



BERKELEY SPRINGS INTO LIFE

On Friday 17th January Berkeley Town Council hosted a public consultation meeting regarding proposals for a housing development on land on the approach to Berkeley. At the meeting the developer presented a summary of proposals including archaeological surveys, environmental assessment and a study of the contents of the landfill.

Various groups contributed to discussions. ABRAID raised their concerns, Marybrook Medical centre stated they would welcome additional patients, which would help secure the current staff and Berkeley Primary School stated they would also welcome additional students as this would secure more funding, allowing them to offer improved services. The meeting was well attended and several members of the public gave their opinions on the proposal - some in favour of the proposed development, some against.

The next stage is for the developer to submit specific proposals to Stroud District Council when it is likely that further consultations will take place. We will keep you informed of future dates when we hear of them but you can also check developments on the planning area of the Stroud District Council website.

Turn to page 10 for more opinions

IMPROVED BUS SERVICE PROMISED FOR BERKELEY VALE PARK

The Flyer has learned that following intervention from Berkeley District Councillor Gordon Craig the Route 207 bus service is to be expanded to include Berkeley Vale Park. The new service will begin before the end of March. As this service is fairly frequent it will enable Park residents who are all over 55 to catch a bus up to Berkeley, do some shopping, visit the library or the doctors surgery and then catch another back home. As this service goes almost directly to Thornbury taking just 20 minutes and operates 5 times a day both ways within shop opening times it will also enable Park residents to enjoy a nice day out knowing that the bus will deliver them all the way back to the Park bus stop.

FUTURE PLANS FOR BERKELEY SITE

The Gloucestershire economic partnership known as G-First has just revealed an exciting plan to promote the county's economy in a bid for £400 million of Government funding; this includes a proposed skills centre on the old Nuclear Labs site in Berkeley.

There are currently plans for considerable expansion of the nuclear and low carbon energy industry in this country but we now have a severe shortfall in staff with the skills and knowledge needed to make these industries viable. The plan for Berkeley is to provide a skills development and training centre for renewable energy, engineering and nuclear skills.

This would be overseen by the University of Gloucestershire and partner organisations such as the local colleges.

Magnox has been looking for a buyer for the site for some time so this news is very positive. Councillor Liz Ashton expects to hear more information at the next Berkeley Nuclear Stakeholders' meeting, which she will attend.

In the meantime, anyone who is interested in reading the full detail of the plan may visit www.gfirstlep.com

In Your Berkeley Flyer this month....

YOUR CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR SAY IN THE NEW TOWN PLAN – PART 2 OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE INSIDE

GARDENING TIPS FOR THOSE OF US WHO DON'T FEEL THE COLD

PROPOSED NEW HOUSING DEBATE HEATS UP IN THE BERKELEY FORUM

CATCH UP WITH THE LATEST NEWS FROM LOCAL CLUBS AND GROUPS

STUCK FOR SOMETHING TO DO? HAVE A LOOK AT THE 'WHAT'S ON PAGES

TRY THE WINTER WARMER RECIPE ON THE BACK PAGE

Achieve your goals by letting go of the past

Following on from last month's article on motivation, Changes Welcome now aims to dig deeper and take a closer look into goal setting for maximising future success.

The optimism and revitalisation that most of us experience when first setting a goal often fade when day to day worries and pressures begin to cloud our focus and weaken our resolve. There are many reasons for this, but one of the biggest is firmly rooted in the past.

"Ruminating about the past is one of the biggest obstacles to success," explains Liane, a Solution Focused Hypnotherapist from Germany currently practising at the Marybrook Medical Centre in Berkeley.

So what is rumination? Wikipedia defines this 'as the compulsively focused attention on the symptoms of one's distress, and on its possible causes and consequences, as opposed to its solutions'. It very often goes hand in hand with worry and self-blame, but there is a difference. Whilst rumination focuses on negative past experiences, worry is all about what may or may not happen in the future.

People often find it difficult to develop the new habits required to achieve their

goals, because they consistently repeat old behaviours, whether those behaviours relate to food, relationships, exercise, studying or household finances.

Initial momentum becomes dissipated when people unconsciously remind themselves of past unsuccessful attempts; they erroneously believe that because that's how they behaved in the past, they will inevitably repeat the same behaviour. In the end, they spend more time with their attention focused on how not to succeed than they do visualising their success - in other words ruminating".

The negative effects of ruminating were also highlighted in a BBC Stress Experiment carried out in June 2011. Preliminary results from the study of over 30,000 participants indicate very clearly that 'a tendency to blame yourself for problems and, most importantly, a tendency to ruminate stress and worry are the most important factors when it comes to predicting your chances of suffering from stress.'

The good news is that rumination is actually fairly easy to do something about. Solution Focused Hypnotherapists actively discourage clients from ruminating about the past. Instead they encourage clients to talk about their 'preferred future,' a future in which they are closer to achieving their goal. New clients often express themselves in terms of what they don't want, hanging on to their past behaviours. Here, it's the therapist's job to help

clients let go of those unhelpful thinking patterns, encouraging them to express themselves positively, and helping them to maintain motivation to achieve their goal.

