

Coaley Parish NEWSLETTER

Issue no 132

October / November 2023



Village Design Statement
Produce Show and Sheep Hunt reports

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EVENT	TIME	VENUE
29th Sept - 1st Oct	Flower and Harvest Festival		Church
5th Oct	Knitting	2.30pm	17 Betworthy
9th Oct	Whist	2.00pm	Hall
10th Oct	Friendship	2.00pm	Hall
17th Oct	Hall AGM	7.00pm	Jubilee Room
2nd Nov	Knitting	2.30pm	Harvest Hse
5th Nov	Fireworks	5.30pm	School
13th Nov	Whist	2.00pm	Hall
14th Nov	Friendship	2.00pm	Hall
23rd Nov -25th Nov	Panto	7.30 pm	Hall
25th Nov	Panto matinee	2.30pm	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
Thursday 16th November 2023.

email: newsletter@coaleypc.org.uk

web: www.coaleypc.org.uk

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

This issue edited by Stephen Cook.

Cover picture: *Young gardeners at Coaley School.*

DESIGN STATEMENT FOR COALEY PARISH



What is a Design Statement? It describes the visual qualities and features of a Parish as seen through the eyes of local residents sets out the key qualities of the Parish environment and the local values put upon them. It seeks to inspire future development that can respect and enhance the Parish for its residents as a place to live.

While the creation of a Parish Design Statement provides no additional powers to control development, it can be considered by our local planning authority Stroud District Council (SDC) in their decision-making. In order to achieve this, it must reference policies within their Local Plan (which is in the process of review). This is particularly important for Coaley as the vast majority of our area is outside the ANOB which starts at the Cotswold escarpment. This provides a high degree of protection for parishes within it from over development, potentially pushing development to areas outside of the ANOB along the M5/A38 corridor.

Many local parishes have design statements written a few years ago such as Slimbridge, Whitminster, and Cam Parishes. Coaley Parish Council have reviewed these documents, which typically comprise of an introduction and history of the parish, the reasoning why a design statement is considered a good thing to have, and a series of agreed design policies. These policies set out the parishes preferred approach to the setting and design of developments (inside and outside its Settlement Development Limit), environment impacts, and considers the impact of on the limited infrastructure in the Parish.

To enable the Parish Council to progress the Design Statement to the next stage we are looking for help from any interested residents who would like to contribute to this document before it is shared in a public consultation next year. If you are able and wish to support this process, please contact the Parish Council Clerk via email: clerk@coaleypc.org.uk.

SCHOOL

I hope you have all had a brilliant holiday and are ready as the season changes towards cooler weather and exciting adventures.

All the children have settled in so well from the summer and the new Reception children have been a delight. We have a full Reception class this year as the school continues to grow with more families opting for the wonderful opportunities and learning at your local primary school.

As you now, get outside as much as we can at Coaley. Be that playing sport, learning in our Forest School area or gardening. Our older children are excellent gardeners and show Coaley pride in all they do (see cover picture).

We have also been working on the new school vision. This is what we want our to school to be like, how we work with our pupils, parents and community, as well as what we want from everyone who comes to school. As a church school, we also link this to a passage from the Bible which sums up what we do and who we are. The vision is set out below and we are all working this term on what this means for the children at school and how we can live out showing love, being a family and helping everyone to flourish.

In a nutshell, our vision is:

As a family, we flourish

A longer vision that summarises all that

we do and all that we are:

At the heart of Coaley Primary Academy is our community, our family, where we inspire all who are a part of our school to grow and flourish.

In the hearts of our children, we build confidence, respect for all, love and a joy for learning. We are the reservoir of hope for our community, helping our children have the wisdom and resilience to achieve their best.

With our hearts, we nurture all and show love to everyone. Through inclusivity and aspiration, we reap the harvest of success so everyone can thrive and achieve.

