

2, Birch Cottages
Vowchurch
Hereford
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James, Laura & Anthony Mansfield Our new address. We have moved 5 miles downhill, to the Golden Valley and into an old GWR railway cottage.

The area has a rich history; the Romans built roads and forts across the area, including Kenchester, just to the west of Hereford.

After the Romans, the Ergyng, a self-governing region for the best part of 800 years. Thought to be the origin of the jury system, it was governed by 12 landowners. Ergyng is a corruption of the Old English name for the Urchin, the Hedgehog! Hence sea-urchin.

King Harold camped on Monnington Straddle before fending off a Welsh insurrection and then pelting north to battle at Stamford Bridge, then south to his fate at Hastings.

The Normans gave the name to the area, by misinterpreting the Welsh name for water - Dwr - for the French -D'Or, meaning gold. Therefore, Abbey Dore and Dorstone.

Then the Marches overlords, Owain Glyndwr (assumed to buried near the Straddle) and in the Civil War, Charles 1st having lunch at Arthurs Stone.

For C.S Lewis it was Narnia. He reputedly had a painting of the area on his study wall when writing the stories.