

Coaley Parish

NEWSLETTER



Issue no 128

February / March 2023

Produce Show look ahead
Easter Events

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EVENT	TIME	VENUE
5th Feb	CUCAN Repair Cafe	2pm-4pm	Uley Village Hall
19th Feb	Music and Cake	3pm	Church
27th Feb	CRAG Quiz	7pm	Old Fox
1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd 29th Mar	Charity Lent Soup Lunch	12.30pm	Hall
1st April	Messy Easter	10am-12pm	Church
7th April	Good Friday famine lunch	12.30pm	Hall
30th April & 1st May	Produce Show Plant Swap		Throughout Village

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 March 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: Long winter shadows.

A NEW YEAR FOR COALEY SHOP

Firstly a big thanks to our volunteers for all the work they do in keeping the shop a thriving hub for the community. And to the new volunteers who responded to our call and have joined our group. We still need more hands on deck so please do contact Steve Wills (steve.wills@outlook.com) if you have a little time and would like to help.

With Christmas over we are reviewing our stock and all the things we offer – and we would welcome your requests and suggestions. We now have more groups using the café for meetings and want to see if there are other ways we could serve the community. So if you have any thoughts or ideas there is a

suggestion box in the shop – or else again contact Steve Wills.

And after some months where our website was out of action it has now been restored with a new address – www.coaleycommunityshop.org. It looks just as it did before, but is also something we are reviewing so we again welcome your thoughts on what we should be changing.

We wish you all a good 2023, even in the current climate, and remember that if there's anything you need where you think we could help then please come to the shop and ask.



PRODUCE SHOW

Start planning – September will soon be here!

The Produce Show committee are delighted to announce the classes for the 2023 Produce Show. As you know this is held on the first Saturday of September. We know that you gardeners and crafters out there appreciate advance notice in order to create your amazing entries.

The full schedule can be found on the Produce Show website <http://www.coaleyproduceshow.org.uk>.

Arts & Crafts classes

Knitted/crocheted tank top up to age 5.

Knitted/crocheted cot blanket

A Christmas stocking, any medium. Size 11"-14". Can be donated for village decorations.

A Papier Mache bowl.

A wood carving.

An item made from salt dough.

A bug house/hotel made from natural or recycled materials.

Sea scape - painting.

A painted Coaley scene, A4 landscape format. May be included in calendar (with permission).

A tree - any medium, could include paint, fabric, recycled materials.

A humorous cartoon (any subject, any medium except photography).

A Limerick starting "The country has got a new King....."

Photography classes

Two Seasons (two pictures on one A4 sheet).

Bird/Birds.

Emotion.

Wonderful World.

The 'Fruit and vegetable' and 'Flowers' classes remain unchanged (although there a couple of changes for plants in pots). The challenge for these classes is, as always, the weather. Let's hope 2023 brings a good growing season.

Check out our website closer to September to find guides for some of the flower classes and recipes for some of the Home Economic classes.

Happy New Year to you all.

PLANT SWAP

This year's plant swap will take place on 30 April and 1 May around the village so please sew a few extra seeds, save any plants that have self-seeded and any plants you divide.

HOW TO DISPOSE OF WASTE IN OUR AREA

There are so many ways to dispose of our unwanted items, that it can be difficult to know what we should take where. We're planning to run a series of articles in the newsletter about where in our area you can repair, recycle, donate or dispose of particular items: from disposables such as packaging, to less disposable items such as textiles or electricals. This time we're focussing on garden waste but for information on anything else, you can ask Gloucestershire Recycles' 'Waste Wizard' at: www.gloucestershirerecycles.com/waste-wizard/.

Dealing with Garden Waste

If you left your garden untouched over the winter to provide food and habitat for wildlife, it will soon be time to clear up ready for spring. But what can we do with all that garden waste?

1. Create a compost heap: If you have space, it means fewer trips to the tip and compost for free! Avoid putting fresh perennial weeds (such as bindweed) into small compost heaps though. Instead, first add them to a covered bucket of water to rot for 4 weeks.

