

Uley, Owlpen & Nympsfield

February 2026

Village News

Supporting Church, Community and Local Business



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
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@gloucestershire.gov.uk

Stroud District Council - Neighbourhood Warden

Andrew Beamish	andrew.beamish@stroud.gov.uk	07834 419332

Volunteer Footpath Officer

Bill Bramley	bramley@fastmail.fm	01453 861249

Police Community Support Officer

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

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.glos.anglican.org/parish-resources/communications/#messenger>

Welcome to Uley Trees & Meadows

We want to improve nature around Uley, and we'd like you to join us!

Whether you're young or old, have a few acres or a small back garden, if you're keen on doing more for nature, we would love it if you supported us! No commitment necessary, anything you can do would be hugely appreciated. We'll give you more details of how you can get involved in the coming months, but this is to tell you that we're planning.

It all began in 2023 when David Lungley arranged for children from Uley School to plant young trees, that Gloucestershire County Council provided, in a field on the Rymer's farm. One thing led to another, and soon we had planted up 3 sites, and had a willing team of villagers co-ordinating it all, led by Chris Shaw.

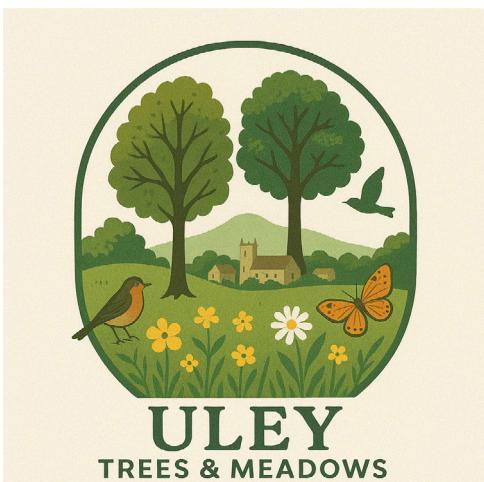
In 2024, an ecologist from Glorious Cotswold Grasslands helped to identify 2 further areas - the far bank on Millennium Green (with the support of the Millennium Green Committee), and Uley Common at the very top of Crawley Hill, both of which we've been working on to let the wildflowers thrive, and the insects, bees and butterflies flourish.

And then in 2025, we formally established ourselves as Uley Trees & Meadows, as an independent project within Coaley & Uley Climate Action Network, who provide our website (<https://cucan.org.uk/>), insurance and accounting.

So now we're here, with over 30 members in a WhatsApp group, an active Committee, and a plan of action that will involve YOU! There'll be events to attend, where you can help restore nature, and lots of ideas on things you can do in your garden to make it more wildlife-friendly.

We've got the backing of the Parish Council, and we can manage what gets done, but we need the village to get involved to help increase bio-diversity. You'll see a bit more in Uley Friends if you're on Facebook, and there'll be a window display in the shop this month. Keep a look out for further updates in next month's Village News!

*Julian, Chris, David, Amy, Vicky, Liz,
Rachel, Richard, Tess and Caroline*



Uley Parish Council

CHANGE OF DATE

The February Parish Council meeting will take place on **Thursday 12th February** in the Village Hall at 7pm.

A Gentle Reminder About Dog Control in Uley

Last month, a Uley resident had a worrying experience on the Bury after being approached by a dog that appeared overly excited and difficult for its owners to control. Although no one was hurt, the incident has prompted a friendly reminder about keeping dogs safely under control when out and about in the village.

Uley's lanes, footpaths and green spaces are enjoyed by everyone, from dog walkers and families to cyclists and visitors, and a little extra care helps ensure they remain welcoming for all.

What Owners Need to Know

UK law requires dogs to be **kept under control in public places**. A dog can be considered "dangerously out of control" if it makes someone

feel threatened, even if there is no physical contact. Some areas also have local rules requiring dogs to be kept on leads.

Recent updates to livestock protection laws also mean stronger penalties if dogs chase or disturb farm animals, highlighting the importance of responsible handling in rural areas like ours.

Looking After Each Other

Most dog owners in Uley are thoughtful and considerate, and a few simple steps, such as using a lead when needed, ensuring good recall, and being mindful of others' comfort, go a long way in keeping our village safe and friendly for everyone.

Defibrillators

The parish council has ordered two new defibrillators to replace the ones installed ten years ago. Currently there is only ONE in the village - at the Playing Field. The one outside the Village Hall is NOT working. The two new ones will be installed in the next two weeks.

