Birlingham News online

Published on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month

No. 283 Wednesday 10th August 2022

Editorial

Democracy is a curious thing, and very much in the eye of the beholder. Many regard our first-past-the-post electoral system as beyond reproach, even though in the 2019 General Election, for example, the Conservatives achieved a massive 80-seat majority in the House of Commons, despite receiving only 43% of the votes.

Taking into account the one-third of the population who did not vote, the governing party was supported by just 29% of the electorate. While it may reasonably be argued that those who cannot be bothered to vote must accept whatever the rest of the population decides, the question still remains: Is it right for such a powerful government to be put in place by a minority of voters?

Currently, the Conservative Party is embroiled in its own election for a new leader. Its estimated membership of 160,000 must now decide between the two remaining candidates. No one would dispute their right to choose their own party leader – but is it democratic that just 0.3% of the national electorate select our next prime minister, and hence our government and the policies that will be enacted over the next couple of years? (Feel free to write to us with your views!)

Here in Birlingham we do not go in for anything as sordid as elections (apart from one notable occasion in 2015 when ten villagers vied for seven Parish Council places). We take democracy one step further, however, by asking for opinions via online surveys. The latest survey gives you the chance to express a view on this publication, so please take a minute to let us know what you think.

Tiddesley Wood Log and Woodchip Sales

The annual Tiddesley Wood Log and Woodchip Sales begin next month and will continue until February (or until stocks run out). The sales, organised by Worcestershire Wildlife Trust, began in 1990. Unfortunately, this will be the last season as the sales are no longer financially viable for the Trust.

The letter from the Trust explaining the decision is reproduced below and the notice listing the dates of sales can be found on the next page.

Worcestershire Wildlife Trust

Lower Smite Farm, Smite Hill, Hindlip, Worcester WR3 8SZ
01905 754919 • enquiries@worcestershirewildlifetrust.org
www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk

Dear xxxxxx

The Tiddesley Wood log sales were originally set up in 1990 to support Worcestershire Wildlife Trust's conservation forestry programme. However, we have had to consider the viability of the sales with reducing volumes of timber available from our conservation operations, rising costs and the need to replace our storage facility for safety reasons.

The Trust has therefore taken the difficult decision to permanently close our log sales at the end of this coming season, February 2023. We will run sales as usual from September 2022 (see leaflet enclosed for dates) until our current stocks are sold out. We anticipate that our last sale will be in February 2023.

We regret that our loyal and regular customers will need to find new suppliers in 2023 and want to thank you all for your custom and support over the years. Your purchases have helped us to continue our conservation work across the county but we are reaching a stage where costs outweigh the benefits.

Thank you once again for your custom. We hope that you will continue to support our work in other ways www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk

If you have any queries or would like any further information, please contact enquiries@worcestershirewildlifetrust.org

Yours faithfully

R.L. Allen

Rob Allen
Reserves Team Leader

Charity No. 256518 • Company No. 929644 • VAT Registration No. 775402523

Protecting wildlife where we live



Young fallow deer stealing apples at Broadway House, 21st July

(Photo: Nikki Hollier)

Birlingham IW

Thursday 18th August

by Caryl Mills

The next meeting of Birlingham Independent Women is on Thursday 18th August in the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm. The event is a Cocktail Evening with the opportunity to make and sample cocktails and mocktails. Guests welcome at a charge of £3.

Theft at Lower End

Thieves have stolen an Ifor Williams tipping trailer and £1000 worth of larch timber from a property in Lower End. The break-in happened between 11.00pm and midnight on Wednesday 27th July. The culprits broke into the bottom meadow along Berwick Lane, cut fences and accessed the property through the fields.

The thieves left via Berwick Lane, then past the Almshouses and back up the Avenue. If anyone saw anything on 27th July or has any CCTV on the route through the village, the owners would appreciate their help. The CCTV image opposite shows the vehicle leaving the property.

If you have any information, please contact us at news@birlingham.org.



Worcestershire Wildlife Trust

Tiddesley Wood
nr Pershore

Logs & woodchips

Sale dates

Sat & Sun 24th & 25th Sept 2022
Sat & Sun 29th & 30th Oct 2022
Sat & Sun 3rd & 4th Dec 2022
Sat & Sun 7th & 8th January 2023
Sat & Sun 4th & 5th Feb 2023
Sales 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day

Logs £7 a bag
Loose without bags £140 per cu metre (250-350 logs)
Loaded loose into trailers, car boots etc - any amount
Chips if available £3 a bag - quantity discount and for loose

Our February 2023 log sales will be the last. We regret that loyal and regular customers will need to find new suppliers in 2023 and want to thank you all for your custom and support over the years.
Your purchases have helped us to continue our conservation work across the county but we are reaching a stage where costs outweigh benefits.

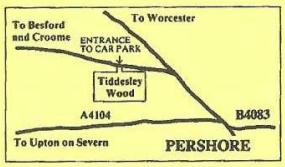
Please check our website to ensure the sale is going ahead

www.worcswildlifetrust.co.uk **www.tiddesley.org.uk**

FSC 100% From well-managed forests Cert no.SA-FM/COC-1446 www.fsc.org © 1996 Forest Stewardship Council

READY TO BURN Company: WNCT Enterprises Ltd Certificate No: WS812/00001

Follow main road (B4084) out of Pershore towards Worcester. Turn left, following signposts to Besford & Croome. After c500 yds look for signs.



