

HOMEMADE CHRISTMAS PUDDING

Well, Christmas is less than 2 months away and so it's now the time to start thinking of making your Christmas pudding. This pudding is best made in advance so that it can mature.

Traditionally Christmas puddings are made on 'Stir it up Sunday' which falls on November 25th this year. Or you can simply go to the shop and buy one, but nothing will taste as good as homemade (unless you get it completely wrong!)

What you will need:

450g dried mixed fruit (sultanas, raisins & currants)

75g glacé cherries

25 g mixed candied peel, finely chopped

1 small cooking apple, peeled, cored and finely chopped

Grated zest and juice ½ large orange and ½ lemon

4 tbsp brandy (or rum or whisky) plus a little extra for soaking at the end

55 g self-raising flour, sifted

1 level tsp ground mixed spice

1 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon

110 g shredded suet

110g soft, dark brown sugar

110 g white fresh bread crumbs

25 g whole almonds, roughly chopped

2 large, eggs

And this is how you do it:

Lightly butter a 1.4 litre (2½ pint) pudding basin.

Place the dried fruit, candied peel, apple, orange and lemon juice into a large mixing bowl. Add the brandy (or whisky or rum) and combine. Cover the bowl and leave to marinate for a couple of hours, preferably overnight.

Mix together the flour, mixed spice and cinnamon in a large bowl. Add the suet, sugar, lemon and orange zest, bread crumbs, nuts and stir again until all the ingredients are well mixed. Finally add the marinated dried fruits and stir again.

Beat the eggs lightly then add to the dry ingredients. The mixture should have a fairly soft consistency.

Spoon the mixture in to the greased pudding basin, gently pressing the mixture down with the back of a spoon. Cover with a double layer of greaseproof paper or baking parchment, then a layer of aluminium foil and tie securely with string.

Place the pudding in a steamer set over a saucepan of simmering water and steam the pudding for 7 hours. Make sure you check the water level frequently so it never boils dry. The pudding should be a rich, deep brown colour when cooked.

Carefully remove the pudding from the steamer and cool completely. Remove the paper, prick the pudding with a skewer and pour in a little extra brandy (or whisky or rum). Cover with fresh greaseproof paper and retie with string.

Store in a cool dry place until Christmas day.

The pudding has to be made in advance, it really does need to be stored and rested then reheated on Christmas Day. Eating the pudding immediately after cooking will cause it to collapse and the flavours will not have had time to mature.

On Christmas day reheat the pudding by steaming again for about an hour. Left over Christmas pudding can be reheated by wrapping tightly in aluminium foil and heating through in a hot oven.



THE BERKELEY FLYER

ISSUE NUMBER 205

"For and about the people of Berkeley"

November 2012 Price 20p

BERKELEY BOOKS – YOUR COMMUNITY LIBRARY OPENS 6th NOVEMBER

Following Gloucestershire County Council's decision to close our library as part of the Government cuts Berkeley Library became a Community Library on the 1st November and will now be run by an enthusiastic group of eager volunteers. Our volunteers have been busy training to take over the role in the Library during October and are now ready to take on the challenge.



We have also been working hard decorating the outside of the Library ready for when we open the doors on Tuesday 6th November. The library is in a pretty bad state of repair as little money has been spent on the fabric of the building since it opened and so volunteers have used their expertise and a small amount of funding to smarten it up and make it as watertight as possible until suitable alternative premises can be found.

The library will be closed on Friday 2nd and Saturday 3rd November to allow for the interior decorating to take place. If you have some time to spare and can help us decorate please contact Margaret Tayler as the saying goes; many hands make light work!

"We have changed our opening hours"

The new Community Library will be staying open during the lunch hours and will now be open:

Tuesdays and Fridays 10.30 – 4.30

Saturdays 9.30 – 12.30

A brand new website has also been set up; Berkeleybooks.org.uk which gives full information about the Library. Library Events will be advertised via this website, on the library notice board and in The Berkeley Flyer. Local Events can also be advertised on our Notice Board in the Library and there will be links to local websites..

Shortly we will be adding a new stock of books but do please remember to continue to bring in your existing library cards if you wish to take a book out.

So that the Community Library can continue to run successfully we have to raise funds to make this happen. The first of these fund raising events will be a Grand Draw. The first prize is £100 although we have over 20 other prizes which have generously been donated by our local

traders. The draw will take place during our Official Opening on Saturday 15th December. Please help to support your library by buying draw tickets, which will be available in the library, local shops and from the volunteers.

Do come in and see us and make use of your Community Library, we look forward to meeting you. If you would like to help, or have any ideas on how to improve the library, please contact Margaret Tayler at margarettayler@btinternet.com or on 01453 819249.