QUIZ NIGHT



**7th February 7 pm
for 7.30 pm start
Uley Village Hall**

**Teams of 6. £10 per person including light refreshments
Bar and Raffle Prizes**

**Friends of St Giles raising money to refurbish a room in the
Church for Church and Community Use.**

To book tickets: marionmills@btinternet.com 01453 861001

From the Churchwardens

It was wonderful to see our churches filled to brim at our Christmas Services, welcoming people in from the cold into candlelit spaces, all ready to celebrate. For the statistics enthusiasts amongst you, the 'headcount' totalled 461 (261 at Uley, 72 at Nympsfield and 128 at Owlpen); over-excited children, new born babies (and perhaps some overwhelmed parents!), teenagers, couples preparing for marriage, and more - all escaping the hustle and bustle of preparations such as gift buying and food planning, as well as fitting in other seasonal events. A huge thanks to all who helped in running these services, and particularly to Prue and her helpers preparing the wonderful Christingles. A healthily £349.30 was raised for the Children's Society – thank you all for your generosity.

Gathering is important and not just at Christmas, so do look for ways you can 'join us' this year, perhaps our 'Second Sunday' less formal services as mentioned by Juliet, or our 'Monday Mingle' at St Giles – a chance for people of all ages (babies/toddlers up to 'senior citizens') to come and enjoy coffee and cake, chat, or (for the younger element!) roll around/play on the carpeted floor. Thanks to the ongoing activities of the Friends of St

Giles we have an up-coming quiz for those who love to work as a team and stretch their memories.

On a personal note, I (Nikki) have been greatly touched at the way the Brimscombe and Minchinhampton communities have gathered in the face of the devastating house fire on Boxing Day, with spaces open at The Sanctuary at Brimscombe Mill and coordinated efforts by the local clergy to offer space for people to gather and grieve. It made me reflect that spaces that are 'set apart' are valuable and very much worth investing in for when we need them.

So an ask! Do you have any time or talents that you could offer to help us maintain and preserve our precious spaces (both inside and outside) so they are there for both times of celebration and times of sadness - both individual and community-wide - but also for all the times in between? The scope could range from small jobs like furniture moving or footing a ladder for lightbulb replacement to varied simple DIY repair tasks or periodic 'heavy cleaning' tasks beyond the scope of our regular cleaning team. Do get in touch. Or if you need some encouragement – could you come and see what might be here for you?

The next
**Uley Bury
Working Party**
is on
**Saturday 21st February
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

St Giles Church, Uley
presents
**Music for a
Sunday Afternoon**
featuring
**Anna Harris (Clarinet) &
Lilla Price (Piano)**
**Sunday 15th February
at 3pm**

A free, short, informal concert in the church
followed by tea & cake.

Donations welcome for Church Funds.

The Uley Society

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

Thursday 19th February at 7.30pm in Uley Village Hall

The River Severn from the air from start to finish

**A historic perspective by Richard Kelsey
and David Lamb of Wings and Wheels**

Tea & coffee afterwards Non members welcome (fee £3)
Programme Secretary Janet Wood - 860236

Church Letter

The Pete Seeger song written in 1959 has been going round and round in my head these last few days. To everything, turn, turn, turn....

Most of the words of this song are taken directly from the book of Ecclesiastes, traditionally ascribed to King Solomon, a piece of Scripture that both attests to the cyclical nature of the seasons and the realities of human experience. There is a wisdom in knowing the season that we are in and living accordingly.

February is getting towards the end of winter and the time for cutting back and laying hedges, planting trees, and making space for new growth. This is also a time when we may be grateful for the warmth of a wood-burning stove and we may be enjoying various winter crafts. I love that at this time of year the trees can be seen in all their naked glory, the views are clearer and even the grass is lent some definition by the frost.

Many of us will have a view on the current season that we are in globally, nationally and perhaps in our own families and community. We may not agree with one another, which is perhaps a defining characteristic of this season. But I know for many it feels a dark and fearful time.

Which brings me back to the song, Turn Turn Turn. The Christian tradition speaks to the realities of our human condition and invites us to look at the signs of the times and to keep turning and re-turning to Christ, to learn and be healed and to become perhaps a little freer. The image of wood being turned, again and again and again, eventually to reveal something beautiful and/or useful resonates with my experience of the Christian spiritual life. In practical terms, this happens in prayer, returning to a place of trust, hope and love. Daring to put ourselves in the hands of Jesus the Master Carpenter.

