



Newsletter for King's Thorn, The Birches & Aconbury

A newsletter for the villages of King's Thorn, Little Birch, Much Birch & Aconbury September 2012- First published 1977

Diary Dates

August

31st. Childrens Workshop LBVH

31st. Village market MBCH

September

1st Horticultural Show LBVH

8th. Book exchange LBVH

8th. Male Voice Choir MBCH

9th. Dog Show LBVH

18th. Fitness Session MBCH

September

18th. Much Birch WI Open Meeting MBCH

20th. Flicks in the Sticks MBCH

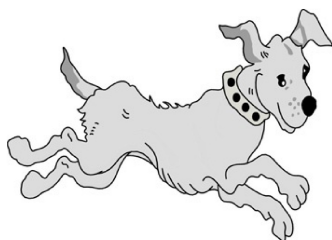
22nd. Time capsule burying &
social evening LBVH

26th. Gardening Club Molecatcher Special LBVH

28th. Village Market MBCH

December

31st. New Year's Eve Party LBVH



Little Birch Village Hall
Barrack Hill, Little Birch,
Hereford HR2 8AZ

Companion Dog Show

(Held under kennel Club rules)

Sunday September 9th. 2012

Venue:

Field behind Village Hall

(Entrance opposite Castle Nibole farm)

In Village Hall if wet

Entries from 1p.m. Judging from 2p.m.

Enquiries-call Robyn Hodges 01981 540264

Refreshments available



Little Birch and King's Thorn Gardening Club

**Friday August 31st.
Childrens Workshop**

Little Birch Village Hall 4.30p.m

**Learn the art of making vegetable monsters
and gardens on a plate**

**Saturday September 1st.
Annual Open Show**

Little Birch Village Hall

Entry forms and schedules are attached to this Newsletter.
Schedules can also be found at Much Birch Surgery, Castle Inn,
Axe and Cleaver and Pengethley Nursery

Entries: 9.00-10.45 Judging: 11.00-
Show opens: 14.00 Prize giving 15.45 Produce auction 16.00:

Wednesday September 26th.

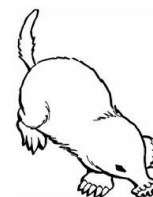
Little Birch Village Hall at 7.30p.m.

Molecatcher Special

with Jeff Nicholls

**Scenery, sounds, lights, special effects
and a few surprises.**

**Members free. Non-members £5
NOT TO BE MISSED!**



Lost Property

Found after Little Birch Diamond Jubilee
celebrations.

Red woollen scarf in village hall

A grey glove in Glebe field.

To reclaim call 01981 541027

October Newsletter

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

Police Briefing South Herefordshire & Golden Valley

Local police news. For a full copy of police incidents please visit the MuchBirch web page.

Garway

A quantity of diesel was stolen from a coach parked in a yard between midnight and noon on Friday 9th August.

Incident ref 310-s-090812

Kentchurch

A silver Ford galaxy R15*HRO was seen snooping around in the Kentchurch and Wormbridge areas between 11pm on Wednesday 15th and 1.30am on Thursday 16th August. There were at least two males in the car, no dogs were seen in the vehicle, when the vehicle was approached, the lights were turned off and it made off.



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M: 07761646635

Steven Allan
Oftec Reg No: C12495
Gas Safe Reg No: 188939



Alarm Companies

Following the continuing trend for burglaries from outbuildings, we have recently received a number of enquiries regarding approved alarm companies which we referred to our Crime Risk Managers in Worcester. This is the advice that has come from them which is clear and should answer most of your queries:

"As far as alarm companies are concerned, we point people in the direction of the NSI and SSAIB which are alarm inspectorates. Membership for each company is voluntary, but to fit a policeresponse alarm, ACPO (Association of Chief Police Officers) insist that a company belongs to one of these organisations.

Both web sites have search engines, put in your post code and it will bring up a list of companies in the area".

<http://www.nsi.org.uk> <http://www.ssaib.org>

Scams

A local resident had a call from someone called Rob on 0208 8193941 saying that she had not claimed 14,000 Euros (£12,000) in the Euro Lottery. She knew this was not possible as she had not entered the Lottery, however he told her that she could claim the money if she took a photo ID, mobile phone and £500 cash to Western Union, Eign Gate, Hereford HR4 0AB. By filling in a 'Sending Form' and phoning the above number he would then guide her through. When he told her that she should fill the country to send the £500 to as India, alarm bells rang. She consulted the Manager asking if it was a scam. He said, "Yes, it happens frequently". A close shave and thankfully unsuccessful - BEWARE!! Trading Standards and the Police should be notified immediately.