The passage from the Bible that best summarises who we are and what we do:

Love each other as I have loved you
- John 15: 12

COALEY PANTOMIME

Rehearsals are well underway and the songs this year, penned by Emily Smith, are absolute bangers. There is a younger cast this year and the enthusiasm for putting on the show is higher than ever so book your tickets early to watch a fantastic version of Snow White. Tickets go on sale from Tuesday October 3rd. To obtain your tickets either fill out a request slip in the Coaley Community shop or email the box office at coaleyamdramboxoffice@gmail.com

FOCS Friends of Coaley School 

COALEY

**FIREWORK
DISPLAY**

SUNDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

COALEY PRIMARY ACADEMY

GATE OPENS 5:30PM / DISPLAY STARTS 6:30PM

ENTRY - £4 ADULTS / £2 CHILD (under 16) - CASH ONLY

HOT AND COLD FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

No sparklers, alcohol or smoking permitted

PRODUCE SHOW

2023 has been a great year for the Coaley Produce show – we had an impressive total of 640 entries. We had lots of entries in vegetables, fruit and flowers – and a big increase in children’s entries. Art had produced some masterpieces – such as the Seascapes and some beautiful craft entries. The Cookery classes proved particularly popular especially Millionaires shortbread and the men’s cookie bake. There were a good number of new entrants. We hope they enjoyed the whole process. The hall looked beautiful with laden tables of flowers and home grown produce. Dahlias were particularly spectacular with a huge bloom winning best in Show. The biggest marrow or courgette

weighed an incredible 11.5kg.

The Gardens cup was judged in June on a theme of Front Gardens – next year’s theme will be my favourite flowering plant.

Our AGM will be on October 12th in the Village Hall at 7.30pm with a short business meeting followed by a wine and cheese social with a floral demonstration by Fiona Porter, all are welcome to attend.

We have been sent a good number of calendar photos following our Facebook appeal so we should be able to produce another edition which will be on sale in the shop next month.

Trophies

- Vegetable Cup - Tylan Bahcheli.
- G. S. Neale Cup for Fruit - Bob Parkinson.
- Flower Cup - Jean Bryant.
- Floral Decoration Cup - Laura Gibbs.
- Domestic Cup - Vanessa Sprague.
- Rose Bowl - Mark Wyatt.
- Coaley W.I. Cup for Arts and Crafts - Mark Wyatt.
- Jean Steel Cup for Children - Pippa Gibbs.
- Billet Cup for Children - Tess Gibbs.
- Frank Workman Rose Bowl - Ann Bahcheli.
- Winnie Brooks Cup for the Most Beautiful Flower - Lisa Boden.
- Major Memorial Award - Tylan Bahcheli.
- Wooden Spoon - Kevin Spill.
- Cospa Cup for Photography - Stephen Cook.
- Florie Curson Dahlia Cup - Lisa Boden.
- Centaur Cup for Coaley School (7 and under) - Maurice Keating.
- Centaur Cup for Coaley School (8 -10) - Juno Fowkes.
- Gardens Cup - Nigel Riglar



WI

Coaley WI had a fascinating talk recently about Mercy ships.

Mercy Ships charity was founded in 1978 and the aim is the eradication of poverty. A former train ferry from Denmark was converted into a hospital ship and began its work on the west coast of Africa. It was joined by a brand new ship in 2022. The ships operate for 10 months and then have a two month break in Tenerife for refurbishment. The ships offer free medical treatment in return for a free berth. Mercy Ships rely on donations. Some of these are in kind eg oil companies donate fuel, large pharmaceutical companies donate dressings and drugs. Speakers do not charge but ask for a donation. As well as offering medical treatment, the ship trains locals so that they can carry on with improvements in the area. They also make improvements to local onshore facilities All on board staff are volunteers and even pay for their own fare to Africa and living costs while onboard. Sheila finished with a slide show of before and after patients. Children with cleft pallets were transformed. A man with an enormous growth on his lower face had it removed and got his life back again The final aim of the charity is "TO MAKE THEMSELVES REDUNDANT" . Our speaker had heard the ship was docked in Tenerife while she was on holiday and she made a special trip to visit it and has been delivering talks on the subject ever since.

We don't meet in August as many people are away and, if not away, they are busy making and growing for the produce show. Congratulations to everyone who were successful on the day which includes many of our members. The day is also a great opportunity for us to open our café again and we appreciate as always your support. From money raised we gave donations to the shop for allowing us to use this as our base and to Slimbridge scouts for the use of their marquees.

Our next talk is all about bees and our monthly flower competition has more entries every month with gardens in full bloom at present.

