

The Birches

Community Matters Newsletter

**Kingsthorpe, Much Birch, Little Birch,
Aconbury & Wormelow November 2024**



Thank you to John Jones

On 13th October at the Much Birch Community Café we said thanks to John Jones, following his retirement from being the Chair of Much Birch Community Hall, a post that he has held since 2001. During this time the Hall has flourished, and he has overseen extensions to the building - a new car park, solar panel installation, upgrading of the central heating system, running a village market, installing a defibrillator as well as all the week-to-week maintenance tasks. Throughout this time John has been ably assisted by Sylvia as Hall Secretary. To mark the occasion of John's retirement the committee have installed a new bench for the garden with a suitable inscription. This was unveiled on 13th October.

Peter Garlick

Much Birch Parish Walk

Our next village walk will be on 17th November at 2pm from Much Birch Village Hall. This will be a circular route finishing with tea and biscuits in the village hall. **Any issues contact David Irwin 07766135068 MBFootpaths@btinternet.com**



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Aconbury Walk see p2

Hereford Choral Society

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Ralph Vaughan Williams
together with
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16 November 2024
Hereford Cathedral
7.30 pm

Tickets from only £10
Up to 2 children under 16 free

herefordchoralsociety.org/tickets
or call 01432 751 175
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Keep Safe on Bonfire Night
see page 9



Join us at the
Community Café
@ Much Birch Community Hall

Saturday 9 November 2024
10:00 - 12:30

and every 2nd Saturday of the month

14 December
11 January 2025
8 February

For more information or if you are in need of transport contact Lydia on 01981 540323 or socialfabric@hotmail.com



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

Coffee Morning With Book Exchange
Little Birch Village Hall
Thursday 7th & Saturday
16th November 10-12 noon

Come and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, some cake or biscuits. Make new friends, catch up with old friends. Take a book, leave a book or both. Exchange recommendations for a good read. Families & well behaved dogs welcome.

Art and Craft Space

We meet every Thursday afternoon 2 until 4 at Little Birch Village Hall at the top of Barrack Hill HR2 8AZ.

We bring along our own projects and have a monthly theme. Feel free to do your own projects. You don't have to follow the themes if you would rather do something else. For more information please contact Sally Nichol
 tel. 07803 032928 01981 540001
 email sally.nichol@btinternet.com

Table Tennis Tuesday 5th November
Little Birch Village Hall 7-9pm £3

On Friday 8th November children from Much Birch School will be taking part in the Remembrance Service at the Millennium Green, joining the Mayor of Hereford, Rosemary Rigby, Jesse Norman MP, Councillor Toni Fagin and Revd Mark. The service begins at 10.30 am and will be followed by planting of bulbs on the Green. Everyone is welcome. Do bring some bulbs to plant and a trowel or spade if you can. Trevor, the manager of the Pilgrim Hotel, will very kindly be providing hot chocolate, coffee and homemade biscuits after the service.



at Much Birch Community Hall

Thursday 14 November - THE MIRACLE CLUB 12A

There's just one dream for the women of Ballygar to taste freedom: to win a pilgrimage to the sacred French town of Lourdes. With a little benevolent interference from their local priest, a group of close friends get their ticket of a lifetime. *Starring the late Dame Maggie Smith with Laura Linney and Kathy Bates.*

Next month...

Thursday 12 December—THE HOLDOVERS 15

Tickets £5 (£4 under 16s)

Refreshments including hot dogs and ice cream available from 7pm

Tickets available in advance or on the door (cash or card payments accepted)- for further info or to book tickets please email muchbirchflicks@hotmail.com or call 01981 540097

For further information about films and screenings visit www.artsalive.co.uk

Parish Walk to Aconbury Church

It was lovely to have so many people turn up for the parish walk to Aconbury Church in October. On what threatened to be a wet afternoon 25 of us and 2 dogs walked through the wood to the church. We were joined at the church by more people interested in the church but who had chosen not to walk. Inside the church Alison Clarke gave a very informative talk on the history of both the church and nunnery, for which we were very grateful.

We all then returned to the village hall for tea and cake provided by Cathy Ellis-Braithwaite and Wendy Fowler which were very welcome. **Chris Fowler**

Jobs for the Garden in November

Another year of gardening is virtually over with successes and a couple of failures. Our onion crop was a disaster this year and I am not sure why, having followed all the usual practices.

Hedge cutting and clearing all the dead plant foliage is virtually done. A couple of patches that were cleared early were forked over and green manure sown on them – broadcasting both red clover and mustard.

