

The Black Mountains Group Benefice

NEWSLETTER

April 2024



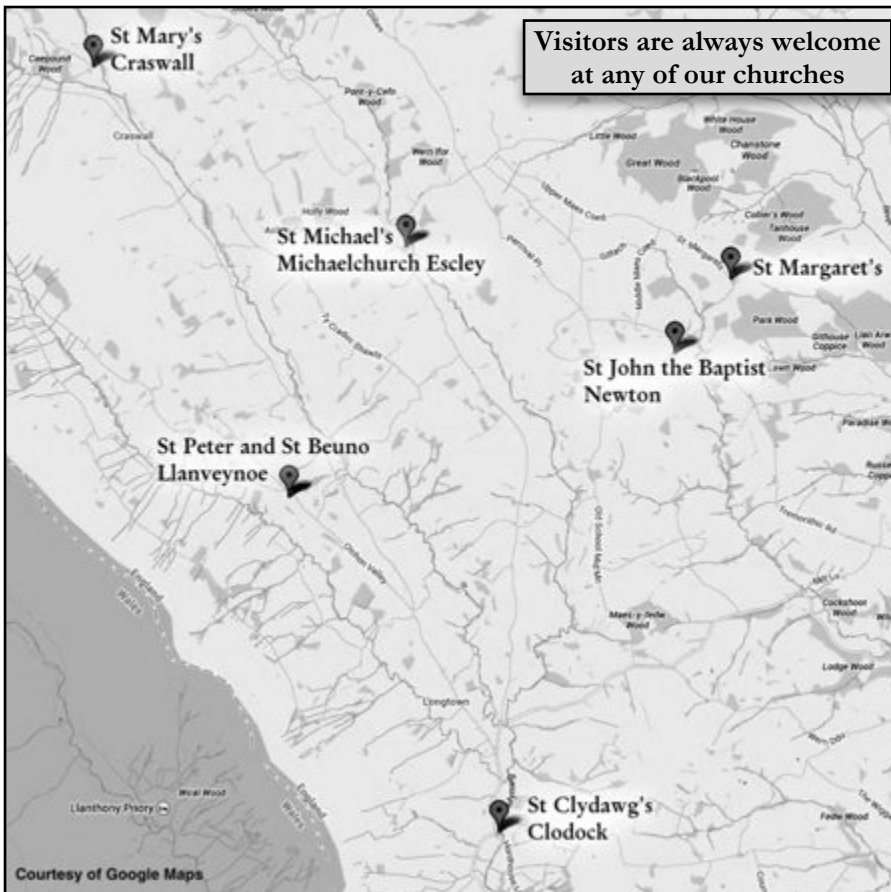
**The Parishes of Clodock & Longtown with Craswall, Llanveynoe,
St Margaret's, Michaelchurch Escley & Newton**

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

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)

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From the Clergy

Dear friends

I hope you've had a chance to see the film *Wicked Little Letters* starring Olivia Coleman, Jessie Buckley, Anjana Vasani and Timothy Spall. Based on a true scandal that stunned 1920s England, the story centres around neighbours Edith Swan and Rose Gooding.

It's a bitter sweet, dark comedy with an element of mystery. If you've not seen it, I won't give away any more of the story except to say that the attitudes of 1920s Littlehampton seem not that dissimilar to parts of merry old England today.

My experience of the film was that for every "what!?" there was an equal "ouch!" Like others of its milieu, it evokes and more often than not provokes a response. Or at least it intends to but so inured are we, so made hard of heart, by the supposed realities of the world, that you could sit through the whole thing and simply find it a comedy of errors.

In the Easter season, one so full of signs of new life all around us, it's easy to imagine that resurrection was a once in a lifetime experience of a couple of oddly named characters in first century Palestine. We're so used to chocolate eggs and Easter bunnies, and to the somewhat weirdly wonderful things Christians get up to – and get up especially early to do on the Black Hill on Easter Day – that we shrug our shoulders, marvel at the health-defying Cadbury Creme Egg, and avoid as best we can the whole resurrection thing.

