

The Black Mountains Group Benefice

NEWSLETTER

March 2024



**The Parishes of Clodock & Longtown with Craswall, Llanveynoe,
St Margaret's, Michaelchurch Escley & Newton**

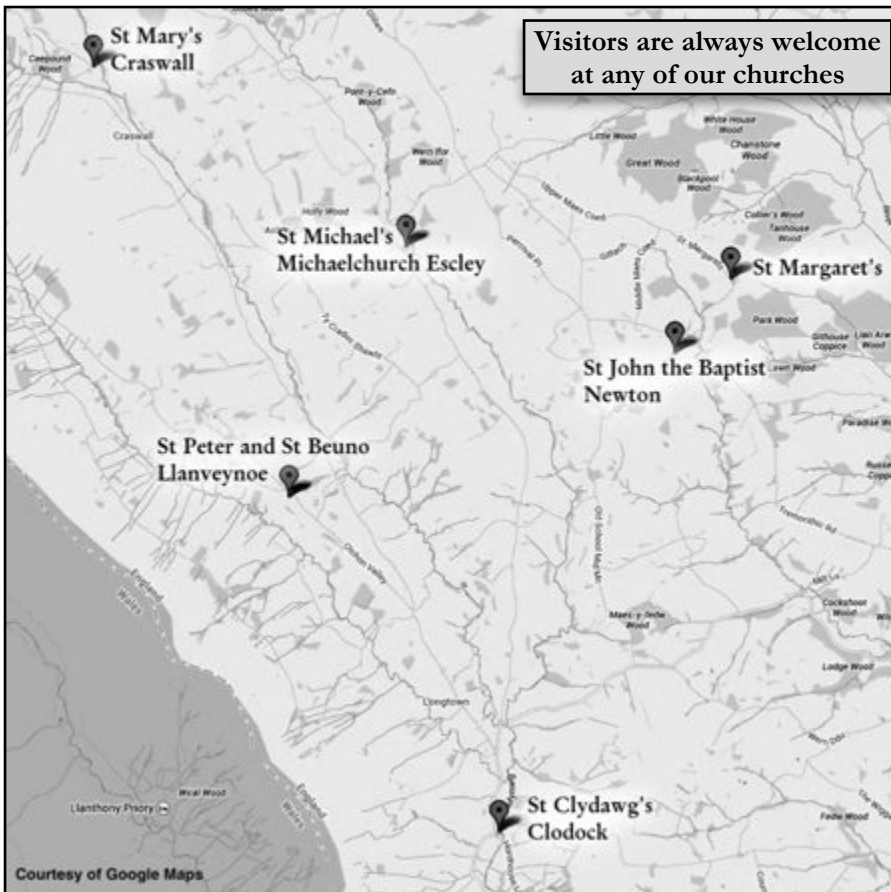
Part of the Abbeydore Deanery
abbeydoredeanery.org / abbeydoredmc@gmail.com
01981 620145 / 07432 873422

Min
£1
donation

Rev. Mark Godson: revmarkgodson@gmail.com
Rev. Luci Morris: luci.borderlinkbenefice@outlook.com

www.bmgparishes.org.uk





Churchwardens

Clodock & Longtown

Mr Nick Vaughan 01873 860201

Craswall

Mrs Christine Cleaton 01981 510674

Llanveynoe

Mr Donald Phillips 01873 860298

Commodore Peter Tribe 01873 860260

St Margaret's

Mrs Jane Baxter 01981 510388

Michaelchurch Esley

Mrs Olive Howells 01981 510228

Mr Chris Atkins 07767 687242
cdsatkins@gmail.com

Newton

(Vacant)

Please ensure all copy is with the editor by email or post before the deadline below.

Please send copy to newsletter@corefields.com

Editor:

Mark Ewins
Marlands
Longtown HR2 0PD
01873 860829
mark@corefields.com

Advertising:

Jill Cook
Clodock Mill
Longtown HR2 0PD
01873 860408
jill@clodockmill.com

ISSUE

April 2024

May 2024

June 2024

COPY DEADLINE

20 March 2024

17 April 2024

15 May 2024

PUBLICATION DATE

31 March 2024 (Easter Day)

28 April 2024

26 May 2024

Newsletter by
EMAIL



**Would you like to
Receive future
editions by email?**

For a suggested donation of **£6 per year** a copy of each edition will be personally emailed to you in PDF format. Subscriptions may be paid by cheque or BACS.

**Enquiries to mark@corefields.com
Subject: Newsletter by email**

Please consider a subscription

For details please contact the editor.

We suggest a minimum donation of **£11 per year** if you are willing to collect your copy from a church, pub, Hopes of Longtown. For email subscription, please see above.

We suggest a minimum donation of **£20 per year** if you would like a copy posted to you.

Subscriptions may be paid either by cheque made payable to *Black Mountains Group Newsletter* and sent to the editor, or via BACS, details by email from the editor.

Privacy Statement

We hold contact details for subscribers to this newsletter, for contributors and for advertisers. The data we hold is restricted to your email address and telephone number, and postal address for subscribers who do not receive an electronic copy of this newsletter.

All data held is solely for the purpose of producing and distributing this newsletter. It is not available in any form to any third party. The legal bases for holding this data are Contract and Legitimate Interest. Your data will be deleted on termination or expiration of a contract or subscription, or on personal demand. For contractual and subscription purposes, the date of your most recent payment will constitute the date of consent for us to hold your data.

From the Clergy

Spring feels just around the corner. Daylight is stretching itself further across the day; daffodils are breaking bud and the birds are singing earlier and louder each day ... wonderful!

Spring tempts us to become like Mole at the opening of 'The Wind in the Willows', over busying ourselves with spring cleaning ('how did those windows become so smeary?') or a host of exciting new projects.

