

KING'S THORN & THE BIRCHES NEWSLETTER

A Newsletter for the Villages of King's Thorn, Little Birch & Much Birch – November 2009

MBPC

Update of the Parish Plan

There will be a Parish Meeting on **TUESDAY 27TH OCTOBER** at 7.30pm. in Much Birch Community Hall. Come and see how you can influence the future of Much Birch whether it is planning, play areas, public transport or anything your parish needs.

Parish Freighter

On **SATURDAY 31ST OCTOBER**, the Parish Freighter has been booked for two sites:

King's Thorn bus shelter car park between 11.00am. & 1.00pm. and **Wormelow Park** between 2.00pm. & 4.00pm.

Halfway Community Theatre

We are pleased to announce that our next show **'My Favourite Things'** will take place at 7.30pm. on **FRIDAY** and **SATURDAY, 6TH & 7TH NOVEMBER** in Much Birch Community Hall. Come and enjoy a few old favourites and a lot of new surprises!!! Tickets are available from Audrey Crowte on 01981 540432 from the beginning of September and, as usual, the cost, to include a hot supper, is £10 a head (£5 for under 14's). Don't forget to bring your own drink and a glass. We look forward to seeing you there.

WI

The AGM will be held at 7.30pm. on **TUESDAY 17TH NOVEMBER** and the members' Christmas Evening is on **TUESDAY 15TH DECEMBER**. Meetings are held in Much Birch Community Hall on the 3rd Tuesday of each month. The programme for 2010 will be available soon. For

DIARY DATES FOR NOVEMBER 2009

27TH OCTOBER – Update of Parish Plan in MB Hall
31ST OCTOBER – Parish Freighter
4TH NOVEMBER – LBPC Meeting
6TH & 7TH NOVEMBER – Halfway Community Theatre
10TH NOVEMBER – Whist Drive
16TH NOVEMBER – Induction of new Rector, Kings Caple
17TH NOVEMBER – W.I. AGM
20TH NOVEMBER – Pampered Chef
21ST NOVEMBER – Flicks in the Sticks
24TH NOVEMBER – The Scottish Army in Herefordshire
25TH NOVEMBER – Gardening Club
26TH NOVEMBER – Little Birch Bingo
27TH NOVEMBER – Village Market with a Christmas flavour

ADVANCE NOTICES

12th & 13th DECEMBER – Display of Prints by Allan MacDougall
15TH DECEMBER – W.I Christmas Evening

further information about Much Birch WI please contact Kath Watts, 01981 540382, or Jennifer Jones, 01981 540698

Whist Drive

Our next Whist Drive at Little Birch Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm., is on **TUESDAY 10TH NOVEMBER**. The entrance fee is £1.50. Excellent prizes and refreshments will be available. New players are always welcome.

New Rector

As mentioned in the last Newsletter the Institution and Induction of the new Rector will take place at Kings Caple Church at 7.30pm. on **MONDAY 16TH NOVEMBER**. Everyone will be welcome at this Service.

"Pampered Chef Evening"

This is an open invitation for **FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER** to all keen cooks and budding chefs to attend a demonstration of high

quality kitchen accessories in Little Birch Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

It will be a pre-Christmas treat for those in charge of the festive menu and there will be lots of ideas for gifts. **Entrance free.** Nibbles and drinks will be served!

Flicks in the Sticks

Is Anybody There? 12A will be the film shown at 7.30pm. on **SATURDAY, 21ST NOVEMBER**

Set in 1980s seaside England, this is the story of Edward, an unusual ten year old boy growing up in an old people's home run by his parents. Edward's is a rather lonely existence until he meets Clarence (Michael Caine), a retired magician with a liberating streak of anarchy.

ADVANCE NOTICE

SATURDAY 12TH DECEMBER at 7.30pm — **THE YOUNG VICTORIA12**

This is a dramatisation of the turbulent first years of Queen Victoria's rule, and her enduring romance with Prince Albert; written by Julian Fellowes and starring

Emily Blunt and Rupert Friend along with other well-known British actors.

