



Newsletter for King's Thorn, The Birches & Aconbury

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

January 2018. First published 1977..

COMPOST HEAP

Invite you to their annual

WASSAIL

At Little Birch Hall

SATURDAY

JANUARY 13TH

Starting at 7.30 p.m.

In aid of

Herefordshire Carers Support

Offering support and respite to those who care for others who are chronically ill and need support

Come and dress up warm,
with noise-making equipment, to process
to the orchard and make a traditional Wassail around
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MUMMERS PLAY and entertainment in the Village Hall

There will be **FOOD** available
Tickets (£6 & £4 ul2) from:
Bob and Sue Chance 01981 540725
Bob Mason 07771574490
There will be a **BAR**

Diary Dates

January 2018

- 4th Coffee Morning LBVH 10.30am
- 9th Whist Drive LBVH 7.30pm
- 10th Twig and Bud from LBVH 10am
- 13th Wassail! LBVH
- 16th WI MBCH
- 18th Flicks in the Sticks MBCH 7.30pm
- 20th Book Exchange Methodist Chapel 10am
- 25th Flicks in the Sticks MBCH 7.30pm
- 26th and 27th Panto at LBVH
- 31st Gardening Club LBVH

February 2018

- 23rd Village Market MBCH

March 2018

- 2nd Fashion Show MBCH

Church Services December 2017/January 2018

- Sunday 31st December Llandinabo Benefice Communion Service 10:30 a.m.
- Sunday 7th January Epiphany - Little Birch CW Communion 11.00 a.m.
- Sunday 14th January - 2nd Sunday of Epiphany
Much Birch Family Communion 9.15 a.m.
Little Birch Morning Worship 11.00 a.m.
- Sunday 21st January - 3rd Sunday of Epiphany
Much Birch CW Communion 9.15 a.m.
Little Birch BCP Communion 11.00 a.m.
Much Birch Celtic Evening service with
Prayers for Healing and Wholeness 6.30 p.m.
- Sunday 28th January Presentation - Much Birch Morning Worship 9.15 a.m.

The Monastery of Poor Clares at 11am every Sunday.
Holy Communion at Much Birch every Thursday at 9.30am.



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

—by 18th January please.

Local News for January 18.



The Gardening Club regrets to report the death of its Honorary Treasurer, Rev. John Wilson at the age of 65 years. John had been Treasurer for a good 20 years and was also the Gen. secretary of the Gloucestershire Federation of Gardening Clubs for which he was highly respected. He also held the Treasurer positions at St David's Church Little Dewchurch and the Village Hall at Much Dewchurch.

He led a very active life and liked nothing more than playing with his 3 grandchildren, including horse riding. He served as a clergyman for over 60 years, a fine record!

His funeral took place on Monday, 27th November at St. David's Church, Little Dewchurch on Monday, 27th November and was conducted by Rev. Peter Houghton of the St Martin's team. The members of King's Thorn and Little Birch Gardening Club were well represented.

John and Barbara were very distressed at the loss of their son, Simon, in his 50's, he was a train driver for most of his working life on the London Underground.

Codolences are extended to Barbara and her 2 daughters Helen and Janet and their families.

Patsy Collinson was voted on to the Gardening Club Committee as the new Treasurer.

A warm welcome is given to Darren Meredith and his partner, Claire. who have come to live at 'Shirley Cottage, at the bottom of the Pendant Pitch, Little Birch with their 2 Dalmations and we trust they will be very happy in their new home.

Lin Bridges of Much Birch, who now organises the Remembrance Poppy Appeal in the surrounding district reports that £1924 was collected of which £169.60p was collected in King's Thorn from The Bus Shelter down to Much Birch School.

The postponed **Twig and Bud** walk and talk is now on **Wednesday 10 January at 10am** meeting at Little Birch Village Hall.

It will be a two hour short walk to look at winter identification of trees and shrubs using twigs and buds given by the very knowledgeable Fownhope Tree Warden **Martin Hales**.

