

# Coaley Parish

# NEWSLETTER

Issue no 124

June / July 2022

Jubilee Events

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EVENT	TIME	VENUE	CONTACT
2nd June	Jubilee disco		See p9	
5th June	Pet Show		See p8	
	Jubilee events			
	Jubilee Songs of Praise	6pm	Church	
8th	Village Hall car park closed			
-9th June				
25th June	Coaleyst	3-10pm	School field	
26th June	Panto casting for Juniors	10am	Jubilee room	See p6
27th June	Panto casting for seniors	7.30pm	Jubilee room	See p6
3rd July	Garden Challenge Cup	pm		Please note date change
3rd Sept	Produce Show			

Parish Council meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month, except August, at 7.30pm. We have returned to face-to-face meetings.

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 July 2022.

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

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

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

This issue edited by Stephen Cook.

Cover picture: *Bluebells on Cam Long Down with Coaley*

# VILLAGE NEWS

## PLANTERS ARE PLANTED!

As you passed through the village in the last few weeks you may have noticed a lot of activity at the side of our lovely shop. 2 large planters have been placed between the shop and the playing field and have now been filled.

The planters have been supplied by the Produce Show after consultations with the Village Shop Committee. They have now been planted up with herbs and vegetables. The Produce Show Committee would like to invite villagers to cut any herbs or pick any vegetables as they grow. Please don't cut all the growth from the young plants but wait a few weeks and hopefully there will be enough to share.

The committee would like to thank all those who helped install them but special thanks to Dave Wilcox and Laurence Bryant for providing not only man power but transport to collect the planters and gravel and for providing the soil. Other thanks for hard work go to Phil Sprague and Tim Portrer. Thanks also to Avril Burak for leading on tracking down and providing such super planters.

The planters themselves were made by Breakheart Quarry Community Project. They make bespoke benches, planters, picnic tables etc at cost and just ask for a contribution to their charity. The Produce Show Committee were delighted to support this local charity.

Breakheart Quarry provides a fun outdoor area created for countryside education, learning and play. It includes paths and cycle routes for all ages. There is a lot of history around the site as well. For more information please visit [www.breakheart.org.uk](http://www.breakheart.org.uk)



## ANYONE FOR TENNIS?

There is now a Coaley tennis ladder. Would you like to join it?

You will get to play different people at mutually convenient times as we all move up and down the 'ladder' in relation to each other. All abilities welcome. If you're interested drop an email to [benbywater@gmail.com](mailto:benbywater@gmail.com)



## COALEYROCKS

Many thanks to all who turned up and rocked out with us at CoaleyRocks in support of the playgroup. We were entertained by the bands Archalia and the Bohemian Bar Thieves (with a special cameo appearance on drums from Mr Lucas the Headteacher at Coaley School). We are utterly delighted that so many of you came to the event and really grateful to everyone who contributed to the success of the evening at which we raised £1600 for new equipment and resources for the playgroup. Coaley Village Playgroup is a not-for-profit Charity and as such we rely on fund-raising and donations so we are all very excited to see what the children will make of the additions to their outside area. A few people have asked me whether there will be another CoaleyRocks and I can confirm that I am already plotting the next one for later this year, so watch this space.

### Special thanks to

• Bar volunteers Jeremy, Suki, Becky and Shelly. Special thanks to Suki for being so encouraging and putting so

much time and effort into helping organise the event.

- Door volunteers Tim and Chantelle.
- Stephen for lighting our dancefloor so professionally.
- Verity for listening to me go on and on about CoaleyRocks since I had the idea several months ago and for encouraging me to actually do it.
- Carly and Leanne who offered to help and immediately got a message back saying 'are you free in half an hour to load ALL the booze into the hall?' and who were and did.
- Deb Hamby and her family for leafletting half the village for the event.
- Abdul of Megabite who not only kept everyone fed but donated a generous £100 to the playgroup as well.
- Thanks to the Village Hall committee for letting us do this event and especially Lesley for answering all my stupid questions and generally being very kind and patient with me.
- Coaley Shop for donating very



generous raffle prizes, selling tickets, and putting up with me turning up every five minutes to check on sales.

• Suzi and team at the Fox for letting me come and sell tickets at the pub, for donating a whole lot of plastic cups at the last minute when my delivery didn't turn up, for coming and dancing along with us on the night and then for leaving me practically speechless when Julie came up to me in the break and said the Fox wanted to donate £500 to the playgroup! She'll be presenting a giant cheque to the children in the coming week. The whole team at The Fox are always so supportive of village events, we were so grateful that they came to support CoaleyRocks and are deeply moved that they made such a generous donation.