We can take a similar approach in our spiritual lives. Lent arrives with a burgeoning list of newly published books for us to buy (and possibly even to read!) and there are also a host of online resources which can conveniently be delivered to our inbox each morning. We're tempted to wonder if this may be *the* Lent that makes all the difference to our journey with God.

But what if we were to step aside from all those exciting options? What if less might be more? Might we learn to shed some of the 'stuff' we carry, and walk a little more lightly, whilst appreciating there might be some heavy loads we can't lay down right now? If we can be less weighed down, we might look around and notice all that's good – the beauty of our countryside, the kindness of neighbours. Lent could become a time to notice God working in the mundane, daily routines of life or, as a I read recently, we might 'discover the holiness of the ordinary.' This is good news if we're feeling worn out and untouched by spring-time vigour.

Amid his busyness, Mole heard another spring-time voice, one that instead drew him out of his underground home to roll in the warm grass of a meadow. In that moment, he noticed the sun's warmth on his fur, the bird's song, the 'joy of living and the delight of spring without the cleaning'.

It's in these moments of deep connection with all of God's creation that I feel God's presence most keenly. Held in that presence, I also feel able to reflect honestly on where I am on my spiritual journey with God. It's in these holy moments that transformation can happen.

So, let's embrace the wisdom of Mole this Lent, let's lay down our paintbrushes (or whatever distractions we carry) and find ourselves a meadow ... or even just our own back lawn!

Blessings – Revd Luci

MARCH READINGS

Sunday 3rd March

Old Testament	Exodus 20: 1-17
New Testament	1 Corinthians 1: 18-25
Gospel	John 2: 13-22
Psalm	19

Sunday 10th March – Mothering Sunday

Old Testament	Exodus 2: 1-10
New Testament	2 Corinthians 1: 3-7
Gospel	Luke 2: 33-35
Psalm	34: 11-20

Sunday 17th March

Old Testament	Jeremiah 31: 31-34
New Testament	Hebrews 5: 5-10
Gospel	John 12: 20-33
Psalm	51: 1-13

Sunday 24th March – Palm Sunday

Old Testament	Psalm 118: 1, 2-19-end
Gospel	Mark 11: 1 -11 or John 12: 12-16

Sunday 31st March – Easter Day

Old Testament	Acts 10: 34-43 or Isaiah 25: 6-9
New Testament	1 Corinthians 15: 1-11 or Acts 10: 34-43
Gospel	John 20: 1-18 or Mark 16: 1-8
Psalm	118: 1-2, 14-24

APRIL READINGS

Sunday 7th April

Old Testament	Acts 4: 32-35
New Testament	1 John 1: 1-2.2
Gospel	John 20: 19-end
Psalm	133

Deanery Update

As we enter spring, here are a few key dates for your diaries.

Deanery Service

We haven't held a Deanery-wide service for a little while, so do put Sunday **30th June** in your diary at **3pm** and come and join us for a service of celebration. More details will be available as the time gets closer.

The Gathering

Join us via Zoom on the evening of **March 13th** at **7pm** for an update about what's going on within the Deanery. This time we will be hearing and sharing about experiences of leading worship. Everyone is welcome, get in touch for the link.

Grow Strong

By the time you read this, the group will have been indoor climbing and night-time canoeing so far this year. The next time will be a Hill Adventure on **Friday 22nd March** at **6pm**. Anyone in Year 6 or above at school is really welcome.

Golden Valley Pilgrim Way

You'll continue to see pilgrims walking the circular route through the Deanery during the spring and we are organising some guided pilgrimages in conjunction with the British Pilgrimage Trust. The first one takes place in mid-May, there are more details on our website.

Lent, Palm Sunday and Easter Day

Do keep checking our website, subscribe to our regular email update or give us a ring for details of services for this season.

For up-to-date information:

- Keep an eye on our website, abbeydoredeanery.org
- Follow our **Abbeydore Deanery** Facebook page or join our Facebook group
- Subscribe to our regular email update:
<http://eepurl.com/ggcfPj>
- Get in touch with the Deanery Office on **01981 620145** or abbeydoredmc@gmail.com

FOOD FOR FAMILIES – EASTER 2024

A huge thank you to all who have contributed to Food for Families before Christmas.

We are happy to confirm that we will be sending out food boxes again before the Easter holidays. Please be assured that your help and contributions are very gratefully received. Every time we do this we as churches and communities show our care for families in the area.

Food for Families - ways to help - Easter 2024

You can help by giving food or money, or by helping to pack boxes or deliver to local schools.

Donations of money

Account name:

Madley Parochial Church Council Treasurers Account

Sort Code: 30-94-14

Account number: 00393216

Please reference “**Food for Families**” to identify your donation.

Donations of food

We need any of the following: tinned food - tuna, meat, beans, veg, soups, boxes of biscuits, ketchup, tea bags, coffee, jam, honey, cereal. Also, at Eastertime it's lovely if we can include Easter eggs so those would also be a good donation.

Packing and Delivering

Packing from **Friday 15th March**.

Delivery to schools: **Wednesday 20th, Thursday 21st, Friday 22nd March**. To help with either please contact: juliemalunn@btinternet.com

See below for nearest collection point:

Dore Abbey Open daily from 9.00am till 5pm

St Michael's Ewyas Harold Open daily from 9.00am 'til 5pm

Kilpeck Open daily from 8.30am till 5pm

Contact Annie Robertson anniemidwife@gmail.com or Fiona Garfield fiona.garfield@googlemail.com if you need further details.

Allensmore Donations to church at anytime

Clehonger Donations to church when there is a service- 3rd Sunday of the month at 10.30am

Eaton Bishop Donations to church when there is a service - 2nd Sunday of the month at 10.30am, or to Eaton Bishop Village Market in the village hall 1st Saturday of the month June and July 10.00-12.00

Kingstone Donations to church during the regular weekly events -Take a Pew every Thursday 2.00-4.00pm, or **Kingstone Kafe** 1st & 3rd Wednesdays every month 11.00-2.00pm.

