

# The Black Mountains Group Benefice

## NEWSLETTER

December 2023 & January 2024



St Margaret's



St Clydawg's  
Clodock



St Mary's  
Craswall



St John's  
Newton



St Peter & St Beuno  
Llanveynoe



St Michael's  
Michaelchurch Escley

**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

Min  
**£1**  
donation

Rev. Mark Godson: [revmarkgodson@gmail.com](mailto:revmarkgodson@gmail.com)  
Rev. Luci Morris: [luci.borderlinkbenefice@outlook.com](mailto:luci.borderlinkbenefice@outlook.com)

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





## Churchwardens

### Clodock & Longtown

Mr Nick Vaughan 01873 860201

### Craswall

Mrs Christine Cleaton 01981 510674

### Llanveynoe

Mr Donald Phillips 01873 860298

Commodore Peter Tribe 01873 860260

### St Margaret's

Mrs Jane Baxter 01981 510388

### Michaelchurch Esley

Mrs Olive Howells 01981 510228

Mr Chris Atkins 07767 687242  
cdsatkins@gmail.com

### Newton

(Vacant)

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

Please send copy to [newsletter@corefields.com](mailto:newsletter@corefields.com)

#### Editor:

Mark Ewins  
Marlands  
Longtown HR2 0PD  
01873 860829  
[mark@corefields.com](mailto:mark@corefields.com)

#### Advertising:

Jill Cook  
Clodock Mill  
Longtown HR2 0PD  
01873 860408  
[jill@clodockmill.com](mailto:jill@clodockmill.com)

#### ISSUE

**February 2024**

March 2024

April 2024

#### COPY DEADLINE

**17 January 2024**

14 February 2024

20 March 2024

#### PUBLICATION DATE

**28 January 2024**

25 February 2024

31 March 2024 (Easter Day)

Newsletter by  
EMAIL



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

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

**Enquiries to [mark@corefields.com](mailto:mark@corefields.com)  
Subject: Newsletter by email**

### Please consider a subscription

For details please contact the editor.

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

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

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

### Privacy Statement

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

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

## From the Clergy

---

What a strange time of year this is. Darker, colder, harder. And brimming with mystery and weird hope. Advent serves as a kind of long dawn, leading us towards the disarming light of a vulnerable, sweet, refugee baby who is God with us, kingdom come, Immanuel.

Does this little child knock gently on the door of your heart, calling you to some tender acts of seasonal charity? Or perhaps your eyes, blinking in the light, become adjusted to the unorthodox patterns of the kingdom of God that is breaking through, full of promise: last become first, strangers become welcome, enemies loved, the humble lifted. Little Jesus: glorious, preposterous disrupter.

In the overwhelming days and nights of our personal circumstances, in the pervasively unbalanced poopiness of the state of our world, the magic of this time of year invites us into a moment of suspension of business as usual. We raise our heads from normal life and see something beyond the pervasive powers and systems we all operate within. God is here with us. Our hope becomes a peaceful, determined protest.

Enjoy the twinkly lights and sparkles in all their loveliness: they symbolise that stubborn, determined Christmas hope, shining out joy in the murky darkness, representing a love that knows no bounds, encompassing us all. The little baby Jesus from your nativity scene is offering every one of us a peace that runs deeper.

My reflection here is inspired by author Kate Bowler, and I leave you with some of her words of blessing.

**Blessed are we who cry out: Oh God, why does the bad always seem to win? When will good prevail? We know you are good, but we see so little goodness.**

**God, show us your heart, how you seek out the broken. Lift us on your shoulders, and carry us home – no matter how strong we think we are.**

**God, seek us out, and find us, we your tired people, and lead us out to where hope lies,**

**where your kingdom will come**

**and your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Fill us with your courage.**

**Calm us with your love.**

**Fortify us with your hope. Amen.**

I pray for you all a good Christmas, safety and warmth over the winter months, and hearts full of compassion and determined hope.

*Ange x*

---

## DECEMBER 2023 & JANUARY 2024 READINGS

### Sunday 3rd December

Old Testament	Isaiah 64: 1-9
New Testament	1 Corinthians 1: 3-9
Gospel	Matthew 13: 24-end
Psalm	80: 1-8, 18-20

### Sunday 10th December

Old Testament	Isaiah 40: 1-11
New Testament	2 Peter 3: 8-15a
Gospel	Mark 1: 1-8
Psalm	85: 1-2, 8-13

### Sunday 17th December

Old Testament	Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11
New Testament	1 Thessalonians 5: 16-24
Gospel	John 1: 6-8, 19-28
Psalm	126

### Sunday 24th December – Christmas Eve

Old Testament	2 Samuel 7: 1-11, 16
New Testament	Romans 16: 25-27
Gospel	Luke 1: 26-38
Psalm	89: 1-4, 19-26

### Monday 25th December – Christmas Day

Old Testament	Isaiah 52: 7-10
New Testament	Hebrews 1: 1-4, 5-12
Gospel	John 1: 1-14
Psalm	98

### Sunday 31st December

Old Testament	Isaiah 61: 10 – 62:
New Testament	Galatians 4: 4-7
Gospel	Luke 2: 15-21
Psalm	148

### Sunday 7th January

Old Testament	Isaiah 60: 1-6
New Testament	Ephesians 3: 1-12
Gospel	Matthew 2: 1-12
Psalm	72: (1-9). 10-15

### Sunday 14th January

Old Testament	1 Samuel 3: 1-10, (11-20)
New Testament	Revelation 5: 1-10
Gospel	John 1: 43-end
Psalm	139: 1-5, 12-18

### Sunday 21st January

Old Testament	Genesis 14: 17-20
New Testament	Revelation 19: 6-10
Gospel	John 2: 1-11
Psalm	128

### Sunday 28th January (Candlemas)

Old Testament	Malachi 3: 1-5
New Testament	Hebrews 2: 14-18
Gospel	Luke 2: 22-40
Psalm	24: (1-6), 7-10

---

## Deanery Update

---

Christmas wishes and a huge thank you to everyone who has supported the churches within the deanery in any way during 2023. Your input is greatly appreciated.