On Ash Wednesday, which is 18th February this year, everyone is invited to gather at Midday in St Giles Church, to be marked with an ash cross as a reminder of our mortality and the love of Christ in which we are held. During Lent we are invited to return to the Lord, to respond to the invitation to fast and pray, pruning back inclinations that are neither healthy nor life-giving; making space for new growth.

*To everything (turn turn turn) there is a season,
and a time to every purpose under the heaven:*

*A time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant,
and a time to pluck up that which is planted;
A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;
A time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance;
A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together;
A time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;
A time to get, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to cast away;
A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;
A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.
(I swear its not too late).*

The next Second Sunday Special Service is at 10am at St Giles on 8th February when we will explore the theme of Winter Wood with local people who work with wood, there will be some displays, including photography from the late, and much loved Elliot Gilfoyle and wood that was turned by his brother Ed. It will be good to gather as a worshipping community (wherever we are on the journey) and live this season together.

To everything turn, turn, turn.....

With love and my prayers,

Juliet

Revd Juliet Jensen is Rector of Uley, Owlpen and Nympsfield and can be contacted at:
ewelmerector@gmail.com
01453 350810 and 07776 910890

From the Uley, Nympsfield and Owlpen Church Registers

8th January 2026

Dr Mary Wotton's memorial service at St Giles, Uley

Year's Mind in February

David-Alexander White, Gwen Valentin, Anne Goldingham, Barbara Kathleen Gallie, Cynthia Anderson, Anne Brooke, Basil Blackwell, Ron Baker, Vera Reynolds, Richard Smith, Ivy Bailey, Austen Robinson,

John Bowden, Charles Poultney, Andrew Blackler, Peter du Feu, Maureen Inglefield, Pat Stopford, Bryan Davies, Cynthia Jones, Priscilla Wathen, Catherine Russell, Bryan Harris, David Wakefield, Jeremy Chapple, David Powell and Richard White.

Uley WI Diary – January 2025

At Uley WI this month we enjoyed an interesting talk from Ali Warren on the history of tea.

Did you know that around 100 million cups of tea are consumed daily? My husband is a significant contributor to that number.

Early teacups had no handles as people drank from saucers. Years later milk was added first to stop delicate cups from cracking.



Talking about tea, we are meeting later this month for tea and cake. Come along and join this amazing, friendly group of ladies.



New members are always welcome, so 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

The lovely Christmas hamper was won by a delighted Amanda Segelove, William Segelove's mother. He volunteers Sunday morning for work experience, keeping it in the Community! The Volunteers hamper was won by an equally delighted Maggie Turnbull (well worth being a volunteer. That and the Volunteers Party that was held in January, which everyone really enjoyed)

Thinking of going for some winter sun? Or getting on the slopes? Order your currencies from the Post Office. Euros are always in stock.

Feeling the love? Valentine's Day February 14th, get your card(s) and some yummy goodies for your loved one from the shop. Then move over to the Post Office to post them.

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

Heads up, February 17th Shrove Tuesday "Pancake Day" all the items you will need are in stock, apart from the frying pan.

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

Pami Davis

Garden Notes

Whether you chose to curl up with a good book or got out mulching and hedge cutting over winter - beneath the soil, our gardens were definitely not asleep. Plants that went in during autumn have slowly been developing their root systems giving them a great start in Spring. Most excitingly are the bulbs thrusting up to give their early spring cheer. A particular favourite is the diminutive Iris Reticulata group. Following on from the snowdrops these tiny bulbs are delightful in pots to better admire their intricate beauty at eye level. Plant in the garden after flowering.

To avoid damage to vulnerable young growth, now is the time to get stuck into pruning. I could fill the whole newsletter but here's a few ideas to get you started!

Clematis

A guide to wrapping your head around their pruning groups. Label your clematis with name and pruning group!

Group 1 - These flower in winter/early Spring (Montana/Alpina/Armandii) no pruning required or tidy up immediately after flowering as they flower on old wood.

Group 2 - Large flowered varieties flowering mid summer, light prune Feb/March. Prune above a bud to create a framework on its support and tie in.

Group 3 - Flower in late summer, these can be hard pruned in Feb/March to about knee height, above a bud. Faced with a mountain of last years growth can be daunting, hack off top growth first so you can see what you're doing.

