

THE

March - April 2022

Nymphsfield

NEWS & ADVERTISER



Editorial

Welcome to the early Spring edition of the Nymphy News. Inside, all the latest news plus contributions from our regulars and all the usual ads and notices. Sadly, we shall soon say farewell and best wishes to Janet and Douglas Jackson who leave Nympsfield after 28 years at Stone Court. Many thanks to them for their contributions to village life and especially for their help in delivering the newsletter for many years. Christine Keith has offered to take over their "round", thank you Christine.

The editors

Email: nymphynews@gmx.com

Deadline for the early spring edition is 20 February.

Cover picture: The toppled tree at St Barts, felled by Franklin. RIP. See page 9

BOOKING CONTACTS

KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD

Bookings:
npfbookings@outlook.com

VILLAGE HALL

Bookings Marie Knight 860115 or
nympsfieldvillagehall@gmail.com

WORKING MEN'S CLUB

Bookings: Wayne 07769 317559

BUS TIMES

The Cross, to Dursley

09:20 (65) Dursley and Gloucester
10:21 (65A) Dursley and Coaley (Sat only)
11:20 (65) Dursley and Gloucester
12:36 (65A) Dursley and Coaley (Sat only)
13:20 (65) Dursley and Gloucester
14:01 (165) from N'lsworth) to Dursley
then Coaley (Mon to Fri)
15:50 (65) Dursley and Gloucester
17:50 (65) Dursley to Cam & Dursley Stn
(18:20) terminating Westend, Stonehouse

The Cross, to Stroud:

08:20 (65) Stroud, leaving Cam & Dursley
Station at 07:51
10:25 (165) Stroud via Nailsworth (Mon-Fri
only)
11:05 (65) Stroud
11:17 (65A) Stroud (Sat only)
13:05 (65) Stroud
13:32 (65A) Stroud & Whiteway (Sat only)
15:05 (65) Stroud
17:05 (65) Stroud

All services Mon-Sat unless stated
otherwise. No buses on Sundays and Bank
Holidays.

The online timetables can be found at:
<https://tinyurl.com/65nympsfield> for the
Stagecoach services and
<https://tinyurl.com/65anympsfield> for the
Saturday Cotswold Green service.

POST COLLECTION
MON-FRI 5:15 PM,
SAT 09:00 AM

Classified Ads

Services

ADAM REYNOLDS AGRICULTURAL FENCING & FORESTRY CONTRACTOR

Agricultural Fencing, Gates/ Posts/ Rails, Hedge Laying, Firewood, Mobile Firewood Processing

Contact Adam 07789 678025

www.arfencingandforestry.co.uk

AR JONES LIME AND BUILD

Specialising in lime render, plaster, pointing and lime wash. Based in Nympsfield

Contact Ash 07969 672876

BIRDHOUSE MAN

Be the envy of your neighbours with a handmade custom-built birdhouse. All made from reclaimed, locally sourced materials and designed to suit you

Contact: Rich Bloodworth 860635

CINDI HERBERT MAKEUP ARTISTRY

Certified and Insured Makeup Artist. Fully Mobile and available for every Occasion. Please feel free to view my Facebook page to see all previous work. Contact 07773 595057

email: enquiries@makeupbycindi.com

DANIEL TAYLOR LEATHERWORK

I make custom leather products and gifts to order, including wallets, bookmarks, knife sheaths and more! All products are made to order and can be customised to suit any need. Email: dan@dtm.co.uk, Phone: 01453 860968, Web: www.dtm.co.uk

IRONING

Like help with your ironing? Contact Julie Trinder 860078 or 07548 918659

HANDYMAN/ GARDENER

Contact: Tommy Guerin 07432650321

DOMESTIC HEATING OIL

Nympsfield (and surrounding area) oil buying group. This not only benefits the smaller users but also the bigger users significantly. An example from February 2022 order (if everyone ordered individually) - Ford fuel 500 litre order - 45p/L, 2000L - 40p/L, Boilerjuice 40.2p/L. As a group we paid 35p/L, saving £50 on 500L order or £100 for a 2000L order - the bigger the average order the better the prices.