It certainly has been a busy year with lots of initiatives starting or developing throughout the year, Grow Strong, Growing Leaders, Golden Valley Pilgrim Way, Repair Café, Food for Families, Tea Time Messy Church, Reflective Rambles to name a few.

Food for Families will be packing boxes over the next few weeks and if you are able to contribute do get in touch. You'll find more detailed information elsewhere in this newsletter.

If you have access to BBC iPlayer, have a look at *Escape to The Country* Series 23, episode 5 and fast forward to 38.50 minutes as the Golden Valley Pilgrim Way is featured.

Grow Strong have their last activity of the year on 9th December. This is open to those in Year 6 and above – why not try it out?

There are a wide range of Advent and Christmas services being offered across the Deanery. Have a look at the website to find one that might suit you and take the opportunity to celebrate Christmas with your community.

Finally, the team at Abbeydore Deanery wish you all a very happy, blessed Christmas and a healthy and hopeful New Year.

#### Contact Details

For any enquiries about anything mentioned here and what's going on in and around churches within the Deanery, get in touch with the Deanery Coordinator, Anne Lloyd on 01981 620145 or [abbeydoredmc@gmail.com](mailto:abbeydoredmc@gmail.com).

---

#### FOOD FOR FAMILIES - CHRISTMAS 2023

A huge thank you to all who have contributed in the past to Food for Families. As Christmas approaches we hear from our local schools that many, many families continue to struggle with the cost of food. Your help and contributions are so gratefully received. Every time we do this we as a community show our care for families in the area.

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

#### Donations of Money –

Account name: Madley Parish Church Council

Sort Code: 30-94-14

Account number: 00393216

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

#### Packing and Delivering –

Packing from Friday 15th December.

Delivery to schools: Wednesday 20th, Thursday 21st, Friday 22nd December.

To help with either please contact:

[juliemalunn@btinternet.com](mailto:juliemalunn@btinternet.com)

Donations of food – we need any of the following:

tinned food - tuna, meat, beans, veg, soups;

boxes of biscuits; ketchup; tea bags; coffee; jam, honey.

See below for your nearest collection point.

Please bring donations of food to any of the following churches:

**Allensmore:** Donations to church at anytime.

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

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

**Kingstone:** Donations to church during the regular weekly events – Take a Pew – every Thursday 2.00-4.00pm, or

**Kingstone Kafe** 1st & 3rd Wednesdays every month 11.00-2.00pm.

**Thruxton:** Donations to church at any time contact Mary Stevenson if you need further details [marylmstev@gmail.com](mailto:marylmstev@gmail.com)).

**Madley:** (open daily from 10.00am to 4.00pm).

**The Hub at St Peter's, Peterchurch** (open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 9.30am to 2.30pm)

Contact Julie Lunn if you need further details [juliemalunn@btinternet.com](mailto:juliemalunn@btinternet.com)).

**Dore Abbey:** Open daily from 9.00am till 4.00pm.

**St Michael's Ewyas Harold:** Open daily from 9.00am till 4.00pm.

**Kilpeck:** Open daily from 8.30am till 5pm.

#### Contacts for further details:

Annie Robertson [anniemidwife@gmail.com](mailto:anniemidwife@gmail.com) or

Fiona Garfield [fiona.garfield@googlemail.com](mailto:fiona.garfield@googlemail.com)

---

#### Thanks

---

##### FROM MATTHEW ENGEL

I would like to thank everyone who voted for me in the doubly sad circumstances of the recent by-election. As the new ward councillor for Golden Valley South, I will try to help anyone in the ward who needs assistance with council matters (and may sometimes even succeed). Please contact me on [matthew.engel@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.engel@herefordshire.gov.uk) or on my office phone 01981 510250.

I hope to issue occasional bulletins that will attempt to keep voters informed about what is going on at the council. If you would like to be added to the mailing list please contact me on the email above. This service is unlikely to start until the New Year by which time I might have a better idea what's going on myself.

*Matthew Engel*

---

#### Forthcoming events



The poster features a central illustration of a quoits board with three quoits in the center, a stack of playing cards, and a raffle ticket. Text on the poster includes: "Quoits Tournament and Cards Evening", "Raffle" (on a ticket), "Supper" (on a diamond-shaped sign), "Cornwall Arms Clodock", "Saturday 2nd December - 7:30pm start", "Teams of two drawn on night - £2 per person entry fee", "Winners take 50% - Charity takes 50%", "Proceeds to Cancer Research - Brain Tumours", and "In memory of Sue Janes" (with a small portrait icon).

#### LONGTOWN AND DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

**Rhys Griffith: The Mapping of Herefordshire**

**Monday, 4th December**

Longtown Village Hall HR2 OLD

**Rees Griffith: The Mapping of Herefordshire**

Herefordshire has a wide variety of maps, some dating from the sixteenth century. A number cover our area, including the Abergavenny Estate maps. Rhys Griffith is the senior archivist at HARC and has helped our Society over a number of years.

Membership costs £12 for the season and guests are very welcome at £4 per meeting. Please contact [jerrydavies@outlook.com](mailto:jerrydavies@outlook.com) for details.

---

**Longtown Library  
now open,  
Every first Wednesday of the month  
2.30 - 4.30 pm  
Swap books, tea and chat!**



**6th December / 3rd January**

# CHRISTMAS SHOPPING FAIR

**Wednesday  
6th December  
7.00 to 9.00pm  
Longtown Village Hall  
HR2 0LD**

LOCAL CRAFTS AND PRODUCTS  
Come and enjoy Longtown's  
fabulous Christmas retail  
experience!

