



# Coaley Parish NEWSLETTER

Issue no 115

December 2020 / January 2021

**Vicar retires**  
**Broadband on its way**

## Need help while self-isolating?



web

[www.coaleypc.org.uk/ineedhelp](http://www.coaleypc.org.uk/ineedhelp)



email

[help@coaleypc.org.uk](mailto:help@coaleypc.org.uk)



phone

890629 (8am-noon)  
860191 (noon-4pm)  
07703 468422 (4pm-8pm)

Parish Council meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month, except August, at 7.30pm. In normal circumstances they are held in the Jubilee Room but during the coronavirus crisis they are held using a Zoom video conference.

If you wish to make a contribution to the meeting, as you would have done in the open forum part of a conventional meeting, please contact the clerk by 4pm on the day of the meeting. You can either email any contribution or we will send you a meeting code so you can join us. If you are unable to use Zoom please get in touch and we will consider how best to include you in the meeting.

See the council's website at [www.coaleypc.org.uk](http://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 Saturday 16th January 2021.

email: [newsletter@coaleypc.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@coaleypc.org.uk)

web: [www.coaleypc.org.uk](http://www.coaleypc.org.uk)

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

This issue edited by Stephen Cook.

*Cover picture: Autumn leaves in Coaley Woods*

# VILLAGE NEWS

## COALEY COMMUNITY SHOP

As Christmas will probably be rather different this year, and we know many people prefer to shop locally at the moment, we will have more Christmassy treats than usual in stock. As well as mince pies, we will have small puddings, chocolates, sweets, biscuits both sweet and savoury. We have a good range of Christmas cards and of course your Christmas stamps and the Coaley calendar. If you would like something not in stock please ask, and we will do our best to get it.

Sadly, we will not be able to have our usual party for all our volunteers this year. They have all done a magnificent job keeping the shop open throughout the crisis, and maintaining good levels of stock. At one time I think we had more flour than Tesco's! Many thanks to those volunteers who sourced supplies from such a variety of places. Thanks are due to our customers as well, who have waited patiently outside (even in rain) so numbers inside were limited and everyone felt safe. I know a lot of people find wearing masks unpleasant, but you are all cooperating in this to help protect our volunteers on duty.

The start of building the new shop has been delayed again due to legal problems. However these should be resolved very soon and work will be

able to start in the New Year.

Don't forget we will still deliver to you if you phone an order to the shop (899000) between 9 and 12 Monday to Friday.

The Christmas opening times are below and you can find them and all up to date information on our website [www.coaleycommunityshop.co.uk](http://www.coaleycommunityshop.co.uk) or on our Facebook page Coaley Village Community Shop.

## CHRISTMAS OPENING HOURS

Christmas Eve	9 am to 12 noon
Christmas Day	Closed
Boxing Day	10 am - 12 noon
Sunday Dec 27th	10 am - 12 noon
Monday Dec 28th	10 am - 12 noon
Tuesday Dec 29th	9 am - 1.30 pm
Wednesday Dec 30th	9 am - 1.30 pm
Thursday Dec 31st	9 am - 1.30 pm
New Year's Day	10 am - 12 noon

## PRODUCE SHOW

The Coaley produce Show calendar is now on sale in the village shop.

The gardens cup next year is on the theme "spring bulbs in pots and containers" which we have chosen to allow as many people as possible to enter. You don't even need a garden! Now is the time to plant your entry and judging will be in late March or early April.

Despite all the difficulties this year we still plan to have an illuminated Christmas tree by the shop.

## VILLAGE HALL UPDATE

The Village Hall closed on November 5th in line with the Government's regulations for the second lockdown. All bookings up to December 2nd were cancelled.

It is hoped that as lockdown is lifted on December 2nd the Hall will be able to reopen as long as it complies with the latest regulations.

Regular Hall users will be informed once the Hall Committee knows the way forward. Barbara Davis 890679

### 2021 Coaley Produce Show calendar

**On sale now in the village shop. £6.00 for one, £10.00 for two.  
Proceeds go towards the Christmas tree.**



JANUARY



FEBRUARY



MARCH



APRIL



MAY



JUNE



JULY



AUGUST



SEPTEMBER



OCTOBER



NOVEMBER



DECEMBER

## REV SUE GREATOREX

It is with great sadness that we learned that Rev Sue had made the difficult decision to retire at the end of November. In the space of a few lines it is hard to write all that she has done and the huge impact she has had on our lives over the last five years. She has made us think deeply about our faith through her inspiring sermons. She has kept us on our toes in services with her joy and enthusiasm. She has awakened our social conscience with her concern for others through Baby Basics, Kids Stuff Sales, refugee children and LGBT community to name just a few. She has been there for us in our moments of deepest anxiety and sadness, and in our moments of greatest joy. We have laughed with her and she has brought tears to our eyes. She entered into village life despite



living in the vicarage in Lower Cam, serving in the shop and playing an active part in the life and work of the school. Thank you, Sue, for all you have done, for leading us on our spiritual journey, for the opportunities to explore our faith and spread our wings. We wish you a long and happy retirement, surrounded by your extended family. We know you won't be sitting with your feet up but will be continuing God's work in many ways. We will miss you.

