

# FECKENHAM

OCTOBER 2017

*News*



Published by Feckenham Church for the Village  
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# OCTOBER Diary



Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>	1030am	Harvest @ the Gazebo	Callow Hill
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>	7.30pm	“Truth & Truffles”	Village Hall
Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup>	12.30am	Lunch Club	Village Hall, Back Room
Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Gardening Club	Bradley V.H.
Sat 7 <sup>th</sup>	7pm	Harvest Supper	Village Hall
Sun 8 <sup>th</sup>	11am	Harvest Festival	Parish Church
Tues 10 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Feckenham Forest History Society	Fekenham Village Hall
Thur 12 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	Feckenham W.I.	Village Hall Back Room
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	8pm	FeckenOdeon-2	Back Room Village Hall
Sat 14 <sup>th</sup>	10 - 2	Enrol & collect your Smartwater Kit	Village Hall, Back Room
Sat 21 <sup>st</sup>	10.30am	Children’s Society Coffee Morning	Parish Church
Sat 28 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	“Tarantara”	Parish Church
Sat 28 <sup>th</sup>	7.30pm	FeckenOdeon	Village Hall

## NOVEMBER

Sat 4 <sup>th</sup>		Village Bonfire and Fireworks	Cricket Club
Sat 11 <sup>th</sup>		FeckenOdeon I Remembrance Special “Suite for the Fallen Soldier”	Village hall

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## Front Cover

The new houses on Astwood Lane - almost ready and almost all sold. Photo by Ian Bellion.

## Production Team

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# Church Services OCTOBER

PARISH CHURCH  
of ST. JOHN  
THE BAPTIST



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

**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 and intercessors

**Sunday 1st**  
Trinity 16

**10.30am Harvest @the gazebo Callow Hill**

**11.00am Sung Eucharist**

Ezekiel 18: 1-4

Philippians 2: 1-13

Intercessions

Carol Price

Jeff Matthews

Barbara Wheatley



**Sunday 8th**  
Trinity 17

**8.00am Holy Communion**

Ephesians 4: 1

Ann Matthews

**11.00am Harvest Festival**

Genesis 1: 1-11

Corinthians 9: 6-12

Intercessions

Oliver White

Jenny Snel

Fiona Carter

**Sunday 15th**  
Trinity 18

**6.30 pm Evensong**

Isaiah 25:1-9

Philippians 4: 1-9

Intercessions

David Street

Patricia Collins

Ian Hunter

**Sunday 22nd**  
Trinity 19

**11.00am Family Communion**

Isaiah 45:1-7

Thessalonians 1:1-10

Intercessions

John Calvert

Angela Fletcher

Melissa Beynon

**Sunday 29th**

**10.30am All together in one place**

Living Communion at Upton Warren

**4.00pm All Souls Service Feckenham** All welcome

## 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](mailto: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

# Parish Memorial Thanksgiving Service

Gary Crellin

Sunday 29th October 2017- 4pm  
St John the Baptist Church  
Feckenham

**Y**ou are invited to a special service to remember and give thanks for the lives of all people to whom we were close and have died. Within the service, there will be a personal opportunity to light a candle for your loved one.

If you would like a candle lit, but cannot come, please contact the Rev Gary Crellin on 07708488705.

The service is open to ALL - whether the person you remember is buried in the churchyards at Feckenham or Stock&Bradley, a service was held at the crematorium, the Woodland Burial or well away from your home area. The passing away might be recent or a while ago. The service is open to all remembering a sad anniversary at this time and regardless where/when the passing away happened.

Refreshments and floral displays are kindly supported by Thomas Bros Funeral Directors to whom we are very grateful for their help and all that they do for our communities.

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# 2017 Feckenham Harvest Supper

Jane White

**T**his year the Harvest Supper is being put on by both Feckenham churches. It will take place on



**Saturday 7th October  
at 7pm in the Village Hall**

and we will be providing a three course meal.

