Little Birch Pantomime 2018

Come and join us in our production of **Snow White**

First meeting Sunday **17th September**.
Little Birch Village Hall
Children auditions 1:30 -2:30
Adults 2:30 – finish.

To help out with set building, costumes, or just find out more and get involved just come along.

We will rehearse every Friday evening with some weekend rehearsals.

Performance dates are; **26th** and **27th** January 2018.

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**Church Services**

**August/September 2017**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Parish</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service Type</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun 27th Aug</td>
<td>MBirch</td>
<td>9.15am</td>
<td>Morning Worship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 3rd Sep</td>
<td>LBirch</td>
<td>11am</td>
<td>Holy Communion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 10th Sep</td>
<td>MBirch</td>
<td>9.15am</td>
<td>Family Communion</td>
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<td>L. Birch</td>
<td>11am</td>
<td>Morning Worship</td>
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<td>Sun 17th Sep</td>
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<td>LBirch</td>
<td>11am</td>
<td>BCP Communion</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sun 24th Sep</td>
<td>MBirch</td>
<td>9.15am</td>
<td>Morning Worship</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The Monastery of Poor Clares at 11am every Sunday.
Holy Communion at Much Birch every Thursday at 9.30am.

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**Diary Dates**

**August 2017**

27th  Laskett Gardens 11am

**September 2017**

5th   Whist Drive LBVH 7.30pm
7th   MB Parish Council Meeting MBCH 7pm
7th   Coffee Morning LBVH 10.30am
10th  Dog Show Nibole Farm 1pm
10th  MC 100 Club draw MBCH
11th  LB Neighbourhood Development LBVH
16th  Book Exchange Methodist Chapel 10am
17th  Auditions for “Snow White” LBVH 1.30
19th  WI MBCH
20th  LB Parish Council Meeting LBVH 7.30pm

**October 2017**

1st   Autumn Walk Fownhope
13th  NMiTE Talk MBCH 7.30pm
17th  WI MBCH

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**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.

Visitors and potential new members are always welcome.

Please contact Sallie on 01432 340069 for further details.

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**Please send copy for the October Newsletter to editorial@birchesnews.org.uk or written contributions to John Bryant at Bramley Bungalow, Aconbury Close, King’s Thorn.**

—by **18th September** please.
Local News August 2017

A warm welcome to Much Birch to David and Anne Payne who moved into Birch Place, the new house opposite the School, at the end of July. They moved from Stratford upon Avon to be near their Son and family who live in Coleford. We wish them many years of happiness in the Parish.

Congratulations are extended to Carla Gillespie and John Fernyhough who were married at Little Birch Church on Sat. 22nd July and we wish them all the best for their future together.

We are sad to report the death of Mrs. Connie Read, erstwhile of Llanwarne, she and husband, the late Bob Read looked after the late Percy Verry on the Barrack Hill with lunches on Fridays for many years.

We are also sad to report the untimely death of Roger Williams of Timber Lodge, Wormelow, on the A466. Roger and Jenny were enthusiastic supporters of events at Little Birch Village Hall including the annual 'Wassail', the pantomimes and annual quizzes over the past 20 years or so.

Roger was aged 70 and had suffered a fairly severe stroke some 3 weeks ago but was looked after in the Stroke Ward in the County Hospital extremely well. Sadly a second stroke took its toll and Roger passed away at the age of 70 years.

He was a lively character and loved to play his guitar and as an accompanist to Jenny when they sang country style ballads together.

The Crematorium was full and overflowing for his funeral service so popular and convivial was Roger in his work at Henlys and for many years at Steels Motors, that he was a 'gentleman salesman' and earned the respect of his customers. The Service was conducted by the Rev. Mark Johnson who had served with Roger at the Much Dewchurch Luncheon Club since his arrival in the parishes of the Wormelow Hundred Group. The 'Compost Heap' sang 2 appropriate ballads and the daughters from his first marriage and step daughter, Amanda, composed a touching poem. Roger's whole life was centred around his family, even though they lived in Australia. He was in constant touch with them and although Amanda was his step-daughter, he looked after her as well.

He began life as a mechanic at Henlys and was always known as Mr. Sparky' and this nickname stuck with him for the rest of his life. And so we say farewell to a very popular and convivial character who helped so many people in all walks of life. He will be sorely missed!

We send to Jenny and all the family our sincere sympathy.

We are also sad to hear of the death of Robin Hodges' father, John George, of Much Dewchurch, a further tribute will be given next month.
Much Birch Parish
Neighbourhood Development Plan
Advance Notice

During September 2017 copies of the Much Birch Neighbourhood Development Plan Community Questionnaire will be delivered to every household in the Parish.

