

# FECKENHAM

NOVEMBER 2015

*News*

AUTOMOBILE  
& MOTOR



ASSOCIATION  
UNION

**DROITWICH**

**7<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>**

**FECKENHAM**

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**6<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>**

**LONDON** 104<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

**SAFETY FIRST**

Published by Feckenham Church for the Village  
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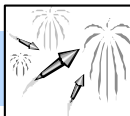
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# NOVEMBER Diary



Tues 3rd	12.30am	Lunch Club	Village Hall, Back Room
Wed 4th	10.30am - noon	"Drop in" for coffee and a chat	Parish Church
Wed 4th	7.30pm	Stock & Bradley Gardening Club	Bradley Village Hall
Thur 5th	10 - 12	R.B.L. Coffee Morning	Rose & Crown
Sat 7th	6.30pm	Bonfire & Fireworks	Feckenham Cricket Ground
Sun 8th	10.45am	Remembrance Service	Parish Church
Tues 10th	7.30pm	Feckenham Forest History Society	Webheath Village Hall
Thur 12th	7.30pm	Feckenham WI	Back Room Village Hall
Sat 14th	Do you want to be included in the Community Christmas Card - last day for copy today!		
Sat 14th	7.30pm	Serf's Supper	Village Hall
Wed 18th	10.30am - noon	"Drop in" for coffee and a chat	Parish Church
Fri 20th	8pm	FeckenOdeon-2	Back Room Village Hall
Sat 21st	12.30 -4pm	"Get Ready for Winter Event"	Village Hall
Sun 22nd	12 - 2pm	Litter Pick	Manorial Site
Sat 28th	7.30pm	FeckenOdeon	Village Hall

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## Front Cover

The AA Roundel now attached to the Village Hall (see page 6).  
Photo by Ian Bellion

## Production Team

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# Church Services NOVEMBER

PARISH CHURCH  
of ST. JOHN  
THE BAPTIST



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

**Churchwarden:** Ann Matthews 01527 892180 **Church website:** [www.feckenhamchurch.org.uk](http://www.feckenhamchurch.org.uk)

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

**Parish Office:** Telephone: 01905 778181 Email: [bowbrookgroup1@gmail.com](mailto: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 & Intecessors



### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup>

Advent -4

### 11.00am Sung Eucharist

Wisdom 3: 1-9

Revelation 21: 1-6a

Intercessions

Kim Powles

Jeff Matthews

Ian Hunter

### Sunday 8<sup>th</sup>

Advent -3

### 10.45am Remembrance Service

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup>

Advent -2

### 6.30pm Evensong

Daniel 12: 1-3

Mark 13: 1-8

Intercessions

Richard Hillman

Gerry Eost

Fiona Carter

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>

Advent -1

### 11.00am Family Communion

Revelation 1: 4b-8

Intercessions

Doug Curtis

Walter Richards

### Sunday 29<sup>th</sup>

Advent Sunday

### 10.30am Group Service, Tibberton

## “Mixed Bag”

Will be held in Church on Sunday 1st November - a group for young people and activities for younger children. All children will be warmly welcomed.

## Partners in Prayer

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

# Feckenham Roman Catholic Church

## St John Fisher & St. Thomas More



Mass is celebrated every Sunday at 10.15am in the Church

**Fr. Anthony Rohan**, The Presbytery, Redditch. Tel. 01527 63096

Local contact—Phyllis Mott, Feckenham. Tel. 01527 893898

# Newshound



## New arrivals and new baby!

Welcome to Philip and Stephanie Blundall who have moved in to Enstone Cottage on the High Street. Stephanie grew up in Feckenham and her father still lives in their family home on the Alcester Road.

The couple have three children: Olivia, Hope, and new baby Percy Thomas Harry who has been named after his grandfathers on both sides. Percy was born on October 1st at the Alexandra hospital. Phil, who is a former Royal Marine, and Stephanie own Prospect Gym in Redditch. Stephanie jokes that they will have to send little Percy there for training if he is to become a third generation Marine. However with a birth weight of only 6lb 6 1/2 oz he has some way to go!

