

# The Black Mountains Group Benefice

# NEWSLETTER

July 2025



St Margaret's Church

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

Part of the Abbeydore Deanery  
[abbeydoredeanery.org](http://abbeydoredeanery.org) / [abbeydoredmc@gmail.com](mailto:abbeydoredmc@gmail.com)  
01981 620145 / 07432 873422

Rev. Luci Morriss: [luci.borderlinkbenefice@outlook.com](mailto:luci.borderlinkbenefice@outlook.com)

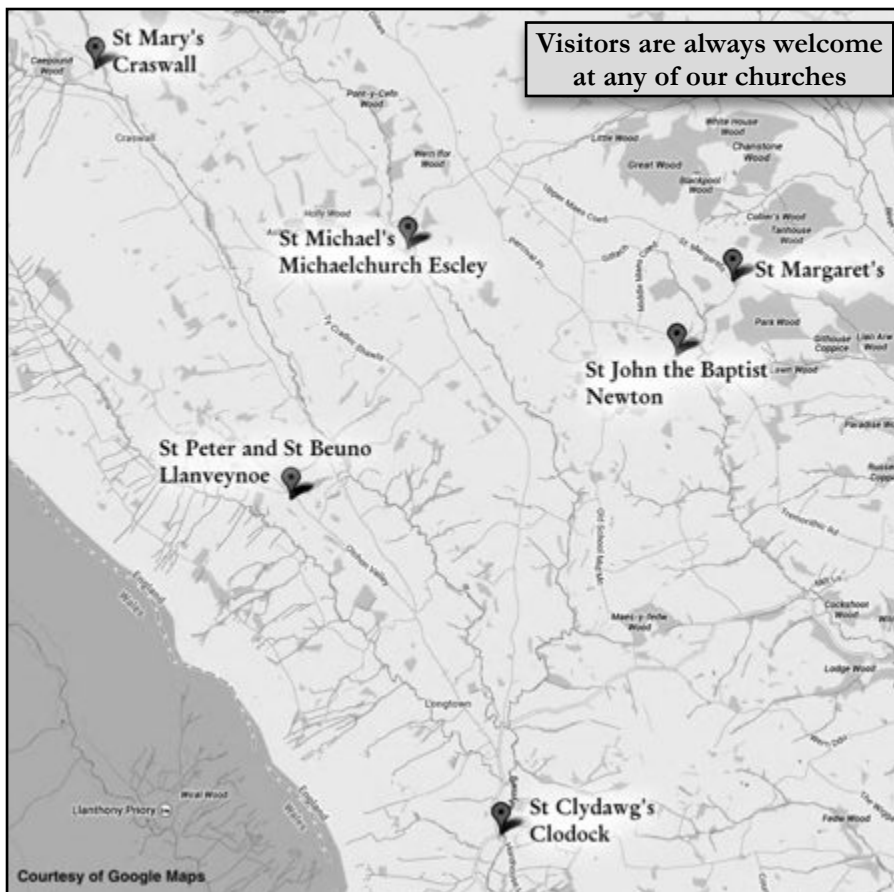
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**£1**  
min



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### Clodock & Longtown

Mr Nick Vaughan 01873 860201

### Craswall

Mrs Christine Cleaton 01981 510674

### Llanveynoe

Commodore Peter Tribe 01873 860260

Mr Donald Phillips (*Honorary Churchwarden*)

### St Margaret's

(Vacant)

### Michaelchurch Escley

Mrs Olive Howells 01981 510228

### Newton

(Vacant)

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## From the Clergy

### DARKNESS AND LIGHT

Darkness and light are often a short hand in our western popular culture for the forces of good and evil. We know instantly in films and television who the heroes and villains are often by the colour of their clothes. So often arguments in our culture are often presented as binary choices between right and wrong, good and bad, left wing or right wing, etc. Just look at the reporting in our news media about world events and you quickly see that we are presented with clear choices rather than any sense of nuance. I was listening on the radio as I prepared to write this, and what was being suggested was that when it comes to political debate most people would prefer nuance to bold binary statements.