All parishioners 16 and over will be invited to complete a questionnaire, the results of which will be published and used to inform the next stage of the work towards producing the Much Birch Neighbourhood Plan.

The successful outcome of the Much Birch Neighbourhood Development Plan is dependent upon full consultation and analysis based on the views of the residents and the Steering Group look forward to receiving your views via the Community Questionnaire.

Murphy’s Paw
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murphyspaw2005@gmail.com
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Providing a true “home from home” environment.
We welcome friends, old and new!

Little Birch & Aconbury
Joint Neighbourhood Development Plan

The meeting of the LB&A Steering Group in July saw our Consultant Dr. David Nicholson give a presentation explaining the Draft Neighbourhood Development Plan.

The 'Draft' Plan is much more than just showing how to meet housing targets, but shows a vision for both Little Birch and Aconbury parishes, where both natural and historic environments are protected. Policies are included on Rural Economy, Renewable Energy, Community Facilities and protecting Local Environments. Many of these reflect the questionnaire’s responses from the residents’ survey.

The key word is 'Draft', as this document will be delivered shortly for Public Consultation to all households and businesses in the Neighbourhood Area of Aconbury and Little Birch for comments.

There is no long term commitment to be part of the Steering Group as anyone is welcome to attend these meetings, and, so if you wish to be part of the decision process, remember to be certain to attend the next meeting on Monday, 11 September at 7.30pm at Little Birch Village Hall.

For more information and to be kept up to date, or have notification of future meetings please contact Sophie Glover, Clerk to LB&A NDP Steering Group - littlebirchpcclerk@hotmail.co.uk

To follow the progress of Little Birch and Aconbury Neighbourhood Development Plan check out the website – www.littlebirchparishcouncil.org.

Linedance classes in MBCH on Wednesday evenings. 7.30pm-9.30pm...£4.00 Not suitable for absolute beginners Contact Jean Harris on 07506718907 for further details

Much Birch Community Hall 100 Club

The July draw took place on 9th July 2017 in Much Birch Community Hall at 10.30am and the results were as follows:

1st prize – 90
Mr. & Mrs. D. Pennington
Much Birch
c/o Kivernoll

2nd Prize – 31
Mrs. C. Beevers

The August draw took place on 13th August 2017 and the results were as follows:

1st Prize – 54
Mrs P. Rogers
Little Birch

2nd prize - 74
Mr & Mrs A. Morrison
Much Birch

The next draw will take place 10th September 2017 at 10.30am

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MOBILE: 07771 870891
EMail: bayleys@fsmail.net
Lynette Roberts and family would like to thank everyone who showed such kindness after the unexpected passing of John on May 1st.

We were truly moved by the outpouring of kind wishes, the stories people shared of their memories of John, what he meant to so many and by the attendance at the Forest of Dean Crematorium for John’s funeral and afterwards at Little Birch Village Hall.

An incredible £562 was donated and this has been passed to the Little Birch Church fabric fund.

**St Michael’s Hospice Neighbours**

St Michael’s Hospice Neighbours are a group of volunteers who offer support and companionship to people and their families living with a terminal illness.

How can you help?

Becoming a Hospice Neighbour means you can make a difference to a patient or their carers quality of life by helping with little things, like providing company, collecting prescriptions, taking their dog for a walk or a bit of light shopping.

This role of a Hospice Neighbour would suit anyone with a few spare hours each week or fortnight.

Having previous experience of care is not essential, and you are not required to provide personal care. Hospice Neighbours need access to their own transport (mileage paid by St Michael’s Hospice) and undertake an enhanced DBS check.

Training will be provided on the following dates between 6.00pm and 8.30pm: 12th, 19th, 26th September and 3rd, 10th, 17th and 31st October.

For more information, please contact the Hospice Coordination Hub on 01432 852 080 or email hhhub@smhospicehereford.org

Open Gardens (sponsored by Radbournes)

Gardens grow community spirit

Getting together to open some of the most delightful gardens in your area is an excellent way to bring your community closer together.

Christine Lenton said, ‘Llangrove Open Gardens was a really memorable day for our village, especially as it was our first time for St Michael’s Hospice. It was enjoyed by everyone who opened their garden and by all the many visitors. It brought our already close-knit community even closer. We were thrilled to raise nearly £2,000.’

To find out more about holding a Community Open Gardens event, please call the Community Events Team on 01432 851000 or email events@smhospicehereford.org

www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk

Open your garden in 2018

Opening your garden for St Michael’s Hospice can be a very rewarding and valuable experience for you, your visitors and the patients and families that need our services.

