

FECKENHAM

NEWS

October 2024

Published by Feckenham Church for the village.
Editor Gilly Cooper - feckenhamnews@gmail.com
(Copy Date 14th)

THOMAS BROTHERS



An Independent Family Owned Funeral Directors

Family owned funeral homes in Redditch, Bromsgrove, Wytball, Alvechurch & Alcester. We provide a friendly, dignified service paying special attention to detail.

REDDITCH • BROMSGROVE
01527 547777 01527 83170

WYTHALL • ALVECHURCH • ALCESTER
01564 822001 0121 445 3422 01789 330939



"A family concern"

www.thomasbrothers.co.uk

email: admin@thomasbrothers.co.uk

ANDREW SMITH CHIMNEY SWEEP

Traditional and Power Sweeping
Clean, reliable and fully insured
smoke test, CCTV and certificates.
Evening and weekend appointments
also available



Member of the
Institute of Chimney
Sweeps

Based locally in Inkberrow

Phone: **01386 793248**

Mobile: **07789 721303**



As Time Goes By YOUR LOCAL FAMILY RUN MEMORIAL SUPPLIER

Head Stones, Cremation Tablets,
Additional Inscriptions and
Renovation Work

Web: astimegoesby.org.uk

Email: kfporter@blueyonder.co.uk



Please call 01527 550505

To arrange a home visit or to find out our opening times

Unit 5, Dunlop Road, Hunt End Industrial Estate
Redditch B97 5XP

"MEMORIALS THAT REFLECT A LIFETIME"



A. PULLEN MEMORIALS

Additional Inscriptions & Renovations

SHOWROOM AND WORKSHOP
338 ALCESTER ROAD, BURCOT
BROMSGROVE B60 1BH

Tel: (01527) 876200



ALL GLAZING & LOCKSMITHS

All double glazing repairs
Misted/broken glass replaced
Doors & windows re-aligned
Anti-snap locks



35 years experience

For free advice & 100% honest,
reliable service, call or text

Jason on 07789 761 412

Feckenham News in October

Dates for your Diary

Contents

Page

October

2nd	S&B Gardening Club
5-6th	Scarecrow Weekend
10th	Parish Council Meeting
18th	FeckenOdeon 2
21st	WI
26th	FeckenOdeon

Editor's Note	4
Village Hall	4
Village Square Management	5
Rose and Crown News	6
Swansbrook Radio	7
FeckenOdeon	7
Parish Council	8
WI	9
Church Matters	10-11
What's On	12-13
Feckenham Archive	14
Village Shop	17
Gardening	18-20
Cricket Club	21

November

2nd	Churchyard Working Party
22nd	Village Hall Theatre Show

Regular Sessions

Wednesdays Playgroup
Thursdays Bridge; Hatha Yoga; Pilates
Fridays Meditation Class
Second Monday of the month: Mobile Library
First Tuesday of the month:
Lunch Club, Feckenham Sessions
First and Third Wednesday: Community Choir
Third Monday of the month: WI
2nd and 4th Fridays : Erstwhile Morris dancers

Production Team

Gilly Cooper - Editor	feckenhamnews@gmail.com 07500115581
Neil Newland - Distribution	neil.newland@btinternet.com
Ian Bellion - What's On	whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk
Jen Cary - NewsHound	jen@28highstreet.co.uk
Mary Smith - Advertising	fnadvertising@btinternet.com

©2024. Published by Feckenham PCC
Printed by Solopress

Front Cover

Picture by: Paul Furey

Magazine online at
www.feckenham-parishcouncil.gov.uk

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.

Editor's Note



This month finds Martin and myself touring in Spain and Portugal by camper van, so I've not been around in the village to pick up on what's happening. Thanks to everyone who has

contributed, especially Ian Bellion who has done much of the work despite having been away too. We shall be back in time for the Scarecrow Weekend which has many mentions in the magazine. I hope it's a great success.

Our trip started by overnight ferry to Santander from Plymouth. I was surprised that the ferry company describe it as a mini cruise. If you like you can travel return spending two nights on board with about 3 hours in Santander!

We took a week to drive south through Spain and into Portugal where we attended my nephew's wedding in the Algarve. The countryside, for the most part was dehesa, a type of agroforestry, with a mix of trees and grazing land. The trees are mainly olive, cork and holm oak. This is ideal pasture for the pigs raised to give us Iberian ham. It is also habitat for endangered species such as the Iberian Imperial Eagle.

We are now heading north along the Portuguese coast and into north west Spain. I thought our bellringers would like this picture of travelling bells that we saw in Porto: the largest, heaviest travelling carillon in the world. There's a link to Feckenham - well sort of!



Feckenham Village Hall

MAKE GOOD THE POST OFFICE SCANDAL **LIVE & LOCAL**

A new musical from Pentabus Theatre and New Perspectives Theatre.

It's not often that a Village Hall stages a show that is on the way to the West End and (possibly) Broadway. Feckenham Village Hall has done it once before back in 2007 when New Perspectives brought Howard Goodall's "The Hired Man" to the village - that production went on to long runs in London and New York. Now there are high hopes that the same company is about to have similar success with their new musical "Make Good: The Post Office Scandal". They're joining forces with Ludlow based Pentabus Theatre - both companies celebrate their 50th anniversaries this year.