In many other cultures too, darkness represents evil or hidden unsavoury activities. Alongside this we may find that many of our human fears revolve around darkness and what hides in it. Yet what has struck me recently is that in scripture the idea of darkness is not always so binary. I want to challenge you to look again at what the writers of the bible say and begin to understand darkness with the eyes of faith rather than through the lens of culture. In Psalm 139 the psalmist talks about darkness from God's perspective:

“Even the darkness is not dark to You, And the night is as bright as the day. Darkness and light are alike to You.” *Psalm 139:12*

God does not differentiate light and dark in the way we do, after all he created both of them. We do not live in a ‘yin and yang’ universe of two equal powers of good and evil or opposing forces of light and dark like a celestial chess set. We don’t live in a Star Wars like universe with mystical forces at play that are held in balance with a constant struggle of the dark side and the light side!

The bible however does use the ideas of light and dark to differentiate between those who love and follow God and those do not. Isaiah in his prophecy about the coming Messiah reminds them that when God comes to live amongst them then the light of the kingdom will shine on them. The prophet reminds them in a powerful metaphor that the light of the kingdom will dispel and overcome the darkness.

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.” *Isaiah 9:2*

We should however never equate that with two equal and opposite powers. Instead, it is an analogy which helps us understand that we have choices and God represents the best choices available to us. Many of the New Testament writers talk about the Christian faith as choosing to live in the daylight rather than in the night time. They want the early church to understand that we need to live consistently, transparently and in the open so people can see the difference our faith makes to the way we live our lives. John in the great prologue to his Gospel uses exactly this picture reminding us that God cannot be overwhelmed or swept away by the darkness.

“What came into existence was Life, and the Life was Light to live by. The Life-Light blazed out of the dark ness; the darkness couldn't put it out.” *John 1:5*

It reminds us too that even at the very darkest moments of our lives God has not walked away from us, he is not absent, and he stands alongside us. Matthew in his Gospel recognises this when he records these words from Jesus to his disciples.

“What I tell you in the darkness, speak in the light; and what you hear whispered in your ear, proclaim upon the housetops.” *Matthew 10:27*

Jesus wants the disciples to know that he is with them and alongside them at every stage and he will not turn his back or walk away from us. It is the Holy Spirit given to us at Pentecost who whispers to our hearts and guides us in our daily lives, it is the Spirit who will give us the words to speak when we don’t know how to pray. If as you read this because of life’s circumstances you feel trapped in the darkness, remember that God stands in it with you.

*The Venerable Derek Chedzey Archdeacon of Hereford*

### READINGS FOR 6 JULY TO 3 AUGUST

#### Sunday 6 July 2025

Old Testament	Isaiah 66: 10-14
New Testament	Galatians 6: (1-6), 7-16
Gospel	Luke 10: 1-11, 16-20
Psalm	66: 1-8

#### Sunday 13 July 2025

Old Testament	Deuteronomy 30: 1-14
New Testament	Colossians 1: 1-14
Gospel	Luke 10: 25-37
Psalm	25: 1-10

#### Sunday 20 July 2025

Old Testament	Genesis 18: 1-10a
New Testament	Colossians 1: 15-28
Gospel	Luke 10: 28-end
Psalm	15

#### Sunday 27 July 2025

Old Testament	Genesis 18: 20-32
New Testament	Colossians 2: 6-15 (16-91)
Gospel	Luke 11: 1-13
Psalm	138

#### Sunday 3 August 2025

Old Testament	Eccles, 1: 2,12-14; 2:18-23
New Testament	Colossians 3: 1-11
Gospel	Luke 12: 13-21
Psalm	49: 1-12 or 49:1-9

### PRAYER DURING THE WEEK

Morning Prayer at St Michael's, Michaelchurch.

