Village News



Uley Parish Council

Adam Biscoe <u>clerk@uleyparishcouncil.gov.uk</u>		
Parish Councillors		
Juliet Browne (Chair)	j.browne@uleyparishcouncil.gov.uk	01453 860710
Tony Mills (Vice Chair)	t.mills@uleyparishcouncil.gov.uk	07753 739636
Jo Dee	j.dee@uleyparishcouncil.gov.uk	01453 861566
Geoff Keen	g.keen@uleyparishcouncil.gov.uk	07903 193413
Allan Macdonald	a.macdonald@uleyparishcouncil.gov.uk	07779 724023
Tracy Mason-Fayle	t.mason-fayle@uleyparishcouncil.gov.uk	01453 861183
Sean Sage	s.sage@uleyparishcouncil.gov.uk	07484 302871
District Councillor		-
Martin Pearcy	cllr.martin.pearcy@stroud.gov.uk	
County Councillor	·	•
Richard Dean	richard.dean@gloucesteshire.gov.uk	
Stroud District Council -	Neighbourhood Warden	•
Andrew Beamish	andrew.beamish@stroud.gov.uk	07834 419332
Volunteer Footpath Offic	er	
Bill Bramley	bramley@fastmail.fm	01453 861249
Police Community Suppo	ort Officer	
PCSO Abbigail Barker	Abbigail.Barker@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk	07811 292244
Community Wellbeing		
Email: <u>communitywellbeir</u>	ng.stroud@nhs.net Tel: 0345 863 8323	
Uley Parish Council Meet	ings	
	in the Village Hall on the first Wednesday of the mor d. Details of the meetings can be found on the notice	·



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

end of the village or on the Uley village website at: www.uleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

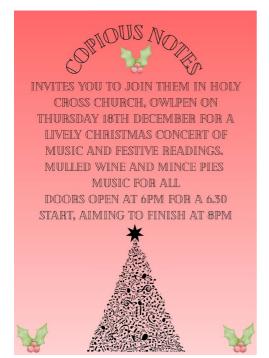
https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/parish-resources/communications/#messenger



From the Churchwardens

It is more than 30 years since the St Giles Room extension was built, adding a toilet and vestry/meeting room to the church. The 'kitchenette' was refurbished quite recently and, with the electrical supply having been upgraded during the re-ordering of the main church, the heaters can now be operated at full power and warm the room far more effectively. However, the room itself is feeling its age and looking rather tired and jaded. We are now planning a 'make-over', including redecoration, carpet cleaning, new and brighter curtains and improved and more energy-efficient lighting. We hope to be able to undertake this work early in the New Year.

It's wonderful that the 'Friends of St Giles, Uley', offer invaluable financial support towards the upkeep of the church building through various fundraising events such as the current series of monthly Sunday afternoon concerts. It is hoped that these fundraising efforts will meet a good proportion of the costs of this project. The improved facilities will both benefit church functions and also make the St Giles Room a more attractive venue for hire by groups in the village needing a smaller space than that provided by the Village Hall.





Come and join us for the

Uley Singing Allsorts Christmas Concert

Tuesday 9th December 7.30pm Uley Village Hall

A message from Father Christmas



Are you looking forward to Christmas this year? I certainly am! Christmas is a very exciting but busy time for me. The elves are busy making toys, the reindeer are practising their sleigh runs and I'm being busy preparing my list of who's been good.

I will be getting my sleigh ready for the long journey on Christmas Eve. In between times I will try to reply to as many of you as possible.

Please send your letter to:



Father Christmas Santa's Grotto Reindeer land XM4 5HQ

The next

Uley Bury Working Party

is on

Saturday 20th December from 10am to 12noon

Please meet at the bench and bring a cup. Mince pies and Gluhwein

Help preserve our precious grassland!

New members very welcome More info from Janet Telephone: 860236

The Uley Society



We've all heard about the Glorious Glosters but what was it really like on Hill 235 by the Imjin river that day?

