



THE *Birches*

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

First published 1977 **April 2019**

HELP!!



For over 40 years local volunteers have produced, printed and delivered YOUR newsletter.

The newsletter is a fantastic source of local news, information and adverts for local businesses.

If the newsletter is to continue into the future we now need new volunteers.

Could you give a little of your time, and join our small team, to ensure your newsletter continues to thrive?

If you'd like to find out more or get involved then please contact our editor Liz Hall on 01981 540479 or editorial@birchesnews.org.uk

Church Services

Sunday, April 7th - 5th Sunday of Lent
11.00 a.m. Little Birch

Sunday, April 14th - Palm Sunday
10.00 a.m. Walk from Pencoyd Church with palm crosses to Llanwarne Church
11.00 a.m. Service of Blessing of Palms and Holy Communion at Llanwarne Church

Wednesday 17th April - Wednesday in Holy Week
7.00 p.m. Compline at Little Birch Church

Thursday 18th April - Maundy Thursday
7.30 p.m. Service of Holy Communion with Tenebrae at Much Dewchurch Church

Friday 19th - Good Friday
2.00 p.m. Service of prayers and readings for the Final Hour at Llanwarne Church

Sunday 21st - Easter Day
9.15 a.m. Much Birch Holy Communion
11.00 a.m. Little Birch Holy Communion

Sunday 28th 2nd Sunday of Easter
9.15 a.m. Much Birch Morning Worship

Every Thursday at 9.30 a.m. Much Birch Church - Holy Communion.



Diary Dates

March 2019

27th KTLB Gardening Club AGM LBVH
28th MB Steering Group Meeting
29th Quiz Evening LBVH 7.15pm

April 2019

4th Coffee Morning LBVH
4th MB Parish Council Meeting
9th Whist Evening LBVH
10th LB Parish Council Meeting
12th Lent Lunch LBVH 12.30pm
12th Easter Bingo LBVH 7.30pm
17th Table Tennis LBVH
13th Defibrillation Training MBCH
20th Book Exchange Methodist Chapel
21st Dawn Chorus Walk Merrivale Farm 5.45am
24th Gardening Club LBVH
26th Village Market MBCH 2.30pm
30th Flicks in the Sticks MBCH

Much Birch WI

The next WI meeting will be on 16th April and it is on "recycling" by Herefordshire Council. This will be an open meeting and all are welcome at Much Birch Community Hall



Please send copy for the May Newsletter to editorial@birchesnews.org.uk or written contributions to Liz Hall at Walmere, Wrigglesbrook, Kingsthorpe HR2 8AW.

—by **18th April** please.

Little Birch Village Hall Committee

Little Birch Village Annual Quiz

Our annual quiz will take place on Friday March 29th in Little Birch Village Hall. Come along and see if this year your team can win the cup. There will be teams of four but if you can't make up a team, come along anyway and we should be able to join you up with someone. The quiz will start at 7.30 but you need to be in your places by 7.15. Entry fee is £2.00 per person.

The Parish Walks have continued to be popular, exploring local footpaths and walking in both Athelstan's and Aconbury Woods. The February walk around Tarr's Mill was a little further, and with steeper climbs than some



anticipated, but we were welcomed with tea and cakes at Merrivale Farm in the barn towards the end. A tour around the milking parlour to see the robots was included. Thanks very much to Sue Mason for her hospitality which was much appreciated by all. The last walk in March, was wet but we still completed it through both woods and finished at the hall for refreshments.

Our next Parish Walk will be a Dawn Chorus Walk and hopefully we might even hear the cuckoo!

Dawn Chorus Walk

Easter Sunday 21 April meeting at **Merrivale Farm**, Little Birch HR2 8BA at **5.45am** and leave at 6am for a Dawn Chorus Walk in Athelstan's Wood - with Adrian Hodges and Bob Mason - about 3 miles. No dogs please.

Afterwards back at the farm for bacon butties/toast & marmalade and tea/coffee.