Every Thursday morning at 08:45-09:15.

For more details, please contact Rev'd Luci on 07778 897809 or email [luci.borderlinkbenefice@outlook.com](mailto:luci.borderlinkbenefice@outlook.com)

### BLACK MOUNTAINS GROUP

**Informal evening prayer** for our communities, churches and everyone who lives and works in these valleys.

Rowlestone	5pm, Monday 7th July
Craswall	5pm, Monday 14th July



### FOOD for FAMILIES

A huge thank you to all who contributed to Food for Families at Easter... we distributed 2 boxes packed with food to 72 families in our Deanery.

**The summer holidays are fast approaching! You can help by giving food, money, helping to pack boxes or delivering to local schools.**

**Donations of money:** Account name:

**Madley Parochial Church Council Treasurers Account**

Sort Code: **30-94-14**. Account number: **00393216**

Please use reference **Food for Families** to identify your donation

**Donations of Food by 4th July**

See [www.abbeydoredeanery.org](http://www.abbeydoredeanery.org) for collection points

Packing from **Friday 11th July**

Delivery, **Tuesday 15th to Friday 18th**

To help with these please contact: [juliemalunn@btinternet.com](mailto:juliemalunn@btinternet.com)

### EVENTS IN THE DEANERY

**Wednesday 9th July – Rain or Shine: *The Rivals*** by Sheridan, Dore Abbey. Picnics from 6.30pm, performance 7.30pm [https://www.rainorshine.co.uk/summer\\_2025.html](https://www.rainorshine.co.uk/summer_2025.html)  
Tickets Box office – no booking fee: 0330 660 0541 (10.30am - 7pm) – Indoors if wet.

**Saturday 19th July 10am – Dore Abbey**

Choruses from Mendelssohn's *Elijah*

Workshop led by Roger Langford £35

For more information and to book

[sing4handh@gmail.com](mailto:sing4handh@gmail.com) / 07974 834072

Performance 5pm, £5 on the door

### AN INVITATION TO ALL TO MY ORDINATION SERVICE

You're warmly invited to my ordination service at Hereford Cathedral on Saturday July 5th at 3.30 pm. I'll be ordained and become your new (voluntary) Curate for the Black Mountains Group of Churches. It would be great if any of you from our area could make it. Hope to see you there!

*Geoff Holder (New Curate)*

### Deanery Update

This month, we look forward to Geoff Holder, being ordained as Deacon on 5th July at 3.30pm at Hereford Cathedral, do come to support Geoff if you can. Geoff will then become our self-supporting Deanery Curate and will join us to gain good and broad parish experience with a strong call to the area in which he lives. Geoff will be working closely with Rev Luci Morriss who will be his Training Incumbent. We hope that you will pray for Geoff and his ministry here and we are sure that you will have an opportunity to meet him soon.

You will remember that Rev Luci Morriss will be licensed in her new role to the Black Mountains benefice on Thursday 9th October at Ewyas Harold at 7pm.

The Archdeacon has started the process to recruit a new incumbent for the Borderlink Benefice and a Statement of Need (Job Description) is being developed so that the position can be advertised in the hope that someone new will join us by next Easter.

As always, we're happy to hold special services in our churches so please get in touch to find out more about funeral, wedding or baptism arrangements. All good wishes

to those who are having their banns read and getting married in our churches during the summer months.

### Dates for your diary

**Hedgerow Communion:** Sunday 10th August, Lammas, 6.30pm St Mary's Church, Craswall.

**Reflective Ramble:** 14th July at 6.30pm at Vowchurch Village Hall, for more details get in touch.

### For up-to-date information:

- Keep an eye on our website: [abbeydoredeanery.org](http://abbeydoredeanery.org)
- Follow our Abbeydore Deanery Facebook page or join our Facebook group
- Subscribe to our regular email update: <http://eepurl.com/ggcfPi>
- Get in touch with the Deanery Office on 01981 620145 or [abbeydoredmc@gmail.com](mailto:abbeydoredmc@gmail.com) We are now open most mornings.