Berkeley Books
Your Community Library Committee



Berkeley Pharmacy

will be offering flu jabs at a cost of £12.00 from 5th November
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REMEMBER, REMEMBER...

PDSA’s Ten Top Tips to help pets cope with their fear of loud noises

- Never take your pet to a firework display
- Keep pets indoors at night and close all windows, doors, curtains and cat flaps
- Ignore the noises yourself as pets will pick up on your anxiety, which can in turn add to theirs.
- Don’t shout or punish your pet as this will add to their anxiety.
- It may help to put some music on, preferably something with repetitive drumbeats.
- Make sure there are places where your pet can hide if they want to. Make a den by draping a blanket over a table or from cushions positioned behind a chair so your dog or cat can feel secure. Cats feel most secure when in an elevated location, so give them access to an enclosed bed placed safely on shelving or a bookcase.
- Make sure your pet is in a safe environment so that it does not bolt or escape if frightened by a loud noise.

- Have your pet micro chipped to improve the chances of you being re-united with them should they run away.
- Ask your vet about using natural pheromone diffusers that give off comforting scents and can decrease anxiety.

If you are having your own bonfire night celebrations, always check beneath the bonfire just before you light it to make sure there are no cats or hedgehogs hiding under it.

Thornbury Round Table

Bonfire & Fireworks

Saturday 3rd November

Mundy Playing Fields

Gates open 5.30pm

Children's display 6.30

Bonfire lighting 7.10

Main display 7.40

Gate prices £5.00 Adults £3.00 Children



SAFETY TIPS FOR BONFIRE NIGHT

Fawkes Night on November 5th is an ancient tradition originally intended as a celebration of the failure of Guy Fawkes and his co-conspirators to blow up Parliament and King James I in particular. Although the history is largely forgotten, taking the opportunity to gather the family round a blazing fire and watch a fire work display is still popular. Fire Safety is paramount and many accidents can be avoided by good preparation and some common sense. Here are some tips to ensure an enjoyable and safe bonfire night.

- First of all consider attending an organised event rather than risking your safety by having a garden bonfire.
- If you do have a home bonfire warn

your neighbour’s beforehand as a courtesy or better still invite them to the party, so they are less likely to complain.

- It’s a good idea to wear protective clothing if you are in charge of the fire. Flame retardant Overalls, sturdy boots and flame resistant leather rigger gloves are inexpensive safeguards and are useful the year round.
- Only burn dry material as damp fuel generates more smoke and never burn plastics or car tyres as they can produce highly toxic gases.
- Build your bonfire away from sheds, timber fences, trees and any overhanging cables or telephone wires
- Use firefighters to get the fire going. Petrol and paraffin may flare up and can get out of control quickly

- Use a fire bucket filled with sand to light your fireworks and launch rockets. At the end of the night the sand can be used to smother the fire.
- Have a water fire extinguisher handy or a connected garden hose with a spray attachment nearby in case of emergencies.
- Set up a cordon to keep children well away from the bonfire
- Don’t throw any fireworks into the fire even if you believe they are spent.
- Sparklers are fun but can be dangerous to small children. Always supervise them and provide a bucket of water to dunk the spent sparklers after use.

Advice taken from the Fire and Safety Centre Website

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YOU’LL LIKE THIS!

If you go to Rockhampton Village Hall on the evening of Saturday 24 November you will hear people saying "How did he do that?" or "Where did that come from?" or "Where did he put that?" The reason? Barry Smith, a local Thornbury magician and Member of the world famous Magic Circle, will be putting on a magic show called ‘A TOUCH OF MAGIC’ when he will be entertaining the audience in his own inimitable style, ably assisted by his wife Sue. Astonishment will be the order of the evening as Barry astounds the audience with his magical skills, eloquent patter, interesting facts, comedy and magical feats.

As magical entertainment is rarely seen in Rockhampton, this event will surely be popular and a crowd pleaser. The magic show is geared towards adults and children over 12 to 92 years. There will be a variety of magic tricks including predictions, rope tricks, card tricks, illusions and much more, along with audience participation.

‘A TOUCH OF MAGIC’ will be performed one night only, on 24th November. The performance starts at 7.30 pm and will finish around 10 pm., the bar opens 7pm. Tickets, costing £10 for adults and £5 for children include a fish and chip

1st Berkeley Scout Group

Christmas Card Local Post

Christmas Card Collection Points

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supper (sausage and chips for children) and are available now by calling Roger Watkins on 01454 260530.

Do not delay in securing your ticket, as they will go quickly, especially as there is limited seating. So come and join in the fun and mystery by enjoying this fascinating evening of magic.