**£5** to include tea,  
Coffee and a  
mince pie

In aid of Longtown Village Hall funds



## Toot Toot Toot Come and Join Our FESTIVE TRACTOR RUN CONGA



**Friday 8th December 2023**

At Mountain Mayhem, Craswall, Hereford, HR2 0PH

5.30pm - Tractors only to set off  
6.30pm - Doors Open at Mountain Mayhem  
7.15pm - Tractors Arrive at Mountain Mayhem

*Prize  
for the  
best dressed  
tractor*

**£10 per tractor**  
(prior booking essential)  
**FREE ENTRY**  
to the Christmas Fair  
at Mountain Mayhem

**FOOD | LICENSED BAR  
RAFFLE | CHRISTMAS MARKET  
MEET SANTA**

To take part or for more information, please call:  
**Amanda 01981 510264**  
**Sally 07966 968290**  
Or email: [longtownshow@outlook.com](mailto:longtownshow@outlook.com)

*Raising funds for Longtown Show*

### TEA SET

The December meeting of the Tea Set will be **December 13th** (2nd Wednesday) so do make space in your diaries for this; open from 2.30 - 5.00pm at Newton Church room. A chance to see friends old and new and to wish them a Happy Christmas in person, and to have a mince pie in addition to our normal cakes.

The January Tea Set will be on the **THIRD** Wednesday of the month, 17th, as normal.

### NEWTON ST MARGARETS WOMEN'S GUILD Thursday 14th December 2023

Christmas Meal at *Food for Thought* in Peterchurch.  
*Partners are welcome too but please phone 07794 920729  
to reserve your place(s).*

**Thursday 11th January 2024** Film Night "in" with hot  
chocolate and **"Living"** starring Bill Nighy  
Newton Parish Room HR2 0QR.  
*Guests and new members are very welcome.*

### CRASWALL YFC CATCHUP

The last couple of months have been busy ones: bale art camp, junior quiz, stock judging, and we held a Halloween bingo. It was a great success, so thank you to everyone who came and supported us – and a big thank you to all the helpers.

We are now into full-on panto practise – *Snow White* this year. Craswall YFC's panto is famous ... now what is it famous for? I couldn't possibly say!! But we look forward to seeing you all there for a great night.



**CRASWALL YFC**



PRESENT

## SNOW WHITE

FRIDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> & SATURDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

CURTAINS UP AT 7:30

LONGTOWN VILLAGE HALL HR2 0LD

CASH ONLY

ADULTS-£6

CHILDREN-£3

FAMILY-£15



*Salem Baptist Chapel Longtown*



**NATIVITIES EXHIBITION**

2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2023 - 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2023

Chapel Open weekends

between 10am & 2pm



**SUNDAY SERVICES @ 6.30pm**

3<sup>rd</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2023

7<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024

**CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**

**SERVICE 17<sup>th</sup> Dec 6.30pm**

*followed by refreshments*

**PLEASE COME & JOIN US**

**OLD ENGLISH CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**

Come and enjoy a superb evening of traditional (pre Victorian) Old English Carols by Candlelight. It will be an informal entertainment with mulled wine and mince pies on **Thursday 28th December at 7pm in Clodock Church.**

It will be sung and played by **Vital Spark, West Gallery Singers.** No charge, but there will be a retiring collection to support Clodock Church and Schools for Uganda.

**Clodock's  
New Year's  
Day Dip**

**Date: January 1st, 2024**

**Location: Beautiful Clodock River**

**Time: Dip at 12:50 PM, BBQ to follow**

Dive into the New Year with a splash and make a big difference!

For the 3rd year in a row, the Clodock community is coming together to support the Brain Cancer Trust. Let's start the year on the right foot by plunging into the icy waters of Monnow River.

**What to expect:**

**New Year's Day Dip:** Gather your courage and take the plunge into the refreshing waters.

**Delicious BBQ:** After the dip, warm up and fill up with sizzling barbecue treats.

**Community Spirit:** Meet new friends and reconnect with old ones while supporting a crucial cause.

**Fundraising:** All proceeds go to the **Brain Cancer Trust** to support vital research and patient care.

Help us make a difference for those affected by brain cancer and contribute to the ongoing fight against this disease.

**Don't miss out** on this exhilarating start to 2024 and your chance to make a real impact in the fight against brain cancer. We can't do it without you!

**Spread the word** and bring your family and friends! Together, we can make a splash and support a vital cause. See you at Clodock River on New Year's Day!

**Let's dive in for a brighter, healthier future!**

**LONGTOWN WASSAIL**

**Wassail** is now a tradition in Longtown – it was always a roaring success in the BC years (before Covid) and we hope to repeat that on **Saturday 13th January 2024. Meet at Longtown Village Hall car park for a prompt start at 7pm.** There will be drummers, mummings, musicians and morris dancers. There will be a torch lit parade to the castle from Longtown Village Hall car park and back. Join the parade or meet us at the Castle – or in The Village Hall later for singing and the mummings play. There will be a bar and hot food for sale. Cider for the ceremony at the Castle has been kindly donated by Fair oak Cider of Bacton – our grateful thanks to them. Come and join in the fun. There will be an auction and a collection in aid of Schools for Uganda.

**Carols by Candlelight**

**Clodock Church**

**23rd December at 19:30**

**Led by Rev L Morris.**

**Family Carol Service**

**Sun 24<sup>th</sup> December 3pm**

**St. Margaret's Church**

An informal service,  
suitable for all ages,  
followed by hot chocolate/  
mulled wine and mince pies

**Everyone welcome!**

**CAROLS AT THE CASTLE**

On **Christmas Eve at 5pm** there will be our now traditional Carols at the Castle. Carols, with hot punch and seasonal nibbles for all and with the castle lit for Christmas. Father Christmas will be very busy on Christmas Eve, but we expect Frosty the Snowman to arrive to see the children. Why not make a special Christmas lantern to show us all. There will be a collection in aid of Schools for Uganda.



**Escley and District Sports Pavilion**

**Sunday 24th December, 5pm**

Free Christmas fun for families, a visit from Father Christmas, presents for the children, hot punch, nibbles and singing.

**What more could you want to put you in the Christmas spirit!**

**NEWTON ST MARGARETS WOMEN'S GUILD**

**Thursday 11th January 2024** Film Night “in” with hot chocolate and Bill Nighy in “Living.”

Newton Parish Room HR2 0QR. Guests and new members are very welcome.

**Join Us for a Hearty Breakfast and Fellowship**

Gentlemen of Clodock and beyond, mark your calendars for a special morning of camaraderie, conversation, and a delicious breakfast!

**Men's Breakfast Club at Clodock Church**

A mouthwatering breakfast spread to fuel your day.

Engaging discussions and inspiring conversations.

The opportunity to connect with fellow men in the community.

