIOUSE!

AN 11TH CENTURY KNIGHT AND HIS LOYAL SERVANT TRY TO GO BACK IN TIME ONLY ONE THING STANDS IN THEIR WAY...
THE 20TH CENTURY

Friday, 18th November at 8pm


Tickets: £5 (FeckenOdeon Member £3.95)
 from The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown, Feckenham
 or book by phone on 0333 666 3366 or online* at
www.feckenodeon.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

From the human beings that created "E.T." and the author of "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and "Matilda"



Disney THE BFG

The World Is Now Giant
 Tibba Taba Coia
 Tomagoo

Saturday, 26th November - 2.30pm

at The FeckenOdeon Cinema in Feckenham Village Hall
 Tickets: £5 (under 14s £3.50) from The Rose & Crown and Village Shop, Feckenham
 Telephone 0333 666 3366* or BOOK ONLINE* at
www.feckenodeon.co.uk

*BOOKING FEE APPLIES TO PHONE AND ONLINE BOOKINGS. AVOID THE FEE - BOOK IN PERSON.

THE FECKENODEON CINEMA SOCIETY

BRIDGE OF SPIES

TOM HANKS

Directed by STEVEN SPIELBERG



Saturday, 26th November - 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.feckenodeon.co.uk

*BOOKING FEE APPLIES TO PHONE AND ONLINE BOOKINGS. AVOID THE FEE - BOOK IN PERSON.

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

The FeckenOdeon Cinema Society



VISITORS FROM THE PAST

Now here's a strange thing... just imagine you're an eleventh Century Knight who has just won a battle, been granted the hand of the King's daughter and you're celebrating by hunting deer... but then it all goes wrong. You accidentally kill the King, try to put it right by asking a sorcerer to turn back time... and find yourself transported to modern day France together with your Baldrick-like squire... You'd be right in thinking this is a bit Pythonesque. **"Les Visiteurs"** - showing on Friday, November 18th at 8pm is a hilarious French fantasy farce which follows the progress of the accidental time travellers as they try to cope with modern day phenomena like horseless carriages, electricity, toilets and table manners. It's an inventive and funny journey of discovery as our medieval heroes try to find a way of returning to their own time. Incredibly popular in France this original film (made in 1993) has spawned three sequels and a television series - très drôle!



A DAY OF STEVEN AND MARK

Totally by accident we have a mini Spielberg and Rylance film festival on 26th November. Two films of totally different types both directed by Steven Spielberg and both featuring Mark Rylance in roles so completely different that you won't believe it's the same man....

IT'S SCRUMDIDDLYUPMTIOUS!

We're delighted to have been able to arrange a showing of **"The BFG"** - a fantasrigal new version of Roald Dahl's magical story about the giant with a soft centre. As he did in "E.T.",

Spielberg tells the tale from the perspective of its small heroine - young Sophie who glimpses the giant in the night and who is taken from her bed in an orphanage to Giant Land. Mark Rylance, much enlarged by digital magic, plays the giant as an endearing old chap trapped in a giant's body. It's a very beautiful film with laughs and action aplenty - there's much to enjoy for youngsters and adults alike... and, without giving too much away, the writer will never again be able to see a picture of the Royal Corgies without breaking out into unseemly sniggers... glummy!!

"The BFG" - Saturday, 26th November at 2.30pm.



OUR AIRMAN FOR YOUR SPY...

In complete contrast the evening film on the same day is a tense cold war thriller. You might be forgiven for thinking that this genre had run its course but **"Bridge of Spies"** breaths new life and new tension into the game.

In 1962, America wanted to recover Gary Powers, the U2 spy-plane pilot captured by the Soviets. The plan was to hand over Russian spy Rudolf Abel (Mark Rylance in distinctly unfriendly mode), in a classic cold war prisoner exchange at dawn on a bridge spanning East and West Berlin - the so-called "Bridge of Spies" - with snipers waiting on both sides. Tom Hanks plays the civilian lawyer James Donovan who brokered the whole arrangement almost single handedly.

It's Mr Hank's performance that makes this so compelling but it's the assured direction of Spielberg that ramps up the tension. Terrific performances make this a polished and thrilling thriller.

"Bridge of Spies" - Saturday, 26th November at 7.30pm.

Tickets 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



HALLOWEEN CRACKERS!

