



Save our Bank!

As everyone must know by now, RBS has decided to close the Berkeley and Dursley branches of the NatWest Bank. There has been no consultation and it is clear, they have no understanding of the needs of rural communities like ours and really don't care either.

We have been told to use the Stroud or Thornbury branches or to conduct our private business in the Post Office.

Dozens of us have written letters to the management just to be fobbed off with standard responses.

A group of us decided to ask local people if we should insist the bank agrees to a public meeting where we can ask our questions face to face and demand proper answers. More than 500 people signed a petition to this effect. We were not allowed to present it to the bank staff but had a symbolic hand-over which was photographed by the Gazette. Radio



Gloucestershire has also taken up our cause and ran a three hour programme focussing on the issue.

I have finally received confirmation that the bank will come to a public meeting; the date hasn't been confirmed yet but it will be in early June. Look out for posters and announcements in the Gazette and on local radio. Let's show the bank, which we bailed out with our money, that we expect decent treatment and that the people of Berkeley don't give up without a fight!

Cllr Liz Ashton, on behalf of the action group.

News of the bank closure generated several letters to the Flyer this month, including from our MP Neil Carmichael and Councillor Gordon Craig. These letters and others can be found on the Forum pages which start on page 8.

Affordable Housing

It was Berkeley Town Councils intention to feature in the Flyer the procedures to be followed by anyone interested in applying for the 10 new affordable 1, 2 and 3 bedroom houses for rent to be built in Lynch Road Berkeley. These homes are special in that priority for them will be given firstly to people currently living in, or with a strong connection to the town of Berkeley. Priority will next be given to people living in or with a connection to neighbouring parishes and thereafter it will spread out within the district.

Regrettably I believe that the council won't be able to approve wording in time for this Flyers deadline. Its very important to keep this opportunity front of mind and Berkeley Town Council will be advertising these houses in the months ahead, through "The Flyer" giving clear details of the actions that local people

need to take but it is important that if you are interested you don't miss the boat. So once again it is me saying "Get yourself set up and here are the key points".

1. If you are interested you must be registered on line with Gloucestershire Homeseeker you can do that right now www.gloshomeseeker.co.uk

2. Check regularly on the progress of the building work and on the Homeseeker site remembering that the bidding process which you will need to take part in is likely to occur some months before the houses are completed.

3. Look out for updates from Berkeley Town Council or the Housing Association involved.

Remember as a Berkeley resident, or someone with a close connection to Berkeley you, will have priority but if you are not registered and don't bid when the bidding window opens it could easily pass you by so be prepared. I sincerely hope that these houses go to 10 deserving local people to strengthen our community. If you are interested don't let the opportunity pass. As you can see - I'm determined not to let it!

Regards

Gordon Craig, Stroud District Councillor, Berkeley Ward

**In your
Berkeley Flyer
this month...**

VE Day Bells

Police Update

Pro Am Tournament

Village Agent

Berkeley Forum

**Sevenside Youth
Football**

**Berkeley Players
Review**

**.....and much, much
more.**

IT'S PARTY TIME - BERKELEY FESTIVAL - SUNDAY 14TH JUNE

The recent spells of sunshine herald the warm days of summer. Remember those? For most of us it's the wake up call to get out and enjoy some of that fine weather. What better than to enjoy some great music from local band, the Broken Stones, street food, real ales and ciders, lots of stalls to browse, the magnificent annual plant sale from Berkeley Gardening Club and some real summer atmosphere.

If that sounds good we have the perfect opportunity on Sunday 14th June when the annual Berkeley Summer Festival kicks off in the Market Place at 1 o'clock till 5. Once again there'll be a funfair and a bubbles machine for our younger citizens, a barbecue for those who like to graze and not forgetting the traditional Pimms, local ciders and real ales to wash it all down. If you want to be really laid back just sit down and let the music do the rest.

Don't be late. Sun, rain or thunderstorms we'll be there.

COMMEMORATION OF VE DAY ON THE BELLS OF ST MARY'S, BERKELEY

In March, every diocese in the country received a letter from the Rt. Hon. William Hague, Leader of the House of Commons, inviting us to ring as many church bells as possible for the VE 70th anniversary commemorations, over the weekend Friday 8th – Sunday 10th May.

As you will know from previous articles here, two of the ten bells at St Mary's are a memorial to the local bell-ringers who lost their lives in the Great War. Although VE Day marks the end of the Second World War in Europe, we still felt it appropriate that the Berkeley bells should sound for this occasion. Only the six heaviest bells are musically "true" but are hard to ring well, so we had to assemble an experienced band from Berkeley, Dursley, Stroud and Tetbury.

So on Saturday 9th May, from 4-5pm we rang a quarter peal, as reported on the Ringing World website:

Berkeley, Gloucestershire, St Mary the Virgin
Saturday, 9 May 2015 in 49 mins (23 cwt–0–0 in E)
1272 Surprise Minor

(2 methods: 720 Cambridge; 552 Norwich)

- 1 Francis M Byrne
- 2 Jane D Bull
- 3 Steven D Chandler (Conductor)
- 4 Andrew J Binstead
- 5 Jonathan C Adkins
- 6 Andrew M Bull

Rung on the back six to mark the 70th Anniversary of VE Day.

If anyone wishes to understand more about what all these strange expressions mean, I am willing to explain! Also, if anyone wishes make a donation to our bell restoration fund I will be happy to receive it.

Steve Chandler



Towns support cause

Women in Dursley, Cam, Berkeley and Wotton, will be painting the town pink from Sunday 14th to Saturday 20th June. The campaign, which is supported by NHS Gloucestershire and Breakthrough Breast Cancer, first took place in Dursley 2011, Cam came on board in 2012, Berkley 2013 and last year Wotton. The event is not for fundraising but purely to encourage both women and men of all ages to regularly check themselves for any abnormalities.

Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer and more people are surviving it than ever before. If it is caught early enough it is highly treatable. More than 47,000 women are diagnosed each year, that's 130 a day! It is estimated that one in eight women develop the devastating disease and 340 men will be affected by breast cancer each year.

As previous years local shops from all of the towns will be supporting the event by dressing their windows in a pink theme and displaying posters. Local organizations will be holding pink theme days with pink cakes and drinks.

The Breast Cancer Awareness volunteers will be in all four towns on Saturday 20th June handing out information flyers to passers by. Anyone who would like to help hand out the leaflets on the day would be most welcome.

Please contact Sue Davies on 01453 548139.

BUFFS SPONSORED WALK IN AID OF BERKELEY SWIMMING POOL

On Sunday 16th August we would like as many volunteers as we can to come on a sponsored walk with us to raise money for the school swimming pool.

At 10am a bus, at the cost of £2.00, will pick us up at Berkeley square and take us to Parkend Bridge on the canal bank which is about 11 miles from Berkeley.

From there the walk goes down the path of the canal to Purton. Continue around Brookend and finish at Berkeley football club; where you can purchase food and drink etc.

Mr Howard Withers has kindly offered to use his boat to hold refreshments and help anyone who cannot carry on with the walk. He will follow everyone down the canal. We would love as many parents, grandparents, other relatives, children and friends to accompany us on the walk.

