

# Coaley Parish

# NEWSLETTER

Issue no 113

August / September 2020



Village Hall Reopens  
Extended Shop Opening

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EVENT	TIME	VENUE	CONTACT
Aug 6th	Knitting Group	2pm	Lapley View	Barbara Davis 890679
Aug 30th	Gardens Cup Judging			
Sep 2nd	Wives Fellowship	7.30pm	Village Hall	Barbara Davis
Sep 3rd	Knitting Group	2pm	TBA	Barbara Davis

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 Wednesday 16th September 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: James and Lewis Buffin the volunteer newspaper deliverers with COSPA chair Brenda Board. Photo: Mike Davis.*

# VILLAGE NEWS

## NEWS FROM COALEY VILLAGE SHOP

The shop is now open from 9 am to 1.30 pm Mondays to Fridays, still 9 am to 12 noon Saturdays and Sundays. We hope this will be useful for our customers, and allow them to spread their visits to reduce queueing and crowding. We hope we will have enough volunteers to stay open all afternoon from September when the school re-opens, assuming there is no second lockdown. You can check on the exact opening times on our website [www.coaleycommunityshop.co.uk](http://www.coaleycommunityshop.co.uk) or on Facebook at Coaley Village Community Shop. We will continue to deliver orders during the week. Please phone the shop on 899000 between 9 and 11.30 Monday to Friday and we will deliver early that afternoon.

Now the government has required everyone to wear a face covering in shops we hope all our customers will be able cooperate with this. We have re-usable masks available in the shop for a donation (£2 suggested). These are made by "Sew for key workers Glos." and all money raised goes to Stroud Food bank or Longfield Hospice.

## NEWSPAPER DELIVERY

We are very grateful to Lewis and James who have been delivering newspapers to the main part of the

village since March. They have been reliable and punctual, turning up in all weathers, and getting the right papers to the right houses. This was very useful to our older residents as they could continue to enjoy their papers with no risk to their health. With the shop working with reduced hours and only allowing one or two customers in at a time, it also helped to prevent long queues. As the boys return to school in September we will no longer be able to offer a general newspaper delivery service. If, because of health concerns or isolation requirements, you cannot collect your paper, please contact Brenda (860558) and she will try to put you in touch with a neighbour or passing resident who could drop one in.

Although Lewis (L) and James (R) volunteered to deliver the newspapers unpaid, they have been rewarded for their efforts. Here they are below after being presented with their gifts by Brenda.



## WATER MAIN ON THE HAM

Residents along The Ham have recently suffered from a series of water main bursts. It seems that the pipe - installed about 60 years ago - has come to the end of its life because every time a leak was repaired a new leak would appear somewhere else. In all there have been about six leaks in just a few weeks. Also several valves in the pipe have failed, requiring yet more holes to be dug. Residents and the council have complained repeatedly to Severn Trent Water. It has been difficult to get them to accept responsibility for some of the leaks - excuses offered include it's water from a spring and it's on private property so not our problem. They still have to attend to one remaining leak.

To try and reduce the frequency of leaks they have installed a pressure reducing valve at the junction of The Ham and Ticks Hill, which so far seems to have done the trick.

The council have asked STW to consider replacing the whole water main, as was done on the main road through the village a few years ago. Word from the STW people working on the leaks is that they have accepted that this needs doing but we haven't heard this officially and we don't have a date for when the work will be done.

The numerous calls and messages to Severn Trent show that their incident tracking system is not effective. Calls to ask about progress on a repair have

frequently been met with a denial that a problem exists, despite it being reported before and STW staff coming out to have a look. The council recommends that if residents have to report water problems anywhere in the village, that they get the incident reference number so that STW can find the incident on their system when a follow up call is required.

## COALEY VILLAGE HALL

The Hall Committee is pleased to report that the Village Hall is open for business. The Hall Committee has worked hard to put Government rules in place.

There are hand sanitizers and surface wipes at the entrances to the main hall and Jubilee Room. The rooms are thoroughly cleaned before and after use. A Covid First Aid box has been put together and this is in a prominent position in the Hall.

Bookings can be made through the booking clerk as in the past but note that there is a limit of 30 people in the Main Hall and 10 in the Jubilee Room. The hirer must conform to government rules at the time of their activity.

These details are correct at the moment but things can change. The Hall Committee is committed to providing a safe environment for all users.

## NEWS FROM COALEY CHURCH

Through the lockdown Coaley Church remained closed in accordance with government rules. Services, in conjunction with Lower Cam church, have continued each Sunday via Zoom. These have been well attended, and we have all been grateful for the technology.

For the last few weeks the church has been open during the day for private prayer, with access limited to certain parts of the building. Either Revd Sue or Revd Peter are in the church on Tuesday and Thursday between 10-11am. After consulting the Bishop of Gloucester, the PCC, churchwardens and clergy made the decision to not reopen for services until September, provided it is safe to do so then. Services will continue to be Zoomed.

In August there will be two outdoor, socially distanced services on Coaley playing field. The dates are 9th and 23rd at 3pm. Everyone is welcome to join in. Those attending will need to bring a chair or rug on which to sit. There will be a celebration of Holy Communion and if you would like to participate in this part of the service please bring along some bread which will be blessed by Revd Sue. Provided the weather is kind, those attending can bring along a picnic to enjoy after the service.