RACE NIGHT

Fundraising for the Berkeley Players

Friday 16th November
at the Berkeley Arms
7.30pm

£20.00 to sponsor a race and £5.00 for each horse
Come along on the night and enjoy a flutter and all the excitement of a day at the races

Last year was such a success and enjoyed by all, so make a note in your diaries.

For further information please contact
Lisa Higgins
01453 511902

Sharpness Hobbies, Arts and Crafts Community Group

Sharpness Village Hall

Every Saturday from 9-10am Football skills with Tim Lansdown a CRB checked level1 FA coach.

Then 10am-12.30pm Hobbies arts and crafts.

Also on Tuesdays 3.30-6pm Hobbies arts and crafts and football skills 3.45pm-4.30pm.

Only £1 for both of these activities and you don't have to do both. We offer tea, coffee, squash and toast. Open to anyone from anywhere of any age or ability.

Bring your own project or make use of the many materials provided. You are welcome to join us just for refreshments and friendly chat.

**BERKELEY PRIMARY SCHOOL OUTDOOR
CHRISTMAS MARKET
30 November
6-8 pm
Berkeley Primary School Playground**

Please come along and browse the beautifully lit market stalls. You'll be spoilt for choice with a plethora of gifts for all ages from tantalising cupcakes, jams and chutneys, tree decorations, owls (if it's en vogue, it's in Berkeley!)....and so many more.

There will be hot food, mulled wine, a well-stocked barall under a haze of falling snow...guaranteed by virtue of the Snow machine. You can soak up the atmosphere listening to the sounds of Berkeley Primary School Choir, or try your hand at Guessing.... How many sweets in the jar?, How heavy is the cake?, What's the name of the rag-doll?, How much beer can the Berkeley dads consume in 2 hours?

Look out for the special guest too – Yep, Father Christmas will be paying a visit.

All Berkeley residents and their friends and family are welcome-wrap up warm and join us for an atmospheric shopping evening. Everything available to buy on the stalls has been created or donated by pupils, staff, friends and families of Berkeley Primary school.

All proceeds to Berkeley Fund raising Group (comprising Berkeley Primary School PTA and Berkeley Swimming Pool).

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

Bingo in Sharpness Village Hall
Thursdays 7.45 pm

Exercise Classes in Scout Hut
Wednesdays 10.30 am to Noon

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

Slimming World
Town Hall, Tuesdays - 6pm

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

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

Berkeley Local History Society
3rd Tuesday of the month, 7.45pm, Library

Over 60's Friendship Group
Mariners Arms
4th Thursday of the month
2pm – 4pm

Bingo in the Mariners Arms
Fridays from 3pm

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

Kingshill, Dursley

Town Planning & Finance Meetings
2nd Tuesday of the month

Town Council Meeting
3rd Monday of the month

Berkeley Brownies
Tuesdays The Brownie Hut
6.00-7.30pm

Berkeley Rainbows
Fridays The Brownie Hut
4.15pm—5.30pm

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

Belly Dance Classes
Berkeley Arms Hotel

Thursdays 7-8pm Beginners
8.15 - 9.15pm Improvers

Coffee Morning
Thursdays, Union Church
Schoolroom
10.00 – 11.30am

Little Fishes Music Group
Berkeley Union Church
Fridays 9.15 am -11.00 am
Term time
Free (no meeting on 26/10)

Knit and Natter
Town Hall 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Weds fortnightly (7th & 21st November)

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

'MADE IN BERKELEY'

CRAFT FAIR &

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OPEN STUDIO

Saturday 17th November

Berkeley Town Hall &

TomatoJack Arts Studio,

White Hart Court, High Street.

9.30 am – 12 pm

Lots of new stalls!

Refreshments and raffle provided by Berkeley Scouts.

**BERKELEY PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWS**

It's hard to believe that we are now at the beginning of November and the 2012-13 school year is in full swing. An exciting buzz fills each classroom as new discoveries are being made through each child's learning journey. To witness this is a pleasure and staff consider it a real privilege as they watch the children grow and develop as they engage in the adventure of learning. It's a great place to be!

Berkeley Primary is forever changing and developing to ensure that our children get the best possible learning experience. Experience will ensure that they develop a secure foundation of essential skills and knowledge as they progress in their educational careers. Our aim is to nurture and cultivate the gifts and talents which are in each and every child at the school. A tall order you may be asking yourself; not if there is a belief that every child matters. With this in mind the staff have planned and prepared a rich curriculum which every child in the classroom can access, feel sufficiently challenged and gain a sense of achievement from. For example, the pre-school children have begun to develop an understanding of the work of a vet as a result of Mr Knott, a practicing vet, who kindly gave up his time to share with the



children the essential work of caring for our beloved pets, whether they are four-legged, feathered or otherwise. However, the older children in Year 5 have had their attention on all things science. During their trip to @Bristol have been uncovering, amongst other things, the world of the forensic scientist. The highlight for these boffins involved solving a crime by taking DNA tests and fingerprints. If you wanted to solve the mystery of who took the last chocolate biscuit from the cookie jar the Year 5 children would have all the knowhow to solve the crime!