Finally, I'd like to thank every single one of you who came to CoaleyRocks. They say it takes a village to raise a child. We at the playgroup consider ourselves very lucky to have all of you lovely people of Coaley as our village.

Susy Keating Chairperson Coaley Village Playgroup

## YOUR HERB GARDEN

This is the category for the annual Garden Cup Competition run by the Produce Show. Your herb garden may consist of window boxes, tubs or even a stunning wheeled garden. The judges enjoy all types of gardens, looking at the range of herbs and always ready to make helpful comments. The judges will visit you on Sunday July 3rd. Entry forms will be available in the shop and

on the produce show website at [www.coaleyproduceshow.org.uk](http://www.coaleyproduceshow.org.uk).

The schedule for the 2022 show is now available to download on [www.Coaleyproduceshow.org.uk](http://www.Coaleyproduceshow.org.uk). This is the 80th anniversary of Coaley Produce Show. It would be great to make it one of the best ever. All adult classes are open to everyone, we may have budding juniors out there who could give the adults a run for their money. Every year we have the opportunity to be amazed at the range of talents in our village and equally delighted at those unexpected entries. (Lovely adult class art entry from a young future artist stays in my memory). So have a look at the schedule and give something a go, you may learn a new skill along the way.



## PANTO

Preparations for Panto 2022 have begun! You may have seen our announcements on our snazzy new pages - on both Facebook (Coaley Amateur Dramatics Society) and Instagram (@CoaleyAmateurDramatics).

Our first call of action to you, talented members of Coaley, is casting sessions. In these lively and informal meetings, attendees will take part in a whole group reading of the script which gives the director an idea of role allocations. The panto title will be announced soon; potential scripts are currently being meticulously combed through by this year's director - Paul Day. (Three cheers for Paul!)

Junior members will have fun performing different roles, improvising, and showing off their many talents. New recruits are very welcome and will quickly become a part of the supportive troupe.

If you don't fancy becoming Coaley's next acting superstar, there are many roles to play backstage. From scenery, to costumes, to makeup, there is lots of fun to be had! If you would like to have a go, or would like to know more, please come along.

We can't put on the best pantomime in Coaley without rehearsals! Therefore, it is vital that upon becoming a member of CADS, there is a degree of commitment to the team. Rehearsals begin in early September and take place three times a week (Monday

evening, Friday evening and Sunday morning). Junior actors will not need to attend Monday evening rehearsals.

Dates for your diary:

### Casting Sessions

Junior (aged 7-12) Casting Sessions will be in the Main Hall on Sunday the 26th of June at 10am.

Senior (aged 13- no upper age limit!) Casting Sessions will be in the Jubilee Room on Monday 27th of June at 7:30pm.

### Rehearsals:

First Rehearsal Sunday 4th September

Monday evenings in the Jubilee Room at 7pm. (aged 13+ only)

Friday evenings in the Village Hall at 7pm.

Sunday mornings in the Village Hall at 10am.

Performances will take place in the Village Hall on:

Thursday 24th Nov at 7.30p.m.

Friday 25th Nov at 7.30p.m.

Saturday 26th Nov at 2.30p.m.

Saturday 26th Nov at 7.30p.m.

For further information, contact Keri James [keriatcoaley@btinternet.com](mailto:keriatcoaley@btinternet.com)



# COALEYFEST '22

FRIENDS OF COALEY SCHOOL (FOCS)

SAT 25TH JUNE



3PM - 10PM

FAMILY FUN

3PM - 6PM

INFLATABLES | CRAFTS | TUG OF WAR | BEAT THE GOALIE  
PLUS MUCH MORE!