Thrupton Donations to church at any time.

Contact Mary Stevenson if you need further details marylmstev@gmail.com

The Hub at St Peters (open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9.00am to 3.00pm).

Madley Church (open daily from 10.00am to 4.00pm)

(Contact Julie Lunn if you need further details juliemalunn@btinternet.com)

SALEM BAPTIST CHAPEL

Llanwonog Lane Longtown HR2 0LE



SUNDAY SERVICES

- 3 Mar 6.30 pm Mr Graham Powell
- 10 Mar 6.30 pm Mr Wilf Prosser
- 17 Mar 6.30 pm Revd Malcolm Lane
- 24 Mar 6.30 pm PALM SUNDAY [Communion]
Revd Lynne Davis
- 31 Mar 6.30 pm EASTER PRAISE
Revd Joy James

EASTER DISPLAY

Friday 29 March to Saturday 6 April
Chapel Open 10am-4pm

ALL WELCOME

For further information, please email lsbc@gmail.com

Forthcoming events

Longtown Community Pre-School

Open Day



Looking for an idyllic rural pre-school for your little ones?
You are warmly invited to take a sneak peek inside our beautiful pre-school on
Friday 1st March 2024 1:15pm to 2:45pm
Find us nestled beneath Longtown Castle,
Longtown village, Hereford. HR2 0LE



Places currently available but being snapped up fast!
NEF 15hrs funded for all children over 2yrs from April 2024.
For more information contact school admin on 01873 860239
admin@longtown.hereford.sch.uk

Tif and Leanne Hunter

Invite you to a LENT LUNCH

Saturday, 2nd March, 12.00 to 2.00pm.

at Lower Ponthendre Barn

(between Longtown and Clodock HR2 0NY)

Come and go as you wish 12.00 to 2.00pm.

All donations to Embrace the Middle East Gaza Crisis Appeal, the Al Ahli hospital.

LONGTOWN AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Monday March 4th at 7.30pm

Longtown Village Hall, HR2 0LD

**Tony Usher: *Roman Roads to Railway:
Transportation in Herefordshire***

Membership £6 for Season until July

Guests £4 per Meeting

Contact: jerrypdavis@outlook.com for details

Longtown Library

now open,

Every first Wednesday of the month

2.30 - 4.30 pm

Swap books, tea and chat!

6th March

FLICKS IN THE STICKS

Borderlines Film Festival 2024 coming to Michaelchurch's Esleyside Hall HR2 0PT.

The Flicks in the Sticks Team are proud to present to you 2 films as part of the Borderlines Festival:

Wednesday 6th March: TOKYO STORY

[Cert U; 136mins; Japanese with English subtitles]

Described by the Guardian as a work of art from 1953, this film was re-released in 2023 for its 70th anniversary. An elderly couple make the journey to visit their children and grandchildren in the city. Their offspring are too busy with their own lives to care until too late. The dignity of old age and the insensitivity of a younger generation are said to be movingly portrayed.

Tuesday 12th March: PAST LIVES

2023; Cert 12a; 130mins; English subtitles
Director Celine Song

Childhood friends Nora and Hae Sung are separated when Nora's family emigrates from South Korea. They meet up again 20 years later in 1 fateful week. Described as a beautifully depicted love story that stretches over the years and that crosses continents.

For both films doors open at 7pm.
Limited Bar [please bring change]

Japanese style snacks an added bonus with TOKYO STORY

Films start at 7.30pm.

Tickets: Adult £5.50; Child £3.50 via borderlinesfilmfestival.org or phone 01981 510116

LONGTOWN THURSDAY CLUB

Following the winter break, meetings will resume on **Thursday 7th March.**

New members would be welcome. We meet every other Thursday from 2pm to 5pm at the Village Hall, with a programme of trips throughout the year.

Anyone wishing to join, please contact Hazel Pugh on 01873 860803.

NEWTON ST MARGARETS WOMEN'S GUILD

Thursday 14th March at 7.30pm

Newton Parish Room HR2 0QN

Do come and join us for "The Man Who Would Marry a Mountain". Bob Burson is returning to take us on another of his adventures. (OK just virtually!)

All welcome. *Donations for Schools in Uganda.* There will be refreshments.

Jane Hopcroft

Concerts for Craswall

present

THE MARMEN QUARTET

Saturday March 16th at 5pm

at St Michael's Church, Michaelchurch Escley HR2 0JW

Haydn String Quartet Op. 33 No. 6

Debussy String Quartet

Mozart String Quartet K159

Ravel String Quartet

In this French double header Ravel and Debussy are coupled with two lesser-known works by Mozart and Haydn. It's a bright and joyful, indeed youthful programme - when writing these pieces Mozart was 16, Ravel 28 and Debussy 31. Haydn was 49, although one can safely say that he stayed a young spirit throughout his life!

With a growing reputation for the courage, vitality, and intensity of its performances The Marmen Quartet is fast establishing itself as one of the most impressive and engaging new talents in the chamber music arena. Winners of both the Bordeaux International String Quartet Competition and Banff International String Quartet Competition, they were also awarded the Haydn and Canadian Commission prizes.

**Tickets: Standard £20, Restricted View (Rear of Stage) £15,
Student under 25 £10.**

Full programme details and tickets

www.concertsforcraswall.org or 01981 510112

(also see p5 for 26th May programme)

A STROLL AROUND THE MATTERHORN



A Talk by Bob Burson

FRIDAY 22nd of MARCH

7.30pm at CRASWALL HALL

£5.00 ADMISSION includes refreshments after the talk

ALL PROFITS FROM THE EVENING WILL GO TO

"SCHOOLS FOR UGANDA" and CRASWALL CHURCH



Speaking of water, swimming lessons have started up again at Michaelchurch. These lessons take place at a private pool in Bronllys and are run by our two qualified swimming instructors/lifeguards Miss Cook and Mrs Davies (nee Miss Matthews). The lessons take part throughout the year and children receive the instruction every year of their time with us until they can swim.