## Christening.

On September 13th Montgomery Hawkes (Monty) was baptized in the parish church. He was born in Abu Dhabi. His father and grandfather were also christened in Feckenham and were able to see the record of their baptisms in the parish register.

## More news please!

There must be new arrivals, new babies, exam successes, and other events of interest to the community but unfortunately Newshound does not have psychic powers! Please email or phone

# Communal Christmas Card



If you want to join in with his year's communal Christmas card, please let Ann or myself have your 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! Printing is paid by the P.C.C., so all of your donation goes to charity, which this year will be to help Syrian Refugees.

*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*

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# Community Archaeology Project

Jen Cary

## FECKENHAM MANORIAL MOATED SITE COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT

At the end of July we formally established the project and agreed with the Feckenham Entertainments Committee to hold a 'Serfs Supper' on the 14<sup>th</sup> November to raise initial funds for a Condition Assessment and Management Plan for the site. Until we get the tenders in we won't know the exact figure we need to raise but we think it is in the region of £1,000-£1500.

Following a meeting and site inspection with Historic England and RBC, the Landscaping Team from RBC have scheduled initial tidying and clearance work to happen 23<sup>rd</sup>- 28<sup>th</sup> Nov. 2015 and 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> Jan. 2016. They will tidy much-overgrown scrub around the edge and clear the moat to create a path. There are no plans to fell any trees or make any significant changes, merely to tidy up the much neglected hedges and shrub to allow easier access to the moat. All work will be done with full instructions and supervision from Historic England to ensure that any archaeology is not disturbed and the site is not left in a mess.

To help the Landscaping Team and to show that we appreciate the heritage that's on our doorstep, we'll be holding a litter pick of the site on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November from 12pm-2pm. Please bring wellies and gloves and we'll supply bags and hopefully some 'grabbers'. This is a great chance to have a look round the site before work starts and to ask the Committee any questions. We look forward to seeing you there.

### Diary dates:

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> November – **Serfs Supper**

Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 12-2pm **litter pick**

## A NEW VILLAGE LANDMARK

If you have been looking skyward as you pass the Village Hall, you may have noticed a wonderful piece of Feckenham history. Thanks to villager, Kathy Gee, whose friends in the Milestone Society noticed that it was up for sale in a Cirencester auction house, one of Feckenham's two AA signs has returned home. From 1906 onwards the Automobile association erected more than thirty thousand of these circular enamelled roundels because local



councils didn't consider place name signs necessary. In 1939 an Act of Parliament made local authorities take over the responsibility and the AA signs came down. Very few have survived. They're a relic of those halcyon motoring days when AA Patrols saluted members as they passed and motorists all carried their keys to AA phone boxes. This particular sign must have originally been placed somewhere on the eastern end of the Droitwich road and was most recently displayed within a door recess at Yew Tree House, 41 Alcester Road until house clearance. Buying it was the easy part. There were long debates about where it could be placed. Of course, it doesn't fit normal planning guidance and councillors and staff at Redditch Borough Council were helpful in getting permission through the system. Alan Jones researched the requirements and Phil Tricklebank and Wayne from Redditch joinery made the mount and fixed the whole thing to the wall. The Entertainments Committee, represented during these negotiations by Ian Bellion, has refunded Kathy the initial purchase price and has made the sign the property of the Village Hall. A great community effort for a true community asset.

# Thought for the month

Rev. Wyn Beynon

Dear Friends,

There's a little story from the Dean of St George's Chapel in Windsor Castle who said, "The Queen and I agree that we really don't like people who name drop"!

Human beings are perhaps the most self contradictory animals on the Blue Planet. We say one thing and do another and justify it to ourselves, often with surprising ease, and often with the simplest of excuses, and others with the most complex and convoluted arguments. It has been well said, "do as I say, don't do as I do". Where cats and dogs and, of course, all animals, can just be themselves, somehow human beings find themselves compelled to explain, justify and defend who they are.

