

Uley, Owlpen & Nympsfield

November 2025

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 193 413
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Tracy Mason-Fayle	t.mason-fayle@uleyparishcouncil.gov.uk	
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>

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

A vibrant tropical border surrounds the central text. It features large green monstera leaves, yellow and red flowers, and pink and white blossoms. The background is a dark green, and the text is set against a white rectangular backdrop.

ROLL UP! ROLL UP!
IT'S
PANTOMIME TIME!

Brought to you by the Uley Players

Are you ready to cheer for Robin Hood
& help to protect the beautiful Babes in
the Wood from the dreaded murderers,
Awful & Brutal?

Friday 21st November | 7.30
Saturday 22nd November | 2.00 & 7.30
Uley Village Hall

Tickets from the Village Shop
Adults £10 Under 18s £5
Book early to ensure you get seats

Licensed Bar | Ice Creams | Raffle

From the Churchwardens

The leaves are turning and we've been enjoying some beautiful days. Last weekend we hosted walkers on the 'historic churches' walk as part of the Dursley Walking Festival. Around 15 walkers enjoyed refreshments at St Giles and St Bartholemew's, and David Thomas gave them brief talks about the history of each of the churches pointing out some of the features of interest.

Hospitality continued over the next couple of days with our Harvest service at St Bartholemew's which began with breakfast in the Nympsfield village hall before moving over to the church for a wonderful all-age celebratory service. Offerings of food, both fresh and preserved, were gratefully received and displayed on the altar, then after the service were donated to the Stroud District foodbank. It was great to see a good turnout of people, both familiar and new.

And then on Monday we hosted the first of our coffee mornings at St Giles, which was well attended. The plan is to meet weekly from 10-12, with time for chat, play, and a short reflection. All 'ages and stages' are welcome, but particularly newcomers to the village and others who are feeling isolated or lonely. Please do drop in one week if you are available.

Turning our thoughts towards November, we are preparing for our Remembrance services. We'll be marking this day with services in both Nympsfield and Uley.

At Nympsfield there will be the usual service at the wayside cross, while at St Giles we'll gather for refreshments before the service of remembrance and then move outdoors for 11am to observe the 2 minutes silence around the war memorial. Please do consider joining us. Note that there will not be a communion service in the parish, though there will be one at St James in Dursley at 10am. The usual parade of uniformed services, including scouts and guided units will take place in Dursley in the afternoon – worth a visit, but also worth bearing in mind if you're planning to travel through Dursley around then!

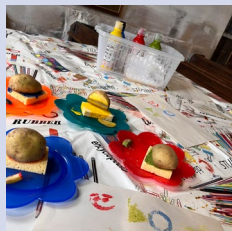
Remembrance Sunday

**Uley Church
9th November at 10.30**

**The service of remembrance will
start in the church and then move
to the war memorial.**

**We will be serving tea
and coffee from 9:45.**

**Please join us,
all are welcome.**



The Monday Mingle

**Everyone is welcome to come along
on Monday mornings from 10-12,
for a new and informal village
"coffee time" being held at
St Giles Church.**



For those who enjoy a more leisurely pace of life, there is a warm, inviting area at the back of the church to sit and enjoy free coffee, cake, and a chat.

For those with young children, there is a cozy space at the front of the church, with lots of toys, soft cushions, ride-ons and crafts, with songs and stories to share mid morning.

Fully accessible, we have baby changing and toilet facilities available.



**This new initiative aims
to bring the village
community together,
so all ideas and skills
are welcome!**



The next Uley Bury Working Party

is on

**Saturday 15th November
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 20th November at
7.30pm in Uley Village Hall**

**The Long Table
Feeding change one
bite at a time**

Speaker: Tom Herbert

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

Uley Parish Council

We welcome Allan Macdonald to Uley Parish Council. At its meeting on Wednesday 1st October Allan was co-opted to the Parish Council. His first meeting as a councillor will be on 5th November 2025.

A further vacancy has arisen on the Parish Council and we would ask anyone interested to apply by email to one of the Councillors or to our Clerk, Adam Biscoe (clerk@uleyparishcouncil.gov.uk). If you would like more information, do please talk to one of the Councillors whose contact details appear at the front of this magazine. The closing date for applications is Friday 31st October 2025.

