

# KING'S THORN & THE BIRCHES NEWSLETTER

A Newsletter for the Villages of King's Thorn, Little Birch & Much Birch – February 2010

## *Robin Hood*

LBVH Pantomime "Robin Hood" will be shown at **7.30pm.** on **FRIDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY** and at **2.30pm.** and **7.30pm.** on **SATURDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY.** Tickets: Adults £7.00 and Children £3.50 are available from:

**Hilary Gould** 01981 540322

**Robyn Hodges** 01981 540264

**Jackie Morley** 01981 541027

## *Whist Drive*

Our next Whist Drive at Little Birch Village Hall is on **TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY** we shall start at 7.30pm. The entrance fee is £1.50. Excellent prizes and refreshments will be available. New players are always welcome.

## *W.I.*

The next meeting takes place in Much Birch Community Hall on **TUESDAY, 16<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY** at 7.30pm. The Speaker will be David Howe, whose subject is 'Laughter is the Best Medicine'.

Visitors and new members are always welcome.

Please contact Kath Watts, 01981 540382, or Jenifer Jones, 01981 540698, for further details.

## *Delicious Pancakes and Punch*

Can be had in Little Birch Village Hall from 7.00pm. on **TUESDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY.**

Entrance Fee is £2.00 (which includes 2 free delicious pancakes!) Additional pancakes at 50p. each will be available. There will be a Prize draw.

## DIARY DATES FOR FEBRUARY 2010

29<sup>TH</sup> & 30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY – LBVH Pantomime – "*Robin Hood*"

9<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – Whist Drive

16<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – W.I.

16<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – Pancakes & Punch

20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – Save The Castle Pub Night

20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – Flicks in the Sticks

23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY – Pact Meeting in MB Community Hall

24<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – LB Gardening Club

25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – Adrian Harvey Talk

26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – MB Village Market

## ADVANCE NOTICES

6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – Ceilidh & Barn Dance

9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – Evergreen Club AGM

15<sup>TH</sup>/16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – Rod Mason Jazz Band at RNCB

23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH – Annual Quiz Night LBVH

## *Pub Night*

On **SATURDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY** 7.30 till 12.00 at Little Birch Village Hall, the Save the Castle Campaign is holding a pub night for all the community to have a get together.

**Entry is free** Nick, our friendly ex landlord, will be running the bar. Open microphone entertainment on stage by various talented locals and neighbouring friends plus background music - Whiskey Roll Up and Raffle - Nibbles on the Tables.

Everyone welcome whether you just want to pop in for an hour for a chat or you want to make a night of it. Together we will try to stop another valuable community source being taken away from us.

## *Flicks in the Sticks*

**SATURDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY** at 7.30pm – THE SOLOIST <sub>12A</sub> – Please note the change of film – the

advertised film, An Education is no longer available

A biographical drama about a real life musical prodigy, Nathaniel Ayers, who dropped out of Juillard after developing schizophrenia and became a homeless musician on the streets of Los Angeles. Starring Jamie Fox and Robert Downey Jr.

## *Pact - Have Your Say*

PACT stands for Partners and Communities Together. It gives you the chance to tell your local policing team and partners about the issues that are causing concern within your neighbourhood and which ones you want us to deal with as a priority.

**The current priorities for your area are:**

Excess speed at Kings Thorn.  
Vehicles unlawfully using Merryhill Lane.

Students attending Holme Lacy College driving in an anti-social manner.

Your next PACT event is on **TUESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY** at Much Birch Village Hall at 7.00pm.

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### *Gardening Club*

On **WEDNESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY** an Illustrated Talk on 'Growing Annuals' by Steve Holder will be given at 7.30pm. in Little Birch Village Hall. Everyone is welcome. For any information, ring Helen Fox on 541004 or John Bryant on 540316.