In school, we have had great fun at our exciting after-school clubs this term. The drama club, provided by the Courtyard Theatre, has been extremely popular and the children have had great fun exercising their theatrical talents. Likewise, cookery club have continued to produce some delicious baked goods – most recently they made cheese scones which were delicious! In addition to this we have a highly popular Craft Club where creativity is the order of the day!


Coming up, the whole school are heading into Hay on Wye for a World Book Day day out. Then Acorn Class are heading off to West Midland Safari Park, Sapling (the middle class – 7, 8 and 9yr olds) are going all Viking up at the Battlelands Paintball Centre and Oak Class are heading to Gloucester to visit Gloucester Mosque and Cathedral. Pre-school meanwhile are heading off to a local farm, hoping to see some newborn lambs!

Finally, we will be holding another one of our highly popular Welly Walks on Tuesday 5th March, from 9:15 to 11am. Parents/carers with children aged 2 to 4 are very welcome to join us for a delightful ramble over our beautiful local environment. This will be followed by hot choc, toasts and some singing back in preschool after the walk. Please do get in touch if you'd like to join us!

Please note: we still have space in a few year groups so if you would like your child to be educated in an environment of kindness and respect, in a setting dedicated to giving children the broadest range of interesting and engaging experiences it can, then please get in touch. You can email us on admin@michaelchurch-escley.hereford.sch.uk or call on 01981 510208. Alternatively, you can message us through our Facebook page

*Louise Headteacher
Michaelchurch Escley Primary and Preschool*

Sack Trucks and Wheelbarrows



TALK 7.30pm, Wednesday 3rd April
Escleyside Hall

Scrapper, ramper, crome, docking iron, thistle bodger, homi... these are just some of the unusual tools Paul Hand has collected worldwide. Paul is an organic gardener who uses the the "no dig" method.

Annual Membership: £15 Non-members: £5
See more at: www.escleysideegc.wixsite.com/club

Michaelchurch Escley and District Sports Pavilion Quiz Night

Friday 5th April – Quiz Night

Michaelchurch Escley and District Sports Pavilion
7pm start
£5 per person
Up to 5 in a team
Food and drink available charged separately

Local Newsround

MICHAELCHURCH ESCLEY PRIMARY & PRE-SCHOOL
Well, what a short half term the first half of the Spring Term has been! Five weeks is not much but it is enough for the children and staff at Michaelchurch to pack a fair bit of fun and active, outdoor learning in.

Not long into the term, Oak Class (our oldest children in the school) headed off into the stunningly beautiful hills around Knighton to visit the Spaceguard Centre – an astronomical centre dedicated to the search of near Earth objects; that is to say, big chunks of rock flying through space that might collide with our planet! They learnt tons about the solar system and how to explore the night skies.

Also out and about were Acorn Class (our 5, 6 and 7yr olds), as they visited the excellent Waterworks Museum in Hereford. There they engaged in a whole host of watery activities. They had a wonderful time and learnt a lot about how safe drinking water is delivered to thousands of homes.

VOWCHURCH & DISTRICT GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

The Lengthsman contract is due for renewal on 1st April 2024. The Parish Council would like to invite any interested contractors to tender for the work. The job currently involves, but is not limited to, monthly visits to the parish to maintain the roadside grips, clear gullies, jet pipes and some strimming through the summer months along with nominated tasks when requested by the parish. Any applicants must hold relevant insurance and certificates to enable them to work on the public highway. If you would like further information, please contact the clerk.

Save the Date – The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on **Thursday 25th April 2024** at Escleyside Hall, Michaelchurch Escley from 7pm. Tim Hoverd, Herefordshire Council's Archaeological Project Manager will be talking about the excavations at Snodhill Castle. Please do come along to hear what Tim has to say and meet your local Parish Councillors. Light refreshments will be provided.

Have you ever considered becoming an on-call Firefighter? If so, the fire service would like to hear from you. Are you over 18 years of age and live or work within 5 minutes of a fire station, if so, you could help support the local fire service. If interested please contact Hereford and Worcester Fire and Rescue Services for further information at <https://www.hwfire.org.uk/join-us/retained-firefighter/> The Parish Council has a new email address, please contact Linda, the Clerk at clerk@vowchurchgroup-pc.gov.uk

Linda Cowles, Parish Clerk
01544 321906 / clerk@vowchurchgroup-pc.gov.uk
Website: <http://www.vowchurchpc.org.uk>

Round and About

VOWCHURCH VILLAGE HALL

The village pub Friday March 8 6pm - 10pm. Food, bar, games, warmth.

Vowchurch Market Saturday March 30 10am - 12noon.
Early Spring produce, raffle and Easter bonnets.

Bowls Wednesdays 6.30 at Vowchurch Hall Contact Richard Stokes 01981 250237 rtastokes@hotmail.co.uk

Pilates Tuesdays 9.15 - 10.15 and 6pm - 8pm. Vowchurch Hall. Contact Hannah Thomas hannahmthomas@hotmail.com

Tiji Tuesdays 10.30 Contact Jane Fleet janefleet88@gmail.com

V&T 50 Club February winners were Cynthia Comyn (65) £70, Cliff Price (27) £20.

THE MONDAY CLUB

This friendly little club is run at Peterchurch Village Hall every Monday serving Teas and Coffee.

On Monday the 29th January the Wye Singers came to sing for us. Many thanks to them everyone thoroughly enjoyed it.

We unfortunately heard that one of our members, Marion Castree, passed away in hospital. Marion was one of the first people to come to our little club when we first started and for many years she ran our fortnightly raffle. (It was very difficult to get away without buying a ticket). These helped out with the funding of the coach trips. We send our condolences to her family. She will be very much missed.

