



Newsletter for King's Thorn, The Birches & Aconbury

A newsletter for the villages of King's Thorn, Little Birch, Much Birch & Aconbury July/August 2013. First published 1977

Diary Dates

June

26th Gardening Club Visit
28th Village Market MBCH
30th Violet Szabo Gathering-
Museum

July

2nd Neighbourhood Planning LBVH
6th Clothes Sale MBCH
9th Whist Drive LBVH
9th Evergreen Outing
9th Much Birch 100 Club Draw
11-13th 'allo 'allo LBVH
13th LB Church Fete Old Rectory
20th Book Exchange LBVH
26th Much Birch Village Hall Market
31st MB PCC Stalls at Ross Market
House

Advance dates for your diary:

5th & 19th Oct Flu Clinic
15th Oct Dog Show LBVH

Introduction of a Community Website



This monthly Newsletter has been produced and delivered entirely by volunteers for the last 36 years. It is delivered to 500 homes and 61 email addresses each month. Feedback shows that it is very much appreciated by all recipients. Paper and printing costs more than £100 each month financed by Aconbury, Little Birch and Much Birch parishes and advertising. Financial accounts are kept separately by the Treasurer of Little Birch Village Hall Management Committee.

As an experiment, a community website has been established to complement the Newsletter. To start with, it will be run by volunteers in a similar way to the Newsletter but it will allow greater involvement of contributors, provide space for more details and be more up to date as the information will be disseminated more quickly. It is envisaged that all interested clubs, societies and other organisations will be allocated space and be responsible for entering and controlling their own information – with guidance if necessary. Costs will be minimal and incorporated into the Newsletter account. The 3 parishes have endorsed this initiative.

The Newsletter would now like to hear from existing and potentially new contributors who would like to join in and /or receive more information. Please respond through 'birchesnews@gmail.com' or contact Jon Norris (07944 301250), John Bryant (01981 540316) or Mike Morley (01981 540510). Anyone can follow the development of the website by logging on to <http://aconburyandthebirches.org.uk>.

Please be assured that the printed and emailed Newsletter will continue in its present form.



Little Birch Village Hall
(Arranged in French cafe style)

A comedy by David Croft and Jeremy Lloyd
(Authors of the 85 episodes of the hit BBC TV series)
Directed by Jane Bolam

Thursday, Friday and Saturday July 11, 12 & 13th at 7.30 pm
Tickets available from June 1st, £8 each to include food.

Adults only

Call Iris on 01981 540068 or Jackie on 01981 541027

No August Edition, but we are back again in September!

Please send copy for the September Newsletter to birchesnews@gmail.com or written contributions to John Bryant at Bramley Bungalow, Aconbury Close by 18th August

Little Birch and King's Thorn Gardening Club

There will be an evening visit on Wed. 24th. July to the home of Mr. and Mrs. David Bulmer at Brilley. Meet at King's Thorn Bus Shelter to share cars leaving sharply at 6.15pm. Cost will be £4 for members.

The Annual Open Show will be held on Sept. 7th. Schedules available from Committee Members. Wed. 25th Sept. monthly meeting when David Cropp will discuss 'Defensive Gardening at a Time of Climate Change'.

John Bryant 01981 540316

Much Birch WI

Much Birch WI hold meetings on the third Tuesday of each month, at 7.30pm in Much Birch Community Hall.

On July 16th we look forward to hearing from a representative of The Body Shop who will, I imagine, tell us about the way the products are made and their ingredients, and the benefits of using them.

Visitors and potential new members are always welcome.

For more information regarding Much Birch WI please contact Gillian, 01981 540080.

Much Birch Village Market

MBVM takes place on the **4th Friday of the month** (except December), in Much Birch Community Hall, between 2.30pm and 4.30pm

The July market takes place on 26th. Stalls will include;

The Squeaky Pig, award winning suppliers of locally reared rare breed pork, sausage, including Gluten free (to order) and bacon. Moor Meals, award winning, local suppliers of Dexter beef, ready meals and pies. Llandinabo Farm shop, Castle Cheese, and Mr.G's chutney and preserves and a vegetable stall.

There is a Fair Trade stand and a craft stand selling cards and gifts.