Liane explains, "We learn by repetition. When we were learning to drive a car, we kept practising the same manoeuvre until we could do it automatically, subconsciously. It's the same with any new skill. I help clients by encouraging them to think about what they want, not what they don't want. I also help them to identify times when they have been successful, thus breaking the unhelpful, negative self-talk. By letting go of the past, they are better equipped to achieve their goals in the future."

Liane works with all kinds of people, and all kinds of issues. To find out more about how Hypnotherapy can help you, or to book an initial consultation call 01453 810 691/ 07825 286 550 or visit: www.ChangesWelcome.co.uk

For more information about the BBC Stress Test, visit <http://www.bbc.co.uk/labuk/results/stress/index.html>



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Berkeley Educational Swimming Trust (BEST)

January Draw

Winner:

Stephanie Turner Ball No. 69 £30.00

Runner Up:

Jeannette Bateman Ball No. 57 £20.00

The draw took place on 9th January 2014 by two volunteers at the Cotswold Care Hospice Shop. On behalf of BEST I would like to thank Cotswold Care Hospice Shop for supporting us by displaying a poster.



Gloucestershire Constabulary
People First Policing

POLICE REPORT

Mobile police station will be outside
Berkeley Town Hall on:

30th January 2014 at 1500hrs

14th February 2014 at 1400hrs

5th March 2014 at 1500hrs

News:

Sign and Shine

Last month (December 2013) PCSO Mike Trebble, Neighbourhood Warden Andy Murray and PC Becky King took 10 new speed signs onto the B4006 and placed them where appropriate. They also cleaned up the current speed limit signs to make them visible to road users.

Test purchase

A test purchase operation was conducted over the Christmas period in Berkeley. This involved a volunteer fifteen year old approaching our local stores attempting to buy alcohol. We had a 100% refusal rate in Berkeley, well done!

Sharpness Docks

Gwent police and Gloucestershire Constabulary worked together early January to monitor scrap metal carriers travelling in the area. The operation was a success and a number of 'dealers' were given appropriate guidance and penalties.

Positive Tickets

We are pleased that two of our local under 18's have recently been awarded positive tickets for their 'above and beyond' contribution to the community!

Sexting

All 12-13 year old children within the Berkeley area will be receiving information on sexting from your local officers. Look out for their silicone wrist bands "Once u press send, where will it end?"



Saving wetlands
for wildlife & people

February Events

Wildlife Photography for Beginners with Iain Green - Sat 8th

Starting with an illustrated introductory session looking at composition, technique and equipment, you will then head outside for practical session of nature photography. Due to small course numbers there will be plenty of time for 1-2-1 tuition. This course is suitable for users of all types of cameras and the content will be tailored accordingly and to the needs of course attendees.

10am—4pm; £60pp including tea / coffee and biscuits

Become an Advanced Birder - Friday 14th

Learn to assess fine details such as plumage, weather conditions and habitats to take your skills to a new level. 8am - midday; £27.00 pp including tea / coffee and bacon roll.

Birdwatch Morning - Saturday 15th

Join our warden as he opens our hides around the grounds to learn about the different birds visible from each hide and how to identify them in their seasonal plumages.

8am - 10.30am; £15pp including tea / coffee and bacon roll.

Booking essential for the above events, call 01453 891223 or email events.slimbridge@wwt.org.uk

Half-term Activities - Bewick's Swans Saturday 15th - Sunday 23rd February

A range of half term family activities will celebrate this special and much-loved visitor to WWT Slimbridge.

Try to be a researcher when you head to the Peng Observatory to see if you can identify an individual swan with our help. In the visitor centre there will be craft activities and puzzles. Activities included in normal admission.

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News for February 2014

Hello from Penny. Here are a few new pieces of information that may be of some interest.

Pension Credit – why it is important. Pension Credit helps you to qualify for other benefits, so it is worth claiming it even if you're only entitled to a small amount. Four million older people are entitled to Pension Credit and about 1 in 3 of those eligible is still not claiming it. Pension Credit unlocks your way to other benefits. You can contact Age.uk to find out if you might be entitled or you can phone me and I will make a referral for you. Age UK 01452 422660, you can also check it out on www.ageuk.org.uk

There is now a service called **Positive Steps**. It is a joint initiative between Mears Safe at Home and the British Red Cross to help people to stay safe, happy and independent at home or outside. It is free of charge and tailored to meet an individual's needs. It could include a home safety check, or it could involve a Red Cross volunteer visiting a person for up to six weeks to help with shopping, access to local activities or appointments or to provide companionship. (They are not able to offer personal care). This is a great service for anyone who needs some help for a limited period. Contact them on 01452 881613.

