

# Coaley Parish NEWSLETTER

Issue no 109

December 2019 / January 2020



Climate Action Group

Panto Review

New Headteacher

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EVENT	TIME	VENUE	CONTACT
Dec 4th	Wives Fellowship		Jubilee Room	Barbara Davis 890679
Dec 5th	Knitting		Field End	Barbara Davis
Dec 7th	Posh Frock Disco Dance	7.30 pm	Village Hall	Jackie Davis 890596
Dec 8th	Words & Music for a Winter Afternoon	3.00 pm	Church	
Dec 9th	Whist	2.00 pm	Village Hall	Barbara Davis
Dec 15th	Carol Service	4.00 pm	Church	
Dec 18th	WI - Christmas Party			
Dec 24th	Crib Service	3.00 pm	Church	
	Christmas Communion	10.00 pm	Church	
Dec 25th	Christmas Communion	9.15 am	Church	
2020				
Jan 2nd	Knitting	3.00 pm	8 The Close	
Jan 3rd	Shop Volunteers Christmas Party	7.00 pm	Jubilee Room	Brenda Board 860558
Jan 8th	Wives Fellowship	noon	Tudor Arms	
Jan 13th	Whist	2.00 pm	Village Hall	
Jan 19th	Music and Cake	3.00 pm	Church	
Feb 1st	Quiz Night	7.00 pm	Village Hall	Fran Rees 890352
Feb 5th	Wives Fellowship	7.30 pm	Jubilee Room	Barbara Davis
Feb 6th	Knitting	3.00 pm	7 The Close	
Feb 10th	Whist	2.00 pm	Village Hall	

## REGULAR HALL EVENTS

Coaley WI every 3rd Wednesday 7.30 pm

Pilates is Monday 9.30am - 11.30am, Wednesday 9.30 - 10.30am. Thursday 7.00 - 9.00 pm - term time only.

Badminton is every Monday 12.00 - 1.00 pm  
and every Friday 9.30 am - 10.30 am (only for U3A members)

Brownies (term time only). Monday 5.30 - 7.00 pm

Guides (term time only) 7.00 - 8.30pm

Taekwondo every Tuesday 6.30 - 8.00 pm

Film Night September - March only. Second Saturday in the month. 7.00 pm onwards

Whist - 2nd Monday of the month 2.00 - 4.00 pm

Lunch Club 4th Tuesday in the month at 12.30 pm

Friendship Group - Every second Tuesday in the month 2.30 - 4.00 pm

Parish Council meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month except August, at 7.30pm in the Jubilee Room. All residents are invited to attend. 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. **We may have to hold the January meeting on a different day to usual. Please check the parish council website.**

Please let us have your contributions for the next issue by  
Thursday 16th January 2020.

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: Keri James, Martha Wilcox and Steve Birkbeck in the CADS Panto Hansel and Gretel.*

# VILLAGE NEWS

## COALEY CLIMATE ACTION GROUP : COALEY CAN!

Most people now agree that Climate change is a real and present issue that requires immediate action to help minimise its future effects. Likewise, people are recognising that the 'throw away' culture of recent decades has negatively impacted our seas, countryside and air quality. Many people would like to get involved to make a difference however small a contribution it might be, but are not sure where to start or that by acting alone they feel their actions may count for little.

In Coaley we are setting up a group to support those in the local community who want to make changes in response to these issues and reduce the impacts we have on our local environment, which is such a lovely area. There are already groups in neighbouring areas, such as Uley, while not too far away Nailsworth have established themselves as a Climate Action Town since 2016, which we in Coaley can link-up with and learn from.

The Parish council supported the climate emergency a few months ago and is actively supporting the establishment of an action group in the village. If you are interested in getting involved, have some ideas or want to support, let us know by contacting

coaleycan@gmail.com, so we can make a difference in Coaley. There will be an open meeting early in the New Year in the village of the Coaley Climate Action Network. Details will be added to the Parish Council Website and advertised in the village.

