

PERSHORE ROAD - UMBERSLADE ROAD, STIRCHLEY (AREA 4)

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I chose this junction as I go round it on the vast majority of my journeys within Birmingham. The traffic from the South side of Kings Heath is funnelled down Cartland Road, turning left onto to the Pershore Road, then round the roundabout into Umberslade Road and on to Bournville, Selly Oak, and Harborne – or maybe down the A38 to Northfield, Longbridge and beyond. In addition to this, the traffic on the busy Pershore Road passes through the junction.

The Pershore Road traffic approaching the roundabout from the North side will see the Bournbrook Inn on their right, and Skinny's Ink Tattoo Parlour on their left. On the other side of the junction, the Pershore Road splits into two, around a built up area of land opposite Stirchley Baths. The one-way route taking the traffic towards Stirchley has the Co-op Funeral services on the left. The one-way route returning to the roundabout has a big Morrisons supermarket on the corner with Umberslade Road. Morrisons is the other reason for the large amount of traffic using this junction, and also for the regular number of pedestrians stopping the Umberslade Road traffic at the pedestrian crossing.

I have just realised that I have referred throughout to the 'roundabout' not 'island'. It just shows that, despite having lived in Birmingham for 50 years, you have to be born and bred here to be a true Brummie!

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