A charity called **P3** was set up in June 2013 to deliver community based support. The ultimate aim is to improve the quality of people's lives and it is open to people of all ages, 16 upwards. They can offer housing related support, help with finding secure appropriate accommodation, or help to improve budgeting skills and manage and reduce debt. The services that they offer are very varied. They will work with people for up to six months and can be contacted on freephone 0808 168 2443 or 01453750480.

Penny: tel. 07776 245 726.



FEBRUARY IN THE GARDEN

February generally gives us our first hint of Spring with Snowdrops, Scillas, Hellebores and Aconites in full flower and the green spears of Narcissus, Tulips and Hyacinths poking up from the frosted ground.

The beauty of bare stems of Dogwood (Cornus), Willow (Salix), and Brambles (Rubus) can be seen against the brown earth. The fragrant flowers can be seen of shrubs such as Daphne and Lonicera Fragrantissima.

If you have a pond in the garden then ice can be a problem as it allows toxic gases to build up in the water. This is particularly dangerous to fish, so it is a good idea to make a small hole in the ice by standing a pan of boiling water on it or by floating a small ball on the pond that can then be taken out to leave a hole. Never break the ice with a blow as this can concuss the fish and kill them.

With all the storms we have had check your trees and shrubs for damage and prune back whilst they are still dormant.

I hope you have studied your seed catalogues and planned your Spring sowing and planting programme. If you have some heat in the greenhouse or a little room on a windowsill then it is time to sow some bedding plants which need longer growing periods, such as Antirrhinum, Begonia and Geranium.

It is time to buy or order potato tubers so that you can chit them for an early crop. Chitting allows the eyes of potatoes to grow a little before planting out.

It is also time to buy your onion sets. Once the frost has gone and the ground is dry enough it is a good idea to start to prepare the beds you will need for the onions. Dig in as much well rotted manure as possible and leave the ground slightly lumpy for the weather to break down into a fine tilth.

Snowdrops, when finished flowering can be divided and replanted while they are in the green.

Be aware that freezing spells this month may have made ground water unavailable to plant roots. Plants could be on the dry side despite the winter weather. Warm water makes effective irrigation in freezing conditions especially for pots and containers, but only do this when absolutely necessary e.g. for newly planted evergreens struggling to get established.

As you can see from the above there is lots of work to be done at the start of the gardening year so as you will all have had a good rest over the festive period you will have plenty of energy to spare and it will be good exercise to get rid of any excess weight you put on over Christmas and New Year.

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A WALK IN WINTER



Our children continue their learning journey. It is hard to believe that we are half-way through our 2013-14 School Year which has been a great time of adventure and discovery for each individual child and also collectively as a school. We love celebrating and acknowledging the amazing achievements of the children which encourage them to press-on in their walk and move forward to great things.

According to Bruce Barton (1886- 1967), "If you want to know if your brain is flabby, feel your legs." To this end, the staff at Berkeley Primary provide many opportunities to "stretch their legs" by engaging in a variety of activities. One such activity was the **Young Voices Concert** which was held in January. Our school choir of over forty pupils joined thousands of other primary school children across the country at the NEC, Birmingham, to sing a montage of melodies from Gospel to English Folk. The purpose of such an event is to sow a seed for the love of music and especially that of live performance. At this year's event, former X Factor contestant, Stacey Solomon sang with the children. It was an incredibly emotional experience for the families of the youngsters and teachers to witness thousands of children singing with one voice. Monies raised from this event are donated to various childrens' charities, one of which is CLIC Sargent; a charity for children who suffer from cancer.

During February a team of staff from the school will be visiting a Special School in Finland as part of the Comenius Project. The purpose of the visit will enable staff to learn more about Finnish culture, witness good practice and exchange cultural traditions. Year 4 teacher, Mr Rickaby, has been hard at work rehearsing and fine -tuning his Morris dancing moves! We look forward to hearing how this was received by our Finnish friends on the team's return.

During the half-term break the staff at the **Explorers' Holiday Club** will be looking forward to welcoming our youngsters to fun and games during the school holidays. You may be interested to know that the Holiday Club is open to all children from age 2 years 9 months and primary school age whether they attend Berkeley Primary School or not! If you are interested, please contact the school office on 01453 810254.

We are also taking bookings for September 2014 intake at **Little Jesters** pre-school. Registration and Booking Forms can be obtained from our school website or school office. If you are collecting or dropping off your forms please pop in, as we would be delighted to introduce to our staff and facilities.

Here are a couple of dates for your diaries. On Friday 28th February we will be hosting our ever popular **Quiz Night**. Those keen to put their team through their paces may arrive at 6.30pm for a start time of 7.00pm. The cost of £20 for a team of four will provide you with a light supper and an extremely entertaining evening with friends and family. Prizes for the winners, a raffle and a bar are sure to make this a memorable occasion. Booking Forms can be obtained from the school office.

Looking a little further ahead, by popular demand, we will be holding the **Great Berkeley Bake-Off** on Friday 4th April. This is a baking competition open to all who are keen to demonstrate their culinary talents in one, two or all three specific categories – Victoria Sponge, Cupcakes or Easter Biscuits. Can you produce the lightest Victoria Sponge? Produce a classic of a cupcake? Or bowl us over with your Easter Biscuits? Your masterpiece will be professionally judged and winners announced on the day. Entry forms can be obtained from the school office.