The show, three years in the making, tells the story of the Post Office Scandal, now recognised as one of the gravest miscarriages of justice in British history. Directly informed by conversations with affected sub-postmasters, "Make Good" dives into this most local of stories, capturing the raw emotions, the bewilderment and the unbreakable bond of faith and family that were put to the test. Experience the astonishing resilience of entire communities as lives were destroyed in a scandal that isn't over yet...

MAKE GOOD : THE POST OFFICE SCANDAL

Friday, 22nd November at 7.30pm

TICKETS

Are on sale at The Village Shop
and The Rose & Crown.

Book online through www.feckhall.org

Book by phone on 0333 666 3366

Draw results

**Feckenham Village Hall Improvement Fund
August & September draws.**

Carried out on 3rd September, 2024.

August:

1st (£25)	142	Margaret & Victoria Blamey
2nd (£15)	100	Paul & Gwyn Bradley
3rd (£10)	129	Trish Tricklebank

September:

1st (£25)	137	Steve & Jenny Dalloway
2nd (£15)	90	Phil & Erica Guise
3rd (£10)	172	Chris & Tave Bristow

THEY'RE ALMOST HERE!



If, by any chance, your copy of Feckenham News arrives through your letterbox before 30th September you can still enter the 2024 Scarecrow Competition - but hurry!

The best option is to enter online by filling in the form at:

willumconker.wixsite.com/feckenham-scarecrows

...or you can fill in one of the paper forms to be found at The Village Shop, The Rose & Crown or The Village Hall. If it's after 30th September we're sorry, but you've missed the boat - the Scarecrow Trail Map will be at the printers and the only thing you can do is relax - and go and have a look at what everybody else has done...

SCARECROW WEEKEND

5th & 6th OCTOBER

HIT THE TRAIL

At the time of writing we have no idea of how many scarecrows will have been entered into the competition or what form they'll take. We, like you, will just have to pick up a **FREE map** from The Square and take a stroll around the village to find out. Each time we've done this villagers have never failed to amaze us with their talent, skill and sheer breadth of imagination - so we're hoping for great things! **The trail will be open from 11am each day.** This year the scarecrows will be joined by the equally imaginative folk of **Feckenham Artisans** who will be displaying their work on The Square and in the Village Hall. There'll be games for youngsters also on The Square and the famous pink **Tea Tent** will return dispensing hot and cold drinks and mountains of cakes. If you want a warm snack, there'll be a **barbecue** with burgers and hot dogs cooked to order... and, to round things off, there'll be an Old Fashioned **Pudding Shop** selling puds that your granny might have made - ideal fare to restore your strength after trekking around the crows (specially when served with lashings of custard). **Free parking**, for people visiting the village, will be on a field **off Astwood Lane** (B96 6JE) - just follow the signs.

The weekend will be rounded off on **Sunday at 4.30pm** with the announcement of the winners and **Presentation of Prizes.**



Sally Roundell's gigantic scarecrow from the 2006 competition

THE ROSE & CROWN

ANGE HAS LEFT THE BUILDING!

Most villagers will have been greeted by "The Best Barmaid in The World" as they entered The Rose & Crown. Angela O'Sullivan was seemingly capable of multi-multi-tasking - clearing a table while taking a food order and pulling a pint - all at the same time... and all done with a smile and a cheery quip. Now, after 14 years, Ange has decided to call time on her pub career and has left the Crown.



Mel Clarke writes:

On Friday 13th September she worked her last shift and pulled her last pint with us! We had a few drinks to wish her well. The preceding week Ange was given numerous cards, gifts, flowers... and tears flowed most days.

Ange O'Sullivan arrived for work at the Rose & Crown in August 2010 only a short few weeks after we bought the pub. To say luck was on our side is a major understatement. She started working a few evenings a week while her baby was very small and this increased over the years. Ange has been a fixture in the pub since. We have been mistaken for 'sisters' and also she's been asked was I her 'mother' which I wasn't overjoyed by! More make up required! Ange worked through the painting and decorating, the messy times and hard times like Covid. She really needs the break, giving her a chance to pursue different interests. Both Matt and I will miss Ange greatly, not just for the major amount of work she did, but her

company and humour, and I will miss my 'sister'. We kept each other Irish when no one else got us! She'll always be welcome to pop in for a cuppa tea or something stronger!

Go raith mile maith agat, mo chara mor.



Ange with some of the many gifts she received.

Ange wants to pass her thanks on for all the kind words and gifts she received from customers. She was very choked up and overwhelmed by people's generosity and kindness. Thanks so much everybody.

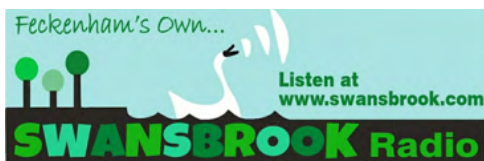
She enjoyed the parting party too!

Rose & Crown 48 High Street
Feckenham B96 6HS
—01527 892188—
A traditional freehouse village pub
with Food - owned and run by the
Clarke family

**Proper Pub Food
at Proper Prices**
Special Dishes - every day
Quality locally sourced meat
Full Menu available daily
Lunch & Evenings (not Sunday evening)
Real Ales & Ciders
3 real ales on hand pumps every day
Traditional ciders - fine wines
Open ALL DAY Friday, Saturday & Sunday

Tuesday, 1st October
in the Bar from 8pm - Free
Traditional Music
29th October to 2nd November
**A FESTIVAL of
SAUSAGES & CIDER**

www.roseandcrownfeckenham.co.uk



RADIO SCARECROW

Throughout the summer Swansbrook Radio has been broadcasting from outdoor events - braving the vagaries of the British weather to bring Feckenham visitors a taste of local life. We'll be at it again as summer gives way to autumn and the local scarecrows stride out of the fields into the village centre. We shan't be broadcasting live at the Scarecrow Weekend on 5th & 6th October but we shall be recording material for use in programmes to be transmitted during the week following the festival. We'll chat to those who made the exhibits and we'll chat to visitors. When we've done this before we've often found that people are lured to the village not just for a peek at the scarecrows but also for a pleasant day out in one of the most picturesque villages in the area. We'll be finding out where they come from... and unearthing a few hidden stories - there are rumours that Astwood Bank is mounting a similar event later in the month. Who told them?! How dare they!