Donations to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Angela Middleton

Volunteer Footpath Officer

01981 540377

TEA ON THE TRAIL

AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, LITTLE BIRCH

Refreshments for walkers

Enjoy a break for a cup of tea or coffee

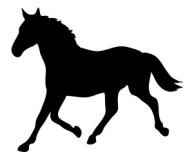


Donations to cover costs and for much needed renovation work at St Mary's Church.

Thank you

Horse/pony/animal help available -

Very helpful, young, teenage, girls are looking to help on a local yard in exchange for a ride (or help with other animals for some pocket money)



07866 006582

Pysanky Decorating Workshop

April 8 and 16, 2019

The traditional 'wax-resist' Ukrainian Easter Egg has long been decorated in celebration of spring, and with the arrival of Christianity, the Ukrainians make their 'egg art' in celebration of Easter. There is a long tradition of 'Pysanky' making.

April 8th, 9:30 to 13:00. This workshop is 3 ½ hours long and provides everything you need to make these beautiful wax-resist colour dyed eggs, and Ukrainian borsch to finish! With limited space for 8, the workshop will be held in the home of artist Helena Orłowski in Kingsthorpe.

Price: £ 35. includes all materials and Ukrainian borsch to finish.

April 16th, 10 to 12 o'clock. A Pysanky workshop for children 6+. Price £15 to include all materials. Children should be accompanied by an adult.

To book your space and for directions please call Nataliya on 07963 0908 838 or visit <https://www.experienceukraine.co.uk/shop>



St Michael's Hospice
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Open Gardens:

A varied array of venues makes up the St Michael's Hospice Open Gardens programme for 2019.

The Hospice's free-entry Plant Fair kicks off the season on 3rd - 4th May in Bartestree.

The final Open Gardens will be on 18th September with A Day of Gardens, Delicious Lunch and Poetry, featuring a trip around three spectacular Herefordshire gardens.

Between those dates there are a host of attractions ranging from community open gardens in Weobley, Kimbolton and the Aylestone Hill area of Hereford, to the beautiful Gatley Park on the edge of Mortimer Forest between Leominster and Ludlow, and popular wedding, event and holiday venue Brinsop Court, plus many others.

Last year, a record-breaking £45,000 was raised throughout the Open Gardens season meaning that over the years, Open Gardens have helped collect over £125,000 for St Michael's.

For a full list of gardens, pick up a copy of our Open Gardens brochure from any one of our retail shops, at the Hospice in Bartestree, or by calling our Community Fundraising team on 01432 851 000. They are also available at www.st-michaels-hospice.org.uk

Playing the Hospice Lottery:

These days, £1 can't buy you much.

A coffee, weekend newspaper, and even a bag of chips will set you back more.

But one thing it will secure you is a weekly entry into the St Michael's Hospice Lottery draw.

We have a first prize of £1,000, and 23 other cash prizes every week.

So, to make Fridays feel grand, fill out an application form at st-michaels-hospice.org.uk or call 01432 851 000.

Paul Broome

Communications Officer, St Michael's Hospice

Tel 01432 852 643


Fax 01432 851 022

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at Much Birch
Community Hall

Tuesday 30th April - STAN AND OLLIE 12A

Steve Coogan and John C Reilly, two brilliant physical comedians, give delightful performances nailing the duo's body language, mannerisms and routines. 1953 with their immense fame on the wane, Stan 'Laurel' and Ollie 'Hardy' embark on a gruelling farewell tour of British seaside towns. The tour starts badly; modest music halls, cramped little guesthouses, they struggle for audiences. But a series of TV guest spots rekindle the country's interest and the buzz grows as they head towards a big London finale. But old resentments surface, particularly once 'the wives', Lucille and Ida, (a hilarious double act in their own right) join them. A charming, poignant, insightful study of lifelong male friendship this is a fitting tribute to the greatest pair of comedians of all time.

Tickets £4.50 (£3.50 under 16s)

And in May...

Thursday 23rd May - THE WIFE 15, starring Glenn Close and Jonathan Pryce

Tickets available in advance or on the door - for further info or to book tickets muchbirchflicks@hotmail.com or 01981 540097

For further information about films and screenings visit www.artsalive.co.uk (online booking available!)



