Birlingham News online

Published on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month

No. 294 Wednesday 11th January 2023

Editorial

The coming week is a busy one, with Sunday Holy Communion, the Parish Council meeting, Birlingham IW and the Burns Night Supper filling most of the days. As the evenings start to get lighter, the birds begin to sing from early in the morning and Spring feels like it may not be that far away, Birlingham is also starting the year with a burst of activity.

In February we have the Bulb Sunday Service to look forward to and the Snowdrop Teas every weekend.

Meanwhile, royal events are like buses – nothing for ten years and then two come along together. Early in February the Jubilee Committee will be holding another open meeting to see how the village wants to celebrate the Coronation in May. It will be the first one for 70 years, so start thinking about how you would like to spend yet another historic occasion and let us know your ideas.

Birlingham IW

Thursday 19th January

by Caryl Mills



Our first meeting of 2023 will be on Thursday 19th January at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The meeting is of two parts, a short AGM and then a social evening with board games, fizz and nibbles.

The membership fee for 2023 is £25, either in cash or cheque made payable to 'Birlingham IW'.

Our February meeting will be a treat for those who like the *Great British Bake Off.*

St James' Church



Churchwarden: Adrianne Woodward (Tel. 01386 750936)

A reminder about the January service:

* **Sunday 15th**: Holy Communion, 10.30am (led by Canon Claire Lording)

And a 'save the date' of **5th February for the Bulb Sunday Service** at 3.00pm. Details to follow.

Burns Night Supper

Saturday 21st January

by Ruth Keys

Back for another year, our very popular Burns Night Supper takes place on Saturday 21st January, starting at 7.00pm. An enjoyable evening of food, music, poems and dancing to celebrate the life and poetry of Robert Burns.

Tickets are selling fast so if you want to come, get tickets quickly! There are residents of Pershore and the surrounding area interested and tickets are sold on a first-come-first-served basis.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.birlinghamvillagehall.org, via email from tickets@birlinghamvillagehall.org or by cash/cheque from Deborah Grant, Box Farm House, Whitehall Lane, 01386 750541, mobile 07825 625270. Tickets are priced at £25 each and must be purchased before the event.

Full details opposite.





The Pigsty
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Marian Kirkland

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Worcestershire
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Tel: 07723 923420

Bookings are now being taken for newly renovated cottage

Please contact Marian:
mariankirkland123@gmail.com

Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 18th January

The next meeting of Birlingham Parish Council takes place on Wednesday 18th January at 7.00pm in Birlingham Village Hall. During the meeting there is an opportunity to express your views on local issues, so please go along.

The agenda for the meeting will shortly be available at:
http://www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_agenda_2023-01-18.pdf
and the draft minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting on 16th November will be at:
http://www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_minutes_2022-11-16.pdf.

Cricket Club Break-in

by Mark Yeomans

In recent days the Cricket Club has found one of its storage sheds broken into. It is the same shed from which the tractor was stolen just a few years ago.

Fortunately on this occasion it is just damage incurred to the door and locks. Nothing, as far as we can tell, was taken and the Club no longer stores its tractor on the ground.

It seems highly likely the thieves were returning to the scene of their original crime and looking for similar machinery.

Could all villagers remain vigilant and if anything suspicious is seen on the cricket ground please call Martin Downes on 07834 254189 or Mark Yeomans on 01386 750251.

Parish Tree Warden

Due to other commitments the Parish Tree Warden is stepping down. The Parish Council is looking for someone enthusiastic about the trees in the village to take up the mantle.

The primary objective of the Tree Warden is to gather information about the local trees, get involved in local tree matters and encourage local practical projects related to the trees and woods. To fulfil this objective the Parish Tree Warden will:

- Attend the local Tree Warden Training Sessions.
- Look for opportunities to involve the community in taking an interest in, planting and caring for hedgerows and trees.
- Keep watch on important trees in the parish and report back to Parish Council, in order to:
  - Provide early warning of threats, disease, decay or vandalism.
  - Comment on planning applications that will adversely affect the trees.
  - Report any unauthorised work on trees, in particular in the Conservation Area.

The role is by no means time-consuming and only requires very few hours per month to fulfil.

If you are interested in becoming the new warden to report to the Parish Council please contact June Hiden by email at birlingham_clerk@yahoo.co.uk.



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Lost and Found

by Sue Hayward

A pair of gloves was found at the Village Hall after the Carol Service on 18th December. If you have lost yours, please contact me by email: dennett90@aol.com.

Missing Kitten Found

By Kat Jones

Our missing kitten, Smokey, has been found safe and well.

Thank you from Matt and me to all those of you who helped with the search.

Snowdrop Teas 2023

by Caryl Mills

Snowdrop Teas will be held in the Village Hall on the four weekends in February: 4th/5th, 11th/12th, 18th/19th and 25th/26th.

