Birlingham News online

Published on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month

No. 307 Wednesday 28th June 2023

Editorial

With the beautiful weather we have had in recent weeks, now is the time to get out and make the most of our fabulous countryside.

Birlingham has a large number of public footpaths, maintained by the parish's hard-working Footpath Warden, Bruce Hayward (aided by Mark Smith), as well as a number of permissive paths, courtesy of Revills Farm. Together they provide many miles of pleasant walking without having to leave the parish!

If you are prepared to stray from the village, you can climb Bredon Hill to see stunning views of Birlingham from its slopes, and there are some good circular routes through Eckington and Strensham (such as the one being organised by Evesham Rambling Club this Sunday and featured in this edition).

However, wherever you choose to walk, please remember that you are in the midst of a working farm. Keep to the designated paths, make sure you do not damage crops or fences, and take your litter home. Above all, if you are out walking your dog, keep it under control at all times and clean up after it.

We all need to share this beautiful countryside and we have a responsibility to maintain it for future generations to enjoy. In the words of William Morris in 1889, "We are only trustees for those that come after us."

Kath Payne

We are sorry to announce that Kath Payne died on Thursday 15th June. Kath first came to Birlingham in 1946, aged 20, as a member of the Women's Land Army, working at Woodfield Farm. She later married and lived in the village for many years, before moving to Pershore.

Kath's recollections of her life in Birlingham were recorded in the Autumn 2019 edition of the *Birlingham Bystander*.

Memorial Service for Pat and Geoffrey Taylor

Saturday 1st July

The memorial service and interment of ashes of Pat and Geoffrey Taylor will be held at St James on Saturday 1st July at 1.00pm and afterwards in the Village Hall. The family would find it helpful to have an idea of numbers for catering purposes. Please contact Pat and Geoffrey's daughter, Charlotte Wilkes, by email at charlottelmwilkes@gmail.com.

Rake & Cake Thanks

by Pat Chinneck

A very big thank you to all those who helped with the Raking (& eating of Cake) in the churchyard last Saturday, 24th June. The churchyard has re-emerged from the long grass and looks splendid. Another session will be arranged for the autumn, so watch this space.

St James' Church

Churchwarden: Adrianne Woodward (Tel. 01386 750936)



A St James' Day service will be held on **Sunday 23rd July** at 3.00pm led by Peter Stansbie.

All are welcome, especially members of the groups that give St James' their support in various ways ... the flower arrangers, bell ringers, cleaning groups, chuchyard work parties and the Friends. All play their own individual yet important part in the life of St James'. There will be input by various members of the village during the service and refreshments will be served at the end.

Other dates in July:

* The memorial service and interment of ashes of Pat and Geoffrey Taylor will be held at St James' on **Saturday 1st July** at 1.00pm – see above for details.
* A baptism on **Sunday 2nd July** at 2.00pm. This will be a **closed service**.

Opening and Closing of St James' Church

Information on the opening and closing of the church is given on the next page.

Cuppa & Chat

Wednesday 5th July

by Sue Hermon



Our next Cuppa & Chat will be held during the first week of Wimbledon, on Wednesday 5th July from 3.00pm to 4.30pm in Birlingham Village Hall. The cost is £2.50 per person and everyone is most welcome to come along for tea or coffee plus a cake or two and a chance to win our free Mystery Entry Prize!

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

Opening and Closing of St James' Church

by Adrianne Woodward

As you all know, we have unfortunately had to cut down on our regular services but we feel that it is important to maintain access to the church and St James' will continue to be opened on Wednesdays and Sundays. We have also gained permission to install an automated locking system, which would mean that the church could be open daily, with no one needing to physically open up using a key. For health and safety reasons the church would need to be checked at the end of the day to make sure that it is closed properly. I would stress that you don't have to be a churchgoer to help out ... it can be part of your dog-walking routine or your daily constitutional.

If you are willing to be on a rota to check on the church, if the automation scheme goes ahead, or if you are willing to help out, in the meantime, by opening and closing the church with a key, please contact me on 01386 750936 or any other member of the PCC.