Sharing ideas is a great way to learn, not only for the children

but the staff too. To this end Berkeley Primary School is involved in what is known as the Comenius Programme. This is an initiative which enables teachers from schools across Europe to establish links, and discover the creative ways in which fellow professionals from other cultures enrich the learning of pupils they are responsible for. The learning acquired by staff then has obvious benefits for the inquisitive minds of the young children, especially in relation to



developing and understanding knowledge of European cultures and languages. To this end we will have the pleasure of receiving teaching professionals from France, Finland and Sweden over a period of five days at the beginning of December. The team will be exploring the effect of landscapes through Art. This British Council lead and financed programme will involve staff from Berkeley visiting the aforementioned professionals in their home countries to investigate how this aspect of education is delivered in their home country.

One aspect of life which is celebrated in most cultures is the thanksgiving and celebration of the harvest. On Friday 19th October all children and staff at the school made the short journey to St Mary's Church, a fitting setting for such an occasion. Each class provided a song, poem or prayer, which give their unique note on what harvest means to them. Later on, in the afternoon, parents and other members of the community were invited to our Open Afternoon. We always welcome visitors, but on this occasion flung open the door to every classroom to give visitors the opportunity to see where Little Jesters begin their learning journey and then experienced a walk through the following seven years of fun and success! Those who joined us for this journey were able to enjoy the beautiful mosaic especially made for Little Jesters. All appreciated the opportunity to have a glimpse into the life of a lively local primary school.

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theWI INSPIRING WOMEN

At October's monthly meeting President, Vicki Young, welcomed seven new members, following a successful open meeting in September.

The business of the meeting was dealt with and items covered included an update on the planting of a tree to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee; the Autumn Group Rally at Coaley on the 31st October, and competition entries; the craft afternoon at Elaine's home on Thursday 18th October; and our new website at www.berkeleywi.com.

Our speaker, Mrs Glenda Ford, County Vice Chairman, was welcomed along with her assistant, Judy, who were going to give us a cooking demonstration entitled 'Autumn Comfort Recipes'. To start a delicious leek and pin meal soup was prepared, followed by a no meat risotto, flavoured with butternut squash, parsnip and red pepper, with coriander and cheese added to finish. It was served with a herb and onion soda bread, very nourishing. Three puddings were then made, a sticky toffee pudding, a

roasted pear and ricotta pudding and finally a tartlet with lemon curd and lavender, very tasty. All were sampled by members and Glenda and Judy were thanked by Margaret Wozencroft for a very enjoyable evening.

Results of the monthly competitions were - Flower of the month - First, Chris Day, Second, Margaret Glastonbury, Third, Julie Adams. 'An apple dish' First Ann Smith, Second Julie Adams, Third Chris Day.

Our next meeting is our Annual General Meeting on Thursday, November 8th at 7.30pm when the Village Agent will be giving us a short talk about her work. New members very welcome

DID YOU KNOW?

Fireworks became very popular in Great Britain during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. William Shakespeare mentions fireworks in his works, and fireworks were so much enjoyed by the Queen herself that she created a "Fire Master of England." King James II was so pleased with the fireworks display that celebrated his coronation that he knighted his Fire Master.

FOR ALL THE CRAFTY PEOPLE OF BERKELEY

The Scrapstore in Gloucester is **the** place to find materials, art supplies etc and to get inspiration—it has everything you need to deliver activities for your community group. Why not check them out on www.grcltd.org/scrapstore

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Disabled Parking Bays in Berkeley

If you are a Blue badge holder or regularly drive a car for someone with a disability, we need YOUR help, please.

Several local people have told us they find difficulty using the parking bay outside the baker's shop. Parallel parking is not everyone's forte and the space is often shortened by other users inadvertently parking inside the designated box.

On behalf of the Town Council, I have talked to Gloucestershire Highways about the possibility of creating two new disabled parking spaces, one either side of the entrance to Ali-Kebab's premises. Because of the extra space, it would be easy to drive forward or reverse into the parking areas. Drawings showing the planned spaces will be on display in the Town Hall window.

Before making any decision, Highways need to be sure the changes are what people would like to see so please help us by either writing to me at the Town Hall or emailing lizzie.ashton123@btinternet.com

Thank you,
Cllr Liz Ashton

The Youth Club is here!

After possibly the longest gestation on record, our new Youth Club starts after half-term! The club, which is part of the South of Stroud Youth Partnership, is being run for us by Young Gloucestershire.

