

Uley, Owlpen & Nympsfield

January 2021

Village News

Supporting Church, Community and Local Business



uleyvillagenews@gmail.com

Uley Parish Council

Mr John Kay | T: 07841 204404 | E: clerk@uleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Councillors		
Jonathan Dembrey	Chairman	07801 217230
Melanie Paraskeva	Vice-Chairman	07929360221
Jo Dee		01453 861566
Janet Wood		01453 860236
Mike Griffiths		01453 860463
Juliet Browne		01453 860710
Tim Martin		07772268473
District Councillor		
Jim Dewey	cllr.jim.dewey@stroud.gov.uk	01453 860795
County Councillor		
Loraine Patrick	loraine.patrick@gloucestershire.gov.uk	01453 546995
Community Well-Being Agent		
Amber Walters	clare.lukes@independence.co.uk	07817 866354
Other Information		
<p>The Parish Council normally meets in the Village Hall on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm, however for the foreseeable future Council meetings are being held online using 'Zoom'. You are very welcome to attend online. 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</p>		



The December edition of the Messenger is available to download from:

<https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/parish-resources/communications/#messenger>

From the Editors

Hello and welcome to the first Village News of 2021. This month's edition has been jointly edited by Atlanta, who has been the editor for the last year and a half, and Angela, who will be taking over the editor role from next month.

January is often a month for both reflecting on the year that has just passed and looking forward, perhaps creating New Years Resolutions (and trying hard to stick to them past the first few weeks!)

Looking back over 2020, it certainly was a year which I'm sure none of us would like to repeat. Being separated from family and friends for longer than we would have liked has

shown how important face to face interaction is for our well being. The Village News has been an excellent way for everyone in the local area to connect with the community around us during these strange times. A big thank you goes to Atlanta for her hard work throughout her time as editor.

Looking forward, you may notice that the Village News has a slightly new look, which we hope you enjoy.

Wishing you a very happy new year and the best of luck with those resolutions!

Atlanta and Angela

Parish of Uley with Owlpen and Nympsfield

Churches of St Giles, Holy Cross and St Bartholomew

The Rev'd Canon Michael Cozens

T: 01453 546459

E: mgcozens86@btinternet.com

Parish day off - Friday
Messages listened to daily

Churchwardens

Mrs P Thomas, T: 860047

Mrs A Hardy, T: 860876

All bookings for the Church and St Giles Room to Marion Kee, T: 860364,
E: maronkee@gmail.com

www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk

A letter from Canon Michael

Dear friends

This comes with my best wishes and prayers for a happy new year. How much we all long for 2021 to be very different from the year we've just left. As we enter the new year, most of us will probably be looking back and reflecting on how our lives were affected by the Coronavirus; a thing that virtually none of us had ever heard of in January 2020. The impact on everyone's lives due to the lockdowns, the restrictions and, for many of us, the isolation. The huge effect on our local schools and on our children and young people; also, of course, for those who had the virus, or had loved ones who suffered with it and maybe died, the lasting damage that has been done by it.

At the time of writing, the virus has not gone away of course; we are told it never will, but vaccinations have just started and there is, after so many months of uncertainty, real hope for the future. As I write, the Church is still in the season of Advent and hope is one of the great themes as we look forward to celebrating the hope born in a baby in Bethlehem; the one who is called Emmanuel, 'God with us'; the one born to take away our sins and share his gift of eternal life with us.

The deadline for submitting material for the January edition of the Village News falls in the week leading up to the third Sunday of Advent which is also sometimes called 'rejoicing Sunday', from the latin word 'gaudete', meaning 'rejoice'. The theme is echoed in the readings for Gaudete Sunday, taken in this year from the first letter to the Thessalonians, chapter 5; 'Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances'. A different reading, also from the epistles, is from chapter 4 of the letter to the Philippians; 'Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice.'