We hope that your walk into the new year of 2014 has been all that you hoped for. The school is very much part of the community and therefore we would be delighted if your walk took you to our school as we would love to show you all we do here.

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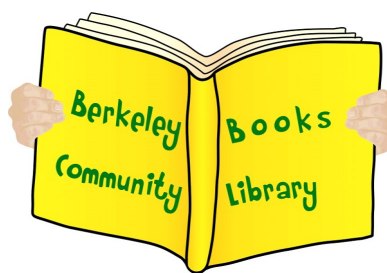
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New Photocopier

We have a new photocopier which means we can copy colour as well as black and white in A4 and A3. In addition, we are also able to laminate in both A4 and A3.

AV Equipment

Our new AV equipment is now available to groups who wish to hire the Library.

Future Events:

During 2014 the following are some of the events we are planning:

A Community 50/50 sponsored walk from Sharpness to Slimbridge and return. 50% of the funds each walker raises will go the Library and 50% to the organisation of the walkers' choice. The date for the walk is 1st June and Sponsorship forms will be available shortly.

Our 2014 calendar sold out and we are planning a 2015 calendar. We are changing the layout but we will again have a Photography Competition with the theme Berkeley and Area with suitable entries being used in the 2015 Calendar. Entries can be colour or black and white and should be landscape orientation.

Book Sale in the Library.

Children's Activities are being planned on a regular basis. The next one will be on Tuesday, 18th February making Flying Things.

This year we are also planning to have 'workshops' for children to show them various skills including knitting, crochet, hand sewing, beading and they will be having a go themselves.

During the summer we will be running the Summer Reading

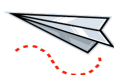
Challenge. The starting date is 12th July and the theme this year will be Mythical Maze.

A Treasure Trail around Berkeley.

April in the Library will be Railway Month including a working model railway and an Easter school holiday Reading Challenge with a 'Railway' theme.

The Christmas Cards we made were successful so we are continuing to make cards for sale all year. In addition we are making additional craft items.

Is there anything you would like to see in the Library? We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you in the Library.



Free Craft Activity for Children

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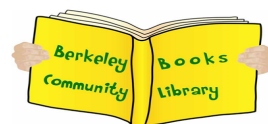
And then compete to see whose invention works best!

Tuesday, 18th February

Time: 10.45 – 12.45

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Berkeley Craft Club

The first craft club held at Berkeley Community Library was a great success. 13 local crafters came together for some chat, some tips, some great inspiration and plenty of laughs (not to mention some delicious cake and quiche). We had card makers, beaders, patchworkers and knitters and an unplanned crochet workshop led by Paula which proved very popular especially with a couple of members who didn't have any projects on the go at the time but still wanted to be involved. Some people were working on projects to sell or for charity and others were just crafting for the love of it, whichever of these categories you may fall in to, you will be made very welcome to join us at our next meeting on Wednesday 26th February, 10.30 - 1.30 at the library. Remember to bring along whatever project you are working on but don't worry if you have nothing on the go at the moment as you will be made very welcome either just for chat and coffee or maybe another unplanned master class...we all really look forward to seeing you there.

£2.00 entry to cover library hire, for further information please contact James on 810703 or jamwalls75@gmail.com



theWI INSPIRING WOMEN

We had a most enjoyable meeting in January. Our speaker was Mr. Lemon and the subject was African Elephants. Mr. Lemon was brought up in South Africa and he grew up playing in the bush and watching the wildlife. We learned a lot about the lives of the

elephants illustrated by some lovely photographs. A good evening with lots of questions answered at the end of the talk.

If you are passing the Opticians in Berkeley you will notice that our prize winning entry to the Group Rally is on display in the window. Well worth a look!

We have a craft group that meets once a month and this month we started on beaded jewellery. We also have a skittles team and we are starting to meet once a month to hone our skills.

If you want to find out more about the WI give me (Vicki Young) a ring on 01453 810929 for more information.

Christmas Card Collection

Can I take this opportunity to thank everyone who donated their old Christmas Cards for the Cobalt Unit in Cheltenham for recycling. Many thanks to Carol and all her staff in Baileys not only for this year but previous years when collections have been made. Thanks also to J.C.Aldridge for again donating black bags, 20 of which were used to transport the cards to Cheltenham. Next year the Collection Point (due to Baileys closure) will be in The Break Shop whose management have kindly agreed to support this very worthwhile cause.

Paul Glastonbury.

The Children's Society 2013

We would like to thank all the box holders for raising £237.61 from

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PLANNING FOR OUR FUTURE

In last month's edition we asked for your help in completing the Town Plan Survey forms to assist the Steering Group to understand the future needs and aspirations of you, the people of Berkeley. What we're trying to do is get the wishes of the majority down on paper, as the basis for discussion in the open meetings planned for the next few months. Below are the final two sets of questions which we'd like you to complete, tear out these pages and drop them off at Sema4graphics in Salter Street or Berkeley Pharmacy in the Market Place.