The swimming pool is a wonderful thing to have at the school. It's fantastic for the children to learn to swim as well as having fun after school.

For a sponsor form please contact Martyn and Joanna Turl, tel 01453 810087 or Tony and Diane Edwards, tel 01453 811946.

Please help this fantastic worthy cause. It's also a great day out!!

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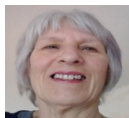
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Village Agent News for June 2015

Hello everyone. This month I have some quite important news about the new Care Act (The Care Act 2014) which represents the biggest reformation of care and support in 60 years and came into action in April 2015. As you can imagine this is a huge document and I can only give you a very brief outline of what it means here.

What does the care act mean for you?

Many of us will need care and support at some point in our lives and most people will pay at least something towards the cost of their care. The new national changes are designed to help you plan for the future and put you in more control of the help you receive. Any decisions about your care and support will consider your wellbeing and what is important to you and your family, so you can stay healthy and remain independent for longer.

You could benefit from the changes if you;
Receive care and support
Support someone as a carer
Are planning for future care and support

If you are interested in finding out more you can phone Healthwatch Gloucestershire on 01452 504989, or look it up on the internet,

careact@gloucestershire.gov.uk or
www.healthwatchgloucestershire.co.uk/the_care_act

Some of you may remember that I recently wrote about the new volunteer befriending service, **Friends For You**. I am pleased to say that the service is now up and running, so if you feel that it might be of interest to you please ring the number below. However, in order for the service to operate successfully they do need volunteers to come forward so if you feel that this is something you could offer please contact them. If you don't have time available to make the commitment of regular visits you may have the time to make one off visits to their clients.

The contact details are:

Sue Black 01452 528491, mobile 07810 630167 or email:

sue.friendsforyou@grcc.org.uk

Hearing Aid Clinic will be held in Marybrook Medical Centre on 30th July from 10.30 to 12. Please phone the surgery for an appointment.

I would like to remind you all that the local U3A group is getting quite established now with eighteen groups meeting regularly. At present the majority of the groups are held in Cam or Dursley but remember that a group can run from anywhere where there is a leader and enough interested people to make up a small group. It would be great to have some more groups being held in the Berkeley and Slimbridge areas. No experience or qualification necessary to start a group, just enthusiasm. Also new committee members would be welcomed. Contact Liz on 01453 890405, or myself if you are interested.

Penny French. Mobile: 07776 245 726.

Email: pennyf@villageagent.grcc.org.uk

Silver Anniversary for Pro Am Tournament

This year marks the 25th Pro Am Tournament to be held at Cotswold Edge Golf Club on Tuesday 23 June. The event is one of the main fundraisers for the Club's chosen Charity each year and since it began a large amount has been raised.

SARA (Severn Area Rescue Association), the Inshore Rescue boat and Land Search organisation covering the Severn Estuary and surrounding area are the beneficiary this year and will be in attendance on the day. They are hoping to display a small lifeboat and landrover at the Golf Club and run a slide show so competitors can see how the money raised will be used.

Cotswold Edge Golf Club are proud of their reputation, among the Region's Professionals and competing teams, as one of the

very best Pro Am Tournaments in the West. Teams of three amateurs plus a PGA Professional selected from the West Region will compete in a medal competition with 2 scores counting on each hole (handicap limit 24 for men and 30 for ladies). The Professional will also compete for a separate prize. Team entry costs £260 and includes refreshments and meal with wine for all participants along with the chance to win some great prizes and all competitors receive a souvenir of the day.

Local businesses are also being encouraged to support the event by advertising in the programme or sponsoring a hole.

Entry and sponsorship forms can be downloaded from the Open Section on the Club's website;

www.cotswoldedgegolfclub.org.uk or by contacting Estelle or Catherine in the office on 01453 844 167.

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OUT AND ABOUT

Nowadays the children's "classroom" extends beyond the school perimeter into both natural and manmade environments which excite, innovate and challenge our young intrepid explorers at Berkeley Primary School.

We are always thinking about how to stretch and challenge developing minds as well as unleashing imaginations. Stepping into a wide world of opportunities beyond our school gates are chances we do not want our children to miss. Consequently, over the next few weeks our children will be travelling to various locations across the country to make new discoveries.

There is always a "buzz" of excitement as the day of the adventure draws near. Year 6 children will be having more than one day of adventure at their long-awaited residential to Warren Barn set in the grounds of Cockingham Country Park, close to Torbay, South Devon. They are set to have five days of 'full-on' fun undertaking activities such as coasteering, raft building, kayaking, fire skills and Bush Survival to name but a few. Most of these children have known each other since pre-school; together they have negotiated the mountains and valleys of primary school life. There have been significant milestones for all of them along the way, but all always look forward to the opportunity of sharing time away together to mark the inevitable close of their primary school careers. These children are no

strangers to residential trips. Two years ago they were the first cohort from the school to visit Cranham Scout Centre. This year it's our lovely Year 4's who have this adventure to look forward to later this month.

The Centre is situated in a lovely Cotswold valley on the edge of the village of Cranham, Gloucestershire. The great outdoors beckons our children to some wonderful adventures, orienteering, dam-building, learning bush and camp craft and archery. This is a unique opportunity to discover new skills and greater independence with the support of friends and teachers from the school. The leaders at the Centre are experienced skilled facilitators who



know their craft and the local area well, ensuring the children get the best from their stay.

A report by the National Trust in 2012 indicated that children in the UK were losing contact with nature at a "dramatic" rate, and as a consequence their health and education were suffering. Video games, traffic and parental fears were identified as factors which encouraged children to stay indoors. Consequently, the Trust suggested launching a consultation on tackling "nature deficit disorder". We have been delighted by the positive comments from children after returning from outdoor centres such

as Cranham and Warren Barn. These experiences have encouraged them not only to appreciate the value of nature, but how much more of their time they want to spend outside. Great news!

The Year1 and 2 children are heading north to the West Midlands to visit the Black Country Living Museum. This open-air museum consists of many rebuilt historic buildings from the local area. The children will be participating in a number of workshops throughout the day giving them a sense of British history, people and traditions - which fits perfectly into the term's theme of "Top Hats & Tea Cups". Younger members of our school family, the Reception children, will be heading to @Bristol where they will be discovering even more about the incredible human body. Perhaps the trip might inspire future surgeons, ophthalmologists and anaesthetists?

Our "Big Day Out" as a whole school will be on the 15th July as we hunt for the many elaborately decorated Shaun the Sheep sculptures around Bristol. We too have our own Shaun the Sheep which will be modelling his own hand-knitted sweater which is soon to be completed. He will initially be displayed in the school reception area however; Shaun wants to show-off his new fashion-statement and is looking for suitable indoor public spaces in Berkeley for the duration of one to two weeks over the school summer holiday, so the people of the Berkeley and further afield can admire his colourful snazzy attire. If you are able to help please contact the school on 01453 810254 or email: admin@berkeley.gloucs.sch.uk.

Berkeley Educational Swimming Trust (BEST)

May Draw

Winner	Anita Allen	Ball No. 48	£25.00
Runner Up	Adrian Aldridge	Ball No. 29	£15.00

The draw took place at the beginning of May by Sarah, of Berkeley Flowers. On behalf of BEST I would like to thank Berkeley Flowers for supporting us.