Small children haven't got the adult problem yet, and like animals will happily play loudly and run round stark naked without the slightest idea that it matters. Because actually, it doesn't. The tragedy of growing up is that we lose the innocence. That's what the story of the Garden of Eden is all about. It is the story of everyone. We were playing in the garden, unaware that we were naked. And then someone said something and we got embarrassed and became guarded and careful.

Real maturity is about not caring what anyone thinks of us. It's not about being thoughtless outward others, on the contrary, maturity means we are intensely aware of others' needs. But maturity allows us to thoughtless towards ourselves.

We might do well not to strip off and run around naked. But just being ourselves without pretence. That's what Jesus was like, and why he attracted friends from every level of society.

We are comfortable with people who are so obviously just themselves. My mother used an expression for straightforward people: she'd say "there's no side to them" meaning there was nothing hidden, tucked away. As we put on

more clothes as the autumn turns to winter, let's not hide the real us away, but enjoy being ourselves. After all, that's who God made us to be!

Best wishes, Wyn

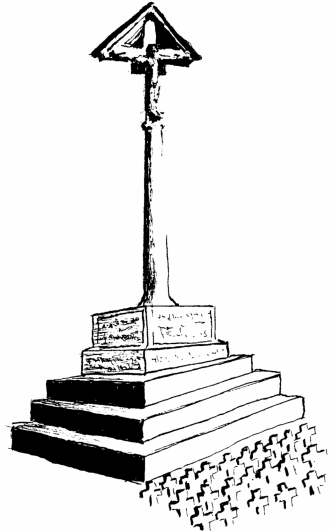
## Church Flower Group

Margaret Perry

Thank you to the Flower Group ladies for your arrangements of autumn leaves, flowers and fruits, complemented by dahlias, chrysanthemums and michaelmas daisies provided once again by Mr Crump - our grateful thanks also go to him.

The congregation and Feckenham School children and their parents all enjoyed the church full of colourful harvest arrangements.

## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 8th November 10.45am Parish Church



# Feckenham Flower Show & Over 60's Party Fund Christmas Party

**Saturday 5th December 2015**

The Over 60's Christmas Party is to be held on Saturday 5th December 2015 in the Village Hall, opening at 6.00pm

The event is run by the Feckenham Flower Show & Over 60's Party Fund and provides a Christmas Party and entertainment, free of charge, to Feckenham residents who are over 60 years of age (and to their partner or a friend) and who live within 1 mile of The Square.

If you have become eligible during the last year, or are already eligible but have not yet let us know, please contact our Treasurer, Angela Fletcher, on 01527 893231 so that your name can be added to our list of invitees. Invitations will be sent out early in November.

## Thanks

**Thank you** to everyone for "Get Well" cards, good wishes, flowers and crumbles. The Children's Society House-Boxes are trickling in nicely and by the time you read this I hope the job will be done. Look out for the result in the December "Feckenham News". Thank you for your support. *Jo Warrilow*

## Village Shop

**W**e have been very pleased, over the last 12 months, to welcome a number of volunteers to help in the shop. Offering two hours a week to take a shift has proved rewarding and we are very grateful for their support. The biggest benefit they report is a chance to meet people they would not otherwise have encountered. For those just moved into the village it has been excellent for getting involved quickly in what's going on and making new friends.

We are always looking for more support, so, if you think you can offer just a couple of hours – it doesn't have to be every week either - then please contact the shop to find out more. Full training is provided and we are a very friendly bunch.

We are also looking for team leaders, particularly at the weekend. Again if you can share with someone else, we know that can work very well. In the first instance, contact Jenny Mason or John Eaton details at the shop. With Christmas looming, if you are stuck for gift ideas, there's always something different to be found in the shop, particularly in the beverage line. Wines and beers that are a bit different and local, to at least show the aged Aunt or Uncle that you have given them some thought. The Christmas stock has just arrived on a large pallet and will be appearing on the shelves in the next weeks. Get along now to see what there is. Hampers will be available as in previous years. Contact Ann Matthews or Cath Roberts for further information.