NORMAL SERVICE

Swansbrook Radio had a bad attack of gremlins in September. For some reason, best known to computer geniuses, the website couldn't be updated. We were denied access to our own website for two weeks - we couldn't log in... and the support system couldn't be accessed unless we were logged in... We still don't know why.. or how... or what - but we've managed to get it and everything is now working normally!

LISTEN TO THE SWANS

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

FECKENHAM'S OWN Local Radio

www.swansbrook.com

The FeckenOdeon Cinema Society



THE FOOD OF LOVE...

....or *The Love of Food* - either way, both food and love feature very prominently in FeckenOdeon 2's first autumn offering.

Peerless cook Eugenie (Juliette Binoche) has worked for the famous gourmet Dodin (Benoît Magimel) for the last 20 years. Bonding over a passion for gastronomy and mutual admiration, their relationship develops into romance and gives rise to delicious dishes that impress even the world's most illustrious chefs. A delectable feast for the senses - a stunningly beautiful romance that simmers with emotion. (*France, 2023*)

THE TASTE OF THINGS (12A)

Friday 18th October at 8pm

Doors open at 7.30pm - Licenced Bar



GOLD IN THEM THERE HILLS!

In this classic adventure film, two rough-and-tumble wanderers, played by Humphrey Bogart and Tim Holt, meet up with a veteran prospector, in Mexico and head into the Sierra Madre mountains to find gold. Although they discover treasure, they also find plenty of trouble - some of it of their own making. Directed by John Huston, this is regarded as one of the finest films ever to come out of Hollywood. (*USA 1948*)

THE TREASURE OF THE SIERRA MADRE (PG)

Saturday 26th October at 7.30pm

Doors open at 7pm - Licenced Bar

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

Yellow grit bins are not the responsibility of the Parish Council.



The Parish Council's September was brought forward to the 29th of August because many of the members had taken delayed holidays.

BESS GROUP

The Parish Council agreed to arrange an initial meeting for Parishioners who had expressed an interest in concerns regarding the Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) proposals. The meeting will be held in September on a date to be agreed. This will not be a Parish Council meeting as such. Councillors may decide to join the group but will not be doing so in their official capacity. Should you wish to be involved you can check the Parish Council website or contact the clerk for more information.

TRAFFIC CALMING

The long-awaited replacement white gates have been installed on Astwood Lane along with a new Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS). There will be new gates and VAS machines installed at either end of the village entrances on the Droitwich / Alcester Road. The gates were paid for by divisional funds from Cllr Mike Rouse and Cllr Craig Warhurst. The VAS machines were funded by a grant from The Police and Crime Commissioner's fund. It is expected that the B4090 gates and signs will be installed soon. It is hoped these measures will help to slow the speeding traffic.

GRIT BINS

The Clerk has been made aware of damage to at least three of the green grit bins. These bins and the grit they contain are paid for by the Parish Council. The Parish now has to apply for permission to Worcestershire County Council to use their land for the bins, even though we're only seeking to install exactly the same bins. This may take a while, but it is hoped permission will be granted by the time the weather changes. If you notice that a green bin has been damaged, please do let the clerk know by phone on 01527 892522.

TREES

Feckenham in Bloom have ordered four replacement trees to replace the dead trees near to Winfield's. These were purchased to celebrate the late Queen's jubilee but failed to survive. The volunteers have sought advice as to the most suitable trees for the area and will purchase watering bags to go around them similar those used on The Square to maintain young trees.

NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will take place on Thursday, 10th October at 7.30pm in the Back Room of the Village Hall. All are welcome to attend.



Visit the Parish Council's website for information about the Council, planning issues, local organisations and useful contact details to help you solve problems. You'll also find digital editions of Feckenham News going back to 2012.

feckenham-parishcouncil.gov.uk

Feckenham WI



In a change to the planned programme, Feckenham W.I. spent their September meeting at a talk at The Hive in Worcester, hosted by Worcester Archaeological Society. The topic was Historic Building Mythbusting and was all about the myths surrounding ancient buildings such as secret passages linking ancient buildings, spiral staircases in castles giving advantage to right-handed defenders, ship timbers used in the construction of buildings on land, blocked doors in churches which are thought to keep the Devil out and claims to be the oldest pub in the country. The

speaker, James Wright, explained the development of such myths and has investigated the underlying truths behind them. Sometimes the realities hiding behind the stories were even more interesting, romantic, and exciting than the myths themselves. James is part of Triskele Heritage and is an award winning buildings archaeologist. He has two decades professional experience of ferreting around in people's cellars, hunting through their attics and digging up their gardens. He likes to find meaningful truths about how ordinary and extraordinary folk lived their lives in the mediaeval period. He is the author of the popular Mediaeval Mythbusting Blog and his book, Historic Building Mythbusting, is what the tour is based on. We had a great time and now look at the beautiful old buildings surrounding us with new appreciation.

