Uley, Owlpen & Nympsfield August 2020

Village News

Supporting Church, Community & Local Business

uleyvillagenews@gmail.com

AUGUST CHURCH LETTER FROM REVD JANE

One thing that we can be certain of in August is that we will be enjoying (hopefully) the height of summer! Normally this would mean following a hectic end to the summer term — long summer holidays from school and college. Holidays away or abroad, or perhaps grandparenting duties looking after youngsters whilst parents and carers continue with their jobs. All being well, I hope some of us will be able to enjoy a welcome holiday or break. But whatever our situation, the summer holidays often spell movement of some sort or another and transition.

In the life of the Church we are also making transitions. Unfortunately, this year Covid-19 has thrown us all a huge curveball — the implications for everyday life, our loved ones and communities ones we could have never imagined. However, now restrictions are being lifted, and as I write this, we will already be celebrating Holy Communion in St Giles for the first time since March. Although, to keep each other safe things will be feeling and looking quite different.

We will also be in a 'new normal' rhythm of blended worship, a weekly service of Holy Communion in church uploaded to Facebook or YouTube, so that those who are unable to come to church or who prefer to remain safely at home are still able attend services and join in the worship of our church family, in St Giles, St Bartholomew or Holy Cross.

I hope and pray that the virus will continue to regress, but we can't be sure what life is going to look like and we will need to live with uncertainty for a while yet. Although services are different to pre-Lockdown, it is a real joy to be able to open our churches and worship together again, while acknowledging, for the time being, some of us still need to remain cautious about socially mixing.

In all this change, we should feel comfortable to go at our own pace and shouldn't try to compare ourselves with other people. For some of us the weeks of social isolation have meant that we have been able to engage with nature or have become more aware of God in the ordinary places in our lives and we will bring all this experience and insights back into our worship.

Looking back over these last few months I have reflected how a church without walls can be transformative. We have been able to reach across geographical boundaries and to worship as a benefice on Zoom in ways we could never have previously imagined.

We have strengthened the bonds of our benefice as community and have also been invited to live our Christian faith outside the building. As individual Christians who can be alongside others in their life journeys meeting them, as Christ meets us, just where we are.

Whether that's a phone call, collecting some shopping, or being a listening ear — especially as emerging from Lockdown may bring anxieties and worries of its own. Perhaps this is something we will want to reflect on going forward? How we will take time to stop, listen and engage with those outside our boundaries in new ways, how we contemplate a different future?

But with the pressures of the virus how do we live in these times of uncertainty?

After the resurrection Jesus appeared to the fearful disciples, who were hiding in the locked Upper Room, and said, "peace be with you." Jn 20:19. In our own times of uncertainty and fear, Jesus comes to us with compassion, care, understanding and love, to give us His peace. That peace of deep calm amid all that is going on around us, the peace of God, which transcends all understanding.

In the words of the Gaelic blessing:
Deep peace of the running wave to you
Deep peace of the flowing air to you
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you
Deep peace of the shining stars to you
Deep peace of the gentle night to you
Moon and stars pour their healing light on you
Deep peace of Christ the light of the world to you
Deep peace of Christ to you
Have a lovely and blessed summer

Revd Jane

ULEY PARISH COUNCIL

MR JOHN KAY, TEL: 07841 204404 E-MAIL: clerk@uleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

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COMMUNITY WELL-BEING AGENT		
AMBER WALTERS	amber.walters@independence.co.uk	07817866354

Other Information

The Parish Council meets in the Village Hall on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm. You are very welcome to attend. Details of the meetings can be found on the notice boards at either end of the village or on the Uley village website at: www.uleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

DIOCESE OF GLOUCESTER

The **August** edition of the Messenger is now available to download from:

www.gloucester.anglican.org/parish-resources/communications/#messenger

NOTES FROM THE ARCHIVES.

I have been corresponding recently with Fergal Browne in Ireland who has written a history on Owlpen Park. This was the Mansion House in Owlpen, situated a little higher up the valley from
Owlpen Manor. It was constructed by Thomas Anthony Stoughton but sadly demolished in l956 due to its dilapidated state. The Stoughton family obtained the Gortigrenane estate in Ireland through marriage into the wealthy Daunt family. This marriage also bought them large estates in England including Owlpen. (If anyone would like to read the full history please contact me and I will make a copy available.)
As a coincidence, I was thumbing through an old scrapbook and found the following article published in a local paper, dated 1901. It concerns a visit to Owlpen Park by a party from Stroud.