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**WHAT'S ON at The Rose & Crown**  
**GREAT TASTING INDIAN MENU**  
Thursday, 26th November - 6 - 9pm  
**Getting Ready for Christmas**  
with our feasting Christmas Fayre menu  
2 Courses £14.50 3 Courses £16.95  
Dates available up to Christmas - booking essential  
Please call Mel for a menu or look on our website

**[www.roseandcrownfeckenham.co.uk](http://www.roseandcrownfeckenham.co.uk)**

# Mission Morogoro

Tony Mortimer

## Tractor - and many other things

It had been a challenging summer!

Mission Morogoro and our friends in Tanzania had worked hard to get our container through the port at Dar Es Salaam and onward to Tunguli. There seemed to be endless delays to our trip, but we finally set off on 26<sup>th</sup> August and all these problems were soon forgotten when the container was safely delivered with every single item accounted for. We were then able to move forward on all of our projects.

This was the first time we had stayed stay in the village of Tunguli, which is remote and completely 'off grid'. The Health Centre had worked hard to provide visitors' accommodation at Neema (meaning Grace) House for our nine-night stay, and the four of us – Sue and James Barrett and Tricia and Tony Mortimer were welcomed very warmly. We were able to get much closer to the community and leaders of the village and this helped us to be much more effective on the projects – it also opened our eyes to the true challenges of life in rural Africa.

So what did we do?

The **Tractor House** was built and is now in use as a secure storage and maintenance facility.

The **Tractor, Trailer and Ripper Plough** were quickly commissioned and several local people were trained to use them.

A **Conservation Agriculture Project** was started in partnership with a local expert NGO.

Medical equipment was delivered and a laboratory upgrade project was started at the **Health Centre** with funding from the North West Worcestershire Rotary Club.

Essential repairs at the **Doctor's House** were approved and funded. This was to make habitable the house allocated to the new doctor in charge at the Health Centre, Dr Alex Mgonwe. He will now have a home suitable

for wife and young family close to the Health Centre in Tunguli.

Textbooks, stationery and other donated resources were delivered to local **Primary and Secondary Schools**, including a pallet of books from the UK charity **Books Abroad**.

13 donated **sewing machines, with fabric and haberdashery**, were used to set up a sewing and entrepreneurship training programme. This is currently being run by the local Mothers' Union at Tunguli secondary school, and the response even in a short time has been excellent, with positive feedback and pictures of finished garments!

Donations of **bedding and linen** were distributed to the Health Centre and enthusiastically received. Tunguli is at an altitude of around 1000m and can be quite cold at night, so the bedding is really important.

Phew, yes it was quite hectic, but good!

From the beginning our goals at Mission Morogoro have been to develop a lasting friendship link with Tunguli and to work together on projects to alleviate poverty. We feel that this visit moved us to a new level of partnership in working towards these goals.

As always we thank you greatly for your encouragement and support and look forward to making even more progress in the future. For more detail please do look at our website and facebook pages.

[www.missionmorogoro.org.uk](http://www.missionmorogoro.org.uk)

[www.facebook.com/missionmorogoro](https://www.facebook.com/missionmorogoro)

Finally, a date for your diary:

### **An Evening With Don Maclean**

Sat. 27<sup>th</sup> February 2016 -7.30pm, Norbury Theatre, Droitwich. Don MacLean, the well-known and much loved Midlands comedian and all-round entertainer, has generously agreed to appear in a special show locally to support Mission Morogoro. This will be a great way to brighten up a dark February evening and we hope that we will see you there.