Our October meeting is all about apples and is in Feckenham Village Hall on Monday 21st October. Doors open at 7.45 and the meeting starts at 8pm. Members are free and guests are £5. Contact Jen Cary for more details 07773 883 039.

Beauty
by Elizabeth
MGBI, VICT
Skin Therapist

dermalogica
mapping

BIO SCULPTURE GEL

Flexible appointment times available

Telephone: 01527 822698
Mobile: 07890 978059

Microdermabrasion, LVL and Collagen lift facials, bio sculpture, massage, gel nails, waxing, eyelash tinting, manicure, pedicure and many more!

Cider Mill House
Cider Mill Lane, Bradley Green
Redditch, Worcestershire B96 6TH

WREN & BRAMBLE

flowers - eco - foraged

Bespoke floral designs & bouquets

call Clare on 07548 832771
thewren@wrenandbramble.co.uk

CHURCH SERVICES



PARISH CHURCH of ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Vicar: Fr Glenn Reading 01527 894436

vicar@feckenhamchurch.org.uk

Church Warden: Vacant

For Weddings, Baptisms & Funerals please contact Fr Glenn

Website: www.feckenhamchurch.org.uk



PARISH CHURCH
OF
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
FECKENHAM

Services for October 2024

6th October	7.00pm	Songs of Praise	Fr Glenn Reading
13th October	9.00am 10.30am	BCP Communion Family Service	Fr Glenn Reading Rev Fiona Carter
20th October	6.30pm	Evensong (John Calvert Memorial)	Fr Glenn Reading
27th October	10.30am	Eucharist <u>Drop in (in church)</u>	Fr Glenn Reading



Wednesday at 10.30am - 12.00pm

9th October and 23rd October

All are welcome (coffee and cake)



FECKENHAM ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH St John Fisher & Thomas More

Mass will not be held at St John Fisher and Thomas More until further notice.

Mount Carmel 6 pm Sunday Mass is now the Live Streamed Mass.

Link: www.eventcast.uk/live (Type the link into the browser)

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

Local contact: Phylis Mott, Feckenham. Tel 893898

Feckenham Church Choir

On Sunday 20th October there will be a special evensong service in Feckenham Church in honour of the memory of John Calvert. John served as Choir Leader for 30 years and in this time put on many memorable productions as well as ensuring a high quality of music for all services. Evensong was a particular favourite of John's. On the 22nd, the choir, joined by former members and friends of John, will be singing music written by John and some of his favourite hymns and choral music. This will be a good opportunity for everyone who knew John to get together and remember him in a way that he would have really appreciated.

This is the start of a busy time for the choir and we will soon be rehearsing for 9 lessons and carols.

The choir meets once a week and there is no charge for rehearsals, We are always looking for new members and all are welcome – there are no auditions. If you would like to join us, or would like more information please contact me by email – amandagordon677@gmail.com.

Churchyard Work Party Saturday 2nd November

The task will be to tidy up around the War Memorial ready for Remembrance Sunday 10th November. As always, more hands make light work!

The PCC is grateful for all the volunteers who have in various ways have helped keep the churchyard looking cared for. I will soon be compiling the next year's rota for mowing the grass at the front of the church. If you would be interested taking part do contact myself on 01527 402360 or Fred Hicks on 07891 853317.

Ian Hunter

Feckenham Handbell Team

The present team meets regularly in the Church Vestry on Wednesdays between 5.30 and 6.30 pm and plays when invited at services, care homes and village functions.

The original team was established in 1956 by Feckenham WI and is currently open to any friends and neighbours of Feckenham.

If you are interested, you could come and have a go or just come and listen. We meet weekly in the Church Vestry and would welcome newcomers.

Please contact Angela Fletcher 01527 893231 angelaletcher8@gmail.com or Vivien Hunter 01527 402360 vehunter3@gmail.com or just turn up.

Village Christmas Card

Most of you will be aware of the village tradition of sending greetings to friends and neighbours through the village card. Instead of sending lots of cards, you can send just one greeting to all and a donation for charity. This is financially supported by the church and distributed by the magazine so all your donations go to charity. The card will be circulated with the December magazine and donations will go to The Trussell Trust run food banks across the country.

Contributions can be made by cheque (or even cash), but BACS payments to the Church Account with a clear reference "Xmas Card" are preferred. The Church account details are: Feckenham PCC Sort Code: 30 96 97 Account 01231863 Please send you wording to feckenhamnews@gmail.com or post with your donation to Angela Fletcher 12 Mill Lane, B96 6HY, Feckenham by 14th November.

WHAT'S ON IN

Feckenham Scarecrow Weekend

A Harvest Time
Display of weird
and wonderful creations

5th & 6th October
Throughout the village

Pick up your Map of the Scarecrow
Trail at The Square (village green)

Trail Open 11 am each day

TEAS served all day
Barbecue
Home made puds

Featuring Erstwhile Border Morris
Artisan and craft exhibition and stalls



FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

PENTABUS & NEW PERSPECTIVES present

LIVE
& LOCAL

**MAKE
GOOD**

A NEW MUSICAL
BY JEANIE O'HARE AND JIM FORTUNE

FRIDAY, 22ND NOVEMBER - 7.30pm

Book online at feckhall.org - phone 0333 666 3366
Or in person at The Rose & Crown or The Village Shop

THE POST OFFICE SCANDAL

Send details of events for FREE listing to:

FECKENHAM



THE
FECKENHAM
SESSIONS
TRADITIONAL
MUSICMAKING
at THE ROSE & CROWN

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

Stock & Bradley
GARDENING CLUB



OCTOBER
MEETING

Bradley Green Village Hall
Wednesday, 2nd October
at 7.30pm

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Next Meeting
Monday, 21st October
ALL ABOUT APPLES

8pm - Feckenham Village Hall
Contact jen@thecarys.co.uk for details

Feckenham Parish Council

MEETING

Thursday, 10th October - 7.30pm
Feckenham Village Hall

(Back Room)

All welcome - Meetings include a Public Forum
where parishioners can bring matters to the
attention of the Council and ask questions.