Refreshments and 'take home cakes', the proceeds of which go to MacMillan Cancer Support, are supplied by Chris and Peter.

As far as I know at this time, all the usual suppliers will be with us.

Please support our producers who bring local food almost 'to our door'. If you would like to have a stall, or to find out more about the market, please contact Mark on **01432 278026**

Neighbourhood Development Planning

Are you interested in how the area should be developed in future? The Localism Act 2011 that came into force in 2012 gave parishes the right to prepare a neighbourhood development plan.

A neighbourhood development plan can establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in a neighbourhood, like:

- where new homes and offices should be built
- what they should look like

The plan can be detailed or general, depending what local people want. Neighbourhood plans allow local people to get the right type of development for their community.

Local parish councils are considering whether or not to prepare such plans, either individually or together. If you would like to know more about it and possibly get involved, come and hear a presentation by Herefordshire Council representatives at,

**Little Birch Village Hall
on Tuesday 2 July at 7.30 pm**

LITTLE BIRCH CHURCH FETE



Will be held at the OLD RECTORY, by kind invitation on Sat July 13th starting at 2pm. A 'FAMILY TREASURE HUNT' will start at The Old Rectory at 1pm and should take about an hour searching for clues in the locality, returning in time for the opening of the fete. Details from Janet Gwinnett on 01981 540651.

We are again fortunate to have members of the 'Crookers Ash Scratch Band' to provide 'live music'. A Grand Draw, Cake Stall, Bottle Stall, Book Stall, Veg and Plant Stall and a 'Bric a Brac table are some of the attractions and offers of prizes and items for these stalls would be greatly appreciated. On the Book Stall, Jane Rodd would appreciate up to date fiction and childrens books. Phone Jane on 01981 541353. There will be a series of 'Childrens Races and so fun for all the Family. Offers of help to John Caton 540267, Pauline Rogers 541201, James Gould 540676, Janet Pugh 540662, Steve Turner 540090 or John Bryant 540316 please. Offers of bric a brac to Lynette and John Roberts 540692.

Little Birch Village Hall Committee

Community Book Exchange/Lending Library

The next meeting for the 'Book Exchange' will be on Saturday 20th July at Little Birch Village Hall. 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 DVD's (to suit all ages and interests) but also an opportunity to meet others and exchange recommendations for 'a good read'.

We had a good attendance last month and the welcoming atmosphere and refreshments are much appreciated.

There is a charge of £1 per adult towards the cost of the hire of the hall and refreshments. We look forward to seeing you on the 20th July.

Whist Drive

Our next whist drive is on Tuesday 9th July in Little Birch Village Hall. We shall start at 7.30pm. The entrance fee is £2.00

We are always on the 'look out' for new members including those who are new to Whist and others who may not have played for some time. A warm welcome, good company and enjoyment of Whist may be just what you need! Excellent prizes and refreshments will be available.

The Evergreen Club

On Tuesday 9th July we are returning to Hungerford for the day with a trip on the Kennet and Avon Canal in the afternoon. The cost is £16 (£18 for visitors) to include the boat trip, tea and cake.

For enquiries or to book, please ring Bridget on 01981 540932

The pick-up times are;

<i>Brandon Coach Depot</i>	<i>8.45</i>
<i>The Park, Wormelow</i>	<i>8.55</i>
<i>Kings Thorn Bus Shelter</i>	<i>9.15</i>
<i>Much Birch Church Bus Stop</i>	<i>9.20</i>
<i>Axe & Cleaver bus stop</i>	<i>9.25</i>
<i>Peterstow (Broome Farm lay-by)</i>	<i>9.35</i>
<i>Fontaine Court</i>	<i>9.45</i>

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

PARISH MEETING – at the Parish Meeting held on the 6th June 2013, at Much Birch Community Hall, there was a discussion over the pending Planning Application for a housing development of circa 20 houses at Tump Lane. The site owner and a representative from Hereford Housing were present and they outlined the situation as to where they were with the application. The commitment by the Parish Council to hold an Emergency Parish Council Meeting to discuss the application, as soon as it was submitted to the Planning Department, was reiterated and it will be advertised on the Notice Boards. Stop press. The application has been received and is viewable at the following link:

<http://news.herefordshire.gov.uk/housing/planning/58286.aspx?ID=130945>

The Self Help Gritting Scheme is set to continue and grateful thanks are extended to Bob Mason for carrying out the gritting and for helping to keep the roads passable during icy and snowy weather. There is a new local Community Website which may prove to be of interest at AconburyAndTheBirches.org.uk. Here is an opportunity to discuss, chat, tell your news or indeed read other peoples.