As usual we are looking for help from villagers to raise money to help the Friends of St James' keep the fabric of the building in good order, keep the churchyard looking as fabulous as it does and to make improvements to the heart of the village. We are looking for people to serve teas, set up and take down the tables in the Village Hall and most importantly bake the cakes that we are renowned for.

If you feel able to help then please contact Caryl Mills at caryl-mills@hotmail.co.uk or 07766 657666.



Jubilee Mugs

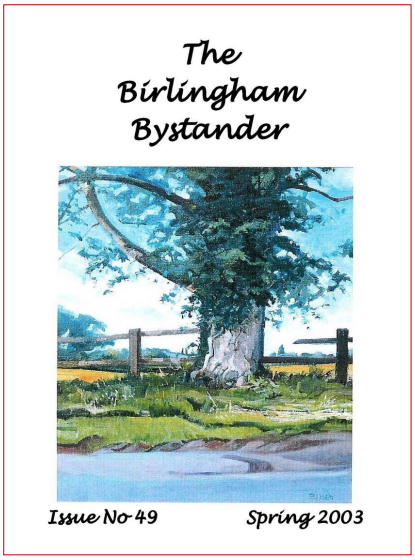
by Steve Morris

As you know, the original consignment of Platinum Jubilee mugs was misprinted by our suppliers. Although these were suitable for children, they were less appropriate for adults. This was just before the Jubilee weekend, by which time stocks in the UK had run out and our suppliers had to order a new batch from the factory in China. The factory has been suffering delays due to the continuing lockdowns. We have been chasing the company for the replacement mugs but they have now said that, with problems continuing in China, they will not be able to provide replacements.

Therefore, during the next week, we will be offering a refund to all those of you who ordered mugs and we will also be giving you one of the children's mugs. We are sorry about the delay in this but hope you will think these mugs are a suitable memento of the Jubilee.



Bystander Archives



The Spring 2003 edition of the *Birlingham Bystander* saw more changes to the editorial team. Founding member Di Saville stood down, Geoff Taylor handed the task of dealing with advertising to Jayne Mackenzie and Stuart Crowther took on the role of 'production manager', which he continued with for the next 15 years. Stuart transferred the production process to new publishing software, resulting in a crisper, cleaner *Bystander*. The cover shows a watercolour by Mike Bibby.

Historical articles in this issue include Woolashill, Birlingham School after 1946 and archaeological work during the construction of the Gwen Finch Nature Reserve and the new sewage treatment works. The installation of the new sewage system was not universally welcomed.

There is an article about the felling of many of the poplar trees in Lower End (quite topical – others were felled at Swan's Neck last month); Paul Mouzer talks about his disability business; David & Jane Williams-Thomas recall walking to Santiago; and the refurbishment of the Village Hall had begun.

Events include a Victorian evening, Christingle, Carol Service and Bulb Sunday at St James', as well as a Family Fun Evening at the Swan. Birlingham Drama Group had taken up tap dancing.

Gordon and Mary Summers celebrated their golden wedding, David and Enid Caldicott their ruby wedding (and have recently enjoyed their diamond wedding) and Brenda and Barry Fletcher the baptism of their granddaughter. Michael Tristram left Pershore Abbey and Nick and Imogen Carson took over the Swan Inn from Joyce and Ray Bird. Other departures included Norma Bennett, Murray and Norma Rainey, and Norah Reinwart. Arrivals included Kirsten Smith, Chris and Adrianne Woodward, and Chas and Chris Price.

Issue 49 of the *Bystander* can be viewed at:
www.birlingham.org/village/bystander/issues/bystander049.pdf

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Tiddesley Wood Log Sales

Final sale of logs and woodchips on Saturday 4th/Sunday 5th February (see opposite) – subject to availability.



Felling of poplars at Swan's Neck, 14th December
(Photo: Julia Luff)



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

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.

Dates for your diary

January

Sun 15	Holy Communion, 10.30am, St James' Church
Wed 18	Birlingham Parish Council, 7.00pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Thu 19	Birlingham IW, 7.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sat 21	Burns Night Supper, 7.00pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sun 29	Benefice Sung Eucharist, 10.30am, Pershore Abbey

February

Wed 1	Cuppa & Chat, 3.00–4.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sat 4/Sun 5	Snowdrop Teas
Sat 4/Sun 5	Final Tiddesley Wood Log and Woodchip Sale, 10.00am–1.00pm
Sun 5	Bulb Sunday Service, 3.00pm, St James' Church
Sat 11/Sun 12	Snowdrop Teas
Thu 16	Birlingham IW, 7.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sat 18/Sun 19	Snowdrop Teas
Sun 19	Holy Communion, 10.30am, St James' Church
Sat 25/Sun 26	Snowdrop Teas

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 Monday 23rd January (for publication on Wednesday 25th January). We regret that we cannot guarantee to include any items submitted after that date.

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