Dog Fouling

There's no such thing as the dog poo fairy!

Having a pet means taking responsibility for their care and wellbeing. This includes cleaning up their poo.

Dog poo is not only unpleasant, but also dangerous. Whilst rare, contact with dog poo can cause toxocariasis – a nasty infection that can lead to dizziness, nausea, asthma and even blindness or seizures.

Please note:

- Anyone who fails to clear up after their dog can be issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £100. If the case goes to court this could cost the owner or person in charge of the animal up to £1,000.
- The law states that being unaware a dog has fouled or not having a suitable bag is not a reasonable excuse.
- There are many bins throughout the village; however, any public bin can take the waste.

There is no excuse to leave it.

Top Garden Awards

Top awards for Worcestershire garden designer and landscaper couple at BBC Gardeners' World Live for menopause show garden

Garden designer Ruth Gwynn and her husband, landscaper Rupert Keys, have scooped a Platinum Medal and Best Show Garden award for the Newson Health Menopause Garden, which was raising awareness of the menopause at BBC Gardeners' World Live at the NEC two weeks ago (15th-18th June).

Ruth designed the garden as a safe, tranquil and comfortable space for women to reflect on their health, and to discover the nutritional and physical power of plants for mental health and wellbeing. Interactive 'symptom stations' exploring different aspects of menopause and perimenopause were on show, with clinicians and experts on hand with information and advice about diet and nutrition, the wide-reaching benefits of gardening, exercise, mindfulness and mental wellbeing.

The full article will appear in the Autumn Bystander.



Best in Show – Designer Ruth Gwynn, Newson Health Clinical Director Louise Newson and Landscaper Rupert Keys



Spring blossom, 15th May
(Photo: Nikki Hollier)

Eckington Bridge Closure

Tuesday 25th July – Friday 25th August

Eckington Bridge will be closed for a month from Tuesday 25th July until Friday 25th August. This is to allow the rebuilding of the part of the bridge that was destroyed in the fatal accident on 26th August last year.