We have also had a few people in hospital recently and we wish them all a speedy recovery.

On **Monday 19th** we are going to Casa Lupo for a meal. Many thanks to Kay and Mark for opening up especially for us.

I know that there has been much discussion about trips this coming year so no doubt I will be able to report when these occur.

We will be opening for the winter every Monday 10 m -1pm.

We are always looking for volunteers and if you feel that you would like to help us as a volunteer, please ring Mrs. Kath Gaze at 01981 550579. You don't have to do it every Monday. We are happy with any time available. It's just making Tea and Coffee.

Notices and Advertisements

HAY Music

Friday, 15 March at 7.30pm at Hay Castle
Saturday, 16 March at 8.00pm at The Globe at Hay

THE MIKELEIZ-ZUCCHI DUO

15 March: from Pretorius to Piazzolla - a varied programme from this versatile accordion/saxophone duo.

16 March: a relaxed Tango-based evening.

Full details and tickets at www.haymusic.org
Tickets also from the Hay Tourist Bureau

Concerts for Craswall

present

HOPE CRAMSIE

Sunday May 26th at 3.30pm

St Mary's Church, Craswall HR2 0PN

Dowland	Forlorn Hope Fancy
Malcolm Arnold	Fantasy for Guitar
Laura Snowden	This changing sky
Lennox Berkely	Sonatina
William Walton	Bagatelle 2 & 3, from Five Bagatelles for Guitar

Folk song arrangements tbc

Making a welcome return, this exciting classical guitar player from Herefordshire will perform a thrilling programme of music spanning Dowland's Renaissance piece "Forlorn Hope Fancy" to the poise and intensity of Laura Snowden's 21st century "This Changing Sky".

This diverse repertoire showcases Hope's versatility as a performer, exposing the wide array of sound, colour and expressive techniques of the guitar, with the aim to leave the audience thinking: "I didn't know the guitar could do that".

Be sure to book early. Tickets are selling fast!

Adult £15, Student under 25 £7.50

Full programme details and tickets

www.concertsforcraswall.org or 01981 510112.

Farm for the Future

Free support from a trusted local partner who will help you tackle the challenges your farm faces and understand more about the post-BPS opportunities.

Sign up
for free!

What's on offer?

- Workshop on business efficiency
- Bespoke workshops tailored to your interests
- Get to know your local farming community
- Workshop on environmental schemes
- Ongoing & one-to-one support





01873 860 444

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri:	7.30 am - 5.30 pm
Late night Thurs:	7.30 am - 7.00 pm
Saturday:	7.30 am - 4.00 pm
Sunday (Nov - April):	10.00 am - 2.00 pm
(May - Oct):	10.00 am - 12 noon
Bank Holiday Mondays	10.00 am - 2.00 pm

Help us reach our target

At our January team meeting, we decided that we are concerned about batteries going into landfill. For nearly a decade we have had a collection point on site for recycling batteries that are collected from us twice a year.

In 2024 our target is to collect and therefore send off for recycling 120kg of batteries; yes that's right we hope you drop off 10kg of batteries every month.

Where? As you look at the Post office to the bottom right there is a white labelled collection, pop your batteries in there and we will keep you updated. (Please tell your friends and family too)

New products for March, making a trip to us worthwhile as every time we have something new to offer

- ★ Blood oranges & purple sprouting
- ★ Travel towels for a quick dry
- ★ Peach & Turmeric kombucha in a handy can
- ★ Homeworker Magazine - balancing work commitments in the home environment
- ★ Franchi borage seeds

Westminster

In February Christine had a little trip to London, asked by the ACS (Association of Convenience Stores) to represent the views on the membership in a question and answer session. It was a joint event with the Rural Services Network and I did go a little off piste informing the three MPs present that not everywhere has great digital infrastructure, luckily Roger Phillips (Chairman of Herefordshire Council) was also on the panel and backed up the poor digital accessibility we have in the area. The Minister for Small Business Kevin Hollinrake MP visited and with a corridor conversation I asked a specific conversation and if it ever happens you will read it in a newsletter piece first!

Our wonderful Saturday Judy – has been a great team member and we wish her every success in her new role at the Small Breeds park, if you are visiting go and say hello.

Cadbury Celebration

Cadbury's impact over the past 200 years extends far beyond just creating delicious treats. Driven by a foundational spirit of generosity and kindness, Cadbury has helped nurture local communities and economies by investing in its factories, sites and employees. To mark this anniversary, Cadbury will partner with Alzheimer's Research UK, donating £200,000 to support research to one day find a cure for dementia and drive awareness of the condition. If nothing changes, one in two people will be affected by dementia in their lifetime, either by developing it themselves, caring for someone with the condition, or both.

Franchi Seeds – get sowing

We have updated our entire seed range with a brand new delivery on the 16th Feb and popped it into the outside wood shed so you can browse with ease at your leisure.

We will be placing weekly orders to top up so if you see a seed variety you want don't hesitate to ask and we can get it in. We choose Franchi seeds as they are designed for UK temperatures, they support the Slow Food seed bank giving heritage varieties access to all and when the war broke out in Ukraine they were not using their van, taking immediate action taking supplies to Ukraine.

LONGTOWN POST OFFICE

Saturday 9am ~ 11am & Monday to Friday 10.30am ~ 3.30pm

Why do we ask so many questions when I'm posting an item?

There are multiple ways to post an item and services are worked out on size and weight, we are here to help so we have five easy questions to get the best possible result for you and ensure your item is insured to the right level. Putting the item to post on the scales is the first part of the process followed by what's in the parcel for safety purposes, can you guess what the next question is and why?

New saving summary box dates are out

Pick up a leaflet or check it out online, pretty please with either use or FAD code 265186. We get a big star and a little commission from the Post Office for saving and insurance policies.

Special and Presentation stamps

Ooh, Viking stamps are on sale from the 20th of February followed by The Age of Dinosaur on the 12th March. Presentation packs are great gift when they match perfectly with a person's interest and hobby.

