

# The Black Mountains Group Benefice NEWSLETTER

October 2025



St Clydawg, Clodock

**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)

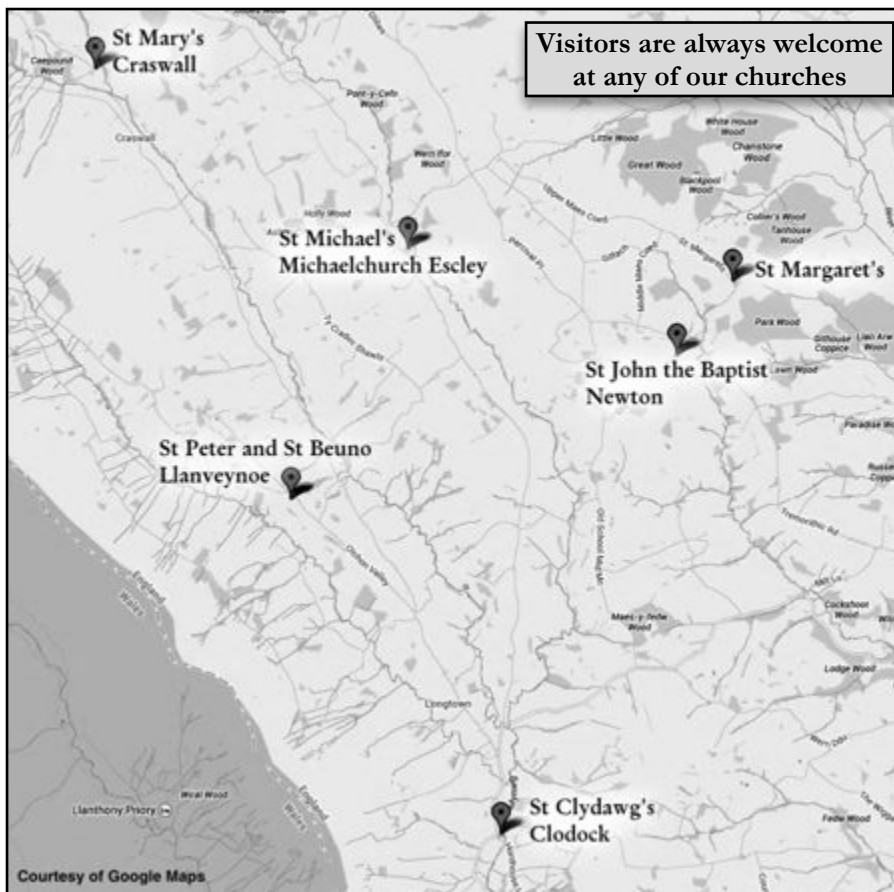
**[www.bmgparishes.org.uk](http://www.bmgparishes.org.uk)**

Please donate

**£1**  
min



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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

**Harvest – as I drove out of Hereford,** I was struck by the hard work that is going on in the countryside around the city: Straw is being collected from the fields, in some places silage is being cut and in others harvesting continues. When we were in Devon the celebration of Harvest took place across our villages from the end of August through to early October. Here in Hereford the pattern is similar, and our rural multi parish benefices are now beginning to celebrate Harvest.

The modern harvest festival celebrations that we know today was introduced in the Cornish parish of Morwenstow in 1843 by Rev Robert Hawker. Hawker was quite the eccentric and also on occasions was reputed to have dressed up as a mermaid! He invited his parishioners to a Harvest service as he wanted to give thanks to God for providing such plenty. However, this was to counter the festivities and merriment of much more ancient pagan celebrations, and he was keen to turn his parishioners towards a Christian celebration of harvest. The Christian Harvest celebrations that Hawker wanted to connect with were based on what he saw in the Old Testament, and he drew on the Jewish festival of *Sukkot* or feast of Tabernacles.

“You shall keep the Feast of Harvest, of the first fruits of your labour, of what you sow in the field. You shall keep the Feast of Ingathering at the end of the year, when you gather in from the field the fruit of your labour.” – *Exodus 23:16*

Even today with modern farming methods, it is still an opportunity to give thanks to God for his provision for us and an opportunity to share with generosity the riches we have received. Paul was very clear in his teaching that generosity begins in our hearts and is a reflection of the gratitude we have towards God for what he has done for us. Generosity is not something we have to be coerced into but instead it is something freely given. We perhaps need this reminder because our wealth and belongings ultimately belong to God, and we are simply stewards of what we have.

