Birlingham News online

Published on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month

No. 361 Wednesday 27th August 2025

Editorial

A new on-demand bus service is being trialed this month in Worcestershire. Unfortunately, we were only recently informed about this, so this is the first chance we have had to tell you about it.

However, you still have five days to try it out free of charge! If you do use the service, please let us know how you get on.

Details of Worcestershire on Demand are given on the next page.

Swan Inn Closure

by Zoe Haines



The Swan Inn will be closed for two weeks from today, Wednesday 27th August and will re-open as usual for lunch on Wednesday 10th September.

The Pigsty Holiday Cottage

Marian Kirkland

The Pigsty
Lower End
Birlingham
Worcestershire
WR10 3AD

Tel: 07723 923420

Bookings are now being taken for newly renovated cottage

Please contact Marian:
mariankirkland123@gmail.com

Birlingham Bystander

Copy date 15th September

The copy date for the Autumn edition of the *Birlingham Bystander* is Monday 15th September.

If you have any articles or photographs that you would like included in the next edition, please email them to:

bystander@birlingham.org.

The *Bystander* will be distributed in October.

Ian Winnard

We are sorry to announce that Ian Winnard died on 15th August in Wood Norton Nursing Home.

A resident of Birlingham for many years, Ian was a great character who was very involved in village activities for several decades.

The funeral will be at Peopleton church at 2.30pm on Monday 22nd September.

Our thoughts are with his family.

Cuppa & Chat

Wednesday 3rd September *by Sue Hermon*



Cuppa & Chat will be held on Wednesday 3rd September from 3.00pm to 4.30pm in Birlingham Village Hall. Everyone is most welcome to come along. There will be tea, coffee and a selection of cakes and the cost is still only £3.00 per head, which includes a chance to win the mystery prize!

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

St James' Church



Churchwarden: Adrianne Woodward (Tel. 01386 750936)

St James' is holding its annual **Harvest Festival** on Sunday 14th September at 10.30am. The service is being led by David Bray.

Donations of tinned, dried or fresh goods can be put in the church any time between 9.30am and 5.30pm daily or brought to the service.

The donated goods are given to Maggs, a Worcester-based charity that supports the homeless, and supplies them with a daily meal.

Churchyard Tidy

Saturday 13th September *by Pat Chinneck*

Saturday 13th September, 10.00am till 12.00, is the next churchyard tidy.

Lots of different jobs on offer, so bring a selection of gardening tools. For those who enjoy weeding, then it's your lucky day, as we will be making a start on weeding the paths.

Refreshments including home-made cakes will be provided.

Police Chase in Birlingham

Some of you may have witnessed five or six police cars chasing a vehicle around Birlingham on Friday 15th August.

Rumours were that the car in question was from Eckington. The response we have received from West Midlands Police was, "This was in relation to a vehicle of interest for officers."

Birlingham 20mph Advisory Signs Update

by Rupert Day

Following the Parish Council Report in the Birlingham News edition of 23rd July, the 20mph advisory signs are being put up at the beginning of September.

As Ian Yates stated in the report we are looking to strike a balance between traffic calming and volume of signage and so are adding these to the existing street signs where appropriate. We are initially keeping the signs, including some specific advisory signs from Red Star, to the key routes in and out of the village and around the church; these being the areas covered by the survey and which had the overwhelming support of residents who responded. We can roll out to other areas, if it is deemed appropriate to do so at a later date, but this again will be driven by residents.

Ian also mentioned that the Parish Council were writing to Karl Perks, the new Cabinet Member responsible for transport and highways at Worcestershire County Council (WCC). This has been done. The two points the letter covered were: why is WCC so at odds with National Guidelines on the issue of speed limits, and why does WCC continually ignore and refuse discussion of issues raised by the Parish Council? As you might have guessed the letter has so far been ignored!

It is in this light that the Parish Council feels that parts of Birlingham do fall under the National Guidelines and so, like a number of other Parish Councils in Worcestershire, we feel that it is reasonable to add these 20mph advisory signs.