**Tickets** £12.50 adult, £7 child,  
are available from the Village Shop, Margaret East, Jane White and Katie Taylor Jones

St John the Baptist Feckenham

# Harvest Festival

Sunday 8th  
October  
11am

*Please bring tinned and dry  
produce which will donated to  
Redditch food bank.*

*Refreshments served after*

# World War I Centenary Commemoration

Jeff Matthews



# Friends of Feckenham Church



## WW1: Suite for the Fallen Soldier, *See the Performance Again*

**T**his year Remembrance Day falls on a Saturday, and with the support of the FeckenOdeon team, we are able to bring you the broadcast quality version of the Suite for the Fallen Soldier. Recorded last year, it has been carefully edited to capture the two stunning inaugural performances of this moving work.

**11<sup>th</sup> November** then. Doors open at 7:00pm, when the bar opens. It starts at 7:30pm and proceeds are to be split between the FeckenOdeon and WWI fund.

Tickets are available in the usual village outlets, the Shop, the R&C and from the FeckenOdeon website. CD's an DVD's will be available also. It should be a great evening.

We are entering the last phase of the commemoration project. If you have not visited the website recently, ([www.feckenhamww1.org.uk](http://www.feckenhamww1.org.uk)) you will find the full audio guide for the commemoration walk now available for download <http://feckenhamww1.org.uk/audio-walk/>. Thea Matthews has completed this work. Originally part of her degree project, she has just completed it before starting her Masters Degree in Bournemouth.

Plans for next year include an exhibition at the May Open Gardens, a special Remembrance Day performance of Suite for the Fallen Soldier within the service, and some kind of permanent display in the Church of the histories we have collected on the 24 who fell.

**T**he Friends have been in conversation with the PCC, the church architect and representatives of the Diocese responsible for church buildings, getting a clear sense of where the priorities are and the best sources of funding are.

The big project is the roof, (the Chancel, nave and North Aisle), which is estimated to be upwards of £100k. We are actively looking for grant support to meet that costs.

We warned of the bat survey undertaken last month, which has confirmed we do have bats in the church, and so work will need to be timed and executed carefully, to preserve the bats we have.

The area that villagers might want to get involved in is the window restoration. Plans are being formulated, and it will be possible to sponsor a memorial window, dedicated to a member of your family. The scheme is in it's early development at the moment, and will be announced properly in the coming months. There will be an offer of match funding from the Friends / PCC, again details being worked through. However, if it is of interest then you can register that with either Louise Denne ([louiseddenne@aol.com](mailto:louiseddenne@aol.com)) or Jeff Matthews ([jeff@the-madison-group.co.uk](mailto:jeff@the-madison-group.co.uk)).

The other key programme is to upgrade the access to the tower, currently deemed unsafe. Apart from allowing access for maintenance the major benefit of that will be the ability to fly flags again on high days and holidays, something we have done in the past but has had to stop in the last couple of years. Plans have been drawn up and funding is in place.

Other projects that are underway are the sound system upgrade, a new chancel carpet, and making the pews more comfortable. You can support the Friends, either by registering as a supporter (forms in the church or contact Jeff Matthews) or directly in raising funds.

# Communal Christmas Card

Jane White



It seems amazing but Christmas is approaching in less than 3 months. This year we shall again be producing the communal Christmas card and in order to get it out with the December magazine I need to start planning.

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 45 messages, first come first served! I will need entries by 14th November.

The charity to be supported this year will be Shelter Box which gives emergency disaster relief by providing shelter and tools for families who have lost their home, they have had a lot of need recently. (SHELTERBOX.ORG) The Parish Church pays for the printing and all of your donation will go to the charity. Last year we were able to give £835 (made up to £1000 by a generous donation) to Bishop Chiterno Primary School Berega, thanks to a full card and your generosity.

