

Coaley Parish NEWSLETTER

Issue no 143

August / September 2025

Packed CRAG Programme

Coaley Peak Day

Produce Show Schedule Inside

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EVENT	TIME	VENUE
2nd Aug	Bat Evening	8.30pm	Rec
5th Aug	Friendship Group	2.30pm	Hall
7th Aug	Knitting	2.30pm	17 Betworthy
11th Aug	Whist	2.00pm	Hall
2nd Sept	Friendship Group	2.30pm	Hall
3rd Sept	Produce Show Entry Day	5pm-8pm	Shop
4th Sept	Knitting	2.30pm	Lapley View
6th Sept	Coaley Produce Show	2.00pm	Hall
8th Sept	Whist	2.00pm	Hall
13th Sept	Nature Morning	10am - noon	Hall
14th Sept	Coaley Sheephunt	11am-3pm	Start at Hall
17th Sept	Fascinator workshop	9.30am - 1pm	Hall
21st Sept	Coaley Peak day	10am - 4.30pm	Coaley Peak
27th Sept	Battle of Wits	7pm	Hall

Parish Council meetings are normally on the first Tuesday of each month, except August, at 7.30pm.

See the council's website at www.coaleypc.org.uk for meeting agendas and minutes and to sign up for email updates from the council for news that can't wait for the next newsletter.

Please let us have your contributions for the next issue by Tuesday 16th September 2025.

email: newsletter@coaleypc.org.uk

web: www.coaleypc.org.uk

facebook: [coaleypc](https://www.facebook.com/coaleypc)

This issue edited by Stephen Cook.

Cover picture: The new sensory garden on the Rec

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH UPDATE



Following the open meeting on the 8th July, although there were fewer attendees that were hoped for it was agreed to proceed with registering Coaley as a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. Once registered residents, the scheme's registration link will be made public and any resident interested can register, whether to be actively involved or they just wish to have an interest and receive alerts and guidance.

We will have a further open meeting and invite our local police and PCSO officers along for introductions and discuss how we can work together with developing the scheme in the next couple of months.

We also discussed 'SpeedWatch' and there was interest in developing this along with the Neighbourhood scheme as there is a connection in the area of Anti-social behavior. There was interest express in the purchase of portable VAS (vehicle automatic Speed) detection equipment of the kind that Uley has along their main road. This will be taken back to the Parish Council for discussion.

Anyone having an interest in these that were unable to attend July's meeting is welcome to contact me directly on my District Councillor email, cllr.martin.pearcy@stroud.gov.uk.

Martin Pearcy

Chair, Coaley Parish Council.

RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS



With the prolonged period of dry warm(hot) weather many have been out walking their dogs. The majority of dog owners take responsibility for any mess their dogs may leave and dispose of

it responsibly. However, there are an increasing amount of dog waste evident on paths and verges across Coaley, which is both unpleasant and potentially a health issue especially in and around the area of the recreation ground. There are bins around the village to dispose of the waste and additional ones can be added. Please can everyone walking a dog dispose of any mess appropriately and keep our village clean. If anyone sees someone not doing so can you gently remind them, or report it the council clerk. Thank you.

Coaley Parish Council.

CRAIG UPDATE

Our Nature Mornings continue to thrive, bringing people together and raising awareness about how we can all care for our local environment.

In June, we teamed up with the Wildlife Trust to host a Bioblitz on the Rec – children and families took part in surveying local insects. We'll be sharing the fascinating results with you very soon!

July's Nature Morning focused on Bees, with support from the Stroud Beekeepers. We learned all about how to support our buzzing friends and enjoyed some fantastic hands-on activities.

Looking ahead:

- August's Nature 'Morning' will actually be a special evening walk to discover the world of Bats and see these mysterious night-time creatures in action.

Meet on the Rec at the Sensory Garden at 8.30pm (2nd August) to learn about bats, use bat detectors to track them, and find out how you can help them thrive locally.

A magical experience for children and adults alike – bring a torch and your curiosity!

- September's Nature Morning is all about Hedgerows – the wild larders and hidden homes of our countryside.



Learn how to spot what's safe to forage (and what to avoid!), get inspired to make treats like sloe gin and elderflower cordial, and discover the wildlife that relies on these living boundaries.

We'll also explore how to care for hedges and look at who's hiding in the hedgerows around Coaley.

We'd love to see you at one of these inspiring events!

Sensory Garden – Blooming Beautiful

The first stage of the Sensory Garden is now complete – and it's looking absolutely stunning (see cover picture). The flowers are in full bloom, bursting with colour and fragrance. It's quickly become a favourite spot for people to sit, relax, and enjoy the peaceful setting. If you haven't visited recently, we really encourage you to come and see it for yourself.

Due to the extreme weather, we're having to water much more than expected. If you can spare an hour to help keep the garden thriving, we'd be so grateful – please email us at: coaleyreactiongroup@gmail.com

We've also applied for funding to install water features in the garden, which will bring sound and movement to this tranquil space. We'll hear the outcome in September.

In order to complete the mounded planting areas on the Rec, we need 100 tons of topsoil. The Canal Trust

has kindly offered it for free – but we need help transporting it from Stonehouse. Do you have access to a 20-ton lorry, or know someone who does? Please get in touch if you can help.