### SALEM BAPTIST CHAPEL

Llanwonog Lane, Longtown HR2 0LE



### SUNDAY SERVICES – 6.30pm

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| 6 July  | Revd Jonathan Greaves                         |
| 13 July | Mr Chris Over                                 |
| 20 July | Revd Misha Pederson [Communion]               |
| 27 July | NO SERVICE (joining Capel-y-ffin Baptist 6pm) |

### OTHER

**Prayer & Praise – 9 July 7pm** (second Wednesday of month)

**Creative Crafts – 23 July 7pm** (fourth Wednesday of month)

**Hymnathon & Afternoon Tea**

**Saturday, 26 July, 4pm** in aid of Cure Parkinsons. *See p3.*

**ALL WELCOME**

For further information, please email [longtownsbc@gmail.com](mailto:longtownsbc@gmail.com)

### Thanks

#### THANKS FROM MRS HILDA JONES AND FAMILY

Mrs. Hilda Jones and her family would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all family, friends, and the wider community for the wonderful birthday wishes, cards, and gifts received in celebration of her 100th birthday. Your kindness and thoughtfulness made this milestone truly special.

### Forthcoming events

## Poetry, Prose and Peonies



**TALK 7.30pm, Wednesday 2 July 2025**  
**Vowchurch Memorial Hall**

An illustrated talk by **Peter Mathers** on British gardens owned by well-known authors and other famous people who were also writers.

**Non-members welcome: £5**

<https://escleysidegc.wixsite.com/club/upcoming-events>





**Longtown Library  
is next open on**

**2 July  
2.30 to 4.30pm**

**LONGTOWN & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**Longtown Village Hall HR2 0LD**

**Monday 7 July, 7.00pm**

**Short AGM followed by a talk by**

**MARTIN COOK: CLODOCK-LITTLE VENICE OF THE NORTH?**

**Please note the earlier start time.** If anyone wishes to add an item to the agenda, please email [jerrydpdavis@outlook.com](mailto:jerrydpdavis@outlook.com). The committee would like to thank everyone for their support this year and we look forward to seeing you again next September.

**Newton St Margarets Women's Guild**

Friday 13 June and few members dared to venture out for lunch at Brobury Gardens Café. The lunch was reported to be excellent!

**Thursday 10 July 7.30pm** Newton Parish Room HR2 0QR

Hilary Engel is kindly coming to talk about the Photographs of Richard Jenkins and putting together her book "Golden Valley Faces". All are very welcome. Guests £5.



**Community Coffee Morning and Tabletop Sale**

**Plants, Cakes, Books and More!**

**Bacon Rolls (Veggie/vegan alternative available)**

**St John's Church Room**

**Newton HR2 0QR**

**Saturday, 12 July 2025**

**10.00 am to 12.00 Noon**

**All Welcome!**



until the closure then sale of the chapel brought it to an end. The only such meeting place in the vicinity was Newton Church room. A group of us started Tea Set, a regular monthly drop in where people could come to see friends, meet new neighbours, chat and reminisce about past times ... even passing cyclists or walkers would come in. There were hot drinks, cakes baked and brought by a loyal team, flowers on the tables, books and toys for younger children and we had some large gatherings. Sadly now our numbers have dwindled, people are busy, or housebound or have moved away. This **July (16th, third Wednesday of the month 2.30 until 5.00 at Newton Church room as always)** will be **our last brew**. (Maybe the day being Bus Day and now Black Hill Voices rehearsal day has led to a drop in uptake, so any suggestions for a better time or day?)

Huge thanks to the team who have been such loyal supporters, and maybe there will be another phoenix to arise to keep Newton Church room a focus for our local community.