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### *Adrian Harvey Talk*

Once again, many apologies for the postponement of Adrian Harvey's talk on the Scottish Army in south Herefordshire in the summer of 1645 on January 14<sup>th</sup>. As I'm sure you remember, we were in deep snow then and the roads were not good. Obviously we would like as many people who would like to come to be able to get to the talk so we have rearranged it for **THURSDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY** in the hope that the weather will be better then. As before it will take place in Little Birch Village Hall at 7.30. Entrance will be £3.50 and this will include a soup supper.

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### *M.B. Village Market*

The February Market takes place in Much Birch Community Hall on **FRIDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**, between 2.30pm and 4.30pm.

We now have a stall selling vegetables, which several people have asked for, so please come along and support our stallholders, both regular and new! Refreshments are sold in aid of McMillan Cancer Support.

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### *CEILIDH & Barn Dance Night*

On **SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH** there will be a Ceilidh and Barn Dance with "Silver Branch" and Compost Heap & Friends in Little Birch Village Hall from 7.30pm. till late.

Tickets, including supper : Adults: £7.50 and Under 14's: £4.50 All proceeds to Little Birch Church funds.

Tickets available from:

**James Gould** (01981) 540676

**John Bryant** (01981) 540316

**John Caton** (01981) 540267

**\*\*\*Book early to avoid disappointment\*\*\***

**\*Bar \*Raffle \*Fun For All!**

An evening **NOT** to be missed!!

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### *The Evergreen Club - AGM*

is on **TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH** at Much Birch Community Hall, commencing at 2.30pm. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Having elected our committee, dealt with a few other items and given details of this year's outings, we will close the meeting with a cup of tea, biscuits and a chance to chat.

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### *Rod Mason Jazz - 15/16<sup>th</sup> March*

For further information about the above please contact Marion Lyons at RNCB on 01432 376372.

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### *LBVH Annual Quiz Night*

Put a note in your diary for **TUESDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH** when we shall be holding our Annual Quiz Night. Further details in the March Newsletter.

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### *Bingo*

No Bingo at LBVH in February, the next **Special Bingo** will be held at Easter. Details will be posted in the newsletters.

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### *Local News*

A very warm welcome is extended to DEBBIE and NIGEL WALDRON and their two daughters, CHLOE and LYDIA, who have come to live in King's Thorn, and we hope they will be happy in their new home. Nigel is no stranger to the area as he had previously lived here some 25 years ago and ran the Little Birch Football team. BECCA and DARREN PREECE and daughter,

ANNA, had moved out some 3 months ago and we wish them well in their new home. They frequently come back to visit their friends.

Congratulations are extended to DONNA and DAVID PALFREYMAN on the birth of a son, WILLIAM, on 7<sup>th</sup> January. He was delivered safely at home giving sisters, MILLIE and HATTIE great excitement. Donna and William are doing very well.

Our congratulations and best wishes also go to EMILY and BEN MASON on the birth of their second daughter, Maggie Jane. The parents cleverly arranged for the birth on 23<sup>rd</sup> December, the birthday of their first daughter, ISABEL, so that there will be a double celebration on that date each year, just two days before Christmas. Needless to say, SUE and BOB Mason are delighted.

Many of you will remember JOHN and AUDREY JENKINS, who lived for 26 years at Gilston at the bottom of The Thorn, before moving back into Hereford in 2002. It is pleasing to know that John celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on 24<sup>th</sup> January when the family, consisting of children, grandchildren and great grandchildren plus friends, gathered at the home of John and Audrey's daughter, in Weston-super-Mare, for a splendid party.

Whilst living in Kings Thorn, John was regularly seen walking his dogs and he is still very active, enjoying his daily exercise. He occasionally revisits his old haunts in Aconbury Wood as his son and daughter-in-law, still live in Eden Lane on Barrack Hill. John is an able cook; he has an alert mind and enjoys crosswords, Countdown and reading his favourite newspapers. He is still a supporter of Hereford United.

It is great to know that, at 90, John remains so fit and is enjoying life to the full – may he go on to celebrate many more birthdays. What's the secret John?