“So, I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you and arrange in advance for the gift you have promised, so that it may be ready as a willing gift, not as an exaction. The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

– 2 *Corinthians 9:5-7*

Our harvest services should reflect this attitude of generosity because it points to what is at the heart of our faith that God has given us new life in Jesus freely and without condition. This is the grace of God at work in our lives. However, as Christians we are also called to work in God's harvest field. Jesus in his teaching told the disciples that they were called to be labourers in the Kingdom.

“When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore, pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.”

– *Matthew 9:36-38*

As disciples we are called to share the good news of the Kingdom and to help bring in God's harvest of new followers of Jesus. These are the disciples that Jesus calls us to make in the Great Commission, and it is part of our role not simply to make converts but to mentor and coach the next generation. We need to see the harvest not just in terms of crops, fruit and vegetables but as a spiritual reality that sees us offer the story of Jesus to a world in need.

*The Venerable Derek Chedzey, Archdeacon of Hereford*

## READINGS FOR OCTOBER AND 2ND NOVEMBER

### Sunday 5th October 2025

Old Testament	Habakkuk 1,1-4; 2:1-4
New Testament	2 Timothy 1:1-14
Gospel	Luke 17: 5-10
Psalm	37: 1-9

### Sunday 12th October 2025

Old Testament	2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c
New Testament	2 Timothy 2:8-12
Gospel	Luke 17 11-19
Psalm	111

### Sunday 19th October 2025

Old Testament	Genesis 32: 22-31
New Testament	2 Timothy 3: 14-4:5
Gospel	Luke 18: 1-8
Psalm	121

### Sunday 26th October 2025

Old Testament	Isaiah 45:22-end
New Testament	Romans 15: 1-6
Gospel	Luke 4: 16-24
Psalm	119: 129-136

### Sunday 2nd November 2025

Old Testament	Daniel 7: 1-3, 15-18
New Testament	Ephesians 11:11-end
Gospel	Luke 4: 16-24
Psalm	119: 129-136

## 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.

### October Mondays at 5pm

6th	Llanveynoe
13th	Dore Abbey
20th	Michaelchurch Escley
27th	Rowlestone



## Deanery Update

### Fantastic Tanzanian Evening!

A huge thank you to all who helped and attended the special Tanzanian evening at Moccas Hall recently, as well as to those who made donations. The evening was a great success and as a result over £1200 was raised which will be donated to the Deanery Charity – Train-A-Priest, Tanzania. We hope you all had fun and went home well-fed!

### “Thank You” Breakfast

We are very fortunate that, throughout the Abbeydore Deanery, we have a dedicated team of volunteers who support our churches and communities in all sorts of ways. On Saturday 18th October, we are holding a special “Thank you breakfast” to which anyone who helps out at one of the churches is warmly invited. It's an opportunity for people within our churches to get together and a small token of appreciation for all that you do.

Invitations are being circulated, but if, for any reason, you haven't had yours yet, please get in touch with Anne.

### Joint Council update

Members of the Joint Council, who are representatives elected by churches within the deanery meet regularly to review and plan activities within the Deanery. At the last meeting, they made plans for each member to partner with a member of clergy to prioritise ideas for action for next year in each of our key mission areas: Children and Young People, Golden Valley Pilgrim Way, Combatting rural loneliness and Lay leadership development. We'll let you know what will be happening and how you can get involved. We do have two vacancies on Joint Council at present, so if you are from the Borderlink or Black Mountains Benefice and would like to consider joining this team, do let us know.

### Dates for Your Diary

Licensing Service: Rev Luci Morriss will be licensed for her new role in the Black Mountains benefice on Thursday 9th October at 7pm. This will be held at Clodock Church.

"Thank you" breakfast: 10am - 12 noon at Escleyside Hall, Saturday 19th October.

**Hedgerow Communion:** Samhain/All Souls. Friday 31st October at 6pm at Snodhill Castle

### 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/ggcFpJ>
- Get in touch with the Deanery Office on 01981 620145 or [abbeydoredmc@gmail.com](mailto:abbeydoredmc@gmail.com) We are now open most mornings.