Nearest postcode: WR10 2AD
What3words: quits.acrobats.lease

Charity No: 256618

Worcestershire Wildlife Trust, Lower Smite Farm, Smite Hill, Hindlip, Worcester, WR3 8SZ tel. 01905 754919

Road Closure – Defford Road

The main road from Birlingham to Pershore will be closed for resurfacing the week after next, from Monday to Wednesday between 7:00am and 5:00pm.

The alternative route to and from Pershore is via Eckington and Great Comberton.





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Worcestershire
WR7 4RJ

Birlingham News online – Survey

The *Birlingham News online* survey is still open. The responses to this survey will determine what changes, if any, are made to *Birlingham News* and whether or not the online edition continues to be published. So, if you have not yet done so, please complete the short survey at:

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

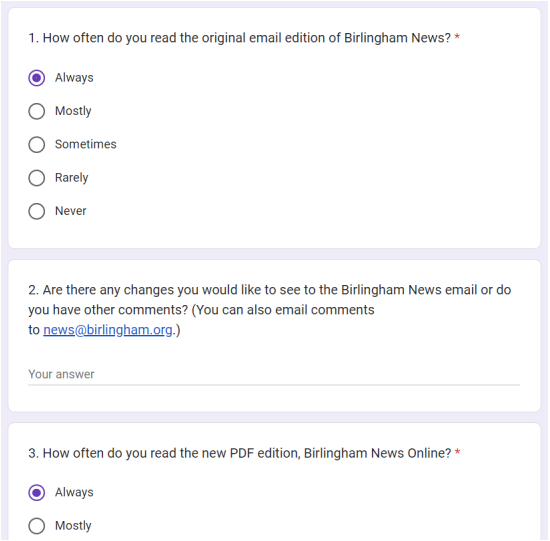
If you have not been reading the online edition, you can view previous issues at:

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.



Planning Applications

The following planning application has been determined by Wychavon District Council:

5 Brook Cottages, Eckington Road: Change front garden to driveway (Case No. 22/01002/HP). **Approved**. Full details and conditions can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website at:

https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/Planning/Display/W/22/01002/HP.

The Parish Council comments are available at:

www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_comments_22_01002.pdf.

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.



Sparrowhawk in Broadway Road, having just taken out a wood pigeon, 2nd August

(Photo: Nikki Hollier)

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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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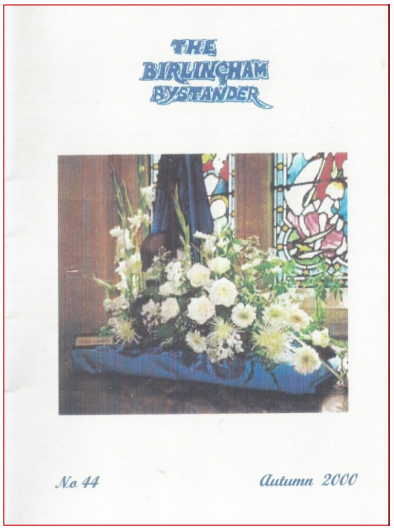
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Personal Ads

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.

Bystander Archives



The Autumn 2000 edition of the *Birlingham Bystander* begins with an interesting piece by Harry Porter about turning points and another containing Wally Wood's memories. A survey about the future of the Village Hall is reported and there are details of a forthcoming production of 'Murder at the Vicarage' by Birlingham Drama Group.

Events reported are darts competition to raise money for the Cheltenham Cobalt Unit, the village fete, the Vintage and Classic Car Show, and the Flower & Produce Show. The Millennium celebrations include the unveiling of the Millennium Map, the dedication of the Millennium Tablet in the church porch and the Millennium photograph (and one of residents born in the village), as well as a picnic and races in the July.

The weddings of Anna Hermon, Robert Worby and Christine Saunders are featured, along with the baptisms of Sam and Kieron Jeavons. There are several obituaries, among them one for Pat Quarrell.

Issue 44 of the *Bystander* can be viewed at:
www.birlingham.org/village/bystander/issues/bystander044.pdf

Dates for your diary

August

Thu 18	Birlingham IW, Cocktail Evening, 7.30pm, Village Hall
Sun 21	Holy Communion, 10.30am, St James' Church

September

Sat 3	Birlingham Flower & Produce Show, 2.00pm, Cricket Ground
Sun 4	Morning Praise, 10.30am, St James' Church
Fri 16	Toast the Harvest, 6.30–8.00pm, St James' Church
Sun 18	Harvest Festival, 10.30am, St James' Church
Wed 21	Birlingham Parish Council, 7.00pm, Village Hall
Sat 24 & Sun 25	Tiddesley Wood Log and Woodchip Sale, 10.00am–1.00pm

Birlingham Cricket Club fixtures – August

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 Cricket Club 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 21st August (for publication on Wednesday 24th August). We regret that we cannot guarantee to include any items submitted after that date.

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