Toddler Park Fundraising

We're actively fundraising for the new Toddler Park and are aiming to reach our target by autumn. Every contribution helps create a safe, imaginative space for young children to play. In support of this, we're applying for grants and planning a series of fun autumn events, including:

- Fascinator-Making Workshop
- The Big Quiz
- Halloween Event
- Bingo Night

Stay tuned for more details!

Volunteers Always Welcome

We always welcome help with small jobs around the Rec – even just an hour of your time makes a big difference. If you'd like to lend a hand, please email us at: coaleyreactiongroup@gmail.com

Our local young people have also expressed interest in giving the multi-use games area a makeover. If you can help with painting the shelter, prepping the space, or just being part of the team, we'd love to hear from you.

COALEY PEAK

Once upon a time Coaley village stretched from Coaley Peak to the River Severn, reputed to be the longest village in England. Coaley Peak is our landmark and our heritage. Couly Pike in 1639 'where to beholde young Men and Maids asendinge and descendinge, and Boies tumblinge down'.

Given to the National Trust in 1956 the nature reserve sits uncomfortably either side of the Frocester Hill Road somewhat separated from the village.

COME AND CELEBRATE COALEY PEAK

Sunday September 20th 2025

10 00 to 4.30

Look out from the misnamed topograph (there is a story here!) and the history

of the Severn Vale is spread before your feet. The Neolithic Burial Chamber on the hill, Fortress Uley Bury and King Arthur's Camm e lan (Camelot) The British Camp on the Malvern skyline. Cam Bridge where the last of the Viking hordes were flushed from Britain. Edward the second and Berkeley Castle, Henry II's mistress Fair Rosamund of Frampton, William Tyndale born at Slimbridge, Queen Elizabeth I slept at Frocester. The River Severn itself, the Ship Canal and the docks at Sharpness. The Wildfowl Trust, the Severn Bridge, Power stations, the Motorway and the Great Incinerator,

The whole world await you

Join us on Coaley Peak

Further details, maps for walking in the next magazine and in the Shop

PUT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY





COALEY NATURE

Bat Walk

Saturday 2nd August

8:30pm

Coaley Rec

Meet on the rec at the sensory garden to learn about bats, use trackers to follow them and learn how you can help them.

Proudly sponsored by:



Hedgy

wearehedgy.co.uk info@wearehedgy.co.uk

Please contact
coaleyrecreationgroup@gmail.com
to book your free place.

Kindly supported by experts from
the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust



Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust

PLAYGROUP

We have had a very busy term with lots of fun celebrations with our children that will be leaving us to go to school. We had a leavers trip at St Augustine's farm and we all had a lovely time. We also had an end of term party with all of the children and invited Magic Marie in to entertain the children. It was lovely to see all of the smiling faces and laughter. We wish all of our preschoolers good luck moving on to school and we are looking forward to seeing our younger children return in September and to see how much they have grown over the summer. We will also be welcoming some new families and we are looking forward to getting to know them all.

We hope all of our families have a lovely summer.

Fundraising

The sheep hunt will be returning on Sunday 14th September, please save the date!

Community support

Thank you for the continued support from the community, it is so lovely to be a part of this village.

Playgroup have joined the produce



show this year and we are looking forward to seeing the children's artwork at the hall along with all of the other creative entries.

Availability

We currently have a waiting list until September 2027. If you would like to add your child's name to the list then please email us. We recommend getting in touch as soon as possible if you live in the village to secure a place for your child.

Getting in touch

You can follow us on Facebook where we share lots of photos of our activities.

Email: coaleyplaygroup@gmail.com

Telephone: 07434364850

September 2025 Playgroup Session Times

	Morning session	Full session
Mon, Tues, Thurs	8:50am – 12:50pm	8:50am – 2:50pm
Weds and Fri	8:50am - 12:50pm	closed

Come along to Coaley Village Hall and buy your Sheep Map from 11.00 then find all the disguised missing sheep in the village before coming back to the hall for refreshments, entertainment and the opportunity to vote for the best dressed sheep.

COALEY VILLAGE PLAYGROUP PRESENTS
registered charity no 1088208

Coaley Sheephunt 2025



**Sunday 14th Sept 11-15.00
Coaley Village Hall**

COALEY FETE

A Glorious Day for Coaley — Thank You for Making Our 2025 Fete a Success!

What a day! On Saturday 28th June, the Coaley Rec was once again alive with laughter, friendly faces, and the unmistakable buzz of our village coming together for another unforgettable Coaley Country Fete.

Under hot, breezy skies, the rec looked a picture, filled with games, the stage, the arena, and our new paths. We were delighted to see so many villagers, families, and friends enjoying a classic day of fun and community spirit.

There was something for everyone — from the ever-popular dog show, lively children's races, and fiercely contested



tug of war, to the always-hilarious welly wanging, traditional fete games, bubbles drifting across the field, and some very special guests who made the day extra memorable.

A definite highlight was our Tremendous Tractors Competition, which saw families getting wonderfully creative as they decorated wooden tractors to win prizes — well done to everyone who took part! Adding to the excitement, two magnificent real tractors were on display for visitors to admire up close — and for the goats to enjoy too!

For our youngest visitors, the bouncy castle and soft play kept the giggles going all afternoon, while local musicians filled the air with music, giving the whole fete a warm, joyful atmosphere. The bar, expertly run by The Old Fox Pub, kept everyone