A chance to unwind, share experiences, and forge new friendships.

**Saturday, January 27th, 09:30**

Clodock Church, a place of warmth, welcome, and community spirit.

Men of all ages, backgrounds, and interests.

Whether you're a regular churchgoer or haven't visited in a while, all are welcome.

Breakfast is the most important meal of the day, and it's better when shared with friends.

Connect with like-minded individuals and strengthen your sense of community.

Explore topics that matter to you, from life experiences to faith and beyond.

**Stay Connected:**

To stay updated on our Men's Breakfast Club and other church events, contact us at [churchwarden@stclydawgs.uk](mailto:churchwarden@stclydawgs.uk)

**Start Your Day Right!**

Don't miss this opportunity to enjoy a delicious breakfast while building connections within your community. Join us on Saturday, October 28th, and let's make this breakfast memorable!

**Come hungry, leave inspired. See you there!**

**Valentine Bingo Session**

Our Valentine Bingo Session will be held at Escleyside Hall on **10th February at 7.00pm, eyes down at 7.30pm.**

Good prizes and a raffle, plus light refreshments.

The profit will be split between the hall and Longtown Show.

Everyone will be made welcome.

---

**Local Newsround**

---

**MICHAELCHURCH ESCLEY PRIMARY & PRE-SCHOOLS**

The Autumn Term in primary schools is not only a very busy one, but also one of the most delightful. As soon as the half-term is done, Christmas looms large and becomes a focus for everyone in school. Our first bit of festive excitement is the annual selection of our school Christmas tree! As happens every year, with kind permission of a land owner, Mr Crocker, Mr Hollowood and a child from each year group will take a trip out to find a suitable tree and bring it back to school, where the rest of the children will decorate it.

Continuing with the Christmas theme, Sapling Class will be taking part in a wartime Christmas workshop in Brecon, linked to their World War 2 topic. Following that we will be taking part in a community Carol Service at St Michael's church in Michaelchurch. The service is on Thursday 7th

December, and starts at 3:15. There will be mulled wine and mince pies after the service! Everyone is welcome!

However, it would not be a Michaelchurch Christmas without our traditional Walking Nativity. Starting at The Bridge Inn, the children and audience process up Bridge Inn Road (with Mary mounted on a donkey), stopping at village houses on the way, before finishing at 'the stable' behind the Bridge Inn Farmhouse B and B. This truly is a magical evening and we would love to see people from outside the school community joining us on this special night. If you'd like to join us, we start at 5pm on Monday 18th December at the Bridge Inn (unless it's bad weather, then we'll do it on Tues 19th!)

Christmas Decoration Day in the final week of term is always a firm favourite with children and staff and is followed the next day by our much anticipated Christmas Dinner – always a truly delicious and extravagant affair! Also, the children and staff in Pre-School will be heading down into 'Elke's Woods' for a meeting with a very special man in a red and white suit! Finally, just when we thought things couldn't get any more exciting, we have our whole school visit to the panto in Hereford!

However, there is still plenty of non-Christmas activity continuing at Michaelchurch this term, for instance, Year 6 are heading off to Hereford to complete their Bikeability cycle safety training in a few week's time. Also, our swimming lessons, led by our outstanding, in-house swimming instructors, Miss Cook and Miss Matthews, continue to ensure that all children attending Michaelchurch Escley Primary and Pre-School learn this vital life skill.

Phew! After such a long term, everyone will certainly have earned their Christmas break! If you feel that you like the sound of life at Michaelchurch Escley Primary and Pre-School and think it might be the place for your child or children, then please get in touch on 01981 510208 or email us on [admin@michaelchurch-escley.hereford.sch.uk](mailto:admin@michaelchurch-escley.hereford.sch.uk). Or you can message us through our Facebook page and we can get back to you to arrange a visit.

We are also keen to sign up some more members of our school governing body. If you would like to be part of the governance team of our unique little primary and pre-school, in the foothills of the Black Mountains, then please get in touch via the methods above.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a happy new year from everyone at Michaelchurch Escley Primary and Pre-School!

*Gary Crocker, Deputy Head Teacher  
Michaelchurch Escley Primary School.  
01981 510208*

---

**THE BRIDGE QUIZZES AT ESCLEYSIDE HALL**

The 9th Bridge Quiz at Escleyside Hall, Michaelchurch, raised £1435 for the Addington Fund, which helps distressed farming families. The late Peter Jinman was chairman of the charity and the evening was dedicated to his memory. This is the first time since these (usually) twice-yearly quizzes for varying charities began in 2017 that we have topped the thousand-pound mark. The next quiz is provisionally scheduled for **17 March 2024.**

*Matthew Engel*

## Interested in gardens, plants and nature?



Escleyside Gardening Club offers an entertaining programme of external speakers, guided tours of local gardens and social get-togethers.

Whether you are an experienced gardener or a complete beginner why not give us a try? Relaxed and friendly, every talk ends with tea, coffee and biscuits (free with entry).

Annual Membership: £15. Events begin again Spring 2024  
See more at: [www.escleysidegdc.wixsite.com/club](http://www.escleysidegdc.wixsite.com/club)

### Concerts for Craswall

#### Top brass visit Fairfield High School

Top brass players inspired young students to get involved with music when they visited Fairfield High School the day before their sell-out concert at St Michael's Church in Michaelchurch Escley last month.

Commissioned by Concerts for Craswall, the lively quintet provided an interactive introduction to brass instruments and live music, performing for over 200 students including visiting pupils from the Michaelchurch Escley primary school, followed by workshops for budding young musicians.

Still in their mid-20s, the musicians are all rising stars and have performed widely in the UK and across Europe, yet take a refreshingly, non-stuffy approach to performing as part of their mission to make classical music more accessible to all.

Gary Crocker, Deputy Head Teacher, Michaelchurch Escley Primary School said: "The children really enjoyed it (as did I) and loved seeing true professionals performing close up."

Fairfield music teacher Melanie Sage added: "Hosting Connaught Brass was a great opportunity for our students to hear live music and find out about brass playing. I know a number of them have been inspired to take up instruments, and we will do all we can to support them."

