



Newsletter for King's Thorn, The Birches & Aconbury

A newsletter for the villages of King's Thorn, Little Birch, Much Birch & Aconbury.

June 2016. First published 1977.

LITTLE BIRCH VILLAGE HALL
PRESENTS



CASH ON DELIVERY

A Comedy by Michael Cooney
(Director and Producer Jane Bolam)

Thursday 16th, Friday 17th &
Saturday 18th June at 7.30 pm

Tickets: £10 (including Food)
Adults Only

From: Margaret: 01981 540374

Jackie: 01981 541027

Diary Dates

May

- 25th Gardening Club LBVH
- 26th Flicks in the Sticks MBCH
- 27th Village Market MBCH

June

- 2nd Parish Council Meeting MBCH
- 5th Dhamma Dipa Meditation Centre
Open Day
- 11th Community Cream Tea LBVH
- 12th Family Fun Day Castle Inn
- 14th Whist Drive LBVH
Evergreen Day Trip
- 16th, 17th, 18th, Summer Show LBVH
- 17th The Big Lunch MBCH
- 21st WI MBCH
- 25th Book Exchange Methodist Chapel
- 28th Village Hall AGM LBVH
- 29th Garden Club visit to
Ralph Court Gardens

July

- 5th Neighbourhood Plan Meeting MBCH
- 9th LB Church Annual Fete
at the Old Rectory 2pm

Church Services in June



- June 5th 7pm Prayers, Psalms & Reflection.
Much Birch
11am. CW Communion Little Birch
- June 12th 09.15 Family Communion Much Birch
11am Morning Worship Little Birch
- June 19th 09.15 CW Communion Much Birch
11am BCP Communion Little Birch
- June 26th 11am Benefice Service
in ruins of Old Church, Llanwarne.



Please send copy for the July 2016 Newsletter to
birchesnews@gmail.com or written contributions to John
Bryant at Bramley Bungalow, Aconbury Close, King's Thorn.
—by 18th June please.

LOCAL NEWS



Congratulations are extended to Kate Hodges of Kings Thorn, elder daughter of Robyn and Adrian Hodges, on her forthcoming marriage to Chris Rushworth on June 4th at Much Dewchurch.

Congratulations also go to Sir Roy Strong of the Laskett, Much Birch who was appointed a Member of the Order of the Companion of Honour by the Duke of Cambridge for services to culture on April 22nd. Sir Roy is a passionate gardener and a prolific author whose latest titles include 'A Little History of the English Country Church' and 'Visions of England'.

Congratulations are also sent to Mrs. Edith Davies formerly of King's Thorn and currently living in Essex, who celebrated her 99th birthday a few weeks ago.

Similar greetings are also sent to Christine and Peter Dowsett who arranged a 'Coffee Morning' on Friday, 13th May, and raised so far, £500 for Riding for The Disabled, a magnificent achievement. We associate Chris and Peter in their work for 'Macmillan Cancer Support' but having raised £100,000 they have decided to ease back somewhat but still make weekly support visits to the Macmillan Renton Unit at the County Hospital.

Sadly, the death of Mrs. Joan Daniels formerly of King's Thorn has been announced. Joan was a stalwart of the Methodist Chapel and ran a Flower Shop, Blumen Times in Grandstand Road, Hereford. Her funeral service takes place at the Crematorium on Monday 23rd May and we send our condolences to her family. A fuller tribute will be given next month.

The untimely death of Andrew Griffiths of King's Cagle has been announced. Andrew did many property maintenance jobs for members of this community and his wife, Christine, also runs her own business, Zea Cleaning, and has many clients in this community. We send to the family our deepest sympathies.

Recent donations to the Newsletter are gratefully acknowledged.

Little Birch Church are holding their Annual Fete at the Old Rectory on Sat. July 9th starting at 2pm



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We are pleased to welcome our new
Manager Joseph

Extended opening times from 30th May

Monday	Closed
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	6pm - Finish
Thursday	12pm - 3pm 6pm - 11pm
Friday	12pm - 3pm 6pm - 11pm
Saturday	12pm - Finish
Sunday	12pm - 9pm

We will be holding a **Family Fun Day** on
Sunday 12th June.
Bouncy Castle
Face Painting
Sunday Lunch - choice of 3,
booking advisable.

We look forward to welcoming you soon.

Andy and Sue

Welcome you to

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Twenty-five years of meditation in Herefordshire. Join us to celebrate our Silver Jubilee on Sunday 5th June.

