# The Birches

**Community Matters Newsletter** Kingsthorn, Much Birch, Little Birch, Aconbury & Wormelow June 2024







FAMILY FETE & FUN DAY

Saturday 6th July - 2pm Castle Nibole Farm Just off Barrack Hill towards the Castle Inn

Bouncy castle, games, crafts, afternoonteas, strawberries & cream, plant stall, music, bottle stall, welly wanging, hot dogs

and much much more.



Donations for stalls would be much appreciated. Contact John Caton 01981 540415

All proceeds to Little Birch Church

Wildlife Flora & Fauna Walk p4

Table TennisTuesday 4th JuneLittle Birch Village Hall 7-9 £3



A

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# Summer Prize Bingo

LITTLE BIRCH VILLAGE HALL FRIDAY 21ST JUNE EYES DOWN AT 7:30PM



Fun for the whole family Refreshments avaliable

## Little Birch Village Hall Annual General Meeting

Thursday 13th June7.30pm

All welcome to come along and hear about all that happens in the hall.

Little Birch Village Hall committee are also looking for a treasurer. It is not a time consuming job but essential to the smooth running of the Village Hall. For more information phone Kate Dillon 01981 540364

## Violette Szabo Open Day Sunday 7th July

The parade sets off from the Park at Wormelow at 1.30 and proceeds to the Millenium Green. Bring a picnic. It is 80 years since Violette was arrested by the Nazis.



A local g strengthe events fo

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

The Jolly Gardener TheJollyGardener2502@gmail.com Kyle - 07850921889





### 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. The theme for June is **The Baby Bird Boom in June,** Creating or painting Baby birds in landscapes, nests etc. 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

### Adverts that Just Don't Work!

#### Hi Everyone,

Our world is flooded with adverts. Any part of life, it seems, can be converted into an advert. Driving along the motorway there are adverts in a field. Opening a newspaper or going online we immediately see an advert, watching the telly, there is another one—even the BBC advertise their own programmes.

They have become so much part of modern life that advertisers have to revert to more extreme ways to get their message across. We have grown used to the slew of Christmas adverts featuring carrots or soppy storylines, holiday destinations being advertised from January 1<sup>st</sup> and Easter adverts all about family get-togethers.

Occasionally, though, an advert gets notices for all the wrong reasons. The latest is Apple's new iPad advert – which had received a mauling. It was meant to show how you could do all sorts of things on the new iPad but was read as a way in which technology was crushing the soul out of creativity. This, along with the Pepsi advert of someone sharing a Pepsi with a policeman in riot gear just after the Black Lives Matter protests, will go down in history. So we are right to be cynical about them. But like the perfume ads that fill the airwaves before Christmas, they also divert our attention. We can't see the deeper things because the whole place is so cluttered. Why think about the generosity of God sending his son to be like us at Christmas when you can buy a new aftershave which will make you irresistible to the opposite sex? Why wonder about your vocation in life when you can satisfy your soul with a brandnew car—even though it won't get you to where you want to go any faster because of all the other cars on the road?

A little perspective is no bad thing and the writer of the Psalms said it some 3000 years ago in Psalm 62:

> <sup>1</sup> For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation.
>  <sup>2</sup> He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall never be shaken.

Let's find a place of silence, with no adverts, and wait on God to speak to us.

With every blessing, Revd Mark

Services Across the Birches Area		
Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June – Trinity 1	9.15 a.m. Much Dewchurch – Holy Communion	
	11.00 a.m. Little Birch – Holy Communion	
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> June – Trinity 2	9.15 a.m. Much Birch – Holy Communion	
	11.00 a.m. Little Birch – Morning Worship	
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup> June – Trinity 3	9.15 a.m. Much Birch - Morning Worship	
	11.00 a.m. Little Birch – Holy Communion in Traditional Language	
Sunday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June – Trinity 4	9.15 a.m. Llandinabo – Holy Communion in Traditional Language	
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> June – Birth of St. John the Bapti	st 11.00 a.m. Llanwarne Old Church – Holy Communion	

## **PJ Chapman Electrical Limited**

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# Much Birch Church Compost Still Available for free

If you would like some for your garden please help yourself. It is in the front churchyard under the trees to the left of the shed.