November Suggestions

- *Plant Tulip bulbs.
 - *Raise containers off the ground to prevent water logging – use bricks, wooden batons or commercially manufactured 'feet'.
 - *Take care not to over water plants outside, in the greenhouse and indoors.
 - *Look over houseplants and move to a lighter position.
 - *Check greenhouse heaters, if used. An electric fan heater has the advantage of keeping the air moving which can help to reduce fungal disease.
 - *Bubble wrap the interior of the greenhouse at the end of this month to insulate – despite climate change we can still get some very cold nights.
 - *Reduce long, new shoots on shrub and bush roses by one third to prevent wind rock damage.
 - *Plant winter bedding.
 - *Lay new lawn turf.
 - *Earth up carrots, parsnips and beet (mini version of potatoes) if over wintering in the garden.
 - *Plant new rhubarb crowns and divisions of existing.
 - *Net sprouts, kale, cabbage and cauliflower to keep pigeons off them. Remove yellow and brown leaves.
 - *Check stored fruit, throwing out rotting items on the ground outside for the birds.
 - *Likewise, check for, and discard rotting potatoes.
 - *If you still have a few tomatoes on their vines, pick them, no matter what colour and ripen them indoors or make chutney with the green ones.
 - *Make a new strawberry patch, digging in plenty of manure or compost. Plant your own runners or mail order plants. They need the cold period of the next few months to encourage fruiting.
 - *Clean out nest boxes and rehang. Put a bit of straw or hay in the bottom of the box.
 - *Check bonfires have no hibernating wildlife in them before lighting.
 - *Leave a pile of sticks, stones or other debris here and there – it does not have to be a 'mountain' – for small creatures to hibernate.
 - *Clean bird baths and feeders and replenish.
 - *Remove fallen leaves from ponds and thin oxygenating plants. It may be advantageous to remove pump if there is one, overhaul it and store in the shed.
- Treat hard surfaces and decking to remove algae and to avoid the risk of slipping.

Derek Scrivens

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Red Poppies

by Revd Mark



Hi Everyone

There was a time in the 1970s when it looked like the events of Remembrance Sunday were falling out of favour. The world, to most of us, seemed a peaceful place and there was not much to be gained by dwelling on the 2nd World War, other than giving old men with a few medals a chance to relive old glories.

That all changed with the Falklands Conflict. Suddenly real war was back on our TV screens, rather than some sanitised and bloodless version from film or sitcom.

Once again, we were reminded that life in the Army, Navy and Air Force cost real people their lives and it wasn't just about training and preparing, it was about using well-honed skills to fight, to kill and, in the case of the conflict in the South Atlantic, to defeat a rather foolish move by a desperate military Junta who thought they were in for an easy victory.

Some 40 years later, as we gather on Remembrance Sunday and at other times to remember the sacrifice of our soldiers then and in other conflicts, both before and since, and the unsettling nature of war that haunts other parts of the world, it is appropriate that we should wear our poppies.

They are a reminder of lives lost, of courage shown and, I hope, a prompt that war should never be a first resort but always the last one.

Services across the churches in November

Sunday 3rd November

All Saints/All Souls

9.15 a.m. at Much Dewchurch – Holy Communion

11.00 a.m. at Little Birch – Holy Communion

3.00 p.m. at Much Dewchurch – All Souls
Remembrance Service

Sunday 10th November Remembrance

9.15 a.m. at Much Birch – Holy Communion with
Remembrance

10.55 a.m. at Little Birch – Remembrance with
Morning Worship

10.55 a.m. at Llanwarne – Remembrance with
Holy Communion

Sunday 17th November

2nd Sunday before Advent

9.15 a.m. at Much Birch – Morning Worship

11.00 a.m. at Little Birch – Holy Communion in
Traditional Language

Sunday 24th November Sunday next before Advent

9.15 a.m. at Llandinabo – Holy Communion in
Traditional Language

Sunday 1st December

Advent Sunday

9.15 a.m. at Much Dewchurch – Holy Communion

11.00 a.m. at Little Birch – Holy Communion

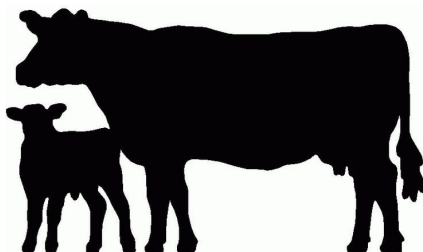
4.00 p.m. at Much Birch Village Hall – Advent
Carols and Toasted Marshmallows!

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Items for December newsletter to
editorial@birchesnews.org.uk or paper
copy to Elisabeth Taylor 07854 629193 by
8th November

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Much Birch Parish Council

At the Much Birch Parish Council Meeting held in Much Birch Community Hall on the 3rd October there was a discussion about planning consultation 242231 for the removal or variation of a condition following grant of planning permission 222687 (Proposed demolition of former Park Hall Ballroom and Erection of 5 dwellings and 15 timber holiday lodges, reception area and associated works) - to provide details of garages as shown on the approved layout plan and vary the design of plot 2 to show attached garage as per the layout plan. The parish council discussed the application and resolved that they had no further comments to make regarding the variation/removal of condition.

