

May-June 2025

THE
Nymphsfield
NEWS & ADVERTISER



Editorial

Easter has come and the mowing has yet to start in earnest. This spring we missed the wonderful cherry tree outside St Bart's - felled. Might the PCC consider replacing it?

Email: nympynews@gmx.com

The deadline for the next issue is 20 August 2025..

Cover picture: Drone photo of Church Street and (part of) Front Street taken March 2019 by James Nisbett.

CORRECTION. In the eulogy for Cis Whittard "her Aunt Connie and Uncle Jack" should have read "her Mum and Dad".

POST COLLECTION
MON-FRI 09 :00 AM,
SAT 07:00 AM

BOOKING CONTACTS **KING GEORGE V PLAYING FIELD**

Bookings:
npfbookings@outlook.com

VILLAGE HALL
Bookings Marie Knight 860115 or
nympsfieldvillagehallbookings@gmail.com

NYMPFIELD CLUB
nympsfieldclub@hotmail.com

BUS TIMES

The Cross, to Dursley

09:28 (65) Dursley and Gloucester
10:21 (65A) Dursley and Coaley (Sat only)
11:28 (65) Dursley and Gloucester
12:36 (65A) Dursley and Coaley (Sat only)
13:28 (65) Dursley and Gloucester
14:17 (165) from N'lsworth) to Dursley
then Coaley (Mon to Fri)
15:58 (65) Dursley and Gloucester
18:04 (65) Dursley to Cam & Dursley Stn
(18:35) terminating Horsemarling Lane,
Stonehouse

The Cross, to Stroud:

08:05 (08:00 Saturdays) (65) Stroud,
leaving Cam & Dursley Station at 07:30
10:25 (165) Stroud via Nailsworth (Mon-Fri
only)
11:21 (65) Stroud
11:17 (65A) Stroud (Sat only)
13:21 (65) Stroud
13:32 (65A) Stroud & Whiteway (Sat only)
15:21 (65) Stroud
17:56 (65) Stroud (leaves Cam & Dursley
17:25)

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

The online timetables can be found at:
<https://tinyurl.com/65nympsfield1> for the
Stagecoach services and
<https://tinyurl.com/65anympsfield> for the
Saturday Cotswold Green service.

The Robin dial and ride:
<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/transport/the-robin/> 0345 2638139 or the app.

Classified Ads

Services

ADAM REYNOLDS AGRICULTURAL FENCING & FORESTRY CONTRACTOR

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

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Contact Ash 07969 672876

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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

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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

CAPER CAFE at Bristol & Glos Gliding Club

Open 9:30 - 4pm Fri, Sat, Sun

Brunch & lunch, menu changes weekly

Coffee & homemade cake all day, bookings taken caper.org.uk

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

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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.dtdm.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: 30 June, 29 Sept, 1 Dec 2025

colinfairbrother@hotmail.com or

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

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

LANGUAGE TUITION

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

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 299669.
peterwoodman.notjusttravel.com

FIREWOOD

Locally sourced seasoned firewood
Contact 861117 or 07860 572905

FOOT HEALTH PRACTITIONER Fay O'Mahony (based in Nailsworth). 07947 634956 / faysuzanne1@gmail.com

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 for more info
www.paddocks4paws.com
Contact Sue 861117 or 07815 568718

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: playing field committee

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

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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

EVERYTHING NYMPFIELD!

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

ST JOSEPH'S PRE-SCHOOL Mon to Fri, term time only, 9am to 3pm, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School. We accept children from the age of two. Registered provider for 2, 3 and 4 year old nursery education funded children. Including the new working parents' 9 to 23 months old funding available from 1/9/2024. We are also registered to offer 30 hours free childcare entitlement.

Contact Natalie Finn-Powers 860311 or email sjpleadpractitioner@gmail.com. See Facebook: 'St Joseph's Pre-school' and article later in this edition.

What's on

NYMPFIELD CLUB

BINGO: Alternate Mondays 7pm.

3 May - Disco

4 May - VE day quiz with fabulous Finbarr

5 May - VE day cream teas

26 October - Children's Halloween party and trick or treating

27 October - Halloween bingo special

21 December - Children's Christmas party and reindeer hunt

22 December - Christmas bingo special

31 December - Music through the decades quiz then karaoke to take us into 2026

We also have our **charity coffee mornings**, fortnightly Monday night **bingo** and **quizzes** throughout the year!

See Facebook page for more details.

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



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, there's always one!) Enquiries to Carol 860610.

21 May: The Bloody Chamber by Angela Carter (Kate & Martin)

18 June: The Children Act by Ian McEwan (Lin)

100 CLUB WINNERS

Week 19. No. 42. Roger Elmer.

Week 20. No.69. Jo Armstrong.

Week 21. No. 11. Richard Mayes.

Week 22. No. Paul Trew.

Week 23No. 52. Ben Gwyer.

Week 24. No 76. Martin Wooldridge.

Week 25. No. 35. Tina Franklin

Week 26. No, 46. Ute Mc Farling. £25.

