



Christmas Lights Events 2020.

The Christmas lights events in Dorridge and Bentley Heath are, like everything else in this time of pandemic, badly restricted this year and sadly, we will not be able to host our usual 'lights switch-on' gatherings.

However, all is not lost! From the end of November, in both village centres, along with the light-adorned shops there will be the **Christmas trees**. These two wonderful trees are provided by the generosity of Steve Hewlitt, of *Steve's Industries*, who not only is donating the trees himself but is organising the erecting of the tree, its decoration and lighting in Dorridge. In Bentley Heath the tree display is kindly organised by Simon of *Widney News* and implemented by local electrician, Martin Mitchell, who also does a very impressive job keeping all the Christmas shop lights complete and working.

Our communities would like to express sincere thanks to all of them for the cheer these lights bring.

To offset the lack of the village events, you might like to know that at Steve's farm in Chadwick End, in addition to their Christmas tree sales, there will be a huge Christmas light display in their large barn with singing reindeer, hot chocolate and much more! For further details visit www.santasfields.co.uk

You will also be pleased to hear that Father Christmas will be doing his usual rounds, courtesy of Knowle and Dorridge Round Table, who in addition to collecting monetary donations will be collecting food items for food banks as per the immensely successful Summer Santa initiative.

Solihull Local Plan (SLP) is ready for inspection

Solihull Council has opened consultation on the proposed Local Plan for this area.

Knowle, Dorridge and Bentley Heath Forum (KDBH Forum) has published useful information on its website kdbh-np.org about the plan and the final consultation process.

Please take a look.

In and around Bentley Heath

Bentley Heath Centre

For the first time in many years, we are delighted to report that all the retail premises at the heart of the Bentley Heath community are occupied and the appearance of the centre is greatly enhanced by the four newly planted flower boxes.

The Dark Horse coffee shop is the most recent to open and adds to the present variety of our shopping experience which now comprises Post Office, butcher, barber, florist, newsagent, hairdresser, nail and beauty bar, carpet shops, Coop and an Indian restaurant.

Recently sold at auction was Widney Evangelical Free Church, situated behind the Coop though, we don't know yet what is proposed for this space.

Bentley Heath Park

In our August virtual Newsletter, we outlined a much-needed project to provide a circular pathway around Bentley Heath park which would extend the present path by 50% and provide a continuous hard surface. This will be of benefit to everyone who use the park perimeter for exercise and who, at the moment, have to negotiate mud and slippery grass!

The community has risen to the fundraising challenge wonderfully and this project has got off to an excellent start. We are applying to other sources of funding to complete the project and we should know by the end of December if our application to the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) will provide the money to complete this project.

If CIL approves the funds, work could begin early in 2021. If we are not awarded the money we will return to fundraising and to other grant applications.

We plan to create an informal 'Friends of Bentley Heath Park' group, so if this interests you please contact us at dorridgeresidents@gmail.com – we would be delighted to hear from you. This group would not require a huge time commitment but the exchange of ideas would enable us to make the park the best that it can be for our community.



Wanted – DDRA Needs You

Can you spare two hours every alternate month to help your community by attending our committee meeting?

The DDRA needs new committee members to help keep an eye on the area and keep residents informed via the website or Newsletter. The latter has been distributed free three times per year to 1,400 households in the area but is currently only available online due to the Covid restrictions.

The DDRA is a voluntary organisation that exists to represent and inform residents in Bentley Heath and Dorridge areas about events and developments that affect them. It is non-political and aims to be a sounding board for residents' concerns and opinions.

From March 2021 we will have a vacancy for a Secretary. The post is not onerous and involves consulting then preparing the agenda for our bimonthly committee meetings and the AGM, then writing the minutes.

Can you help?

If so please contact dorridgeresidents@gmail.com

The Path beside Widney Manor Cemetery



Following an exceptionally wet winter last year, some parts of the public footpath starting from just north of Widney Manor Cemetery had become very muddy.



This is a very popular local walk as it winds down a lovely tree-lined path to a flight of steps where you turn left to go under the railway bridge, through a gate, then turn either right, which takes you to the river Blythe, or left around the edge of fields towards Four Ashes Road.