Little Birch Parish Facebook Group

Find the latest news, events & 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 local area.

Much Birch Parish Councillors

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

Cllr Roisin Burge The Old Hall, Barrack Hill, Little Birch HR28AX roisinburge@hotmail.com 01981 540840

Cllr David Irwin, 5 The Old Mushroom Farm, Much Birch, Hereford, HR2 8HY **Tel:** 07766 135068

email David.Irwin13@btinternet.com

Cllr Chris Pickering-Grey 4 Court Farm Barns, Much Birch HR2 8HT chris@pickering-grey.uk 07712 813218

Cllr Michael Agyeman Little Willow, Wrigglebrook, magyeman92@gmail.com

Parish Clerk Mrs Alison Wright Longfield House, Gooses Foot, Kingsthorpe HR2 9NE muchbirchclerk@gmail.com 01981 250860

Minutes of meetings

www.muchbirchparish.org.uk.

Minutes of meetings www.muchbirchparish.org.uk
<https://twitter.com/MuchBirchPC>
<https://www.facebook.co/groups/Much.Birch.Parish>

MUCH BIRCH PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council is seeking to appoint a new Lengthsman for the Parish. Duties will include mowing, strimming, clearing ditches and gullies, digging grips, cleaning signs, trimming overgrowth of plants and general minor roads upkeep and maintenance. Relevant experience and appropriate insurance are essential.

If you are interested in applying for the post an application form can be obtained by contacting: Alison Wright (Parish Clerk)

E mail: muchbirchclerk@gmail.com

Nine tips for Safer Fireworks from RoSPA

1. Keep fireworks in a closed box and use one at a time.
2. Read and follow the instructions on each firework using a torch if necessary.
3. Light the firework at arm's length with a taper and stand well back.
4. Keep flames and cigarettes, away from fireworks.
5. Never return to a firework once it has been lit.
6. Don't put fireworks in pockets and never throw them.
7. Direct any rocket fireworks well away from spectators.
8. Never use paraffin or petrol on a bonfire.
9. Make sure the fire is out and surroundings are safe before leaving.

Little Birch Parish Councillors

Cllr Steve Coles **Cllr Tom Palfrey**
Cllr Chris Atkinson **Cllr Nick Deacon**
Neil Barrington, clerk lbpcclerk@gmail.com

Website www.littlebirchparishcouncil.org

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Photography Group



We are a friendly local group who are keen and enjoy our imaging skills. We invite anyone who has an interest in taking photos to come and join us. You will be made very welcome.

For more information please contact Sally Nichol. tel. 07803 032928 01981 540001



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ALL ASPECTS OF TREE WORK UNDERTAKEN

Diary Dates November 2024

Table Tennis Tues 5th LBVH	P2
LBPC Wed 6th LBVH	p9
Coffee & Books Thurs 7th LBVH	p4
MBPC Thurs 7th MBCH	p9
Community Café Sat 9th MBCH	p2
Flicks MBCH Thurs 14th	P2
Coffee & Books Sat 16th LBVH	p4
Art & Craft Thursdays 2-4 LBVH	p2
Photography Group	p6
Church Services	p5



Advertising Rates

11 editions per year (no August newsletter)

1/16 page £4.20 per issue or £42 per year

1/8th page £4.80 per issue or £48 per year

¼ page £5.40 per issue or £54 per year

½ page £9.60 per issue or £96 per year

Payment by BACS through Santander

Account Name **Little Birch Village Hall**

Sort Code **09-01-54** A/C No. **65493289**

Put your business name as reference

Defibrillator Locations

IN A LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCY CALL 999

AEDs available to use locally for those experiencing sudden cardiac arrest. A defibrillator is an easy to use, medical device that analyses the heart's rhythm and, if needed, delivers an electrical shock (defibrillation) to help the heart establish an effective rhythm.

Allensmore Locks Garage

Backney on the garage wall at Market Gardens Cottage

Bridstow on the outside of the village hall

Garway on the wall outside the Garway Moon pub

Harewood End at Harewood End Inn on outside of the pub at the back in the beer garden.

Little Birch on the outside of the village hall

Llanwarne on the wall by steps leading up to the village hall

Much Birch on the outside of the church hall

Much Dewchurch outside Steiner School, first building after the church

Peterstow at the Yew Tree pub

Sellack on the outside of the parish hall (key code needed)

St Weonards old BT phone box off the A466 between the church and Forge Cottage

Wormelow at the Cricket Club & Carrot & Wine shop

Wilton on wall at the BP garage on the roundabout



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