



Newsletter for King's Thorn, The Birches & Aconbury

A newsletter for the villages of King's Thorn, Little Birch, Much Birch & Aconbury.

November 2016. First published 1977.

HALFWAY COMMUNITY GROUP

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 26th 2016

At Much Birch Community Hall . Doors open
2.30pm.

An afternoon full of MUSIC, LAUGHTER and SONG.

Guest artists 'THE COMPOST HEAP', THE IVORY DUO
THE COMPANY & THE AUDIENCE.

Afternoon tea provided by the HALL LADIES.

RAFFLE IN AID OF THE HEART FOUNDATION.

This Show is in aid of the Hall Improvement Fund.

So Please Help us to make it BIG SUCCESS!

Tickets £10 pp. For bookings please phone

Miss Audrey Crowte (01981) 540432.

Diary Dates

October

28th Village Market MBCH

November

9th Whist Drive LBVH

11th Remembrance at
Millennium Green

12th Book Exchange
Pudding and Drinks LBVH

15th WI Meeting MBCH

25th Village Market MBCH

26th Half Way Community Group

29th Flicks in the Sticks MBCH

30th Gardening Club LBVH

December

9th Decorations Workshop MBCH

16th Village Market MBCH

20th WI Meeting MBCH

Please send copy for the December Newsletter to
editorial@birchesnews.org.uk or written contributions to John
Bryant at Bramley Bungalow, Aconbury Close, King's Thorn.

—by 18th November please.

Church Services in October/November 2016



30th Oct	10.30am	Benefice Service LBirch
6th Nov	11am	LBirch CW Communion
13th Nov	9.15am	MBirch CW Communion with Remembrance
	10.50am	LBirch Remembrance at War Memorial with Morning Worship
20th Nov	9.15am	MBirch CW Communion
	11am	LBirch BCP Communion
27th Nov	9.15am	MBirch Morning Worship
Advent Sunday	11am	Llanwarne CW Communion

MUCH BIRCH COMMUNITY HALL CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS WORKSHOP



With Sandra Snell

Acclaimed Chelsea Show Exhibitor
of The Flower House, Ross-on-Wye
Make your own door wreath or table
centre arrangement under her guidance.

Friday, 9th December 2016 at 7pm

In Much Birch Community Hall

Tickets £12.00 to include all materials and
light refreshments

available from Sylvia Tel: 01981 540980
Proceeds for Much Birch Community Hall
Development Fund

LOCAL NEWS



Congratulations go to Ros and Bob Preece of Kings Thorn who celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on 1st September with a romantic dinner for two. They knew a special party had been arranged by the family for Saturday 3rd. At this party they were able to show everyone the Congratulations Card and photograph from Her Majesty The Queen.

Congratulations also go to Lucy and David Cook on the birth of their son, Jacob, a brother for Elizabeth and Reuben. Jacob weighed in at 8lb. (3.6kg)

A warm welcome to the community is given to Gerry (Geraldine) and John Borrow who recently moved into Kings Thorn and we trust they will settle into their new home and make new friends.

It is sad to report the closing down of the Evergreen Club which has been running for the past 38 years. Bridget Banks and Evelyn Vaughan - Williams have given outstanding service for the past 12 years and have arranged a series of outings (visited by them beforehand) which have been much appreciated by the members. Unfortunately no one has come forward to take on the running of the club.

We are also sad to report the passing of Mrs Sylvia Atkinson after a very long illness. She was extremely well cared for by the staff at Westbank in Ross on Wye. We extend to the Atkinson family our deepest sympathy. A fuller tribute will be given in the December Newsletter.

A Note from Miss Rosemary Rigby MBE

On Nov. 6th. in spite of cold and wet weather, children from Much Birch School laid a wreath at the World War One commemorative tree planted last on the Rosemary Rigby Millennium Green.