Next order dates: Mon 4 April, 4 July, 3 Oct, 28 Nov

colinfairbrother@hotmail.com or

mike@leopardpress.com

GARDENING

Do you need some help in the garden? Honest, reliable, local gardeners. Regular garden upkeep, lawns mowed and edged, weeding, pruning, planting. Planting plans/design on request. Contact Janet or David on 861067 or email janet@springsnow.co.uk

TRAVEL AGENT

Nympsfield born independent travel agent. Helping you sort through the current minefield of holiday options. ABTA bonded ATOL protected holidays, staycations, city breaks, ski, fly-drive, groups, cruises and much more. Contact Peter Woodman 01453 229669.

peterwoodman.notjusttravel.com

FIREWOOD

Locally sourced seasoned firewood
Contact 861117 or 07860 572905

LANGUAGE TUITION

Oxford graduate offers French, Italian, Spanish, German. All ages, all levels. Annabelle 861143 / 07811 464559

M AND N MOTOR SERVICES LTD

Servicing and repairs to all makes and models of vehicle. Fully equipped garage facilities. MOTs. Free courtesy cars. Please visit our website for further details: www.mandnmotorservices.co.uk
Contact: 860153 or email info@mandnmotorservices.co.uk

PADDOCKS4PAWS

A safe place to exercise or train your dog. A secure 4-acre field with 1.8 metre (6ft) high fence in Nympsfield is available for you and your dog to hire on an individual basis. Please visit our website www.paddocks4paws.com for more info
Contact Sue 861117 or 07815 568718

SPRING SNOW GRAPHIC DESIGN

Logos, business cards, letterheads, adverts, leaflets, brochures, posters, vehicle livery, signs and websites. Whatever you need designing or printing, just ask.
Contact Janet or David 861067
email: Janet@springsnow.co.uk

FOR HIRE: WHITE PARTY TENTS / MARQUEES

4 x 8m @£75 and 4 x 12m, we have 2 of these that can be joined together @£100 each. Self-erect and dismantle, min. 3 day hire. 3 x 3m pagoda available f.o.c.
Contact: Janet 861067 / janet@springsnow.co.uk

PLASTERING AND GENERAL BUILDING MAINTENANCE

All manner of wet trades & stud partitioning.

Contact: Rich Bloodworth 860635 /07561 325060

SEAL CONSTRUCTION

Cotswold stone tiling and walling. Member of Guild of Master Craftsmen. Listed and period property specialists. Renovations, Extensions, Roofing, Landscaping, New builds, Carpentry/ Joinery, Rendering/ Plastering, Painting/ Decorating, Loft Conversions, Insurance work. Contact: Wayne 07816 634755

ROB GAZZARD – COMPLETE BUILDING SOLUTIONS

Maintenance and repairs / Extensions and alterations / hard and soft landscaping. Free estimates and advice. Contact Rob 860112 / gazzards@hotmail.co.uk
www.robkazard.co.uk

For Sale / Free

DVD recorder, old but in working order (like its owner). Martin 07725 141332

Wanted

Shipwright and Filmmaker couple (still) looking to rent or buy 2 bedroom property (or larger) in Nympsfield or surrounding area from 2022. 350K max budget. Poppy & Jim x poppyoliviarriddle@gmail.com
07825 432262

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School are seeking a handy person to work ad hoc helping the school with odd jobs/maintenance as and when they arise. For more information please email sbm@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk. Thank you.

What's On or Off

EVERYTHING NYMPFIELD!

Join us in the "Everything Nympsfield!" Facebook group for the very latest news

NYMPFIELD WORKING MEN'S CLUB

Back up and running!

BINGO: Alternate Mondays 7pm.

Next: March 7th

QUIZ NIGHT: Sat 5 Mar 7pm

RACE NIGHT: Fri 18 Mar 7pm

See separate notices page 12

THE ROSE AND CROWN INN

Open for business. Bookings being taken!

B&B rooms coming soon!

www.roseandcrownfarmhouse.com

roseandcrown55@gmail.com, Facebook message (link from web site) or 01453 860612.

U3A BRIDGE GROUP U3A Bridge has resumed at the Methodist Meeting Room, Dursley starting at a prompt 2 pm, and continue each Tuesday until further notice. Call Richard Gwyer on 01453 860512, or see Cam U3A website for details.