On behalf of residents just before the March lockdown, DDRA contacted the department dealing with public rights of way at Solihull Council who agreed to meet us and walk the degraded path.



The Council officials agreed that work was needed to upgrade and improve specific sections to reduce further erosion and this was put on their to do list. We are now delighted to announce that this work was recently completed.

Parts of the path have been upgraded with gravel also boarding has been put over a particularly muddy stretch. The steps down to the railway bridge have been improved and a significant amount of vegetation has been cleared to make the path wider as it twists around the bend towards the river Blythe.

This work has tremendously improved the route ahead of the challenging winter weather.

However, we still recommend wellies unless the weather has been exceptionally dry!

Foodbanks

Please continue to support Foodbanks which have become such a vital lifeline for so many families trapped in a cycle of deprivation and desperation. These are found in all the major supermarkets and St George and St Teresa Roman Catholic church on Station Road.

The following is an extract from a letter sent to me by Cathy Grimley who coordinates the food bank appeal on behalf of the local churches:

'Donations of supplies and funds for the Food project have continued to flow in, so we'd like to thank all our supporters most sincerely for all that they do to keep things going. The Knowle & Dorridge Round Table's 'Summer Santa' campaign on our behalf was an incredible success, and we can't thank them enough for all their dedication

and positivity. It's great to be able to report that due to all the support they have received, the main foodbank that we help - Bethany Foodbank in Witton, is well-stocked at the moment, in order to cope with the 1000 mouths it feeds per month.

*With the effects of Covid-19, though, we have also been conscious of an increase in needs of individuals and families more locally, as people have lost their jobs or had to take significant pay cuts. The support we have received from our local community has meant that we have been able to provide supplies for a number of needy individuals and families who have come to our attention through various sources. If there is anyone locally who is really struggling, they are welcome to get in touch with us by phoning **07809 542554** in absolute confidence, and we will do our best to help. The need to protect the dignity and privacy of each case that we deal with is of our greatest concern.'*



St George & St Teresa SVP & School

Bethany Foodbank

Support Project

Who are we, and what do we do?

We are a support group who originate from St George & St Teresa's church and school. For many years our SVP society have been delivering food to needy individuals, families, and organisations that support them around Birmingham.

However, due to the impact of Covid-19, we have extended this to forming an additional focus group – initially to support Food Banks who were struggling to meet need due to bulk buying & supply issues in Supermarkets – but which quickly grew outwards, involving lots of local people from the Knowle, Dorridge, Bentley Heath and Balsall Common areas, and including very generous input from local schools, the K & D Round Table and Balsall Common Lions. Our primary aim remains the same – to help supply Bethany

Foodbank in Witton, Birmingham, which deals with some of the most deprived areas of Birmingham.

However, we also respond to individuals and families (regardless of age) who come to our attention and are in need in our local area too, providing them with packages of everyday essentials, whilst aiming to maintain the highest levels of confidentiality and respect for the privacy and dignity of those needing support.

SHOPPING LIST

Store Cupboard items:	Tinned Foods & Cartons	Snacks & Treats	Toiletries
Breakfast Cereals	Spaghetti in tomato sauce	Cereal Bars	Tissues
Porridge Oats	Baked beans	Biscuits	Shower gel
Pasta Sauce Jars	Soups	Chocolate biscuits	Soap
Dried Rice	Cup-a-soups	Boxed Cakes	Shampoo
Dried Noodles	Tinned sweetcorn	Cake bars	Conditioner
Microwave Rice Packs	Tinned carrots	Fun size Choc bags	Toothpaste – adult
Dried Pasta/ Pasta packs	Tinned potatoes	Sweets	Toothpaste – children
Pot Noodles	Tinned tomatoes	Crisps	Tooth brushes – adults
Fajita packs/ Tacos etc	Chickpeas	Ready-jelly pots	Tooth brushes - children
Lasagne sheets	Kidney Beans/ other beans	Christmas Treats	Sanitary Towels
Tea bags	Tinned salmon (red or pink)	(NB: no alcohol)	Tampons
Coffee	Tinned tuna	Christmas Puddings	Deodorant (M & F)
Hot Chocolate powder	Tinned corned beef	Christmas Cakes	Disposable razors
UHT Milk Cartons	Tinned Pies	Biscuit boxes	Shaving Foam/ gel
		Chocolates	