While using the Internet, another resident noticed an icon of a Policeman appear on the screen saying "Stop! Your computer has been blocked by the PCEU of the Metropolitan Police". To get your computer unblocked you are required to send £100 by UCASH Payment to PO Box 38451.

Fortunately the resident did not carry on and has been able to disarm it by using some helpful advice via Google.

Best wishes
Fiona

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@westmercias.pnn.police.uk

Non emergency number 101

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

As part of my duties as Show Secretary for the King's Thorn and Little Birch Horticultural Show, I have been putting up posters for the event. It is great that we have the telegraph poles around to use for this. It informs people of what is coming up and that is always good to know.

What we do not want to know is that there was a Celidh last April and what happened for the Jubilee.

I have been taking these posters down as I go round with mine, but I wonder now if people are so used to seeing the old posters, that they will take no notice of the new ones.

Last year I made sure our posters were down within a month of the event. Please can everyone do this? Apart from getting stained and tatty, the old ones will detract from any new information that comes along.

I know there are many who agree with me on this, so please, if you put up a poster, also take it down again!

Thank you, Brian and Gillian Clouder

A word from Little Birch Parish Council

Now that summer has finally arrived, and this is a time when we will all need to dispose of garden waste, please could we make sure that the burning is of dry garden waste only, thus reducing the impact of thick smoke with a pungent smell?

Could we also bear in mind that little burns are better and less of an impact to our neighbours enjoying the light summer evenings.

Many thank Sophie

Mrs Sophie Glover

Clerk for Little Birch Parish Council

The Orchard, Ridgehill, Hereford HR2 8AG

PILATES

NEW BEGINNER CLASSES STARTING
SEPTEMBER 2012

Mondays 9.30am & 10.30am
Much Birch Community Hall

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

PRE-BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL AS CLASS
NUMBERS ARE LIMITED TO ALLOW FOR
INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION

Phone Alison Allan
01432 840491



Book Exchange

Despite the Olympics and it being the holiday season the Book Exchange on August 4th. was well attended. Unfortunately the outgoing books were stamped wrongly. The hall will be used for the horticultural show all day on September 1st so the book exchange will be on September 8th. in Little Birch village hall. I apologise for the mistake but look forward to seeing you then. A large selection of books to suit all ages and a variety of interests will be available as well as an opportunity to meet others over a cup of tea/coffee. There is a charge of £1 per adult towards the cost of hall hire, heating and refreshments.

Jackie Morley

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Herefordshire Voluntary Organisations Support Services (HVOSS)

Please Note: As from 1st May 2012 HVA, The Alliance and HCVYS have merged into one organisation called Herefordshire Voluntary Organisations Support Service (HVOSS), we currently remain contactable at our 3 individual offices until such time as we relocate.

Herefordshire Voluntary Organisations Support Service (HVOSS) is a new generalist and specialist organisation to meet the support needs of the voluntary and community sector across Herefordshire. HVOSS will provide support to the combined memberships of HVA, The Alliance and HCVYS as well as continuing to develop good working relationships and commissioning arrangements with other organisations that have a role in supporting the sector.

Whilst we develop a new HVOSS website, further information to support your work can be found at our website, or alternatively, please ring 01432 343932.

Amelia Quinlan
Outreach and support worker
Herefordshire Voluntary organisations
Support Services
Berrows business centre
Bath street
Hereford
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Andy and Sue

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Little Birch Parish Field

In the Little Birch Parish Plan questionnaire 20% of the people who responded indicated they would like to be involved in an environmental initiative to create a wildlife area. This is your opportunity!!

You will be aware that the Diamond Jubilee tree and seat are now located on Parish Field. It was decided by the Jubilee committee that some of the money left over from the celebrations should be used to help create a wildlife area in the field which will be accessible to the community. This would be a Diamond Jubilee project. Preparatory work is necessary to the surface and then further work to finally prepare and sow with wild grass and flower mix suitable to the location. That is where you come in. A working party will be required, not necessarily to do heavy work, and ideas are also very welcome.

Preparatory work will take place towards the end of August/beginning of September so after this please look out for notices around the village giving date and time for the working party to meet. Everyone is welcome, even if you live outside the parish!!



