Birlingham News

Published on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month

No. 389 Wednesday 28th October 2026

Editorial

Although governments can have quite an impact on our daily lives, particularly when it comes to finances, we are even more at the mercy of the 'tech giants'.

While we may moan about the 'nanny state' telling us we need to stock up on tinned food and a wind-up radio (actually quite sensible advice), we seem to accept that unaccountable monoliths like Microsoft, Apple and Google are constantly telling us to update something, nagging us to ask for help or just changing everything for no apparent good reason.

The latest outrage comes from Microsoft withdrawing its support overnight for its long-standing publishing software, which has caused immense headaches for *Birlingham News* and a delay to the publication of the *Birlingham Bystander*.

Perhaps the greatest danger we face is not from our elected leaders but from technology, and it is there we should aim to become more resilient.

Cuppa & Chat



Wednesday 4th November

by Sue Hermon

The next Cuppa & Chat will be held on Wednesday 4th November from 3.00pm to 4.30pm in Birlingham Village Hall. Villagers past and present are most welcome to come along to meet new arrivals or catch up with old acquaintances.

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.

Churchyard Working Party

by Pat Chinneck

Saturday 7th November

The next churchyard working party will be held on Saturday 7th November, 10am-noon.

Main focus will be on leaf raking but plenty of other jobs need our attention, in particular the fig tree and ivy removal from tree trunks and the surrounding wall.

Please bring rakes, strimmers, leaf blowers, secateurs, loppers and waste sacks if you can. There will be spares to borrow if needed. Refreshments will be served during the session.

Autumn *Bystander*

The Autumn edition of the *Birlingham Bystander* is currently under preparation and will be at the printers shortly. It will be delivered through your letterboxes early in November.

This edition has been delayed by about two weeks due to a change in publishing software, thanks to Microsoft deciding to withdraw support for one of its products.

St James' Church



Churchwardens: Adrianne Woodward & Pat Chinneck (Tel. 01386 750936)

The annual St James' Remembrance Service will be held outside around the War Memorial on Armistice Day, Wednesday 11th November.

Please assemble on the village green at 10.45am in good time to observe the two-minutes silence at 11.00am.

The service is being led my Peter Stansbie and refreshments will be provided in the church afterwards to which all are welcome.

Commemorative Poppies

by Pat Chinneck

This is a thank you to all the villagers, the Art & Craft Group and friends of friends, who have been busily knitting/crocheting poppies for many months to make a display at church to remember our fallen heroes. Nearly 700 poppies have been made, which is a tremendous feat: not quite enough for a cascade from the tower though! However, we've settled on a display around the front porch plus an information board and remembrance patchwork panels (kindly loaned by Sadie Yeomans). The knitters from the village I would like to thank are: Caryl, Denise, Enid, Gus, Jean, June B, Nadia and Sadie.

I would also like to thank Christina Horrocks for the historical information she provided about the soldiers from the village that signed up and saw active service during WW1.

The displays both inside and out will be there to see at church throughout November.





INTRODUCTORY YOGA CLASS

5TH NOVEMBER at 10am for 1 hour

Birlingham Village Hall

Hello,

I've just moved into the Village and I'd like to start a regular community Yoga practice.

The first session is free, so come along and please bring a mat if you can. The price of any future sessions will be kept to a miniumum.

If you've never done Yoga before then start from where you are and give it a try.

To book your place please contact Julie on 07896628773.

Bend it like Birlingham !!!

Eckington Stores

We have a range of locally produced products:

- Fladbury meat pies
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- Bennetts ice cream
- DJ Perks fruit and vegetables
- Meat Company sausage and bacon
- Happy Chucks eggs

We open 7 days per week:

- 0600 to 1830 Monday to Friday
- 0600 to 1800 Saturday
- 0600 to 1300 Sunday

John, Sue and Mark
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Wychavon Residents' Survey 2026

Do you have 10 minutes to help shape Wychavon?

Wychavon's Residents' Survey 2026 is now open! It's your chance to tell us what you think about your local area, council services, and life across the district.

The survey takes around 10 minutes to complete and you can opt into the chance to win £100 just for sharing your views. The survey closes at 11.59pm on Sunday 1st November 2026.

Take part here:

Wychavon Residents' Survey 2026

Need a paper copy or help taking part?

Call **01386 565000** or email:

service@wychavon.gov.uk



St James' Church

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

Lest We Forget



WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER

10:45

St James', Birlingham

Please assemble by the War Memorial.
Refreshments served after the service in St James' Church.

01386 552071
www.pershoreabbey.org.uk



Autumnal River Avon, 1st October
(Photo: June Hiden)



Sunshine on the churchyard, 30th September
(Photo: Nikki Hollier)



Residents' Survey 2026

This is your opportunity to share your views on how things are run, the quality of local services, and what it's like to live in your area.

Tell us what matters most to you in just 10 minutes.

Complete Wychavon's Residents' Survey by **Sunday 1 November**, and you could win one of four £100 vouchers.

COMPLETE THE 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

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Nosy neighbour! At the end of September, Birlingham was visited by a peacock and peahen for a few days *(Photo: Sue Harris)*

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.

Dates for your diary

November

Wed 4	Cuppa & Chat, 3.00–4.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Thu 7	Churchyard Working Party, 10.00am, St James' Church
Wed 11	Armistice Day Remembrance Service, 10.45am, War Memorial
Wed 18	Birlingham Parish Council, 7.00pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Thu 19	Birlingham IW – details TBA

December

Wed 2	Cuppa & Chat, 3.00–4.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall
Thu 17	Birlingham IW – details TBA
Sun 20	Carols and Christingles, 6.00pm, St James' Church
Fri 25	Christmas Day Holy Communion, 10.30am, St James' Church

Birlingham News 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 *Birlingham News*, or wish to be removed from the mailing list, please write to news@birlingham.org.

Birlingham News 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 9th November (for publication on Wednesday 11th November). We regret that we cannot guarantee to include any items submitted after that date.

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