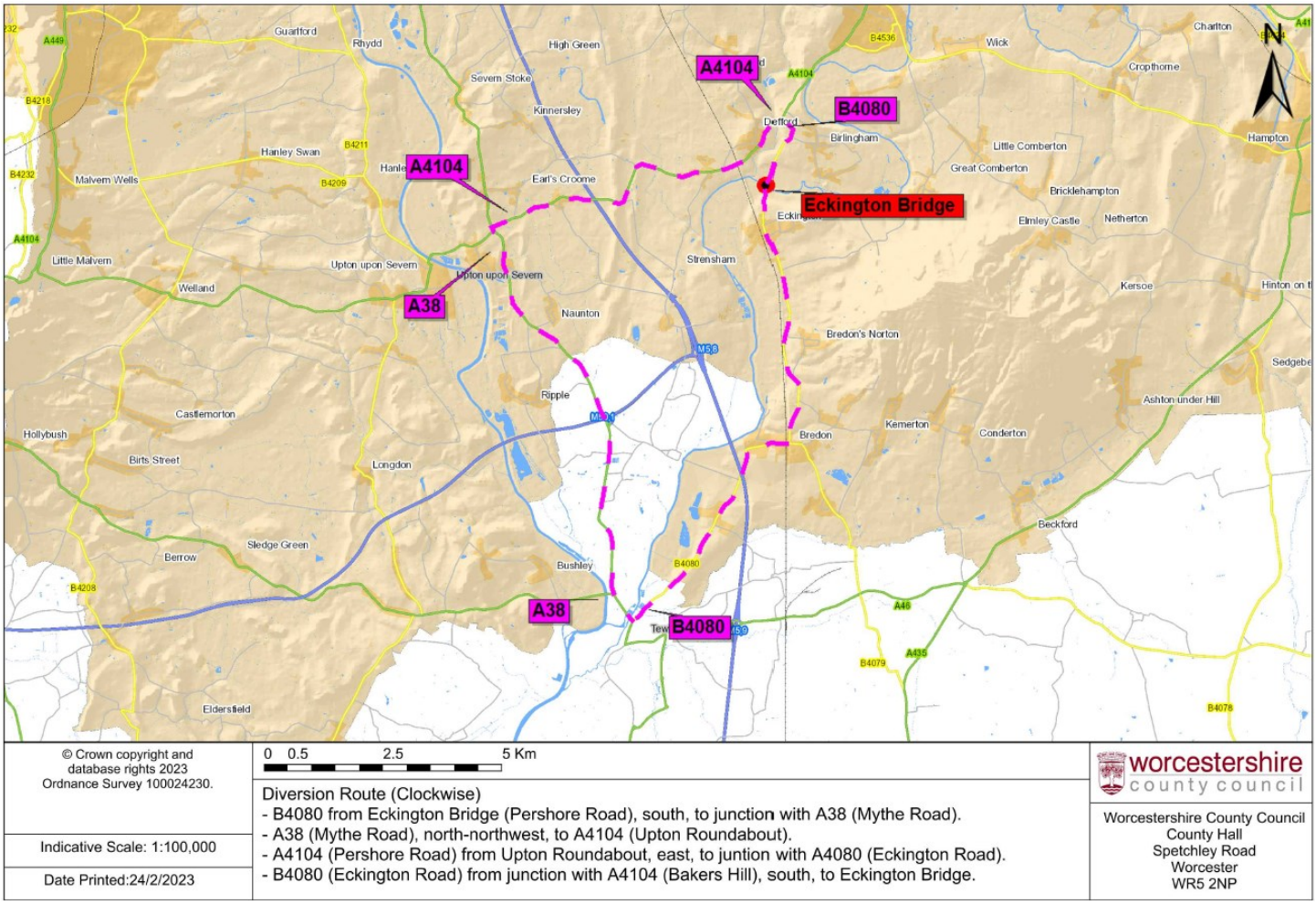
The official diversion between Birlingham and Eckington is shown as a route via Tewkesbury and Upton Upon Severn but obviously the quickest route is through Pershore and Nafford.

The notice of closure and the official diversion map are shown below. The shortest route between Eckington and Birlingham is shown on the next page.

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
PUBLIC NOTICE
Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984
(B4080 Pershore Road, Defford) (Temporary Closure) Order 2023
Proposed Order: to close that part of B4080 Pershore Road from its junction with C2271 New Barn Lane to its junction with U46445 Roman Meadow.
Reason: Bridgeworks by WCC.
Exemptions: to permit access to any land or premises fronting the highway affected where there is no other form of access; and to allow the works to be undertaken.
Alternative route: B4080 Eckington Road (northbound), A4104 Defford Road, A4104 Baughton Hill, A4104 Pershore Road, A38 Tewkesbury Road, Into Gloucestershire, B4080 Tewkesbury Road, B4080 Pershore Road and vice versa.
Maximum duration: 18 months. Anticipated duration: **32 days.** Commencing: **25 July 2023.**
Thomas Pollock Head of Commercial Law (Legal & Governance) County Hall Spetchley Road Worcester
29 June 2023