Gill Badsey, Lottery Manager for BEST

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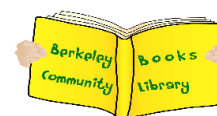
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Photography Competition

Closing Date: 30th June 2015

The winning photographs will be used for our 2016 Calendar

Theme: Berkeley & Area - Colour or Black and White

Size: A4 Landscape

Entry Fee: 50p per photo - no limit to number of entries

Open to: Individuals or Groups/Organisations

Entries should have name, tel. no. & email contact on the reverse of each photo and handed into the Library, in an envelope with the appropriate fee.

Photos will be displayed in the Library.
Parental permission must be obtained for any photo featuring a child/children.



THE GARDEN IN JUNE

June heralds the start of Summertime for me when the garden brings sheer delight with the spiky heads of the Foxgloves in the shady woodland areas and the long flowering herbaceous Geraniums varieties Russell Pritchard and Mavis Simpson both pink with lush foliage. Also Geranium Renardin with its soft sage green leaves and blue flowers giving a carpet to the front of the borders, while the purple drum heads of the stately Allium give out interest in colour and texture and the mop heads of the Paeonia are a contrast of form and shape. One of the oldest varieties is Festiva Maxima with its large white flowers which are flecked with red.

The beginning of the month is the time to plant up patio tubs and containers with all those tender plants which up until now, if you are like me, have filled the greenhouse to bursting point. They will give a colourful display throughout the summer. Try grouping the containers in threes and fives - this will give a pleasing result to the eye.

Dahlias and Chrysanthemums can be planted out now, prepare the soil by adding garden compost or farm yard manure to give richness to the planting area.

Now the soil has warmed up a little, French Beans can be sown directly in the soil outside. Beetroot, Carrots, Autumn Cauliflower, Marrows, Courgettes, Peas and Radish are a few of the vegetables that can also be planted or sown outside now.

Clearing of ponds can be done now, transplanting or dividing congested water lilies and other aquatic plants.

June is the month for sowing biennials to flower next spring or early summer. Wallflowers, Canterbury Bells, Double Daisies, Forget-me-Not and Foxgloves can all be sown in shallow drills on either a spare patch of soil or in the vegetable plot. Space drills about 23cm (9 inches) apart and thin seedlings to 15cm (6 inches) in the rows in July.

Plants like Primroses, Primula Malacoides and Polyanthus are best sown in seed trays in a cold frame. This must be done in early June as the germination is erratic if the temperature starts to exceed 20C (68F) regularly.

Pruning of Escallonia and Ceanothus can be done after they

have flowered. Indoor plants are growing away strongly by now and will need regular watering and feeding. Misting plants with tepid water or standing them in gravel filled trays will help to maintain moist air around the plants. Clean the leaves with tepid water - do not clean them with milk as this will damage the breathing pores which are on the underside of the leaves. As the weather warms up and sun scorch becomes a possibility in the greenhouse paint a shade cover such as Coolshade or Summer Cloud on the outside of the glass or attach netting across the roof on the South side. It is best to water in the early morning in the greenhouse or conservatory. This avoids plants standing in cold water at night and leaves staying wet. Watering in dry spells outside is also important as plants transpire at a greater rate and more moisture is lost from soil by evaporation as the sun's heat increases. Therefore watering needs to be done thoroughly concentrating on newly planted plants, young vegetables and plants in hanging baskets and containers.

Well I must finish now as I only have part of a page to fill but I could use the whole magazine if I were to tell you all the jobs that could be done in June - but may be not - what would I have to write about next time?

Ann Legg



BERKELEY TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

Berkeley Town Football Club has been in existence for over 100 years, local families have been involved for generations.

One of our long serving committee members has decided, after many years of service, to leave his post as secretary for the Club to spend more time with his wife and family. So a big thank you to Alan Dimery for all his hard work with the Club over the years.

We are now actively looking for a new Secretary. If anyone is interested please contact Barbara Phillips on 01453 452709 or any member of Berkeley Town Football Club.

We welcome any one who is interested in being involved with the Football Club.

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A user's guide to a healthy mind

This month's guide looks at fears and phobias. Now we all know what fear feels like. In fact, we can be glad of it in evolutionary terms, as we wouldn't have survived without it. But the question is, whether the fear is appropriate given the actual level of risk or danger?

Phobic responses can be defined as unduly uncomfortable fears, and to a greater or lesser extent will usually present a limitation or problem to the sufferer, which can be easily explained and rectified.

Although we wouldn't necessarily want to do away with our fears completely, we do want to be able to live with them, and remain in control. Available solutions are not about conquering and getting rid of fear entirely, rather it's learning to co-exist with it that's important.

Possible responses to fear include anger, panic attacks, or feeling faint and passing out. So, a few butterflies in the stomach are OK. These can feel very similar to excitement, but when our anxiety goes up too far and we lose control, then maybe we need to take some steps to change that reaction.

Here is what's going on when we suffer from a fear response. Appropriately, in the case of real and present life threatening danger, or inappropriately, as can be the case with harmless spiders or flights abroad to go on holiday, whenever our anxiety goes up, we effectively move from operating within our evolved intellectual brain and instead move into the primitive emotional brain, where our 'survival templates' are stored.

It's also interesting to point out here that where emotional reactions and indeed over reactions are concerned, our minds cannot tell the difference between imagination and reality. If what we did yesterday ensured our survival, we are encouraged to do it again. Importantly, this also includes all the times we thought about that adverse reaction. With this in mind it's clear to see how that inappropriate template became

firmly established.

Did you know that at least 12% of the adult population suffer from a phobic response at some point in their life?¹

Such templates wouldn't stand up to intellectual interrogation, but that doesn't help when the sufferer is in the grips of the phobic response. What happens in the moment is a kind of override. The primitive brain triggers the release of cortisol, which literally blocks intellectual functionality. In the moment, there is no controlling the fear, and this is when over-reactions can occur.

People who suffer from phobias often re-organise their lives to be able to avoid the problem, when what they actually need to do is to build an alternative desirable template.

Local clinical hypnotherapist Liane Ulbricht-Kazan comments: "Phobias can be very debilitating and take over peoples lives. The fear response can even become generalised, and in extreme cases such as agoraphobia or social phobia, then this can amount to feeling anxious when simply thinking about stepping out of the front

door. More specific phobias on the other hand, such as fear of spiders, can be triggered both generally (e.g. whenever a person is in the house) or specifically (only when the person sees a spider). Thankfully, we have a very effective technique for replacing the anxiety response template with one of the customer's choosing, and it can be very quick to offer significant improvement even in extreme cases".

There's a lot more to hypnotherapy than you might think, and neuroscience is making incredible discoveries all the time about how the brain works, and how professionals can help with issues such as phobias. Local hypnotherapist Liane Ulbricht-Kazan works in Berkeley at the Marybrook Medical Centre, as well as Nailsworth Natural Health Centre. To arrange an initial consultation just call 01453 367 870/ 07825 286 550, or check out her website www.ChangesWelcome.co.uk.