It's no surprise, really. We're as incapable of accepting anything that doesn't fit our preconceived notions as were the people of 1920s Littlehampton. Politicians and vicars don't have a great track record of proving us wrong. If anything they simply reinforce our prejudice that the art and science of fact-checking is vastly under-resourced.

Perhaps, though, like the audiences of *Wicked Little Letters* and the population of Littlehampton, we might just shift our perceptions, change our perspective and be open to the really real. Resurrections happen every Spring, in every act of forgiveness, in every making whole, in every reconciliation, every cycle of life.

Resurrection is change like that, in the short run, looks like death. But in the long run looks like life. Our funeral services sometimes begin with "Life is not ended. It is merely changed." Quite hard to get our heads around in that moment, not so hard to wrap our hearts around in the end.

Mark

APRIL READINGS

Sunday 7th April, 2nd Sunday of Easter

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

Sunday 14th April, 3rd Sunday of Easter

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Old Testament | Acts 3: 12-19 |
| New Testament | 1 John 3: 1-7 |
| Gospel | Luke 24: 36b-48 |
| Psalm | 4 |

Sunday 21st April, 4th Sunday of Easter

| | |
|---------------|------------------|
| Old Testament | Acts 4: 5-12 |
| New Testament | 1 John 3: 16-end |
| Gospel | John 10: 11-18 |
| Psalm | 23 |

Sunday 28th April, 5th Sunday Of Easter

| | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Old Testament | Acts 8: 26-40 |
| New Testament | 1 John 4: 7-21 |
| Gospel | John 15: 1-8 |
| Psalm | 22: 24-30 |

Sunday 5th May

6th Sunday of Easter or Rogation Sunday

| | |
|---------------|----------------|
| Old Testament | Acts 10: 44-48 |
| New Testament | 1 John 5: 1-6 |
| Gospel | John 15: 9-17 |

Deanery Update

Lots of opportunities to join in with what's going on in the Deanery at the moment:

Reflective Rambles. The summer programme is in place with the next Ramble taking place at Clodock on Sunday **28th April at 2pm**. Four key things to note: the rambles are guided, open to all, under 3 miles and there's always food involved. You may be able to spot the full list of dates elsewhere in this newsletter – if not, get in touch and we'll send them to you.

Hedgerow Communion These involve yoga, meditation, sharing bread and wine, silence, poetry and ritual. Why not join the next one on **Sunday May 5th at Snodhill Castle at 2pm** and give yourself the opportunity for a time to pause, attend and celebrate.

Grow Strong Anyone in Year 6 or above at school is very welcome to come along to the next session, which will be at Longtown Outdoor Education Centre on **Friday April 26th between 6 and 9.30pm**.

Looking further ahead...

The Gathering – Tuesday 2nd July at St Peter's Hub. This will be preceded by a mini pilgrimage from Dorstone. Everyone is welcome – a chance to get a taster of The Golden Valley Pilgrim Way.

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

GROW STRONG – FRIDAY 19 APRIL

YOUTH GROUP FOR YEAR 6 AND ABOVE

Join us for an enchanting evening of nature connection and mindful breathing. We'll embark on a journey to deepen our connection with nature, the earth and ourselves. Through guided exercises and gentle movement, participants will have the opportunity to unwind, recharge, and cultivate

a sense of inner peace. As the sun sets and the world around us quiets, we'll immerse ourselves in the sights, sounds, and sensations of nature. Together, we'll explore the transformative power of breathing*, allowing it to anchor us in the here and now, fostering a sense of clarity, calm and resilience. Come, discover the magic of nature and the profound benefits of breathing well – **Friday 19 April, 6-9.30 pm. Drop off and pick up at Longtown Outdoor Centre.** Cost - £13/young person, bursaries are available to support this cost.

Prebooking is essential through Anne Lloyd, email: abbeydoredmc@gmail.com.

* To discover more about breathwork, visit www.mattfreer.info. Matt will be leading our session on 19th April.

Many thanks, Luci

Grow Strong a once-monthly youth group supported by members of local churches and based at Longtown Outdoor Centre.