*Elizabeth May*

**LONGTOWN THURSDAY CLUB – Programme of Trips**

**July 24th** Weston-Super-Mare

Meet the bus at Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall at 9.00am

**Aug. 21st** Porthcawl

Meet the bus at Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall at 9.30am

**Sept. 18th** Trip to Cardiff Bay and Wharf

Meet the bus at Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall at 9.30am

**Oct. 16th** Dobbie's Garden Centre Tewkesbury

Meet the bus at Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall at 9.30am

**Nov. 13th** Clark's Shopping Village, Somerset

Meet the bus at Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall at 9.00am

For more information, please ring Hazel Pugh on 07767 372843



**THE TEA SET**

Many years ago Ruth Christopher and Sarah Prosser set up a lunch club at the Upper Maescoed Chapel. This evolved from a modest start to a resplendent lunch with main meal and choice of puddings plus puzzles and conversation. There was a loyal group of cooks and caterers who kept this running



**hymnathon**

**Longtown Baptist Chapel**

**4pm - 6pm, Saturday 26th July**

...including tea at 4.45pm. Please think of your favourite hymn, then fill out a Hymn Nomination Slip (collect from Chapel or Wendy Pritchard-Lockett) and return it by Sunday 13th July to the Chapel post box or email your hymn choice to Rebecca at: [beck\\_makemson@hotmail.com](mailto:beck_makemson@hotmail.com)  
Proceeds towards Cure Parkinson's

**All welcome for  
BREAKFAST UNDER THE OAK**



**Saturday 9 August 2025 – 9 am to 12 noon**  
**OLD CHAPEL NEWTON HR2 0QN**  
 Breakfast baps, Coffee, Cakes.  
 Vegan and gluten free options  
**IN AID OF: Black Hill Ukraine Group**  
**and Hereford City of Sanctuary**  
 Phone: 07794 920729 for more information

**Concerts for Craswall**

**present**  
**ENSEMBLE HESPERI with soprano CLAIRE WARD**  
**Sunday August 10th at 3.30pm**  
**St Michael's Church, Michaelchurch Escley**

On a busy street in eighteenth-century London, the violinist Michael Christian Festing spotted two poverty-stricken young boys dragging donkeys. Recognising them as the sons of a fellow oboe player who had recently died, Festing established, with hundreds of his musical colleagues, a 'Fund for Decay'd Musicians', a membership society supporting musicians in hardship due to illness, accident, or old age.

Join innovative period-instrument group Ensemble Hesperis and rising-star soprano Claire Ward for a programme that celebrates the founding of this remarkable organisation, which still supports musicians in need today as the Royal Society of Musicians.

Alongside stories of the men, women and children who benefited from the fund in the eighteenth century, the programme features chamber and vocal works by composers who signed its founding declaration, including some of the greatest musicians of the day: Festing himself, William Boyce, Thomas Arne, John Hebdon of York, and of course George Frederick Handel and his favourite instrumentalists.



**Full programme and to buy your tickets**  
**scan the QR code call 019181 510112 or go to our website**  
**[www.concertsforcraswall.org](http://www.concertsforcraswall.org)**

currently has vacancies for Councillors to represent the parishes of Vowchurch and St Margarets.

If you are interested in helping shape your local community and would like to join the Parish Council, please contact the Clerk via email prior to 17 July 2025. In your message, kindly include some information about yourself and explain why you are interested in becoming a Parish Councillor.

**Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible for co-option onto the Parish Council, you must:

- Be at least 18 years old; and
- Be a British citizen, an eligible Commonwealth citizen, a citizen of the Republic of Ireland, a qualifying EU citizen, or an EU citizen with retained rights.

In addition, you must meet **at least one** of the following qualifications:

- You are, and will continue to be, registered as a local government elector for the parish;
- You have occupied, as owner or tenant, land, or other premises in the parish for the whole of the 12 months prior to the application;
- Your main or only place of work has been within the parish area during the 12 months before the application;
- You have lived in the parish or within three miles of it for the whole of the 12 months prior to application.