If you have a garden that you feel is worth visiting, please contact St Michael’s Hospice Community Fundraising Team.

To find out more, please call us on 01432 851 000 or email events@smhospicehereford.org

www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk
Little Birch and King’s Thorn Gardening Club.

The Gardening Club 'Open Show' takes place on Sat. 2nd. September at Little Birch Village Hall.

Entry forms have been widely circulated but can still be obtained from Committee members, from Castle Inn, Axe and Cleaver, Surgery or Pengethley Garden Centre.

9.am -10.45am Hall open for entries.
11am . Hall closed for Judging.
2pm Hall open to public.
3.30pm Presentation of Trophies and Raffle.
4.15 pm Sale of produce by Auction.

Children’s Workshop with Janet Gwinnett and helpers Friday 1st Sep. at 2pm.

On Wed. 27th Sep. Mr. David Lloyd will give an illustrated talk on 'Roses'.
Alan Titchmarsh says he has never seen roses photographed so beautifully!
Great Local Food & Drink in Much Birch
All Day Every Day

PILGRIM HOTEL

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Steve, Pat, Trevor & Deepak are delighted to offer you fabulous food & drink, stunning views and friendly service 7 days a week, every week.

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* Lunch
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* Dinner
* Celebration Meals
* Conferences
* Wakes

Booking is recommended on 01981 540742. Menus can be found on www.pilgrimhotel.co.uk

Cream Tea—£5.95
Tea/Coffee, Homemade Scone and Biscuits

Pilgrim’s Tea—£7.95
Cream Tea & Selection of Cakes

Full Afternoon Tea—£14.95
Pilgrims Tea & Selection of sandwiches

Sparkling Afternoon Tea—£18.95
Full Afternoon tea & glass of prosecco

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Call Jacqueline on 07759131783 to make an appointment
(Situated at the end of The Pilgrim Hotel Car Park)
Little Birch Village Hall Committee
Newsletter notices for September 2017

**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 Drives are on **Tuesday 5th September** at Little Birch Village Hall. We start at **7.30 pm** and the entrance fee is just **£2.00**.

**Coffee Morning**
The next coffee morning will be on **Thursday 7th September 10:30am - 12:30pm** at Little Birch Village Hall. Come and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee, some cake or a biscuit. Make new friends or catch up with old friends, have a chat and find out more about the local community.
If you need help with transport please contact Margaret: 01981 540374

**Little Birch Annual Companion Dog Show**
Held under Kennel Club rules

The annual companion dog show will be held on **Sunday 10th September** in the **field below Castle Nibole Farm** (Village Hall if wet)
Enteries from 1pm  
Judging from 2pm  
For enquiries, please contact Robyn on 01981 540264

**Community Book Exchange/Lending Library**
The Book Exchange will be on the morning of **Saturday 16th September** at the former Methodist Chapel opposite the Village Hall **10am – 12pm**.

All members of the community are invited to join us for this enjoyable monthly 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.

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

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**The Big Autumn Walk, Sunday 1st October, Fownhope Recreation Ground**

Whether you enjoy a challenging woodland walk or prefer a gentle stroll along the peaceful River Wye, there is a Big Autumn Walk for you, your family and even your dog. Choose between 2K, 5K, 11K and 16K routes, all starting and finishing at Fownhope Recreation Ground.
The walks will all be fully signposted, and our team of marshals will be positioned along the path ready to help you on your way.
The Big Autumn walk is free to pre-register for at [www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk](http://www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk) You then pay £5 on the day.
Self-storage
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Tel: 01981241274
Email: coleg600@gmail.com

Grenfell Tower
I am sure everyone was horrified to see pictures of the tower in flames and the reports
in the media of this terrible event. Also they must feel great sympathy with all those involved.
However, myself and a number of other readers feel that the 'Poem' was out of place in a Village Newsletter. Particularly as the last 2 lines are politically motivated. Ros Freece
Footnote. My cousin has been doing voluntary relief work for the survivors of Grenfell Tower.

Yoga
In Much Dewchurch and Steiner Academy
Mondays 6.00—7.15
⇒ Tension and stiffness?
⇒ Back ache, backache, general aches and pains?
⇒ Difficulty sleeping?
Learn how to relax and let go. Discover how you can move more freely and improve your posture. A practical approach to yoga that is adaptable to anyone regardless of age or physical condition. All welcome
♦ Small group Classes
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Mobile 07768 206296

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**The Singing Tree** is an informal fun singing group that started its life in Much Dewchurch, moved with us to Garway and we are now meeting in Kingsthorne since our move here in July last year. No auditions, no need to read music, just come along and enjoy yourself. We meet on Wednesdays at 7.30 pm at Wynds Poynt. For more information please contact Hilary on 01981 540022 the turning@phonecoop.coop

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<td>Payroll</td>
<td>Self-Assessment Returns</td>
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Emma Partington has over 10 years experience in the finance industry both in practice and in industry, a local business that is able to help with all your bookkeeping needs.