## POPPIES

Thank you to all those who knitted poppies and enabled colourful displays to be made near the shop and Hall, the entrance to the Churchyard and on the school railings. This year, a special display was made to mark the 75th Anniversary of the ending of WW 2.

Especial thanks to Anne Cheshire and Pat Grimwood for helping to put them up at short notice when it was realised that our planned arrangement session would fall in lockdown. Barbara Davis



## COALEY ACADEMY

Well, it has definitely been a very unusual start to the school year at Coaley Primary. Having been a Headteacher for many years, I don't think I've ever faced had such a challenging start to the academic year. However, the good folk of Coaley have rallied around and made sure that we have opened and the children are once again thriving in our care.

We spent the summer getting ready to welcome back all the children into school and are using words we never thought we would use in school, such as: class bubbles, COVID risk assessments and facemasks. However, we are getting used to this new world and the children have risen to the challenge as you'd expect. It also hasn't been the usual start in terms of all the normal things we'd normally be doing in the community, such as Harvest or Remembrance, and we haven't been able to go into church or take part in any sporting events. However, we have been making use of our amazing field and our weekly celebration worship are being done via Zoom which is actually lots of fun. We have the same certificates and rewards but the children are in their classrooms with me in my office all connected by the power of the internet. With Coaley's internet speed, there's only a slight delay but it all adds to the drama. It's amazing how adaptable we've become these days.

I would also like to say thank you to everyone who normally comes into



school to hear readers or who helps us in Church. I'd like to especially thank Mrs Davis and the Open The Book team, Mr Clark and Mrs Curry who normally give their time to support our children. I know you currently can't be with us but I hope it won't be long now before we can rekindle those special relationships once again.

As we approach Christmas, I want to wish everyone in Coaley village and beyond a very merry Christmas and a happy new year. I hope it brings you all joy and happiness, and that we get to return back to some sort of new normal very soon. Being the Head teacher of Coaley is a magical job and it is a great place to come to work each day. We are blessed with amazing staff and children and we find many bits of pure joy in our day. We have all pulled together as a community around the school and the parents have been so supportive. Coaley Primary really is a special place for your children to come and learn loads, have fun and be the shining stars we know they are.

## SERVICES IN CHURCH.



Christmas Services in Coaley Church will be a little different this year. Due to Covid restrictions there will be no separate Carol Service or Crib Service.

A service of Holy Communion will be held on Christmas Day at 9.15am.

For those wishing to celebrate Christmas at midnight there will be a service in St Bartholomew's, Lower Cam at 11.30pm on Christmas Eve.

There will be a joint benefice service in Lower Cam at 11am on Sunday 27th December.

It is hoped that lockdown will finish on 2nd December as planned by the government and services of Holy Communion at 9.15am in church will resume.

11am service from Lower Cam can be accessed via Zoom for those unable to attend the church. If it is not possible to hold services in church a service will be zoomed at 10am

In order to comply with current restrictions those attending services will need to wear a face mask. Hand sanitiser will be available on entering the church and names and contact details taken for track & trace.

The Churchwardens and PCC wish everyone a peaceful and blessed Christmas.



*Top: PE with Owls bubble.*

*Centre and bottom: Forest School with Starlings Bubble.*

## WI

In October our guest speaker on zoom was Cliff who entertained us with stories of game shows that he had taken part in. It all started when his mother (a formidable woman) told him they were going on the Generation Game where they tackled many challenges including tying onions. A challenge for Bruce Forsyth was presented when one of the cameras blew up but, being the entertainer he is, he entertained the audience for 45 minutes until they were able to 'go on with the show'. Cliff also went on the Weakest Link which wasn't very successful due to some strategic voting, and then Who Wants To Be a Millionaire where the quick fire round was all about horses and Cliffs working life was as a saddler to the Queen! Sadly he didn't make it to the end and he says that is the end of his career on game shows but it sounds like his niece has other plans for him.

Cliff's talk generated a discussion about birthday cards from the Queen and the question was asked whether people still get them and it turns out they do but you have to request them!

It seems we are all keeping busy in lockdown and there are a lot of activities taking place such as reading, sewing, knitting, cribbage and lawn mower riding.

Like many groups, we had to change the format of our AGM in November and all reports were sent out prior to the meeting along with voting slips to

re-elect our committee. This meant there was less time needed to go through reports so we spent the time making felt gingerbread men and we will finish these off in time for our December meeting where we will choose our favourite.