To book a place please contact

ajbmiddleton@hotmail.co.uk or call 01981 540377

£5 towards Herefordshire Tree Wardens

LITTLE BIRCH VILLAGE HALL
presents

SNOW WHITE
and the SEVEN DWARFS

FRIDAY, 26th JANUARY @ 7.30pm
SAT., 27th. @ 2.00pm & 7.30pm

TICKETS:
Adults: £6.50, U14s: £4.50
From:
Margaret Scrivens - 01981 540374
Liz Hall - 07771925561

TWIG AND BUD

Wednesday 10th
January
at 10am



Meeting at Little Birch Village Hall

A short walk to look at winter identification of trees and shrubs using twigs and buds, given by **Martin Hales**

To book a place please contact ajbmiddleton@hotmail.co.uk or call 01981 540377
£5 towards Herefordshire Tree Wardens

Preliminary Notice

Much Birch Church

It is planned to hold a Fashion Show in Much Birch Community Hall on Friday 2nd March 2018 by 'Feathers and Frocks' of Ross-on-Wye. Harts of Monmouth will also be giving a talk on Lingerie. Tickets will be £10.00 to include light refreshments. Proceeds will be for the repair and refurbishment of the East Stained Glass window in the Church.

More details next month.

Much Birch Village Markets

As usual there will be no Village Market in January 2018 but they will resume in February.

The dates for the year are as follows:

February 23rd, March 23rd, April 27th, May 25th, June 22nd, July 27th, August –no market, September 28th, October 26th, November 23rd, December 14th.

Linedance classes in MBCH on Wednesday evenings. 7.30pm-9.30pm...£4.00 Not suitable for absolute beginners Contact Jean Harris on 07506718907 for further details



Little Birch Gardening Club



Mr Terry Walton is our speaker on Wed. Jan 31st. and his subject will be 'The Life of a Media Gardener'! a TALK NOT TO BE MISSED

On Wed Feb 28th, Lesley Chapman will introduce 'Nature in Music and Verse', music, poetry and prose'

On Wed 28th March, sees the AGM taking place when hopefully some 'new blood 'will be voted on to the Committee.

All meetings take place on the Last Wed of each month at 7.30pm in Little Birch Village Hall.

John Bryant 01981 540316

Much Birch Community Hall 100 Club

The December 2017 draw took place on 10th December in Much Birch Community Hall and the results were as follows:

1 st prize – No 8	2 nd prize - No. 80
Mr. & Mrs. R. Porter	Mr. B. Clouder
Much Birch	King's Thorn

The next draw will take place on 14th January 2018 at 10.30am in Much Birch Community Hall.

John Jones

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- > visiting someone at home
- > helping with shopping or food preparation
- > escorting people home from hospital and to appointments
- > responding to wheelchair requests or delivering and collecting wheelchairs
- > supporting local people following a flood or fire.

Interested?

Contact your local British Red Cross on

0300 333 6521 or volunteerHSW@redcross.org.uk
redcross.org.uk/volunteering

The British Red Cross Society, Incorporated by Royal Charter 1908, is a charity registered in England and Wales (220049), Scotland (SC029778) and Isle of Man (8715).

Refusing to ignore people in crisis

Little Birch Village Hall Committee

Newsletter notices for January 2018

Coffee Morning

The next coffee morning will be on **Thursday 4th January 10:30am - 12:30pm** at Little Birch Village Hall.

The coffee mornings have been taking place since March and have been very well attended. We would like to thank our old and many new friends and helpers for making these events so successful. We will be continuing our coffee mornings in 2018 and we hope to greet our old friends and make some new ones. Everyone is welcome.

If you need help with transport please contact Margaret: 01981 540374

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 **Tuesday 9th January** at Little Birch Village Hall. We start at **7.30 pm** and the entrance fee is just £2.00.

BM KAYE TAXI

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Contact Brian Kaye on

**01981 540734 OR 07968 147415
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Community Book Exchange/Lending Library

The Book Exchange will be on the morning of **Saturday 20th January** at the former Methodist Chapel opposite the Village Hall **10am – 12pm**.

All members of the community are invited to join us for this enjoyable monthly 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.

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

Little Birch Pantomime

Our 2018 Pantomime is **Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs** and will be held on **Friday 26th January at 7.30 pm** then **2pm and 7:30pm on Saturday 27th January**

This is always a thoroughly enjoyable performance and our 2018 Panto promises to be the best yet.

Tickets are available from: Margaret 01981 540374 or Liz 01981 540479

Adults £6.50 Under 14 £4.50

Please book your tickets early to avoid disappointment.

artslive **FLICKS IN THE STICKS** at Much Birch Community Hall

Due to the snow in December, we had to postpone our screening on Tuesday 12th. The screening has been rescheduled so that we now have two screenings in January!