FREE DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING SESSION

Saturday 13th April 2019

MUCH BIRCH COMMUNITY HALL

10am - 11.30am

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KILPECK VILLAGE HALL

CURRY & QUIZ NIGHT: Saturday 27th April, 7pm

Come along and join us for food, fun and some brain exercise!

CRAFTS@KILPECK: Saturday 11th May, 10.30 – 2pm

A variety of stalls to tempt everyone, art, crafts, plants and foody delights.

Tables available: bethkvh@sky.com

GENTLE EXERCISE CLASSES: Tuesday mornings (term time) 10.45 – 11.45.

A gentle and social opportunity to keep fit and mobile and adaptable for all levels, including seated exercises. £5 per session.

KILPECK ART CLUB: Mondays (term time) 2pm -4pm until 17th June.

New members very welcome and first session is free! Further information from:

jen64davies@gmail.com

Much Birch Parish Council
Email: muchbirchclerk@gmail.com

Dates of Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meetings for 2019. All to be held at Much Birch Community Hall from 7.30pm

28 March, 2 May, 30 May, 27 June, 29 August, 26 September, 31 October, 28 November.

Please remember that your opinion, and any input to the plan, is welcomed at all stages of the process. Meetings are public and open to all.

The ROSS LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT GROUP invites you to their Talk on Tuesday 16th April, 7.00 for 7.30 p.m. in the Library when JO SCRIVIN, the Editor of the 'Ross Gazette', will tell us about her work and the current programme to capture memories of life in this area and also the digitalisation of past 'Gazette' issues. Entry £4.00 for RLDG Members, £5.00 for non-Members, Free for Students. All funds raised are to go towards improving facilities in the Library. Refreshments available for donations. For details see the website: www.rldg.org.uk

ROSS SCIENCE SOCIETY: The next Meeting will be held on Wednesday 3rd April at the Castle Lodge Hotel, Whitchurch 7.00 for 7.30 p.m. The topic will be CARS FOR THE 21st CENTURY with Dr NICO SERGENT who will describe the development of the Riversimple Hydrogen Power Cell Powertrain as applied to hydrogen-powered cars. Entry £4.00 for visitors, Free for Students. There is extra parking available opposite the Hotel entrance. For details see the website: www.rosssciencesociety.org.uk

ROSS ARTS APPRECIATION SOCIETY: All are welcome to attend a Talk on Friday evening 5th April at the Larruperz Centre, Ross, 7.00 for 7.30 p.m. with Hereford Cathedral Archivist and Librarian, Dr. Rosemary Firman. The title is 'MEDIEVAL COLOUR'; colour was a luxury then, but Churches were ablaze with it; this can still be seen in some local Churches and some books in the Library. Entry: Members £2.50 Non-Members £4.50, annual subscription £10 p.p. For details ring the Chair Jan Falkiner on 01989 720539

ROSS CIVIC SOCIETY: All are welcome at the illustrated Talk on Wednesday 10th April 7.00 for 7.30 at the Larruperz Centre, Ross, when David Whitehead will show slides and describe the 'LANDSCAPES OF HUMPHRY REPTON'. Entry £5.00 for visitors, free for Members. Refreshments available from 7.00 p.m. For more details contact the Secretary on 01989 562424

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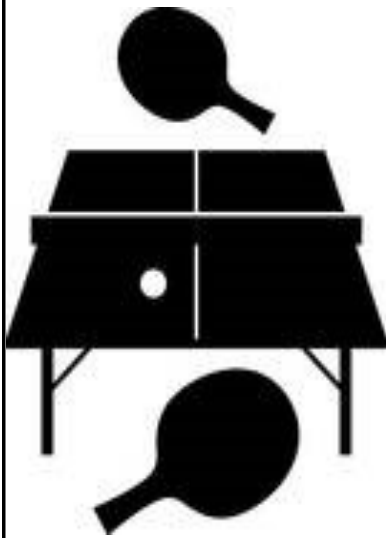


Table Tennis sessions at Little Birch Village Hall will be commencing on **Wednesday 17 April 2019 between 7:30pm and 9pm**. All abilities welcome as the idea is to have a bit of fun and exercise. We will even supply all the equipment needed. Initially, it is proposed to have a session once a month but this could be more frequent if there is enough demand. Similarly, if there is sufficient interest we may also be able to manage a day session. Tea and coffee will be available. £2.00 per session to cover cost of refreshments and heating.