LIVE MUSIC

THE SOCIAL FRETWORK | THE USUAL SUSPECTS  
PLUS OTHERS

FOOD & DRINK

AT

COALEY PRIMARY ACADEMY  
SCHOOL FIELD

TICKETS AVAILABLE (FROM 9TH MAY):

COALEY SHOP

THE OLD FOX

E-MAIL: COALEYFEST@GMAIL.COM

ADULTS £7 | CHILDREN £5\* | UNDER 3'S FREE

\*INCLUDES ALL CHILDREN'S ENTERTAINMENT

FOR UP TO DATE INFO & NEWS, PLEASE FOLLOW:





## SUNDAY JUNE 5TH HOG ROAST

(VEGETARIAN OPTION)

12.30PM

CASH PAYMENT ONLY - £4 a head  
Vegetarian £3 a head

PLEASE BRING OWN CHAIR AND DRINKS

FUN ACTIVITIES ALL AFTERNOON and

PET SHOW 2pm

FUN RACES 3PM

FREE ENTRY TO ALL EVENTS

Supported by Coaley Parish Council



# EVENTS

## JUBILEE DISCOS



IN THE VILLAGE HALL

**JUNE 2ND**

**3PM TO 5PM - PLAYSCHOOL AND PRIMARY  
SCHOOL AGED CHILDREN**

**(PARENTS WELCOME TO STAY WITH YOUNGER CHILDREN)**

**5PM TO 6 PM - TEA FOR EVERYONE**

**6PM TO 9PM - OLDER PRIMARY AND TEENAGERS**

**FREE ADMISSION**

Supported by Coaley Parish Council

# PLAYGROUP

This term the children have enjoyed putting on shows for each other. We created a stage for them in playgroup and provided lots of different clothes and accessories for the children to dress up, act and sing. We took the children to the village hall to visit the stage and were very grateful to Tony Eve for meeting us there and showing the children how the curtains worked. The children all had the chance to stand on the big stage and sing some songs.

Other topics this term have included Easter, sun awareness and penguins. We are looking forward to celebrating the upcoming jubilee.

We want to say a huge thank you to Susy Keating. She is the chairperson of the playgroup and plays such a vital role in supporting all of the staff, parents and families. We are sure many of you attended the brilliant night of Coaleyrocks! She put in so much effort to create this fabulous event for us and raised lots of money for the playgroup.

Another huge thank you; to The Old Fox for their generous donation to the playgroup. We are so grateful and will be buying some new water trays with

the money for the children to have in the outdoor area.

Please get in touch if you would like your child to attend coaley playgroup. We do have a small amount of spaces from September so please email [coaleyplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:coaleyplaygroup@gmail.com) for more information or to enquire about a space.

## September 2022

Our hours are changing from September, please see our 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/>

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

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

Telephone: 07434364850

### September 2022 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

# St Bartholomew's Church Coaley



## Jubilee Songs of Praise

Sunday 5th June  
6pm

All Welcome  
Refreshments



## PLANT SWAP

Thank you to everyone who donated plants and attended the Coaley Plant Trail Swap and Sale and made it such a resounding success. It has become a regular feature of the Coaley calendar of events which we all look forward to.

We had hundreds of plants including flowers, shrubs, fruit and vegetables and lots of gardeners and families too. Lots of villagers grew extra plants especially for the trail. Oh and the tea and cakes from Coaley WI were fantastic.

We have received lots of positive feedback about the swap and the village too and some good suggestions

about how we can improve the event in future.

We would like to hear what you have to say about it too. Let us know what was good and what we could do better?

Perhaps you would like to be involved.

You can email:  
[lscmptn@btinternet.com](mailto:lscmptn@btinternet.com)

The Swap raises money to fund the show and help local groups. This year we raised £740.





## SCHOOL

We have had great start to the summer term where we get to go outside, learn and play, and do all the lovely things that the sunny weather allows us to get up to at Coaley. As you know, our Forest School's provision is amazing and all the children get to take part in Forest Schools each week, from Reception to Year 6! Our children love playing and learning outside, getting so much from this extra approach in our purpose built Forest Schools area.

Many of the Year 5 children took part in Bikeability ('cycling proficiency' in old money!) this term. They had to undertake a gruelling range of tests and tasks to make sure that they are fit and safe to ride on the roads. The children behaved so well and listened carefully. We had excellent feedback from the Bikeability instructors about them all as they all took turns to go out on the roads to practise their stopping, turning and riding skills. It is so lovely to see some of them confidently riding



to school, using all the skills they have learned from the week's instruction.

Also, this term, lots of children have to take part in the government assessments to check where they are in terms of their learning and to help us teach and plan better for the future. However, at Coaley we want so much more for our children than just that! We want our children to have the confidence to believe in themselves, to be respectful of themselves and others and to feel the unique and special bond of being a part of our Coaley family so they can go on to be successful learners and extraordinary individuals.