WOODCHESTER MANSION has a new Facebook page: search FB for

woodchestermansion
www.woodchestermansion.org.uk

ST JOSEPH'S PRE-SCHOOL

Mon to Fri, term time only, 8:50am to 3pm, St Joseph's School

St Joseph's Pre-school accepts children from the age of two. Registered provider for 2, 3 and 4 year old nursery education funded children. We are also registered to offer 30 hours free childcare entitlement. Contact Natalie Powers 860311 or email stjosephspresch@gmail.com. See Facebook: 'St Joseph's Pre-school' and article later in this edition.

100 CLUB WINNERS

Week 13 No. 69 Gareth Miller (£25).
Week 14 No. 4 Janet and Dave Acton.
Week 15 No. 9 Dave Lovegrove.
Week 16 No. 85 Christine Keith.
Week 17 No. 79 Geoff Whitman.
Week 18 No. 30 Carol Pittaway.
Week 19 No. 78 Gerald Smith.
Week 20 No. 62 Janet Jackson.
Week 21 No. 86 Russ Woodman.
Week 22 No. 56 Mary Jo Elmore.
Week 23 No. 75 Ann Robertson.
Week 24 No. 37 Clare Peach.

In memory of the late (and wonderful) Barry Cryer, his favourite joke c 1955.

A young chap was driving his car down a country lane when he ran over a cockerel. Distraught, he picked up the poor, dead thing and went to the nearby farmhouse. The farmer's wife answered the door.

"I'm so sorry to have killed your cockerel" he said, "I'd like to replace him".

"Suit yourself" replied the farmer's wife, "the hens are round at the back".

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES

Parish of Uley with Owlpen and Nympsfield (part of the Ewelme Benefice): Parish Holy Communion is at 10am, held at St Bartholomew Nympsfield on the first Sunday of the month; all other Sundays at Uley, St Giles.

Other services in Dursley, see website <http://tinyurl.com/ssra4z3>
Vicar Rev Michael Cozens 546459

ST JOSEPH'S RC SERVICES

Vigil Mass every Saturday 5:30pm in Nympsfield. Sunday Masses at St Dominic's Dursley

Parish Priest Fr Philip Beisly 542039
dursleynympsfieldrcparish.co.uk

**SEE WEB SITES FOR CURRENT
ARRANGEMENTS**



THE BOOK

CLUB is normally held monthly. We are a very informal group whose aim is to discuss the book selected and have a social evening too. Everyone is welcome (whether you have read the book or not). Enquiries to Carol 860610.

Next books:

16 Mar: "A Prayer for Owen Meany" by John Irving (Lin's choice, delayed)

20 Apr: "The Mermaid of Black Conch" by Monique Roffey (Carol)

18 May: "A Slow Fire Burning" by Paula Hawkins (Verity)

SOUP KITCHEN

The Soup Kitchen raises money for charities in memory of villagers who have recently died. Restarting (one hopes) later in the year, second Wednesday of every month.

Volunteers Wanted



- (1) To help mow St Bart's churchyard. We are currently down to three people and could do with another one or two.
- (2) For a working party to tidy up the churchyard. If you would like to help with either of these activities contact Ann Hardy on 860876
- (3) To help run the village playing field. Contact Ian on 860625

Emails and letters to the Editors



From Sue Cowle, Marie Knight & Julie Trinder – Queen’s Platinum Jubilee

To celebrate the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee there will be a **Village Picnic** on Sunday 5th June from 1pm on the King George Playing Field

- Bring your own food
- Galloping Bar will be providing drinks, thanks to Will Gwyer.
- Games for all the family
- Start building your Dirt box cars for the Big Race, if you would like to enter the race email Sue susancowle68@icloud.com
- Tell your family & friends

Let's all celebrate Our Queen’s amazing 70 year reign.

If anyone would like to help in anyway just contact one of us. Thanks!



From Winnie Morgan - WHEN THE MAINS DRAINS CAME TO NYMPSFIELD

During the early sixties Nympsfield residents still had outside loos and septic tanks for waste drainage. But then lo and behold a firm from Windsor came to get us all up and running with water and proper loos.

Dumper trucks and JCBs trundled into the village and really woke us up, the real eye-opener was the workmen! The young females in the village were delighted to have young men from Windsor come to our village and did they cause a BUZZ!

My mother (Mrs P) took in two of them as lodgers, they were Willie and Sid and they were a great laugh. Mrs P looked after them very well and their motor bikes were parked outside the house.