Supported with funding from The Cavatina Chamber Music Trust, the sessions reflected Concerts for Craswall's aim to encourage talented young local musicians and to inspire a new generation.

Chairman Edward Milford said: "We were delighted to work with Connaught Brass, Michaelchurch Primary and Fairfield High schools and hope the experience will encourage more young people and their families to enjoy our friendly, informal concerts."

#### VOWCHURCH & DISTRICT GROUP PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council has been fortunate enough to secure additional funding from Herefordshire Council for drainage works in some areas of the Parish. Please therefore be considerate when reversing or passing other road users so not to encroach on the verges and undo some of the hard work of the Lengthsman in clearing the roadside ditches.

West Mercia Police are also reminding road users to take extra care on rural roads in Herefordshire. Excess mud or debris on the road is a danger to cars, motorbikes and cyclists, causing skidding, especially in wet conditions. The police would like to remind landowners and contractors of

their responsibility under the Highways Act to keep roads clear.

The Parish Council has a new email address [clerk@vowchurchgroup-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@vowchurchgroup-pc.gov.uk). Please use this if you need to contact the Parish Council. *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)

### Round and About

#### VOWCHURCH AND TURNASTONE HALL

**Security and Defence in Troubled Times**, A talk by General Sir Adrian Bradshaw. Friday December 1, 7pm at Vowchurch Hall. Entry £5

**Christmas Market** Saturday December 9 10am - 12 noon. Vowchurch hall

**Christmas Lights & Village Pub** Friday December 15 at Vowchurch Hall. Doors open 6pm. Bar, food, conversation, music

**Pilates** Tuesdays 9.15 - 10.15 and 6pm - 8pm. Vowchurch Hall.

Contact Hannah Thomas [hannahmthomas@hotmail.com](mailto:hannahmthomas@hotmail.com)

**Tiji** Tuesdays 10.30

Contact Jane Fleet [janefleet88@gmail.com](mailto:janefleet88@gmail.com)

**Bowls** Wednesdays 6.30 at Vowchurch Hall.

Contact Richard Stokes 01981 250237  
[rtastokes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rtastokes@hotmail.co.uk)

**The Village Pub** Friday January 12.

Doors open 6pm. Bar, food, conversation, music

**Vowchurch Quiz** Friday January 26

#### THE MONDAY CLUB

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

November started with a small remembrance service; many thanks to Bob Murrin and Linda Brookes for this.

I have heard through the powers that there was a shopping trip to Trago Mills in Merthyr Tydfil on Thursday 23rd November. I will be able to let you know how it went in the next magazine.

December is always a busy month at the club. We have visits from Santa and our Xmas lunch is always very popular. This year we will also have a visit from Fairfield's school choir on the 11th December. There will lots to tell you next time I'm sure.

We had a visit from some primary school pupils who came over and read to some of our members, and I'm sure we will be doing this again as, from what I have been told, everyone enjoyed the children coming over.

It has been a very busy year once again with the Coronation of a new King. We also celebrated our 10th Anniversary with a BBQ and then a tea party.

Unfortunately we lost a few members this year and our thoughts are with their families at this time.

We will be opening for the winter every Monday 10 am -1 pm. **We are always looking for volunteers and if you feel that you would like to help us as a volunteer please ring Mrs. Kath Gaze at 01981550579. You don't have to do it**

every Monday. We are happy with any time available. It's just making tea and coffee.

*Thank you to everyone who has supported us over the past year and made this little club's 10th anniversary a special one.*

*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Monday Club.*

### PETERCHURCH VILLAGE HALL

Peterchurch Village Hall is a community building, run by a small committee of dedicated trustees. It is the ideal venue for local events, and is available for hire from £10 an hour.

As well as hosting many a birthday party, the hall has a few regular user groups.

Parish Council every 3rd Tuesday of the month. We always welcome new groups! If you wish to hire the hall or have any other inquiries, please call any of these numbers:

The Booking Secretary (Sarah) – 07774 457887

The Chairman (Brendan) – (01981) 550482

The Hall – (01981) 551162

Please leave a message if you are unable to reach anyone on the numbers above.

**Thank you to everyone who has supported the Hall over the past Year.**

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Village Hall Committee**

We are always looking for people to come and join us with ideas for what can take place in the village hall. Please feel free to come to our meetings and have your say.

Monday Club every Monday morning 10am-12pm. Pop in for Tea/Coffee and a chat.

Why not come for Gentle Dance exercise with Abbie Mason every Thursday morning 11.30 am-12.30.

Hatha Yoga is being held every Wednesday 7pm -8.30pm and 11am-12pm from September 6th.

The Village Art classes are held every Monday evening 7-9pm and Wednesday afternoon 1.30pm-3.30pm

Parish Council meetings every 3rd Tuesday of the month.

*We are looking for people who would like to join our committee.*

### Notices and Advertisements

#### FLICKS IN THE STICKS WITH ARTS ALIVE

*A Date for your 2024 Diary*

#### Janice Burns and Jon Doran Concert 1st March 2024.

This Anglo Scottish Folk Duo will be sharing their love of traditional music and songs that tell vivid stories about the nature of life and our place in the world, with the aid of bouzouki, guitar and mandolin.

Escaleside Hall, Michaelchurch HR2 0PT

#### **Would you like to see the return of Flicks in the Sticks? Are you a Movie enthusiast?**

We are looking for a dynamic person to join our small but friendly team of volunteers. The "job" (open for negotiation!) could include managing the bookings of the Hall, the films, the finances and being the projectionist for the evening. (once a month throughout the winter)

Your reward? You have a say in which films are shown.

Please speak to Neville for more information, tel 01981 510116

#### FOOTPATH CLOSURE

In accordance with requirements, the permissive footpath between Cayo Ford and the downstream footbridge will be **closed on 11th January 2024 FOR ONE DAY ONLY.**

#### Concerts for Craswall

The Chair and trustees of Concerts for Craswall extend a warm "thank you" to everyone who attended our concerts this year. We're thrilled with the many positive comments received about the high quality of the music, as well as the warm and relaxed welcome on offer.

In this busy and uncertain world, finding time to dedicate to events can be challenging. Our concerts are only as successful as you think they are. Our immense gratitude extends, therefore, to our visiting musicians, community volunteers and supporters without whom these concerts would simply not be possible.