This is a valuable opportunity to contribute to local decision-making and support your community.

**Contact:**

*Linda Cowles, Parish Clerk*

*01544 321906*

*[clerk@vowchurchgroup-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@vowchurchgroup-pc.gov.uk)*

*[www.vowchurchgpc.org.uk](http://www.vowchurchgpc.org.uk)*

**MICHAELCHURCH ESCLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The end of the school year is, as always, galloping towards us at an alarming rate with weeks passing by in a flash. And in this final half term there is always so much to going on!

The preschool children have been out and about, visiting Dulas Court Care Home, where they were wonderfully entertained and also brought joy with their own delightful performances. They also enjoyed a (planned!) visit from the Police and a fantastic 'Chef Day', where they learned about growing and cooking their own ingredients-and created some truly delicious dishes!

Meanwhile, in school, an amazing author called Nadia Finer paid us a visit. She delivered such a powerful and moving message to our children – one that truly resonated. She spoke about the power of being quiet, and how being shy isn't a weakness, but a superpower. She reminded us that so many inspirational people – from Lewis Hamilton and Marcus Rashford, to Beyoncé and even Einstein – have felt the same way. And yet, they still followed their passions, pursued their dreams, and made their mark on the world. It was one of the most touching author visits we've ever had, and we are incredibly grateful to Literature Laboratory in Hay-on-Wye for making it happen. Their passion for reading and their support of our school and pupils is something truly special.

**Local Newsround**

**VOWCHURCH & DISTRICT GROUP PARISH COUNCIL**

The Parish Council have had a new noticeboard installed at The Pavilion in Michaelchurch Escley. Another noticeboard will be installed in Newton in the near future.

Residents are welcome to post local notices and events. We kindly ask that all postings respect the Parish Council's noticeboard policy, and that no offensive or inappropriate material is displayed.

**Vacancy for Parish Councillor, Vowchurch and St Margarets Parishes** – Following the resignations of Mr Graeme Deas and Mr John Andrews, the Parish Council

The following week, just before the half-term break, Oak Class had their annual trip to the Hay Festival for the school's event. The children always look forward to this so much and we consider ourselves extremely fortunate that we have the opportunity to take the children along to see some really incredible authors. This year we went to see the fantastic Patrice Lawrence, the highly entertaining Frank Cottrell-Boyce and the very much anticipated Katherine Rundell – 3 outstanding individuals. The children also paid a visit to the book shop and the obligatory book signing and of course, no visit to the Hay Festival would have been complete without a Shepherd's ice cream!

Last year, Oak Class visited London and had a fantastic 3 days in the capital but as we run a 2 year cycle for upper key stage 2 trips, this year was the epic Oak Class Activity Week – a week of incredible adventure based out of school but visiting some of the outstanding adventurous activity providers we are fortunate to have in our locality. Our fun-packed week began with a spot of canoeing on the Brecon and Monmouthshire canal, courtesy of the team at Argoed Lwyd outdoor centre in Libanus. We then went underground the next day, once again with the Argoed Lwyd team, at the Porth yr Ogof caves and had a brilliant time exploring. After that came karting at Weobley, horse riding at Bryngwyn, paintball and Nordic games at Battlelands near Ewyas Harold and finally, to finish the week, some mountain biking in the Forest of Dean. The children, and the adults who accompanied them, had a really fantastic time and really showed their true spirits by pushing themselves, at times, well out of their comfort zones.

Coming up we still have so much going on! First off is our sports day, or should I say Highland games, complete with kilts, caber tossing and shot-putting as well as the now legendary cross-country foot-race!

Then we have our annual musical theatre production taking place at Michaelchurch Court. This year we are performing 'Oliver the Musical'. The production involves the whole school and the children have been rehearsing hard and learning the many wonderful songs that tell the tale of Dickens' Oliver Twist. Keep an eye out for posters advertising the event which will take place on Thursday 10 July.