If you haven't already completed the two sets of questions in last month's Flyer there's still plenty of time to go back and find them and fill them in. In the next few weeks we're also hoping to have all four of the questionnaires on the Flyer website so that you can fill them up there if you don't want to tear out the centre pages.

Look out for future announcements with dates for the public meetings and drop in opportunities to discuss and have your views aired. Thanks for all your very welcome assistance.

SERVICES AND FACILITIES

TRANSPORT AND ACCESSIBILITY.

28. How do you travel to work? A. i. public transport ☐ ii. private vehicle ☐

B. If public transport is it: i. bus ☐ ii. train ☐

29. How far is your commute to work?

A. 0-5 miles ☐

B. 6-10 miles ☐

C. 11-20 miles ☐

D. 20 -30 miles ☐

E. 30 -50 miles ☐

F. More than 50 miles. ☐

30. Are the bus timetables convenient? ☐ Yes ☐ No

31. If you have a hospital appointment how do you get there?

A. Car ☐

B. public transport ☐

C. other ☐

32. How many cars are there in your household? ☐

33. How many cars do your household normally park on a public road? ☐

34. Are the parking facilities in the Town adequate? ☐ Yes ☐ No

35. How might parking be improved?

36. Do you cycle for

A. pleasure ☐

B. travel to work ☐

37. Do you use the public rights of way? ☐ Yes ☐ No

38. Do you consider that the vehicle deliveries to the shops in Berkeley cause problems? ☐ Yes ☐ No

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT

EDUCATION

39. If you have a child of primary school age, how satisfied are you with the facilities available to Berkeley children where

1= Inadequate and 4 = Excellent

☐

40. If you have a child of secondary school age how satisfied are you with the facilities available to Berkeley children where

1= Inadequate and 4 = Excellent

☐

41. Have you a need for further education at local level, if so in what areas

A. Life Skills

☐

B. Recreation

☐

C. Information Technology

☐

D. Other

☐

(please specify)

EMPLOYMENT

42. If you were seeking employment in Berkeley where would you look to find it

A. Job Centre

☐

B. Local Paper

☐

C. Employment Agencies

☐

D. Internet

☐

E. Other

☐

(please specify)

43. Are you actively seeking employment?

A. Yes

☐

B. No

☐

44. If yes what kind of job are you looking for?

.....

45. Are you currently seeking to improve your skills and knowledge to help you find a job

A. Yes

☐

B. No

☐

46. What could be done in Berkeley to assist you to find a local job?

.....

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. Please help us to evaluate the results by providing your post code and ticking the age group of the person completing this form:

18-25 ☐

26-45 ☐

46-60 ☐

61-75 ☐

76+ ☐

Post Code

BERKELEY FORUM

The Flyer reserves the right to edit and abridge letters submitted for publication. Anonymous letters will not be published, but we will withhold your name if requested

Dear sir

I have just read Mr Stanton's letter from ABRAID and thought I would reply using his headings.

The proposed site: as I can see on the approach to Berkeley you can only just see the Castle roof so having some nice dwellings opposite the entrance would enhance the look of Berkeley.

Housing: How does he know the new residents of these new houses will not use the facilities in Berkeley, has he got a crystal ball? Also since the Magnox centre has fewer people working there, the congestion of the Berkeley roads is down and the new residents would hardly be driving through the town to go anywhere.

Affordable houses: Of course we need these as there are a lot of young people brought up in the town who would like to buy one. Also they would be glad to commute to a job, everyone does.

Demographics: sorry I went to Berkeley vale and don't know what this means!!

The local plan: Again his crystal ball is working well if he already knows the plan will be thrown in the bin.

Employment: the building of these houses will create, albeit in the short time, plenty of jobs. These people can use the town for its facilities while working there, let's not look a gift horse in the mouth. I bet all traders will be glad of any extra income.

Transport: So what if the magical figure of 80% of people will work outside Berkeley, this is the same as every town/village in the country. If there is a need for public transport then I am sure if there are talks to the local bus providers then public transport can be once again brought back to the town.

Environment: How does he know that samples taken will not

be completely accurate? It's modern times and I am sure modern techniques will be used to find and dispose of any pollution. And out of the whole country 13 houses in Stirling isn't very much to go on.

Wildlife: Not many years ago this land was a tip, there wasn't much wildlife on it then and nobody moaned, these great crested newts of which I haven't seen one when I've been walking on the land can live in the ponds that will be provided, or relocated I'm sure.

Flooding: I am sure there real experts have looked at this problem and will have a way around it.

My last input: I for one would like to see the new houses built in Berkeley, let's try and bring a bit of life into the town, lets let the local younger generation buy affordable houses in the town they grew up in. This town is not just for the older generation, its not Bournemouth. Let's give the traders a chance to get new custom and let's not keep being so negative. I have lived in the town all my life and would love to see these as a lot of people do to. Its not all about Mr Stanton's views it's about us, the people of Berkeley.