UHT Fruit Juices	Hot dog Sausages	Boxed Mince Pies	Nail scissors
Sugar/ Artificial Sweeteners	Tinned casseroles	Crackers	Sponges
Flour	Custard	Christmas paper tableware	Paracetamol
Stock Cubes/ Instant Gravy	Tinned fruit		Ibuprofen
Vegetable Oil			Antiseptic cream
Vinegar/ Salt/ Pepper	Baby Products		Plasters
Mayonnaise	Sudocrem/ nappy cream	Pets (Dogs & Cats only)	Household Essentials
Tomato ketchup	Vaseline	Tinned Dog Foods	Kitchen Roll
Tomato puree	Calpol/ Childrens Ibuprofen	Tinned Cat Food	Toilet Roll
Cooking Sauces	Nappies	Pouches	Anti-bac spray
Marmite/Jam/ Honey	Nappy sacks	Chew sticks	Anti-bac wipes
Bottles of squash	Baby wipes	Pet toys	Bathroom cleaner
Long-date Bagels	Cotton wool		Bleach
Part-baked Baguettes	Baby Milk		Toilet cleaner
Part-baked Petits	Baby food jars & pouches		Washing up liquid
Pains			Sponges/ Scourers
Crispbreads			Cling film
Waffles/ Pancakes			Sandwich bags
			Washing Tablets
			Fabric Conditioner



St G & T SVP & School Bethany Foodbank Support Project

We continue to invite you to support people in need – both locally, and in some of the most deprived areas of Birmingham. By donating items of non-perishable foods, toiletries, baby care, cleaning products and household essentials to our designated Covid-safe drop off points listed below, you can be sure that your contribution will be getting directly to those who really need it. Watch out for some other ways to get involved in the run up to Christmas too! Thank you so much!

Covid-safe local drop off points:

Either drop in porches, or leave on the doorstep. If you want to ring the bell, take a 2m step back and say 'Hello' so that we can say 'Thank you', that would be great!

Bentley Heath area donation point:

Daphne Morgan: 64, Widney Road, Bentley Heath

Knowle Area donation points:

Gita & Rob Gorman: 33, Whateley Hall Road, Knowle

Oksana Zurak: 178, Starbold Crescent, Knowle

Denise Williams: 28, Abbotts Close, Knowle

Angela Robinson: 22, Hertford Way, Knowle

Dorridge Area donation points:

Sarah Service: 91, Hanbury Road, Dorridge

Louise Furlong: 57, Chadwick Avenue, Dorridge

Cathy Grimley (Coordinating) : 5, Arden Drive, Dorridge

(Contact no: 07758 447355 for any queries or problems)

Dorridge Railway Station Strikes a Cheerful Note

In these dark days of lockdown, the Friends of Dorridge Station (FODS) are pleased that the station is able to provide passengers with some welcome colour when they arrive or wait.

As soon as restrictions were lifted FODS volunteers were back on Platform 1 dealing with the new planters which should have been full of fruit and veg but weren't! We are so grateful to them for making sure that there will be something attractive to see as winter approaches.

A few lucky locals have enjoyed the last of the ripe tomatoes from last year's planting and the remaining green ones have become chutney. FODS folk are hoping that restrictions will ease in time for them to provide a full selection of 'Incredible Edible' produce next year.



Over on Platform 2/3 the long-awaited refurbishment of the Waiting Room is complete; FODS and rail users are delighted with the results!



A Long Journey Starts with You

Great Spec Collect

You – our long and short sighted public friends continue to find and donate old specs that were being kept “just in case”

Them – our three local opticians:- Alan Tyler in Dorridge, Bannisters Eye Care & Vision Express in Knowle collect the used specs on our behalf.

Us & Them – the Knowle & Dorridge Lions collect, count and send them to our sister club in Chichester where they are sorted and graded before being dispatched to the Medico France facility in Le Havre. Here they are cleaned, calibrated, labelled and bagged before being shipped to a network of health professionals, eye clinics and dispensaries, as well as other Lions clubs around the world.