### LLANVEYNOE HARVEST FESTIVAL

Just a quick reminder that our Harvest Festival is on **Sunday 5th October at 6pm**. Afterwards, supper at The Cattle Barn (Mountain Mayhem) at 7.15pm. Please book in for a place, pay on the door. (£12)

01873 860 260

*Pamela Tribe*

### SALEM BAPTIST CHAPEL

Llanwonog Lane, Longtown HR2 0LE



#### SUNDAY SERVICES – 6.30pm

5 Oct	HARVEST THANKSGIVING, Mr Chris Over
12 Oct	Mr Jeff Hanks
19 Oct	Mr Roger & Mrs Wendy Knight
26 Oct	Mr Rob Roberts

#### OTHER

Prayer & Praise	Wed 8 Oct	7pm
Creative Crafts	Wed 22 Oct	7pm

#### ALL WELCOME

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

### QUAKER MEETING AT DULAS COURT

A time to sit in peace and stillness together can be elusive. Occasional Quaker Meetings at Dulas Court Nursing Home are now providing such an opportunity. Residents, relatives and any visitors are all welcome.

For half an hour we sit in stillness/mindful silence and quietly reflect on the Light within, whatever that is for each of us – as many others do in quiet spaces throughout the world.

Our next meeting will be at 3.30pm in the craft room next to the visitors' car park on **Sunday 5th October**, (park in visitors car park). Any questions please contact: Clare Lockley, Lifestyle Manager on 01981 240214, [c.lockley@herefordshirecarehomes.com](mailto:c.lockley@herefordshirecarehomes.com).

Dulas Court Nursing Home, Dulas HR2 OHL

### Thanks

#### JURASSIC CLODOCK

A huge thank you to everyone who supported this fantastic event. A fantastic sum of £1520 was sent to Midlands Air Ambulance. Start planning for **Clodock Creepy Crawlies** – 27 - 30 August 2027! Thank you *Isobel & Sharon*

### Forthcoming events

**Longtown Library is next open on**

**1 October 2.30 to 4.30pm**

**Music in Quiet Places**

**Wednesday 1st October 7.30 pm**

**Dore Abbey**

Haydn *Missa Sancti Nicolai*  
Telemann's Viola Concerto (extracts)  
Ola Gjeilo *Luminous Night of the Soul*

Featuring Hereford Cathedral School's Choral Society  
Chapel Choir, Chamber Choir and Cantabile Girls' Choir

**£18 / £12 (over 65s and students) Cash on the door**

**Cornwall Arms, Clodock**

**Fancy a night on the tiles?**

The Cornwall Arms is bringing back **Scrabble Evenings**. If you are interested, **Thursday 2 October from 7.30 pm**

# NEWTON ST MARGARETS WOMEN'S GUILD

Thursday 9th October 7.30pm

## Harvest Auction for Farming Minds

All welcome to join us in Newton Parish Room HR2 0QR. Donations of home produce to auction gratefully received or just come along and put in a bid for that prized damson chutney. A representative from Farming Minds will be present to tell us what they are about.

Phone 07794920729 for more information

Thursday 13th November 7.30pm

AGM (brief!) followed by bring and share supper. Guests and potential new members are welcome.

## Longtown & District Historical Society

7.30 at Longtown Village Hall

6 October 2025

Dr Kathryn Davies will give us a presentation on the subject of Artisan Art in Herefordshire. There is more information at <https://www.kellogg.ox.ac.uk/news/dr-kathryn-davies-publishes-new-book-artisan-art/>

## Concerts for Craswall

### THE MIKELEIZ-ZUCCHI DUO

David Zucchi, saxophone

Iñigo Mikeleiz-Berrade, accordion

Saturday October 11th at 5pm

St Michael's, Michaelchurch Escley

Winners of the Royal Over-Seas League Annual Music Competition's Mixed Ensemble Prize and City Music Foundation Artists, the Mikeleiz-Zucchi Duo's repertoire spans everything from reimagined traditional works to modern repertoire and improvisation, all vividly rendered by the unique combination of saxophone and accordion.

Curious to know what the combined sound of a soprano sax and a concert accordion might be? This cleverly constructed programme by two imaginative, extremely able performers promises a truly fascinating musical experience, inspired as it is by all manner of dances, pieces inspired by dance, and pieces only tangentially related to dance.

Much of the programme's content is necessarily arrangements by the Duo of fairly familiar music by Ardes, Bach, Bartok, and Ravel, but sandwiched between them are newer works by contemporary composers such as Scottish composer, arranger and podcaster Aileen Sweeney and English composer and trombonist Alex Paxton.



Full programme and to buy your tickets scan the QR code call 01981 510112 or go to our website [www.concertsforcraswall.org](http://www.concertsforcraswall.org)

## LONGTOWN AND DISTRICT WI

The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 14th October at 7.15pm** when Nick Vaughan will join us to describe his 600 Mile Cycle Ride along WW1 trenches in aid of the MND Association, followed by a buffet supper. New members always welcome. For more info contact [22philb@gmail.com](mailto:22philb@gmail.com). Visitors welcome at 8pm. A small donation to WI is welcome but not required.