This year on 'Rejoicing Sunday', it feels as though there is something to rejoice in; the news of the vaccine gives us some cause to rejoice, although maybe we do that cautiously and also with a sense of deep sadness for all that has happened during this year. There are other reasons for rejoicing, I would suggest. We might want to rejoice in those who have shared this year with us; perhaps those people who have particularly extended their love and care to us; those who have supported and encouraged us, especially when things were very difficult. We rejoice in those who, through the work they do has put

them in that special group we now call 'key workers'; those whose work has been so significant in our lives and in the life of our community. Also during these months when the virus has overshadowed us, many of us have been able to find more time in our days to simply pause and to appreciate the wonder and beauty of our world and to rejoice in creation and in all the blessings we receive from it.

However you marked the beginning of this new year and whatever this year holds for you and for us all, look for those things which cause you to rejoice; 'rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice'.

With my prayers and best wishes

Canon Michael

Church News

Internet connection to St Giles

For some time we have been aware of how good it would be to have an internet connection in our churches. That's a very easy thing to say but not quite so straight forward to achieve! However, we have started with St Giles and put in an application for a Faculty (the legal permission required) to establish an internet connection in the church. This will involve running an underground cable from the road and the plan is for this to be laid under or next to the existing path to the porch. An internet connection will allow us to live stream more of our services for those who are not able to physically join us; allow access to material for downloading and using in

services; allow access to the internet and emails (at times other than services!) in the church and in the St Giles room. We hope that this will provide us with much more flexibility and also be useful for other users of the building, such as Uley Primary School. We are aware of the importance of bring a welcoming and technologically up-to-date community!

As part of the Faculty process there is a period of consultation. Notices about this are posted at the entrances to St Giles churchyard and also on the notice board in the porch. More details can be obtained by emailing the Administrator on ewelmeeparishoffice@gmail.com

Uley Parish Council News

A big thank you from Uley PC

Thank you to the shop, the school, the church and Phil Rymer for the amazing Christmas Trees. Also to Matt Summers for the reindeer herds, to Lilja for the 2021 Uley Calendar now in store and to all those who have decorated their windows for the Advent walking trail. A great effort to brighten our Christmas.

Ready, steady, census

The decennial census is almost upon us. Households across the area will soon be asked to take part in the nationwide survey of housing and the population. It has been carried out every decade since 1801, with the exception of 1941.

Information from the digital-first census will help decide how services are planned and funded in your local area. This could mean things like doctors' surgeries, housing or new bus routes.

Households will receive a letter with a unique access code in the post, allowing them to complete their questionnaire online. Paper questionnaires will be available on request.

Census day is March 21, 2021.

For more information visit:

www.census.gov.uk

New Noticeboard

Uley Parish Council are pleased to announce that the new community noticeboard has been installed at the Fop Street crossroads. This noticeboard will be for both parish council and community news. Should you wish to display a notice please contact the Parish Clerk.

The noticeboard was constructed and installed by local contractor: Matt Summers Furniture. Gloucestershire County Councillor Loraine Patrick supported a funding bid to the GCC Growing Our Communities Fund of £1,060 toward the total costs of £1,210.



Uley Community Stores & Post Office Diary

Tel Shop: 861592 | Tel Post Office: 860203 (Eileen, Ailsa, Carolyn and Angela)
www.uleycommunitystores.co.uk | Run by Volunteers

A very Happy New Year to All!

I do hope you all have managed a good festive season during these very unusual times. The Uley windows of Advent have been truly wonderful plus all the other very special decorations around the village. All so bright. Maybe this could be a new tradition??

The lovely Christmas hamper donated by Debora and Paul Lawrence our Chairman, will have been drawn and won. Is it you? Or hopefully me! Details in next month's Village News.

Thank you to the Post Office ladies, Eileen, Ailsa, Angela and Carolyn, for keeping open during the lunch hour for the Christmas period. A great help to us all. The ladies would like to thank you the customers for your patience throughout this more than extremely busy time. Remember that the Post Office has now reverted back to normal hours closing for lunch 1-2pm Monday to Friday.

Thanks to the shop Volunteers who have excelled during these very difficult times. They should be looking forward to their New

Year Party. However this will not be happening until completely safe. I would like to reassure all the volunteers, including those that have had to shield, we will eventually have a great party. If you would like to become a volunteer then you too could join in the fun in the shop and the party. We have now worked out ways to safely train at a distance. For more information to volunteer, please contact the shop.