The sessions will be held in Canon Park Pavilion with Youth Leaders Vix and Luke.

Our Youth Forum is also now up and running, thanks to the support of Stroud District Council and the help of wonderful Jemma Grieve, on holiday from her new home in Australia. More about this in next month's Flyer.

More good news: plans for the new skate park are going ahead thanks to the sterling efforts of Thomas Ambury, his Dad and friends.

This week we had fantastic news from Philip Curtis that the late Berkeley Playgroup has generously decided to donate more than £2000 towards the scheme. We are all really grateful for their support and that of our local community, in helping restore social and leisure activities our young people lost as a result of cuts in local authority spending.

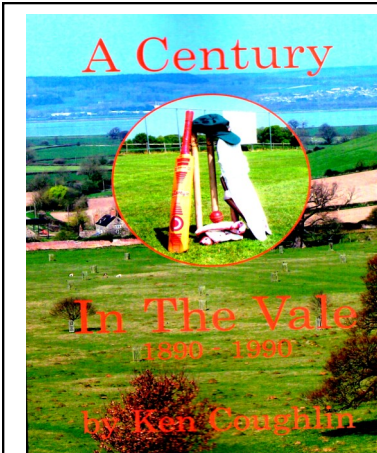
Thank you all very much.

Liz Ashton
Berkeley Town Council

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The Berkeley Flyer accepts no responsibility for the accuracy of these telephone numbers



"Ken Coughlin of Brookend has finally completed a book on local cricket history Titled "A CENTURY IN THE VALE" It is available, in time for Christmas, from the author on 01453 810657 priced £12.50

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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

Mary Rossiter 1920 –2012

Paul and Judith are so very grateful for the love and care that Berkeley people gave to their mum. Her special friends; Joyce, Sandra and Sherree kept such a close eye on her wellbeing. Her visits to The Mariners and Perfect Blend were real treats where she received the warmest of welcomes. She loved going to her "club" in Sharpness on Friday afternoons, and the Jenner Court lunches gave her another opportunity to meet up with friends. The chemist provided a regular service, ensuring her medication was always available. The surgery responded with kindness to her calls for help and she greatly valued the personalised care that Dr Walsh gave her.

Of those not mentioned here, and there are many, we also valued your contribution to making mum's last few years in Berkeley full of lively interest

Please accept our heartfelt and grateful thanks for all your kindness

I've noticed that the Police haven't submitted any updates to the flyer lately. I do hope this isn't because of the views expressed by one local shop owner. I for one am very happy with the policing in Berkeley and want them to know this.

N Gaw

I would like to thank everyone for their good wishes and cards sent to me on my move from Berkeley. Thank you all so much.

Mary Edwards

Regrettably, due to circumstances beyond our control, we have had to cancel the Christmas Fayre in the Market Place this year. We are hopeful that we will be able to hold the event next year in early December.

Christmas Fayre Committee

I looked out onto the football field at Station Road this morning 14th October to witness a lovely site, youngsters playing a football match, there were several parents and supporters watching, I am not sure what the final score was but the game looked very enjoyable. How lovely to see this going on as we do seem to have lost a lot of the community spirit. So congratulations to all who are organising this activity for the younger generation. I am sure BTFC would only be too pleased to help should you require our help.

Barbara Phillips
Secretary for the Fund Raising Committee for BTFC

What a wonderful sight on the 13th and 14th October to see 30-40 young boys playing soccer at Berkeley Football field. Saturday 13th was a training session ran by very enthusiastic adults. This was followed the following day with Berkeley v Slimbridge friendly match. Both teams enjoyed every minute and the game ended 8 goals each, a fair result.

Good luck to Stuart and Anne Tainton and all the helpers running this very Junior football team and it was a great pleasure to see all the parents of both teams supporting the boys.

All the best for the future and I hope all the boys become future stars, whichever team they wish to play for.

Tony & DI Edwards

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Each year the people of Berkeley have provided Christmas Gifts for some of the world's poorest children through the Shoe Box Appeal and, for your support again this year a huge THANK YOU!

We will be collecting in the gift-filled Shoe Boxes from Monday 5th November – Sunday 11th November.