To round the year off we have our annual whole school water fight – let's hope we get more of the lovely sunny weather we've been having for that! Finally, we will be saying goodbye to a truly wonderful bunch of Year 6 pupils as they head off to High School and then another school year will be at an end.

If you like the sound of Michaelchurch Escley Primary and Pre-School and feel it sounds like the sort of place where your child could flourish, whether they're pre-school or school aged, then please get in touch via our school email address ([admin@michaelchurch-escley.hereford.sch.uk](mailto:admin@michaelchurch-escley.hereford.sch.uk)) or give us a call on 01981 510208. We'd love to show you around! Also, if you think you might be able to contribute to life at our school by becoming a governor we'd love to hear from you so please get in touch by the above email address or phone number.

*Louise Crocker, Headteacher*

## THE MONDAY CLUB

June has been a quieter month at the club. We have a busy couple of months coming up: There will be another trip in July, and I have heard that it is to Stratford-upon-Avon, on July 11th. I'm sure there will be many tales about the trip, hopefully, the weather will be kind

Later on in the year, we are going to the seaside, so keep a lookout for any information.

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

Everyone is welcome to pop in between 10 am and 12 pm.

If you feel like coming, please do. You are not obligated to come every week, but I know you will always get a friendly welcome, and it's a great way to make new friends.

## Notices and Advertisements

**Approx 3 acres of standing meadow grass in Clodock**  
**Free to harvest**  
**Maximum 10ft wide access**  
**Call 01873 860408**

### Swimming for a Cure: Honouring My Grandmother and Supporting the MND Association – Breanna Vaughan

In July I'm swimming 5K a day for 7 days in the open waters of the Greek Sporades to raise money for the MND Association, in memory of my beloved grandmother who we lost to Motor Neurone Disease. Her courage inspired my passion for science and future plans in medical research. This challenge marks the end of my A-levels and the start of a journey driven by hope and purpose. Please support me – every stroke honours her memory and contributes to a future free from MND. Donate, share, or learn more via my JustGiving page.



<https://www.justgiving.com/page/breanna-vaughan-1>



**Make a Jurassic Creature**  
**Display it within Clodock**  
**Where it can be seen from the road**

**All entries to be in place, registered, and paid for by 6pm on Thursday 21st of August**

Enter at The Cornwall Arms: £5 per creature or £15 per herd, pride, band, or pack of creatures

**Voting, Barbecue, Raffle & Fun**  
**from 1pm Sunday 24th August**  
**at The Cornwall Arms**

**In support of**  
 **Midlands Air Ambulance Charity**



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

01873 860 444

### Fresh Fruit and Veg

We have fruit & veg delivered three times a week Monday, Wednesday & Friday, then we have our lovely local suppliers topping up when they can.

If you didn't get a chance to grab a local garden grown bag of gooseberries, don't panic, we have two bags in the freezer. Blackcurrants look super juicy from the same garden too, lucky person.

Spinach, rocket, Rhubarb and mint are all coming in on a regular basis.

### July Jaunts

- ★ We have hats, sunglasses and sunscreen to keep you protected
- ★ Find a picnic spot, think shade and keeping products cool
- ★ Walking is a great way to be in nature

Needing cool refreshment, we have a selection of chilled soft drinks and alcoholic bottles for celebration.

### LONGTOWN POST OFFICE - 2056186

Amazon Hub, DPD and Royal Mail

Monday to Friday 10.30am ~ 3.30pm and Saturdays 9am ~ 11am

### Eco Chic

Choosing the environment and earning money selling items on Vinted or eBay, select Royal Mail Post Office or DPD so parcels can be easily sent off from Longtown Post Office.

### How much money can I get out of my bank account at the Post Office?

Good question and we don't know, each bank/building society has an agreement with the Post Office and each service has different rules. Tell us the amount you want and we will enter the details.