Revd Luci Morriss,

Rural Pioneer Priest, Abbeydore Deanery

Telephone: 07778 897809

Please note that 01497 821877 is no longer in use.

www.abbeydoredeanery.org

SALEM BAPTIST CHAPEL

Llanwonog Lane Longtown HR2 0LE



SUNDAY SERVICES

| | | |
|--------|---------|---------------------|
| 7 Apr | 6.30 pm | Mr Robin Hill |
| 14 Apr | 6.30 pm | Mr Morgan Britton |
| 21 Apr | 6.30 pm | Revd Misha Pederson |
| 28 Apr | 6.30 pm | Mr Rob Roberts |

EASTER DISPLAY

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

ALL WELCOME

For further information, please email lsbc@gmail.com

Thanks

MIDDLE EAST/GAZA CRISIS APPEAL

On March 2nd Leanne and Tif Hunter gave an open Lent Lunch in support of this appeal. The lunch raised an amazing £1041. The money goes to Embrace the Middle East, the national charity organising the appeal.

Thank you to all those who came to the lunch and gave so generously.

Thank you to all those who couldn't come to the lunch, but still gave generously.

Thank you, above all, to Leanne and Tif for opening their home to all comers.

The Gaza crisis appeal remains open. If you would like to donate please contact Sam Ashton, email address: smashton42@gmail.com

Forthcoming events



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

LONGTOWN AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Monday April 8th at 7.30pm

Longtown Village Hall, HR2 0LD

Gill Wakley: *What is a Corvisor?*

Trades in Seventeenth Century Abergavenny

Dr Wakley is a trustee of the Gunter Mansion and a former chair of Abergavenny History Society.

Membership £6 for season until July

Guests £4 per meeting.

Contact jerrydpdavis@outlook.com for details or go to our new web address, www.ldhs.org.uk

NEWTON ST MARGARETS WOMEN'S GUILD

THURSDAY 11TH APRIL 7.30P

NEWTON PARISH ROOM HR2 0QR

Not Just Potholes!

Join us for question time and an evening of entertainment with the Councillor for Golden Valley South, Matthew Engel. All very welcome! Refreshments. Guests £2.50

Save this date (and any spare seedlings!): **Saturday 15th June** am for our **PLANT SALE** in aid of Women's Guild Funds and St Michaels Hospice.

For further information phone Jane: 07794920729.

Longtown Community Pre-School

invites you to their new

Stay and Play Toddler and Baby Group

MESSY PLAY SESSION

on

Thursday 18th April 2024

from 1:15pm to 2:45pm

@ £2 per family

to include a cold drink and biscuit.

Find us tucked behind Longtown Primary School HR2 0LE

Our regular sessions will then be the first Thursday of every month during term time.



Cacti and Succulents

TALK 7.30pm, Wednesday 1st May
Escleyside Hall



Ian Thwaite is an award-winning botanical photographer with a specialist knowledge of cacti and succulent plants. He enjoys growing a vast array of plants, and is one of the most influential garden photographers in the UK.

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

LONGTOWN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE Plant Sale

Sunday, 12th May in Longtown Village Hall
2.00pm - 4.00pm

The green shoots are emerging, the bulbs are blooming and the sun is beginning to shine, so it is time to plan your summer garden!

At the Plant Sale you will find flower and vegetable plants, seedlings and house plants.

Garden -themed raffle prizes and delicious cakes and teas! Proceeds to be shared between St Michael's Hospice and Longtown Mountain Rescue.

National Mills Weekend 11th and 12th May

National Mills Weekend is an opportunity to visit traditional watermills, windmills and horse-powered mills across the country. Five mills in south Herefordshire are taking part this year. Each of these mills is unique and well worth a visit.

Free entry (donations to various charities)

Clodock Mill

Saturday and Sunday 2.00-5.00pm

A new waterwheel shaft, kindly donated by Oliver Watkins, is being installed. If completed in time, the mill will be grinding during the weekend.

Fair Oak Farm Cider Mill, Bacton

Saturday and Sunday 11.00-5.00pm

Cider from the mill will be available for tasting and purchase, and you can meet Featherstone, the apprentice mill horse.