A reminder that:-

Your Much Birch Parish Councillors are:-

Cllr Alison Cook (Chair) - Jasmine Cottage, Wrigglebrook Lane, Kingsthorpe, Hereford, HR2 8AW, email: thecooks@wyenet.co.uk Tel. 01981 540703

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

Cllr Andrew Crum - Anfield House, Barrack Hill, Kingsthorpe, Hereford, HR2 8AX, email: a.crum@btinternet.com Tel. 01981 540002

Cllr Terry Cook - Jasmine Cottage, Wrigglesbrook Lane,
Kingsthorpe, Hereford, HR2 8AW, email:
thecooks@wyenet.co.uk Tel. 01981 540703

Cllr Jon Norris - Whitewells, Laskett Lane, Much Birch,
Hereford, HR2 8HZ, email: jon@jonnorris.co.uk Tel.
07944 301250

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. The next
meeting of the Parish Council will be on Thursday
4th July at 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.

News from Much Birch PCC

On Wednesday 31st July 2013 we are again hosting
stalls underneath the Market House in Ross-on-Wye,
during their Carnival Week. This time we are serving
refreshments as well as having Cake, Bric-a-Brac and
Book stalls and Children's Games. Our event will be
held from 10am until 2.30pm but of course we need
to prepare the stalls from 8.30am. We would be
grateful for donations of any cakes for the cake stall
or for the refreshments and would also be glad of
any offers of help with manning the stalls and
serving refreshments. Please contact Sylvia Jones on
01981 540980 if you can help in any way...

Following the postponement of the recent Silent Auction
we are hoping to reschedule the event in the autumn
combining it with a Cheese and Wine and Canapés
evening. To make the event viable we need 30 to 40
lots/items for the Auction so we are putting out an
appeal for donations of suitable items. Please search
your attics and storage cupboards and If you can
help in this way please contact Barbara Wilson on
01432 840559 or Sylvia Jones on 01981 540980.

**NOTE FOR YOUR DIARY: Much Birch Surgery Flu
Clinics are to be held on Saturday 5 October and
Saturday 19 October. Further details will be
advertised closer to the time.**

Much Birch 100 Club Draw

The June draw took place on 9th June 2013 in Much Birch
Community Hall at 10.30am. The winners were:

1. No 72 - Mr G. Sims, King's Thorn
2. No 3 - Mr.& Mrs. D. Jones, Much Birch

The next draw will take place 9th July 2013 at 7.30pm in Much
Birch Community Hall.

John Jones
Chairman

Local News

A warm welcome is given to Hilary (nee Rowan)
and Lindsay Heyes and their children, Tania, Oliver
and Lydia, and we hope they will soon settle and
be happy in the community. It is a sort of
homecoming for Hilary whose father, Bill, built the
bungalow and created a wonderful garden.

Herefordshire Volunteer of the Year Awards 2013.
Christine and Peter Dowsett were honoured to be
among the 6 volunteers chosen to represent the
Macmillan Renton Unit at a gala dinner at the
Three Counties Hotel on June 10th. After a lovely
dinner, the Lord Lieutenant, Lady Darnley,
presented the awards in the presence of The
Bishop, The Mayor of Hereford and other
dignitaries. There were 8 categories, each with first
and runner up awards. In the group sponsored by
Cargill Meats, the Macmillan Renton Unit were
delighted to be awarded the runners up certificate
and a £100 cheque for the new Unit. Congratulations
go to Christine and Peter for their
outstanding voluntary work.

A number of folk in the community have undergone
major operations recently and others are still
receiving ongoing care, please remember them
and their families in your prayers.