THE
FECKENODEON CINEMA
SOCIETY



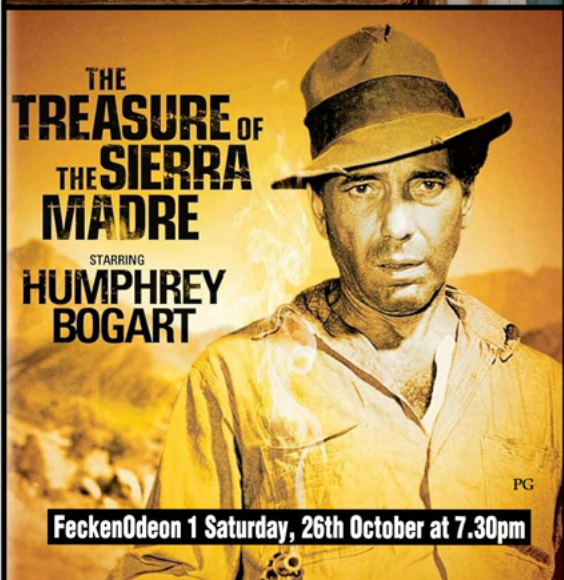
Benoit Magimel Juliette Binoche

THE TASTE OF THINGS

FeckenOdeon 2 Friday, 18th October at 8pm

THE
TREASURE OF
THE SIERRA
MADRE

STARRING
HUMPHREY
BOGART



FeckenOdeon 1 Saturday, 26th October at 7.30pm

The FeckenOdeon Cinemas
at Feckenham Village Hall

Tickets for all shows from The Rose & Crown and Village Shop
Telephone Booking 0333 666 3366* Online Booking* & full information at
www.feckenodeon.co.uk

*Booking Fee applies to Phone and Online Bookings

*Phone calls answered by Ticketsource and charged at standard rates - NOT a premium line

whatson@feckenham.f9.co.uk or call 892130



Looking back on a past Scarecrow event to give everyone some inspiration. It seems that Vincent Van Crow was a notable Feckenham resident in 2010. Its incredible the creativity that abounds at Scarecrow time and all just for fun! Your photos from Feckenham events are always welcome for the digital record of our Parish



FG NAILS AND BEAUTY
BEAUTY

INSTAGRAM: @FGBEAUTY_
WHATSAPP: 07457403950
WWW.FGBEAUTY.AS.ME

BASED IN FECKENHAM



Wainwright's
Eco Friendly
CLEANER • DRIER • CARPETS

CARPET & UPHOLSTERY
CLEANING SPECIALISTS
DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL
ECO FRIENDLY
FAMILY RUN SINCE 1980

01527 459776
07748 801658

Which?  ncca
NATIONAL CARPET CLEANERS ASSOCIATION

www.WainwrightsCarpetCleaning.co.uk

Chance to
Dance

Dance ~ Happy ~ Healthy

Easy to follow / No partner or experience necessary / 55+

New mood-boosting Monday afternoon dance classes at Feckenham Village Hall, 2.00pm-3.00pm

09 September-09 December 2024

£6 taster-session before committing to the full term

To book contact Marie, oldaker_m@hotmail.com
07855595287

BABIES

NURSERY AGE

SCHOOL AGE

SWIMMING LESSONS

Private, Purpose Built Pool

Free Parking

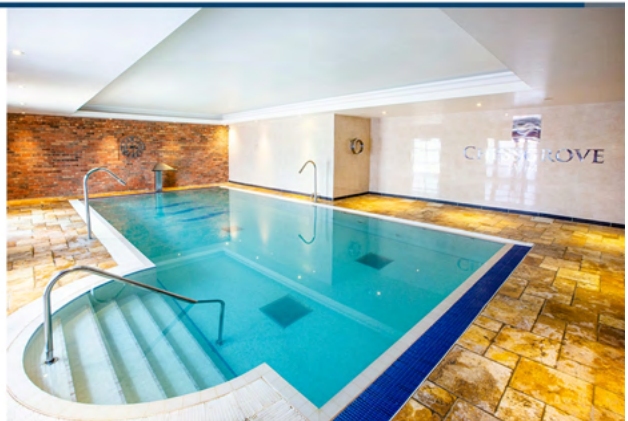
Highly Trained Teachers

01527 821978

www.chessgroveswim.co.uk
info@chessgroveswim.co.uk



Ditchford Bank Road, Hanbury,
Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B60 4HS



Helping you live your healthiest and happiest life!