## VILLAGE HALL AGM

The village hall AGM was held on the 9th October at which chairman Tony Eve gave a detailed report on the past year.

The hall now has a updated public address system with a hearing aid loop. The PA system can take inputs from DVD, CD, Bluetooth, radio microphone, lapel mics and an in line, hard wired mic. All inputs activate the hearing loop for those who wish to use it.

The proposed shop redevelopment has required a new lease for the village hall land occupied by the shop and this is just about ready for signing.

The hall has received a legacy from the estate of the late David John Billett consisting of four flats in Dursley and a house in Quedgeley. These properties are currently let and the hall is receiving this income. Great care has been taken to ensure that these properties do not become a liability and the hall finance committee's first priority will be to build a balance from

this income to ensure that any maintenance on the properties does not impact on the hall finances.

Tony also described the ongoing efforts to keep the hall in good condition with work carried out to the fire protection system, the lighting, air conditioning, drains, hot water and kitchen flooring. It is planned to install a Wi-Fi system in the near future.

Tony also had many organisations and individuals to thank for their help over the year. His full report is available on the village hall website at [www.coaleyvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.coaleyvillagehall.org.uk).

## COALEY VILLAGE SHOP

The Christmas opening hours for the shop are in the newsletter. Thanks to all those who give time over the holiday period to keep the shop open. As a Community Shop we are run entirely by volunteers, with no paid staff at all. This means all the stock buying, book-keeping, checking our compliance with all the relevant legislation and even cleaning are done by those giving their time for free. We have amazing support from a large number of local people but are always in need of new volunteers. Apart from helping to serve in the shop there are other ways you could help us. In particular we need someone to take minutes of our regular shop management meetings. This would involve a couple of hours every six weeks or so. If you think you could help us please contact Brenda on 860558 or leave contact details at the shop.

## COUNCILLOR RETIRES

Gemma Carter has stepped down from the Parish Council. The council would like to thank her for all her work on the council and as the council's representative on the Village Hall Committee, where she made a valuable contribution.

The council now has vacancies for two councillors. We hope to co-opt one new councillor at the December meeting and would like to encourage anyone else interested in becoming a councillor to speak to one of the existing councillors. Anyone is welcome to come along to a meeting.

### SHOP CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

Christmas Eve	8 am to 12 noon
Christmas Day	Closed
Boxing Day	10 am to 12 noon
Friday Dec 27th	8 am to 12 noon
Sat Dec 28th	8.30 am to 12 noon
Sun Dec 29th	9 am to 12 noon
Mon Dec 30th	8 am to 12 noon 3 pm to 6 pm
New Years Eve	8 am to 12 noon 3 pm to 6 pm
New Years Day	10 am to 12 noon

## CHARLOTTE'S TANDEMS

If you've seen a tandem whizzing down Tickshill or down through the village and then, later on, struggling back up, then that's probably us. Charlotte, Kate, Hannah and I moved to Coaley a year ago, from the metropolis of Dursley, where we'd been for the previous 20 years. Charlotte is 22, has severe learning difficulties, autism and is non-vocal. She can't safely ride a bike on her own but loves being on the back of a tandem.



As she loves riding so much, we set up a charity to lend tandems to loads of other disabled people. We have volunteer helpers all throughout the UK and Ireland, who get lots of people riding for the first time as a family or maybe for the first time for a very long time. Many of our borrowers have learning difficulties, autism, Down's Syndrome or visual impairments.

Have a look at our website, [CharlottesTandems.co.uk](http://CharlottesTandems.co.uk), or our



Facebook site, and see many photos of people having fun on our tandems. Maybe you know someone who'd like to ride?

## FRIENDS OF COALEY SCHOOL

FOCS would like to thank Stephen Cook, Nick Kent and Bruce Caldwell for again putting on a fantastic Fireworks display which raised £500 towards the school Playground Fund.