If you want a regular larger amount if need to be pre agreed with your bank, if you need a supporting letter/email, please.

Old stamps

We can still give you a form to exchange old style stamps for new compliant stamps.

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](http://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



**LOTTE BETTS-DEAN, mezzo-soprano**  
**with THE MARSYAS TRIO and FRIENDS**

Friday, 25 July at 7.00pm. St Mary's Church, Hay-on-Wye.

Following her hugely appreciated appearance with the Marsyas Trio in January this year, acclaimed mezzo-soprano Lotte Betts-Dean returns with the Trio and friends to perform music by Haydn, Debussy, Hackman and Schoenberg.

Programme details and tickets at [www.haymusic.org](http://www.haymusic.org)  
 Tickets also from the Hay Tourist Bureau and the door if still available.  
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## CHURCH SERVICES FOR JULY AND AUGUST

### Thu 3 July

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Sun 6 July

9:30 Llanveynoe Holy Communion  
15:00 St Margaret's Evening Prayer  
18:00 Clodock Evening Prayer

### Thu 10 July

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Sun 13 July

11:00 Clodock Holy Communion  
11:00 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Thu 17 July

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Sun 20 July

09:30 Craswall Morning Prayer  
15:00 Newton Holy Communion  
18:00 Clodock Evening Prayer

### Thu 24 July

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Sun 27 July

11:15 Michaelchurch Holy Communion

### Thu 31 July

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Sun 3 August

09:30 Llanveynoe Morning Prayer  
15:00 St Margaret's Holy Communion  
18:00 Clodock Evening Prayer

### Thu 7 August

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Sun 10 August

11:00 Michaelchurch Holy Communion  
18:00 Clodock Evening Prayer

### Thu 14 August

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Sun 17 August

09:30 Craswall Holy Communion  
18:00 Clodock Evening Prayer

### Sun 24 August

09:30 Clodock Holy Communion

### Thu 28 August

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Sun 31 August

10:30 Ewyas Harold Group Service

## EVENTS PLANNER

Wed	02 July	2.30-4.30pm	Longtown Library, Longtown Village Hall
Wed	02 July	7.30pm	Escleyside Gardening Club: <i>Poetry, Pose and Peonies</i> . Vowchurch Hall
Mon	07 July	7.30pm	Longtown & District Historical Society: AGM. Followed by Martin Cook: <i>Clodock – Little Venice on the Border</i> .
Thu	10 July	2.00 -5.00pm	Longtown Thursday Club Meeting, Longtown Village Hall
Thu	10 July	7.30pm	Newton St Margarets Women's Guild: Hilary Engel: <i>Photographs of Richard Jenkins</i> , Newton Church Room
Sat	12 July	10.00am-noon	Newton St Margarets Women's Guild: Community Coffee Morning and Table Top Sale, Newton Church Room
Sat	12 July		Craswall Barbecue
Wed	16 July	2.30-5.00pm	The Tea Set – the last brew, Newton Parish Room
Thu	24 July		Longtown Thursday Club. Outing to Weston-Super-Mare
Sat	26 July	10.00am-noon	Longtown Village Projects, Longtown Castle
Sat	26 July	4.00-6.00pm	<i>Hymnathon</i> , Longtown Baptist Chapel
Wed	06 August	2.30-4.30pm	Longtown Library, Longtown Village Hall
Thu	07 August	2.00 -5.00pm	Longtown Thursday Club Meeting, Longtown Village Hall
Sat	09 August	9.00am-12.00pm	Breakfast under the Oak Tree. The Old Chapel, Newton.
Sun	10 August	3.30pm	Concerts for Craswall: Ensemble Hesper. St Michael's Church
Thu	21 August		Longtown Thursday Club. Outing to Portcawl
Sat	30 August	10.00am-noon	Longtown Village Projects, Longtown Castle

## 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

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### Newton Church Room

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