"Owlpen lies a mile or so to the east of Uley, through a narrow undulating lane flanked on both sides with close knit vegetation and with a panoramic view away to the right hand of some pretty sylvan touches of nature. By permission of Mrs Trent-Stoughton the party were permitted to pass through the lovely demesne, rich in its wealth of woodlands and transient in its landscape features alternating with timbered slopes. The chapelry of Owlpen has a sacred fane for public worship — dedicated as the Church of the Holy Cross — which stands on the estate close to the old manor house of the Stoughtons. The Daunts, a family at one time of eminence in Great Britain & Ireland, came possessed of the property by marriage, and the Stoughtons, one of the ancient families of Ireland acquired the estate by marriage to an heiress of the Daunts.
The uninhabited Manor appears to be four/five hundred years old. By reason of danger arising from internal decay it is now closed to the outer world. At the exterior traces of Dutch landscape gardening still remain, though the grounds could not have been sufficiently large to lend themselves to much effective treatment in this direction. In front of the house stands a series of well pruned yew trees, grim and silent links with a bygone age. In a corner of the garden is a quaint square enclosure formed completely of tall yews, giving an old-world aspect to the spot, and conjuring up visions of fair damsels in Vandyke costumes and chivalrous men in coloured silks, satins, velvets & ruffles. One can imagine a seventeenth century gathering in the leafy quadrangle, all the personages

being attired in the costumes of an age when dress and elegant manners were sure passports to refined society. Diaries were seldom kept in those faraway days because educational accomplishments were not deemed fashionable. But if one might judge by the grey exterior of the ancient Manor House of the Daunts, one can easily imagine that in the age of chivalry and romance it played its part as a link in the activities of Gloucestershire ancestral homes."

Margaret Groom
01453 860579

ULEY VILLAGE LOTTERY

The 100 club and village lottery supports the upkeep of the Pavilion and playing field in Shadwell. It is a wonderful facility for the village used by a wide variety of local people, adults and children, engaged in a range of activities and events. It is however expensive to run and maintenance costs have continued throughout lockdown. Slowly things are restarting including Rural Outfit sessions and cricket and your help is needed.

Please become a member NOW. It's just a simple form and costs as little as £12 for one number for one year. And you have the chance of winning £15 or £10 every month. During these strange times many of you have forgotten or decided not to renew your membership. If you are not sure if you've lapsed then please contact me (va.boroughs@btinternet.com). If you would like to join, collect a form from the village shop or drop me an email.

Congratulations to all winners:

March 1st - Sam Blanch
2nd – Owen Jenkins

April 1st - Linda Duffett
2nd – Rachel Opher

May 1st - Marian Bailey
2nd - Phil Morris

June 1st - Jaqueline Ash
2nd - Kathy Williams

July 1st - Katrina McGowen
2nd - Chris Bebbington

ULEY COMMUNITY STORES and POST OFFICE DIARY AUGUST 2020
Tel: Shop 861592, PO 860203 (Eileen, Ailsa, Carolyn, and Angela)

Enjoying the lovely weather as I write, hopefully it will continue into August.

Covid-19 continues with yet more guidelines and rules: Having to wear "face coverings" when out shopping, most of the Volunteers wearing the Face Shields provided for them. We have plenty of the "face coverings" kindly made for the shop by David Riley's sister Jenny, with donations going to Marie Curie and Foodbank. One of the many acts of kindness we see during these strange times.

The new sign in the PO window is working very well now. It will show free, busy or closed for when you come in. Sometimes it will say busy when there is no one at the counter, this as it can take some time to finish the last transaction, they thank you for your patience. Remember to still use the one-way system and hand sanitise as you enter.

Lots more local produce and flowers are in stock. Plus, there are plenty of village donations of home-grown fruit and flowers, well done and please keep them coming.
Sunny now but keep an eye on the weather when coming to the shop or PO, for queueing outside you might need a waterproof or umbrella.