These specs benefit adults and children who need glasses to read, study and improve their lives.

Did you know? – that Lions have been championing the cause of sight since 1925.

Want to know more about K&D Lions? – Facebook: @KD Lions or phone 0345 833 5894

Message from West Midlands Police

Drink Driver Arrested In Dorridge

At this time of year we all like to celebrate a little more than we usually do for the rest of the year and some do this by having an alcoholic drink or two.

What we, West Midlands Police, want to emphasise is that drink driving is NOT acceptable, you may think that just one drink will be okay but just keep reading!

Last night we arrested a drink driver in Dorridge and this is becoming a too regular occurrence in your community and the surrounding areas. It is all of our responsibilities to ensure that WE don't drink drive and that we educate family members, friends & colleagues not to.

We, the Police, are zero tolerant on drink driving and will take relevant action on anyone caught breaking the law.

These are facts:

It is not possible to say how much alcohol you can drink and stay below the limit. The way alcohol affects you depends on: your weight, age, sex and metabolism. Also

- The type and amount of alcohol you've drunk*
- What you've eaten recently*
- Your stress levels*

If you're driving, it's better to have none for the road!

The Institute of Advanced Motorists calculate that a drink drive conviction could cost between £20,000 – £50,000 as a result of fines, solicitors fees, increase in the cost of car insurance, and losing a job.

The law is quite specific:

*There are strict alcohol limits for UK drivers:
In England, Wales and Northern Ireland, the legal alcohol limit for drivers is:*

- 35 micrograms of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath
- 80 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood
- 107 milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of urine

In Scotland (from 5 December 2014), the legal alcohol limit for drivers is lower at:

- 22 micrograms of alcohol per 100 millilitres of breath
- 50 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood
- 67 milligrams of alcohol per 100 millilitres of urine.

The consequences

There are strict penalties if you are convicted of drink driving which include:

- A minimum 12 month driving ban
- A criminal record
- A hefty fine
- Up to 6 months in prison
- An endorsement on your licence for 11 years

However, this list does not reflect the everyday consequences of being caught drink driving which can include:

- Increase in car insurance costs
- Job loss
- Trouble being admitted to countries like the USA
- The shame of having a criminal record
- Loss of independence

If you have any questions or queries about the above please don't hesitate to get in touch by responding to this message or email me on – m.monger@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk

Ecology matters at Severn Trent

In early October this email came to DDRA mailbox drawing to our attention to the grant scheme run by Severn Trent available to boost biodiversity. Below is an extract:

'Our Boost for Biodiversity - grant scheme

You might be a local business, a school, a conservation group or even a charity – whoever you are – we want to hear about your great ideas or projects that will enhance, or improve nature in our region and you could get the financial support you need to make it happen.

Our Boost for Biodiversity grant scheme opens next year, so if you would like to express an early interest in applying for a grant please contact us at ECOLOGYMATTERS@SEVERTRENT.CO.UK and we'll be in touch once our scheme opens.

The scheme is open to:

Schools

Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)

Community groups

Charities

Businesses

Farmers

Landowners

The project area must be a minimum size of 0.5 hectares (1.2 acres) or 500 metres of river or hedgerow. The project must be in the Severn Trent region and not under any other existing environmental grant or stewardship for the same type of work.

For more information consult the website.

Planning Update

Fortunately, there have been no contentious planning applications for Dorridge and Hockley Ward in recent weeks, with the exception below.

DDRA submitted a detailed objection to the proposed Motorway Service Area at Junction 4 of the M42, as Gate Lane was proposed as the entry and exit route. The increase in traffic would increase pollution and congestion and there would be a considerable loss of wildlife habitat. There would also be a substantial loss of Green Belt land and an incursion into the 'Meriden Gap' - which is the undeveloped space separating Knowle, Dorridge, and Bentley Heath from the developed areas of Solihull.

Enjoy A Local Walk

Just over 2.5 miles, starting and finishing at The Drum and Monkey.

N.B. this route includes a short stretch along Gate Lane, so please do not do this walk at notably busy times for traffic! Otherwise it is straightforward, over local fields, and very pleasant. Stout footwear recommended.