For full details see our website or contact the Norbury Theatre (01905) 770154. (Tip. No booking fee if you book by 'phone)

*ps Look out for our 2016 calendar, available soon*

# WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM



THE  
**FECKENHAM  
SESSIONS**  
TRADITIONAL  
MUSICMAKING  
at THE ROSE & CROWN

First Tuesday of every month from 8pm  
NEXT SESSION: Tuesday, 3rd November

## Feckenham Readers Group



Wednesday, 11th November - 7.45  
This month's book: THE LOVE SONG OF MISS  
QUEENIE HENNESSEY by RACHEL JOYCE  
Details from Marton Christie - 892285

Feckenham Forest History Society

## HISTORY of KAYS

with Bernard Mills

Tuesday, 10th November - 7.30pm  
Wenheath Village Hall

[www.feckenham-forest-history-society.org.uk](http://www.feckenham-forest-history-society.org.uk)

the **WI**  
INSPIRING WOMEN

**FECKENHAM WI**  
At FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

THURSDAY, 12th NOVEMBER - 7.30pm

## The HISTORY of PEARL BUTTONS

with George Hook

Visitors Welcome - £3.50



## TRAIDCRAFT SALE

Chestnut House, 8 The Square  
Saturday, 31st October, 10.30 to 6.30  
Come and do your Christmas Shopping

All goods are fairly traded - helping producers  
worldwide to leave the poverty cycle

Coffee & Biscuits available

**TRAIDCRAFT**  
Fighting poverty through trade



## Stock & Bradley GARDENING CLUB

### A PASSION FOR SEED

with Rob Cole

Bradley Village Hall

Wednesday, 4th November - 7.30pm

## Feckenham Cricket Club

# BONFIRE & FIREWORKS

Saturday, 7th November

Fire lit at 6.30pm - Fireworks at 7pm

Barbecue - Bar open.

For safety's sake,

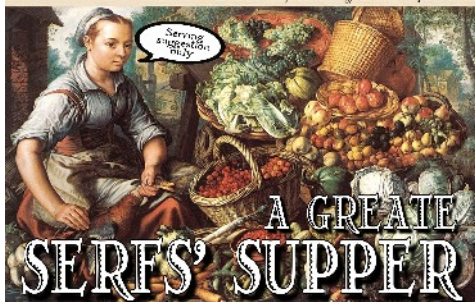
No personal fireworks - not even sparklers

No parking on site or in Mill Lane

Send details of events for FREE listing to: [whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk](mailto:whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk) or call 892130

# WHAT'S ON IN FECKENHAM

Feckenham ENTERTAINMENTS Committee  
and Feckenham Manorial Mosten Site Community Archaeology Committee present



## A GREAT SERFS' SUPPER

SATURDAY, 14TH NOVEMBER

7.30pm for 8pm

Feckenhamme Village Hall

A Feast for Ye Common Working Serf

Fine food and ale, musick & mummy

Come one, come all and let us be merry

Please dress appropriately for a night out at a medieval tavern

Friends to be used to appreciate and research

Feckenham's Ancient Monument

Tickets £15 (includes touring and set work of music)

Under 14s £12.50 (Dine - entertainment will be waived)

from The Village Shop, The Rose & Crown and by

phone on 0333 666 3366 or online at

[www.feckenodeon.co.uk/feckenham](http://www.feckenodeon.co.uk/feckenham)

THE FECKENODEON CINEMA SOCIETY  
ROBERT MITCHUM in



## THE NIGHT OF THE HUNTER

a film by CHARLES LAUGHTON  
with LILIAN GISH, SHELLEY WINTERS and JAMES GLEASON

UNRATABLE FOR CHILDREN

Saturday, 31st October - 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](http://www.feckenodeon.co.uk)

\*BOOKING FEES APPLY TO TELEPHONE AND ONLINE BOOKINGS. CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR ANY SPECIAL OFFERS.

THE FECKENODEON CINEMA SOCIETY

"THE BEST BRITISH FILM OF THE YEAR"

★★★★★



## THE IMITATION GAME

BASED ON THE INCREDIBLE TRUE STORY OF ALAN TURING

Saturday, 28th 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](http://www.feckenodeon.co.uk)

\*BOOKING FEES APPLY TO TELEPHONE AND ONLINE BOOKINGS. CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR ANY SPECIAL OFFERS.