¹ The Shackled Brain Griffin/Tyrrell 2001

Berkeley Dig

Have you noticed a number of trays containing bones, pottery and other artefacts appearing in the windows of local shops and businesses and wondered what it was going on? Well wonder no more. The trays have been put together by the students conducting the annual archaeological excavations at Berkeley Castle.

As a way of giving local people and visitors to Berkeley an insight into their work and what they find the students have put together about 20 trays of findings and distributed them through the town for everyone to see. The trays will be on display until the 5th June while the students will continue at the excavation sites until June 13th.

Anyone interested in learning more about the project and following their progress can follow the team on Facebook or Twitter or read the blog at <http://bristololdigberkeley.blogspot.co.uk/>



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People First Policing

Berkeley Neighbourhood Policing Update

Along with our regular day to day work we have been doing some additional community engagement events over the past month. We have visited Jenner Court in Berkeley and given a crime prevention/scam awareness talk to the residents and have been into Berkeley Primary School with lessons on both e-safety and Crime Prevention.

May 2015 has been a particularly low crime related month in Berkeley and the surrounding area especially towards the end of the month.

On the 9th May around 5.20pm, a lady who was in her 20's of slim build and blond hair went into one of the stores on Salter Street and carried out a distraction theft managing to obtain £60 worth of lottery scratch cards and then made off without payment. This was very similar to another theft in the Tetbury area and we believe that both crimes are linked. If you have any information, perhaps you might have been in the area and can recall anything – do let Mike Trebble or Mel Campbell know on 101 and quote the Gloucestershire Constabulary incident of 343 9/5/15.

On the 13th May a property in Purton became a repeat victim

where keys were stolen from a recent burglary and then used a few weeks later to gain access to a rear conservatory door where a handbag was stolen containing £200. The handbag was later discovered discarded in the Sharpness Canal. We are currently working on some CCTV coverage and hope to identify the offenders.

Non-crime wise there have been a few road traffic accidents in the area. One was on the A38 at Berkeley Heath on the 14th May involving 4 vehicles where a person was arrested on scene and another on Alkington Lane on the 22nd May where a lorry driver lost concentration and ended up on the other side of the road then colliding with an oncoming vehicle. Thankfully in both incidents there were no major injuries, however, a reminder to keep speeds down in the area and a further reminder that both of us will continue with roadside speed checks during the coming month.



PCSO MIKE TREBBLE &
PC MEL CAMPBELL.



WI NOTES MAY 2015

What a good turn out we had on such a wet evening and to have a warm smile from our President Judith when we arrived was good.

There is to be a members open day at WI head office in London in December.

Kate Jackson will represent our WI at the Royal Albert Hall at the Centenary Annual Meeting on 4th June when the Queen and Princess Royal will be present. Ann Smith won the place to go to the Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace on 2nd June. The Centennial Fair will be held in Harrogate on September 3rd to 6th at Harrogate International Centre where there will be 200 exhibitors and 150 "hands on"

workshops. Speak Up about Climate Change is to be held on 17th June.

Nearer to home our skittle team are having a practise on Monday June 1st at The Mariners Arms and a match with Benhall is on Wednesday June 17th at

the British Legion at Hardwicke. On 11th July there is a walk at Southam followed by lunch. We are having a stall at Berkeley Fair on 14th June selling produce and craft.

There is to be another Speakers Taster Event on 7th July at St Andrews Church Centre at Churchdown. September 26th and 27th at the Malvern Autumn Show there is to be a "Village Show" – Cook It, Preserve It, Sew It and Craft It. There are to be 15 classes in all for those who would like to enter. The annual Inter Federation Bowls match will be held at Frampton on Severn Bowling Club on Friday 21st August 2-4pm.

The tickets for the Christmas Concert in Cheltenham Town Hall on 2nd December are now on sale. Sol3 Mio are to sing, they will be joined by GFWI choir.

We had to change the speaker for the evening this month. So Charlotte Popesque was introduced to us – the talk being "Keeping Hens in The Garden" She started her talk about her childhood

in the countryside and about the articles she writes for a chicken magazine. She told us that hens make very good family pets but they need shelter with a good hen hut. There are a lot of different varieties such as Rhode Island Reds, Little Sussex, Buff Orpington, and White Leghorns. If you keep more than 50 birds you need a certificate from DEFRA. It is natural for a hen to roost in trees and they like different areas such as grass and dust to have a bath in.

It is illegal to feed kitchen scraps to hens but surplus garden produce is alright but their main feed is hen pellets. In the garden they will eat slugs and snails. They live until they are about 10 years old. There are predators such as badgers and foxes.

After a very interesting talk Charlotte was given a vote of thanks. Our next speaker will be C Addicot on "Fighting Drug Gangs" on 11th June at Berkeley Town Hall at 7.30pm. New members are always welcome.

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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 Editor of Berkeley Flyer,

I have recently been contacted by a number of constituents concerning the closure of the NatWest Branch in Berkeley.

I was very concerned to learn of its closure on polling day from residents, thus have written a letter to Ross McEwan, CEO for NatWest for a review and reconsideration of the decision, a scanned copy is attached for your reference. Please do accept my apologies for the line which appears, unfortunately there seems to be an error with the scanner, and I did not want to delay the letter reaching you.

As this is a local matter, I thought you may be interested to know of my action, and share, as appropriate in the next edition of your paper.

Kind regards,

Neil Carmichael MP

I would like to take this opportunity to express a big thank you to all the people, family and friends, who attended my 60th birthday party at the Berkeley Arms on 24th April.

The amount of goodwill, number of cards and presents given was really overwhelming, very much appreciated and a complete surprise. The whole evening was a really enjoyable and relaxing occasion and thanks for this must go to my wonderful children, Alan, Rachael, Michelle and Vicky, who managed to plan it several months ahead and still keep the details secret. Further thanks must also go to my wife, Sandra and my Mother, Muriel who also managed to keep the secret.

Final thanks go to Tracy and her staff at the Berkeley Arms for making the evening go so smoothly.

Once again thank you one and all.

Derek Sherman

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From: NEIL CARMICHAEL MP

HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Ross McEwan, CEO
NatWest
135 Bishopsgate
London
EC2M 3UR

13 May 2015

Ross McEwan

I am writing to you following a number of complaints I have received from concerned constituents regarding the closure of the NatWest Branch in Berkeley, Gloucestershire.

As I am sure you can appreciate I was very disappointed to have learnt of this branch closure from my constituents on polling day, and not directly from you.

It is evident to me by the number of constituents who have been in contact within the short time since NatWest's announcement that the closure of this branch will have a negative impact on the local community for which it serves. I am particularly concerned regarding the apparent lack of consultation with its users and local community, especially considering the rural location of Berkeley limiting the availability of public transportation to the alternative branches, in Stroud and Thornbury. Whilst I appreciate in a time where technology is progressing forward, and internet banking has a firm and valid place, many customers continue to prefer face to face discussions with their bank representatives, along with a number of transactions which require such dealings.

Despite the suggestion that the Post Office might be able to conduct some of the transactions carried out at the current branch, this solution has raised concern with customers over relevance, privacy and accessibility of the variety of services NatWest currently provide.