Well over 300 mourners packed into Much Birch
Church and the Community Hall on June 6th for
the funeral service of LES JENKINS. The service
was conducted by the Rev. Mark Johnson and

readings were given by members of the family.

Les was born at Lower Ruxton farm, King's Cagle, in 1935 and his brother, David, two years later. His parents took over the farm in 1929, which had been derelict for 3 years. The brothers attended King's Cagle School but Les would be more happy 'mooching off' to spend days playing in the fields. It was sometime before the teacher contacted his parents to find out what had happened to Les.

Les wasn't bothered about the 11+ examination and attended Ross Secondary Modern School and was more excited that he would be able to visit the bike shop on the way home to buy some new spanners.

As the brothers grew up, they were expected to help on the farm and it is probably how Les developed an interest in and an ability to sort out problems with farm machinery. He was a real old fashioned hands-on engineer. He was a good ploughman and won quite a few prizes as a young man at the Llanwarne Ploughing Matches and again over the last 10 years with his trusty Massey Ferguson tractor as shown on the front cover of the funeral order of service.

National Service caught up with Les when he was 18 and he served in the KSLI regiment mainly in Kenya at the time of the Mau-Mau rebellion. At the end of N.Service, his CO wrote "Jenkins has always worked extremely hard in carrying out responsible jobs and never grumbles at the amount of work expected of him. A pleasant character who is sober, trustworthy and clean in all his habits'.

On return to England, he went back to work on the farm before launching out in sales of agricultural machinery for Morris, Wargent and Wilde. He turned out to be a natural salesman, offering machinery at a keen price and following up with good service. He became very well known to county farmers and later in the surrounding counties and into Wales.

In the late 1950's, he met Jean at the Park Hall Ballroom in Wormelow and they soon began courting. They were married at Llanwarne Church in 1960 and at first lived at Ruxton before moving to the Gresleys in Ross and then on to Counties View, Much Birch in 1969. Jean was an accountant at Little and Co. in Ross but became a full time mum when Malcolm was born in 1961 followed by Paul in 1964. The family attended Much Birch Church where Jean became Treasurer and Les lending a hand whenever something

practical had to be done.

The boys both attended Much Birch School under Noel Lewis before Malcolm moved on to Ross Grammar School and Paul, Hereford Cathedral School. Malcolm trained to be an architect and Paul, an accountant, making both parents very proud of their achievements.

Les continued his machinery sales but also set up a sideline with lawnmowers and rotavators, which led to him taking the self-employed option into this new phase of his life. After both sons were married, the family grew with the first of 3 grandchildren, Christopher, then Catherine and lately, Charlotte.

In 2006, Jean was diagnosed with terminal cancer and died later that year. This left a huge gap in Les's life after 45 years of marriage and it was tough going for him over the next few years as the boys were living long distances away. He often visited them at weekends but in was a long journey to Walton on Thames to see Malcolm and his family.

In addition to playing Whist, Les liked to play indoor bowls at Wormelow and in the summer at St. Martins, then situated behind the old Greyhound pub on the Belmont roundabout. Les kept up with lawnmowers until some 2 years ago.

Les met Pat Powell, herself a widow, in 2008 and they immediately hit it off. They played whist regularly, enjoyed Evergreen trips and supported church and other local activities. To say Les liked his food is an understatement and he was always first in the queue whenever refreshments were served at any function. He was always willing to help at the combined Churches fetes in the 1970's and 80's, to mow the churchyard grass, bring in the hay or find that spare part for a lawnmower that needed an urgent repair. He was a real leg-puller, had a fund of stories and laughed heartily at hilarious incidents that were recounted with the late John Brooke, John Roberts and other friends.

It was a great shock to the whole community that after an Evergreen outing to Cheltenham and a Cotswold garden when he was in a real jovial mood and playing whist at Little Birch Hall with Pat that evening, Pat found he had passed away in his sleep the following day. There are so many memories to cherish and the many friends who gathered for the funeral showed just how high a regard in which he was held throughout Herefordshire and beyond.

Fortunately, Malcolm and Paul and their families

had visited Les 2 weekends prior to his passing and they had Sunday lunch together at the Pilgrim Hotel.