Stroud District Council has released a behind-the-scenes film that follows the recycling journey from kerbside collection to specialist processing facilities. The film opens with the question: "Think recycling is just a load of rubbish?" See https://www.youtube.com/watch?utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&v=oqeVTULLpp8

Stroud District Council is encouraging residents to apply early for a Warm Homes Local grant which could help make their homes warmer, healthier and more energy efficient this winter. The £5.25 million scheme, funded by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, aims to reduce household energy

bills over the long term through energy efficiency improvements and renewable technologies. Homeowners, tenants and landlords can apply via the Warm and Well energy advice service (<https://warmandwell.co.uk/>), which is delivered by energy experts Severn Wye on behalf of the six Gloucestershire district councils and South Gloucestershire Council.

Please remember to pick up after your dog. Let's keep our village and the spaces we all use clean and enjoyable for everyone. Thank you for being a responsible pet owner!





St Giles Christmas Fair

**Saturday 22nd November
11am - 3.30pm in Uley church**

Grand Raffle with super prizes

Good company, stalls, soup & glühwein



Beacon on the Bury

A flaring match, and then a sheet
Of flame lights up the ground
The dazzled crowd moves back a pace
As sparks fall all around..

Smoke billows from the diesel-soaked
Internal bales and wood,
A cry goes up, 'Keep children clear!
And mind your beer and food,'

No symbol better illustrates
Duff's love of giant fires,
Collecting timber, splitting logs,
Team-building noble pyres,

Though Duff has gone, I see him now
Beside some heav'nly tree,
With knowing eye assessing its
Combustability.

With chainsaw, axe, and helmet armed,
Plus borrowed lightning-rod
He plans to set the heavens ablaze
And toast the toes of God!

Phyllida Hart-Davies

Church Letter

Dear Friends,

The poem To Autumn by John Keats begins, "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness,
Close bosom-friend of the maturing sun;
Time is marching and how many people have said to you already, "it's only (....?) days to Christmas... where has the time gone!?"

Sometimes of course we can be in such a hurry that we miss the things around us that matter. Keats makes the point beautifully in his poem, as we ponder the bounty that autumn can bring. The colours this year are spectacular and the amount of fruit on the trees amazing. Our freezers at home are crammed with apples and damsons. Sheila has plans for jams and pies!

We are approaching the end of the year and there will be time to reflect on what 2025 has brought us. I imagine we will be thinking about.... Is there going to be peace at last in the Middle East? What of the war in Ukraine? Conflict..is it inevitable? Where are the peacemakers?

Apart from bonfire night, fireworks and Guy Fawkes, November is the time when collectively much of the world remembers those lost in conflicts, particularly in the 20th century. On November 11th and Remembrance Sunday we will pause, reflect and remember those who died in the major wars and other conflicts. We

will speak the names of lost generations and wonder what might have been. We will look at young men and women's faces. Family portraits, of such innocence and promise and wonder what might they have achieved.

My Uncle Ron, Ronald Gordon, is one such portrait. November 20th 1944 is the day we as family remember him. Piloting a Lancaster he, along with 6 of his crew, died over Homberg, Germany and is now buried on the Dutch/ German Border at Reichswald Forest War Cemetery. He smiles out from the portrait on the wall. In his uniform, handsome and proud, he was just 21 years of age. What would he have done with his life? My enduring sadness is that I never got to meet him.

I have spoken of colour and the beauty of autumn. The promise that even in the process of dying and shutting down, as winter approaches, there will be new life. New shoots will appear and the cycle will once again begin, the cycle of life. This is the beautiful and eternal resurrection we are privileged to experience.

The one evocative colour of this season is red. The poppy will be seen everywhere. Worn by many in remembrance The first verse of the poem written by John McRae has the last word:

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.*

Yours in Christ

Ian

Encouraging as the news is from the Middle East as I write, my hope is that it will be long lasting, enduring and bring freedom and hope for the future.

From the Uley, Nympsfield and Owlpen Church Registers

Funeral at Uley Cemetery of Gwen Hulbert, 2nd October

Weddings at Holy Cross, Owlpen

Ashley Smith and Emily Knowles
11th October

Edward Polgrean and Chloe Bacon 15th October

Year's Mind in November

Charles Ward, Stuart Mc Lean, William Bruton, Pat Haddrell, Peter Stopford, Reginald James, Alma Dauncey, Fred Selley, Pauline Thomas.

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 5th November at 10:30am King Charles II was here

Distance: 5.5 miles | Duration: 3.5 hours
Start: Royal Oak pub in Leighterton.
Do not park in the pub car-park, but courteously in the village nearby.