Hopefully, services inside church will resume in September and providing the Covid situation continues to improve,

Sunday afternoon Music & Cake concerts will start again in October. Details next edition if it is possible for us to do this.

Through the school holidays Churches Together are doing weekly outside pop up take away cafes in various venues in Cam & Dursley. Coaley Church has linked with the Quarry Chapel and will be serving socially distanced free tea, coffee, soft drinks, cakes and craft activities to take away on Tuesday July 28th & August 11th & 18th.

## COALEY PANTOMIME

The show must go on...

### BUT NOT YET

As everybody has been suspecting, this year's pantomime will not be able to proceed in the current circumstances. Most of the preparatory work has already taken place and we are still hoping to present Humpty Dumpty and the Magic Wall sometime next year, (hopefully in November) and only when it will be safe to do so. Grateful thanks must go to all the people who have worked so hard on this production already and although it seems a long way off at the moment, we look forward to welcoming our ever-supportive audiences in the future. As the Late Dame Vera once sang, "We'll meet again..."

Best wishes and stay safe.

CADS

## PRODUCE SHOW

The Coaley Produce show committee have reluctantly decided that the 2020 Produce show will not take place in September. We have cancelled this year's show entirely as we cannot hold a safe indoor event. We will use the same items in next year's schedule so if you have made any items for the Arts and Craft sections then they should still be able to be entered next year.

Instead if the weather looks promising we plan to hold a village family picnic on the recreation ground on Saturday 5th September at 12 noon. We hope lots of you will come in household groups and bubbles, you will need to provide your own chairs and food. It would be a chance for people to meet and chat, whilst staying safely distanced. There may be some fun competitions which will be announced on the Produce show website [www.Coaleyproduceshow.co.uk](http://www.Coaleyproduceshow.co.uk) and on Facebook. Look out for posters in the shop and around the village.

The Gardens cup will go ahead as planned on 30th August. "My Vegetable Garden" is this year's theme. Hopefully many vegetable gardens have had lots of attention during lockdown. Entry forms will be available in Coaley shop or from Tylan Bachelli on 860230. An experienced and helpful judge would visit your garden and chat to you if you wish. We can also visit gardens alone if you are out or wanting to stay isolated. We do hope to have lots of entries - no plot too small. Allotments can be entered if

you are a Coaley resident, providing the allotment is in Coaley or in Ashmead.

We will also still be asking for photos for the 2021 Coaley calendar. We will put a box in Coaley shop in August to accept photos or bring them to the picnic. We want Coaley scenes in landscape format please. We also hope to have an illuminated Christmas tree again this year to provide some festive cheer.

We were really pleased with all your support for our Plant swap and sale in May. The final amount raised was £636, a fantastic amount. It was split between Coaley shop and Yercombe Lodge care home.

## KNITTING GROUP

The group restarted in July by having a small group meet in the garden at Lapley View. The next session is again in the garden at Lapley View on Thursday August 6th from 2pm to 4pm.

The Family Haven in Gloucester, the Charity the group knits for, has continued to help its clients by phone calls and reopened the nursery in June and will be reopening fully in September. Arrangements are being made to make a first delivery to them since lockdown.

## CHURCHYARD

Thank you to the volunteers who worked so hard on the churchyard. It looks great.



**IT'S GREAT TO BE BACK!**

**KITCHEN OPENS : SATURDAY AUGUST 1ST**

**MONDAY : CLOSED**

**TUESDAY : CLOSED**

**WEDNESDAY : 4 - CLOSE**

**THURSDAY : 12pm - CLOSE**

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY : 12pm - CLOSE**

**SUNDAY : 12pm - CLOSE (LUNCH ONLY 12 - 3pm)**

**FOOD SERVED : LUNCH 12 -3pm EVENING 6 - 9pm**

Don't forget: Our Takeaway Service is still available for drinks and food, including our excellent Sunday Lunch all freshly prepared and packaged for you to enjoy.

We would like to say a big "Thank You" to everyone for your continued support!

## **MUSIC**

**ACOUSTIC TUNES IN THE GARDEN with RAY & OLLIE**

**SATURDAY 8th AUGUST @ 6pm**

**Folk & Blues with a Contemporary Twist.**

# PLAYGROUP

Did you know Coaley village playgroup is a registered charity who has been providing quality childcare for children ages 2 – 4 years for around 40 years? Being part of the Coaley and surrounding areas community is right at centre of our ethos. Coaley playgroup is fortunate to be located within the beautiful, spacious grounds of Coaley Academy and have our own outdoor area, vegetable patch and access to the school facilities.

## What we have been doing this term?

Well, the term certainly went quickly and we were able to welcome back the children to our setting. Despite the slight adaptations to our practice, we still managed to have lots of fun. As well as our pre-school preparations, we learnt how to make paper airplanes and helicopters during transport week. We had to do lots of problem solving to rescue the dinosaur and revisited some of our favourite stories such as

going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen and What the Ladybird heard by Julia Donaldson. Our term finished with the pre-school leavers celebration day, where all the children took part in some fun races, party games and dancing as well as a visit to the ice cream van, with thanks to Mr Lucus at Coaley Academy.