Olchon House Farm Mill, Llanveynoe

Saturday 11.00-4.00pm

This recently restored farm mill is expected to be grinding corn on the day.

Pontynys Mill, Longtown

Saturday 10.00-4.00pm

A nearly complete corn mill with a large high-breast waterwheel is under restoration. An unusual horizontal shaft drove 4 pairs of stones.

Rowlestone Mill, near Ewyas Harold

Saturday 10.00am-6.00pm

The dramatic leat coming from a waterfall will be turning the external overshot waterwheel.

Please respect the advertised opening times. For more information and directions visit www.clodockmill.com or www.spab.org.uk/Mills



Concerts for Craswall

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 (limited availability)

Full programme details and tickets

www.concertsforcraswall.org or 01981 510112

LONGTOWN THURSDAY CLUB

Trips in 2024

| | | |
|------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|
| May 18th | 2pm | Spring Fayre at Longtown Village Hall |
| May 30th | | Trip to the Mumbles |
| July 25th | | Trip to Aberystwyth |
| Aug. 22nd | | Venue to be decided |
| Sept 19th | | Trip to Stratford upon Avon |
| Oct 17th | | Trip to Wychbold Garden Centre |
| Nov 14th | | Shopping trip – venue to be decided |

The coach will leave Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall at 9.30. The cost will be £20.

Non-members of the Club, of any age, are welcome to join us. For more information please contact Hazel Pugh on 01873 860803.

Local Newsround

MICHAELCHURCH ESCLEY PRIMARY AND PRE-SCHOOL

This Spring Term has been particularly busy. Our Spring Pre-School 'Welly Walk' was a fantastic success, with lots of families turning up to enjoy a rare moment of sunshine, whilst enjoying an expertly guided walk around the beautiful setting of the school.

Talking of the school setting, the school now has a new little fruit tree orchard, planted thanks to the efforts of the children, from Acorn, Sapling and Oak Classes, during a Friday afternoon Forest School session.

Moving further afield, Oak Class paid a visit to Gloucester where they spent the morning in the Masjid-E-Noor mosque learning about the Islamic faith and in the afternoon, they paid a visit to Gloucester Cathedral.

Acorn Class have been out and about too, visiting the West Midland Safari Park. They had a fantastic day enjoying their

encounters with the wild and wonderful animals at the park. The next day, the whole school decamped to Hay on Wye as it was World Book Day. We had a great morning visiting a number of book shops around this famous literary town and we paid a visit to the castle too. During their book shop visits, the children had the chance to purchase the special World Book Day books with their free book tokens. The next day was World Book Day dressing up day, with the usual array of fantastic and creative costumes depicting the children's favourite book characters.

The following week, Sapling Class, as part of their Vikings topic, popped over to the brilliant Battlelands Paintball for a session of Viking games. Despite some pretty awful weather, the children had a brilliant time taking part in a whole host of fun and challenging games.

Now, as this rather short term draws to a close, we are also looking forward to our final few events of the Spring Term. We have our annual, whole school Easter Egg hunt which will see our Year 6s trekking off into the hills leaving a flour trail and carrying sacks of Easter eggs for the rest of the school. Our final event of the term is a drumming workshop which we are really looking forward to.

Finally, this Easter marks 10 years since I took over as Headteacher at Michaelchurch Esceley Primary and Pre-School, following a period of uncertainty for the future of the school. To mark this significant moment in time for the school, we are planning a little celebration. More information on this to follow.

I'd like to finish by wishing everyone a very happy and relaxing Easter.

*Louise Crocker, Headteacher
Michaelchurch Esceley Primary School, 01981 510208*

BLACK HILL UKRAINE GROUP

The Israel / Gaza conflict has overtaken the invasion of Ukraine as headline news, but local Ukrainian refugees still need our help.

Wonderful people from this group of parishes have sponsored and provided accommodation for ten Ukrainian families. Some of these families have returned to Ukraine but others have now found their own accommodation here, they have improved their language skills, they have found jobs and their children are doing extremely well in local schools. These families are not claiming benefits.

We still need to help them financially and to this end we are planning to hold a fund raising breakfast gathering at The Old Chapel, St Margaret's in the near future. Please look out for details and try to attend.