Coaley CoE Academy's Christmas Fair is on Friday 6th December from 3.15pm onwards, everyone welcome. Again raising funds for the Playground Fund.

FOCS 100 has been relaunched. Entry is available by contacting Jaqs Caldwell in the village. An annual draw of £50.00 will take place and annual entry is £5.

This years draw took place in the Old Fox on on Wednesday 13th of November.

## NEW HEADTEACHER

Hello, my name is Richard Lucas and I would like to introduce myself as the new Executive Headteacher of Coaley Primary Academy. I started in September and I have been bowled over with the warm welcome from everyone at school and from the village. Coaley school is a wonderful place for children to grow and learn, and a very special place to work. I have already seen the school improve and get better in the short space of time I've been here and I know this will carry on. The children are so kind and caring of each other, and the school has a great family feel. On Tuesday 26th November, we held an open morning and we had lots of parents and families from Coaley, and outside the village, to come and look around the school. All the families were impressed with the children's confidence in speaking to adults and pride in their school. If you know of any family in the village who didn't manage to come to our open morning, and who want to look around Coaley's amazing local school, then please give them a nudge to get in touch and come round for a personal guided tour.

We have been busy this term and the children are involved in all aspects of school life. The School Council (which is run by the children to improve aspects of school) have three big projects this year. They have to revamp the library; redesign the school logo to reflect what the school is like now; and to help design the new playground area with new games and activities. The

Coaley School House Trust very generously donated the school a large sum of money to help us update the library and we are all very grateful for their generosity. We will be buying books, making new shelving and adding some sparkle and magic to the library to make it a magical place for the children to read. Plans are already in place to get this done and the children are busy looking through catalogues and visiting other schools to see what they want, and what they can afford!

One of the strengths of the school is the family feel and how all the children look after each other. They were also keen to take part in Children in Need and we had a sporting themed day, to raise money for Pudsey Bear. They children had a great day, being sporting and keeping fit, as well as raising money for a good cause.



If anyone from the village wishes to find out more about your amazing local school, then please get in touch and pop in to find out more.

## WI

### *June Dunlop, Coaley WI Secretary*

The WI have already been preparing for Christmas with next years diaries and calendars ordered, Christmas concert tickets booked and planning for next years programme. There are regular events in the region to hear talks from 'new speakers' who hope to talk to local groups and these are always interesting and a good way to introduce new subjects. However, our September meeting was spent reminiscing as we were planning our stand for the Centenary event held in Gloucester Cathedral . Over 100 Gloucestershire WI's put on displays to represent what their WI means to them today and there was a special Centenary Service to mark the occasion.

A Welcome to Coaley leaflet is available from the WI and these have been distributed wherever we know there are new residents in the village. The leaflet provides local information about services and contact details and if you would like a copy, you can email your request as detailed below or call the Secretary.

Gloucestershire hold an annual quiz and our team made it through to the final stages although they were not the outright winners on the night with the winning team beating them by just 18 points. Well done everyone.

In October we were entertained by Pam Weaver and her subject was

'Star animals' . Pam lived on a farm breeding and showing Dexter cattle and won many awards including owning the top herd in GB and owning the top female and top male dexter in the country. She was approached to use her cattle in filming which she agreed to without really knowing what was involved or what the film was only to find herself rubbing shoulders with Kevin Kostner and crew in Robin Hood Prince of Thieves. Pam's film work increased and extended to period dramas including Tess of the D'urbevilles, Lark rise to Candleford, Moll Flanders among other. Pam was encouraged to write a book which was published under the title 'Whatever next' and copies were available for members to buy and Pam signed copies.

November is our AGM followed by Christmas crafts when we will be learning how to block print just in time for printing our own Christmas wrapping paper and labels. December is the Christmas meal which is always an enjoyable way to celebrate the year together.

Visitors and new members are always welcome.