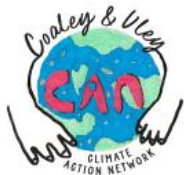
We meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm and would love to see you there.

June Dunlop
Secretary
Coaley WI

coaleywi@hotmail.com

facebook coaleywi





Coaley & Uley **C**limate **A**ction **N**etwork
(**CUCAN**)

REPAIR CAFE

THROW IT AWAY? NO WAY!!



SUNDAY 15TH
of OCTOBER, 2-4pm

COALEY VILLAGE HALL

Bring and learn how to repair your broken
things...



or just enjoy some **DELICIOUS REFRESHMENTS**

For queries or to volunteer your skills to help others repair their things,
contact us on: coaleyuleycan@gmail.com



COALEY SHEEP HUNT

What could have been a washout due to the weather turned out to be another 'baa'rilliant Sheephunt thanks to all of you lovely people of Coaley and beyond coming along to once again support Coaley Village Playgroup. The sheep were absolutely stunning and even more creative and competitively dressed than last year. Popular sheep were Alf Ramsey, Baario, Harry Ramsden the battering Ram, The M-e-we-sic of the Night, Lamb Kebab and The Old Fox's Fireman Ram but the winning sheep was the spectacular Baariana Grande followed by Baatman in second place and Wooliam Shakespeare the Beard in third. It was wonderful to have so many of the village institutions represented in sheep form with entries from Coaley Shop, The Produce Show, Coaley School and The Old Fox taking centre stage in the heart of the village.

We were entertained all afternoon by the fantastic Butchers Ukes Ukulele group and so many people in the hall commented on how lovely it was to have them playing. The band, who have graced the regular Music and Cake concerts at the Church several times, offered their time for free and so we will be making a donation to Bristol and Weston Hospitals Charity on their behalf. We very much hope the group will become a regular fixture for future Sheep Hunts.

We're very grateful to the children of the Owls class at Coaley School who ran the soft drinks and cakes stall. Many thanks to everyone who donated cakes and baked goods for the children to sell. The cake stall alone raised a fabulous £270 towards our total.

Our BBQ team Brian Harper, Tim Kidner, Paul Haynes and Dan Hamby braved the increasingly torrential rain



and were still smiling at the very end as they packed up the sodden gazebo and finally trooped off home. Our thanks to Mark from Cam Family Butchers for not only providing the BBQ and all of the burgers and sausages but for also sponsoring a sheep and offering to take our leftover unopened bread rolls to the local foodbank for us.

Thanks to all of the parents and community volunteers who took on shifts selling maps, raffle tickets, helping the children on the cake stall and working on the bar. Everyone who donated a cake, decorated a sheep, gave up some time to volunteer or bought a map to do the trail helped make the day a roaring success. Our Chair Susy is especially grateful to Anne Morgan for being so invaluable on the day, for thinking of everything and just getting it all done without even being asked. Thanks also to Jackie Davis and Maggie Lewis who so generously gave up their time at the last SheepHunt and who despite being unable to attend this year still insisted on baking and donating cakes on the day; thank you for all the ideas and all the advice as well as the delicious cakes ladies.

Special thanks are due this year to playgroup mum Sarah Lorkin who had the idea of asking local businesses to sponsor a sheep. Not only did Sarah liaise with the companies to secure sponsorship and give up her whole day to sell maps and raffle tickets but through the generous donations she pretty much single handedly raised £1400 for the playgroup bringing our



*Left: First place - Baariana Grande
Top: Second place - Baatman
Below: Third place - Wooliam
Shakespear the Beard*



overall fundraising total for the day to an unprecedented £2000! Many thanks to all of the companies who sponsored a sheep and contributed to this staggering amount. The difference it will make to the playgroup is huge and we are immeasurably grateful for your support.

And that's it from Coaley SheepHunt 2023. Goodbaa for now and we'll hope to see Ewe all next year!

COALEY COMMUNITY SHOP



The community shop has been running successfully in its new building for two years now. To provide the best advice for the longer term, we decided to join the Plunkett Foundation. This is a charitable organisation that offers support to community run businesses such as shops and pubs. We have had a visit from one of their advisers who joined a committee meeting and then spent a morning with us. Her report rated us excellent or good in most areas, and also made several recommendations and ideas for improvements. One recommendation was to have a larger committee which we adopted at the AGM. We are very pleased to welcome Tracy Walker and Sarah Lorkin to join the existing eight

members who were all happy to continue.