If you wish to join us on zoom or in the hall when we are able, we would love to see you.

coaleywi@hotmail.com

facebook: coaleywi

## BROADBAND

After a very long wait it looks like the Gigaclear rollout of fibre to the premises in Coaley will start in the first quarter of next year.

You may have noticed roadworks to lay a fat orange cable along the A38 and elsewhere in the last few months. This is the Gigaclear fibre.

We also hear that local landowners have been approached for permission to take the cable across their land.

Clearly something is happening.

Coaley is split across two build areas, both due to start in the same quarter, but we may find the work doesn't happen all in one go. Far Green, Tickshill, Knapp Lane, The Ham, Peak Lane and part of Silver Street are included in the Upthorpe build area. The rest of the village is its own area.





# The Cotswolds AONB – think of it as The Cotswolds National Landscape

The Cotswolds Conservation Board, which looks after the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) announced a new name and logo in mid-September. The change is an active welcome to the findings in the Government’s Landscapes Review published in 2019.

The review proposed that National Parks and AONBs should be brought together, as “one family of national landscapes”; it suggested that the cumbersome title ‘AONB’ should be replaced – with ‘National Landscape’ – so we’ve done it.



The new look for the Cotswolds reminds us that our precious natural landscape is for all. The logo retains and amplifies the Cotswold Lion sheep synonymous with the region, features the updated ‘Cotswolds National Landscape’ name, and presents a bold new colour. It gives a nod to the heritage of the Cotswolds, but showcases the area in a more energetic, invigorating, and inviting way.

Andy Parsons, its new Chief Executive said, “We firmly believe that this landscape is for everyone to enjoy and explore; and we hope that this exciting step will help people to better understand what we’re about – looking after the Cotswolds National Landscape, and helping people connect with nature in the Cotswolds.”

Brendan McCarthy, the organisation’s Chairman, said, “we warmly welcome the outcomes of the Glover Review. This change will help our work to conserve and enhance this wonderful landscape, and to welcome visitors to enjoy it.”

Julian Glover, author of the Landscapes Review, said, “The Cotswolds stand out among our most famous and beautiful landscapes, as one of the places that make England special. They look unchanging but keeping their character and backing natural recovery will take effort and leadership. It’s a fight we must win - which is why I’m so pleased to see some of the ideas from our recent landscape review put to work in this precious place.”

# COALEY VILLAGE PLAYGROUP



Although the nights are drawing in and the weather is beginning to have that fresh feeling, we are having lots of fun at Coaley village playgroup. We have greeted back our returning children and welcomed some lovely new families into our setting, it has been nice getting to know you all and making you feel part of our playgroup community. Despite the on-going COVID situation, we were fortunate to be able to offer COVID secure visits on a Thursday when we are closed to the children. Unfortunately, due to the current lockdown, we are now unable to offer this. If you would like some information about playgroup, please see the links below. We are still intending to open a toddler session, however, we are restricted to government guidelines, so please, be patient and watch this space.

We always aim to follow the children's interests and at the beginning of each term we ask our parents and children what their current interests are. We have been excited by all their suggestions, we looked at Autumn changes and collected conkers in the school field and around Coaley village. Our 'Old Macdonald' theme led us to printing muddy pigs, creating a wooly sheep and playing farms in some chocolatey mud, it smelt delicious! We looked at the story Dear Zoo and matched the different animals to their patterns, used construction materials to

What we have been doing since September?

	Morning session	Full session
Monday	8:30am – 12:30pm	8:30am – 2:30pm
Tuesday	8:30am – 12:30pm	8:30am – 2:30pm
Wednesday	8:30am – 12:30pm	8:30am – 2:30pm
Thursday	9.30am – 12.30am Coaley crawlers and toddler group	1pm – 3pm (TBA)
Friday	8:30am – 12:30pm	8:30am – 2:30pm

We are hoping to be opening a new toddler group on a Thursday, more information will be provided soon.

build homes and explored herbs and small world toys to develop stories. The Gruffalo was one of the children's favourite stories and we made some Gruffalo apple crumble. During our transport week, we had a Coaley car wash where the children strengthened their hand muscles, squeezing out the sponges and enjoyed singing the wheels on the bus. Since half term, we looked at different celebrations such as bonfire night and walked around Coaley to look at the display of poppies. It has been an exciting term so far and we still have Christmas to plan and organise, even though the celebrations will look a little different. We look forward to finding out our children's interests next half term.

## Our community

Without the invaluable time and effort, the parents and community give, the playgroup wouldn't be the fantastic place it is, so again a huge THANK-YOU to you all and we will always

welcome new families into our playgroup community.

Please see our new opening and session times. We are now in a position to open during a Thursday morning, please get in contact if you would be interested.

If you would like to keep in touch or ask any questions, you can always contact us.