## LONGTOWN THURSDAY CLUB – Programme of Trips

**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

## FAIR OAK CIDER OPEN WEEKEND

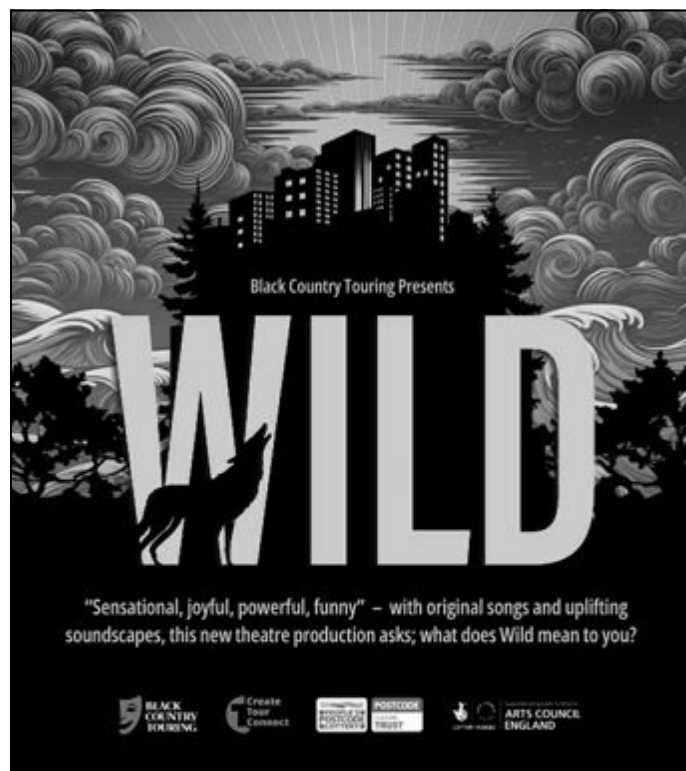
October 25 and 26

The 17th-century cider mill at Fair Oak, Bacton, HR2 0AT, will be open to visitors on Saturday and Sunday, October 25 and 26, from 11 am until 4pm. It is eleven years now since we started working the mill with a horse.

Our young Gypsy Cob, Featherstone, is into his second season in the mill. Now four years old, Feathers takes the job calmly in his stride and seems to enjoy having an audience.

He will probably finish milling by lunchtime but will be happy to receive visitors during the afternoon while the cider makers are working the old press.

Cider made last autumn will be available to taste and buy – including the Brown's Apple single variety which won a prize



Thursday 9th October, 7:30pm

Escleyside Hall HR2 OPT

Tickets: Adult £12, Child £6

01981 510116 | [www.artsalive.co.uk](http://www.artsalive.co.uk)



*Stories about what it is to be WILD from real people living in rural, urban and seaside locations are woven together and featured in songs, immersive soundscapes and story telling to have you on the edge of your seat. You will be left wondering what is your "wild."*

70 mins continuous performance. Suitable for 11 ears plus but younger age group not excluded!

**Tickets: £12/£6 – see [www.artsalive.co.uk](http://www.artsalive.co.uk) for more information or contact Neville 07572 113542 to reserve your seat.**



in this year's International Cider and Perry Competition, two other single varieties made with Kingston Black and Dabinett apples from orchards around the Golden Valley, and the popular Sparkling.

Also on show will be the documentary film made by David Bishop, *Horse-powered in Herefordshire*.

Admission is free. Donations to the Laurie Engel Fund for Teenage Cancer Trust are welcome.

For more information, please call Hilary Engel, 01981 241210.

## Bulbs, Corms & Tubers throughout the Year



**TALK 7.30pm, Thursday 6 November 2025**  
**Vowchurch Memorial Hall**

Starting with the striking *Arum italicum* 'Marmoratum' in November, Ingrid Millington of Hillview Hardy Plants will guide us through a range of common and less familiar bulbs as well as exotics that give interest right through the year.

Non-members welcome: £5

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

### Cornewall Arms, Clodock

#### Race Night

This fun event will be returning to the Cornwall from

**7.30 pm on Sat 15 November**

**Profits to Midlands Air Ambulance**



COME AND JOIN LONGTOWN & DISTRICT WI FOR A

## SPARKLING AFTERNOON TEA

**LONGTOWN VILLAGE HALL**  
**SUN 16TH NOV | 3-5PM**

Raffle • Bake Sale • Music  
Treat yourself or  
someone you know



A fundraising event in aid of Hereford Food Bank. Cash & card donations welcome.