We believe our children should have a wide range of experiences at school, as well as being masters of the basics of reading, writing and maths. Our children have endured two lockdowns and have still come out as champions, learning loads and being such wonderful ambassadors for our school and amazing role models for our younger children. I know I speak on behalf of all the staff and Governors to say that we are very proud of all their achievements and we have confidence that they will all go on and do amazing things in the future. The Y6's are particularly proud of all their hard work this year and they loved their new Leavers' hoodies.

In case some of you might not know already, the legendary CoaleyFest is fast approaching (Saturday 25th June) and we still need lots of volunteers to



make it work. Without the help of parents and the village community, this amazing community fun-day event will not happen so your help and support is still very much needed. Please get in touch with the school Office if you want to get involved and we will sort you out with the right people so CoaleyFest is a wonderful summer success we know it will be.





## WI

Coaley WI were fortunate to have Baroness Dawn Primarolo as a guest speaker. Dawn spoke about her journey in politics from joining the Labour party, becoming an MP for South Bristol through to being Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons. She was the 120th female MP and of the 17,853 MPs that have been elected, 559 of these have been women. In her early days in Parliament there were no female toilets and they would have to get a colleague to stand outside to make sure no men came in when they were using the facilities. When she took up role as Deputy speaker, she had to know the names of 650 MPs and did this by having cards with photos of each MP and her family used to hold up the cards and test her which they thought was a great game. Dawn was passionate about her career and the work of Government and there were many questions from the audience. It was a fascinating insight into our Government, its history right through to the present day.

In May it was aprons on for the Plant swap where we opened up our tea room. The two day event saw lots of visitors and residents follow the trail through the village trading plants and gardening knowledge. We were pleased again to work with the Produce show committee and thank everyone who supported us.

May was also the time for our Woodland Walk around Coaley woods. There were two walks organised to

suit different abilities:

A gentle walk along the edge of the woods as far as Spring Tynings where bluebells, wood anemones and wood garlic carried the views over the vale.

A more energetic walk went through the woods and uphill as far as Uley Bury/Crawley Hill and back. This was about two miles long with a climb to the top of the escarpment. Walkers from both groups then enjoyed a chat and a cuppa. Our thanks go to Sue Jones for organising and hosting this event.

Our membership runs from April to March and it has been lovely to see so many new members join us. WI is a great place to meet up and socialise and if you are wondering if its for you, why not drop in on a meeting and see what you think.



Future WI meetings are listed below, visitors fee is £3.50 which includes wine or juice on arrival and a hot drink and biscuits during the evening.

<b>May 18th</b>	Barry Wicks Wild Thing	We look after our pets but who looks after the wildlife? Barry tells us about his Wildlife rescue work and how we can help.
<b>June 15th</b>	Katherines garden	Richard Mayer opens his beautiful garden in Swinhay to raise funds for the hospice movement in memory of his daughter Catherine. You can see a copy of Prince Charles grand henhouse.
<b>July 20th</b>	Godsells cheese	Start with a glass of wine and settle down to a night of cheese tasting with our local Cheese producers.
<b>August</b>	No meeting	With the holiday season in full swing, we take a rest this month but watch out for an outing.
<i>September 3rd</i>	<i>Produce show</i>	
<b>September 21st</b>	Neals Yard pampering session	We will hear smell and feel the goodness of Neals yard organic and natural health and beauty products.
<b>October 19</b>	Stroud womens refuge	Stroud womens refuge will talk about the work they do and how they support women in crisis.
<b>November 16</b>	AGM	Its time to review the year and plan the year ahead.
<b>December 21</b>	Christmas meal	A social event, bring along a guest and enjoy a night of fun and laughter and see what Secret Santa has bought you.



## RECREATION GROUND ACTION GROUP UPDATE

The Coaley Recreation Ground Action Group met on Wednesday 11th May in the Village Hall's Jubilee room and shared the following updates:

- The pump track has been delayed to align with the new date for the shop removal as Steve needs to do the two at the same time. For the pump track, we still need an estimated 20 tonnes of soil so if you have some available or know anyone please let us know
- Slimbridge recreation group has shared info about funders and one of them has offered to come and talk to the group applying for funding
- Our architect contact had some questions about land status which we are answering and we hope they will soon start thinking about the overall scheme design based on villagers' priorities as defined by previous consultations
- We plan to take the opportunity of Jubilee event in early June to ask parents of younger children what they want in an updated play area, perhaps via a suggestions box
- 

If you are interested in joining the Recreation Group Action Group or have anything you would like the group to consider please email [wilkins.lucy@ymail.com](mailto:wilkins.lucy@ymail.com) (yes that's ymail not gmail!).