The Scottish Army

Come along and hear Adrian Harvey telling us about the Scottish Army in South Herefordshire in the Summer of 1645

- Why did a large Scottish Army, the Army of the Solemn League and Covenant, come to Herefordshire in 1645?
- Why did it occupy Ross-on-Wye and Mitcheldean?
- Why did its General decide to besiege Hereford?
- What effect did all this have on Little Birch and other villages in the area like it?
- Why did it help to change the course of the Civil War?

on **TUESDAY 24TH NOVEMBER** in Little Birch Village Hall at 7.30. Cost £3.50 to include a soup supper after the talk.

Adrian tries to answer some of the questions that have remained unanswered for more than 300 years.

He has given several well-received talks to us as well as to many other groups in the area. He is a member of our local history group and wrote a substantial section of *Little Birch on Aconbury Hill*.

Bingo

The next **Special Christmas Bingo** will be held at 8.00pm. on **THURSDAY 26TH NOVEMBER** at Little Birch Village Hall. There are special prizes and refreshments will be available.

MB Village Market

The November market will be held in Much Birch Community Hall on **FRIDAY 27TH** between 2.30pm. and 4.30pm. As well as the usual local produce suppliers there will be some extra craft / gift stalls for you to browse.

Please come and join us to show your support for local food producers of Dexter beef, ready meals and pies, rare breed pork, sausage, bacon, chicken, duck etc.

You will also find fresh bread, cheeses, preserves and a Fairtrade stand. Refreshments are sold in aid of McMillan Cancer Support. For further details please contact Kath Watts on 01981 540382

Gardening Club

The next meeting will take place on **WEDNESDAY, 25TH NOVEMBER** at 7.30pm. when Mr. John Pearl will give an illustrated talk entitled ***'An evening tour around Madeira, Morocco and the Mediterranean.'*** Everyone welcome.

Christmas Present Idea

Allan MacDougall will display his prints of local landscapes and UK mountain areas at 'Iscoed' the weekend of **12TH & 13TH DECEMBER**. See boxed advertisement.

Local News

Little Birch Church was the venue for the marriage of CAROLINE (nee GOULD) and ANTHONY ELLIS on Sunday, 4th October and we send our best wishes for a long and happy future together.

Congratulations are sent to HEATHER WATHEN and WAYNE WHISTANCE on the birth of a baby daughter. No names have yet been given but she weighed in at 7lb. 8oz. The baby is the first grandchild for proud grandparents, Rose and Des Wathen.

It is sad to announce the death of JOHN CLENCH, erstwhile of Vron House, Wrigglebrook. Our sincere condolences are sent to his wife, Gladys, and daughter, Carol, and her family.

Our deepest sympathies are also extended to Tim Loughman and sons, Guy and Mark and their families following the sudden death of wife and mother, JEAN (nee ROOKE) and also to her sisters, Evelyn and Anne. Jean's funeral will take place on Monday, 26th October at 11.00am. at Little Birch. Fuller tributes will be given in next month's Newsletter.

It is good to report that JOHN CATON and REV. DAVID JOHNSON are now back at home following their operations and we trust that they will soon be enjoying their normal active lives very soon.

The Harvest Supper at Little Birch Hall was thoroughly enjoyed by those who attended and our thanks go to all those who prepared and served such a tasty supper and to the Compost Heap for their impromptu sing song.

Harvest Thanksgiving was celebrated the following day with a full congregation at Little Birch Church when the preacher was Rev. Paul Barlow, erstwhile headmaster of John Kyrle School who always gives a challenging and thought provoking sermon, delivered with his usual humour. The decorations in the Church were admired by all and the tea following the service gave everyone the chance to catch up and chat with other parishioners. Donations of fruit, vegetables and tinned goods will be sent to the 'Hereford Open Door' charity.

Christmas Vegetable Boxes

The Masons at **MERRIVALE FARM** will be selling vegetable boxes again for Christmas. Enjoy local fresh seasonal veg., now and with your Christmas meals. They would also make great presents. Ring Emily on 07966 458961 for details. Order forms will be available from Merrivale.