If you are interested and would like more information call Angela Middleton on 01981 540377 or Peter Rees on 01981 541356

KINGS THORN and LITTLE BIRCH GARDENING CLUB

A rather belated Happy New Year and wishing everyone a successful gardening year.



Spring has arrived in our gardens with such a flourish after a wonderfully warm start in February but as always, nature has the upper hand and reminded us who is in charge with March bringing gales and rain in buckets! Despite this we eagerly plan for the coming seasons and devour the choices of plants in the seed catalogues - we gardeners are such an optimistic lot always looking forward and dismiss the mistakes made with a shrug of the shoulders, a nod to experience and lots of chat comparing notes which brings me on very nicely to the advantages of belonging to the Kings Thorn & Little Birch Gardening Club.

We hope to see all our members at our AGM on Wednesday 27 March. We will have a Plant Sale and you will be able to pick up your own copy of the exciting and varied 2019/20 Programme .

APRIL 24th sees a new speaker to the club, Jacky Mills, who will be giving an illustrated talk on **THE EVOLUTION of a COTSWOLD GARDEN**. I am thrilled by this one as the garden in question is none other than one designed by DAN PEARSON and SARAH PRICE. Dan has won numerous major awards from RHS Chelsea, including Best In Show, journalist, television presenter - an expert in naturalistic perennial planting. Jacky will take us through the evolution of this garden from inception 14 years ago to the present day.

MAY 29th - this is one for the more practical - a **WILLOW WEAVING** demonstration by CLYDE of

WILD WICKER, Wobage Farm Craft Centre. Clyde will be showing us all how it's done and bringing along examples of his work. He will be constructing 'something for the garden' and will be giving it to the club where it will be raffled at the club meeting. Don't forget your note books, for those of us who grow willow, and your money for a raffle ticket and the chance of winning a wonderful item for your garden.

JUNE 25th - FLOWER ARRANGING WORKSHOP

by Sandra Snell.
Sandra is a well known local floral designer, RHS judge and winner of many awards from Chelsea and Malvern RHS shows. She is going to demonstrate arrangements that will be in the Village Summer Show so we are hopeful that this will encourage some wonderful exhibits in this section of the summer show. Sandra is a very experienced demonstrator and will enthusiastically entertain us and no doubt impart some useful hints and tips. Arrangements will be raffled for club funds.

On JULY 24th we have a visit planned to **VEDDW HOUSE GARDENS** - this is a fascinating garden which pays homage to the local landscape and encompasses modern touches like reflective black water pools and sinuous hedges.

We hope this has wetted your appetite to come along and join our club and become a member which is for 12 months commencing in April. You will be made most welcome and your support is really valued and ensures the continuity of the society. You are of course also welcome as a visitor to any meeting where a visitors fee applies and paid on the door. Meetings are at the LBVH and start at 7.30 pm.

Hope to see you at one or all of our meetings, Jenny Baldwin - Programme Secretary

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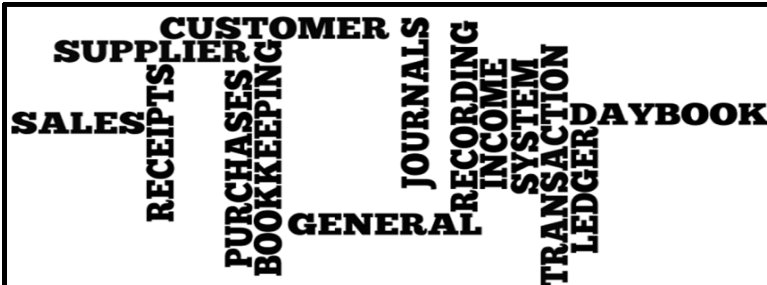
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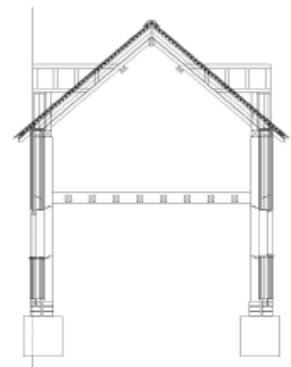
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[For those with a good memory, rooms 12-17 on the first floor of the red brick extension, all with stunning views are the first ones to be re-decorated and re-furnished].