Get euros immediately at Longtown Post Office and other currencies next day

- Euro available in multiples of €20 notes
- Currencies can be ordered for collection
- When purchasing foreign currencies at the Post Office, taking cash out before the transaction free of charge removes handling fees by some banking providers.

To chase a letter or parcel please call Royal Mail Hereford on 01432 346100



Hopes of Longtown – Open seven days a week 01873 860444

www.hopesoflongtown.co.uk / @HopesofLongtown / info@hopesoflongtown.co.uk

Join our Facebook group Hopes of Longtown and post community/charity events for free

Like our Hopes of Longtown business page to keep up to date with news

Tag us in your passion for food and community via Twitter / Instagram / Pinterest / Facebook

Agricultural services

ANDREW PHILLIPS, GLANDWR FARM
Agricultural & Domestic Weed Control
 Large and small areas
Fencing and Ditch cleaning
 Small and large bales of Hay and Straw
Weed wiping service
 Any amounts
 01873 860208 / 07903 933820



MARK LEWIS

HEDGELAYING & FENCING

Agricultural - Domestic - Equestrian
 01981 241115 07807 079027
 marklewishedgelaying@gmail.com

Animal care



The Wild Bird Store

Wild Bird Food and Accessories
 01432 340500

www.thewildbirdstore.co.uk

Free delivery in Herefordshire every weekday from 9.30 am

Unit 7, Ramsden Court, Rotherwas Hereford HR2 6NT

Retail store open Monday-Friday, 9am to 12.30pm
 Call for your free 24 page catalogue



Edward Fletcher BSc (Hons) MSc MRICS
 Associate Rural Surveyor

PROPERTY CONSULTANTS • LAND & ESTATE AGENTS
 CHARTERED SURVEYORS • PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Singleton Court Business Park, Wonastow Road, Monmouth NP25 5JA

T 01600 714140 M 07883 398586
 E edward.fletcher@powellsrural.co.uk
 W www.powellsrural.co.uk

Kymin
 Financial Planners

Contact **Simon Aston**
 on **01633 840000**

For advice on Savings, Investments and Retirement Planning

w: www.kymin.co.uk
 t: **01633 840000**
 e: info@kymin.co.uk

Kymin House, 35 Bridge Street, Newport, South Wales. NP20 4BH

Kymin Financial Services Ltd is Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Firm Ref No. 1199316



Agricultural Insurance
 with Price Checker

INDEPENDENT ADVICE • COMPETITIVE COVER
 50 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Farm Insurance

Abergavenny based Neil Smith is best placed to give Independent Advice, Great Premiums, Great Cover being a Farmer in his own right.

Satisfied with your existing Insurer or not, it won't cost you anything to get a quote?

Pick up the phone and give Neil a call on 07885 257788 quoting Black Mountains Group Newsletter for your 20% discount.

T: 07885 257788 E: neil@frball.com
 W: www.frball.com

Food & Catering

The Crown Inn

Traditional Sunday Lunch Served
 All Day Sunday Restaurant & Bar



Meals served every day (except Wednesday during term times)

Real Ale & Local Ciders T&B Available Cuts de Bars & Catering
 Theme Nights, Beer Festivals, Live Music
 Please check for forthcoming events

The Crown Inn, Longtown, Hereford. HR2 0LT
 Tel: (01873) 860 217
www.crowninnlongtown.co.uk

Rowlestone Farm Ice Cream

Ice cream parlour on farm coffee shop & light lunches. Woodland walks & play areas
 Ice cream for sale on farm all year round

OPEN

April to the end of September
 11 to 4 Wednesday - to Friday
 11 to 5 Weekends & Bank Holiday Mondays

Tel: 01981 240322
info@rowlestonecourt.co.uk

Health and well-being



Anita

**MOBILE UNISEX
 HAIRDRESSER**
 01873 860279

Blackhill Donkeys

Equine facilitated practitioner

Wellness days and Retreats with donkeys
 Donkey assisted activities



Walks - Explore the local highways and byways in the company of our long-eared friends



School holiday activities
 Booking essential

Sue Jones

siouxdoyle@hotmail.co.uk
 07934 424328 / 01981 510269

Arts

THE HAY BINDERS
 (Christine Cleaton)

Repair, restoration and rebinding of cloth and leather bound books.
 New binding in historic or modern styles

The Blacksmiths Shop, Lion Street, Hay-on-Wye, Hereford. HR3 5AD
 Tel: (01497) 820840 or (01981) 510674
www.thehaybinders.co.uk

Business & Financial

HOPE TO ACHIEVE

Helping enterprise to flourish

Chief Helper
Christine Hope
 07875 384439

www.hopetoachieve.co.uk

Passionate about rural business, entrepreneurship and making a difference

SARAH L. HOPE BSc. (Ost)

Registered Osteopath

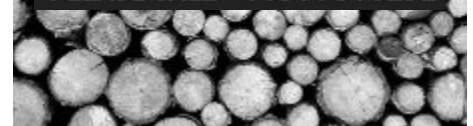
Old Hall Farm, Orcop, Herefordshire HR2 8ET

Tel: 01981 580 371

Home and Domestic

LOGS FOR SALE
 FREE LOCAL DELIVERY

PLEASE CALL - 01981 510292



Local Makers

FIONA'S FURNISHINGS

For all your soft furnishing needs - curtains, pelmets, blinds, cushions, bedding and more

Please contact

Fiona Witcher

01981 242040 / 07811 396258

City & Guilds qualified. Free home consultation.



Printing & Embroidery

- *School uniform
- *Workwear
- *T shirt printing
- *Banners
- *Stickers

Fast and friendly local service!
 Based in Peterchurch.

