Birlingham News online

Published on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month

No. 270 Wednesday 23rd February 2022

Editorial

Ten years ago this week the first *Birlingham News* was despatched. The initial aim was to get limited information out quickly, as and when needed. *Birlingham News* has since grown and become a regular publication, thanks to the contributions of many people within and outside the village.

At the start, a very simple format was chosen. Broadband was slow in the village, people had antiquated systems (some still do!) and some email systems could not cope with anything beyond straight text. So this format ensured that everyone would be able to read the information.

Now that many people have fast access to the internet on their phones, tablets and laptops, the Jubilee Committee think it is time to review the format. For a trial period, we are going to publish an online edition of *Birlingham News* twice a month. This will be an extended version of the usual email, which can be viewed either from the website or from a link in the standard *Birlingham News* email.

The online edition will be published simultaneously with the email *News* and will include all the information contained in the email. However, this publication aims to provide more detail than can fit into the email, as well as covering smaller village events and activities that do not normally make it into the six-monthly *Birlingham Bystander*.

We hope you will find *Birlingham News online* interesting and would like to hear your views at news@birlingham.org.

We also welcome contributions for future issues. The intention is to publish two editions a month, on the second and fourth Wednesdays, with the copy date on the previous Sunday. (Please note that with such tight deadlines it will not be possible to include articles or other information received later than the Sunday evening.)

Birlingham News online is primarily an online PDF publication but if you do not have access to the internet we will happily deliver a printed copy to you. Just let us know.

Our initial plan is to produce six editions to cover the build-up to this year's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Whether we continue beyond that is up to you . . .

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Meeting

Tuesday 8th March

The celebrations for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee will take place during an extended bank holiday weekend, from Thursday 2nd June until Sunday 5th June. With only three months until that weekend it is time for the village to start thinking about what sort of events we would like.



Birlingham's mug for the Diamond Jubilee in 2012

The Jubilee Committee is hosting an open meeting on Tuesday 8th March, to which everyone in the village is invited. A glass of wine or a soft drink, plus a few nibbles, will be available to aid the thought process.

The meeting will begin at 7.30pm and the aim will be to complete it within an hour. Refreshments will be available from 7.15pm.

Please come along if you would like to be involved in some way, no matter how small, or have some suggestions for Jubilee activities. If you are unable to make that date but would like to be involved or to be kept informed, please let us know at news@birlingham.org.

Bulb Teas

Saturday 26th – Sunday 27th Feb.

The final weekend of Bulb Teas will be held in the Village Hall this Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th February, from 11.00am to 4.00pm each day. You are welcome to come along.

Please email Caryl Mills at caryl-mills@hotmail.co.uk or phone 01386 751748 or 07766 657666 if you would like to help with this important fundraiser for St James' Church by serving teas or baking a cake.





Cuppa & Chat

Wednesday 2nd March

by Sue Hermon

Cuppa and Chat will be held on Wednesday 2nd March from 3.00pm to 4.30pm in Birlingham Village Hall. Everyone is most welcome to come along for tea or coffee plus a cake or two. Time to catch up and look forward to Spring just around the corner! The cost is £2.50 per head.

For more information, or to request transport, please contact Sue Hermon on 01386 750096 or email sue.hermon@me.com.

Friends of St James'

by Peter Luff

The Friends of St James' provide much needed financial support for the upkeep of our lovely village church and its beautiful churchyard. As a charity, we must have Trustees to oversee the work of the Friends and to help raise the money that we spend on the church. It would be wonderful to appoint some new Trustees at our AGM at the end of April.

The work is not hard – we only hold three or so meetings a year and our main fundraising event is the annual Snowdrop Teas in February, but we would also welcome new ideas to help us secure the future of the church and its churchyard.

If you might be interested in joining us, please stop me in the village when you see me, ring me on 01386 751412, or email me at saintjamesfuture@gmail.com.