We are offering these rooms to our **previous guests** at "pre-launch" prices so please grab a great deal and come back to the Wye Valley soon.

Best wishes

Steve & your Team

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A CALL FOR HELP.....

We are looking for volunteers to go on a monthly rota to help us keep Much Birch Churchyard tidy. We do have someone to mow the grass regularly but we need volunteers to generally tidy up e.g. sweep the path, get rid of weeds and accumulated rubbish in the corners and remove dead flowers from graves. We would be so grateful for this help and you do not have to be members of the congregation. Please contact the Churchwarden, Sylvia Jones tel. 01981 540980 if you can help.



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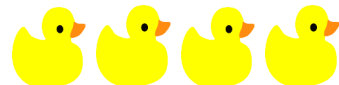
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one of our
classes**



THE CASTLE INN @ LITTLEBIRCH

NEW OPENING TIMES

Monday—fish and chip night 5pm - 11pm

Tuesday—pizza night 5pm - 11pm

Wednesday—steak night 5pm - 11pm

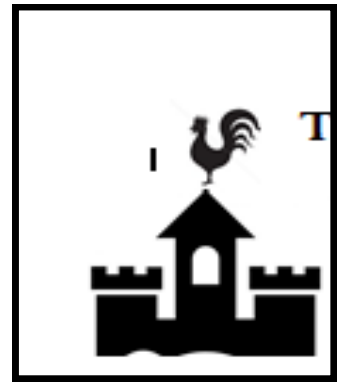
Thursday—pie night 5-11pm

Friday 5-11pm

Saturday all day

Sunday lunch 12-4pm

Evening menu is also available on the different food nights



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Qualified & Registered Foot Health Practitioner

Tel: 0749 309 2960

sophie@healthyfeetclinic.co.uk www.healthyfeetclinic.co.uk



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Cake Stands

Lanterns, Mirrors

Little Birch Parish Council

For updates and notifications of future meetings please check out the website – www.littlebirchparishcouncil.org.

Your Little Birch Parish Council Councillors are:-

CLlr Ben Roberts	Chairman	07702 760789	b3nroberts@gmail.com
CLlr Peter Rees		01981 541356	panddrees@gmail.com
CLlr Mike Morley		01981 541027	morley04@globalnet.co.uk
CLlr Annette Wissler		Contact through the clerk	
CLlr Janet Gwinnett		01981 540651	janetgwinnett@hotmail.com
Angela Middleton	Volunteer Foot Paths Officer	01981 540377	ajbmiddleton@hotmail.co.uk
Sophie Glover	PC Clerk	01432 617306	lbpcclerk@gmail.com

Parish Council meetings usually happen at 7.30pm on the first Wednesday of the month and all parishoners 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.

Thank you.

Mrs Sophie Glover, Little Birch Parish Clerk, lbpcclerk@gmail.com

Website: www.littlebirchparishcouncil.org

Little Birch Parish Facebook Group



JOIN OUR GROUP ON
Facebook

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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RING FOR A QUOTATION

MUCH BIRCH
07774 805369 / 01981 541109

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

Dates of Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meetings for 2019
All to be held at Much Birch Community Hall from 7.30pm

28 March, 2nd May, 30 May, 27 June, 29 August, 26 September, 31 October, 28 November.

A reminder that the dates for the 2019 Parish Council Meetings are as follows: March 7, April 4, May 9, June 6, July 4, September 5, October 3, November 7 and December 5.

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, Kingsthorpe, 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, Kingsthorpe, Hereford, HR2 8AX, e mail a.crum@btinternet.com
Tel. 01981 540002

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

Cllr Rosemary Rigby MBE Cartref, Tump Lane, Wormelow, Herefordshire, HR2 8HN Tel. 01981 540477

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>

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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

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For daily updates on incidents in your area register for our Dotmailer service via www.westmercia.police.uk.



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