And for those already missing Concerts for Craswall, it's not long to wait. 2024 will see us celebrate another important milestone. So, we look forward to you joining us for more glorious music

#### 30th Anniversary Season

**16th March 2024**

The Marmen Quartet

**27th March**

Hope Cramsie

**6th July**

Katherine Gowers, Amy Norrington, Jâms Coleman and The Elysian Singers with conductor Sam Laughton

**18th August 2024**

Chroma Harp Duo

**12th October 2024**

Ensemble Moliere

in the New Year. Season and family tickets on sale late November, just in time for Christmas!

If you would like to know more about Concerts for Craswall, please do visit our website [www.concertsforcraswall.org](http://www.concertsforcraswall.org)

*Please see page 6 of this Newsletter for more about Concerts for Craswall.*

**HAY Music**

#### **The Choir of Clare College, Cambridge A Concert for the Christmas Season**

Wednesday, 6 December at 7.00pm (doors open 6.30pm)  
St Mary's Church, Hay-on-Wye, HR3 5EB

A magnificent festive programme of music from across the centuries. Join the Choir to welcome in the joy of Christmas.

Tickets and full details at [www.haymusic.org](http://www.haymusic.org)  
Tickets also from the Hay Tourist Bureau or at the door if still available.

**Wednesday, 17 - Friday, 19 January**

**Three events over three days in celebration of  
György Ligeti's centenary**

Two introductory events and a concert of music by or inspired by Ligeti, considered one of the greatest composers of the 20th century. Includes a screening of Stanley Kubrick's **2001 – A Space Odyssey** in which Ligeti's music is prominently featured and a screening and discussion around the documentary

**All Clocks are Clouds.**

[www.haymusic.org](http://www.haymusic.org)



01873 860 444

<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 (Nov - April):</b>	<b>10.00 am - 2.00 pm</b>
(May - Oct):	10.00 am - 12 noon
<b>Bank Holiday Mondays</b>	<b>10.00 am - 2.00 pm</b>

**Christmas made easy at Hopes**

Our 2023 Christmas orders forms are go; make life easy order now with a selection of pick up days to plan ahead. Please return by 12 noon Sunday 10th December 2023

**Christmas Appointment shopping**

Don't like shopping much? Book a Christmas appointment and have the shop to yourself on a Wednesday evening or Sunday afternoon to browse at your leisure and sample a local tippie or two.

**Practical Christmas Gifts**

- ★ Bamboo socks are ready in safe black or cheerful stripes
- ★ Flasks for Hot drinks
- ★ Map for adventures near and far
- ★ Torches and candles if the power goes off!
- ★ A Hopes £25 voucher, the happy recipient can choose what they want

**Everyone included**

We stock a range of delicious food so all dietary requirements are included, just ask us and we can direct you to the right direction.

Thank you very much for your support and custom this year, we are very much looking forward to 2024

Our 2024 goal is to share our measuring sustainable journey with you.

**LONGTOWN POST OFFICE**

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

After the success of last year one-off Longtown Post Office stamp on Christmas card envelopes we are doing it again this year from Wednesday 6th December to Saturday 9th December. (We will also add it to Christmas parcels too).

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

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

**Ordering online and want to keep it as a surprise for Christmas or Birthdays**

- Choose Local Collect with Royal Mail
- Choose Longtown Post Office on Amazon
- Change settings to Longtown Post Office on Vinted

Collection in Post Office hours

**Last dates for Christmas Posting**

1st class	Mon 18th Dec
2nd class	Wed 20th Dec

**International Posting Dates for Christmas 2023**

Africa	Wed 6th Dec	Hungary	Fri 8th Dec
Asia	Wed 6th Dec	Ireland	Wed 13th Dec
Australia	Wed 6th Dec	Italy	Mon 11th Dec
Austria	Wed 13th Dec	Japan	Wed 6th Dec
Belgium	Wed 13th Dec	Luxembourg	Wed 13th Dec
Canada	Mon 11th Dec	Malta	Thur 7th Dec
Caribbean	Wed 6th Dec	Middle East	Wed 6th Dec
Central America	Wed 6th Dec	Netherlands	Wed 13th Dec
China	Wed 6th Dec	New Zealand	Wed 6th Dec
Cyprus	Thur 7th Dec	Norway	Mon 11th Dec
Czech Republic	Mon 11th Dec	Poland	Mon 11th Dec
Denmark	Wed 13th Dec	Portugal	Mon 11th Dec
Eastern Europe	Fri 8th Dec	Slovakia	Wed 11th Dec
Finland	Mon 11th Dec	South America	Wed 11th Dec
France	Wed 13th Dec	Spain	Mon 11th Dec
Germany	Wed 13th Dec	Sweden	Mon 11th Dec
Greece	Fri 8th Dec	Switzerland	Wed 11th Dec
Hong Kong	Wed 6th Dec	USA	Mon 11th Dec

**For Parcel Force dates pop into the Post Office for a leaflet**

**Sadly no posties are based at ours, so if you want to chase an item 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](mailto: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

## BMGN ADVERTISING DIRECTORY

Contact: Jill Cook

Clodock Mill, Longtown, Hereford HR2 0PD

01873 860408

jill@clodockmill.com

### Agricultural services

**ANDREW PHILLIPS, GLANDWR FARM**  
Agricultural & Domestic Weed Control

Large and small areas

Fencing and Ditch cleaning

Small and large bales of Hay  
and Straw

Weed wiping service

Any amounts

01873 860208 / 07903 933820



**MARK LEWIS**

**HEDGELAYING & FENCING**

Agricultural - Domestic - Equestrian

01981 241115 07807 079027

marklewishedgelaying@gmail.com

### Animal care



**The Wild Bird Store**

Wild Bird Food and Accessories

01432 340500

www.thewildbirdstore.co.uk

Free delivery in Herefordshire

every weekday from 9.30 am

Unit 7, Ramsden Court, Rotherwas

Hereford HR2 6NT

Retail store open Monday-Friday, 9am to 12.30pm

Call for your free 24 page catalogue

### Arts

**THE HAY BINDERS**  
(Christine Cleaton)

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

The Blacksmiths Shop, Lion Street,  
Hay-on-Wye, Hereford, HR3 5AD

Tel: (01497) 820840 or (01981) 510674

www.thehaybinders.co.uk

### Business & Financial

**PRINTZWEAR**

For all your promotional wear and embroidery needs  
Monday-Thursday 9-3.30 ~ Friday 9-12