Saturday 8th November at 10am Wooded Valleys and Wide Open Skies

Distance: 5.5 miles | Duration: 2.5 hours
Start: War memorial, High Street, Hawkesbury Upton. Please park considerately in the village.

Wednesday 12th November at 10am Tetbury, Hookhouse, Chavenage

Distance: 7 miles | Duration: 4 hours
Start: from Old Station Yard Free Car Park by Tetbury Goods Shed GL8 8EY. Please bring a packed lunch.

Thursday 20th November at 10:30am Horses and Courses

Distance: 5 miles | Duration: 2 hours
Start: Three Storeys Cafe, Nailsworth.
Parking at Old Market, or King George V playing field, Park Road, Nailsworth

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 – October 2025

Another busy month for the WI ladies as we head into Autumn. At our last gathering we heard a great talk from Andrew Harper who recalled his time as part of the crew on 2 legs of the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race. Normally the domain of seasoned pros, this supreme challenge is taken on by ordinary people like Andrew. The ages of the crews ranged from just 18 to 80. Andrew showed us some brilliant footage from his time spent on the yacht.



At our October meeting Bev Horner gave an informative talk about ways to maintain good health and wellbeing, with lots of useful tips.

We also have a coffee morning and a cinema trip in this month's diary, as well as supper parties.

Please get in touch if you would like to find out more about the WI and our activities. We would love to welcome you!

Ruth Littlehales



We also had a great coffee morning at the Vestry which was thoroughly enjoyed by members.

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

What a few months we've had with all the road closures, but especially the Uley Road. Nightmare!! I think it has affected everyone, but living at Rockstowes.....

It has also affected the Uley Community Stores, but in a good way. Many of you having not been able to get to and from Uley to Dursley have been frequenting the shop a lot more, thank you. But please continue to use your local shop. As the saying goes "Your Shop Needs YOU"

Your shop also need more volunteers, please contact the shop for more information.

Now is the time to check in the PO or on-line the deadlines for sending your Christmas cards, letters and parcels in the UK and abroad, more information next month. Please bring your parcels ready for posting. I suggest you buy your wrapping paper or parcel boxes etc. from the shop, take it home then bring back your parcel ready to post with your return details on the back of the parcel. Christmas stamps are now available.

Shop Opening Hours

Monday to Friday: 8am - 5.30pm

Saturdays: 8am - 1 pm

Sundays: 10am - 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 advice from the PO ladies is the latest time to bring your parcels for collection is 4.30pm Monday-Friday, 3.30pm Wednesday and Saturday 10.45am.

Remembrance Sunday will be on November 9th. Once again the Uley WI ladies have been knitting lots of their wonderful poppies - for sale in the shop. All donations from the sales will go to the British Legion.

The Christmas goodies will then be on the shelves, very exciting. Ho Ho Ho.

Pami Davis

Garden Notes

What an autumn! It came early and the intensity of colour revealed in the leaves as the chlorophyll ebbed away was breathtaking. A standout in our garden were the *Euonymus Alatus* - the winged spindle or aptly named fire bush. It also has distinctive corky, winged stems, so a nice thing to do on an established shrub is to 'lift' its lower side branches to reveal this architecture. There's now a very good compact variety imaginatively named *Euonymus Alatus* 'Compactus'!

Short, damp days filled with misty mornings, bejewelled cobwebs and a thick carpet of leaves often the herald of the start of winter. But before we retreat to the fireside there is still plenty to do in the garden.

Protect

You can play russian roulette with your tender plants and succulents but this can end in casualties. Best to move to shelter or wrap. Plant pot feet aren't just decorative, they protect plants roots from becoming waterlogged and rotting and keep pots off freezing surfaces. Bricks serve very well too.

Protect your soil from leaching nutrients over winter by mulching. A free version is raking fallen leaves into borders or veg beds creating a duvet for plants and wildlife alike. To prevent the gales whisking them away a light topping of compost/mulch will hold them in place.

Plant and Sow

November is the perfect time to plant hardy trees, shrubs, hedging, fruit canes and roses - all will be available bare-root. Cheaper than their potted versions, they'll romp away in Spring having settled in all winter.

Still time to plant garlic and onion sets which did very well this year. Homegrown garlic is so fresh and moist unlike its supermarket counterparts. They like a sunny spot and well drained soil, so amend with compost if you have heavy clay like us. Overrun by pigeons as we are, it's best to protect its tempting tips from being yanked out with light fleece or net. This can be removed once they've rooted. The same applies if you plant into a pot or trough.