*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.**"

*If you have a picture (painting or photograph) we could use for the card, please contact Ann or Jane.*

# Feckenham Parish Council

## ANOTHER CHANCE TO GET YOUR FREE SMARTWATER

The SmartWater distribution session in early September was a resounding success with over a hundred households collecting their free pack. Many people will have been away at that time so another session has been organised for those who missed out. This will take place in the Back Room at **Feckenham Village Hall on Saturday, 14th October from 10am to 2pm.**

Just in case you missed the details: SmartWater is a remarkable liquid which allows you to mark your treasured possessions indelibly and invisibly - if items are stolen, the SmartWater allows the Police to trace exactly where the goods came from and who the true owners are. If criminals know that SmartWater is in use in a community they're less likely to even attempt to break in. The Police report that SmartWater has helped reduce burglary by up to 85% in many rural communities.

## THERE'S ONE FOR YOU!

**Every household in the Parish is entitled to a SmartWater pack.** Your local bobbies and the Parish Council will be available to help you get the best out of your SmartWater pack and show you how it can make your home much more secure. It's free, it's effective and it'll only take a minute or two - **October 14th - 10am to 2pm - Feckenham Village Hall.**

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

All households in the Parish should by now have received the **Neighbourhood Development Plan Survey** form. The Parish Council urges everyone to fill in and return this by the deadline of 20th October. This is your chance to have your say on what our Parish should look like in the future. When the Plan is completed it will form part of the policy which planners will be obliged to heed before making decisions.

If you haven't received your survey please email **feckndp@gmail.com** or call 892285.

# Village Shop

Jeff Matthews

## An Appeal for Board Members and a Secretary to the Board

This AGM sees long standing member of the Shop Board, John Eaton step down. John has served since the shop began and in the last four years as Chair. Other commitments require his time (of which he has a number) and so reluctantly he has chosen to vacate the post. The Shop Board, volunteers and village at large thanks John for his valuable contribution to getting the shop running and helping to keep it going. He has been key in thinking about the finances, several practical aspects in running the shop and also the most recent re-design, undertaken by David Rowe.

There are already vacancies on the Board, so we are looking for a further two members to join. It is four meetings a year, to oversee the governance and direction of the venture.

The other vacancy is a Secretary to the Board. Vickie Whitehouse has served in that capacity for 5 years and is also stepping down. She has brought a quiet efficiency to the role which means that picking up where she has left off will be made as easy as possible. So, if your skills are in this area, and you have a little time to spare, we'd love to hear from you.

If you feel you can help contact John Eaton in the first instance on 894272.

## Shoe Boxes for Children and the Shop

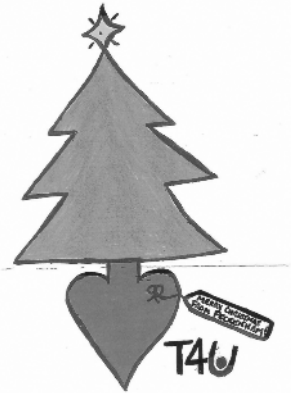
As part of this year's shoebox appeal, the Village Shop has joined in by stocking a range of small gift items. You can get pencils, erasers, pens and some packs of crayons to add to your box, all at very reasonable prices. If you want to get involved, you will find shoe boxes available in the Church with a leaflet describing how it works. The boxes are already covered in shiny Christmas paper. All you need

to do is add some small gifts in (knitwear etc -, the leaflet describes what's best) and pack it with love, and a child in Romania will be made happy this Christmas. Lyn Preece is coordinating, as previous years.

## Teams4u Shoeboxes for Christmas

2017 Appeal Lin Preece

### CHRISTMAS SHOEBOX APPEAL 2017 NEWS



The Evesham team have lots of bits and bobs in their warehouse, enough to make up 100 Christmas boxes on Feckenham's behalf. The money raised at this years Wake £225-60p will go towards their transportation costs. This is a fantastic start to our 2017 appeal as it means that 100 more of the worlds poorest children will have lots to smile about this Christmas.