Counselling | Mindfulness | Meditation | Hypnotherapy
NLP Therapy | Psychological Services

Acupuncture | Bowen Therapy | Ear Wax Removal | Laser Treatment
Neurological Physiotherapy | Osteopathy | Physiotherapy | Podiatry
Pregnancy Massage | Shockwave Therapy | Lymphatic Drainage Massage
Sports Massage | Sports Therapy | Private GP | Vestibular Rehabilitation
Women's Health | Indian Head Massage | Varicose Vein Treatment | Prehab & Rehab

Clinical Pilates | Gym Membership Packages | Personal Training | Yoga | Tai Chi

To find out more visit revival-health.co.uk
01386 792126
info@revival-health.co.uk



REVIVAL
HEALTH & WELLBEING CENTRE

Mind | Body | Gym

Join us for our Premium Cookery Event

In conjunction with Siemens Home Appliances
Saturday 5th October 11am - 3pm

**EXCLUSIVE
EVENT
OFFERS
SAVE
£££**



Enjoy product demonstrations by our Siemens chef
Sample delicious food prepared in our newly refurbished showroom



Visit us at: Saxon Park, Hanbury Road, Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove B60 4AD
Tel: 01527 835924 | Showrooms also at Kenilworth, Knowle and Studley



www.akfittedinteriors.co.uk



*T&Cs apply.

Village Shop - Alan Slater

It has been another very busy month at the Village Shop.

First of all may I thank everyone who was involved in making this year's Macmillan Coffee Morning such a success. In particular all our Volunteers who baked the lovely cakes, 'Geri the Jam' who made and sold over a hundred jars of FeckenJam, the very kind people who donated raffle prizes, the Friday Team of volunteers who worked their socks off throughout the day and of course all our customers who generously donated to the worthy cause that is Macmillan Cancer Nurses. In next month's magazine I hope to reveal the final amount raised, which hopefully will be close to the magnificent £1,000 achieved last year.



With the Coffee Morning done and dusted for another year, we move swiftly on to the

next event which is the hugely popular Feckenham Scarecrow Weekend. As we are anticipating another influx of visitors to the Village and therefore the Shop, we will be remaining open until 4 p.m on both days. Hopefully, weather permitting, the cafe will do a roaring trade so we will be making sure that we are well stocked with cakes and ice creams to meet the expected increased demand.

Our Buying Team have now begun to turn their attention towards the festive season and from next month we will be stocking a range of seasonal food and gift items. Already on display is a selection of new fragrances from Stoneglow. Available in the form of hand/body lotion (£15) and room diffusers (£23). They are ideal presents not only at Christmas but also for anytime of the year.



Now that we have entered the season of 'mists and mellow fruitfulness', why not join us on the cafe verandah for a mug of our delicious hot chocolate? We will be delighted to see you, and dogs are most welcome too. Finally a thank you to those of you who attended our Annual General Meeting, it was so good to share such positive news with you.

An Organic Allotment by Pete Delaney

I think of October as the last of the true harvest months as at its ending we enter the winter season.

This month as I gather in the last of my sweetcorn (of which I managed to get more of than the squirrels this time around) and taking pumpkins to cure and ripen in the shed, I also begin to feed some of the bare beds from earlier harvests forking in horse, cattle, chicken muck and composts in preparation for next years crops.

The squash bed is my favourite patch in the plot at this time, its leaf covering hiding spectacular fruit beneath. This year I grew a small orange pumpkin called "Baby Bear", each plant grew 2 fruit. Also New Zealand pumpkin a smooth light grey which I am yet to taste and Jamaican pumpkin which has a large rough dark grey fruit that I am told keeps well even when cut open, apparently forming a rough crust over the cut flesh. This I shall put to the test.

Of course this seasons harvests are not only about what comes fresh out of the ground but also what can be stored away for winter consumption. At the end of September I harvested my late beetroot, some of which were the size of cricket balls, showing a lovely deep red when cut, cooked, sliced and pickled and stored away along with courgette and runner bean chutney in the winter store.

The French haricot beans I grew this year made a colourful

addition to the plot with their purple streaked pods, I am about to harvest the beans with the intent of cooking in my own tomato sauce.

My tomatoes in the polytunnel have gone on producing fruit late into the season, acting on a tip, last year I cut off branches with late green fruit and hung them up. As they have been cut from the main plant the tomatoes panic and ripen quickly, this worked last year and I shall do the same this year.

Although the plot begins to look bleak at this time of year, with potatoes, onions, garlic and squashes in store, along with pickles and chutney and with leeks, winter cabbage and Jerusalem artichoke yet to come, there is still plenty of food coming out of the allotment... only now the job begins to turn from mostly harvesting to forking open the ground and feeding it.



Rob Cole's Gardening Tips

High Line, New York

My elder son lives in New York, working for the BBC Natural History Unit, and during a visit to see him in October 2014, he suggested that we visit the High Line walkway in Manhattan. The walkway is an urban, linear garden, formed along a disused high level railway track threading its way between the city skyscrapers - we had read about it, seen pictures and had high expectations.

We began the route at its newest end, on a hot Sunday morning. The first surprise was the narrowness of the route, not much more than the railway track which it replaces. Although it was only just past midday, there was already a constant stream of walkers in both directions. The planting at this newest end was still very young, and was still struggling to establish. As we walked on, the pathway widened a little, and more established planting became evident. Nowhere, however, was there a feeling of spaciousness, but I guess that is the nature of a linear walkway along a former railway line in the middle of a major city.



As we progressed to the end of the walkway, it became obvious that the project had become a victim of its own success. The

constant stream of pedestrians in both directions meant that we could not readily stop to take photographs, and that we could only see the planting on the side we were travelling on. If we did stop to take photographs (as we did), we immediately caused a pile up behind us! Most of the seating along the walkway was occupied, but wherever we did manage to find a seat it was a great place to 'people watch'.