For the last twenty-five years people from all corners of the UK have been coming to a leafy valley in Herefordshire to learn meditation to help them lead calmer, happier and more productive lives. Dhamma Dipa Vipassana Meditation Centre in Pencoyd opened in 1991. Over 3500 people a year, from all walks of life, wide-ranging professions and many different countries now take time out of their busy lives, to travel to this beautiful Herefordshire location to learn Vipassana meditation during ten day residential courses.

To celebrate Dhamma Dipa Vipassana Meditation Centre's Silver Jubilee we are hosting an **Open Day on Sunday 5th June (2-6pm)** Visitors will have the opportunity to view the centre facilities, learn more about the practice and the benefits it brings, and even try a 'taster' session of 'Anapana' meditation. There will be guided tours of the centre, introductory talks and films about Vipassana Meditation, woodland walks and complimentary cream teas. Admission is free and all are welcome.

[From A49, follow signs to Pencoyd, second lane on right]

For more information call 01989 730234 or visit www.dipa.dhamma.org

For further press information, interviews and photos please contact Claire Coache on 01981 540 989
oremail: clairecoache@gmail.com

Meetings, Fundraising and Activities

Much Birch WI

Much Birch WI meets on the third Tuesday of each month in Much Birch Community Hall, just off the A49. The Hall is next door to the surgery and both are signed from the road.

Meetings begin at 7.30 pm.

The **June** meeting sees us celebrating our Institute's 60th birthday while in **July** Bronwen Owens will talk to us about Gardening.

Looking further forward;

In **August** we shall hear about the 'Land of the Incas' with a talk by Ray Sturdy and in **September** our speaker, Richard Jordon will tell us about 'The Legend that is ... Glen Miller'.

Visitors and potential new members are always welcome.

Please contact Caroline on 01981 540422 or Sallie on 01432 340069 for further details.

Much Birch Community Hall 100 Club

The March draw took place on 8th May 2016 in Much Birch Community Hall at 10.30am and the results were as follows:

1 st prize – No 95	2 nd prize - No 29	3 rd prize – No. 41
Mrs. J. Hardy	Mrs S.Prout	Mrs. J. Hounslow
Sellack	Hereford	Much Birch

The next draw will take place on 12th June 2016 at 10.30am in Much Birch Community Hall.

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Much Birch Village Market
Next Market:- Friday 27th May
2-30 pm until 4-30pm.

**Stalls will include:- Moors Meals, Beef & Pies/
Wyebakes (Bread & Cakes)/ Fair Trade/ Madley
Nurseries/ Hazel's Knitwear/ Honey & Silver
Jewellery/ Pat's Candles, Trinkets & Gifts/
Handmade Cards etc/ Gifts & Glassware/ Mr G's
Home Made (Jams, chutneys & preserves)/ Jane's
Kitchen (Sausages, Cooked Meats, Pies etc)/ The Big
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King's Thorn and Little Birch Gardening Club

On May 25th., our speaker will be Dede Liss who will discuss The History of Heritage Wheat and Bread. Come along and taste her bread made with ancient grains.

On Wed. June 29th., a visit has been arranged to Ralph Court Gardens near Bromyard.

This covers 3 acres with 12 themed gardens. The garden is full of humour and original ideas to entertain as well as inform. We are due to arrive there at 6pm.

£6.75 per person with concessions at £5.85.

Any further info. from Janet Gwinnett on 01981 540651.

**W.M.
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You are invited to...

The Big Lunch
for the Big Birthday!
Celebrating the Queen's 90th Birthday



When: Sunday 12th June 2016
12 noon - 3.30 p.m.

Where: Much Birch Community Hall

Notes: 'Bring and Share' lunch, Bar, Tombola, Raffle, Children's Games, Quiz

*A community event for everyone -
just bring a plate of food to share!*





DESIGN A BIRTHDAY CARD FIT FOR A QUEEN.

Folks are being urged to sharpen their pencils and find their paint boxes for the Grand Arty Picture Competition as part of the Much Birch celebrations of the Queen's 90th birthday on June 11th on the Rosemary Rigby Millennium Green.

The big challenge is to design a birthday card for Her Majesty and prizes will be awarded for winners in three classes - children up to 9 years, children 10 – 16 years and an open category for mums, dads, grandmas and granddads.

For those with greater ambition the second subject is the old False Acacia tree that grows in the hedgerow on the roadside of the Millennium Green. Like the Queen, who has been an icon of continuity, the old tree is a local symbol of something unchanging in an ever-changing world. Its long overdue that some sort of tribute is paid to the old tree and perhaps some artist will rise to the challenge of showing its bright green spring foliage against a blue sky. Others may have their own ideas.