In terms of considerations into the future, I am sure you are aware of the plans surrounding Berkeley, including the Berkeley Green University Technical College (UTC), with student figures anticipated in the thousands, a proposed housing development of 863 houses and a holiday resort which is scheduled to bring a minimum of 500 new jobs to the area. All of these changes should only see the branch thrive, rather than diminish, suggesting that it would be extremely premature, and detrimental to your own business interests to make any closure at this time.

Finally, given this NatWest branch is the only bank in Berkeley, it seems the decision to withdraw this service at this site would be short-sighted, and I therefore urge you to require a full review of this proposal and keep this branch open.

Neil Carmichael
@stroud_neil

BERKELEY FORUM *continued*

Dear Editor,

I write to say how shocked I was to learn of the impending closure of the Berkeley Branch of the NatWest Bank. I have been a customer of NatWest since I was 16 years old and have always found the staff in the Berkeley Branch extremely friendly, courteous and helpful. The last word makes a mockery of what is in their customer charter. This is as follows:-

"It's not just words, it's a goal at our very core, guided by four promises that are outlined in our Customer Charter for all to see.

Promises we've created by speaking to customers like you. And that we plan to deliver against by always providing the best quality service, no matter how you bank with us:

We put our customers' needs first

We will listen and then help you find solutions that meet your needs

We make banking easier

We will help you bank with us in the simplest and most convenient way

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We will take personal responsibility when you need support from us

We are fair and honest

We will explain the features and pricing of our products clearly and simply

If you think we have fallen short at any time, we want to know - you can be sure we will always listen and work to put it right."

The following is taken from an article regarding another branch closure:-

In a statement from Jane Howard, Managing Director she says:-

"NatWest branch closures are inevitable - 102 last year, 99 this year - as more customers use online or mobile phone banking.

'The branch network will remain the cornerstone of our banking operation,' she says, 'offering a face-to-face service that many customers prefer.

'But we have to adapt to the way people prefer to do their personal banking.'

She is adamant its closure programme will not be derailed by protests in communities where NatWest pulls the plug on the last bank.

She says: 'What is key is that we provide customers with good leave-behind solutions.'

She also claims the bank speaks both to local councillors and the constituency MP when a branch is earmarked for closure. I certainly hope that the latter point has been done.

I am constantly being sent emails allegedly from NatWest which of course

are scam emails and it is for this reason that I do not trust Online Banking. My husband gets them also and he does not bank with Nat West at all!! I take issue with the comment regarding customers and online or mobile phone banking. Not everyone has a computer, tablet, i phone etc to do their banking. To suggest otherwise is both naive and patronising as is also the comment "the closure programme will not be derailed by protests in communities where NatWest pulls the plug on the last bank"

I have been advised that I use the Post Office as an alternative to going into the branch. One counter inside a shop does not to me define a "Post Office". The other suggestion is to go to the Thornbury Branch. Getting there could be an issue for some people who do not drive and may have to rely on others, or the bus service!

Interestingly when checking to see where the closest branch to Berkeley is, it is listed as LYDNEY, after that comes Thornbury Perhaps they will provide us with some sort of vessel to cross the River Severn!

Sincerely,

Gill Badsey (Long term customer of NatWest)

Dear Ed,

I have no doubt that you will be covering local concerns about the proposed closure of the Nat West Bank in your next edition. I note below the copy of an e-mail I have sent to the banks local CEO. I would encourage as many residents as feel able to register an official complaint either at the branch or directly with Ms Hibbert their local CEO.

Email: Lemara.hibbert@natwest.com or phone 07787 126956 or 0800 404 6161

Dear Ms Hibbert,

I write to protest in the strongest way about your banks proposal to close the Berkeley branch. It is wrong on many levels but I wish to concentrate on just two.

1. The decision will no doubt have been driven by commercial considerations based on historical usage. I have little doubt that Zero consideration has been taken of the fact that there are currently planning proposals in place for some 863 new houses in the area, together with a Centre Parcs style tourism project which the developers say will bring a minimum of 500 new jobs. As a woman undoubtedly well versed in business you don't need me to help you work out the number of tourists needed to support 500 jobs and you don't need me to tell you the impact that these tourists will have on the local economy. In addition a new university college is scheduled to open in 2016/17 on the site of the old

Berkeley Nuclear Power Station. The student numbers are expected to reach four figures, this has been driven by our local MP and has received many millions of government backing. The objective is that it will form the embryo for a new energy focused science park which could see rapid expansion. As a retired management consultant I would point out that a business decision that does not take the scale of this opportunity into account would in my view be to say the least somewhat lacking.

2. I understand that the Government recently requested banks to agree not to close "The last bank in town" Your Berkeley branch is the only bank in town! Given your banks financial reliance on public funds which makes the Government your ultimate boss I would ask you to respect their wishes.

I have copied our MP Neil Carmichael in on this letter and asked him to take the matter up at the highest level.

In the meantime I note that your title is "Local CEO" If this decision has been taken above your level I would be grateful if you would forward this e-mail to the decision maker and I look forward to hearing from whoever that might be.

Regards

Gordon Craig

Stroud District Councillor, Berkeley Ward

BERKELEY FORUM *continued*

Dear Editor,

I would be grateful if through your pages you would allow me to advise regular users of the Tuesday and Thursday buses to Gloucester who might have heard that the onward bus service from Waterwells park and ride to the city centre is to be withdrawn soon. I have been in touch with the County Council and evidently the current service is indeed being withdrawn but it is being replaced with a new service. It is thought that this might mean the bus will run nearer every half hour rather than every 20 minutes between Waterwells and the city centre but it is believed this slight change will have minimum impact on the Berkeley bus which will run exactly as it does now. I hope this information is a relief to the regular users of this service.

Gordon Craig, Stroud District Councillor



The Berkeley Flyer team would like to say thank you to volunteer Margaret Palmer who, after many years of delivering The Flyer to Fishers Road and Forest View Road, has hung up her delivery bag.

Thank you Margaret for all that you have done and we hope that you will enjoy having your copy of the Flyer delivered to you now.

Thanks also goes to Jo for helping to cover the deliveries over the last 6 months and to Althea who has offered to take the delivery area on.

Dear Flyer team

I have been reading the latest edition of the Flyer and notice that there is an error in one of the dates you have given – the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo is on 18th June, not 16th, as stated on page 9. As the Town Council is marking this anniversary, it should get the date right!

I'm not sure if it's your error, or the Council's, but they should be made aware.

**Bin liners give boost to baby newts**

The humble bin liner is proving indispensable for an amphibian keeper rearing newts at WWT Slimbridge Wetland Centre. Jay Redbond has been placing strips of black bin liner in his newts' tanks to act as artificial leaves for them to lay eggs on.

The newts have been readily laying on the liner and the method is helping him retrieve eggs easily to rear them in a safer environment. Jay has found that the bin liner actually works better than fake leaves as the female newts can fold it over easily after laying to protect the eggs.

Jay said: "They say the simplest tools can be the best and this is one of those cases. Using bin bags is perfect as I can easily put the strips in the tank and more importantly remove them without causing disturbance.

"I tend to use the black ones as some newt eggs are sensitive to light. I've been doing it for some time now and I've heard some other private breeders do it."