2. Kerbside collection: In parts of Coaley accessible by large refuse lorries, a chargeable fortnightly garden waste collection service runs between February and November. It costs £51.50 per year (2023 price) plus a one-off £20 fee for the wheelie bin. The following can be added: bark, cut

flowers, grass cuttings, hedge clippings, house plants, leaves, shrub prunings, twigs and small branches, untreated sawdust and wood shavings, and weeds.

3. Take them to the tip: You can take ALL garden waste to the Pyke Quarry Household Recycling Centre near Horsley. This is open 9am-5pm in summer and 10am-4pm in winter. You need to book a slot online first. Put waste into reusable containers that can be emptied into the skips.

4. What about a Community Compost Scheme? Wouldn't it be amazing to have a community compost heap where we could all take our garden waste and then buy quality, plastic- and peat-free compost at a reduced cost? Bisley village have such a scheme (see: bisleycommunitycompostscheme.org.uk) and we'd like something similar in Coaley. Please email coaleyuleycan@gmail.com for more information or if you would like to be involved.

What about lighting a bonfire?
Bonfires are a commonly used to



dispose of garden waste, but the smoke can cause a nuisance to neighbours. They also contribute to air pollution, reduced road visibility and pose a fire hazard. As a means of disposal, bonfires are becoming less acceptable.

No laws prohibit garden bonfires or restrict them to certain times. However, regular smoky bonfires, or a single very polluting one, could be regarded as a statutory nuisance and result in a legal notice served to you by the Council. Also, any person affected by a bonfire can lodge a complaint at the Magistrates Court, which could result in a fine.

In the next newsletter we will talk about how best to reduce, dispose of, or recycle, general household waste such as packaging or food waste.

Coaley and Uley Climate Action Network (CUCAN)

WI

Coaley WI's closed 2022 with a Christmas meal for members, partners and friends, a quiz and Secret Santa.

Our new programme is included in this newsletter for you. Visitors and new members always welcome. The new membership year starts in April so why not come along for a taster and see what you think.

DESIGNS FOR THE FUTURE

At our first CRAG meeting of the year, we were lucky enough to spend some time looking through the wonderful recreation ground designs and logos created by the children at Coaley Primary School. We were so



impressed with the amazing ideas and we will be using lots of them in the coming months for our design brief, which we can take to suppliers. Some of the CRAG volunteers will be visiting the school again in February to thank the children and talk to them about some of our favourite designs and logos.

To raise funds to turn the plans into a reality we are holding a quiz night at The Fox on Monday 27th February.

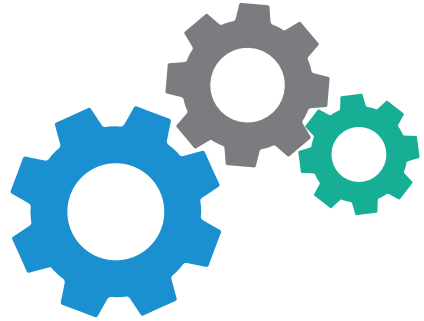
Don't forget to book your table and looking forward to seeing lots of you there.



Coaley & Uley Climate Action Network
(CUCAN)

REPAIR CAFE

THROW IT AWAY? NO WAY!!



SUNDAY 5TH
FEBRUARY, 2-4pm

ULEY 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



Covid precautions: Please DO NOT attend if you or a close contact are feeling unwell.

PLAYGROUP

Topics

We have a busy first term welcoming our children back as well as some new faces. All of the children have settled in well. We enjoyed all of our Christmas activities last term and finished with a lovely Christmas party at the Village Hall.

This term we have been reading the colour monster book and learning all about our feelings and We will also be celebrating Chinese new year.

Fundraising

Discussions have been taking place about fundraising for this year. You will be pleased to hear that Coaleyrocks and the sheep hunt will be returning this year so watch this space for future dates and plans. Thank you to Susy for starting the ball rolling with organisation.