I have come to a conclusion why Mr Stanton is so concerned about the new houses, I get the feeling these houses are somehow going to be built near to where he lives and is dragging all the older people into his argument making them believe its for the good of Berkeley when in the real world its all about the view from his window.

Steven Mansell

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Berkeley Lanterns

Following our request for more information regarding the history of the Christmas lanterns, we have received enough to compile the following;

We understand the original lanterns where made by the late Jim Mowatt . They were made at the premises of Berkeley Vale Builders, then located in the yard the bottom of jumpers Lane, towards the end of the 1980's. It is thought they were originally organised by a group of traders, possibly members of the chamber of commerce. For many years they were stored each year in the cellars at F.J. Holpin & Son

A couple of years ago a request was made by B.T.C. for volunteers to make some more. One Berkeley Resident replied to this and was asked to make what he could. He made 6 large and 2 small lanterns. All the materials were donated, except the electrical cable which was paid for by B.T.C. Unfortunately homes could not be found for all the lanterns so the remainder are currently being stored. If any one is interested in having one please contact B.T.C. The people who organised this were Jean Stanton and Val Watts

BERKELEY FORUM.....continued

Dear Editor,

I was unable to attend the public meeting regarding the proposed housing development in Berkeley on the 17th of January as I was away on holiday, however I sent my apologies and asked that the undernoted be read out. Regrettably I have since discovered that the Town Clerk forgot to do this and I would therefore be grateful if the flyer is able to print my submission to the meeting below.

I understand from reports I have received that it was a good meeting and the key points to come out of it were as follows.

1. The primary school is funded per pupil and a full school maximises its income.
2. The Doctors' surgery used to do a lot of work at the hospital, as that income stream is no longer there a bigger patient list, which is the principal funding vehicle for general practise, would compensate the practise for that.
3. Charles Church have or will lodge an objection to the proposed 300 house development in Sharpness.
4. Charles Church are now intending to lodge their planning application for Berkeley in March

As you will see from the letter which should have been read out. I believe that what really matters is what " **the people**" of Berkeley think and I'm not sure that this came out clearly from this public meeting. I would however like to thank everyone

who has stopped me in the street or written to me regarding this proposed development.... Please keep it coming !

LETTER TO BE READ OUT WITH MY APOLOGIES AT PUBLIC MEETING ON 17th JANUARY

As you know I have been trying to open up discussion on this development, because whatever you think about it, its scale will have a major impact on the town we all live in.

I believe that it is important that our community has its say in an open forum. Thereafter I would hope that all elected representatives will faithfully represent the towns view to the planning authority at such time as their opinion is requested. I was therefore very pleased when the town council agreed to hold this public meeting.

Although my heart rose when the council agreed to host this meeting, it sank again when I realised that I wouldn't be able to be with you on the allotted date. It is however your meeting and my role would have been simply to listen, so I have asked a number of people who are with you tonight if they will report back both the detail and mood of the meeting. I believe also, that reporters from the Flyer and Gazette will be in attendance, so I'm sure to get the feedback I need.

This evening, I hope you will express any worries or excitement about this development freely and that you will take the opportunity to ask questions, no matter whether they be long considered or have just popped into your mind, remembering that what may seem like a daft question to you may end up being the most significant point of the evening.

I wish you a good meeting.

Gordon Craig, Stroud District Councillor, Berkeley Ward

To the editor of the Flyer.

I attended the meeting at the Town Hall on January 17th when representatives from Charles Church/Persimmon Homes along with their development promoters, Consensus, were present. This was the first time they have met with the people of Berkeley although they have had two private meetings with Berkeley Town Council (even our District Councillor, Gordon Craig, was refused permission by the Council to attend) about what the people of Berkeley would like if a development took place. The man from Consensus explained in detail how Charles Church would like to build their houses in Berkeley and then said they were working to remove the current Sharpness allocation from the Stroud Local Plan for various reasons. The Sharpness scheme involves both housing and employment and is expected to deliver 500 jobs along with the increased tourism while the Charles Church development will produce few if any long term jobs. The jobs in the leisure

industry will help the area as will the tourists who will support our shops, pubs, hotels etc. We do not need Charles Church deleting it from Stroud's Plan. That would only benefit Charles Church.

Jean Stanton, Canonbury Street, Berkeley

Thank you so much for the gentleman who found my husbands wallet outside the co-op on Christmas Eve and even brought it round to the house.

I know your name was Phil from Canon Park, we are both so extremely grateful to you. All of his cards were in there and a fair bit of cash to see us over Christmas. You saved us a great deal of work, worry and sadness THANK YOU AGAIN.

Kind regards

Rachael and James Goatman

Ronald Shirley

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Berkeley Pharmacy	01453 810316
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Gas Emergency Service	0800 111999
Water Emergency	0800 7834444
Berkeley Town Council	01453 511964
Berkeley Post Office	01453 819351

Berkeley Primary School	01453 810254
Refuse Collection	01453 754424
Stroud District Council	01453 766321
Gloucestershire County Council	01452 425000
Neil Carmichael MP	01452 371630
Citizens' Advice Bureau	01453 762084
People for You, Barbara Weldon	01453 511964
Samaritans	0845 7909090
National Rail Enquiries	0845 7484950
Traveline	0870 6082608
Village Agent	0777 6245726
Gloucestershire Royal Hospital	0300 4222222
Vale Hospital, Dursley	0300 4218494

If you want to make a contribution, please email the Flyer Team editor@theberkeleyflyer.co.uk or place your contribution in the collection box in the Berkeley Pharmacy, Market Place, by **15th of each month**.

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P U Z Z L E C O R N E R

Sudoku Puzzle - Hard

			8	7		5	1	
		9	5				3	
			1		3			
	8							9
	9				7			
	3			1	4			7
			4		5			6
	5	4	7	9		1		
						9		

www.sudoku-puzzles.net

Sudoku Puzzle - Medium

1						8		4
7		4			1	5	3	2
9				8	4	7		1
				8		9	5	
		9						
5	7							3
2		7			6			5
				7				
8	6	1	5	9	2			

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January's puzzle corner answers

Windoku Solution - Medium

8	9	7	2	5	1	3	6	4
3	2	6	8	7	4	9	1	5
1	4	5	3	9	6	2	7	8
4	7	1	9	2	3	8	5	6
9	8	3	6	1	5	4	2	7
5	6	2	4	8	7	1	9	3
7	3	8	1	6	2	5	4	9
2	5	9	7	4	8	6	3	1
6	1	4	5	3	9	7	8	2

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Easy as ABC Solution - Hard

	G	D	C	F	A	E			
B	G	D	C	F	A	E	H		H
F	F	D	E	G	A	H	B	C	C
D	D	F	G	E	H	B	C	A	A
	E	B	C	A	G	F	H	D	
	H	E	F	B	C	D	A	G	G
G	G	C	A	H	D	E	F	B	B
C	C	A	H	F	B	G	D	E	
A	A	H	B	D	E	C	G	F	F
	A	H	B	D	E	C	G	F	

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Berkeley Primary School ?

Friday 28th February

? 6.30pm for 7.00pm start

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?

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?

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WHAT'S ON *continued* ...



Berkeley Amateur Dramatic Society

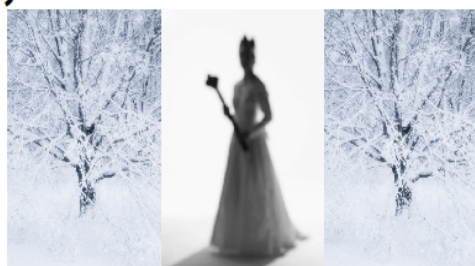


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WHAT'S ON DIARY

If you would like to place a regular entry in the What's On diary please email editor@theberkeleyflyer.co.uk before 15th of the month

Monday

Town Council Meeting
3rd Monday of the month

Stay & Play Kids - Sharpness Village Hall 9.45am till 12 noon contact Sue Boxall on 07526101287

Youth Club - Sharpness Village Hall 6.30pm till 8.30pm contact Darren Brown on 07799067237

Thursday

Over 60's Friendship Group
Union Congregational Hall, Berkeley
4th Thursday of the month 2 - 4pm

Bingo - Sharpness Village Hall from 7.30pm contact Jimmy Thomas 01453 811339

Coffee Morning
Thursdays, Union Church Schoolroom
10.00 - 11.30am

Berkeley Players Rehearsals
Town Hall, Thursdays
7.00pm Youngsters 8.30 Adults

8.30pm Adults Belly Dance Classes
Berkeley Arms Hotel
Thursdays 7-8pm Beginners
8.15 - 9.15pm Improvers

Circuit Training/Keep Fit
Hamfields Leisure
6.30pm - 7.30pm
Contact Jess Efford 07866 255325

Tuesday

Community Bank - Town Hall,
Tuesdays 9.15am until 11am

Town Planning & Finance Meetings
2nd Tuesday of the month

Berkeley Brownies
Tuesdays The Brownie Hut 5.30pm-7.00pm

Berkeley Community Library
Tuesdays 10.30am - 4.30pm
Telephone 810520

Zumba
Tuesdays 6.30-7.30pm at
Berkeley Primary School Hall

Line Dancing/Ballroom Dance Class
Hamfields Leisure
7.00pm to 9.00pm
Contact Daphne 01453 825096

Friday

Bingo in the Mariners Arms
Fridays from 3pm

Berkeley Community Library
Fridays 10.30am - 4.30pm

Berkeley Rainbows
Fridays The Brownie Hut
4.15 - 5.30pm

Little Fishes Music Group
Berkeley Union Church. Free
Fridays 9.15 - 11.00 am Term time

