

# ***THE Birches***

## **Community Matters**

**NEWSLETTER FOR KINGSTHORN, MUCH BIRCH  
LITTLE BIRCH, ACONBURY & WORMELOW**

*First published 1977* **April 2020**

### **General Notice from the Newsletter Team**

**Sadly we have been advised that all forthcoming events at Little Birch Village Hall have been cancelled until further notice. To the best of our knowledge the same applies to Much Birch Community Hall and other local places where community groups meet.**

**We will, of course, advise in this Newsletter when the situation changes.**

*For all advice on health matters contact Much Birch Surgery by telephone. 01981 540310  
If possible, please do not attend in person.*

### **A message from the Editor**

I am sure everyone will understand that events featured in this April edition of the Birches Newsletter may be cancelled—or have already been cancelled.

I can only remove those where I have had definitive instructions to do so.

It is therefore recommended that anyone wishing to participate in those events checks with the organisers before attending.

Those events for which I have received no advice to remove but I believe will most likely not take place I have marked with



As the Coronavirus outbreak worsens and isolation and social distancing measures become more widespread, it is more important than ever that we offer support for all members of our community and in particular those who are in the at-risk groups:

People over 70 years old  
Pregnant women  
People with underlying health issues

On the last page of this newsletter you will find postcards that you can cut out and post through your neighbours' letterboxes offering support. If you are able to help your neighbours then please ensure that you don't put yourself or others at risk when doing so.

If you would like further copies of these they can be printed from the LB and MB websites

## **Diary Dates**

**It was thought wiser not to publish a Diary for this month as forthcoming events may change. A list of forthcoming Church services has been omitted for the same reason.**

It is understood that the Pilgrim Hotel remains open but the bar and restaurant are closed. They are, however, providing a take-away service from their usual lunch menu. The Axe and Cleaver may also be providing this service shortly.

Please contact them by telephone for more details

*Wormelow Stores remains determinedly open!*



## Little Birch Village Hall Committee Newsletter notices

**Unfortunately all events at LB Village Hall are cancelled until further notice.**

### ART & CRAFTS GROUP



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Maz 01981 541048

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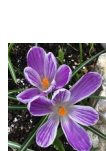
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### KINGS THORN & LITTLE BIRCH GARDENING CLUB



It was great to see so many members at our February meeting and a good number of non-members too. Janet Gwinnett gave a talk about her circumnavigation of Iceland, last summer - along with some amazing photos.

*Please note:*

**All future meetings cancelled until further notice !**

*For further membership details call our*

*Membership Secretary on 01981 540 327.*

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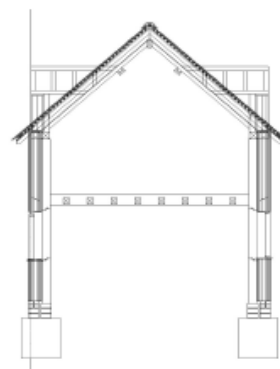
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#### Dates for Much Birch Community Hall Village Markets for 2020

Regrettably the Easer Market has been cancelled

Summer Market - 26<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Autumn Market - 25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Christmas Market - 11<sup>th</sup> December 2020

All 2.30pm – 4.30pm

#### Much Birch Community Hall 100 Club

Results of the 100 club draw which took place on 15<sup>th</sup> March in Much Birch Church are as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup> prize – No.60	2 <sup>nd</sup> prize - 38
Mrs. C. Miller	Miss E. Vaughn-Williams
Little Birch	Little Birch

The next draw will take place on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2020 at 10.30am in Much Birch Community Hall.

John Jones, Promoter

#### Coleford Community Choir

It is with regret that we have to postpone the concert scheduled to take place in Much Birch Church on 4<sup>th</sup> April, due to the coronavirus. It is hoped that we will be able to hold the concert instead in the Autumn.

#### Much Birch Village Market

It is also with regret that the decision has been taken to cancel the Village Market due to take place in the Community Hall on 27<sup>th</sup> March. The next market is scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> June 2020

#### Treasure Island 2020

In 2007 Hilary Gould partly wrote, produced and directed Treasure Island a very different version of this year's pantomime of the same name. In introducing her production she proudly announced the birth of her first grandson Ronan. Thirteen years later he played Sea Dog Sam – a nice pirate and made a very good job of the part.

Richard Green (Mrs Hawkins), the pantomime dame caused great amusement with his flirtations with certain gentlemen in the audience. Unfortunately this is not included in the DVD. However, anyone who missed the performance of this very lively and entertaining pantomime can get a copy of the recording from Mike Morley 01981 540510.

Some of the younger members of the drama group were given adult parts this year and were excellent. As usual Bob Chance did a fantastic job with the scenery.

Well done the drama group and special thanks go to Jane Bolam who produced and directed this years version of Treasure Island. We look forward to your next production.

