Birlingham News online

Published on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month

No. 282 Wednesday 27th July 2022

Editorial

Is anybody actually reading this? This is a question we ask ourselves regularly as we put together *Birlingham News online* twice a month.

As with many things in the village, it is sometimes difficult to tell if the effort is being appreciated; some people are probably not even aware of this publication. If you have not yet become a regular reader of the online edition, why not take a look back at the ten issues we have produced over the last five months?

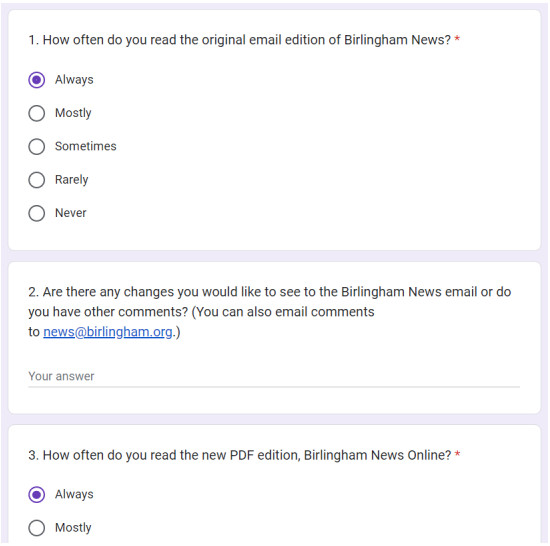
Perhaps you would like to write us a letter or express a controversial view (anonymously if you like!) Or you could send us an amusing photograph, try to find a home for that unwanted fridge in the shed or tell us about something interesting that has happened in the village.

As noted opposite, creating an edition of *Birlingham News online* is time-consuming – although it saves us having to watch *Love Island* or the Conservative leadership debates (both equally rancorous) – but we are happy to carry on if you find it useful. So please complete the survey and give us your thoughts.

Of course, it may be that we are just talking to ourselves . . .

Birlingham News online - Survey

Since February, the Jubilee Committee has been publishing an online edition of *Birlingham News*. This has allowed us to include full reports and more information than is possible in the email version, as well as photographs and articles that would not normally be included in *Birlingham News*. The online edition also gives us the possibility of including, for example, letters from residents on matters of concern and a list of events for the coming month.


1. How often do you read the original email edition of Birlingham News? *

- (●) Always
- ( ) Mostly
- ( ) Sometimes
- ( ) Rarely
- ( ) Never

2. Are there any changes you would like to see to the Birlingham News email or do you have other comments? (You can also email comments to news@birlingham.org.)

Your answer

3. How often do you read the new PDF edition, Birlingham News Online? *

- (●) Always
- ( ) Mostly

It is now time to decide whether or not this experiment has been a success. Obviously producing this extra publication adds considerably to the twice-monthly workload and if we are to continue with it we need to know that it is beneficial to the village.

Therefore we are asking you to complete a very short survey to let us know your views (it should take less than two minutes). Please complete the survey individually, rather than as a household, so that we can get a true picture of how well *Birlingham News* is read. The survey can be completed at:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdsHsXPCQ70m8fZeoi-SNOQIfsBkNsLu7QnnHE5PqP1bki1nA/viewform?usp=sf_link

If you have not yet seen the online edition, you can view previous issues at http://www.birlingham.org/village/bn/bno2022.htm. Alternatively, you can see all editions at once at http://www.birlingham.org/village/bn/bno_2022.pdf (20Mb download).

If you are unable to access the survey or would like to make more general points, please email us at news@birlingham.org or contact a member of the *Birlingham News* team.



Stonemason Stuart Clifford adds the name of Frederick Quarrell to the War Memorial, 7th July – see Parish Council report on next page
(Photo: June Hiden)

Birlingham Flower & Produce Show

Saturday 3rd September *by Caryl Mills*

The Flower & Produce Show will be held on Saturday 3rd September at the Cricket Ground. The schedule will be distributed within the next couple of weeks so look out for it.

There is plenty of time to practise your baking, make entries with the children and check the fruit and vegetables, so put the date in your calendar.