Baby newts and eggs can be at risk of being eaten by adult amphibians – sometimes even their parents – so it's safest to rear them elsewhere.

Jay is currently rearing two species of newt: Alpine and Crested. Alpine Newts are an invasive species to the UK and can be found in garden ponds. Whereas the Great Crested newt is a native species, which is threatened in the UK due to habitat loss.

The issues of invasive species and the threats facing amphibians are covered in daily talks at WWT Slimbridge in which families can see the amphibians close up.

Jay added: "They are breeding very well this year I keep putting fresh strips of bin liner in and they keep laying more eggs so that's great news. Now we just need to wait and see how many develop into healthy adults.

"So far I've collected about 40 eggs, they are still laying. It will take about three years for them to develop into adult newts."

WWT Slimbridge has the largest collection of amphibians in the UK. To find out more about the collection and the daily talks go to wwt.org.uk/slimbridge

HOVERING OVER TO LYDNEY?

Plans have been drawn up to link Lydney and Sharpness by hovercraft. The £6million proposal has been put together by South Gloucestershire and Stroud College who are opening a new Science and Technology Park campus at the Berkeley Power Station site in 2016.

As well as the hovercraft the proposal includes transport hubs at Lydney and Sharpness. It could mean a 10-minute trip across the river for students, commuters and tourists, carrying up to 50 pedestrians each trip.



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Sevenside Youth Football Club



Every week, almost 100 children between the ages of 4 and 15 from Berkeley and the surrounding villages, can be found gaining new skills and experiences, and having fun with their friends whilst playing for one of the many Sevenside youth football teams.

A small band of coaches and behind the scenes volunteers work with each group of youngsters to give some sort of structure to their passionate devotion to football – whatever the weather! While that can mean a commitment every weekend and the odd soaking, it's all worth it when you see how much every child takes away.

The pinnacle of our year, and main fundraiser, is the annual presentation day where each child receives a small trophy to recognise their efforts before the summer break, and we would love it if you would come and join us. Apart from the football, it's a great day out for you and your family with plenty of entertainment laid on. Bouncy castles, various stalls selling such things as homemade cakes and a few football related competitions to boot (excuse the pun!). Try something tasty from the BBQ, crack open something refreshing, then sit back and enjoy the day.

This year will also see the first coaches/parents 5-a-side competition giving the children an opportunity to see just how good the adults are (or not!). This alone should be quite a spectacle.

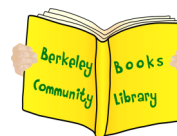
Our presentation day will be held on Saturday June 27th from 11am to 5pm at Canon Park in Berkeley. If you are unable to join us though, raffle prizes are

always useful!

Every age group has had a good year but you may recognise some of our successful under 8's below who have enjoyed another wonderful season and recently were crowned champions on the 2nd of May when they travelled to Tetbury for the Cotswold League Challenge Cup Final. As defending champions all eyes were on them to see if they could retain their trophy, and they got off to a nervy start conceding the first goal, however, in the final quarter with the scores locked at 3-3, Sevenside found what proved to be the winning goal and the delight is plain to see in this lovely picture. It was a fantastic game played in brilliant, sporting fashion by both sides and could easily have gone either way – what a way to end the season! The 4 goals came from Danny Myers, James Tainton and Kieran Bennett (2) and every player was outstanding on the day. A special thank you to Craig Freeman who has done a fantastic job as coach and manager for two seasons now.



Contact Anne Tainton for more info or see our website – www.sevensideyouthfc.leaguerepublic.com
Email – sevensideyfc@hotmail.com or call 01453 511186.



NEWS FROM BERKELEY BOOKS – YOUR COMMUNITY LIBRARY

SUMMER CONCERT:

This is taking place in St Mary's Church on Saturday 13th June starting @ 7.00 p.m. There will be performances by the Cotswold Male Voice Choir and Berkeley Primary School as well as a music recital. Tickets, which are priced at adults £7.50 and £5.00 for senior citizens or children (under 12), are available from the Library, the Coventry Building Society and the Church.

CRAFT FAIR WITH DEMONSTRATIONS:

Also on Saturday 13th June, the Craft Club, which meets in the Library on the last Wednesday morning each month, are having a Craft Fair with Demonstrations, in the Library from 9.30 – 12.00. Refreshments will be available and we will be running a Raffle. The Library will be open as normal.

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION for 2016 Calendar:

The closing date for entries into this year's competition is 30th June. The theme is Berkeley & Area. Photographs should be landscape and the entry fee is 50p. per photograph. On the back of each photograph please put your name, phone no & email together with the location of the photograph.

Berkeley Books - Committee



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BERKELEY PLAYERS REVIEW

Hello Everyone

Time for me to tell you all what's been happening in the wonderfully whimsical world of Berkeley Players.

We were recently treated to an evening of entertainment that covered the entire age range of this talented group of budding thespians. The three plays and other entertainment were purposely cast with the different age ranges in mind.

First up we had 'The Toyshop'. An enchanting short play performed by the youngest members of the Players. A story about a group of toys that come to life and the reality that some children are nicer than others!

I have to say that every single performer was fantastic. Lines had been learned, and every word could be heard right at the back of the Town Hall. It is testament to the backstage crew and the team that prepare these young actors that such a delightful show can be performed by such young people.

Next we had a tale of treasure and treachery on the high seas. With a bit of a nosebleed on the Friday night!

Captain Blackboot's Island by Patricia Wood, was splendidly performed by the slightly older members. With an enthusiastic narrator who got the audience involved from the start, we were transported to a desert island where some treasure had been buried.... Or had it? Once again each cast member seemed at ease on the stage, and I'm sure we will be seeing a lot more of some of these young people in the limelight in future.

A mention must go to Captain Blackboot himself, who on the Friday night gallantly continued to swash his buckle whilst blood dripped profusely

from his nose. Good job the narrator had some tissues handy!

Oh, at this point I should say how fantastic the costumes and lighting were in both plays. A credit again to everyone who helps out backstage. You should be very proud of yourselves.

When I arrived at the Town Hall I was met by two intimidating 'fellows' on the door who asked if I had tickets. Now I have encountered bouncers at various nightclubs during my younger days, but whilst these two looked vaguely familiar, I wouldn't want to argue with them.

It became apparent later that they were part of the older, but not really old members who had written their own short sketch about a team of bouncers at a northern nightclub, and the ups and downs of a normal Saturday night. They all played various parts expertly, even down to the northern accents, and had the audience in stitches. Well done you lot!

Lastly we had the chronologically challenged team, assisted by some of the younger members in the farce 'The Luvvies' by Lynn Brittney.

Based around a pub quiz team, the actors quickly established each character, and there were some strange ones! The slightly camp quiz master, the movie buff who brought a selection of wines, and the very strange lady with the swear box amongst others.

A laugh out loud performance which rang so true to anyone that has been involved in the cut-throat world of the pub quiz team. I must mention the lady who played a member of the opposing team. A very short cameo, but what a riot. You portray a sozzled old dear so well, how do you do it?

That's all folks

See you all soon!