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FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

READY

Ceremony for burying the Little Birch Diamond Jubilee time capsule

Now that we have had time to assemble all the contents, which will include a DVD of our celebrations, a date has been arranged to bury the capsule in front of the seat on Parish Field. This will take place on Saturday September 22nd. We will assemble beside Parish Field for 7.15 pm. After the capsule is buried we will adjourn to the village hall for a social evening during which the DVD of the celebrations will be shown on the big screen. Refreshments will be provided and a bar will be available. All welcome, please come along - and spot yourself on screen!

Alison Clarke

Learn to be a better – and safer driver.

Hereford Advanced Motorists' (HAM) have a campaign to help everyone do just that. There are regular courses, run by its volunteer observers for those wanting to improve their driving skills and who may wish to become Advanced Drivers. These 'Skill for Life' courses are run over three weekly evenings, and in parallel with practical

driving advice, in your own car. Based around a "System of Car Control" it improves driving by reinforcing things like correct steering, gear choice, cornering and overtaking techniques, and of course, attitude and hazard awareness. The technique takes a methodical approach to driving hazards which leaves nothing to chance, increasing your safety and giving you more time to react.

The significant advantage of each course is that drivers are able to begin putting the theory into practice immediately - on the way home from your very first evening!

HAM has a team of qualified and highly experienced drivers who will coach, guide and mentor you. There is no limit on the number of preparation drives or the time taken, and sessions are at your mutual convenience. The next course begins on 11th October at Much Birch Community Hall. For more information call Mary Bevan, Group Contact, on 01874 712267 or apply online at www.advancedmotorist-hereford.org

Inspired by the Olympics?

Do you want to improve your level of fitness and general feeling of well-being, whatever your age? Join us for our friendly weekly sessions, Tuesday mornings, starting September 18th in Much Birch Community Hall.

Suitable for all ages and abilities, the sessions combine aerobic and toning exercises which vary each week. No complicated dance routines to remember and you dictate your own level of exertion. Classes include "tums, bums & thighs", stretching and light weight-bearing exercises, all with a low impact theme.

Classes cost only £3.00 each.

For more details ring Gillian Porter (540388) or Jennifer Jones(540698).

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Much Birch WI

Much Birch WI takes place in Much Birch
Community Hall, signed just off the A49, on the
third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm.

Open Meeting September 18th

After the popularity of 'The King's Speech'
we look forward to an evening with
Alan Badmington,
whose topic will be
'Lost for Words'.

This meeting is open to everyone, with a small
charge for non members.

Please ring Kath, 01981 540382, if you would like
to know more about Much Birch WI.

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Much Birch Village Market

The Village Market takes place on the 4th Friday of
the month in Much Birch Community Hall, signed
just off the A49, between 2.30pm and 4.30pm.

On September 28th we hope be welcoming our
usual local suppliers: the award winning Squeaky
Pig, producers of rare breed pork and delicious
sausage (including Gluten Free, made to order): the
award winning Moor Meals, producers of Dexter
beef, ready meals and pies: Jane Symonds
represents Llandinabo Farm Shop, bringing, among
other things, chicken, duck, and lamb: Castle
Cheese, Mr. G's chutneys, jams and pickles and
Trefor, with quiches, both savoury and sweet and,
after many requests, a vegetable stall.

Hopefully Dan, our knife/tool sharpener will be
back, after his 'summer on the road'.

There is a Fair Trade stand and a craft stand.

Much Birch WI has a book stall, raising money for
The Cobalt Trust, its Charity of the Year.

Refreshments are made and sold by Chris and Peter,
all the proceeds of which go to McMillan Cancer
Support.

This information is correct at the time of writing.
However, because of events out of my control, I
cannot guarantee attendance by everyone
mentioned.

Our Village Market needs your support in order to
continue bringing local food to Much Birch.

For further details, please contact Kath, 01981
540382



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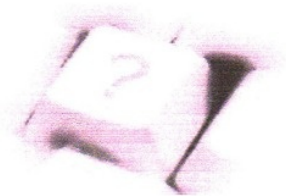
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Whist Drive

Our next Whist Drive is on Tuesday 11 September in Little Birch Village Hall. We shall start at 7.30.p.m. The entrance fee is £ 2.00. Excellent prizes and refreshments will be available. New players are always welcome.