Isn't our new logo brilliant ! The logo was designed by Grace a year 4 pupil at Feckenham First School. The label says ' With love from Feckenham' its just perfect. Well done Grace and thank you to everyone that took part in the competition !

Please keep wrapping ! Please keep packing ! And if you don't like wrapping then just pop into Church and pick up one or two boxes already wrapped and ready to pack.

# Church Flower Group

Margaret Perry

In August the Church Flower Group members celebrated their 20th anniversary with a most enjoyable afternoon tea, and flower demonstration at Wood Norton Hotel near Evesham.

The group in its present form was founded by Betty Power and Jo Warrilow in 1997. Its members consist of several ladies who have been arranging flowers in church for a lot longer than 20 years! - Together with a few who have joined us over the years.

We are fortunate to have 17 members which enables us to fill the church with flowers for festivals and throughout the year. However we would welcome anyone interested in joining us, to come and meet us, please do telephone either Margaret Perry on 544440 or Marg Kings on 821571.

*Members at Wood Norton Hotel*

# TARANTARA

Let us entertain you!  
*Tarantara's superb blend of talented voices will delight us all with an evening of quality entertainment in support of*

**Mission Morogoro's  
'Water for Life' project**  
•in Tanzania, Africa.

Saturday, 28th October 2017  
7.30pm

Tickets £10 to include a glass of wine

St John the Baptist Church

*\*Parking at Winfields*

Tickets from:

Tricia Mortimer (01527) 402302

• [tricia.mortimer@gmail.com](mailto:tricia.mortimer@gmail.com)

and Feckenham Village Shop



# 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 October

## Feckenham Readers Group



Wednesday, 11th October - 7.45

This month's book **PARADISE**

by Toni Morrison

Details from Marion Chate - 892285



**Feckenham Cricket Club**  
**BONFIRE & FIREWORKS DISPLAY**  
Saturday, 4th November  
Fire lit at 6.45pm Fireworks at 7.30pm  
FREE entrance - collection to cover costs  
Barbecue

## COFFEE MORNING

Saturday, 21st October - 10.30am to 12.30pm

in Feckenham Church

Coffee & Cake : Produce - Bring & Buy  
Everybody welcome - tell your friends

In aid of  The Children's Society

## the **WI** FECKENHAM WI

INSPIRING WOMEN At FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL

**PAULOZZI - REDDITCH REBEL**  
**PHILIP ROBERTS on THE KINGFISHER MOSAICS**

Thursday, 12th October - 7.30pm  
Visitors Welcome at all meetings - £4

Feckenham Forest History Society

## DROITWICH: SALT TO SPA

Talk by Roy Murphy  
Tuesday, 10th October - 7.30pm  
Feckenham Village Hall  
[www.feckenham-forest-history-society.org.uk](http://www.feckenham-forest-history-society.org.uk)

Feckenham Parish Council & West Mercia Police

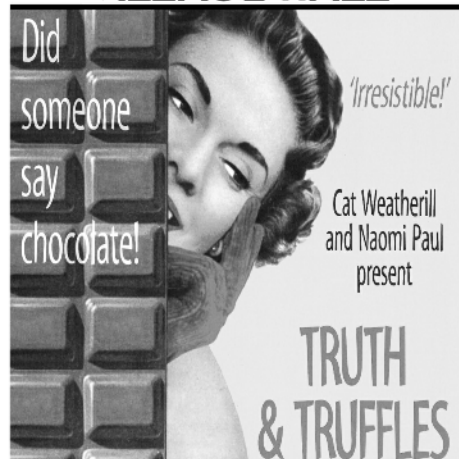
Collect your FREE Smartwater pack  
from Feckenham Village Hall

Saturday 14th October

10am to 2pm



## FECKENHAM VILLAGE HALL



Did someone say chocolate!