No Minimum Order

Fairfield School uniform available

@ Horse & Jockey Ltd

Unit 4 Old Forge Industrial Estate

Peterchurch, Hereford, HR2 0SD

01981 550467 capzcovers@gmail.com



**Agricultural Insurance**  
with Price Checker

INDEPENDENT ADVICE • COMPETITIVE COVER

50 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Farm Insurance

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

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

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

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

**Kymin**  
Financial Planners

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

For advice on Savings,  
Investments and  
Retirement Planning

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

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

Kymin Financial Services Ltd is Authorised and Regulated by  
the Financial Conduct Authority. Firm Ref No. 188816



**Edward Fletcher** BSc (Hons) MSc MRICS  
Associate Rural Surveyor

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

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

T 01600 714140 M 07883 398586

E edward.fletcher@powellsrural.co.uk

W www.powellsrural.co.uk

**HOPE TO  
ACHIEVE**

Helping enterprise  
to flourish

Chief Helper  
**Christine Hope**

07875 384439

www.hopetoachieve.co.uk

Passionate about rural business,  
entrepreneurship and  
making a difference

### Food & Catering

**The Crown Inn**

Traditional Sunday Lunch Served  
All Day Sunday Restaurant & Bar



Meals served every day (except Wednesday during term times)

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

The Crown Inn, Longtown, Hereford. HR2 0LT

Tel: (01873) 860 217

www.crowninnlongtown.co.uk

*Rowlestone Farm Ice Cream*

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

OPEN

April to the end of September

11 to 4 Wednesday - to Friday

11 to 5 Weekends & Bank Holiday Mondays

Tel: 01981 240322

info@rowlestonecourt.co.uk

### Health and well-being



**Anita**

MOBILE UNISEX  
HAIRDRESSER

01873 860279



**HEALING-SHIATSU**

Christopher Sheehan, HSEC, FwSS.

Sessions in Hereford and Longtown

chris@eryritai-ji.co.uk

01873 860667

07870 149 745

www.eryritai-ji.co.uk

**SARAH L. HOPE BSc. (Ost)**

Registered Osteopath

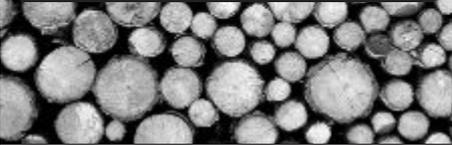
Old Hall Farm, Orcop, Herefordshire HR2 8ET

Tel: 01981 580 371

**Home and Domestic**

**LOGS FOR SALE**  
FREE LOCAL DELIVERY

PLEASE CALL – 01981 510292



**Local Makers**

**FIONA'S FURNISHINGS**

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

Please contact

Fiona Witcher

01981 242040 / 07811 396258

City & Guilds qualified. Free home consultation.

*Sew JoRo*

**Jo Rowland**

Dressmaker

Clothing, costumes and soft furnishings

Fountain Cottage  
Newton St Margarets  
Hereford  
HR2 0QW

jo.rowland@hotmail.com  
01981 510136  
07917 125053



**Maintenance & Services**

**THE GUN WORKS**

Airguns  
Shotguns  
Rifles

Servicing, Repairs, Alterations,  
Refinishing and Gun Fitting.

Registered Firearms Dealer  
Contact James Phillips  
07503 616760

james@thegunworks.co.uk  
www.thegunworks.co.uk

**Personal services**

**TED WILLIAMS & SONS**

Established 1883

**FUNERAL DIRECTORS &  
MONUMENTAL MASONS**

Pre-paid funeral plan available  
A locally owned family business serving the Abergavenny  
and surrounding districts for over 100 years

Dedicated Chapel & Rest Rooms • Private Car Park at  
**Park Road Funeral Home, Abergavenny**  
Telephone: 01873 853942 or 854358



*Cherished Funerals*



Call Kate Gladwyn on:

**01873 860675**  
**07975 558250**

Longtown, Hereford  
HR2 0LX

cherishedfunerals.co.uk

@cherishedfunerals

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

**Golden Valley Funeral Services**

Independent Family Funeral Directors

Proudly supporting our local community  
since 2018

Family run funeral directors covering  
Hereford and surrounding areas.

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

**01981 257203**

gvfs@btconnect.com

Wormbridge Court, HR2 9DH  
www.goldenvalleyfuneralservices.com

@goldenvalleyfuneralservices

**Property services**

**ABSOLUTE GARDENING**

Professional garden services  
Keiranphillips28@googlemail.com  
07896999529  
Absolutegardening.co.uk  
Fully insured  
Free quotes

**EVANS PLUMBING SERVICES**



Bathroom Installations  
Heating Installations  
Magna Cleans  
24 Hour Call Outs

All Plumbing Works Undertaken

Adam Evans  
07497 869302  
adamevans2618@gmail.com



**Martin Griffiths**

**BUILDING CONTRACTOR**

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

Tel: 01873 860658 Clodock, Herefordshire



**P.J.  
WATKINS**

**GENERAL BUILDER &  
ROOFING CONTRACTOR**

MEADOW BANK, LONGTOWN,  
HEREFORDSHIRE. HR2 0NA

**TELEPHONE: 01873 860683**

*Traditional Joinery*

Quality, Bespoke Handmade Service  
Doors, Windows, Conservatories & Much More  
Unit 1, Ramsden Court, Ramsden Road,  
Rotherwas, Hereford, HR2 6NT  
Tel: 01432 378635 • Mobile: 07786 615266  
www.traditionaljoineryhereford.co.uk  
Contact us for a FREE Quote

**RP ELECTRICAL**

**Qualified Electrician**

**All Electrical Work Undertaken**

*Including:*

Solar PV & Battery Installations.  
Electric Vehicle Charging Points.  
Testing & Inspection. Fault Finding etc  
roger.probert@icloud.com