The mainstay of the shop is our wonderful group of volunteers. For the last eight years Jackie Davis has been co-ordinating this group, planning the rota, training new recruits and, inevitably, doing extra duties herself when no-one else was available. Thank you, Jackie. Since she is also very involved in keeping the shop well stocked, Jane Keay has agreed to take over rota planning.

Now we have a dedicated fruit and vegetable chiller, we can provide a larger range including salad vegetables and some fruit as well as our usual onions, potatoes and carrots. We will restock on Tuesdays and Fridays. We hope you will find this useful. At this time of year we also have local produce donated by generous villagers.





**St Bartholomew's Church
Coaley**

**Harvest Praise
Sunday 1st October
6pm**

Come and sing favourite harvest hymns

**The church will be decorated with floral
arrangements on a harvest theme**

NURTURE NATURE

Forests and woodlands are the roots of our nation, and we need to cherish and protect them and increase their acreage more than ever. A recent report stated that the UK was well down in the list of countries supporting nature. This comes as quite a shock to many of us. Cats and their impact on our native birds – the University of Exeter is conducting excellent research on the impact of cat predation on songbird numbers, which will assist cat owners to reduce their moggies' hunting behaviour with simple solutions. Such actions will help to save tens of thousands of songbirds across the landscape of the British Isles, and in our gardens and wild spaces. (For further info see www.songbird-survival.org.uk).

Readers – be early birds yourselves and listen to Tweet of the Day just before the 6 a.m. News on Radio 4. You will learn a lot of interesting information about our birds and species around the world generally.

Autumn is the best time of year to plant trees and shrubs. Some of the bee magnet plants are abelia grandiflora, the sarcococcas, honeysuckles, including the winter flowering Lonicera fragrantissima, mahonias and sedums.

As a follow up to an earlier article on swifts – developers, house builders and house owners can provide help to halt the sharp decline of this extraordinary species by incorporating 'swift bricks' into new builds/extensions etc. Details

can be found on the Internet. A few years ago one house holder had just made the final touches to a swift brick he had installed in the side of his house at a suitable height and aspect, and had hardly reached the ground off the ladder when an adult swift swept into this artificial nesting site and successfully bred. What a joy! One can also get nest boxes for house martins to be attached under the eaves of houses and other buildings. There are also swallow nests available for erecting in barns, stables and outhouses, even lean-tos. For further information on hirundinidae see April editions.

A recent reader response to hedgehog sightings and diets is that it's best not to feed mealworms. So a trawl of the scientific research is on the menu. Proprietary hedgehog food and dog and cat food are recommended by hedgehog sanctuaries. However, it's wise not to leave food out overnight as this could encourage unwanted vermin.

Another interesting response about birds and chimneys and flues was that on clearing out a blocked off fireplace during a house renovation the number of dead birds found at the bottom was staggering. So please consider having cowls fitted to your chimney pots and flues – cowls with sufficient close meshed wire around them to prevent birds from accessing stacks and flues, which should they succeed – will almost certainly lead to their demise.

Otis Tarda

St Bartholomew's Church, Coaley

Music & Cake

featuring

Clarinet

Quartet

Sunday 15th October

3pm

**Short informal & free concerts in church
followed by tea, cake & a chance to chat.**

All Welcome

USEFUL CONTACTS

Parish Councillors	Martin Pearcy	890818
	Ben Bywater	07909 545303
	Stephen Cook	860504
	Caroline Eardley	890139
	John Hobson	07715 558110
	Penny Wait	860191
Parish Clerk	Lynn Thornton clerk@coaleypc.org.uk	545880
Stroud District Councillor	Martin Pearcy cllr.martin.pearcy@stroud.gov.uk	890818
GCC Councillor	Wendy Thomas wendy.thomas@gloucestershire.gov.uk	
Vicar	Graham Stacey	709859
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 coaleysnowwarden@gmail.com	860665 07767 660206
Neighbourhood Watch	Ken Wibberley	890449
Community Shop		899000
Coaley WI	June Dunlop	890302
Friendship Group	Pam Sweetland	890513
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