If your copy of Feckenham News arrives early there may still be time to go to the Village Hall's pre-halloween frolic. On **Sunday, 30th October "Holy Moly and The Crackers"** will be raising the roof!



GRAPELLI LIVES!

You may never have heard of Tim Kliphuis - he's a Dutch violinist - but he's internationally famous as the true successor to the great Stephan Grapelli - and you don't have to take our word for it because Mr Grapelli agreed! Tim's coming to Feckenham on **11th December** with his trio to give a concert of music either by Grapelli or inspired by him - and it promises to be truly spectacular.

Classically trained at the Amsterdam Conservatoire and taught to improvise by fiery gypsy jazz guitar legends, Tim Kliphuis combines dazzling technical perfection and complete musical freedom like no-one else in the world. He has recording contracts with Sony music, broadcasts regularly and is in demand as a soloist with the world's leading symphony orchestras... but it's the music of Grapelli that made his name. His Tim Kliphuis Trio is ten years old and this concert forms part of a celebratory tour which takes in the capitals of Europe. A rare chance to catch a rare talent!

"The music of Grapelli is alive and well in the hands of Tim Kliphuis and his musicians" – Nigel Kennedy

Tickets for these shows 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

SWANSBROOK Radio



OUT AND ABOUT

Swansbrook Radio's microphones have been roving round the area - we're trying to cover as many local events and occurrences as possible. We've broadcast from the Flower Show, the FeckenOdeon and the Scarecrow Festival and we've interviewed local people, village politicians and we've talked to musicians and actors - if it's happening in Feckenham, we're recording it! All this activity has a serious purpose. After their initial transmission these recordings are to be archived - but made available to everyone to hear on demand - a living history of village life. We'll tell you how to access the recordings soon.

THE FALLEN SOLDIER

There'll be information elsewhere in this edition of Feckenham News about the special WWI concerts in Feckenham Church. Both performances are sold out - but, fear not, if you haven't got a ticket you'll still be able to hear the music. Swansbrook will be broadcasting the concert in the week after the event, together with a special documentary programme about this very special village event. Swansbrook has had access to rehearsals and we're talking to the creators of the work and the performers. You can hear "The Suite for The Fallen Soldier" exclusively on Swansbrook from 14th November. Check the Swansbrook website for times.

LISTEN TO THE SWANS

Just go to www.swansbrook.com and follow the instructions you'll find there. You'll also find programme times and details of how to register for updates. To contact us please e-mail radio@swansbrook.com.

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SCARECROW WEEKEND



SCARY SUCCESS!

Feckenham Scarecrow Weekend at the beginning of October was another rip-strawing success. 54 scarecrows were entered into the competition... and a few unofficial ones appear to have come along in support. It does seem that Feckenham folk enjoy making these things and that locals and visitors alike enjoy looking at them. The weather was unkind on the Saturday - torrential rain wasn't part of the plan - but a gloriously sunny Sunday more than made up for it and visitors came in their hundreds. Teas and cakes (especially butterfly cakes) flew out of the pink tea tent and a good time was had by all.

SCARY RESULTS

The Competition for the Best Scarecrow was judged by the public who voted in a secret ballot. The results were as follows:

Under 12s:

- 1st Minnie Mouse by 8 Members of Class 2 at Feckenham First School
- 2nd Something Fishy in Feckers by William & Benedict Reynolds and Ethan Mander
- 3rd Rusty-Sc-owl by Riley & Joe Wheate-Price

Main Competition:

- 1st Autumn Angel by The Burton Family
- 2nd Durascrow by Alan Smith
- 3rd Crow Bar by Annie Fieldhouse

SCARY THANKS

So many people helped make this a success that space forbids us to list them all here. The organisers are of course mainly indebted to the people of Feckenham who took the trouble to enter the competition, who helped us with practical things, who turned up to staff the tea tent and who put up with the disruption such an event can cause. Figures are not complete at the time of writing but any profits from the tea tent and donations will be used to enhance The Wake and, who knows, bankroll another Scarecrow Weekend in the future.

Village Shop

Jeff Matthews

Getting ready for Christmas, note that we have a wide selection of boxed Christmas cards plus tags, wrapping and gifts.

Also, for the festive season there are wines, boxed gift packs from Purity, Trotters Ales and Hogan's ciders. For drop in guests and just enjoying evening's in front of the fire, a range of dips & nibbles including Liberation Fair Trade nuts.

