

# OZZY IN FREEDOM STORM



■ OZZY OSBOURNE

A PLAN to give wild man of rock Ozzy Osbourne the freedom of his Birmingham birthplace has split the community where he once lived.

Coun Tony Kennedy (Lab, Aston) is leading a crusade to honour the bat-eating rocker in Aston where he was born and bred.

But Coun Ayoub Khan (Lib-Dem, Aston) said: "This would send out completely the wrong message to our young people. Ozzy Osbourne is certainly no role model for them."

"For an area which is openly against drugs how could we promote someone like this? Just because he came from Aston and is now a multi-millionaire doesn't mean he should be favoured in this way."

## Inspiration

But Coun Kennedy said: "It is well known that Ozzy has overcome his drug problem and has changed his life. Surely that should be an inspiration to many people?"

"Young people have come to me asking if we could honour Ozzy in some way so I intend

## BY POPPY BRADY

to write to the Lord Mayor to discuss the civic protocol."

But community leaders at Aston's ward meeting said someone who had gained a reputation for biting the heads off live bats was totally unsuitable as a role model.

## Prison

Ozzy, who was born in Lodge Road, is due to perform in Birmingham in September.

One of six children, he was born John Michael Osbourne who left school at 15 with no qualifications.

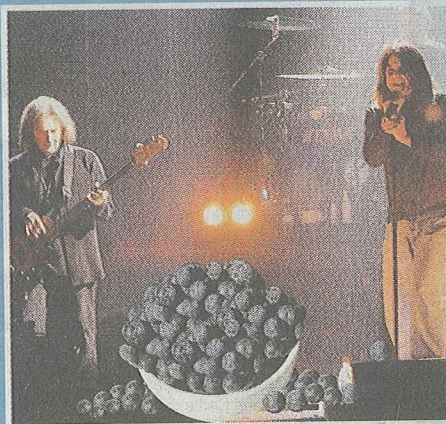
He once spent six weeks in Winson Green Prison and tried a variety of jobs including car horn tester and slaughterhouse worker before turning to music.

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● **WHAT do you think? Write to Evening Mail PO Box 78, Weaman Street, Birmingham, B4 6AY or send an email to eveningmail@mrn.co.uk or log on to www.icBirmingham.co.uk**

THE SUN, Friday, November 18, 2005 35

## Ozzy, my old fruit, you are just bananas



WACKY Ozzy Osbourne is the Prince of Fruit - after demanding punnets of peeled **BLUEBERRIES** backstage.

The rocker was with his band Black Sabbath as they were inducted into the UK Hall of Fame.

The group put their bizarre blueberries' request on a list of must-have's. Ozzy, in our *fruity mock-up above*, joined Geezer Butler, Bill Ward and Tony Iommi to perform at Alexandra Palace, North London - a show screened last night on Channel 4.

But the crowd was stunned as Ozzy, 56, dubbed Prince of Darkness, dropped his trousers to bare his bum.

Wife Sharon, 52, and kids Kelly and Jack looked on as Ozzy ranted at the crowd: "I've seen more life at a f\*\*\*\*\* wake." What a lemon...



MOVED: Ozzy

## Ozzy in a new clinic for Xmas

By FIONA CUMMINS  
Ms Showbiz

ROCKER Ozzy Osbourne is out of intensive care in time for Christmas.

He was moved to a private clinic to continue recovering from his quad-bike crash injuries.

Ozzy, 55, was on a ventilator after the accident two weeks ago - days before he scored his first Nol with daughter Kelly.

But doctors said he was well enough to be moved from Wexham Park Hospital in Slough, Berks, to the clinic in London.

A hospital source said Ozzy was worried that surgeons may have damaged his tattoos.

The insider said: "As soon as the tubes were taken out and he could speak he mouthed, 'Don't cut me f\*\*\*\*\*g tattoos'."

"We all knew from that moment on that he was on the road to recovery."

A spokeswoman for the former Black Sabbath star said it was up to doctors to decide if he could spend Christmas Day at home.

If not, wife Sharon and children are expected to be at his bedside.