Rev. Mark Johnson conducted the ceremony and the year six pupils were accompanied by Head Teacher, Mrs Bernie Davies and Mrs Sasha Davidson. Before laying the wreath, four pupils recited poems they had written to mark the occasion.

Mr. Keith James of Tump Lane told the scholars his great uncle's story. Scots Guard Company Sergeant Major Charles Lilley had married in September 1914 and within

Andy and Sue

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three weeks had been posted to France. He was killed in action just before Christmas 1914. His body and those of four fellow soldiers were found in a ditch some 43 years later and reburied in the London Military Cemetery in France.

After an early morning start and a long trip, Mr. Frederick Pearson, Drum Major of the Epping Forest Pipe Band, laid a wreath to the memory of Violette Szabo GC and former serviceman, Mr Trevor Forrester laid a wreath on behalf of the Pilgrim Hotel.

Veteran of the Normandy landings in World War 2, Mr Peter Davies gave the 'Remembrance exhortation' and told the pupils of his hopes that they would never know war but would live always in peace.

The ceremony concluded when Miss Rigby gave each child a bookmark from the museum and Trevor Forrester handed out hot chocolate and homemade biscuits from the kitchens of the Pilgrim Hotel.

Open Your Garden

Opening your garden for St Michael's Hospice can be a very rewarding and valuable experience, for you, your visitors and the patients and families that need our services.

If you have a garden that you feel is worth visiting, please contact St Michael's Hospice Community Fundraising Team. Why not band together with some of your neighbours for a community Open Garden?

To find out more, please call us on 01432 851 000 or email nlloyd@st-michaels-hospice.org.uk

Light up a Life

St Michael's Hospice invites you to dedicate a light and attend one of 27 special events.

By illuminating and celebrating the life of your loved one, you can also help St Michael's Hospice care for local families.

If you would like a light to shine for a loved one and be remembered in the Remembrance Book, please contact Denise Bishop on 01432 851 000 or dbishop@st-michaels-hospice.org.uk

For more information, please call the Family Support Team on 01432 851 000.

Rachel Entwisle

Communications Assistant



St Michael's Hospice
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DAYS ONLY**

Much Birch Village Market

Much Birch Village Market takes place on the 4th Friday of each month in Much Birch Community Hall between 2.30pm and 4.30pm.

The market dates for the rest of the year are:-

November Friday 25th

December Friday 16th.

Stalls include award winning suppliers Moor Meals, who bring meat, ready meals and pies: Llandinabo Farm, with meat, cheese, cooked ham etc.: Mr. G's award winning preserves: a Fair trade stall: Honey: Craft stalls include silver jewellery and embroidered cards and gifts (orders for special cards can be taken). Mark Goddard has worked hard to find new suppliers so let us support him in this local event.

If you would like to find out more please contact Mark on 01432 278026

A reminder, please, that all new articles or advertising copy for inclusion in this Newsletter should now be sent to editorial@birchesnews.org.uk or written contributions to John Bryant at Bramley Bungalow, Aconbury Close, King's Thorn.

Application for new advertising and rates should be directed to birchesnews@gmail.com



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KILPECK ART CLUB

NEW MEMBERS WANTED!

We are always keen to see new members, including those who want to try painting for the first time. We have two sessions in the year, the first in the autumn and the second in the spring and summer. We meet on Mondays from 2pm – 4pm, in Kilpeck Village Hall from 31 October until 12 December. The Hall has excellent facilities and there are many opportunities for sketching in the village, especially around the church and castle. There is a small membership charge to cover the cost of hall hire. The first session you come to is free. It may be possible to arrange lifts as some members come from the Much Birch area. For more information, please contact Margaret Bircher on 01432 870587. We look forward to seeing you.

King's Thorn and Little Birch Gardening Club

On Wed. Nov. 30th we welcome back Roger Umpleby for an illustrated talk on 'A plant lovers view of New Zealand'



On Wed. 14th Dec. Our annual winter social.