# Much Birch

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## St. Mary's Church, Little Birch.

We will be having a church clean, and tidy up outside, on Saturday April 4th. starting at 10am. This will mean that everything will be looking nice for the Easter celebrations. If anybody can come along and help it will be much appreciated, the more the merrier, there are lots of jobs to do that will make a difference to our beautiful church.

Happy Easter to everybody from  
 St. Mary's.

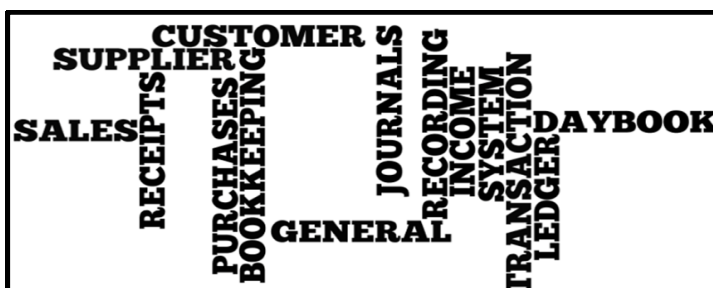


## FOOTPRINTS

Sadly the **Dawn Chorus Walk**, on Easter Day, is being cancelled but we hope to do another one sometime in the future!



Angela Middleton  
 Volunteer Footpath Officer  
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### Virtual Tour of Britain

A year-long exercise challenge taking a group of St Michael's Hospice patients on a virtual tour of Britain has been successfully completed.

The Hospice's Physiotherapy team devised the virtual Tour of Britain which allowed patients to take it in turns using exercise bikes or treadmills to help complete a 7,723-mile journey around the British Isles – all without leaving St Michael's.

Starting and ending in the Cornish town of St Ives – a favourite place for one of those taking part – the journey lasted throughout 2019, ending just before New Year's Eve.

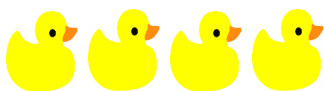
Rose Livesey said: 'I've really enjoyed taking part. You really feel as though you are contributing to a worthwhile cause.'

The exercise helped improve the cardiovascular system and strengthened legs and arms.

For more information contact Paul Broome, Communications Officer at St Michael's Hospice, on 01432 852 643 or email [pbroome@smhospicehereford.org](mailto:pbroome@smhospicehereford.org)



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FLICKS  
IN THE  
STICKS

at Much Birch  
Community Hall

Arts Alive and Flicks in the Sticks have taken the decision to cancel all screenings and live events for the rest of the current season.

We will be back in September with more screenings - watch this space!

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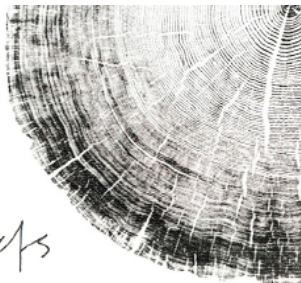
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## Community Café @ Much Birch Community Hall

Sadly there will not be a Community Café for the time being, but we will look forward to getting back to it as soon as we can.

In the meantime, if you need any help with shopping, picking up of medication from the surgery, posting letters or would just like a chat on the phone occasionally, please let us know!

Ring Kay on 01981 540666 and she will see if any of us can help.



A local group who want to bring people together, strengthen community links and provide relaxed and fun events for all ages.

ROSS CIVIC SOCIETY invite all interested to an illustrated Talk on Wednesday evening 8th April with the historian DAVID WHITEHEAD. The topic will be the '250th ANNIVERSARY OF GILPIN'S BOOK 'OBSERVATIONS ON THE RIVER WYE''. The venue is the Larruperz Centre, the time 7.00 for 7.30 p.m. Members: entry free, visitors £5 each or join the Society (annual sub. £15.). For further information on the current Celebrations of this 'Anniversary' look at the website: [www.gilpin2020.org](http://www.gilpin2020.org)



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### KILPECK ART CLUB

Our spring Season will begin on February 24<sup>th</sup> 2020. We meet on Mondays from 2pm–4pm in Kilpeck Village Hall, HR2 9DW except for bank holidays. Please contact Jenny Davies (Secretary) at [jen64davies@gmail.com](mailto:jen64davies@gmail.com) for details.



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Mark Giles

Please send copy for the May Newsletter to [editorial@birchesnews.org.uk](mailto:editorial@birchesnews.org.uk) or written contributions to Liz Hall at Walmere, Wrigglesbrook, Kingsthorpe HR2 8AW.  
—by 18th April please.



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To make it even more beneficial to come back, we have created a new "Discount Code" solely for returning guests. Using the code **RETURN** during the reservation process [on the right of the date selection boxes] and you will earn a **£25 per night discount from the price of all All Inclusive** reservations between November 1st and January 31st 2020.