Tickets are available. Please phone Pat or Malcolm 01453 860696. Thank you.

Wanted

UNUSED GARAGE/SHED/WORKSHOP

space with electricity to rent for use as a small wood workshop. Contact me if you have any spaces available! : 01453 860968 or dan@dtm.co.uk .

CHURCH OF ENGLAND SERVICES

Parish of Uley with Owlpen and Nympsfield

(Part of The Ewelme Benefice.)

Revd Juliet Jensen

ewelmerector@gmail.com

01453 350810

Churchwardens:

Moya Wallis T: 01453 619270 &
07719880451

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

ST JOSEPH'S RC SERVICES

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

Parish Priest Fr Philip Thomas
542039

dursleynympsfieldrcparish.co.uk

**SEE WEB SITES FOR CURRENT
ARRANGEMENTS**

SPACE

I love to go and watch the stars
There's Venus, Jupiter and Mars
The Dog Star and the Milky Way
All so very far away.

And our lovely moon appears each
night

To guide us with its silvery light.

This Earth's so crowded – all
crammed in

With wars, disease – and what a din!

If outside there is all this SPACE

Why just US – the human race?

Perhaps when I go out tonight

To see the stars – this wondrous
sight

Maybe this time I will see

Someone looking back at ME!

JENNY NISBETT

Quotation Corner

*Picasso was burgled and did
a drawing of the robbers.
Police arrested a horse and
two sardines.*

Barry Cryer

NATURE WATCH by “Miss Daisy”

BADGERS

The badger is a short, stout, powerful animal, instantly recognisable by its black and white striped snout, which lives mainly underground in setts, a series of underground tunnels, which can sometimes extend to over 50 metres. The setts are added to over the years and some of them can be over a hundred years old. They tend to live in mixed sex groups (called clans) of between four and eight, but they tend to act independently when it comes to foraging for food. They have a varied diet, consisting mainly of earthworms, with up to 200 worms being consumed in one night by a single badger, but they will also eat snails, slugs and soft fruit.

Badgers have often been blamed for the decline in the hedgehog population, which is largely untrue. A badger would eat a hedgehog in times of severe shortages of other food, but the decline in the hedgehog population is largely due to man, in that we continue to build on the countryside, we take out hedges, and we turn our gardens into concrete jungles!

Badgers can mate at any time, but the sow (the female badger) generally produces one litter a year in early Spring, with normally two or three cubs per litter.

Badgers are very good at housekeeping, in that they regularly change the bedding in their setts, taking out the old grass, bracken, straw and leaves, and bringing in fresh. During the winter months, they have even been known to take out the bedding to dry on a sunny morning, and then take it back inside again later in the day.

Like many wild and domesticated species of mammals they can be carriers of bovine TB and the badger population is sometimes culled, but this is widely considered to be cruel and inhumane. In 2012 there were estimated to be approximately 300,000 badgers in the UK which some people might consider to be too many, but there was evidence of badgers over half a million years ago, so they would have co-existed with wolves, brown bears, Arctic foxes and wolverines.

Having a badger in your garden is not good news – although they can climb fences, they usually tend to dig underneath them, and can cause a huge amount of damage to a neatly kept lawn and flower beds, but it is illegal to harm a badger, or to damage or interfere with a badger sett – and the only way of deterring them is to use citronella, tea tree oil, eucalyptus and moth balls, all of which they hate.

The Old English name for the badger was “Brock” and you can find the connection in some of our place names, such as Brockenhurst and Brockworth.

Badger hair has been used for centuries in the making of shaving brushes and even sporrans – I certainly did not know that – tho’ I suspect that these days a man-made material is used!

OLD NEWS FROM NYMPSFIELD

What Cultural Heritage?

Everyone’s heard about UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Listing them aims to preserve "cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity". We have around 40 sites in the UK – Bath and Blenheim Palace are probably the nearest.

But who knew that UNESCO broadened its remit in 2001 to include ‘masterpieces of oral and intangible culture’? These include the Catalan tradition of Castells (human pyramids - right).



So now, our Government is asking people to present them with British traditions that might go onto the list. There are a few from Gloucestershire that might qualify - cheese rolling, Morris dancing, pancake racing, shooting the Severn bore, shooting the Forest of Dean boar 😊, Tetbury woolsack races and nine pin bowling? My favourite would be the ‘famed Cotswold Sports and Manly Diversions – not easily to be described’ also known as the Cotswold Olimpicks. This is held every year on Whit Friday – this year 30th May - on Dover Hill near Chipping Camden and includes the World Shin Kicking Championship - tickets available online at £8:30 if you are interested. Time was when one of the events was backsword fighting - two opponents armed with sticks try to hit each other on the head. Points were awarded for drawing blood.

UNESCO requires that listed traditions have to be endangered and in need of support. This contrasts with cheese rolling where it is the participants that fulfil this

requirement. And would it qualify anyway? It already attracts participants from around the world and thousands of onlookers. As it is, the organisers have to go to extraordinary lengths to avoid any threat of litigation. Any sense that this was somehow an officially sanctioned event could raise that spectre.