FeckenOdeon 2  
The Cinema in the Back Room



Friday, 20th November at 8pm

Tickets £5 (FeckenOdeon Members £3.50)

from The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown, Feckenham

or book by phone on 0333 666 3366 or online\*

[www.feckenodeon.co.uk](http://www.feckenodeon.co.uk)

\*BOOKING FEES APPLY TO PHONE AND ONLINE BOOKINGS. CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR ANY SPECIAL OFFERS.

FeckenOdeon 2 at Feckenham Village Hall

Send details of events for FREE listing to: [whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk](mailto:whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk) or call 892130

# The FeckenOdeon Cinema Society



## EH OOP GEORGE - OOH LA LA!

George Riley is a bit of a lad. Now he's about to breath his last... and lots of inconvenient truths are coming out. **"Life of Riley"** (showing on **Friday 20th November** at 8pm) is based on Alan Ayckbourne's Yorkshire farce "Relatively Speaking" - but this 2014 film is French. It's the product of a great friendship between the playwright and the veteran director Alain Resnais. A real French farce with a delightful Yorkshire twist - full of scandalous revelations and dodgy alibis. Even though George is on the way out half of the women in the village are planning a last fling with him - zut alors by gum!



## ENIGMA CRACKER CRACKS

Alan Turing was credited with cracking the so-called unbreakable codes of Germany's WW2 Enigma machine. **"The Imitation Game"** (showing at **The FeckenOdeon** on **28th November** - 7.30pm) is an intense and haunting portrayal of a brilliant, complicated man, who under nail-biting pressure helped to shorten the war and save thousands of lives. Benedict Cumberbatch gives an enthralling performance as the haunted genius. The film successfully combines a biographical account with all the style and tension of a first rate thriller. The fact that the film dodges the issue somewhat when it comes to the shameful treatment Turing received from the authorities after the war by no means lessens its impact.

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

# Feckenham ENTERTAINMENTS Committee

## SERF YOU RIGHT!



You're all invited to dress down for a night of feasting in a medieval tavern. Join us amid the rough and tumble of a working serf's night out - no fine silks and

ermine - more like sackcloth and sawdust. There'll be boisterous musicke and merry mummers - as well as copious quantities of rustic food and drink.

This is all to raise some money to find out what used to happen on the Recreation Field. There are details of the work that needs to be done elsewhere in this magazine - but it's a good excuse for a marvellous medieval party!

A **"Greate Medieval Serfs' Supper"** will take place on **Saturday, November 14th - 7.30pm for 8pm.**

Your ticket will buy you entry to the tavern plus 3 Feckels to spend on a splendid three course meal which will be conjured from the smoky depths of the tavern kitchens. The King's Treasurer will be on hand to exchange modern pounds for further Feckels to spend on games, novelties - and more food if you're not already sated. There'll be a bar with real ale, ciders and wines and the Hall will be completely transformed and lit by a myriad of warmly twinkling candles... and, be warned, if you misbehave you may find yourself spending some time in the stocks....

If you buy your tickets from the shop or pub don't forget to pick up our handy guide on how to improvise a medieval look.

Tickets cost 15 Feckels (£15 - including feast and small mug of mead). Children are welcome at £12.50 - but please note that the entertainment may be a little bawdy.

Buy now at The Shop, The Rose & Crown, by phone on 0333 666 3366 or online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham)

# Village Hall

Ian Bellion



## A HUGE THANK YOU!

Because of space (and memory) constraints we haven't been able to thank all those who pitched in to refurbish the interior of the Village Hall way back in August. There are too many to mention individually but we were delighted to find such a large number of villagers pouring through the door. Many hands make light work - and the job was done by lunchtime. The Hall is looking clean and bright once more and is fit for another year of almost constant use. It's worth noting that using professional painters and decorators would cost many hundreds of pounds - and require the Hall to be closed for at least a week. This way we save the money - and the Hall continues to be available. The result allows us to keep hire fees to a minimum and to support all the village voluntary organisations and activities that make the Hall their home. Thank you to everyone who wielded a brush or a roller - we couldn't do it without you!