Email [coaleywi@hotmail.com](mailto:coaleywi@hotmail.com)  
facebook: coaleywi



# CHRISTMAS

@ THE OLD FOX AT COALEY

## NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

We will see in the New Year with the amazing Steve Ferbrache, and canapés served throughout the evening.....We ask for a small donation on the door, which will all be given to our village shop fundraiser.

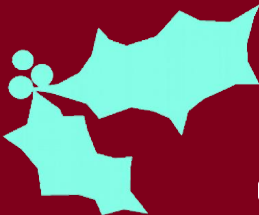


**MUSIC NIGHT – WITH  
STEVE FERBRACHE**

**SAT 14TH DEC**

## *MUSIC NIGHT – FRI 20TH DEC*

**ONE VOICE, ONE GUITAR AND A FEW FANCY FOOT PEDALS, AND A TRUMPET FOR GOOD MEASURE...WE PRESENT ... ALEX CHAPMAN**



## *More Information*

The famous Waterley Bottom Mummers will be here on Friday 20th 8pm with their spectacular Old English traditional play.  
Christmas carols with.....Dursley male Voice Choir – Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> 7.30pm

**OUR BIG BOXING DAY QUIZ – 5PM  
ALL PROCEEDS TO COALEY VILLAGE SHOP**

# Coaley Pantomime - Hansel and Gretel

“Exceedingly good, Ma!”

This year’s production was set in the pantomime village of Bakewell, home to Ma Kipling’s bakery and her famous Fabulous, Featherlight Fairy Cakes. Audiences were treated to plenty of colourful characters, including Ma Kipling, the fabulous Dame herself and aunt to Hansel and Gretel, played by Steve Birkbeck. Her friendly but not too bright assistant, Oswald, was played by Keri James and the pair provided a polished duet of quick-fire humour. Martha Wilcox gave a mature and very confident performance as Ma’s beautiful daughter, Ulrika. When it was announced that the Great British Bake Off was coming to town, a plan had to be hatched to stop the villainous baker and Mafia Boss, Barry Bagel, (played by Paul Day, complete with Italian accent throughout – Bravo!) from beating Ma to the title of Star Baker. Bagel’s master plan - cheating - to obtain baking supremacy was aided (and hindered) by his inept henchmen, Amaretti and Biscotti, played by Gemma Sirett and Hannah Daniels, both having fun with their comic roles.

Meanwhile, in formerly crime-free Bakewell, a duet of bumbling policemen played by Lizzie Burrows and Simon Ellis, (in his triumphant first appearance in a Coaley production) gave audiences plenty of laughs as they fumbled their way in and out of the story. To emphasise their lack of experience in the ways of policing, they gave a stirring rendition of Busy Doing Nothing! They were soon put to real use, however, when Hansel and Gretel were kidnapped by the Cosa Nostra (or was it the Cosy Nostrils?) in an attempt to steal Ma’s secret recipe. Time to put their detective work into practice!

The second act opened with a magical scene, set in Gingerbread Wood, with a witch conjuring up the ingredients for making a gingerbread house. Lighting maestro Stephen Cook, (ably assisted by a new apprentice, Billy Smeaton)



*Hannah Daniels & Gemma Sirett*



*Above: Mia Coggins, Alistair Smith and Emily Smith  
Below: Simon Ellis and Lizzie Burrows*



provided a spooky atmosphere with the scenery being eerily lit by ultraviolet light. Younger members of the cast appeared (or not!) as sweets, cakes and gingerbread men, which seemed to float about as if by magic! The house itself then floated into view and settled in the wood, setting the scene for the rest of the story.

Meanwhile, Hansel and Gretel, (Alistair Smith and Mia Coggins) had escaped the clutches of the Mafia and stumbled upon the gingerbread home of the good witch, Amelia Allspice (Emily Smith) who lived there with her daughter Saffron (Molly Bywater). When Amelia found Hansel and Gretel eating their real estate, she soon discovered their connection to Ma Kipling and it became clear that in order to stop Bagel winning the Bake Off, the judges would need to be replaced and the result rigged. Prue Leith and Paul Hollywood would have to go and Amelia and Oswald would have to take their place! The Bake Off scene was opened by presenters Noel Field-Dressing and Sandi Toxic, played by Ray Fielding (no relation) and Mia Griffith, who had both excelled in producing their own hilarious and over-the-top costumes.