Sadly for us, Rev. JUDY and Dr. JOHN DINNEN hope to leave Much Birch at the beginning of the month to move to Madley where JUDY works in the ministry team at Madley Church. Both have been very active in Church activities in this area for more than 25 years. John worked at the County Hospital in the Pathology Department until he took early retirement, some 15 years ago. Since then he has been very active at Much Birch Church, has been running a Traidcraft stall at regular intervals, has been promoting Fair Trade both locally and throughout the County and sits on Deanery and Diocesan Synods and is a member of the Bishop's Council. Photography is one of his main hobbies and this he uses to record many local activities and last year visited Kenya to report and bring back photographs of the Consecration and Installation of the Rev. MOSES NTHUKAH as Bishop of Mbeere, Kenya. Judy was a full time housewife and mother to bring up Jo, Tom and Toby but as they have all 'flown the nest' over the years she felt a call to the ministry and completed her three year training and was ordained in Hereford Cathedral. Unfortunately, she has been receiving chemotherapy and radio therapy since last September and we trust she will now make a good recovery. We hope that Judy and John will be very happy in their new home.

There are several friends in hospital or making trips to Cheltenham and we assure them of our thoughts and prayers at this time.

FRANK SHORT and JOHN WEALE both of Tump Lane have been in the County Hospital recently and are now receiving care at Hillside. We send to them our best wishes for a speedy recovery. The sudden but peaceful passing of BILL POWELL on 29<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER was a great shock to both the family and the wider community. Bill was born at Green Farm on 5<sup>th</sup>

February 1937, the second son of Thomas and Blanche Powell. He was the younger brother of Tom, who was born in 1932. He attended Little Birch School until the age of 11 under the tutelage of Miss Norah Pritchard, who had served as Mistress for over 40 years and completed his formal education at Ross Grammar School, leaving at the age of 15.

Bill was very proud of the fact that Green Farm had been owned by the family since 1803 and couldn't wait to start working full time with his father. At that time it was run as a mixed farm with cattle, a few sheep and some arable crops.

In 1960, the family bought the smallholding known as Well Orchard, which added another 20 plus acres to the farm. Bill then set up a deep litter poultry house at Well Orchard as his own enterprise and sold all the eggs himself. He also started keeping pigs there and at home.

Bill was a member of the King's Thorn Young Farmers Club, which met at the Memorial Hall (now known as the Scout Hut). This was a thriving club with some 30 members who enjoyed agricultural talks, practising farming skills as well as the social side. The Club had a Quiz Team and Bill was one of the six team members who reached the finals of the County Competition, which was held at the Shire Hall. He was particularly interested in livestock judging and years later, was invited to judge the Pig Classes at the Bath and West Show. When he was too old for Young Farmers, he continued to train younger members for many years in the art of judging and was offered a place on one of the government schemes to go to New Zealand.

Pru, who was also from a farming family in Garway, met Bill at a Young Farmers Dance at the Park Hall Ballroom, Wormelow, in 1960. It was not a whirlwind romance as their courting was put on hold when Pru went off to

Australia for three years followed by a year in Italy.

Thomas Powell senior died in 1967 and Bill and brother, Tom carried on farming as before with a mixture of animals and arable crops on the 60 or so acres.

Bill and Pru married on Bill's birthday in 1972 (so there should be no excuse for forgetting future anniversaries). They set off for their honeymoon in Cornwall, but sadly, Bill's mother died three days later and so they had to return home.

There was also much sadness when their daughter Annabel was stillborn in the County Hospital and Pru then went to work at Whitecross Nursery School for four years. Pru's sister, Rosemary, was a nursing sister at the John Radcliffe Hospital in Oxford and Naomi and the other children were all safely delivered there. Needless to say, there were some hair raising last minute dashes from Little Birch to Oxford. Naomi was born in 1977, Luke in '79, Rhys in '81, Garth in '83, Keir in '85 and Kyra in '87.