St James' Church



Churchwarden: Adrianne Woodward (Tel. 01386 750936)

Services at St James' Church during March will be held at the following times:

* Wednesday 2nd: Ash Wednesday services, 8.30am and 7.30pm (**held at the Abbey**)
* Sunday 6th: Morning Praise, 10.30am (led by David Bray)
* Sunday 20th: Holy Communion, 10.30am (led by Revd Claire Lording and Terry Parker)

All are welcome; masks are not compulsory but are advised to be worn when singing.

Be Seen at Night

We have been asked to remind people to take extra care during these darker evenings. It can be hard for drivers to see pedestrians on our unlit roads, so if you are walking, running or taking the dog out after dark, please remember to wear reflective or light-coloured clothing, as well as carrying a torch.

Eckington Road Closure – POSTPONED

The Pershore Road roadworks in Eckington have been postponed until a new date can be agreed.

Apparently this is due to flooding elsewhere in Worcestershire.



Fishing at Swan's Neck on 8th February (Photo: Peter Luff)

Free Firewood

The wood collection at Gwen Finch last Saturday was postponed, as the area where the Worcestershire Wildlife Trust has been cutting and stacking the willow has flooded, meaning that they were unable to access it without the risk of causing a considerable mess or getting people stuck.

They are hoping to organise a day sometime in March for people to come and collect the timber when it is hopefully drier.

Free Bike-Marking Drop-in Sessions

Free bike-marking drop-in sessions are being held across Wychavon during half-term week. Cyclists can help protect their bikes from theft with the support of Wychavon's Community Safety Team.

Bikes will be marked with a unique code using a special liquid. The number is then registered with the National Bike Register database. A warning sticker is applied to make it clear that the bike is marked. Thieves are less likely to target a marked bike because it will be easier for police to identify that it has been stolen and who it belongs to.

* On Thursday 24th February there will be two sessions, one at Evesham Leisure Centre between 9.30am and 12.00pm, and another at Russell Square in Broadway between 1.00pm and 3.00pm.
* The last (and closest) session will take place between 9.30am and 12.00pm at **Pershore Leisure Centre on Friday 25th February**.

There is no need to book a place; anyone can turn up at their chosen session.

Councillor Rob Adams, Executive Board Member for Stronger Communities, Culture and Sport on Wychavon District Council, said: 'We're proud to support safe cycling throughout Wychavon and would encourage cyclists to take advantage of these free bike-marking sessions.'

Village Hall Committee

by Ruth Keys

The Village Hall Committee is looking for volunteers to come join us and have a say in how the Village Hall is used and run.

If anyone would like to join this friendly, enthusiastic group of villagers, do please drop us an email to:

chairman@birlinghamvillagehall.org

to get involved.