The eagle-eyed among the audiences may have noticed the realistic detail through the windows of the Bake Off Tent scenery, which showed a view of the real town of Bakewell, though it is not quite clear if the ducking stool still remains! A round of applause to the Coaley Art Club for their superb work in designing and producing the fabulous scenery.

Full marks to everyone involved in this splendid performance. A review such as this really doesn't do justice to the amount of effort that goes in, not just on the stage but also behind the scenes and in the many months leading up to these productions.



*Mia Griffith & Ray Fielding*

Well done to all and thank you to everyone who came along to support this annual village tradition.



*Above: The Magical Gingerbread Wood*

*Right: Paul Day*

*Below: The whole cast sing the finale song.*



## TEMPTATIONS! – LILLIE B'S PATISSERIE

*Coaley Shop helps launch a new business. By Martin Gregg.*

If you've been into Coaley Shop recently you will most certainly have been tempted by the array of cakes and bakes cunningly positioned so that you can't miss them as you open the door. These have been produced by Coaley's newest young entrepreneur, Lillie Barnett.



As I sat down to talk with Lillie about her patisserie business I couldn't help overhearing a customer asking for a slice of that delicious ginger cake with cinnamon drizzle. You might have seen

this on her Facebook page.

Lillie started baking at the age of 10 making bakes and puddings for family occasions. At KLB she enjoyed cookery lessons and took her GCSE, achieving a grade 9, the highest grade possible - higher than an A\* in old money. Her stand out bake at was a five layer rainbow cake covered in smarties.

Still only 16 years old, Lillie has already registered her business having gained her food hygiene level 2 certificate and achieved a five star food inspection rating. Her mum, Nicki, got her started on double entry book keeping and business insurance. She is now taking a patisserie and confectionary course at Gloucestershire College, studying three days a week for a level two certificate and she is hoping to progress to level three.

Lillie started volunteering in the shop as part of her Duke of Edinburgh silver award. After she had proved herself as a reliable volunteer she asked Brenda Board and Jackie Davis whether she could showcase some of her cakes and soon had customers asking for more. She now bakes for the shop twice a week and has a full order book of commissions.

Lillie is now planning a special Christmas range so watch out for them. They'll be flying off the counter like....well - (hot?) cakes!! Lillie can also take orders for Christmas cakes but you'll have to get your order in soon. I've tasted her samples and

there's sure to be a big demand.

Lillie says that she wouldn't have been able to achieve all she has without the support of Coaley Shop customers and especially the support and encouragement from Brenda and Jackie, the chair and vice-chair of the shop committee. She is looking forward to the new shop, which will have more space for refreshments and, of course, cakes and pastries. Lillie's ambition is to develop her business and maybe to have her own café one day. Lillie would love to be on 'The Great British Bake Off' one day and I have every confidence that we'll see her there in the not too distant future.



You can see some of Lillie's creations on her Facebook page – if you use Facebook it's 'Lillie B's Patisserie'.

St Bartholomew's Church, Coaley

## Words and Music for a Winter Afternoon

A light hearted entertainment  
with seasonal readings and music  
followed by mulled wine, mince pies  
(and the famous tea & cake)  
and a chance to chat.

Sunday 8th December  
3pm

Admission free

St Bartholomew's Church, Coaley

## Crib Service

Christmas Eve  
3pm



# PRODUCE SHOW FOR ALL SEASONS

A splendid crowd gathered at the shop to see the Christmas tree lights switched on, sing some carols and enjoy a glass of mulled wine.



The 2020 Coaley Produce Show Calendars are on sale in the village shop and the Old Fox. Thank you to all the photographers who contributed. Profits go towards the Christmas tree.