The quality of the hard landscaping is very good and the detailing excellent. The planting varies, but mostly seems to have taken well considering the difficult situation. There is no doubt that the project is a brave and adventurous attempt at creating a green strip through the city. The views to the water are extensive at the newer end, and the high level views to the skyscrapers above and city streets below are impressive.

For a narrow walkway to become a tourist attraction in so few years is something of a major achievement, but for us the initial hype for this radical innovation was greater than the reality. We have not gone back to review its progress, but as the scheme will now have matured, I am sure that it will continue to grow to be a much loved and well used facility in the busy mayhem of New York.



SUNFLOWER
SOFT FURNISHINGS

Sunflower Soft Furnishings offers bespoke curtains, blinds, and soft furnishings to the Worcestershire area. Please contact us to schedule a visit to our studio.

Home consultations available.

Unit 17 Stockwood Business Park
Stockwood, Redditch B96 6SX

07976 640307 | 01905 381811
sunflower-softfurnishings.co.uk



CLUB MEETING – Wednesday 4th September 2024

Forty-eight of our members were entertained by Helen Picton from Old Court Nurseries, Colwall, near Malvern who gave a fascinating talk about the history and development of the Michaelmas Daisy. Helen and her husband, Ross, hold the National Collection of Michaelmas Daisy and she gave us a real insight into the early breeders, including her great grandfather, Percy Picton, and her father Paul, as well as describing the best of the many species and cultivars available.

NEXT MEETING – Wednesday 2nd October 2024

Our next meeting is a welcome return visit by Tamsin Westhorpe who will give a talk entitled 'Prepare for the Perfect Spring'. The theme for the monthly competition will be 'An Arrangement Using Dahlias'.

Club meetings are normally held on the first Wednesday of each month at the Village Hall, Church Road, Bradley Green starting at 7.30pm, and are free to members for an annual subscription of £5.00 for 2024. Visitors are made very welcome and may attend for £3.00 per meeting.

If you require any further information, ring Rob Cole (Chairman) on 07544 832052.



The landscapes where we live are the most used and therefore the most important. Scott and his team focus on designing and building gardens and landscapes from concept to completion, with a passion and dedication to create an inspiring space for you and your loved ones to enjoy.

Specialising in a range of services including:

- Landscaping Designs
- Garden Buildings
- Driveways
- Maintenance
- Groundworks
- Drainage
- Planting/ Turfing
- Clearance

Please contact Scott and his team at admin@scglanescapes.com or call

07540476568 if you would like to discuss your garden plans, or would like more information about our company portfolio.



Feckenham Cricket Club Bob Gordon

As the season draws to a close the statistics suggest that it has been an indifferent season, with the 2nd XI being relegated to Division 8 while the 1st XI are expected to finish lower mid-table as are the 3rd team. The reality however is that we are now seeing our youngsters joining the adult teams and having a very positive impact, even in the 1st team, Liam Banks 56 against Rushwick being a recent example. We welcome new players to the club – at any skill level – contact us via our Facebook page if interested.

The junior teams seasons are summarised as follows:

U15 Hundred:

P8 - W4 - L2 - 1 Can - 1 Aband

The U15 played their last fixture in August and then waited for other teams in their division to complete their matches. The U15 Hundred finished their division in third place on 28 points but closely behind Ombersley (30) and eventual title winners Avoncroft on 32 points.

U14 T20:

P8 - W1 - L6 - 1 Can

The U14 concluded their playing season with another narrow, tense defeat away against Old Hill on 25/8. The team restricted their League leading opposition to 103 in their 20 overs and five different bowlers took wickets. Despite strong batting from Shashank (32) and Will Reynolds (33 not out) the team lost by just three runs. The team finished bottom of their table with 8 points.

U13 Pairs:

P12 - W6 - L5 - 1 Aband

The U13 team finished their Pairs League comfortably in third place (38 points) behind very strong squads at Astwood Bank (56) and Alvechurch (52 points).

U13 T20:

P8 - W5 - L3

The U13 concluded their T20 League in third place on 30 points narrowly behind Droitwich (30) and winners Astwood Bank (42 points). The team ended their season in style with a crushing 141 run win against Ombersley on 1/9 after posting a score of 181. Skipper Tommy Eost (31) and Shashank (32) both retired and there were good contributions from Max Alekna (23) and Rory Freeman (23 not out). Ombersley were dismissed through tight bowling from both Rory Freeman taking 3-5 and Benny Reynolds with 2-5 from 4 overs.

Looking ahead, the annual renovation of The Square is expected to take place at the end of September, involving scarifying the surface to remove thatch and old growth and laying of fresh loam and seed, to refresh the batting surfaces for next year.

Following that we look forward to dry weather for the village Firework Night at the club on Saturday 2nd. Waste wood for the bonfire (pallets especially) can be deposited under the trees at the far corner of our ground by the lane, but please, not before the end of September.



HARDWOOD LOGS FOR SALE
NO DELIVERY CHARGE
ALSO BAGS FOR SALE

Telephone anytime:
01905 620934 or 07811 952949
 or text

Cool Climate

Air Conditioning Systems
 for your Home, Office or Business

Mr Simon Baker
 Tel.: 01527 892823 or 07736 447705
 E-mail: simon@coolclimate.co.uk
 Web: <http://www.coolclimate.co.uk>

Can't think what to do with your garden?
 Let me help!