VOWCHURCH & DISTRICT GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

At the March meeting Councillors co-opted Mrs Anna Mason to join the Parish Council and represent Michaelchurch Esceley. There is still a vacancy for a Councillor to represent St Margarets, if you are interested or would like further information, please contact the Clerk.

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Thursday 25th April 2024 at Esceleyside Hall, Michaelchurch Esceley 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 and all are welcome.

Herefordshire Council will soon be contacting Parish Councils regarding verge cutting for the coming season. This will be discussed in more detail at the April Parish Council meeting. Please do come along if you have a verge near you that you would like to help to protect. It is hoped that the Parish Council can obtain some 'Do not cut' signage although you would need to be pro-active and take responsibility to maintain 'your patch'. The April meeting will be on Thursday 18th April in Newton Church Room from 7.30pm.

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
www.vowchurchpc.org.uk

Concerts for Craswall



Saturday March 16th, St Michael's Church, Michaelchurch Esceley

Concerts for Craswall were thrilled to be able to kick start celebrations for our 30th anniversary season with an exhilarating concert given by the London based Marmen Quartet.

The church was full, warm and the audience enormously appreciative of the opportunity to hear this exceptional string quartet so close to home. Performing a glorious programme of French music by Haydn and Mozart, it was Debussy's String Quartet with which the first half of the concert ended, and Ravel's equally fabulous string quartet with which the concert concluded, that enthralled all present most of all.

The Marmen's reputation for "the courage, vitality, and intensity of its performances" is clearly well deserved and was no more evident than in the scherzo movements of both pieces. Aside from the technical competence, wonderful intonation, beautiful tone, and those scintillating pizzicatos, what was so striking about the performance was the clear sense of conviction and enjoyment these four players exuded.

This concert was simply a joy from start to finish.

www.concertsforcraswall.org

Registered Charity No. 1092005

Round and About

VOWCHURCH VILLAGE HALL

Vowchurch Market Easter Saturday March 30 10am - 12noon

Bowls Wednesdays at 6.30pm at Vowchurch Hall. The last bowls night of the season will be on Wednesday April 10.

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

5 Rhythms Dance Sunday April 28, 5.30pm Contact Ted Morris Dawson xtedmdx@gmail.com

V&T 50 Club March winners were Richard Stokes no 9 £70 and Anne Langton no 61 £20

THE MONDAY CLUB

This friendly little club is run at Peterchurch Village Hall every Monday serving Teas and Coffee. We have also had a few people in hospital recently and we wish them all a speedy recovery.

On Monday 19th we went to Casa Lupo for a meal. Many thanks to Kay and Mark for opening up especially for us. I have heard that everyone enjoyed themselves.

We are going on a Blossom trail in April so I will keep you informed.

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 are always looking for volunteers and if you feel that you would like to help us as a volunteer please ring Mrs. Kath Gaze on 01981 550579, or pop in you will be made very welcome.

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

Notice of AGM

Michaelchurch PCC Annual General Meeting will be held on **Monday 15th April at 2.00pm** in the church.
All welcome.

THE CALL OF THE CURLEW

For many of us the sound of the curlews returning to their breeding sites is a very welcome reminder that spring is on the way – and we would really love to know if you hear them. Please email longtowncurlews@gmail.com, message **07760 279332** or phone **01873 860607**. Telling us what you heard or saw and the time, date and place is really helpful.



Image © RSPB.org.uk

We are eagerly awaiting the 4 pairs that we know prefer to nest in the Longtown/Craswall area but we never give up hope that there might be more out there. There should be but if you've lived here long enough, you'll know that curlew numbers are declining dramatically. The only reason we still have a local population is because they are long lived birds. They are not producing enough young to maintain their numbers.

As ground nesting birds their eggs are very vulnerable to predation, both by mammals and birds. Without fencing, most nests are predated before the eggs even hatch and sadly, in the last couple of years, only one nest has managed to produce fully fledged chicks. As curlews will almost always come back to the same site to breed, once a pair die that's it – those fields will remain empty – no new birds will replace them unless they've been able to fledge chicks. Our curlews are in trouble and they could do with a bit of help.