Len Evans knows.

He runs the Soldiers Museum in Gloucester

Come to the Uley Society
December meeting and Christmas party
at the Village Hall and he will tell you
what really happened.

Thursday December 18th at 7.30

Non-members welcome (fee £3)

Registered Charity No: 295000. Est 1974 www.theuleysociety.co.uk

Uley Parish Council

A warm welcome to two new councillors – well, not quite so new. Allan Macdonald has rejoined the Council after some years and attended his first meeting this month. Tracy Mason-Fayle has been co-opted back onto the Council and her first meeting will be next month – 3rd December 2025.

Council Chairman Juliet Browne, in co-operation with our SDC and GCC councillors (Martin Pearcy and Dr Richard Dean), has been pressing SDC and GCC officers to update us on their plans for the Knoll. Cllr. Martin Pearcy has agreed to escalate the matter to senior SDC leaders and Cllr. Browne will be writing to the Chairman of the Housing Committee to ask that Uley be kept better informed on the progress of the various surveys that the Housing Committee requested in March 2024, following the public meeting held here in the Village Hall earlier that month.

In December last year, the Government published its plans to devolve power away from Whitehall in England. In Gloucestershire, this will likely mean the amalgamation of Gloucestershire County Council, Stroud and other district councils. This month district and county councillors will be making their recommendation to Government as to what should replace the current structure. You can follow the discussions at https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/members-matter/local-government-reorganisation-updates/

Please note the following phone numbers: Councillor Tracy Mason-Fayle Tel: 01453 861183

Councillor Allan MacDonald Tel - 07779 724023

Councillor Geoff Keen Tel - 07903 193413



Collection Point



Ending hunger together across the Stroud District

Providing emergency food and practical support for people left without enough money to live on.

Please donate an item or two from the list.

Thank you!

Nearest collection points: Uley Shop and GL11 in Cam

Shopping list

Christmas Sweets

Box of Savoury Crackers

Jelly

Chocolate Coins

Hot Chocolate

Large Box/ Tin Biscuits

Christmas Pudding

Mince Pies (Long Dated)

Christmas Cake

Selection Boxes



01453 367077 Strouddistrictfoodbank.org.uk

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Church Letter

Some wounds can only be healed by beauty.

I heard this little phrase the other day and it's helping to make sense of experiences where beauty and tears mingle together. I really hope that this won't put you off coming to church, but when worshipping, beauty touches deeply and silent tears may gently flow.

There are, of course many other tears that find their place too.

Tears of recognition, nostalgia or disappointment. Tears of joy and tears of grief.

All of these are welcome in Church, alongside the exuberant joy of gusty singing, familiar storytelling, the stillness of prayer and the contentment and challenge of knowing that we are community gathered in the presence of Love, where everyone is welcome!

The uniquely Christian belief celebrated at Christmas is that God isn't distant and untainted by the realities of life lived here on this earth, but that in Jesus, God became one of us, so that we might encounter God in the middle of the mess and the muddle, the triumphs and the sorrows of our ordinary little lives. And that we are called to respond to Love with love. To allow ourselves to be healed and to offer that same healing love to our neighbour.

There is so much here that I can't begin to explain, and hope that the words of the hymn, which is sung to the tune of Danny Boy, will help a bit.

I pray that you will know deep joy, peace and love this Christmas and that you will know yourself welcome in church, at any time, with or without tears!



I cannot tell why he, whom angels worship, should set his love upon the sons of men, or why, as Shepherd, he should seek the wanderers.

to bring them back, they know not how or when.

But this I know, that he was born of Mary when Bethl'em's manger was his only home, and that he lived at Nazareth and laboured, and so the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is come.

I cannot tell how silently he suffered, as with his peace he graced this place of tears, or how his heart upon the cross was broken, the crown of pain to three and thirty years. But this I know, he heals the broken-hearted and stays our sin and calms our lurking fear and lifts the burden from the heavy laden; for still the Saviour, Saviour of the world is here.