In 1974, Bill realised that the farm income alone would not support a large family and Gerald Skyrme suggested that milk recording for the Milk Marketing Board might fit in with the job at home. Bill was appointed to this post and recorded milk yields for many of the herds in South Herefordshire. This continued for more than 30 years but in recent times the system became computerised and Bill felt that he was not equipped to continue although he was still recording at a farm near Monmouth. He never failed to get to a farm even if he could not get the whole way there by car or motorbike, he would walk the rest of the way. In the severe snowfalls of the 1981/82 winter, his commitment to the job showed when he walked from Green Farm to Raymond Barrell's farm at Grafton.

Bill and Pru always encouraged their family to work hard in their school studies and kept their noses

to the grindstone. They may not have appreciated this at the time but all have achieved good degree qualifications and made their parents very proud, especially on graduation days.

Bill introduced Suffolk sheep some years ago and these did so well that they have been the only enterprise on the farm for some while, eventually with a final figure of 400 head. Bill and Pru have farmed in partnership for the last 20 years and Pru has always been a practical farmer's wife and can still wield a shovel, spade or pitchfork to do any task that needs doing.

Bill and the family were regular helpers at the Church fetes and he was also a regular reader of the 'lessons' in Church and he served on the Parish Council for 16 years. Since his sudden passing, Pru has said that the children have been absolutely brilliant in helping her in so many ways and has also mentioned the wonderful help from Lilian and Tommy Griffiths who have brought loads of hay from Orcop Hill for the sheep and also for brother, Patrick's help whenever he could get from Garway during this atrocious weather.

Bill, being a true countryman, was a keen observer of nature and was passionate about the countryside being spoilt and was determined to do whatever he could to preserve the highways and by-ways and was passionate about any encroachment on the 'green lanes'. He could be frustratingly stubborn at times as his family and members of the Parish Council will know only too well, but he believed in honesty and fair play and would stand up for what he thought was right even if that view offended others.

Bill was keen on recycling, long before it became a fashionable term, as binder twine was always handy with old sheets of galvanised iron to fill gaps in the hedge and Pru described Bill as an avid collector of farm machinery and as

most of you know, he never got rid of anything as "You never know when it might come in handy".

A great deal has been mentioned about the family but to Bill they were the most important part of his life and he will be very sadly missed by a wide circle of friends as well as the Family and we send to PRU, NAOMI, LUKE, RHYS, GARTH, KEIR, KYRA and brother, Tom, our heartfelt sympathies.

He was laid to rest in the orchard behind the house in a private family interment service conducted by the REV MARK JOHNSON.

Rev Mark also led a Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Bill at Little Birch Church on 16<sup>th</sup> January. Just over 100 local residents and farmers from all over the County came to this service and eulogies were given by John Bryant and Euan Gilp, a near neighbour. Further memories of Bill were exchanged with family and friends over excellent refreshments at the Village Hall attended by virtually all who had been in the congregation. Donations were made to the British Heart Foundation.

It is sad to record the recent deaths of MRS. FLORENCE ARMSTRONG erstwhile of Tump Lane but living latterly in Northern Ireland and of MRS. GLADYS LUMSDEN, who moved into Hereford some years ago following the death of her husband. She had worked in the St. Michael's Hospice shop in Hereford for many years. We extend to their families our sincere condolences.

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The Village Hall Committee wish to acknowledge 4 generous gifts made recently, including £45.21 collected over 2 years from donations placed in the tin at the AXE and Cleaver all towards the cost of this Newsletter. Thank you!!

The recent atrocious weather has resulted in many neighbourly acts of kindness especially to older residents and lots of thanks have been expressed. One good thing is that residents have had to walk and have actually talked to one another!!

While it is understandable that cars need to be parked on the King's Thorn road overnight during periods of snowy weather, some inconsiderate parking took place immediately in front of the bus shelter and by the owner of Y 480 PCJ a Skoda Estate car parked right on the junction of the Thorn with the C 1263. This obstruction resulted in large vehicles and long tractor/trailer units having great difficulty turning towards Ross as well as reducing visibility on what had become a single track very icy route. Please in future think of other road users who do not keep 'office hours' and have to be away early in the morning.

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## ***The Castle Inn***

### ***The following should have been published last month but got lost in Cyberspace***

Report on the Open Meeting about the Castle Inn held on November 17<sup>th</sup> in Little Birch village Hall.

