Birlingham News online

Published on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month

No. 304 Wednesday 10th May 2023

Editorial

Now that the Coronation Celebrations are over, we can expect a few quieter weeks – and those that have been involved in the preparations will certainly welcome them.

Over 30 people helped with one or more of the events over the weekend, the highlight of which was the picnic lunch at the cricket ground last Sunday. This event saw 120 villagers, their families and friends join together on a beautiful sunny day to celebrate the occasion and relax in the stunning surroundings.

Everyone is now exhausted, particularly the members of the Jubilee Committee, and we do not have the energy to write a long editorial – but we do want to say a huge thank you to Henry Porter for allowing us to use the cricket ground and to the army of folk who worked so hard in the weeks and months leading up to this fabulous weekend.

Horace Hewitt

We are very sorry to announce that Horace Hewitt died yesterday (9th May).

Our thoughts are with his family.

Lighting Up St James'

by Peter Luff

The new lighting of the church tower began at 9.00pm on Sunday 7th May, and a number of options for its continued use will now be tested.

The character of the village and the enjoyment of its dark skies are important, so the Parochial Church Council and the Friends of St James' are trialling various possibilities. After the four months of trials are complete - and if people feel the summer months provide a meaningful trial - villagers will be asked what they think is the most appropriate combination of days and times for the light to be on. It is important to remember that the 50-Watt unit being used is very economical and its 'colour temperature' does not interfere with bats.

The dates of the four options being trialled are:

Month	Days of week	Light on	Light off	Sunset times vary between
May (from 8th)	All	Dusk	23.00	20.44 – 21.20
June	Saturday and Sunday	Dusk	23.00	21.21 – 21.35
July	Friday, Saturday, Sunday	Dusk	22.30	21.35 – 21.04
August	All	Dusk	22.00	21.04 – 20.00

Birlingham IW

Thursday 20th October

by Caryl Mills



On Thursday 18th May IW will be starting their summer outing programme to Showborough House Sculpture Show near Twyning. Please meet in the car park at 2.30pm. There is no charge to enter but you may be tempted by some of the exhibits that are for sale as there are some beautiful pieces. IW members will have their tea paid for but friends and family who join us will have to pay for their own.

If you are unable to join us next Thursday then the exhibition continues until 18th June.

In June we will be going to Webbs of Wychbold to experience their river walk and garden.

Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday 17th May

The Birlingham Annual Meeting takes place on Wednesday 17th May at 7.00pm in Birlingham Village Hall.This meeting will receive reports from various village organisations about their activities during the year.

During the meeting there is an opportunity to express your views on local issues. Any member of the public can ask for an issue to be debated, even if they are unable to attend the meeting. Questions that require a response must be submitted in writing before 15th May.

The agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting is shown on the next page. The draft minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting on 18th May 2022 are available at www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_annual_2022-05-18.pdf.

Bi-monthly Parish Council meeting

The draft minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting on 15th March can be viewed at www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_minutes_2023-03-15.pdf.

The bi-monthly meeting of the Parish Council scheduled for 17th May has been cancelled due to the recent election and further details will follow.

BIRLINGHAM ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
WEDNESDAY 17 MAY 2023
at 7.00pm
Birlingham Village Hall

All residents of Birlingham are invited to discuss local issues
– this is an opportunity to voice your thoughts and opinions about your community

Agenda

1. Election of a Chair
2. Welcome from the Chair
3. Present
4. To receive any apologies for absence
5. To approve minutes of the previous Annual Parish Meeting (held May 2022)
6. To receive the Parish Council Chairman's Annual Report
7. To receive annual reports from elected representatives:
   - County Councillor Hardman
   - District Councillor Davis
8. To receive annual reports from representatives:
   - Footpath Warden's Report
   - Lengthsman's Report
   - Tree Warden's Report
9. To hear from Birlingham community groups or local organisations.
10. **Open Session** – to discuss parish issues
    The maximum time allowed per questioner to be at the discretion of the Chairman.
    Questions that require a response, must be submitted in writing before 15 May.
11. Closure and next meeting – a time and date to be arranged in 2024

Ian Yates

The Chairman of Birlingham Parish Council
Ian Yates
ian.yates@sipeda.com

9 May 2023

Clerk - **June Hiden, Lamorna, Broadway Road, Birlingham**
birlingham_clerk@yahoo.co.uk

Note: The Local Government Act 1972 provides that a Parish Meeting shall assemble annually between 1st March and 1st June in every year. Anyone who is registered as a local government elector for the Parish of Birlingham is entitled to speak and vote at the Parish Meeting. The Parish Meeting has a general power to discuss parish affairs and to pass resolutions, but such resolutions do not bind the Parish Council.

Annual Parish Meeting agenda 2023

Coronation Celebrations Thanks

by Steve Morris

Somehow we managed to choose the only dry day for our Coronation Lunch on Sunday – not only that, but it was sunny as well! The marquees were packed and many people chose to enjoy their picnics outside in the sunshine.

The Quiz the previous evening was well attended, with seven teams battling for the prize. There was a good turnout for the screening of the Coronation on Saturday morning and the Concert on Sunday night, and the church service and switching on of the church floodlights were both well attended.