Please take a look at our website <http://www.coaleyplaygroup.org>

email: [coaleyplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:coaleyplaygroup@gmail.com)



## NAUGHTY CORNER

Do you drink Red Bull?

Do you regularly go to McDonalds?

Do you dump your rubbish on Elmcote Lane?

Please stop dropping your litter and take it home. Why should local residents have to regularly clear up the mess you leave?



## ***GOODBYE to 2020!***

*We have been open, closed, open and closed but we are opening once again on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.*

*Hopefully, we will all be getting a chance to spend some time with loved ones to celebrate Christmas and we know that this year has been more difficult than any other in recent times.*

*With this in mind, we would like to wish all our patrons and friends*

***A Very Merry & Safe***

***Christmas***

***And***

***A Happy & Hopeful***

***New Year***

*Thank You All for your amazing support and friendship and we look forward to better times when we can once again raise a glass together, laugh together & enjoy others company!!*

***Julie, Ellie & the Fox Team***

# Try the WI! **theWI** INSPIRING WOMEN

**You can have a taste of the Women's Institute for 6 months for only £10.75!\***

The WI offers women the opportunity to connect with their local communities in a fun, friendly and inclusive space. Whether you're interested in making friends, campaigning on local and national issues, or learning new skills, the WI is here to inspire you!

**Each WI is unique and shaped by its members so 'Try the WI' and be inspired!**

**'Try the WI' membership runs from 1st Oct 2020 to 31st March 2021 and includes all the great perks of membership:**

- WI Life magazine
- Physical and/or virtual meetings
- Access to the member only area online My WI with exclusive recipes, craft projects and more
- The opportunity to involve yourself in exciting local and national campaigns
- Bespoke member only events held virtually and at venues around the country, with organisations including the National Gallery and England Netball
- A new member pack including the members' book of discount offers

**CONTACT YOUR LOCAL WI OR FEDERATION (COUNTY OFFICE) TO FIND OUT MORE!**

Your local WI is Coaley WI

WI website/social media page facebook: coaleywi

WI contact information coaleywi@hotmail.com

Your local Federation is Gloucestershire

Federation contact information 01452 523966

If you have any questions or are interested in **setting up your own WI**, contact the National Federation of Women's Institutes at [membership@nfwl.org.uk](mailto:membership@nfwl.org.uk)

**020 7371 9300**

*\*This is half the usual price as new members usually join in October - December for £10.75. This offer is for three extra months for free. Subscriptions can be renewed in April 2021 at £44 for the year. No subscriptions are automatically renewed.*



womensinstitute




womensinstitute



facebook.com/thewi

[www.thewi.org.uk/trythewi](http://www.thewi.org.uk/trythewi)



**St Bartholomew's Church, Coaley  
Virtual Christmas Tree Festival**

**Take a photo of your Christmas Tree  
and send it by email to [g.s.holmes@sky.com](mailto:g.s.holmes@sky.com)  
by Wednesday 16th December**

**Send your message by email for display  
on Remembrance Tree**

**Check the Church's website  
to see your tree displayed**



**WE'RE STILL HERE  
SERVING THE STROUD  
DISTRICT.....**



**..... JUST MOBILE**

Are you skipping meals to make ends meet? In financial crisis?

Free-phone 0808 208 2138 (Mon to Fri 9am-5pm)

to talk confidentially with a trained Citizens Advice adviser.

Or visit [strouddistrict.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/](http://strouddistrict.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/)

## USEFUL CONTACTS

Parish Councillors	Stephen Cook	860504
	Martin Percy	890818
	Ben Bywater	07909 545303
	Caroline Eardley	860139
	John Hobson	07715 558110
	Penny Wait	860191
Parish Clerk	Lynn Thornton clerk@coaley.org.uk	545880
Stroud District Councillor	Jim Dewey cllr.jim.dewey@stroud.gov.uk	860795
GCC Councillor	Loraine Patrick Loraine.Patrick@gloucestershire.gov.uk	07881 581189
Vicar	Rev Sue Greatorex	542547
Village Hall	Lesley Chalmers	890788
Need a lift to Coaley Church?		
Co-ordinator	Isobel Farmer	890556
Tree Warden	Stephen Cook	860504
Snow Warden	Jonathan Leigh	860665
	coaleysnowwarden@gmail.com	07767 660206
Neighbourhood Watch	Ken Wibberley	890449
Community Shop		899000
Coaley WI	June Dunlop	890302
ST Emergency Water & Sewage Centre (24 hr)		0800 7834444
Gas Emergency Leaks etc (24 hr)		0800 111999
Electricity Loss of Supply (24 hr)		0800 6783 105 or 105
Street Lights		08000 514514
Community Wellbeing Service (was Village Agent)	communitywellbeing.stroud@nhs.net	0345 8638323