## KITCHEN REFURBISHMENT

Regular users may have noticed that the Village Hall kitchen is looking a bit sad. It's had constant use since the last refurb in 2003 and has stood up to the treatment well - but the Hall's Committee is well aware that it's now past its sell-by date. Plans are being drawn up and quotes are being gathered. We hope to be able to get the work done in the summer next year.

# Feckenham Youth Clubs

## Junior Youth Club

CALLING ALL YOUNG PEOPLE

Do you want to help your local community? Maybe as part of your Duke of Edinburgh award or as work experience? We are looking for Volunteers to help the Youth Club leaders at Feckenham Junior Youth Club which is held on a Monday night 6-7pm. It will involve co-ordinating games and activities with children age 5-9. If you are interested please call Gemma on 07717 870943.

## Senior Youth Club

It is time for Senior Youth Club to have a new team at the helm ! After considerable thought I have made the decision to leave at the end of this term .

Being part of Youth Club over the years has been a very rewarding experience and I will miss getting to know the young people in the village.

At the moment there appears to be no one to take my place. A group of parents working together would be ideal .

Please get in touch if you would like to get involved or have any suggestions . The youth club has been running for many years ....it provides a safe meeting place for the children in the village to meet and get to know one another and have some fun ...it would be a great shame if it came to an end .

Liz Teisen 01527821233 07855162146

## Small Ads.



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# World War I Centenary Commemoration

Jeff Matthews

WORLD WAR I



FECKENHAM

The group coordinating the commemoration of WWI has been busy over the summer, so here is an update on the activity and further plans.

We have marked the three war graves in the church yard with a commemorative notice, to make them obvious. You will find them in the north church yard, under a tree, with their distinctive Commonwealth war grave headstones.

We are now working on the website, and the publishing of the archive that Richard Pearce has created, together with further research we have uncovered.

The music and commemorative performance events are also taking shape. The music commissioned from composer Phil Mountford will be presented in outline soon – the church choir being asked to be involved. Details will be firmed up later in the year, but one performance early July and a further event in November, around Remembrance Sunday 2016 are in the outline plan. Look out for more details in what promises to be an engaging event.

The next two poppies have been added to the crown of barbed wire as the two lives lost in the Gallipoli campaign in August 1915 are remembered.

The two lives are those of Alick Pretty and Earnest Pearce. Both were lost in a day of very heavy action in late August 1915. Indeed, no one is sure when they died, with the families not receiving confirmation of the loss until 1916. We can only imagine what that must have felt like.

**16431 Private Ernest John Pearce,**  
4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Worcestershire Regiment,  
died 6<sup>th</sup> August 1915, aged 22. He is  
remembered on the Helles Memorial to the  
missing, Turkey.

Ernest was born in Westrip, near Cainscross, Stroud, Gloucestershire in the early months of 1893 to George and Sarah Jane Pearce. Ernest was one of nine children born to George and Sarah, unfortunately one of his siblings had died by 1911. George worked as a stoker in the local gas works, Sarah kept house, Ernest's brother and sisters worked in the cloth trade and Ernest was a butcher. Ernest was living at home with his parents and Sister Alice at the time of the 1911 census.

**21370 Private Alexander Pretty,**  
4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Worcestershire Regiment,  
died 6<sup>th</sup> August 1915 aged 23. He is also  
remembered on the Helles Memorial to the  
missing, Turkey.

Alick was born to Charles and Jane Pretty during the early months of 1892 in Bradley Green, he was one of six sons and three daughters. On the 1911 census it was recorded that Charles and three of his sons worked as hay cutters, Alick was a domestic gardener and his sister Mary worked in the needle trade. His elder sister Elizabeth had just married and his elder brother was boarding in Headless Cross, working as a farm labourer. Charles, Jane and the remaining seven children were living in a four roomed house on the Droitwich Road in Feckenham (next door to the Forrest public house). (Information courtesy of Richard Pearce).