If you have any suggestions for any new items you'd like stocked in the New Year please let us know.

Shop Opening Hours

Monday to Friday: 8 - 5.30
Saturdays: 8 - 1
Sundays: 9 - 12

Post Office Opening Hours

Monday to Friday: 9 - 5.30
(Wednesdays closes 4.30)
(Closed for lunch 1 - 2)
Saturdays: 9 - 12.30
Sundays: Closed

Stay Safe

Dami Davis

Memoirs of a Covid Survivor

It started on a Tuesday, when I felt a bit tired and thought I was getting a cold. At the back of my mind was a faint suspicion that it might be Covid, but I didn't have any of the classic symptoms: no cough, no fever, no loss of taste. Then on the Thursday I developed a really sore throat – and because I thought that was a sign, I booked a test online at Gloucester for the Saturday. To get the appointment, I had to tell a lie, I said I had loss of taste.

In Gloucester I took a drive-in test in a car-park set up with marquees. There was a constant queue of people coming in. The test was efficiently run, but quite unpleasant – swabs up your nose and at the back of your throat. Within 24 hours I got the result by text and email: you could have knocked me down with a feather, because I was positive – must isolate for 14 days.

I was still feeling relatively all right. But on Saturday I began to feel really ill and went to bed. Luckily I had an oximeter, which tells you how much oxygen there is in your blood. My readings were going down, and by the following Thursday - day 10 after the first symptoms – I was struggling for breath, and the oximeter was reading 92.

My wife rang 111, and out came paramedics, who told me I was on the border of whether I should go to hospital or not. Six hours after that I began to feel even worse. My wife called out another ambulance – but of course, the wretched thing broke down, and I had to lie in it for an hour until another picked me up.

By then I was scarcely compos mentis. At Gloucester Royal hospital I spent a few hours in the Covid triage ward. Another virus test proved negative, apparently the virus had already left my body. But by then I had double pneumonia. I was taken up to the high-dependence Covid ward, and put on a course of steroids and antibiotics.

The next 16 hours were horrible. I lay on my front wearing a C-CAP mask, strapped tightly onto my face, which blew air into my lungs with such force that it felt like I was sticking my head out of a car window at 80 mph.

There were six of us in the ward. One of the men was a really fit guy, a weight-lifter, and he'd been there for six weeks. But the man in the bed next to me died. The staff were fantastically competent and kind, but they were paranoid about blood-clots, because Covid thickens your

blood, and I had four anti-coagulant injections in my stomach. For 24 hours doctors rated my chances of survival as 50-50. At one point I thought I was going to die, and sent my wife a list of the thirty people I would like to go to my funeral.

I made such a quick recovery that my consultant was puzzled. 'Your lungs are in very good shape,' he said. So I asked him, 'Do you know Uley?' 'Yes,' he said, 'I know it well.' 'Okay,' I told him. 'Behind the village there's a steep hill called Uley Bury. Most mornings for the past fifteen years I've walked up that with my dog.' 'Ah,' he said, 'that's why your lungs are in such good condition.'

I was fortunate to have been in hospital for only five days. When I came out, I had lost a stone and felt very weak – but I hope my experience will make others more careful, and more inclined to obey the Covid rules. Please bear in mind that I was unlucky, as the vast majority of those who contract Covid have only very mild symptoms, or none at all.

The author wishes to remain anonymous, because people may mistakenly think he is still infectious.

Covid Thanks Poem

Thank you Thank You Uley Stores
What would we do without you
For Pensions and stamps papers and
food
So helpful, and always in a cheerful
mood

Through this virus year 2020
you always seem to have plenty
And from all of us from Nympsfield it
is quite a treat
To get and chat to the people we
meet.

Please keep up the good work
And keep us happy and glad
Soon we will be needing wood
When the weather gets bad

This little rhyme is sent to you
You have helped us
This year to get through
With lots of laughter and little fuss

From Winne Morgan and all of us

What is your Carbon footprint?

