

Uley, Owlpen & Nympsfield

January 2026

Village News

Supporting Church, Community and Local Business



uleyvillagenews@gmail.com

Uley Parish Council

Adam Biscoe | clerk@uleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

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 Percy	dlr.martin.percy@stroud.gov.uk	
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County Councillor

Richard Dean	richard.dean@gloucestershire.gov.uk	
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Stroud District Council - Neighbourhood Warden

Andrew Beamish	andrew.beamish@stroud.gov.uk	07834 419332
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Volunteer Footpath Officer

Bill Bramley	bramley@fastmail.fm	01453 861249
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Police Community Support Officer

PCSO Abbigail Barker	Abbigail.Barker@gloucestershire.pnn.police.uk	07811 292244
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Community Wellbeing

Email: communitywellbeing.stroud@nhs.net Tel: 0345 863 8323

Uley Parish Council Meetings

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



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

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

Cam and Uley Family Practice Update

As part of general service improvements, Uley Surgery will initially extend opening hours for both the Reception and Dispensary, in early January 2026, on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 0800 to 1830hours. Once staffing levels permit, opening hours on Thursday and Friday will also be extended. This brings the Uley Surgery opening hours in line with those at Cam Surgery.

Parishioners will be pleased to hear that negotiations between the Partners and the owner of the Uley Surgery premises are well advanced, with the hope that the purchase of the premises will be completed by mid-2026.

Jonathan Dape

Chair CUFP PPG



SAVE THE DATE!

Friends of St Giles Present

A TRIVIA QUIZ NIGHT

Saturday 7th February in Uley Village Hall
7.00pm for 7.30pm start

Teams of 6 people. Further details to follow, please keep an eye out in the shop window and on the Uley Friends Facebook Group. ?

For more information contact marionmills@btinternet.com



Uley Parish Council

Stroud District Council is asking residents to help identify and map organisations across the district that support women and girls - The goal is to create a comprehensive directory of organisations working in this area. This will help strengthen partnerships, improve access to support, and identify gaps in provision. This is intended to help build a safer district by sharing organisations supporting women and girls at the start of 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence.

The Knoll

At its December meeting the Council heard from the Chair about some progress by SDC in its plans to demolish the existing eight dwellings on the Knoll and replace them with 18 dwellings. Several residents voiced their concerns about construction traffic, increased traffic and parking once the new dwellings are occupied

and overwhelming the drainage infrastructure. SDC have promised to update the Council in January. Once more information is publicly available, the Council will look to invite SDC planning officials to a public meeting, hopefully sometime early in the New Year.

Energy efficiency

Our County Councillor, Dr Richard Dean noted that GCC had put together some useful information about how you can save energy around the home, with no cost, low cost and some cost options depending on how much or little you'd like to do! They've also compiled a list of all the current grants and support that you may be able to access, depending on eligibility. Take a look - <https://gloucestershire.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/greener-gloucestershire-dashboard/useful-information/>

Fiery Lane Winter Warning

This short cut out of Uley is incredibly steep and narrow and in winter it is also muddy and often icy. If you do not live on the lane and could avoid driving up or down it during the winter months that would be considerate.

Fiery Lane is neither gritted nor salted so the chances of vehicles getting stuck in bad weather are quite high. Those who do live on the lane will obviously help stuck motorists if they can, but patience can wear thin, and it would be easier for everyone if non-essential journeys were rerouted.

Please do not ignore the warning signs if they are put out.

Clerk to Owlpen Parish Meeting

The next
**Uley Bury
Working Party**

is on

**Saturday 17th January
from 10am to 12noon**

Please meet at the bench and
bring your own coffee etc.

**Help preserve our precious
grassland!**

More info from Janet
Telephone: 860236

New members very welcome

The Uley Society

Registered Charity No: 295000

Established 1974

www.theuleysociety.co.uk

**Thursday 15th January at
7.30pm in Uley Village Hall**

The History of the Waterley Bottom Mummers

Speaker: David Ashbee

Tea & coffee afterwards
Non members welcome (fee £3)

Programme Secretary:
Janet Wood - 860236

From the Churchwardens

The end of a calendar year is a lovely time to look back and reflect, we write this in early December for reading in January. And when this beloved Uley Village News drops through your doorstep you'll already be thinking of pulling down trees and packing up decorations for another year.

Let's start with trees... We have just hosted the Christmas tree festival and we'd like to thank everyone who participated under Moya's skilful management. Each year the trees get better and better and so thoughtfully assembled. What a range of talent we have in the village. We've had really positive feedback - thank you! And please do consider how you might contribute a tree next year.