Much Birch Churchyard Clean up

We would like to thank all those people who gave of their time on 11th August, and before, to clean up the churchyard. It was hard work and unfortunately there is some more work to do, but already the churchyard looks so much better and looks neater and tidier.

A special thank you goes to Mike Smith and his colleague who took away all the rubbish. That was such a big help.

Much Birch 100 Club Draw

The July draw took place on 8th July 2012 in Much Birch Community Hall at 7pm.

The winners were:

1. No 82 - Mrs.G. Brimacombe – Much Birch
2. No 22 - Mrs.M.Baldwin - Much Birch

The August draw took place on 7th August 2012 in Much Birch Community Hall at 7pm.

The winners were:

1. No 2 - Mr. & Mrs. H. Potts, Monmouth
2. No 59 - Mr. I.K.J. Jones, Barcelona, Spain

The next draw will take place 11th September 2012 at 7pm in Much Birch Community Hall

J.Jones Chairman

The Evergreen Club

On Tuesday 11 September we are going to Warwick where we have booked a tour of Hill Close Gardens, which are a rare survival of Victorian allotments/gardens

The cost is £15 inc. garden entrance, tea and cake. (£17 for non-members).

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

The pick-up times are:

Brandon Coach Depot	8.45
The Park, Wormelow	8.55
Tump Lane (bungalows)	9.00
Poor Clares Convent	9.10
Kings Thorn bus shelter	9.15
M. B. Church bus stop	9.20
Axe & Cleaver bus stop	9.25
Peterstow (Broome Farm lay-by)	9.35
Fontaine Court	9.40

Thank you

Just a little thank you for advertising the Rhayader Male Voice choir at Bridstow Church, it was a complete sell out. We raised £1,463.07 in total. Thank you to everyone who came and supported the evening.

Ruth Haines

There will be another concert featuring the Forest of Dean Male Voice Choir at Much Birch Church on Saturday 8th September.

WoW – what a Celebration of a Day!

With no idea of numbers and the rain falling we waited inside Much Birch Hall in anticipation to see how many, in any, people were coming along to our

free Big Jubilee Lunch celebration, but we needn't have worried as more and more tables were laid up and more and more plates of delicious food were brought in, and that was the beginning of a wonderful afternoon of fun and friendship for 200.

The children started off the day by all parading around the hall in their royal robes like professionals and when everyone had had their fill from the heaving tables of food, there was time for the choc-a-Bottle Tombola, six prize Chinese Raffle and Jubilee Quiz inside, and children's activities in two marquees [next to the bar marquee that ran out of Pimms before the end!]. The Thames Pageant was set up in the Meeting Room so nothing was missed.

Later in the afternoon, Derek Hill's winning ticket was dug from the hat for the Tree Planting. A better person could not have been found as the tradition of the Queen with one small scoop of soil was forgotten and several shovel fulls later, and lots of firming the ground all around, the tree was well and truly planted! The under planting finished, the two Memory Capsules were buried and we all went back inside for a cup of tea to go with the delicious Celebration Cakes.

There were many people involved, but we feel we must thank all the residents of Holly Bush Lane, under Coline and Brenda's guidance for the high quality packed Tombola, MBWI for running the Raffle and the very elegant ladies from Mums and Tots for the activities.

The feeling in the hall was wonderful and we hope everyone went home with a warm feeling of community and friendship, diamond memories of the Jubilee, and not too tipsy ["The bar was so cheap you could get drunk for under £5!"], was heard to be uttered].

Sinatra sang, "New York, New York, so good they named it twice" so please book June 3rd 2013 for next year's Big Lunch, when we can do it all again, with or without a Royal event to celebrate!

Lesley Lowe
MBCH Committee
Tel 01981 540366



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Saturday 1 September – Monday 31 December
Making an Impression. An exhibition of some of the many seals from the cathedral's collection from 1100 – 1900. Mappa Mundi & Chained Library Exhibition. Monday – Saturday 10 am – 5 pm (last admission 4.30 pm). Cafe and shop also open for visitors.

Wednesday 5 – Friday 7 September
Encountering the Divine. A three day retreat using various films as the basis for discussion. Llangasty Retreat house. £120. 01432 374225 to book.