Entries to be handed in to The Slinget, Tump Lane by the 10th June for judging on the day of the celebrations. Starting at 2.00 pm the day offers fun and games for all and an afternoon tea party.

Little Birch Village Hall Committee

Newsletter notices for June 2016

Queen Elizabeth's 90th Birthday Tea

A Very Special **Community and Family Cream Tea** will be held at **Little Birch Village Hall** on **Saturday 11th June 2:30pm – 5:30pm**

The afternoon will start with Children's games (in the former Methodist Chapel opposite) 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm. Judging and prize giving for the best dressed Queen and Prince 3:30pm - 3:45pm to be followed by an all ages 0 to 90+ Grand Birthday Community Tea celebration from 3:45pm – 5:30pm.

PILATES

with ALISON ALLAN

Pilates is a mat-based class focussing on abdominal strength, posture and flexibility. It helps restore the natural curves of the spine, relieve tension and enhance self confidence, resulting in a balanced body that looks fit, feels great and moves with ease.

Mondays 10am and 11am
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Little Dewchurch Village Hall
£8 per class

Pre-booking is essential as class numbers are limited to allow for individual attention



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Rural Hub
Herefordshire



Herefordshire Rural Hub
CIC is a business support organisation for farming

and rural businesses across Herefordshire. Established in 2005, the Hub has grown from strength to strength and now has a reach to over 1,500 rural businesses.

Herefordshire Rural Hub has a history of being able to 'pull' support organisations together to work as a network for the greater good of the local businesses and farming community. You can follow the Herefordshire Rural Hub on **twitter** via **@Hfds_RuralHub** and on **Facebook** search *Herefordshire Rural Hub*. Website www.ruralhubpartnership.co.uk/herefordshire

Whist Drive

We guarantee a warm welcome and a fun evening with good company at our monthly whist drive whatever your ability. Excellent prizes and refreshments too.

Our next **Whist Drive** is on **Tuesday 14th June** at Little Birch Village Hall. We start at **7.30 pm** and the entrance fee is just £2.00.

Summer Show "Cash on Delivery"

Little Birch Amateur Dramatic Society will be performing "Cash on Delivery" on the **16th, 17th & 18th June**. Curtain up at **7:30pm** each evening and supper will be provided.

It's still not too late to secure your tickets. Please contact **Jackie on 541027** Just £10 per person.

Community Book Exchange/Lending Library

The next Book Exchange will be on the morning of **Saturday 25th June** at the former Methodist Chapel opposite the Village Hall **10am – 12pm**.

All members of the community are invited to join us for this enjoyable event which offers not only a wide range of books and DVDs (to suit all ages and interests) but also an opportunity to meet others and exchange recommendations for "a good read".

A warm welcome, tea, coffee and refreshments will be provided and we look forward to meeting up with regular and new visitors to the Book Exchange.

There is a charge of just £1 per adult towards the cost of the hire and refreshments.

Little Birch Village Hall Committee AGM

You are invited to attend our AGM at **Little Birch Village Hall** on **Tuesday 28th June at 7:30pm** Find out more about the work of the village hall committee over the last 12 months.

We are also looking for new committee members so if you'd like to get involved and help to keep our wonderful village hall going then we'd love to see you. Refreshments will be provided.



The Evergreen Club

Our next trip is on **Tuesday, 14 June**. In the morning we are going to Forge Mill Needle Museum near Redditch. We shall have a light lunch here and then go to Spetchley Park Gardens.

Cost £34 - (£36 for visitors) which includes ALL entrances, Morning Coffee, light lunch, tea and cake.

The pick up times will be:

Brandon Coach Depot	8.45
The Park, Wormelow	8.55

Kings Thorn bus shelter	9.05
Much Birch Church bus stop	9.10
Axe & Cleaver bus stop	9.15
Peterstow (Broome Farm lay-by)	9.25
Fontaine Court - Ross	9.35

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

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WISH – Signposting to a Happier, Healthier Life

The waiting is over for Herefordshire residents!

WISH, the county’s first ever wellbeing information and signposting service, opened in February at its hub in St Peter’s Street, Hereford, with the most comprehensive range of information about all sorts of things which can help you feel happier and healthier.

Information held in the WISH directory, includes everything from Advocacy to Zumba as well as comprehensive information about how to access care and support from Children’s or Adult’s Services in the county.