Wisteria

Prune twice a year for best flowering results. Winter prune in February, shortening spurs back to 3 or 4 buds, easily done with leaves off and framework nicely visible. Summer prune, July/August. Prune hard the long whippy growth to 6"(15cm) leaving any long growth needed for framework.

Buddleja

There are many different and beautiful varieties of buddleja. *B. davidii* (most common) flowering July/Aug, are pruned late Feb/March to a 30-60cm frame, cutting just above an outward facing bud. *B. alternifolia* and *B. globosa* flower late spring/early summer and flower on old wood (last years growth) so prune right after flowering.

Cornus (Dogwood)

Prune stems to ground level in Feb/March for bright new stems next winter. This also gives you free plant supports!

Deciduous Grasses

Cut to ground level

Hellebores

If you haven't already cut leaves off (if blighted with blackspot), now is the time to reveal the emerging flowers (assuming the mice have left any..)

Sedums

Remove old stems now to avoid damage to delicate new growth.

Finally and excitingly, check out our new community group Uley Trees and Meadows in this issue - so many opportunities to meet new friends and support our beautiful environs. Lots of great info on their host website <https://www.cucan.org.uk/supporting-nature>

I hope you all watched the marvellous Wild London which I thought illustrated so well how we can connect our pockets of green space to help our wildlife whether its London or Uley - Lets show them how!

Happy Gardening!

Caroline @awalledgarden

Mobile hairdresser
Hair by Sam



Based in the Dursley area
07577956087

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:

Wednesday 25th February at 10.30am 'Harbingers of Spring'

A walk taking in the magnificent 13th century tithe barn at Frocester Court, hopefully with young lambs.

Distance: 5.5 miles | Duration: 3.5 hours
Difficulty: Unsurfaced paths, basic fitness.
Start: Coaley Village Shop

Friday 27th February at 10.15am Cirencester – Town and Country

Starting at Perrots Brook we take the Monarch's Way following the Churn into the Cirencester Abbey Grounds then take in some historic features before returning.

Distance: 7.5 miles | Duration: 3.5 hours
Difficulty: Easy access, suitable for walkers and all-terrain mobility scooter riders.
Start: Heritage Lime Works, Perrots Brook Farm, Perrots Brook, Cirencester GL7 7BS

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/>

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07771 526082 for more information.

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Nikki

07733323433

nicolacmarlow@gmail.com

FOR FEBRUARY

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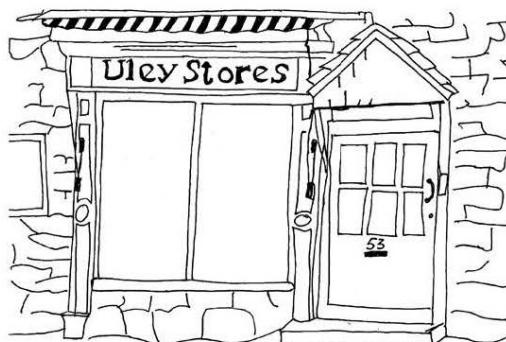
In the shop.....

...don't forget there is a good range of frozen meat, ready made meals & fruit pies & crumbles from Frocester Fayre in the freezer – a quick supper in these cold months.

• • •

In the Post Office

....the PO counter can be used for most of your banking requirements – withdraw cash, pay bills, bank cash, bank cheques (for most banks) and get a balance. The banks may have closed but we're still here!



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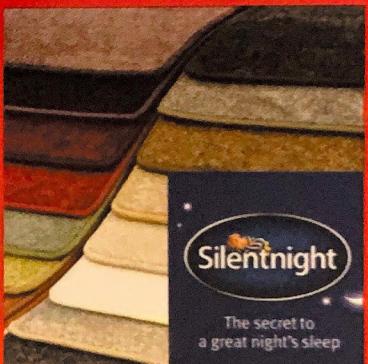
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Just off the A38**



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 February 2026

1st February - The Presentation of Christ

10am

Parish Communion at St Bartholomew's, Nympsfield

8th February - 2nd Sunday before Lent

9.45am

2nd Sunday Special Service at St Giles, Uley

15th February- Last Sunday before Lent

10am

Parish Communion at St Giles, Uley

Wednesday 18th February - Ash Wednesday

12 noon

Holy Communion at St Giles Uley

22nd February - First Sunday of Lent

10am

Benefice Holy Communion at St Giles, Uley



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