Les will be sorely missed by Pat, Malcolm and Paul and their families to whom we send our deepest sympathies.

It was also a great shock to the community to hear of the death of Hilary Gould of Parish Lane on 4th. June. She had been diagnosed with Motor Neurone Disease at the end of the winter but her condition rapidly deteriorated in the last few weeks. Hilary was born in Brecon on May 17th 1946, to Gladys and Kenneth Jones, who ran a hairdressing salon in the town. She was the youngest of 3, having 2 older brothers, Colin and Alan. The family lived over the shop until 1953 when they moved to a large house still in Brecon but overlooking the Brecon Beacons.

Her father was one of 7 children and her mother one of 9 and so there were many uncles, aunts and cousins always visiting the family.

Hilary attended Mount Street primary school and later Brecon Girls Grammar School. At the age of 14, she won the Brecon May Queen competition.

She did well in A-level exams and was able to follow her brother Alan to Bristol University to read German and French. She enjoyed travel throughout her life and her language skills enhanced her holidays on the Continent. As a student, she enjoyed exchange trips with German and French families and has kept in contact with them ever since.

On graduating, her father gave Hilary a white Triumph Herald convertible, which proved a real 'head turner' as she drove around Brecon and male drivers always gave way at road junctions.

Hilary then went on to Cardiff University to train as a teacher and qualified with distinction. Whilst doing some teaching practice, a 5 year old boy asked "What is electricity? That's an interesting question, Hilary replied. We must all go home and ask our parents and we'll talk about it tomorrow. That evening, Rob received a frantic phone call and spent a long time in explaining to a non-science teacher.

Hilary's first appointment was at the Bridgewater Girls Grammar School teaching French and German. Her main problem was trying to eradicate the 'Zumerzet' burr from spoiling conversational foreign languages.

Hilary married Rob in March 1970 and they lived in a village near Taunton. Each morning, their slumbers were disturbed by a demented crow, which attacked its own reflection in the brightly polished hubcaps on their car.

In 1972, Hilary's father's health was failing and so Hilary and Rob moved to Blakemere to be nearer her parents. James was then born on Sep. 1st. that year and Caroline followed in 1976.

The family moved to Parish Lane, Little Birch in 1979 and as soon as Caroline was old enough to go to school, Hilary was persuaded to apply for teaching posts and after some supply work was taken on by the Cathedral School to teach A-level French and German. It was not long before she was asked to teach full time. She rose to become Head of the German dept. and later, Head of Modern Languages. In addition to teaching, Hilary also helped her students to apply for University places and helped many to find a future career path.

Hilary began to be involved in fund raising activities both at the school and in the community. Few will forget the concert that she arranged at the Railway Club with the Abertillery Male Voice Choir and the 'Compost Heap'. It raised a lot of money for the Village hall and Church funds.

On retiring in 2006, Hilary lost no time in restarting the annual pantomime, which had lapsed for several years. She began by directing 'Treasure Island' and followed up by writing and directing her own versions of Snow White, Robin Hood and Up Little Birch. She took great delight in indulging her creative skills and involving whole families in these productions.

Hilary then cared for her growing family by looking after Ronan and later, Ella, several days a week. She also travelled to Reigate to look after Caroline's son, Lucas, and was there helping again when granddaughter, Zanda, was born.

Hilary and Rob were able to have a holiday on the Island of Arran with their friends, Phil and Beccy, a month or so ago which she thoroughly enjoyed.

She died peacefully in her sleep in hospital on June 4th.

Her funeral service in Little Birch was attended by over 100 family, friends and ex colleagues. She will be sadly missed by a very wide circle of friends and we offer to Rob, James and Caroline and their families our sincere condolences.

Donations for the Motor Neurone Disease Association amounted to £750.