### A pre-Christmas treat – Enjoy singing the Messiah?

**Come along on Saturday 29th November from 10 - 2**  
**to sing the choruses and**  
**have a go at group singing solo sections.**

Wonderfully guided by Roger Langford  
in the glorious setting of Dore Abbey all for £20.

Hot drinks at the 9.30 Registration

Stop at 12 when there will be hot soup and bread available  
(donations for Abbey) – Finish at 2pm.

More details next month, in the meantime  
if you have a query contact

**Carey Godwin [cjgbd@aol.com](mailto:cjgbd@aol.com); 07970 911115**

**Sarah Roberts [ciderbarnsarrah@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ciderbarnsarrah@hotmail.co.uk)**

## Local Newsround

### NEWTON ST MARGARETS WOMEN'S GUILD

In September Longtown & District WI welcomed Kate Bristow to talk about the work of the West Midlands Air Ambulance who provide a life saving service, responding to emergencies within 10 minutes with full life-support medical equipment and staff.

It funds three air ambulances over six counties at a cost of £16 million a year with each mission costing an average of £2950 and a fleet of critical care cars, which operate at night, costing approx £288. With no funding from the Government or the National Lottery, they rely entirely on local people and businesses for funding. Kate acknowledged the generous donations and continued support from our local community where, due to our remote location, time is of the essence.

For FREE talks about their life saving service for your community, business or school contact

[Kate.bristow@midlandsairambulace.com](mailto:Kate.bristow@midlandsairambulace.com) / 07785 617426

### MICHAELCHURCH ESCLEY PRIMARY & PRE-SCHOOL Autumn Term Newsletter

We are delighted to report that the new autumn term has started brilliantly at Michaelchurch Escley Primary and Pre School. The school is buzzing with energy, learning, and lots of happy faces!

We're thrilled to welcome our new Reception children who have joined Acorn Class. They are all settling in brilliantly and enjoying their first steps into school life. Acorn Class are looking forward to their upcoming trip to Barry Island as part of their topic on the seaside-fingers crossed for a sunny day!

We also want to extend a very warm welcome to Mrs Thea Darfi, our new Teaching Assistant. Mrs Darfi has already made a wonderful impression and is settling in beautifully. We're excited to have her on board!

Oak Class have already enjoyed a fantastic visit to Cadbury World to kick off their chocolate topic. They learned all about the origins of chocolate, how it's made, and even got to sample some treats! It was a sweet and educational experience for everyone.

Sapling Class are diving into the fascinating world of rainforests this term. They're eagerly anticipating the Rainforest Roadshow, which will be visiting the school in October-a hands-on experience that promises to bring the rainforest to life!

Swimming lessons have also resumed, and it's wonderful to see the children enjoying the water and building their confidence. A big thank you to our trained and experienced staff, and to our parents for supporting this important part of our curriculum.

Our Pre-school is as lively as ever, with lots of happy children engaging in plenty of outdoor and play-based learning. The atmosphere is joyful and nurturing, setting a strong foundation for future learning.

We're looking forward to a term full of learning, laughter, and exciting experiences. Thank you for your continued support!

Warm wishes

Louise Crocker *Headteacher*

## LONGTOWN COMMUNITY PRIMARY & PRE-SCHOOL

### Welcome to October in school!

Our whole school approach to learning is **Explore more...**

**Explore more...** From our very youngest pre-school children all our pupils are immersed in an ethos of exploring more. Making the very most of our stunning outdoor setting the children explore a variety of topics; exploring our amazing outdoor spaces and working as a team.

This term we will be celebrating Harvest at Longtown Baptist Chapel on Monday 6th October from 2pm. If you would like to take this opportunity to donate any food stuffs please bring to the school office on the morning of the 6th.

All pupils at Longtown Community Primary School enjoy the benefit of our super FREE Breakfast Club from 8am to 8:30am, every day of the week. This offers our parents a little more breathing space in their busy mornings, and although the children thoroughly enjoy their breakfast of toast, cereal, juice and fresh fruit, they mostly enjoy having fun with their friends!

After school clubs offered this term include Outdoor Games, Choir, Netball and Art club. These run after school from 3:15pm to 4:15pm, something for everyone.

Our popular **Mini Explorers** outdoor learning Pre-School/Early Years Hub is open for 4 days a week, Monday to Thursday 8:45am to 3:15pm, for 2-year-olds and up. We do accept funded places for 15hr and 30 hrs. Please contact the school office for more information. This term our pre-school children and families will be enjoying a special woodland/pumpkin play session, to really make the very most of this beautiful season.