Thursday 18th January, 7.30pm -

LOVE IS THICKER THAN WATER 15

Taking its cue from Romeo and Juliet, LOVE IS THICKER THAN WATER is a tale of lovers from different sides of the tracks. It is a touching take on whether love trumps familial bonds. "A joyful, funny, rich, rewarding and utterly compelling picture." - Stephen Fry. **Starring Johnny Flynn, Lydia Wilson, Henry Goodman, Juliet Stevenson and Ellie Kendrick**

Thursday 25th January, 7.30pm - LION PG

Five year old Saroo gets lost on a train which takes him thousands of miles across India, away from home and family, before ultimately being adopted by an Australian couple. Twenty-five years later, he sets out to find his lost family and finally return to his first home. **Starring Dev Patel, Nicole Kidman, Rooney Mara**

**Refreshments including hot dogs available from 7pm.
Tickets £4.50 (£3.50 under 16s)**

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

**For further information about films and screenings visit
www.artsalive.co.uk (online booking available!)**



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FB: Murphy's Paw
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- I can also provide technical support for your computer problems and advice on buying a new computer or tablet and advise on the best broadband connection for you.

I have extensive experience of working with individuals and groups and will help you to gain confidence and learn new skills in a relaxed, supportive and jargon free way.

Ben Roberts

01981 540100 - 07702 760789 - ben.roberts@outlook.com

Much Birch WI

Much Birch WI meets on the third Tuesday of each month in Much Birch Community Hall, just off the A49. The Hall is next door to the surgery and both are signed from the road.

Visitors and potential new members are always welcome.

Please contact Sallie on 01432 340069 for further details.

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MOBILE: 07771 870891

EMail: bayleys@fsmail.net

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Little Birch & Aconbury

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Little Birch & Aconbury

Joint Neighbourhood Development Plan

Printed copies of the Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) will be distributed in early January to all Aconbury and Little Birch households and businesses in the area.

Public consultation is a key stage in the preparation of the NDP as it is the first time that anyone outside the NDP Steering Group will have seen it. Consultation is a statutory requirement of Regulation 14.

Distributed with the Draft Plan will be a comments form where residents will be able to submit their views and return it by the deadline stated. The consultation period will run from 9am on Monday, 8 January 2018 for a period of six weeks ending at 5pm on Monday, 19 February 2018.

A copy of the Draft Plan and its supporting documents and an online version of the comments form will also be shown on Little Birch Parish Council's website. It is planned to have a 'drop-in' during this period so residents can find out more. Where possible, posters will also display information in the two parishes. Copies of the Draft Plan will also be available to view at The Castle Inn, Little Birch.

A number of volunteers would be welcome to help to put the printed copies into envelopes, which we hope to do at Little Birch Village Hall on Thursday 4 January at 7pm. Coffee and biscuits to be served. We would also be grateful for local residents to help distribute this important document throughout the two parishes – as we did with the Questionnaire earlier this year. Contact Sophie Glover, Clerk to LB&A NDP Steering Group if you are able to help.

littlebirchpcclerk@hotmail.co.uk

For more information and to be kept up to date, or to have notification of future meetings about Little Birch and Aconbury Neighbourhood Development Plan check out the website – www.littlebirchparishcouncil.org.

This is the formal pre-submission public consultation on the proposed Draft Plan and is an important document, affecting planning rules for Aconbury and Little Birch as far as 2031.

We welcome Ben Roberts as the Steering Group's new Chair and on behalf of the Steering Group and our Consultant, David Nicholson we wish you all a happy Christmas - and that you'll look forward to reading the NDP and seeing how it affects your future.

2018 St Michael's Hospice Plant Fair



St Michael's Hospice
Always a place of light and love

We are looking for green-fingered supporters to help make our 2018 Plant Fair a blooming success by growing and donating plants.

All the springtime greenery will be sold to help us raise the vital funds needed to continue providing the best possible care for patients and their families.

How You Can Help

If you can grow six or more plants (either from seeds or plug plants) and would like to donate them to St Michael's, please contact Gaynor using the details below.

You won't need to deliver your plants to the Hospice until a few days before the Fair in May 2018, and we may even be able to arrange for your donated plants to be collected by one of our Hospice driving volunteers.