Police Briefing Friday 21st June 2013
South Herefordshire & Golden Valley

Carey

A shed on a farm in the village was forcibly entered between 7pm on Thursday 13th and 8am on Friday 14th June. A Stihl chainsaw, a Lawnflight strimmer, a Husqvana chainsaw and a Clarkes generator were stolen. Incident ref **0216S 140613**

Clehonger

We have been receiving reports of youths hanging around in the school grounds late at night, and leaving cans, cigarette ends and broken bottles all over the playground. Damage was also caused to items in the grounds. Please call 101 if you see or hear youths in the grounds after school hours. Incident refs **0088S 170613 & 0019N 180613**

Clodock

Overnight on Wednesday 12th/Thursday 13th June an attempt was made to steal two garden troughs that were in the front garden of a property. Due to previous thefts at the property, the troughs had been bolted to the ground and wall, and although the attempt was unsuccessful, damage was caused to the wall. Incident ref **0253S 130613**

Cusop

Sometime between 11th May and 15th June a garden shed in the rear of a private house was entered and a Stihl chainsaw was stolen. The shed had two broken windows that had been boarded up, and the boards had been forced off and the offenders gained entry that way. It is believed that the offenders approached the shed across fields at the rear rather than along the drive to the property past the house. Incident ref **0393S 200613**

Haywood

A Stihl strimmer was stolen from the drive of a property sometime between 10am and 3pm on Monday 17th June. The strimmer was left on the ground near a van which was parked on a private driveway, some distance from the road. During the day a young male in a white van had called at the property asking for work, but unfortunately no further details of the van are known. The male was described as in his mid 20's and he had a female with him and a young child, about 12 months old. Incident ref **0151S 180613**

Kingstone

At about 5.45pm on Saturday 15th June, a male walked up the long drive to a property and through

the front garden and through a side gate, making no attempt to ring the doorbell. By the time the occupant had got outside, the male had gone. He is described as mixed race, approx 30-40 years of age, 6' - 6'4", stocky with short/balding hair. He was wearing a jacket with a t-shirt underneath; the caller didn't see what sort of trousers he was wearing. Incident ref **0507S 150613**

Longtown

Overnight on Tuesday 18th/Wednesday 19th June a Honda lawnmower was stolen from a locked shed at the end of the garden of an isolated property. The lock to the shed, which is adjacent to the road, had been forced off. Incident ref **0180S 190613**

Madley

More damage has been caused to the tennis pavilion in the recreation ground, this happened between Sunday 16th and the evening of Tuesday 18th June; the glass in the front door has been cracked but entry has not been gained. Incident ref **0167S 210613**

Peterchurch

Between 12.30am and 11am on Thursday 13th June an open barn at a property in the village was entered and a red Lawnflight ride on mower, a red Mountfield petrol mower and a green plastic fuel can containing fuel were stolen. Incident ref **0094N 130613**

Another property nearby also had a shed broken into and a Bosche cordless drill and a battery charger unit were stolen. The owner is unsure exactly when the theft took place, it was sometime between Wednesday 12th/Saturday 15th June, but it is very likely it happened at the same time as the above incident. Incident ref **0421S 200613**

Five youths from the village have been identified as having been responsible for some minor damage at the primary school. The matter has been dealt with by way of Community Resolution; they have all been to the school individually with their parents and apologised to representatives of the staff and governors.

Rowlestone

Sometime between 9am on Tuesday 18th and 9.30am on Thursday 20th June a Mitsubishi L200 P307CDF was stolen from a barn on a farm. The vehicle hasn't been driven for a couple of years, and was visible from the road. The owner had been approached on several occasions by 'not very nice people' (her words, not mine!) trying to buy it but she had no wish to sell it. Incident ref **0317S 200613**

Wormbridge

A concrete shed has been broken into sometime overnight on Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th June. A padlock has been forced off the door; it is unknown at this stage what has been taken. Incident ref **0222S 210613**

Cold calls - Please take note! Information has been received by Police about a company which targets the elderly and vulnerable members of society with unsolicited telephone calls. The calls may be from someone purporting to be from a Crime Prevention company and are offering an intruder alarm system. Sometimes there is a suggestion that the company is responding to a recent crime; at other times there is a suggestion they are working with or for the local police service. In all cases the company will cold call the householder and offer a 'free' alarm system. The householders will invariably be elderly.

The company employ cold calling by telephone as a method of targeting older and vulnerable people. The caller may claim to be from a Crime Prevention Research company or something similar and offer an intruder system and/or advice on such systems or personal security. They could say they are responding to a crime or an incident. If accepted they then progress to using hard sell tactics to sign people up to monitoring contracts.