Please take them to any of the following Drop-Off Points :

Monday 5th – Friday 9th, Berkeley Primary School

Thursday 8th, Berkeley Union Church "Coffee Spot" 10 - 11.30am

Saturday 10th, Berkeley Evangelical Church "Coffee Morning" 10 – 11.30am

Sunday 11th, St Mary's Church, 11am Service

If you have any questions please contact :

Grace King 811138 or Alice Price 511161

shoebboxes@familyprice.com

BEST (Berkeley Educational Swimming Trust)**OCTOBER DRAW**

Winner	Anita Allen	Ball No. 5	£30.00
Runner Up	Olga Wolstenholme	Ball No.53	£20.00

Berkeley Friendship Club For the Over 60's

The new Berkeley Friendship Club met in September and welcomed 2 new members. We then enjoyed a moment to music session with Extend teacher Barbara Weldon. One member said "we were moving our arms and legs every which way we could and felt quite rejuvenated afterwards"

Over refreshments we discussed the up and coming programme for the year, possible outings and Christmas arrangements. In November we will be welcoming World Jungle with African music and dancing to enjoy and maybe join in!

We meet on the 4th Thursday of every month at The Mariners Arms

New members always welcome, just turn up. "No strangers here, only friends that have no met yet"

For more information call Barbara Weldon at People For You on 01453 543084.

The draw took place at the beginning of October by a member of staff at The Marybrook Medical Centre.

On behalf of BEST I would like to thank The Marybrook Medical Centre for displaying a poster for the lottery.



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Berkeley Players

Hello Everyone

Well the nights are drawing in, and we've put our heating on.

This can only mean one thing. Yes, dear reader we are now in full rehearsal mode for our spectacular annual pantomime,

ALADDIN, by John Morley, will be Adults £6.00
Children / Senior Citizens £4.00

performed at the Town Hall on December 6th, 7th and 8th at 7:30pm with a matinee show on Saturday the 8th at 2:30pm.

This extravagant Eastern enactment is sure to tickle your turban, and get your genie feeling genial. Early indications are that it promises to be our best ever panto, and will be a fun packed evening for the whole family. Tickets will be on sale from November 24th from Berkeley Pharmacy.

Get your tickets early as they do sell out quickly.

However, there is plenty to do before Aladdin hits the stage.

November 16th sees the return of our immensely popular **Race Night**. Again, this takes place at the Berkeley Arms Hotel, and starts at 7:30pm. A fantastic night out for all you grown-ups out there. If it's anything like last year it will be a night to remember!

See you all soon.

A NEW AND EXCITING COMMUNITY CHOIR COMES TO BERKELEY

A new, exciting community choir, The Skylarks, has started in Berkeley at White Hart Court. The group meet on a Tuesday evening from 7.15-9.00pm.

This group is for you whether you've sung in a group before or perhaps if you've not had the confidence to join a choir. We will start with simple songs and as you become more experienced we can start to work on some more challenging music.

You don't need to read music, but enthusiasm and willingness to learn is essential! We want to have fun covering everything from gospel to folk songs, some easier pop, classical and modern pieces.

We've already been asked to sing at events so we're working on lots of entertaining music right now!

Catherine Jones, who runs the group, is a very experienced musician and teacher, studied music at Cambridge University.

So if you have EVER thought you might like to have a go, here's your chance to meet new people, have fun and express yourself through your voice. For more information contact us on 07831 658262.

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Stroud & District CAB Urges People to Claim Free Heating Help

Local charity Stroud & District Citizens Advice Bureau are urging people worried about their energy bills to find out if they are eligible for

free heating and insulation improvements from Warm Front.

The Government introduced changes this autumn that means more people and families with children, who are living on a low income, are eligible for the scheme. As the eligibility criteria for help under the Warm Front scheme is widening, even if someone has been turned down before, they may be able to get help this year. The heating and insulation improvements Warm Front offers, could help thousands of households to stay warm and well and save up to £600 off their energy bills each year.

Nick Lee, Manager at Stroud & District CAB said: 'High energy bills are leaving many people's finances increasingly stretched. Thousands of vulnerable people and families across the Stroud District will cut back on their heating this winter – which could put their health at risk. We would urge anyone worried about their bills to come in and see us or call our Advice line on 08444 111 444 or 0300 3300 650 (from mobiles – cost same as ringing a landline), to find out if they could be entitled to free help which could save them hundreds of pounds off their bills every year.'

Warm Front offers measures worth up to £3,500 (£6,000 if you need oil central heating). These measures are free to most people who receive help from the scheme and can make a big difference to their health and financial well-being, in particular in affording other bills and saving for emergencies.

People can find out if they can get free help from Warm Front by calling 0800 316 2805 or by visiting Stroud Citizens Advice Bureau. Further information and an online application form are also available on www.direct.gov.uk It currently takes on average just eight weeks to install heating or insulation from the day you apply. So if people apply now their home could be warmer at a lower cost, by Christmas.

The Stroud & District CAB is a local charity that provides free, confidential and impartial advice to help people resolve their problems and works to improve the policies and practices that affect people's lives. If you would like our help please call into one of our offices or ring our Adviceline. Details of our opening hours are on www.strouddistrictcab.org.uk



Berkeley Amateur Dramatic Society It's Panto Time Now is a good time to join BADS and get involved.

Have you ever thought you might like to try amdrams? Now is the time, we are starting to prepare for our panto in February.

There are many ways to enjoy amdrams, on the stage of course but also music, props, scenery, costumes, prompt etc. BADS is a very friendly society with an active social side. We always welcome new members bringing new ideas and talents.

BADS has been going for more than 40 years so we must be doing something right. Why not give it a try with us, it really is great fun. Contact Vee on 01453 810085



St Mary's Church Berkeley

Every Sunday:

9.30 a.m. Parish Communion

11.00 a.m. All Age Worship

6.00 pm. Evening Prayer

(Times and venue differ on 5th Sunday of month)

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M.I.B Film Group – Fridays, 6pm – 8pm Ages 15–19
Animated Antics – Saturdays 10am – 12pm Ages 7–14

WORKSHOPS 2012

Make Your Own Owl Cushion – 4th November 10am 12pm
Decorate the Tee pee – 18th November 10am – 12pm
Make a Sock Monkey – 9th December 10am – 12pm
Family Christmas Angels – 15th December 11am – 1pm

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*The copy deadline
for the next issue of the Flyer is:
Thursday 15th November.
Please ensure all articles that are
emailed are sent to
editor@berkeleyflyer.co.uk*

COFFEE MORNING - EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Saturday 10th November 10.00 - 11.30am
 Unlimited tea and coffee and a good selection of
 tempting home made cakes

Once again we were pleased to see our regulars at October's gathering and delighted to welcome some new visitors as well. Many of you took empty shoe boxes to fill with gifts for children all over the world as part of the work of Operation Christmas Child which the school, the churches and many individuals in Berkeley so generously support. May I take this opportunity to remind you that your boxes must be filled and ready to go by our next coffee morning. Our church is a local collection point so we ask anyone who has a box and would like to return it for OCC to pick up during the following week to bring along on the 10th. We hope that the lingering aroma of freshly brewed coffee may tempt you to stay for a cup, but we understand that Saturdays are a busy time and you may only have time to drop off your Christmas box. That's good too.

For any further information or transport please ring either Grace 811138 or Dawn 810494



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Thurs 8th November Remembrance Talk:
Ypres Birthplace of WMD
 (7.30pm).

Tim Davies of Copper Phoenix presents a poignant talk on the Ypres Salient, its battles, memorials and lasting legacy on the World today as the birthplace of Weapons of Mass Destruction. Contact us for Tickets £8 adult, £5 Concessions/Residents.

Sat 24th November—Christmas Craft Workshop
Create your own Christmas Cards
 (10am-12noon)

Come and learn how to make beautiful hand-stitched fabric cards. For younger craft enthusiasts learn how to make fabric glitter glue cards. Limited spaces available, contact us to book.

Sat 24th November—Christmas Shop Opening
 (12 –2pm)

Have mulled wine and a mince pie whilst browsing in our Old Cyder House Gift Shop for unique Christmas presents.

If you want to make a contribution, please contact one of the Flyer Team on the numbers shown, place your contribution in the collection box in the Berkeley Pharmacy in the Market Place, or e-mail: editor@theberkeleyflyer.co.uk by 15th of each month
PUBLICATION DATE: 1st of each month

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The Advent Event

**Tomato Jack Arts, White Hart Court, 6 High Street,
Berkeley,**

on Saturday 1st December from 10am - 3:30pm

An exhibition and sale of fine arts, crafts, textiles, photography and more! Come along and do your Christmas shopping here where everything is made by hand by a family of artists and crafters.

This fantastic event is being brought to you by 5 cousins Ellen Hopkins, Sue Hopkins, Louise Fisher, Freya Beckett and Tanya Stanyer.

We do hope you will come and along and share this event with all your friends. This is an excellent opportunity to not only come and have a look at our artwork, but to buy original handmade items that will make fantastic Christmas presents!

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ADVERTISING: advertising@theberkeleyflyer.co.uk
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VILLAGE AGENT



Hello again everyone. By the time you read this it will be November, so it is time to think about looking after ourselves in the colder weather. Some seasonal tips are: to check that the central heating is working. Remember to get your flu jab, you will be entitled if you are 65 or over or if you have certain serious medical conditions. If you have any draughts or leaks in your home you might think of getting them fixed. If you have any worries about doing the above, contact me and I will help if I can.