Call or e-mail today for a no obligation discussion about your requirements.

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**History Group**

Keith James will give a talk entitled "Hereford before the Selfie" in October. Keith, who lives in Much Birch, worked with Derek Evans a well known photographer in the 1950’s to 1970’s. Their collection of press and other photographs are now in the Hereford record office.

The illustrated talk will include old aerial photographs and stories of people and places in the county from the bull that lived in its own Tudor house to the day that Bob Monkhouse carved the meat. Full details will appear in the next Newsletter.

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Welsh Water have warned of extensive works to take place in Hereford this Autumn which will result in traffic disruption and delays.

For further information visit Welsh Water online dwrcymru.com/media-centre or contact Sheena.Howells@dwrcymru.com
At the July meeting of the Parish Council, the Councillors welcomed Angela Middleton as the new voluntary ‘footpaths officer’ and they thanked Sandra Cameron for her work over the previous few years in this role. If you notice any footpaths are blocked or stiles are broken, perhaps you could let Angela know.

The Parish Council have invited the Police and Crime Commissioner, Mr John Campion, to come and address a meeting on September 20th at 7pm at the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend, and if you have a particular question that you would like to put to him, please can you let the clerk know before the meeting?

Parish Council meetings happen at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of September, October, November and December and all parishioners are very welcome to attend. Agendas are posted on the Parish notice board at least three days in advance and are also on our web site www.littlebirchparishcouncil.org

Mrs Sophie Glover, Little Birch Parish Clerk, The Orchard, Ridgehill, Hereford HR2 8AG
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 August 2017

PARISH MEETING – at the Parish Council Meeting held on the 6th July 2017 at the Much Birch Community Hall.

Those present heard that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Launch Event on 13th June 2017, held in the Much Birch Community Hall from 2.00pm to 7.00pm, had been a success. Questionnaires would now be produced and circulated. Look out for yours which will be delivered soon. Please help the Steering Group find out what you think by filling in and returning your Questionnaire.

Future Dates for Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meetings are: 31 August; 28 September; 26 October; 30 November.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 7th September 2017 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.

A reminder that:-

Your Much Birch Parish Councillors are:-

Cllr Alison Cook (Chair) Jasmine Cottage, Wrigglebrook Lane, Kingsthorne, Hereford, HR2 8AW, e mail 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 and Tel. 01981 540090

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

Cllr Tim Jones Swiss Cottage, Wrigglebrook, Kingsthorne, 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

Cllr David Baldwin The Granary, Much Birch, Herefordshire, HR2 8HS baldwin79@btinternet.com Tel. 01981 541198

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

Much Birch PC Meeting Dates for 2017
The 2017 dates for Much Birch Parish Council Meetings, all on Thursdays from 7.30 to 9.30pm in the Community Hall:
July 6th, September 7th, October 5th, November 2nd and December 7th

South Hereford Rural Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT)
Lowri Anderson PCSO 40247
Hereford City Southside and Rural SNT
West Mercia Police

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.

Make the difference

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

Warwickshire Police: www.warwickshire.police.uk/specialconstables
West Mercia Police: www.westmercia.police.uk/specialconstables

Where we work; South Wye SNT is based at South Wye Police Station, Goodrich Grove, Newton Farm, Hereford, HR2 7DB, we work around the areas of Rural: Aconbury; Allensmore; Ballingham; Bolstone; Callow; Dewsell; Dinedor; Garway; Grafton; Hereford; Haywood; Hentland; Holme Lacy; Kenderchurch; Kington; Kingstone; Little Birch; Much Birch; Little Dewchurch; Llandinabo; Llanwarne; Lower Bullingham; Much Dewchurch; Orcop; Pencoyd; Pontrilas;

Your team
Sgt Emma Freer, PC Roger Bradley, PC Jim Phillips, PCSO Lowri Anderson, PCSO Adam Westlake, PCSO Christina Howard, PCSO Christopher Yarwood.

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.
Andy and Sue
Welcome you to
THE AXE AND CLEAVER
Much Birch

Excellent food served in our spacious Restaurant

SENIOR CITIZENS’ LUNCH
On Wednesdays—2 courses
For £6.95

SUNDAY ROAST LUNCH
£10.95 for 2 courses—Bookings advised

Lovely Beer Garden with field for Touring
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