As well as the full-time service in the city there are regular WISH pop-ups across the county for those without the means of getting into Hereford and if you don’t want to speak to anyone the WISH directory is also available online at: www.WISHHerefordshire.org

The WISH directory includes information on living with a disability; how to access advice about financial and legal matters; and the range of care options available in the county. As well as this type of information the WISH Directory lists over 500 clubs, societies and organisations and is growing daily.

WISH, is being delivered by Herefordshire charity Services for Independent Living (SIL) and if you’d like to find out more about WISH and how it can help signpost you and your family to a healthier, happier life come and speak to the team at our Hereford Hub, or call us on 01432 383880 for details of a pop-up near you.

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Open Gardens

supporting St Michael's Hospice



Goodrich Open Gardens

Sunday 19th June, 10am-5pm

Mulberry House

Knapp Close, Goodrich
By kind permission of Adrian & Tina Barber

Poole Cottage

Copper Hill, Goodrich
By kind permission of Roy Smith & Jo Ward-Ellison

Tickets cover entry to both gardens and may be purchased at either garden.

Parking available in the village; follow signs to the gardens. (Please note there is no parking at either garden) A shuttle service will be available for those who do not wish to walk up or down the hill. The service will be complementary but donations to St Michael's Hospice will be very much appreciated.

Adults £5, children under 12 free
Refreshments and plants available to buy at both gardens
Due to the terrain, access to the gardens is not suitable for wheelchair users.
There are some steep slopes, steps and uneven paths
No dogs allowed

For more information, contact the Hospice Fundraising Team on 01432 851000 or email events@st-michaels-hospice.org.uk

Goodrich, Ross-on-Wye HR9 6HX, 5m from Ross, 7m from Monmouth. Goodrich signed from A40 or take B4234 from Ross. Parking details as above.



Radbournes kindly supporting St Michael's Hospice Open Gardens

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If you would like to volunteer at St Michael's Hospice Home & Living Store, please phone the Retail Team on 01432 851000, pop into the Store or visit: st-michaels-hospice.org.uk



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South Hereford Rural Police Briefing



About your team

Safer Neighbourhood Teams work with local people and partners to identify, tackle and solve issues that matter to the community where you live.

Making neighbourhoods safer by cutting day to day crime and anti-social behaviour is at the heart of keeping people in West Mercia safe. Thanks to an investment in mobile tablet style computers, these will enable officers to spend more time on patrol on the street and in neighbourhoods.

Officers will continue to come to people when they need them and provide a high quality service however you contact us – in person (on the street, at community bases and at partners and communities together [PACT] meetings), on the phone or online.

Get in touch

101 to talk to your local SNT or report a crime
herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk
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.

Your team

(Part of the Southside Team)

SGT Emma Freer 1348

PC Brian Hillstead 0397

PCSO Lowri Anderson 40247

Kind regards

Lowri Anderson PCSO 40247

Hereford City Southside and Rural SNT West Mercia Police
If you would like to receive this Briefing via email, please email herefordsouthside.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk



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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

17th May 2016

PARISH MEETING – at the Annual Statutory Parish Council and Annual Parish Meetings held on the 6th May at the Much Birch Community Hall.

The Meeting heard about plans for an event to re-launch the Neighbourhood Plan and this would be held on Tuesday 5th July from 7.00pm in the Much Birch Community Hall. Lynda Wilcox, Chief Executive of HALC, would be in attendance to give a presentation and refreshments would be served.

The celebration to help celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday was going ahead and the Parish Council were to purchase 100 commemorative coins for the first 100 children to attend the party on the 11th June at the Millennium Green, Tump Lane.

The Parish Council received the resignation of Councillor Ben Roberts. A very big "thank you" for all of his work while on the Parish Council was recorded. The Parish Council wished Ben every success in his role as Chair of Little Birch Parish Council.

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Thursday 2nd June 2016 from 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.

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A reminder that:-

Your Much Birch Parish Councillors are:-

CLlr Alison Cook (Chair) Jasmine Cottage, Wrigglebrook Lane, Kingsthorpe, Hereford, HR2 8AW, e mail thecoops@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 and Tel. 01981 540090

CLlr Andrew Crum Anfield House, Barrack Hill, Kingsthorpe, Hereford, HR2 8AX, e mail a.crum@btinternet.com Tel. 01981 540002

CLlr Tim Jones Swiss Cottage, Wrigglebrook, Kingsthorpe, Hereford, HR2 8AW e mail tjsj@me.com Tel. 01981 540242

CLlr Roisin Burge The Old Hall, Barrack Hill, Little Birch, Herefordshire, HR2 8AX roisinburge@hotmail.com Tel. 01981 540724

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.

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