Further details from John Bryant 01981 540316.

Much Birch Community Hall 100 Club

The October draw took place on 16th October in Much Birch Community Hall at 12.15pm and the results were as follows:

1 st prize – No 104	2 nd prize – 70	3 rd prize – No. 71
Mrs. G. Clouder	Mr & Mrs R. Thomas	Mr. B. Millichap.
King's Thorn	King's Thorn	Tillington

The next draw will take place on 13th November 2016 at 10.30am in Much Birch Community Hall.

John Jones—Promoter

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73% of local community oblivious to superhero charity that saves lives!

73% of surveyed residents across Hereford and Worcester are unaware of local superhero charity, the Mercia Accident Rescue Service [MARS], which works hard to save lives all year round.

All MARS immediate care practitioners come from a range of specialities such as emergency medicine, general practice, cardiothoracic surgery and anaesthetics, and in their spare time attend to 999 emergencies through MARS in support of the NHS ambulance service.

For more information about MARS please visit:

www.marsbasics.org.uk

Media contact:

Hannah Haffield, Make More Noise
hhaffield@makemorenoise.co.uk
01905 641 214 / 07939 468 567

To show support for MARS please visit its Just Giving page:

www.justgiving.com/fundraising/MARSteam

MARS is a registered charity that exists in order to deliver enhanced immediate medical care to the people of Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

Funded by charitable donation, used for the continued training and development of its members, together with the supply of medical and protective equipment – MARS is formed by a dedicated team of eleven doctors, two advanced nurse practitioners and five trainees. WMAS NHS Trust provides some disposable equipment for MARS, and Worcestershire PCT provides funding for some of the charity's drugs, however the bulk of the equipment is still funded through donations.

December and January @ The Pilgrim Hotel

Ross Road, Much Birch, Herefordshire

Christmas Luncheons & Dinners

Available from December 1st – 23rd

	2 Courses	3 Courses
Lunch	£ 14.95	£17.95
Dinner	£ 16.95	£20.95

Xmas Murder Mystery Dinners

December Events now SOLD OUT

Extra Night Now Scheduled

Saturday November 26th

Professional Actors

3 Course Dinner, Death & Prizes
£37.50

January Murder Mystery Dates

Saturday January 21st & 28th

Professional Actors

3 Course Dinner, Death & Prizes
£35.00



Senior Citizens Xmas Lunch

Monday 5th 12th & 19th

2 Courses	3 Courses
£ 9.95	£13.95

Boxing Day Brunch

Leave the washing up to us!!

Served 11 am – 2.30pm

£14.95

Christmas Day Lunch

4 Courses

£59.95 Under 12 £29.95

New Year's Day Brunch

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again!

Served 11 am – 2.30pm

£14.95

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turnersofcrossways@btinternet.com**

FLICKS IN THE STICKS

at Much Birch Community Hall

Tuesday 29th November - LOVE & FRIENDSHIP

Beautiful young widow Lady Susan Vernon visits to the estate of her in-laws to wait out the colourful rumours about her dalliances circulating through polite society. Whilst ensconced there, she decides to secure a husband for herself and a future for her eligible but reluctant daughter, Frederica. In doing so she attracts the simultaneous attentions of the young, handsome Reginald DeCourcy, the rich and silly Sir James Martin and the divinely handsome, but married, Lord Manwaring, complicating matters severely. *Starring Kate Beckinsale, Stephen Fry, Chloë Sevigny, Xavier Samuel.*

Tickets £4.00 (£3.00 under 16s)

*Refreshments including hot dogs available
from half an hour before film.*

Coming up in December...