But there is hope - there have been some real success stories in other parts of the country with similar problems – we're hoping that maybe the same thing could happen here. Please do use the above details to get in touch if you're interested in any way. Thank you.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING ESCLEYSIDE HALL WEDNESDAY 24th APRIL 2024 7.30pm

The purpose of this meeting is to agree the appointment of a Secretary and Treasurer to fill vacant posts thus ensuring compliance with the Constitution of the Charity that runs the Hall, and hopefully to appoint at least three new Trustee / committee members; we have previously been unable to find volunteers for these posts. The adjacent Michaelchurch Escley Primary School, by far our main user and source of revenue, has agreed that their School Administrator would accept an executive role on the Committee and undertake Treasurer and Administrative duties. I hope that local residents can accept this appointment which should guarantee the future of the Charity, the Hall and its role in our community. The Committee has voted to approve the appointment in principle.

There has been a considerable amount of rumour and disinformation being circulated suggesting that the Hall is somehow being 'given to the school'. This is not true. The aims and Constitution of the Charity are not changing, nor the legal obligations on the Trustees. The current Committee remain in post. The Charity and the School remain separate and independent bodies, and the ownership of the Hall is unchanged and rests with the Charity, and we of course conform to Charity Commission guidelines in this matter.

Dr Jeremy Davis, Chairman of Committee
Old House, Michaelchurch Escley.
jerrydpdavis@outlook.com

HAY Music

Friday, 12 April at 7.00pm - St Mary's Church, Hay-on-Wye

THE NEW LONDON CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

The NLCE is a wind quintet with a difference and for over two decades it has challenged traditional ideas of chamber music with its innovative programmes. Music by Mozart, Beethoven, Ravel and Stott.

Full details and tickets at www.haymusic.org

Tickets also from the Hay Tourist Bureau and the door if still available.

A limited number of free tickets for under 25s (on line only).

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

Workshop on environmental schemes

Bespoke workshops tailored to your interests

Ongoing & one-to-one support

Get to know your local farming community





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 |

Join us on Earth Day Monday 22nd April – Earthday.org

The theme this year is Planet vs. Plastics, calls to advocate for widespread awareness on the health risk of plastics, rapidly phase out single use plastics, urgently push for a strong UN treaty on Plastic Pollution, and demand an end to fast fashion. Join us so you can try plastic-free products or tell us what we could stock to make your life easier.

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

- ★ Local hand knitted restful socks with 75% wool
- ★ Nature Magazine – an international weekly scientific journal
- ★ Longtown Castle cards by Gill Perkins
- ★ Turmeric root and Cavolo Nero are in
- ★ Sunscreen – SPF to protect skin from the wind and lashing rain?

Book delivery

We are patiently waiting for a rather large book delivery, we were hoping for before Easter, keep your fingers and toes crossed. A perfect pair to a chocolate egg fuelled sugar rush (If you get lucky).

Top selling product

Our top selling product in February was a Satsuma again. I wonder if we will sell more Cadbury's creme eggs or Satsumas in March 24?

Open Good Friday 7am - 5.30pm

Easter Monday we are open 10am - 12 noon

Summer Sundays start in May when we open two hours longer 10am - 2pm

LONGTOWN POST OFFICE

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

We now offer services from Royal Mail, DPD and Amazon. Time to see who offers the best solution for your posting/parcel return needs.

16th April – 100 years of Commemorative stamps go live.

Presentation packs are great gift when they match perfectly with a person's interest and hobby.

Get ready to form an orderly queue for Peppa Pig in May!

Personal & Business Banking needs

Come and chat with us. We can easily tell you we can offer from getting cash out of your account to printing a bank balance.

Special and Presentation stamps

16th April - 100 years of Commemorative stamps go live.

Presentation packs are great gift when they match perfectly with a person's interest and hobby.