'Irresistible!'

Cat Weatherill and Naomi Paul present

## TRUTH & TRUFFLES

**SUNDAY 1st OCTOBER - 7.30PM**

Tickets £11 from The Village Shop and The Rose & Crown  
Book online at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham)  
Phone bookings: 0333 666 3366

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

## FeckenOdeon 2

The Cinema in the Back Room

### The Olive Tree "El olivo"

A film by  
Iciar Bollain



A comedy in Spanish  
with English Subtitles

Friday, 13th October 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\* at  
[www.fecknodeon.co.uk](http://www.fecknodeon.co.uk)

\*Booking fee applies to phone and online bookings - avoid this fee - book in person.



FeckenOdeon 2 at Feckenham Village Hall

## THE FECKENODEON CINEMA SOCIETY

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CHARLES LAUGHTON  
MARLENE DIETRICH  
VICTOR MATURE

DIRECTED BY  
BILLY WILDER

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

\*Booking fee applies to phone and online bookings - avoid this fee - book in person.



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

# FeckenOdeon Cinema



## WOODMAN BRING THAT TREE BACK!

A Spanish “Ealing” comedy is FeckenOdeon 2’s offering on 13th October - “**The Olive Tree**” When Ramon’s son sells the family’s ancient olive tree the old man’s heart is broken. Alma, his granddaughter, decides that the only thing to do is to find the tree and move it back where it belongs... not so easy when the tree is a thousand years old, enormous and firmly rooted in the courtyard of an office block. A delightful Spanish tale of daft determination.

**“The Olive Tree” - FeckenOdeon 2  
at 8pm on Friday, 13th October.**



## DID HE DUNNIT? DID SHE DUNNIT?

Director Billy Wilder and author Agatha Christie are aided by a cast of stage and screen legends in “**Witness for The Prosecution**”. Tyrone Power is the man accused of murder, Charles Laughton is the colossal legal brain defending him and Marlene Dietrich is the woman who tells the truth, part of the truth and mostly not the truth. Red herrings served a la Christie, entertainment value whipped up by Wilder - gripping stuff! Not to be confused with the recent TV adaptation which added hours of padding - this is sharp, true to the book and sizzles with tension!

**“Witness for The Prosecution”  
at 7.30pm on Saturday, 28th October.**

*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)*

# Village Hall Ian Bellion



## CHOCOLATE DECADENCE...

If your Feckenham news arrives on time you’ll still be in time to enjoy “**Truth and Truffles**” on **Sunday, 1st October at 7.30pm** - an evening of comedy, stories, songs... and chocolate. An irresistible blend of humour and heart, delivered by two wonderfully gifted performers: **Cat Weatherill and Naomi Paul**. The show, coming here direct from the Edinburgh Festival, celebrates Life as a 'Grown Up': the ups and downs, the regrets and rewards, the hopes and dreams. It's about finding humour in the way we live now, and savouring the special moments... and the chocolate.

### Everyone gets FREE chocolate!

*'A masterclass in enchantment' (The Times)  
'Terrific deadpan delivery... topical and relevant.  
Audiences loved it!' (Pulse Theatre Ensemble)*

## A FAIRYTALE FOR CHRISTMAS

Looking ahead a little way, we’re delighted to be able to offer a glittering family show not long before Christmas - the ideal thing to get the spirit moving! Northumberland Theatre Co are bringing their magical production of “**The Princess and The Goblin**” here on **Sunday 10th December at 7pm**. This is the exciting adventure story of Princess Irene who has been promised as the bride of the goblin king’s son – except he hasn’t asked her yet. Cue fun and frantic shenanigans as the goblins try to steal Irene away. There are catchy songs, silly dance routines and lots of fun for everyone age 5+. An ideal treat to get youngsters of all ages in the mood for the festivities. Tickets are on sale now - book early to avoid disappointment!