### King's Thorn & Little Birch Garden Club

### May 29<sup>th</sup> Propagation workshop led by club members

An interactive evening of demonstrations, hints & tips for successful propagation. Nichola Salter will also demonstrate/sharpen secateurs as time allows.
There will also be a chance to join the Club - £15 pa individual ; £25 pa for couple; £5 for visitor. Tea and coffee will be available with donations to the

### Advance Notice June 8<sup>th</sup> PLANT SALE in LBVH

Following on from last year's wonderful array of plants, generously donated by members, friends, family and local garden centres and nurseries. Donations for the sale gratefully received from 9.30am with the sale starting from 10.00 – 12.00. Come early to avoid disappointment! A great way to spend the morning!

### More Advance Notice: June 22<sup>nd</sup> – OPEN GARDENS

starting at 2.00pm at LBVH. £5 per person. Join us for an afternoon exploring the delights of local gardens, ending with tea and cake at the last garden.

### Meeting – July 31<sup>st</sup> Cream Tea in Old Rectory Orchard 3.00pm - £3 per person. A chance to sa-

vour tea and scones under the leafy shade. Feel free to bring your favourite picnic treats as well and join us for our summer social.

### Advance notice: September 6<sup>th</sup>Annual Horticultural Show: Children's Workshop

Little Birch Village Hall – 4.00pm. Come and make vegetable monsters and enter them in the Show.

### September 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Horticultural Show

Open to all. Everyone encouraged to enter produce/ cakes/ handicraft/etc. Details can be found on the schedule or from Lesley Chapman 07834 771838

### **Even more advanced Notice September 25<sup>th</sup> Garden Club Meeting** Angela & Graham O'Connell –

"**Beyond the Garden Gate**", The National Garden Scheme (NGS) past and present by NGS assistant county organisers for Herefordshire. This will be an interesting and informative talk about the NGS. Free to members - £5 for visitors. Do come and join us.







Join us for FREE training to learn essential life saving skills and how to use our new defibrillator. No prior training required. Age 10+.

# SAT 1ST JUNE 2024

TIME 11:00AM TO 1:00PM

LITTLE BIRCH VILLAGE HALL





**REFRESHMENTS** Tea, coffee and fresh homemade biscuits provided



HOW TO BOOK A PLACE Contact: Steve Coles E: Stevencoles.lbpc@gmail.com M: 07831162011

## Wildlife, Flora and Fauna Walk Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 2.00 pm from Little Birch Village Hall

The walk will be led by Andrew Nixon who has had a long career working in Conservation. Afterwards there will be refreshments at the village hall. Further details from <u>chrisfowler1@hotmail.co.uk</u> 07931292998

### Joseph Cooke Charity

The Trustees of the Joseph Cooke Trust, also known as (The Old Charities of Much Birch) are seeking anyone who lives in the parish of Much Birch and may need some additional support. The Charity was set up to help "The poor of the Parish" and aims to help those who are struggling.

If you are a student who needs a book grant, someone who needs a particular piece of equipment that you cannot afford or something similar, the Charity may be able to help you.

Please email Revd Mark at revmark100@yahoo.co.uk or contact him on 07882410759 for an application form. All applications will be treated in confidence. The closing date is 30th June 2024. **Revd Mark** 

# PLATES with Alison Allan

### LITTLE DEWCHURCH VILLAGE HALL

Monday 10am -11am General/Intermediate Level

Monday 11.15am -12.15pm Seniors/Gentle Level

Wednesday 7pm - 8pm General/Intermediate Level

Thursday 9.30am -10.30am General/Intermediate Level

## **Book Now**

07947 011707
 www.perfectbalance.life
 alison@perfectbalance.life

Join Alison Allan for Pilates Pilates sessions are taught as small group classes and as individual one to one sessions. Pilates is a great way to keep your body feeling gaile and energised. The

movements focus on posture, alignment, core strength, balance and flexibility.