New in stock for those chilly days Tide Ford organic soups to go with our great selection of Artisan breads.

We hope you like the new layout at the shop. It has progressed slowly as we have worked around the opening times but the main work is now completed and we think you will agree that it's a great improvement for our customers and very patient volunteers. Let us know what you think.

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Feckenham Cricket Club

Bob Gordon



Phew, what an end to the season!

The first team played Lye on a grey and damp 10th September and batted first. Interruptions for rain meant a shortened match but the team made 249 for 9 (Danny Bloomer and Muhammad Idrees each scored 60+) after 34 overs and declared as tea approached, hoping to get Lye in and bowl them out. But then the rain set in and as 6pm approached, it looked unlikely that there would be a result.

The umpires did however allow play to resume, with Lye being given 18 overs – however, could we bowl them out? What followed will become part of the folklore of the club – in an amazing 45 minutes or so Tom Coulson took 6 wickets and Matt Henning 4 - within 11 overs Lye were skittled out for a total of 59. A precious 24 points were in the bank.

Chaddlesley Corbett however also won and promotion depended upon winning the final match of the season at home against Enville, who themselves needed to win to have any hope of avoiding relegation.

The visitors batted first and belied their lowly league position by hitting 298 in their 50 overs, a challenging total. However, this Feckenham team is no longer fazed by such challenges with Danny Bloomer carried his bat to score 108, ably supported by Jamie Griffith who made 69. The total was reached in the penultimate over, the winning runs arriving in a glorious 6 struck by Matt Henning – a fitting end to a historic season.

Both first and second teams were promoted and the celebrations were joyous (sorry neighbours).

A testament to the team's success in 2016 is that Tom Coulson was the league's top wicket-taker and Jamie Griffith was the third-highest run scorer.

Looking forward to the 2017 season, the club will be fielding a third team and is actively looking for new players. IF YOU MIGHT LIKE TO PLAY CRICKET, DO NOT BE SHY, COME DOWN TO THE CLUB ANY WEEKEND AND ASK AT THE BAR - OR CALL NEIL EVANS ON 07985 214850.

The annual **firework display** this year takes place on **Friday November 4th**. The bonfire will be lit at around 6:45pm and the fireworks take place at approximately 7:30pm. There will be a BBQ and other attractions. If anyone wishes to provide wood for the fire, please get it to the club no later than Thursday 3rd November.

The clubhouse will be open Thu-Sun over the winter so if you would like to see what we have to offer just drop in. Finally, thanks to all who have supported the club over the season and we look forward to welcoming you back in spring 2017.

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Stock & Bradley Gardening Club

Rob Cole

This month's meeting is on Wednesday 2nd November 2016 at 7.30pm

Our speaker is Vivienne McGhee who will talk to us about plants which are 'Hardy or Not so Hardy'. Vivienne is a past Chairman of the Hardy Plant Society and gardens locally in Worcestershire. Her talk will be about the plants she has experimented with to test their hardiness in her own garden.

The theme for our monthly competition will be 'A November Flower'. 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 be awarded a prize of a year's subscription to the Gardening Club, at the December meeting.

The next Club meeting - Wednesday 7th December 2016 at 7.30pm. Following a brief AGM, Adrian James will give a talk about plants for the various seasons, and describes some of the plants particularly suitable for Christmas time.

Please note that the annual subscription renewal becomes due on 1st January 2017, and that because we meet for a dinner in January, renewals should best be made at this December meeting.

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.

Feckenham W.I.

Jane White



This month our meeting is on Thursday 10th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Back Room.

We are welcoming back Alan Benjamin. A local man and retired policeman, Alan will talk on "**Royal Visits from a Constable's View**". Last time he gave us a very interesting and amusing take on his time on the beat in Redditch. We look forward to an enlightening evening.

Visitors most welcome, a good selection of refreshments included (£4)

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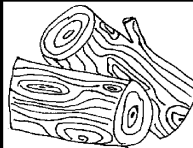
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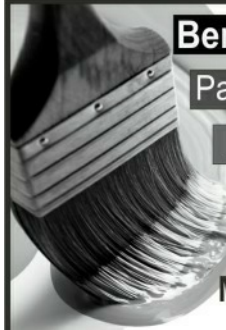
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