If you have any suggestions for any new items, you'd like stocked please let us know.

Also check our Facebook page and website with up to date information for your Uley Community Stores.

Monday to Friday, Shop opens 8am-5.30pm
Saturdays 8-1 /Sundays 10am-12pm
Monday to Friday Post Office opens 9am- 5.30pm, closed for lunch 1-2pm. (Wednesday closes 4.30)
Saturday Post Office opens 9am- 12.30
Sunday Post Office closed.

RUN BY VOLUNTEERS
Pami Davis
www.uleycommunitystores.co.uk

ULEY WI DIARY

June/July

As Lockdown eases, our WI members plan ever more creative ways to stay in touch while maintaining effective social distancing. We are well aware of the need to remain vigilant and to keep safe — much as we would like to be able to give one another a friendly hug and meet up all together again. But, for now, we need to get used to the new 'normal' of keeping physically distant from one another and meeting just a few others at a time.

Our July monthly meeting was via Zoom and 26 members managed to connect — some more successfully than others it must be said, but it was a jolly gathering. The theme of the evening was *'Inventive ways of controlling wild hair'* and the names on each image at least gave us a clue as to who was beneath the horns, pigtails, hats and wild hair-dos – natural or otherwise. Cathy White, zooming in from a tent somewhere in Cornwall, won the 'incentive to Zoom raffle' randomly chosen from all who managed to get connected. In response to the question: 'So what have you all been doing recently?' came a clamour of responses from all over the Zoom mosaic of faces: from playing online Bridge and the piano to figuring out crosswords — but eating and drinking were mentioned by many. Maybe some more energetic pastimes will be needed in the future!

Uley WI President, Sally Lamerton, had the unenviable task of advising everyone that we still cannot resume our monthly meetings in the Village Hall for the foreseeable future and nor can we have our garden party at the Playing Fields in August as planned. She then brightened proceedings by announcing plans to introduce a new 'Coffee Club' where up to four randomly selected members can meet in someone's garden. We will have strict guidelines for the gathering to help ensure everyone stays safe and feels comfortable. Some members are keen to link up for small groups of socially distanced walks and outings.

There was discussion about ways we may be able to contribute to making the village more attractive by tidying the areas near to where we each live. Members were asked to think about what they might be able to do to brighten up their neighbourhood.

While technology is proving useful for keeping in touch, it has its limitations and can be horribly frustrating when it doesn't work as well as expected. Meeting up to properly talk and do things together again – even in small groups – will be such a joy.

Ann Warrender

Continuing my Sabbatical

(Still at St Beuno's retreat centre in North Wales)

The Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola move on from the contemplation of sin and hell into the more familiar area of the life of Jesus. In our daily prayer periods, we were given passages from the Gospels to pray with imaginatively; really immersing ourselves in the stories by taking on one of the characters or being a bystander or observer. We began with the Nativity stories and I found myself taking on the role of Joseph. When I reflected on this, I realised how overlooked he is and actually how significant his relationship with Jesus must have been. All those years spent as a family together in Nazareth; I assume that Joseph must have had a considerable influence on Jesus as he grew up and I like to think that they had a very close and special relationship.

The Exercises took us through Jesus' birth, childhood, beginning of ministry, call of his disciples and some of his teaching and healing. It was a very special time for me; to be able to devote so much time to imagining myself to be part of those events and through that, to draw so close to Jesus personally. Inevitably the Exercises took us to the events of the last week of Jesus' earthly life and on day 21 we entered Holy Week. For the next 4 days all the prayer periods were focused, in some detail, on what Jesus experienced for us: his betrayal and arrest, the trial, the mocking, scourging and humiliation, then the walk to Golgotha, crucifixion and death. By day 25, the experience of being so close to Jesus and witnessing the appalling events of the end of his life, left me feeling emotionally exhausted. Jesus died and was laid in the tomb and we had a whole day – 'tomb day' – without any structure to it except for meals when we shut ourselves away and grieved.