From The Drum and Monkey turn left along Four Ashes Rd, cross the road and turn right to walk down the Four Ashes Golf Centre drive, and continue on past the Crazy Golf until you reach the main car park. Head for the far left-hand corner where you will find a footpath to the left of the corrugated metal building. This is a wide grassy track divided from the driving range by a line of trees, with lovely views



across fields to Gate Lane and beyond. The path then briefly skirts the bottom of the range but shortly afterwards veers off to the left and goes through a gap between a metal fence and a telegraph pole, along beside a dyke, and turns sharp left over a bridge. Go through a kissing gate into a wide field and take the clear track (slightly boggy after wet weather but can be skirted) which runs towards a

telegraph pole, across another wooden bridge, and a further one with a kissing gate at the end of it into a field of sheep. The views across the fields are lovely. Keeping the hedge on your right, follow the track which eventually emerges, through another kissing gate, on to Gate Lane. At this point take care! Turn right along Gate Lane to face any oncoming traffic. There is a rough grass verge for much of the way, but there are one or two places without, and it is quite narrow. At the traffic lights turn right on to the pavement on Stratford Road, then, just before the roundabout, go through a gap in the hedgerow on your right (there is a signpost), and over a stile into a large field. Slightly to your left ahead, there is a telegraph pole and an indistinct track towards it. At the telegraph pole the path, now clearer, keeps to the right of a line of trees and tree trunks leading to the far side of the field where there is a gap in the hedge and a footpath sign. (There are usually cows in the first field, but



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they seem to stay well away on the far right near the house.) There is a clear footpath



across this second field, which, in the early summer, is ablaze with buttercups, and is a glorious sight. Continue into a third field, where the path skirts a coppice on the right, signposted. (This is a bit squelchy in wet weather, but a way can be picked out around it.) Head for a newly

built stile and cross a bridge over a stream, go up through a small wooded area, through a kissing gate, and up a grassy track to a second one. Continue on, then turn sharp right and immediately left through a signposted third kissing gate, leaving Hogarths on your right, and head up the track towards Solihull Riding Club car park. Turn immediately right out of the car park gates and then left along the drive to Four Ashes Road. Here you turn right and walk along the grass verge or opposite pavement until you reach the Drum and Monkey, and maybe a welcome drink!

Note: if the proposed Motorway Service Area plans at J4 M42 go ahead, only a much-curtailed version of this walk will be possible.

Age UK

Age UK Solihull has a well-established range of services that have been developed over 30 years of experience in meeting the needs of older and vulnerable people in Solihull. These services are constantly under review to ensure that they are fully effective and efficient in their delivery, and consistent with the requirements of our funders, and most of all, meet the needs of local people and their families and carers.

Please see the Coronavirus Update on our [homepage](#) to read the most recent update on how our services have adapted to meet the needs of our community during the COVID-19 pandemic. Alternatively, please contact us on **0121 704 7840** to find out how we can help.

Age UK Solihull takes the health and well-being of our clients, staff and volunteers very seriously and we always work hard to ensure that everyone remains safe and well. We are carefully following NHS and Government guidelines on how best to respond to the outbreak.

If you can help Age UK Solihull to continue to support vulnerable people, contact us on 0121 704 7840.

An update on our services

Age UK Solihull continues to respond to the Coronavirus Pandemic and provide support to older people in our local communities. The way in which we deliver our service has adapted throughout this challenging time, but older and vulnerable people and their health and wellbeing remain at the forefront of everything we do.

The regular weekly food parcels provided by Age UK Solihull and Helping Hands have now come to an end. Emergency food parcels can be requested from Helping Hands if you are in financial difficulty or are struggling to purchase food. Helping Hands can be contacted on **0121 711 7300**. Age UK Solihull is working with older people on an individual basis where they are struggling to shop for themselves. You can contact Age UK Solihull on **0121 704 7840** or email info@ageuksolihull.org.uk.

The Community Advice Hubs continue to provide all services by telephone and email. These services include [Information and Advice](#) to any adult resident of Solihull and specialist services including Benefits, Debt, Disability support, [Direct Payments](#) and help with your Health and Wellbeing. Whatever your query, please telephone **0121 709 7590**. As our Hubs team are working from home you will be directed to leave a message and then you will be called back. You can also contact the Advice Hubs by email at advice@solihullcommunityhub.org.uk.