Jayne E. Brassington

Beauty and Complementary Therapist
Animal Angelic Reiki Practitioner

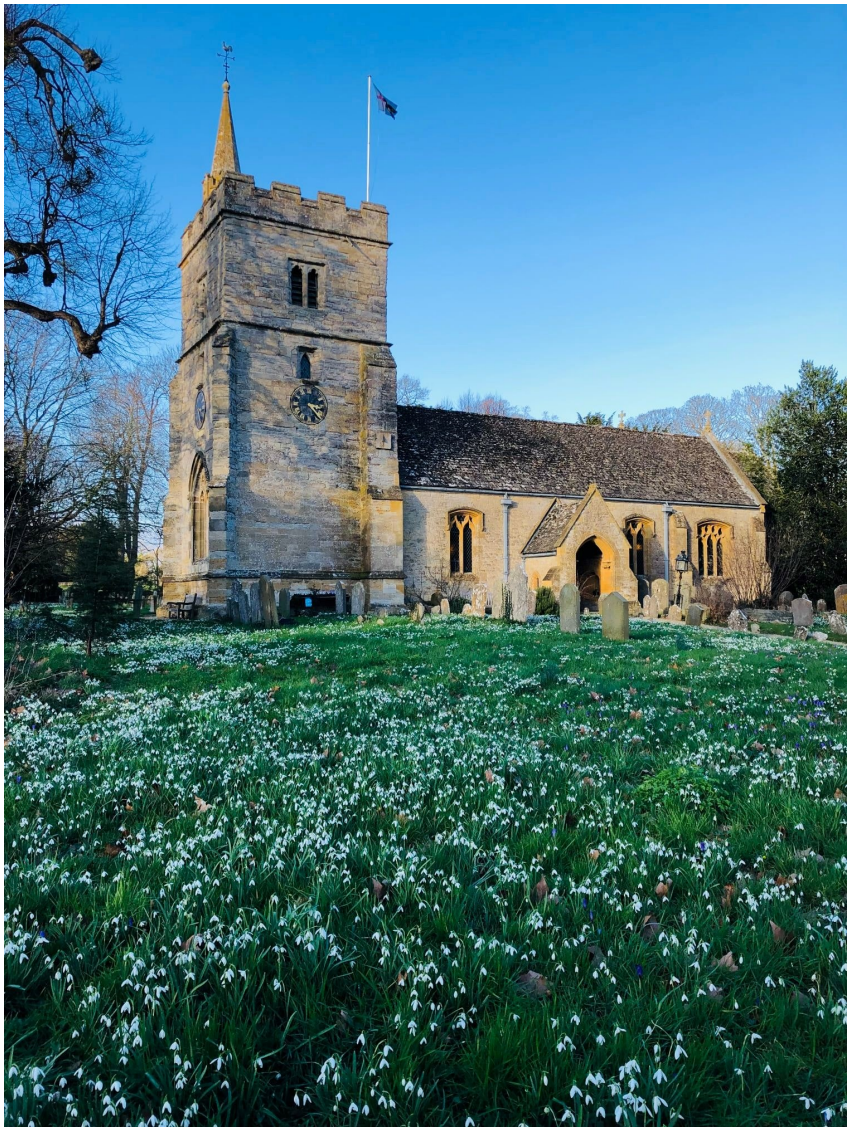
For details visit

www.salonespritdecorps.com
www.animalholistichealing.co.uk

or contact Jayne

(01386) 751837 mob 07770 401359

Email jebrassington@btinternet.com



Birlingham Church on 7th February
(Photo: Nikki Hollier)

Letters to the Editors

We welcome brief letters to the Editors on any subject relating to Birlingham. The Editors reserve the right to shorten letters and we cannot guarantee that all letters will be printed.

Please send letters to:
news@birlingham.org

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Personal Ads

Personal adverts should consist of one paragraph of text, maximum 100 words, and will be included in a single issue of Birlingham News. Please note that advertisement text will be published exactly as received. Personal ads should be sent to news@birlingham.org no later than the Monday before publication. Birlingham News is published on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.

Cleaner required for a regular house clean, coming through recommendation of local residents. Please contact Mat; 07816 928353.

Dates for your diary

February	
Fri 25	Free Bike-Marking Drop-in Session, 9.30am–12.00pm, Pershore Leisure Centre
Sat 26/ Sun 27	Bulb Teas, 11.00am–3.00pm, Birlingham Village Hall
March	
Wed 2	Ash Wednesday services, 8.30am & 7.30pm, Pershore Abbey
Wed 2	Cuppa & Chat, 3.00–4.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sun 6	Morning Praise, 10.30am, St James' Church
Tue 8	Platinum Jubilee open meeting, 7.15pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sun 20	Holy Communion, 10.30am, St James' Church
April	
Sun 3	Morning Praise, 10.30am, St James' Church
Wed 6	Cuppa & Chat, 3.00–4.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall

Birlingham News online is available at www.birlingham.org. Details of future editions will be emailed to subscribers of *Birlingham News*. These emails are available to residents of Birlingham, their families and friends. If you know anyone who would like to receive these emails, or have any comments or items for inclusion in either the email or online edition of *Birlingham News*, or wish to be removed from the mailing list, please write to news@birlingham.org.

Birlingham News online is open to any organisation or business within the parish to promote events. Inclusion of an event does not imply that Birlingham Jubilee Committee supports either the event or the views of the organisation promoting it.

The copy date for the next edition is Sunday 6th March (for publication on Wednesday 9th March). We regret that we will not be able to include any items submitted after that date.

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