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Do you have something that you would like included in The Berkeley Flyer? Letters and articles can be sent to us by email to editor@theberkeleyflyer.co.uk or you can drop it into the box in the chemist by the 15th of the month. Please make sure you include your name and contact details but we will withhold your name if requested on letters to the Berkeley Forum.



Berkeley Craft Club Craft Fayre & Demonstrations

Saturday, 13th June 9.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m.

Berkeley Books - Your Community Library

Stalls will include jewellery, cards, knitted and crochet goods made by people who are part of our monthly craft club.

There will also be craft demonstrations.

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We hope to see you there to help us make our Second Craft Fayre a great success

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THORNBURY Carnival

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Summer's here and so it's time to think 'Carnival!' and 'How can I get involved?'

You won't be surprised to hear there will be an American theme to the Day, so please come suitably dressed!

The **Parade** starts at Castle School at 10.30am and will be led by **The Band &**

Bugles of The Rifles (Bristol's own Infantry Regiment). Behind them will be a varied mix of **Vehicles** (with some surprises!), **Walking groups** representing the kaleidoscope of organisations that make up our Community, and **Music** to suit all tastes provided by many other Bands and Groups.

The **Carnival Field** will open at 12.00 noon until 5.30pm with three **Performance Stages** running continuous programmes of varied entertainment; a **Field Gun** competition run by the Armed Services; **over 100 Stalls** run by businesses, volunteer groups, charities, clubs and individuals; **Food** to suit all tastes; the **Fun Fair**; **Classic car display**; **The Lawmen** (Western re-enactment group); **Star Wars Garrison** characters roaming the Field;and more.

To join the Parade or take a Stall on the Field, please complete and submit the appropriate entry form on-line on our **Carnival website** at www.mythornbury.co.uk/thornbury/thornbury-carnival as soon as possible.

New for 2015! The Carnival has developed a '**Fringe!**', to broaden the appeal of the Carnival and to accommodate other activities that we lack the time and space to include on the Saturday. We have created a week-long series of 'Fringe events' that will take place from Sat 27 June through to Carnival Day itself. There will be a **SkateFest** at the Skate Park; 10 half-day **Craft Workshops** on a variety of skills held in the St Mary Centre; **Sports activities, demos and taster sessions** at the Leisure Centre; a range of **Pub Games and Competitions** at The Swan, Knot of Rope, The Black Horse and The Anchor at Morton; **Music and Dance** (Country & Western at the Knot, and a Blues /R&B/Rock Night at another location to be confirmed); - the list is still growing at the time of going to print! A full **Schedule of Fringe activities** and our new '**Fringe logo**' is posted on the Carnival website and the schedule will be updated as new events arise.

We see this as a way of offering you, the members, a varied range of Community-based activities and an opportunity to sample and enjoy something different, all under the umbrella of the Thornbury Carnival. Take a look at what's on offer and we hope to see you on more than one occasion during Carnival Week!

THE SALLY BREW SESSIONS

The Salutation Inn, in Ham, Gloucestershire is not resting on its laurels since winning CAMRA's National Pub of the Year Award in February earlier this year. Just a week after the award was presented, the pub had its own 2.5BBL microbrewery installed on site - realising a long held dream of Landlord Pete Tiley.

As well as keeping the pub supplied with its own beer, known as Tiley's, the Salutation is using the brewery to try to stimulate further interest in real ale and brewing by hosting a series of events in conjunction with its favourite local breweries. The pub is inviting breweries such as Bristol Beer Factory, Arbor Ales, Butcombe and Severn Vale to come in and use the brewery to brew special one-off, tweaked versions of some of their flagship beers.

On these special days, which the pub is calling The Sally Brew Sessions, the general public will be allowed in to the brewery so watch the brew take place, ask questions and chat to the brewers as they brew. Each session will end with a few celebratory pints at the bar and some live music and home-cooked food. The beer produced from each session will then be available in a limited edition ten cask run, exclusive to the Salutation.

Bristol Beer Factory are the first up for the Sally Brew Sessions and will be brewing a double-IPA strength version of their American pale ale Independence on Saturday June 6th. Following them, Arbor Ales will take up the challenge on Saturday 15th August, followed by Butcombe Brewery with its new head brewer Stuart Howe on the 3rd October and Severn Vale Brewery on a date to be determined in December.

Landlord Peter Tiley said, "We're thrilled to be hosting some of our favourite breweries here at the Sally and are really excited to see what kind of beers they produce. Like enhanced 'Meet the Brewer' sessions we want to engage people with the process of brewing and hopefully encourage more people to brew and drink real ale. If these sessions go well, we'll be looking to continue with more breweries into the new year."

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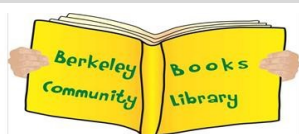
IF YOUR EVENT IS TAKING PLACE NEAR THE BEGINNING OF THE MONTH YOU MAY WISH TO ADVERTISE IT IN THE MONTH PRECEDING SO THAT IF THE DELIVERY OF THE FLYER IS DELAYED EVERYONE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND

Thornbury Orchestra Concert

Thornbury Orchestra presents a lively programme of English music in St Mary's church, Berkeley on Saturday June 6th at 7.30.

Treat yourself to a visit to Berkeley's beautiful church, to hear a full orchestra playing an exciting programme which includes Mars and Jupiter from Holst's The Planets and Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance March no.4 among others.

The concert is free, but there will be a retiring collection in aid of St Mary's Bell Tower Appeal.



BERKELEY BOOKS –Your Community Library

Summer Concert

Given by

Cotswold Male Voice Choir,
Berkeley Primary School Choir
and a Music Recital

in St Mary's Church, Berkeley

Saturday 13th June, 2015 @ 7.00 p.m.

Tickets: £7.50 each Senior Citizen/Children(under 12) £5.00

Available from

The Library and the Coventry Building Society

Refreshments will be available

Profits to be split between the Library and St. Mary's

**FRIENDS OF BERKELEY CASTLE**

Thursday 11th June: Talk on the Battle of Waterloo by Julian Humphrys.
7pm for 7.30pm in the Great Hall.

To mark the bicentenary of the Battle of Waterloo we are privileged to welcome to Berkeley Castle Julian Humphrys, Development Officer for the Battlefields Trust and a regular contributor to BBC History Magazine. Julian will deliver a talk on this decisive battle in European History.

Cash Bar available from 7pm. Gates open at 6.45pm.

£12 for members (£14 non-members/£6 children), please book tickets in advance.

Contact: 01453 810303 or email: friends@berkeley-castle.com

COFFEE AT THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH**SATURDAY JUNE 13TH**

10.00 until 11.30am

We shall be having our coffee morning as usual in June.

Come along and enjoy our home made cakes and drink your fill of tea and/or coffee. It will be good to see you.

Please make a note in your diaries that we shall not be having coffee mornings in July or August because of the summer holidays. We shall be back again with open doors on Saturday September 12th. We shall keep you updated via The Flyer.

For any enquiries please call Dawn (810494) or Grace (811138)

**GARDEN OPEN DAY Sunday 19th July 1-5pm**

Bob & Lynne are opening their garden for the 5th year for our local S.A.R.A. lifeboat charity.