1432423 – 1 – B4080 Pershore Road, Defford
Matthew Kerr Graham CA00304

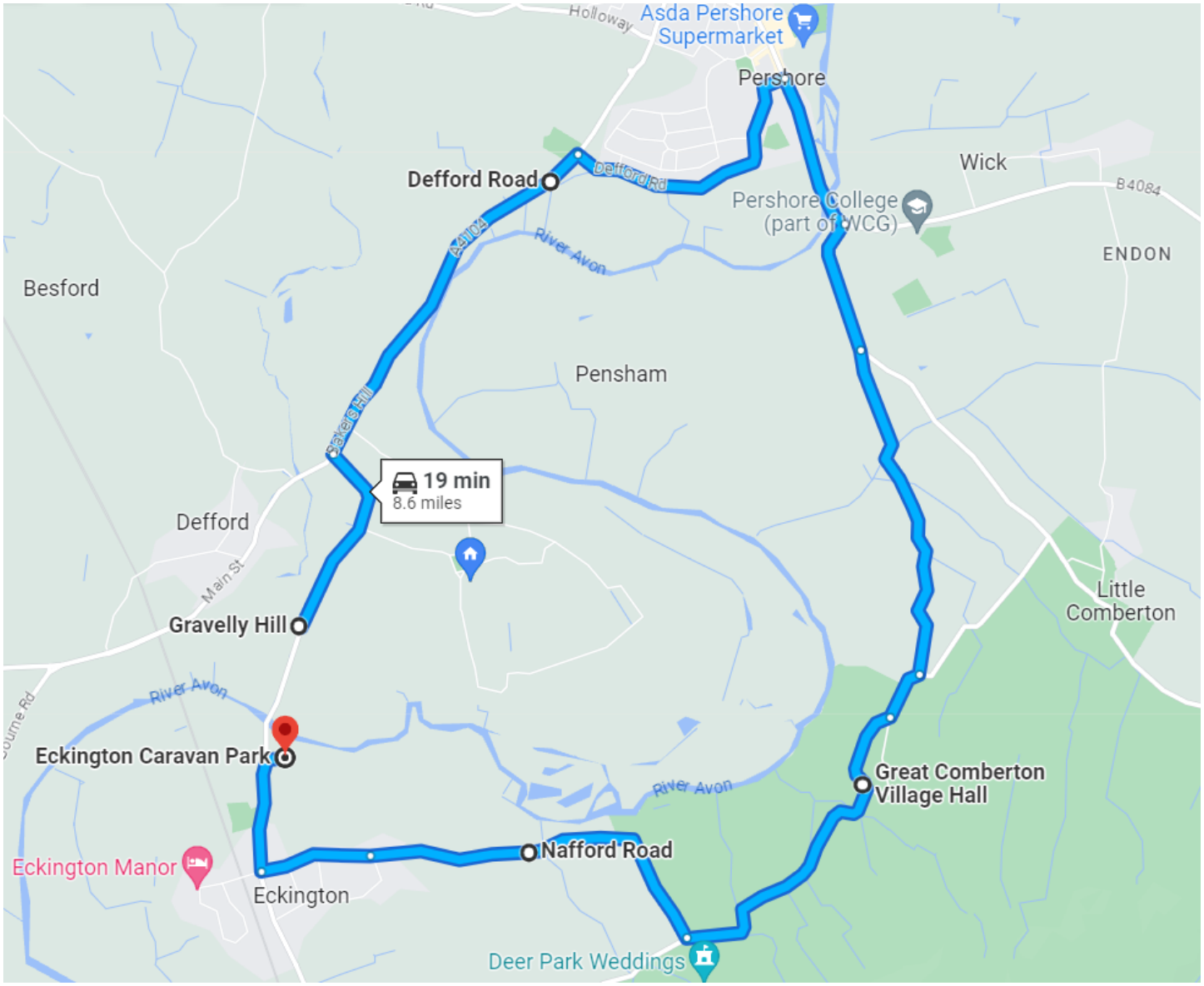
Official diversion between Birlingham and Eckington





Eckington Bridge, 8th April 2023

Shortest route between Birlingham and Eckington



Evesham Walking Festival

Sunday 2nd July

by Alan Saunders, Secretary, Evesham Rambling Club

As part of Evesham Rambling Club's programme for its fourth Walking Festival, we have a circular walk starting in Birlingham. As well as people coming from out of the area to discover our delightful Worcestershire countryside, we hope to welcome local walkers.

The full programme is shown opposite.