## Our community

We are a committee run playgroup and we really value the support we have from our parents and community. Fundraising is vital to providing exciting learning opportunities, trips and new equipment. Considering the current circumstances, we have a few small on-going fundraising opportunities happening. In Coaley shop you will find some lovely hand-crafted crocheted flowerpots and outside the shop is a shoe recycling bank, where all proceeds go to the playgroup. In addition to these, we were able to hold a Readathon, where all the children took part in being sponsored to read

	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	Coaley crawlers and toddler group 9am -11am	
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.



their favourite books at home. We were able to raise an amazing £200, which was fantastic. Without the invaluable time and effort, the parents and community give, the playgroup wouldn't be the fantastic place it is, so a huge THANK -YOU to you all.

### **September 2020**

We have spaces in September; please see our new opening and session times.

### **Getting in touch**

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/>

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

Facebook: Coaley Village Playgroup

Finally, all the staff and committee members would like to thank everyone, who has made Coaley playgroup an exceptional place and wish you all a wonderful summer break. We look forward to welcoming back our returning children in September and can not wait to meet our new and prospective starters.

### **WIVES FELLOWSHIP**

The plan is to meet on September 2nd at 7.30pm in the Village Hall to discuss the way forward. No refreshments will be served.

### **COALEYFEST**

Friends of Coaley School have cancelled Coaleyfest for 2020. This has been a difficult decision however it is the right decision in line with current government guidance.

Everhot have kindly contributed their sponsorship, which we are putting towards the development of the playground. A big thank you.

We'd also like to thank Rocket Rentals. We will use the glasses next year. Coaleyfest 2021 is 12th June.

### **MONEY FOUND**

A sizeable amount of money was found several weeks ago on the side of the road in Far Green but no one has come forward to claim it, despite having advertised it in the shop and on the Coaley community Facebook page.

If you think it could be yours, please contact 01453 890828. If the amount and denominations tally, we'll reunite it with its rightful owner!

### **BROADBAND**

The village has been waiting a long time for the promised installation of fibre to the premises broadband.

The scheduled start of work for our area has again slipped from late 2020 to early 2021, but there are at last signs of progress. Gigaclear surveyors have recently been spotted on Knapp Lane and Ham Lane.

United Benefice of St Bartholomew

Lower Cam and Coaley

Outdoor

# Summer Services

Sunday August 9th

Sunday August 23rd

3pm

Coaley Playing Field

Please bring a chair or rug.

Holy Communion will be celebrated. Bring bread  
which will be consecrated during the service.

Bring a picnic for after the service

Everyone Welcome

## WI

Like everyone, we are learning to adapt to life in lockdown and we miss getting together so we have turned to zoom. Our first meeting was a chance to catch up with everyone and see wholt was lovely to see so many of you (ten in total) join our Zoom meeting in June, including Barbara's cat who kept walking across the keyboard seeing what was going on. Overcoming technology can be baffling and it was great to see you having a go and being able to chat together. We appreciate that talking across the internet isnt our preferred way to meet up and we can't wait to get together in person but, we have to stay safe so this is our best option at present. Thank you to Suzie for organising this.

We asked everyone about lockdown and what they missed, what they enjoyed and if they had learnt anything new. The thing we all missed the most was family, friends, social contact but also holidays. Lockdown has given us time to reflect, as well as looking at how we live and many of us have changed how we use items that were difficult to get hold of at the start of lockdown and we are more conscious of looking after our environment. Shopping trips are less frequent so we are planning meals and therefore our shopping. Things that members liked were being at home, speaking to people we havent spoken to before, the kindness and helpfulness of friends and neighbours, Coaley shop and the general slower pace of life alongside the birdsong. The plant swap was

popular and gave many the chance to donate those surplus plants and get around the village (and made over £600). Our new skills acquired include haircutting, online shopping sewing, planning menus, working in the shop and of course, using zoom.

We asked the members about future meetings and what they wanted to do and we agreed to continue with zoom as long as we are unable to meet in person. Speakers will be booked for the first 30 minutes of the meeting followed by any business matters and time to catch up with everyone.

Members were advised that the WI has extended its membersip fees for this year due to the lockdown so your membership for next year will be renewed in April 21 and then in April each year.

Denman is closed to visitors and classes are being held on line so if you want to book any, you can see whats on offer on the Denman website.

Our next meeting will take place on July 15th at 7.30pm. We will be using zoom to hear from our very own Lillie B who has been keeping us stocked with fabulous cakes and bakes throughout the lockdown. If you havent joined us on zoom before just send us your email address and we will send the invite.

## WHIST

This is suspended till further notice as Government rules make it impossible to hold sessions.

## USEFUL CONTACTS

Parish Councillors	Stephen Cook	860504
	Martin Percy	890818
	Ben Bywater	07909 545303
	Gemma Carter	860754
	John Hobson	07715 558110
	Penny Wait	860191
Parish Clerk	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 coaleysnowwarden@gmail.com	860665 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