One night she said they came in late after drinking in the pub and the club and of course seeing the girls home safely. They quietly went to their room. Mrs P's hearing was excellent then and she thought she heard rain and went outside to cover up the bikes, only to find out the next morning there had been no storm and the naughty boys had relieved themselves out of the window over their bikes.

We were connected to the mains, and it was time for them to depart, we still had connections to the lovely young men as they still visited us. A couple moved to the village, and another married a local girl.

It is now 2022 and I was thinking of trying to get them back to fix the water leak in Front Steet, it has been running for four years, but Hallelujah! it was fixed at last, it was discovered to be a blocked drain! O happy days!



From Fred Barker (Glos Youth Climate Group)

Do you know any 16-25 year olds who would be interested in joining Gloucestershire Youth Climate Group to make a positive impact for a low carbon and resilient future? If so, please point them to the Creative Sustainability website for information about how to get involved <https://cscic.org/gycg/>. Closing date for applications is Monday 7 March.



From John Harris: At this time of year we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English Countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Gloucestershire <https://www.walkinginengland.co.uk/glos> has hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.

John Harris (the custodian of the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Gloucestershire (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

www.walkinginengland.co.uk john@walkinginengland.co.uk



From Jamie Linwood (Uley) - Frocester Hill Junction

As many of us are aware, the crossroads on the B4006 (Uley to Stroud) at the top of Frocester Hill and at the turn off to Nympsfield is the site of many accidents and near misses.

On the 17th February 2022 mid afternoon I came close to losing my life at this junction as I travelled from Uley to Stroud on my motorbike. A large brownish people carrier stationary on the Nympsfield side of the junction suddenly pulled out directly across my path. I had to swerve in front of this car narrowly avoiding the stationary traffic at the top of Frocester Hill. This sent my bike into an out of control snaking movement and I mounted the bank beyond the junction. It is a miracle that I managed to avoid other vehicles and not fall off. The people carrier did not stop and continued down Frocester Hill. I am grateful to other drivers who witnessed the incident and pulled over to see that I was ok.

I have reported the incident to both the Police and the Parish Council. I would like to encourage people to report accidents and near misses they are involved in at this junction to the Council or police. Anecdotally I am told there are numerous near misses here. In my view it is clear that more traffic safety measures need to be put in place at this crossroads before something happens that is far more serious.

If anyone has information about my accident, please contact Gloucestershire Police. Thank you.

Churchyard Cypress Censation



The big cypress in St Bart's churchyard, one of the tallest trees in the village, was blown down "during Countryfile on Sunday night" (20 Feb) - we are reliably informed. There had been concerns about its safety for over a year – it swayed alarmingly in any breeze, not helped by the mass of Rambling Rector, a very vigorous climbing rose, in its upper parts. When the Parochial Church Council applied to Stroud DC to fell it, however, permission was refused. The tree survived the trials of Storm Eunice on Monday but not Storm Franklin, which was supposed to be less severe, on Sunday. Happily, the tree missed a

nearby house and, instead landed on a wall and six rows of broad beans. Does this make SDC legally liable for the beans we wonder?



OLD NEWS FROM NYMPFIELD

Lifetime

Amid the glory that is Rome there is one building that, for an engineer, stands tall. This is the Pantheon (Temple to All the Gods), built around 126 AD by the

material: pumice, which, being strong and lightweight was ideal for the job given that the stress arises from the roof's weight. The Pantheon dome is the

oldest and still the largest ever to be constructed without steel reinforcement: 43metres diameter.

Civilizations come and go and, when the Roman Empire in the west disappeared, so did much of their knowhow. The recipe for concrete was rediscovered (sort-of) in 1824 by Joseph Aspdin, a Leeds



The Pantheon, Rome

Image: Wikipedia Creative Commons

emperor Hadrian and still in good order. It is a drum-like building with a classical pediment attached to one side to form a grand entrance but inside is the miracle of its roof – a hemispherical dome covering the “drum”. This is formed from Roman concrete which was made by mixing aggregate with a special volcanic ash found near Mount Vesuvius. The cementing reaction is fairly quick (a few days) which allowed it to be used for underwater structures such as harbour walls. In the case of the Pantheon dome, the aggregate was another volcanic

builder who found that, by burning limestone with clay and grinding the resulting clinker into a powder, he could produce cement as good as that developed by the Romans. He called it Portland cement on account of its supposed resemblance to Portland stone. When reinforced by steel, one might go so far as to say that it is a miracle material because, without it, many of the amazing buildings we now see (and many of the ones we'd rather not have seen) could not have been built.



