Birlingham News online

Published on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month

No. 366 Wednesday 12th November 2025

Editorial

A month ago we reported that the Parish Council has received just over £1500 from Wychavon District Council as a Neighbourhood Fund. This money can be spent on physical, social or green initiatives for the benefit of the community.

So far the Parish Council has received four suggestions and they are asking for comments on these ideas. You can find more details about the scheme in general and the list of suggested projects in Birlingham News 364.

Alternatively, the Parish Council would like to hear your suggestions on how the Neighbourhood Fund can be used to improve village life. Your ideas can be emailed to the Parish Clerk at birlingham_clerk@yahoo.co.uk.

The proposals will be discussed at next week's Parish Council meeting.

Next *Birlingham News*

Due to holidays, the next edition of *Birlingham News* will be published a day later than usual, on **Thursday 27th November**.

Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday 19th November

The next meeting of Birlingham Parish Council takes place on Wednesday 19th November 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 is available at:
http://www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_agenda_2025-11-19.pdf
and the draft minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting on 17th September are available to be viewed at:
http://www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_minutes_2025-09-17.pdf.

Birlingham IW

Thursday 20th November *by Caryl Mills*



This month we will be having a film night, showing Audrey Hepburn in *Breakfast at Tiffanys*.

7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Guests welcome at £3 per person.

Musicians Needed!

Saturday 17th January *by Charlotte Baskerville*

Are you a first-class flautist, superb singer or even a mind-blowing mandolin player? We are looking for musicians to play at an event on the evening of Saturday 17th January at St. James' Church. Birlingham has a huge amount of talent and it would be lovely to include performances showcasing a range of ages, instruments and genres. Join us for an evening of music making!

Please get in touch with Charlotte Baskerville via email if you are interested in taking part: charlotte@baskerville.in



Village Quiz

Saturday 29th November

by Jessica Dormer

Thank you to everyone who has filled their forms in or phoned to book their places at the village quiz on 29th November. We don't stretch to such luxuries as tickets: everyone who has booked can be accommodated, and we have room for just a few more people.

We have half a team which we need to make up into a full team, and perhaps room for one more full team, so if you haven't booked already and were thinking it was too late, please do get in touch. In particular, if anyone can make up a group of three that would be great, to join up with another group of three.

You can either book by filling the form in here:

https://forms.gle/Ujti7Ghti1CuG8tZ9

or by calling Jessica on 07939 695113.

Christmas Wreath Workshops

Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th December

by Ruth Gwynn



Our Christmas wreath workshops are selling fast. Still some spaces available on Saturday 6th in the afternoon session and Sunday 7th in the morning session. Saturday morning now sold out.

Our workshops are relaxed and fun. No previous experience is necessary and we provide everything you need to go home with a unique luxury wreath. £47 per person.

Come and get in the festive mood with us this year at Defford Village Hall.

Email us to book: hello@meadowcutflowers.co.uk.



Still afternoon in Birlingham: The wind pump stands idle while a hot-air balloon wafts by, 22nd October *(Photo: Peter Luff)*



New 20mph signs

It has been two months now since the new advisory 20mph signs were installed in Birlingham.

How are you finding them? Are people keeping to the new limit? Is there a noticeable reduction in speed from traffic passing through the village?

We would love to hear from you about this and other village matters at news@birlingham.org.



Music Night

Saturday night's Music Night at the Village Hall was a roaring success. An article and more photos will appear in the Spring edition of the *Birlingham Bystander*.