Sign up for a Travel money card at Longtown Post Office

A safe-to-use, prepaid, reloadable, multi currency card that's not linked to your bank account

- No Charges when you spend abroad
- Make contactless, Apple Pay & Google Pay payments
- Manage your account and top up or freeze your card easily with your travel app.
- Come and talk to us and if you sign up with £50 before the 12th of May you are entered into a prize draw with a chance to win £5,000. One winner every week

Royal Mail stamp price increases Tuesday 2nd April, come get your Christmas Stamps early and save money 1st, 2nd and Abroad all increase

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.

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

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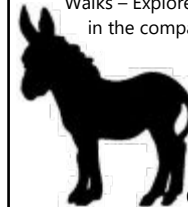
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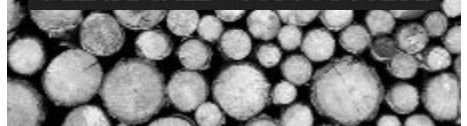
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CHURCH SERVICES FOR APRIL AND MAY

APRIL

Sunday 7th April

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

Sunday 14th April

9.30am Clodock Morning Worship
11.00am Michaelchurch Holy Communion

Sunday 21st April

9.30am Craswall Morning Worship

Sunday 28th April

11.00am Clodock Holy Communion
2.00pm Clodock Reflective Ramble in Clodock

MAY

Sunday 5th May

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

Thursday 9th May

7.00pm Craswall Priory Ascension Day Service

Sunday 12th May

9.30am Clodock Holy Communion
11.00am Michaelchurch Morning Worship

Sunday 19th May

9.30am Llanveynoe Group Service for Pentecost

Sunday 26th May

11.00am Michaelchurch Holy Communion

| EVENTS PLANNER | | | |
|-----------------------|----------|--------------|---|
| Wed | 03 April | 2.30-4.30pm | Longtown Library, Longtown Village Hall |
| Wed | 03 April | 7.30pm | Esleyside Gardening Club: Paul Hand, <i>Sack Trucks and Wheelbarrows</i> |
| Fri | 05 April | 7.30pm | Quiz Night. Michaelchurch Esley Sports Pavillion |
| Mon | 08 April | 7.30pm | Longtown & District Historical Society: Gill Wakley, <i>What is a Cornisor? Trades in 17th C. Abergavenny</i> |
| Thu | 11 April | 7.30pm | Newton St Margarets Women's Guild: Cllr Mathew Engel: <i>Not just potboles!</i> |
| Mon | 15 April | 2.00pm | Michaelchurch PCC AGM |
| Thu | 18 April | 1.15-2.245pm | Longtown Community Pre-School, Messy Play Session |
| Thu | 18 April | | Longtown Thursday Club |
| Sat | 27 April | 10.00am-noon | Longtown Village Projects, Longtown Castle |
| Wed | 01 May | 2.30-4.30pm | Longtown Library, Longtown Village Hall |
| Wed | 01 May | 7.30pm | Esleyside Gardening Club: Ian Thwaite, <i>Cacti and Succulents</i> |
| Sat | 11 May | | The Second Craswall History Evening |
| Sat | 11 May | | National Mills Weekend. 5 mills open |
| Sun | 12 May | 2.00-4.00pm | Longtown WI Plant Sale, Longtown Village Hall |
| Sun | 12 May | | National Mills Weekend. 2 mills open |
| Sat | 18 May | | Longtown Thursday Club Spring Fayre, Longtown Village Hall |
| Sat | 25 May | 10.00am-noon | Longtown Village Projects, Longtown Castle |
| Sun | 26 May | 3.30pm | Concerts for Craswall: Hope Cramsie. St Mary's Church, Craswall |
| Thu | 30 May | | Longtown Thursday Club trip: Mumbles |
| Wed | 05 June | 2.30-4.30pm | Longtown Library, Longtown Village Hall |
| Sat | 29 June | 10.00am-noon | Longtown Village Projects, Longtown Castle |
| Wed | 03 July | 2.30-4.30pm | Longtown Library, Longtown Village Hall |
| Sat | 06 July | | St.Margarets Flower Festival |
| Sun | 07 July | | St.Margarets Flower Festival |
| Thu | 25 July | | Longtown Thursday Club trip: Aberystwyth |
| Sat | 27 July | 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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