Lime kiln at Tytherington
Image: Tytheringtonroots.co.uk

In the long interim between the leaving of the Roman legions and Joe Aspdin, if a building needed some form of binder to hold it together, mud, clay and lime would have had to do. The last of these, made by burning limestone (calcium carbonate) to form calcium oxide (quicklime) and then adding water to make calcium hydroxide (slaked lime) produces a mortar that reacts with carbon dioxide in the air to form calcium carbonate again. It makes a satisfactory bond but it takes months to set hard so it's no use for castings and won't work under water. Regardless, lime was an important material and, where there was limestone, there you would find lime kilns. Over in Pembrokeshire they can still be found all around the coast: anywhere that a small sailing vessel could reach. Here in Gloucestershire, most of the still-preserved lime kilns are

around Chepstow and the Forest of Dean but there are a couple of Lime Kiln Farms, one of which is a mile to the east of Stroud.

Nymphsfield had its very own lime kiln, memorialised by the earliest village map (1733) which shows the Lime Kiln Field running along the Dingle Edge side of the Bath Road as one leaves Cockadilly heading for Horsley. These days it's called Links Hill. Limestone

would have been taken from nearby quarries and then layered with dry wood inside the kiln before setting light to it.

These days, fossil fuel is used to supply the heat, and cement manufacture has grown to become the second largest industrial source of greenhouse gases. How these emissions might be reduced is an interesting question – green hydrogen could replace fossil fuels but that still leaves the carbon dioxide emitted by the limestone itself when it transforms to cement (or quicklime for that matter). But then someone has pointed out that concrete itself reacts to remove carbon dioxide from the air – it's argued that 43% of the carbon dioxide lost to the air from the limestone is recovered this way. A glimmer of hope perhaps.


Ian Crossland

NEW YEAR WISHES


We always went out fully masked
We tried to do what Boris asked
We tried to keep a social distance
Building up Covid resistance
We didn't shop – we stayed at home
And just talked to family on the phone
No work colleagues in a room
We held our meetings via Zoom
We cleaned our hands at every door
So many times that they were sore
We must not forget the ones who died
Despite how hard the doctors tried
And then at last our vaccination
Given with such dedication
We must hope and pray, and just believe
That this sadness will now leave
That we will once again be free
To meet with friends and family
My New Year wish for you, from me
Is that we all stay virus free.

Jenny Nisbett.

St. Patrick's
RACE NIGHT
Nympsfield Working Men's Club



Friday 18th March
Happy Hour from 6pm - 7pm
FANCY DRESS
Going once.. going twice, sold!
Will you win the pot of gold?



BINGO
07.03.22
21.03.22

- From 7pm •
- Every other Monday •
- Win plenty of incredible prizes •

• NYMPSFIELD WORKING MEN'S CLUB •

NYMPSFIELD WORKING MEN'S CLUB

QUIZ NIGHT



SATURDAY 5TH MARCH



FROM 7PM

Do invite your family & friends to enjoy!



WiN Women in Nympsfield

Sadly, our Christmas social at Whackers could not go ahead. It was not an easy decision for us but being mindful of rising infection rates and in the hope of keeping everyone safe and well to enjoy Christmas celebrations with loved ones, it was decided that this celebratory event would have to wait for safer times. We are constantly reviewing restrictions and considering the safety of our members and were very grateful for the many words of support.

We are now looking into the New Year with renewed hope of a more normal life and as such have planned the following for our forthcoming meetings: -

Our next meeting, and first for 2022, is Monday, 21st February at 7.30pm at the Village Hall.

Our speaker will be Brian Stanley who will be talking to us about the canal project in Stroud. With the use of slides he will be talking about the past, present and future of the canal - it has been 50 years since work started. This will be an interesting talk especially as there has been a lot of renovation activity in the past and is still continuing at pace.

Our March meeting is Monday, 21st at 7.30pm, again at the Village Hall and our talk will be Plastic Free - Chloe Turner will be our speaker.

April meeting will be on Monday, 11th (a little earlier than our usual regular meeting due to the Easter break, so ladies please place in your diaries) again at the Village Hall - Fake and Fortune is our subject and of course further information will be sent to members nearer the meetings.