*Tickets for all of the Shindig 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](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/feckenham)*

# Square Management Committee

## TREE WORK UPDATE

The Tree Safety Report produced for the Square earlier in the year indicated that some highly specialised work was needed. This can only be carried out by County Council approved contractors and the Committee obtained quotations from a number of companies on the list. The job has now been placed with Westfield Forestry of Belbroughton and they have started work on the project.

The first item on the list was to carry out an ultrasound "Picus" decay scan on one of the Horse Chestnuts and this was done in mid-September. This tree had been treated for the aphid born disease known as Bleeding Canker and it had been feared that major decay may have taken hold - which may have made felling unavoidable. Thankfully the scan revealed only minor decay and only slight reduction and reshaping will be necessary.

The next step will take place on 2nd October when the earth around and under the Horse Chestnut nearest the Recreation Ground will be de-compacted. This process (Teraventing) will loosen the soil surrounding the tree's roots and allow it to take water and nutrients more easily. The tree will be "fed" and exposed roots will be re-covered.

Any work involving lopping, pruning or reshaping of trees in a Conservation Area requires permission from the local authority's planning department. This has been applied for and it is hoped that approval will be given in time for the remaining maintenance work to be carried out in early November.... and that should see The Square's trees attended to until the next safety inspection in 2020.

The Committee is most grateful to those who've donated to the Crowdfunding campaign launched by Maxine Melson and to the Barnard Kenneth Hufton Trust for a substantial grant towards this work.

The next projects on the Square's agenda include major improvements to the notice board/car parking area and to the gravel road that runs down one side of the village green.



## A BIT OF HOME WHILE ABROAD

Our local radio station is an internet radio station - which means that it can be heard anywhere in the world. We've had reports from listeners in the United States, Australia, South Africa, Sri Lanka and lots of places in Europe - a little bit of home while in a strange place is often welcome. We also know that some villagers who find themselves working away from home listen to Feckenham's Own Radio Station at their desks. There are lots of former Feckenhamsters living all over the globe and it would be nice to think that they remember the village fondly enough to enjoy a little local news on the wireless. If you have friends and relatives living in far off places why not spread the word? No matter where on the globe they are Swansbrook can always be heard at [www.swansbrook.com](http://www.swansbrook.com)

## SWANS ABOUT

Swansbrook aims to report on life in Feckenham. By the time you read this we'll have been at the Scarecrow Festival, talked to the performers at the Shindig show and mingled with the massed Morris dancers using Feckenham as their base. We've been to the Parish Council, talked to politicians and policemen - and if there's anything going on that we haven't spotted please feel free to let us know by email: [radio@swansbrook.com](mailto:radio@swansbrook.com) will find us.

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Just go to [www.swansbrook.com](http://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.

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# The Children's Society

Ann Matthews



**Children's Society coffee morning**  
in the church

**Saturday 21st Oct 10.30 -12.30.**

Please bring your boxes.

Coffee and cake, bring and buy, produce stall - tell your friends all are welcome.

## From the Rural Dean

Sheila Banyard

We offer our warmest congratulations to Melissa Beynon who was admitted and licensed as a Reader on 16th September by the Bishop in Worcester Cathedral. This was the culmination of two years of training and preparation for this very significant ministry and we wish Melissa every blessing in her new role. She will be working with the Wychebrook and Bowbrook group of parishes.  
Sheila Banyard – 01905 773134 or [rddroitwich@gmail.com](mailto:rddroitwich@gmail.com)

## Village Hall

Improvement Fund 2016/17



### August Winners

20	Michael Mott	£25
64	Gareth & Tracy Somers	£15
39	Phil Chappell & Stuart Knowles	£10

### September Winners

51	Howard & Liz Bellaby	£25
110	Ed Chute	£15
130	Steve & Julie Bennett	£10

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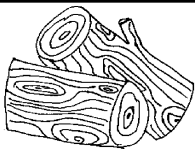
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## What's On this month in STOCK & BRADLEY

- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 4th  | <b>OUTING</b><br>to Bletchley Park - 9.30am<br><i>Details in S&amp;B Chronicle</i> |
| 4th  | <b>GARDENING CLUB</b><br>"Late Summer Perennials"<br>Village Hall - 7.30pm         |
| 8th  | <b>WALKING CLUB</b><br>Meet at church at 10am                                      |
| 14th | <b>HARVEST SUPPER</b><br>Village Hall - 7pm  |

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



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# Feckenham Cricket Club

Bob Gordon



Sunday August 27th was a rarity indeed, a bank holiday with glorious sunshine. After months of planning, Feckfest 2017 was here!

The sun brought so many villagers down to the club to bask in the sun and enjoy some wonderful music, including a special set by local legends My Grey Horse. Children kept the bouncy castle/slide and face painter busy while the adults set about the ales and cider and chilled out in the almost-tropical conditions. A series of fine musicians provided entertainment throughout the day, Elvis appearing in the afternoon to get the crowd dancing, club favourites Noot kept the good vibes going and there was a tremendous finale with a powerful set from Small Doses while Marina Coombes wowed the crowd with her Amy Winehouse act to close the show.

Then the clean-up started. A heartfelt thanks to the many from the village who helped on the day itself and with the mammoth clearing up on Monday. Together, we raised around £1,100 for the Charlotte and Craig's Saving Hearts charity. But we don't rest on our laurels and planning for 2018 is already underway - advance discounted tickets will be on sale online very soon.

So, to cricket. As I write this the season is drawing to a close, with final matches taking place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September. The first team has confirmed its place in Division One of the Worcester County League having struggled somewhat in recent weeks from loss of key players through injury or other absence. Having lost at home to Bewdley in mid-August the team rallied in the next game away to Burghill, Tillington and Weobley, making a fine 280 (Muhammad Idrees 67) but couldn't bowl out the opposition, who finished on 231-7 (Tom Coulson 3 wickets, Travis Bartels 2) and a "winning draw" provided 8 points. A similar result at home to Colwall confirmed Division One cricket next season, with the team just missing out on the win having set a target of 260 (Danny Bloomer 67, Josh Stacey 68 and Jamie Griffiths 42) and Colwall somehow surviving a tense finish, reaching 213 for 9 (Josh taking 3 wickets). The penultimate weekend of the season saw most matches washed out.

First-team bowling this season has seen Tom Coulson again leading the way with 51 wickets so far, our Kiwi Travis Bartels with 25, Matt Henning 22 and Neil Evans 21. Josh Stacey has been the big find this season, supplementing his fine batting with 17 wickets. Ryan Humphries with 40 wickets has had a fine season for the second team (and scored a few runs!).

Josh leads the first team batting with 657 runs for the season (including 10 sixes!) so far, the strong second team featuring Hugh Humphries with 667, 15-year old Flynn Duggan with 653 and Andrew J Kings with 650.

The second team is currently top of their Division One, having won a low-scoring match at Bewdley (Ryan Humphries 39 and taking 3 wickets), followed by a defeat at Coombes Wood with a weakened team (Ryan again repeating his all-rounder performance with 38 runs and 4 wickets). In the away match at Colwall, we batted first and

set a target of 260 (Hugh Humphries 79, Yasir Mehmood 63) and then bowled out the hosts for 172, Ryan again with 3 wickets and Matt Kings taking 4.

As mentioned, Saturday 9th September saw rain of almost biblical proportions for a spell and despite heroic efforts from the ground team, the home match against Eastnor was finally abandoned. This was hugely frustrating as Matt Grubb (56) and youngster Flynn Duggan (43) has taken the team to 124 for no wicket before the heavens opened. Despite that however, the second team is back on top of their division and a win at Hagley in the final match will see them crowned champions for the second year running, which will be an amazing feat.