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+ General Property Maintenance

Contact:

07780460258 or [kenruck1956@hotmail.com](mailto:kenruck1956@hotmail.com)

Or Visit my Facebook Page.

Much Birch Parish Council  
Much Birch Parish Council  
Parish Clerk Mrs Alison Wright  
Longfield House, Gooses Foot, Kingstone  
Herefordshire HR2 9NE  
Tel. 01981 250860... Email: [muchbirchclerk@gmail.com](mailto:muchbirchclerk@gmail.com)

9<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**PARISH MEETING** - at the Parish Council Meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at the Much Birch Community Hall.

The Parish Council heard about concerns regarding parking on the yellow lines outside the Much Birch School, and the adjacent nursery. Please could everyone think carefully when dropping off or picking up from the area of the School and try not to put yourself, or others, at risk and keep the yellow lined area clear?

The Parish Council also heard about concerns regarding local flooding and drainage issues. There was a discussion about the responsibility for maintaining ditches and drainage adjacent to a water course and this lies with the riparian landowner.

There was a planning application considered at the meeting, the Parish Council considered comments from the floor and a response to the application was sent in to the Planning Department at Herefordshire Council.

Dates for further 2020 Parish Council Meetings are to be advised. Please check websites and social media as below for further information.

A reminder that:-

**Your Much Birch Parish Councillors are:-**

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

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

Cllr Andrew Crum Anfield House, Barrack Hill, Kingsthorpe, Hereford, HR2 8AX, e mail [a.crum@btinternet.com](mailto:a.crum@btinternet.com)  
Tel. 01981 540002

Cllr Roisin Burge The Old Hall, Barrack Hill, Little Birch, Herefordshire, HR2 8AX [roisinburge@hotmail.com](mailto:roisinburge@hotmail.com) Tel. 01981 540724

Cllr David Baldwin The Granary, Much Birch, Herefordshire, HR2 8HS [baldwin79@btinternet.com](mailto:baldwin79@btinternet.com) Tel. 01981 541198

Cllr Veronica Thomas 4, Queens Close, Wormelow, Hereford, HR2 8FD Tel. 01981 540646 (no e mail)

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](http://www.muchbirchparish.org.uk).

You can also find us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/MuchBirchPC> and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Much.Birch.Parish>

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## MERRIVALE ORGANIC BEEF

We have quality beef available direct from our farm in Little Birch to your doorstep.

It is organic grass fed Wagyu Cross beef which has been born and raised at Merrivale Farm.

The Wagyu breed is known for its beautiful marbling which gives a delicious flavour and texture to the meat.

The beef is available in mixed boxes which start at £65. Individual cuts and packs are also available.

Contact Lucy for more information on 07974 053804 or [lucymason@hotmail.com](mailto:lucymason@hotmail.com)



# Little Birch Parish Council

Your Little Birch Parish Councillors are:

**Cllr Peter Rees** Chair  
**Cllr Janet Gwinnett** Vice Chair

*For updates and notifications of future meetings please  
check out the website – [www.littlebirchparishcouncil.org](http://www.littlebirchparishcouncil.org).*

**Cllr Kate Dillon**

**Cllr Michael Davies**

**Cllr Kate Robbins**

**Angela Middleton** Volunteer Footpath Officer

**Sophie Glover** Clerk 01432 617306 [lbpcclerk@gmail.com](mailto:lbpcclerk@gmail.com)

## Little Birch Parish Facebook Group



Find the latest news, events and business listings all in one place.

You are welcome to promote your local business, advertise a local event or post news or information of interest to the village and surrounding area.

Search for *Little Birch Parish Group* on Facebook

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### Get in touch

**101** to talk to your local SNT or report a crime  
[herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)

[www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk)

**Herefordshire Cops** / @southsidecops

Only call 999 in an emergency, when a crime is in progress or life is in danger.

*For daily updates on incidents in your area register for our  
Dotmailer service via [www.westmercia.police.uk](http://www.westmercia.police.uk).*



**South Hereford Rural Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT)**

[herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)

### Make the difference

For more information about becoming a Special Constable, please visit,

**Warwickshire Police:** [www.warwickshire.police.uk/specialconstables](http://www.warwickshire.police.uk/specialconstables)

**West Mercia Police:** [www.westmercia.police.uk/specialconstables](http://www.westmercia.police.uk/specialconstables)

**HELLO!** If you are self-isolating, I can help.

My name is .....

I live locally at .....

My phone number is .....

**If you are self-isolating due to COVID-19 I can help with:**

☐ Picking up shopping ☐ Posting mail

☐ A friendly phone call ☐ Urgent supplies

Just call or text me and I'll do my best to help you (for free!)

Coronavirus is contagious. Please take every precaution to ensure you are spreading only kindness. Avoid physical contact (2m distance). Wash your hands regularly. Items should be left on your doorstep.

#ViralKindness

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