Sunday 9 September
The Evening Hour; a service of prayer for healing and wholeness with words and music from Iona and Taizé and time for quiet reflection; all are welcome. The service is held on the second Sunday of each month. 5.30 pm

Tuesday 11 September
Gala organ concert: an evening concert given by Nigel Ogden, the well-known presenter of BBC Radio 2's popular The Organist Entertains. Tickets available at the door of the concert priced £10 (students £3). 7.30 pm

Tuesday 11 September
The first of a six-week series of films, featuring interviews with the scholar Joseph Campbell, on the **Power of Myth.** £5 per session / £25 series. Cathedral Barn 7 pm. 01432 374225 to book.

Sunday 16 September
Benefactors' Party: our annual party, kindly hosted by Lord & Lady Windsor at Oakley Park, Ludlow, for those who have committed to our pledged giving scheme or who have made a legacy pledge. Contact the Perpetual Trust office for more information (01432 374261):
perpetual.trust@herefordcathedral.org

Saturday 22 September
Annual clay shoot: hosted by Ted & Tamsin Clive

on the Whitfield Estate. Teams of four guns / £100 per gun, including lunch.

Monday 24 September
Coming Closer to God through Icons & Prayer. A four week series focusing on Julian of Norwich, Rembrandt, Rublev and Köder. £5 per session / £18 series. Cathedral library 10.30 am – noon. 01432 374225 to book

Friday 28 September
Making an Impression: Seals from Medieval Britain. A talk by Dr Elizabeth New and an opportunity to view some of the cathedral's medieval archives and its seal collection. Cathedral Library 2.30 pm. 01432 374225 to book.



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Little Birch Village Hall AGM

The committee elected at the AGM is,
John Bryant- Chairman & Gardening Club rep.

Roison Burge- Secretary

Robyn Hodges- Treasurer

Sue Jones- Booking Agent

01981540682

Alison Clarke- Parish Council rep.

Annette Wissler- Parish Council rep.

Jackie Morley- Book Exchange rep.

Adrian Hodges

Margaret Scrivens

Jane Bolam

Local News

Congratulations go to Dr. Nicola and John Jones, of King's Thorn, on the arrival of a daughter, Emily, a sister for Jack. We trust the parents do not have too many sleepless nights.

Two weddings have taken place locally in the last few weeks and we congratulate Andrea Payne, daughter of Ann and 'Dink' Payne, on her marriage

at Kentchurch, to Nick Phillips, erstwhile landlord of the Castle Inn.

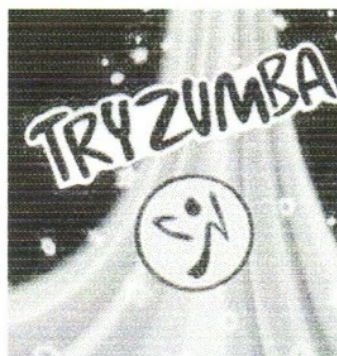
Ben Mason and Emily of Merrivale Farm got married at St David's, Little Dewchurch on Sat 18th. August and we send our very best wishes to both couples.

Best wishes also go to Katy Sklan, younger daughter of Sylvia and John Sklan of Parish Lane, on her forthcoming marriage to Richard Roberts of Peterstow, later in September.

It is good to see Sylvia Dyer out and about again after a gruelling period of chemotherapy and radiotherapy and we remember others in the community who are undergoing treatment at the present time and those awaiting operations.

Condolences are extended to Mrs. Gillian Clouder and her family following the death of her mother, who was staying with her.

It is also sad to record the deaths of Mr. Alan Brown of Hollybush Lane and Mr Ernest Hoyes of Little Birch. We send sincere sympathies to both families and tributes will be given next month.



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Flicks in the Sticks Much Birch Community Hall

Thursday 20th September 7.30pm –

The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel 12

This film follows a group of British retirees who decide to "outsource" their retirement to less expensive and seemingly exotic India. Enticed by advertisements for the newly restored Marigold Hotel and bolstered with visions of a life of leisure, they arrive to find the palace a shell of its former self. Though the new environment is less luxurious than imagined, they are forever transformed by their shared experiences, discovering that life and love can begin again when you let go of the past. A great film to end the Summer!

Tuesday 30th October 7.30pm –

THE ARTIST PG (winner of 5 Academy Awards)

Refreshments including hotdogs available from 7pm

*For further information about films and
tickets £4 (£3 under 16s)
screenings visit www.artsalive.cb.uk*

*Tickets available in advance or on the door –
for further info or to book tickets
please call Bryony Connolly 01981 580298*