The third team lost their final game at Bewdley but all involved have developed a great team spirit and really enjoyed the season, which is what club cricket is all about. Subject to planning permission, the thirds may well be playing on a new pitch off Moors Lane next season, keeping Feckenham cricket within the village - as it should be.

We cannot finish the season without mentioning the juniors. Fielding three junior teams this year we saw some great performances from our boys and girls who had such fun together, helped by our team of coaches and parent helpers. Two youngsters played with the senior team in the friendly match against Penyderren and performed exceedingly well. With several juniors nominated for Worcestershire County trials it has been a great season and I look forward to seeing them in our senior teams in the next few years.

This week, my retirement enabled me to catch some of the Worcestershire Over 70s match at the Mill Lane ground against Hertfordshire and it was heartening to see that competitive spirit is still alive at such an age. Worcestershire prevailed, aided substantially by an unbeaten 77 from our own Joe Davis who found the centre of the bat on numerous occasions. It reflects well on the effort and skill of our ground staff (Steve Daniels and Neil Evans, supported by several other friends of the club) that Feckenham is chosen for such representative games.

So as the season ends, the nights have become noticeably cooler, the club's swallows have flown South and spiders look for a warmer home indoors. At this time of year we focus on two things. The first is the work required on the pitches to repair and rejuvenate them in readiness for April 2018. Scarifying will remove the thatch and fibre that accumulates over the season and results in a surface that can be dressed with loam and then seeded. With the club having one of the larger cricket squares in the county, this is a big job but one that is essential to maintain the high quality of playing surface for which the club is renowned. The other focus of attention now is the planning for the **annual firework display**, which this year will take place on **Saturday 4th November**. As usual this will involve no admission fee although a bucket collection is carried out to gather funds for the following year's event. The bonfire will be lit 6:30-7pm and fireworks will follow soon after - look out for posters around the village for more details.

Regarding the bonfire, we welcome donations of wood, pallets etc. but please, **ONLY** in the week leading up to the event, when materials may be dropped off at the corner of the ground furthest down Mill Lane.

# Stock & Bradley Gardening Club

Rob Cole

**On Wednesday 4th October 2017 at 7.30pm**, our speaker is Jack Willgoss who will entertain us with a talk entitled '**Late Summer Perennials**'. Jack will discuss planting styles, cultivation, and which plants to use to obtain the longest season of interest. Jack and his wife Laura have a local connection in that they took over the stock of the Viola specialist nursery near Inkberrow run by Mark Roberts, before moving to their current home in Shropshire.

Our monthly competition also restarts, and the theme for the meeting will be 'A Dahlia 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 1st November**, our speaker is Ross Barbour who will talk about 'Looking Forward to Winter'. Ross was Head Gardener at Ragley Hall, but is now freelance. His marriage to Helen Picton of Old Court Nurseries has brought together two inspiring gardeners and ensures the continuation of the National Collection of Autumn Flowering Asters. Ross's experience of creating a Winter Garden at Ragley will form the basis of his talk.

*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

theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

**O**ur meeting this month is on **12th October** at 7.30pm in the **Village Hall Back Room**. Our speaker is Philip Roberts who is giving a talk '**Paolozzi: a rebel artist in Redditch**'. Philip will be telling us the story of the remarkable mosaics in the Kingfisher Centre.

## Other Activities -

**23rd October** Members and friends are going to Redditch, to see the relay of "Alice in Wonderland" from the Royal Opera House.

**17th or 19th October** visiting Elgar's Birthplace.

**21st November** The Palace theatre Redditch to see "Sister Act"

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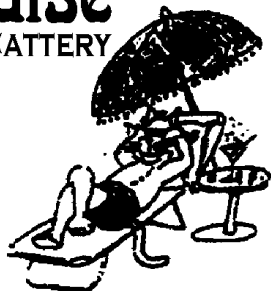
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