This is the optimal time to plant your tulips and other bulbs. A favourite activity knowing that the dividends will repay you for years to come. Keep an eye out for bulb sales locally this month.

If you haven't already, its not too late to sow sweet peas for a head start to huge bunches of these fragrant beauties next year. I favour the Spencer varieties for their amazing length of stem and still with good fragrance. www.somersetsweetpeas.com are my go to..

This year I'm trialling a dwarf broad bean to sow now (or in Spring). This will save on support and hopefully not on quantity.

Such a versatile crop.. warm broad bean salad, broad bean hummus come to mind. Just delish.

Finally I'd encourage you to sow two great winter salad crops. Rocket - a bit marmitey for some but I love its peppery flavour and my favourite, lambs lettuce or mache as the french say. Expensive small, bagged salads in the supermarket, you can be harvesting these all winter with successional sowings when you remember. Fresh and organic. Great in containers and out of reach of slugs!

Keep feeding your birds!

Caroline

@awalledgarden

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'Remembering...' Art Exhibition

The Yard Gallery, Stroud
November 30th – December 6th
10.00 am – 4.00pm

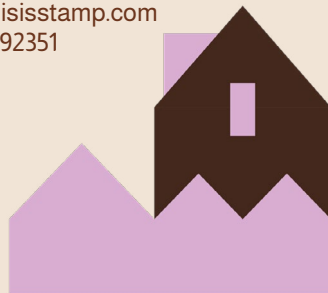
Held in memory of local artists Rachel Stevens and Chris Binding, this exhibition will combine a mixture of fine art prints, original artworks, and practical and decorative ceramic pieces. The work of ceramicist Chris White will also be on show.

**25% of proceeds go to Longfield
Community Hospice**

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FOR NOVEMBER

• • •

November.....

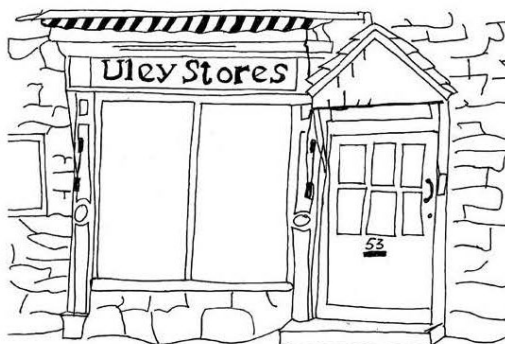
...is it ever too cold for ice-cream? Winstones artisan ice-cream has been made up on Minchinhampton Common since 1925 by one family. Have a look in the shop freezer for a selection of individual pots and 1 litre large tubs. Perfect with a crumble or apple pie.

• • •

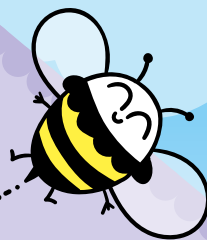
In the Post Office

.....Christmas stamps go on sale on 4th November. They are quite colourful this year so come in and have a look.

Amazon Black Friday is 28th November – why not have your Amazon purchases directed to Uley PO so you don't have to fret about the delivery going missing? Select Pick Up Location during Checkout and choose Uley PO.



Busy Bee



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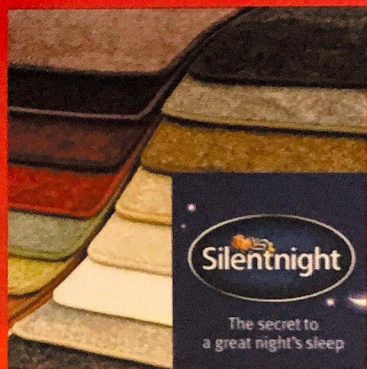
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The Ewelme Benefice
Parish of Uley with Nympsfield and Owlpen

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

Services in November 2025

2nd November - All Saints Sunday

- 10am** Parish Holy Communion at
St Bartholomew's, Nympsfield
- 4pm** All Souls Service at St Giles, Uley

9th November - Remembrance Day

- 10am** Act of Remembrance for all ages at St Giles, Uley
- 10.45** Wayside Remembrance at Nympsfield War Memorial

16th November - 2nd Sunday before Advent

- 10am** Parish Holy Communion at St Giles, Uley

23rd November - Christ the King

- 10am** Benefice Holy Communion at St James, Dursley

30th November - Advent Sunday

- 10am** Parish Holy Communion at Holy Cross
- 6.30pm** Advent Carol Service at St James, Dursley