Red Star Growers has done a very efficient job of tidying and cutting back miles of hedgerow around Birlingham. Here it has resulted in a local footpath being opened up, making it much easier to use



This year is a Mast year, and nature is prolific in its bounty. The hedgerows are unusually colourful with berries everywhere



The long dry summer left everyone with dead lawns and little sign of recovery - until a bit of rain brings back hope



At last there is pasture again in Asham Meadow for the sheep to graze

(Photos: Julia Luff, 1st November)



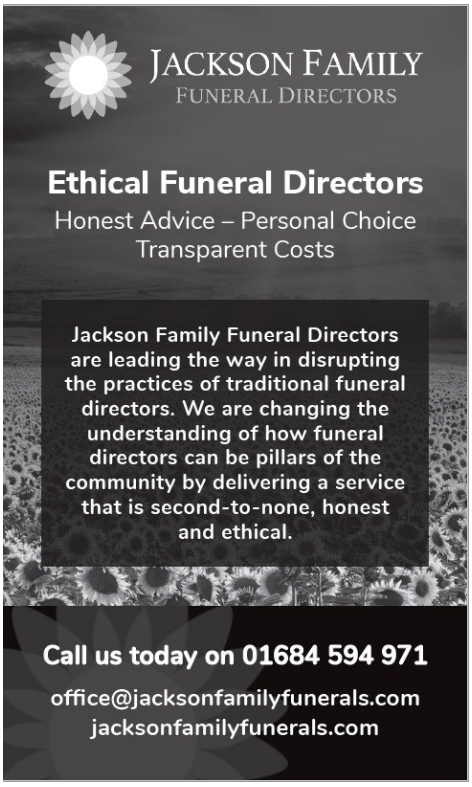
Sunset over Birlingham, 6th October (Photo: June Hiden)

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:

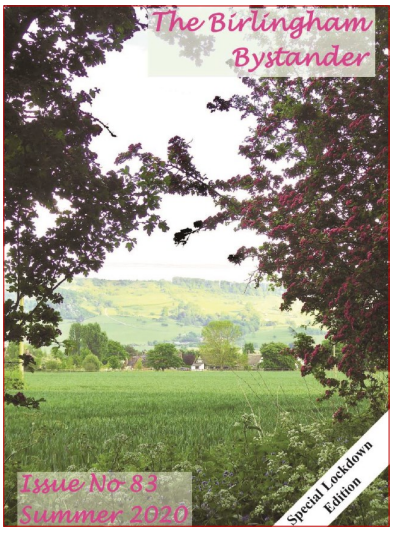
news@birlingham.org



Personal Ads

Personal adverts should consist of 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.

Bystander Archives



The Summer 2020 edition of the *Birlingham Bystander* was a 'Special Lockdown Issue'.

Compiled during the first COVID lockdown, the edition begins with reports of the previous winter's events, before anyone had even heard of COVID: the Service in the Vineyard, the Memories Evening, wreath making and Christmas services at St James'. Then came Burns Night and the Snowdrop Teas, after which everyone was confined to home.

There are several articles and many photos relating to the lockdown months, showing how the village continued to thrive despite it all. There are also other pieces on the Millennium Bench, the Landor and Duke families, the flags of St James' and the role of lengthsman.

Half a dozen houses changed hands in the months before lockdown, so there were several welcomes, including Pat and Brian Chinneck. Finally, there are an unusual number of obituaries: Betty Palmer, Des Hollier, Edna Phillips, Joy Rainey and Pat Barber.

Issue 83 of the *Bystander* can be viewed at:
www.birlingham.org/village/bystander/issues/bystander083.pdf

Planning Applications

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

The Old Rectory, New Barn Lane: Undertake tree works as detailed on application form and in any accompanying information (Case No. W/25/02190/CAN). **No objection**. Full details can be viewed on the Wychavon DC website at:

https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/Planning/Display/W/25/02190/CAN

Dates for your diary

November

Wed 19	Birlingham Parish Council, 7.00pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Thu 20	Birlingham IW, 7.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sat 29	Village Quiz, 7.00pm, Birlingham Village Hall

December

Wed 3	Cuppa & Chat, 3.00–4.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sat 6 Sun 7	Christmas Wreath Workshops, Defford Village Hall
Thu 18	Birlingham IW, 7.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Sun 21	Carols and Christingles, 6.00pm, St James' Church
Thu 25	Christmas Day Holy Communion, 10.30am, St James' Church

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 24th November (for publication on Wednesday 26th November). We regret that we cannot guarantee to include any items submitted after that date.

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