John Dillon, Chairman of Little Birch Parish Council, was in the chair. Richard Smith, Councillor for Pontrilas Ward, Anthony Bush, Parish Liaison Officer for Herefordshire Council, and Mark Haslam of CAMRA were also in attendance.

Over 100 people came to the meeting, a mark of the concern felt all over the neighbourhood at the closure of the Castle Inn and the loss of a valued amenity. Sarah Carr, Liberal Democrat candidate was present and has given her support to the campaign to re-open the Castle. A letter had been received from Jesse Norman, Conservative candidate, who was unable to attend, adding his support.

Letters were read out at the beginning by John Dillon from both Andrew Prior and Simon Withers from the Planning Department of the Council. Both stated that, at the present time, it would be inappropriate for them to attend. Denise Langford, the proprietor of the Castle Inn had been invited but had felt unable to attend due the feelings in the community. Instead, her solicitor had sent a letter on her behalf which was read out.

She first wanted to refute the idea that she had been responsible for closing pubs in the past, giving information about those she had been involved with. She acknowledged that on arrival at the Castle she had received support but this had gradually drifted away. She stated that she was prepared to cover the losses she sustained for a year but no longer. She had therefore closed the pub as support had diminished to a point where it was not viable. She said she had plans, with the appropriate

planning consent, to create bed and breakfast accommodation and then she might re-open the bar to support this and for locals to use. She finished by saying that if all the people at the meeting had regularly used the pub, there would be no need for the meeting.

Elaine Godding spoke for the Save the Castle Campaign saying how passionate they were to save this vital resource in the village which had been a pub for around 200 years. They were lobbying the planning department to emphasise their concern although they had not yet had much response from them. The main focus of the campaign group was to ensure that the pub was not turned into a private house.

There followed a large number of questions and comments including many which hotly disputed the potential viability of the pub. Since others related to planning matters, Richard Smith talked through the planning process and the ways in which local people can be involved and assured everyone that the council was taking complaints about the closure very seriously and that their policy is that 'existing facilities .....should be retained....'. It was made clear that if the restaurant (the former bar) was to be permanently converted into domestic accommodation, Planning Permission for Change of Use would be required. We were given to understand, by a friend of Denise Langford's that temporary permission has been granted for use of this room while building works are being carried out upstairs (now confirmed by the council's local enforcement officer who will visit again in March)

It became obvious that there was a need for discussion with Denise Langford about what her plans were and it was ascertained that Mrs Langford would be willing to talk to Mark Haslam and John Dillon. Also some planning matters needed to be clarified with the

council. When this had happened there would be feedback

### ***Afterword***

John Dillon and Mark Haslam have now visited Denise Langford when they were shown round, including the catering kitchen which is still in place, and assured that she did not intend to apply for any planning permission at present.

(To clarify any misunderstanding, the Parish Council has no powers to give any sort of permission with regard to planning.)

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### ***New Years Eve Party***

'Sofa' wanted this to be a 'Village celebration' and it was! People of every age, tiny tots to pensioners all enjoyed a fantastic evening. 'Sofa' hired the hall, did all the organisation, publicity, and food and provided great entertainment. The band was excellent; Linda Randall and backing group in wonderful costume joined the band to sing some 'Abba' songs and delighted us all. There were many energetic Abba fans (and their children!) in evidence on the dance floor!

The bar supplied by our old friend Nick Phillips was in short supply as midnight approached (everyone thirsty from the dancing) and it was, all in all, a night to remember as many walked home in the bright moonlight of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2010.

We want to stress that this was not a LBVH committee fund raising event and the committee were pleased to have the opportunity to sit back and enjoy it all (we did not even have to clear up!) So, thank you Sofa and all those who helped to make it such a happy occasion.

We understand that 'Sofa' have given the proceeds from the sale of food to the 'Newsletter' so again Many thanks.

Jackie Morley  
*on behalf of LBVH committee*

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### ***Cleaner M.B. Hall***

Much Birch Community Hall Management Committee is looking

for a **cleaner**. The position is paid and the hours would be approximately 4 per week. If you are interested and would like more information about the post, please call Bryony Connolly on 01981 541274.