We continue to welcome Mr Gary Gray who teaches private musical instrument lessons each week on a variety of instruments from drums to keyboard and guitar.

Our PTA will hold their annual AGM meeting on Wednesday 24th September and the very popular Rags2Riches4Schools collection will take place on Thursday 13th November. This is a great opportunity to clear out that pre-loved, reusable clothing for a good cause. You can fill any sort of bag with your donations and bring to school from Mon 10th November.

We have a vibrant and exciting Facebook page along with our school website full of information for parents and events past and future. If you would like to have a look go to [www.longtown.hereford.sch.uk](http://www.longtown.hereford.sch.uk).

**Explore more...** Stay and Play sessions continue for our very youngest visitors and the remaining dates for the Autumn term are 3rd and 17th Oct, 7th and 21st Nov and 5th and 19th Dec 2025. We love to welcome new members at any time.

All these activities, events and much more are celebrated on our Facebook page – Longtown Community Primary School and on our website [www.longtown.hereford.sch.uk](http://www.longtown.hereford.sch.uk). Please have a look for some fab photos!

To request/book a pre-school, or main school place please contact Emma in the school office or if you would be interested in a visit call 01873 860239 or email [admin@longtown.hereford.sch.uk](mailto:admin@longtown.hereford.sch.uk)

## VOWCHURCH & DISTRICT GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

Have you heard of the Talk Community Directory website run by Herefordshire Council?

The directory connects people to services, groups, information, and events in Herefordshire, visit <https://www.talkcommunity.org/> for further information.

This also include information about the Small Sparks grants for community-led projects

The Small Sparks fund offers grants of up to £1,000 to fund small scale projects that bring people together, build local connections, and strengthen community resilience. Example activities could include creating a community garden, or shared space, running a neighbourhood event or starting a local club. Applications are invited from residents and informal groups and local community organisations, clubs, or groups.

Projects should be community-led, based in Herefordshire, and delivered by 28th February 2026.

The fund is being delivered in partnership with Herefordshire Community Foundation and is funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).

You can find out more, including details of how to apply on the Herefordshire Community Foundation website.

Please continue to report any defects via the Herefordshire Council website at <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/roads-1/report-problems-road>. Reporting issues this way will ensure everything is properly logged, assessed, and allocated to the right teams as quickly as possible.

You can check progress of a defect, or see if it has already been logged via the progress map on the council website: <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/roads-1/pothole-road-defect-progress-map>.

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## Round and About

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**THE HUB CAFÉ IN ST PETER'S CHURCH ...** opens Tuesday to Friday from 11am to 2pm. We have a specials board (Wednesdays and Thursdays), jacket potatoes, quiche, soup, cakes and puddings plus hot and cold drinks all to eat in or take away. Table bookings are advisable for groups of 5 or more. Chatty Café takes place on Wednesdays at the Hub from 12noon to 2pm. It's a wonderful opportunity to make new friends. **The Hub @ St Peter's, Peterchurch** is a Reaching Communities project which includes a Café, NHS Health Visitor Hub and branch of Hereford Libraries all within a working church, see [www.hubcommunity.org](http://www.hubcommunity.org), email [info@hubcommunity.org](mailto:info@hubcommunity.org) or call 01981 551143 for further details.

**Pre-School Play** takes place on Thursdays from 9-11am for under 5's and their Parents or Carers. Admission is free! Have your baby weighed and chat to the Health Visitor from 10-11am at the Well Baby Clinic drop-in. The Café is open so you can treat yourself to drinks and snacks too.

**Youth Café** is every Thursday for 11-16 year olds from 5 to 7pm. Admission is free! Discounted food and drink are available and there is plenty to do – ping pong, card games, arts, crafts, music and comfy sofas. Please email [info@hubcommunity.org](mailto:info@hubcommunity.org) if you are interested in joining.

**The Hub's Bell Tower Library** is open on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 11am to 1pm, on Fridays from 2pm to 4pm and on Saturdays from 10am to 12 noon.

**Peterchurch Community Choir:** Join this friendly group in the church or on line every Monday during term time from 6.30pm to 8pm. Contact Joy on 07903 675012 or email her at [peterchurchcommunitychoir10@gmail.com](mailto:peterchurchcommunitychoir10@gmail.com).

**Breakfast is served** on the first Saturday of the month [next on September 6th] from 9.30am to 11.30am. Choose from delicious full English (large or small) or bacon /sausage /egg bap plus the usual coffee or tea. Churchyard Tidying is also done on the first Saturday of the month from 10am with free cake and drinks or a half-price cooked breakfast for all volunteers.