Their full story and the story of the Gallipoli campaign, told through the eyes of the Worcestershires is now in the church. If you have not seen it yet, it's worth the walk. We are now in a lull for a few months, until we reach 1916 and the Somme campaign...

**Redditch Borough Council  
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**Get ready for Winter  
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**Feckenham Village Hall**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November  
12.30pm to 4pm (drop-in)**

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**Age UK** Winter Warmth campaign

**Local oil-buying co-operative** Save money on purchasing your heating oil by buying with others in bulk

**North Worcestershire Water Management** What can we do to reduce and protect against flooding?

**Severn Trent Water** Saving water and reducing your water bills

## Square Management Committee

### TREES

Sadly the Square Management Committee has had to remove two of the trees on The Square. This follows a safety inspection and report. The "stump" on the graveled area was obviously dead and overdue for removal but the horse chestnut near the telephone box looked relatively healthy. Appearances can be deceptive and, following felling, we were able to see just how diseased and dangerous it had become. We will be replacing both trees soon - in accordance with the Conservation Area regulations.

### CHRISTMAS EVE

Just for your diaries - the Annual **Carols on The Square** will, as ever, take place on The Square on **Christmas Eve at 6.30pm**. All the traditional ingredients - hot punch, mince pies, pop for the kids and a lot of lusty singing!



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

- 4th Gardening Club**  
A Passion for Seed - 7.30pm  
Bradley Green Village Hall
- 8th Horse Tack Sale**  
4pm - Bradley Green Village Hall
- 15th MACMILLAN LUNCH**  
Bradley Green Village Hall
- 28th ANNUAL QUIZ**  
7pm - Bradley Green Village Hall

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

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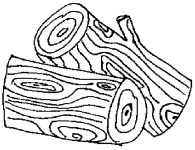
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# Stock & Bradley Gardening Club

Rob Cole

**THE NEXT CLUB MEETING - Wednesday 4th November 2015 at 7.30pm** our Chairman, Rob Cole, will share his love of growing plants from seed in a talk entitled 'A Passion for Seed'. He will show all aspects of collecting and sowing seed, and will also show how Nature does the job of seed distribution.

The theme for the monthly competition is 'Seedheads'. To take part, just bring along an exhibit for judging by one of our members. Remember that this is NOT a "flower arranging" competition, and that a single stem can be a winner. 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 2nd December 2015 at 7.30pm** Following the AGM (which we will keep brief), Duncan Coombs from Pershore College will give a talk entitled 'Bark, Stems, and Evergreens' in which he will demonstrate the ornamental value of plants which do not rely on their flowers to be effective in the garden.

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 £10.00 commencing on 1st January. 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



**O**ur November meeting is on **Thursday 12th at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall Back Room. The speaker is George Hook on the "**History of Pearl Buttons**". We thought it might be of extra interest if members brought along any interesting pearl buttons they may have. In October several members enjoyed a visit to the Forge Mill Needle Museum, which had a small exhibition of pearl buttons. Our main objective was to see a special exhibition of quilts - inspiring. And if you are not already aware, the museum shop has the biggest range of needles for sale I have ever seen!

Visitors to our meetings are very welcome, £3.50 including very good refreshments.

## 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.

**Poppy Appeal  
Coffee Morning**  
Thursday 5th November  
10 - 12  
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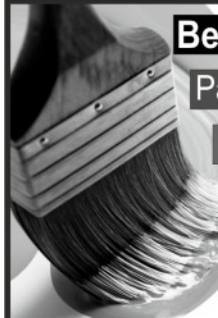
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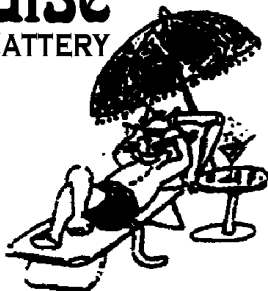
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