Saturday 3rd December 2.30pm

THE BFG PG

Tuesday 13th December 7.30pm

DAD'S ARMY PG



*Tickets available in advance or on the door –
for further info or to book tickets call 01981 540097
or email bryonyconnolly@hotmail.com*

*For further information about films and screenings visit
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Tuesday	Closed	
Wednesday	6pm - Finish	
Thursday	12pm - 3pm	6pm - 11pm
Friday	12pm - 3pm	6pm - 11pm
Saturday	12pm - Finish	
Sunday	12pm - 9pm	

Delicious food in our restaurant
and take away menu available

We look forward to welcoming you soon.

**Little Birch Village Hall Committee Newsletter
Notices for October 2016**

Whist Drive

We guarantee a warm welcome and a fun evening with good company at our monthly whist drive whatever your ability. Excellent prizes and refreshments too.



Our next **Whist Drive** is on **Wednesday 9th November** at Little Birch Village Hall. We start at **7.30 pm** and the entrance fee is just £2.00.

Community Book Exchange/Lending Library

The next Book Exchange will be on the morning of **Saturday 12th November** at the former Methodist Chapel opposite the Village Hall **10am – 12pm**.

All members of the community are invited to join us for this enjoyable event which offers not only a wide range of books and DVDs (to suit all ages and interests) but also an opportunity to meet others and exchange recommendations for “a good read”.

A warm welcome, tea, coffee and refreshments will be provided and we look forward to meeting up with regular and new visitors to the Book Exchange.

There is a charge of just £1 per adult towards the cost of the hire and refreshments.

Winter Pudding and Drinks Evening - 12th November

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Little Birch Village Hall Danto 2017

**Ali Baba
and The Forty Thieves**

**27th January (Evening),
28th January (Matinee and Evening)**

**Bookings now being taken!
It's going to be a sell out so ring now!**

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Margaret 01981 540374
Adults £6.50 Under 14 £4**



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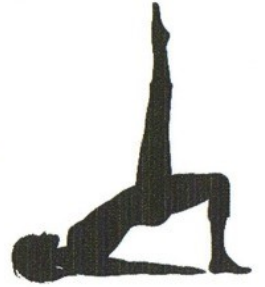
NEW BEGINNER CLASSES STARTING
SEPTEMBER 2012

Mondays 9.30am & 10.30am
Much Birch Community Hall

Wednesdays 7pm & 8pm
Little Dewchurch Hall
£7 per class

PRE-BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL AS CLASS
NUMBERS ARE LIMITED TO ALLOW FOR
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History Group

1. Rhys Griffiths from the Resources and Archive Centre, Rotherwas, gave an excellent well-attended talk on **Maps of Herefordshire** at Little Birch Village Hall on October 13th. He explained how maps were produced from the earliest times for military and other purposes, about the old maps in the centre and their conservation.

Included in the talk was a description of the method used to prepare a remarkably accurate and one of the oldest maps of the city of Hereford. It was done by taking sightings from the cathedral tower and measuring distances by paces. Remarkably the working document used to make the map, including sketches of churches, city gates and the Wye bridge still exists (though not in Hereford).

Anyone is welcome to visit the centre to view and study the maps, many of which can also be viewed on the Internet.

(The centre also stages exhibitions that are changed regularly.)

2. A few copies of the book **Little Birch on Aconbury Hill** A History of the Parish and its People, compiled by the Little Birch and King's Thorn History Group are still available. They can be obtained for £10 by contacting Alison Clarke on 540791.

Parish Field

Parish field has just had its annual strim to prepare it for the winter. Hopefully next year will be as colourful as this has been. Despite the fact that it looks 'wild' it does require a certain amount of attention through the year. Several people give of their time but thanks are particularly due to Alan Burge and Roisin who often carry out various jobs like planting, trimming etc. Thanks are also due to Terry Rogers who kindly mows round the seat and a path round the field. Thanks in addition to the strimming team, Mike Morley, Derek Scrivens and Alan Burge and to the clearer-uppers.