If you know your onions, we are also looking for volunteers who could give a few hours of their time during the Fair to help sell and answer questions about the plants on sale.

To start growing your support for St Michael's, call

Gaynor on **01432 851 000** or email her at

gwarren@smhospicehereford.org

www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk

+++++

How to Keep in Touch with St Michael's Hospice

St Michael's Hospice provides all its care free of charge because of the incredible support it receives from the local community. So keeping supporters updated about Hospice news and developments is vital.

Recent changes in the law mean that St Michael's and all charities must have written permission from the people before they are allowed to get in touch.

St Michael's is asking their supporters the important question of how they would like to be updated with news and developments.

If you would like to keep in touch and be kept informed about Hospice news, please visit their website www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk or phone on 01432 851 000 to let them know how you would like to be contacted (post, email, SMS or phone).

Don't worry: you can change your mind at any time just by letting them know. By giving your permission St Michael's will be able to share the amazing things that your Hospice does

Many thanks, as always, for your help with this, and happy holidays from us all here in Bartestree.

Best wishes,

Rachel Entwisle

Communications Assistant

Direct tel 01432 852 655 Fax 01432 851 022

Email rentwisle@smhospicehereford.org

web www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk

Many thanks, as always, for your continued support!

The Singing Tree is an informal fun singing group that started its life in Much Dewchurch, moved with us to Garway and we are now meeting in Kingsthorne since our move here in July last year. No auditions, no need to read music, just come along and enjoy yourself. We meet on Wednesdays at 7.30 pm at Wynds Poynt. For more information please contact Hilary on 01981 540022 the turning@phonecoop.coop



Yoga

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Mondays 6.00—7.15



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Fri: 6- 11pm

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Cecily Daffern

Little Birch Parish Council

Your Little Birch Parish Council Councillors are:-

Clr Ben Roberts	Chairman	01981 540100	b3nroberts@gmail.com
Clr Elaine Godding	Vice Chair	01981 540607	ecgodding@hotmail.co.uk
Clr Steve Naylor		01981 541323	steve.naylor5@btinternet.com
Clr Mike Morley		01981 541027	morley04@globalnet.co.uk
Clr Annette Wissler		Contact through the clerk	
Angela Middleton	Volunteer Foot Paths Officer	01981 540377	ajbmiddleton@hotmail.co.uk
Sophie Glover	PC Clerk	01432 270499	littlebirchpcclerk@hotmail.co.uk

Meeting agendas are posted on the Parish notice board at least three days in advance and are also on our web site www.littlebirchparishcouncil.org

Every one is welcome to attend Parish Council meetings, and if you have a particular question that you would like to put to him, please can you let the clerk know before the meeting? Mrs Sophie Glover, Little Birch Parish Clerk, The Orchard, Ridgehill, Hereford HR2 8AG

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Much Birch Parish Council
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Tel. 01981 250860
Email: muchbirchclerk@hotmail.co.uk

14th November 2017

PARISH MEETING - at the Parish Council Meeting held on the 2nd November 2017 at the Much Birch Community Hall.

Those present heard about the fantastically high number of completed Neighbourhood Plan questionnaires that had been collected in by the Steering Group volunteers. A huge vote of thanks is recorded to all those who took the time and completed their questionnaires and also to those volunteers who helped with the distribution and collection of them. **Thank you all very much indeed.** The return rate was very high and this will really help with making sure that the views of parish residents are represented. The prize draw for the winning ticket will take place at the next Steering Group Meeting.

Future Dates for Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meetings are: 30 November 2017. New dates for 2018 will be advised soon.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Thursday 7th December 2017 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.

A reminder that:-

Your Much Birch Parish Councillors are:-

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

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

Clr Andrew Crum Anfield House, Barrack Hill, Kingsthorpe, Hereford, HR2 8AX, e mail a.crum@btinternet.com

Tel. 01981 540002

Clr Tim Jones Swiss Cottage, Wrigglebrook, Kingsthorpe, Hereford, HR2 8AW e mail tjsj@me.com Tel. 01981 540242

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

Clr 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>

South Hereford Rural Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT)

Lowri Anderson PCSO 40247

Hereford City Southside and Rural SNT

West Mercia Police



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.

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

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;

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.



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