Formerly Printzwear

PRINTZ AND LOGOS

07774 457887/07590 888104
printz.logos@gmail.com

Sew JoRo

Jo Rowland

Dressmaker

Clothing, costumes and soft furnishings

Fountain Cottage
Newton St Margarets
Hereford
HR2 0QW

jo.rowland@hotmail.com
01981 510136
07917 125053



Maintenance & Services

THE GUN WORKS

Airguns
Shotguns
Rifles

Servicing, Repairs, Alterations,
Refinishing and Gun Fitting.

Registered Firearms Dealer

Contact James Phillips

07503 616760

james@thegunworks.co.uk

www.thegunworks.co.uk

Personal services



Cherished Funerals



Call Kate Gladwyn on:

01873 860675

07975 558250

Longtown, Hereford
HR2 0LX

cherishedfunerals.co.uk

@cherishedfunerals

An independent family-run funeral service
covering our local area, Golden Valley,
Hay-on-Wye & Herefordshire

TED WILLIAMS & SONS

Established 1883

**FUNERAL DIRECTORS &
MONUMENTAL MASONS**

Pre-paid funeral plan available

A locally owned family business serving the Abergavenny
and surrounding districts for over 100 years

Dedicated Chapel & Rest Rooms • Private Car Park at

Park Road Funeral Home, Abergavenny

Telephone: 01873 853942 or 854358

Golden Valley Funeral Services

Independent Family Funeral Directors

Proudly supporting our local community
since 2018

Family run funeral directors covering
Hereford and surrounding areas.

**We are here for you 24 hours a day, 365
days a year, call us at your time of need.**

01981 257203

gvfs@btconnect.com

Wormbridge Court, HR2 9DH

www.goldenvalleyfuneralservices.com

@goldenvalleyfuneralservices

Property services



MATTHEW MAFLIN

**PROFESSIONAL PAINTING AND
DECORATING SERVICES**

Internal and exterior decoration

Tel: 01873 860867

Mobile: 07497258129

matthewmaflin@gmail.com

Public Liability Insurance held

References available on request

ABSOLUTE GARDENING

Professional garden services

Keiranphillips28@googlemail.com

07896999529

Absolutegardening.co.uk

Fully insured

Free quotes

EVANS PLUMBING SERVICES



Bathroom Installations

Heating Installations

Magna Cleans

24 Hour Call Outs

All Plumbing Works Undertaken

Adam Evans

07497 869302

adamevans2618@gmail.com



Martin Griffiths

BUILDING CONTRACTOR

Stonework & Oak Framing
Barn Conversions & Renovations
New House Builds & Extensions
Septic Tanks & Bio-discs Fitted

Tel: 01873 860656

Clodock, Herefordshire



**P.J.
WATKINS**

**GENERAL BUILDER &
ROOFING CONTRACTOR**

MEADOW BANK, LONGTOWN,
HEREFORDSHIRE. HR2 0NA

TELEPHONE: 01873 860683

Traditional Joinery

Quality, Bespoke Handmade Service
Doors, Windows, Conservatories & Much More

Unit 1, Ramsden Court, Ramsden Road,

Rotherwas, Hereford, HR2 6NT

Tel: 01432 378635 • Mobile: 07786 615266

www.traditionaljoineryhereford.co.uk

Contact us for a FREE Quote

RP ELECTRICAL

Qualified Electrician

All Electrical Work Undertaken

Including:

Solar PV & Battery Installations.

Electric Vehicle Charging Points.

Testing & Inspection. Fault Finding etc

roger.probert@icloud.com

07814 008626



**DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL
PEST CONTROL SPECIALISTS**

01873 830204

Bees • Wasps • Flies • Ants

Rats • Mice • Fleas • Moles

info@pandpppestcontrol.co.uk



Kevin Williamson

Mob: 07810 288115

Evenings: 01432 378163

kwilliamson027@hotmail.co.uk

K&D building and landscaping

All aspects of building new and old undertake
Drainage specialist/septic tanks

Fencing specialists

All aspects of landscaping/ patios/ decking/
ponds/ retainers and stone walls

All internal work carried out

Over 20 years experience between us and a
large portfolio

COLEY'S



All aspects of groundworks, construction and steel building erections

We specialise in:

- Ground source heat systems
- Electric cables
- Ponds/lakes
- Treatment plants
- Supply & disposal of soils
- Tree shear with 300mm cut
- Bulldozing
- Tractor & Dump trailer hire
- Footings
- Concreting
- Ditching
- Pipe laying
- Site clearance
- Muck away
- Driveways
- Drainage





Contact: Tommy Wood-Cole
Phone: 07964355422
Email: TommyWood-Cole@hotmail.com

Sage & Shine

Pole and traditional pure water window cleaning


Local, affordable and reliable



Call Jules
01981 240879
07813 839 738

Jules@huntsmans.uk

Woodland and Garden



Avalon Tree Surgery

WE CARE FOR YOUR TREES

Matthew Thomas
Over 10 years Experience
NPTC Qualified
Fully Insured

www.avalontreesurgery.co.uk

01981 541307
07794 569284

All Aspects of Tree Work Undertaken

DECOR SOLUTIONS

tjsj@me.com

Painting & Decorating
Tim Jones
Tel 01981 540242
Mob 07810 895355

3 Generations of experience, specialising in Painting & Decorating services.

General property maintenance duties carried out.

Fully insured.
Good competitive rates.

A high standard of workmanship & customer satisfaction guaranteed.