I cannot tell how he will win the nations, how he will claim his earthly heritage, how satisfy the needs and aspirations of east and west, of sinner and of sage. But this I know, all flesh shall see his glory, and he shall reap the harvest he has sown, and some glad day his sun will shine in splendour

when he the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is known.

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship, when at his bidding every storm is stilled, or who can say how great the jubilation when every heart with love and joy is filled. But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture, and myriad myriad human voices sing, and earth to heav'n, and heav'n to earth, will answer.

'at last the Saviour, Saviour of the world, is King!'

From the Uley, Nympsfield and Owlpen Church Registers

Weddings at Holy Cross, Owlpen

Saturday 8th November Lewis Childs and Bethany Dingley

Banns in November

Robert Lees and Tamsin Banester

Funerals at St Giles

19th November Elliot Gilfoyle 26th November Pam Bartlett

Years Mind in December

Nancy Wordsworth, Lesley Mervyn Smith, Andy Johnson, Hilary Bay McManus, Pat Athey, Lindsey Street, Roy Dauncey, Malcolm Hall, Arthur Philpott, Sue Rushton, Richard Polkinghorne

Cotswold Warden Guided Walks

There are lots of guided local walks with the Cotswold Voluntary Wardens happening each month. There is no need to book. There is a box for a voluntary contribution towards materials for our work on footpath maintenance. Some of the upcoming local walks are:

Tuesday 2nd December at 10am Leckhampton Hill Loop

Distance: 5.5 miles | Duration: 3 hours Start: Brownstones Quarry Car Park, Cheltenham, GL53 9QN

Friday 5th December at 10am Crickley Hill (Stile Free)

Distance: 3 miles | Duration: 1.5 - 2 hours Start: Crickley Hill Country Park, Crickley Hill, Birdlip, Gloucester GL4 8JY. Please note there is a £2.00 car parking charge.

Saturday 13th December at 10am Sapperton and Daneway

Distance: 4.5 miles | Duration: 3.5 hours Start: St Kenelm's Church, Sapperton, GL7 6LQ

Monday 29th December at 10:00am The Villages of the Golden Valley

Distance: 8 miles | Duration: 4 hours Start: Eastcombe, Stroud. OS Grid Ref OS 869 022. What3Words ///door.dispose.bathtubs

More information can be obtained for wardens' walks throughout the Cotswolds from the website below. Walks are graded by difficulty and sorted by location.

https://www.cotswolds-nl.org.uk/exploring/auided-routes/



ULEY WI

Uley WI Diary - November 2025

In spite of shorter daylight hours now the clocks have gone back, Uley WI members have made the most of the occasional glorious autumn days. We were treated to coffee and home-made cakes at one member's home and groups of five or six met up for lunches in various restaurants, pubs, and homes. It is such a relaxed way to get to know others.



We also enjoyed a trip to the cinema in Wotton to see *The Roses* which was in turns funny and tragic. Great acting.

This month we held our AGM where a slide show and reports from the Committee reminded us

of the wonderful events and gatherings from the last 12 months. Once the business was out of the way, the serious fun of decorating candles in anticipation of Christmas could begin. How artistic and talented some members are!



Now we look forward to a busy December which will include our Christmas party and various gatherings for coffee and mince pies.

On behalf of Uley WI, we wish you a safe and Merry Christmas.

Ruth Littlehales & Ann Warrender

For more information on Uley WI please contact our email address: secretary.uleywi@gmail.com. You can also follow us on Facebook at 'Uley WI'.

Uley Community Stores & Post Office Diary

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

The shop AGM was held October 25th. The presentation, minutes and financial statement will be on the Uley Community Stores Website and Facebook page. On behalf of the committee, volunteers and customers I'd like to thank committee members Joanna Horden-Curzon (Secretary), Liz Purnell, Cat Sargent and Ross Thurlow for all their hard work and dedication, as they stand down.