MBPC

Report on meeting of 3rd September

It was decided not to continue with the communications group that had been set up between Little Birch Parish Council, Little Birch Village Hall Committee and Much Birch Parish Council.

A request has been made to Herefordshire Council for another bus stop opposite the Old Shop in King's Thorn.

Road surface issues at Holly Bush Lane & Pages Pitch have been assessed by Herefordshire Council

Highways Department and have been submitted for consideration for next year's programme. In the meantime, the worst of the potholes will be filled.

Parish Plan & Parish Freighter

See Page 1

Planning

Permission granted by Herefordshire Council

Church View Barn - Proposed amendment to approved plans - conversion of barn into dwelling

Lynwood, Wrigglebrook, King's Thorn Proposed new house - revised scheme to planning permission of the repositioning of some external openings

Owaissa, King's Thorn - Proposed two storey extension and conservatory with veranda.

Telephone Kiosk in King's Thorn

BT have written to the Parish Council with an offer for us to adopt this kiosk for £1.00

The Parish Council are keen to find out how the parishioners of Much Birch feel about adopting this kiosk and ideas for its use. Please write to the Parish Clerk or contact one of the Parish Councillors on Much Birch Parish Council to give your views.

Footpaths

Problems along MB13 footpath are being investigated.

Correspondence.

Parish Councillors had previously been given the correspondence list, the contents of which were noted.

Date of Next Meeting

THURSDAY 12TH NOVEMBER at 7.30pm. in Much Birch Community Hall.

Parish Clerk

If you have any queries on Parish Council matters please telephone the Clerk on 01432 870874 or write to: Mrs Kath Greenow, Hackford House, Dinedor, Hereford, HR2 6PD. For more information on Much Birch Parish Council please visit our website

www.muchbirchparish.org.uk

Donation

We had a £5 donation the other day, the first for many months, which was most gratefully received. Now that we no longer have a donation box in the Village shop, we get very few contributions towards the cost of producing the Newsletter. It costs anything from £110 - £150 each month to print. The production, collation and delivery are all done by volunteers. It also helps if you will agree to receive the Newsletter online. Please send me your email address and I will add you to the mailing list. The Newsletter is sent via bcc so your address is not available for anybody to use.

Neighbourhood Watch

Overnight on Tuesday 6th/Wednesday 7th October, petrol was siphoned from a 4x4 Daihatsu which had been parked on a private driveway in St Weonards.

Overnight on Weds 7th/Thurs 8th October, 6 catalytic converters were stolen from new vehicles parked on a garage forecourt at Callow. This is the first report of this type of crime on our area for several months, please be aware of any vehicles or persons hanging around garage forecourts late at night.

Also overnight 7th/8th October a house undergoing renovation in Haywood was broken into, but nothing appears to have been taken. A shed at the property was also entered but again, nothing appears to be missing.

Once again, I for Williams trailers have been the subject of several thefts in Herefordshire this week, please, if you own one, take steps to secure it, and identify it with a property marking solution such as SmartWater. You have been warned!!

0300 333 3000

Officers based at Peterchurch

Local Police Officer

PC Andrew Bundy.

Mobile No: 07855 385 844

Email:

andrew.bundy@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Community Support Officers

CSO 6173 Fiona Witcher.

Mobile No: 07779 141 232

Email:

fiona.witcher@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

CSO 6993 Kevin Powell.

Mobile No: 07779 141 232

Email:

kevin.powell.c6993@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Response Policing

PC Roger Bradley

Email:

roger.bradley@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Hereford Rural South Email

herefordruralsouth.lpt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

Hereford Rural South Answer phone

01432 346756

Non-Emergency phone

08457 444 888

Emergency phone 999

Your Local Representatives

East -

JOHN BULBECK 540178

Central -

BOB PETERS 540670

West -

BETTY PHILPOTT 540614

Items/Copy

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE.

Please may I have items for the **DECEMBER** issue via email attachment in **Word** format to:

semathews@btinternet.com or by hand or post to Mrs. S.E. Mathews, Folly Cottage, Little Birch, HR2 8BD by no later than

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16TH NOVEMBER

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