TOWN & COUNTRY

PLASTERING & DAMP PROOFING

Plastering
Rendering
Damp proofing

For Free Quotes
Call Dan
07701 097 897

Email
townandcountryplastering@gmail.com

TUGWELL TREE SERVICES



For a professional service in all aspects of tree care, including Pruning, Felling, Planting Supplying Trees & Shrubs and Hedge Maintenance

Specialists in:
Tree Reports & Surveys,
Stump Removal with a High Power Narrow Access Stump Grinder for all those inaccessible stumps

DAVID TUGWELL Tech Cert. Arbor A
Bridge End, Newton St Margarets. HR2 0QP
Tel: 01981 510104 / 07968 093898

Sooty's Chimney Service



Richard Watkins
01981 240 185
07947 959 452

Taxi & Private Hire services

JEJONES

Minibuses and Private Hire

16 & 8 seat minibuses
4 seat Land Rover Discovery

Hassle-free travel to suit you



01981 510356
07583 527402

jejonesprivatehire@outlook.com

MARTIN WATKINS

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING

New House, Cobhall Court,
Allensmore, Herefordshire. HR2 9BG

Email: mwelecon@gmail.com
Tel: 07974 244653

Part P Registered
Domestic, Agricultural, Commercial, Electrical
Installation, Maintenance & Inspection & Testing



DAVE WATKINS

TREE SERVICES

All Aspects of Tree Services Covered

Fully NPTC Covered & Insured

Local to Longtown/Pontrilas but cover any surrounding areas

Tree Removal
Pollarding
Hedge Trimming
Tree Reductions
Site Clearance & Chipping

07931 893923
davidwat69@gmail.com

CHURCH SERVICES FOR MARCH AND APRIL

Sunday 3rd March

9.30am Llanveynoe Holy Communion
3.00pm St Margaret's Afternoon Worship

Wednesday 6th March

10.30am Ewyas Harold Prayer and Praise

Sunday 10th March – Mothering Sunday

9.30am Clodock Holy Communion
11.00am Michaelchurch Morning Worship

Wednesday 13th March

10.30am Ewyas Harold Holy Communion

Sunday 17th March

9.30am Craswall Celtic Holy Communion

Wednesday 20th March

10.30am Ewyas Harold Prayer & Praise

Sunday 24th March – Palm Sunday

3.00pm St Margaret's and Newton
Holy Communion, Walk & Tea

Wednesday 27th March

10.30am Ewyas Harold Prayer and Praise

Friday 29th March – Good Friday

12 noon Michaelchurch Service for Good Friday

Sunday 31st March – Easter Day

5.45am Llanveynoe Holy Communion
Meet at Black Hill car park for Dawn Outdoor Service on the Black Hill

11.15am Clodock Holy Communion

Wednesday 3rd April

10.30am Ewyas Harold Prayer and Praise

Sunday 7th April

9.30am Llanveynoe Morning Worship
3.00pm St Margaret's Holy Communion

Wednesday 10th April

10.30am Ewyas Harold Prayer and Praise

Sunday 14th April

9.30am Clodock Morning Worship
11.00am Michaelchurch Holy Communion

Wednesday 17th April

10.30am Ewyas Harold Holy Communion

Sunday 21st April

9.30am Craswall Morning Worship
3.00pm Newton Holy Communion

Wednesday 24th April

10.30am Ewyas Harold Prayer and Praise

Sunday 28th April

11.00am Clodock Holy Communion

EVENTS PLANNER

Fri	01 March	1.15-2.45pm	Longtown Community School Open Day
Fri	01 March		Janice Burns & Joe Doran, Anglo-Scottish Duo, Esleyside Hall
Sat	02 March	12.00-2.00pm	Lenten Lunch, Lower Ponthendre Barn
Mon	04 March	7.30pm	Longtown & District Historical Society: Tony Usher, <i>Roman Roads to Railway: Transportation in Herefordshire</i>
Wed	06 March	2.30-4.30pm	Longtown Library, Longton Village Hall
Wed	06 March	7.00 for 7.30pm	Borderlines Film Festival: <i>Tokyo Story</i> . Esleyside Hall
Sat	09 March		Quiz night: The Cornwall Arms
Tue	12 March	7.00 for 7.30pm	Borderlines Film Festival: Past Lives. Esleyside Hall
Thu	14 March	7.30pm	Newton St Margarets Women's Guild: Bob Burson, <i>The Man Who Would Marry a Mountain</i> . Newton Parish Room
Sat	16 March	5.00pm	Concerts for Craswall: The Marmen Quartet. St Michael's Church, Michaelchurch Escley
Fri	22 March	7.30pm	Craswall Village Hall: <i>A Stroll around the Matterborn</i> , a talk by Bob Burson
Sat	30 March	11.00am-1.00pm	Coffee and Cakes at The Cornwall. In aid of St Michael's Hospice
Wed	03 April	2.30-4.30pm	Longtown Library, Longton Village Hall
Wed	03 April	7.30pm	Escleyside Gardening Club: Paul Hand, <i>Sack Trucks and Wheelbarrows</i>
Fri	05 April	7.00pm	Quiz Night. Michaelchurch Escley Sports Pavillion
Sat	11 May		The Second Craswall History Evening
Sun	26 May	3.30pm	Concerts for Craswall: Hope Cramsie. St Mary's Church, Craswall

Village hall contacts

Craswall Hall

Bookings: Janet Watkins 01981 510226
General inquiries: Christine Cleaton,
cleatonfamily@btinternet.com

Escleyside Hall

Rachel Pritchard: 01981 510368
rachel.pritchard86@hotmail.co.uk

Longtown Hall

Mark Ewins, 01873 860829
www.longtownvillagehall.org.uk
bookings@longtownvillagehall.org.uk

Newton Church Room

Mary Powell: 01981 510295
mary.powell37@btinternet.com

Escley & District Sports Pavilion

Kirsty, 01981 510682
www.escleysportspavilion.com
escleysportspavilion@gmail.com

**Golden Valley Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT)
Peterchurch Police & Fire Hub, Hereford HR2 0RU. 01981 550253**

PC 3687 Jeff Rouse 07870 150972 jeff.rouse@westmercia.police.uk
PCSO Margaret Andrzejewska 07773 053895 margaret.andrzejewska@westmercia.police.uk
Contact: 101 ext 4820 – Email: goldenvalley.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