There has been time to think more about environmental issues this Covid year, and to read around the concerns. I decided to try a calculation of my personal Carbon footprint, using one of the several 'Calculators' available on the internet.

My estimated Carbon footprint is the mass of Carbon Dioxide that I add to the atmosphere annually through my heating, food, transport, and other needs/activities through the year. The rising level of CO₂ in the earth's atmosphere is recognised as the principal driver of Climate Change (from the 300 parts per million value that I clearly remember learning when I was at school to the present published value of 414 ppm - quite a rise in my lifetime!).

The 'Calculator' I liked best of the several that I tried was at

www.carbonindependent.org.

This seemed genuinely independent – those that suggest Carbon Offsetting as a way to 'reduce' a Carbon footprint can make money from your buying the offsetting – it was not difficult, and the assumptions and conversion factors it uses are explained (the 'read more..' links).

I only needed my household annual fuels bills to hand, total car mileage and mpg, and estimates of our household recycling, and food and other purchasing (the final household figure is then divided by the number in the household).

I did need to make some extra assumptions that the calculator does not adequately provide. These were (all just my guesses): an electric car counts 10% of a petrol/diesel car's footprint (not 0% because of the footprint in the charging infrastructure, roads, etc); second-hand purchases have a zero footprint; Biogas counts 90% of Natural Gas. How much is 'average' consumption of Organic Food, Meat, Dairy, and miscellaneous spending? I took values of 20%, 20%, and 20% of my food bills, and assumed I was average on miscellaneous spending and food wastage.

My footprint came out at 7 Tons of CO₂ per annum. This compares to a published UK average figure of 14.1 Tons and USA average of 17.6 Tons (this made me feel good), and with figures of 6.2 for China and 1.8 for India (which made feel less good).

It showed me which are my biggest outputs, and so the areas I could target if I want to improve. It is obviously only an estimate, but if I make the calculation using the same calculator and assumptions next year it will be a fair comparison; and the process of doing the exercise has been interesting (while locked down!) and certainly made me think about my environmental footprint.

David Lungley

Uley WI Diary

December

We all knew celebrating Christmas was bound to be different this year and it was with some trepidation that the Uley WI Committee invited all its members to a Zoom Christmas Party. Members were asked to wear something sparkly, perhaps a funny hat and to have a glass of something festive within reach. Would anyone, other than the committee members, turn up? But we need not have worried. As one member emailed just afterwards, 'The Uley WI Christmas Party via Zoom was BRILLIANT!! Really good to see so many there.' And it really was fun.

After a little business was sorted, Jacqueline Sarsby began the celebrations by reciting the most delightful new poem she had penned especially for the occasion: The Lonely Rook. Hopefully she will publish it for wider circulation.

Thinking caps were required for the next segment cleverly devised by Pat Uglow: a quiz in which we were all able to participate. Catherine Day excelled as the worthy winner, scoring a magnificent 15 out of 20 possible points. My meagre score of 11 was far less impressive, but I'm now wiser about nine 'facts', although I expect I will never again be required to use this newly gained knowledge to good effect, but one never knows...

Sally Lamerton, our President, kept things moving by regaling us with a true 'show and tell' tale about her violin that her father rescued from on top of her next door's dustbin when she was a child. Sally thinks that perhaps her neighbours might have hoped someone wanted it and if so, they were quite right! Had she acquired simply an unloved, worn-out old instrument or did it hold a hidden secret? We were mesmerised by the possibilities. Chance really would have been a fine thing, had the worn label hiding inside been authentic. It seems though that 'Stradivarius'-labelled violins are not always all what you might hope for. However, its legacy is an entertaining story.



Perhaps fittingly for the new year, our next meeting on 13th January 2021 will focus on selecting a resolution for the 2021 national WI campaign. It will not be easy as Uley WI has to nominate only one of five worthy resolution contenders. We need to be ready to put it to the vote.

Wishing everyone a healthy, happy New Year from all in Uley WI.