Recreation ground revitalisation update  
[April/May 2022]

The Recreation Ground Sub Committee met with a group of engaged villagers (who had self-organised via Facebook) in the Village Hall's Jubilee room on Wednesday 9th March. The group reviewed the progress to date and discussed the next steps for the revitalisation of the recreation ground. It was agreed the group would meet monthly and the sub-committee be renamed the 'Coaley Recreation Ground Action Group' to mark an almost trebling of members at the start of this next phase.

Much of the meeting was spent reviewing what around 100 villagers of all ages have expressed as their priorities in the consultation surveys held in the village hall on shop launch day and online via Facebook. The consistently expressed top priority across both consultations was 'something for the older children' and the sub committee were pleased to report that the Parish Council had agreed to an offer made by our very own Steve Birkbeck to build a pump track for bikes (and anything else with inflated tyres) in the corner of the recreation ground, around the basketball court. Steve hopes to commence work when things have dried a bit in the Spring and will do what he can to get villagers (especially the kids) involved and helping. Watch this space (and Facebook).

Other top priorities seen in the consultation were:

- more trees and areas of wildflower meadow
- an all weather track around perimeter
- updated facilities for younger children
- beautifully planted wildlife friendly borders
- exercise equipment
- plenty of open space for free play
- new seating areas for individual and small groups
- updated tennis courts, perhaps to include other sports

The next step was to engage the services of a specialist to think about how these elements might fit together and to create a design illustration which we can use to get further feedback from villagers, and inform redesign as necessary. A visualisation will also allow the group to start making the all important approaches for funding to bodies like the District and County councils, local businesses, the National Lottery, and Charitable Trusts. Happily, one of the group has contacts in the landscape and architecture world and hopes to identify a potential partner to help us move forward with this next phase. So watch this space!

If you are interested in joining the group or have anything you would like the group to consider please email [wilkins.lucy@gmail.com](mailto:wilkins.lucy@gmail.com).

## COALEY SHOP

### **New Planters!**

A big thank you to the Coaley Produce Show for providing two new planters outside the shop. They are also going to maintain them and keep them watered. But that's also a thank you to everyone in the village who supports the Produce Show as it was your contributions that paid for them.

We felt it would be a good idea if the planters could actually be used for produce for the village – so they've been planted up with a mixture of veg and herbs that we can all share. Some of it we'll make available in the shop, but things like the herbs please just feel free to help yourself if you want a few. All we ask is that you are considerate and leave plenty for others.

### **Shop removal**

Our apologies – we said in the last newsletter that the old shop building would be gone on 5th May. As you can see, it's still there! The various road closures have led to the date being pushed back twice, but at last we are told it will go on 9th June. Fingers crossed!

### **Thanks for your support**

This newsletter covers up to July so will take us up to our anniversary for the new building. It's been a brilliant year and the new shop has drawn in many more people. So thanks to everyone for their support and to all the many volunteers who make it all possible.

# WORDS & MUSIC FOR UKRAINE

This special event held in Coaley Church on May 8th raised over £500 which was sent to DEC for humanitarian relief in Ukraine.



The George in Thornbury's Ukulele Group (*right*), local singing duo Doozie, clarinettist Adam Eastman and Abdul Kologlu (*above*) who played the Turkish Saz entertained with tunes old and new, interspersed with readings about Ukraine and poems by Simon Armitage and J W Johnson. Thank you to the musicians and readers, the bell ringers who played before the event, the cake bakers and tea servers, the audience and all who helped to make the afternoon such a success.



## FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Are you at home on the second Tuesday afternoon in the month, and would like some company? The Friendship Group meet at 2.30 in the village hall for around an hour and a half, and you would be assured of a warm welcome if you could join us.

We are an informal, small group of people (there is no age limit) who meet to have a chat with village friends and enjoy an afternoon cup of tea or coffee. Our meetings vary – with gentle quizzes (nothing too taxing!), card and board games, an occasional visiting speaker or an outing.

With the passage of time, our membership has taken a dip in numbers, so if you would care to drop into our meetings to meet us, we'd be happy to see you.

Isobel Farmer (890556)  
Pam Sweetland (890513)

## PIANO GOING FREE

Free to a good home, a steel framed upright piano now surplus to requirements. It needs to be collected. Contact Barbara Davis on 890679.

## 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	position vacant	
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