If you are able to help either before or on the day please contact a member of the Committee or email caryl-mills@hotmail.co.uk.



Record Temperature in Birlingham

Last Tuesday the temperature in Lincolnshire reached 40.3°C, the hottest day in the UK since records began. The new high smashed the previous record of 38.7°C from July 2019.

Meanwhile, a temperature of 37.1°C at Pershore College proved to be a new record for Worcestershire while in Birlingham the BBC Weather app showed 36°C.





Hall Farm viewed from Broadway Road on the evening of the hottest day ever, 19th July
(Photo: Nikki Hollier)

St James' Church



Churchwarden:
Adrianne Woodward
(Tel. 01386 750936)

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

* **Sunday 7th**: Morning Praise, 10.30am (led by Peter Stansbie).
* **Sunday 21st**: Holy Communion, 10.30am (led by Canon Chris Terry)

All are welcome to attend. There are refreshments after each service.

The date for Harvest Festival is Sunday 18th September – more details to follow.

Cuppa & Chat

Wednesday 3rd August

by Sue Hermon



Cuppa & Chat will be held on Wednesday 3rd August from 3.00pm to 4.30pm in Birlingham Village Hall. The cost is £2.50 per person. Everyone is most welcome to come along for tea or coffee plus a cake or two. Hope you can join us.

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

Jayne Brassington
Beauty and Complementary/Holistic Therapist
Animal Angelic Reiki Practitioner
Relaxation and Rejuvenation
Paddock Barn Broadway Road Birlingham WR10 3AF
By Appointment only
For full details of available treatments visit
www.salonespritdecorps.com
www.animalholistichealing.co.uk
mob 07770401359
Email jebrassington@btinternet.com

Parish Council Report

by Ian Yates

Birlingham Parish Council held its meeting at 7.00pm on Wednesday 20th July in the Village Hall. The following topics were discussed:

- **Full Fibre Broadband (Fibre to the Premise – FTTP)**
  We have been in contact with Airband and the rollout of full fibre (FTTP) for Birlingham will be combined with Defford. Airband are conducting a high-level survey at the present time. Once all the details are finalised they will hold a meeting in the Village Hall, which will be an opportunity for residents to ask questions and understand the benefits of full fibre.
- **Dog/Litter Bins**
  As previously reported, the Parish Council has included funding for three additional bins in its 2022/23 precept. The bins have been ordered and we are waiting for Wychavon District Council to supply and install them.
- **Millennium Bench**
  The restoration work on the bench is now complete. Rupert Keys has kindly volunteered to carry out the groundworks so it can be installed around the time capsule.
- **Telephone Box**
  As previously reported, the telephone box was taken away at the end of April for restoration by a company in Lincolnshire. This is now well in hand. The frame has been stripped back to bare metal in preparation for repainting and re-glazing.
- **War Memorial**
  The missing inscription for Frederick Quarrell has now been added to the war memorial by the stonemason.
  (*See photograph on first page.*)
- **Platinum Jubilee Celebrations**
  The Parish Council thanked Steve Morris, the Jubilee Committee and all the volunteers that made the village celebrations such a great success.
- **Report from County Councillor Adrian Hardman**
  See separate item below.

Full minutes of the Parish Council meeting will be posted on the village website shortly.

Report from County Councillor

by Councillor Adrian Hardman

- The County Council budget out-turn was satisfactory from my point of view but we did fail to deliver some £5.3 million worth of savings target, which we are rolling into this year, because I think it is reasonable that due to COVID-19 some of these projects never got going.
- I continue to be concerned by COVID-19 and the new variants and as I write this we have over 100 people with the virus in our hospital but mercifully only two in intensive care. I do not think that this problem has gone away.
- Highways maintenance continues to be affected by the high cost of oil since oil is about 40% of the cost of tarmac; in effect this means that our budget has been reduced considerably as we experience above 100 dollars a barrel of oil prices but I suspect we are seeing at this price level some demand destruction and we will see some price reduction to a lower level by the end of the summer.
- We are in the process of introducing the new social care reforms and this is turning out to be a big challenge because I think that the government will need to put considerably more money into the system in due course and I hope that the new team down in Whitehall is aware of this.
- There seems to be some confusion over 20mph speed limits. Just to be clear, the position of the County Council is unchanged. We are willing to consider 20mph in areas of high accident rates, outside schools and in areas where we do not have to undertake considerable road engineering to get compliance.
- I continue to try and work with the Department of Education over moving the Pershore pyramid from three to two tiers. I am trying to get the Department to inject some £4M in Pershore. I am not expecting to get a decision on the capital funding from the department until late September now, which is very unhelpful since it means that the implementation will be delayed another year. This of course influences Defford school.