Ann Warrender

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hand-built fitted &
freestanding
furniture

contemporary or
traditional design
hardwood or softwood

contact Matt to discuss your ideas

t: 01453 861623 m: 07879 638927

visit mattsummersfurniture.co.uk
for more information



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Could you contribute to the village news?

We are always keen to include pieces from members of the local community. These can be on any topic which may be of community interest: local history, a poem, a favourite recipe, to name but a few. We would particularly like to feature local photographs or artwork on the cover.

Please send pieces in by the 10th of each month to:

uleyvillagenews@gmail.com

Uley Society

Happy New Year to you All.

I write in hope!!

That from September, our monthly meetings can begin again.

Also cross your fingers for this year's Annual Uley Show.

Please save the date:

Saturday 11th September 2021.

Village Lottery

Congratulations to the winners of the December lottery:

1st (£15) - George Todd

2nd (£10) - Richard Polkinghorne

Are you a member? You've got to be in it to win it!! Please email me for a form or pick one up from the shop.

va.boroughs@btinternet.com

Vicky Boroughs

Children's Society Box Collection

Last year boxholders very generously gave over £580 in support of this very worthwhile cause, helping children and young people at serious risk.

This January I will be collecting the boxes and prior to collection will be contacting boxholders individually so that boxes can be collected in a safe and socially distanced manner. It would be wonderful to recruit some new boxholders! If you would like to have a box do please get in touch on 01453 861152.

Gift aid can be arranged for taxpayers which gives a boost to any donations.

Erica Fawcus Gibbs

From the Registers

Those whose Year's Mind falls at this time:

Dennis Ashton, Ivy Evelyn Bailey, Kenneth Frederick Bartlett, Ray Burne, Norman Butcher, Derek Claridge, Trevor Clayton, Nicholas "Nick" Edwards, Don Downton, Val Easton, John Endacott, Basil Holloway, Mary Hunn, John Jones, Phyllis King, Diana Lewis, Lynette Owen, Vivien Parsons, James Pegler, Francis Penley, Sophia Schutts, Bryan Davies, Doreen Busta, Pat Stopford, Paul Mack, Antony Cook, Paul Weeks.



Physiotherapy (MCSP)

Manual therapy & Rehabilitation

Acupuncture (MAAP)

Cosmetic Acupuncture

Pilates Classes

Matwork classes & 1:1 Reformer

Yoga Classes

Vinyasa flow

Nikki 07733323433

www.rockstowesstudio.com

nicolacmarlow@gmail.com

GL11 5AF



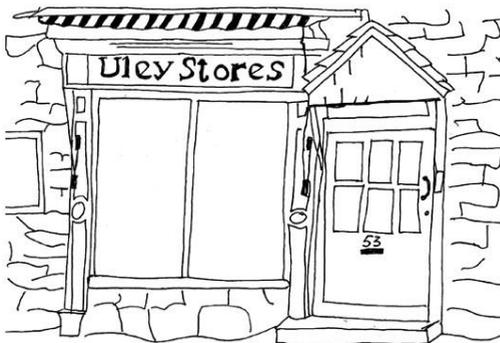
Here for you

- Everyday staples
- Luxury treats
- Sandwiches and deli
- Post Office Monday to Saturday with banking services
- Special orders

Local info

Local produce

Open every day



Join our management committee

**Volunteer
at Uley Stores!!**
All kinds of help
needed. Get in
touch or drop in.

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

January 2021 Services

Sunday 3rd January St Giles	Feast of the Epiphany 10.00am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
Sunday 10th January St Giles	Baptism of Christ 10.00am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
Sunday 17th January St Bartholomew	2nd Sunday of Epiphany 10.00am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
Sunday 24th January St Giles	3rd Sunday of Epiphany 10.00am Parish Holy Communion (CW)
Sunday 31st January Holy Cross	Presentation of Christ/Candlemas 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:

ewelme parishoffice@gmail.com

01453 549280

The office is open on reduced hours at the present time but emails will be answered and messages picked up.

Church Activities

Please be aware that due to the ongoing situation, all of this could be subject to change.

Tuesday 19th January 7pm Via Zoom
PCC meeting

Up to date information can be found on our website:

www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk