

THE

Nov-Dec 2022

# Nymphsfield

NEWS & ADVERTISER



## Editorial

Autumn is well under way, the trees are looking colourful and we bring, for your amusement, the usual motley mix of village news, poetry, history, advertisements and who knows what else?

Thankfully, the only obituary is for a tree. Please note that the deadline for our next edition, a year-end special, is earlier than usual: 10 December so that any last-minute Christmas or New Year information can be published.

The editors

Email: [nymppynews@gmx.com](mailto:nymppynews@gmx.com)

### Cover picture:

The sad end of one of our 360-year-old churchyard yew trees, died of unknown causes. Arborist Joe Lewis of LM Tree Care and his team in action.

### BOOKING CONTACTS

#### KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD

Bookings:

[npfbookings@outlook.com](mailto:npfbookings@outlook.com)

#### VILLAGE HALL

Bookings Marie Knight 860115 or  
[nympsfieldvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:nympsfieldvillagehall@gmail.com)

#### WORKING MEN'S CLUB

Bookings: Wayne 07769 317559

## BUS TIMES

Note minor changes

### The Cross, to Dursley

09:15 (65) Dursley and Gloucester  
10:21 (65A) Dursley and Coaley (Sat only)  
11:16 (65) Dursley and Gloucester  
12:36 (65A) Dursley and Coaley (Sat only)  
13:16 (65) Dursley and Gloucester  
14:01 (165) from N'lsworth) to Dursley  
then Coaley (Mon to Fri)  
15:48 (65) Dursley and Gloucester  
17:46 (65) Dursley to Cam & Dursley Stn  
(18:20) terminating Westend, Stonehouse

### The Cross, to Stroud:

08:10 (65) Stroud, leaving Cam & Dursley  
Station at 07:51  
10:25 (165) Stroud via Nailsworth (Mon-Fri  
only)  
11:07 (65) Stroud  
11:17 (65A) Stroud (Sat only)  
13:07 (65) Stroud  
13:32 (65A) Stroud & Whiteway (Sat only)  
15:07 (65) Stroud  
17:07 (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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:dan@dtm.co.uk), Phone: 01453 860968, Web: [www.dtm.co.uk](http://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. Typically we save around 5p per litre over the price for smaller quantities.

Next order dates 28 Nov, 6 Feb, 3 Apr  
[colinfairbrother@hotmail.com](mailto:colinfairbrother@hotmail.com) or  
[mike@leopardpress.com](mailto:mike@leopardpress.com)

### **FARRER FINANCIALS**

#### **Accountancy and Bookkeeping**

For all your finance needs: self-assessment, book-keeping, annual accounts, company start-ups.

Contact Leah 07789 000474

Email: [leah@farrerfinancials.co.uk](mailto:leah@farrerfinancials.co.uk)

[www.farrerfinancials.co.uk](http://www.farrerfinancials.co.uk)

### **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](mailto:janet@springsnow.co.uk)

### **LANGUAGE TUITION**

Oxford graduate offers French, Italian, Spanish, German. All ages, all levels. Annabelle 861143 / 07811 464559  
[janet@springsnow.co.uk](mailto:janet@springsnow.co.uk)

### **PLASTERING AND GENERAL BUILDING MAINTENANCE**

All manner of wet trades & stud partitioning.

Contact: Rich Bloodworth 860635 /07561 325060

## **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](http://peterwoodman.notjusttravel.com)

## **FIREWOOD**

Locally sourced seasoned firewood  
Contact 861117 or 07860 572905

## **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](http://www.mandnmotorservices.co.uk)

Contact: 860153 or email

[info@mandnmotorservices.co.uk](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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 /

## **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](mailto:gazzards@hotmail.co.uk)

[www.robkazard.co.uk](http://www.robkazard.co.uk)

**SASHA - HANDYMAN** from Ukraine - available for maintenance and small building jobs in the house and garden. Tel. his host Rachael on 07827 442676

## **To Rent**

Dry and secure informal shared storage /workshop space to rent coming available on the edge of Nympsfield.

Suitable for storage of clean dry boxes, furniture, personal items or for small shared workshop. You will need to arrange your own insurance and sign a disclaimer. Cost depends on how much space you need and / or what you want to use it for.

Access will generally be by arrangement / agreement and is not 24 hours. It's not heated but has metered mains power. Please call Trevor on 07950888234.

## **EVERYTHING NYMPFIELD!**

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

## What's On or Off

### **NYMPSFIELD WORKING MEN'S CLUB**

See our Facebook page for details  
BINGO: Alternate Mondays 7pm.

**THE ROSE AND CROWN INN** Open for business. Bookings being taken for tables and B&B rooms!

[www.roseandcrownfarmhouse.com](http://www.roseandcrownfarmhouse.com)  
[roseandcrown55@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**MORE BRIDGE** Want to learn a fascinating and time consuming pastime – then bridge is for you! Contact Bridget Lumb (07899 968220) or google Wotton-under-Edge Bridge Club for information about lessons starting this Autumn. Alternatively contact the teacher; Ian Cooke (fully qualified member of the EBU Teachers Association) Tel:01666 890261 or 07704 946846  
Email: [tresham.bridge@gmail.com](mailto:tresham.bridge@gmail.com)

**WOODCHESTER MANSION** has a new Facebook page: search FB for woodchestermansion  
[www.woodchestermansion.org.uk](http://www.woodchestermansion.org.uk)

**ST JOSEPH'S PRE-SCHOOL** Mon to Fri, term time only, 8:50am to 3pm, St Joseph's School. We accept 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](mailto:stjosephspresch@gmail.com). See Facebook: 'St Joseph's Pre-school' and article later in this edition.

### **100 CLUB WINNERS**

Week 49 No. 77 Julie Bleaken.  
Week 50 No. 44 Liz Sturges.  
Week 51 No. 94 Verity Giles.  
Week 52 No. 4 Dave & Janet Acton. (£25)  
100 club membership of £12 per number was due at the end of July. If anyone is passing Delahay Townsend please drop the money in clearly marked with their name. If not, we will call and collect sometime soon. We do have several spare numbers. Pat and Malcolm 01453 860696.

## Wanted

**EXPERIENCED WORKSHOP JOINER:** A Nympsfield based joinery workshop is looking for an experienced workshop joiner/carpenter to make sash windows. The post would be on a sub-contract basis and suit a semi-retired person or someone wanting to work part time as only a limited number of sashes are needed each month. Experience of manufacturing sashes and complete box sash windows from beginning to end is required and preferable experience of fitting new windows into openings would be helpful. For further information please phone Trevor on 861025 for further information.

## FOCUS

### Raising Money for Cancer Care in Cheltenham and Gloucester

Thank you to all the lovely people who helped and attended our coffee morning for "FOCUS" a charity that raises money for cancer care in Cheltenham and Gloucester. In total we made £996.28. A huge thank you also to Nympsfield working men's club who hosted a quiz night and to the winning team who donated their winnings to the pot. In total we raised £344.06, making an amazing grand total of £1344.34!

### Date for your diary

We are going to hold a Christmas themed Coffee morning on the 17th December 11am - 1pm in Nympsfield Village hall with lots of added extras such as a tombola, stalls etc.

Marie Knight

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, NYMPSFIELD

# FIREWORKS 5TH NOVEMBER

**Gates Open: 17:15**

**Fireworks start: 18:30**

**Hot drinks and Bar**

**Hot Dogs & Burgers £3.50**

**Glow wands & Sweets**

TICKETS	ADVANCE	ON THE GATE
Adults:	£6.00	£7.00
Child:	£4.00	£5.00
Under 3:	Free (They still need a ticket for numbers)	
Families:	£18.00	£22.00
	2 adults/2 children or 1 adult/3 children	

Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult

Sorry NO sparklers

Tickets available from the PTA

[pta@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:pta@st-josephs.gloucs.sch.uk)

## WiN Women in Nympsfield

**19<sup>th</sup> September** saw us once again meeting at Whackers - thanks to Rachel for hastily accommodating us after the Village Hall was double-booked (apologies to those members who had an unexpected walk to Whackers). It was well worth the effort as Chris O'Grady gave us an excellent evening entertaining us with useful tips and anecdotes of his many successful and sometimes unsuccessful purchases in the world of antiques and collectibles.

We look forward to welcoming Chris back again in 2023 to talk about his walking trips and more adventures.

**15<sup>th</sup> November (TUESDAY)** evening 7.00pm to approximately 8:30pm we have arranged a behind the scenes visit to our local Waitrose store in Stroud -

**Please note this is not on our usual day/date**

**19<sup>th</sup> December** Christmas Party at Whackers - Our traditional Christmas gathering at Rachel's home for much festive fun and nibbles and a chance to catch up on the year's events

If you are not a member please give us a try, we look forward to seeing you. Alternatively, if you are interested in any events, we would welcome you as a guest for the evening at a charge of £2.00 per session as a non-member.

For further information please get in touch: [dianebrimley@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dianebrimley@hotmail.co.uk) or call 079395 08398

### Service of Remembrance

As usual at the wayside cross (end of Tinkley Lane) on Sunday 13 November at 10:45. Tony King will be leading the service again.

### Christmas Carol and Christingle Service

Tuesday 20th December at 18:00 at St Bartholomew's church

### Light up Nympsfield

Turn on your Christmas Lights on Saturday 3 December, 18:00 (if they're already on turn them off first!) An opportunity to have a sociable wander around the village, drink in hand optional.

## CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES

Parish of Uley with Owlpen and  
Nympsfield.

(Part of The Ewelme Benefice.)

The Rev'd Canon Michael Cozens.

Tel. 01453 546459. E:

mgcozens86@btinternet.com

Churchwardens:

Pauline Thomas. T: 01453 860047.

Moyà Wallis T: 01453 861675

Parish Office T: 01453 549280

E: ewelmeeparishoffice@gmail.com

Service at St Bartholomew's usually  
the first Sunday of the month at  
10am.

Details of all services on the  
Benefice website.

[www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk](http://www.ewelmebenefice.co.uk)

## 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](http://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 November** The Offing,  
Benjamin Myers (Verity's book)

21 December East of Croydon,  
Sue Perkins (at Martin & Kate's)

### WORDLADDER

Change one word  
to the other one  
letter at a time.  
Each step must  
be a real word.





# Nympsfield Village Hall Meetings

To be held at Nympsfield Village Hall on 6 December 2022

## 7:30PM: VILLAGE MEETING RE VILLAGE HALL

### Background

It is proposed to re-develop the Village Hall in order, amongst other things, to provide disabled access and toilets and to upgrade the kitchen. Having regard to the potential personal trustee liability which may arise from letting a building contract for the re-development, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation called Nympsfield Village Hall CIO (the “CIO”) has been created to take over the existing charity. The CIO will hold the Hall for the same charitable purposes as the existing charity and will be managed by trustees as is the case now.

The Agenda for the meeting will be:

1. Presentation and question and answer session concerning the re-development of the Village Hall
2. Presentation and question and answer session concerning Nympsfield Village Hall CIO
3. To discuss and propose resolutions to approve:
  - 3.1. the transfer of Nympsfield Village Hall by the existing holding trustees to the CIO;
  - 3.2. transferring Nympsfield Village Hall to the CIO and not the Official Custodian for Charities; and

- 3.3. dissolution of the existing unincorporated charity of Nympsfield Village Hall

### Notes:

- A. A covenant in the conveyance dated 30th March 1966 required the Village Hall to be transferred to the Official Custodian for Charities but this was never done. The Charity Commission’s authority to the transfer to the CIO will be sought on the basis that it is not necessary to transfer the Village Hall to the Official Custodian.
- B. Following dissolution of the existing charity, the Village Hall will be held for the same charitable purposes but by a different entity.

## 8:15 PM: VILLAGE HALL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Agenda for the meeting will be:

1. Apologies for absence
2. Approval of minutes of last AGM
3. Matters arising
4. Chair’s Report
5. Treasurer’s Report
6. Election of New Committee (see Note A below)
7. Election of New Officers
8. Annual Review of Hire Rates
9. Review of Allotment Rents
10. Any other business
11. Date of next AGM

### Notes:

- C. The following organisations are each entitled to appoint a representative to

act as a member of the Committee: Parochial Church Council, Parish Council, Working Men's Club, Playing Field Committee, Football Club and WIN. Notification of such representatives should be given in writing to the Secretary, Mark James (Whackers Cottage GL10 3UG) prior to the AGM.

- D. Please contact Mark James (telephone number 860839 or e-mail whackers@btinternet.com) or any other member of the committee if you have any questions or if you would like to add to the Agenda.

### **9:00PM: NYMPFIELD VILLAGE HALL CIO COMMITTEE MEETING**

One of the items on the agenda is the appointment of new trustees of the CIO. Anybody interested in standing to be appointed is welcome to attend the meeting for such purpose and is requested to notify Mark James of such interest (contact details below).

#### Notes:

- E. The following organisations are each entitled to appoint a representative to act as a member of the Committee: Parochial Church Council, Parish Council, Working Men's Club, Playing Field Committee, Football Club and WIN. Notification of such representatives should be given in writing to Mark James (Whackers Cottage GL10 3UG) prior to the committee meeting.
- F. Please contact Mark James (telephone number 860839 or e-mail whackers@btinternet.com) if you have any questions.

## **Emails to the Editors**



*From Mary Jo and Roger Elmer, Mike and Cis Whittard, Theresa Freeman*

As usual we will not be sending individual Christmas Cards, so would like to take this opportunity to wish all our many family and friends both in Nympsfield and beyond a Very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful and Healthy 2023.



*From Nell Lovegrove*

A reminder to all gardeners that 3 Nov is No Dig Day – the ideal time to start your campaign for healthier soil and fewer weeds. [Ed: see the Eco Column]



Longfield Community Hospice in Minchinhampton has launched its annual Christmas Tree Recycling Campaign, where, for a donation, local volunteers will pick up your tree at the end of the festive season and take it to be recycled.

The hospice is hoping to collect and recycle more trees than ever this year and needs volunteers with vans to collect Christmas trees from Sunday 8 to Tuesday 10 January 2023.

- Are you a local person with a van who can get involved?
- Can your business volunteer the use of vans and staff teams to collect the trees? [continues...]

This year, the Longfield fundraising team hopes to raise in excess of £35,000. In previous years, as many as 2,800 households from across Stroud District, Cirencester and Gloucester have taken part in the scheme.

To arrange collection of your tree, visit [www.just-helping.org.uk/register-tree](http://www.just-helping.org.uk/register-tree) and make a suggested donation of £10 or more. Registration opens on 15th November 2022.

**PLEASE HELP**

There must be a conspiracy  
 To get rid of all the elderly  
 Jars and bottles sealed so tight  
 We twist and turn with all our  
might
 Instructions written oh so small  
 We're lucky if they're there at all  
 Those ring pull cans – we pull and  
push
 Then food spills out all in a whoosh  
 Sardines scattered on the floor  
 Tomato sauce drips down the door  
 Containers that are child-proofed  
capped
 And food that's double cellophane  
wrapped
 I'm losing weight – why can't you  
see
 This packaging will be the end of  
me.
 Jenny Nisbett.

**The ECO column**



Lots of people in the UK and around the world are growing their own vegetables with the no dig method. Have a go! *[it works for me – ed]* The satisfaction of nurturing your soil, sowing your seeds and harvesting healthy veg to eat is so good for your physical and mental health, and it's good for the environment too.

- Better drainage so less flooding
  - Better moisture retention so less water needed for more food
  - No need for synthetic inputs which harm soil life, such as artificial fertilisers
  - Less slug damage in my and others' experience
  - Soil is always covered, with compost on beds and wood material on paths, and most of the time with growing plants
  - Carbon is retained in the soil
- (from an article by Charles Dowding)

## OLD NEWS FROM NYMPSFIELD

Gerry Bowen dug out an old copy of Saga Magazine from 2004 which told a strange tale from the Civil War. A little internet research revealed that the story comes from a document in the Bodleian Library that was collected by Dr Robert Walker when he was writing his book "The Sufferings Of The Clergy Of The Church Of England During The Great Rebellion" (published 1714). It seems that Walker sent a circular letter to the clergy, especially in the south-west, asking for their stories of the Civil War, by then, 60 years in the past. This is one of them, spelling and punctuation have been updated.

*In the time of that unhappy war which began in the year 1641 between the best of Kings Charles I and the worst of men, the rebellious Parliament, there was only envy, hatred and malice and all uncharitableness in this distracted kingdom. Murder and plunder was too common. I was at that time 26 years old and was taking a journey from Northleach where I lived to Dursley about 20 miles distant, in the month of November with an Irish horse under me.*

*The days being short and the evening dark I lost my way and came to a place called Nympsfield. Here was an inn where I lodged. After supper the inn-keeper did tell me there was a garrison of the Parliament at a place called Eastington 4 miles north towards the city of Gloucester.*

*I went to bed and fastened the chamber door. About 10 or 11 o'clock I heard a great noise. About 20 foot soldiers came from the garrison at Eastington with their muskets and in a violent manner broke open the door, took all my clothes and in an unseemly manner made me leave the warm bed, and out of the chamber, down the stairs, into the cold air, only my shirt loose about me.*

*The innkeeper hearing how I was abused by them rose in haste and ran to them saying, "What do you mean to do with him? You go the way to starve him. Give him his clothes to put on him, for pity, for shame!" Their answer was, "He is a Cavalier, and we are resolved to make him go to our garrison with us as the soldiers did from Cirencester to Oxford, that is, naked."*

*Thus being in the midst of these Roundheads about 11 of the clock in the dark night, naked from the sole of my foot to the crown of my head, only my shirt loose about me, they were making haste to bring me to their garrison, my tender feet treading upon the cold ground. The soldiers that followed me were ready to tread upon my bare heels to force me forwards. In this manner they had me forward nearly a mile from the inn. I began to think that this is the last night that I have to live, and I did desire Almighty God to be merciful unto me and to enable me to undergo with patience*

*whatsoever affliction should be laid upon me.*

*And now man's necessity is God's opportunity. It pleased the Lord to put into the heart of one of these soldiers being more pitiful than the rest, to ask me, "What is your name: whither are you travelling?" I told him my name and that my journey was to visit my mother's sister that lives in Dursley. He asked me "What is your mother's sister's name?" I told him that her name was Bridget Everet. He said that she was an honest woman, and one that he did respect, and that for her sake I should go back to the inn again. Seeing me in such a naked condition he went to one of the soldiers that had my doublet, he took it from him and gave it to me saying, "Put it on, you must needs be very cold and make haste to the inn again." I gave him thanks for had it not been for him that cold night, I should have been starved to death or murdered. The rest of the soldiers went away with my horse and with all my clothes but my doublet and shirt.*

*I was glad that I was at liberty and I went with as much speed as I could to the inn again. The innkeeper called to the maid to rise quickly and make a good fire to warm me – and to take a cloth and wipe the dirt from my feet, and seeing me naked from my hips downwards, only my shirt between my legs, the maid put off one of her petticoats, and she gave it to me saying, "Put it on to hide your*

*nakedness." I went to put it on the wrong way. She took it from me and put it over my head saying that was the way to put on a petticoat. When I had well warmed myself I called for a pair of slippers to go to bed again.*

*That I was thus used, or rather abused, by the Parliament soldiers in the year 1643 witness my hand.*

*Signed: Robert Rowdon. Born the 17th May 1617 – now in the 92nd year of my age. 1709.*

*That soldier that took pity upon me did say to some of my relations at Dursley that had it not been for him, when they had brought me something further from the inn, they would have beaten out my brains with their muskets and then have left me. From battle, murder, sudden death, and from civil war, which is greatly to be feared good Lord deliver us. Amen*

*In the year 1643, the King dined at Northleach at my father's. When the king was in his house many poor people prayed to the King that clothing might go forward, for they could not live without it. I heard the King say, "Alas, poor people, how can I help you when I cannot help myself?" This I heard the King say.*

*Signed: Robert Rowdon.*

Ian Crossland

with acknowledgements to  
[historydetectivesclub.co.uk](http://historydetectivesclub.co.uk)

## **From St Joseph's School:**

Only one week to go until half term. The autumn is flying by but the weather remains on our side, at the moment. It has been lovely this term to be able to welcome out parents back into school. Parents are coming in again to support the children with reading in the mornings, something that we have really missed, and we have some afternoon volunteers too. Recently we have been able to get support from Read with Me, a charity who train their volunteers to read and question the children to ensure their comprehension is developing.

Parents evening was a hybrid event. We know that some parents preferred to use TEAMS as it saved on childcare. So, to make life as easy as possible for all of our parents we offered them the option of face to face meetings or virtual. In some cases, we had one parent face to face and another joined on TEAMS from work, meaning that both parents could be there. There are some positives to take away from the last couple of years.

As life returns to normal, our first sports team went off to a tournament last Wednesday afternoon – girls football. Most schools sent a Year 6 team but our team was a mixture of

Year 6 and 4 girls. The team worked well together and came an incredible 3<sup>rd</sup>. Well done to the team who represented our school so well, they really were the best that they could be and the staff returned to school, as always, proud of our children.

Our Harvest Liturgies took place last Thursday and it was lovely to be able to invite our parents once again - many came! The children really enjoyed having a proper audience for the first time in quite a long time. Speaking to an audience is a great way for our children to develop their confidence. Well done and thank you to our children for the beautiful harvest services and of course to the staff team who make it all possible. For a small village school, the Harvest Donations that we sent off to the food bank in Stroud was truly impressive, how generous our families are. We also took the fresh produce down onto the Dursley Food Cart, which is organised by a group of volunteers called the Dursley Community Food Hub, who are supporting local families.

Last week was rounded off well with the first school disco in some time – and what a disco! I don't think I remember that many children being at a school disco pre-covid. It was lovely

to see so many of the children having such a lovely time. A huge thank you goes to the PTA who arranged the event but also the all of the parents who supported them by running stalls on the night and baking cakes for them to sell. And, not to forget the staff who stayed for the disco to dance with the children!

We are close to half term now and staff and children need a well-earned rest, ready to come back for the run up

### **From the pre-school**

We are now into the Autumn term of the new academic year of 2022-2023. The pre-school, like other establishments, saw the impact of covid over the past two years and it is hoped that the new “normal” will continue. One adaptation we have made this academic year is that the setting will allow attendance at multiple-settings again; meaning St Joseph’s Pre-school can be attended in conjunction with another local playgroup, pre-school or nursery to ensure full attendance of the child’s nursery hours entitlement.

The pre-school continues to go from strength to strength with the attendance register having very limited

to Christmas, which will be exciting but exceptionally busy. The excitement starts on the 5<sup>th</sup> November when the PTA will be holding their Firework display [see ad in this edition]. There are banners up around the village as this year we are able to open the event up to the community. Please do come along if you are able, it would be lovely to see you there.

Clare the head teacher

availability for the foreseeable future; this is something the team are very proud of and we have enjoyed welcoming and settling our new starters over the first term. By August 2023, the Lead Practitioner and Deputy Practitioner will be celebrating their 10th Year within the St Joseph’s Pre-school family with the remaining Deputy Practitioner celebrating their 10th year the following August. We also have, amongst our established team, our treasury administrator, practitioner and bank staff who all continue to support the pre-school to grow and thrive.

As we move towards Christmas the pre-school will be preparing

and performing their Nativity production in the church for parents and extended family members to attend. I am sure all involved are looking forward to this and we hope it will all be a big success. We will finish our Autumn term with our Christmas party with party games, dancing and a magic show from the wonderful Magic Marie before finishing the term with a festive breakfast!

We already have a waiting list for September 2023 which you are more

than welcome to enquire about and join. Please email [natalie.preschool22@gmail.com](mailto:natalie.preschool22@gmail.com) for further registration information and to arrange a visit to the setting. You can also visit the Pre-school section on the website [www.st-josephs-nymphsfield.com/website/preschool/362125](http://www.st-josephs-nymphsfield.com/website/preschool/362125) for further details and to view our virtual tour on 'exploring the pre-school'.

## **ELECTRICITY**

Everyone will be aware that the cost of electricity and heating oil have gone crazy. A few ideas for keeping bills down:

- Turn down the thermostat by a degree (or half a notch on radiator valves)
- Wear a jumper!
- Don't heat rooms that aren't used much, and keep the doors to them closed
- Put "snake" draught excluders across the bottom of doors
- Seal any obvious draughts
- Replace lightbulbs with LED lamps (if I turn all of the lights on in our house, we're still using less than a couple of old 100 W bulbs!)
- Look at alternative heating methods: I've just put an infrared panel into an otherwise unheated bathroom on a delay timer, which gives very rapidly a feeling of warmth and doesn't cost much to run.
- Check the temperature of internal surfaces using an infrared digital thermometer to see what needs attention. You can get them for not much over £10.
- We're investigating whether we can get a thermal imaging camera to survey the outside of houses and look for hot spots where heat is escaping (or where hydroponic farming is taking place!)



## Nature Notes by Miss Daisy

### SQUIRRELS

You either love them or hate them, depending on whether you are a gardener, or not.

At this present time these furry grey rodents are busy digging little holes in our beautiful green lawns to hide nuts for the hard times to come in the winter. They often dig pretend holes just to confuse another watching squirrel, but also they often forget where they have buried them, so are unwittingly planters of many oak trees.

Grey squirrels are natives of north America and were deliberately brought over to the UK by the Victorians in 1876. There are now 2.5 million of them.