The prices quoted for alarm systems vary from free to a small selection of addresses as an advertisement to other properties to £5000/£6000 or more. If the system is offered free of charge, there is an administration fee.

The companies are not registered with any of the Security Industry Regulatory organisations. The public are advised to research any company they are planning to do business with before they arrange a sales Visit.

To avoid unsolicited sales calls and mail in the future members of the public should remove their personal details from any sales lists. This can be done by -

- Registering with the Telephone Preference Service - This is a free service. Registration can be made on line or by telephoning 0845 070 0707. Further details can be obtained from www.tpsonline.org.uk
- Registering with the Mailing Preference Service -

The Mailing Preference Service supports the right to choose the mail you wish to receive. Registration to this free service can be made on line or by phone to 0845 703 4599. Further details can be obtained from www.mpsonline.org.uk or 0207 291 3310

- Electoral registers - Electoral registers are updated each autumn and are lists of all the names and addresses of everyone who is eligible to vote. There are two editions of the registers; a full register which is used for elections, preventing and detecting crime and checking applications for loan or credit and the edited register which is publicly available for marketing and any other commercial activities. When renewal notices arrive, consider only registering for the full register by opting out of the edited register. This is done by entering a tick in the 'edited register' box. Further information can be found on www.direct.gov.uk/en/governmentcitizensandrights

Catalytic Converter Thefts - A document will be displayed upon the Community website giving details of a kit that can be purchased on line to mark catalytic converters.

Police bulletins from Kington and Ross on Wye and details of the forthcoming Herefordshire Armed Forces Day can also be seen by going to aconburyandthebirches.org.uk

Golden Valley & Hereford Rural South Local Policing Teams

PC 2176 Wendy Powell 07811 131525

CSO 6173 Fiona Witcher 07779 141232

CSO 6366 James Cooke 07779 141223

CSO 6482 Katie Middleton 07779 141223

E-mail -

goldenvalley.lpt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Non emergency number **101**

Remember Anton Chekhov said "People don't notice whether it's winter or summer when they're happy."

Herefordshire Events This Summer!



July 5, 2013 10am – July 7, 2013 5pm @ Hereford Rowing Club - Beer on the Wye IX - The Herefordshire Camra's local Ale, Cider and Perry festival

July 6, 2013 – July 7, 2013 - Bromyard Gala – Countryside Show & Steam Rally

July 7, 2013 10am – 1pm - Wyche and Purlieu Guided Walk - Walk over some of the oldest rocks in the British Isles.

July 12, 2013 9am – July 14, 2013 5pm - Ross Country and Western Festival

July 13, 2013 12am – July 14, 2013 5pm - Treasure of the Black Mountains - A great weekend for all the family!

July 13, 2013 10am – July 13, 2013 4:30pm - Historical Hereford Day - A day of pageantry and free events in High Town and on Castle Green & Redcliffe Gardens in the historic city of Hereford.

July 14, 2013 - Grufts Dog Show – Eastnor Castle

July 14, 2013 - Food Festival at the Ledbury Poetry Festival

July 20, 2013 2pm-5pm - Peterstow Village Fete - Traditional village fete with amusements, games, stalls and other attractions

July 20, 2013 9am- July 21, 2013 5pm - Much Marcle Steam Rally

July 28, 2013 Waterworks Museum Gala Day - Vintage, veteran and classic vehicle cavalcade through Hereford and line-up in Museum courtyard. Guest of honour: the Mayor of Hereford. Hereford Concert Band.

July 28, 2013 – August 1, 2013 @Eastnor Castle - Puppetree Presents - Enjoy the fantastic world of the Puppetree Puppets, who will be entertaining children with amazing shows each day.

July 31, 2013 - Hereford Country Fair - Hampton Court Castle and Gardens, which will take place in the parkland alongside the River Lugg.

August 24, 2013 - Peterstow Village Show

August 25, 2013 – August 26, 2013 @Hampton Court Castle - Tournament of Champions - 6 horse stampede jousting show & stunt riding exhibition plus Birds of Prey Flying

Go to visitherefordshire.co.uk for more information...