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### **Refurbishment LBVH**

The committee apologise in advance for any inconvenience caused whilst the LBVH gent's toilets are being refurbished during February.

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### **MB 100 Club Draw**

*(A fundraiser for the continued development of the Community Hall)*

The January draw took place on Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> January at Much Birch Hall at 11am. The winners were:

1. No 92 - Mrs. C. Brown, Llanwarne
2. No.89 - Mrs. S. Gemmell, Belmont

The next draw will take place at MB Community Hall on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> February at 11am.

Thank you to everyone supporting us again this year.

John Jones – *Chairman*

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### **Donations for Newsletter**

Thank you to those who have given so generously towards the cost of producing this Newsletter.

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### **Neighbourhood Watch**

#### **Postcode Your Christmas Presents Now**

West Mercia Police are urging everyone to get their valuable Christmas presents property-marked without delay to deter thieves from stealing them and to allow officers to return any stolen/recovered property to the rightful owners quickly. And, don't forget to clear away the packaging for all those expensive items or let the potential thief 'window shop' by getting a look at the packaging you've discarded. Bag it up or get

it down to the Council Refuse Disposal site.

January 4th marks the start of Operation Protect 3, which coincides with the seasonal burglary spike witnessed in January, where burglars can target Christmas gifts such as bikes, mobiles, Ipods, audio equipment, sat navs and laptops.

This year's focus is on making sure that easily portable equipment such as the above, much-favoured by thieves, is marked with your postcode by an ultra-violet (UV) pen or a forensic marking solution such as SmartWater, Redweb or SelectaDNA.

DCI Sean Paley, Head of Herefordshire CID, said, "Many people may buy UV pens with the intention of marking their property but never do. Now is a good time to do it.

#### **Crime Trends**

On 12<sup>th</sup> December a robbery occurred at Kingstone. The male offender was described as having a tattoo between his thumb and forefinger. A Trailer has been taken from farm buildings near to Hoarwithy.

#### **Received December 31st**

Yesterday between 1pm and 4.30 pm a blue Nissan Cabstar pickup truck F225WEH was stolen from a farm at Much Birch on the A49, but was later abandoned near Tram Inn.

Several grit bins in the Little Dewchurch area have been found empty, as people have been taking it for use in their own properties, the driver of a yellow Landrover was seen to be removing some but unfortunately we do not have the registration number. Please keep an eye out for this happening in your area, and report any incidents to us.

#### **Received 9<sup>th</sup> January**

On 3rd January a householder in Kings Thorn reported that he had had an outbuilding on his property broken into between 13th - 27th December. A McCulloch hedge trimmer and chainsaw were stolen, to the value of £350.00.

A resident of Callow has reported that two cast iron horses heads that had been cemented onto his gateposts had been stolen sometime in November or December - they are quite distinctive, so keep an eye out for them!

A quantity of diesel has been stolen from a lorry parked in a yard at St Weonards, this is not the first time it has happened, but the first time it has been reported to us. This incident occurred between 3rd and 4th January.

Overnight last night a large quantity of catalytic converters were stolen from a scrap yard in Rotherwas. The suspects broke into a store room by removing part of a metal panel and taking the items from a large pile inside the building.

#### **Received Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> Jan**

First is the theft of a Dimplex heater, CD's and Nintendo games from a blue VW Polo parked near to the bus stop at Kings Thorn between 8pm 13th and 7am 14th January. The car should stick out as it is covered in white daisies. The heater was due to be delivered to an elderly person by age concern.

The second is the theft of cable from fields near to Treberva Farm, Much Birch. The cable was taken overnight 13/14 January from an area used by an electricity company. This is the second theft from this site, a previous theft occurring overnight 11/12 January.

If you have any information that may assist us please contact Hereford Rural South local policing team.