The next day, when I woke up, I found a note that had been pushed under my door which said; 'the Lord is risen!' Then we entered a run of days when we reflected on some of the resurrection appearance stories and really shared the amazement and joy felt by Jesus' friends, followers and family. I was interested to find that St Ignatius suggests that the very first person Jesus appeared to after his resurrection was his mother. It makes so much

sense: why wouldn't he have done that after all that she had been through? I imagined a very emotional meeting between Mary and the risen Jesus very early on that first Easter morning, even before his appearance to Mary Magdalene in the garden.

A number of days spent contemplating some of those moving and uplifting resurrection appearance stories, culminating on day 29 with the Ascension and Jesus' wonderful commission to go and make disciples of all nations, 'and remember that I am with you always, to the end of time'. And suddenly we'd arrived at day 30, which was spent reviewing, reflecting and then looking forward to all that God has in store for the future. Little did I realise, as we emerged from the silence and re-connected with the world, that Coronavirus was on the horizon! After spending a talking day together as a group, we said our goodbyes on a very wet and windy day following a weekend of storms and power cuts. Some flew off to other parts of the world and I drove back to Gloucestershire recognising that it was going to take several days to adjust to living in the real world again; even the first time I went into a shop was quite traumatic. Perhaps this was a way of preparing me for what it will be like to emerge from our lockdown! I continue to give thanks to God for the gift of those 5 weeks and for the opportunity to take the 30 day Exercises, during which I felt closer to God than I have ever felt and through which my I was able to deepen my relationship with Jesus in a very profound and moving way.

Canon Michael

ULEY MILLENNIUM GREEN AGM will be held on the Millennium Green
on Monday 7th September 2020, or the following Monday if wet.
All are very welcome, please bring a seat!

Church News from Canon Michael

Re-opening for services

By the time you read this we will have begun to hold services in some of our churches again. It has been a long time; the last public services were held on 15th March, but as we return, sadly our services will not be quite as we have known them! We will not be able to sing any hymns; we will have to follow social distancing rules and so the number able to attend will be limited; we are not allowed to share the peace with one another and communion will be given in one kind – just the bread – and there will be no coffee afterwards!

The pattern of services for August which are shown elsewhere in the magazine has been prepared following consultation with the Churchwardens, my ministerial colleagues and the PCC's. We have also taken note of Bishop Rachel's recommendation not to rush our plans for the resumption of public worship and her expectation that over the summer 'it will be simple and limited in scope.' As the churches re-open and worship in them begins again, all are very welcome — within the social distancing guidelines of course!

Extended opening times

We have been able to extend the times that some of our churches are open for private prayer. Although we continue to follow the guidelines about opening and cleaning, we no longer have stewards in the buildings during opening times.
St Giles is open on Tuesdays and Fridays 10am – 3pm and St Bartholomew's is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays 10am – 3pm.

Virtual Open Gardens

We are still displaying photos taken in gardens from across the Ewelme Benefice and if you would like to take a virtual garden tour please go to our website www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk and follow the link. There are many lovely photos of some really beautiful gardens. Many thanks to all who have sent photos in. If you have some photographs you are happy to share, please send them to Canon Michael mgcozens86@btinternet.com Our plan is to label them, for example, 'Gill and Michael's garden in Dursley', so not giving surnames or specific addresses. When you send your photos, please can you indicate that you are happy for them to be labelled in this way.

Uley Community Stores
& Post Office

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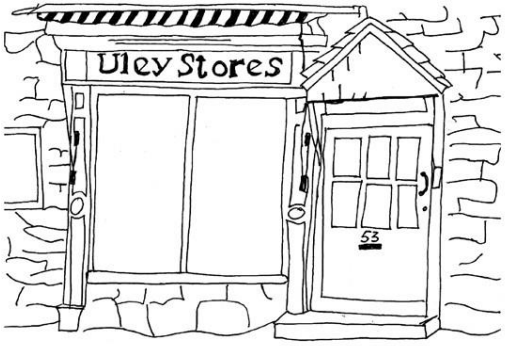

Join our management committee

Volunteer at Uley Stores!!

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Do you have a contribution for the village news? A photo, a poem, an article, a painting? Please email all contributions before the 10th of each month!

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Please email, phone or see website for more information.