If you are not a member and would like to be, please give us a try, we look forward to seeing you. Alternatively if you are interested in any of the topics above we would welcome you as a guest but would charge £2.00 as a non-member. New members are always welcome. Please get in touch: catherine860636@yahoo.co.uk or call 07746 594547.

Nature Notes by Miss Daisy: “HOP TO IT”

One of the first signs of spring in my garden (apart from the daffodil bulbs peeking through the soil) is when we wake up to what appears to be an Olympic swimming gala going on in our small pond. Suddenly it comes alive, as overnight all the frogs seem to congregate in their quest to find a mate - and it becomes a frenzy of “boy meets girl”, or in many cases, “girl meets several boys”!!!!

It does not last long – but as if by magic large clumps of frogspawn, and occasionally strings of toad spawn are then left lying on top of the pond. Unfortunately the frogs do not always appreciate that winter has one final last trick to play, and a few days later the pond can be completely frozen over again, which destroys all their hard work. Over the years we have devised a method to try to save all the potential baby frogs, by removing the clumps of frogspawn and putting them in bowls of water in the greenhouse, until all danger of frost has passed.

Anyone who has tried this will know it is not easy as the frogspawn has a slippery, slithery mind of its own and I am always taken back to my schooldays when we used to have sago for pudding – the cry would go out “It’s frogspawn again!” and we would all groan inwardly, but we would still eat the ghastly stuff as we were always permanently hungry!

The frogspawn safely transported, it is then a waiting game, as with the warmer temperatures the little black dots in the bowls gradually get bigger, first forming their back legs, then their front legs. Almost overnight they lose their tails and suddenly they are minute baby frogs (by this time they are safely back in the pond again!) The growing tadpoles become increasingly hungry and apart from bits of pondweed, we also give them small amounts of fish food and bits of cooked meat tied to the edge of the bowl with a piece of string. Of course the water has to be changed regularly, and we do this with the aid of an old kitchen flour sieve and a spare clean bowl.

Frogs and toads, like everything else, are becoming increasingly rare, but we are often rewarded for all our hard work when we spot a tiny little year- old frog peering at us from the flower-bed. They are so small and vulnerable that many do not survive, but we like to think that we are giving nature a bit of a helping hand to save these lovely little creatures, who, after all, are the gardener’s best friend.

From St Joseph's School

Half-way through the year already...and what an eventful term it has been at St Joseph's! We had an outbreak of covid, which we managed to contain. This time though, unfortunately, Staff were affected too. However, committed to doing our very best for our children, teaching and learning continued. Thank goodness for TEAMS. We also consider ourselves very fortunate to have Jane, our incredibly committed cleaner, who's job has increased with the essential daily touch cleaning - a vital preventative measure in a school. And what a way to end - school closure due to the threat of a storm! Again, not our normal REACH Friday curriculum, but the fantastic staff team at St Joseph's immediately switched to remote learning. We had 137 children join us on TEAMS for our end of term celebration assembly. That is more than this time last year when we were going through partial school closure. It's hard to believe that we planned for the possibility of everyone being at home and for teaching and learning to continue during covid, and then to find ourselves moving to this for the last day of Spring Term 1.

This has been a busy term in so many ways. Possibly the most exciting thing that has happened, as far as the children are concerned, is that we have managed to secure the funding for a new log trail. I'm sure that you will have seen the sorry state of the existing trail which has been on the field for about 15 years and is in desperate need to be removed!

There has been lots of talk about a new log trail for the children at St Joseph's. For just over 12 months now, the PTA have been planning fund raising events with this in mind. During this time the school council, led by Mrs Jenkins, have spent many hours listening to the ideas that their class have had and reporting back to the council during their meetings. They have had the challenging job of setting a specification for the design that will meet as many of the children's ideas and needs as possible. Sadly, this will not be including the hot tub and zip wire!

Having raised so much in such a short space of time, the PTA started to look at grants to boost the funds that they had raised towards the trail. However, in order to apply for grants a final design and costings are required. Leah Farrer, from the PTA, offered to act as a go between in sourcing suitable companies and meeting with Mrs Jenkins, leader of the school council, to develop a design from the specification. This involved hours and hours of toing and froing from company to council then back again. It soon became clear that the costings for the bespoke design were far more than we had imagined. One of the companies

that came out to school discussed developing the trail in phases. This suddenly made the project more achievable and thanks to the incredible work of the PTA, along with an OOSC donation, we could nearly afford phase 1. Even after we thought that we had agreed what was required, there was still a lot of communication to ensure that the design was what the council had specified.