Parish matters WYCHAVON

News from Wychavon District Council for town and parish councils

| Forward to a Friend | Add to Safe Senders

The Parish Matters newsletter from Wychavon District Council is now available at:

https://cmemailmarketing.co.uk/BFF128157-CMP101CON121-RCP2I9588O32-4-TRK2333ENT101-1-Z-Z-0-0-Z-Z-Z-Z-Z-Z

Topics include:

* Wychavon Community Stars
* Shape Worcestershire: reorganisation priorities revealed
* Neighbourhood Plans
* Homes for Ukraine
* Electric Vehicle (EV) charge points
* Event for the deaf community and those with hearing loss
* Health and Wellbeing in Wychavon
* Worcestershire on Demand in Wychavon
* Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP)
* Age UK Wyvern newsletter
* Worcestershire CALC Health and Wellbeing update

Worcestershire on Demand in Wychavon



Following the success of the Malvern Hills and North Worcestershire Expansion zones, Worcestershire on Demand (WoD) bus service have launched a new pilot zone in Wychavon this month.

The new zone is the largest yet and will bring the flexible WoD transport service to a new part of the county. To ensure smooth and efficient operations across this large geographical area, journeys will be capped at 15 kilometres (approx. 9 miles) as the crow flies.

All journeys in the new Wychavon zone will be free of charge until the end of August to enable residents to try out the service.

Birlingham

FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW 2025

SEPT 6TH | FROM 2:00PM

BIRLINGHAM CRICKET CLUB
WR10 3AB

Horse Rescue at Lower Farm

Wednesday 20th August

by Ian Yates



Ian and Wendy Yates were in Devon when they received a phone call to say that one of the horses at the farm had taken a fancy to the nice green grass on the edge of the brook and had slipped down the bank into the water and become stuck in thick mud. The banks are steep as water levels are low due to the dry weather.

The Large Animal Rescue team from Bromyard, working alongside Pershore Fire Station, were called out and arrived very quickly. Cheltenham Equine Vets arrived to assess the horse and it was decided to sedate him before a rescue was attempted.

Crews were then able to get into the water and position lifting strops around the horse. David Phelps, from the village, arrived with his telehandler, and by sliding large rescue boards under the horse the machine was able to pull it clear of the water.

After a very short rest, the very muddy horse was able to get to his feet and walk back to his stable, where the vet gave him a thorough check-over.

By the time Ian and Wendy got back from Devon, the drama was over and the horse was back in its field, none the worse for its adventure. Thanks go to the twelve members of the fire and rescue team, the vet and David Phelps, without whose telehandler it would not have been possible to get the horse out.



Planning Applications

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

The Manor House, Lower End: Undertake tree works as detailed on the application form and any other accompanying information (Case No. W/25/0415/HP). Awaiting decision by Wychavon District Council. Full details can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website at:

https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/Planning/Display/W/25/01661/CAN

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

1 Lower End: Additional 10x courses of colour-matched brick to existing chimney to raise the height to >1.8m above the thatch for replacement of existing stove and flue (Case No. W/25/01069/LB). **Approved.** Full details can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website at:

https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/Planning/Display/W/25/01069/LB

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

E Hill & Son
Funeral Directors
01386 552141
Serving the community since 1960
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Fairfield House, Defford Road, Pershore WR10 1HZ.
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www.revillsfarmshop.co.uk 01386 750466 WR8 9BS



Personal Ads

Bicycle. I have a bicycle that I no longer use and it would be good to get something for it that I could forward onto a charity.

The frame is welded steel , 21-inch (535mm) with 21 gears, so it is an 'all terrain' type of bike, although at present the tyres are 'road style'.

If you are interested, please email: dsiservices89@gmail.com

Personal adverts should consist of a maximum of 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

August

Sun 31	Benefice Sung Eucharist, 10.30am, Pershore Abbey

September

Wed 3	Cuppa & Chat, 3.00–4.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sat 6	Flower & Produce Show, 2.00pm, Birlingham Cricket Club
Sat 13	Churchyard Tidy, 10.00-12.00am, St James' Church
Sun 14	Harvest Festival, 10.30am, St James' Church
Mon 15	*Birlingham Bystander* copy date
Wed 17	Birlingham Parish Council, 7.00pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Thu 18	Birlingham IW – details to follow

October

Wed 6	Cuppa & Chat, 3.00–4.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Thu 21	Birlingham IW – details to follow

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 8th September (for publication on Wednesday 10th September). We regret that we cannot guarantee to include any items submitted after that date.

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