Title: River Avon Meander

Mileage: 7 miles

Meet: Near Manor House, Lower End

Time: 10.00am

Grade: Easy

Maximum walkers: 25

Child friendly: No

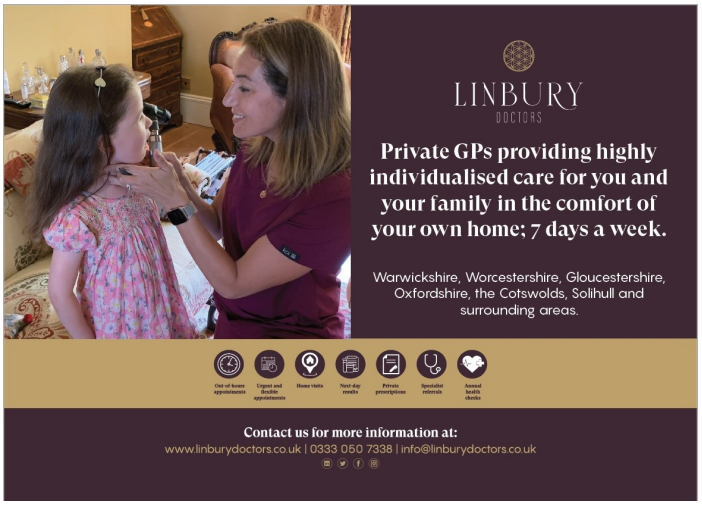
Dog friendly: No

Information: Please bring a snack. Public houses in Eckington and Birlingham.

Description: A lovely riverside walk passing nature reserves, two locks and weirs, and with extensive views towards Bredon Hill. From Nafford Lock there is a gentle climb towards Woollas Hall Farm before descending to pass through Eckington village where we plan to stop for coffee before arriving at Strensham Lock. Much of the walk is on the Shakespeare's Avon Way.







Age UK's Men in Sheds Project

by Carley Edge, Social Inclusion & Well Being Activities Co-ordinator, Age UK Herefordshire and Worcestershire

I am a Social Inclusion and Wellbeing Activities Co-ordinator for Age UK Herefordshire and Worcestershire. We are looking at setting up a brand-new project for us, Men in Sheds. We have been talking to and working with local organisations in Pershore such as the Wellbeing Hub and the Library, and Wychavon District Council has been supporting us too.

We are looking for a venue that has toilets, tea and coffee making facilities, a safe space for a shed and tools, an appropriate space for the work to be carried out and a car park that is preferable free of charge. If you know of any such space or have a space in mind that could be of interest, please don't hesitate to contact me on 07553 291525, email cedge@ageukhw.org.uk.

We are also able to send out a tailored survey, which will help us to understand more the need of a Men in Sheds project in the Pershore area. The survey is at https://tinyurl.com/Men-in-Sheds. Please feel free to take the quick, anonymous survey.





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

Babysitting/garden watering. Georgina Cook (age 16) is available to babysit for both daytime and evenings from 28th June onwards. Contact details are georginacook07@icloud.com or mobile 07774 988 959. Happy to water gardens too if anyone is away on holiday!

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

July

Sat 1	Memorial Service for Pat & Geoffrey Taylor, 1.00pm, St James' Church
Sat 1	Birlingham CC 1st XI vs Harvington CC 1st XI, 12.30
Sun 2	Evesham Walking Festival, 10.00am, Lower End (near the Manor)
Wed 5	Cuppa & Chat, 3.00–4.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sat 15	Birlingham CC 1st XI vs Ombersley CC 3rd XI, 12.30pm
Wed 19	Birlingham Parish Council, 7.00pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Thu 20	Birlingham IW, 7.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sat 22	Birlingham CC 1st XI vs Worcester CC 3rd XI, 12.30pm
Sun 23	St James' Day Service, 3.00pm, St James' Church
Tue 25	Eckington Bridge closed (until 25th August)

August

Wed 2	Cuppa & Chat, 3.00–4.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sat 5	Birlingham CC 1st XI vs Burghill, Tillington and Weobley CC 2nd XI , 12.30
Thu 17	Birlingham IW, 7.30pm, 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 Monday 10th July (for publication on Wednesday 12th July). We regret that we cannot guarantee to include any items submitted after that date.

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