# Birlingham News

Published on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month

No. 390[2] Wednesday 11th November 2026

## Editorial

The back page of this edition features the Spring edition of the *Bystander*, with its stunning cover photo of the February floods. Since then we have had the hottest summer on record and, despite a few showers recently, we are still in drought.

Are we to expect another wet winter to top up our reservoirs? Or will there be other extremes to adorn the Spring *Bystander* cover?



*(Above) Rosanna Reynard's poppy display inside the church*
*(Photo: Jayne Mackenzie)*

## Enid Caldicott

We are very sorry to announce that Enid Caldicott died last Thursday morning, 5th November. Enid was a lovely, kind person who was very involved in the community. She will be greatly missed. Our thoughts are with her family.

The funeral will be held at the Vale Crematorium, Fladbury on Monday 23rd November at 10.30am, followed by refreshments at the Angel Inn, Pershore. All are welcome to celebrate Enid's life.

## Birlingham IW



**Thursday 19th November** *by Caryl Mills*

Our next meeting is a film night on Thursday 19th November at 7.30pm. The film is a classic murder mystery with a comic touch starring William Powell and Myrna Loy. Drinks and nibbles as part of the evening. Anyone welcome to come and join us.

December's meeting is our usual Christmas Lunch at the Bell in Eckington.

## Parish Council Meeting

**Wednesday 18th November**

The next meeting of Birlingham Parish Council takes place on Wednesday 18th 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 will be available at:
https://www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_agenda_2026-11-18.pdf
and the draft minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting on 16th September can be viewed at:
https://www.birlingham.org/pc_info/pc_minutes_2026-09-16.pdf

*(Right) One of the many photographs we have been sent of the wonderful poppies outside the church*
*(Photo: Nikki Hollier)*




## New Year's Eve at the Village Hall

**Thursday 31st December**

*by Paul Burton*

Due to a good number of responses we have decided that New Year's Eve at the Village Hall is going to happen this year. As two years ago everyone is invited to bring snack and drinks with them or if more ambitious a more substantial meal.

Tickets will not be available until the 2nd of December but we ask if you could let Paul Burton know at paul.burton52@gmail.com or by WhatsApp and we will reserve tickets; no need to do this for those who have already emailed. We envisage that tickets will be £5 to cover costs and a little left over for the hall. As before it is a varied evening with music and lighting for those who want to dance.

We look forward to spending the evening with as many as possible.

## Save on your heating bills by joining the new

# Birlingham Oil Club!

We are setting up a community bulk-buying group to help residents across the village secure lower prices on domestic heating oil. By combining our orders, we can negotiate better rates and reduce delivery tanker traffic through our beautiful village.

Whether you need a top-up soon or want to be ready for the next winter delivery, everyone in Birlingham with oil central heating is welcome to join.

If you would like to sign up or want more information, please contact:

**Becca Garle, Rough Hill House, 07790 068811**



*(Above) Reminiscent of a Victorian oil painting, this beautiful landscape is a photograph taken at the entrance to Swan's Neck on 2nd November*
*(Photo: Peter Luff)*

# MOUSTACHE OF THE MONTH

***Back by popular demand!***

NO. 5

BY HAIRY SPOTTER

## CAN YOU NAME THIS FAMOUS MOUSTACHIST?

Send your answer on the back of a £20 note to:

Moustaches Direct
C/O The Old Telephone Box
Centre Ville
Birlingham

Alternatively, use our FREEPOST address:
news@birlingham.org





**YOGA CLASSES**

**WHEN** 3rd December, 10th December, 17th December

at 9.30 am for 45 minutes

**WHERE** Birlingham Village Hall

**HOW MUCH £5 per session**

Hello,

After a free introductory session in November, I'm now offering three sessions in December for £5 per session.

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 07896 628773.

*Bend it like Birlingham !!!*

# Churchyard Working Party

*by Pat Chinneck, Churchwarden*

I would just like to take this opportunity to thank all the helpers who turned out last Saturday to give the churchyard its autumn tidy. With such a large group much was achieved, filling ten bulk bags and numerous smaller sacks.

It's all very tidy at the moment but we will be asking for more help in a couple of weeks as many leaves are yet to fall. Some of the trees seem to be holding onto their leaves longer this autumn, especially the London Plane on the north side of the church.











## 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

## Planning Applications

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

**The Cottage**, Lower End: Felling of one conifer tree and removal of dead/ hanging branches for remaining trees (Case No. W/26/02569/CAN). 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/26/02569/CAN

## Bystander Archives




We are almost up-to-date with the *Birlingham Bystander* archives. (The current edition is currently being printed.)

The Spring edition from earlier this year contains a report of the successful Music Night in the Village Hall.

Church events are the usual services for autumn and winter: the Remembrance Service, Carols and Christingles, Bulb Sunday and the Snowdrop Teas, and the Candelight Concert. There is an article about the Friends of St James' and another about bell ringing. Meanwhile the church was cleaned with a SkyVac.

There was another Village Quiz and a Fairtrade Coffee Morning.

The village lengsthman, Carl Brassington, retired and said goodbye in his own inimitable way. He also supplied one of his much-loved Hairy Spotter articles.

Andrew Paggett shared his memories of his early life in Birlingham and Walter Fielding-Cotterell was in touch from New Zealand again to remind us of A.E.Housman's poem, 'Bredon Hill'. There was also Part Two of Chris Ludlow's 'Birlingham Gang' tales.

The edition had an obituary for Roger Smith. Paul and Caroline Darby arrived at the Old Laundry and we said goodbye to Dave Kew.

Issue 95 of the Bystander can be viewed at:

https://www.birlingham.org/village/bystander/issues/bystander095.pdf

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***FIX AN ISSUE BEFORE IT BECOMES A PROBLEM..***

## *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 18 | Birlingham Parish Council, 7.00pm, Birlingham Village Hall |
| Thu 19 | Birlingham IW, 7.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall |

**December**

| | |
|---|---|
| Wed 2 | Cuppa & Chat, 3.00–4.30pm, Birlingham Village Hall |
| Thu 17 | Birlingham IW – Christmas Lunch, the Bell, Eckington |
| Sun 20 | Carols and Christingles, 6.00pm, St James' Church |
| Fri 25 | Christmas Day Holy Communion, 10.30am, St James' Church |
| Thu 31 | New Year's Eve Party, 7.00pm, Birlingham Village Hall |

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 23rd November (for publication on Wednesday 25th November). We regret that we cannot guarantee to include any items submitted after that date.

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