They eat acorns, beechnuts, hazelnuts, sweet chestnuts and walnuts – also flowers, shoots and plant bulbs. As a gardener it is very disheartening to find that they have been busy digging in my carefully planted pots of bulbs and primroses etc. but I have recently discovered a way of deterring them, by putting sprigs of holly on top of the pots. They definitely avoid these as they do not like the prickles!!!! Similarly, if you put peanuts out for the birds during the winter months, it is an expensive and annoying sight to see the squirrels gobbling them up. I am told that chilli powder is very good as whilst the birds are immune to it, the squirrels hate the hot peppery taste. You can buy squirrel proof bird feeders, but they are very crafty little creatures and will eventually find a way in – even chewing through metal bars of a caged feeder to claim their prize. A friend of mine says she has great fun watching squirrels continually trying to climb up the pole of her bird feeder, which she has liberally greased with Vaseline!!!

Sadly, the lovely red squirrel is almost extinct in the UK. As the greys are much greedier they have all but wiped them out, apart from the Isle of Wight, some parts of Scotland and Brownsea Island. The red squirrels are also prone to a disease called squirrel pox, which the greys have become immune to.

Squirrels build nests called dreys way up in branches of the trees and their young, which are called “kits” are born blind and hairless – they depend entirely upon their mother until they are about ten weeks old.

They have very few predators [*I have a recipe – ed*] so it seems as if we have to learn to share our gardens with these grey furry creatures and just have to try to be one step ahead of their cunning little ways.

## Macmillan Cancer Support

Thank you so much to all those who helped raise the amazing amount of £412 at our Coffee Morning on Sat 8th October. Whether it was making cakes/goodies, donating money & raffle prizes, helping out on the day/ attending on the day. It really is appreciated & for such a good cause.

Thanks to the Club for letting us host the event there & a big Thank you to Nicola Wendy for manning the coffee machine, with delicious coffee kindly donated by 'Golden Sheep Coffee' . Special Thanks to Marie Knight who always turns up trumps. Thanks again  
Julie Trinder



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- *2 big screen TVs*
- *Darts*
- *Snooker*
- *Live Music*
- *Charity Events*
- *Bingo Mondays*
- *Parties*
- *Quiz Nights and much more...*



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## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The latest scams seem to be mainly relating to the energy discount scheme. You do not need to do anything; the discount will be credited automatically to your bill (in monthly instalments). Any request to follow links should be deleted (or forwarded to the address below, or for texts forward to 7726 ("SCAM" on old style phone keypads). Any reports of local issues to Martin 860133 please. Forward phishing emails to GCHQ: report@phishing.gov.uk

## NYMPFIELD PARISH COUNCIL -

It has been an eventful period. There was great sadness for the loss of our wonderful Queen, and hope and well wishes for the new reign of King Charles the Third. It now appears we will soon have our second change of Prime Minister since the last edition of the Nympsfield News. Perhaps NN will need to come out more often.

Nympsfield Parish Council have had one meeting only to report on. Resubmitted plans for the development of the Lodge House at Woodchester Park were objected to by NPC. This despite a well-received presentation of the proposed changes by the owners. No objection was made however, to a proposed development at Close Hill. Please visit <https://www.stroud.gov.uk/environment/planning-and-building-control/search-planning-applications> for more details.

The Defibrillator course took place in the Village Hall on October 14<sup>th</sup>. 11 of the 12 slots were taken up and a very worth-while session took place. Attendees practiced the deployment of a defibrillator and learned emergency CPR technique. NPC hope the attendees now feel empowered to use the machine in an emergency and feel able to tell their friends and families about it. The statistics are stark – the chances of surviving a heart attack without a defibrillator are slim. Quickly applied, use of a defibrillator improves survival rate roughly 10 fold.

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

### Emergencies

Electricity	0800 6783 105
24h Floodline	0845 9881188
Severn Trent	0800 783 4444
Police	999
Childline	0800 1111
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111
Doctors' Surgery Nailsw'th	01453 832424
Doctors' Surgery Uley	01453 860459
Glo'ster Royal Hospital	0300 422 2222
NHS Direct	111
Nuisance callers (Information Commissioner Office if you are registered with telephone preference service)	0345 070 0707

Police (non-emergency)	101
Police: Neighb'd Policing, Dursley & Cam Team (non-emergency)	01453 753500
Rose and Crown Inn	01453 860612
St Joseph's School	01453 860311
Stroud District Council	01453 766321
Building Control	01453 754871
Dog Warden	01453 754491
Pollution, noise, bonfires etc	754478
Neighbourhood Warden - Andy Beamish	07834 419332
Rubbish collection	01453 754424
Village Agent – we no longer have one!	
Vet (Bowbridge)	01453 762350

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