Availability

We are still very busy and encourage those in the village that would like to bring their child to Coaley playgroup to get in touch to add your child's name to the list. We currently have a waiting list until September 2024 and it is already looking very busy for then.



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/>

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

Gmail: coaleyplaygroup@gmail.com

Telephone: 07434364850

January 2023 Session Times

	Morning session	Full session
Monday, Wednesday and Friday	8:50am – 12:50pm	8:50am – 2:50pm
Tuesday and Thursday	8:50am - 12:50pm	closed

Coaley WI Programme 2023

Month	Event	Comments
January 18 th	Games evening	A new year get together and games evening .
February 15 th	SARA-Severn Area Rescue Association	SARA tell us about the volunteer lifeboat inland search and rescue charity, with 7 lifeboat and rescue stations along the length of the River Severn.
March 15 th	Tax, care and the new guy from Silver time legal	Guidance on subjects such as Inheritance Tax, care and how we pay for it, how to protect your assets after re-marriage and Powers of Attorney.
April 19 th	Hats	Based in Coaley, Annabel is a hat maker and will share with us her story and process for hat making . *Competition for the best decorated hat*
<i>April 30th and May 1st</i>	<i>Plant swap</i>	<i>Organised by the Produce show committee .</i>
May 17 th	Forensics	The life of a Metropolitan Police Crime Scene Investigator, find out what actually happens beyond the crime scene tape
June 21 st	Wine trip	A trip out for an evening of wine tasting and nibbles.
<i>June 24th</i>	<i>Coaley Fete</i>	
July 19 th	Mercy ships	Mercy Ships provides free surgical interventions and dental treatments to those without access in developing countries.
August	No meeting	No formal meeting but we hope to organise an outing.
<i>September 2nd</i>	<i>Produce show</i>	
September 20 th	Bees	Last year we learnt how to make beeswax wraps, this time we learn all about the life and work of the bees. *competition – how many items beginning with the letter B can you fit into a toilet roll holder*
October 18 th	Hearing dogs charity	This charity trains dogs to alert deaf people to important and life-saving sounds they would otherwise miss
November 15 th	AGM	Its time again for our Annual general meeting and a Christmas craft workshop
December 20 th	Christmas Social	An opportunity to spend time together celebrating the festive season

Coaley WI meet in Coaley village hall on the third Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm.

Visitors welcome.



Coaleywi

Coaleywi@hotmail.com

HAZARDOUS JUNCTION

You can't have failed to notice that the junction at the top of Frocester Hill has had a spate of accidents recently. Numerous vehicles have gone over the edge of the hill into Coaley Wood. It seems that these are vehicles travelling at speed from the Cockadilly direction and failing to stop at the junction or take the bend to go down Frocester Hill.

Gloucestershire County Council Highways have come up with a scheme to improve road markings and signage around the junction. They are also assessing whether a safety barrier can be installed to prevent vehicles going over the edge. This work is due to be done in April.

Below: A van and a car from two accidents just before Christmas.

TIME TO GET WALKING AGAIN!

With Spring on its way we start to think about getting out to walk in the beautiful English countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Gloucestershire <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/glos> has loads of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (who maintains the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Gloucestershire (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you



St Bartholomew's Church, Coaley

invites you to join them

in the Village Hall for

Charity Soup Lunches

through Lent

Wednesday at 12.30

1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd,

& 29th March

Good Friday Famine Lunch

7th April at 12.30

**Proceeds to the work of the church
and to the repair of the church porch**

All Welcome

are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you’.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

www.walkinginengland.co.uk

CAROL SINGING IN COALEY

The magnificent sum of £138.05 was collected by Coaley Church Choir for Gloucester City Mission. Thank you to all who donated, with particular thanks to the staff and customers at The Old Fox who welcomed the carol singers into their pub and sang rousingly and gave generously.

REPORT IT

The county and District Councils both have reporting facilities on their websites. If you see a problem please don't assume someone else will report it or delay reporting it while you find out if someone else has already done it.