Claire Ellis
Complete Gardens

Design & Planting
 Maintenance & Rejuvenation
 Consultancy

☎ 07773 101750 or 01527 894745

Feckenham GARAGE



MOT Testing Station
 Servicing & Repairs to all makes

01527 892483



ALLISON PREBBLE
 WELLBEING

Registered Kinesiologist Dip KA, MSc NUTH, BA Hons

Gut issues? Aches & pains? Swollen joints? Skin problems?
 I am a Systematic Kinesiologist and Nutritional therapist based in
 Inkberrow. I am able to look at all aspects of your body.
 I specialise in gut & skin health, and also work with hormonal
 issues, pain, tiredness, weight, etc.

☎: 0794 1005850 or
 ✉: enquiries@allisonprebble.co.uk

FOOT HEALTH

BY HELEN

Nail Trimming & Reduction
 Callus & Corn removal - Ingrowing Toenails
 Fungal Nail & Foot Treatment
 Verruca Treatment
 Diabetic Footcare & Advice

foothealthbyhelen@gmail.com
 07842 269813

Helen Bacon
 DipCFHP MPSPract



L.E. Plasterer & Decorator

all aspects of plastering and decoration undertaken

for a free estimate call
07909 911833
01905 772890
realistic prices

Fencing

Groundworks – Foundations

Equestrian – Agricultural – Domestic

Free estimates – over 25y experience
 Based locally in Bradley Green

WD & NM Willison Ltd

Mob: 07825034320
 Email: wvdandnmltd@gmail.com

TAPCAST
computer services



Local, trusted IT support done remotely & onsite
IT Support • Microsoft Office 365 & Cloud
Remote Working Solutions • Computer Equipment
Security Services • Backup & Disaster Recovery

Call 01386 792196
jane.neal@tapcast.co.uk



www.tapcast.co.uk

Dave Powell Decoration

M: 07747 691461

for Quality painting and
decorating

Based in Feckenham

E: davidpowell253@gmail.com



Direct Floors
Home service

Carpets | Vinyls | Laminates | Wood Floors | LVT

Mobile showroom to your home
Save up to 30% on shop prices
Over 3000 samples on our van

Furniture moved & carpets uplifted for OAP'S & disabled free of charge



01527-894777
www.direct-floors.co.uk



Bennett Decoration

Painting & Decorating

Interior & Exterior

First Class Work

Tel: 01527 893162
Mob: 0797 3627269
Free Estimates



Landscaping

Jeff Annand Contracting Ltd.

Blockpaving - Ponds - Patios - Groundwork
& General Property Maintenance

Free Quotes
References available
Fully Insured

Tel: 07968 668906
or 01527 894745

BOWBROOK GARDENS

Imaginative high quality landscaping

Patios & garden walls

Ponds & water features

Also Pond & Patio cleaning

Fencing & Hedge cutting

Local, friendly service, references available

Call Glenn - 07792 613020

glenn.bowbrook@live.com

COLOR CODE MOTORS LTD

Accident repair specialists
Colour matching 100% guaranteed
Fleet & commercial vans

Complete restoration & fibreglass work
Fully equipped purpose built work shop

Established 35 Years

Telephone: 01527 854155

Email: colorcodemotors@btconnect.com

Unit A, Green Lane, The Slough, Studley, Warks. B80 7EY

YOGA

BALANCE YOUR MIND & BODY

FIRST
CLASS
FREE!



Tuesdays | 19:00pm
Stock & Bradley Hall

Thursdays | 18:00pm
Feckenham Hall

☎ 07532282282

📍 Jessica Byatt Yoga & Meditation

📧 @jessicabyatt.yogaandmeditation

BRAY BROS

TREE SURGEONS

TREE SURGERY - HEDGE TRIMMING
LOPPING, PRUNING - STUMP REMOVAL

Tel: 07970 263779
or 01527 892828

184 THE RIDGEWAY, ASTWOOD BANK

FULLY INSURED - NPTC CERT. No.552670



Are Your Locks Behaving Badly?

- NO CALL OUT CHARGE •
- FREE ONSITE ESTIMATES •
- NO VAT ON LABOUR •

**FIXING ISSUES BEFORE THEY
BECOME BIGGER PROBLEMS**

All Types Doors & Windows Locks
Serviced, Repaired, Upgraded
Multi-Point Lock Repair Specialist
Door Realignment & Adjustments
Home Insurance Security Surveys
Family Business With Traditional
Skills & Workmanship for 30 Years
Need Some Advice Contact Stewart

THE LOCKSMITH

LOCAL • RELIABLE • INDEPENDENT
01905 570 999 07871 44 20 11
www.locksmithworcestershire.co.uk

Village Shop



Coffee Shop with Veranda
Locally-sourced Products
Deli, Cakes, Beers and Wines
Household Essentials

Weekdays open 8am - 5pm
Saturdays open 9am - 4pm
Sundays open 10am - 1pm



www.feckenhamshop.co.uk

01527 894475

Please support the Shop that supports the Village

Steve Woodward Ltd

LOGS FOR SALE

Based in Bradley Green - free local delivery

All wood is seasoned and ready to burn

Call Steve - 07973 735233

We sell in Dumpy bags or loose from a trailer.



CORNELL

Established Over 40 Years
Chimney Sweep

Clean & Efficient - Brush & Vacuum
Competitive Prices - Cowl Fitting

Graeme Butlin
0121 445 5913
0754 587 6475

46 Oxford Road, Moseley, Birmingham B13 9ER