### Coffee Morning With Book Exchange at Little Birch Village Hall

# Thursday 6th & Saturday 15th June 10.00–12.00 noon

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

# Sea Dreams Saundersfoot

A luxury self-catering cottage just minutes from the beach in Saundersfoot, Pembrokeshire.

seadreamssaundersfoot.co.uk stay@holidaysaundersfoot.co.uk Tel: 07885 604720

### 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.



**Coutryside Architecture** is the subject for June - churches, barns etc. For more information please contact Sally Nichol. tel. 07803 032928 01981 540001 email sally.nichol@btinternet.com

# Your Ad Could Be Here

The Birches Newsletter is distributed to over 200 households in Little Birch, Much Birch, Kingsthorn and Wormelow. Advertising rates are on p10. email: editorial@birchesnews.org.uk



Sausage Making Courses A fun hands-on course exploring all aspects of sausage making

Cookery Courses A selection of courses available changing with the Seasons

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My work led me around the world teaching individually and as a course leader offering WorkShops (or maybe RestShops!) to slowly soften, unwind and return home to ourselves, allowing our bodies to rest and our minds to slow down through profound yet simple relaxation practices. Maybe it's time to give yourself these easily learned gifts?

I hold regular small afternoon groups as well as individual sessions in my Garden Studio in Little Birch.

If you know you need to dial down please get in touch 07985 252166

#### Upcoming events : Deep Relaxation afternoons @ Little Birch Village Hall 10 Feb, 4 May, 3 August, 2 December.

Areas of interest and training include Yoga, Yin Yoga, Vinyasa Yoga, Reflexology, Fascia Release, Wheel of Consent, Shamanic Practices including Sweat Lodges



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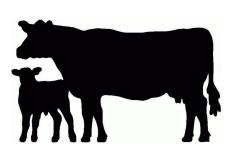
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Items for July/August newsletter to editorial@birchesnews.org.uk or paper copy to Elisabeth Taylor 07854 629193 by 8th July

# Ping's Hairdressing & Barbers



Experienced hairdresser and stylist located in own salon at Thorn Lodge, Aconbury Close (old Post Office site). Home visits can also be arranged. Weekend and evening appointments available. Reasonable rates. Fully C&G and NVQ certified. For appointments and further information phone Mobile 07450 343454 Or Home 01981 540876



### Jobs for the Garden in June

At last! Some warm sun on our backs and now a desperate attempt to catch up with all the work in the garden. As so often happens in this country we have had a sudden switch from cool to hot. Within a couple of days many seed trays, pots and large tubs needed watering, which leaves you thinking "What! after all the rain we have had?"

Peat free compost is now with us, and whilst I have found that good root systems have developed once the plants have established, a couple problems occur. The brand that I have been using has some John Innes added at source. It feels good, but like most peat free composts it is difficult to regulate watering. It can look dry on top with a crust but can be too wet underneath. This leads to some plants rotting off. If the compost is allowed to dry out completely, it is difficult to re-wet. It may be applicable to this batch only but I am finding numerous tomato seedlings popping up where they were unexpected. Hey Ho.

### Here are a few jobs for June

\*Dead head roses regularly cutting to a leaf beneath the flower.

\*Train climbing and rambling roses.

\*Feed tubs and other containers, and hanging baskets with high potash fertilizer (tomato feed is fine).

\*Spend some time dead heading all flowers as this will encourage them to provide a display for longer.

\*Support sweet peas. Cut flowers for indoor use and dead head regularly, not giving the little pea pod a chance to form. Small black beetles inhabit some of the blooms and when stems are taken indoors they leave the flowers and head for your windows. To get rid of them leave the vase in a hall at the opposite end to an outside door, leaving the door open or, the vase can be left in a shed for an hour or so with the door open. Essentially the blooms need to be in the dark with a light source some distance away.

\*Trim evergreen hedges checking for birds' nests <u>before</u> work commences.

\*Plant out dahlias.

\*Tomatoes grown as cordons should be tied to supports and sideshoots should be pinched out. Allow 7 trusses on indoor tomatoes and 4 outside before pinching out the growing tip.

\*Harden off and plant out tender crops such as aubergines , courgettes, sweet corn, squashes and tomatoes \*For succession keep sowing small quantities of radish, salad leaves, Spring onions, French beans, kohl rabi, beet and mangetout.

\*If early potatoes are growing in some form of container or in the ground wait until the flowers open and then carefully examine a root to see how the potatoes are progressing.

\*Plant out broccoli, calabrese, Brussels sprouts and both Summer and Autumn cabbage. Protect from both pigeons and butterflies with fine mesh netting. There are three types of caterpillar which can devastate your greens. There is the "mass produced" yellow and grey hooped variety, an emerald green type, laid as a single egg, quite often found lying on the vein of a leaf, and lastly, a small lemon yellow grub which burrows into the growing tip of the plant.