Continuing to serve on the committee are Richard Littlehales (Chairman), David Thomas, Angela Haddrell, Julia Wathen, Tess Jackson and Pami Davis. Newly elected are Noel Briscoe and Martin Bragg.

December is here, Christmas decorations are going up, lights a twinkling and of course a Christmas raffle. A lovely Christmas Hamper. To be in with a chance to win it, spend £10 in the shop you will get 1 free entry. Spend £20 and you will get 2 free entries, £40 its 4 free entries. HO, HO, HO. The draw will be held Friday 20th December at 11am, just in time for Christmas. The winner will be notified and the result will be announced in the Village News in the New Year.

There is a great selection of Christmas gifts and yummy goods on sale. Plus all the ingredients needed to make your Christmas cakes, puddings and mince pies.

Christmas Opening Hours

Christmas Day

Shop and Post Office closed

Boxing Day

Shop opens 9am-12pm
Post Office closed

New Year's Eve

Shop opens 8-1 Post Office 9-12.30

New Year's Day

Shop opens 9-12
Post Office closed

As in previous years for December only, the Post Office will remain open through the lunch hour, weekdays from Monday 8th until Tuesday 23rd December inclusive to help with the Christmas rush. Ladies, thank you. Check at the Post Office or online the latest dates for sending your Christmas Cards, parcels at home or abroad. The Ladies recommend that to have the best chance of the same evening pick up to get to the Post Office by 4pm Mon – Friday, Wednesday 3.30pm. Note that Saturday's post is collected at 10.50am.

Wishing you All A Very Merry Christmas

Dami Daviç

Garden Notes

Christmas Inspo

Perhaps your gifts are bought and wrapped already but here are some of my favourite ideas for presents (for yourself or others).

Books to cosy up with on cold, dark evenings

Diary of a Keen Gardener, celebrated garden designer, Mary Keen, writes about her personal garden and allotment. **Bird School** by Adam Nicholson. Described as a 'feast for mind and soul', this is a philosophical exploration of the birds all around us.

The Kindest Garden, A Practical Guide to Regenerative Gardening by landscape designer Marian Boswell. Whether you have a large space or a window box this will help you bring diversity and health to your garden.

Indispensable Kit for the gardener

Hori hori with sheaf. Sharp multi functional tool for digging, weeding and sawing.

Dutch style planting trowel... you'll have seen Monty and Adam using one! **Niwaki gardening gloves** for winter and summer. A cut above - designed to feel the plants and sized to fit

A delightful gift to give and receive is a personally chosen pot planted in layers with bulbs or an amaryllis that will give pleasure for many months. It's not too late for tulips..

Shrubs for Winter Interest

Given our more limited time outside through the winter months, plant strategically in a location visible from your house or along paths.

Mahonia - flowers are exploding yellow fireworks from November. Look for RHS AGM varieties and unless using Mahonia 'Soft Caress' keep it back from paths.

Sarcoccoca ruscifolia - sweet box/ Christmas box. Highly scented, this unobtrusive evergreen shrub comes into its own as it flowers December to March. Sited by a front or back door you won't fail to appreciate it. S. hookeriana var. digyna 'Purple Stem' AGM, is another good alternative.

Cryptomeria japonica 'elegans

compacta' AGM (Japanese cedar). Very slowly growing to 2m this pyramidal cedar changes colour throughout the year. Blue green, to green and finally turning dark purple into red in winter.

Hamamelis intermedia - many varieties with RHS AGMs. Such as: H.'Diane', H. 'Arnold Promise', H. 'Pallida'. Thought not to grow in alkaline soils, I have three growing happily away. Delicious beacons of joy in winter.

Camellias - Roses of Winter. Definitely not happy in alkaline soil, these gorgeous plants can adapt well to life in a good sized pot with free draining, ericaceous soil and fed with camellia feed. They set their buds in summer so feed and keep well watered then and you will reap the rewards in the depths of winter. Some recommended for pots...