Upcoming workshop dates:

26th July	Posy and buttonholes
14th July and 31st August	From garden to vase
4th August	Hand tied and wrapped bouquet
8th and 27th September	Dabble with dahlias
10 and 11th October	Pick your own
1st and 8th November	Dried flowers

More workshop dates on website.

Contact Fiona Porter, Withywind, Ham Lane, Coaley, GL11 5AS
fiona@cotswold-country-flowers.co.uk
07967 416799
www.cotswold-country-flowers.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Update on the playground remaining closed.
Uley Parish Council have taken the decision to keep the village playground closed for the current time. The Councillors would like to see how other local authorities manage the reopening of playground facilities and will review the decision at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

A reminder to organisations to apply for 2020/21 grants.
Uley Parish Council would like to remind all local groups and individuals that all grant applications must be received by 31st August to be considered by the Parish Councillors. The grant policy and application are available on the Parish Council website.

Thank you
The Uley Parish Councillors would like to thank all parishioners who have cleared paths, cut back vegetation etc. This valuable maintenance works improves the appearance of the village whilst making it easier for pedestrians.

Speed Camera
The community speed camera will be located in the village in August. This camera is shared with a number of Parish/Town Council's in Stroud District within a roads safety partnership agreement.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS…

Those whose Year's Mind falls in August:

Alan Bebbington, Anthony de Vries (Tony), Terry Meadows, Dennis Thompson, Ronald Jones, Michael Watts, Eunice Neale, Olive Du Feu, Leigh Hanby, Anne Hall, Tony Marsh, Frederick Athey, Marjorie Dauncey, Michael Dauncey, Peggy Lee, Donald Mills, Sue Yates, Penelope Brooke Johnson.

The Uley Show sadly cancelled

Last month I wrote "The Show Must Go On". However, this month it is with a very heavy heart we have had to cancel this year's Uley Show, Saturday September 12th, 2020 due to Covid-19.
Both the Uley Society committee and Uley Show committee are in agreement.

The Uley Show committee have spent many hours discussing different venues, social distancing, cleansing etc. However, having scrutinized the Government guidelines with reference Covid-19 and public events, we feel that we would be unable to comply with the guidelines. We have also taken into consideration the importance that the show plays in village life, however the safety of participants and organisers is paramount, and we are unwilling to take any risks with people's health and safety.

I would like to add my thanks to all of those from various village groups offering to help in anyway. From the loan of gazebos, the putting up and taking down, the use of the Village Hall tables, getting them to and from the Pavilion. Everyone really pulling together.
We are now looking forward to next year, with hope!

Pami Davis

The Ewelme Benefice
Parish of Uley with Owlpen and Nympsfield

Churches of St Giles, Holy Cross and St Bartholomew

The Revd Canon Michael Cozens - 01453 546459 mgcozens86@btinternet.com
Churchwardens Ann Hardy 860876, Pauline Thomas 01453 860047
www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk

August 2020 Services

Sunday 2nd August	**Trinity 8**	
St Giles	10.00am	Parish Holy Communion (CW)
Sunday 9th August	**Trinity 9**	
St Giles	10.00am	Parish Holy Communion (CW)
Sunday 16th August	**Trinity 10**	
St Giles	10.00am	Parish Holy Communion (CW)
Sunday 23rd August	**St Bartholomew's Patronal Festival**	
St Bartholomew's	10.00am	Parish Holy Communion (CW)
Sunday 30th August	**Trinity 12**	
Holy Cross	10.00am	Parish Holy Communion (BCP)

Church opening times
St Giles
Tuesdays & Fridays 10am – 3pm

St Bartholomew's
Wednesdays & Saturdays 10am – 3pm

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals
by arrangement.
Please contact Canon Michael

Parish Administration -
Please contact the Parish Office:
ewelmeparishoffice@gmail.com
The office is closed at the present time but emails will be answered

Church Activities

Due to the current Coronavirus restrictions, most of our activities have been cancelled or postponed

Wednesday 5th August 1pm

Wedding of James Davey & Elizabeth Sudlow in Holy Cross

Printed by J&C Carter, 22 High Street, Cam GL11 5LE
email: cotsmark@btopenworld.com 01453 546645