The Age UK Solihull Clubs remain closed, and due to the social distancing regulations and the higher risk of transmission indoors, they are sadly likely to remain closed for the rest of 2020. As we are unable to open our clubs and as a response to the Pandemic, we have significantly increased the number of telephone befriending and welfare calls we make to older people. If you or someone you know is feeling lonely or isolated, please contact the [Linking People Together](#) Team on **0121 704 7846**.

The [Postural Stability Classes](#) for frequent fallers continue to run but are presently virtual classes, delivered by telephone and, for those with internet access, via online videos. You can access the online videos [here](#). We continue to take referrals for this service, so if you are 65 and over and have a history of falls in the last 12 months, please speak to your GP and ask for a referral to the service, or contact the Postural Stability Team on **0121 704 7845**.

The Age UK Solihull [Home Support Service](#) is resuming all its help in the home tasks except escorting customers in cars. If you need help with shopping, preparing meals, light housework or maybe a respite break from caring responsibilities please contact the team on **0121 704 7848**. Please note this is a chargeable service currently charged at £18.50 per hour.

Dorridge Park 'Bees and Trees Project' – update.

The following letter appeared in our inbox and brings us up to date with the ecological developments being introduced in Dorridge park from August 2020.

'ECONOMY & INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

*Council House, Manor Square,
Solihull, West Midlands B91 3QB*

www.wildlifeways.co.uk

Date: 18/08/2020 Our Ref. B&T2020/DHu

Dear Resident(s)

Bees and Trees Project – grassland management works.

As you live near Dorridge Park, we are writing to let you know that the park will undergo some grassland enhancement works between August and October (subject to change dependent on weather conditions).

These works may involve temporary closure of grassland areas but most of the park will remain open. Warning notices, temporary barriers and all other appropriate safeguards will be positioned as required in areas where the work is taking place to ensure people's safety and protect adjacent trees and park infrastructure.

Wildflower seed will be used to create new areas of species rich grassland on existing species-poor grassland areas. Preparatory works for seeding will include mowing, spraying and/or scarifying. These operations will take place over the next few weeks subject to suitable weather conditions. Native wildflower seeds will be sown directly into the prepared seed bed in the autumn (September) to provide ideal ground conditions for establishment.

This will be followed by a programme of tree and shrub planting.

Bees and Trees is part of the Wildlife Ways / Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership's (GBSLEP) Habitats Grants Programme - part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

This programme supports a wide range of habitat and nature improvements across the borough and beyond. Solihull Bees and Trees Project will ensure better conservation for over 23 hectares of habitat – an area equivalent to 33 football pitches.

If you would like to find out more about Wildlife Ways, please don't hesitate to ask or you can visit the website www.wildlifeways.co.uk/information/habitats-grants for further information or contact us at wildlifeways@solihull.gov.uk

Yours sincerely,

Mike Eastwood

Team Manager, Conservation of the Historic Environment, Landscape Architecture, Urban Design.'

Author John Wyndham and Dorridge?

Does anyone have any additional information about John Wyndham author of 'Day of The Triffids' and other groundbreaking science fiction, to answer this enquiry which came to our mailbox:

'David Ketterer mellonta1942@mail.com

'I have more or less completed a critical biography entitled TROUBLE WITH TRIFFIDS: THE LIFE AND FICTION OF JOHN WYNDHAM. You can read a bit of it online: my article 'When and Where Was John Wyndham Born?'

According to his birth certificate, the author John Wyndham Parkes Lucas Beynon Harris was born in 'Dorridge/Knowle' on 10 July 1903.

Are there any records at all that his parents George Beynon Harris and Gertrude Beynon Harris lived in Dorridge or Knowle in the years 1902-1903?

Are there any records that his maternal grandparents, Mr and Mrs John Israel Parkes, lived in Dorridge or Knowle in 1902 or 1903?

Yours sincerely,

*David Ketterer
Honorary Associate, University of Liverpool'*

Below are the responses from two locals - gurus Vyvyan Jones and Pam Hunter who are skilled in Historical research.