There are many fresh expressions of faith and community popping up and adding to our already rich village life. Monday Mingle, our all age (from toddlers - and mums - to 'those of mature age') open coffee morning on Mondays. Thank you to all who have visited and been drawn in to

contribute. And 'Second Sundays' where we are looking for themes that might catch the interest and intersect with more informal worship – again all ages and stages very welcome. And it is always lovely to be able to welcome the many wedding couples attending services to qualify to be married in our churches - and indeed those who choose to visit us after their wedding, and in some cases subsequently to have their babies baptised here.

There are so many people to thank for all they do, it's only in stepping into this role as Church Warden that we (Nikki and David) have witnessed the full range of contributions people make. Making cups of tea, mapping out the churchyard, cleaning our churches, serving all our wedding couples who come from afar to have their special day in our churches, doing the accounts, looking after all the things, caring for the buildings! And much much more. If you feel like you'd like to get involved in any way, big or small, we'd love to explore that with you.

Uley Health Equipment Club

New Year, new hip, knee, or other problems?!

Do you need any equipment to help you in your home, getting around??

I now have access to 6 raised loo seats, 2 frames for the loo, 2 pairs of crutches, walking sticks, indoor Rollator with tray and cup holder (no seat), lightweight folding wheelchair, fancy posh commode, several very good firm seat cushions and grabbers. It's amazing how many times you drop something, frustratingly not able to bend down to pick up!!!

No costs, this is not a charity, just people's goodwill.

Pami Davis

pami@uwclub.net



Coaley and Uley Climate Action
Network are holding a

REPAIR CAFE

**On Sunday 18th January 2026
from 2 - 4pm**

at Nympsfield Village Hall

This time:

**General repairs, Textile repairs,
Tool sharpening**

Bring along your items for repair, for help, suggestions and guidance in making them sound again

Also:

Tea and Cakes

Look out for further information on posters and fliers, or check out our website at www.cucan.org.uk

All welcome!

Church Letter

Happy New Year!

January is a time for new beginnings and resolutions to do a bit better. With waists and pockets stretched by Christmas we move into the part of winter when little by little the days lengthen and snowdrops are poised to poke their heart-shaped heads through the hard ground. How is your heart? I'm not thinking about blood pressure, cholesterol and blocked arteries – important though these are - but rather wondering how hopeful or happy you are as we enter this new year? There's not much of our lives that doesn't begin with imagination and how we feel, think and behave as we enter 2026 is no doubt shaped by how we imagine things are and will be. What is shaping and inspiring our imaginations?

Can we dare to imagine a year where we grow in openness to beauty, goodness and truth?

Can we dare to imagine a year when old grudges are put to rest and friendship embraced?

Can we dare to imagine a year when we will be taken beyond ourselves? Be willing to pay the cost of committing to a way that will challenge us, be painful or inconvenient for the sake of the good of another?

Can we dare to imagine a year when the shock of unexpected griefs and losses are

cushioned by kindness and care?

Can we dare to imagine a year where conversation, shared enjoyment and celebration brighten our days?

I believe that Jesus shows us what the good life is like and that Christian worship, at its best, inspires our imaginations and forms us in a particular way, challenging the hopeless and divisive narratives of our times. Many of us won't have experienced church in this way and may have given up on the possibility of holding faith and flourishing within the Christian tradition. I spent much of my childhood thinking that the Christian faith was about trying to be good and getting things right, before experiencing myself so utterly loved by God, at which point began a journey of self-acceptance and challenge and growth.

If you would like to explore what the Christian tradition has to offer, you are of course always welcome to come along to church on a Sunday morning to experience something of community and worship or please get in touch if you'd like to talk. On 11th January, the short informal Second Sunday service at St Giles will be exploring baptism. Perhaps you were baptised as a baby, have had or would like your own children to be baptised or are interested in becoming baptised as an adult, or are simply curious about this ancient Christian ritual of entry into the church family. Baptisms won't be taking place on the day, but we will wonder about its mattering and its meaning.

Everyone is welcome regardless of where we might be on our journey of faith and however much noise we might make! Some words from Rumi to finish:

Someone who does not run
toward the allure of love
walks a road where nothing lives.

With love,

Juliet

Revd Juliet Jensen
ewelmerector@gmail.com
Tel: 01453 350810
Mob: 07776 910890

From the Uley, Nympsfield and Owlpen Church Registers

Year's mind January

Ray Burne, Norman Butcher, Jim Pegler, Phyllis King, Vivien Parsons, Kenneth Bartlett, Diana Lewis, Basil Holloway, Derek Claridge, Mary Hunn, Nick Edwards, John Jones, Don Downton, Dennis Ashton, John Chang Endacott, Trevor Clayton, Lyn Owen, Francis Penley, Sophia Schutts, Val Easton, Dan Thomas, David Jackson and Joyce Powney.