#### **Results**

A 35yr old male from Green Lane, Kingstone was arrested for theft from a motor vehicle following a search warrant being executed at his home. He was found to be in possession of a quantity of power tools stolen the previous night. He was charged with the offence, remanded to court and sentenced to 100hrs community work, a supervision order, £480

compensation and fitted with an electronic tag with a curfew between 7pm and 7am.

This male has also been arrested for other offences going back to 2008. Further enquiries into those offences are ongoing.

This is due to take place on 30th January. The conference is designed to engage grassroots members in learning and consultation and to highlight to a wider audience the potential role of Watch schemes. Under discussion will be a Neighbourhood Watch (national) website and new branding design.

#### Ringmaster

'Ringmaster' Herefordshire's Community messaging service is a computerised communications system which is run by Herefordshire Neighbourhood Watch. The scheme offers all county residents information and alerts about crimes, incidents and events in their area.

The scheme has been used extensively across the UK by police forces to circulate local policing messages and to fast time witness appeals and alerts such as missing persons and floods. It is free to everyone and you can choose to receive information by SMS text, voice message or email.

Go to [www.herefordshire-community-messaging.org](http://www.herefordshire-community-messaging.org) to

register and follow the simple instructions.

#### Change of officers

From the 1st February our two response officers, PC Roger Bradley and PC Shirley Peters will no longer be working from Peterchurch Police Station. This is as a result of restructuring of response shifts within Herefordshire.

#### Your Officers based at Peterchurch

##### Local Police Officer

PC 799

Andrew Bundy

Mobile **07855 385 844**

##### Community Support Officers

CSO 6173

**Fiona Witcher**

Mobile **07779 141 232**

CSO 6993

**Kevin Powell**

Mobile **07779 141 232**

##### E-mail

[herefordruralsouth.lpt@](mailto:herefordruralsouth.lpt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)

[westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:westmercia.pnn.police.uk)

**Answer phone - 01432 346756**

##### Local Police Officer

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#### Your Local Representatives

##### East –

**JOHN BULBECK 540178**

##### Central –

**BOB PETERS 540670**

##### West –

**BETTY PHILPOTT 540614**

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#### Items/Copy

Please may I have items for the **MARCH** issue via email attachment in Word format to: [semathews@btinternet.com](mailto:semathews@btinternet.com) or by hand or post to Mrs. S.E. Mathews, Folly Cottage, Little Birch, HR2 8BD. by

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**18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

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Please mark your envelope  
"Kings Thorn Newsletter"

### Mobile Library

#### 13<sup>th</sup> February

Much Birch Church

9.00am. – 9.30am.

Pilgrim Hotel

9.30am. – 9.50am.

#### 25<sup>th</sup> February

Much Birch Church

9.00am. – 9.40am.

Wrigglebrook

9.50am – 10.10am.

Kings Thorn Bus Shelter

10.15am. – 10.30am.

LB. Village Hall

10.40am. – 11.00am.

#### 27<sup>th</sup> March

Much Birch Church

9.00am. – 9.30am.

Pilgrim Hotel

9.30am. – 9.50am.

### LOCAL BUS 411 - Wednesdays only

The 411 bus to Hereford operates on Wednesday mornings, returning at lunchtime. From Wormelow it runs via Much Birch, Kings Thorn Road, Little Birch Road, New Road, Pendant Pitch, Barrack Hill, The Thorn and Kings Thorn bus shelter. It can be hailed at any suitable point along its route through the area.

10.06 Wormelow, Tump Inn  
10.07 Wormelow, Tump Lane  
10.12 Little Birch, Castle Inn  
10.18 Kings Thorn, Bus shelter  
10.31 Hereford, Bridge Street  
10.38 Hereford, Country Bus Station

13.20 Hereford, Country Bus Station  
13.28 Hereford, Broad Street  
13.41 Kings Thorn, Bus shelter  
13.46 Little Birch, Castle Inn  
13.51 Wormelow, Tump Lane  
13.52 Wormelow, Tump Inn

These are the officially published times, but the bus can run up to 15 minutes early. Note that on its return journey the bus stops by request only – tell the driver where you want to alight. The service is subsidised by Herefordshire Council.