**The Christmas Fayre** will be held at St Peter's on Saturday 29th November 2025. Come and enjoy the usual delicious refreshments and choose gifts and crafts from the many stalls.

**Stillpoint Meditation** takes place on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 7-8pm in St Peter's church. It is open to all and there is no admission charge. For further information please email [simon2020@zohomail.com](mailto:simon2020@zohomail.com) or call 01981 250245.

**Come to Hear the Author Speak – save the Date** – This talk will appeal to everyone in the area with memories of our unforgettable District Nurse Ruth de Ropp. On Friday 24th October at 3pm Tim Willasey-Wilsey will talk about his book *The Spy and The Devil* – it's the untold story of the MI6 agent, Nurse de Rapp's father, who lived here in Peterchurch and who penetrated Hitler's inner circle. Tickets are £5 at the door and include refreshments Baron William de Ropp who comes to life in the book, was the father of our District Nurse Ruth de Ropp, who lived in Long Lane, Peterchurch and nursed and cared among us in the Golden Valley and Black Mountains for thirty years from the 1950s into the 1980s. The Baron lived with his daughter for much of that time and taught at the old College of Further Educations in Hereford.

**Curry & Quiz Evening** will be held at the Hub on Friday 10th October at 6 for 6.30pm. Teams of up to 6, tickets are £15 per person. Choice of 3 curries (vegan option available). Bring your own beer, wine etc. Pop into the café to book and pay, call 01981 551143 or email [info@hubcommunity.org](mailto:info@hubcommunity.org).

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GRVC 07776 511501 and leave a message

Future Repair Café dates: **1 Nov** Ewyas Harold St Michael's Hall

**6 Dec** Dorstone Village Hall

**Longtown Art Club – First Year Celebration Art Exhibition**

**Thursday 23rd October, 7.00pm onwards**

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[blackhillartsevents.com/courses/p/longtownartclubexhibition](http://blackhillartsevents.com/courses/p/longtownartclubexhibition)

and [jacky@jackyedwardsglass.art](mailto:jacky@jackyedwardsglass.art)

Longtown Art Club has been meeting for around one year and to celebrate the fun and learning that we have enjoyed together we are holding an exhibition to show the work we have been creating, sell some art and raise money for Midlands Air Ambulance.

Please do come along and enjoy a fun evening with some art, chat, drinks and nibbles.

**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](mailto:jeff.rouse@westmercia.police.uk)

PCSO

Margaret Andrzejewska

07773 053895

[margaret.andrzejewska@westmercia.police.uk](mailto:margaret.andrzejewska@westmercia.police.uk)

**Contact: 101 ext 4820** – Email: [goldenvalley.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:goldenvalley.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)



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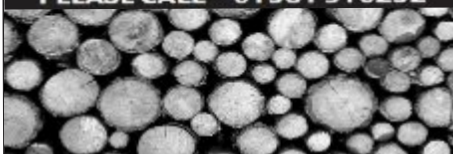
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Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November

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<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>

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### Get your diaries out

Following the joy of it last year Hopes Hygge Hug is back, every Thursday evening in November 6pm - 7pm. We switch all the lights off, light up candles, kettle on for a hot drink and a little local nibble or two. Call in for five minutes or stay the whole hour either way you are very much invited to pop out to Hopes.

Bringing a little more happiness to share this year each evening we will be partnering with a local business or charity

### October excitement

- ★ Cosying up but not turned the heating on? We have logs, kindling and firelights for evening warmth.
- ★ If you have a favourite flour and would like to buy it in bulk from us and save carriage fees, please ask us to give you a quote.
- ★ Getting those cosy jumpers out that have been stored over the summer? I can highly recommend purchasing Lavender and Lemon laundry to give them freshness and softness back to start wearing this season.

### Hopes Restful Nook

You may have seen on Instagram that we are going to be opening a little restful space with hot drinks, cakes and chocolate next year. If you are on Instagram look us up to follow what we are up to and suggestions are very welcome.

Not on Instagram? Don't panic. Come January we will be updating via our noticeboard.

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Many of you have contacted us directly over missing post or post in the wrong place over the last few weeks. The sorting office is now in Hereford and we don't have a postman on site we can support with improving the service.

### International Christmas Post on a budget

Now is the time to send small parcels under £20 abroad, think card with a calendar/book/photos as you can use the 42 day service called International Economy small parcel saving you roughly 20%.