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:

Friday 2nd January at 10am Minchinhampton Commons

Join us in celebrating the new year and the 60th anniversary of the Cotswolds AONB on a bracing morning walk across signature Cotswold upland commons. Distance: 5.0 miles | Duration: 3 - 3.5 hours Difficulty: Unsurfaced paths, basic fitness. Start: Opposite The Amberley Inn, Stroud GL5 5AB, UK. Please do not use the Inn car park.
OS Grid Ref: SO 850013
What3Words ///makeovers.slicing.eyelid

Tuesday 20th January at 10am Painswick Beacon

Distance: 4 miles | Duration: 2.5 hours
Start: The start point is the gravel road car park known as 'The Walker's Car Park' a turning off, a short way along, the Golf Course Road. Golf Course Road is off the B4073 which itself is a turn off the A46 in the heart of Painswick.
OS Grid Ref: SO 86793 10540
What3Words ///soup.pint.asserts

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/guided-routes/>

Uley WI Diary – December 2025

40 WI members gathered for a wonderful Christmas party filled with warmth and festive cheer. Everyone enjoyed a delicious feast complete with turkey, salmon and ham, all beautifully presented. Homemade desserts prepared by the members added a special touch to the celebration.



Laughter and singing filled the room as the members joined together for a carol singing quiz. A great evening was had by all.

A coffee and minced pies morning will round off this year's Christmas celebrations.



Merry Christmas from everyone at the WI. If you are interested in joining us, please do get in touch.

Ruth Littlehales

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

A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR

The lovely Christmas hamper, 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, Ailsa, Sadie and Angela, 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. They will be ready for all your Amazon and Home Shopping returns.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to also thank all the volunteers for all their hard work and dedication too. Their Christmas Hamper will also have been drawn with our Customers one. Then we'll all be looking forward to the "Volunteers New Year Party" in January. This is just a couple of the many benefits of becoming a volunteer.

Shop Opening Hours

Monday to Friday: 8am - 5.30pm

Saturdays: 8am - 1 pm

Sundays: 9am - 12pm

Post Office Opening Hours

Monday to Friday: 9am - 5.30pm

(Closed for lunch 1pm - 2pm)

(Wednesdays closes 4.30pm)

Saturdays: 9am - 12.30pm

Sundays: Closed

The shop AGM was held in the Village Hall October 25th . The AGM minutes and Accounts are now on the Uley Community Stores website.

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

Dami Davis

Garden Notes

The Taste of Sunshine

In this most tedious of months, diets, debts and dark, dreary weather prevail. However, the brief season of joy is also upon us! Seville Oranges will be on the shelves this month, so it's time to make marmalade/or freeze them till you're ready.

I can recommend a trip to Seville to experience firsthand the fragrance of 'azahar' (orange blossom) which pervades the city and is at strongest from February through March. It is indeed a distinctive and integral part of Seville's history. Hercules, legendary founder of Seville, is referred to around the city and one of the 12 tasks assigned to him by King Eurystheus was to travel to Africa to steal the 'golden apples' of immortality rumoured to be an orange.

Naranja Amarga (bitter orange) was introduced in the 10th century to Europe by Genovese sailors from Asia. Rumoured to bring happiness, the Moors planted bitter orange trees all over Spain but concentrated in Andalusia. Today there are more than 48,000 trees across the city yielding 5.7 million kilos of oranges. Many tons of these lie in streets creating a hazard for pedestrians and cleaning crews and so the city has initiated a pilot scheme for turning unwanted oranges into sustainable electricity using the methane as the fruit ferments into clean electricity. Most orchards in the regions surrounding Seville export their harvest to the UK for marmalade and to France

as it's a key ingredient of Cointreau and Grand Marnier. Locally it is used to make a variety of products from baked goods and chocolates, jams, liqueurs, wines and lotions. My favourite is to find a reputable taberna to sample the aperitif VINO de Naranja made with sweet white wine and bitter peel. There are plenty of cheap imitations on offer so choose carefully.

Marmalade

The name originates from Portugal in Tudor times, evolving from a quince paste known as marmelada. Although the earliest handwritten recipe was in the Scottish highlands in 1683, it was first produced commercially in 1767 by a Scottish grocer called James Keiller. The fruit gave the marmalade a bitter complexity and proved to be a big hit.