C x williamsii 'St Ewe (pink), C x vernalis'Yuletide' (scarlet), C x sasanqua 'Narumigata' (white AND fragrant)

Happy Christmas to you all



@awalledgarden



Christmas Tree Recycling



In Partnership with Just Helping

Collections 10th -13th January Registration Closes 6th January



Take the hassle
out of disposing of your
Christmas tree and have
Longfield collect it for a voluntary
donation*. You will not only
be helping reduce your carbon
footprint but also supporting
your community hospice.

*After costs, over 80% of monies raised will go to Longfield Community Hospice with around 13% going to Just Helping charity and over 5% to other local charities.

just-helping.org.uk/register-tree

Registered Charity Number 298627





The Uley Playing Field and Pavilion

Available for regular hires, parties, weddings and more! The Pavilion has all the facilities you need in the picturesque playing field in Shadwell.

Contact us on hite.uleypavilion@gmail.com or 07771 526082 for more information.

Don't forget about our 100 club too - monthly prizes up to £25 with an input of just £1 a month! Contact 100clubuley@gmail.com to sign up.

Find us on facebook and instagram or www.uleypavilion.weebly.com



Physiotherapy (MCSP)

Acupuncture (MAAP)

D | O Cosmetic Acupuncture (MFEA)

Pilates Classes

Yoga Classes

Nikki 07733323433 nicolacmarlow@gmail.com





www.uleycommunitystores.co.uk Telephone 01453 861592

uleyepos@gmail.com

FOR DECEMBER

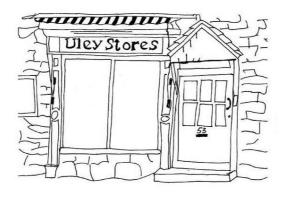
In the Shop

...there is a good selection of postal items, such as tape, brown paper, luggage labels, postal bags, coloured tissue paper, Chirstmas cards and gift tags. Need something for the stockings? Colouring books & crayons could keep them quiet until you wake up!

o o o In the Post Office

....the PO counter will stay open over the lunch break from Monday 8th to Tuesday 23rd December. It's a good time to avoid the queues.

Last posting dates for the UK are Wednesday 17th December for 2nd class mail and Saturday 20th December for 1st class. Come in & check the dates for International Mail.





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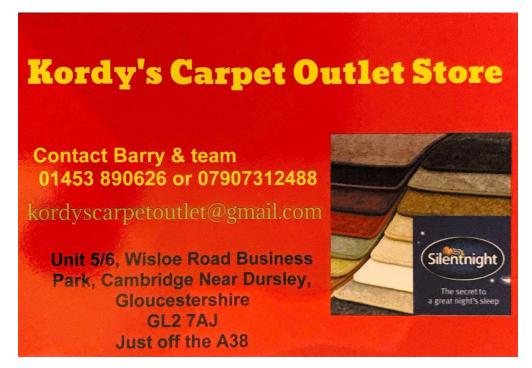
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The Ewelme Benefice Parish of Uley with Nympsfield and Owlper

Rector: Revd Dr Juliet Jensen: 01453 350810 ewelmerector@gmail.com
Churchwardens - Nikki Clarke and David Thomas

Services in December 2025

7th December - 2nd Sunday of Advent

10am Parish Holy Communion at

St Bartholomew's, Nympsfield

14th December - 3rd Sunday of Advent

10am Parish Holy Communion at St Giles, Uley

21st December - 4th Sunday of Advent

10am Parish Holy Communion at St Giles, Uley

Monday 22nd December

6pm Carol Service at St Bartholomew's, Nympsfield

Tuesday 23rd December

6pm 9 Lessons and Carols at Holy Cross, Owlpen

24th December - Christmas Eve

4pm Crib & Christingle Service at St Giles, Uley

25th December - Christmas Day

10am Parish Holy Communion

28th December - Ist Sunday after Christmas

10am Benefice Holy Communion at St Giles, Uley