People for You
Town Hall Fridays - 9.15am - 1pm

Saturday

Berkeley Community Library
Saturdays 9.30am - 12.30pm

Wednesday

Dog Training - Sharpness Village Hall
Wednesdays from 7pm contact Mike Vine 01453 822134

Exercise Classes in Scout Hut
Wednesdays 10.30 am to Noon

Knit and Natter
Town Hall 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Wednesdays fortnightly
£2 - all welcome

Berkeley Under 5's
Town Hall Toddlers
Wednesdays 9.30am - 11.30am

Citizens Advice Bureau
Town Hall, Wednesdays 1pm - 3pm

Berkeley Youth Club
Canon Park Pavilion
Wednesdays 6pm - 8pm

Coffee Morning
Sharpness Village Hall
10 - 12pm Call Christy 07970 565099

Berkeley Gardening Club
3rd Wednesday of the month
Library 7.30pm

Sunday

Roman Catholic Mass
Sundays 8.30am 10.30am & 5.30pm
St Dominic RC Church,
Kingshill, Dursley

St Mary's Church
Every Sunday
9.30am Parish Communion
11am All Age Worship
6pm Evening Prayer
(times & venue differ 5th Sunday of month)

Ellen's Dance Class for ages 4-15
Sundays 9.30 - 10.30am
Sharpness Village Hall

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TASTY MORSELS

Recipes from a not so far flung land...



I would like to wish you all a heartfelt and belated happy new year. To say I've missed you because I live life in the fast lane is a moderate exaggeration. However, time does fly when you are having fun. Once again my travelling lifestyle and itchy feet

have brought me to the wintery slopes of a town called Villeneuve in the Serre Chavalier Valley. It's the southernmost region of the French Alps, right on the border of Italy. It is without a doubt my favourite place to snowboard in the world. Many reasons bring me out here every winter. I get to practice my pigeon French. You can easily eat your body weight in 'fromage', not to mention the amazing mountains which are the backdrop to this winter wonderland. It's safe to say the main reason however is I live here in a community that is vibrant and full of pubs and great places to eat..... Just like Berkeley. It's a home from home. We should twin these towns! We have many chalets here in Villeneuve.

This month I bring you a recipe from 'chalet Aster' and out two wonderful hosts there. Max and Maddie. Or as they are affectionately known, MadMax. This is a dish they cook for our guests every week on arrival. It's hearty and traditionally French. It's a great varia-

tion on our traditional stews and casseroles. It can be made with meat or delicious beans and pulses.... This month its Beef (or Bean) Bourguignon with sweet potato, celeriac and swede mash. This is a great dish. The cut of beef I like to use for this is shin. However, you can use braising steak. The cheaper the cut the better.... We are going to cook this beef within an inch of its life!!!!

YOU WILL NEED:

1kg braising steak, Shin or Brisket (this will serve 4-6 people with a hearty portion. Chop the meat removing all the sinew.
500g smoked lardons. (or use some bacon and cut it up into small pieces)
20 small white baby onions. (or use whatever onions you have in the fridge)
4 cloves garlic peeled and thinly sliced. 250g chestnut mushrooms. Slice 'n' dice em.
4 sprigs of fresh thyme. 3 bay leaves.
3 heaped tbsp of plain flour. 2 large glasses of delicious Burgundy red wine.
Salt and fresh cracked black pepper.

FOR THE MASH: 1 large swede, 1 celeriac, 1 sweet potato, 1 small bunch of flat leaf parsley.

METHOD:

Here we go folks. There are many ways to cook this smashing dish. Browning off the meat bla bla bla. But have I got a great way to get this dish done in a jiffy. This is a 'one pot' dish so let's go and pre heat our oven to 160oC or gas mark 2 (ish).

Simply put the beef, onions, lardons and mushrooms into your best flameproof casserole dish together with the bay leaves and fresh thyme. Your dish needs to be one with a tight fitting lid (you can make this dish in a slow cooker). Next season with salt and pepper. Give it a good mix up. Now sprinkle with the flour. Make sure all the ingredients have a good coating. Wine time!!!!

Pour in the wine, give the whole mixture which should now resemble a dog's dinner a damn good stir. Place in your oven in the middle shelf and let the magic happen for 3 ½ hours.

Time to turn our attention to the delicious mash. Peel and rough cut all the veggies and pop into a saucepan. Make sure all the veggies are cut to a similar size as they will then cook evenly. Pick the parsley leaves, chop 'em up and set aside.

This really is a dish to behold with such little effort to prepare. So, let's put it together. Check your beef is nice and tender after about 3 hours. Shin might take a little longer to cook through. Get the saucepan with our mash ingredients on full and cook through until the swede etc is soft. Drain and then add seasoning, butter, a splash of milk or cream then mash it up. I like it coarsely mashed. Finally sprinkle in our fresh chopped parsley and give it a few extra mashes for luck.

It's a nice touch to quenelle the mash and serve it on top of the beef bourguignon. Job done, minimum effort with maximum results.... That's how we do!!!

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