Marmalade under threat

Sweetening palettes, cheap spread alternatives, perceptions of being an old fashioned preserve have combined with a decline in traditional marmalade making skills. Across the globe, citrus orchards are being threatened by Yellow Dragon disease. The bacteria is carried by the psylla fly. Once infected the tree can die within 5 years. There are now programs to protect citrus through proactively encouraging wildlife that prey on the carrier insect by creating habitats in and around groves.

Get preserving!

Caroline @awalledgarden

TORTWORTH ARBORETUM

Events 2026

JOIN US FOR:

January

24th - Snowdrop Visitor Day
31st - Snowdrop Visitor Day (dog free)

February

14th - Women's Bushcraft Workshop

March

22nd - Campfire Cooking Workshop
28th - Basket Weaving Workshop

April

18th - Foraging Walk and Talk
21st - Forest Bathing Workshop
25th - Bluebell Visitor Day
26th - Women's Bushcraft Workshop

May

2nd - Bluebell Visitor Day (dog free)
3rd - Bluebell Walk and Talk

June

24th - Lavender Workshop

July

22nd - Nettle Cordage Workshop

August

Open for camping and private hire

September

22nd - Bat Walk and Talk
26th - Autumn Fundraiser Open Day

October

11th - Willow Weaving Workshop
17th - Mushroom Walk and Talk
24th - Autumn Visitor Day

November

7th - Autumn Visitor Day (dog free)
22nd - Women's Bushcraft Workshop

December

5th - Natural Wreath Making
11th - Festive Willow Weaving

Plus camping and exclusive woodland hire available all year round!

FIND TICKETS ONLINE:
tortwortharboretum.org/events





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Pilates Classes

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Nikki

07733323433

nicolacmarlow@gmail.com

FOR JANUARY

o o o

In the shop.....

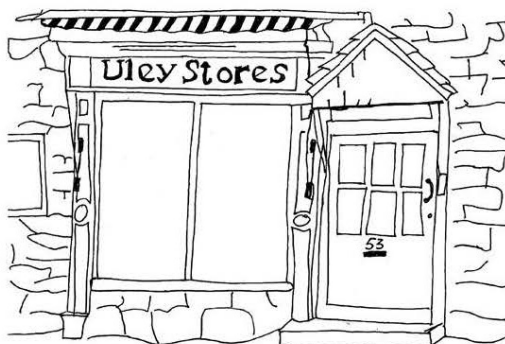
...are you setting your New Year resolutions? UCS is more than just a village shop – it's a hub for the village. Could you make a resolution to come in & support the shop a bit more in 2026? Plans are afoot for the next 10 years – don't take the shop for granted!

o o o

In the Post Office

.....sadly, from 31st December 2025, you will not be able to pay cheques into Lloyds, Halifax or Bank of Scotland at the PO counter. Other banks are not affected. Not our fault – complain directly to your bank!

If you're buying online in the sales, don't forget you can often get your parcels delivered to Uley PO. Less likely to get lost or wet.



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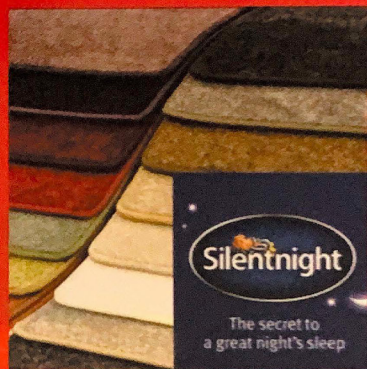
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Contact Barry & team

01453 890626 or 07907312488

kordyscarpetoutlet@gmail.com

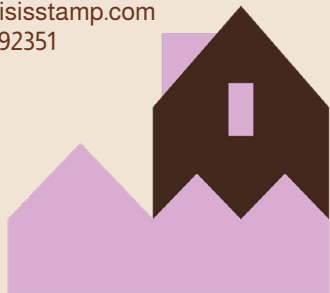
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**The Ewelme Benefice
Parish of Uley with Nympsfield and Owlpen**

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



Services in January 2026

4th January - Epiphany

10am

Parish Communion at St Bartholomew's, Nympsfield

11th January - Baptism of Christ

10am

Exploring our Baptism at St Giles, Uley

6.30pm

Epiphany Carol Service at St James, Dursley

18th January - Epiphany 2

10am

Parish Communion at St Giles, Uley

25th January - Epiphany 3

10am

Benefice Holy Communion at St James, Dursley

6pm

Prayer Service for Christian Unity at St George's, Upper Cam

**To book weddings, baptisms and for general information
Contact - ewelmebenefice@gmail.com 01453549280**

Please note, articles submitted by individuals do not necessarily represent
the views or policies of the Church and / or Parish Council.