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

BORDER IN A BOX

Gardening Gifts

Flower seeds
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Notebooks & Calendars

www.borderinabox.com

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.

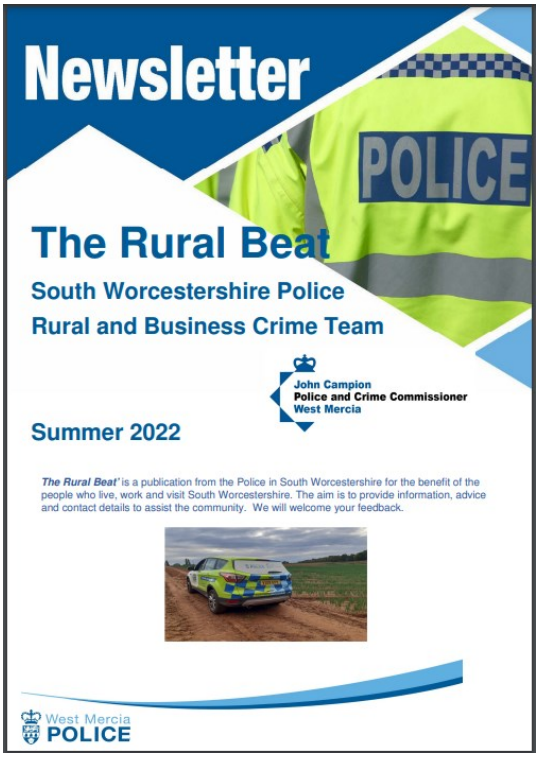
Gardener required for house in Lower End. Please contact news@birlingham.org for more details.

Rural Beat Newsletter

The Summer edition of the 'Rural Beat' newsletter published by West Mercia Police's Rural and Business Team is now available. The issue includes items on thefts of trailers, catalytic converters and tools from commercial vehicles, and articles on oil theft prevention and crime prevention recommendations for the home.

There is also a reminder that you should report suspicious emails to report@phishing.gov.uk. Simply forward any suspicious emails to this address.

The police newsletter can be downloaded at:
www.birlingham.org/docs/ruralbeat_summer_2022.pdf



Dates for your diary

August

Sun 7	Morning Praise, 10.30am, St James' Church
Sun 21	Holy Communion, 10.30am, St James' Church

September

Sat 3	Birlingham Flower & Produce Show
Sun 4	Morning Praise, 10.30am, St James' Church
Sun 18	Harvest Festival, St James' Church

Birlingham Cricket Club fixtures – July

Sat 30	Bredon CC 3rd XI vs Hanley Castle CC, 12.30pm

Birlingham Cricket Club fixtures – August

Mon 1	Fossils vs Wales, 1.00pm
Sat 6	Birlingham Saturday XI vs Bartestree Lugwardine CC, 12.30pm
Sun 14	Fossils vs Alcester CC, 2.00pm
Mon 15	Birlingham CC vs Birkbeck College, 12.30pm
Sat 20	Birlingham Saturday XI vs Fiveways Old Edwardians CC, 12.30pm
Sun 21	John Shepherd Memorial Match, 12.30pm

Birlingham Cricket Club fixtures – September

Sat 10	Birlingham Saturday XI vs Barnards Green CC, 12.00pm
Sun 11	Fossils vs Alcester Ladies CC, 2.00pm

The bar will be open from 6.00pm for all fixtures

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 7th August (for publication on Wednesday 10th August). We regret that we cannot guarantee to include any items submitted after that date.

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