JANUARY



FEBRUARY



MARCH



APRIL



MAY



JUNE



JULY



AUGUST



SEPTEMBER



OCTOBER



NOVEMBER



DECEMBER



**P  
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**NOEL**

St Bartholomew's Church, Coaley  
invites you to join them at Christmas

**Saturday December 14th**  
**Messy Church 10am-12 noon**

**Sunday December 15th**  
**Carols by candlelight 4pm**

**Christmas Eve**  
**Crib Service 3pm**  
**Christmas Communion 10pm**

**Christmas Day**  
**Christmas Communion 9.15am**

Rev. Sue & the churchwardens  
wish you a happy & peaceful Christmas

**Christmas**

**J  
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Y**

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

I have been impressed with the information I have received regarding suspicious vehicles since my insertion in the previous newsletter. Most of them were authentic, except a vehicle carrying gravel for sale.

The person approached, declined the offer, but the vehicle returned to try again, only to be refused again.

Anyone receiving such an offer, please contact me a.s a.p. The police had received no complaints regarding gravel for sale.

Regarding the ongoing problem of cars parked outside the Railway Station, I had a discussion with the Police, who informed me that the vehicles were legitimately parked. I did suggest to them that surely an obstruction was caused in addition to parking dangerously!

Also discussed were matters of a confidential nature, of which they alleged knowledge and said it was 'on their radar'! No further comment from me!!

In the last issue of this magazine was a comment regarding the parking of vehicles on the footpath.

It was, and still is an offence to do so, by causing an obstruction, mainly to pedestrians and wheelchair or buggy users.

I will take this matter to the other police

team, but they obviously observe the problem themselves when on patrol.

With Christmas approaching, I repeat my usual advice not to leave presents on display in cars, not to use mobile phones whilst driving, not to drink and drive, either of which could ruin your Christmas.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, and thank you for your support.

Ken Wibberley  
Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator

## QUIZ NIGHT

### COALEY VILLAGE HALL

**SATURDAY 1<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY**

**7 FOR 7.30PM**

**£10.00 PER PERSON**

**TO INCLUDE CHILLI SUPPER**

**(Mild or vegetarian pre-ordered)**

**BAR**

**MAX OF 6 PER TEAM**

**ENTRIES To**

**Fran Rees 01453 890352**

**francesrees@gmail.com**

St Bartholomew's Church, Coaley

Messy  
Christmas

Saturday 14th December

10am-12noon

crafts  
painting  
songs

refreshments

Come and hear the Christmas Story

Children of all ages welcome

St Bartholomew's Church, Coaley

Music & Cake

featuring

Third Harmony

Recorder Trio

Sunday 19th January

3pm

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

All Welcome

## Handyperson required

Coaley C of E Primary Academy School are looking to recruit a Handyperson on a casual basis to oversee and manage a wide range of repairs across our school. These tasks include trade skills, repair work, maintenance work etc.

The perfect candidate will need to be organised, have good time management skills, have a knowledge of general repair skills, good attention to detail, be able to adhere to Health & Safety guidelines and have public liability insurance in place.

The Key Responsibilities are; performing general maintenance/repairs, undertake ad hoc tasks/emergency tasks as required, help with routine gardening on the premises and maintain the property exterior through the seasons.

Coaley C of E Primary Academy are committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children and expect all staff to share this commitment. A Disclosure and Barring Service Certificate will be required and two good graded references.

## USEFUL CONTACTS

Parish Councillors	Stephen Cook	860504
	Martin Percy	890818
	Ben Bywater	07909 545303
Parish Clerk	John Hobson	07715 558110
	Penny Wait	860191
	Lynn Thornton clerk@coaleypc.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)		08000 328 1111
Street Lights		08000 514514
Community Wellbeing Service (was Village Agent)	communitywellbeing.stroud@nhs.net	0345 8638323