If you would like to volunteer to help out occasionally on the field please let one of us know

Alison Clarke

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South Hereford Rural Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) - October 2016

Lowri Anderson PCSO 40247

Hereford City Southside and Rural SNT

West Mercia Police

Where we work South Wye SNT is based at South Wye Police Station, Goodrich Grove, Newton Farm, Hereford, HR2 7DB, we work around the areas of Rural: Aconbury; Allensmore; Ballingham; Bolstone; Callow; Dewsall; Dinedor; Garway; Grafton; Harewood; Haywood; Hentland; Holme Lacy; Kenderchurch; Kentchurch; Kilpeck; Kingstone; Little Birch; Much Birch; Little Dewchurch; Llandinabo; Llanwarne; Lower Bullingham; Much Dewchurch; Orcop; Pencoyd; Pontrilas; St Devereaux; St Weonards; Tretire with Michealchurch; Thruxton; Treville; Wormbridge; Wormelow.

Items of note

Wormelow - 413s 260916 – On 26th September it was noticed a boundary fence has been cut big enough for a vehicle to pass through to gain access to land. Nothing has been stolen.

Kingstone – 823s 220916 – At 22:15 on 22nd September two windows were smashed on a residential property. The resident was in at the time and saw three figures running away from the property.

MuchBirch – 169s 220916 – Between 21:00 21st September and 09:00 22nd September a garage has been broken into. A KTM Motorbike and a push bike were stolen.

Kilpeck – 303s 200916 - Between 17:00 on the 19th September and 08:30 on the 20th September barns have been broken into. Tools and Copper have been taken.

Pontrilas – 156s 200916 – Before 16:30 on the 19th September and 07:30 on the 20th September a power substation has been broken into. 22 rolls of copper were stolen.

MuchDewchurch – 228s 070916 – Between 18:00 on the 5th September and 09:00 on the 7th September a storage box was broken into. A chainsaw, a toolbox and two winches were stolen.

Kilpeck – 437s 041016 – Between 23:00 3rd October and 04:00 4th October a quad bike was stolen from farm land.

Didley – 90s 031016 – Between 17:00 on 2nd October and 07:30 3rd October a red smallholder agricultural tractor 1650cc was stolen from a garage.

If you have any information regarding any of the above you can contact Hereford Police on 101, in an emergency please dial 999. Please be aware that any information provided within this letter is to inform you of incidents of note and to request possible assistance. We do not want to worry you in anyway. Any incidents stated are infrequent and spread about a wide area. Herefordshire is a safe place to live!

Your team

Sgt Emma Freer,
PC Roger Bradley,
PC Jim Phillips,
PCSO Lowri Anderson,
PCSO Adam Westlake,
PCSO Christina Howard,
PCSO Christopher Yarwood.

About your team

Safer Neighbourhood Teams work with local people and partners to identify, tackle and solve issues that matter to the community where you live.

Making neighbourhoods safer by cutting day to day crime and anti-social behaviour is at the heart of keeping people in West Mercia safe. Thanks to an investment in mobile tablet style computers, these will enable officers to spend more time on patrol on the street and in neighbourhoods.

Officers will continue to come to people when they need them and provide a high quality service however you contact us - in person (on the street, at community bases and at partners and communities together [PACT] meetings), on the phone or online.

View our new Warwickshire Police and West Mercia Police web-sites at: www.warwickshire.police.uk and www.westmercia.police.uk

Make the difference

For more information about becoming a Special Constable, please visit,

Warwickshire Police: www.warwickshire.police.uk/specialconstables

West Mercia Police: www.westmercia.police.uk/specialconstables

Get in touch

101 to talk to your local SNT or report a crime
herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk
www.westmercia.police.uk

Herefordshire Cops / @southsidecops

Only call 999 in an emergency, when a crime is in progress or life is in danger.