'George Beynon Harris appears to have been born in Portugal (though that is from a tree so would need checking) and lived in Edgbaston in 1911 where he appears in the Rate Book.

He appears to have died in Brighton in 1934 though was resident in Surrey. He married Gertrude Hunt in 1902 in Ulverston, Lancashire (now Cumbria). Somewhat peripatetic, if various shipping registers are correct, he was a barrister.

John Wyndham could have been born locally; the birth was registered in the Warwickshire R.D. in 1903. Certainly, Wikipedia thinks he was born in Dorridge!'

and

'I have just had a quick look and his birth was registered in Solihull in 1903. This clip appears online:

JOHN WYNDHAM was officially born in Warwickshire on 10 July 1903, however it has been speculated that he may actually have been born out of wedlock a year earlier. He was grandly christened **John Wyndham** Parkes Lucas Beynon Harris, and known by the shortened **John** Beynon Harris for most of his **life**.

I think his parents married in 1902. I can't find his grandparents in Dorridge on the 1901 census. It would be good to prove he was born here. He grew up in Edgbaston.'

Does anyone have more information?

West Midlands Police: 'Friends Against Scams'

Anyone can be the victim of a scam, however some people are more vulnerable to scams and criminals will use this to their advantage.

People living with a cognitive impairment such as dementia, may be particularly vulnerable because they may be less able to distinguish a scam from legitimate contact.

Criminals also appear to be targeting people with memory problems specifically because they know they may not remember being scammed before.

That's why a new guide has been produced:

[Are you or your loved ones being targeted by scams? Help to manage finances and avoid scams for people at risk and those who support them.](#)

This guide has been prepared by the National Trading Standards Scams Team and the National Centre for Post Qualifying Social Work and Professional Practice at Bournemouth University, working in partnership with Lloyds Bank, Halifax and Bank of Scotland.

The guide provides information to individuals and their loved ones to help protect them from scams. It suggests measures that can be put in place to help prevent criminals from making contact, such as the use of call blockers and the mail redirection service. It also provides information on managing finances to reduce the risk of scams, such as implementing a Lasting Power of Attorney.

A Brief Pageant of English Verse

I won't arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,
I'll sanitize the doorknob and make a cup of tea.
I won't go down to the sea again; I won't go out at all,
I'll wander lonely as a cloud from the kitchen to the hall.
There's a green-eyed yellow monster to the north of Katmandu
But I shan't be seeing him just yet and nor, I think, will you.
While the dawn comes up like thunder on the road to Mandalay
I'll make my bit of supper and eat it off a tray.
I shall not speed my bonnie boat across the sea to Skye
Or take the rolling English road from Birmingham to Rye.
About the woodland, just right now, I am not free to go
To see the Keep Out posters or the cherry hung with snow,
And no, I won't be travelling much, within the realms of gold,
Or get me to Milford Haven. All that's been put on hold.
Give me your hands, I shan't request, albeit we are friends
Nor come within a mile of you, until this trial ends.

Courtesy of Bob Thurtle K & D Lions

St George & St Teresa Catholic Primary School

Mill Lane, Bentley Heath, Solihull B93 8PA

Email: office@stgandt.solihull.sch.uk



Virtual Open Mornings

Now available online - www.stgandt.solihull.sch.uk

St George and St Teresa Catholic Primary School welcome prospective parents who have children due to start Nursery or Reception Class in September 2021.

We are a happy and successful school, committed to providing the highest quality of education possible.

Our Dragons centre offers options for Breakfast, Wrap Around and After School Care. It is managed by the School Governing Body and provides a safe, engaging and caring environment.

Dragons operates between the hours of 7:30am – 8:55am, 11:50am – 3:30pm and 3:30pm – 6.00pm. It makes available a variety of healthy meals and offers a wide range of interesting, age appropriate resources and equipment.

Our school is also offering the additional government entitlement of 30 hours free Early Years education each week. The first 15 hours free early education will be provided by our Nursery department and the further 15 hours, which is subject to employment criteria, will be offered in our extended day care in Dragons and will follow the EYFS statutory guidance in conjunction with our Nursery.

Please visit our Virtual Open Morning to see our school and if you have any questions or other queries regarding the admissions process, please get in touch.