\*Sow carrots for overwintering.

\*Vent or shade the greenhouse on hot days.

\*Remove blanket weed from ponds, leave on the side for 24 hours to give creatures within it an opportunity to get back in the water. The weed can then be composted.

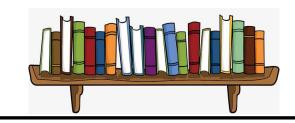
\*Keep the bird bath topped up with fresh water.

\*Many herbs produce flowers that are particularly attractive to bees. These include oregano, thyme, chives and borage. As well as their popularity in culinary use, the flowers are attractive and they provide bees with much need supplies for the hive. **Derek Scrivens** 

## **Calling all Book Lovers**

Little Birch Village Hall has an good collection of fiction as well as some non fiction which can be borrowed during **Coffee and Books** on the first Thursday and third Saturday of the month from 10-12. **Everyone welcome** 

> You can also enjoy tea, coffee, cake and good company



### **Much Birch Parish Council**

At the Annual Parish and Annual Statutory Much Birch Parish Council Meetings held in the Much Birch Community Hall on the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2024 from 7.30 pm the parish council elected a chair and a vice chair, plus other committees and officers were appointed. The Parish Council discussed the parish land further and would be looking at ideas for the future use of the part of the land near to "Valley View". There was also a discussion about an application for a piece of land on Barrack Hill, consultation number 233376. The parish council had previously commented on the application and had not received formal notification that it was being re-considered in May 2024. There were no further comments on the proposal from the parish council.

The dates for the forthcoming meetings, in the year 2024, are as advised below:

June 6<sup>th</sup>, July 4<sup>th</sup>, No meeting in August, Sept 5<sup>th</sup>, Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>, Nov 7<sup>th</sup> and Dec 5th

The next Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of the Much Birch Parish Council will be held on **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024 from 7.30pm** at the Much Birch Community Hall. All are welcome to attend. Please see notice boards and website for agendas. As always the public and press are more than welcome to attend the meeting and will have the opportunity to speak directly to their representatives.

### **Much Birch Parish Councillors**

**Cllr Alison Cook** (Chair) Jasmine Cottage, Wrigglebrook Lane, Kingsthorne HR2 8AW, <u>thecooks@wyenet.co.uk</u> 01981 540703

Clir Andrew Crum Tan-y-coed, Barrack Hill, Kingsthorne, HR2 8AX, <u>a.crum@btinternet.com</u> 01981 540002 Clir Roisin Burge The Old Hall, Barrack Hill, Little Birch HR2 8AX <u>roisinburge@hotmail.com</u> 01981 540724

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

**Cllr Joseph Goldsmith** Quantock House, Hollybush Lane, Much Birch, HR2 8HX josephagoldsmith@hotmail.com 07967 728590

**Cllr Michael Agyeman** Little Willow, Wrigglebrook, Kingsthorne HR2 8AU 01981 540840

magyeman92@gmail.com

Parish Clerk Mrs Alison Wright Longfield House, Gooses Foot, Kingstone HR2 9NE <u>muchbirchclerk@gmail.com</u> 01981 250860 Minutes of meetings www.muchbirchparish.org.uk.

https:twitter.comMuchBirchPChttps://www.facebook.co/ groups/Much.Birch.Parish 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

### **Footpath Officers**

If you have any queries about footpaths, contact: Little Birch and Aconbury: Chris Fowler chrisfowler1@hotmail.co.uk 07931 292998

Much Birch including Kingsthorne: David Irwin david.irwin13@btinternet.com 07766 135068

### 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. *Little Birch Parish Group* on Facebook

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## **Diary Dates June 2024**

Heartstart training Sat 1st LBVH Table Tennis Tues 4th LBVH	р4 р1
Coffee & Books Thurs 6th LBVH	p5
MBPC Thurs 6th MBCH	р9
Community Café Sat 8th MBCH	p2
Garden Club Sat 8th	P4
LBPC AGM 13th	р9
Coffee & Books Sat 15th LBVH	р5
Bingo Fri 21st	p2
Garden Club Wed 29th LBVH	р4

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¼ page	£5.40 per issue or £54 per year	
<sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> page £9.60 per issue or £96 per year Payment by BACS through Santander		
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### **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