They normally respond fairly quickly; a recent fly tipping incident was cleared up within a day of it being reported and potholes are usually inspected fairly quickly. If you haven't reported it you can't complain about it!

NURTURE NATURE

COP 27 was rather a disappointment – one might say it was a cop out! So – here are a few reminders of COP26/2021 which are still very relevant:

COP26 (Conference Of Parties) Action not words! All of us can contribute to helping to save our planet – here are a few reminders of what has been said:

The paraphrasing is as accurate as possible.

The UN stated that we are digging our own graves.

As individuals we must all try to make a difference.

Stop treating nature like a lavatory and a vast rubbish dump.

We can all help to reduce the amount of carbon in the atmosphere.

Start small, aim big, increase positive activity step by step.

We know what needs to be done so let's get on with it and try not to feel hopeless about the future.

Plant more trees and hedges to soak up the carbon. They are the lungs of the earth – there are an increasing number of organisations which can help. There is no more time to sit on our hands as the cost of inaction will bring the one minute to midnight scenario on the Doomsday Clock to the nightmare of catastrophe.

St Bartholomew's Church, Coaley

Music & Cake

featuring

Clarinet

Quartet

Sunday 19th February

3pm

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

All Welcome

As HM the late Queen reminded us, changes to the way in which we treat the planet are vitally necessary for the sake of our children and their children's children.

The World is in our hands! Let's make 2023 a really constructive one for the planet. And, of course, the recent cold spells, especially in the first half of December, have added to the decline judging by the number of dead birds killed by the intense cold.

Conservation Concerns for 2023 It's not too late to plant new hedges, refurbish and bulk up existing ones, including small tree species for their bee friendly flowers and when matured as additional sites for garden birds to forage, nest and roost in. One cannot overstress the importance of hedges for nature and wild life. No matter how small in length your garden hedges are, they all help to create super highways for birds, bats, small mammals to use as conservation corridors, and these in turn link many more parts of the British Isles and hence help not only to preserve existing wildlife but also to stem the rate of ever declining endangered species. Tree sparrows and cuckoos have been added to the red list (see previous magazine items). Bullfinches, fieldfares and dunnocks (also known as hedge sparrows) are now on the amber list. The very cold weather in December contributed to a further decline in bird numbers as they succumbed to the low freezing temperatures and lack of natural food resources.

Please remember too that avian flu is still prevalent and is responsible for large numbers of bird deaths. Keep bird feeders and bird baths scrupulously clean to help prevent further decline in bird numbers.

Should you have taken part in the Great Garden Bird Watch at the end of January please don't forget to send your records in on line, or by post, to the RSPB, The Lodge, Potton Road, Sandy SG19 2DL. Should you wish to take part in another Garden Bird Watch, the BTO would welcome your sightings as they are keen to receive records from your garden too. They suggest taking your records over a week, and they are also interested in other fauna – as well as birds, animals, insects. Details are on line should you wish to send in your sightings by email, or you can post them to GBW, BTO, The Nunnery, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 2PU.

Let's continue to nurture nature and all try to give it a big boost in 2023.

Happy Environmentation. Otis Tarda

Save the date!



Messy Easter in Coaley Church.
Saturday 1st April
10-12
Children of all ages welcome



Love Singing?

Thought about joining a local choir?

Tyndale Choral Society is looking for singers to join our happy throng. A wide range of music is covered, from the traditional classics (Messiah, Bach, Haydn etc) to Sea Shanty style songs, and more in between.

Rehearsals are on Monday evenings (7.30pm) directed by Ben Sawyer (our very own Gareth Malone!) and we present three performances a year, including a carol concert. Membership also includes an improvers' programme.

Why not come and join us?



It's good for our physical and mental well-being!

Contact:
Catherine Bennett

Email:
Tyndale.choral.secretary@gmail.com
Phone: 07799 238417

Rehearsal photo: Alan G Law

USEFUL CONTACTS

Parish Councillors	Stephen Cook	860504
	Martin Pearcy	890818
	Ben Bywater	07909 545303
	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