We actually received the final design during the first week in January. With the cost of materials due to increase at the end of February we were keen to get the order in. Leah presented the design to the pre-school committee, who kindly agreed to pay for the first section of phase 1 of the trail, enabling us to place the order. I presented the final design to the OOSC committee, I was hoping that they might contribute towards part of the next phase, however, thanks to their incredibly generous donation we were nearly in the position to commission the whole Log Trail. Finally, at the January FGB, I shared the design and costings with the governors who willingly agreed to the final amount of money which meant that the whole project could go ahead.

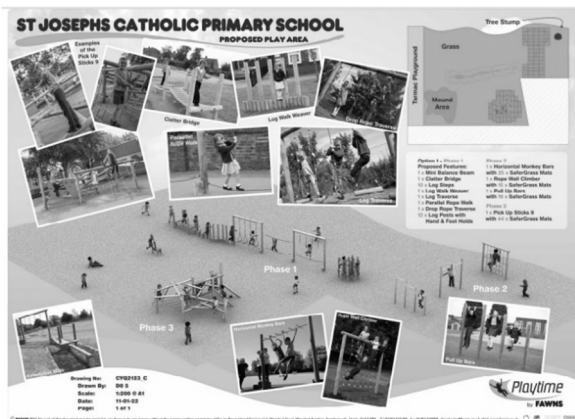
There was a very exciting afternoon when the school council shared the design that they have been working towards for such a long time with the rest of the school. We were joined by members of the committees who, by supporting this project, will turn the children's dreams into a reality. The order has been placed and work is due to begin the week of the 16th May, weather and materials dependent. The project will be built during school time which means that the children will get the amazing opportunity to watch as it develops. All being well, after May half term the trail installation will be complete and our children will spend summer term 2 exploring it and developing their skills.

I can't quite believe that by the summer the children will have this incredible trail to play on and explore. This is all down to the hard work of Mrs Jenkins and Leah Farrer, who have invested an incredible amount of time working with the children and companies to get to the final design, the PTA for their tireless fundraising events, to the pre-school committee who have funded the first part of phase 1 of the trail, the OOSC whose donation made phase 2 and most of phase three a reality and finally, the school governors who committed the final amount enabling us to secure the whole installation.

I cannot thank all of the people who have been involved in this project (I realise that it's not finished just yet!), for the time and commitment that they have put into doing their very best for the children at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. I feel extremely fortunate to have such committed and energetic individuals amongst our staff, parents and governors that have given so much to this

project. Their hard work will not only benefit the children that are at St Joseph's today but for many years to come.

http://www.st-josephs-nympsfield.com/website/student_council/358044



Neighbourhood Watch

Catalytic Converter Theft

There continue to be reports of exhaust system catalytic converters being stolen from cars in our area. Catalytic converters contain precious metals such as rhodium, platinum and palladium which 'clean' exhaust gases. The sharp rise in the value of these metals over recent years has driven up the rate of catalytic converter theft. Palladium is currently more valuable than gold, meaning that a catalytic converter can sell for more than £500 on the black market. They will cost the owner or their insurance company in the region of £1,000 to replace. Although most thefts are from larger vehicles with better ground clearance, any car can be and is targeted (and if it's parked half on a kerb it makes access to the underside easier). Converters can be secured with anti-theft devices and marked with "forensic dye" making it harder to dispose of.

Any reports of issues to Martin 860133 please.

Forward phishing emails to GCHQ: report@phishing.gov.uk

☆☆☆☆☆

**stroud
coronavirus
community
response**

*helping you
helping everyone*

- ★ daily updates for Stroud area
- ★ community response
- ★ factchecked by our volunteers

There is lots of info and support via:

neighbournetworks.uk

helping you - helping each other

NYMPSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Christmas and New Year have come and gone and two more Parish Council meetings have taken place.

Whilst no further Planning applications have been received within the parish over the last two months, several issues have been raised with Gloucester CC's Enforcement team. The continuing deterioration of David's Lane, a development without full planning consent and a renovation stuck in an unsafe condition have all required attention.