For daily updates on incidents in your area register for our Dotmailer service via www.westmercia.police.uk



Little Birch Parish Council

Your Little Birch Parish Council Councillors are:-

CLlr Ben Roberts	Chairman	01981 540100	b3nroberts@gmail.com
CLlr Elaine Godding	Vice Chair	01981 540607	ecgodding@hotmail.co.uk
CLlr Steve Naylor		01981 541323	steve.naylor5@btinternet.com
CLlr Mike Morley		01981 541027	morley04@globalnet.co.uk
CLlr Annette Wissler		Contact through the clerk	
Sandra Cameron	Volunteer Foot Paths Officer	01981 540397	shcameron@hotmail.co.uk
Sophie Glover	PC Clerk	01432 270499	littlebirchpcclerk@hotmail.co.uk

Parish Council meetings happen at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of January, March, May, July, September and November and all parishoners are very welcome to attend. Agendas are posted on the Parish notice board at least three days in advance and are also on our web site.

Mrs Sophie Glover, Little Birch Parish Clerk, The Orchard, Ridgehill, Hereford HR2 8AG Website: www.littlebirchparishcouncil.org

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Much Birch Parish Council
Parish Clerk Mrs Alison Wright
Longfield House, Gooses Foot, Kingstone, Herefordshire HR2 9NE
Tel. 01981 250860
Email: muchbirchclerk@hotmail.co.uk

7th October 2016

PARISH MEETING – at the Parish Council Meeting held on the 6th October at the Much Birch Community Hall.

The Meeting heard from members of the public concerning a planning application for outline planning permission for houses in Tump Lane.

A new parish councillor was co-opted. The Parish Council extended a warm welcome to Cllr David Baldwin who brings his many years of experience to the role.

A seasonal reminder about bonfire party/firework safety, ten tips to help you enjoy your celebrations (source: RoSPA, safer fireworks)

- ◆ Plan your firework display to make it safe and enjoyable.
- ◆ Keep fireworks in a closed box and use them one at a time.
- ◆ Read and follow the instructions on each firework using a torch if necessary.
- ◆ Light the firework at arm's length with a taper and stand well back.
- ◆ Keep naked flames, including cigarettes, away from fireworks.
- ◆ Never return to a firework once it has been lit.
- ◆ Don't put fireworks in pockets and never throw them.
- ◆ Direct any rocket fireworks well away from spectators.
- ◆ Never use paraffin or petrol on a bonfire.
- ◆ Make sure that the fire is out and surroundings are made safe before leaving.

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Thursday 2nd November October 2016 from 7.30pm** - at The Much Birch Community Hall.

Please see notice boards and website for agendas. As always the public and press are more than welcome to attend and will have the opportunity to speak directly to their representatives.



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FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

REACT

A reminder that:-

Your Much Birch Parish Councillors are:-

Cllr Alison Cook (Chair) Jasmine Cottage, Wrigglebrook Lane, Kingsthorne, Hereford, HR2 8AW, e mail thecooks@wyenet.co.uk Tel. 01981 540703

Cllr Steve Turner (Vice Chair) The Underhills, Hollybush Lane, Much Birch, Hereford, HR2 8HX, e mail turnersofcrossways@btinternet.com and Tel. 01981 540090

Cllr Andrew Crum Anfield House, Barrack Hill, Kingsthorne, Hereford, HR2 8AX, e mail a.crum@btinternet.com Tel. 01981 540002

Cllr Tim Jones Swiss Cottage, Wrigglebrook, Kingsthorne, Hereford, HR2 8AW e mail tjsi@me.com Tel. 01981 540242

Cllr Roisin Burge The Old Hall, Barrack Hill, Little Birch, Herefordshire, HR2 8AX roisinburge@hotmail.com Tel. 01981 540724

Cllr David Baldwin The Granary, Much Birch, Herefordshire, HR2 8HS baldwin79@btinternet.com Tel. 01981 541198

Full minutes of the meetings and information etc. can be found on the Parish Council website following the link found in this summary. www.muchbirchparish.org.uk.

You can also find us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/MuchBirchPC> and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Much.Birch.Parish>