I imagine the government has started this in the hope of celebrating our cultural idiosyncrasies and promoting tourism. It set me wondering what Nympsfield might offer - motocross racing, open gardens perhaps? Neither seems to quite fit the bill but, three hundred years ago, Nympsfield did hold its own wakes and revels on Palm Sunday at 'Cowleys Pick' (Coaley Peak). We know this because the Rector of Nympsfield (Rev James Berriman) and other local

worthies petitioned the judge at the Gloucester Quarter Session (1710) to have it (and others in Coaley and Frocester) banned on account of rioting, drunkenness, loudness, debauchery and other immoralities. The constables and tything men of the parishes were ordered to suppress all assemblies and to inform on anyone who went to such a meeting or sold ale there 'so that they may be proceeded against and punished according to law'. Nothing more is recorded so, presumably, the Nympsfield feast day died a death. Anyone fancy bringing it back?

Ian Crossland

ROADWORKS

Although it was reported recently that the planned closure of Tinkley Lane for resurfacing (it needs it!) was postponed indefinitely due to higher priority work, it's still showing on the council map as a full closure 2 May – 5 June. No idea...!

EMAILS TO THE EDITORS



From St Josephs PTA: Thank you to local residents that came to the St Joseph's Easter event. We hope you enjoyed the day as much as our children did. Wishing you all a lovely springtime.

ROSE AND CROWN COMMUNITY PUB

We've had our fair share of highs and lows in weeks; from having our offer accepted to purchase the Rose & Crown Inn to the sale of the stables falling through and the owner putting the pub back up for sale, but we're pleased to share some more positive updates in this month's newsletter too

Purchase of the Rose & Crown

Unfortunately, our purchase of the Rose & Crown Inn is not progressing – for now, at least. Following the recent withdrawal of the stables planning application, the owner has decided to put the pub and stables back on the market.

We've communicated to the owner that our existing offer to purchase the pub remains on the table, and we are hopeful that a buyer for the stables can be found quickly so that our purchase of the pub can resume.

Membership Loans Offer

Last month, we wrote to investors with details of our new Membership Loans Offer, which is exclusively available to members of NCPL. We launched this offer to raise the additional capital required for the outright purchase of the pub and to begin renovation works. The offer has been successful, raising over £86,000, and remains open for applications.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at nympsfield.community.pub@gmail.com

Grant Applications

In a recent message to investors, we shared that we would likely have to forfeit our £20,000 grant from the Rural England Prosperity Fund due to the purchase delays. However, we are delighted to inform you that Stroud District Council has recently shared some fantastic news! Our £20,000 grant has been transferred into the new financial year, which means we now have until 31 March 2026 to use the funds.

We are also awaiting confirmation of a grant from Gloucestershire County Council's Build Back Better councillor grant scheme. We expect to know the outcome later this month.

Our grants team are continuing to research and apply for other suitable grant opportunities that would allow us to purchase and restore the pub.

Fundraising Events

The owner of the pub has kindly permitted us to continue to use the Rose & Crown

Inn for fundraising events. This means we can proceed with our planned ‘pop up pub’ event on Saturday 17 May from 3pm. We hope to see you there!

Community Share Offer

Share certificates have now been issued to all those who purchased shares through our Community Share Offer and who are now members of Nympsfield Community Pub Limited (NCPL).

We have 427 members, the majority of which are from the local area, but we also have members from further afield in the UK, as well as members from Europe, America, Australia and South Africa!

NYMPSFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The effort to purchase the Rose and Crown has suffered a setback as the owner reconsiders his options. There remains optimism that a deal will be struck but clearly negotiations are at a delicate point. The effort to raise money continues and another ‘pop up’ pub afternoon and evening will take place on May 17th.

1500 hedgerow saplings were duly planted at Easter Park Farm, to delineate the new permissive path towards Tinkley Gate. Many thanks to the people who gave their time to this worthwhile initiative.

NPC have set 11th May as the date for the annual village tidy up. Please consider giving an hour or more for this community event. More details to follow on the noticeboard and Facebook.

Your Parish Councillors: Cllr Anne Robertson (Chair) Cllr Sophia Price (vice-Chair) Cllr Peter Tomiak-Baquero Cllr Trevor Gaunt Cllr Nicola Crabb All can be reached via the Clerk: clerk@nympsfieldparishcouncil.org	Your District Councillor Cllr Martin Pearcy Cllr.martin.pearcy@stroud.gov.uk Your County Councillor Cllr. Wendy Thomas wendy.thomas@gloucestershire.gov.uk Your Member of Parliament Dr Simon Opher (Lab) simon.opher.mp@parliament.uk
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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	We wish!!
St Joseph's School	01453 860311
Street issues (potholes, lights etc):	https://fixmystreet.gloucestershire.gov.uk/
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
Vet (Bowbridge)	01453 762350

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