### Post Office – Have your say

We have given out all our customers leaflets at the Post Office counter to raise awareness about the Post Office Green paper. The Government has published an important consultation on the future of the Post office and this is your opportunity to have a say.

This consultation closes on 6 October 2025.

We strongly encourage that responses are made via the online Qualtrics platform. Using the online survey will assist our analysis of the responses, enabling more efficient and effective consideration of the issues raised.

If you cannot respond via the online platform, you may send your response by email to [postofficeconsultation@businessandtrade.gov.uk](mailto:postofficeconsultation@businessandtrade.gov.uk), or by post to:

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## CHURCH SERVICES FOR OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

### Thursday 2 October

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Sunday 5 October

09:30 Clodock Morning Prayer  
15:00 St Margaret's Holy Communion  
18:00 Llanveynoe Harvest Festival and Supper

### Thursday 9 October

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Thursday 9 October

19:00 Clodock Rev Luci Morriss' Licensing Service

### Sunday 12 October

11:15 Clodock Harvest Festival with lunch

### Thursday 16 October

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Sunday 19 October

11:00 Craswall Harvest Festival

### Sunday 19 October

18:00 Clodock Evening Prayer

### Thursday 23 October

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Sunday 26 October

09:30 Clodock Holy Communion  
11:00 Michaelchurch Harvest Festival

### Thursday 30 October

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Sunday 2 November

09:30 Llanveynoe Holy Communion  
15:00 Newton Joint Harvest with St Margaret's TBC  
18:00 Clodock Evening Prayer

### Thursday 6 November

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Sunday 9 November

10:50 Michaelchurch Remembrance Sunday Service

### Tue 11 November

19:00 Clodock Reflective Service for Armistice Day

### Thursday 13 November

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Sunday 16 November

10:30 Clodock Black Mountains Benefice Service with Bishop Richard

### Thursday 20 November

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Sunday 23 November

11:15 Michaelchurch Holy Communion

### Thursday 27 November

08:45 Michaelchurch Morning Prayer

### Sunday 30 November

09:30 Craswall Holy Communion for Advent Sunday

## EVENTS PLANNER

Wed	01 October	2.30-4.30pm	Longtown Library, Longtown Village Hall
Wed	01 October	7.30pm	Esleyside Gardening Club: <i>Growing Salvias</i> , Vowchurch Hall
Wed	01 October	7.30pm	Music in Quiet Places. Dore Abbey
Thu	09 October	From 7.30pm	A Night on the Tiles! Scrabble at The Cornwall Arms, Clodock
Sun	05 October	3.30pm	Occasional Quaker Meeting, Dulas Court craft room
Mon	06 October	7.30pm	Longtown & District Historical Society: Dr Kathryn Davies, <i>Artisan Art in Herefordshire</i>
Thu	09 October	7.30pm	Newton St Margarets Women's Guild: Harvest Auction for Farming Minds. Newton Church Room
Thu	09 October	From 7.30pm	A Night on the Tiles! Scrabble at The Cornwall Arms, Clodock
Thu	09 October	7.30pm	Flicks in the Sticks with Arts Alive: <i>"Wild"</i> . Esleyside Hall
Sat	11 October	5.00pm	Concerts for Craswall: The Mikeleiz-Zucchi Duo, St Michael's Church.
Tue	14 October	7.15pm	Longtown & District WI. Longtown Village Hall
Thu	16 October		Longtown Thursday Club. Outing to Dobbie's Garden Centre, Tewkesbury
Sat	25 October	10.00am-noon	Longtown Village Projects, Longtown Castle
Sat-Sun	25-26 October	11.00am to 4.00pm	Fair Oak Cider Open Weekend
Mon	03 November	7.30pm	Longtown & District Historical Society: Professor Keith Ray, <i>Herefordshire Archaeology – A Reappraisal</i>
Wed	05 November	2.30-4.30pm	Longtown Library, Longtown Village Hall
Thu	06 November		Esleyside Gardening Club: <i>Bulbs, Corms &amp; Tubers ...</i> , Vowchurch Hall
Tue	11 November	7.15pm	Longtown & District WI. Longtown Village Hall
Thu	13 November		Longtown Thursday Club. Outing to Clark's Shopping Village, Somerset
Thu	13 November	7.30pm	Newton St Margarets Women's Guild: AGM and Bring & Share supper. Newton Church Room
Sat	15 November	7.30pm	Race Night at The Cornwall Arms
Sun	16 November	3.00-5.00pm	Longtown & District WI, Sparkling Afternoon Tea. Longtown Village Hall
Sat	29 November	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

### Esleyside Hall

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

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