Do come and join us and enjoy the delicious homemade cakes/teas whilst exploring the one and a half acre well stocked informal garden with wildlife pond, lots of places to explore and lovely views across the Severn. There will be plants for sale.

Everyone welcome, we will be delighted to see you at: Panthurst Barn, Sanigar Lane, Nr Newtown, Berkeley GL13 9NH.

Signs on the day, at bottom of the bypass.



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**This month at Dr Jenner's House**

The museum is 30 years old! To celebrate, the Trustees and Staff invite you to join them in a:

"Summer Evening Celebration"

with light refreshments and music

5-8pm on Thursday 25 June

Free Entry

(Please RSVP by Friday 19 June)



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info@edwardjenner.co.uk

www.jennermuseum.com

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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

Beavers/Scouts - Scout HQ., Park View

Beaver Scouts, 6 to 8 years old

4.30pm to 5.30pm.

Scouts 10½ to 14 years old

7.00pm to 8.30pm

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

Line Dancing/Ballroom Dance Class

Hamfields Leisure

7.00pm to 9.00pm

Contact Daphne 01453 826034

Skylarks Community Choir

Town Hall,

7.10 - 9pm Term Time only

All welcome

Cub Scouts - Scout HQ. Park View

8 to 10½ years old

6.00pm to 7.30pm

WEDNESDAY

Craft Club—Berkeley Library

Last Wednesday of the month.

10.30am-1.30pm. Bring along

whatever project you are working on.

£2.00 all welcome

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 (the week of recycling)

£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

Past-Times Café

Marybrook Medical Centre

Chat, Crafts, and tea. 2.00pm

THURSDAY

Bingo - Sharpness Village Hall

from 7.30pm contact Jimmy Thomas

01453 811339

Coffee Morning

Thursdays, Union Church Schoolroom

10.00 - 11.00am

Berkeley Players Rehearsals

Town Hall, Thursdays

7.00pm Youngsters / 8.30pm Adults

Circuit Training/Keep Fit

Hamfields Leisure

6.30pm - 7.30pm

Contact Jess Efford 07866 255325

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

Coffee Morning

Every 2nd Saturday of the month

10.00-11.30 at The Evangelical Church

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)

Quiz Night

Mariners Arms Berkeley. 8.30pm start



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YOUR BACK PAGE RECIPE

Oh yes indeed, this country has been built on the ethos of epic awesomeness..... Duderino's! The whole place has a sense of belonging to all those souls who search for that adrenaline rush. The landscape is pure, untouched conservation in overdrive. We really are in Middle Earth's backyard here.

From the volcanic landscapes in the north with the lakes Rotorua and Taupo to skydive over. To the southern alpes with their picturesque beauty, the sounds and fjords (what's the difference again Mike?) to Lake Waneka.... Which again, you can skydive over, New Zealand is truly an inspiration. I've been inspired to jump out of planes, rock climb to dizzy heights, bungy jump from dizzy heights, canyoning canyons and mountain biking down, well, mountains. I really have embraced, and utterly quenched this mid life crisis. Without, I hasten to add buying an expensive fast motor bike.

Travelling around these islands we were lucky enough to stay with family and friends who work or who have emigrated to NZ. Being able to stay a little longer in some places really gave us a true understanding of life out here on the other side of the globe. I wrote this from the wonderful town of Waneka. We did some amazing hiking or tramping as it's known here. We hooked up with one of Han's good friends from the hotels she used to work in France. Ladies and gentlemen I'd like to introduce you to Hammy. Hammy is a top Chef in the town which serves as the main hub for the surrounding ski fields. "The great thing about working out here in NZ is the nature of our massive tourist industry brings in lots of travelling chefs. This has nurtured a real fusion approach to the way we cook."

Alrighty then Hammy, seeing as we are in the chef brotherhood and our camper van is parked on your driveway. Let's cook. Watcha gonna make us bro?

Hammy proceeds to cook up a storm. It takes him around 40 minutes. A dish with Spanish roots from his time working there. A dish with a Moroccan twist because he loves 'hippy rice' or cous cous if you like. A dish with one of the nicest salad accompaniments in my living memory. Let's make Hammy's Pollo pimiento con Chorizo alla crema with spiced cous cous and an orange, feta and baby leaf salad.

YOU WILL NEED:

5 skinless and boneless chicken thighs. Easy enough to prep. Pull the skin off and with a sharp knife carefully cut out the little leg bone. Then cut the chicken into nice bite size pieces.

200g of chorizo. Try and get the whole sausage instead of the pre sliced stuff. Peel off the skin, then slice and slice again so we are left with little half moons of chorizo.

A pot of single cream, about 150 ml should do nicely.

2 tsp paprika, smokey if you like.

1 white onion finely chopped, 1 red onion finely chopped.

2 cloves garlic crushed.

175g cherry tomatoes. Slice those beauties in half.

3 green chillies. De-seed and slice.

So folks. Let's get all these ingredients prepped and in jazzy little bowls ready for the main event..... But first we need to turn our attention to the salad and cous cous.

For the salad you need:

100g feta. Cut it up.

1 orange. Peeled and segmented and

1 bag of mixed baby leaf salad. Dead easy now. Pop the leaves in a salad bowl with a sprinkle of our red and white onion. Toss in half the cherry tomatoes and give it a gentle mix. Finish the salad off by placing the orange segments and feta pieces on top.

Bang it in the fridge..... Job done.

For the cous cous you need:

10 sundried tomatoes, cut em up nice and thin.

1 1/2 cups cous cous,

pinch salt, pinch of pepper, 1tsp cumin, tsp turmeric,

1 chicken stock cube or veg stock cube depending which way you swing,

1 1/2 cups boiling water.

Again folks, nicely does it here. Get your cling film ready! Put the measured cous cous in a bowl. Add the spices, seasoning and stock cube of your choice, then stir in our sundried toms. Mix it with a fork then add the measured boiling water. Give it a quick stir ensuring the cous cous is wet then cover tight with cling film and put in your fridge for a bit later. Hammy's tip here is to make sure you add the same amount of water to the same amount of cous cous.

Let's cook up the chicken. This is a great one pot dish. In a pan on a medium heat add a little olive oil to which we sweat off the garlic, onions, chillies, the rest of the cherry tomatoes and then the paprika. Next throw in the chorizo and if you bought a good quality sausage, watch those oils release. Keep these ingredients moving in that pan...add a little more oil if needed. Bung in the chicken. Let's make sure it's coated in all the wonderful flavours in that pan. When the chicken is nicely seared...add the cream. Stir stir stir... And..... Reduce. Our creamy sauce will thicken as it reduces. Season to taste and simmer away for around 10 to 12 minutes.

Bonzington.... Ready to serve. Get the placemats out. Get the salad out of the fridge. Retrieve the cous cous and fork as if "You

were raking leaves." Patience are virtuous here. Get all three of these dishes on your table and you are good to go.....Family style. It should look something like this. This feast fed six hungry peeps after a gnarly couple of rounds of Frisbee golf. It's what all the cool kids are doing in Waneka you know!



NEXT TIME: I hood wink Hammy to letting go of a great recipe..... Savoury muffins. Whoa! Hold tight..... They are blooming epic.

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