On the subject of road safety, Gloucester Highways Dept are working on a new design to mitigate the rather poor accident rate at the top of Frocester Hill. We await their proposal with interest.

The flooding at the Rose and Crown has thankfully been resolved for now, at least until diversion work to the spring responsible is undertaken.

Village Spring Clean 2022.

Covid 19 has put paid to this event in recent times, but there is determination that it will happen again this year. The date for your diaries is Sunday, April 10th. In order for people to feel as comfortable as possible with regard to Covid, we will be working outside in small groups. Please join in what is a fun and worthwhile activity. Refreshments will be provided before and after, also outdoors. Meet around 1.30pm at the Cross. Bags etc provided but bring your old gloves! Keep an eye on the noticeboard and the website for further details. Please contact clerk@nympsfieldparishcouncil.org to register your interest on any of the above topics.

Nympsfield Climate Action

Nympsfield Parish Council declared a climate emergency and one of its first actions is to promote the formation of a Climate Action Group that will be part of the wider Climate Action Network around the Stroud District.

Initial ideas of what a local group may do fall into three broad categories:

- Plants, animals and biodiversity
 - Identifying opportunities for biodiversity in our homes and gardens and across the village
- Climate and carbon reduction
 - Looking at ways we can reduce the carbon footprint of our homes, and across the village as a community
- Resilience
 - How we prepare the village to be better placed to respond to extreme weather events as a community particularly supporting vulnerable residents.

You may have interest in one or more of these areas?

You don't have to join or commit to doing anything regularly but if you have an interest or concern, or are seeking information about what you can do about climate change in your home, this is the place you can bring those thoughts and ideas and share them with other villagers.

We see this as a group where you can get involved as much or as little as you want.

- You may want to register an interest to be kept informed of what is going on in and around the village
- You may be actively looking at how you can improve your home and garden to be more environmentally friendly and energy efficient
- We hope some people will be interested in volunteering to organise events and speakers, so we can keep informed of local and national ideas including funding for home energy improvements, biodiversity etc
- You may be interested in a car or cycle share scheme or electric charging points, or want to help bring other green technologies into the village to offset our carbon footprint
- You may consider volunteering to be a point of contact or 'resilience warden' for the village in extreme weather events (power cuts, high winds, flash floods, snow events, etc) as part of our resilience planning

The climate action network will be run by villagers with initial funding and guidance provided by the Parish Council.

A date for your diary. The inaugural meeting of the Nympsfield Climate Action Group will be held on:

Monday the 25th April at 7.15 in the Village Hall.

Please come and share your ideas.

If you have any questions on climate action or wish to register to receive email updates and a reminder of the meeting, please email the clerk@nympsfieldparishcouncil.org and put 'climate action updates' in the subject heading.

<p>Your Parish Councillors: Cllr Sophia Price (Chair) Cllr Elizabeth Sturgess (Vice Chair) Cllr Peter Tomiak-Baquero Cllr Trevor Gaunt Cllr Rosie Clements All can be reached via the Clerk: clerk@nympsfieldparishcouncil.org</p>	<p>Your District Councillor Cllr Martin Pearcy cclr.martin.pearcy@stroud.gov.uk Your County Councillor Cllr. Wendy Thomas wendy.thomas@gloucestershire.gov.uk Your Member of Parliament Siobhan Baillie (con) siobhan.baillie.mp@parliament.uk</p>
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USEFUL NUMBERS

Emergencies		Police (non-emergency)	101
Electricity	0800 6783 105	Police: Neighb'd Policing, Dursley & Cam Team (non-emergency)	01453 753500
24h Floodline	0845 9881188	Rose and Crown Inn	01453 860612
Severn Trent	0800 783 4444	St Joseph's School	01453 860311
Police	999	Stroud District Council	01453 766321
Childline	0800 1111	Building Control	01453 754871
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111	Dog Warden	01453 754491
Doctors' Surgery Nailsw'th	01453 832424	Pollution, noise, bonfires etc	754478
Doctors' Surgery Uley	01453 860459	Neighbourhood Warden - Andy Beamish	07834 419332
Glo'ster Royal Hospital	0300 422 2222	Rubbish collection	01453 754424
NHS Direct	111	Village Agent – we no longer have one!	
Nuisance callers (Information Commissioner Office if you are registered with telephone preference service)	0345 070 0707	Vet (Bowbridge)	01453 762350

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