Over the next 6 months some of you will be getting a letter from Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) about how to renew your Bus Pass. This might be because you are eligible for an "age related pass" or a "disability related pass". GCC have taken over the job from the local district councils so as you can imagine they have a very large number of people to contact, therefore they are staggering it across the 6 months. If your Pass is due for renewal don't worry about contacting them; you will get a letter over the next few months. If you are applying for the first time, the easiest way to do it is by going to Dursley Library, they will do it for you online (you will need to take some ID with you as proof of address and proof of age). If you are unable to get to Dursley library you can get a pack from the County Council and do it by post. Call me if you need any help.

Now for some good news for people who are unable to get out much and socialise. "Age UK" have brought out a national telephone befriending scheme. Please spread the

word! Living on your own can be hard when you get older, especially if you have been used to sharing your home or time with others. Not having someone to talk to regularly can be lonely, and that's when a friendly chat on the phone can make all the difference. Age UK has volunteers ready and waiting for calls, so if you are an older person (60+) who would like to find out more, or if someone you know could be interested, please call the Age UK "Call in Time" service. Tel: 0844 225 0320 or callintime@ageuk.org.uk They offer "Friendship Calls" which are weekly calls from a volunteer for a friendly chat. Or "Good Day Calls", these can provide a little extra reassurance when you are on your own – especially at times such as when you have recently come out of hospital or suffered bereavement. If you need, a volunteer can give you a short call several times a week at a time that suits you, just to make sure you are OK. These "Good Day" calls can usually be made for eight weeks.

There are two more things that I would like to tell you about:

For people living with Dementia, their carers and families in Gloucestershire, there will be a "Campfire Cookout" to be held near Coleford. It is on Monday, November 5th, 12pm-4pm. It is run by a group called Mindscape. To find out more contact them on 01600 710846

For people who have been affected by Stroke and would like to stay informed about what is out there for them, I have just downloaded a copy of GOSS (Gloucestershire on Stroke Summary). If there is anyone who would like a copy I can post one to them or you can read it online at www.stroke.org.uk

Call Penny on 07776 245 726.
pennyf@villageagent.grcc.org.uk

1st BERKELEY SCOUT GROUP

The scouting year started in September and everyone is busy with the new programme.

There are 15 Beavers meeting each week and they have all been very busy working for badges, 9 Beavers had another sleep-over in the scout hut in September, and they have been learning about water, how much do they use and how much can they save? The Cubs have been leaning about the highway code. 15 Scouts have been canoeing each week before the summer break, and enjoyed a summer camp at Peddington and because of the wet weather, some of the time was spent in the scout hut. They are now doing some pioneering projects with broom handles, and later on they will be using 12 foot pole to make swings, gateways and benches.

Remembrance Day Parade will be on Sunday 11th November at

3.00pm at Berkeley Church. The Beavers Scouts, Cub Scouts, and Scouts will meet with the Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and the Coast Guards at the bottom of the High Street and march into church for the Remembrance Service.

Scout Christmas Post around the area over the last ten years has been well supported, so we will be doing it again this year, last year we delivered over 2,500 cards. The collection boxes will be in J.C.Aldridge & Son, Jenner Court and the Coffee shop in Berkeley, Mal Williams, The Village Shop, Sharpness and Hamfallow Court in Sharpness. Stamps will be available at the collection points and are 20p. You can also put the money in the box with your cards and we will do the rest. We will deliver the cards to Berkeley, Wanswell, Sharpness, Purton, Halmore, Breadstone, Newport, Ham and the areas between over the two weekends, (7th & 8th & 14th & 15th before Christmas,) so remember to post early, the last collection will be Friday 14th at 1400hrs.

1st Berkeley Brownies & Rainbows

Christmas coffee morning at The Town Hall
Saturday 15th December from 10am—12pm
Father Christmas will be there

Variety of stalls so please come along and join in the fun
Proceeds are towards extensive repairs to our hut.. We need your support



Many thanks to all visitors and Townspeople of Berkeley who contributed to the Royal Air Forces Association Wings Day Appeal. This year's town collection amounted to £171.73

BERKELEY PLAYERS

ARE HOSTING A COFFEE MORNING

IN THE TOWN HALL

SATURDAY
1ST DECEMBER
10AM—12PM

RAFFLE PRIZES & CAKE STALL

DID YOU KNOW?

It is believed that gunpowder was discovered accidentally by a Chinese alchemist who mixed sulphur and salt peter (potassium nitrate) over a fire.

The Chinese name for gunpowder is "huo yao" (fire chemical).

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REVISED HOURS OF BUSINESS

Having recently been informed by Stroud District Council that our hours of business were in contravention of the Licensing Act 2003, we have amended them accordingly, as it is "an offence to provide hot food between the hours of 11.00 pm and 5.00 am" unless a special license is issued.

We are considering the merits of applying for a license to trade later on Fridays and Saturdays, but in the meantime we will be closing at 11.00 pm from Tuesday to Saturday (10.00 pm on Sunday, as before).

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