Unfortunately we had to postpone the Big Help Out at the Jubilee Wood on Monday because of the rain but we hope to reorganise that within the next two weeks.

A huge thank-you to the organisers of the individual events and to the dozens of people who helped set up, run and pack down the various activities. There will be full reports of all the events in the Autumn edition of the *Bystander*.

Results and further information from the various events will be included in the next online edition of Birlingham News *in two weeks' time.*



(Above) The first of the group photos taken at the Coronation Lunch last Sunday, showing 97 of the 120 attendees – herding cats has nothing on attempting to get over a hundred villagers to congregate in one place for two minutes
(Photo: Kris Mills)



(Right) No, it's not a new pole-dancing class at the cricket ground, it's our enthusiastic volunteers raising the marquee last Thursday

There will be many more photos of the weekend in the Autumn edition of the Birlingham Bystander

A huge thank-you to the sponsors of the Birlingham Coronation Celebrations

UPTON NEWS
and District

District Council Election Results

In a closely-fought election on 4th May, Paul Middlebrough (Conservative) was elected as the new District Councillor for the Eckington Ward (which includes Birlingham).

The turnout for the election was an impressive 45.7%.

The full results are shown below.

DECLARATION OF RESULT OF POLL

Wychavon District Council

Election of a District Councillor for

Eckington ward
on Thursday 4 May 2023

I, Vic Allison, being the Returning Officer at the above election, do hereby give notice that the number of votes recorded for each Candidate at the said election is as follows:

Name of Candidate	Description (if any)	Number of Votes*
KNIGHT Timothy commonly known as KNIGHT Tim	Independent	355
LE BRUN Michael John commonly known as LE BRUN Mike	Green Party	92
MIDDLEBROUGH Paul	The Conservative Party Candidate	370 Elected
NEWCOMBE Pauline Ann	Liberal Democrats	261

* If elected the word 'Elected' appears against the number of votes.

The number of ballot papers rejected was as follows:		Number of ballot papers
A	want of an official mark	0
B	voting for more Candidates than voter was entitled to	1
C	writing or mark by which voter could be identified	0
D	being unmarked or wholly void for uncertainty	1
E	rejected in part	0
	Total	2

Vacant Seats: 1 Electorate: 2362 Ballot Papers Issued: 1080 Turnout: 45.72%

And I do hereby declare that, Paul Middlebrough is duly elected.

Dated Friday 5 May 2023

Vic Allison
Returning Officer

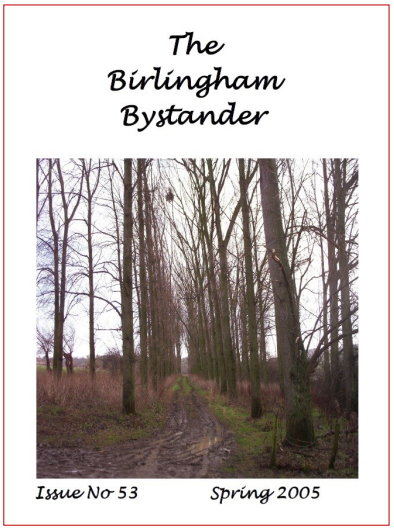
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Letters to the Editors

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

Bystander Archives



The Spring 2005 edition of the *Birlingham Bystander* begins with the memories of Jane and David Williams-Thomas, who had recently left the village.

Events included a performance as Sherlock Holmes, a quiz at the Village Hall, the Carol Service, Carols on the Green and Bulb Sunday. There are reports by Birlingham WI and Birlingham Drama Group.

There is an article describing a 1958 bicycle ride to Birlingham and a report by Tree Warden Stuart Crowther. Worcestershire Wildlife Trust inform us about otters on the Avon. Jayne Vickrage describes a trip to Cuba and there is more information about the felling of poplars at Berwick Brook.

The wedding of Richard and Lenka Hill is reported, as are the christenings of Romilly Carson and Alexandra Byrne. Steven and Linda Byrne are welcomed to the village. There are obituaries for Pamela Griffin and Gladys Webb.

Issue 53 of the *Bystander* can be viewed at:
www.birlingham.org/village/bystander/issues/bystander053.pdf

Eckington Stores

Shop locally from our large range of products:

- Grocery and household items
- Bread and milk
- Ham, cheese, bacon and eggs
- Fruit and vegetables
- Newspapers and magazines
- Frozen food and ice cream
- Alcohol and cold drinks
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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

May

Wed 17	Birlingham Parish Council Annual Meeting, 7.00pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Thu 18	Birlingham IW, 7.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sat 13	Birlingham CC 1st XI vs Martley CC 2nd XI, 12.30, Cricket ground

June

Wed 3	Coronation Cuppa & Chat, 3.00–4.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sat 10	Birlingham CC 1st XI vs Barnards Green CC 3rd XI, 12.30
Thu 15	Birlingham IW, 7.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sat 17	Birlingham CC 1st XI vs Old Elizabethans 3rd XI, 12.30

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 22nd May (for publication on Wednesday 24th May). We regret that we cannot guarantee to include any items submitted after that date.

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