07814 008626



**DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL  
PEST CONTROL SPECIALISTS**

**01873 830204**

Bees • Wasps • Flies • Ants

Rats • Mice • Fleas • Moles

info@pandpppestcontrol.co.uk



**Kevin Williamson**

Mob: 07810 288115  
Evenings: 01432 378163  
kwilliamson027@hotmail.co.uk

**K&D building and landscaping**

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

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

All internal work carried out  
Over 20 years experience between us and a  
large portfolio



**COLEY'S**

All aspects of groundworks, construction and steel building erections

We specialise in:

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



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



**MATTHEW MAFLIN**  
**PROFESSIONAL PAINTING AND DECORATING SERVICES**

Internal and exterior decoration

Tel: 01873 860867  
Mobile: 07497258129  
matthewmaflin@gmail.com

Public Liability Insurance held  
References available on request

**Woodland and Garden**



**AVALON TREE SURGERY**

WE CARE FOR YOUR TREES

MATTHEW THOMAS  
OVER 10 YEARS EXPERIENCE  
NPTC QUALIFIED  
FULLY INSURED

WWW.AVALONTREESURGERY.CO.UK

01981 541307  
07794 569284

ALL ASPECTS OF TREE WORK UNDERTAKEN

**DECOR SOLUTIONS**

tjsj@me.com

Painting & Decorating  
Tim Jones  
Tel 01981 540242  
Mob 07810 895355

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

General property maintenance duties carried out.

Fully insured.  
Good competitive rates.

A high standard of workmanship & customer satisfaction guaranteed.

**Sage & Shine**

Pole and traditional pure water window cleaning

Local, affordable and reliable



Call Jules  
01981 240879  
07813 839 738

Jules@huntsmans.uk

**TUGWELL TREE SERVICES**

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

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



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

**Sooty's Chimney Service**



Richard Watkins  
01981 240 185  
07947 959 452

**Taxi & Private Hire services**

**JEJONES**  
Minibuses and Private Hire

16 & 8 seat minibuses  
4 seat Land Rover Discovery

Hassle-free travel to suit you



01981 510356  
07583 527402  
jejonesprivatehire@outlook.com

**DAVE WATKINS TREE SERVICES**



All Aspects of Tree Services Covered

Fully NPTC Covered & Insured

Local to Longtown/Pontrilas but cover any surrounding areas

Tree Removal  
Pollarding  
Hedge Trimming  
Tree Reductions  
Site Clearance & Chipping

07931 893923  
davidwat69@gmail.com

**MARTIN WATKINS ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING**

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

Email: mwelecon@gmail.com  
Tel: 07974 244653

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

**CHURCH SERVICES FOR DECEMBER & JANUARY**

**Sunday 3rd December**

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

**Thursday 7th December**

3.00pm Michaelchurch Village Carols with  
Michaelchurch Esley Primary School

**Sunday 10th December**

9.30am Clodock Holy Communion

**Sunday 17th December**

11.00am Craswall Carol Service  
4.00pm Newton Carols & Mulled Wine

**Saturday 23rd December**

4.00pm Llanveynoe Christingle  
7.30pm Clodock Carol Service

**Christmas Eve, Sunday 24th December**

3.00pm St Margaret's Family Carol Service  
9.00pm Michaelchurch Holy Communion

**Christmas Day, Monday 25th December**

10.00am Clodock Holy Communion

**Sunday 31st December**

11.00am Newton Holy Communion

**January 2024**

**Sunday 7th January**

9.30am Llanveynoe Holy Communion

**Sunday 14th January**

9.30am Clodock Holy Communion  
11.00am Michaelchurch Morning Worship

**Sunday 21st January**

9.30am Craswall Holy Communion

**Sunday 28th January**

11.00am Michaelchurch Holy Communion  
1.30pm Newton Reflective Ramble

EVENTS PLANNER			
Sat	02 December	10.00am - 2.00pm	Nativity Exhibition. Salem Baptist Chapel, Longtown. Weekends to 31st December
Sat	02 December	10.00am-noon	Book signing by Chris Green, <i>The House beneath the Black Hill</i> . Hopes of Longtown
Sat	02 December	7.30pm	Bingo, Craswall Hall.
Sat	02 December	7.30pm	Quoits Tournament and Cards evening, Cornwall Arms, Clodock
Mon	04 December	7.30pm	Longtown & District Historical Society: Rees Griffiths, <i>The Mapping of Herefordshire</i> . Longtown Village Hall
Wed	06 December	2.30-4.30pm	Longtown Library, Longtown Village Hall
Wed	06 December	7.00-9.00pm	Christmas Shopping Fair, Longtown Village Hall
Fri	08 December		Festive Tractor Run Conga, to Mountain Mayhem
Wed	13 December	2.30-5.00pm	Tea Set, Newton Parish Room
Fri	15 December		Craswall Young Farmers Panto, Longtown Village Hall
Sat	16 December		Craswall Young Farmers Panto, Longtown Village Hall
Sat	23 December		Craswall Young Farmers Carol Singing
Sat	23 December	4.00pm	Christingle Service, Llanveynoe church
Sun	24 December	3.00pm	Family Carol Service, St Margaret's
Sun	24 December		Craswall Young Farmers Carol Singing
Sun	24 December	5.00pm	Carol Singing, Esley and District Sports Pavillion
Sun	24 December	5.00pm	Carol Singing, Longtown Castle
Thu	28 December	7.00pm	Vital Spark Concert, Clodock Church
Sat	30 December	10.00am-noon	Longtown Village Projects, Longtown Castle
Thu	11 January		Newton St Margarets Women's Guild: Film Night, <i>Living</i> . Newton Parish Room
Sat	13 January	Before 7.00pm	Longtown Wassail. Meet at the Village Hall car park.
Wed	17 January	2.30-5.00pm	Tea Set, Newton Parish Room
Sat	20 January	7.30pm	Bingo, Craswall Hall.
Sat	27 January	9.30am	Men's Breakfast Club, Clodock Church
Sat	27 January	10.00am-noon	Longtown Village Projects, Longtown Castle

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

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

